



Editor's Corner

By Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS
Monticello Country Club

Alpha to Omega

First it's too wet and gloomy, now it's hot and dry. Often I laugh at myself for complaining about the weather. I grew up in a rural community and had farmer friends whose only way to start a conversation had something to do with the weather. Many times I jokingly kid them for their one-track minded view of life. When I look back on the columns I have written since being assigned to this position it appears talking about the weather has become my favorite opening line as well. Isn't it amazing how the tides do turn, maybe the weather will too? Here's hoping that since the start to the season was too wet and the middle too dry the end will be just right.

GCSAA Logo Balls

As part of the 75th anniversary for the GCSAA, a display

is being built to host as many member course logo balls as can be assembled. I recently checked online and noticed that only seven clubs from Minnesota have participated to date. Get involved and send three logo balls to the GCSAA. The three logo balls from your club will be used as follows, one for a display at the next GCSAA turf conference, and the other two to be auctioned off with the proceeds going to the GCSAA Foundation. Mail the balls to: GCSAA, 1421 Research Park Dr., Lawrence, KS 66049-3859.

If you have any questions about the logo ball display or any 75th anniversary programs contact: Judy Ventsam at 1-800-472-7878, ext. 419.

PCA.com

While scooting around the Internet the other day I decided to hit some state agencies to see what was available. Aside from running into Jessies' Grand Plan every where I went I did run into some interesting sites. One web site that led me all over and had a lot of interesting links, was pca.state.mn.us. There were all sorts of links to information about water quality to air quality. My guess is it was slightly slanted to the liberal side, but interesting non-the-less.

Heat Stress

In our last issue of the Hole Notes you may have noticed a watch box on page 35 regarding Heat Stress, the signs and how to handle Heat Stress. Watching my crew each summer, I can't stress how important it is to make sure you and your staff, take some precautions and are aware of the potential health problems associated with heat stress. You can find all kinds of information from the NIOSH and NDEC and OSHA, all organizations put out pamphlets on how to protect yourselves and your staff.

Laser Mowers?

Is the future now? How many of us have envisioned some type of laser mower, quite and efficient? Well I was just reading an article about the WOLF-Garten Zero laser mowers. The mower was introduced this year at the International Gardening Fair in Cologne, Germany. It looks like a vacuum cleaner attached to the front of a fancy golf car. It supposedly sucks up the grass, cuts it off with a laser, then chops the clippings into little pieces and shoots them out the back, a system they call "siltidry" (silent, tiny, dry). What a concept, the article mentioned it will be available for production in 2002. Laser mowers, remote control mowers, satellite guided sprayers, what's next. Just goes to show how fast our industry continues to grow and the ingenuity behind it.

Have a Great Month!

I hope to see many of you at the U of M turf field days, but if not there, maybe at the MGCSA championship, held at Wayzata Country Club. Both prove to be great events.

--Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS
Editor

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