

Snow Named National Director Of USGA's Green Section

Jim Snow has been appointed national director of the United States Golf Association's Green Section, the department of the organization devoted to turfgrass conditioning and development.

Snow, 39, succeeds William H. Bengeyfield, who retired March 31. The appointment is one of six personnel changes in the Green Section. The others are:

- **Mike Kenna**, named Director of Green Section Research;
- **David Oatis**, formerly an agronomist in the Green Section's Mid-Atlantic office, replacing Snow as Director of the Northeastern Region;
- **Robert C. Vavrek Jr.**, now an agronomist in both the Great Lakes and Mid-Continent regions;
- **John Foy**, formerly an agronomist in the Southeastern Region, now director of the Florida Region;
- **Dean Knuth**, named Director of Green Section Administration.

Snow joined the USGA in 1976 as an agronomist and has directed the Green Section's Northeastern Region since 1982. A native of Trumansburg, N.Y., he was graduated from Cornell University in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in ornamental horticulture and received his master's degree from Cornell in 1976.

As national director, Snow will be responsible for directing the Green Section's national program and its agronomists, supervising the championship course preparation program and editing the magazine *The Green Section Record*.

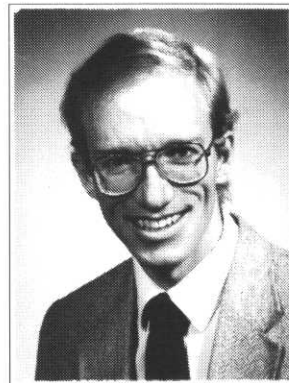
He also will succeed Bengeyfield as chairman of the USGA Turfgrass Research Committee, which currently is involved in developing low maintenance grasses.

In addition to the national director, the USGA Green Section includes 14 agronomists. That staff makes some 1,500 advisory visits annually to golf courses, reviewing green section procedures and providing recommendations for proper turfgrass maintenance. The Green Section also oversees course preparation for the 13 national championships conducted by the USGA.

In assuming responsibility for the administration of the Green Section, Knuth succeeds Charles W. Smith, who retired March 31 after 18 years of service. In addition to working with the Green Section during his career, Smith handled handicapping, conducted championships and had the primary responsibility for overseeing construction of the USGA's new office building, which was completed in 1985.

Knuth also will remain as director of handicapping, a position he's held since 1981, and will continue to direct the USGA's Golf Handicap Information Network (GHIN), as he has since 1985.

The USGA has made additional administrative adjustments. Anthony J. Zirpoli has been appointed director of regional affairs, overseeing the work of five representatives located at different points around the country. At the same time, Zirpoli will continue to administer amateur status, as he has done for the last 10 years.



Phil Allen
U of M Student Gets \$4,000 Grant

U of M Student Receives \$4,000 Musser Grant

Phil Allen, a horticulture major at the University of Minnesota, is one of three doctoral candidates in various plant sciences to receive a \$4,000 scholarship grant from The Musser International Turfgrass Foundation.

Allen, whose doctoral thesis concerns the germination of grass seeds subjected to fluctuating moisture conditions, is studying under Dr. Donald White at the U of M.

The scholarship grant is awarded to final year Ph.D. candidates who have displayed high scholastic achievement and presented a well-conceived thesis problem with an element of "pioneering" toward problem orientation.

The other two recipients are Melodee Kemp, who is studying turfgrass breeding under the tutelage of Dr. Reed Funk in the Department of Crop Science at Rutgers University, and Virginia Lehman, who is studying plant breeding with Dr. Milt Engelke in the Department of Soil & Crop Sciences at Texas A&M University.

Kemp's thesis deals with the effects of some root-infecting fungi on fine fescues. Lehman's concerns root and shoot tolerance of creeping bentgrass.

"Our financial support of these three doctoral candidates is the best investment we can make for the future of all sports turfgrasses," says Frank Dobie, president of the MITF and superintendent of The Sharon Club, Sharon Center, Ohio.

"It is an honor to share this award," Allen said. "I was impressed to learn that many turf professionals who have impacted my education and philosophy are former students of Dr. Musser. He was clearly instrumental in bringing turfgrass science out of its infancy."

Award winners were decided at the MITF annual board meeting on February 25, 1990 at the GCSAA National Conference in Orlando. The selection committee included Dr. Joe Duich, Penn State University; Dr. James Beard, Texas A & M University; Dr. Harry Niemczyk, Ohio Agricultural Research & Development Center, and Dr. James Watson, the Toro Company.

The Musser International Turfgrass Foundation is dedicated to the memory of H.B. Musser's pioneering efforts in turfgrass research and education, and to the continuance of his dedication to the field. MITF achieves this through funding of basic turfgrass research by graduate students.