

Wyse Resigns; Maxwell Will Accept Interim Call

Roger Wyse, dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the UW-Madison since 1992, resigned his position on June 23.

Dr. Neal Jorgensen, executive associate dean for CALS, will serve as interim dean while the UW conducts a national research for a replacement for Wyse. Jorgensen recently attended the WTA Summer Field Day at the Noer Research Facility and handled similar duties after Dr. Leo Walsh retired from the CALS Dean's position.

Closer to home, Dr. Doug Maxwell has agreed to assume Neal Jorgensen's previous position, a 50% time

appointment for him. As Interim Executive Associate Dean, Dr. Maxwell will be involved with interactions with the Chairs of all the CALS Departments and Directors of Centers. There will also be special projects, assignments from Jorgensen and his own work in the Plant Pathology Department. And he hasn't left us — his schedule will also include the TDDL.

There are many bright and capable people who could have been chosen; it is an honor for Dr. Maxwell (and us) that he was selected.

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North Takes All The Right Turns

By Rob Schultz

Follow the simple, direct route and it's virtually impossible to get lost driving from Madison to Eagle Ridge in Galena, Illinois.

Andy North traveled there hundreds of times during the creation of The General, the golf resort's newest course that North and partner Roger Packard designed.

North, however, preferred to drive the back roads.

It's safe to say that he never got lost. It's also a good bet that he cut some serious drive time off each trip. That is just North's way. His life has never followed the simple, direct path on the map. But he has always found a better way to get where he wants to go.

It has been 12 years since North won his second US Open championship at Oakland Hills Country Club outside Detroit. It was a victory that should have put him on a path toward greatness. Instead, a myriad of injuries forced him to take a major detour.

No matter. North persevered and has found success as a golf course designer, a commentator on ESPN's golf coverage and, most recently, as an author. Anybody who has spent more than 10 minutes in the sun should be required to read his riveting article on his bout with skin cancer that was published in Golf Journal magazine.

"I guess I've been lucky enough that I've been had enough confidence in what I've been able to do since I was a little kid to do things the way I think it should be done," said North. "Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't."

At 47, North can boast that it worked almost all the time on the job and at home. North and his wife, Susan, are proudest of the fact that they raised two daughters who are on their own paths toward success. They are also thrilled with their beautiful home on 40 acres in the Town of Middleton. It includes a separate building for North's office and a golf hole just beyond their backyard.

"We're real happy with what we've done," said North as he sat in his office in mid-July.

Mementos of past successes tastefully decorate the walls. There was a framed photo of Oakland Hills' famed 16th hole that Rayovac presented him. Below the photo were the scorecards of all the winners of the US Open at Oakland Hills leading up to and including his victory there.

There also was a Leroy Neiman original painting of North hitting out of a sand trap en route to winning the Westchester Open. And there was handstitched artwork celebrating his Westchester victory made by Linda Watson, the wife of PGA Tour star Tom Watson.

"Obviously, I would have loved to have been healthier," said North. "But otherwise I've been as happy as I could be."

North is so content that he said it wouldn't bother him if he never played in another golf tournament. But don't think for a moment that North has given up the idea of playing again. Quite the contrary.

In fact, North will soon find himself at another fork in the road. In three years he'll have the option of playing the Senior PGA Tour.

It'll be a tough call. "I have no idea what I'm going to do," said North.

First, North hasn't made enough career money on the PGA Tour (\$1.4 million) to gain an automatic exemption on the Senior Tour. He figures he would get enough sponsor exemption to play in 15 events, which are as many events as North would want to play. "But most of the guys are playing 30, 31 events," said North. "Can I make enough money in 15 events to make the top 31 (on the money list and become fully exempt)? I don't know. But I can't see myself playing in the 31 events."

One reason is North's health. His body hasn't held up to a full year's worth of golf since he won his last US Open. He played in two PGA Tour events last year. He'll play in one—the Greater Milwaukee Open—this year.

"We're going to find the answer to that big question soon because I'm going to start working hard next year," said North, who added that he has played just 20 rounds

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so far this year. "I'll be able to tell if I can do it after I start hitting balls a lot. If I go out and hit balls for an hour or two 14 days in a row, that's great. But I don't know if I can do that. I haven't practiced in 10 years."

North will sacrifice his career with ESPN to a large extent and his design work to a smaller extent if he joins the Senior Tour. Coincidentally, his contract with ESPN runs out the year he turns 50.

If he opts to play golf instead of report on it, North will actually travel less. He made a commitment this year to be at every ESPN golf telecast this year. That means he'll attend all 26 of the tournaments the network is televising plus all four majors, the Anderson Consulting championships and a few special events such as the Fred Meyer Challenge in Portland.

"I made the commitment to see what it was all about and to see if I could do it," said North. "It's been brutal."

The payoff has been more air time and a more prominent role in the telecasts. North admits he's still learning the TV game, but he has drawn high marks as an on-course reporter, interviewer and commentator from the booth. CBS was so impressed they tried to lure him away last year to replace the ousted Gary McCord at the Masters.

His many trips as a golf course designer have also paid off in even bigger, better ways.

There were countless trips to Galena and the result was a masterpiece. Ron Whitten, the architecture editor for Golf Digest, thinks it could be a strong contender for the top new course in its class.

North also has made 15 to 18 trips to Kalispell, Montana, where he and Packard will open a course in a few weeks that they love every bit as much as The General.

"Most of the name architects are on-sight three or four times. One is for the grand opening, another is for the ground-breaking and the other is to pick up a check or two," said North with a smile. "Not me. If my name is on it I want to make sure I have something to say about it."

Whitten said since Tom Weiskopf broke off Jay Morrish, North and Packard are the top Tour player-architect duo in the business. He said he loves the Brown Deer redesign and feels that Trappers Turn in Wisconsin Dells is an underrated wonder. North and Packard are in the process of designing a third nine for Trappers.

"Weiskopf-Morrish were the most successful duo ever and North and Packard are very comparable to them in many ways," Whitten said. "Roger brings a wealth of technical knowledge and Andy brings the intangible feel for golf shots and golf holes that Weiskopf always provided."

Whitten wrote a piece for Golf World that rated the Tour pros as architects. North, who has joined Packard to design eight courses—including the North 9 at the Springs and Cantigny near Wheaton, Illinois—didn't receive high marks for marquee value in the article. But Whitten said that doesn't mean anything.

He called North the best architect among the Tour players. "In my opinion, right now I'd say he is," Whitten said. "You want (Arnold) Palmer or (Jack) Nicklaus for courses with housing. But in terms of Tour pros who are seriously involved in course design, Andy North ranks with the best."

North-Packard also ranks among the cheapest of the top architect teams. They ask for anywhere between

\$250,000 to \$300,000 per design. That ranks below Nicklaus's \$2 million fee or Palmer's \$1 million fee. Whitten said the average is \$500,000.

"I think we're very inexpensive," North said. "We just haven't had the luxury yet of working with an owner who has unlimited funds."

Therein lies the rub. If the owner has unlimited funds, he or she usually hires Pete Dye, Tom Fazio or Jack Nicklaus.

"That's frustrating when you do as good a work or better," North said. "We'll be in the hunt for a lot of projects and maybe make it to the last three that get interviewed. But at some point the owner decides he wants Nicklaus instead of North."

North-Packard would like to complete about two courses a year. That's the limit that probably wouldn't put a crimp on his playing time if he wants to join the Senior Tour. Such thoughts are what seem to be pushing North toward returning to the game.

"I look at the Senior Tour and there's a group of players who, if they play anywhere close to their ability level, will finish in the top third of every tournament. There's another group that if they play to their ability level, will finish in the bottom third. And then there's a group in the middle who—in good weeks can move up and in bad weeks move down," said North, who speaks as an authority since he covers many of the Senior Tour events for ESPN. It has given him a huge head start since he already knows much of the field, not to mention the courses they play on.

"Looking at that, I know there's one group I don't fit in. And I think I'll be closer to the other two groups. And if you're in those two groups you can make a living."

North will have some competition. His class will include Tom Watson, Tom Kite and Lanny Wadkins.

He expects Kite and Watkins to play a great deal on the Senior Tour. Watson's another story.

"He only plays 15 events on the regular Tour. What makes you think he's going to play 30 on the Senior Tour? It's not going to happen," said North.

"It's be interesting to see what happens," he added. "But I'm in no hurry to get there." ♣



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Audra Anderson
WTA Executive Secretary

You are cordially invited to attend the 15th annual Wisconsin Turfgrass Association golf outing. This year's event will be held on Monday, October 13th, 1997. It is going to be played at Bishops Bay Country Club in Middleton. It is not necessary to be a WTA member to participate in this day of fun.

The Wisconsin Turfgrass Association annual golf outing has been a part of the WTA's history for 15 years. Ed Devinger started the golf outing back in 1982. The first golf outing was held at the newly opened Sentryworld Golf Course. The course had only been officially opened for 30 days but the course was in excellent shape. There were 15 golfers, a couple hundred dollars raised for turfgrass research and most importantly, a tradition was started.

The WTA golf outing has been hosted by a variety of courses. Mother Nature has provided for some wonderful golfing days and some that were not so pleasurable. The prizes have almost been as varied. There has been a very nice commemorative desk pen, a sharp red cowboy hat and some lucky fellow won a bra (woman was not included)! One thing is for sure, the WTA golf outing has developed into a day that people can enjoy the game of golf, exchange stories and most importantly raise money to help turf research.

If you would like to attend this year's golf outing, fill out the registration form and mail it back with a check. If you have questions, call Jeff Bottensek at 715-345-8906 or Audra at 608-845-6536.

When: Monday, October 13th, 1997

Where: Bishops Bay Country Club
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\$65.00 dinner only

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Lunch: 10:30 - 11:30am

Golf: 12:00 Noon - Shotgun

Cocktails: 5:30 - 6:30pm

Dinner: 6:30pm

Dress: Sport Coat

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JUNE MEETING AT RIVERMOOR CC

The June WGCSA meeting was hosted by Tom VanValin at the Rivermoor CC in Waterford on Tuesday, June 17. A bright sunny day brought out 76 superintendents and affiliates to enjoy Tom's beautifully conditioned golf course. Lunch was served on the patio overlooking the golf course, followed by a 1:00 shotgun start. The event played was a four-player two best balls, one best ball being low net, the other low gross. Flag events for the day were closest to pin #7, longest putt #9, and longest drive-closest to the crooked line #11. The event winners are as follows:

1st. Place with a 130

2nd Place with a 131

3rd Place with a 133

Long drive #11

Closest to pin #7

Long Putt #9

Gary Huenerberg, Lee Reinke,
Woody Huenerberg, Jim Kloiber

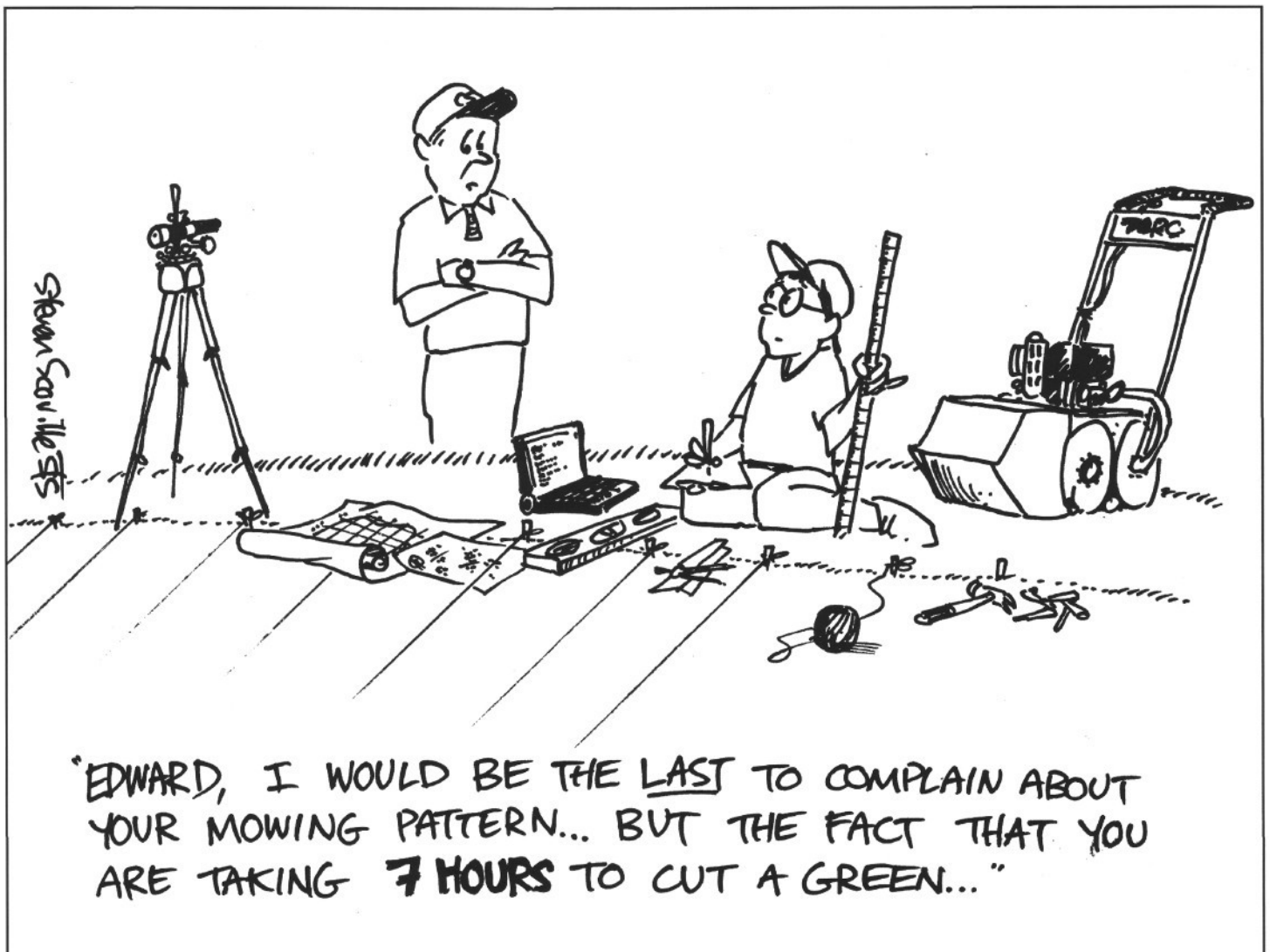
Ed Devinger, John Feiner, Chad
Ball, Skip Willms

Mark Kienert, John Krutilla,
Steve VanAcre, Tom Pritchard

Randy DuPont

Wayne Otto

Rod Johnson 🏆





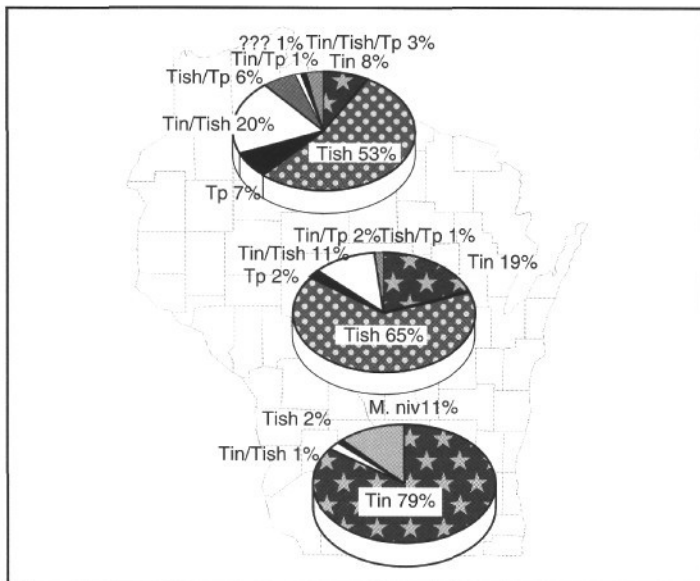
TYPHULA ZONES

By Steve Millett

Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

In the last issue, I presented a brief description of the Typhula Tour '97. The purpose of Typhula Tour '97 was to describe the distribution patterns of Typhula snow molds in Wisconsin. I collected more than 460 snow mold samples from 24 different golf courses ranging from Edgerton to Bayfield, Wisconsin. It took me about two months to sift through the samples and come up with this map (see Figure 1). The symbols used are as follows: Tin = *T. incarnata* (gray snow mold), Tish = *T. ishikariensis* (speckled snow mold), Tp = *T. phacorrhiza* (a reported biological control agent) M. niv = *Microdochium nivale* (pink snow mold). These fungi were found in the samples either by themselves or in combination with others. The occurrence of *M. nivale*, causal agent of pink snow mold, is underestimated because I was purposely looking for patches with sclerotia. *M. nivale* has an important role in snow mold epidemics but this study is investigating the Typhula snow molds.

Figure 1. Percentage of snow mold fungi collected from golf courses. Tin=*T. incarnata*, Tish=*T. ishikariensis*, Tp=*T. phacorrhiza*, M.niv.=*M. nivale*

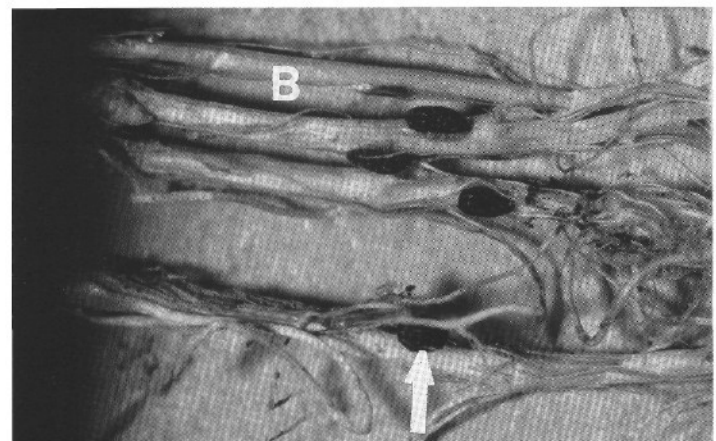
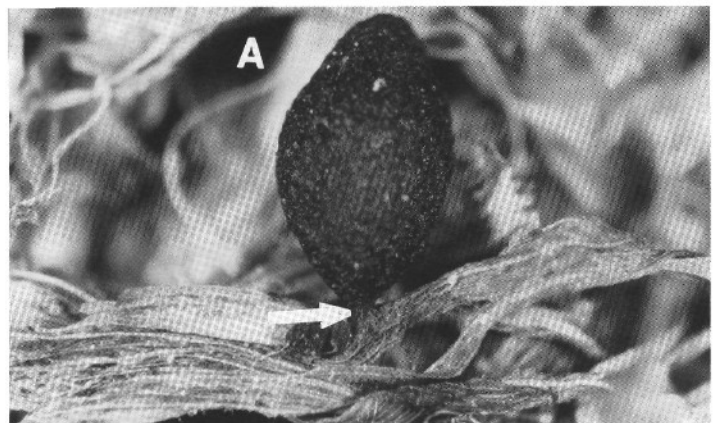


A look at the map shows that Tin is the most commonly collected sclerotial snow mold in the southern zone and that Tish is the most collected in the central and northern zones. Also, the central and northern zones have the distinction of being very diverse, including the occurrence of Tp. Two interesting things that surfaced were that Tp was associated with unique snow mold patches and that Tish was found on stolons and roots in areas that had a chronic and severe problem with snow mold control.

First, in the northern two-thirds of the State, Tp was found associated with snow mold damage. Sclerotia of Tp

were usually found in combination with Tish but they were found alone on occasion. Tp has large, pear-shaped, dark reddish-brown sclerotia with short stalks (stipe) attaching them to their food source (Fig. 2A). The most detailed mycological description I could find on Tp was Khurana, 1980. Khurana's description and illustrations were enough to identify my isolates as Tp. However, for a second opinion, I sent sclerotia to Dr. Now Matsumoto in Sapporo, Japan, whom I consider to be the 'King of Typhulas.' Matsumoto concurred with my identification and has sent me duplicates of all his Typhula tester isolates. Dr. J. D. Smith, one of the world's leading authorities on low temperature pathogens, identified Tp for Dr. Gayle Worf in the early 80's. You may remember Smith as a speaker at the Milorganite Symposium in 1994. Dr. Smith recently sent me his snow mold herbarium collection. Wow, what an honor! Tp standards in this collection have the same physical characteristics as Wisconsin's Tp.

Figure 2. A. *T. phacorrhiza* is easily identified by its large, pear-shaped and dark reddish brown sclerotia with short stalks (stipe). Arrow indicates stipe. B. Sclerotia of *T. ishikariensis* on bentgrass stolons and roots. Arrow indicates sclerotium on root.



Although Tp is not new to Wisconsin, its importance as a pathogen is not fully described. Current research being conducted by Dr. T. Hsiang's group at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, point to Tp as 'a good candidate for biocontrol of snow mold,' and that Tp-treated field plots did not express disease symptoms (Wu, et. al 1997a and b). This work is following up Dr. Lee Burpee's initial research that first investigated the potential of Tp as a biocontrol agent (Burpee, et. al 1987). Tp may well be a weakly pathogenic or saprophytic *Typhula* species.

Second, Tish was found on stolons and roots on turf-grass areas that had a chronic problem with *Typhula* snow mold (Fig. 2B). This may be one reason why some fungicide applications have failed to work. Granular formulations may not be able to provide timely delivery of the active ingredient into the thatch-soil interface. Also, spraying at lower water carrier rates may not be enough to be effective.

Keep this in mind when you are thinking about snow mold management. A good strategy for chronic areas in the northern two-thirds of Wisconsin would be to integrate wise cultural practices, proper nutrition, grade and drainage improvement, deployment of resistant varieties, and early application of a systemic fungicide followed by one or two applications of contact fungicides. Systemic fungicides used against *Typhula* snow molds should be applied when the grass is still growing and the *Typhula* fungi are becoming active, which is in the air temperature range of 50 to 60F. Contact fungicides should be applied after the grass has gone dormant and before permanent snow cover. Tank mix combinations of systemic and contact fungicides should be full rate for the contact and half

rate for the systemic. Please read the entire pesticide label for the manufacturer's recommended rates. A good strategy for the southern zone will be the same as above but with fewer fungicide applications. For more information on *Typhula* snow mold management see 'Soylent Green', *The Grass Roots*, No. 6, 1995 and No. 5, 1996 and 'TDDL', No. 4, 1997.

My future work will describe the aggressiveness of the Tin, Tish and Tp isolates that I have collected from Wisconsin. Also, DNA identification utilizing the ITS region (see Emily's TDDL article) will be used to further describe these *Typhula* species. Pilot DNA analysis studies have been successful in differentiating these fungi and future efforts will be made to make these molecular tools even more accurate and rapid. The results of the *Typhula* Tour '97 indicate that there are differences in the distribution of *Typhula* snow molds. The northern two-thirds of the State face a more diverse and aggressive set of pathogens than the southern region. More research is needed to determine if these differences call for different management practices. ♣

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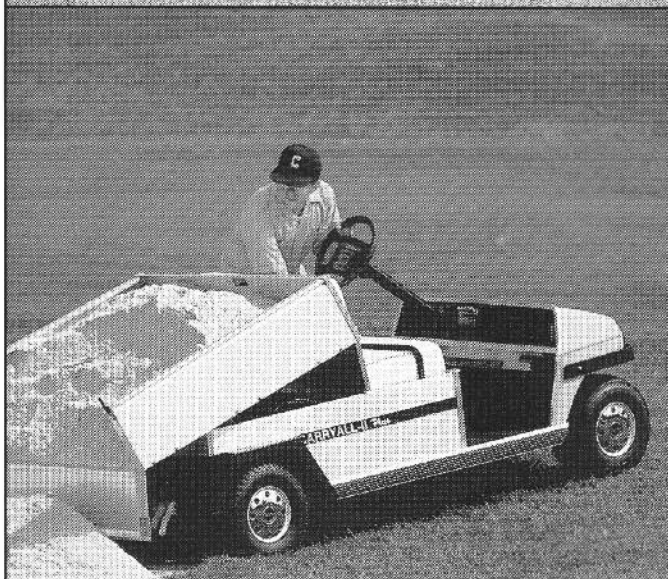


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