

# CONNECTICUT CLIPPINGS

Volume 35, No. 4

September, 2001

## Indian Hill takes home Invitational Trophy



Congratulations to the team from Indian Hill Country Club, (pictured above) Kevin Bengtson, superintendent, Michael Gallon, Bob Heimgartner, Rob Gai winning the invitational trophy with a fine gross score of 62, 10 under par.

The Hop Meadow Country Club in Simsbury hosted the 2001 CAGCS Invitational Tournament.

Mike Wallace, CGCS, facility manager, and Ken Doyle, PGA professional were wonderful hosts to the 28 teams of CAGCS members. The

weather threatened early, but moved away with no problems for the contestants.

CAGCS is thankful to E-Z-GO (Frank Savakis) for partially sponsoring this year's event and to Dave Basconi, D & S, who offers his services as photographer year

after year.

Also, congratulations to the team from Oakridge Golf Club, (pictured right) Ken Modzelesky, superintendent, Jim Modzelesky, Paul Strychaarz, Frank Gearty, winning the first net prize with a score of 59.

2nd Gross - 64  
*Willimantic CC*  
Kevin Balocca, Joan Lathrop,  
John Ianni, John Cote

3rd Gross - 68  
*Greenwoods CC*  
Scott Walker, Rick Travaglin,  
Pete Sczucka, Dave Dell

2nd Net - 61  
*Old Lyme CC*  
Brian Skelly, Chip Berry, Jr.,  
Stan Ahlers, Dick Warren

3rd Net - 61  
*Watertown Golf Club*  
Paul Bonini, Tony Pelosi,  
Bob Hurlbut, Mike Carney  
Closest to pin #3 Ken Doyle,  
#9, Mike Decker, #12 Mike Carlson,  
#16 Bill Murray





*Brian Skelly*  
CAGCS President

Every once in a while there comes a time when a serious problem needs addressing. That time is now. As of this issue, the CAGCS meeting schedule for next year consists of the annual meeting at Rock Ridge Country Club.

Despite my repeated pleadings and notices from the office, no one has come forward and offered their club. The education chairperson, myself, and the board of directors have repeatedly requested help from our members to no avail.

While I am sure that some of the courses that have repeatedly helped out will do so again, I feel it is time for everyone to step forward. The list of courses hosting meetings will be sent

## President's message

Brian Skelly, President

### Meeting sites are needed NOW for next year's schedule!

out again, and you will see that while some courses have hosted meetings often, others have never hosted or have not hosted one for a very long time.

While we are not the only association with this problem, it does not make it right. Remember, if everyone takes turns, the association comes back only once every 11 years. So, go to your clubs, explain to them the benefits (cart revenue, pro shop revenue, food). Most of you will be surprised at how receptive your clubs are. However, if you, the membership, only want to have one meeting a year or none, then leave everything as it is. Otherwise, step us to the plate and put forth your clubs.

*I have asked my kids to  
clean up their rooms  
fewer times with  
better results.*

Enough said about this topic, it is now up to you, the membership.

Our annual family day was a picnic held at the Madison Surf Club on August 15th and was a great day. The weather could not have been better, the food was tremendous, and the camaraderie was great as usual.

Those of you who could not make it missed a fine day. Thanks to Wayne Urban and his volunteers for a fine job.

We are still looking for people to run for the board. If you are new to the association and interested in running, were on the board before and are thinking about running again, or if you are just realizing that it would be nice to help out the association, we need your help. I have said repeatedly that the board is a great way to see how the association runs and to have a say about what is done for the association. The board takes up some time but not as much as everyone thinks. So, volunteer and maybe you will be surprised at how rewarding serving on the board can be.

Finally, August is over, cooler nights and days are ahead. I am hopeful September will not be as dry as in previous years because my pond is about shot. Now we can take a deep breath, take stock of how our courses came through that horrible heat and humidity, and repair any damage.

Take some time off, enjoy yourselves because the **100 days of hell** are over.

See you at Hunter GC on the 24th.

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*Connecticut Clippings* is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents

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The *Clippings* is open to all commentary. Send your comments to Bob Chalifour, Newsletter Editor, 39 First Street, Groton, CT, 06340.

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E-Mail: [cagcs@noreaster.net](mailto:cagcs@noreaster.net)

## New England Regional Turfgrass Foundation

by Gary Sykes, Executive Director

A recent mailing by the New England Regional Turfgrass Foundation (NERTF) has just been sent out to all New England golf courses. The mailing includes an informative brochure explaining the rich history and the hopes of a bright future for the turfgrass research and education opportunities available in the New England region along with information about the NERTF.

It is hoped that the mailer will attract golf course owners and operators to be a part of securing the future for these valuable programs by making a \$200 or more donation to the *New England Regional Turfgrass Research Trust*.

The Foundation is applying for 501(c)(3) tax deductible status for the research trust from the IRS. Eventually, all private donations will be tax deductible to the NERTF.

All donations will go directly into local turfgrass research projects to benefit most those facilities in New England. This research will also help to support the future of the turfgrass curricula opportunities in New England. These donations would come from those who benefit most from all research, the end user, the golfer!

As this mailer is received and questioned at each facility, we hope all superintendents will help it along and encourage your clubs to make their

donation.

A newsletter will also be produced over the winter to be sent to each facility that contributes to the New England Regional Turfgrass Research Trust. The Board of Directors has high hopes that this will greatly increase the Foundation's ability to fund more research that is greatly needed in the New England golf and turf industry.

A new mission statement has also been approved by the Foundation's Board:

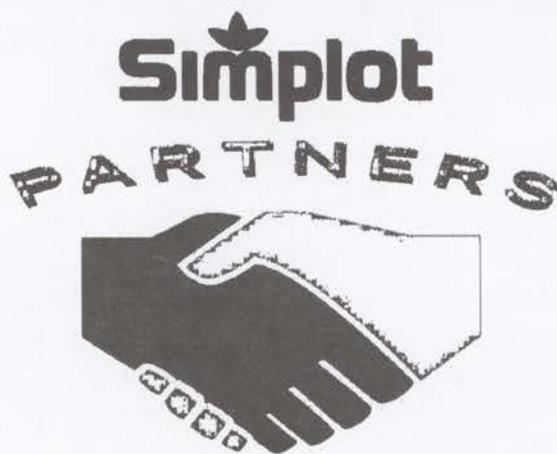
### *Improving Turfgrass Through Research, Education and Environmental Stewardship.*

The Foundation hopes to communicate the focus on these three important aspects of the industry using this mission statement.

For more information, please contact the Foundation's office at 401/841-5490.

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## Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Inland Water Resources

### *Golf Course Compliance Assistance Initiative*

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has recently instituted a Golf Course Compliance Assistance Initiative. The DEP's Inland Water Resources Division has begun outreach efforts to golf course superintendents across the state whose courses have at least 18 holes and whose owners have not registered or obtained permits for their water diversions with the state.

Under this new initiative, the DEP is working with these existing golf courses to help them come into compliance with state water diversion regulations.

The Connecticut Water Diversion

Policy Act, General Statutes sections 22a-368 to 22a-378, regulate water users who divert water in excess of 50,000 gallons per day.

The diversion statutes require any person or municipality which maintained such diversions prior to July 1, 1982, to register the diversion with the DEP by July 1, 1983. The registration exempts the diversions from permitting requirements if you met the July 1, 1983 date. However, if your diversion system has been expanded since July 1, 1983, then you must obtain a permit for the expansion.

A large number of golf course owners/operators filed the registrations for their golf course irrigation operations. However, the majority of golf course owners/operators failed to file for registration and have not subsequently obtained permits.

There are also numerous golf courses which were constructed

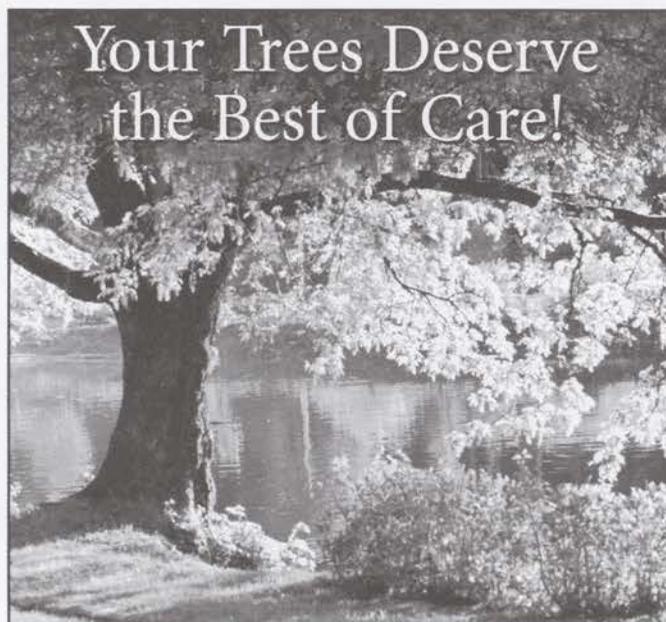
after July 1, 1982 whose owners have not applied for and obtained diversion permits. Some of the owners who have obtained permits have allowed their permits to expire while continuing to maintain the water diversion.

The DEP estimates that there may be approximately 100 golf courses that are diverting waters of the state without authorization.

Through the Golf Course Compliance Assistance Initiative, the Inland Water Resources Division is encouraging voluntary compliance whenever possible by providing incentives to encourage courses to go beyond compliance and to integrate pollution prevention approaches as the preferred method of compliance for golf course design and operation management.

The DEP expects that the Golf Course Compliance Assistance Initiative will be an on-going process over the next few years during which state regulators and golf course water users will create opportunities to work together to conserve water resources in the state. Any questions about the Initiative may be directed to Carla Feroni at 860/424-3390.

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## ***Best management practices for golf course water use***

**Mark your calendar!**

**October 18th**

**Country Club of Farmington**

A primary focus of the DEP's efforts this year has been to develop Best Management Practices (BMPs) for golf course water use. The DEP hopes that the BMPs will help golf courses to comply with water diversion requirements by implementing water conservation practices.

With the help of the Institute of Water Resources at the University of Connecticut and about 20 volunteers from the golf course industry, both superintendents and water use consultants, environmental groups, and DEP staff, a Best Management Practices Advisory Committee is drafting a BMP document that will be presented to state golf course owners and superintendents at a conference co-sponsored by DEP, CSGA, and CAGCS at the Country Club of Farmington on October 18, 2001. You should have already received your information about the conference.

The day-long conference will provide representatives from the golf course industry with information about the state of water resources in Connecticut and how the new water diversion legislation will affect Connecticut golf courses.

Attendees will also hear presentations about hydrology, efficient irrigation and irrigation system audits, the DEP permit process, and how to hire a consultant.

In the afternoon, attendees will be introduced to the Best Management Practices and will be asked to provide the state with comments.

The day will wrap up with a panel discussion by a variety of stakeholders in the water diversion permit process who will speak about their individual experiences, after which a discussion and answer period is planned.

*How will  
the  
new water  
diversion  
legislation  
affect  
your  
golf course?*

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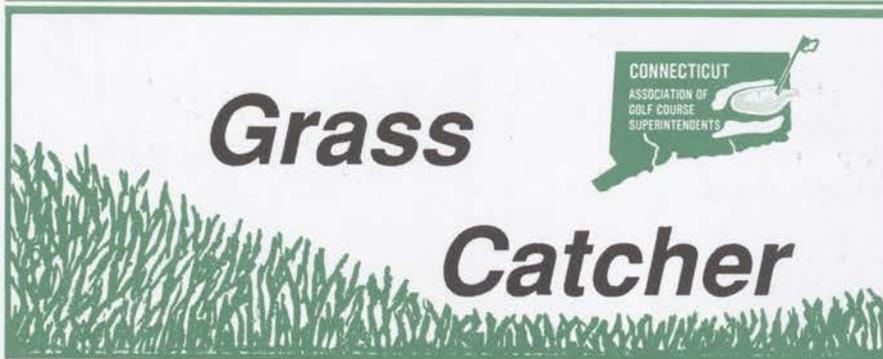
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*The Patterson Club*
- Christopher D'Agostino, Class C  
*The Farms Country Club*
- Buddy Day, Class Commercial  
*D & S*
- Glen Dube - Class A  
*Oak Hills Park Golf Course*
- Stephen Glynn, Class Commercial  
*Steven Willand, Inc.*
- Robert F. Good, Jr., Class Commercial  
*Legette, Brashears & Graham, Inc.*
- Alan Goodwin - Class A  
*Silvermine Golf Club*
- Mark W. Grenert - Class Commercial  
*SBI Connecticut*
- Richard Marcks, CGCS - Class B  
*Fox Hopyard Golf Club*

Mark Osborn - Class Commercial  
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\* \* \* \* \*

**Room Block  
Orlando, FL**

All members interested in obtaining a room in the CAGCS room block for the 2002 Conference & Show in Orlando, FL, are urged to call the office (203/387-0810 or 888/561-7778) to obtain a specially marked housing form.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Deadline** for November/December issue is October 5th.

— **Congratulations** —

**Joe and Helen Bidwell** on celebrating 50 years of marriage this year.

**Chris and Amy Mauro** on the birth of a daughter, *Allessia*.

**Lori Spielman.** Her company, *Lori Spielman Landscaping*, Ellington, CT, was chosen as one of the 10 supersmall companies by *Landscape Management Magazine* (July issue).

It is the largest female-run firm in the state, earning \$5 million for more than 17 years. Spielman has dedicated 50% of her services to wetlands mitigation, while also providing a variety of landscape services in the area. Half of the landscape work is commercial, 30% residential and 20% government. Customers dig the employees' cleanliness, pinstriped trucks and natty uniforms, she notes.

\* \* \* \* \*

**S & R Tournament  
October 1st**

— **Reservation Policy** —

Our annual S & R Tournament is extremely popular and we routinely have a waiting list.

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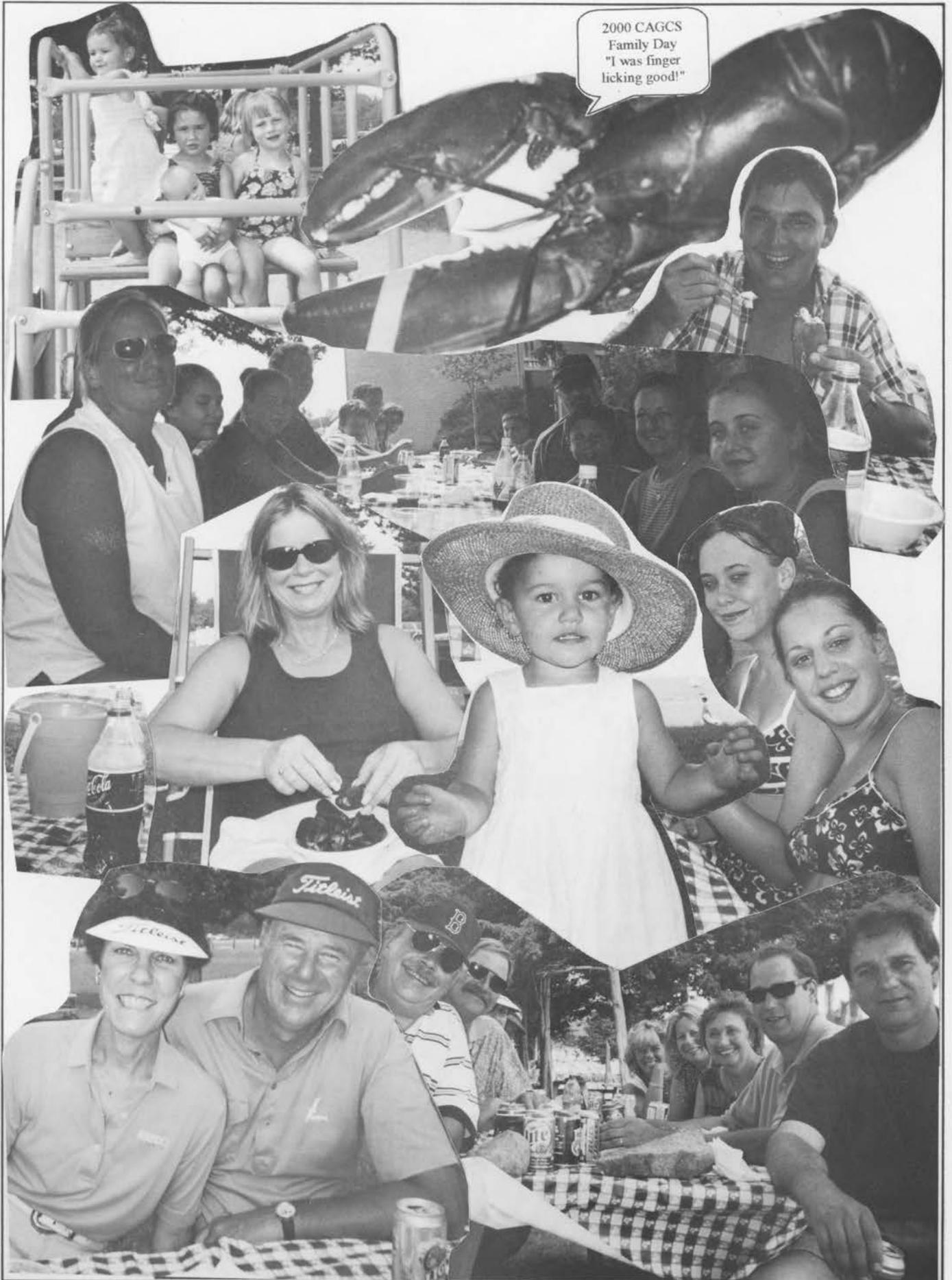
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2000 Invitational  
Watertown Golf Club



2000 CAGCS  
Family Day  
"I was finger  
licking good!"



CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF  
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS, INC.

Yes, I am interested in hosting a CAGCS monthly meeting. Please indicate your preference below, by either indicating the month you wish (April, May, June, July, Aug., Sept. or Oct.) on the blank line or circle the specific event.

2002	2003	Future
_____	_____	_____
2002 Invitational 2002 S & R Annual Meeting	2003 Invitational 2003 S & R Annual Meeting	Invitational S & R Annual Meeting

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

I would like more information about hosting a monthly meeting.

Please contact me. Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_

(Cut along dotted line and return to: CAGCS, P. O. Box 3678, Woodbridge, CT, 06525.)

**Upcoming Events**

**September 24**  
CAGCS Monthly Meeting  
Hunter Golf Club  
Keith Angilly, Host Supt.

**October 1**  
*Scholarship & Research Tournament*  
Torrington Country Club  
Edward Goodhouse, Host Supt.

**October 16th**  
*Superintendent/Assistant Tournament*  
Tower Ridge Country Club  
Scott Ramsay, Host Supt.  
*(Change this date on page 21  
of your CAGCS Directory)*

**October 18th**  
*Water Diversion Conference*  
Country Club of Farmington  
Co-Sponsored by DEP,  
CSGA, and CAGCS

**November 7th**  
*CAGCS Annual Meeting*  
Rock Ridge Country Club  
Robert Welch, Host Supt.

**December 8th**  
*CAGCS Annual Christmas Party*  
Woodbridge Country Club

**January TBA**  
*CAGCS Annual Winter Seminar*

**Golf Results**  
**The Farms Country Club - July 23**  
**Low Net/Low Gross by Flight**

Flight	Net	Gross	Skill Prizes
A	Mike Maconyi - 69 Pat Dawson - 71	Andy Drohen - 74 Mike Dukette - 77	Long Drive Scott Tretera
B	Ward Weischet - 68 Bob Iorio - 70	Dick Cook - 79 John Callahan - 82	Long Putt Mike Decker
C	Shawn Donovan - 71 Jim Costanzo - 74	Paul Sabino - 89 Joe Malay - 91	Closest to Pin Mike McDermott
D	Bob Chalifour - 71 John Napier - 71	Byron Johnson - 97 Scott Gennings - 98	Closest to Line Mike Donahue

**Net Callaway - John Wynne - 70**

**Skin - Jud Smith on #3**

(Chalifour would have won one on #8, but alas, he did not enter.)



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## Northeast Regional Update

### Fickle Weather

by Dave Oatis, Director,  
Jim Skorulski, Jim Baird, and Kathy Antaya, Agronomists

Mark Twain must have been referring to a summer like this one in the Northeast when he coined the phrase: "If you don't like the weather, then just wait five minutes and it will change." Cool, dry weather of recent past gave rise to record setting high temperatures, and then the rain came in buckets for most of the region. At least much of the Northeast has not had to deal with warm and wet weather all at once.

While the only thing consistent about the weather has been its inconsistency, annual bluegrass has been consistently weak or worse throughout much of the summer. The warm, dry

weather experienced in early spring seemed to trigger a longer and more prolific flowering period that exhausted plant energy reserves. Combine this with summer tournament preparation and several days of high skies and low humidity, and the result has been frequent observations of anthracnose, summer patch, and fairy ring diseases or decline due to heat and drought stress.

Besides raising the height of cut, don't forget to feed the turf when it's hungry. Use of acidifying nitrogen fertilizer such as ammonium sulfate can help with management of diseases like

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HUNTER GOLF  
INDIAN SPRINGS  
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MADISON C.C.  
NEW HAVEN COUNTRY CLUB  
OAK LANE C.C.

OLD LYME C.C.  
PINE ORCHARD C.C.  
PINE VALLEY GOLF  
PORTLAND WEST  
PORTLAND GOLF COURSE  
PUTNAM C.C.  
QUARRY RIDGE  
ROCKLEDGE GOLF  
ROCK RIMMON C.C.  
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summer patch, but keep the application rates light and apply plenty of water. Hopefully, regular topdressing is a part of your putting green management program and, if so, emphasis should be placed on light and frequent applications of dry material than can be easily incorporated into the canopy using the irrigation system instead of mechanical means, which are more abrasive to plant tissue.

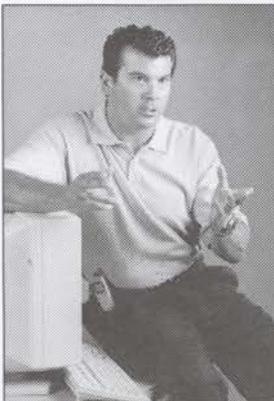
Finally, there is no substitute for hand watering or syringing regardless of how well or poor your irrigation system operates.

September is here and usually by now we can all breathe a collective sigh of relief. However, those of you who manage perennial ryegrass are not

out of the woods yet. Some suspicious looking patches of thinned perennial ryegrass has been observed recently, so an outbreak of gray leaf spot may be just around the corner. If you plan on making preventive fungicide applications for gray leaf spot control, make them quickly. If you are planning on the curative approach, get ready. Now is the time to begin scouting for disease symptoms that are most likely to occur first in openly exposed taller cut turf under high traffic. Gray leaf spot has already been confirmed on samples submitted from New Jersey and the Met area.

Although much remains to be learned about the epidemiology of this disease, past experience indicates that

it is most likely to be prevalent after hot, dry, and stressful summers. Be sure to obtain proper diagnosis before implementing control strategies as gray leaf spot can easily be mistaken for drought stress or other diseases. According to Dr. Paul Vincelli at the University of Kentucky, a tank mixture of propiconazole (Banner Maxx) and chlorothalonil (Daconil, others) fungicides is recommended for preventative control of gray leaf spot while azoxystrobin (Heritage) and thiophanate-methyl (Clearys 3336) fungicides are effective as curative treatments. Gray leaf spot resistance to Heritage fungicide has been confirmed in Kentucky and Illinois.



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## Top Ten Public Courses in Connecticut

by Ed Crnic

(From the June 2001 issue of *Connecticut Magazine*)

With the addition of several new golf courses, including a couple of very promising (and very expensive) resort-style layouts, 2001 promised to be an enjoyable golf season in Connecticut.

Although at the time of this article, we didn't get to play the brand new Great River Golf Club in Milford (it opened in mid-April) or Fox Hopyard Golf Club in East Haddam (it opened to the public July 1) in time for this year's Top 10 compilation, each is as high as you can get on the must-play list for our next go-round.

Judging the courses is Ed Crnic, who, over the last five years or so, has made it his business to seek out and play every public course in Connecticut. His criteria included not only the artistry and difficulty of the layouts

themselves, but also conditioning, speed of play, staff professionalism, cost and even the ambience of the 19th hole.

- #1 Richter Park Golf Course  
Danbury
- #2 Pequabuck Golf Club  
Bristol
- #3 Cedar Knob Golf Course  
Somers
- #4 Candlewood Valley Club,  
New Milford
- #5 Skungamaug River Golf Club  
Coventry
- #6 H. Smith-Richardson Golf Club  
Fairfield
- #7 Tallwood Country Club  
Hebron
- #8 Whitney Farms Golf Club  
Monroe
- #9 Norwich Golf Club  
Norwich
- #10 Quarry Ridge Golf Club,  
Portland

### Runners-Up

- #11 Rockledge Golf Club  
West Hartford
- #12 Portland Golf Course  
Portland
- #13 Pine Valley Golf Course  
Southington
- #14 Blackledge Country Club  
Hebron
- #15 Timberlin Golf Club  
Kensington
- #16 Simsbury Farms Golf Club  
Simsbury
- #17 Lyman Orchard Golf Club  
Middlefield
- #18 Tunxis Plantation Country Club  
Farmington
- #19 Shennecossett Golf Course  
Groton
- #20 Putnam Country Club  
Putnam

## How do you live your dash?

*I read of a man who stood to speak  
at the funeral of a friend.*

*He referred to the dates on his  
tombstone from the beginning ...  
to the end.*

*He noted that first came his date of  
birth and spoke the following date  
with tears, but he said what mattered  
most of all was the dash between those  
years.*

*For that dash represents all the time  
that he spent alive on earth...  
and now only those who loved him  
know what that little line is worth.  
For it matters not, how much we own;  
The cars.. the house.. the cash.  
What matters is how we live and love  
and how we spend our dash.*

*So think about this long and hard...  
Are there things you'd like to change?  
For you never know how much time  
is left, that can still be rearranged.  
If we could just slow down enough  
to consider what's true and real,  
And always try to understand  
the way other people feel.*

*And be less quick to anger,  
and show appreciation more,  
and love the people in our lives  
like we've never loved before.  
If we treat each other with respect,  
and more often wear a smile...  
Remembering that this special dash  
might only last a little while.*

*So, when your eulogy's being read  
with your life's actions to rehash...  
Would you be proud of the things they  
say about how you spent your dash?*

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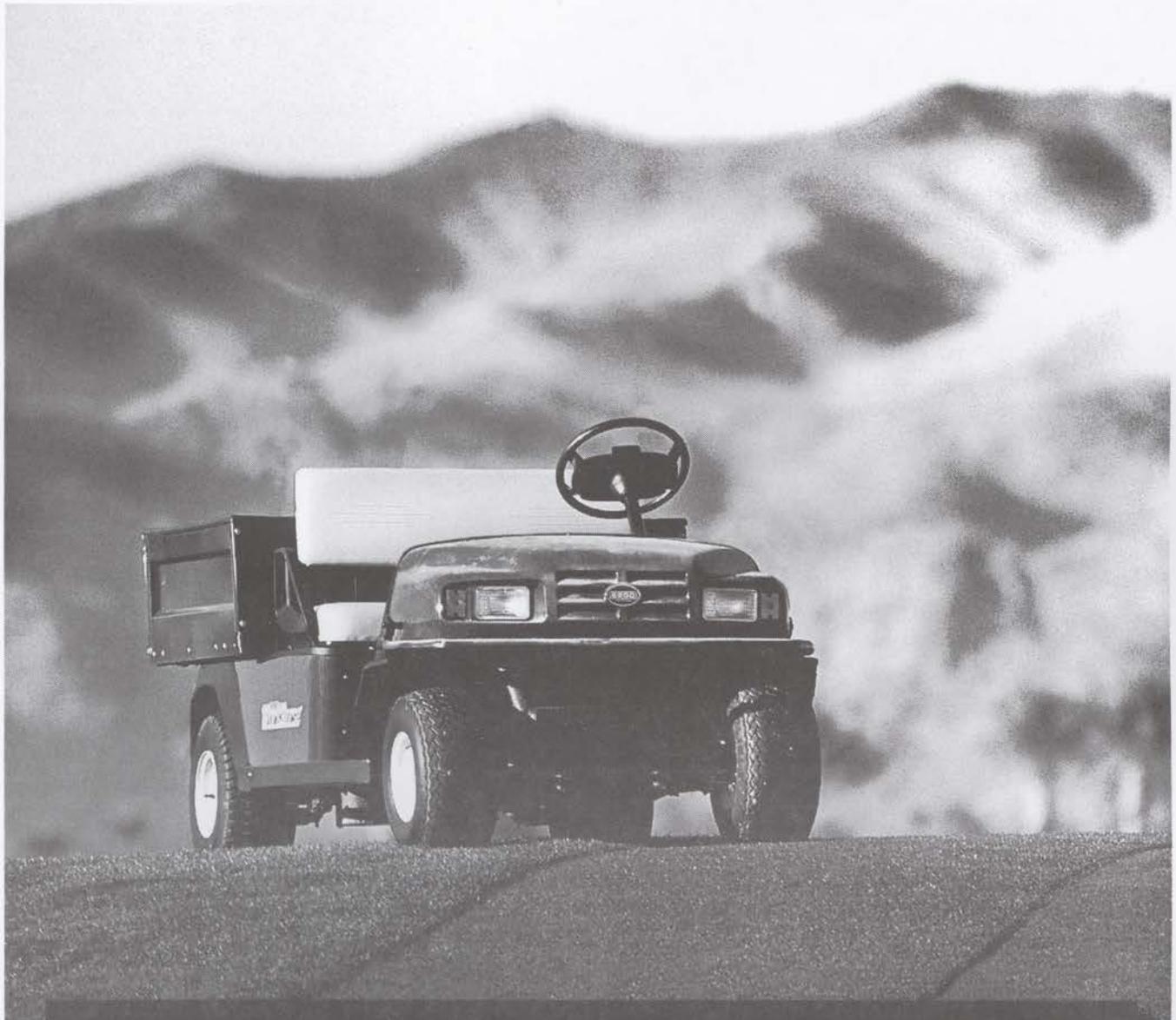
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