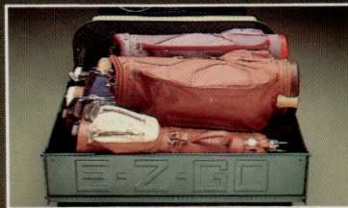




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The GX-800 carries up to 500 lbs. in the rugged loadbed.



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***The GX-800 is suited for
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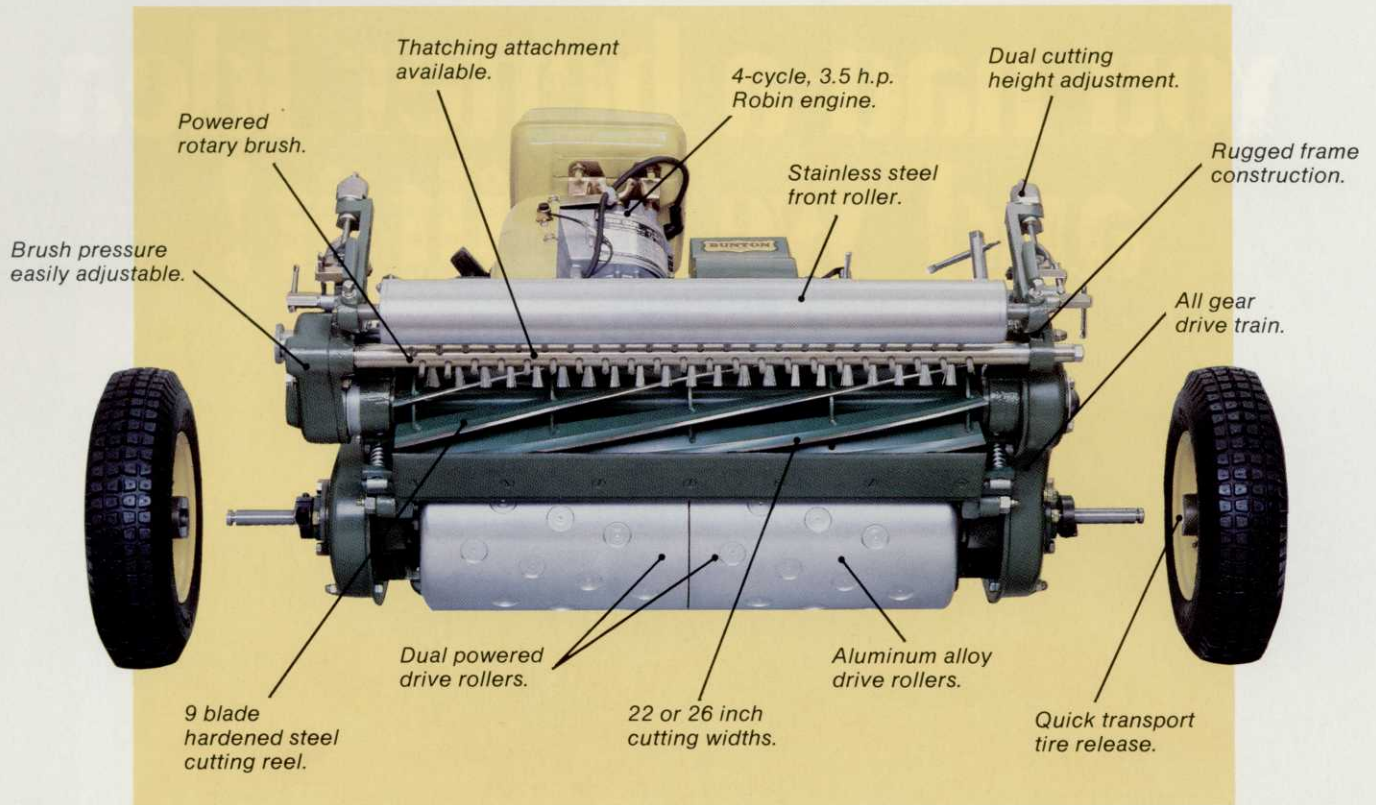
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A VIEW FROM THE BOTTOM SHOWS WHY THE BUNTON GREENSMOWER IS ON TOP.

Look at the Bunton greensmower from any angle and you'll suspect it's the best available. When you look at it from the perspective of your greens, you'll understand why.

Let's start with the powered rotary brush. Mounted between the front roller and the reel, the brush rotates in the opposite direction to lift the grass before it is clipped. The brush is easily adjusted to coincide with the pitch of the bed knife, and can be easily raised to reduce the pressure on the grass, or disengaged for mowing without the brush. And, it can be replaced with an optional verticut attachment for thatching.

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ON THE NATIONAL SCENE

by: John P. Hayden CGCS
Director, GCSAA



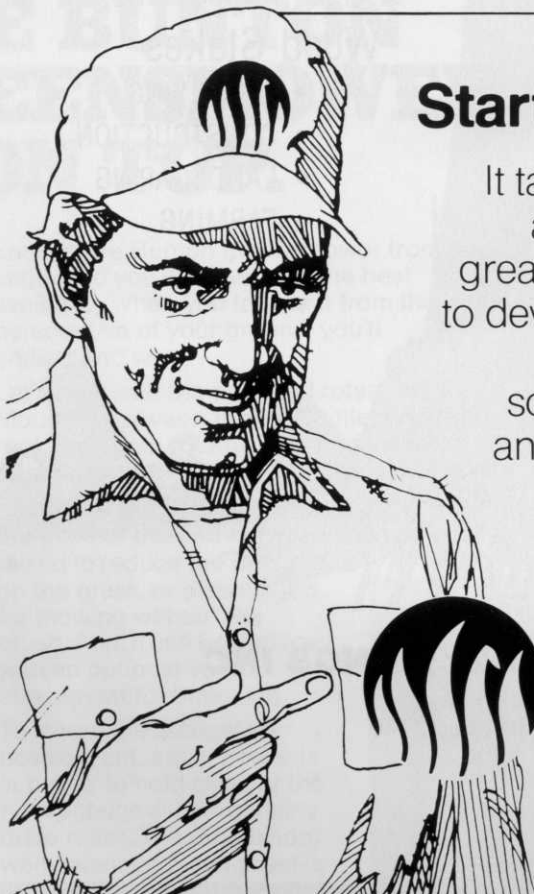
The 54th International Turfgrass Conference and Show in Atlanta this past February is now history. I think all of us who attended from Florida (and there were many) can all agree that the educational program, the seminars and the show were one of the best ever.

The Thursday nite banquet in which GCSAA honored Herb Graffis and presented Arnold Palmer with the "Old Tom Morris Award" was truly an outstanding success. It made all superintendents proud to be members of our national association. Over 30 people were on the dais from most of the allied associations in golf and I think I can truthfully say that many of these persons are looking at the golf course superintendents for the leadership role they can provide to keep the golf industry in the Americas growing in the next two decades. A \$145.00 per year dues structure was voted on in Atlanta and if staff and your Board of Directors can give the golf superintendents

the kind of programs and image that is being demanded I think most will see the need for further increases in the next four years.

As to the relocation issue, it has been decided that the membership will vote on this when all the facts and figures have been assembled as stated in the 1982 State of the Association Message. As I have always said when these items have been put together I would make a decision at that time.

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is on the verge of many new and exciting ideas for the golf industry. Some ideas and methods are vastly different than those previously used. I believe for the good of the profession we must have the courage and vision to explore all of the new methods to advance our cause in the golf world. ■



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OF GOLF, CAPITALISM AND SOCIALISM

By ARMEN A. ALCHIAN

A puzzle has been solved. Despite their intense interest in sports, no golf courses exist in the Socialist-Communist bloc. Why is golf solely in capitalist societies? Because it is not merely a sport. It is an activity, a lifestyle, a behavior, a manifestation of the essential human spirit. Golf's ethic, principles, rules and procedures of play are totally capitalistic. They are antithetical to socialism. Golf requires self-reliance, independence, responsibility, integrity and trust. No extenuation is granted misfortune, mistake or incompetence. No second chance. Like life, it is often unfair and unjust, with uninsurable risks. More than any other sport, golf exploits the whole capitalist spirit.

A golfer is his own creator, his own destroyer. He plays his own. It is a contest against Nature, by and yet against, himself. No scapegoat can be found — no socializing of skill or consequences. No opponent on whom one can rely for aid or error. Football, with many partners and many opponents, is more socialistic.

Randomness of fortunes in golf as in life and investment, defies specification, calculation or insurance. Rolling into a divot mark, getting a bad bounce or lie in a bunker is part of the game. The game even has a name for this unfairness — “rub of the green.” Like illness or disaster it is to be borne without relief. The unfairness of golf is like that of capitalism. Some risks and hazards are foreseeable. Bunkers, trees, lakes and wind cunningly offer a rewarding or disastrous gamble or test resistance to temptation. A golfer plays his own style and reaps his own rewards — or consequences. Whatever causes misfortune makes no difference. He alone bears the consequences. No socializing of disaster or success.

No second chances. Every stroke counts in golf. In other activities, second and even third chances are given. Two serves in tennis, two free throws to make one in basketball, three strikes in baseball, four downs in football. No later act or good fortune will cancel earlier misfortunes. But later misfortunes will cancel earlier good performance.

Honor and integrity are always at stake. A golfer monitors himself with no possibility for a stroke to be uncounted. Any temptation to dishonesty is thwarted by the impossibility of lying to one's self successfully. You live with what you do, not with what you may say you did. No umpire calls errors; no umpire judges performance. The game is purely objective. A stroke was taken or it wasn't; the ball is out of bounds or it isn't; on the green or it isn't; in the cup or it isn't.

How elegantly one performs is irrelevant. No A's for effort — only for results. Only the number of strokes counts and how you did it. Results — not intentions or procedure — count. How thoroughly capitalistic.

The game is unreliable. Disaster strikes in the midst of

good performance. Confidence is shaken. Was it luck? Deterioration in ability? What change could be made, if any? As in capitalistic society, those persisting questions are answered privately with responsibility for consequences yours alone. The reward for good performance — whether by real skill or good luck — is insecure. If due to increased skill, a new reference base is established, and elusive improvement remains the goal. To do better — always better — is the goal. How powerfully capitalistic and antisocialist.

Antisocialist, but not antisocial. More, it is individualist and civilized. A golfer is courteous to other golfers. He does not distract others from their best play. He does not gain — and more important — does not lose by success, or failure, of others.

Golf is conservative. Rules change slowly; some never. Ancient and honorable customs must enhance survival values if they have withstood the test of time.

The socialist spirit, so pervasive in other areas, has tried to invade golf. Handicaps are proposed to equalize results. But a true golfer shuns handicap play. At best it is to him only an index — a prestige — of ability. Efforts to make competition more equal or “fair” are diseases that would have killed a less capitalistic game. The socialists have also sought to reduce the penalties for misadventure — the two stroke penalty for a ball out of bounds or lost. A two-stroke penalty for a ball lost because of poor eyesight or because of weeds was deemed unfair. But not by the true golfer who understands the reason. The game withstood that attempt and the conventional penalty has been restored.

Match play was introduced to permit partners or opponents to save one from himself. But the true golfer plays for his own score. What his playing companies do is of no interest, either during or after play.

Even in the beginning of golf we have evidence. Who but the self-reliant individualist Scots, the progenitors of Adam Smith, could create a game so congenial to the capitalist society and mentality. And at this end of history, who have become the most recent and avid devotees of golf? The Japanese and nationalist Chinese. Is more evidence required to demonstrate that golf is the spirit of capitalism?

Looking into the dim future, if golf is ever to enter in the rifts of the socialist bloc, surely it will be where the latent, but suppressed, capitalistic spirit is strongest in the valleys of Soviet Armenia. Actually, seven courses exist in Czechoslovakia, holdovers from pre-World War II society with 1,000 members — only 160 per course. Is it surprising the Czechs are the most troublesome people now behind the curtain? ■

JAMES BLACKLEDGE RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The golf career of James Blackledge has span over fifty years. For this long dedicated service to the golf world the Palm Beach Chapter awarded him their distinguished service award.

Known to all as Jimmy he is a graduate of Kansas State University in his native state. His agronomy degree was very rare for the mid 1920's. He then moved to Mountain Lakes Golf Club in Lake Wales where he worked for several years. In 1929 he became the Superintendent of the prestigious Indian Creek Country Club, Miami Beach. He was there until World War II when he became the Army's field agronomist of all airports in the southeast. After the war he became the Jacobsen distributor for southeast Florida and worked for Rainbird Irrigation until his retirement. But his constant interest in the golf business led him to become only semi retired as he became involved with Southern Turf Nursery.

Jimmy has made his leading mark on our industry with his interest in turfgrass research and forming of professional organizations.

In 1946 Jimmy first visited the Everglades Experimental Station branch of the University of Florida at Belle Glade. Dr. Roy Bair was director. Dr. Bair says, "As a direct spinoff of the grass testing program for cattle and Jimmy's encouragement we were able in 1950 to release several new turfgrasses which were improvements on the old seeded bermuda." Once Jimmy had at Indian Creek, 206 grasses planted in observation plots. Several bentgrass varieties lived over two years.

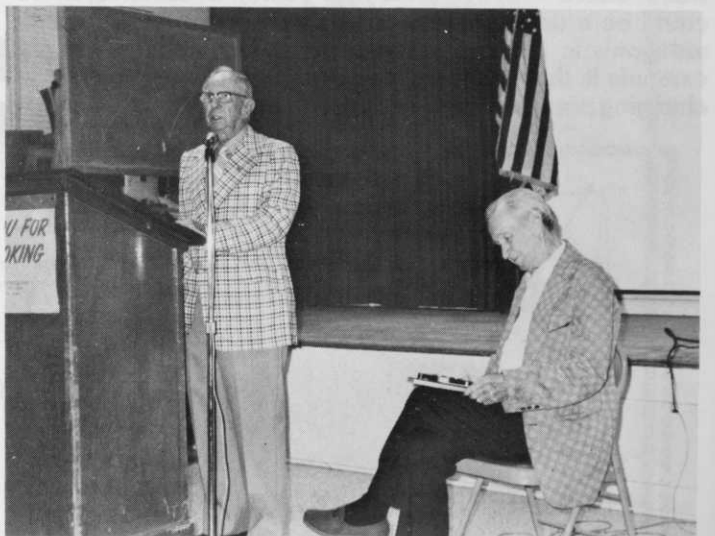
May 6, 1939 he co-signed a letter inviting all interested superintendents in southern Florida to a meeting at his club. The purpose was to form a local superintendent chapter. This was the beginning of the South Florida GCSA, of which he was elected the 1st President. One interesting paragraph from the letter stated his open warm feeling that still prevails today. "We are very anxious to get organized and would like to see as large a group as possible at the May 13, 1939 meeting. All the men whose names are on the enclosed list have been invited. We would appreciate it so very much if you would ask anyone who has been overlooked to come and you if possible bring your assistants." In 1950 Jimmy was a leader in the formation of the Florida Turfgrass Association. He wanted us to "form our own group for political and research purposes." Until FTGA was established, superintendents were a division of the Florist Association. In 1960 he received FTGA's highest honor when he was awarded the "Wreath of Grass". He was the first recipient.

Jimmy Blackledge, the man, has established high personal qualities for all of us to achieve. His honest, sincere professionalism is a hallmark for all young superintendents.

The plaque was presented by James McGlocklin, executive director of GCSAA. The presentation met with a standing ovation. ■



Jimmy Blackledge receives Palm Beach GCSA Highest Honor.



Dr. Roy Bair pays tribute to Jimmy as the "Leading Superintendent that encouraged research in Florida."

Watching Your Tees & Q's

by Steve Batten and Bud White
United States Golf Association—Green Section
Southeastern Region



A SHIFT IN SOIL FUNGI POPULATION

Did you ever think of the soil fungi having a balance of good and bad types? So whenever a disease appears, there might have been an off balance of good fungi (soil antagonistic fungi) and the bad species (turfgrass pathogens) which gain the upper hand. Of course this is only theory, but there have been several observations by both turfgrass managers and researchers, which indicate this.

It has already been observed that an antibody known as *Trichoderma* spp. has been consistently found in soil cultures with *Rhizoctonia* spp. (Brown Patch). It has been suggested that the *Trichoderma* helps control Brown Patch. For this reason long range studies by university pathologists have already begun.

There have been other observations which indicate the existence of natural control of turfgrass pathogens. *Pythium* spp. has long been observed in newly planted sandy sterilized soils and soil mixes. An example would be a new golf course green. As a golf course green ages over a period of several years, soil antagonistic fungi build up which reduces pythium. This will continue until a large amount of organic matter is accumulated and soil water and temperature favor the pythium. At that time pythium will recolonize faster than soil antagonistic fungi.

In Florida, observations have been made of pythium in sandy root zones with very little organic matter less than three years of age. On the other end of the curve, in Iowa's observations by researchers have suggested that a pythium population in a sandy based golf course green was reduced with age (over four years). In essence, there could be a time when natural control is possible by soil antagonistic fungi. One reason pythium makes a good example is that it is a delicate organism that is constantly changing population in the soil. They are co-existing orga-

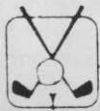
nisms and will often be expressed after the turfgrass becomes weakened.

Soil antagonistic fungi or antibodies keep turfgrass pathogens in balance by several methods. Some are hyperparasites or in other words are parasites to turfgrass fungi (which are plant parasites). Others produce a toxin which suppresses soil fungi. Again, one can only speculate on how much natural control, soil antagonistic fungi produce.

Another example of a population shift has been observed with *Sclerotinia* spp. (Dollarspot). It has been suggested that natural mutation can cause the development of fungicide resistant forms. This would be more noticeable on golf course greens after continual application of the same fungicide.

All good agronomists practice the switching of brands of fungicides during seasonal disease prevention. However, did you ever consider how broad spectrum a broad spectrum fungicide can be. For you old timers, did you ever notice the long term residual control of the arsenical and mercury based compounds. With these fungicides, both soil antagonistic fungi and turfgrass pathogens were controlled for long periods of time. With newer less residual contact fungicides, both the antagonistic fungi and the pathogens are controlled, but sometimes the pathogens recolonize faster than the antagonistic fungi.

With the summer disease season approaching, the chemical storage rooms will soon be stocked with bulging bags of fungicides. Decisions on which one to use should cause a lot of heads to be scratched. The final decision on the continual use of a broad spectrum fungicide will have to be critically evaluated. ■



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