

## BASEBALL HALL OF FAME TO OPEN FLORIDA EXHIBIT



Babe Ruth's Yankee jersey.

The National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY, will open a permanent exhibit of historical baseball artifacts at Boardwalk and Baseball, a central-Florida amusement park opening in April. Loans of memorabilia are made very infrequently by the Hall of Fame. The Florida exhibit will be one of the largest collections to leave the Cooperstown museum.

The baseball theme park is building a 1,000 square foot building for the exhibit. The emphasis of the collection will be Hall of Famers Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Ted Williams, Willie Mays, Warren Spahn, Stan Musial, Hank Aaron and more recent stars including Pete Rose, Carl Yastrzemski, Tom Seaver and Steve Carlton. It will include uniforms, autographed baseballs, bats, scorecards and other equipment of famous players. Hall of Fame Curator Ted Spencer said the exhibit will give millions of tourists a "Taste of Cooperstown."

The exhibit will be ready when Boardwalk and Baseball opens on April 4, 1987. Construction delayed the opening of the park from Feb. 14. The Kansas City Royals will use the parks' fields and stadium for spring training beginning in 1988. They are using their Ft. Myers camp for the final time this spring.

## WHITE SOX EYE NEW CHICAGO STADIUM

By opening day 1990, the White Sox hope to be playing in a new baseball-only stadium in Chicago, the first stadium to be built in the city in more than 60 years. Comiskey Park and the White Sox have not been drawing fans as well as the Cubs at Wrigley Field. Afraid of losing the team to another city, Chicago and the state of Illinois will create a Stadium Authority to build the new stadium.

The White Sox expect the new stadium to have natural turf. They also expect groundskeeper Roger Bossard to move over to the new stadium once it is built.

The stadium will seat 45,000 fans and will have twice as many good box seats and skyboxes as Comiskey. According to Major League Baseball rules, the home team does

not have to share revenues from skyboxes with visiting teams. Cities often use this as an inducement to keep teams from leaving.

The Chicago Bears are also hoping for a new stadium in Chicago. A dome stadium has been proposed. How far the city and state will go to keep its teams has yet to be decided. The Stadium Authority for the White Sox park will be established next year.

## DODGER STADIUM TAPS BURNS OF THE RANGERS

Tom Burns, the assistant groundskeeper for the Texas Rangers, has been appointed head groundskeeper of Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, CA. He will be only the third groundskeeper for the stadium since Walter O'Malley built it 25 years ago.

Chris Duca, the first groundskeeper for the stadium, retired after the 1985 baseball season. The notably-short Duca always wore a white shirt and tie and was a favorite of Los Angeles sportswriters. For 23 years he kept the hybrid bermudagrass at Dodger Stadium Major League quality.

Burns has been on a fast track since he joined Marshall Bossard's grounds crew at Cleveland Stadium five years ago. When Bossard retired, Burns worked with Jim Anglea, the Indians' groundskeeper, and David Frey, the Brown's director of properties. When the Angels needed a head groundskeeper for Gene Autry Park in Mesa, AZ, Burns jumped at the chance to learn about warm-season grasses.

Anglea left Cleveland for the head job at Arlington Stadium in Texas at the beginning of the 1985 baseball season. He talked Burns into joining him by the end of the season as assistant groundskeeper. The pair brought the Arlington field quickly back to respectability. This past season Arlington was ranked number one by many team managers. Since things were back in shape in Arlington, Anglea sent Burns to the Ranger's spring training facility in Pompano Beach, FL.

Dodger Stadium, like Arlington Stadium, is a baseball-only stadium. Burns won't have much time to make major changes to the field before the 1987 season starts. The young Burns will have a veteran crew, many of whom worked under Duca. It is also the 25th anniversary of Dodger Stadium so the field has to look its best.

## WOODHOLME COUNTRY CLUB TEAM WINS MUSSER TOURNAMENT



The team from Woodholme Country Club, Pikesville, MD, are smiling for two reasons. The first is the team of (left to right) Wally Stedding, Steve Potter, Wally Whetzell and Bob Stiffler shot low net in the best-ball tournament. The second is the entry fees from the Eighth Annual Musser Turfgrass Research Tournament will be spent on discovering the cause for the "black layer" on greens and tees across the country. Dr. Fred V. Grau, chairman of the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation, holds the winner's plaque.

# CHALKBOARD

## TIPS FROM THE PROS

### CHANGE MAINTENANCE TO SPEED UP SPRING TRANSITION

One of the biggest headaches a sports turf manager can face is overseeded winter turf that slows warm-season grasses from coming out of dormancy. One of the reasons for this problem, according to Dr. Vic Gibeault of the University of California, Riverside, is failing to change maintenance practices in the spring to meet the specific needs of the warm-season grass.

Maintenance of overseeded cool-season grasses should be clearly different from that of warm-season grasses. The key is switching to the right program at the right time of year, says Gibeault. "It's a matter of altering maintenance practices to fit the grass desired for the particular time of year," he advises.

When average daytime temperatures reach 50 degrees F, managers of overseeded warm-season turf should switch over to maintaining the bermudagrass or other warm-season turf. This involves lowering mowing heights of bermudagrass to between 3/4 and 1 1/4 inch. This stresses the ryegrass or rough bluegrass and prevents it from shading out the young bermudagrass. It also allows sunlight to warm the soil faster. The bermudagrass will not kick in until the soil temperatures exceed the 50 degree mark. Light verticutting will also open up the turf for sunlight.

Gibeault and Steve Cockerham at UCR have been experimenting with covers to speed up spring transition. Translucent covers can increase soil temperatures as much as ten degrees in the spring. Covering the turf at night will also protect the turf and soil from low temperatures and help warm-season grasses break dormancy. "We have had fairly dramatic results with turf covers," he stated. "We hope to be able to release some solid data on the effect of covers on spring transition in the coming months. Gibeault favors covering turf to raise soil temperatures over application of herbicides to selectively control cool-season grasses in warm-season turf.

An application of quick-release fertilizer also favors warm-season turf. Ammonium sulfate, calcium nitrate or ammonium nitrate can be used to get the bermudagrass started. Application of dark-colored fertilizers or dyes may help the soil absorb sunlight and become warmer, but Gibeault warns that the soil compatibility of these materials should be considered before they are applied. It's the nitrogen that stimulates the

turf. Slow-release materials will not have the same impact as quick-release fertilizers.

Irrigation should be reduced or adjusted to provide deep, infrequent irrigation instead of shallow frequent watering. The root system of warm-season grasses is more adept at obtaining deep moisture than that of cool-season grasses.

Gibeault is currently conducting research to establish the average soil temperatures required for each major turfgrass to break dormancy. He says zoysiagrass and hybrid bermudagrasses take longer to break dormancy than common bermudagrass. The research is also compiling differences between bermudagrass hybrids in the areas of dormancy and spring transition.

### MARKERS ASSURE UNIFORM COVERAGE OF PREEMERGENCE HERBICIDES

The key to effective control of weeds germinating in the spring is applying an unbroken barrier of preemergence herbicide to the soil. Gaps in coverage will allow patches of these weeds to develop. Once they've become established, their potential to produce seed can quickly upset a strong weed control program. This is especially true with annual bluegrass and crabgrass.



Boom sprayer applies preemergence herbicide containing dye to green.

To make sure coverage is uniform some turf managers overlap with the sprayer on each pass. Without being able to really see the herbicide on the turf, it's impossible to judge for the smallest overlap. The result is a combination of too much overlap, wasted herbicide and gaps.

A growing number of turf managers are mixing colorants in the tank with preemergence herbicides. These colorants are generally blue-green in color and break down quickly after application. A few examples are Regal's Dy'on, Milliken's Blazon, Precision Laboratory's Signal and Lesco's Tracker. Irrigation, which is often recommended after applying preemergence herbicides, will also wash the colorants off foliage. By actually seeing where the spray is, the applicator can keep overlap to a minimum and spot gaps for touch-up.

A secondary benefit of tracking colorants is being able to see if spraying equipment is properly rinsed. Inadequate rinsing can cause plugged nozzles and poor spray coverage. Today's pesticide laws require proper disposal or reuse of rinsate. Colorants can indicate when rinsing is thorough and may actually cut down on the quantity of rinsate.

In situations where the appearance of a colorant is unacceptable even for a short period of time, a marking foam can serve the same purpose. A device attached to the spray boom drops balls of foam along the edge of the sprayed area. The foam lasts long enough to mark the spray pattern then breaks down within minutes.

### CALCIUM EXTENDS LIFE OF UREA FERTILIZER

Urea is one of the most economical forms of nitrogen turf fertilizer that exists today. Unfortunately, a large portion of applied urea is lost to the atmosphere during a process called volatilization and leached through the rootzone. Dr. Garald Horst, a physiologist with Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, has shown that the value of urea can be greatly extended by combining it with calcium.

In tests with bermudagrass in El Paso, TX, Horst found that the effects of urea could be extended up to eight weeks by combining it with calcium. Quality and color of the bermudagrass plots treated with urea and calcium did not begin to decline until the eighth week, whereas the straight urea plots declined after five weeks. Calcium nitrate-treated plots did not start to decline until 12 weeks has passed.

Horst reports that the quality difference in the turf was most significant in late spring and fall. He reasons that the calcium enhanced the production of roots and rhizomes, enabling the bermudagrass to capture more of the urea.

## MITCHELL TAKES HELM AT FRENCH LICK SPRINGS

The 65-year-old French Lick Springs Golf & Tennis Resort in southern Indiana has appointed Robert Mitchell Jr., CGCS, golf course superintendent. Mitchell brings four generations and 105 years of family experience to his new post, says Frank Maloney, general manager of French Lick Springs.

He will supervise a staff of 35 responsible for maintenance of two 18-hole golf courses as well as lawns, gardens and roadways on the 2,600-acre resort. More than 53,000 rounds of golf are played each year on the two courses. The Country Club Course was designed by the legendary Donald Ross and was the site of the 1924 PGA Championship.

Mitchell's great-grandfather and grandfather turned a sand-green golf course in Franklin County, IL, into the exclusive Franklin Country Club. His father is the executive director of golf and grounds for The Greenbriar in White Sulphur Springs, W.V.

Prior to joining French Lick Springs, Mitchell served as superintendent of golf and grounds for Lockhaven Country Club in Alton, IL. French Lick Springs is restoring the original hotel and plans to attract vacationers to the golf courses and resort from across the Midwest.

## JOINT GOLF CONFERENCE OFFERS RESEARCH UPDATE

As Larry Gilhuly has discovered, a great time to hold a meeting on the state of golf course turf research is the day before the leading research agronomists in the country are in town for another meeting. Gilhuly is the southwest regional agronomist for the United States Golf Association (USGA) Green Section.

Gilhuly was assigned the task of organizing the March joint meeting of the Southern California Golf Association and the USGA Green Section. Normally, he would invite a turf expert from a local university like Dr. Vic Gibeault from the University of California, Riverside, or Jim Brewer, club manager of the Los Angeles Country Club. But this time he figured out a way to have Gibeault and Brewer, as well as leading agronomists from across the country—they will be attending the USGA/Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Joint Research Committee meeting in Newport Beach on March 25.

By scheduling his meeting the day before the Research Committee meeting, Gilhuly will be able to borrow Dr. Paul Rieke, professor of agronomy at Michigan State University; Dr. James Watson, vice president of The Toro Co.; Dr. William Bengeyfield, director of the USGA Green Section; and Dr. Charles Mancino from the Univer-

sity of Arizona. Water conservation and shattercore (solid tine) aeration will be the primary subjects covered by the research committee members. The biggest research project currently underway at 17 universities in this country is development of drought-tolerant turfgrasses that require only half the amount of water necessary for existing turfgrasses.

In addition to the noted agronomists, Gilhuly has also recruited Mike Videtta from San Diego Country Club to speak on desalinization of irrigation water by reverse osmosis and public relations specialist Pam Jones to speak on the impact of California Proposition 65 concerning the use of pesticides on golf courses.

The meeting is designed for club managers, greens chairmen and superintendents to discuss major concerns of the golf industry. For more information contact Kevin Heaney, executive director of the Southern California Golf Association, P.O. Box 3375, Tustin, CA 92681, (818) 980-3630.

## DEZEMBER ASSUMES PRESIDENCY OF LESCO



James I. FitzGibbon, chairman of Lesco Inc., has announced the appointment of Ronald L. Dezember as president. Dezember is the former president and chief operating officer of Fermenta Plant Protection

Co., marketer of Daconil turf fungicide and Dacthal preemergence herbicide.

"We look to Dezember for strong leadership and feel his knowledge of our industry and familiarity with our company over the past 20 years are very valuable assets," said FitzGibbon.

Dezember started his career with the Diamond Shamrock Corp. in 1962 as a sales representative. In 1980, he was appointed vice president and general manager of the agricultural chemicals business of SDS Biotech, a joint venture between Diamond Shamrock and Showa Dinko, a Japanese chemical manufacturer. When Fermenta took over the agricultural chemical division of SDS Biotech in 1986, Dezember was made president.

## FOX TO SUPERVISE RENOVATION

Thomas P. Fox has assumed a pivotal role in the renovation of Cherrington Golf & Country Club in Moon County, NJ, as its new superintendent. "We're looking forward to announcing some major plans for the course in the near future," said Fox, a graduate of Pennsylvania State University in agronomy, and former superintendent of Youghioghny Country Club in McKeesport, NJ.

Cherrington Associates purchased the former Montour Heights Country Club 18 months ago and expects to build ten office buildings and two hotels around the golf course. The clubhouse is being refurbished and there are plans to make the golf course into one of the district's best.

## SEED TRADE ASSOCIATION ELECTS ZAJAC PRESIDENT

John Zajac, vice president and general manager of Garfield Williamson Inc., has been elected president of the American Seed Trade Association. ASTA represents more than 700 firms producing and marketing seed for agriculture and landscaping.



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# ROOKIES

## PRODUCT UPDATE

### FLOWABLE FUNGICIDE



Turf managers who prefer flowable pesticide formulations can now take advantage of the broad-spectrum disease control of Chipco 26019. The new formulation is registered by the Environmental Protection Agency to control the major turf diseases Dollar Spot, Brown Patch, Helminthosporium leaf spot, Helminthosporium melting out, Corticum Red Thread and Fusarium Blight.

Control is provided at rates ranging from 2 to 8 ounces/1,000 square feet depending upon the level of infection present. Chipco 26019 is also available in dry formulations.

#### RHONE POULENC

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### PUMP STATIONS



Custom-made prefabricated pumping stations are available from Aquaturf. The configuration of the pumps as well as the computer program for water distribution is customized for each user's needs. Each model is a complete pump station.

From one to four pumps ranging from five to 300 hp can be built into a system utiliz-

ing electric, gasoline or diesel power. Electronic circuitry provides total control of demand requirements and accurate measurements of flow, pressure and time. The stations are designed to reduce energy consumption for startup and for operation during minimum flow periods.

#### AQUATURF

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### SPRINKLER SOD CUP



A plug of natural turf hides Hunter's I-44 pop-up sprinkler from vandals when it is retracted. The institutional sprinkler with sod cup is designed for moderate to high-capacity usage on golf courses, athletic fields and other public areas.

Water discharge from the sprinkler is adjustable from 6.5 to 25.8 gallons per minute within a radius of 45 to 67 feet. Heads are available with full circle coverage or one of 17 different arcs. A clutch protects the drive system from vandals.

The sod cup sprinklers have been tested successfully at the PGA West Golf Course at La Quinta, CA. They come with a five-year unconditional warranty.

#### HUNTER INDUSTRIES

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### PENDULUM SPREADER



Spread fertilizer, grass seed and granular products from 20 to 45 feet with the LESCO Pendulum Spreader and a three-point hitch tractor or truckster with PTO. Polyester-reinforced fiberglass hoppers provide a capacity of up to 2,400 pounds of material. All working parts are made of stainless steel.

Topdressing and sand spouts are available in addition to the standard spout. The spreader provides rectangular and symmetrical spreading patterns for complete overlapping. A hopper cover is optional for using the spreader in the rain or snow.

#### LESCO, INC.

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### SOIL SCREENER

Soil is the most important ingredient in sports turf. Without controlling the content and texture of a soil, managing turf is just a guessing game. The only way to control the rootzone is to have the soil properly screened and mixed when the field is built.

The Read Corporation has introduced an economy version of its portable Screen-All that processes topsoil, loam, sand, gravel, woodchips and other materials. Two hydraulic shakerheads with screens ranging in size from 1/4-inch to four inches remove rocks from local or imported soil and separate soil particles by size. The unit sets up in minutes and functions without an operator. One bucket loader operator can screen truckloads of soil in a single day. A tankful of fuel keeps the screener running for up to three work days.

The four-ton unit is towed by any truck or tractor with a pintle hitch. Electric brakes make towing the eight-foot-wide, 17-foot-long unit safe on public streets.

#### READ CORPORATION

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# ROOKIES

## PRODUCT UPDATE

### GOALS, NETS AND CAGES



A wide assortment of nets and standards for soccer, baseball, tennis, volleyball and basketball is available from Wind & Shade Screens, Inc. Permanent soccer goals, tennis standards, movable batting cages and pitcher protectors with appropriate netting

can be quickly shipped to any sports facility.

The company specializes in all types of netting for sports. It started out with wind and shade screens and has branched into nets for tennis, volleyball, basketball, golf ball barriers and soccer. Temporary crowd fencing and floor covers, net attachment cables, straps and hooks for all applications are also offered.

**WIND & SHADE SCREENS, INC.**

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### ROTARY MOWER WINGS

The Range Wing mower attachments from Excel allow sports turf managers to mow up to 60 acres of utility turf per day leaving more time to care for athletic fields. Up to three hydraulically-raised and lowered decks cut a 12-foot-wide swath of turf.

The main deck is an upfront, 72-inch dual-trim deck with nearly ten inches of trim capability on both sides. Each side wing is 48-

inches wide with rear discharge and can be raised or lowered separately to maneuver around obstacles. Clutches automatically disengage the blades when individual decks are raised. Each deck floats independently up to 20 degrees above and below the terrain to prevent scalping and to provide a smooth cut.

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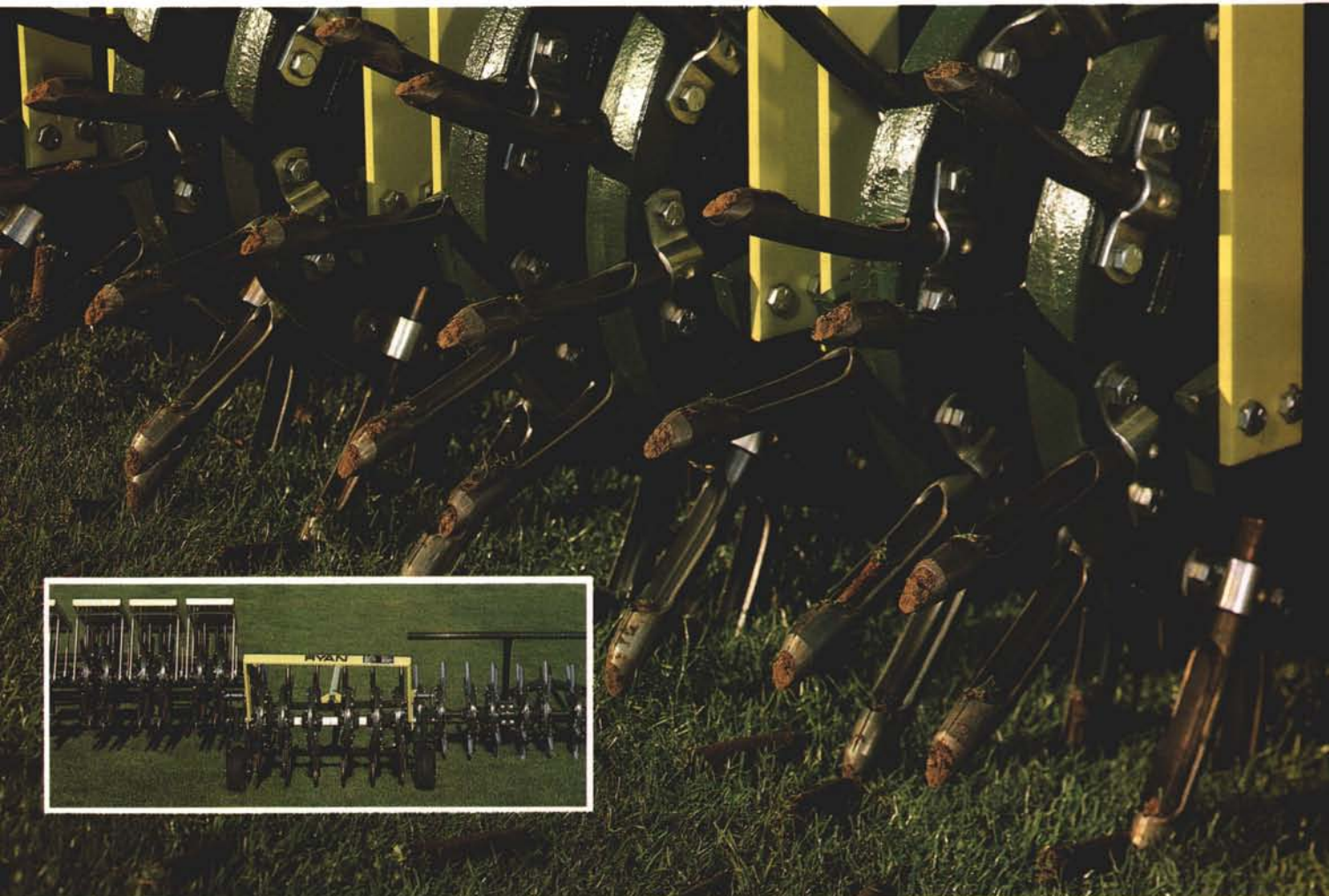
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