

Off The Fringe

Business briefs

EPA rules on pesticides

The U.S. EPA has implemented a ban and a reduction strategy for two organophosphates used mostly in agriculture. EPA is eliminating the use of methyl parathion on several fruits and vegetables; and reducing application rates of azinphos methyl on apples, pears and peaches. The laws take effect Jan. 1.

By the end of the year, EPA said it will complete its reassessment of the organophosphates and several other commonly used pesticides, and meet the Food Quality Protection Act's food-safety goals.

Pesticide-using industries have complained that EPA isn't using sound science in its FQPA decisions, but the National Resources Defense Fund threatened a lawsuit against EPA for not moving quickly enough to remove pesticides from the marketplace.

Southern Hills vandalized

The championship course at Southern Hills CC was closed for reseeding after vandals damaged eight greens by spraying them with damaging chemicals. Tulsa, Okla.-based Southern Hills is site of the 2001 U.S. Open. Four other greens on another 9-hole course were also damaged.

Eco Soil pays in lawsuit

Rancho Bernardo, Calif.-based Eco Soil Systems will pay termination charges and attorney's fees totaling \$200,000 to settle a lawsuit with Halifax Fund LP, Palladin Group LP, Granite Financial Group and Midori Capital Corp.

In other company news, Eco Soil will acquire the Agricultural Biological Division, a specialized research group of Agrium Inc. based in Calgary, Canada.

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Jurassic Links

Dinosaurs once enjoyed unhindered play on land that has become the greens, bunkers and fairways of the new Heritage at Westmoor GC in Westminster, Colo., a Denver suburb.

Bones belonging to four triceratops — a prehistoric beast resembling a heavily armored rhinoceros — were discovered during construction of the Michael Hurdzan-designed 18-hole municipal course. The most complete specimen was unearthed while digging a bunker. The Denver Museum of Natural History will get most of the remains, while various other pieces and parts will be ensconced at the course, which opened Sept. 9.

"We're going to put up a little display

case at the clubhouse," says Bill Walenczak, Westminster's director of parks, recreation and libraries. He oversaw construction of the \$8.7 million project, which includes an office/light industrial park along with the high-end, full-service clubhouse and course.

"It's tremendously exciting to hold something in your hand that's 62 million years old," Walenczak says.

Prior to the rise of the Rocky Mountains millions of years ago, the course's layout was part of a beach of a large inland sea that drained and left behind a setting similar to the Louisiana Bayous, according to geographic historians. The lush swampland was home to palms, giant gingers and other plants that attracted monsters such as the

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The dark sections at the top of this rock formation are bone fragments from a triceratops.

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Business briefs

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Textron reports increase

Providence, R.I.-based Textron Inc. reported second-quarter diluted earnings per share from continuing operations of \$1.05, up from \$0.70 last year, marking the company's 39th consecutive quarter of year-to-year income improvement.

Lesco announces record sales

Cleveland-based Lesco Inc. announced record sales and earnings for the second quarter and first half of 1999.

Second-quarter sales of \$150.7 million were an increase of 12.1 percent over sales of \$134.4 million in last year's quarter.

Deere breaks ground on plant

John Deere has broken ground for its new Vehicle Group plant in the western end of James City County, Virginia.

The \$30 million project, which was announced in April, will occupy about 300,000 square feet on 75 acres.

The plant, to open next summer, will manufacture

John Deere's line of Gator utility vehicles.

Olympus invests more in Palmer

Olympus Real Estate Corp., a Dallas-based private real estate investment firm, gave an additional \$50 million to San Francisco-based Arnold Palmer Golf Management LLC to expand its partnership to consolidate the golf course industry in a branded chain format.

Toro, ClubCorp extend agreement

Bloomington, Minn.-based The Toro Co. and Dallas-based ClubCorp entered into a six-year extended agreement to make Toro the supplier of turf and landscape equipment, irrigation, and precision turf management technology to all ClubCorp properties.

Correction

An item in the Business Briefs in the May/June issue of *Golfdom* incorrectly spelled the last name of Drew Kinder, co-president and director of retail for AgriBioTech.



One of Our Favorite Ads

▲ When Lincolnshire, Ill.-based Hewitt Associates LLC had an advertising campaign designed to show it believes that people are a company's No. 1 asset, it envisioned what golf greens might look like without superintendents, assistants and crew members. This graphically manipulated photograph, used in one of the global-management consulting firm's advertisements, cleverly conceptualizes a not-so-manicured green.

Quotable

"It's a great alternative to network television. Nobody gets shot, nobody gets stabbed, nobody gets raped and there aren't any drugs involved."

— *Broadcaster Denny Schreiner talking about The Golf Channel.*

"It's one of the few things in life that is better than advertised. The Super Bowl is two weeks of hype and three hours of tripe. The Ryder Cup is three days of blast furnace. How tense is it? One year Corey Pavin was so nervous he couldn't get the tee in the ground — and nobody had hit a shot yet."

— *Rick Reilly, Sports Illustrated columnist, writing on the pressure-packed Ryder Cup.*

"People are sick of issues like this in the sports world. When you can't just show up and play for your country, I don't know. If that's not reward enough, then my heart bleeds for the game of golf."

— *Ben Crenshaw, as told to ESPN, on unnamed PGA players (could it be David Duval, Tiger Woods and Mark O'Meara?) who have said they should be paid for playing in the prestigious Ryder Cup.*

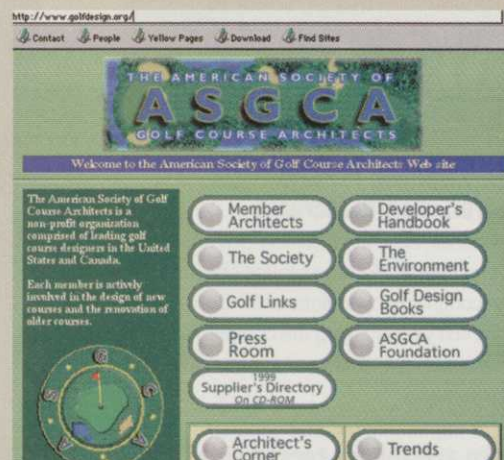
Scanning the Web

You won't need a six-shooter to venture into Texas turf managers' territory. Just point and click your Web browser to gain access to the North Texas GCSA site at <http://web2.airmail.net/ntgcsa1/ntnews.htm>. The site features nearly 40 member-written articles on everything from bunker renovation to overseeding to course construction. Then mosey on over to the South Texas GCSA site at <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/dcolet/>, or the Texas Turfgrass Association site at www.texassturf.com. Happy trails.



Other sites to consider:

- Get an inside look at what the best golf course architects in the world have to say about industry trends, specific turfgrass cultivars and maintenance strategies by logging onto the American Society of Golf Course Architects Web site at www.golfdesign.org. It offers interesting insight into course design rationale and features dozens of links to other popular golf Web sites.
- Two valuable sites for superintendents include the USGA's site at www.usga.org and the Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE) Web site at www.acpa.org/rise. Of special interest at the USGA site are pages devoted to the Green Section, with contact information on staff agronomists, turf advisory services and fees, and articles featured in the Green Section Record. The RISE site includes information on pesticides, issue statements, news releases, resources and links to helpful environmental sites.
- At www.turf-tec.com, John Mascaro of Coral

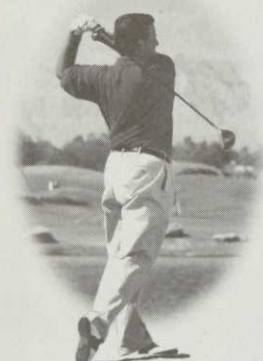


Springs, Fla.-based Turf-Tec International offers free and paid online consulting services for superintendents who have turf problems. Mascaro has been in the industry since about 1982 and is the son of Tom Mascaro, who invented the Aerifier in 1946 and the Verti-Cut in 1955.

- Bayer Turf & Ornamental at www.protect-your-turf.com features a separate section for golf courses and an online course planner for superintendents.

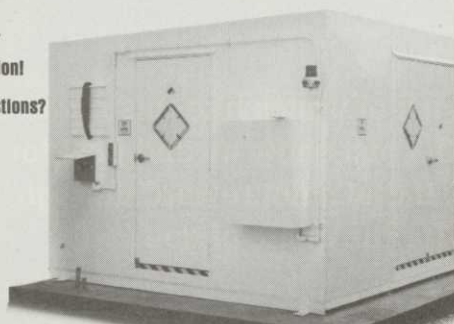
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Why Not 2K?

Believe it or not, **Golfdom** will be back in 2000 with 12 issues. If you haven't already completed a subscription card, fill out the one in the back (or point your browser to www.golfdom.com and click "subscribe") to ensure that you continue to receive the magazine. After all, what publication other than **Golfdom** will tell which is the best pesticide to kill that pesky Y2K bug?

Jurassic Links

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"terrible lizard" tyrannosaurus rex and herds of triceratops, known among paleontologists as "the cows of the Cretaceous period."

The first triceratops remains were discovered near Denver during the 1880s. Another was found on the site of Denver's Coors Field. But the golf course find could be the best yet. It has been difficult for experts to find much of the dinosaur's scattered remains over the years.

A tyrannosaurus rex tooth was unearthed three years ago during construction of a housing development across from the golf course site. Museum staffers sought Walenczak's permission to investigate the Westmoor location.

Some dinosaur bones were discovered on the ground's surface. But it took six hours of jackhammer work to free the bunker specimen. A 65-million-year-old turtle shell was also discovered.

"Our crews had excavated a pile of boulders for the grading we were doing for the fairways," Walenczak says. "They had set those boulders aside because we had planned to use them to line some ponds or to use them as landscape features."

Within the rock piles was a treasure trove of ancient history. "It's a wealth of historic knowledge for us, and if we can preserve that, we should do so," he says. The Heritage at Westmoor GC name salutes its historic past, but there are no plans to adopt a Jurassic Park motif. But Walenczak does note that "we're thinking of incorporating a dinosaur theme in our logo."

—James E. Guyette

Wanted: Tomorrow's Leaders

Golfdom is looking for superintendents, assistants and other management professionals, ages 25 to 35, to spotlight in a special awards program that's focused on the next generation of industry leaders.

Golfdom's Young Leaders program will identify and profile those who will be the mentors, innovators and influencers of the next decade. "We want to select those who will be the trailblazers and

teachers of tomorrow," said Pat Jones, publisher.

Any Golfdom reader can nominate himself or herself or a colleague. Nominations should include name, contact information and a brief description of the person's outstanding leadership characteristics. Send nominations to: Golfdom, 7500 Old Oak Blvd, Cleveland, 44130 or submit by e-mail to patrickjones@advanstar.com.

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