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# HOLE NOTES

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## From Your President's Desk



Rick Fredericksen, CGCS  
MGCSA President

## UM Dep't. of Agriculture Makes Progress on New Turf Facility

The University of Minnesota Department of Agriculture continues to make progress on the new turf research facility. This 16 acre parcel of land located on the St. Paul campus will benefit our members and also members of the Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation, members of the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association, the MGA and potentially the Minnesota PGA and CMA. From a governmental regulation standpoint the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the Board of Water and Soil Resources will have vested interest in the research that will be conducted here also. Brian Horgan, Jon Powell, Carl Rosen and the Turfgrass Working Group have been instrumental in designing this center to be utilized for research by all groups associated with turf and landscape.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The "Go For The Green" program started last fall is ready to start constructing** the first research green on the site. The green will be half USGA greens mix and half push up soil to replicate older greens. You will notice from the front cover plans of the research center that there are several areas on the site to conduct various types of research. Many of these areas will be used to support our allied associations and their members.

This is an exciting time to be associated with the planning and work being put into this project. It is also a realization that the University is looking for ways to cut programs and reduce funding. We are fortunate to receive this 16-acre tract of property for research. In order for this project to move forward though, funding will have to come from other places than the U of M. Associations such as ours, the MTGF and others mentioned earlier will have to make monetary contributions. I have been involved with the MGCSA Research Committee the previous three years and we have made a commitment to save funds to be used to help build this Center. The MGCSA will not build this by themselves but with the help of other associations, industry, endowments and matching funds we will get it built.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dan Swenson is chairing the Historical Committee this year** and, in conjunction with the 75th Anniversary of our Association, will be working with Rick Traver, Editorial Committee Chair to put together an anniversary issue of *Hole Notes*. Pictures, historical items of interest, a timeline of the association and past advertisements will be included in this November issue. We are looking for old pictures, stories and earlier editions of *Hole Notes*, etc. that can be used in this commemorative issue. Contact Scott at the Association office if you have something to include in this edition.

\*\*\*\*\*

**I would like to congratulate Jeff Johnson on his promotion to Superintendent at The Minikahda Club.** Unfortunately, though, he has decided to resign his position on the Board of the MGCSA. I have served with Jeff now for three years on the Board and watched as he led the Scholarship Committee. He has done a great job leading this committee and his presence on the Board will be missed. I have asked Jack MacKenzie to take over Jeff's term and he has accepted. Jack is currently on the Scholarship Committee and will move up to chair this committee. Our Association wishes Jeff the best and welcomes Jack onto the Board.

— Rick Fredericksen, CGCS  
r-fredericksen@msn.com

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### 2002 MGCSA CALENDAR

Monday, May 13  
**SPRING MIXER**

Host: Scott Wersal  
The Ridges at Sand Creek  
Jordan, Minnesota

Monday, June 17  
**SCHOLARSHIP SCRAMBLE**

Host: Dan Hanson  
St. Cloud Country Club  
St. Cloud, Minnesota

Thursday, July 25  
**U of M FIELD DAY**

Host: Jon Powell  
University of Minnesota Campus  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Monday, August 26  
**MGCSA CHAMPIONSHIP**

Host: Tom Kientzle, CGCS  
The Legacy Course at Cragun's  
Brainerd, Minnesota

Monday, September 23  
**STODOLA SCRAMBLE**

Host: Rick Fredericksen, CGCS  
Woodhill Country Club  
Wayzata, Minnesota

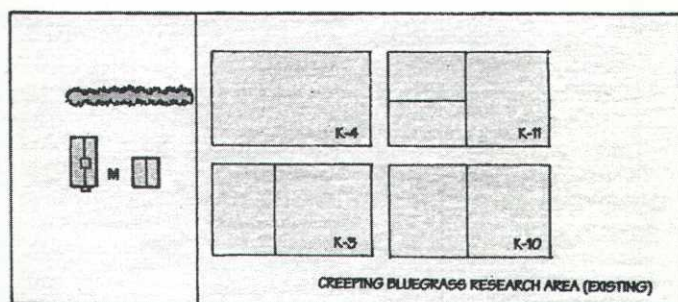
# World Renown Facility Breaks Ground

By Jack MacKenzie CGCS, Superintendent North Oaks Golf Club and  
Dr. Brian Horgan, Turfgrass Extension Specialist, University of Minnesota

**Vision: The University of Minnesota will be recognized for its leadership in environmentally sound and responsible turfgrass systems.** An aggressive statement? Perhaps. But the quest of a determined group of turf scientists to become leaders in the industry will not be stopped. Through dedication, promotion and implementation, the University of Minnesota is in the process of developing a program worthy of national and international acknowledgement.

During a period of time when the U of M has been rocked by sports scandals and an almost across the board budget reduction, one specialized group in the university system stands alone, unscathed and even growing. The Turfgrass Working Group, comprised of faculty from the departments of Agronomy and Plant Genetics, Plant Pathology, Entomology, Soil, Water and Climate and Horticultural Sciences, has made an incredible move forward in the progression of turfgrass science. This diversified collection of departments recently acquired the space necessary to move ahead with the development of a new turfgrass facility on the St. Paul campus.

Up until the early part of April, the University's only



dedicated turfgrass research facility was located on 4.5 acres of the St. Paul campus. While very nice to have, this area was barely large enough to adequately support a limited research program. For the past few years the site has been dedicated to a creeping bluegrass breeding program. Additional space was needed to create the program envisioned by the Turfgrass Working Group.

A diligent search located 16 acres of terrain off Cleveland Avenue and near the existing research facility. In order to procure the property, a plan had to be developed which provided a framework for the creation, occupancy and construction of the new Turfgrass Research, Outreach and

Education (TROE) Center. Four programmatic research themes, (1) alternative plant materials, (2) general production, (3) pest management and (4) environmental quality, were created to help define the importance of the TROE Center.

After a broad description had been created, the Turfgrass Working Group identified specific needs:

+ 5.9 acres to be used for short term (< 2 years)

+ 6.4 acres to be used for medium to long term (2-5 years)

Outreach programming and undergraduate and graduate education

+ 2.2 acres for the undergraduate outdoor laboratory which will include a shade research area

+ 1.5 acres of land would provide infrastructure such as parking, buildings and wash areas

(Continued on Page 7)

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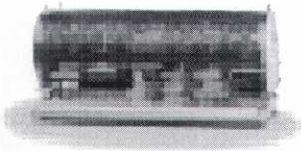
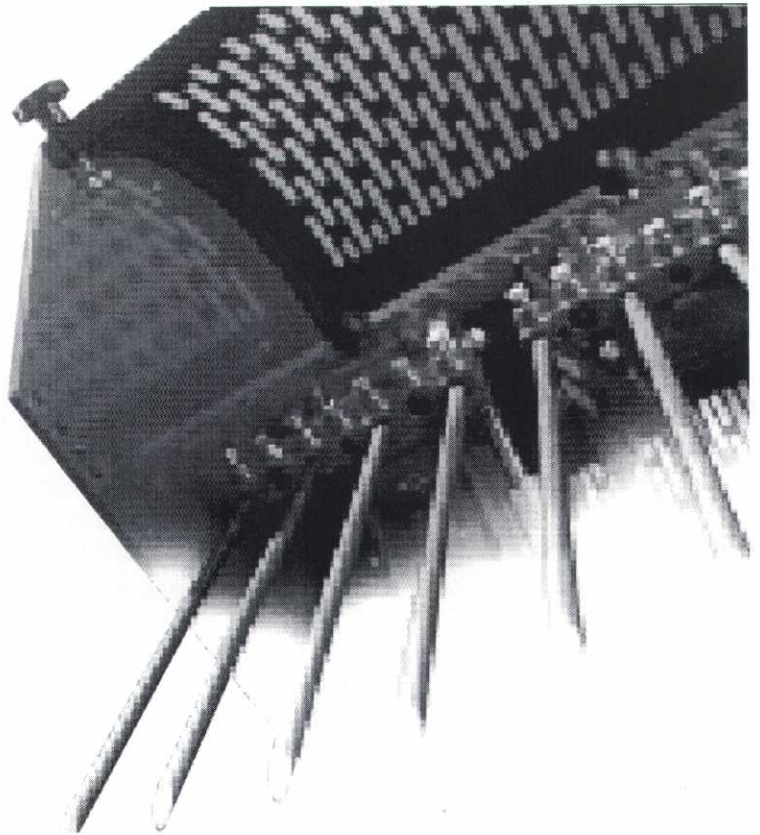
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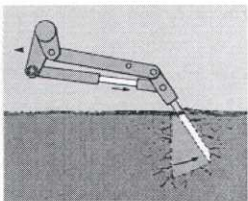
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# TROE Center-

(Continued from Page 5)

Once compiled, the information was condensed into a 27-page report and presented to the Dean and Associate Deans of the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences. The presentation did not just focus on the TROE Center, it described a process to attract new undergraduate and graduate students, develop innovative outdoor applied laboratories, further develop outreach and extension activities, and intimately involve the turfgrass industry. And approve they did, embracing the idea and dedicating over 16 acres of University property to the TROE Center project.

idea and dedicating over 16 acres of University property to the TROE Center project.

Timing is everything. Already, because of the Drive For The "U" Program, industry leaders, individual members of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association, and members of the Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation have contributed in-kind donations of over \$115,000.. This program, the catalyst for the TROE center, began two years ago with a prophetic vision of the development of a first class research facility dedicated to turf related studies.

And even timelier, phosphorous pollution concerns have prompted political action. During the most recent Legislative session, both the house and senate have reviewed bills designed to reduce the potential for phosphorous pollution perceived to be contributed to by the application of fertilizer upon turfed surfaces. As part of the

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proposed law, the golf course industry will be required to develop and monitor a fertilizer application program and create a location for the development of a phosphorous run off research program.

What an exciting time for the University of Minnesota, the MGCSA and homeowners in the state. The results of dedicated individuals have created a facility sure to educate private individuals and the industry alike. Soon the University of Minnesota will be renowned for its prestigious Turf Program and research projects implemented at the TROE Center.

Watch for upcoming articles relating to specific research projects and funding information.

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CELEBRATE OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

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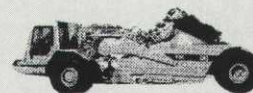
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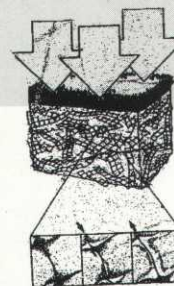
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# Talk About It, Turf Topics and Tales

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If you haven't checked it out yet, it is high time to go on line and correspond with your fellow agronomists. Got a question? Have an answer? Sign up and contribute [www.turf.umn.edu](http://www.turf.umn.edu). Take your ideas to the next level.

## Sampling of How It Works:

Topic: Japanese Beetles (1 of 8), Read 109 times  
Conf: Pest Management  
From: John MacKenzie [jmackenzie426@msn.com](mailto:jmackenzie426@msn.com)  
Date: Tuesday, March 05, 2002 10:09 AM

What are Superintendents doing about this soon to be troubling pest? Wall to wall? Timing? Product? I remember a few years back when I was treating for the Black ataenius. Seemed to help, but just one more thing to do! Anybody have problems with the Japanese Beetle? Thanks, Jack MacKenzie North Oaks Golf Club

Topic: Japanese Beetles (2 of 8), Read 101 times  
Conf: Pest Management  
From: Kevin Clunis [kctbrook@earthlink.net](mailto:kctbrook@earthlink.net)  
Date: Wednesday, March 06, 2002 08:30 AM

Jack,

Keep those critters on your course! Don't drop off any on your way home! I have not seen any Japanese Beetles nor their damage. Dealing with other problem pests here at Tanners, but nothing a Stahl or Jonsred couldn't take care of.

--Kevin

Topic: Japanese Beetles (3 of 8), Read 96 times  
Conf: Pest Management  
From: Jeff Johnson [pepperdgirl@aol.com](mailto:pepperdgirl@aol.com)  
Date: Thursday, March 07, 2002 08:03 AM

The seminar on Wednesday covered this topic quite extensively. Chris Williamson did an excellent job explaining this pest and how to control them. We have been dealing with the Japanese Beetle for the past two years. If you want to avoid bringing large amounts of beetles to your property do not trap. One trap can be

used for monitoring but mass trapping is not recommended.

And this is speaking from experience. Last year we sprayed wall to wall with Mach II. We did not receive the results that we were expecting. We had to follow up treatments surrounding the fairways with Dylox. This year I plan on using Merit. This is a faster working product on the grubs and once it is active with the grubs they will die quickly. Thus reducing the amount of foraging that the raccoons and crows will do.

Last spring we laid 11 pallets of sod to repair the damage from the previous fall damage. The majority of our damage was located on the edges of our fairways (in the intermediate rough) and on green and tee banks.

The feeling one has when you see the devastation is terrible. Every morning you come in wondering where the next spot will be.

This is a problem that we will need to deal with every year.

-- Jeff

Topic: Japanese Beetles (5 of 8), Read 85 times  
Conf: Pest Management  
From: Tom Proshek [bcbgolf18@aol.com](mailto:bcbgolf18@aol.com)  
Date: Thursday, March 07, 2002 08:40 PM

Jack to answer your question on time to apply the chemical. Chris Williamson stated numerous times that timing is everything with the control of the Japanese Beetles. Adults usually emerge around July 4th, lay eggs during the next 2-3 weeks and it is during this time your chemical needs to be in the soil (best control during 1st instar). He suggested later part of June (Merit) and MUST water this chemical in, has residual of 120 days.

Also, great speech. Do you perform any cultural practices to greens thru out the year? (brush dragging, verti-cut, spiking etc.)

-- Tom

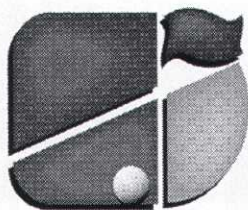
Topic: Japanese Beetles (7 of 8), Read 77 times  
Conf: Pest Management  
From: Tom Proshek [bcbgolf18@aol.com](mailto:bcbgolf18@aol.com)  
Date: Friday, March 08, 2002 11:46 AM

Jack,

Don't know as of yet if I will treat. We had the traps out here two years ago and had no Japanese Beetles, however last year I started to see more crows digging into the soil (for the grubs) so I am going to watch closely this year. Thanks for the continued info on aeration. May give you a call this summer to visit your course if that's ok?

Tom

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