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 it 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 with Halifax Fund L.P., Palladin Group L.P., 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

inosaurs 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 Hurdzandesigned 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.

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 patrick.jones@advanstar.com.

