

PDI-

(Continued from Page 30)

superintendent, you must hold the job responsibilities of a superintendent for three years. In order to be certified, you must be a Class A member for three years - so a total of six years is required. Again, we believe that the competency assessment will help us link our education and certification. We will require the proficiency levels to be validated. Certification should designate members who have achieved more, who can demonstrate their knowledge at a higher level. So we will set the standard higher. Because we have raised the bar on formal education, we will keep that requirement the same: a two-year turf degree or a four-year degree in another non-turf related field.

In terms of on-going requirements for certification, we have also set a renewal cycle of three years. We set a high priority on keeping the system simple! We will require continuing education and professional service, again at a higher level than Class A. These requirements are yet to be determined. And as with a Class A, in order to guide your own professional development, you will be required to self-assess once every renewal cycle. However, we do not recommend that you be required to have your results validated every three years. It merely means you self-assess - no one will have access to your individual record but you. However, it will guide the development of your continuing education.

So you now have the entry level requirements for Class A and Certification. And you have the ongoing requirements. Let's move to the grand-fathering issues.

PDI Grandfathering Considerations have been developed. We are proposing an extensive communication plan to take information about the PDI out to the chapters.

Timeline -- Next year at the Delegates meeting, you will see the results of that communication plan and we will have a by-laws vote to consider in Dallas in 2001. However, we propose that the new requirements not go into effect until The committee is co-chaired by Dr. Michael Hurdzan and Dr. Paul Rieke, both active members of the Membership Standards Resource Group.

This resource group will research faculty related issues and make recommendations for acquiring and retaining faculty members who reflect "best practice" standards in adult education. In addition, they will have input into the curriculum and what are the best ways to offer new programs for GCSAA members.

The last major piece of the PDI is the Communication Plan. Let's talk about what it is and how it affects you.

We are truly looking to the membership for their input into the PDI. As a result, we have designed an extensive program that will provide clear and consistent communication to the general membership and obtain their comments, concerns and questions regarding the PDI.

Beginning in October, members of the Member Standards

Resource Group started to visit various chapters. During our visit, we will provide a standard presentation on our

proposal and then we will begin to collect input from the general membership regarding their questions or concerns on particular pieces of the plan. To date, more than 30 meetings have already been set. A list of presentations that have been scheduled is available on this site, and will be continually updated here and in Newline. It is critical for this initiative to succeed that we discuss it with all members.

We will continue to make this presentation through May of 2000. During this process, the comments and concerns we collect will be systematically catalogued into a document and consistently given to us so we can see what the membership is thinking about this process. Next summer, the MSRG will meet to make our final recommendations.

In addition to these chapter presentations, we recognize that not all members can attend the presentations, so we will be providing several other means of communications about the PDI. For example, a Town Hall Meeting is scheduled at C&S for Feb. 19, 2000. This will be held immediately after the Annual Meeting and any member attending C&S will be encouraged to attend. A standard presentation will be made for those who haven't heard about the PDI, but more importantly, we will be again collecting the general membership's comments about the PDI.

Obviously, we will utilize our existing publications, GCM and Newline, to provide continual detailed updates to members. And this web site has additional features, like a list of Frequently Asked Questions. A printed publication will be released on a quarterly basis and will just address issues related to the PDI.

Finally in all publications and on the web, members will be encouraged to complete a comment card to tell us what they REALLY think about the project. Maybe some of those concerns about accessibility and how it impacts you directly are general in nature and if we can start discussing those issues, we can show members what a valuable resource we have in the PDI.

The communication is extensive, but it is not a sales job. We will change the program according to what members want. There will be varying opinions and it will be our job on the MSRG to sort through all of the comments to come up with an answer that is acceptable to as many people as possible.

We return full circle to the mission statement that drives the PDI. The goal of the PDI is to strengthen the knowledge, skills and abilities of superintendents. Improved skills will enable us to make an even greater contribution to the game of golf through improved playing conditions. The Professional Development Initiative was placed in motion at the request of members. We are eager to learn how members feel about how the initiative is currently unfolding.

To reiterate -- we are not here to sell this program. We have responded to a request from the members to educate our members better and have them recognized for their contributions to the game of golf. We want to continue hearing from them through next summer so that we can come back to you with good recommendations that represent the interests of our members.

Comments: E-mail us at pdi@gcsaa.org.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NEW MEMBERS: FEBRUARY 22, 2000

	Class	
William J. Gauwitz One Source Golf Services..... 2992 S.W. 174th Ave., Miramar, FL 33029 W: (954) 943-8656	A - GCSAA	Donovan Petersen University of Minnesota..... 234 Dunlap St. S., #10, St. Paul, MN 55105 H: (651) 224-7222
William H. Crenshaw Ironman Golf Course..... 21 S. Cobblers Ct., Niantic, CT 06357 W: (218) 847-5582	B	Joel Danielson J.D. Turf..... 8958 Hunters Circle, Woodbury, MN 55125 W: (651) 437-7747
Rodrick Anderson Wynstone Golf Club..... 3132 A. Juniper Ln., Woodbury, MN 55125 H: (651) 702-9671	C - GCSAA	Wayne Heintz North Star Turf Supply..... 4674 Homestead Circle, Grand Forks, ND 58201 W: 1-800-592-9513
Jonathon J. Bahr Forest Hills Golf Course..... N4887 Linse Rd., West Salem, WI 54669 W: (608) 784-0569	C - GCSAA	Stan Hoglund Hoglund Landscape/Reemay Biobarriers..... 2529 E. Country Club Dr., Fargo, ND 58103 W: 1-800-882-8112
Clayton Hoyt Thief River Golf Club..... 414 Hickory Rd., Thief River Falls, MN 56701 W: (218) 681-2955	C - GCSAA	Larry Lennert Profile Products LLC..... 5075 W. Coldspring Rd., Greenfield, WI 53220 W: (414) 541-6383
Chad Maenke Burl Oaks Golf Club..... 11108 Independence Ave., Champlin, MN 55316 W: (612) 472-7124	C - GCSAA	Gino Pitera Gerten Greenhouses..... 5500 Blaine Ave., Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076 W: (651) 450-1501
James Schleuger Enger Park Golf Course..... 23196th Ave. W., Duluth, MN 55808 W: (218) 723-3453	C	RECLASSIFICATIONS
Nathaniel J. Studer Burl Oaks Golf Club..... 820 3rd Ave., Excelsior, MN 55331 W: (612) 472-7124	C - GCSAA	Brian Brown Ferndale Country Club..... C to B - GCSAA
Christopher E. Wolla Brightwood Hills Golf Course..... 95C South Dr., Circle Pines, MN 55014 W: (612) 638-2150	C	Joseph Dinnebier Izaty's Golf & Yacht Club..... B to A - GCSAA
Jennifer Fistman Landcare U.S.A..... 4432 Beard Ave. N., Robbinsdale, MN 55422 W: (612) 332-5296	Student	Lee Horning The Pines at Grand View Lodge..... B to A - GCSAA
Bryan L. Haraldson Anoka-Hennepin Technical College..... 6427 Camden Ave. N., #208, Brooklyn Center, MN 55430 H: (612) 503-5958	Student	Don Knop Great Oaks Country Club..... . C to B - GCSAA

Submitted by Rick Traver, CGCS
MGCSA Membership Chairman

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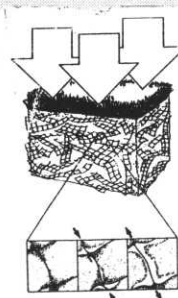
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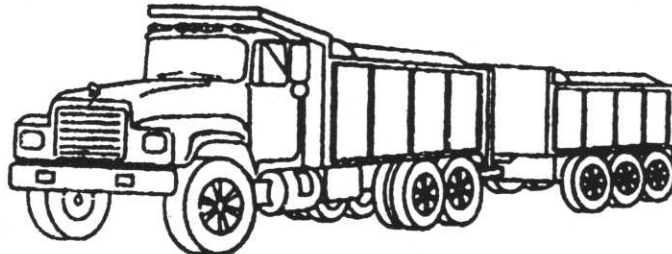
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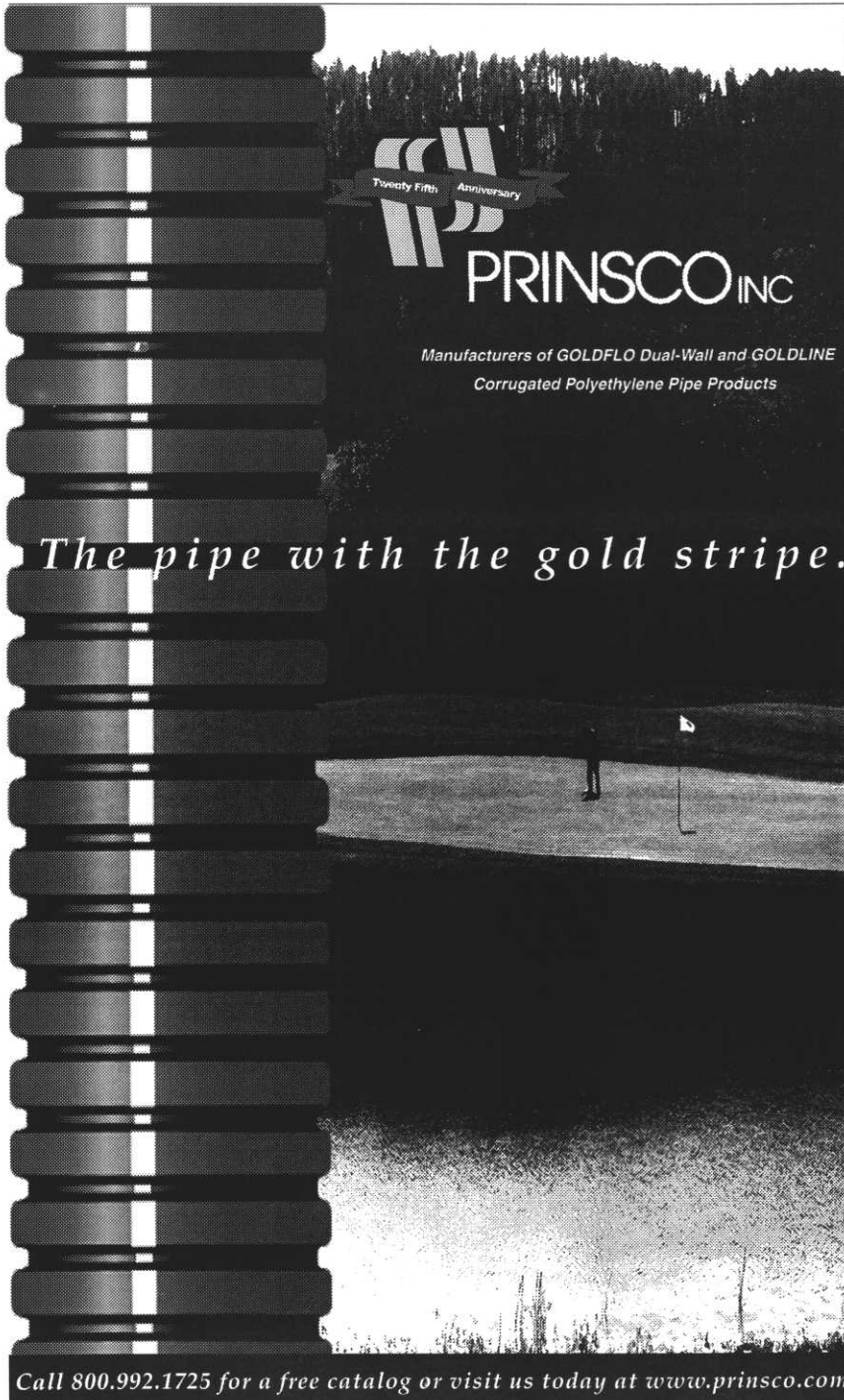
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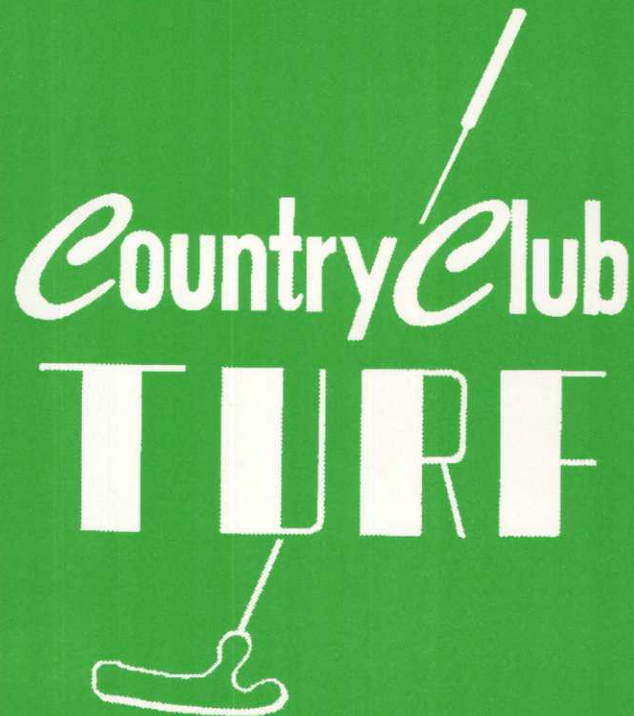
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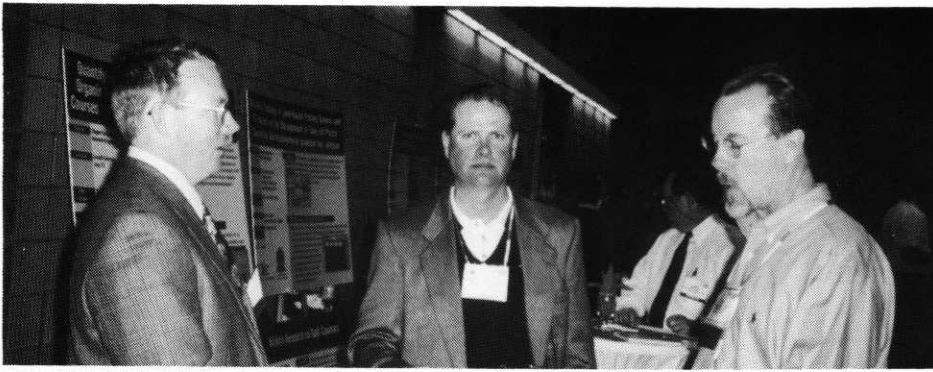
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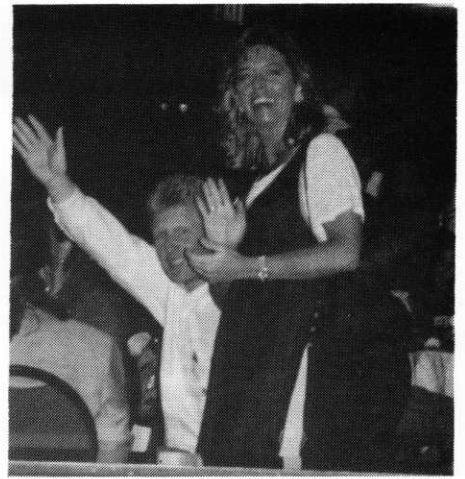
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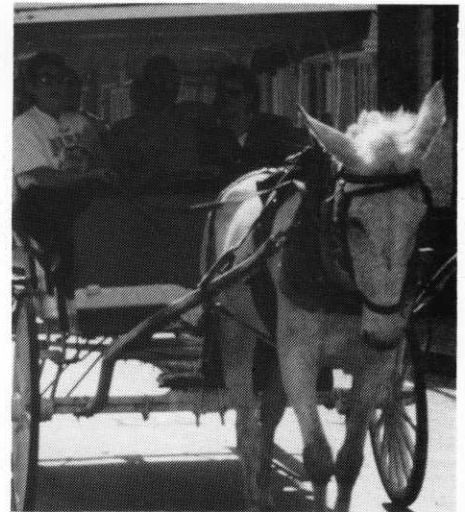
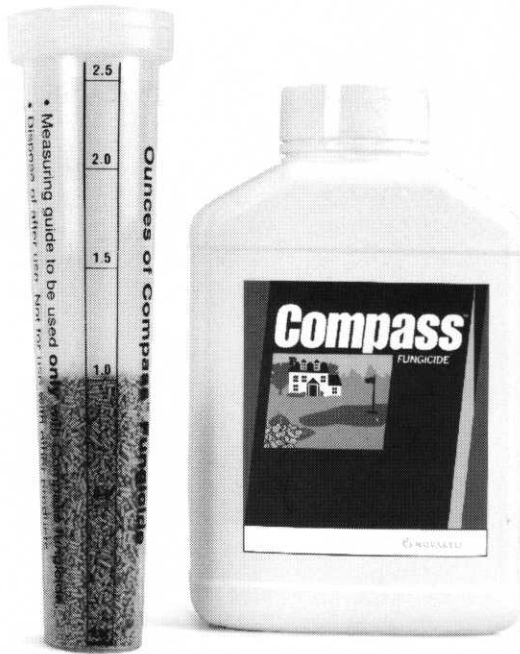


THREE CERTIFIED GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS, Paul Eckholm, Rick Fredericksen and Doug Mahal enjoy the GCSAA Friends of the Foundation reception.



Jeff Hartman and Sandy Jackson at the MGCSA Hospitality Night.

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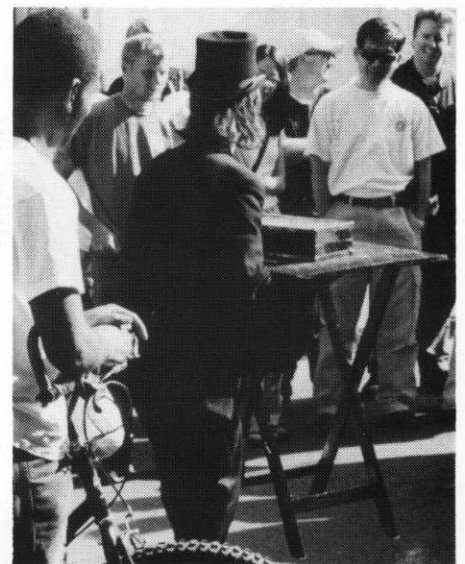
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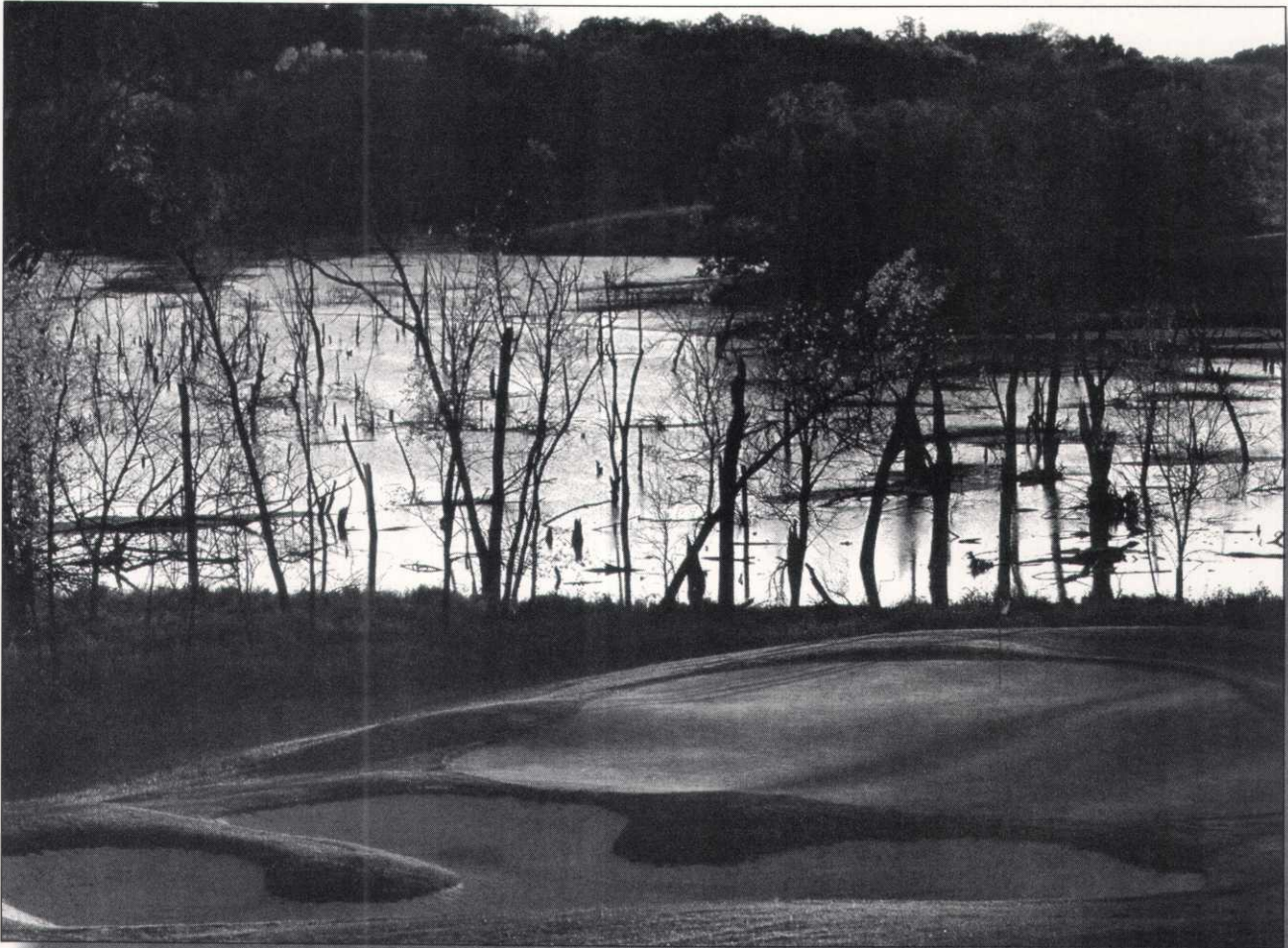
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Editor's Corner

By Steve Shumansky
Perham Lakeside Country Club



SPRING IS IN THE AIR

If you are feeling like I am at this point, "LET THERE BE SPRING!! ". I have always looked at winter as time to recharge my batteries. Well, they are fully charged! I have relaxed, kicked back and basically finished those winter projects around the house, (there wasn't many this year), fished 'til I couldn't fish any more, and played one too many card games at work. Now it is time to get ready for the season. The season we live for, the season of golf. Before too long, the trees will have buds beginning to bloom, leaves popping out of virtually no where. Tulips raising from the earth showing their beautiful colors. And hopefully all of our turf will green up and grow just like it always does and looking like a nice green carpet, just the way it was when we put it to bed last fall.

AN EXPERIENCE WELL WORTH IT....

As E. Paul Eckholm, CGCS, wrote in his column, he and I attended a strategic planning meeting at the GCSAA national headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas back in January. I somewhat feel honored to have gone on such a trip. The meetings were a little long and drawn out for my taste as far I was concerned, but some of the things I picked up on was basically this. The MGCSA is doing pretty good, I mean with all we have going on, such as the money we have in research, having an executive director, the scholarship scramble and having one association for the entire state. I guess for me growing up in Minnesota and becoming a member of the MGCSA back in 87, I thought that was the way it was everywhere, Iowa has only one association. Wisconsin only has one, I thought that was the way it was all over. But that is not the case in many parts of the country. Some states have many associations and have few members. But there are some associations that have many members and are of multiple states. But what I'm getting at is this, there are a few associations that are in the process of

hiring an executive director/secretary for the first time. And we have had one for quite sometime. That makes me think we're doing OK. I hope it does. Because Scott and Jeff do a hell of a nice job for us!!

All in all it was a fun trip, Having the chance to meet other people from other parts of the country that do the same things we do is always educational. From what they apply for chemicals, to what they spend on water for irrigation. Allot of what I had heard from a couple I had talked to was, 60,000 dollars a year for irrigation was a drop in the bucket for them. We are lucky here to have the water supplies we have.

TIME FOR A NEW LOOK???

We are in the process of changing the look of our Hole Notes, so they will fit the changing times. Maybe make it look more appealing, more professional, or more of an eye catching thing. After meeting some different people in Lawrence, I have received their publications and it has given me some ideas on how we can better our own. So look forward to some changes in the near future and hopefully they will help make our association stand out and look even better that we have in the past.

With that, I'll close, I hope your "pre-spring" goes just as planned. We'll see ya next month,

Anyone interested in helping with the Environmental Handbook should call Jeff Johnson, The Minikahda Club at (612) 926-4167

- Steve Shumansky
Editor

Coming Your Way....

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) announces a series of mini collections for the recycling of empty pesticide containers. the collections are being organized in Minneapolis-St.Paul and surrounding suburban areas. The purpose of the mini collections is to provide a convenient outlet for greenhouses, nurseries, park departments and golf courses to recycle their empty pesticide containers.

"In the past we haven't done a very good job of providing recycling opportunities for pesticide users in the metro area," according to Steve Poncin, MDA program coordinator. "Hopefully by bringing more collection sites into the metro area, more businesses will take the

opportunity to recycle their empty pesticide containers," Poncin said.

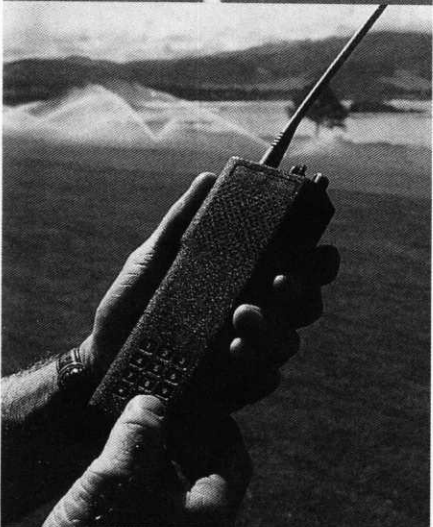
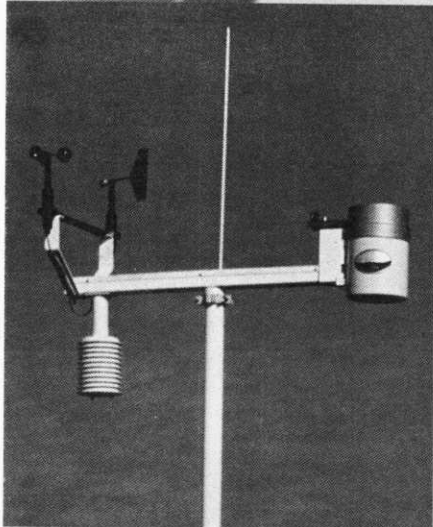
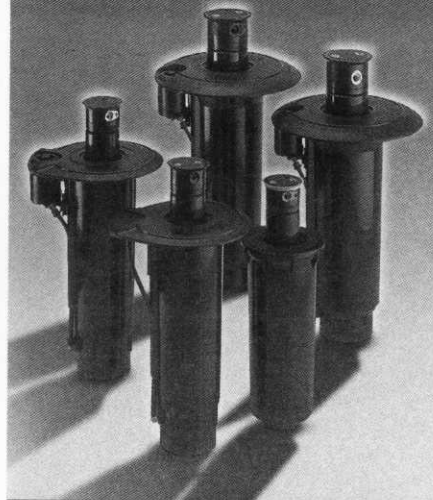
The collection schedule has not been finalized at this time. Tentative plans call for a total of 6-9 collection sites to be located in the metro area during late August and September. Each site would be open for 1-2 hours on a specific date. Pesticide users would bring their empty rinsed pesticide containers to the collection site at that time. No advanced registration or fees are required for participation.

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