

SUNY Delhi session attracts Northeastern mechanics

DELHI, N.Y. — A group of 30 turf mechanics from across the Northeast recently enhanced their skills through a special seminar series offered at the State University of new York College of Technology at Delhi

The four-day seminar, "Turf Equipment Mechanics Advanced Training School," was the latest in a series of hands-on training programs offered at the college.

It was sponsored by Delhi College, in cooperation with the Golf Course Mechanics Association and the New York State Turfgrass Association.

"These courses are very much

in demand," said Steven Tait, assistant professor of turf equipment management.

"They fill an important need for specialized training in the industry."

Instructors focused on two areas: welding and troubleshooting electrical systems. Gerald Scheck, assistant professor at Delhi, led sessions in specialized welding techniques for light-gauge metal parts commonly found on turf equipment.

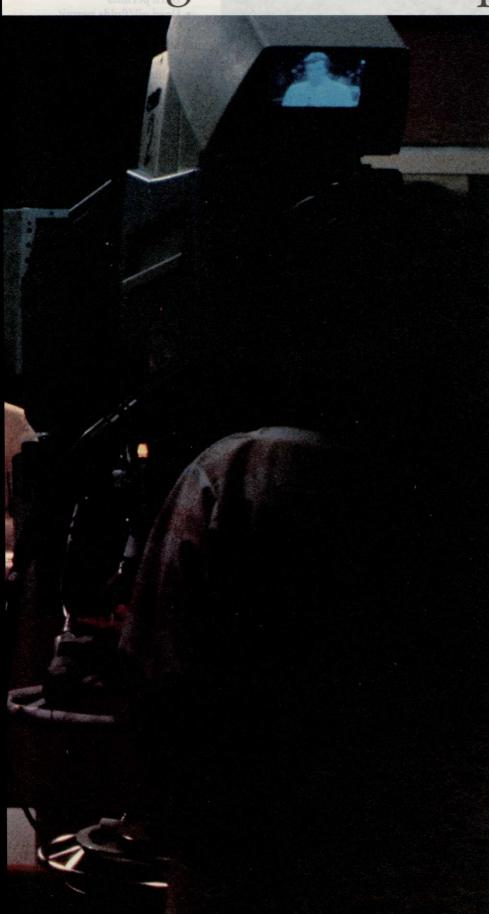
Paul Zellner, area service manager of the Jacobsen Division of Textron, taught troubleshooting turf equipment electrical systems.

Tests were conducted on equipment donated by S.V. Moffet Equipment Inc. of West Henrietta, N.Y.

"Participants were very enthusiastic about what they learned," continued Professor Tait.

"Normally when they're working in the field and something breaks, they'll just fix it the best they know how. Now we have given them the proper solutions"

becoming a victim of air pollution.



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Engine school

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WSD to provide the training and help meet the demand for technicians in Texas. Radcliff said that other prison systems have shown an interest in the Texas model, "but we want to make sure we know how to make it work in Texas before attempting to duplicate it in other states."

Besides providing the training to the WSD teachers at no cost, Briggs & Stratton has donated new engines and equipment to the Small Engine Repair classes. Radcliff said he hopes the program proves successful in terms of training students in industry standards to meet the needs of employers. He said he hopes the partnership between Briggs & Stratton will be long-term and beneficial to all.

PLCAA tabs Delaney

The board of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America (PLCAA) has hired Acting Executive Vice President and Government Affairs Director Tom Delaney to fill the position of executive vice president.

Since former Executive Vice President Ann McClure left the position a year ago, Delaney has managed the association in an acting capacity. He has testified before the U.S. Senate and House Subcommittee lawn care and FIFRA hearings.

He works closely with government and industry leaders and organizations, and the media on a range of issues affecting the industry and our businesses. For the nine years that he has been with the association, he has helped earn PLCAA the reputation as the "voice of the industry," the board said.

"I must add that Tom does not act alone," said PLCAA President Larry Messina. "We have a strong staff, dedicated volunteer leaders — it is a team effort. Karen Weber, our communications director, works closely with Tom and has been assisting him in his management role this past year and she will continue to do so."

The board also agreed to retain Bob Andrews, owner of The Greenskeeper in Carmel, Ind., as an independent consultant to assist with member services. he is a past president of PLCAA.