

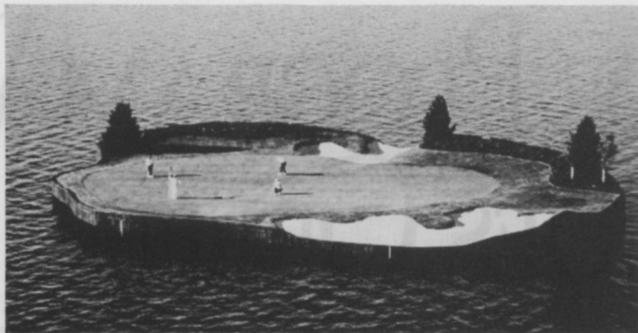
Unique floating green 'nothing special' to keep up, according to superintendent

COEUR D'ALENE, Ida. — The world's first floating golf green was unveiled at Coeur d'Alene Resort's golf course here April 1.

The 14th green floats between 100 and 150 yards offshore. To golfers, it will look much like any other green, complete with trees, sand traps, flower beds and a bentgrass putting surface. Golfers will have to board a small ferry to get from the fairway to the green.

"We have a custom-made pontoon boat stored in our boathouse," notes superintendent Dan Moore. "We'll be able to transport all the equipment—including a push rotary or Flymo for rough areas—in the boat."

Moore says some consideration was given to design-



ing a bunker in which to "hide" maintenance equipment on the island. "There's not much to maintain, though, really," Moore says. "It really is nothing out of the ordinary as far as maintenance."

The flotation system is, though. The 15,000 sq. ft. green sits on more than 100 separate concrete modules with solid expanded poly-

styrene cores. Built in two layers with a sandwich of metal and foam between, the modules are locked together by an intricate system of 550 vertical through rods. Each module is 10 by 30 feet and weighs 25,000 lbs. The system was designed by Bellingham Marine Industries, Bellingham, Wash.

Runoff, which could

contain fertilizer and pesticides, is not allowed to flow into the lake. All water coming down through the soil is collected and sent to an onshore treatment plant via an umbilical cord. Two mechanical rooms beneath the green contain this system and winches that adjust the hole's distance.

The course sits on approximately 150 acres of land that housed a lumber mill for more than 90 years, so environmental concerns weighed heavily on its design. The golf green is stationed on Lake Coeur d'Alene where the mill once floated more than 30 acres of logs at a time. Using this area for the green actually returned more than 20 acres of lake to public use. □

LAWN CARE

Public awareness campaign helps customers understand

HUDSON, Ohio — A unique concept in customer relations has been implemented by one of the largest lawn care companies in the Midwest.

The Lawnmark Environmental Committee will provide information to the public on environmentally responsible lawn care.

"We will help continual development of Lawnmark's internal systems and will be a voice to the public on issues of importance to consumers," says Dr. James Wilkinson, Lawnmark's chief operating officer.

Lawnmark president J. Martin Erbaugh believes the committee's information will not only help the public but also the company. "We have already reduced pesticide use by more than 35 percent in areas of grub and weed control without sacrificing lawn quality," he notes.

"This has been accomplished mainly through equipment improvements and intensive employee training.

"This new environmental committee will assist Lawnmark to further reduce usage without sacrificing quality or customer satisfaction. This is part of our commitment to envi-

ronmental responsibility."

Members of the committee are Wilkinson, Lawnmark vice president Mark Laube, attorney Stephen G. Brooks, county extension agent Jim Chatfield and LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT technical advisors Dr. Marty Petrovic of Cornell University and Dr. Jack Hall of VPI-SU. □



Dr. James Wilkinson: new program provides a 'voice to the public'

ACADEMIA

Budget ax falls on SUNY's hort programs

RIVERHEAD, N.Y. — The State University of New York/Farmingdale's horticulture department hopes state lawmakers will be generous in funding SUNY educational programs for 1991-92.

A recent fundraising campaign by the Long Island Nurserymen's Association raised \$105,000 from industry, but the department still needs \$250,000 to

preserve the curriculum. More than \$2 million in cuts have been made to university programs across the state.

Budget battles were on at press time, to meet the April 1 budget deadline.

In a politically motivated role-reversal, Gov. Mario Cuomo is apparently trying to make drastic spending cuts to raise New York from fiscal oblivion,

and thereby improve his chances for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1992, should he decide to run.

"We're trying to get support from the state assembly and state legislature to get additional funding back in the budget," says landscape contractor Gus Wade of Wade Associates, Wyandanch, N.Y.

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