

## Salem and Tyler on Target

A funny thing happened to Kip Tyler on his way to taking over the head golf course superintendent's position at the Salem Country Club. He inherited the 1984 United States Women's Open Championship.

"That's right," Tyler quipped. "When I first applied for the job, I wasn't aware that Salem already had been chosen as the site of the '84 Open. But, to tell you the truth, it made everything more appealing once I learned I'd be part of such a giant undertaking."

Obviously, Tyler welcomes the challenge of preparing Salem's historic and tradition-splashed layout for the prestigious event. The dates are July 12-17 and from all indication the gals should have the time of their golfing lives.

The USGA runs the Open show and has already been in contact with Salem officials and Tyler, running down the requirements for championship play.

"A group of USGA people were here two months ago and we walked the course together, hole by hole," Tyler disclosed. "They spelled out what they want and we're working on delivering everything it entails."

"It doesn't call for any major changes. We have to rebuild the bunkers, which we've been doing anyway. There's one tee that has to be enlarged and a few others to be smoothed out. They've given me the specs for the height of the rough and speed of the greens. It's just like clockwork."

This is only Tyler's second year at Salem. He accepted the super's job there after spending most of his time in the midwest, bringing with him some sparkling credentials. Among them was a three-year stint as superintendent at Medinah in Chicago where his prime responsibility was caring for the No. 3 championship course.

Tyler is a native of Columbus, Ohio (Jack Nicklaus country) and has been exposed to big-time golf most of his life. An agronomy major at Ohio State, Kip picked up his degree from the Big Ten school and launched a career that eventually led to Salem.

"I wanted to come to the East Coast, especially New England," Tyler explained his cross-country switch in professional sites. "I liked the coast of Maine when I worked a summer camp one year. I just love the great outdoors and this is the place to be for that."

The 29-year-old Tyler has had the Women's Open in his mind almost from the moment he learned it would be staged in Salem.

"I'm a firm believer in self-education," he explained. "So, I spent four days at Ferncroft last year when the ladies made their annual LPGA stop there. I just observed, picked up a few tips here and there and stored them. I have a pretty good idea of just what the ladies expect. I'll co-ordinate them with the USGA's specifications and try to come up with something they'll be satisfied with."

Tyler also plans to attend this year's Women's Open which will be played at the Cedar Ridge Country Club in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He and a group of Salem Open commit-

*continued on page 3*



Salem Green Chairman John Didio with Kip Tyler.

### July Meeting Monday, July 11, 1983 Marshfield Country Club Marshfield, Mass.

Directors meeting - 9:30

Membership meeting - 10:45

Lunch

Golf - GCSANE Championship

Host: Mel O'Kelly, CGCS

Mel has been at Marshfield for forty years, thirty-five as golf course superintendent, serving GCSANE in many capacities. He is also a graduate of the UMass Turf Winter School.

Mel lives in Marshfield with his wife Virginia and has four children. Sons, David - who is a golf pro, Jimmy - who works at Brae Burn for Bob Grant, daughters, Linda and Beth.

We all look forward to playing on a fine golf course on the 11th.

Directions - From Boston take Rt 3 South. Take Rt 139 exit. Go to 2nd set of lights and turn right. Club will be approx. 1 mile on right. Please make reservation. Call Mel at: Office - 837-3321, Home - 834-4229.



## Name Your Own Poison

How tough was Oakmont, the site of last month's United States Open?

Well, in terms of numbers, it made the world's best players knuckle under. Only three of them — winner Larry Nelson, Tom Watson and Gil Morgan — managed to play 72 holes in the red or under par. Nelson's 280 was four less than the prescribed figures. By comparison, it is not uncommon to see the pros tilt many of the courses on the PGA Tour. Very often four-under will get you something just more than carfare to the next tournament stop.

Reaction to the scores at Oakmont is split.

There is a faction of the sport which wills death and destruction on the pros who normally play four courses under ideal scoring conditions. That means tees barbered to wall-to-wall carpet perfection, fairways that dare the ball to rest in an uncomfortable lie, green pampered to the point where putts demand to fall into the cup and roughs almost inviting as straight-down-the-middle resting places.

So, when the USGA comes along and turns its tournament sites into man-eating monsters, certain golfers take pleasure in making the major event players sweat. Because they find the game almost impossible to conquer in their daily rounds, they see no reason why the pros shouldn't be exposed to the same, unsettling experience.

On the other hand, there is a compassionate wing of golfers which sympathizes with the pros. It assumes a position that the sport should be an enjoyable one and the means to realizing such end is to influence low scores.

Golf, in fact, probably is the only sport that makes changes in its playing field for certain events. Baseball doesn't move back its fences just because the competition is the World Series. Football doesn't require teams to negotiate 110 yards for a touchdown at Super Bowl time. Basketball doesn't raise the basket or hockey squeeze the size of the goal when championships are on the line.

Regardless, country club and public course players not only identify with the pros, they try to draw some line of familiarity between the layouts they play and the ones used by the accomplished players in championship tests. And, because of the alterations dictated by the USGA for such events as the Open, they are unable to project themselves into the same playing conditions as the big boys.

All of this leads to the issue of how tough a member course should be, ending on the doorstep of the country club green committee and the golf course superintendent who serves as the instrument of its direction.

In recent times, it has become popular to tighten courses by allowing the rough to lap over into the fairway, enlarge the greens by increasing the spread of the aprons and setting up courses so that more hazards enter the line of play.

Some say this type of restructure is discriminatory since it creates more problems for the many than it does for the few. In other words, the high handicapped golfer suffers more consequences than the low handicapper because one finds it more difficult to cope with change than the other.

This places the onus on the green committee and superintendent who receive most of the comments and grips. Preventing the backlash calls for a solution and one is available if only for the trying.

Making the course fair for all is nothing more than a matter of getting up the four-tee system. This gives golfers the option of either massaging their ego by playing from the middle or back tees or yielding to reality by moving

themselves up to make for a shorter distance between driving ground and putting surface.

True, not all courses have the luxury of sprawling tees. However, most of the more modern layouts were constructed with the idea of moving the tees from day to day in order to preserve their driving consistency. A matter of 20 or 30 yards can make all the difference between having to lay up to a hazard or clearing it.

The four-tee system literally takes the golfer off the green committee and superintendent's back since it allows the individual to bite off as much of the course as he chooses to chew. He calls his own shots and has the definitive last word in deciding how tough he wants the course to be.

So, under this plan, degree of difficulty becomes a matter of one's control of his ego. It also relieves much of the strain of making dramatic changes in the setup of the course from the superintendent. In a word, the golfer can play Oakmont or Mickey Mouse according to his wishes. Indeed, four-tee golf is the way to go.

Gerry Finn

## June Supt. Green Chairman Results at Manchester

We had a fine turnout for the tournament. Jimmy Diorio had the golf course in excellent condition. The winners were as follows:

Low Net - Tyler-Didio, Salem CC

2nd Net - St. Thomas-Shields, Hyannisport GC

Tie - Chivaroli-Ayres, Tatnuck GC

4th Net

Ties - Diorio-Dunn, Manchester CC

Schofield-Nash, Wellesley CC

DeBettencourt-Cormier, Andover CC

Kirkman-Phillips, Needham GC

1st Gross - Cowan-Sampson, Eastward Ho

Commercial Winner - Dennis Friel, Tom Irwin Co.

Our thanks to Jim Diorio and the staff at Manchester CC for giving us such an enjoyable day of golf and dinner.

## Effect of Carrier, Rate and Timing of Nitrogen Fertilization and Fungicide Application on Anthracnose Development of Annual Bluegrass

Michigan State University and  
Ohio State University

(Danneberger, Vargas, Rieke, Street)

Anthracnose is a serious disease of annual bluegrass golf course fairways in the northern and Pacific-northwestern United States. Nitrogen fertilization and fungicide usage were evaluated for management of this disease. Fungicide, Bayleton, treatments provided the most effective control. With use of this material, infection was reduced from 29.6 and 30.6 to 1.9 and 1.7 percent of the total area in 1980 and 1981 respectively. IBDU, sulfur-coated urea and urea had no effect on anthracnose development. Moderate nitrogen levels 1.46 Kg/are/year (2 pounds per 1000 square feet) were associated with less disease. Nitrogen applied on a schedule of June, July, August, September and November resulted in less disease than nitrogen scheduled in April, May, June, August and September.

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## USGA Appoints Olson

The USGA Green Section is pleased to announce the appointment of Karl Ed Olson as Agronomist for the Green Section's Northeastern Region. He will be responsible for visiting USGA member clubs and courses in the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York. He replaces Brian Silva, who resigned his position to pursue a career in golf course architecture.

Karl has established a regional office in Dudley, MA, having moved from Murray, Utah, where he was a Certified Golf Course Superintendent at Ft. Douglas - Hidden Valley Country Club for several years. Prior to that, he held positions at the Orinda (Calif.) Country Club, the Four Hills (NM) Country Club and the University of New Mexico golf courses.

Karl is a 1973 graduate of New Mexico State University, where he played on the golf team. A 6 handicapper, he won the GCSAA long drive competition several years ago with a blast of 317 yards.

As a golf course superintendent, Karl was widely involved in his profession. He served as President, Vice-President and Newsletter Editor for the Inter-Mountain GCSA and prior to that, as Secretary-Treasurer and Newsletter Editor for the New Mexico GCSA. His wife, Sali, was Executive Secretary of the IMGCSA and will serve as the secretary for the Green Section's New England office.

We are pleased that a professional of Karl's ability and experience has joined the Green Section's team to serve New England golf courses. He is looking forward to visiting with golf course superintendents and course officials in the area and would welcome hearing from you. He can be reached by writing: Karl Olson, Ramshorn Road, Dudley, MA 01570 or calling (617) 943-6749.

James T. Snow  
Director, Green Section  
Northeastern Region

**Tyler on Target ...** *continued from page 1*  
tee members will be there at the end of this month.

"Most of my observations and studies will come before the tournament," Kip advised. "I've already contacted Ron Reed (Cedar Ridge super) and I'd like to spend a few days with him and his crew just prior to the start of play.

"He's already tuned me into some of the specific areas where there could be a hassle or two, arrangements for TV cables and things like that. I should get a pretty good picture of what to expect when the whole shebang switches to Salem next July."

Needless to say, Tyler's excited about the venture.

"I'm really into this project," he said. "And I'm trying to draw from my experience with big tournaments to help me along the way. I've had some, too. One year, I worked at a course where Nicklaus put on a one-day pro-am that drew over 20,000 spectators. Every little thing adds to my arsenal. I want this to be a success but it won't be unless I'm really into it."

Tyler reports that Salem is close to prime condition right now. The course recently staged a five-day, member-guest tournament and Kip noticed nothing but smiles and positive comments over the layout.

"Salem wintered well," he mentioned. "So, one of my duties is to pray that we have the same kind of winter next year that we had this year. I'm touching all bases in my attempt to make the Open a smash with the USGA, the women and our members."

From the sounds of things, it looks like Kip is rounding third, headed for home. At any rate, his wheels aren't

## What Form



Lenny Blodgett of Kittansett



Pete "the helicopter" Coste of TCC



Arthur Washburn of Cohasset

### Pictures by Frank Higgins

spinning. They're rolling right and true. Salem and Kip Tyler form a parlay sure to make the USGA happy they selected the course for this outstanding event.

Gerry Finn

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