



# GCSAA

## Temperatures High, Crowd Low

Even a unusual heat wave with temperatures in the mid-40s couldn't get more superintendents to Minneapolis last month, as the 47th Turfgrass Conference and Show of the Golf Course Superintendents of America drew its lowest number of superintendents since 1973.

The final tally of 1,039 that did show up in the Twin Cities got a lot for the effort, as the GCSAA cranked out another top educational presentation filled with noted speakers on all phases of course management.

Final attendance figures for the four-day stand ended at 3,142, still down from last year's New Orleans event that stood at 3,544. The '76 figure was mildly inflated, though, since the GCSAA allowed 700 distributors of showing companies into the convention site to see their respective firm's new lines for the coming season. Some 150 exhibitors were out in force, promoting their products.

If there was any controversy during the event, it might have occurred on the show's first day, as exhibitors were reminded that due to an Internal Revenue Service ruling on the non-profit status of trade associations, no selling or taking of orders was permitted on the show floor.

GCSAA director Lous Haines

noted that the stipulation was not a new one and the clause had been included in show contracts to exhibitors for years.

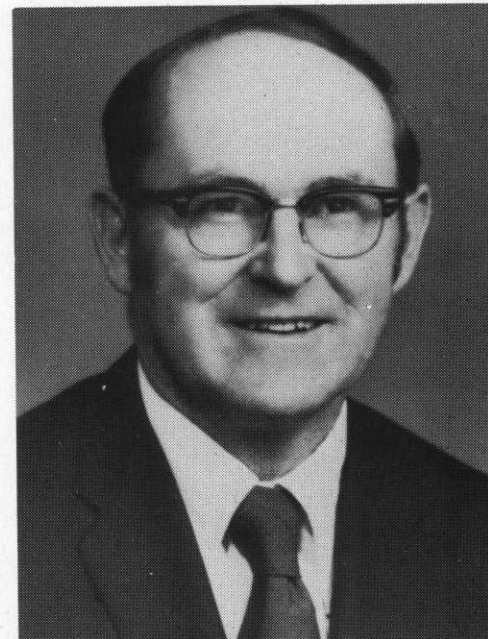
All in all, superintendents, although lower in number, were high in praise about the running of their annual get-together. John Leeper, superintendent at Orchard Ridge Country Club, Fort Wayne, Ind., mentioned he had been attending shows a long time and to keep up on the industry, it was mandatory he made it every year. William Walsh, superintendent at Springbrook Golf Club, Naperville, Ill., made Minneapolis his third show since becoming a member of the association, but admitted he'd liked to see the event kept in a warmer climate on a permanent basis.

Another long-time show goer was Walt Trombley, Arrowhead Golf Club, Pontiac, Mich. Trombley has been at every GCSAA event since joining in 1964. "I enjoy the show and especially the educational seminars. They get better every year. To be honest, though, I thought the weather in Minneapolis would be much worse."

Not all the action was on the floor of the Auditorium and Convention Center. At its yearly membership meeting of chapter delegates, the GCSAA rank-and-file

sat behind closed doors for four hours taking care of new by-law changes and the election of national officers.

The biggest change many thought would get the most hassle, got the least, as yearly dues were raised from \$65 to \$90. The lack of reaction pointed to the fact the general membership realized the enormous cost escalation the asso-



New leader .....Richard Malpass

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ciation has gone through in the last few years.

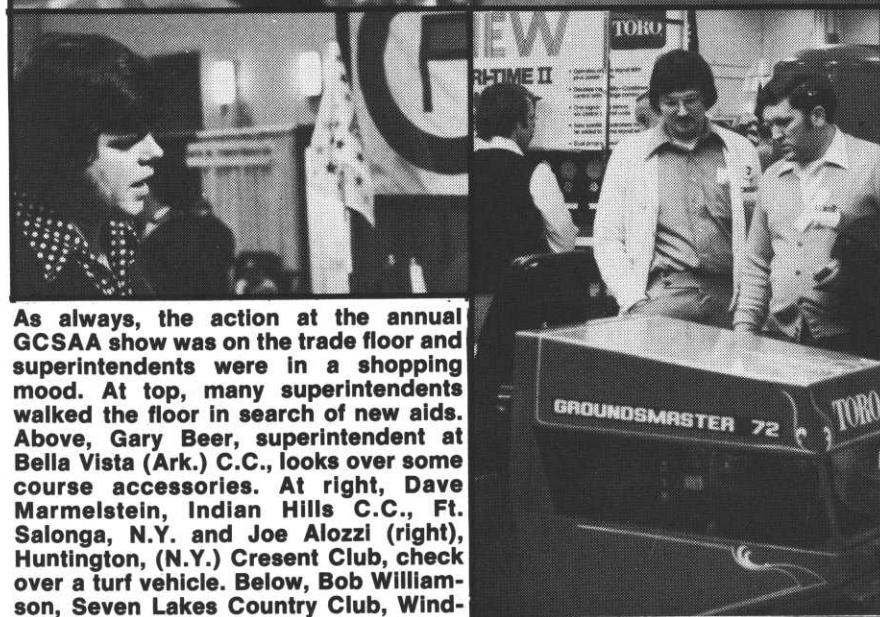
Attempting to know its membership's background better, the GCSAA passed a by-law change that would automatically reclassify members according to their employment status. At the same time, another by-law will allow membership expansion into the student area, that according to Public Relations Director Doug Fender, could increase total association membership by 1,000.

Another minor resolution passed referred to the term of office for association directors. The term was switched from two to three years in length and the annual election of directors will now include just two open spots, instead of the previous three. The only by-law voted down surrounded an attempt by the national association to bring local chapters closer to the GCSAA by making it mandatory for major chapter officers to be members of the national association.

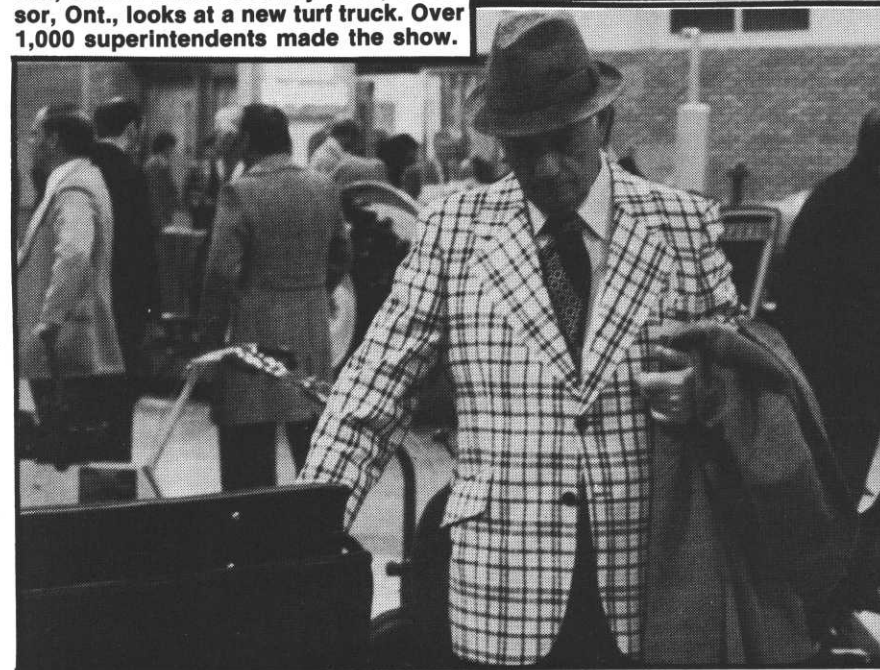
On the election front, Richard Malpass, recent GCSAA vice president, was elected president without opposition. Malpass, superintendent at Riverside Golf and Country Club, Portland, has been a member of the GCSAA for 12 years. Out of a three-person field, Ted Woehrl, superintendent at Oakland Hills Country Club, Birmingham, Mich., was selected as the new national vice president.

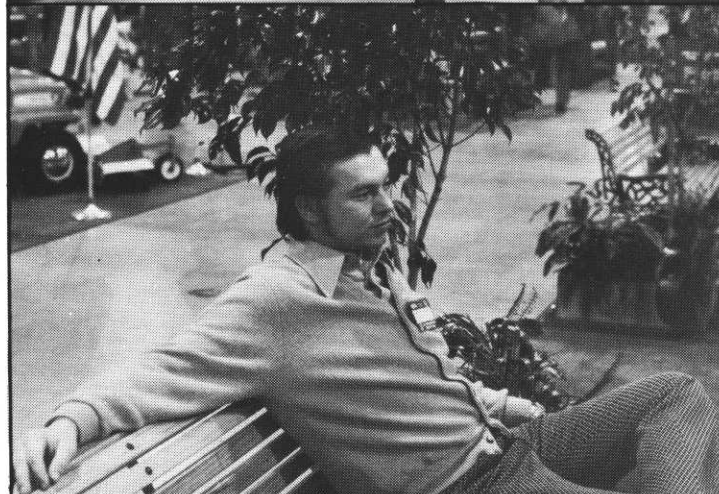
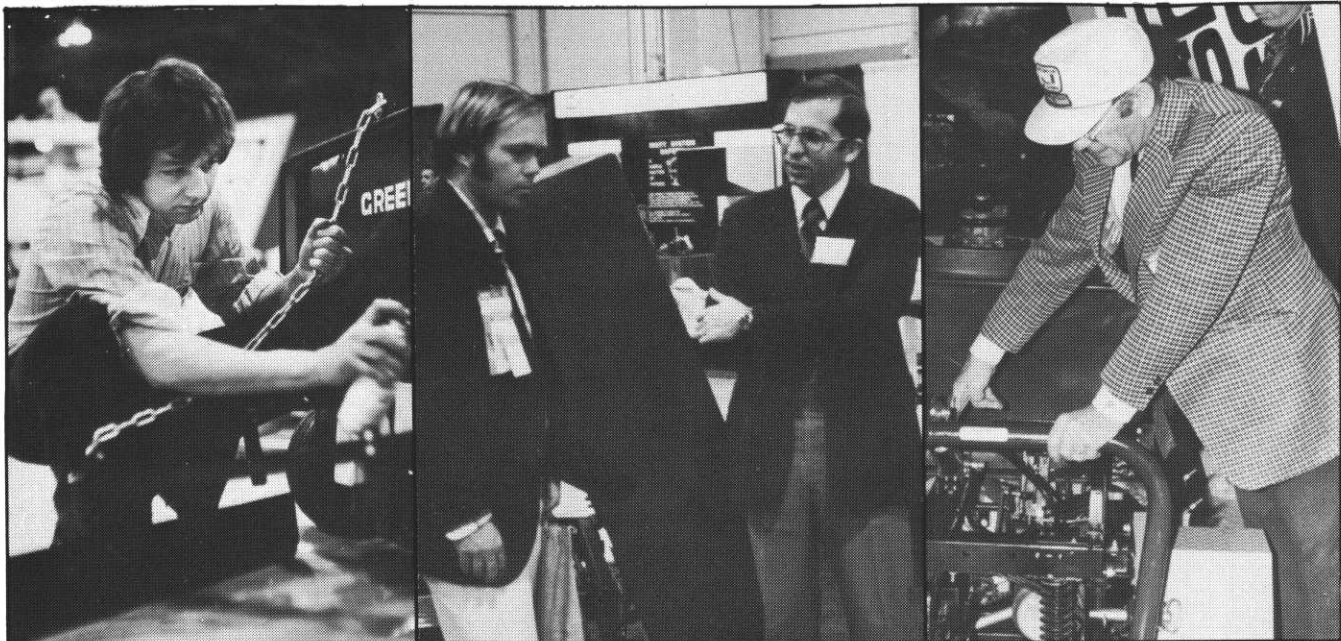
One new director was voted into that position, while two old ones were reelected. Dave Holler, superintendent at Gulph Mills Golf Course, King of Prussia, Pa., was added to the director board. Charles Tadge, Mayfield Country Club, South Euclid, Ohio; and Melvin Lucas, Garden City (N.Y.) Golf Club were the pair of directors carried over by the membership for another three-year term.

Of course, 1976 is an anniversary year for the GCSAA, as it celebrates its 50th year in operation. Plans are already in motion for a gala celebration at the Sylvania (Ohio) Country Club, Sept. 13-15.



As always, the action at the annual GCSAA show was on the trade floor and superintendents were in a shopping mood. At top, many superintendents walked the floor in search of new aids. Above, Gary Beer, superintendent at Bella Vista (Ark.) C.C., looks over some course accessories. At right, Dave Marmelstein, Indian Hills C.C., Ft. Salonga, N.Y. and Joe Alozzi (right), Huntington, (N.Y.) Crescent Club, check over a turf vehicle. Below, Bob Williamson, Seven Lakes Country Club, Windsor, Ont., looks at a new turf truck. Over 1,000 superintendents made the show.





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Taking care of exhibits is a full-time job. At top left, Joe Carroll, quality control manager for Ryan Turf does a little touch-up painting on a product. At top center, Mike Clark, superintendent at Oakmont C.C., Santa Rosa, Calif., talks over golf cars with E-Z-Go's Dick Kuhn (right). At top right, a superintendent digs into the working parts of a turf vehicle. At right center, Jim Richter, Crestwicke C.C., Bloomington, Ill., takes a brief rest on a nearby bench. At center left, several superintendents gathered regularly in the Ford booth to watch a magician go through his assortment of slight-of-hand tricks. Although, women were a rare sight during the show, Diamond Shamrock called on the golf services of LPGA touring pro Mary Cushing (at bottom center) to help the superintendents out with their putting skills. The 29-year-old, who by coincidence, is a Twin Cities native attempted to aid several would-be duffers. At bottom right, Omaha (Neb.) Country Club superintendent Jearld Lierman takes a few minutes to sip a drink and rest his feet from walking around the show area.

