NAVY REMODELS SEABEE GOLF COURSE

The U.S. Navy's nine-hole Seabee Golf Course at Port Hueneme, CA is undergoing major renovation. The original course, built by Seabees just after the Korean War, will be completely remodeled.

Leisure Planning Associates, the golf course architecture division of Halsey Design Group, Inc., has been chosen to redesign the course, and to design an additional nine-hole course. When completed, the links will be an 18-hole, par-72, 6,513-yard, championship-play facility.

Jack Daray, LPA project golf course architect, said that the work will be funded by non-appropriated Navy funds at no cost to taxpayers. The Navy has been planning the project for the past nine years. However, all work will be done by civilian contractors. The LPA will design all aspects of the project, including course layout, pumping and irrigation systems and artificial lakes to be constructed on the property.

The new nine-hole course will replace a material storage facility now on the site.

FASTER GERMINATION STUDIED BY JACKLIN

Jacklin Seed Co. of Post Falls, ID, is working on a method of treating turfgrass seed prior to packaging to speed up germination. The process, called "seed priming," has cut germination time for Kentucky bluegrass nearly in half.

Dr. Douglas Brede, the company's head of research, has been testing the process for more than three years. "One goal is to shorten the germination period for Kentucky bluegrass to be more like perennial ryegrass," said Brede. "We want to provide sports turf managers with the quick germination they need."

"Priming eliminates pregermination by the turf manager," explains Gayle Jacklin-Ward, director of communications. "Seed is treated here at the plant before it is shipped. We hope to have primed seed available within the next two years."

NORTH CAROLINA PRAISES NEW TURF CENTER

The newly constructed Turf Field Center building at North Carolina State University was honored in a ceremony held May 18. Dr. Durwood Bateman, Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; Dr. George Kriz, Associate Director, North Carolina Agricultural Research Service; and Dr. Billy Caldwell, Department head of Crop Sciences were on hand to address invited guests.

The new building serves as a support facility for the turf projects within the Departments of Crop Science, Plant Pathology, Entomology and Horticulture. These projects include research, extension and teaching activities and seek to improve turfgrass quality and reduce maintenance.

PGMS RELEASES RESULTS OF SALARY SURVEY

The Professional Grounds Management Society recently conducted an extensive survey of its current members to acquire 1988 salary figures. The survey, which included PGMS members from the 50 United States and parts of Canada, yielded diverse results. The country was divided into six regions for the purposes of the survey.

The Mid-Atlantic region, consisting of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, and the District of Columbia, boasted the highest single salary of those grounds managers who responded to the survey. The high was $70,000, but the region's average salary ranked only third at $32,445.

The Northeast region, which included Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York, had the "lowest" high salary recorded at $41,000, but the average pay of the grounds managers who answered the questionnaire was $32,470, slightly higher than the Mid-Atlantic average. The lowest reported income was $22,500, the "highest" low salary in the six regions.

The Far West region consisting of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Wyoming, Colorado, California, Alaska, Hawaii, and western Canada registered $58,800 for its high salary and a low of $18,000. The average salary for the region was the highest among U.S. and Canadian grounds managers at $33,466.

The Mid-West region, including North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Iowa, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and central Canada, reported high and low salaries of $48,000 and $19,200, respectively. The average salary was $30,198.

The Southeast region, comprised of North and South Carolina, West Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Florida, had an average salary of $27,592. The high salary was $50,000, the low being $14,400.

Last and least, in terms of salary only, was the Southwest region; Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. The high salary of $43,000 was higher than the high for the northeast region, but the low salary for the Southwest was only $14,000, the lowest among the six regions. The average salary of those who replied was $25,211, also the lowest reported in the country.

The results of the survey, which received a 42 percent response rate, gives a general overview of grounds managers' incomes in the U.S. and Canada.

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