



THE NEWSLETTER

May 2000

of the **Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, Inc.**

Sponsors and administrators of the Troll-Dickinson Scholarship Fund – Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

Gary Sykes begins a new professional life after success as golfer & superintendent

By this time in his life Gary Sykes figured he'd dug in for the long haul, that he'd live happily ever after as the respected, rewarded, and fulfilled golf course superintendent at the Green Valley Country Club. He had a loving wife, three adorable and adoring kids, and a membership that 'oohed' and 'ahhed' over the golfing playground he'd created for them.

Along the way, however, his multiple talents, which included an extra helping of administrative skills, thrust him back into the look of challenge and excitement when he was named executive director of the burgeoning New England Turf Conference. It restored his faith in adventure, so to speak, and plugged the golf course superintendent-heavy conference board of directors (Gary's new bosses) into another dose of preferred professionalism.

As it was, Sykes was involved from the start of the conference's expansion plans when it stretched its operational arms

to include input from superintendents associations from all New England states after having presented the event as a virtual Massachusetts-only offering.

"Then (three years ago), I was one of the founding members of the Turfgrass Foundation of New England," Gary explained. "The foundation was included in setting up the ambitious expansion of the conference. Then when it grew so successfully and quickly, the board of directors decided they needed an executive to tie everything together. So, they tapped me for the job and I find my own professional life starting all over again."

The transition from golf course superintendent to conference executive director was instant since Sykes learned of the opportunity January 1. It gave him just over two months to take charge and he kicked off his part in the proceedings by doing what every efficient executive does . . . delegating authority. This meant keeping Dave Rosenberg, the conference's three-year show manager, in place. Dave's expertise is marketing, among other things. Whatever, the Sykes/Rosenberg team sparkled in their debut when the show was staffed in March.

"There was a ten percent increase across the board," Gary explained. "For the first time in its existence, the show sold over 400 display booths. And the attendance reached a best ever 2,300-plus. Those are good growth figures and we intend to improve on them. That's what this is all about."

What Gary Sykes is all about is even more intriguing and promising. So let's

begin at the beginning, when playing golf was on the brink of becoming obsession for a young boy hacking around the small town of Portsmouth, Rhode Island. As an outstanding high school golfer Gary looked for opportunities to push him toward the PGA Tour and found one when he was chosen the first high school senior to be accepted for the first PGA Tour program at Ferris State College in Michigan. But in a flip-flop move, he decided against going there.

"I thought about my college choice real hard," Gary said. "I was thinking PGA Tour all the way, but I began to wonder how much I'd get to play in a place like Michigan where winters are worse than they are in New England. That's when I decided to stay home and go to the University of Rhode Island."

In the three years he concentrated on playing golf while in college, Gary really hit the jackpot in manner of

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"It's been sort of a whirlwind the last few months for us, but we've enjoyed it."

**Gary Sykes, Director
N.E. Turf Conference**

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accomplishments. He won two major events, the New England Intercollegiate Championship and the Rhode Island Publinx Championship. He seemed on his way to reaching his original goal.

"Funny thing," Gary mused. "Even though I'd lifted my game several notches and won those things, I wasn't all that sure about trying to make my livelihood playing the game. Somehow, I had a change of heart. I realized I'd never make it as a Tour player, so I got interested in golf course maintenance. From that point on, my concentration switched to turf management."

Sykes continued on this new direction by joining the grounds crew at Green Valley. That was in 1981. Just after he thought his future was set in stone, Gary got another bee in his bonnet. This bounced him into the software engineering business where he toiled for two years before again realizing that everything he did that wasn't attached to golf wasn't substantial.

"I was still very young then (he's 41 now) and I suppose I wanted to test all the waters before settling into one field," he revealed. "At the time Green Valley needed an assistant superintendent. I applied and got the job. Two years later the club elevated me to head super and for the next 17 years, from 1983 to 2000, it was everything I ever wanted as a permanent position. That is, until my present situation surfaced."

Now that Gary's first really big show is behind him, he's plunged into the task of putting together projects for the three state universities of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire with the help of \$140,000 funding provided by the conference. That and planning for a bigger and better 2001 show will keep him busy through the off-season months.

He also declares that the conference has more room for improvement and growth with the popular site of the conference, the Rhode Island Convention Center, locked in place until 2005.

On the home front, Gary has the support of Diana, his wife, son Gary, Jr. (10), and daughters Leslie (11) and Katherine (8). "This whole development has been great for me and my family," he told. "It's been sort of a whirlwind the last few months for us, but we've enjoyed it. Now I know what satisfaction is."

It should be noted that the feeling works both ways. The New England Turf Conference has tapped a winner. The superintendents behind it know it's nice to have a champ in their corner.

GERRY FINN

CALENDAR . . .

- | | |
|------------|---|
| May 23 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Joint Meeting with Cape Cod
Poquoy Brook Golf Club
Lakeville, Mass.
Supt. - Mike Cummings |
| June 6 | Scholarship & Benevolence
Tournament
Franklin Park Golf Course
Dorchester, Mass.
Supt. - David Laffey |
| June 21 | UMass Turf Research Field Day
South Deerfield, Mass.
For more information
call Mary Owen at (508) 892-0382. |
| July 10 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Supt./Club Official Tournament
Pleasant Valley Country Club
Sutton, Mass.
Supt. - Chris Tufts |
| August 14 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Acushnet River Valley Golf Course
Acushnet, Mass.
Supt. - Doug Johnson |
| Sept. 25 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Team of Two Championship
Country Club of Pittsfield
Pittsfield, Mass.
Supt. - Jim Conant, CGCS |
| October 2 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Individual Championship
Mt. Pleasant Country Club
Boylston, Mass.
Supt. - Todd Sauer |
| October 18 | John Shanahan Memorial
Pro/Supt. Tournament*
Willowbend Country Club
Mashpee, Mass.
Supt. - Mark Casey
(*Register through NEPGA) |
| November 6 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Annual 9-Hole Meeting
Lexington Country Club
Lexington, Mass.
Supt. - Len Curtin |
| Nov. 14 | GCSAA Seminar
Integrated Environmental Mgmt.
The International Golf Club
Bolton, Mass. |
| Nov. 15 | GCSAA Seminar
Turfgrass Traffic Stress Mgmt.
The International Golf Club
Bolton, Mass. |

The Super Speaks Out

This month's Super Speaks Out goes off the beaten path, posing the offbeat question to supers: How do you think the Red Sox will do this season?

Anthony DeDominicus, Kelly Greens by-the-Sea: "Right now (mid-April) I'm more interested in getting the golf course in top shape for the season than keeping track of the Red Sox. This is my third year here and we're only a nine-hole course. But you're talking 25,000 to 30,000 rounds of golf a year. That means the course could take more of a beating than the Sox do when they play the New York Yankees.

"But don't get me wrong. I'm not a Yankee fan. In fact, I've lived through some tough times with the Red Sox. As a matter of fact, I was around in 1986 when the ball went through (Bill) Buckner's legs. That's the World Series that ruined that whole year for a lot of Sox fans. I know, I was one of them and that Series with the Mets was one of my biggest disappointments in baseball.

"Since then I've paid attention to the Sox, kept track of them because I'm still looking for something other than a runner-up finish in the postseason, especially when it's the Yankees who finish ahead of them. That seems to happen too much.

"Now, I'd call myself an occasional fan. I'll follow the team in the newspapers until around August. Then, if they're still in contention, maybe I'll get serious and take in a few games. Anyway, I'm not all that wild about the games. I'm one of those fans who shows up around the third inning and leaves after the seventh. Hey, I can't sleep in every morning.

"One thing about the Red Sox. They can make a summer interesting when they do well. That's the way I see this season going. They'll probably make the playoffs, but eventually they'll have to play the Yankees. We all know the Yankees are the class of the league. In the end, though, I can say I'll never be completely satisfied with a Red Sox season until they win the World Series. Nothing less. That's it.

"About my crew, they don't seem to care one way or the other. Some of them might show a little interest, but for the most part they couldn't care less about the Red Sox. They leave that for me."

THE SUPER SPEAKS

Mike Hightower, Green Hill Golf Course: "Overall, I'd have to classify myself a baseball fan in reverse, especially when it comes to the Red Sox. Why? Because I have a crew that's wrapped up in baseball and follow every Sox win and loss.

"I suppose deep down I have a spot in my cheering heart for the Sox, but on the practical side I hope they don't do that well. When they're in hot contention, my crew comes in all red-eyed from lack of sleep, staying up watching all those night games on the West Coast. That could be a minus for the golf course. Fortunately, my guys are good at recovering from lack of sleep.

"Most of them are fanatics, though. On opening day I had one guy who had to have the day off. Another wanted to leave work early. That's the way it goes around here when the Red Sox season starts.

"Therefore, what I hope for in way of keeping productivity humming around

"Making my prediction about the Sox season is easy . . . You can bet that the last game they play will be a loss."

**Mike Hightower
Green Hill G.C.**

here is that the Sox will take an early fall so my guys can keep all their interest plugged into course conditioning.

"That's real important here because we're located in that part of Worcester where it gets out of hand when it's cool and windy. So, this time of year or early spring my mind is on getting enough sleep and getting the golf course in shape.

"Making my prediction about the Sox season is easy. I can see the same thing as last year happening this year. The Sox will be in contention all the way until they reach the playoffs. Then, look for a repeat of 1999. You can bet that the last game they play this year will be a loss."

Mike Cummings, Poquoy Brook Golf Club: "You could say I'm a happy, happy man . . . until. Until the Red Sox play the Yankees in big games like the playoffs and lose. Then I die a thousand deaths. So, yes, I'm one of those suffering Red Sox fans.

"In the past I used to go to a lot of games. These days, now that we're into conditioning the golf course the way golfers expect it to be set up, I do all my cheering and nail biting from a seat in the TV room. In fact, I watched the game last night. Sox won. I know, it was only the Twins they beat. But with us (Sox fans) a win is a win.

"Strange thing, too, the interest in teams like the Red Sox and Celtics acts as kind of a relief around here. You could even call it therapy. My crew is an all-sports group. They like every sport. Most of the guys are Sox fans but we have a few traitors, too. Some even admit they root for the Yankees!

"Anyway, the Red Sox and Celtics games give my guys a lot to talk about in the morning when we're getting ready to tackle the course. There's a certain amount of camaraderie generated by those discussions. I'd say it sort of clears your head before plunging into a day's work schedule. You know, when you have guys with similar interests you usually have guys who work well together.

"Regardless, my thoughts of this season are positive. We need another starting pitcher and I think (Dan) Duquette will pull a few strings and come up with one. I'm very positive about this year. This will be the year when we go all the way. There'll be no more Curse of the Bambino. You can count on it, believe me."

GERRY FINN

Sun safety made simple: "Slip! Slop! Slap!"

By Erin Flynn
American Cancer Society

When you think of safety at work, the first things that come to mind are probably seasonal issues like pesticides or lightning. However, a greater risk affecting golf professionals year-round is right under your nose (and, if you're not careful, on your nose): skin cancer.

Each year more Americans are diagnosed with skin cancer than any other form of the disease. The good news is that this cancer, which affects nearly one million Americans annually, is easily cured if detected and treated early. The bad news is that the most serious form of skin cancer — malignant melanoma — is on the rise and is increasing faster than the rest.

Golf course superintendents have reason to be concerned. According to the American Cancer Society's Director of Skin Cancer Initiatives Mary O'Connell, "People who work outdoors, such as farmers, lifeguards, and golf superintendents, have an increased risk for getting skin cancer because of long hours in the sun."

Learning more about sun safety can help reduce the risk. For example, people who work outside should protect themselves from damaging ultraviolet rays, which are present even on cloudy days, and reflect off such light surfaces as water, sand, concrete, and snow. "The best way to protect your skin is to put a barrier between you and the sun," says O'Connell. "Since one barrier won't cover everything, it's important they be used in combination. This can mean wearing a long-sleeved shirt, a hat, and using sunscreen where your skin is exposed." She added that sun safety habits need to be practiced every day to be effective.

Martin Weinstock, M.D., Ph.D., Brown University's Director of Dermato-epidemiology Unit, agrees: "A lot of my skin cancer patients are golfers who haven't used protection because they were unaware of the dangers."

Prevention means simple steps.

To combat this lack of awareness, the American Cancer Society has created the "Slip! Slop! Slap!" campaign to help people protect their skin. The campaign has been

featured in public service announcements across the country. Its slogan is:

Slip on a shirt. Wear tightly woven fabrics that prevent UV rays from reaching the skin. An easy test is to hold the fabric up to the light; if you can see through it, you aren't protected.

Slop on sunscreen. Apply sunscreen SPF 15 or higher liberally and often. It's best to put on sunscreen before going so the skin has time to absorb it.

Slap on a hat. Choose a wide brimmed hat that shades your face, neck, and ears. More options are becoming available as sun-protective clothing manufacturers offer hats with broad visors and removable flaps.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Other tips include limiting sun exposure when ultraviolet rays are most intense (between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.) and wearing sunglasses to protect your eyes.

The Skin Protection Federation, a new coalition of more than 30 national

organizations brought together by the American Cancer Society, is dedicated to bringing more attention to sun safety issues. Such members as the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, The Weather Channel, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Tennis Association are working together now to develop a national program that will

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"Ears are high-risk areas for skin cancer because these cancers spread more readily to other parts of the body."

Martin Weinstock, M.D.
Brown University

Golf Committee's new point system aims to reward meeting attendees

In an effort to improve attendance at meetings, the Golf Committee has implemented a point system that will reward frequent attendees.

The system is simple. A member receives one point for attending a meeting and one point for playing golf. Therefore,

there are two possible points to be gained at summer meetings. These points will begin accumulating with the April meeting at Chicopee C.C.

GCSANE NEWS

At the end of the season, prizes will be awarded to the top point-getter in either the Superintendent division or Affiliate division. The actual prizes are yet to be determined.

Now everyone has another reason to attend monthly meetings, as if they needed one. Each meeting gives the opportunity to interact with your peers, make new friends, play a fine round of golf, see what other courses do to prepare, and have a fine lunch or dinner. Don't be just a name, get out and show your face. You'll be glad you did.

Now everyone has another reason to attend monthly meetings, as if they needed one.

GCSAA board approves code of ethics revisions

GCSAA's board of directors approved revisions to the GCSAA Code of Ethics at its pre-conference meeting, Feb. 9-11.

This code is established to promote and maintain the highest professional standards of service and conduct among members. Steadfastly maintaining these principles will earn members justly deserved recognition and respect. Through high regard for and strong enforcement of the code, membership in the association will be a significant indicator of individual responsibility, character, and professionalism.

GCSAA NEWS

Professional courtesies or conduct are set forth in the "Professional Conduct Guidelines" document and should be adhered to by all GCSAA members.

As a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, I accept and fully agree to abide by this Code and pledge myself to:

1. Recognize and discharge all of my responsibilities and duties in such a fashion as to enhance this association and my profession.
2. Practice and insist upon sound business and turf management principles in exercising the responsibilities of my position.
3. Utilize frequent opportunities to expand my professional knowledge, thereby improving myself and my profession.
4. Refrain from any unethical act tending to promote my own interest at the expense of the dignity and integrity of the profession.

5. Base endorsements, whether written, verbal, or through any other medium, strictly upon satisfactory personal experiences with the product, item, or service endorsed.

6. Refrain from encouraging or accepting considerations of any value without the express understanding of all parties that said consideration is available to all persons in similar circumstances, and no gift or consideration is for personal gain to the detriment of the course, employer, or the profession.

7. Recognize and observe the highest standards of integrity in my relationships with fellow golf course superintendents and others associated with this profession and industry.

8. Assist my fellow superintendents in all ways consistent with my abilities.

9. Abstain from making false or untrue statements concerning another superintendent that causes public embarrassment to another superintendent.

10. Lend my support to, and actively participate in, the efforts of my local chapter and national association to improve public understanding and recognition of the profession of golf course management.

11. Promptly report all known or suspected violations of the Code of Ethics and voluntarily participate as a witness and present information in all proceedings to determine the possibility of a violation of this Code of Ethics.

12. Abstain from applying for or otherwise seeking employment in a dishonest manner. For the purpose of this section of the code, a member seeks employment in a dishonest manner if he or she does one or more of the following in connection with the prospective employment: (a) provides false or misleading information to a prospective employer; (b) makes false, slanderous or defamatory statements concerning a fellow superintendent; (c) attempts to undermine or improperly influence the staff of a fellow superintendent; (d) attempts to deceive, mislead, or misinform a fellow superintendent's employer, supervisor or fellow employees; (e) makes misleading, deceptive, or false statements or

claims about his or her professional qualifications, experience, or performance; or (f) makes misleading, deceptive, or false statements or claims about a member superintendent's professional qualifications, experience or performance.

13. Refrain from accepting employment, as a consultant, in a dishonest manner. For the purposes of this section of the code, a consultant accepts employment in a dishonest manner if he or she does one or more of the following in connection with such consulting: (a) provides false or misleading information to a prospective employer; (b) makes false, slanderous, or defamatory statements concerning a fellow superintendent; (c) attempts to undermine or improperly influence the staff of a fellow superintendent; (d) attempts to deceive, mislead, or misinform a fellow superintendent's employer, supervisor, or fellow employees; (e) makes misleading, deceptive, or false statements or claims about his or her professional qualifications, experience, or performance; or (f) makes misleading, deceptive, or false statements or claims about a member superintendent's professional qualifications, experience, or performance.

14. Abstain from conduct constituting a crime under federal, state, or local law, the penalty for which is, or may be, imprisonment, including but not limited to crimes of moral turpitude and dishonesty. A member's conviction of a crime will be considered conclusive evidence that the member committed that crime for the purposes of this code.

15. Abstain from knowingly making false statements or knowingly failing to disclose a material fact requested in connection with an application or renewal for GCSAA membership or for membership in an affiliated chapter.

16. Express professional opinions on technical subjects publicly only when that opinion is founded upon adequate knowledge of the facts and competence in the subject matter.

From the April 2000 issue of *Newsline*.

GCSANE offices moving to brand new MGA facility in 2002

Our office is presently located in Needham, Mass., as you all know. We are happy to be in that office with the Massachusetts Golf Association and the Women's Golf Association of Massachusetts. Our association will be in this location until late 2002. At that time we will move to Norton, Mass. with the MGA where they will have completed a brand new facility. This building will be located next to the new golf course being built called PGA Boston. We are looking forward to this move.

In February 2003 the MGA will also be celebrating their 100th anniversary. The

official opening and ribbon cutting for this building will most likely occur at that time. We are hoping all these plans go

FROM THE PRESIDENT

well. We are also very happy for the MGA, for they have been looking for quite some time to possess their own facility. The MGA has been very good to GCSANE and we are extremely happy to have such a great ally.

There is an Economic Impact Study now out for the state of Massachusetts. This study was done by the National Golf Foundation. The study was funded by the

MGA and AMGO (Allied Massachusetts Golf Organizations), of which we are a member. Tom Landry, Susan Curtin and the MGA staff are to be commended for their hard work and phone calls to make this study one of the best ever done by the NGF. The study is excellent due to the above average response from the participants. To sum this up, the golf industry has a large impact in Massachusetts. There are over 18,000 jobs in this state related to golf. In the June issue of *The Newsletter* we will have more information on the study.

Sincerely,
Bob Ruszala

Slip, Slop, Slap

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encourage more people to develop sun safety habits.

Early detection is critical

The American Cancer Society recommends cancer-related checkups every three years for those under the age of 40 and every year for those 40 or older. This checkup includes overall health counseling (such as tips on how to quit smoking) and examinations of the skin and other organs.

During this exam, you will be checked for the main skin cancers, which are basal cell, squamous cell, or melanoma.

Basal cell cancer: The majority of skin cancers are basal cells. They develop on the face and ears, grow slowly and usually do not spread to other parts of the body.

Basal cells can take the form of a pale, wax-like nodule or a red, scaly, sharply outlined patch. This was once a disease of middle or old age, but is now seen in younger people given their increased sun exposure.

Squamous cell cancer: About 20 percent of skin cancers are squamous cells. They appear primarily on sun exposed areas like the ears but can also develop within scars or lesions; they tend to be more aggressive and can spread. "Ears are high risk areas for skin cancer because these cancers spread more readily to other parts of the body," explains Weinstock. "We did a study eight years ago that found many of the people who had died had squamous cells start on the ear." They are usually small, round, slightly raised, and red and crusty. Often there is a sore in the center that does not heal.

Malignant melanoma: This is the most dangerous form of skin cancer. While only about 14 percent of skin cancers are malignant melanoma, this type accounts for the majority of deaths. (Approximately 47,700 people will be diagnosed with melanoma this year and 7,700 will die from it.) Melanoma begins in the skin cells that produce skin coloring, which is why these cancers tend to be mixed shades of tan, brown and black. Those who are darker-skinned are less likely to get this disease; however, it can develop on their hands, soles of the feet, and under the nails.

Melanomas are usually found on sun-exposed skin, but can appear on other parts of the body. Often they begin in or near a mole or dark spot on the skin and spread quickly to other parts if not detected early.

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DIVOT DRIFT...announcements...educational seminars...job opportunities ...tournament results...and miscellaneous items of interest to the membership.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome New Members: Andrew Streeter, Sharon C.C., Superintendent; Jack Nugnes, Oyster Harbors C.C., Superintendent; Randy Sawin, Ellinwood C.C., Superintendent; Nick DeMarkis, Essex C.C., Assistant; John Bresnahan, Lofts Seed Co., Affiliate; Casey and Dupuis Equipment Corp., Friend.

Proposed For Membership: Michael Young, Tewksbury C.C., Superintendent; Paul Allen, Tewksbury C.C., Assistant; Kent Lemme, Vesper C.C., Superintendent; Bill Hay, Millwood G.C., Superintendent; Tony DeBettencourt, Hickory Hill G.C., Superintendent; David Farrentino, Milton-Hoosic Club, Superintendent; Michael Holton, Winchester C.C., Assistant; Rick Giverson, Tom Irwin Co., Affiliate.

INFORMATION

Thank you to Don Nunes, head pro Thomas DiRico, caterer Bill Meara, and the entire staff at Chicopee Country Club for hosting the April meeting. The golf course was in excellent shape and the service was terrific.

Please be sure to sell your raffle tickets for the Scholarship and Benevolence Fund. The drawing will be held at the S&B Tournament at Franklin Park G.C. on June 6. These proceeds go to help members' families. Also, please be sure to

donate rounds of golf at your club. For more information, contact Dave Comee at (978) 297-1223, ext. 165, or Sharon Brownell at (800) 833-4451.

A belated thanks to Ron Milenski, the staff at the International Golf Club, and the USGA for the joint meeting in March.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Dr. Bill Torello from UMass. He recently underwent successful heart surgery.

Dick Duggan will once again be playing for GCSANE in this year's Ouimet Fund marathon. The event will be held on August 9 at Stow Acres. Please make a pledge to help Dick raise money for this worthy cause. There will be pledge sheets available at each monthly meeting site.

The DEP has mailed the Golf Course Facility Water Withdrawal Questionnaire. Please be sure to fill it out and return it by June 1. If you have any questions please contact Duane LeVangie at (617) 292-5706. The survey form is available on the DEP website at www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/wtrm/wtrmpubs.htm.

Web Site of the Month: For a comprehensive list of many turfgrass associated links, be sure to check out The Ultimate Turfgrass Links Page. It may be reached at www.msu.edu/user/karcherd/turflinks/.

ITEM FOR SALE

Jacobsen F-10 with gasoline engine and seven cutting units. \$2000 or best offer. Contact Bob Ruszala at Hickory Ridge CC for more information at (413) 256-8654.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Mechanic. Sterling Golf Management is currently seeking an individual for part-time work in the Lowell, Mass. area. Duties include routine lubrication, machine adjustments, parts ordering, and record keeping. Most equipment is less than three years old and has been well maintained. Send resume to Kevin Osgood, Sterling Golf Management, 212 Kenrick Street, Newton, MA 02458-2732; phone (617) 630-1950; fax (617) 969-8756.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Chicopee Country Club
Chicopee, Mass.
April 24, 2000

1st Gross: Ron Dobosz (78)
2nd Gross: Robin Hayes (83)

1st Net: Dave Mucciaroni (72)*
2nd Net: Leroy Allen (72)
3rd Net: Bob Mucciaroni (73)

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Finale, Turcam, DeltaGard.
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Meet host superintendent Michael Cummings, Poquoy Brook G.C.

The host superintendent for the May meeting of GCSANE is Michael Cummings of Poquoy Brook Golf Course in Lakeville, Mass.

Mike is a 10-year member of GCSANE. He has been employed at Poquoy Brook, under the tutelage of Charlie Dickow, since 1985. In addition, he spent seven years as foreman at Heritage Hill Country Club.

His education includes a degree from SMU (now UMass-Dartmouth) where he graduated in 1988.

When he is not working or golfing, he enjoys days at the beach with his wife Suzanne, daughter Katelyn (4 1/2) and son Patrick (1 1/2).

HOST PROFILE

Poquoy Brook Golf Course was open in 1962 and was designed by the esteemed Geoffrey Cornish. It is a popular public

course on the South Shore. With a par of 72, it plays to 6,762 yards from the back tees. With a rating of 72.4 and a slope of 128, it is a challenge for the average golfer.

The course has large greens, as they average 8,000 square feet. Naturally, the greens consist of bent and poa. The rye/poa tees are also fairly large, averaging 4,500 square feet. There are 27 acres of fairway (bent/poa/rye) and 15 acres of rough (blue/fescue/rye) to maintain.

Slip, Slop, Slap . . .

continued from page 6

Since most people have an average of 25 moles, how do you know which ones to worry about? An ordinary mole is an evenly colored brown, tan, or flesh colored spot in the skin. It can be flat or smooth and has sharply defined borders.

Remembering the "ABCD rule" may help you to identify abnormal moles:

Asymmetry (one half does not match the other half); **B**order irregularity (edges are ragged, uneven, blurred) **C**olor (not uniform, may have shades of brown, black, blue, or red); **D**iameter (is wider than 1/4 inch or is growing larger).

The best protection against skin cancer is to know the terrain of your skin and

take simple steps to incorporate sun safety habits into your daily routine. As Weinstock recommends, "We don't want you to be a couch potato, but we don't want you to be a baked potato, either."

(For information or materials about sun safety contact the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org, or call 1-800-ACS-2345.)

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