

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Receives \$10 Million Gift

The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, part of the Department of Horticulture Sciences at the University of Minnesota, has received a gift of \$10 million for the construction of its new Visitor Center. The gift, from an anonymous donor, is the largest received by the Arboretum in its 42-year history and among the top donations given to Campaign Minnesota, the University of Minnesota's \$1.3 billion fundraising campaign. This raises the total in private donations for the Arboretum's portion of the campaign to \$41 million, including a total of \$12 million received to date toward the \$22 million Visitor Center.

"The new Visitor Center will be the heart of our revitalized Arboretum, and emphasizes a renewed commitment to serving the intergenerational family," said Minnesota Landscape Arboretum director Peter Olin. "This generous gift will go a long way toward educating and inspiring another century of enthusiastic visitors."

The new Visitor Center, which will serve as a formal entry point to the Arboretum's gardens and collections, will echo the Arboretum's historic architecture and provide expanded space for interactive exhibits and demonstrations, classrooms, an auditorium, gift shop, restaurant, and outdoor terrace. Construction is expected to begin in 2003; the new Visitor Center is projected to open in 2004.

"This gift is a strong endorsement of the Arboretum and

its mission," said university President Mark Yudof. "As one of the country's premier botanical gardens and horticultural research centers for cold-hardy plant development, the Arboretum has become a significant contributor to Minnesota's economic well-being. Its impact is felt across the country and around the world."

Intended to raise \$65 million over five years, the Arboretum's goals for Campaign Minnesota are to build new and update existing facilities and gardens, expand educational and research programs, improve visitor services, and preserve its watershed through land acquisition. In addition to the new Visitor Center, a greatly expanded Children's Learning Center is currently under construction. The Arboretum will also build a spectacular glass conservatory, designed by noted Minnesota architect Ralph Rapson. Imaginative new gardens and innovative learning programs for visitors of all ages are also an integral part of the Arboretum's vision for the future.

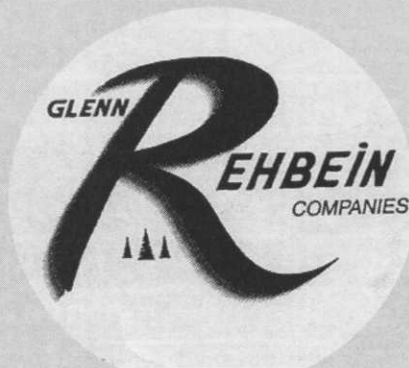
The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, the largest public garden in Upper Midwest and a premier northern arboretum, is a community and national resource for horticultural and environmental information, research and public education. It is located nine miles west of I-494 on Highway 5 in Chanhassen. For more information, call 952/443-1400 or visit the Arboretum's website at www.arboretum.umn.edu

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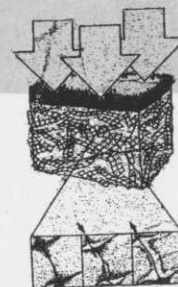
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Par Aide Acquires Accuform Golf Course Bunker Rakes From Midwest Rake Company

Par Aide Products Co. of St. Paul, MN, is pleased to announce the acquisition of the Accuform brand of golf course bunker rakes from Midwest Rake Company LLC of Warsaw, IN. "Accuform, with the introduction of their short tine bunker rake design in 1988, literally changed the look and function of bunker rakes in the industry. We are very pleased and fortunate to have acquired this prestigious name and outstanding bunker rake," said Steve Garske, President of Par Aide. "Furthermore, this acquisition provides Par Aide with a full line of Accuform branded maintenance tools for our Superintendent customers."

The transaction was completed only hours before the opening of the GCSAA Conference and Show in Dallas, TX, where it was announced to the industry. Midwest Rake is a leading manufacturer of high quality tools for turf maintenance, as well as epoxy, cement and asphalt coating applications. "The sale of the "Accuform" name and bunker rake products to Par Aide will allow us to expand our product line and penetration into the sports turf and floor coating application markets, developing areas of great opportunity

for Midwest Rake," stated Bill Henthorn, President of Midwest Rake Company. Henthorn went on to say, "Although we will continue to supply quality maintenance tools to the golf course industry under the Midwest Rake brand, we are pleased with the marriage of Accuform and Par Aide, for both represent quality and distinction within the golf course industry."

Watson Fellows Named

Four Turfgrass researchers have been named winners of the GCSAA Watson Fellowship. The program, sponsored by the Toro Co. in honor of James Watson, Ph.D., recognizes academic excellence among graduate students in turfgrass science and promotes careers in university research and instruction. Each recipient received a \$5,000 stipend and an expense-paid trip to last month's conference and show in Dallas. Following are the 2001 winners:

*Brian Horgan, new Turfgrass Extension and Research Specialist at the University of Minnesota. At the time of this award Horgan was a Ph.D. candidate in horticulture at the University of Illinois.

*Neil Heckman, University of Nebraska, Ph.D. candidate in turfgrass physiology and management.

*Darin Lickfeldt, University of Illinois, Ph.D. candidate in natural resources and environmental science.

*Nikki Rothwell, University of Massachusetts, Ph.D. candidate in turfgrass entomology.

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Editor's Corner

By Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS
Monticello Country Club

It's Almost Over

Well I never did find out if Punxsutawney Phil ever saw his shadow. I guess I don't pay much attention to what happens in the East, mostly because that weather has already been here. Besides I can never remember how that whole groundhog thing goes - is it he sees his shadow and 6 more weeks of winter or the other way around. Needless to say its March, and that means the golf season is soon to start. I hope all of you have had a relaxing and productive winter, with all your preparations having been made for this upcoming year.

Retirement

It was really nice to see such a large turnout for Larry Muellers' retirement party. Larry has given a lot to our association, serving as a board member and past president. He also has helped many get their start in this business, so it felt good to see so many wish him well as he trades in his stimpmeter for a fishing pole.

GCSAA Conference

I am writing this just after the GCSAA conference in Dallas. If you were able to attend, I hope you had a good time. I was able to play in the golf tournament for the second year, and found the golf courses to be in great shape even if my golf game wasn't. The GCSAA does an excellent job ensuring that there are plenty of opportunities for participants to interact, and most take advantage of the hospi-

Mayo Clinic Says It May Have Figured Out the "Yips"

According to the Associated Press, a study by the Mayo Clinic has shown both physical and psychological causes for what golfers have long called the "yips."

The study, published in Sports Medicine, says more than a quarter of avid golfers get the yips, and that this affliction can add as much as five strokes to a sufferers score 18-hole score.

It turns out the anyone who assumes an abnormal posture repeatedly and for a prolonged period can develop a similar condition. Victims also include musicians and dentists, among others. Mayo researchers said yips sufferers have higher average heart rates and increased muscle activity, particularly in the wrists.

tality. The camaraderie at that event is definitely worth mentioning. Superintendents from all over the country are socializing and commiserating about their courses and their games. I almost feel sorry for those southerners, when they talk about all the pesticides they need to apply to make it through the heat of the summer, as well as the hassles associated with overseeding. Then again I come home and look at 3 feet of snow and remember how nice it was down there not to have to put on a heavy jacket.

Staffing

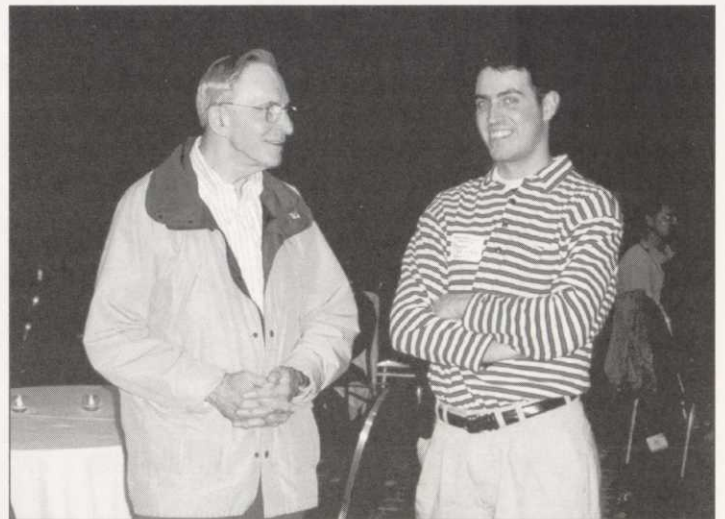
This time of year I always look back at the previous year and send out invitations to the seasonal employees that I would like to see return. Included with the invitation is a reply card, and when it is due. I was pretty lucky last year with quite a few of my staff members and hope that this year will be the same. I know several of the metro courses are looking at or have hired staff members from Hispanic or Latino origins to fill their seasonal crews and it has worked out really well for most everyone. For our course we have turned to retirees to fill many seasonal positions. They are a very dedicated and reliable section of the workforce.

Articles

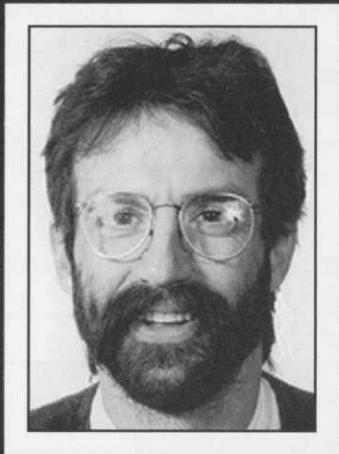
As always we are looking for a few talented superintendent / journalists to write articles for the Hole Notes. I understand several of our members went to the British Isles for their winter education. This would make an excellent topic for an article in the Hole Notes. (Hint-Hint) There are many of us who would love to visit St. Andrews and may not get the chance for quite some time. Please let us know how it was, why you chose to go there etc....

With that I will say see ya-all. I hope to see many of you at the March Mini-Seminar. Remember it's at a new location this spring, the Radisson South in Bloomington.

--Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS
Editor



DR. DON WHITE, University of Minnesota Department of Horticulture, chats with Brandon Schindele, Edina Country Club, at the GCSAA Conference and Show in Dallas.



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