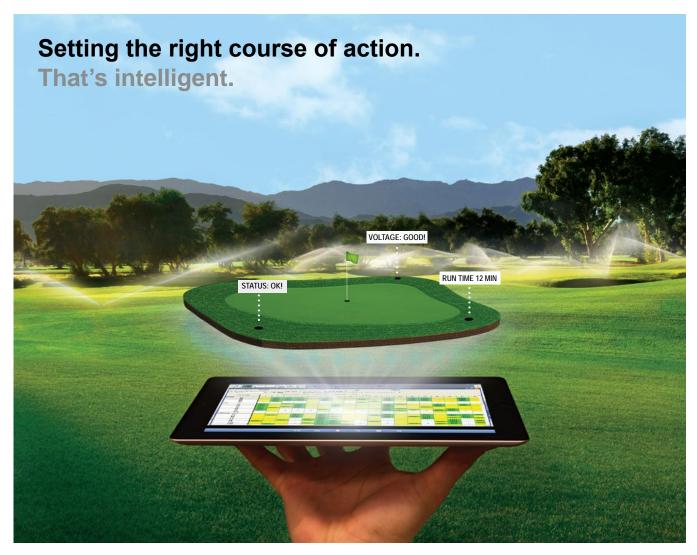


Vol. 51, No. 7 August 2016



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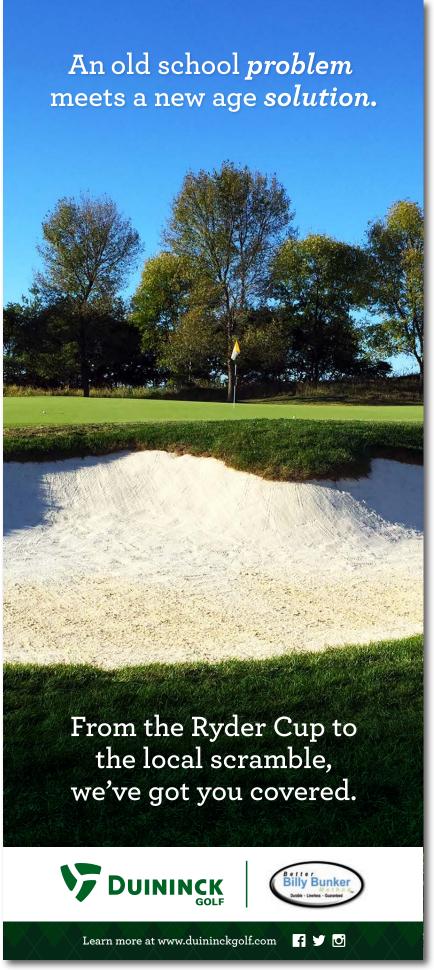












September 19th
The Scramble
Town and Country Club
Host Bill Larson CGCS

September 21st
Wisconsin Outreach
Kilkarney Hills GC
Host Jeremy Chmielewski

October 10
The Wee One
Brackett's Crossing CC
Host Tom Proshek

November 16th
Assistants Pro Forum
Foley United
Host Jim LeTourneau

November 17
Golf-centric
Pesticide Recert Program
Mendakota Country Club
Host Winfield



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Read about it on pages
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Hole Notes (ISSN 108-27994) is digitally published monthly except bimonthly in November/December and January/February by the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association, 10050 204th Street North, Forest Lake, MN 55025. Jack MacKenzie CGCS publisher. Please send any address changes, articles for publication, advertising and concerns to jack@mgcsa.org.



Presidential Perspective

by Dave Kazmierczak CGCS, Superintendent at Prestwick Golf Club

If you are within the friendly confines of this association as defined by geography, you

have been getting plenty of rain this season. For most golf course superintendents, way more rain than you had hoped, and sometimes in amazing singular amounts. Not that the rain is unwelcomed per se, but it's what the moisture can help cause, along with hot temperatures, that can be problematic: fungus.

My oh my, what a wonderful season for fungus. I don't know about you, but my course has been a plant pathologists dream lately. The combination of plenty of moisture coupled with some well-timed heat has produced some interesting results in my fairways and roughs that I haven't seen since my days in Kansas City. With an extended

growing season from our early start and ideal growing conditions, the fungus is among us and the only people even remotely happy would be the chemical salespeople!

The question I have is, is this the new normal? We have had two consecutive long growing seasons along with two very mild winters. The concern over global warming is ever-present. July 2016 was officially the hottest month ever kept on record for the world. I have never been a big global warming alarmist. I am not naïve in thinking man has had an impact on rising temperatures but I am not one who thinks we are all going to perish in 50 years due to scorching heat, ungodly storms or the oceans swallowing us up whole.

But the proof may just lie in the short grass. I have never seen summer patch like I have in my roughs this year. In fact, I can't even recall having any really, ever in the 16 years I have been here. Brown patch has been its running mate in my fairways- once again, a rarity. We even had a smattering of Pythium blight in extremely low areas and around catch basins which is the second straight year for that little blessing.

Add it up and I see a definite trend on my golf course. If the trend continues, we all certainly be padding the chemical budget but we also may need to take a hard look at the total program and start managing differently for the shift in climate. Turf is managed differently in Des Moines and Omaha than it is in the Twin Cities, just as it is managed differently in the Twin Cities as compared to Brainerd or Duluth. To not realize that is narrow-minded at best, downright ignorant at worst. That said, 2016-17 will probably be the worst winter in half a century and kill all the nasties. But if it isn't, it behooves all of us to take note of the changes around us and plan

accordingly.

On a completely different subject of turf destruction, I was watching the local news last night and caught a story on golf for all the wrong reasons. We in the turf industry made the news with pictures and everything but I sure wish I hadn't seen it.

Wheaton Country Club in Wheaton Minnesota got farmed. Farmed is the expression I have come to know for the (cowardly) act of taking a vehicle and doing doughnuts on a golf green. This causes damage of significant amount depending on the vehicle used. In the case of Wheaton Country Club, the damage looked like somebody used a dump truck. This poor little nine-hole course will have a tough time recovering from this horrible act. We have all had damage done to our greens in our careers, but hopefully nobody will get the people in Wheaton got.



Someone drove onto the green on hole number one and did donuts, leaving huge ruts in the carefully manicured surface. (Photo: Traverse County Sheriff's Office)

On a happier note, and in case you haven't heard, the Ryder Cup is just around the corner. Ok, I know you have heard about it. But did you know you may be invited to it? If you are gold card carrying member of the GCSAA and a member of MGCSA you can have access to the grounds throughout the entire event. Alas, you will have to find another gold card member to attend with if

you want companionship, but you will be able to get in. You will also be afforded hospitality in the form of an open food truck that will be located at the maintenance facility at Hazeltine. This is courtesy of the MGCSA. Look for information in Hole Notes or on the web page for details on entry and how to get to the maintenance area. Hope to see you there!

MINNESOTA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Presents "The SCRAMBLE" AT Town and Country Club



Monday, September 19, 2016

St. Paul, Minnesota HOST SUPERINTENDENT: Bill Larson CGCS

This is a combined scholarship/research fundraising event. Proper golf attire required. \$130 entry fee (per person) includes buffet lunch, donation, range balls, cart fee, and a fun and simple high-end BBQ dinner. The format is a scramble and open to all members with emphasis placed upon inviting your club officials to join in the fun. Prizes from the Pro Shop will be based upon participation.

Join the fun, it won't be the same without you!!!

FORMAT: FOUR-PERSON SCRAMBLE

10:30 - 11:45 p.m. Registration - Driving Range available, buffet lunch service at 11:00

12:00 p.m.

GOLF - Snotgun

Reception and heavy appetizers

(2:page tickets available for \$70) 4:30-6:30 p.m.

(Dinner tickets available for \$70 ea. -- includes donation.)

PLEASE FILL OUT COMPLETELY. THE DINNER COUNTS ARE IMPORTANT. NAME CLASS GOLF COURSE / COMPANY GOLF - \$130 ea. DINNER ONLY - \$70 REGISTER: _____ GOLFERS @ \$130 ea (Golf, dinner, donation, range balls, cart) _____ NON-GOLFERS @ \$70 ea. (Dinner, donation) TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ PAYMENT METHOD: ____ Check ___ Credit Card: __ VISA __ MASTERCARD __ DISCOVER Name as it appears on credit card: Credit Card Number: ______Security Code: _____Expiration Date: _____ Authorized Signature:

Make check payable to MGCSA and mail to: MGCSA, 10050 204th Street North, Forest Lake, MN 55025 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: September 10, 2016



In Boundsby Jack MacKenzie, CGCS

The Ryder Cup excitement grows. As members of the MGCSA, and if you also hold a Gold GCSAA

membership card, you will have free access to the event. Refer to the article in this issue and upon our website, mgcsa.org, for more details. This opportunity is touted as a "once in a lifetime" experience because Minnesota likely will not host the Ryder Cup for many decades to come.

Just how many golf courses are willing to give up "their space"

major golf event? The Mission of the founders of Hazeltine was to build and maintain a golf course suitable for the conduct of national championships. An important part of the mission was to develop a membership that supported this concept – a membership that felt a responsibility to the game of golf and its rules and traditions. Big words proposed by an even bigger Club.

In an effort to jump on board the "enthusiasm bus" the MGCSA is sponsoring, with the support of grant funding from the University of Minnesota Extension and a matching grant from the GCSAA, a



YOUR LOCAL GOLF COURSE IS A WILDLIFE CORRIDOR

Managed by a Professional Golf Course Superintendent







EXTENSION.UMN.EDU | MGCSA.ORG

for the notoriety of hosting a

digital billboard campaign. Using

a small investment, your Board partnered with two Goliaths to create a digital billboard campaign to tout the importance of golf courses to the environmental community and the significant fact that professional golf course superintendents manage Minnesota

seen "us" at the Capital attending hearings and giving testimony and who for one week will see our message on their commute. Pictures tell a million stories and yours is a great one to tell.

Of course we are singing to



YOUR LOCAL GOLF COURSE IS POLLINATOR HABITAT

Managed by a Professional Golf Course Superintendent







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golf courses.

Beyond the 250,000 attendees and 3,886 volunteers, the event is host to prime targets to read the message. Combined with the MGCSA presence upon numerous state agency committees revolving around water, wetlands and pollinator habitat, the digital action is sure to endorse our causes. Just imagine the potential draw upon political representatives who have

the choir here, but the potential public "views" are staggering as well. According to Clear Channel Outdoor, the management team running our digital billboards from Monday September 26, through Sunday October 2nd, our message should touch roughly 293,000 during a "normal" week of traffic. Just imagine the number of views the Ryder Cup will generate.

The target boards are:

Highway 7 and 101 facing west in Minnetonka, 35W and Highway 13 facing south and I-494 and Baker Road facing south. These three boards will take advantage of the main arteries flowing to Hazeltine National Golf Club and be prominent either going to or leaving the big event flashing for eight seconds, each minute, twenty four hours a day for the whole Ryder Cup of interest, the MGCSA will be

BOD for their attractiveness. Although the basic concept was helped along with insights from the UMN Extension publicity people, we did receive some help from Clear Channel Outdoor as they are the advertising experts and know what will catch the eye of passers by.

One more Ryder Cup note



YOUR LOCAL GOLF COURSE IS STORM WATER MANAGEM

Managed by a Professional Golf Course Superintendent







EXTENSION.UMN.EDU | MGCSA.ORG

week.

The rotating messages are for you and are focused upon your environmental accomplishments. Be sure to mention the campaign to your players and course managers.

With the exception of a crooked pin(who cut that cup!), the billboards have been approved by the UMN, GCSAA and MGCSA

sponsoring the lunch Food Truck down at the HNCC Turfgrass Center. Be sure to stop by for what's cooking. On Friday GCSAA dignitaries, Rhett Evans, Pete Grass, Bill Maynard, Darren Davis, Rafael Barajas will be on hand to share a bite to eat and network.

See you at the Ryder Cup. It wouldn't be the same without you.



Signature Tour Blend white bunker sand provided by Plaisted

Tournament Ready

Congratulations to Hazeltine National Golf Club.

Plaisted Companies is proud to be one of the team players in the course renovation project that has Hazeltine ready for golf's preeminent biennial team event.

As the Midwest's leading golf course supplier, Plaisted knows that consistent product quality is critical. View our full product offering online, or have us custom blend a mix for your application.

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THE SOIL EXPERTS.



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Ryder Cup Logistics

Proper Planning for an Optimum Experience

In only a matter of weeks, Hazeltine National Golf Club will be host to perhaps the largest and most viewed golf event in history, the Ryder Cup. As this tournament

is very special, it is likely that a Minnesota course will participate just once in our lifetime.

Sharing this premier experience in a fun, educational and memorable fashion with volunteers

and MGCSA members, has been of utmost importance to Superintendent Chris Tritabaugh and his staff. Through negotiations with the PGA of America, Chris was provided event passes for all members of the MGCSA who also hold a GOLD

GCSAA card. Neither Chris, nor his staff, nor Hazeltine officials are in control of these tickets. The following statement defines the rules of entry as provided the GCSAA

> and will be the only way to access the event as a member of the MGCSA.

"2016 Ryder Cup admittance is allowed for Class A, B (SM) and C gold card members who are the Minnesota GCSA.

also members of

Complimentary daily Grounds ticket at the 2016 Ryder Cup, set for Sept. 27-Oct. 2 at Hazeltine National Golf. Club in Chaska, Minn.

To take advantage of this offer, take the shuttle from public parking





and then show a current membership card with photo identification at Admissions/Will Call, located at the main spectator entrance. More parking details are available at www.rydercup.com.

The PGA of America offer does not extend to a member's spouse or guest, and does not extend to GCSAA members outside of Minnesota due to the small player field and limited spectator gate."

To enhance the experience, the MGCSA is sponsoring lunch at the

Hazeltine Turfgrass Center from Tuesday, September 27th through Sunday, October 2nd between the hours of 11:30 am and 2:00 pm. Arrangements have been made with a food truck to provide this meal to all members of the MGCSA. On Friday, representatives from the GC-SAA will be joining the group for a networking opportunity.

The Hazeltine staff also extends an invitation for all MGCSA members to visit the Turfgrass Center in a casual and unhurried fashion. Although no formal tours will

be provided, as turf professionals, visitors will get a pretty good idea of the magnitude associated with hosting this event. Please be re-

tantly they need to focus upon their task at hand, maintaining a premier Minnesota golf destination for a very special golf event.



spectful of the staff and volunteers as they actively continue preparations early and late in the day. They need their space and most imporAbove you will find a map showing the access point to the Hazeltine Turfgrass Center as well as the lunch food truck. This is the

only gate to the operational facility; access will not be granted at other

check points. The posted guard will have a checklist of all current MGCSA members and GCSAA dignitaries. Nonmembers of the MGCSA will not

Plan to attend this once in a lifetime event. It wouldn't be the same without you!

preciation for the support they have received from volunteers, corporate sponsors and the MGCSA for their endorsement. The meal truck is an especially impor-

The Hazeltine National Golf Club Turfgrass Management Staff

allowed entry, no exceptions.

tant opportunity, as it will bring the MGCSA membership together for networking and a behind the scene look at the golf tournament.

and sharing their Turgrass Center.

All of the crew express great ap-



1710 Alexander Road • Eagan, MN 55121 • www.Turfwerks.com

Town and Country Club Then and Now, Site of the 2016 MGCSA Scramble





TOWN AND COUNTRY CLUB OF ST. PAUL, WITH LADIES' PUTTING COURSE.

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AN OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE UNITED STATES GOLF ASSOCIATION.

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED "GOLFING." ESTABLISHED 1894.

VOL. IV.

JANUARY, 1899.

NO. 1.

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY CLUB OF ST. PAUL.



HE clubhouse of the Town and Country Club of St. Paul is situated upon a bluff, about 100 feet high, overlooking the Missis-

sippi River at a point upon the east side of the river almost exactly midway between the cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis. The distance from the business center of either city is about six miles The house is surrounded by native forest-trees, and a hundred yards to the north a little stream, running through a deep ravine, forms a pretty waterfall, some forty feet in height, before joining the Mississippi. The view from the point of the bluff in front of the clubhouse is one of the most beautiful in the state, and is surpassed only by that from the second green of the golf course.

The clubhouse itself is a large frame structure, which was originally constructed some seven or eight years ago, and has been added to from time to time. It contains commodious lounging-rooms, smoking-rooms, a café, general and private dining-rooms, a billiard-room, dressing-rooms, locker-rooms, baths, and a bowling-alley, in addition to the

office, serving-rooms, kitchens, bar, laundry, and servants' quarters, usually found in connection with such a club. In the rear of the house, but separated from it by an ornamental lattice-work, are the stables, to which are attached large carriage sheds. At the end of the bowling-alley and opposite the stables is the caddy-house, and 100 feet away the first tee of the lately reconstructed golf-course.

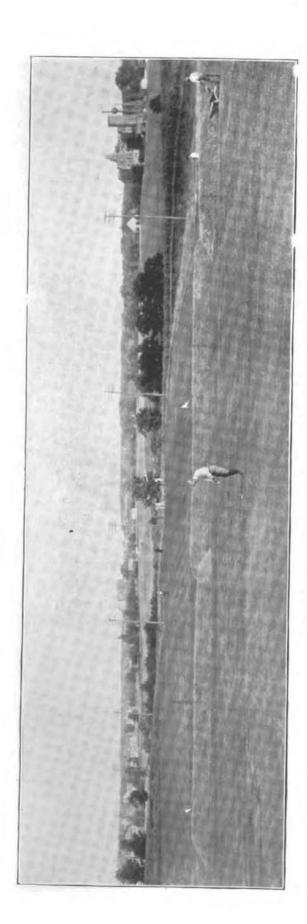
The first hole of this course is 125 yards in length,—an easy mid-iron shot. The course, however, is lined by woods, is only about 16 yards in width, and traverses a deep ravine with a swift-running brook at the bottom. On the farther side of the green is a low cop concealing a sandbunker. Beyond this lies marshy ground. The bogey for the hole is 3.

The second tee is some 10 yards from the edge of the first green. The drive is up a steep hill, the base of which is about 70 yards from the tee, while the crest is about 150 yards distant. To clear this hill, a ball must be nearly 100 feet in the air at a distance of 150 yards from the tee. The green lies just over the crest, 168 yards distant from the tee. The course is here about 40 yards in width.

HOLE - "WESTWARD

HLUIN

THE



Long grass upon one side and woods upon the other furnish the lateral hazards. The bogey is 4.

From a point near the green of this hole may be obtained a wonderfully beautiful view of the whole of Minneapolis and the country surrounding it on each of three sides and for more than fifteen miles in every direction, as well as of the great bend of the Mississippi River.

The third tee is within 20 yards of the second green. It is fronted by a bunker and cop about 100 yards distant, from which the land slopes gradually upward for another 200 yards. Thence the slope is downward at a gentle angle to the green. The hole is 503 yards in length and 80 yards in width. It is bounded upon one side by woods and a cultivated field; on the other by a narrow strip of long grass, which separates it from number 4 hole. This hole is bogied 5, and like the next, furnished perfectly straight golf and excellent brassey play. The hole, however, is rarely made in less than 6.

The fourth hole parallels the third and is of the same character. The only hazard is a cop, 100 yards from the tee. The green lies on a little table-land, slightly above the general level of the course. Along the whole of the easterly side of this course runs a deep ravine. The hole is 478 yards long, and the course is 80 yards wide. Bogey 5.

The tee for the fifth hole stands about 10 yards from the edge of a grassy ravine, which is about 40 feet deep and 140 yards wide. The sides are somewhat precipitous, but the turf is good both at its bottom and upon the sides. The green is about 100 yards from the farther (easterly)

crest of the ravine, and is guarded by bunkers and cops, which surround the green upon three sides at its very edge. Lateral hazards are the boundary fence and road. This hole is 236 yards in length and the course is 80 in width. Bogey 4.

The sixth hole parallels the fifth. The ravine should be carried on the second shot. The green lies in a dip some 40 or 50 yards beyond the west-

crops and a deep cross ravine with long grass. Bogey 4.

The eighth hole is probably the most difficult one of the course. For about 150 yards the level ground is only about 30 yards in width, bounded upon one side by a fence, the boundary of the course, and upon the other by a deep ravine, at the bottom of which are trees and long grass. A poorly driven ball is



SECOND HOLE-"H & D"

ern crest, and is concealed. Growing crops constitute a lateral hazard. The hole is 313 yards long. The course is still 80 yards wide. Bogey 5.

The tee for the seventh hole is at the foot of the westerly slope of the ravine mentioned above, and the drive must cross the ravine and clear the farther crest. It is then an easy iron shot to the green. Length 246 yards, width of course about 60 yards. Lateral hazards are growing

severely penalized. Beyond the 150-yard mark the course broadens, and again, at a point 200 yards from the tee, becomes 80 yards wide. This hole is 378 yards in length. The bogey is 5.

The ninth hole follows upward a gentle incline. Formidable bunkers and cops are located 130 yards from the tee, and the green, distant 175 yards, is upon a slope. It is guarded behind by heavy timber. Bogey 4.



THIRD HOLE-"UP AND DOWN."

The holes are known by the following names:—

No. 1-The Brook.

No. 2—H. & D.

No. 3-Up and Down.

No. 4-Back Again.

No. 5—The Ramparts.

No. 6-The Ravine.

No 7—'Cross-Lots.

No. 8—The Boundary. No. 9—Westward Ho.

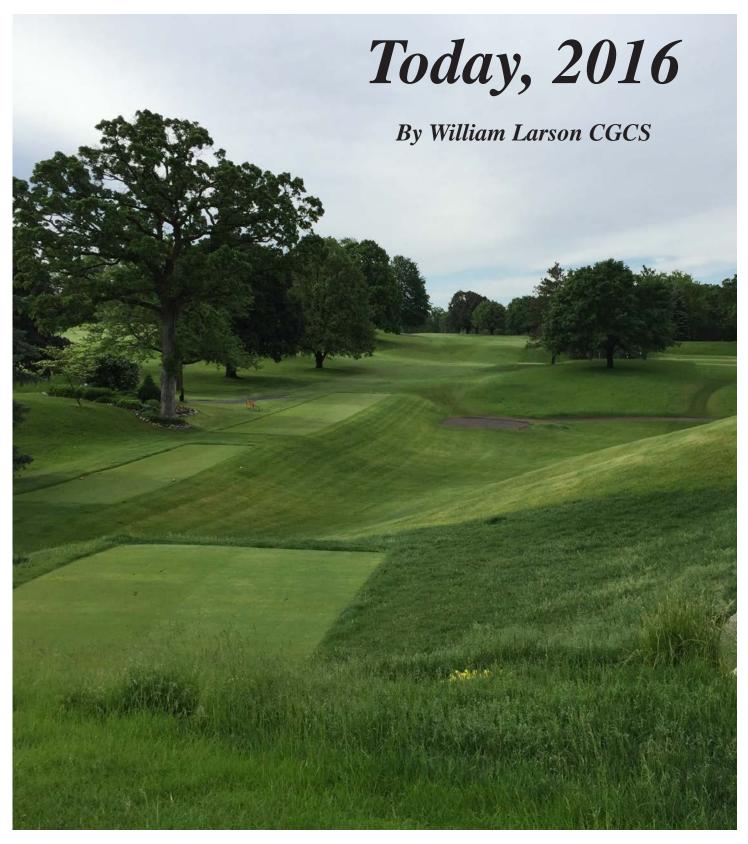
The bogey score for the course is 39, but should probably be 40. The professional record, made by Robert Foulis, the club professional, is 40 for a single round (no record for 18 holes). The amateur record, by Mr. B. F. Schurmeier, the club captain, is 41 for a single round; 87 for 18 holes: Out 44, In 43.

This course, although portions of it have been played over for three years, was opened for play in its present shape June 23, 1898, several thousand dollars having been spent upon it since the close of the season of 1897. The lies throughout the course are good. The turf is

excellent, and when the links have been played upon for a year, it is probable that there will be no better nine-hole course in the country.

In front of the clubhouse is a ladies' putting course of six holes, where weekly putting competitions occur.

The Town and Country Club was organized and incorporated in 1887, and was originally located at Lake Como, which is now a part of St. Paul's principal park. It has about 530 members, drawn from both St. Paul and Minneapolis in almost equal proportions. Its officers are: President, D. A. Montfort; vicepresident, D. M. Chute; honorary secretary, W. H. Lightner; assistant secretary, R. M. Doherty; executive committee, W. P. Clough, charman, R. F. Hersey, A. T. Rand, C. A. Willard, C. W. Gordon; golf committee (entire control of golf), B. F. Schurmeier, chairman, A. T. Rand, W. F. Booth, W. N. Armstrong, M. D. Munn. " C."



Times change and we fast forward to 2016. Trees grow, bunkers shape-shift, architects dabble and committeess make enhancements.

The Town and Country Club is well versed in change.

Three years ago, Town and Country Club went through what

started as a bunker renovation. It morphed into much more than we originally planned. Hundreds of feet of asphalt were removed, 200 trees were taken down, 11 new tee boxes added, bentgrass surrounds were expanded and several new "no mow" areas were seeded to fescue.

Because we had limited funds to work with, we had to do most of the work "in house". We hired local shaper Dan Bieganek that proved to be a wise move. His knowledge and expertise saved us time and money. All finish work, sodding, tree work, drainage, bunker lining (we used Klingstone) and irrigation work were handled by our capable staff.

Our goal with the bunkers was to give the oldest course in the state an old rugged look and help reduce time spent with maintenance. Leaving the edges of the bunkers and capes hairy and not edging them allows us to reduce labor and inputs. Limiting sand flashing has proved to be a godsend especially after heavy rains.

We also decided to kill off bluegrass tee banks and seed to a blend of fescues. Irrigation was also changed in order to keep most of the





Above: Klingstone soil stabilizer is applied to the bottom of the bunker

Below: A job well done by a great staff.



water on the tee surfaces away from the fescue banks. We will continue to expand on the "no mow" areas as we move forward.

Response from our membership has been very positive regarding the new bunkers, continual tree removal, and expanding our "no mow" areas. Jeff Mingay, a Canadian Architect has been retained to provide the club with a new master plan. He will fine tune and tweak the course in a manner that will take advantage of our wonderful views and landforms with less inputs.



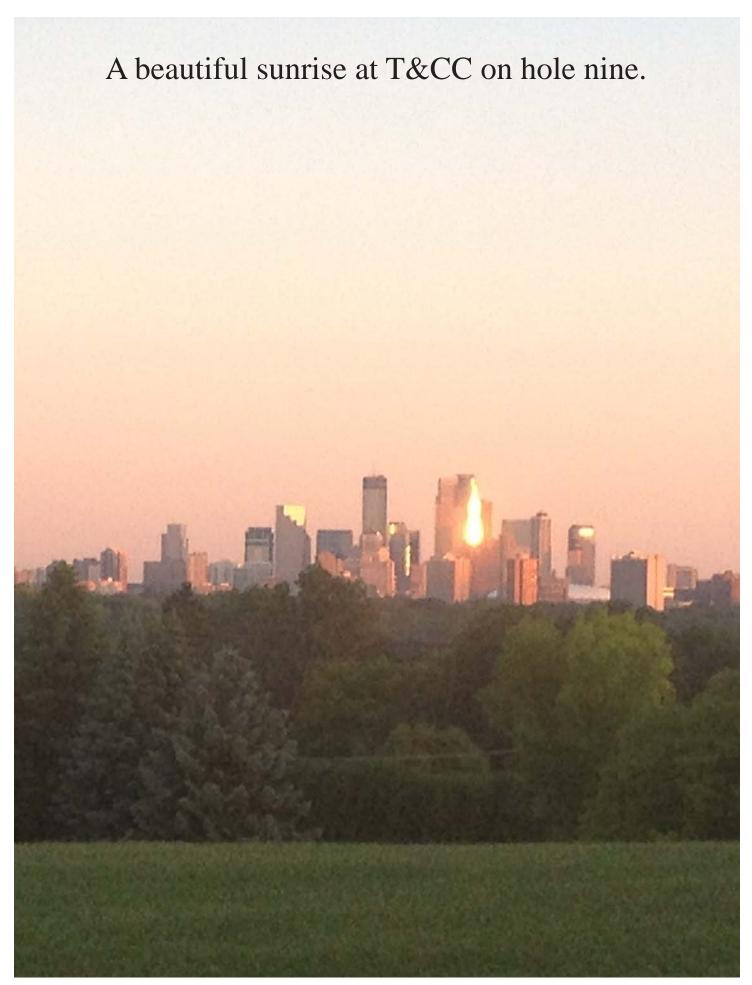
Example of killing off bluegrass tee banks and seeding to NO MOW fescues
Please join my staff and me and see the changes yourself at the 2016
Scramble Tournament to benefit Scholarship and Research.

William Larson, CGCS
Penn State University
28 years at T&C

Erik Tolzmann Assistant Supt. Penn State University 7 years at T&C John Campbell Assistant Supt. Rutgers University 1 year at T&C

Jim Crawford Technician 46 years at T&C Mike Romundstad Mechanic 28 years at T&C

Bill Hallquist Foreman 15 years at T&C



Scholarship Recipients Announced Four Worthy Students Claim Awards

This year the MGCSA and Par Aide are pleased to award two, \$1,000 MGCSA Legacy Scholarships, to Kaija Eckholm and Abigail Gullicks, a \$1,500 Joseph S. Garske Legacy scholarship to AnnMarie

Backstrom and a \$1,500 Garske scholarship renewal to Emeline Brudwick.

The Legacy Scholarship

The Minnesota Golf
Course Superintendents'
Association
offers a Legacy

Scholarship program designed to assist children and grandchildren of Class AA, A, SM, C, D, Associate and Affiliate members. The MGC-SA provides scholarships to students attending college or vocational programs at any accredited post-secondary institution. The program is

independently managed by Scholarship America, a national non-profit student aid service organization.

Kaija Eckholm is the daughter of E. Paul and Renee Eckholm. Paul



is an affiliate member with Arteka Companies. Kaija graduated from Savage High School and is currently enrolled at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis Campus, majoring in kinesiology.

Abigail Gullicks is the daughter of Bill and Kristen Gullicks. Bill is the superintendent at Bellwood Oaks Golf Club. Abigail is currently enrolled at the University of St. Thomas where she is pursuing a degree in human resources.

A TOAST, IN APPRECIATION OF YOUR BUSINESS. HERE'S TO YOU.



The Joseph S. Garske Legacy Award:

The Joseph S. Garske Legacy award, named after the founder of Par Aide Products Company, Joe Garske, is committed to further the education of children and grandchil-

dren of MGC-SA members through financial contributions. This is the 20th consecutive year for these awards. Par Aide is located in Lino Lakes, Minnesota and owned by Steve Garske, son of Joseph.



The late Mr. Garske, who died at the age of 76 in 1982, started Par Aide in 1954 with plans to make a "good" ball washer. A foundry man and avid golfer, he knew little about the golf business, tried to sell his ideas for design and tooling to two accessory companies, was turned down by both and so began Par Aide Products Company. Steve Garske started The Legacy Scholar-

ship in his father's honor in 1996.

"I am pleased to have our company provide these scholarships since for many superintendents, providing a college education for their children requires true sacrifice.

> I am fortunate to have the opportunity and ability to help," Garske said.

> "As a longtime member of the Scholarship Committee some years ago, it always bothered me that we had lots of scholarships available for turf students

but nothing for the legacy of current members," Garske said. (Heeding the comments of a long-time Minnesota Superintendent that our committee was working to put him out of a job.) While Steve thought this was a bit of paranoid thinking, it did make him realize that supply and demand works in this industry as well, and if nothing else, an oversupply of eager new superintendents

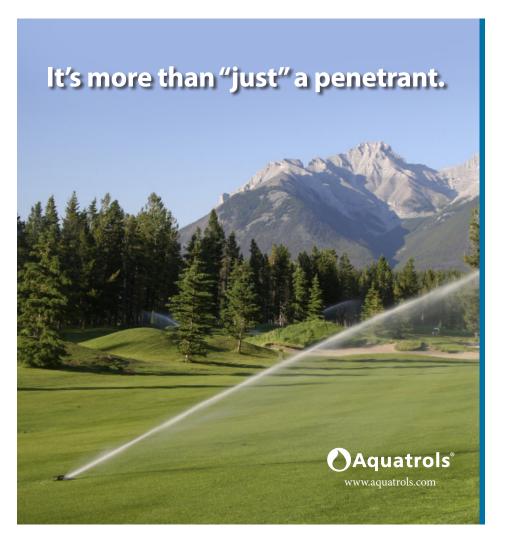
could definitely undermine salaries. However, it was the following premises that motivated Par Aide to initiate a legacy scholarship program:

1) Many Superintendents are underpaid, in my opinion, and they truly work a labor of love. Sending a child to college is likely a real hardship. These same Superintendents who now have college age children were the very ones who had been so responsible for supporting our company through all the years and

had helped us attain our success. We wanted to thank them.

- 2) Our founder, Joe Garske, did not have any formal education and was always conscious of that fact. He had quietly supported at least one young man in gaining a degree.
- 3) There were lots of turf student scholarships but few if any Legacy awards."

So it seemed obvious to Steve to initiate a legacy program and it was discussed at numerous schol-



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arship meetings. The problem was how to administer such a program. Suppliers to our industry did not want to be in a position of judging one potential recipient/customer against another, and Superintendent members were not comfortable with reviewing personal information and making judgments on each other either. The sponsorship concept lay dormant until we discovered the Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America, now called Scholarship America, an organization that does nothing but review and award scholarships. It's completely impartial and considers all information confidential. The MGCSA quickly agreed to accept the cost of administration and the Joseph S. Garske Legacy was born.

The idea was to provide two two-year scholarships to deserving children of current MGCSA Members. This program is thought to have been successful by all and has been in existence since 1996, helping numerous sons and daughters of Superintendents pursue their college education. Par Aide has continued to prosper and as an expansion of its Minnesota program, it now also

offers a similar program nationwide through the GCSAA.

AnnMarie Backstrom, daughter of Jeff Backstrom and Caryn Coller, is the first year recipient of the Joeseph S. Garske Scoholarship. Jeff is the superintendent at Cannon Golf Club. AnnMarie is a graduate of Bethlehem Academy in Faribault and is currently attending the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, MN. She is specializing in Environmental Studies.

Emeline Brudwick, daughter of David and Melissa Brudwick, is the renewal recipient of the Joseph Garske Scholarship. David is the assistant superintendent at Eastwood Golf Course in Rochester. Emeline is attending the College of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN, where she is pursuing a degree in nursing.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2016 MGCSA and Joseph S. Garske Legacy Scholarships. Thank you members of the MGCSA and especially Steve Garske for enabling these fine individuals to pursue their dreams and aspirations.

"Kaija (Ki-ya) Eckholm, of Savage, Minnesota, graduated with honors from Burnsville High School this spring. Kaija has always been a strong student, receiving National Honor Society membership since Junior High

Kaija has a passion for soccer and has been an active participant since a very young age. She has played on state championship club teams at the Premier level and played varsity soccer while in high school. In addition to her playing skills, Kaija has coached youth soccer for



the Burnsville Athletic Club. Kaija also teaches soccer at Left Foot Coaching Academy in Minneapolis. While she would have loved to play in college, playing at a D1 level was not in the cards.

Kaija has spent many hours volunteering working on activities benefiting children. She taught Sunday school, was a team leader for a church summer program for children and teens and participated in multiple Feed My Starving Children opportunities as well as other child focused events.



Kaija was happy to be accepted at all of the colleges to which she applied. As soon as she received her offer letter from the University of Minnesota, her first choice, she immediately accepted. She will be following in her fathers and grandfathers footsteps. Kaija will be pursuing an undergraduate degree in Kinesiology at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities this fall and is looking towards a PhD in physical therapy after that. "

E. Paul Eckholm



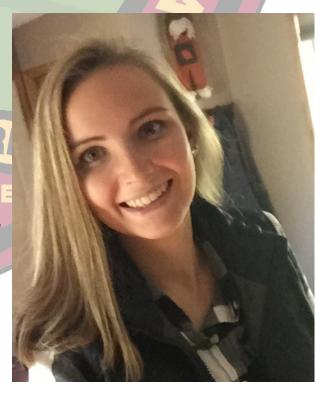
"Abigail (Abbey) Gullicks is currently a Junior at the University of St. Thomas where she is pursing a degree in Human Resource Management along with Business Communications. Abbey's strong organizational skills, determination and focus have opened the door to a variety of experiences at St. Thomas. She currently serves on the Executive Board for Woman in Business, was chosen as a Building Manager for the Anderson Student Center on campus and last spring was inducted into

Beta Gamma Sigma for her excellence in her Business classes.

As parents we are very proud of her strong character traits. There is nothing more valuable than having a strong sense of self to lead you through life. Abbey is a well-rounded individual that is academically driven, but also enjoys other avenues in life. During her free time she enjoys golfing, playing cards, painting and fishing.

The past five years Abbey has enjoyed working at Bellwood Oaks Golf Course. She loves the early mornings mowing greens, looks forward to working in the clubhouse, and enjoys conversing with the golfers on the beverage cart. Her extensive background on the golf course along with her current academic track in business has sparked an interest to pursue a career in the golf industry."







"AnnMarie attends the College of St. Benedict in Saint Joseph, MN. She is entering her junior year with a major in Environmental Studies and a minor in Theater. She participates in many theater productions on the stage or with the supporting crew. She is involved in the rowing club and gets up at 5:00am for sunrise practices at St. Johns University during the Fall of the year. She stays very busy with school activities and studies.

She loves to travel and visit National Parks around the United States. Camping in a tent most of the time while there. Her summer months are spent working at Cannon Golf Club for her dad walk mowing greens, raking sandtraps, pruning, edging, planting flowers, and filling divots. This year she also worked at Many Point Boy Scout Camp near Park Rapids, MN in the camp office fielding phone calls and organizing campers.

This coming January she will be leaving to study abroad in Patagonia, Chile for her winter semester. Living out of a tent the entire time. She is very excited and can't wait to see more of the world and its beauty.

I am a very proud Dad and am blessed to have a daughter who is very active, ambitious, and the drive to make a difference in the world. I would like to thank Par Aide/Steve Garske for providing the Joseph Garske Scholarship for my daughter. She is very appreciative and honored to receive the award. Thank You!"



Jeff Backstrom



"My daughter Emeline, will be a sophomore at the College of St. Benedict, which is located in St. Joseph MN. Emeline is following in her mother's footsteps and is pursuing a nursing degree. While pursuing a Nursing Major, she is also working on an English Minor, all within the St. Benedict's Honors Program.

Emeline's passion for learning has prompted her to become a member of the Honors Advisory Council. Outside of the classroom, she writes for the school's newspaper, 'The Record.' She is also involved with Magis Ministries as part of their leadership

team, and helps lead a bible study for incoming freshmen.

My wife Melissa and I are so proud of Emeline. We are also very grateful and honored that she has received the Garske Scholarship award."

Dave and Melissa Brudwick



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Renovating Golf Courses – Looking Beyond Architecture

By Kevin Norby, Herfort Norby Golf Course Archetects

In the 1980s and 1990s, American golf architects were building new golf courses at an astonishing rate. Land development was booming, people felt secure in their jobs and the National Golf Foundation had declared that Americans would have to build a golf course a day to meet demand. All of that changed with the housing bust and the economic downturn in 2008. However, for the past two or three years we've seen a strong resurgence in the golf world nationwide. The economy

has improved, a number of courses in most markets have closed and many private clubs now have waiting lists again.

After years of budget cuts and deferred capital improvements, many of our clients are calling us looking for advice on what they can do to improve their bottom line and increase their share in the local market. For private clubs, this often means adding new amenities and an emphasis on attracting new mem-



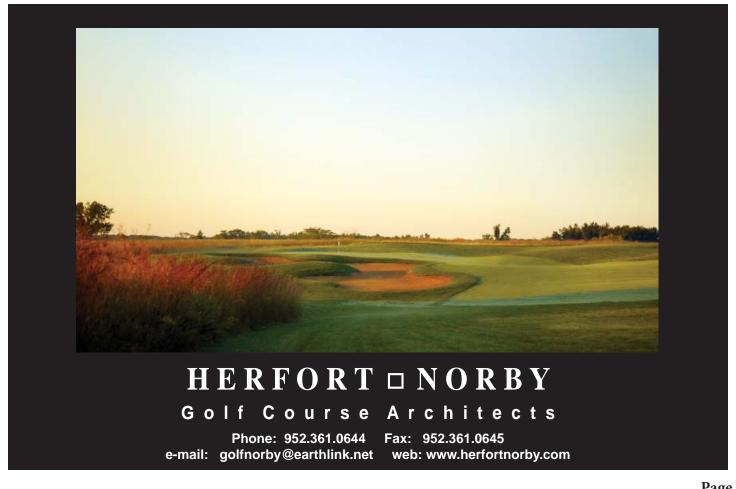
The Preserve. Photo by Peter Wong

bers. For public daily-fee courses, this means looking for ways to increase rounds and daily green fee revenue. So, here are a few things to consider in this changing economy:

Define Your Niche.

Before making architectural changes, it is important to identify the golf course's niche in the local market. It stands to reason that the typical customer at a private club has different expectations than the typical golfer at an entry-level daily

fee or municipal course. Where a member at a private club may be looking for exceptional conditions and a strategic challenge, the entrylevel or average golfer is likely more concerned about price and having fun. In fact, the average golfer may not be concerned about the strategy of the game at all – they may not even keep score. As golf architects, identifying the target customer is the first step to tell us how to design the golf course, which improvements are most important and where an owner should spend their capital investing and advertis-





Braemar Golf Course

ing dollars.

We often work with market analysts and golf strategists to help us look beyond the obvious architectural improvements to insure that the improvements we propose are actually going to help the course become more sustainable.

Instead trying to compete with the other courses by lowering rates, the answer might be to change your niche in the market. This may mean changing the course to create a more-upscale experience or it may mean making the course easier and more fun. In some markets, the smart move might even be to reduce the course from eighteen holes to nine holes or to shorten the course to an eighteen-hole short-regulation or executive course and to then develop the remaining land as a threehole short course, a driving range or a real estate development.

It doesn't matter whether we're selling shoes, cars or golf, you have to first identify and understand your niche in the market. Understanding what your niche in the market is tells us how to design the golf course, which improvements are most important and where you should spend your advertising dol-



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Know Your Customer

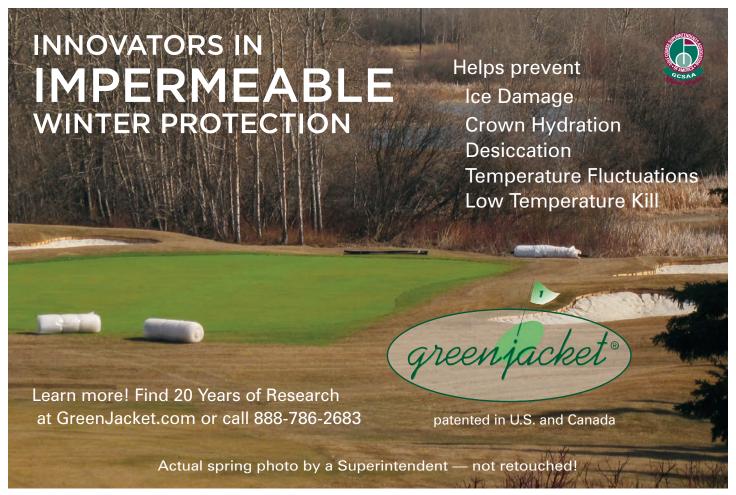
It's interesting to me how oftentimes the owner or golf professional is out of touch with their customer base. More often than not, they are hearing from the most outspoken five or 10% of their customers saying what they really need to do is add new back tees or improve the consistency of the sand. At the same time, the silent majority may be thinking the course is too

difficult or takes too long to play. Spending money to reduce forced carries, removing trees and building new forward or senior tees may be money better-spent to increase rounds and revenue.

It's not uncommon for me to go into a city and find four or five regulation public courses all charging nearly the same rates and essentially targeting the same customer. This would be like having four or five Caribou Coffee shops in town but nobody selling Starbucks



Nine Green at Bakker Crossing in Sioux Falls. Photo: Peter Wong



or Dunn Bros. Sure, you're going to sell some coffee but somebody could do really well offering something different. In the golf world, more often than not, management's idea of addressing competition has been to focus on adding new back tees, building a bigger clubhouse or dropping their green fee or season pass rates a few dollars below the competition. At the end of the day, they are still all essentially competing for exactly the same customer and charging essentially the same rates.

I know, you're thinking we know who our customers are. A lot of them have played here for years. Being in the golf business, it's sometimes hard for us as golf course managers, golf professionals and golf architects to understand and appreciate how the "average golfer" thinks. The National Golf Foundation would define the "average golfer as someone who plays four times a year and scores 110 for 18 holes. Most of you who are reading this are not that average golfer - we're that 5% of the golfing public who are avid golfers and have handicaps.

Keep in mind that there are a whole lot of people out there who don't think of themselves as golfers but they play four or five times every year with their friends and family – just for the fun of it. They're in it for the social part of the game. They don't care about the challenge or the strategy of the game. It's a social experience for them.

Before you start making architectural changes to the course, make sure you understand which improvements your customers actually think are important and which improvements will impact your bottom line.

Differentiate Your Course

Once you've identified specifically who your customer is, it is my belief that owners and operators need to look for ways to differentiate themselves from their competition. In some markets, this may mean a major renovation geared towards improving course conditions and the visual quality of the course. In other markets, this might simply mean repositioning the course to provide a unique experience and improve

playability. For most courses, adding more length is simply not the answer. We've all heard it said – "golf is too difficult, too expensive and takes too long to play." In order to increase revenue and improve market share, there are a number of things that can be done to differentiate one course from another. It may be better bunker sand, a welldesigned short-game practice facility, new signage or converting the turf on your fairways or greens. At a private club, it may be a unique bunker style, white bunker sand, a heated all-season range tee, a swimming pool or the addition of a skeet or trap range.

Differentiating your course and knowing who your customers are is key to creating a golf facility that will be fiscally sustainable. This can be done by implementing a master plan that includes a market analysis and a survey of your customers.

Kevin Norby is a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) and the owner of Herfort Norby Golf Course Architects, LLC. For more information on master planning for your golf course, you may contact Kevin via email at knorby@HerfortNorbyGolf.com or through his website at www.HerfortNorby.com.

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Summer of 2016 – Red thread

By Dr. Angela Orshinsky UMN Plant Pathology Department

mer in terms of turfgrass diseases. Two diseases that I am hearing a lot about this month are red thread and

summer patch.

In fact, it is hard to walk around the block without seeing signs of summer patch everywhere.

In this article. I'll focus on red thread as I have seen some particularly severe cases this summer.

Red thread is primarily a su-

and cause severe *Hollman*)

foliar damage. It can kill turfgrass stands under severe conditions. The disease is primarily found on longer turfgrass stands such as golf course roughs, sports turf or home lawns; however, shorter turfgrass stands, such as golf course fairways, can also be af-

This has been an interesting sum- fected when environmental conditions are right.

Symptoms of red thread include

blighted leaves in patches ranging from a couple of inches to two feet in diameter. Red. antler-like structures appearing on affected turf are masses of fungal threads that allow the causal fungus (Laetisaria

fuciformis) to survive unfavorable condi-

Red sclerotia of Laetisaria fucciformis appear like red perficial disease, antlers on affected grass blades. This gives a reddish can be persistent cast to the turfgrass stand. (Picture credit: Andrew

> tions. The fungus may also produce bright pink masses when conditions are particularly moist. Many times the blighted area of turf can have a pink cast to it due to the appearance of these fungal structures, but as the grass dries out, the affected areas can

appear more straw-colored.

Red thread is primarily a problem on perennial ryegrass, Kentucky bluegrass, chewings fescue, hard fescue, sheep fescue and red fescues. The disease is less common on creeping bentgrass. The disease is associated with weaker turfgrass stands such as those with a deficiency in nitrogen, low levels of calcium or phosphorous, or cool conditions. Environmental conditions favoring outbreaks include humid weather and prolonged periods of leaf moisture, which is very much like the conditions we have faced in Minnesota recently. The fungus can grow over a wide range of temperatures (59 - 77 F).

Management of red thread is primarily through cultural practices including selection of resistant turfgrass cultivars as evaluated by the national turfgrass evaluation program (ntep.org). The site lists a number of fine fescue and Kentucky bluegrass cultivars with high levels of resistance to this disease. Maintaining adequate vigor of plants through appropriate nutrition, increased airflow, and thatch removal is standard practice for preventing the disease. Once the disease is present, an application of 0.5 lb quick release nitrogen/1000 ft2

is usually enough to resolve the problem. In severe cases, it may be necessary to apply a fungicide. There are a number of fungicides with a high efficacy against red thread including azoxystrobin (Heritage), flutolanil (Prostar), iprodione (Chipco 26GT), penthiopyrad (Velista), polyoxin D (Affirm), propiconazole (Banner Maxx), pyraclostrobin (Insignia), and triticonazole (Trinity). One important factor in selection of fungicides is always diagnosis. This pathogen can be confused at times with pink patch, which will not respond to flutolanil. These two diseases can occur in the same area at the same time, in which case a recommendation would be to apply azoxystrobin, iprodione, or propiconazole, which is effective against both diseases.

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Wear and Compaction Fraction Promoting Bentgrass over

Annual Bluegrass!?
By Larry Thornton
Superior Turf Services Inc.

Anyone managing a mixed stand of Poa Annua and bentgrass ("Poa/bent") for any period of time has faced dead Poa from winter damage and summer stress. This creates a short golf season dilemma.

Without green housing, we face significant challenges getting bentgrass to germinate with our cool springtime soil temperatures. Also, mid-summer is a challenging time to establish all cool season grasses. However, the survival rate of bentgrass is significantly higher in both the winter and summer. Other benefits associated with newer varieties include lower water requirements and the potential for significant disease reduction.

Making the decision to promote and favor bentgrass in a northern climate is not a hard one. However, in doing so, there are a number of limiting factors to consider, in-



cluding: budget, timing, methods, membership tolerance and so on. Ultimately, the demands of your golf clientele will determine if it is right for you.

If it is right for you, there are many tools at your disposal to make it work. Factors to consider in establishing bentgrass include cultural and chemical practices, as well as environmental conditions. Environmental factors include: light, water, soils, seed variety, topography and traffic. All of these conditions directly impact the promotion of bentgrass. Bentgrass does not tolerate shade and compacted soil as well as Poa.

Another major factor favoring bentgrass is wear tolerance. Wear tolerance and traffic compaction are generally related. Other than adequate sunlight, the two most common factors limiting the promotion of bentgrass are compaction and wear. Let's call it the wear and compaction fraction. This list is comprised of golf rounds, maintenance equipment, soil type, watering practices and accumulative traffic. Basically, there are two types of traffic, acute and accumulative.

If you consider traffic on a



Rolling can have an impact upon wear and compaction.

Photo UMN

pounds per square inch basis, that could be considered acute traffic; whereas, pounds by equipment weight would be accumulative traffic. For example, light weight mowers may have more pounds per sq. inch at the tires than a larger five-plex mower but less accumulated weight and wear compaction. Light weight mowers have been utilized

for many decades now and have proven to be effective in promoting bent. To reduce overall wear/compaction on the golf course consider accumulative wear and compaction by taking frequency x weight.

For instance, by cutting fairways twice a week rather than three or four times, you can reduce mowing wear and tear by 33-50%. To accomplish this, growth regulators will come





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Above: University of Minnesota turf wear and compaction trials

into play. The typical cost of a regulator program can be offset by the reduction in labor, fuel savings and capital equipment life and maintenance. If you have a mixed stand of bentgrass and Poa, you can convert it through cultural practices and equipment selection. If you have a high population of Poa or old bentgrass varieties, over seeding with newer varieties is highly recommended.

Core aeration with over-seeding in late summer can establish enough new varieties to help with bentgrass conversion. The general rule would be to over-seed in August while soil temperatures are

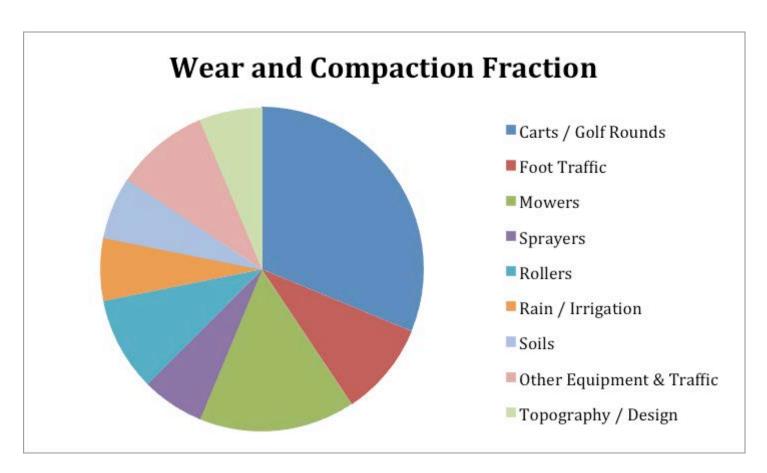
above 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Soil temperatures exceeding 70 degrees favor bentgrass; whereas, temperatures below 70 degrees favor Poa. I am a firm believer in over-seeding with newer varieties anytime you open up the playing surface. The new varieties are far superior to the ones on the majority of golf courses. That's not to say you can't make older varieties look nice; you can also put lipstick on a pig.

Overall, cultural practices are the most important aspects to consider when converting to and maintaining bentgrass. Cultural practices encompass such things as: equipment selection, mowing methods, and traffic control. In addition to the use of light weight mowers, tire and roller selection can also play a key role in the reduction of wear and tear. Aggressive tread and roller designs increase wear and tear on bentgrass.

With the demands on today's greens, reducing wear and tear is crucial for successful conversion. That being said, don't forget to implement a solid aeration program. Core, vent, and solid tine aerating, along with other tools to relieve compaction are critical for long term success.

Generally, larger areas (i.e. fairways) will be the first areas to convert, while the greens are last; however, areas affected by wear and tear from mower overlap, turning, and foot traffic will be slower to convert. If you have excessive play for the design of your greens, conversion may be impractical.

With good turf regulation, you can reduce cutting and rolling up to 50%. Other considerations include sprayer selections and course maintenance practices. Similar to mower selection, the use of heavy sprayers on greens can create ad-



ditional wear. To avoid driving on your greens, consider using sprayers you can walk with. Also, when hand raking bunkers, consider requesting the your employees walk rather than drive. Before the advent of the sand raking machines, we walked with hand rakes at Interlachen C.C..

Don't hate me for suggesting your employees walk. It will reduce wear, save fuel and increase the availability of carts for other uses. The bottom line for wear and tear reduction is: it is up to you. You have no control over the number of golf rounds on your course. Traffic control of golfers is a major contributor to the wear and tear on your course.

A secondary consideration is the utilization of chemistry. Other than clipping reduction, specific regulators can impact Poa greater than bentgrass. Herbicides can also be used to combat Poa. Both pre-emergent and post-emergent herbicides can reduce the impact of annual bluegrass. Caution is critical when using herbicides on fairways, tees, and greens. It's a bad day when you lose turf after applying a pre-emergent herbicide to prevent Poa germination. Post-emergent solutions are less likely to have a negative impact if your bentgrass population is very high. You must be confident you will not lose turf under these practices. In general, slow and steady is a better approach.

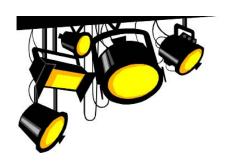
If your existing varieties are unable to meet your golfers' demands, re-grassing is an alternative to conversion. If you are thinking about re-grassing, there are numerous methods and factors to consider. Closing the golf course to re-grass is a major decision. However, if your owner or members are on board, the long term benefits are significant.

Having a greater awareness of the factors contributing to the wear and tear of your course will lead to more effective cultural practices and increased success in bentgrass conversion. Whichever approach you take to enhance bentgrass on your golf course, the benefits to quality, durability and playability will be worth the effort. So, ask yourself, what are your wear and compaction fractions?



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Affiliate Spotlight:

Jacobsen Celebrates 95th Anniversary

(Charlotte, N.C. August 11, 2016) – Jacobsen®, a Textron Inc. (NYSE: TXT) company, announced today that 2016 marks the 95th year Jacobsen has been in business. Founded in 1921 by Oscar Jacobsen, the company has been committed to helping turf managers present world-class condi-

tions every day.

During the company's 95-year history, Jacobsen developed many revolutionary products that helped to advance the turf management industry. A few notable milestones include:

1921 – Oscar Jacobsen founds the company and releases the 4-Acre mower. Intended for use on "the vast estates of millionaires," the mower boasted a cutting capacity of four acres a day, a huge feat at the time. (*photo on right*)



A Textron Company

1923 - Just two years later, Jacobsen again makes history with the introduction of the world's first cast aluminum professional greens mower (PGM). The Jacobsen PGM can still be found on courses like Oakmont Country Club, host of this year's U.S. Open.

1955 – Jacobsen unveils another major breakthrough with the introduction

of the first rotary mower for home use that uses four reversible rotary cutting blades.

1968 – Jacobsen leads the way by producing the world's first riding greens mower, the Greens KingTM, which becomes the standard of the turf maintenance industry. (*photo on right*)

1986 – The industry's first Turf Groomer™ is introduced by Jacob-



sen and serves as a major advancement in greens care by increasing green speed without lowering the height-of-cut.

1989 – The legendary LF-100TM light fairway mower is introduced, specifically designed from the ground up to be as light as possible, providing less compaction and healthier turf. (*Photo below and left*)



1998 – Textron buys Ransomes, a British company with a 200-year history manufacturing agriculture and turf maintenance tractors, mowers and accessories. 2009 –Jacobsen unveils the revolutionary ECLIPSE® 322 riding greens mower, the industry's first triplex without any hydraulics.

2014 – Textron acquires Dixie Chopper, an Indiana-based manufacturer of zero-

turn radius mowers for commercial and residential markets.

2016 – Jacobsen introduces the HR Series of wide-area rotaries, which offer industry-leading productivity, serviceability and comfort.



"Since Oscar Jacobsen founded the company 95 years ago, his original vision really hasn't changed much over the years," said David Withers, president & CEO of Jacobsen. "He set out to provide equipment that helped turf managers provide superior conditions, maximize productivity and reduce costs. From his original putting greens mower to today's HR Series of wide-area rotary mowers, we've delivered on that vision for 95 years. And now it's the countdown to our centennial in 2021 when we will celebrate our 100-year anniversary."

With over 95 years of experience in the turf maintenance industry, Jacobsen, a Textron Inc. (NYSE: TXT) company, has built a legacy of precision

craftsmanship, legendary quality of cut and unmatched expertise. Dedicated solely to delivering perfectly groomed turf, Jacobsen equipment is used on some of the finest formal turf areas across the United States and the world, through an extensive distribution network and the international Ransomes brand. Additional information about Jacobsen can be found at jacobsen.com.

About Textron Inc.

Textron Inc. is a multi-industry company that leverages its global network of aircraft, defense, industrial and finance businesses to provide customers with innovative solutions and services. Textron is known around the world for its powerful brands such as Bell Helicopter, Cessna, Beechcraft, Hawker, Jacobsen, Kautex, Lycoming, E-Z-GO, Greenlee, Bad Boy Off Road, Textron Systems, and TRU Simulation + Training. For more information visit: textron.com.

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Hey Affiliate Members! Want a bit of "Spotlight" time? Contact Jamie Bezanson with promotional information about your company, how it developed and expectations for future development.

Within the Leather

by Marlin Murphy, Superintendent at Stillwater Country Club

About two years ago, the man I admired and looked up to throughout my entire life,my dad, called me and told me he had cancer. After more tests and doctors probing, he then told me he would die of this cancer within six months. After many tears, prayers, anger, and more tears, you come to grips with the reality and frailty of life. I also came to the realization that my time to spend with him would be coming to an end.

This was the man who taught me every morning as we rode across the 9th fairway at Somerset Country Club, all I know about the golf course. I learned what dollar spot looked like but I also learned it was Sclerotinia homoecarpa, saw a lot of Rhizoctonia Solani and Pythium blight all by the age of eleven. I saw how he gave so much of his

time and effort to the golf course he loved. He would work 12 hour days and then work on the weekends. I saw how much time, effort and frustration it took to run a golf course and although he warned me all the time about following in his footsteps, I went in to the business anyway.

At this moment in my life, time stood still for just a minute as I tried to make sense of this terrible news. How can I show my dad how much he meant to me with the limited time we had left together? My father had another place that he loved to go and spend his time off, and that was his cabin in Wisconsin. As the disease made him more sick, he was unable to care for the place like he used to. My wife (who is the best woman ever) and I decided to help him and my mother out up there. I had also started a tradition when my first daughter was born 26 years ago,

of going to mom and dads every Tuesday for supper. This made for another great opportunity to spend time with him. Sixteen months after the doctors gave him six months to live, my dad passed away.

I will never forget where I was when I got that phone call. The air compressor had just been delivered and we were going to start blowing out the irrigation. Suddenly, my mentor, friend, advisor about troubles on my course and my life, and dad was gone. The golf course was no longer an important piece of my life. All that mattered was being with my five kids, my wife and being there for my mom. Family. I know many of you have gone through this same terrible time in your life and all of us handle it differently, but one thing remains same; family.

I tried to get my dad to write one last article for the Hole Notes Magazine, but I

never got him to sit down and write it. He did tell me a couple of stories about his life and what he would have written about and they all revolved around the many great people he met and lifelong friends he made in his 50 + year career in golf. He also talked about the times he wished he would have spent with his family. He talked about how things on the course changed and all the projects he accomplished but all of that was over shadowed by his desire to spend more time with the people he loved.

I ask myself every year the same question everybody asks themselves, "Where did the time go?" You look back on the years and try to put a time line together of a project done or a tree planted and you usually guess much less than the actual time. I have been at Stillwater Country Club for 22 seasons

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now, but I haven't aged a day, at least in my head. Most of my children have grown up and finished school, moved out of the house, become smarter than I am (since their 14th birthday), and I don't get to see them nearly as much. They have

as I could have?" When you consider the job we have all chosen and love, the answer is usually no. Maybe yes in the winter, generally no.

Going forward, do we now try and make more time for



grown and started lives of their own and life became busy for them as well as me. So you ask yourself the other question,
"Did I spend enough time with my family

our family or do we stay on our current path? Our jobs are becoming more demanding and we are expected to do more with the same or less. I love and treat Stillwater Country Club as if it was my own and I know you all feel the same. When you love something like that you naturally have to spend time with it and golf courses require lots of our time! Meanwhile, life goes on with or without us. Twenty-two years ago, when I first got this job, I remember all the excitement and energy I had with this being my first big time job. Stillwater was a small town and I had a fairly low budget, low pressure job. Now fast forward to today and the pressure is higher and the job demands are much more than before. I'm not likely to have more time available. We used to spray our fairways once a year around the 4th of July and then it was survival of the fittest turf. Whatever lived is what we played on. Our sprayer was very low tech. Equipment was older and probably just as low tech. The pesticides we used were probably more toxic and we were not as careful. My dad used to tell me how they would mix dusty calo chlor with Milorganite with a shovel inside the shop!

Someday I will tell
my kids of the projects and
accomplishments that helped
my career and the golf course,
but I think the things I will
tell them most is about how
much fun I had being a part
of their lives. I do love golf and
this great industry we are we
involved in, but I don't think
I will ever look back and wish
I had spent more time at the
course, just how I should have
spent more time with loved
ones.

The past is history and I can't change it, but the future is right here and I do have the ability to change my bad habits and choose more wisely how I spend my time. I spent alot of time with my dad at the end of his life and wish I would have spent more during the middle! I have to forgive myself for that and much more and move ahead in life with more knowledge on how to improve the future.

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