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VOLUME SIX, NUMBER TWELVE

DECEMBER 1990

MAIN EVENTS

8 RESORT COURSE FLOATS TO PROMINENCE

Duane Hagadone, publisher and developer in Coeur d'Alene, ID, used to imagine hitting a golf ball from the shore of Lake Coeur d'Alene onto large floating "booms" of logs awaiting processing by sawmills. When he and a business partner got the chance to build a resort golf course on the lake, he specified that the course would include the world's first floating golf green. This story describes in detail the challenge of building a five-million-pound marine vessel to carry a 7,000-square-foot green, two bunkers, five trees, and its own drainage and irrigation systems.

13 1991 PRODUCT SOURCE BOOK

The majority of this issue of Golf & sportsTURF contains the third annual Product Source Book. You'll want to keep this comprehensive list of products and suppliers for reference throughout the coming year. No other publication has gathered and organized product information specifically for golf course superintendents, athletic facility groundskeepers, park superintendents, and other sports turf managers. The Product Source Book was produced to meet the special needs of your industry.

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COVER: The world's first floating island green at Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course in Coeur d'Alene, ID. Photo courtesy: Brad Hagadone, Quicksilver Photography.

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THE FRONT OFFICE

OPINION PAGE

THE GREENEST PASTURE



Despite all you hear and read about recession, certain segments of the turf industry are growing and will continue to grow.

First of all, the golf market is hot. Architects and builders are heavily backlogged with projects. The recent Golf Summit sponsored by the National Golf Foundation revealed that this backlog represents years of work. The American Society of Golf Course Architects adds that the number of requests for information on renovation of older courses is also greater than ever before.

However, the action isn't restricted to golf. A survey of the three top architects of sports facilities during the Baseball Winter Meetings indicated a surge in construction and renovation. One builder of sports fields told us that he has twice as much work to do in 1991 as he did in 1990! Furthermore, their work is spreading from major urban stadiums to minor league parks, university campuses, and municipal parks.

Finally, landscape contractors who perform athletic facility work report increased sales over the past year. Many are redirecting their business toward sports field renovation and maintenance as more traditional types of landscaping fall off.

The way to protect yourself in a recession is to direct more attention toward growth markets. Other businesses may appear greener during good times, but fade quickly when the economy turns sour. You are fortunate to be part of the golf and sports turf markets. It's something to be grateful for during the holiday season.

Speaking of grateful, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the crew here at Golf & sportsTURF. They are the foundation of the publication. Without their effort and support, the ink would never find its way to paper.

Matt Trulio writes a large portion of the magazine each month. Anne Goldstein and Jim Gregory turn Matt's and my words into prose.

Pam Brooks and Stacey Goldstein prepare the copy, pictures, and ads for the printer each month. Andrew Brozek sells the ads which pay for just about everything. Denise Allen and Sue Lagomarsino keep track of all your names and addresses. And newlywed Randi Green (formerly Goldstein) keeps the books and pays all the bills.

Of course, Golf & sportsTURF wouldn't exist at all if it weren't for Denne Goldstein. He's still recovering from Randi's wedding and all the travel this past fall.

We especially want to thank our advertisers and readers, because you make it all possible. We are here to serve you and help you grow.

The staff of Golf & sportsTURF wants to wish you and yours the happiest of holidays.

Denne Goldstein
Andrew M. Brozek
Sue Lagomarsino
Randi Green
Anne Goldstein
Stacey Goldstein
Bruce Shank
Jim Gregory
Pam Brooks
Denise Allen

EVENTS

CALENDAR

DECEMBER

12-14 Pacific Coast Turf & Landscape Conference, Washington State Convention and Trade Center, Seattle, WA. Contact: Jones and Assoc., (509) 327-5904.

13-16 Georgia Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, Hyatt Airport Hotel, Atlanta, GA. Contact: Karen Lavender, (912) 681-5189.

JANUARY

7-9 Maryland Turfgrass '91, Baltimore Convention Center and Festival Hall, Baltimore, MD. Contact: Stephen Potter, Woodholme Country Club, 300 Woodholme Ave., Pikesville, MD 21208, (301) 486-8280.

7-9 25th Annual Tennessee Turfgrass Association Conference, Holiday Inn World's Fair and Knoxville Convention Center, Knoxville, TN. Contact: Donnie Callis, 533 Hagan St., Nashville, TN 37203, (615) 242-4600.

7-11 Golf Course Maintenance Short Course, Columbus, OH. Contact: Dept. of Agron., Ohio State University, 2021 Coffey Rd., Columbus, OH 43216.

8-11 Eastern Pennsylvania Turf Conference, Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA. Contact: Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council, Landscape Management Research Center, Orchard Rd., University Park, PA 16802, (814) 863-3475.

21-23 Michigan Turfgrass Conference, Clarion Hotel, Lansing, MI. Contact: Michael Saffel, 584C Plant and Soil Sciences Bldg., Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824, (517) 353-9022.

29-30 Athletic Fields/Sportsturf Seminar, Parke Hotel, Columbus, OH. Contact: Sue White, extension associate, Dept. of Agronomy, Ohio State University, Room 202, 2021 Coffey Rd, Columbus, OH 43210, (614) 292-2001.

FEBRUARY

19-20 Northeastern Pennsylvania Turf & Grounds Maintenance School, Luzerne County Community College, Nanticoke, PA. Contact: William Pencsek, Lackawanna County Coop Extension, 200 Adams Ave., Scranton, PA 18503, (717) 963-4761.

Send announcements on your events two months in advance to editor, Golf & SportsTURF, P.O. Box 8420, Van Nuys, CA 91409. Fax: (818) 781-8517.

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Resort Course Floats To Prominence

The world's first floating island green at The Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course.

This coming April the first foursome of golfers will hit off the 14th tee at The Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course in Coeur d'Alene, ID, and then step into a boat to ride to the green. That's right. They must traverse 100 to 175 yards of Lake Coeur d'Alene before they can finish the hole. There is no other way to reach golf's first floating green.

From the beginning, golf and water have been intertwined by architects and builders, but never quite like this. The man-made, five million pound naval vessel disguised with trees, bunkers, and bentgrass is more than a gimmick to attract golfers to a resort in picturesque northern Idaho. It is one man's way to blend golf into a region where spectacular scenery and the lumber industry have coexisted for a century.

Ever since he took the helm at the Coeur d'Alene Press, a daily newspaper in the community nestled on the shores of Lake Coeur d'Alene, Duane Hagadone has sought ways to emphasize the beauty and recreational potential of the area. National Geographic listed the lake as one of the five most beautiful natural lakes in the world. The Coeur d'Alene native realized that the city had a unique resource to bolster its economy.

The city's two primary industries do not seem compatible. The logging industry uses

the lake to move huge trees cut from mountain slopes to saw mills. Huge "booms" of trees float off shore awaiting processing into lumber. Shoreline mills produce mountains of lumber to meet the demand of the U.S. housing industry. Unfortunately, the demand for timber is cyclical and the community suffers as a result.

During good times and bad, water-skiers, sailboats, and pleasure craft negotiate around the few bobbing islands of timber. The logging industry also does its part not to disrupt the growing resort business. Today, Coeur d'Alene has achieved a balance of industry and recreation compatible to its unique environment.

For years, Hagadone envisioned a resort and golf course on the lake. He and business partner Jerry Jaeger made their first move six years ago when a lakeside hotel went on the market. In short order they developed a resort/convention center which was recently ranked by Conde Nast as the best resort in the country. Finally, after eyeing an adjacent abandoned sawmill for three years, they were able to complete the package with the purchase of the 160-acre mill site.

The idea of a floating golf green actually evolved from the log booms characteristic of the lake. From the shore, Hagadone had often imagined hitting a golf ball onto the

islands of logs anchored in the lake. What if the logs were a golf green instead? What would happen to such a green when storms stir up three-foot waves or when the lake freezes over in the winter? These are the same questions asked by those who have docks on the lake. Could a golf green actually be a large floating dock?

When Hagadone Hospitality Co. started to search for a golf course architect, it discovered that while island greens were a popular feature for golf courses, no one had ever built a "floating" green. Instead of giving up on the idea, the company included a floating green in its list of course requirements and invited five golf course architects to participate in a paid design competition.

The winner of the contest was Scott Miller Designs of Scottsdale, AZ. Prior to opening his own design firm, Miller had worked with Jack Nicklaus Design Group. Four of the courses he designed with Nicklaus are now included in Golf Digest's Top 100. He had no problem finding work after leaving Nicklaus, including international projects such as The Forum Chichibu in Chichibu, Japan.

"I personally don't like the look of island greens like the Tournament Players Club [in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL]," said Miller. "Mr. Hagadone wanted a more natural look. So we included mounds, trees, juni-