



BRIEFS

WOODHEAD HEADS BACK TO GCSAA

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has hired R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS, as director of membership. Woodhead, who served as president of the GCSAA from February 2000 to February 2001, rejoined the association after serving as the director of golf course operations for the City of Dickinson, N.D. At the GCSAA he will be responsible for all membership recruitment and retention activities, the association's service center, the certification program, association governance and the golf championship held in conjunction with the annual conference and show.



Scott Woodhead

ENV'L GOLF TEAMS WITH HORTON

CALABASAS, Calif. — Environmental Golf has formed a joint venture with environmental consultant and golf course agronomist Ted Horton, CGCS, of THC Consulting. Under the terms of the agreement, Horton will partner with Environmental Golf to share expertise on environmental stewardship, indigenous landscaping, and habitat protection at Pelican Hill and Oak Creek Golf Courses in California. He also will work on strategic business planning and project support.



Ted Horton

CHARLTON JOINS INDIAN LAKES RESORT

BLOOMINGDALE, Ill. — Daniel Charlton has been appointed superintendent for the two 18-hole courses at Indian Lakes Resort. Prior to this post, Charlton was the assistant superintendent at Bob O'Links Golf Club in Highland Park. The resort's two courses were originally designed by Robert Bruce Harris in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Rick Jacobson started a redesign of the facility last year. The four-year, \$6 million project is part of the \$20 million renovation of the entire resort. The first nine holes of the new west course opened in August.

Drought, heat and fire ravaging Mountain West

By KEVIN J. ROSS, CGCS

EDWARDS, Colo. — The western part of the United States, in particular the Mountain West, is suffering through its worst drought in more than 150 years. Water supplies throughout many areas are at critically low volumes and the prognosis doesn't appear to be getting any better.

Along with this drought came the worst fire season in decades. Major wildfires have been occurring throughout the west with Colorado and Arizona getting hit particularly hard. As of mid-summer, Colorado already had seen its worst wildfire year on record.

The impact on golf facilities has been dramatic. Water availability may be the most difficult problem facing courses to date. Most of the Mountain West depends largely (70 percent) on snowpack to fill ponds, reservoirs and rivers. After a year of below-normal snowpack and above-average temperatures and windy conditions, there is very little water to go around.

Kevin Cahalane at Telluride Golf Club has gone from using up to 1,750 gpm

in the spring to only 450 gpm during the summer to water his entire golf facility. "They will probably make a call on the water in the river soon and if that happens we will be able to water greens and tees only, and all resort/homeowner irrigation will be eliminated," he said.

Another example is the completely redesigned and renovated Snowmass Club near Aspen. As of press time, the club was debating whether to start seeding or to hold off until next year because of the low water supply.

"There is just not enough water in our streams to supply what's needed for a



Dillon Reservoir in Summit County, Colo. is down 35 percent.

Photo: Karen Ross

grow-in, and it appears that the situation is getting only worse," said project manager Al Ogren.

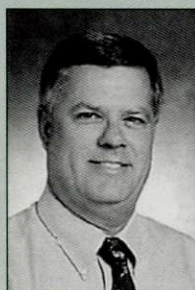
Another factor in the water supply equation is the demand for domestic use. Most golf courses own water rights from

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Postemergence crabgrass control improving

By T.L. WATSCHKE, Ph.D.

The herbicidal possibilities that exist today for the postemergence control of smooth crabgrass are vastly improved compared to 12 to 15 years ago. There is still no silver bullet in the marketplace, but the potential for a single application with high efficacy is possible.



T.L. Watschke

The challenges involved in the process are proper timing (stage of growth of the smooth crabgrass), the addition of appropriate adjuvants, and possible sequential applications. Continued research is necessary to fine-tune the use of these newer materials to provide end users with consistent and highly efficacious programs for the control of smooth crabgrass.

One of the most important ingredients in controlling crabgrass, regardless of herbicidal tactic, is to have as competitive a turfgrass stand as possible. Crabgrass cannot invade and compete unless it has space.

In addition to needing space, crabgrass seedlings need light. The shade provided by a dense turfgrass stand can compromise the competitive ability of crabgrass seedlings. Thus, proper fertilization programs, particularly with respect to nitrogen rate and timing, can influence the ability of crabgrass to compete. At times,

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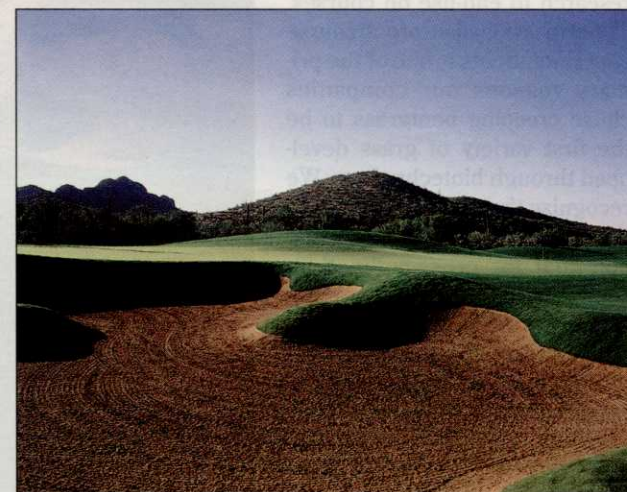
Champion bermudagrass quickly becoming top dog in Arizona

By D. HUBBARD

HIGLEY, Ariz. — Over the last 15 years, as golf in Arizona's Sonoran desert has developed into an international attraction, the demand for premium-level golf courses has pushed bentgrass greens beyond their reasonable limits to cope in the desert.

In its five years at three Arizona golf facilities, Champion has proven its claim as the bermudagrass that most closely mirrors bentgrass in appearance and performance, while withstanding the ravaging from the dry summer heat.

As scores of high-end golf properties convert to such hybrids as Tifdwarf and Tifeagle, Champion is the ultradwarf of choice at Superstition Mountain Golf Club, The Pointe Hilton Golf at Lookout Mountain, and the Omni Tucson National



The 10th hole at the Lost Gold course at Superstition Mountain

Golf Resort. While maintenance philosophies and practices vary from one club to the next, everyone agrees that Champion is "high maintenance." Of course, the most notable advantage is the return to more normal irrigation practices. Though Champion may require more attention, maintenance crews

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Delhi's course wins Audubon nod

DELHI, N.Y. — The Delhi College Golf Course has been certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by Audubon International. The course is the 15th in New York to become certified.

The college's student chapter of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, with assistance from the course's assistant superintendent Vivian Walker, initiated Delhi's certification process in 1998. The 18-hole course serves as an educational lab for the college's two- and four-year pro-

grams in golf and turf management.

"This certification justifies the hard work of the college and the community members who have kept the program going for the past four years," said Dominic Morales, Delhi's applied sciences and recreation dean and member of the course's Audubon advisory board. "Besides offering village residents, golfers and visitors the opportunity to enjoy wildlife in a unique setting, the Audubon program also has provided an interesting facet to the college's programs."