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RESEARCH REPORT

If you feel you must use a systemic fungicide, follow the directions completely and do not overuse these products.

observed. Emphasize that a little inconvenience during the summer means there will be grass to play on this fall and winter.

Superintendents and golfers must realize that both Tifgreen and Tifdwarf are over 20 years old. The grasses have not changed, but the maintenance practices and amount of play have changed dramatically. The primary maintenance change, due to the demand of the golfer, has been the decrease in the mowing height. Without leaf tissue, the plant cannot produce carbohydrates to sustain itself. Without a viable root system, there will be no leaf tissue. A simple but important lesson to remember and to emphasize to the golfer.

If you feel you must use a systemic fungicide, follow the directions completely and do not overuse these products. During the 1991 curative experiment, when the fungicides were used after severe symptoms had developed, the curative rates of the registered triazole fungicides actually slowed recovery of the grass. Again, the emphasis should be placed on cultural practices for disease prevention and control rather than chemical practices.

Acknowledgements: Appreciation is expressed to RSI Inc. (DeBra) for providing the greens mower and turf utility cart, Harrell's Inc. for providing the fertilizer and Golf Agronomics for providing the topdressing material. In addition, we would like to thank the supporters of the FGCSA — especially the SFGCSA chapter's annual Turfgrass Exposition who provide the salary for Marcus Prevatte for maintenance and research on the green.



Figure 2. As a general rule, the outer margins (clean-up pass) of a putting green exhibit the disease symptoms first. Correct diagnosis of the problem will require having a sample analyzed by a plant diagnostic clinic.



Figure 3. The primary discernable difference among all treatments (fertilizers and fungicides) throughout the duration of the experiment was the better quality associated with the grass strip cut at 1/4 inch rather than 3/16 inch.

Split label rate into 3 equal applications for best results with DMI fungicides

Assuming the 30-day waiting pe riod has been observed, what types of effects do DMI fungicides have on overseeded bermudagrass greens?

"We did the work on fenarimol at College Station. We found the best annual bluegrass control was to split that label rate into three equal applications made at two-week intervals.

"We tested some fairly high rates and never found any toxicity in perennial ryegrass on either Tifgreen or Tifdwarf bermudagrass. With a rough bluegrass, there was initial thinning of seedlings even at label rates. However, there was never enough damage to cause concern, since adequate turf was formed rapidly."

Even a 10x rate showed no post-emergence activity

2 What rates of a DMI fungicide would be too excessive use on ber mudagrass greens prior to overseeding?

"We didn't see any problems on bermudagrass or perennial ryegrass — over three years of studies on both research plots and golf courses (real world golf courses in Waco, Tex.), from a 2x rate.

"I had one study where a research associate made an error on calculation. He made a 10x rate mistake. Even at 10x the label rate, the bermudagrass was only about 50% thinner and it recovered fully within a year.

Even at 10x the label rate, the bermudagrass was only about 50% thinner and it recovered fully within a year.



Dr. Beard answers your questions

Chip Lewison, superintendent at Dunedin CC, gathered questions from superintendents around the state and put them to Dr. James Beard, recently retired professor at Texas A&M University in College Station, Tex., for a one-time question-and-answer clinic.

"So at a 2x on bermudagrass and perennial ryegrass under our conditions in College Station, fenarimol did not cause a problem over a three-year period.

"In one study we applied fenarimol at two-week intervals from August through the entire winter. It showed no postemergence activity of any kind on the *poa annua* - it behaved strictly as a preemergence herbicide in these winter overseeding studies."

Activated charcoal may not be a solution to pesticide residue

3 Some people are wondering if we should apply activated charcoal to our greens once every year or two to aid in "flushing" some of the pesticide residues that may be accumulating. Do you have any feelings on this matter?

"I've never had that question asked before and I really don't know of research to provide the answer.

"The charcoal is only going to be effective on certain pesticides, not all of them. Only certain chemical groups are absorbed onto the charcoal particle surface.

"Also, this charcoal will continue to absorb certain chemicals. This might force one to use higher rates of certain pesticides to get pest control in future years until the charcoal surface has become saturated.

"Thus charcoal may not flush the pesticide residues out; rather it is trapping them and the organic chemicals until they eventually degrade or are displaced.

Five-year old charcoal layer

Will that layer stay there from year to year?

"I've seen distinct charcoal layers in greens five years later."

Layer stays, particles move

So the charcoal may not go any where?

"No, I didn't say that. There might be some charcoal particles leaching downward, depending on the root zone physical and chemical characteristics and the intensity of leaching."

Some rooting problems

6 What are your studies showing concerning the use of preemergence herbicides on root development of bermudagrass?

"We just finished a series of studies with six preemergence materials on rooting of bermudagrass and St. Augustinegrass. One two-year study involved repeat applications compared to a nonrepeat program. The chemical group where most of the rooting problem apIt makes the job of the turf manager somewhat more difficult, but also places demands on the owners to hire knowledgeable, well-paid superintendents, with the capability to successfully accomplish this management approach.

peared was the Dinitroanlymes."

Broad spectrum approach may no longer be appropriate

7 Would we be better off using more broad-spectrum pesticides in stead of combinations of singleacting pesticides?

"The broad-spectrum approach has traditionally been used whether we are talking the control of disease, insects, or weeds.

"Point in fact: with environmental issues and the activists' microscope golf is under today, we should be accountable on the environmental isues. Thus the trend to more narrow-based, target-specific controls using only as much pesticide as is needed to control a particular pest problem.

"This approach is more costly, involves continuous scouting and proper diagnostic interpretation and timely application of the proper material by a professional.

It makes the job of the turf manager somewhat more difficult, but also places demands on the owners to hire knowledgeable, well-paid superintendents, with the capability to successfully accomplish this management approach."

Cold storage not necessary on established cultivars

8 Do you believe in cold storage of bentgrass seed for a year prior to overseeding in warm season climates?

"Essentially all seeds — much less in ryegrasses but certainly in bluegrasses contain a certain amount of a germination inhibitor in them at the time of harvest. In general, this seed-germination inhibitor is short-lived.

"Typically, by the time the seed goes through the harvest, cleaning, bagging, shipping operations, the inhibitor has been degraded and is nol longer a problem in terms of planting that same year with the seeding rates used.

"Whether some of these newer bentgrass cultivars will have a seed dormancy problem requireing extended storage is unclear.

"Along this same line, it takes a minimum of four years before one really knows whether a new turfgrass cultivar possesses superior traits relative to its weaknesses over the long term.

"Most of the new cultivars have not been tested for four years in multiple locations or areas. Unfortunately, many of the new cultivars are being promoted and sold throughout the country.

"I've been in the turfgrass business 35 years and have seen a lot of turfgrass cultivars look good in year one, two or three. The soil and turf ecosystem is not fully stabilized or come into balance and the thatch has not built up, so one really does not yet know the true stress tolerance, pest resistance, or susceptibility and overall longterm performance.

"It takes four years at a minimum to obtain relative data, which is what researchers should be concerned with."

Too early for results on first sound algae research program

Are there any good, effective con trols for algae on USGA spec or modified spec greens? "Currently, Dr. Jeff Krans, one of my former students now at Mississippi State, has an elaborate study on algaes — types of algae species around the country.

"He finds six to eight algae species on a single putting green that rotate one to the other as the dominant population over a growing season. This may explain the erratic control and rapid recovery of algae areas.

"It is too early to have all the answers yet, but it's the first algae research program based on sound science. He is approaching the problem the right way and Ilook forward to some good information from this research."

Tifway off-types due to contamination, not mutation

Can you comment on the problems being raised about Tifway bermudagrass contamination? How true are dwarfs being grown today? Is mutation possible or is contamination more likely the problem?

"Always keep in perspective that the potential for mutation percentagewise, is very, very small. The appearance of offtypes in Tifdwarf is appearing far too frequently to be a mutation.

"For the most part, the off-type cause is either from the purchase of plant material that is already contaminated or is planted on a site that was previously contaminated with another berm udgrass.

"You've got to treat greens with methyl Bromide. In Texas there have been a lot of situations where they are treating existing greens with glyphosate and replanting. It doesn't work and is a major source of off types.

"Off types also could be carried in on golf cleats, and equipment. There are

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many other ways for it to contaminate greens."

Gibberelin will green it right up under certain conditions

11 Can you offer a strategy to keep non-overseeded Tifdwarf color up during the winter months? What about bringing it back once the color goes down?

"Nitrogen helps at temperataures above chill stress or above 55-60 degrees. The other is gibberelin to correct chill stress or stress below 55 degrees. I've had one master's thesis done in this area.

"In south Texas or south Florida, where the soil temperatures stay relatively high, dropping low on certain nights causes low-temperature discoloration. If you treat the next day with gibberelin, partciularly with Tifdward, it works very well.

"Gibberelin will green it right up.

"The key is whether the soil temperature there is warm enough so that regrowth and chlorophyll synthesis starts again right away. If the soil temperature remains too cold — especially if the site os toofar north or the cold air mass has extended farther south — the gibberellin is not going to help during a longterm period of cold temperatures below chill stress."

DNA technology is there, but is it worth the time and expense?

12 Do you think Dr. Grasshof's DNA testing (University of Tennessee) is reliable? People are very concerned after four or five years now as the problems associated with non-certified grasses (in Florida) continue to leave doubts as to their authenticity and contamination potential.

"I have not done any DNA cultivar characterizations myself, only isoenzymes characterizations, but his program looks promising.

"The technology is there. It is a matter of developng the specific application.

"It involves great expense for the development and equipment. One just doesn't go into a lab and run a few tests. It requires the efforts of a trained bio-

I've been in the turfgrass business 35 years and have seen a lot of turfarass cultivars look good in year one, two or three. The soil and turf ecosystem is not fully stabilized or come into balance and the thatch has not built up, so one really does not yet know the true stress tolerance, pest resistance, or susceptibility and overall longterm performance.

chemist who must perfect the routine but specific prodecures over a period of three to six months.

"It involves an art dimension as well as science.

"The same is true when running starch gel or electrophoretic acrylomide gel cultivar characterizations. As it is rather expensive, these technologies may only be justified when civil action is deemed necessary.

"More significantly, the I.D. techniques may assist growers to assure genetic integrity and purity in their cultivars. This may very well be its most important role."

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FGCSA SPOTLIGHT

Florida GCSA Distinguished Service Award 1985 William Wagner 1986 **Tim Hiers** 1987 Dan Jones, CGCS 1988 Mark Jarrell, CGCS 1989 Tom Burrows, CGCS 1990 Kevin Downing, CGCS 1991 Cecil Johnston, CGCS 1992 Joel Jackson, CGCS 1993 Fred Klauk

Fred Klauk honored for distinguished service to profession

BY SCOTT BELL, CGCS

This past August at the 1993 Crowfoot, Fred Klauk received the Florida Golf Course Superintendent's Association Distinguished Service Award.

The receipt of that award topped a 20year career that started in the sand bunkers at Palm Beach's Lost Tree and that is presently at the famous Tournament Players' Club at Sawgrass. Fred received this award not so much for the time that he has spent working directly with the Association but rather for the time that he has spent "behind the scenes," enhancing the view and the role of the golf course manager in major golf events, within his own



Fred Klauk, superintendent of the TPC at Sawgrass, posed for this 1990 Florida Green photo by high school buddy Daniel Zelazek.

PGA Tour and with the media that covers the golf world.

Fred has also given back to the business ten golf course managers, nine assistants, one PGA Tour agronomist and one tournament director. Some of these men started working for Fred as bunker rakers during the Honda Classic or the Player's Championship. Some were 15 year-old kids that played on local golf teams and worked the tournament not so much for the pay but for the experience of witnessing first hand the operation of a professional golf tournament. Through Fred's guidance these kids have worked parttime, summers, on the job training and after college until they have been hired as golf course managers or assistants.

Fred grew up in North Palm Beach where he and his brother Glen played golf for Riviera Beach High. One day Fred went by the Lost Tree Club where he met the golf course manager Lou Oxnevad. Fred applied for a laborer job and Lou told him to report the next day.

Fred spent the summer raking sand, digging holes and mowing grass as well as playing golf. Fred realized that he loved working on the golf course and he decided that he wanted to be a golf course manager. Fred applied to the University of Florida where he was accepted into Professor G.C. Horn's golf turf program.

While in college Fred tried to make the Florida Golf Team however, as good a golfer as Fred is, he could not break into the starting five which happened to include guys named Koch, Bean, and three other All-Americans.

Fred met his wife Peggy while in Gainesville. They were married in 1972 after Fred finished school.

After Fred completed his schooling he took the assistant's job at Johns Island Club in Vero Beach, where he worked with Pete Dye during the construction of the North course. Fred managed the North Course while Charlie Jarrell managed the South.

While working at Johns Island, Fred heard of a job opening in Boynton Beach at a club called Pine Tree. Fred sent off a resume and weeks later he received a call to meet some gentlemen from Pine Tree. Fred Klauk was a kid in his early 20s when he walked into the interview.

The man doing much of the interviewing was a guy named Sam Snead.

In spite of the intimidating presence of the golfing legend interviewing him, Fred got the job. He inherited a golf course overrun with goosegrass and crowfoot. To make matters worse, the course was not the hardy Tifway 419 that so many of us are used to, but mostly Ormond bermudagrass.

The golf course irrigation system was an old manual system that Fred had to replace with an automatic system. He did all of this work "in House." Fred developed a plan to get rid of the tremendous weed population while at the same time keeping the turf healthy.

While at Pine Tree, Fred developed a technique for overseeding with bentgrass that he still uses today, that has produced beautiful greens that won him praise at Pine Tree and on the PGA Tour. Pine Tree was voted into the *Golf Digest* top 100 courses. While at Pine Tree, Fred served on the Palm Beach GCSA Board as director and as secretary/treasurer.

Fred also established his reputation as one of our association's best golfers. In 1981 and 1982, the Florida team won the GCSAA Golf Tournament with Fred on the team. Since then Fred has represented Florida at the GCSAA many times.

After eight years at Pine Tree, Fred moved to The Tournament Players Club at Eagle Trace. When Fred joined the staff, he came in just as the course was grown in. Lee Bladen, who at the time worked for Westinghouse Development, had grown in the course and was leaving for Naples to build Pelican's Nest.

Fred took over and prepared the course for the 1984 Honda Classic. Eagle Trace became the first course to go from dirt to a televised tournament in one year. Many people's hard work paid off and the tournament was a success.

During his first year at Eagle Trace, Fred spent a lot of time educating his staff and encouraging them to seek high goals. He stressed that hard work and education were the keys to success in the golf business. He challenged staff members to go to night school for turf classes and he stressed the importance of the superintendent's associations.

The TPC Network was in its infancy at that time and Fred stressed the importance of the golf course manager's role in a company that was run by golf professionals.

During Fred's first televised tournament, I can remember him climbing the tower at the 18th green to talk to the NBC announcers at the time, Lee Trevino and Vin Scully. He wanted to make sure that they understood how much work was involved in putting a course together and



Working with Fred Klauk, right, is the equivalent of a college education, say many of the golf course managers and assistant managers who have trained under him in one capacity or another.

SPOTLIGHT

he wanted them to understand how important the golf maintenance staff is in the operation of the club or the tournament.

Fred made himself available to any media person who would listen, not to blow his own horn but to stress the importance of the golf course manager. Fred is probably responsible for getting the golf course manager's name announced during most televised tournaments. Eagle Trace was voted into Golf Digest's top 100 courses.

Fred felt that the business had been good to him and he loved the game so he tried to "give back" by helping others. Fred had a problem during the Honda Classic.

Although Eagle Trace has only 36 bunkers, many of them are quite large, sometimes running the length of a fairway. The waste areas were acres in size.

Fred made a call to the golf coach at Coral Springs High School and he recruited many of the members of the golf team to rake traps during the tournament. This pool of labor became a source of weekend helpers, summer workers, and part timers.

At least four kids worked the Honda Classic as teens only to keep coming back during the summers or on weekends. These guys then went on to college for turf management and now they are assistants working throughout the country.

Out of the original part-time staff that worked the first Honda Classic at Eagle Trace, three are now assistants and one — Tom Vlach — is the golf course manager at Ekana Golf and Country Club in Oviedo. Out of the original full-time staff from the first Honda Classic, four are now golf course managers and two others are assistants. Two others had been Fred's assistants at Eagle Trace but they changed careers.

In 1986 Fred was transferred to Ponte Vedra, the home of the PGA Tour.

For the first couple of years Fred battled bentgrass greens all summer long until the Commissioner and the Policy Board allowed him to convert the greens back to Tifdwarf in 1988. Because of Fred's involvement in the "Player's Course" and the fact that the "Fifth Major" is held on it, Fred has gotten to know many of the

THE FRED CONNECTION

Superintendents who have worked for Fred Klauk

Steve Ciardullo	Dan Tully
Mountain Lake, Lake Wales	Hir
Ron Moore Hunter's Ridge, Naples	Tom Tully Stone
James Leiseberg Pelican's Nest, Naples	Roger Moore
Scott Bell Bent Pine, Vero Beach	Ed Fagnan
Ron Wright LaGorce, Miami Beach	Greg Williams Canterwood C
Gene Baldwin Hidden Hills, Jacksonville	Jay Reister
Tom Vlach Ekana Golf & CC, Oviedo	Brian Moore
Tim Webb Fountainbleau CC, Miami Beach	Rip Phillips Hid
Scott Jamros	
Turtle Creek, Rockledge	Jeff Haley
Bob Clarkson	PGA Tour Ag
LaCosta Golf & CC, Carlsbad, Calif.	Brett Shelton
Assistant Superintendents	Tournament
Bill Tully	

LaGorce, Miami Beach

Hinsdale CC, Chicago, IL Tom Tully Stonebridge CC, Aurora, IL Roger Moore Hunter's Ridge, Naples Ed Fagnan Kelly Green, Fort Myers Greg Williams Canterwood CC, Gig Harbor, Wash. Jay Reister Oak Bridge, Sawgrass Brian Moore Ravines, Jacksonville Rip Phillips Hidden Hills, Jacksonville OTHERS Jeff Haley PGA Tour Agronomist, Ponte Vedra

Tournament Director, Birmingham,

AL

players. He speaks to them when they are playing the course.

As with any job, he fields ideas and suggestions from the golfers. The difference with Fred's job is that the golfers are some of the world's best or the golfer's name might be Beman or Dye. Fred's ability to provide such fine tournament conditions year after year, and his relations with the Tour Players has won him respect from the PGA Tour Staff, the players, and the Commissioner.

Our association is very fortunate to have one of our best in that position. The more that the players on tour know about the golf course manager's role the better. When they are playing our courses, or designing new courses, if the Tour player knows the importance of a good superintendent, the more likely that he will acknowledge us. Commissioner Beman certainly respects Fred. When the Commissioner has an idea about the course, he calls Fred for his input. When Fred has an idea, he calls the Commissioner.

In 1990, Florida was recovering from the record cold temperatures during Christmas week. The stadium course was still getting its usual heavy play and Fred had expressed to me during the GCSAA conference that he was uncomfortable with the condition of his course.

More cool, rainy weather followed and by late March when the tournament rolled around, a couple of the greens were not perfect as the players expect and a number of them complained to the press.

As it usually happens, the press and the players overreacted and reports were coming out that the course was not in good shape. Greg Norman and Curtis Strange were highly critical and they voiced their complaints to the press who broadcast the story all over the world.

All of us have had complaints about our courses from time to time. How many

of us have had Greg and Curtis and the national golf media criticize our courses?

Fred endured it.

During Saturday of the event the course had sustained 2 inches of rain and the tournament was halted with many groups still on the course. Fred was asked by NBC to appear on the air with Bob Costas to discuss the course conditions. Costas's questioning was not the sugarcoated variety reserved for presidential briefings in the Rose Garden.

Costas asked hard questions about the condition of the course and the policies of the Tour. Nothing like answering policy questions about your bosses on national television.

Fred represented the PGA Tour and golf course superintendents very well presenting a professional image and maintaining his cool under fire.

As if the interview were not enough, Fred had his course to deal with as well. He had 60 staff members to motivate to do their jobs in spite of all of the negative comments. What's more, he had to get the staff working at 4 a.m. Sunday.

The staff had to prepare the course for the rained-out Saturday players and then turn around, with a one-and-a-half-hour head start, prepare and mow the course for the Sunday golfers. Just to make the job even more challenging, many of the sand and waste bunkers needed to be pumped out and raked.

The PGA Tour, the Commissioner and Fred had some damage control to do. The "bad greens" that the players had complained about were really two or three greens. Any poor conditions were related to the weather and the heavy traffic during overseeding and leading up to the tournament.

Fred recommended that the amount of play needed to be restricted during the overseeding period and during the twoweek period before the tournament. The Commissioner agreed to restrict the amount of play. The course reacted and looked great during the tournament. In 1991 the players voted the TPC at Sawgrass the best-conditioned resort course on the Tour.

Some of the best testimonial about the influence of Fred on the golf business is the number of superintendents and assistants that Fred has guided into the business. At present there are approximately 10 golf course managers and nine assistants who have worked for Fred.

Many started as high schoolers, others worked for Fred during OJT. Everyone who has worked for Fred has benefited professionally and personally.

Deane Beman once told Steve Ciardullo of Mountain Lake in Lake Wales, "that working for Fred was the equivalent of four years at a major university."

Steve agreed with Deane Beman in that he valued his education from Fred as his college degree. He said that Fred not only taught him when to do things but also why you do it. He credits Fred with influencing him to strive to become a golf





Fred Klauk may not have been able to beat out Andy Bean or Gary Koch for a starting slot on the University of Florida golf team, but he did lead the FGCSA team to two GCSAA championships and he won the 1990 Crowfoot.

course manager. Steve learned many of his management techniques from Fred.

"Fred could walk the fine line between being a friend but more importantly, being your boss," he said. Steve said he would not be where he is today without Fred's influence.

The most persistent of Fred's past employees would have to be Ekana Golf & Country Club's Tom Vlach.

Tom started to work for Fred in 1985 at the ripe age of 14. Tom was on the local high school golf team and he was raking bunkers and filling divots for the Honda Classic. After the tournament, Tom felt a void because he was not working at the club. He convinced Fred to give him a job on weekends and during the summer.

Fred influenced Tom to go to college to get a turf management degree. Tom continued to work for Fred during the summers after Fred had moved to Sawgrass.

When Tom graduated from college, he turned down higher-paying assistant jobs in order to work for Fred as a foreman. Tom claims that he learned as much about the business from Fred as he did in school. Tom was impressed with Fred's organizational skills and that's what Tom has carried over into his own management system.

Tom calls Fred the Bobby Knight of golf course management because of his determination to do the job perfectly.

Scott Jamros graduated from Lake City CC and has worked for Fred for six years. Scott went to work for Fred in 1987. He was a college student but he was unsure of what career path to take. He liked to play golf and he thought that he might like to work in the golf business but he had no direction. Fred encouraged him to work hard and to go to Lake City Community College.

Scott worked OJT for Fred where he and many others learned about construction, drainage and management. Scott said that one summer Fred had four OJTers working at the TPC doing projects. Scott said that when you OJT'd for Fred, you did not just mow grass, you did projects. Scott was also impressed with the way that Fred would "go the extra mile for his staff."

I too had the pleasure and the good fortune to work for Fred at Eagle Trace. After I was transferred to the TPC at Monte Carlo in Fort Pierce, I still had the luxury of falling back on Fred for help or information. Fred taught me to be proud to be a golf course manager and to work hard at it. He encouraged me to be active with the superintendent's associations.

He taught me not to go home until the job is complete.

At the time that I worked for Fred, the golf course manager was not as well respected as we are today and Fred taught me to work well with other people in the business such as golf professionals or club managers.

Fred Klauk's service to the golf course management business has been tremendous. He has influenced many lives and many careers and he still continues to do so.

Recently, while Fred was receiving his Distinguished Service Award at the Crowfoot, his assistant at TPC was accepting the golf course manager's job at LaCosta in Carlsbad, Calif. LaCosta is the home of the Tournament of Champions.

Fred has represented superintendents very well in the PGA TOUR and he has gotten many of us recognized during televised events. Fred continues to help his former assistants as many of them call asking for his advice.

Fred and his family like the Sawgrass area. Fred's wife Peggy is an accomplished tennis player and his sons are very athletic. Jeff, 15, and John, 14, have become very good junior golfers. Both boys have shot career lows of 67 this summer and John had his first hole in one. Fred, can you shoot a 67? Jason, who is 8, likes tennis and soccer and he is just now starting to play golf.

Fred Klauk has served the industry well. He has given unselfishly to the industry, to his employer, to his employees and to his assistants. Fred continues to maintain one of the Tour's best conditioned golf courses and if he keeps practicing he might beat Jeff and John at golf.