



SOMETIMES YOU'VE GOT TO WONDER

By Chad Eberhardt

It was a rare occasion that I found time for myself to be sitting on a 223D helping mow fairways.

I had almost forgotten how it felt to be in my own world thinking about anything and everything. In fact, I can't think of a better place to solve all the troubles that face the world.

As it turns out, on this particular morning, I figured I ought to start brainstorming for ideas for a *GRASS ROOTS* article before it got too late.

For the first two fairways, a blank "Hmmm...?" won out over any other bright or off-beat ideas.

Rather than fight the "Hmmm...?", I decided to work with it. It's amazing how many questions you can ask yourself that really make you wonder!

Here's a random sampling of the many golf course related queries that ran through my mind over the course of a morning:

Crew members. Do some of them even know what a straight line really is?

How can a person forget what angle we're mowing at within 2 minutes of reading it on the board?

How come there always seems to be one person who drives through the mud or standing water?

Have they all convinced themselves that all I do all day is drive around?

When will they catch on to the fact that complaining gets them nowhere fast?

Irrigation. Why do the problems seem to happen on weekends?

When will someone invent a completely trouble-free system? When this invention becomes reality, how come I'll never trust a computer to make its own watering decisions?

Golfers. Can they read?

Why can't they accept the fact that a sand bunker is a hazard? If they don't like the sand we have, can't they aim a little left to avoid it?

Pro-Shop. Why can the pro-shop guys seemingly golf any day but we're restricted to Monday evenings?

How come we're the last ones to find out that the women changed their plans and will be having a 7:30 shotgun this morning?

Who would actually pay over \$100 for a belt?

Environmental Awareness. With the eyes of nearly ever advocacy group upon us, how can any superintendent even consider engaging in irresponsible practices?

How much research will it take before the non-golfer realizes how low the potential risk is with chemical use on a golf course?

Weather. Does a 40% chance of rain mean there's a good chance of rain?

Who's the guy that decided that .15" is the magic number for cancelling the nightly water?

Do weather stations even have windows to look out?

Does Lake Mendota repel rain?

Should I start paying more attention to the "Old Farmers Almanac" and less to the local weatherman?

Birds. How do they find worms so easily?

Golf Course Superintendents. Can't we come up with a better word than "superintendent?"

THE GRASS ROOTS. When's the next deadline? What can I write about next?

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