



Turf Times

Bi-Monthly
Update
March/April, 1994
Vol. 23, No. 2

The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

Environmental Profile...

It is important to publicly recognize those who are involved in conservation and wildlife enhancement activities. It is even more important to recognize the achievements and leadership of our peers and colleagues in this profession.

With this thought in mind, I am honored to announce that Bruce Wolfrom, CGCS/Golf Course Manager at Treetops/Sylvan Resort, Gaylord, was awarded the regional environmental stewardship award (Great Lakes region) for the second straight year. This prestigious award, along with others, will result in thousands of dollars donated to the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's Scholarship and Research Fund.

To qualify for this award, Bruce had to implement innovative practices demonstrating environmental stewardship, such as: setting aside wildlife areas, state of the art pesticide facilities, and by upgrading water management programs by use of a weather station and a computerized irrigation system. This was combined with regular community involvement to heighten awareness of environmental concerns.

Bruce has taken a very proactive stance toward the environment and has initiated programs on the resort from tree harvesting to educating our guests of the resort's environmental commitment. He also is the driving force whereas a portion of golf green fees have been donated to the MTF for research on environmentally sound practices. His community involvement includes serving on the Otsego County Water Quality Committee, and the DNR's Environmental Stewardship Program called Michigan Clean Stream. This committee identifies waterways most vulnerable to impact from pesticide management practices, and designs voluntary programs to protect water quality.

Bruce believes golf course superintendents on an individual basis are the best avenue to promote and educate the public about our profession and impact on the environment. I find it difficult to argue with that, it is simply a matter of being responsible stewards of the land, something entrusted to all golf course superintendents.

The keys to improving the quality of our environment are communication and involvement. Bruce has taken steps to build the bridge between these two keys by actively addressing environmental concerns, and then implementing programs and projects to meet these concerns head on. Many of these programs he has implemented are unbelievably easy, and he invites anyone interested to contact him. They are the kinds of things you would do anyway to save money, especially if you knew how much you could save.

This is most exemplified by his efforts with the New York Audubon Society. The end result is that Treetops has become a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary.

Bruce's leadership should motivate all of us as individuals to get up and do something about environmental problems. Attacks by environmental activists and coverage by the media have put the turf industry on the defensive. Yet we have all seen even the most difficult problems march toward solutions when everyday people get involved.

This decade has already made many of us aware that large institutions and organizations alone can never solve the problems that result from the "inconsequential" actions of millions of individuals. But remember: as much as the individual is the root of the problem, he/she is also the genesis of its solution. In this profession and industry, Bruce Wolfrom is an excellent example.

*Mark Wildeman, Superintendent., Fazio Course,
Treetops/Sylvan Resort, Gaylord*

Classified Advertising

FOR SALE: Berkley irrigation pump and motor, 50 h.p., 600 gpm, 6 years old. Berkley irrigation pump and motor, 10 h.p., Jockey, 6 years old. Crane Deming irrigation pump and motor, 60 h.p., 600 gpm, 20 years old. 1500 gallon steel pressure tank. All motors have starters and disconnects. Contact Scott Brown, Lake of the North, (616) 585-6545.

FOR SALE: Toro 7 Gang; 7-blade SPA Units; \$10,000; call Dan Bissonette, Walloon Lakes C.C., (616) 535-2373.

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT NEEDED: Must be a certified pesticide applicator in Michigan. Send resume to: SNOWSNAKE MT., Attn: Dale Brockway, 3101 East Mannsiding Rd., Harrison, MI 48625.

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT NEEDED: THUNDER MOUNTAIN RANCH, Crivitz, Wisconsin (Northwest of Green Bay). Course work will be April 1 through October 31. If you have other skills there is a possibility of winter employment. Send Resume & Cover Letter to: Donald W. Patterson, Thunder Mountain Ranch, N 3487 Caldron Falls Road, Crivitz, WI 54114. (715) 757-3232.

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT NEEDED: 18 hole public golf course, privately owned, 6054 yards, par 70. Applicant must have a minimum of a 2 year degree in Turfgrass/Agronomy; 4 year degree a plus. Salary commensurate with ability, education and experience. 2 weeks paid vacation, health insurance allowance, retirement plan option, dues paid in GCSAA and CIGCSA, and golf and cart privileges. Send resume to: The Oaks Golf Course, Inc., 5250 Oak Crest Road, RR #1, Box 119, Springfield, IL 62707.

FOR SALE: 125 h.p. electric 3-phase Berkley irrigation pump, contact Scott Kuhlman at (616) 535-2506.

WANTED: Used turf equipment; mowers, carts, accessories. Contact Scott Kuhlman at (616) 535-2506.

1994 Calendar of Events

TENTATIVE Schedule & Locations

(* NMTMA Golf and Meeting)

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
* April 4	MSU/NMTMA MINI CONFERENCE	Grayling Holiday Inn
April 7	GCSAA Spray Technician Seminar	Indianwood C.C.
April 7-10	THE MASTERS	Augusta, GA
April 18	MBCGCSA joint meeting w/ Canadian Superintendents	TBA
April 18	WMGCSA Meeting	Blythefield C.C.
April 25	GAM TURFGRASS FIELD DAY	Hancock Research
May 11	WMGCSA Meeting	Grand Haven G.C.
* May 18	NMTMA/MMTMA Meeting	Canadian Lakes G.C.
May 20	MBCGCSA SPECIAL OLYMPICS FUNDRAISER	Bald Mountain G.C.
June 2-5	WOMENS OLDSMOBILE CLASSIC	Walnut Hills C.C.
June 13	WMGCSA/MBCGCSA Meeting	Arbor Hills C.C.
June 16-19	U.S. OPEN	Oakmont C.C., PA
* June 20	NMTMA/MTF FUNDRAISER	Matheson Greens C.C.
June 23-26	FORD SENIOR PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP	TPC of Michigan
June 26-29	MICHIGAN OPEN	Grand Traverse Resort
June 30-July 3	U.S. SENIOR OPEN	Pinehurst C.C.
* July TBA	NMTMA Meeting	Hidden Valley G.C.
July 12	WMGCSA Meeting	Winters Creek G.C.
July 18	MBCGCSA Meeting	Heather Hills G.C.
July 21-24	U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN	Indianwood C.C.



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Public Relations and you

The golf industry and golf course superintendents have been taking some pretty hard hits in the media lately. Many of the issues now have gone beyond the environmental ones. A recent anti-golf course article quoted one source named the "Global Anti-Golf Movement." I'll bet this "movement" is small, but the fact that such an organization exists is reason for concern. We all know that so many of the arguments are exaggerated, misleading, or false, but the public doesn't. We must begin to get the message out, and in more ways than just rebuttal to the attacks. We must take the initiative and parlay the same media channels that are being used to slight us.

Many of us feel that this responsibility falls on the GCSAA, and that may be true at the national level. Yet, much can be done by us at the local level. I have found local radio, newspaper, and TV willing to publish some of the most trivial stuff imaginable. Contact them, school them, and use them for the advancement of not only golf, but your club and yourself. To this end, I would like to present some highlights of information published in a brochure called "Public Relations and the Golf Course Superintendent" put out by the GCSAA. This brochure and additional information is yours for the asking from GCSAA.

HOW TO CONTACT THE MEDIA

- Personal contact is the best way to obtain favorable publicity. Meet and talk with editors and sports writers, don't just send news releases.
- Release information to all media representatives at the same time. Don't show favoritism.
- Use quotes from persons of authority.
- Invite media representatives to play golf as a guest. Possibly as a foursome with your pro, greens chairman, club manager, yourself, etc.

PREPARING NEWS RELEASES

- Be brief, concise, and correct.
- Write in layman's terms.
- Check all facts, names and dates.
- Use your club letterhead.
- Include enough facts so a reporter can write a story.
- Provide a contact person for any clarifications.
- Send releases to a specific person, not "the sports writer."
- Use black and white photos with captions.

POSSIBLE NEWSWORTHY ITEMS

- Completion of any certification, license, etc.
- Election to office or committee of an organization.
- Attendance of conferences, trade shows, etc.
- Outstanding/interesting staff members.
- Participation in local/national professional, environmental, and wildlife organizations.
- Demonstration of new equipment, turf care techniques.
- Contributions to research, foundations, etc.
- Participation in research projects.
- Construction, reconstruction and renovation.
- Tips on turf care, tree planting, flowers, etc.
- Tournaments.
- Excellent playing conditions at your course.
- Natural disasters and your response.
- Solutions for insect and disease problems.
- Proper water use.
- Environmental/wildlife attributes of your course.
- Localizing national golf related stories.
- Etc., etc., etc.

We have got to play our part in the media if we're going to continue to enjoy the rapid growth of our industry. If for no other reason, do it for yourself.

By Jeffrey Dorrell, Public Relations Committee, NMTMA

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Recycle? Why Bother?

Do you recycle at your household? Is it a family effort or does one person take on the responsibility of looking for the number on the bottom of those sticky ketchup bottles? Are you the one who stands at the sink rinsing glass jars and tearing off the labels? The party responsible for gathering up the newspapers and junk mail and finding a place to hide it until it's time to dispose of it? Do you drive around with it in your car or does it get picked up at the curb? Does any of this sound familiar?

What about your golf course? Who worries about the empty containers there? The triple rinsed pile of plastic? Results from Greg Lymans' (MSU Environmental Specialist) survey at the January MTF Conference indicated that people are interested in recycling, especially if it is convenient. My question is, "Why bother with any of it?" Why create waste and more work when you can purchase products that are packaged environmentally friendly? Wouldn't it be more convenient to toss a water soluble bag in the tank or hook your sprayer up to a returnable, reusable container? Skip the recycling issue altogether.

The following is a list of some products that come packaged with the end user and environment in mind:

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MISCELLANEOUS

Aqua Clear WSB
Blazon
Naiaid Super Pellet (skip the 55 gallon drum)

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So this spring when you are writing up your programs ask your professional sales representative to help you choose products in packages that can be returned or disposed of more easily - and save the triple rinsing for the ketchup bottles.

By Kimberly Olson

Letters to the Editor

You can communicate directly with the NMTMA and your fellow members by writing to:

Turf Times

c/o Mike Morris
P.O. Box 1575
Frankfort, MI 49635

Share your thoughts and feelings about our organization or the industry in general.



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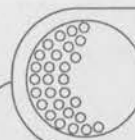
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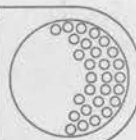
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NMTMA Financial Report

Cash Accounts
Year Ending October 31, 1992
and '93 - '94 Proposed Budget

	'92-'93 Budget	'92-'93 Actual	(over) under	'93-'94 Budget	% of Budget
Beginning Cash					
General Checking		11,360.75			
Special Checking: MTF		12,996.18			
Savings		0			
Res. & Schol. Fund		0			
Total Cash: November 1	25,000	24,356.93	643.07	23,000	
Income:					
Publications/Adv.	11,000	11,258.25	(258.25)	11,500	18
Dues	7,000	7,680.00	(680.00)	8,000	13.2
Meetings (general & Mini Conference)	5,000	4,615.00	385.00	5,000	8
MTF Fund Raiser	24,000	20,785.00	3,215.00	24,000	38
NMTMA Fund Raiser	9,500	6,230.00	3,270.00	9,000	14.2
Christmas Party	5,500	4,825.82	674.18	5,000	8
Special Gifts	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Earned	750	274.18	475.90	350	0.6
Miscellaneous	0	24.00	(24.00)	0	0
Total Income:	62,750	55,692.	7,057.75	62,850	100
Expense:					
Secretarial	500	500.00	0	500	0.8
Editor	0	0	0	200	0.3
Speakers	1,000	0	1,000.00	1,000	1.6
Meetings:					
General	3,500	4,198.77	(698.77)	4,200	6.7
Mini Conference	1,500	1,126.25	373.75	1,300	2
MTF Fund Raiser	12,000	10,513.55	1,486.55	11,000	17.5
NMTMA Fund Raiser	5,000	3,492.00	1,508.00	4,000	6.3
Christmas Party	6,200	6,036.70	163.30	6,200	9.8
Board Meetings	500	562.15	(62.15)	500	0.8
Research & Professional:					
General	800	300.00	500.00	800	1.2
MTF Donation	12,000	12,000.00	0	12,000	19.4
GCSAA Donation	500	0	500.00	500	0.8
NMTMA Scholarship	2,000	2,000.00	0	2,000	3.1
Awards & Recognition	500	213.23	286.77	300	0.5
Office Supplies	1,000	895.83	104.17	1,000	1.6
Postage and Mailing	2,200	2,116.37	83.63	2,200	3.5
Membership Directory	3,500	4,376.51	(876.51)	4,500	7.1
Newsletter	6,500	7,936.26	(1,436.26)	8,000	12.7
Dues Invoices	0	0	0	500	0.8
Membership & Library Gds	2,000	953.20	1,046.80	1,000	1.6
Insurance	1,000	460.00	540.00	750	1.2
Service Charges	200	174.46	25.54	200	0.3
Miscellaneous	100	5.00	95.00	100	0.2
Legal and Accounting	250	161.08	88.92	100	0.2
Total Expenses:	62,750	58,021.36	4,728.64	62,850	100
Year End Cash: October 31					
General Checking		22,300.49			
Special Checking (closed)		0			
Savings		0			
Res. & Schol. Fund		0			
Total Cash: Year End	25,000	22,300.49		23,000	

Calo-Clor, Calo-Gran Voluntarily Cancelled

Grace Sierra Crop Protection Company has requested and the USEPA has accepted the voluntary cancellation of its fungicide products, Calo-Clor and Calo-Gran. They have waived the usual comment period; consequently, the cancellation became effective on 11/1/93. These are the final two mercurial based pesticide products registered under FIFRA, as amended. These products are used only on golf course greens, tees, and aprons to control snow mold on ORNAMENTAL TURF. The USEPA has granted Grace Sierra's request to sell and distribute existing stocks of the cancelled products until 6/24/94; other distributors or users of these products may sell, distribute or use their remaining inventory.

Change of Address, Membership Application info available

Any member with a change of address
should immediately contact

Thomas J. Reed
3733 Apollo Drive
Traverse City, MI 49684.

He should also be contacted if any person would
like to apply for membership in NMTMA.

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Museum to be dedicated to Mascaro & Steiniger

Penn State University and the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council announced at the Penn State Golf Turf Conference recently that a new Turfgrass Science Museum will be dedicated to **Thomas Mascaro** and **Eberhard Steiniger**. The museum will be named the **Mascaro/Steiniger Turfgrass Museum**.

The 40,000 square feet museum is being constructed on the Penn State Campus at University Park, Pennsylvania and will display many inventions, including those developed by Mascaro and the collection of Steiniger. The need for a museum was conceived by Dr. Joseph Duich, now retired from Penn State. His tireless efforts to accumulate this priceless collection of equipment and tools made it possible for people to view the past in order to meet the challenges of the future.

Mr. Mascaro was president of West Point Products for 55 years. In 1986 he and his son, John, founded Turf-Tec International, which designs diagnostic turfgrass instruments for golf course superintendents to obtain factual information. The business is located in Oakland Park, Florida.

Mr. Steiniger was Golf Course Superintendent at Pine Valley Golf Club in Clementon, New Jersey for 57 years. He is known for converting a sand waste layout with only scrub pine into the number one golf course in the world. Steiniger collaborated with Mascaro on all of the over twenty inventions in testing and evaluating their performance. His

private collection of equipment will also be on display in the museum.

The formal dedication of the museum will be held at the Penn State Turfgrass Field Days, August 10-11, 1994 at University Park, Pennsylvania.



Thomas Mascaro and Eberhard Steiniger

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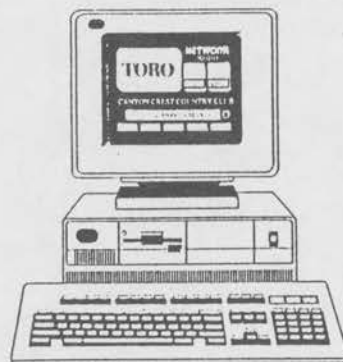
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GCSAA voters say "yes" to 13 amendments

GCSAA News Release

At their recent annual meeting in Dallas, members of the GCSAA were asked to consider 15 proposed amendments to the organization's bylaws and articles of incorporation. All but two of the 15 issues received the two-thirds majority required for adoption.

Voting on the proposed amendments took place Feb. 7, 1994, during GCSAA's Int. Golf Course Conference & Show.

The first amendment approved in Dallas revised the association's mission statement. Voters adopted the following wording for both the preamble of the bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation:

The purposes for which this Corporation is formed are:

(a) to provide for and enhance the recognition of the golf course superintendent as a professional.

(b) To advance the art of greenkeeping and the science of turfgrass management; to collect and disseminate information concerning efficient and economical management of golf courses and related environmental issues.

(c) In general, to have all the powers conferred upon a corporation by the laws of the State of Delaware which are consistent with the Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws of this Corporation.

The bylaws amendments also redefined a golf course superintendent as "one who is entrusted with the management and operation of the tract of land defined as a golf course, including involvement in construction and maintenance of golf courses and related equipment."

The two bylaws amendments that failed involved the establishment of separate, non-voting membership classifications for golf course maintenance staff, club officials and golf association staff members.

Ballot 5, which would have added six new classes for staff members such as equipment managers and irrigation specialists, received a majority (2,954 "yes" to 2,321 "no"), but not the two-thirds required to add them to the bylaws.

Ballot 6, which would have enacted a separate Class F for course officials and golf association staff members, failed by a wider margin: 2,485 "yes" to 2,790 "no".

Voters did approve other changes to the bylaws dealing with membership classification:

- Authorizing the board of directors to establish qualifications and levels of privilege for all membership classes except AA, A, B and C (Changes to AA, A, B and C still require a bylaws amendment.)
- Simplifying the definitions of Classes B and C. Now, superintendents with fewer than three years of experience are Class B members, and all assistant superintendents are Class C members. Voting and other gold-card privileges are now extended to Class C.
- Creating a new Class E for educators & extension officers.
- Opening Retired membership to all classes and authorizing the board to set Retired dues at or below one-half the dues of the individual's prior classification.
- Authorizing the board to set Standing Rules regarding the level of privileges for Affiliate membership.
- Making Honorary membership permanent unless revoked by the board.

Voters delegated some specific authority to the board of directors, but also demanded increased accountability from the board and the chapter voting delegates.

For examples, voters granted the board authority to set dues structures for non-superintendent membership classes. However, dues for Classes AA, A, B and C will be set by voting members casting ballots individually, by proxy or through their chapter.

Beginning next year in San Francisco, official voting records for GCSAA elections will be published in a membership publication. Dallas voters approved the publication of a chapter-by-chapter report to help chapter members hold their voting delegates accountable as their representatives.

Voters also restricted board members' powers by requiring a two-thirds majority of the board to approve the execution of any mortgage or loan that would incur debts for future boards.

The new bylaws also make some changes in the officers and directors. Most significantly, the secretary/treasurer position will become an elected office instead of a presidential appointment. Voters also amended the duties of the secretary/treasurer, making them more like an officer than an operations administrator.

In addition, all officers and directors will be elected by plurality votes, eliminating the potential need for run-off elections. (Previously, a majority vote was required for the offices of president and vice-president.)

Dallas voters also permanently assigned trusteeship of the Benevolence Fund to the association's officers.

The amendment to the Articles of Incorporation also updated GCSAA's office address.

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Top students honored as GCSAA scholars

GCSAA News Release

Ten outstanding students from around the United States and Canada have been named as GCSAA Scholars for 1994. The winners were announced by Paul S. McGinnis, CGCS, chairman of the association's Scholarship Committee, after a two-month evaluation process that narrowed the field from more than 90 original applicants.

The 1994 GCSAA Scholars and the grant awards they received are:

Jason Aerni of Roundup, Montana, a Colorado State University senior majoring in landscape horticulture (turf management), received \$1,500.

Matthew J. Aston of Lake Orion, Michigan, a Michigan State University senior majoring in turfgrass management, received \$2,500.

David L. Calder of Bemidji, Minnesota, a Colorado State University senior majoring in landscape horticulture (turf management), received \$2,500.

Stephen P. Edkin of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, a Penn State senior majoring in turfgrass science, received \$2,000.

Edward W. Gross of State College, Pennsylvania, a Pennsylvania State University senior majoring in turfgrass science, received \$2,500.

Chris Hartwiger of Raleigh, North Carolina, a North Carolina State University senior majoring in crop science (turfgrass management), received \$2,000.

Gary L. Heath of King City, Missouri, a Pennsylvania State University senior majoring in turfgrass management, received \$2,000.

Mark Krick of Brighton, Michigan, a Michigan State University graduate student in agronomy (turfgrass), received \$2,000.

Joseph Livingston of Elk Point, South Dakota, an Iowa State University junior majoring in turfgrass management, received \$3,500.

Troy J. Merkel of Omaha, Nebraska, a University of Nebraska senior majoring in horticulture-turfgrass, received \$2,000.

The Ambassador Award for the most outstanding student outside the United States was presented to **Robert G. Marshall** of Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, a senior at Michigan State University majoring in turfgrass management. Marshall received \$3,500.

The winner of the Mendenhall Award for the most outstanding student in this year's scholarship competition is Iowa State's **Livingston**. The award is named in honor of the late Chester A. Mendenhall, a charter member of GCSAA.

GCSAA scholars are selected on the basis of academic excellence and the potential to become leading professionals in golf course management and related fields.

Winners receive monetary stipends ranging from \$1,500 to \$3,500 depending on the recommendation of an independent student financial aid service. The scholars also receive an expense-paid trip to the GCSAA Conference and Show to accept the award.

In the nearly 40-year history of the program, GCSAA's Scholarship and Research Foundation has presented more than 1,000 scholarships to outstanding students considering careers in the profession. In 1994, the foundation will distribute nearly \$100,000 in student financial aid through its various programs.

GCSAA announces next phase of health research program

GCSAA News Release

The GCSAA today announced plans to implement the second phase of the association's planned in-depth study of occupational health issues. GCSAA will launch a new series of health research projects and expand its commitment to chemical applicator education.

The new series will advance a preliminary statistical study conducted by an independent research team from the University of Iowa (UI) College of Medicine. The results of the study, which was commissioned by GCSAA Scholarship & Research, were announced February 6 at the association's annual conference in Dallas.

The study was a statistical analysis of death certificates among 618 former GCSAA members who died between 1970 and 1992. The Iowa researchers found that the group had a higher rate of mortality from lung cancer than the general population. They also found higher than average mortality for a number of other cancers, including brain, large intestine, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and prostate cancers.

The University of Iowa research team was led by Dr. Burton Kross, UI associate professor of preventive medicine and environmental health. Kross is associate director of the UI's Institute of Agricultural Medicine and Occupational Health.

"From a public and occupational health perspective, the excess number of lung cancer deaths is a primary concern," Kross said. Lung and other head and neck cancers have long been strongly associated with cigarette and cigar smoking, but Kross strongly cautioned that no cause-and-effect relationship to any illness can be determined by this statistical analysis. According to researchers, a statistical study cannot be interpreted to link any particular factor to cause of death.

Stephen F. Mona, GCSAA executive director/CEO, said, "GCSAA initiated and financed this study because we needed to establish a baseline for future research. We now have that baseline and can better identify what merits further investigation."

"GCSAA's mission in funding this independent mortality study was to begin the first phase of an overall look at occupational health and safety issues that affect our members," Mona continued. "This is a long-term commitment to ensuring that superintendents work in a safe and healthy environment."

The next phase of the overall effort could include helping association members stop smoking, expanding GCSAA's current education and training programs, and completing a statistical mortality ratio study to put UI's preliminary data into context.

"We also think this gives us an opportunity to forge new partnerships with various groups that can help us accomplish our mission," Mona said. "For example, the chemical manufacturers have made great strides in packaging and formulation over the past decade. This is one more reason to work closely with them in their efforts to develop new technology in products and packaging. Another example could be working with a non-profit organization like the American Cancer Society on the smoking issue. This also gives GCSAA the opportunity to continue to strongly encourage and support the Environmental Protection Agency."

GCSAA Mortality Study Key Points

1. The study results are preliminary. The study has yet to go through the scientific community peer review process and be formally published before the results are "final".
2. The study is *only* a statistical analysis of mortality. It does not address what caused the deaths. *No cause and effect can or should be drawn from the study.*
3. The scientists said specifically that golfers are not at risk. The study also does not address or conclude any possible relationship to wildlife.
4. GCSAA initiated and financed this study because the association has an obligation to its members to help ensure their health and safety. GCSAA and the University of Iowa together released this information to the public and the media.
5. Once the results are final, GCSAA will have a baseline to decide what merits further investigation.
6. This is only the first phase of a long-term commitment by GCSAA to study overall occupational safety and health for its members.
7. GCSAA will work closely with the golf industry, health organizations and the EPA throughout the process.

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