



# In Bounds

By Jack MacKenzie, CGCS  
North Oaks Golf Club

Seven years ago I awoke during the wee hours of a mid winter night in an excited sweat. My mind was full of a new concept for the removal of water from any poorly drained golf courses following a big rain event. The mental orgasm I experienced was my "MILLION DOLLAR IDEA"!

It wasn't just a new type of drainage pipe, but rather an elaborate system of tile lines, temporary holding tanks and solid pvc piping. As long as there was an outlet lower than any of the dips and undulations from the area that needed to be drained, my idea would work. Containment and siphoning were key components of the process. I was awake the rest of the night mentally playing and replaying my concept.

The following day I went to work and shared through diagrams and clear verbal descriptions the idea to my assistant. By using varying sizes of catch basins and tanks, each bottomed out slightly lower than the last all the way to the outlet, and a series of solid pvc pipe connecting them together from the upper portion of the high end tank and ending at the bottom of the lower end tank, one could move water over hills and long distances.

Taking head pressure and the principal of siphoning into

account I conceived that one should be able to remove water from any drainage pocket, dependent upon the elevation changes between the catch basins and the suction ability of the siphoning pipe. The siphon pipe could even be pulled into the ground just so long as the long end was lower than the inlet inside of the holding tank.

The system would be self-priming due to gravitational pressure.

And, to carry the principle even further, one could create an artificial drainage system upon a flat piece of property using a trash pump, multiple catch basins and tanks set at varying depths and siphon lines. This system would possibly need to be primed by flooding all of the suction lines. The lowest tank would need to be pumped out with the trash pump to create flow.

This now was becoming a multi-million dollar idea with many implications including a large lake home, a fleet of new Mercedes, bikini clad women (*I was single at the time*) and more cash than I knew what to do with. The mental trips I took placed me in all corners of the world pontificating the grand benefits of my "Siphon Drain System."

At that moment I didn't pursue a patent because I thought that I was the only one brilliant enough to come up with the idea. Besides, who had time to go through all that paper work. Anyway, the season was just ahead and I didn't have time to research the process.

Imagine my surprise when one year later I was walking down the isles of the "Big Show" at the National Conference and came upon a booth containing a very familiar product for the removal of water from undulating and flat fairways using a system of solid pipes and the concept of siphoning. It was as if the display had been stolen from my mind. Upon inquiry I was told that the idea came about two years earlier followed by a patent process, manufacturing and finally distribution.

WOW! There really are folks just as bright as me, even brighter because they applied for and received a patent and I didn't!

And that is the point. We are a very intelligent bunch of people who create solutions to problems intrinsic to only our profession. I feel confident that each of us has built a better mousetrap, either visually or physically, but just never took the idea to the next level. And the process couldn't be any easier. It is just intimidating.

Don't think that just because you have an idea but no means to develop it that you should sit back and let another eventually take credit for it. Patent the concept. Then take your idea to a nationally recognized business for further refinement, and, more importantly, distribution. According to industry representatives that is where the big dollars are spent. Beside, if you really love what you do, as I do, you just don't have time to take on the responsibilities of taking an idea from thought to sales.

However, even the simplest twist on an existing idea could



My next "Million Dollar Idea!"

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WHEREVER GOLF IS PLAYED

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# MGCSA Championship Results

Edina Country Club - September 13, 2004

## CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

78	Jeff Pint
80	Dan Hinton
81	David Johnson
81	Barry Provo
81	Tom Notch
82	Denny Perreault
82	Dean Wojtczak
83	Brooks Ellingson
83	Jay Monson
84	Tim Johnson
84	Jim Johnson
85	Duane Slaughter
85	Wayde West
86	Mike Kelly
86	Bill MacDonald
87	Jeff Backstrom
87	Dan O'Brien
87	Jamie Olsen
89	Michael Brower
89	Dan Brown
89	Arik Hemquist
90	Brian Brown
90	Scott Paquette
90	Tom Proshok
91	Gary Deters
92	Troy Lang
92	Tyler Moe
93	Dan Hanson
93	Steve Makowske
93	Cris Risberg
93	Tom Schmidt
97	Rod Johnson

## FIRST FLIGHT - NET SCORES

74	Terry Negen (86)
77	Mike Nelson (87)
77	Scott Austin (94)
77	Dave Kazmierczak (94)
79	Sally Berens (94)
81	Dennis Salwei (95)
82	Chuck Schoenrock (91)
84	Jamie Bezanson (101)
85	David Kirscht (96)
85	Larry Gorman (99)

86	Tod Blankenship (98)
87	Jack MacKenzie, CGCS (99)
87	Jon Almquist (106)
88	Kevin Norby (97)
90	Butch Greeninger (105)
90	Chad Snuggerud (106)
91	Chad Belland (99)
91	Jeff Vinkemeier (108)
92	Brian Zeigler (110)
93	Wes Stoneback (102)
96	Ben Just (110)
99	Michael Sonnek (115)

## SECOND FLIGHT - NET SCORES

73	Mark Lies (93)
74	Brian Jordan (100)
77	Brandon Schindele (103)
81	Brad Zimmerman (106)
81	Jeff Johnson (107)
85	Jake Schmitz (106)
85	Brad Smith (110)
86	Nate Uselding (106)
87	Casey Burrow (113)
89	Bob Atol (112)
89	Tom Fuller (113)
92	John Meyer (113)
103	Jeffrey Hartman (128)

## CALLAWAY FLIGHT - NET SCORES

74	Brian Boll
75	John Jarosz
76	Jay Hudson
76	Robert Panuska
78	Richard Carr

## SENIOR FLIGHT - NET SCORES

79	Jim O'Neill (92)
80	John Glattly (105)
90	Richard Kolter (101)
91	John Monson (100)
92	Doug Daniel (108)



Minnesota Valley Country Club Superintendent Michael Brower watches his approach shot in the MGCSA Championship at Edina Country Club on September 13th.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## FOR SALE

- Dodge 1 ton dump truck flat bed \$1500

- 97 Toro Contour

NEEDS LITTLE WORK \$4450

- 95 John Deere light weight frwy mwr RTC \$3500

-9-N Ford Tractor 3pt, Turf Tires, New Engine \$2500

attachments:  
Fert Spreader 1 yr old, \$1350 obo

Jac seeder mint, \$1250 obo

Blad, \$125 obo

- Reelmaster 223-D Good reelstock \$2300 obo

- Cushman Sprayer 100 gal, PTO, w/ boom \$900

- Riding Greensmower Jac 4

Sharpened & rebuilt reels \$2200

-6 Toro VT3 Irrigation Satelites \$200

- Brower reel mower w/ Honda engine \$500

- National tri plex 60" \$500

-88 Cushman 3-wheel w/

Hydro dump \$1000

Contact: Chris Klatte @ Elm Creek G.C.

Plymouth, Mn

Cell 218-522-0812 or E-mail chrisklatte9@aol.com

## FOR SALE

Meter Matic F8 Topdresser.

Good working condition. \$300

Contact: Justin Gustafson

Ely Golf Club

218-365-5932

## FOR SALE

1973 Toro Parkmaster 9-gang with two

spare cutting units,

power steering, hydraulic lift, 5 bladed

reels, rebuilt engine in 1994,

new radiator in 2004,

re-painted in 2002.

Ready to mow and runs good! \$4,000

Contact: Bob Steele or John Hickory Hills Golf Course 715-878-4543

## FOR SALE

+ Progressive 12 foot batwing large area rotary mower.

Great shape, extra parts, \$3500.

+ New, never used Planet Air airifier, both coring and

shatter tines. \$1500

+ 1994 F250 4x4 Supercab, long box, black with chrome.

132K miles \$6500.

Will consider trade for

similar value equipment.

Contact: Mike Grinstead

Meadow Greens Golf Course

Mobile 507-438-9342

Home 507-434-0687

## FOR SALE

Jacobson equipment and trap rake

10hp Honda \$400

Tri-King 16716 \$1500

Greensking IV \$2000

2 older walk mowers \$100 each

Ransomes fairway mower

350 Diesel -- \$2000

cups, tee markers, cup cutter \$100

Contact Tug Hengel

218-746-3355 or 218-746-3688

## FOR SALE

1990 GA 60 Aerifier, like new,

only 370 hours.

Contact: Dan or Greg

St. Cloud Country Club

320-230-3331

12 480v 1000w metal halide

Note: More classified ads may be found at [www.mgcsa.org](http://www.mgcsa.org)

## In Bounds -

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reward you with a bit of extra income.

Take for example my Nose Visor. Base ball caps are sooo blasé, and your normal full head visor can be a real nuisance, especially if you want sun on your fore head, or in some cases five head. Thus I have created the Nose Visor.

My nose seems to be very sensitive to the damage caused by the sun, yet I don't want to give up a tanned fore head. Not only that, it is thought that wearing a hat will hasten balding, something I would like to slow down. With these thoughts in mind I developed a simple plastic device to be specifically worn upon your nose. Sold in packs of five and available in multiple colors I figure that everyone will one a dozen or more.

Football stars can wear them under their helmets to prevent sunscald. Because Army Helmets lack a bill, the specialized camouflaged Nose Visor has a military application. And just imagine the advertising potential when businesses begin putting their logo on the band. I am getting excited just thinking about the limitless possibilities.

But before I get too carried away I think I'll get a patent! Hmm, I wonder if there is room on the Lesco Truck for a display panel?