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INSIDE

Winter Prep

Reports from across the country as well as an in depth look at how a Canadian course battles elk.....13

New Product News

Six pages of new products from wetting agents to utility vehicles.....23



A PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

While in town for the Republican Convention in Philadelphia, former President George Bush paid a visit to Eric Bergstol's latest project — Pine Hill Golf Club in Pine Hill, N.J. Bergstol, president of Empire Golf, plans to officially open the Tom Fazio-designed layout this spring.

COURSE MAINTENANCE

Superintendent salaries keep rising.....9
Northeast courses battle moss.....9
Philadelphia CC regrassing.....9

COURSE DEVELOPMENT

Links at Outlook brings Scotland to Maine.....17
Rulewich's Fox Hopyard close to opening.....18
First Tee opens 18 hole course in Virginia.....19

COURSE MANAGEMENT

SunCor Golf enters management arena.....29
IRS close on depreciation ruling.....30
Golf Partners Worldwide ready for action.....31

SUPPLIER BUSINESS

GolfGM.com launches Internet venture.....33
Becker Underwood acquires MicroBio.....33
Standard Golf expands factory.....34

PERIODICAL

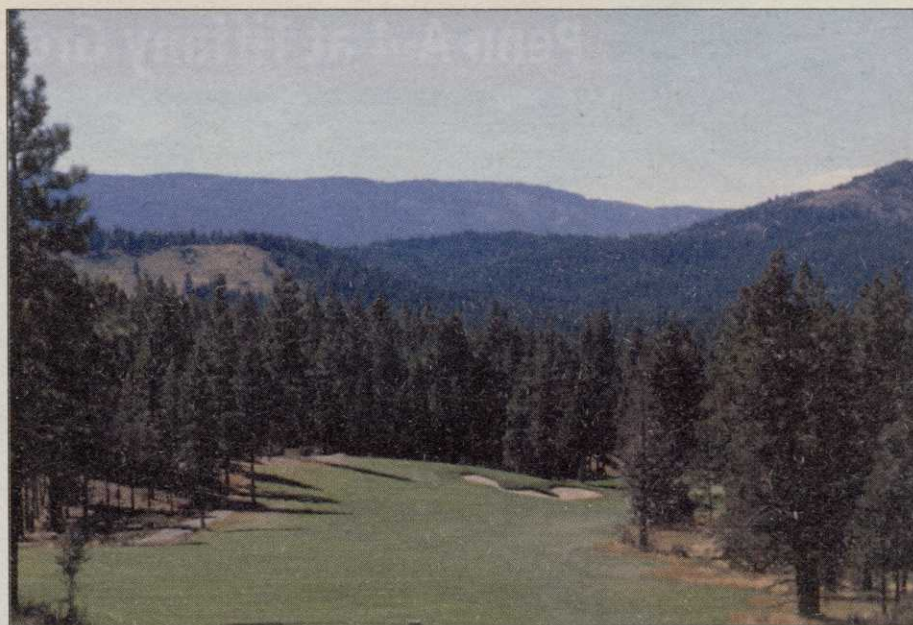
Water crisis looms in S. California

By JOEL JOYNER

SANTA ANA, Calif. — Radical changes in California water policy could leave Southern California golf courses in “a world of hurt,” according to agronomist Mike Huck, of the U.S. Golf Association’s Green Section. From his base here in the southwest region, Huck has been tracking a complicated battle between environmentalists, farmers, municipalities, government officials and others over the future of water distribution in the Golden State.

Indeed, the unfolding situation portends such dire consequences that one water-resource specialist, engineer Dana Ripley, is urging that Southern California

Continued on page 11



The 1st hole at the “Dragon” course at Gold Mountain

Dramatic new Dragon course opens in remote ‘Lost Sierra’

By DOUG SAUNDERS

CLIO, Calif. — The surging economy has been the catalyst for numerous golf-driven real estate developments around the country. Every region has seen the creation of new golf courses, including some areas where you would least expect it. A prime example is Gold Mountain, located in this tiny hamlet in California’s Sierra Nevada mountains.

Here, in a town of 200 located in a county that has only one stop light, is a 1,300-acre development situated on a two-lane mountain road overlooking ranch land, the Feather River, a solitary railroad track, and the towering Sierra peaks.

Is this where you want to retire? Why not, is the philosophy at Gold Mountain.

The developers, Dariel and Peggy Garner, have made their mark in such various business ventures as marketing wood by-products overseas, developing bank-

ing software, and growing specialty vegetables. Their diverse interests and imagination lead them on a search for a natural setting, a place to settle down. They stopped looking when they found this remote area of Northern California known as the Lost Sierra.

“We were trying to find a place that we could retire to, but what we found was a place of such solitude and natural beauty that we felt we should share it with others,” explained Peggy Garner.

SELLING SOLITUDE

To make that dream a reality required a different approach to development. From the beginning, the Garners would make their remote mountain setting the cornerstone of its appeal. To incorporate these features the Garners took careful steps in the design process by bringing together an interesting mix of collaborators.

Continued on page 22

Going East: Simplot buys Lange-Stegmann, to extend POLYON deal

By ANDREW OVERBECK

BOISE, Idaho — Simplot Turf and Horticulture (Simplot T&H) continues its eastward march with the acquisition of the professional product line from St. Louis-based fertilizer formulator Lange-Stegmann. The deal includes the Lange-Stegmann production facilities for its professional products in the golf, landscape and lawn-care markets. The financial terms of

the agreement were not disclosed.

Located on the Mississippi River, the newly acquired production facilities provide Simplot T&H with efficient intermodal distribution service to a large segment of the United States east of the Rocky Mountains.

“This allows us to move east,” said Bill Whitacre, Simplot T&H president. “The

mountains are a natural barrier for our operations in the West. The Lange-Stegmann facility has a phenomenal location right on the Mississippi and has access to an intermodal barge terminal. The efficiency of having that location right in the heart of the United States is really an opportunity for us.”

Simplot T&H will also add Lange-branded greens-grade and

Continued on page 35

Safety-minded lawyer urges ‘mulligan’ ban

By JAY FINEGAN

NEW YORK — “NO MULLIGANS!” If there is one sign that every golf course should post prominently, that would be it. So says lawyer Robert D. Lang, who has drawn fresh attention to the dangers — legal and otherwise — of wild golf shots.

In a recent cover story in the Journal of the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA), Lang cites numerous personal injury cases in which errant shots struck golfers, caddies, spectators and even motorists. Among the potential defendants, he said, are the golfer who hit the shot, the course or club owners if a suit alleges negligent



Robert D. Lang

Continued on page 36