

Off The Fringe

Business briefs

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quarter. But net income for the quarter was \$7.5 million, lower than the record \$10 million reported in the second quarter of 2000.

Sales for the six months ended June 30 were \$254.9 million, down from \$257.2 million from the first half last year. Net income for the 2001 first half was \$1.9 million, compared with \$8.8 million for the same period last year. Lesco said first-half sales were impacted by adverse weather and difficult economic conditions.

Toro launches PartsViewer

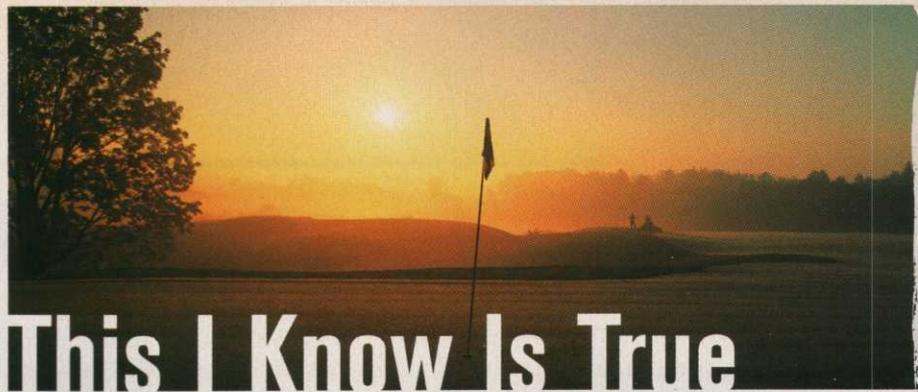
The Toro Co. is now providing customers with round-the-clock access to parts information with the launch of its Toro Master PartsViewer on the Internet at www.toro.com. The Toro Master PartsViewer includes replacement parts lists and illustrations for equipment dating back to 1960.

Roundup sales set record

St. Louis-based Monsanto Co. said net sales were flat at \$2 billion for the second quarter of 2001, but global sales of Roundup herbicide increased 4 percent and set a quarterly record.

ASIC honors Ewing

Ewing Irrigation Products was the recent recipient of the American Society of Irrigation Consultants' Roy Williams Award, named in member of the co-founder and first president of the society.



This I Know Is True

MIKE KLEMM

Editor's note: They write like poets, but David and Faye Pulley, the authors of this poem, are actually in the golf course maintenance industry. David is superintendent of Pine Valley CC in Wilmington, N.C. The Pulleys originally posted the poem on a GCSAA online forum last summer. We liked it so much we asked David if we could print it. Watch out, Robert Frost!

Nematodes, fairy rings, hot spots and some weeds,
Add a few hundred mole crickets out to do their nasty deeds.
Drought in June, rain in July, is it always 90 degrees?
Oh yeah — when am I going to get around to building new ladies' tees?

Sprayer went down, fairway mower is dead and the budget's due this week,
Where's all that water coming from? Oh no, I've got a leak!
Men's Golf Association called today, would like for me to speak,
The rough's so tall, the golfers fuss 'cause they're playing hide and seek.

My wife just called, her car broke down, better pick her up *right* now,
Oh yeah, the secretary wants the bills, she's about to have a cow.
Lightning hit the transformer again, I heard it go kapow,
Haven't done the newsletter yet,
No, sir, I haven't forgotten how.

Hurricane? Tropical storm? There are how many off the coast?
Say what, the aerifier blew a seal just when I need it most.
Some kids took a cart to 17 and turned that green to toast,
And "Talking It Over" is warming up — man, I need to make a post.

Another summer's almost gone, and I guess I'll make it through,
Just when I think it's all too much, I walk out in the morning dew.
Sniff the air, here comes the sun, watch the sky turn blue,
There's nowhere else I'd rather be — this I know is true.

September In Turfgrass Trends:

EVALUATING NTEP: NTEP is a great tool in helping superintendents choose the appropriate variety for their courses. But is it as simple as choosing a variety from the top of the Grand Mean column to construct a blend? Doug Breede, a noted plant breeder, explains what some of the NTEP rating values really mean.

GENETIC FINGERPRINTING: Genetic fingerprinting of turfgrass varieties helps

plant breeders develop more sophisticated varieties. Louisiana State University researcher Ida Wenefrida explains the latest exciting discoveries that her university has made as it has fine-tuned the art of turfgrass fingerprinting.

LABOR AND FATE: Are today's students receiving the proper vocational training they need to meet future labor needs? Turfgrass Trends Managing Editor Curt Harler weighs in.



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