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Super Pro at North Shore Country Club

By David Brandenburg, Golf Course Manager, Rolling Meadows Golf Course

Garrett Luck, Golf Course Superintendent and Wes Warren, PGA Professional were our hosts for the Annual Super Pro held June 7th at the North Shore Country Club, White and Red Courses. Luck is a 9 year WGCSA member.

North Shore Country Club was founded on March 1, 1920 as the Michiwaukee Golf Club on Fairy Chasm Road in Bay-side. In January of 1935 a group of members formed North Shore Country Club and bought the golf course property. As the club grew in popularity the members wanted to add tennis and swimming facilities but the club was landlocked at 129 acres.

In 1964 the club swapped the original course for 215 acres in Mequon allowing for a larger clubhouse, pool and 27 holes.

We may have been near Lake Michigan but the day was still hot with temperatures over 90. After a great lunch and some practice time working up a lather we hit the links.

The format is a 18 hole Chapman Alternate Shot meaning

we both tee off and on a par 4 you hit your partners ball and vice versa. After that you alternate in. On par 5's you swap balls twice and a par three you pick the best tee shot and alternate in from there.

On a side note our foursome started on a par 3 with my tee shot in front of the green and the golf professional in the bunker. It made sense for him to hit my ball onto the green but from a tight uphill lie he put me over the green and into the rough. Not to be outdone I put the ball back over the green right back where he started from. Nice way to start the day. We did recover enough to take 4th place.

Randy DuPont and Eddie Terasa from North Hills with a 67.05 narrowly beating John Feiner and Charlie Brown from Johnson Park GC. Mark Voeller and Mark Lockhart won division 2 with a 66 over Mark Krause and Tony Ceretto.

The Super Pro is a great event played for fun. We hope to see you there next year.



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Top: Scott Bushman presents Garrett Luck with a logo flag in appreciation for hosting the 2011 Super Pro.

Left: (top to bottom) Red 9 - Par 4 - 2nd, Jon Canavan tees off on Par 5 - 4th, Par 3 - 3rd hole is all carry. White 9 - Par 5 - 7th.

Below: 2011 Super Pro winners, Eddie Terasa and Randy Dupont from North Hills Country Club.



News and Notes From WGCSA Members

By John Jensen and The Reinders Team

I belong to a very small family (not that we are all short), I meant that both my parents were “only” children. Many of my relatives resided in Des Moines, Iowa where some were members of Des Moines Country Club.

They loved golf, not only playing the game, but watching tournament matches on TV. A good portion of our visits to Iowa inevitably ended with the men sitting in living room watching Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Lee Trevino or Greg Norman play in one tournament or another. I must admit, I was bored out of my mind but looking back those are fond memories of being with family.

This years U.S. Open rekindled some of those childhood memories, as I was joined by my kids huddled around the television. Each of us was on the edge of our seats as history unfolded. We found ourselves cheering for a young Rory McIlroy. He tore through Congressional Country Club, while putting on a coaching school for the best PGA players in the world.

This kid is something special and the future of golf is his to conquer. Many are already talking about the potential for Rory to break many of the records that are held today by other great golfers of the past. Even if he doesn't break some of those records, Rory McIlroy is still good for the game and his timing couldn't have been better.

The golf boom spiked years back when Tiger entered the scene. Many were convinced that we couldn't build courses fast enough to support the players that Tiger was going to introduce to the game. Fast forward to the present, and the story of the golf boom almost follows the fall from grace that we have seen from Woods.

McIlroy is a breath of fresh air to a sport that was only viewed by the demographic of mid-thirty aged players and up. Could he add a boost to a sport that needs new young players introduced, so we all have jobs well into our retirement age? Only time will tell, but who would have predicted such a strong recovery from Rory after we watched his lead at the Masters slip away? His manners, disposition and next door neighbor image will take him far in this sport. It is just fantastic to see.

Industry News

Bob White has accepted the head Superintendent position at Quail Valley Country Club. Bob was previously an assistant at Hawks Nest Golf Course and started his career

at Pheasant Valley Ridge in Falcon, Montana. In Bob's spare time he enjoys flying and bird watching.

Rocky Hill has been named the new Superintendent at Rolling Meadows Ridge Peek Golf Club. Before moving to Wisconsin, Rocky spent some time in Philadelphia where he met his wife Adrian. They have one son named Robert “Rocky” Jr. Rocky enjoys running, boxing and traveling to Russia.

Marathon Completed

David Marach Superintendent of Northbrook Country Club located in Luxemburg, WI and his wife Wendy set out to accomplish one of the items on their bucket list. Running and completing the Bellin 10K run. The Bellin Run is held annually in Green Bay, on the second Saturday in June. This event has been held for over 35 years and had well over 18,000 participants this past June. Wendy's time was 55:24 and her overall Place was 3,628. Her division Place was 197 out of 867. Women's Place 1,129 out of 9081

Dave's time was 52:16 and overall place of 2,465. His division place was 218 out of 551 and men's place 1846 out of 6382.

Rumor has it they were chasing the runner who had a cold beer dangling in front of him.

Their son Ethan ran the children's race on Friday night and was seen being interviewed by ESPN.

Summer

As I write this, it is the 4th of July weekend and summer has finally shown up. Strange to be able to count the number of good weather days we have seen leading up to this holiday weekend.

I will spend the remainder of this weekend sitting on a boat or sitting by a campfire drinking my favorite beer and praying for all of us that summer has a stronger finish than it began. I hope the beer is colder than the one I was running with in the 10K in Green Bay.

I have a few more articles to write before the torch is passed on to the next victim, I mean writer. So please be sure to keep me informed as to any new news that you would like included in the next issues

Where Has Summer Gone?

By David Brandenburg, Editor

Where is summer gone? By the time you are reading this it will be almost Labor Day and the summer students will all be back in school. They say that as you age the years go by faster and faster. I buy that theory but this summer seemed to fly by twice as fast as last year.

It was a summer I did not seem to get anything done and was always a day behind. First I need to apologize to the writers and readers for not getting this issue out sooner. The last issue was right on time so this one seems even later. I don't have a good reason, the days just slipped by and here I am at 1:00 am on a Sunday night, not going to quit until this issue is done and sent to the printer.

At the club it was our first season without a dedicated mechanic for mainly budgetary reasons. I would call the process a frustrating success. Success because we saved the money while staying on top of equipment maintenance. Frustrating because we had more breakdowns on newer equipment than we did on some of the old relics we keep around. If I hear one more service manager say "I have never heard of that before" I may have a new place to store our torque wrench. James and I learned a lot this year as we reacquainted ourselves with the inner workings of carburetors and hydraulic systems. Next years budget will not allow us to add the dedicated mechanic to our staff so we will continue to hone our skills and processes in the maintenance shop.

Our staff is mainly retired guys looking to stay busy and college or high school students looking to earn some money. The retirees are great and usually arrive at work 20 minutes early ready to go. It drives them nuts to wait until the starting time so we can have staff meetings. We also have a great mix of students who make us laugh every day and despite their lack of experience do good work. Each year they help us accomplish some projects and maintain the course to a high level. But one of the blessings of September and October is they go back to school! We love having them but they do bring a need for constant supervision and help with

small mechanical issues the older employees would handle on their own. Come September it is nice to be able to leave once in awhile to go somewhere or get something done on the course without worrying about the phone ringing.

Weather -

What can you say about this year? Spring was near non-existent while June was wet followed by humidity and heat in July. August has actually been our best month so far with lower dew points and cooler nights.



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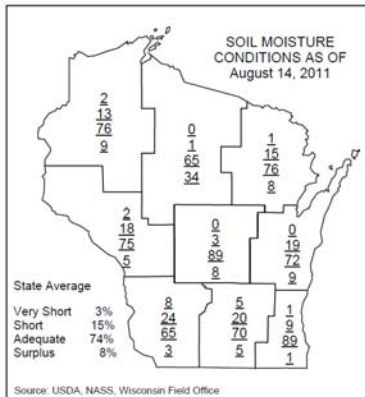
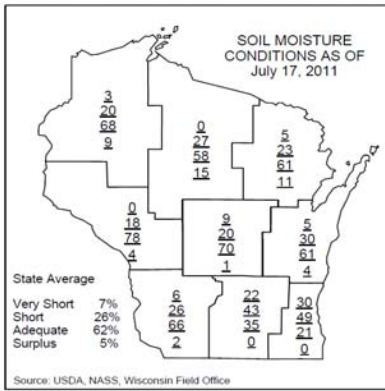
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EDITORS NOTEBOOK



From the weather maps provided by the National Agricultural Statistics Service you can see only isolated areas were wet or dry. However in between the dates most courses had both wet and dry periods.

Most of the summers turf problems were caused by the extended period of humidity and warm nights along with periods of rain. The rain itself did not present a problem but coupled with the high dew points the turf just could not dry out. Although budgets are strapped turf managers scrambled to obtain and apply pythium preventative products. Every season presents its challenges and this one is no different.

Goodbye

It is with surprise, appreciation and disappointment we say goodbye to Dr. John Stier. Dr. Stier joined the staff at UW Madison April 11, 2007 after working and receiving his PhD at Michigan State. John started with a 70% extension and 30% teaching assignment and recently expanded into the Chair of the Horticulture Department and Chair of the Curriculum Study Committee for the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

Dr. Stier has joined the University of Tennessee, Institute of Agriculture as assistant Dean for the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. It is a great opportunity for Dr. Stier and Tennessee but a loss for the Wisconsin Turf Industry. John was a regular speaker at our educational events and writer for *The Grass Roots*. Best of luck to you and your family John!



LEFT: Dr. John Stier addresses the crowd at the 1998 WTA Summer Field Day held at the OJ Noer Turfgrass Education and Research Facility (Grass Roots File Photo)

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Passings

It is with sad news we pass along the passing of two well known golf industry icons. Don Herfort, ASGCA Fellow of Lakeville, Minn., died June 26, 2011. He was 86 years of age.

Herfort was a 1951 graduate of the University of Wisconsin, earning a degree in Business Administration. While working for 3M he was asked to design the 3M Tartan Park Golf Course, launching his career as a golf course architect.

During a career which spanned more than 40 years, Herfort designed over 140 courses including Northwoods Golf Course, Rhinelander, Wis.; Indian Hills Country Club and Phalen Golf Course in St. Paul, Minn.; New Richmond Golf Course, Cumberland Golf Course and Royal Scott Golf Course all in WI.

Herfort is survived by his wife Shirley and three children. He was preceded in death by his daughter Karen.

Don "Red" Roskopf passed away August 3, 2011 at the age of 76. He is survived by his wife Mary Ellen, children Shelly (John) Tobiasz, Mark (Kelli), Kim (Mark) Montange and Kurt (Sue) Roskopf.

"Red" was the Past Grand Knight of KC Council 4240, member of the KC 4th Degree Our Lady of Holy Hill Assembly #1677 and was very active in both the Germantown and Menomonee Falls Communities. He held multiple titles in local Lions clubs including President for both Lannon and Sussex, Director of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation and Deputy District Governor of the Wisconsin Lions.

The turf industry first knew Red from his time as a salesman for Wisconsin Turf Equipment and then owner of Camelot Country Club. Red was very active in the industry and served as president of both the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association (WTA) and the Golf Course Owners Association of Wisconsin (GCOW).

Red gave me my start in the industry when he took a chance on a 22 year old "greenhorn" who stopped in looking for a better job in 1988. He not only taught me about the golf industry but the value and joy of association involvement and giving back to the industry through volunteering.

Roskopf had a huge personality and loved to laugh and have a good time. He made sure his customers and employees did the same. For as long as I knew him his license plate said EIEIO in reverence for his love of polkas and all things fun.

He had a lot of experiences that he was willing to share. One of my favorites came up when he was talking about equipment quality. He was trying to sell a school district a Jacobson push mower while working for Wisconsin Turf. This was still the time when the board members and main-



Don "Red" Roskopf entertaining the crowd at the August 1988 WGCSA Meeting at Camelot Country Club. (Photo from Grass Roots File)

tenance staff had the salesmen come to a board meeting to show off their product.

With everyone gathered around his truck Red grabbed his push mower by the handle and flung it off the tailgate landing hard on the parking lot below. Well the groups eyes opened wide in amazement as they could not believe what they had just saw. I am sure there were thinking this guy has to be crazy treating this new mower that way. Then with what I am sure was a big smile and trademark Red laugh he said "my mower is made with quality and will last your school a long time". A sale was made and from then on Red knew he had a loyal customer.

With his personality Red was a born salesman, he loved people and interacting with them. Before getting into turf sales he owned Red's Garden Center in Sussex a Simplicity sales store and small engine repair shop. It was said he did okay but never made much money because he just couldn't bring himself to charge full price for things. He was just too nice to people he knew.

Between his community involvement, Lions and the Knights of Columbus Red knew a lot of people. Working at Camelot if we had 200 customers a day 150 knew Red and 50 of them wanted to talk to him before they paid. If he was around and he usually was he would talk to them and if he didn't give them a deal he made them feel like he gave them a deal.

There isn't one lesson I learned from Red, there are three. 1. Like people and enjoy them. 2. Give back to community and industry. 3. Everyone wants a deal, not everyone can have one, someone has to pay the bills.

I need to work on number 1.