

TURF CONFERENCE ENTERS SEVENTH DECADE

by Rick Fredericksen
Conference Co-Chairman

The MGCSA held its 60th Annual Turf Conference and business meeting at the St. Paul Radisson Hotel the first week of December. I would like to thank my co-chairmen Fred Anderson and Jim Nicol for their extra effort in making this conference one of our very best. Being in the center of downtown St. Paul during the holiday season adds excitement to the event and makes for an entertaining atmosphere. Our thanks also are extended to the people of the Radisson Hotel who were very professional and hospitable.

Things got off to a very smooth start at the registration tables thanks to Barb Glader and Sharon Anderson who worked diligently to see that everyone was signed up and informed. Special thanks also go to Barb and husband Kerry for the handsome name badges given out this year. Nice touch!



ENTER AND SIGN IN PLEASE - Computerized registration and name tags got us off to a fast start.

Wednesday's full slate of programs began with the Service School Session chaired by Bob Fredericks of MTI. MTI's Dan Carpenter and LeRoy Young spoke on Hydraulics and Irrigation Pump Maintenance.

Over 230 people signed up for the Pesticide Session chaired by Daytona's Tom McCann. This session featured Wayne Dally, John True and Dr. Ward Stienstra of the University of Minnesota. Dally reviewed new pesticide regulations, methods of storage, transportation and disposal and public relations ideas. True updated us on safety, environmental considerations and application methods. Dr. Stienstra helped us understand the complicated world of pesticide labeling. As in the past, attendance at this session qualified for recertification of application licensing by virtue of their participation.

Following lunch we moved to the general session. Out-



MR. CHAIRMAN, MR. SPEAKER - Jack Kane (R) was our main speaker Wednesday afternoon.

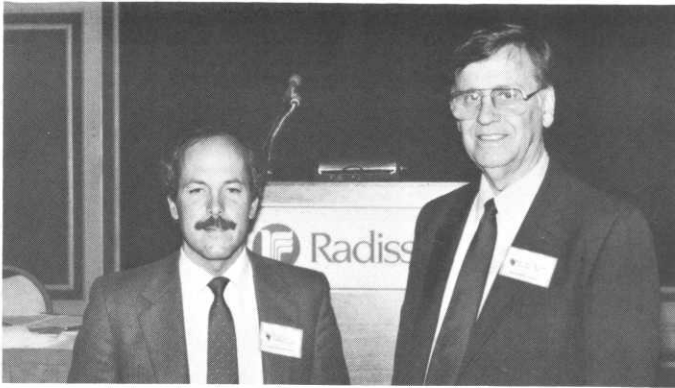
going President Doug (Taj) Mahal welcomed keynote speaker Jack Kane who talked for two hours on the personal demands of communication and leadership. We heard about introverts, extroverts and how to deal betwixt and between the many personalities we encounter in our business. Wednesday closed with the business meeting at 3:00 p.m. A unanimous ballot was cast for our new President Scott Hoffman of Madden's in Brainerd. Scott brings a wealth of talent to this position and we all wish him great success in continuing the solid progressive tradition of MGCSA. Our new V.P. is Keith Scott of Oak Ridge. Tom Fischer of Edinburgh USA is our new treasurer and Fred Anderson of Purple Hawk will be secretary for 1988. Elected to serve on the board were Dan Hanson of Minikahda, Stillwater's Kevin Clunis and Tom McCann of Daytona.

Thursday began with the traditional prayer breakfast featuring Monty Sholund. The General Session Chairman, Greg Hubbard (Manitou Ridge), welcomed Dr. Phil Larson from the U of M Plant Pathology Department and



DR. IN THE HOUSE - Dr. Phil Larson spoke on Summer Patch Disease.

Dr. Houston Couch of Virginia Tech. Their topics were Summer Patch Disease and related research. Also featured was Brian Sylva (Guido to his friends at Interlachen) who supplied us with ideas on designing and constructing bunkers. Sylva was also on hand Friday to show



EXPERT ADVICE - Golf Course Architect Brian Sylva (L) and Dr. Houston Couch highlighted the 2nd day.

some great slides of the Captains Course he designed on Cape Cod. Thursday afternoon we got an update on the GCSAA from William Roberts of Stevens Points Sports Center. We were pleased to hear our national organization is now almost 7500 members strong. Thanks to Steve Schumacher (Hastings) for his efforts on this session. 45 exhibitor tables and the always popular Bull Session rounded out the day.



SMELL THE FLOWERS - William Roberts, GCSAA director from Stevens Point Sports Center gave us a national update.

Kevin Clunis put together our Friday a.m. session which featured the U of M's Dr. Donald White updating his Poa annua study. The afternoon session saw former MGCSA member Mark Smith return for a presentation on Winter Overseeding in the South. It turns out to be a chore we can appreciate having to live without. The afternoon also featured a new session called Best Turf Tips of 1987. Chris Hague, Dan Hanson, Howard Kaerwar and Brad Klein led us through this very interesting hour. Thanks to Bill Whitworth for chairing the afternoon session.

The Friday night banquet is always the highlight of the conference but this year it was very special. Mrs. Harold Stodola was on hand to present scholarships to three students in honor of her husband, Harold. I needn't remind anyone of the tremendous contribution to our association, and indeed to our entire profession, made by this great man. We were all touched by Jerry Murphy's moving tribute to Harold and were honored and pleased

to have Mrs. Stodola make the presentations to Jeff Anderson and Dave Simeon of the University of Minnesota and Jeff Major of Michigan State. Harold's dedication to education now lives on and we thank all past and future contributors to the scholarship fund.



MEMORIES AND FUTURE DREAMS - Mrs. Harold Stodola presents scholarships to Dave Simeon (L) and Jeff Anderson of the U of M.

The conference ended with a gala Casino Night featuring horse racing, roulette, black jack and a host of other games which left all of us thankful we were playing with funny money. I close by thanking Doug Mahal for his outstanding year of service as president and wishing the best to his successor Scott Hoffmann. The torch has been passed and our association looks stronger than ever.

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MORE CONFERENCE PHOTOS



Russ Adams of Bolstad University Golf Club receives his 25 year service award from outgoing President Doug Mahal.



Club President and Life Member, Jim Madden (R) came to see his Superintendent Scott Hoffmann assume the Presidency of MGCSA.



Other 25 year awards went to Jim Lindblad, Wayzata Country Club and Glen Rasmussen of MTI.



Chris Hague of Hazeltine (L) received the \$250 door prize from last years winner, Keith Scott.



35 year service awards were presented to Robert Gerding of Par Aide (L) and Jim Cox of Long Lake Ford.



Casino Night was a huge success although no one pictured here appeared to have the winning number.