



THE Greenerside

Official Publication of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey

NJAWC: Working on better solutions for when the next drought occurs!

By Nancy Sadlon
Executive Secretary, New Jersey Alliance for Water Conservation

Last year's drought and the restrictions mandated by the state (NJDEP) caused a lot of hardship to superintendents and others in the green industry that we do not want to experience again. Efforts are underway, initiated by Glenn Miller and the GCSANJ, to establish a unified group that will produce a water conservation plan that provides guidelines that superintendents and others in the green industry can live with when they are faced with drought conditions again. This initiative is being tackled by the newly formed **New Jersey Alliance for Water Conservation (NJAWC)**. The Alliance for Water Conservation includes 18 green industry associations concerned about future water conservation restrictions and their impact on the turf and landscape businesses that they represent. Associations currently represented in the NJAWC include New Jersey Golf Course Owners Association, New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association, New Jersey State Golf Association, Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey, Irrigation Association of New Jersey, New Jersey Turfgrass Association, New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association, New Jersey Professional Golf Association, Philadelphia Section of Professional Golf Association, Rutgers University, New Jersey Club Managers Association, New Jersey Sport Fields Managers Association, Alliance for Environmental Concerns, New Jersey Farm Bureau, New Jersey Parks and Recreation Association, New Jersey Sod Growers Association, South Jersey Landscape Architects and New Jersey Arborists Association.

Looking back—drought problems of 1999: Problems that occurred this past summer during the drought included the State's mandated water restrictions and the dictation by the state as to where and when water could be used by the golf course industry. While the industry understood the need

for water conservation, little sense could be made for the specific restrictions (where and when) each segment of the

The Alliance for Water Conservation includes 18 green industry associations concerned about future water conservation restrictions and their impact on the turf and landscape businesses that they represent.

green industry was allowed to water. It was in general agreed by all represented associations that a mandate for a specific

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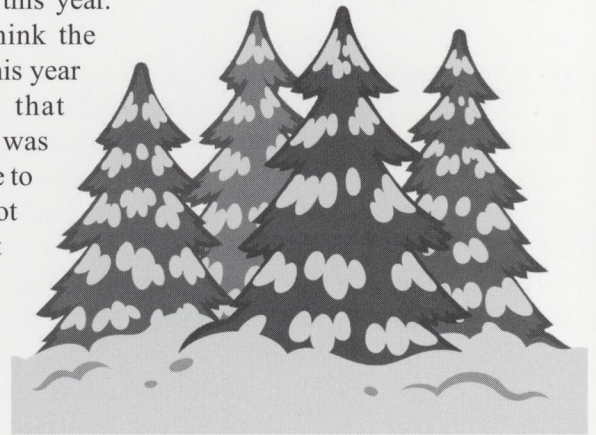
President's Message



What will this summer bring?

Spring is upon us and summer is almost here. Although it is early April as I write this, you won't read it until late May. Sometimes it is hard writing a timely piece when you won't read it for another month (but that darn editor said he needed this article April 1). I don't know about you but I had the most relaxing winter I have had in years. I did not go away on vacation and I did not go to the national this year.

Those helped but I think the most part of relaxing this year came from the fact that Paramus Golf Course was closed for fifty days due to the snow cover. It did not snow that much but it just hung around. If you have ever been an employee at a year round public course you know how I feel.



Although I had a lot of the winter free it seemed that every time I had something to attend there were two or three things going on that same day. I had an appointment for root canal surgery the first day of the Winter Symposium; I am told that day went well. I had an 11:00 a.m. bid opening the second day of the Symposium and got there to see the final round of Turf Jeopardy. The Kubik family as well as Jeff Fabiano, Steve Chirip and Duncan Bowie put their heads together and came away with a spirited victory. The day was beautiful, most superintendents learned all they could about gray leaf spot and did not return for day two. I have to thank all the vendors that showed up that day and promise that GCSANJ will try and reward you for your efforts.

On an up note I hope that each member received their copy of the directions manual in the mail. This information was put together by Tim Kerwin and his committee. I had need for the manual today, went to the book, took out the page, made a copy of it and was able to put the original back in its binder and found my way. I thank Tim, his committee and every superintendent that allowed their superintendent to help complete the book.

I wish every member well this summer season. May your family be healthy and golf course be green. I

Ken

NJAWC: Working on better solutions for when the next drought occurs!

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amount of water reduction (allowing the superintendent to determine how he would achieve that reduction) is the preferred method to address a drought situation.

Of concern during last year's drought was that the various affected associations each responded to the water restriction problems independently, seeking individual provision. This was perceived as counterproductive and a driving force in the formation of the NJAWC. The industry as a whole recognized the need to present to the state a unified response and the need for a plan that allowed for conservation but provided more realistic solutions to achieving needed water reduction.

In last year's meetings with NJDEP – Division of Water Allocation, these regulators were very receptive to the concerns of the industry and were willing to help in the creation of a unified water conservation plan. However, it was noted by this NJDEP department that their hands were tied on some aspects of the drought restrictions and that this issue had to be handled at the legislative level. The NJAWC is formulating a plan of approach regarding lobbying the State legislature in addition to developing an industry-wide Water Conservation Plan.

What's next? The NJDEP – Division of Water Allocation has recently contacted GCSANJ and lobbyist Russ Bent, and has requested a meeting on April 18 to discuss the water conservation issue. The NJAWC will be there on your behalf. Any questions, contact Nancy Sadlon at 908-904-0336.

Nancy Sadlon, executive director of the Alliance for Environmental Concerns (AEC) and principal of Sadlon Environmental (SE) will serve as coordinator and executive secretary for the newly formed Alliance for Water Conservation. Nancy has been involved with environmental issues that affect the golf and green industry (including water conservation) since 1990 when she served as environmental specialist for the United States Golf Association. She takes on this additional responsibility with the support of the AEC and SE. She states, "The golf and green industry has been part of my life for over a decade. I embrace opportunities to continue to grow and learn new things about this wonderful industry. My recent professional initiatives have included consulting work involving golf course construction projects focused on water issues. My involvement with Treatment Services, Inc. and the design and construction of pump stations, sewage treatment plants, water quality monitoring or pond restoration have made my involvement in the Alliance for Water Conservation a natural fit. I am pleased to con-

tinue to serve the green industry through my professional consulting, my role as executive director of the AEC and my new position with the AWC." ¶

Calendar

- June 12** **GCSANJ Monthly Meeting, a Joint Meeting with the Philadelphia GCSA:** Springhaven Club, Host: Superintendent William McIlvane. Contact Judy Policastro at 973-379-1100.
- July 31** **GCSANJ June Monthly Meeting:** Deerwood C.C., Host: Superintendent Joel Collura, CGCS. Contact Judy Policastro at 973-379-1100.
- August 3** **Golf & Fine Turf Research Field Day:** Rutgers Hort Farm II, Ryders Lane, East Brunswick.
- August** **District Meetings: TBA**
- Sept. 11** **GCSANJ Invitational:** Copper Hill C.C., Host: Superintendent Robert Mylnarski. Contact Judy Policastro at 973-379-1100.
- Oct. 21** **GCSANJ 75th ANNIVERSARY "KICKOFF GALA":** Upper Montclair C.C. **Mark Your Calendar Now!** Contact Judy Policastro at 973-379-1100.
- Oct. 23** **GCSANJ CHAMPIONSHIP:** Hopewell Valley G.C., Host: Superintendent Steven T. Bradley. Contact Judy Policastro at 973-379-1100.
- Oct. 25** **GCSAA SEMINAR, Sustainable Golf Course Landscape Design:** Location TBA. Contact GCSAA at 800-472-7878.
- Oct. 30** **GCSANJ ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OUTING:** Richmond County C.C. Host: Superintendent Brian Remo, Assistant Superintendent Curt Gandolfo. Contact Judy Policastro at 973-379-1100.
- Dec. 11** **GCSAA SEMINAR, The Magic of Greenkeeping:** Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, NJ. Contact GCSAA at 800-472-7878.
- Dec. 12-14** **NJTA EXPO 2000:** Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, NJ. Contact NJTA at 732-821-7134



GCSANJ news

SUPERINTENDENTS LEARN FROM SOME OF THE BEST ABOUT GRAY LEAF SPOT

Leading researchers from the East Coast met at Rutgers University to pass on what they had learned about the disease Gray Leaf Spot. Speakers included Dr. Peter Dernoeden from the University of Maryland, Dr. Mark Farman and Dr. Paul Vincelli, both from the University of Kentucky, Dr. Wakar Uddin of Pennsylvania State University, along with Dr. Bruce Clarke and Richard Buckley from Rutgers University. Stanley Zontec from the U.S.G.A. and superintendents Tom Hannigan of American Golf and Mike McNaulty from Philadelphia Country Club gave their observations.

The second day had Dr. Stephen Souza of Princeton Hydro explaining the Global Information Systems and Global Positioning Systems as they relate to golf course maintenance.

The Vendor Table Top Show was also held on the second day. Vendors that were there included Grass Roots,

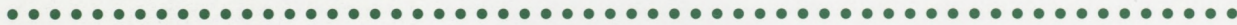
Koonz Sprinkler Supply, Novartis, Aquarius Irrigation Supply, Storr Tractor, Ferti-Soil Turf Supply, Aventis Environmental Science, Lesco, Finch Turf Equipment, Wilfred MacDonald, Century Rain Aid, Egypt Farms, Earth Works, and Advanced Agro Technologies.

The table top show is one of GCSANJ's fund raisers (it replaced the field day), so please be sure and support those vendors that were there to support us.

The final piece of the symposium was the Turf Jeopardy competition. Four teams were involved in the game, three of which consisted of first and second year turf students (who are all very scholarly men, as they are attending the Rutgers program). The fourth team's members were Ken and Keith Kubik (Root and Root Jr.), Jeff Fabiano from Storr Tractor, Duncan Bowie of Suneagles at Fort Monmouth and Steve Chirip, from Egypt Farms and N.J.T.A president.

At the culmination of the first round, the team of "old timers" was solidly in **second place**. As soon as "Double Jeopardy" began they took command. The outcome was still

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up in the air as the "Final Jeopardy" round began. With the correct answer (as usual), the "old timers" sewed up the victory. The moral of this story is "listen to those salespeople, they are the **champions.**"

A special thanks goes out to Dr. Karen Plumley from Rutgers and Dave Otis from the U.S.G.A. for putting together all the questions along with everyone else that helped. This event took immense amounts of work. Odds are that the champions will be back to defend their title. The winning team was strong armed into playing, but once the first answer appeared the competitive juices started flowing. Brush up on your turf and golf knowledge and get a team together for next year. The "Old Timers" were last seen going over their strategies for next year!

GCSANJ would like to thank everyone involved in the Winter Symposium for all their hard work. **I**

GCSANJ WELCOMES KYLE ROBERT MLYNARSKI

On Monday, March 19, 2000, Linda Mlynarski, wife of Copper Hill Superintendent Robert Mlynarski, gave birth to Kyle Robert Mlynarski. Kyle weighed in at 9 pounds, 9 ounces and was 21 inches long. Linda and Kyle are doing well. GCSANJ and *The Greenside* welcome Kyle into our family and wish the Mlynarski family well.

REPORTS FROM THE GCSANJ EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

The January meeting of the Executive Board of GCSANJ was called to order on January 25, 2000, at 12:35 p.m. by President Ken Krausz. The meeting was held at GCSANJ headquarters.

Thank you notes were sent from life members Clyde Ashton, Bill Beverlin and Roy Bossolt expressing their gratitude for remembering them.

John O'Keefe presented the treasurer's report and stated that he and Judy were discussing ways in which the treasurer would approve all bills before payment. John and Judy are working this out.

Chris Holenstein noted that *The Greenside* had again been judged best in its category on the national level. Judy and Chris will attend the Newsletter Editors forum at the GCSAA Conference as Ken Krausz will not be attending this year.

Dr. Clarke, Dr. Murphy and Ken Krausz had discussions on a proposal concerning the Barneget Bay Watershed.

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Sky Bergen and Judy Policastro seem to be enjoying the award given to The Greenside in New Orleans.



Doug Vogel on his way into the library at Golf House to do some research for our 75th Anniversary journal.



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GCSANJ news

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Comments were to be sent back to the author.

Glenn Miller spoke of a Water Conservation Alliance in which many of the green industry would work together to create a plan for the next drought emergency (see cover article).

John O'Keefe stated that the Tri-State Foundation would be hosting a seminar in mid-March where researchers would detail results of the projects that we all fund.

It was stated that GCSANJ scholarships were awarded to Dennis DeSanctis, Jr., Brian Gjelsvik, Chris Hermens and Jennifer Ringstmeier.

Bruce Peeples stated that the Directions Manual was completed. The Assistant Superintendents did a great job in getting this project done.

Shaun Barry reported on plans for the GCSANJ Foundation to donate to two or three charities.

Jim McNally gave an update on GCSAA and the upcoming election. Jim also handed out invitations to the "Noreaster" reception; these invitations are to be passed out among the membership. Jim also discussed ways of getting the GCSANJ Team Golf Shirts out to all the members before they teed up at the golf championship.

Elliott Lewis discussed the upcoming symposium and stated that there would be a GCSAA Seminar on October 25, 2000. The topic will be "Sustainable Golf Course Landscape Design."

Ken Krausz stated that Chris Carson submitted the winning design for the 75th Anniversary Logo. Ken also stated that the Kickoff Gala is set for October 21 at Upper Montclair C.C., and he asked that everyone talk this up as it will be a wonderful evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM.

Due to the GCSAA Conference and Show there was no Board meeting in February, although the executive committee did meet for a short time in New Orleans to finalize the voting decisions.

The March meeting was held at GCSANJ Headquarters on March 15 and the meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by President Ken Krausz.

A letter was read from Ilona Gray who wished everyone well and stated that she and Bob would be moving to Maryland in the near future. Ken talked about the letter sent

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The GCSANJ was well represented at the recent Golf Summit. From left to right, front row: Dennis DeSanctis, Jr. and Brian Vogler. Back row: Chris Carson, Brian Minemier, Glenn Miller, William Carrick, Bruce Peeples, Joe Kennedy, Pete Pedrazzi and Greg Vadala. Not pictured were Jeff Drake, Jim Cadott and Shaun Barry.

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out to all members concerning the management company International Golf Maintenance.

Chris Holenstein reported on the Chapter Newsletter Forum at New Orleans.

Jim McNally gave a report on the elections from New Orleans, and he also spoke of getting more A&B members to vote with GCSANJ.

Elliott Lewis gave a report on the Winter Symposium. He stated that there was a great turnout for the first day where research on Gray Leaf Spot was presented, but that the second day the turnout was lousy. The weather was prime for working on the golf course and that was a prime reason. Elliott stated that 14 vendors showed up for the table top vendor day, and he felt that the vendors got the short end of the stick as there were hardly any superintendents on that second day. The vendors did get the last laugh when they won the TURF JEOPARDY contest. Four vendors, Ken and Keith Kubik of Grass Roots, Jeff Fabiano from Storr Trac-



Keith and Ken Kubik share a light moment at the Aventis booth in New Orleans.

tor and Steve Chirip of Egypt Farms joined Duncan Bowie from Suneagles at Fort Monmouth G.C. to take the victory home!

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GCSANJ news

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Shaun Barry, Brian Minemier and Dennis DeSanctis, Jr. represented GCSANJ at the New Jersey Golf Summit.

Bruce Peeples stated that the assistant superintendent golf outing would be held on October 30, 2000, at Richmond County C.C. All superintendents are urged to support their assistant superintendents and send them to this great day.

Ed Mellor is speaking with representatives from GCSAA and others trying to get information about a web site for GCSANJ.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:32 PM. ¶

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Bruce is a District Director of GCSANJ representing District 3.

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As part of the certification process, an on-site inspection of Bruce's golf course operation was conducted by John O'Keefe, CGCS, of Preakness Hills C.C. and Greg Vadala, CGCS, of Montclair G.C. ¶

NEW JERSEY SUPERINTENDENT RENEWS PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

Bruce Rickert, superintendent at Medford Village Country Club, has completed a renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Rickert has been superintendent at the Medford, N.J. course since 1994. He initially achieved his title of CGCS in 1996. Maintaining certified status requires a renewal process be completed every five years since the initial date of certification. To fulfill certification renewal requirements, Rickert participated in 100 hours of continuing education and professional development. ¶

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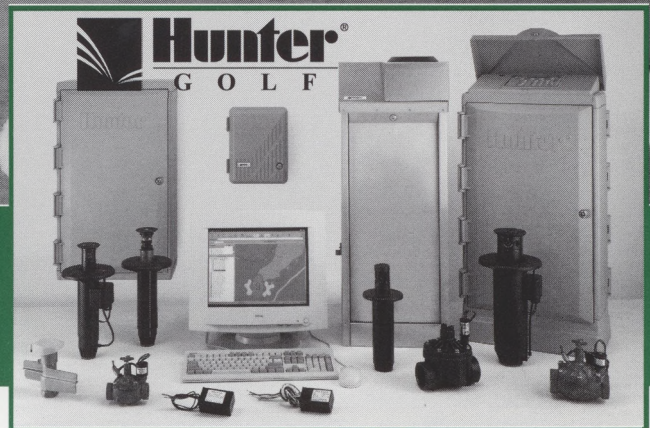
Taking a break from the trade show are (left to right) Linda Campbell, John Wantz, Pat Campbell and Jim Cross.

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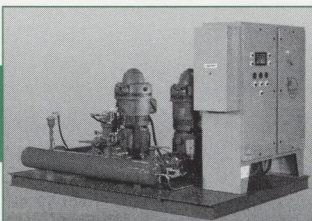
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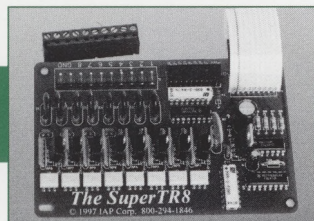
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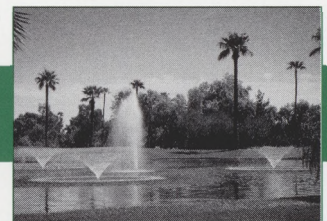
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GCSANJ news

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GCSANJ GOLF RESULTS FROM THE NATIONAL

By Shaun Barry

At the recent GCSAA Golf Championship some of our members played very well and earned trophies and plates. Others were not as fortunate, but each and every one of them did walk away with many new friends and enough memories to last a lifetime.

Ken Mathis was recovering from an injury that had happened during construction of his new course. He had shattered his ankle so badly that he was lucky to be walking. Playing golf had not been an option, so he entered the tournament on a lark. He hoped to have some fun. When all of the scores were finished being calculated, he was the winner in the Sixth Flight. He won a trophy, a gift certificate and a plate for his efforts, and now he has a beautiful new office to display his hardware. I do believe that he also had the fun that he was looking for. Not a bad effort, Ken!

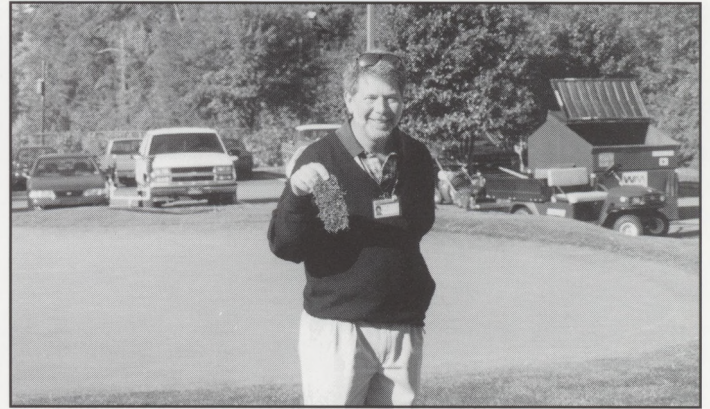
Bob Prickett's third place finish was our best showing in a Gross Division. He competed in the Third Flight and was only two points behind the eventual winner. John Carpinelli competed in the net side of the same flight. John plays very little these days so his taking fourth is pretty remarkable. It also helps to explain why District IV does so well at our monthly meetings. Tom Tuttle captured a plate with his seventh place finish. It shows that he can play pretty well when he is not hosting one of our monthly meetings. He competed in the Seventh Flight. Jim McNally was our National delegate, but he also found the time and the skill for a fourth in the Eighth Flight. Jim was paired up with Wayne Remo, CGCS, in the Four-Ball, Four-Man teams and they won the Net IV Division.

Rounding out our individual members who actually won something to hang on their walls was Harry Harsin. Harry took fourth place honors in the AARP Flight (OK, it actually was the Senior II Division, but I can't believe that Harry is old enough to be in that group, and I guarantee you that anybody who knows Harry will agree with me). If he had puttied just a little bit better, we would have had another first place finish. I imagine that this can be said for every one of our members who played this year.

Glenn Miller took Mr. Harsin for his partner and together they placed fourth in the Net III Division. GCSANJ member Steve Cadenelli's team finished 14th. Unfortunately I was unable to get the results from the other divisions, so I am sure that I have missed some team winners. Please forgive me but I did try. Next year give me a call before we go

to press.

Congratulations to all who were lucky enough to be able to play this year; that automatically makes you a winner in my book. [



The Masters 2000 found Dr. Richard Hurley volunteering for his 22nd year. He spends the whole week whipping tees, filling divots and repairing ball marks on the 12th green.



At the recent meeting of the 75th Anniversary Committee, Ken Krausz surprised Al Foster with a cake for his 80th birthday.

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GCSAA news

BOARD ELECTION, ATTENDANCE RECORDS HIGHLIGHT GCSAA CONFERENCE

The election of officers and all-time highs in education seminar attendees and exhibitors highlighted the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's (GCSAA) 71st International Golf Course Conference and Show, February 14-20 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In all, the GCSAA Conference and Show included 113 educational seminars plus an additional 29 sessions and forums. Attending golf course superintendents, architects, course officials, turfgrass professionals, educators, suppliers and media representatives also were afforded the latest in golf course management products and services at the three-day trade show. GCSAA's 72nd International Golf Course Conference and Show is set for February 11-17, 2001, in Dallas.

Scott Woodhead, CGCS at Valley View Golf Club in Bozeman, Montana, was elected to succeed Dave Fearis, CGCS at Blue Hills Country Club in Kansas City, Missouri, as GCSAA's 64th president. Fearis will serve a one-year term as immediate past president. Tommy Witt, CGCS at StillWaters Resort in Dadeville, Alabama, becomes vice president after serving last year as secretary/treasurer. Woodhead and Witt ran unopposed and were elected by acclamation. Mike Wallace, CGCS at Hop Meadow Country Club in Simsbury, Connecticut, was elected secretary/treasurer, defeating Jon Maddem, CGCS at Elk Ridge Golf Course in Atlanta, Michigan, who was nominated from the floor.

Ken Mangum, CGCS at Atlanta Athletic Club in Duluth, Georgia, and Maddem were elected to director positions. George Renault, CGCS at Eagle Creek Golf Club in Naples, Florida, retires from the Board after serving as immediate past president last year. Wallace's election as secretary/treasurer and the resignation of director Samuel R. Snyder, VII, CGCS at Hercules Country Club in Wilmington, Delaware, left two director positions, each of one-year service, to be filled.

Woodhead filled the first position by appointing Tim O'Neill, CGCS, The Country Club of Darien in Darien, Connecticut, following the association's February 19 annual meeting. On March 13, Woodhead filled the final director spot by selecting Bob Maibusch, CGCS, MG, Hinsdale Golf Club in Clarendon Hills, Illinois. Mark Woodward, CGCS, Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Mesa, Arizona, was not up for election as he has one year remaining on his term.

A total of 21,686 attended the world's largest golf course management conference and show, GCSAA's fourth highest attendance ever (the attendance record of 22,623 was set in 1999 in Orlando). Records were established however, with 757 exhibitors (surpassing 740 in 1999), exhibition space of 267,000 square feet (passing the 1999 record of 245,500) and educational seminar attendees of 7,903 (previous high of 6,999 in 1999).

Other conference and show highlights include:

- Nancy Lopez was afforded GCSAA's highest honor, the Old Tom Morris Award, recognizing her commitment to the game of golf.
- Palmer Maples, Jr., GCSAA past president (1975), was honored with the USGA Green Section Award.
- Penn State Professor of Agronomy Thomas Watschke, Ph.D., was honored with the GCSAA President's Award for Environmental Leadership. [

Continued on page 12



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THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Editor's Note: One of the requests made during the Chapter Newsletter Editors Session in New Orleans was for articles about the Professional Development Initiative (PDI). Hannes Combest, GCSAA's Director of Education, is writing four articles about the PDI. This is the first of four articles from GCSAA.

In the last three years, GCSAA has embarked on a journey to develop a system that would elevate the professional qualifications and recognition of our members, through a project called the Professional Development Initiative. You may have attended a chapter presentation to learn about it. Or you may have seen the Talking It Over discussion forum on the GCSAA Web Site. Or maybe you have just heard about it from your members. Or maybe, just maybe, you are

just now hearing about it. So what is it all about?

Discussion on the Professional Development Initiative began in 1996 and has continued to this day. It was a member-driven initiative, one designed to establish credentials for members so that the golf course superintendent can be appropriately recognized as a key contributor to the golf course. Shortly after the delegates meeting when it was first introduced, then-President Paul McGinnis, CGCS, appointed the Membership Standards Resource Group (MSRG).

The group developed a mission statement that discussed the need to improve the knowledge, skills and abilities of the professional superintendent that will contribute toward improved playing conditions and the enjoyment of the game of golf. The MSRG believed that increased salaries will measure success, as will enhanced job security, improved job opportunities and intensified recognition by employers. They then began to outline the process for achieving these goals.

Four research projects were conducted to provide the MSRG needed information. These included:

1. A job analysis to determine the responsibilities of a golf course superintendent;
2. An employer study to determine their attitudes about superintendents;
3. A study to determine what our members thought of GCSAA's education; and
4. A review of GCSAA's educational programs by curriculum experts.

Many of the conclusions drawn from these research projects validated pre-existing assumptions. For example, golf course superintendents need a broad range of skills and knowledge to perform their jobs successfully. Employers often don't understand what superintendents do. And finally, although GCSAA members like the current education program, research proved it will be inadequate in meeting future needs.

In designing the PDI, the MSRG used the results of the research. They identified what the employers of golf course superintendents need, want and value from the golf course superintendent. Then, they began the arduous task of detailing the knowledge, skills and attributes required of superintendents to satisfy employers' needs. The MSRG knew that education provides the means for superintendents to fill any gaps between those competencies that superintendents have and those that they need. So GCSAA began to develop a state-of-the-art curriculum that provides the golf

Continued on page 13

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Continued from page 12

course superintendent the tools needed to meet the challenges they face in managing the agronomic conditions of the golf course, the staff and the budget. Furthermore, the MSRGR recommended that GCSAA be positioned to recognize the accomplishments of the professional superintendent with a competency-based classification system.

The MSRGR also began to develop recommendations to restructure the classification system. Their recommendations are intended to provide the marketplace with a benchmark of what it takes to be a superintendent by more closely aligning the membership requirements to marketplace requirements.

The MSRGR recognized that classification is a personal issue and they began with a set of assumptions before developing their recommendations. For example, they wanted GCSAA to remain an inclusive organization; in other words, everyone who wanted to be a member should have that right.

However, they wanted to be able to have the classification system "mean something." The model they are proposing is only their recommendations. They are seeking member input and will be accepting member input through May before making their final recommendations at their June meeting.

Currently, they propose the following for Class A membership:

- A member must hold the job responsibility of a superintendent;
- A member must take a self-assessment based on the competencies being identified;
- A member must pass a validation of the self-assessment (to be determined);
- A member must have a bachelor's degree or have completed a two-year turf program (with a minimum number of hours) from a nationally accredited college or university; and,
- A member must possess a current pesticide license.

In addition, Class A members would be assessed ongoing requirements which are yet to be determined. The MSRGR recommended that these requirements be fulfilled through an administrative renewal cycle of every three years and that it contain a blend of continuing education and professional education. They also recommended that Certification be restructured to align more closely with the Class A membership requirements, but at a higher competency level.

The MSRGR realized that many superintendents have been in the business for many years and have been contributing members of GCSAA. As a result, they recommended that all current Class A members be moved into the new Class A categories and be responsible for only the ongoing requirements. They made the same recommendation for all currently certified members. Finally, they recommended that all current Class B members transition into the Class B category but be allowed to apply for Class A membership by only passing the validation of the competency assessment and experience. Then as Class A members, they too would be responsible for ongoing requirements.

So what happens next? The MSRGR will continue to make presentations throughout the country through May. They will be collecting information from these presentations as well as from individuals on the Web. Then in June they will meet to make their final recommendations. These recommendations will be distributed to all members early in August, prior to the Chapter Delegates meeting in September.

Continued on page 14



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ber, and more than six months before any bylaws vote is scheduled in February of 2001. If adopted, the requirements would go into effect the following year, July 2002.

There are many unanswered questions that relate to the PDI, but the MSRSG is working to keep members well informed about this proposal, through constant communication in *Newsline* and with chapters. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to send them by e-mail to pdi@gcsaa.org or by regular postal mail to PDI, 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049. ¶

HR WEB NOW AVAILABLE

You may have read about the HR Web or heard about it in one of the discussions on the Professional Development Initiative, but now is your opportunity to see the tool in action. Although currently under development, the HR

Web is available for you to review and offer feedback before it reaches its final form. To log on to the HR Web, you will need your six-digit member number (add zeros to the front of your number if it is less than six digits) and your mother's maiden name. Please remember to enter your mother's maiden name in all CAPITAL letters. Your feedback is important, so check it out today.

To review the HR Web now, visit <http://www.gcsaa.org/members/pdiwelcome.html>. ¶

JULY 1 DEADLINE FOR 2001 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The official call for nominations for candidates for the 2001 Annual Election has been mailed to the chapter presidents, secretaries, executive directors/secretaries, voting delegates and GCSAA liaisons. The deadline for receipt of nominations is July 1, 2000. A copy of the duties and responsibilities of a Board member, along with a copy of the Board travel requirements was included. If you have any questions about the nominating process, please contact Don Bretthauer, director of Member/Chapter Services at 800-472-7878, ext. 418 or by e-mail to dbretthauer@gcsaa.org. ¶

NATIONAL GOLF FOUNDATION, GOLF 20/20 TAB GCSAA TO SERVE ON LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

The golf course management industry will have a front row seat alongside other leaders as the golf world seeks to accelerate the growth of the game.

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) CEO Steve Mona, CAE, has been selected to serve on the Golf 20/20 steering committee executive board with golf association executives Jim Awtrey (PGA of America), Joe Beditz (National Golf Foundation), David Fay (USGA), Tim Finchem (PGA Tour), Mike Hughes (National Golf Course Owners Association) and Ty Votaw (LPGA).

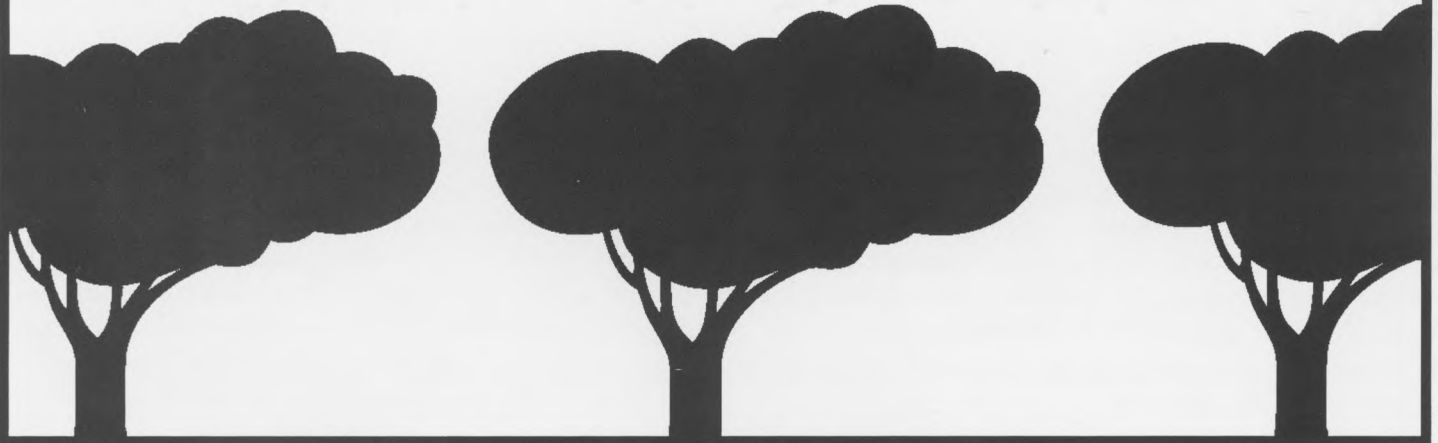
The World Golf Foundation and the National Golf Foundation are hosting the first Golf 20/20 conference, Nov. 17-19, 2000, at the World Golf Hall of Fame, St. Augustine, Florida. The fundamental principle behind the event is that golf is good for society, and accelerating the growth of the game will not only improve business, but also the quality of life for those who are introduced to its positive values. The mission is to bring the golf industry together to address the

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GCSAA news

Continued from page 14

future of the game in a strategic manner, with an emphasis on growth in the next 20 years and creating new avenues of access. Also on the 35-person steering committee are GCSAA members Ken Edwards (business manager of Deere and Company), Michael Hoffman (vice president and general manager of The Toro Co.), Michael Hurdzan, Ph.D (golf course architect) and Phil Tralies (president of Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products).

Mona was also recently elected to a two-year term to the NGF Board of Directors, while Hoffman was elected NGF secretary/treasurer.

“The selection of the GCSAA CEO and other executives within the golf course management industry to key leadership positions in the sport is significant,” said GCSAA President R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS. “Our figures indicate golf course maintenance, construction and design expenditures approach \$8 billion on an annual basis. This sector of

the golf industry has a vested interest and can offer valuable input for sustained growth of the game. I believe it also says something about the respect the industry has for Steve Mona and his leadership abilities.”

GCSAA’s role in the game was recognized earlier this year with the National Golf Course Owners Association’s (NGCOA) 2000 Award of Merit. The organization’s longest-running award, this honor highlights individuals and organizations that have made long-term and significant contributions to the game. GCSAA was selected because of its commitment to educational programs and efforts to change the public’s perceptions about golf’s environmental impact. Previous winners include Chi Chi Rodriguez, Robert Trent Jones Sr. and the PGA Tour.

“The association (GCSAA) has reached out to environmentalists and communicated the message that golf is environmentally friendly,” said Mike Hughes, NGCOA executive director. “That has significantly benefited all aspects of the golf industry.”

Since 1926, GCSAA has been the leading professional association for the men and women who manage and maintain golf facilities in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas, the association provides education, information and representation to more than 20,000 individual members from more than 65 countries. GCSAA’s mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. ¶



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The Rutgers Turf Club (GCSAA Student Chapter)

Rutgers places 8th in GCSAA Turf Bowl

Being a student at Cook College, Rutgers University, not only rewards you with an outstanding education, many extras come with the education if the student chooses to be active in extracurricular activities such as the Turf Club. Our club members are fortunate to be in communication with the GCSAA, GCSANJ and NJTA. These organizations present many networking opportunities. We also take trips, such as our recent visit to the USGA Golf House, and host numerous speakers. However, education is not the only reason to have a club, basketball, baseball and football games are also becoming common outings. Sound good so far? It gets better . . .

This February four of our members were sent to the GCSAA convention in New Orleans. The Rutgers Turf Center paid for two roundtrip airfares and a hotel room in the

city. The Turf Club, with help from fundraisers and the University, sent two additional members. The attendees were Sabrina Tirpak, Dennis DeSanctis, Gerald Henry and Adam LaPierre. Doctoral student Stacy Bonos also went south to receive a Watson Fellowship scholarship at the convention, but was ineligible to compete on our Turf Bowl team.

The five of us had many great experiences during our time at the GCSAA convention. We enjoyed networking with numerous superintendents, industry representatives and fellow students from universities across America. Student activities and seminars held by the GCSAA, along with helping at the Rutgers booth, kept us busy all day long. The attendance at the Saturday morning Turf Bowl surprised us, 47 teams competed! The exam consisted of turfgrass, weed, insect, soil and disease ID, along with numerous calibrations, true/false and short-answer questions. After two hours

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1st and goal

by Brian M. Remo
Golf Course Superintendent
Richmond County C.C.

I hate airplanes. I'll be honest with you. I can't stand flying. So here I am on my way to New Orleans, a passenger on Flight 383, pen in hand, trying to avoid the sight of the bouncing wing to the right of me. It never fails. They give me a window seat, above the wing, with two empty seats to the left of me. Nothing to do except wonder exactly how far that wing can bend before we turn into a 200-ton lawn dart. I'm not ashamed of my fear. Think about it. I'm 30,000 feet in the air sitting in a piece of metal. I'm what you would call a nervous flyer. And it's not like these vehicles give us much reassurance. I mean, how about that oxygen mask? That thing looks like a Parkay margarine cup attached to the end of an enema bag! "To start the flow of oxygen, tug down lightly on the cord . . ." Yeah, right! In the event of an emergency people are gonna be yanking those things down like trucker horns. None of the plane's accessories make me feel any safer. I don't even like using the air fan because I think it diverts power away from the jets. And what's the deal with that first class curtain, huh? The minute the plane leaves the terminal, the attendants shut that thing like we're lepers under quarantine! I keep thinking that if the plane starts to go down that the whole front of the plane detaches like a James Bond mini-jet. First class is on their way to Tahiti and the rest of us are a turbulent windsock. Gimme a break, lady. It's not like we want to steal their mimosas! We just want to feel included . . . We want to feel reassured . . . We all just want to feel safe.

But that's the trick, isn't it, guys and gals? Feeling safe



in general is a hard enough task given the trials and tribulations that this scream machine of an occupation offers us on a daily basis. When I was in college, feeling safe meant having a designated driver, a good grasp of the material on the next woody's quiz and a condom in my wallet. As an assistant, feeling safe meant paychecks come on Thursdays, Christmas comes in December and the paper comes each morning. But when reality moves into the guest bedroom in your brain and starts redecorating, you check yourself pretty hard. Being the top guy also means you're the fall guy, and the top of the totem pole is where the fall is the longest.

My father always told me that no matter how good you are, there's always someone better. I'm not sure if that advice implies to keep on your toes or to watch your back, but I know it's tough to watch your back when you're lying on

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The Rutgers Turf Club

Continued from page 17

of sweaty palms we handed in our paper and hoped for the best. We ended up falling short of what we had hoped but managed to finish eighth out of the 47 teams competing, a placement we are proud of.

We feel lucky to be turfgrass students at Rutgers and appreciate the support of the Turf Center and the turfgrass industry. The next time you hear that someone is looking to attend a quality turfgrass program, send them to Cook College, Rutgers University. The undergraduate, graduate and continuing education "Short Course" programs all offer great opportunities. ¶

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1st and goal

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it. Your first year is like a scrimmage game. People keep score, they boo and cheer. But it all don't mean a thing once the season starts. Then comes the real battle. The battle to feel safe. Mistakes made enthusiastically are real cute when you're 25. The effort was there, right? "A' for effort!" I'll tell you what the "A" is for—it's for After awhile, enthusiasm ain't so cute. Now, factor in the wife, children, mortgage and family values coupled with a future earning potential resting in the balance between the way your golf course reacts to mother nature and how you react to the ebb and flow. As assistants, we strive to become golf course superintendents. Take it from me, kids, as superintendents we strive even harder to remain one.

There are about ten people in this industry that I've always considered my role models. As the years went on, I've tried to grasp a little piece of each of them and hopefully make it a part of myself. Four out of ten lost their jobs in the past year and a half. This tells me one of two things to be true: Either I pick poor role models or that this industry

requires more from the superintendent than the best we have to offer allows us. I believe the latter of the two and that is what makes me feel unsafe. It is the absence of the certainties that used to be the cornerstone of this industry that amplifies the dangerous world of business that leaks its way into any arena that it can sink its filed teeth into.

Someone once told me that this is a young man's job. Well, I say that's a bunch of crap. I have seen a woman out mow five other men, and I've seen a 65-year-old out-think a textbook five ways from Sunday. There never used to be an age limit to this occupation, so I would like to ask the powers that be exactly when they determine that to be. When do you start running out of answers? When do you start running out of luck? When do you start running out of steam? More importantly, when do you start running for your life?

I took my first plane trip when I was about two years old. My parents tell me that I was excited, but scared at first because it was new to me. It's funny how I felt the same way taking on my first superintendent job, scared at the thought of the unknown, but excited at the opportunities that came along with it. So here I am at the age of twenty-six. I plan on taking each year like I step foot onto each airplane. I know that the odds are in my favor, but I also know that at any moment the worst can also occur. I have my education as a seat belt and my experience as a flotation device. I trust the airplane and I trust my destiny. But I will continue to watch my back like I continue to watch that wing . . . Marveled at how much it can bend . . . Wondering when it will break. [



Remember when . . .

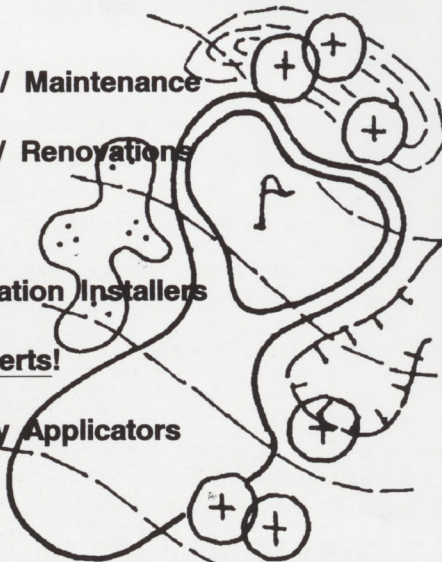
- A window was something you hated to clean.
- Ram was related to a goat.
- Meg was your girlfriend's name.
- A gig was a job.
- An application was for employment.
- A program was a television show.
- A cursor used profanity.
- A keyboard was a piano.
- Memory was something you lost with age.
- A CD was a bank account.
- Log on meant adding wood to the fire.
- A hard drive was a long road trip.
- A backup happened to your commode.
- A web was a spider's home.
- A virus was the flu.

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ZPP-TRF-020

Lawyer threatens golf courses with ADA lawsuit

The GCSAA has been alerted to a form letter being sent to superintendents at various golf courses from a lawyer in Michigan who states that he is wheelchair confined, a golfer and interested in playing the golf course.

The lawyer references the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Casey Martin case ruling in his effort to require that within 10 days, he and the golf course can "enter into an amicable resolution respecting the offering of a single cart together with removal of any barriers to the parking lot (van accessible parking spots), pro shop (no illegally elevated ramping or steps) and bathrooms (separate stall with wider door, grab bars, adequate counter height). He says if his terms are not met, he will file a complaint. He goes on to list possible dollar amounts that can be recovered per violation. However, he says to avoid litigation, he demands from the club:

1. Purchase of at least two single rider carts;
2. \$2,500 in compensatory damages, costs and attorney fees; and

3. ADA compliant parking spots, entry to pro shop and bathroom.

The GCSAA government relations staff has spoken to legal counsel concerning this issue and the advice that was given to us that golf courses should ignore this lawyer's requests and demands. Golf courses are under no obligation to respond to this individual. The standard for this man to sue, which is being injured by a party, does not seem to be present.

We know of at least seven golf courses that have received this letter. If you have received or do receive this letter, you should direct it to your golf course's legal counsel and should not attempt to contact the letter's author. Also, please let Carrie Riordan, GCSAA government relations manager, know you have received a letter. We are tracking this situation in case some action is taken against this individual.

Please contact Carrie Riordan at 800-472-7878, ext. 610, if you have any questions or need further information. For more information on the ADA, see the GCSAA's 2000 legislative/regulatory agenda. **I**

Press Release: Two companies join to better serve the industry

Treatment Services Inc. Sadlon Environmental

Sadlon Environmental & Treatment Services Inc. have joined together. This new alliance brings together design professionals with experienced contractors to offer 'design to construction' solutions for the golf industry. We specialize in coordinating the team that gets the job done efficiently and lets you do what you do best. Nancy Sadlon brings to this new venture years of experience with the golf industry. She will lead the marketing for both TSI and SE. The new two-company collaboration offers the golf industry one professional and experienced source for all water and wastewater issues.



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Regulation Updates

Reprinted with permission from Greens & Grassroots, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Vol. 5 No. 4 – 3/20/00.

New York

A. 2040 would prohibit municipal golf courses and other local government facilities from making preventive pesticide applications, require that all pesticide applications be made by certified applicators and require signs to be posted every 50 feet along areas where pesticides have been applied to turf, trees or shrubs.

All commercial pesticide users would have to be certified by the state as applicators under A. 944, a proposed amendment to the state's environmental conservation law.

All uses of pesticides by state agencies would be phased out over three years. The bill has passed the House and been sent to the Senate for consideration.

Local governments on Long Island would be authorized to pass pesticide use ordinances that are more stringent than state laws and regulations under A. 9587 and A. 9667.

News from Capitol Hill

FQPA implementation bills gain sponsors in Congress
H.R. 1592 "The Regulatory Fairness and Openness Act" has picked up 19 more co-sponsors since the second session of Congress began in January, bringing the total to 213. The Senate version, S. 1464, has gained five co-sponsors, bringing its total to 35. Groups opposing these measures have stepped up their opposition and are lobbying against the bills.

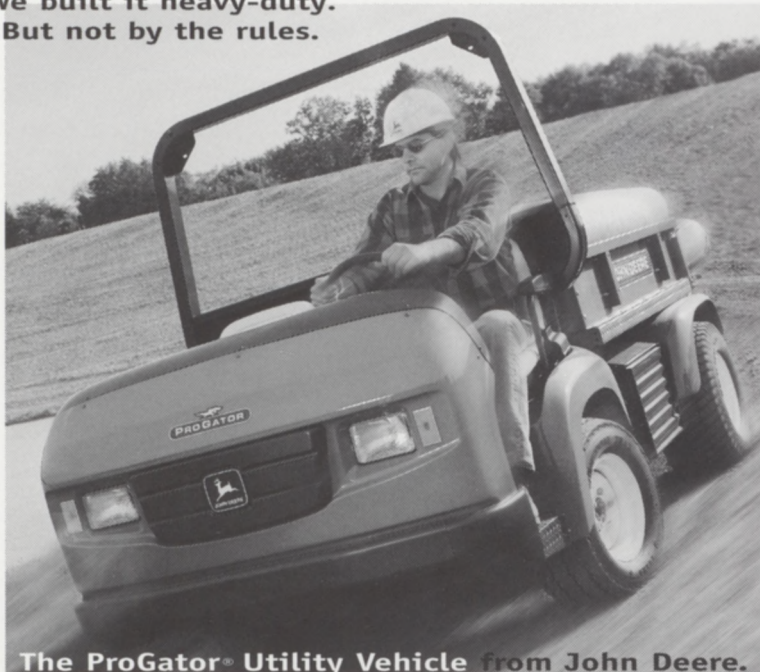
Alert: USDA budget proposal lacks funding for NTEP

We have been alerted by staff at the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) that the President's proposed fiscal year 2001 budget for the USDA (starting in October 2000) does not include any funding for NTEP. In years past, \$55,000 has been allocated to the program to cover the costs of operating out of the Agricultural Research Service facility in Beltsville, Maryland.

Congress is right now working on spending bills. Your action is needed to restore NTEP funding. NTEP is also ask-

Continued on page 24

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Regulation Updates

Continued from page 23

ing the government for \$350,000 to support a full-time scientist position for turfgrass research.

Please call or write your members of Congress today and ask them to support NTEP in the budget process.

To call, dial the Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121 and ask to be connected to the office of your Senator or Representative. Ask to speak with the staff member in charge of USDA issues. Don't expect the staff person to know details of USDA's budget proposal, but emphasize how important the NTEP program is to you.

Tips & talking points

Use the following points for your call, letter or e-mail:

- NTEP is the primary means by which cultivated varieties of turfgrass are evaluated. NTEP provides the turfgrass industry with unbiased information on cultivar performance, adaptation, disease resistance, and insect and environmental stress tolerance.
- USDA's annual support of NTEP at the \$55,000 level



does not cover all costs. NTEP will continue to rely on partnerships with industry and land grant universities for most of its support.

- Based on tests conducted at universities, turfgrass variety recommendations are made to golf course superintendents, homeowners, sod producers, and athletic field and park managers.

- The turfgrass industry is the fastest growing segment of agriculture. Turfgrass is, conservatively, a \$30-\$35 billion industry in the U.S. Many states including Florida, Maryland and North Carolina have documented that turfgrass is their No. 1 or 2 agricultural industry.

- NTEP is an excellent example of how private industry, state universities and the federal government can cooperate to address critical issues in a cost effective manner.

To write or send an e-mail, use this sample format:

Use letterhead with address and phone number, and the following address formats:

The Honorable [Senator or Representative]
[U.S. Senate OR U.S. House of Representatives]
Washington, DC [Sen. Zip 20510 OR House Zip 20515]

Dear [Senator/Representative] Name:

"I am writing to ask you to seek continued funding of the USDA's National Turfgrass Evaluation program (NTEP).

[Explain who you are and where you work]

[Describe in your own words why the program is important to you and how it helps you. If you can, use examples of how you have used information gained from NTEP trials.]

[Ask your Senator or Representative to reject the President's proposal and continue funding NTEP]

"Thank you, and I look forward to hearing from you about this important issue."

Sincerely,
[Your name]

You can view a complete listing of bills being tracked in your state or region in the government relations section of GCSAA Online at <http://www.gcsaa.org/members/govrel/state.html>. For more information on any of the bills mentioned above, please contact Chava McKeel, government relations coordinator at cmmckeel@gcsaa.org.

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Hug a tree today

Reprinted from *Bollinger Insurance Company Loss Control Bulletin*

When properly maintained, trees enhance and enrich your club property beyond measure. If allowed to deteriorate, however, they can be responsible for destruction to club property and injury to members, guests and employees.

Regular, professional tree maintenance is the key to preservation of these priceless assets. Certified Tree Experts should be employed to make regularly scheduled tree inspections, with the golf course superintendent, concentrating on trees that expose the following areas:

- Club house, half-way house and other buildings
- Caddie waiting areas
- Staging areas
- Parking lots
- Cart paths
- Tree lines on both sides of fairways
- Swimming pool areas
- Driveways

- Tee and green surrounds
- Property bordering residential area

Your primary concern should be the protection of people and property from falling trees and branches. Regularly scheduled tree maintenance by Certified Tree Experts will go a long way toward meeting this goal. Superintendents can also contribute to the continued health of your trees by looking for defects such as:

- Decayed or cracked trunks
- Dead branches
- Peeling bark
- Insect infestation
- Any other unsatisfactory conditions

Such defects should be noted by the superintendent and reported to your Certified Tree Expert for the necessary action. Maintenance is most efficiently done in the winter when access is good and course play is at a minimum.

While working on this bulletin we consulted with Robert B. Finnesey, president of Tree-Tech, Inc., Mt. Freedom,

Continued on page 26

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Technology update: Temporary Internet files

It's time once again to delete those temporary Internet files. This will make surfing the web much more efficient. Both Internet Explorer and Netscape Navigator store copies of the web pages you visit. Depending on your browser, these files are either referred to as 'temporary Internet files' or 'cache.' The browser stores these files for quicker downloading on your future visits. However, if you don't periodically clean them out, they can slow down your system and prevent you from viewing the most current material on a website. You may want to set up a routine schedule for performing this cleanup once a month, or more frequently if you are a daily Internet user.

Most Internet Explorer users should start by going to

the "view" menu and select the "Internet options" tab. In this area, you'll find the option to delete your temporary Internet files.

Netscape users should go to the "options" menu and select "network preferences." Next, go to the "cache" tab, where you will find the options to "clear memory cache" and "clear disk cache." If you perform both of these functions, it will clear all the temporary files in the cache.

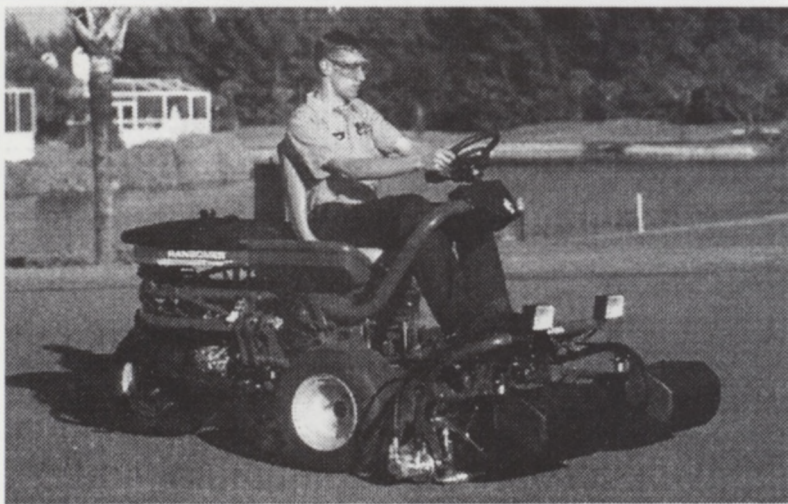
AOL users should go to "my AOL," choose "preferences," then depending on the version of AOL you are running, you will need to look for and choose "delete temporary internet files." ¶

Hug a tree today

Continued from page 25

New Jersey. Rob is a Certified Tree Expert and Arborist and his company regularly services over 50 golf courses. He suggests that if you want additional information regarding

the preservation of your trees, call the National Arborists Association at 800-733-2622 or e-mail them at naa@natlarb.com. ¶



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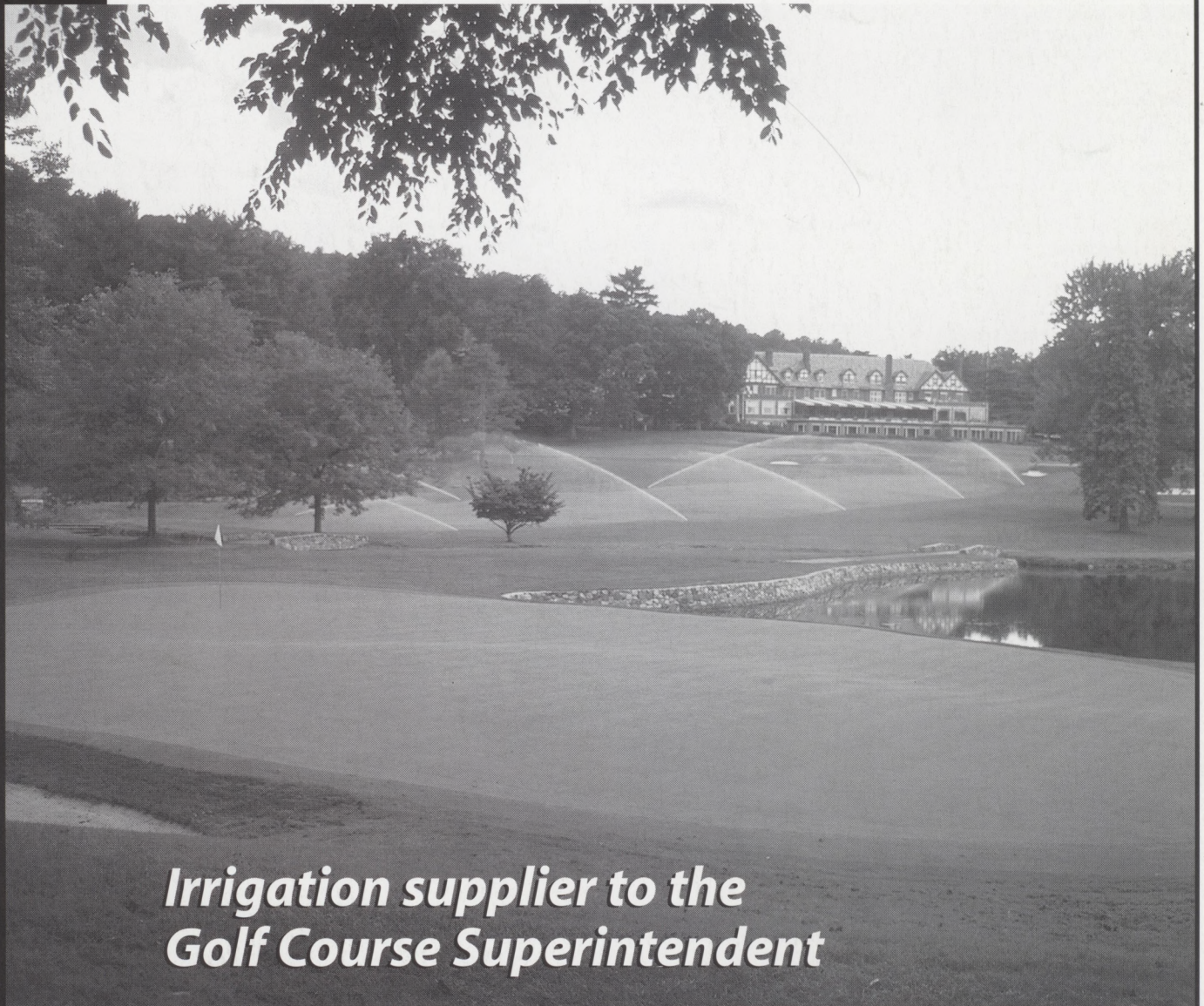
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