

## Judge rules for PPPF in Wauconda case

Federal District Court Judge Ilana Rovner has ruled in favor of the Pesticide Public Policy Foundation (PPPF) in its suit against the Village of Wauconda, Ill.

Judge Rovner ruled that Wauconda could not enforce controversial Ordinance No. 1984-0-31, which forced pesticide users to pay a \$25 annual fee and post signs after applications.

The decision, rendered on August 14th, comes after nearly one year of litigation between the city and the PPPF, a group of professional pesticide applicators.

In her ruling, Judge Rovner agrees with PPPF's argument that state regulations, specifically the Illinois Pesticide Act of 1979, preempt any ordinances which may be enacted by local communities.

"The ordinance attempts to impose further restrictions on and require an additional permit for pesticide applicators who already are subject to extensive state regulation and licensure," she wrote. "This court finds that the kind of 'uniformity' language found in the Illinois Pesticide Act im-



David Dietz

plies a legislative intent to preempt...the myriad units of local government from adding their own conflicting layers of regulation to the existing comprehensive scheme."

Judge Rovner, however, ruled in favor of Wauconda on another count: she judged the ordinance constitutional because it does not deny due process and equal protection of the laws as guaranteed by the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions.

David Dietz, director of the PPPF, says the decision "should have some precedential value." Currently, sev-

eral cities, including St. Paul, Minn., and Madison, Wisc., are considering ordinances that would regulate pesticide use on the local level.

"Overall, we're pleased," he tells WT&T of the recent decision. "It reaffirms and confirms our longstanding position that regulatory controls need to be at the federal and state level."

PPPF had argued that local government should not be allowed to regulate pesticide use because:

- the number of local governmental units across the U.S. (there are 8,000) would be "begging chaos;"
- lack of experience with pesticides among those units; and
- the cost involved.

Dietz was disappointed that Judge Rovner did not cite what he felt were PPPF's strongest arguments in her decision—that the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) preempts local jurisdictions from regulating the sale and use of pesticides, and that the ordinance violates the equal protection and due process clauses of the U.S. Constitution.

### INDUSTRY

#### West Coast treemen at top of salary scale

A nation-wide National Arborist Association's (NAA) wage survey shows foreman making an average hourly rate of \$10.50 per hour, climbers \$7.90, and ground personnel \$5.78.

Survey respondents from the West (California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii) report the highest wages with foreman making an average of \$11.48 per hour, climbers \$9.18, and ground personnel \$6.83. The Midwest is at the bottom of the scale with foremen averaging \$9.14, climbers \$7.85, and ground personnel \$5.37.

The NAA's Reporter newsletter says the range for each classification are: foremen, \$5.50 to \$22; climbers, \$5 to \$12.50; and ground personnel, \$3.63 to \$9.

### ASSOCIATION

#### Moody named PLCAA assistant exec director

The Professional Lawn Care Association of America (PLCAA) has named Douglas K. Moody as its first assistant executive director.

Moody, who began work in September, is vice-president of the New Jersey Turfgrass Association and is also involved with the state's Recreation and Park Association.

PLCAA executive director Jim Brooks says Moody's position was established because of the growth in the lawn care industry and the increased demand for service and assistance by lawn care operators.

A graduate of North Carolina State University, Moody has served nine years as head of the interpretive services division of the Hunterdon (N.J.) County Park systems.

### GOLF

#### ESPN exposure boosts superintendent's image

The Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America (GCSAA) took its message to national television this past August. And may do it again this year. Next year for sure.

Says GCSAA president Eugene Baston, "we received tremendous response from our television spots. I just wish we could afford to do more."

The GCSAA sponsored five 30-sec-

ond commercials on ESPN, the cable sports network. The spots aired during the PGA Championship and the Buick Open.

The message is: "We're your solid playing partner." The aim, says Baston, "is to let the public know what the golf superintendent's responsibilities are."

The GCSAA received a bonus of sorts when ESPN aired reruns of the tournaments giving the commercials three additional plays.

Superintendents with visions of Hollywood be advised, however. Actors were used in the commercials.

### TREE SEMINAR

#### Law and insurance to be discussed

A seminar, "Trees, People and the Law" is scheduled for Nov. 6-7 in Columbus, Ohio.

Experts in areas of law, insurance, federal taxes and arboriculture will discuss lawns and court cases involving trees. Liabilities of tree consultants, operators, and owners will receive considerable attention. Preceding the 1½-day seminar, a "Basics

of Tree Evaluation" review will be offered.

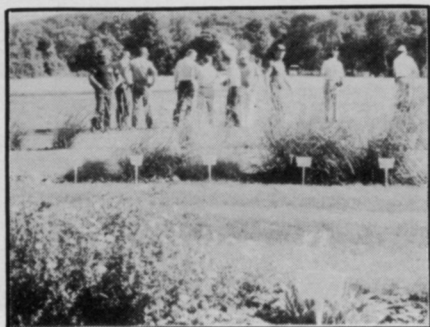
For more information, contact Alan D. Cook, The Dawes Arboretum, 7770 Jacksontown Rd. SE, Newark, Ohio, 48055. Phone number is (614) 323-2355.

#### RESEARCH

### 150 turn out for field day

More than 150 turf-related professionals turned out for the recent Lofts Inc. Annual Field Day in Martinsville, N.J.

Speakers included Dr. Henry Indyk and Dr. C. Reed Funk from Rutgers University, Dr. Al Turgeon



from Tru-Green, Dr. Richard Hurley of Lofts, and Maria Cinque of Cornell University.

Attendees included landscape architects, landscapers, park managers, county agricultural agents, automated lawn dealers, university researchers, and members of the press.

To receive advance notice of next year's Field Day, contact Lofts by writing Chimney Rock Road, Bound Brook, N.J., 08805 or phone (201) 356-8700.

#### INDUSTRY

### Scotts plays host to lawn care VIPs

The Lawncare Service Group of the O.M. Scott & Sons Co. entertained 22 management representatives of the nation's major lawn care companies this summer.

The "Green Carpet Tour" lasted three days and gave participants the opportunity to visit Scotts research facilities in Marysville, Ohio.

Among the Proturf products spotlighted were SREF (Slow Release Encapsulated Fertilizer), Fluid Fungicide, Weedgrass Control 60

WDG, Turf Weedgrass Control, and Southern Weedgrass Control.



Scotts researcher Paul Ferrel conducts "hands-on" demonstration at the company's "Green Carpet Tour."

#### RESEARCH

### De Lallo installs new test plots

De Lallo Sod Farms, Shoreham, Long Island, N.Y., installed 24 test plots last spring to determine early green-up and late green or fall brown-out characteristics.

Seeding was supervised by Warren Bidwell.

The varieties were given evaluation three times on a basis of color,

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density, and overall condition. According to personnel at De Lallo's, first-year data will not "become meaningful" for two to three years.

The entire project was organized by Turf-Seed, Inc., Hubbard, Ore.

## SEED

### Peterson to market 'Classic' bluegrass

Classic, the new Kentucky bluegrass variety reported in national tests for the past five years under the pre-commercial code name "225," is ready for distribution this fall, according to its marketer, Peterson Seed Co., Savage, Minn.

Classic, a Category I Kentucky bluegrass, is a highly apomictic, first-generation hybrid first bred by Dr. C. Reed Funk of Rutgers University.

## INDUSTRY

### NACA pushes co-op buying in Southeast

The National Alliance of Clubs Association (NACA) says it can save private clubs money through cooperative buying.

The Tallahassee-based company began its membership drive in August and hopes to attract 80 clubs in Florida, Georgia, and Alabama by next fall. The incentive is lower prices through manufacturer group-buying arrangements. NACA reportedly has agreements with about 25 suppliers for everything from seed and fertilizer to cash registers and catering.

"We are a multi-club manager of independent clubs," says NACA president Ken Creely. "Our spectrum of service goes beyond golf course equipment."

"Our studies show that independent clubs are going to have a tough time in the next 10 to 15 years," adds NACA vice president David Pavesic. Cooperative buying, Pavesic feels, will help clubs control costs and hold the line on membership fees.

## EQUIPMENT

### Slight decline in equipment shipments

"Consistent with an outlook for economic slowdown, Outdoor Power Equipment Institute members anticipate a slight decline in product shipments for 1986," says a report from the Bolens Corp.

In its 1986 outlook survey, Bolens says that "ride-on products are forecast to decrease approximately four

percent while walk-behind units are expected to show a two-percent decline."

Shipments of rear-engine riding mowers are expected to reach 359,000 units in 1985, along with 5.125 million walk-behind rotary mowers. Commercial turf maintenance is expected to be responsible for the purchase of 120,000 walk-behind rotaries, 12,000 riding rotaries, and 3,300 riding reel mowers in 1985.

According to the Bolens report, walk-behind units should reach sales of 134,700 to the turf care industry in 1989 while riding units will reach sales of 19,000.

"Commercial turf care members expect a slight improvement in shipment levels for the 1986 model year," the report concludes. "Increases of 1.5 percent and 7.5 percent for commercial walk-behind mowers and riding reel mowers are forecast, respectively. Riding rotary turf mowers are expected to decrease slightly."

Twenty-three OPEI members responded to a questionnaire sent out last March.

## EDUCATION

### Stauffer/PLCAA effort scores big

Stauffer Chemical and the Profes-

sional Lawn Care Association of America (PLCAA) scored a promotional touchdown on their first joint play from scrimmage.

That touchdown was the "hundreds" of favorable newspaper articles generated by a combined Stauffer/PLCAA publicity campaign to promote professional lawn services.

Stauffer's Greg Bushman says his company "has received several hundred phone calls and letters from lawn care operators regarding the program." Surprising? "No," says Bushman, marketing manager for the company's Specialty Products group. "But we're gratified with the response."

The unveiling of a press kit titled "The Case For Professional Lawn Care" kicked off the campaign at the PLCAA convention in Tampa last November.

The kit, provided to lawn care operators with instructions on gaining local publicity, outlines topics ranging from weed and insect problems to the dangers of unlicensed lawn care companies. In addition, Stauffer is funding seasonal mailings of lawn care articles to 1,300 daily and weekly newspapers.

The articles are informational. They do not tout the products of any particular industry supplier.



Warren's Turf headquarters in Crystal Lake, Ill., grew this summer. The expansion houses the additional data processing equipment and personnel the company needs in its growing turfgrass sod and seed operations. Shown here (left to right) are: Mike Holmes, Warren's general manager; Bill Curran, Warren's president; and Walt Pemrick, Warren's operations manager.

# SPORTS TURF

by Ron Hall, associate editor

## 'The Boss'—our buddy

"The Boss" (aka Bruce Springsteen) knocks the socks off millions of rock and rollers. When "The Boss" plays, stadiums fill and pulsate with foot-stomping fever. Last year it was Michael Jackson. Next summer, who knows?



They're the unknowing friends of groundsman who pamper ballyard turfgrass everywhere.

Because of phenomena like megastar rockers, grounds managers at stadiums with the real stuff, grass, are pushing turfgrass beyond what even they could have imagined a few years ago. Unintentionally they're also dismembering the myth known as synthetic turf.

They're demonstrating—if the decision-makers at the carpeted stadiums really want to see—that

turfgrass is tough, real tough. It can, and should, be used for more than just ball games. That's been a rap against grass.

Sports turf? Let's call it "entertainment turf." Members of the Sports Turf Manager's Association (STMA) bend the terms as they increase our knowledge.

A handful of groundsman at professional ballparks kicked off STMA five years ago to trade tips and pool collective experiences. That circle is growing. STMA is gaining members and spinning off new techniques to expand turfgrass's usefulness.

They're aided in their jobs by sophisticated satellite-radar weather forecasting, a new generation of irrigation and maintenance equipment, and improved varieties of turfgrass.

Groundsman didn't have these tools when the first roll of Astro Turf bellied up to the outfield fences in Houston's Astrodome 20 years ago.

Far-sighted grounds managers are also re-adapting and tinkering with products that have been around. Breathing, porous, geo-textile covers, previously used only in plant beds and golf sand traps, are now unfurled over turfgrass to save it from the pounding of spectators at concerts. The crunch of vehicles in motor sports events. The cleats of subs along the sidelines.

The renaissance of turfgrass in our ballyards, the new entertainment turf, is under way.

To "The Boss" and others who challenge our grounds managers: thanks.

Bushman says the articles (the last, recently mailed and titled "Fall Lawn Care") accomplish two purposes: "giving the PLCAA high exposure, as well as educating the public on proper lawn care."

Bushman tells WEEDS TREES & TURF Stauffer Chemical is investigating other joint projects with PLCAA.

## LAWN CARE

### Dow offers LCOs handy door-hanger

Lawn care operators can reassure customers about the safety of materials used on their lawns with a door-hanger designed to sort fact from fancy for homeowners.

The piece can help increase customer confidence, according to representatives from its publisher, Dow Chemical Co., Midland, Mich.

Dow representatives have free samples available, and bulk supplies can be ordered through the Professional Lawn Care Association of America. The brochures contain no company or product identification.

**We just treated your lawn to make it more beautiful.**

**A REASSURING WORD ABOUT THE PRODUCTS WE USE.**

If it's your property and the use of any pesticide is necessary to keep it free of unwanted weeds and pests, we will use it. We need you to enjoy a beautiful lawn because that's the treatment we used was professionally applied, only as needed, and in proper accordance with label directions. With heavy applications, we suspect that people and pets don't use the lawn and the owner has sometimes done it all un-instructed while driving. It will be used uniformly to the grass and not more effectively than grasses treatment is required. The label can be used immediately unless otherwise noted.

## SPORTS TURF

### Bossard talks dirt with top groundsman

Start baseball field renovations now, says Roger Bossard, field maintenance whiz for the Chicago White Sox.

"Late summer and fall is a logical time for local park districts to undertake a rebuilding program because vacations are over and the fields can be worked without disrupting playing schedules," says Bossard, who hosted a special gathering of groundskeepers in mid-July.



Bossard used the venerable backdrop of Comiskey Park in Chicago to demonstrate some of his grounds keeping techniques to the 50 guests.

Discussions of irrigation, drainage, and the proper blend of clay, dirt, and bank sand highlighted the day-long clinic. The Chicago White Sox Baseball Club and International Minerals & Chemical Corporation (IMC) co-sponsored the event. Technical data provided at the clinic can be obtained by writing: "Turface," IMC, 421 E. Hawley St., Mundelein, Ill., 60060.



Good groundskeeping practices are explained by Roger Bossard (far right) during a mid-July clinic at Chicago's Comiskey Park.

#### PEOPLE

### Names in the news

**Robert E. Bergen**, president and chief executive officer of Bolens Corporation, takes over as president of the **Outdoor Power Equipment Institute**. The new vice president of OPEI is **B. Duane Bustle**, president of Kee Manufacturing Company, Inc.. **William Brown**, president and chairman of the board for Western International, Inc., becomes the association's



**Robert Bergen**  
secretary-treasurer.



**B. Duane Bustle**

The memory of the late **Everett Conklin**, a pioneer of interior landscaping, is alive. Research grants in interior landscaping are being named in his honor. ALCA's **Interior Landscape Division** is taking the action.

The **National Alliance of Clubs Association (NACA)** appoints the following regional directors: **Dennis R. Ahearn**, Sara Bay Country Club,

Sarasota, Fla.; **Walker M. Brown**, Tequesta Country Club, Tequesta, Fla.; **Harry W. Duke**, San Jose Country Club, Jacksonville, Fla.; **Donald J. Sheehy**, California Country Club, North Miami Beach, Fla.; and **Edward Lyon**, executive secretary of the Sunshine State Chapter, CMAA.



**William Brown**

NACA is an affiliation of private clubs organized to achieve savings through cooperative purchasing of goods and services.

**Gene Bunting**, Bunting's Nurseries, Selbyville, Del., is the president of the **American Association of Nurserymen (AAN)** following that group's convention in Orlando, Fla. Bunting guides a family nursery business started by his grandfather, Gardner Bunting, 100 years ago. **R. J. (Dick) Hutton**, president of the Conard-Pyle Company, West Grove, Penn., is the new AAN vice president.

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