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Mike Bavier — President

### *The President's Message*

Why not contribute a little more to your Association? I would not say you are not contributing—I would say you could, and should, give more.

When was the last time you said you were willing to help out the Association and put your foot forward? There are some people that have gone the extra mile and done their share, and this is more visible now as our Association is leaving behind some of its growing pains. If you are going to be part of a fine Association like the Midwest, you should do your part.

When was the last time you served on a committee or thought about being on the Board? Anyone interested need only to contact a Board member, myself, or have a friend put the word out.

We like to be as good, or better, than the golf professionals or club managers, yet we have a hard time finding a place for monthly meetings. Anyone can read the local paper and find out where the pros tee the ball up every Monday for their events or find out that the managers again have their outing at one of the best clubs in town. What happens to us? We have to call guys six or seven times or go back to our old friends to ask them to again give up their clubs. There is no reason why the arrangements committee should not have clubs lined up for three to five years ahead. We meet only six times a year to play golf and have our business meetings, so that's just 18 to 30 clubs. When was the last time you helped out? Please do not call me to make arrangements for 1976—call the arrangements chairman. We sure could show some class by setting up meeting places for the future.

You say things are not really so bad, maybe rightfully so; but now is the time to keep ahead of the game and continue to improve our Association, which, in turn, should help to improve each and everyone of us. As your President, I feel quite proud of our group this year. However, I do not believe we are anywhere near our potential. We have a good board of governors that are trying to do their part—why not give them just a little help.

---

## MAGSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1975

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-----  
The man of the hour was once a boy who made every minute count.

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Turfgrass is very important in our everyday life. We commonly appreciate it for its' aesthetic values - highway road sides, parks, cemeteries, home lawns, golf courses and general landscaping. However, few people know that the oxygen produced by the grass plant is very important. An area of turfgrass 25 feet by 25 feet (625 square feet) can produce enough oxygen to support the lives of four people. An average golf course (130 acres) can produce enough oxygen for 36,400 people.

The Illinois Turfgrass Foundation is a non-profit organization that was formed to initiate and carry on research in the culture and maintenance of turfgrass. The University of Illinois has conducted this research program that has been funded by an annual allocation from the Legislature of the State of Illinois, the subscription of memberships, grants from private industry and a few donations. Recently, however, an adverse decision by the State Legislature has reduced the operating capital of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation to an extent that the future of this program is in jeopardy.

Therefore, in an effort to raise funds to support turfgrass research at the University of Illinois, the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation will be sponsoring a golf day on August 25, 1975 at the Indian Lakes Country Club, 232 West Schick Road, Bloomingdale, Illinois. Tickets will be sold for \$30.00 per person and will include golf, golf cars, hors d'oeuvres, dinner and an opportunity to win many prizes. Additional contributions will be significantly appreciated. The donor of each \$100.00 will receive an additional free ticket. Additional information may be obtained from your golf course superintendent or the golf day chairman, Roger LaRoche, 219-844-0330.

We hope that everyone will be able to participate in this event. Today, more than ever, because maintenance costs have increased substantially and turfgrass areas are being used extensively, it is our responsibility to acquire as much knowledge as possible. Your acknowledgement of and donation to the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation will contribute to the product of our efforts.

We hope that you will make every effort to support this important research program. The excellent condition of our turfgrass areas and the development of many improved strains of grass are the results of research. Your participation is very necessary for this program to continue.

Ray Gerber  
Chairman, Publicity

## NOTICE

All persons in Illinois who apply pesticides for hire or on public property must now be certified. The certification examination covers all phases of pesticide use. Topics discussed at the clinics were designed as a refresher for attendees who were examined by the State Department of Agriculture at the conclusion of each clinic.

1976 regulations will require that all commercial and private applicators in Illinois must be certified to buy pesticides such as are commonly used in the Green Industries.



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## WATERING AND MOWING PRACTICES ARE RELATED

As summarized by Dr. James Watson,  
Director of Agronomy, Toro Mfg. Co.

Watering practices are related to clipping height and frequency because of the influence of clipping on root development.

Mowing is not a simple operation to be regarded merely as a means of removing excess growth. Mowing is a management practice essential to a satisfactory playing surface. Mowing practices are related to the species and strain of turfgrass being grown. The inherent characteristics of the plant determine the height to which it may be cut. Mowing is the most time consuming of all management practices and has far reaching affects on the longevity of any turfgrass area.

To use water properly requires an understanding of the fundamental role water plays in plant growth; of the effects climate and weather have on growth rates; how they influence water use rates and choice of grass. Good watering practices demand a knowledge of the basic physical and chemical soil properties, how they effect water absorption, storage and drainage as well as the frequency, rate and manner in which water must be applied.

Futher, proper use of water means correlating such basic information with the requirements for play, for mowing and other management practices and programming a watering schedule to fit the existing irrigation facilities, so as to make the most efficient use of them and the available labor force.

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Editor

### Midwest Breezes

With this issue the Bull Sheet will be starting its twenty-ninth year. How well I remember the first issue. The Bull Sheet has been very fortunate in having a printer like "Ever-Redi" in Countryside, Illinois, for the entire life of the Bull Sheet. I am sure all of us are proud of this record. As far as the number of editors in this period, there have been several. We thank all of the advertisers and certainly those who helped us pay the cost at the beginning and are still with us. Without all of you it would be necessary to close shop.

Fifty years ago this editor was working for the American Park Builders building Medinah Country Club. Building golf courses in those days was somewhat different than the way it's done today. We normally used over one hundred head of horses pulling scrapers, dump wagons, plows, etc. Also over one hundred laborers were employed using picks, shovels, wheel-barrow, cross-cut saws and a strong back. It sure never entered my mind at that time that fifty years later I would be attending the *U.S. Open Golf Tournament on Medinah's Golden Anniversary*. During this period there has been a lot of water that has gone over the dam at Lake Kadajah.

*John Jackman* reports this is one of the best spring seasons, as far as turfgrass goes, that he has experienced in his eleven years at Medinah C.C. There were a few low areas where water accumulated and then froze. These areas have been aerified and seeded.

The banks of the greens have been sprayed to prevent leaf spot and to stop turfgrass from thinning in these areas. *John* says he is looking forward to this tournament. He feels it will be a great experience and I am sure we all agree. I also am sure many superintendents are glad this event is not held at their club.

Richard Trevarthan, Supt. at Prestwick C.C. has been elected Trustee of the Village of Frankfort, Illinois. Dick has been appointed and placed in charge of Building and Grounds. Congratulations, Dick.

We have received the unhappy news that Jack Hanson, Supt. at Crystal Lake C.C., is at this writing admitted to the Sherman Hospital in Elgin, Ill. We all hope for a speedy recovery.

## POISON IVY

ITCH -- ITCH -- ITCH

Exposure to poison ivy, oak and sumac often occurs during late spring and summer while you are enjoying hiking, picnicing and camping.

If you come in contact with any of these skin irritating plants, wash the affected area as soon as possible with a bar of laundry soap and water. Rinse with rubbing alcohol.

If you still get a rash and it becomes severe—call your doctor.

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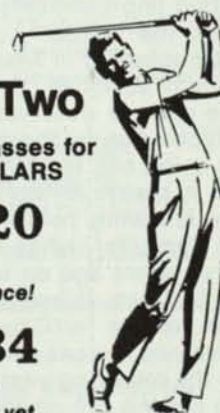
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### U.S. OPEN GOLF AT MEDINAH C.C.

The question is asked many times, what are the necessary preparations for the host club sponsoring a golf tournament such as the United States Open which will be held at Medinah Country Club on June 19-22. Is it necessary to do construction or reconstruction improvements on the golf course? With this in mind the "editor", one who devoted several years in the beginning of Medinah C.C., decided to find out from *John Jackman*, the Superintendent.

The editor's observation in regards to the playing conditions during the summer months on #3 course, "this is the one the U.S. Open will be played on," is that it is always in tournament condition.

The following points of information are those that *John, Supt.*, furnished me and I pass along to you.

Three years ago on May 19 the club voted to have the U.S. Open. It has been a very fast three years.

That fall we fertilized roughs. Other than that we top dressed greens and our other construction took place the following year.

We cut the hill on #5 fairway in front of the tee so you can see the landing area. We planted fifty trees on the left and the right side to make a contoured fairway and a much more interesting hole.

We added a fairway trap on the right side of #10 which goes from 240 to 280 yds. This should catch some balls.

We closed the only trap on the right side of #16 green. We rebuilt #2, 9 and 17 tees. This change was in the championship tee area. It lengthened the course some, but gave us more teeing area.

That is all the construction we have done. No greens were changed for the tournament.

We have been top dressing more, approximately 10 times, since we have known about the tournament. We have not aerified since Spring of 1974. Have been doing a lot of hand watering on greens. Did considerable seeding with soil added on fairways the past three years.

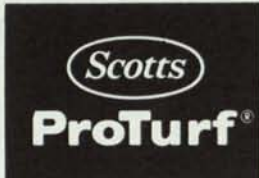
We are in the process of trimming dead wood out of many trees around the greens and tees. We will not be cutting the rough until after the tournament.

This Spring we have fertilized the rough to make it heavier, (height 5½", requirement) for tournament play. Width of fairways are 28 to 33 yds.

Right now telephone lines are mostly in. ABC has located towers and T.V. camera placements. Most of T.V. cables and cameras will be installed approximately one week prior to the tournament. We are planning on having traps edged and greens cut at tournament height approximately June 1. From this point on we will be doing our daily maintenance and last minute details only, hopefully!

Class A national members will be admitted by showing their card. They must go to the "will call" tent located in Lake Park High School parking lot. A shuttle bus will bring them to the club. They will not be permitted to come on the grounds with their car or to my shop area. No Exceptions. If not a member of the National, contact Lee Record for letter to receive a pass. Class A National card holders only will be admitted without a letter. This will be strictly controlled.

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Whoever acquires knowledge but does not practice it, is like one who plows a field but does not sow it.



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**Carl Landgrebe**

The June 9th meeting will be held at Hinsdale Golf Club. Carl Landgrebe, Supt., will be our host. This is a Monday meeting and please, no guests permitted.

The July meeting will be at Crystal Lake C.C., Jack Hanson, host Superintendent.

August 11th meeting at Prestwick C.C., Frankfort, Illinois, Richard Trevarthan, host Superintendent.

September 29 - Playboy Club joint meeting with Wisconsin Supts. Gene Palrud, Supt.

October — No Date

November Annual Meeting — No Date

December 3 — Midwest Clinic, Medinah C.C. John Jackman, Supt.

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## EDITORIAL

by Ed. Fischer, Supt.

June 1975 will probably be the biggest month for Professional Golf in Chicago's history. Starting June 19th, the U.S. Open will be held at Medinah Country Club, and the following week the Western Open will again be held at the Butler National Golf Club, starting June 26th. The Professionals will have to contend with two of the finest, most challenging Golf Courses in the country, and they are not more than twenty miles apart.

This is the second year in a row that we at Butler National have hosted the Western Open. I feel that this year preparation will be a little easier, having had one Tournament under our belts already. I now know what to expect from the Pros, the TPD (Tournament Players Division) and the WGA (Western Golf Association); hopefully we will have the course groomed to their liking before everyone arrives.

Just to give an example of what is expected, look at what the TPD calls for in mowing heights:

Tees	HEIGHT		WIDTH
	Non-Bermuda Not over 1/2 inch	Bermuda Not over 1/2 inch	
<b>Fairway Areas</b>			
Fairway	1/2 to 3/4 inch	1/2 inch	30 to 40 yds
Collar off Fairway	2 inches	1 1/2 inches	4 to 6 feet
Rough-primary	4 to 5 inches	2 1/2 inches	
<b>Putting Green Areas</b>			
Putting Green	3/16 inch	3/16 inch	
Collar off Green	1/2 to 3/4 inch	1/2 inch	20 to 36 inches
Light rough off			
Collar	2 inches	1 1/2 inches	2 to 6 feet
Rough-primary	4 to 5 inches	2 1/2 inches	

If a course is not maintained close to these standards, then it can be a problem - as it was for us last year. Fortunately we got an early start and no problems came up. This year will be no problem at all, because last year it was decided that we would maintain the course to TPD specs all year round, except for the 4 to 5 inch rough height.

It is not just the TPD specs, but the roping, the locating of the concession stands, information booths and other facilities around the golf course. I must also watch the TV people, so they don't run over a green; that the tower people put up the towers in the right places; and hope that the telephone company doesn't have to trench across the 18th Fairway the day before the Tournament.

When the Tournament begins, it means long working hours - 5 AM to 8 or 9 PM. We start cutting tees, greens and fairways at 5 AM and must be off the golf course no later than 8 AM before play starts for the day. After play concludes for the day we again cut fairways and greens. We water if necessary, but the big job is picking up the trash. It takes three crews about four hours to clean up the day's debris.

Monday finally arrives, it has been a successful Tournament and you can relax - Not so! The TV people want to get out and you must watch them, they still don't know what a green is! The ropes, towers, stands and concessions must also come down. The big job is again the debris - it will take the entire crew all day to get rid of the trash boxes, plus another day of clean up help from the Boy Scouts.

Everything is down and out, and now the watering and aerifying starts. We water all traffic areas, then try to get a fairway aerifier into these areas, then water again. Last year we got a rain two days after the Tournament which really helped our cause. With any luck at all the heavy traffic areas start to look like rough three weeks later - after constant attention with water, seed and fertilizer.

No matter how much work there is to do, it seems to get done. You pray that the good Lord decides to let you have ten days of favorable weather - good weather for the Tournament itself and for about three days after so everything and everybody can be removed from the course without damage - then let it rain!

June should be quite a month for golf, two fine tests of golf on two beautiful golf courses. Good luck to John Jackman with the U.S.G.A., I know the U.S. Open will be a success at Medinah and I hope to see you all at the Western Open on the Butler National starting the week of June 23rd, 1975.

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## HOMEOWNER INSECT PROBLEMS

by Stanley Rachesky  
Entomologist - University of Illinois

*Tree borers* have begun feeding under the bark of trees. Check for sawdustlike frass being pushed out of holes in the bark. These holes may be on the trunk at ground level or higher, or even on the limbs. Some limbs may already have been killed, especially on birch trees.

Bronze birch borers usually first attack birch trees in the upper trunk and limbs. The infested areas will have uneven raised areas in the bark. The adult beetles will soon be emerging from the bark, leaving small D-shaped exit holes. These beetles will be laying eggs in the central part of the state beginning in late May. For control, thoroughly spray the infested limbs with a spray containing dimethoate (Cygon, De-Fend) using 1 quart of the 1-pound-per-gallon liquid concentrate per 100 gallons of water. Spray birch trees in central Illinois in late May and repeat again three weeks later. Apply the treatments one week earlier in the southern section and one week later in the northern section.

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