



*Two Champions
Bon Kronn & Adolf Bertucci*

MAGCS CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Bob Kronn - Champion
Tom Radar - 2nd

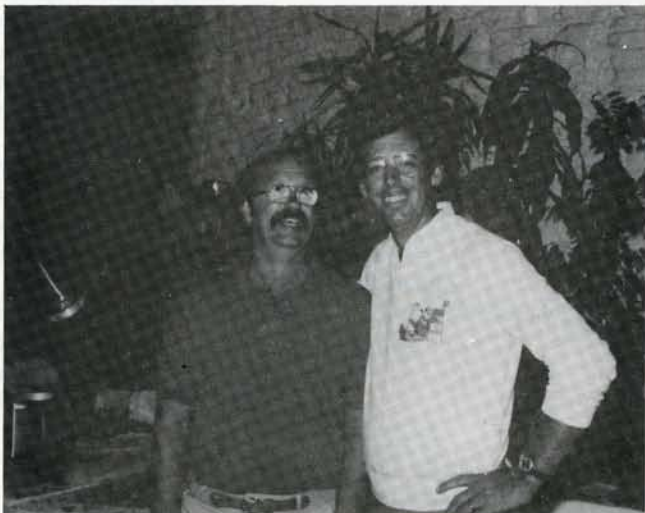
Senior Flight

Adolf Bertucci - Champion
Bill Miller - 2nd

Associates

Gary Dorsch - Champion
Tom Nester - 2nd

The annual golf tournament was played on one of the best conditioned courses the Chicago area has to have after such a hot summer. Peter Leuzinger, host Superintendent and his crew are to be praised for the beautiful course that we all enjoyed on Monday, September 12, 1983. Well done, Peter & crew. Not to be outdone, but the clubhouse staff came through with a fine buffet lunch and then one of the nicest array of hors d'oeuvres and appetizers that we have seen anywhere. Thank you - St. Charles Country Club.



*Our Hosts at St. Charles C.C.
Bill Johnson, Ass't. Supt. & Peter Leuzinger*

THE DILEMMA OF 1983

The year started out as usual, being a director of the Midwest Assn. of Golf Course Superintendents. The new President of our Association assigns each of the board members to a committee. My assignment was to head the educational committee. This committee has the following responsibilities.

1) Secure a guest speaker for a fixed number of monthly meetings. This is not much of a task.

2) Arrange and organize the topics and speakers for the (NTCE) North Central Turf Exposition. This should be very easily done with all of our intelligent and energetic Midwest Golf Course Supts. But as usual, no one has come forward to give any or some of his time for the NCTE Conference. This is very selfish as well as disappointing to myself as well as to our association. So, fellow Superintendents, we are forced into using our old standbys again. I would like to thank Oscar Miles, Dudley Smith, John Berarducci, and Bruce Williams for coming forward and rescuing myself and the association. Thanks again for your time and effort.

Unfortunately, the 1983 season has been one that we are going to remember for a long time to come. Out of the bad, some good should be learned and achieved.

The speakers we have arranged for the NCTE Conference are all qualified Golf Course Superintendents and speakers. The program should cover all phases of Good Golf Course Management.

The new chemicals, rates of application and timing of application will all be discussed at our part of the NCTE Conference. I am looking forward to attending this NCTE Conference and listening to the good reliable speakers from our own Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

By the way, we do have some new blood in the program. Please make a point of showing up early on November 2, 1983 at the ARLINGTON HILTON. We will have some topics for everyone in the grass industry. The NCTE Conference starts on November 1, 1983 and finishes on the afternoon of November 3, 1983. The big day is November 2, 1983. The theme is "MODERN GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT".

Ken Goodman
Green Acres Country Club

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Date: Saturday, November 4th, 1983
Time: Cocktails - 7 to 8 P.M. Dinner at 8 P.M.
Dancing till 12:30 A.M.
Place: Silver Lake Country Club
Cost: \$25.00 per person — R.S.V.P. 349-6940

NEWS RELEASE

The 164 page Annual Texas Turfgrass Research Progress Report for 1983 is now available according to Dr. James B. Beard. It is published as Consolidated PR 4147-4170 of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Individuals wishing to request copies should contact Tom Sneed, Department of Agricultural Communications, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843.



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and putting quality were due to the physical damage to the turfgrass plant and/or the surface disruption caused by the shoe soles. These results reconfirmed those of the Golf Shoe Study 25 years ago!

SHOE #1

This was the most damaging shoe tested. It also caused the longest lasting damage. In fact, four weeks after concluding the Phase I experiment, turfgrass damage was still apparent on all Shoe #1 plots. The length, shape and metallic nature of the spike as well as the limited number of metal spikes on each shoe are factors that account for most of the observation of this study. The effect of compaction, caused in large part by the weight-bearing shoulder of the metal spike as well as the limited number of 'bearing surfaces' (i.e., 11 or 12 spikes per shoe) was pointed out in the 1958-59 studies. The contention that the metal spike helps (aerate) the upper soil surface is without factual basis.

SHOES #2 and #4

Shoe #2 and #4 were the second and third most damaging shoes in this study. The slightly less grass damage caused by these shoes seems attributable to their greater total surface contact area (i.e., more, wider studs or nubbins) on the shoe soles. The studs are shorter than metal spikes, more blunt and tend not to pierce the plant tissue.

Conversely however, these shoes under wet plus certain other conditions, have a marked tendency to ruffle or disrupt otherwise smooth putting surfaces and cause a 'waffle-like' imprint. Because the studs are blunt (and there are approximately 108 of them per shoe), they each cause a larger area of depression than the metal spike (11 or 12 per shoe) which slices through the surface and into the ground. How long the multi-stud imprint remains on the grass may depend on many factors including; the type of grass, how wet the surface, general drainage characteristics of the green, thatch density and depth, height of cut, rooting depth and soil types heavier than those encountered in this experiment.

SHOE #3

Shoe #3 was the least damaging of all to the turf and putting surface. Again, this seems attributable to the very high surface contact area, no great protruding spikes or studs and a non-metallic sole composition. The sole is comprised of approximately 750 small rubber cleats.

In summary:

SHOE #1

Metal spikes
Long, pointed spikes
Mechanical tearing, piercing
Low surface contact area
11 or 12 spikes per shoe
Spikes with shoulders

HIGH TURF DAMAGE

SHOE #2 & #4

Composition sole
Shorter, blunt spikes
Medium surface contact area
Approximately 108 spikes per shoe

MEDIUM TURF DAMAGE

SHOE #3

Composition sole
No spikes
High surface contact area
750 small rubber cleats

LOW TURF DAMAGE

Some Concluding Thoughts

The standard golf shoe spike, or any other shoe with nobs, studs, or protrudences of any kind, unquestionably cause greater damage to the grass and adversely affects putting qualities more than flat-type shoes. Golf is one of the few,

Continued

and perhaps the only sport where the player's own equipment (spike shoes) directly, undeniably and significantly adversely affect the most critical playing surface of the game — the putting green. Even baseball and hockey smooth over their playing surfaces half-way through the contest! Golfers can't do that and, day after day, step after step, the spike golf shoes takes its toll. Only a ballet slipper might do more damage.

Is there a compromise? Is there some way out of this dilemma of self-destruction? In this technical age, lurking somewhere, there may be a new idea for golf shoes. Perhaps it is here or very near. Surely it is possible to develop a sole that will give good ground purchase and security without tearing the grass plant asunder.

Perhaps, instead of one pair of shoes for all seasons, golfers should have two pair of shoes for two seasons; a spikeless shoe for normal weather conditions and a spike shoe for wet days. Oh! What a relief THAT would be! It would save our putting greens, our clubhouses and our maintenance budgets millions of dollars a year. And yes, it could well mean at least another 800 years for the Swilcan Bridge. That alone would make it worthwhile!

Wm. H. Bengeyfield, Nat. Dir., USGA Green Section
Dr. Victor B. Youngner, Agron., Univ. of CA, Riverside
Dr. Victor A. Gibeault, Ext. Horti., Univ. of CA, Riverside

*See USGA Green Section RECORD: November, 1958 & September, 1959 issues.

MORE VALUE FOR OUR TIME

With Fall coming it will soon be time to put your golf courses to bed for the winter. Since most Superintendents and Salesmen spend a great deal of time and money on shows on meetings, I thought the following article from our DuPont newsletter might be an interesting note for October. Perhaps the suggestions here will help us get more value for our time and dollars spent.

Are you tired of going to meetings? Do you find them boring and time wasting? If there's nothing else you can do to avoid or improve the meetings, at least try the following:

1. Study the agenda; think about the topics to be discussed. Try to have something worth contributing.
2. Sit with strangers or at least with people you don't see on an everyday basis.
3. Try to keep an open mind toward the speaker and the subject.
4. Take some notes on key issues.
5. If a meaningful question occurs to you, raise it.

Then, if the meeting is a total loss, it won't be your fault. And it probably won't be. If you try, you'll get something out of it.

Frank Gasperini, DuPont Chemicals

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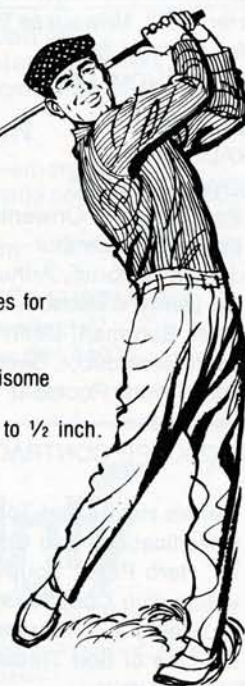
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NORTH CENTRAL TURFGRASS EXPOSITION

November 1

GENERAL SESSION

9:00 A.M. - Noon

Dr. Joseph M. Duich, Pennsylvania State University
Keynote Address - "Perspectives on the Turfgrass Industry"

Annual ITF Membership Meeting & Awards

Dr. Henry T. Wilkinson, University of Illinois, "Biological Control of Turfgrass Diseases"

Dr. Jack D. Butler, Colorado State University, "Irrigation Practices and Turf Water Research"

GOLF TURF

1:00 - 4:15 P.M.

Dr. Joseph M. Duich, Pennsylvania State University, "Golf Course Fairway Overview"

Drs. Malcolm C. Shurtleff and Roscoe Randell, University of Illinois, "Illinois Pest Update"

Thomas Van De Walle, Short Hills Country Club, "Converting Golf Course Fairways to Bentgrass Using 'Roundup'"

Dr. Jack D. Butler, Colorado State University, "Clippings — Catch or Return"

Jim Brandt, Danville Country Club, "Maintaining Kentucky Bluegrass Fairways after Renovation"

Dr. John Dunn, University of Missouri, "Warm Season Turfgrasses for Golf Course Fairways"

GROUND TURF

1:00 - 4:15 P.M.

Dr. John Dunn, University of Missouri, "The New Tall Fescues"

Dr. Thomas W. Fermanian, University of Illinois, "Growth Retardants — Is There Anything New?"

Dr. John Street, Ohio State University, "Turfgrass Renovation Techniques and Procedures"

Dr. James Watson, Toro Company, "Cultural Practices for Playing Fields"

Dr. Malcolm Shurtleff, University of Illinois, "Diseases of Ornamental Plants"

Harry Gill, Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club, "Preparing for a World Series"

TRADE SHOW OPEN

4:15 - 7:30 P.M.

November 2

TRADE SHOW

8:00 - 9:30 A.M.

MIDWEST CLINIC

9:30 A.M. - Noon

Paul Boizelle, Onwentsia Country Club
Morning Moderator

James Halloran, Arthur Clesen, Inc. - Fertilizers

Dr. Henry Wilkinson, University of Illinois - Turf Diseases

Dave Behrman, Deercreek Golf Club - Weed Control

John Berarducci, Skokie Country Club - Tree Planting

Dan Wyatt, Rockford Country Club - Flowers & Aquatic Herbicides

LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS AND ARCHITECTS

9:30 - 11:45 A.M.

Dennis Hovde and Tom Nenoff, Assurance Agency, "Bid Specifications and Contract Insurance Requirements"

Dr. Herb Portz, Southern Illinois University, "Fall Renovation with Cool-Season Turfgrasses"

Dr. Henry T. Wilkinson, University of Illinois, "Extending the Use of Sod Through Proper Management"

TRADE SHOW

11:45 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

PAST IRF PRESIDENTS' LUNCHEON

Noon

MIDWEST CLINIC

2:00 - 5:00 P.M.

Dudley Smith, Silver Lake Country Club
Afternoon Moderator

Fairway - Rough - Renovation Session

Reseeding - New - Old Areas

Verticutting

Aerification

Oscar Miles, Butler National Golf Course, "New Mowing Cost and Time"

Jacobsen, Toro, R & R, Lakeshore Equipment, "Generic Parts vs. Original Parts"

Question - Answer Period

LAWN TURF

2:00 - 4:45 P.M.

Drs. Roscoe Randall and Malcolm Shurtleff, "Illinois Pest Update"

Dr. John Street, Ohio State University, "Complications in Nitrogen Fertilization"

Jim Halloran, Arthur Clesen, Inc., "Fertilizer and Fertilizing Techniques"

Dr. David J. Wehner, University of Illinois, "Understanding the Basics of Fertilizer Burn"

Dr. Herb Portz, Southern Illinois University, "What's New in Crabgrass Control?"

TRADE SHOW

4:45 - 6:30 P.M.

November 3

TRADE SHOW

8:00 - 9:30 A.M.

WORKSHOPS—all four at the same time 9:15-10:45 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Dr. David J. Wehner, "Growth & Development of a Turfgrass Plant"

Dr. Thomas W. Fermanian, "Are You Ready for a Personal Computer?"

Dr. Roscoe Randall, "Golf Course Insect Pests"

Dr. Henry T. Wilkinson, "The Effects of Stress on the Growth of the Turfgrass Plant"

TRADE SHOW

11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

RAY H. GERBER MEMORIAL FUND

Through the kindness of Mrs. Ray H. Gerber and Family, the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, Inc. is the recipient of \$4,573 being sent in memory of Ray H. Gerber. Ray Gerber, who never really retired, spent 37 years as Superintendent of the Glen Oak Country Club in Glen Ellyn and was Editor of "The Bull Sheet", active in that publication up to his death in July. Indeed, we at ITF are grateful to the Gerber Family and all those who have shared so generously in that Fund. The disposition of the Fund is currently being considered by the ITF Board of Directors in conjunction with the Gerber family.

BRIEF NOTES

Earwigs are becoming quite a problem in the Chicago area according to Phil Nixon, area adviser in entomology. Normally earwigs are only a nuisance when they enter homes, but Phil reports that earwigs are causing damage to various plants through their feeding. A foundation spray of 0.5 percent diazinon will keep these insects from entering your house, but read the label before applying diazinon to any plants for their protection.

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MINIMIZING WINTER DAMAGE OF TURF

Winter damage is seldom caused only by an exposure of the turf to low temperatures. Commonly, the turf is weakened by one or more external events which lowers the tolerance of the grass to low temperature. With this lowered tolerance, injury can result from relatively short exposures to freezing temperatures.

An explanation of these "external events" is necessary, therefore, to totally understand winter damage. The most common problem is the dessication of plant tissue. When dry winds remove moisture from leaves and stems, minor damage occurs and recovery in spring is rapid. If the meristematic tissue of the crowns is dehydrated, the damage is much greater and a serious loss of turf results. The mechanisms of water loss are the same in both cases. Simple transpiration is one method of loss. Transpiration losses only occur when free water is available in the soil for uptake by the roots. When the moisture level in the turf tissue is low and the roots cannot absorb water from the soil, a more serious mechanism of water loss occurs. As the air temperature drops, ice crystals begin to form in the intercellular spaces but not within the living cells. This causes water to move from within cells across to cell membrane to the intercellular spaces. A water deficit can result within the cell. Hardened cool-season turfgrass can tolerate this phenomenon well. Damage occurs, however, during early spring when the hardening process reverses. The turf can no longer tolerate sharp drops in temperature and damage results. Insulation from an extreme temperature drop, therefore, is most critical in late winter. Snow is a good insulating material which does not require removal in the spring. Snow fences can be erected in the fall to help the accumulation of snow on crucial areas (perennial ryegrass turf, tall fescue turf, open areas, etc.). Where expected snowfall is minimal, other materials (leaves, straw, bark chips, etc.) can be used to provide insulation. Follow recommended procedures to prevent snow mold when using any cover material.

Excessive water is another leading cause of winter damage to turf. In areas of poor drainage, or where underlying soil is frozen, water can accumulate during thawing periods. Thawing can occur in some locations under intense sunlight while air temperatures remain below freezing. If these areas remain under water for an extended amount of time, the grass crown tissue takes up water. Grass tissue in this hydrated state is more sensitive to low temperature. A sudden drop in temperature below 20 degrees F can cause serious losses. Compacted areas (green fringes, tees, etc.) are quite prone to this type of damage.

What can be done to prevent these catastrophies? First, don't panic! Many damaged areas will recover slowly if managed properly. Find the extent of damaged area, or better yet, determine first if there is any winter damage. If you have had damage in an area before or if you suspect a likelihood of trouble, remove several plugs of turf as soon as the soil allows. Place the plugs in a greenhouse or in your shop, allowing them to warm up slowly and watch for new growth. After several weeks, you will know if there is nothing to worry about, you missed the damaged areas, or you can begin to plan for renovation. Despite the results, it is nice to know before the growing season.

It is not too late to prevent some potential winter damage. Remember, most damage occurs during late winter or early spring during periods of thawing weather. Don't try to save everything; concentrate your efforts on the critical areas

where you suspect problems. Where standing water is a problem, try to remove it slowly.

Snow and ice preventing natural runoff should be removed or grooved to release the water. One alternative to physical methods is to apply a coating of dark material (activated charcoal, millorganite, etc.) to the ice or snow and let the sun do the rest.

Ice cover over bentgrass or Kentucky bluegrass is generally not a serious problem. Other cool season turfs, especially perennial ryegrass can be seriously damaged by an ice cover of moderate duration. Large continuous sheets of ice over perennial ryegrass turf should be removed mechanically or as previously outlined.

If too little water is the problem, be cautious in applying more. Where snow cover is lacking, straw, leaves, or other mulching materials can be used to buffer the turf from a sudden drop in temperature and minimize further water loss. Use only mulching materials that are weed seed free. Weeds will tend to be a problem in damaged areas, therefore, tupersan should be used in conjunction with seeding Kentucky bluegrass. Broxomynil can be used to control immature broadleaf weeds after germination.

Plan ahead for next winter. Correct drainage problems this season for areas receiving winter damage. Be certain the soil moisture levels are adequate next fall, before draining the irrigation system. Don't aerify critical areas late in the year and consider using a mulch where snow cover is minimal. Mulches also promote early green-up in spring. Utilizing these few procedures, winter damage to turf should be a problem of the past.

Thomas W. Fermanian
Extension Turfgrass Specialist, U. of I.

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RESERVE OCTOBER 26 & 27, 1983

The 18th Annual Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium will be held at the Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee, On October 26 and 27, 1983. The subject will be, "Facts and Fallacies in *Poa annua* Management."

Subject matter will range from protection of *Poa annua* through new methods of suppression to replacement with other species. The program is expected to give an update on all angles of *Poa annua* production or control (?).



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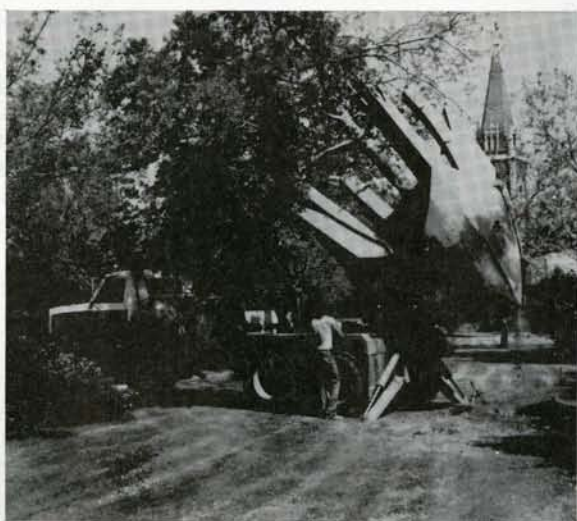
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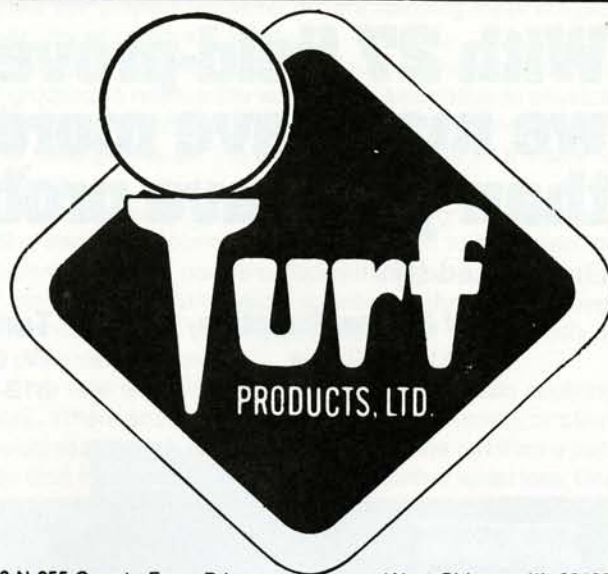
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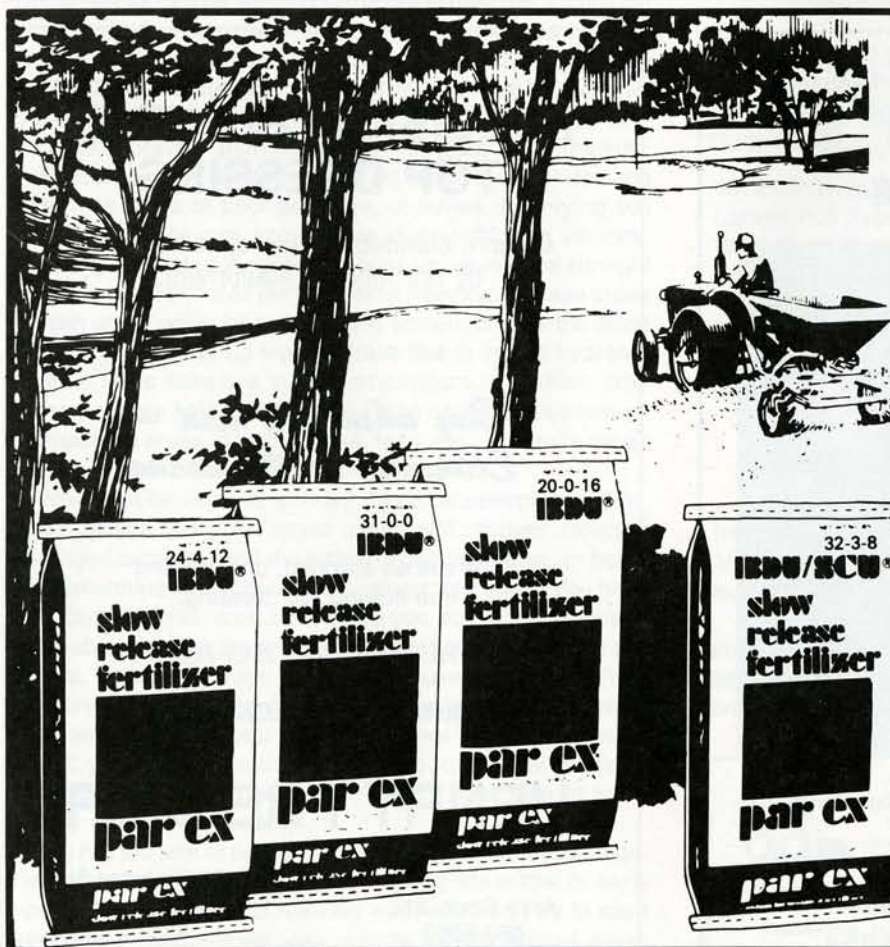
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West Chicago, IL 312/668-5537

Paarlberg Chemicals Co.
South Holland, IL 312/474-3086

Olsen Distributing Co.
Barrington, IL 312/381-9333

Professional Turf Specialists
Normal, IL 309/454-2467

Rowland's Equipment, Inc.
Barrington, IL 312/381-1084

A VIEW FROM THE OUTSIDE

For the past 25 years I have been calling on what used to be called "Greenkeepers". Today they are known as "Golf Course Superintendents". My business takes me to other industries and businesses as well. What I have discovered this year is that you Golf Course Superintendents are the most industrious and hard working of all the people I see.

It is a rare visit when I find a superintendent in his office. He is usually out digging, repairing, replacing, or re-building. No matter how early I get there, he's been there hours before me. A suggestion of a round of golf brings on a look as if I am out of my mind.

Even at the course I play at on a late Sunday evening, I see our Superintendent flitting around on his cart looking for problems to solve. I don't know of any other profession where seven days a week is normal.

With all the adversities that this summer brought, I truly compliment you on your ability to handle them. You should be proud of your work.

Russ Fishman

MIKE HOLMES JOINS WARREN'S TURF NURSERY, INC.

Effective September 6, 1983 Mike Holmes will assume responsibility as Executive Vice President and General Manager of Warren's Turf Nursery, Inc., headquartered in Crystal Lake, Illinois. In addition to their sod growing operations at seven locations in six states, Warren's Turf has developed and markets proprietary turf grass seed products (A-34 Bluegrass, Adventure Turf Type Tall Fescue), markets a speciality lawn fertilizer line as well as a lawn spreader, and is National Distributor for Horchst Fibers.

Commenting on the appointment, Bill Curran, C.E.O. of Warren's Turf, stated "the move is aimed toward strengthening the management team of Warren's as plans are made to better serve our current good customers and markets, as well as growing into new markets. Holmes has a strong background in agri-business management and marketing and should bring a fresh perspective to our company, as well as our industry".

Holmes is a native of Alabama, a graduate of Troy State University and started in Animal Agriculture with Ralson Purina Company in 1965. He joined DeKalb Ag Research in 1970 as a Sales Trainee, advanced to District Salesman, Area Manager, Regional Manager, and finally in 1980 assumed duties of General Manager of Marketing and Operations of DeKalb's Poultry Division. He will headquarter in Crystal Lake at the company's Home Office and continue to reside in DeKalb, Illinois.

The instructor of the class in mechanics spoke to one of his students: "I am putting this rivet in the correct position; when I nod my head, hit it real hard with your hammer." The student did and the instructor woke up the next day in the hospital.

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