



The Surrounds



By Wayne G. Horman

The July WGCSA meeting was held at the Lake Breeze Golf Course, just north of Oshkosh. Jim Hasz, the golf course superintendent, did a great job having the course well prepared for the event.

On my way home I thought "who in their right mind would ever want to host a monthly meeting?" Think about it for a moment: a group of your peers playing your course. Every hole is an evaluation of design, course maintenance, green speed (yes, even superintendents comment about this topic), and, of course, the question "what products does he use?"

It takes a strong person to handle that kind of pressure for a day, and unlike the usual outings and tournaments that superintendents deal with, this one event is voluntary. All I can say is "thank you" for having us, and all the golfers do appreciate your efforts and your thick skin for hosting the event.

The Anderson Consulting World Championship of Golf was held at Blackwolf Run Golf Course in Kohler on July 29th and 30th. The River course hosted the best bracket of the four held around the world. Seeing some of the greatest golfers in the world challenge their game on one of Wisconsin's best courses was really exciting. The event was just one more step toward the Kohler Company

holding its first major event — the 1998 U.S. Women's Open.

In the spring Randy Slavik from Wausau Country Club passed the GCSAA certification. A big thank you also goes out to Randy and the WCC for offering to host the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association golf outing on September 30th. This event is one of our biggest fund raisers of the year.

Nakoma Golf Club filled the golf course superintendent position in July with Clark Rowles, formerly employed by Geneva National in Lake Geneva. Rowles succeeds Randy Smith and is only the fifth superintendent in the history of Nakoma.

KSL Fairways purchased the Lake Windsor Golf Course, outside of Madison. Jerry Panella, the superintendent at Lake Windsor takes over at the Mequon Country Club, formerly the Ville Du Parc CC, also owned by KSL.

Rod Schultz is the new superintendent at Lake Windsor. He comes to Wisconsin from another KSL property—Walden Lake CC in Plant City, Florida.

Ed Kirchenwitz is having a busy summer. Kirchenwitz is the superintendent at Whistling Straits, the new golf course on Lake Michigan under construction by the Kohler Company. After spending most of his time supervising the project, he finally took a couple of days off to

spend time with his new baby boy. His wife Amy gave birth to Ellis David on July 15th.

The Seven Mile Creek golf course project in Waunakee is getting closer to the seeding stage. The 18-hole public golf course project is being built and operated by the Bruce Company.

Whispering Springs Golf Club in Fond du Lac is opening for limited membership play in late August. The Bob Lohman designed course will be open for public play late this year or early next spring.

The insects were active in July and August on golf courses throughout Wisconsin. Cutworms were spotted in limited numbers on courses all over the state. The population was small compared to 1995.

BTA grubs were active in the southern portion of the state in late June and early July. The population of *Aetaenius* is growing and their numbers have spread from the Milwaukee area into Madison this year.

Japanese beetles have been spreading north over the last few years. This year the adult beetle was spotted in Cambridge, just outside of Madison. A very cold winter could help reduce their population.

I hope the rest of the season goes well for all of you. It won't be long before the 1996 season comes to an end. 🌿

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