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**Bull Sheet** printed by Ever-Redi Printing, 5100 East Ave., Countryside, IL 60525. Phone: (312) 352-4378.

The **Bull Sheet** is published once a month. All articles are required by the 10th of the month to make the next issue. Advertising is sold by the column inch, by the quarter page, half page, and by the full page. All artwork to be finished and in black and white. Circulation is around 500 issues per month.



**President's Message**

After 35 years of serving the turf industry at Purdue University, Dr. William H. Daniel has decided to retire.

Born in Sparkman, Arkansas, Dr. Daniel earned a bachelor of arts degree in social science from Ouchita College in 1941. In 1947 he was awarded a bachelor of science degree in Agriculture from the University of Arkansas. Then he enrolled in Michigan State University where he received his master of science degree in 1948 and his doctoral degree in soil science in 1950. Dr. Daniel began his career in turf management in 1950 as an assistant professor at Purdue University. In 1954, he was promoted to associate professor and in 1957 to professor.

Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Daniel has enjoyed a reputation as a dedicated researcher and educator. His long-term research projects have included the development of improved strains of grasses for the turf industry, the use of sands for golf greens construction and maintenance, moisture sensing to aid the golf course turf manager, and the uses of the slow-release forms of nitrogen.

In particular, Dr. Daniel has been responsible for the development or improvement of agronomic problems, practices and products in the following areas: a) development of pre-emergent crabgrass controls and their application, b) use of calcium arsenate for Poa Annuua control, c) use of electric warming to maintain turf growth and survival, d) use of vertical turf thinners, vertical turf seeders and vegetative turf planters, e) introduction of soil conditions for porous rootzones, f) introduction of Sodco bluegrass, Evansville bentgrass and Midwest zoysiagrass, g) invention of the Prescription Athletic Turf System (PAT) for use on football and baseball fields.

While at the recent turf conference at Purdue, I had the pleasant experience of talking with two of Dr. Daniel's brothers. I asked them what was the one thing they will remember about their brother's career. Their reply was most heart-warming. Brother Winston recalled a cottage owned by the Daniel family that used to be a retreat for them all to get together and visit. Each time this gathering took place, all Dr. Bill could talk about was his students. Not Purdue University, not the turf program, but his students. The constant caring for, and sharing with his students is one attribute Dr. Bill will always be remembered for.

I am sure that the entire membership of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents joins me in wishing Dr. Bill Daniel and his lovely wife, Gwen, many years of good health and happiness in their retirement retreat in Arizona.

**Joe P. Williamson, C.G.C.S.**

**James B. Beard**  
**Professor, Texas A&M University**  
**Purdue - MS, 1959; PhD, 1961**

I am pleased to write this letter on the occasion of your upcoming retirement from the Department of Agronomy at Purdue University after 35 years of service. Your activities during this period have had a major impact on the turfgrass industry throughout the Midwest and even nationwide. While you have had numerous individual contributions in the research area and through your extension activities, in my view there are two dimensions that are of most significance.

First, as a result of a very active research program during the late 1950's and early 60's at Purdue, the leaders and future leaders of the turfgrass industry from throughout the midwest were motivated by what they saw at Purdue. They went back to their home states and became active in lobbying for comparable turfgrass research and educational programs. Thus, a majority of the states in the midwest established positions and initiated turfgrass research/teaching efforts that resulted in the midwestern states becoming the center for turfgrass research nationwide. This could be attributed to your original efforts at Purdue University which set a standard that others sought to achieve in their respective states. Thus, your early leadership at Purdue led to comparable research/teaching programs throughout the midwest that have and continue to have a major impact on the rapidly developing turfgrass industry.

In terms of one's career you can publish research papers, write books, present talks, and work personally with individuals in solving their turf problems. Most of this will eventually be forgotten by future generations. To me the most important contribution is a professor's students who learn the philosophies of the professor and hopefully will continue to build upon them. This is the essence of an educator whose contributions continue to be alive through his students and their subsequent studies. Certainly your teaching program at Purdue University has developed a large number of students that have become leaders in the industry. This may be your most important contribution and heritage that you leave the turfgrass industry.

**Julius Albaugh**  
**Golf Course Superintendent**  
**Westmoreland Country Club**  
**Purdue - 1963**

My experience with Dr. Daniel began during my Junior year at Purdue. As an Agronomy student, still lost as to what occupational direction I was headed for, I talked with Dr. Daniel about a future in turf. My only experience with golf courses at that point had been hunting night crawlers on greens at night. His suggestion was to seek summer employment on a golf course to see first hand what turf maintenance was all about.

With Dr. Daniels' help I was employed during the Summer of 1962-63 at Meridian Hills Country Club in Indianapolis, Indiana. Dr. Daniel had placed me with one of the greatest people in the turf industry, the late Carl Bretzlaff. The experience of working for Mr. Bretzlaff gave me a goal; to become a Golf Course Superintendent.

During my Senior year I was a turf student and for the first time headed in a definite direction. During the spring of 1963 with graduation approaching, again Dr. Daniel was instrumental in helping me find employment. The day after graduation I became Assistant Golf Course Superintendent at Westmoreland Country Club in Wilmette, Illinois under the guidance of another of the greats in turf, the late Donald Strand. What was to be a two to three year apprenticeship turned into a regular job in August of 1965 when I became the Golf Course Superintendent at Westmoreland Country Club.

Over the years I would call on Dr. Daniel several times for his help in solving a turfgrass problem. A time that stands out in my mind was 1979 and 1980 and the C-15 problem in the Chicago area. Dr. Daniel helped me to turn 18 greens into experimental plots in an attempt to solve the problem. As it turned out Mercury was not the answer, nor Red Leaf Spot the problem. But he was a friend and an encouragement to continue on and not to give up.

Dr. Daniel, I wish you and your family the happiest of retirements. I am only one of the many to whom you have been a guiding light.

**Robert M. Williams**  
**Retired**

Congratulations to "The Bull Sheet" for paying special tribute to Dr. Bill Daniel upon his retirement.

Bill's leadership through his work at Purdue University and with the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation was a vital link in bringing scientific turfgrass management into practical application.

The early turfgrass conferences at Purdue gave many "old timers" their first opportunity for "hands on" experience with soil testing, disease identification and soil water movement.

Perhaps most importantly these conferences were designed to bring midwestern golf course superintendents together once a year where they could hash over their experiences and gain mutual respect for each other.

I am sure all of us who have worked with Dr. Daniel from the early 1950's until his retirement join in saying "A job well done, Bill!"

**Benedict O. Warren**  
**Tucson, Arizona**

I was a regular attendant at the Turf Conference and Field Days at Purdue University for about thirty (30) years.

There was a period when Dr. Daniels asked me to talk about the sod business. There weren't many sodbusters to pick from in those days and this was repeated quite often and led to invitations from other schools such as the University of Massachusetts, Rutgers, Penn State, University of Delaware, Colorado State, University of Wisconsin, Michigan State University, University of Missouri are ones I can remember. Many contacts were made with people interested in sod in various parts of the country and was a big help when we went into franchising our methods and products.





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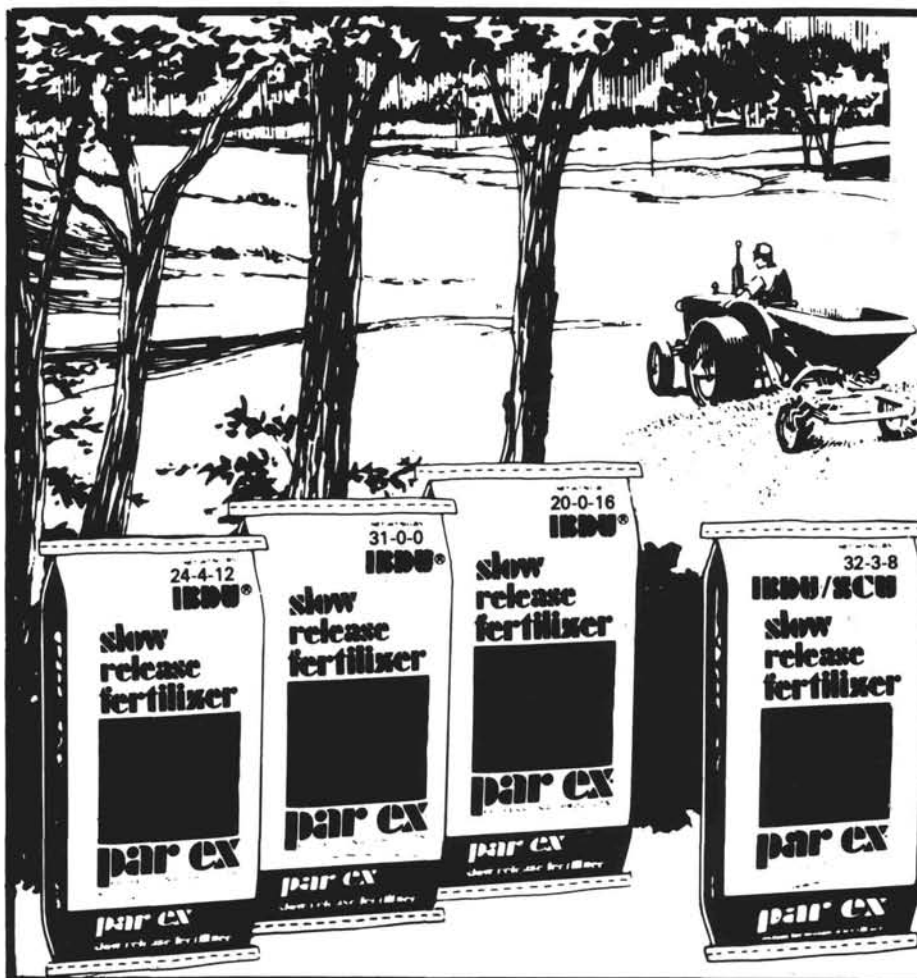
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### Harold W. Glissman

Best Wishes to Bill Daniel on your retirement from Purdue and thanks again for the ride to the Dulles Airport in Washington D.C. on your way to Purdue 35 plus years ago.

Your friendship over the years has been a great relationship and thanks again for your past favors.

Hope your health gives you many more years to enjoy life.

### Cecil Kerr Mallinckrodt, Inc.

Bill Daniel has been a friend since 1956. We worked together in the late 50's developing a Chip-Cal Granular for prevention and control of *Poa annua*. Bill was responsible for me entering the turf business. He has been an inspiration for me through the years. He provided me with technical information that has aided in my growth in this complex field.

I have sought and valued Bill's guidance throughout my career in turf. Bill Daniel is a giant among men. He is a statesman, salesman, and educator of the higher order.

### Fred Opperman Glen Oak C.C. & Editor "The Bull Sheet"

I have always been impressed with Bill Daniel in his sincere desire to help you. So many times I have heard a question put to Dr. Bill and thru his questions the person usually ends up answering his own question. But it is thru this questioning period that we are led to the answer. His friendliness and always having the time to help a person in need goes beyond saying.

I have looked upon the Purdue Turf Conference as the stepping off point in the Spring to get back to work. Your adrenaline gets all pumped up after attending this conference and listening to Dr. Daniel. I know that I will miss him in this capacity as will many of us.

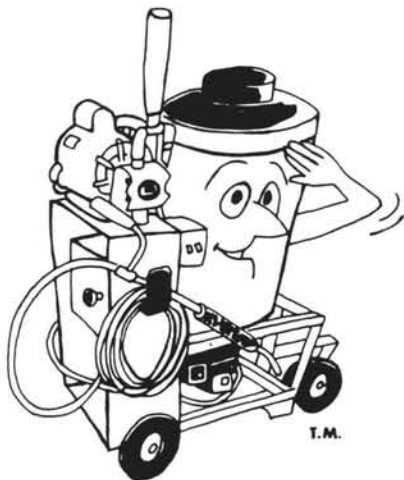
### Carol McCue Pine Meadow G.C. Mundelein, IL

I'm so pleased to be asked to participate in this commemorative issue of **The Bull Sheet** to honor Bill Daniel. In more than twenty years of association with Bill I've found him always ready to help, no matter how busy he is, to accept a request to be a speaker, a moderator, or to contribute suggestions for a seminar, or give direction on which way to go when CDGA courses had serious disease problems.

He has been a treasure for golf in our time and is a most valued friend. I'm anxious to have him come to Pine Meadow next summer.

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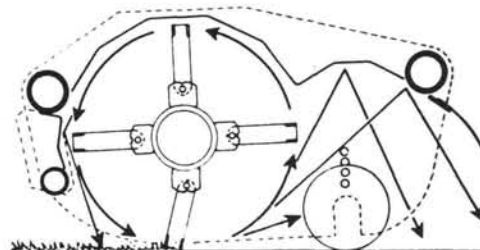
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Mrs. Daniel, Dr. Daniel, Stan Frederiksen (singing "Our Boy Bill") and Rev. Wicks the keynote speaker at the banquet, Purdue University.

## John Turner Physics and Turf Management

To recall one of my college stories at Purdue University, I would like to say THANKS to Dr. Daniel for helping me through Physics.

As the final spring semester rolled around, I was doomed with the one course I had avoided for 2½ years — Physics. To graduate with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agronomy, one had to have one semester of Physics. Recalling the Purdue handbook, it clearly stated: **Concepts of Physics** (205) or equivalent. Many of my friends who graduated from the previous year commented: "Make sure you sign up for AGRY 205 ... or else!"

When registering I found out to my surprise that Physics 205 conflicted with two other courses, AGRY 510 and 430. Somehow fate was against me! My trusted counselor chuckled as he finalized the computer class schedule and assigned me to take Physics 255. His so-called "half laugh" created some uneasiness during my last Christmas break.

As the New Year arrived (and the Boiler Makers winning the Blue Bonnet Bowl game) Physics 255 soon became a reality! The professor handed out his itinerary and a brief 3 page problem. As the hour ended, I found myself to be the next to last while handing back solutions to the brief physics problem. Trouble laid ahead when the professor asked, "Are you in the right physics class?"

Right away (10 minutes) a quick visit was scheduled at the Life Science Building with "my" trusted counselor. I was determined to change courses to the level assigned FOR Agronomy students. I negotiated that Physics 255 involved a few engineers, (EE, CE, ME) freshman-sophomore med students, and one agronomy student. There was little hope when reconsideration took only a few seconds. **NO CHANGE!!!** It seemed my counselor had more important duties to do like grading AGRY 105 lab reports than guidance on my future GPA.

A few steps out the door I overheard Jo Ann Horn and Dr. Daniel talking about the upcoming Purdue Conference. I walked into the office and reviewed the job opportunities on the job placement board. If anyone could help me on my **BIGGEST** Physics problem (Physics 255), was Dr. Daniel. Within minutes I explained the situation on conflicting time periods between 510 and 430. Doc quickly found a solution. "You can use the University for your benefit should you choose to do so. Let's

place you in Physics 205 and reschedule my 510 to be one credit less. You can copy lecture notes from fellow students on conflicting class periods and visualize any slides in my office. There must be an agreement on both professors to re-schedule any classes." As drop-add day came, I corrected my computer card to Physics 205 — **CONCEPTS OF ...** and re-scheduled Dr. Daniel course to one credit less.

After all the years of avoiding Physics, it turned out to be one of the more enjoyable science courses at Purdue. Again, **THANKS DR. DANIEL FOR GETTING ME THROUGH PHYSICS.**

## Bill Kraft, Retired Three-and-a-Half Decades with Dr. Daniel

Thirty-five years ago, the Midwest Golf Course Superintendents had a joint meeting with the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents. This meeting, held at Fox Lake Country Club (which was as far north in Illinois as you could go without having one foot in Wisconsin when you teed up) drew a very large attendance from both participating associations.

We were fortunate enough to have as a guest a young but already distinguished turf man, a man who was energetic and ambitious AND who possessed the kind of poise and grace that spontaneously generated trust and professional confidence. A suitably flowery introduction to this young man was provided by our Midwest Golf Course Superintendents' President, Bill Stupple. The young man was, of course, none other than Dr. William H. Daniel.

In the years that followed, Dr. William Daniel guided us to continue to learn what our profession needed and helped us to thrive as the profession developed. He even helped us learn to harness the "evil" **Poa annua** and to make our golf courses gleam with emerald-like brilliance that we all enjoyed — and with which we prospered.

But back to that meeting 35 years ago ... During the course of activities, Bill Stupple took the good Dr. Bill by his hand and led him to a corner table where the elite — including the likes of Frank Dinelli, George Roloff and Dom Grotti — had gathered after dinner. And there they initiated him to a world beyond turf, that of a card game innocently called "Hearts" — where he met his match. The outcome won't be mentioned here in detail, other than to say that the good doctor didn't "shoot the moon" THAT night.

Having had Dr. William H. Daniel as our agronomist, turf specialist and Executive Secretary of the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation has meant many different things to many of us. His multiple roles have been instrumental in our receiving our clubs' recognition and other things that go with it, including prestige, authority, esteem and genuine respect as professionals. It all adds up to stature that endures — for life.

Thank you, Dr. Daniel for giving us the understanding you wanted us to have, an understanding that has helped us to grow fine turf, keep it disease-free and achieve a velvet-like texture. Thanks, too, for teaching us that grass also has its shortcomings (as in your last newsletter article, "Why Grass Fails"). But thank you most of all for the guidance and patience you have given us — for all your 35 years with us.



## **Adolph Bertucci Lake Shore C.C.**

I have been asked to write a few things about the Purdue Midwest Regional Turf Conference and about Dr. Bill Daniel.

I'll be aging myself but I go back a lot of years, at that time Gerald Mott was the director then, and only a few people attended as some of the early pictures taken show.

What a great effort Dr. Daniels has done to make the Purdue Conference one of the best around. Bill as he is affectionately known has done so much for anyone connected with turf. What a great friend, I will miss him as I miss my old friends that attended the conference with me.

I cannot forget the session we had with old Harry at his Chocolate Shop, "Great Chocolate".

Bill, I hope you have many enjoyable years of retirement, you deserve it. Don't forget you have a standing invitation to my annual Christmas party.

Bill, you have been a good friend. Good luck.

## **Stephen T. Biggers, IV Highland C.C. B. S. Class of 1980**

It was an honor to be one of your students and will always be an honor to be a friend. Words are often hard to come by for one such as yourself, who has contributed to his field of endeavor and to those associated with it, far beyond the call of duty. True thanks comes from those everyday management practices carried out around the world by the professionals in the field of turf due to your research and innovation.

Individually you helped me to get a very good start out of college, helped uplift my spirits and mold my attitudes, and provided me with friendship by inviting me into your home for warm meals and taking your own valuable time to discuss matters of urgency and professionalism with me. I was overwhelmed when in 1980 you had elected me as a recipient of the Upjohn Companies Tuco Division Award.

I know that your family is extremely proud of you as we, your past students are. I would also like to take this time to thank your wife for all the contributions she made leading to your success and praise for her cooking. I hope that you will remain as active as possible in the turf industry. You will never be missed, you will always be with us, wherever that may be.

## **1984 Historian Report Division C-5 — Turfgrass**

### **Presented at the 1984 C-5 Annual Business Meeting Dr. William H. Daniel**

Dr. William H. Daniel is retiring on April 30, 1985, when he completes 35 years as a Turfgrass Specialist in the Department of Agronomy at Purdue University. He holds a B.A. from Ouchita College, a B.S. from the University of Arkansas, and an M.S. and, in 1950, a Ph.D. from Michigan State University. At Purdue, he serves as Executive Secretary of the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation and coordinator of the Annual Midwest Regional Turf Conference. Developments from his research program include Sodco and Wabash Kentucky

bluegrasses, Midwest zoysiagrass, selective control of *Poa annua* with arsenicals, Plastic Under Reservoir Root Zone (PURR-WICK), and the patented Prescription Athletic Turf (PAT) System. He was instrumental in forming the Midwest Sod Growers Association and in 1981, the Sports' Turf Managers Association. In 1979, Dr. W. H. Daniel and Dr. R. P. Freeborg coauthored the "**Turf Managers Handbook**" published by Harvest Publishing Co. He served as Chairman of the C-5 Turfgrass Division in 1954 and C-5 ASA Board of Directors Representative from 1964 through 1966. Honors include Fellow in the American Society of Agronomy in 1963, American Society of Agronomy Agronomic Service Award in 1973, Golf Course Honorary Member of the American Sod Producers Association in 1980, and United States Golf Association Green Section Award in 1984. Bill will continue to work in consulting, and through the Turfgrass Services Company, to install PAT fields.

## **Ted Woehrle, Class of "54" Oakland Hills C.C.**

It is a pleasure to write a few lines about the impact that Dr. Bill Daniel had on my life.

The one thing that stands out more than anything else is that he taught me to ask the question, "Why?" He always stressed the fact that we should never be satisfied with blanket statements about anything, but ask the question, "Why?" Because of Dr. Daniel, I became inquisitive. The satisfaction in life is understanding; and in our job it is important to understand **why** plants live and/or **why** plants die.

**Pride in Work**, could also be attributed to Dr. Daniel. He taught us that, "If something is worth doing, it is worth doing correctly."

**Problem solving** was his strong point. Organizing your thoughts and the processes used to solve problems - simply by identifying the problem and writing it down on a piece of paper along with several possible solutions, will often help you solve the problem. At least your thoughts will be organized.

**Finding answers** — I learned how to develop a "Source" library of subject matter which has proven to be invaluable. I also developed a circle of friends that I could depend on for answers to many of my problems, and I could always count on Dr. Bill Daniel as my greatest Friend with most of the answers. He has helped me in more ways that I could ever count. Most of all, he taught me to ask the question, "Why?"

## **Rick Johnson, BS Ag Engineering '76 Illinois Lawn Equipment Co.**

I remember the first time I met Bill Daniel at West Lafayette. I was still undecided between Purdue and the University of Illinois. He chauffeured me around the campus like I was somebody special. It was a beautiful spring day. The trees were blooming and the red brick buildings looked many times more inviting than the stark concrete structures at the U. of I. I knew I was going to be a Boilermaker when Bill picked up the check for lunch. Imagine! Bill Daniel, Mr. Turf from Purdue, spending \$6.85 on lunch trying to recruit me. I reasoned that if everybody at Purdue cared about students like Bill did, then this had to be the school to go to.