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INSIDE

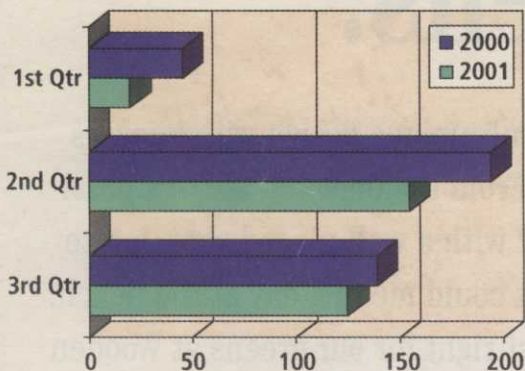
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TOTAL GOLF COURSE DEVELOPMENT BY QUARTER



Golf course construction numbers slipped dramatically in 2001. While development levels may continue to decline, opportunities still exist. See story on page 3.

Source: National Golf Foundation

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PERIODICAL



2001 Newsmakers

2001 Newsmakers

John Deere making move to become one-stop shop

By ANDREW OVERBECK

ALPHARETTA, Ga. — John Deere closed its acquisition of Richton International, the parent company of Century Rain Aid, in October adding the final piece — for now — to its newly created John Deere Landscapes division. The formation of the new division began with the buy out of McGinnis Farms earlier in the year.

The company's bold moves bring it closer to becoming a single-source supplier for the golf course industry. In addition to its primary business as a manufacturer of turf care equipment, John Deere has instantly acquired the commanding position as the largest distributor of irrigation supplies in the country and now has a significant interest in providing golf courses with landscape supplies, fertilizers, chemicals and seed.

While John Deere Landscapes' president Dave Werning is working on consolidating



Dave Werning

Continued on page 27

2001 Newsmakers

IGM finishes year with strong growth rate

By JOEL JOYNER

CHAMPIONSGATE, Fla. — International Golf Maintenance has become one of the leading golf course maintenance outsourcing companies in the United States this year showing a strong level of growth in a market hampered by a sluggish economy and a decrease in rounds played. The company came away with an impressive list of accomplishments for the year and maintains a strong outlook heading in to 2002.

IGM is a wholly owned subsidiary of Meadowbrook Golf, a golf course developer, owner and management firm headquartered here at ChampionsGate. The company merged with Meadowbrook in February 1998 enabling IGM to eventually manage all golf courses owned by Meadowbrook. IGM maintained about 30 courses before they were bought out. Today, they have 96 courses under their care with an objective to keep on growing. The company acquired more than 40 courses this year.



Scott Zakany, CGCS

Continued on page 11

2001 Newsmakers

Troon Golf to top 100 courses by year's end

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Troon Golf has had another banner year in 2001 with its portfolio on target to top 100 golf facilities. While the golf course industry continues to slow, the company is adding staff and management contracts worldwide. Looking forward to 2002, Troon Golf chairman and CEO Dana Garmany expects another year of record growth.

Golf Course News: 2001



Dana Garmany

was another strong year for Troon Golf, how many courses did you add to your portfolio?

Dana Garmany: We have added 19 facilities worldwide so far this year, 16 of which are in North

Continued on page 22



Jeff Roke, Arnold Palmer and Brad Schmidt look over course plans

2001 Newsmakers

Palmer's Arbor Links Golf Course set to open in June

By GARY BURCHFIELD

Nebraska City, Neb. — Construction is finished and the grow-in process is underway at Arbor Links, the new "laboratory-type" golf course built by Landscapes Unlimited in Nebraska. The unique course is a three-way partnership between Landscapes Unlimited, Palmer Course Design Company and the National Arbor Day Foundation.

Grand opening is set for the week of June 23, 2002, in conjunction with a three-day "Golf and the Environment"

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Arbor Links

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conference at Arbor Day Farm's Lied Conference Center in Nebraska City. Arnold Palmer will be present for the official course opening and is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the conference.

Palmer Course Design donated its design services for the

course. The lead designer was Erik Larsen, who also designed the Players Club at Deer Creek Course in Omaha and Dakota Dunes in South Dakota.

"We felt the Arbor Links project was an opportunity to demonstrate the benefits of blending golf course development with environmental considerations," said Stacy Katz, marketing coordinator for Palmer

Course Design. "Mr. Palmer views this project as a living environmental classroom, which can benefit the entire golf course industry in the future."

A THREE-PRONGED MISSION

The course is being developed with a three-pronged mission of quality construction, environmental sensitivity and affordable golf for players, said Brad Schmidt, Landscapes Unlimited's general

manager. Landscapes Unlimited will operate Arbor Links Golf Course, which lies in rolling terrain on a 300-acre stretch of unused farmland, not far from the Missouri River. The Arbor Day Foundation is leasing the property.

The new course was built with minimal disturbance to the existing environment, yet changes were made where necessary to

fit the overall environmentally based design. Dead or drying trees were replaced, in some cases with nearly mature trees. Table Creek, which was named by Lewis and Clark nearly 200 years ago, was restored where it runs through the course.

Original oak and hickory stands have been restored, along with flowering meadows and native stands of birch and aspen. Native grass buffer zones will help protect the creek and its tributaries. The area is in a climatic transition zone, which allowed planners more leeway in selecting vegetation materials. Turfgrass specialists from the University of Nebraska helped choose native and selected turfgrass varieties and will continue to monitor soil and water quality when the course is opened.

INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Schmidt said many firms have signed on with the Arbor Links project, with in-kind contributions of services or products. The firms are listed as "founding members" and include John Deere Landscapes, Toro Co., Flowtronex, Hancor, Tee-2-Green, Turf-Seed, Stock Seed Company, GreensMix, Green & Bio Tech and Profile Products LLC, which furnished erosion control matting for the entire course. Boething Treeland Farm provided new trees and most came from the firm's northern California nursery.

Chris Aden, general manager of Arbor Day Farm, a National Historic Landmark, said the new Arbor Links Golf Course, associated with the farm, will provide an outstanding environmental education site. "This entire project will serve as a model for future golf course development," he said. "For many people, golf is their most immediate interface with the natural environment."

ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE

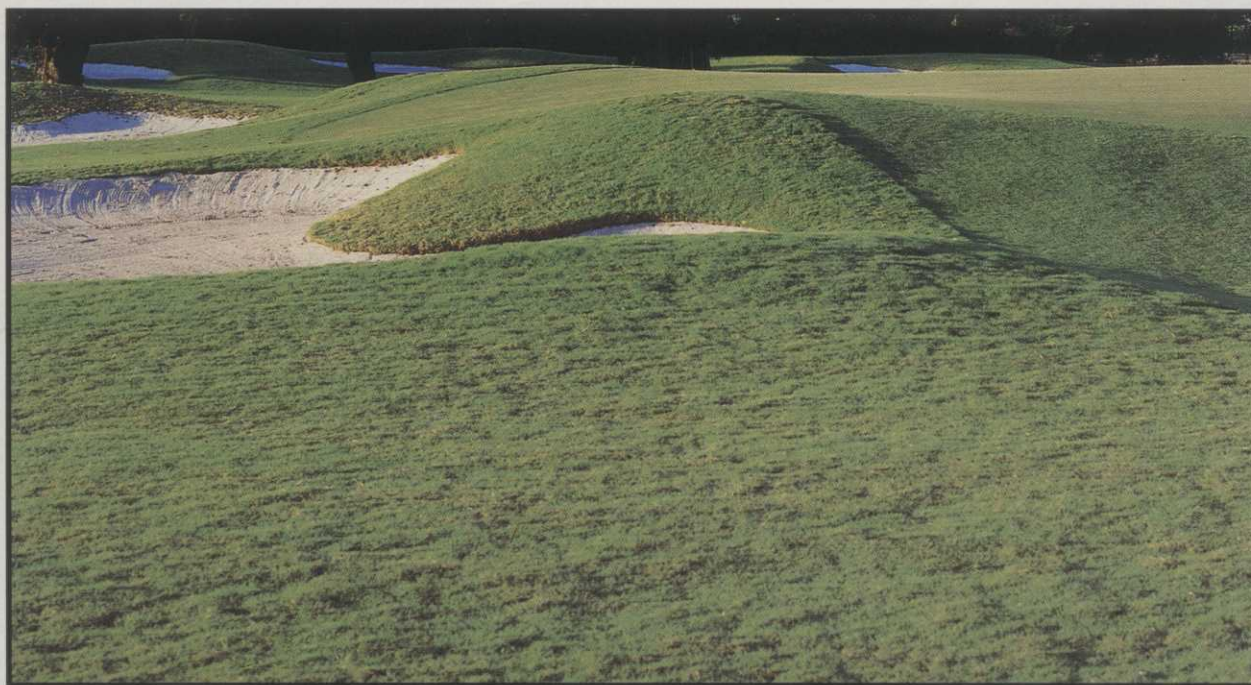
A national Golf and the Environment Conference will be conducted in conjunction with the grand opening of Arbor Links Golf Course at Nebraska City. Paul Parker, executive vice president of the Center for Resource Management in Salt Lake City, said the conference was switched from another location this past summer to the Nebraska City site next summer.

"We just felt that the environmentally friendly focus of Arbor Links Golf Course design and construction was a natural tie-in for our fourth Golf and the Environment Conference," said Parker.

"The key topic, based on the focus of Arbor Links, will be environmental education and what is being done to implement it and what can be done to make it better," Parker added. ■



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