

great to know we have the great staff at the University of Wisconsin - Madison to rely on for help during a crisis.

Mendenhall Award to Obear!

Congratulations to Glen Obear of Sheboygan for being awarded the Mendenhall Award from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

The GCSAA awarded scholarships to 17 college students as part of the GCSAA Scholars Program administered by GCSAA's philanthropic organization, The Environmental Institute for Golf.

Obear won first place in the competition. He receives a \$6,000 scholarship and an all-expense paid trip to the 2011 GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show in Orlando in February as the Mendenhall Award Winner.

Glen is a senior studying soil science and agronomy at the University of Wisconsin - Madison under the advisement of Dr. Doug Soldat.

Glen decided to pursue a career in the turfgrass industry after the opportunity to work for the 2007 US Senior Open at Whistling Straits Irish Course in Haven, WI. Glen also has interned at Whistling Straits, Kukio Beach and Golf Club in Big Island, HI, and University Ridge Golf Course in Madison, WI.

Glen will finish his undergraduate work in December 2010, and then work toward a M.S. degree in soil science and entomology before reaching his goal of one day becoming a golf course superintendent.

The second place winner, Robert Tibbetts, receives a \$5,000 award and is designated as the recipient of the Allan MacCurrach Award. The MacCurrach Award is funded by the PGA Tour. Tibbetts is from Liberal, Kan., and attends Kansas State University. The other 15 scholarships ranged from \$500 to \$2,500 dollars for the students.



The GCSAA Scholars Program, funded by the Robert Trent Jones Endowment, was developed to recognize outstanding students planning careers in golf course management. Winners were selected to receive scholarship awards based on the final ranking in a competition judged by GCSAA's Scholarship Committee.

Factors considered were academic achievement, potential to become a leading professional, employment history, extracurricular activities, and recommendations from a superintendent with whom the student has worked and a current academic advisor.

Applicants must be enrolled in a recognized undergraduate program in a major field related to golf/turf management and be a GCSAA member. Undergraduate applicants must have successfully completed at least 24 credit hours or the equivalent of one year of full-time study in an appropriate major.

The Mendenhall Award is given in memory of the late Chet Mendenhall, a pioneer in the golf course management industry. A native of Kingman, Kan., Mendenhall's upbringing on an Oklahoma farm served him well. His career in working with the land began in 1920 as an employee of the Wichita (Kan.) Parks and Forestry Department, where he designed and built his first course despite having no previous experience with the game.

In 1928, Mendenhall accepted an invitation to become superintendent at the Wichita Country Club. It was during his tenure there that Mendenhall assisted California-based golf course architect Billy Bell in designing and constructing a new course. Smitten by the process, Mendenhall entered night school to learn surveying, drafting, bookkeeping and other related subjects.

He moved in 1934 to the Kansas City, Mo., area, where he served as superintendent of the Mission Hills Country Club until his retirement in 1965. Mendenhall was a charter member of GCSAA and his service to his profession included serving as a director of GCSAA from 1940-1946, vice president in 1947 and president in 1948. He was honored by the association with its Distinguished Service Award in 1986, and by the USGA in 1990 with its Green Section Award. Mendenhall passed away in 1991 and was inducted into the Kansas Golf Hall of Fame in 1996.

Internationally recognized for his expertise in the turf management field, Allan MacCurrach began his career as a golf course superintendent at Valley Country Club in Warwick, R.I., in 1962. In 1972, he became the 45th person to receive the title of Certified Golf Course Superintendent from GCSAA. MacCurrach became the PGA Tour's first agronomist in 1974 and played a leading role in establishing the standard of excellence for course conditioning at PGA Tour events. MacCurrach was named senior agronomist in 1988 and in 1994 received the GCSAA's Distinguished Service Award.

Golf Industry Show Goes Back to Florida.

February 7 -11, 2011 will feature the Golf Industry Show and GCSAA Education Conference in Orlando

Florida. Orlando has been the home to some of GCSAA's biggest Conferences for both vendors and attendees.

The event will continue with last years format of education on Monday and Tuesday, the Golf Industry Show on Wednesday and Thursday followed by education on Friday. The conference will feature 100 total and 18 new education seminars with topics from Energy Efficiency to Colorscapes With Impact.

Tuesday will feature three time Major Championship Winner Nick Price at the "Celebrate GCSAA Session" where he will be presented the Old Tom Morris Award. Price was inducted in the World Golf Hall Of Fame in 2003 and was PGA Tour player of the year in 1993, 1994.

Wednesdays "General Session" will feature the 2010 winner of the Old Tom Morris Award Judy Rankin who was unable to make last years conference. Rankin is a 26 time winner on the LPGA Tour and was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2000. Rankin has been a regular on course broadcaster for ESPN and ABC.

Thursdays "General Session" highlight will be Pat Williams, co-founder of the Orlando Magic and former minor league baseball player with the Phillies Organization. Williams is the author of 42 books and a leading motivational speaker.

Registration for the show will open online October 5th. With the current state of the golf economy be sure to use the shows website to gather information to sell your trip to the education conference to your boards and owners. It is in tough times you cannot afford to get behind in your education.

To save funds shop around for airline tickets and consider finding a roommate to share a room with. Pick a few timely seminars for your operation and let your decision makers know about all the free education at the show.

Go the Golf Industry Show For Free!

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), The Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG), and Bayer Environmental Science will send five golf course superintendents to the 2011 GCSAA Education Conference (Feb. 7-11) and Golf Industry Show (Feb. 9-10) in Orlando.

The purpose of the grant is to assist golf course superintendents with their professional development through participation in the annual event, which features the most comprehensive education program and trade show in the industry.

"This is the eighth straight year Bayer will send golf course superintendents to the GCSAA Education

HARTMAN

Quality since 1971

Specializing in classic restoration and renovation

- Drainage problems
- Slit Drainage
- Greens
- Bunkers
- Laser Leveling
- Grading
- Irrigation

8011 BAVARIA RD
VICTORIA, MN 55386
952-443-2958

WWW.HARTMANCOMPANIES.COM
INFO@HARTMANCOMPANIES.COM

Conference and Golf Industry Show," GCSAA President James R. Fitzroy, CGCS, said. "We greatly appreciate Bayer's continued support of this program and recognizing the role of the golf course superintendent in the success of a golf facility."

Golf course superintendents who did not attend the last two GCSAA Education Conferences and Golf Industry Shows (San Diego 2010 and New Orleans 2009) are eligible. Those interested should complete and submit the online application at <http://www.gcsaa.org/conference/education/grantapplication.aspx> or contact GCSAA member services at 800-472-7878 to receive an application via fax.

Entries will be accepted through Oct. 12, 2010. The winners will be selected through a random drawing, and the EIFG will notify winners by November. Only one application will be accepted per person. GCSAA membership is not required. Call 800-472-7878 with any questions or for assistance with the application.

Each grant will cover expenses for airfare, hotel accommodations for five nights, conference full-pack registration, two education seminars, and \$200 spending money.

GCSAA Members Recognized as Industry Leaders

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Class A members Sandy Clark, Bob Farren and Tim Hiers are among Golf Inc. magazine's annual 20 Most Admired Operators list showing how GCSAA members are critical to the success of their facilities and the industry as a whole.

Golf Inc. surveyed more than 100 golf industry leaders, including developers, management company executives, consultants and brokers, and had them rate golf course operators based on "how well they have demonstrated consistent excellence in successfully directing operation at a golf course." Previous honorees have not been eligible in the past, but this year the magazine placed all previous winners on the ballot, along with new nominees submitted by readers.

Clark is the GCSAA certified golf course superintendent at Barona Creek Golf Club in Lakeside, Calif. He was named to the 2007 Golf Inc. Most Admired Operators list and is a multiple GCSAA/Golf Digest Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards recipient, including the 2004 national resort winner. A 20-year GCSAA member, Clark has been the superintendent at Barona Creek Golf Club for 10 years. Located 28 miles from downtown San Diego, Barona Creek encompasses more than 200 acres, with playable terrain totaling 90 acres. As a certified Signature Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, primary consideration has been given to protecting the wildlife habitat located around the course.

Farren, a GCSAA certified golf course superintendent, is the director of golf course and grounds man-

agement at Pinehurst (N.C.) Resort and Country Club. He was named to the 2008 Golf Inc. Most Admired Operators list and helped Pinehurst win the 2007 GCSAA President's Award for Environmental Stewardship. A 30-year GCSAA member, Farren has been at Pinehurst for 25 years. He oversees the sprawling resort grounds and the nine golf courses, managing a staff of 180 to 240 people, depending on the season, as well as more than 150 interns over the past 20 summers. Farren also hosted Green Links, highlights from EDGE, a monthly feature on The Environmental Institute for Golf's (EIFG) website in 2008.

Hiers is the GCSAA certified golf course superintendent at The Old Collier Golf Club in Naples, Fla. A 32-year GCSAA member, Hiers has been the superintendent at Old Collier for 10 years. He won the 2009 GCSAA Excellence in Government Relations Award. Hiers has helped supply the U.S. EPA with economic impact data related to the loss of methyl bromide, and assisted with submission of annual critical use exemption applications to the agency. The Old Collier Golf Club has been featured in the Sustainability Case Study Series, a collection of Florida-specific teaching cases produced through the Educational Alliance for Sustainable Florida. Hiers is also working with the EIFG's energy conservation working group to examine existing best management practices and identify performance statements for the entire golf facility as part of Golf's Drive Toward Sustainability.

GCSAA Chief Executive Officer Search

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) President Jim Fitzroy, CGCS, has announced that Kansas City-based Tryon & Heideman, LLC has been appointed to facilitate the identification of candidates and the selection of a new chief executive officer.

The position description and application process will be posted on the GCSAA website and advertised in numerous publications and online resources. The plan calls for a mid-October release of the position announcement. The position came open June 22 when Mark Woodward resigned to pursue other business interests.

Once the position announcement is released, contact Tryon & Heideman at 816-822-1976 or gcsaa@tryonheideman.com concerning more information on the position and process.

Wisconsin Turf Industry Loses a Leader

James Huggett, founder of Long Island Farm, Inc (now Paul's Turf and Tree Nursery) in Marshall, WI passed away Wed. Sept 8th following a brief illness. He was born Feb. 5, 1935, the son of Dow and Verena (Keilen) Huggett in St. Johns, Mich. In 1952, he graduated from Rodney B. Wilson High School in St. Johns,

TURF UNIVERSITY CLASS OF 2010

Curalan® EG
Fungicide,
Emerald® Fungicide,
Honor™ Fungicide



Insignia® Fungicide,
Iprodione Pro 2SE
Fungicide,
Trinity® Fungicide



Basagran® T/O
Herbicide,
Drive® XLR8
Herbicide,
FreeHand® 1.75G
Herbicide



Onetime® Herbicide,
Pendulum® AquaCap™
Herbicide,
Pendulum® 2G
Herbicide



Pendulum® 3.3 EC
Herbicide,
Segment® Herbicide,
Tower® Herbicide



For diseases, weeds or pests,
BASF is at the top of the class.

Contact Randy Lusher at (630) 235-0104 or
randy.lusher@basf.com.

betterturf.basf.us

 **BASF**

The Chemical Company

Always read and follow label directions.
Basagran, Curalan, Drive, Emerald, FreeHand 1.75G, Insignia, Onetime, Pendulum, Segment, Tower and Trinity are registered trademarks and AquaCap and Honor are trademarks of BASF. ©2010 BASF Corporation. All rights reserved.

Mich. After completing the farming short course at Michigan State University in 1953, he moved to Marshall, Wis., to start his own farm. On Oct. 8, 1958, Jim married Edna H. Harr at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Westphalia, Mich. Together they lived in rural Marshall, and established Long Island Farm, Inc., now Paul's Turf and Tree Nursery, Inc

They raised peppermint, spearmint, turfgrass and nursery trees. He was also active in many trade and business organizations; he was a past Town of Medina board member, a former director of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank in Marshall-Waterloo, a founding member of the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association, and also a board member of the Wisconsin Sod Producers Association and the American Sod Producers Association, now Turfgrass Producers International. In recognition of his many contributions to Wisconsin agriculture, he received an Honorary Distinguished Award from the UW-Madison College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in 1991.

Jim and Edna enjoyed travelling together and became citizens of the world, visiting over thirty countries. After his retirement, he enjoyed wood carving at The Clearing Folk School in Door County, helping his son, Paul around the farm, and gardening. He was a kind and good-natured man who made friends wherever he went; a gentle man who was always a gentleman. Most of all, Jim will be fondly remembered for being a kind, loving and dedicated husband, father and grandfather.

The following quotes were from the August issue of Jim Sullivan's Fundamentals E-Newsletter. The issues cater towards the food industry but they offer tips and inspiration everyone in the people business can use. (You can find the full newsletter at Sullivan.com)

Cost Control: The fastest way to make a buck is not to spend it.

Motivation: You can do the work of two people but you can't be two people. Instead you have to inspire the next person down the line and get them to inspire their people too. —Unknown

Diminishing returns: When times get tough the first thing inept operators do is penalize the customer by cutting labor or training. If you're "saving money" by not training and then seeing your sales shrink, remember that it's not what you pay people, it's what they cost you.

Tenacity: Fall seven times; stand up eight.

Resolving Service Mistakes: The size of a problem changes based on how it is handled. If the reaction is worse than the action, the problem usually increases.

Preparation: Since you don't really know on which day success will occur, you have to be ready every single day.

Persuasion: Giving people objectively proven facts is not an effective technique for stimulating change in behavior. If this were true 65% of Americans would not be overweight. -Alan Deutschman

Measure what matters: In tough times you survive on strong controls.

Self-Improvement: It's not that the other teams are that much better than us it's because we're not as good as we can be.

Hire Smart. It's the most talented, not the least talented, people who are continually trying to improve.

Working Women: There is no such thing as a non-working mother.

Leadership: The first responsibility of a leader is to define reality. The last is to say thank you. In between, the leader is a servant. -Max De Pree

Execution: Getting and having the job means nothing. Doing the job means everything.

Change: People are very open-minded about new things as long as they are exactly like the old things.

Focus: "If you don't give employees a plan, they presume that you don't have a plan". —Mike Dell'Angelo

Preparation: Expecting trouble isn't negative thinking, but rather a more evolved form of positive thinking. —Unknown

Procrastination. The easiest way to get rid of a difficult task is to do it.

Perspective: It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference.

By the time you read this we will be well into the official fall. The summer's weather troubles will be behind most of us as turf areas start to heal and the shorter days bring us more family time.

Unfortunately a new challenge will emerge as budget cuts and layoffs will again become an issue as golf operations struggle to make ends meet after a troublesome year. A year that started with such promise with record early openings and great weather quickly turned negative with rain and lower revenues from less rounds and lower green fees as courses yearned to increase play.

It is a great time to be a daily fee player as the discounting started right after Labor Day with a vengeance. Ad's offering non-aerified greens, \$25 for 18 holes riding and buy a 2011 membership now and play all this fall filled local newspapers.

After multiple years of budget cuts and frugal spending there is not much left for many owners and turf managers to cut except key staff. Hopefully fall will be long and warm for a lot of extra play!

Take Care and I look forward to seeing all of you at the 2010 Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium. 🌱



Increasing Play With Tournaments

By **Jeremiah Hoffmann**, PGA Golf Professional, Rolling Meadows Golf Course

In today's golf market, it is becoming obvious that we do not have the same volume of players that we once did. Gone are the weekends that we are busy from day break until early afternoon. As the volume of players decreases, it becomes increasingly important to entice your core players to play more. This includes members, permit holders, league and daily fee players, etc.

One of the best ways to keep these players interest is by having a good tournament schedule planned in advance. On the surface that sounds simple, but getting people to play can be difficult. When discussing the tournament schedule with the golf professional consider the following:

- 1) Give them multiple events in one. Try adding an individual portion to a 2 of 4 best ball or add a new twist to an existing event.
- 2) In a stroke play event, give the players a different look on certain holes. Take a page out the USGA's playbook and find a par 4 with some risk-reward characteristics and move the tees way up. People will talk about it and remember it. We've added it to one of our bigger events and people now try and guess where we will adjust the length to add excitement to the event.
- 3) Pay out net and gross divisions. This splits the money up a little bit but really levels the playing field. Players of all abilities will feel like they can compete. These are small changes take some effort, but they will help you create a buzz about your tournaments.



Players getting final instructions before heading out for a shotgun start.



This scoreboard from the WSGA 2010 State Amateur at The Bull at Pinehurst Farms shows a little calligraphy can go a long way towards a impressive scoreboard.

If time and the budget allow you can provide tournament conditions for your bigger events. Increasing green speed by double cutting and roll greens gets players buzzing about course conditions. For true tournaments make sure the hazard and out of bounds are clearly marked with stakes or paint.

Offer events special items such as creating hole location (pin)

sheets and professional score sheets. If you make your tournaments feel like the "Tour" people will be more excited to play.

Schedule a time to discuss your tournament schedule with your golf professional and manger. Together you'll be able to come up with ideas that will cater to your customer base and increase traffic. 🌿



Summer Learnin'

By **Jake Schneider**, Assistant Superintendent, Blackhawk Country Club

After the summer of 2009, which was my first as an assistant, I was under the impression that growing grass during a Wisconsin summer was a walk in the park. In 2009, the temperatures were moderate, the rainfall was well-timed, and it really was kind of easy to grow grass. Fast forward to September 6, 2010, and plans for early retirement are well under way for the author.

From the beginning, it should have been obvious that it was NOT going to be year of normality. Well before the ice had fully melted from Lake Mendota's shorelines, Blackhawk opened on the second earliest date in recorded history. Because the early spring was relatively dry, we had to get our pump station primed and ready to go soon after the course opened. Unfortunately, strongly northerly winds resulted in a 5-foot-high ice shove outside of our pumphouse that had to be cleared before the intake pipe could be put in the lake. More than ever, I was none too sad about lacking enough vertical elevation to fit into our wetsuits. Thanks mom and dad! Although it seems as if it was decades ago, I'm pretty sure that the remainder of the spring was rather uneventful. Little did we know that we'd end up watering the course more in April than in June. Spring certainly was the calm before the storm(s).

Every day from June 1-August 31, it rained, the high/low temperatures were 88/70 with high humidities, and squeegeeing/pumping the "water feature" in front of our 3rd green became a daily first job. For the majority of the summer, my guess is that Paul Koch was able to save electricity at the TDL by incubating samples outside. And, while the previous sentences may be slightly embel-



The challenge of starting the irrigation system with ice on the Lake. Notice Superintendent Chad Grimm takes the deep end.

lished, it undoubtedly was quite the summer. For us, summer began in earnest on Thursday, July 1.

Similar to many courses, Thursday is Men's Day at Blackhawk, and on July 1, after only 3 days without rain, the course was as firm and fast as it could be. Impossibly, the *Poa* began exhibiting signs of moisture stress that afternoon, and it was all too obvious that the deep, healthy roots that we had going into the summer had gone the way of the dinosaurs. That afternoon, we were able to handwater each of the greens, besides the chipping green. Not coincidentally, the chipping green suffered significant turf loss and has yet to fully recover. The remainder of the summer was filled with handwatering greens, tees, and fairways and crash course in maintaining a predominately *Poa* course under extreme environmental and disease pressure. Granted, it could have been a lot more painful had we not made the decision to water the greens on July 1.

Although the hours were long

and the stress level was higher than preferred, the summer of 2010 will be remembered by most in many not-so-nice ways. And, while this sophomore assistant superintendent can also think of many colorful, four-letter words to describe the summer that was, it truly was a learning experience that could never be replicated in any classroom. In hindsight, being on the winning end of so many critical decisions regarding irrigation, plant protectant and fertilizer applications, etc. has provided more real world experience than I could have hoped for (literally).

Thankfully, as I write this article, the weather seems to have broken and the worst should be behind us. Last year, it seemed criminal to aerify our fairways during mid-September, but this year, Chad and I were ready to tear them up during the second week of August. Ending on the sweet note of aerifying, I hope that everyone has a terrific and relaxing fall; we deserve it. 🌱



So You Think You Have Had Challenges

By Dr Michael J. Healy, Healy and Associates

Editors Note: Dr Healy is a turfgrass pathologist and consultant working near the Gulf of Mexico in southern Alabama. He has shared some of his interesting golf course experiences with us.

This article chronicles challenges faced by golf course superintendents working in seven different countries. Challenges include animal fending-off and tending, keeping turf alive in a severe drought, getting a course back open after a ten inch snow storm, and other significant challenges. This article is based on my travel to Korea, China, Malaysia, Oman, Turkey, The Grenadines, and Barbados earlier this year. Superintendent stories follow:

Brent Borelli- Sung Nam GC Seoul, Korea

When I landed at Seoul's International Airport in early January, as soon as I stepped outside the airport departure area door I was reminded of my growing up days west of Chicago in the middle of winter.

As I soon learned from Brent Borelli, GCS of Sung Nam GC, 25 cm (10") of snow had just fallen, with air temperatures cold enough to allow large sheets of ice to form on the Han River which courses through the center of Seoul.

While Brent's residence overlooks the Han River, the 20 minute or so drive to Sung Nam brings one to a whole other landscape. Low slung mountains with dense woods surround this 18 hole, twin greens per hole golf club. I fully expected to see at least cross



Brent Borelli on a paddle cleared greens on Sung Nam GC

country skiing, if not the downhill variety, when I was given my first tour of the course.

"So Brent", I asked, "your crew all working indoors, cleaning and painting, making repairs to equipment?". "On no" replied Brent, "virtually all our crew is on the course getting ready for golfers". "You're what?", I asked.

I soon learned that in Korea a golfing reserved tee time made is a tee time kept! Brent had already cleared all the cart paths using a snow blower attached to the front of a triplex mower. His goal now was to clean off at least one of the two twin greens per hole, along with the artificial turf areas of each natural grass tee. As no piece of equipment he had on hand was gentle enough not to destroy turf while removing snow, he had made large wood paddles. And sure enough, those paddles worked!

Of course, all the fairways and roughs still had the accumulation of snow. Later Brent confided that his crew was able to clear off landing areas on one nine. But as Brent said "Good luck if you didn't land where snow had been cleared!" His course was closed for just seven days.

Brent is a native of the U.S.

Mohamed Nizam Othman - Kuala Lumpur G & CC, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mohd Nizam Othman has had his hands full with the recently completed total renovation of his 2nd 18 hole course which had been preceded by the complete renovation of his 1st 18 hole championship course. As both courses converted from bermudagrass to seashore paspalum, much additional care had to be taken to avoid



A view of Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club

bermudagrass showing up in the conversion. Even though Nizam covered all his bases regarding bermudagrass regrowth, a stringent program of finding, digging out, and replacing bermudagrass patches with seashore paspalum appears to be the final step in the process. His championship course hosts two major tournaments this year, the May Bank 2010 Malaysia Open organized by the European Tour and a combined European/Asian tour event. The 2nd 18 is now undergoing additional changes, for the hosting of the Sime Darby LPGA tournament in October.

His staff has included 80 for the golf maintenance work, and another 80 for the landscaped areas. While the most recent golf course renovation was in full swing, the club house was also undergoing a major renovation/expansion.

At the end of my tour of the then about to be completed 2nd 18 renovation, Nizam told me this course was to have a new and different living component in the course landscape. Scheduled to arrive soon will be the resident deer and peacocks! Is there any limit to the scope of golf course superintendent responsibilities?

Christine Chan- Kau Sai Chau Golf Club, Hong Kong

Christine Chan is head GCS at this 54 hole public golf course located on an island in Hong Kong Bay. No one lives on this island; the 75 golf maintenance workers, club house staff, and golfers must go back and forth by dedicated ferry boats each day.

Two of the courses are bermudagrass, with the third (and newest) being all seashore paspalum. On a clear day there are some incredibly beautiful views from nearly every hole on the island.

As I rode the course with Christine, Lee Sellars (expat American gcs and consultant) and Dr. Eric Lee (Hong Kong resident and horticultural consultant), I noticed a low slung wire fence at the outside of every cart path. "So what's the fence for?", I asked Christine.

"We have a bad problem with wild boars damaging the turf", was her reply. The boars have been on the island since day one of the golf course presence. At first



Kau Sai Chau Golf Club, Hong Kong, note the electric fence to keep the wild hogs off the tee surface.

they made excellent barbecue, but at some point they could no longer be hunted or otherwise controlled. And as wild boars breed like, well like wild boars, their numbers soon became quite large. So at night when the island is devoid of people, the wild boar population is hard at work probing the electric fence perimeters.

As we rode back to the clubhouse I noticed what appeared to be photovoltaic panels atop the golf carts below me. Christine confirmed that those golf carts were being continually recharged by the sun. I never thought to ask whether or not the same technology was used to charge the network of electric fences. Of course battery backup would be required to keep the boars at bay during nighttime hours!

Craig Hanney-Muscat Hills GC Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

Is there anyone left actually living in Australia? Craig and Merryl Hanney's son Noah, at age 13, is fluent in Swiss German and becoming fluent in Arabic. The only reason he speaks English with an Aussie accent is that he's learned it from his parents- for he's never lived in Australia!

When Craig came in for the Muscat Hills grow-in and remained on at the completed course, he had a feeling he would be at the forefront of golf course turf culture there. Muscat Hills was/is the first modern design with modern turf varieties used in Oman.

He learned in a hurry that a golf course in Muscat might just react differently to local environmental conditions than elsewhere. While I won't go into detail about one of his challenges, is not a picture worth a thousand words? The photo of Craig with his trusty dog named "Pythium" should and does say it all!

Another real challenge was getting a maintenance crew up and running, motivated and efficient. Key members of his crew now include Hameed Al Balushi (from Oman), and Waseem Choudhary (originally from



Bayer Environmental Science

John M. Turner
Sr. Sales Specialist - Golf
Bayer Environmental Science

Cell Phone: (630) 215-6110
Office: (630) 443-7807
Fax: (630) 443-7839
Email: john.turner@bayercropscience.com

Pakistan). I fully expect both these gentlemen to someday become superintendents!

And as I've mentioned above, Craig is a native of Australia.

Atilla Demirsoy - LykiaLinks GC, Antalya, Turkey

The day I visited this course located on the edge of the Mediterranean Sea and to the east of Antalya, a fierce wind with cold rain greeted me. I thought for sure the course would be devoid of golfers, but not so. I was reminded that at Seoul, Korea's Sung Nam GC, golfers were likely now out playing on the snow covered fairways.

Atilla is one of the select group of superintendents able to claim they have successfully grown-in and maintain the only seeded variety of Seashore Paspalum used on a tee through green basis.

Atilla feels his biggest challenge and a real innovation for the area was figuring out the right technique to oversee the course at a point where golf play was at a minimum, in order to maximize rounds played and resulting revenue generated in lean economic times. He achieved this goal.

A second challenge was that blowing sand from the beach tended to accumulate on the sea-side holes. Once sand accumulation patterns were known, Atilla set about to create sand fences to prevent sand from covering turf. The final fence design and placement appears both attractive and functional. Sand fences, like snow fences, work by slowing the velocity of air borne particles to the point that they fall to the ground immediately on the leeward side of the fence.

Chris Biagi - Trump Int. GC, Canouan Island, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

All of the south Caribbean has been undergoing a year long +

drought. The last wet season (June-November) was dry with the most current dry season in its normal state.

Chris's 18 hole course has 50 acres of turf to irrigate, and another 30 acres of nonturf landscaped areas. His irrigation water sources are effluent, RO, and a fresh water reservoir, with the later two sources ordinarily supplying 45% each of his total needed minimum of 650,000 gallons per day. Recently his RO source downsized to a volume of under 20% of anticipated, and more recently his reservoir source of water went to 0%.

He's been able to keep the greens the right color and healthy, the tees are holding up, but the fairways are doing poorly. As the course was renovated a few years back to become an all seashore paspalum course, he's investigating the option of bringing in brackish water to augment his meager present irrigation supply.

Growing golf course quality turf-grass without adequate irrigation water is perhaps a superintendent's biggest challenge; adjusting management practices while introducing brackish water can be equally challenging.

Eamonn McCarthy- Barbados GC, Barbados

Barbados has not escaped the drought that has plagued St. Vincent and points south into Venezuela.

Eamonn's course is an all bermudagrass kind, and on some days he's had only 80,000 gallons of water with which to irrigate.

And during the drought, Eamonn's responsibilities were increased to include turf maintenance at the Kensington Oval, Barbados premier professional cricket stadium. While he hasn't yet needed to concern himself about the ultimate turf abuse metered out at the "pitch" area, could that be far behind?! His staff and equipment travel back and forth between the golf course and the Oval.

Eamonn is a native of Ireland.

Ed Paskins- Apes Hill GC- Barbados

Ed is overseeing another drought stricken course. He calculates his 2000 heads each get about 10 gallons of water a night; 200,000 gallons to water this very impressive all seashore paspalum course.

The fairway areas showing the most drought stress have become his testing ground for ways to minimize the drought-look along with reviving the turf to a more normal look and growth. He's hit upon using a slurry of green dye plus processed chicken manure through his hydro-mulch unit. The dye helps to mask the affected areas, while the application of organic fertilizer seems to bring the seashore paspalum growth rate back to a more normal condition.

His on-course resident animal



Many of us have extra jobs to worry about but Eamonn McCarthy at Barbados GC, Barbados, maintains the Kensington Oval Cricket Stadium.