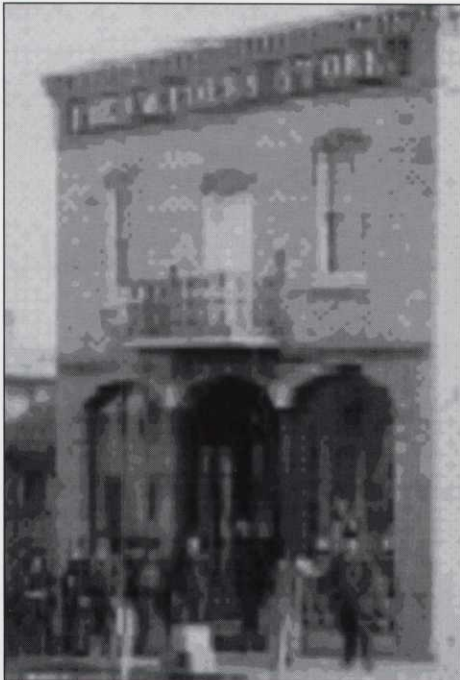


It's in the Hole.....



Herfort-Norby Relocates To Downtown Chaska

Herfort-Norby Golf Course Architects, LLC, completed renovation on an old building (pictured on the left) in downtown Chaska. The building was built in 1876 and for the past 40 years or so was operated as Butch's Tavern.

It was burned-out in a fire in 2003 and Herfort-Norby has spent the past 10 months restoring the building.

Offices are located on the second floor and a new Dunn's Bros.' Coffee shop is now located on the first floor.

Chad Maenke Joins Hydrologic as Field Service Technician

Hydrologic has hired Chad Maenke as its new Field Service Technician. Chad brings a wealth of hands-on industry experience to Hydrologic. Chad has spent

the last seven years serving Burl Oaks Golf Club, most recently as its First Assistant. Chad will be responsible for irrigation field service for Minnesota.

Patrick Brown Doing Well



Patrick and Kim Brown

Par Aide's Dan Brown and wife Kim recently welcomed son Patrick to the world. Kim and her new son are doing well, however Patrick was a little jaundice early on as a result of a hard labor and an abrasion on the back of his head. As a result, Patrick had to stay in the hospital a few extra days. Dan and Kim can't wait for everyone to meet him!

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2nd Annual MGCSA Booth Challenge At Green Expo Again Well-Received

Twenty-six MGCSA member companies participated in the 2nd Annual Booth Challenge at the 2006 Green Expo in early January. The event was again well-received by all participants. The Challenge promoted traffic to the MGCSA members' trade show booths.

The format of the event had members obtaining scorecards at the MGCSA booth, then had it signed by representatives at participating companies and proceeded to enter the card in a prize drawing for eight gift certificates at Best Buy for eight winning MGCSA members.



The eight MGCSA winning members were:

- + Mike Bohnenstingl, The Pines at Grand View Lodge
- + Michael Brower, Minnesota Valley Country Club
- + Javier Diaz, Indian Hills Golf Club
- + John Granholt, Eau Claire Country Club
- + Jim Nicol, CGCS, Hazeltine National Golf Club
- + Matt Schmid, Wayzata Country Club
- + Jesse Trcka, Wayzata Country Club
- + David Wetenkamp, Somerset Country Club.



Participating Companies at the Green Expo Booth Challenge

Special thanks go out to these 26 MGCSA member companies

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| + Aquatrols | + Herfort Norby Golf Architects | + Superior Turf Services |
| + BASF Corporation | + Hydrologic | + Sustane Natural Fertilizer |
| + Brock White Company | + Minnesota Valley Wholesale | + Synthetic Tee Turf |
| + CycleWorks of Minnesota | + MTI Distributing Inc. | + Tee Shot Marketing |
| + Dow AgroSciences | + Plaisted Companies | + Turf Supply Company |
| + FMX Turf Specialists | + Pro Source One | + Turfwerks, LLC |
| + Glenn Rehbein Companies | + Reinders, Inc. | + Twin City Seed Company |
| + GreenImage, LLC | + Renaissance Fertilizers | + Versatile Vehicles /EZ-GO |
| + Hartman Companies | + Superior Tech Products | |

Minnesota Green Expo

By LARRY VETTER
MTGF Executive Director

There are a number of ways to rate the success of an event. Size, scope, quality and feedback are just a few. While final numbers are still being compiled for some categories, several can be reported with a fair degree of certainty. The number of registered attendees set an all-time record of 7,833. This represents an increase of 633, or 8.8% over registered attendees for the 2005 Expo. Advance registration continues to increase both in numbers and percentages, increasing by 447 to 5,695, or 8.5% over 2005. Three-day registrations increased as did one-day, trade show only and exhibitor registrants. The only decrease in registrations compared to 2005 was the Friday on-site registration, which was down from 598 to 520. This most likely is a function of the cycle of pesticide recertification needs which is now every two years vs. the annual recertification requirement.

There was no major shift in the industry segment registrations when compared to previous years. Those indicating MGCSA membership totaled 546 while those indicating an association with golf courses totaled 940 registrations. The largest single industry segment represented was the landscape contractor group, with 2,193 registrants indicating an affiliation with this industry segment. Those indicating an association with golf courses tied with three other categories for the fourth largest group represented at this year's Expo. Due to space considerations in this newsletter, complete demographic data is not listed here but is available by contacting myself or one of MGCSA's representatives serving on the MTGF Board of Directors.

The 2006 Expo featured over 100 educational sessions, several demonstrations and a Turfgrass Challenge on the trade show floor, 22 non-profit booths and 935 booth spaces featuring the products, goods and services of 403 exhibitors. This year the event was moved to the newer end of the Minneapolis Convention Center. This move was made for several reasons. First, it afforded the use of newer rooms stacked more vertically, reducing

the amount of walking required to get to the various educational sessions. It also provided access to the two largest domes of the Convention Center, thereby increasing the number of exhibit spaces available for vendors wanting to have larger &/or new display areas.

As with any change of this magnitude,

"There is no other local gathering that comes close to the magnitude of this event. Each supports the other so that all benefit from participation. The overall end result is that all who are involved in the Green Industry in this area find value in being a part of the Minnesota Green Expo."

there were some unexpected problems. However, based on the feedback, both verbal and written that has been received to date, the change resulted in many more positive than negative reports. Meetings have already taken place addressing issues that need to be changed for next year as well as continuing those that generated positive feedback. One definite change that will be made next year is the location of the MGCSA booth. Next year's location will be in the main lobby near the registration desk. This will give much better visibility and easier access for MGCSA members. Another will be increased room capacities for the Pesticide Recertification sessions on Friday. Due to many not checking this need on the registration forms, the room size for these sessions was not adequate and will be corrected for next year's event.

This was the fourth year of the Minnesota Green Expo. As most of you are aware, the Expo is the combination of the separate events previously sponsored by the Minnesota Turf & Grounds Foundation and the Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association. The respective Boards of Directors of these two groups felt for some time that there were syner-

gies that could be realized by combining these two events into one, thereby affording the luxury of offering a broader educational conference and a more all-encompassing trade show. Since there was some overlap between exhibitors and attendees of the separate events, all with an involvement in the Green Industry, these boards negotiated for several years to form the Minnesota Green Expo. The anticipated synergies have, in fact, materialized as the Expo has proven to be one of the largest and best regional Green Industry shows in the country. Both attendance and exhibit space occupied every year has exceeded the sum of the totals of even the best year when these events were held separately.

The contract that is currently in place governing the conduct of the Expo is a three-year contract with a "rolling" feature that automatically adds a third year at the conclusion of each year's Expo barring written notice by either party stating otherwise. This eliminates the need to renegotiate the entire contract every third year. This feature was added for protection against one of the partners abruptly terminating the contract leaving the other high and dry with little time to arrange their own separate event. When the original contract was being negotiated, one of the issues that was discussed in great detail was the allocation of revenue and expenses resulting from this event. Historical data was used to determine the size of each of the respective events that had been previously held separately. After examining all of the data from previous MTGF and MNLA events it was determined that both attendance and exhibitor space was tracking with the MNLA show being twice the size of the MTGF show. These numbers were taken directly from the attendance records of each organization as well as exhibit space utilized for each of the two events. The MTGF had previously rented one hall at the Convention Center and could not fill more than roughly one half of that hall.

(Continued on Page 24)

Green Expo—

(Continued from Page 23)

The charge was the same whether the hall was filled or not. The MNLA rented one hall of the Convention Center and filled it plus having a significant exhibitor waiting list in place. By combining the two, the Expo now sells out two complete domes so that all space that is paid for generates revenue and nearly all vendors that wish to exhibit are able to do so. The eventual contract that was written was done so in a way to reflect all of the above, resulting in a distribution of a 66.7% allocation made to the MNLA and a 33.3% allocation made to the MTGF. This applies to both revenues and expenses and therefore to the net income generated each year.

When studying the breakdown of the registrations and the exhibitor participation for the 2006 Expo, as well as the previous three that have taken place under this arrangement, the agreed-upon distribution has averaged within one percent of being exactly as estimated. Consequently, the distribution as set forth in the contract does in fact accurately reflect the level of the contribution of each of the sponsors to the overall success of the Expo. While the financial results of the 2006 Expo cannot be determined at this point because all expenses are not yet in, there is no reason to expect that this year's event will vary significantly from the previous three. Those results have provided far more net income for the MTGF than its stand-alone event had ever generated. This allows the MTGF to make larger contributions to various research projects and programs than it could have were this co-sponsorship arrangement not in place.

A point that surfaces on occasion is that some exhibitors have a concern that their total expenditure made to exhibit in the Expo is being divided between two groups and thus not going directly to MGCSA, using MGCSA as an example. While this is true when taking this as a stand-alone observation, it does not factor in several things that influence the total outcome of the Expo and therefore the benefits derived from it. First, the current Expo attendance and exhibits exceed the sum of the two totals for each category under the old arrangement. This is a great example of a situation where $1 + 1 = \text{more than } 2$. Thus both sponsors of the Expo are deriving benefits for their members, such as more income, more exhibits, more networking opportunities and more educational opportunities than either could derive sponsoring their own individual

event. Greater attendance equals a larger audience for every exhibitor. This makes it more attractive for an exhibitor to participate. This attracts more exhibitors who attract a larger audience - greater attendance. And the circle continues. In addition, increased attendance and exhibits generate revenue that allows for more educational sessions, many of which benefit attendees from each of the sponsoring groups. Thus there are educational opportunities offered at the Expo that no single sponsor could offer just for their members. Third, the number of rooms available for educational sessions for a set fee is directly tied to the number of halls rented for exhibits. Yes, it is true that MNLA benefits from the expenditures made by exhibitors whose primary audience is MTGF members. But it is also true that the MTGF benefits from the expenditures of MNLA exhibitors, and there are more of those, both in the number of exhibiting companies and the number of total exhibit spaces sold. All of these factors, in addition to others, must be factored in to realize the true impact and benefit for each company or individual who participates, whether they be attendees or exhibitors.

For the most part, the only negative that is expressed about the educational portion of the Expo is "there were so many things offered that I couldn't get to everything that I wanted to attend." What a great problem to have when compared to "there really wasn't much that I was interested in so I either went home early or had to wait for the next session." The same holds true in many cases with the trade show. "I couldn't get through the whole show because there was so much to see." Again, far better than "there really wasn't much there to see."

Some ask who decides what speakers and topics will be offered at the Expo. I will be meeting with the MGCSA Education Committee very shortly, just as I have each of the past four years to determine what this committee would like to have on the program for the coming year. Following each of these meetings, the only time this list wasn't completely included in the next year's program was when a speaker could not attend because of a conflict or there were just too many speakers and topics for the hours available throughout the three days. Consequently, MGCSA's Education Committee determines what speakers and topics will be included in next year's education program at the Expo that will be interesting to MGCSA members. Also in place to help direct this effort is a Joint Programming Board which is specified as part of the

Expo contract. This Board, which has the final say on what speakers and topics will be included in next year's program, consists of three representatives each from the MTGF and the MNLA, the two Executive Directors and Dr. Brian Horgan. The purpose of this Board is to make sure that there are good educational sessions for each group of attendees and that there are no overlaps with speakers addressing similar topics. At no time over the last four years has any speaker requested by the MGCSA Education Committee been eliminated in this process.

The Minnesota Green Expo is the major source of revenue for the MTGF.

In 2005 the MTGF budgeted \$133,500 for research, program support and an economic impact study, all of which will benefit the turf and grounds industry in Minnesota. This is over 50% more than was realized in total net revenue even in the best year of a stand-alone MTGF Conference and Trade Show. All of these funds will have either a direct or indirect benefit to MGCSA members as well as others in the Green Industry, including the turf and grounds programs at the University of Minnesota. Two members selected by the current MGCSA Board sit on the MTGF Board of Directors. That Board determines what contributions are made by the MTGF each year and your MGCSA representatives have played a major role in making that determination.

In closing, the Minnesota Green Expo is one of the best regional offerings any where in the country, both in quality and value. The reason for this success is the participation of professionals who make up the Green Industry in this area. Individual members attend because of the great educational program, the networking opportunity and the tremendous trade show that vendors put together each year. Vendors exhibit because so many of their customers gather at one place for one event. There is no other local gathering that comes close to the magnitude of this event. Each supports the other so that all benefit from participation. The overall end result is that all who are involved in the Green Industry in this area find value in being a part of the Minnesota Green Expo. To each exhibitor who participated in the Expo and to each member who attended, thank you and please remember to support participating exhibitors when it comes time to make your buying decisions. Working together you will all contribute to making the 2007 Minnesota Green Expo the best one yet.

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BASF First-Class at People vs. the Pros

By BRIAN BROWN

Superintendent, Chisago Lakes Golf Course

Playing in the qualifying tournament May 16 at Stillwater Country Club for the 2005 People vs. the Pros was the last thing on my mind. The spring of 2005 brought me four dead greens and two others with significant "Winter Kill" at my course. As all golf course superintendents know, spring is a very busy time of the year with limited staff and a full "To Do" list. With the extra anxiety of dead turf my golf clubs didn't find themselves out of their corner in my office very often. It was only after receiving an email from Jack Mackenzie the Friday prior to the Monday tournament that changed my mind. Jack mentioned that this tournament is one of the biggest fundraisers for our association and that we could lose the tournament if more Superintendents didn't play. Friday, I e-mailed Scott at the MGCSA office to sign up. On second thought, maybe I did need part of a day away from the course. I did enjoy the tournament the prior year at North Oaks. I also had fond memories of playing Stillwater Country Club some 20 years prior in junior events. To top it off with my low handicap and only playing golf twice prior to the tournament, I could enjoy the day without trying to win. Monday morning came and I was second-guessing my decision. I forced myself to break away and arrived five minutes before the shotgun start.



Brian Brown tees off at Barton Creek in Austin, Texas.

Much to my surprise I was 3-under par for the day with only a few holes to play. Reality set in and I managed to finish the last three holes four over par and one over for the day. I still didn't think much of the score with the great course and weather conditions. The handicapped event winner I felt would bring a score in the middle sixties. Much to my surprise when I came into the clubhouse I was informed that I won the tournament. Wow! An all-expense paid trip to Texas to represent the MGCSA at a tournament where I could win \$100,000. From day one after qualifying, BASF and the People vs. the Pros were very professional. I completed the registration and handicap forms and before I knew it I received a tournament package in the mail. The items included hats, four golf shirts with which color to wear each day, and a dozen ProV1 golf balls. Not only were these items included but there was a list of activities for my wife during our stay. They included a 1-hour massage, shopping trip to Fredricksburg, and a cooking class.

Wednesday

My wife Penny, 6-month old son Cameron and I arrive in Austin, Tex. I picked up the furnished rental car and, after a short drive, Barton Creek was within view. What a sight, the 15-story spa and resort surrounded by the breathtaking hill country of Austin. The resort is first-class with valet parking, luggage help, club storage and a concierge. Our room was great, mini-bar and all. I now know how the rich and famous live. At the player registration I received more golf balls, shirts, a nice Nike luggage bag and all kinds of other knick knacks. My first practice round came as an eye-opener to golf at Barton Creek. The name Crenshaw Cliffside was appropriately named with many cliffs and a strategically designed course that emphasized putting. The greens were large and 2/3 sloped from front to back. The most challenging aspect of play for the whole week was the warm season turf grasses. I was surprised at how different the golf

(Continued on Page 27)

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BASF Tournament—

(Continued from Page 26)

ball lies in the rough and how it comes out, especially around the greens. Our first reception for Superintendents came Wednesday night. The BASF people really set the tone for the week with great food and fellowship. I met Matt Curl along with his wife from Illinois and over the weekend my wife Penny and I enjoyed their company at the four different banquets.

Thursday

Breakfast was delicious and included about every breakfast food imaginable. In Barton Creek fashion live piano music played and the fine dining room overlooked the golf course and vast hill country. Unlike breakfast, my golf game and second practice round on the Fazio Foothills course was lousy. The course hosts the Canadian Tour's first event of the year and features vast elevation changes with many shots over canyon areas. It is a very difficult course with a half-dozen holes ranked in Texas' top 20 holes. Thursday night brought the opening rules meeting and dinner. A rules official with vast PGA tour experience explained the rules. The handicap system was taken very seriously. Close to 50 individuals who qualified for the event were denied entry due to handicap verification.

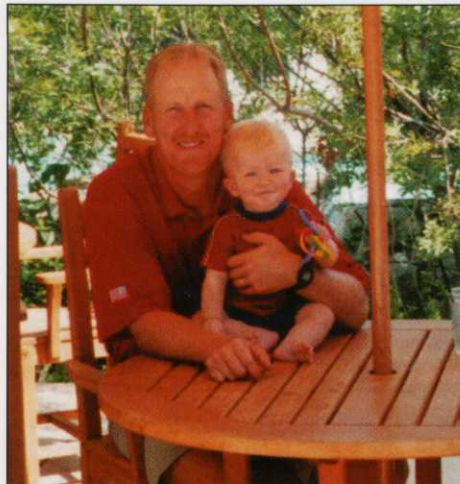
Friday

My opening 81 disappointed me. With the very windy conditions I found myself only six strokes behind in the superinten-



Spectacular views at Barton Creek.

dent's Cup. Friday night BASF held our formal Superintendents Dinner. This was the fanciest dinner that I have ever had. It was a complete seven-course meal with some food items that could not even pro-



Brian and son Cameron enjoying life.

nounce. Once again this was BASF saying how special we were to them. What made this dinner even more special was that, while the tournament is a way for BASF to market, this dinner had nothing to do with marketing and was solely for our enjoyment.

Saturday

Playing the Crenshaw course I fared better with a 75 in spite of finishing bogey, double. This brought me within two strokes of qualifying for the Superintendent's Cup and the \$10,000 cash and \$10,000 in products. Penny received her massage at the spa and took her trip shopping to Fredricksburg. Saturday night was the only night dinner was not furnished. This was a nice time to explore the wonderful town of Austin.

Sunday

I woke to the sound of thunder. Unfortunately the intense thunderstorm lasted until late afternoon. With 3+ inches of rain the third round was cancelled along with my hopes of qualifying for the Superintendent's Cup. With my low handicap I didn't have high hopes of qualifying for the \$100,000 and chance to play against Justin Leonard but felt I was in good position to qualify for the Superintendent's Cup. Sunday night was the Dinner and Awards Ceremony. An announcer from ESPN introduced Justin Leonard and Ben Crenshaw along with

showing a motivating video of the 1999 Ryder cup matches with Justin Leonard and Ben Crenshaw as the captain. What a nice couple of guys. During the dinner I ended up holding and walking my son Cameron around. Ben Crenshaw walked by, smiled and said what a cute kid he was.

Monday

Tournament day came with all the fanfare of boom camera trucks, camera crews, and spectators. Outside of all the camera crews there must have been 15 carts of VIP's following the action. I was fortunate enough to golf with the 50 and under qualifier, Jeff Jumonville, on Friday. Although not a superintendent Jeff works in the golf industry for Callaway Golf. He qualified at Barton Creek at which he is a member. Although Justin Leonard is famous I witnessed two examples of his humble personality. While getting ready to tee off on the fourth tee box there was some activity with cameras and vehicles making a commotion. The organizers frantically motioned the group but Justin spoke up, "Ah, that don't bother me." Then, walking from the 12th green a cart was in the way of the beverage cart. Justin went out of his way to try to move the cart stated, "Let me move that for you." The cart person quickly refused and intercepted him.

BASF's first-class commitment to the superintendents can be summarized with what happened on Monday. After Sunday's rainout of the third round two superintendents were tied for second place. Monday morning Rafael Martinez and Matt Curl played off for second place and a chance to play in the Superintendent's Cup with first place of \$10,000 cash and \$10,000 in products or \$5,000 cash for second place. Matt Curl ended up losing the playoff but unexpectedly received a check from BASF for \$2,500. BASF gave this prize solely out of the goodness of their hearts when they wouldn't have needed to do anything. I understand the marketing reasons for BASF sponsoring this event, but what struck me about the entire event was the behind the scenes things BASF did for us Superintendents. I would like to thank our local BASF representatives David Oberle and Chris Higgins. I also would like to thank BASF for allowing me the chance to represent the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association at the 2005 People vs. the Pros at Barton Creek and for their support of the MGCSA.



Musing the Minutes

By **MATT MCKINNON**
MGCSA Secretary
The Legacy Courses at Cragun's

The MGCSA Board of Directors met at Somerset Country Club on January 16.

The Treasurer's Report showed that the association had a net income of \$5,998.46 for 2005. The association has had an income of \$3,000 to \$8,000 each year for the past few years. Since the association is doing a better job of saving money, our dues have not gone up in six years. Affiliate members have not had an increase in 10 years.

President James Bade welcomed the new members to the board: Tom Proshok, Tom Meier, Jeff Vinkemeier, Scottie Hines, CGCS and Dan Brown. James also reported that we would be working on a number of things this year. At the University

of Minnesota we are looking at remodeling some of the greenhouses and continue to explore the option of a pathologist. He would like to get the members more involved with the association. Also provide better communication about the MTGF and the money that it produces for the association. James received an e-mail from Larry Vetter that the conference had 8000 attendees and made \$100,000.00. The conference did very well this year.

Executive Director Scott Turtinen reported that there were 108 attendees to the annual meeting. In the past there have been 70 to 80 attendees. Fifty eight people participated in the 18-hole challenge. There were eight winners and \$1,300 in cash prizes given out. The MGCSA booth

was not in a favorable location to give out the 18-hole challenge cards. The MTGF is aware that we need to move to a better location next year. Scott reported that there were 400 vendors at the Expo and 50 of them were MGCSA members.

The Minnesota Golf Show is set for February 24, 25 and 26. The MGCSA booth is combined with the MGA booth.

The MGCSA March Mini-Seminar is set for March 7 at Mendakota Country Club. Frank Rossi, Ph.D., Cornell University will be a guest speaker. Another topic will be from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture on re-entry intervals for chemical applications.

Dr. Brian Horgan reported that he has met with the architects. The plans for the greenhouses will be done in March with cost estimates. Dr. Horgan also reported that the MGA would like to try an Agronomist on a small scale before going ahead with a full-time position and program. The University of Minnesota Turfgrass Management School is scheduled for February 20 - 24 at Somerset.

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Waseca Lakeside Club
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Grand National Golf Club
320-384-7084 or 320-266-8150

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Manuel Foley Reel Grinder
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M-384, \$500.00
3 Reels for National 84 Tri-Plex

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Contact: Brian Rancour
Izatys Resort
320-532-1144

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* 1989 Lesco 300, 9 blade reels + verti-cut reels, \$1000
* Turfco Mete-R-Matic 3, \$750 OBO
* Rubbermaid 10 gal coolers, \$10/each
* 1988 Core Master (PTO) aerator with 5 sets of tines and needle tines, \$500
Contact: Ken or Tom
Brackett's Crossing CC
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*2000 John Deere 3215b. 2,400 hrs, \$8,000
*2000 Ransome AR250. 2,200 hrs, \$9,500
*1997 National Hydro 70. 900 hrs, \$1,200
*1994 Cushman 3 wh. 6,800 hrs \$1,500.00
*1990 John Deere 2635a. 2,100 hrs \$7,000.00
*1990 Toro 322-D Groundsmaster. 3100 hrs \$1,200.00
*1989 Toro 216. 2700 hrs \$300.00
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In Bounds: Acronyms

By JOHN "JACK" MACKENZIE, CGCS
North Oaks Golf Club

BMP and IPM! A OKAY or just BS? It is the season for education and catching up on magazines piled high last summer during the heat of the battle. And over time in my studies I have noticed a dramatic increase in acronyms justifying our existence. In turn, the developers of said abbreviations have created their own niche in our society and warranted "their" professions.

BMP or Best Management Practices is a great example of management complexitis, a disease that is becoming too common in our industry today. The diagram at the right comes from the AAPG Hyper Journal. It depicts how Best Management Practices work.

I have issues with a diagram or concept which depicts a supposed and progressive idea in our industry but in reality creates complication, thereby meriting the employment of a specialist, who in turn will express the implied and perceived notions of said idea developed in an effort to make my job easier. Come on, PLEASE!

True professionals in our line of work don't need to be taught BMP's to maintain a golf course and thereby protect their employment. It is as if an industry has been created to develop a formula in which someone not cut out for the profession can follow and be successful.

Golf course superintendents are good at their craft because they have developed qualities inherent to the industry such as

observation, communication and implementation skills. Uncomplicated, quick and calculated responses are often necessary to manage a golf course especially in an every-shifting environment. A detailed flow chart won't cut it when weather changes and a surprise shotgun combine to create a challenge.

Who has



time to implement BMP's when they are implementing CYA's. "IPM is the wise use of pesticides, fungicides and insecticides to control pest threat," explains Vassar College's Jeffrey Horst, Associate Executive Director, Building and Grounds Services in the June 2004 Landscape Management article. "It's about monitoring the situation, identifying problems and taking action. Before you resort to using pesticides, you observe an area such

as a lawn [or golf course] and use water and fertilizer to deal with the pests that may be lurking there. In the old days, you managed pest problems with chemicals."

Excuse me? I have been around long enough to remember the "old days." I take it as a personal affront to think that historically, successful turf management was centered on the absent-minded use of chemicals. Quite the contrary, our industry wouldn't exist if we didn't appreciate the value of proper cultural practices. It is almost as though the acronym IPM was created by someone who thought all we did was poison the environment and "they" needed to develop a solution to our plight.

What came first, competently maintaining fine playing surfaces for our players or the implementation of an IPM?

Cultural practices needed to keep our turf healthy (then and now) weren't given a specific title. Aeration, topdressing, mowing at a healthy height of cut, feeding the turf and using pesticides when necessary were commonplace. Either you grew great grass or you were out of a job. Calling it IPM only propagated one thing, employment for an industry of specialists who develop BMP's specific to improving their livelihood, and a happy acronym for what we have been doing since sheep cut and fertilized golf courses in Scotland.

FYI, as turf management professionals we are very good at a great many things. Do we need flow charts and specialists to tell us? I think not; all we have to do is get out onto our courses and appreciate the magic of our abilities. When I look upon my acres of maintained turf I don't think about BMP's and IPM's, rather I say to myself, "damn, my staff and I do a good job."

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