

loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria) on farm land where the farmer is required to eradicate the purple loosestrife because of the noxious weed law.

[18.191] Destruction of Noxious Weeds

This section now provides that effective July 1, 1989, an owner of non-federal lands underlying public waters or wetlands is not required to control purple loosestrife below the ordinary high water level of the water or wetland. The commissioner of natural resources is responsible for the control on public waters and wetlands unless they are owned or managed by the federal government. This section also provides that DNR employees or those under contract with the DNR may cross private land to get to public waters or wetlands to control the purple loosestrife. Landowners may assume responsibility for controlling loosestrife on their protected waters if they notify the DNR in writing.



**OFF THE TOP
OF MY HEAD**

**GREG HUBBARD, CGCS
Editorial Chairman**

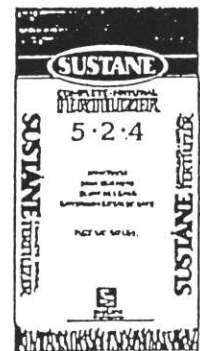
In an earlier issue, I suggested that we all take some time off during the busy golf season to relieve work related stress and to re-acquaint ourselves with our families. For once, I finally took some of my own advice and took a little visit to the PGA Championship held this last August at Kemper Lakes near Chicago. By showing my GCSAA membership card, my wife and I were each given complimentary passes for each day of play which also included special tent privileges for food and refreshments. As evidenced by the TV telecast, we were treated to an outstanding golf course in superb condition and, of course, were eyeball to eyeball with the best golfers in the world. A thrilling finish topped off a very enjoyable visit and I returned to work a much happier soldier with my batteries fully recharged.

Besides the actual tournament, I was struck by the enor-

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mity of the whole operation. Big time golf requires big time commitment and lots of money and hard work. I marveled at the enormous expense and long hours of planning that go into hosting an event of such grandeur. From preparing the course to locating TV equipment to food handling to transportation, the volunteer staff should be congratulated on a very fine effort. Their hard work not only made the tournament possible but assured its success. I also marveled at the wealth that present day golf demands and acquires. Large corporate tents for personnel and clients, brand new cars for golf professionals and VIP's, huge trailers filling up huge parking lots, all added to the circus atmosphere permeating the entire event. Golf is certainly enjoying an enormous boom and we are fortunate to be involved in such a lively, interesting, upbeat field.

Another thing struck home as the tournament progressed. Play at Kemper Lakes was frequently delayed by thunderstorms during tournament week and some players threatened to walk off the course as lightening bolts danced around the area. Others ignored the lightening danger, leaving themselves in the hands of fate. One bolt came so close as to knock out a power transformer across the street from the course Saturday evening closing down the entire operation. In fact, within the span of 5 days, 15 people were struck by lightening in the Chicago area causing at least one death. Apparently no one learned from the Lee Trevino/Bobby Nichols incident 15 years ago when both were struck by lightening at another Chicago area course during the Western Open.

How often do we tempt fate on our own golf courses? Is it really worth it to get one more fairway cut or to finish that last hole of golf? Don't you have a responsibility to yourself, your employees, and your golfers to treat approaching thunder storms with respect? Golf courses are among the worst places to be during thunderstorms. Maybe you should review your policies and make sure your employees and your golfers are aware of the risk that accompanies threatening weather. I'm sure 15 people in the Chicago area now treat thunderstorms with the respect they deserve. It's one hell of a way to recharge your batteries!

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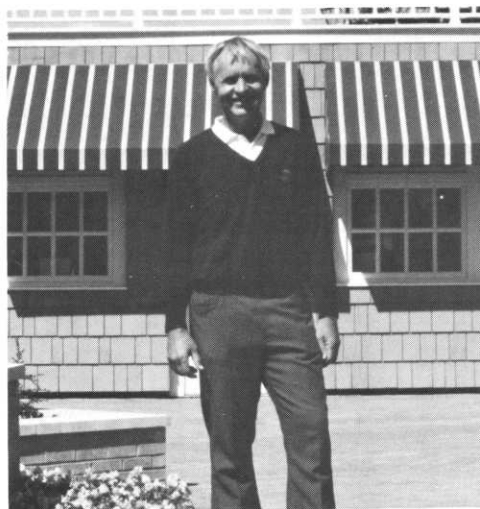
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EDINA PHOTOS



Host Superintendent Bill Johnson has had a very busy year sprucing up the grounds around the beautiful new clubhouse.



Cushman's sales staff showed off their new Core Processor and other equipment.



Dr. Joe Delly had his audience in a reflective mood.