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## Guest Editorial by Rod Trainor, CGCS

# WHAT IS YOUR IMAGE?

This editorial deals with your image as a Superintendent and how you are perceived by those around you such as your membership, your peers, your employees and the general public. Today's golf course Superintendent is no longer just a keeper of the greens. He is a highly qualified, trained and educated professional and must project himself as one. Where do you begin? The place to begin is right in your own back yard, and that means your own club. The following is a checklist you can use to help project yourself as a professional in your own club.

### 1. The Maintenance Building and Yard:

- Is it organized and clean, does everything have a place? Is it marked with a sign so people know where you are, and is it a place where members or golfers would feel comfortable if they wanted to see you?

### 2. Equipment:

- It is kept clean and washed regularly? Do you wax it to keep it looking like new?

### 3. Staff:

- Are they encouraged to wear clean, neat clothing and keep themselves neatly groomed? Does their dress conform to your own club dress code? Are they encouraged to be polite and courteous to the members and golfers?

### 4. Communication:

- Do the members and players know what's going on on the golf course? They can be informed by a regular letter from the superintendent in the club's newsletter. Notice boards on the first and tenth tees informing players of maintenance activities which may disrupt or affect their game are much appreciated. Additional copies of *"Green Is Beautiful"* in areas of the clubhouse where members may read them.

### 5. Visibility:

- What is your appearance and dress?
- Do you play golf with the members?
- Do you play in club events?
- Do you eat your lunch in the clubhouse snack bar?
- Are you available and approachable by your members?

These are only a few things that can help promote your own image in your club. They may not all be possible or apply but regardless, the only person who can do anything about it is you. So blow your own horn because nobody else will.



**Annette Anderson**  
Turf Extension Specialist  
Plant Industry Branch

**Ministry of Agriculture and Food**  
Hort. Science Dept.  
University of Guelph  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1  
Telephone (519) 824-4120, Ext. 2597



## On The Move

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Bill Fach  
Brian Gouthro  
Bernie Martin  
Ken Siems  
Charlie Terry  
John Anderson  
Nancy Pierce

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From Essex to Rosedale  
From Tyandaga to Riverside  
From Ancaster to Tyandaga  
From Mississauga to Islington  
From Siddal Irrigation to Cranberry Village  
From Owen Sound to IBM  
From U. of Guelph to Toronto GC

## NEW MEMBERS

Andrew Masek, Oakdale GC – Class F  
Robert J. Field, Burlington CG – Class F  
Gary Roos, Oakdale GC – Class F  
Steve Sherwood, Bridgewater CC – Class F

## NEW MEMBERS

Ken Siems, Islington CG – Class B  
Larry Brassard – Class E  
Robert Mitchell, Roseland GC – Class F  
Patrick M. Hebert, Roseland GC – Class B



# 38th ANNUAL TURFGRASS CONFERENCE REPORT

by Alex LaBelle



The Canadian Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show was held in St. John, New Brunswick from March 8th to the 11th. This year the program provided simultaneous translation and concurrent lectures in landscaping, recognizing the duality of our country and the increased responsibility of today's turf managers to provide our clubs with the best service and most current information available. The person to contact, the exchange and reinforcement of viewpoints is a value which is inestimable.

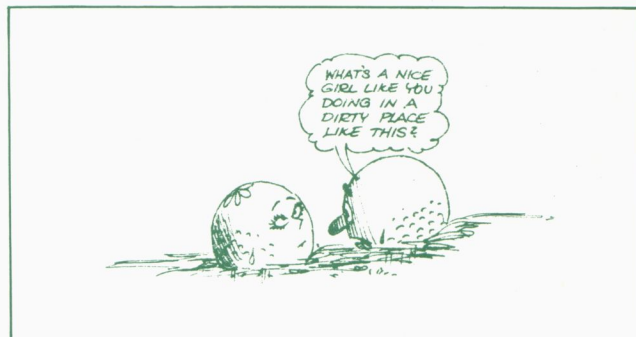
We are no longer a profession restricted to the propagation of fine quality turfgrass. We are now becoming recognized as professional environment managers. The golf game is only one facet of our responsibility, which begins at the entrance to our facility, setting the mood of our clientele with colour and beauty right up to the first tee, and sustaining it through eighteen holes of pleasure on the best carpet that we can provide. The movement from west to east of total property enhancement has arrived and we are ready to meet the challenge.

There is a strong realization of the need for computerization of golf courses. Hourly weather updating, record storage, report processing, scheduling and instant information exchange can reduce the tedious paperwork becoming a burden on the superintendent as their duties as personnel and business managers snowball. A more efficient tool is required to free the property manager of desks and allow him/her to allot

more time to our growing responsibility to the total property, yet still control the paper dilemma. Irrigation systems have been increasingly computerized over the past ten years, but now the irrigation computer can be incorporated into the total operation, becoming just one facet of the superintendent's information network.

The current estimate of the average cost per year for a university education is \$7,200.00. These conferences provide us with the most up-to-date information available. They are university courses with the best men and women from research institutes such as Texas A & M, Penn State, The University of Massachusetts, Virginia Tech and our own University of Guelph, to name just a few. The fee is a pittance when you consider the total accumulated knowledge of the best minds on the continent at some of the finest research facilities in the world gathered in one place for four days of lectures. This does not even take into account the massive display of new technology available at the trade show.

In all I would like to say that it was a worthwhile experience (especially for the eastern hockey team), well organized by Blake Palmer; a hard act to follow.



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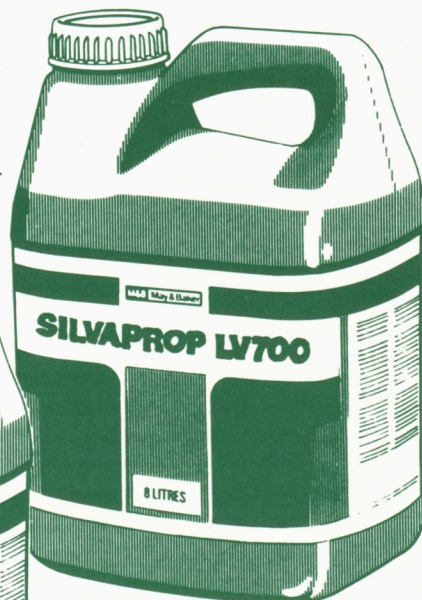
Compitox Plus is safe on established turf planted with Kentucky blue, Merion blue, fescues and rye grasses.



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# GOALS AND POSITIVE LIVING

by Jacques Weisel

## WARNING: The Surgeon General Has Determined That Apathy is Dangerous to Your Health.

Most people have an aim in life, but no ammunition.

You're at a picnic and you spot a young man with an archery set, shooting arrows into a tree trunk. Every time he goes over and paints a perfect bullseye around the arrow. Passersby who only see the results of his work think he is a great archer. You smile, knowing better of course. Or do you? . . . After all isn't this basically the way you run your life? You end up somewhere, and then decide that's where you wanted to be all along. As a mature individual you've forgotten the most basic concept to living which is to Plan Ahead. You'll go over the day-by-day activities for a 2-week vacation (perhaps 50 times in your lifetime) as if you're involved in a forcible overthrow of a hostile government. Yet your only *once-in-a-lifetime* journey is played through without too much rhyme or reason. Usually with no plan beyond today and what it may bring. The Koran says "If you don't know where you're going any road will get you there." I've watched people do the same thing in Chinese restaurants. They don't know how to use chopsticks, and try for the beef, shrimp or pork in the dish. All they end up with are some grains of rice, which they proceed to eat. Occasionally, in order not to starve to death they go back to the fork. And yet, a little training ahead of time with the chopsticks (short-range goal) would eliminate the problem before it occurs, and no one would have to be satisfied with the "crumbs" dished out, since we would be in full control.

It is a well-known fact that man is a goal-starving mechanism. This means that whether he has goals or not he will reach them. My question is simply this — Would you rather reach goals which are yours or someone else's? As a child we were given short-range goals to live by: "Eat your food", "go to bed", "don't step in the gutter", "go to college", "get married" . . . All short-range and long-range plans that someone else wanted us to execute. It's no wonder that we got out of that habit as soon as we could — and usually end up throwing out the baby with the dirty water. Goals are not important to Positive Living. They are *crucial*. It is not a coincidence that the word "goal" begins with "go". Daily goals give you the best reason to get up and do. Weekly goals make months fly, and monthly goals renew your enthusiasm for life twelve times per year. Annual goals can guarantee a lifetime of successful happenings, as you maintain full control of your personal destiny.

The captain of a cruise ship needs to see his destination thousands of miles away to know he will reach it at a certain date and time, so you can plan your life according to your own timetable. Your goals must be

realistic and reachable, so that you can reap the rewards of positive reinforcement at timed intervals, and thus have the confidence to know that you're on target for the big plan. One last condition. You must feel you deserve to reach your personal and financial targets, and only a healthy self-esteem can do that. As children we are all either the victims or the beneficiaries of attitudes instilled in us by others. We are either cursed or blessed by our early conditioning . . . and we also know that the Bible says "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he . . ." This means that if we don't like some of our "programmed" thinking we can change it by putting stronger and healthier thoughts into our minds.

Goals have changed a lot in recent years. Witness the following example. We used to marry on a long-range basis "till death do us part", which meant a *commitment*. Now it's become "till divorce do us part", a short-range affair wherein the 'commitment' has turned into 'convenience'. A recent *Redbook* survey of marriage counselors showed that the 3 most common causes for divorce are: (1) A breakdown in communications; (2) The loss of shared Goals and Interests; (3) Sex and Incompatibility.

There are literally hundreds of self-help books out on numbers 1 and 3, and very little on the subject of proper goal-setting. Profit-oriented companies have discovered the secret. They call it "management by objective". They make money and reach corporate goals by carefully pre-planning the direction in which they want the company to go. Unfortunately the same cannot be said of our governments, both national and local. The reason is simple. Since elections take place every few years politicians cannot plan beyond their short-term positions, so that as a nation there is never a continuity of ideas designed to benefit the People. Japan, on the other hand, has 30-year plans for industrial growth and it is understood that whoever is in power will continue the program of predecessors, because it is in the National Interest to do so, and not for the benefit of the local conditions.

One last good thought on goals by Henry David Thoreau: "The man who goes alone can start today. But he who travels with another must wait till the other is ready." 'Nuff said . . .

*Jacques Weisel is a national authority on positive living and selling. He is co-author of the book, "The Management Motivators", producer of sales and motivational tapes and past president of the New York Chapter of the National Speakers Association. For a free information kit, contact him at: P.O. Box 224, Coram, NY 11727, (516) 698-7760.*

Article borrowed from the "Three Rivers Green" Dec., 1986.



# ADVANCED TURF MANAGEMENT COURSE 1987

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH by David C. Smith, Muskoka Lakes G & CC

A wealth of information was offered during this one week course.

Throughout the seminar the role of computers on the golf course appeared several times.

Dr. Karl Danneberger of Ohio State University demonstrated the many uses of computers in golf course maintenance. Many courses are now using the computer for budget organization and payroll but there are many other possibilities. Inventory, record keeping and disease forecasting can all be programmed on the computer. An interesting point by Dr. Danneberger was that there are many high school students who could prove to be a less expensive alternative to our programming needs.

Advances in irrigation techniques and the computer as an irrigation tool was discussed by Ron Varoni of Toro Turf Products.

Dr. Burpee discussed foliar and root diseases as well as the mysterious black layer. High sand content greens built of calcareous sands and watered to excess provide a perfect home for the black layer.

Professor J. Chris Hall lectured on herbicides and weed control. Emphasis was placed upon

how the herbicide actually works in the plant.

Plant growth regulators were discussed in detail. The future looks promising for many of these products.

Professor Lumis discussed landscape trees and their uses. Tough trees for tough sights, flowering trees and conifers were all discussed. This was an excellent discussion for anyone planning a tree planting program.

New turfgrass cultivars, mowing practices and annual bluegrass control was discussed by Dr. Jack Eggans. There were some interesting discussions on triplex mowing and the application timing of nitrogen. Seed head removal on fairways was also discussed.

The job of the golf course superintendent has changed in the past few years, but bigger changes are to come as the computer is accepted by golf courses. The more the topic is discussed the more I wonder what our job description will look like in the future.

Once again the course offered an abundance of information. It was also an opportunity to talk shop and make new friends in the turfgrass industry.

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# GUELPH TURFGRASS INSTITUTE

## AN EXCITING FUTURE FOR THE TURFGRASS INDUSTRY

by Annette Anderson, Turf Extension Specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food

It is an exciting time in the turf industry these days. The establishment of the Guelph Turfgrass Institute was officially announced in February. This followed the announcement of the creation of a Turf Extension Position with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. These are two new additions that will have a positive impact on turf research and education for the turf industry in Ontario.

### THE GUELPH TURFGRASS INSTITUTE (GTI)

The University of Guelph has long been recognized as the only institution in Canada that offers education in turfgrass at the associate diploma, undergraduate, graduate levels and through continuing education and independent study.

Researchers at the University of Guelph carry out the most extensive turfgrass research program in Canada and have been a strong force in assisting with turf production and management problems. In addition to research responsibilities it was estimated that the turfgrass researchers spent over 800 hours acting on extension-related situations, emphasizing the need for a full time extension position.

Turf is a very strong and vital industry in Ontario, estimated at over 250 million dollars annually. It is largely through the efforts of industry associations, such as the Ontario Turf Research Foundation that provided the impetus for the establishment of GTI.

The Guelph Turfgrass Institute will offer a focal point for research, education, extension, and it facilitates a greater interaction among these disciplines.

Planning is currently underway for a building for GTI. The building will be located on Stone Road, approximately 1 mile west of the University Campus. The University has approved the use of 10 acres of land for the GTI building including the development of approximately 8 acres of new turfgrass research plots. The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food is supporting GTI through research funding and the hiring of a Turf Extension Specialist. The financing of the building is to be funded largely by the turf industry. The Ontario Turf Research Foundation played an important role in encouraging the establishment of GTI and are coordinating a fundraising campaign. This is an excellent opportunity for the turf industry to show its support and make GTI a world class turfgrass research and education centre that will benefit everyone working with turfgrass. If the turf industry supports these efforts as anticipated, ground breaking for the building should be underway in the fall of '87 or spring of '88.

Dr. Lee Burpee has been appointed by Dr. F. L. McEwen, Dean of OAC, as Director of GTI and in addition to research responsibilities will assist in the administration, public relations and fundraising efforts of GTI. A Turfgrass Advisory Committee made up

of members of the turfgrass industry, OMAF and the University will also be appointed to assist in providing direction to the Institute.

### TURF EXTENSION

The turfgrass industry is 'information hungry'! As turfgrass extension Specialist my duties will involve working with all sectors of the industry: golf courses, lawn care companies, sod producers, athletic turf facilities and government agencies to provide information and advice, write extension publications and assist the various associations in organizing field days, conferences and seminars.

Part of my job is to act as liaison between researchers and industry, keeping industry informed on current research and how it can be applied to commercial turf management practices. Through feedback from industry I can communicate production problems that may warrant future research efforts.

The future of the turf industry is looking 'greener' all the time! I'm very happy to be a part of your industry and I look forward to working with you. Here's a list of coming events that I would encourage you to attend:

Tuesday, June 18, 1987	Athletic Turf Field Day University of Guelph Alumni Stadium
Monday, June 22, 1987	OGSA Field Day Cambridge Research Station
Wednesday, August 26, 1987	OTRF/GTI Turf Field Day Cambridge Research Station
Tuesday, November 24, 1987	1st Annual Guelph Turfgrass Conference and Educational Seminars University of Guelph

For more information, contact: Annette Anderson, Turf Extension Specialist, Ontario Ministry Agr. & Food, Horticulture Dept., University of Guelph — (519) 824-4120, ext. 2597

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*Handwritten signature of R. Paul Johnson*



# WHY ACCIDENTS HAPPEN

Accidents are generally thought to be a result of bad luck or an act of God. However, an unsafe act, a hazardous condition or some combination of the two must occur before an accident can happen. Of these two conditions, unsafe acts or work practices are a contributing factor in 90 percent of all accidents. Here are some of the factors which can cause workers to commit errors leading to accidents:

**Lack of Proper Training** can be a major cause of accidents. Employees must be trained to do their jobs safely, and care must be taken to ensure that they continue to perform as instructed.

**Ignorance of a Hazardous Condition** can result from lack of experience or poor communication.

**Indifference or Laziness** resulting from fatigue, a poor relationship with the boss or a lack of motivation can make an employee take on an unsafe short cut.



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# ROBERT TREVIS HONoured AT SCORE AWARDS



PAST SCORE AWARD WINNERS

Standing, L-R: Dave Gourlay, Georges Langevin, Sid Puddicombe, Gord Witteveen  
Seated, L-R: Bob Trevis, John Steel (in place of Bill Hynd)

The Sixth Annual Score Awards evening was held February 2nd at the Constellation Hotel in Toronto. Outstanding players and administrators were presented with awards for their contributions to golf in Canada.

Brain Houston, President of the C.G.S.A. presented Robert Trevis the Score Award for being the Canadian Golf Club Superintendent of the Year. Robert's career started at the Royal Montreal Golf Club where his summer job was to haul hay to a riding stable, pick up a load of manure and bring the fertilizer back to the golf club. Since that humble beginning, Robert has held head positions at Mount Royal Lawnbowling and Tennis Club, Canadian Golf Club, and Kanawaki Golf Club. He has hosted the Dominion International Lawn Bowling Championships at Mount Royal and the Men's Canadian Amateur Golf Tournament at Kanawaki. He has been a director and President of the Quebec Superintendent's Association, the Canadian Golf Course Superintendent's Association and he is also involved with the Canadian Turfgrass Research Foundation.

In nominating Robert Trevis, former greens-chairman of Kanawaki, Larry Boyle stated: "His performance has been of the highest calibre, his integrity is without peer and his conduct has always exemplified what a true professional should be." His contributions to the golf industry makes Robert a worthy recipient for Scores Superintendent of the Year Award.

## OZONE DESTRUCTION CITED IN SKIN CANCER 'EPIDEMIC'

The rise in skin cancer, linked by scientists to destruction of the Earth's protective ozone layer, is reaching near-epidemic rates in the United States, a research physician told Congress recently.

Estimates indicate more than 500,000 skin cancers will be diagnosed this year, accounting for one-third of the new cancer cases in the United States, said Dr. Darrell Rigel, of the New York University Medical Centre.

"At the current rate, about 1 in 7 Americans will develop this disease during their lifetime," Rigel told an ozone-depletion hearing by the Energy and Commerce Health and the environmental subcommittee.

"The rate of skin cancer in the U.S. is reaching a near-epidemic pace."

Rigel said the rate of malignant melanoma, the type of skin cancer that is often fatal, is rising faster than any other form of cancer except lung cancer in women.

The estimated number of cases has increased 83 per cent in the last seven years alone, he said.

The rate of skin cancer in Canada has consistently been lower than the rates of countries closer to the equator.

About 400 cases of malignant melanoma are diagnosed in Ontario a year, according to the Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation.

Skin specialists have observed an increase in the number of cases which they blame on a rise in sun-bathing.

Rigel said that although many factors have been linked to skin cancer, "the generally accepted most important factor is exposure to ultraviolet light."

*Toronto Star, March/87*



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# 15 YEARS AGO TODAY

The Board of Directors were as follows: Bill Hynd (pres), Jim Wylie (vice), Ross Haines (sec), Bob Heron (tres), Bob Lamb, Ron Allen, Roy French, Paul Dermott, Helmut Kopp, E. Charman and John Arends (past pres). The editorial committee consisted of Bill Hynd, John Arends, Ross Haines and Helmut Kopp.

New Members: Paul White, Kanawaki Golf Club; Jacob Hallman, Chestly Lake Camp Association; C. P. Smith, Brooklea Golf Club; C. Miller, C. A. Miller Construction Ltd.; Bill Robinson, Bill Robinson Turf Supplies; Cameron Cairncross, Foxwood Golf Club; Paul Dodson, Mississauga Golf and Country Club; Les Kelly, Royal Ottawa Golf Club; John Hutchinson, Warkworth Golf Club; Lamont Anderson, Midad Golf Club; Hugh Kirkpatrick, Conestoga Golf Club; Stewart Mills, R. Allen, Highlands Golf Course; Ron Weire, Welland Valley Golf Club; Dennis Pellreene, Glen Abbey Golf Club; Walter Windjack and Edward Rubski, co-owners of Brock Golf and; Calvin Fairhall, Westmount Golf Club; D. Elliott, Westhill Golf Club; Nick Panasiuk, Hideaway Golf Club; A. C. Pratt, Bracebridge and B. S. Evans, Agincourt.

The Ontario Turfgrass Symposium was held on January 10th at Northwood Country Club hosted by Gord Witteveen. The registration fee was \$10 which included lunch and dinner. On March 17 the RCGA Conference was held at the Skyline Hotel.

Gord Witteveen was nominated as a director of the GCSAA at the forthcoming conference in Cincinnati. Kimmo Salonen broke his leg while skiing in Austria. Ron Allen, Superintendent at Donalda Golf Club received the highest marks at the University of Guelph short course.

Jack Abbot, an Honorary member of the OGSA passed away on February 9th. He farmed the property known as the Islington Golf Club which was built in 1924. He supervised the building of the course and continued as Superintendent at this club from 1924 to 1938. He then accepted a position at the Rosedale Golf Club from 1939 to 1950. Following a brief retirement he returned to Islington as Superintendent until 1960 when he finally retired at the age of 76. He was one of the originators of the OGSA.

A meeting was held at St. George's Golf Club on March 16th and the speaker was John Campbell, Links Supervisor at St. Andrews. On April 11 there was a combined meeting between the OGSA and Western Greenskeepers Assoc. at Cherry Hills Golf & Country Club hosted by Charlie Behm. Cherry Hills is the host for this year's Canadian Open held from July 6 to July 9. On April 17 there was a meeting held at Essex Golf Club hosted by Dave Moote. In June the Galt Country Club and the University of Guelph held the spring field day hosted by Paul Scenna. Bill Hynd was first low gross, Bob Hall second low gross and Hugh Kirkpatrick was third low gross. Bob Heron was first low net and Helmut Kopp was second low net. On May 9th there was a meeting at the Oakdale Golf Club hosted by Bob Moote and the speaker was Robbie Robinson, golf course architect. First low gross Bob Heron, second G. Toombs and third low gross Whitey Jones. First low net was Keith Nesbit, second Dan Uzelac and third Cam Cairncross. John Grightmire hosted a meeting at Rosedale on Oct. 10th. On November 7th there was a meeting held at the Summit Golf Club and December 5th the annual meeting was held at the Aurora Highlands. In August the Pro Superintendent Day was hosted at Islington Golf Club.

On July 21 Brantford Golf Club hosted the Greens Chairman/ Superintendent Golf Tournament hosted by Vince Piccolo. Vince has been the Superintendent at Brantford for the past 15 years. They started playing golf at Brantford in 1879 and it is the fourth oldest golf club in Canada. They wore red jackets trimmed with brass buttons and membership was exclusive by ballot. If one blackball ballot was presented he was denied membership. The game was not expensive with the annual dues being only \$3.00. Brantford was one of the first golf clubs to have irrigation.

There was a warning sent out to all members of the OGSA regarding gambling at meetings: "The Board of Directors of the Ontario Golf Superintendents Association has requested that all gambling in club houses be stopped unless the host Superintendent so wishes at his club. Please respect this rule."

by Barry Endicott

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# A Little Bit of Encouragement

*The following bulletin was penned by Gord Witteveen over 12 years ago and was sent to all member clubs of the O.G.A. at that time. It is still appropriate reading material. — (Ed)*

Another golfing season is upon us and an ever growing number of golf enthusiasts have started to descend on our courses. As Golf Course Superintendents we have been looking forward with anticipation to opening day. We did not spend the winter idly by the fireside but have been preparing for our friends, the golfers. For several months now we have been planning for the upcoming golfing season. The mowers have been sharpened, the tractors overhauled, ballwashers and tee markers have been freshly painted. A new budget has been prepared and this was a particularly difficult assignment this year because of uncertain economic conditions. Continued deterioration of the current crisis could result in fewer members at many clubs and consequent cuts in budgets. Superintendents must be prepared to maintain courses for less money than in previous years. Over the winter months many Superintendents attended Turf Conferences, equipment exhibits and meetings of their local associations. These were educational opportunities which afforded the turf men an opportunity to stay abreast of the times and to be cognizant of the latest developments in the golf turf indus-

try. A pleasant side effect of the educational experience of the past winter is that your Golf Course Superintendent, having been inebriated with new ideas and methods, is literally raring to go to implement some of this new found knowledge.

So here we have the eager golfer, the course which from all reports has wintered well, and a Superintendent filled to the brim with enthusiasm to make it still better than last year. What happens next? The big let-down! The course is opened prematurely because the Greens Committee can't resist the pressures from various quarters for an early opening. Against the advice of the Golf Course Superintendent the course is opened. This happens every spring at many courses and the *few extra days gained at the beginning are frequently the cause of inferior conditions for the balance of the season.*

A few weeks later the course is in play with no temporary greens and a sudden downpour saturates the terrain. The Superintendent advises the Pro Shop that power carts are not allowed out. Just then the Club President arrives with three guests and again our man is overruled.

Then along comes May. This is a critical month in the golf course maintenance program. It is our last chance to encourage the turf vigorously so that it will be able to withstand the drought and the heat of the oncoming summer and the punishment of thousands of stomping and dragging feet. We fertilize, spray for disease, treat for worms, topdress and aerify, and that's when we hear the membership cry. "Why does the perfect putting surface have to be punched full of holes and ruined for the rest of the season?" This last assertion is of course utterly untrue. The tiny aerifier holes will grow in in less than ten days and frequently, greens aerified on Monday and are back to normal by the following weekend. Why, asks the Superintendent, do golfers fail to understand that aerifying and topdressing are two essential operations, without which, it is impossible to create the perfect putting surface? Yes, why? Obviously there is a communication gap but before it can be bridged your Golf Course Superintendent may have lost some more of his enthusiasm which motivated him at the beginning of the season. This is sad indeed and it need not be. Your club has hired a Superintendent to take care of the course. Your man may be a trained agronomist with a college education or he may be a farmer who came with the property and was willing to stay. The membership of the Golf Superintendents Association covers the spectrum between these two extremes. The fact is, he is your man — your Golf Course Superintendent. You have placed him in charge of a piece of real estate valued, in many instances, over a million dollars. Now give him your confidence and respect his knowledge. Give him the freedom to operate without the inference of the Golf Pro, the Manager, and two dozen low Handicap Golfers.

Absolutely nobody is better qualified than your Golf Superintendent to determine when your course is



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ready for opening, when golf carts should be allowed on the course or when a green needs aerifying. You have hired an expert and you are paying high wages for his services. Not taking his advice is foolhardy to say the least. Does it really not make sense to use a more workable approach? Have your Greens Committee and your Superintendent discuss the opening of the course. Make sure members realize that there will be days when power carts cannot be used, and that no exceptions will be made. Explain in your newsletters and on your bulletin boards that aerifying and top-dressing ultimately benefits all golfers. Above all, keep your Superintendent's enthusiasm at a high level. Don't kill it by overruling him at every opportunity. Encourage him to innovate and praise him when he has outdone himself. There is little doubt that the attitude of your Superintendent, more than any other factor, will determine the condition of your golf course for the coming season. So give your man the confidence that he needs and I am sure that it will result in an improved golf course for the coming season.



## News From The Valley

by Alex LaBelle

In my last report, I mentioned the Christmas ice storm. Well, now that the snow has left, we see the hidden damage that is a curse of the Ottawa Valley; severely ice damaged greens. We, at Carleton, got off luckier than most but no one escaped completely. The weather, though, has been excellent in that for three weeks from April 1st to April 20th the temperature has hovered around the 20°C mark. Dry conditions coupled with early irrigation starts and various cultural efforts, has the grass leaping out of the massive blacked out areas, much to our relief. As I write this article the temperatures have dropped to 3°C and it is snowing. Nature is so fickle.

Dick Woodward's irrigation system is still in limbo and Doug Rothwell's pruning program has to begin again thanks to the ice. Speaking of pruning, the Ministry of Transport has played a nasty trick on Bill Rowat of the Hylands Golf Club. It seems the pilots didn't like the trees on the 6th hole of the north course beside the runway. They are now half as high as they used to be.

Well, as I contemplate aerification in a week's time, I guess I'll strap on the snow shoes and go for a walk. See ya later.

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# OUR TORNADO WARNINGS WILL BE MORE PRECISE

by Al Barnes, *Toronto Star*

Improved radar and 1,400 volunteer observers will watch southern Ontario's tornado alley this summer to give earlier warnings and fewer false alarms of twisters.

Environment Canada says that while it can't prevent property loss due to severe storms, lives can be saved through more accurate forecasts serving a better-informed public.

During the past nine years, tornadoes have killed 22 people in the province and racked up a staggering \$1.5 billion in damage. They strike between April and September.

Tornadoes are the most dangerous of the severe weather systems experienced in Ontario, and in recent years there has been an average of 25 of them a year.

A tornado is a violently whirling wind that appears as a funnel-shaped cloud hanging from the base of a dark, threatening thunderstorm cloud.

Dust and debris, often mixed with mud and water, can be seen carried from the ground to the funnel.

Tornado alley is an area within 60 kilometres (37 miles) of Highway 401 between Windsor and Metro.

However, tornadoes have been reported in all parts of the province. Only one or two a year produce significant damage but a disastrous tornado can be expected somewhere in Ontario about once every four years.

In their efforts to improve tornado spotting, the weather people have studied the weather patterns that caused the major tornadoes that struck Woodstock, Barrie and Grand Valley and have found some similarities.

On Aug. 7, 1979, two twisters hit the Woodstock area, leaving three dead, 130 injured and an estimated \$60 million in property damage.

On May 31, 1985, separate tornadoes hit Barrie and Grand Val-

ley, killing about 12 people and destroying millions of dollars worth of buildings. Fifty homes were destroyed in Grand Valley.

A profile of a tornado can be drawn from the one that struck Grand Valley:

- Wind speed up to 400 kilometres (248 miles) an hour.
- Path on ground more than 100 kilometres (62 miles) long and 400 metres (1,333 feet) wide.
- Time of occurrence 4:15 to 5:15 p.m.
- Damage: Weak buildings destroyed, roofs and some outside walls removed from most strong ones, some weaker homes blown away.

These patterns were repeated on June 16 last year in the Haliburton area, Environment Canada said in a statement. A tornado destroyed about 26 cottages and houses and damaged another 125.

There was a swath of destruction 150 metres (500 feet) wide and 30 kilometres (19 miles wide) north of Minden.

Weather watches were issued that day mentioning the potential for tornadoes; the Haliburton was the strongest of three.

Through this comparative pattern analysis and recognition, Environment Canada's staff was able to recognize that this type of situation was the only one capable of producing strong tornadoes in 1986.

"We got off very lightly last year," said Walter Lawrynuik, chief of forecast operations at the Ontario Weather Centre.

Lawrynuik said the centre issues two kinds of bad weather advisories.

A "severe weather watch" is issued up to six hours ahead of potentially dangerous thunderstorms that can lead to tornadoes, he said.

He said a "severe weather warning" is put out within half an hour of an impending disturbance that identifies a storm such as a tornado.



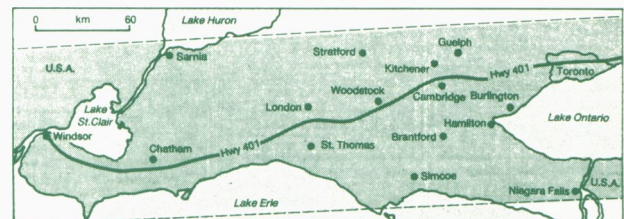
## "HARVESTS" HIGHLIGHTS

### DROUGHT TOLERANCE OF COOL SEASON TURFGRASS

by D. D. Minner and J.D. Butler, Colorado, USA

Recommendations may be based on the following:

- Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass and fine fescue require supplemental irrigation to provide acceptable turf quality when grown along the Front Range of Colorado.
- A-20-6, H-7, America and Majestic cultivars of Kentucky bluegrass have improved drought tolerance. Of these four, H-7 and Majestic has superior drought tolerance.
- Some perennial ryegrass cultivars, including Aristocrat, Belatrix, Citation and Yorktown, have improved drought tolerance.
- None of the fine fescues provided acceptable turf under drought conditions. Some hard fescues — Balmoral, Biljart, Scaldis, Silvana, Tournament and Waldena — were more drought tolerant than other fine fescues.
- As drought conditions develop, perennial ryegrass remains green and viable longer than Kentucky bluegrass or fine fescue. When water becomes available in late summer, perennial ryegrass recovers faster than Kentucky bluegrass or fine fescue.
- Perennial ryegrass has greater drought tolerance than Kentucky bluegrass, which has a greater tolerance than fine fescue.



Tornado alley: It is an area within 59 kilometres of Highway 401 between Windsor and Toronto.

## "HARVESTS" HIGHLIGHTS

### INFLUENCE OF DROUGHT STRESS AND FALL NITROGEN FERTILIZATION ON COLD DEACCLIMATION AND TISSUE COMPONENTS OF PERENNIAL RYEGRASS TURF

by M. S. Welterlen and T. L. Watschke, Pennsylvania, USA

Recommendations may be based on the following:

- Cold acclimation of cool season grasses begins in the fall and reaches a maximum in January.
- Deacclimation occurs in the spring.
- Turfgrass management, microclimate and genetic background influence the level of acclimation attained and the rate at which acclimation and deacclimation occur.
- Grasses that lose their winter hardiness early in the spring are more susceptible to injury from prevailing freezing conditions.
- With Pennfine perennial ryegrass, drought stress lowered water content of both crown and leaf tissue.
- Cold hardiness of Pennfine perennial ryegrass was higher in drought stressed plants than in those which were irrigated.
- Fall-applied nitrogen decreased cold hardiness in Pennfine perennial ryegrass sampled in early April.



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## COMING EVENTS

June 16	GBSA Meeting	Brooklea GC
June 22	Spring Field Day	Galt CC
June 25	WOGSA Meeting	Knollwood GC
July 7	GBSA Meeting	Borden GC
July 13	OVTA Pro-Super	Upper Canada GC
July 27	President, Greenchairman & Superintendent	Oakdale GC
July 28	GBSA Meeting	Horseshoe Valley Resort



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