

## Shade –

(Continued from Page 10)

A built-in time delay prevents the entire roll of film from being taken of the same animal in rapid succession. The time delay can be set to six different intervals from 15 seconds to one hour. It uses 35mm film, can be mounted in a tree and it is all contained in a weatherproof case. Everything you might want to know about this camera can be found on their website [www.DeerCam.com](http://www.DeerCam.com).

**The Deercam does not come ready to use** for time-lapse photography right out of the box. The motion sensor must be bypassed with a small piece of wire; otherwise it will only take pictures when the motion sensor picks up movement. Fortunately, I was able to enlist Brad



12:00 Noon



was not getting enough sunlight. The committee agreed unanimously to take down the trees immediately.

**I included other trees during that presentation as well.** The pictures told such a complete story that further explanation was not always necessary for every site. At one point committee members blurted out "take it down" before I could say more than "this is the large hemlock next to the 14th green." In this situation, pictures have proven to be the best communication aid.

*(Editor's Note: This article was re-printed with permission from Mike Pilo, golf course superintendent at Charlotte Country Club, North Carolina and the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association and the Carolina Greens publication.)*

2:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m.

Peterson, manager of irrigation services at Smith Turf and Irrigation, to figure out how to get this done.

To bypass the sensor, locate both the biggest chip on the circuit board - it will have 14 pins on both sides - and locate the row of 10 holes at the top of the circuit board. Very carefully solder a small wire on the second pin from the bottom left of the computer chip to the fifth hole from the left. This will undoubtedly void the warranty.

**Now armed with a time-lapse camera,** I photographed several areas with significant shade patterns. I included these pictures in a presentation to the Green and Grounds committee. The result was better than had I expected. It was obvious that the number seven tee complex, pictured,





## Panuska—

(Continued from Page 9)

In his tenth year on the Board of Directors, President Panuska has witnessed many association changes. They have included the development of an Environmental Guide and CD, a stronger relationship with the University of Minnesota through the creation and funding in part of the TROE Center and a great improvement in the *Hole Notes* publication. During his extended term the MGCSA has grown from 765 members in 1996 to 902 members in 2005. And currently Rob is working closely with Tom Ryan of the Minnesota Golf Association pushing for the creation of a State Turf Agronomist.

The business of promoting our industry has been huge in Rob's life. With a busy schedule at his club, attending BOD functions and being consumed with turf in thought, word and deed, one would never guess that Rob's true passion is his family.

### *Down on the Farm*

This March, Rob and his bride Sherry will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary. Introduced through an interest in goat farming, Rob and Sherry took their

***"Rob is an extremely honest  
and moral person.  
I respect him  
tremendously for that."***

*-- Sherry Panuska*

hobby to a grander scale. Their mild dabbling has expanded into a 160-goat commercial dairy farm. This enterprise keeps both wife as manager and husband as hired hand to clean pens, haul animals and move hay, busy producing milk for distribution. They also raise research animals, which require special care. Along the way the couple also reared two fine children.

Daughter Brittania is currently a freshman at Wartburg College in Iowa. Her

primary interest is music; in fact she participates in the Colts Drum and Bugle Corps. Their 13-year-old son Ryan is active in dirt biking, videogames and working with the family's computer.

All the energy Rob uses at the course and all of the effort Sherry puts into the farm leaves the family with limited time together. But what time there is Sherry thinks of as, "precious moments."

And so does daughter Brittania. "My dad is involved in many things, work is of course a full-time and then some job. But in addition he is involved in the church and most importantly what we as a family do. My parents make it a point to be there for my brother Ryan and me in all of our activities. Perhaps some of our greatest family times stem from sitting around the campfire roasting hotdogs and marshmallows."

A small dirt bike park situated upon their seven-acre farm is a work in progress for Ryan and his father. With pride Ryan states of his father, "My Dad is hard working and when a job needs to be done,

*(Continued on Page 14)*

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## Panuska—

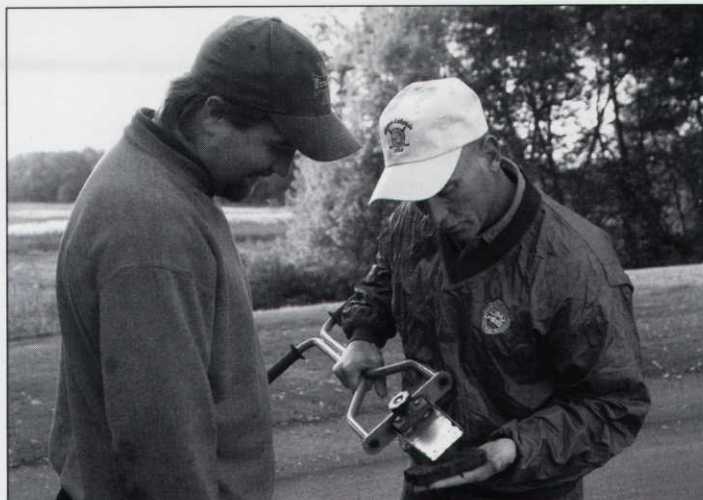
(Continued from Page 12)

he gets it done, and done right the first time."

Through the years there have been family trips to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, volunteer work cooking with Britannia's Colts Drum and Bugle Corps and commitments to the Vista Covenant Church Board to keep Rob busy away from the Waseca Lakeside Club. And according to Sherry his upcoming summer project around the house, when not working with the animals, will be to complete a landscape plan complementing the water pond and fountain they built last year.

Yes, Rob Panuska, President of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendent's Association enjoys a full life. A dedicated family man, articulate in debate, a faithful friend and employer and committed to his profession. What more could be asked of him in the prime of his life?

Perhaps another run for the Board of Directors?



Rob Panuska, right, with his assistant Seth Langager.



The first-ever Golf Industry Show wrapped up in February, with projected attendance and exhibitor numbers that were

slightly better than expected. Projected attendance for the GCSAA Education Conference, NCGOA Solutions Summit and Golf Industry Show is approximately 23,000.

The number of "qualified buyers" or those that can influence purchase decisions is an important number. At the GCSAA Show last year in San Diego, there were approximately 6,200 qualified buyers. It is estimated the number of qualified buyers will exceed 8,000.

The GCSAA Education Conference ended the week with 7,329 seminar seats processed, marking the second highest total since 7,903 seats were sold in New Orleans in 2000.

**Showcased on the floor** were seven "solution centers" focused on a particular area of golf facility management, each offering interactive demonstrations, presentations and case studies by industry experts and informative displays.

In the featured Solution Center, The Building of the Green, an actual golf course green was built in the center of the trade show floor.

The Range Solutions Center featured an indoor driving range, while the Electric Vehicle Test Center allowed attendees to take the latest electric golf vehicles for a spin on the indoor driving track.

Attendees found a full-scale irrigation

pump demonstration in the Water Solutions Center.

The Agronomic Solutions Center, which was designed as a peaceful golf course sanctuary, complete with a pond, amidst the bustle of the trade show floor.

**The MGCSA hosted its hospitality night** at Adobe Gilas restaurant in Orlando on February 10. The informal gathering attracted more than 100 MGCSA members.

**In the GCSAA Golf Championship,**

the team from Minnesota finished tied for 28th place in the gross division, 78th in the net division, no sandbaggers on our team. The team consisted of Tim Johnson, Spring Hill CC; Scottie Hines, Windsong Farms; Michael Brower, Minnesota Valley CC, and Thomas Schmidt, Hillcrest CC of St Paul. Tim Johnson finished tied for 40th in the Championship division shooting a 78-79--157. Hines fired an 80-83--163 and Brower shot an 89-87--176. All three participated in the championship division. Thomas Schmidt finished tied

for 25th place in the 2nd flight. John Malloy, Bearpath CC, finished tied for 24th in the fourth flight.

**GolfWeek's SuperNews Team Golf Championship** was run in conjunction with the GCSAA show. MGCSA members Jim Johnson, Rich Spring GC, and Tom Notch, Bent Creek GC, teamed up to finish second with a gross 67 and a net 63. The winners fired a 65 and a net 59. They played at Shingle Creek GC in Orlando.

## GCSAA Show Attracts 20,000 Golf Industry Professionals

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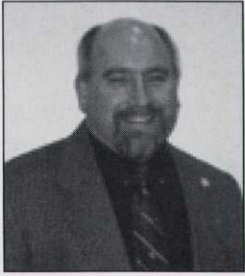
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# Musing the Minutes

By RICK TRAVER, CGCS  
Monticello Country Club



Wow, what has happened to an off-season? It used to be I had time to catch up on paperwork, read magazines that I didn't get to read over the summer and still had time to fit in some grinding and clubhouse repairs. Each year I get older. I think the days get shorter because time seems to slip a lot faster. I admit we are operating with one less staff person, but the truth be told I didn't think he was working all that hard anyway. Needless to say, here we are in the home stretch trying to get those last few things done before Mother Nature decides to wake up her children and get us outside once more.

**Speaking of Mother Nature**, did she give Old Man Winter some serious time off or what? With all the rain and early melting we have enough ice on the Monticello Country Club to make even Michelle Kwan happy. (*I put Eric Heiden first, but I thought I might be dating myself; besides I wasn't sure how to spell Heiden*). I sure hope the spring brings the right weather conditions to allow the turf to survive. I know I pray about it regularly. That helps me not lose any more hair, as I have so little to lose. I hope you all have a wonderful spring.

**To the meat of my column**, your Board of Directors met at The Minikahda Club on Tuesday, January 18. Under the excellent leadership of veteran President Rob Panuska we had a smooth and fairly uneventful meeting.

**Treasurer Jeff Johnson reported on the financial condition of the association**, with a comparison of the 2003-04 fiscal years. The finances look good in a large part to the fundraising committee raising funds so we can continue to bring benefits to the membership without draining the general fund. At this I would like to personally thank David Oberle for his efforts in this area, as well as all the vendors who have so generously participated in this program. Again, *Holes Notes* is also doing well with the improvements implemented by our editor, Jack MacKenzie, CGCS.

**On that note**, we need to congratulate Jack MacKenzie, CGCS, as well as Scott and Jeff Turtinen for the fine work they do on our magazine. They have won the most improved chapter publication in our division from the GCSAA. We have all embraced the wonderful job you have done with our publication. Thank you for all your efforts.

**Arrangements Chair Brad Zimmerman** reported that the BASF Beat the Pro event will take place at Stillwater Country Club on May 16. Since the BASF event is a fund-raising event for research, it was decided last year that the Spring Mixer will be geared towards Assistants and staff and will be free for all participants. This year's event will take place at North Links Golf Course on April 25.

**Ex-Officio Rick Fredricksen, CGCS**, reported that there are several positions up for election this year. If anyone is interested in becoming a director, please contact him.

**Jack Mackenzie made a successful motion** to have Todd Reeves, St. Paul Pioneer Press, and the Star Tribune's Jerry Zgoda as superintendent ambassadors from the media for 2005.

**James Bade reported on the MTGF Board Meeting.** Among

other things an obscure committee called the Capital Oversight Committee has put the TROE Center building on hold at the University of Minnesota. It appears this committee decides the value and uses of buildings at the U of M. This new development has many people close to the situation frustrated if not feeling totally betrayed. We will have to keep a close eye on the developments with the TROE Center.

**We again discussed the idea of a MGA agronomist**, much like the USGA Green Section agronomists. Jack MacKenzie who has been spearheading this concept has led his committee to talk with the MGA. While they are embracing the concept we are awaiting their assessment of the financial aspects of the position.

The meeting concluded with President Panuska passing out the new committee assignments.

**Make plans to attend the Spring "Assistants" Mixer at North Links Golf Course on April 25.** New Board member Eric Peters will be the host superintendent.

Have a great month!

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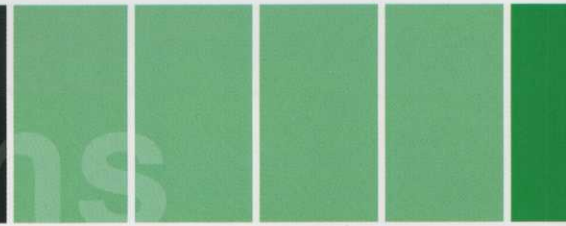
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## INSIGHT:

# One Architect's Perspective

Garrett Gill, Golf Course Architect  
Gill Design, Inc.



Since 1977 and for the majority of my working life, I've been in golf course architecture and design. After graduate school where I received my Masters in Landscape Architecture, I joined my father, David Gill in practice in St. Charles, Illinois, a western suburb of Chicago. In Minnesota, my Dad is best known for his design work at Bunker Hills in Coon Rapids and Dwan in Bloomington. In 1983, I decided I could work with my Dad, but not for him and I started my own design career working in Texas. As for our business here in River Falls, Wisconsin, we opened in 1987. To date we have completed more than 200 golf course projects in thirty-three states. I am a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, the only professional organization in the United States exclusively for golf course architects.

*Today there is a push to restore golf courses back to their original design, sometimes called sympathetic restoration. How does one select an architect for the job?*

I have always felt the selection of the golf course architect should be based on the architect's past accomplishments, expressed interest and commitment to the client's project and a strong client / architect compatibility that is sensed from the very first meeting. The client must feel strongly that they have selected the best architect and not necessarily the best firm. Golf design is a personal business. The architect's name is attached to each project.

In regards to restoration work, the selected architect must have a strong familiarity with the original architect's work, either by past study of the architect's work, playing experience on original designs by that architect, or past renovation or restoration work of that architect. The restoration architect must also recognize modifications or revisions to the original design. I like to think of this as "golf course archeology". Philosophically speaking, the restoration architect should

be sensitive to the evolution of the golf course through play. I think many of the "dead" architects would believe their courses should be allowed to evolve. I often think of the pot bunker at Pine Valley on the par 3, 10th hole. I have to believe that bunker has become what it is because of the play it has received over the 90 years the course has been in existence.

*Why should an architect be used when*

*"Many in the ASGCA, including myself, believe the ball has the greater potential to impact the game of the future."*

*restoring a golf course?*

I think we all have a bias here. Who else should a club use? Perhaps the club could go directly to a contractor or a superintendent, but the person with all the skills of communicating with the club, preparing the plans and specifications and observing the work in the interests of the club, would be the golf architect.

*Technology is impacting the game of golf and many courses do not pose a challenge to the bigger hitters. With limited land, what can be done to thwart their attempts at par without disrupting the integrity of the architect's intent?*

The course needs to logically evaluate its options. In many cases the problem is perceived, but not actually realized. Our experience often shows that while the golfer may be hitting the ball better, they are not necessarily scoring any better. Architecturally, basic instincts suggest adding length where possible and tightening landing areas either through hazard placement, rough condition or placement, or by adding trees (which I think of as hazard). Second level instincts may include shrinking the greens, adding more contour to the greens, making sand or turf bunkers deeper, blocking selective shots

either off the tee or in the fairway. We think it's important that the club not think in terms of toughening each hole, but rather think in regard to strengthening a series of holes leaving opportunity for players to adjust to course demands. It is not the challenge of the architect to make the course/hole difficult, the difficulty to the architect is making the course/hole challenging yet fun.

*Was it the ball or the clubs or the USGA that allowed this situation to get out of hand?*

Many in the ASGCA, including myself, believe the ball has the greater potential to impact the game of the future. To date, the majority of interest has been in the clubs used. In the short term, I sense more specialty clubs will emerge. No one is allowed to blame the USGA.

*Have you considered the newer Round Up ready bents and their impact upon golf courses?*

To date, we have not specified any of the Round-Up ready bents. I see direct advantages to their use in large turf areas such as fairways and for use on tees. From what I've read and seen, I don't think they are comparable to the newer bents available for putting greens such as A4 or SR1119. I would like to hear from the membership on any experiences they may have had with their use. On most of our renovation and remodeling work, we will specify the products and protocols being practiced by the course superintendent.

*Have players taken to the forward tee programs being designed into older courses today?*

On many courses, yes. I think it still comes back to developing the right yardage gap between tee sets and active comes back to developing the right yardage gap between tee sets and active

*(Continued on Page 19)*



## Insight—

(Continued from Page 18)

course management, both at the pro shop and at the maintenance building promoting and encouraging their usage. With the gap too close, golfers will most likely opt for the longer tee. In design, we work to achieve a 300 to 500 yard gap between tee positions. But let's face it. The golf course architect or the club needs to design, build and manage an attractive, well-positioned tee. Forward tees and forward tee programs often have gotten the bad reputation and lack of play because of the thoughtlessness to which they have been built or positioned on the course.

### *Do you have a preference of sand used in bunkers today?*

Not really. We need to remember the sand bunker is a hazard. Often I think too much is made of having perfectly consistent bunkers throughout the course. It's rather pitiful when a golfer purposely aims for the hazard knowing the kind of follow-up shot they will have. In general, our basic guideline is a sand which meets the USGA criteria for bunker sand. We have found most of these sands meet the

playability criteria. After that we look to client preference, color and price. Occasionally we get into the exotic sands offered by Plaisted and others. We've also come across a product being used as a bunker sand from Iowa which is actually poultry feed, but that's what I like about golf design, there aren't many rules.

### *With the demand for ever-quicker greens, older greens are losing many cupping locations. What is a comfortable speed for everyday play?*

We have been counseling clubs to be careful with this issue. As green speeds increase, green slope must be flattened. Generally faster speeds planned in on new designs have larger greens (7,000 SF) to accommodate roll and undulation. On small greens, typical of the older course, if one "flattens" the green to accommodate speed, you've lost much of the character of the green. We've advised older clubs to consider limiting or capping green speed to preserve the character of their older greens. If speeds top out between 8.5 or 9 to 10, providing the greens have character in contour and/or shape, and if the course is historically significant, let them be. If someone wants to putt to a 11, 12 or 13, invite them to the newer course that

has the new bent grasses, and large greens.

### *Name your foursome:*

Over the years I have had the privilege of playing in many a great foursome. I've always enjoyed playing with Pete or Alice Dye or other fellow golf architects: George Williams, Lindsay Irvin, Forrest Richardson, Mark Mungeam and Bob Lohmann. I've also had a tremendous amount of fun playing with our past clients on opening day: Howie Samb, Willingers, Jake Enebak, Legends, Kevin Finley, Ponds at Battle Creek and Tim O'Connor, The Ponds in St. Francis. Naturally I've had some great rounds (not just golf) with superintendents Jim Kassera, Hastings CC; Roger Kisch, Southview; Matt Rostal, Interlachen, and Keith Scott, Oak Ridge. But perhaps my two dream foursomes would include another round with my late father, David Gill, Donald Ross, the ultimate inspiration to all golf course architects, and Arnold Palmer, who in my opinion is the greatest ambassador of golf, in play and design. The second foursome would be made up of fellow architects, Kevin Norby, Jeff McDowell and Joel Goldstrand. I wish them the best.

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