

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

Corfam exit has minor effect on shoe manufacturers

The phasing out of **Corfam** by DuPont may mean a slight swing back to leather shoes, according to some golf shoe manufacturers, but there are several companies marketing synthetic processes ready to pick up the slack.

Although the phasing out of Corfam will take over a year, allowing shoe manufacturers an opportunity to stock up or switch, three companies will be offering synthetic golf shoes in 1971. B.F. Goodrich's **Aztran**, currently second to Corfam in the synthetic golf shoe market in the United States, anticipates increased sales as a result of DuPont's decision. They are also investigating further uses of Aztran, including golf bags.

Stylo-Matchmaker is experimenting with two synthetic materials. **Clarino**, manufactured in Japan and distributed in Europe by the British United Shoe Company Corp., has proved to be a successful product according to a spokesman for Stylo. Stylo has plans to market a golf shoe in the United States made from Clarino. Stylo is also experimenting with another synthetic material made in Germany, **Zylee**.

Newest on the synthetic market is **Porvair**. It is marketed through the Footwear Materials Group of Inmont Corp. in Somerville, Mass. Porvair is manufactured in England, and finished at Inmont's plant in Sanford, Fla.

DuPont is not ruling out the possibility of selling the Corfam process, according to a spokesman for the company.

Uniform ball to be put to the test

The proposed 1.66-inch uniform golf ball will undergo feasibility tests by a joint technical committee made up of representatives from the U.S.

Golf Assn.-Royal & Ancient Uniform Ball Committee and the Golf Ball Manufacturers Assn.

In addition to the new size, the proposed ball will have a maximum weight of 1.62 ounces and an initial velocity of 250 feet per second on standard ball testing apparatus. (See **GOLFDOM**, January 1971, page 99.) The ball would be a compromise between the current 1.68-inch U.S. size and the British 1.62 inches.

Technical tests are hoped to be completed by November of this year, according to George Carr, president of the British Golf Ball Manufacturers Assn., and subsequent playing tests presently are slated for May 1972 completion. Carr said the USGA and R&A would like to come to a decision on the ball in June 1972. However, if it is decided to go forward with the new size, Carr said, it would take British manufacturers at least two years to make the conversion. Some manufacturers on this side of the Atlantic estimate even longer periods.

Toro controls landscaping firm; acquires Viking line

Toro Mfg. Corp., an independent producer of powered lawn-care equipment, has acquired a 60 per cent interest in Landscaping, Inc., of Mountlake Terrace, Wash.

In a separate action, Toro has purchased all rights to the Viking Mfg. Corp.'s Viking Roller Blade line of turf-conditioning equipment.

Toro purchased 60 per cent interest in Landscaping, Inc., according to David McLaughlin, Toro's president, to broaden its field of activity from lawn and turf care to general outdoor beautification and maintenance. Landscaping, Inc., one of the largest landscape contractors in the Northwest, is equipped to do all phases of landscaping work and site engineering including pools,

fountains, walks, lighting and irrigation, according to McLaughlin.

In purchasing the Viking Roller Blade line, McLaughlin said it was the only landscape tool on the market that does the entire job—from rough grade through seeding and fertilizing. The machine will be called the Toro Landscaper and will be produced in Toro's Minneapolis plant. The Landscaper combines a scarifier, blade, box scraper, depth gauge wheel, clod-busting roller, fertilizer spreader, grass seeder, aerator and slicer into one unit.

Beard joins Interlandia

Frank Beard, one of professional golf's leading money winners, has been elected to the board of directors and named executive vice president of **Interlandia, Ltd.**

Interlandia is an international consulting firm engaged in the planning and designing, and guiding the financing, construction and marketing of recreation-oriented real estate developments, including golf courses adjacent to residential or commercial property.

Beard is a graduate of the University of Florida with a degree in Business Administration.

Interlandia president Keith Hartzell named Bill Musselman, Kentucky Amateur Golf Champion, director of marketing.

Golf Course Builders elect officers



The **Golf Course Builders of America**, the country's newest trade association in the world of golf, has chosen **Robert Vincent Jr.** (shown here), Benton, Pa., as its president for 1971-72.

President of the Robert Vincent Company, he has been building golf courses in the East since 1960. He has completed 18 courses.

Builders chosen to fill offices for the coming year were Robert Chakales, R.E. Chakales & Associates, presi-

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dent-elect; Lyle Thompson, Moore Golf, vice president, and James Shipe, Turf Industries, secretary-treasurer.

Chosen to serve as the association's first board of directors were James Kirchdorfer, Kirchdorfer Irrigation Company; Raymond Costin, E.H. Coffey & Associates; Henry Nielsen Jr., Nielsen Construction Company, and David Canavan, Moore Golf. Named as associate directors were Richard Jewett Jr., Hyper-Humus Company; Parker Shirling, Princeton Turf Farms, and Eugene Witter, The Hancock Brick & Tile Co.

News briefs

Ron Nolf has been named golf course superintendent for the Martingham Golf and Tennis Club in Wilmington, Del. A graduate of the turfgrass management program at Pennsylvania State University, Nolf was formerly with the Saucon Valley CC in Bethlehem, Pa. . . **Lloyd Robinson**, formerly at the Boca Raton CC in Boca Raton, Fla., has been named the assistant professional at Edgewater GC in Grafton, Wis. . . New professionals at the Hunt Valley GC, Hunt Valley, Md., are **Stephen Johnson** and **Thomas Smack**. Johnson was formerly with the Cumberland County CC, Cumberland, Md. Smack is from the Chartwell CC in Severna Park, Md. . . **Robert Wolfe**, head professional at the Camelot GC, Mesa, Ariz., has been named golf director at Fountain of the Sun, a new community development, also in that city. The first nine holes of the 18-hole Fountain of the Sun executive course are now under construction.

W.R. Grace reports first quarter loss

W.R. Grace & Co., involved in the sporting goods business through its Herman's World of Sporting Goods Division, and makers of agricultural chemicals, has reported a decrease in net sales of over \$20 million for the first quarter of 1971 compared to last year.

According to J. Peter Grace, president of W.R. Grace, net sales and operating revenues were \$435,903,000, against \$457,876,000 in the first quarter of 1970, a decrease of \$21,973,000.