

THE GREENERSIDE

July - August 1993 Volume 16 Number 4

Reflections on the Cadillac NFL Golf Classic

by Robert Dickison
Golf Course Superintendent

The weather for the tournament was almost perfect. Temperatures were warm, not hot, and there wasn't any rain. There was, however, plenty of wind, which was probably the only negative. This was very apparent on Saturday when 70 was the low score of the day. Irrigation had to be done throughout the tournament to compensate for the soil water that was lost due to the windy conditions.

The entire course was in prime condition just prior to the tournament. It's too bad that we couldn't preserve the course as it was on the weekend preceding the tournament. As expected, the South and West courses did continue in tournament condition throughout the week. The greens, if possible, tended to improve. Their speed and smoothness increased during the week. The stimpmeter reading was 10-6 plus on the final days. To achieve this speed the greens were groomed every afternoon and double cut each morning. They were also rolled three times during the week prior to tournament play.

Mowing heights for the tournament were: greens - 0.135", tees and aprons - 3/8", fairways - 1/2", intermediate rough - 1 1/2", and primary rough - 2 3/4". These mowing heights are pretty much the same as our normal mowing heights. What was most noticeable was the frequency of cut. Starting a week before, all areas were mowed daily except for the rough, which took about a day and a half to completely mow. For the tournament, the intermediate rough was somewhat extended and enlarged. What everyone noticed wasn't the closer cut rough, but the more frequently mowed rough during set up week. The primary rough wasn't cut once the tournament started.

What did it take to get the course in prime condition?

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Robert Dickison (left), superintendent at Upper Montclair Country Club, Clifton, along with Lee Trevino, the winner of the inaugural Cadillac NFL Golf Classic, and Chris Carson, president of GCSANJ, at the finish of the tournament on Sunday, May 30, 1993.

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THE GREENERSIDE

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EDITORIAL



Golf, birdies, and an eagle

All around the world the available habitat for wildlife is diminishing. In New Jersey, which is America's most densely populated state, our situation is particularly critical. It is here where man's needs have displaced nature's to a great extent. We can not turn back the clock to a pre-industrial age,

but we can make the most of what there is left.

Golf courses in New Jersey serve a dual purpose. First, they serve the game of golf, and, secondly, they serve to maintain a green space, which includes a place for wildlife. This can be managed passively or actively. By passively, I mean doing nothing to the roughs and the adjacent woodland, plus treating the course the way you would optimize golfing conditions. A little active management, however, can make the unplayed areas of the course a better shelter from the urban onslaught for our wildlife.

Several New Jersey golf courses are actively involved in this approach. I know of 28 that are participating in the USGA-sponsored Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses. Cape May National Golf Club, which I had the pleasure of visiting this past May, is part wildlife reserve and part golf course. This course gives its players spectacular viewing of the migratory birds and also the special New Jersey flora, which is indigenous to that area.

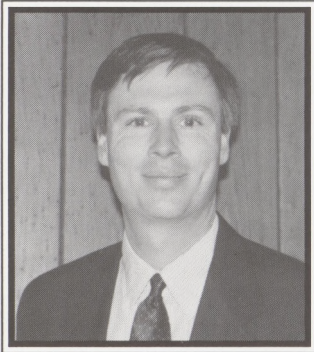
In 1989 the New Jersey Audubon Society counted only one bald eagle left in our state. Recently, they counted 47 bald eagles. From my own statistics developed from talking to golf course superintendents, you are at least ten times more likely to spot an eagle on a golf course than on a random walk through the state. Why? Because golf courses are picture perfect for attracting birds. Trees and an open "field" are ideal habitats for birds.

We need those of you who are not already involved to come on

(Please turn to page 13)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Project F.A.I.T.H.

Plans are well underway for our first annual charity event in support of this year's organization: PROJECT F.A.I.T.H. Your response to the Board's request for raffle prizes of a

round of golf for four has been terrific. At this writing we have more than thirty confirmed courses from throughout the state. We would like to include *your* operation . . . so please give this charitable endeavor your support if possible.

Your Board is undertaking a review of our long range planning. One new direction looks to incorporate our new charitable venture with our existing scholarship and research funding into a new foundation. This foundation would simplify certain bookkeeping procedures, allow us to oversee and distribute scholarship and charity funds separately from GCSANJ equity, and, importantly, for the first time provide a tax deduction to contributors. More information will be given as this idea is further researched.

Your Board continues to work hard to provide you with the services you need, and every Board member is dedicated to making GCSANJ the best it can be. You can help us achieve that goal by calling or writing with your concerns. By becoming part of the process, you will help us make our Association better.

This year's Field Day is shaping up to be the best ever! Under the dedicated direction of **Pat Wall** and his hard working committee, we will be moving the site to the turf farms on Ryder Lane by Cook College. Not only will all the turf equipment and supplies be available for your consideration thanks to the continued support of our commercial friends, but Bruce Clarke and Jim Murphy have promised to make pertinent research plots available. This event will be a *great opportunity* for every superintendent, assistant and mechanic to see the products, talk with Drs. Clarke and Murphy, and socialize with your friends.

We'll see you . . . in September!

Calendar

- September 18** **Annual Home Gardeners School**, Loree Building, Cook/Douglass Campus, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact: Office of Continuing Professional Education, (908) 932-9271.
- September 22** **Landscaping for Wildlife**, Cook Campus, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact: Office of Continuing Professional Education, (908) 932-9271.
- September 28** **GCSANJ Invitational**, Green Brook GC, hosted by Joseph Kennedy. Contact: Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- Oct. 4-Dec. 10** **Rutgers Professional Golf Management School (Fall Session), Applications due on August 6**, Contact: Office of Continuing Professional Education, (908) 932-9271.
- October 5** **29th Annual Turfgrass Equipment, Irrigation and Supplies Field Day**, Rutgers Hort Farm II, Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact: Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- October 21** **GCSANJ October Meeting**, Deal Golf & CC, hosted by Angelo Petraglia. Contact: Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- November 1** **GCSANJ Turf Scholarship Program**, Deadline for all applicants, contact: Dennis Shea, (609) 466-2921.
- November 6** **President's Ball**, The Barclay Hotel, hosted by Harry Harsin. For further information, contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- November 9-12** **Turf and Grounds Exposition**, Rochester Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, NY. Contact: NYSTA, (800) 873-TURF or (518) 783-1229.
- November 9** **GCSANJ Annual Meeting**, Hollywood GC, hosted by Robert S. Tosh. Contact: Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.

Reflections on the Classic

(Continued from page 1)

Two hundred man hours a day (20 men @ 10 hrs/day) for the week before the tournament. This is about a 50% increase in our normal maintenance. This time was spent not only on mowing the primary areas, but also includes trimming around trees, ponds and other such areas, filling of divots, repairing of paths and roads, trimming of trees, and the cleaning and planting of the flower shrub beds.

Once the tournament started our course maintenance was limited to early mornings, when cups and tees markers were changed, greens were mowed, traps were raked, dew was dragged off the fairways and the course was checked for debris. In the late afternoons, tees, fairways were filled, divots cleared from practice area, and greens and dry areas were watered. During the overnight about 300 thousand gallons of water were used to irrigate the tournament course and the greens and tees on the East nine.

The areas that were used for parking on the East nine did not receive any irrigation for the tournament week. For the week, we parked upwards of 13,000 cars on the East nine, 3,000 on Sunday alone. Also each day saw more than a thousand cars parked on the practice area. During tournament hours almost all of the green staff was used in the parking areas. Those who were not assisting in the parking were maintaining the fences used for course protection, maintaining the greens and tees on the East nine or maintaining our equipment.

For tournament week, the average member of the green staff put in 15 hours each day of the week. Special thanks should be given to **Steve Bock**, my assistant, who put over 16 hours per day and ran the parking; **Brian Coleman**, our mechanic, who kept all the mowers sharp and the equipment in good running order; **Egardo Pagan**, our irrigation specialist, who made sure the course was irrigated properly each night; and **Dr. Al Hoffman**, who helped fill the divots in the evenings.

Four of our suppliers were kind enough to lend us equipment for use during tournament week: **Double Eagle Co.** - an electrical Cushman flatbed cart that was used by the medical staff; **Wilfred MacDonald Co.** - three Smithco greens rollers and a Mitsubishi truck also used by the medical staff; **Storr Tractor Co.** - a Toro sweeper that was used to pick up the divots on the practice range; and **Steve Willand Co.** - a Ransome mower that was used to mow the intermediate rough.

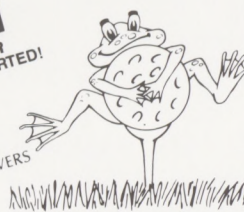




Even when the tournament was over, our work did not end. On Monday and Tuesday, while others were off, we cleared the course of temporary fence, rope and stakes. The course was swept for litter and generally put in order for Wednesday's opening. Renovations of the worn areas is ongoing and will begin to show results after a couple of rains. Due to the dry weather this year, course damage was minimal. The worn areas have been aerated, seeded and fertilized. I expect the course to be back to normal by the end of June. We are returning to our regular maintenance procedures now, which will relieve the stress placed on the course by the increased maintenance for the tournament. ¶



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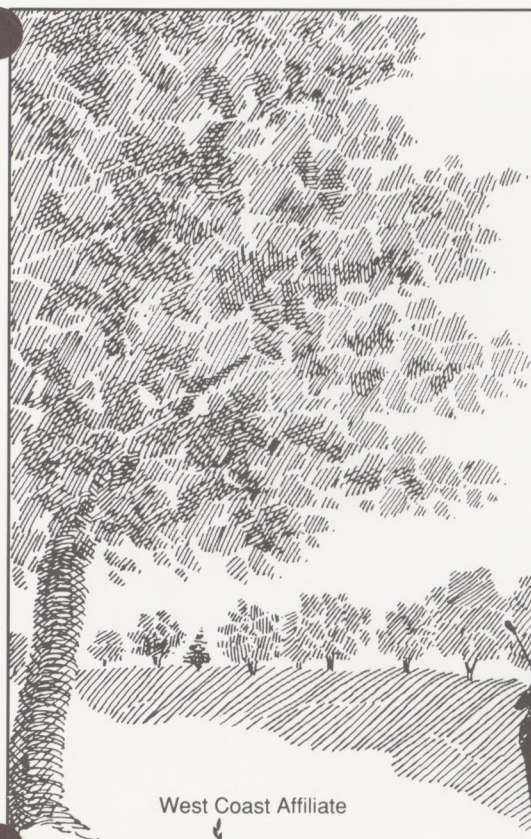
NEW MEMBERS TO THE GCSANJ FAMILY

A. "Greenside" welcome and congratulations to the new members listed below. We hope to see you at the upcoming tournaments.

William D. Rapp, Steven Willand, Inc.	(C)
Thomas R. Ristau, Pennink Arrimour, Inc.	(C)
Thomas Saunders, Forsgate Country Club	(B-1)
Thomas A. Tuttle, Ridgewood Country Club	(B-2)

JULY MEETING SITE

The 4th fairway at Harkers Hollow Golf Club, where Superintendent Don Zeffer hosted the July GCSANJ meeting.



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MEETING AT THE CAPE

by Shaun Barry

Our choice of Cape May National G.C. for a Joint April Meeting was almost an unqualified success. I say almost because we did have one problem. We needed another 18 holes so we would not have turned 16 people away. The interest in the course was so great that Steve Malikowski raised the limit from 128 players to 136. Even so, we could not handle everyone. If you did not make the field, please do yourself a favor and call Steve. It is worth the trip.

Eberhard Steiniger, Al Radko, 7 members of the U.S.G.A. Green Section and Mike Preston (president of the N.J. State PGA) joined us for lunch and the presentation by our host. Steve spoke about the problems he met during



construction of this course. Immediately following lunch everyone returned to the club where they got acquainted with their playing partners. Unlike past Joint Meetings there was no competition between New Jersey and Philly. Each group

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was made up of 2 players from each association, and they formed a team.

Winning the 4-Man Net Best Ball event were **Bob Prickett, Bob Leslie, Dennis Glynn and Mike O'Brien** (58). Taking second were **Harry Harsin, Joe Connor, Glen Thomas and Bill Beverlin** (59). On a match of cards **Jack Montecalvo, John Sequi and Bill Milsop** (60) placed third. Bob Prickett won the long drive while **Jeff Allen** and **Jim Stauring** were closest to the pin. **Jim Connolly, Dennis Glynn, Steve Chirip and Warren Savini** had one skin each and Jack Montecalvo had 2.

In a special event sponsored by **Bob Mullock, Tom Grimaldi** withstood the pressure of a large gallery when he chipped in to win the shoot-out. **Doug Fraser** was second, **Jeff Shockley** was third and Steve Malikowski used all of his golfing skills to place fourth.

Thanks to Bob Mullock for allowing us to use his course and to everyone at Cape May National. Their professional efforts added immensely to our enjoyment.

WAYNE REIGNS

by Shaun Barry

It was 9 a.m., and I was all prepared for the May Meeting at Rock Spring Club. Walking into the locker room, all that I had to do was wait for everyone to show up. Turning left put me in the path of **Wayne Remo**. He was in golf clothes ready to play but an irrigation leak was just reported. Back to work for Wayne and to the putting green for me. There seems to be something wrong with this picture.

Wayne took care of business and made it back for his tee-time but I'm not sure about his lunch. Why did he volunteer his course if this kind of trouble can happen? (Why would anyone?) In Wayne's case, he is very proud of the way his course looks and plays. With the help of **Kerry Boyer** and the hard work from his crew, this course is a real joy to play. The greens were quick but not glass. Trouble was there but not everywhere. They just don't build them like this anymore, but I wish they did.

We played a Modified Stableford Tournament which **Jay Antonelli** won with 39 points. **Jerry Perl** came in second with 38 points. They were followed by **Mike Cook, Bob Prickett, Bob Mlynarski, Dave Pease, Shaun Barry,**

Vinnie Bracken, Bruce Salmon, Steve Cadenelli, Bob Dwyer and John Farrell. John also won the long drive while Dave Pease was the closest to the pin on 10 and Steve Cadenelli on 16. **Fran Owsik** had 2 skins and **Jay Antonelli, John Ruzsbatzky, Bill Ryan and Tom Saver** had 1 each.

The first round of the two man team event was also completed. There are now only 8 teams left. The next round will feature **Grimac & Prickett vs. Chirip & Shea; Antonelli & Walsh vs. Bracken & Martin; Harsin & G. Miller vs. Finnesey & Ruzsbatzky; Barry & Pease vs. Driscoll & O'Brien.**

We were treated to a superb dinner and the GCSANJ's "Renaissance Man", **Jim Gilligan**, shared many thought-provoking ideas. What a great way to end a perfect day. Thanks to everyone at Rock Spring Club for their efforts that went above and beyond the call of duty.

Thanks also to **Rob Finnesey and Tree-Tech, Inc.** They donated the refreshments at Rock Spring G.C. and have offered to do this at our remaining monthly meetings.

DISTRICT FOUR MEETING

by Kevin Driscoll and Phil O'Brien

On May 10, District 4 met at the new Blue Heron Pines Golf Club. The meeting was conducted by Directors **Pat Wall and Wendell Beakley.** We were encouraged to support the fund raising for Project Faith. This is the charity the New Jersey superintendents have targeted to raise \$5,000 for this year.

(Please turn to page 8)

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District Four group shot at the newly-opened Blue Heron Pines.

(Continued from page 7)

Other topics of discussion were encouragement to join the GCSANJ. Also on the agenda were **Kent Thompson** and **Phil Scott** coordinating efforts for volunteers to help at

the upcoming LPGA at Great Bay Country Club.

With the demands of being on the State Board of Directors, Pat and Wendell asked for some assistance on the District level. While pondering the weighty issues of life, **Kevin Driscoll** and **Phil O'Brien** were nominated by **Rick Christian**, seconded by **Roy Griffiths**, and elected by the those assembled. **Rick Broome** consented to continue as treasurer, and **John Boyer** volunteered to be secretary. After the meeting, lunch was provided by **Jack Montecalvo** and **Rodio Tractor**.

After lunch, we were given the opportunity to play a golf course, which had opened May 29. **Clark Weld** and his staff have done an outstanding job growing in the beautiful course in such a short period of time. Golfers in South Jersey are in for a real treat when they get to experience Blue Heron Pines. The only blemish of the day was caused by our esteemed guest from the North, who was once again as generous with his strokes as Jack Benny was with money.

All the members of District 4 wish to thank Clark and the management of Blue Heron Pines for an enjoyable day. We wish them the best of luck. These writers would also like to thank Rick Christian for his important input in the nomination process. *f*

DISTRICT III NEWS

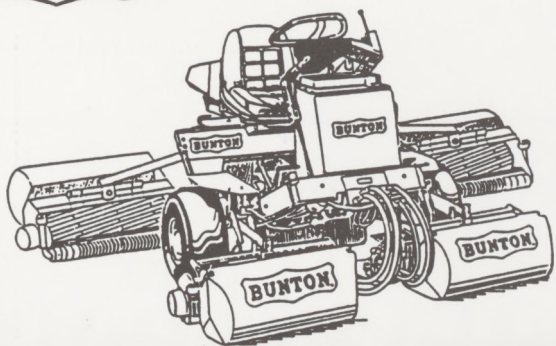
On April 19, 1993, Stanton Ridge G.C. opened its doors to members from District #3. The meeting was hosted by **Joel Jacquemot**, who has been on site since the early days of construction. It was a beautiful day, and 26 people joined our gracious hosts for a discussion on the history of the

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club, which was followed by lunch and a walking tour of the course.

Some of the holes were just starting to take shape while others were ready for championship play. This stage of the project lent itself to every type of question, and Joel seemed to relish the interest. He has done what most of us would like to do, and he has done it with great skill. This course will be something special when it is completed, and we are already trying to schedule a monthly meeting.

Our thanks to everyone at Stanton Ridge for their hospitality. Their pride in the course is well deserved, and it will grow stronger as Joel continues to mold a classic.



District Three meeting at Stanton Ridge, which was hosted by Joel Jacquemot on April 19, 1993.

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Speaker at Rock Spring or where do I go with my career?

by an Interested Bystander

After a fine day on a well conditioned golf course, various members and guests of the GCSANJ adjourned to the hospitable climate of the Rock Spring C.C. to enjoy the fruits and spirits of an afternoon of golf. The pre-dinner talk and laughter suggested a relaxed group awaiting dinner and the finale of the day, a talk by Jim Gilligan regarding superintendents' careers.

Chris Carson, GCSANJ president, handled the rostrum nicely, dovetailing between salad and entree with pertinent GCSANJ information. Somewhere between the entree and dessert Chris felt it would be nice to introduce Jim before the members grew too restless waiting for the numerous golf prizes to be awarded. The program committee works wonders with entry fees and skins games.

There was some anticipation as Jim was introduced. His career has had some twists and turns, and, hopefully, he could produce a clear road map that keeps careers on a smooth road.

He began hesitantly, with a furtive attempt at humor that evoked a few laughs. Jim downplayed his comedic talents. Acknowledging that what he was offering was some career counseling exercises that came from various texts on the subject. There was no doubt that some thinking and reading had been done on the subject; but he might have had some problems developing a central theme. Acknowledging this, he offered a series of lists that contained memorable lines and quotes from a best selling little book. The quotes were equally pertinent, but the one I remember vividly was: "Don't burn bridges. You'll be surprised how many times you have to cross the same river."

The one original thought that he shared was a brief outline of a nine-year career plan. I would have liked to hear more about this plan and see if it had some validity. "Originality is unexplored territory. You get there by carrying a canoe—you can't take a taxi." (Alan Alda)

It is interesting to hear from an active golf course superintendent who is interested in his own career and the careers of his peers.

Jim took a difficult subject and presented it honestly to an attentive audience. He reminded superintendents they need to take an objective view of their careers and make the

tough changes that are necessary to keep a successful career on the road.

There was something in this talk for everyone; I learned that difficult tasks can be successful "if you take along the tartar sauce."

There was some anticipation as Jim was introduced. His career has had some twists and turns, and, hopefully, he could produce a clear road map that keeps careers on a smooth road.

The author of this piece requested anonymity because of his association with the speaker. He attempted an objective

criticism that became bogged down in index cards laced with positive and negative lists.



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Behind the scenes at the U.S. Open with Superintendent Joseph Flaherty

by Diane T. Miller

Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield, New Jersey, the site of this year's U.S. Open and host to thirteen national championships since 1901, has seen many players and superintendents made and broken on its gently rolling, generously bunkered holes. But few have been challenged more or performed better than **Joseph Flaherty, Jr., CGCS.**

Joe began his association with Baltusrol as assistant superintendent in 1964, and he has never been anywhere but Baltusrol over the past 29 years. Joe comes by turf management naturally. His father, Joe Flaherty, Sr., was superintendent of Manasquan River Golf Club in Brielle, New Jersey, for 29 years and that is where Joe grew up.

"My dad tried to steer me away from it," said Joe, "but I like basically everything about it." The only real downside to turf management is the loss of family time, he said. "It's very hard to give up weekends and holidays when you have a young family."

He met his wife, Eileen, while on a ski trip to Switzerland. "I was looking for someone with American cigarettes, and she had Kents," said Joe. They have four children, none are pursuing careers in turf management though Joe said "He hasn't influenced them on this."

Joe is a graduate of Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, and is certified. He thought about going for an MBA early on in his career. Things went fine for the first semester, he said, but during the second semester he missed the midterms because they were in the middle

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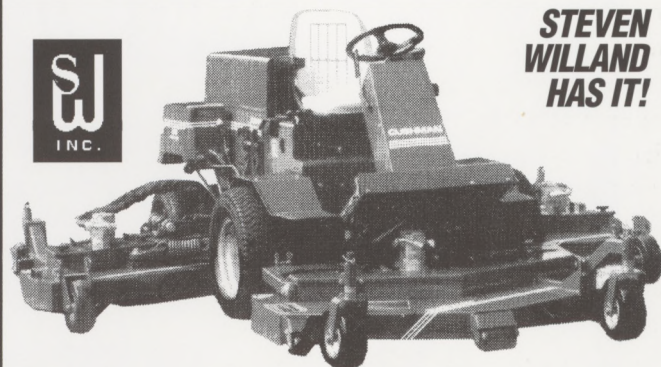


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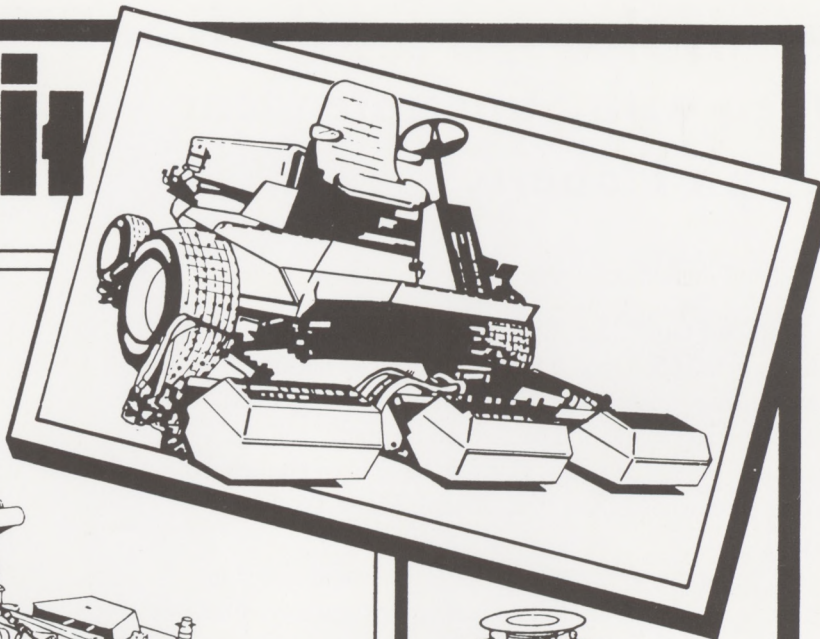
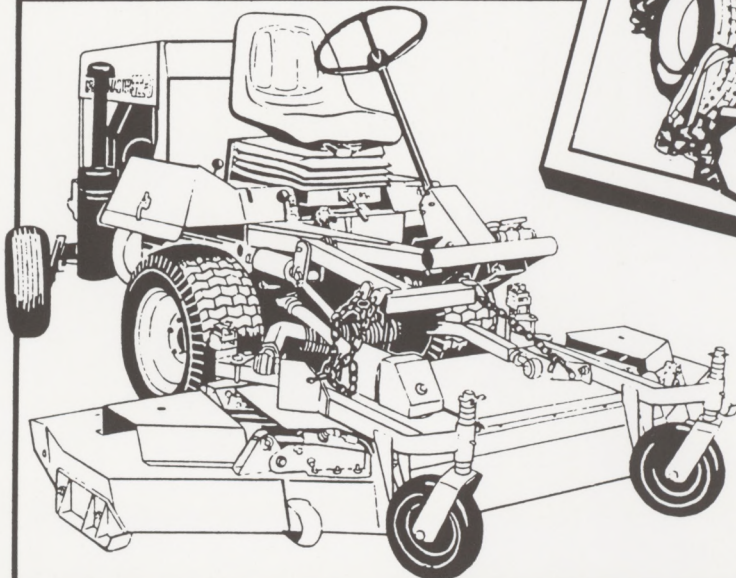
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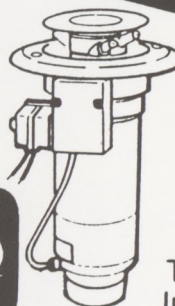
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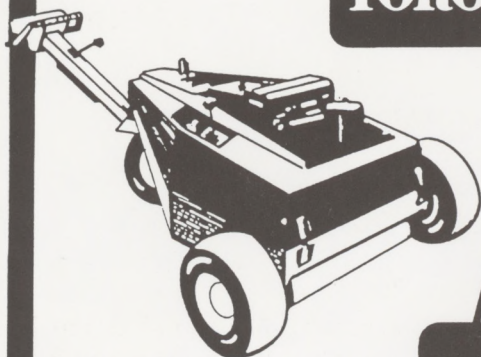


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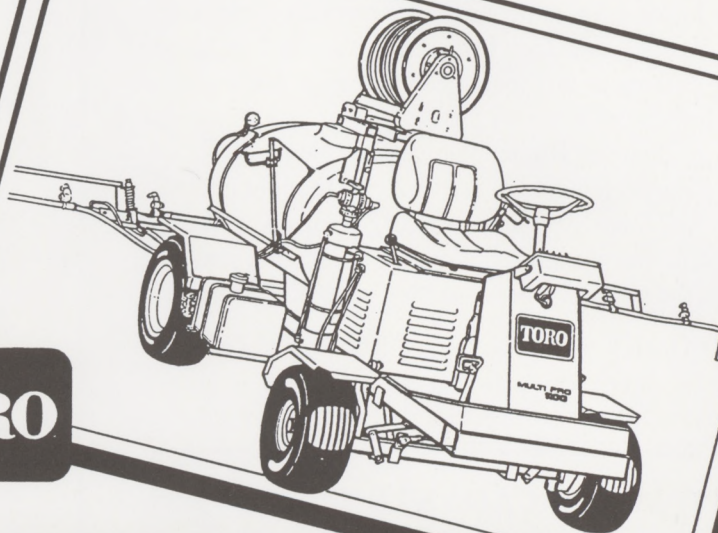
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Behind the scenes at the U.S. Open

(Continued from page 11)

of May and missed the finals because they were in June. "It just didn't work with the course schedule, so that was the end of that," he said.

Late in 1967, Joe succeeded Ed Casey as superintendent at Baltusrol. The 1993 Open is the fourth in Joe's 29 year tenure. Besides hosting the U.S. Open in 1967, 1980 and 1993, Baltusrol hosted the Ladies U.S. Open in 1985.

The preparation for the 1993 Open began upwards of three years ago when major construction projects got underway around the lower course, which has been the site of the Open since 1954. The club called on Architect Rees Jones to make suggestions to update the course for the 1993 Open.

"Projects completed during the Fall and Winter of 1991-1992 included a new tee for the 3rd hole, an extension of 20 to 30 yards to the back of the 5th tee, a new tee to the right of the original tee on the 9th hole, an extension of 15 feet to the right of the 12th tee, and then more yards on the back of the 13th and 14th tees."

"New bunkers were added on the 7th and 8th fairways and to the left front of the 14th green. Fall of 1992 saw reconstruction of existing bunkers. Most of the major construction work was done by Pavelec Brothers Golf Course Construction Company," said Joe.

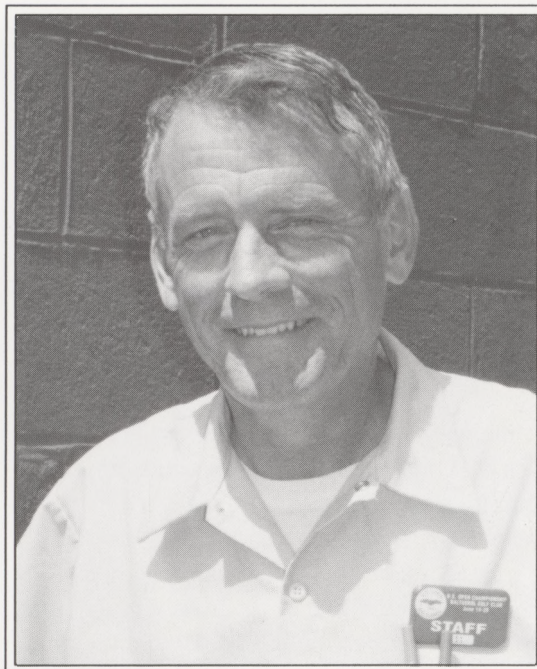
"Routine maintenance was the order through mid-May," said Joe. His staff of 30 and his two assistants worked around the club's regular member golf schedule through May 1, but golf was limited after May 1 as preparations began in earnest. No carts or guests were allowed on the lower course and some tees were roped off.

The 1993 Open topped all others at Baltusrol. The tournament was completely sold out; 30,000 tickets in all. In previous years, day passes were still available through the final rounds.

Attendance was not the only aspect of the tournament that grew. In 1980 there were 19 hospitality tents. This year there were 46. As many as 6,000 cars were parked on the upper course this year, including those of marshals, volunteers, and hospitality guests.

U.S. Open General Chairman and Baltusrol member Dick Miller said that Baltusrol contacted other clubs that had used their second 18 for parking to investigate the amount of damage it caused and how costly it was to repair. He said they found that damage was less than you might imagine and that costs for repairs were relatively modest.

(Please turn to page 14)



**JOSEPH R. FLAHERTY, CGCS
SUPERINTENDENT
BALTUSROL G.C.**

What's it take to make the U.S. Golf Association Open a world class event? Millions of TV viewers; 30,000 people in the gallery; 2,100 journalists; a great club with a supportive Greens Committee; top notch course staff and one pressure-proof superintendent. And that's why the "Greenside" went to Baltusrol to take this photo!

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 2)

board, right away. To accomplish this, read the article in this issue on the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program and get in touch with them. You should also contact *Nancy Sadlon* at the USGA Green Section in Far Hills, New Jersey. Nancy is asking us to *scout* for birds on our courses! Remember the terrible commentary by Paul Harvey which I reprinted in the May-June 1993, "Greenside"? He basically said that birds are no longer heard on golf courses! Well, he is not alone in stating this idea to the public. We must show these people, and especially the non-golfing public, that contrary to popular belief, golf courses are not devoid of wildlife.

When I think back to Cape May National Golf Club, I now know why the ancient Scotsmen who invented the game used terms like "birdies" and "eagles"!!

Ilona Gray

Behind the scenes at the U.S. Open

(Continued from page 13)

"Tents and bleachers started going up on April 15, and construction of hospitality facilities, which were contracted out by the U.S.G.A., was well underway around the fringes of the upper course. The hospitality tents measured 40 by 60 feet, had platform floors, and were air conditioned," said Miller. All were leased by corporations for the entertainment of their guests.

"Baltusrol's members take an active roll in the tournament. As many as 860 members served as volunteers, and 49 different committees handled various aspects of planning," said Miller.

"The long hours of preparation were, perhaps, the worst part of being superintendent at a U.S. Open host club," said Joe. "You get up, eat, work, and go to bed. By the time the tournament starts, you and the whole staff are exhausted when you're most needed to be ready."

Everything has gone well during previous Opens at Baltusrol, he added. "The best part of hosting an Open is when it is all over, and everything went well. You start

praying at about 5:30 Saturday night that someone wins and there is no playoff."

He didn't have a favorite in this year's field of players. "It was exciting in 1980 when Jack won because it was a big comeback for him." Joe's biggest fear going into this year's Open was rain. "The thing that is always in the back of my mind is rain. In 1967 and 1980, the day after the tournament ended it rained like a son of a gun. We came within a day of having major problems," he said.

Chairman Miller said, "That while hosting the Open was a massive undertaking, everyone was excited and enthusiastic about participating". "Joe deserves whatever recognition he gets. He has done a terrific job preparing the course and should be justifiably proud of the course and its condition," said Miller.

Special GCSAA S&R grants offered

Outstanding graduate students in the field of golf course management education and research now have a new grant program available to them.

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Graduate School Grants Program will provide annual awards of \$5,000 to individuals pursuing advanced degrees in academic fields related to golf course management.

The goal of the program, sponsored by the GCSAA Scholarship and Research Foundation, is to identify and encourage tomorrow's leading educators and researchers.

To be eligible, students must be currently enrolled in a master's or doctoral degree program related to golf course management. Students must also plan to pursue an academic career in a university setting.

Applicants will be evaluated on academic excellence, potential to make outstanding contributions in research and education, peer recommendations and previous accomplishments in their field. In addition to the cash award, winners will receive an expenses-paid trip to the GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show.

The deadline for applications is October 1. Awards will be presented in early February. Application forms are available from the GCSAA development department (913-841-2240).


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X marks the spot

by Edward Walsh, CGCS

I think it's fair to say that most of us are in this business because we truly love the game of golf. Most of us play on a regular basis, and there are even a few of us who play pretty well (Angelo, Tom, John and Bob, to name a few). It's also fair to say that we do know a little about preparing a golf course for play.

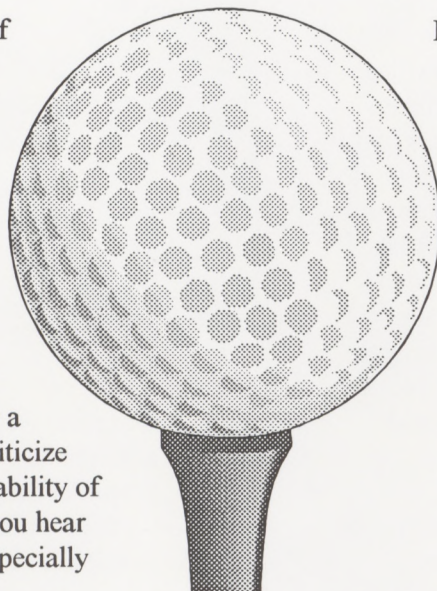
What always makes me laugh, is when we hear people who don't know a rats behind about turf management criticize or comment on the conditions or playability of a course. If you follow golf on T.V. you hear this kind of talk on a regular basis, especially from Johnny Miller.

Now Johnny Miller is one of my favorite golf personalities and has been since his outstanding final round in the U.S. Open at Oakmont some years ago. He shot something like 62 or 63, when nobody was breaking 70 the entire tournament and won the championship by a couple of strokes. He continued to play some great golf for a couple of years until his putting stroke went south. Sort of like Pete Pedrazzi.

Miller was certainly one of the great players during his time, but did you ever hear him talk about grain during that stretch? I followed him pretty closely, and I don't remember that topic ever coming up. But now that he's a T.V. announcer, grain seems to be his pet subject. If it isn't Calloway Golf Clubs, it's grain.

I watch a lot of golf on the tube, and if grain was a regularly discussed topic I think I would have remembered. It may have been a few years ago but not now. With the advances in equipment and technology and course superintendents who understand the requirements of playability, it just doesn't come into the picture, but old Johnny thinks it does. I am starting to wonder if old Johnny didn't originally blame his failing putting woes on grain and now that is the only thing he can talk about.

Another thing that gets to me is the hat Mike Hill wears on the Senior Tour. Any of you notice that Hill is sponsored by Bunton Turf Equipment? That makes as much sense as me getting paid to wear a Top Flight hat. Nobody is going to buy Top Flight golf balls if I wear their hat, and no superintendent is going to buy Bunton Turf Equipment because



Mike Hill wears their hat.

You know what I am going to do at our next GCSANJ meeting? I am going to wear a Bunton Turf Equipment hat and complain about grain on the greens, and I will expect the host superintendent to tell me to shut up. I would certainly deserve that.



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Birdies on Cape May National

by Ilona Gray

An invitation to see New Jersey's southern most course was eagerly accepted for the last weekend in May. A sign announcing the course is located on a quiet stretch of U.S. Route 9 near the historic village of Stone Harbor, minutes from Cape May and its many bird refuge areas. This course opened only two years ago and hosted the first GCSANJ monthly meeting in 1993. It's a beautiful course filled with special touches. The use of sea shells as a substitute for gravel on the cart paths lets you know that you are not far from the ocean. I spotted reptiles and easily a dozen species of birds both in the woodlands and water areas. This only whetted my appetite to learn just what it takes to operate such a special course. So I went to the source and raised a few questions with **Steve Malikowski**, the superintendent at Cape May National.

I faxed an open ended question to Steve and waited for his reply, "What do you do that is different in overall management because Cape May National is in an area so



rich in wildlife and wetlands?" The reply was swift, "I have squirrels and rabbits working for me." The answer was uncharacteristic of Steve, and I immediately suspected that the uncoded fax was intercepted and responded to by a wise guy! My suspicions were confirmed when I spoke with Steve and learned that his pro was pretending to be knowledgeable. The rest of the pro's replies are in the Back Nine.

Steve answered my question directly: "Because it is such an environmentally sensitive area and because I am a firm believer that all golf course superintendents are environmentalists, including myself; one of the things I do differently is pesticide use. It is one that all pesticide salesmen would hate, because I don't use the products very often. To give an example, at this time in the season (June 10) some golf courses will have used four, five or six applications already. We have just applied our first fungicide application to greens, tees and fairways. We don't have a broad treatment preventative pesticide use program. We predict where we will have disease and insect pressure and focus our efforts in these particular areas. We follow



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IPM practices. If based on all of our experience, superintendents don't know when dollar spot, pythium and brown patch will appear, all of the diagnostic kits in the world won't help us.

"We know through tracking when cutworms and grubs will be a problem. The broad and scheduled treatments for fungal disease or insects are outdated practices. I believe that proper timing and use of modern pesticides have become the norm and not exception on golf courses. As environmentally sensitive as this area is, and as frequently as the DEPE and the Health Department's monthly inspections occur, I've become very stingy with fertilizers. I use soluble fertilizers at a very low rate so that the plants take up the nutrients quickly and runoff and leaching is minimized"

Some golf courses are noted for the mansions with views of the fairway. At Cape May, the houses are small. Very small. Really just big enough for a bird. I asked Steve who lives in these houses. "They are bluebirds. The houses were supplied by the Cape May Bird Observatory. They provided suggestions on where to place them and how high up. I have 75 houses and about 75% of them are occupied. The remainder are not used because they were put in the wrong area.

"In this part of the state biting flies are a major problem and sometimes have even forced players off a course. We have a three pronged attack going on against biting flies: Purple Martins, Black Boxes and Bats."

Steve told the "Greenerside" that they "are building a number of Purple Martin condominiums for next year. They will be completed prior to the arrival of the Purple Martin scouts so that they will be spotted, and the main flock will know where to look. These birds help reduce the green headed fly and mosquito populations and are part of our IPM program. A similar program was successful at Wildwood C.C.

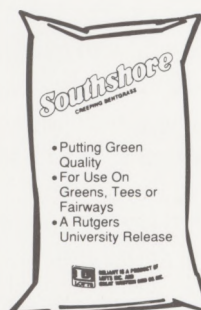
"We also use 'black boxes' to help control the green

(Please turn to page 18)



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The Leading Edge

Editor's Note: At press time, twenty-eight New Jersey courses have signed on to the exciting UGSA-sponsored Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf. If you'd like to learn more about it from a fellow superintendent, contact one of these courses:

Alpine Country Club, Demarest
Arcola Country Club, Paramus
Basking Ridge Country Club, Basking Ridge
Black Bear Golf Club, McAfee
Brigantine Golf Links, Brigantine
Brooklake Country Club, Florham Park
Cape May National Golf Club, Cape May
Cedar Creek Golf Course, Bayville
Crystal Springs Golf Club, Hamburg
Darlington Golf Course, Mahwah
Eastlyn Golf Course, Vineland
Fairmount Country Club, Chatham
Fiddler's Elbow Country Club, Far Hills
Forest Hill Field Club, Bloomfield
Forge Pond Golf Course, Brick
The Links Golf Club, Marlton
Little Mill Country Club, Marlton
Manasquan River Golf Club, Brielle
Marriott's Seaview Golf Resort, Absecon
Mendham Golf & Tennis, Mendham
Metedeconk National Golf Club, Jackson
North Jersey Country Club, Wayne
Oak Hill Golf Club, Milford
Pine Valley Golf Club, Pine Valley

Ridgewood Country Club, Ridgewood
Roxiticus Golf Club, Mendham
Somerset Hills Country Club, Bernardsville
Trenton Country Club, West Trenton

Turf Research Field Day a success

by Shaun Barry

Over 300 people found the time to attend the recent Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field Day. There are many important ongoing trials which would be of interest to our association.

Attempts are being made to increase breeding in bent. This should help future supply and prices. Summer Patch control, injection of fertilizers vs. surface application and the effect of wear tolerance in cool season grasses on turf quality and disease susceptibility were just part of this excellent program. Many thanks to the dedicated people whose efforts helped make this day possible.

Birdies on Cape May National

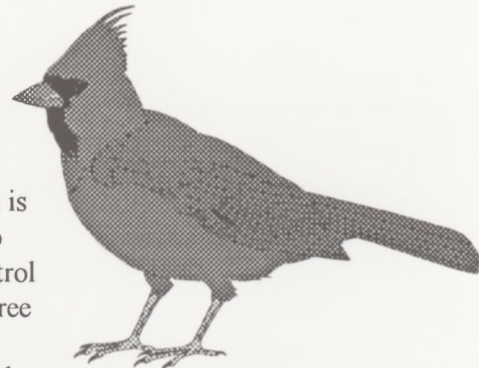
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fly. A black box is a cube measuring three feet in each dimension. The top is a screen and the bottom of the box is open. It sits on 4 legs about 3 feet above the ground. The color, we think, attracts the biting flies and also generates considerable heat by absorbing the sun's rays. The flies enter through the bottom and try unsuccessfully to exit through the screen. The flies literally cook inside the box and die. Construction design and placement information are available from the extension service. I got mine from Larry Newbold (Cape May County Cooperative Extension Specialist). I was originally very skeptical, but these things really work. There are literally thousands of dead flies every day.

"Bat houses are the third way we control biting insects.

Flocks of 15-20 bats live in houses built under the pro shop. The bottom line on this approach is that we don't have to use pesticides to control biting flies. This degree of control has been achieved at both Wildwood C.C. and Cape May National."

My tour of Cape May National included several birdies, but no eagles, and a deeper appreciation of the role of the golf course superintendent as an ecologist.



Biobarrier® protects turf at golf course

by Chris Zelle, Lebanon Turf Products

A product originally created in response to the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) need for a root intrusion barrier in hazardous waste sites has made its way into the golf course industry. The DOE was looking for a material to provide root control, not for one season but for more than a decade. The product is Biobarrier®.

Biobarrier® is a long-term root control system consisting of controlled-release nodules impregnated with trifluralin herbicide. The nodules are through-injection molded to Typar®, a permeable geotextile fabric manufactured by Reemay, Inc. in Old Hickory, Tennessee. The modules slowly release trifluralin, establishing a vapor zone in the soil. Tree root tips penetrate the zone until they reach the herbicidal concentration that prevents their cell division. Biobarrier simply forces them to concentrate growth in branch roots away from the trifluralin zone. In a vertical application around a green or along a cart path, Biobarrier®

is able to provide a consistent release of trifluralin for 15 to 20 years.

This advance in technology could not have come soon enough for owner Russ Scott and golf course manager Bill Parr of Mountain Manor Inn and Golf Course. Located in the Pocono mountains of eastern Pennsylvania, the course is blessed, or maybe cursed, with a high population of mature oak, pine, cherry and hickory trees. Over the years, these trees' root systems have extended well into the fringe, collar and green areas. These areas were frequently irrigated and fertilized, but the turf was forced to constantly compete with the trees for water and nutrients. During the warm dry summer months, the greens closely surrounded by trees dried out very quickly and required intensive management to maintain even an adequate playing surface.

In the fall of 1989, Scott and Parr installed Biobarrier® around three of the most troublesome greens. A 6" wide by 20" deep trench was dug with a Bobcat trencher. Approxi-

(Please turn to page 21)

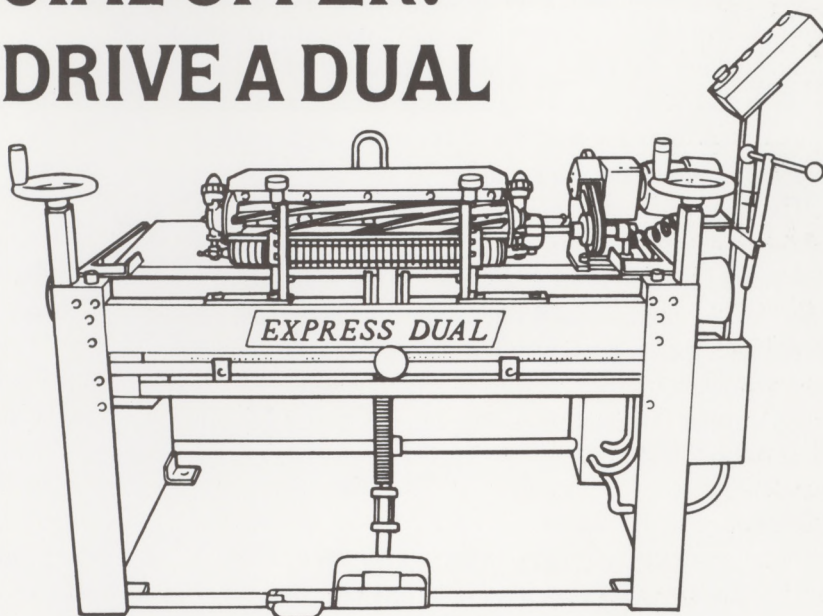
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Back Nine



The intercepted fax going to Cape May National produced several replies to some straightforward questions. We don't know for certain who the comic genius really is, but we are working on a list of likely suspects.

Q. Who lives in those bird houses I saw on the course? Are they successful? Did you get any help in their placement? Is the Cape May Bird Observatory involved?

A. Snakes live in the bird houses. They are very successful. The National Association of Snakes and Vermin Society (NASVS) helped with the placement.

Q. Are there eagles on the course?

A. The eagles are practicing in the min-camp.

PISCATORIAL WEED WACKER NOW LEGAL FOR STOCKING

Until recently the stocking of this fish in New Jersey has been illegal, but a change in policy has been developed to permit the use of the Grass Carp. "It is the policy of the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife to permit the stocking of the triploid form of the white amur (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*), a.k.a. the grass carp, in the State's waters for the purpose of aquatic vegetation control. Before stocking, the fish must have been certified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as being triploid and must be purchased from a hatchery that is on our approved list and can provide this documentation."

The policy permits stocking in waters of less than 10 acres or where the fish can be prevented from escaping. Inspection of the site is required prior to the issuance of a permit, and a minimum of 40 percent of the lake must be covered with the target vegetation before it can be considered for stocking. Other conditions apply as well.

For further information, contact the Fisheries Laboratory at (908) 236-2118.

THESE BROADCASTS ARE NOT AVAILABLE ON YOUR FM RADIO

NASA has embarked on a ten year program estimated to cost one hundred million dollars to listen to and assess radio signals from space. They are starting to run down the 164 mysterious radio signals that have been detected from space and determine which of these are from natural

causes, man-made space noise, or, dare we say it, Trekkies or "E.T." That's space talk for extra-terrestrials.

BINGE EATING IN SPACE

Our own Milky Way Galaxy (home of the "Greenside") has been reported to be growing, gaining weight by swallowing up at least two neighboring galaxies. Astronomers have reported that the Milky Way is up to six times larger than previously reported. The scientists say that 90 percent of space is made up of invisible matter. It can only be detected by measuring the gravitational pull exerted by the particular heavenly body. The Milky Way is thick with this invisible matter. The "Greenside" science editor, Malicious Intent, PhD, has a contrarian theory. He has theorized that anything that is named after a candy bar is bound to get heavier with age.

GCSANJ Turf Scholarship Program

The GCSANJ Turf Scholarship Program is once again accepting scholarship applications for academic year 1993-94. Students meeting the following criteria are encouraged to apply:

- Two-year turf management students (including Winter School) who have completed the first year of the program.
- Four-year turf management students who have completed the second year of the program.
- Graduate students enrolled in a turf management.
- Employee at a GCSANJ member's golf course for two seasons. Can be a summer worker.
- Committed to a career as a Golf Superintendent.
- Recommended by their GCSANJ member employer.

(Please turn to page 22)

Environmental organization applauds golf course superintendents

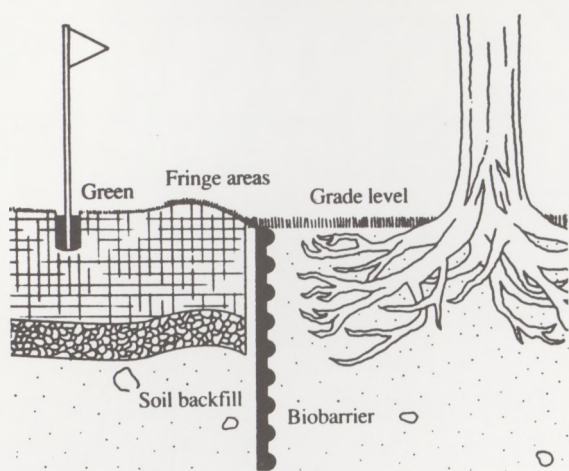
The Audubon Society of New York State recognizes, supports, and applauds golf course superintendents for their efforts to enhance wildlife habitat through their membership in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System. As land managers of hundreds of thousands acres of land across the United States, superintendents not only have the potential to be leaders in the environmental movement but major forces in enhancing the distinct beauty of each golf course. Many superintendents are in a unique position to combine the joy and challenge of the game of golf with the satisfaction of providing and managing habitat for wildlife. It is true that sometimes superintendents get caught in the conflict between the visual preferences of club members for weed-free, heavily manicured grounds and the more natural appearance of native

habitat. It is also true that some superintendents do not have abundant financial resources, manpower, information, or support to do the kind of job they'd like to do. The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses offers education, guidance, support, and public recognition for those courses and individuals who are committed to working toward wildlife habitat enhancement and other conservation activities.

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, created and administered by New York Audubon, sponsored by the USGA, and endorsed by the GCSAA and the American Society of Golf Course Architects, has been received enthusiastically by superintendents across the nation. The program currently has over 650 participating

(Please turn to page 22)

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BioBarrier® protects turf

(Continued from page 19)

mately 15 to 20 feet from the edge of one green a row of 10 to 12 mature pine trees formed a semi-circle around the fringe. The trench came within 12 inches of some of the trees and two to four feet from the others.

The following summer, Scott and Parr were amazed at the results. There was a well-defined line between the turf within the protected are and the turf still competing with the tree roots. By mid-summer the turf not protected from tree roots by BioBarrier® was brown and dormant, while just inches away the turf was green and healthy. It was obvious the pine trees' extensive root system had soaked up most of the water and nutrients that had been applied.

Since 1989, Scott and Parr have installed 1,500 linear feet of BioBarrier® on more than 20 of the 54 greens and tees they maintain at Mountain Manor Inn and Golf Course. They estimate they have cut the roots of 150 to 170 mature trees and none of these trees has ever exhibited signs of stress or decline. The amount of time and water used on these greens and tees has been drastically reduced; however, overall turf health and vigor has visibly increased.

BioBarrier® may have been developed to keep tree roots out of hazardous waste sites, but it has been invaluable in keeping Mountain Manor's greens and tees in superb playing condition.

Environmental organization applauds golf course superintendents

(Continued from page 21)

golf courses. Together, these organizations, members of the Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, and New York Audubon are working toward:

- Enhancing wildlife habitats on existing golf courses by working with the course superintendent and providing advice for ecologically sound course management.
- Encouraging active participation in conservation

programs by golfers, golf course superintendents, golf officials, and the general public.

- Recognizing the people who are actively participating in environmentally responsible projects and who are committed to the value of golf courses as important open spaces.
- Educating the public and golfing community about the benefits of golf courses and the role they play relative to the environment and wildlife.

GCSANJ Turf Scholarship Program

(Continued from page 20)

- Recommended by their academic advisor.

To obtain the necessary application forms, contact GCSANJ Scholarship and Research Committee, 66 Morris Ave, Springfield, NJ 07081.

The deadline for all applications is November 1, 1993.

GCSANJ scholarships are awarded without regard to race, sex, creed, age, or national origin.

Contact: Dennis Shea at 609-466-2921



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