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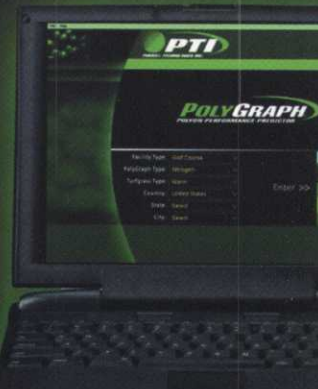
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Upcoming MGCSA Schedule

Monday, July 14
Tri-State Outing
Big Fish Golf Club, Hayward, WI
Host Superintendent: Tod Blankenship

Monday, August 4
MGCSA Harold Stodola Research Scramble
Wayzata Country Club, Wayzata
Host Superintendent: Bob Distel

Monday, September 8
MGCSA Championship
The Minikahda Club, Minneapolis
Host Superintendent: Jeff Johnson

Thursday, September 11
University of Minnesota Field Day
The TROE Center
U of M Host: Dr. Brian Horgan

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About the Cover

The dawn of a new day on the first hole at Big Fish Golf Club in Hayward, Wis. Superintendent Tod Blankenship will host the 2nd Annual Tri-State Turfgrass Nutrient Discussion and Golf Invitational on July 14. All MGCSA members are invited.

(See article on Page 9 of this issue.)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Heisenberg Principle

By Richard A. (Rick) Traver, CGCS

As I was watching the news medias coverage of the returns of a recent primary, one of the commentators, Pat Buchanan, brought up the Heisenberg Principle. In his definition of this principle, just the act of watching a scientific experiment can alter the outcome. This came up as a discussion on how much the media actually affect the outcome of elections. I looked this principle up in the ole Wickedpedia Dictionary and found that it has quite a bit to do with quantum mechanics and I will just have to trust Mr. Buchanan's interpretation. Regardless of whether it is the Heisenberg Principle, the concept still has some intriguing discussion questions, questions that I can't answer, but nonetheless may be good conversation items.

How much do we do because the membership, a board member or green committee member are watching, and what effect does their watching us have on how efficiently we do our jobs? Do we make decisions differently because we know that it will be easier to handle fixing the turf than hassling with a board member or the general manager later?



I know outside observations affect golfers. I was out with my green committee the other day and as we pulled up to a green the quality of golf in the foursome deteriorated dramatically. The same thing happens with the maintenance crew, they can be sitting quiet as a church mouse, but knowing someone is watching affects the way some golfers will hit the ball. I realize the golfer has to hit the shot, but I always feel guilty when they hit a bad one, especially when they

give you "the stare."

Hopefully "the stare" doesn't come from your GM or a committee member, and I know you all go about your business with as much confidence and professionalism as is possible. I also know that you all make your decisions based on the quality of the turf and not on what an undereducated green committee member may want. I do have to admit to making an occasional adjustment to my program to accommodate the priorities of a board member or committee member. I try not to sweat the small stuff and save my battles for the bigger items, but I have to admit to giving in occasionally, as we only aerate greens once per year now.

I don't want to give the impression that your members, Green Committees or GM's don't have valuable input and that input should be used in making your decisions. We all need to meet or exceed the needs of our patrons to stay in business, so some adjustments need to be made so golfers continue to visit or join your facility. Just don't let those adjustments happen because they are watching. Make sure the conversation takes place.

I wrote last month that you should pat yourselves on the back, primarily because we produce a great product with a short season. Do it again, because we still produce a great product, even with all the outside influences from observers.

Have a great month and we'll see you at Somerset Country Club for the Scholarship Scramble on June 23.

- Rick

HOLE NOTES

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MGCSA Members Enjoyed Magnificent Views and Golf at Coffee Mill G&CC

Forty-four MGCSA members enjoyed a great day at Coffee Mill Golf & Country Club in Wabasha on Monday, May 12.

Host Superintendent Jeff Nelson presented Coffee Mill in beautiful shape. A blue sky day made for magnificent views of the Mississippi River Bluffs.

Winners of the event at 16-under par was the foursome of Nick Dickerson, Owatonna CC, along with Andy Olson, Brian Jordan and Mike Matzek of Somerby GC. Two strokes back were Glencoe CC's John Bahr, Jeff Vinkemeier, Marv Huwe and Manley Vinkemeier. Finishing in third place, shooting a 12-under par round, were Mike Redmond, MTI Distributing, Erik Pille and Andrew Carlson, TPC Twin Cities and Brian Peterson, Southbrook GC.



SPRING MIXER WINNERS, from left to right, are: Somerby's Mike Matzek, Andy Olson, Brian Jordan along with Nick Dickerson, Owatonna Country Club. The foursome scrambled their way to a 16-under-par victory at the MGCSA Spring Mixer at Coffee Mill Golf &

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Closest-to-Pin winners went to Mike Redmond, Erik Pille, Manley Vinkemeier and Andy Keyes, The Meadows at Mystic Lake. Eric Rasmussen, Southbrook GC hit the longest drive of the day. Cary Femrite sunk the longest putt and donated his prize to David Devetter and Nathan Maas both of The Meadows at Mystic Lake.

Mark Stennes, S & S Tree Specialists, was the guest speaker before the golf round and spoke on Emerald Ash Borer and managing our trees for long-term success.

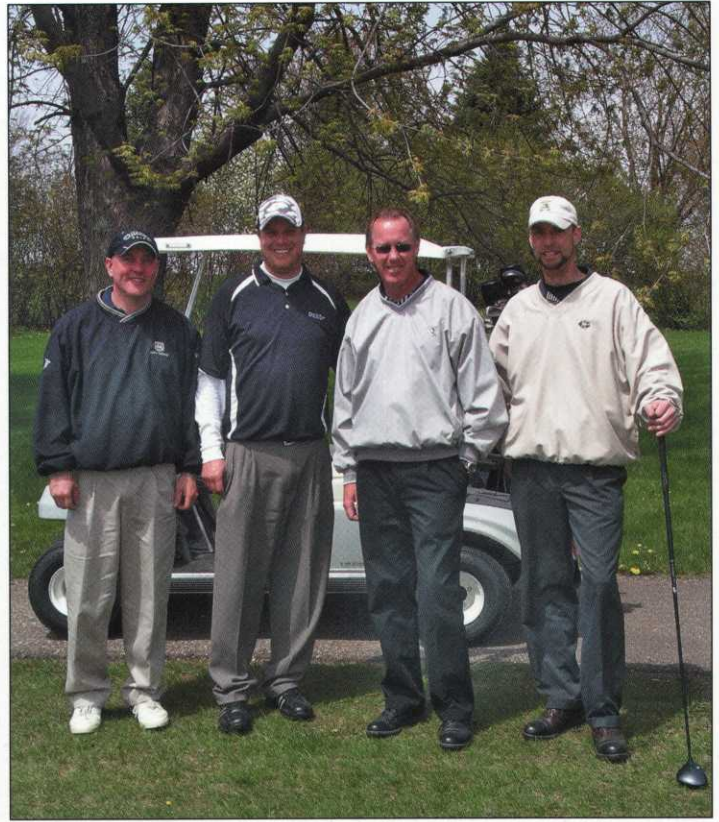
Sean Pederson, Duinick Bros Golf, manned the tee box for DBI's Longest Drive event and gave each field event winner a nice golf shirt. All participants received a ball mark repair tool.

A special thanks goes out to all of our generous Affiliate Member Sponsors of our 2008 events:

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Coffee Mill G&CC Host Superintendent Jeff Nelson presented the golf course in great shape for the MGCSA Assistants Spring Mixer.



Great to be golfing again: Chris Carpenter and Matt Mears, GreenImage, Doug Mahal, CGCS, The Jewel, and Arik Hemquist, Brackett's Crossing. They shot 4-under at Coffee Mill G&CC.

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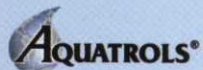
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Tri-State Turfgrass Nutrient Discussion and Golf Invitational Set July 14 at Big Fish Golf Club in Hayward, Wisconsin

By *Tod Blankenship, CGCS*
Big Fish Golf Club

The 2nd Annual Tri-State Turfgrass Nutrient Discussion and Golf Invitational is set for July 14 at Big Fish Golf Club in Hayward, Wis.



This seminar has been approved for .20 GCSAA Education Points.

The \$50 registration fee includes golf, box lunch and prize money. Any remaining funds will be allocated to the associations based on attendance of respective members.

The seminar begins at 10:00 a.m.

Education

The presenters will include Dr. John

Stier from UW-Madison, Dr. Brian Horgan from the U of M, and Bob Vavrek, USGA Agronomist. Each presenter will discuss their thoughts and findings regarding current trends in nutrient use throughout the region.

Included in the presentations will be information on the culmination of recent nutrient-related legislation throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin along with current trends in nutrient use throughout the industry.

Schamble Golf

Golf begins at 1:00 p.m. with a shotgun start. The golf format will be a Schamble. The format will consist of teams of 4 (or 5) players and each team will have at least one member from each respective organization. A schamble is when each member of the team hits a drive; the most ideal drive is then chosen and each individual

team member finishes the hole from that location and the 2-3 best scores will then be taken. The teams will be handicapped and three sets of tees will be used.



Registration

A registration form can be found at www.mgcsa.org or by contacting Tod Blankenship at Big Fish Golf Club. Big Fish Golf Club is located at 14122W True North Lane, Hayward, WI 54843.

Registration must be received by July 7.

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