

THE GREENERSIDE

Official Publication of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey

Wayne P. Remo, CGCS, nominated to serve on the Board of Directors of GCSAA

The Nominating Committee of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) met at association headquarters in July to examine eligibility and qualifications of those nominated to serve on GCSAA's 1998 Board of Directors.

Wayne P. Remo, CGCS, of the Rock Spring Club in West Orange was nominated to run for one of two openings on the Board. There are four candidates running for those two positions. The election will be held at the annual meeting February 7, 1998, during GCSAA's 69th International Conference and Show in Anaheim, California.

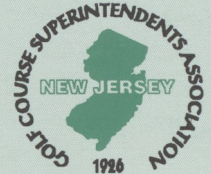
Wayne has been the delegate representing GCSANJ to GCSAA for the past four years. Since being nominated, Wayne has resigned as delegate, and Jim McNally of the Green Rock Corporation has been appointed to the delegate position.

GCSANJ President Glenn Miller sent a letter to GCSAA submitting Wayne's name for consideration this past spring. As February approaches, GCSANJ will keep you informed on this exciting election. Best of luck, Wayne.



Wayne P. Remo, CGCS

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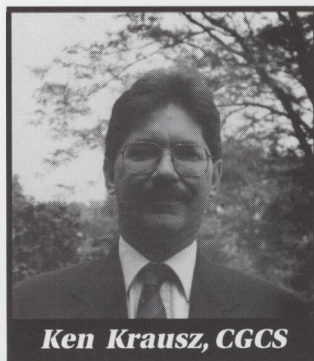
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EDITORIAL



Time Flies

Believe it or not, it has been a year since I took over as editor of *The Greenside*. It has been a great year working at this position, and I hope you enjoy reading these issues as much as I enjoy putting them together (although it is after midnight as I try and

put this issue to bed [editor talk]).

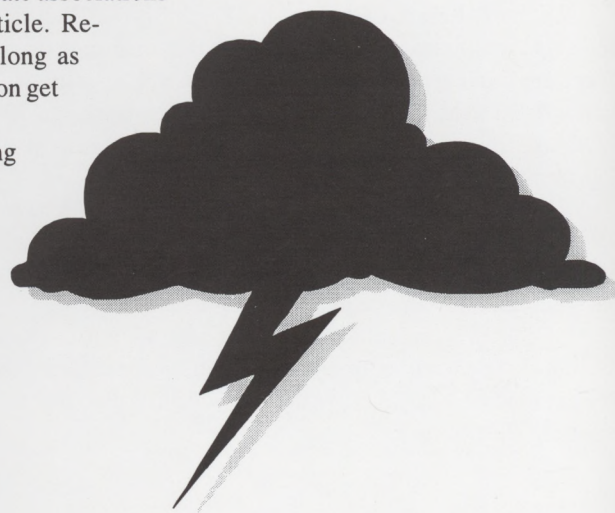
The article that raised the most interest in the past year was last issue's cover article. That was the article by Jozsef deKovacs entitled "Look out for lightning on the links." I have gotten calls from local superintendents as well as other state associations looking to reprint the article. Reprints are encouraged as long as the writer and the association get credit.

GCSANJ is sponsoring a two-day GCSAA seminar, "Writing Successfully for Business and Publications." The seminar is being held on November 6 and 7 in Somerset, New Jersey. We all know that a two-day seminar can be a real drag sometimes, but this promises to be a great one. I took this seminar last year at the national and was very glad I did. I encourage you to take it and sharpen your business writing skills.

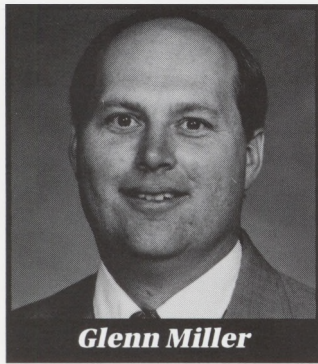
August is half over and I still have grass on my course; by the time you read this September will be winding down. It doesn't get any better than this. I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

It has always been my goal to have *The Greenside* in the membership's mailboxes by the 20th of the month. This issue will be arriving a little late; I apologize for the delay and will strive to get future issues to you on time.

Please remember, the deadline for the November-December issue is October 1.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Glenn Miller

GCSANJ— Growing stronger every day

As the summer winds down we can look back at what a busy season it has been. I can assure you it has been busy as far as the association is concerned. The golf industry continues to grow at a rapid pace. We must keep up with this growth and continue to move ahead in all aspects of our professional lives, both individually and as a group. The only way to do this is to work closely with GCSAA and our fellow associations such as NJTA, USGA, PGA and CMAs.

We have a great deal of talent in our membership, members who are willing to make personal sacrifices and step to the plate when leadership is needed. On this note, I am pleased to report that GCSAA has accepted the nomination of Wayne Remo as a candidate for the Board of Directors, to be determined at the upcoming elections at the annual convention in Anaheim in February 1998. I wish Wayne the best of luck during his campaign and am proud that another member of GCSANJ may have an opportunity to serve our industry as a leader of GCSAA.

The acceptance of Wayne's nomination speaks volumes about the quality of our association. Quality is just one reason our association continues to grow. Growth is healthy, but it is also expensive. I compare it to family: the more kids you have the bigger your bills. Your bills for necessities such as groceries go up. So does your bill for education. Education and research have always been, and I believe always should be, one of the primary concerns and causes of this organization.

As an association, we pursue education on behalf of our members by funding research. We have always supported the Turfgrass Research Foundation and Rutgers. We need to become a stronger influence in this industry by deepening our involvement in governmental issues and the rapidly changing legislative front, especially with regard to environmental issues. As the year 2000 approaches, these issues will become as important to every member of this association as education and research. All of these issues require much time and effort, and we need to ensure that we have the flexibility to continue reviewing our goals and set new goals for the future.

Over the past few months, your association's leadership has assessed what the association has accomplished over the past five years and where we would like to be in five or six years. We have done a lot of soul searching regarding the association and don't believe this is a time to lower our standards. Therefore, we are proposing that we continue to provide our growing membership the same quality services and continuing education opportunities we have enjoyed and benefited from in past years. We also think we need to continue to support innovative research, as our predecessors

saw fit to do.

I recognize that each of us has his own set of priorities, and dues increases, like higher electric bills, are never popular. But if that extra electricity is lighting late night study and is not simply the result of careless neglect, I think most of us agree it's worth it.

Therefore, I hope you will support our decision to raise dues, as outlined in the article by our treasurer, also in this issue.

Calendar

- October 9** **GCSANJ Championship**, Alpine Country Club. Host: Stephen Finamore, CGCS. Contact Judy Policastro, (973) 379-1100.
- November 4-6** **Penn State Golf Turf Conference**, Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA; (814) 863-1017.
- November 6-7** **GCSAA Seminar**, Writing Successfully for Business & Publications, Somerset, NJ. Contact GCSAA, (800) 472-7878.
- November 11** **GCSANJ Annual Meeting**, Hollywood GC. Host: Jan Kasyjanski. Contact Judy Policastro, (973) 379-1100.
- November 20** **Alliance for Environmental Concerns** Annual Meeting, Fiddlers Elbow. Contact Nancy Sadlon, (908) 563-9252.
- November 21** **President's Ball** Barclay Hotel, Belmar, NJ
- Dec. 9-11** **New Jersey Turfgrass & Landscape Expo '97**, Trump Taj Mahal Casino/Resort. Contact NJTA, (908) 821-7134.



GCSANJ NEWS

BOWLING GREEN IS A WINNER

by Shaun Barry

Three times within the last ten years, **Dave Mayer** has asked **Joel Riggs** and **Bruce Salmon** to give up the use of their golf course, twice at Bowling Green and once at Crystal Springs. Since these are not member-owned, the loss of revenue comes directly out of their pockets. When asked to host a meeting, both told me that they felt an obligation to return something to the association for all that we have done for them. Done for them? I check with Judy, and we haven't paid any of their fertilizer bills and none of our members



Dave Pease (left) and Dave Mayer.

are working there as volunteers. I believe that what they mean is that we are all in this together. We are a family, and just being part of this group is comforting. Anytime they or Dave need help they can ask and they will get it. It is a good feeling knowing that there are people like that in our industry.

Our meeting started with **Dave Oatis** from the USGA. As usual, Dave shared a lot of very useful information with his presentation. It also seems that he knows the answers to all turf questions, or how to get the answer. I hope he will be able to come back to a meeting every year.

Once we started play, it became apparent why Mr. Mayer was smiling. The golf course was ready for us; it never looked better. Either the University of Maryland can really teach you how to maintain turf or Dave is blessed with a green thumb. Perhaps it is both. Not one thing was wrong anywhere on the course (with the exception of our golf swings). The challenging pin locations were chosen by **Brian Remo** and **Brad Sparta**. These modest young men didn't want to be recognized for their efforts, but for some reason every-

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Joe Kennedy (right), GCSANJ secretary, congratulating Mark Antonaccio, superintendent of Morris County Golf Club, for his fine work in hosting the NJSGA Amateur Championship.

Continued from page 4

one wanted to know who they were.

When the scores were finalized, it was apparent that not everyone had trouble putting. **Matt Ceplo** recorded a gross 79, and **Greg Nicoll** had a net 63. Both took first place in these events. The team of **Matt Dobbie, Ron Luepke, Pat O'Neill** and **Phil Scott** destroyed the field with a 139 total. Closest to the pin honors went to **Dick Neufield** (3 feet, 3 inches) and **Mike Cook** (13 feet, 1 inch). The longest drive went to **Dennis Shea** (not because he just returned from Florida, but rather because he crushed his flying lady from the red tees and he inched out sky, and then he picked up the sign and played on. Well that is how **Dave Pease** thought it happened, and I trust my reporters). Walking away with skins were M. Ceplo, D. (I will donate it to turfgrass research) Oatis, **Craig Theibault** and **Kevin Driscoll**. The only Leslie Cup match played here was in doubt up to the final putt on 18. The Theibaults defeated **Jim Cross** and **Jim Woods** 1-up.

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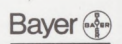
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In addition to the lunch that was donated by Russ Felter (clubhouse manager and all around nice guy), he also donated a golf bag for our raffle. This is just typical of what a special place Bowling Green is. We left with wonderful memories of a great day of education and enjoyment at a great golf course. Thanks for all that you have done for us.

GREAT GORGE LIVES UP TO ITS NAME

by Shaun Barry

During the course of this summer, we have had over 40 straight days of no rain throughout most of New Jersey. You would think that everybody would be happy for a beautiful, day-long soaking rain. You would be right unless you were hosting a monthly GCSANJ meeting. You would still be glad that it was rain, but why not a few

hours earlier or later? Since we can't control these matters, **Dave Brubaker** greeted all of us with a big smile as we walked through the rain to the clubhouse. The meeting was on, but golf would be decided upon after lunch.

Nancy Sadlon from the Alliance for Environmental Concerns had an overflowing room of interested people for her presentation. She gave an update of her organization and the potential changes in our future. Many in the audience came to understand the importance of supporting this fine venture.

After lunch, 52 players put on their rain gear and headed out to try and endure. What they got was a day of enjoyment. The rain stopped, and, although the true beauty of this wonderful course was not on display, we did get to understand the challenge that this course presented. When we were on the lake and quarry nines, we knew where they got these names. Keep it straight was the order of the

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GCSANJ NEWS

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day. If, however, you were having a bad day you could look around and pick some raspberries. They were all around the course. **Dick LaFlamme** almost quit playing to enjoy them.

Dick and the rest of the field did continue to play, and we were finished way too early. We wanted to play more. They do have another nine. Duty, however, came first, and we had a tournament to score. It was match play vs. par and only five people beat par. **Joe Ciccone** (+1), **Mel Waldron** (+1), **Shaun Barry** (+3), **Dave Szymanski** (+4) and **Ken Mathis** (+5). Mel also had the long drive, while **Bob Dubee** (10 feet, 5 inches) and S. Barry (7 feet 11 inches) hit it closest to the pin. Skins were split evenly with S. Barry, J. Ciccone, **Jim Gurzler**, **Ken Krausz** and **Matt Sedorak** getting one each.

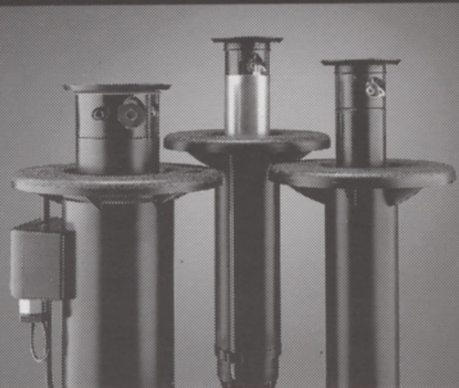
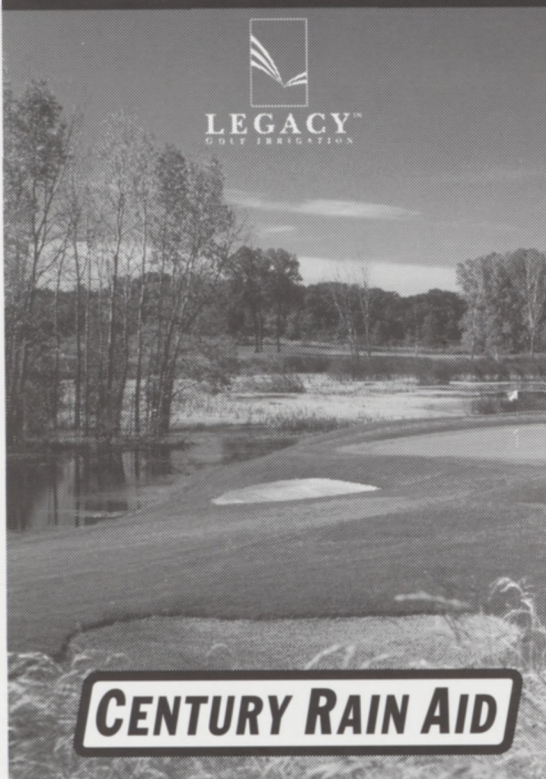
Normally this would be the end of the golf report, but there was another match being played within our group. Yes, the Krausz-Pelrine rematch! If you remember, Jim had prevailed in their first encounter. Could that have been two years ago? Could this one match the

intensity of their first match? Would they both survive? Yes, on all counts, but it was the other players who were worried about surviving. Standing on the 4th tee (approximately 60 yards left and 30 feet above the 3rd green), four of our members ducked for their lives. It was an incoming shot that was rising as it went over their heads on its way into the trees. Yes, I know, Ken, that is where the green should be, but you have to play them as you find them. When the dust finally settled, Ken was the victor. Two and 1 was the final score. Now there has to be a rubber match. Forget about Tiger and Ernie. We will sell tickets; it will be big! Unfortunately, I will be busy that day, but I'm sure you will get a large gallery. Maybe Mike Tyson will show you how to settle any disputes.

We left Great Gorge feeling lucky that this day actually happened. Dave and Scott and their crew had done a beautiful job preparing. At least 52 members have seen what an effort was made for us. Thanks for letting us play, Dave, and next time (?) I will arrange for some sun.

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GLENN, WAS THAT A PIECE OF JIM'S EAR?

By Doug Vogel

It had all the trappings of a great heavyweight extravaganza. A bucolic mountain resort, big name celebrities and two great warriors. Yet, there were no gloves, no ring and no purse—just two men and their clubs. Yes, after a three-year wait, the international turf community was treated to a rematch of the two all-time great 30+ handicappers in golf history: **Krausz vs. Pelrine II**.

The weight of hosting such an event fell on the shoulders of **Dave Brubaker** and his staff of the Great Gorge C.C. Everyone agreed that Dave can proudly boast that his Quarry and Lake courses provided a stern but fair test for the much anticipated showdown. The course was in wonderful shape.

The driving rain couldn't keep such celebrities as **Tony Gordon**, **Nancy Sadlon**, **Sky Bergen** and **Mel "Crusher" Waldron**

from attending such an event. **Ken "The Root" Kubik** was seen autographing hats by the cart barn. Other A-listers seen in the crowd were **Ken Duggan**, **Dick LaFlamme**, **Shaun Barry** and the other Shaun Barry.

Glenn Gallion was once again the official scorer and myself, the referee. It looked like a repeat was in store as Pelrine took the first hole, carding a four, even though his two practice swings in the trap displaced a yard of sand. Jim then mysteriously disappeared from sight only to reemerge at the second tee with his lunchbox in hand. We paused, then toasted the memory of **Artie Elmers**. Then the determined Krausz caught fire. He went 4 up on Pelrine. His hot streak included a birdie which held up for a skin (his first-ever) and also a just-missed skinning on the 4th tee, which the Barry group stood on. But the crafty Pelrine, like Hogan and Palmer before him, calmly charged back. Word spread out over the tiny hamlet of McAfee. The crowds swelled around #17 and watched in awe as Krausz nestled his tee shot on the green. He eventually made the putt to seal the match, 2 and 1. Like all great champions, Pelrine extended a congratulatory handshake to Krausz who then offered Jim the chance for a rematch. The golf community eagerly awaits that day.

"Jim Pelrine is a formidable opponent. I needed to summon all my skills. I'm looking forward to the rubber match," Krausz told the crowds in Paramus after the town held a parade in his honor.

"Ken showed remarkable improvement in his game," Pelrine stated, "or he didn't drink enough beer. I didn't play well, but I had a great time. His game was much more memorable, especially the hole he hit ten trees." Pelrine ended his press conference in Lyndhurst by pointing out that "people are clamoring to make it an annual event, however, it is best to bleed only once every three years."

A FEW GOOD MEN REPORT TO FORT MONMOUTH

by Shaun Barry

District III had the pleasure of being invited by **Mike King** to play at Suneagles G.C. at Fort Monmouth for our championship. It turned out to be a great day (unless you were holding onto my clubs). This Seymoure Dunn course is in the midst of some very positive changes. Mike explained what had been done and what the completed project would look like. Mr. Dunn would be happy to see such positive improvements being made. Mike, **Chip Dayton** and their staff can be very proud of the course that they presented to us.

Fifty-two players were scheduled to play, but only 50 got to hit the ball. Nobody was disappointed. **Angelo Petraglia** led all players with a 74. He won low gross honors, and he also qualified for the district team. Joining Angelo on the team were **Tony Toto** (78), **Jim Woods** (78), **Kevin Giles** (79), **Mark Kriews** (79) and **Jim Cadott** (80) on a match of cards with **Tony Raczynski**. Closest to the pin honors went to **Mike King**, 6 ft.; **Jim Sorrentino**, 6 ft.; K. Giles,

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Continued from page 8

17 ft.; and **Blair Quinn**, 8 ft. Mr. Petraglia and Mr. Toto had one skin and **Gene Stiles** had two stand up.

Qualifying for the long drive contest allowed us to raise \$400 for our designated charity. A Flight winners were Angelo and Chip who tied at 278 yds. K. Giles took 3rd with 275. In the B Flight, but leading all qualifiers, was **Jan Kasyjanski**. With a measured clubhead speed only 10 miles an hour less than Tiger, he hit it 290. He was followed by **Tim Mariner** (248) and **Ed Mellor** (242). **Doug Berrado** (223) won the C Flight. Since he was a guest, **Tony Rippel**, **Clyde Ashton** and **George Thompson** were the official qualifiers.

For some of our members it was the first time that they were treated like officers on a military base. For all of us, it was a great day and, like always, I hope we get invited back. Thanks again, Mike, for offering us your course and for being such a great host.

MEMBER UPDATE

Paul Sartoretto is still in the rehab process, but he has made great strides. It was reported that this many-times retired gentleman was recently seen back at work. It goes to prove that you can't keep a good man down. If any of his friends have the time, please give him a call—just not during the soaps.

For the first time in the Leslie Cup history, **Tom Grimac** and **Bob Prickett** have been defeated. It took 19 holes, but **Clark Weld** and **Jeff Riggs** were victors. That leaves four teams left to challenge for this prestigious cup. The final match will be at our championship.

Cindy and **Mel Waldron** had a baby boy on May 27, 1997. The baby's name is Nicholas Dean. He weighed in at 8 lbs. even and was 20.5 inches long. Mom is a big Notre Dame fan so that might explain the initials of his name.


Linda and **Doug Larson** had their second child on June 6, 1997. His name is Sean Patrik and he was 7 lbs., 12 oz. and 20.5 inches long. He was born at approximately 6:00 a.m., and Doug was stopping at the course around 9:00 a.m. He said he was just checking on his way home, but it was his two-day member-guest.

Patti and **Mark Kriews** also welcomed a baby boy into the world. It was their first and almost two weeks overdue. Austin James entered this world at 10:05 p.m. on June 27, 1997. He weighed 9 lbs., 8 oz. and was 21.75 inches long.

All families report that things went well and have never been better.

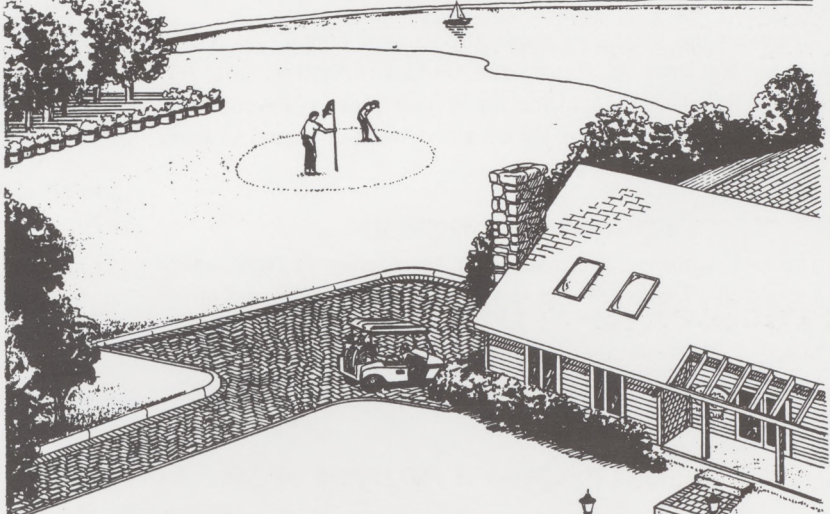
On a different note, three of our members qualified for three of the NJSGA tournaments: **Ian Kunesch**, the NJSGA Amateur; **Jim Woods**, the NJSGA Mid-Amateur; and **Tom Grimac**, the NJSGA Open. Also **Angelo Petraglia** qualified for the IKE. Congratulations! Not bad for working people.

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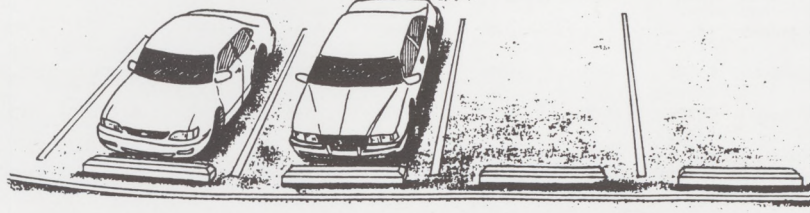
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GCSANJ NEWS

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GCSANJ SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The GCSANJ Turf Scholarship program is once again accepting scholarship applications for the academic year 1997-98. 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 Avenue, Suite 2A, Springfield, NJ 07081. Deadline for applications is November 3, 1997. GCSANJ scholarships are awarded without regard to race, sex, creed, age or national origin.

FINANCIAL CONCERNS

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey was formed in 1926 to develop and promote knowledge and infor-

mation concerning golf course management, turfgrass management and related topics. The Association achieves this objective through professional interaction, with and financial contribution to, various organizations that conduct research and study that aids the membership each day.

The association has been able to make financial contributions to these organizations through various fundraising activities. However, our ability to make a continued and necessary contribution to aid ongoing research has significantly diminished as the cost of managing the association has significantly increased, while the dues have not changed since 1989.

In 1992 there was a surplus of \$5 per member over our membership expenses. In 1997 we are faced with a shortfall of \$43 a member. The cost to support each member has risen almost \$50 since 1992. As a result, we are using the proceeds of our fundraisers to operate the association and support membership services, instead of supporting research and the other objectives of the association.

Furthermore, the Board projects that the net cost per member will increase through the year 2002 to almost \$55 per member. Our current membership exceeds 500, and the association will run a substantial deficit unless the problem is addressed immediately.

At the July Board meeting, a dues increase of \$50, applicable to all classes of membership and tentatively slated to take effect November 1, 1997, was approved. A vote of the membership will be conducted at the annual meeting.

Projected Analysis of Membership Revenues and Expenses October 31

	ACTUAL			PROJECTED										
	1996	Per Mbr.	1997	Per Mbr.	1998	Per Mbr.	1999	Per Mbr.	2000	Per Mbr.	2001	Per Mbr.	2002	Per Mbr.
No. of mbrs.	492		502		510		518		526		534		542	
Percentage increase in expenses			2.50%		2.50%		2.50%		2.50%		2.50%		2.50%	
Revenues	52,172	106.04	53,896	107.36	54,754	107.36	55,614	107.36	56,473	107.36	57,332	107.36	58,191	107.36
Expenses	65,719	133.58	74,978	149.36	77,836	152.62	80,245	154.91	82,715	157.25	84,870	158.93	87,285	161.04
Excess expenses over revenues	13,547	27.53	21,082	42.00	23,083	45.26	24,631	47.55	26,242	49.89	27,538	51.57	29,095	53.68

Note: Above analysis reflects only membership items of revenue and expense and does not reflect the projected results of operations of the association as a whole.

Assumptions:

1. Members increase at a net of 8 per year.
2. 2.5% increase in expenses each year.
3. Revenues per member remain at 1997 levels.

Cadence

by Brian M. Remo

It's Sunday morning, 6:00 a.m. When you opened the shop door that morning you knew that there would be a cup cutter staring you right in the face. Your instincts prove correct as you find a cold metal turf piercing apparatus which will be your best friend for the next two hours. Cutting cups . . . for most assistant superintendents this is one of their biggest responsibilities. Ironically, when I asked 20 assistants at random what was their least favorite part of their job, 18 of them replied, "Cutting cups." (FYI: the other two disliked the drive to work most.) Cutting cups . . . it seems that many assistants find this activity tedious, repetitive, over-criticized, under-appreciated and least understood by the players. Personally, I can remember quite a few mornings when I'd much rather mow a greens route than set up the course, but I've found that course set up has provided me a systematic path of checking the course. Sometimes it forces an assistant to visually monitor each green, tee and fairway when other projects may have gotten in the way. In this article, I'm going to try to approach the most popular reasons this activity has become somewhat disliked. Input that I have received may alleviate some of the hatred. Cutting cups . . . it may very well be the most important thing we do.



Repetitive . . . Oddly enough, one of the most important reasons for changing the holes is to avoid repetition. This should actually be seen as a benefit rather than an encumbrance. Greens and tees are more than back yards with colorful markers on them. Repetitive monitoring and association with the topography and turf quality of each playing surface is essential to develop an acclimated knowledge of their needs. In analogy, a doctor makes his rounds each night through the same halls, in the same building, to the same rooms, sometimes to the same patients. The purpose may seem repetitive if all the patients were just fine yesterday, but what if they're not today?

Over-criticized . . . Well, guys, there isn't much that we do that is without its share of critique, but in regards to the condition of holes there seems to be popularity in a few areas specifically. You've probably seen this scenario before: a member approaches his five foot putt for double bogey and after heavy debate and topographical analysis, proceeds to deliver a hard pull to the left of the cup and lips out. Embarrassed by his misfortune, he picks up his ball, throws the orb into a nearby cluster of forsythia and interrogates, "Who the #&!@ cut these cups?" A frayed edge, an uneven cut, the illusion of a crowned rim . . . all these factors are possible targets for over-criticism. Mind you, the criticism will never be totally eradicated from our profession, but if we try to eliminate what feeds the fire, the smoke should slowly diminish.

I'm sure most of us have experienced this situation as well: "Yesterday I shot 83, but today, the pin positions were so difficult that I shot 95!" Pin position difficulty seems to be the biggest conversation piece of them all. The six easy, six medium, six difficult

theory appears to be the most popular solution, but I tend to contest that putting a golf ball into a 4-inch diameter hole is never easy from any standpoint. Many times I've been approached by members here at Rock Spring inquiring, "How are you, Brian? Is everything OK at home? Why are you taking it out on us?" This is probably a popular humor shared by many of us, however, perhaps there is some truth to this school of thought. Are pin positions governed by the subliminal mind of the person setting them? As agronomists,

our ultimate goal is to utilize as much green space as possible for pin positions, so, remember that if it's legal, it's golf, my friends.

Personally, I've found two solutions to eliminate complaints in regards to the changing of golf holes. The aesthetics of a putting green are greatly marred by the unattractive plugs that are sometimes advertised by a scalp or sink. This is an area which I try to concentrate on the most. Cutting out a two part plug, using an ice pick to aerate each plug and overseeding each replaced plug with bentgrass seed has provided excellent results, but I truly believe that the best way to have consistent plug repair is to have only one person responsible for cutting cups. This may be difficult on courses with more than 18 holes or more than one assistant. In these situations, the persons involved should spend time in the early parts of the season setting up the course together. This allows the individuals to share input, communicate ideas and find a consistent program to follow throughout the year. Here at Rock Spring, we cut cups three times a week: Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. On Wednesdays, I try to bring Tony Warren, our irrigation technician, with me on the route. His help allows me to finish setting up faster, and, after a few weeks, he has learned my program. I prefer to be the one who changes the holes, but in my absence or when situations take me away from the daily routine, I fully trust Tony's ability as I do my own. Consistency . . . this is a quality that every golfer looks for in a putting surface, but, first we must find it in our management.

There are three more ways to make course setup easier while improving the putting surface: spikeless shoes, spikeless shoes and spikeless shoes. I'm sure that we all are well aware of the benefits of forcing the golf spike the way of the dodo, but let me add yet another that may not have occurred to everyone. Golf courses that have switched to spikeless have not only found an improved putting surface, but have also found that with the hole area having decreased imperfections, the number of times the holes need to be changed decreased right along with it. Less changes means less plug marks and yet another benefit of spikeless shoes.

So the next time your cup cutter hits a rock the size of a softball, or you go to pull out a plug but find it still in the five inches of rain-soaked ground where you left it, or you drop the bottom half of a plug all over a freshly cut green, whenever you find yourself fetching a flag out of a sycamore, fishing markers out of a lake, or inconspicuously erasing the words "Die Yuppie pigs" out of a sand trap, try to keep in mind the importance in the responsibility of course setup. Cutting cups . . . it keeps us a cut above the rest.

Ten valid reasons why you should support the Alliance—plus an update!

By Nancy Sadlon, Executive Director

Nancy Sadlon, executive director of the Alliance for Environmental Concerns, spoke at the GCSANJ monthly meeting at Great Gorge. The following is the talk that she gave. For membership information, call Nancy at (908) 563-9252.

It is always a pleasure to speak at golf course superintendent meetings. As many of you know, I have addressed this group on numerous occasions on various subjects while I was with the USGA. When Shaun contacted me last month, I was quick to agree to provide an update on the Alliance for Environmental Concerns, and I began to think hard on what and how I could best express to you, the superintendents of New Jersey, the importance of the Alliance.

Soon after, I experienced a family crisis . . . and the message became clear. ARE YOU PREPARED? My family crisis had to do with my husband and business partner in the hospital and out of

commission for a considerable time. It really made me think. "Thank goodness we had insurance . . . thank goodness we had a strong support system in our families, friends and colleagues . . . thank

The Alliance for Environmental Concerns is a lot like that insurance policy that you invest in and expect to be there for you in the crisis.

goodness we were somewhat prepared for the unexpected."

The Alliance for Environmental Concerns is a lot like that insurance policy that you invest in and expect to be there for you in
Continued on page 13



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Ten valid reasons why you should support the Alliance—plus an update!

Continued from page 12

the crisis. The AEC is the organization that nurtures the support system of members, allied associations and companies involved with pesticides. Members include: agricultural professionals, lawn care professionals, arborists, cemetery managers, nursery and landscape professionals, florists, golf course superintendents as well as chemical manufacturers and distributors. Together, the AEC members represent a unified group (like families/colleagues) that provides support in a crisis. The AEC is the organization that helps you, your organization and others to stay prepared, to be ready to respond to the issues.

How is the Alliance working for you?

Example #1: In March 1997, not too long ago, it was the AEC that alerted the Golf Course Superintendents Association about the NJDEP Task Force Meeting where new regulations on pesticide notification were discussed. It was the AEC that was contacted by the head of NJDEP-Pesticide Control for recommendations on who should be invited (Task Force meeting attendance was by invitation only) to the meeting. And it was the AEC that recommended that both Mike Mongon, your chairman of Government Relations, and Glenn Miller, your president, be included. The Alliance is working for you and the golf course industry.

How is the AEC working for you?

Example #2: In 1992, the AEC acted on your behalf on the FIFRA amendments authorizing state control over local ordinances. The AEC participated with the "Coalition for Sensible Pesticide Policy." The AEC attended state Alliance conferences in Washington, DC, and sent letters to all New Jersey congressmen and senators in support of the FIFRA amendment authorizing state control over local ordinances. This position was important because local ordinances are often impractical and more restrictive than state regulations, and

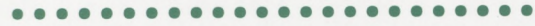
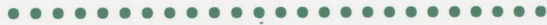
can cause undue hardship on the pesticide applicator. We continue to work with the Coalition and other national organizations, such as RISE, and attend "Day on the Hill" events in Washington which provides us opportunities to speak with lawmakers.

How is the AEC working for you?

Example #3: In 1989 there was the Lesniak Pesticide Bill Issue. Actually there were two identical bills introduced to the New Jersey Senate by New Jersey Senator Lesniak and New Jersey Assemblyman Smith which proposed nine restrictive regulations. They included:

1. The elimination of aerial application of any broad spectrum chemical pesticide (current gypsy moth programs would be eliminated) except for agricultural or mosquito use.
2. Required DEP to develop strict rules on notification — "to afford all persons who may be exposed to pesticides the opportunity

Continued on page 14





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Support the Alliance—plus an update!

Continued from page 13

to minimize their exposure" including golf courses — all places where the public may be exposed.

3. Increasing the various fees that pesticide users pay to pay for the projected expenses incurred by the DEP in developing, enforcing and administering the bill.
4. Reporting (by doctors and vets) of all exposure incidents.
5. Opportunities for lawsuits from people or property owners who can prove exposure suffering against the DEP for failure to enforce the bill.
6. Increase fines for violations.
7. Establishment of a Farm Worker Safety Training Program.
8. Establish a permanent "Pesticide Technical Advisory Committee."
9. Expand the pesticide Control Council to 16 members, adding representatives from the "public interest groups," etc., changing the council to one that was more political than technical.

The AEC commented and monitored the Lesniak bill, gave tes-

timony at New Jersey state budget hearings, participated at initiative and referendum hearings . . . and in doing so, was instrumental in protecting the concerns of the pesticide applicator businesses and the Lesniak Bill never came to final vote.

Today we are fortunate to have a relatively quiet situation with respect to the New Jersey legislature. However, Task Force meetings regarding Applicator Training and Apprenticeship programs are to occur again. The State of New York is facing pending legislation requiring notification for all pesticide applications. Other states struggle with current notification requirements. Local regulations requiring notification are gaining popularity recognition by concerned citizens.

Our efforts today are focused on education since we are not facing any restrictive legislation. The AEC is working hard on staying prepared and in monitoring the activities of other states. The AEC is working hard on providing needed educational opportunities for all pesticide applicators. Now is the time we need to continue to build a defense fund for the future and stay prepared. We need your help.

If you are not convinced yet, consider the following "Ten Valid Reasons to Support the AEC.":

1. State Laws/Regulations

I can tell you that the AEC works hard to stay on top of any pending changes in the state pesticide applicator regulations. The AEC pays close attention to the happenings of other states (such as New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut) because what happens in other states (especially our neighboring states) is often a barometer of things to come in New Jersey. The AEC has either the information available and/or we can certainly point you in the right direction for needed information.

Update: NJDEP to schedule a task force meeting focusing on Apprenticeship Requirements for Sept. 1997.

2. Continuing Education—Core, Category Recertification


A major focus of the Alliance is the dissemination of information on where and when and what continuing education opportunities are available. The AEC makes it a priority that its annual meeting and seminar offer needed CORE credits and recertification in the categories needed by the applicators of the state.

Update: AEC and NJDEP planning to jointly present an Applicator Business Training program focusing on "What to Expect on an Inspection" that will provide 4 units of Recertification credit toward CORE.

3. Enforcement Agencies

The AEC has a strong working relationship with NJDEP-Pesticide Control Department (the pesticide application enforcement authority). Our relationship with DEP and those who enforce the rules and regulations provides a great service to you (superintendents) and the state. Ray Ferrarin, head of the Pesticide Control Program was recently quoted as saying, "The AEC and NJDEP-Pesticide Control Program has a good working relationship. The AEC is a valuable information source on industry concerns and needs

Continued on page 16



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Support the Alliance—plus an update!

Continued from page 14

for change. The positive aspect of working together is that it assists the state in putting in place the best possible regulations.”

Update: It is this good working relationship that made it possible for the AEC to get representatives from the GCSANJ at recent Task Force meetings. We will notify GCSANJ when DEP has determined the meeting date.

4. Information Center

The AEC is a source of information on pesticide related issues. We have technical support from manufacturers such as DowElanco, Novartis, Cyanamid and other companies that support the AEC. The AEC acts as an information center to members, allied associations, the public and legislators. The AEC has in the past been instrumental in communicating information at public hearings. The AEC publishes information sheets on specific issues to help all in the pesticide applicator business to better understand and communicate the facts.

Update: The AEC recently met with New Jersey senators and their representatives at the PLCAA Day on the Hill to make them aware of the AEC as an information source. Additionally, please note the AEC is no longer in Wayne, New Jersey, but in Warren with new

phone numbers, fax numbers and leadership. Call us for information.

5. Unity

There is strength in numbers, and the AEC is the organization that offers an opportunity for allied associations to come together and have a unified front. The AEC, representing the industry at large, is there to either help create new laws to keep us from having unlicensed people applying illegal products and poisoning people along with the industry's reputation.

Update: We have 282 members from a broad base of applicator business professionals in the AEC. The golf course industry and its superintendents represent a small proportion. More of you should be supporting and participating in the AEC.

6. Keeping up-to-date—training

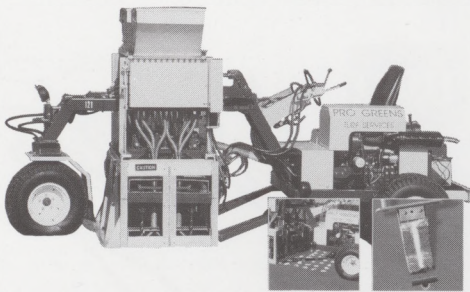
The AEC has a regular publication entitled the “Alliance Update” that keeps its members abreast of what's happening in the state. You'll find meeting information, the latest articles on product, laws, regulations, training opportunities and more. The AEC is getting more involved with training than every before. It is an excellent source

Continued on page 18

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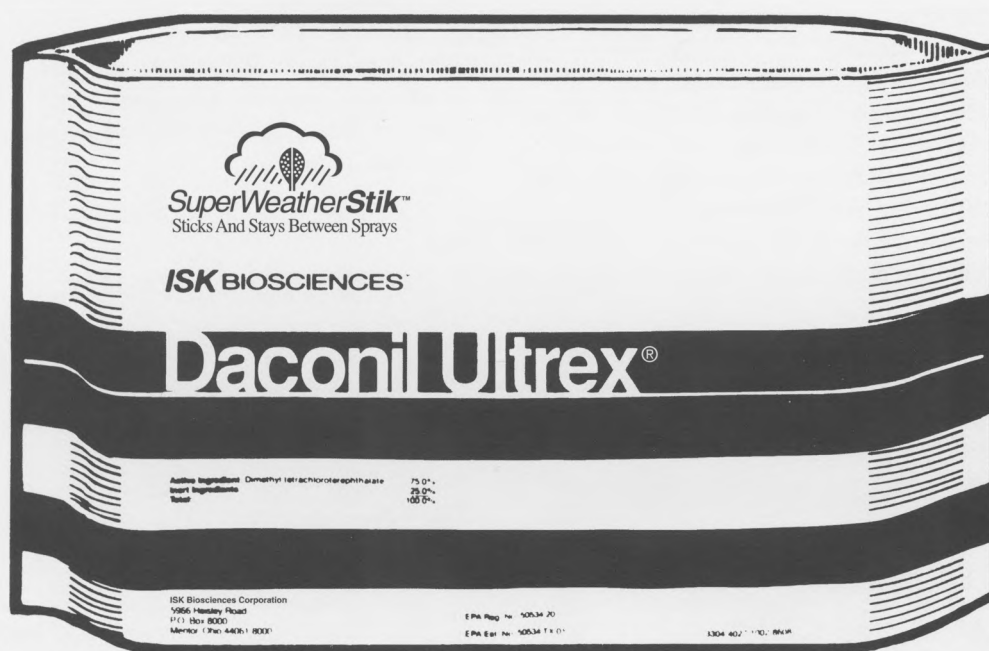
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Support the Alliance—plus an update!

Continued from page 16

for keeping up with the times, and it's a lot less expensive than facing future lawsuits for misapplications.

Update: Recent issue highlights NJ Pinelands Commission Proposal to restrict pesticide use, NY Notification bill, training, CEUs, etc. A copy is available to any new member.

7. Annual meetings

The AEC has a local annual meeting typically in November. Vendors of the industry help sponsor the event, and they attend providing product information. Top speakers from around the country as well as regulators of the state provide presentations. The annual meeting gives you a rare opportunity to meet with the top people of the state and country, talk to your AEC executives, as well as discuss issues with enforcement agencies.

Update: The AEC Annual Meeting and Seminar date is set for November 20, 1997. Its theme will be "Pesticide Safety—Where are we now?" It will be held at Fiddler's Elbow in Far Hills, NJ. We've got some exciting speakers lined up, and we are planning to have another exciting panel discussion. AEC members will be offered a significantly reduced registration fee. A lot of CORE and category recertification credits will be offered.

8. Community involvement

The AEC has provided testimony at local community meetings, helping to educate communities about pesticides, pesticide training

and safety, regulations, etc. We are a source of assistance and support for you and your community.

Update: We are currently researching the notification ordinance within the Borough of Bernards and will be speaking with health officials to see what their concerns are.

9. Bang for your buck

Where else can you get all of the above under one umbrella for an individual membership of \$50.00? Or a company fee ranging from \$100-\$1,000? That's why I believe that every individual (golf course superintendent) in the industry should belong to the AEC.

Update: We need your support.

10. Join because I tell you to

Join the AEC—your state association. Then get involved! You get out what you put into it. As executive director of the AEC, I can always use your help. Like many other executive directors, this is not my full-time position. With your support and help, the AEC as a team can do more.

In closing, I would like to ask you to answer the following questions:

1. Do you purchase and/or apply pesticides in the state of New Jersey?
2. Do you manufacture, distribute or package pesticides which are used in the state of New Jersey?
3. Do you believe the following statement to be true?

"Our industry (golf course superintendents as pesticide applicators) need a state association that is a formidable, UNITED GROUP . . . if not, we will be regulated by others. We must regulate ourselves or others will do it for us."

If the answer is YES to any of these questions, you should support the Alliance through membership! Fill out a membership form today, take part in protecting your interests and concerns as a pesticide applicator in the state of New Jersey.

You did not make a lot, but you did not spend a lot

Henry Indyk sent *The Greenside* two pieces of correspondence from 1977; in an effort to save space I will share a couple of items with you.

If you were a two-year turf student you could apply for a summer job with James H. Bullwinkel, golf course superintendent, at Heidelberg Country Club in Pennsylvania. The job paid \$2.50 per hour and included a house to be shared with another turf student.

The April 1977 GCSANJ monthly meeting was held at The Ridgewood Country Club. The club donated the greens fees and hors d'oeuvres; lunch cost \$3.50 and dinner \$12.00 with a cash bar.

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Benefits of membership in AECNJ

The activities of the Alliance for Environmental Concerns, Inc. benefit everyone involved in the specialty pesticide industry. Some of the important efforts of the Alliance include:

- Acting on your behalf at state regulatory and legislative meetings on issues impacting the commercial pesticide applicator industry.
- Educating members about certification, training and licensing through newsletters, seminars and conferences.
- Communicating the facts about the responsible use and benefits of pesticides to legislators and the public.
- Networking with allied professionals and product manufacturers to provide a factual response on issues of concern.
- Joining forces with others to coordinate appropriate responses to key issues including assistance in dealing with local or national media.

We urge you to support the AEC through membership. And, of course, participate in educational seminars, AEC Silent Auction fund-raisers and more. The Alliance also welcomes donations for the Silent Auction. Perhaps you can show your support through donation of product, services or a round of golf.

Contributions or gifts to the AECNJ are not tax deductible as charitable contributions. However, they may be tax deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses.

For more information or to join AECNJ, contact Membership Director, The Alliance for Environmental Concerns, Inc., P.O. Box 4292, Warren, NJ 07059; (908) 563-9252.

I want to join with the Alliance (AEC). Enclosed is my check for \$ _____.

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 Telephone: _____
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Behind the scenes at the U.S. Open

by Tom Weinert, Jr.

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The entire course was close enough to perfection to satisfy even the most discriminating of the USGA officials. Only by being there, however, could one appreciate the beauty of this exceptionally manicured property known as the Congressional Country Club, and home for several days to the 1997 U.S. Open.

And there I was, moving from tee to fairway to green with the best of the best, those special people that help make golf what it is today. Oh sure, the Tiger, the Shark, the Bear, and all the other greats were awesome, but they are not who I am speaking about. These behind the scenes "heroes" of the week were the guys who helped prepare and maintain what would be one of the toughest playing courses in U.S. Open history. One hundred and fifty-six players with only three finishing under par certainly shows that some of the honors should go to the course and the best grounds crew ever assembled.

The electricity and camaraderie of the group was overwhelming, certainly a tribute to our leader of the week, Paul Latshaw, superintendent of Congressional. Many months and years of effort were contributed by Paul; his assistant, Sam Green; and their approximately 50-member crew who brought the course to the point of readiness. Our job for the week was to add the final touches and stay in a heavy and consistent maintenance mode.

Paul's auxiliary crew, of which I was honored to be a member, consisted of more than 75 volunteers from all over the U.S. and from as far away as Australia and Thailand. They were, for the most part, superintendents of their own magnificent courses who knew the business as well as anyone. The really amazing thing about them was they had come to be part of his moment, to help their good friend and mentor, Paul Latshaw. They, as much as anyone, wanted this to be the most meticulously manicured and hard-playing course in golf history.

You be the judge as to whether we measured up to the task.

Preparations began Sunday afternoon, June 8, with a general meeting in the tent of all the regular and volunteer crew members. Assignments were given out and everyone was up to the challenge.

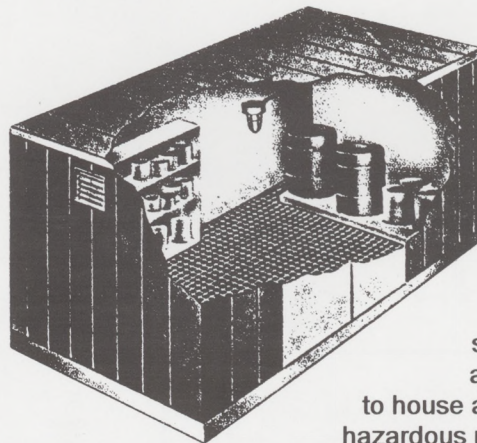
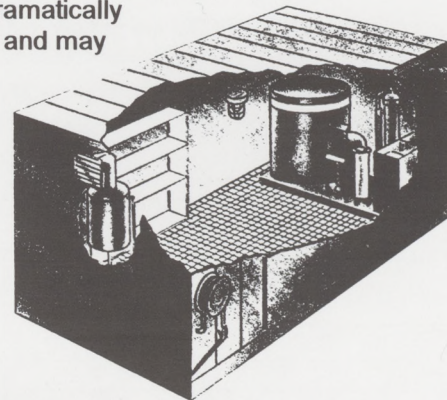
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Behind the scenes at the U.S. Open

Continued from page 20

Monday morning came earlier than most of us would like, starting with a light breakfast at about 5:00 a.m. The crews fanned out across Congressional as 10 greens cutters and five tee cutters were followed by the three team members doing the clean-up. The 20 fairway mowers worked hand-in-hand with the "manure" crew (clipping pickup) and the six fairway whippers. There were 125 in all, working as a team and with an enthusiasm that is rarely found.

My assignment was to be one of the fairway cutters, moving along fairway after fairway, assuring that our mowers were accurately set to assure both a fair and challenging play. The work didn't seem hard at first because of the exuberance of the moment. I will confess, however, that by Thursday, my aching feet were relieved to be transferred to the greens rolling gang.

The mornings, which always began before sunrise, would see a coffee break at 9:30 a.m. with work resuming once again until about 11:00 a.m. Following the practice rounds and the actual tournament, which was underway on Thursday, we were always back at the course in the late afternoon for clean-up, often working until dark.

The golfers, those guys we had come to see, began their practice rounds Monday morning. It was quite an experience being on

the same course with the likes of Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman, Tiger Woods, Fred Couples and a list of just about everyone in the "Who's Who" of golf. The players were very focused for this tour-

Watching the foursome of Greg Norman, Jack and Greg Nicklaus, and John Daly approach the green on which I was working was more than memorable...

namment and, for the most part, not open to a lot of distractions of any kind. They were friendly enough, but we knew they had come with a job to do.

Some of the great moments, and there were many, come readily to mind. Watching the foursome of Greg Norman, Jack and Greg Nicklaus, and John Daly approach the green on which I was work-

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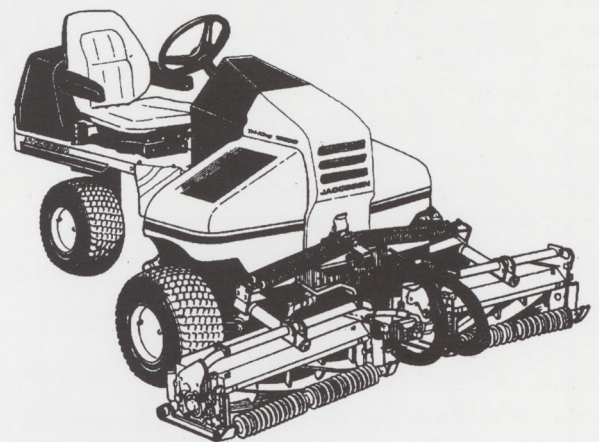
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Behind the scenes at the U.S. Open

Continued from page 21

ing was more than memorable; or on the 9th during practice rounds, when Tiger laid up short and the crowd egged him to go for it. As most of us know, it doesn't take much to get aggressive, and Tiger dropped another ball at 280 yards out, coming up pin high to the left of the green. The spectators will relive that moment more than once.

A truly exciting behind the scenes event, which I am sure you didn't catch on camera, occurred on Sunday. The field had narrowed, the course was playing tough at slightly over par, and Ernie Els would emerge several hours later as the tournament winner at three under par. We wanted this last day to be the best and the extra effort from our tired bones was worth every minute of it. We had started at 4:45 a.m. because of previous rain delays and converged on the 17th fairway with 30 greens mowers moving in unison, marching as a single team that epitomized the activities that occurred over the course of the week. This was a tribute to the "golf greats," the best in the business and their leader who brought all of this together.

All in all, the golfers were impressed, the USGA was impressed and we were delighted. Not only because we were given the opportunity to participate in this great event, but because we were there to

All in all, the golfers were impressed, the USGA was impressed and we were delighted. Not only because we were given the opportunity to participate in this great event, but because we were there to assist our friend, Paul Latshaw.

assist our friend, Paul Latshaw. This champion in his own right, having hosted four Masters, two U.S. Opens, a U.S. Senior Open and a PGA, has done as much for the game of golf as any individual. The week of June 9, 1997, will be long remembered in that scrapbook imprinted on my mind.

Tom Weinert, Jr. is a technical sales representative for Growth Products, Ltd. and resides in Swiftwater, Pennsylvania.

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Accident investigation: Fix the problem, not the blame!

By Jozsef deKovacs

After an accident, the first rule should be to assist the injured person immediately and protect him/her from further injury. If the accident involves property damage, do what is necessary and feasible to avoid additional damage.

During the process of helping victims and protecting property, you should be gathering information to make an accident investigation.

What is the purpose?

There are at least three compelling reasons for conducting accident investigations:

1. To define fundamental accident causes so that the causes can be corrected. Without accident investigation, the same types of accidents will occur over and over again.
2. To document facts about the accidents to help in the handling of future insurance claims.
3. To show concern for the well-being of the injured person.

Which accidents should be investigated?

All accidents including so called "near misses" should be investigated. Do not wait for accidents that result in severe bodily injury or property damage to investigate. A trip and fall can result in minor injury, severe trauma or death. A small fire may be extinguished quickly or turn into a total loss. The outcome of accidents often are the result of luck (good or bad) and should not govern whether or not you investigate. The more minor accidents you have, the better the chances are for having a severe accident. The question to ask is, "What is the potential for more serious injury or damage?" If there is a potential, you should investigate.

Who should investigate?

The immediate supervisor. This may be the general manager,

dining room manager, maintenance manager, head greenkeeper, etc. These managers are problem solvers, and they know their areas of responsibility better than anyone else. They also have personal interests to protect.

When should the investigation start?

Immediately. Start the investigation before memories fade or conditions change and while the people involved are available. A delay in investigation usually results in increased settlement costs.

Where do you begin?

At the scene. Specify the machine, tool, substance or other object connected with the accident. Be specific about the unsafe mechanical, physical or environmental condition at the time of the accident. Check personal factors such as age (old or young), attitude, experience, etc. Take still photos or video the scene.

How else do you get information?

Ask questions. Interview injured persons, witnesses or anyone who can contribute hard facts. Interview one at a time in a private place. Put your witnesses at ease. Tell them your purpose is to get the facts, not to blame anyone.

- Do not put words in witnesses' mouths.
- Ask for solutions to the problem and end on a friendly note.

What next?

Prepare the report. Describe the accident, then describe the unsafe act and unsafe condition which caused the accident. Include in this section your thoughts as to how or why the unsafe act and/or unsafe condition existed in the first place. Finally, list the corrective action.



New York pesticide updates

Local governments would be given the power to regulate pesticide use under New York Assembly Bill 7910, an anti-pre-emption measure proposed as an amendment to the state environmental conservation law.

A ban on chemical herbicide use by New York counties, cities and other local governments on public lands, including government-owned golf courses, by the year 2001 is proposed in a bill to amend the state's highway law.

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Toro to open technical training and support center

The Toro Company will open a new training facility this fall at which seminars and courses on technical and product training, engineering, customer service and new products will be held.

Participants will include Toro commercial market customers, distributors, service technicians, technical sales personnel and Toro employees from across the globe.

The 5,800 square-foot facility, comprised of two classrooms, four service bays with lifts, tool storage, and the latest in videoconferencing and audio-visual capabilities, is located at the company's headquarters in Bloomington, Minnesota.

"The facility reflects Toro's ongoing commitment to our customers' distributors, sales and service force," says Mike Hoffman, general manager of Toro's Commercial Products Business. "This value-added, after-purchase support will benefit the entire turf industry market, including golf, municipal and landscape professionals."

Training curricula, generally week-long units, will be taught by Toro personnel. Curriculum is being developed to eventually meet

certification requirements for professional organizations as well as continuing education credits.

Courses focus on maintenance and adjustment procedures for Toro products. Subjects include engine maintenance; hydraulic and electrical trouble-shooting and maintenance; automated control electronics programming and diagnostics. Classroom lab areas, as well as the service bays, will allow hands-on servicing.

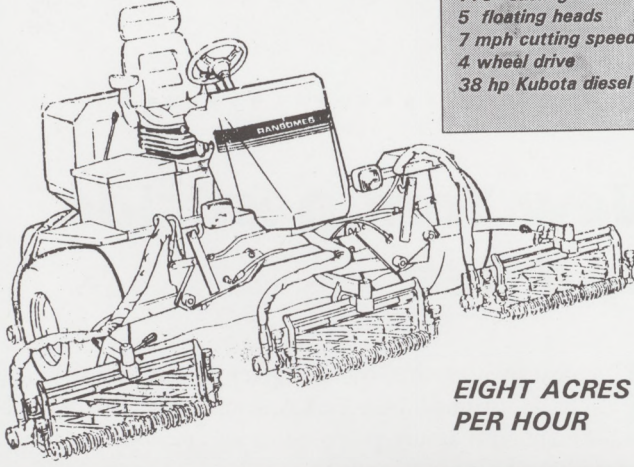
"The purpose of this service facility is to replicate the actual work environment that service technicians encounter in the turf industry," explains Rich Smith, service training manager. "It's ideal for demonstrating practical application in a state-of-the-art service environment."

Course fees will vary depending on subject and number of sessions. For more information on the Toro Training Center, courses and availability, contact Rich Smith, service training manager, at The Toro Company, (612) 887-8116.

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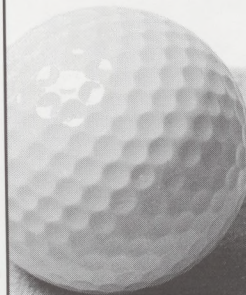
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Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for schools

Mr. De Kovacs was the speaker at the May 6, 1997, meeting at Suburban Country Club. His topic was "The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Schools: A Golf Course Superintendent's Guide to Sponsorship."

"It's personally rewarding for us to help kids and the environment. It's simple, it's fun and it makes a difference." — *Angelo F. Petraglia, GCSANJ*

General managers and owners of golf courses must support their own GCSA members and the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary program for schools.

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for schools is an engaging, hands-on approach to environmental appreciation, awareness and action. A general manager's involvement in this program can turn your school into a sanctuary for wildlife and a dy-

namic place where students can learn about and practice environmental stewardship.

Deal Golf & Country Club is involved in this program, and other general managers need to adopt this Audubon program.

Deal has undertaken this project, which includes restoring native wildlife habitat, placing and monitoring nest boxes for birds and conserving natural resources. Students learn by helping in the planning and implementation of many projects and by having these projects integrated into their current curriculum.

Our superintendents become active with the program by adopting a local elementary, junior high or high school.

Support your superintendent. Audubon International will provide supporting materials to both you and the children to assist in coordinating projects. You may choose to assist the school. Your superintendent can get credits toward becoming a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary.

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GCSAA NEWS

NEW JERSEY SUPERINTENDENT RENEWS PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

John J. O'Keefe, superintendent at Preakness Hills Country Club, has completed a renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

O'Keefe has been superintendent at the Wayne, New Jersey, course since 1986. He initially achieved his title of CGCS in 1987.

NEW YORK SUPERINTENDENT RECEIVES PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

John Gasper, superintendent at Oak Hill Country Club, has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Gasper has been superintendent at the Rochester, New York, course since 1996.

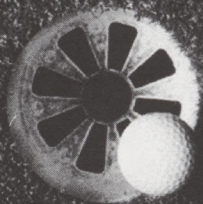
As part of the certification process, an on-site inspection of Gasper's golf course operation was conducted by two certified golf course superintendents: Pat Campbell, CGCS, at Panther Valley Golf

& Country Club, Allamuchy, N.J., and Ed Walsh, CGCS, at Essex County Country Club, West Orange, N.J.

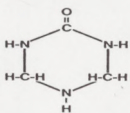


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