

# BROOKVIEW LOOKS

## TO THE FUTURE

by ANDY LINDQUIST  
Superintendent  
Brookview Golf Club

Renovation of Brookview Golf Course as planned for 1984 is quite extensive. The Brookview Golf Course is part of the City of Golden Valley Brookview Complex which was purchased in 1972. The complex contains a 20 acre park, 27-hole golf course, community center, park and recreation offices and a public swimming pool. The city realized that drastic improvements were needed for most of this complex and action was taken in 1983. Upgrading of the golf course maintenance budget occurred in 1983. Renovation of the community center and golf course '84 or '85 and renovation/elimination of the current pool for '86. I spent most of the late summer and early fall of '83 designing/planning what type of renovation and how much was needed for the golf course. A quick synopsis is as follows:

- 1) Update maintenance equipment thru repair of existing equipment and purchase of new equipment over a three year period. (\$112,000).
- 2) Installation of a new automatic irrigation system for all 27-holes. (\$165,000).
- 3) Improved drainage of fairways. (\$387,000).
- 4) Loss of revenue for course when partially closed. (\$112,000).

I would like to focus in on the irrigation and fairway improvement plans.

**IRRIGATION:** Our regulation course's system was old and inadequate. The Par 3 course had PVC pipe and good quick connector location. Our pump station needed improved pressure control. I decided to install new automatic heads on the Par 3 course (replace existing quick connectors); install new piping with automatic heads on the regulation course; and a revalved pump station.

A Toro VT III video system (computer central with 36 solid state satellites) was chosen for its reliability and the ability to

use the central controller (a Columbia personal computer) for its potential application in data management for my maintenance and budget needs. 670 heads were used in the fairways and 630 heads were used on greens and tees. Individual head control on greens and tees and two heads per station on fairways. Some "double row" design on wider fairways and all approaches were double rowed with 630 heads.

The irrigation system is installed/designed around the fairway improvement plan which is:

**FAIRWAY IMPROVEMENTS:** Brookview has a lot of peat fairways and a high water table (6-12" below surface) and to complicate matters, we are located within the Basset Creek flood plain which requires that any elevating of areas on the flood plain (therefore reducing flood storage) had to be equalized via ponding or planned flood areas.

Since redesigning of the course was not involved (greens and tees remain in the same locations) the project is basically a drainage project. With this in mind an architectural firm capable of calculating flood storage volumes was hired (in this case TKDA firm).

I located problem areas, potential ponding sites and temporary water holding areas and minimum grades for slopes (2% minimum). The architects designed the drainage patterns, calculated and balanced our flood storage level.

One unique technique we are using is a petro-mat (similar to the product advertised on TV by oil firms) to perform two functions. First of all, we need to "stabilize" the peat. The fabric (Mirifi 600) provides this. Secondly, the "top soil" being placed on the peat would eventually disappear into the peat so the petro-mat acts as a separation fabric between the good top soil and the peat.

The installation process goes as such:

- 1) Site brought to one foot from final grade by use of soil (peat, etc.) dug from "new" ponds and soil hauled in from off site. Soil is placed on existing peat..allowed to settle for one to three weeks.

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2) Fabric (purchased in 24' wide rolls 100' long) was rolled over most of the elevated areas and one foot of the top soil was overlaid on the petro-mat.

3) Irrigation was installed (by irrigation contractor) and area was seeded (by golf course maintenance crew).

The results of using the fabric are absolutely incredible. In areas where I couldn't get a utility turf vehicle now (after only 1 foot of soil placed on the petro-mat which is sitting directly on the peat) I can get a 15 yard dump truck thru with no problem! I don't like to call it a "miracle" fabric but...now we can "walk on water".

Our project is expected to be completed in mid- September so if you would like to see this process in action, stop in and I'll be glad to show you this new exciting technique.

**POSITION AVAILABLE**

The position of Grounds Superintendent has recently become available at the Fort Wayne Country Club. Fort Wayne Country Club is a 75 year old private, member-owned country club with 18-Holes. Bentgrass/poa annua greens, tees and fairways with bluegrass roughs. Single row automatic watering system. Club instituted use of hydraulic fairway mowing in spring of 1984. Superintendent will be fully responsible for top quality maintenance of entire club grounds including golf course and perimeter of all club buildings as well as preparation and achievement of approved annual operating budget. Salary range of \$35,000-\$50,000 commensurate with qualifications. Benefits include full GCSA package, life and medical insurance, pension plan and relocation expenses. Send resume in confidence to: NORMAN J. SPITZIG, JR., CCM, GENERAL MANAGER, FORT WAYNE COUNTRY CLUB, 5221 COVINGTON ROAD, FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46804.



**ROUND-UP**

