HOLE NOTES

Official Publication of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association

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Flooded basements were commonplace. Golf courses had water in areas where no one had ever seen water standing before. When we should be getting buried with snow, it rains! Do you suppose we will see snow in August?

We are supposed to be able to have definite answers for winter preparation and always be able to second-guess Mother Nature, are we not? So when your membership wonders what happened to your course after the calm, mild winter we just had, be prepared to pin them down on the winner of the next Superbowl!

Here's what I am getting at. After this winter thaw begins and you see that you have lost some turf to winter-kill, be prepared to call on your fellow superintendents, your state association's Board of Directors and your area professionals at the University of Minnesota for help. Your association is doing a survey about what you do to prepare for winter. We all have different approaches to what we do, what ideas work or which do not. Please take some time during this busy time of the season to fill out this survey when it comes. It could benefit us all in the future.

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I would like to say a hearty thank you to Dan Miller and Tom Haberman for the splendid arrangements they made for the MGCSA Hospitality Reception held during the 62nd Annual GCSAA International Turf Conference in Orlando. And, as well, to all of our Associate members, who support and sponsor this event. It is truly enjoyable to see some familiar faces when you are out of town...besides Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck! Thanks to you all! The attendance of the conference was near 18,000. The equipment show was incredibly large. One time through took eight hours!

I had the honor of presenting checks on behalf of the MGCSA to Mr. William Bengeyfield, retiring USGA Green Section Director, and Mr. James Snow, USGA Green Section Director. One was for \$1,000 to the USGA-GCSAA Research Project, and the other, a \$1,000 check to GCSAA President Dennis Lyons for our continuing support of the GCSAA Research & Scholarship Fund, at the Gold-en/Platinum Tee Club Reception on Sunday, February 25.

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I also would like to thank the Lafayette Club and host superintendent John Harris for holding the GCSAA Regional Seminar: Business Communication & Assertiveness Techniques, and the MGCSA Spring Mini-Seminar. This cooperation and support is very much appreciated by all of us in the MGCSA.

Our next meeting will be held at the Owatonna Country Club on April 16. I know that our host, Randy Nelson, will have the course ready and open for us...if his second-guess is better than Mother Nature's. Hope to see you there! —*Kerry Glader, GCSA President*