

Jacobsen Hosts 20th Annual College Student Seminar

Thirty-six top turf students from colleges and universities throughout the U.S. and Canada attended the 20th annual College Student Seminar at Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc.'s headquarters in Racine May 31 - June 3. The students participating in the seminar were nominated by their professors.

Highlights of the seminar included a half-day open panel discussion where superintendents from public, private and corporate golf courses fielded students' questions on everything from solutions to specific turf problems to the realities of employment as a golf course superintendent.

Quinton Johnson, superintendent at Brookhaven Country Club in Dallas, spoke to the students about career opportunities and overall operation of corporate golf syndicates.

Dennis "Skip" Wilms, superintendent at Racine Country Club, hosted an equipment field day and tour of the grounds and maintenance area at his course. He discussed the importance of proper equipment maintenance and the need for flexible employee scheduling.

A presentation on private golf club operation was given by Danny Quast, superintendent at Milwaukee Country Club. He outlined the effective use of gabions to control streambank erosion, and emphasized the importance of budgeting and selecting key personnel.

The seminar included a visit to Milwaukee County Stadium, where grounds supervisor Harry Gill explained his turf management program and how he copes with problems confronting a multi-use stadium. He discussed use of sand slits for drainage, and how he was able to recover quickly from last year's flood that put the entire field under water for two days.

Other sessions during Jacobsen's College Student Seminar covered equipment life value analysis, preventive maintenance, leasing and financing programs, engineering and manufacturing strategies, and a tour of Jacobsen's factory and CAD-CAM area.

Additional guest speakers at the seminar included Monroe Miller, superintendent at Blackhawk Country Club; Domenick Ventura, superintendent of the Kenosha Country park system; and Woody Voight, superintendent of the Saukville County park system.



Monroe Miller, superintendent at Blackhawk Country Club answers a student's question during a half-day open panel discussion that was part of Jacobsen's 20th annual College Student Seminar. Thirty-six top turf students from across the U.S. and Canada attended the seminar.



At an equipment field day during Jacobsen's 20th annual College Student Seminar, Michael Lee, a turf student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, gets a short course on operating a Jacobsen G4x4 four-wheel-drive turf tractor with fine-cut flail from John Oldenburg, Jacobsen's Manager of Customer Relations. Thomas North, a student at the University of Georgia, looks on from the right.

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