

What follows is a transcript of Paul Harvey's radio program. According to Harvey's office, this particular portion aired at 12:03, CST, on Feb. 8, 1994 — one day after release of the GCSAA-commissioned mortality study. Mr. Harvey's was contacted for comment, but did not respond.

Two years ago, you and I talked about the pesticides poisoning so many birds, that our golf courses face a silent spring. I received some indignant response from greens keepers and their association, and from pesticides manufacturers. They were adamant in their insistence that the stuff they were spraying on fairways and greens was not toxic. It was, and it still is.

Today the Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America is holding its annual meeting in Dallas, and a study commissioned by that organization of superintendents is reporting that not only

are golf course pesticides killing the birds, but they're killing golf course superintendents also. Golf course superintendents have a higher incidence of cancer.

The association has to know that this is going to open the door to lawsuits by golf course workers against their employers for exposing themselves to cancer causing chemicals. A statistical mortality study found among golf course superintendents more lung cancer, more brain cancer, more cancers of the large intestine and the prostate, especially however, lung cancer.

Dr. Burton Cross [sic], University of Iowa, one of the researchers on this project, recommends further studies and recommends meanwhile that golf course workers minimize however possible their exposure to pesticides. There's a moral here which demands to be underscored. We and the beautiful wild things live in harmony together, or we perish together.

## Phillips comment

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associations and, indeed, commissioning the research in the first place. This won't stop various media outlets from twisting its results to suit their own purposes. Be prepared for all sorts of "revelations."

Kross' study did reveal much, but it also revealed built-in checks and balances. As it has always been, superintendents have the greatest stake in the safety of chemical products and sound application procedures. The current generation of superintendents has always recognized this fact. Here's hoping this is one of the messages that rings loud and clear in future months, as the media seizes on the Mortality Study and attempts to interpret its results.

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The one-man media outlet undisputed king of homespun bombast, old friend Paul Harvey, has already seized another opportunity to trash golf course superintendents. His Feb. 8 report on the Mortality Study appears on this page, at left. You're not going to like it, but *Golf Course News* believes that dissenting views are most dangerous when they lack an audience. How else can there be an appropriate response?

A quick recap of Harvey's stated views on the subject of golf course pesticide use reveals the adaptability of his unique value system.

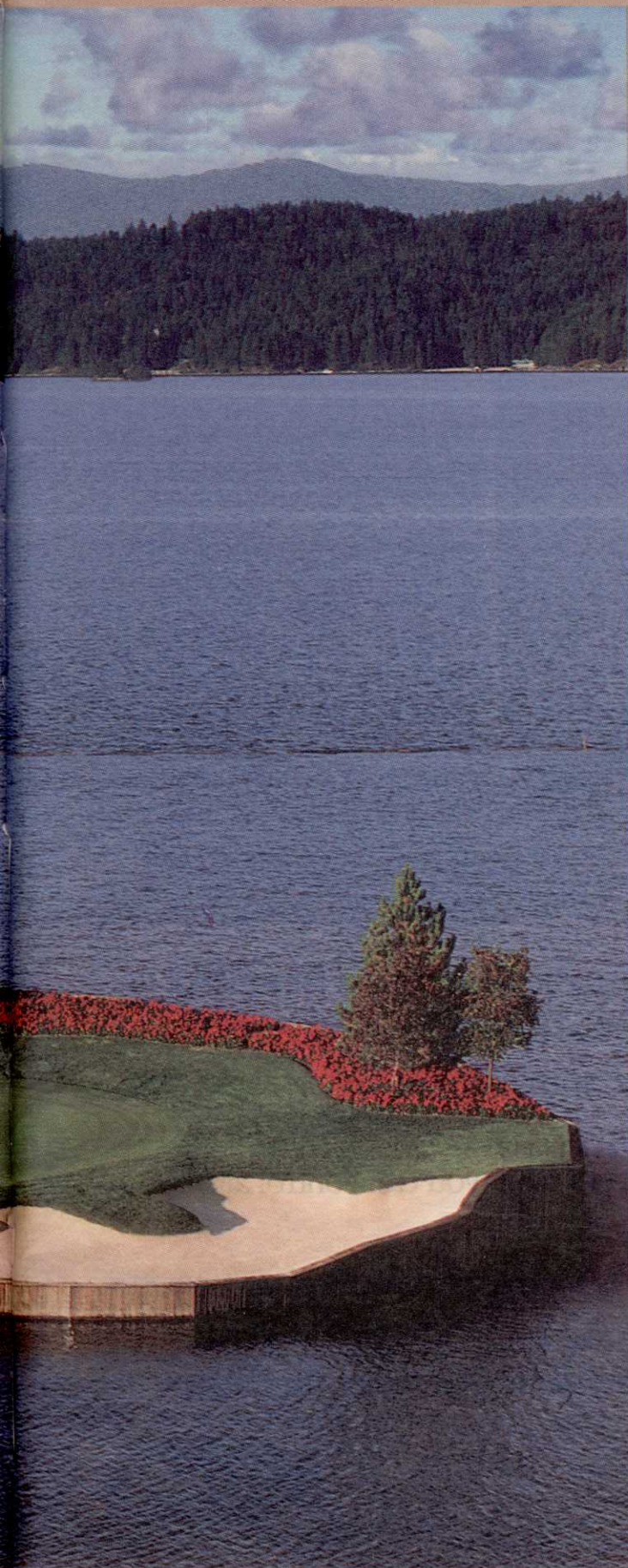
Last April (one year ago, not two years, Paul), after coming across an Associated Press report from a North Carolina environmental forum, he said golf course superintendents were killing birds on their courses. Audubon Society officials and organizers of the North Carolina conference later refuted him in the pages of *Golf Course News*, but why ruin a good story with facts?

A few months later, he noted diminishing job opportunities in the agricultural industry and encouraged turf students to explore careers as golf course superintendents. Hmmm... Why would Mr. Harvey encourage our young men and women to enter a profession that would appear to specialize in killing birds?

His latest parry draws the definitive connection between pesticide exposure and cancer — contrary to the insistence of Dr. Kross, who authored the study — then speculates that superintendents will start suing golf course owners over the matter.

And for the record, it's Dr. Burton Kross, with a "K". I suppose it doesn't matter when you're on radio.

If this guy weren't so widely syndicated, he'd be hilarious.



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