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GREAT ATTENDANCE AT HONEYWELL

The May meeting of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association was held at the Honeywell Country Club with fifty-two in attendance for the meeting and dinner. Host Dennis Hendrickson received his National Association Certification.

The following were voted into membership: Derald Naumann, Clifford Reynolds, Mike Turnbull and Rodney Johnson. Wayne Idso, William Carlson and Melvin Henry were approved for associate memberships.

EPA has a tentative restricted pesticide list and everyone should be aware that he has to become a certified pesticide applicator to purchase any of the restricted pesticides.

Carl Johnston made arrangements for an excellent and most enjoyable film, "Royal and Ancient Game".

Please note that for future meetings the advance reservation form which will be sent to you prior to each meeting must be mailed by the deadline date. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOUR RESERVATION BE MADE IN ADVANCE OF THE MONTHLY MEETINGS.



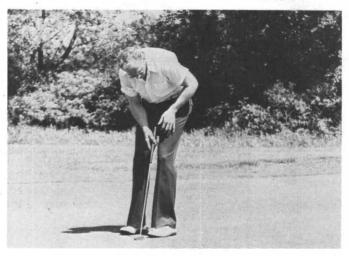
SCENIC. The beautiful Honeywell clubhouse provides a perfect backdrop for the 18th Green.



HELPFUL LESSON. Kent Kromer, left, of the Kromer Co. gives Rodney Johnson a useful demonstration of a new riding mower.



INQUISITIVE. Dick Williams, right, questions Bill Lancette of Cushman about the various qualities of this special aerator.



UNIQUE. Irv Novak demonstrates his unusual, but effective, one-handed putting style.





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MINNESOTA TORO, INC.

Who In The World Put The Hole There!

by FRANK D. TATUM, JR. Member, U.S.G.A. Executive Committee

The Open had reached its most dramatic moment. As Jack Nicklaus crouched over an eight-foot putt on the 12th green at Pebble Beach, Arnold Palmer hunched over an eight-footer on the 14th. Nicklaus needed his putt for a bogey 4, Palmer needed his for a birdie 4, and if Arnold made and Jack missed, Palmer would lead the Open by a stroke.

Both tapped their putts at about the same instant, and both putts ran practically straight at the hole. As everyone with any interest in these things knows by now, Nicklaus holed and Palmer missed, and Jack won his third Open.

What some spectators found a bit unusual, or unexpected, was the paths of these putts. They had not expected them to run so straight. Their experience with other tournaments had conditioned them to expect holes to be cut in hillsides, behind bunkers or next to creeks, in places where only a lucky putt goes in or a lucky shot ends up in birdie range. They came prepared to condemn the man who put the hole there as some kind of a fiend.

They should not. He deserves not condemnation but pity. He is up before daylight, ready to start setting the holes as soon as light will permit. His early start expresses his concern that the players with the early starting times will have an equal opportunity with the late starters to see how the course is set up. He struggles with intense care to get it right. If he succeeds, he is blissfully ignored; if he fails, recognition is immediate, universal, bombastic and blasphemous.

I do not seek sympathy for these men. Theirs is a vital function. They can emasculate a great design, or they can accentuate its greatness. To assume such responsibility necessarily includes accepting its consequences. Like bad art, there is too much bad pin setting afflicting the championships to combine the art and the science of locating the holes so as to bring out all the qualities of the course on which they are played. Hopefully, the principles applied by the U.S.G.A. will be useful to others who squint into the rising sun hoping to find that small plot of good grass and terrain in the right part of the green for that day's play.

The first principle is to be fair. Never pick a placement that will not fully reward the properly struck shot played from the right position. The hole setter, therefore, must not only appreciate the design of the hole, but he must also weigh such factors as weather, wind direction, and firmness of the turf, and determine in advance how that particular hole will play on that particular day. He must have done some planning. In a four-day championship, for example, this means he must have analyzed the course and generally determined the four areas on each green providing hole locations appropriate for the particular tournament. He must then plan his practice round settings so that those areas will be preserved for tournament play.

He should set up a balanced course for each day's play. A common error is to set up the course to play progressively more difficult each day by using all the easiest pin placements on the first day and proceeding progressively to all of the most difficult settings on the last. This tends to distort the course, at least on the first and last days. In a four-day championship the U.S.G.A. will evaluate each of the four areas preplanned for each green, rating the most difficult as 1, the easiest 4 and assessing a 2 and a 3 for the intermediate areas. Each day's setting process involves planning to avoid something like an "18" course (i.e. 18 number 1 settings) on the one hand, or a "72" course (i.e. 18 number 4 settings) on the other. The optimum for each day would be a "45" course, and the effort each day is made to get as close to that number in the total course settings as conditions that day will allow. (continued on page 7)

Keeping Abreast of Politics — A Must

Many bills are introduced into state legislatures and the U.S. Congress each day that will affect the working conditions of golf course superintendents.

Some recent bills include those protecting workers against skin irritation caused by chemicals used on the job, banning certain pesticides, and requiring that lawn mowers turn off automatically when the operator takes his hands off the machine.

These bills, if they become law, will have a major influence on each

superintendent.

More superintendents need to become more involved in politics — particularly when it concerns legislation that pertains to their profession. The best way for a superintendent to obtain information about pending bills and resolutions is to contact his Congressman.

Writing a letter and expressing your views on what course he should follow on a particular issue is the best way to reach your Congressman. Let him know if you like or dislike his voting record. He needs your advice. You are the professional in your field and he will listen to you.

A well-researched letter means more than 1,000 names on a petition, says an aide to one Congressman. Another method of influencing Congressmen is to explain what effect a particular piece of legislation would have on you. Personal letters are the most effective way of reashing a legislator according to a recent U.S. Chamber of Commerce survey of Congressional staffs.

Here are some guidelines that may help when writing federal, state, county or

municipal legislators:

• Write on your personal business letterhead, if possible. Handwritten letters, if they are legible, are sometimes more effective than those that are typed.

 Put your return address on the envelope and the letter; sometimes envelopes are discarded before the letter is answered.

answerea.

• Identify your subject clearly. State the name of the legislation you are writing about and the House or Senate bill

number, if you know it.

• State your reason for writing. Your best supporting evidence is your personal experience. Explain how the issue will affect you, your business, profession, family or what effect it could have on your state or community.

 Avoid stereotyped phrases and sentences that give the appearance of

form letters.

• Be reasonable. Don't ask for the impossible. Don't threaten; it may only hinder your cause, not help it.

• Ask your legislator to state his position on the issue. As his constituent you are entitled to know.

• The most important consideration is timing. Try to write your Congressman while the bill is in committee. Your legislator can be more responsive to your appeal at that time rather than later on when the bill has already been approved by a committee.

• If a legislator pleases you with his vote on an issue, thank him. Compliments should be offered if they are deserved. Everybody appreciates a complimentary

letter — and remembers it.

• If your legislator votes against your position, don't hesitate to let him know you are displeased. He will remember that, too.

There are several ways of addressing your Congressman. A common method is:

Honorable John Doe

U.S. Senate

Washington, D.C. 20510

There are numerous sources of information on pending bills. Besides writing to state and U.S. legislators, you can write to federal and state agencies or departments, local county extension agents or other local institutions.

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JOB OPENINGS

The City of Bloomington is currently seeking a qualified individual to fill an immediate need for greenskeeper.

Qualifications include demonstrated mechanical aptitude, good physical condition and ability to repair equipment. Prior golf course maintenance experience desirable. Salary range from \$728 to \$827 per month with excellent fringe benefits. Deadline for filing applications is 4:30 p.m. on June 7, 1977.

If interested, please apply at City of Bloomington, 2215 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, Minn. 55431. Affirmative action equal opportunity employer.

GEM LAKE GOLF CLUB

Ned Dwyer of the Gem Lake Golf Club is seeking a retired mechanic or part time mechanic. Salary open. Gem Lake is an 18-Hole, Par 3 golf course. If interested contact Ned Dwyer, 4039 Scheuneman Road, White Bear Lake, Minn. 55110. Telephone 612/429-9873.

Don't blame your Northrup King man if he wants to play your fairways, after you revitalize them with Overseeder II.



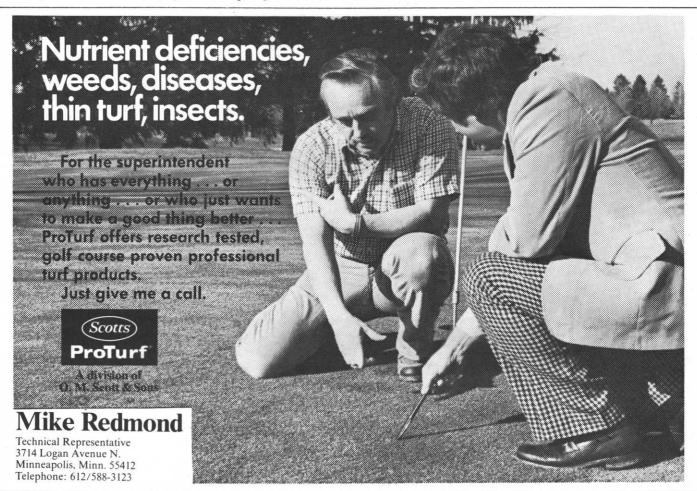
There are other balance factors to be considered, such as avoiding too many left side, right side, front or rear settings sequentially.

After a particular area has been selected for a placement on a given green, care must be given to picking the right spot. Here too a number of factors should be weighed. The U.S.G.A. recommends at least 15 feet between the hole and green edge. Ideally, for a radius of 3 feet around the hole there should be no changes of slope. This does not mean that such area must be flat; it rather means that there should be no change in the angle of slope over the area. The angle of slope, too, is an important factor. There have been instances where holes have been set on slopes so severe that as the green dried out it would not hold a ball. One occurred in a recent regional amateur competition where one contestant 7-putted (!) a green and the tournament winner took 4 putts there.

The area around the hole should be as free as possible of ball marks, other blemishes and changes in grass texture. It is right around the hole where the ultimate action takes place; the particular spot should be selected with commensurate care. The location should "look" right. Care should be taken to avoid placements which, from the player's point of view, present a distorted picture. Golf is a visual game, and the ultimate vision is of the location of the hole.

To assess the player's point of view, the person setting the hole should bring along a putter (and, hopefully, a reasonably representative stroke) to roll the ball at the selected spot before the hole is cut to assure that it will, in fact, play properly.

Perhaps pity is not what the poor pin setter deserves. He experiences the quiet beauty of a superb golf course shimmering in the early morning light. And if he does his job properly he will have planned and worked and placed the hole so that it will add the final touch to the artistry of the course designer and of the shot-maker; so doing should be deeply satisfying.



HOW TO TOP DRESS 18 GREENS FAST.



It's simple to do. Just place the top dresser attachment on the back of your 18 hp Turf Truckster chassis with the optional PTO, insert two pins, connect the sprocket drive chain to the PTO, and you're ready to work.

You save money as well as time.
The Cushman top dresser eliminates the need for expensive, slow-moving, self-powered units. You use an existing power source to economically and quickly spread a variety of materials.

Your operator moves rapidly from green to green, with no time-consuming walking or laborious loading and unloading of extra equipment. He merely sets the metering gate and the engine/ground speed governor for an exact spread thickness. The moving belt and brush dispense materials uniformly in a smooth 31½-inch swath.

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And now we've added improvements that make the top dresser even better.

The unit mounts directly on the chassis, without an extra frame. And the new system uses a rubber fabric conveyor belt to carry material to the gate. It's quieter, with reduced

maintenance and longer life than the previous design. Plus, it enables you to spread materials from rock salt for icy sidewalks to fine, powderized soil on greens or tees.

Like all Cushman equipment, the top dresser and Turf-Truckster are built to last. So you get an efficient system that will handle just about any spreading job for years to come. With other accessories, your Cushman can spray, spike, aerate, and dump. Use it. It's more than basic transportation. It's a total turf-care system. Write for your Cushman Turf catalog today.

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MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 13 PURPLE HAWK COUNTRY CLUB CAMBRIDGE, MINNESOTA

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- 1. GOLF FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 2:00 P.M.
- 2. R. L. GOULD EQUIPMENT ON DISPLAY.
- 3. BUSINESS MEETING AT 5:30 P.M.
- 4. DINNER AT 6:30 P.M. COST \$6.50
- 5. RESERVATIONS A MUST.

IMPORTANT!

The EPA has now made public a tentative list of restricted use pesticides. This list may change by the October 21 deadline, but for now, this can be used as a working list of guidelines.

Compounds falling into the following categories will be considered for restricted use:

- a. those bearing the word danger and the skull and crossbones symbol on the labels.
- b. those used in forest areas.
- c. those applied directly to water.
- d. those used to fumigate grain.

Some examples are Dasanit, Endrin, Parathion, heptachlor, methylbromide, paraquat, Tordon, 2,4-D, 2, 4-DB, 2,4,5-T, silvex, Diasinon, dinoseb, malathion, Sevin. Superintendents should check with local environmental and governmental sources for standards applicable in their regions.



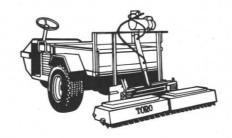
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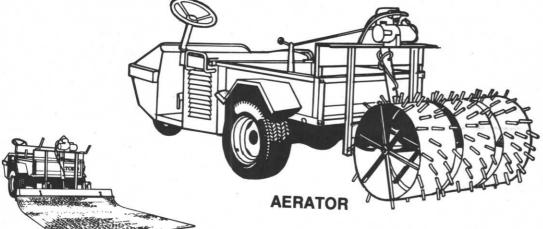
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