

JUNE, 1966
VOL. 19, NO. 12



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

GOLF —

DINNER

JULY MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 1966

OLYMPIA FIELDS COUNTRY CLUB

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

BUSINESS MEETING

DOUG JABAAY, Editor
P. O. Box 305
Naperville, Ill. 60540

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Walter Fuchs, Superintendent Glen Eagles Country Club.

The President's Message

Water, water everywhere, and still we get some more. Some of the local pros are thinking about putting pontoons on the golf carts! This kind of weather makes you appreciate a good drainage system or wish you had one.

Our sincere appreciation goes to Frank Dinelli and Jerry Marlatt for doing such a superb job at the Managers - Superintendent meeting at Northmoor. I thought the attendance was outstanding and everyone was in a good mood despite the weather we've been having. Frank and Jerry Dinelli deserve a lot of credit for having their course in such excellent condition despite the adverse weather conditions. When you see a course looking as well as Frank's it gives you that extra pickup you sometimes need to go back to your own course and solve some of the problems that plague all of us.

Adolph Bertucci
President



SAY YOU SAW
IT IN THE
"BULL SHEET"

JUNE MEETING

Glen Eagles Country Club was our host for the Association at this meeting. It was a pleasure to join Walter Fuchs, our host Superintendent, at the site of the 1957 World Open. Over 60 of our members sat down to a tasty roast beef dinner. The McNulty Bros. are to be congratulated on the fine club house operation.

Walt and his entire crew must have been working till late at night to get this "White Course" in such beautiful condition. Some of the 40 or so golfers found the pins placed in real tricky areas.

The golf tournament was a "low ball twosome," using the Calloway system. Peter Voykin was medalist with a 76.

The winners:

- 1st 141 — Pete Voykin, Mike Banar
- 2nd 143 — Oscar Miles, Rodger Lovershell
- 3rd 144 — Michell, Conelli
- 4th 148 — Frank Kruger, Chuck Dougherty
- 5th 149 — Druzinsky, Opperman

On the closest to the pin tourney, held on hole #7, a par 3 165 yards, Dick Travarthan was nearest to the pin. The prize for that was a \$60 Oster Blender.

The putting contest, as advertised in the May Bull Sheet, was called off. Only two non-golfers showed up.

For the July meeting at Olympia Fields, the golf event will be:

Blind Bogey — between 70-85 with scores then reduced further by applying the U.S.G.A. Calloway Handicap system.

On Olympia's shortest par 3 hole a Closest to the Pin contest.

For non-golfers that day, a try at another Putting contest at 4:30 sharp. Have to have a minimum of 15 participants before this contest can be run off.

Thanks to Braunsky and Burrows for our golf information. Let's all make an effort to get to Olympia in July.

Letter to the Editor —

Dear Golf Course Superintendent:

I don't have to tell you that your busiest time is here and I can fully appreciate the fact that you must put in a long and often exasperating day. I know just how much heartache 90° temperature with 85% humidity, a mal-functioning irrigation system, a torrent of rain, and a violent windstorm can bring. It hurts me also because of your red-rimmed, sleep-starved eyes, your finicky appetite and your restless, teeth-grinding sleep.

I try to sympathize even though it is hard to understand your problems. I know you may be irritated with my enthusiasm because of rain, but I really didn't know you sprayed your greens today.

Please be patient with my overdone roast. I secretly hoped you'd be home for dinner at 6:00 and that extra two hours can really dry a piece of meat out! I also must apologize for not getting your breakfast, but the rising sun and the song of the birds holds no appeal for me.

I know it wasn't your fault that we couldn't make it to that party because your night waterman quit and you had to water, so forgive me my tears and sulking. I often forget how many responsibilities you have.

Sometimes, I must confess, I actually hate that green-haired rival of mine and I often think she holds first place in your heart. Yet, I swell with pride when you come home with tales of the praise you have received. So don't mind if I ask you to repeat them more than once, I want to relish each word.

Please forgive my nagging to go out and that ridiculous suggestion about a weekend trip. It's so easy for me to forget how much can go wrong over a weekend.

I can remember when our marriage was new and we were expecting the baby. I heard you bragging about the nursery you had just started and I was silly enough to think it was a baby nursery, instead of a sod nursery. I must admit I did get over-emotional when your son referred to the golf course as "Daddy's house." It was only natural for him to assume, it seemed like the only time he saw you was when we took a ride to the course and I would say to him, "See that man over there, crawling around on that green? Well that's your Daddy."

I guess I have a lot to learn, so I must again ask for your patience and I promise you mine.

This must seem an odd way for me to communicate with you, but I hate to bother you with my childish prattle when you have so many things on your mind. Anyhow, I know you normally hear only half of what I say, but you always find time to glance at your "Bull Sheet."

Here's hoping for an early winter, like about August.

With all my love,
Your wife Suzy.

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MANAGER-SUPERINTENDENT OUTING

Northmoor Country Club with hosts, Manager Jerry Marlatt and Superintendent Frank Dinelli, sure gave all a good time at our Manager-Superintendent Annual Meeting and Golf Outing. The invitation to the Greens chairman and the House chairman certainly was a splendid addition to our day.

The golfing event of the day was championship win by Glenview Country Club. A large trophy was given to the winning foursome. This award will be held for a year and then returned again for competition. A replica will be received upon giving it back. Should the same club win three years in a row the trophy then may be retained. This event will be looked forward to in the years to come.

Again many thanks to all who had a part in making this event such a success.



THE WINNERS



Photos From Managers-Superintendents Outing



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SUMMER PERSPECTIVE

May 25, 1966

What promised to be an early Spring and an early golf playing season, turned out to be a cold, wet and late season. In the last week of May, this weather pattern promises to reverse itself and we now predict a drier and warmer June. Bets are being taken at "Window #10."

During the last week of May, the grass was in an explosive condition with spring applications of fertilizer and too much water culminating in lush growth. With the advent of drier and warmer weather, a deterioration may set in in June, calling for a feeding with an organic fertilizer in conservative amounts. On irrigated turf, this will assure a more uniform turf condition during the summer. Some users prefer to make light applications monthly. On non-irrigated turf, an application of an organic feeding in June, will result in better and greener turf during July and August, when rainfall is expected to be at a minimum.

After consultation with Charles W. Wilson, Agronomist for Milorganite, who has conducted experiments for a number of years to establish the best times of the year and the number of times organic fertilizer applications are most effective, we find surprisingly one or two i.e. spring and/or fall applications show up real well, though many superintendents prefer a number of light applications during the summer months.

Labor continues to be the golf superintendent's number one problem. While this will be alleviated somewhat with the availability of college and high school students shortly, this does not solve the problem. It will be with the superintendents again after Labor Day. There is no indication of the tight labor situation being reversed. Unless the Viet Nam war is ended, factories producing for the Armed Services will out-bid civilian enterprises for labor.

The recent slump in the securities markets seems increases on all machinery for the next season. This is only a correction of over-population. We predict price again is essentially due to increased labor costs, taxes and overhead. Like with the weatherman, there should be a margin for mistakes. When a prognosticator is right, he points with pride; if he is wrong, he likes to forget. Therefore, take this information with the usual "two grains of salt."

C. O. Borgmeier

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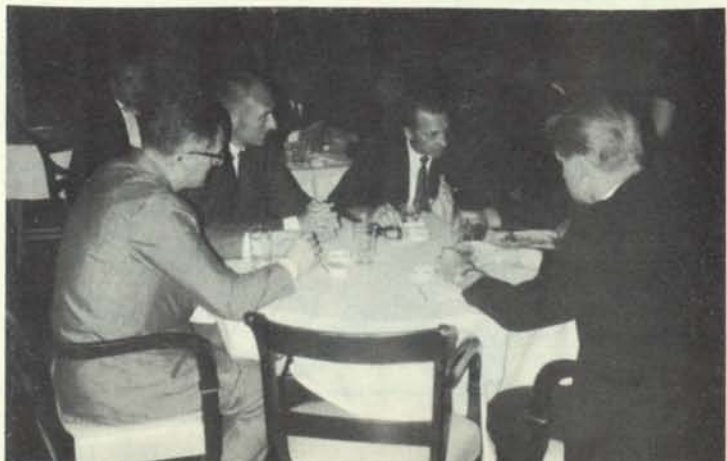
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PLASTIC MULCH A SUCCESS AT BUTTERFIELD

by C. G. Wilson

Superintendent Bert Rost was forming ulcers on his ulcers this Spring because the wet Fall of 1965 had delayed construction of several new Ray Diddier designed greens and tees at Butterfield. Then, too, all of us know that Spring failed to spring with its customary vigor in Chicago this year.

Bert had to seed in early May and the members expect to play by July 4. From the looks of things, by late May the deadline will be met, thanks to a conversation that Bert had with the U.S.G.A.'s Jim Holmes. Jim suggested they try "Soil-Set," an elastomeric polymer concentrate dispersed in water as a liquid mulch to hold soil, seed and fertilizer in place.

Seedbed Preparation

Putting green seedbeds were prepared in the usual fashion. A 10-10-10 fertilizer at 20 pounds and Milorganite at 40 pounds were lightly tilled into the surface with Penncross bent at 3 pounds per 1,000 square feet. All new greens and tees were rimmed with bluegrass sod, and this may be one reason why the Soil-Set application was so successful. Certainly, it prevented the "undercutting" type of erosion from non-treated areas experienced by some who have used this material.

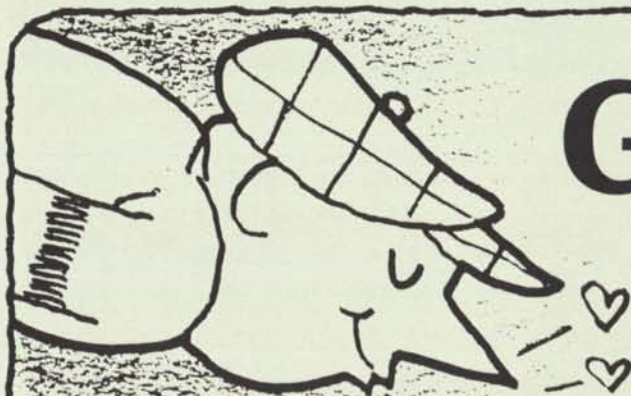
Soil-Set was then applied using the recommended 9 parts water to 1 part Soil-Set dilution at a cost of about \$3.00 per 1,000 square feet for the plastic mulch. The manufacturer, Alco Chemical Company, suggests waiting for 3 hours after the application before walking on or dragging hose over the newly seeded area. Bert feels that under his conditions a 12 hour wait was even better.

Love Those Check Plots

Fortunately for our knowledge Bert has small (about 2 square feet) check plots on each newly seeded area. These plots had everything but the Soil-Set and offer visual proof that the mulch really worked. In addition to stopping 90% or better of potential erosion, the Soil-Set brought about earlier seed germination. Bert feels it did this by holding the Milorganite in place. Shortly after seeding, a 3 inch plus gully washer of rain arrived at Butterfield. Within another week almost 2 more inches of rain fell in a short time. This washed fertilizer and seed from the non-treated check plots, but not where the liquid mulch had been applied.

Although no soil temperature measurements were made, Bert Rost is certain the black Milorganite granules absorbed some heat from the sun to bring about earlier soil warming and thus earlier germination. On the border where the Milorganite washed from the check plots more growth is evidenced to bear out Bert's contention.

(Continued)



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PLASTIC MULCH (Continued)

Mr. Rost also found another advantage from the liquid mulch application. After the 3 to 12 hour waiting period one hand watering was all that was needed. Subsequent irrigations were made with large fairway sprinklers to save time and money.

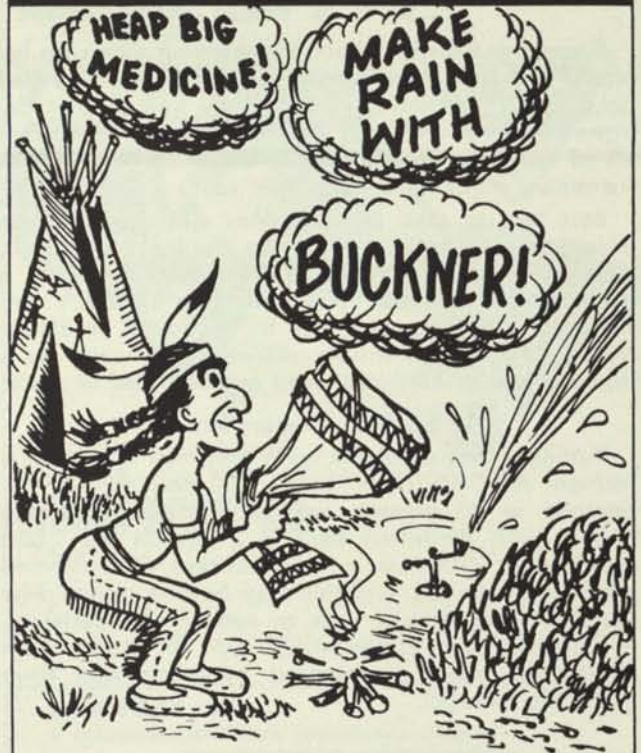
The only erosion noticed was a few minor rivulets at the lower end of large and rather steeply pitched greens. Bert feels that possibly a double rate application under these conditions would have prevented any damage. In any event, Bert Rost is satisfied that for Spring seedings, Soil-Set is worthy of consideration. It definitely worked for him.



After 20 days pictures show increased growth in dark area with use of liquid mulch over area (lighter) where no mulch was applied.



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