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A PATCH of GREEN

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"A PATCH OF GREEN"

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TRADE MARK

47th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference January 18 - 19, 1977

Heresy - Traitor - Treason - These are words that first crossed my mind when I read the topic of the panel discussion -

Poa annua HOW TO KEEP IT

Moderator James Timmerman, Superintendent, Orchard Lake Country Club and his panel members:

Roger Barton (substituting for Bob Hope)

Jim Latham - Milwaukee Sewerage Commission

C.E. (Tuck) Tate, CGCS Frankfort Golf Club, Frankfort

Dr. J.M. Vargas Jr. Department of Botany & Plant Pathology, MSU

It was interesting to sit and listen to the comments made by the panel after we have spent over 50 years trying to control *Poa* (commonly called "Failure Grass").

Jim Latham

Jim stated that several conclusions were made at their fall symposium in Milwaukee on the same subject.

1. Golfers really don't care what grass they are playing on as long as it is green and plays well.

2. *Poa* control programs usually remove one thing - The Superintendent!

3. Height of cut is perhaps the biggest reason for *Poa*. The next biggest factor is water mismanagement.

4. Information on *Poa* restriction programs are not complete and therefore not positive.

Roger Barton

Roger stated that there are two important factors to consider when you are trying to grow *Poa*.

1. Improve your drainage - where possible - use a tile system back filled with pea stone all the way to surface. This is important to remove surface excess as fast as possible.

2. Watering practices - The early usage of an automated irrigation system will usually aggravate the overwatering complaints. You must learn to operate system so you only replace the daily loss of water through evaporation and transpiration (these are determined by temperature, wind, humidity, and cloud cover).

He favored early morning watering of fairways so moisture is retained longer during daylight hours.

His greens are watered heavily early in evening to allow water to drain during night.

He felt that automatic controls had to be changed, to meet the situation, nightly.

Early in the season Roger waters heavy and less frequently.

Aerification is performed a minimum of twice a year.

He tries to keep the Potash levels up by applying in late fall for early spring vigor and health.

The *Poa* fairways are mowed at 3/4". The one inch cut was too shaggy.

Roger feels that you must have an adequate spray program to control early diseases and anthracnose. He alternates with contact and systemic fungicides.

His closing remark was well stated. "Pleasing your members is all important. Work your program around their schedule."

Continued on Next Page

Tuck Tate

Tuck came to Michigan from Baltimore where *Poa annua* is a dirty word. When he arrived here he was told that *Poa* restriction was a must. He used Lead Arsenate two times per year.

One year he used Tri Calcium Arsenate on two greens to prevent *Poa* encroachment. He lost both of them.

Tuck also made a statement that Grass is Grass to most golfers. He now maintains his greens with daily syringing. Nothing is done to greens except a good application of fungicides and fertilizer as needed.

Because of the cooler temperatures in Northern Michigan, the weather is ideal for maintaining *Poa* if you keep the soil moist.

Dr. Joe Vargas

Dr. Vargas indicated that disease control and lower rates of Nitrogen fertilizer are all important especially

if you are interested in controlling anthracnose.

May - Non Systemic

June - Systemic

July - Contact, Contact

August - Systemic

Jim Timmerman

The sandy soils at Orchard Lake Country Club make it less difficult to grow *Poa annua*. He felt that they have good drainage of air and water.

Thatch accumulation must be kept under control. Aerification is all important.

Daily afternoon syringing is a must. Members must be trained about the importance of this maintenance practice.

The best kept secret of our time is how we can better live with *Poa annua*.

A happy hooker is a golfer that drinks.

Awards Presented at Luncheon

Gordy LaFontaine, Chairman, Michigan Turfgrass Foundation Awards Committee, presented the following awards to deserving students -
Norm Kramer Award
Scholastic Ability

This was given to Robert Nulph, 2nd year student in the two year program. He has a 4.0 grade point average.

The Norm Kramer Award is given in the memory of the late Norm Kramer who was the President of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation when he passed away in 1971. He was a believer in the student program at State.

Norm was also the immediate past President of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and Superintendent of the Point-O-Woods Country Club, Benton Harbor, Michigan.

Past recipients of the award were:

- 1972 Chris Fochtman
- 1973 Roger Southworth
- 1974 Doug Quiram
- 1975 Marty Miller
- 1976 James Rickley

Next Gordy presented the "Outstanding Student" Award. This year the honor went to Bruce Williams for his outstanding leadership and scholastic efforts. He is the President of the Turf Club.

Next Ted Woehrle, V.P. of GCSAA, presented a \$500.00 scholarship to Craig Guernsey and Henry Lyon presented two TUCO Scholarships to Steven Scott and Jerome Ducker.

Next year's Turf Conference:
January 10 and 11, 1978.
This summer's Field Day at East Lansing:
June 23, 1977.

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Special Awards Presented

After a warm welcome by Dr. S.H. Wittwer, Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at MSU, he surprised the crowd by presenting special awards to:

Clarence Wolfrom and Gene Johanningsmeier for their untiring support and guidance through the years in projects of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation.

The awards were gold medalions depicting the 100th Anniversary of American experiment stations. These awards are very rare and I am certain they are cherished by Clarence and Gene, two deserving men.

Congratulations!

President, James Smith of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation presented the coveted Meritorcious Service Award to Eugene Johanningsmeier. Gene was the guiding light of the Foundation during some very trying times. We congratulate Gene on this fine tribute of recognition for his concern and hard work. He joins this list of distinguished names:

1967	Dr. James Tyson
1968	Charles Chapman
1969	Clarence Wolfrom
1970	Dr. Ken Payne
1971	George Prieskorn, Sr.
1972	Hiram Godwin



Dr. S. H. Wittwer, on the right, presenting Clarence Wolfrom with Gold Medallion, depicting 100th anniversary of Experiment Stations in U.S.



Gene Johanningsmeier (left) receiving his Gold Medallion from Dr. Wittwer of MSU, Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station.

1973	Ward Cornwell
1974	No recipient
1975	Frank Forier
1976	No recipient
1977	Eugene Johanningsmeier

Turf Research Money Presented at Luncheon

The following groups presented funds for Turf Research at Michigan State University:

George Prieskorn, Jr., President of the Michigan Border Cities GCSA \$6,700.00.

Tuck Tate, President, Northern Michigan Turf Managers Assoc.

Roger Barton of the Western Michigan GCSA.

Bill Olson, President, Lawn

Sprayers Association - \$500.00.

Sod Growers Association - \$250.00.

Bill Holt - \$500.00.

Bob Moore of Aqua Gro presented money to Dr. Paul Riecke and Dr. Joe Vargas for research.

Jim Standish, Executive Director of the Golf Association of Michigan presented two checks - \$1,500.00 from the GAM and \$500.00 from the GAM Seniors division.

'The Golf Superintendent' Forecasts Stable Prices for Golf Maintenance Supplies

Golfers across the country can expect golf course maintenance supply prices to be relatively stable at their country clubs or local daily fee courses in the coming year, according to an article published in the January issue of THE GOLF SUPERINTENDENT magazine.

Increasing sophistication of course maintenance programs and the people who run them is one of the reasons for price stability, turf industry executives interviewed for the story reported.

Inflation, raw material shortages and increasing costs in all facets of course operations in the last few years have placed pressures on superintendents and their course maintenance programs.

These pressures have forced superintendents to be selective and cost-conscious in their ordering. This situation in turn has created a keen competition between turf industry manufacturers.

To stay competitive in the superintendent's eyes, the manufacturers have had to absorb most of their increased production costs they are experiencing from prevailing economic conditions.

As a result, golf courses can expect prices about the same or slightly higher, not more than five percent, for pesticides, fertilizer and equipment. Prices for grass seed will be about 15 percent higher, mostly because this industry is almost totally dependent on weather conditions in production areas and supply and demand, the magazine reported.

THE GOLF SUPERINTENDENT is published by the more than 4,000-member Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.



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Michigan Turfgrass Foundation Annual Meeting

The 47th Michigan Turfgrass Conference held last week at Michigan State University, was a great success with over six hundred persons in attendance. As is usual at this Conference, The Michigan Turfgrass Foundation held their annual meeting at which time, James Smith, Clem Wolfrom and Tuck Tate were elected to the Board of Directors. Mr. Smith is President of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation.

Also at this meeting there was a very important change in the future election of Directors passed in the form of a By-Law change of the Foundation. In the future Board members of the Foundation will be represented by groups as follows:

1. Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association.
2. Western Michigan Golf Course Superintendents Association.
3. Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Assoc.
4. Sod Growers Association of Michigan
5. A Commercial Turfgrass Suppliers Representative
6. A Cemetery and/or Park Representative.
7. A Lawn Care Representative.
8. 12 At-Large Representatives.

Each group will nominate two

nominees for their position in the appropriate year. If no person(s) is nominated by the appropriate group the nominating Committee of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation will select appropriate nominees. At-large nominations will be made by the Nominating Committee and nominations will be accepted from the floor at the annual membership meeting. The implementation would be according to this schedule and rotating each year thereafter.

GROUP NUMBER	First	Second	Third
	1	2	3
	4	5	6
	7	8	9
	10	11	12

With complete state representation on the Board of Directors, every person involved in turfgrass in any way, manner or benefit from the experimental findings, plots, speakers or printed research, should become members of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation. Your membership dues contributes greatly to the money needed for further experimental work on turfgrass both at Traverse City and at East Lansing. If you as a superintendent attend or benefit from Michigan Turfgrass Foundation Conferences, your club should be a member and you should follow through to see that they join.



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GCSAA Fact Sheet

Membership - The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is an international organization with over 3,600 members in the United States, Canada and other countries.

Local Chapters - Total of 91: 63 affiliated, 1 associated and 27 unclassified.

History - Organized on September 13, 1926, as the National Association of Greenkeepers of America; name changed to the Greenkeeping Superintendents Association in 1938; became the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America in 1951.

Objectives - Dedicated to better turf and better golf, specifically:

1. To promote research and the interchange of scientific and practical knowledge relating to the care of golf courses and turfgrass operations.

2. To emphasize more efficient and economical golf course operations and increase prestige for GCSAA and its individual members as well as the profession of golf course superintendency, which encompasses the production, maintenance and improvement of turfgrass.

3. To encourage cooperation with other associations and organizations whose interests parallel or complement those of GCSAA and to stress justice, benevolence and education to and for its members.

Activities - INTERNATIONAL TURFGRASS CONFERENCE AND SHOW sponsored annually by the GCSAA; recognized as the most important and outstanding annual forum of the turfgrass industry. Special

Continued on Page 17

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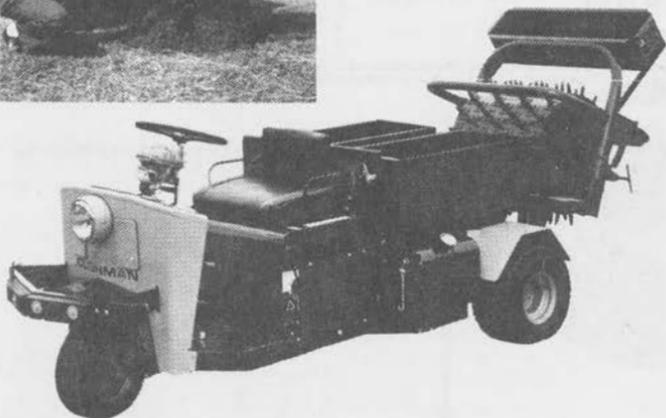
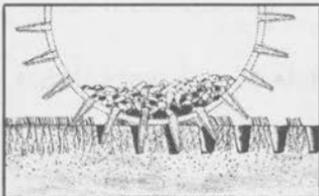
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PGA ELECTION RESULTS

Re-elected to office were Roger Van Dyke as president; Jim Applegate, Washtenaw C.C., as secretary; Jim Dewling, Great Oaks G.C., as treasurer; Hal Whittington, Burr Oak G.C., 1st vice president; Greg Matthews, Kalamazoo Elks C.C., 2nd vice president; and Ron La Parl, Battle Creek C.C., as director. Newly elected directors were Jim Picard, Lochmoor Club, and Del Starks, Arbor Hills C.C.

All state champions received plaques for their 1976 victories. Gene Bone was given the Warren Orlick Award as Michigan PGA Professional of the Year and the Section's Horton Smith Award was presented to Norm Bennett, Katke G.C. Norm was singled out for his efforts in putting together the Professional Golf Management course at Ferris State College.



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emphasis placed on golf turf development and its allied fields. The Equipment Show, a show within a show, enables manufacturers and suppliers to exhibit the latest products designed for golf course maintenance. First meeting held in Chicago in March 1977. 1974's Conference and Show is scheduled for Anaheim, California, Feb. 10-15.

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***THE GOLF SUPERINTENDENT**, GCSAA's official magazine, is published specifically for the golf course superintendent and is issued 10 times a year.

***MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY** published annually.

The Golf Superintendent's Job - Primary objective: to promote efficient, economical and up-to-date maintenance on golf courses. Duties: keeping tees, fairways, greens and landscaping in tiptop shape; purchase, storage and inventory of equipment and supplies; hiring, training and directing personnel; keeping records on expenditures, weather and material application; preparation and administration of annual budget for his department; making reports on planning and progress to green committee; working with other committees and department heads; and progressive education by participating in GCSAA

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chapter activities, reading turf and
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C. E. "Tuck" Tate, Certified by
G.C.S.A.A. has just been re-certified
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1982. A beautiful plaque in honor of
this has been forwarded to him at his
winter address in Florida.

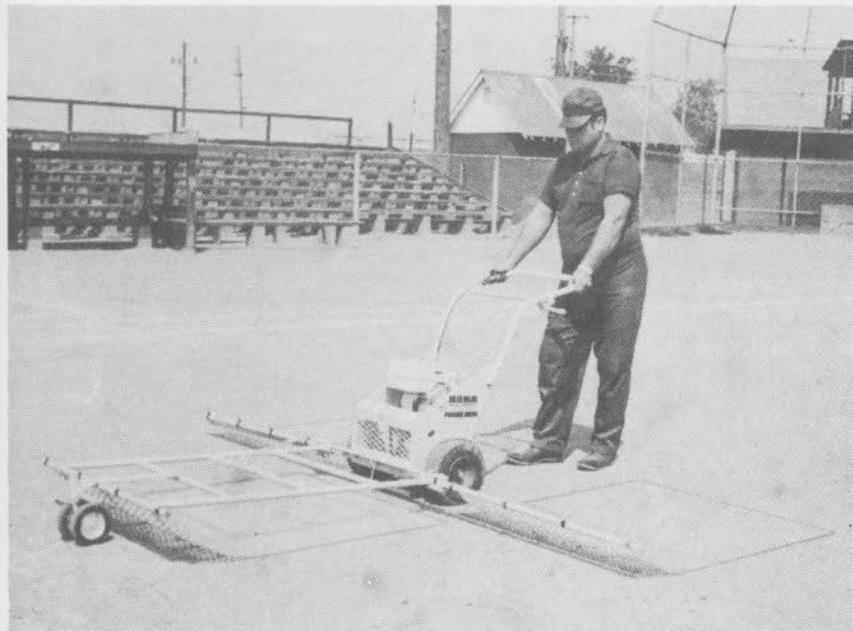
**GENE BONE MICHIGAN
GOLF PRO OF YEAR**

PGA Section President Roger Van
Dyke announced the selection of Gene
Bone as the Michigan PGA Professional
of the Year. The 45-year-old Bay
Pointe professional is one of the most
dedicated anywhere. A fine player, he
has twice won both the Michigan Open
and the Michigan PGA. Bone has
twice served as chairman of the
Section's tournament committee and is
the PGA liaison for the Detroit
Chevrolet Dealers Tournament. Last
year he was honored by the March of
Dimes, being named the Distinguished
Citizen in Michigan Golf.

**GCSAA CONFERENCE
PROCEEDS AVAILABLE**

Conference proceedings will once
again be published, commencing with
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be available in early Spring at a cost
of \$3.00 per copy to GCSAA Members
and \$4.50 to non-members. No orders
will be taken after March 1, 1977.

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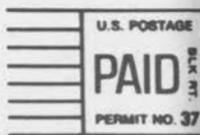
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