

USGA Announces Special Advisory Offer to Municipal Courses

As one of many activities, the United States Golf Association has an ongoing commitment to support the public golf sector.

In furtherance of this commitment, the USGA Executive Committee has authorized the USGA Green Section to provide special support to municipally/government owned golf courses. Specifically, the USGA is making a one-time offer to send one of its expert agronomy consultants for a full-day Turf Advisory Service (TAS) in 1991 for only \$700, its normal price for a half-day visit.

"This offer is available only to municipally/government-owned golf courses that have not used TAS in 1989 or 1990," said Raymond Anderson, chairman of the USGA Green Section committee.

It costs the USGA \$1,300 to provide this service. So why is the USGA making such an offer that costs it money?

Anderson said, "We hope that by providing expert agronomic advice to municipal courses, we can help to improve the quality of playing conditions for many of the nation's public golfers, and that is a goal that fits within the charter of the USGA. We also are betting that once they try the service, they will become one of our annual half-day subscribers."

"You need not be afraid that a USGA Turf Advisory Service visit will result in an increase in the cost of maintaining your golf facility," Anderson said. "On the contrary, the TAS usually shows a facility how to get the most out of a limited budget."

The USGA staff of 16 highly-trained and experienced agronomists provides on-course consulting services to more than 1,600 golf courses each year. Odds are high that its agronomists have seen special course problems before and can give quality solutions that will save time, money and frustration. The staff is dispersed throughout the country in different regions and sees most of the turf problems experienced in a region as well as their solutions.

In 1991, the USGA will fund turfgrass and environmental research through major universities totalling \$2,000,000.

"Our agronomy staff has access to all of the latest research, and is unequalled in up-to-date turfgrass knowledge," Anderson said. "Also, many of our agronomists have been golf course superintendents earlier in their careers, so they will relate well to your golf course personnel."

Budgetary officials are asked to consider appropriating the \$700 TAS fee for 1991 and contact the USGA by early next spring.

To apply for this one-time TAS offer, send a letter of intent or purchase order, along with the name and telephone number of your course official whom the USGA should contact, to:

USGA Green Section
Municipal Golf Course Offer
P.O. Box 708
Far Hills, NJ 07931-0708

For more information, call the USGA Green Section office at (201) 234-2300.

Turf Supply Company

Kudos To Dale Wysocki, Course Superintendent at

Faribault Town and Country Club, on winning the second annual Watson Award for Journalism.

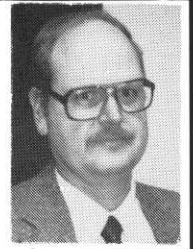
Turf Supply Company would like to pay tribute to Dale Wysocki, and all other contributors to "Hole Notes".



THE EXTENSION LINE

Plant and Site Considerations for Choosing Trees, Shrubs

By Bob Mugaas, Minnesota Extension Service



PART I Plant Considerations*

Winter in Minnesota often can be a time to plan for tree and shrub additions to the golf course landscape. Drought effects of 1987-88 and into 1989 resulted in many weakened and often dead landscape trees. Secondary invaders, such as Pine Bark beetles and Two-lined Chestnut Borers, caused further damage and death to many already weakened trees. While loss of these trees is usually not a pleasant situation, it can provide the opportunity to replant (or reforest) certain areas of the golf course.

When choosing new tree and shrub plantings, both plant and site characteristics must be considered to achieve best plant-to-site combinations. Here are a few of the more important plant characteristics to consider when choosing landscape plant material.

Trees and shrubs are major elements in residential, commercial, park and golf course landscapes. They can have a

long-term impact on the overall beauty and effectiveness of a neighborhood, community or golf course landscape. Many factors must be considered when selecting a tree or shrub. Will the plant tolerate the local hardiness zone and the conditions of the site where it will be planted? How big will the plant get, and what shape will it take? How long will it take to reach maturity? Does the plant have the characteristics to provide the benefits intended, and can it be integrated into a specific landscape plan? Plants are a lifetime investment of usefulness and beauty; plan for and understand the requirements of plants to obtain their total contribution to the landscape.

Size

Select plants that will complement their surroundings when fully grown. For example, smaller trees should be used if overhead wires cannot be avoided. Small trees also will keep a small area from becoming overcrowded and a single-story building or clubhouse from

being dwarfed.

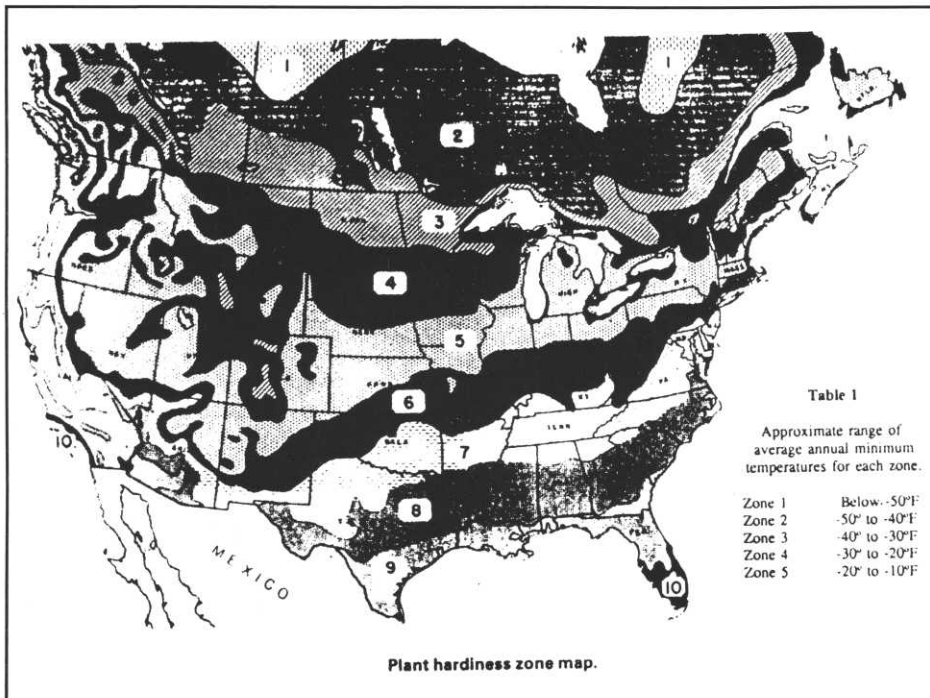
Conversely, a large area and a two-or-more story house can be complemented by taller, larger trees. One must learn the approximate mature size of plants to insure their proper use. Variation in size and shape will exist within species or within varieties due to site and growing conditions. Information on tree sizes and other important plant characteristics can be obtained from local nurseries and County Extension offices.

Growth

Trees often are planted to grow fast and provide shade in a few years. Trees that grow very fast may be short-lived, have weak branch habits and shallow or suckering roots that can disrupt turf or pavement. It is important to note that the growth rate of trees and shrubs can vary considerably, depending on a variety of environmental factors. The correct amount of light, water, nutrients, etc., can encourage slow-growing plants to grow faster. Proper care can make the difference between slow, medium and fast growth.

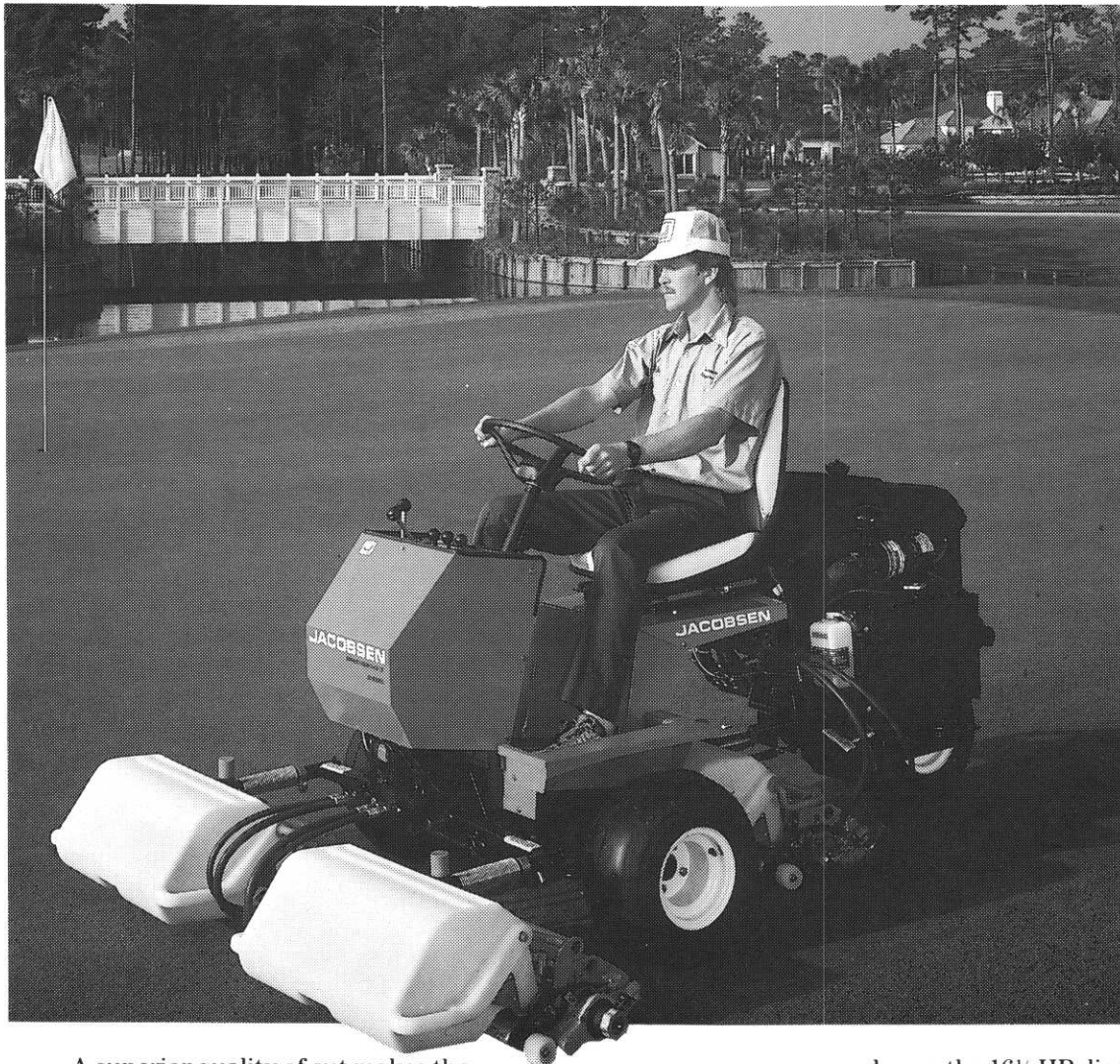
Cold Hardiness

Minnesota winters dictate selecting plant species that grow well in Minnesota and are hardy in Hardiness Zones 3 or 4 (Table 1). Plants native in northern areas are better adapted to withstand Minnesota winters. The hardiness zones, however, are not inflexible. For instance, a Zone-4 plant on an exposed, windward site in southern Minnesota may winterkill, whereas the same tree, if planted in a protected windless Zone 2 location, may survive. Soil, plant vigor and cultural practices also play a role in a plant's ability to withstand cold conditions.



*Adapted from Minnesota Extension Service publication (AG-FO-3825) "Planting and Transplanting Trees and Shrubs" by Bert T. Swanson, James B. Calkins, Peter-Jon Rudquist, and Steven Shimek.

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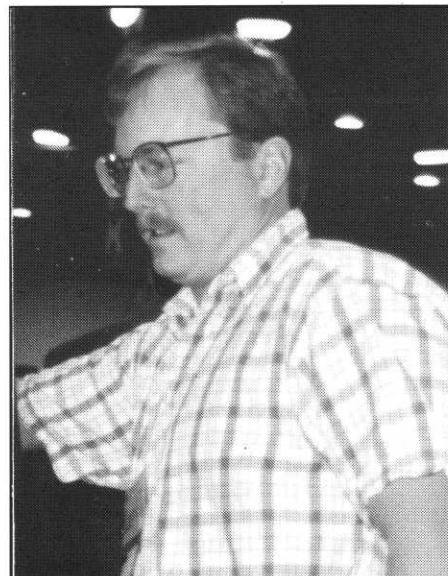


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Here's A Simple Tee And Pin Placement Program That Works

By JOHN. K. MACKENZIE, JR., CGCS
Head Superintendent, North Oaks Golf Club



Have you ever spent several productive hours planning a tee and pin placement program? And, once implemented, have you ever had your carefully devised itinerary modified by a greenstaff member who either lost the plan, was baffled by complicated instructions or perhaps even simply forgot what he/she was doing?

This scenario is familiar to many courses, including North Oaks Golf Club before we devised a schedule which does away with charts. Best of all it does not take a rocket scientist to figure out.

Several years ago we went to the "circus plan" of using three different-colored flags to denote different depths of the green. At first we thought this plan would be confusing for our two cup cutters. However, by using three of each of the different-colored flags on each nine, and instructing the cup cutters to rotate the flags beginning from the ninth hole to the first hole, and 18th hole to the 10th hole respectively, we overcame this challenge.

As an example, let's send Joe, our ace cup cutter, out to change the pin locations on the front nine. He starts by going to the ninth hole and pulls both the pin, which is red, indicating a front position and the cup. By rotating the cup at the same time as the pin, leg work is reduced on the green.

Joe then drives to the first tee to change tee markers on that tee. (Tee location management will be discussed later in this article.) Continuing, Joe progresses to the first green and cuts a cup in the front of the green. He removes the old pin, which has a blue flag, in-

dicating a back position, and replaces the plug. His next stop is the second tee and green respectively.

On the second green Joe sets the new pin placement in the back of the green, removes the old pin and flag which is yellow, indicating a middle placement, and continues to the third hole and so one through the ninth.

This worked well for depth locations, but we needed to create an easy program for lateral movement.

To overcome this challenge, we marked the base of each of the three different-colored pins, on each nine, with a permanent letter. "R" for right, "M" for middle, "L" for left. Thus we divided our greens into nine different sections.

Now, when Joe starts changing cups, he notices the red pin from the ninth hole, which is going to the first green, has an "R" at its base. He now knows that this pin is to be placed in the front right section of the green. He continues on to the second hole with the blue pin, which has an "M" at its base. Again, with very little application of his mental capabilities, Joe knows the new pin placement goes in the back, middle quadrant of the green.

Sound simple? It is incredibly simple. Granted, we have to modify our plan on certain holes due to slopes or "hog's backs," but for the most part it works well.

Now let's look at our tee market locations. According to the USGA Rules Of Golf, a golf course should play the distance marked on the scorecard. An easy way to insure the tee markers are posi-

tioned with accurate distance in mind is to allow the color of the flag to dictate the tee position.

Joe, when approaching the first tee, would notice the flag for the first green is red. This tells him to place the tee markers behind the MGA distance markers. Lateral location is dependent upon tee conditions. The placement of the second tee would be forward of the MGA markers, using the blue flag as a guide.

Does this simple system work?

Yes. Without the help of charts and paperwork we can achieve a diversified tee and pin placement program. Traffic is dispersed throughout the green and the different sections are given nine days to recuperate before the next pin is placed in that location. The course plays to its actual yardage. And, last but not least, anyone can rotate the cupping locations without any difficulty, including me.

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16,400 Attend GCSAA's International Golf Course Conference and Show in Las Vegas

More than 16,400 members of the golf course industry attended the 1991 International Golf Course Conference and Show hosted by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Held Feb. 5-12 at the Las Vegas Convention Center and Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, Nev., the conference and show presented superintendents and other turfgrass professionals with the very best in continuing education opportunities and golf course management products.

A record 591 exhibitors showcased their products and services during the three-day trade show—almost 50 more than exhibited in 1990 at Orlando. The exhibition covered nearly 175,000 square feet, up from 169,000 a year ago.

International attendance was strong as well with almost 1,400 participants representing some 46 countries outside the United States.

Highlighting the conference and seminar portion of the week were 42 continuing education seminars, including one for Spanish-speaking attendees. Nearly 2,500 GCSAA members participated in seminars and symposia on environmental and water resource management, budgeting and financial planning, safety and risk management, golf design and more. Other key events included an international roundtable, a session for Japanese-speaking attendees, an underground storage tank symposium and sessions by the United States Golf Association, Golf Course Builders of America and American Society of Golf Course Architects.

Lewis Crampton, associate administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), made two special presentations. Crampton participated in the International Roundtable and spoke before the American Society of Golf Course Architects session. His presentations focused on wetlands and habitat preservation in golf course design and construction. Crampton is also coordinating the agency's participation in a joint EPA/GCSAA public education campaign designed to educate homeowners about environmentally responsible lawn care.

Mark H. McCormack, CEO and chairman of International Management Group and author of *What They Don't Teach You At Harvard Business School*,

delivered the keynote speech at the opening session Feb. 8 GCSAA's new video, "Links With Nature," which outlines the environmental benefits of golf courses, made its debut during the opening session.

At the association's annual meeting Feb. 12, Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS, was elected president. William R. Roberts, CGCS, was elected vice president and Randy Nichols, CGCS, was appointed secretary/treasurer.

At the gala closing banquet following the annual meeting, William C. Campbell, former USGA president, was presented with GCSAA's highest honor, the Old Tom Morris Award.

The 63rd International Golf Course Conference and Show will be held Feb. 10-17, 1992, at the New Orleans Convention Center in New Orleans, La. The 1992 GCSAA Golf Championship will be held Feb. 10-11, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.



PRESENTING A PLAQUE honoring the MGCSAA's donation to the GCSAA's Scholarship & Research Fund to Minnesota President Tom Fischer, Edinburgh USA, right, is Jerry Faubel, GCSAA president.

GCSAA Elects 1991-92 Board of Directors

Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS, Metedeconk National Golf Club, Jackson, N.J., was elected president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) during the association's annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nev.

Cadenelli succeeds Gerald L. Faubel, CGCS, Saginaw (Mich.) Country Club, who as immediate past president will continue to serve for a year as director.

William R. Roberts, CGCS, Lochmoor Club, Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich., was elected vice president. Re-elected as a director and appointed secretary/treasurer was Randy Nichols, CGCS, Cherokee Town & Country Club, Dunwoody, Ga.

Also re-elected as directors were Gary T. Grigg, CGCS, Shadow Glen Golf Club, Overland Park, Kan., and Charles T. Pasios, CGCS, Hyannisport (Mass.) Club.

Bruce R. Williams, CGCS, Bob O'Link Golf Club, Highland Park, Ill., was appointed to the board. Williams will serve the remaining one year on Roberts' term as director. Roberts' director position was vacated when he was elected vice president.

Joseph G. Baidy, CGCS, Acacia Country Club, Lyndhurst, Ohio, and Randall P. Zidik, CGCS, Rolling Hills Country Club, McMurray, Pa., continue serving terms as directors.

Officers serve one-year terms, and directors are elected to two-year terms.

Two bylaws changes also were voted on. Both did not receive the two-thirds majority vote needed to pass and were defeated.—*MGCSA Voting Delegate Rick Fredericksen, CGCS.*

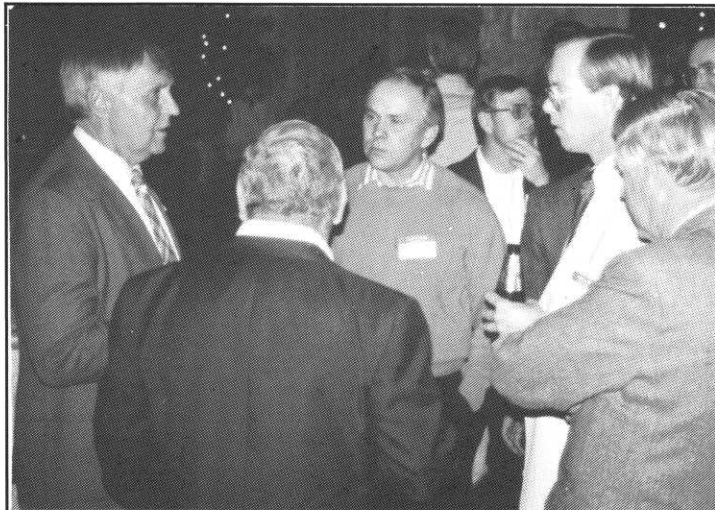
Candid Camera at GCSAA Session in Las Vegas



DELEGATE SELECTION—MGCSA participants in delegate selection were, from left, Keith Scott, Oak Ridge, CC; Keith Greeninger, Woodhill CC; Jerry Murphy, Somerset; Tom Fischer, Edinburgh USA; Jim Nicol, Bunker Hills, and Rick Fredericksen, Woodhill.



TURF TALK—Boots Fuller, left, Mankato GC, chats with Mark Poppitz, center, Island View, and James Gardner, Rochester CC.



HOLDING COURT at left is Bill Johnson, Edina CC. With him, are Russ Adams, U of M; John Nylund, Braemar; Doug Mahal, Minikahda, and Gerry Bibbey, Goodrich.



ALL SMILES—John Wiley, left, Turf Supply, and John Nylund, Braemar GC.



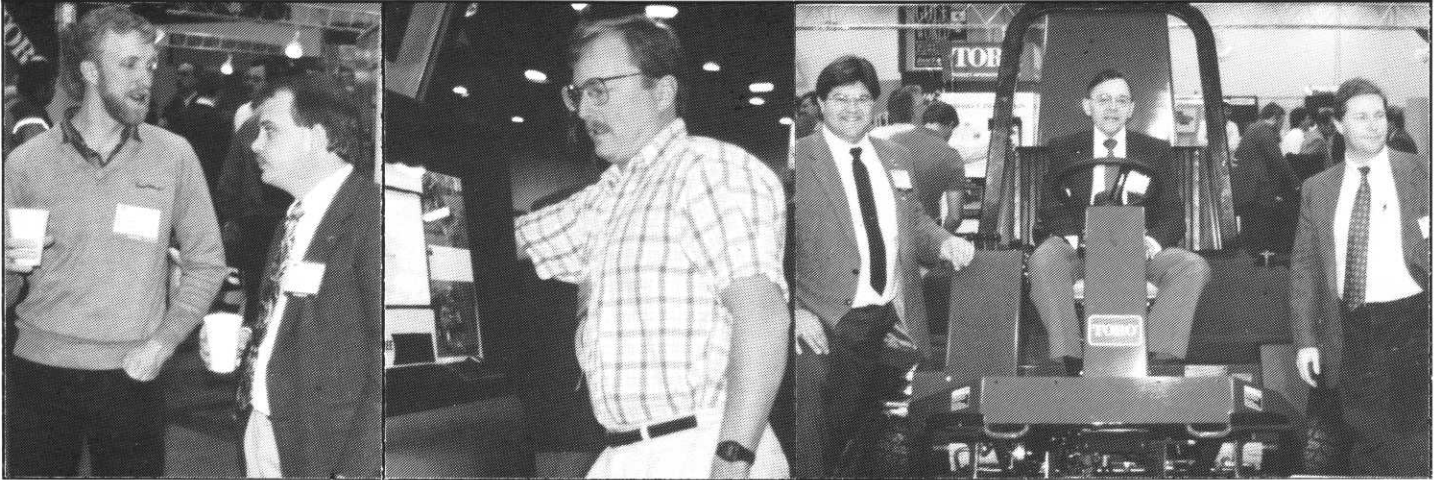
CHATTING with Leroy Young, right, MTI, is Tom Johnson, New Richmond CC.



ENJOYING the Minnesota hospitality room at Las Vegas are Paul and Judy Mayes.

Photos by Dale Wysocki

There Was a Lot to See and Do at Las Vegas



PAUSING for a moment are Marlow Hansen, left, Forest Hills GC, and Jeff Churchill, North Star Turf.

TRYING HIS LUCK at the Jacobson booth is Jack Mackenzie, North Oaks.

DISPLAYING TORO EQUIPMENT are, from left, Leland Greeninger, Glen Rasmussen and Tom Haberman, all of MTI.



SILVER BAY CC sent Norma O'Leary. She's visiting with Bob Merchant, left, and Jack Kolb.

A CARICATURE of Dennis Hendrickson, Wedgewood Valley, is being drawn by Toro artist Cindy Berglund as Dick Grundstrom, Indian Hills looks on.

A FORTUNE TELLER predicts the future of John Bichner, Dellwood Hills.



READY TO SELL are, from left, Stan Malone, Versatile Vehicles; Ken Um, Hyundai, and Mike Malone, Versatile Vehicles.

SMILING for the camera are John Luck, left, Foley United, and Kirby Burmeister, North Star Turf.

THE '91 U.S. OPEN was a topic of conversation between Dale Garske, left, Par Aide, and Chris Hague, Hazeltine.

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GCSAA Education Program Earns National Accreditation

The continuing education programming offered by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has earned official accreditation from the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET).

ACCET is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as the official accrediting agency for non-collegiate continuing education.

"Receiving accreditation confirms our belief that GCSAA offers topflight educational benefits to our members," said John M. Schilling, GCSAA executive director. "Few professional associations take this extra step to ensure quality education for their members."

GCSAA's senior director of education and marketing, Colleen Smalter Pederson, added that, "We chose to pursue accreditation to get public verification of the scope and quality of GCSAA's educational programs. It is important to us to have our programs measured against established standards."

The ACCET Accrediting Commission voted August 18 to approve GCSAA for full accreditation status, culminating a two-year preparation, application and evaluation process. Full accreditation recognizes the association's current curriculum of more than 50 one- and two-day seminars designed to provide information on up-to-date golf course maintenance practices and to sharpen the management skills of golf course superintendents.

GCSAA's correspondence coursework is also included under the accreditation. The association introduced its first correspondence course, covering media relations for the golf course su-

perintendent, last year; correspondence training courses for underground storage tank management and hazard communication are planned for 1991.

Nearly 3,500 participants attended GCSAA's 38 conference seminars and 30 regional seminars during the 1989-90 academic year. Another 81 seminars are planned for 1990-91.

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