



THE NEWSLETTER

October 2004

of the **Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, Inc.**

Sponsors and administrators of the Troll-Dickinson Scholarship Fund – Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

One-job job longevity, Part II: Three more veteran superintendents share experiences

(This is the second of a two-part series on job longevity of the golf course superintendent, based on conversations with superintendents who have experienced long-term relationships with clubs and courses.)

Sometimes the shoe's a perfect fit when golf course superintendents land a job that, say, looks promising. In effect, they never outgrow that shoe.

It's happened to Roy Mackintosh. Same for Joe Rybka, CGCS. Ditto, Dean Robertson. Not only were they at the right place at the right time, each has stayed there a long time. Mackintosh is in his 41st year at the Twin Hills Country Club in Longmeadow, Rybka's marking his 39th season at Thorny Lea Golf Club in Brockton and Robertson is a 27-year fixture at Salem's Kernwood Country Club.

Some say they're bucking a trend suggesting superintendents are continually on a job search as they gain experience and glitter in a climb to the top of their profession. There even are mentioned unofficial surveys claiming eight to ten years the average stay of a superintendent at one private club or public course.

Other factors lend credence to the short shift theory. Most glaring are horrific stories about superintendents terminated for reasons other than input into the condition of the golf course . . . superintendents being asked to leave, if you will, after a job well done. They comprise the dark side of the profession.

"You have to be lucky, too," Mackintosh offers. "The right place and time for me was Twin Hills in the final stages of construction in October of 1964. My career started then and there. The course and I just grew up together over the next 40 years."

Mackintosh was an early bloomer. It wasn't long before Twin Hills owners recognized natural business acumen in their younger superintendent. So, they added the general manager's duties to his course maintenance responsibilities. Roy simply picked up the ball and ran with it.

Luck is only a small part of the equation. Roy had talent to spare and supplemented it with a fierce desire to make Twin Hills members proud of their club and golf course. Mission accomplished on both ends.

Nowadays, Mackintosh has cut back on time spent with those members and a golf course that draws praise for its

consistency in conditioning and compatibility with golfers of all playing levels. He works three days a week in his new role of consulting superintendent and support of his successor, superintendent Matt Kowal.

"I don't know how long this arrangement will stay in place," Roy tells. "We have a house on the Cape (Cod) and eventually that's where we'll settle. I'm here to promote a good transition. I've always had a good relationship with Twin Hills officials and they know my heart, soul, and blood are in the club."

Rybka's impish grin almost can be seen miles away over telephone lines when he comments about his relationship with Thorny Lea . . . especially the early years when the tie appeared to be hanging by a thread.

"I was like any other young super in 1966 when I came here after four years

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"I was like any other young super in 1966 when I came here after four years at Basin Harbor in Vermont. I was always told you put in five years at a club, then move on. In fact, my first grounds chairman here said this was only 'a jumping off stop' when he turned down my request for a raise."

**Joe Rybka, CGCS
Thorny Lea Golf Club**



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at Basin Harbor in Vermont," Joe remarks. "I was always told you put in five years at a club, then move on. In fact, my first grounds chairman here said this was only 'a jumping off stop' when he turned down my request for a raise."

Apparently, Rybka took the chairman at his word. He applied for another superintendent job offering more money, perks . . . the works. When he got the job, he informed his boss who had second thoughts about Joe's future whereabouts.

"He called a quick meeting with the rest of the committee and in two hours he came back matching all the inducements the other club used to get me," Rybka reveals. "Well, it's obvious I didn't want to leave Thorny Lea and here I am many years and chairmen later."

Since that "encounter" Rybka leans on two staples for a good and long relationship with his club-mutual respect and stability. "Life here has become a two-way street for the club and me," Joe describes. "We work together and the harmony flows from it. I have three assistants who've been with me over 20 years. We've gone from zero to three to five-year contracts. Now, I shoot for one year at a time. Things couldn't be better."

They like their superintendents at Kernwood and the feeling appears to be mutual. Robertson is only the third superintendent in the club's 90-year history. Now in his 27th season at the Salem spread, Dean has a penchant for staying in one place for a long time. Before Kernwood, he was the 11-year superintendent at the old Chestnut Hill Country Club, now Newton Commonwealth.

Unlike Rybka, Robertson never has come close to leaving Kernwood. "All these years, I've never given it a

"Along the way I've had only five green chairmen and the present one has been my boss for the past seven years. I've even lived in a house on the course the past four years. They say that, too, doesn't work, but I endorse it 100 percent."

**Dean Robertson
Kernwood C.C.**

thought," he informs. "Along the way I've had only five green chairmen and the present one has been my boss for the past seven years. I've even lived in a house on the course the past four years. They say that, too, doesn't work but I endorse it 100 percent."

"There's no secret to staying on one job for a long time. Being stable is the key. The club and I went through two crises together. In 1979, we faced a half-million dollars of surf and ice damage. We got through that one. Then, last year, gas line installation ripped up six holes . . . total destruction. And we came through again. We didn't open for play until the Fourth of July. Yet, everyone was on the same page. That's great. That's Kernwood."

So, one-job longevity is alive and well throughout the New England golf course superintendents' community. It can and does work. Is it forever? Who knows? ■

GERRY FINN

"I've always had a good relationship with Twin Hills officials and they know my heart, soul, and blood are in the club."

**Roy Mackintosh
Twin Hills C.C.**

CALENDAR . . .

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Nov. 1 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Scramble
Bear Hill Golf Club
Stoneham, Mass.
Supt. - Richard French |
| Dec. 10 | Holiday Gala
Dedham Country & Polo Club
Dedham, Mass.
Supt. - Michael Stachowicz |

President Hermanson thankful for great golf . . . and hopes members can offer both cash and course

The September Superintendent/Club Official Tournament hosted by Peter Hasak at Tedesco was played under perfect course



and weather conditions. What a great day. Thanks Pete! I just wish we could have had more than the 80 players we ended up with. This included 10 affiliates who joined us on very short notice. Next year's event

will be in May at Worcester Country Club, and between superintendents and affiliates, we need to fill the field.

Please contact Golf Chairman Jim Small if you could offer your golf course for a summer or winter meeting in 2005 and beyond.

In early October, 154 golfers converged upon Hickory Ridge to honor Dr.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Joseph Troll and raised over \$60,000 for the Troll building at the Turfgrass Research Facility. It was a "Who's Who" of Stockbridge alumni and supporters. GCSAA past presidents Sherwood Moore, CGCS, Don Hearn, CGCS, Steve Cadenelli, CGCS, and Mike Wallace, CGCS, joined Geoff Cornish and the rest of us to honor Dr. Troll. The golf course, the weather, the camaraderie, and the cause were spectacular. Thank you Bob Ruzsala and thank you Hickory Ridge!

The 2005 dues statements will be mailed around December 1 and you will notice a couple of additions. As per GCSANE member recommendations from last year's annual meeting, there will now be optional donation lines for the Francis Ouimet Scholarship Fund and our Scholarship & Benevolence Fund. Please support these two worthy causes.

Please contact Golf Chairman Jim Small if you could offer your golf course for a summer or winter meeting in 2005 and beyond. We may still need a site in

October 2005. If your course has not hosted a meeting in the last five-to-seven years, or has never hosted a meeting, we need you! It disappoints me when I see clubs that host the NEPGA, Ouimet, MGA, or WGAM events year-in and year-out, but GCSANE never gets a chance to visit these facilities. Come on guys! Are we any less important than all these other professional organizations? I think not!

See you in November at Bear Hill for the Annual 9-Hole Meeting.

**Best wishes,
Michael J. Hermanson
GCSANE President**

In early October, 154 golfers converged upon Hickory Ridge to honor Dr. Joseph Troll and raised over \$60,000 for the Troll building . . .

Nominating committee selects 2005 GCSAA board candidates; GCSANE's Jim Fitzroy among nominees for director positions

The 2004 nominating committee, chaired by past president Michael Wallace, CGCS, met via conference call in

early August and ratified the official slate of candidates for the 2005 GCSAA Board of Directors. The voting members of GCSAA will elect three officers and three directors at the 2005 Annual Meeting, 2-4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 11, in Orlando, Fla.

The nominations:

President: Timothy T. O'Neill, CGCS, Country Club of Darien (Conn.); vice president: Sean A. Hoolehan, CGCS, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, Pendleton, Ore.; secretary/treasurer: David S. Downing II, CGCS, director of golf operations, The Pearl Golf

Links & Ocean Isle Beach G.C., Sunset Beach, N.C.; secretary/treasurer: Ricky D. Heine, CGCS, general manager, The Golf Club Star Ranch, Austin, Texas; director: Gregg A. Blew, CGCS, Well-

shire G.C., Denver, Colo.; director: James R. Fitzroy, CGCS, director/superintendent, Wollaston Recreational Facility/Presidents G.C., North Quincy, Mass.; director: Mark D. Kuhns, CGCS, director of grounds, Baltusrol G.C., Springfield, N.J.; director: Robert M. Randquist, CGCS, director of golf course and grounds, Boca Rio Golf Club, Boca Raton, Fla.

Jon D. Maddern, CGCS, immediate past president, and Robert J. Maibusch, CGCS, MG, director, are both retiring from the board of directors. Mark J. Woodward, CGCS, will serve on the board for one year as immediate past president. Gary K. Carls, CGCS, has one year remaining on his two-year term as a director. ■

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GCSAA NEWS

Francis Ouimet autobiography, 'A Game of Golf,' is reprinted by N.U. Press & Sports Media Group

Francis Ouimet's autobiography, *A Game of Golf*, written in 1932 after his second U.S. Amateur title (1931), has been reprinted and released by Northeastern University Press (soft cover) and Sports Media Group (hardcover). The book is considered one of the golf classics. Interest in Francis Ouimet has been greatly reignited by the fantastic success of Mark Frost's book, *Greatest Game Ever Played*, which is now being produced as a feature motion picture by Disney Touchstone Productions.

The reprinted autobiography features new photos and a foreword by two-time Masters champion and noted golf historian Ben Crenshaw. It also includes an afterword written by Bob Donovan, Executive Director of the Francis Ouimet Scholarship Fund, who also oversees the Ouimet Room at the William F. Connell Golf House in Norton, Mass. The book is now available in bookstores across the

country, but media review copies are available by request at no cost.

In the autobiography, Ouimet reminisces about his life in golf and describes his childhood in Brookline, Mass. as a caddie at The Country Club. He goes on to describe his momentous 1913 U.S. Open win on the same course overcoming the two greatest golfers of his time, Britons Harry Vardon and Ted Ray. He went on to a distinguished amateur golf career. He won the U.S. Amateur in 1914 and 1931, appeared in the U.S. Amateur semifinals nine times, played on the first eight Walker Cup teams, and was captain of the next four, compiling an 11-1 team record. He and Bobby Jones were the top two amateur golfers of a golden age of sports. Ouimet was also revered as a golfing goodwill ambassador, and in 1951 became the first American elected captain of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews.

"We are tremendously excited that these two organizations reprinted Mr. Ouimet's work, which is such a special

part of his written legacy," said Ouimet Fund president Anne Marie Tobin. "He always wanted to give something back," she explained. "This book is just one more way in which he did. We're very grateful that Ben Crenshaw wrote the foreword. Ben is a 'Francis Ouimet Award for Lifelong Contributions to Golf' honoree and has been very supportive of the fund. Bob Donovan's afterword puts Mr. Ouimet's accomplishments in a historical perspective and tells 'the rest of the story' about his life and many honors including the founding of the Ouimet Fund."

The Ouimet Fund will receive royalties from both book reprints. Media interested in talking to Ben Crenshaw about the book or the Ouimet Fund may contact Skip Dewall directly at 734-769-1000, ext. 273, or at sidevall@annarbormediagroup.com.

The Francis Ouimet Scholarship Fund was founded in 1949 and since that time has awarded more than \$14 million in need-based college tuition assistance to 4100 young people. Ouimet Scholars have served at least two years as caddies or helpers in pro shop and course superintendent operations in Massachusetts and many of them have gone on to outstanding positions of leadership in business and professional careers. The Ouimet Fund is a 501(c)(3) organization and is considered, "The Golf Charity of Massachusetts." ■



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"We are tremendously excited that these two organizations reprinted Mr. Ouimet's work, which is such a special part of his written legacy."

Anne Marie Tobin
Ouimet Fund President

Dr. Vittum of UMass delivers the latest news on Bluegrass (Hyperodes) Weevils & White Grubs

The following news bulletins are from Dr. Pat Vittum of the University of Massachusetts:

Annual Bluegrass (Hyperodes) Weevils

We collected turf samples from a golf course in Westchester County, N.Y., on Friday (October 1) and were quite startled to find several very small larvae of the annual bluegrass weevil in those samples. We found first, second, and third instars, believe it or not. Luckily, there were not very many of them, but we had no idea they could be present in those stages this late in the growing season. We will continue sampling every couple weeks until we stop seeing larvae!

PEST REPORT

White grubs

Meanwhile we were visiting a golf course in the Berkshires of Massachusetts on Monday and found several European chafer

We collected turf samples from a golf course in Westchester County, N.Y., on Friday (Oct. 1) and were quite startled to find several very small larvae of the annual bluegrass weevil in those samples.

grubs feeding heartily on the turf. That is not at all surprising, as the European chafers have been spreading throughout Berkshire County (and Hampshire County, for that matter). But the surprising thing was that the site had been submerged for three days about two weeks ago, and submerged for another three days about a week ago courtesy of the flooding rains delivered by Hurricanes Ivan and Jeanne. Normally we expect European chafers to show up in areas that drain well, but in this case the infestation is in a low-lying area of the rough, not far from some other areas that are quite a bit higher and drier. All the grubs appeared to be perfectly healthy and were feeding very actively. 🌱

Dr. Pat Vittum
University of Massachusetts

UMass Extension 'Destinations in Massachusetts' calendar showcases rich history of public & private display gardens

The theme for UMass Extension's 2005 Garden Calendar is "Horticultural Destinations in Massachusetts."

This theme was selected to emphasize the rich history of public and private display gardens in the Commonwealth. By focusing on a selection of highly regarded horticultural destinations, UMass Extension Landscape, Nursery, and Urban Forestry Extension Educators wish to encourage gardening enthusiasts to take advantage of the access to these gardens. Visiting these amazing spaces will introduce gardeners to incredible plants, inspirational design, and a renewed appreciation for all who endeavor to provide horticultural beauty and open space to the gardening public. For information visit the UMass calendar web page: <http://www.umassgardencalendar.org>.

A list of all the 2005 Garden Calendar Horticultural Destinations follows. We hope you will visit as many as possible in the coming year and will enjoy and be inspired by each destination.

The featured destinations are: (1) January: Heritage Museums & Gardens; (2) February: Arnold Arboretum; (3) March: Garden in the Woods: New England Wildflower Society; (4) April: Elm Bank; (5) May: Boston Public Garden; (6) June: Long Hill; (7) July: Berkshire Botanical Garden; (8) August: Tower Hill Botanic Garden; (9) September: Chesterwood Estate & Museum; (10) October: Mt. Auburn Cemetery; (11) November: Naumkeag; and (12) December: Smith College Botanic Garden.

As always, each month features information, a large, beautiful photo, and an additional smaller photo of a premier public garden in Massachusetts; daily gardening tips for Northeast growing conditions; daily sunrise and sunset times; phases of the moon; 2005 flower show dates; and plenty of room for notes; and low gloss paper for easy writing.

To order single copies, see the order form at <http://www.umassgardencalendar.org/order.html>, or send \$11.00 (payable to UMass) to UMass Extension Bookstore, Draper Hall, 40 Campus

Center Way, Amherst, MA 01003-9244. Fill out your name, address, and telephone number. Print clearly. If you want to order gift calendars and have us send them for you, fill out those addresses as well. Please notify recipients so they know the calendar is being sent to them. For holiday gifts, order by Nov. 15. Allow two weeks for delivery. 🌱

Visiting these amazing spaces will introduce gardeners to incredible plants, inspirational design, and a renewed appreciation for all who endeavor to provide horticultural beauty and open space to the gardening public.

Owen Larkin, president of Vineyard G.C., joins Environmental Institute for Golf advisory council

Another highly respected member of the golf industry has agreed to serve on the Environmental Institute for Golf advisory council. Owen G. Larkin, president of the Vineyard Golf Club in Edgartown, Mass., will join eight other members to comprise the nine-person advisory council.

As one of the most environmentally sensitive golf courses ever built in the United States, the Vineyard Golf Club is maintained as a completely organic facility. The 18-hole golf course, located on Martha's Vineyard, uses a maintenance program where all conventional pesticides have been replaced with bio-stimulants and composted fertilizers.

"I firmly believe the future of the game revolves around its relationship with the environment," Larkin said. "I am excited to be involved with the institute because it has the opportunity to have a profound positive influence on the game of golf."

The purpose of the advisory council is to provide guidance to the institute's board of trustees in the areas of outreach, fund-raising, and strategic planning. The members were selected to the advisory council to enhance the institute's ability to cultivate relationships with current and potential donors, as well as communicate the importance of the work conducted by the institute.

The other members of the advisory council include: Tom Crow, founder of Cobra Golf and a retired trustee for The Environmental Institute for Golf; Dana Garmany, chairman and CEO of Troon Golf; R.D. Hubbard, owner of Bighorn Golf Club in Palm Desert, Calif.; Vernon A. Kelly Jr., president of PGA Tour Golf Course Properties; Jamie Ortiz-Patio, owner of Valderrama Golf Club in Sotogrande, Spain; Robert Sillerman, CEO of FXM, Inc.; H. Thomas Webb III, senior vice president of residential development for Crescent Resources; and Frank Weed, COO of Medallist Developments.

"I firmly believe the future of the game revolves around its relationship with the environment. I am excited to be involved with the institute because it has the opportunity to have a profound positive influence on the game of golf."

Owen Larkin
Vineyard G.C.

"Owen Larkin is a wonderful addition to the advisory council," said Greg Norman, chairman of the advisory council, CEO of Great White Shark Enterprises, and an institute trustee. "He is passionately committed to environmental stewardship, as evidenced by his efforts at The Vineyard Golf Club. I look forward to working closely with him."

The goal of the advisory council is to have 10 members by the end of 2004 and increase it to 30 over the next three years. The advisory council will hold its first meeting Nov. 16 at The Medalist Golf Club in Hobe Sound, Fla.

The Environmental Institute for Golf, the philanthropic organization of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), is a collaborative effort of the environmental and golf communities, dedicated to strengthening the compatibility of golf with the natural environment. The institute concentrates on delivering programs and services involving information collection, research, education and outreach that communicate the best management practices of environmental stewardship on the golf course. For more information, visit www.eifg.org.

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Removing trees does more than increase light: the multiple factors of shade on the golf course

by **Karl Danneberger, Ph.D.**
**Professor, Dept. of Horticulture
& Crop Science, Ohio State U.**

TURF SCIENCE Autumn is the time for golf course changes and renovations. Tree removal is one of those changes at the top of the list for several courses in Ohio. Tree removal is probably the most controversial topic at any club. The major reason given for the need to remove trees is the shading caused to the turf. To many golfers this means that the only problem with shading is the turf is not getting enough light. From this perspective the comment heard often in the grillroom is, "I think the green is getting enough light." This leads to the discussion of how much is enough light, and what does a reduction in light exactly do? Although the problems associated with reduction of light are significant, there are additional problems associated with shade. Below

is a quick summary of a few impacts that tree shade has on turfgrasses, specifically creeping bentgrass.

Reduction in light:

(1) Root loss occurs to turfgrasses under shade. In our studies with creeping bentgrass we have observed a 30 to 50% loss of root mass in shade compared to the same turf in full sun.

(2) From a photosynthetic perspective annual bluegrass (*Poa annua* L.) is 12 to 25% more efficient in capturing energy under shaded conditions than creeping bentgrass. Just from this one perspective it becomes extremely difficult, if not impossible, to keep annual bluegrass from predominating in shade.

(3) Tree shade not only results in a reduction in light but also influences the quality of light that the turf receives. In full sun a turfgrass plant receives primarily blue and red light, which are the photosynthetically active wavelengths.

In shade, the light spectrum shifts where we see a reduction in blue and red light and a proportional increase in far red. This far red light changes how a turfgrass plant grows. In far red light turfgrass plants become more upright with a more vertical growth habit versus a procumbent growth habit observed in full sun. A greater risk of scalping or a low level of chronic scalping will occur in shade (A more upright spindly plant will have more tissue removed proportionally than the same plant in full sun mowed at the same height of cut). Additionally, turfgrass plants tiller less in shade than in full sun. The result is a loss of wear tolerance.

Reduction in Air Movement:

(1) Research by Greg Bell and his colleagues at Oklahoma State University has found restricted air movement caused by trees reduces turf quality to a greater extent than a reduction in light alone. They also found that a greater amount of disease is associated with the restricted airflow than with low light. What this means is trees create an environment that impacts turf health beyond just a "reduction in light." Although the placement of fans helps increase airflow it is still not like having Mother Nature do it.

Tree Root Competition:

(1) Many of the trees growing on golf courses are shallow rooted. Some of these trees may have 90% of their root mass in the top 12 inches of the soil. Whether turf or trees are more detrimental to each other's health is often debated. Yet, there is no doubt competition exists between the two for nutrients, and water. The loss of minerals and water can enhance the stress the turf is undergoing. With the lack of rainfall the last month or so around central and southern Ohio, turf stress from moisture competition with trees is evident.

Although there are several other factors associated with tree shade the ones described here I consider to be the most significant. Removing trees does more than "increase the light." ■

Dr. Danneberger: Dew removal can be effective against dollar spot

by **Dr. Karl Danneberger**

October is a month where dollar spot can be a serious problem on creeping bentgrass/annual bluegrass greens and fairways. Heavy dews and fog at this time are quite favorable for dollar spot. An effective method for reducing the severity of dollar spot is dew removal. Although an early morning mowing removes dew, the dew often reforms. Research at Michigan State University found that rolling greens after mowing reduced dollar spot severity. The probable explanation is that rolling resulted in a second removal of the dew, thus reducing conditions favorable for dollar spot.

Dew is comprised of two types of "water." The first component is water formed through condensation (The leaf is cooler than the air temperature at

night resulting in water vapor condensing on the leaf). The second component of dew is guttation water. Guttation water is exuded out the plant through the hydathodes (small opening normally at the tip of the leaf). Guttation water is high in organic compounds like amino acids, which serve as a food source for fungi. After an initial mowing when dew is present, guttation water often reforms on the leaf tip. A second dew removal after mowing is desirable (ex. rolling in the Michigan State study). This might include rolling, a brief syringe cycle, mowing, or rolling. Taking the time to remove dew the second time may help stretch that fungicide dollar through autumn.

**Karl Danneberger,
Ohio State University;
published Oct. 1, 2004**

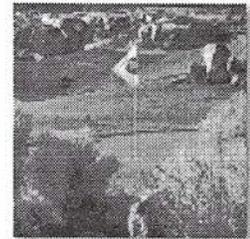
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Autumn's wet weather could be last worry of the season

By **Jim Skorulski**,
USGA Senior Agronomist

It's that time of year again when we all take a short breath and are thankful that the worst should be behind us. The summer seasonal employees have long departed and the days are now noticeably shorter and cooler. Play is reduced and most golf courses have already been core cultivated. Some are or soon will be embarking on capital and project work such as new irrigation systems, drainage, bunker renovation, or new maintenance facilities. The biggest worries ahead are dealing with tropical rainfall events, their impact on aerification or project work, and trying to maintain a course with a skeleton crew.

The season has generally been a good one for golf courses that drain well and survived the winter season with no damage. Turf managers that faced the task of re-grassing winter-damaged areas probably felt differently, as the damage and recovery had lasting impacts on maintenance and course

conditioning. Some of those impacts remain evident, and include increased levels of organic matter and top growth, more coarsely textured plants, and in some instances, larger populations of annual bluegrass. The annual bluegrass establishing in previously damaged areas is a weaker annual type that is coarse-textured and seemingly a non-stop "seeder," as was evident this season. The winter-damaged greens also tended to require more attention to disease management and cultivation to survive the season and reestablish a quality playing surface.

A more common phenomenon observed with the wet weather has been the bolting, or rapid vertical growth of annual bluegrass plants. The phenomenon is seen most frequently in fairways, but can occur on tees and greens, and in Kentucky bluegrass roughs. It is not well understood and is often blamed on a growth regulator application. However, the bolting is observed even on fairways that have not been treated with growth regulators. It seems to occur during rainy periods that followed hot and humid weather. Some scientists theorize that a

bacteria or fungus is infecting the plant, triggering a release of a hormone that causes the bolting. The mechanism may not be understood, but the effect certainly is, as it is almost impossible to achieve a clean cut when bolting occurs.

The wet, cooler weather also triggers more earthworm surface activity. The castings are now being observed and will likely continue through the fall. The lack of chemical control options has forced many golf courses to turn to fairway sand topdressing to suppress the castings. The sand applications help reduce the activity, but do not produce immediate results. As with any good program, patience is needed; so stick with the sand applications even if the initial results are less than expected.

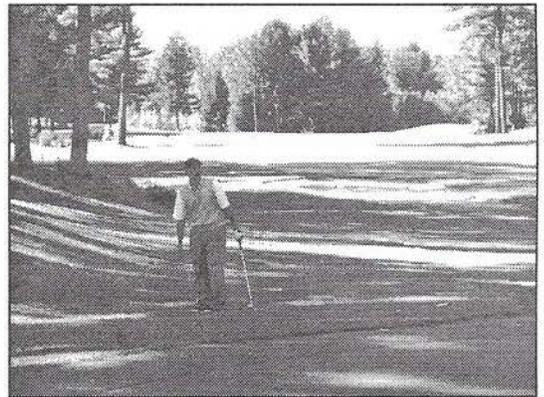
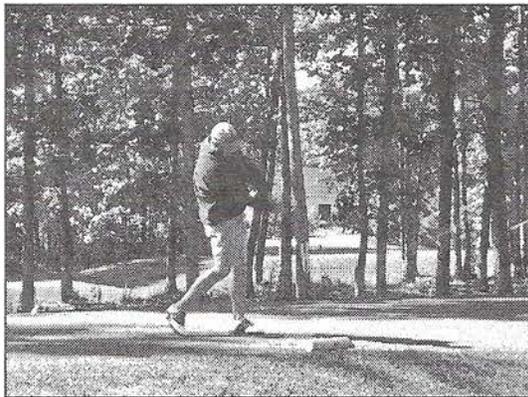
All in all, it has been a pretty good summer. Hopefully, some cooler and dryer weather will lead us through fall and prepare the grasses, and our psyches, for the winter ahead. Take some time to enjoy the tail end of summer and maybe even play some golf, wet a line, or get back into the woods. 🏌️

Source: www.usga.org/turf

New England Superintendents Championship

October 7, 2004
Dunegrass Golf Club
Old Orchard Beach, Maine

At bottom right is the beautiful expanse of Dunegrass G.C., site of the 2004 New England Superintendent Championship. The team from Maine won, with the GCSANE team finishing second, just one point behind. The Vermont team placed third. The GCSANE team consisted of **Dennis Friel, Russ Heller, Mike Marshall, Tom Rioux, Jim Small, Mike Stachowicz, Jeff Stouffer, and Dave Stowe.** (Our own Jeff Stouffer was the winner of the Longest Drive.) Above left is **Jim Small**; above right is **John Bresnahan.** (Photos by Russ Heller.)



DIVOT DRIFT . . . announcements . . . educational seminars . . . job opportunities . . . tournament results . . . and miscellaneous items of interest to the membership.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Peter Lund, CGCS, superintendent at Rhode Island Country Club, who was one of three recipients selected for GCSAA's 2005 President's Award for Environmental Stewardship. Peter is being honored for his involvement with Save the Bay. The mission of Save The Bay is to ensure that the environmental quality of Narragansett Bay and its watershed is restored and protected from the harmful effects of human activity.

Congratulations to John & Katie Leclair on the birth of their daughter, Riley Elizabeth.

Condolences go to Jim Santoro and family on the recent passing of Jim's father.

Condolences go out to the family of Houston Couch, Ph.D., longtime turf pathologist at Virginia Polytechnic and State University, who passed away September 12, 2004.

Golf Writer & Historian, Bob Labbanca Injured. By now most of you know that esteemed golf writer, accomplished photographer and good friend Bob Labbanca suffered a serious spinal cord injury in a fall off a foot bridge while golfing on August 31. Thanks to the support, cards, visits, good thoughts and prayers from friends and colleagues around the world, not to mention some very talented doctors, nurses, and physical therapists, Bob is making tremendous strides. Just as importantly, he has remained positive and in high spirits throughout. The hope is that Bob will be released from the hospital in early November, though intensive physical and occupational therapy will continue.

GCSAA NEWS

Highlights of the 2004 Chapter Delegates Meeting are now available online. The GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting was conducted Sept. 25-26 in Kansas City, Mo., with an orientation session for new delegates at GCSAA headquarters on Sept. 24. Online is a synopsis of the topics and issues discussed, and a review the meeting presentations, complete with slides and speaker notes.

Upcoming Dates: Nov. 1 - New certification process takes effect; also the deadline to volunteer for 2005 committee and task group service. Nov. 12 - Research proposals for new applied agronomic and environmental research are due.

GCSAA's Golf Industry Travel. Why use official conference housing? Because of the no-hassle room reservations, plus a chance to win fabulous prizes: two roundtrip airline tick-

ets to the show; three complimentary nights at the association headquarters hotel during the show; or one week free car rental from Avis during the show. (Note: These prizes will be valid during the 2006 Golf Industry Show in New Orleans, La.) So when it comes time to plan your travel to Orlando. Let GCSAA's Golf Industry Travel do the work for you. Book your travel plans now by calling (800) 442-7220.

INFORMATION

A Golfdom survey may result in a free lunch for you and your entire crew. Your answers to the following survey will be used in our annual Golfdom Report published in December. The survey should take about 10 minutes of your time. If you also fill in your contact information, we'll enter you in a drawing for one of three free lunches for you and your entire crew. Each lunch is worth \$150 and can be ordered from the restaurant of your choice. Your contact information will not be shared with third parties. Please visit the web address below to fill out the survey: <http://www.golfdom.com/golfdom/form/formDetail.jsp?formId=33135>.

GCSANE NEWS

The 2004 GCSANE Holiday Gala will be held December 10, 2004 at the Dedham Country and Polo Club. The cost is \$100 per couple. This is a fun event every year and should not be missed.

FROM THE GCSANE FORUM

Superintendent Club Official (Jason Adams, 10/04/2004). I just wanted to thank Peter Hasak and his crew for doing an outstanding job with Tedesco. Our club president and myself had a great time. I'm sorry that more people didn't jump at the chance to play a great golf course with incredible greens. Thanks again, Peter!

GCSAA 2005 Election (Bob Healey, 9/28/2004). Best of luck to Jim Fitzroy on being ratified on the official GCSAA slate of candidates for Director, February 11, 2005, election.

In an effort to combat the recent incidents of spam that have infiltrated the Forum section of this site, we have added a simple password and username for all to use. The username is super and the password is golf. This is on a temporary basis only. We will be making the Forum section password protected on an individual basis. Please email me your name, club and desired password and Russ will put you in the system. You must be a current GCSANE member for this privilege. Send all requests to rheller@gcsane.org.

GOLF RESULTS

Superintendent/Club Official Tournament

**Tedesco Country Club
Marblehead, Mass.
September 20, 2004**

1st gross: Tony Messina & Geoff Ward, 72
2nd gross: Pat Daly & John Mullany, 73

1st net: Bill Donovan & Fred Adami, 61
2nd net: Ken Crimmings & Jim Tripp, 61
3rd net: Scott Mackintosh & Jim Cohen, 62

Closest to Pin - Hole #8: Joe Gallagher
Closest to Pin - Hole #13: John Mullany
Longest Drive: Mike Luccini

POSITION OPENING

Assistant Superintendent, Putnam Country Club, Putnam, Conn. Putnam C.C. is an 18-hole, semi-private golf course in the scenic northeastern section of Connecticut. The course was designed and built by the original owner Mike Donovan in 1994 and is now owned and operated by Videtta Golf Management. It has bentgrass greens, tees, and fairways; and a Buckner irrigation system. The club is currently undertaking in-house bunker restoration, cart path work, and extensive stonewall restoration. Duties include daily course setup, direction of staff, operation of irrigation system, chemical and fertilizer applications, and mechanical repairs. Individual will answer directly to course management supervisor. Individual must be self-motivated and able to organize, motivate, and communicate with the entire grounds staff. Education level depends on experience level achieved. Individual must have or be able to obtain a Conn. Pesticide License. Compensation is commensurate with experience. Benefits are negotiable. Position is open immediately. Send resume to: Neil Hanrahan, Superintendent, Pine Ridge Country Club, 28 Pleasant Street, North Oxford, MA 01537; Fax: 508-892-4509.

FOR SALE

Items for sale: Available due to moving & consolidation are a large conference table - great for a lunch room; 3 steel case style letter size 2-drawer filing cabinets; 2-line cordless phone; 2 and 4-line desk phones; executive chair; Panasonic fax machine; Scandinavian style desk & credenza; 2 computers with monitors; Nanao 19" monitor; 1 APC Backups Pro 420. Please contact Mary Armstrong at 603-547-3132 or marmstrong@golfarchitect.com

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Allen's Seed Store Inc.

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golf course maintenance supplies.
Gregg Allen - (800) 527-3898

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FIRST CLASS

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