

Merit Club John Nelson, Arne Nordenson & Joe Baert

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October 2011

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The Merit Club, site of the 2011 Midwest College Championship native grasses start to peel away their summer colors for Fall.

The bench that overlooks Merit Club with the 13th in the background. Photo credit: Luke Cella



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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.

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Getting Older... But That's a Good Thing!

You know you have gone through this scenario... an item comes over the radio filling you in on something that happened on this day in history. I must admit I am a pretty avid WGN radio listener. I also love PTI on ESPN. Both of these media outlets always seem to have a tidbit or two that I always find interesting. For example I heard that 40 years ago the first fight between Muhammed Ali and Joe Frazier took place in Madison Square Garden. 25 years ago Jack Nicklaus won the Masters at the age of 46 and 20 short years ago the Chicago Bulls won the first of their many NBA championships. It makes you stop and think how much older you are and how quickly times goes by.

Old is not a bad thing. Some of the "old school" things that are still around are pretty important, but have been falling by the wayside lately. Take for example "Thank You" notes. We now live in a society that offers instant everything. The idea of writing a note on a card or a piece of paper may seem to be so yesterday but it still has a place in our busy world. At a MAGCS board meeting this year, those in attendance were asked to sign a thank you letter that was being sent to the sponsors of the Hospitality Room in Orlando. Many letters were sent around the table and everyone put their John Hancock on them. Soon to be Past President Dan Sterr makes it a point to send Thank You cards to monthly meeting sponsors. It is a nice touch that makes MAGCS what it is today.

There are plenty of ways you can continue this practice and insure to leave a positive impression. Playing a fellow member's track? Don't just show up, give a call and let them know you are coming. Afterwards, throw a thank you note in the mail and point out some positive things going on at their facility. Get a gift from someone? I always try to put a note in the mail the day I receive a gift from a club member. It is certainly easier to send off an email or punch out a text, but where's the effort? Take a little time to say thanks, it won't be forgotten. Take a little time to say thanks, it won't be forgotten.

As the chair of the Past President's Council, I would like to extend my thanks to the current Board of Directors of the Midwest. They have done a great job running the Midwest and offering excellent education, great days of golf and camaraderie, publishing the magazine, directory and website, funding the scholarships for our children, contributing to the Wee One Foundation, the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, the Environmental Institute for Golf, the Chicago District Golf Association, the Illinois Junior Golf Association and more each while managing their own facilities through two tough seasons in a row. Great work gentlemen. Your work and dedication is appreciated. **-OC**

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> -Rich Carter, General Manager Indian Wells, CA

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FEATURE I

Paul Koch and Dr. Jim Kerns, University of Wisconsin

Preparing for Snow Mold Applications

After a spring and summer full of surprises including a frigid May, a bone-dry June, and a blistering July with significant rainfall, planning for snow mold applications in September is a welcome sight! With the chaos of the PCNB stop-sale order issued by the Environmental Protection Agency in August of 2010, and the widespread feeling that PCNB wouldn't be available for a significant period (if ever again), it seemed that planning for the 2011-2012 winter would be straightforward. Scrutinize the 2011 UW Snow Mold Research Reports, discuss with colleagues and sales representatives, make a selection, and wait for the right time to spray. Then on August 19, 2011 came the latest twist. The PCNB stop-sale order, issued in 2010, had been vacated by a district judge, allowing the sale of PCNB once more. Predictability had been thrown out the window, replaced by questions with no certain answers. Do I revamp my plan to once again include PCNB? Can the product get to my facility in time? What will PCNB be priced at, and how will that affect my decision? For the latest on the PCNB situation as well as a full listing of all the orders and press releases visit the Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab's PCNB page at www.tdl.wisc.edu/PCNB.php.

By the time you read this, most of the above questions are likely to have been answered. That does not mean that the uncertainty surrounding PCNB is over. The legal wrangling will likely continue until PCNB is (eventually) fully removed from the turfgrass market. For that reason, in the long term it is best to find a snow mold program that works for your facility and your budget and does not include PCNB. An excellent place to start is with the 2011 University of Wisconsin Snow Mold Research Reports.

The 2010-2011 UW Snow Mold Trials were held at 5 locations in Wisconsin, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and Minnesota. The trials were held at Grant Park, GC in South Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Sentryworld GC in Stevens Point, Wisconsin; Wawonowin CC in Champion, Michigan; Les Bolstad GC in St Paul, Minnesota; and The Legacy at Craguns GC in Brainerd, Minnesota. A sincere thank you to the host superintendents at each course for their gracious hospitality: Jason Rosbach at Grant Park, Gary Tanko at Sentryworld, AndyHakkarinen at Wawonowin, Brent Belanger at Les Bolstad, and Matt McKinnon at Craguns. The full reports for each site can be found at the Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab's Research page at www.tdl.wisc.edu/research.php.

The 2010-2011 trial that showed the greatest difference among treatments was held at Sentryworld GC (See Figure 1). Ninety different treatments were tested, and not a single one



Figure 1. Fungicides that provided good suppression of Typhula blight at Sentryworld Golf Course in Stevens Point, WI. Applications were applied in early November and plots were rated in early April.

contained PCNB. Disease pressure was high, as non-treated controls averaged 74.8% disease. Despite this high pressure, nine treatments gave complete control of snow mold and thirteen more allowed less than 5% disease. Including some other experimental products and experimental Civitas mixes,

(continued on page 7)

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Think Ahead.

Agronomic Sales: Chicago South: Paul Yerkes, 630-514-9373 Chicago North: Charles Hill, 630-768-9275 a full 36 treatments out of a possible 90 allowed less than 5% disease. Two common aspects of the treatments that performed well include applications of two or three active ingredients in the tank mix and inclusion of multiple fungicide chemistries (contact, DMI, QoI). Products that performed well when mixed with other products include Insignia, Trinity, Instrata, Interface, Reserve, Velista, Torque, and 26/36 (Figures 1 and 2). With 36 treatments performing exceptionally well though, there is a wide range of options for obtaining excellent control of snow mold.



Figure 2. Novel snow mold programs and products for the control of Typhula blight at Sentryworld Golf Course in Stevens Point, WI.

In the Chicagoland area, the primary snow mold pathogen of concern is Microdochium patch or pink snow mold. Products that are typically very effective against Microdochium patch are iprodione, Qol fungicides (Heritage, Insignia, Compass, Disarm), Trinity, Torque and various pre-mix products. Research from Dr. Derek Settle reveals that tank mixtures of Banner MAXX and DaconilUltrex work well against Microdochium patch, as do applications of Tartan or Heritage TL (Figure 3). Data from the west coast demonstrates that applications of Interface, Headway, and Torque are effective in suppressing Microdochium patch development (Figure 4). Fairway applications in the Chicagoland area may not be warranted, but be prepared to deal with Microdochium patch during the spring. If the disease does develop it is normally easy to clean up with any of the fungicides listed above.



Figure 3. Microdochium patch, pink snow mold, control with three spring applications of fungicides in Chicago, 2010.





The treatments listed above will provide excellent snow mold protection, but may not be practical for most facilities on larger areas such as fairways. PCNB is a popular product not because it completely controls snow mold; it doesn't. It's popular because it provides a reasonable level of control at an affordable price. Are there options currently available that also provide a reasonable level of control at an affordable price? The answer is yes, as both Trinity and Torque will provide a reasonable level of snow mold control (0-20%) disease allowed) at costs that most facilities can afford. Applied at the full label rate over 30 acres of fairways, both products cost approximately \$3,000. If greater levels of control are desired and can be afforded, mixing in products such as Daconil, 26/36, and Insignia will improve disease controls. A final consideration about snow mold fungicides is that soil temperatures affect their residual efficacy. Once soil temperatures consistently eclipse 32°F, fungicides applied prior to snow cover guickly degrade. Take home message: once the snow melts and the ground thaws, fungicides applied in the fall are no longer effective and re-applications may be warranted to protect against new pink snow mold infections. If any questions arise after examining the figures included with this article or the ones posted on the website please do not hesitate to contact Paul Koch (plkoch@wisc.edu) or Dr. Jim Kerns (jkerns@wisc.edu). -OC



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FEATURE II Doug Davis, *Flagg Creek Golf Course*

A Unique Fall Flowerbed



When I have the opportunity to play golf at courses other than my own, I get to see many things other than greens, tees, and fairways. (Especially where my ball flies on occasion!) I particularly enjoy seeing how other facilities utilize areas of the golf course such as the front entrance and clubhouse surrounds using color by way of annual/perennial flowers, bulbs, fall mums, etc.

At Cantigny, I have always been impressed by the way Scott Witte creates some of the most eye catching flower beds in some of the, otherwise, most out of the way areas. Whether it is a colorful landscape bed on an island in a pond or lake, hanging planter boxes on a bridge, or even cascading plants dropping down out of the crotch of a tree, these stylish ideas create rainbows of color that might otherwise just be green landscapes.

In the middle of my golf course, near a bent grass nursery, bordered by a practice range I had this mound of aerification plugs, mostly sand, that I didn't have an immediate use for, but that I didn't want to just lose in my waste area. The pile was visible from the 1st, 6th, and 7th holes and had good access to an irrigation source. So, one morning in early June I looked at that mound and said to myself, "Hmm—pumpkin patch?" A few bags of compost blended in and all was set. The good folks at Burpee and Livingston Seed Company have many varieties to choose from and experiment with. Packets for the largest pumpkins may have only four seeds in them.

So, I put four to six seeds in each of about three mounds, tossed a little straw around the mounds to conserve moisture

and ward off weeds, and I waited. It took very little time at all for the sprouting to begin, and we were on our way. At the beginning, I fertilized the plants almost weekly or bi-weekly to get them aggressively growing and then cut back after the first fruits started to form. The fun part at that point was this huge patch of green vines and leaves that everyone drove or walked by each day and no one had a clue as to what it was.

Then, toward the end of August, the big orange globes started to show themselves through the foliage, and boy did the comments begin! Guess it's one thing to see a pile of pumpkins for sale in a box at the store and quite another to see them growing naturally in a large patch. I had people coming up to me left and right inquiring, complimenting, and of course wondering what I was going to do with them. The pumpkins, approximately 14 in all, will be part of a fall display outside the entrance to our clubhouse.

I think if you were to ask most people what their favorite season is they would say fall. Creating a pumpkin patch somewhere on your course might generate some smiles and excitement and add to this enjoyable time of the year. (Ed note: plus give Linus something to do on Halloween.). **-OC**



SUPER -N- SITE Travis Dykstra, *St. Charles Country Club*

John Nelson, Arne Nordenson & Joe Baert -N- Merit Club



As many of you know, John Nelson and the Merit Club, located in Libertyville, Illinois, are hosting the 2011 MAGCS College Championship in October. What you may not know is that this Par 72, 7100 yard course was built by architect Bob Lohmann. The property comprises 320 acres, 21 holes (3 practice holes), and opened in the summer of 1992. The course hosted the U.S. Women's Open in 2000. John has been at the Merit Club since 1990. He's been captain of the Merit Club ship since 2006. Superintendents know they can't do it alone, though. That's why John relies on his two assistants, Arne Nordenson and Joe Baert.

Arne Nordenson grew up in McHenry, Illinois. He began his college career in the SIU music program. After SIU, Arne enrolled at McHenry County College where he took a combination of music, horticulture, and turf management classes, and is currently working on his turf management degree. He began his career in the turf industry by working as a caddy and a range attendant at Turnberry Country Club in Lake of the Hills, Illinois. Next, he worked on the night irrigation crew for



Out for a morning spin, left Joe Baert and Arne Nordenson, Nelson's two assistants that help to keep Merit Club in top shape.

Kenny Goodman. That same year he landed the assistant's job at Four Winds Golf Club in Mundelein, Illinois. He worked in that position until 2003, when he was promoted to superintendent. In 2007, Four Winds closed, and Arne moved to the superintendent position at the Legends of Bensenville in Bensenville, Illinois. That same year the club was sold and Arne moved to the super-intendent's role at Bittersweet Golf Club in Gurnee, Illinois. He filled that

Brian Comiskey at Pinecrest Golf Club in Huntley, Illinois. In between Turnberry and Pinecrest, Arne worked in the home construction industry for six years. In the spring of 1999, he returned to the golf industry as the irrigation/spray tech at Bull Valley Country Club in Woodstock, Illinois, for role until October 2010, when he decided to work for John Nelson at the Merit Club.

Arne told me that the biggest challenges at the course, just like everywhere else, is fulfilling member expectations and dealing with unpredictable weather. Nonetheless, he enjoys



seeing the results of the all the hard work that he and his crew accomplish during the season, but he also enjoys waking up in the morning to a beautiful piece of property. He recently retrofitted (with help from mechanic Don Briggs) a Gator with a 25-gallon boom sprayer, an electric fertilizer spreader, and a speedometer. This allows him to be very versatile in the field while completing detail work. Outside of work he enjoys spending time with his fiancé and his two-and-a-half-year-old daughter. Arne also plays the drums in his band and, when time allows, he likes to fish and play golf. Overall, Arne feels very privileged to have worked with the people he has. He attributes his success to John Nelson, Kenny Goodman, Scott Spieden, and Brian Comiskey.

John Nelson's other assistant is Joe Baert. Joe grew up in Geneva, and started working at the Geneva Golf Club for Ed Braunsky in 1999 as a part of his grounds crew. After

graduating from Kishwaukee College, he went to work for Jason Funderberg and Jeff VerCautren at Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove, Illinois, in 2006. From there, in 2007, he went to the "Brute" course at Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, under the guidance of Mark Barthel. In 2008 an opportunity arose, one that he could not refuse, at the Merit Club working for John Nelson. As in every





assistant superintendent position, Joe is kept on his toes determining the most effective use of the grounds crew. He's always thinking of new and creative ways to complete tasks. He explained that plans are being made for building and restoring tees, as well as for restoring pond banks with fiber logs and boulders. Joe said that one of his favorite tools at the course is the New Jacobsen Eclipse mowers, which they use to cut greens and fairways. For Joe the most enjoyable aspect of working on the golf course is being outside, working with his hands, and taking in the views that the Merit Club has to offer. Outside of work, his hobbies include plaving softball, golfing, grilling out, and spending time with his girlfriend, Jen.

Joe and Arne both agree that #9 is the most picturesque hole, especially when standing on the #13 tee, which is the highest vantage point on the golf course. In addition, they agree that what

makes the Merit Club unique is that it's all golf. There are no tennis courts and/or swimming pool, which makes their job a little easier.

On behalf of all the assistants and superintendents in the Chicagoland area, I want to thank John, Arne, Joe and the Merit Club for hosting the 2011 MAGCS College Championship.



Toyota Park

Which game is the real football? Is it the game that Americans play in the fall with helmets and shoulder pads or is the "beautiful game" played with a round ball by the rest of the planet? Just a question, however if you are going to play soccer you will want to want to play on the best pitch in Chicago. You are going to want to play at Toyota Park in Bridgeview where Eric Adkins is the Turf Manager.

Toyota Park, located in Bridgeview was the site where the American Women's soccer team began their quest for the World Cup with a must win "play-in" with Italy. They won the game and went on to run the table until they met their fate and finished a disappointing second to a very quick Japanese team in the World Cup Finals held this past summer in Germany. The site is also home to the MLS (Major League Soccer) Chicago Fire and the WPS (Women's Professional Soccer) Chicago Red Stars. Toyota Park has hosted high school football, high school and college soccer and lacrosse games. Along the way, it has also entertained the likes of the "Parrot heads" with a Jimmy Buffet concert and the "Phish-heads" the loyal followers of the band Phish. The Park is a multi-use field that gets a lot of "action" yet needs to maintain "world cup quality" turf for MLS and international "friendly" soccer games. Not the easiest job in turf maintenance.

Eric is a graduate from the Michigan State University Turf program and has previously worked as a Golf Course Superintendent at courses in Illinois and Michigan. He has worked at Toyota Park since 2006 when it opened. The field has some unique features that help Eric grow the high quality turf the athletes demand. The soil profile is sand based, similar to a USGA green and is plumbed for water removal and forced cooling with a Sub-Air system. In order to maintain the soil at a constant 62 degrees, the profile has 40 miles of $\frac{1}{2}$ " tubing filled with glycol and a large pump station to heat the field and keep the turf actively growing as needed during the colder seasons. The turf is a blend of low mow Kentucky bluegrass and ryegrass mowed at 5/8". Eric prefers to keep the turf firm and fast but the players prefer it a little softer (insert faking soccer injury joke here). Eric has help from his Assistant Tom Forrest and a crew of 2.

Eric faces some unique microclimate challenges. Shade is his biggest enemy. The east side bleachers block out the sun until noon each day. The stage overhangs the goal mouth on the south end which is also one of the heaviest wear areas



on the field. He needs to manage for diseases just like the rest of us. He overseeds p. rye as needed in small wear areas and will call in the "Godfather of Sod" Paul Carlson from Central Sod to do turf repairs featuring the big roll sod. "The nice thing about the big roll sod is the sod is so thick that it provides a stable foundation to play on the next day". Eric has good success using Tenacity to control the ever invasive poa annua. He top-dresses heavily with sand three times a year to promote overall firmness and smoothness. He has similar a concern as Golf Course Superintendent trying to promote a smooth ball roll. I didn't get a chance to "stimp" the field but it looked pretty "fast". Go check it out football fans. -OC



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Mike Armstrong, superintendent at Mendon Golf Club in Mendon, N.Y., decided to try Tourney[®] Fungicide from Valent Professional Products last winter as part of a tank mix with Chipco[®] 26019. Armstrong applied *Tourney* at a rate of I pound per acre mixed with 4 ounces of 26019 and achieved "excellent control" of snow mold.

"We get 100 inches of snow per year here, but we had very limited breakthrough this year," Armstrong said. "We used one app of *Tourney* with 26019 in the second week of November and that was it. Everything came out as good as could be. The course was probably cleaner than it's ever been using PCNB."

If Tourney can control snow mold in the extreme conditions seen in upstate New York, it can do the job just about anywhere snow cover is a concern. A new report from the University of Wisconsin shows that a single application of *Tourney* can provide excellent snow mold control and turf quality on golf course fairways (see chart on reverse).



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Conducted on creeping bentgrass and annual bluegrass fairways at Wawonowin Country Club in Champion, Mich., that had been naturally infected with various forms of snow mold, the University of Wisconsin study rated both disease control and turf quality.

Applied in early November 2010 and rated in mid-April 2011 on plots that experienced continuous snow cover during that period (approximately 150 days), a tank mix of *Tourney* and 3336 Plus[™] delivered superior snow mold control, with a lower disease percentage than a tank mix of other similar fungicides (*Tourney* = 0.37 oz; 3336 Plus = 4 fl oz). The *Tourney* tank mix also delivered a high turf quality rating, on par with the competing tank mix used in the study.

Mel Leaver, superintendent at Brookside Country Club in Macungie, Penn., had similar success after turning to *Tourney*. "I stopped using PCNB because it's a little dangerous with the root systems," Leaver said. "We tank mixed *Tourney* with 26019, and we didn't have a spot of snow mold.

Ed Gross, superintendent at Northampton Country Club in Easton, Penn., was a little nervous after a long, tough

DISEASE SEVERITY (% DISEASE/PLOT)



SOURCE: KOCH, LIESCH & KERNS, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON.

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ENOUGH MOLD?

winter. But he was delighted to see the results from his Tourney snow mold application come spring.

"I had about 60 days of snow cover and came out of it pretty much unscathed in terms of snow mold," Gross said. "I tank mixed Tourney with 26019 at the recommended rate, and it held up pretty well. Based on the tough winter we had last year, it did a good job."

As he plans for this season's snow mold application, Armstrong knows what he will be applying to his turf.

"I was nervous because I had never used anything [besides PCNB] before, but I was very pleased with Tourney," Armstrong said. "I was very happy with the spring color and green-up compared to PCNB."

For snow mold control, the recommended use rate of Tourney is 0.37-0.44 oz/M (16-19.2 oz/A). For best performance on snow mold species, make I-2 applications in combination with chlorothalonil, iprodione or other fungicides active on snow mold in late fall before snow cover.

Contact your local distributor for information on a special offer on Tourney Fungicide through Valent's 2012 Early Order Program.

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THE BULL SHEET John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



DATES TO REMEMBER

October 3 – MAGCS monthly meeting and Annual College Championship at the Merit Club in Libertyville, IL, John Nelson, Arne Nordenson & Joe Baert hosts. October 4-December 16 – Fall session of Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station in New Brunswick, NJ. October 11 – MAGCS and GCCMA education event at Stonebridge Country Club in Aurora, IL, Dan Sterr and Aaron Hearn hosts. October 14 – Deadline for volunteers for GCSAA's 2012 Committee Service. October 15 – Deadline for nominations for GCSAA's 2012 Excellence in Government Relations Award. October 21 – Illinois Golf Hall of Fame Induction Ceremonies at the Glen Club in Glencoe, IL. Paul Voykin is among the inductees. November 6-8 – Irrigation Show at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, CA. November 16 – 59th Midwest Turf Clinic & Annual Meeting at Medinah Country Club in Medinah, IL, Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS host. November 30 – Deadline for nominations for the 11th Annual TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta. February 27-March 2, 2012 – GCSAA Education Conference in Las Vegas, NV. February 29-March 1 – Golf Industry Show in Las Vegas, NV.

We also mourn the passing in August of Bob Dickinson, who was the superintendent at Buffalo Grove from 1973 until 1990. Prior to that, Bob was assistant superintendent under Ben Kronn at Twin Orchard Country Club. Bob leaves his wife Betty, daughter Barb, and son Bobby along with his many family members and friends. *(continued on next page)*

GCSAA has hooked a big fish—David Feherty has signed on to keynote the Golf Industry Show's General Session in Las Vegas. Feherty is well-known in the golf world for his entertaining commentary and his new Golf Channel show cleverly titled "Feherty." Look for his "Tales of a Survivor: The Wit and Wisdom of David Feherty" on March 1st at the Show.



Not to be outdone, the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation has announced that Craig Krenzel, quarterback and MVP for the 2002 National Championship Ohio State Buckeyes and former Chicago Bear (ugh) will deliver the opening address during the 2011 OTF Conference and Show December 5-8 in Columbus. Having endured his time with the Bears, I would think if he delivers a speech like he delivered a football, about 23% of the audience will receive it. Ba-da-boom.

Heartfelt condolences to the friends and family of **Mark Neuroth** who passed away suddenly last month. Mark worked for the Village of Buffalo Grove for 25 years, serving as golf course supervisor at Buffalo Grove Golf Course since 1989. Please keep Mark's wife Cheryl, his son Brad, and his family and friends in your thoughts. The Midwest will be taking up a collection at this year's Turf Clinic for the Neuroth Family.



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November 30th is the deadline for nominations for the TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta. The 11th annual award is given annually to a golf course superintendent who excels in labor management skills, maximizing budget limitations, educating and advancing the careers of colleagues, negotiating with government agencies, preparing for tournaments under unusual circumstances, service to golf clientele, upgrading or renovating the course, or dealing with extreme or emergency conditions. The award will be presented at the Syngenta booth at the Golf Industry Show in Las Vegas. Nominations can be submitted by downloading the PDF form or by filling out the online form which can be found at www.turfnet.com under the "Features" tab. We are fortunate to have two past winners in **Paul Voykin** and **Sam MacKenzie, CGCS**.

Speaking of **Paul Voykin**, this is his month—on the 21st he will be inducted in the 2011class of the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame. The ceremonies will take place at the Glen Club, home of the Illinois PGA. Paul is the fifth superintendent to achieve this honor, following Ray Gerber, Carl Hopphan, Oscar Miles, and Bob Williams. Congratulations Paul!

Over Labor Day weekend, a large number of KemperSports golf courses, included several in our area, participated in the 2011 Patriot Golf Day, which raises money for the Folds of Honor Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides educational scholarships and other assistance for the children and spouses of military men and women disabled or killed during service. Among the courses that participated were Bolingbrook GC (**Jeff Gerdes**). Hawthorn Woods CC (**Nicholas Hillyard**), Royal Melbourne (**Dave Groelle, CGCS**), and the Wilderness at Fortune Bay (**Vince Dodge, CGCS**).

Along these same lines, on August 18th Billy Casper Golf hosted approximately 2,200 golfers at 80 properties in 24 states during the "World's Largest Golf Outing" to benefit Wounded Warrior Project." The event raised over \$40,000 for the cause, eclipsing the previous golf outing participation by 70% according to the Guinness Book of World Records. Good stuff there.

Congratulations to **Scott Pavalko**, **Nick Marfise**, **Ken Lapp**, and everyone at Cog Hill for their fantastic work in preparing the Dubsdread course for the BMW Championship last month. The course was absolutely perfect, and the tournament truly was fun to watch. Also thanks to **Tracy Murphy** and the folks at Lemont Paving for hosting their annual hospitality tent during Saturday's round on their VERY NEARBY property. Great job by everyone!





The green gloves give away Troy Tietjens of JW Turf loyalty.



Scott Pavalko checks the quality of cut during morning set up.



Don Cross and Dan Marco wait in line to perform their pogo stick routine at the talent show contest during the commercial breaks at the Cog Hill.



(continued on page 20)







Nick Marfise color coordinates his attire with his ride each day, and does a nice job of it.



From the O in Joy, the 18th green of Dubsdread during set up on Thursday morning.



Cantigny Park and **Scott Witte** welcomed a friend home last month—a red-tailed hawk that was delivered by the Willowbrook Wildlife Center. The bird had been picked up from Cantigny by Willowbrook on August 14th when it was discovered on the ground unable to fly, apparently suffering from exhaustion due to a lack of food. The bird was treated at the facility in Glen Ellen and upon its recovery was released back on the grounds of Cantigny. Watch out squirrels!



The results are in from golfers who participated in the first year of Tee It Forward, the national initiative supported by The PGA of America and the United States Golf Association that encourages golfers to play faster and have more fun by playing from tees best suited to their abilities. Initial responses from a consumer survey indicated that 70% of the respondents found golf more enjoyable; 90% said they played faster or at about the same pace; 91% were likely to recommend Tee It Forward to a friend and would likely use it again; and 52% stated they were likely to play golf more often knowing they could use Tee It Forward. So there va have it. Do we have another match here? Jan (the Wizard) Jarvis and Malcolm (the Madman) McDowell? Can't you picture a young Jan playing Alex in "A Clockwork Orange," jamming to a little Ludwig Van while sipping a milk plus? Am I dating myself here?



Happy 100th birthday to Glen Flora Country Club. Welcome back PCNB! A U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Columbia has granted a motion for a summary judgment and vacated the Stop Sale, Use or Removal Order that had been issued in August, 2010 by the U.S. EPA for the popular snow mold fungicide PCNB.

Gotta love college football season! **Al Fierst** and **Bruce Williams** got to love it even more, taking in a Michigan State Spartans game recently with those coveted sideline passes.



And after the game they even got to hang with that really muscular guy called Sparty (Sparty is the tall one)



Another elephant bites the dust. Tim Anderson, CGCS, MG of Naperville Country Club has been named the winner of GCSAA's 2011 Leo Feser Award for his story "Shoot the Elephants First." The article first ran in On Course, and t hen was reprinted in the June, 2011 issue of GCM. The Leo Feser Award is presented annually for the best superintendent-written article published in GCM. It is named after the late Leo Feser, a pioneer golf course superintendent and a charter member of GCSAA who is credited with keeping the association's official publication alive during the Great Depression. For three years (1933-'36) he wrote, edited, assembled and published each issue of The Greenkeepers' Report from his home in Wayzata, MN. Tim will receive his award on February 28th at the 2012 GCSAA Education Conference during Celebrate GCSAA! presented in partnership with Syngenta. Congratulations, Tim!

(continued on page 23)





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Tim Anderson

Retired MAGCS member Dick Trevarthan, CGCS has something you might be interested in: He is selling his 1979 Cushman Haulster, which has been in storage since his retirement in 1996. The truckster is in excellent condition, with a great engine and no body damage. The asking price is \$1,350. Give Dick a call at 815-919-2487 or shoot him an email at rtrevartha@aol.com.



Brings back memories, doesn't it?

-The 3rd Annual iTurfExpo was held on September 22nd at Midwest Golf House on the grounds of the Sunshine Course. The event included research presentations from local turfgrass experts such as Dr. Bruce Branham (University of Illinois), Dr. Ken Diesburg (Southern Illinois University), Dr. Aaron Patton (Purdue University), Dr. Jim Kerns (University of Wisconsin), Dr. Derek Settle (CDGA), Tim Sibicky (CDGA), Shelby Henning (University of Illinois), and Dr. Lee Miller (University of Missouri). These hands-on presentations allowed visitors to see with their own eyes the results of the research conducted on plots very similar to their own courses. After lunch, attendees were able to enjoy the afternoon mingling with colleagues and commercial reps while visiting the various product showcases and equipment demonstrations, taking part in the silent auction to bid on donated products and services for the benefit of turf research, take a shot at Chicagoland Turf's Golf Skills Challenge, and to view and vote on their favorite varieties at the Flower Trials. The weather cooperated, and the event was enjoyed by all in attendance. Special thanks to those whose tireless preparation made it possible—Erwin McKone and the ITF Board (with the exception of me—I didn't help at all), Luke Cella, Dr. Settle, CDGA Executive Director Robert Markionni, Sunshine Course superintendent Chris Painter, assistant Niki Munroe, Manager of Turfgrass Research Tim Sibicky, summer research assistant Nick Devries, summer intern from

Purdue Peter Westfall, and summer helper Anthony Petrarca. Also many thanks to the day's sponsors—the Platinum Level: Chicagoland Turf and Syngenta; Gold Level: BASF, Arthur Clesen, Inc., and J.W. Turf; Silver Level: Bayer, Tyler Enterprises, Reinders, Inc., Gruenmann Turf, Burris Equipment, and Dow AgroSciences; and Bronze Level: AGRO Chem West and Spectrum Technologies. Great job everyone!







(continued on page 25)

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Lee Miller hasn't changed a bit since leaving to get the PhD after his name.



Kevin DeRoo went home with the 50" LCD as the winning participant superintendent of the BigPar3.



Chuck Anfield lifted his head way too early during the golf part of the iTurfExpo.

-**OC**





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