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FLASHBACK

(Ed. Note: The following comments from Harold Stodola are reprinted from the November 1972 issue of Hole Notes.)

Some great impressions and words from one of Minnesota's greatest Greenkeepers, Harold Stodola

As the last of the greenkeepers, I would like to give my impressions of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents.

First, I am all for your Executive Secretary, Al Wareham. He was my Green Chair-man and President at Keller. We called him Mr. Public Golf.

Now for the Superintendents, alphabetically, as I know them.

Russ Adams, goodwill man of the Association. A miracle worker to grow turf on busy University Course.

Oscar Bergman, Park View Golf Course. Up in years but young in heart. Starting all over again with a new course

Bob Borovansky, Town and Country. Confident, capable and well liked by his mem-

Arnie Bodhaine, Dawn Golf Course. He succeeded Doug Jabaay, who went up the recreation ladder

Jake Cassidy, Owatonna. Always looking for better ways. Seldom misses a meeting. Kurt Erdman at picturesque Rochester Country Club. Best man to raise turf and trees together

Maynard Erickson, followed his Dad at Theodore Wirth, and has a son following him. Dave Feser, Minnreg Golf Course. Slow talking, deep thinking, well educated. Handling a big job at Honeywell

Bob Feser, Manager of Medina Golf Club and practical teacher at Anoka Tech. Vince Frost, White Bear. Honest, outspoken, doing a faithful job.

Irv Fuller, Mankato Golf Club. Has been there so long he knows every blade of grass by name.

His brother John at Midland. Keeps that busy place humming summer and winter. Dick Grundstrom, Dellwood. Raises fine turf and drains low fairways at the same

Ray Hall, Minnetonka. Been at more courses than any other superintendent and each new job better.

Vern Hansen, Minneapolis Golf Club. Capably filling the big shoes of Jack Kalb. Ron Helming, Hazeltine. Successfully held National Open. Now bidding for National PGA.

Bob Hickman, Fort Snelling Golf Club. So busy with his many duties we seldom see him. A great host.

Tom Hopf, Greenhaven, Anoka. Everything we hear about his course is complimentary. Allen Ista, Northfield. Always see him at the Short Course.

George Jenarich. Ouiet, dignified, smooth operator of beautiful Woodhill.

Bill Johnson. Plays golf and curls as well as he manicures well-kept Edina.

Carl Johnston, young Superintendent at Alexandria, Ambitious and enthusiastic. Duane Kahmeyer. Helping at Golden Valley until he gets a course of his own again. Roger Kisch. Silent, resourceful, hard worker at Southview.

Gary Kwas. Sharp, active, intelligent import from Wisconsin. At home at Wayzata Country Club.

Lightning -

(Continued from Page 10)

patrons of their courses. Some private weather forecasting companies offer a service called lightning detection, which allows them to track lightning with unprecedented accuracy.

Some companies offer a paging system to warn owners when storms are headed toward their course. This gives owners time to warn golfers and get them off the course when lightning is nearby.

Although you can't control the dangers of severe summer weather, using a private weather forecasting service is one way to help lessen the risk of a death or injury on your course when Mother Nature is at her worst.



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Harold Stodola

Clarence Larson. Finally he has revamped Columbia Golf Course in play, and do his members ever love it.

John Lightfoot, Cloquet. Small in stature but big in ideas and the ability to carry them out

Jim Lindblad. As up to date as his modern championship. Rolling Green.

His brother, Don, is at Majestic Oaks and they say it is a Majestic layout. Bill Lundquist, serious veteran at Forest Hills.

Orland Maenke. Must be lonesome at women-less Olympic Hills.

Busy Tony Magina. Have hardly seen his handsome sideburns this summer.

Walter Mann, Mendota Short Course. It has never been so good.

Clem McCann, with a smile as big as his spreading Coon Rapids Course.

His son owns a closely operated course in neighboring Dayton.

Dick McCory, assistant at Interlachen. Best amateur bartender I know. Very steady on bus trips

The Moris' - father and son, at Tartan Park. What a layout. What a job they are doing.

Newly married Larry Mueller at Minnesota Valley. Snowmold never phased him when he returned from his honeymoon.

Garold Murphy. So diversified he should be able to retire to his Wisconsin cabin at fifty.

Spencer Nelson. Little Falls in the summer. California or Florida in the winter. Couldn't happen to a nicer guy.

Tall Irv Novak. All we hear about Austin Country Club in the Twin Cities is praise. George Ostler. Quiet, calculating, far-seeing Superintendent at Hillcrest. Course is immaculate.

Jerry Parizek, Lost Spur. Doesn't say much, but thinks and produces a lot.

Cal Polsean and son in South Dakota. Keep maintenance standards high in their state. John Queensland, Cedar River Country Club, Adams. Young, enthusiastic; anxious to learn how to do the best for his club.

Rich Rannels, Golden Valley. Smooth operator. Just gave golfers a fine golf course for state tournament

Keith Scott. Just as polished as superb Oak Ridge. They both have class.

Dean Sime, Interlachen. His club is in the first ten in America and so is he.

Tom Stelter, Como Golf Course. I never saw a young superintendent come along so fast. But who wouldn't under Mike Weinhandl.

Dave Streater, Orono. We miss you at our meetings.

Charles Suter, Highland. How does it feel to have another nine added to your

Dick Toupal at well designed North Oaks. What a pleasure it must be to belong to your club.

Dick Ulrich, Lafayette. Happy in his new job and loves his course.

Larry Vetter. Golfer, superintendent and promoter for bigger and better associahrough educatio

Cliff Vohs, St. Cloud Country Club. His work is tops just like his Cadillac. Dick Wise, Detroit Lakes. Up where the fishing and hunting are best. So is his golf course.

Jim Wodash, Albert Lea. Father of large family. Father of interesting golf course.

Arthur Yanke. Phalen. Perhaps retired by now. He earned it.

Bernie Zimmer, our longtime Secretary. Is overdue for a fine club which he deserves.

What a pleasure it is to see our golf courses in such fine hands. Ye Olde Greenkeeper,

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AUGUST 1995

HOLE NOTES • 13

In 1994, the INFO-U system processed:

University of Minnesota UPDATE

By Brad Pedersen University of Minnesota

The University of Minnesota has numerous sources of information on turf and related horticultural topics available to the general public. In this issue of *University Update*, I have included summaries listing names, addresses and phone numbers for these University services.

Info-U Home and Garden Telephone Information Services

Info-U is a free, 24-hour home and garden telephone information service located in Coffey Hall on the St. Paul Campus. From your home or office, you have access to answers for commonly asked questions on plants and flowers; lawns, trees and shrubs; freezing and canning, and fruits and vegetables.

If you have a touch-tone phone, you can choose your topic by browsing through the Info-U brochure. Press the corresponding number of the topic desired to hear an audio message on that topic.

Remember, the call is free, the information is based on research from the University of Minnesota, and you can access it right from your telephone.

For more information call (612) 624-2200 in the metro area or 800-525-8636 for participating outstate counties.

Info-U Fax-Back

Info-U Fax-Back is a new information source from the University of Minnesota Extension Service. Fact sheets on yard and gardening topics are now available via fax machines.

To receive a fact sheet by fax:

- 1. From any touch-tone phone, call (612) 624-2200.
- 2. Following voice instructions, enter "105"
 - for FAXBACK service.
- 3. Following voice instructions, enter the:
 - a. fax phone number
 - b. local phone number (if desired)
 - c. 4-digit title number from the faxback catalog. The system will ask if a catalog of titles should be faxed.
- 4. The INFO-U FAXBACK system will make up to 5 attempts to send the requested information to the fax number given.

-	and o o system processed.	
	17,139 Voice Messages	
	1,388Current topic	
	3,859Rotary calls	
	61FaxBack pilot	
	22.447 TOTAL MESSAGES	

Of the voice messages accessed (not counting current topics and rotary calls), 68% are supported by a horticulture specialization.

Horticulture Topics, by subject matter

Compost & general gardening119	7
Compost & general gardening	0
Flowers	70
Fruits & vegetables	16
House plants	Ъ
Household pests	6
Lawns	6
Vegetables	6
Volunteer update messages	10
Woody ornamentals	6

Dial U Clinic Diagnostic Services

The Dial U Clinic is a fee-supported service of the Minnesota Extension Service and the Unviersity of Minnesota. Callers may reach the clinic by dialing 1-900-988-0500 from 9:00-5:00, May through September and 9:00-2:00 the rest of the year. A fee of \$2.99 is automatically billed to the caller's phone. This service is available to anyone wishing horticultural or wildlife information or the diagnosis of insect or disease problems on non-production landscape plants (including turf, trees, shrubs, flowers and vegetables). Callers include homeowners, lawn care personnel, foresters, consultants and grounds managers.

If you are a producer of a horticultural crop (such as a greenhouse grower or nursery manager), you need to contact the appropriate University specialist. For disease problems you may contact the Plant Disease Clinic directly at (612) 625-1275.

In 1994 the Dial U Clinic processed 20,508 phone calls and walk-in contacts. Subject areas covered include: homeowner horticulture (44%), entomology (34%), plant pathology (16%) and urban wildlife (6%).

Top five horticulture questions:

- 1. lawn care (include weed control)
- 2. pruning/training
- 3. transplanting
- 4. overwintering
- 5. identification of various plants
- Top five entomology questions:
 - 1. carpenter ants
 - 2. wasps
 - 3. insect/mite galls (excl. maple bladder gall)
 - 4. ants (household) (excl. pavement and field ants)
 - 5. houseplant insects

(Continued on Page 16)

SOIL CORE ANALYSIS A DIAGNOSTIC TOOL

By Joe Farina, Golf Course Turf Specialist Read Sand & Gravel, Inc., Rockland, MA

(Reprinted with permission)

The turfgrass plant, much like a human being, requires a proper balance of air, water, food and a healthy environment to sustain life and survive in its flora world. The basic teachings of turf physiology have sharpened the expertise of many a superintendent to help combat against the elements that seek to upset this balance and to weaken, stress or kill our grasses. When an adverse condition is noticed whether a pathogen, insect or climatic influence—the turf manager becomes a physician of sorts who analyzes, defines and resolves the problem using diagnostic methods of on site visual or off site laboratory tests. Most of the time this occurs after the damage has been done to some degree. We know that a weakened turfgrass plant is more susceptible to disease, stress and parasitic invasion. Identification of what causes a weakened plant in the first place could be the key to prevention and could increase the survivability of the turfgrass. A soil core analysis should be part of your check list.

True, many factors from close mowing to foot traffic or phytotoxicity can put a turfgrass plant in a weakened state, but the subsurface environment of the root zone area can set the stage for "do or die" of the turfgrass plant. Infiltration, porosity, organic content and particle distribution are the dynamics of a soil structure engineered for turf. Harmony and balance must exist among these root zone characteristics below the surface in order to support your cultural program atop the surface. When a soil imbalance exists, the turf cannot respond fully to the applications you apply to enhance its quality and vigor. Thus the turf plant becomes weak due to the soil environment in which it is anchored. Unfortunately, by the time the weakening effects are felt the mercury hits 90 plus, humidity is oppressive, there is a shotgun member guest at 12 o'clock, and you cancel lunch while you grab that bottle of antacid. Sound like the summer of '94? It's "no holds barred" with Mother Nature and the last thing on your mind is a soil test.

Spring and Fall are more opportune times to conduct a soil test analysis as a diagnostic tool prior to aeration and topdressing, and to make proper decisions on what material you should or shouldn't be amending the root zone with. Conventional soil testing methods are good for choosing a new root zone or topdressing material for greens and tees. However, for an existing soil profile in either a new high sand or an old push up green, a more surgical approach is required to locate, pinpoint and isolate a soil malfunction within a specific area from 0 to 12" so that you can implement the proper corrective action (a "smart bomb" analogy, if you will). Such a method has been developed by International Sports Turf Research Center of Olathe, Kansas, to test intact, undisturbed soil cores inch by inch and evaluate the physical well-being of the soil medium as it relates to the root system and health of the turf plant. This is especially effective on golf greens where intense culture and abuse struggle to find an equilibrium. Now soil testing technology has devised a way to bring your golf green to the laboratory. Okay, sure, core samples have been done for years by using a cup cutter or pounding in random lengths of PVC, but never with this high degree of accuracy.

This New ISTRC SYSTEM cores with a plugger device and extracts a 2" diameter by 3" deep intact core into a copper sleeve that is then capped and sent off the the lab. Two types of cores are extracted which represent specific levels of the root zone for analysis. First, the most crucial upper tier -0'' to 3'' - that is subject to general aeration practices, topdressing, soil amending, surface contamination and direct compaction. Second, the lower 3" to 6" tier that can harbor hard pan, fines build up, and is affected during vertidrain, deep tining and hydrojet practices. Additional lower tier cores may be extracted from 6" to 9" and 9" to 12", especially when considering deep tining or rebuilding. Identification of the make up of the soil profile with inch by inch accuracy is the intended purpose when subject to the following series of tests: USGA physical evaluation guidelines including infiltration rates; Walkley/Black organic; Particle distribution and textural analysis; Bouyoucous test; Porosity in capillary and noncapillary; Particle sphericity/angularity; and Root mass and feeder roots analysis.

Where and what are the most common soil problems found through core testing? Definitely in the upper tier 0" to 3". Buildup of organic and fine layers that seal off the root zone and impede proper infiltration, choking of the soil porosity creating an imbalance of air and water, the restriction of feeder roots from penetrating the depths of the root zone, and confining the root mass to the upper portion of the root zone. What could cause all the mayhem? The cause could be as simple as using improper topdressing material. Not that your topdressing material may be bad, but it just might be too much of a good thing such as high organics or particles too abundant in coarse or fines. Can you imagine what would happen to our cholesterol levels if we ate steak and eggs every day? Just as a blood test is a good diagnostic tool for human health, soil core analysis is a good diagnostic tool for the health of your turf.

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U of M Update –

(Continued from Page 14)

Top five plant pathology questions:

- 1. apple scab
- 2. wilt diseases (oak wilt, DED, verticillium wilt)
- 3. evergreen problems
- 4. anthracnose on shade trees
- 5. mushrooms & slime molds on trees and turf

Top five wildlife questions:

- 1. bats
- 2. moles
- 3. squirrels
- 4. deer
- 5. rabbits

Plant Disease Clinic

The Plant Disease Clinic can be reached at (612) 625-1275. Turf samples for diagnosis can be shipped/mailed to: Plant Disease Clinic; 495 Borlaug Hall; 1991 Buford Circle; University of Minnesota; St. Paul, MN 55108. The cost for a routine diagnosis is \$20.00. Do not send only dead plants. Samples can be collected from living plants as well as those in various stages of decline. A cup cutter sample is good. Wrapping roots and soil in plastic is acceptable but do not wrap the tops. Complete information should accompany each sample. Send or deliver early in the week since samples often spoil in the mail over the weekend. Prepayment with sample is desirable and if a rapid response is preferred, please include a telephone number.

In 1994 the plant disease clinic diagnosed over 3,000 disease problems.

Soil Testing Laboratory

Soil samples can be delivered in person to Room 135 Crops Research Building, University of Minnesota, or mailed to: Soil Testing Laboratory, University of Minnesota, 1903 Hendon Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108.

Soil sample information sheets are available from your MES County Extension Educator or by calling (612) 625-3101.

Plant problems may be caused by several factors other than soil fertility. Disease, insects, insufficient light, soil moisture/compaction problems or less than desirable climatic conditions can also enter in. An important first step in diagnosing problems is an evaluation of soil fertility. When fertility is not the problem, the other factors affecting plant growth should be examined. Your county extension educator or state specialist can help if you need more information. The University of Minnesota Soil Testing Laboratory evaluates soil fertility and pH (routine test) as well as tests for excessive salts or fertilizer recommendation can be made. Fertilizer should provide adequate levels of phosphorus and potassium (necessary for good plant growth) without affecting the environment adversely.

The Soil Testing Laboratory analyzes 10-20,000 outdoor samples and 4,000 greenhouse/container samples each year. Approximately 3,000 of these are turf and related yard and garden samples.

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BAKER NATIONAL HOLE-BY-HOLE PLAYER'S GUIDE

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#1 • Par 4

A strong starting hole, it demands a long, accurate tee shot with OB the entire right side of the hole. On the downhill approach, the player must be careful of the OB near the green. Shots hit over this deep green have been known to get favorable kicks off the barn behind the green.

#2 – Par 3

This hole plays to its yardage. However, club selection is important to find the right level on this large, two-tiered green. The green is in a bit of a bowl; shots hit slightly left or right may bounce onto the green.

#3 - Par 4

The landing area for tee shots slopes right to left. The green slopes away from the player; play your approach shots toward the front third of the green. Pay particular attention to the five pine trees short of the green; they are not as close to the green as they appear. Shots missed short and right face extremely difficult recoveries.

#4 – Par 5

This hole is straightforward; the player faces a wide, yet well-protected landing area which drops off steeply on both sides. The sand and grass bunkers guarding this two-tiered Green are actually 10 yards short of it. The back right pin position is the most difficult.

#5 – Par 4

A short hole protected off the tee by a gaping bunker on the left. A well-positioned tee shot will leave a short approach to a somewhat blind two-level green. Beware of the right side pin placement; the green slopes away and balls tend to kick to the right. A birdie hole.

#6 - Par 5

This double dog-leg is a true gambler's hole. From the tee, the player must avoid Lake Spurzem on the right and wooded hillside on the left. A long drive near the water will entice the player to go for the green on the second shot; watch out, the green is shallow and only well-struck shots will hold the green and not roll into the water behind it. The safe lay-up to the right side of the fairway will avoid an approach over the left bunker. The left pin position is most difficult; the green is very shallow here and slopes away from the player slightly.



#7 - Par 3

Club selection is crucial on this short hole; three putts are common if you find your ball on the wrong tier. This large, roller coaster green can cause problems for even the best putters.

#8 - Par 4

Probably the most demanding tee shot on the course. Generally into the wind, the landing area slopes right to left. Players who draw the ball down the middle will hope that the containment bunker will catch their ball before it runs down into the natural (read: knee-high) rough. The green is protected by a sand bunker left and a deep grass bunker short right. The back two-thirds of the green slopes away from the player, demanding a high approach shot.

#9 - Par 4

An uphill, dogleg left which plays its full yardage. The landing area is guarded by bunkers left and OB right. The narrow green, flanked by bunkers, is open in the front to accept run-up shots.

#10 - Par 5

A straightaway par five, this hole is generally into the wind. The second shot is downhill with OB and bunkers right and a bunker on the left, 40 yards short of the green. The third shot is a short iron to a large, undulating, well-bunkered green.

#11 - Par 4

Hit the tee shot to the right side of the fairway because the green opens up to the right. The second shot is uphill and into the wind to a green flanked by three bunkers. Club selection to this deep green can vary as much as three clubs.

#12 - Par 3

This hole, downhill and generally downwind, will play shorter than its yardage. The green slopes from right to left with a pot bunker guarding the right and a dropoff to the left.

#13 — Par 5

A dogleg right downwind from an elevated tee. Tee shots must be straight to avoid wetland hazards left and right. The second landing area and green are guarded by deep bunkers and mounds. The right side skirts a wetland hazard. This green slopes away from the player making the front pin positions the toughest.

#14 – Par 4

Possibly the toughest hole on this nine. From the tee, the player should aim at the left greenside bunker. The tee shot must carry a wetland hazard to a deceivingly large peninsula landing area. The approach shot must carry another wetland hazard to an undulating green.

#15 – Par 3

A long carry, generally into the wind, across a wetland hazard to a shallow, hogback green. Club selection is crucial, with the green angling away from the player, right to left.

#16 - Par 4

A short hole guarded off the tee by a wetland and OB. A drive hit down the middle will leave the player with a short iron to a two-tiered green. A good birdie hole.

#17 - Par 4

Another birdie hole. The left side of the fairway is protected by a deep bunker. The player should drive as close to the bunker as possible to afford the best view of the green. The second shot is uphill to a green guarded by mounds.

#18 - Par 4

A demanding finishing hole. From the tee, the landing area is protected by bunkers and OB, and the fairway slopes on both sides making accuracy the paramount concern. The player will hope for a following wind on this long, uphill hole. The twotiered green is tightly guarded by bunkers and mounds.

NOTE: Baker National affords the opportunity to lose golf balls on many of its holes. Keep it in play and you'll finish with the same ball you started with. But, if you tend to hit the ball a little crooked, you may need to use most of the balls in your bag PICKSEED • PAR EX • K-POWER • NATURE SAFE • HOWARD JOHNSON'S • HYDRO-WET RTA •



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