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A Firsthand Account: The 1999 GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting

Bob Maibusch, CGCS, MG Hinsdale G.C.

recently returned from the chapter delegates meeting held September 10-12 at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, KS. Also in attendance was the MAGCS alternate delegate, Don Cross, CGCS.

This annual get-together gives every chapter the opportunity to meet and discuss issues one-on-one with the candidates for national office. It is also an opportune time to discuss relevant association matters, both current and anticipated.

We received updates on the state of the association, which remains good. Some of the other issues that came up for discussion were the continued public/media relations effort, compensation and benefits surveys, the Food Quality Protection Act, limited budget outreach program, GCSAA 75th anniversary planning and the possibility of an association name change.

The issue that generated the most discussion was the Professional Development Initiative (PDI). In a nutshell, this movement began under the name of Membership Standards. It has involved a significant amount of investigation by standing and ad hoc GCSAA committees and outside consultants. The intent of the PDI is to improve the knowledge, skills and abilities of the professional superintendent that will contribute towards improved playing conditions and enhanced enjoyment of the game of golf. It will likely require a revamping of our current education offerings.

The implications of PDI have generated a lot of speculation. Many of your questions will be answered during a presentation to the membership at an upcoming monthly meeting. We are currently considering the January 2000 MAGCS monthly meeting to accomplish this. Plenty of time for membership input and debate is available prior to PDI's implementation, which is not expected until after the 2001 international conference. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Don Cross or me. - Vester

On Course With the President (continued from page 2)

the end the triumph of his achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who have known neither victory nor defeat."

My interpretation: Whatever doesn't kill you will make you stronger.

For those who love the game, there is nothing quite like being alone on a golf course at the beginning or end of a day. If nature is God's handiwork, then we are blessed to have the opportunity to enhance the nature of the facilities that we are entrusted with managing. On the days when I can enjoy the quiet of the golf course, it is easy to remember how lucky I am to participate in this profession. These cathedrals of nature, like churches, continue to be a refuge where people can come, if only for a short respite, to put their troubles behind them, and find that inner peace that we all desire.

Thank you for trusting me enough to allow me to lead this association. It was a privilege I never took lightly and one that I will always be humbled by. I know that by serving, I received much more than I could possibly have given. Judging by your comments, I believe that we moved forward this past year, but if my direction or opinions incited even one critic who became incensed enough to get involved, then I know that my endeavors were successful. It has truly been a pleasure and an honor. Now onto the ultimate career goal: to survive long enough in this business to be considered a curmudgeon. See you on the first tee.

Calut Jujales



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variety or mixture blue tag and/or \$1.00 for every Tee-2-Green Penn Pals variety or mixture tag. This rebate offer could provide your Affiliated Chapter with the funds to sponsor scholarship programs for turfgrass students or local and regional research.

> *Variety names must match qualified seed list. Mixture tags must carry a M16 or M16M prefix. Turf Seed product Blue Tags are redeemable for \$.50 each, while Penn Pals[™] product tags are redeemable for \$1.00. Rebates will be split evenly between the Affiliated Chapter and The GCSAA Foundation. Direct rebate offer to The GCSAA Foundation, 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049.

> > Call The GCSAA Foundation for more information at (800) 472-7878 ext. 465.





We would like to acknowledge Turf-Seed, Inc. and Tee-2-Green Corp. for their contributions through this philanthropic program. A Different Approach . . . (continued from page 16)

preemergence crabgrass control in a Kentucky bluegrass turf for up to 17 weeks (figure 4). This is one of several indications of how important a surfactant or adjuvant was in enhancing quinclorac activity. Either the new Drive formulation or added surfactant has a dramatic effect on preemergence crabgrass control. Postemergence applications (data not shown) were also quite successful with no injury to the turf.

In our earlier experiments, we also noticed the ability of quinclorac to control a few common

broadleaf weeds in postemergence applications. White clover appeared to be very sensitive to applications of Drive. In 1998 postemergence broadleaf control experiments (figures 5 & 6), both dandelions and white clover were effectively controlled with Drive 75 DF at 0.5 lb./A. In these experiments, the Kentucky bluegrass turf again showed no sign of injury from the Drive applications. Creeping bentgrass, maintained at fairway heights, also has good tolerance for Drive applications. Drive, therefore, might be an excellent material for white clover control in bentgrass fairways.

Summary

Drive 75 DF provides the turfgrass manager with a new option for managing both annual grass and broadleaf weeds after they appear. Since most coolseason turfgrass species have good-to-excellent tolerance of this herbicide, it can be used later in the season than many other existing herbicides. As with any new herbicide, you should evaluate it in a few selected areas on your own site before adopting it for widespread use. I feel it will provide an excellent option for maintaining high-quality turf. -Ve thur













Bull Sheet

John Gurke Contributing Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER November 3 — Medinah Turf Clinic-guess where November 9-11 — Penn State Golf Turf Conference, State College, PA. For more information, contact Peter Landschoot at 814-863-1017. November 20 - MAGCS Fall Dinner Dance at Seven Bridges G.C. November 30 through December 2 — NCTE at Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, IL February 14-15, 2000 -GCSAA Golf Championship, Mobile, Alabama

February 14-20, 2000 — GCSAA International Conference and Show, New Orleans, Louisiana June 24, 2000 — World Shotgun 2000

On September 11 through 14, Les Rutan and Beverly Country Club hosted the Chicago Open, which drew large crowds to watch some great golf AND Michael Jordan. The course proved too much for MJ, but ex-Aurora Country Club PGA professional Bob Ackerman took first place in a down-to-the-wire finish, claiming the \$30,000 winner's purse.

The 1999 John Deere Illinois Qualifier, held at the gorgeous White Deer Run (Joe Meier host), was again a fun getaway for MAGCS members and their assorted coworkers and bosses. The top five finishers were: 1) Midland C.C., John Wagner, superintendent; 2) Old Orchard C.C., Jerry Arden, superintendent; 3) Knollwood Club, Randy Wahler, superintendent; 4) Inverness G.C., Mike Bavier, superintendent; and 5) McHenry C.C., Bob Lively, superintendent. The winning Illinois team from Kewanee will go to the national event at Superstition Mountain in Arizona November 11-15.

Congratulations to Brock Burton, assistant superintendent at Bryn Mawr C.C., on his recent marriage to Carrie Smoot. The couple wed on September 25, and Brian Bossert docked the groom for all days missed, being that he didn't observe the unwritten rule on acceptable wedding dates (January 32 and February 30).

(continued on page 28)

The MAGCS Annual Golf Championship was held on September 14 at Bull Valley G.C., with Ken Goodman hosting. The course, as usual, was in excellent shape thanks to Ken and his staff. The results are as follows.

Championship Flight: Tom Robinson, 76; First Flight: Mike Hubbard, 72; Second Flight: Mike Mumper, 76; Third Flight: Albie Staudt, 61 (not a typo); Commercial A Flight: Charlie Brugler, 82; Commercial B Flight: Steve Poole, 72. Also, the biggest upset of the day goes to Hammerin' Holly Gilmour, who won the long-drive contest. Congratulations to all winners!



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the Bull Sheet

(continued from page 26)

Local goings-on: Eddie Braunsky has been very busy lately with his fairway renovation project, which was begun at Geneva G.C. on August 16. Ed used Basamid, a granular soil fumigant, to kill off all fairway grass. After a 10-day wait, the fairways were seeded with a blend of four "low-mow" bluegrasses from Medalist. Germination was reported in seven days, and first mowing was done three weeks from seeding date. Eddie encourages all MAGCS members to catch his talk at the NCTE this November, and frets that he may not be able to speak for 25 minutes-right!

After conducting a study on the link between cancer and 2,4-D, researchers at Michigan State University have stated, "We were unable to support the conclusions reached by the National Cancer Institute concerning the relationship between 2,4-D exposure and canine malignant lymphoma." Rest easy, all you golf course dogs...

Good news from the GCSAA: The most recent salary data shows that \$100K salaries are no longer rare, and are in some chapters common. Several GCSAA affiliated chapters report 10 to 25% of their member superintendents earning over \$100,000 annually.

Watch your mail for your invitation to the West Side Christmas Party, to be held on Tuesday, December 7 at Dave-n-Buster's. Details for this first-time event are forthcoming. It's never too early to start thinking Christmas! They're taking their show on the road...Mike Bavier, CGCS, of Inverness Club and Gordon Witteveen, superintendent of Board of Trade Turf Care Centre, will present their seminar, titled "The Magic of Greenkeeping," from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Thursday, December 2 at the NCTE at Pheasant Run. This is a case where the "movie" is truly better than the book--check it out.

Do you have a budding superintendent on your staff? Penn State University is accepting applications for its two-year turf program, beginning September 2000. Obtain forms by calling 814-863-0129.

For sale: Two tractor-mount blowers: 1992 Olathe, good condition, \$500. 1965 Rogers, fair condition, \$300. Contact Glen at 847-446-5268.

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For sale: Neary Spin-Matic II Reel Grinder and Neary Bed Knife Grinder w/Automatic Travel. Call Bob at Dunteman Turf Farms at 630-557-2900.



Several MAGCS members (pictured above) found the lure of raging whitewater too good to pass up, and traveled to West Virginia for another exciting rafting trip down the Gauley River. As many of our members who have taken this trip in previous years can attest, it is spectacular! Although Fred Opperman could not make the trip, the "squealin' like a pig" echoing through the canyon was still present. I'd like to personally thank Joel Purpur for arranging the trip, as he has done for the last many years.



On Course November 1999



8/5/92—Activity abounds during all phases of construction, especially finish grading and seedbed preparations.





5/22/92—Noise and dust fill the air as Cat Panscrapers respread topsoil.



7/25/93—Lost time, lost materials and washouts remain after 'catastrophic' rains.

The Birth of a Golf Course

(continued from page 20)

golf course contractor has the technical expertise, experienced personnel and the necessary equipment to perform the job. A good working relationship with a contractor revolves around the contractor's construction superintendent and the field engineer. They are critical personnel in the construction phase. They supervise and coordinate all contracted earthmoving, features construction, drainage and other miscellaneous work as per the owner's request.

The contractor's shapers and operators are infatuating to watch. They are skilled craftsmen. Their ability to interpret a blueline drawing, envision that design and create it in a "natural sense," with a bulldozer, is uncanny. A construction superintendent has the responsibility to schedule all work, procure all construction materials and provide surety of work as written in the construction bid documents. The field engineer is the mastermind of the project from a construction standpoint. He or she interprets the architectural drawings, surveys, stakes the cut and fills perimeters for all earthmoving operations, and delineates all design control points.

Weather has a monumental role in the timely success and completion of construction. There is no greater sense of helplessness and frustration during construction than to see weeks of hard work wash away during a rain event. The most despised phrase in construction and grow-in is 'catastrophic rain event.' No matter how substantial or how good your erosion control measures are, nature will be unmerciful and cause delay.

The grow-in phase

Here is where the analogy with a newborn really becomes evident. Like a newborn, the emerging golf course is totally dependent on you for all its needs. It is completely helpless. The care and nurturing that young emergent seedlings require is extensive.

Grow-in starts when all finish grades are achieved, all construction materials, including irrigation, are in place, and construction efforts have moved to new areas. Seeding, sodding, pre-plant fertilization, bed preparations and touch-up tasks are common responsibilities of golf grow-in crews.