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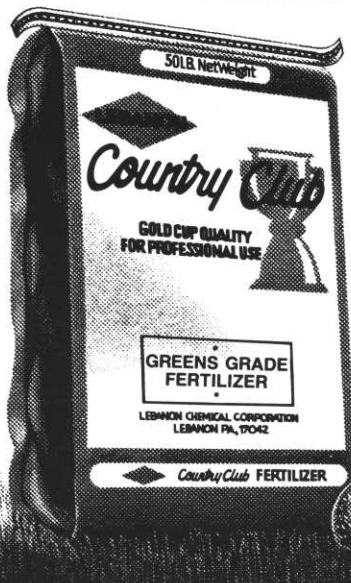
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# TURF SUPPLY COMPANY

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# '91 MGCSA Golf Season Underway



**OWATONNA COUNTRY CLUB** was the site of the opening session on April 22.



**HOST SUPERINTENDENT** Randy Nelson looks great on the tee.



**MGCSA PRESIDENT** Tom Fischer, left, Edinburgh USA, with Dan Miller, center, and Joe Churchill, North Star Turf.



**PUTTING** is Doug Mahal, superintendent at Minikahda.



**BLASTING OUT** is Dale Parske of Lesco, Inc.



**DOING THE SAME** is Bill Johnson, Edina CC superintendent.

PHOTOS BY DALE WYSOCKI

# FIVE STAR

# DEEP

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**NOW CAN DO IT ALL!!!**

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## **VERTI-DRAIN®**

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- Allows you to change the soil profile of your greens.

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In the spring or fall we can aeriate your greens with the Verti-Drain® and on the same day aeriate your tees and collars with the HydroJect®

In the summer months, when your greens are under heavy stress and when relief is needed most, we can use the HydroJect® to re-vitalize your greens without interruption of play.

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Keith Faber



# Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association

AFFILIATED WITH THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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**Joe Moris**  
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**Michael Olson**  
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FAX: 612/473-0576

## HOLE NOTES OFFICE

240 Minnetonka Avenue South  
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Wayzata, MN 55391  
612/473-0557  
FAX: 612/473-0576

June 1, 1991

Mr. Chris Hague, CGCS  
Golf Course Superintendent  
Hazeltine National Golf Club  
Chaska, Minnesota

Dear Chris:

The Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association wishes you the best of everything when the U.S. Open is conducted at Hazeltine June 13-16.

Playing host to such a prestigious event is indeed a great honor for our state in general and your golf course in particular.

We all are familiar with the tremendous amount of planning, work and follow through in which you and your staff have been engaged for such a long, long time, and we have been most impressed by the diligent and professional manner in which you have taken on this imposing assignment. Indeed, you and your colleagues personify the high principles for which our association stands.

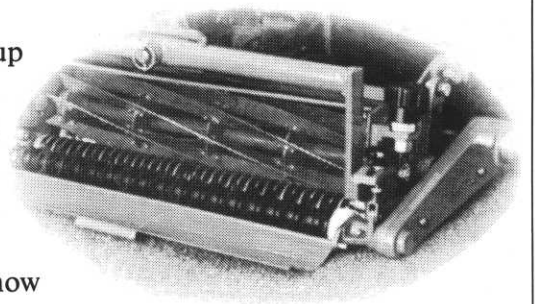
As the national golf spotlight focuses on Hazeltine this month, we share in your joy and optimism.

IN BEHALF OF THE MINNESOTA GOLF COURSE  
SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Tom Fischer, CGCS  
President

**In side by side comparisons  
no competitive greens mower  
provides a higher quality of cut.**

The fact is that Ransomes new Greens 3000 picks up  
where the competition leaves off. And the proof is  
in a truer, closer putting surface. ■ We challenge



anyone in the industry to mow

any green. Then mow the same green with our  
new Greens 3000. We're confident that you'll

see how Ransomes unique Vertigroom  
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even cut on any sur-

face. ■ Call your

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dealer today for more

details and to arrange a

free demonstration. Or call us

direct at 612-333-3487. And see for yourself that when it comes to greens mowers,

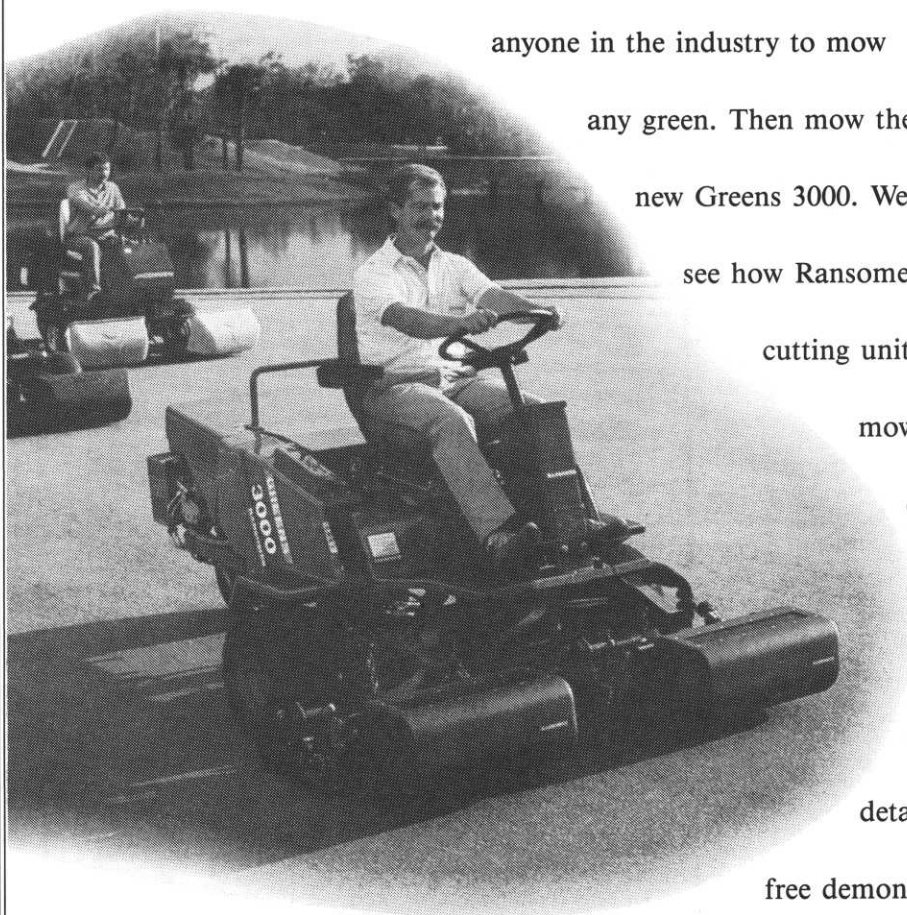
anything less than a Greens 3000 simply won't cut it.

**Where great ideas start.**

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# With 45 hp, Toro's Groundmaster<sup>®</sup> 345 Is Powered To Take Charge

Designed to maximize mowing productivity without losing the maneuverability needed for close landscapes, this liquid-cooled, gas-powered workhorse continues Toro's tradition of excellence.



**ON DEMAND  
4-WHEEL DRIVE**

#### **OPTIONS**

- Diesel Engine
- 88" Triplex Cutter

- State-of-the-art Distributorless Ignition System assures optimum power, long life and a smooth, quiet operation.
- Power assist steering with optional cruise control minimizes operator fatigue and increases efficiency.
- Toro's counterbalance system transfers weight automatically from the cutting unit to the tractor, based on performance demands, for greater stability and traction.
- Water-cooled hydrostatic transmission provides "long-life," trouble-free service.

For 17 years Toro commercial mowers have been the preferred choice for dependable, durable performance that satisfies the tough, rough demands challenged by today's varied turf conditions.

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## Proper Planting—

(Continued from Page 10)

the winter. To protect individual trees from mice, place a cylinder of ¼ inch mesh hardware cloth or plastic drain pipe (it should not be black in color) around the trunk. The cylinder should extend high enough to prevent animals from feeding at snow level, and should be firmly anchored in the soil without disturbing the tree roots. Protection from rabbits requires coverage of up to 1 to 2 feet above snow level. Other means of fencing or animal control may be needed. If many trees and shrubs are to be protected, application of a commercial repellent may be more practical. The repellent can be sprayed or painted on the trunks and branches. The effectiveness and duration of the repellent will depend on the severity of the winter and the availability of other food.

\*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.

## Lyme Disease—

(Continued from Page 4)

- Keep weeds cleared and shrubs trimmed.
- Clean up leaf piles and organic debris and do not allow it to accumulate.
- Move wood piles away from the house and play areas.
- Inspect your home for possible entry sites for rodents.
- Move bird feeders away from living or play areas.

### Dress the Part When Outdoors

The threat of getting Lyme disease shouldn't keep anyone

from enjoying the outdoors. If you plan on being in a tick-prone area, dressing properly is one way of reducing your chances of coming into contact with ticks.

- Wear light-colored clothing, so ticks will be easier to spot.
- Wear long-sleeve shirts with collars.
- Wear long pants.
- Tuck your pants into the top of your boots or inside your socks.
- Wear your hair tucked up into a cap away from your neck.
- Use an effective insect repellent.
- After being outside, check yourself for ticks, and shower or bathe thoroughly before going to bed.

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## Turf Perennial Ryegrass Blend

- A harmonious blend of four turf-type perennial ryegrasses that provide rapid ground cover needed to repair damage due to heavy traffic, scuffing, wear and tear.
- Each perennial ryegrass has qualities that meld together providing an excellent synergistic performing turf.
- Together this foursome provides fast establishment, excellent spring recovery, drought and wear tolerance, and provides extra density during the stress of hot summer.
- Quartet is fine-leaved, dense and dark green, and is recommended in cool season areas for use in parks, office complexes, sports fields and industrial sites.

**Wilbur-Ellis**  
Ideas to grow with

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# GREEN CLIPS

**GCSAA "Gold Card" holders** who plan to attend the upcoming U.S. Open at Hazeltine should contact either the USGA or Hazeltine to arrange for "will call" tickets.

\* \* \* \* \*

**MGCSA members who want to attend a monthly board meeting as an active participant must contact** President Tom Fischer at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Those members who only wish to view the proceedings may attend without *any* advance notification.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Minutes of the MGCSA board meetings** are available to each member upon request. Contact our MGCSA office (612/473-0557) if you are interested.

\* \* \* \* \*

**MGCSA Golf Shirts** are still available. Order yours today! Call the MGCSA office.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Environmental Guideline booklets** will be sent to each MGCSA member and to each associate member. The booklet will be distributed after MGCSA dues have been paid.

\* \* \* \* \*

**The MGCSA U.S. Open Hospitality Tent** will be located between #1 tee and the Pro Shop. Daily hours will be between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday - Sunday.

\* \* \* \* \*

**All GCSAA members are invited** to the annual U.S. Open reception, which will be held June 14 from 7 - 10 p.m. at the Radisson South Hotel in Bloomington. Please RSVP to the GCSAA if you plan to attend.

—Scott Austin, Co-Editor

## Here's a Preview Of the 1992 GCSAA Session In New Orleans

In early April, I attended a meeting in Lawrence, Kansas as a member of the 1991-92 GCSAA Industrial Advisory Council, to critique the just completed Annual Conference and to plan for the following year's event.

Here is some information that might be of interest. . .

The Annual Conference in New Orleans, February 10-17, 1992, will have an even larger trade show floor (400,000 sq. ft.) in a better designed building. In the interest of the attendees, it was expressed at this meeting that more attention should be shown to creating a better layout so more ground could be covered, quicker, with less backtracking and/or skipping of whole areas.

**Advance planning** is truly becoming essential for the attendee, especially since the trade show hours will remain the same. There were 591 companies exhibiting in Las Vegas, up 41 from the previous year.

On the education program, it is now anticipated that environmental work-

shops will be added, a fast-growing area of concern for our industry.

**As for room rates in New Orleans**, you can plan on a range of \$69 to \$126, with the majority between \$100 and \$120. Most all of the hotels are an easy walk to the new convention center.

If you like to look ahead, we'll be in Anaheim in 1993, Dallas in 1994, San Francisco in 1995 and Orlando in 1996. One interesting note that made me appreciate the work that goes into planning this annual event is that GCSAA directors already are working on booking show halls well into the first 10 years of the next century. They have the unenviable task of trying to guess how much our industry will grow, then estimating the floor space that will be needed for our show some 10 to 15 years out. Dates have to be reserved now.

One last topic I would like to cover is the new headquarters facility in Lawrence. I will be the first to admit that I questioned the need, but what a facility! It exudes professionalism.

It's first class and I encourage everyone to stop in if ever in the vicinity to see how you and your industry are represented.

In fact, the perfect opportunity to do so is coming up September 6-7, 1991, when the new headquarters is dedicated. I guarantee, that if you attend, you will return with a great sense of pride in your chosen occupation and industry.

—Steve Garske

## FOR SALE

Toro 5-gang pull frame with five 7-blade Spartan cutting units, pneumatic tires, reconditioned and sharpened.

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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

### NEW MEMBERS—MAY 13, 1991

Larry Lennert	Hillcrest Country Club	Class	BII
Scott Knutson	River Falls Golf Club		D
Terry Benson	Hudson Country Club		D
Johnny Jarosz	Minikahda Club		D
Charles Miller	Wedgewood Valley Golf Club		C

Mike Olson, Membership Chairman

## FOR SALE

1980 Cushman Turf-Truckster  
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1980 Jacobsen Turf King-76  
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# Making tournament quality fairways a daily event

## Jacobsen's LF-100 lightweight fairway mower gives your fairways, that TV-ready appearance

Golf courses across the country are finding they can have fairways with a flawless, manicured cut, and still keep their mowing costs under control with Jacobsen's LF-100. Many major tournament courses are using the LF-100 to get their fairways into top shape for TV.

Every component of the LF-100 is designed for the rigors of day-in, and day-out fairway mowing, from the Jacobsen exclusive heavy duty reels to the long-life diesel engine. You can even get a four-wheel drive model for hilly fairways.

Golfers love the smooth, even cut that gives their ball a perfect lie anywhere on the fairway. Course superintendents love the high productivity and dependability.

To see what the LF-100 can do for your course, contact us at North Star Turf, Today.



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# What's Your Batting Average?

\* \* \* \*

## *An Opinion on Unreasonable Expectations*

By Stanley J. Zontek  
Director, Mid-Atlantic Region, USGA Green Section

Golfers are well known for making comparisons. They seem to take pride in telling anyone who will listen how a course down the road does something this way or that. They compare budgets, acreage maintained, soils, grass types, green speed, the amount of labor and many other facts. Sometimes, the comparisons are accurate, sometimes not.

Let's take this comparison one step further. It's not really valid, but is interesting nonetheless.

**Baseball:** A .250 batting average is just that—an average. A ball player hits safely one at-bat in four. A “star” bats .300 and an immortal like Ted Williams bats .400. If you are keeping score, and you should be, that's four out of ten.

**Basketball:** Superstars shoot just over 50% from the field. They shoot a ball into a hoop at a distance of zero (a dunk) to 18-22 feet or more.

**Golf:** A par round of golf is normally about 72. Golfers who consistently shoot less than par are found on the PGA Tour, making lots of money. Golfers who shoot consistently over par are found everywhere, and includes those people making the comparisons. The average handicap in the country is just over 18. The average golfer, therefore, shoots about 25% over par.

**At what percentage do golf course superintendents produce quality turfgrass?** As a basis for comparison, golf courses contain about 30 acres of fairways, 2.5 acres of greens and 2.5 acres of tees. This equates to about 100,000 sq. ft. of greens and tees and 1,320,000 sq. ft. of fairways. Thus, if a superintendent “bats” .400, which would put him in great company in baseball, it

means your superstar would lose the equivalent of 10.8 greens and tees out of 18. On fairways, he would lose about 18 acres of turf.

While this .400 batting average might get you into the Baseball Hall of Fame, you would probably lose your job as a golf course superintendent.

All of this may sound ludicrous, but the fact remains that golfers have set such high standards for their golf courses that maintaining these standards is difficult, expensive and sometimes impossible to achieve. To keep alive every blade of grass on every green, tee and fairway regardless of the conditions, and not being willing to accept anything less, is wishful thinking and a mistake.

**Everything cannot be perfect** on every golf course every day. Even if it were possible, what would it cost?

So, look at your golf course. My message to course officials reading this opinion is not to be so concerned if the golf course superintendent bats only .998. After all, this equates to losing about 200 sq. ft. of turf, a 10 ft. by 20 ft. area of greens or tees and 2,640 sq. ft. of fairways, or .06 of an acre.

Anyone who bats this percentage or better deserves a pat on the back, not a kick in the pants. After all, what other industry which deals so closely with Mother Nature can boast a 99% average of better? Not many.

Therefore, the next time you read about a professional athlete making \$2,000,000 a year to achieve only a 30% batting average, be proud. . . because golf course superintendents are batting 99%, or better.

—USGA Green Section Record