

# MGCSA Turfgrass Research Benefit Week Set June 4-8

During the week of June 4-8 each entered foursome will play 18 holes of golf at its assigned club. Two golf carts are included in the entry fee/donation price. **Club assignments will be made on a first-come basis.** All entry blanks were mailed at the same time to give everyone an equal opportunity for desired course selection.

Entry forms must arrive by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 1, 2001 at the MGCSA office, 240 Minnetonka Avenue South, P.O. Box 617, Wayzata, MN 55391. The donation/entry fee must accompany the entry form (\$80.00 per person or \$320.00 per foursome). Late or incomplete entries are not acceptable and will be returned.

Entries are open to all golfers. All entries are subject to approval or rejection by the MGCSA Tournament Committee. Your golf site will be mailed to Player No. 1 and also a phone call made to inform you of the respective club's etiquette and dress requirements, and if any other privileges are available. Any questions should be directed to Scott Turtinen at (952) 473-0557.

Changes in the foursome can be made at any time before the playing date. The MGCSA Tournament Committee should be notified of the change immediately so the proper communications can be relayed to the respective host course. Entry fee will be refunded, regardless of reason, if Scott Turtinen is notified before the close of entries on June 1st. the fee will also be refunded in event of injury or illness if requested by June 2nd. No refunds for any reason after June 2nd. A \$5.00 service charge will be deducted from all refunds.

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event goes into the MGCSA Research Fund. Over the years this money has funded many timely research projects which directly benefits all golf courses. This Research Fund also insures that State specific problems are researched and the Research Trust Fund that continues to grow will guarantee continued dollars into the future.

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## INDUSTRY NEWS

# "Pooling" and "Pocketing" Money for Research

Dr. Jon Powell, researcher and professor with the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Minnesota, "pocketed" a check for \$700 at Turf Supply Company's 2001 Turfgrass Clinic: "New Issues, New Ideas." John Wiley, owner of Turf Supply Company (TSC), had the honor of presenting Dr. Powell with the donation, which will be used exclusively to fund turfgrass research at the university. The funds were raised at the TSC booth at the Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation Conference and Show this past December. A total of 350 people donated \$1 to play "Fore Ball Fore Research." TSC then matched the "\$350 donation given to the University of Minnesota.

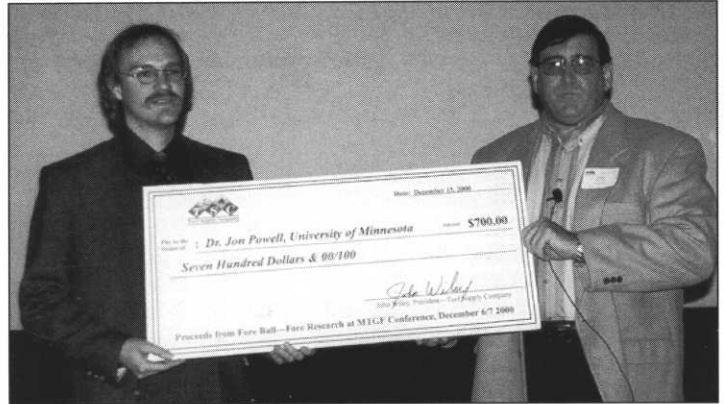
Turf Supply Company recently sponsored its 9th Annual Clinic aimed at educating people about the turfgrass industry on February 26, 2001. The clinic featured speakers on topics ranging from industry changes to environmental stewardship. They discussed guidelines and ideas behind running a successful operation and the negative and positive aspects of present trends within the industry. Dale Parske, TSC, feels that all of the speakers provided good insight into important issues facing all people dealing with turfgrass.

We believe that this kind of education is essential to help

the industry grow in status and recognition," said Parske.

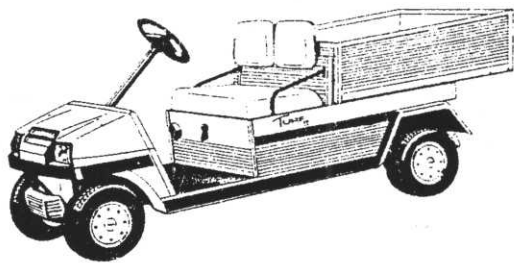
The event, held at the Thunderbird Hotel and Convention Center in Bloomington, turned out to be another hit with the 175 attendees, of which 70% were golf course managers and superintendents, while 30% of the crowd consisted of park and recreation maintenance personnel and lawn care professionals.

The clinic also gave attendees a chance to take part in the GCSAA certification program, a program that recognizes individuals for achieving high standards of professionalism through continuing education and experience. For those already members, attending the clinic meant receiving a credit worth 0.5.



THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S DR. JON POWELL, left, receives a \$700 donation from John Wiley, president of Turf Supply Company at a clinic sponsored by TSC.

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# ON THE ROAD WITH THE USGA

By R.A. (Bob) BRAME,  
Director, North Central Region

We're entering the time of year when golfers desires and expectations often clash with agronomic limitations. Specifically, the desire of golfers to begin playing clashing with frost in the root zone. While temperatures are beginning to warm, the cold nights have allowed root zone frost to linger. Allowing player traffic when the root zone is a combination of frozen soil overlaid by a softer thawed zone can cause turf damage. In fact, the damage can linger well into the season depending upon weather conditions. Thus, the operative is "caution". If a hole cannot be cut or relocated on a putting surface, or if there is frost in the root zone then hold off allowing player traffic. It doesn't make any sense to allow early play to compromise turf quality.

Another issue that has been receiving a lot of attention over the last few weeks is snow mold disease protection. Unfortunately, late fall applications were not made at many courses across the region due to weather limitations. So is there value in making an application in late winter/early

spring? Past history is an important factor, with a more proactive approach taken on those sites that have experienced past damage. Putting surfaces are the most important and can be compromised by lingering disease scars should cool weather slow recovery from any damage that happens to occur. Thus, while each situation needs to be evaluated on its own merits, snow mold disease prevention is something that should at least be considered as we move from winter into early spring.

Don't allow the desire for warm temperatures to spawn early spring fertilization. Now is the time of year to rely on fall and early winter feeding to carry the load, and avoid explosion growth that can result from early spring feeding. Patience and caution is the best approach over the next several weeks. The season will arrive soon enough. Should you have any other concerns or want to discuss the above in more detail give us a call (859/356-3272).

Source: Bob Brame bobbrame@usga.org or 859-356-3272

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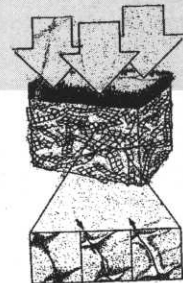
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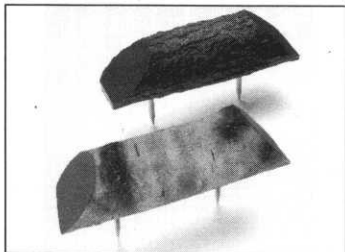
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Par Aide proudly announces the introduction of its new Banded Tee Markers and Branch Tee Markers.

The Banded Tee Markers allow you to use one color marker throughout your course for a simple and professional design. Tee locations are indicated by one of three methods: 1) Color bands; 2) Numerically; 3) Front, Middle, Back and Championship designation. Custom lettering is available.



The Branch Tee Markers have a natural pine or birch branch look. Made from durable resin material, these markers feature slanted ends painted in red, white, yellow or black and stainless steel spikes.

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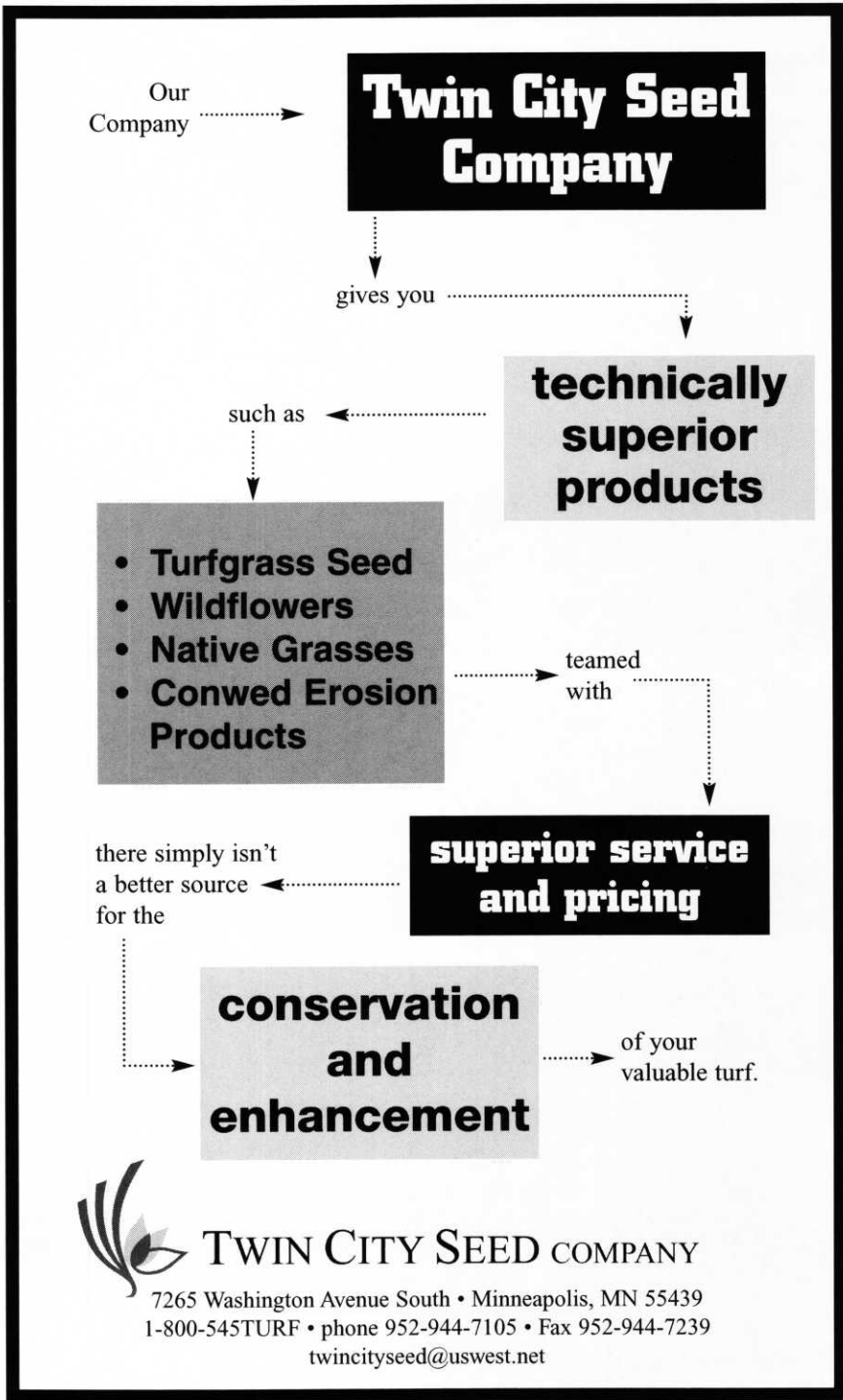
**GCSAA Names  
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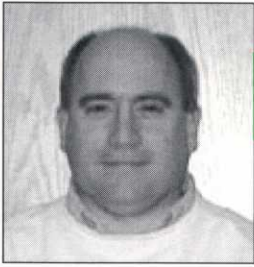
Clair Keizer, a former advertising executive, has joined the GCSAA staff as director of corporate marketing and sales, which includes oversight of the association's conference and show. He fills the position formerly held by long-time GCCSAA staffer, Bob Shively.

Claire comes to GCSAA from Bernstein-Rein Advertising of Kansas City, where he was vice-president/group account director. In his more than 15 years of marketing-communications experience, Clair was involved with a variety of consumer and business-to-business accounts. "As a result of this experience, he brings a commitment to enhanced, long-term relationship building that we at GCSAA believe is in the best interest of our membership, the industry that serves them and our association," said Steve Mona, CAE, chief executive officer of GCSAA.

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## Editor's Corner

By Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS  
Monticello Country Club

### Hey, We're Open

Well we finally made it. The rain washed the snow away to reveal all the snow mold, or at least the areas your sprayer missed due to clogged nozzles. I don't know about anyone else, but looking at a little snow mold sure seems better than staring at the snow. However, this late spring has allowed me to catch up on a lot of paperwork. I hope everyone came through the winter with little or no turf injury.

### Bear Droppings

Due to the increase in the bear population the Minnesota Department Natural Resources is advising hikers, fishermen and golfers to take extra precautions and be on the alert for bears while in the northern areas of the state this

summer. They advise people to wear noise-producing devices, such as little bells, on their clothing to alert, but not startle the bears unexpectedly. They also advise you to carry pepper spray in case of an encounter with a bear. It is also a good idea to watch for fresh signs of bear activity. People should be able to recognize the difference between black bear and grizzly bear droppings: Black bear droppings are smaller and contain berries and possibly squirrel fur. Grizzly bear droppings have little bells in them and smell like pepper spray.

### Membership Dues

Dues statements have been mailed out to all members. Make a special note, they are due by May 1, no exceptions to make it into the roster.

### FYI

Today, two-thirds of the nation's waters are safe for fishing and swimming, compared with only one-third in 1972.

The EPA estimates that 60-70 percent of the lakes, rivers, and streams meet state water quality goals, which is up from 30-40 percent three decades ago.

The amount of America's wetlands is growing. In 1995 alone, there was a net gain of 69,000 acres of wetlands.

For these and more Environmental Facts go to [uschamber.com/earthday](http://uschamber.com/earthday).

### GCSAA Membership Special

To celebrate the GCSAA's 75th anniversary, the GCSAA is offering a special membership dues rebate program. This program began on the first of January, 2001 and continues through the first of March, 2002.

During this time, superintendents and assistant superintendents joining the GCSAA for the first time, or whose membership has lapsed for at least two years, can join for just \$75!

For more information, see the ad in this month's Hole Notes, or call the GCSAA service center @ 1-800-472-7878

### Congratulations

Congratulations go out to Steve Shumansky and his lovely bride for the birth of their son, Nathan, a 5 lb 4 oz bundle of joy. There goes the fishing!

### Until Next Month

I hope to see many of you at our monthly association meeting at Brackett's Crossing on Tuesday, May 8. It should be a great day.

Dr. Powell will probably be updating us on the greens cover studies he has been working on, and maybe give us a preview on this summer's turfgrass field days.

--Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS  
Editor

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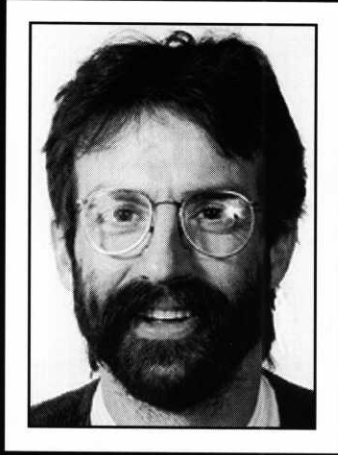
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