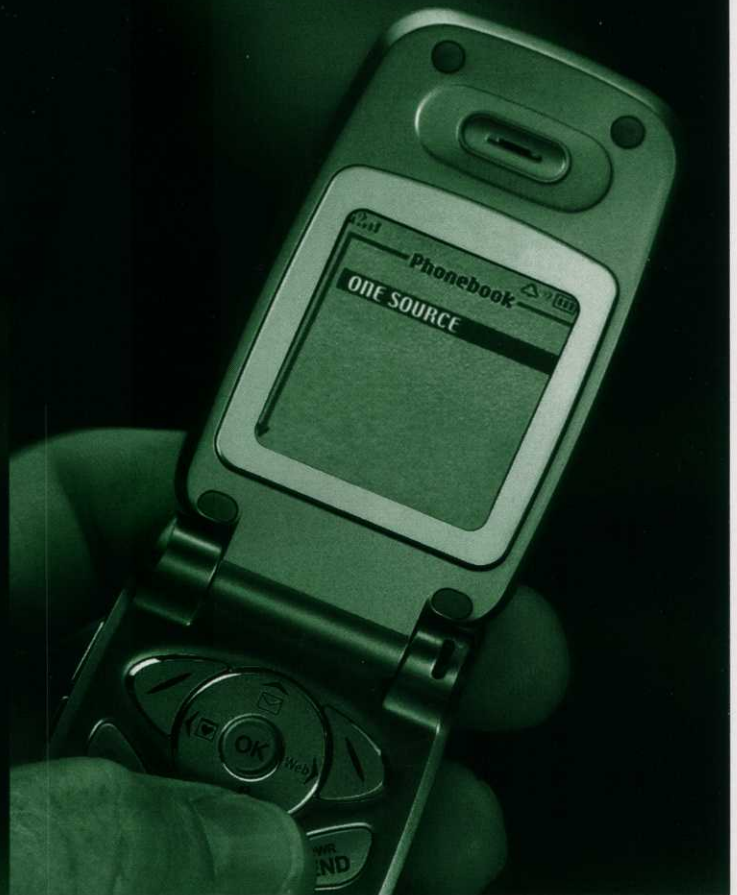


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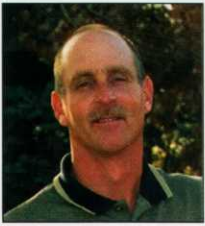
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

September 26  
**MGCSA Championship**  
 Midland Hills Country Club, St. Paul  
 Host Superintendent: Scott Austin, CGCS

October 11  
**Fall Mixer**  
 Monticello Country Club, Monticello  
 Host Superintendent: Rick Traver, CGCS



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### *Evaluating the Critical Areas Of Drainage and Irrigation*

By Robert Panuska

Just stick around awhile if you don't like the weather and it will change. This is not some old saying that grandpa just came up with, it is fact! In May and June we were sloping in mud and muck and as I write this column we have just had the longest string of 90 degree days in a row since 1988. We have now adequately tested our drainage systems and our irrigation systems and know the areas of weakness and needed improvements. It should be no problem to come up with projects for course improvements, just the dollars to fund them, right? I cannot think of two more critical areas on the golf course that can make or break a maintenance program, drainage and irrigation.

**Of course, these are only a couple of the issues we deal with** during the season but many other challenges we face are affected by our lack of either drainage or irrigation. Who better to evaluate these situations and make recommendations for improvements than

the superintendent? Certainly the golfer recognizes the problems that are created by deficiencies, but the superintendent has the course knowledge and experience to evaluate the problem from all angles and recommend solutions. I encourage you to enlist the help of other superintendents and/or affiliate members with expertise in these areas to assist you in "selling" solutions to your owners and boards. Be sure to stress the long term benefits of the solutions from the "golfers" perspective.

\* \* \* \* \*

**I want to thank David Oberle and Jeff Hartman**, our affiliate representatives on the MGCSA Board, for organizing a vendor-only summer meeting and golf outing July 18 at Deer Run Golf Club in Victoria. We had the opportunity to visit about some issues and concerns they have as well as enjoy a great golf course. Thanks to all who attended and to host Superintendent Barry Provo.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Believe it or not we only have two more events scheduled for this season**, the MGCSA championship at Midland Hills Country Club on September 26 and the "Bunker Boot Camp" at Monticello Country Club on October 10. Watch your mail/e-mail for registration information.

Until next month,  
Rob



Dr. Brian Horgan, left, accepted the fourth installment to the University of Minnesota Foundation from MGCSA President Robert Panuska at the University of Minnesota Turf & Grounds Field Day on July 28 at the U of M St. Paul campus.

**HOLE NOTES** (ISSN 108-27994) is published monthly except bi-monthly December/January, February/March for \$2 an issue or \$20 per year by the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association, 11900 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 130, Minnetonka, MN 55305. Scott Turtinen, publisher. Periodicals postage paid at Wayzata, MN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to HOLE NOTES, P.O. BOX 617, WAYZATA, MN 55391.

# HOLE NOTES

Official Publication  
of the MGCSA

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# Albany/Wapicada Team Wins Stodola Scramble At Brackett's Crossing Country Club in Lakeville

A team of MGCSA members from Wapicada Golf Club and Albany Golf Club posted a 15-under par 55 on August 1 to win the 2005 Harold Stodola Research Scramble at Brackett's Crossing Country Club in Lakeville on a hot, humid day.

**Host Superintendent Tom Proshok** and his staff had the golf course in great condition. The MGCSA appreciates the generosity of the Brackett's Crossing membership and staff for the use of the golf course and facilities for this MGCSA fund-raiser.

**The winning team members** were Tom Kasner and Mic Saatzer from Albany Golf Club, and Mike Kasner and Scott Milstroh from Wapicada Golf Club.

After a slow start, making just one birdie in the first four holes, the Albany/Wapicada team finished strong with an eagle on 18 (the team's ninth hole) and birdies on the nine holes coming in to win this year's Stodola Scramble.

**The defending champions:** Marlin Murphy, Justin Funk, Todd Samarzia and Adam Larson of Stillwater Country Club finished in second place by carding a 14-under-par 56.

**Winning a scorecard playoff** for third place were Wes Salo, Ridgeview GC; Jud Crist, Enger Park; Mike Day, Enger Park, and Todd Folie, Hydrologic.

*(Continued on Page 7)*



## CHAMPIONS OF THE 2005 HAROLD STODOLA RESEARCH SCRAMBLE

Winning team members from Albany Golf Club and Wapicada Golf Club took a photo with MGCSA Executive Director Scott Turtinen, left. Pictured next to Scott, from left to right, are Mic Saatzer, Tom Kasner, Scot Milstroh and Mike Kasner.



## UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESIDENT'S CLUB AWARD

Suzanna Stevie, pictured with MGCSA president Robert Panuska, presented a President's Club award on behalf of the University of Minnesota. The ceremony took place at Brackett's Crossing Country Club as part of the Harold Stodola Research Scramble on August 1.

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## Harold Stodola Research Scramble—

(Continued from Page 5)

**Field event winners** were Dan Brown, Par Aide Products Co., and Todd Samarzia. They won the two long drive contests. Two closest-to-the-pin awards went to Wes Salo and Tom Kasner. James Gardner, CGCS, Indian Hills Golf Club won the other two closest-to-the-pins by hitting shots closest twice.

**Todd Loecke, Syngenta**, conducted a contest on the fifth hole. This event combined with the previously held Scholarship event at Dellwood Hills Golf Club has raised over \$600. Syngenta matched the funds taken in for a total donation of over \$1,300. Thank you Todd and Syngenta.

**Tiziani Golf Car of Minnesota** offered a Club Car to anyone making a hole in one on the 16th hole. Tiziani plans to contribute \$4,000 to the prize purse at the MGCSA Championship at Midland Hills Country Club on September 26. Mark your calendars and join your peers at Midland Hills.

As always, the MGCSA would like to extend thanks to our event sponsors:

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## Harold Stodola Research Scramble August 1, 2005

### RESULTS

55	T. Kasner, M. Kasner, Saatzer, Milstroh
56	Murphy, Funk, Larson, Samarzia
58	Salo, Folie, Christ, Day
58	Ruhoff, Meyer, Ramler, Notch
58	Eckholm, Arenholz, Marvin, Weber
58	Gardner, Moers, Diegnau, Parske
59	Backstrom, Lillemoen, Hoover, Lindman
59	D. O'Brien, M. O'Brien, Hochmuth, Christianson
60	C. Belland, K. Belland, Snuggerud, Salwei
60	MacKenzie, Brown, Hilliard, Melling
62	Churchill, Schmitz, Breitbarth, Anderson
62	Proshok, Stonebach, Schmidt, Lieverman
62	Negen, Weatherly, Fleming, Teichert
63	M. Nelson, D. Nelson, Kocak, Kuelbs
63	Bjornberg, Schrick, Hansen, Trudeau
64	Kazmierczak, Melsa, Bezanson, Reig
65	Horgan, Watkins, Baidel, McGowan
66	Gray, Hemquist, Adams, Pap
66	Rostal, Makowske, Carr, Boll
66	Haroldson, Otto, Stofferan, Smith
66	Hines, Granholt, Frank, Almquist
67	Panuska, Langager, Senst, Fritz
67	Nolan, Jordan, Daniel, O'Neill
67	Zimmerman, Gorman, Simeon, Hartman
68	Bade, Olson, Wetenkamp, Rocha
72	Meyer, Kirscht, Oberle, Whitehouse

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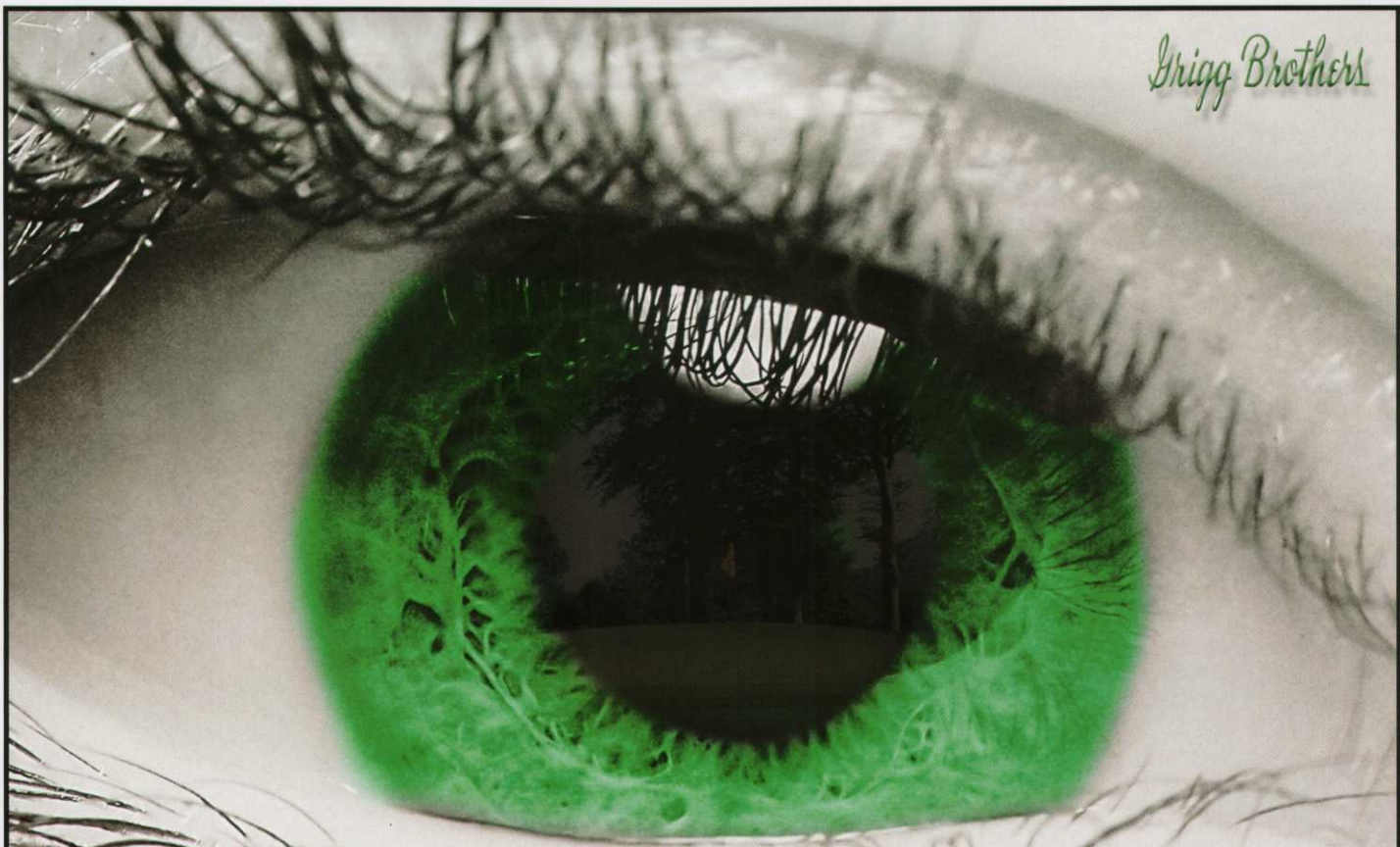
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## 2006 MGCSA Calendar Taking Shape

MGCSA Arrangements Chairperson Matt McKinnon has diligently been working to finalize golf course sites for the upcoming 2006 monthly meetings.

**The MGCSA still needs courses for the April / May Spring Mixer** and the July BASF / MGCSA Fund Raiser Golf Tournament.

Please contact Matt as soon as possible if you would consider hosting either of these events in 2006 or an event in 2007. Matt may be reached at (218) 825-2751 or mckinnon@scicable.com. Possible hosts may also call Executive Director Scott Turtinen at the MGCSA office at (952) 473-0557 or scott@mgcsa.org.

### 2006 CALENDAR

**APRIL  
SPRING MIXER**  
Site: TO BE DETERMINED

**JUNE 5  
SCHOLARSHIP SCRAMBLE**  
Sommerby Golf Club  
Byron, Minnesota  
Host Superintendent: Casey Conlin

**JULY  
BASF / MGCSA FUND RAISER  
GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
Site: TO BE DETERMINED

**JULY 27  
FIELD DAYS**  
U of M TROE Center  
St. Paul, Minnesota  
Hosts: Dr. Brian Horgan, Larry Vetter

**AUGUST 21  
MGCSA CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Wayzata Country Club  
Wayzata, Minnesota  
Host Superintendent: Robert Distel

**SEPTEMBER 18  
HAROLD STODOLA  
RESEARCH SCRAMBLE**  
Rolling Green Country Club  
Hamel, Minnesota  
Host Superintendent: Drew Larson

**OCTOBER 9  
FALL MIXER**  
Oakdale Golf Club  
Oakdale, Minnesota  
Host Superintendent: Mike Knodel



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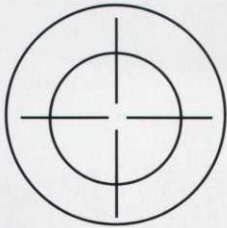
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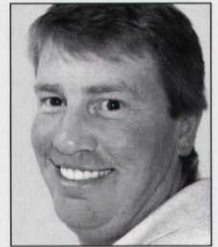
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# Head Scratcher Hits Minnesota



By PAUL DIEGNAU, CGCS  
Keller Golf Course

Oh, what a year! Winter kicked us in the pants, spring was anything but cooperative and summer seems to have emanated from the jaws of hell! And just when you thought it couldn't get much worse, a pandora's box of disease became entrenched in the land of 10,000 lakes. Pythium, dollar spot and Rhizoctonia have had some good runs so far. But, a new player on the block has emerged this year. Its name is Take-All Patch (*Gaeumanomyces graminis*) and IT MEANS BUSINESS.

Take-All Patch (TAP) probably doesn't ring a bell for most of us in this state and there is a good reason for that. It is generally associated with new construction and is considered a disease of new bentgrass putting surfaces up to seven or eight years old. The "theory" is that new, sterile sand rootzones are lacking in a full complement of soil microbes, and the checks and balances system within the soil is temporarily out of balance, allowing this pathogen to flourish. I recently read a study on new sand-based greens and microbial populations. The author concluded that these biological organisms actually establish rather quickly in sand rootzones, debunking the "sterile environment" line of thinking. Whatever the case, TAP has now crossed the line into older, established sand-based greens and native soil greens with sand caps.

It was mid-to-late June when some superintendents in the southern half of the state started noticing abnormal yellow to lime green patches on some of their putting surfaces.



The disease progresses in stages, thinning affected areas and eventually killing the grass plants. It only attacks bentgrass, which excludes summer patch as a player in these outbreaks. Eventually, pathology labs from across the country were confirming TAP as the culprit throughout the state at large and small clubs, both private and public.

TAP is known in pathology circles as an ETRI or EctoTrophic Root Infecting fungi. Ectotrophic fungi are pathogenic fungi that grow over living plant roots as single hypha (a fungal thread) or as ropes of hyphae (runner hyphae). This group of

fungi also includes Summer Patch (*Magnaporthe poae*) and Necrotic Ring Spot (*Leptosphaeria korrae*).

So, what caused TAP to appear with a



vengeance in places not normally seen? In my conversations with several turf pathologists, it appears that our spring weather played a key role in the proliferation of this pathogen. The cool, wet, overcast conditions we experienced in May were ideal for TAP to infect bentgrass roots. The symptoms do not show until plants experience stress. This year, our plants experienced winter injury, shallow root systems from constant spring rain, then drought and extended high heat and humidity. In addition, many courses had young, vulnerable bentgrass plants trying to establish and fill in winter-damaged areas. Beyond the weather factor, pathologists admit that knowledge of these pathogens is limited and more research is needed to answer such questions.

**So how does one control this disease if it is present on your greens?** Speaking from personal experience - good luck! Prevention is the key to avoiding this fungus. Apply DMI fungicides in the fall and spring when soil temperatures are between 40°- 60° F and the fungus is actively infecting roots. Remember to immediately wash the product off the leaf and into the root zone. DMI fungicides only move upward in the plant, so use a

(Continued on Page 11)

