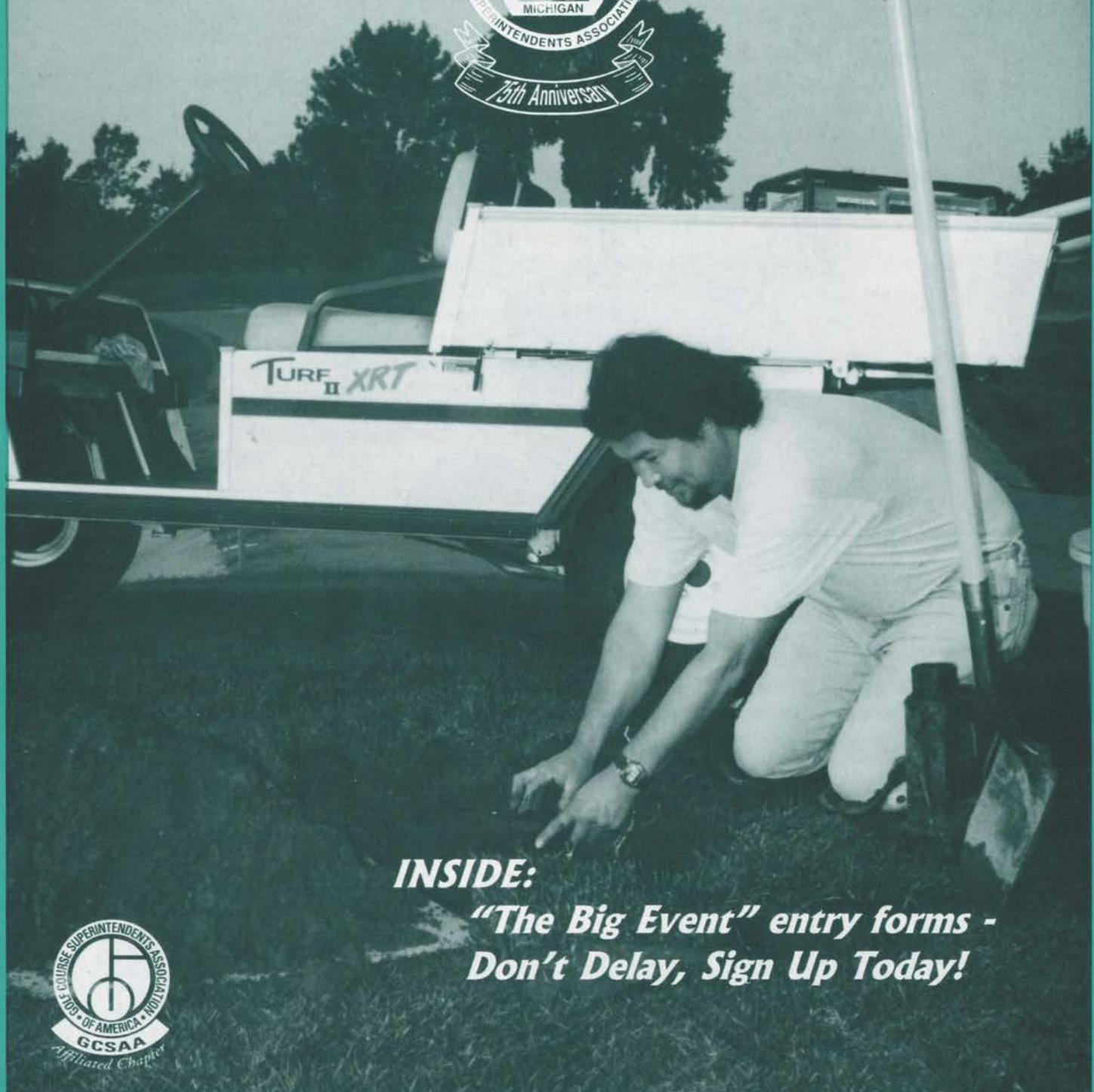


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The Official Publication of the Greater Detroit  
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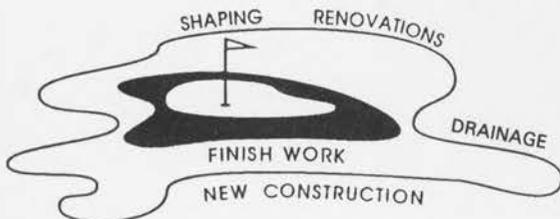
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The GDGCSA makes considerable effort to provide for its membership both valuable educational opportunities and special golfing experiences. Through the years, many private facilities have allowed us the use of their facilities and we have established a very good relationship with them. We continue to be welcomed at these venues because we have demonstrated ourselves to be respectful of their golf properties and their policies. We have worked hard to establish these relationships and we continue to cultivate them. This is one of the reasons for having a dress code policy for our meetings. This policy is the same requirement as that practiced at the host site. When everyone follows these policies of dress and practices golf etiquette we are demonstrating to our peers and non-members alike that we care about their facility and appreciate the opportunity to enjoy it. This is a tremendous opportunity to demonstrate that we are truly an organization of professional people.

Occasionally we may have a meeting, that for one reason or another, will be limited to members of our association only. This is exactly what it means. There will be no guests allowed at these particular meetings. These guidelines are in effect for the entire membership, regardless of class. When someone shows up with a non-member guest at one of these meetings they are putting the host, as well as our organization, in an uncomfortable situation. Please take the time to review the meeting notice before you register. It will contain all the pertinent information regarding the dress and guest policies for that particular meeting or event. Help us to maintain these valuable relationships with the host clubs by honoring all proposed guidelines.

At some meetings we may require a coat and tie and you may have asked yourself why should we bother? In the early years of our association a coat and tie were required for all meetings. At that time most meetings were held in the evening, and usually with a dinner. Back then it was common and proper to say the least that all gentlemen would naturally wear a coat and tie for all business functions, as well as any dinner occasion. Tune in to the A&E channel some time and watch a few of the old classics and you will see what I mean. Some of these classics show the game of golf being played in the proper attire of the day that included a necktie. In other movies you may see that even the men out of work are shown with a coat and tie. That is simply the way society dictated the way to dress at the time and any self-respecting gentleman would clothe himself accordingly. That was then and this is now. We all would have to agree that a lot has changed in today's society. The way we dress, the way we speak the values and the mores of our society have all changed. Some for the better and others for the worse, I would say. Regardless of the reasons, it has changed and we recognize this but the coat and tie still stand as the benchmark for business attire and for formal dining. When we request a coat and tie, it's usually for a dinner meeting or a business meeting. These types of meetings are usually held in the evening. I believe that we do ourselves and our association proud when we dress a bit more formal. It automatically makes a statement for us and about us and I also think that it sets the tone for the meeting. Wearing a coat and tie does not automatically make one a better superintendent, but it can send a message, a message of professionalism.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roy A. Szyndlar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "S".

Roy A. Szyndlar

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# Keep On Sweepin' - Clean Sweep System Is Ready For You -

by Gregory T. Lyman  
Turfgrass Environmental Education Specialist  
Michigan State University

Clean Sweep - a safe, easy...and cheap way to dispose of unwanted pesticides. Have you got that jug of "stuff" in the back corner of the pesticide storage vault that was left there some years ago or some goodies that mistakenly froze and you don't want to gamble that it will perform its job when the pressure is on? Well, if you ask those questions in a crowded room, rarely do you get anyone to jump out of their seat to declare that they have a whopper of a pesticide mess at their shop. Yet having a few oddball pesticide products hanging around a golf course, or any grounds maintenance operation, is not uncommon. There seems to be a variety of ways in which pesticide products can accumulate. Changes in the scope of the business operation, label changes and new products emerging on the market are a few ways that pesticide products can become unwanted, fall out of favor and get pushed to the back of the storage room. Another common situation is where a superintendent takes a new job, and during the first few weeks discovers a gaggle of materials that just don't fit with their maintenance scheme. Regardless of how the products accumulate, we have a system to dispose of these products ... at no cost.

## Clean Sweep Program

First, let's tip our hat to the Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program at the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA). The MDA has been aggressively building a mechanism to move old, unusable or unwanted pesticides off your storage shelves and into the hands of disposal professionals. They continue to establish and maintain permanent Clean Sweep disposal sites. The current sites and contacts are listed below.

In general, green industry operations don't have large quantities of unusable or unwanted pesticide products hanging around in storage sheds. More commonly, small amounts of a few products accumulate over time. If you do have a drum or a pallet of stuff, you can make arrangements with your local site for the best approach.

## The System

Let's cover the ground rules. Again, there is no cost for those operations that are considered end users of the products. These include ground maintenance, golf courses, athletic fields, municipalities, and homeowners. Those who are in the business of selling pesticide application services will be charged a nominal cost; around \$1.00 dollar per pound, which is a fraction of the cost if you tried to arrange this yourself. This includes unknown pesticide products - those packages that have no label. If you have containers that are old and oozing, put them in clear plastic bags until dropoff day. To take advantage of this system, simply contact the site that is closest to your operation, let them know what you have, follow their packing and transport directions, make arrangements to drop them off at the site, and then drive away with a smile, knowing that you have helped your company, the environment and the industry.

I realize that this is a busy part of the season, making it difficult to find time to complete these types of tasks. Yet this is an incredible tool that can make a difference in the health of your operation. Don't let it pass...



# Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal Sites

- 1 **John Gruchot**  
Berrien County Dept. of Planning  
Administration Center  
701 Main Street  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
work (616) 983-7111  
fax (616) 982-8611
- 2 **Darwin Baas**  
County of Ottawa Health Department  
Environmental Health Division  
12251 James Street, Suite 200  
Holland, MI 49424-9675  
work (616) 393-5638  
fax (616) 393-5643  
email dbaaseco.ottawa.mi.us
- 3 **Don Pyle**  
Delta Soil Waste Management  
Authority  
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- 4 **Anna Collinson**  
Grand Traverse County  
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Traverse City, MI 49684  
work (231) 922-6890  
fax (231) 922-4427
- 5 **Michelle Stemler**  
Ionia County Resource Recovery  
100 Library  
Ionia, MI 48846  
work (616) 527-5357  
fax (616) 527-5312
- 6 **Dawn George**  
Isabella County Recycling Program  
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Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
work (517) 773-9631  
fax (517) 773-0835  
email dgeorge@voyager.net
- 7 **Tom Dewhirst**  
Kalamazoo County Human Service  
1301 Lamont Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
work (616) 383-8741  
fax (616) 383-8747
- 8 **Sara Lesky**  
Lapeer County Environmental Department  
255 Clay Street  
Lapeer, MI 48446  
work (810) 667-0452  
fax (810) 667-0369  
email slesky@hotmail.com
- 9 **Elwin Coll / Steve Lichota**  
Macomb County Health Department  
43525 Elizabeth  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043  
work (810) 469-5235  
fax (810) 469-5885
- 10 **Rick Aho**  
Marquette County Solid Waste  
600 County Road NP  
Marquette, MI 49855  
work (906) 249-4108  
fax (906) 249-9377
- 11 **Ned Birkey / Maureen Pfund**  
Monroe County MSU Extension  
963 South Raisinville Road  
Monroe, MI 48161  
work (734) 240-3170 - Ned  
fax (734) 240-3183 - Ned  
work (734) 240-7677 - Maureen  
fax (734) 240-7683 - Maureen  
email pfund@monroe.mi.org
- 12 **Thomas Waffin / Mike Czuprenski**  
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# A NEW CHAMPION HAS BEEN CROWNED

*by Robert King*

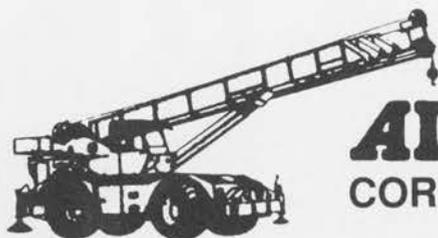
Our annual GDGCSA golf championship crowned a new champion. Chemung Hills C.C. Assistant Superintendent Jim Higgs shot a 76 to win by two strokes over his nearest competitor. Jim is a scratch golfer who may need to consider working in the clubhouse. Many golfers struggled with a challenging course layout and wind gusts topping 40 mph, but this did not affect Jim's game. We congratulate Jim Higgs and all of the other winners listed below:

Championship Flight low net - Terry Poley (score of 80 - 10 = 70)  
Flight A 11 - 20 Hdcp. - George Raske (score of 86 - 14 = 72)  
Flight B 21 - 30 Hdcp. - Dave Jones (score of 102 - 21 = 81)  
Vendor flight - Perry Stevens (score of 78 - 123 = 66)  
Closest to Pin - Ron Adams

Dr. Kevin Frank gave a 30 minute presentation on the current fertilization programs being utilized by many superintendents. He and his staff are doing research into the effects of lower nitrogen amounts being applied by spoon feeding. His research results will be presented at the MSU Turfgrass Field Day on August 23, 2000.

A special thanks to the clubhouse staff, Dave Graulau, the kitchen staff, and Superintendent Dave Jones and his crew for a warm welcome, an immaculate golf course and a great day of golf.

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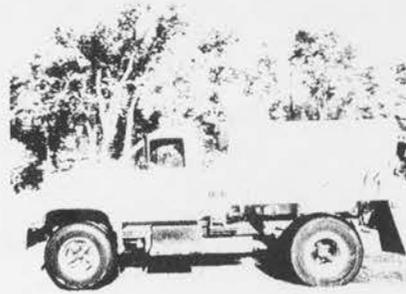
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**Editor's Note:** One of the requests made during the Chapter Newsletter Editors Session in New Orleans was for articles about the Professional Development Initiative (PDI). Hannes Combest, CGSAA's Director of Education, is writing four articles about the PDI. This is the second of four articles that will be published in *POG*.

## Competency-Based Education: What Is It And How Will It Help Me?

by Hannes Combest

The objective of all association continuing education is to advance the knowledge, skills and abilities of the members. GCSAA is, therefore, developing a state-of-the-art curriculum that provides the golf course superintendent the tools needed to meet the challenges they face in managing the golf course, their staffs and their budget. The result of enhancing our education program will be the elevation of the professional qualifications of our members: the golf course superintendent.

In the last two years, the Membership Standards Resource Group has been developing the Professional Development Initiative (PDI). The PDI is based on the belief that for golfers and employers to truly value superintendents, we must develop a mechanism to recognize their accomplishments and to enhance their knowledge. The MSRSG believes this can be accomplished through an integrated, competency-based curriculum. Furthermore, research indicates that we must be able to measure the impact of this education and its effects on the playing conditions of the golf course. We need to give employers language they can understand, a bottom-line financial impact or as they refer to it "a return on their investment."

In order to develop the needed curriculum, we must identify what the employers of golf course superintendents need, want and value from the golf course superintendent. Then, we detail the knowledge, skills, and attributes required of superintendents to satisfy these needs. Education provides the means for superintendents to fill any gaps between those competencies that superintendents have and what they need.

Using a competency model will document this process. The model consists of three major components: competencies, levels of proficiency and performance statements. The competency categories, which reflect a superintendent's skills and knowledge, are organized into appropriate clusters. Each competency category is then sub-divided into proficiency levels that range from a Level 1 (a novice) to Level 5 (an expert). Within each proficiency level are performance statements describing the observable behaviors of superintendents performing at that level of proficiency. The following is an illustration:

<b>Resource Utilization: Rules of Golf</b>				
<b>Task: Manage the Course to Accommodate the Rules of Golf</b>				
<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 4</b>	<b>Level 5</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access key rules information (USGA <i>Rules of Golf</i> and local rules)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an understanding of how rules affect golf course setup</li> <li>• Play golf</li> <li>• Demonstrate basic knowledge of golfing rules and etiquette</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remain current on updates made to USGA <i>Rules of Golf</i> and local rules</li> <li>• Set up course for both regular and tournament play to conform to the Rules of Golf</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct staff training on rules and course set up as it relates to the rules</li> <li>• Play the course regularly to determine how course operation and set up affect play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain the experience and training to administer rules at a state or higher level event</li> </ul>

The competencies will be managed through a unique, internet-based program called the HR Web (more information on this program will be available in future newsletters). Although currently under development, members can view this tool by logging onto the Members' Only section of [www.gcsaa.org](http://www.gcsaa.org).

So how will the competency model impact education for superintendents? As you may imagine, superintendents traditionally have focused their continuing education on the agronomic skills or golf course management. However, our research indicates that superintendents' professional demands are changing. The superintendents' job requirements have increased the need for competencies in management skills, leadership and communication. This doesn't diminish the necessity for good scientific education, but it does require a superintendent to "broaden" their expertise into various areas.

The current proposal recommended by the MSRSG requires Class A members and certified members to maintain some level of ongoing continuing education. These levels have yet to be defined. Many members have expressed frustration with this requirement because they do not believe they will have access to enough educational opportunities.

Currently members can obtain "recognized" education on various topics through GCSAA seminars, self-study programs and through limited external vendors. However, in the future, local education venues (chapters, industry, and extension avenues) will play an important part in meeting requirements for continuing education (either for classification or certification, dependent upon the final outcome determined by members). Furthermore, the Education Department at GCSAA is planning to pilot several programs next year that provide members education through various alternative methods. Some of these could include: videoconferencing, online education, additional self-study programs and an experiential learning program called Action Learning. This form of education provides superintendents the ability to document on-the-job learning experiences and submit them for credit. A template to facilitate this process is in development.

The Education Department is currently completing a curriculum map of the existing programs. This involves comparing the content of educational opportunities (like seminars and courses) against the competencies that superintendents need to be successful. Performing a gap analysis tells us whether our current programs match the competencies completely, somewhat or not at all. Due to the diverse nature of our members' jobs, we will not be able to offer all the education our members need. Therefore we will rely on our members to tell us what they want GCSAA to develop and what should be provided via external sources.

At GCSAA, we are challenging our existing ways of providing services to members. We are investigating new ways to turn information and research into education. The goal is not to make life more difficult for members, but to create meaningful learning experiences that will enhance a superintendent's ability to be successful on the job.

In October of 1999, the Education Committee adopted a new vision and mission for this program that contained several guiding principles. We will use this as our guide for developing programs for the future:

*GCSAA Education will be the main contributor to the professionalism and competency of golf course management and will be consistent with the best practice standards for state of the art content, delivery and instruction. This will be accomplished by designing learning opportunities that are:*

- *Interactive*
- *Accessible*
- *Learner centered*
- *Available with multiple delivery systems*
- *Competency based*
- *Global in scope*
- *Culturally responsive*

*This results in instruction that is practically transferred to the workplace and provides optimal value to all stakeholders.*

All of the questions have not yet been answered, but it is clear that the education program currently available to members will be of higher quality, more diverse and available to more members in the future.



# PDI - BUT NOT THIS PDI

by Tom Mason, Assistant Delegate

I am amazed at the number of people who simply assumed that I am an advocate of GCSAA's current Professional Development Initiative. While I am for higher standards and making the profession better, this proposal for changing member classification and for what is expected of a class A member is simply wrong.

## What is PDI?

To me, PDI is three different things. First, there is to be a standard for becoming and maintaining Class A status. Secondly, there has to be some by-law change to accommodate those who comply and those who don't comply. Thirdly, an enhancement of our education programs to accommodate what is expected.

## The Education

The effort to improve our education program is really an effort for the staff to understand exactly what a golf course superintendent does now and needs to be able to do in the future to remain an asset to his/her employer. The HR Web seems to be a very effective tool in quantifying the skills needed by a golf course superintendent. Thus, all money spent for instruction, career planning, reference materials, guidance counseling should be on target. To me, this is not a PDI issue. It is an ongoing education improvement and should not even be an issue for consideration.

## The Standards

To me, members of GCSAA who are Class A should be working as professional golf course superintendents. They should be actively trying to enhance the image of our profession. They should be working to contribute to the future of our profession. They should be working to enhance their value to their employer. They should not be penalized because of the amount of education they have or don't have. They should not be told by GCSAA that they need to take a seminar or a class. The survival and efficacy of their job should be up to them.

## The Committee

I have known many or most of the MSRSG for many years. There is no reason for anyone to accuse this group of anything other than trying to advance the profession for all of GCSAA's members. They are truly dedicated and very capable of keeping their personal motivations out of the way of the finished product. I believe that the product is, as Stephen Covey puts it, "They climbed the ladder of

success only to find that the ladder was leaning against the wrong wall."

## What's Wrong #1

One of the fundamental cornerstones of Stephen Covey's "Seven Habits for Highly Effective People", is what he describes as an "Abundance Mentality." Simply put, "Abundance Mentality" means that one believes that there is enough credit, reward, success out there for everyone. If one works hard and smart, and works to make everyone else better, then they will be successful. PDI is an example of the antithesis of "Abundance Mentality." One that believes that there is only so much credit, reward, success out there and one should try to get as much of it as possible. Or, one believes that in order to be successful, then it has to come at someone else's expense.

I believe that golf course superintendents are in the service business. Superintendents need other people to be successful, so they have to be team players. Superintendents need other superintendents to be successful, so our profession is elevated. So the very nature of our business is to be rooting for others to be successful.

## What's Wrong #2

I have been going to Chapter meetings, Conventions and GCSAA Committee meetings for many years. A prevalent topic for discussion among other people is the lack of success associated with GCSAA's Certification Program. There is a general consensus that there are many certified superintendents who are not even very good, let alone are our best and brightest. There is a general consensus that employers are not recognizing certification and thus not rewarding certified superintendents. I agree, but since I am not certified one would think that I'm biased, so I don't respond unless asked. GCSAA continues to pretend that this is not a problem and therefore is not addressed in PDI.

## What's Wrong #3

GCSAA has done a very good job in many areas of supporting the career of the golf course superintendent. They have done a fair job of marketing to the outside world as to the plight of the golf course superintendent. Unfortunately, they have done a dismal job of marketing to their own membership. GCSAA has not taken its

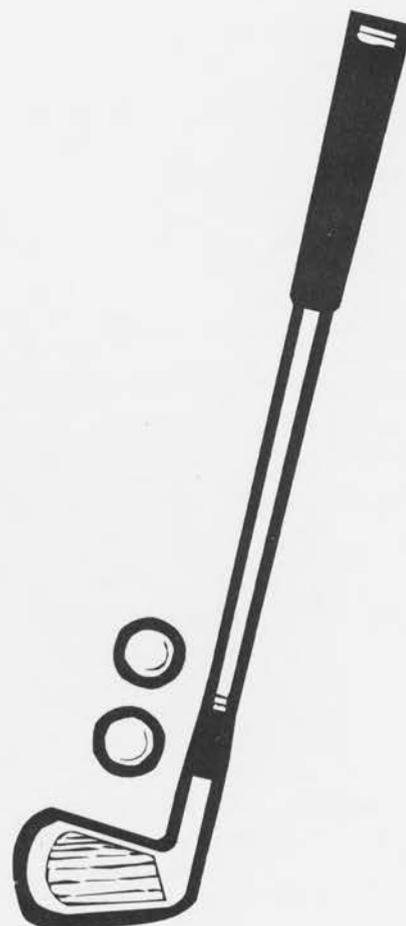
## PDI - But Not This PDI

message to the membership. They are seemingly waiting for their message to dawn upon the members. Good luck!

Members are too busy to read magazines and newsletters in a timely manner. So many or most opinions are made through the negative or sensational aspects of communication.

As the voting delegate for the Greater Detroit chapter for many years, I have tried to remain silent about my perceptions of this PDI. Hopefully, most members will make up their own mind about either supporting PDI or not supporting PDI. In the fall of 2000 you will be asked to give guidance to your voting delegate, as to your vote (I will remain as Assistant Delegate). Your vote will be cast exactly as you wish.

GCSAA is made up of members who come from a very diverse variety of golf course situations. Every year that goes by creates more different situations. We can never legislate our way to our mission. We have to explain our mission. Members have to buy into our mission. We have to create incentives for working toward our mission. We need members to appreciate that there is a mission.



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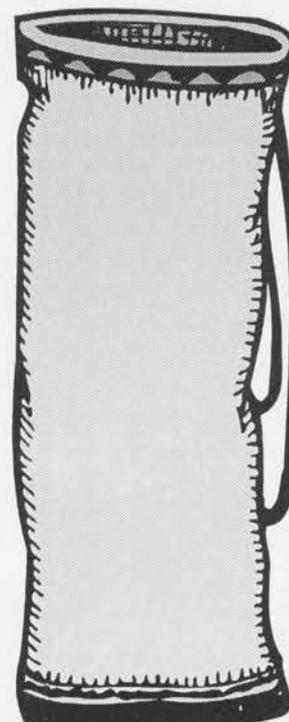
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Dear Voting Members:

In September 2000, the GCSAA will be hosting its annual Chapter Delegates Meeting. The main focus of the meeting this year will be to update the delegates on the Professional Development Initiative (PDI). Our chapter representative will listen to a proposal and recommendations from the Membership Standards Resource Group regarding PDI.

Our Chapter Delegate, Paul Dushane, will be attending the meeting in an effort to be "eyes and ears" for all the voting members of the GDGCSA. His participation in the meeting, discussions and events will allow our chapter members' voices to be heard, and will allow GCSAA committees and the Board of Directors to make recommendations and decisions on issues affecting each GCSAA member. Paul will function as a liaison to express your viewpoints and ideas during the discussions and then report back to us with a summary of the meeting outcomes.

In an effort to assist our delegate, as well as the Board of Directors, we are initiating an informal poll, attempting to see where the chapter membership stands today on PDI. The importance of this matter CANNOT BE OVER EMPHASIZED. Your voice, through your vote, MUST be heard. Please understand that this is an INFORMAL POLL. Its only purpose is to assist our representative in voicing our chapters' feelings to the GCSAA during the Delegates Meeting in September.

After you have had opportunity to review the final PDI proposal, you will again be contacted.

PDI POLL QUESTION:

From what you understand to date of the GCSAA Professional Development Initiative (PDI) how would you vote today?

YES            NO            (Please circle one)

NAME:

COMMENTS:

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# MTF/MSU RESEARCH UPDATES

## 2000 Turfgrass Research Plans and Update

*Dr. John N. Rogers, III and John C. Sorochan*

The 2000 growing season will be busy for the Rogers Research group. Below is a bulleted list of highlights.

- **Modular Green** - in November 1999 a modular green was constructed using ITM modules. This green is maturing and plans are to install blowers and heaters for air flow under modules. This will be an August 1999 Field Day Stop.
- **Athletic Field Systems** - a 12 treatment study is under construction to compare the most popular athletic field systems. The drainage and pea stone is being done (donated) by Turf Drain, Inc and Tri Turf Soils. We plan completion of construction by June and this will be a Field Day stop in August.
- **Low Input Athletic Field** - A study to evaluate mowing, fertility and cultivation of athletic fields was initiated in November 1999. The objective is to provide quantitative data for Budget directors regarding allocation of resources. This will be a Field Day stop in 1999.
- **Alternative Spike Studies** - We will cooperate with Frank group in 2000 to further evaluate new alternative golf spikes. Traction and wear studies are planned for June, 2000.

We appreciate the support of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation and hope to see everyone in August, if not before.

## Entomology Update

*By Dr. David Smitley,  
Department of Entomology, Michigan State University*

This year, graduate students Young-Ki Jo and Breanna Simmons will complete experiments at Groesbeck Golf Course and the Hancock Center that support the following model that we have developed from our research over the last five years:

*Turf mowed at rough height is much larger above ground (50 mm vs. 12 mm) and below ground than turf in the fairway. The enlarged structure of turf in the rough compared with the fairway supports a greater abundance and diversity of small arthropods that consequently support more predatory insects. The abundance of predators (spiders, rove beetles, ground beetles and ants) that feed on small arthropods (mites and springtails) in the rough keep *Ataenius*, *Aphodius* and other turf insect pests under control, while the relative scarcity of predators in the fairway allows turf pests to escape with little effect from predation.*

At this time Dr. Bughrara and I are submitting a proposal to the USGA to evaluate new types of fairway turf for the size of their root system and the insect community they support. In this way we hope to identify fairway turf types that are more resistant to insect pests.

Matching money from the Michigan Turf Foundation helped me to secure a \$40,000/year grant from project GREEN for biological control of Japanese beetle in Michigan. We will continue our work this year at ten locations: Cracklewood, Pine Valley, Rochester Hills, Pine Lake, Eastern Hills, Kalamazoo Country Club, Medalist, Willow, Bloomfield Hills Country Club, and Orchard Lake. At five of these locations we have started introducing two pathogens and two parasites that are active in the eastern United States and absent from Michigan. We will continue sampling over the next two years to see if they become established and impact local populations of Japanese beetle.

In 2000 we will continue evaluating insecticides for control of European chafer and Japanese beetle in the rough at the Country Club of Jackson. Mach 2 and Merit both worked well for Japanese beetle and European chafer in 1999 when they were applied in early July, but both products failed when they were applied on August 8. Some new products will be tested this year.

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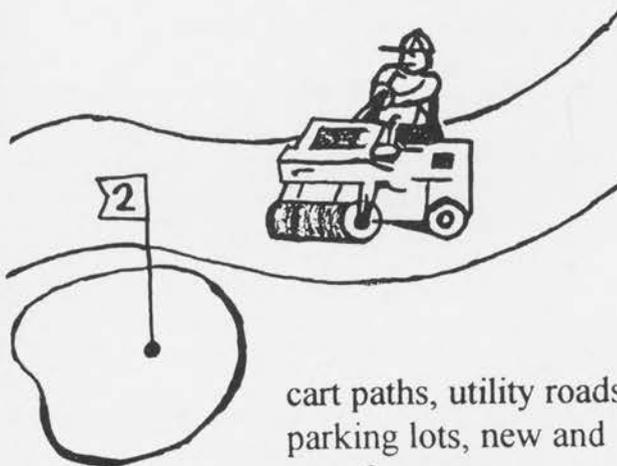
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# MTF/MSU RESEARCH UPDATES

## Plant Breeding Research Update

By Dr. Suleiman Bughrara

Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, Michigan State University

I would like to thank Michigan Turfgrass Foundation and the industry in the State of Michigan for their warm welcome to my family and me and their support of my new turfgrass breeding project. My daughter Argza and my sons Al Salheim, Safentlum, and Moneb are enjoying their education at East Lansing Public Schools. The resources of Michigan State University and industries support always present exciting opportunities for my personal and professional growth.

I completed my Ph.D. in genetics and grass breeding in the Department of Agronomy at the University of Missouri in August 1991. Five years ago, I began developing a highly visible and active turfgrass breeding program at the Agronomy Research Center at the University of Missouri-Columbia. The funding sources of this program were mainly seed industries, particularly Seed Research, Inc., the United States Golf Association, the Missouri Highway Department, and the National Turf Evaluation Program.

I received a patent number 10,576 for release and license of the first buffalograss cultivar "MoBuff". It was University of Missouri's only plant patent for release of this cultivar.

My new turfgrass breeding project at Michigan State University will have the following objectives:

1. Collect and establish a germplasm collection of grasses that represents the genetic diversity of the State of Michigan including old golf courses, historical sites, cemeteries, etc.
2. To develop breeding methodologies to improve disease resistances  
Snow mold  
Dollar spot  
Brown patch and shade tolerance in bentgrass
3. To investigate genetic diversity among and within bentgrass cultivars based on AFLP data
4. To develop breeding methodology to improve disease resistance (brown patch) in tall fescue and perennial ryegrass
5. Introgression *Festuca mairei* genome into *Lolium perenne*
6. Testing bluegrass for seed yield production at Michigan State
7. Develop breeding methodology to improve traffic tolerance in Supina bluegrass and salt tolerance in bluegrass
8. Graduate education
9. Addressing new concerns raised by members of the turfgrass industry

Helping me with the research will be Mr. Frank Roggenbuck, a research technician with Michigan State University for over 20 years. Mrs. Gina Vergarn, Ph.D. student supported by PBGG; Mrs. Jianping Wang, Ph.D. student supported by MTF; and a postdoctoral student to be supported by GREEN project will be joining my research team in Fall 2000.

Their research will focus on biotechnology in turfgrass to develop disease resistance. The techniques are:

1. Quantitative trait loci (QTL)  
Tagging the resistance gene with linked DNA markers and the gene as a label and cloning into yeast artificial chromosomes and transfer to the grasses.
2. Differential gene expression  
It is a powerful approach often used to identify and isolate genes in a particular response.
3. Expression Sequence Tags (ESTs)  
By eliminating the clones from the library which will develop from collection of grass that are not involved with stress-induced response such as diseases.

# MTF/MSU RESEARCH UPDATES

## Kevin W. Frank - Summer 2000 Update

My primary research emphasis this summer is to lead the research effort on the sloping green project. I, along with Dr. Crum, Thom Nikolai and several others from the turf group will investigate water retention and movement in an undulating USGA putting green through various drying and wetting cycles. The green presently has 120 TDR probes in place to measure volumetric water content and we are in the process of installing 60 rain tipping buckets that will enable us to quantify the amount of water draining through the green. Other research areas under investigation include a study with Dave Gilstrap analyzing the interaction of irrigation timing, turfgrass species, and nitrogen rate on turfgrass quality. This research should provide data to support irrigation and fertility recommendations for different turfgrass species. Another study will investigate the effects of spoon-feeding programs on putting green quality and the influence of this practice on green speed.

On the extension side I will be working with the turf team on developing an extension web page to provide information applicable to the homeowner and professional turf manager. I hope to get this site up and running as soon as possible and work to develop fact sheets on important turf topics throughout the coming years. This summer I am planning on attending as many of the regional turfgrass association meetings as possible. I have not finalized the dates of all of the meetings I will attend, but I look forward to meeting many of you this summer. Throughout the coming year I will be working with the conference planning committee to organize the 2001 Michigan Turfgrass Conference. At this time we have received commitments from several speakers and I am excited to see the program developing.

## Stewardship Program Update

*By Gregory T. Lyman*

The Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program completed the winter workshop series and through this effort has welcomed many new members. At the end of 1999 a survey was conducted of the program membership to describe the accomplishments and impacts of the project. At this time a small number (approximately 20%) of the surveys have been returned and the information has been summarized. The conclusions from the 20% of members reporting is impressive. Their efforts have resulted in 56 wellheads with improved protection, protective changes to 28 fuel storage tanks, 14 new pesticide storage facilities, 5 new fertilizer storage facilities, 11 new pesticide mixing and loading pads, 78 acres have been converted from high maintenance areas to low maintenance, 6 acres of new buffer strips representing 32,558 lineal feet adjacent to surface water, 132 new acres of designated sensitive areas, 10 acres of new wetlands, and 6 acres of wetland improvements. Congratulations to 811 who have upgraded the level of protection on their properties. We consider all program members to be leaders in the golf and environment movement.

## Michigan State Turfgrass Pathology Summer Research

*J. M. Vargas Jr., Ron Detweiler, Nancy Dykema, Brandon Horvath, Phill Peters, and Phil Dwyer*

We are looking forward to a very exciting season. Our research projects include monitoring the development of dollar spot epidemics to eventually be able to predict the outbreak of dollar spot (Horvath). We are also studying the occurrence of Microdochium patch to try to develop a model to predict its occurrence so fungicides can be applied in a more timely manner (Dwyer). We will be testing some new chemistry for the control of annual bluegrass alone and in combination *Xanthomonas campestris* (Peters). We plan to continue our normal testing of registered and experimental fungicides on dollar spot, brown patch, summer patch, take all patch, leaf spot, anthracnose, and Pythium blight so you can have the latest information on disease control (Detweiler & Dykema). In addition, we will be in our second season of testing our dollar spot resistant creeping bentgrasses (Detweiler & Bughrara), and will also continue to look at new products to help relieve summer stress on creeping bentgrass and annual bluegrass turfs (Dykema). We would like to thank you for your continued support of the MTF, without whose support we would not be able to conduct this research.

The MSU Turf Team and the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation are pleased to announce the Summer Field Day 2000. This event will be held on Wednesday, August 23, 2000, at the Hancock Turfgrass Research Center on the campus of Michigan State University.

The event will feature morning tours of the research trials involving golf turf, athletic field/sports turf and commercial turf management. Turfgrass suppliers from throughout the industry will display the latest equipment and supplies during the vendor show. After lunch, the afternoon will conclude with a series of educational classes along with a special athletic field tour.

Plan to bring your whole staff and pass the word to your colleagues. Look for registration brochures to arrive in July. For further information contact Kay Patrick at 517-321-1660.

### **Condolences to those members and their families who lost loved ones**

Richard Heilmann Sr., father to Rich Heilmann, Assistant at Pine View GC.  
Lucille Prieskorn, mother to Jerry Prieskorn at Bald Mountain GC.  
Olga Pawluk, mother to Dave Pawluk, Superintendent of Fore Lakes.

### **Get-Well Wishes to those recuperating from accidents, surgery and illness**

Robin Cook, wife of Steve Cook, Superintendent at Oakland Hills CC, back surgery.  
Jud Hudnut, Superintendent at Bramblewood GC. Accident with mower - injured hand. Doing well.  
Bob Rabideau, retired from Special Touch engraving. Back surgery.  
Joe Sobocan, retired from Windsor Factory Supply. Back to normal after serious arm injury.  
Jim Timmerman, Superintendent from Orchard Lake CC. Fell from ladder, broken bones.

# Happy Holidays and Happy Anniversary

The GDGCSA Board of Directors cordially invites you to our Annual Holiday Party. This year's party will be held at the newly restored GEM Theater on December 2, 2000. Come have dinner with your peers and enjoy the sounds of The Ed Wells Trio Jazz Band. Afterwards, our group will take in some culture as we move to the theater for an entertaining play. An "After Glow" (dessert, coffee, tea and talk) in the dining area will round out the evening. We are looking to make this a memorable evening, but need you and your wife (or significant other) to make it happen.

In addition to celebrating the holidays, we will also be recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Greater Detroit Golf Course Superintendents Association. A special program will be presented on the history of our association during that evening. If you have any historical information you would like to share, please contact Mark McKinley.

Mark your calendars now and look for a formal invitation in late October. Please note that, due to limited dining capacity, the party will be limited to 120 people. For further information, please contact Terry Poley (248- 681-1322) or Rick Murphy (248-363-0144).



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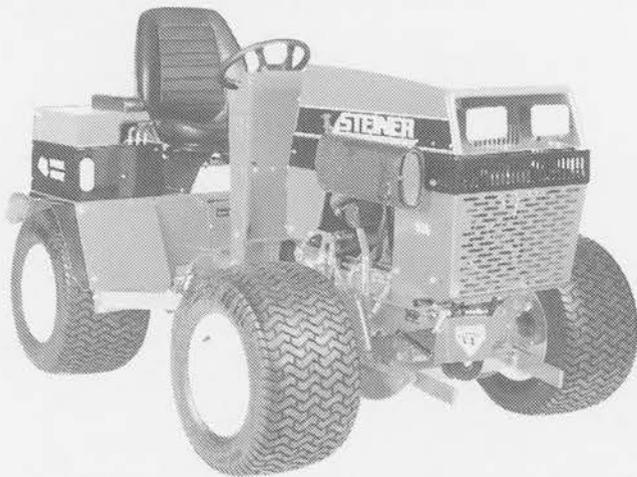
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## Board Meeting, Knollwood Country Club Tuesday, May 23, 2000

### Roll Call:

Present- Abbott, King, McKinley, Murphy, Schall, Szyndlar  
Absent -Dorner, Kolbe, Matthews, Poley

### FINANCE (Murphy)

April Assn. svgs: \$41,480.37

April Assn. chkg: \$1,599.58

April Fdtn. svgs: \$5,144.92

April Fdtn. chkg: \$191.01

### MEMBERSHIP (Dorner)

Total membership - 423; Applications - 5

### SPECIAL OLYMPICS (Schall/King)

Event cancelled due to rain. Rain checks offered. Steak lunch served.  
Final acctg next mtg.

### EDUCATION (Schall/King)

April Mtg - U.S. won CANAM Trophy (Thommes, Mitchelson, McMullen, Frank) June Mtg - June 15 @ Greystone GC; Event- Assn Golf Championship; Speaker - Dr. Kevin Frank  
Sept Mtg - Sept, 20 @ Maple Lane GC; Clarence Wolfrom Classic;  
Topic - GPS Oct. Mtg - Oct. 16 @ Plum Hollow CC; Annual Business Mtg, Election

### GOLF DAY (Abbott/Matthews)

4 sites - Bay Pointe GC, Dearborn CC, Wabeek CC, Walnut Creek CC

### 75 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION (McKinley)

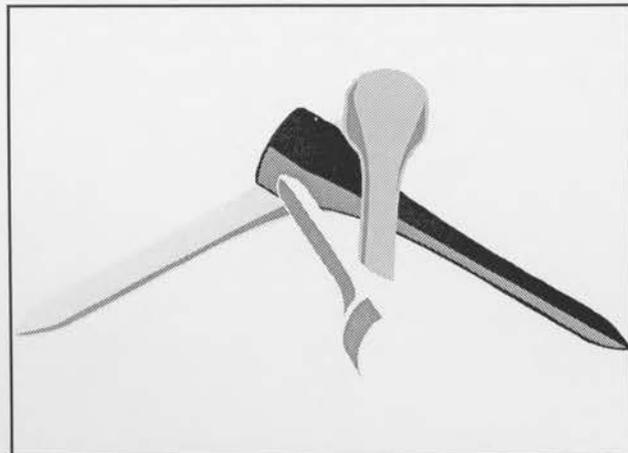
Including with the Holiday Party on Dec. 2 at the GEM Theatre.

### WELFARE (Murphy)

Richard Heilmann Jr's (Asst. at Pine View GC) father passed away. Made donation to Diabetes Foundation.

Lucille Prieskorn (Jerry's mother) passed away. Sent flowers/card.

Robin Cook (Steve Cook's wife) underwent back surgery. Sent card.



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## Board Meeting Knollwood Country Club Tuesday, June 20, 2000

### Roll Call:

Present- Abbott, King, Murphy, Poley, Shreve, Szyndlar  
Absent -Dorner, Kolbe, Matthews, McKinley

### FINANCE (Muphy)

May Assn. svgs: \$43,472.29  
May Assn. chkg: \$5,461.31  
May Fdtn. svgs: \$13,343.91  
May Fdtn. chkg: \$617.98

### MEMBERSHIP (Dorner)

Total membership - 428; Applications - 2

### SPECIAL OLYMPICS (King)

Donated \$2,000 in much-needed items to Flint Group Home and \$10,000 to Michigan Special Olympics.

### PICNIC (Murphy/Poley)

July 18 @ Kensington. Planning on 100 people. Lots of fun and games planned for children and adults.

### EDUCATION (King/Shreve)

June Mtg - Assn. Championship; Attendance - 44; Winner - Jim Higgs

Any member disregarding the meeting restrictions (guest policy and dress code) will receive written reprimand from Board.

### WELFARE (Murphy)

Olga Pawluk (Dave's mother) passed away. Sent flowers/card.



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## Greater Detroit GCSA 2000 Calendar

Aug. 23	MSU	Field Day
Sept. 20	Maple Lane GC	Wolfrom Classic
Oct. 2		"The Big Event"
Oct. 16	Plum Hollow CC	Annual Business Meeting
Nov. 4	Double Tree Novi	GCSAA Regional Seminar
Dec. 2	Gem Theatre	Holiday Party
Dec. 12	Birmingham CC	Supt. Only Roundtable

## Mid-Michigan Turf Association 2000 Calendar

Aug. 21	Flint Elks GC	
Sept. 11	Bay City CC	Fundraiser
Oct.	Site & Date TBA	Annual Meeting

## Western Michigan GCSA 2000 Calendar

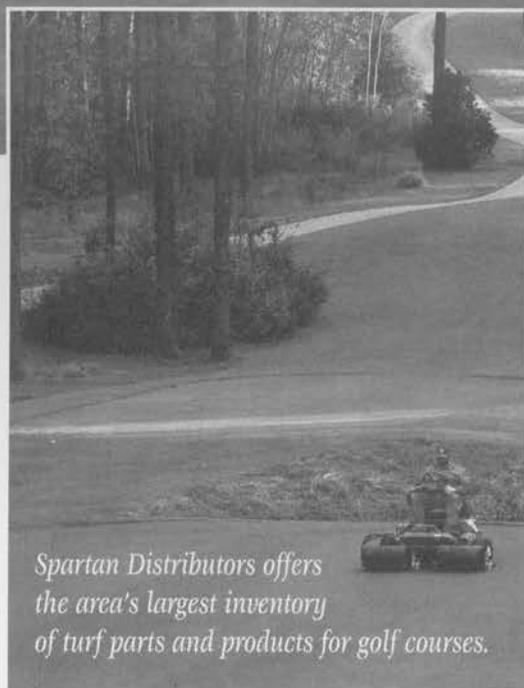
Sept. 18	Egypt Valley CC	Golf Day
Oct. 9	Muskegon CC	Annual Meeting

## Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association 2000 Calendar

Aug. 8	The Loon GC	
Sept. 12	Emerald Vale GC	Fundraiser
Oct. 2	Traverse City GC	Tuck Tate Championship



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