



Bruce R. Williams [right] receives the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation Outstanding Student Award in Turfgrass Management at Michigan State University. The award is presented by Gordon LaFontaine [left], Vice President and a director of the Foundation.

Mr. Bruce R. Williams received the Outstanding Student Award in Turfgrass Management at the 47th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference held at East Lansing, Michigan, January 18, 1977. Bruce was President of the Michigan State University Turfgrass Club this past year. While employed as a research aide in Turfgrass breeding, he also served as a peer counselor for the 2-year program. Bruce will become the Assistant Superintendent at Bob O'Link Golf Club, Highland Park, Illinois in March.

#### THE WAY IT WAS

70 years ago, putting greens were seeded. They were not planted with stolons as became the fashion in later years, but various grasses were recommended for putting green turf, and these were all from seed.

Recommended were Crested Dog's Tail, Rhode Island Bent and Creeping Bent. The recommended mixture was Crested Dog's Tail, 30 percent, Rhode Island Bent, 35 percent and Creeping Bent, 35 percent. The Crested Dog's Tail was not recommended to be used alone but in a mixture. I am not sure why it was used but I think it was probably to fill in and give the turf a better color, it being of a dark green shade. Sometimes fescue was also seeded.

Grass seed was expensive in those days, that is, for those times. To name a few.

Crested Dog's Tail	\$55.00 per 100 lbs.
Rhode Island Bent	25.00 per 100 lbs.
Creeping Bent	24.00 per 100 lbs.
Fescue	38.00 per 100 lbs.
Kentucky Blue Grass	14.00 per 100 lbs.
Poa Trivialis	38.00 per 100 lbs.
Bermuda	40.00 per 100 lbs.
Red Top	15.00 per 100 lbs.

If the reader is wondering about this Crested Dog's Tail, I cannot remember seeing any of it, but if you want to see the seed heads and seed, journey out to Lake Shore Country Club where Adolph Bertucci holds forth and you will see it and other grasses displayed under glass in his office.

These seeded greens had rather a patchy look and I can remember some large patches of velvet bent, which according to a survey taken many years ago, was the favorite grass for greens. Unfortunately, velvet bent disappeared from the greens a number of years ago, but that's the way it was.

**Bill Stupple**  
Retired Golf Course Supt.

#### MIDWEST MEETING DATES

April 19 -	Mission Hills
May 9 -	Ravinia Green
June 6 -	Beverly C.C.
July 18 -	Aurora C.C.
August ? -	Indian Lakes Joint Meeting I.T.F.
September -	
October -	Possible Joint Wisconsin meeting
November -	Annual Meeting River Forest - Dinner Dance
December -	Annual Clinic

#### THE ROAD WE HAVE TAKEN

James P. Callaghan

One of Robert Frost's poems tells of two roads diverging in the woods. The first road appeared to be the one that promised easy travel. Being wide, straight and smooth, it was the road, by logical choice, to take. Unlike the first, the second road was narrow, meandering and bumpy - it disappeared into the undergrowth. It was the road least travelled; a definite challenge to undertake.

As golf course superintendents, the road we have taken is much like the second road in Robert Frost's poem, "The Road Not Taken". Each day of our lives may bring us a new road that we have never seen before. As we travel along our road, challenge is the name of our game, its omnipresence is with us every mile.

We are a special breed of human beings, looking forward to tackle the treacherous road. Taking the easy way out is not our nature. We overcome the uncertain aspects of tomorrow that seem to be lurking everywhere on the road.

Like an icebreaker opening new channels through the Arctic, we are constantly opening new pathways towards better turf management. We are always trying to fill in the potholes and straighten the curves that we may encounter.

Knowing that sections of our road may be very rough, we keep ourselves tuned. We rarely let our oil pressure get low and we keep our fuel level full. Our correct timing is a must and we travel on a full set of balanced wheels.

Like the moth searching for the proverbial light, we search for knowledge to enable safe travel along the road by attending meetings, reading trade journals and sharing our thoughts. Absence of proper improvement is like traveling in the dark without headlights. It is a fact of life that plays a very important role during our journey.

In recent years, our road has been made somewhat easier to travel along. New breakthroughs in mechanization have resulted in improved mileage. Correct applications of fertilizers have provided for healthy green turf along our road. Proper use of pesticides have eliminated many of the flat tires we encountered. Irrigation systems have kept the dust out of our eyes. And recent research has added guardrails along the dangerous stretches of road.

Although our road is paved with trials and tribulations, we are ready to undertake it, knowing that successful completion of each mile means reward.

Traveling our eternity road, we marvel at everything we find there. We are carrying a heavy load, searching to find peace of mind.

When we reach the end of our road, the great feeling of accomplishment will be overwhelming. Looking back upon it, we will see ourselves speeding through a shadow of a million miles. Indeed, we will be saying, "And that has made all the difference".