

## Business briefs

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### Rohm and Haas: strong earnings

Philadelphia-based Rohm and Haas Co. reported that demand for its products and faster-than-expected progress on cost reduction and integration efforts combined to produce strong

earnings. But its Morton International acquisition, together with related costs and an increased share base, complicate earnings comparisons with the 1998 period, the company said.

Reported net earnings for the quarter were \$58 million, after restructuring charges and after \$35 million in Morton acquisition-related charges.

Third-quarter sales for the new combined company were \$1,577 million, compared with sales of \$909 million reported for Rohm and Haas alone last year.

### Husqvarna acquires Yazoo/Kees

Charlotte, N.C.-based Husqvarna purchased the turf-care assets of Yazoo/Kees, a North American distributor of landscape maintenance equipment based in Beatrice, Neb.

### Lesco reports record sales

Cleveland-based Lesco Inc. reported record third-quarter net income of \$5.8 million for the three months ended Sept. 30, a 131 percent improvement from \$2.5 million in 1998's third quarter.

## Borland Devoted to Family, Career

Jack Nicklaus remembers Bruce Borland as a "wonderfully talented designer" and a "wonderful person." So do others.

"He was a great guy," said Bob Maibusch, CGCS at Hinsdale GC in Hinsdale, Ill., and Borland's friend. "He really cared about his work. And he had a lot of respect for superintendents and what we do."

"He was deeply committed to his family and career," said Chad Ritterbusch, group manager for Selz/Seabolt Communications, a Chicago public relations firm that represents the American Society of Golf Course Architects, of which Borland was a member. "He was one of those rare individuals who found success on both fronts — personal and professional."

The 40-year-old Borland was killed Oct. 25 in the private Learjet crash that also killed golfer Payne Stewart and four others. Borland was a senior design associate with Nicklaus Design. The Peoria, Ill., native, who held a degree in landscape architecture from the University of Illinois, lived in Jupiter, Fla., with his wife, Kate, and four children.

Nicklaus said Borland approached him a week before the crash to ask permission to do a design job with Stewart under the Nicklaus Design banner. "I said, 'Sure,'" Nicklaus said. "I knew it would be a great opportunity for Bruce, and it would be a good experience for him to work with another golfer and another designer for a different perspective. Bruce was flying to Texas with Payne, and they were using the opportunity and time on this flight to get to know each other better."

Borland, though, was supposed to fly to Dallas on a commercial plane to meet Stewart. He later decided to join Stewart on the private jet, Ritterbusch said.

Borland joined Nicklaus Design in 1990. He was the design associate on 10 Nicklaus golf courses. "He was simply a terrific addition to our company and a good friend," Nicklaus said.

Donations in remembrance of Borland can be made to:

Palm Beach Community Church, Bruce E. Borland Building for Life Fund, 3970 RCA Blvd. #7009, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. 33410; First Union National Bank Memorial Fund for the Benefit of the Bruce E. Borland Children, 2000 PGA Blvd. #2200, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. 33408; and the Wycliff Bible Translators, c/o Mark & Deb Borland and Linda & David Captain, P.O. Box 628200, Orlando, Fla. 32862-8200.

**"He was a great guy. He really cared about his work. And he had a lot of respect for superintendents and what we do."**

— Bob Maibusch, CGCS at Hinsdale GC, remembering golf course architect Bruce Borland



## Bill And Ben's Excellent Adventure



Bill Spence

If he wasn't already, Bill Spence became a big Ben Crenshaw fan after working with him at the Ryder Cup. Spence, superintendent at The Country Club at Brookline (Mass.), and Crenshaw, captain of the U.S. Ryder Cup team, collaborated to ready the course for the mega-event, won by the

Americans in thrilling fashion in September.

"Working with Ben Crenshaw was one of the highlights of my professional career," Spence said. "He deserved to win."

The U.S. team was nearly upset — again — but managed to pulverize the Europeans on the last day to win. "You couldn't have written it any better," Spence said of the finale.

Spence said he predicted the Americans would dominate the singles matches on the final day. "That's where they are most com-

fortable," he added. "They have the spotlight solely on them, and they don't have to play with a partner."

Spence wasn't surprised the Europeans ruled in doubles play. During practice rounds, they were buddy-buddy. "They were a fun group of guys and very likeable," he said.

The post-Ryder Cup has brought plenty of work for Spence and his crew.

"We have a tremendous amount of restoration work that will probably go well into next year," he said.