

entire hand mowing process was monitored with spares on hand.

Time was of the essence. Any shaving of time helped so we cut the fairways in the evening hours with five-plexes in one direction from tee to green to reduce the clippings for the hand mowers the next morning. Every morning during the tournament the hand mowing crew waited at their assigned fairway section for the sun to rise enough to see the glowing lines. The results were everything Mr. Alonzi had hoped for. The 22-inch greens mowers hugged every undulation and provided the highest quality of cut imaginable. This entire PGA Championship highlight was possible due to the great volunteer program.

#### Staff and Volunteer Program

These few highlights are only scratching the surface of the work that was involved in the preparation for this major. Coordinating the flow of outside contractors erecting fences, TV towers, bleachers and media compounds were an event in itself. Projects such as hand raking the bunkers, pruning and tying up trees for spectator safety, and practice tee construction were huge events as well.

Mr. Alonzi and his normal crew of 30 dedicated individuals successfully prepared the West Course while maintaining Winged Foot's famous East Course as well. We could not have done this without a strong volunteer program that brought individuals in the turf industry from across the country together. Superintendents, assistants, interns, and sales representatives all volunteered their time to hand mow, rake bunkers, and ease the burden on us all. A sincere "Thank You" to all involved.

My experience preparing for a major golf event is one I will never forget. The coming together of an industry occurred right before my eyes and only enhanced my appreciation and admiration for the job we all do everyday.

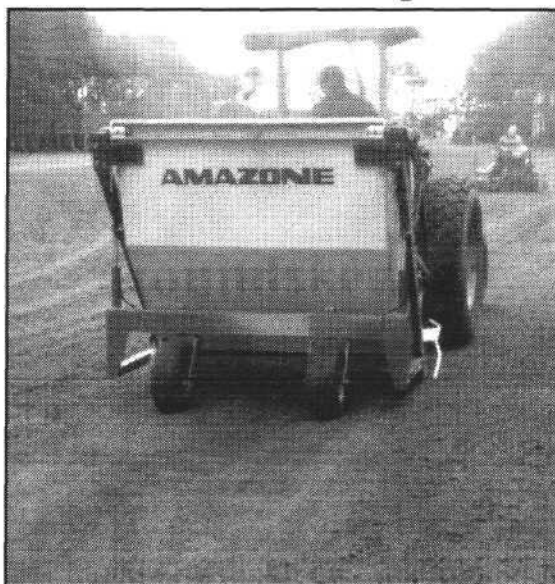
*Editor's Note: Josh LePine is a 1995 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Turfgrass Management Program. He is the new golf course superintendent at Bristlecone Pines. 🍷*



Winged Foot maintenance crew.

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# The Two Cs at Work

By Monroe S. Miller

Alums of Professor Jim Love's turfgrass program could each write a small book filled with advice given by him to us while we were under his wing. One of his most sage admonishments was 'don't ever forget the two Cs — communicate and cooperate.' It was good advice.

On January 20th, Bob Erdahl, Wisconsin Turfgrass Association president, led a group to a meeting in Agriculture Hall on the UW-Madison campus. His charges included Tom Harrison (WTA), Paul Huggett (WTA and Wisconsin Sod Producers president), Terry Kurth (WTA, PLCAA president, GMAW), Scott Schaller (WGCSA president), Chris Wendorf (WTA) and me.

We had a morning meeting with Dr. Neal Jorgensen, CALS Dean, in

his office. Also present were Dr. Carl O'Connor, UW-Extension Dean, Dr. Doug Maxwell, Assistant Dean, and Dr. Tom German, chairman of the Department of Plant Pathology.

We were there to explain to Dr. Jorgensen and Dr. O'Connor, in person, how critical the turfgrass pathologist position is to those of us producing turf in Wisconsin. We communicated to him why plant pathology is critical to most of us, and reviewed our own contributions to CALS over the past 15 years.

Neal and Carl, in turn, detailed the enormity of the budget problems facing higher education in Wisconsin and elsewhere. Prisons and social programs (W-2) have outstripped education in state funding. We were made aware of deficits, downsizing,

upcoming retirements and a myriad of other problems faced by these two administrators. The communicated openly and freely with us and, like the others I suspect, I experienced a better understanding of their part of the equation. Good communications will do that.

Then the best part happened. We talked about how we could cooperate in resolving this dilemma. Our endowment at the UW Foundation is growing at an excellent pace; soon, in a few years, we will be able to help in a new and very significant way. But until that time arrives, we need consideration from CALS and UWEX. In the end, both deans were supportive of our request. Along with the Plant Pathology Department's cooperation, some reallocation of resources and the recognition of our industry's importance, the chances seem reasonably good that the turfgrass pathologist position will be filled in 1998.

Our meeting was a very cordial one, productive and positive in every way. And it was a good reminder of the wisdom of Jim Love's "Two Cs" advice. 🌱

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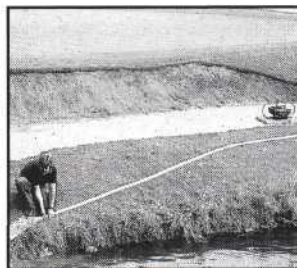
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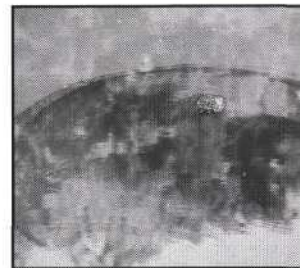
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