and there was nothing but praise for the fine playing conditions. The pros do get to play on excellent turf, huh Ray?

Al Vrana, CGCS President

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FROM THE GOLF COMMITTEE:

Wisconsin River Country Club was the site of our July 12th meeting; the host superintendent was Mike Lazinsky. It was our best golfing attendence to date with 41 participants. We are still far short of having a meaningful meeting considering we are an association of over 200 members. If you have a friend that doesn't always attend, bring him along to North Shore - Menasha next month-we guarantee an enjoyable time on the golf course, plus a great educational session.

Event winners at Wisconsin Rapids were Bob Gosewehr, Tim Smith, Bob Edwards and Alan Kress. Blind Bogey winners were Don Steinmetz, Wayne Otto, Al Vrana and Ron Grunewald.

Return cards for the joint meeting at McHenry Country Club on September 20 are coming in at a slow pace. If your card doesn't get to me by September 1, for pairing with Midwest members, you will not be able to play in the event. Let's have a good turnout!

Our next meeting is at North Shore - Menasha on August 3rd. The rules covering this event will be in the Fro Shop. Hope to see you there!

Bill Douglas

Reinders

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Congratulations are again in order to Ray Knapp for the excellent job that he has done for the GMO. His dedication reflects so very much on our profession.

Ray's stand on the use of sand for top dressing cannot be questioned after once seeing his greens. They are for certain, an excellent putting surface.

Personally, it is a delema for old courses such as the Milwaukee Country Club. If only we had a crystal ball and could see into the future, our decision would be easier.

Ray, according to the following article, realized a potential problem and headed it off by using sand. But, what if you don't really have a soil problem? Can you justify its use only for the sake of a fast putting surface?

Each individual will have to, in the end, make his own decision. It is a complex situation. It started with Ray Knapps excellent result, and the sand symposium. We all have ideas on this subject. Some good points and

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some reservations. Write about them and contribute your ideas, which are backed up by field experience. In this way we will help each other make this decision when and if it becomes necessary.

To get the ball rolling, here is a letter Ray had submitted to his greens committee in 1975.

TO: Grounds Committee & Board of Directors

FROM: Ray Knapp

SUBJECT: Sand Topdressing on Greens at Tuckaway

Presently Tuckaway has been using a top soil mix as top dressing on the greens. For the past three years, a lense of clay has been noted on the greens at about three inches below the surface. Last year this layer caused some trouble on greens 11, 2 and 4. For most golfers the problem with these wet greens was not noticed. Now is the time to start a sand top dressing program to hopefully eliminate a problem that might take five more years to become evident. We can not eliminate the clay

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layer but we will lower it one-half inch per year by using sand top dressing.

Lely

Lewis

Some of the history about using sand dates back to St. Andrews where sand has always been used for top dressing. The trouble using sand arises when a program is once started it must continually be followed. If soil is placed over the sand a perched water table on the green surface results.

For the past 20 years many of the golf courses in Southern California have successfully used sand top dressing. They have discovered many side benefits to this program.

Using sand top dressing the amount of Poa Annua has been reduced or eliminated. The club is now spending over \$1,000.00 to chemically treat for Poa Annua yearly. After using sand for a couple of seasons, Tuckaway may be able to stop the chemical control program.

In California, many of the courses now using sand top dressing have been mixing it with fertilizer, fungicide and insecticide. A labor savings could be expected from these operations to off set the extra cost of the program.

There are several direct benefits to the golfer when sand top dressing is used. It gives a true smooth putting surface. Furthermore, the sand settles into the grass

and thatch, thus the green is not messy for 3 to 4 days like with top soil.

SAND TO DRESSING ADVANTAGES:

- Golf play is not effected immediately after top dressing.
- Easier to handle than top soil mix.
- Will not be affected by becoming wet.
- 4. It has been reported to control Poa Annua and other weeds.
- A material can be found that is uniform over a long 5. period of time.
- Top dressing can be mechanized easier.
- 7. Water infiltration

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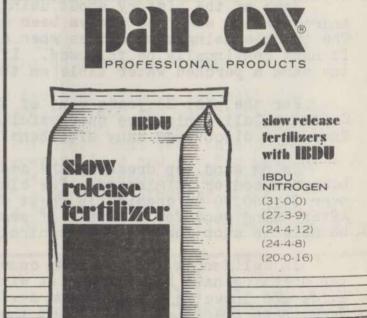
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rate will be increased over the years.

8. Sand cannot be compacted by mechanical or foot traffic.

YOUR VALUABLE ELMS CAN BE SAVED

By Ted Egelhoff

With the labeling of DuPonts new chemical Lignasan B.L.P. this Spring most arborist in Wisconsin have turned to this method as an additional aid in saving our elm trees.

The best program to follow for saving the elms are as follows:

1. Dormant spray, with Methoxyclor 25% - 8 gals. per 100

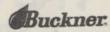
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gals. water in a Hydralic Sprayer. 50 gals. per 100 gals. water in a mist blower.

- 2. Pruning of dead wood during dormant season.
- Sanitation Removal of dead and dying elms as soon as possible and the disposal of wood so as to eliminate brood trees.
- 4. Prevention inoculate your valuable trees as soon as leaves are half emerged.

 Inject 1 quart of Lignasan B.L.P. in 8 gals. of water at rate of 2 gals. diluted mixture per each foot of circumference of tree. Inject as low to ground as possible.
- 5. Therapy (Treating trees that are infested less than 5%). The rate should be 2 qts. of Lignasan in 8 gals. of water. If water is very hard, it can be corrected by adding 1 oz. of Phosphiric Acid per 5 gallons.
- 6. The problem of root graft of adjacent trees can be solved by placing a Vaapam barrier in the ground between trees. This will prevent the spread of disease in this manner.

I feel that the golf course superintendent must determine which are his key trees so as to determine where his money will best be spent.

With the high cost of removal and replacement of trees, serious thought should be given to trying to save our elms.

HISTORIAL CORNER By Monroe Miller

Brief History of Blackhawk Country Club

The founders of Blackhawk Country Club selected a breath-taking site for a golf course. About 20,000 years ago a vast continental glacier invaded Wisconsin from Canada, leveling hills in its path. When it melted, its heavy load of rocks and soil formed the rolling terrain of the Madison area and gave the city its four lakes. The golf course was built on the south shore of the largest of these four lakes - Lake Mendota - in the Village of Shorewood Hills on the west side of Madison.

The first nine holes of the golf course were constructed in 1921 and the second nine was added a year later. Irrigation was provided only for greens and tees at that time, but a manual quick cupler valve system for fairway irrigation was installed in 1938. The layout of the course is typical of those built during this time period. The fairways are relatively short and tight. The putting greens, with an average of about 4,800 square feet, are small as are the tees, which average 2,500 square feet. There are many steep banks that require hand maintenance. However, there have been some significant changes and improvements made over the years, including those suggested by the famed golf course architect A.W. Tillinghast prior to 1940.

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Currently, the course yardage is 6,081 from the men's tees and 5,689 from the ladies tees with par of 72 and 74, respectively.

Any history of this golf course must necessarily include a few comments about the natural history of the approximately one hundred acres where it is situated. Tribes of Indians were obviously attracted to the shores of Lake Mendota and left many burial and effigy mounds on the course grounds that even today are of interest to natural historians, anthropologists, and even casual observers. This heritage of mounds includes those very distinctively in the shape of bears, fish, snakes, a panther, a goose and a hawk, as well as several large burial mounds. When the founders of the club were wrestling with the problem of a name, they recognized that some note of the recent history of the area would be appropriate. Chief Black Hawk passed through these grounds with his Fox and Sauk Indian followers in April of 1832 in an effort to regain lost territories north and west of here. The selection of a name was easy and obvious.

The club's connection with the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association is a long one that goes back



to the very beginning of the Association.
John Bone, the second Golf Course Superintendent of Blackhawk Country Club, was one of the movers behind the establishment of a state association and was elected as its first vice-president.
Bone was preceded by