



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!! 