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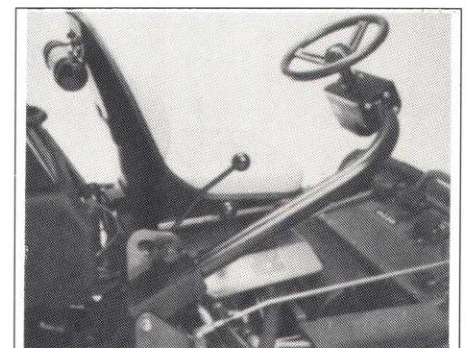
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HOLE NOTES

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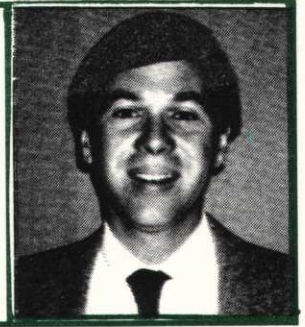
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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Hague & Hazeltine Did A Great Job For The U.S. Open



Rick Fredericksen did an outstanding job in organizing and setting up our MGCSA tent at Hazeltine. Due to the tent's location, many people stopped in, even if it was simply to ask directions. The association had great public exposure.

* * * *

Congratulations to Chris Hague on a successful tournament. I think the playoff on Monday personalized Chris' expertise in preparing Hazeltine for the U.S. Open. The rough was long and the greens were fast and hard, creating an exciting final round of golf. With the two professionals exchanging the lead several times, the conditions of the course challenged the players at every turn.

The scope of preparing for the U.S. Open is only realized when one attends the tournament. Viewing by television does not allow full appreciation of the magnitude and complexity involved in operating this event.

During the three days that I attended the Open, I was truly impressed with the organizational efforts of all parties. I would like to thank Chris Hague, Reed MacKenzie and all the members at Hazeltine for the sacrifices they made, enabling the U.S. Open to be played here.

Such an honor reconfirms the concept that Minnesota is a great golf state with numerous golf courses.

* * * *

Thank you to Cary Femrite for hosting the June meeting at Pebble Creek Golf Club and to MTI for the equipment display. The golf course was in excellent condition and Mother Nature provided perfect golf weather.

* * * *

Joe Moris has scheduled a scholarship meeting in July to review a handful of candidates for the upcoming year. Joe is hoping to grant three scholarships of \$1,000 each to promote the education of our future turf managers.

— Tom Fischer
MGCSA President

NOTE:

Mercury will be banned for use as of July 1, 1994.

Look for further details in the next issue of Hole Notes.

— Tom



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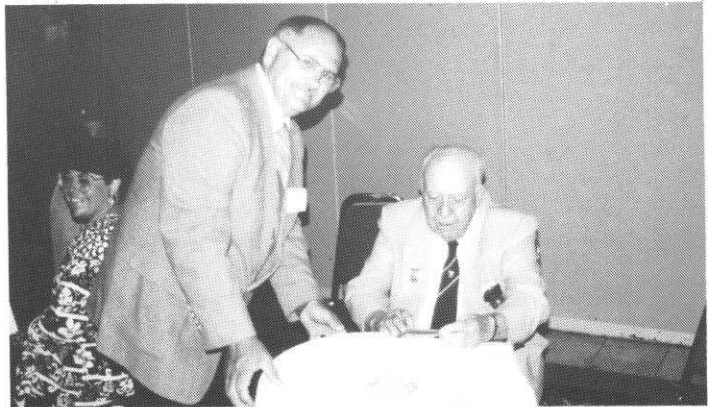
CANDID CAMERA AT THE U.S. OPEN



Steve Cadenelli, President of GCSAA and Chris Hague



Ice Sculpture at the U.S. Open



Jerry Murphy, Somerset & Robert Trent Jones, Sr.



Warren Rebholz, Robert Trent Jones, Jr. & Jim Lindblad



Tim Moraghan, USGA Agronomist & Jim Nicol, Bunker Hills, Steve Jensen, PGA Pro at Brackett's Crossing & Jim Lindblad, Wayzata



Dave Deem inspecting the grounds



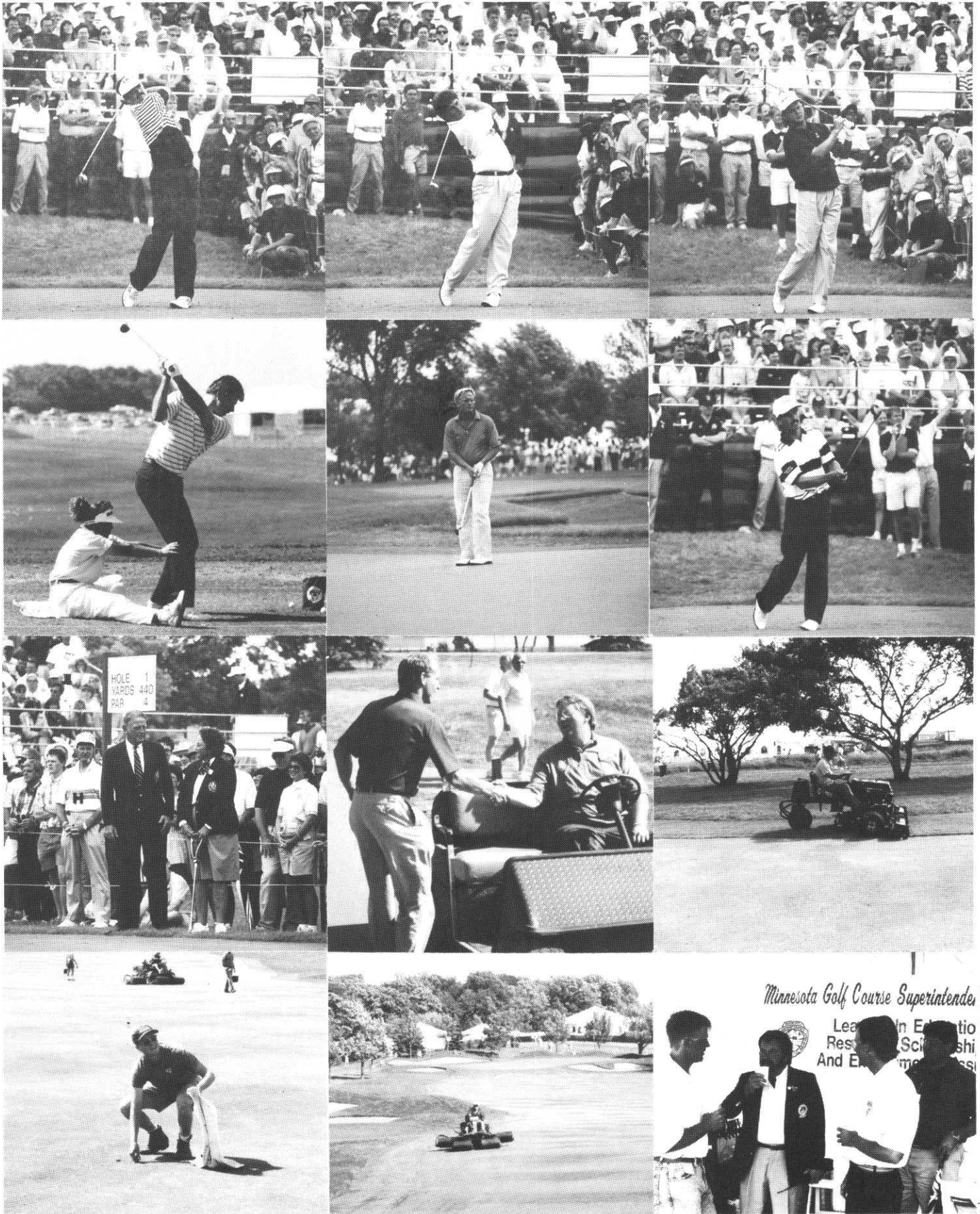
Chris Flood filling divots



Mowing the first hole at Hazeltine

PHOTOS BY DALE WYSOCKI

CANDID CAMERA AT THE U.S. OPEN



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Keith Faber

Professionalism and the Golf Course Superintendent

The Golf Course Superintendent comes across the term “professional” on a regular basis. Whether it be watching professional football, basketball, baseball or hockey players compete or watching the Golf Professionals compete on the PGA Tour, it is a word that comes into view quite often.

The word *profession* as defined in the American Heritage Dictionary is “an occupation or vocation requiring training in the liberal arts or the sciences and advanced study in a specialized field.” The word *professional* when used as a noun, according to the American Heritage Dictionary, is “one who has assured competence in a particular field or occupation.”

The term professional, when it applies to the Golf Course Superintendent, is a combination of both previously mentioned definitions: one who has training in the sciences through advanced study (hands-on experience and continuing education) in a specialized field (golf course maintenance) which creates an assured competence in that particular field. It sounds like nonsensical rhetoric, but it really does make sense.

To be viewed as a professional by your club or employer requires different sets of circumstances in varied situations.

Some clubs want to see their Golf Course Superintendents clad in golfing attire without a trace of grime or grit on them. Fine.

Other clubs or companies want to see their Golf Course Superintendents dressed in jacket and tie and carrying out only administrative duties from their offices while delegating other responsibilities. This is fine. Some clubs want to see their Golf Course Superintendents dressed in blue jeans, wearing sneakers or the like, and not minding one bit if they had to jump in and help out in certain situations on the golf course. This is fine also. Each situation is different, and one is no more professional than the other.

In being considered a professional by your peers or employers, there are some definite requirements. While at your place of employment to be always clean shaven, hair neatly combed or brushed, teeth clean and dressed as neatly as the situation dictates is of utmost importance.

When representing your club at a Golf Course Superintendents’ meeting or at an educational seminar it is important to



wear a jacket and tie or a jacket with a golf shirt at minimum. Looking good never hurts in these situations.

While attending board or green committee meetings, always dress as the situation dictates. Some clubs have laid-back dress requirements at those functions; others don't. Dress accordingly.

Being considered a professional by your employers obviously will hinge a great deal on your finished product—the golf course. Producing the best quality golf course possible with the particular funds available while always giving one hundred percent effort in all categories will gain the respect of most people.

Being viewed a professional by your fellow Golf Course Superintendents has its own set of criteria. Participation at the local level is of utmost importance. Involvement at the board level, on a committee, at monthly meetings, hosting monthly meetings and contributing when asked are all vital in being considered a professional. Everyone's involvement in a local association will only help solidify our being viewed a group of professionals. So get involved; it's only going to help.

The Golf Course Superintendents' involvement with available continuing education is a must in becoming a professional. Through GCSAA, regional seminars are offered. They are excellent and you're missing out if you don't participate. Local Golf Course Superintendents' associations offer educational seminars with varied topics. Try to participate; they also are excellent and, above all, local Golf Course Superintendent Associations' monthly golf/educational meetings are on-going and excellent. When speakers are present, they are usually excellent and interesting. I learn more at times just talking with my fellow

Golf Course Superintendents about related problems than I do in many other situations, educational or other. Having five or six Golf Course Superintendents sit down and discuss whatever comes to mind can be a tremendously educational experience.

Another part in being considered a professional is in how you treat people. Always treating your employees with respect and dignity will show in their work on the golf course. Your ability to communicate with golfers and members at your club while treating them with respect will help insure your being viewed as a professional. Having a solid line of communication with the commercial people in our industry, for they are very important, is a must.

Remembering that it is a two-way street is important, and to give them a chance when warranted. Sometimes it works out, but other times it doesn't. At least you tried, and they will respect you and view you as a professional for it.

In conjunction with the aforementioned subject matter, to be viewed as and to become a professional, four matters are of the utmost importance.

First, you must always use common sense. Taking unnecessary chances and not thinking things through are examples of not using common sense.

Second, one must become adept in the art of people management. Properly communicating with people from all levels of society is a must in succeeding as a Golf Course Superintendent.

Third, you must be or become educated. Whether you are a two-or four-year college graduate, a holder of an educational certificate, a holder of a Masters degree, or a person who is involved with continuing education as a Golf Course Superintendent, becoming educated is vital.

Fourth and last is participation. To be considered a professional, you must have participated or are participating on a local level. Remember, everyone's involvement on a local level will solidify our being viewed as professionals. Get involved. You'd be surprised how it will help.

—The Hole Nine Yards
March 1991

Poa annua and Phosphorus

By DR. WAYNE R. KUSSOW
Department of Soil Science
University of Wisconsin-Madison

For years, we have been told that generous supplies of phosphorus from soil or fertilizer enhance invasion of turf by *Poa annua* (PA). The reason, it seems, is that PA has a high phosphorus requirement. Satisfying this requirement gives PA a competitive growth advantage over other turfgrasses. How valid are these arguments?

The idea that PA has a high P requirement appears to have arisen from a number of field and greenhouse studies that date back as far as 1937. Let's examine some of these research findings, but without the usual citation of names, dates, places, research methodology, etc. Anyone wishing a list of the references drawn upon here can receive if for the asking.

To begin, let me list some observations that are often used to support the notion that PA is a P-loving plant:

1. Application of the equivalent of 5.9 lb plant available P-1000 ft² (hereafter cited as lb P) as bone meal or 3 lb P as 5-10-5 fertilizer each year for eight successive years increased PA populations in bentgrass 12 to 15% over the unfertilized control treatment.

2. Applying up to 90 lb P to "medium P" pots of soil then seeded to PA increased PA populations 22%, while application of P to a "very high P" soil had no effect on PA populations.

3. Application of P to a pH 4.5 loamy sand soil increased PA growth in pots, but not when the loamy sand was limited to pH 6.5 or when the P was applied to a silt loam soil adjusted to pH 4.5 or 6.5.

4. Application of 1.8 lb P along with 6, 10, or 10 lb N and 1.1 or 3.4 lb S for seven years on colonial bentgrass greens increased the area invaded by PA by an average of 20%.

5. Application of 4.5 to 18.0 lb P over three years on creeping bentgrass and then observing changes in PA over the three succeeding years revealed population increases of 3 to 7%.

6. Application of zero to 3.6 lb P and 3 lb N for two seasons on a golf fairway resulted in PA populations of 63 to 77% the

first year and 75 to 83% the second year. Leaf P concentrations in the PA ranged from 0.42 to 0.60%. These contrast with reports that healthy Kentucky bluegrass contains 0.12 to 0.24% P.

7. The optimum P level in PA leaf tissue has been shown in greenhouse studies to be about 0.52%.

On the surface, these research observations constitute some pretty convincing evidence that P application imparts a growth advantage to PA. But let's examine these lines of evidence in more detail and cite some other sources of information. As a general observation, note that in three of the preceding instances we are getting excited about PA population increases averaging 1.5 to 2.8% each year. Recent detailed studies of PA population shifts in turf have revealed natural population changes in the range of 70% over a single season when PA populations are observed is very critical as far as the results of field research studies on PA are concerned.

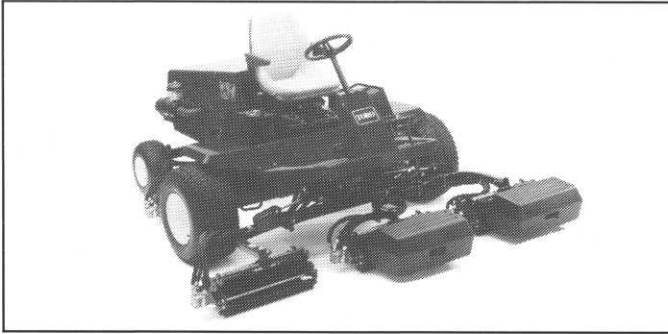
In the first research study cited above, it has to be recognized that this work pre-dated soil testing. Hence, we have no way of knowing whether or not annual applications of 3 or 5.9 lb P constituted what today would be considered reasonable rates of application. In any event, application of 117 lb bone meal or 70.2 lb 5-10-5 by no means constitutes a realistic fertilization program for bentgrass.

The next two studies cited were conducted with monostands of PA. Without the inclusion of other grass species for comparison purposes, there is simply no basis for concluding that these studies support the contention that P application imparts a growth advantage to PA. In summarizing their work, the authors themselves concluded that "there is no suggestion that annual bluegrass differs from other bluegrasses in its responses to the major elements, N, P, or K."

(Continued on Page 11)

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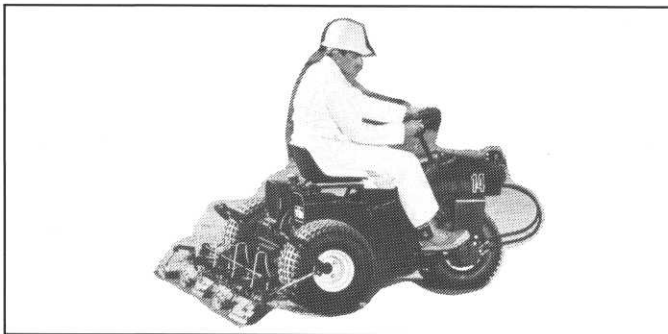
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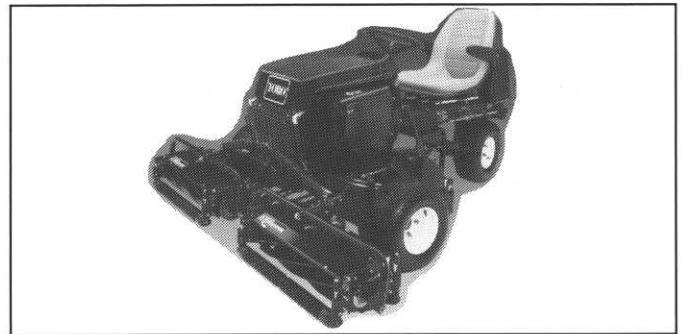
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