

HOT TOPICS



Hoosier basketball coach Bobby Knight (standing) entertains the green industry. (Left to right) Tom Garber of ALCA, John Abernathy of PGMS, Bob Andrews of PLCAA, Anne McClure of PLCAA and GIE show coordinator, Earl Wilson of PGMS and GIE show coordinator.

Bobby Knight: play to strengths, away from weaknesses

More than 3,000 green industry professionals listen, learn at GIE and three annual meetings.

INDIANAPOLIS — Bobby Knight, the volatile men's basketball coach at Indiana University, was both a "hit" and a "hoot" as keynote speaker for the 1992 Green Industry Expo here last month.

Though he spent much of his 45 minutes at the podium telling the packed meeting room humorous sports anecdotes, Knight managed to intersperse some of his own "words of wisdom:"

● "The best study is how to lose. We identify the reasons why we can get beat. If we can figure out why we lose, we eliminate them and there's only one alternative

left: we win."

● "You play to strengths and away from weaknesses."

● "It's really important to get people involved in what the hell you're doing."

● "There is nothing more important than the ability to communicate an idea."

A more pointed message came from U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm (D-Texas) who told about 150 LCOs that they'd better start building coalitions for more favorable legislation, or they're going to suffer.

Congressman Stenholm, a friend of agriculture and the green industry, spoke at PLCAA's GIE breakfast meeting. He didn't pull any punches.

"If you don't look after your special interests, somebody else will," he said. "Somehow, somehow, we're going to have to get together to build a scientific record of just what we're doing."

Only by working together can LCOs

maximize their strength, he said.

Generally speaking, all three co-sponsoring organizations were pleased with the turnout, which included a great many drive-ins from the surrounding area. The PLCAA reported 831 registrants, ALCA 450 and the PGMS 240. Overall attendance at the Green Industry Expo was 2,332, according to GIE coordinator Anne McClure of the PLCAA.

"We had at least 400 more people than last year, but it seemed like much more," McClure noted. "So many of the people were quality attendees."

"The momentum we gathered here just has to carry into 1993."

Next year's Green Industry Expo will be held at the Sheraton Baltimore and Baltimore Convention Center, Nov. 14-18. Baltimore was the site of the all-time record-setting PLCAA trade show five years ago.

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HOT STUFF

Small business scholarships

ATHENS, Ga. — High school seniors who are the children of independent business owners are eligible to apply for a \$500 scholarship offered by Padgett Business Services of North America.

Applicants must be graduating high school seniors who plan to attend a post-secondary accredited institution. In addition, the legal guardian of the student must be an active owner of at least 10 percent of the stock or capital in a local business that employs fewer than 20 people.

Deadline for applying is March 1, 1993. For an application and further information, phone Padgett Business Services at (800) 323-7292. All regional winners will become eligible for a grand prize scholarship of \$4,000.

Benefits of ornamental grasses

BOUND BROOK, N.J. — Ornamental grasses can serve many purposes, depending on the site, says **Chris Rauch** of Lofts Seed.

During Lofts' Fall Field Day and Seminar, Ms. Rauch noted that tall grasses such as ravengrass and giant miscanthus grow to heights of 10 to 12 feet and can create dramatic borders when planted in line, or look like natural sculptures when planted singly in an open area.

Smaller, colorful grasses such as weeping lovegrass create soft borders around lakes and other natural areas, Rauch said. And fescues, switchgrass and indiagrass are groundcovers that give large, open areas a meadow or prairie appearance.

Environmental study released

JUPITER, Fla. — The National Golf Foundation recommends establishing a special information clearinghouse for environmental issues, according to a specially-commissioned study released this fall.

The report also recommends that the golf industry begin networking with other industries that have similar environmental interests.

Driving these recommendations is a situational analysis: while things may not be all that bad at the moment, "environmental issues have the potential to be a serious threat to the golf industry."

For more information on the report, contact **Bill Burbaum** or **Trish Davis** at the NGF, 1150 South U.S. Highway One, Jupiter, FL 33477; (407) 744-6006.

ASGCA supports Audubon

CHICAGO — Members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects have pledged to design projects in accordance with the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for golf courses (See June, 1992 LM), according to president **Art Hills**.

"Golf courses are already a good thing for wildlife and for the environment," says Hills. "But the Cooperative Sanctuary Program helps courses further promote sound land management and the conservation of our natural resources by encouraging the development of wildlife habitats.

"With the involvement of ASGCA members, perhaps someday all golf courses will serve as wildlife habitats."

'Barricade' okayed for combos

DES PLAINES, Ill. — Barricade pre-emergence herbicide has received EPA approval for use in herbicide/fertilizer combinations.

Barricade will now be available in two forms: new dry, granulated fertilizer forms and easy-to-mix water soluble packets for spray applications.

According to its manufacturer, Sandoz Agro, Barricade's effectiveness and long-lasting capabilities provide superior weed control of crabgrass and other turf weeds by using 75 to 80 percent less active ingredient than other pre-emergence herbicides.

Environmental topics discussed by GCSAA panels

LAWRENCE, Kans. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) headquarters building here was a recent host to panels on pesticide exposure and environmental training.

The GCSAA held the pesticide exposure meeting to discuss the possibility of sponsoring studies through its Scholarship & Research program. Such studies would be used to document worker safety, address public concern about pesticide exposure, and guide GCSAA education and research programs.

Represented on the panel—besides the GCSAA—were the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. EPA, DowElanco Specialty Products, O.M. Scott & Sons, and the Department of Environmental Health of Colorado State University.

"The golf community, led by the GCSAA, has maintained an open and positive approach to addressing ecological and health concerns," said GCSAA president **Bill Roberts**. "This approach stresses professional education for superintendents and applicators, cooperation with regulatory agencies and increased scientific research."

In addition, the Golf Course Development Resource Committee discussed tentative educational courses of its Environmental Management Program (EMP). The environmental impact of course maintenance practices has attracted increasing scrutiny from the general public and regulatory agencies.

The EMP consists of six specialized categories:

- underground storage tanks,
- golf course development,
- IPM,
- employee safety and right-to-know,
- water quality and application, and
- storage disposal and recycling.

Superintendents may choose to complete one or more of these specializations. Those who successfully complete the required work receive certificates from the GCSAA and are listed in the "Directory of Environmental Specialists in Golf Course Management."

For more information on the pesticide exposure study, the EMP, or other continuing education programs, you can telephone the GCSAA at (913) 841-2240.