# **HOLE NOTES**

Official Publication of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association

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#### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

## Dick DeSplinter Dies After Courageous Bout With Cancer



The MGCSA extends its deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Dick DeSplinter, who recently passed away after a courageous bout with cancer. A Class A member at New Hope Village Golf Course, Dick was President of this Association in 1980 and will be missed by his many friends and colleagues.

At our most recent Board meeting, we examined our new financial forecast for the coming year and tabled discussion until the next meeting. Projections of a large profit never materialized as expenses kept mounting. We are currently forecasting a break-even budget for this upcoming year and fear a small dues increase or lessened member services may be inevitable. We'll keep you informed of the situation.

Concerns have been raised about our ever-increasing commitment to scholarship fund-raising. In an already crowded field, hampered by economic times, should we support and encourage further career competition for limited job opportunities? Is an oversupply of talented individuals chasing too few jobs already?

Golf and golf course management have certainly undergone a surge of popularity, which has been tempered by hard economic times. As financing for golf course projects loosens, more job opportunities with better compensation should be available for all. Scholarship recipients are often the brightest, dedicated students in our field. I would hate to deny a deserving student the opportunity to succeed because of financial problems.

Good luck to Jim Nicol and his staff during the upcoming Burnet Senior Classic at Bunker Hills. This event is the first of many major events being hosted by member clubs this year.

A new course on stress management is being offered by GCSAA this year. Now that summer help is on the way, take some MGCSA stress management and attend our upcoming meeting at the Lafayette Club. The rest and relaxation will be most welcome.

-Greg Hubbard, CGCS President



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