

the sole member of the Golden Cyclones. Babe scored thirty points in the meet. The next best team, the Illinois Women's Athletic Club, had twenty-two members who scored a total of twenty-two points!

In the Olympics at Los Angeles, she won gold medals and set world records in the 80-meter hurdles and the javelin, breaking the javelin record by an amazing eleven feet. She tied for first place in the high jump, setting another world record!

She was an All-American basketball player in 1930, 1931 and 1932 and led her team to the national championship in 1931. She often scored thirty or more points a game in an era when twenty points for an entire team was common. She was an excellent softball player who pitched and batted over .400 in a Dallas city league. She was an excellent bowler with a 170 average. She could punt a football seventy-five yards, and she could swim very close to world record times in the shorter distances. Six times—in 1932, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1950 and 1954—she was voted Woman Athlete of the Year by the Associated Press. In 1950, the AP picked her as the Woman Athlete of the Half Century.

But she was best known for her ability as a golfer. As a professional and an amateur, she won eighty-two

golf tournaments. In the mid-1940s she won a record seventeen consecutive tournaments, capping that string in 1947 by becoming the first American to win the British Ladies Amateur Championship. In 1954, only fifteen months after undergoing radical surgery for cancer of the rectum, she won the US Women's Open in Salem, Massachusetts by a shattering twelve strokes. I wonder of the record has ever been broken?

In her time she played matches all across the country with Gene Sarazan and Patty Berg, both GCSAA Old Tom Morris Award winners. Her story from Wisconsin goes like this:

"I'd missed the Western Women's Open in 1939 because I was out of the country, but I was back in there to shoot for the title in 1940. The Women's Western Open was held in Milwaukee that year at the Blue Mound Golf and Country Club. I hadn't succeeded in getting past the semifinals in this tournament the three previous times I'd tried.

I really had myself a time in the 1940 Western. I even cause some excitement in a practice round by shooting a seventy-five, which was women's par at Blue Mound. In the Qualifying round I slipped to an eighty-one, but I was still only two strokes away from winning the medal.

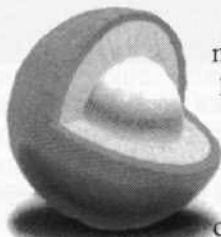
On the first day of match play I was paired against an Iowa girl, Phyllis Otto, who was only fifteen years old then, but a real comer. I shot a seventy-eight, the best score of the day, and beat her by six-and-four. I kept going on from there. One day I had a seventy-three to set a new Wisconsin women's record, and then I broke the record in another match with a seventy-two. I beat Mrs. J.A. Ochiltree, Mrs. F.W. Zimmerman and Georgia Tainter to reach the semifinals.

There I met Dorothy Foster of Springfield, Illinois. She'd eliminated me from this same tournament back in 1937. I didn't have a very good day against her in the 1940 tournament, either. We were all even after nine holes. Then I pulled a little ahead. I went two up on her at the fifteenth. On the sixteenth she made a real bid with a birdie, but I holed out a ten-footer to score a birdie myself. Another birdie on the seventeenth gave me the match by three-and-one.

In the finals I was up against Mrs. Russell Mann, the Wisconsin state champion. This was her home course we were playing on. But I wanted this title so bad I could taste it. It was by first chance to win a golf tournament in five years—the last one had been the 1935 Texas state women's championship.

(Continued on page 13)

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(Continued from page 11)

Mrs. Mann kept the pressure on me all the way. It was a thirty-six hole match, and she was one up at the end of the morning round. In the afternoon I caught up to her and slowly pulled away. It was the first nine holes in the afternoon that did it—I shot a thirty-six. I closed out the match on the thirty-second hole to win by five-and-four."

Walter Hagen's life story made an absolutely super book. He played during an earlier time than Babe; he won his first U.S. Open in 1914. He played in the years of Ouimet and Vardon, Braid and Ray, Armour and Sarazan and all the other famous names of golf in the 1920s and 1930s.

Here is Walter Hagen reminiscing about one of his "favorite" Wisconsin trips:

"In those hectic twenties and thirties I was always booked pretty solid for exhibition matches between the scheduled circuit tournaments and championships. Exhibitions were my bread and butter and while I could count on at least a half-dozen bookings a week, making them on time often created quite a problem. Meeting me in Chicago one summer during such a series, Bob Harlow arranged an exhibition match in Menominee, a city north of Chicago, for the following Sunday. I was a bit indefinite as to the exact location, so Bob made an X on the map showing the town to be at the southern tip of Michigan, at the boundary of Wisconsin on Green Bay.

I borrowed Al Wallace's car and chauffeur and left Chicago early Saturday evening so I might spend that night with my good friends Mr. and Mrs. Wall. I had often played golf with them and their daughter Bernice, who competed in many of the women's championships. After an enjoyable visit with them I left for the scheduled match. I turned the map over to the chauffeur and spread myself and the Sunday papers on the back seat of the car. Upon arriving in Menominee we drove directly to the golf club where I presumed the exhibition was to be played. The lack of activity didn't particularly upset me until the manager appeared and expressed quite a lot of surprise at my unexpected, yet welcome visit. I explained why I was there.

"Am I early?" I asked.

The manager told me he knew of no exhibition and suggested it might be scheduled for a neighboring club.

We drove into town and over lunch I learned of another city in Wisconsin existed with a spelling very similar, Menomonie, situated near St. Paul and about two hundred and fifty miles west of where I was then.

I immediately got on the telephone and talked to the president of the club in Wisconsin.

"Where are you?" he inquired anxiously.

"I'm in Menominee, Michigan," I told him.

"Get a plane! Get a plane! he urged desperately. "We're waiting for you! There are two thousand people here!"

"It's two o'clock now," I said. "Not even a plane, if I could get one, would land me in your town in time to play. If you'll explain my situation to my gallery and to your members, I'll certainly make it up to your club at a later date."

Knowing how my nonappearance would appear to the public and to the waiting gallery, I realized I needed adequate confirmation of my *Corrigan*. I called the president of the Chamber of Commerce of Menominee, Michigan. He met me at the restaurant and I asked him to have published in the local paper a story to the effect that I had pulled a *Corrigan* and gone the wrong way—I'd veered right when I should have veered left. I also requested that he send copies of the article both to me and to the president of the golf club in Wisconsin!"

Oh, by the way, The Haig had a connection to Carl Grassl's golf course, too; he won the 1916 Western Open at Blue Mound.

Hagen, during his time, marveled at the progress golf had made, progress not just in the golf balls and implements, but progress on the golf courses, too. Here he is again, speaking in 1956 about what he had seen in his life of golf. Remember, he was born in 1893 and was a head pro (CC of Rochester, NY) in 1912:

"Golf courses in the United States in my early days were mainly *au naturel*, far removed from the scientifically designed courses of today. The rough was just what the name denotes—rough. The roughs of grass and weeds alternating with uninhibited bushes and trees contrast strangely with the trim, barbered rough of our best courses today. On those early fairways the grass was cut or schythed, the greens were mowed. Today's greens are carefully rolled

and contoured and today's traps instead of bunkers artfully spotted so as to increase the challenge and reward the accuracy, judgment of distance, and skill resulting from the latest improvements in the implements of the game. The transition of the early 1900s to the rubber-cored ball necessitated a changing of the courses. Holes were lengthened, bogies and pars lowered. So the hopped-up ball and the steel-shafted clubs manufactured today make the expertly planned courses a definite must in the game if the skill of low-scoring golfers is to be tested."

I wish The Haig was alive to see the golf courses of 1996. He would not believe his eyes.

While exercising my duties as morning session chairman at last year's USGA Green Section meeting at Maple Bluff, I read from an older book I have—*The Golf Course Guide*. It was published in 1950, indicating to me that some of the descriptions it contained could have been gathered a couple years prior to that.

The MBCC synopsis spoke of Washington bent greens and \$2 green fees. A number of friends stopped by to look up their golf course.

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from my old postcard collection of state golf courses.

Of my own golf course, "located 1 mile out of town (RFD 2)" the author commented, "The course is beautifully located, overlooking Lake Mendota, one of the twin jewels of the city. The fairways and bent greens are well maintained."

Steve Schmidt will especially be interested in the comments about Buttes Des Morts: "This is an interesting course, wooded, with a variety of holes, and a creek which is crossed seven times in the course of play. The club is proud of its greenkeeper, John Taylor, who has been maintaining this course for more than a quarter of a century."

I learned from this book how Lawsonia was named: "The story of this splendid golf course, designed by William Langford, is an interesting one. Victor Lawson, self-made millionaire, gave the area its name, for here he and his wife developed a magnificent estate on the shores of Green

Lake. In the mid-twenties a corporation bought it from his heirs and built a large resort hotel and the golf course, which ranked as one of the finest in the country. But financial difficulties over-took Lawsonia and in 1943 the Northern Baptist Assembly purchased the whole works for a fraction of the money that went into developing and building it.

The course has lovely, rolling fairways, well trapped, and large elevated tees. Bent greens and tees."

A big curiosity exists in the middle of the Wisconsin section. Read it for yourself: "This guide has been unable to solicit adequate information about the nearly 20 golf courses in Milwaukee. The best golf club in the city and the No. 1 course in Wisconsin is the 18-hole Milwaukee Country Club. Its beautiful clubhouse and its topnotch condition justify its reputation."

This old and interesting book reflects golf at the time of its printing. People wanted to know, for example,

if greens were "grass or sand." Distance from town was important, and so were green fees (almost all were 75¢ to \$2.00!) Washington bent greens were a big deal; designers (other than the William Lanford note) were not. Watered fairways were noted—there weren't many—and general landscape features seemed significant to 1950 golfers. This book was a great trip back to a time only a few of us remember.

Finally, while we are sharing reminiscing, let me share a piece Jim Latham sent to me. It is from the February 1928 (Vol.8, No.2) issue of *USGA Green Section Bulletin*. Read this slowly and make it last. It's a lot of fun!

Stepping from the eighteenth green with the Green Committee Chairman and the Greenkeeper, it was suggested that we "stick around and hear the angels sing. You will hear their daily chant to the Green Committee and Greenkeeper." So there we waited and watched.



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One Mr. Average Golfer soon waddled up to attempt what looked like a "dead sure one." In that terrifying silence, which preceded great storms, he went through all the most approved and prolonged preliminaries of sighting and preparing for that momentous tap. Horror of horrors, he missed! We guessed it; the green was all to blame. The storm broke!

"Bill, why in the name of galloping golf balls can't we have some greens on this course? These things would be a disgrace to any cow pasture. There isn't a golfer in the world who could putt on them." Ad Infinitum.

All this in spite of the fact that the other members of his foursome sank good, long shots and were last seen headed for the locker room with beaming faces not ordinarily associated with "rotten" greens and high scores.

The next group furnished this helpful suggestion: "If you fellows are interested in improving greens, why don't you first find out what the players

want? After all, greens are for the golfers and everything should be done to give them exactly what they want."

We beat him to that idea by many years. We had long ago been told "when baby cries, give him what he wants." But we had also learned that to obtain results it makes some difference whether baby is "crying for something" or "just crying."

The greenkeeper suggested that we question a few of the club's best players as to how fast they preferred to have greens. "One of my men is ill and that has interrupted our schedule. Number 16 has not been cut and is very slow today, but this eighteenth is the real 'lightning type.'" The first reply was:

"This green is perfect! Anyone can putt on it. If you could only get all our greens as fast as this one, every player in the city would be clamoring to join this club. Number 16? Is that supposed to be a green? We thought you were planning to let that grow up for hay."

"Fore!" The next foursome is having a terrible time rolling them back and forth across the green. "Bill, what on earth is the matter with this green? If you simply touch the ball, it goes clear across. No use trying to putt on it. Why can't we have all the greens like 'sixteen' is today? You can really hit a ball on that one without making it roll a mile."

Now that's settled! All that the green committees, greenkeepers and "those scientific guys" have to do to give the players just what they want (in speed of greens, at least) is to develop some kind of gear-shift. Then if a player "likes 'em fast" he can shift into high, and if he "likes 'em slow" he can shift to low. Bet some of them will want it fixed so they can shift to low after the ball is struck. Then they'll want a "reverse" so that the one which is "too strong" will roll back at just the right speed—all counting a single stroke!"

Jim's right, of course. Some things never change in golf! ♣

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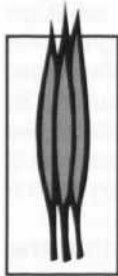
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Goal Setting Time

By Tom Schwab, Superintendent
O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility

Every professional needs to sit down at least once a year, reflect on the past and make plans for the future. I'm sure most of you would like to forget last year. The future is going to be great though. You know it's going to be a cake walk compared to 1995.

I stepped into this new profession in 1995. I'm now responsible for maintaining and managing an essential turf research facility and supporting the professors in their research. Thus I really need to take a look back at my first year and make plans for the next. I'll share with you some of my goals for this season now that I'm familiar with the job.

Some of the ways I'll contribute to improve the facility are:

- Help the professors in setting up the new Turf Disease Diagnostic Lab.
- Provide more wildlife habitat on the facility and work to get the Noer certified under the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program in the business and corporate property category.
- Increase the number of plants studied in the ornamental grass study.
- Improve the irrigation system for watering and to make it a better education tool for students.
- Make other small changes to the facility and grounds such as clean up our dump area and improve the aesthetics around the building.
- Promote more communication among researchers. I'll do this by improving the weekly meetings and by putting suggestion boxes in every office for daily communication.

Some personal improvements I'm going to make are:

- Increase my knowledge in turf and other plant life by taking some classes at the University and by doing more reading.
- Learn how to set up experiments, do ratings, and make observations

better. I'll do this by having fellow researchers teach me and by doing it more.

- Have more and better staff meetings.
- Take a one-day writing seminar.
- Try to improve the quality of articles I contribute to professional publications.
- Improve my computer skills to record and analyze plot work information better, and for using the internet to retrieve and disseminate turf information to interested parties.
- I would like to find funding and do an environmental turf study this summer.

Part of my job is to do some community outreach teaching. Some ways I'd like to improve how I do that are:

- Do a homeowner or non-professional turf education program at the Noer in partnership with the rest of the turf group.
- Participate in West Madison Agricultural Research Station's Urban Horticulture Field Day with a turf demonstration that I'll install this spring.
- Write some turf tips to e-mail to my peers at other UW agricultural research stations so they can answer homeowner lawn questions better.
- Invite some school groups to show them what the Noer does in turf maintenance and research.
- Very important—I'd like to help improve the WTA summer field day both for your enjoyment and educational benefit. Somehow I'd like to get a ton more of you to attend.

There are many opportunities right in our own backyards where we can contribute to our communities. Some ways I'd like to help there are:

- Continue serving on the Verona Tree Board.

- Get involved in the Ice Age Trail planning committee.
- Get involved in planning for the new Madison Area Soccer Association complex being built in Verona.

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The way I'd like to help in my profession is:

- Continue writing articles for THE GRASS ROOTS and THE WISCONSIN TURFGRASS NEWS.
- Help in planning my Agricultural Research Station's fall and winter conferences.
- If any of you want to help serve your WGCSA I'm sure you could volunteer your course for a monthly meeting or serve on a committee. I had to put this plug in because I remember how hard it was to find meeting sites when I was on the golf and arrangements committee.

I'm glad I put these thoughts down on paper. It should help me use my work time efficiently this season and will help me evaluate my progress at the end of the year. I probably won't complete all my goals but as long as they're on paper, to look back at, I should be able to advance toward most of them.

The turf season is right around the corner. It's a great time now to set goals. A wonderful new season will be upon us before you know it.

The 1996 Wisconsin Turfgrass and Greenscape EXPO is just a memory now. But it's a wonderful memory. The roster of speakers was the best ever. I heard that comment from a number of people. Dr. Rossi deserves much of the credit for suggesting this group of speakers. The educational sessions, group panel forum, technical education and workshops were all better than ever. I'm not blowing any smoke. It was unfortunate that participants couldn't attend each of the presentations since many were going on concurrently. The focus of the talks was for everyone in turf and grounds care from golf course superintendents, to lawn and landscape professionals, to grounds and sports turf managers.

Karl Danneberger, Ohio State University, received top marks for his workshop about turfgrass ecology on the golf course. Lois Berg-Stack, University of Maine, captivated her audience in her workshop on selecting perennials for the landscape. Municipal parks and recreation manager Brian Detzler from Ontario, Canada, was well received for his workshop on reducing pesticides on municipal parks and grounds. The list of excellent speakers, talks, and workshops goes on and on and on.

It is unfortunate that the number of attendees at this year's EXPO was

less than the last couple of years since it was by far the best one ever. Attendance numbered 490 this year and that includes the all time record number of vendors. The number of vendors reached 61, beating last year's all-time record by 2. The snow on Thursday hurt attendance but other than that I can't explain why the numbers were down; if you have suggestions, call me.

As mentioned the trade show portion of EXPO was superb. There was more floor space, hours, booths, activity, and the layout was better. The trade show remains to be a favorite part of EXPO. These exhibitors provide considerable amounts of turf research dollars throughout the year and help to make EXPO a world class event. This year's vendors are listed here:

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Finally the planning committee deserves many thanks. They include chairman Chris Wendorf, treasurer Paul Huggett, Dr. Rossi, Audra Anderson, and myself. I'd like to especially thank Audra for the considerable extra effort and hours she contributed to the success of the show. Thanks also go to the student, staff and industry volunteers. 🌱

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Pesticide Waste Collection To Include Turfgrass Industry

By Amy J. Sausen
Outreach Specialist, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The new year will bring many changes to hazardous waste collection in Wisconsin. Foremost is the opportunity for small businesses to use clean sweeps for waste disposal. The opportunity arose this past summer when Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Secretary George Meyer signed a guidance document governing NR 600 series rules (hazardous waste management).

Seeing this chance to help agricultural small businesses dispose of unwanted chemicals, DATCP's Bureau of Agrochemical Management began to prepare background policies and procedures for 1996. While final details are being worked out, agricultural small business, including the turfgrass industry, will be able to bring chemicals to 23 county sponsored Agricultural Clean Sweeps in 1996.

What chemicals will the clean sweep collect?

The focus of this new program is unwanted pesticides. These are the chemicals that cause the greatest public concern. If we reduce the amount of

unwanted pesticides stored on business sites, we reduce the chances of ground water contamination, worker health threats and accidental releases.

Is there a cost involved?

Yes, but to encourage small business participation, the Department will offer a 50 percent cost share on pesticide disposal and small businesses must pay the remaining balance. The fee that businesses pay will be based on the amount and type of chemicals brought to collection sites. Businesses may bring other chemicals such as solvents, cleaners, paints, and boiler treatments to collection sites, but the Department will not cost share these items.

Which counties will be hosting a clean sweep?

Many of the counties that will be participating have already established times and dates. They include: Ashland, Bayfield, Buffalo, Burnet, Calumet, Clark, Columbia, Dodge, Door, Douglas, Iron, Manitowoc, Outagamie, Richland, Rock, Rusk, St.

Croix, Sauk, Trempealeau, Washburn, Washington, Waupaca, and Wood. If the county your business is located in does not appear on this list, you can bring your chemicals to a neighboring county, but residents of that county will be considered first for resources.

How can we participate?

Green industry businesses will have to register with the county coordinator at least 14 days before the clean sweep. A certified check for the 50 percent cost-share fee will need to accompany the load. Times and dates of the 1996 county clean sweeps will be announced in February and March. For information on these times, contact your county agent or myself at (608) 845-6536.

Clean sweeps offer us, the professionals in the "Green Industry", the opportunity to prove to the Paul Harveys that we really care about what chemicals we use, and that we are conscientious about the environment. As an industry, we need to take this step to demonstrate our commitment to protecting the environment. ♣



CONFERENCE '96 - A TRIP TO FLORIDA

By Monroe S. Miller

It seemed perfect—killer cold headed into Wisconsin two days before we were to leave for the 1996 GCSAA conference in Orlando. The thoughts of the warm Florida sunshine in Orlando were especially sweet in the midst of the -30 degrees F the morning we left Madison.

Although it was cold in Madison, it was colder still in Minnesota. Schools were closed and entire towns shut down in the face of -40 degrees F to -60 degrees F temperatures. The midwest seemed like a glacier.

Actually, it was kind of scary driving in such brutal cold. There were four of us in the car, making it tough for the defroster to keep the windows clear. But, as anyone who has driven to Florida can testify, there isn't much to see until the landscape of Kentucky appears. So frosty windows didn't matter much.

We left one of our passengers in Champaign at the University of Illinois campus (where the Badgers beat the Illini in men's basketball the following night). It was a balmy -20 degrees F when we left there at 10:00 a.m.

The ride was uneventful, thankfully, until we were east of Nashville, where we finally caught up to the trailing edge

of a formidable winter storm. After forty slow-going miles, we pulled off I-24 and found a motel with vacancies. We weren't quite as lucky in finding an open restaurant, but chow wasn't, at that point, our paramount concern.

Roads were. Everything you've ever heard about travel in modest snow in the south is true. They have no snow plowing or removal equipment, no experience and no commitment to keep roads open. And they move as slow as the stereotype. The game plan, it seems obvious, is to let the snow and ice melt.

Temperatures hovered in the 0 to 20 degrees F range, so neither snow nor ice was going anywhere. Rick and Cheryl Lange left the day before, as did Jeff and Linda Parks, and they were caught in worse conditions than we were. Josh Lepine left the day after we did and roads hadn't improved. In fact, he spent the night in a motel with no water—just frozen pipes!

The bitter cold that gripped our part of the country preceded us into Florida. It was panic city in central Florida as the freezing weather put the citrus crop at risk. Schools closed, business slowed, pipes burst and people griped about the heavy rain and the cold. The

lows on Sunday night (2/4/96) got down to 20 degrees F, and tourists don't travel to the tourist spots to enjoy 40 degree F daytime highs. Despite the discomfort of the locals, snowbirds like me thought it was all rather pleasant. I just put on a jacket. It was a little chilly, but hardly arctic.

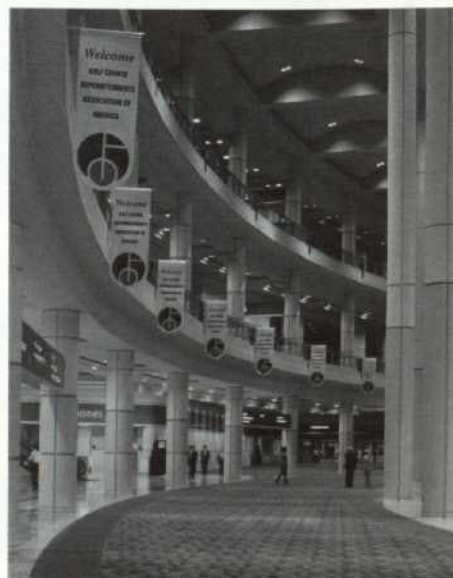
The unusually poor weather seemed a bad omen for conference week. This was a city many families had waited months to visit. DisneyWorld, Sea World, ocean beaches and all the other destinations that attract visitors aren't much fun when all your energy goes into shivering and trying to keep warm.

Fortunately, patience in Florida this time of year will most often result in the return of sunny and warm days, and by the end of the week, it was indeed 80 degrees F.

If Orlando and the surrounding area make this a great convention site for those who bring families, then the convention center itself makes it close to the best of all the cities we visit for that reason. It is big and clean and fairly well planned. I heard some bellyaching about parking arrangements, but by and large most customers (i.e. GCSAA members) seemed well satisfied.



The Orange Co. convention center is expensive, impressive and elegant, both outside,



and inside.