

December 2001

Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association

Taboo

King's Bay Opening Day

Penn State Turfgrass Conference



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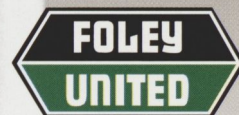
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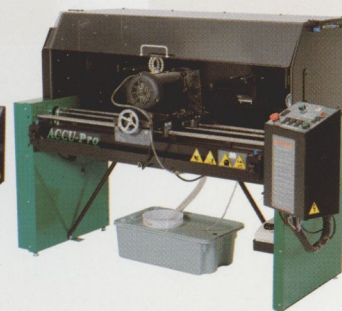
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Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association



COVER PICTURE

Photo by: Dorothy Hills

*OGSA is committed to
serving its members,
advancing their profession,
and
enriching the quality
of golf
and its environment.*

President's message

Today we have higher buildings and wider highways, but shorter temperaments and narrower points of view. We spend more but enjoy less. We have bigger houses but smaller families.

We have more compromise, but less time.

We have more knowledge, but less judgment.

We have more medicines but less health.

We have multiplied our promises but reduced our values.

We talk much, we love only a little, and we hate too much.

We reached the moon and came back, but we find it troublesome to cross our own street and meet our neighbors.

We have higher income, but less morals.

These are times with more liberties, but less joy.

We have much more food, but less nutrition.

These are the times of finer houses, but more broken homes.

That is why I propose to you, that as of today

You do not keep anything for a special occasion, because every day that you live is a special occasion.

Spend more time with your family and friends, eat your favorite foods, visit the places you love.

Let's tell our families and friends how much we love them.

Do not delay anything that adds laughter and joy to your life.

Every day, every hour and every minute is special,

And you don't know if it will be your last...

I recently received the above excerpt which, in my opinion, appears to sum up what should be our focus as we move into a new year. As we all pause to reflect on the year 2001, there is no doubt that the experiences of this past year will never be forgotten. Do we need really any more conviction to ensure we all enjoy the health and happiness of our families and friends?

As my Presidential term draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone including the Board of Directors, membership and office staff for their tremendous support and dedication. We can all be proud of the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association. It has been an extremely busy and demanding year, however, it is indeed comforting to know that the people of this organization and the golf community appreciate our efforts.

On a personal note, I want to thank my family for their endless support of me and the commitments that I've made to the OGSA this past year. Like all of my colleagues, it would be impossible to get here without the true champions of our cause - our families and friends.

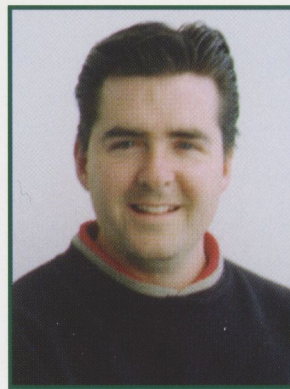
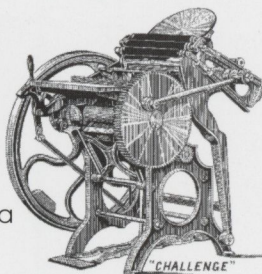
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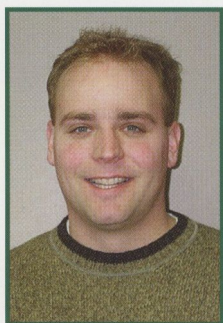


Green is Beautiful 2001

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Editor's message



Jeff Stauffer
Credit Valley G&CC

*Oh the weather outside is frightful,
and the air is so delightful,
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!*

As the 2001 Golfing Season draws to an end, I find myself singing this familiar tune. I suspect, as some of you put your courses to bed and others prepare to put their courses to bed for the winter, I'm not the only one singing this tune. You know, it's funny, at this time of the year I look forward to closing the course and taking a break from the demands of golf course management during the golfing season yet it won't be long before I get anxious to get back out on the course and 'cut grass'. Go figure!

As we shift our focus from the 2001 Golfing Season and turn our attention to winter maintenance and gearing up for the 2002 Golfing Season, the golf course industry must continue to focus on one of its biggest challenges, the continued debate over pesticides and their usage on private and public lands. As members of the Ontario Golf Course Superintendents' Association we each have the opportunity and responsibility to educate green committees, mem-

berships, city councils, and the public of the proper usage and the effects of pesticides. I have had the opportunity to attend another town meeting where I reside and it is clearer than ever what an emotional issue the use of pesticides on private and public lands really is. It is important that any decision made at the golf course, municipal, provincial, or federal level are informed decisions and not based on emotion. Our OGSA Board of Directors have been very active with initiatives regarding this issue and they need our assistance to attend municipal meetings whenever and wherever possible. If you are aware of a municipal meeting and are planning to attend and require information to take along with you, contact Dorothy or Pat at the office, they will be happy to assist you.

The *Green is Beautiful* Editorial Committee met in November to review GISB 2001 publishing year and to select the 2001 Article of the Year and Photo of the Year award winners. The winners will be announced at the OGSA's President's Reception at the OTS. I would also like to take the time to request article ideas or suggestions for upcoming issues of GISB so that we may continue to provide an up-to-date and current magazine. Please contact any member of the committee with your thoughts and I thank you in advance for your comments.

The events of 2001, most particularly the devastating tragedy of September 11th, have changed the way we look at life. It's been said many times since that horrific day, 'normal isn't normal any more, and life as we know it has been changed forever.' Of the many lessons I have taken from the September 11th tragedy the one that is at the forefront of my mind during this Holiday Season is that we should really slow down and take the time to appreciate what is truly important in life. And with that, I will take this opportunity to wish you and your family the best of the season and the happiest of new years. Have a safe and happy holiday!



O.G.S.A. Welcomes our newest members

Jonathan Atkinson	Class C
Oxford (Craigowan) Golf Club	
Joe England	Class B
Bridgewater Country Club	
Steve Gomme	Class F
Greystone Golf Club	
Patrick Greenman	Class C
Oakdale Golf & CC	
Jason Hanna	Class F
St. George's Golf & CC	
Derrick Hawley	Class B
Sleepy Hollow Country Club	
Mary Beth Kelly	Class D
Clublink Corporation	
Ken Nelski	Class F
Maple Downs Golf & CC	
Patrick S. O'Brien	Class C
The Kirtland Country Club	
Ryan Scott	Class F
North Halton Golf & CC	
Peter Sojak	Class C
Blue Springs Golf Club	
Bill Willeart	Class A
Woodside Greens Golf Course	

In memoriam

John Stoughton
1910 - 2001

We are sad to announce the passing of OGSA Life Member, John Stoughton, in his 91st year, in the town of Orillia, where he and his wife Ida resided.

John left his mark on the golf industry through many years as a superintendent. He built his own course, the Bracebridge Golf Club during the 60's, then moved on to work at both the old and new Barrie Country Club, for the next 25 years. Golf Course consulting was a part of his life during his retirement years.

In his spare time, John could be found working in the garden and attending band concerts. As an avid fan of the Toronto Blue Jays, he spent much of his time in Florida and often would visit the Jays practice camp in Dunedin.

John was proud of his accomplishments as a superintendent, and of his life membership in the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association, and all that it stands for. He will be missed by many.

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Turfgrass research at the GTI

by Dr. Julie Dionne
Assistant Professor Turfgrass Management
University of Guelph jdionne@uoguelph.ca



It is with great pleasure that I have joined the University of Guelph and the Guelph Turfgrass Institute (GTI) team as the new turfgrass management faculty member.

Over the last few months, I have gotten to know a wonderful team of dedicated people, discovering the great research facilities at the GTI. This has confirmed for me that the potential for turf research and education at the GTI is tremendous, and my objective is to develop a strong internationally recognized turfgrass research program in both applied and basic research aspects.

As you already know, the Guelph Turfgrass Institute, the largest turfgrass

research facility in Canada, is the result of a strong collaboration between the Ontario turfgrass industry, the University of Guelph, and OMAFRA. This is for me a great demonstration that with team work it is possible to accomplish wonderful things. As a new member of the GTI team, I think that the timing is good now for going one step further to fully develop the GTI turf management research program.

Within the next weeks, we will meet with different turf associations including Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association, Ontario Turfgrass Research Foundation, Sports Turf Association of Ontario, Nursery Sod Growers Association of Ontario, and Professional Lawn Care Association of Ontario, in order to discuss research priorities and research funding. That will be a great opportunity for all of us to share our vision of the turfgrass research at the GTI and to ultimately

establish together a strong strategic plan for the future of our turf research program at the GTI.

In the meantime, the priorities for the GTI team are to write research proposals for the Canadian Turfgrass Research Foundation and other funding agencies, to update and equip the laboratory at the GTI and on campus, and finally to be prepared to welcome four graduate students that will be joining our turfgrass research team in January 2002.

I am looking forward to collaborating with you and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any comments or suggestions on the GTI turf research program.

On behalf of the GTI research team, I wish you Happy Holidays and we hope to see you at the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium in January 22-24!



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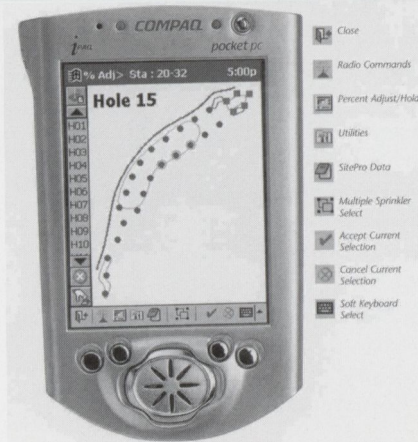
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Canadian Golf Superintendents Association news

by Robert Burrows
Rosedale Golf Club



Time to take a breather now, as we put our facilities into low gear. This is a welcome change, as we come out of what may be considered a very successful season!

You will have already received a National education needs assessment survey. I would encourage each CGSA member to take about fifteen minutes to complete this important survey. The results will form the basis of decision making with respect to our next steps in

the development of National educational standards and membership classifications. We will probably need to develop more relevant seminars that are aligned with the standards which reflect what it is that we do in our jobs every day and what we need to know to perform that job to meet or exceed those standards. Of course, this is all speculation, but never the less, we require your input. The salary survey results will also have been distributed in November. This survey has proven to be a valuable member benefit.

Our Environmental Management resource manual has been recognized again as a world class document, with the awarding of the GCSAA Presidential environmental award. This manual will also be available on CD shortly.

Plans are underway, to award the CGSA Fall Field day in 2003 to a facility in Ontario. I will keep you posted. The regional

Seminar with Dr. Frank Rossi was postponed to December 17th from November due to an emergency in his family. This seminar was very well attended. Congratulations to Darryl James of Oliver's Nest G.C. in Lindsay, Ontario for winning the future Superintendent of the year award.

Our activities with respect to the Municipal Pesticide by-law issue continue to be high on our priority list. Let me take a bit of space here to outline exactly what your National Association has been doing in this regard:

- Took the lead to develop a statement to the Federal Government on behalf of the entire golf industry.
- Monitoring public hearings on pesticide banning and inform regional associations and member superintendents.
- Has available an information package for any member upon request.
- Continual updating of CGSA Environmental Management resource manual on any new compliance issues and pertinent government contact information.
- Working with allied golf Associations on a public relations campaign to educate the golfing community as well as the general public.
- Participating on "Healthy Lawns" committee initiated by the Federal government with the PMRA.
- Mail-out to all members on dealing with the media.
- Extensive National survey on pesticide and fertilizer use by CGSA members.
- Monitoring media and industry publications with regard to what's currently being proposed or discussed.
- Preparing articles for golf industry publications on the issue as well as our GreenMaster magazine.
- Is represented at all known meetings concerning this issue.
- Posted relevant information on our website.
- Raised the issue at the International Summit at the GCSAA Conference.
- Developed in co-operation with Toro, the Environmental Achievement Award to promote positive practices.
- Provide significant funding to regional Associations upon request, for their local efforts on behalf of CGSA members in that particular Province.
- Presidential letter sent to all National Allied Golf Associations regarding working together for the environment.
- Panel discussion at the Quebec City Conference as well as a "Roundtable" meeting on current issues.

These are but a few examples of the work that your CGSA Headquarters staff and Provincial Directors are accomplishing on your behalf. In fact, the CGSA has made a significant funding contribution to the OGSA to aid in the municipal pesticide issue, on behalf of the CGSA members in Ontario. The campaign in Ontario is well in hand with all of the interested parties making some good progress. I will let others outline exactly what is being done, but I am optimistic. These efforts in Ontario are of particular interest to members in other Provinces as there may be a 'domino effect' with like-minded municipalities potentially adopting the same by-laws, which are formulated here. Let's hope that reason prevails.

From my family to you and yours, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous holiday and New Year!

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Health & safety

Emergency preparedness

by Doug Johnson,
SAFETAID and Health and Safety Consulting
First Aid and Safety Supplies and WHMS Training

One of the things we never want to think about in our lives is having to deal with an emergency. We never believe that it could happen to us. Yet it does. Every day we hear of situations where somebody has been involved in a situation where their life or well being has been placed in jeopardy. We read about these situations and they are generally away from our immediate circle of contacts. We feel sorry for the individuals involved and soon we carry on with our lives. This is not a bad thing, as we must carry on. But do we take the time to think about how prepared we or our inner circle of contacts is to handle an emergency. Take a moment and think about what you would do in your workplace or home if fire were to strike or if you were involved in a storm or tornado. How would you react? How would your work place react? How would your family react? Do you have a written plan?

Every one of us should take the time to plan and be prepared for that potential emergency situation. Think about how you would ensure that all your staff or family could evacuate a burning building. Think about where you would congregate if your workplace or home were to be on fire. Have you a place to go to where you could make an emergency call? Your phone in your office or home may not be accessible. Have you gathered together basic information about your lives that someone may need to know if you were incapable of telling them? Does your workplace have a plan to get back up and running if your systems are destroyed?

Here are some basic things that you should do to prepare your emergency plan.

- Establish the planning team.
 - identify an individual to be in charge
 - contact your local fire department

- Assess the risk and course capabilities.
 - identify potential areas of concern
 - identify resources available
- Develop the Plan.
 - set a clear objective
 - develop response procedures
- Implement the plan.
 - train your workforce on the plan
 - have a designated meeting place
 - know who to call.
- Continuous Improvement.
 - test the plan
 - fix the things that did not work

This is only a very brief overview of some of the issues. Take the time now to develop a plan before you are in crisis. If you need help contact someone and get help. This winter work carefully. Plan ahead. Be sure. Be Safe.

Let's make this a successful winter. Have a great, safe, holiday season!!

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October issue, brought you some practical information on the safe use of chain saws. Further to that information we offer you the following contacts:

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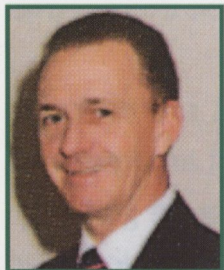
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The Ontario Forestry Safe Workplace Association may be able to help you find trainers in other areas not covered in their list. You can find contact information at:
<http://www.ofswa.on.ca/>

The referee

by Bob Leggitt
Rules Chairman, O.G.A.



If any member has any concerns about 'rule of play', fax or email them to Dorothy Hills at O.G.S.A.
email: ogsa@gti.uoguelph.ca
fax: (519) 766-1704

1. The stroke and distance penalty is the only option available to Bill in which of the following situations:
 - A. Ball unplayable, ball lost in an obstruction.
 - B. Lost ball through the green, ball out of bounds.

- C. Lateral water hazard, casual water interference.
 - D. Lost ball in casual water or a water hazard.
 - E. Embedded ball, Obstruction interference.
2. If Bill finds his original ball after playing a ball that he did not announce as his provisional, he may still complete the hole with the original ball without penalty.
TRUE _____ FALSE _____
3. In regards to an unplayable ball, which of the following is true ?
 - A. The player may declare his ball unplayable anywhere on the course.
 - B. In taking relief from an unplayable lie, the player must not drop nearer the hole, on a putting green or in a hazard.
 - C. The player must always find his ball before declaring it unplayable.

- D. The player is the sole judge as to whether his ball is unplayable or not.
 - E. In match play only, an opponent may claim that the player's ball is unplayable.
4. Bill is not entitled to clean his ball if he lifts it for lying on a wrong putting green.
TRUE _____ FALSE _____
5. Bill is allowed to take relief without penalty from interference by which of the following ?
 - A. Casual water in a water hazard.
 - B. Out of bounds fence interferes with his swing.
 - C. Burrowing animal hole in a bunker.
 - D. Ball is unplayable in a tree stump.
 - E. Immovable obstruction in a water hazard.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 14



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Cyber super

by Mark Prieur, Assistant Superintendent
Markland Wood Country Club

Greenskeeping associations around the world are a great place to see what issues are at the forefront. Unfortunately, not a lot of the associations have websites so in that respect we as OGSA members should consider ourselves fortunate to be on the cutting edge of technology.

The British and International Golf Greenskeepers Association (or BIGGA) can be located at www.bigga.co.uk where you can find updates on foot and mouth disease or the BTME (you'll have to visit to find out what that is!). By clicking on

the membership section you can look at payscales to see what the average earnings of their members are, although you will need to figure out the exchange rate to make any comparison. There is a pretty good links section as well but it mostly deals with other golf associations and not Superintendents associations.

The Australian Golf Course Superintendents Association, which is at www.agsca.com.au, has the basics such as membership and conference information. In addition, you can view the remuneration survey details (again the

currency conversion takes effect) and any job postings vacant. It is interesting to note that employers needs do not vary from one part of the world to the other. *Australian Turfgrass Management*, the AGCSA's publication is available online which is very informative. The links section is okay but the miscellaneous subsection has some dead ends.

CORRECTION: In the last issue, the link to Pennsylvania State University Crop and Soil Sciences home page should read www.agronomy.psu.edu.

Mechanic's corner

by Larry A. Murray, Pheasant Run Golf Club
President of G.E.T.A.O.

With the onset of winter, the mechanic's role is not slowing down, rather it is a time of change of routine. This is the time that decisions have to be made and the question of trade or repair has been finalized. It is now time to evaluate all equipment to be repaired and include the changes that were postponed to winter overhaul. Some companies provide promotions on parts and service, that includes special pricing as well as delayed payments. It is well worth the effort and time to order now, as we all know about the lost time waiting for back orders.

A winter tip for mechanics; set a goal for each piece of equipment, taking into

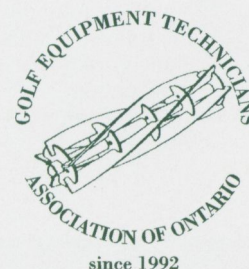
consideration the conditions that it will be used in. For example, it may be wiser to have a unit in good condition in the fall and use the same machine first thing in the spring. The spring always has its rough edges to clean up during the first week or so. At this time put this machine in for overhaul. This works especially well if you have a spare set of reels. One set in good order in the fall could carry through the first few cuts in the spring. The other set in perfect condition overhauled during the winter.

The winter months also offer the mechanic himself a chance to get tuned up. The G.E.T.A.O. association offers seminars in December as well as support

equipment dealers in the needs of the mechanic. With technological changes in turf and equipment, the mechanic requires the same regular tune-ups as the equipment. Plan to attend as many seminars as possible and attend the school with the attitude of "What can I learn?"

I wish everyone a happy holidays and hope to meet some of you during the trade show and seminars this winter.

For info about the association email me at l.a.murray@sympatico.ca or call Eddie at (905)-889-7620 ext. 503.



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 Wayne Rath, Golf Course Superintendent

COURSE PROFILE

WHAT COUNTY IS YOUR CLUB LOCATED IN?

York Region

IS YOUR CLUB PRIVATE, SEMI PRIVATE, PUBLIC, RESORT, MUNICIPAL?

Private

SIZE OF MEMBERSHIP?

Up to 250

NUMBER OF ROUNDS?

10,000 to 15,000

TYPICAL OPENING AND CLOSING DATE?

May 1 to Nov 1

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN A SUPERINTENDENT?

15 years

ARE YOU CGCS OR MASTER SUPERINTENDENT.?

CGCS

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN AN O.G.S.A. MEMBER?

18 years

HOW MANY YEAR ROUND STAFF?

10

HOW MANY SEASONAL STAFF?

32

HOW MANY MECHANICS AND ASSISTANTS?

2 mechanics – Neil Perry
 Mike Garton
 2 assistants – Ian McQueen
 Ryan Scott

HOW MANY GARDENING STAFF?

4

COURSE STATISTICS

HOW MANY HOLES?

18

WHAT IS THE YARDAGE FROM BACK TEES AND FORWARD TEES?

Back tees: 6950 yards,
 Forward tees: 5108 yards

WHAT IS THE SIZE AND LENGTH OF DRIVING RANGE AND RANGE TEE?

Tee-lacie Rang 6.5 acres

HOW MANY BUNKERS?

92 bunkers covering 9.5 acres

HOW MANY PONDS, AND/OR HOW MANY TIMES DOES WATER COME INTO PLAY?

7

WHO WAS THE ORIGINAL ARCHITECT?

Doug Carrick

WHAT WAS THE YEAR OF ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION?

1999 to 2000

WHAT IS THE SIZE OF YOUR MAINTENANCE SHOP?

16,650 square feet

WHAT TYPE OF IRRIGATION SYSTEM?

Rainbird
 Cirrus, 3
 years old

WHAT IS THE SIZE OF THE GREENS, TEES AND FAIRWAYS?

Greens: 160,000 sq ft,
 Tees: 180,000 sq ft,
 Fairways: 50 acres

WHAT IS YOUR PREDOMINANT GRASS?

SR 1020/1119 Bentgrass blend

HOW MANY USGA GREENS AND HOW MANY LOAM GREENS?

Loam Greens: 18

WHAT IS THE PREDOMINANT SOIL TYPE?

Sandy Loam

WHAT EQUIPMENT DO YOU HAVE IN INVENTORY?

1 Toro Groundsmaster 3500 - D
 Sidewinder
 2 Toro Reelmaster 3100 - D
 Sidewinders
 4 Toro Reelmaster 5400 - D Fairway
 Mowers
 2 Toro Groundmaster 325 -D
 c/w core pulverizer, sweeper, front
 attach snowblower, front attach
 blower
 3 Toro Greensmaster 3100 - 3 wd
 Tri-plex
 1 Ransome AR 250
 1 Steiner 430 Max Rotary Mower
 8 Toro Greensmaster 1000
 4 Toro Greensmaster 1600
 3 Toro Flex 21 Greensmowers
 18 Carryall Turf Trucksters
 4 Club Car Carts with boxes
 2 Club Car Golf Carts
 4 Cushman Turf Trucksters
 2 Cushman TD 1500 Topdressers
 2 Vicon Spreaders
 1 Core Harvester
 1 1530 Topdresser
 2 Verti-Drain 7117 Mustang Aerifiers
 1 Toro Procore 880 Aerifier
 1 Toro Walking Greens Aerifier
 4 Ryan Greensaire 24
 1 Ryan Greensaire 28
 1 Toro Hydroject 3000
 1 Ryan Tracaire
 7 Greensmower Trailers
 1 Toro 37" Self Propelled Rotary
 6 Lawn Boy Commercial duty Rotaries



Magna Golf Club

PHOTO BY WARREN MARR, PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER

4 Hover Mowers
 7 Bannerman Hover Mowers
 1 Ty-Crop MH 400 with topdresser
 2 Smithco Supreme LC Sandtrap
 Machines
 1 212 S Loader/Backhoe
 2 Kubota L4310 Tractors
 1 Kubota L4310 HST Tractor
 1 John Deere 5420 Tractor
 2 Super Tilt Dump Trailers
 1 Bergal Vac Plus 800
 1 300 Gallon Hydro-seeder
 1 Bergal B-40 Blower
 2 Shindaiwa Back-pack Blowers
 4 Shindaiwa Hand Blowers
 2-5 hp Little Wonder Power Blowers
 1 8 hp Little Wonder Power Blowers
 1 Ryan Junior Sod Cutter
 2 Otterbine Bunker Pumps
 2 Fairway Drag Mats
 2 Greensgroomer Diamond Brushes
 6 Shindaiwa Line Trimmers
 2 Shindaiwa Power Brooms
 2 Shindaiwa Reciprocators
 1 Shindaiwa Edger
 2 Lescro Rotary Spreaders
 3 Scotts Rotary Spreaders
 1 Viking Grading Attachment
 1 Tenant Power Sweeper

COURSE PROJECTS

WHAT PROJECTS HAVE YOU RECENTLY COMPLETED?

Additional drainage
 Bunker improvements
 Extensive tree planting
 Putting green construction
 Extensive poplar tree removal

LONG RANGE PLANS

WHAT LONG RANGE PLANS FOR RENOVATION DO YOU HAVE IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS?

Additional trees
 Entrance and clubhouse landscaping
 Continue bunker improvement
 Removal of poplar trees on property
 Additional tee construction

Taboo

Article and Photos by John Bladon
Superintendent, Guelph Lakes Golf & Country Club

The golf construction boom in the Muskokas continues at a seemingly torrid pace. Although the populations in these smaller communities make one wonder how so many courses can stay afloat, apparently most swell tenfold during the summer months literally making golf a "cottage" industry. Recently, *Green is Beautiful* met up with OGSA member and director, Sean DeSilva and toured his new project nearing completion on the

shores of Lake Muskoka. Sean, a Seneca College grad, had his introduction to Muskoka at the Diamond "in the Ruff" Golf Course, a beautiful nine hole course near Utterson. There he spent six years as the golf course superintendent following his apprenticeship at Beacon Hall, under the tutelage of Bob Heron.

Taboo is an 18 hole, championship course at the Muskoka Sands Resort, sitting only a 3 wood north of the town of

Gravenhurst. The course is slated for a mid summer 2002 opening. Florida architect Ron Garl, of Wooden Sticks fame, was hired by the resort to design a high end 18 hole course and practice facility. The results are impressive. Mr. Garl serves up 7200 yards of great golf with five sets of teeing grounds and inventive 12 acre range / golf academy. Cut through 360 acres of mixed forest, granite outcroppings and natural



Taboo #1, finished, from tee

waterfalls, the eye continuously feasts on all that is synonymous with Muskoka. Elevation changes were significant throughout our tour. The property has been laid out in such a way that virtually every tee box has been built in an elevated location and the golf course seems to have been “poured out” in front of your eyes. “We are going to be a resort course with many new customers each year, so the idea is to eliminate the guess work while playing the course”, notes Sean. “You’ll find no blind areas on the course no matter what calibre a player you are” The sensation of being on top of the world never seems to leave you at this place. This theme continues at the future site of the clubhouse. It will sit, upon completion, high above the Gravenhurst harbour with the old steamship “Segwun” in plain view. The other consistency throughout is bunkering. 73 bunkers grace the property. They vary from the smallest imaginable pot bunker to the vast waste bunkers, a Garl trademark claims Sean.

Gateman Milloy, a Kitchener firm, was entrusted with the 7.0 million course construction contract. Sean was hired on as the golf course superintendent in November of last year and was involved throughout the entire process. He estimates that approximately 350,000 tons of local sand were trucked in throughout construction. A sand lens was poured over the entire routing accounting for the bulk of the material. USGA greens were constructed and seeded with A-4 creeping bentgrass. Tees and fairways were seeded with Penn Trio creeping bent. Although the poor fall weather has slowed the progress of the project slightly, Sean remains optimistic regarding their opening date. “It was a tremendous season for construction with all the dry weather” notes Sean. We had no significant downtime with earthworks, so we made excellent progress right through Labour Day weekend”.

Finally, Sean is focussing on completing Taboo’s 8000 square foot maintenance facility.

“We’re going to need a little heat before winter gets here” he remarks with a wry smile.

No rest for the weary.

Look for Sean’s presentation on the trials and tribulations of growing A-4 at the OTS in January 2002.

Sean can be reached at sdesilva@muskoka.com

More pictures on page 14



Sean DeSilva



Taboo #3, afternoon



Taboo #5, finished, from tee



Taboo #6, rock wall



Taboo #13, green site



Taboo #15, from tee



Taboo #17 hole, from tees

Rule of Play Answers

1. B. Rule 27-1 Says that if a ball is lost or out of bounds, the player shall under penalty of one stroke, play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played.
2. FALSE- R27-2 states that if a player fails to announce that he is playing a provisional ball then that ball becomes the ball in play under stroke and distance penalty, the original ball is deemed to be lost.
3. D. Rule 28 definitions says that the player is the sole judge as to whether his ball is unplayable.
4. FALSE- Rule 25-3 states that the ball may be cleaned when lifted from a wrong putting green.
5. C. Rule 25-1b. relief states that the player may take relief without penalty but the ball must be dropped in the bunker.



PRECIPITATION IN ONTARIO REGION

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Provided by Ministry of the Environment

	Average	YEAR 2001 Actual
January		
(rain)	18.5 mm	21.0 mm
(snow)	32.3 cm	10.8 cm
(total)	45.6 mm	31.2 mm
February		
(rain)	20.8 mm	55.6 mm
(snow)	25.9 cm	36.0 cm
(total)	45.5 mm	94.0 mm
March		
(rain)	35.1 mm	8.8 mm
(snow)	19.9 cm	26.4 cm
(total)	56.9 mm	31.4 mm
April		
(rain)	56.0 mm	35.8 mm
(snow)	7.3 cm	0.6 cm
(total)	64.0 mm	36.4 mm
May	66.0 mm	92.2 mm
June	68.9 mm	61.8 mm
July	76.6 mm	34.0 mm
August	84.2 mm	34.6 mm
September	74.2 mm	50.4 mm
October	63.0 mm	108.8 mm

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Off the fairway

by Daisy Moore



Luckily, I have had an extremely busy November. I pushed the envelope a little bit this fall by planning a few too many social activities during a time of active horticultural

work. For example, our family took a train trip to the east coast for the latter part of October. The colours were spectacular along the way and you got to see parts of the landscape not common along roadsides. Still and all, I should have been working and in the back of my mind there was a desperate plea for the weather to hold. Well hold out it did, and I managed to accomplish all that was set out and then some. Let me tell you about my end-of-season projects at Weston Golf Club and Tangle Creek.

I have been working with Weston Golf Club this past season to assist them in using their resources to improve the appearance of their gardens and areas off the fairway. The membership decided that they wanted to have beautiful gardens. We are well on the way with many projects started this fall. Gardens are the "attention to detail" that sets one property apart from the others. Why not make them stand out? The first thing is the recognition that gardens are important and the rest will follow... ideas... money... staff.

There are many challenging sites on golf courses. 'Concepts' for front gates often bring me to my knees and then there is the central circle bed. Everybody wants them or at least has one to cope with. There is an inherent need for symmetry, yet that can be so boring. I have ranted in the past about the drawbacks of formal shows of annuals; mostly that they cost a lot every year and don't look good for such a long time. So what do you plant? It can't be too high, it can't be too short, it has to be showy, it's viewed from all sides. It is quite a thing to be saddled with. At Weston, the idea of a formal boxwood arrangement was born. I'll be working on designs over the winter and we will plant it in the spring. I will need to talk it up in order to give everybody the nerve to cut down a large but poor quality blue spruce. Sometimes you have to be ruthless.

As an example of what you can do with boxwoods, this fall after I returned from the east coast, we planted a formal 'knot' garden out of boxwood and germander in a prominent area of the golf course. There are two sloped beds which line the edge of the practise green and sit across from the first tee. The beds are about 45 feet long and nine feet wide, give or take. I found the 'Celtic Knot' design in a children's book entitled 'The Marvellous Blue Mouse'. I acquired some books on how to draw these knots and I have a feeling I could get carried away with this idea. Since they were planted so late in the season, they look a little scruffy at the moment.

But the important thing is to get them through the winter and we'll start to trim them tight in the spring. Tall pyramidal cedars frame the knot and I plan on trimming those into spirals to really set it off. This will be a remarkable change from its annual consumption of bedding plants. The new challenge will be to substitute the expectation and desire for colour in that spot. Members are fussy. They want it all and they want it now.

Another end-of-season project was to plant the beginnings of a garden at Tangle Creek, a new golf course opening next spring, southwest of Barrie. They have been conscious of the role gardens will play right from the start and have designed the site accordingly. The front gates will be a pleasure to plant. There's lots of room and the entrance was designed to accommodate beds. They've got lots of stone and the equipment to move it around. We've got the shrubs in and we will continue to develop the gardens in 2002.

Now that the season has finished, it is time to re-group and rejuvenate. I'm looking forward to the off season meetings to gain new knowledge and contacts and begin to fill my dance card for 2002.

Daisy hosts 'The Garden Clinic' on Saturday mornings at 9:00am. Tune in to the station nearest you: am900 Hamilton, am980 London or am1350 Oshawa. Visit her website at www.daisymoore.com






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King's Bay Golf & Country Club Opening Day 2001

Article by James White

Golf Course Superintendent

Photos by Kevin Holmes, Golf Course Architect, MBTW Group

It was a beautiful fall day on Thursday October 4, 2001 when the King's Bay Golf and Country Club hosted players for the first time. Now, I know this is a cliché type of opening statement, but when you spend weeks and months gearing up for one day, weather becomes the most important factor to success. I suppose it could have been cold and rainy which would not have deterred us from showcasing the

most recent course in southern Ontario to be completed.

King's Bay is a 9 hole championship layout of 3300 yards, which rests on a 170 acre peninsula in Seagrave, Ontario. The Nonquon River on the west and Lake Scugog to the east, offer spectacular views of cottage country.

The property has taken 8 years to develop, from the approvals stage, to the construction and seeding of the golf course which wraps around the outside of a new community of 106 homes. The links style



King's Bay - 2nd Hole



King's Bay - 7th Green



King's Bay - 6th Green



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of this golf course is interrupted at several points by old growth stands of Birch and Oak.

Opening day was very low-key with a guest list that included local politicians, family, and those who helped along the way. It can probably be said that my list was the longest and included family (surprise, surprise), colleagues and suppliers who had been critical to the success of our operation. None of the scores counted toward anything, however, some were more serious than others. A barbeque dinner was waiting when the guests came off the course, served by the ownership itself.

Seeding of the golf course started June 15th and carried through until the first week in July. Playing surfaces are bent grass and roughs consist of kentucky bluegrass and fescue. Although the summer was hot and dry, the efforts of staff, in particular my assistant Brent Minacs, brought the course along to meet our seemingly unrealistic deadline. What appeared to be our enemy, heat and humidity, actually helped in irrigated areas to improve germination rates. Some timely rains in September aided in bringing along the roughs.

Now that we have a playable course we are trying to find our golf game again. It's incredible how far removed you can get from golf when engaged in construction of a new course. The only negative to this whole experience was inviting my former employer to play in my foursome during the opening. I took a nearly undefeated record of 5 years and got soundly trounced. It's funny because for 5 years he claimed he would beat me on my own course one day. The wisdom of one's mentor should never be doubted.

King's Bay was open for 1 month to end the season. The number of players and feedback, so far, is very positive. We are currently winterizing the property and hope to start the 2002 season off with a bang!



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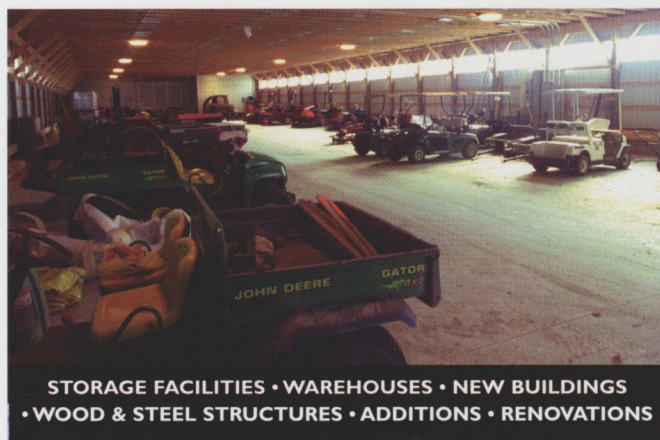
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Penn State Turfgrass Conference

Article and Photos by Mark Prieur
Assistant Superintendent
Markland Wood Country Club

The Penn State University Turfgrass Conference was held on Nov. 6-8, 2001 in State College PA, three hours from both Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Most of the speakers were Penn State Professors talking about a variety of turf topics ranging from "Basal Rot Anthracnose" to "Working for a Golf Course Management Company". The USGA had a few speakers as well who spoke on "the year in review" and "Fairway Management: Strategies from the field."

What turfgrass conference would be complete without a few rounds of golf? We lined up rounds at the Penn State Golf Club and also played Merion G.C. in the tiny Philadelphia suburb of Ardmore PA. Assistant superintendent Jake Straub was more than accommodating and gave us a rundown of Merion Golf Club's rich and storied history. In October he had to make due with 27 staff for 36 holes. So needless to say, playing the golf course was amazing. Built in 1896, the course has no yardage markers of any kind. In fact, the flags are removed from their poles and substituted with wicker baskets so you cannot tell which way the wind is blowing. It was a true test of golf.

A brief visit to Beaver Stadium gave us a chance to see how difficult managing a stadium can be. On top of maintaining top quality sports turf for one of the best football programs in the NCAA, dealing with cleanup, safety and security of 106,000 people is a daunting task.

When travelling to conferences, always take a chance to visit (or play as we did) a neighbouring golf course and learn something about what other clubs are doing. One can only learn so much in the conferences that they attend but it is outside the conferences that we gain experiences.



18th hole at Penn State Golf Course (white) in State College, PA



Beaver Stadium, home of the Penn State Nittany Lions football team. Capacity 106,000 people. Foreground: turf research plots at Penn State.



The main building at Penn State University. Built in 1855. Pictured: Scott White, Donalda Club; Chad Vibert, The Mad River Golf Club; Mark Prieur, Markland Wood Country Club.



2nd hole at Merion G.C. in Ardmore, PA. Built in 1896 the course features no yardage markers of any kind.



Dave Dick

Turfgrass Specialist

39 Monte Vista Trail
Brampton, Ont. L6Z 2J7
Fax & Phone 905-846-3319

Jeff McMaster

Turfgrass Specialist

1864 Bowler Drive
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Bunker on the par-3 129 yard 13th hole at Merion G.C.



The 11th hole at Merion G.C.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL OGSA MEMBERS

From Rob Ackermann
OGSA Representative on ECO Board

PESTICIDES MAY BE BANNED IN MUNICIPALITIES ACROSS THE PROVINCE and we need to be sure that municipal councillors understand how we use these products and what the impacts would be if they were taken away.

FIRST THINGS FIRST – we have to know when a possible ban is being proposed so that the appropriate representation can be made. To achieve this, OGSA has created a communication “Web”. Over 35 superintendents have agreed to act as regional captains who will co-ordinate the municipal monitoring in their respective regions.

HOW CAN YOU HELP – IT’S SIMPLE, just call one of the representatives in your area if you hear of a possible ban in your municipality. Together with the resources your regional representative already has, an action plan can be established.

SHARING INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT, especially considering there are 440 municipalities across Ontario. In order to ensure strong representation from all pesticide using stakeholders in all municipalities, OGSA has joined forces with **THE ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION OF ONTARIO (ECO)**. ECO was started by Landscape Ontario and it now includes as members all associations that represent users of pesticides on ornamental crops in the province. The mandate of ECO is to create regional partnerships for the purpose of sharing information and providing the necessary tools to effectively lobby government on the issue of pesticide use. To achieve their goals, ECO has established 2 web sites.

1. www.communityzero.com – this website can be accessed by invitation only. It will allow you to post or view messages about possible bans in any municipality across the province.
2. <http://groups.yahoo.com/> - this website is another invitation only site. This site is used to automatically broadcast to all site members important notices.(i.e. – vote at metro council next week, please arrange for attendance)
3. **CONTACT THE OGSA OFFICE FOR YOUR INVITATIONS TODAY !**

WE NEED YOU TO GET INVOLVED

1. Contact your local superintendent representative from the list provided. Let him know what’s going on in your community, **OR**
2. Contact the OGSA office so that we can post municipal activity on the communityzero website, **OR**
3. Join www.communityzero.com and <http://groups.yahoo.com/> yourself to share information that is critical to the survival of your industry as you know it today.
4. Contact: Rob Ackermann – Ph: (905) 625-2062 – Email: markland@on.aibn.com

Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association
Regional Representatives - Environmental Coalition of Ontario

Region	Representative	Golf Course/Company	Phone	Fax	E-mail
Huntsville/Muskoka	Amos-Stok, Natalie	Harbour View Golf & CC	705-456-5139	705-456-7787	harbourv@bconnex.com
Huntsville/Muskoka	De Silva, Sean	Taboo Golf Club	705-788-4244	705-385-3763	sean@on.aihn.com
Huntsville/Muskoka	Flett, Jim	Muskoka Lakes Golf & CC	705-765-3165	705-765-6990	jflett@vianet.on.ca
Huntsville/Muskoka	Mann, Steve	Arborists Tree Service	705-646-8733	705-645-3635	arbor@muskoka.com
Barrie	Doda, Ed	Barrie Country Club	705-728-4802	705-728-2762	n/a
Georgian Bay	Winters, Roseann	Frogs Breath Golf Course	705-647-6088	705-647-6088	rwebster@gsp-inc.com
Georgian Bay	Heeson, Ron	Monterra Golf Course	705-445-0231	705-444-1751	rheesen@bluemountain.ca
Georgian Bay	Schneider, Mark	Owen Sound Golf Club	519-376-7977	519-376-7933	osgcgm@bmts.com
Georgian Bay	Gravett, Gary	Saugeen Golf Club	519-389-4031	519-389-5530	golf@saugeengolf.com
Durham	Action, Neil	Deer Creek Golf & CC	905-427-7485	905-427-1611	nellaction@direct.com
Durham	Bowen, Ian	Oshawa Golf Club	905-725-9511	905-725-0414	bozy@netcom.ca
Durham	O'Heron, Greg	Peterborough Golf & CC	705-743-1388	705-743-2461	peterboroughgolf@home.com
Durham	White, Paul	The Briars Golf Club	905-722-4682	905-722-4087	briarsg@iis.net
Hamilton	Scenna, Pelino	Burlington Golf Club	905-681-2260	905-681-2260	
Hamilton	Taylor, John	Hunters Pointe Golf Course	905-714-4552	905-714-4633	jathp@aol.com
Kitchener/Waterloo	Bladon, John	Guelph Lakes Golf & CC	519-822-4532	519-822-4222	jbladon@guelphlakesgolf.ca
Kitchener/Waterloo	Breen, Doug	Conestoga Golf Course	519-664-2923	519-664-3033	n/a
Kitchener/Waterloo	De Corso, Dave	Victoria Park Golf Club E	519-821-2211	519-821-3039	decorso@sentex.com
Kitchener/Waterloo	Janzen, Cory	Westmount Golf Club	519-744-1041	519-742-3762	cjanzen@westmountgolf.com
Kitchener/Waterloo	Piccolo, Mark	Galt Country Club	519-650-1503	519-621-4955	gocmark@golden.net
London	Beauchamp, Ryan	St. Thomas Golf & CC	519-631-2447	519-631-6322	rbeauchamp@execulink.com
London	Richard, Jerry	Oxford Golf & CC	519-462-2910	519-462-2772	craigowan@on.aihn.ca
London	Wheeler, Scott	Forest City National Golf C	519-451-0994	519-451-8986	swheeler@attcanada.ca
Ottawa	Courneya, Mike	QTC Management	613-719-9094	613-521-1699	mlcourneya@sympatico.ca
Ottawa	Lucas, Peter	Bay of Quinte CC	613-968-9954	613-968-8836 (h)	peter.lucas@sympatico.ca
Toronto	Ackermann, Rob	Markland Wood CC	905-625-2062	905-625-1669	marklandwood@on.aihn.com
Toronto	Bartlett, Keith	Thornhill CC	905-889-2735	905-889-0449	kbartlett@direct.ca
Toronto	Brown, Phil	Summit GC	905-884-5234	905-884-6398	pbrown@interhop.net
Toronto	Burrows, Bob	Rosedale GC	416-485-9747	416-485-8532	rburrows@sympatico.ca
Toronto	Charters, Thom	Bayview CC	905-881-7640	905-889-1791	tcharters@netwave.ca
Toronto	Gravett, John	Granite Golf Club	905-642-4416	905-642-2192	jgravett@graniteclub.com
Toronto	Stauffer, Jeff	Credit Valley Golf Club	905-275-2505	905-275-6201	jstauffer@creditvalleygolf.com
Windsor	Cours, Dave	Erle Shores Golf & CC	519-326-1054	519-326-2523	erlegolf@wincom.net
At Large	Smith, Dave	DCS Agronomic Services	705-687-7645	705-687-3518	dcsag@muskoka.com

Turf or consequences

TV

by Doug Breen, Superintendent
Conestoga Golf Course

I've decided that I don't like TV anymore. This is a momentous announcement for someone of my generation: we were all raised by TVs. Mr. Dressup taught me how to draw and use sticky tape. Sesame Street taught me how to read and write and Big Al's Talent Showcase taught me that in this land of opportunity, even an old, drunk guy in a rhinestone cowboy suit could make a good living. I got through puberty with a mix of Gilligan's Island, Wonder Woman and I dream of Jeannie. TV was very important to me and it has let me down.

Back on the farmstead on Breen Road in peaceful Putnam, Ontario, our rabbit ears (even with a generous application of tinfoil) could only pull in three stations on the black and white Magnavox in our living room, but there was always something worth watching. No unrealistic "reality" shows, or "all sex" channels reminding me 24 hours a day that everyone else is getting more than me, just good quality programming. It was a red letter day when I found the directions for making an antenna in a 1962 back issue of Popular Mechanics. I pulled in a station from Erie, Pennsylvania and for the first time in my life, I saw NBC 'must-see' TV.

This was the beginning of the end. It would appear that everything worth watching was on the three channels I started with, because now there's 902 channels on my TV listing channel and there's almost nothing I'd waste a half hour on. In truth, it takes three quarters of an hour just to scroll through all the channels (half of which are awful and you pay extra for) and by the time I find something I want to see, it's over already.

Even worse, the whole time you're watching endless "Friends" clones scroll by, you're assaulted by a constantly looping infomercial for a psychic hotline. Caller after caller worried that her husband might be having an affair. Of course he is! He's married to someone stupid enough to call a psychic hotline on TV.

The upside though, is that I can now watch more golf. And not just the PGA tour, either. Due to the fact that there are now 476 golf tournaments coming down my fibre optic cable at any given time, I can now watch the "Bob's Bait Shop Invitational" from West Swamp Tussle, Arkansas or the "Siberian Open" from Glagushtekniectuklaginsbourg. I watch a lot of golf, or more precisely, I watch a lot of golf courses. I only tune in because I find it fascinating to see what Superintendents around the world are up to and what they're up against.

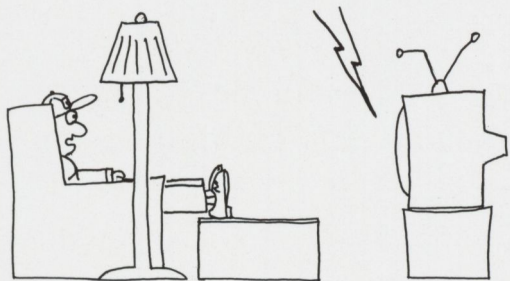
The actual coverage of the golfers themselves is pretty much standard. A bunch of "has beens" and "never was" whispering around the tees and greens about which club the golfer should be using, and casually throwing in the odd turfgrass word like "poa" or "bermuda grass" like they know what they were talking about. And what's with the whispering? How did golf, unlike any other sport, develop this custom of being completely silent and still while the player strikes a motionless ball



with a flat faced club with absolutely no defence? Its' infinitely harder to hit a round baseball with a round bat while it rockets at you at 100 mph plus. A quarterback is expected to perfectly feather a pass between two defensive backs and into the end zone, a split second before some 300 pound, seven foot behemoth from Alabama knocks him unconscious. Furthermore, both of these feats are accomplished while the most vile, hateful, and repugnant vitriol imaginable is spat down from the stands. Only in golf could missing a four foot putt with a three inch back swing be blamed on an idling fairway mower a hundred yards away.

I do like seeing courses from Spain, the Orient and other places I'll probably never visit, so maybe I've been too hasty in abandoning TV. I'll just watch nothing but sports and reruns. There's nothing like a WKRP marathon to make me feel like it's 1979 again. When it really was worth tuning in.

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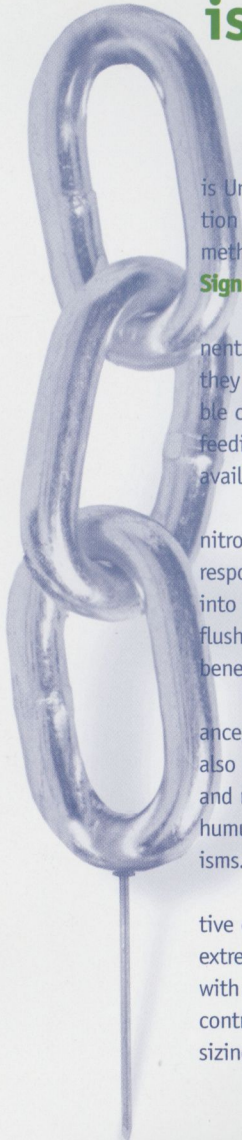
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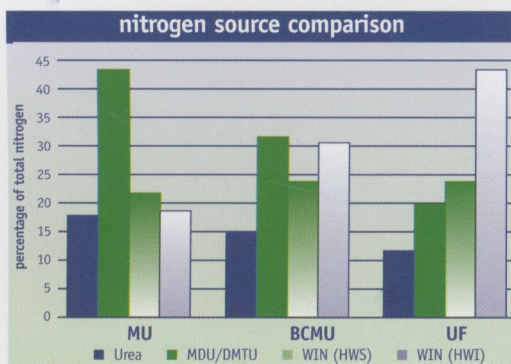
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Looking back

Ten years ago today

by Barry Endicott,
Nobleton Lakes Golf Club

The Board of Directors in 1991 were: **Mark Hagen** (pres.), **Rhod Trainor** (vice), **Gordon Nimmo** (past pres.), **Simon George** (editor), **Bill Fach**, **Alex La Belle**, **Ian Bowen**, **John Taylor**, **Mark Shneider**, **Dave Gourlay** (treas.), **Bruce Burger** and **Vince Dermott**.

The Ontario Turfgrass Symposium was held at Guelph with 230 in attendance. Dean of OAC, **Dr. R. McLaughlin** and president **Gord Nimmo** opened the session. Talks were presented from **Gerald Faubel** (president of GCSAA), **Doug Carrick**, **Annette Anderson** (OMAF), **Teri Yamada** (RCGA), **Dave Smith**, Muskoka Lakes, **Kent Groves**, Green Care, **Thom Charters**, Weston, **Bill Fach**, Rosedale, **Chris Hall**, University of Guelph, **Tim Clarridge**, Parkview, and **Dick Psolla**. This was the last time the OGSA ran this symposium. It will be organized and ran by all sectors of the turfgrass industry.

On the move: **Bob Burrows**, from assistant of Credit Valley to Superintendent of Cornwall.

The CGSA Conference was held in Toronto on December 8-11. **Paul Dermott** was selected as Superintendent of the Year. The Canadian Golf Team of **Bob Heron**, **Thom Charters**, **Robbie Robinson**, and **Doug Meyer** were winners over the United States in the Ransomes International Golf Tournament in England.

Rhod Trainor, Hamilton Golf Club, hosted the Ontario Amateur Golf Championship.

Annette Anderson, OMAF, was moving on to other things and **Pam Charbonneau** was assuming the duties of Turfgrass Extension Specialist.



*"Yesterday is history,
tomorrow is a mystery,
today is a gift,
that's why it's called the present!"*

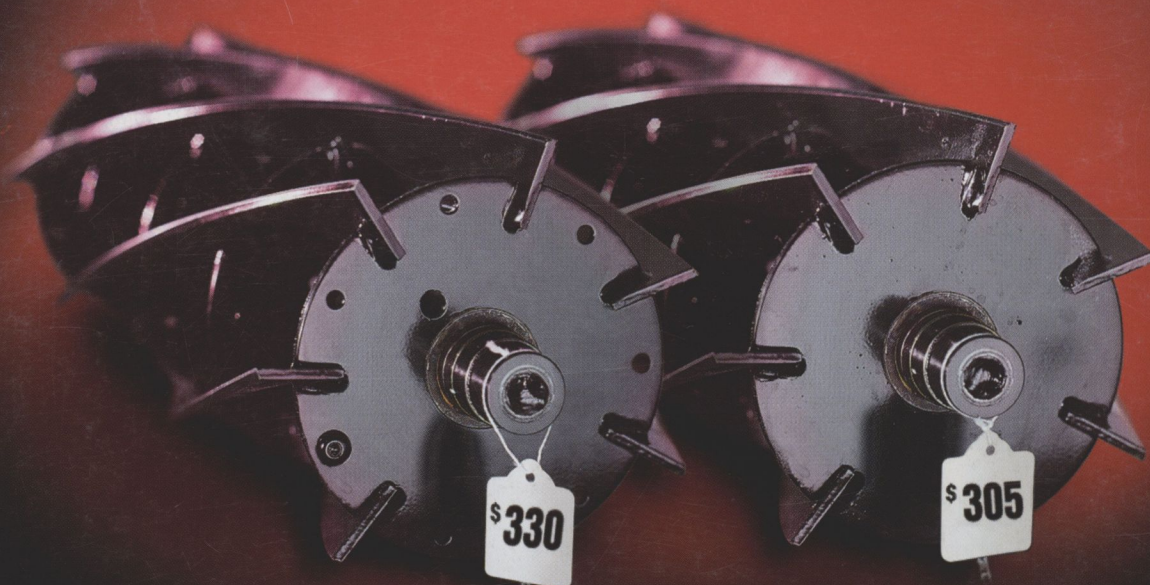
*Warmest Wishes to you
and Your Family for a Joyous,
Festive and Safe Holiday Season*

*May the Spirit of This Season
Remain in Your Hearts
All Year Long!*



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