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HOLE NOTES

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MINNESOTA
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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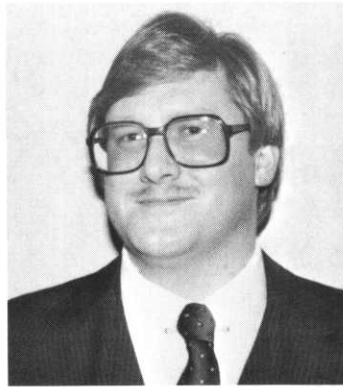
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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

KERRY GLADER

A beautiful golf course and day confronted nearly one hundred golfers as they prepared to win the MGCSA Amateur at the Stillwater Country Club. Host superintendent, Kevin Clunis, had the course in exceptional condition. Thank you, Kevin, and many thanks to your staff and to the Stillwater Country Club for the great time and service we received. I sincerely hope we may return to visit your course, again, in the near future.

Congratulations to the tournament winners and the tournament chairman for putting together a grand day.

With new evidence of Bacterial Wilt on other Minnesota golf courses, I would like to make mention of the concern and commitment of the Board of Directors to future funding of research on this problem. To date on the national level, adequate funding has not been directed toward Bacterial Wilt research. MGCSA is very concerned and interested in funding this area. However, the cost for an adequately funded research grant is in excess of \$25,000 annually. Unfortunately, it seems it will take more cases of bacterial wilt to draw the needed national attention and concern. The implications of further bentgrass specie contamination is present and hopefully, research could alleviate our concerns. The MGCSA will, without a doubt, be funding this area of needed research.

The Second Annual MGCSA - Harold Stodola Research and Scholarship Fund Raiser and Guest Scramble is coming up on September 15 at Midland Hills Country Club. Host superintendent, Paul Mayes, will most certainly have his course in top condition and should be quite a challenge. Our Guest Scramble allows each of us to bring our club members to participate in a fun event and to raise funds for our state research efforts.

See you at Midland Hills!

ONCE UPON A TIME

by Norma Lenzen

Superintendent, Dahlgreen Golf Club

At one of the superintendents meetings earlier this year, I was approached by Randy Nelson and asked to contribute an article to the HOLE NOTES on what it is like to be a female golf course superintendent. After committing myself, I realized how difficult that would be since I do not know what it is like to be a male golf course superintendent. I like to believe that there are very few differences in the way I perform my job as compared to a male, but there is a difference in the way I am treated by others. For example, when ever anyone calls on me for their first time, they usually insist that my name is "Norman", and that I should be addressed as a "he". I also have to listen to many people say such things as, "that's no job for a lady", when they see me doing something that they apparently do not think I should be doing. I assume there are very few other superintendents with those same problems.

I also assume that most other golf course superintendents do not get too irritated when someone relieves themselves behind some tree or bush. That, however, is one of my pet peeves. I have found that the easiest way for me to remedy this problem is to go and kindly ask repeat offenders if they would like me to bring them some toilet paper. I rather suspect that there are not too many male superintendents who could get away with asking a question like that.

I really do not know of anything else that might be different if I were a male, but what I do know is that this is my fourth year as a golf course superintendent, I enjoy it very much, and I expect to spend many more years working in the same field.

P.S. If you are wondering why the title is so stupid, please think one up on your own.



MINNESOTA'S GOLFING HERITAGE

LONG PRAIRIE COUNTRY CLUB

by John Monson

Superintendent, Long Prairie Country Club

The Long Prairie Country Club was organized in 1926 with 22 original stockholders. Of these, W. A. Miller, E. M. Berg, Nick Mienes, I. F. Lano and C. D. Chrysler were the driving forces behind the formation of the course.

Tom Vardon, the brother of Harry Vardon, was passing through Long Prairie and "Neats" Lano arranged for his assistance in laying out the original sand greens. The property was used by the village for cows. Anyone in the village owning a cow was able to pasture it on this land. In the pasture was "Senners Slough" which provided excellent skating in the winter and good swimming in the summer. At that time all golfers had "floaters" for shooting over the slough. Many local cynics thought that golf would never last and referred to it as pasture pool. The course opened for play in 1927 and Bill Wood had the first hole-in-one on the sand greens. It was on #8 and required a shot over the slough.

Stock in the new club was sold for \$100/share with \$25 due each of four years which brought along complete family golfing privileges. The original clubhouse built in 1927 is still in use today as a refreshment stand by #6 tee. In those days the greens fee was 50 cents for nine holes and 75 cents for all day.

In 1932 several holes were redesigned and grass greens were constructed. Those same greens are in use today. Laurel Lano made the first hole-in-one on the new course on #4. The greens were cut with a push mower with Roy Cooper as the first greenskeeper. Roy loved his beer and would drink up his days wages quite often.

Because of the drought and depression the roughs were only cut once a year by a local farmer for hay. Two foot roughs were not uncommon and cracks in the ground

LONG PRAIRIE to Page 5

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LONG PRAIRIE from Page 3

large enough to swallow a golf ball were common problems during a round.

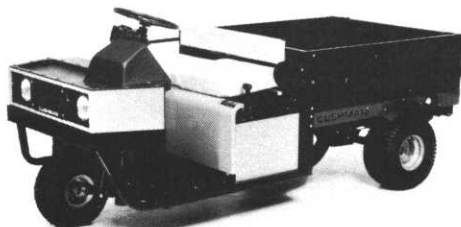
In 1941 the course went broke and was reorganized by local businessmen. One major purchase was a 1939 "A" Farmall tractor. Members secured the loan for its purchase which showed a lot of faith in the new club. That same tractor is still in use today pulling the sprayer, leaf sweeper and occasionally getting equipment out of the mud in "Senners Slough".

Perhaps the greatest change on the course took place in the fall of 1976 with the addition of an irrigation system. This was badly needed as more and more people were golfing and increased use of golf carts really put a strain on the turf. Prior to irrigation, city water was fed to tees and greens only through old boiler pipes obtained in 1932 from Minneapolis. Senners Slough again proved its value. Today we pump out of the slough for the irrigation system and also have a well which we can use to keep the slough full.

1985 saw the complete remodeling and

enlargement of the clubhouse and revamping the area around the first tee. Each year additional improvements continue to be made. Tree planting, additional ladies tees and beautification projects are always being planned.

The best thing about the Long Prairie Country Club is the support of its members and the availability of playing time. Not being in the resort center of resort traffic allows one to almost walk onto the first tee most Sunday afternoons. Our members like to feel that there are not many 9 hole courses better than ours. Perhaps it is the best kept secret in Minnesota? I would like to thank Laurel Lano for his assistance with the course history. Laurel is the last living original stockholder and still can be found most summer days pulling his clubs down #8 fairway playing 5-10 balls.



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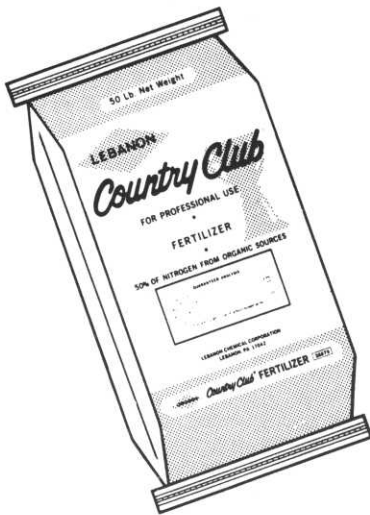
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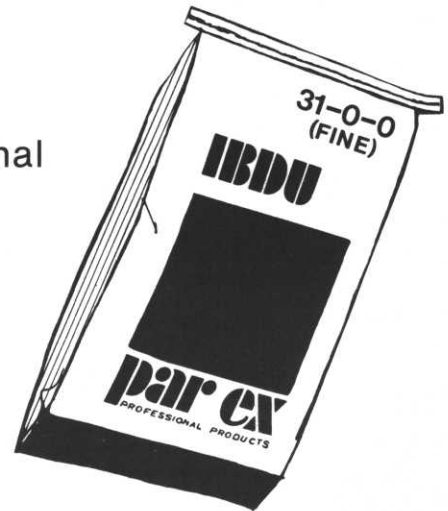
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EDITOR'S CORNER

RANDY NELSON

Our golf courses certainly become very reverent at this time of the year, or should I say holy. Holy is reverent, and wholly is an antonym of holy, but wholly isn't the correct spelling of the word I intended to write. I meant to write holely (as in aerified) to describe the appearance of the greens, tees, and fairways after our courses are punched full of holes. Maybe I should have left this paragraph out of the entire article.

Although another MGCSA Amateur Championship is behind us the winners of the various flights are probably still glowing with pride. The competition in

each flight was extremely tense again this year, but as always the cream just seems to come to the top. I would like to congratulate Shane Andrews on his victory for low gross honors by edging out last year's champion John Nylund with a 75. You can read about the tournament results at the end of this article. Although not a flight winner, Kevin Clunis was definitely a winner for providing such fine course conditions to test all of our members golf game. Kevin deserves a toast for all his and his crew's efforts. Thanks, again, Kevin.

MTI Distributing Company and staff (Glen, Tom, Butch, Don, Eddie) had some new items on display, and for demonstrations which opened a few peoples eyes toward more labor saving equipment. Tom Haugen of Brayton Chemical Company sponsored two speakers who updated our members on two new chemicals which will definitely help us do our jobs more efficiently.

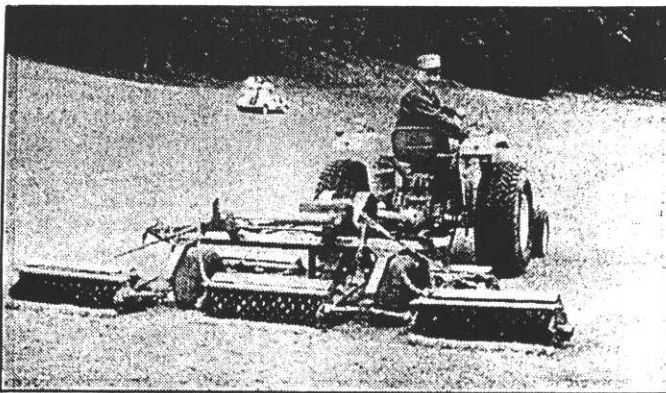
Get your map out fellas, we are playing musical meeting sites again. The November meeting site has been switched again this time from Bunker Hills to Greenhaven Golf Course in Anoka. At this time I believe the date is still the same for the meeting, but you will receive a flyer with all the details at a later date.

I would like to remind all the persons who received a reminder notice from me dealing with a request for an article for HOLE NOTES, I need them now. No more procrastinating, guys, pick up htat pen and put your thoughts on paper. I know you will feel better when you finish. I sure do. See you all at our guest day event at Midland Hills.

1986 MGCSA CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

1st Low Gross, Shane Andrews
1st Flight Tie, Tom Stout, John Labore
2nd Flight, Kevin Benson
Senior, Russ Adams
Callaway Tie, Keith Scott, Tom Herzog
Associate Low Gross Callaway, Tom Haugen, Dale Walesheck

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Lee Trevino has discovered something many of us are experiencing. He says, "I can still jump as high as I used to. But I can't stay up there as long!"

THANKS FROM



by Guy Green

Assistant Executive Director, MGA

With the golf season winding to a close, the Minnesota Golf Association would like to let all superintendents, especially those with whom we worked on our tournament schedule, how appreciative we are of the relationship that has developed with the keepers of the green. Sure, conditions are always the best they can be when M.G.A. players hit the tournament trail, but many of them may not be aware that the superintendent and his staff have already been working hours before the first tee time. The fairways have all been cut, testing but fair flagstick locations have been selected, and the greens have all been mowed the morning (early morning) of the event. It adds up to a lot of extra work, sometimes for weeks in advance, but it pays off when the players experience true tournament conditions that are fair for everyone.

When Mother Nature throws us a curve ball

and dumps a load of rain, such as at Dellwood for this year's Four-Ball, the superintendent and his crew are manning the squeegees to help ensure that the round is completed, if at all possible. The final round at Dellwood wouldn't have been possible without this kind of dedication and spirit of professionalism.

Players in this year's Amateur Championship were unanimous in their praise of Edina Country Club. None were able to break par but they all were talking about the great conditions and the championship quality of this fine course. They are still talking about the great putting surfaces they found at North Oaks the year before and what a pleasure Winona Country Club was in 1984.

I could fill another issue by naming everyone of you who deserve our thanks but suffice it to say that your friendly, cooperative professionalism makes our job much easier. From the President on down, we want you to know that your efforts are appreciated and admired. Enjoy a restful winter. You've earned it!

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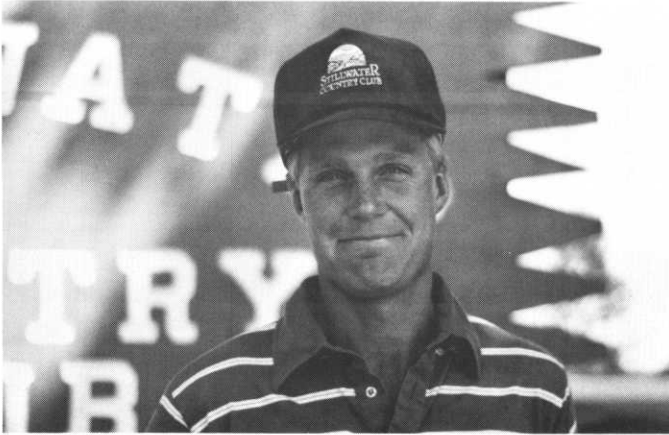
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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE STILLWATER MEETING



LOCAL KNOWLEDGE WASN'T ENOUGH. Host Superintendent Kevin Clunis probably could have tricked it up to his advantage but he played it straight.



TALENTED TRIO. Tom Haugen (c) of Brayton Chemical and his featured speakers offered insights on new work-saving chemicals. Tom also won Low Gross Associate.



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS. The flight champions were all smiles at the end of the day as they took home the gold. For a results list, turn to the Editor's Corner.



PLUGGING AWAY. MTI displayed some new equipment that will give us all more time to practice for next year's tourney.

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