

Where Should I Go to College?

A new GCSAA publication, "Guide to Colleges," can help students and their parents answer this question. Available in June, the guide offers information on 2- and 4-year turf-related educational programs.

The guide is divided into four sections:

- Section one details the golf course superintendent's profession and relationship to the golf industry.
- Section two describes a sample curriculum outline for both 2- and 4-year programs.
- Section three is organized alphabetically by schools and offers an in-depth profile of each institution. Each profile includes the institution's name, geographical location by city and state, degrees offered, brief description and "fast facts" about the undergraduate program, special features of the program, educational facilities and contact information.

Section four is a geographical listing of all national and international turf-related programs that GCSAA has on file. The listing includes 1-year certificate programs, correspondence courses and short courses.

To select the program that best fits their needs, students and parents also find helpful the information on faculty, special research and laboratory facilities, the types of degrees conferred, the number of hours required for a degree, internships required, career placement assistance, tuition costs and much more.

The "Guide to Colleges" will be distributed free to all participating 2- and 4-year institutions of higher education. It will also be available for \$30 through the GCSAA bookstore.

Agenda—

(Continued from Page 29)

Noise

Experts advise that stricter regulations on workers' exposure to noise can be expected. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is working on new recommendations that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) may adopt through rulemaking.

Plan of Action: GCSAA will monitor and report on regulatory developments and work with the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute as appropriate.

Coming Next Month:

The State Legislation/Regulation
section of the 1997
Legislative/Regulatory Agenda.

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Winter Woes—

(Continued from Front Cover)

Removing the ice from greens during December or January did not seem to prevent winterkill. Several superintendents broke up or removed ice from greens during December and January and severe injury still occurred on the putting surface. The injury to turf on greens was not always limited to poorly drained or high traffic areas dominated by *poa annua*. The injury seen on greens at some visits in May was so extensive that a fair amount of bentgrass must have been killed as well.

According to many superintendents, clearing the snow from greens just before or during the first significant period of warmer weather in March did help prevent melting water from backing up on the turf and re-freezing at night. Clearing the snow from around the greens to give the water, from melting ice and snow, a clear path off the putting surfaces also seemed to produce positive results.

Without a doubt, covers helped prevent winterkill in 1997. The excelsior mats appeared to provide a bit more protection than the fabric types of covers. There were no reports of significant injury to turf on greens at courses that covered greens. On some courses that covered only a few of the greens, the covered greens entered the

spring in good to excellent condition while the uncovered greens usually sustained serious winterkill. There was at least one notable exception where a course that usually covers greens did not cover last winter and did not experience injury.

Unfortunately, cool weather this spring and many hard frosts during May have slowed down the rate of turfgrass recovery. Plastic sheeting and geotextile fabric covers have been used to raise soil temperatures on overseeded greens to encourage faster seed germination. Overseeding tools such as the Verti-Seed and Job Saver resulted in faster germination due to better seed-to-soil contact than verticutting and broadcast seeding operations. Pre-germinating bentgrass seed by repeatedly soaking then drying the seed while changing the water between soakings has produced good results in the past and should be considered whenever the soil temperatures are low. Pre-germinating seed, though, is a time-consuming task best suited for repairing relatively small areas of damage because the seed must be sown by hand or with a drop spreader.

If there is a positive side to the widespread winterkill, it perhaps emphasizes the importance of several basic turfgrass management principles to the golfers. It reminds us all that standard maintenance practices

that give the competitive edge to bentgrass over *Poa annua* such as aeration, keeping the playing surfaces on the dry side, overseeding and improving surface/subsurface drainage in wet areas are necessary to reduce the risk of winterkill in the future.

Winter Disease—

(Continued from Page 5)

present time I do not expect to find resistant strains, but will try.

A survey of golf winter programs is being done by the MGCSA and when those results are available we should again review programs to determine what works and what did not. While I did not have plots this past year, reports from Michigan and Wisconsin are consistent in that many have had failures. The year was not good for winter disease control. I expect more will be learned in the next several months.

Recognizing Distinguished Service

Do you know a superintendent, educator, turf researcher or other individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent's profession?

Nominations for GCSAA's prestigious Distinguished Service Award (DSA) are being accepted through Sept. 1 for the 1998 DSA. The award will be presented at the Opening Session of the 69th International Golf Course Conference and Show next February in Anaheim, Calif.

Individuals who received a GCSAA Distinguished Service Award within the past 10 years are ineligible.

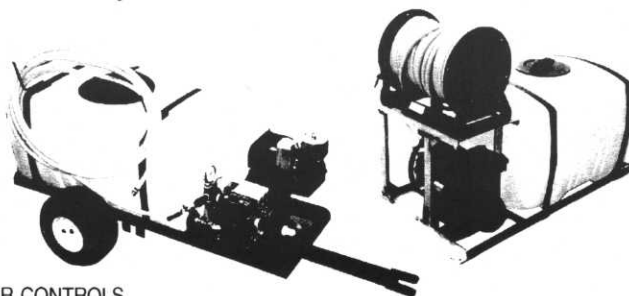
1997 DSA recipients were past president Gerald F. Faubel, CGCS; Joseph Vargas Jr., Ph.D.; and Coleman Y. Ward, Ph.D.

Nominations must be submitted to the board of directors on official DSA nomination forms. Members and chapter leaders may obtain an official form by contacting the executive management department at 913/832-3617, or execmail@gcsaa.org.

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EDITOR'S CORNER

By Rob Panuska
Waseca Lakeside Club



written perfectly; I will be glad to work it over and get it ready for publication. If you see an interesting article that you think our members would enjoy, get me a copy and the source for permission to reprint. We are always in need of material; your help would be greatly appreciated, Thanks!!

— Rob Panuska
Editor

My big beef this spring has to do with the weather. I know what you're thinking, just shut up and deal with it, you can't control it anyway!! You're absolutely right, we can't control it and that is not my beef. We have all heard the jokes about those who forecast the weather. "It's the only profession where you can be wrong 50% of the time and still have a job." Hence my beef!! 50% would be great, but this spring it seems that any prediction out further than one day is 90% off the mark. When my kids ask me what tomorrow's weather is going to be like, I have learned to smile and simply say, "Ask me tomorrow night and I will tell you."

* * * *

I was remiss last month in not thanking Jack Kolb for his article about Gilbert Foster. For those of us who are relatively new (10 years or less) to this industry, it is great to read about the people who "paved the path." Keep up the good work, Jack, and thanks a million for your contributions.

* * * *

Also special thanks to Jack Mateffy for his summary articles from the March Mini-Seminar last month and this month. Brad Pedersen has been the contact at the university and has gathered various articles from different departments for our publication. Thanks, Brad.

* * * *

Our first monthly golf outing will be held on June 16 at Cannon Golf Club. Host superintendent is Jeff Backstrom. We should be safe from snow this time around, Jeff!! Also, take a look at the hole-by-hole preview and entry information in this issue for the 1997 Garske Scramble on July 14 at Hidden Creek in Owatonna. Thanks to Marty Terveer, host superintendent, for providing the preview.

* * * *

A REMINDER that July 1, 1997 marks the date that the affiliation agreement with GCSAA goes into full effect. After July 1 you must join both the state and national associations. Up until that time you will be grandfathered in and only have to belong to one association if you choose. However, I would encourage you to strongly consider joining both the MGCSA and GCSAA. The flow of information and resources available by both of our associations is significant. If you need assistance in convincing your employer to support your dues in these professional associations, please give our state office or GCSAA a call.

* * * *

Please feel free to send me your thoughts about a topic or project at your course. It does not need to be

Harris, Lafayette Club Host April 29 Meeting

Seventy-five members gathered at The Lafayette Club for a golfless but very informative monthly meeting. Host superintendent John Harris did an outstanding job with all arrangements.

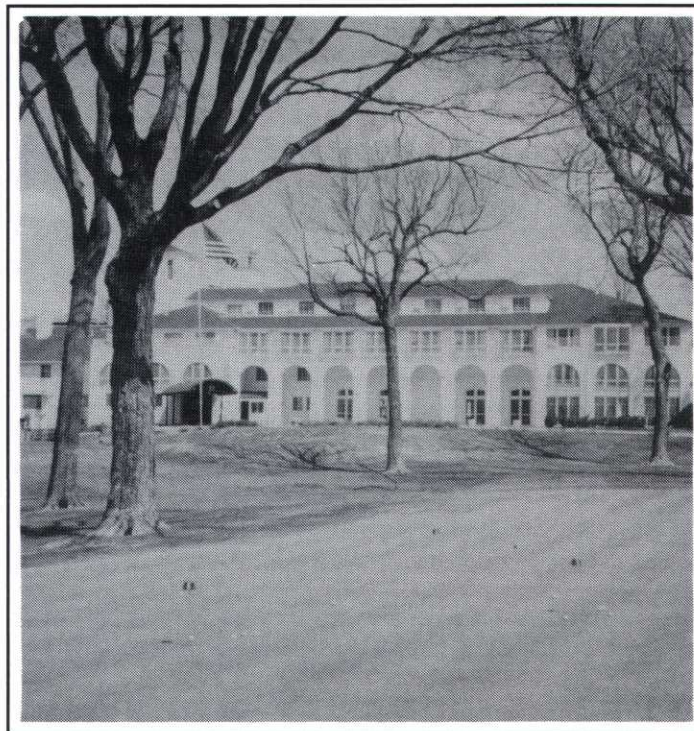
Bob Vavrek, USGA Green Section, spoke of the trials and



John Harris

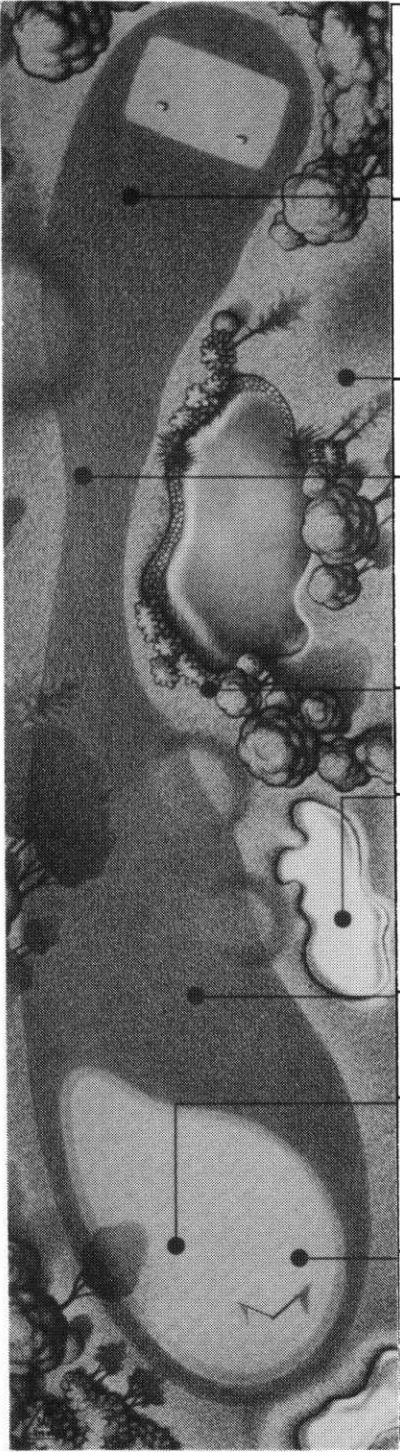
tribulations of Minnesota golf course superintendents around the state who had to deal with the wacky winter weather. Vavrek offered insights on methods that seemed to work better against winterkill and practices that didn't. (See a recap of Bob Vavrek's talk on the Front Cover of this issue.)

This month the MGCSA travels to Cannon Golf Club where Jeff Backstrom plays host to members on June 16.



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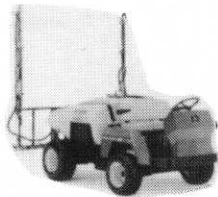


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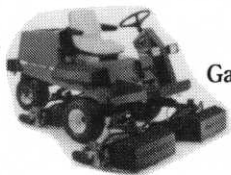


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