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FEATURES

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FRONT COVER

Hole #13, Course #3 at Medinah Country Club

Photo by Rob Brown

2 ON COURSE WITH THE PRESIDENT

Bob Maibusch

4 DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

Kevin Czerkies

6 SUPER -N- SITE PROFILE: Dan Quast -N- Medinah Country Club

Ray Schmitz

10 FEATURE ARTICLE: A Different Approach to Managing Annual Grass Weeds

Tom Fermanian

18 ASK THE "EXPERT": The Birth of a Golf Course

Tony Kalina

22 GCSAA NEWS: A Firsthand Account: The 1999 GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting

Bob Maibusch

26 THE BULL SHEET

John Gurke

The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS), founded December 24, 1926, is a professional organization whose goals include preservation and dissemination of scientific and practical knowledge pertaining to golf turf maintenance.

We endeavor to increase efficiency and economic performance while improving and enhancing the individual and collective prestige of the members.

The MAGCS member is also an environmental steward. We strive to uphold and enhance our surroundings by promoting flora and fauna in every facet in a manner that is beneficial to the general public now and in the future.



Bob Maibusch, CGCS, MG
Hinsdale G.C.

Home hole! This may be self-indulgent, but in my last President's Message I want to say some words of thanks and wax a bit nostalgic on what this year and this profession mean to me.

In no order, thanks to the rest of the members of the Board of Directors and the MAGCS staff. Collectively, we have enjoyed a synergism that has made us more than the sum of our individual parts. Thanks to my wife Cheryl, daughter Alex and son Kieron, whose love inspires and teaches me every day. Thanks to my parents, who taught me that getting involved and giving something back, whether it be to your church, your community, your profession or any worthy cause, is both a privilege and an obligation of good fortune. Thanks to all of the many golf course superintendents who have taught me over the years but particularly those that I was honored to work under: Leon Hartough, Alan Fierst and especially Dave Ward, my mentors and, more importantly, my friends. Thanks to the wonderful staff I am privileged to work with every day at Hinsdale Golf Club. I am so very proud of their efforts.

They always make us look good. Thanks to the Hinsdale Golf Club for letting me grow by suffering through my mistakes. Thanks to the Evans Scholars Foundation for allowing me to fulfill my career dream through education. Thanks to Tim Stare, my best friend since we began caddying together at age 12 and one of my moral compasses. Thanks to Tom Watson. One magical week in 1974 caddying for Tom as he won his first professional tournament at the Western Open made me realize how much I loved being on the golf course and inspired me to look for a way to make golf my profession.

During a particularly frustrating period in my career when I was an assistant but hadn't had any success in garnering a superintendent's position, I seriously thought of walking away and trying to get on the Tour as a caddie. A couple of thoughtful words on Tom's part dissuaded me from that career move and shortly thereafter I was lucky enough to secure my current position. Was it fate? I don't know the answer to that question, but I do know this—throughout the years, Tom has continued to impress and inspire me. Aside from his achievements on the golf course, which have been nothing short of spectacular, it is the character of the man that has meant so much to me. If we're lucky, there are a handful of people who enter our lives that have a profound, lasting, positive effect. For me, Tom Watson has been one of those people.

A recent issue of *Greenkeeper International* magazine contained a line that really hit home: "Greenkeeping is the art of applying science." How true. To me, true art is an outgrowth of passion. Some superintendents have a passion for horticulture, turf

cultivation or championship conditioning. My passion has always been rooted in the simple act of being on the golf course and contributing to the game of golf. I have since learned to love what I do, and the art of science it takes to do it successfully.

I was drawn to this profession out of a love for the spirit and principles that the game fosters. It's why I also study the martial arts. Both require internal audits, self-motivation and conduct in the way of the warrior. Rarely do you hear a superintendent say that something cannot be accomplished. We are a profession of achievers. It is our heritage and our spirit. This profession, for me, has been a means to an end. An opportunity to serve the game that has done so much for me.

I liken the golf course superintendent profession to that of a major league sports coach. Twenty years of winning seasons mean very little during the one year that you are on the losing end. It may be unfair and frustrating, but it is also one of the constant challenges that push us to even greater heights.

Some people ask why we do it. The long hours, the uncertain future, the frequently unwarranted and uneducated criticism. I am reminded of a quote by my favorite President, Theodore Roosevelt:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man in the arena whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly...who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in

(continued on page 22)

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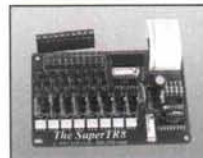
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Kevin Czerkies, CGCS Sportsman's C.C.


Boy, that was fun! I can't believe that my time on the MAGCS Board of Directors is finished. The years of service have truly provided me with lasting memories. On one hand, I'm glad it's over so I can have more time to spend with my family, but on the other hand, I'll miss serving the Association.

When I think back on all the changes occurring during my tenure on the Board, I can't help but feel a sense of awe. We accomplished some minor changes and some sweeping, controversial changes as well. I would have to say the biggest change involved this magazine you are now reading. In recent years, we have changed its name, increased the number of pages, added color text and, most recently, found a new editor.

Other major challenges included finding a new executive secretary (twice) and the development of the MAGCS Web site. If you haven't been to the Web site lately, you don't know what you're missing. The interactive Message Board is fantastic.

This month a new Board will be elected and among the Directors will be many new faces, a minimum of three, possibly four. Please be patient with the new guys as they make some rookie mistakes while learning the ins and outs of their committee assignments. Certainly the Board will miss Jim McNair and Dan Anderson. Each has decided to step down as a Board member for personal reasons. Jim has done a fantastic job with the Editorial, Public Relations and Long-Range Planning committees for the past four years. And although he was on the Board for only one year, Dan did a great job with the Golf Committee. Thanks to these two gentlemen for the time they gave to the MAGCS.

It's been eight years since I was first elected to the Board, and even though I had to field a few complaints, I enjoyed every minute of it. I've said it before and I'll say it again: the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents is the best chapter in the country. Think about all the outstanding membership services and educational opportunities available to us through the MAGCS and I'm sure you'll agree. I've enjoyed my time on the Board, and I'll miss it. It's been my pleasure.

Joel, make room, I'm coming to the pasture. 



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Dan Quast -N- Medinah Country Club



Ray Schmitz, CGCS
Flossmoor C.C.

The MAGCS will hold its Midwest Turf Clinic on November 3 at Medinah Country Club. Dan Quast will be our host superintendent. Dan is responsible for all golf course maintenance at this historic 54-hole layout. Course #3, site of the "Last Major of the Millennium" in August, ranks 16 among the top 100 golf courses in the country.

Dan obtained his formal turf education at the University

(continued on page 8)



Medinah's beautiful trees frame Dan Quast.



Photo by Martin Miller

Course #3's 13th hole from yet another vantage point. If you watched the PGA Championship, you'll recognize this as the pivotal hole during Sunday's final round. Tiger Woods double-bogeyed 13 after watching Sergio Garcia birdie it, which made a horse race out of what had been a Woods romp. If the rough had been shaved close for the Championship as it appears in this picture, Tiger's ball probably would have rolled into the water and he may have lost the tournament.



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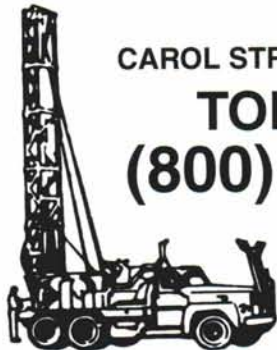
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Dan Quast -N- Medinah C.C.

(continued from page 6)

of Massachusetts and after a few golf course jobs out East, he emerged in the Midwest as superintendent at Milwaukee Country Club. In 1989, Medinah C.C. hired Dan as head superintendent. Dan's first challenge was to host the U.S. Open in 1990. Recently, in the 36th year of his career, he hosted the 1999 PGA Championship.

Dan and his lovely wife, Beverly, live in Bartlett, IL, where Dan is active on the board of his local church. His hobbies include working on the course and an occasional round of golf. He is a diehard Packers fan (bless his soul) and holds season tickets to two games each year at Lambeau Field in Green Bay.

Dan is a good teacher with respect to training assistants. Many of his former assistants

Dan is a good teacher with respect to training assistants.

Many of his former assistants have their own courses and are doing an outstanding job maintaining their turf and training new assistants.

have their own courses and are doing an outstanding job maintaining their turf and training

new assistants. Two Chicago-area "graduates" of the Dan Quast school are Brian Bossert and Dan Marco.

Managing a high-profile course demands stress relief. Dan's method of choice currently is to tour the course with his golden retriever, Ginger.

In addition to extending Medinah's hospitality to the MAGCS, Dan is one of the featured speakers on a fine program. If you want to hear the inside story of the 1999 PGA Championship, please attend the Midwest Turf Clinic on November 3. Dan promises to give us his views on the Tournament. Don't miss what is sure to be a fascinating talk and a memorable day. See you at Medinah!



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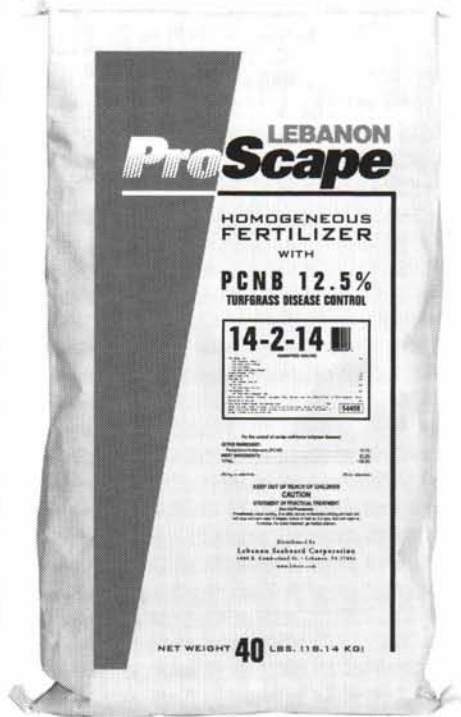
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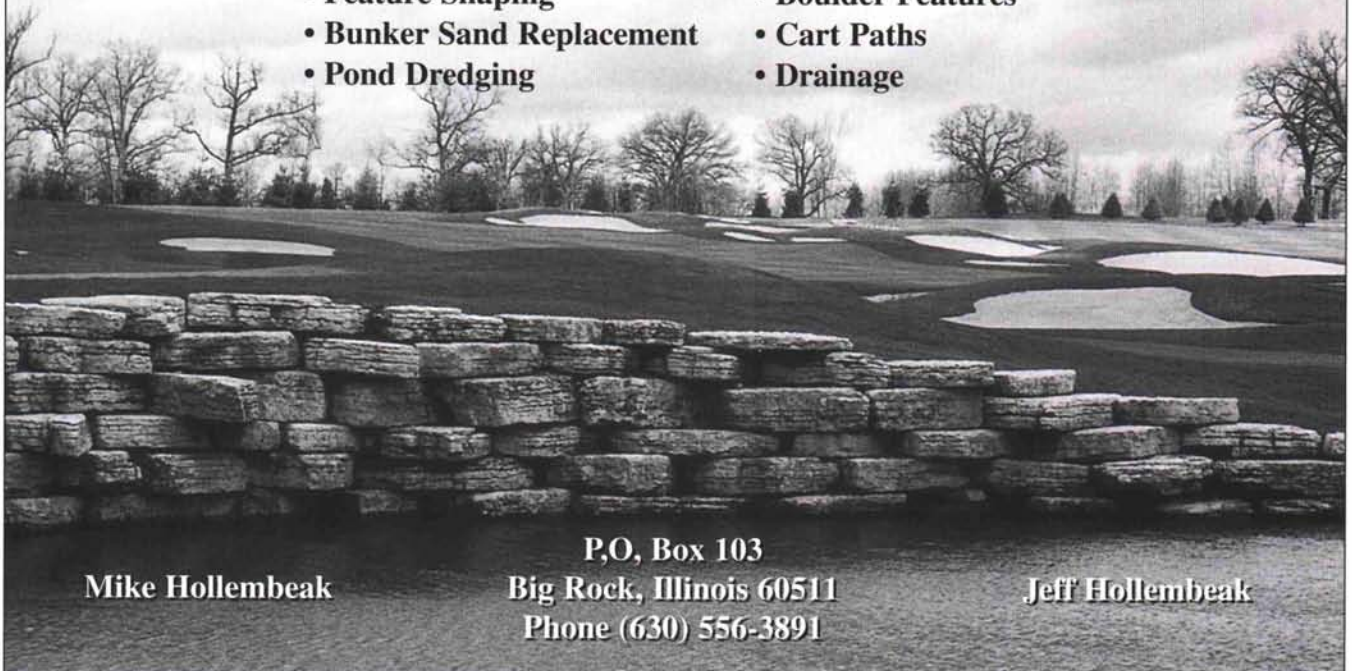
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Jeff Hollebek

A Different Approach to Managing Annual Grass Weeds

Tom Fermanian, Bruce Branham
and Hong-fei Jiang
University of Illinois

Editor's Note: Some food for thought over the upcoming winter!

Generally, at this point in the year you may have time to strategize for next year regarding plans for managing warm-season annual grasses such as crabgrass, goosegrass or yellow foxtail. A number of excellent pre-emergence herbicides are available to the turf manager to prevent the development of these persistent weeds. Usually one application of any of the herbicides prior to weed emergence, at the labeled rate, is adequate for six to eight weeks of control. Better yet, with a follow-up application at a reduced rate, season-long control can often be obtained.

For many high-quality turfs, it is not necessary to initially apply a pre-emergence annual grass herbicide each spring. Once the turf density is sufficiently thick, most annual grasses will not compete well except in areas of injury or thinning. The dilemma presented to the turf manager is, how often should you apply a pre-emergence annual grass herbicide? Is every other year appropriate or should you apply each year just to be safe?

Reducing the number of pre-emergence grass weed applications to a turf would not only save your budget, but also would help to reduce the total load of herbicide introduced into the turf environment. While these are both desirable goals, your main objective is high-quality turf that provides the best playing surface.

Waiting for them to appear

There is another approach to managing annual grass weeds in turf. In an IPM philosophy, it would be better to manage the weeds only when they appear. Postemergence annual grass herbicides are readily available for most turf species. While fewer herbicides are available for post-emergence application than for

Since the germination of annual grasses such as crabgrass is continuous throughout the season, there generally isn't a "best time" to spray. In almost any turf, you can find examples of newly germinated crabgrass along with relatively mature crabgrass plants.

pre-emergence control, several excellent herbicides for cool season turfs exist. The organic arsenicals (MSMA, DSMA, etc.), Acclaim and Dimension all work well when applied at the appropriate rate and time.

There have been several concerns with the use of these materials on fine turf. First, the most effective application window is generally fairly short, oftentimes

only a few days after the weeds first emerge. Since the germination of annual grasses such as crabgrass is continuous throughout the season, there generally isn't a "best time" to spray. In almost any turf, you can find examples of newly germinated crabgrass along with relatively mature crabgrass plants.

In irrigated turf, crabgrass germination can occur after each irrigation cycle. This presents a considerable problem using a postemergence herbicide control strategy. Repeated use of any of the postemergence grass herbicides can create short-term injury or quality reduction to the turf. If you wait to apply the herbicide, some of the crabgrass or other annual grasses can grow to a point where they resist control. Using higher rates increases the possibility of turf injury. It is the possibility of turf injury that often limits the use of postemergence herbicides. As the summer heats up, the possibility of injury can increase.

One postemergence annual grass control strategy has been evaluated for a number of years. In this strategy, the initial application of any chosen grass herbicide is only made after the first germination of any targeted weeds is detected. In this initial application, a postemergence grass herbicide is only applied to turf to control any visible annual grass weeds. A pre-emergence herbicide is also applied to the same turf, either in a mixture or in a second follow-up application to provide extended control of annual grasses in the same area. The idea is that if some annual grasses are germi-

(continued on page 12)