



EMAILS @ TEXTS # TWEETS

Mr. Woodward, after reading about your father ("A Dymond in the rough," January 2014) I want you to know that I too lost my hero, as my father passed away last March. He was a retired farmer who instilled in me a work ethic that I know has made me a better superintendent. Something that helped me was a quote from Arnold Palmer, that not a day goes by that he doesn't think of his father. And I know I now have a "special" crew member who joined my staff this year.

—**Dave Blasiman, Superintendent, Alliance (Ohio) Country Club**

Golfdom's Seth Jones will be the MC of Monday's Palm Beach GCSA meeting? Good. Looking forward to recapping the Florida/Kansas game!

—**Brian Birney (@BrianBirneyGCS)**



Damage to the tenth green at Coal Creek.

Cleaning up Coal Creek

➔ The best-laid plans can amount to nothing with Mother Nature's help. When late summer storms uprooted trees, washed out bunkers and wrecked the Coal Creek GC in Louisville, Colo., prior restoration plans were swept away.

In 2011, golf course architect Kevin Norby was hired by the city to complete a long-range capital improvement plan for the course, directed at improving overall course conditions and identifying long-term improvements. However, Norby now has to sort storm repairs out from the list of improvements originally planned. Norby explained that some repairs, those caused by storm damage, will be funded by FEMA. "FEMA gets involved and they will only pay to get (the course) back to original conditions," says Norby.

Norby is currently working to determine which damages fall under FEMA funding and which the original plan. "It's a very tedious process, but it's the process we have to go through," says Norby. Construction begins this month.

THEY SAID IT

RON PRICHARD, ARCHITECT

On one of the first things he recommends when he visits a course:

"There's always some need for management of the trees that have been planted over the years. Too many courses have planted inexpensive pine trees all over the golf course, making the course very difficult to play. It's not the most expensive or difficult process (to remove them), it's not a major surgery. But we created a problem for many of our great old classic courses."