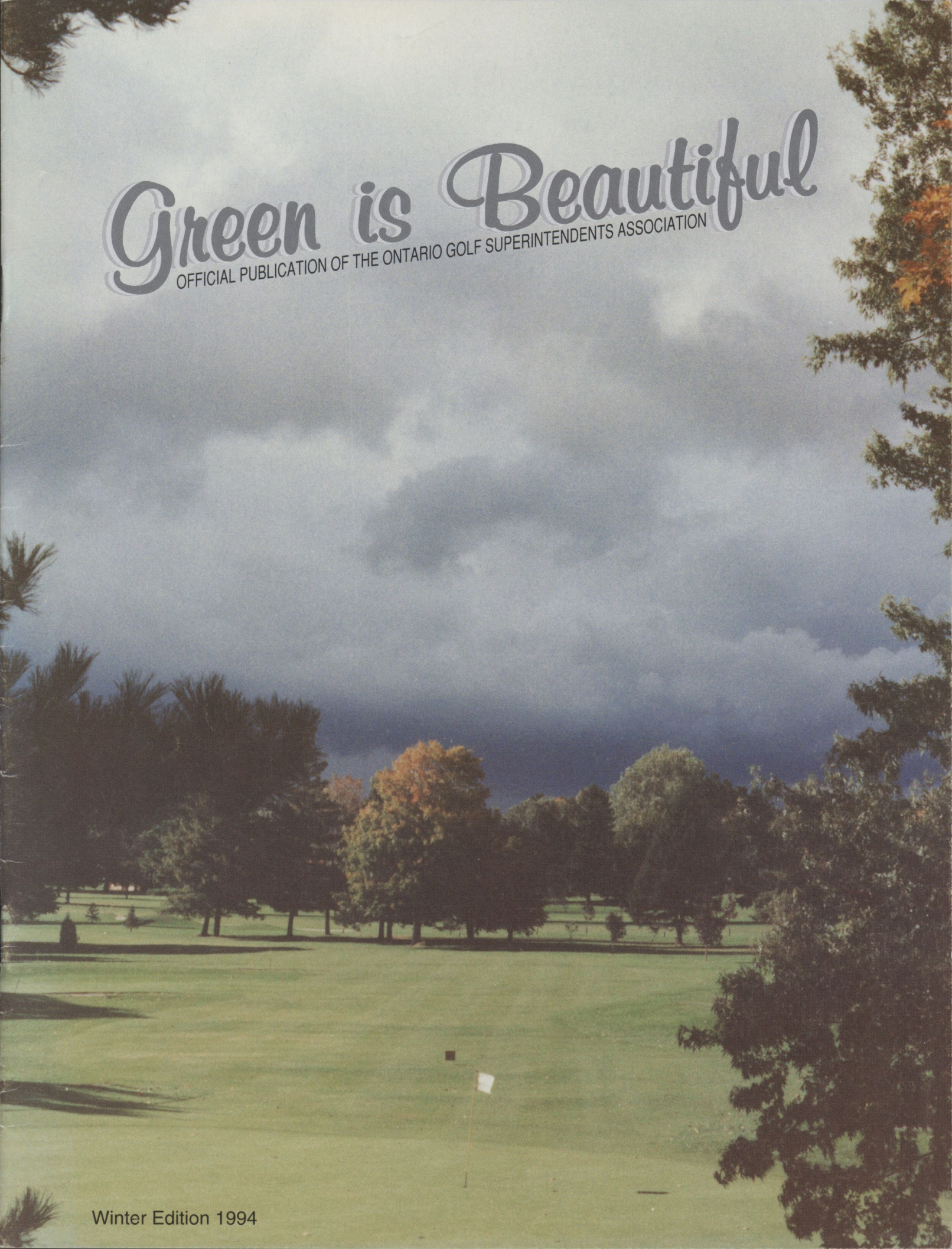


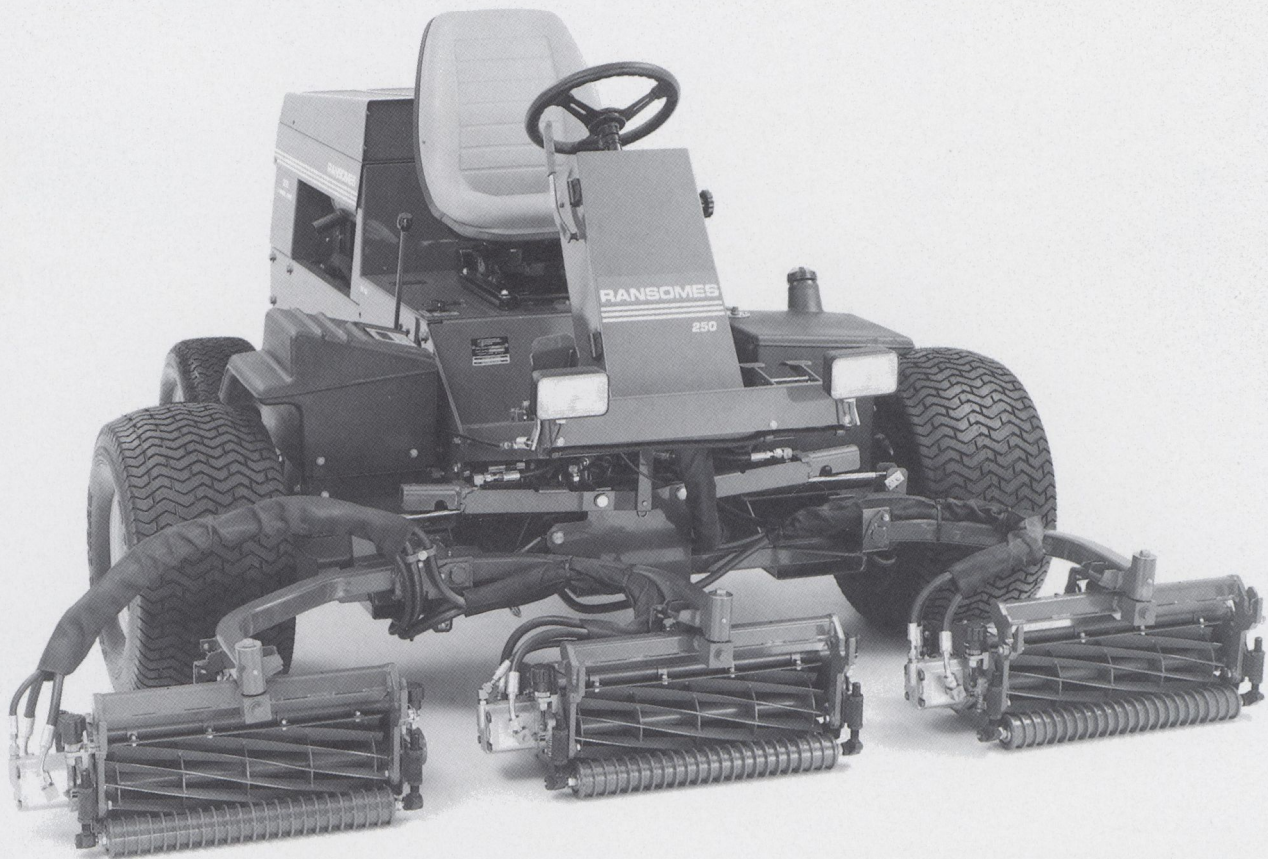
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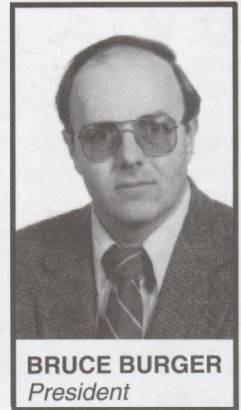
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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

As I sit at my desk on November 23, there is snow on the ground, my course is closed and the Manager has just informed me that Lakeview Golf Club has had just under 51,000 rounds of golf this year.

IT HAS BEEN INTERESTING. It has been a busy year for all superintendents and for me, as President of the O.G.S.A..

Dealing with key issues, notably the G.C.S.A.A. elections, the magazine and our golf and meetings have been time consuming but I feel everything has been dealt with professionally and fairly by the O.G.S.A. Board of Directors.



BRUCE BURGER
President

This is my last message as President and I would like to take this opportunity to express some gratitude. First, to all the Board members who volunteered personal time and extra time at our lengthy and more frequent meetings and to Cindi Charters who I called upon to do extra work on my behalf. All your efforts are appreciated and do not go unnoticed.

On a personal note, I must say thank you to Dave W. Gourlay for all his support and for volunteering many years of service on behalf of the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome incoming President, John Taylor. John's many years of experience as a Director and a member of the Executive will again provide the O.G.S.A. with strong leadership.

To everyone - enjoy the winter months, relax a little and learn a little before the busy season again arrives.

Bruce Burger
President
Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association

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O.V.T.A. REPORT

The O.V.T.A. held its' Annual Education Seminar on March 16 and 17 last year. It was again held at the Tallsman Hotel with day two being split between Tallsman and Rivermeade Golf Club. Attendance was very good and the supplier info centre had 10 booths and 7 tables.

The Executive Day Tournament was held at the Dome Golf Club in Hull. The turn out was great with 81 golfers taking on the hills of the "Dome". It was a great day for golf, dry and warm, very different from the tornado that hit the Aylmer area a few days before.

The Ottawa valley Turf Research Foundation tournament was held at the Emerald Links Golf and Country Club. The day started sunny and hot with thunderstorms in the afternoon. Thankfully, we could have the b.b.q. outside due to the design of the outdoor pavilion - it was very nice. Thanks to everyone who participated in this years' tournament and thank you to all who donated gifts for our prizes. Congratulations to all who won prizes.

GOLF COURSE HOCKEY CHALLENGE

As I write this article with the trees bare, the green grass starting to brown and what's this - snow?!! My thoughts are turning from snow mold, aeration and leaf pickup to what every red- blooded Canadian thinks of in the winter months - HOCKEY!!!. Because the NHL is on strike and there isn't a hockey fix available we are forced to consider alternative methods to satisfy our thirst for puck action.

Announcing the FIRST ANNUAL GOLF COURSE HOCKEY CHALLENGE to be held Wednesday, February 1, 1995 at the Jordan Arena in Jordan, Ontario (near St. Catherines, Ont.). The challenge will consist of games between four teams from the Toronto area, Kitchener area, Niagara area and Western New York culminating in a consolation and championship final. Teams are to consist of Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents and Suppliers from each area. Plenty of pizza, chicken wings and of course, cold beverages will be served.

Spectators are welcome and volunteers are needed. For more information contact John Taylor at (905) 562- 4181 or Scott Dodson (716) 632-2949

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SAM DIPINTO RETIRED

BY RICK SERRAO

After 34 years in the golf industry, Sam Dipinto is retiring. It has been a long and satisfying career.

Born and raised in the west end of Toronto, Sam was 1 of 9 children. There were 3 sisters and 5 brothers in his family. Sam completed his high school career at Harbord Collegiate and started work on a farm run by priests. This was where he went to complete his theological studies.

Sam's career in turf management began in 1960 under the watchful and steady guidance of David S. Gourlay at Summit Golf and Country Club. In 1961, David made Sam his Assistant Superintendent. Sam was fired after one year as the Assistant because, he says, "I didn't like to work in the rain."

In 1962 Sam began working at the Richmond Hill Golf Club. He worked for Dick Kirkpatrick during construction of the course. He worked two years longer at Richmond Hill as George Darou's Assistant. From Richmond Hill Sam went on to work for the late and renowned C.E. Robinson. Together they built the first nine holes of the Upper Canada Golf Club (now Morrisburg). After those nine holes, Sam decided he'd had enough and in September 1965, he became Golf Course Superintendent at Oakville Golf and Country Club.

In 1967 he moved on to Lido Golf in Burlington and remained there until 1973. Sam calls his years at these two clubs the "most gratifying." In 1973 Sam began working at the Beverly Golf and Country Club in Copetown, Ontario and has been a mainstay for them ever since. For 21 years he has nurtured fairways, greens and tees diligently, providing the members with a course they can be proud of. Many changes have occurred over the years and Sam considers that his biggest success. He and his staff have worked hard to



improve irrigation, drainage, bunkers and tees. Much of the work has been done in house, and we all know how demanding that can be.

Through all of this hard work, long hours and countless weekends without time off, Sam has found the time to raise a family. He and his lovely wife, Ada, have just celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary. Sam and Ada have raised 5 children, all grown, who remain very close to their parents.

Ada Dipinto has worked with Sam on the golf course staff for about the past 15 years. In the earlier days, along with raising their children, she mowed fairways, cut greens and raked traps. Even now she and Sam work together because Ada keeps the books at the golf club. I asked Sam if he was a good boss to work for - he replied he had to be or he didn't get any supper.

Sam joined the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association in 1965 and received his 25-year plaque in 1990. Sam is also a member of the C.G.S.A., the W.O.G.S.A. and the G.C.S.A.A. He always makes time to attend as many meetings as he can. Sam feels it is very important to keep up with the changes in technology. Over his almost 35 years in the business the changes have been enormous.

"I feel very lucky to have served the industry for this long. I have no regrets and am thankful to have met the people and done the things I

have. This business has been very good to my wife and me." he says honestly, "But I will miss the people." When asked what the future holds Sam had this to say, "The business has been good to me and I would like to continue participating without the responsibility of being at the top. I'd like to help anywhere I can."

Sam Dipinto has had a long and wonderful career. His dedication, perseverance and honesty are assets we should all strive to nurture in ourselves. I have known Sam for only 4 years, but I have learned from watching him and listening to him. Best wishes are extended to Sam and Ada - Enjoy your retirement Sam, may it be as long and enjoyable as your career in turf has been.

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ONTARIO TURF SYMPOSIUM 1995 PREVIEW

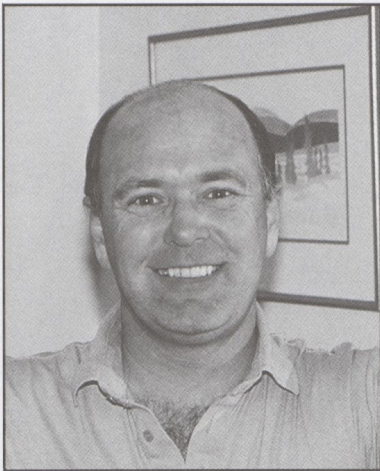
by Simon George

January 4, 5, 6 mark the dates for O.T.S. '95, the third year of the current format co-sponsored by the six allied associations and in cooperation with the University of Guelph.

This year's event promises to be one of the best Turfgrass Conferences in North America due to an excellent speaker program and a well planned, large exhibition area. It provides an ideal opportunity to rub shoulders with and to see old and new friends.

Tune into C.T.V. 's W5 for a preview of our keynote speaker, Mr. Eric Malling. As host of the most watched television show in Canada, Malling has covered stories in every corner of the country and has reported on scandal and corruption, revolution

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As we meet and greet over the winter at the various educational events, the conversations revolve around how our families are, what the year was like, what we are doing for the winter and what our plans are for next year. Somewhere in the conversation we might broach the topic of how we wintered last year, what we did differently this time around and what we expect next spring. You know; the crystal ball stuff!

Well, I was asked to write an article on course winterizing so I made a few calls to pick the brains of some of our colleagues in various parts of the province. The responses were refreshingly varied and quite interesting. The practices were well thought out and based on the keen observations of the resident superintendents. I chose courses in Kitchener, Oshawa, Windsor, Ottawa and Georgian Bay. You can judge for yourselves as to what aspects of these practices suit your course or philosophy. One major difference that will have to be factored in is the unusually warm fall we have encountered. I will attempt to follow up this report early next year to help you see whether your analyses of the potential successes were correct.

Some of the questions that went through my mind while I was setting up this article were covers, fertilization, fungicides and cultural practices. Were covers used or not? If so, were they perforated, solid or both? Was straw used under covers, between them or not at all? If straw was used did it make a mess and how was it cleaned up? When did the greens get covered and what was the

NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP...

by Alex La Belle

removal process? Did the course receive a late fall fertilization, a dormant application, neither or both? Were all areas of the course fertilized? When it comes to fungicides, were granulars or sprays used and when and where were they applied? And finally, was the grass allowed to grow in all areas or were some spots kept short while others were allowed to grow?

When was the turf last aerated and what was done with the cores and holes? A lot of questions to be considered and I'm sure there could have been more but I'll ask those another time, perhaps. Anyway here are the answers and some of the theory behind the decisions.

Kitchener: We are concerned with the ice build up that occurs on the turf over the winter so we cover all of our greens with solid covers, as well as the tees that have drainage problems. In the spring we get out, as soon as possible when the ice has melted, and remove the covers to prevent the greens from green housing or getting too lush. If this happens, then the plants are too tender to adapt to the harsh conditions of early spring and they suffer a setback.

Before we place the covers in the winter we apply quintozone as a spray to prevent snow mold. We purchase 55 lb. bags with 75% active ingredient and apply at the rate of 6% active per 1000 square feet in late October and again just before covering. This has reduced our previous spray costs by a couple of thousand dollars. One bag will cover 120,000 square feet at the normal rate (12%).

We do apply a dormant fertilizer. We combine ammonium sulphate with potassium sulphate to achieve an analysis of 15-0-15. This is applied at a rate of one pound per thousand square feet and watered in with a half an hour of irrigation to prevent burning. We leave the irrigation blow out until we have put down this treatment.

Once the playing schedule is over we allow the greens to come up to 0.2 inches from our seasonal height of 0.12 inches. This provides the plant with a

greater leaf surface area to enhance photosynthesis and build carbohydrate (CHO) reserves. We keep the fairways and tees at about the same height as the regular season but drop the rough to about 1.25 inches from 2 inches to make leaf clean up easier. The leaves are easier to blow, not being caught up in long grass. We have to rope off some greens and tees to keep skiers away. I have some excellent pictures of turf damage resulting from the build up of ice associated with the compaction of snow on the ski runs.

Georgian Bay: We don't use covers. With three feet of snow each year we haven't had a problem with ice.

We irrigate from a lagoon associated with a stream that runs through the property, past several farm fields. I am concerned that the nitrate level in this stream may be adequate to sustain growth after September and so we stop fertilizing around the middle of September. In late October (this year, early November) we apply a methylene urea (21-3-12) at a rate of one pound per thousand to the greens. Because of the late flush of growth, associated with our last rainfall, we had to mow once more and I estimate that we picked up about one quarter of the fertilizer application. We don't bother fertilizing the fairways after the summer ends.

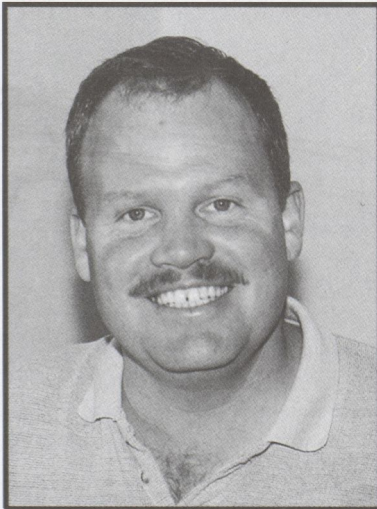
We spray the greens with calo-chlor and use PMA-10 on the tees and fairways. Last year we tried some quintozone (12-2-12) granular on some tees and aprons and I was quite happy with the results. We may have to consider this for the future if Calo-chlor is removed from the market. I don't know, yet, what we'll use if PMA-10 isn't re-registered.

We let the greens come up to 0.185 from 0.156 to facilitate CHO build up and provide a cushion for the crown of the plant over the winter. We drop the rough cut to about 1.25 inches to assist in leaf blowing and stop cutting the tees and fairways around the last week of October.

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FROM SUPER TO SUPER SALESMAN

by Alex La Belle



Every year, it seems, we see a list of superintendents flipping around from course to course like a parade of dominoes. In most cases its a change of courses but in some instances its a complete change in occupation. This little interview is a short profile of one individual who has stepped across the welcome mat to see golf courses from the other side. His name is David Schemlefske, or Schemer, to those who know him well. David made the transition earlier this year and at the end of it consented to give us a look back

at why he decided to change professions and how it worked out.

David was born in Lindsay, Ontario but moved to the Kitchener area when he was very young. He went to high school in Kitchener and in 1980 attended Humber College where he received his Diploma in Horticulture. In 1985 David supplemented this with a Certificate of Turfgrass Management from the University of Guelph. After eight years as a grounds person, and later assistant, he became the superintendent of the Pike Lake Golf Course for two years.

David moved back to the Kitchener area to become the superintendent of the Merry-Hill Golf Club where he stayed for five years until this past winter.

G.I.B. What was your reason for changing jobs?

Dave; I wanted something with a little more security and a different challenge. My contract came up for renewal each year and I heard about the position with O.S.C. so I applied. It was an opportunity to keep in touch with the same crowd and put my knowledge of the industry to good use.

G.I.B. What aspects of the job did you like as superintendent.

Dave; I had a good rapport with most of the members and we had a great staff. I liked being out there early in the morning to see the sun shining across the freshly cut greens. I liked to see the rain bows through the mist of the sprinklers; listening to the impact of the sprinkler arms and the sounds of the birds. Its like the whole world is yours. Its quite an uplifting experience..

G.I.B. What were your dislikes?

Dave; It was frustrating, wanting to do more with the course, but being limited by time, weather and money as most superintendents will tell you. My contracts were only one year long so each winter came the uncertainty and worry about the next year. I wanted a more secure environment and I was getting tired of not having and weekends to spend with my family in the summer.

G.I.B. What do you find appealing in sales?

Dave; I like meeting different superintendents in different areas on a more regular basis and not just at golf meetings or conferences or when trouble pops up. I get more opportunity to see other courses rather than being chained to one place all year.

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THE O.S.C./NUTRITE TURF SEMINAR

BY Alex La Belle

I had the opportunity to attend the O.S.C./Nutrite Turf Seminar on Tuesday, November 29 and I'm glad I did. I can't remember when I've enjoyed myself so much at a one day educational event. It seems that time is always compressed to the point where, if you can remember all that is said, there's no time to discuss things with the speakers or the other participants. This was not the case at the Dundee Golf Club where the talks were held.

The speakers were very interesting and the topics fit very well with one another. Ms. Cheryl Craft, Dr. Tom Hsiang, Gary Watschke and Angelo Capanelli blended well (pun intended) the aspects of soil structure from a physical and microbiological standpoint with their effects on disease and nutrient availability..

Ms. Craft, from Cornell University, presented some encouraging data on biocontrol of turf grass disease. It seems that bacterial and fungal isolates from various composted materials have shown a marked effect on the reduction of such diseases as Pythium Blight. Bacteria, most notably from brewery waste, showed an ability to actively suppress the pythium pathogen.

It appears that exudates from turf grass roots stimulate the pythium fungus to attack the plant under ideal soil conditions. Entobacter, apparently, consumes quantities of the exudate reducing this triggering mechanism. Actinomycetes seem to actively suppress the pythium fungus itself. Trachyderma fungus, also produced by compost wastes, show promise along the same lines but are adversely affected by the fungicides we use for disease control. The Trachyderma fungus is close to registration for use on turf grass in the western United States.

Dr. Tom Hsiang's update on Take All Patch, formerly Frog eye or Fusarium Blight, brought home the point that cultural management, in many cases, may be all that we are left with as more and more pesticide registrations lapse and expenses mount to have them re-registered. Although benomyl had been recommended in the past, it may be that it is not effective in all



TOP L TO R: DR. TOM HSIANG, GARY WATSCHKE, TIM SILVER
BOTTOM L TO R: CHERYL CRAFT, MARY BETH KELLY, ANGELO CAPANELLI

areas, if it ever was at all. By the time we see the symptoms it is too late. The disease begins its destruction of the root system early in the year under cool, moist conditions. It seems to be a bigger problem on high sand content mediums with young turf growing in soil pH's > 6.5. Some things that we can do are to avoid alkaline top dressing and irrigation sources, avoid the use of fine grade limes if we have to use lime, and use higher concentrations of phosphorus in the spring along with ammonium sulphate. The ammonium sulphate choice may not sit well with some who feel that sulfates are linked to black layer conditions. A good text for the lay person, regarding turf grass diseases is "A Compendium of Turf grass Diseases" by APS Press publications.

Gary Watschke's talk on the role of organic amendments touched on the industry's preoccupation with physical properties of growing mediums at the expense of the mediums biochemistry. A good quality soil consists of 3-5% organic matter, yet we are producing greens mixes with less than 2% organic matter and attempting to adjust the imbalance later through amendments. Perhaps we would be better off incorporating the amendment in the original mixes. More and more supers are introducing some

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continued from page 5

and insurrection in more than 40 nations around the world. On or off the air, Malling rarely minces his words. Interview subjects suspected of wrongdoing routinely feel the sting of his questioning. He can be equally tough on his own profession. A serious student of the media, Malling voices deep concern about how television journalists use and abuse their power and are often used and abused in turn by special interest groups with their own agendas.

Other speaker highlights include Guelph's own Dr. Jack Eggens, Dr. Tom Hsiang, Dr. Ken Carey and Dr. Chris Hall. The well known Dr. Norm Hummel from Cornell University speaks to us on fertilization and organic amendments for turf.

Day two is rounded out with a panel discussion on "Occupational Health and Safety in the Workplace" moderated by Thom Charters.

Friday morning is all set with a choice of seminars ranging from Turfgrass Species Identification and Use with the ever popular Dr. Eggens, Peter Barrow of Barrow Communications on how to develop a Hazard Communication Program and finally one of the most popular sessions by Dr. Lynda Pinnington on Management and Motivation.

The program winds down on Friday afternoon highlighted by no less than four of our own Superintendents speaking on topics including "Gadgets and Gizmos" and "Working with a Master Plan". The speakers include Mark Hagen, Rob Ackerman and Paul Scenna. They will be helped by Ian Andrew of Carrick and Associates. Bruce Summers will also

make a presentation.

Speaking earlier of Dr. Jack Eggens - As many of you know Dr. Jack will be retiring this year. There will be a reception for him Wednesday, January 4 between 6:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M. at Peter Clark Hall. All of us who have had the pleasure of Jack's input into our turf careers should plan to attend.

Many thanks to Continuing Education's Kelly Wilson, Ursula Rodriguez and Mira Soni for all their efforts behind the scenes, and to the O.T.S. Committee and its' Chairman, Rhod Trainor for a job well done in putting together a great program for this year.

Education, equipment displays, receptions and of course our O.G.S.A. Annual Meeting will make the O.T.S. '95 one of the most interesting and exciting events of the year.

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ONTARIO GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

16/10/94

A committee was formed in early spring to try and piece together a common goal for safety compliance with governing bodies and our individual golf courses. In this regard we sent out a questionnaire to all Class A and B members of the association, and began a dialogue with the Ministry of Labour and the Workman's Compensation Board.

We will address the questionnaire and its findings later in this report, but first some insight into the discussions with the Ministry of Labour's Provincial Co-ordinator for Health and Safety Education.

A number of interesting points for all parties was revealed:

- 1) Ministry of Labour inspectors, for the most part, concern themselves with shop conditions, pesticide storage and handling and equipment maintenance and safe handling.
- 2) Ministry of Labour would work with us to clarify areas of uncertainty in the Occupational Health and Safety Act that pertains to or affects our sector.
- 3) Compliance in Safety Certification is mandatory for all employment situations. Golf courses are not immune, and must have Certified individuals as well as Safety Committees in place. The target date for this completion is 1995; however, if a poor response to training is perceived, the date will be pushed forward to 1994 and compliance legislated.
- 4) There was an acknowledgment that the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) was generally considered for the Health and Safety of employees using equipment and supplies, and not as specific protection against golf balls.
- 5) The committee was also made aware of the Work Well Program. This is an extension of the Workman's Compensation Board, and dialogue was initiated with them at that time.

Subsequent meetings are still to be arranged and information brought forth in the future.

In the meantime, through the Golf Equipment Technicians Association of Ontario, we became aware of the existence of a group called TOURISM and HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY HEALTH and SAFETY PROGRAM (THIHSEP). They are a sister of the IAPA and FARM SAFETY ASSOCIATION, and have been in existence for five (5) years. The funding for these programs is derived from WCN premiums paid by employers.

THIHSEP has become our main source of information and assistance, they should be yours as well. Contact numbers and an address will be listed at the end of this report.

Meetings with consultants from THIHSEP have helped to clarify a

number of issues. The following should be considered regarding your employees' safety, and in particular helmet use:

- 1) Whenever possible work should be scheduled to avoid potentially hazardous situations. When this cannot be effectively accomplished, a barrier should be placed between the employee and potential hazards; as well as offering PPE, to minimize exposure to hazards.
- 2) It is crucial, in the interest of creating a safe work- place, that golfers be educated about THEIR responsibilities. The intent being that, on the issue of golf balls and staff, that players become more aware of the employees' presence and do their part in creating a safe atmosphere to work in. This includes being recognized by staff that golfers are ready to play, and permitting staff to remove themselves to safe areas to avoid being struck by golf balls, even if PPE is being worn (i.e., helmets).

It is clear that both sides need to be both educated and responsible in creating a safer environment for the player and employee alike.

The following results from the survey indicate that we generally are safety minded. These results should be considered cautiously and put to use to improve the weak areas in our operation. This in turn will make our industry as a whole even safer for both our employees and golfers.

	% Yes	%No
1. Is a safety committee in place?	53	47
2. Is workplace covered by WCB?	89	11
3. Are steel- toed shoes mandatory?	66	22
4. Are hard- hats provided?	95	3
5. Are they - Bump Caps	55%	
- CSA Approved	45%	
6. Are hard- hats mandatory?	56	44
7. Is policy on hard- hats dictated by owners / board	60	40
8. Do employees feel safer with helmets?	43	57
9. Do you provide hearing protection?	98	2
10. Do you provide pesticide safety equipment?	98	2
11. Is protective clothing for pesticide mandatory?	85	15

ION WORKPLACE SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

12. Have protective devices / switches been removed from equipment?	29	71
13. Have you installed protective screens on your equipment?	39	61
14. Do you have staff meetings specifically for safety purposes?	55	45
15. Do you have an employee manual?	66	34
16. Does it specify safety procedures?	75	25
17. Have you implemented WHMIS?	56	44
18. Are emergency numbers posted?	74	26
19. Does the employer have environmental accidents insurance?	41	59
20. Are you familiar with the details and relevance of the coverage?	29	71
21. Are golfers made aware of their responsibility regarding staff safety (i.e., hitting golf balls within range of staff)?	18	82
22. Do you offer First Aid or CPR to staff?	54	46
23. Do you have the following Acts on file and / or available to staff?:		
- Pesticide Act	93%	
- Employment Standards Act	75%	
- Occupational Health & Safety Act?	77%	
- Environmental Protection Act?	31%	
- Ontario Gas Handling Act?	24%	
- WHMIS	74%	
24. Have you ever used IAPA or FARM SAFETY ASSOCIATION services?	16	84

Number of employees handling pesticides:

1	16%
2 - 3	63%
>3	21%

Number of licensed applicators of pesticide:

1	36%
2 - 3	52%
>3	12%

Number of employees operating chain saws:

1	66%
2 - 3	56%
>3	33%

Number of certified chain- saw operators:

1	66%
2 - 3	17%
>3	17%

Accidents reported in 1993

<1	76%
4 - 8	22%
8 - 10	2%
>10	0%

Types of injuries reported:

Strains	24%
Sprains	17%
Cuts	37%
Broken bones	4%
Bruises	17%
Burns	--
Poisoning	1%

Parts of body affected:

Eyes	6%
Head	6%
Torso	4%
Back	19%
Arms	7%
Hands	9%
Fingers	26%
Legs	16%
Ankles	5%
Feet	2%

In summation, as can clearly be seen, each workplace is unique unto itself even in an industry such as ours. If you never experience a serious accident, and your claims are remain below industry standards, you will likely never see a Ministry of Labour inspector. This should not diminish the importance of maintaining a safe work environment.

Compliance is a function of budget, but first you must establish what must be done, and which matters must be a priority. It may take years to comply fully. The sooner you start the less likely you are to have a serious accident and face severe penalties. Now you know.

For further information and assistance with your program, contact:

THIHSEP
5805 Whittle Road, Suite 8
Mississauga, Ontario L4Z 2J1

Phone: (905) 507- 1880

Toll free: 1 800- 263- 2884

Fax: (905) 507- 1886

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Respectfully submitted,
Thom Charters and Rick Serrao

PANEL PREDICTS MOST INFLUENTIAL SUPERINTENDENT OF 1995**TAYLOR POSITIONS HIMSELF TO TAKE THE WHEEL !!!**

<u>SUPERINTENDENT</u>	<u>ODDS</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
1. John Taylor	5- 1	Incoming President O.G.S.A., best positioned to influence Association, aggressive
2. Bruce Burger	8- 1	Most experienced O.G.S.A. board member, could lie low after a hectic '94
3. Paul Dermott CGCS	10- 1	Will depend on G.C.S.S.A. election, tough race to predict, Past President of the O.G.S.A.
4. David W. Gourlay	10- 1	10 year O.G.S.A. term now complete, had the wheel in '93, G.C.S.A.A. election critical to have impact
5. Thom Charters	12- 1	Highly seasoned and respected superintendent, speciality in environmental issues, a contender every year
6. Randy Scott	15- 1	Has greatest impact outside of province, Past President C.G.S.A.
7. Bill Glashan	16- 1	Has the Niagara Region locked up, longevity a definite asset, W.O.G.S.A. support
8. Gord Witteveen	20- 1	Potential for greatest impact, controversial, influence limited to Toronto area
9. Paul White	25- 1	Could have a great impact, dependent on O.G.S.A. election in January, Past President of the O.G.S.A.
10. Scott Dodson CGCS	30- 1	Strong impact south of the border, surprisingly big '94 golf win, voting delegate for '95
11. Pelino Scenna	30- 1	C.G.S.A. representative, Ottawa show will determine degree of influence, Past President of the O.G.S.A.
12. Rhod Trainor CGCS	40- 1	Past President of the O.G.S.A., still has ability to shake up the industry, alternate voting delegate for '95
13. Bob Heron, CGCS	40- 1	Past President O.G.S.A., an election win could see influence soar
14. Alex LaBelle	50- 1	One year away from being in position of most influence
15. Neil Acton CGCS	50- 1	A dark horse this year, great influence and involvement in the past

FOOTNOTE: Predictions were comprised by an independent panel and do not necessarily reflect the views of the O.G.S.A.

Only O.G.S.A. Superintendents in good standing were used.

THE O.S.C./NUTRITE TURF SEMINAR

continued from page 8

topsoil into the mixes to enhance the microbial populations of the medium and increase the buffering and cation exchange capacity. It may be that we are also giving the pathogenic fungi a dose of some friendly microorganisms.

Again we find a correlation between topics with Gary and Angelo Campanelli's subjects. Angelo, from Hutcheson Sand & Mixes, took us on a guided tour of their intricate blending process whereby computers, water and specific gravities of sands are used to separate and recombine different particle sizes. They have been receiving requests for mixes as delicate as 17.5% peat with 7.5% soil and 75% sand. Now that the U.S.G.A. has redefined its parameters for construction mixes we may see even more particular ratios. This is something that just cannot be achieved with any sense of consistency using traditional methods.

These topics tied in well with Zeke Hurd's presentation of infrared remote sensing. Zeke is the president and founder of Pegasus Environmental Limited. Zeke pilots his own plane which uses infrared imaging to measure photosynthetic rates of plants. Through digital analysis of the photos, or VCR film, he can pinpoint stress areas well in advance of the symptoms we wait to see. This method gives us 10 times the information available to the naked eye.

Imagine 250 shades of gray. We could easily distinguish between shade 2 and shade 94 but this process can tell the difference between shades 198 & 199! This would enhance our use of I.P.M. and provide us with hard physical data regarding why we had to spray on any given day for a particular pest. It could be an effective defense tool in legal cases and allow us to apply smaller doses of pesticide to weaker stages of the target pests.

Mary Beth Kelly, also from Hutcheson's, is responsible for the marketing of Netlon. A synthetic, stable, mesh-like plastic polymer is intermingled with sand mixes to provide a resilient, cushioned growing medium capable of sustaining uniform turf cover under the pounding hooves of thoroughbreds. Developed in Hong Kong, for their race track, it has been used successfully on golf courses, in high traffic areas, to eliminate the tediously frustrating cycle of stripping and re-establishing sod year after year. The flexible properties of the mesh keep pore spaces open to allow drainage and root penetration while preventing soil erosion.

Two of our local Pros, Rob Strahan and Tim Silver, gave us a Pro's perspective on course operations, emphasizing the need for communication. They are in the lion's den when it comes to explaining frost delays and the need for aerations.

The more warning and information we give them, the better able they will be to effectively defend decisions on course maintenance.

Our hosts made sure that all our needs were taken care of. There was ample coffee and muffins on hand at registration to start the day off and take care of any of us who may have had to skip breakfast. The lunch was delicious and afterwards an unending supply of sandwiches, cheeses and fruit kept us going up to the final treat. The evening was capped off by an excellent comic from Yuk Yuk's by the name of Larry Horowitz. Mr. Horowitz has enjoyed success on the Letterman Show, Joan Rivers and won America's Funniest People's top award. He had us in stitches right from start to finish with a wide range of material tastefully presented. O.S.C./Nutrite are to be commended for a job well done!

FROM SUPER TO SUPER SALEMAN

continued from page 7

G.I.B. What do you find difficult in sales?

Dave; Being my first year, I can't say that there is much that I don't like. I get disappointed from time to time when I miss out on a sale but the competition is friendly and you generally make it up somewhere else.

G.I.B. How many courses would you see in a year or in one day?

Dave; I get around to about seventy-five courses in a year. In a day I can see about twelve customers, depending upon the area that I'm in. Sometimes the super is in and we could end up in a nice long chat or if their out I'll just drop off the order and my card.

G.I.B. What is your typical day like?

Dave; I get up. Bonus! My van is well stocked so I'll usually call into the office to see if there have been any special requests before I head out on the road. If I sell quite a bit out of the van I'll try to get back to the office that day to restock and write up any orders that I've received in my travels. I don't like to let things build up to the point where I have a mountain of paper to sort out. I'll try to pick one day a week, usually Monday, to stay in the office to take care of paper work and help out with the phones. Most superintendents need Monday to plan the week and take care of any surprises that crop up over the weekend.

G.I.B. What's it like on the other side of the trade show floor?

Dave; Its quite frenzied getting everything set up. There's a lot of work and planning but we try to anticipate all of the needs of the attendees as much as we can. It really helps with people like Tami Packham, Adrien Gallant, Kent McDonald and Chuck Egleston who know the ropes and are very supportive. They've made the transition really easy and Scott, Jim and Buck Uffelman really foster a friendly, family environment. We all have a lot of fun. The drivers and office staff are all top notch and I wish I could mention them all by name. Everybody's great!

G.I.B. Any closing comments?

Dave; Well, we've just bought a home in Kitchener to be closer to the office and we're really happy with the move. My wife Beth has been a rock through all of this and it really helps when you have someone backing you up. Its a pleasant change being able to get up with the family and share breakfast together. It's December and I don't have the old employment boogie man staring over my shoulder for the first time in a long time. I've had a lot of fun and I'm really looking forward to next year. I'd just like to wish all my old friends and new ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope to see a lot of you at the Symposium in Guelph and the Canadian Turfgrass Conference in Ottawa in March.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE GOLF EQUIPMENT TECHNICIANS ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

To Our New Members and New Readers,

I would like to thank Mr. Bruce Burger and his committee for allowing our Association to participate in this issue of Green is Beautiful. Also, many thanks to Bruce for attending our golf tournament. It was a pleasure to have had the opportunity to discuss our new Association with Bruce. I brought him up to date regarding the certification program in Ontario, now I would like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date as well.

The trade of Golf Mechanic is now an endorsement certificate, together with a small engine license in Ontario. In the short time since the news came to us, we have some 15 - 20 new apprentices signed in Ontario. They will be attending Durham College starting January 2, 1995 for the first session of theory that will run eight consecutive weeks. If you know anyone who would like to become an apprentice please have them call the local office of the Ontario Training and Apprenticeship Board. Apprenticeship programs will be subsidized by the government. All information is available at your local O.T.A.B. office.

I urge all Superintendents to encourage your mechanics to get involved. It is our goal as an Association to provide the best education we can for the benefit of our industry and membership. It will benefit you and your club if your mechanic is has the best possible information to maintain your ever changing fleet. The Golf Equipment Technicians Association of Ontario has its' own independently run service schools and seminars available on a first come first serve basis. Please contact me any time for additional information.

Yours truly,
Richard Heffering
PRESIDENT
G.E.T.A.O.
Scarborough Golf Club
(416) 266- 4546 EXT. 245

CAREER CHANGES

by Mark Hagen

Statistics show that in today's world, few individuals stay at one place of employment for more than fifteen years. Much of the workplace makes a least one career change during a lifetime, whether it is by their own choice or not.

Many individuals in the turf business have been a golf



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course construction superintendent and now turf equipment sales representative. Each position carries its' own specific job description and the experience gained in each change provides the basics to move on.

I became involved in turf equipment sales purely by coincidence. Nevertheless, it has proved exciting and quite challenging. Traveling around the countryside visiting superintendents and friends is quite enjoyable. Observing their success and handiwork gives a new appreciation of the natural beauty that all golf courses' possess. Occasionally, I am asked for suggestions or ideas to help solve a problem that a superintendent may be having with an area on his course. I find this aspect particularly challenging, it tests my knowledge and forces me to keep up to date with the agronomic issues facing today's Turf Managers.

In sales, of course, the business is to sell. Fortunately most superintendents are knowledgeable enough to know what type of result they want. It is up to the sales representative to show them the product. Pressure sales in this industry are unnecessary and generally unsuccessful. There is a sense of success for the salesperson if the product shown lives up to its' reputation. Closing the deal with both customer and sales representative happy and in agreement is true job satisfaction. The pace of this seasonal industry is, at times, nerve racking. The scheduling of equipment demonstrations, deliveries and equipment setup is complicated and hectic. Whether you are employed as a Golf Course Superintendent or Turf Equipment Sales Representative there are still only twenty-

NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP*continued from page 6*

Oshawa: We cover our poa greens with solid covers where insufficient drainage leads to an ice build up. All other greens are covered with perforated covers to prevent desiccation and ensure uniform colour from green to green for the spring. This year we are attaching 1.5 inch diameter dowels, about two inches to the underside of 3/4 inch plywood sheets to keep the tarps elevated above low areas on the greens. Any round circles caused by the pegs can be plugged out in the spring.

Late in the fall we apply one pound of nitrogen per thousand square feet to all greens. The source varies from organic, to I.D.B.U., to methylene urea depending upon the composition of the growing medium. The greens are treated with a spray of Arrest. Tees treated with two varieties of quintozone: FF II (14-3-3) and Par-Ex (12-2-12). The tees and fairways remain at the same height all year and we keep the rough at 2.25 inches throughout the season.

Windsor: We don't get a lot of snow down here in the banana belt. We plowed snow three times last year. Its unusual for a significant snow fall to last more than four weeks and so we don't use solid covers. I suppose we could use perforated covers to prevent desiccation, and some superintendents in the area do, but I find a heavy top dressing just as effective in protecting the crown. We aerate the whole course late in October. On the greens, tees and fairways we use hollow tines. We verticut the cores back in on the greens because we have a good greens mix to work with. We remove the cores on the tees and fairways. We have lots of fescue and a minimal close cut rough area so we use the aerway which has solid wedge shaped spikes to open the soil in the cut portion of the rough. Around the end of November we apply the heavy top dressing to the greens. I was here to build the course, so we use the same growing mix that we started with and I haven't found there to be a problem with layering. I like to let the turf harden off going into the winter so we don't apply late fall nitrogen to the turf. We do,

however, apply potassium to strengthen the plant prior to winter stress and correct any nutrient deficiencies detected by a soil test. Late in November we do apply one pound per thousand of urea everywhere.

The fungicide of choice here is Arrest for the greens and tees. The only areas on the fairways that we treat are those that have dense tree growth where any snow we might get would tend to stay longer than what we consider normal. The fungicide that we use in this situation is PMA-10.

We leave the rough at the same height all year long. We keep the greens at 0.13 right up until we close since we have golfers so late in the season. Once we get into late October we stop cutting tees and fairways. I guess it depends on how you look at it, but we are fortunate in that we can work practically all winter long correcting course problems like cart paths, tree removal or replacement and other construction related necessities. We've had good success over the last six years with this routine under varied winter conditions. It works for me!

Ottawa: Many people consider this the ice belt; no bananas here! Many courses are faced with up to six inches of dense ice on the greens from the last week of December to the end of March. Techniques vary as much as the weather from one side of the Ottawa Valley to the other. The variance in cover use is, perhaps, most widely experienced here from Pembroke to Montreal.

Some courses use only solid tarps on all greens. Some put solid tarps on top of perforated ones so that in the spring, when the ice is pushed off the top cover and it is removed, the one underneath encourages early recovery. With a growing season only five months long, every edge that can be exploited is. There are courses that scatter straw over the greens and then cover them to provide an insulated barrier to the worst weather that winter can come up with. In the spring covers are rolled back on sunny days and the greens are recovered at night. On overcast days the covers are left in place. Any straw is either raked up by hand or vacuumed off of the greens.

The spring of 1991 saw many courses

rush frantically to acquire covers for the next year. Dealers in the area were able to supply covers at excellent prices because of the great demand. The impetus was a winter that saw a great many courses lose anywhere from 75% to 100% of their greens from New Brunswick through Montreal and Ottawa to Winnipeg.

We cover a couple of our worst greens with the solid covers but haven't had to resort to complete cover. We aerate greens with hollow tines on the first long weekend in August. We start on Sunday at 1 o'clock and have the course open for play by noon the next day. If the weather cooperates, which it seldom does! We use our hydroject the rest of the time. In the fall we double aerate the fairways and rough leaving the cores in place over the winter to help bust up the ice layers. I feel that the irregular surface and dark colour of the cores is beneficial to us in that regard. In the spring, when the ground dries out, we mat the cores back in. Once a year, in late June, we aerate the fairways with an aerway and follow it with a heavy top dressing of straight sand. The fairways are composed of heavy clay. Around September 1st we apply 21-6-12 as my last fertilizer treatment before the dormant application in late October. We use Sustain at a pound of "N" per thousand as a dormant because of its dark colour and potential effectiveness against snow mold.

We spray Calo-chlor on the greens and tees but I don't treat the fairways with anything. The greens are cut at 0.15 throughout the season and after September we keep them at 0.18 for the rest of the year. The tees and fairways are kept at 0.3 inches all year until the end of September and then we let them grow up to snow fall. This year was a little different in that we had to go out and give them one last cut in last October after a sudden growth spurt associated with the warm weather and a warm rain.

As you can see, the answers to winter maintenance are as varied as the courses and the individual pockets of climate that dot the vast geography of this province.

Windsor, perhaps, summed it up best. "It works for me!"

W.O.G.S.A REPORT *Rick Serrao for the W.O.G.S.A.*

The 1994 W.O.G.S.A. season is now complete. Events were held this year at the following clubs:

Niagara Falls Golf Club	Host: Brett Jenkins
Flamborough Hills Golf Club	Host: Todd Shepperd
Galt Country Club	Host: Mark Piccolo
Puslinch Lake Golf Club	Host: Jim Moore

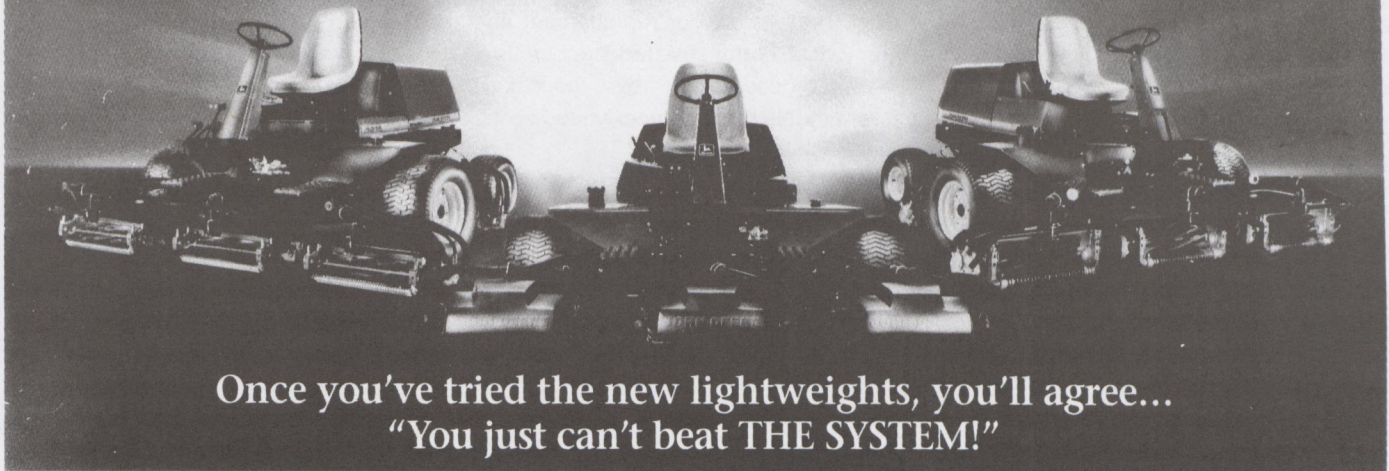
These events were well attended with an average of 40 players. Most of the discussions this year centered on the safety issues and concerns that are affecting the golf industry.

In September our Taylor Barnes event was held at the Cherry Hill Golf Club in Fort Erie, and despite Mother Nature's attempts to spoil the day we managed to see the sun set just in time for the shotgun start.

A round of applause for the Superintendents who offered their courses this year. You are all to be commended for doing a fine job of preparing your courses for us and for your members.

The calendar for 1995 is nearing completion. Watch future newsletters for dates. Anyone interested in holding an event for the 1996 season should contact Rick Serrao at (905) 578-3075. See you at the Guelph Symposium and all the best in 1995.

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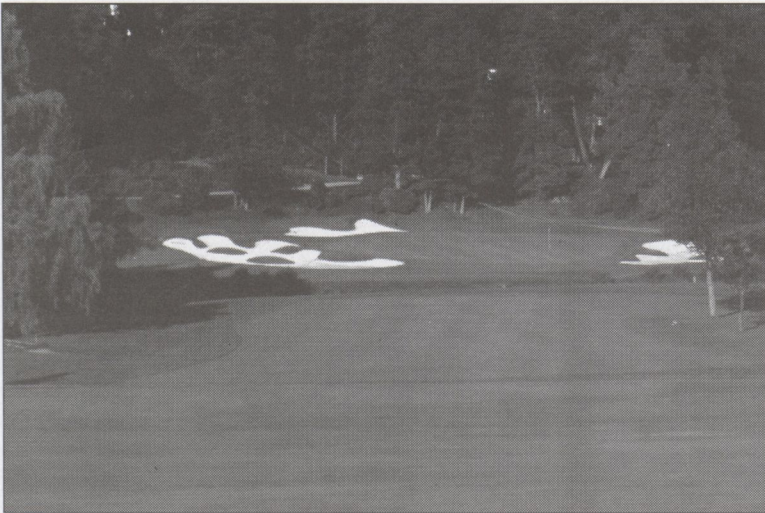
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Whats been going on at the GALT COUNTRY CLUB

The Galt Country Club was originated in 1906, located along the banks of the Grand River in Cambridge, Ontario. Measuring only 6,200 yards, the Par 70 course is known for its narrow, tree lined fairways, small greens and relaxing views of the Grand River. In the years preceding 1992, the possibility existed that a bridge and roadway might be constructed through the golf course. The purpose of this would be reduce the traffic flow through Cambridge, from highway 401 to Hamilton. This situation deterred any possible plans for course improvements, thus the course had begun to deteriorate over the years. Members were leaving to go to other courses in the area and the number of rounds had significantly decreased, as had revenues. Early plans for relocation had begun as some potential sites for a new course had been toured. In the spring of 1992, a report was produced stating that funding for the construction of the bridge and roadway would not be available for the project until approximately the year 2015, at which time the situation would be re-evaluated. The Board of Directors decided it was time to improve the course, and a motion to assess the general membership to raise 500,000 dollars was passed by a slim margin of approximately 53% at the membership meeting.

In the fall of 1992 the installation of a new Rainbird Master 2 irrigation system began replacing the manual quick coupler system. I was hired in the middle of the installation process. Once the irrigation had been installed, the remaining funds were to go to improving the cart path system, improving the par three tees, and finally addressing the problem of our bunkers. During the 1993 season, we developed a plan to address all paths on the course. All slopes were to be paved, timber was used to line the sides of tees and remaining paths were reshaped, edges sodded and screenings placed on top. We hired Turf Drain Inc. to build several new par three tee decks in the fall, trying to increase their size and smooth out the surfaces.

In the fall of 1993, preliminary planning had began on the restoration of our bunkers. This would become the most controversial part of the improvement plan. Members felt only sand replacement was necessary, but it was obvious that we had three major problems with our bunkers.

Continued on page 18

GALT COUNTRY CLUB

Continued from page 17

Firstly, portions of the course were built on bedrock which limited the drainage of the bunkers. Several bunkers would hold water for days after a rain. Secondly, the bunker material had become contaminated with rocks and sub soil, and the edges of the bunkers had lost their shape. We felt much of the contamination was caused by the water puddling in the bunkers, thus creating a soup type mixture, easier for particles to move around it. Finally, there was a mix of designs on the course. There were several original bunkers which Stanley Thompson had designed when he laid out the course in 1906, Bob Moote and Associates made modifications to the course in the mid 1960's and various superintendents over the years had included their own ideas. It was important to bring consistency back to the golf course. Carrick and Associates were hired to develop a master plan for the golf course which would keep the integrity of the original Thompson design in tact. We found both Doug and Ian easy to work with, and open to our many ideas and suggestions. Board members liked the restoration work that Carrick had done at Islington Golf Club, which aided in the decision to hire Carrick to do our design work.

A preliminary walk through the course in the fall with Doug and our Greens Committee was very informative for the committee as they got a feel for Doug's ideas and a sense of what the new look of the course would be. Over the winter, meetings were held to educate the committee and reinforced the notion that total renovation was the only way to eliminate the problems we had with the bunkers. We also felt this was our chance to enhance the character of the course and to modernize. Turf Drain Inc. was hired to make the changes to our bunkers which we would begin in late April of 1994. Turf Drain had done some tee work for us in the fall and had worked frequently with Carrick, thus we felt they would work well together.

The last major decision to be made was sand type. The two options we narrowed it down to were the Hutcherson "S" sand, and the Ohio based sand 1600 A. Members were able to play from both sands before the decision was to be made. Carrick suggested using the native based Hutcherson sand because of its ability over Ohio sand to hold onto the flashes, and for its colour which might be

more "in tune" with the course. I preferred the "S" sand for its lower maintenance, and I too felt it would hold better on the flashes. Our greens committee and players committee decided to use Ohio based for its colour, its proven playability, and its economic value as a possible drawing power for new members. At times the phase "Ohio Sand" is used very broadly and is one of many status symbols golfers use to compare their facility with others, which may also have aided in their decision.

The construction process was rather simple. Carrick would paint the new sand line and give mounding and flash heights to the skid steer operator along with the depth of the bunker. The bunker was roughed in using the existing bunker material available. On several bunkers the bedrock determined the depth of the bunkers. Once the rough-in phase was done, the bunkers were approved by Carrick and the sand lines were repainted. Drainage was installed and sumps were dug a few feet from the bunker. The tile drained into the pit and all tile ends were brought to the surface and capped, to allow an access if pumping was ever required. All drainage lines were photographed and filed for reference. The sandlines were formed using 5 mm mahogany plywood cut into 6" strips, and held into place with stakes pounded into the ground. This ensured a clean edge and stabilized the edges until the sod had a chance to root properly. It also held the soil stable while watering of the sod took place. In future construction we may use something more flexible for the tight curves to give us a smoother edge than that given by the wood. The sub-base was compacted, and in rocky or course soil conditions, a layer of clay was compacted on the base of the bunker to prevent contamination of the sand. Topsoil was applied at a depth of 6 to 10 inches around the bunker and blended into the surrounding area. The bunker sand was placed at a depth of 3 to 4 inches throughout the bunker. Finally, the area was sodded.

A total of 20 bunkers were constructed in the spring of 1994. With approval from the membership, the remaining funds were raised to complete the remaining 17 bunkers this past October. The high flashes and mounding are very different from what was here before. We have gone from using a sand pro and triplex rough mowing equipment, to hand raking and owning a small fleet of air-cushion mowers. In a discussion I once had with Hugh Kirkpatrick of Westmount Golf Club, it was concluded

that superintendents over the years have had a tendency to simplify bunkers on the golf course for maintenance reasons, and by doing so have taken away much of the aesthetic value the bunkers give to a course. Our new bunkers are definitely more labour intensive, but the aesthetic value, the added character, and the new challenges for the golfer make them worth the effort.

An issue we have had to deal with over the past year in regards to the spring built bunkers is the plugging of the ball on the flashes. The patience of the membership has grown thin. Much of this problem is due to the fact that the sand has not had time to settle. We compacted the sand and water it, and even used wetting agents to help speed up the compaction process. Balls were still plugging on the flashes. Carrick's design concept is that the ball should bounce off the flash and roll back into the flat portion of the bunker. To compensate for this, we removed sand from the flashes until we could throw a ball against the flash and have it roll down. Unfortunately this leaves us with less than 2 inches of sand on the flashes until the sand firms up and it means that contamination may be a problem. We hope that the winter will help settle the sand, and in doing so prevent the balls from plugging. Training the staff to rake the bunkers properly will also be an important part of keeping the sand firm. I think that its important to rake the bunkers only when needed, thus minimizing the disruption of the sand as much as possible. There is a lot of movement within our bunkers and it is very easy to move too much sand around in them.

Improvements will continue at the Galt Country Club. Tree planting and maintenance, tee restoration, sodding portions of the rough, and overseeding with bent grass are annual projects now. Long range planning to improve blind spots on two of our holes and possible pond work are areas we may address in the future.

Carrick and Associates and Turf Drain Inc. both did excellent work for us. Our membership is looking forward to next season and a break in the construction. Communication is the key. Changes can be difficult to pass through memberships, but may be necessary as in our case. We now enjoy a full membership and more rounds then we can handle.

Mark Piccolo
Superintendent Galt Country Club

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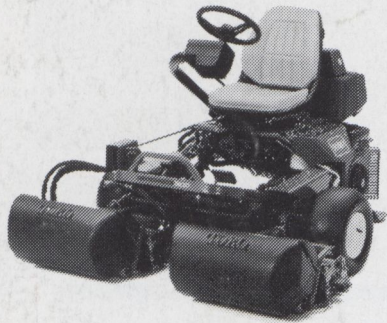
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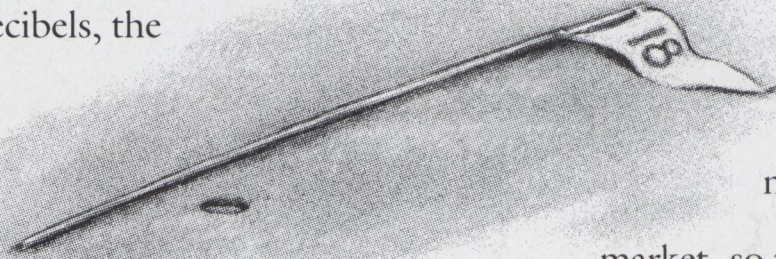
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