

GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

A UNITED PUBLICATION
VOLUME 12, NUMBER 11
NOVEMBER 2000 • \$7.00

www.golfcoursenews.com

INSIDE

Design and Construction

In this month's special section learn the ins and outs of permitting a golf course project.....24

A Second Chance

John Vogts heads a course maintenance training program for troubled kids at the Glen Mills School.....8



CALIFORNIA'S COYOTE MOON

Former professional golfer Brad Bell has opened his third course, Coyote Moon, on a one-time logging tract in the High Sierras. The course is a rarity in California, as it was built strictly for golf, not to sell housing lots. Builders rushed the construction through in six months to beat the snows of the high country. Pictured above is the par-3 13th hole that features an 88 foot drop. See story page 15.

COURSE MAINTENANCE

The first installment of Piersol's Perspectives.....8
Tools of the Trade at Markut's PGA Golf Club 9
New company fights bugs with bugs 12

COURSE DEVELOPMENT

Thistle Golf Club adds nine holes 15
Camas Meadows debuts in Washington 16
Palmer course in state park taking shape 20

COURSE MANAGEMENT

Platinum Golf Properties sets up shop 27
Heritage Golf Group picking up steam 27
Zurich U.S. enters insurance market 28

SUPPLIER BUSINESS

Carl M. Freeman starts e-commerce venture 31
Golfsat teams with eFORCE 32
New products 34

PERIODICAL

BASF readies specialty product unit

By A. OVERBECK

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C. — Following the July 1 closing of its acquisition of American Cyanamid, BASF has completed the integration of product lines and management teams to form BASF Specialty Products Division (BASFspd). The new division will be responsible for the company's turf, ornamental and pest control business.

"In the past, BASF was more focused on the agricultural side," said Bill Baxter, business manager for turf, ornamental and pest control. "With the acquisition of American Cyanamid, which had a separate specialty products division that focused on turf and ornamental and pest control, it made sense

Continued on page 33



Florida's Ocean Hammock, opening in December, will host a U.S. Open qualifying round in May.

On the beach: Jack's new Ocean Hammock seems destined for fame

By JAY FINEGAN

PALM COAST, Fla. — Florida's first true oceanfront golf course to be built in 70 years will make its highly anticipated debut on December 5, with designer Jack Nicklaus scheduled to hit the inaugural drive off the first tee.

Located between St. Augustine and Daytona Beach on Florida's northeast coast, with six holes playing right along the Atlantic, Ocean Hammock Golf Club is guaranteed to be something special. Indeed, the U.S. Golf Association has already named the course to host regional qualifying rounds next May for the 2001 U.S. Open.

"It's a magnificent piece of property," said superintendent Tray Maltby. "I feel very fortunate to be here. Sometimes I have to pinch myself."

The 7,200-yard, par-72 layout is being developed at a cost of \$12 million by Lowe Enterprises, of Los Angeles, which operates four other courses in the Palm Coast

area, including such standouts as Pine Lakes, Cypress Knoll and Palm Harbor. The new layout also features two driving ranges, practice greens and a teaching tee.

Ocean Hammock appears destined to take its place among Florida's elite resort courses. In fact, head professional Chuck Kandt predicts it will become one of the most highly regarded courses in the country. "It's going to provide a golfing experience like no other on the East Coast," he said. "We have a goal to draw big-name tournaments here, and I'm confident it will happen."

'A TOUCH OF PEBBLE BEACH'

Nicklaus has put his stamp all over this course. Strategy and scenery intersect at nearly every turn, with great care taken to ensure the terrain works in harmony with its surroundings.

"You might say it joins a little of the West and East coasts by combining a

Continued on page 23

Pine bark beetles wreaking broad devastation across the South

By JOEL JOYNER

TEMPLE TERRACE, Fla. — Already stressed by heat, drought and increased urban development, pine trees in the Southeast are falling victim to widespread devastation by pine bark beetles. Alabama, Florida and South Carolina have been especially hard hit by the lethal pests.

Pine bark beetles, also known as engraver beetles, are small cylindrical insects that attack and kill pine trees by feeding and laying eggs in the inner bark of the tree. Once a pine is colonized by



Evidence of a large infestation of southern pine beetles in eastern Texas

these beetles, it will soon die.

Alabama is experiencing its worst drought on record with the northwest region of the state being the most severely affected. So far this year, Alabama has lost a record 1.5 million pines to the insects, 51 counties were classified at "epidemic" levels for the southern pine beetle (SPB), according to the Alabama Forestry Commission.

Continued on page 14

Injured golfer wins \$7.5 million settlement

By JAY FINEGAN

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Lansdowne Resort Golf Club in northern Virginia has settled out of court for \$7.5 million to compensate a player who was struck in the neck by a stray golf ball. The settlement agreement came in late September, two and a half years after James Tobin was hit on the practice putting green at Lansdowne, a public 18-hole course in Loudoun County.

At the time of the accident, Tobin was a sales manager for General Electric. He was 42 years old, and a 2-handicap player. A stroke has left him unbalanced and unable to walk

Continued on page 30

