**Brad Faxon** *continued from page 5.*

*JS: How do you think Lanny Wadkins will be different from Tom Watson as Ryder Cup captain?*

BF: I don't know. I don't know how Watson was as a captain, and I know Lanny's never done it before. They're both great, competitive players. They've both played in a lot of Ryder Cups. I think what Lanny did when he decided to sit himself out [the final day of last year's Ryder Cup] was a great gesture. I've learned a little bit about him the last couple of years. I've played with him a little more. He's an intimidating guy when you first meet him, but I think he's going to be a good captain.

*JS: Do you think there's a single best player in the world?*

BF: I think at moments there are. I think guys have streaks. Like in college football, I don't believe Notre Dame is a better team because they beat Florida State by a point. They won the game on that day. I think when somebody wins The Masters by a shot, it doesn't mean he's a better player than the guy who finished one shot behind. But if a guy can sustain a level of play for a long time like Nick Price when he dominates the Million Dollar by 12 shots [Million Dollar Challenge in South Africa during the off-season] – he's had a streak for a year; that's pretty good. He won The Players Championship and three other tournaments. He won a major the year before. It's hard to put anybody else above him in this streak. You get guys in the short term that play better, but over a one year period Price was definitely the player. It's really hard to say who's better at the moment – Price, Norman, Faldo or Langer.

*JS: Your Providence Journal column is very popular. How did you get it going?*

BF: The Tour started something like that with all the different players around the country. They wanted to get them involved with the local newspapers from where they grew up and have them write back stories. Tom Place, who's head of the media for the Tour, called Parrillo and Parrillo called me and said, 'What do you think?' I said, 'Sounds easy.' We do it every three or four weeks and everybody I talk to loves it. It gives people a little insight about what we're going through out there, things they may otherwise not know. I think Kirby's going to do a great job with his. I had a great time laughing at his article cause he started to see things that I don't recognize anymore. It's going to be nice.

*JS: If you had to give one tip to the average golfer, what would it be?*

BF: I think that most people think that by taking a lesson they're going to improve their golf score. They may improve their golf swing, but I think if people want to be better golfers, which to me means shooting lower scores, they've got to have more practice around the greens, short game practice. I think you can cut a couple of shots off your score around the greens. It doesn't take a lot of physical effort and it doesn't take a lot of time.

*JS: Could 1994 be the Year of the Fax?*

BF: [He laughs at this one.] I don't know. I hope it's not just one year. I mean, I want to make it a few years. I'm confident that I'm going to play well, but you never know how you're actually going to do. Maybe it will be the start of something. I feel like the last three years I've been getting closer to where I want to go.

After Brad's performance in the Australian Open, I think we get the idea. A green jacket would match that red hair quite nicely.

**Local Touring Pros** *continued from page 3.*

Langer, Nick Faldo, Joe Ozaki and Sandy Lyle) finishing among the top 150, that 126-150 exemption was stretched to 154 in '93. Where did Jim Hallet finish? Number 155. Ouch.

Jim failed to earn his card back through the qualifying process, but because he is a perennial iron man on Tour, playing in 30-35 events per year (in '93 he was 2nd in events played with 34), he should be able to get some sponsors' exemptions. Sponsors strongly consider players who have supported their tournament over the years. This involves a time consuming letter writing process for the player, however, and little flexibility in planning a schedule; if he gets into enough events, though, Jim may well be able to play his way back on the Tour.

Our other local pros whose ultimate goal is the PGA Tour are Brett Quigley, Pat Sheehan and Rodney Butcher.

**Brett Quigley**, the 1990 State Amateur Champ and 1987 USGA Junior Champ, is staying in Raleigh, NC for the beginning of '94. He's playing on both the Hurricane and T.C. Jordan Tours, two prominent mini-tours. When the Nike Tour hits full stride in March, he'll attempt their Monday qualifiers. As a point of interest, in the four year history of the Nike Tour, six Monday qualifiers have gone on to win in the same week. When the summer rolls around, Brett will be coming back up this way to play in New England area events.

**Rodney Butcher**, the 1992 State Amateur Champ, spent January 1994 playing tournaments in Chile. Yes, that's correct – South America. Starting in February he'll be competing in various mini-tours in Florida and eventually work his way north when the warm weather hits.

Finally, **Pat Sheehan**, 1991 RIGA Player of the Year, is playing in the Space Coast and Gold Coast Tours in Florida. He's already had one win and several top-10 finishes. Like Brett and Rodney, he'll be playing the New England circuit this summer.

Hopefully, that fills everyone in on what our local boys are up to. We wish them the best of luck and a boat load of one-putts.

RIGA NEWS
Newsletter of the Rhode Island Golf Association

Rhode Island Golf Association
Ten Orms Street, Suite 326
Providence, Rhode Island 02904
(401) 272-1550

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 807
PROVIDENCE, RI

WINTER 1993

# RIGA NEWS

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Golf Association

## SUCCESS DOWN UNDER PUTS FAXON OVER THE TOP

For Brad Faxon, 1993 was an unusual year. Before the year began there was the ski accident where a cracked rib put him out of commission for the first part of the '93 PGA Tour campaign. What was most disappointing was that he was coming off his best year ever on Tour – two wins and an eighth place position on the money list. He just had to wait it out and get healthy.

When he came back, progress was slow at first. By the first week of June, though, he had his first top-10 finish – a tie for fourth at The Memorial. The Fax was off and running again. Three more top-10's followed. In August he put himself in position to win the PGA Championship with a third round 65, eventually finishing in a tie for 14th. Through all of this, Brad was battling for one of the final positions on the Ryder Cup Team which he narrowly missed out on. He finished the year 55th on the money list with $312,023 in official earnings and second in putting stats.

After a brief rest in Barrington, the new Faxon family residence, Brad was off to Australia with wife, Bonnie, and daughters, Melanie, 5, and Emily, 2½. The rest, as you may now know, is history. He won the Australian Open, finished 15th the following week, and then finished second at the Air New Zealand-Shell Open. Barely catching a breath, he was then off to Jamaica and the Johnny Walker World Championship, a last minute invite off his Australian Open win. Making the best of things, he went out and tied for 6th. It was quite a December. Making almost as much in a month as he had in all of '93, 1994 is looking rather nice for Brad Faxon.

*(The following interview with Brad Faxon, was conducted by Joe Sprague, Jr. at the Faxon home in Barrington the day before Brad was to leave to practice for his first tournament for '94 – the Phoenix Open).*

---

*JS: What kind of expectations did you have when you went on your season-ending Australian swing?*

BF: It was a nice trip to take because we took the family. It was a vacation as well as a chance to play a few tournaments. I had played pretty well the last couple of tournaments of the year. Obviously, I wasn't really that excited about my finish – 55th on the money list – but I had played well and really hadn't shown much for it.

I came back here, took some time off and then went out to the Shark Shoot-Out and played pretty well there with Calcavecchia. We tied for second and I was just hitting the ball well, the putter was working, so I was excited about going down there. And everything clicked right away at the Australian Open. I loved the golf course and, obviously, to win that tournament, it's probably the biggest tournament I've ever won. It's a big tournament down there. Then I played pretty well the next week – about 15th or 16th – and then finished second in New Zealand. Winning the Australian Open got me into Jamaica.

*JS: So you kind of had to plan your schedule impromptu at the end there.*

BF: Exactly. I wasn't expecting five weeks, really. Four weeks we were overseas. That's why I'm starting this year so late.

*JS: Even with your lay-off, does this win give you momentum that you can bring to the start of '94?*

BF: Yeah, Bonnie and I talked about how this was not only a great end to '93 but it was a great start for '94. You can look at it both ways. It really helps to win overseas. It's harder. Nobody really knows who you are. The people are pulling for one of their own to win. Woodland [Australian pro Jeff Woodland] and I were kind of tied the last six or seven holes and it was different. People were obviously pulling for him.

*JS: So it was kind of a different feeling?*

BF: Yeah, it was a different feeling. And that tournament has some pretty big names on the trophy. Nicklaus has won it six times, Player seven times, Watson three times. It was nice.

*JS: And you snaked that 35 footer in at the 71st.*

BF: It was a long putt. Woodland was just outside of me, about 45 feet. He knocked it by about four feet. I made mine and he missed his so it was a two shot swing. I was able to play the last hole with a little cushion.

*JS: How many seasons have you been on Tour now?*

BF: I'm going to start my 11th year. It's unbelieveable.

*JS: Do you have specific goals for 1994?*

BF: You know, people always want to know what your goals are. I want to win the Masters. I want to win the U.S. Open. I want to do all those things that everybody thinks you want to do, but I don't really sit down and write them down, put them in front of a mirror and study them everyday. I think, more or less, the things I've got to do are my daily things like going out to the golf

*Continued on page 5.*

**Brad Faxon** *continued from page 1.*

course excited about playing golf, being ready to play everyday, and then go out there and try to enjoy it. If I can do that, the other stuff will take care of itself.

*JS: What are a couple of your fondest memories of playing in Rhode Island state tournaments?*

BF: I think my first memory in Rhode Island was winning the Juniors when I was 14, winning my first tournament. It was at Pawtucket Country Club and I played Al Vallante in the finals.

[Just then the phone rings and Brad's wife, Bonnie, calls down for him to pick it up. It was the PGA Tour Policy Board. I hear him throwing around names like Lanny and Davis. After a few minutes he returns and apologizes for the interruption.]

*JS: So what does being on the PGA Tour Policy Board involve?*

BF: [Brad grins at this question.] It involves a lot of time. There are four guys who are player directors. We're involved in setting policy for the Tour. We have four meetings a year, every quarter. They're two-day meetings. It's not something you get paid for. It's something you get elected to do by the other players. It's an educational thing for me. I'm learning about how the Tour works, the business aspects of the Tour. I'm glad I'm doing it but I don't think I'll do it again if given a choice.

*JS: OK, Back to some of your fondest memories of playing in state tournaments.*

BF: One of the best memories I have is when I was 17 or 18. I was playing in the State Open at Quidnessett and I chipped in on the last hole for eagle to finish tied for second. I think Joe Carr won that year. I'm not sure what year that was. It must have been '77 or '78. [It was 1979. With rounds of 73-70-71, Brad finishes three shots behind Joe Carr.] I remember chipping in and getting nervous because there were a lot of people around.

*JS: Besides Billy Andrade, who are you most friendly with on Tour?*

BF: A lot of times you become friendly with other families. We have friends that have kids the same age as ours – Steve and Sherry Pate, Ian and Jenny Baker-Finch. Mark O'Meara's a good friend from living down in Orlando. Denis Watson and his wife, Hilary, have kids the same age as ours. Those are the kinds of people I end up hanging around with.

*JS: When Billy won back to back in '91 did that put more pressure on you to win or was it more of an incentive to win?*

BF: I never felt like it put more pressure on me to win. It made me think, in a way, 'Hey, Billy's done it. I know I can play with Billy. I know I can win.' It might have focused me in on trying to win a little bit more and then it was pretty amazing that a month or two later it happened. Maybe it was a little catalyst to get me going. It's hard to say.

*JS: What tournament would you most like to win?*

BF: Well, obviously, the majors are the biggest tournaments in everybody's eyes. Anybody would love to win a major. I think if I had to get picky and choose, The Masters would be a great tournament. I think the U.S. Open's the hardest to win. And I love the British Open because I think it's the king of all tournaments as far as tradition goes.

*JS: Aren't you exempt for the British now?*

BF: Well, not entirely. I'll probably get in through my Sony Rankings. [Sony Rankings are a world ranking giving players points for top finishes in tournaments world-wide.] I finished the year at 36th and they take the top 50. The Australian Open does not get you a straight-in exemption.

*JS: Of the courses you play each year in competition, which do you find the most demanding?*

BF: It's always the U.S. Open course, whichever course we play. It's always set up the most difficult because of the rough and greens. This year it's at Oakmont which is as hard as any course I've played. As far as the Tour goes, we don't play that many great courses which is really a surprise. We play some good courses. I think, Spyglass Hill, which is one of the three we play at Pebble Beach, is probably the hardest course as far as length, wind and it can be really soft.

*JS: What's your favorite golf course on or off the Tour?*

BF: I think Pebble Beach is a course I could play every day. It's on the ocean, just a beautiful course, a hard course and an easy course at times. It depends on the weather. It's different every day.

*JS: Ed Kirby has made it out there now. How difficult is it for a rookie to break in on Tour these days, even compared to when you started?*

BF: It's probably just as difficult now because you're seeing everything for the first time. Eddie is an old rookie. He's 30 years old. He's been all over the world. He' played all over the world so that's going to help him. I don't know how he'll do. It's hard to predict. But I think he's going to do OK. I think he's going to get his feet wet early and whatever happens to him this year is going to be a good learning experience.

*JS: How many different levels of players do you think exist on Tour?*

BF: I never really thought about levels of players. Obviously, there are guys that win a lot and are in contention in all the big tournaments. That's the number one level – the Normans, Faldos, Prices, Couples. I think Langer would be in there as well. Those guys seem to play well world-wide, year-long. That's where you want to get to. Then there's a notch below that where guys are starting to win. Corey Pavin, Payne Stewart – those guys are right there. Davis Love's coming up to that level where he's close to being a dominant player. I couldn't say you could break it down to levels. That's a hard question.

*JS: What are the most important attributes, other than God-given ability, that a Tour player should possess?*

BF: That's another good question because there's always one part of a guy's game that really makes him. It always seems that one guy's either a terrific putter, terrific driver or great with the short game or great head. Sometimes combinations of both. It really would depend on a guy's build. If a guy's short like Kite, he's great because he's so consistent and mentally there. A guy like Norman smashes the ball and he's got a great short game. So there's not really one part of the game that I think is the most important. I think everybody's a little different depending on how they play.

*JS: How did you first become interested in sports psychology, and are you still working with Dr. Bob Rotella?*

BF: I am still working with Rotella. I knew his name through a book when I was in school at Furman. There was a guy on my hall who was from Charlottesville and he gave me a book that Rotella had written. I really never knew anything about him. I studied and got interested, and the first year I was on Tour Denis Watson had visited Rotella. I asked him about it and he said, 'Well, I spent two days with him. I can't tell you in ten minutes. It's something you've really got to listen to.' He won three of the next four tournaments he played in. It convinced me that I ought to go see Dr. Rotella. We've had a nice relationship for ten years.

*JS: The more success a player has, the more distractions there seem to be. In your case, how do you go about putting aside the distractions like interviews, appearances, clinics and pro-ams, and get down to the business of playing golf?*

BF: You have to be really good at budgeting your time. You have to be really good at saying 'no'. Sometimes it becomes really difficult because you're going to start ticking some people off. A good example was last night at the P.C. game [P.C. basketball vs. UCONN.] Just walking to get a soda – I'm more recognizable here than down south – people want to stop and talk. If I stopped and talked to everyone who wanted to say something, I'd never get anywhere. So if I just kind of wave to somebody and keep going some guys will say, 'Oh, that Faxon, he must have some kind of ego.' I think that no matter what you do, somebody's going to be upset at something.

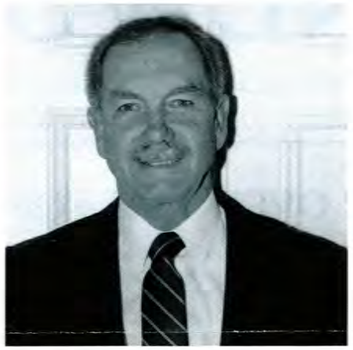
*JS: When you're about to hit an important shot under pressure, what do you think about?*

BF: When you're playing well, and I think most players are going to agree with this, you get into contention because you're hitting the ball well and putting well. You may have a thought or two that can change from day to day or week to week, but I think when guys are playing well they're thinking about the shot they want to hit, where they want the ball to go.

I don't think too much mechanics when I'm playing. Some people ask, 'What's the last thing you think about before you take it away?' I like to make the game reactionary like the way a guy would shoot a basket or throw a baseball, without a lot of thought. I think the best players in the world always tell you that when they're playing well they don't think about a whole lot. When they're not playing well, they're thinking about too much.

*Continued on page 6.*

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



*Ronald A. Margerison*

Happy New Year! Soon, but not soon enough, the snow will be gone, and then "let the games begin". With our new swing keys and improved short games, Hope Springs Eternal. To help put your game to the test we've aded two new tournaments, a Senior Four-Ball and a Mid-Amateur Championship.

Golf is a game of companionship and it also cleanses the mind. Nothing clears the thought process like a missed two foot putt for the Nassau.

I'm looking forward to meeting many of you RIGA card holders. The card cost is a small price to promote the game of golf. I thank our inactive members who continue to purchase their cards and bolster our programs.

To all our member clubs and their staffs for the help they give our Association and for the cordial response our members and staff receive, Thank You.

# EDWARD PERRY 1915-1994

Ed Perry, secretary of the Rhode Island Golf Association for 33 years, died on January 2, 1994 after a brief illness.

For years Ed was the embodiment of golf in Rhode Island. He took over as Secretary of the RIGA in 1953 and steadily built it into an even more well respected and professional organization.

Born in Providence, he began his golf career at Metacomet at the age of 8. Not only did he become a top caddy, but he became a fine player of the game as well, winning the State Junior Championship as well as most of the area public links championships. In later years he would also win both the State Four-Ball and Senior Championships.

In his professional life he served as an underwriter for New England Mutual Life for 40 years. He was also an Army Air Force Veteran in World War II, and held the rank of major. A Metacomet member for more than 40 years, he was also a past president of the club.

Many of the features taken for granted at the state tournaments were started by Ed Perry such as uniformed tournament personnel and the public address system for announcing the players. He was also one of the key people in getting the Northeast Amateur Invitational off the ground, a tournament now recognized as one of the premier men's amateur events in the United States.

Perry started state amateur qualifying for players not affiliated with an RIGA club. He also served as a USGA Public Links Committeeman. And it was just prior to his coming on as Secretary that the John P. Burke Memorial Fund was

established. During his tenure, the Burke Fund flourished.

At the request of some of the state's top players, it was Ed Perry who inaugurated the Stroke Play Championship in 1984. In fact, some of the finest golfers ever to grace Rhode Island's fairways competed during Perry's reign. Names like Kosten, Allen, Santilli, Quinn, Lutz, Marcotte, Faxon, Andrade and Quigley come immediately to mind.

With the passing of Ed Perry, a chapter in Rhode Island golf's history has come to a close. He will be remembered for his love of the game and his unflagging dedication to making Rhode Island a better place to play golf.

# A NOTE FROM JOE SPRAGUE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Toward the end of last year's golfing season someone said that we'd pay for all this nice weather we had. Well, using early January's weather as an indicator, I'd say that person was correct. No doubt, the weather has immobilized our winter golfers, but for us at the RIGA, it's business as usual – planning and preparing for the 1994 season.

Over the past few years we've heard and listened to many comments expressed by our members and now we're planning to implement some of their suggestions in '94.

We hope to make our '94 newsletters more appealing to all our members; we plan a format change in some of our Weeklies; we are adding two major tournaments – a Senior Four-Ball and a Mid-Amateur; we've streamlined the Senior Championship to two divisions only – Seniors (55-64) and Senior Plus (65 and over); we're adding a few more clubs to the USGA's Golf Handicap and Information Network (GHIN); we're going to review the course and slope ratings of all our member clubs; and finally, we've fine tuned the Player of the Year Points System.

We hope these changes and refinements will enhance our '94 season and make it better for everyone.

So while we're finalizing these preparations why not grab a putter and fine tune that stroke of yours for '94. Let's hope everyone is well, and I wish all of you a Healthy and Happy New Year in '94.

# WHAT'S IN STORE FOR '94

***New Events:*** It looks like we're deep into a winter freeze but the wheels are still turning at the RIGA. Amidst what seems to be the coming of a new Ice Age, we are planning for the 1994 golf season. For those of you who play in our tournaments, the new year will offer two new events as well as some format changes.

For anyone 30 and older with a handicap index of not more than 10.4, you'll be able to compete in the RIGA's first Mid-Amateur Championship. The tournament will be contested at Triggs Memorial GC with the format being 36 holes stroke play over two days.

The other new event will be the Senior Four-Ball. This team event for the 55 and over set will have both gross and net prizes. It will be held in October at Green Valley CC over two days and 36 holes.

***Change of Formats:*** The Mixed Foursomes, by popular demand, is switching back to Match Play from Stroke Play. As in past years, there will be no limit to the number of entries; however, only 64 teams will qualify for Match Play. Not only has the format changed, but so has the venue. Point Judith CC has agreed to host the Mixed for a minimum of three years on a Monday through Wednesday.

The ever-popular Senior Championship, being played this year at Kirkbrae CC, is also undergoing a facelift of sorts. Because it is so popular, the past couple of years have seen an almost unmanageable number of players during qualifying. To rectify this situation, some members of the RIGA Executive Committee drew up a plan which will eliminate the 45-54 age bracket and introduce a 32 man championship division for which anyone 55 and over can attempt to qualify. The winner of this division will be the overall Senior Champion. The remaining divisions will be filled out by age group – 55-64 and 65+.

***Weekly Invitationals:*** The Weekly Invitational series will open up once again at Pawtucket CC in April. As everyone knows who has played in the Weeklies, the format is individual gross within a handicap division with a smattering of quota and best-ball events. This year, however, we're introducing four different formats at a few of the courses with the hope of increasing participation among our members.

***Course Rating & Slope:*** As you know, all RIGA member clubs have an official USGA Course and Slope Rating. From time to time it becomes necessary to re-evaluate these ratings to make certain they are still accurate. The playing characteristics of a golf course can change when trees grow larger or are removed, if a watering system is newly installed or modified, if the superintendent and/or greens committee makes any other changes which could potentially change the course's character – all these factors contribute to a course's playability. 1994 is the year in which all RIGA member courses will be re-evaluated to determine the accuracy of their Slope and Course Ratings. If adjustments are necessary, the clubs will be notified and the changes would be in effect starting in 1995.

# LOCAL TOURING PRO UPDATE

With his recent success, his Providence Journal column and his move back to Rhode Island, **Brad Faxon**'s been overshadowing the other R.I. pros a bit. Let's keep in mind that we have three other guys who are official members of the PGA Tour for 1994 and three others grinding away on the mini-tours.

It'd be difficult for any R.I. golf fan to forget about **Billy Andrade**. After all, he finished 40th on the 1993 money list with $365,759 in official earnings and seven top-10 finishes including a five-way play-off at the Southern Open where he eventually tied for second with three other players.

After his back to back wins in '91 at the Kemper and Buick, Billy was the one overshadowing everyone. At the 1992 Tournament of Champions, he and Brad lost out in a three-way play-off to Steve Elkington. It was looking easy, but the rest of 1992 wasn't as kind to Billy. Where Brad won twice and finished eighth on the money list, Billy struggled with the putter and finished 76th. If not spectacular, 1993 was a solid year. With a strong showing in Japan (tied for 11th at Dunlop Phoenix) during December, look for Billy Andrade to do well in 1994.

**Pat Horgan** put on a late surge in '93 to try to finish in the all-exempt top 125. He had two of his three top 10's back to back in September (Canadian and Hardee's) but fell a mere $12,037 short, finishing in the 141st position. All is not lost, however. Because the players who finish from 126-150 on the money list have a conditional exemption for the following year, Pat should get into at least 15 tournaments. He is also fully exempt on the Nike Tour.

Everyone knows **Eddie Kirby** has been trying to get his PGA Tour card for years. Well, 1994 has arrived and Eddie is now out there with the big boys by virtue of his 32nd place finish at the qualifying school.

Ed has struggled through some disappointing years. He's had wrist surgery. He's played the Asian Tour, the Nike Tour and about every other mini-tour. Suffice it to say that Eddie's paid his dues on his circuitous route to the big show. So while the Tour's media guide will list him as a first year player, Ed Kirby can hardly be called a rookie.

Bryant College grad and R.I.'s adopted son, **Jim Hallet**, struggled with injuries in 1993 and had his worst year on the PGA Tour. With four foreign players who are not Tour members (Bernhard

*Local PGA Tour veterans (L-R) Pat Horgan, Jim Hallet, Billy Andrade and Brad Faxon are pictured here with Northeast Amateur chairman, Bill Lunnie, and RIGA Executive Director, Joe Sprague. The four were playing in a Skins Game event at Wannamoisett prior to the 1989 Northeast Amateur.*

*Continued on page 6.*

# AT THE CLUBS

**AGAWAM HUNT** – Paul Butler begins his final year as official head pro with the start of the 1994 season. Paul began at Agawam in 1965 and left after a few years. He retuned in 1976 and has been a fixture in the pro shop ever since.

The golf course has had many improvements including the installation of an automatic watering system which covers all 18 holes. A new 3rd green will be open in June '94.

**ALPINE** – A new automatic watering system as well as a drainage system have been recently installed. The club is now going to focus on manicuring the golf course and modifying obstacles such as bunkers to provide for more challenging play. The big projects prior to concentrating on the golf course were the major renovations done to the club house interior.

**CRANSTON** – New automatic watering system has greatly improved the course's condition.

**CRESTWOOD** – Club manager, Jim Pezzullo, retired on December 31, 1993 but will stay on in an advisory capacity through September '94. The new manager is Robert Peters. On the golf course: the greens which had experienced problems were recovering very well by this past fall. Renovations to some tees as well as some tree removal is planned for '94.

**GLOCESTER** – Some reconstruction of the course is planned because of the revamping of Route 44. Holes #4, 7 and 8 will be affected. Also, a new automatic watering system was recently completed.

**GREEN VALLEY** – A new green and pond have been constructed at the 5th hole. Plans in '94 call for new cart paths, rebuilding and extending tees, and black-topping around the pro shop. Ongoing improvements will continue in preparation for the 1995 State Amateur.

**KIRKBRAE** – Newly hired in '93, club manager, Al Micheletti, and golf course superintendent, Mark Richards, will both be starting their second seasons. Last year there was a new 4th tee completed and construction of new cart paths.

**LAUREL LANE** – Some tees are being re-sodded in addition to ongoing course improvements. Will be on GHIN in '94.

**LEDGEMONT** – Renovations are underway for the main grill room and both the men's and ladies' locker rooms. The pond on hole #4 has been enlarged. Bunkers are being reshaped with new sand added. A tree planting program has also been instituted.

**LINCOLN** – Two new tees were built in '93 at the 5th and 8th holes. The parking lot was paved. The possibility of installing an automatic watering system is being reviewed.

**METACOMET** – The club has hired Paul Jamrog of The Orchards Golf Club in Amherst, MA as their new golf course superintendent. Plans are already underway to restore some bunkers to the original Donald Ross design.

**MISQUAMICUT** – The club is making plans for celebrating its 100th anniversary in 1995. Edges of greens have been recontoured to original design. Drainage problems on the lower seven holes are being attended to on an ongoing basis.

**MONTAUP** – 12th tee has been lengthened and a new ladies tee constructed. A 350 foot long stone barrier has been built alongside the 11th tee. Cart path by the 1st green has been moved to the right which the club feels is a big improvement for the approach shot. Improvements have been made to the women's tees at the 15th and 16th holes.

**NEWPORT** – Preparations are continuing for the 1995 USGA Amateur Championship. Already completed are the lengthening of tees at holes #2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 15, 17 & 18. Holes #1 & 12, normally par 5's, will play as par 4's for the Championship.

**PAWTUCKET** – A new locker room has been constructed. The putting green has been re-contoured so that it's now level. Cart flow has been re-directed around the 1st tee area. Interviews are being conducted for a new club manager.

**POTOWOMUT** – Superintendent, Glen Perry, begins his second season in '94. Projects completed in '93 include an automatic watering system, renovated bunkers around the 16th green and several new cart paths. There are plans for rebuilding the 11th and 14th tees.

**POINT JUDITH** – The building of a new men's locker room was completed in '93. Paddle courts were reconditioned; there are now two. There's also ongoing drainage work around the course.

**QUIDNESSETT** – The automatic watering system has been upgraded. New cart paths have been added. The 3rd tee has been expanded and improvements have been made to the 4th tee. Large waste bunkers were added at the 11th hole. Granite hole identification markers have been installed at each tee.

**QUONSET** – Approximately 100 new trees have been planted. Long-term bunker reconstruction is underway.

**RHODE ISLAND** – Superintendent, Mal Wendell, retired in November; hired to replace him is Peter Lund from Taconic Golf Club in Williamstown, MA. Plans are in place to re-design bunkers to conform to the original Donald Ross design. A survey of the present watering system is also underway. Norm Albergio has been hired to assist head pro, Fred Bruno. Interviews for a new club manager are being conducted.

**SAKONNET** – New trees and shrubs were planted to replace those lost in '91 hurricane. Drainage work throughout the course is on-going.

**TRIGGS** – The golf course has been greatly improved in recent years. Ongoing projects include the reshaping of tees, bunkers and some greens. The club is considering joining GHIN for '94.

**VALLEY** – The club is interviewing for a new golf course superintendent. Former superintendent, Joe Ray, is now an assistant at Warwick.

**WANNAMOISETT** – In '93, three key positions were filled. Dan Hall was hired as club manager, Steve Napoli as head pro, and Chris Holland as superintendent. For '94 there will be a new chairman for the Northeast Amateur; Denny Glass takes over for Bill Lunnie who had been chairman since 1981 when he, in turn, assumed the reigns from Gene Voll. Bunkers continue to be re-worked into their original Donald Ross design.

**WANUMETONOMY** – As the club prepares for its role as the second stroke play course in the 1995 USGA Amateur, a new automatic watering system will be installed in 1994. A new 13th green has been completed (adding 40 yards to the hole) and two new tees at holes #5 and #14 will be ready for '94.

**WARWICK** – An automatic watering system was installed for the '93 season. The club will be remodelling and refurbishing the members' dining room (both formal and mixed grill). Course analysis is being done by golf course architect, Geoffrey Cornish. Other plans include thinning and removing trees and hand mowing greens in '94. Warwick will also be on GHIN beginning in '94.

**WEST WARWICK** – A fertilizing program has greatly improved the condition of fairways. Trees have been removed by the 6th green for more sunlight and ventilation. Some course renovation is possible due to the widening of street.

**WINNAPAUG** – The course's overall condition has been greatly improved. Projects at holes #15, 16 & 17 have greatly improved those holes. Other plans are in place for '94.

**WOODLAND GREENS** – New cart paths have been installed at holes #3, 5 & 9. New irrigation has been installed in the rough at holes #1, 7 & 8. More irrigation work is planned for '94.