

Continued from page 50

in his 15-year tenure thanks to an aggressive dethatching program.

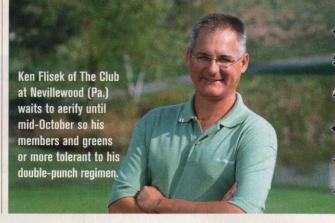
"Members told me this year the greens are better than ever, and I think a more aggressive aerification has helped along with the more frequent, lighter topdressing," Flisek says.

He says he is able to topdress about six times in the spring and about four times in the fall, taking a break during the mid-summer heat. By September, he has the best greens of the year, so he lets members enjoy them by not aerifying until mid-October.

The late punch also allows him to go deep and alter his soil with more conducive material. His greens were built from coarser sand, and with the low mowing heights of today, he's had to go with smaller material for his topdressing, which is typically taboo for fear of locking up soil with smaller particles. But with an aggressive 12-inch, deep-tine treatment along with a core process, he has a better chance of working it well into the composition.

"The newer, finer material is in columns down through the green's profile," he says. "Now that we switched to the finer sand, I'm worried about having the finer layer on top, which is why I'm poking the deep holes and filling them with new sand before we do the core."

Flisek says he wouldn't be permitted to upset the greens to that extent if he did the process immediately after Labor Day.



It usually takes him five days to finish the two-step process of deep-tine and core punching, but he wasn't in a big rush in late October because golf at that time is a bonus.

"When we wait until this time of year, the members are more forgiving, and the grass is more forgiving," he said in late October. "We won't mow the greens for an entire week after we aerify. If you do that in September, you kind of get in trouble. Right now, no one really seems to care."

It makes sense from a player's perspective, considering September is some of the nicest golf weather, Flisek says. And it's a vantage point he uses often. A five-handicapper, Flisek tries to play the course as often as he can with members of different skill levels so he can get a realistic view of what golfers think of the course.

"When I haven't played in a couple weeks, sometimes I think the golf course is great. But when I play it, I see things that I would do differently, and we start to change things," he says.





TOPDRESSING AT A GLANCE

With many courses donning a heavy layer of topdressing to combat desiccation and crown rot, many superintendents might not be thinking too much about topdressing protocols for next season. But a good regimen requires long-term planning of up to a year, especially for the composting phase, according to "Turf Management for Golf Courses" by James Beard.

Here's a planning checklist to ensure your material and regimen will keep you on target to combat thatch and keep your greens consistent.

Make sure particle size is at least the size of that used to build the green to reduce the potential of layering. Otherwise, "it's like pouring BBs into a barrel full of baseballs," says Kevin Seibel, superintendent of Century Country Club.

If you must go finer because the existing

materials are too coarse for the mowing heights, punch deep to allow the finer material to sit in columns through the profile. "It's important to get some deep-tine channels down through the profile so it's not one layer on top of the other," says Ken Flisek, superintendent of The Club at Nevillewood.

Particles should be tested for uniformity and composition; sand should be clean and have a high silica content. "You want a very hard material because you don't want your sand breaking down and plugging up your profile," says Rick Slattery, superintendent of Locust Hill Country Club.

Avoid excessive abrasions during hot, humid weather, which might invite anthracnose or other disease.

| Work around rainstorms so the material works its way below the mower blades more quickly.

I Tread lightly. You can always repeat the process in a few days if it was too light. Otherwise, "you might have to live with it a couple weeks. Sometimes it just won't go away. You can roll it, water it, brush it, and it still sticks around. It's a little trial and error," says Dan Williams, superintendent of Riverview Country Club in Appleton, Wis.

Consider a storage silo or a place to keep your material dry. "You are paying a premium for the process of baking and kiln drying, so you need a dry place to store it," Seibel says.

Know what you want to accomplish, says Sam Ferro, president of Turf Diagnostics and Design. A successful program requires goals, knowledge of physical properties of existing soil as well as the proposed topdress.

- David Frabotta, Senior Editor



"The Source for New Golf Project Information"

golfconstructionnews.com (GCN) is an online report containing the most current and in-depth information on golf projects in the U.S. GCN keeps tabs on thousands of projects a year to provide the most up-to-date, comprehensive details as they become available. Reports can be ordered for up to eight regions of the U.S. to fit any-sized business.

Features include:

- Access to project updates 24/7 via secure, password-protected access
 - Project tracking from conception to completion, with its status regularly updated
- Full details for New & Proposed Projects, Remodels to Existing Courses & Recent Openings
- State-of-the-art click-through contact access with developers, course designers and construction companies (if selected), and related parties
- Sortable project database including by state, development phase, type and opening date

Subscribe online now! It's as easy as visiting www.golfconstructionnews.com. Review regularly updated sample projects on the home page and see the power of GCN for yourself.

For additional information, call toll-free 866-640-7170.

Golfdom **Sales Staff**

Pat Roberts Publisher

600 Superior Avenue, East, Suite 1100 Cleveland, OH 44114

Phone: 216-706-3736 Fax: 216-706-3712

E-mail: proberts@questex.com



Kevin Stoltman Group Publisher

Phone: 216-706-3740 Fax: 216-706-3712

E-mail: kstoltman@questex.com



Gerry Bogdon National Account Manager

Phone: 407-302-2445 Fax: 407-322-1431

E-mail: gbogdon@questex.com



Dave Huisman Regional Sales Manager

Phone: 732-493-4951 Fax: 732-493-4951

E-mail: dhuisman@questex.com



Brian Olesinski Account Executive, Classified

Phone: 216-706-3757 Fax: 216-706-3712

E-mail: bolesinski@questex.com





Biological Water Treatment



*Bacteria to digest excess nutrients that cause problematic algae

*Reduce Sludge *Control Odors

800-988-8257

www.spindlerenterprises.com From the BioPro liquid fertilizer people



Ad Index

Advertiser	Page No.
Andersons, The	3
Audubon	51
BASF Corp	cv2, 13, 16-17
Bell Labs	50
Bernhard & Co.	36
Buhler	37
Champion Turf Farms	21
Cleary Chemical Corp	cv4
Earthworks	19
Environmental Turf	50
Ewing Irrigation	52
GCBAA	(regional) 9
Graden USA	2, 52
Gro Power	4
Howard Fertilizer	(regional) 9
LESCO	5
Michael Fox Auctioneers	2

Oxford Gardens	1
Project Evergreen	15
Sisis	4
Spindler Enterprise	54
Syngenta	24-25
Target (regional) 32	A-32B
The Toro Co.	29
Turfco Golf	cv3
Turf Merchants	31

TURFGRASS TRENDS

Bayer ES	43
Floratine	47
John Deere and Co.	41
Pursell Technologies	45

This index is provided as an additional service. The publisher does not assume any liability for errors or omissions.

Editorial Index

Company	Page No.
American Society of	
Golf Course Architects	32
Art Schaupeter Design	8
Ballyneal	34
Bethpage State Park	28
Bobby Clampett Design	8
Brechtel Memorial Park	26
British & International Golf	
Greenkeepers Association	30
CareerBuilder.com	8
Century Country Club	49
English Turn Golf & Country Club	32
Erin Hills	34
FarmLinks Golf Club	30
GCSAA	26, 30
Golf Digest	32
Golf Industry Show	32
Greenville Country Club,	28
Hazeltine National Golf Club	49
John's Island Club	32
Keller Golf Course	30
Ladies Professional Golf Association	34
Landmark Golf Co.	8
LESCO	27
Liberty National Golf Course	32

Locust Hill Country Club	49
Los Angeles Country Club	27
LPGA	35
Ludlow Country Club	28
Medinah Country Club	32, 34
Merion Golf Club	23
Michigan State University	30
Muirfield Village Golf Club	6, 38
Murder Rock Country Club	8
National Amputee Golf Association	32
Oakmont Country Club	38
Ohio Golf Association	36
Ohio State University	26, 30
Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show	30
Pursell Technologies	30
Reebok	32
RISE	32
RiverCrest Golf Club & Preserve	28
Sebonack	34
Syngenta Professional Products	32
The Club at Nevillewood	50
Tribute at Branson Hills	8
United States Golf Association	20, 35
Vail Golf Club	27
Volvik	36
Winged Foot Golf Club	32, 34

Classifieds

Golfdom

Payment must be received by the classified closing date. We accept VISA, MASTERCARD, & AMERICAN EXPRESS.

For Advertising Information, Contact Brian Olesinski: 800-669-1668 ext. 3757 or 216-706-3757;

Fax 216-706-3712, Email bolesinski@questex.com

FOR SALE







Don't stress about finding new customers.

Place a classified ad with Golfdom Magazine

www.golfdom.com









Out of Bounds

SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

Video games

t started innocently enough. Just a boy at his aunt's house, a block-shaped box of electronics, two straight lines and a bouncing, pixilated "ball." The 1970s seem further away then ever, but the transcendent feeling of playing "Pong" repeatedly with my little brother has never vanished.

I've saved the world on Atari 2600 and won the World Series on Intelli-Vision. I rescued a young lass repeatedly in Donkey Kong on ColecoVision and whooped Mike Tyson in his own game on Nintendo. After college I bloodied up Wayne Gretzky (I feel sort of bad about it now) on Sega Genesis, and took it to the hole on Iverson in the company's later Dreamcast. Gran Turismo brought hours of relaxation on PlayStation during graduate school. Now, as an XBox dad, I still can skate with Tony Hawk and, frankly, kick Tiger all over St. Andrews.

Sure, video games have given me a false sense of athleticism, a penchant to think of the merge lane as an opening and turned me into a WWII hero. I know it's not real, but man, are they still fun.

What is real is a \$10.5-billion industry dedicated to giving folks like me almost 25 percent of all home videogame players are age 35 or older — an escape. Also real is the holiday season release of sequels to Nintendo's Game-Cube and PlayStation II. Before you

DOING YOUR HOMEWORK ON THIS PURCHASE MIGHT BE THE MOST

FUN YOU HAVE ALL HOLIDAY SEASON BY MARK LUCE



drop some serious change to allow yourself (I mean, your child) to play with joysticks or Nunchucks (see below), take a minute to brush up on the latest. Keep in mind, we're not in Pong-land anymore.

Xbox360: Released during the last holiday season, Microsoft got the jump on its rivals with its second-generation machine. The controllers are the same as the Xbox, but now it's wireless. The graphics will drop your jaw, especially on high-definition television. It's a DVD player to boot (\$299 to \$399).

PlayStation 3: Sony says the new system will be 35 times more powerful than PlayStation 2 and twice as powerful as Xbox360. While many liken the debate between PlayStation and Xbox to the Apple/PC war, there will exist no earthly gaming experience like playing Gran Turismo HD on PS3 with a widescreen HDTV (\$499 to \$599).

Nintendo Wii: Seemingly chump change in cost compared to the others, but Nintendo is rolling the dice on a new controlling system, a two-pronged attack featuring the Wii-Remote and the wonderfully named Nunchuck. The controllers move based on your movement. So, if playing a tennis game, you actually swing your arm to hit the ball. The learning curve is steep. Ice for tennis elbow not included (\$250).

Whichever system you or your child chooses, keep in mind that new games run about \$60, and none of the systems come with two controllers. To beat the high cost of new games, don't forget to check out the growing number of traditional and online stores that sell used games, which often can be picked up for much less. Remember, too, to play before you pay.

Happy holidays.

Mark Luce is a freelance writer based in Kansas City, Mo., where he still can't figure out Halo or Halo II.

GOLFDOM (ISSN 1526-4270) is published monthly (12 issues per year) by Questex Media Group, Inc., 306 W Michigan Street, Suite 200, Duluth, MN 55802. Corporate office: 275 Grove St., Suite 2-130, Newton, MA 02466. Accounting, Advertising, Production and Circulation offices: 306 W. Michigan St., Suite 200 Duluth, MN 55802-1610. Subscription rates: One year \$39 (U.S. and possessions), \$59 (Canada and Mexico) and \$89 (all other countries). Air expedited service is available in countries outside the U.S. and Canada for an additional \$75

per year. Current issue single copies (prepaid only) \$5 (U.S. and Canada for an additional \$75 per year. Current issue single copies (prepaid only) \$5 (U.S. and possessions), \$7 (Canada and Mexico) and \$8 (all other countries). Back issues (if available, prepaid only) \$10 (U.S. and possessions), \$14 (Canada and Mexico) and \$16 (all other countries); add \$6.50 per order shipping and handling for both current and back issue purchases. Periodicals postage paid at Duluth MN 55806 and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to GOLFDOM, P.O. Box 5057, Brentwood, TN 37024-5057. Canadian G.S.T. Number: 840033278RT0001, Publications Mail Agreement ber 40017597. Printed in the U.S.A.
Copyright 2006 by Questex Media Group, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication

may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher. Authorization to photocopy items for internal or personal use, or the internal or personal use of specific clients, is granted by Questex Media for libraries and other users registered with the Copyright Clearance Center, 222 Rosewood Dr., Danvers, MA 01923, phone 978-750-8400, fax 978-750-4470. Call for copying beyond that permitted by Sections 107 or 108 of the U.S. Copyright Law. For those not registered with the CCC, send permission request to questexpermissions@reprintbuyer.com or 800-494-9051, ext 100.

After 40 Years of Experience, Turfco° is the #1 Brand of Top Dressers and Material Handlers.



Light applications cover 18 holes in less than 90 minutes.

THE WIDESPIN™ 1530 IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THE REASON WHY:

- Guaranteed 3-year warranty—including the belt. Unmatched in the industry!
- Patented 3-position switch. Guarantees precise, even application every time.
- Patented WideSpin technology. The widest range of top dressing—from 15' heavy after aerification to 30' superlight and every application in between.
- Adjustable angle of spinners from 0-15°. Allows for broadcast applications or to drive the sand into the turf.
- Galvanized hopper. Worry-free durability—no paint to get sanded away.
- Cross-conveyor attachment. Expands your 1530's usefulness—allows it to be used for material handling duties.
- A manufacturer with a 45-year history of building innovative top dressers.
 We built the first mechanized top dresser—and still build the best, most cutting-edge top dresser in the industry.



When it comes to top dressing, we have been—
and still are—the industry leader. If you want
unparalleled performance in any top dressing
application, choose the WideSpin 1530. Available
as tow-behind or truck-mounted for your four-wheel

Cushman® Turf-Truckster,® John Deere ProGator™ or Toro® Workman.® For a demo or to request product information, call **1-800-679-8201** or visit **turfco.com**.



A cross-conveyor attachment gives the 1530 even more uses, as shown below





THE LEADER. SINCE 1961.

1655 101st Avenue NE • Minneapolis, MN 55449-4420 U.S.A (763) 785-1000 • Fax (763) 785-0556 • www.turfco.com

Turfco's #1 ranking is according to the National Golf Foundation's Turf Brand Share Report.