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*Dr. Terrance P. Riordan
Turfgrass Plant Breeder
University of Nebraska*



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 - 02 20 Semi-Private
 - 03 30 Private
 - 04 40 Resort
 - 05 50 City/State/Municipal
 - 06 55 Other Golf Courses (please specify) _____
 - 07 60 Golf Course Architect
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- 19 40 Green Committee Member
- 20 45 Club President
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- 22 55 Architect/Engineer
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3. What are the types of turf on your:

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| 67 <input type="radio"/> L Fungicides | 82 <input type="radio"/> 1 Safety Products | 97 <input type="radio"/> 16 Weather Systems |
| 68 <input type="radio"/> M Generators | 83 <input type="radio"/> 2 Sand | 98 <input type="radio"/> 17 Wetting Agents |
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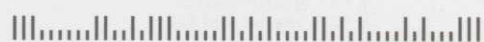
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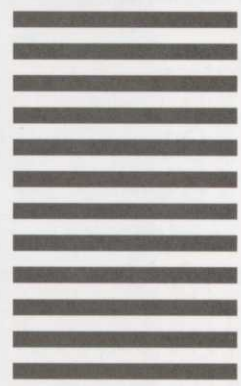
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| 19 <input type="radio"/> 40 Green Committee Member | |

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| 27 <input type="radio"/> 3 Rye | 31 <input type="radio"/> 3 Rye | 36 <input type="radio"/> 3 Rye |
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|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
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| 48 <input type="radio"/> B 18 | 50 <input type="radio"/> D 36+ | |

- 6. Are you the person responsible for golf car purchasing/leasing?**
 52 A Yes 53 B No

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Credit the Crawler

The flooded Guadalupe River dumped mud, water and nearly two feet of silt on the Bandit GC. But it was a nifty, all-purpose construction vehicle to the rescue.

Problem

The 500-year flood nearly wiped out the Bandit GC last fall. It left mud, water and silt in its wake, not to mention a clogged irrigation system. What to do to clean up the course?

Solution

Bring in the crawler, a 9,000-pound vehicle with low ground pressure and superb traction. It cleaned up the mess and didn't damage the course in the process.

It's hard to believe that it's the same Bandit GC that was submerged with mud, water and 24 inches of silt when the nearby Guadalupe River rose 39 feet during the 500-year flood on Oct. 17. During a storm that dumped more than 21 inches of rain within 20 hours on southwest Texas, the river flooded the entire region.

The river carried off dozens of homes, killed at least 20 people and caused damage of about \$1 billion. Golf courses in the area were severely damaged.

Yet after months of hard work, Bandit is back in shape, offering majestic views with its famous cliffs, bluffs and ridges. And it's back in business, attracting golfers from across Texas.

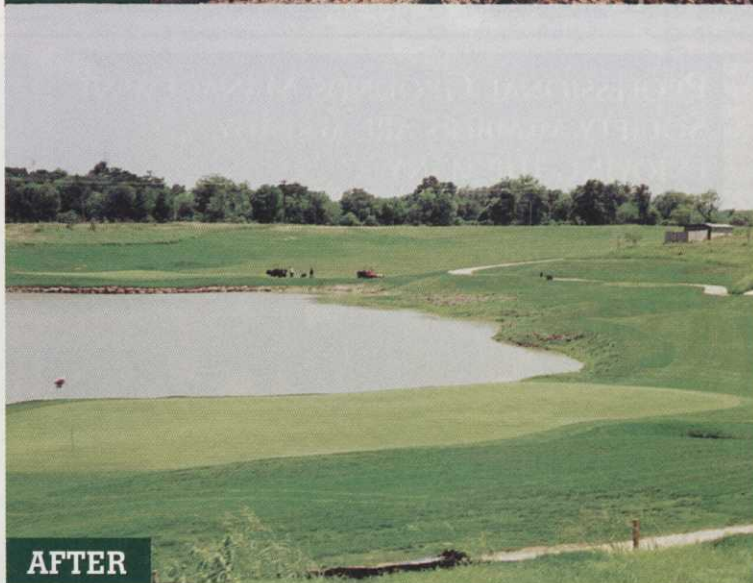
But the only way you could have played the course last fall was with a pair of hip waders and a floating ball. "I've been in business for 11 years and never saw anything like it," says Rich Cope, Bandit's superintendent.

The problem

The destruction from the flood would have been bad enough, but when the water receded the aftermath was even worse. Mud had gummed up Bandit's entire irrigation system, and it was no longer functioning.

Though the entire course sustained damage, the worst was found on holes No. 12 and 13, where nearly 24 inches of silt had been deposited on the greens and fairways.

"We didn't know what we were



going to do about it," Cope says. "It was a hair-raising experience."

Options considered

When Cope and his team sat down to brainstorm solutions, few were forthcoming.

With the irrigation system gummed up with mud, hosing off the silt was not a viable option. Besides, it was doubtful that water

could rid the fairways and greens of that much silt.

"We also considered bringing in tractors and other heavy loading equipment, but none of that stuff would work because of the damage those machines would do to the course," Cope notes.

For a time, it seemed the Guadalupe River had won.

Continued on page 66

Continued from page 65

Solution chosen

Searching for an alternative, Cope contacted Steve Tolliver of S.H. Tolliver Construction, one of his primary contractors, who put him in contact with All Weather Sales and Rental, a Georgetown, Texas-based firm specializing in equipment that works in difficult terrain.

All Weather suggested that Cope rent a Posi-Track all-purpose crawler manufactured by ASV Inc. of Grand Rapids, Minn.

Though similar in size and shape to a skid-steer, the machine utilized a technologically advanced undercarriage and rubber tracks, giving the 9,000-pound vehicle extraordinarily

low ground pressure (3.0 psi) and traction. Cope rented the machine because it appeared to be the only viable solution.

Outcome

Once on the course, the machine lived up to its billing. "It worked better than we had hoped," Cope says.

With a bucket attachment, Cope and his team pushed the silt and mud off the fairways and greens. The job took about three weeks.

Operating the 7,500-pound machine with rubber tracks was similar to allowing a third-grader in sneakers on the course. Historically, machines light on the ground don't have the power necessary to do heavy work, and powerful machines



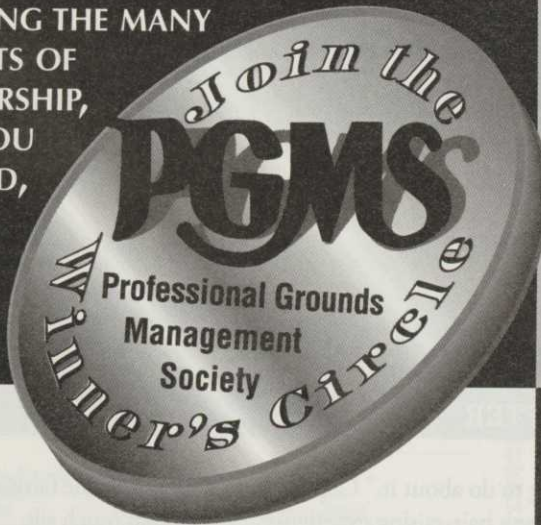
The Posi-Track offers traction and power. But it won't tear up a golf course.

cause too much damage. But Cope discovered that the Posi-Track's intricate wheel pattern within the rubber-tracked undercarriage not only gave the machine a light footprint, but also traction and power.

Thanks to the undercarriage,

the machine was able to touch softly on the turf at Bandit GC, but also have the traction to push the heavy sludge. With the bucket attachment, the machine was able to skim the sludge down to a half inch, a point at which water could be used. ■

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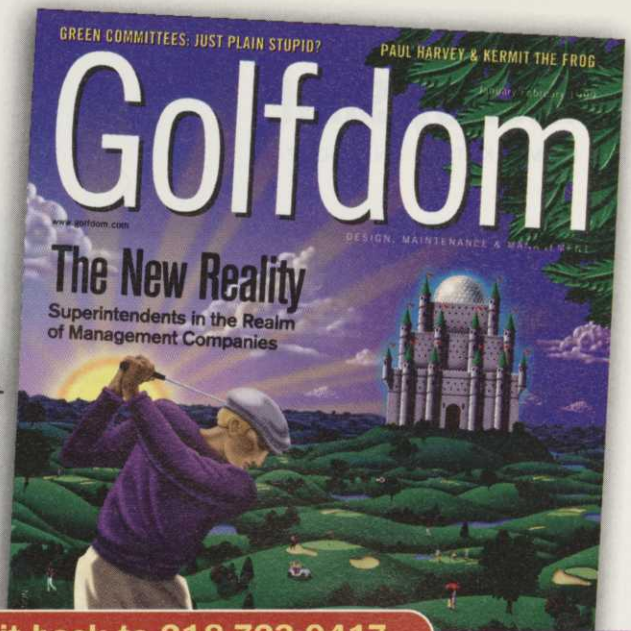
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| O <input type="radio"/> Grinders/Sharpeners | 4 <input type="radio"/> Snow Equipment | |

8. Do you have Internet Access?

- A Yes
- B No

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- A Daily
- B Weekly
- C Monthly
- D Occasionally

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score for nine holes? Who cares?

These girls just want to have fun. And they do in the Fast Bad Golf League at Sunnysbreeze Palms GC in Arcadia, Fla.

The league was created by Kathy Baker, co-owner of Sunnysbreeze Palms, who saw the need for an entry-level and easygoing format for women who enjoy golf — but on their own terms. Eight years later, the league remains as popular as a long-running Broadway hit.

“I like to play golf for fun, fellowship and being outdoors,” Baker says. “I was tired of playing with competitive, bloodthirsty women who count their strokes and everybody else’s strokes when they’re playing. Golf needs to be less serious.”

Baker believed other women empathized with her just-want-to-have-a-good-time attitude. When she organized the Thursday morning league, they emerged with clubs in hand.

Players come from all walks — moms, widows and professionals. “Once we had two 90-year-olds playing in the group,” Baker says.

It’s no surprise because more women want to play golf. They account for 40 percent of all new players, according to the National Golf Foundation. Many women just need to feel like they belong. “They don’t want to look stupid,” Baker adds.

And they don’t want to be intimidated. There may be more new women golfers, but many of them quit soon after starting partly because of the intimidation factor. Some are even unnerved by their husbands.

“Many women don’t want to play with their husbands and others who are good because they are intimidated by them,” Baker notes.

It was another reason that Baker formed the league. She makes it clear that intimidation doesn’t have a place in the Fast Bad Golf League. Even those with godawful games are welcome.

“This is a great place for women who are just learning the game,” Baker says. “If they tip

Girl Golfers Just Wanna Have Fun

BY LARRY AYLWARD



IF A WOMAN WANTS
TO THROW HER
BALL INSTEAD OF
DRIVING IT OFF THE
TEE, SHE CAN,
ACCORDING TO THE
RULES OF THE FAST
BAD GOLF LEAGUE

over their golf carts, we have a good laugh. If they hit their balls in the water, nobody cares.”

But don’t get the idea that the Fast Bad Golf League doesn’t have rules. These women are versed in golf etiquette. And they don’t want to delay others on the course with slow play. (Hence, the word “fast” in the league name.)

“If they go over 10 strokes, they have to pick their balls up,” Baker says, adding that women usually complete their 9-hole rounds in about two hours.

Not surprisingly, the “good” golfers didn’t want to play behind the perceived “bad” women players when the league began in 1992. But their criticisms were quelled when they saw that the “bad” women players moved at a quick pace. And something ironic happened. “Some of the good women players from other groups wanted to join the league when they saw how much fun we were having,” Baker says.

Other women joined the league with the intention of learning the game and moving on to other challenges. But they were having so much fun that they didn’t want to quit the league, Baker says.

The Fast Bad Golf League also doubles as a support group. Golfers with personal problems will find that other league members are willing to help them deal with their grief. “It’s like group therapy, which is what golf is,” Baker says.

But mostly the league is about fun, which is what golf is supposed to be about, Baker stresses. So if a woman wants to throw her ball instead of driving it off the tee or kick her ball instead of putting it, she can, according to the rules of the Fast Bad Golf League.

And she can burst into laughter at herself for doing so.

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Leaders

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



◀ Sylacauga, Ala.-based Pursell Technologies Inc. named **Andrew Semple** as regional sales manager for the northern United States and Canada.

Austin, Texas-based distributor Van Waters & Rogers Inc. named **Ronald Os-trander** and **Terry Johnson** as turf landscape specialists in the company's Professional Products & Services business unit.

Post Falls, Idaho-based turfgrass seed provider Medalist America named **Myra Potts** as turf specialist for a six-state region, including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee and Mississippi.

San Diego-based Eco Soil Systems Inc./Turf Partners named **Thomas E. Vrabel, Ph.D.**, as bioherbicides product manager and technical services director.



◀ **John LaFoy** was elected president of the Chicago-based American Society of Golf Course Architects.

Shannon Letcher was named director of golf for the Sanctuary GC at WestWorld in Scottsdale, Ariz. **Jeff Davis** was named superintendent of the new 18-hole, daily-fee golf club.

Daniel McIntyre was named superintendent at Dryden Park Municipal GC in Modesto, Calif.



◀ **Susan Spencer** was named marketing coordinator for Azusa, Calif.-based Rain Bird's Golf Division.

Matthew A. Zirkle was named business development manager and **Dana Blakeslee** was promoted to golf satellite brand manager.



Robert D. Irving was named director of golf at The Rim GC in Payson, Ariz.

Ken James and **Jim Shoemaker** formed Golf Industry Associates to provide consulting services to the golf industry. James was formerly senior vice president of operations and acquisitions for

American Golf Corp. Shoemaker has a 35-year track record with the food and beverage industry, including a stint as director of food and beverage for American Golf Corp.'s Midwest region.

Augusta, Ga.-based Club Car named **Kevin Nicusanti** as vice president of sales and marketing, **Robert McElreath** as vice president of sales, and **Chris Plummer** as vice president of marketing and business development.

*Let us know about your people on the move. Send information and color photos to **Golfdom's Larry Aylward** at 7500 Old Oak Blvd., Cleveland, 44130. Fax information to 440/891-2675 or e-mail to laylward@advanstar.com.*

The Company Line

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Turf collection system

John Deere's TC125 Turf Collection System is a tow-behind attachment that allows one person to pick up and dump turf debris, such as aeration cores, sand, clippings, leaves and thatch. The TC 125 covers a swath 48 inches wide and has a hopper capacity of 25 cubic feet. With a brush speed of 500 to 600 rpm, an average-size green can be cleared in about 15 minutes.

For more information, contact John Deere at 800/537-8233, www.deere.com or **CIRCLE NO. 201**

Greensmower

Hudson Sales & Engineering Inc. offers its Hudson-Star greensmower, which provides a cut from one-eighth to three-eighths of an inch. Cut adjustments of one-thirty-second of an inch or less can be made to assure a proper cutting height. The mower has 11 computer-balanced cutting blades.

For more information, contact Hudson Sales & Engineering at 877/547-3367, hudsonstar.com or **CIRCLE NO. 202**



Sub-soiling tools

Brillion Iron Works has one- and two-shank sub-soilers that use the same shanks, points and wearstrips that have been used on its larger sub-soilers. One- and two-shank sub-soilers can be used by those needing aggressive subsoiling but are limited by tractor horsepower or working space.

For more information, contact Brillion Iron Works at 800/409-9749, www.brillionfarmeq.com or **CIRCLE NO. 203**

Microscope

RF Inter-Science Co. offers the Macroscope 25, a low-cost portable microscope that can be placed directly on turf, eliminating the need for plugs. Tough-to-identify weeds or insects, foiler lesions of dollar spot or leaf spot and many other turf spoilers are easy to identify, according to the company.

For more information, contact RF Inter-Science Co. at 516/698-4799, www.rfinterscience.com or **CIRCLE NO. 204**



Mini-loaders

Gehl Co. introduces the Gehl Advantage, a line of mini-loaders designed with big loader features in a choice of two compact maneuverable packages, according to the company. Choose from skid-steer or articulated-steering styles. As narrow as 32 inches, the mini-loaders are effective for turf maintenance, landscaping and light construction.

For more information, contact Gehl Co. at 414/334-9461, www.gehl.com or **CIRCLE NO. 205**

Power landscape rake

Glenmac/Harley Power Equipment offers the Harley Model S6 Power Box Rake, a 72-inch bi-angular, bi-directional power landscape rake for skid-steer loaders. It works somewhat like a tiller, but also levels, pulverizes, rakes and collects rock, according to the company.

Bi-angular construction allows the operator to angle the single roller and twin barrier up to 20 degrees left or right for grading and windrowing.

For more information, contact Glenmac/Harley Power Equipment at 701/252-9300, www.glenmac.com or **CIRCLE NO. 206**

Sod layer attachment

Melroe Co. introduces its new Bobcat sod layer attachment, which features auxiliary hydraulic controls that allow finger-tip control to open and close the sod layer arms. Relief valves prevent oversqueezing of sod rolls and a brake mechanism automatically stops the roll in place once it is off the ground to safeguard against unwanted unrolling of sod, according to the company.

For more information, contact Melroe Co. at 701/241-8740, www.bobcat.com or **CIRCLE NO. 207**

Events

SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

AUGUST

1-4 International Society of Arboriculture Conference

Stamford, Conn. Contact Lisa Thompson, 217/355-9411.

4 Summer Field Day, Midwest Ground Cover

St. Charles, Ill. Contact Illinois Landscape Contractors, 630/932-8443.

6-8 TAN-MISSLARK Nursery, Garden, Landscape Supply Show

Dallas Convention Center, Houston. Contact 800/880-0343.

7-9 Southern Nursery Association World Showcase of Horticulture

Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta. Contact 770/973-9026.

8-11 Soil & Water Conservation Society Annual Conference

Grand Casino, Biloxi, Miss. Contact 515/289-2331.

10-13 Florida Turfgrass Association Conference and Trade Show

O'Connell Center, Gainesville, Fla. Contact Jane Rea, 800/882-6721.

SEPTEMBER

8-11 RISE Annual Meeting

Beaver Creek, Colo. Contact Elizabeth Lawder, 202/872-3860.

9-10 Southwest Horticultural Trade Show, Arizona Nursery Association

Phoenix Civic Plaza, Phoenix. Contact Cheryl Goar, 602/966-1610.

16-18 Florida Nursery & Allied Trade Show

Orlando, Fla. Contact Sabrina Wade, 407/295-7994.

26-28 The Fertilizer Institute, World Fertilizer Conference.

Marriott Marquis, New York. Contact Robin Hailer, 202/675-8250.

JUST GOLF

AUGUST

12-14 Golf Course Builders Association of America Summer Meeting

Chicago. Contact 919/942-8922.

SEPTEMBER

26-28 Club Managers Association of America Annual Leadership and Legislative Conference

Pentagon City, Va. Contact 703/739-9500.

28-30 PGA International Golf Show

Las Vegas, Nev. Contact 561/624-8400.

27-30 Hawaii Mid-Pacific Horticultural Conference & Show

Hilo, Hawaii. Contact 770/973-9026.

OCTOBER

20-22 Southwest Turfgrass Annual Conference & Trade Show

Ruidoso, N.M. Contact 505/275-2576.

NOVEMBER

9-12 New York State Turfgrass Association Conference & Show

Syracuse, N.Y. Contact Beth Seme, 518/783-1229.

13-16 Green Industry Expo

Baltimore. Contact Eleanor Ellison, 770/973-2019.

Let us know about your conference. Please send information at least four months before the conference date. Information should include event, date, site and contact information (name and phone). Fax information to Golfdom at 440/891-2675 or e-mail to laylward@advanstar.com.



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