

THE GREENERSIDE

Official Publication of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey

Only you can save the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program

The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) is in serious financial trouble and each and every turf professional should be concerned. NTEP is sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and serves to coordinate the evaluation of varieties of many turfgrass species across the U.S. and Canada. The program is funded through the USDA and fees collected from companies and breeders entering varieties and experimentals into the various national tests.

With the presentation of the fiscal year 1997 budget, the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) canceled its funding of the NTEP effective October 1, 1996. The USDA ARS apparently considers the U.S. turfgrass industry a very low priority because, with this action, the USDA canceled essentially its only funding in support of the turfgrass industry. If this decision is not reversed, the USDA will have severed ties to the turfgrass industry after more than *seventy* years of financial support.

Rutgers conducts many of the national tests at its various research farms located throughout the state of New Jersey. These tests are frequently combined with the Rutgers turf trials to assess the performance of current germplasm and provide the basis for recommendations on adapted varieties from Rutgers Cooperative Extension.

The tests at universities often qualify for funding from NTEP. The resources provided from NTEP do not cover the costs of running the tests, but certainly help to defray the costs. Without this funding many tests would not be conducted by universities. Our understanding of the adaptation of turfgrass species and varieties has been greatly enhanced by NTEP. Our understanding of new varieties and species grown for turf will develop at a slower rate without such a program.

The good news is that there is still time to reverse this decision. If you are interested in saving this program, we would appreciate you contacting your senators and congressmen and telling them you support turfgrass research funding by USDA.

Also, the following individuals within USDA need to hear from you:

Secretary Dan Glickman
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 Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building
 Room 200A
 14th & Independence Ave. SW
 Washington, DC 20250
 (202) 720-3631

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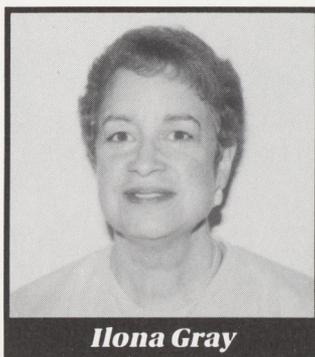
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EDITORIAL



Ilona Gray

Swan song

There must be 50 ways to say good-bye, but today I can't think of any of them. It pulls at my heart to tell you that this is my last editorial as editor of *The Greenside*.

Dr. Bob and I have been invited to relocate to Germany. By the time you read this, I will already have had my one liter beer and one meter sausage dinner in Wiesbaden. There are only a few golf courses in Germany and, as far as I know, there are no GCSANJ members living there. So I will be the first as an "honorary" member.

In reviewing a move of this proportion, your mind wanders and covers those things that will be missed. I am certain the grass will be green, birds will fly and flowers bloom in Germany. I will see castles and Dr. Bob will see women in their leather pants. We will miss the GCSANJ family and doing *The Greenside*. So the torch is passed, and I am certain that you will give the new editor all the aggravation and joy that you have given me.

Like the Austrian body builder, often quoted, "I'll be back" and I will check up on you guys. So for now I will say good-bye and wish you all the best because you deserve it.

One of our own, Ken Krausz, the superintendent of Paramus Country Club, has stepped up to the plate to take over *The Greenside*. He has pulled his share in doing this edition and I know will get the best support that the GCSANJ can give him.

Auf Wiedersehen!

Ilona



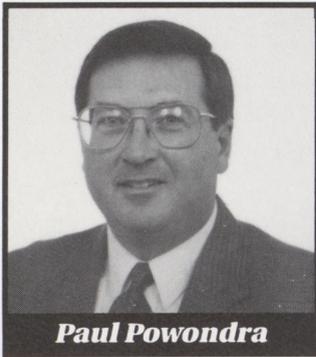
Hi! When you need something to be done I have always been told to ask a busy person to do it. Golf Course Superintendent, Secretary for GCSANJ. Lieutenant for the Fire Dept., Father of two girls...sounds like a busy person to me! I requested the position of Editor of "The Greenside" and now I have one more hat to wear. This is a hat that should fit perfectly. I will explain more of my role as editor in the next issue.

I have worked with Ilona Gray for many years and have to thank her for all her help and support with "The Greenside" over the years. THANK YOU Ilona and good luck to you and Dr. Bob!

Ken Krausz

Future Editor, The Greenside

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Paul Powondra

Auf Wiedersehen

This issue of *The Greenside* marks the final time that Ilona Gray will act as editor. After 53 editions stretching back to late

1987, Ilona will be handing over the editing duties to Ken Krausz and moving to Germany with her husband, Dr. Bob.

It's been quite an impressive and unequalled run, with numerous awards from GCSAA and the National Golf Foundation which attest to this lady's skill and dedication. Many people outside of New Jersey read our newsletter, and Ilona is well known for her efforts.

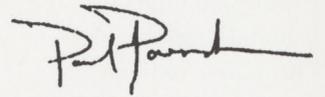
Ilona's contributions on behalf of GCSANJ members extend beyond our newsletter to the role she played as executive director of the Alliance for Environmental Concerns. Soon after I joined the GCSANJ Board I was appointed chair of the Government Relations Committee and told to get in touch with Ilona and the Alliance as something of a liaison. I had little knowledge of what she did, but I quickly learned that the best way to deal with government relations issues was to tap into Ilona's amazing network of contacts in government, industry, and allied professional associations. Without Ilona's untiring efforts in tracking the pesticide laws that some overzealous legislators wanted to get on the books, providing balanced, logical testimony grounded in science at public hearings, we would be faced with far more onerous requirements than at present. Would anyone care to post the entire perimeter of their course before each pesticide application? How about notifying everyone within 200-300 feet of that perimeter 24 hours in advance, by phone, messenger, or mail? These kinds of requirements were actually moving through the legislature until Ilona and the Alliance (not to mention Bob Dickison) got our side of the story to the right people.

Ilona's contacts at NJDEP have proven helpful, and on numerous occasions she was able to intercede on behalf of a superintendent with questions and concerns about pesticide regulations. She was especially helpful during the ill-fated experiment NJDEP ran which had county health inspectors augmenting NJDEP's own inspection staff. Unfortunately the health people didn't fully know the regulations, and several superintendents had "violations" which were quickly straightened out with a phone call to the right place.

Over the years we've grown to be good friends; she edited

my writing for *The Greenside*, while I helped her with the *Alliance Update*. Everyone needs an editor, and I always gave her free rein to edit my material as she saw fit. Invariably she would improve upon it. On Alliance/RISE trips to Denver, San Antonio, Washington, and Tucson, we often found ourselves discussing a wide range of topics, and we grew close enough to easily converse about religion. (Politics was already on the table—it was our business.) Of course, family was also an important topic, and I found it interesting to learn that her husband had been involved in the development of pendimethalin. The Gray family is definitely part of the golf course superintendents' community.

On behalf of GCSANJ, allow me to extend to the Grays our very best wishes, and God bless.



Calendar

- July 16-17** **The 76th Open Championship (NJ State Golf Association), Essex Fells C.C. Host: Richard LaFlamme**
- July 22** **July Monthly Meeting, Forest Hill Field Club, Bloomfield. Host: Geoffrey Drake. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.**
- July 31** **Rutgers Golf Turf Research Field Day, a special turf day for golf courses at Cook College, Hort Farm II, New Brunswick. Contact Dr. Bruce Clarke, (908) 932-9400.**
- August 7-8** **Penn. State Turfgrass Field Days, Joseph Valentine Turfgrass Research Center, Penn. State, University Park, Pennsylvania. Contact Penn. Turfgrass Council, (814) 863-3475.**

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Only you can save the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program

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MELLOR MAKES MAY

by Shan Barry

Due to some unforeseen problems, our tentative 1996 monthly meeting schedule fell apart at a time of the year when we have started working on the following year. Many calls were made, and I finally twisted Ed Mellor's arm to consider May. He said the course was not quite ready. I reminded him that we were friends. He said give me one more year. I reminded him that he was a Board member. He gave in. May it would be.

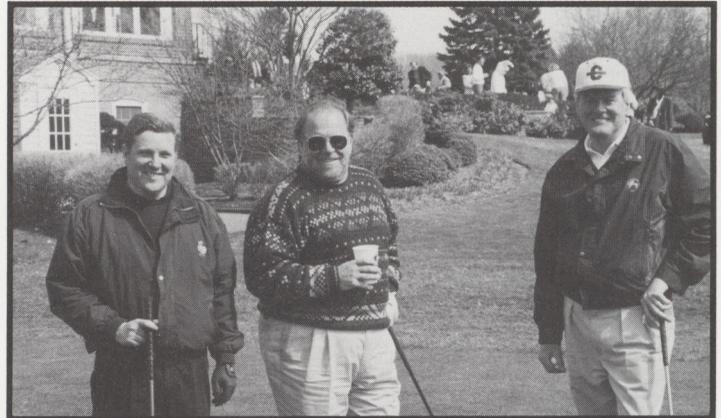
Now that the meeting is over, I know that Ed just wanted to hear me beg. He should have offered his course on his own. It was great. I remember playing Jumping Brook when Ed first got there. He must have really wanted to get away from Dave Pease to take the job. The course needed help badly. Harry Stafford had spent many years trying to prepare a course with nothing to work with. I was happy to see that Harry has remained a part of the team during this period of change.



Father and son working the GCSANJ booth at the PGA show (Dennis and Dennis DeSanctis).



More GCSANJ family at the PGA show. From left: Bill Rapp, Doug Larson and Pat Campbell.



Iain MacLeod (left), a visiting greenkeeper from Scotland, joins his host, Steve Cadenelli, for a round of golf with Ed Walsh at Essex County G.C.

Between Ed, Gene Stiles, Harry and the crew, they have performed miracles. During the round I actually got a chance to enjoy this fine old course. Before, the only concern was where should I drop the ball. Now I kept seeing new bunkers and mounds that had been there for 71 years. What a great experience.

Ed also took care of the weather. The rain stopped just before we started and was not seen again. How did he do that? Sixty-five people did play and the course beat most of us. I still have scars.

Jim Waniak (75) and Dr. Rich Hurley (77) played well enough for a 1-2 finish in the gross event. The net tournament was decided by a match of cards. Tony Raczynski, 79-14-65, edged out John Alexander 79-14-65. Joel Collura, 2'5", and Charlie Clarke, 7", were closest to the pins. Dave Pease (178 yards) hit it on the toe for the win in the longest drive contest. OK, maybe it was 278 yards, but who really is counting?

Winning one skin each were Steve Rudich, Peter Van Drumpt, Gerald Fountain, Tony Benfield, R. Hurley, Chris Carson and J. Alexander. J. Waniak won two skins with his eagle on 14.

Qualifying for the Leslie Cup was held, and the matches will continue to an October conclusion at our championships. The following is a listing of the teams and their opponents:

Upper Bracket	Lower Bracket
Grimac-Prickett	Mlynarski-Kinsey
Clarke-Gunn	Barry-Pease

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GCSANJ NEWS

Continued from page 5

Mathis-Kriews	Hyland-Carson
Farrell-Scott	Owsik-Sauer
Simpkins-Wall	Cross-Woods
Harson-Dobbie	Fountain-Kunesch
Van Drumpt-Petraglia	Presendofer-Regan
Driscoll-O'Brien	Raczynski-Toto

Dinner was enjoyed by everyone, and our thanks go out to all of the wonderful people at Jumping Brook. Each part of our day was first class. We do appreciate the efforts.

As I was leaving, Gene told me now they would start working on restoring the bunkers and really fine-tuning the course. Ed just smiled, so maybe I should start working on our next meeting here. Stay tuned.

GCSANJ WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

The Greenside welcomes the following new GCSANJ members:

David A. Bird	B-1	Robert P. Kaufman	C
Overpeck GC		Gravelly International	
Teaneck		Neshanic Station	
Paul A. Capri	A	Patrick E. Lucas, Jr.	B
Golden Pheasant GC		Woodcrest C.C.	
Medford		Cherry Hill	
Richard E. Gdovin	C	Andrew K. Sheer	B-1
Limecrest Corp.		Emerson G.C.	
Sparta		Emerson	
Christopher Hennes	B-1	Mark J. Tortoriello	B-1
Darlington G.C.		Green Brook C.C.	
Mahwah		North Caldwell	
David Hinkle	C		
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There was also one change in member category:

Vincent W. Sciasia	D to B-1
Minebrook G.C.	
Hackettstown	

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Field Day 1996: "Who said you can't go home again?"

by Dave Pease

Well... we're heading home again. This year's Field Day is entering its 31st year of existence, and, with this in mind, we have relocated back home to the Rutgers Golf Course/stadium complex. After a three-year hiatus due to stadium and bubble construction, and taking into consideration the many suggestions, logistical preparations, and itinerary compositions, the 1996 Field Day Committee, which is directed under the stewardship of **Joe Kennedy**, has prepared an "Emporium of Turf Related Delights" for our consumption.

This rebuilt engine is firing on all eight cylinders to provide the type of commercial coverage and potential buyer contacts expected of such an event. It is the Committee's hope that our commercial investment will provide potential buyer

contacts not only from the golf course industry, but allied industries as well. The dedication and representative response by Class A and B golf course superintendents is proof that there is keen interest in the success of this "One of Its Kind Local Exposition."

The centrally located event will be hosted and MC'd by **Mike Mongon**, introducing the new "Surround Sound" to insure quality and effectiveness with outdoor communication. The day's events will consist of the traditional equipment demo's and booth visitation, but also to be bookend with guest speakers, stadium tours, and door prizes.

Get psyched big time! *Support your Association, support your Association, support your Association*, and let's bring the house down on **October 8th** with your presence at this end-of-the-year harvest celebration of camaraderie, salesmanship and good times.



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A few good men

by Doug Vogel

Weather—in all its shapes and forms, highs and lows, good and bad—visited **Bob Dickison**, CGCS, and his staff for the 1996 Cadillac NFL Golf Classic on May 13-19, 1996, at the Upper Montclair Country Club. Mother Nature threw down her gauntlet and issued the challenge that the well-prepared, combat-ready crew accepted. A violent wind storm would be the first volley fired as it passed through on Sunday to kick off what would be a week to try men's souls.

Also involved in the battle was **Joe Kennedy**, superintendent of the Greenbrook Country Club. On Monday Joe and his crew hosted 64 non-exempt senior tour players who played a qualifying round with hopes of advancing to the Upper Montclair theater of golf. The Sunday storm presented a major clean up challenge at Greenbrook, but other than that it was a typical non-golf-free Monday for Kennedy and his crew.

Monday at Upper Montclair started with the first of three pro-ams that Red had to prepare for. The course was in beautiful shape for the legends of the NFL Pro-Am. The Ray

Nitschkes and Deacon Joneses hobbled down the fairways, not looking for a quarterback to hit, but for the little white ball that they were spraying onto all but the correct fairway. The evening drew to a close and the temperature began to drop, and waiting in the bushes was a hoarfrost which by morning would rear its ugly head. For two days frost would tickle the course, only slightly altering any plans.

The Wednesday morning frost was more of an inconvenience to the golfers than it was to the crew. It actually gave the crew time to catch their breath, if only for a few minutes. When putting in 10-14 hour days any breather is welcomed.

Although Thursday was not the Armageddon, it seemed like it to all of us in attendance. As an infantryman in Arnie's Army, I likened myself to a soldier best described by the World War One poet, Wilfred Owen:

"Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed
through sludge,"

The rain and cold slowly intensified, and, as we followed Mr. Palmer through eight holes, play was suspended.

"Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs,
And towards our distant rest began to trudge."

The walk to the car was long and brutal. Umbrellas were rendered useless as the rain blew sideways. The battle to save the parking lot (fairways and range) began. By dawn's early light, hay and gravel were seen everywhere strewn across Dickison's "Flanders Field."

The senior PGA players enjoyed the pick, clean and place rule and the low scores showed it. On Saturday when players' scores ballooned, the Professional Golfing Agronomists found comfort in knowing that the high heat was pushing the Poa along with their scores. It certainly was not their putting skills.

The week ended with beautiful weather, and why not. That's all there was left after wind, rain, frost and high temperatures.

Why all the war references? I really don't have an answer, but the story would not be complete without acknowledging **Molly Pitcher**. **Sydney Dickison** literally spent 12 hours a day procuring and delivering pastry, coffee, sandwiches, soda, candy, pizza, hotdogs, hamburgers and encouragement to the battle weary crew positioned throughout the course. She, along with Red and his green's staff, deserve recognition for their gallant effort. They met all the challenges. They won all the battles. They won the war.

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First Annual Rutgers Turfgrass Research Golf Classic meets with success

by Dick Caton
Executive Director, NJTA

The New Jersey Turfgrass Foundation hosted the First Annual Rutgers Turfgrass Research Golf Classic at Fiddler's Elbow Country Club on May 15, 1996. Foundation President John E. (Jack) Poksay declared the event highly successful from both a financial and social point of view.

The Foundation is deeply indebted to David McGhee, general manager of Fiddler's Elbow, and his staff for all their cooperation and attention to detail.

The Foundation also extends a note of gratitude to the many golf course superintendents who participated and the golf clubs throughout the state that provided foursomes and other forms of sponsorship.

Dr. Bruce Clarke, the director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Study in Turfgrass Science, was elated at the over-

whelming support received from "the industry." He expressed sincere gratitude to Zeneca Professional Products which provided "Premier Sponsorship" for the Classic. Dr. David Rose, Dr. Bill McClellan and Jim Petta represented Zeneca at the golf Classic.

Because there was a "full field" of golfers and many more who expressed interest in participating next year, the Classic will utilize both the Meadows and River Courses for the 1997 event, which is tentatively scheduled for May 13, 1997, at Fiddler's Elbow.

So . . . mark your calendar and look for your invitation to participate. As Rutgers catapults into world leadership in turfgrass research and education, it behooves us all to support this worthy cause.

A portion of this year's proceeds went directly toward the construction of a new Turfgrass Research Equipment Storage Facility, which you will see on your next visit to Ryders Lane Hort. Farm II, New Brunswick.



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How will we do it? . . . or goodbye, Ilona

by Steve Malikowski, CGCS

Why is it that every time things begin to run well, something happens to set you back? Why is it that sometimes after getting a raise, the next thing is getting fired? How come after stopping Brown Patch, Summer Patch comes by for a visit? You kill those grubs and then nematodes sting you. It rains enough to fill your irrigation lake and the electric company shuts off the power to your pumping station. You get your blood pressure under control and then your daughter becomes a teenager. Or, in the case of GCSANJ, you begin a tradition of annual first place awards for best Chapter Newsletter in the country (probably because we got Ed Walsh to step down as editor) and find out that Ilona is resigning as Chapter Newsletter editor. Well, *&# happens!!

I don't understand why just because Dr. Bob is taking a job in Germany that Ilona has to go with him. Why can't she stay here and do what she was meant to do? Well, once again *&#

happens! Who's going to edit out the mistakes before sending the copy to the printer? Who's going to organize all the random thoughts and turn them into quality reading material? Who's going to fight the city traffic going to the printer because someone's article that was promised a week ago is late coming in? Who's going to fix all of these run-on sentences?

Who's going to run *The Greenside*? Ken (Mr. Flannel) Krausz? As Mr. Bill used to say, "OOOOH NOOOO!!" By the way, for those of you who don't know, Ken does have short sleeve flannel shirts for the summer months.

In this day and age of 28,800 baud rate fax modems, why can't Ilona continue from Germany? It's not waaayyy over in Germany. It's just a phone call away. All we have to do is pay the long distance phone charges for her, and she can continue her important work. Anyone who has ever spoken to Ilona on the phone knows that all we would have to do is raise our annual dues by about \$200 per year, and we can afford it.

Well, all kidding aside, Ilona, we are all going to miss you. We'er soruy youse has to go oer dare to liv, butt we no's dat yu gutta du wat yu gutta du. An I nose dat we wil be abel to replase ya eventually evin dough I cant figya out wy we kneed a editah anyways. Eveybudi nose wher to put the commas and periuds. (Try to edit this on your spell checker, Ilona!) Good luck in Germany, and we look forward to your return in a couple of years.

Best of luck,

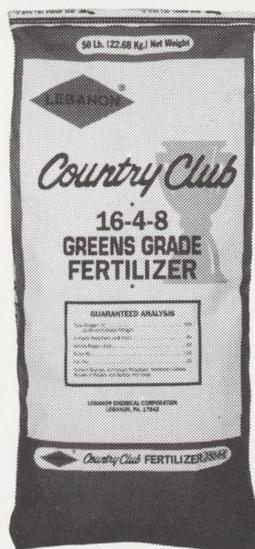
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a.k.a. Nigel Wiskowski

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Reflections on the 1996 Cadillac NFL Tournament

by Robert Dickison, CGCS

The course this year was again in excellent condition; probably the best that it has ever been for the seniors. The Poa didn't seem to be as big a problem this year as it was last year on the greens. It provided a true and fair test for all of the contestants.

The weather this past winter and spring was extremely wet. With a record snowfall over the winter and the heavy rains this spring, the course was in a saturated condition. Even with only a half-an-inch of rain during tournament week, the greens and fairways became flooded. Thursday's rain caused the play to be canceled before anyone had completed their round.

This condition didn't last long, for the course was ready for play on Friday morning. There were a few wet conditions to be encountered but, in general, the course was very playable. This was evident in the scores that were posted over the next two days. I am sure that the clean and replace rule helped some. The greens held the iron shots and putted fast and true with a speed of 10'6". It was hard not to make a birdie if you were close to the cup.

Again this year we were loaned extra equipment by some of our distributors: an intermediate rough mower and two utility carts by the **Steven Willand Co.**; a sweeper by **Storr Tractor Co.**; a small pickup truck, a utility cart and two green rollers by the **Wilfred MacDonald Co.**; and an intermediate rough mower by **E/T Equipment Co.** Forest Hill Field Club also lent us a green roller and a large gas grill that was used to cook meals for the green staff. We were also able to get extra experienced help for tournament week from **Mark Wittinger**,

Preakness Hill; Ken Duggan, Tamcrest; **Dan Melle**, Canoe Brook; and **Mark Griff**, Echo Lake.

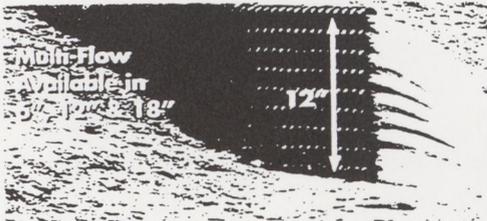
This year's setup began a day or two early; with the weather we had before the tournament it helped things run smoother. There were a lot more skyboxes and some of the tents were moved and enlarged. There was more setup going on but things seemed to run very well. Even ESPN's setup and breakdown went much smoother and without any damage to the course this year.

If garbage is any indication of how successful a golf tournament is, then this year's tournament was very successful. There were two roll-off containers full each day. We had crowds that resembled those of the Thunderbird Tournament years.

There were a few complaints from the PGA players about the softness of their practice area turf. One and Nine East are very soft fairways as you know; with the wet spring that we went through this year, they were even softer.

For the week, we parked 15,000 cars in general parking. This was the most that were ever parked. **Gordon Hahn** was a one-man parking crew when it came to putting the cars among the trees. For Friday, Saturday and Sunday almost every usable spot was taken on the East course. If this trend continues, we will have to think about other places to park the overflow of cars.

Our practice area suffered quite a bit with the parking on it throughout the tournament. About two dozen cars and a few trucks became mired in the mud and had to be pulled out during the week. We had to put in some temporary roadways on the lower end. These are going to be kept in place for future use.



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Rutgers announces new format for Field Day

Dr. Bruce Clarke, director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Study in Turfgrass Science, has announced that the Annual Field Day will be held this year at Hort. Farm II, Ryders Lane, New Brunswick.

This year Field Day will become *Field Days* as a new format will be tested. On July 31, 1996, the first of two field days will feature a program tailored for golf course superintendents, which will focus on Bentgrass Research.

On August 1, 1996, the traditional Field Day will be held with a broader focus for those involved in turfgrass maintenance in settings other than golf courses, which will *exclude* most of the research on Bentgrass usually targeted to the golf course audience.

Watch your mail for further information on these events, and please note that a separate fee will apply for each day, but those people who wish to attend both days may do so.

The diet factor and cancer

You are what you eat, plus some interactions with your genotype, phenotype and environment. The National Academy of Science has published a report on "Carcinogens and Anti-Carcinogens in the Human Diet." It concludes that dietary fat and alcohol consumption, as well as

other human behaviors, play a much larger role in causing human cancers than either naturally occurring chemicals in food or synthetic additives. Pesticides in food or other exposures to pesticides (such as lawn chemicals) was not of great concern in the report.

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Preventing low back pain in agriculture

Editors Note: Here reprinted is good advice that we can all benefit from.

Low back pain is a common occupational health problem. The National Safety Council's 1991 *Accident Facts* reports that back injuries are the most frequent of all disabling work injuries in the United States. Statistics reveal that about 31% of all workers' compensation cases are related to back injuries. Farmers are especially vulnerable to developing back problems, because their work frequently incorporates activities that are thought to be risk factors for developing low back pain.

RISK FACTORS

- Lifting objects heavier than 25 pounds or repeatedly lifting lighter objects;
- Awkward body posture while working;
- Prolonged driving of such vehicles as tractors, trucks, and other farm equipment that cause whole body vibration;
- Slips and falls and other traumatic injuries associated with

adverse working conditions.

Men and women are both prone to work-related back pain, and the first episode usually occurs between the ages of 20 and 40. Activities that put excessive stress on the spine seem to play a role in developing low back pain.

Manual lifting of heavy objects is the most commonly cited risk factor causing low back pain. Agricultural workers commonly lift heavy objects such as bales of hay, sacks of feed, or even animals, during the course of a work day. They may also be subject to stresses associated with repetitive lifting, such as moving bulky equipment during milking, or loading and unloading trucks and wagons. Additionally, whole body vibration, delivered by way of the buttocks and spine from vibrating vehicles such as tractors, is thought to play a role in the development of low back pain.

Most low back pain associated with overexertion is short-lived. Half of those who seek medical attention improve in the first week and over 90% of them improve within two months,

Continued on page 14

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Low back pain in agriculture

Continued from page 13

regardless of treatment. Nevertheless, because people may experience multiple episodes of back pain that may be incapacitating (a person suffering a low back incident appears to have about a 2-to-4% chance of it becoming a permanent disability), low back pain remains a significant cause of missed work days and worker discomfort.

The severity of symptoms associated with a low back disorder can vary, ranging from relatively mild and short in duration to pronounced and incapacitating. A low back problem can result in stiffness and pain, along with inability to move. These symptoms may not appear until 12 to 36 hours after the incident occurs. Sciatica-type back pain is associated with a pain down one or both legs and frequently numbness or tingling in the foot and toes. Normal walking may become difficult.

Fortunately, most sufferers from lower back pain respond to the conservative medical management prescribed by their doctors. Therapy frequently includes bed rest, controlled physi-

cal activity, physical therapy, and medication. For those receiving conservative medical therapy, follow-up evaluation is

Fortunately, most sufferers from lower back pain respond to the conservative medical management prescribed by their doctors.

very important.

PREVENTION AND CONTROL METHODS

Once high risk activities are recognized, then prevention and control come into play. A combination of the following strategies will help reduce the occurrence and severity of back

Continued on page 16



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Preventing low back pain

Continued from page 14
disorders in agriculture.

Job Design

Although no single lifting technique is best for all situations, the following guidelines will be helpful in most instances:

- The load should be as compact and light as possible.
- Lift only loads that can be handled safely. Test the weight of the load before trying to lift it; if it is unmanageable, get help.
- When lifting and lowering, get a good grip on the object and keep it close to the body. Place your feet close to the load and lift slowly, smoothly, and mostly by straightening the legs. Even relatively light loads lifted away from the body can create injurious stress levels on the spine.
- Lifting and lowering should be restricted to the range between the level of the hands, when standing with the arms hanging in a relaxed position, and shoulder height.
- Do not lift or lower with the arms extended.

- Minimize reaching forward for an object. Move objects out of the way first to get to the needed items.
- While lifting, always rotate the body by moving the feet, rather than twisting or bending the trunk.
- Avoid repetitive lifting—alternate the task with other tasks.
- Use mechanical assistance—lift tables, hoists, and conveyors—whenever possible.
- Reduce whole body vibration by driving vehicles with suspension seats that have appropriate vibration-damping characteristics.
- Use motor vehicles with good seat positioning and lumbar support.
- Maintain flexibility in the workplace to accommodate people of different sizes and shapes.

Education and training

- Consult your doctor about safe lifting techniques.

Continued on page 17

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Preventing pain

Continued from page 16

- Strength and fitness conditioning—Evidence suggests back strength and overall fitness may be associated with a lower risk for developing acute back pain.
- Back schools teach spinal mechanics, exercise and fitness to individuals with back pain—contact your doctor or local hospital for information.

Job placement

- Job placement is an attempt to identify appropriate jobs for people with various physical capabilities. People exhibit a large variation in lifting capability.
- The goal is to obtain a good match between workers and tasks so people can be productive in their jobs. This approach appears promising, but its effectiveness is as yet unproven.

Professional medical care

- Medical evaluation is especially important for anyone who is at increased risk for developing low back pain or who already experiences back pain.
- Medical treatment and rehabilitation, along with job modification, may enable people with mild back pain to continue working.

Developed by Wei Zhao, project director of Agricultural Safety and Health Program, in consultation with Ann L. Kersting.

The publication was made possible in part by a grant from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Program on Agricultural Health Promotion Systems for New Jersey.

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Geese control seminar scheduled

Damage to vegetation and habitat by the geese population is a serious concern to anyone responsible for the design and management of parks, golf courses, commercial campuses and/or open space areas in this region. A symposium has been organized to review the status of migratory and resident geese population, current management practices and strategies, and a review of planting design options for prevention and protection. Specific plants that can be used as well as chemical and animal alternatives will be discussed.

The seminar will be held on November 6, 1996, at the

James Haggerty Education Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown, and on November 13, 1996, at the Grange Hall, Columbus. The two locations will enable a greater number of people to attend from not only the New Jersey area, but the surrounding region also. Speakers include George Hass, USDA Fish & Wildlife; Janet Bucknall, USDA Animal Damage Control; Paul Castelli, New Jersey Fish, Game & Wildlife; and Jeff Keller, Habitat by Design. This program is being sponsored by NJSLA. Contact Gail DeFino at 201-379-1100 for further information.

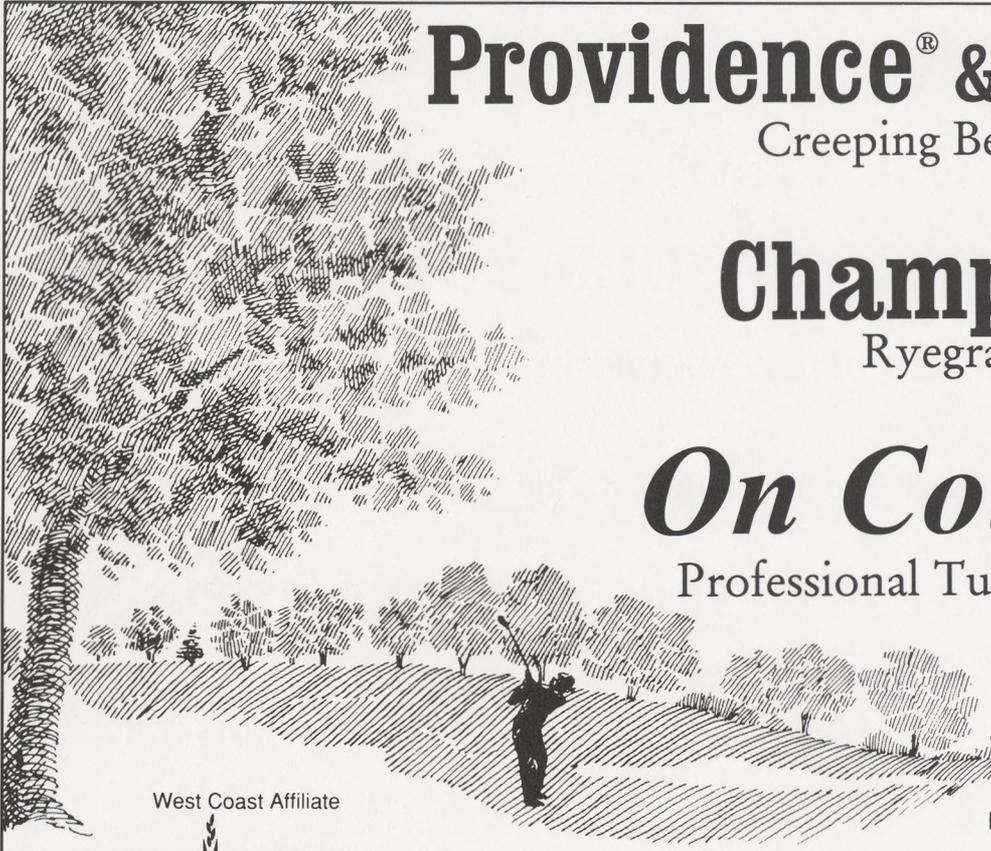
Believe it or not

by Jim Hughes, Dean
Edward Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy

In 1990 roughly one out of 3 New Jerseyans were maturing baby boomers (born 1946-1964) 2.6 million out 7.7 million now confronting wrinklehood and middle-aged spread.

This is the year of the Big Bang, the first boomer will hit the big FIVE-0, 50 years old.

• By the year 2000, one out of 3 grandparents with grandchildren under 18 will be baby boomers.



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Retiring in comfort

by James K. Woods, registered representative with the Berger Financial Group. Mr. Woods specializes in personal investment and insurance planning.

When you look forward to your retirement years, what comes to mind? Traveling to those exotic places you dreamt about while you were putting your kids through college . . . enjoying the grandkids and having some spare time to do some volunteer work . . . playing 18 holes of golf and maybe even a vacation home in Florida?

Enter the 21st century! The Social Security Trust Fund is on course to run out of funds by the year 2030, just as the last baby boomers reach retirement age. Company pensions are becoming more and more endangered.

But even with all this bad news, many people continue to ignore their retirement needs. This is a generation often caught up in the tug-of-war between saving for the children's college education, helping to support their aging parents, and saving for their own future. Saving for retirement seems a long way off

Continued on page 21



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Retiring in comfort

Continued from page 20

and a lot less urgent than the next tuition payment, the next new car or the next vacation.

In reality, our retirement is much closer than we like to believe and our retirement years could last much longer than we ever thought possible. Many of us will live well into our 80s, and a good number will reach our 90s, so our retirement nest egg will need to last over 20 years.

Here are five rules to help keep you on course to a comfortable retirement:

1. *Take full advantage of savings plans that offer tax breaks, such as 401(k) and 403(b) plans, individual retirement accounts (IRAs), and annuities.* In a tax deferred plan, your money works harder because your investment earnings are not reduced by current income tax.
2. *Make regular payments to your retirement savings on a*

monthly or even weekly basis. Many investment programs offer an automatic investment plan which deducts the amount straight from your bank account.

3. *Diversify your portfolio of investments between stocks and bonds.* A simple rule is to put a percentage equal to your age in conservative investments, including bonds, and the remainder in stocks. As a general rule, the longer you have until retirement, the more aggressively you should invest. If you are close to retirement age, you'll want to invest more conservatively.
4. *Be sure to keep some inflation-beaters in your portfolio.* Many people make the mistake of becoming too cautious, allowing inflation to eat away at the nest egg you have worked so hard to accumulate.
5. *Stay fully invested over the long term.* Investment success doesn't depend on timing. It depends on time.

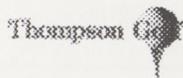


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X MARKS THE SPOT

by Ed Walsh, CGCS

I got a call the other day from Ken Krausz. I wasn't in the office so Ken left a message to get in touch with him when it was convenient. We went through the "he called me and I called him" routine for a day or two before Ken finally got tired and left me a message telling me *The Greenside* deadline was the following Monday. Now, I didn't think that was odd as Ken is the committee chairman for our publication. I just figured he was helping Ilona out by contacting regular contributors.

The very afternoon that Ken left his message, I received the letter from our Association telling everyone that Ilona Gray was resigning her position and moving to Germany. Seems her husband, Bob, has been transferred.

Now, not everyone associated with the GCSANJ knows Ilona, but the ones who do, know how much she is going to be missed. We may kid about her telephone calls and how she

We may kid about her telephone calls and how she likes to talk and talk and talk and talk, but when things have to be done, nobody does it better.

likes to talk and talk and talk and talk, but when things have to be done, nobody does it better. If the GCSANJ had a dictionary, you would probably find Ilona's picture under asset. We won't be able to replace her. Let's only hope that we can manage to keep things afloat in her absence.

I want to personally thank Ilona for all the help and support

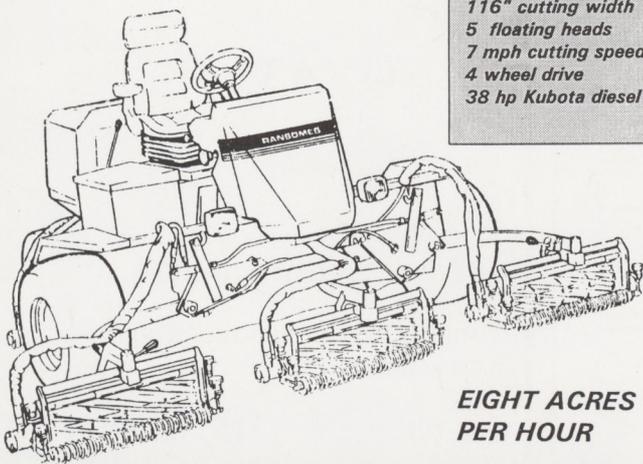
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X-MARKS THE SPOT

Continued from page 22

she's given me throughout the years. Getting people to be responsible for the commitment they make to *The Greenside* is not always an easy task. I know how many times I've told Ilona the article was in the mail when it wasn't, and she knew it, but she was still patient and courteous. Hey, can you imagine what it must be like dealing with me, Malikowski and LeSage on a regular basis? Nobody gets paid enough for that.

Ilona, I truly wish you and Bob the very best. I hope you both enjoy your stay in Germany and get a chance to visit all the European countries while you're there, but don't stay too long. We really won't be able to function without you for too long. Good luck and good health to you both.

P.S. I hope you both enjoy a beer or two. Wayne Foster tells me Germany brews the best in the world. Maybe Malikowski and I will have to visit and find out for ourselves. We've never been asked to leave a foreign country, but there's always a first time.

Calendar

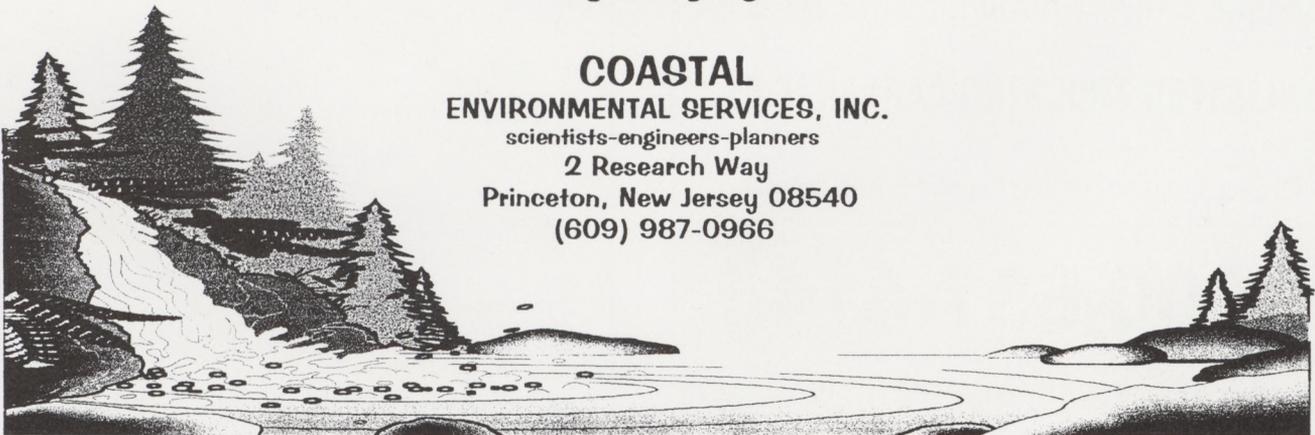
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- October 8 **The 31st Annual Turfgrass, Equipment, Irrigation and Suppliers Field Day, Rutgers University Golf Club/Stadium Campus. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.**
- October 14 **"Morie Company's Northeastern Superintendent's Championship," Blue Heron Pines C.C. and Harbor Pines C.C. Contact Dave Mitchell, (609) 391-1330.**
- November 6 **GCSANJ Annual Meeting Hollywood Golf Club. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100**

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GCSAA environmental award goes to USDA

The United States Golf Association (USGA) received the 1996 President's Award for Environmental Leadership from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) at the Environmental General Session which was held at GCSAA's 67th International Golf Course Conference and Show in Orlando, Florida.

The recipient is chosen by the GCSAA Board of Directors based on exceptional environmental contributions to the game of golf—contributions that further exemplify the golf course superintendent's image as steward of the land.

"With the serious challenges facing the game today, the entire industry is indebted to the United States Golf Association for its commitment to producing hard data regarding the environmental impact of golf and golf course management practices," said GCSAA President Gary T. Grigg, CGCS, Royal Poinciana Golf Club, Naples, Florida.

"We're delighted the GCSAA has taken this opportunity

to acknowledge the USGA's consistent efforts to promote sound environmental stewardship," said Thomas W. Chisholm, chairman of the USGA Green Section Committee. "It's always gratifying to have the respect of your peers in any industry, and golf is no exception."

Created in 1991, the President's Award for Environmental Leadership has been presented:

- in 1991 to Cape Cod Study Participants, Bass River Country Club, Eastward Ho! Country Club, Falmouth Country Club, and Hyannisport Club;
- in 1993 to Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program Partners, the Audubon Society of New York, and the United States Golf Association;
- in 1995 to William Timothy Hiers, CGCS, Collier's Reserve in Naples, Florida.

In addition to conducting 13 national championships each year, the USGA funds turfgrass and environmental research; provides course rating and handicap systems; tests golf equipment for conformity to the rules; preserves the game's history; and, in cooperation with the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland, writes and interprets the Rules of Golf.



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Back Nine

BIO WEDDING

Who needs rice? At a few pennies a pound it would be hard to impress any of the guests. So what are the well-healed, ecologically-oriented bride and groom to do? The latest fashion is to release butterflies! These beauties go for about \$100 a dozen. Swallowtail Farms of California (where else), assisted in 200 such butterfly outings using Monarch butterflies. Insect Lore of Shafter, California, uses painted lady chrysalides, and Your Event of Tampa, Florida, uses fireflies for evening weddings. More locally, Hole-in-Hand Butterfly Farm in Hazelton, Pennsylvania, will ship them as well.

WOODEN INDIAN

Not the one made famous in a song by Hank Williams, but a genuine Jersey version. Lake Mohawk Golf Club in Sparta, New Jersey, sports a carved "Chief Mohawk" on its 11th hole. A club member suggested the carving as an alternative to removing a dead tree.

VIRTUAL POLLUTION

Computer modeling for pollution is not new. In a recent issue of the *Scientific American*, a model predicted that the major source of nitrogen pollution of the Chesapeake Bay was air borne from as far away as Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and Kentucky. As much as 25% of the bay's nitrogen comes from this source. These findings challenge the previously held understanding that water pollution was the chief culprit.

NEW COUNTY EXTENSION AGENTS

Bill Bamka (609-265-5050) is the recently-appointed county agent for Burlington. Bill received his Bachelor's Degree from Delaware Valley College of Science and Ag, and a MS degree from Penn State. Been there awhile, but still relatively new on the scene is Jim Willmott (609-784-1000), who heads up the Camden County Extension Service. Jim has a turf background. In Passaic County the new agent is Dr. Stan Kamara (201-305-5742). County agents are a great source of information on pesticide training, use and handling, and for general information on Rutgers activities.





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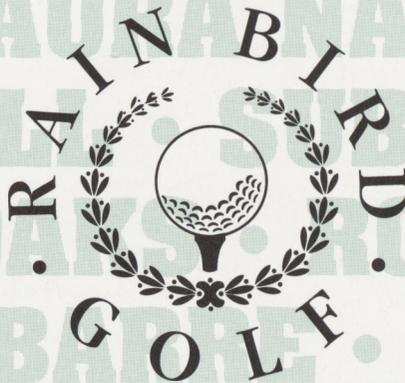
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