

THE GREENERSIDE

Official Publication of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey

31st Annual Turfgrass Equipment, Irrigation and Suppliers Field Day

OCTOBER 8, 1996

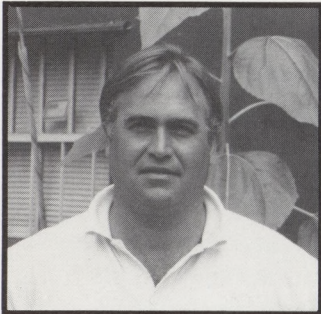
Clear Your Calendar; this is an EVENT not to be Missed.

Turn to page 6 for highlights of this important day!

Four clubs celebrate their centennial

Esex Fells Country Club, Forest Hill Field Club, Madison Golf Club and Suburban Golf Club have at least three things in common. They are all located in the same area of the state, they are celebrating their centennial and all have excellent golf course superintendents.

Essex Fells is headed by **Dick LaFlamme**, who has been superintendent at the "Fells" since November 1994. Past superintendents include **Larry Dodge**, **Steve Finamore**, **Wayne Remo**, **Bill Riley, Jr.**, **Walter Will**, **George Gannon** and **William Riley, Sr.**, who was the first superintendent and went on to become the general manager.



Dick LaFlamme,
superintendent at Essex Fells
Country Club.

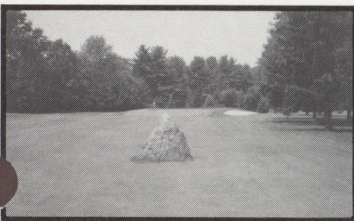
Dick and his wife Marilyn have two children, Matthew, age 6 and Sara, age 9. A two-year turf degree from U. Mass is the foundation of Dick's schooling.

This year Essex Fells plays host to the 76th New Jersey State Open Championship and the State Woman's Amateur Championship, as well as many other events to celebrate 100 years.

A few interesting things at the Fells include a boulder in the middle of the 13th fairway, which came into play during the Rules of Golf Country Club Championship between **Ken Krausz** and **Jim Pelrine** in 1994 (see *The*

Greenerside, July-August 1994, page 10). Another interesting fact is that the Mulligan Rule had its origins at Essex Fells. It seems John A. "Buddy" Mulligan, a locker room attendant, was known to join foursomes on the 10th hole, and as he had not had a chance to warm up, he was given a practice shot that became known as The Mulligan.

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*The infamous "Boulder" on
the 13th fairway at Essex Fells
Country Club.*

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Ken Krausz, Editor
Newsletter Business Staff

Ken Krausz, CGCS
Contributing Writers

Douglas Vogel,
Edward Walsh, CGCS, Shaun Barry
Steven Malikowski, CGCS

Please address inquiries to:

Editor, **The Greenside**

330 Paramus Road

Paramus, NJ 07652

For Ad Placement: Judy Policastro
(201) 379-1100

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908-787-0786 • FAX 908-787-7212

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**GOLF COURSE
SUPERINTENDENTS
ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY**

66 Morris Ave., Suite 2A

Springfield, New Jersey 07081

201-379-1100 • FAX 201-379-6507

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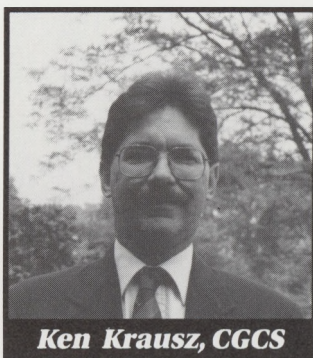
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EDITORIAL



Ken Krausz, CGCS

Getting started

by Ken Krausz, CGCS

Editorials are supposed to wake the readers up, give them something to think about, be controversial, possibly give them something to look forward to. Sorry, this is not in that vein. As my first newsletter is being put together, I have so many thoughts and decisions to make I figured

that maybe you should know what is going on in my head.

First and foremost is the feeling that I may be crazy! Who in their right mind would take over anything that just finished first in its league? Since *The Greenside* received the FIRST PLACE AWARD in its category last year, expectations run high for this year. It is like taking over a golf course in great shape; it takes a lot to make it a little better. We have great writers and support staff, making this decision not so crazy.

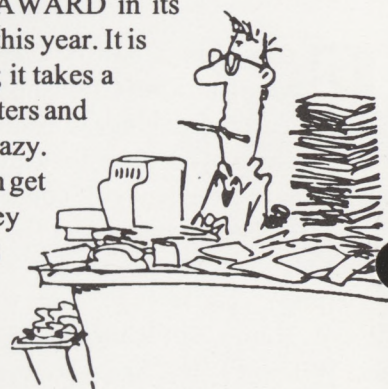
Second, I have to make sure members can get hold of me if they need to, especially if they would like to submit an article. Any articles that you would like to write, or if you have any ideas for articles, your input would be greatly appreciated. Messages left at my home are almost sure to get to me; that number is (201) 445-4460. Faxes sent to me are a sure thing as the machine is in my office; that number is (201) 447-0301. Feel free to page me at (201) 229-7456; I return pages as soon as possible. Leave a message on my machine at the golf course and I will receive it; that number is (201) 447-3403. (Unfortunately, if you leave a message with a member of my staff, the chances of me receiving it drop faster than Poa in August.)

Third, editing is just that, and if you submit something that does not get in or has been changed a bit, please understand that I may have to change it to make it fit (or grammatically correct). (Doug Vogel has already accused me of denying him his First Amendment rights.) I will try to let you know what is going on with an article; if you definitely do not want anything edited, please let me know when you submit it.

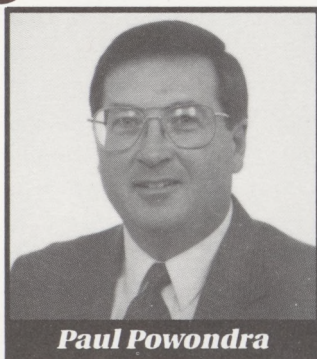
Fourth, timing is such a key thing: articles must fit the issue. On July 6, I received an article on LIGHTNING PROTECTION, a great timely subject, except that the issue I am working on with an August 1 deadline is not due to get into the hands of the members until September 20! That article is now in my files to use in the May/June 1997 issue. The article that will get in this issue is the one on FROST DELAYS, and it is the middle of July! Boy, did the year go by fast!

Maybe this editorial did give you something to think about and something to look forward to. Frost delays, lightning protection and Doug Vogel; sorry, you will have to wait for the lightning protection story.

Thanks to all who met the August 1 deadline.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Paul Powondra

A resource to be treasured

After a morning of torrential rains on July 31, dropping up to four inches in the New Brunswick area, I arrived at Cook College for the Bentgrass

Field Day, expecting to find few others in attendance, but wanting to show my support and interest in the program. About 130 people beat me to it, making me proud of them, pleased for the Cook staff, and a bit chagrined at my arrogant assumption that I would be one of the "few."

The next several hours went by rapidly as we hung on the words of **Drs. Bruce Clarke, Jim Murphy** and their colleagues, while casting a particularly wary eye on the anthracnose and brown patch disease plots. We eagerly grabbed for the pesticide performance handouts, quickly scanned the results, compared them against our own strategies and thought to ourselves that in a perfect world all those diseases would remain only in Dr. Clarke's plots where they belong.

The bentgrass evaluation plots generated a lot of interest and comment among the attendees, as well as the briefing on herbicide-resistant bentgrasses.

Afterward, many attended the barbecue in the new C. Reed Funk Building which had been dedicated that morning. The Funk Building is the new equipment storage facility located at Hort Farm II, replacing several ancient structures at the site, and is of all-metal construction. That metal played quite a role in the dedication ceremony, in that the activity was held during the aforementioned 4-inch downpour. Those who attended each had their own description of what it sounded like inside, but I liked Bruce Clarke's the best. He tried to give his remarks, but couldn't hear himself think. "It was like I was standing in the shower with my fingers in my ears," he said.

In any event, it turned into a most enjoyable day, and it was interesting to learn that many had journeyed quite a distance to attend, including one man who came from California because he felt it was an important day.

So next year, I urge you to find time to attend the Bentgrass Field Day. It will be worth your while, if only to spend some time with a man who actually looks forward each year to July and August—Dr. Bruce Clarke. Treasure the resources that Cook College represents to our golf courses.

Calendar

- September 30** GCSANJ Invitational, Fairmont C.C., Vince Bracken, superintendent. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- October 8** The 31st Annual Turfgrass Equipment, Irrigation & Suppliers Field Day, Rutgers University Golf Club/Stadium Campus. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- October 14** Morie Company's Northeastern Superintendents Championship, Blue Heron Pines C.C. and Harbor Pines C.C. Contact Dave Mitchell, (609) 391-1330.
- October 28** GCSANJ Championship, Trenton C.C. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- November 6** GCSANJ Annual Meeting, Hollywood Golf Club, Jan Kasyjanski, superintendent. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- November 9** Rutgers Turfgrass Alumni Association 1996 Rutgers Turfgrass Graduation Ceremony. Contact Linda McAteer, (908) 932-9271 x 626.
- November 12** Geese Control Seminar, Douglas Student Center, Rutgers University. Please note date and location change from those reported in July-August edition of *The Greenerside*. Contact Gail DeFino at (201) 379-1100.
- December 9-12** New Jersey Turfgrass Expo, Taj Mahal, Atlantic City. (908) 821-7134.

Four clubs celebrate their centennial



Geoffrey Drake (left) poses with Glen Miller during the awards ceremony at the NJSGA Amateur Championship held at Forest Hills Field Club.

Continued from page 1

The Forest Hill Field Club, home of Superintendent Geoffrey Drake, is celebrating its centennial by hosting the July GCSANJ Tournament and the 1996 New Jersey Golf Association Amateur Championship. They also hosted a Centennial Ball, as well as a series of tournaments throughout the year.

This Tillinghast course has tight fairways, small greens, and is very hilly, hence the name Forest Hill. Past superintendents include Jeff Wetterling, Joe DeCorso, and Carl Osberg, who recently passed away. Mr. DeCorso said that many members became friends for a very

long time because the club has a friendly atmosphere. He became the service manager for Wilfred MacDonald after leaving Forest Hill.

Geoffrey's schooling includes a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology as well as attending Rutgers Turf Program. He and his wife, Lanie, have two sons, Chris, 18, who is following in his father's footsteps by attending the Penn State Turf Program, and Justin, 14.

The Madison Golf Club: How it all began . . .

On the night of March 27, 1896, eleven men met at the house of George H. Yeaman, on Green Avenue, to consider organizing a golf club. By the end of that evening, plans for the Madison Golf Club had been established.

Fairways and sand greens for six holes were laid out and developed on acreage generously donated by James A. Webb. The present clubhouse was then Mr. Webb's summer home.

Continued on page 5

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Four clubs celebrate their centennial

Continued from page 4

Play on the course began in 1896, with J. L. Paulmier being recorded as the Club's first champion.

The Club's 1896 founding earns it a place among the earliest of golf clubs established in this country. Just as remarkable, the Madison Golf Club has retained its original location and has been in continuous play since its very first season. With over 100 years of successful operations, the Club has truly become a valued natural asset of Madison and its surrounding communities.

From the original six holes, this private golf club now has nine challenging holes of golf, laid out on approximately 22 acres. The par 62 has been bested only five times in its 100 years (the pro tournament record is held by Senior Tour Player **Jack Keifer**), with the current professional, **Mike Lanzetta**,

tying the course record, 57, last year. One of the unique aspects of the course, in addition to its very tight and narrow fairways, is the fact that in order to play the nine holes, the golfer must hit over a very busy roadway that cuts throughout the course. A most unique opportunity for golfers to demonstrate their skills!



Tony Gordon,
superintendent at
Madison Golf Club.

ates and Ladies Division. **Tony Gordon** completes his first full year as superintendent at historic Madison Golf Club. He follows a line of turfgrass experts such as **Larry Dodge**, **Mark Sinto** and the late **Duke Polidor**. Tony has met the challenge of superior condition and fast greens. The course was voted by the National Golf Foundation as "one of the best conditioned

venues on the Atlantic seaboard." David Fay, executive director of the USGA, calls Madison "one of the best kept secrets in golf."

Tony attended Rutgers State University, Cook College. Tony and his wife, Pauline, are raising two sons, Kirk, 8, and Keion, 2.

Suburban Golf Club is an 18-hole golf course, 6,048 yards in length with nines of 3,126 and 2,922 yards. The

course has been described by many as a gentleman's course, but requiring a high degree of accuracy because of the numerous traps, trees and small greens.

The clubhouse formally opened on April 18, 1896. The golf course opened on July 11, 1896, and at that time consisted of five holes. Between 1900 and 1910 (the exact date is not known), the course grew to nine holes. In 1919, A.W. Tillinghast was hired to redesign the course and add an additional nine holes. The year 1922 saw the dedication of the new and present clubhouse and a full 18-hole golf course. In 1927, the Suburban Club changed its name to its present name, Suburban Golf Club. The club has hosted many major state championships in the past.

Over the years, the course has experienced many alterations and changes. There have been quite a few superintendents involved. **Frank Swehla** was the superintendent in the 50s, followed by **Marty Wallach**. **Pete Pedrazzi** was hired as superintendent in 1960, and **Jack Martin** followed Pete in 1965. **Jerry Schoonmaker** was next and then **Dan McGlynn** for seven years, followed by **Pat Campbell** and **John Ruzbatsky**, who each held the position for three years. **Ken Givens** has been the head man since April 1, 1995.

Ken attended the Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Ornamental Horticulture. Ken and his wife, Mary Jo, have a son, Kristian, eight months, and another baby is on the way.

The Suburban has celebrated its centennial by hosting a Centennial Weekend Tournament and Gala which included fireworks.



Ken Givens, superintendent
at Suburban Golf Club.



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GCSANJ NEWS

THE GCSANJ ANNUAL FIELD DAY: IT'S OUR PARTY AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A BLAST!

by Dave Pease

I don't know how many of you old folk can remember (and that group includes those ages 40 or better), but outside the local post offices across this great country of ours you could be witness to a poster campaign spearheaded by "Uncle Sam" saying "I NEED YOU" for the armed forces. Well, this is Uncle Dave, saying I need you, your undivided attention in participating in our 1996 GCSANJ Annual Field Day.

As our president so eloquently pointed out in his earlier correspondence, plans for our 31st Annual Turfgrass Equipment, Irrigation and Suppliers Field Day have been formulated and will come to fruition on October 8. This is an important

fund raising effort of the Association for subsidization of Association activities. "I NEED YOU" in support of this activity, and I am seconding Mr. Powondra's requests that you serve as a member of the Field Day Committee by contributing the following:

1. Attending and bringing key members of your staff, greens chairman and/or other club officials,
2. Encouraging suppliers of the turfgrass industry to participate as an exhibitor,
3. Encouraging anyone with turfgrass management responsibilities to attend.

We have received tremendous support from our commercial members through their participation in this annual event. Our commercial members have shown support through their

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1996**



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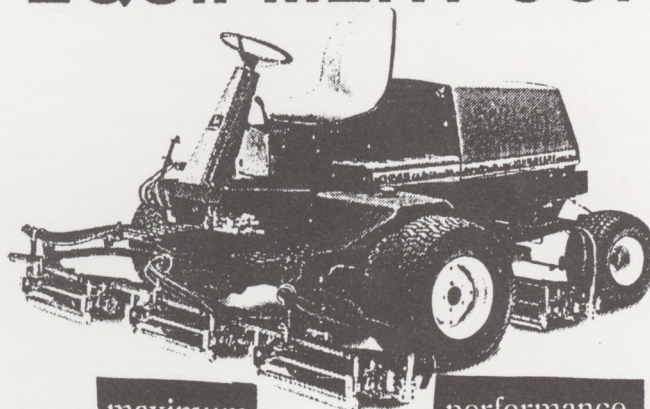
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GCSANJ NEWS

Continued from page 6

participation as exhibitors. The Field Day Committee needs GCSANJ member support through attendance. This year's Field Day includes such venues as: Exhibitor Booth Recognition, Field Demonstrations, Tour of Rutgers Stadium and Sport Facility Complex, Educational Guest Speakers, Door Prizes, affordable lunch and dietary delights, and much more. *The GCSANJ Annual Field Day is the single most important event of the year.* Your interest and cooperation in contributing to the success of this Association activity would be appreciated.

Following is a list of Field Day exhibitors (as of press time for *The Greenside*):

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Bruedan Corp.
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Double Eagle
Earth Works Natural Organic Products
Egypt Farms, Inc.
E/T Equipment Company
Grass Roots, Inc.
Growth Products, Inc.
Jersey Power Equipment, Inc.
Koonz Sprinkler Supply
Landpower Equipment Inc.
Lesco, Inc.

Continued on page 8

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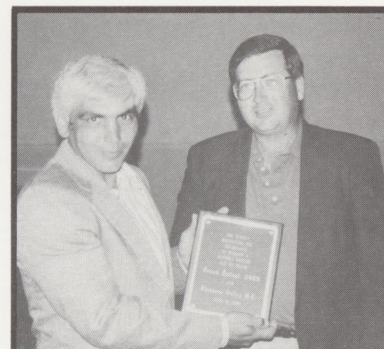
Exhibitors continued from page 7

Limecrest Corp.
Montco/Surf-side
Plant Food Co., Inc.
Rhone-Poulenc/Chipco
Sandoz, Inc.
The Scotts Co. - Pro Turf Div.
Shearon Golf
Sleepy Hollow Turf Management
Storr Tractor Co.
Tee & Green Sod, Inc.
Trees Now
Turf Products Corp.
Vigoro
Wilfred MacDonald Company
Steven Willand

FLANDERS DRAWS RAVE REVIEWS

by Shaun Barry

Ask and you shall receive. This is a real good statement to live by. **Steve Chirip** knew we needed a course for our June meeting, so he said he would ask **Frank Polizzi**. Frank then asked **Jack Serleto** and Jack asked the proper people, and we had **Flanders Valley**. June 18 was chosen because they close 18 holes every Tuesday. Steve then thought to ask if we could play the Blue and Gold Nines. They are his favorites. We got lucky again. Jack decided to ask **Bruedan Corp.** to donate the carts. **Pete Siegel** asked and gave us the good news the day of our meeting. We could not ask for anything more. It really turned out well.



Frank Polizzi (left) accepts congratulations from GCSANJ President Paul Powondra for the great job he did as the June Meeting host.

Frank inspired his staff to make the course shine and it did. It was a gem. I do believe, however, that these were just normal conditions. Even though 45,000 people a year play these nines, you can see why it is recognized on a national level: tough but fair and playable for all levels of players. The only question that I have is why did it seem to be more playable for the good players?

Mark Kriews fired a 73 and edged out **Phil Scott**. Phil had played only once this year but still had a 74 this day. Maybe this would work for all of us. **Tom Grimac** (75), **Ian Kunesch** (75) and **Bob Prickett** (77) completed the list of gross winners.

Heading up the net side was first-time winner **Ken Indyk** (66), who did not credit his dad for teaching him the game. **Bob Dubee** (68) took second place on a match of cards with **Craig Kinsey** and **Kevin Haggerty**. **Pat O'Neill** (69) may have been fifth, but he still beat 80 other players.

John Farrell, who is a many-time club champ at Flanders, shot 78 and could not win a prize in the gross competition. John and C. Kinsey, however, had two skins each and M. Kriews had one. The **Leslie Cup** got off to a great start with most of the matches being played at Flanders. The best match of the day may have been the **Prickett-Grimac** 20-hole victory over **Charlie Clarke** and **Kevin Gunn**. Other winners were **Mylinarski**.

Continued on page 9

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GCSANJ NEWS

Continued from page 8

Kinsey, **Toto-Raczynski**, Kunesch-Fountain, Farrell-Scott, Owsik-Sauer, Driscoll-O'Brien and **Dobbie-Harsin** (19 holes). Good luck in your future matches, and no, you can't join Dave and me in the consolation bracket.

Our sincere thanks go out to Frank, Jack and everyone involved with this wonderful day. Your pride and professionalism were clearly evident.

GCSANJ WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

The Greenside welcomes the following new GCSANJ members:

Anthony T. Benfield B-1
Deerwood C.C., Dist. 4

Paul E. Capri A
Golden Pheasant G.C., Dist. 4


Richard E. Gdoun C
Limecrest Corp., Dist. 1

Abe Hemsey A
Passaic County G.C., Dist. 1

Ronald M. James C
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Peter J. McFarland C
Alpine the Care of Trees, Inc., Dist. 1


Continued on page 10



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New members continued from page 9

Scott Mearkle C
Barenbrug/Northeast, Dist. 1

Charles W. Sexton A
Silver Lake G.C., Dist. 2

Jeffrey Weld C
Bayer Corp., Dist. 1

JIM KELSEY VS. THE BACKHOE: A SPLIT DECISION

Partac Peat Corporation (Beam Clay) reports that its president, Jim Kelsey, was injured in a backhoe accident June 26, suffering skull fractures. However, following successful



Jim and Bonnie Kelsey attending Field Day 1995.

surgery June 29, he was up walking the hospital halls and was released July 2.

"Jim is very lucky to be alive, and we have much to be thankful for," said his wife, Bonnie, who also indicated, "the doctors said Jim is fortunate to have no permanent injuries."

Jim reflects, "All in all, an interesting experience (although I wouldn't recommend it), except for waking up following surgery on June 29 thinking I was under water fighting off a shark who had me by the head—or looking like a space monster two days later when the bandages came off."

Meanwhile, operations at Partac have continued as normal, including special projects for the Brave's new spring training camp at Disney World, the All-Star Game in Philadelphia, and the Olympics in Atlanta.

Jim has returned to the office and expects to be fully recovered sometime in August.

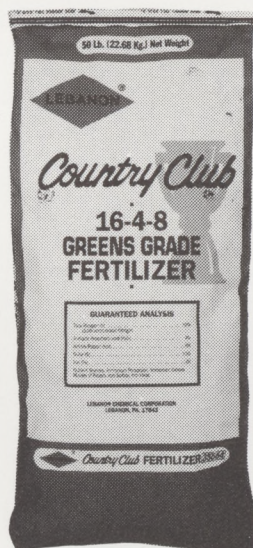
He wishes to thank his many friends in the industry "for their prayers and concern that have aided in my speedy recovery."

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The truth leaks out

by Dr. Nigel Wiszkowski, CGCS

Thinking back to my past years, and, by the way, it appears that there is a lot more of the past than there is of the future, I recall my two mentors or heroes as a kid. Carl Yastrzemski in baseball and Jack Nicklaus, of course, in golf. It has always been a let-down being a Red Sox fan, but at least when Yaz was playing there was always something good to look forward to about the games.

Growing up during Jack Nicklaus' time is also something that I will be able to remember forever. Having had the opportunity to meet Jack face to face is an experience I will treasure forever. In fact, it rates second only to meeting and dining with Arnold Palmer at his Bay Hill home back in 1990. What these three people have in common is what they have done for their respective sports through their spirit of competition, their abilities and their sportsmanship.

And now I must add a new hero to my "dream team." This latest addition is not only from a fan's point of view, but also from a golf course superintendent's point of view. In my book, Ray Floyd is now in that group of elite I sincerely hope to have the opportunity to meet and speak with some day. Why? Quite simply, Ray Floyd is now the mentor for all golf course superintendents in becoming the outspoken leader of the Soft Spike revolution.

Like many golf course superintendents, I spend a considerable amount of weekend time watching golf on TV. Like many from the Baby Boomer generation, I prefer to watch Senior golf rather than their flatbellied counterparts of the PGA tour. Watching the Senior PGA Championship, it was a pleasant surprise to see an announcer ask Mr. Floyd why his shoes failed to make any noise when he walked across a paved cart path. "Well, you see, I am wearing these soft spikes in my shoes now." He added, "I began wearing them at Augusta

National, and they have been in my shoes ever since." I must say I was now glued to the TV and wouldn't even get up to go to the refrigerator at this point.

Is this what we as golf course superintendents have been waiting for since these non-scarring gripping devices became available for golf shoes a few years ago? Yes, it is!! Since these and other non-metal golf spikes have been in use, I have been hearing that until a big name professional speaks out on their

Would you rather be the last golf course to be a non-metal spike facility or would you rather be the next one?

behalf, they will never take off. Well, considering the obvious physical and visual benefits of these soft spikes (I will use the words soft spikes in the generic sense and not in the endorsing cents), and considering the "big name" we now have using them, the soft spike revolution has now taken off. On behalf of all golfers and all golf course superintendents, I would like to personally say thank you, Mr. Floyd and Mr. Chi Chi Rodriguez and Mr. Dave Stockton and Mr. Jim Colbert and every other golf professional using these greens-savers.

I have heard the comment that they are only using them because they are getting paid for it. Well, excuse me, that is the wrong thing to say. I heard Mr. Floyd say on national television that he would not compromise any traction he needs for the sake of an endorsement. Obviously he does not need the money, and he is using these spikes because they not only work, they are comfortable to wear and easy on his back as well. We as golf course superintendents must now take this ball and run with it, if you will.

Contrary to myth, we are the leaders of the golf industry. We build the greens, we grow the greens, we nurse the greens during times of stress. Aren't we the ones who make the agronomic decisions? Who is called after a heavy rain and asked "is the course playable, is the course open, are carts allowed, should we have a 90 degree rule today, should carts be restricted to paths today, are the greens okay?" If we can convince our Boards and owners that we need to rebuild the greens when it becomes necessary, can't we convince them to do something simple like use soft spikes?

How many golfers notice the expensive improvements we do on the course? After the open stone drain ditches have grown over, who remembers the wet spots that used to be there? After the new irrigation system has gone in, how many

Continued on page 14

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GCSAA NEWS

WAYNE REMO TO ATTEND CHAPTER DELEGATES MEETING

September 7 and 8 are the dates of the Fourth Annual Chapter Delegates Meeting in Lawrence, Kansas. **Wayne Remo**, chapter delegate representing GCSANJ, will bring to the meeting all the concerns and questions that have been raised by the membership. This annual meeting has been instrumental in opening lines of communication between local members and national representatives.

Wayne will report back to the membership regarding issues discussed at this meeting, including all proposed by-law changes and issues to be voted on at the National Convention in Las Vegas.

GCSAA ONLINE

With the click of your mouse or a few keystrokes, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's (GCSAA) Web site provides a "hole in one" when it comes to quick access to tools and information about the golf course superintendent's profession in one worldwide location.

GCSAA Online features a public-access area focusing on environmental issues and the role superintendents play in preserving the beauty of golf, plus an exclusive members-only section with access to GCSAA services, operational information and links to other industry sites.

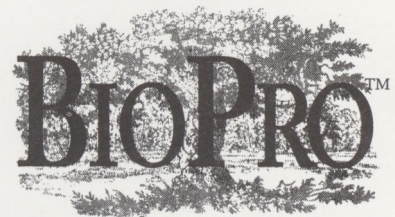
New information is added weekly, so bookmark this page to stay updated on GCSAA and the golf course industry.

GCSAA's Home Page: <http://www.gcsaa.org/gcsaa>.

For additional information, contact GCSAA at (800) 472-7878; dbishop@gcsaa.org.

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Frost delays

How can a footprint be a killer? When it's a footprint made on a putting surface that's covered with frost.

It's hard to believe that simply walking across a golf green with frost can cause so much damage, but the proof will be there in a few days as the turfgrass dies and leaves a trail of brown footprints. That's why most courses will delay starting times until the frost has melted. And it's also why golfers who appreciate a quality putting surface will be patient with frost delays.

Why does frost cause problems?

Greens are fragile. The putting surface, or green, is an extremely fragile environment that must be managed carefully and professionally. Remember that every green is a collection of millions of individual grass plants, each of which is a delicate living thing. Obviously, Mother Nature never meant for these plants to be maintained at 3/16 or even 1/8 of an inch for prolonged periods. This "stress" makes greens constantly vulnerable to attacks from insects, disease, heat, drought, cold—and frost.

Frost is essentially frozen dew. It can form when the temperature (or wind chill) is near or below the freezing point. The ice crystals that form on the outside of the plant can also harden or even freeze the cell structure of the plant. When frosted, the normally resilient plant cells become brittle and are easily crushed. When the cell membranes are damaged, the plant loses its ability to function normally. It's not much different than cracking an egg. Once the shell is broken, you can't put it back together.

The proof is in the prints

Although you won't see any immediate damage if you walk on frosted turf, the proof will emerge within 48-72 hours as the leaves die and turn brown. And, since just one foursome can leave several hundred footprints on each green, the damage can be very extensive.

Thanks for understanding

The damage isn't just unsightly—putting quality will also be reduced until repairs are made. Those repairs are expensive and, in some cases, the green may have to be kept out of play



for days or weeks until the new turfgrass is established. A short delay while the frost melts can preserve the quality of the greens, prevent needless repairs and may even save you a few strokes the next time you play.

Source: Information from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

The truth leaks out

Continued from page 11

remember the brown or dry spots or areas where we could never grow turf? Let me tell you something, if your boss plays golf at 4:00 p.m. after 270 golfers have already gone through and the greens are still nice and smooth, you may become a much more popular person at Board meetings.

Can this work on any golf course? Absolutely!! Would you rather be the last golf course to be a non-metal spike facility or would you rather be the next one? Do you and every one of your staff members who play golf wear soft spikes or spikeless shoes? If you are a real golf course superintendent then the answer is yes. Your children look up to you; why not have your members do the same?

Steve Malikowski, CGCS

Introducing New Daconil Weather Stik™ Fungicide. It Outsticks The Flowable Competition For Top Disease Control.

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In addition, Daconil Weather Stik can be tank-mixed with a wide range of turf and ornamentals fungicides, so you can also count on it for broad-spectrum support of your systemics, as well as disease resistance management. Remember, there's never been a documented case of disease resistance to a Daconil brand fungicide in over 25 years.

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Po'sceggetti and meatballs

by Dave Pease

Outlined against a hot and hazy June sky, the four horsemen rode again. In dramatic lore they are known as "FAMINE, PESTILENCE, DESTRUCTION AND DEATH." These are only their aliases. Their real names are Martin, Scott, Stout and Montecalvo. As if written in apocalyptic scripture, they were positioned to engage all who play the game of golf. The battlefield aligned with pillars of coniferous and deciduous borders, rewarding only the most accurate of shots struck, proved to be the challenge of the day. However, the underlying crux of competition lies deep in tradition, pitting North against South for bragging rights and cash restitution. The southern contingency was lead by a "God-like" figure whose presence stirred up mythical visions of James Dean. Standing out amongst his fellow competitors, adorned with his once-golden wavy locks now singed with years of brash behavior, Robert "Bo" Prickett displayed his former awesome power and grace with his venerable flawless swing. The table was now set for the 25th Spaghetti Open.

Spaghetti Open you say? Yes, that's right, the Spaghetti Open.

The Spaghetti Open was born some 32 years ago out of a desire to share professional experiences within the community of golf course management. The event was the creation of Jack Montecalvo. However, the title *Spaghetti Open* was to come

The Spaghetti Open was born some 32 years ago out of a desire to share professional experiences within the community of golf course management.

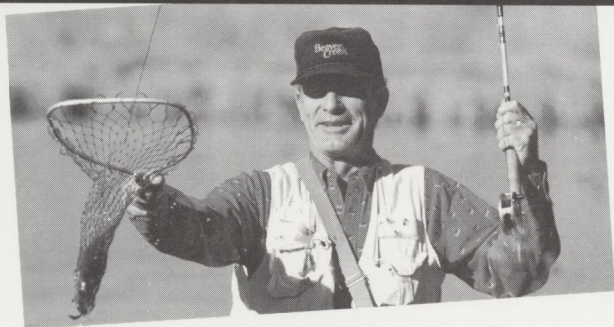
years later. Jack, during the late fifties, had his superintendent baptism at Ocean Acres Golf Club. He continued his professional pursuits onto Woodcrest, where Jack protracted his desire to gain further knowledge in the field of turf management through consultation with fellow superintendents. During those earlier years, GCSANJ monthly meetings and educational seminars were rarely held south of the Point Pleasant Bridge, New Jersey's Mason/Dixon Line. So Jack, in his infinite wisdom, thought, "What better way to gain professional knowledge and camaraderie amongst superintendents than to invite some of the fellows from the North for a friendly game of golf." The day's events culminated over an orgasmic delight of "Pasta de Montecalvo" served from Rose's kitchen.

Now, getting back to the origin of the title. After a seven-year hiatus from New Jersey living, Jack returned from the state of Maryland. Shortly after his return he was approached by Jack (Martin) inquiring, "Hey, Montecalvo, when are we going to have the Spaghetti Open?" Never before had the event possessed such nomenclature, hence forth the title: *The Spaghetti Open*.

Charter participants included Jack Martin, Glenn Gallion, Ed Walsh, Pete Pedrazzi, Frank Leary, Richie Brown and Phil

Continued on page 17

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Po'sceggetti and meatballs

Continued from page 16

Scott (who has not missed an event). Subsequently, the field of participants has grown over the years to include the likes of Shaun Barry, John Carpenelli, Les Stout, Larry Dodge, Fran Owsik, Alan Beck, Bill Smith, Bill Johnson, Tom Grimaldi, Bob Prickett and many others, who if not mentioned by name are included in the "many others."

Over the years the Southern teams have managed to "squeak out," and I emphasize "squeak out," 23 victories (according to the archive records, which were obtained from the Historical Society of South Jersey). The 23 victories include this year's Silver Anniversary event. The North has achieved only two victories; the first came when Jack Martin shot his lifetime career round (even par 72), and the second came when that same Martin "stayed in the cart" and was unable to attend.

This year's 25th anniversary field included, from the North: Phil Scott, Jack Martin, Les Stout, Fran Owsik, Bill Johnson, Bill Milsop, Gary Knight, and yours truly. From the South: Alan Beck, Bob Prickett, Joe Stegman, Rick Broome, Billy Smith, John Carpenelli, Jack Montecalvo and Larry

Taylor (it should be noted that Larry has been the evening's entertainment for the past few years, making things disappear, with the exception of the North's inability to gain victory). Larry is the GCSANJ's staff magician. The contest is divided into two parts, medal gross scoring of teams, to be followed by a team scramble. The South rode into victory +5 on the front and +2 on the back for a seven up victory on the aggregate ten point must scoring system. The South also managed to overcome the North by the most narrow of margins in the post scramble event.

The significance of this event lies philosophically within fraternal instincts, bringing together those who toil in this most grueling of professions for a day of reflection and comradeship. Events such as the Spaghetti Open occur throughout the state in the form of Golf Course Softball Teams, Barbecues, Ed Walsh's Christmas Party, Bowling Green's "The Closed-Open," Golf Excursions to colleagues golf courses and many other events that go unpublicized. The Spaghetti Open is just another one of those superintendent socials, relieving for a moment those daily pressures which affect each and every one of us who work in this industry.



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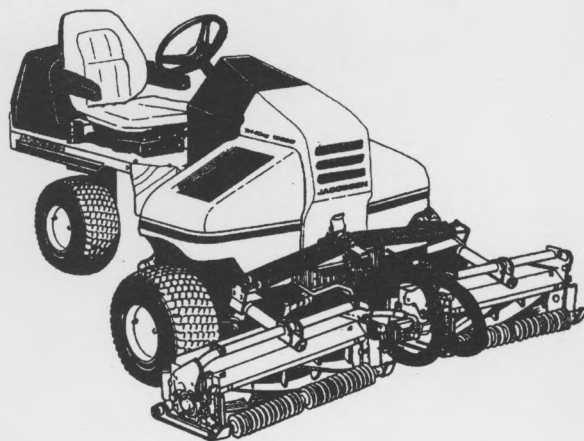
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Greenskeepers' lament

Auf Wiedersehen Ilona. Wenn Du diesen Brief liest, dann bist Du und Dr. Bob bereits in Deutschland. Wir wünschen Euch alles gute und danken Euch nochmals für alles, was Ihr für uns getan habt. Bei Gelegenheit geht bitte zu einem "örtlichen" Golfplatz und beobachtet dort die Vögel, damit Ihr an Eure

Fleunde in New Jersey erinnert werdet. Wenn irgendein greenskeeper ein Flannel hemd fragt und darüberhinaus noch schlecht golf spielt, dann lasst uns das bitte wissen.

Mit den besten grüssen, Eure Familie Vogel

Rutgers Turf Management School accepting applications

Applications are being accepted for the two-year Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School, one of the nation's leading professional educational programs in golf turf management. The course is presented in two 10-week sessions over two years and requires two seasons of supervised field experience where students apply skills learned in the classroom.

Through this program, students learn the technical skills required of all superintendents, skills such as turfgrass estab-

lishment, maintenance of greens and tees, plant pathology, entomology, weed identification, computer literacy and communication.

The course is recommended for golf course superintendents, assistant superintendents, greenskeepers, irrigation technicians and mechanics who have a minimum of two years experience working in turf management.

The Fall Session will be held October 7 - December 13,

Continued on page 21



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Translation

For those of us who cannot read German, here is the English version of the secret message on page 18.

Good-bye, Ilona. By the time you read this, you and Dr. Bob will have settled down in Germany and started on your new adventure. We wish you the best and thank you for all you have done for us. When you get a chance, go to the local golf

courses and check out all the birds that fly in the sky to remind you of your friends back in New Jersey. If any greenskeepers wear flannel shirts and play poor golf, let us know.

With kindest best regards

The Vogel Family

John Deere Tournament

John Deere's 10th Annual Golf Tournament will convene in Newport Beach, California, November 14-17, 1996. Regional qualifiers were sponsored by **Finch Turf Equipment**, North Wales, Pennsylvania, at Kennett Square Golf Club in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, and Easton Club, Easton, Maryland. **E/T Equipment Company**, Croton-on-Hudson, New York, sponsored its regional qualifier at Briar Hall Country Club in Briarcliff Manor, New York. Winners of each regional qualifier will meet in November.

Foursomes are to include the golf course superintendent or

assistant who is a member of the GCSAA, the club manager, the club president/greenkeepers chairman, and the golf professional who is a PGA member or apprentice. John Deere and Company donates \$20 per team to the GCSAA Scholarship and Research Fund. Last year's donation totaled over \$14,000 and over \$100,000 has been donated in the 10-year history of this tournament.

The staff at *The Greenside* wishes good luck to the regional qualifiers in Newport Beach.



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MARKS THE SPOT

by Ed Walsh, CGCS

It's July 30, 4:00 p.m., and I am sitting in my office looking outside at a day that was overcast with a temperature that never reached 80 degrees. The forecast for the next few days is for thunder showers and high temps of 82 degrees. We've had little disease pressure and even though Essex County Country Club has a terrible irrigation system, we haven't had to use it for more than three days all season. Basically I am saying that to this point in the season (and it might be way too early to say this), this has been a reasonably easy year for growing grass in my location. Now let me finish this thought by saying we haven't had nearly as much rain as some other places that aren't too far from here, and we drain real well on top of this mountain, so I am only speaking for my club.

I've talked to a lot of supers and few have mentioned any significant disease or insect problems other than the first generation of hyperhodes. Now, the funny thing about this rare occurrence is that when most supers are happy, the folks down at Rutgers University/Cook College are depressed. I saw a little something working in one of our fairways that we couldn't identify, so I took a sample to Cook's Disease Identification Lab. Well, expecting to see Rich Buckley, I tried to walk into the facility and the door was locked. Someone told me he went to the post office, but I'll bet he was driving around our state looking for disease, any disease he could find, just to stay busy. I've been to the Lab many times in the past and never once found it locked. I then went over to Bruce Clarke's office,

and he had a very depressed look on his face. Not many people have visited either him or Rich this year, and they were wondering if it was #1: lack of disease pressure, or #2: bad breath or something like that.

Seems that the only time these guys are happy in the summer is when they're identifying Summer Patch or Pythium or Take All Patch. I remember having a conversation with Bruce a few years ago, and he was so excited telling me about the great Summer Patch samples he had been seeing around the state. I've had people tell me Rich Buckley looks a lot like Marty Feldman in "Young Frankenstein" when he gets great Pythium samples. He gets that excited.

Now I know my observations are probably a little off base, but even if they aren't really accurate, let's do everything we can to keep these two guys sad for the rest of the summer. You know, I wouldn't mind if someone said they seemed like the Maytag repairman the whole summer of '96.

Rutgers Turf Management School

Continued from page 18

1996, and the Winter Session will be held January 6 - March 14, 1997. Applications for the Fall Session were due July 26, 1996, and applications for the Winter Session are due by September 27, 1996. To request a brochure and application or for more information, please contact the Cook College Office of Continuing Professional Education, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903-0231; (908) 932-9271.



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Hot flash from Deal

by Jozsef de Kovacs

The Blizzard of 1995-1996 has come and gone and blessed the Garden State with upwards of 30 inches of snow. Cold weather and snow is nothing new to the northeast, but how about the reports that are coming in from traditionally warmer climates such as:

- **Georgia:** Three employees on ground property fell on ice and were injured.
- **Alabama:** Sprinkler system freezes and bursts in Maintenance Building.
- **Oklahoma:** Four major snow storms so far this winter.

The point is: we all have to take a hard look at our facilities to make sure they are properly winterized and also what we have in the way of a plan of action in case of any type of emergency.

Snow Removal: If it can be done safely, remove snow from building roofs—especially flat roofs. This will help control structure collapse, ice damage and water damage. Even if the

maintenance building is closed, clear snow from the access roads to admit emergency and fuel delivery vehicles.

If you have not yet serviced your heating system, do it now.

Install an auxiliary generator to keep your heating plant operating during power outages.

Take a walk through all of your club maintenance buildings; now is the time to inspect them.

Finally, be prepared.

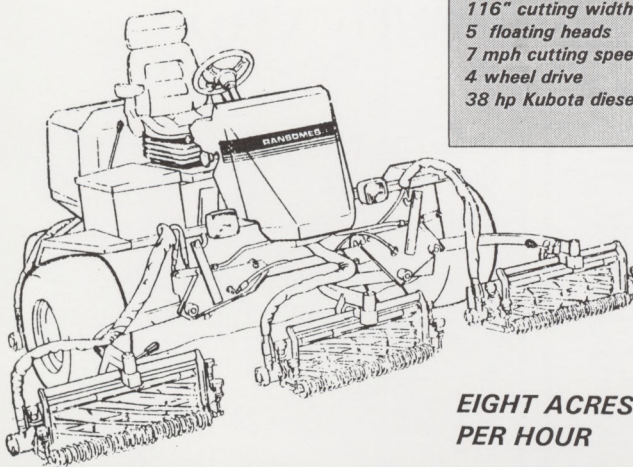
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What better time to visit the maintenance department to assure the safety of the shop and the people who work in it. After all, management has the primary legal responsibility to maintain a safe work environment and to hold employees accountable for following safe work practices. Keep maintenance buildings in good condition. Repair, lighting, sanitary facilities and general housekeeping should be maintained. The shop should be cleaned daily. *A clean shop is a safe shop.* Tools must be kept in good condition. Patched electrical cords should

Continued on page 24

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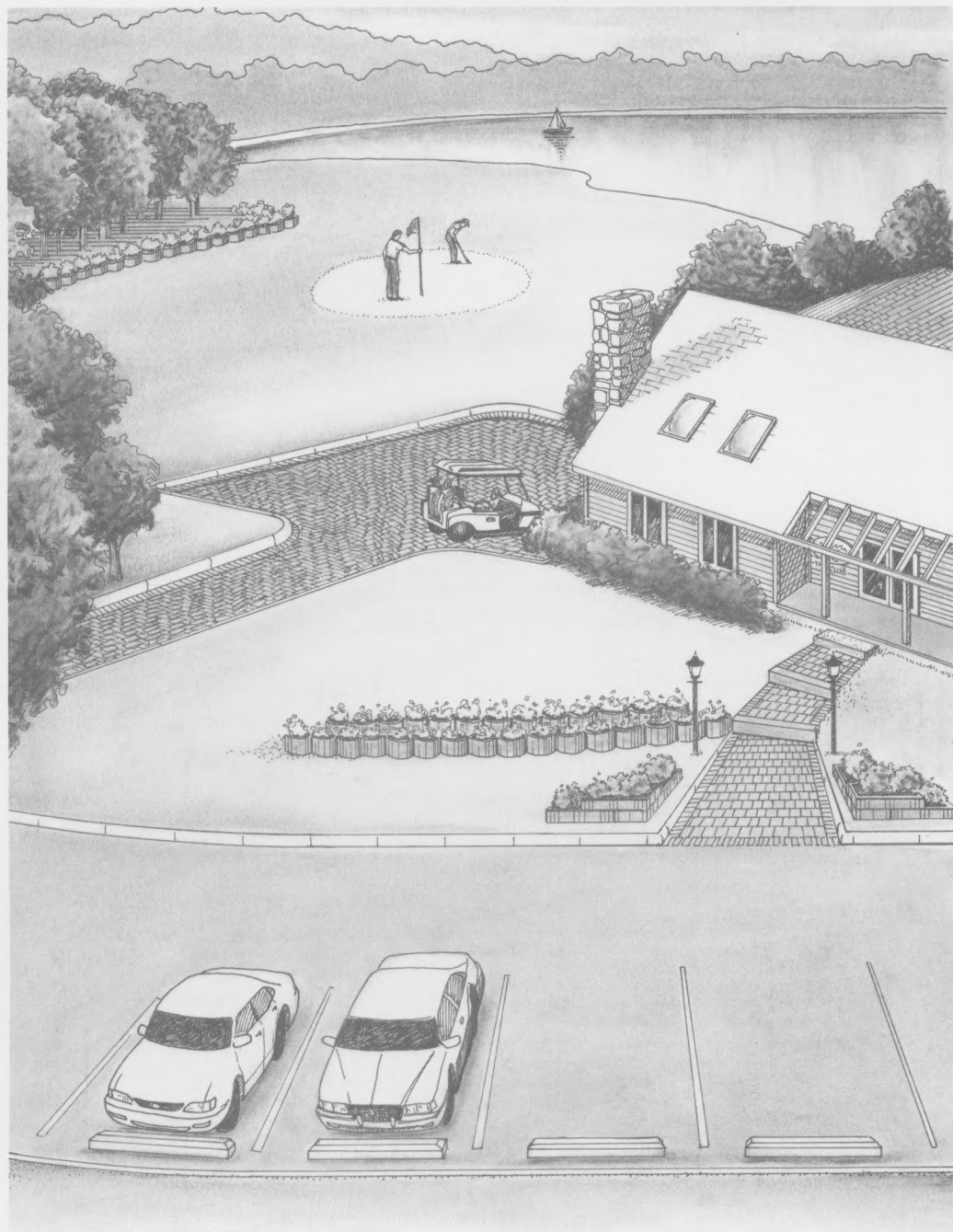






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Hot flash from Deal

Continued from page 22

be forbidden. Guards must be maintained on all equipment such as bench grinders, electric saws, air compressors, etc.

Dispose of ladders that do not meet Federal and State safety standards.

Mount ABC fire extinguishers on the wall; inspect extinguishers monthly and service annually.

Employees should be trained in the use of fire extinguishers.

Provide UL listed oily waste cans for proper disposal of oil rags.

Employees should be provided with instructions in the use of personal protective equipment such as safety glasses, hearing protection and respiratory equipment.

Employees may also need protective gloves, hard-hats, safety shoes and protective clothing. Make certain that there are emergency first aid kits and an eye wash station available. Employees must be made aware of the hazardous chemicals in use by means of a hazard communication program to train employees to lift safely to protect them from back injuries or hernias.



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Why not take a walk around the club and grounds and look for unsafe conditions that you can correct:

- Weather damage to outside stairs
- Potholes in parking lots
- Sidewalks cracked, heaved or washed out
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- Inadequately illuminated parking lots, walks and stairs
- Golf spikes work on smooth surfaces, wrinkled or torn carpet
- Loose or missing stair handrails
- Uneven stair risers

In any event, if you find a condition that can cause a fall, you should take corrective action ASAP!

FIX THE PROBLEM . . . NOT THE BLAME!

Flammable liquids should only be stored in and dispensed from approved flammable liquid safety containers bearing the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) and/or Factory Manual (FM) designation. Any other type of container is not approved.

My bonny looked into a gas can
The depth of its contents to see
She struck a match to assist her
Oh, bring back my bonny to me

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Reminder: GCSANJ scholarship deadline nears

The GCSANJ Turf Scholarship Program is once again accepting scholarship applications for academic year 1996-97. Students meeting the following criteria are encouraged to apply.

- Two-year turf management students (including Winter School) who have completed the first year of the program.
- Four-year turf management students who have completed the second year of the program.
- Graduate students enrolled in a turf management program.
- Employed at a GCSANJ member's golf course for two seasons. Can be a summer worker.
- Committed to a career as a golf course superintendent.
- Recommended by their GCSANJ member employer.
- Recommended by their academic advisor.

To obtain the necessary application forms, contact GCSANJ Scholarship and Research Committee, 66 Morris Ave., Suite 2A, Springfield, NJ 07081 or call Judy Policastro at (201) 379-1 100.

The deadline for all applications is November 1, 1996. GCSANJ scholarships are awarded without regard to race, sex, creed, age, or national origin.



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Back Nine

Curses! Fined Again—West Germany—A few choice words usually come to the mind of a driver when he is stopped by the police, but Bavarians have a very expensive reason to think twice before uttering any unseemly thoughts. According to a survey by the Munich newspaper *Abendzeitung*, Bavarians who vilify traffic officers as *damischer bullen* (stupid bull) are fined an average of \$1,710. Some less costly imprecations include *raubritter* (robber baron) at \$1,140,



depp (idiot) at \$513 and *stinkstiefel* (smelly boot), a relative bargain at \$51.

Words need not be spoken for an officer's honor to be impugned. A flip of the middle finger could cost \$855. And if any of Bavaria's road demons think that being friendly will help them, they should think again. Those found guilty of addressing police with the familiar *Du* rather than the more formal *Sie* are fined an average of \$1,283. Ilona, beware!

Source: *Time Magazine*, June 27, 1988.

Important Notice: Laminate That New License!—The Pesticide Control Program (PCP) has been notified that the ink on the new licenses may rub off when it comes in contact with plastic. In an effort to provide a more durable license, the PCP had to use paper stock more dense than what was used previously. As a result, the ink did not penetrate the paper as well. This is typical of most laserjet printed material. This was not a problem with the previous licenses because they were printed on more absorbent stock.

In order to protect your new license, please do not put it in the plastic sleeve of your wallet. It is strongly recommended that you have your license laminated.

The PCP apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused. "We are looking for a solution to this problem right now, and hope to provide you with a more durable license in the future."

If you have any questions, please contact the PCP at (609) 530-4070.

Source: *Pesticide Control Report*, Vol. 11, No. 2, Summer 1996.

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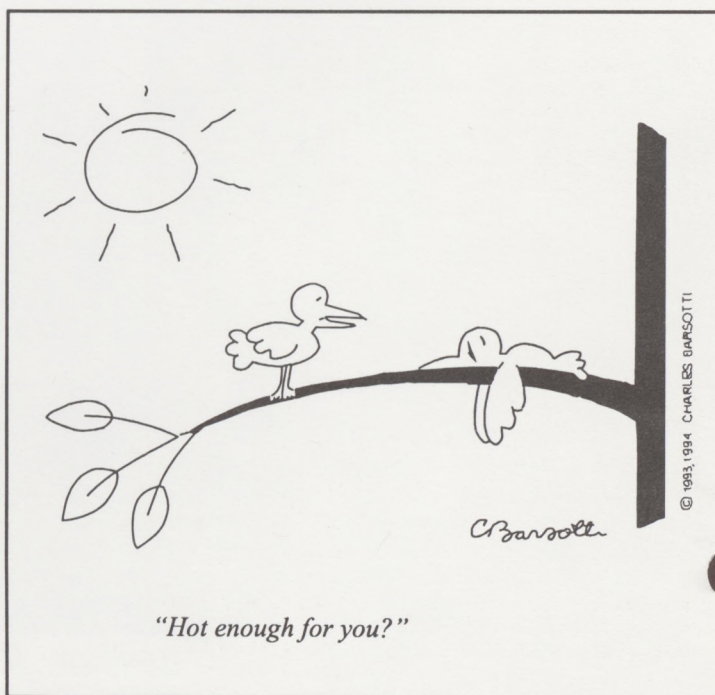
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