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# **HOLE NOTES**

Official Publication of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association

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> PUBLISHER Ralph Turtinen

#### Hole Notes Office Turtinen Communications 240 Minnetonka Avenue South Wayzata, Minnesota 55391 612/473-3722 FAX: 612/473-0576

#### Business Office Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association 240 Minnetonka Avenue South Wayzata, Minnesota 55391 612/473-3722 FAX: 612/473-0576

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Now Is A Good Time To Reflect On The Past And Think About The Future



With the season winding down, it is time to contemplate on fall renovation projects and on this past golf season. What worked or did not work with the turf management practices that you are using? Reflect on these issues and gain some answers through reflection and the upcoming turf education conferences and from taking time to read turf periodicals and from talking with other superintendents.

While you are thinking about your turf management programs, how did you do with your public relations? Public relations with our golfers and boards is openly as crucial as the ability to grow grass! Do you make good use of the club's newsletter by contributing articles each month, or by making use of the bulletin board by the locker rooms? Either way, communication is essential!

\* \* \* \*

**The Stodola Scramble** was held at Dellwood Hills Golf Club and was very well-attended as we have come to expect. Host superintendent John Bichner had the course in excellent condition and everyone enjoyed themselves. I would like to say thank you to John and the Dellwood Hills GC membership and Board of Directors for allowing us to enjoy their golf course.

While on the subject of the Stodola Scramble, the Board of Directors has discussed this tournament's structure and looked at some options to improve upon it. We would like to plan future Stodola Scrambles at two clubs, hopefully in the same area, with both clubs having afternoon shotguns and then dinner at one club afterwards. We know that the morning shotgun at one club is less than ideal, and we hope that the double-club deal would work and streamline this event and give more of our membership the ability to attend.

\* \* \* \*

With the upcoming 1991 U.S. Open to be held at Hazeltine National, many superintendents have asked how they can get in to the tournament? Only the Gold "GCSAA" card holders will be allowed a complimentary daily pass for you and your spouse to attend the tournament. MGCSA membership **does not** get you in. There is still plenty of time to join the GCSAA to make use of this and many other valuable benefits of membership in the national association. New members that join just prior to the National Turf Conference are given a complimentary pass to the GCSAA conference. The 1991 conference will be in Las Vegas in early February.

\* \* \* \*

With the MGCSA Annual Turf Conference and Business Meeting coming up on November 28th at the Northland Inn, I would like to invite you to plan on attending and staying at the hotel. All of the Northland's rooms are suites that have two double-beds and a comfortable sleeper-sofa so you can "triple-up" with friends and make for a cheaper hotel stay than we have had in the past.

I think you will find that the hotel will exceed the expectations that we as a Board have for it. Kevin Clunis and the Conference Committee have put together an excellant program with concurrent educational sessions. The Thursday morning Fellowship Continental Breakfast is an opportunity to gain some reflection from the company or other association members in a relaxed atmosphere and to contemplate our short winter's nap!

—Kerry Glader MGCSA President

# 

#### Introducing Masters' Brand Controlled-Release Potassium Fertilizers.

Masters' Brand is the surest way to give your turf all the potassium it needs without risking turf burn or too much nitrogen stimulation.

The results of tests by a leading turfgrass scientist show a 44% higher K retention rate for Masters' Brand treated soil. And 114% more potassium in plant tissue. Our 9-0-27 and 0-0-39 fertilizers save you money in the long run, too. With less leaching, you get optimum performance using less product. And, since fewer applications are required, you save on labor costs.

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# 63rd Annual MGCSA Conference Offers A Lot to See and Do November 28-30

Come November 28—and the two days following—golf course superintendents in the Upper Midwest will have a great opportunity to mix business, education and pleasure.

That's when the 63rd annual MGCSA Turf Conference and Business Meeting, considered one of the best in the nation, will be held at the fabulous Northland Inn in Brooklyn Park.

**First of all,** there's a strong, informative program lined up for this session, thanks to excellent planning and organization by Chairman Kevin Clunis, Stillwater Country Club, and his committee. [Note: A preliminary program was published in the September issue of Hole Notes and will be repeated in the November issue.]

**Secondly,** the Northland Inn has excellent facilities, abundant space, easy parking, pleasant atmosphere and a staff that is geared to help the MGCSAA conduct a successful conference from all aspects.

"We have been very pleased with the cooperation displayed

by the representatives in each department of the Northland Inn," said Clunis. "Coupled with the great facilities they have, we should have a super session."

**Thirdly**, there will be ample time for socializing with colleagues in the industry, including superintendents, educators and vendors—all of which help make any conference become a successful occasion.

**Fourthly,** there will be excellent vendor exhibits to view, and excellent opportunities to chat with experts about various services and equipment.

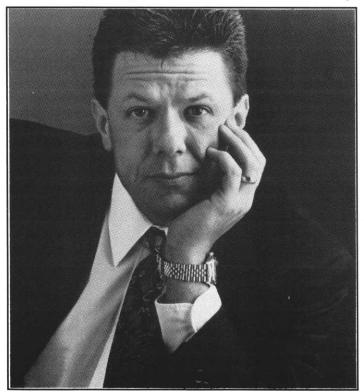
**Finally,** to top it all off, some excellent entertainment will be presented by Alex Cole, who was selected by the National Association for Campus Activities as the Comedy Entertainer of the Year. *[See adjoining article.]* 

Pre-registration forms were to be mailed in late September. If you're reading this but didn't receive one, call the MGCSA office at 612/473-0557.

# Laugh With Alex!

Hilarious! Delightful! A riot! Fabulous! Exhilarating! The adjectives by those who've seen Alex Cole could fill up most of this page.

During the past 12 years, this entertainer has performed at more than 1,400 colleges and universities across the country.



ALEX COLE He'll Have You Laughing at the Conference

In 1988 he was selected as Comedy Entertainer of the Year by the National Association for Campus Activities.

He has been a part of opening act engagements with dozens of national celebraties, and for the past three years has performed eight weeks a year at the Desert Inn in Las Vegas.

Cole is a regular at the Improv and Comedy Store in Los Angeles and the Comedy Cellar and Original Improvisation in New York. He also has had several television appearances.

Here's what others have said:

Alex Cole is terrific, and unless he gets run over by a steamroller, is going to be a major name one of these days.

—St. Paul Dispatch, MN As usual, Alex was perfect! Best comedian in the business! —University of Florida

What can I say? He did it again! Standing room only crowd. A pleasure to work with and a hit on stage and off.

-University of West Florida The performance was great, as usual, with rave reviews. Plenty of loyal fans who weren't disappointed either, since Alex has added so much new material.

—Missouri Southern State College Alex was great! An outstanding performance, and delightful to work with.

—Texas Wesleyan University Fabulous! He had the crowd laughing the entire performance. —Mount St. Mary's College

WOW! Our first-ever standing-room-only crowd. A tremendous performance.

-University of Akron, OH

An exhilarating experience. Not only drew against the odds, but left them begging for more!

-Yakima Valley College, WA

# **GREEN CLIPPINGS**

#### By JOHN HARRIS Co-Editor

The grapevine has it that Rochester Country Club is rebuilding two holes. Jim must be very busy as inquiries for details have been met with several rings of the phone.

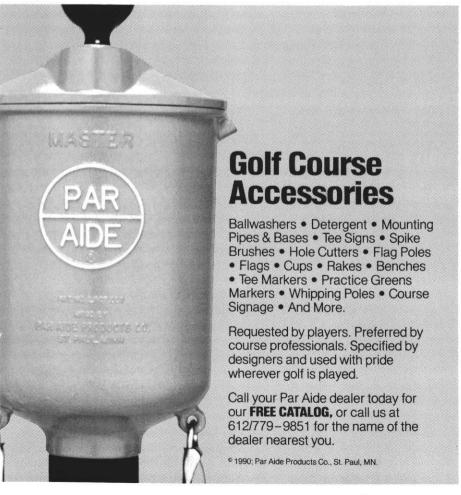
**Dale Wysocki** of Faribault Golf & Country Club reports that his crab-trees are blooming again.

Assistant Golf Course Superintendent Fred Taylor has positively identified several cases of "Idiot Patch"—large, brown patches 12 inches in diameter with an unusual frog-eye in the form of a golfer's show. Contact Mankato CC for a detailed report.



#### EQUIPMENT WANTED

Looking for two greens mowers and tee mowers. Sand Pro HF5 or equivalent, and a pull behind rough mower. Call Al at Majestic Oaks (612/755-2140).



### Campbell Chosen For Old Tom Award

William C. Campbell, noted for his contributions to the game of golf on both sides of the Atlantic, has been named to receive the 1991 Old Tom Morris Award. The award, GCSAA's most prestigious honor, will be presented during the annual banquet at the association's Las Vegas Conference and Show next February.

Campbell is the only American to have served both as president of the United States Golf Association and as captain of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland. He was the third American to be named captain of the Royal and Ancient, following Francis Ouimet and Joseph Day.

Under Campbell's tenure [1982-83], the USGA launched major fund-raising campaigns to finance both a long-term program for research into the development of drought-resistant turfgrasses and reconstruction and improved facilities at Golf House. He also served as joint chairman of the World Amateur Golf Council during his USGA presidency.

In 1985, Campbell received GCSAA's Distinguished Service Award. Earlier this year he was elected to the PGA World Golf Hall of Fame.

#### **1991 Championship** Registration Opens

Registrations are now being accepted for the 1991 GCSAA Golf Championship, which will be played Feb. 4-5 at five courses in Scottsdale, Ariz. Registration forms and information were included in the Early Bird brochure, which was mailed to GCSAA members earlier.

The field for the annual tournament will be limited to 600 contestants. Because the field is expected to be filled well before the entry deadline of Dec. 1, members interested in participating are urged to register as soon as possible.

The Wyndham Paradise Valley Resort and the Scottsdale Hilton Resort and Spa will be the hotels for the GCSAA Championship. The Wyndham will serve as the site of the Victory banquet and as the headquarters for tournament registration.

The five tournament courses will be McCormick Ranch Golf Club's Palm and Pine Courses; Stonecreek, The Golf Club; Orange Tree Golf Resort and Papago Golf Course. The October issue of *Golf Course Management* will feature an in-depth preview of each of the championship courses.

# DON'T GO DORMANT THIS WINTER-GO TO SCHOOL.

Have you thought about taking some courses

two year courses and not interfere with your

full time job. In fact what you learn in the off to improve your future in Horticulture? Did you season will begin helping you right away find that most of them start before your season when you get back to work. ends, and end after it begins? At Anoka Technical College, we have an answer Our offerings include, Landscape Technology, for you: classes that start when you finish Golf Course/Grounds Management, Turf & Landscape work for the year and end when you begin next season. We know that the Irrigation, and Golf Facilities Management. maintanence doesn't end Labor Day weekend or begin on Memorial Day, so we've So, don't go dormant this Winter, class up your off season; Call or write to find out more about made our flexible programs even more flexible. We've designed special part-time our non-traditional start times and programs that can get you through our one or Horticulture course offerings. CLASSES START DEC. 4 **Course Offerings** Landscape Technology \*Golf Course/Grounds Management Anoka Technical College \*Turf & Landscape Irrigation 1355 West Highway 10 \*Golf Facilities Management Anoka MN 55303 (612)427-1880 \*New Courses 1-800-247-5588 

# Three Anoka Technical College Students Receive Harold Stodola Scholarships

#### (See Photos on Cover)

Three Anoka Technical College turfgrass students have been selected to receive Harold Stodola Memorial Scholarships, according to Rick Fredericksen, chairman of the MGCSA's Scholarship Committee.

They are Harvey Klitzke, 46, Eden Prairie; Chris A. Leach, 26, Glyndon, and Michael Nelson, 23, St. Paul.

Scholarship grants are awarded annually by the MGCSA to turfgrass students who have displayed high scholastic achievement and a strong desire to become golf course superintendents.

"These scholarships represent our financial support of turfgrass students in becoming superintendents," said Fredericksen, head superintendent at Woodhill Country Club. "The scholarship program is dedicated to the memory of Harold Stodola, who committed his career to the leadership and advancement of golf course management."

**Klitzke**, a 1962 graduate of Brownton High School, was graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead with a business degree in 1966. In 1989 he worked on the golf course maintenance staff at Interlachen Country Club in Edina and this year is an intern at Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska. He expects to be graduated from Anoka next spring.

"I enjoy the game of golf," said Klitzke in his application form. "Being outdoors is invigorating, and growing turf, trees, shrubs and flowers gives me tremendous satisfaction. Maintaining a golf course is both an art and a science."

Looking ahead, he said that "with my business degree and years of experience in business, coupled with a two-year turf degree and adequate hands-on experience, I can become an effective superintendent. I have the ability, desire and personality to be a credit to the MGCSA."

"In order to achieve my goals requires financial sacrifice for several years. The scholarship will certainly ease the burden," Klitzke said. His daughter has one year remaining at Grinnell College. **Leach,** a 1982 graduate of Glyndon-Felton High School, was graduated in 1987 from Mayville State University in Mayville, N.D., where he was an honor student, served on the Student Council, earned letters for three years in both football and baseball and was honored for excellence in academics and athletics.

He worked in the pro shop at Ponderosa Golf Club in Glyndon in 1989 and on the golf course at Fargo Country Club this past summer. He expects to graduate from Anoka next spring.

"I had the opportunity to work on a golf course for two summers while in high school and simply fell in love with," Leach said. "I enjoy all phases of golf course management from mowing to construction."

"With the ever-changing technologies of today's golf courses, I believe it is very important to receive a well-rounded education and to continue to build on that education," he said.

Leach hopes to gain expertise in turf management, personnel management, budgeting, pest diagnosis, salesmanship and, as he put it, "most importantly in character and leadership qualities."

"Since joining the MGCSA earlier this year, I have been fortunate to witness the professionalism that the association represents," he said. "I truly believe that I have the professional qualities necessary to represent the MGCSA proudly."

**Nelson,** who was graduated from St. Paul Central High School in 1986, then worked with the Dayton Hudson Corp, also expects to be graduated from Anoka in 1991. Since 1987 he has been involved in golf course maintenance at Midland Hills Country Club in St. Paul.

"My dad encouraged me to play golf at an early age," said Nelson, who was all-conference in golf, won a rookie award in hockey and had perfect attendance for four years at St. Paul Central.

"As my interest grew in golf, so did my interest in the different aspects that are closely related, like turf management," he said. "While at Anoka, I expect to become familiar with the many different areas associated with the job. A lot can be said for experience, but I also feel it is necessary to have the firm foundation of a good education."

"I always will be looking to better myself and the profession by doing my best in any situation," he said. "Environmental concerns are a large part of the profession. I see even more concern in the future."

## About Harold Stodola

Harold Stodola began his career working at Oak Ridge Country Club in Hopkins from 1922 until 1926.

He then assumed the responsibilities as "greenskeeper" at Keller Golf Club in St. Paul until 1942, when he moved to Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio.

At Firestone, Stodola not only was charged with the maintenance of the golf course but with the Victory Gardens as well.

He retired in 1977 as superintendent at Mendakota Country Club in St. Paul. That year he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America [GCSAA].

Said Rick Fredericksen, chairman of the MGCSAA's Scholarship Committee: "The GCSAA's Distinguished Service Award is only presented to those who have demonstrated dedication and outstanding service to the GCSAA and the profession."

"Harold Stodola committed his entire life to the propagation and enhancement of the finest quality turf on earth so the masses could enjoy this game called golf in the most relaxing atmosphere on the most beautiful and tranquil spots in the world," said Fredericksen.



# EPA Proposes Separate UST Rule For Municipal Golf Operations

New underground storage tank regulations proposed by EPA could mean additional help for municipal golf courses.

All golf courses with underground storage tanks must be able to show financial responsibility, by Oct. 26, 1991, to cover the costs of cleaning up and repairing environmental damage should a leak occur.

For nearly all courses with USTs, that means obtaining underground tank insurance. *(See related insurance story on Page 21.)* Because many municipalities are self-insured, EPA has proposed the separate rule to give local governments more flexibility in complying with financial responsibility requirements.

The proposal outlines four tests governments can use to meet the \$1 million financial responsibility requirement: a bond rating test, a worksheet test, a governmental guarantee and a fund balance test. (These four are in addition to the mechanisms currently allowed.)

For more information about any of these four proposed tests, contact the EPA RCRA Hotline at 800/424-9346 or GCSAA's Office of Government Relations.

## Ruling: Suits Must Prove Specific Environmental Injury

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that individuals or groups who propose to sue over federal land use must offer detailed evidence of how they would be hurt by the government's actions.

In a 5-4 vote, the justices ruled that the plaintiff, a member of an environmental group, had not established standing (the legal right to bring a lawsuit) in the case against the government for actions affecting the environment of public lands. This decision handed down will force groups and individuals to demonstrate that specific injury would be suffered as a result of a proposed environmental action.

As with any liability issue that affects golf courses, your best plan is to document anything that impacts the ecology of your course operation.

## Brochure Discusses Origin, Construction, Maintenance of Greens

The most delicate playing surface in sports today—the golf course putting green—is the topic of a 24-page brochure now available from the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

The *Evolution Of The Modern Green* is a reprint of the fascinating four-part series, written by Michael J. Hurdzan, past president of the ASGCA. Dr. Hurdzan discusses all aspects of engineering, design, construction and maintenance in the fullcolor brochure that covers the following topics:

**Section One:** the historical development of golf greens in the U.S. and how turf managers keep them in top playing shape.

**Section Two:** the research and development of various methods of green construction.

**Section Three:** how and when to rebuild greens and how to avoid the most common construction errors.

**Section Four:** the turfgrass art and science of establishing and maintaining a delicate living playing surface.

*Evolution Of The Modern Green* is available for \$5 by sending a check or money order to: The American Society of Golf Course Architects, 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60601.

# Committee Seeks To Strengthen EPA Enforcement

The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works has decided to add some meat to EPA's tough enforcement talk.

The committee recently approved legislation that would increase the number of EPA criminal investigators from 54 to 171 and require the agency to hire an additional 50 investigators to help develop and prosecute civil and administrative enforcement actions.

While the legislation still faces action before the entire Senate, it is likely that the committee's support will spur the agency to step up enforcement actions aimed at smaller businesses.

## State Law Limits Interstate Hazardous Waste Disposal

A lawsuit over disposal of hazardous waste in South Carolina could affect superintendents nationwide.

At issue is a state law that forbids South Carolina facilities to accept hazardous waste from companies located in other states—unless those states reciprocate and do not restrict permitting of hazardous waste facilities within their borders.

A consortium of South Carolina disposal companies have filed suit against the state, arguing that the law impedes constitutionally-protected interstate commerce. Resolution of the case could very will dictate where superintendents can send hazardous waste to be disposed of—and at what price.



This past late spring and summer we have seen a significant amount of injury to garden and shrub roses caused by rose midge. The symptoms include a curling of the flower stalk [peduncle] downward, death of the terminal growing points on the shoot often resulting in blind wood [i.e. shoots that terminate in only a cluster of leaves with no flower bud], or the very small rose bud which is just beginning to develop turns brown and dries up, also resulting in a non-flowering shoot.

It has been my experience that symptoms can occur throughout the growing season but is usually more prevalent on the rose shoots destined to bloom in late June or early July.

The rose midge, *Dasineura rhodophaga* [Coquillett], belongs to a group of insects known collectively as gall midges, although the rose midge itself is not a gall-producing insect. The adult midge is a very small [about 1/32 inch], yellow-colored fly, which does not feed and lives for only 1 to 2 days.

The insect overwinters as a pupua in loose soil under plants infested during the previous season. Adult emergence occurs as the soil warms sufficiently during late May and early June. Female midges lay their eggs under the sepals of flower buds, or in opening leafbuds and elongating shoots.

The eggs will hatch in about two days during warm weather.

The little larvae begin feeding by making numerous slashes in the plant tissue near where they hatched. From these cuts they extract sap, and ultimately the wounded plant tissue dies, turns brown and then black. Depending on the size and development of the plant tissue, it is this wounding activity which can destroy vegetative shoots, kill small flower buds and/or cause abnormal flower development.

The creamy white larvae mature in about 5 - 7 days, depending on weather conditions, and reach a length of about 1/16 of an inch at maturity. Most of the time they normally drop to the ground where they pupate. However, during the summer months they will occasionally pupate in the injured rose tip. The entire life cycle takes about 12 - 16 days. Multiple generations are possible over the course of the summer. There are no cultivated or wild roses immune, although some may escape serious infestation because of a lack of simultaneous development of the plant and the insect.

The insecticide diazinon has been the pesticide of choice over the years. However, control can be somewhat inconsistent. Part of the reason for this is the critical timing needed to be successful in hitting the vulnerable periods in the insect's life cycle. Also, the larvae are very small and can be protected from contact insecticides by the newly-developing leaves and flower buds which help protect them. It would probably be best to alternate insecticides, being sure to include one or two systemic insecticides so that the material can get to the points of larvae feeding. When using insecticides, or any pesticide for that matter, be sure your roses are not under any water stress. Drought-stressed rose plants are much more susceptible to spray

(Continued on Page 19)



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