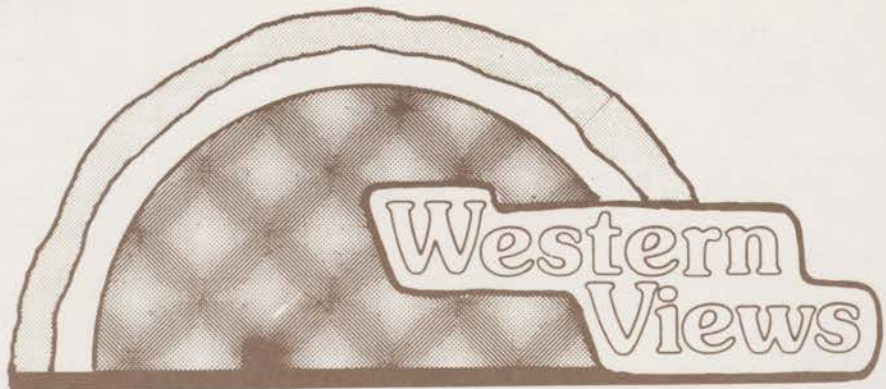




Official Publication of the  
W.M.G.C.S.A.



**November/December 1985**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
**Kurt Thuemmel C.G.C.S.**

It is an honor and a privilege to be elected President of the WMGCSA, and I hope to continue the forward progress we have made in the past years with your assistance.

Membership participation is a very important part of any association, and I intend to work on this area. In the next few weeks, you will be receiving a short survey to fill out and return. The purpose of the survey is to provide your Board of Directors with some input from the membership as to what kind of association you would like to be. It is very important that you participate in this survey in order for it to have meaning, so a prompt response would be greatly appreciated.

A special thank you to Keith Paterson for serving as President the past two years. A big job for someone who also serves as newsletter editor, and I am sure you all join me in expressing our sincere appreciation. Also thank you to Keith for hosting our recent Fall Party. It was a very enjoyable evening, so if you weren't able to attend, you certainly missed out on a good time!

Our next meeting will be scheduled for early January — prior to the Michigan Turfgrass Conference on January 13-14-15 and the International Golf Course Conference in San Francisco January 27 - February 4. See you there!

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### ON THE MOVE

Tony Tredente has recently accepted a new position as District Sales Manager with OMC Lincoln-Cushman Ryan Division. Tony and his wife Sandy will be moving to the Dallas area around the first of the year. Tony has been the photographer for Western Views the past four years. Thanks Tony for a job well done and we wish you success in your new position.

### CONFERENCE & SHOW

An estimated 10,000 golf course superintendents and others from around the globe will converge on San Francisco for the 57th annual International Golf Course Conference and Show sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) January 27-February 4th, 1986.

Most major activities associated with the premier event of the golf turf industry will be in the Moscone Convention Center.

Retired Air Force General Charles "Chuck" Yeager — a World War II fighter plane hero, career test pilot and the first man to break the sound barrier — will deliver the keynote address during the Opening Session at 9 a.m. Friday, January 31.

Singer Dinah Shore will present GCSAA's prestigious Old Tom Morris Award to world golf ambassador Patty Berg, co-founder, charter member and first president of the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) during the gala GCSAA Banquet attended by dignitaries from the world of golf at 7 p.m. Monday, February 3, in the San Francisco Hilton & Tower. Entertainment will be provided by the Lettermen, a versatile and enduring popular singing group.

In another highlight of the nine-day conference, millions of dollars worth of the latest equipment, products and services used in the management of golf courses and grounds will be displayed by about 300 exhibitors at the Conference's big Trade Show covering more than 115,000 square feet. The Show will be open for 19 hours Saturday through Monday, February 1-3.

Throughout the Conference, nearly 150 leading golf course superintendents, educators, researchers and representatives of the industry will lead more than 350 hours of seminars and other educational sessions covering every facet of turfgrass management and many related subjects such as communication, the public golf course, personnel management, computer applications in golf course operations, landscaping, golf course design and many other topics of interest to golf course and turfgrass managers.

GCSAA will hold its annual business meeting and election of officers on Monday, February 3. Nominated for President is Riley L. Stottern, CGCS, of Park City, Utah. Running for Vice President are Donald E. Hearn, CGCS, Weston, Mass.; John E. Laake, CGCS, Columbus, Ohio, and James M. Taylor, Sr, CGCS, Midland, Texas. Vying for three director's positions on the Executive Committee are Gerald L. Faubel, CGCS, Saginaw, Mich.; Stanley Boraski, CGCS, Charlotte, N.C.; Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS, Toms River, N.J.; William R. Roberts, CGCS, Stevens Point, Wis.; and Kenneth A. Sakai, CGCS, Rodeo, CA.

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Other awards to be presented to GCSAA members at the Opening Session on Friday by GCSAA President Eugene D. Baston, CGCS, include Chapter Newsletter Awards, Distinguished Service Awards and the Leo Feser Award for excellence in literary contributions to the Association's magazine, *Golf Course Management*, by a member golf course superintendent.

A Spouse's Program is also conducted in conjunction with the GCSAA Conference and Show.

The Association's Annual Member Golf Championship will be played January 27-28 at Palm Desert, CA. The tournament has been held since 1938.

The men's tournament will be played on the Palm Valley and Monterey Country Clubs and the women's tournament at The Lakes Country Club. GCSAA member Dennis J. Orsborn is Vice President of Golf Course Operations for the Sunrise Company, which has operational control of the three courses. Each course has a staff of 14 headed by GCSAA member superintendents Collier Miller, Monterey Country Club; Bruce Duenow, the Lakes Country Club; and Gary Peterson, Palm Valley Country Club.

Prizes will be awarded at a victory banquet on Tuesday night, January 28th.

For further information, contact Billy J. Shelton, Media Relations Manager, 913-841-2240.

### YEAGER TO KEYNOTE OPENING

Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager, the first man to fly faster than sound, will launch as keynoter the 57th annual International Golf Course Conference and Show sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) January 27-February 4 in San Francisco.

A decorated World War II fighter pilot and career test pilot, Yeager will speak at the Opening Session at 9 a.m. Friday, January 31, at the Moscone Convention Center.



More than 2,000 persons are expected to hear Yeager.

A retired Air Force general, Yeager enlisted in the Army Air Corps in September 1941 and was accepted for pilot training in July 1942. Since receiving his pilot wings and appointment as a flight officer in March 1943, he has flown 183 types of aircraft logging more than 11,000 hours of flight time. More than 10,300 of those were in a fighter aircraft.

Yeager distinguished himself in aerial combat during WWII by shooting down 13 enemy aircraft, five on one mission, including one of Germany's first jet fighters. On March 5, 1944, he was shot down over German-occupied France. He escaped capture with the assistance of the French Maquis.

He also flew 127 combat missions during the Vietnam War.

Yeager began experimental flights shortly after WWII. On October 14, 1947, he became the first man to fly faster than the speed of sound in the nation's first research rocket aircraft, the Bell X-1. It was during his nine-year assignment as the nation's leading test pilot that he also became the first man to fly more than twice the speed of sound, flying the Bell X-1A on December 12, 1953.

In July 1962, Yeager became Commandant of the Aerospace Research Pilot School where all military astronauts are trained.

He was promoted to brigadier general in 1969 and retired from active duty on March 1, 1975.

General Yeager's decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Silver Star with one oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters, Bronze Star Medal with V device, Air Medal with 10 oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Purple Heart, Distinguished Unit Citation Emblem with one oak leaf cluster and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Ribbon.

Other honors include selection in 1953 as one of the "Ten Outstanding Young Men" by the Junior Chamber of Commerce, election to the Aviation Hall of Fame in 1973, the "Golden Plate Award" presented by the American Academy of Achievement in 1974 and a peacetime Congressional Medal of Honor, presented by President Gerald Ford in 1976.

He was also awarded honorary doctor of science degrees from West Virginia University in 1948, Marshall University in 1969, Salem College in 1974 and the University of Charleston in 1983.

Yeager currently serves on the boards of directors of Louisiana Pacific Corporation, Dahlberg Electronics Corporation and the Air Force Academy Falcon Foundation. He is also consultant test pilot for Northrop Corporation, Lear-Ziegler Corporation and the Flight Test Center, Edwards Air Force Base.

The 1986 GCSAA Conference and Show are expected to attract an international crowd of nearly 10,000 persons from the world of golf course management and golf.

#### **OLD TOM MORRIS AWARD**

LPGA Hall of Fame member Patty Berg will receive the Golf Course Superintendents of America's prestigious Old Tom Morris Award at GCSAA's 57th annual International Golf Course Conference and Show this coming winter in San Francisco.

Identified throughout the golfing world with the true heritage and tradition of the game, the award will be presented February 3 during banquet ceremonies at the San Francisco Hilton & Tower Hotel.

The Conference and Show are scheduled January 27-February 4. Center of activities will be Moscone Convention Center. "The Old Tom Award is presented to an individual who, through a continuing, selfless commitment to the game of golf, has helped to further the game with the same dedication and inspiration demonstrated by Old Tom Morris," said Eugene D. Baston, CGCS, President of GCSAA.

A founder, charter member and first president of the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA), Berg is a leading ambassador for women's golf. Although 1980 was her last year of professional competition, Berg continues to be active promoting the game, as did Old Tom.

As an amateur, Berg won 29 championships and then amassed 55 victories as a professional. Among her professional victories are 42 LPGA events, bettered only by five players in the Tour's 35-year history.

Berg has triumphed over personal adversity as well as over challenges in golf. In 1941, she was injured in an automobile accident and sidelined for 18 months. In 1971, she underwent cancer surgery. In 1980, she had hip surgery.

Berg's honors and awards are numerous. Some of the most notable are: induction into the LPGA Hall of Fame and the World Golf Hall of Fame; USGA's Bob Jones Award honoring a person who emulates his sportsmanship, respect for the game and its rules, generosity of spirit, sense of fair play, self control and sacrifice; the Golf Writers Association of America's Charlie Bartlett Award to a playing professional for unselfish contributions to the betterment of society; the William Richardson Award to an individual who has consistently made outstanding contributions to golf; the Ben Hogan Award to a person who has overcome a serious illness or injury to play golf again; the National Golf Foundation's Joe Graffis Award to individuals who demonstrate outstanding service and dedication to the educational advancement of golf; and the Herb Graffis Award.

In 1976, Berg became the first woman to receive the Humanitarian Sports Award from the United Cerebral Palsy Foundation.

In 1979, LPGA established the Patty Berg Award to recognize and honor her diplomacy, sportsmanship, goodwill and contributions to the game.

One of golf's first greats, Old Tom Morris was a greenkeeper, golf professional, club and ball maker, golf course architect and accomplished player who won four British Open Championships between 1861 and 1867. At the Royal and Ancient, St. Andrews, Scotland, Old Tom gained worldwide fame, boosting the popularity of golf throughout the British Isles and in many other parts of the world.

Golfing great Arnold Palmer, entertainer Bob Hope and former President Gerald Ford are previous recipients of the Old Tom Morris Award.

An international golf audience including representatives of every major golf association will be on hand for the 1986 banquet ceremonies. The banquet attendance is expected to reach 2,000.



## TERROR AT TENERIFE

Everyone was burning to death around him,  
yet he was protected

Norman Williams admits he was a wayward Christian - at least before he found himself walled in by flames scorching everyone around him. He was one of the few people to survive the Canary Island crash of two jumbo jets in 1979 in which six hundred died.

Amidst the chaos of the burning aircraft, Williams' head cleared and Bible verses he didn't realize he even knew came to mind. Above the screaming and cursing from burning people which filled the air, Williams shouted: "I stand upon THE WORD." Later from his hospital bed, Williams promised God he would tell his story to anybody who would listen.

Since then, Williams has traveled over 300,000 miles testifying to God's presence in his life to all who would hear. He will be sharing his story with us in San Francisco at our annual Christian Prayer Breakfast at the San Francisco Hilton on Friday, January 31, 1986. Coffee and rolls will be served at 6:30 a.m. with the program from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. The purpose of the breakfast is to seek God's blessing on the Conference, its affairs, our membership, our directors, our staff, our Nation, and to share God's love. Everyone is welcome.

At his moment of trauma, Norman Williams found Christ at the center of his life. But we don't have to wait for trauma. Christ stands just outside the center of our lives waiting for us to invite him in. If you want to know Christ better, take this opportunity and join us.

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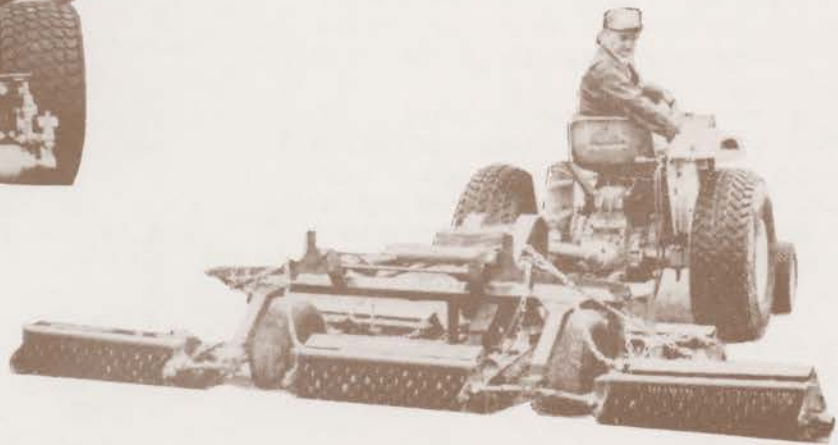
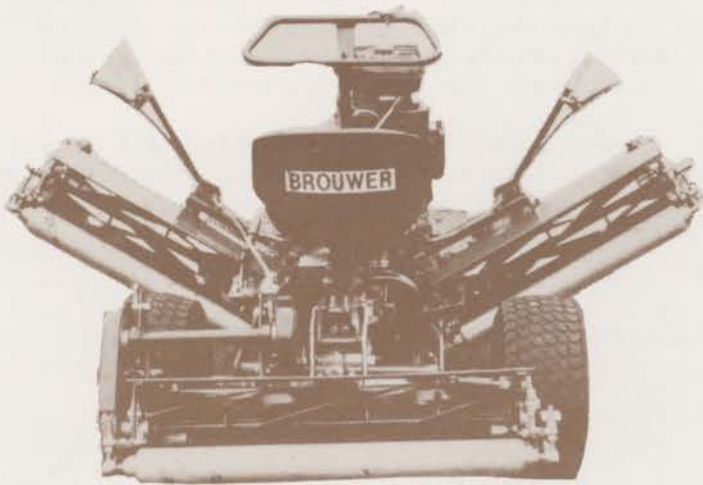













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## LIMING OF TURFGRASS AREAS

by Roy L. Goss

Lime, regardless of the form, serves mainly two purposes: 1) decreases acidity by raising the pH, and 2) supplies the nutrient calcium. The fate of lime applied to turfgrasses is dependent on soil texture and mineralogy, organic matter, the degree of leaching, and application of acidic materials. Soils with optimum amounts of clay and humus provide exchange sites for calcium and retain this element if applied. Sand has few exchange sites and cannot retain significant amounts of any element (nutrient). Some highly acidic heavy textured soils have a high aluminum content and neutralize large amounts of calcium as well.

Fall, winter and early spring are excellent times for turfgrass managers in the West Coast area to start correcting pH, calcium or magnesium deficiencies. Interior areas east of the Cascade Mountains can begin their applications in early spring when the frost is out of the ground and accomplish the same purpose. Soil tests will indicate your choice of liming materials. If your soil test indicates that the ratio of calcium to magnesium is more than 7:1, it would probably be a good idea to use dolomitic limestone as your choice of material. If it is as close together as 5:1, agricultural limestone is cheaper and will accomplish your purpose.

Liming turfgrass areas is considerably different than your home garden or agricultural lands. We have little opportunity to work the liming agents into the full rooting profile or even the upper 4-6 inches. Therefore, these materials are placed directly on the surface or in the thatch. Applications exceeding 35 lb per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> per application are excessive in the author's view and should not be practiced on existing turfgrasses. If your soil test indicates that you should apply 100 lb per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup>, this amount should be applied in at least three equal applications over a one-year period and not in any single season. Limestone, either as calcium carbonate or dolomitic limestone (containing magnesium carbonate), dissolves very slowly and can form a layer if applied in too great amounts. Materials such as hydrated lime (calcium or magnesium hydroxide) are much finer materials and much more reactive than carbonate forms and have to be used with extreme care and caution to prevent burning. It is feasible to apply the hydroxide forms at rates of 3-10 lb per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> per application depending upon the type of turf being treated with a reasonable degree of safety.

### Liming Materials

A liming material can be defined as any compound of calcium or calcium and magnesium capable of counteracting the harmful effects of an acid soil. Any stone containing less than 80% of carbonates is considered low grade. Any stone containing over 95% of carbonates is always preferred.

#### Three Forms of Lime:

1. Oxide-calcium oxide or magnesium oxide - very hot, reactive, and disagreeable to handle.
2. Hydroxide - calcium hydroxide or magnesium hydroxide - very reactive and somewhat disagreeable to handle.
3. Carbonate - calcium carbonate or magnesium carbonate or combinations of both. This is the usual form that we purchase as agricultural lime or dolomitic limestone.

The oxide form of calcium is not commonly used in most agriculture because it is extremely caustic and very difficult to handle, while the hydroxide form of calcium is formed by slaking calcium oxide (adding water) and is also caustic and a little difficult to handle as well.

### Neutralizing Power of Various Forms of Lime

Liming materials are always calculated on the basis of pure calcium carbonate taken as 100%.

| Form of lime        | Molecular wt | Neutralizing value (percentage) | Lb equivalent to 1 ton of pure CaCO <sub>3</sub> |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Calcium carbonate   | 100          | 100                             | 2000   |
| Magnesium carbonate | 84           | 119                             | 1680   |
| Calcium hydroxide   | 74           | 135                             | 1480   |
| Magnesium hydroxide | 58           | 172                             | 1160   |
| Calcium oxide       | 56           | 178                             | 1120   |
| Magnesium oxide     | 40           | 250                             | 800  |

### Effectiveness of Lime Forms

1. Calcium stone is softer than magnesium stone and breaks down more quickly.
2. Fineness of grind effects the speed of reaction.
3. Calcium hydroxide reacts faster than finely ground limestone because calcium hydroxide is a more finely ground powder.
4. Calcium hydroxide forms calcium carbonate in the soil. Therefore, in the long run there seems to be little difference in the various forms of lime when applied in equivalent quantities.
5. Standard grades should meet these screen tests: 100% passing No. 10 and 30-50% passing a No. 100 screen.
6. Soil reaction proceeds more rapidly in soils high in organic matter due to large amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> produced.
7. Excess lime can reduce the availability of manganese, zinc and iron and sometimes phosphates.
8. State law requires that the analysis of the lime be shown either as percent calcium carbonate or calcium carbonate equivalent.

Other forms of lime such as liquid lime or pelleted lime are also effective and sometimes convenient to use, but it is your responsibility to look at the calcium carbonate equivalent and the bottom line, which is cost.

CREDIT: NORTHWEST TURF TOPICS

### RANDOM THOUGHTS THAT SURFACED WHILE CHANGING CUPS

by William B. Stevens, C.G.C.S.

Credit: Our Collaborator

After changing cups on the same greens for over 15 years, the mind starts to wander...

I HATE CHANGING CUPS!

Why is it the number of rocks encountered while changing cups is in direct proportion to how close the golfers are?

What law of nature states the number of no-shows and tardy employees is related to the importance of the tournament and the earlier tee-off time?

Why is it when you borrow or lend equipment it inevitably breaks down?

What law is it that makes the severity of machinery breakdown in direct proportion to the importance of the job and the time limit allowed?

How does equipment and pump house know when it is a weekend?



How does disease know when it is the first day of a three day weekend?

#### WHY ARE THESE GREENS SO HARD?

How come there are so many ball marks on the greens when every golfer swears that he repairs his and two other ball marks?

Ever notice that it is usually the same golfer who complains about poor playing conditions that complains the course is closed due to wet conditions or renovation?

Would reverse psychology work on the same golfer, for example, a cart sign "PLEASE DRIVE CARTS THROUGH WET AREAS?"

I wonder how many golfers would hit a ball at an unaware worker, if that worker was his son or daughter?

Ever notice when mowing fairways, golfers will never hit a ball when you drive towards them, they wait until your back is turned and driving away?

Why do golfers feel the need to walk or drive in front of maintenance equipment?

THERE MUST BE AN EASIER WAY TO CHANGE CUPS!

Due to budgetary restrictions, the brakes on maintenance equipment are usually the last thing repaired, much to the surprise of the above golfer.

Why is it usually easier to get clubs to spend \$500 to repair an old piece of equipment, when a new one costs only \$1000? (This is hypothetical as there are no new machines for \$1000!)

Most members join a golf club for golf, otherwise they would join a social club, so why is it when money gets scarce, the golf course budget is the first to get cut?

We have streamlined our operation enough so that by April 1, we are only 6 months behind in our regular yearly maintenance!

Why is it you can search forever for something you need, and after you finally buy one, many others become available?

WHY CAN'T SOMEONE INVENT A HYDRAULIC CUP CUTTER TO FIT ON THE BACK OF A CUSHMAN?

Ever notice early in the morning while going to work, a traffic light will turn red on you for no reason and will remain red until another car approaches the green light from another direction?

Ever realize the catch-22 we are in? We try to pay some of our help what they are worth so we can keep them, and as soon as we do, they realize that they aren't starving and have lives besides work, so they don't want to work overtime?

Why don't we take summer vacations? I took a week this year, and probably lost less turf than if I had been on the job. Are we irresponsible if we take time off? Should our jobs be in jeopardy if we take off time? Would members tolerate being told when they could take their vacations? This is too touchy a subject to be discussed here.

The most original excuse of an employee for taking time off was used twice by the same person within a five-year period, he probably doesn't think I have caught on so I expect to hear it again soon. He needed time off because his wife was three months pregnant and had six months to live. (Please note the woman is healthy and too old to have children.)

Why is it that the practice green, which has the most holes, is usually the hardest and rockiest (is that a word?) green when changing cups?

OH MY ACHING BACK!

Why is vandalism in direct proportion to the desire of showing off a good course?

Ever notice salespeople seem to come in groups? No one for weeks, then everyone at the same time. It is almost like they have a secret meeting to decide on who they are going to see. (Please don't take offense guys.)

This is a fill in the blank. Did you ever notice a \_\_\_\_\_ is like a policeman, never around when you need one?

Why does the boss always show up when something goes wrong that you don't want him to see?

Ever notice how things come back to haunt you? I instituted the policy that each Director write an article for the *Collaborator*, now I'm paying for it!

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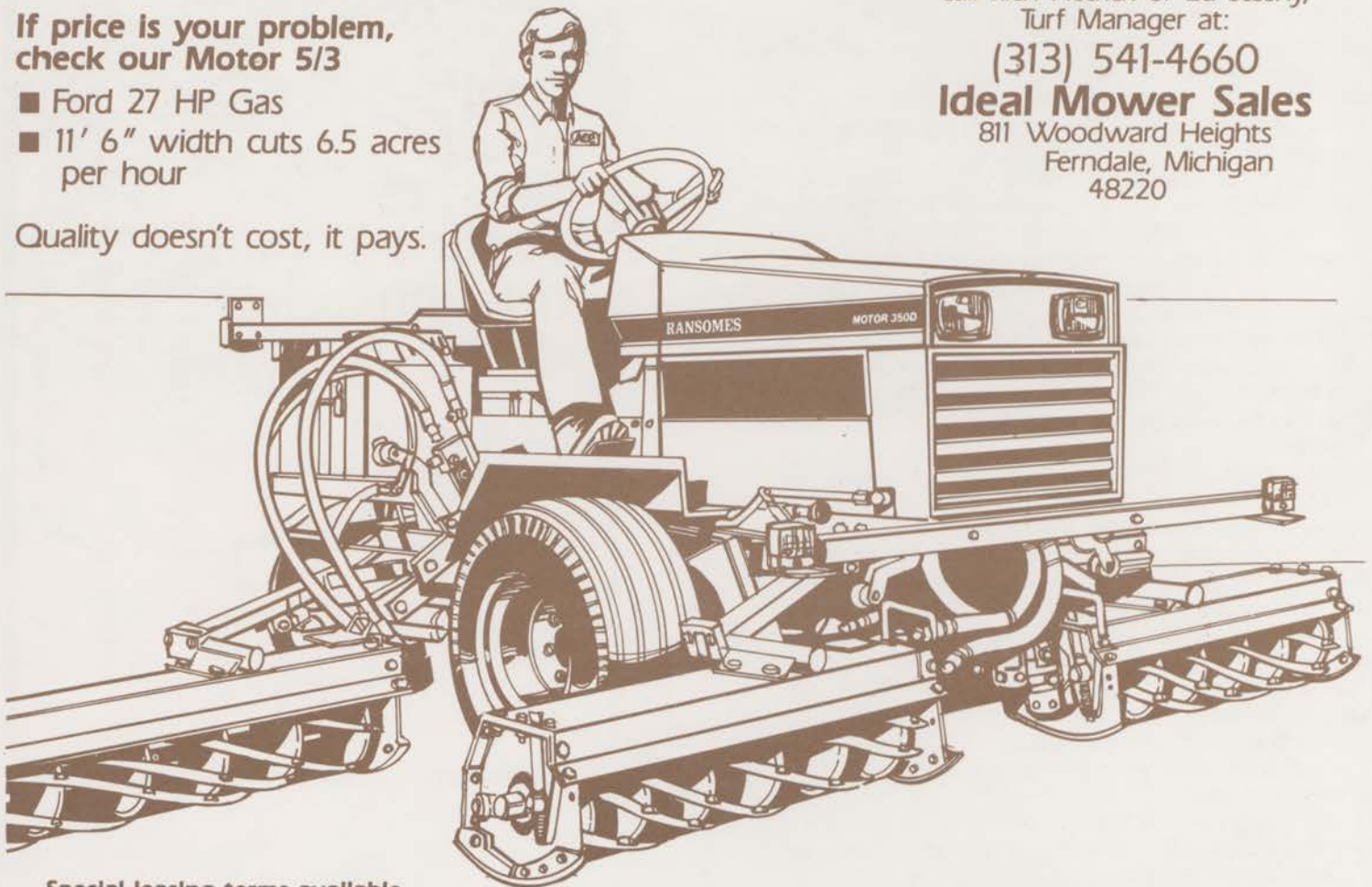
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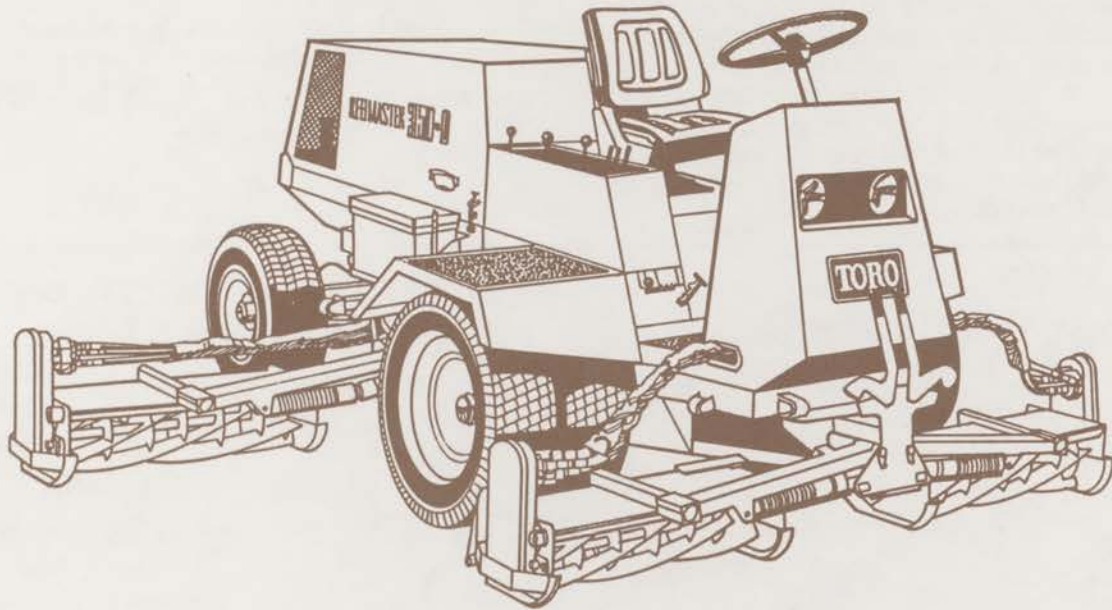


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**RESEARCH UPDATE — ROUNDS PLAYED SURVEY SHOWS SECOND QUARTER INCREASE**

Second quarter 1985 results of the National Golf Foundation's rounds played survey show a remarkable increase of 13.4 percent over the second quarter 1984 rounds played. This is the largest gain in second quarter activity since 1982, when rounds played increased 8.5 percent. Previous second quarter results were 2.8 percent (1984), -1.4 percent (1983) and 8.5 percent (1982).

The North East region championed much of the increase in golfing activity with a 24.1 percent change over the 1984 level of play. The East North Central region continued to show strong increases for the second quarter in a row with a positive 16.0 percentage change.

In fact, all of the seven regions reported an increase in rounds played over the same period a year ago. In five of seven regions over 80 percent of the clubs that were surveyed reported an increase in rounds played.

This indicates a very strong level of golfing activity in 1985. The year-to-date 1985 totals showed an 11.2 percent gain over the year-to-date 1984 totals. It was the largest gain since 1981 when rounds played for the year-to-date increased 10.7 percent.

**ROUNDS PLAYED SUMMARY  
2nd Quarter 1985 vs. 2nd Quarter 1984**

| Region            | % of Respondents Reporting: |           |           | % Change<br>In rounds |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|
|                   | Increase                    | Decrease  | No change |                       |
| North East        | 97                          | 3         | —         | 24.1                  |
| E. North Central  | 93                          | 6         | 1         | 16.0                  |
| W. North Central  | 90                          | 5         | 5         | 14.6                  |
| South Atlantic    | 66                          | 24        | 10        | 9.6                   |
| South Central     | 82                          | 14        | 4         | 12.6                  |
| Mountain          | 82                          | 14        | 4         | 11.8                  |
| Pacific           | 69                          | 22        | 9         | 5.2                   |
| <b>U.S. TOTAL</b> | <b>82</b>                   | <b>12</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>13.4</b>           |

**Year-to-date 1985 vs. Year-to-date 1984**

| U.S. TOTAL | % of Respondents Reporting: |          |           | % Change<br>In rounds |
|------------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------------------|
|            | Increase                    | Decrease | No change |                       |
|            | 74                          | 23       | 3         | 11.2                  |

Source: 1985 Golf Course Maintenance Report

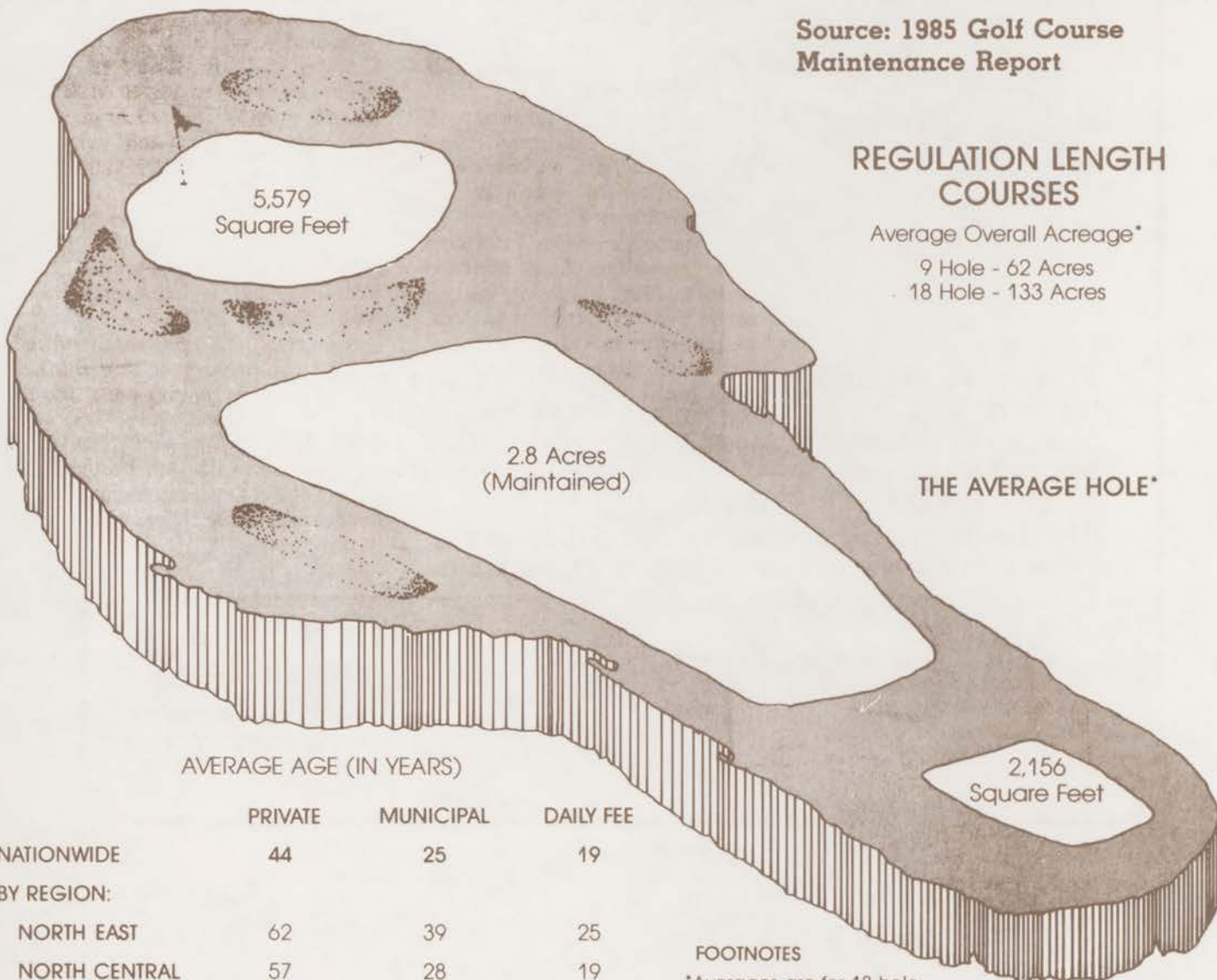
**REGULATION LENGTH COURSES**

Average Overall Acreage\*

9 Hole - 62 Acres

18 Hole - 133 Acres

THE AVERAGE HOLE\*



**AVERAGE AGE (IN YEARS)**

|               | PRIVATE | MUNICIPAL | DAILY FEE |
|---------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| NATIONWIDE    | 44      | 25        | 19        |
| BY REGION:    |         |           |           |
| NORTH EAST    | 62      | 39        | 25        |
| NORTH CENTRAL | 57      | 28        | 19        |
| SOUTH         | 23      | 21        | 16        |
| WEST          | 27      | 23        | 17        |

**FOOTNOTES**

\*Averages are for 18-hole regulation courses only.

\*Averages are median values which indicate that 50%

of the sample are above and 50% below the number stated.

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## NINE WAYS TO NEGOTIATE A RAISE

### Credit: Fore Front

Many people who have no trouble dealing with their superiors in most day-to-day situations find it very difficult to ask for a raise. If you're fainthearted at negotiation time, consider these recommendations to ease the process:

- Know your worth. Ask yourself how valuable you are to the course, how much would it cost to replace you, what have you done lately to help the organization.
- Pick your place. Get your boss outside of the office to listen to your request. Take him to lunch if possible.
- Detail your reasons. Tell you boss why you deserve a raise.
- Suggest an amount. You, not your boss, should propose the amount of your possible raise.
- Set your figures high. Ask for more than you expect to get. This leaves room to bargain.
- Compromise - but not too easily. Since you've started with a high figure, realize you probably won't get it. Let your boss make a counter-offer, and be ready to compromise.
- Rehearse, don't go into negotiation cold. Be sure to be in top mental and physical condition when the actual talks begin.
- Get it in writing. If possible, get your boss to put it in writing - for both signatures - the raise he agrees to.
- Don't wait - ask. Don't wait around for the company to recognize your value and give you a raise. Ask for it. Your aggressiveness may pay off.

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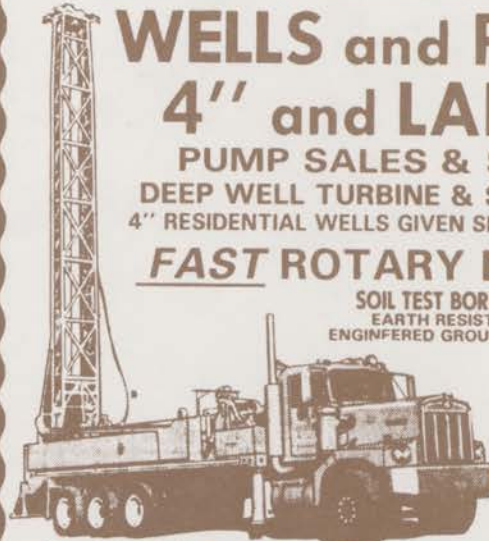
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**Credit: Heartbeat**

Golf course superintendents are professionals, not magicians. An analogy between superintendents and medical doctors can be drawn to illustrate the point.

After years of training and experience, both superintendents and doctors are prepared to examine ailments and prescribe treatment. Both are dealing with living objects. Both are concerned that the life continue. A great deal of mystery and misconception surrounds both occupations and their practices. Often, the cost of their services is considered too high, in some instances, exorbitant. Appreciation is expressed only when the "patient" approaches some near tragedy and is "saved", to be useful and complete again.

One major difference between superintendents and doctors (other than income) is that superintendents must work to keep their "patients" at the verge of death, through extremely close cutting, followed by an armada of golfers and carts. The "intravenous bottles" of fertilizer and other soil conditioners can never be turned off, and should some virulent "infection" invade the course in the form of fungus, insects, drought, etc., the superintendent cannot let the "patient" recover through bed rest. He is lucky if he can keep carts on paths, let alone golfers off the course to let it recover naturally.

Each year, stories circulate of how a superintendent has been fired because the "course didn't measure up." Seldom do we hear of those who overcame tremendous odds and did keep the course in great condition, and almost never do we hear of course officials recognizing what may have caused the course not to measure up without pointing a finger at the superintendent. The common cold can remain uncured, but superintendents can have nothing short of perfection.

There are those who contend that all of this is what the superintendent gets paid for, and few superintendents would argue that particular point. What they might like to add, given the opportunity, is that should the "patient" suffer a setback or lose some vitality, conditions other than the superintendent's abilities and actions should also be given consideration. Superintendents are professionals not magicians and they can only perform minor miracles, regardless of budget golfers' desires and demands or other factors.

Although there may be a few charlatans in the business, superintendents overall are more interested and aware of the conditions of their course than any golfer, professional or amateur, could ever pretend to be. If you wouldn't tell a doctor how to remove an unsightly wart, why should golfers assume so much knowledge and tell the superintendent how to perform his responsibilities?



# 6 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WE NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D ASK

(BUT DECIDED TO ANSWER ANYWAY)

**1** Yes, GCSAA can help you become a better superintendent. One way it does this is through educational seminars and conference sessions it sponsors each year to help you become better informed about turfgrass diseases, pesticides, landscaping and management practices.

**2** Yes, GCSAA is helping to further the advancement of the turfgrass industry. Through the GCSAA Scholarship & Research Fund, Inc., GCSAA provided more than \$13,500 last year in research grants to leading turfgrass programs. GCSAA also provides educational opportunities to turfgrass students through annual turfgrass scholarships.

**3** Yes, GCSAA provides a meeting ground for superintendents. Each year, GCSAA sponsors an annual conference and show for its members. Last year more than 6,500 educators, industry representatives and members from all over the world attended. GCSAA's executive committee decided at its last board meeting that the conference experience is so valuable that first-year members should be encouraged to attend by being given free admission.

**4** Yes, GCSAA offers recognition for superintendents. Through its public relations efforts, its magazine, and its award programs, GCSAA helps promote the image and the professionalism of the superintendent. GCSAA also provides information to superintendents about how they can use public relations to promote their own image to their course, their community and their association.

**5** Yes, GCSAA provides each member with a life insurance program. Supplemental insurance, disability and pension programs also are available.

**6** No, GCSAA can't help you with your golf handicap. You'll have to work on that yourself.



"Hm-m-m, now let me see . . . yellow, orange, light green . . ."



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(First Name)                      (Middle)                      (Wife)                      (Last)

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\_\_\_\_\_  
(City or Post Office)                      (State)                      (Zip)

Name of club or employer \_\_\_\_\_  
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Exact title of your present position  
EXAMPLES: (Sup't. of Grounds) (Sup't.-Manager) (Sup't.-Pro) (Ass't. Sup't.) (Other)

I have been employed at my present position for \_\_\_\_\_ years. Prior to this I had been employed as follows: (Please state type of work engaged in)

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Send my mail to:  \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_  
Home address                      Business address

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