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Mike Huck
 Irrigation & Turfgrass Services
 Former USGA Staff Agronomist and
 Superintendent, Murrieta Hot Springs Resort

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We'd like to hear from you.

E-mail us at gci@gie.net with your thoughts and opinions.

FEEDBACK

Old school

I loved Pat Jones' "iCRACK" comments (November 2010, page 6).

Being old, I don't have to succumb to the pressures of having to have a smart phone or, in fact, even a cell phone. I admit I do have a truck phone for emergencies. It amazes me the time people spend staring at a 4-inch screen. It is impossible now to ride an elevator, eat breakfast or lunch without someone talking very loud into their device.

We have even lost contact with our teenage granddaughters because we don't text, Twitter or Facebook. Email is soooo old fashioned and being caught talking on a phone would be devastating.

I will at least go down being able to spend a day doing what I want without one interruption by a ridiculous ring tone.

Keep up the good work.

Corey Eastwood
 Owner
 Eastwood Golf
 Stockton, Calif.

To read "iCRACK" enter <http://tinyurl.com/3xs65vu> into your Web browser.

Question about rolling

While reading "Fix your crown" in the November issue (page 38) I found a major mistake and I am sure you would want me to point it out to you.

They are using a Salsco Greens Roller to repair the course and they referred to it as a "Sidewinder-style greens roller, 1-ton asphalt roller." I know that's wrong because a Sidewinder-style roller was designed to do bowling greens, very flat and very hard. This type of unit would never be able to move in the very soft wet turf with its one drive roll. It would be spinning and stuck in no time.

A 1-ton asphalt roller belongs on the driveway, not on the green. It, too, would be stuck.

Sal Rizzo
 President
 Salsco

Author's response:
 Most superintendents refer to the non-wheel

driven rollers, which travel sideways as "sidewinder rollers." My only experience with sidewinder-style rollers is with the Salsco. I have no reason to think that the other brands could not accomplish the same result.

Mr. Rizzo commented that a unit would spin or get stuck in very soft, wet turf. I haven't observed this situation. Remember that the target area is a result of a buildup of sand and can only hold so much water.

Personally, I have used, and have heard other superintendents using, 1-ton asphalt rollers to roll putting green surfaces following aeration, especially on sand-based greens when significant rutting occurs following aeration.

Mr. Rizzo is much more familiar with the various roller specs and I am not disagreeing with his concern. However, in my experience we did not suffer any adverse conditions or damage as a result of the procedure described.

Each golf course and condition is unique and it is the superintendent's responsibility to analyze the potential impact of any management practice. Even though I described a specific procedure, it cannot be viewed as a cookie-cutter application that will fit every scenario.

Dustin Riley, CGCS
 Oconomowoc Golf Club
 Oconomowoc, Wis.

To read "Fix your crown" enter <http://tinyurl.com/23zmo8q> into your Web browser.

Daydream believer

I enjoyed Monroe Miller's November column ("Who would you like to have met?" page 35). No doubt I have daydreamed about the same things before.

My grandfather passed away when I was just 3 years old. Being a fifth-generation American, and my brother being the a fifth-generation farmer on the same homestead, how wonderful would it be to have time with my brother, father, grandfather, great and great, great grandfathers, enjoying a dinner on the farm and hearing their stories and seeing their reaction to how much farming has changed.

I would also like to meet with Charlie Erickson, "The General" as he was lovingly called by the membership. He was the head greenkeeper here at The Minikahda Club