

# Grab Bag

## Family business succession facts

According to the Arthur Andersen/Mass Mutual American Family Business Survey '97, two-fifths of the family businesses in the US are expecting to change leadership by the year 2002. Therefore, says Ross Nager, executive director of the Arthur Andersen Center for Family Business, succession has taken on greater importance. The survey of more than 3000 family business owners revealed that 79 percent of respondents want the business to stay in the family. Seventeen percent of respondents said they are not confident of the next generation's commitment to the business.

## The year in golf should be big

The National Golf Foundation reports that the US golf industry will have a record number of new courses built in 1998, "if history repeats itself." A record 932 courses were under construction in the US as of Dec. 31, 1997, reports NGF. 728 of those are due to be finished this year, but based on history, about 35 percent will be pushed into 1999. Still, we can look for about 485 new courses to be ready to go this year, the NGF estimates.



## Special effects landscape project

*An award winner in the California Landscape Contractors Association 39th Annual Beautification Awards was this residential design by Pierre Charles Landscape. Highlights of the "Excelsior Award" winning project were stylish paving stones lined with ornamental plants, a rustic wagon and inviting, soothing night lighting.*

## OLCA's 'Man of the Year'

Steve Bailey (right), owner and operator of Grassroots Lawn & Irrigation, Upper Arlington, Ohio, the Ohio Lawn Care Association's "Man of the Year". Phil Fogarty (left), OLCA's first



president, made the surprise presentation at the Ohio Turfgrass Conference this past winter, and warmly thanked Bailey for his hard work in OLCA's founding years.

## Paul Wolfe new NAA president

Paul Wolfe II was installed as president of the National Arborist Association in February. Wolfe has a BS in soil science from Michigan State University. He founded Integrated Plant Care, Rockville, Md. in 1988.

## Pine-straw for the Midwest?

Researchers at the University of Missouri-Columbia are searching the world to find pine varieties that will thrive in Missouri and make good pine-straw mulch.

A cross between the pitch pine and the loblolly pine is the farthest along, and it looks the most promising, says Steven Kirk, MU forestry research specialist.

Another variety being grown at the research center is Apache pine.

Grab Bag features brief observations and prognostications throughout the green industry. If you have an unusual photo or comment you'd like to share with us, please send it in...