

Clippings

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

The editorial in the **South Florida Green** this month is concerned with the golf course **mechanic problem**, citing General Motors as estimating the automobile mechanic shortage as 275,000 just for preventative maintenance and not repairs. Right now, the U.S. has one mechanic for every 275 cars. The editorial further states (and we agree) that we must look to the turf equipment manufacturers to help train golf course mechanics. **Jacobsen** is holding such a training session at **Lake City Community College** in Florida as this issue goes to press. We will have an extended news feature in the **August issue of Golf Business** covering the concept behind such schools.

Dr. Richard W. Smiley, Assistant Professor of Turfgrass Pathology at Cornell University, with research support from M.M. Craven, has tested 14 fungicides and one nematicide on Kentucky bluegrass through three seasons for their effect on thatch and pH. Dr. Smiley found that decomposition of sulfur-bearing fungicides contributed sufficient acidity to inhibit the decomposition of thatch and these acidification processes explain the magnitude of thatch accumulation in most instances. He also found that the direct toxicity towards the microflora with the nonsulfur-bearing fungicides also contributed to thatch. He found that Acti-dione RZ, Acti-dione TGF, Captan, Daconil 2787, and Dyrene showed minimal thatch accumulation and pH levels not significantly different from the check areas. Smiley reported that "The long-term

effects of these fungicides are far more important to the overall economy of management programs and to turfgrass quality than the short-term cost and fungitoxic-spectrum considerations." He stresses that costs to remove thatch and to neutralize soil acidity are very likely to exceed differences in costs of fungicides.

The **George S. May Memorial Trophy**, one of the largest and most valuable, is missing. The Western Golf Association has offered a \$1000 reward for information leading to its recovery. The trophy lists, on engraved plates at the bottom, all of the champions of the WGA, including the Western Open since 1899, the Western Amateur since 1899 and the Western Junior since 1914. It weighs 60 pounds, and is 44 inches tall. The present value is estimated at \$50,000.

If you're buying a used vehicle, you can find out if it was ever subject to a manufacturer's recall by calling the U.S. Transportation Department toll-free at 1-800/424-9393. The number operates from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Washington, D.C. time, Monday through Friday. Give them the vehicle's year, model and serial number.

The Cooperative Extension Service at Clemson University has issued a memorandum, after being notified by Rohm and Haas and the South Carolina Plant Pest Regulatory Service that **Kerb 50-W** is now classified as **restricted use**.

The **Ronald Fream Partnership**, a golf course architectural firm based in Santa Rosa, California, has received three major international design projects.

Fream and his colleagues will provide the design and construction supervision for the 18-hole **Pantani Mentiri Country Club**, being built by the oil-rich Sultanate of Brunei on the west coast of Borneo. The firm has recently completed working drawing for the 27-hole, **World Class Bukit Kiara Country Club** near Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. They have also signed a contract with the Government of Trinidad in the West Indies to provide master planning, design services and construction management for a 27-hole golf course project to be located at **Chaguaramas**, ten miles from the capital of Port of Spain.

Golf Magazine has sent a check for \$25,000 to each of 100 professional women golfers who will compete in the LPGA Championship at the Jack Nicklaus Golf Center. The check is not negotiable unless the golfer breaks the 18- or 72-hole tournament record, or both, enroute to the championship. The winner could enjoy the richest payday in the history of women's golf, \$72,500.

HMC/The Green Machine is moving to a new manufacturing plant at 20710 Alameda in Long Beach, California. Part of a major expansion drive, the new plant will house all of the company's administrative offices, engineering, production and warehousing functions plus international division.

LESCO Products Division of Lakeshore Equipment & Supply Co. is sales agent for CBS Blend Ryegrass, east of the Rockies. **LESCO CBS Blend** contains Citation, Birdie and Omega perennial ryegrasses. **LESCO** has also been named marketing agent for **Pencross** and **Penn Eagle** bentgrasses for the state of Florida.

Dick Craig, General Manager of the Jack Nicklaus Sports Center since earlier this year and Superintendent since 1971, is the first recipient of the combined Golf Course Superintendents Association of America/Ladies Professional Golf Association Citation of Performance. Craig was chosen for his expertise and performance in his profession, his cooperation with the LPGA and for the preparation of the golf course for LPGA Championship competition.

Joseph R. Flaherty, CGCS, is superintendent at **Baltusrol Golf**

Club in Springfield, New Jersey, site of the 1980 U.S. Open. This is the sixth time the Open has been held there.

George J. Raymond has been promoted to product manager, responsible for the development and marketing of **Antor**, **Herban** and **Deltic** pest control products, at **Boots Hercules Agrochemicals Co.**

B. Hayman Co. (Hawaii), Ltd., has appointed **Chuck Bell** as a representative with offices in the Kailua-Kona area. **B. Hayman Co.** is distributor for **Yamaha** golf cars, **Jacobsen**, **Smithco**, **Bunton**, **Standard Golf** and other turf maintenance products in **Hawaii** and the **Pacific Basin**.

Don Andrews has been honored by the **Upjohn Company** for outstanding achievement in sales for 1979. He is one of 11 sales representatives named as repeat winners to the company's **Agricultural Division Sales Academy**.

While it's early yet, it would be good to keep in mind that the **International Turfgrass Society's** fourth research conference will be held in Canada. Occurring July 20-23, 1981, at the University of Guelph in Ontario, the conference will be more available to U.S. Superintendents' attendance.

The **Penn State Turfgrass Field Days** will be held on August 6-7 at the **Joseph Valentine Turfgrass Research Center** at The Pennsylvania State University in University Park. For information, contact: **Dr. Joseph Duich**, 21 Tyson Building, Department of Agronomy, University Park, PA 16802.

The **New York State Turfgrass Association's Annual Conference** will be held at the **Rochester War Memorial**, November 11-13 this year. The **Genesee Plaza Holiday Inn** will be the host hotel. For information, contact: **Ann Reilly**, Executive Secretary, 210 Cartwright Blvd., Massapequa Park, NY 11762, or phone: 516/541-9034 or 6902.

The sixth annual **National Golf Foundation Daily Fee Workshop** will be held on November 16-19 at the **Dunes Hotel and Country Club** in Las Vegas, Nevada. For information, contact: **National Golf Foundation**, 200 Castlewood Dr., North Palm Beach, FL 33408, or phone: 305/844-2500.



MarCo., Inc. of Greer, South Carolina will be handling the sales and marketing of the **Davis 500** golf car throughout most of the U.S., Canada and Europe. The newly organized firm is directed by former **Davis 500, Inc.** general manager **Douglas W. Berry** (left), Sales Manager **M.D. Brunk**, and Administrative Manager **Lee Chavis** (right).