

one thing that never came up. I am amused though that the *Softspike* people are never at a loss for an answer. **Who's** banning metal? "Why just about everyone, listen to this impressive list. Not one club that has banned metal has ever gone back to allowing metal." **Any lawsuits?** "None that we know of." **What** about the negative University research that's recently surfaced? "Flawed. In one study it wasn't even our spike. In another case we're getting bad ink from someone who requested funds for a study and we turned him down."

A Softspike beef. A phone call to *Softspikes* can be an adventure. Blame it on growing pains. I have three different toll free numbers in two different cities, Indianapolis and Rockville, MD, to call to place orders. The list of scratched-off names on the business card in my file reads Dan, David, Tim and John. The *Softspike* people must be just as confused with me. How else could you explain that my best buddy on the phone, who seems to know that "I'm the man", would turn around and call the locker room guy and sell him 5,000 spikes that we just didn't need going into winter.

It's a shame that golf's touring professionals don't share in the enthusiasm. All of golf follows their lead. If, one Sunday, tour players showed up wearing red hats, come Monday the red hats would be flying off golf shop racks.

Touring pros continue to resist, refusing to use softspikes. While readily admitting to have never tried them, pros competing in this year's Greater Milwaukee Open were adamant against their use on the tour. According to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, tour regular Jim Galagher Jr. doesn't think you'll ever see them on tour. Galagher was quoted as saying, "I've never tried them. I think they need to do a little more technology on them." Galagher claims tour players have swings that require more traction. Galagher did agree with a ban on metal spikes for the amateurs during Wednesday ProAms to ensure smoother greens for tournament play.

The prevailing attitude toward softspikes on the PGA Tour is probably best exemplified by Tom Watson, the 1992 recipient of GCSAA's Old Tom Morris Award (This award was given before the previously mentioned A.S.S. era). Mr. Watson recently told a reporter of softspikes, "I think they're

dangerous and people shouldn't wear them." One would think that "Yippee Tom" with all of his putting problems would welcome any help he could get on those short ones.

Two-time U.S. Open winner Andy North wears softspikes but that is discredited in that he is friends with Rob O'Loughlin, the previously mentioned owner of the company. Ed Terasa, unquestionably the best player among Wisconsin Club Pros, won the 1995 Wisconsin State Open wearing them.

Most golf is not played as part of a PGA Tour Event. Clubs around the country have recognized the benefits and have taken to banning metal. As mentioned, a most impressive list is just a phone call away. Just be sure to hang up before you own the company! The list of Wisconsin clubs banning metal is equally as impressive. It contains traditional Milwaukee C.C. and Brynwood. Top-notch brand new facilities banning metal include Green Bay C.C., The Bog, and Bishops Bay. Count Blackwolf Run and Sentry World into the group for 1996.

Many clubs have taken a wait and see attitude, strongly endorsing the voluntary use of softspikes. Numerous courses have already tried, or have scheduled for 1996, spikeless events or weekends. I personally did a spikeless 260 player member/guest last summer. The results were outstanding with only one player asking for his metal spikes back. Opponents became proponents.

Gene Haas, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Golf Association, sees golfers as having a pair of both spiked and spikeless shoes in their arsenal. Haas said, "Absolutely without a doubt green surfaces are better without metal spikes." He questioned the present technology, citing his recent attendance at a conference of Golf Administrators where other exciting alternatives entering the market were shown.

Last year's State Amateur Championship held at Milwaukee Country Club, a course which has banned metal spikes, was competed with metal spikes allowed. This was after discussions between the WSGA and the Milwaukee C.C. Board of Directors concluded that the State Amateur was essentially a closed tournament and it was therefore a WSGA decision. WSGA wisely declined the banning of metal spikes and at any of their future events the

banning of metal spikes will be dictated by the host club.

Where does GCSAA stand on softspikes? Switzerland. Politically correct and neutral. GCSAA, plain and simple, does not endorse products or their use.

The 1996 GCSAA Golf Championship, presented in partnership with The Toro Company, is offering a sensational tee prize package that includes a pair of Foot-Joys. The golf shoes will be equipped with the standard metal spikes. According to GCSAA staff member, Pam Owens, alternative spikes will be made available, free of charge, and assistance will be given by GCSAA staff. GCSAA Director and Tournament Vice Chairman, Tommy Witt said, "It is the logical thing to have softspikes available."

GCSAA President Gary Grigg gave me a turf lesson when I discussed softspikes with him. "Spike marks are a bentgrass issue; Bermuda greens don't spike up," according to Grigg. Witt agreed with Grigg, adding "Bermuda grass in not as low cut and is not as succulent."

Where are we headed? Golfers are an odd bunch, willing to lay down \$300 plus for the latest in golf club technology, a super kryptonite graphite bubble shafted driver that might improve driving distance by 3 or 4 yards on the 12 holes per round one might use a driver. They cringe at the thought of replacing their beloved metal spikes when there is no doubt they improve green surfaces, where 75% of the game is played. It's not a cost issue. Propose purchasing a brand new piece of maintenance equipment that will eliminate spikes marks and see how fast you get approval.

Metal spikes are doomed to be part of golf's history. Clear a spot for them in Far Hills, NJ.

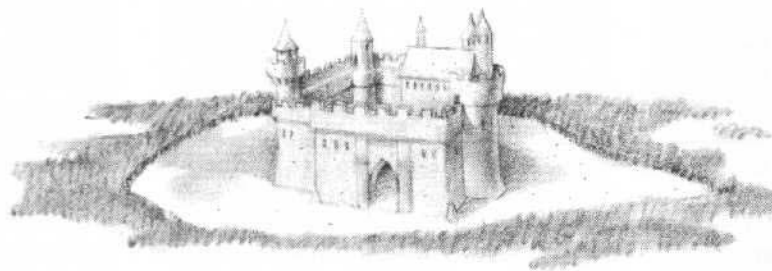
Softspikes will be pressured by a competitive market to continue to improve its product and the way it does business. They do have a leg-up in that their product has a name/product identity not unlike a bandage is a "Bandaide" and a disposable tissue is a "Kleenex". By the way, is softspike one word or two, and should it be capitalized?

There will be numerous others to enter the market and shoe companies will develop green user friendly shoe styles. Any way you look at it, golf greens will be better for it! 🏌️

There Are A Few Things The Sand Pro Can't Do

What the Sand Pro 5000 can do is increase bunker playability regardless

of design or sand type. With the most attachments on the market, and adjustable down-pressure, it lets you really fine-tune your bunkers. Double air filtration and enclosed hydraulic



drive keeps the grit out while separate fans for hydraulic and

engine cooling prevent overheating.

And the 16 H. P. twin cylinder engine offers 3WD and optional on-demand 2WD.

For operator comfort and control Toro included a sound treatment package. And the rear mounted engine makes the operator feel like he's sitting on the machine, not straddling it.

It all adds' up to better looking, better playing bunkers. No, the Sand Pro can't build castles, but it sure makes its home in the sand.

Sand Pro® 5000



Helping you put quality into play.™

Reinders
ELM GROVE APPLETON MADISON

TURF EQUIPMENT

13400 WATERTOWN PLANK ROAD, ELM GROVE WI 53122-0825

PHONES: LOCAL (414) 786-3301

800 782-3300

Branch Offices Appleton (414) 788-0200

Madison (608) 223-0200



Steve Barritt — *He Was The Very Best*

By Monroe S. Miller

There was substantial bad news around late last season for Wisconsin golf course superintendents. Some of our colleagues were forced into job changes, winter—snow, really—came before many were ready, and the GCSAA started to try and force some very unfair changes on state chapters. All of this came at the end of a brutal summer.

For WGCSA members in our past of the state there was an additional piece of news we didn't want to hear. Steve Barritt, who traversed every backroad and highway in southcentral and southwestern Wisconsin representing Toro and Reinders Bros., bought a company and went to work for himself. Everybody I know was happy for him and knew he would succeed. But, to a person, there was

also an empty feeling inside and the thought "boy, am I going to miss that guy."

Steve came as close as anyone could to being the prototype salesman. Everybody looked forward to his visits. He was always cheerful whenever he stopped. And he stopped when he either had business to do or an appointment to keep. He was, after all, a businessman and not a social butterfly. Gossip? He didn't deal in it.

Barritt was as knowledgeable about his product line as anyone who has ever called on me. He had a practical approach to his job that was totally refreshing. He knew the strengths of what he sold, but he also measured weaknesses and shortcomings and had the wisdom to include the cus-

tomers' needs in his work. That's why we trusted him so much. He's as honest as they come.

A good salesman can be very helpful with problem solving on the golf course and in the shop. Steve was a lot like a travelling extension agent. And more than a few times he would pull his coveralls out from behind his truck seat and go to work helping us with a repair to a piece of equipment he had sold us. No wonder we are going to miss him.

The temptation is to wish him good luck, but the simple fact is he doesn't need luck. His smarts, his savvy, his work ethic, his experience and his determination guarantee he will be successful.

So he leaves a big hole in our business, and Ed Devinger has the task of trying to replace him. It will be a nearly impossible task for Ed. Steve's legacy is he showed his customers how his job should be done.

The rest of us should be so lucky when we depart our business. But then, Barritt is one of a kind. 🍷

Season Finale at Hawthorn Hills

By David Brandenburg

Forty-three WGCSA members participated at our last summer meeting on October 2nd at Hawthorn Hills in Saukville. Our host Bill Knight supplied us with one of the few perfect fall days, as it was 65° and sunny.

Our luncheon speaker was Michelle Cody of CRB Financial Services and she spoke about ideas on investing for retirement. She discussed that when we retire at least 55 % of our income will need to come from our personal savings or investments. Also most people raise their standard of living in retirement because they have more time for trips or going out to eat so even more money is needed. Mrs. Cody covered some different investment ideas such as savings accounts, stocks, bonds, and IRA's, along with the rate of return for each. Of course the higher the possible rate of

return the greater the risk when you get into the stock market or other high end investments. The most important point was start investing now, because the longer you wait, or closer to retirement you become, the more you need to save per year.

After lunch we headed out to the golf course to wager some high risk investments of our own. Hawthorn Hills was in excellent condition and showed no sign of wear from the many rounds they host in a season. Overall the layout was great and the course was very enjoyable to play with a variety of rolling holes. The near perfect tees had been rebuilt a few years ago and looked super. Our thanks to Bill Knight and the Hawthorn Hills staff for their hospitality and to all our host clubs throughout the year. 🍷



Forty Years of Turfgrass Research, Teaching and Extension !

By Dr. Frank S. Rossi
Department of Horticulture
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Perspective

As a young scientist with an interest in history, I attended the 1995 American Society of Agronomy (ASA) meetings in St. Louis, MO with unusual excitement. This year marked the 40th anniversary of the Turfgrass Division of the Society. The uniqueness of this event is that normally at the ASA meetings we present and discuss current research. I often return feeling energized to continue the pursuit of new knowledge to develop solutions to problems faced by the turf manager in Wisconsin. The 40th anniversary celebration gave us a chance to reflect on the knowledge and practices accumulated to date and reflect on where we are heading.

The resident historian for the turfgrass division is Dr. Jim Beard. Dr. Beard represents a key figure in the progress of turfgrass as an academic discipline. The turfgrass industry existed in full force before formal turfgrass research programs were a major contributor. Yet, it wasn't until the publication of Beard's "Turfgrass: Science

and Culture" that the discipline was viewed as science as well as art. The celebration included an afternoon symposium, followed by an informal reception, then concluded with a discussion lead by Dr. Beard. The discussion consisted of Dr. Beard probing the history of the turfgrass industry and the academy of turfgrass science.

I thoroughly enjoyed the affair, primarily because I feel strongly that to truly make progress, we must first look back over the ground we have traveled. As I gaze this month, I'll give a short review of the 40th anniversary celebration followed by some of the interesting research papers that were presented.

The Celebration Symposium

Throughout the year, each member of the turfgrass division received surveys from individuals responsible for summarizing the 40 years of activity in research teaching and extension. In most cases, the presenters simply reported on how many years were spent conducting various turfgrass research projects, teaching programs and extension activities. In addition, Dr. Beard presented a talk on the early years.

The Wisconsin connection in the early years was mentioned regularly. The first comprehensive publication on

the nature and control of turfgrass diseases from the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Department of Plant Pathology scientists Drs. Monteith and Dahl. The Jacobsen Company, Milorganite, and of course O.J. Noer were prominent in the discussions. A little trivia fact I learned was that the company name for Toro was derived from "two row". The Toro company manufactured the first two row tractor.

The symposium concluded with a flamboyant computerized presentation from Dr. Al Turgeon. In addition to being the moderator for the symposium, Al was responsible for outlining a "Vision for the Future". I've known Al since I was a teenager and I can tell you honestly, he was in rare form. He challenged some of our current ways of doing things (he called them paradigms). Do we need turf conferences or can't we use the internet to disseminate information in the future? Do we need to sit in a classroom at a college or will the college come to us via satellite or fiber optic interactive video technology?

A Chat with Jim Latham

With any conference I attend, I usually gather as much information from the informal chats I have with my colleagues as I do sitting in the formal program. This year my favorite chat

Steuer
TURF FARM

Growers of
'Quality'
Bluegrass

Mineral & Peat

Pickup or Delivery
414-425-7767

NATURAL ATHLETIC TURF INC.

GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION & IMPROVEMENTS

*Specializing in Greens - Tees - Bunkers - Fairway
Construction - Feature Shaping - Drainage Systems*

By Contract or "T & M" basis. Also Astroturf Top Dressing drag mats

ROY G. ZEHREN • 11040 N. Buntrock Ave.,
Mequon, Wisconsin 53092 • (414) 242-5740

was with our very own James Maston Latham. We were wandering into the reception area and began a discussion on his latest project, the history of the Green Section.

With great fervor Jim described the "soap opera" like situations that marked the early years of the Green Section as they went through reorganization under various leaders. Back then, as is true today, the Green Section had the regular duty of justifying their existence. Sometimes, it appeared as though it would be disbanded.

Chatting with Jim is like traveling back in time to the days of Noer, Wilson, and Mascaro. Jim refers to these men when you ask him about a current turf problem or what his opinion is on something. He'll say, "I remember when O.J. Noer used to say.....".

The Research

This year there were over 120 research papers presented. Interestingly, in 1955, the first year of the turfgrass division with Dr. Jim Watson as chair, there were 15 papers. As I look over my report from last year's meeting, I would have to say that in comparison the research presented this year was of higher quality.

Weeds

Two studies reported used weed biology to predict optimum timing of herbicide applications. The first was a project from Purdue University, that included some data that we collected in Wisconsin. The researchers have been investigating the use of growing degree days (GDD) as a way to schedule spring applications of herbicides for dandelion control. The results indicated that ester formulations of 2,4-D could be sprayed earlier in the spring (approximately 100 base 50 growing degree days) for effective control than the amine formulations that worked best after 225 GDD. The work was conducted in Indiana, Kentucky and Wisconsin to verify the model. Of course, by the time we start spraying in the spring, the treatments are all applied in Kentucky.

The second study involved developing a model for predicting crabgrass germination based on soil temperature. Dr. Michael Fidanza of Agr-Evo conducted the work under the tutelage of Dr. Pete Dernoeden. Last year I reported his work on predicting brown patch severity based on modeling. The research on crabgrass was conducted over a three year period and it was shown that the germination first occurred when soil temperatures were between 50° and 55°F for seven days

and the major flush of germination occurred between 66° and 68°F. These events coincided with between 300 and 600 base 54 GDD.

While this may not seem vital to the golf course superintendent in Wisconsin, it demonstrates the new direction pest management research is heading, i.e. trying to understand more fully the biological components of pest development that will allow for altered management practices or alternative to chemical controls.

Diseases

Several papers were presented in the disease area—a couple on dollar spot and one on the Alliette + Fore combination. The dollar spot work was conducted at University of Kentucky(UK) and the other at Ohio State University (OSU). The UK research evaluated the recovery potential of bentgrass infected with dollar spot. They determined that no creeping bentgrass cultivars could both resist infection or recover completely without fungicides over a three year period. In speaking with the researcher after the talk, he mentioned the devastating effect dollar spot has on Crenshaw creeping bentgrass, similar to what we observe in our plots at the Noer Facility.

(Continued on page 27)



NOW YOU HAVE A CHOICE!



OR



40 OF THESE

2 OF THESE

Milorganite Is Now Available In 1000 lb. Mini-Bulk Bags!
Call Your Milorganite Distributor for Details.

SOLID AGRONOMY



MILORGANITE DIVISION • MMSD • 1101 NORTH MARKET STREET • MILWAUKEE, WI 53202 • 800-287-9645

(Continued from page 25)

The second dollar spot study, conducted at OSU, used ecological survey techniques to prove the existence of demethylation inhibitor (DMI) resistant dollar spot. The research utilized six golf courses. Three had used DMI fungicides regularly and reported reduced control, three others never used DMI fungicides. Simply, the course that used DMI fungicide required substantially higher rates to produce the same level of control achieved at the non-DMI courses. This study confirms that chronic use of DMI fungicides will lead to population shifts that favor dollar spot strains that are resistant.

The paper concerned with the Alliette + Fore combination was reported by researchers at North Carolina State University. The project intended to explain the "effectiveness" of the fungicide combination to control summer bentgrass decline by correlating it to a nutritional response to the elements that are present in the combination. They concluded, based on tissue testing, that the effect of the fungicides could be correlated to an increased phosphorus and manganese concentration in the tissue. In

other words, plots with high levels of P and Mn in their leaves had higher quality and supposedly less decline. I am still opposed in principle to this fungicide combination, primarily because I believe it masks problems that are cultural and not pathogenic. Furthermore, there has not been good evidence that the combination works substantially better than Fore applied alone. Finally, while many have reported improved quality with the combination, Dr. Kussow and Dr. Meyer's research on the nutritional aspects of disease management may serve to answer some of these questions for Wisconsin. Stay tuned.

Leaves

For all of us who deal with leaf management year in and year out, a five year study from Michigan State University provides some insight. The researchers mulched "ankle deep" maple and oak leaves into plots once per year for five years and found no detrimental effect on turf quality, thatch thickness, thatch organic content or on soil chemical tests. It can be concluded that mulching leaves through the turf canopy is a viable option for leaf management.

The UW-Madison Presence

Over my three years in Wisconsin, I have enjoyed many moments of joy for the program. A successful EXPO or Field Day always ranks at the top of my list. Still, one of my greatest thrills was seeing Dr. Kussow's student Chris Kerkman and later my student Emily Buelow presenting their research at the meeting. Also, Dr. Kussow and myself presented our own work.

This year seemed like a coming out party for the Noer Facility and for turfgrass research in Wisconsin. Our program is beginning to mature as grad students help us to investigate problems on a more basic level. The Noer Facility provides the springboard and environment for conducting the type of work that will continue to attract national funding and the brightest students into turf. As an industry you should be proud to have been the major reason this is happening. Share the research report with your clientele this year to tell them of the exciting things their dollars go to support and know that it is the shared commitment of everyone that makes our growth so exciting. 🌱

COLUMBIA ParCar

of WISCONSIN



- Gas & Electric Golf Cars & Utility Vehicles
- New, Used and Reconditioned
- Full Sales and Service
- Additional Cars for Special Events
- Lease Financing Available

"Eagle Sponsor
of the Golf
Course Owners
of Wisconsin."

NEW LOCATION:
3696 Burke Road • Madison, WI
(608) 249-6600

Golf Course Superintendents Address Golf Course Owners Convention

By David Brandenburg

On Wednesday, November 15, a panel of five superintendents addressed the Golf Course Owners of Wisconsin (GCOW) at their annual convention in Stevens Point. The main purpose of the panel was to discuss the superintendent's role and responsibilities at a daily fee or for profit golf club (for profit is criteria for a club joining the owners association). Speaking as superintendents were Al Brohman with Pinewood Country Club, near Minoquoia; David Brandenburg with Camelot Country Club, Lomira; Jake Renner with Trappers Turn Golf Club, Wisconsin Dells; Tom Johnson with New Richmond Golf Club, New Richmond; and Rod Johnson with Pine Hills Country Club, Sheboygan.

Each superintendent had twelve minutes to present his information, with a question and answer period after all five had spoken. Al Brohman went first and spoke about his operation at Pinewood Country Club where he is the owner/manager/superintendent.

Pinewood is a 18-hole course on a large piece of property with a super club. Al prefers to be his own superintendent because he feels he has a unique operation with a short season, and enjoys doing it himself. He also has had less than ideal results with superintendents when he managed a new construction in Illinois. Al's father built the course himself and opened for business in 1962 with a 3-gang mower being the main piece of equipment.

As time progressed Al became more involved in the operation and took over from his father while adding nine holes. Although the course has a automatic irrigation system, it has a very unique pump system, with 6 water sources and pumpstations. (four gas and two electric) For the most part Pinewood is a family run operation with Al's son and daughter-in-law becoming involved. He feels being his own superintendent is best for their operation.

David Brandenburg spoke on his responsibilities as a superintendent at a

daily fee operation where conditioning and profitability take a equal role. He covered a variety of responsibilities from fertilizing to purchasing and cart paths to hiring. Some of his main points were; it is a superintendents responsibility to not just use fertilizer, chemicals and water on a calender basis but to do so with proper timing and rates, along with having proper knowledge and understanding of plant and pest life cycles. This is not only better for the turf but avoids unnecessary applications that waste money or missed applications that result in turf damage.

He spoke about the administrative responsibilities he has that are becoming more important and time consuming, such as management of staff to get the work done efficiently; proper

budgeting to let the owner/ board know what to expect; and recordkeeping like chemical applications sheets, employee job sheets to track what's working and what isn't.

One of the superintendent's responsibilities that may be overlooked at some clubs is staying informed with current ideas or methods. This is done through the use of literature, association meetings and communication with other superintendents. In closing Dave said that communication between the superintendent and owner/board is the key to having the golf course maintained at the desired level. This communication is a two-way street with the superintendent giving the best possible advise for the operation and the owners expressing what end product they desire.



Jake Renner spoke on the Audobon Cooperative Sanctuary Program and what they have done at Trappers Turn Golf Club. After a brief history of the program he explained how to register and the work and benefits involved in doing so. Currently Jake has submitted his resource inventory sheets and is waiting to get his report back from New York so he can work toward certification. Jake also covered the sometimes not so pleasant topic of underground storage tanks or UST's. At Trappers Turn they had a leaking tank from the previous owners of the property, so he told about the excavation of the contaminated area and the continual testing that has gone on since then. Fortunately the tank remained the responsibility of the seller, so Trappers Turn did not have the expense of the cleanup to deal with.

Tom Johnson discussed the use of pesticides on golf courses and how,

with their proper use, they are not damaging the environment. He stressed all superintendents should be stewards of the environment and take responsibility for keeping it safe from missapplications or other damage. For most superintendents it was their love for the environment that got them involved in the golf business in the first place. He also went on to say it is our responsibility as individuals (superintendents or owners) to be proactive when it comes to getting the message out about pesticides, and part of that is being educated about the different products available and the research showing they are not ruining the environment.

Rod Johnson talked about WGCSA and the other associations superintendents belong to and why owners should support their staffs' involvement in them. One good point Rod brought up was that by attending the owners conference themselves, they

showed that they believed continuing education and association involvement was important. He covered our meetings and the educational benefits they offer along with the professional networking opportunities they produce. For those who do not have superintendents at their courses, he asked would the better conditions a professional superintendent could provide justify a higher green fee to pay his salary? Also he brought up that the superintendent is not just a money spender, but the profit center for the golf course.

After the speakers were finished they answered a hearty round of questions from the floor until time ran out. The panel was very well received by those in attendance and their participation in this conference should benefit both the GCOW and WGCSA along with improving the relationship between the two organizations. ♣

CANNON TURF SUPPLY, INC.

5104 Thatcher Rd.
Downers Grove, IL 60515

**Where Success Is Based on a
Commitment to People . . .**

**STOCKING A COMPLETE LINE OF PESTICIDES, FERTILIZERS,
GRASS SEED AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE TURF PROFESSIONAL**

Quality Products for the Turfgrass Professional

TOLL FREE 800-457-7322

VOICE MAIL PAGER 800-901-5489

CUBBY O'BRIEN

Symposium Better Than Many Expected

By Monroe S. Miller

Let's face it—golf course drainage isn't exactly one of the "sexy" issues in our business. Course superintendents talk a lot among themselves about green speed, computers, irrigation, weather, plant diseases, and soft-spikes a lot more than they do about drainage or engine oils or shelter houses.

But those same golf course managers will readily admit that few things are more important to golf course playing conditions than drainage. As the old saying goes, "the three most important things in golf course construction are 1) drainage, 2) drainage, and 3) drainage."

So most WGCSA members faced that reality and turned out to learn from a really good roster of speakers as much more about the subject as they could.

There might be only one good reason why I would have liked to attend Michigan State University, for a semester anyway. That one reason is Dr. Paul Rieke. Looking for a role model? Pick this man. No one ever says anything but the about him, and I concur. Wayne Kussow extends his greatest respect to Paul, and Frank Rossi considers him a mentor. So I was pleased he took the time travel from East Lansing to Milwaukee and keynote our Symposium.

Dr. Rieke surprised no one with his superb opening lecture on the subject. His view is that drainage is a hidden factor in turfgrass management. He is right, of course.

One of my all-time favorite people in the golf course business is Peter Beaves, co-owner of Midwest Irrigation. Pete put our irrigation system in a number of years ago and it remains the best money we have spent, ever. Peter is old fashioned—he keeps his promises and delivers what you expect. The Symposium committee made a great choice in offering him an invitation to speak to us.



Gary Grigg and Tom Marzolf, seated in front of Jim and Lois Latham.



George Will, columnist and writer supreme, was at the Hyatt, too!



Why is Mike so happy? Because he's turning the WGCSA presidential reins over to Mark Kienert.

Pete delivered at the rostrum, too. He gave a nuts and bolts lecture that profited everybody.

I enjoyed all the other speakers, too. From colleagues (George Frye and Gary Grigg) to architects (Tom Marzolf) to faculty (Dr. Al Jarrett from Penn State) to construction (Paul Eldrige of Wadsworth Golf Construc-

tion) to the USGA (Bob Vavrek), the subject of drainage was covered top to bottom and side to side. Even the DNR was there, in the person of Ron Semmann, deputy director. He was the luncheon speaker.

As near as I was able to tell, most shared my feeling that the 1995 meeting was a good one.