

Clippings

Brief bits of news from in and around the golf business. . .

Construction of the **Tournament Players Club**, the planned site of the PGA Tour's national headquarters and future home of the Tournament Players Championship, began last month. The club will be located on a heavily-wooded, 415-acre tract of land on Route A1A at Inlet Beach, Ponte Vedra, Fla.

Deane Beman, PGA Tour commissioner, said the golf club will be private with both local and national memberships available. Bob Dickson, a former PGA Tour player, has been appointed membership marketing manager and Pete Dye, golf course architect, has been retained to design the course.

The Ambassador Beach Hotel in Nassau, Bahamas, recently completed construction of a new golf course. The facility also contains a pro shop, practice green, and driving range, along with a staff of teaching pros. Greens superintendent is **Hubert Bethel**.

The Hillcrest Country Club in Oklahoma City, Okla., is currently being renovated and has been renamed **Walnut Creek Country Club**. More than \$500,000 is being spent to revitalize the course and clubhouse. **Jerry Broughton**, formerly of Earlyvine Park Golf Course, has been named superintendent and golf course architect Ed Ault has been commissioned to revamp the course. Lynn Strang heads a limited partnership which will manage the club.

The Eaton Equipment Corp., Hamburg, N.Y., has purchased Haverstick Golf and Tractor, Inc., Syracuse, N.Y., and renamed the company **Eaton Golf and Tractor, Inc.** The formation of the new company will provide Eaton with distribution capabilities in upstate New York for Toro, McCulloch, Bolens, and E-Z-Go products and a complete line of turf and golf course chemicals and supplies.

John Steiner has been appointed general manager for **Eagle Chemical's** statewide operations in California. He will serve as director of operations and sales in both northern and southern California.

Shortly after being appointed to the position, Steiner announced the reorganization of the company's operations. He named **John Smith** northern California territory manager for the pest control and landscape trades, including golf courses. Steiner also named **Tom Foster** to handle the horticulture trades, including golf courses in southern California.

The **Rocky Mountain Golf Course Superintendents** recently elected John Bartley president of that organization. Others elected were: Dennis Lyon, vice president; Stan Cichuniec, secretary-treasurer; Dan Coffin, director; Tommy Anderson, director; and Terry Buchen, director.

Harold E. Bishop has been elected to the presidency of the Golf Course Builders of

America and will succeed David Canavan. A golf course contractor from Quakertown, Pa. Bishop was a charter member of GCBA when it was formed in 1970 and served as president-elect in 1978.

Robert Vincent, a golf course builder from Benton, Pa., was named GCBA president-elect for 1979; he will become president in 1980.

David Welfelt has been appointed product manager of the Turf Equipment Division of Excel Industries, Inc. He has worked in the turf landscaping field since graduating from Kansas State University in 1974 with a degree in horticulture.

Richard J. Dittoe has been appointed manager of marketing for Turf Products, Jacobsen Division of Textron, Inc. Previously, Dittoe was domestic sales manager for Turf Products.



Bishop Welfelt Dittoe

Robert H. Yarborough has been named an agricultural chemical sales representative for TUCO, division of the Upjohn Co., in Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan; he had been manager and superintendent of golf at Tanglewood Lake, Inc., Greentown, Pa.

Gene Probasco has been appointed general manager of the LESCO Product Division of Lakeshore Equipment & Supply Co., Elyria, Ohio. Probasco, a member of the GCSAA and the Central Ohio Chapter of GCSAA, had previously been merchandising manager for LESCO Truck Sales.

The **50th International Turfgrass Conference and Show** will be put on by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America February 4-9 in Atlanta, and new GCSAA Director of Communications John Schilling says it promises to be a record-breaking affair — both in attendance and in the number of exhibits of turfgrass maintenance equipment and supplies. Site of the show will be the Georgia World Congress Center.

A recognized authority on organizational behavior will be the keynote speaker. Dr. George H. Lebovitz, professor of organizational behavior at the Boston University School of Management, will present a speech entitled "Managing for Productivity." The address will mark the beginning of four days of educational sessions that will feature 77 speakers from universities, the turfgrass industry, and GCSAA.

Dr. C. Reed Funk, research professor of turfgrass agronomy at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J., has been selected to receive the 1979 Distinguished Service Award from GCSAA for his outstanding contributions to golf. He will be honored Feb. 5 at the conference.

In other GCSAA news, seven candidates have been nominated for election to the 1979 executive committee. The election will also be held during the association's annual meeting in Atlanta.

Charles H. Tadge was selected as the only candidate for GCSAA president. Tadge, superintendent of Mayfield Country Club in South Euclid, Ohio, is currently GCSAA vice president.

Louis D. Haines, current GCSAA secretary-treasurer, and GCSAA Director **Melvin B. Lucas Jr.** were named as candidates for the office of vice president. Haines is superintendent of Keystone International, Keystone, Colo., and Lucas is superintendent of the Piping Rock Club, Locust Valley, Long Island, N.Y.

Those nominated for the two director seats were Michael R. Bavier, Inverness Golf Club, Palatine, Ill.; Edward F. Dembnicki, Arcadian Shores Golf Club, Myrtle Beach, S.C.; Daniel L. Hall Jr., The Imperial Golf Club, Naples Fla.; and Robert W. Osterman, The Golf Club of Aspetuck, Easton, Conn.

As in years past, several other meetings will be held in conjunction with the GCSAA conference. On Tuesday, February 6, the **American Council for Turfgrass** will have its first annual meeting at the Georgia World Congress Center. This group was formed at the GCSAA conference in San Antonio a year ago as the National Turfgrass Federation, but the name was changed in mid-year by the organizers. According to Richard L. Duble, ACT secretary, members of ACT and other turf industry representatives have been asked to attend this meeting to comment on the proposed constitution and bylaws, to ratify them, and to elect a board of directors.

The **Golf Course Builders of America** meet Wednesday evening, February 7, at the Peachtree Plaza Hotel for their annual president's dinner. On Thursday, February 8, the board of directors of the **Musser International Turfgrass Foundation** will have its annual meeting.

The 1979 **Irrigation Technical Conference** will meet at St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco, Calif., February 18-21. The meeting, which is expected to draw almost 500 participants, is sponsored by The Irrigation Association. Registration materials are available from The Irrigation Association, 13975 Connecticut Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20906 (phone 301/871-8188).

The annual **Iowa Turfgrass Conference** will be held February 26-28 at the Hilton Inn, Des Moines. For further information contact A. E. Cott, extension horticulturist, Iowa State University, Horticulture Bldg., Ames, IA 50011 (phone 515/294-1870).

The 48th **Massachusetts Fine Turfgrass Conference and Exhibition** will be held February 27 to March 1 at the Springfield Civic Center. The show is being sponsored by the Massachusetts Cooperative Extension Service, Massachusetts Turf and Lawngrass Council, and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England. For details contact the Massachusetts Turf and Lawngrass Council, Stockbridge Hall, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003.