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However, if you want to buy more memory to eliminate an error message from the computer which includes the words "Insufficient memory...", this purchase may not solve your problem. The message is probably the result of a configuration conflict which should be reviewed by your computer consultant.

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## Perfection

by Jon Scott, Consulting Agronomist  
Jack Nicklaus Golf Services

Thorndike and Barnhart define the noun perfection in their **Comprehensive Desk Dictionary** as "1. perfect condition; faultlessness; highest excellence. 2. a perfect person or thing. 3. a making complete or perfect: (the perfection of plans). 4. to perfection, perfectly." Can any of us lay claim to having achieved that level of utopia? Has anyone even caught a glimpse of it? Since the term itself is relative and fluid, changing with the very time within which we exist, perfection becomes a pursuit which can at once propel us to great heights of ecstasy and great depths of despair. Pursuit of perfection can consume tremendous amounts of energy and other resources which logarithmically multiply the nearer one gets to the goal. How you manage yourself and your resources in this endeavor can determine whether you succeed or fail in your profession.

There are two types of perfection in the world today. The first is fashioned by the impressions of others around us, and the second is created by ourselves. Frequently, the latter feeds on the former, so that no matter how much our accomplishments are acknowledged and appreciated by others, we still are not satisfied. We reach one level only to yearn for the next. Because we have more intimate knowledge of our environment than those who judge us, we frequently focus on the faults and not the achievements. While golfers, managers, and peers may be exploding with compliments and pride on a given day, we may be looking at the sod that has broken away from the bunker edge, the wear at the end of the cart path, or the neglected trimming around the irrigation controller. To a point this is good. Complacency breeds trouble in management. However, when pursuit of perfection becomes the driving force in our lives, it is time for a re-evaluation.

How and what does one re-evaluate? Several areas come to mind. First, where are you in your life plan? Do you even have one, or are you just hanging on for the ride. If you find yourself trying to remember what it is, the time has come to sit down and re-write the plan. Many times, we can be so wrapped up in the mechanics of achieving a personal goal, that the goal is passed or lost. Look back and ask if there was a point where you were better off than you are today. Was there a time when you had more personal time with your family, enjoyed your work more, spent more time with your friends? If the answer is yes, compare it to today and begin to evaluate why.

Second, how real are your goals? Are they actually achievable given the position you are in. The Great American Dream is that everyone can be anything and do everything. Sure, but there are limitations, some within your control and some not. For example, if a six figure salary is your goal, have you looked at a recent salary survey? Nationally, only the top 10% of golf courses and related industry jobs pay more than \$60,000, annually. One can safely estimate that this number steadily decreases the closer one gets to \$100,000. Depending on your connections, the chances of you even getting an interview at one of these top jobs is slim, and landing the position in the face of strong competition is even more unlikely. The point is, the odds are not in your favor. Therefore, is this goal realistic? In the great majority of cases, no. A more realistic goal would be to attain a level of comfort for you and your family which includes more job security, a good place to live, and the promise of modest gains as recognition for your hard work.

Third, is your pursuit of perfection consuming all of your resources, leaving nothing for the future? In other words, are you headed for, or even now experiencing, a "burn-out"? We could take a lesson from the country's present economic plight. The drive to be all things to all people in the 1980's while still chasing that American Dream of a perfect society consumed more resources than either we or the country could provide or afford. Now, in a sense, the economy has "burned out", and become stagnant. Some say it will stay that way until someone or something provides the right stimulus. Within the turf industry, that frequently means a job change. Is that what you want? Do you need the trauma of relocating yourself and your family into an unfamiliar environment which may be less desirable than where you now live? If the answer is no, you'd better take stock of your own resource consumption and set up a manageable plan. A long distance runner outlasts the sprinter every time.

Fourth, ask yourself if your vision of perfection matches those who are footing the bill. Yes, you were hired to provide leadership and initiative. Everyone wants to excel in their profession and their product. But, when you push beyond the budget, even if to briefly touch the tail of perfection, you have that much less with which to maintain the momentum that existed before the push began. Is it worth it? Frequently not. In many cases, the only person who sees that an acceptable level of perfection has not yet been achieved is you. Once you open the door, the demons are let out. What was not achievable becomes standard, yet the budget remains the same. Keep the demons behind the door and let them out one at a time; on a leash.

Finally, do you admit to and learn from your mistakes? For many in the pursuit of perfection, this isn't easy. In fact, the closer one gets to the goal, the fewer mistakes are permissible. The smallest gaff can have the most damaging of consequences. As a result, a perfection chaser may be less likely to recognize or acknowledge when a mistake is made. It can be easier to rationalize that the fault lies elsewhere. The problem with this is that no lessons are learned or corrective action taken leaving one open to repetition. A good example is the manager who finds that the dead turf on the first green was the result of the chemical spray tank not being properly cleaned of herbicide before switching to a fungicide. Naturally, he blames the operator who "should have known better". But, did the

(continued on page 14)

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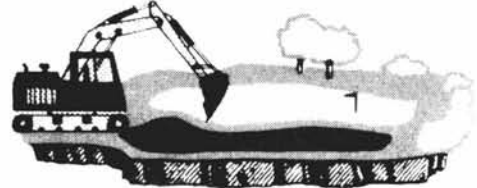
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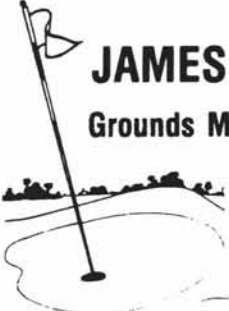
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**PERFECTION (continued from page 12)**

manager have a procedure in place with the appropriate checks and verifications to reduce the risk of such an oversight? Or was it, as we often hear, "bad material" from the manufacturer that caused the burn. In either case, the real problem will not have been addressed, and it is likely to happen again. Driving toward perfection with this baggage in your trunk will run you out of gas every time. It is much healthier for you and your operation to realize and admit your responsibility in making and correcting any mistakes.

Perhaps the pursuit of perfection is one of man's most noble endeavors. For many, however, it can become an obsessive albatross interfering with happiness and preventing fulfillment. Ask yourself where you fit in this quest. Do you have a life plan with achievable goals? Are you managing and conserving your personal and professional resources in the chase? Have you been able to keep your charge within the means to maintain its position or progress without setting the demons loose? Finally, are you willing and able to stand up and answer for your mistakes, and make the experience gained productive? If you can say yes to all of these questions, you are probably as close to perfection as you can ever expect to get.

## Turf is Good For Us

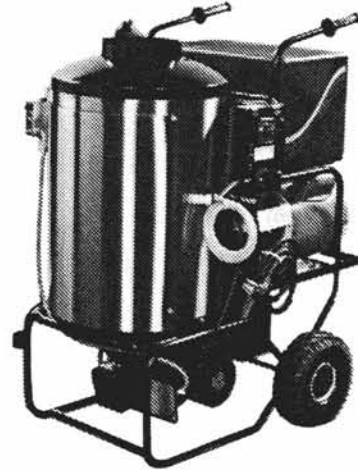
by John Lebedevs, CMAC

In recent years Golf Courses have been criticized for maintaining quality turf. These people say that there should be significantly less turf maintained and it should be maintained at a much lower level. We are being criticized for "damaging the environment". Much of the public concern deals with the use of Turf Chemicals, the impact on water to soil quality, and the amount of irrigation water used in the Golf Industry. However, most authorities agree that the maintenance of Golf Courses has little negative impact on the environment. As someone involved with the Golf Industry we should be aware of the inaccuracy of the public and should be able to articulate the benefits of growing a quality Turf. The following is a short overview addressing a few of the negative ideas some people have.

Some of the environmental benefits of healthy Turf are: increased aesthetic value of the environment, increased economic value of turfed facilities, health benefits, noise abatement, significant cooling contribution in the summer, glare reduction, general reduction in allergy problems, increased absorption of rainfall, absorption of air pollutants, generation of oxygen and utilization of carbon dioxide through photosynthesis, adding organic matter to soil from the roots of grasses, and erosion control.

Today's Golf Course Superintendent is among the best educated and most judicious user of chemical management tools. Today most superintendents have university degrees in agronomy, horticulture, or a related field and virtually all are state-certified in safe handling and use of these chemicals. These are just a few of the positive ideas on how turf benefits the environment. Hopefully we can change the perception about our industry through a better informed public. Keep that Turf growing, it's good for us!

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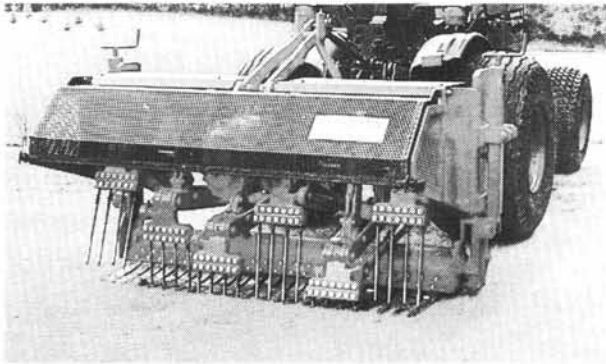
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# UPCOMING FIELD DAYS AND EDUCATION

1992 University of Illinois

1992 U. of I. **TURF AND LANDSCAPE UPDATES**  
JULY 7, 1992

## Turf and Landscape Updates

July 7, 1992

Chancellor Hotel and Convention Center  
1501 South Neil St. Champaign, Illinois

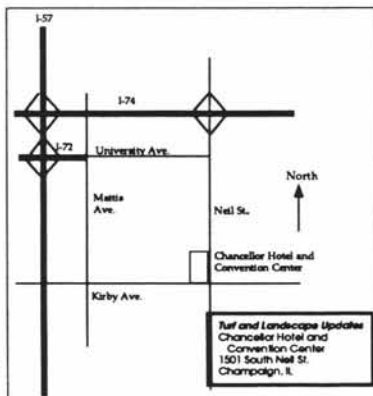
Due to last year's fire at the Horticulture Research Center and this year's reconstruction, we are moving our annual summer horticultural event indoors. Our **Turf and Landscape Updates** will be held on July 7, 1992, at the Chancellor Hotel and Convention Center, 1501 South Neil St., Champaign. Spend the day with University of Illinois faculty and staff in concurrent landscape and turf sessions as they present timely horticulture updates and provide help for your summer questions (see back of this sheet for the schedule of the day's program). Registration starts at 8:30 AM, and the day's program begins at 9:15 AM. A morning break and buffet lunch are included in the \$25.00 registration fee. Be sure to sign up early; space limits registration to the first two hundred horticulture professionals that sign up.

We're looking forward to seeing you on July 7!

**Questions? Phone 217-333-7847**

**Directions to U. of I. Turf and Landscape Updates  
Chancellor Hotel and Convention Center  
1501 South Neil St.  
Champaign, IL**

Take I-74 east to Neil Street exit. South on Neil St. to Chancellor Hotel and Convention Center (2+ miles). OR Take I-72 east to Mattis Ave. South on Mattis to Kirby Ave. East on Kirby Ave. to Chancellor Hotel and Convention Center.



### SCHEDULE OF CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Time	Landscape Horticulture	Turf
8:30 to 9:15 AM	<b>Registration</b>	<b>Registration</b>
9:15 to 9:45 AM	<i>Pest Resistant Woody Plants for the Midwest Landscape</i> Dr. Gary Kling	<i>Insect Control Practices and Update</i> Dr. Phil Nixon
9:45 to 10:15 AM	<i>Developing a Health-Care Program for Landscape Trees</i> Mr. Jim Flott	<i>Disease Control Practices and Update</i> Dr. Mal Shurtleff
10:15 to 10:30 AM	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>
10:30 to 11:00 AM	<i>Preparing and Planting Shrub Beds</i> Prof. Floyd Giles	<i>Cultivar Update</i> Mr. Tom Voigt
11:00 to 11:30 AM	<i>Planting and Managing Trees in the Landscape</i> Dr. Dave Williams	<i>Fertilization Update</i> Dr. Dave Wehner
11:30 AM to 12:00 Noon	<i>Dealing with Woody Plant Insect Problems</i> Dr. Phil Nixon	<i>Managing Turf on Salt-Stressed Sites</i> Dr. Mary Ann Smith
12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00 to 1:30 PM	<i>Evaluation of Landscape Hardy Roses</i> Dr. Martin Meyer	<i>Weed Control Practices and Update</i> Ms. Jean Haley
1:30 to 2:00 PM	<i>Planting and Maintaining Perennial Flower Beds</i> Mr. Jim Schmidt	<i>Managing Water Resources</i> Dr. Tom Fermanian
2:00 to 2:30 PM	<i>Planting and Maintaining Annual Flower Beds</i> Dr. Marv Carbonneau	<i>Containment and Mixing/Loading Legislative Update</i> Dr. Bob Wolf
2:30	<b>Adjournment</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>

## Extramural Course Offerings Fall 1992

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Northeastern Region

### HORT. 234: LANDSCAPE PLANTS PRODUCTION (OAK BROOK)

Emphasizes woody ornamental plant production, nursery operation, and nursery business management techniques; compares both traditional and computer-aided management tools; examines industry scope and diversity through nursery visits, presentations by nursery operators, and student-directed interviews/presentations throughout the state. Field trip required.

**Instructor** — Prof. David J. Williams; **Meeting Time** — Wed., 6:30-9:45 p.m., Sept. 9-Dec. 16, 1992; **Location** — Room 200, OSP\*, 1010 Jorie Blvd.; **Credit & Tuition** — 3 hrs. \$225, ¼ unit \$231; plus \$30 instructional support fee.

### HORT. 300: ORNAMENTAL PLANT PESTS (GLENCOE)

Biology of insect and other animal pests of trees, shrubs, turf, flowers, and interiorscapes and the damage that they cause will be addressed. Methods of control of these pests through Integrated Pest Management will also be covered.

**Instructor** — Fred D. Miller; **Meeting Time** — Mon., 6:30-9:45 p.m., Sept. 14-Nov. 30, 1992; **Location** — Ed. Center, Chicago Botanic Gardens; **Credit & Tuition** — 4 hrs. \$300, 1 unit \$308; plus \$30 instructional support fee.

To preregister for the above courses, call Ms. Patricia A. Susin, \*Office of Statewide Programming, 1010 Jorie Blvd., Suite 200, Oak Brook, IL 60521, Phone (708) 990-0740.

# UPCOMING FIELD DAYS AND EDUCATION

## Midwest Regional Turf Field Day July 28, 1992

Agronomy Research Center  
West Lafayette, IN

### The 1992 Field Day features:

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- Summer insect control
- Buffalo grass suitability in Indiana
- Goosegrass control in bentgrass
- Summer disease control
- Golf course and lawn care/general turf tours
- Trade show with equipment demonstration
- Everybody's favorite barbecue lunch
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Registration information will be mailed in mid-June. If you do not receive yours by July 10, call Jo Horn at 317/494-8039.

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Dear Turfgrass Industry Professional:

I am writing to inform you and your organization that the Michigan State University Turfgrass Field Day is being held on Thursday August 20th, 1992 at the Hancock Turfgrass Research Center on the MSU Campus in East Lansing, Michigan. For more information you may contact Dr. Frank Rossi at (517) 353-0860.

Please include this announcement in your calendar of events section or another pertinent section where your readers are made aware of current educational and research offerings.

Thank you for your cooperation and please join us on the 20th for what is sure to be a learning experience for all.

As always,



Dr. Frank S. Rossi  
Environmental Education Specialist  
Michigan State University

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

by John Gurke

Recently, several local superintendents — myself included — had the opportunity to participate in a Teleconference sponsored by Ciba-Geigy. Dr. Houston Couch was on the line also, and the general purpose of the conference was to update us on his research with Banner fungicide. Although I'm hesitant to promote any particular product(s), I must say the idea of the teleconference itself as an educational tool is great. It's like a friendly round-table discussion with folks from all over the place hooked up together and exchanging experiences and ideas. Sounds a lot like an Association meeting, huh? Well, it is, only it gives us direct exposure to noted researchers like Dr. Couch who might not otherwise be available.

The funny part was that, although it was intended to up-

date us on Banner (which it did), it also turned into a pretty in-depth discussion about Pythium control, with the overall theme being synergism, antagonism, and addition results of various tank mixes. The actual research will be published in an upcoming issue of **Golf Course Management**, but the general results were that several low- and below-low-label rates of certain fungicides when tank-mixed produce a synergistic effect on the causal organism, giving improved control (although not to be mistaken for **longer** control).

Look for this data in **GCM**; and in the meantime, if you are called and asked to participate in a teleconference, go for it — it's a great way to learn, and you don't have to wear a tie to get in.



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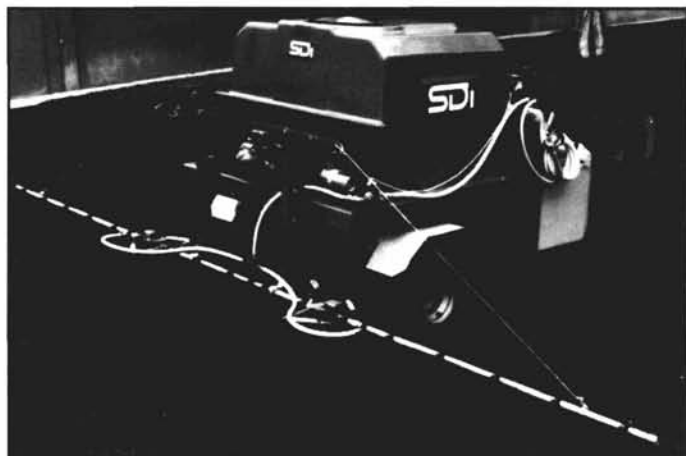
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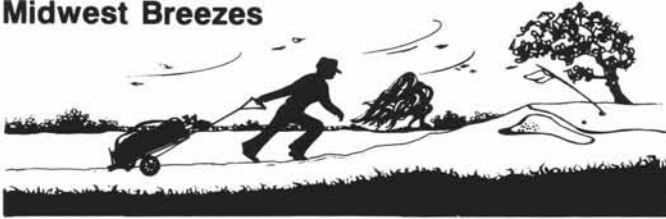
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## Midwest Breezes



### Upcoming Events—Mark Your Calendar

- July 7** — Turf & Landscapes Update, U of I at Champaign  
**July 13** — MAGCS monthly meeting, Briar Ridge C. C.  
**July 28** — Midwest Regional Turf Field Day at Purdue Univ.  
**August 5** — ILCA Field Day at Chicago Botanic Garden  
**August 10** — MAGCS monthly meeting, Mt. Prospect C.C.  
**August 17** — John Deere Tournament at Crystal Lake C.C.  
**August 20** — Michigan State Univ. Turfgrass Field Day at East Lansing  
**November 18** — MAGCS Clinic, Medinah C.C.  
**November 30-Dec. 1 & 2** — NCTE at Pheasant Run Resort  
**January 23-30, 1993** — GCSAA Conference & Show, Anaheim, CA

The MAGCS would like to thank the following sponsors for their contribution of fine hor'doeuvres and drinks at Flossmoor Country Club: O. M. Scott Co.; Illinois Lawn Equipment Co.; and Huber Ranch Sod Co.

#### NECROLOGY

It is with deep sense of loss that we announce the death of Past MAGCS President Emil W. Cassier. Emil was 91 years old when he passed away on May 29, 1992. Please read the below letter from his daughter.

Dear Mr. Opperman,

I am writing to inform you of the death of Emil W. Cassier on May 29, 1992. He was a life-time member and a past president of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

He was the superintendent and manager of Sycamore Community Park and Golf Course in Sycamore, IL for 38 years, retiring in 1966.

The park was very new when he and his wife, Alice, took over this position. It consisted of approximately 80 acres, a nine-hole golf course and very little equipment. Over the years under their efficient care the park grew to an eighteen-hole golf course with many other recreational facilities and of course, more land. The Cassiers enjoyed their many years at the park and did an outstanding job.

Dad lived to be 91 years old and spent the last three years in a nursing home.

I thought perhaps your **Bull Sheet** readers would be interested in this bit of information.

I am one of Emil's two daughters, Mary Ehrhardt, and I and my sister, Jeanette, hope that you will be able to use this notice.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Ehrhardt, 120 West Lincoln St., Sycamore, IL 60178.

**July 13** — Briar Ridge C.C. — Event is the senior championship. Other players will play an individual score event. Gross and net prizes for both divisions. Figure net score by subtracting the player's individual handicap from their score.

Event Chairman — Kerry Blatteau

Pre-Event co-chairman — John Fulling

Post-Event co-chairman — Brian Bossert

**For Sale:** Jacobson Turfcat T422D; 4 wheel drive; 72" deck; all weather cab; with heater, wipers, and lights; 2 stage snow blower. Unit has 200 hours of use. Call: Dianne Cutler, Indiana University Northwest, 219/980-6855.

Ed Fischer, Supt. of Old Elm is looking for an assistant. Call 708/432-6276

Dan Murray and Joel Purpur again participated in the Fox River Canoe race held June 7. No records were shattered by this paddling duo, their excuse this year was low water and not enough good looking women in the event to spur them on. Their time was 3½ hours from South Elgin dam to Aurora.

The end of May and the first part of June are making the courses look like mid July with the lack of rain. Then we had 3 to 4 nights of frost just when everyone was planting their annual flower beds. Many flowers were killed and beds had to be replanted. The frost also killed many new leaves on trees, especially hard hit were the Walnuts, Hickories, and Lindens.

For those of you who thought of writing an article for **The Bull Sheet** and trying to win the "Ray Gerber Editorial Award" for this year, you have only a few days to do so. I need your article in my mailbox on July 10th. August is the last month of this year that your article can appear to be eligible. The award will be given this year since it was carried over from last year and we do have enough authors for it to be awarded at the Midwest Clinic.

### Losing a Friend

I had the pleasure of meeting Steve Crow when he came to work at the Joliet Park District to run Inwood Golf Course. Since Joliet, Steve became the superintendent at Briar Ridge Country Club. Steve truly enjoyed being a superintendent. He will be greatly missed by his fellow superintendents, family, his staff, and the members at Briar Ridge Country Club.

One thing that we've learned from Steve is that we do not control our future, and we have to live every day to the fullest, which Steve did. I will truly miss Steve this fall when I go to officiate my first ball game of the Season. Steve and I officiated basketball together and became very good friends. He will be missed by all.

**Renny Jacobson**  
Superintendent  
Carillon Golf Club

## ASSISTANT GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT - No. 1151

There is an opening at the Oak Meadows Golf Course for a full-time Assistant Golf Course Superintendent.

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## GCSAA ANNOUNCES TRADE SHOW CAMERA POLICY

LAWRENCE, Kan., June 9, 1992 — The board of directors for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has determined that photography on their trade show floors will be restricted in 1993.

Beginning with GCSAA's International Golf Course Conference and Show in Anaheim, Calif., on January 23-30, only photographers wearing GCSAA-issued armbands will be permitted to take still or video cameras on the show floor.

"At the request of our Industrial Advisory Council (IAC), the board felt that this was our best course of action," said GCSAA President William R. Roberts, CGCS. "There was a need to assist the Manufacturers and protect the proprietary nature of their products." GCSAA's IAC is comprised of 14 exhibitor companies.

Only photographers with journalistic- or publicity-related responsibilities will be eligible for a GCSAA photo armband. The new photography regulations also require a photographer to receive verbal approval from the supervising exhibitor at the booth before photographing an exhibitor's booth or display.

The new camera regulations will also apply at GCSAA's Pacific Rim Golf Course Conference and Show in Singapore, March 15-21, 1993.

Media and photography credential applications for both GCSAA conference and trade shows will be mailed later in the fall. For more information, contact GCSAA Public Relations at 913/832-4470.



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