

1994 GCSAA Chapter Relations Meeting September 25-26, 1994 Lawrence, Kansas

By Mark Kienert

Approximately 71 local chapters of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America meet in Lawrence Kansas in September to discuss current issues of the "National." The meeting was part of the continuing two-way communication efforts being promoted to improve chapter relations and dialogue between headquarters and members. The intended goals of this program are to identify and to fully utilize the tremendous talent base of leadership that is found at the local grass roots level and to utilize this wealth of talent to identify issues that will promote the image of the golf course superintendent.

GCSAA President Joseph Baidy gave a "State of the Association" speech. He informed the delegates that most of GCSAA Headquarters is now computerized with an updated PC at most employees' desks. A new network central computer will be on-line soon.

GCSAA will be a part of Golf Asia once again in 1995. Any programs of this nature must pass a seven point program test before they would be co-hosted by the GCSAA. The Singapore Office is now closed. The GCSAA has leased out approximately 20,000 square feet of empty space in the headquarters building to a Minneapolis firm that specializes in scanning surveys. This lease is good for one year only and has two 6 month renewal clauses attached to it. The St. Andrews Drive building has a tenant and a selling price is being negotiated with this party.

GCSAA has implemented sponsorships of the preconference golf tournament and it is hoped this will allow for greater flexibility. All golf merchandise will be sold to the members "at cost" as a way better serving the members. Scanners will be used at the upcoming annual meeting and elections to help speed ballot count-

ing process. They will be used also at the headquarters to scan surveys.

"Par for the Course", GCSAA video magazine, is in the negotiation stage with ESPN to reach a larger audience. The Scholarship and Research name has been changed to the GCSAA Foundation for tax reasons. All future issues of the *Leader Board* will be sent to all course officials free.

GCSAA's new Chief Executive Officer, Stephen F. Mona, reviewed the past nine months. We were told of the three mandates given by the board and progress to this point in meeting them. For the most part, the internal workings of GCSAA is up to date with the staff reorganization and group services clustered to provide better service to the members. A new budgeting system is in place and a strategic plan has been developed. The strategic plan will assist the member with career development, improve chapter relations and continue research into all phases of our business. There will be a new drive toward membership involvement.

Committees, as in the past, will be chaired by members to keep the focus on superintendent driven issues. Steve promised to maintain and to deliver the highest of professionalism and responsiveness to the members as he could. (Authors note: After having attended this meeting and after having spent some time in conversation with Steve at the Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium, I am very impressed and excited about the new GCSAA leadership team. A talent base is in place with many fresh ideas on implementing programs to solve issues. The focus has shifted from expansion to that of supplying services to the members.)

Joe O'Brien, GCSAA new Chief Operations Officer, discussed GCSAA relationships with the allied associations like PGA, LPGA, Golf Course

Builders, Golf Course Architects, USGA, CMAA, PGA of America, NGF and RISE. Those discussions have produced some results as each group would benefit by each other's strengths in the marketplace. For example, the PGA offered to help the GCSAA through their experience in audio-visual production, help us upgrade our commercials and news magazines, etc. Some of the interactions between professional groups were used to dissolve any hidden agendas that may have been present.

Joe also stressed that the "chapters are the foundation of the National." To further this notion, he served as the facilitator, presiding over a two-day discussion of issues
(Continued on page 53)

SPRING VALLEY TURF PRODUCTS

of Jackson, Wisconsin

will be holding their annual

Turf Fair on

FEBRUARY 8, 1995

at The Country Inn in

Pewaukee, Wisconsin



Sentinel
*Your Turf's New Year's
Resolution For 1995*



**The Best
Fungicide
On The
Course**

**Longest Control
Best Performance
Lowest Rates**

The confidence to win
against Brown Patch,
Dollar Spot, Summer Patch
and 11 other Turf Diseases.

For more information contact John Wiley or Dale Parske at:

Turf Supply Company

2797 Eagandale Boulevard • Eagan, Minnesota 55121

(612) 454-3106 • Fax: (612) 454-7884 • 1-800-551-4857

(Continued from page 51)
and how each could be best served by the local chapters and the National. Twenty-three pages of issues were discussed. With over 70 plus members in attendance, it was sometimes difficult to draw concrete conclusions. Joe worked on getting the most out of each discussion by separating the issues and keeping the group focused. There was banter back and forth as the issues were wrestled with. Those issues dealt with the relationship between the GCSAA and local affiliated chapters and how to improve them. Some of the problems discussed dealt with the leadership continuity in the affiliated chapters. The GCSAA discussed ways in which they could provide chapter management assistance. The Chapters need the GCSAA for its government relations support not only in Washington, but at the state and local levels. It was decided all problems need to be communicated to the GCSAA for coordination and support. Problems with information distribution between the chapters and GCSAA

was addressed. The ultimate goal here would also improve interchapter communications on all levels.

Julian Arendondo, GCSAA Chief Financial Officer, discussed that the GCSAA is now challenging all expense or cost components of the association. Just because a company has been awarded a contract in the past does not necessarily mean it will receive the same considerations in the future. Monthly budgets and expense sheets have been compiled and month/yearly projections are being planned.

Julian is also responsible for the surveys published by the GCSAA. GCSAA will survey all non-GCSAA members that are members of local chapters. The intent here is to identify why these local members are not National members and to implement procedures to bring them in. Staff plan to identify more reasons than just the cost that keep superintendents from joining GCSAA.

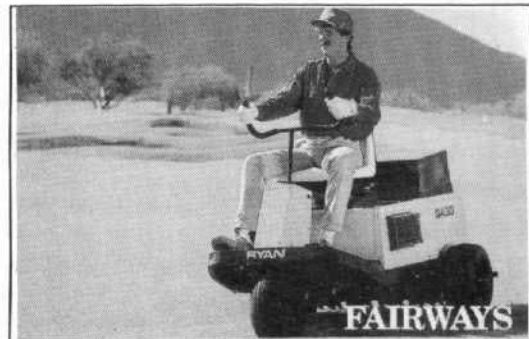
An outcropping of last year's chapter relations and delegates meeting was the suggestion that this meeting

would serve as the forum for "meet the candidates." This program was always held in conjunction with the GCSAA International Turfgrass Conference and Show. Delegates would have to give up many hours of valuable conference time which they felt was not to the benefit of employers. All candidates were given the traditional five minutes to plead their case and to answer questions posed to them by the delegates. If you have any comments or suggestions that I could forward to GCSAA, please feel free to put them in writing so that I can forward them to headquarters. Please pay attention to all the candidates up for election and speak up for them on their behalf.

To this end, I'm reminded of Steve Mona's quote that the GCSAA would no longer be a part of the status quo—that is, always organized to meet the last challenge....not the next one. They appear very well organized and poised to take on all new challenges with a new vigor into our Association. I have a feeling that GCSAA is really going to take off. 🍀

Entire Course gasping for air?

**Hanley's of Sun Prairie
will aerate it fast with
the *full course*
Ryan GA™ 30 Aerator.**



The GA™ 30 Aerator from Ryan can deliver green quality aeration to the entire course. Variable core spacing makes it as good on the fairways as it is on the greens and tees. You can aerate to a depth of 3 3/4" with this single piece of equipment. The 18 h.p. engine produces six m.p.h. speed for fast transport on and off the course.

Give your whole course the air it needs - Call Hanley's.

Hanley

Power Equipment & Turf Sales
641 W. Main Street • Sun Prairie, WI 53590
(608) 837-5111 • (608) 257-7815
Toll Free 1-800-279-1422



RYAN

Driven to be the best.



THANKS and FAREWELL

United States Golf Association
Great Lakes Region
11431 North Port Washington Road Suite 203 Mequon, WI 53092
414/241-8742 Fax 414/241-0974

Green Section



Mr. Mike Semler, President
Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association
Bishops Woods
333 Bishops Way
Brookfield, WI 53005

Dear Mike,

Please convey my sincere appreciation to the Association membership for their generous gift of golf paraphernalia to be purchased with the certificate presented during the Symposium. The clubs will help me retain my habit of digging up turf on golf courses, but using new and improved tools.


While the clubs will be physical reminders of the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association, my most vivid memories will be of the individuals, present and past, who have made your organization what it is today. The hospitality shown by WGCSA members when Lois and I came here in 1960 helped us feel at home almost immediately. This same hospitality, given to other professionals in golf turf on their arrival, is an outstanding characteristic of your organization. It has provided the fresh air missing from many other associations.

I apologize for being incapable of properly expressing my thanks to the audience at the Symposium, but I was simply overwhelmed with emotion. The same thing happened at the presentation of your Distinguished Service Award in 1990, for which I am also embarrassed.

I also regret my inability to give credit where it is due - to Lois, without whom none of this could have happened.

Our thoughts will always be with you all.

Sincerely,


James M. Latham



The Latest in Pathology Research Around the Country

By Dr. Julie Meyer

Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

At the national plant pathology meetings this year, there was more attendance and participation in the sessions on turf than ever before. Even though there are not as many turf pathologists as agricultural pathologists in the U.S., I think interest in this area is growing. And the quality of the research work currently in progress around the country is excellent. Here are results from recent research reported at the meetings this year.

- From Rutgers University, D.C. Thompson and associates report successful suppression of summer patch disease (caused by the fungus *Magnaporthe poae*) with fertility management. The group looked at the impact of nitrogen (N) source, timing and rate on the disease and found that ammonium N provided the greatest amount of suppression, followed by sulfur-coated urea and ureaform. Urea and methylene urea resulted in intermediate level of disease, and nitrate N resulted in the highest disease severity. The effect of the nitrogen source was probably due to how it affected soil pH. If the soil pH was decreased to 6.0 or below, little disease was observed. Evidently the pathogen is affected directly, because it was difficult to detect it after 3 years of ammonium N application. I believe these studies have direct application to our problems with take-all patch on creeping bentgrass. Wayne Kussow and I have started a project to look at how different fertilizers affect soil pH and other soil and plant properties, and how this affects diseases such as take-all patch.

- At the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, turf pathologists headed by L.J. Giesler looked at how brown patch disease (caused by the fungus *Rhizoctonia solani*) spread in turf planted at different seeding densities. They thought the environment around turf

canopies of different densities would be different, and some would be better for brown patch development than other environments. So they measured canopy temperatures, leaf wetness duration, relative humidity and canopy air temperature. Interestingly, the environment was very similar, but brown patch was still much worse in turf planted at high densities than low densities (this particular study was on tall fescue). The researchers concluded that the fungus can simply grow more easily from blade to blade at high seeding densities. At the O.J. Noer facility, we have observed much more severe dollar spot at high bentgrass seedling densities. It's becoming clear that seeding density can play a role in future disease problems. Now we are learning that this may be because the fungi have an easier time growing from leaf to leaf in high density plantings. I suspect that plants are also less vigorous at high seeding densities, and are less able to resist pathogen entry.

- Also from Rutgers, K.A. Plumley and B.B. Clarke looked the temperature and moisture preferences of three patch fungi *Gaeumannomyces incrustans* (a take-all pathogen), *Leptosphaeria korrae* (necrotic ring spot pathogen) and *Magnaporthe poae*, which causes summer patch. We know little about when and how these troublesome pathogens grow in nature. They found that *G. incrustans* and *M. poae* prefer somewhat warmer temperatures around 85F, while the optimal temperature for the necrotic ring spot fungus was 75F. At optimal temperatures, all the fungi could grow under very dry conditions. If temperatures were much warmer or much cooler than their optimal temperature, the fungi stopped growing at about -20 bars, which is still much drier than plants would tolerate. Thus it looks like these fungi can continue to grow in very dry soil. Maybe this explains why

we see symptoms of patch diseases during drought episodes, when the plants are under moisture stress, but the fungi still grow.

- Lee Burpee, at the University of Georgia, and his student A.H. Icard evaluated the response of 15 cultivars of creeping bentgrass to *Pythium* foliar blight (also called greasy spot) in 1993. In 1992 they evaluated 18 cultivars. In 1992, they found that Putter, Cobra, Cobra Late, Penneagle, Emerald, Providence and National were the most resistant cultivars, and Penncross was the most susceptible. In 1993, differences among the cultivars were not visually detectable. However, when they used a remote sensing technique that picked up damaged tissue not visible to the eye, they observed that Providence, Penneagle, Putter, Emerald, Syn-1, Syn-3, Forbes 89-12, SR 1020, JH Bent, and Cobra were less diseased than Penncross, Pennlinks, Cobra Early, Cobra Late, Syn-4 and National.

Dr. Burpee will be a featured speaker at the 1995 Turfgrass and Greenscape EXPO this year on January 3 and 4, 1995. See you there for much more of the latest in turfgrass research! 🏆

REINDERS 12th TURF CONFERENCE

Waukesha Expo Center
Waukesha, Wisconsin

MARCH 15 & 16, 1995

Contact Ed Devinger for Details



Closing the Golf Course on Mondays

By Mark Kienert

This past summer, the Bull's Eye Country Club's Board of Directors passed a resolution that in effect closed the golf course on Mondays for maintenance. The course would be closed each Monday during the golf season until 2:30 PM when it would be open once again for regular play. The golf course would also open earlier in the day to facilitate any dates sold for golf outings but would remain closed up until the time golf was scheduled to play.

This is not new to the golfing world by any means. I've worked at two exclusive Milwaukee area country clubs that were closed on Mondays, both the clubhouse and the course. However, there was constant pressure to open the course at 1 P.M. or earlier.

What precipitated this measure was a new reciprocal agreement the Bull's Eye Country Club made with another "sister" country club in the area that is closed for maintenance on an every other Monday schedule during the golfing season. Also, when reviewing our play, we discovered that our golf course was being used heavily on Mondays by the members of yet another country club in our area that had virtually every Monday sold out for golf outings and as such, was not available for our members to play. Using this issue as a spring board and also equipped with a the very sensitive topic of pesticide labels that prohibit the reentry of workers into a field (greens, tees, fairways, or roughs) sprayed with a product for a minimum of 12 hours after drying, I sought to protect my resume by approaching the board with a proposal that would close the course on Mondays for maintenance. The vote, you will be surprised to learn, was unanimous and without much discussion.

I felt at the time that any pesticide issue brought to the forefront could quite possibly create a backlash of sorts and eliminate the use of those products on the golf course. This was a risk I was willing to take. I've always sought to use the safest of products and always use more protective gear than the label

requires to make the application. We've sought to educate our crew members and applicators. However I've sensed a change in attitude of the golfer when they see our men driving about the golf course in their protective "moon suits." My concern was not to use any "chemical scare tactic", but to educate the Board members of the labeling changes that have taken place for many products during the re-registration process required by the EPA.

Those small changes will lead to only stricter label regulations in the future. It seems to me that many of the pesticide labeling changes use wording that protect the manufacturer. I anticipate the day that state legislation will mandate how and when pesticides are applied to the golf course. Only with the cooperation between those of us who carry out the necessary maintenance practices on the golf courses and those who play the game will the tradition well groomed golf courses carry on into the next century. Some form of compromise will have to be established in the marketplace, or we will lose one of our most valuable tools. You can say goodbye to the 10 feet stimpmeter readings. One form of compromise is closing the course for a period at least long enough to safely make applications and to allow products to dry and become "stay fast" before customers arrive. We also need products that can be sprayed with less water for faster drying and not produce drift. What we don't need are more products that use distilled petroleum products of an aromatic nature that draw attention to the fact that we were out spraying earlier in the day.

I reported back to the Board that this was the greatest piece of legislation ever passed at this country club. It was quite simply like a breath of fresh air that swept across the golf course, for the crew and for myself. "What an opportunity," I remember thinking to myself. The benefits were enormous and immediate as I took full advantage of the closed setting to maintain the course. Fungicide applications, top-dressing programs, fertilization pro-

grams and cultural programs could now be completed without the operator having to tip toe his way through golfers. I very much enjoyed the ability to complete fairway spraying on a single day. We found we could now take our time to complete the assignments. The crew did a better job of completing their assignments as they were able to work without having to pull back to let golfers through. I saw a definite improvement in the quality of work as employees took their time. No more short cuts. Some assignments that took eight or nine hours now took six. We found that we could afford to take the time to make equipment repairs.

We discovered that our play on Mondays did not fall off that much. Players that normally played on Mondays now played later in the day. The only pressure of playing came at the end of the year when the days became shorter. It was pointed out that the shorter day also affected the amount of work we were able to do. I also found that programs that had been postponed could now be tackled. Noisy, labor intensive work that would have affected play to some degree was accomplished and finished before any

 AgrEvo™

ProStar™

ProStar, a new chemistry for the control of:

Fairy Ring	Brown Patch
Pink Patch	Southern Blight
Red Thread	Gray Snow Mold
Yellow Patch	Large Brown Patch

Distributed by:

 **SPRING VALLEY**®
Turf Products

1-800-635-2123

golfers arrived on the course. I can recall the time that during a foursome of ladies were involved in a match play event. Earlier in the day, a topdressing application associated with a spiking and overseeding had been made. Sometimes we use hand water hoses to "rinse" the topdressing and seed down into the turf. The quick sweep of water to the putting surface knocks the sand particles down into the mat to reduce the potential of premature bed-knife wear. On this day, I happened to arrive at the green to help remove the hose from play. I noticed sand debris left behind by the hose. The sand formed a long ridge as the hose was pulled along the flag pole. When I discussed this with my employee he told me he was trying to stay ahead of this group of better players, but they were too fast for him and he couldn't keep pace. As we watched, one of the players was the last to putt for her side. Wouldn't you know it—her ball struck this small ridge and proceeded to follow it all the way into the cup. The next lady to putt is one of the nicest people on the face of this earth. To make a long story short, her putt was at a cross angle but outside of this line of sand. Her putt struck this sand and turned away from the hole, stopping on the lip just to the right. This putt would have tied the hole. She didn't say a word. She didn't have to. I was already sick inside myself for the unfair influence caused by our maintenance. As the USGA's Jim Latham would later say at the Symposium, the "Rub of the Green" is seldom used by golfers today and maybe it should become a phrase that is used far more frequently. Well this "rub" was caused by the crew and I didn't like the affect it had on play. Our impact to those matches has all but been eliminated as a result of the course being closed.

We have discovered that we are now in a position to groom the course during the remainder of the week. In the past, parts of other days were used to finish up cultural programs. Time was always lost when reorganizing the crew for secondary work. Some of the work that we were able to complete just for fairways now comes very close to matching that found on greens. Aerification of fairways could be done during a period of time that would normally be considered off limits. Also our clean up was faster as we were able to use the warmer sun found in August.

I cannot say enough about the members of the Bull's Eye Country Club Board for their wisdom in placing a high priority on maintenance. A healthier turf-

grass plant will be there for all members to enjoy and that is what this game is all about. It has been my experience in this industry to note that clubs will compare themselves to others in the area or districts in which they are members. If this only serves as a model for other superintendents to use as a means of improving golf course conditions, please use it. As a superintendent I know how frustrating it can be trying to establish a sound maintenance program only to have to delay projects as a result of play considerations to that of another day. Sometime the only way I was able to do

things was to be callous and go ahead and do it. Not any more.

Monday golf course closing is good for the game of golf. It used to be that way in the past. What a great tonic for the attitude. We can now just focus on the task at hand and to do the best job possible. No longer do I have to sweat out the fact that I was about to interfere with someone's match or the condition of the course during maintenance procedures that would cause someone to ask for their green fees money back. We are doing the same work as in the past, the golfer can hardly tell it. ♣

When It Comes to Turf Management ...

NOBODY KNOWS
LIKE YOUR
WILBUR-ELLIS PRO



Your one-stop shop for all turf management needs. Ask about our complete line of chemicals, fertilizers and seed.

Wilbur-Ellis...dedicated to quality, customer service and environmental stewardship.

Contact Ed Witkowski at

(414) 534-3334 or the 800 number nearest you:

IL 800-747-7400

WI 800-728-1090



®,™ registered or applied for Wilbur-Ellis Company. ©1993 WECO



Vavrek Assumes More Responsibility As Regions Change

United States Golf Association

Great Lakes Region
11431 North Port Washington Road Suite 203 Mequon, WI 53092
414/241-8742 Fax 414/241-0974

Green Section

November 18, 1994



Mr. Monroe Miller
Blackhawk Country Club
P.O. Box 5129
Madison, WI 53705

Dear Monroe:

During its 75 years of service to golf, the Green Section has undergone several changes in order to better serve those charged with managing the turf on which the game is played. The evolution will continue in 1995 with a rearrangement of Turf Advisory Service Regions and personnel.

The Great Lakes Region will become the North Central Region which includes Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas and Montana. Agronomist Bob Vavrek will continue to serve subscribers in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas and Montana from our Mequon, Wisconsin office. Bob Brame will become the Regional Director, with an office in the Cincinnati area and will visit subscribers in Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky.

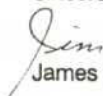
Illinois and Iowa will become parts of the Mid-Continent Region, served by Paul Vermeulen from an office located somewhere between Chicago and St. Louis. Regional Director Jim Moore maintains an office in Waco, Texas.

Bob Vavrek joined the Great Lakes staff in 1990 and is now well known throughout the Region through his Turf Advisory Service visits, his participation in Turf Conferences and local GCSA meetings and his contributions to Newsletters and National-level publications. His expertise and insight in golf turf management problems have earned the respect of superintendents with whom he has worked.

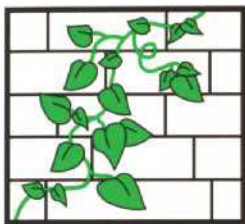
The Lathams are retiring to Texas, where we hope to look at golf from the players' side again, taking divots rather than core samples. I will miss our tours around your course and our conversations at your annual conference and elsewhere. As a parting request, I hope that you will offer Bob Vavrek the same hospitality that you have given other Green Section agronomists in the past.

Thank you for an interesting and informative decade of invaluable experiences.

Sincerely,


James M. Latham





GAINING GREEN SPEED THE EASY WAY

By Darin W. Lickfeldt
Department of Horticulture
University of Wisconsin-Madison

As many of you are well aware, the only thing golfers use to measure a golf course's quality is the speed of the greens. I have talked with many golf course superintendents who wish the stimpmeter had never been invented because it does not tell us much about the green's quality. This device is very useful for making sure greens are up to playing standards for tournaments, but it is used too often. Consequently, many superintendents have lost their reputations and their jobs trying to get faster green speeds by lowering mowing heights, starving the turf for nitrogen and drying out the surface. Well, there is a much safer way of achieving the same goal: rolling.

Recently, at the annual conference of the American Society of Agronomy, turfgrass researchers from all over the United States presented their research results. Thanks to G.W. Hamilton at the Pennsylvania State University and C.E. Hartwiger at North Carolina State University, we have data to report on greens rolling. Greens rolling has been practiced for 80 years on some courses so it is not a new concept, but commercially available rolling equipment is still revolutionary.

Some of the most obvious questions asked regarding rolling are: 1) What effect does rolling have on surface compaction? 2) Will there be a decrease in infiltration rates? 3) Do sand-based greens behave differently than native soils? and 4) Are there any decreases in turf quality?

Rolling has been scrutinized by many scientists since the rollers look quite heavy but they actually apply only 9-10 pounds per square inch. Still, studies indicate rolling a putting green more than once a week will lead to poor stand quality, increased bulk density and decreased infiltration. When I say rolled once a week this actually means two passes over the same turf (once in one direction and then once in the opposite direction as the roller moves back and forth over the green).

When greens are rolled once a week there is a gain of 10-15 inches in stimpmeter readings for 48 hours. This increase in speed will last one day longer on well drained high-sand root zones in comparison to native loamy soils, even though there is no difference in compaction. While rolling once a week will not decrease water infiltration rate, soil compaction will not increase and there will be no change in root mass.

Precautions and Considerations

- 1) There is always some wear that occurs on the edge of the green due to skidding of the roller when it changes directions, but this can be minimized as operator skills improve.
- 2) Rolling more than once a week will lead to turf damage and increased green speed, but the increase in speed will still only last 48 hours.
- 3) If rolling is used when the soil is wet, compaction will occur.
- 4) Since we do not mow greens when they are under stress, you should not roll a green at such times either.
- 5) Rolling may decrease the number of topdressings you need to apply.
- 6) Green speed can be maintained while maintaining adequate N fertility.
- 7) Greens may be more consistent throughout the course.
- 8) Ball mark damage may be reduced as the surface is made more firm.
- 9) Double cutting before important events may not be necessary.

There may be added labor costs with the use of rollers unless rolling allows you to skip a few mowings in which case it may be beneficial agronomically. Obviously higher mowing heights improve turf quality by increasing the leaf surface area. Consequently, more surface area equals more photosynthe-

sis which equals more sugar production and more growth. Many of us have lost sight of the importance of good, strong growth of the turfgrass plant.

Remember turfgrasses evolved in areas where there was a lot of heavy grazing, and, in order to survive, the plants had to recover quickly. We are doing the same thing when we mow but we have taken this to the extreme by mowing at very low heights and nearly everyday. So anytime you are given the opportunity to raise mowing heights, do it.

In conclusion, we have very few long-term studies investigating the effects of rolling, but rolling should not be looked at as a long-term strategy for improving a putting surface. Remember the 10% increase in speed will only last about 48 hours so this method should only be used when speed is an issue in the short-term. If this is everyday on your course, you will have to use rolling with caution. The largest problem other courses are going to face is convincing greens committees that the benefits of a roller is worth the cost. Good Luck! 🍀

roots inc.

A Division of LISA Products Corp.

*The leading iron biostimulant
for the golf course industry.*

**iron
roots**

Distributed by:



SPRING VALLEY®
Turf Products

1-800-635-2123



The Surrounds

By Wayne G. Horman



What a wonderful fall to get work done on the golf course. The lack of cold weather and snow in most of the state provided ideal conditions to complete fall projects.

The courses that were installing new irrigation systems, like North Shore GC, Monroe CC and Bull's Eye CC, had perfect conditions to get the job completed.

New construction was still busy this fall. Whispering Springs GC in Fond du Lac started a new nine. Bob Lohman designed and is building this public golf course.

Bristlecone Pines GC in Hartland is an 18 hole public golf course, designed by Scott Miller out of Phoenix. This construction project started earlier this fall, and is being built by Wadsworth Construction.

The new 18 hole golf course being built by Washington county is designed by Arthur Hills from Toledo. This course is projected to begin construction this spring by Landscapes Unlimited from Lincoln.

Just in case you missed the rest of this issue, Tom Schwab has left Monroe CC to take over the manager position at the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility. This is a perfect fit for everyone involved and Schwab, a Verona resident, now has only a couple of miles to commute to work.

On the business end of the turf industry, the 1995 season will bring some new products, new services offered and a name change.

Almost all of the vendors in the state offer a new fertilizer analysis every year. However, a

new insecticide will be available in the state in 1995 for grubs and other insects. Merit WSP has been heavily promoted by MILES, Inc., and distributed by a number of vendors in Wisconsin.

Superintendents will also see some new service changes from their distributors in 1995. The bulk tenders have been available for a number of years. However, now more than ever, there is a greater demand for not handling bags for larger turf areas. Slingbins or bulk bags that handle 700 to 1000 pounds of fertilizer will be more readily available for superintendents. Also, the 1995 season will see more custom bulk applications being made available.

MILES, Inc. is changing its name as of April 1st. Miles is and always has been owned by BAYER AG of Germany. It will become known as BAYER in the U.S.

Only one birth announcement to make from the end of 1994. Daphne Marquardt, wife of Kendall (Lake Wisconsin CC), gave birth to their fourth child, Noah Lee, on October 9th.

The Toro Company holds a national support network seminar every year. This past December Jerry Kershasky (Westmoor CC) and his assistant Mick Mahr spent a week in Abilene, Texas. The program is offered to golf courses that have a Toro Network 8000 system.

The Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association held its 67th annual Turf Conference in the Twin Cities during December. A number of superintendents from the northwestern portion of Wisconsin

make the short trip. This year Randy Witt (Oneida Golf and Riding Club) made the trip to speak on successful turf maintenance practices for the winter.

The North Central Turfgrass Expo was held the last week of November at the Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, Illinois. It appears that fewer and fewer Wisconsin golf course superintendents are making the trip across the border. Doug DeVries (Reid Municipal GC) and Dan Williams (Riverview CC) were the only Wisconsin GCSA members to make the trip this year.

The football bowl season is upon us, and once again the Badgers are off to a warm destination. A few superintendents from Wisconsin are going to make the trip to Tampa, Florida for the Hall of Fame Bowl. Monroe, Cheryl and Christie Miller will make the trip after missing the Rose Bowl last year. The entire Mark Kienert family will make it two years in a row.

I haven't heard if any of the Penn State grads from Wisconsin are making the Rose Bowl trip to Pasadena.

Only a few successful deer hunting stories have come across my desk after the season ended. Gary Tanko (SentryWorld GC) brought home a 9 point buck while bow hunting in the Arcadia, Wisconsin area. I didn't get a chance to see his trophy, but the last I heard he still had it on top of his golf car!

The National isn't far off, and a trip to San Francisco sounds a lot warmer than Dallas. I look forward to seeing a huge contingent from Wisconsin out in California. Happy New Year to all!! 