

# THE GREENERSIDE

September-October 1992 Volume 15 Number 5

## How do you spell turfgrass? R-u-t-g-e-r-s

How do you spell turfgrass expertise? The unofficial dictionary in the GCSANJ library spells it RUTGERS. That spelling is recognized not only here in New Jersey, but wherever turfgrass experts meet to compare notes.

Rutgers is massive. It has technological resources, human resources and the commitment to turf agronomy that makes it a world leader in this field, and it's located just a few miles from any golf course in this state. Cook College is the branch of Rutgers University that specializes in environmental sciences and agriculture. It's located just off Route 1 in New Brunswick. It's the hub of the extension service. That organization has offices in every county in the state. Information and help is always available, and new information created through research is being discovered through a well-coordinated program. This article will highlight some of the key programs available through Rutgers that service our golf course industry.

Let's start with the newly expanded soil and plant diagnostic laboratories. The plant lab is only in its second year of operation and has already become a popular resource. The clinic turns around samples in less than four days and is staffed by Dr. Karen Kackley-Dutt and Rich Buckley. The lab offers a variety of services including weed and plant identification, nematode bioassays, insect identification, and screening for turfgrass endophytes. Prices are \$20 per plant sample (roots, branches, etc.) and \$50 per turf sample. Remember to mail your samples early in the week and not on Friday. You don't want them sitting in the post office over the weekend. An information form is required, which should be requested from the lab. Don't call them because you will slow down their work. Drop them a letter or a fax. (See the contact list in this article.) Working in tandem with the plant lab is the Rutgers soil lab. There's an excellent Rutgers Cooperative Extension fact sheet called, "How to take a soil sample" FS618 to guide you through the process.

The Rutgers Resource connection, of course, isn't just for sending samples. One of the major missions of Rutgers is to disseminate and generate information. Most research is aimed at answering very applied questions.

Many of "The Greenerside" readers are familiar with the patch disease research conducted by Dr. Bruce Clarke. He keeps in contact with researchers located at other land grant colleges such as Cornell and Penn State, all working on related problems. This helps form a network in the tri-state area. Other research areas that are strongly associated with Rutgers include turf grass breeding. Dr. Reed Funk of Rutgers is world renowned for his agronomy achievements. Replacing the retiring Dr. Henry Indyk is James A. Murphy, who is the extension specialist in Turfgrass Management. Research conducted at Rutgers covers endophytes, disease and insect management, fertility management, and water utilization. New varieties are

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## THE GREENERSIDE

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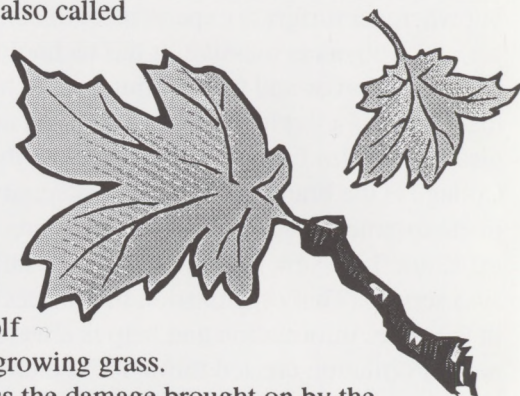
# EDITORIAL



## Fall reflections

Summer is just about over, and Mother Nature sure did her best to keep us guessing. This has been one of the coolest summers that I can recall. It didn't really arrive with the hot weather until mid-August and left, I think, after just a day or two. According to the U.S. weather service, this is the third coolest summer since 1895. Only some GCSANJ

members can remember as far back as that. This year, September 22 marks the first day of Autumn, which is also called the **vernal equinox**. From that date on, the daylight becomes shorter and the evenings become longer until the shortest day arrives in December, and that marks the end of the fall season. This seasonal change will also bring cooler weather and, for those of us who work on the golf course, a season better suited for growing grass.



In the Fall we get to assess the damage brought on by the summer. We begin to plan to make the necessary repairs and to calculate our budget for the next season. Superintendents will also begin to plan their vacations and their educational opportunities. During the playing season, the course as well as the numerous tournaments demand time, energy and immediate attention. Of course there are the ever present fall tournaments, but the trend is for more favorable growing conditions for us. Most superintendents recognize that scheduling maintenance is very important for today's highly technical equipment. But it is also important for managing people. People need maintenance, too. And not just those who work for you, but you, yourself! A little scheduled maintenance, such as something local from Rutgers Office of Continuing Professional Education (which I profile in depth on "The Greenside" front page story). Likewise the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's Conference and Show in February out at Anaheim, California, makes an excellent opportunity to be revived and refreshed with ideas and comradery.

October 6, 1992, presents just such an opportunity. The GCSANJ's **Turfgrass Equipment and Supplies Field Day** has something there for anyone interested in growing and maintaining better turfgrass. If you have never attended, then you can't image what you are missing. Besides seeing the latest in equipment demonstrated, you also get to visit again with other superintendents, turf equipment mechanics, and other turf experts. Now what can beat that for a short scheduled tune-up?

Ilona F. Gray  
Editor



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**"I will not seek,  
nor shall I accept  
the nomination  
of my party"**

David Pease  
President, GCSANJ

The changing of the guard is a momentous occasion. As William Roberts so eloquently stated, "It is time to take the next step." We, as an association, have accomplished tremendous development and progress over the past ten years. I feel honored to have been a part of such activity.

The Mission of this association has been dedicated to the Professionalism of Golf Course Management. The GCSANJ mission is an on going endeavor to ameliorate itself in today's Society, Environmentally, Agriculturally, and within the Golf Industry itself.

Equipped with a balance of committee ship to handle the ever changing tide of demands placed upon this association, The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey has propelled itself beyond her sister Associations in regards to our accountability to the Golf Profession. Providing accurate information to government institutions, assisting in the development of responsible legislation, and educating its members are just a fraction of this association's accomplishments.

Membership services have been held in high regard as part of the mainstream responsibility of the GCSANJ executive board. Coupled with that responsibility, the logistic responsibility of administrative operation makes the mission viable. The reconstruction of our administrative foundation has allowed the GCSANJ to augment its productivity, Membership services, government activity, education, turf grass research, and promoting the development of a new generation through scholarship, and educational opportunities are what the GCSANJ is all about.

I would like to end my final Message on a personal note. As a young boy growing up on my father's dairy farm in Massachusetts, I can remember one night questioning my father as to why was he leaving the milking chores to my grandfather and older brother. He pointed up to a Blue and Gold Plaque on the wall that read "Farm Bureau Committee Member." As if quoting from Biblical scripture, mixed in with his own version of Yankee philosophical wisdom, he replied, "As we replace the fertility to our fields, we must also return that what has allowed us to

become successful Farmers." He continued to say, "We must nurture ourselves as professionals, to gain respect, and to return what we have gained to others that will follow." Of course, at the age of five, I had no idea what  
(Please turn to page 11)

## Calendar

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Oct. 2                 | <b>Championship - Somerset Hills Golf Course.</b> Host: Bob Dwyer, (908)766-2307.  |
| Oct. 5-Dec. 11         | <b>Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School (new Fall Session) - Cook College/Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.</b> Contact: Office of Continuing Professional Education, (908) 932-9271. |
| Oct. 6                 | <b>28th Annual Turfgrass Equipment, Irrigation and Supplies Field Day - Rutgers Stadium and Golf Course, Piscataway, NJ.</b> Contact: Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.                                 |
| Oct. 8                 | <b>Ornamental Grasses Seminar -</b> Contact: Lofts Seed Research, (908) 560-1590.  |
| Nov. 6                 | <b>President's Ball - The Barclay Hotel.</b> Host: Harry Harsin, (908) 505-8870.   |
| Nov. 19                | <b>Annual Meeting - Hollywood Golf Course.</b> Host: Bob Tosh, (908) 531-3609.   |
| Dec. 1-3               | <b>New Jersey Turfgrass Expo - Somerset Hilton, Garden State Exhibit Center.</b> Contact: New Jersey Turfgrass Association, (908) 821-7134.  |
| Jan. 4-<br>Mar. 12, 93 | <b>Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School (Winter Session) - Cook College/Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.</b> Contact: Office of Continuing Professional Education, (908) 932-9271.   |



# How do you spell turfgrass?

(Continued from page 1)

evaluated for their adaptability to our region and for their tolerance to herbicides and plant growth regulators.

Rutgers serves as a place to hold statewide events of interest to turfgrass managers. This August, the annual Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field was held at the Turfgrass Research Center (Hort Farm II). This popular event is described in a separate article by Dr. Murphy. Rutgers is also the home of GCSANJ's own field day, the **28th Annual Turfgrass Equipment and Supplies Field Day**, which will be held **October 6, 1992 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** at Rutgers Stadium and Golf Course, Piscataway, New Jersey. The latest in golf, turf, highway, parks and recreational maintenance equipment will be demonstrated, so also bring your mechanic along and check it out.

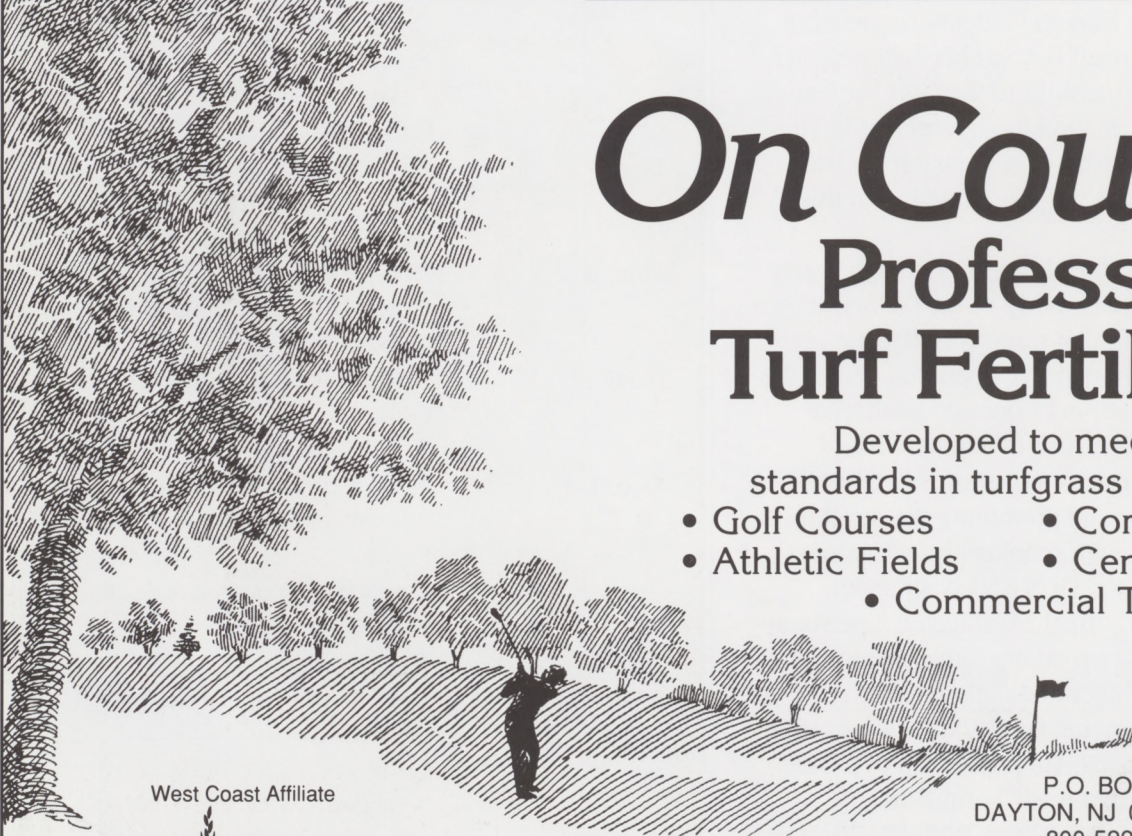
The 1992-93 turfgrass and golf course management related educational courses are some of the best that the Rutgers Office of Continuing Professional Education has to offer. It is now accepting applications for its two-year Professional Golf Turf Management School. This is one of the nation's leading professional education programs in golf turf management. This course covers technical topics such as turfgrass establishment, maintenance of

greens and tees, plant pathology, entomology, and weed identification, as well as management and writing skills.

This course is recommended for golf course employees, including superintendents, assistant superintendents, greenskeepers, irrigation technicians, and mechanics who have a minimum of two years of experience working in turf management. The program will be offered twice this term: the NEW fall session will be October 5-December 11, 1992 and the winter session runs from January 4-March 12, 1993. Since there is both a fall and a winter session, you can send one applicant to each session without causing serious disruption to the course staffing levels.

The Office of Continuing Education sponsors such courses as Golf Course Construction; Professional Turfgrass and Landscape Management with Selected topics in Commercial, Residential and Utility Turfgrass; Introduction to Golf Course Turfgrass Management: A three-day orientation program; Advanced Turfgrass Management Symposium; Improving Turfgrass Survival: Site analysis and modification of optimal turfgrass growth;

(Please turn to page 5)



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# Turfgrass

(Continued from page 4)

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The Rutgers Extension Service publishes booklets and fact sheets that provide guidance in dealing with pesticides, equipment, and a wide variety of other subjects. These are available from Rutgers as well as from your local county cooperative extension service. New bulletins come out from time to time. Some recent titles include: Protective equipment for using pesticides; Calibrating knapsack sprayers; A guide to herbicide additives; Prevent tick bites; Operating mowers safely; Pesticide storage facilities and others.

Information today often travels via computer, and Rutgers provides that service as well. The Rutgers Cooperative Extension Bulletin Board Service covers the educational calendar, horticultural IPM newsletter, insect and disease newsletter, over 12,000 federal extension documents; scientific literature data base, the urban Phytonarian handbook, etc.

Newsletters are a convenient way to keep the public informed, and Rutgers publishes several that are of interest to golf course superintendents. Dr. George Hamilton, extension specialist in pesticides, publishes a monthly newsletter that covers certification dates, recent regulatory changes, and other related topics. Dr. Lou Vasvary and his staff publish a monthly newsletter that focuses on insect management for agricultural, urban, and turf situations. Individual county cooperative extension service offices often publish a local newsletter. For example, Deborah Smith-Fiola publishes "Landscape Notes" from her Ocean County office.

The table below gives you access to all these powerful sources of information. Clip it out, or save the whole copy of "The Greenerside", because you never know!

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### Operator Training Center (Soil Testing):

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### Rutgers Cooperative Extension Bulletin Board Service:

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**Dr. George Hamilton:** Pesticide Specialist - (908) 932-9801

**Dr. James A. Murphy:** Turfgrass Specialist - (908) 932-9453

### County Cooperative Extension Services:

See your local telephone directory under County Government.

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# GCSANJ NEWS

## RECENT HOLES-IN-ONE

**Tony Baviello** (Pelham C.C.) had a hole-in-one on the 14th hole of Montammy C.C. He was playing with **Matt Ceplo**, Matt's father, and **Dick LaFlamme**. The hole is 125 yards long.

**Mary Lou DesChamps** had a hole-in-one on June 15, 1992 on the 120 yard 4th hole at Copper Hill C.C. It was during the Paul DesChamps Memorial Tournament.

Shaun Barry

## FAIRMOUNT IS A PERFECT HOST

**Vinnie Bracken** and Fairmount C.C. hosted our June monthly meeting. They were very proud to have the association there and it showed. There have been some marvelous changes made to the course and to the clubhouse. It would now be difficult to improve beyond the level of achievement that they have reached. These views were echoed by everyone who was able to attend. Even

"new member" **Bob Ribbans** was duly impressed.

This spring has been conducive to growing and maintaining grass. That helps to explain why we had 98 people playing golf in June. Of these golfers, only a few were able to play the course correctly. The rest of us were forced to be out swinging a club on a beautiful day. Tough work!

**Alan Small** used his great golf swing and local course knowledge to shoot a 74. He was followed by **Tony Toto** with a 75. In the Two Man Team event, **Rich Brandel** and **Chris Zelley** finished on top. **Tom Grimal** and **Paul Stieve** were second, while **Tony Toto** and **Clyde Ashton** placed third. **Matt Ceplo** won the First Closest to the Pin Contest and **Dave Pease** (really!!) was closest on the back nine. **Steve Rudich**, who is armed with new clubs and a nickname of "The Animal," had the longest drive. **Peter Van Drumpt** and **Mark Mason** had the only skins.

Thanks to everyone at Fairmount for their help. We really had a great day and hope to return soon.

Shaun Barry

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*Dave Pease,  
GCSANJ president  
(left), congratulates  
Vinnie Bracken and  
Fairmount  
Country Club for  
a job well done in  
hosting the June  
monthly meeting.*



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## A DAY TO REMEMBER

Three down and one to go. That sure sounds like a completed golf match. What it actually means is that after our July meeting at Howell Park G.C., there is only one



*Matt Clement (left), superintendent of Howell Park Golf Course, receives thanks and congratulations from Dave Pease after successfully hosting the July meeting. Howell is ranked among the top 75 public courses in the country.*

Monmouth County golf course that has not hosted a monthly meeting. That will hopefully change when the renovations at Shark River are completed.

**Matt Clement** is the superintendent at Howell. He is one of the major reasons that this course has been ranked in the top 75 public courses in the country. Along with his hardworking staff, they maintain more bentgrass than most private clubs.

**Dave Pease** and **Alan Roberts** (director of golf for the county) made a great effort to welcome everyone. We had 80 players attempting to set the course record. That did not happen but several people did play well. Our president set a target score of 88 for the Beat the President Tournament. Leading the players who beat Dave were: **Jeff Wyant** (74), **Rich Brandel** (77), **Fran Owsik** (78), **Phil Scott** (78), and **Forrest Arthur** (78). Matt's net score for the Beat the Host Tournament was also 88. **Jeff Theibault** (65), **Wendell Beakley** (66), **Matt Dobbie**

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# GCSANJ NEWS

(66), and **Bob Duncan** (69) headed this group of winners. Forrest had the longest drive, while **Fran Owsik** and **John DeMatteo** were closest to the pin. **Bob Prickett**, **John DeMatteo** and **Jim Cross** won individual skins and **Steve Cadenelli** had two. Not bad for a person who plays so infrequently.

The evening ended on a high note for **Dave Pease**. He was surprised when **Amy Pease** and a large cake showed up together. It was Dave and Amy's third wedding anniversary. We all felt pleased to celebrate this wonderful couple's special day.

Shaun Barry

## A HELPING HAND

Sometimes being a superintendent becomes even more stressful than normal. This usually happens when a



*Dave Pease (right), GCSANJ president, congratulates Phil Scott, superintendent of Greate Bay Resort and Country Club, on successfully hosting an L.P.G.A. event at his course.*

special event happens at your club. It happened to **Phil Scott** in June. Greate Bay Resort and C.C. was hosting an L.P.G.A. event. He was wondering where he could get the extra hands he needed. Members from District 4 just showed up to help. This trait, which is so commonplace to golf course people, should be noted. Helping out were **Jack Montecalvo**, **Alan Beck**, **Wendell Beakley**, **Ken Thompson**, **Kathy Thompson**, **Chet Stephenson**, **Tony Stephanik**, **Kevin Driscoll**, **Phil O'Brien**, **Brad Simpkins**, **Jeff Allen**, **David Hicks**, and **Jonathon Snore**. Helping out with loaner equipment was **Jerry Pearlman**, **Lawn and Golf**, **Stull Equipment**, and **Philadelphia Turf Co.**

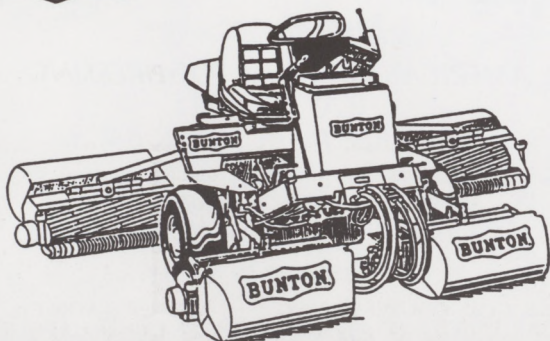
It makes me happy to be a part of this wonderful industry.

Shaun Barry

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## DISTRICT ONE CHAMPIONSHIP

On August 3, 38 members and guests of District One arrived at Darlington Golf Club to compete for the District One Championship. Nice weather and an outstanding job by **Andy Schuckers** and his staff made the day most enjoyable. The Mason Jar provided fine food and a great atmosphere for some old friends to get together. **Ed Walsh** and **Frank Bevelacqua** seemed to be having a lot of fun, well at least Ed was. Along with all the fun we were able to raise \$420, which will be donated to the Tri-State Turfgrass Research Foundation.

Leading the field with an outstanding 1 under par 70 was the always steady **Jay Antonelli**. Following Jay was **Dave Mayer** at 76, **Mel Waldron** at 77, **Matt Ceplo** at 80, **Ed Walsh** at 82, and **Fran Berdine** at 82.

On the 9th hole, **Shaun "Bomber" Barry** exploded his drive to coast to yet another long drive victory (he

swears those balls are legal now?). Two closest to the pins were held with **Eric Tomzick** winning #12 at 4' and **Jay Antonelli** winning #16 at 9' 2 1/2". Jay Antonelli won three skins on holes number 8, 16 and 17. Mel Waldron won two on holes 1 and 4. Dave Mayer had one on the third and Matt Ceplo had his on #12.

**Dave Mayer**

## GCSANJ TURF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The GCSANJ Turf Scholarship Program is once again accepting scholarship applications for the academic year 1992-93. 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.

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# Come see latest in equipment

On October 6, 1992, at Rutgers Stadium and Golf Course in Piscataway, people from the entire green industry will be gathering to watch the latest in equipment being demonstrated by the experts. This is the number one fundraiser for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey and, naturally, you should be there along with your fellow superintendents. Bring your mechanic along so that he can view and possibly test the latest equipment.

You can make this an even bigger event by letting the rest of the green industry people know about it. So . . . spread the word to the landscapers, ornamental businesses, sod farmers, arborists, turf care professionals and your fellow GCSANJ members! Along with the demonstrations, suppliers of various kinds and a pretty good, inexpensive lunch make this a terrific day.

The field day is free to the attendees, so there is no excuse to miss it. Mark October 6 on your calendar now.

For further information, contact either Judy

PolICASTRO at (201) 379-1100 or John Carpinelli at (609) 235-0150. John is this year's chairman of the Field Day, and Judy is the Executive Secretary of GCSANJ.

## GCSANJ NEWS

- 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., P.O. Box 359, Springfield, NJ 07081-0359.

**The deadline for all applications is**

**November 1, 1992**

GCSANJ scholarships are awarded without regard to race, sex, creed, age, or national origin.

**Paul Powondra,**  
Superintendent



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## "I will not seek, nor shall I accept the nomination of my party"

(Continued from page 3)

the hell he was talking about.

The Golf Course Superintendent's profession has allowed me to put food on my table, clothes on my back, and has provided a life style to which I am very thankful. To sacrifice personal time to insure that we as Golf Course Superintendents are well represented in today's society is but a small offering for the benefits we reap. I will continue to serve this Association in whatever capacity it sees fit.

It has been my pleasure to serve as President of this Association. I am proud of the accomplishments that have taken place. The future holds no boundary as to what this Association can become. In closing, I want to thank my executive Board for an outstanding job, making my duties as President a most satisfying one.



## Big social event of the year coming

Save November 6, 1992, for the GCSANJ's biggest social event of the year, The President's Ball, to be held at the Barclay Hotel!! More details to come in the mail, so watch for it!!

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Weeds, disease and other pests  
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Yet walks the line 'tween science and art.  
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The pleasure dome of treatment such  
From learned skill and learned touch.

Douglas A. Vogel  
Superintendent



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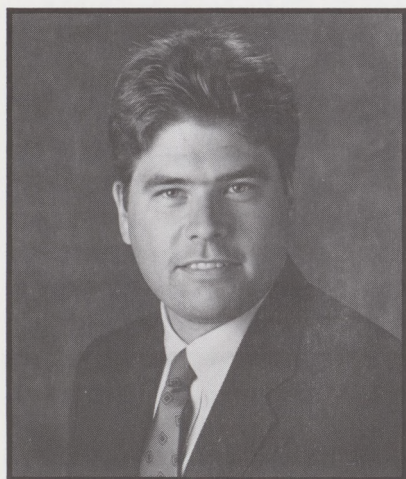
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# Rutgers Turfgrass Field Day held



The Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field Day was held Thursday, August 6 at Hort Farm II located in North Brunswick, New Jersey. The event, which attracted over 300 people from the turfgrass industry of ten states, was jointly sponsored by the New Jersey Turfgrass Association and Rutgers Coopera-

tive Extension. The pleasant weather made for an excellent day to extend the turfgrass research information at Rutgers.

Research projects on display included the National variety trials for Kentucky bluegrass, fine fescue, perennial ryegrass, and creeping bentgrass. Creeping bentgrass variety trials were shown for 1/4-inch and 1/2-inch mowing heights. The latest tall fescue varieties and selection trials were also toured. The adaption and use of zoysiagrass, bermudagrass, and buffalograss in New Jersey was discussed. Also on display was a wildflower establishment and herbicide study.

Three separate tour stops addressed the topics of chemical, cultural, and potential biological control of the disease, summer patch. Brown patch and dollar spot disease control, fungicide evaluation, and low volume fungicide application studies on bentgrass were toured.

A study evaluating nitrogen testing on creeping bentgrass was presented, as well as a Kentucky bluegrass fertility trial. Nitrogen fertilizer and fungicide soil injection

studies on creeping bentgrass and Kentucky bluegrass were also displayed.

Demonstration of aerification equipment and a weed and insect identification contest were also part of the educational program, designed to promote the latest advances in turfgrass management and research at Rutgers. Many other ideas and questions regarding turfgrass culture and research were addressed by the University speakers and field day attendees throughout the day.

**James A. Murphy**  
Extension Specialist  
in Turfgrass Management  
Cook College, Rutgers University

---

## Condolences

"The Greenerside" and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey wish to extend their heartfelt sympathy to Dennis and Debbie Shea on the death of their son, Kevin, on July 13, 1992, following complications from open heart surgery.

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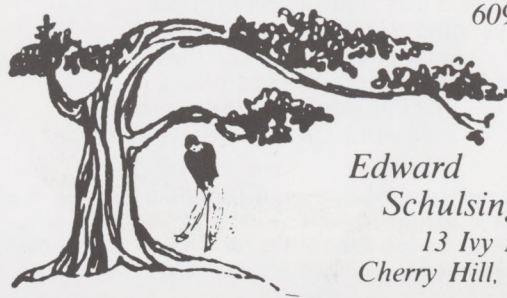
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# Got you covered, or how I spent my summer



Shortly after last year's GCSAA conference in New Orleans, I arrived home eager to get back to work and begin implementing all the ideas I had come up with. Like most superintendents, I like to bring back at least one new thought to make the whole trip worthwhile. Mine was about landscaping.

Not knowing what was in store for me, just a couple of days later I began transplanting cedar trees from my back yard to the front. Well, one stubborn tree just didn't want to come out. But being determined, I moved it anyway.

Now, as I sit here at my desk, knowing that I'll never be able to do some of the things I used to do again, I now realize the importance of a quality health insurance policy. If you are considering a job change or are talking about medical benefits with your current employer, be sure you understand the policy you are accepting. Do not, if you can, accept one that does not pay for your entire hospital stay. A policy that only pays for 80 percent of the bill can cost you your life savings quickly. Math has never been my strong point, but 20 percent of a lot of money is a lot of money. The bills get out of control quickly, especially when as soon as you come home from the hospital, another family member is admitted. If you must meet a required deductible, make sure it is per family and not per person in your family.

If you can, look for a dental plan also. The savings you set aside for your children's college fund can disappear fast with one trip to the orthodontist with your 10-year-old.

Also, a decent prescription plan is a must because,

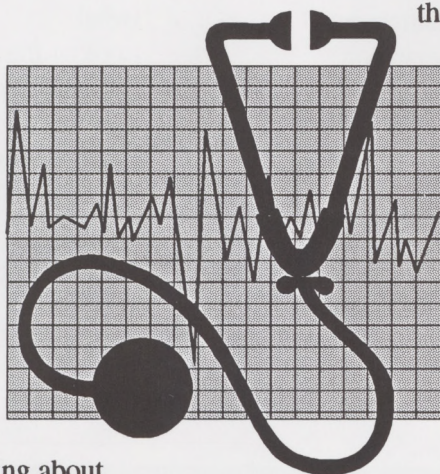
after returning from the hospital, some of the follow up drugs you may need can be as expensive as a new set of Pings. Wouldn't it make sense that in a profession that exposes us to all sorts of things that we may be allergic to, to have a policy that covers the allergy shots. Or at least

the high blood pressure medication. After all, I didn't suffer from hypertension until I became a superintendent.

None of us plan on being out of work for an extended period of time. We all think that "It can't happen to me". NOT!!! Plan ahead and get the coverage that you think you will never need, even if you have to pay for some of it on your own. It will be worth it. We'd all like to be known for an article in a trade journal, just hope it's not a medical journal.

**Steve Malikowski,**  
CGCS

P.S. Thanks to all those who called or sent me get well cards, and to all those who didn't, #@\$%\$%&, you too!



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# Anaheim 1993



By now, all of us who are GCSAA members have received the Early Bird registration form for the National Conference and Show to be held in Anaheim in February. More seminars are being offered than ever, and the convention promises to be one of the best yet. Hotels will fill quickly, and, if you intend to stay at the headquarters hotel (Anaheim Hilton) and have not sent in your reservation form, you probably will be staying somewhere else.

Once again I will be carrying the New Jersey votes to the Annual Meeting and will be organizing the Hospitality Suite arrangements. A suite has been reserved at the Anaheim Hilton for two evenings, Thursday and Friday, January 28 and 29. As usual, the room number will not be known until the day before. So let me suggest to those who

have not yet had frontal lobotomies how to find the room.

1. Ask me.
2. Ask someone else.
3. Ask someone at the front desk of the Headquarters Hotel.
4. Look at the TV announcements in your room if you are staying at the Hilton.
5. Look at the TV monitor announcements in the Hilton lobby or bars.
6. Don't ask Sky Bergen because I'm not going to tell him.

Thanks.  
Steve Malikowski,  
CGCS

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# X marks the spot



Most of my columns attempt to bring a smile to the face of the readers. After all, this is a pressure packed business we've chosen, and a little humor sometimes goes a long way, but this is one of those rare situations that requires serious consideration.

A few short years ago most of us were "up the creek without a paddle" trying to figure out how to control Summer and Take-All Patch diseases. Lucky for us that Dr. Bruce Clarke, Cook College-Rutgers University, was working on the same problems. Smart of us to realize how very important that research could be to us as turf grass managers. Really smart of us to provide the funding that helped Bruce accelerate his research and get us the controls we needed to help arrest these diseases.

I think it's safe to say that we learned that if we support research as a group, a great deal can be accomplished. With the assistance of the Metropolitan Golf Association, that group was formed and is called the Tri-State Turfgrass Research Foundation. This group collectively represents the GCSANJ, MGCSA, LIGCSA and MGA.

We realized early on that trying to get large sums of money from clubs, no matter how important the issue,

would be difficult. We put together a plan that asks each club to contribute just \$150 to the Foundation each year. We certainly didn't think such a small sum would be difficult to come up with and suggested each superintendent develop a budget line item for this amount. With over 350 clubs as a base, the foundation would receive yearly contributions of \$26,250 if only 50% participation was realized, and we all thought 50% was very reasonable to expect.

To date, less than 100 clubs throughout the MGA area have contributed to this most worthwhile Foundation. Only 25 of those clubs are from New Jersey. Now realize that we have approximately 125 clubs listed in our state association, so 25 doesn't represent a very good percentage.

With the Patch Disease research completed at Rutgers, we have turned our attention to supporting a project at Cornell University headed by Dr. Michael Villani. Dr. Villani is presently working on biological controls for grubs. This is certainly the direction we must support, as the future of pesticides in our environment is under constant scrutiny.

I hope most of you have just forgotten to have your clubs send the check to the Tri-State Turfgrass Research Foundation, and that this will serve as a reminder. If for some reason you require more information about the present project or want a copy of Dr. Clark's research results, please contact me at your convenience.

Just imagine where we might be if we didn't financially support Bruce Clark's research and had to deal with Patch Diseases on our own. I know I don't want to think about that, not even for a second. It's our business, it's our livelihood. Let's help the people who are doing their best to help us.

Ed Walsh, CGCS

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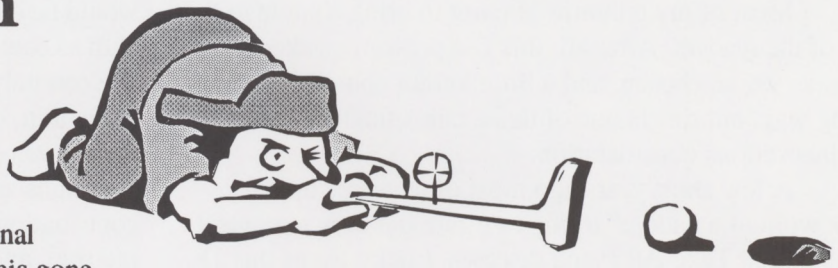
# Commentary and one man's opinion on the U.S. Open

Golf is a game meant to challenge the individual, both pro and amateur alike. My experience watching the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach, June 18-21, was one of awe for the golf course, but one of dismay for the professional golfers. It made me ask the question, "Has all this gone too far?"

When you hit what looks like a good shot into a green and it rolls and rolls and rolls . . . you have to ask, "Is this what the game of golf is supposed to be?" I certainly agree that the rough should be just that—rough! Three inch, four inch, but five inches and beyond?? We don't even have to question what the green speed was during the tournament, the pictures told the story.

Many articles have been written about what shaving the grass plant to below 1/8" to 64th's of an inch has done, and the repercussions that occur after the tournament when all the hoopla is over and done.

My observation while watching this prestigious event was that the golf course was prepared marvelously



well. The tees and fairways looked fantastic, but the greens looked very dried out, maybe overly so, and tinges of browned out areas seemed to be on almost every green. We know that the USGA likes firm, hard greens, but to what degree do we have to go to attain the hardness, the firmness and that G-d forsaken speed? Yes, it was the US Open, and it should be one of the toughest tests of golf, but between the rough, the narrowing of fairways and very small greens (I am told the average size of the greens at Pebble Beach is about 4,200 sq. ft.) and a "normal" stimpmeter reading of ten, this would have been a difficult test for any Pro.

It was frustrating for me to watch as the best golfers in the world were not only humbled, but embarrassed, as they were relegated to playing like the average weekend golfer. The enjoyment that I always experience in watching any professional event is in the Pro's incredible ability to produce shots that you would never think possible and scores that are equally impossible.

As a golf course superintendent I always enjoy making a golf course tougher for a professional event, but I think the US Open at Pebble Beach was just a bit too much for any player.

**Bob Dwyer, Superintendent**  
Somerset Hills C.C.

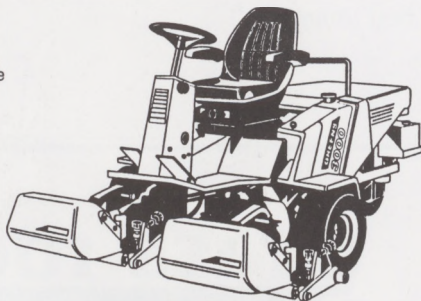
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# Survey shows golfers strong political force

According to new research conducted by the National Golf Foundation, the American golfer population represents what could be one of the strongest political forces in the country.

In fact, if the presidential election was held tomorrow, 17 million voters, or nearly one-fifth of the total voting electorate, would be golfers.

The information was gathered as a part of a recent national survey of golfer attitudes and characteristics.

The survey shows that America's golfers are well above the norm in terms of voter registration and voter turnout.

## For example:

- No less than 92.9% of America's 23 million adult golfers are registered voters, as compared to 57.1% of the general population.
- And, once registered, U.S. golfers go to the polls and cast ballots far more readily than the general voting population. Nearly 80% of voting-age golfers report always voting in national elections. This compares to a 45% participation rate among the general voting-age population.

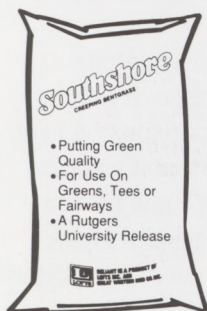
- Golfers also turn out in force for state and local political races, e.g., six out of 10 always vote in state elections and five out of 10 always go to the polls in local elections.

- Using data from the 28 states that require voters to register by party affiliation, it was determined that there is a proclivity among golfers toward the Republican party. While only 33% of the general electorate are registered Republicans, 44.9% of golfers name the GOP as their party. On the other hand, 28.6% of golfers are registered with the Democratic party versus 47.9% of the general population.

- The study also showed golfers to be politically involved citizens. A full 56.8% reported they have contacted a public official either in person, by mail or by telephone.

"This new data adds depth to what we already know about U.S. golfers," says Mike Russell, NGF's vice president of research. "Now, along with knowing their demographics and playing and spending characteristics, we are beginning to know how golfers behave politically."

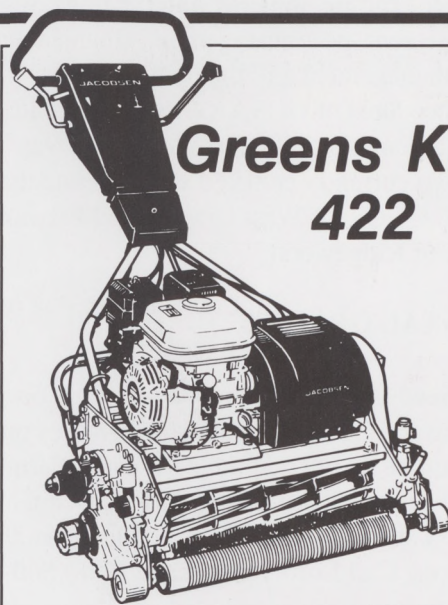
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# THE BACK NINE

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## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations are in order to the creative pair of **Ken and Keith Kubik**. The "Working with Budget Cuts" by Ken, under his pen name Willet Wilt, which appeared in the March-April 1992 "Greenerside", was reprinted in several newsletters, but one in particular has a readership of over 300,000! The United States Golf Association reprinted this Willet Wilt in their July 1992 "Golf Journal". Way to go Ken and Keith!

## NEW JERSEY SUPERINTENDENT RECEIVES GCSAA CERTIFICATION

**Scott Carpenter**, superintendent of Brooklake Country Club, has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Carpenter has been superintendent of the Florham Park course since 1985. He lives at 48 Circle Road in Florham Park.

To become certified, a candidate must have five years experience as a golf course superintendent and be employed in that capacity. The candidate must pass a rigorous six-hour examination covering the rules of golf, turfgrass management, pest management, financial and organizational management and the history, ethics, purpose and procedures of GCSAA. Also, an on-site inspection of Carpenter's golf course operation was conducted by two currently certified superintendents: **Peter Pedrazzi**, CGCS, of West Orange, and **Edward Walsh**, CGCS, of Ridgewood.

## ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

**Lofts Seed** is hosting a one-day seminar on Ornamental Grasses and low-maintenance grasses on **Thursday, October 8, 1992**, at their Research Farm in Martinsville. The agenda will include popular Ornamental Grasses, Prairie Grasses, Wildflowers and low-maintenance turf choices. Call Lofts Research at (908) 560-1590 for more information.

## SEACOAST LABORATORIES HAS NEW REP

**Seacoast Laboratories, Inc.** of Dayton, a leading provider of fertilizers and turfgrass seed, is happy to announce the addition of **Gerald B. Fountain** as their technical representative to the golf course industry.

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Country Club since 1983, will be responsible for the sales and marketing of Seed Research Grass Seed and Twin Light "On Course™" professional turf products.

Fountain can be reached at (800) 522-4769.

## GCSAA APPOINTS NEW EDUCATION MANAGER

**Alan Hayes** has joined the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) headquarters staff as education manager for technical training.

Hayes will assist GCSAA's education department in the management of programs with specific responsibilities in training golf course technical staff. He will conduct and refine spray technician seminars and assist in the development of other topics for GCSAA's technician training.

For more information on GCSAA's continuing education program and technician training program, contact the GCSAA education department at (913) 832-4444.

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## Maintenance expenditures report available

A research report which details golf course superintendents' expenditures on maintenance products and services over the last year is now available from the Center for Golf Course Management (CGCM), the marketing research subsidiary of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. The "1992 Golf Course Maintenance Expenditures Report" offers detailed information on more than 25 specific maintenance budget areas including water usage, golf car maintenance and capital expenses.

The 150-page report also addresses capital expense trends, the effect of a course's longevity on its operating budget, maintenance cost comparisons on new designs versus older, established facilities, and a variety of other categories. The report's information is broken down by specific demographic categories and regions.

The "1992 Golf Course Maintenance Expenditure Report" is available from CGCM for \$600. For more information, contact CGCM at (913) 841-2240.



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