

THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR SPEAKS AT SHEBOYGAN

By Mark Kienert



USGA Green Section National Director Bill Bengeyfield.

Bill Bengeyfield, National Director of the United States Golf Association Green Section, was the featured speaker at the May meeting of the WGCSA. The meeting was held at Pine Hills Country Club in Sheboygan on May 23 and was hosted by Rod Johnson.

Coincidentally, the meeting date was also Media Day at the Kohler Company's new golf course, Black Wolf Run. Golf Course Superintendent Marc Davison arranged for WGCSA members to see this new Pete Dye creation that morning.

Mr. Bengeyfield chose turfgrass research as the focus of his remarks. The

USGA is at the halfway point in a major fund raising effort for turf investigations. He was able to point to progress made thus far and painted an optimistic picture of results they hope for in the last half of the program. His comments fell on receptive ears, especially since Wisconsin is in the early stages of raising money for the O.J. NOER CENTER for TURFGRASS RESEARCH.

Joining the WGCSA members for dinner were two other special guests - Herb Kohler and Pete Dye. Mr. Kohler, the top executive of the Kohler Company, is the prime reason Black Wolf Run is now part of the Wisconsin golf course community. Mr. Dye, as everyone knows, created the unique Kohler golf course.

As he has done so often in the past, Rod Johnson did the perfect job of planning the entire day, right down to the great weather. His course was in excellent condition, the clubhouse was beautiful, and the meals and service were outstanding.

The comment made to me by one of Rod's peers was "I can't remember when I've seen a golf course as finely groomed as Pine Hills." A splendid job, Rod!



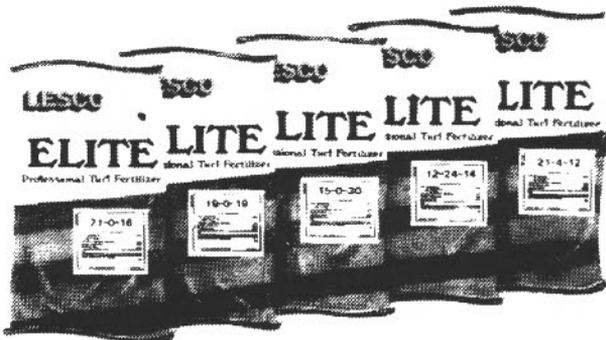
Herb Kohler and USGA Green Section Agrominist Jim Latham.

The O.J. NOER CENTER was the big winner of a "Giant Skins Game" organized by R.J. Thirty-six out of thirty-nine teams entered this on-site event. Skins winners were: Acker, Pinkerton, Peterson, Shaw, Emerich, Weise, Feldman, Swift, van Valin, Smith, Frazier, Ball and Mertz.

Event prize winners went to Dick Evenson with a 74 for low gross honors; longest putt to President Roger Bell and closest to the pin in three shots went, by default, to Chad Ball. He was in the cup for an eagle three. Longest drive went to Pro Rick Swift and closest to the pin to Dick Evenson.

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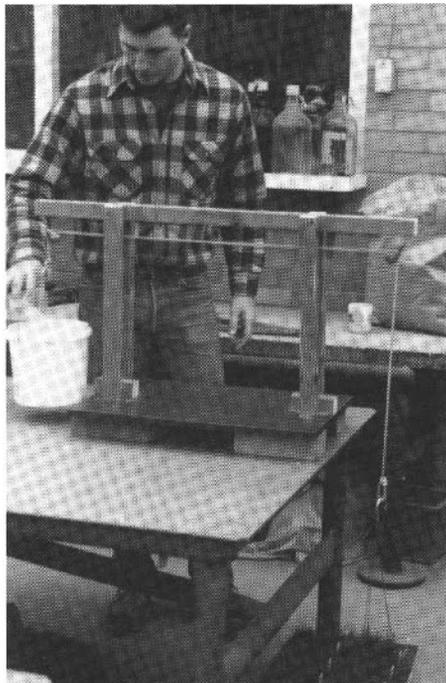
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but, the iron applications did not seem to have a major effect on the rooting. The one pound application of nitrogen seemed to induce more shoot growth; hence, there was no substantial difference between iron applications in these treatments. The sod pieces treated with a second application of iron were noticeably darker but had a lower



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Jeff devised a unique method for measuring root strength.

rooting response than comparable treatments.

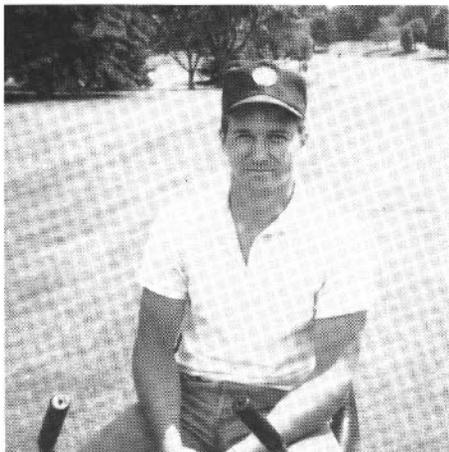
Iron application is useful in inducing strong roots for sod that is nitrogen deficient. Too much nitrogen, regardless of how much iron is applied, can be detrimental to strong root growth.

USGA Director speaks...

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Overall team best ball winners were Jeff Bottenzek and Dick Evenson. Second place went to Bryan Schmidt and Wayne Otto. Third place winners were Jerry Ebel and Bruce Worzella. Losing the tie breaker and finishing fourth were Pat Mertz and Chad Ball. Fifth place went to Jim Wunrow and Dave Murgatroyd.

This meeting was the second of three featuring USGA Green Section staff. Needless to say, it is always an honor to have the Green Section National Director take time from his busy schedule to be a part of someone else's. For the Wisconsin GCSA, it truly was a memorable meeting.



NOR-AM Scholarship winner Jeff Bahr.

BAHR TO RECEIVE NOR-AM SCHOLARSHIP

Jeff Bahr, a senior in Dr. Wayne Kussow's Turf and Grounds Management Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, has been chosen as the 1988-1989 recipient of the NOR-AM TURF SCHOLARSHIP. The announcement was made by John Turner, NOR-AM's representative for Wisconsin. The award will be formally presented to Jeff at the 1989 WTA Winter Turfgrass Conference and Annual Meeting next January.

John Turner has been absolutely dedicated to turfgrass education and deserves an applause for working to include Wisconsin in the generous NOR-AM program. Many fine young people have benefited from this financial aid.

Jeff Bahr is the son of WGCSA member and La Crosse Country Club Golf Course Superintendent Joe Bahr. Jeff was selected by a UW-Madison faculty committee.

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