



"THE BACK PAGE"

By Bill Roberts



We had occasion to visit with **STAN ZONTEK**, WGCSA Honorary Member, recently by telephone. He reports all is well in Westchester, Pennsylvania, as he pursues a busy travel schedule visiting those fine golf clubs around his new USGA region. **STAN** adds for the "You think you got it bad" Department that there are now 19 counties in Southeastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey on "restricted water use" programs mandated by the respective states. Irrigation of greens and tees only. Hours limited from 9:00 pm to 5:00 am. Reporting and enforcement by local law enforcement officers and citizens!

Closer to home, **DAVID MURGATROYD**, Golf Course Superintendent the Ridges Inn and Country Club, reports that while "the boat is still in storage" his yard has now been whipped into shape for the graduation festivities held recently. **DAVID** is also in the process of building a new 7,000 square foot practice putting green in a new location near the clubhouse. The green will be sodded after completion of all appropriate irrigation installation.

Dry weather seems to be fairly widespread this spring and Golf Course Superintendent **DON PETERSON**, Waupaca Country Club, reports that he has had his share (or fill). **DON** has managed to enlarge two tees this spring, complete some irrigation updating and initiate a sand topdressing program on greens while experiencing "lots of play" at his fine golf course.

Farther south, Westmoor Country Club's **JERRY KERSHASKY** has decided to delay his work with Embark and Cutlass due to the unseasonably dry weather. **JERRY** has been seeing good results from fairway aeration in managing "localized dry spots." Two Greensaires and eleven working days were required to complete the operation.

Mid Vallee Golf Club's **PETE VAN DE HEY** did proceed with his Embark application and reports good suppression as a result. He has also begun Rubigan applications in order to encourage bentgrass populations on his putting surfaces. **PETE** indicated that things were "very dry" and that he was "very tired" but he will find the time to build a new lake on the 12th hole at Mid Vallee. Also scheduled is the renovation and enlargement of his 9th tee.

Softball star and Golf Course Superintendent **PAT NORTON** of Cherokee Country Club has been working with **BOB LOHMAN** on a Master Plan which includes renovation of the 14th hole. The work will include tee, bunker and mounding changes. Also scheduled are some specific tee reconstruction projects. **PAT** has initiated a lightweight mowing program in 1985 and reports better than anticipated results.

Wisconsin Turf Equipment Corp. reports that **BARRY LARSON** recently joined their sales staff. Barry, a recent graduate of the Penn State 2 year turfgrass management program, will be doing special assignment work in the sales department.

STEVE SCHMIDT, Golf Course Superintendent at Butte des Morts Golf Club, has also been busy planning and implementing some **BOB LOHMAN** work including bridge, drainage and stream bank renovation this year. Also underway is cart path construction. **STEVE**, too, reports very dry conditions but proceeded with his Embark application and reports some very impressive results.

Mascoutin Country Club's **GLEN GERTH** is placing fabric liners in all of his bunkers which is being followed by the addition of new sand. Additionally, drainage and sod work have occupied his staff's time but with no significant winter damage, little disease pressure and dry conditions he has managed very well through a number of golf outings and tournaments.

The Country Club of Beloit's **DON FERGER** has had a "good spring" including some impressive results with an application of Embark. Additionally, he has made significant progress on the construction of a new maintenance building. **DON** has also continued his bunker renovation program, begun in 1984, including redefining the shapes of the hazards, lining of the bunkers with fabric material and the replacement of all sand.

CLIFF BRANDL, Bulls Eye Country Club's Golf Course Superintendent, is preparing his new practice putting green for opening this summer. The new first tee, placed as a result of Bulls Eye's clubhouse construction project, has been put into play already and has received nothing but high marks from **CLIFF'S** members.

We checked in with **PHIL PELLITTERI**, Entomologist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and he took some time to update us on the current situation and potential problems with insects. **PHIL** reports that virtually all overwintering pests survived in "good shape" and the warmer weather of early spring indicated heavy populations would be present. However, extremely dry conditions in some areas of the State have been a limiting factor and the outlook is not quite as bleak as earlier thought. Aphid and mite problems could be severe, according to **PHIL**, as the lack of moisture is not such a factor with those pests. Increased grub activity has been noted also. Overall, timing for pests (and applications) is approximately two weeks ahead of the norm.

Although mentioned briefly at our recent Janesville Country Club meeting, one feels

compelled to make mention, again, of a significant achievement by one of our very own WGCSA members. **WILLIAM T. SELL, ESQ., III**, (HIS QUOTE OVER THE PHONE), is the proud owner of a 170 yard, 4 iron hole in one on the difficult 8th hole at Chaska Golf Club. Congratulations, **BILL**.

By the way, **BILL SELL** continues to deny any and all of the following rumors, including; a.) the 8th hole at Chaska runs right next to his maintenance building, b.) that this feat was accomplished on a Monday morning shortly after dawn, and, c.) that his witnesses included three Chaska Grounds Department staff members who had been earning minimum wage and have since vacationed in the Bahamas and have received salary increases that would bring them in line with the Chairman of General Motors.

Seriously, way to go, **MR. SELL!**

RICHARD KIETZMANN, Milwaukee County Parks, called back to tell us that the golf courses in the County system came through the winter in great shape and that the objective of generating increased play is being met in part, at least, because of those superb playing conditions. **DICK** and his staff have been receiving "high marks" in the Milwaukee papers as the "Celebrity Shoot-out" with some top name professionals continues to go well.

JIM SPINDLER, new Field Agronomist for the Milorganite Division of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, is feeling very much at home in Wisconsin. John comes to MMSD with a broad background that includes work in landscaping, park maintenance and research work in forest soil fertility and organic soil inventory. He earned a B.S. degree in Agronomy from the Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture and an M.S. degree in Soil Science from Michigan Technological University. We know that as time goes on we will come to know him as well as we do Charlie Wilson, Bob Welch and Jim Latham.

The WGCSA connection to the 1985 U.S. Open included a victory by Nakoma Green Committee member **ANDY NORTH**, and was attended by **WAYNE OTTO** and **ROD JOHNSON**. It was Johnson's second trip to a major tournament this year — he attended the Masters Tournament in Augusta, Georgia this spring. **DR. DAVID COOKSON** served as an official in the Open last month.

