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Ask the Expert

(continued from page 8)

Oscar also emphasized the importance of testing "clean" samples. Sampling at least one week after any fertilizing and following a rain are sound practices. He also stressed that snap judgments from one sample would be rash. Proper analysis comes after several samples can be compared. Oscar is quite versed on this topic. I don't know Oscar as well as many of you, but I couldn't help getting excited while talking to him. His knowledge and enthusiasm for the profession are rare.

Dave Ward at Olympia Fields Country Club used this method of nutrient monitoring four years ago for one season. Using the near infrared spectral (NIRS) means of analysis, they were sampling all of their greens every week or two. Dave felt this method wasn't very "user friend-

ly" at the time and that because there were no real standards for nutrient measurements, the data was difficult to interpret. He also mentioned that the testing procedure was time consuming and that nuking turfgrass in the microwave, which is part of the testing process, produced a very foul odor.

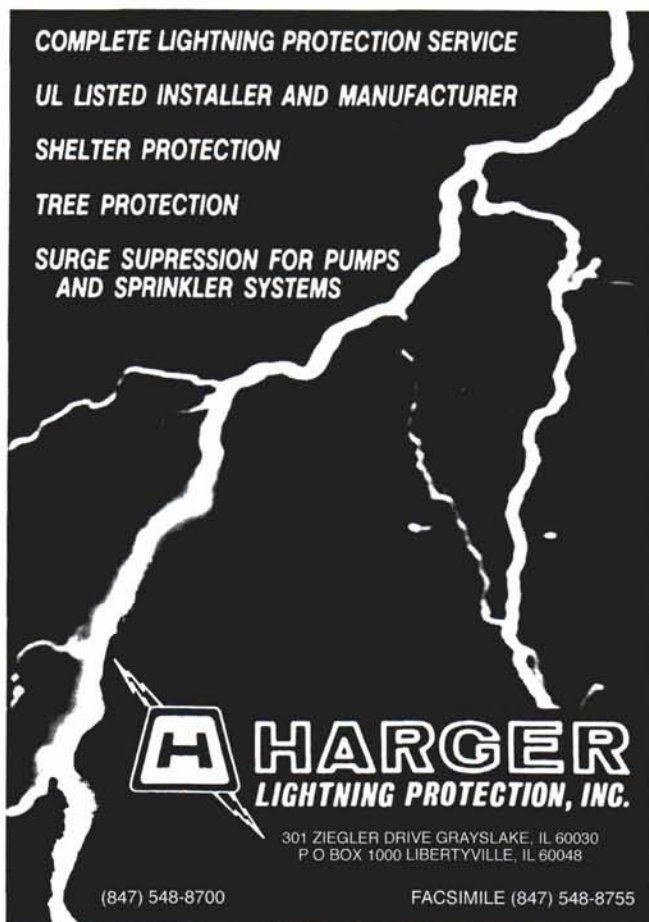
Rick Bowden at Bob O'Link Country Club said that in 1995, they were randomly sampling different greens every three or four weeks. An outside service was doing this for Bob O'Link. Among other things, they were paying particular attention to calcium levels. After talking to Rick, it seems that while the exact level of a nutrient is important, maybe as important is the level of a particular nutrient in relationship to another. They did adjust their fertilizer program slightly based on their findings, but Rick stressed

1995 probably wasn't the best season to evaluate progress. Boy, you can say that again! Rick stressed 1995 probably wasn't the best season to evaluate progress.

Ken Lapp at Cog Hill has one of the original testing units purchased from the Karsten group some years ago. While he feels the concept is great, he agrees the process is time consuming. Primarily, he has used the unit to test troubled areas. This has better helped him evaluate whether nutrient deficiencies were part of a particular problem. Again, he stressed that this is a great tool but that a superintendent may have to dedicate an individual to this testing task if serious benefits are to be gained.

As I mentioned earlier, not many people are doing this regularly in the Chicago area. How

(continued on page 28)



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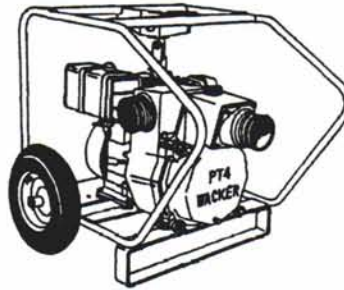
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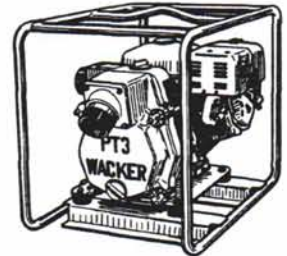
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the Bull Sheet
(continued from page 16)

Halloran & Yauch, Inc., Glenview Illinois, is looking for a full-time, small engine mechanic to work on trenchers, sod cutters, compactors, scooters, etc. Call 847-729-1625 and ask for Tom Halloran.

.....
 Congratulations to Dan Mosblack who has moved up to Wisconsin to take the superintendent's job at Janesville C.C. on March 4, 1996. Dan has been the assistant at Thorngate and was very instrumental in the construction of the Ivanhoe G.C. as the assistant to Bruce Burchfield and then to Peter Leuzinger.

.....
 Congratulations to Chuck Anfield who is the new superintendent at Steeplechase G.C. Chuck was the assistant to Les Rutan at Beverly C.C. for a number of years.



Rob Durham, holding his "Pacesetter Plaque," is standing next to Phil Tralies, president of the Jacobsen Division of Textron.

.....
 Illinois Lawn Equipment's own Rob Durham was one of six Jacobsen distributor sales representatives honored at the recent GCSAA conference in Orlando, Florida. Jacobsen presented Rod with its "Pacesetter Award" which recognizes outstanding performance in selling Jacobsen products and total customer service.

John Turner, sales representative for AgroEvo USA Company, presented two \$500 Scholarships to seniors Greg Pitts and Mike Wagner from Purdue University. Both students were recognized at the Midwest Regional Turf Expo in January. The annual scholarship assists the turfgrass students in meeting their educational needs in their professed interest in turfgrass management.

.....
 Bristlecone Pines, Hartland, WI, is looking for a mechanic and an irrigation technician. Both positions are full time jobs. Call Tony Rzadzki at 414-367-9955 ext 21

.....
 Heritage Bluffs, Channahon, IL, is looking for a horticulturist. Call Gary L. Mulvihill at 815-467-1664.

.....
 Congratulations to Brian Thompson who is the new superintendent at Biltmore C.C.

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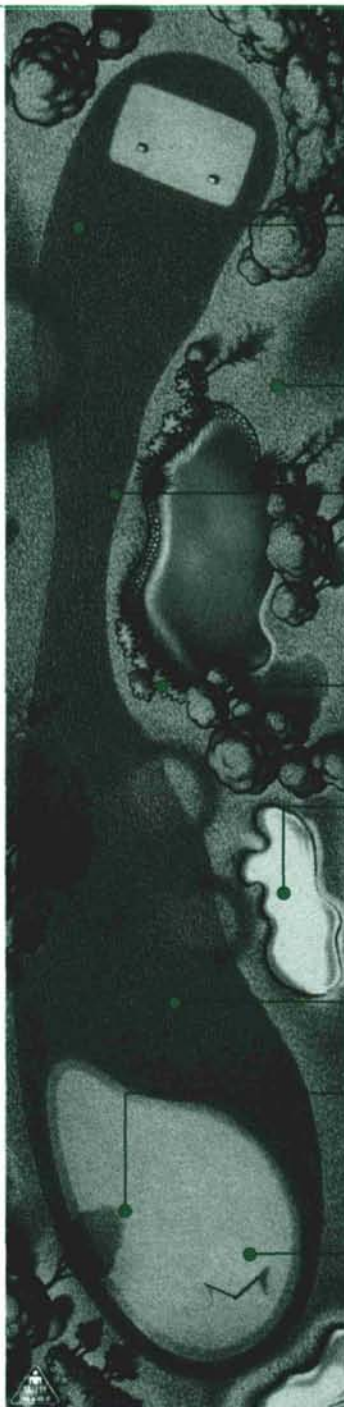
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1996 MAGCS Hospitality Suite in Orlando, Florida

(continued from page 12)

Collectively, the aforementioned companies generously donated \$12,800 towards the hospitality suite. WOW!

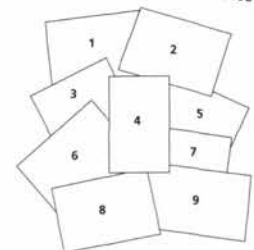
In addition, several other individuals deserve praise. After being involved for several years arranging the hospitality suite, Al Fierst turned the reigns over to me this year. Fortunately, he turned over a four-page S.O.P. as well. With his guidance, no detail was overlooked. Additionally, Don Cross, Fred Behnke, Don Ferreri, Greg Thalmann and Kevin Czerkies were always on hand to help as needed. Needless to say, the hotel staff was very accommodating. Lastly, I didn't have to look further than my own club for party-throwing advise. Our administrative secretary, Noreen Higgins, was very supportive. Thank you to everyone.

In closing, the Board of Directors welcome any ideas as to how we can improve the occasion in the future. For as long as I can remember, overcrowding in the suite has been a problem. This year, due to the GCSAA schedule of events being altered, we conflicted with the Environmental Session on

T h u r s d a y evening. These and other issues will be discussed; and rest assured, your suggestions do not fall on deaf ears. Again, thank you to all involved for your support. ■

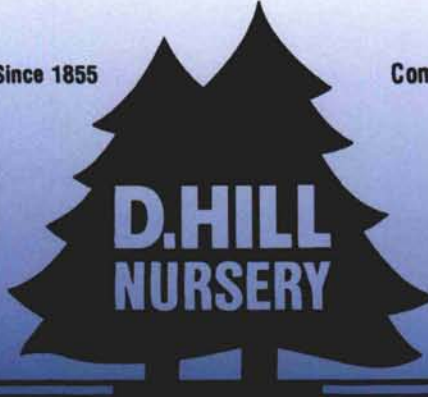


Photos by RAY SCHMITZ



- People in photos are left to right:
1. Ed Fischer & Dudley Smith
 2. Gary Galecki, Grace Galecki, Rick Johnson
 3. Walter Fuchs Sr., Pete Mirkes Sr.
 4. Bruce Williams, President of GCSAA
 5. Adolph Bertucci, Lyn Wesson
 6. Fred Bettinke, Nancy Bettinke, Nancy Crist
 7. Peter Leuzinger, DeeAnn Leuzinger, Carolyn Goodman
 8. Phil Taylor, Roger Stewart
 9. Julie Dinelli, Jerry Dinelli, Kimberly Bowden, Rick Bowden, Tammy Bowden

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Why 18 Holes?

John N. MacLeod

I can remember my grandfather telling me stories of his early years in Kilmarnock, Scotland, at the turn of the century before he immigrated to the United States. He worked as a young lad in the local distillery running errands for a Mr. Walker... that is, Johnny Walker, chairman of the board of that famous Scotch whiskey company. He told me that he had once delivered to Mr. Walker some of the latest American Haskell wound golf balls, Mr. Walker being an avid golfer. The following story, however, takes place some 50 years before, about the time gutta percha, or rubber balls, were first introduced, and where another "board member" and some Scotch whiskey play an interesting role in the fate of the game of golf.

Why couldn't a golf course have 10 or 13 or 21 holes? Well, it seems that back in 1858, the board of one of the oldest, most venerable courses in Scotland sat all day trying to settle this very question. There were 7-hole courses, 13-hole courses and 15-hole courses. At one time, the famous St. Andrews itself was made up of 22 holes; and another, the Montrose, had 25. Finally, after fruitless all-day discussion, it is said that one of the Scottish board members, an elder of very good standing, arose and spoke as follows:

"You good men have been considering this situation for many hours. I have been hoping you would decide along lines agreeable to me without any insistence on my part. I see, however, that I must now speak for myself. As you know, it has long been my custom to start out for a game with a full bottle of

Scotch whiskey in my bag, treating myself to a wee nip on each tee. Naturally, I find it pleasant to play golf as long as there is a drink left in the bottle. And, it makes no sense to continue the game when the bottle is exhausted. Here I have a small glass which contains about an ounce and a half. I have found that one bottle will fill this glass just 18 times, so it has been my custom to play 18 holes each afternoon, no more, no less. I see no possible way of changing from this custom, unless the bottles are larger, which I fear would be too marked a difference in our manufacturing life."

And that's how a golf course came to have 18 holes. ■

Credit: Why 18 Holes?—Courtesy of the Milwaukee and Illinois St. Andrews Society

Director's Column

(continued from page 10)

advertisers, this publication would not be possible. Fred and Dave have done a great job! Let's show our support by contributing photographs and articles to *On Course*.

One final note. I think it was very fitting that the title for our publication came from one of the legends of our industry who had been the source for the title of its predecessor. A special Thank You to Bob Williams, who came up with the name *Bull Sheet* in 1947 and the title *On Course* in 1995. ■

Ask the Expert

(continued from page 22)

much this concept catches on remains to be seen. In reading articles about this topic, superintendents in other parts of the country claim to have cut their fertilizer costs due to the information gained through tissue testing. Others suggest that they are spending more on fertilizer; but in conjunction with a fertigation system, they are not using as much labor to put the products out on the course. Others still have documented that using less pesticides due to tissue testing has helped them grow healthier turf. Is tissue analysis in your future? ■

Brad Johnsen - Klein Creek

(continued from page 20)

for 22 years. Joyce is a special education school teacher for kindergarten and first graders. Together, the Arlington Heights residents are raising three children: Gary - 18, Phil - 14, and Julie - 8.

I asked Brad if any of his children would "follow in his footsteps" as he did to his grandfather. Brad politely said, "I love what I do, and I would not do anything else in my life, but it is not for my kids."

I, for one, am really looking forward to playing Klein Creek later this month. It is my understanding it will be a scramble format with a 10 a.m. shotgun. Look in your mailbox for details, and do not miss this chance to play Klein Creek. ■



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Hal Laman

UN BUEN SAQUE! (Nice Tee Shot!)
(continued from page 14)

mejor "campo de juego." Estamos hablando del conocimiento general, incluyendo todos los obstaculos los cuales dificultan el juego, tales como depresiones del terreno, aguas, contorciones de los fairways, arboles u otros obstaculos en el campo de vision, etc.

Un conocimiento basico y general del juego de golf, incluyendo el entendimiento de los eventos especiales. Conocer que tipos de jugadores usualmente juegan el golf course, en otras palabras saber el nivel de juego practicado en el golf course.

Asi tomando en cuenta estas referencias puedo dar la direccion mas conveniente a los tee-markers. Si me encuentro en una situacion en la cual tengo frente a mi una depresion del terreno con-

jointa con una contorsion del fairway hacia una determinada direccion buscare dirigir mi linea de tiro hacia un terreno mas nivelado, al mismo tiempo con una cierta inclinacion para librar la contorsion del fairway; esto tendra una variacion tomando en cuenta que hay multiples tees en cada "hoyo". La situacion en los par 3 es, diferente, ya que generalmente tienen un campo de vision amplio y bien definido; en los cuales tomo en cuenta la posicion de la bandera con respecto a la colocacion de los tee-markes.

Al llevar a la practica la colocacion de los tee-markes es conveniente observar la linea de tiro dos o tres pasos atras para comprobar que tienen la direccion deseada (esta es una buena forma de alinear los tee-markes); otra manera de mejorar la alineacion es observando las marcas dejadas en tee al golpear la pelota (los divots), ya

que en ellas podemos notar si siguen la linea de tiro. Una buena rotacion diaria de la colocacion (como la que usamos en N.C.C., enfrente, enmedio, atras, alternandose dia a dia) no solo ayuda a mantener el buen estado de los tees, si no que con una continua observacion tambien nos dejara ver cuales son los "puntos" buscados por los jugadores dependiendo en que parte del tee eaten colocados los tee-markers.

En conclusion, creo que una observacion general y bien detallada es esencial para mejorar nuestra habilidad al asentar los tee-markers; y a la vez nos motiva a interesarnos en otros aspectos relacionados con los tees, tales como enfermedades del pasto, plagas de insectos, condicion general de la tierra etc.. etc; y todo esto nos ayudara a la superacion de nuestro trabajo y conocimiento. ■



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