

Industry news

Strong showing for Golf Industry Show

Orlando, Fla. – The 2005 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Education Conference and inaugural Golf Industry Show wrapped up with record-breaking numbers, according to the GCSAA.

Overall attendance for the GCSAA Education Conference, NGCOA Solutions Summit and Golf Industry Show was



golf industry show

projected to be near 23,000. Prior to opening registration last fall, officials projected final attendance to be about 21,000. Also, it was estimated the number of qualified buyers was to reach 8,000. Last year in San Diego at the GCSAA Conference and Show, there were about 6,200 qualified buyers.

There were 830 exhibitors to showcase their products and services. This number breaks the record of 759 set at the 2001 GCSAA Conference and Show. Exhibit sales covered 270,360 square feet, surpassing the projected final total of 255,000 square feet. Last year at the GCSAA Conference and Show, there were 684 exhibitors covering 240,000 square feet. The all-time best for square footage at a GCSAA Conference and Show was 278,000 in Dallas in 2001.

The GCSAA Education Conference, which ran concurrently with the Golf Industry Show, also had strong interest. There were 7,329 seminar seats processed, marking the second highest total since 7,903 seats were sold in New Orleans in 2000. Last year in San Diego, seminar attendance was 6,772.

For more news about the GIS, visit www.golfcoursenews.com.

Government approves turfgrass

Washington – The U.S. Department of Agriculture issued protection certificates to developers of 11 new varieties of bentgrass, bluegrass, fescue and ryegrass. The certificates are being issued under the Plant Variety Protection Act, which requires the varieties be new, distinct, uniform and stable. The owners will have the exclusive right to re-

produce, sell, import and export their products in the United States for the duration of protection.

The 11 varieties and their developers are:

- Penn A-4 creeping bentgrass, Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station;
- Monte Carlo Kentucky bluegrass, developed by Pennington Seed;
- Bedazzled and Royale Kentucky bluegrass, Rutgers University - Cook College, William Meyer;
- SR 8600 tall fescue, Seed Research of Oregon;
- Gibraltar strong creeping red fescue, Ampac Seeds;
- Amazing perennial ryegrass, Ampac seeds;
- Integra perennial ryegrass, Pennington Seed;
- Promise variety of perennial ryegrass, Turf Merchants; and
- R2 and Kokomo perennial ryegrass, DLF International Seeds and Rutgers University.

NGF partners with Golf Industry Show

Lawrence, Kan. – The National Golf Foundation joined the mix of partners to present the Golf Industry Show. The other allied partners are: the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, the National Golf Course Owners Association of America, the Club Managers Association of America, the Golf Course Builders Association of America and the American Society of Golf Course Architects. The CMAA will become associated with the event in 2007 in Anaheim, Calif.



“The Golf Industry Show provides information and insight to key players in the industry,” says NGF c.e.o. and president Joe Beditz. “That is a powerful marriage that will lead to better decision-making.”

Consultant stresses customer service

Wheeling, W.Va. and Horsham, Pa. – LRA Worldwide c.e.o. Rob Rush served as an instructor at the National Institute of Golf Management in January. Rush taught a class, “How Legendary Golf Brands Create A Unique Customer Experience.”

“In an era of predominantly flat-growth or recession for the golf industry, golf course managers are looking for any edge to distinguish themselves in a crowded marketplace with a serious supply and demand imbalance,” Rush says. “Many operators are recognizing service and customer experience as a way to separate themselves from the pack. Providing your members and guests with a consistent, exceptional customer experience is the single best pathway to developing lasting, profitable relationships.”

Rush’s presentation emphasized exceptional customer experience need not only apply to luxury properties. LRA’s research indicates course conditions constitute only a few of the key drivers of golfer satisfaction. In contrast, eight of the top 10 post-round satisfaction drivers were based on service elements of the experience.

The NIGM was created by the National Golf Foundation to provide an avenue for golf management professionals to enhance and develop excellence in golf industry leaders through comprehensive curriculum combined with faculty and colleague interaction.

RISE president shares outlook

Washington – Allen James, president of the Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment, released his 2005 outlook for the specialty pesticide and fertilizer industry. Regulation reviews under the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act, as well as local pesticide and fertilizer bans, continue to be top concerns for the industry.

James says the Clean Water Act and its related National Pollution Discharge Elimination System that permit requirements, as applied to certain pesticide applications, need to be monitored by industry. He says activists are using these issues to oppose the industry and hamper efforts to sell and apply pesticides used in or near water.

The threat of local bans on pesticides and fertilizers continues to be in the forefront of the industry’s outlook, and the trend will continue in small communities. Activists have been unsuccessful pushing bans at the federal level, so they’re using the Internet to reach local government officials, according to James.

The spread of West Nile virus continues to be a concern for industry officials, and the issue of biomonitoring, which is the measurement of environmental chemicals in the human body, continues to loom. Industry supporters must continue to insist this measurement be conducted through scientifically valid reporting, James says.



James

James also anticipates an increase of chemical trespass claims against pesticides by industry opponents. Increased allegations by activists that any detection of pesticides in human blood indicates harm to humans will be the theme of the movement.

Methyl bromide exemption withdrawn

Lawrence, Kan. – The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America withdrew its request for a critical-use exemption for the application of methyl bromide on golf courses. The action was taken after the U.S. Department of Agriculture notified association officials that the GCSAA's 2006 and 2007 applications wouldn't be forwarded to the international advisory group that provides technical expertise on methyl bromide. The basis for the group's decision was that the absence of methyl bromide for golf course use wouldn't result in a significant market disruption. Comparatively, food crops might receive exemptions. If a product doesn't meet consumer standards, it could be imported from other countries. Golf isn't a product that can be imported.

As a participant in the Montreal Protocol and as a requirement of the Clean Air Act, the United States was to reduce its production and net import of methyl bromide to 30 percent of the 1991 baseline for 2003 and 2004. In 2005, the target is 0 percent, except for allowable exemptions. In 2002, the GCSAA applied for, and was granted, a critical use exemption for golf in 2005. In 2004, a similar application was made for 2006 and 2007. The United States was the only country filing an exemption for golf in 2006 and 2007.

Government officials indicate there's

likely to be enough stockpiled to serve golf courses in 2006 and 2007.

Research backs seeding mats

Brunswick, Ga. – Results of two university studies provide details about BlueYellow Engineered Turf System products and their impact on turf establishment and soil and nutrient runoff.

Greg Bell, at Oklahoma State University, conducted a study to determine if BlueYellow mats seeded with Riviera Bermudagrass are effective for rapid germination and/or turf establishment. The study compared BlueYellow mats to seeding with no mulch and seeding with straw mulch.

"Based on one year's research at a single site, we found the use of the BlueYellow resulted in more rapid germination and establishment, speeding up the process by almost two weeks," Bell says. "With BlueYellow, the turf establishment process was faster than seed with straw mulch, as well as seed with no mulch."

Within 24 days after seeding, BlueYellow plots achieved 81 percent turfgrass cover. This compares to seeding with no mulch, which was at 8-percent



Photo: Blue Yellow

Research indicates BlueYellow seeding mats reduce the likelihood of runoff compared to other seeding methods.

cover at the same time, and broadcast seeding with straw mulch at 37 percent.

BlueYellow and conventional seeding with straw mulch are at equal levels of 95-percent turfgrass cover 42 days after seeding. Seeding with no mulch is at 59-percent cover at the same time.

Meanwhile, under the direction of Mike Richardson, the University of Arkansas conducted a study to compare nutrient and sediment runoff on slopes seeded conventionally, hydroseeded and seeded with BlueYellow mats.

"We found BlueYellow allowed the soil to take in more moisture until the point

of saturation, thereby effectively reducing the likelihood of runoff occurring compared with either of the other two planting treatments," Richardson says.

The standard seeded plots experienced runoff after only 28 minutes of simulated rain and hydroseed at 49 minutes. The BlueYellow plots didn't experience runoff for 77 minutes. Based on the volume of water applied, this correlated to 0.91 inches of simulated rain with standard seeding, compared with 1.6 inches with hydroseed and 2.52 inches with BlueYellow.

Also, the BlueYellow system experienced 50 percent less runoff volume than either of the other two treatments during the same period of runoff evaluation.

Study: fertilizer helps divot repair

Orlando, Fla. – Nitamin-coated sand, a fertilizer developed by Georgia-Pacific, demonstrated significant benefits in divot repair when compared with other fertilizers in a turf study conducted by Penn State University. The results of the research, conducted at the Valentine Turfgrass Research Facility in University Park, demonstrate faster divot recovery when Nitamin was used in the topdressing.

"Over a seven-week period, our research showed that the smallest average divot size was in the Nitamin-treated plots," says Maxim J. Schlossberg, assistant professor at the Penn State Center for Turfgrass Science. "Among the fertilizer treatments, Nitamin-treated plots recovered significantly faster, especially over the three to seven weeks following topdressing."

Schlossberg observed that Nitamin has a low-burn potential. Furthermore, the low size guide number (SGN-50) and high-particle density of the fertilizer allows for rapid canopy penetration.

Schlossberg's team induced typical divot damage on 12 blocks of four 2-by-4-foot plots on a PennEagle bentgrass fairway, followed by hand topdressed treatments of Nitamin, traditional sand, traditional sand blended with IBDU fertilizer, and traditional sand blended with ammonium sulfate at equivalent nitrogen rates of three pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet. All plots had ideal soil nutrient levels and were fertilized foliarly with 0.5 pounds of magnesium sulfate per 1,000 square feet to standardize sulfate sufficiency.

Association news

Name change won't be pursued

Lawrence, Kan. – The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's board of directors accepted a task group's recommendation not to pursue an organizational name change at this time. The task group, which was composed of member superintendents, golf course management industry representatives and communications professionals, studied the issue at the request of the board for approximately nine months. Jon Jennings, CGCS, at Chicago Golf Club, chaired the task group, which conducted interviews with a variety of member groups including chapter delegates, chapter leaders and members selected at random.

The report also indicated that the reluctance to pursue a new name was based partly on the loss of identity of the superintendent, and because significant progress has been made in raising the profile of the superintendent and the association. The task group suggested, and the board agreed, that the association consider conducting additional research to drop the "of America" from the name.

GCSAA recognizes environmental leaders in golf

Lawrence, Kan. – For preserving a natural and native setting, Tierra Verde Golf Club in Arlington, Texas, and its golf course superintendent, Mark Claburn, were named the overall winners of the 2004 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America *Golf Digest* Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards.

Judges selected winners in three national categories (public, private and resort courses) and an international winner. An overall winner was selected from the four. Additional recognition was given to the top entry from each GCSAA affiliated chapter, and merit honors were awarded to those who didn't earn national or chapter honors, but in the opinion of the judges, deserved special recognition. The national winners include (facility and chapter):

National Public: Mark Claburn,

Tierra Verde Golf Club, Arlington, Texas; North Texas GCSA

National Private: John F. Anderson, The Club at Pronghorn, Sunriver, Ore.; Oregon GCSA

National Resort: Sandy C. Clark, CGCS, Barona Creek Golf Club, San Diego, Calif.; San Diego GCSA

International: Sean A. Kjemhus, Stewart Creek Golf and Country Club, Canmore, Alberta, Canada; Canadian GSA

Winners were recognized during the general session of the Golf Industry Show.

Texas association elects members

Kingwood, Texas - The South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association elected Ray McFarland, golf course superintendent at Hearthstone Country Club in Houston, the chapter's president for 2005. Additionally, Doug Browne, golf course superintendent at Stephen F. Austin Country Club in San Felipe, and Justin Shulse, general manager at Magnolia Creek Golf Links in League City, were elected vice president and secretary/treasurer, respectively.

Three members of the board of directors also were chosen: Roger Goettsch, golf course superintendent at Redstone Golf Club; Wade Warms, golf course superintendent at the Golf Club at Cinco Ranch in Katy, and Jeff Jowell, golf course superintendent at Weston Lakes Country Club in Fulshear.

Institute celebrates 50th anniversary

Lawrence, Kan. – The Environmental Institute for Golf celebrated its 50th anniversary at the GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show. The institute started as the GCSAA Scholarship and Research Fund in 1955 to provide scholarships for turfgrass students and fund research projects to improve playing conditions. Now, the institute funds more than \$1 million annually for environmental programs, including scientific research, education, information collection, outreach and scholarships.

Innovation and advancement have guided the organization to help provide solutions for managing golf facilities.

Almost 60 scientific research projects funded by the institute have provided information to the golf course management industry about innovative best

management practices. The continuing education curriculum for the golf course management industry has played a key role in delivering practical information to advance the knowledge, skills and abilities of golf course superintendents to manage golf facilities in an environmentally friendly manner. Information, tools and resources have been made available to the industry to advance environmental stewardship practices. More than 1,300 scholarships have been awarded to individuals to advance their knowledge of golf course management.

During the past two years, more than 100 volunteers representing many environmental, regulatory and golf organizations invested their expertise to develop a roadmap for the institute. The participants helped identify the most important environmental issues facing the golf industry: water management; integrated plant management; wildlife and habitat management; golf course siting, design and construction; and energy and waste management.

The institute directs funds from donors to support programs that provide essential solutions within these five areas.

GCSANC presents awards to winners

Diamond Springs, Calif. – The Golf Course Superintendent's Association of Northern California announced several award winners at its annual meeting and awards ceremony Jan. 24. Terry Grasso, superintendent at Sequoyah Country Club in Oakland, was named the Superintendent of the Year. Grasso also was recognized by the California Golf Writers Association for his contributions to golf.

The George Santana Distinguished Service Award was given to Gary Carls, CGCS, for his level of professionalism while demonstrating a long-standing commitment to the association and the turfgrass industry. Carls is the golf operations supervisor at Sunnyvale Golf Course and Sunken Gardens Golf Course in Sunnyvale.

The Turfgrass Excellence Award was presented to two individuals. In the private category, Dean Gump, superintendent at Pasatiempo Golf Club in Santa Cruz, was



named for the second time. The public category recipient of the award was Tim Powers, CGCS, at Crystal Springs Golf Course in Burlingame.

Greg Fernald of Target Specialty Products won the Affiliate Merit Award for his contributions to the betterment of the association and its members.

GCBA president talks to managers

Lincoln, Neb. – Tommy Sasser, president of the Golf Course Builders Association of America, addressed Caterpillar and dealership executives, sales managers and rental managers at the annual Cat Rental Services meeting Feb. 14 in Las Vegas during the American Rental Association's annual trade show and conference.



Sasser helped Caterpillar managers gain insight into the needs of the golf course construction customer. Sasser presented an overview of the GCBA and the role the association has in the golf course development industry. He discussed what a typical builder member's business is like and what percentage of the business expenses relate to equipment rentals and purchases.

Lawsuit almost set against Royal Links

Charleston, S.C. – Golf course owners throughout the United States plan to file a lawsuit against Royal Links USA. Royal Links had written agreements with more than 1,000 golf courses in which the golf courses would use Royal Links' beverage caddies to display and sell food-and-beverage items. The no-cost-beverage-caddy program involved golf courses leasing the caddies from third-party leasing companies, and Royal Links agreeing to reimburse the golf courses for their lease obligations. Royal Links proposed to make their revenue from advertising display panels on the beverage caddies.

In October 2004, Royal Links notified golf courses it planned to cease making monthly reimbursement payments to all customers. Each golf course has a written agreement with Royal Links, which obligates the company to pay courses about \$300 per caddy per month. Most lease obligations are for

60 months, and most golf courses have seen less than one year's worth of reimbursements from Royal Links, thus leaving an obligation to pay four more years of lease payments.



A task force of members of the National Golf Course Owners Association has been meeting since October 2004 to discuss the situation. Through the efforts of this task force and the NGCOA, almost 200 golf courses responded to a request for information about their agreements with Royal Links.

TPI president gives perspective

Rolling Meadows, Ill. – Art Campbell, president of the Turfgrass Producers International, says he's reasonably optimistic about 2005 and what the year has to offer turfgrass sod producers and the green industry.

"If we consider the housing and golf market segments and then add innovations such as automated irrigation systems designed to conserve water, maximizing energy usage and make labor more efficient, and top that with forecasts on the part of the select industry related segments such as manufacturers of turfgrass sod harvesters, installers, forklifts, seeders, tractors, etc., we see a positive trend for growth, efficiency and greater productivity," he says.



Campbell says sensitive issues could influence turfgrass sod producers.

"The issue of artificial turf isn't going to go away," he says. "There's a need to better communicate the benefits of natural turf with regard to the environment. There's also a need to be sensitive and to help build awareness of the continuing water shortages that impact many communities and regions throughout the world."

Campbell also encourages his peers to become involved when it comes to issues of importance.

Solutions center provides answers

Orlando, Fla. – Creating and operating a golf course irrigation system with work-

ing sprinklers inside the Golf Industry Show combined the skills and knowledge



of Irrigation Association members. Those who designed and installed the irrigation system and other aspects of the Water Solution Center were on hand during the show to help superintendents and owners solve irrigation and water problems.

The solutions center featured the Center for Irrigation Technology's pump demonstration trailer, which illustrated pump efficiency and variable frequency drives. It also showcased the various components of a golf irrigation system: purpose, usage and installation.

Daily educational sessions covered topics such as the irrigation design process, financing alternatives, project management, sprinkler spacing and uniformity, weather station maintenance, design installation and maintenance, pipe repair and auditing.

RISE battles fertilizer bans

Washington – Businesses and associations, including the Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment and CropLife America, filed a motion and supporting papers with U.S. District Court in Wisconsin, asking the court to strike the City of Madison and Dane County ordinances banning the display, sale or use of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorus. The ordinances violate state and federal laws, as well as the Wisconsin and U.S. Constitutions.



The plaintiffs argue the bans put retailers at a disadvantage and will do little to clean up area lakes.

According to research from the University of Wisconsin Turfgrass Research Center, healthy, dense grass fertilized with phosphorus improves turf better than fertilizer without phosphorus and thus, limits runoff to almost nothing. Unfertilized turf can contribute 40 percent more phosphorus in runoff.

Syngenta renews institute grant

Lawrence, Kan. – Thanks to a partnership between Syngenta Professional Products and The Environmental Insti-

tute for Golf, funding for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's e-Learning grant will be extended through 2007.

First established in 2004, the grant helps fund GCSAA's online education program as well as the expanding Webcast series. The grant underscores Syngenta's commitment to advancing the game of golf by delivering up-to-date technical knowledge and education to golf course professionals.

The grant, established specifically to further the development of Web-based education, provides funding to create more online, self-paced courses in addition to live Webcast events.

New USGA grants encourage growth

Colorado Springs, Colo. – The United States Golf Association announced 57 new grants totaling \$1.6 million to non-profit organizations throughout the country to support affordable and accessible golf programs and facilities. The new awards for the first portion of 2005 will reach more than 50,000 individuals with disabilities as part of the USGA's effort to bring golf to nontraditional audiences who otherwise wouldn't have the opportunity to play.

USGA funding has exceeded \$45 million throughout the past eight years and supports golf instruction, equipment, access and course construction costs, as well as help make golf more accessible and affordable.

Also, the Babe and George Zaharias Golf Foundation of Tampa, Fla., was awarded a \$15,000 grant from the USGA for support of its program serving individuals with disabilities from Camp Florida, as well as abused and neglected children residing at the Children's Home of Tampa.

Project Evergreen elects leaders to tackle goals

New Prague, Minn. – Project EverGreen elected new officers to its board of directors for 2005, including president Paul McDonough of LESCO. Other elected officers include Cindy Code of GIE Media as first vice president; Chris Kujawa of Kujawa Enterprises, a landscape architecture and maintenance company, as second vice president; Bill Klutho of John Deere

Worldwide Commercial & Consumer Equipment Division as secretary; and Tom Delaney of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America as treasurer.

Project EverGreen's goals for 2005 include reaching \$1.1 million in cash and donated services for the trade and consumer media campaign. The national campaign was established to inform U.S. consumers of the positive effects of well-maintained green spaces. A broad range of other goals include:

- Develop a tag line to be used by supporters at their businesses and on their product materials;
- Continue to develop consumer pieces for professionals to distribute to their customers;
- Create news releases and feature stories to national, state and local media describing the benefits of green spaces;
- Consider a special consumer advisory council to advise Project EverGreen on marketing activities;
- Create pilot landscape projects for consumers in to-be-determined cities in 2005; and
- Continue national surveys of consumers, suppliers and end-user professionals to gauge attitudes and opinions about the green industry and the products and services used to maintain green spaces.

Course news

Reunion Resort opens 36 holes

Reunion, Fla. – Two of Reunion Resort & Club of Orlando's signature golf courses



Tom Watson and Arnold Palmer designed courses at Reunion Resort.

opened: the 7,257-yard Independence, which was designed by Tom Watson, and the 7,010-yard Legacy, which was designed by Arnold Palmer. The 36 holes will be available for play by members and resort guests only. The third course at Reunion, a Jack Nicklaus signature design, is scheduled to open in late 2005.

The Independence Course is a traditional parkland style layout bordering the Davenport Creek nature preserve. Its undulating terrain features elevation variations of as much as 45 feet from tee to green. The course is highlighted by wide, rolling fairways; a variety of strategically placed bunkers; and large greens.

The Arnold Palmer-designed Legacy Course features a combination of natural rolling terrain with mature trees, pristine natural preserve areas and extensive landscaping.

Course to open in Mississippi

Jackson, Miss. – Beau Rivage Resort & Casino plans to build a new 18-hole Tom Fazio-designed championship golf course. Named Fallen Oak, the course will sit on a 510-acre tract and will be a par-72 layout stretching 7,516 yards from the back tees. The course will open for play in early 2006.

A public course, of which guests of Beau Rivage Resort & Casino can enjoy priority access, Fallen Oak runs adjacent to the DeSoto National Forest and is characterized by rolling landscape covered in oak and pine ridges, magnolia and pecan groves, yaupons, large lakes, winding streams and marshes.

Beau Rivage is spending more than \$30 million to create this golf facility. The course will have numerous water features and concealed cart paths. An expansive clubhouse reminiscent of an Acadian-style Southern mansion will house a pro shop, locker facilities, lounge and restaurant. The back veranda will provide panoramic views of the ninth and 18th greens.

Eureka achieves Audubon status

Eureka, Calif. – Eureka Golf Course achieved designation as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, given by



Eureka Golf Course is certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary.

Photo: CourseCo

Additionally, KemperSports named Paul Pearce general manager of Highland Park Country Club.

NGF recognizes many golf courses

Jupiter, Fla. - The National Golf Foundation presented the third annual Customer Loyalty Awards to golf facilities that received high approval ratings from their customers in various operational segments. The awards were presented during the PGA Merchandise Show.

The Customer Loyalty Awards were based on surveys fielded through NGF's Customer Loyalty and Satisfaction Program in 2004. Customers rate their satisfaction with facility amenities, course conditions, service and value.

NGF presented the awards in three categories, each containing an overall winner and nine runners-up. The overall winner for the 2004 CLASP Awards in the Premium Daily Fee category was Stevinson Ranch Golf Club in Stevinson, Calif. In the Daily Fee and Municipal Facility categories, the winners were Rock Creek Golf Club in Fairhope, Ala., and Harbor Links Golf Course in Port Washington, N.Y.

Runners-up in the Premium Daily Fee Facility category were: The Bay Club in Berlin, Md.; Bear Trap Dunes Golf Club in Ocean View, Del.; Cowboys Golf Club in Grapevine, Texas; Cyprian Keyes Golf Club in Boylston, Mass.; Shadow Ridge Golf Club in Palm Desert, Calif.; Stonewall Golf Club in Gainesville, Va.; TPC of Myrtle Beach in Murrells Inlet, S.C.; Whisper Creek Golf Club in Huntley, Ill.; and World Golf Village in Saint Augustine, Fla.

In the Daily Fee Facility category, winners were: The Broadlands Golf Course in Broomfield, Colo.; Heritage Ranch Golf & Country Club in Fairview, Texas; Illinois State University Golf Course in Normal, Ill.; King's Deer Golf Club in Monument, Colo.; Los Lagos Golf Course in San Jose, Calif.; Pelican Point Golf Club in Gonzales, La.; Shoal Creek Golf Club in Kansas City, Mo.; Southwood Golf Club in Tallahassee, Fla.; and St. Johns Golf and Country Club in Saint Augustine, Fla.

And in the Municipal Facility category, winners were: Cattails At MeadowView Golf Course in Kingsport, Tenn.; Ed Oliver Golf Club in Wilmington, Del.; Incline Village

(Nev.) Golf Courses; Indian Creek Golf Course in Carrollton, Texas; Makefield Highlands Golf Club in Yardley, Pa.; Poplar Creek Country Club in Hoffman Estates, Ill.; Prairie Landing Golf Club in West Chicago, Ill.; Tahquitz Creek Golf Resort in Palm Springs, Calif.; and West Woods Golf Club in Arvada, Colo.

Personnel news

Timothy T. O'Neill of the Country Club of Darien, Conn., was elected president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America at its annual meeting in Orlando, Fla. The association's new vice president is **Sean A. Hoolehan** of Wildhorse Resort Golf Course in Pendleton, Ore. **Ricky D. Heine**, general manager at The Golf Club Star Ranch in Austin, Texas, was elected secretary/treasurer. **James R. Fitzroy** director/superintendent at the Wollaston Recreational Facility/Presidents Golf Course in North Quincy, Mass.; **Mark D. Kuhns** director of grounds at Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J.; and **Robert M. Randquist**, director of golf course and grounds at Boca Rio Golf Club in Boca Raton, Fla., are the three directors. **Mark J. Woodward** will serve on the board for one year as immediate past president. **Gary K. Carls** and **David S. Downing** each have one year remaining on their two-year director's term. All are certified golf course superintendents.

Stuart Levanthal, CGCS at Interlachen Country Club in Winter Park, Fla., was named Superintendent of the Year by Golfweek's SuperNews.

Dale Hendrickson was appointed course supervisor at the new Mauna Kea Beach Golf Course in Kamuela, Hawaii.

Gregg Blew of the Wellshire Golf Club in Denver was named Superintendent of the Year by the Rocky Mountain Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Doug Parker is the Sacramento (Calif.) golf manager overseeing operations at Haggin Oaks, Bing Maloney, Bartley Cavanaugh and Land Park.

Sean Duffy was appointed golf course superintendent for The Club at TwinEagles in Naples, Fla.

Coyote Creek Golf Club in Morgan

Audubon International. Superintendent Don Roller led the effort to obtain sanctuary status and is being recognized for environmental stewardship by Audubon.

CourseCo manages Eureka Golf Course, which is the company's sixth managed course in California to achieve full certification of the 33 courses certified in the state. It is the 517th course in the world to receive the honor.

The course is located in a 4,200-acre subwatershed of the Elk River surrounded by a redwood forest.

Texas community plans new course

Tawakoni, Texas - Architect Jeff Brauer is designing The Lone Oak course at The Villages at Lone Oak, a new 1,000-lot lakeside planned community being developed by The Lone Oak Land Development Co.

Jasen Miller of Lone Oak Land Development says Lone Oak plans to get three of the golf holes playable for the residents as quickly as possible. Once that is done, their objective will be to complete nine holes this year and have them ready for play in the spring of 2006. Construction then will begin on the second nine.

New manager runs Highland Park

Highland Park, Ill. - KemperSports assumed management operations of Highland Park Country Club, which was founded in 1967.

Designed by Dick Nugent Associates, the 18-hole public golf course measures 6,506 yards from the back tees. The par-71 course features nine ponds and mature-tree-lined fairways. The facility also has a banquet facility with a seating capacity of more than 350.

Hill, Calif., appointed **Michael Higuera** Sr. golf course superintendent.

The Oklahoma Tourism & Recreation

Department Parks' Resorts & Golf Division promoted **Wesley Chaney** to manager of Fort Cobb and Roman Nose Golf Courses.

Corey Crandall of West Wind Golf Course in Ogallala, Neb., is the Nebraska Golf Superintendent of the Year for 18-hole courses.

Richard Pavlasek, superintendent at Brookhaven Country Club, is the president of the North Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association. The association's A.C. Bearden Memorial Superintendent of the Year Award went to **Charlie Trammell** of Timarron Country Club.

The Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association named its board of directors for 2005. The president is **Mark A. Snyder** of Berkeley Hills Country Club; vice president is **Richard Staughton** of Towne Lake Hills Golf Club; and the secretary is **Harold Franklin** of Fields Ferry Golf Club. The 2005 directors are: **Barry Bennett** of Valdosta Country Club; **Mike Crawford** of TPC at Sugarloaf; **Tim Cunningham** of Coosa Country Club; **Craig Conner** of Summit Chase Country Club; **Lane Ferguson** of Creekside Golf and Country Club; **Ray Meredith** of Follow Me Golf Course; **Brad Owen** of Augusta National Golf Club; and **Anthony Williams** of Renaissance PineIsle Resort.

Augusta National Golf Club senior director of golf course grounds **Marsh Benson** was presented with the 2004 Leo Feser Award by the GCSAA for best superintendent-written article published in the association's monthly magazine.

Mike Jansen was named operations manager at Hoich Enterprises and Lakeview Golf Course in Omaha, Neb., and **Megan Stuart** was named marketing director.

Golf course architect **Kevin H. Hargrave** started his own firm. Hargrave has worked for Keith Foster Golf Course Design for the past nine years.

John E. Kaminski, assistant professor of Plant Pathology at the University of Connecticut, is developing a research program about current disease-related issues of highly maintained turfgrass systems and will serve as director of the UConn Turfgrass Disease Diagnostic Center.

Gary Player accepted the Golf Course Builders Association of America's Don A. Rossi Award at the association's Annual Awards Dinner in February. GCN

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