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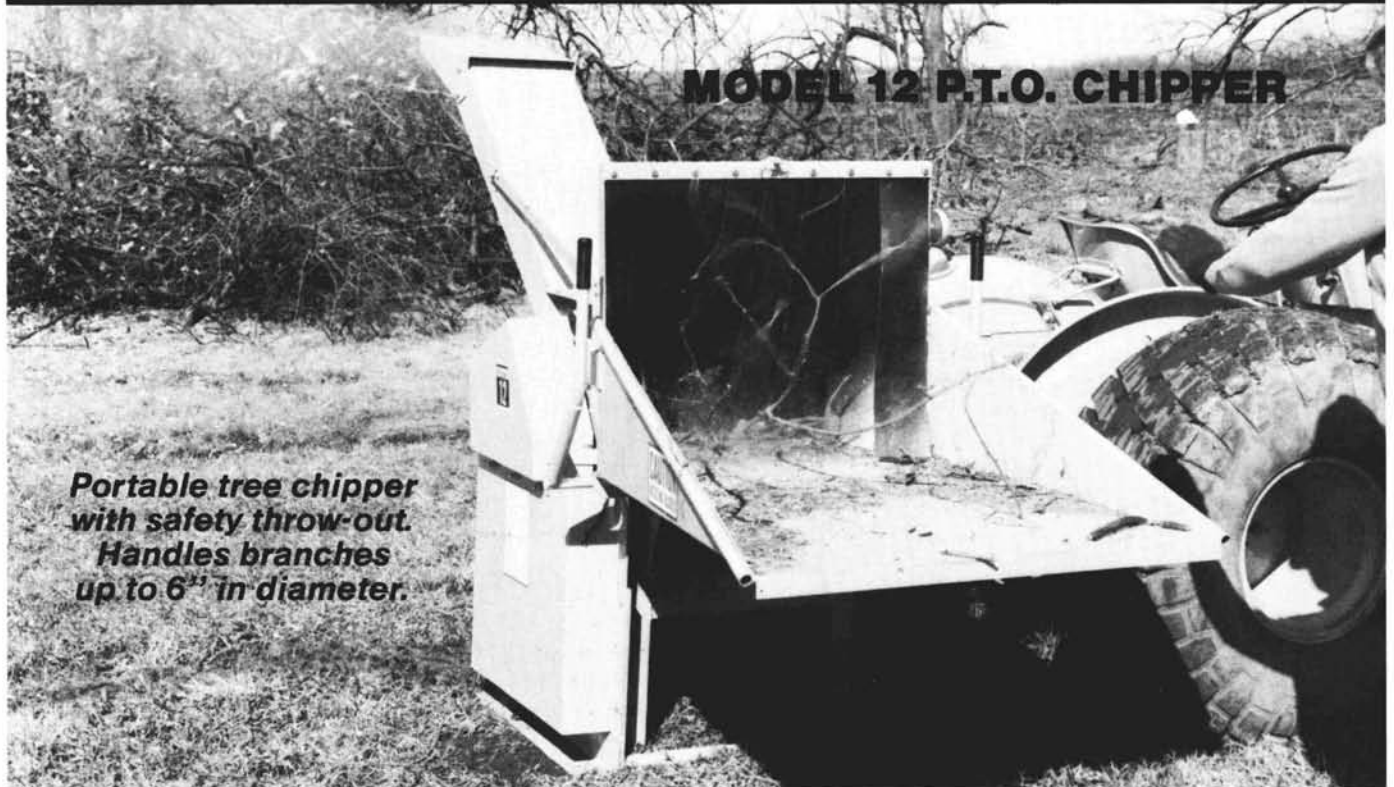
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Midwest Breezes



Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendar

November 2 — Annual Meeting & Midwest Clinic at Medinah C.C.

November 14-16 — Penn State Turf Conference

November 18 — CAGCS Annual Forum at Northmoor C.C.

December 6-7-8 — NCTE, Pheasant Run

January 3 & 4 — MAGCS/GCSAA Seminars at Pheasant Run

January 23, 24, 25 — Midwest Regional Turf Foundation Seminar, Indianapolis

In early October a group of exhausted, worn and battered Superintendents and salespeople who had waged war with nature and green committees throughout the summer traveled to the peaceful deep valleys of West Virginia to take on Mother Nature and her white water rapids. Emerged victorious were 15 drenched and revitalized men ready for more challenges. This is the type of a trip everyone needs to clear the mind and soul after the hard summer of 1988.

Your editor, now having only the job of an editor, took off one day after the white water trip for a long overdue trip to Alaska. I left on October 6th and returned late on the night of the 20th. My friend that I went to New Zealand & Australia with is a bush pilot in Alaska, so it seemed to be the logical time to make a trip north and explore those frozen reaches. It is hard to describe the feeling of flying up the slopes of Mount McKinley in a Super Cub. It feels that you strap the plane on for it seats only two and you feel very intimate with your environment. Looking down on the frozen glaciers really gives one the chills if you stop to think what would happen if the engine died. The glaciers are filled with deep crevasses and stress ridges, totally an awesome sight up close — like at 50 feet or less at times above the ice and rocks. The wildlife was profuse, with dozens of moose, caribou, sheep and mountain goats seen daily while flying. To be able to fish in clear rushing mountain streams and catch 15 pound salmon with almost every cast was something I had never experienced before. It was a totally wonderful trip even though I slept only once in a bed while there.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPERINTENDENTS

Minnie Monesse Golf Club is looking for an assistant with at least two years experience under a class A Superintendent. Contact: Edward Hurley, R.R. #1, Box 465, Grant Park, IL 60940.

South Bluff Country Club is needing a Superintendent: send resume to South Bluff C.C., Rt. #1, Peru, IL 61354.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR ASSISTANTS

Contact Kerry Blatteau, Supt., Woodmar C.C., 1818 177th Street, Hammond, IN 46324. Phone (219) 844-0330.

Contact Randi Baltz, Lake County Forest Preserve District, 2000 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Libertyville, IL 60048. 18 hole course, salary \$20,837, excellent fringe benefits. Phone (312) 367-6640.

FOR SALE: 2 Jacobsen HF-5 Fairway mowers, (1983) with 1400 hours. Contact Bruce Williams at Bob O'Link G.C. (312) 432-0088.

WANTED: Jacobsen fairway or blitzer 30' reel mowers with or without frames, also need a F-10 tractor. Call Ron Payne (815) 468-3438.

Illinois Superintendent Receives GCSAA Certification

David R. Beno, superintendent of Waukegan Park District/Bonnie Brook and Greenshire Golf Courses, has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Beno has been superintendent of the Waukegan, IL course since 1982. He lives at 38729 N. Lewis Avenue in Zion.

To become certified, a candidate must have five years' experience as a golf course superintendent and be employed in that capacity. The candidate must pass a rigorous six-hour examination testing knowledge of the game and rules of golf, turfgrass management, pest control management, financial management, organizational management and the history, ethics, purpose and procedures of GCSAA. Also, an on-site inspection of Beno's golf course operation was conducted by two currently certified golf course superintendents.

ANNOUNCING...NCTE '88

North Central Turfgrass Exposition
December 6-8, 1988
Pheasant Run Resort -- St. Charles, Illinois

1988 NCTE Co-Sponsors

- Illinois Turfgrass Foundation
- Central Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association
- Chicagoland Golf Course Mechanics' Association
- USGA Green Section
- University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service
- Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents
- Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association
- Sod Growers Association of Mid America

NCTE '88 PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Keynote Address by John Cassis — "Developing Mental Toughness"
- Pesticide Applicators Training Session and Test
- Dr. Al Turgeon, Penn State University — recipient of the ITF Distinguished Service Award
- Trade show with exhibitors in the ultra-modern "MegaCenter" exhibition hall

Pheasant Run Resort Rates:

Standard Single/Double	\$55.00
Deluxe Single/Double	\$65.00

Advance Registration Fee:

ITF Members	\$60.00
Non-Member	\$80.00

Call ITF about Special Student Rates

For more information or preliminary program

Illinois Turfgrass Foundation

312/644-0828

Weather Extremes Plague Turf Again in 1988

R. T. Kane

U of I/CDGA Turfgrass Advisor

As in recent years, weather extremes again have had a serious impact on the quality and manageability of golf turf in the Midwest. An unusually dry and cool spring was followed abruptly by a very hot and dry late spring to mid-summer period that we won't soon forget. Then late summer was even worse as humidity and rainfall combined with high temperatures to unleash the fungi and stress out **Poa annua**. Many serious turf problems other than disease resulted directly from the temperature and precipitation extremes. Following is a brief account of the meteorological highlights of the 1988 season, and a summary of the turf problems that occurred as a direct result of the weather.

Spring of 88' got off to a fairly warm and wet start, including a record high temperature of 85F on April 5. Early heavy play was a factor to contend with. Then it turned off cool and dry in late April, with overnight temperatures near or below freezing. Most of the month of May was also cool and dry, with frosts and record cold temperatures occurring as late as the 25th.

This dry and cool weather pattern caused **Poa annua** and older bentgrass varieties to green up and grow very slowly. However, this did seem to force roots deeper into the soil profile, including **Poa annua**. Also, the **Poa** on many area courses seeded very heavily which, along with the slow growth and heavy traffic, resulted in poor putting green quality.

The late spring and summer season of 1988 saw record heat and drought that laid waste to nonirrigated crop lands, home lawns, parks and golf turf, and taxed water supplies and delivery systems to the utmost. Many communities were forced to restrict or ban lawn sprinkling and other nonessential water uses. Temperatures in the 90's were recorded in late May, and the mercury passed the 100 degree mark for the first time on June 20. Total precipitation for May, June, and July was as low as 1-1.5 inches in the metropolitan area, and an abysmal 0.5-1 inch in parts of north central and central Illinois and central Indiana. (Normal rainfall for the three month period is 11.2 inches in Chicago.)

Fortunately, most Chicago area courses have adequate sources of water from wells and/or holding ponds and streams. Greens, tees, and fairways received adequate water for the most part, although restrictions limited fairway watering at some courses. The incessant demands placed on irrigation systems led to many problems as pumps, water lines, and irrigation heads failed at several courses. Most nonirrigated turf areas (eg roughs) were dormant by mid-June. Dormant turfs subjected to excessive traffic (eg golf carts) were reduced to dust and will have to be reestablished this fall. Many downstate courses without adequate irrigation systems have been extensively damaged, and large acreages of turf will have to be replaced.

Very few disease problems were encountered through early July, because of the lack of rain and very low relative humidities. Localized dry spots were a widespread phenomenon on putting greens and fairways, as were unexplained ring and patch symptoms. However, once humidities increased in mid-July, a dramatic increase in *Pythium* blight, brown patch, summer patch (**Magnaporthe** sp.) and other diseases occurred.

Also, by late July and into August, the accumulative effects



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of heat and humidity began to take its toll on **Poa annua**. **Poa** is highly susceptible to heat stress and/or anaerobic conditions (wet wilt), especially where the root system is shallow or restricted. A number of factors appear to interact to cause shallow roots on **Poa**, including: compacted soils and layering; low fertility (esp N&P); low cutting heights; contours and drainage problems; nematodes (!); and root rotting fungi. Combinations of two or more of these factors appears to be especially deadly.

Large areas of turf were lost on greens and tees where **Poa annua** was the primary grass species present. In most cases, turf was in good shape through the end of July, but two hot spells — August 1st through 4th and August 16th through 18th — brought the greatest trouble. Daily high temps near 100F and overnight lows in the 80-85 range combined with high humidity. Soil temperatures were near or above 100F max and stayed above 90F for extended periods of time. Water management was critical during this period; syringing didn't seem to help the **Poa** at all. Deeper rooted grasses such as bentgrass and ryegrass survived this heat much better.

After the summers of '83, '87, and '88, it is apparent that we need to work on new management strategies and pest controls to help our turfgrasses withstand summer heat and drought stress, especially if predictions of hotter and dryer summers due to the "greenhouse effect" hold true. Different fertility practices and mowing and grooming patterns (including more use of walking greensmowers and "verti-groomers"), and more intensive aeration should be considered in order to increase root mass and depth and to reduce the effects of high air and soil temperatures. More about NEMATODES at a later date.

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Golf Participation in the U.S. Increases 20 Million Golfers Now Play the Game

More than 20 million golfers teed it up in the United States last year, according to the National Golf Foundation. That represents an increase of 15 percent over 1985, when there were 17.5 million golfers in the U.S. These figures just released by the NGF were obtained from a survey of more than 57,000 U.S. residents conducted by the NGF and Market Facts Inc. during January and February of this year.

The survey results are significant because a 15 percent increase in the number of U.S. golfers is a dramatic departure from NGF surveys of recent years showing an average three percent increase in golf participation.

"The large jump in golf participation is a great signal for the golf industry," said NGF President and CEO David Hueber. "It is far too early to tell if this increase represents the beginning of an explosion in golf participation, or if the 1986 figures simply reflect the volatile nature of golf participation in the large segment of infrequent golfers. We will need more data to determine if there is indeed a trend. All related demographic indicators paint a very good picture for golf in the coming years.

Hueber says the 1986 increase could be attributed to several factors, including the high profile the game enjoyed following Jack Nicklaus' win at the Masters in April of 1986.

76.1 percent of all U.S. golfers are male according to the survey results, but women accounted for 38.9 percent of all new golfers in 1986 to represent 23.9 percent of the total golfing population. Women showed the largest percentage increase in participation of any demographic group.

The number of rounds of golf played in the U.S. last year did not keep pace with the significant increase in golfers. A total of 421 million rounds were played, according to the NGF survey, up from 415 million rounds played in 1985. The survey also showed that 66 percent of all rounds were played on public golf courses.

SURVEY OF GOLFERS (in millions)

	1986	1985
TOTAL GOLFERS:	20.2	17.5
Male	15.4	13.8
Female	4.8	3.7
Senior (50 or over)	5.9	4.7
Junior (5-19)	2.3	2.0

GOLFERS BY REGION:

Northeast	4.0 million golfers
North Cental	7.2 million golfers
Western	4.1 million golfers
Southern	4.9 million golfers

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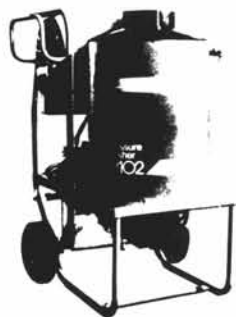
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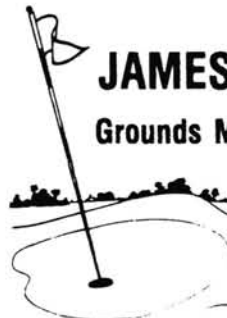
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CTI Receives Award

The Toro Company's International Sales Convention for commercial equipment and irrigation distributors was held September 17-21 in Orland, Florida. Chicago Turf & Irrigation, located in Itasca, Illinois, was recognized at the annual awards dinner for achieving four million dollars in sales with Toro in 1988. CTI also received this award at the 1985 convention for achieving three million dollars in sales during that year.

Ronald H. Jones, president of Chicago Turf & Irrigation, states that the million dollar increase in purchases on an annual basis from Toro is partly the result of excellent sales growth in their turf irrigation business. That portion of CTI's business has approximately doubled in size since 1985. Mr. Jones also noted that the award is a reflection of the healthy economic conditions in the Northern Illinois area and the continued strong support from our customers.

Chicago Turf & Irrigation recently moved into a new custom designed facility in mid-August to better serve customer needs. Chicago Turf & Irrigation represents approximately one hundred manufacturers from around the world.

GCSAA Brings Home Silver and Bronze, Too!

The Olympic athletes in Seoul recently returned with their bounty of medals recognizing outstanding performances.

And recently, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) brought home several awards for its advertising and public relations efforts.

A multiprojector audio-visual presentation titled "Golf At Its Best" received a Silver Prism Award from the Kansas City Public Relations Society.

In addition, the Kansas City Art Directors bestowed Bronze Awards on GCSAA for its new television commercial and print advertising campaigns.

The print campaign also received recognition from the Kansas City Advertising Club's Omni Awards Committee, who gave it a bronze.

"It is gratifying to receive recognition from the advertising community," said John M. Schilling, executive director of GCSAA. "There are many people who have worked hard to achieve excellence in our promotions and campaigns."

For more information, contact Bob Still, GCSAA media relations manager, 913/841-2240.

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GCSAA/Hall-Kimbrell Join Forces For Environmental Auditing Service To Golf Courses

Coping with various regulatory obligations and managing environmental and safety risks are increasingly recognized as important professional responsibilities of today's golf course superintendent.

To help superintendents continue to meet these responsibilities, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) formally announced today that it has contracted with one of the nation's leading environmental consulting firms to develop the first comprehensive environmental management system for the golf course industry. Hall-Kimbrell Environmental Services, Inc. will join GCSAA in presenting this new concept to attendees of the 60th International Golf Course Conference and Show, Feb. 6-13, 1989, in Anaheim, CA.

The GCSAA/Hall-Kimbrell package being developed will include an environmental self-audit questionnaire and notebook along with videotape training materials designed to provide management assistance in areas such as pesticide use, storage and disposal, underground storage tank regulations, OSHA requirements and general risk management. Completed self-audit materials will be individually reviewed by Hall-Kimbrell's professional staff to provide specific recommendations and analysis.

"The up-front cost of developing these materials is several hundred thousand dollars, which Hall-Kimbrell has decided to invest," noted GCSAA Executive Director John M. Schilling. "The result will be a very valuable new management tool with low unit cost to individual superintendents."

The cost of a professional environmental audit can exceed \$10,000. The price of the new GCSAA/Hall-Kimbrell system is expected to be less than \$1,000.

Steve Wharton, project manager for Hall-Kimbrell, has been collecting information from golf courses across the nation in a series of site visits. Technical advisor for the overall GCSAA/Hall-Kimbrell effort is Dr. Wynan Hock, plant pathologist and extension pesticide specialist at Pennsylvania State University.

For further information, contact Bob Still, GCSAA media relations manager, 913/841-2240.

"Fall Golf Scene"

Leaves! the Confetti of Fall,
Not always a pleasure to All.
Seems the Wind has It's way,
While with the Leaves It plays,
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