The September 1972 issue of The British Golf Greenkeeper, the official magazine of the British Golf Greenkeepers Association, edited by Fred Hawtree, contained an article (below) from the Chipman Chemical Company on The Treatment of Fungal Diseases.

Included in the advice was “By knowing the conditions which fungi find most desirable it is possible to produce a non-conducive environment by good cultural turf management practices.”

The tractor shown on the cover is a Howard Bolene 1477, which is being seen towing a barge on the Grand Union Canal.

Dear Mr. Hawtree,
I am very interested in your article in the September issue of The British Golf Greenkeeper, your reference to 'Well Chosen in Century Long Ago' provides an excellent guide to the selection of modern equipment. With the exception of the tractor shown on the cover, which was a Howard Bolene 1477, it seems that most of the equipment used was of a lower quality than the modern machines available today.

Yours sincerely,
Mr. Smith, Head Greenkeeper

The September 1972 issue of The British Golf Greenkeeper.
Modern top dresser units have enough design variation within them to make selecting the right one more involved than it may at first appear. We look at the all-new Rink SP950 pedestrian and Rink DS800 trailed models from Charterhouse Turf Machinery.

Charterhouse Turf Machinery Rink top dressers

Rink DS top dresser model numbers helpfully indicate the unit’s level load hopper capacity in cubic metres. So the DS800 has a capacity of 0.8m³, the DS1200 offering 1.2 m³ and so on. The DS800 is offered in capacities of up to 3.8 m³, with the DS900 coming in both trailed or mounted versions, fitting kits for the latter enabling them to bolt directly to turf trucks such as a John Deere ProGator or Toro HD Workman. Trailed model Prices range from £9,000 for the mounted versions, fitting kits for the latter enabling them to bolt directly to turf trucks such as a John Deere ProGator or Toro HD Workman.

The Rink DS models spreading up to 16.0m can either be slowed right down to narrow the spread width or, as is the case with the Rink DS models, removed completely for a direct discharge to the conveyor width.

A ‘drop’ discharge top dresser works at a fixed width. Once the desired application rate has been determined by the rate of flow from the hopper and the forward speed of the unit, it should be relatively easy to match each bout pass for an even application of top dressing material. Direct discharge machines are ideal where the spread material needs to be tightly contained.

Where wide areas need to be covered productivity will typically increase using a broadcast machine. For some jobs, such as top dressing a golf green, some users will set the unit to dress the total area in a single or dual pass. This can save a great deal of time. The appeal of a machine that can spread material wide needs to be counteracted by the requirement or ability to accurately match bouts at those widths.

Once the type of machine has been selected, other top dresser points that may need to be considered will include versatility. As an example, several higher capacity trailed machines can be readily converted into a bulk loader, the addition of a rear conveyor allowing them to discharge directly into a smaller spreader, trailer, a bunker or even into a heap or windrow on the ground.

On trailed models, the variety of wheel and tyre options to consider varies too; choices can include a relatively narrow track but with four wheels across the width of the dresser body. A conventional axle with wide flotation rubber may also be offered.

On smaller models, both mounted and trailed, there may...
The anatomy of... Top dressers

Modern top dresser units have enough design variation within them to make selecting the right one more involved than it may at first appear. We look at the all-new Rink SP950 pedestrian and Rink DS800 trailed models from Charterhouse Turf Machinery.

Charterhouse Turf Machinery Rink top dressers

Rink DS top dresser model numbers helpfully indicate the unit’s level load hopper capacity in cubic metres. So the DS800 has a capacity of 0.80m³, the DS1200 offering 1.25 m³ and so on. The DS800 is offered in capacities of up to 3.8 m³, with the DS8000 coming in both trailed or mounted versions, fitting kits for the latter enabling them to belt directly to turf trucks such as a John Deere ProGator or Toro HD Workman. Trailing model Prices range from £9,000 for the trailed DS800, the extra high capacity DS8000 listing at £26,778. Mounted DS800 units are £8,800 plus a mounting kit specific to a given turf truck costing £938.

Rink direct discharge models are offered in mounted and trailed versions with spread widths from 1.00m to 2.00m as indicated by the model number. Prices start at £5,000 for the Rink 1000.

Rink 2011’s, the pedestrian SP950 is a direct discharge design with a capacity of 0.33 m³ and a spread width of 0.95m. It is ideally suited to to top dressing bowling greens and any turf with restricted access. Priced £2,600, the SP950 is powered by a 6.5hp Vanguard petrol engine and features a hydrostatically driven trike undercarriage. This is designed to enable the unit to turn within its own length.

Top dressers fall into two main design types; those that broadcast using spinning discs and those that ‘drop’ the material to a spread determined essentially by the width of the unit. It also follows that these designs can be offered in versions that are trailed, turf truck mounted or, as in the case with the Rink DS800, pedestrian controlled.

With a broadcast design you can vary the spread width, with some models spreading up to 16.0m dependent upon material and the capacity of the unit in question. A Rink DS800 has a spread width range of between 2.0 to 12.0m. If the aim is to disseminate in a ‘windrow’, the discs of a broadcast machine can either be slowed right down to narrow the spread width or, as in the case with the Rink DS models, removed completely for a direct discharge to the conveyor width.

A ‘drop’ discharge top dresser works at a fixed width. Once the desired application rate has been determined by the rate of flow from the hopper and the forward speed of the unit, it should be relatively easy to match each bout pass for an even application of top dressing material. Direct discharge machines are ideal where the spread material needs to be tightly contained.

Where wide areas need to be covered productivity will typically increase using a broadcast machine. For some jobs, such as top dressing a golf green, some users will set the unit to dress the total area in a single or dual pass. This can save a great deal of time. The appeal of a machine that can spread material wide needs to be countered by the requirement or ability to accurately match bouts at those widths.

Once the type of machine has been selected, other top dresser points that may need to be considered will include versatility. As an example, several higher capacity trailed machines can be readily converted into a bulk loader, the addition of a rear conveyor allowing them to discharge directly into a smaller spreader, trailer, a bunker or even into a heap or windrow on the ground.

On trailed models, the variety of wheel and tyre options to consider varies too; choices can include a relatively narrow track but with four wheels across the width of the dresser body. A conventional axle with wide rotation rubber may also be offered.

On smaller models, both mounted and trailed, there may include alternative applications, such as filling a bunker or moving bulk material. Consider alternative applications, such as filling a bunker or even into a heap or windrow on the ground.
be a choice of an integrated power unit. These ‘self-contained’ models can often be used in conjunction with equipment that would otherwise not have the power, hydraulic flow or PTO to drive a spreader but are otherwise ideally suited to top dressing and spreading duties.

Next up are hopper capacities. It is all too easy to assume that a large trailed top dresser will be too heavy, but it is always worth remembering a nominal 3.0m³ capacity machine can be partially loaded when working on sensitive turf.

In fact a ‘big’ top dresser filled with 1.0m³ of material may offer a footprint that is less than a smaller machine on narrower tyres with the same load on board.

This leads on to the issue of tyre types and inflation pressures. Without getting into the complex territory of how much load a tyre can take at a given inflation pressure, a simple guide is that a tyre will impart the same ground pressure as its inflation pressure. This is perhaps a bit of an over simplification, but a big trailed spreader and tractor combination running on tyres inflated to 0.8bar may well exert less pressure on the ground than a turf truck with its rear tyres blown up to 1.0 bar to enable it to take a fully loaded mounted spreader.

So, if you are looking for a new top dresser, you have a few pointers to consider beyond the spreader type.

- Entry-level direct drop tractor mounted models with a 3.5m³ body and a nominal spread width of 1.5m will retail from under £5,000.
- Spinning disc broadcast spreaders occupying a diverse range, those designed to fit a utility vehicle retailing from £7,500 for a top specification machine. When it comes to trailed models, prices may well start at under £6,000, large trailed units costing over £20K.

With grateful thanks to: Gareth Roberts, Course Manager, Hankley Common Golf Club and Nick Darking and Tim Franklyn, Charterhouse Turf Machinery.

To help whittle down your options, it can be useful to set out a few requirements and preferences. These can include:

- Mounted or trailed. Consider units designed to fit to a turf truck
- Vehicle driven or fitted with own power pack
- Direct drop or broadcast
- Ability to spread range of top dressings
- Application rates and hopper capacity
- Versatility. Will you want to spread solid fertiliser?
- Tyres sizes and inflation pressures
- Compatibility with existing equipment
- Projected workload and capacity
- Type and area of turf to be treated
- Additional options offered to improve versatility
- Ease of operation and setting up
- Fitting and removal from tractor or vehicle
- Local support and budget
- Electric and remote control options

The Jacobsen Eclipse 322

the only 100% hydraulic-free greens mower available ... anywhere!

Other ‘hybrids’ still use hydraulic motors for propulsion, so when we say no hydraulics, we mean it. Traction, reel drive and lift/lower operations are all electrically driven using either a small petrol or diesel engine running a 48 volt generator. And now there’s an all-electric version using a battery pack. It’s stealth quiet and ideal for greens close to housing or hotel rooms.

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The Anatomy of...

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The series aimed at celebrating the great work done by dealerships up and down the country.

**DEALER OF THE MONTH**

**GODFREYS**

**Location:** Sevenoaks and Hailsham

**Employees and size of premises:**
- 40 employees, Sevenoaks
- 18,000 square feet, Hailsham
- 12,000 sq ft on a 3 acre site

**Number of service vans:**
- 7 plus 2 parts vans

**Brief history of company:**
Godfreys was founded in September, 1933 by Sir William Godfrey. W M Godfrey & Partners set up satellite stores in Sellinge and Sevenoaks and Represented Ransomes and other leading brands of the day. It was bad export sales to Nigeria, the dry brands of the day. It was bad W M Godfrey & Partners set up Brenchley, where it grew to be Godfrey. W M Godfrey and Partners in 1980 after 47 years of trading. The site in Sevenoaks changing to just, Godfreys.

Under new ownership, Godfreys retailer in the garden machinery market. A devastating fire destroyed much of their particular week. The site in Sevenoaks was purchased with the same changing to just, Godfreys. Under new ownership, Godfreys greenkeeper to be a leading regional retailer in the garden machinery industry; however in 1995 a devastating fire destroyed much of the Old Oxford Road site. Godfreys re-opened 250 meters down the road, after acquiring a new building.

In 1998, Godfreys was appointed John Deere Turf Care dealer for Kent and South-East London. We now have two adjoining territories for John Deere, which has strengthened our ability to service our customers and at the same time become more efficient.

**Key services offered:**
- Sale of grounds maintenance equipment to golf courses, local authorities and their contractors, landscapers, estates, schools and home owners plus other leisure and industrial markets, supported by full after-sales. We offer finance and leasing arrangements.

**Specialist services offered:**
- Lantia and NPTC operator training courses

**Major customers:**
- The Royal St Georges Golf Club, East Sussex
- National Golf and Heath Spa, Lingfield
- Park Race Course
- Heath Spa, Lingfield
- The London Club etc...

**Franchises:**
- John Deere for Kent, Sussex and South East London

**How has the dealership changed over the years?**
We-acquired Palmers TurfCare, the John Deere TurfCare dealer for Sussex in 2009. As a result we now have two adjoining territories for John Deere, which has strengthened our ability to service our customers and at the same time become more efficient.

**What would you like to see changed?**
Improved profit margins

**Do you support customers who have in-house service facilities?**
Yes

**Robert Sandilands – Head Greenkeeper, Grange-over-Sands GC, 2011 Delegate to Orlando.**

"I was lucky enough to be selected to go with the Bernhard’s Delegation to the GCSCA Show in Los Angeles. The whole trip was a fascinating experience and extremely well organised. Our group ranged from young Assistant Greenkeepers to experienced Head Greenkeepers. For me, meeting, spending time and getting to know such a wide group of people from our industry with similar problems and different solutions was a highlight.

Having worked in the USA prior to this visit it was an excellent opportunity for me to meet up with old friends and make some more. I had the chance to spend time at the show allowing me to discuss new developments and innovations with all concerned.

The visits to other courses such as LA Country Club gave me a chance to look at greenkeeping from a different angle, an American angle. This made me think and question different styles of greenkeeping and opened up some lively debate among our group.

We were entertained and educated during two days of Seminars selected by the Bernhard team. These were interesting subjects that kept the whole group engaged and extremely well organised.

Angeles. The whole trip was a fascinating experience..."
Godfreys was founded in November 1933 by Sir William Godfrey. W M Godfrey and Partners started life supplying sprayguns and Allen Scythes to local fruit growers from a site in greenwich, where it grew to be one of the largest horticultural equipment suppliers in the UK. W M Godfrey & Partners set up satellite stores in Jellinge and Sevenoaks and represented Ransomes and other leading brands of the day. It was bad luck for W M Godfrey & Partners in 1980 after 47 years of trading. The site in Sevenoaks was purchased with the name changing to just, Godfreys.

Under new ownership, Godfreys grew again to be a leading regional industry; however in 1995 a devastating fire destroyed much of our premises. Godfreys re-emerged 250 meters down the road, after acquiring a new building.

Robert Sandilands – Head Greenkeeper, Grange-over-Sands GC, 2011 Delegate to Orlando.

“I would, without hesitation, recommend BIGGA Delegation as one of the major milestones of my career. At the time of the trip earlier this year I was a Deputy Head Greenkeeper, actively looking to move up to a Head Greenkeeper’s post for the first time, as the only Deputy on the trip, what I gained was a great deal of advice and interaction with some of the best Course Managers from the UK and the States which, I believe, played a big part in me achieving my first Head Greenkeeper’s position at Grange-over-Sands Golf Club in May.

To represent Bernhard & Co., BIGGA and greenkeeping in the UK was a great privilege, as was being given access to GCSAA seminars, The Constable IOW Show and some great golf courses and their impressive facilities.

I would encourage anybody looking to gain new experiences, knowledge and networking opportunities with greenkeepers from all backgrounds and nationalities to apply for the trip, especially those who are looking to further their career, as I was. The trip was an invaluable experience for me as a greenkeeper but I also met some great friends who I have since met up with and regularly call on for tips.

Glen Kirby – Deputy Course Manager, The London Club. 2007 Delegate – Los Angeles

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Having worked in the USA prior to this visit it was an excellent opportunity for me to meet up with old friends and make some more. I had chance to spend time at the show allowing me to discuss new developments and innovations with all concerned.

The visits to other courses such as LA Country Club gave me a chance to look at greenkeeping from a different angle, an American angle. This made me question and consider different ways of working and furthered my career, as I was. The trip was an opportunity which not everyone gets the chance to experience. It was a very enjoyable, educational and memorable trip and I would definitely recommend it to anyone who was lucky enough to receive the chance to take part.”
North
We start the news report this month with a news of our committee member, Ben Brooks, who has returned to Murcar Links Golf Club and moved to the new Trump course further along the coast, to be a part of the fantastic new set up. We wish him all the best for the future in his new job.

I should add that Ben has decided to stand down from the Secretary for the time being, so Robert Patterson and I will be doing the team duties until mid-October. We have someone in mind for the news job, so watch this space.

I will be sending out the entry forms shortly so if you get to see a big turn out at Peterculter Golf Club. That’s all for this month as it was just to let the members of the Club. That’s all for this month

MidAnglia
Another month gone by and time to put pen to paper once again!

A very warm and sunny day spent at the Greenkeepers Association of Mid Anglia Tournament. A bit of bad weather over the last few weeks to worry about. Hopefully this will give some use to you please let me know if there are any

Other news from in Hurricanes Golf Club, with some of the Regional tournaments. There was a good turnout to play on a golf course which has been presented in excellent condition. The last tournament was sponsored by Toro and

South East
Our latest golf day was held on Thursday, 3rd November at Royal Rockford Golf Club. The warm weather encouraged a good turnout for the day which was presented in excellent condition by Graham Macdonald and Kev. The team formed by the Copyright © 1999 - 2023, BIGGA midlands. All rights reserved.

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Scottish Region

North

We start the news report this month with our news of committee member, Ben Brooks, who this past as the North Section News Reporter due to work commitments. Ben has recently left Murcar Links Golf Club and moved to the new Trump course further along the road, to be a part of the fantastic new set up. We wish him all the best for the future in his new job.

I should add that Ben has turned to a horse trainer for the time being, so Robert Patterson and I will do the news sections until 1st December. If you have any news in mind for the news, so watch this space.

I will be sending out the entry forms shortly so do try to enter a big team at Peterculter Golf Club. That’s all for this month as it was just too good a story I could not wait to know what was happening, so hopefully we will have a full Section news next month.

We hope we get a big entry for the autumn outing at Peterculter GC on Thursday September 22. Robert Patterson, Chairman, and Dale Robertson, Secretary.

Northern Region

Northern

Hello everyone. Hope you are all well. Nice to see the hot weather carrying on into August. It would be nice to think this could be the start of an Indian summer. The green fairways at Cockride seem to have van- ished, to be taken over by a nice shade of brown. On July 21st I was the annual Northern V Sheffield match, played at Renishaw Park GC. WE had good weather and a good turnout for this very pretty concocted course. Sady, as a result of the inclement weather for the last few weeks, we were beaten by a good Sheffield side 4-2. Our thanks also go to Rigby Taylors for kindly sponsoring the day.

On the news front. Congratulations go to Ben Knowles Jackson on passing his driving test on his first attempt. Hope you can pass all five golf events. Ben. Next golf section event is the Autumn Tournament to be held at Woodend GC, Fife. entry deadline is Sept 28. This will also be the litter day for the section. Please look early by contacting me, Frank Stewart, 72 West Park Grove, West End, Aberdeen, Tel 01224 265 245. Mobile: 07947 401278, email frankstewart3@hotmail.co.uk, Frank Stewart.

South East

East Midlands

Results first from our inaugural par-3 competition. This was played at Nauclotte Hall, home to the National par-3 Championship, and sponsored by Rigby Taylor. Nine teams took part and, in the case of at least one, were undone by the small intimacy and general testing of the course. The winning team was to play a team put together by Nigel Colley; second to a team of ‘duffers’, put together by Simon Banas. But the real stars of the day were the winning team from Market Harborough, consist- ing of Lee Wenlock, Chris Worr, Glyn Buckley and Nick Miles, with particularly impressive displays coming from Chris and Lee. Nigel Colley had to rely on putting as he played by a pair for Nearest the Pin on each hole and between them Paul Colley had to rely on his putting. Nigel took all but three of the prises. They were last seen heading off to the Hare and Hounds for the last six months before the workday to play in the Autumn Tournament after an event last year which is being played at the wonderful Dunham Forest GC on September 29, and the tee is booked from 13:30. It would be great to see some new faces at this wonderful location.

During the winter months, we are hoping to arrange some training opportunities. Some of the thoughts at present are the likes of working, excavating and first aid. If any of these are of use to you let me know please.

Another item in discussion at the meeting was the potential to entertain over the winter is an education seminar this will consist of a morning of talks from some of the best in the business followed by a course walk. Once again talks are ongoing but there should be more news in the near future.

Finally, for this month, I’d like to take this opportunity to wish you all well. If there is any news from the club and the winter you have placed in your diary, please let me know. Mike Miles, Ayr GC, can be contacted on mikepm@mtnet.com or 07870 083 478.

Mid Anglia

Another month gone by and time to put pen to paper once again!

A very warm and sunny day for the outing at Mount Pleasant Golf Club for our Summer Tournament. We were again hosted by our main host condition by Gavin Simkin, and the team, the course proved a tough one with the weather conditions, and with a few exceptions, notably S. Moss, a member of Gavin’s team,光辉一起, who was untrained.

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Another month has passed us by, and yet again a change in the weather.
Antony Kiwara and I travelled down to Royal St George’s to join the Open Championship Support Team in the middle of July. A five day trip of long, hard, wet and warm very enjoyable days.
Antony was lucky enough to get a round with the overall winner, Darren Clarke, plus sample the delights of an early morning out on the course with the course staff doing the normal pre-completion course preparation.
Both of us had a fantastic time, met new friends, renewed old acquaintances and learnt a lot. We would both recommend the experience to anyone who has the time to spare.
I am sorry to have to report that our Secretary, Dominic Rodgers, has decided to resign from the position; the committee accepted his resignation at the last committee meeting held in July and have written and thanked him for all he has done for the Section, over the past couple of years.
At that meeting we discussed the forthcoming Regional Conference being held by our Section in November. We have written to a number of speakers and await the outcome of these preliminary enquires. I hope to be able to make an announcement in next month’s magazine of the full itinerary.
The Summer Trophy at Cheilmsford will have passed when you read this but don’t forget to enter the next event at Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club. Thursday, September 29. It is our Autumn Trophy.
Entries to Andy Cracknell please by Sunday, September 25.
Sorry it’s short and sweet this month but there is not that much to report.
If you have anything for inclusion in Greenkeeper International or on the Section’s Website www.susgreen.org please contact me on 07764 862 337 or at essexbigga@talk2net.com

Arnold Phipps-Jones

KENT

I must start this report by giving full plaudits to the fantastic work done by all who staged the Fantastic Open Championship in our fair county in July. The course was applauded by every body, including the players, and proved that the whole Open experience is one we should all be proud of. As for the eventual winner, I think the whole world would salute Darren Clarke for overcoming the adversity he went through in recent years to triumph in an emotionally charged championship.
I would like to add some notes from Steve Thompson, of Bearded Golf Club, who was one of the many gallant volun teers for the event.
I thought I would drop you a few lines regarding my experiences at the Open. This was the first time that I had done any match raking and I enjoyed it immensely. I found the whole experience absolutely awe some, from meeting all the other greenkeepers on the Support Team, to being between the hedges with some of the world’s top golf professionals.
Thursday – I raked two bunkers for Graeme McDowell, Jason Day, and Bubba Watson.
Friday – I helped my Pod prepare the bunkers for the day’s play. Later I raked eight bunkers for Charley Hoffman, Gregory Havret, and Mark Leinier. Saturday – I raked three bunkers for Steve Stricker and Webb Simpson. Sunday – Unfortunately, I didn’t get selected to match rake on the final day.
My greatest memory was following Graeme McDowell’s group between the third and seventh bunkers at the 18th green and hearing the thunderous applause. Seeing the sunrise over the empty grassstands early on Friday morning will also stick in my mind.
I’d like to thank – Scott Mac Callum, Rachael Duffy and everyone at BIGGA for allowing me such a fantastic opportuni ty, Graham Royden and the greening team at Royal St. George’s, and all the members of the BIGGA Open Support Team, especially Billy McMillan and the rest of the Green Pod.
Steve Thompson, Bearded Golf Club.

Lastly, please don’t forget our next event at Sittingbourne GC on September 26. Please see website for all the details. We shall also be playing the final of our Pairs’ Knockout competition on the day. Well done to all who played in this event in its inaugural year for making it such fun and well done to our finalists.
Please feel free to drop me a line with any news, views or comments as usual. Hope to see as many of you as possible at Sittingbourne.
Rob Holland
grays42@yahoo.com
www.kennygreenkeepers.com

STAFF INSCRIPTIONS TO THE GREEN

1. ‘How to Cascade Goals to Teams and Individuals’
2. ‘’How to Prepare for an Appraisal’
3. ‘How to Conduct a One-to-One Meeting’
4. ‘How to Conduct a Team Briefing’
5. ‘How to Recruit the Right Staff’
6. ‘How to Write a Job Description’

‘How To...’ guides are now available exclusively to BIGGA members, on a range of Human Resource topics.

These short, handy guides provide practical, step by step guidance on finding and recruiting new processes within your workplace.

To access the ‘How To...’ guides, log on to the BIGGA Members Area at www.bigga.org and click on Member Resources.

Essex

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Assistant Profile

Name: Sam Evans
Age: 22
Club: Heythrop Park Resort
Position: Assistant
Nickname: Sambo

1. How long have you been greenkeeping? Three years.
2. What was it about the career that attracted you? Job satisfaction.
3. If you weren’t a greenkeeper what do you think you’d be? Cider Connoisseur.
4. Which task do you most enjoy doing and why? Raking bunkers because it is hard work.
5. Which task do you least enjoy doing and why? Rough mowing because it is hard work.
6. What one thing – other than a pay rise – would improve the greenkeepers’ lot? More courses and further education.
8. Favourite Band? The Overtones.
9. Which team do you support (football or otherwise)? Swindon Town FC.
10. What is your claim to fame? Chatting to Rob Andrew and Sean Fitzpatrick on the 8th tee, regarding their shots, club selection and the course in general.