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work was started, while it was being done and after the job was completed. There is nothing that will beat pictorial reporting on situations like this."

What does it take to operate and maintain the Oakland Hills Country Club? "Lots of money, lots of planning and a lot of attention to detail," Woehrle pointed out. "Our budget is about \$400,000 annually."

Woehrle points with pride to the tournaments that have been held at Oakland Hills. They include four U.S. Opens—the fifth to be played on this course in 1985; a Western Open and two PGA Tournaments. In 1981 the Second Annual Senior U. S. Open (for those over 50 years of age) was held at Oakland Hills Country Club and attracted a number of professional golfers.

During the peak summer months, 25 people are on the golf course payroll. The season runs from April 1 to December 1. Peak employment starts in June and tapers off gradually in September. College students constitute the largest number of part-time workers during the summer months.

Ten of these employees work about 10 months of the year. This group functions as a skeleton crew during the off-peak work season. Three remain on the payroll the entire year.

Top wage scale for the longer period workers is \$6.25 per hour. Summer help is paid \$3.75 per hour. Full time employees are covered with Blue Cross/Blue Shield

"I can't assume that Club Board members are fully aware of maintenance and improvements."

insurance, have paid holidays and come under the Teamsters Retirement Program.

While Oakland Hills may not have the difficult layout of Pebble Beach, it has real eye appeal. All fairways are creeping bentgrass. Automated irrigation of all fairways is available during dry periods. Fifty-five thousand feet of irrigation line, starting with eight-inch



Careful attention to cutting equipment minimizes down time. Woehrle takes a personal interest in equipment maintenance.

mains down to one-and-one-half-inch lines carry water down all fairways. Heads are spaced 90 feet apart.

"We have three wells," Woehrle pointed out, "from which water is pumped into two reservoirs, one of which is an acre-and-a-half. "During dry periods we use as much as a million gallons of water per night. Watering is done three times per week during drought periods. This means we could use as much as 12 million gallons of water per month. We had a dry 1982 summer and did a lot of irrigating."

Approximately 400 pounds of bentgrass seed are used per year to maintain the excellent quality of fairway turf. Barring loss of turf, for whatever reasons, Woehrle pointed out that his bent turf withstands considerable wear and tear but holds up well.

Approximately 45 tons of various analysis fertilizer are used per year. Ordering is done in October; delivery is made in November and payment is made in December. Handling fertilizer purchases this way, Woehrle pointed out, gives him a savings of about nine percent.

Approximately 50 gallons of herbicide are used each year and in-

cludes dicamba, MCPP and 2,4-D. Applications of herbicide are made in the spring when plant growth is at its best.

Mowing and maintenance equipment take a good share of the annual budget. Seventy mowers are owned by the Oakland Hills Country Club. Most are the reel type. Rotary mowers are used only for trimming along fence rows and similar areas.

Seven gang mowers of the reel type are used, each cutting a swath 18 feet wide. Fairway mowers, including the tractors, cost approximately \$25,000 each. The reel mower attachment, alone, costs about \$9,000 each.

A special Toro reel mower was purchased in 1982 for \$16,000. It is hydraulically and electronically operated (via a gas engine) and is used extensively on fairways and greens. It cuts an 84 inch swath. Another special feature of the mowing unit is the attachment for catching grass clippings.

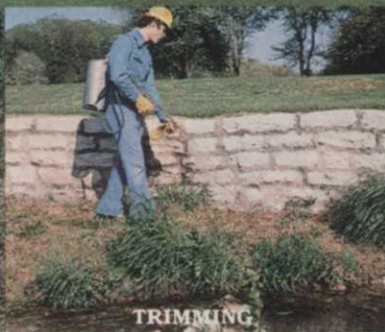
Mowers are purchased from local dealers and include Toro, Jacobsen and Roseman.

"With the rather delicate nature of the mowers," Woehrle pointed out, "it is important to have the same operator use the same ma-

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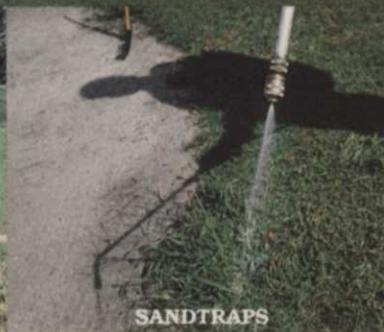
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A Job for the Golden Bear and Larry Pakkala

SAVING ST. ANDREWS

By Thomas Paciello



Triplex mower is much advanced compared to mowing methods when the course opened in 1888.



Holes like this will be preserved to maintain the historic and scenic value of the original course.

"There's too much waste. Golf course superintendents should be looking for ways to save money." That is the attitude that helped Larry Pakkala revive a financial sagging Mid-Ocean Country Club in Bermuda. His talent for cutting costs and still producing top quality landscapes landed him the superintendent job at St. Andrews Golf Club, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY.

For many years St. Andrews G.C.'s claim to fame was its founding date of 1888, making it the oldest golf club in the country. It has recently drawn much publicity when an attempt to subdivide and sell it was forestalled by golf legend Jack Nicklaus. With the club in poor financial shape members were planning to sell off the club real estate. Nicklaus was contacted and rescued the club from devel-

Members were planning to sell off the oldest golf club in the U.S.

opers and bankruptcy by purchasing it through his company, Golden Bear Enterprises.

With the historical legacy of St. Andrews intact, Nicklaus and his associates proceeded to develop a plan to bring the club back to solvency. The result was "St. Andrews Village," as the new complex will be called. St. Andrews Village will be a totally redesigned 18-hole golf course and condominium complex. The original 18 holes (on 130 acres) will be remodeled into 14 holes while four new holes are constructed on the 70 acres of newly-purchased land. The 210 planned condominiums will also be built on the new land which overlooks the course.

The conversion from near-bankruptcy to St. Andrews Village

Continued on page 36

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has not been an easy one. Zoning regulations, planning boards and local politicians and environmentalists have set construction back, but Nicklaus hasn't flagged in his support. "This is a hard place to build," said Pakkala. "The costs are high and there is a lot of bureaucracy. There hasn't been any golf course construction in Westchester county in 20 years." St. Andrews is planned to shut down on October 31, 1982, and reopen in April, 1984. With construction being planned for November, 1982, golf course construction should take 15 months and condominium construction three years to complete.

During the club's down-time Pakkala will don his construction hat to supervise and oversee the numerous contractors. "I'll be particularly responsible for those contractors who haven't done golf course work before," said Pakkala. He'll also be coordinating the grading, seeding and sodding efforts. The course will be rebuilt to USGA specifications and the putting green and driving range will be enlarged. A godsend for any superintendent, automatic irrigation, will also be installed. The club had been using a manual system.

With membership at St. Andrews down to 100 (from 300) cash flow was a major problem and Pakkala's attitude of fiscal efficiency was just what the doctor (at St. Andrews) ordered: "I pride myself in cutting corners and still delivering a good product," said Pakkala. "With the money you save you can help bring your club back to better shape."

"I pride myself in cutting corners and still delivering a good product."

That was just what he had done at Mid-Ocean Country Club. Pakkala restructured the maintenance operation at Mid-Ocean and helped put the course on firm financial ground. His accomplishments there did not go unnoticed.



Pakkala, who even drives compact trucks, will oversee and supervise the contractors during reconstruction.

Golf Force, the golf course construction and maintenance subsidiary of Golden Bear Enterprises, learned of Pakkala while doing business with Mid-Ocean. When Nicklaus took over St. Andrews, Golf Force didn't have to look far for a fiscally responsible superintendent. After four years at Mid-Ocean Pakkala joined St. Andrews in March 1981.

"You should spend money to accomplish specific goals," said Pakkala. "A lot of superintendents tag on an inflation figure to their budgets each year and expect them to be boosted accordingly. Every year you should look at your budget and your course and decide what has to be done."

When a problem pops up that has not been budgeted for, Pakkala gets the money somehow; if its not readily available (as is often the case) he'll cut out a lower priority program.

In some ways, Pakkala points out, the golf course superintendent has been his own worst enemy. "The American golfer has been spoiled by the lush, plush condi-

tions supplied by superintendents over the last 20 years," said Pakkala. "Golfers also travel a lot more so they get to see good conditions all year round." He added that with tougher economic times and tighter natural resources superintendents will be using different practices than they have in the past. They will be letting the rough grow more, not spraying as frequently and using different varieties of grasses to get better results with less maintenance. "It is the duty of the superintendent to convey his ideas to the members," he said. "If you don't create good public relations with the members you are in trouble. Most members are professionals. If you can explain what you are going to do in a diplomatic way, they will understand and you'll come out ahead."

"Some members complain because we're reverting to some of the old techniques, but I've never had a problem. I've got a good relationship with the membership here." Pakkala noted that some superintendents don't like to tell

Continued on page 80

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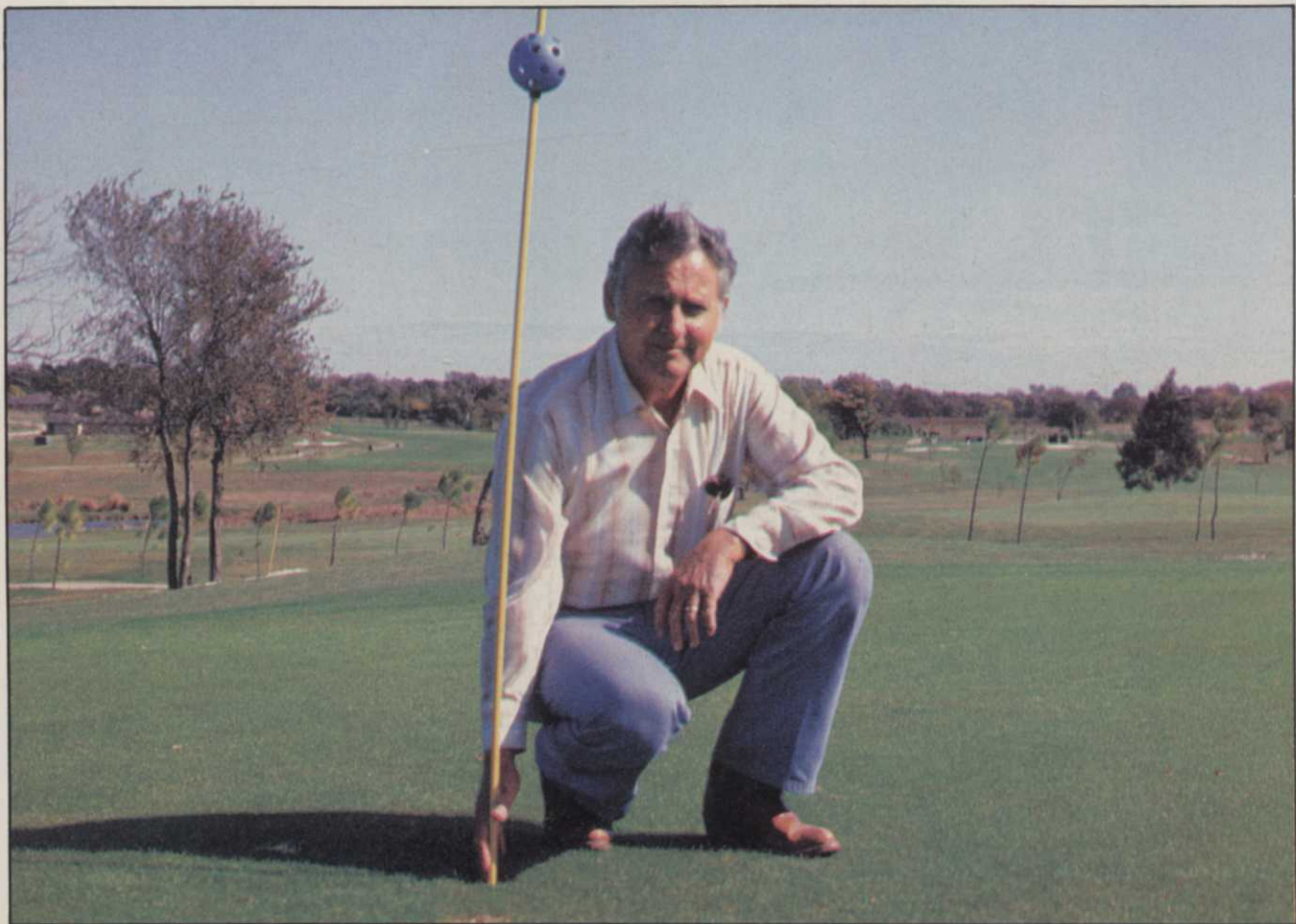
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Answer: D-z-n Diazinon controls all twenty-three insects seen here.

Richard Hartline's Goal
**ANOTHER STAR
FOR TEXAS**

By Maureen Hrehocik



Hartline kneels proudly on one of the rebuilt greens.

If Richard Hartline has his way The Shores Country Club in Rockwall, Texas, will soon be one of the leading championship courses in the state. In four years he has put the course well on its way with a series of refinements and improvements. The course has the potential, sitting on the shores of Lake Ray Hubbard in the center of a \$200,000 and up housing development. As he states, "There is plenty of room near the clubhouse to accommodate a gallery for championship matches."

When Hartline became superintendent of the course, located 30 miles east of Dallas, he immediately

reworked and reshaped the greens. He solved, for the most part, a severe drainage problem. He planted over 5,000 trees and installed a \$100,000 cement cart path. It was all accomplished in about a year, and, Hartline says, he hasn't finished yet.

The 18-hole semi-private course was designed by Ralph Plummer. Hartline says one of the major selling points of the housing complex is the golf course.

Future improvements include diverting some of the water from the lake to make water traps. Hartline still has a drainage problem to contend with on some of the

fairways. Nine more tees will be leveled and senior citizen tees will be added. Plans are in the works to build 23 more traps and plant 10,000 more trees—all within the next two years.

"I'm particularly proud of the back nine holes," Hartline says. "They have the best view of the lake."

With more than 267 acres of turfgrass in recreation alone (including the tennis court area) and 14,255 rounds played on the course up to October of last year, Hartline's maintenance schedule is fine-tuned. He and his crew of

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