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<u>HOLE NOTES</u>, official publication of the MINNESOTA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

DENNIS HENDRICKSON

Another golf season draws to a close in Minnesota and we all turn our thoughts to winter and the upcoming 1982 season with perhaps a few days of vacation in back of our minds. The last M.G.C.S.A. event of the year is the Annual Conference on December 2, 3 and 4 at the Sheraton Inn Northwest. This year's conference looks like it will be an excellent one. One very important step has been made this year that has been in the works for a long time. Nick Dunn has been working very hard to make it possible for our conference to satisfy the state requirements for pesticide recertification. Attendance at the Wednesday session will now satisfy those requirements. We all owe Nick Dunn a "thank you" for putting this together for us. This year's conference has many highlights so you will find it worth your time and money to attend.

The October meeting at the Minneapolis Golf Club was well attended. Everyone had an enjoyable time socializing even though the golfing got a little wet. Thanks to Host Superintendent Mark Smith and the Minneapolis Golf Club for a great day.

A reminder to those of you who have a change of address during the winter months: IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR MAIL, PLEASE NOTIFY THE M.G.C.S.A. OFFICE SO PROPER CHANGES CAN BE MADE.

Good luck in putting your golf course to bed for the winter. I hope to see you all at the Sheraton Inn Northwest.

CARD TRICK
He takes a seven, writes down six —
This clever golfing hero.
Someday he'll make a hole-in-one.
And mark his scorecard zero.

— JWI

#### Your Office - A Reflection Of Your Abilities

When your green chairman drops by your office for an unexpected chat, what does he see? Is your desk piled to eyebrow level with papers, broken parts and unsorted clutter? Do you have to search for fifteen minutes to find the magazine article you need to show him? Does the dust on your filing cabinet excite his allergies? Like it or not, the condition and appearance of your office reflect on your abilities as a manager. Granted, no one ever claimed that a golf course could be completely managed from behind a desk, and most superintendents' offices are not exactly accessible to the general public. It's also true that many superintendents' offices, particularly at older clubs, are carved from buildings that originally housed everything from polo ponies to plows, and almost all are in the maintenance facility, which has a near-magical attraction for dust, dirt and grease. However, the degree of order in your office and, by extension, your entire facility, reflects the degree of organization you bring to your work. You can say it's all right because you know where everything is, but what if you're not there? Does everything stop while someone tracks you down? Even if you're limited on space and your office is at the bottom of the budgetary priorities list, there are some things you can do to bring order from chaos. Here are some suggestions.

A place for everything and everything in its place. This time-worm adage still has merit. Filing cabinets, baskets and blueprint organizers are excellent investments.

<u>Develop a system</u>. There is no best way to develop a filing system. The only important criterion is whether it works in your operation. It does, however, have to be based on some sort of logic.

<u>Develop good organizational habits</u>. Work at putting things away when you have finished with them. Develop a system for moving things from the top of your desk into some sort of permanent home and stick to it.

Try to work out some sort of schedule. It's right and proper that cleaning up your office should take a back seat to dealing with on-course emergencies and important maintenance procedures. That's your job. But take a moment at the end of the day or even at the end of the week to police your office area.

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#### "Managing Change" - National Conference Theme

Change is a fact of life for golf course superintendents. They constantly face new challenges to their ability to deliver a quality product with ever decreasing resources. As we move further into the 1980's, shortages of energy, water and other resources will undoubtedly worsen while golf's demands increase.

These are challenges GCSAA is prepared to face. The Association's program for its 1981 Turfgrass Conference and Show January 31-February 5 in New Orleans will be aimed at helping its members deal with the problems they may face in the not-too-distant future.

Under the banner "Managing Change", GCSAA will offer eleven educational presentations on topics ranging from finances to tree management to golf carts. Highlighting the program will be two, three-hour symposiums on water and the challenges it will offer in the coming years. Panels of nationally recognized experts will attack the problem from several angles, providing a wide base of information to help superintendents plan for the future.

These sessions are in addition to the USGA Green Section's Educational Conference which will occupy an entire day of the conference week. Activities also will include an expanded spouse program, the Turfgrass Trade show, GCSAA's annual meeting, social functions and a tour of the Louisiana Superdome.

A complete conference brochure and registration forms will be mailed to all GCSAA members in late October. Make your plans now to attend what may well be the most important GCSAA conference in history.

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#### Jim Lindblad Nominated For National Director

The GCSAA Nominating Committee has announced the official slate of candidates for the 1982 annual election.

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James W. Timmerman, CGCS

DIRECTOR:

Paul Boizelle, CGCS

William J. Emerson

John P. Hayden, CGCS

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The M.G.C.S.A. congratulates Jim on his nomination and pledges to work very hard at the national conference to secure his election to the Board of Directors.

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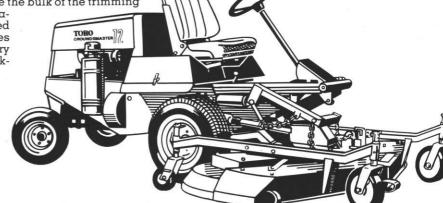
The Groundsmaster 52° offers wide cutting ability. It trims tight around trees and other obstacles with the offset, forward mounted 52" deck. One pedal hydrostatic drive for responsive operation, hydraulic deck lift for fast, easy transport and cushioned seat for operator comfort. Attachments include 48" rotary broom, leaf mulcher, and vacuum.

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Our Turf Pro 84<sup>™</sup> is an all hydraulic triplex with the ability to give you the right clip for each desired height of cut and type of grass.

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And meet our Sand Pro®.

#### 1981 TURF CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

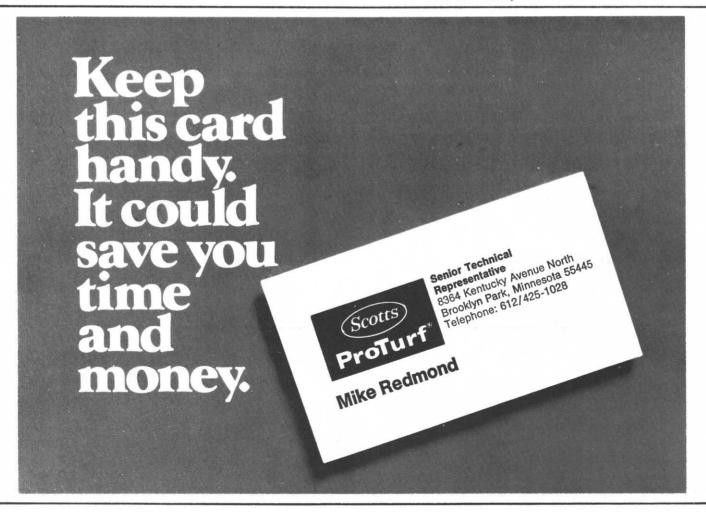
The 1981 edition of the M.G.C.S.A. Turf Conference offers an outstanding schedule of speakers and topics sure to interest every attendee. Just look at this line up:

Wednesday, December 2. Attendance at this session will qualify superintendents with pesticide applicator licenses for recertification. At 1:00 p.m., after the welcome, Wayne Daly will speak on Pesticide Laws; Curt Klint on Weeds; Mark Ascerno on Insects; Dr. Ward Stienstra on Diseases; Howard Krosch on Aquatics. The Annual Business Meeting will follow at 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 3 will start off with a prayer breakfast featuring Jeff Siemon of the Minnesota Vikings at 7:30 a.m. Following at 9:00 a.m. you will hear Roger Thomas of Jacobsen Mfg. Company speak on Energy Conservation and Turf Maintenance. Larry Stensrud of Dain Bosworth will speak on Individual Retirement Accounts; Dr. C. Hodges of Iowa State University will speak on Biology of High Sand Greens. At 1:00 p.m. Dr. Joe Duich of Penn State will lecture on the Seed Industry followed by the famous Bull Session by area distributors. That evening the Brandywine Singers will entertain at the dinner dance.

Friday, December 4 at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Joe Duich of Penn State has open topic time in which he will speak on whatever strikes his fancy. Al Smith of Johnson Screening will follow with a lecture on Well Maintenance. Stan Zontek of the U.S.G.A. Green Section will speak on Observations of the Region. Dr. Donald White will deliver an update on the University. After lunch Dr. Ward Stienstra will speak on Turf Diseases and Control and the superintendents' panel will tie into the subject of Irrigation Systems. At 3:00 p.m. we will adjourn for a safe trip home. Fill out the advance registration forms you received in the mail and save yourself time. But most of all, BE SURE TO ATTEND.

Nick Dunn, Chairman



#### **GREEN CLIPS**

- CLIP 1: NEW BOOK ANNOUNCED. Destructive Turf Insects is the title of a new long-awaited book by Dr. Harry Niemczyk, turfgrass entomologist. The book covers pests of warm and cool season grasses, contains over 130 color photos and is written in easy-to-read language. Included is a color photo guide to identifying insects and mites that inhabit the soil, thatch, leaves and stems. Nine chapters cover: Life Cycles; Principles of Control; Preventive Programs for Select Major Pests; Equipment and Methods of Detecting Turf Insects and References. Available October 20, 1981, the book is 8x11, spiral bound with a durable plastic cover. \$18.95 plus \$1.25 per copy postage and handling. HDN BOOK SALES, 2935 Smithville W. Rd., Wooster, Ohio 44691.
- CLIP 2: NECROLOGY. David Blomdahl, a Life Member of M.G.C.S.A. who lived in Duluth, died in September of a massive heart attack. We all remember Dave as the long time superintendent at Ridgeview.
- CLIP 3: GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT MAGAZINE TO BE PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH IN 1982. GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT is expanding to 12 issues beginning in 1982. Formerly consisting of 10 issues, two of which were combined, November, December and January-February, the magazine will now be able to better serve the membership, readers and attract a larger portion of the advertising dollar with the most up-to-date information presented in a more timely fashion.
- CLIP 4: CERTIFICATION TESTING AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE. The certification examination is scheduled for Sunday, January 31, 1982 during conference week. To be eligible to apply for certification one must be currently employed as a Golf Course Superintendent and have been a Class A member of GCSAA for at least two years. However, we have determined that if your two year period is completed by February 28, 1982, you will be eligible to take the certification examination during conference week. Qualified candidates should contact Bonnie Stephenson, Education Dept. at GCSAA Headquarters before December 31, 1981 to arrange for testing at the 1982 conference.



#### O. J. Noer Foundation Report

BY JAMES M. LATHAN, RESEARCH DIRECTOR

The O. J. Noer Foundation was initiated in 1959 by associates and friends of O. J. Noer to honor him for his lifetime of work in turfgrass improvement throughout North America. Noer was a native of Stoughton, Wisconsin who graduated from the University of Wisconsin and did graduate work there which resulted in the production and marketing of Milorganite. The Foundation is dedicated to the generation of original research through grants to universities and experiment stations. Most of these projects, being basic in nature, would have no "commercial" support. But being basic research, the information will have value over a broad range of interests.

Much of the data generated has no immediate, direct effect on turf management since it is fundamental in nature. It does, however, form a base from which more practical projects can be developed. Dr. Jim Beard calls this the "fallout effect". If basic facts have been developed, a great deal of time, money and effort has been saved to do other things.

An example of this fallout effect can be illustrated by thatch studies. The Foundation established grants at Michigan State and Texas A & M concurrently to study the Identification, Cause and Effect and Control of Thatch on cool - and warm - season grasses. Since then, there have been many projects on thatch dealing with subjects like insecticide effects, disease generation, etc., all based on data accumulated by the initial projects.

The very first project was at the University of Wisconsin by Dr. Jim Love. This was the first time anyone had shown visible nutrient deficiency symptoms in turfgrasses. The paper by Love and the photographs are classics in the field. The color plates, by the way, can be found in Dr. Beard's forthcoming book.

Wisconsin does not have the extensive turfgrass research facilities found in other states. It is incumbent upon superintendents, however, to put money into research since they will be the beneficiaries in the long run. To do this on an orderly basis, an organization such as the O. J. Noer Research Foundation, Inc. is the best vehicle to use.

Most of the monies contributed to the Foundation comes from Milorganite distributors who have a self-assessed fee on tonnage sold each year. Superintendents' Associations across the country also make gifts along with interested individuals and companies like Jacobsen and Toro.

Noer grants have been made toward worthwhile projects in all sections of the country from New Jersey to California and from Florida to Washington.

There are four national level funding agencies for turfgrass research: the U.S.G.A. Green Section provides the most money, followed by the G.C.S.A.A. Research and Education Fund, the Noer Foundation and Musser Foundation. Most G.C.S.A.A. projects are, and rightly so, on a more practical plane such as the Toronto bent problem in Chicago last year when G.C.S.A.A. and the Green Section went to the aid of members to try to solve a local, but vexing problem.

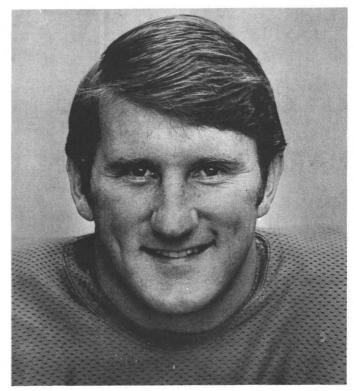
One final word. Noer Foundation grants are made from investment profits. Thus, any donations continue to bring dividends from now on. In addition, since there are no paid employees, there is a minimum overhead. In 1980 the management cost of managing the \$164,000 fund amounted to only 2%. Officers and Directors receive no pay, no transportation or living expenses at meetings. They serve because of their rememberance of 0. J. Noer and their committment to the field from which their livelihood comes. That's how the Foundation has generated \$180,000 for turf research in the last twenty years.

# FEATURED SPEAKER AT PRAYER BREAKFAST

The prayer breakfast scheduled for Thursday, December 3 at 7:30 a.m. will feature Jeff Siemon, linebacker for the Minnesota Vikings. Jeff is a member of the local chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He is on the National Fellowship of Christian Advisory Council and a member of the Pro Athletes Outreach Board and Steering Committee.

During this time of fellowship there will be music and singing. A continental breakfast will be served.

A free will offering will be taken to help offset the costs of the breakfast.



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