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TOM GILMAN SUPERINTENDENT RIVERSIDE GOLF CLUB

Golf courses on the west side of the city and suburbs started the season in excellent condition. They remained perfect until mid July when a period of very hot, humid weather persisted for five days. During this period, disease was very active. Superintendents were doing everything in their power to stop or control Helminth, Dollar Spot, and Pythium. Grass was lost on most courses in small spots to very large areas.

For the next month, until mid August, most clubs reseeded the areas damaged from disease and were almost back to perfect condition when another very hot, humid period of about eleven days occurred. Helminth, Dollar Spot, and Pythium were back on the war path. However, disease during this period was not quite as active or severe as the previous siege. Spot spraying was done on many courses almost daily during this span of time.

On the 24th of August, the temperature and humidity both lowered enough that no more disease was active. But on August 26th the rains came! Most courses on the west side received anywhere from four to six inches of rain in a period of five hours or less. Much flooding occurred where creeks or rivers passed through golf courses. Heavy damage was done where standing water remained for several days along with thick deposits of silt and mud.

In interviewing Superintendents from West Side courses, this year ranged anywhere from a good year to a very bad year, depending upon their severity of disease, humidity and rainfall. This year, like other years, had its share of unique problems, but that's what makes the profession of Golf Course Superintendents so interesting and rewarding.



Looks like there was a sale on trophies. Paul Voykin, Midwest Association president, congratulates two champions. Bob Williams, superintendent Bob O Link Golf Club, senior champion; and Peter Voykin, superintendent Idlewild Country Club, Association champion.

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