

# Superintendents to honor three

LAWRENCE, Kans. - Dr. Noel Jackson, Dr. Eliot Roberts and W. Bruce Matthews will be honored by the GCSAA next month with 1991 Distinguished Service Awards.

Jackson is plant pathologist at the University of Rhode Island; Roberts executive director of The Lawn Institute and Matthews a course architect.

The trio will be presented its awards at the opening session of the 62nd International Golf Course Conference and Show in Las Vegas, Nev., Feb. 5-12.

Jackson's research work

and fungicide evaluations have contributed a wealth of information on turf patch diseases. Roberts, who is retiring soon, has spent 28 years as a turf management teacher, researcher and administrators. Matthews has been a member of the GCSAA for 56 years.

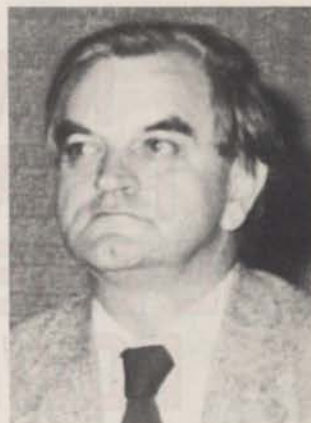
Many of the 40 educational sessions scheduled at the conference will stress the superintendent's environmental protector role.

New for this year's conference is an in-depth Environmental Management Program (EMP) developed by the GCSAA that allows

superintendents an opportunity to gain specialized instruction in environmental areas.

Three EMP seminars will be initiated this year: "Protection of Water Resources," "Scouting, Sampling and Monitoring Golf Course Pests" and "Underground Storage Tank Selection and Installation."

More than 13,000 turf professionals are expected to attend the show, the biggest in the turf and landscape industry. For more information on attending, call (800) 472-7878 or (913) 841-2240. □



Dr. Noel Jackson

## GOLF

# California ranks first among states ripe for development

JUPITER, Fla. — More Californians may be teeing up the little pill, based on a recent National Golf Foundation survey which shows that state offers the most opportunity for golf course development.

Nine California counties are mentioned as being ripe for development, out of a 50-county/20-state total.

"This list is only a beginning, not a conclusion," says NGF President Joe Beditz, "but it names the first places I'd look to invest my own money in the golf course business."

Next in line after California are Florida, Georgia

and Virginia, each with five counties listed.

According to the NGF, the list reflects expanded methods of identifying more exactly where courses are likely to be needed, based on income and age demographics, population density, growth and migration patterns. Those factors were compared with golf supply—existing facilities or those in planning or under construction.

Rick Norton, in charge of NGF Consulting, says opportunity is one thing, actual development another.

"Actual investment decisions," notes Norton,

"would require additional study of specific market conditions, site constraints, environmental permitting, land costs, availability of financing and other potential limiting factors." □



Dr. Eliot Roberts

## GOVERNMENT

# Legislators admit turfgrass benefits

WASHINGTON — Congress has finally admitted that turfgrass is beneficial to the environment.

According to the 1990 Farm Bill, "tree plantings and groundcovers such as turfgrass sod can aid in reducing carbon dioxide emissions, mitigating the heat island effect, and reducing energy consumption..."

The American Sod Producers Association believes its own lobbying efforts were instrumental in the statement.

"ASPAs successful efforts in providing direct scientific evidence to demonstrate that turfgrass can be

as effective as trees in environmental improvement programs will continue," the organization says.

"There exists very solid science," says ASPA executive director Doug Fender, "to support the environmental benefits of turf. We gave information based on studies by Tom Watschke, Harry Niemczyk, Marty Petrovic and James Beard."

Fender said congressmen complimented ASPA for "turning lights on in people's minds."

The Farm Bill provides nearly \$21 million for urban and community tree and turf planting and improvements in fiscal 1991. □





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## GOLF

### Brede devises speed formula for sloped golf course greens

POST FALLS, Idaho — Dr. Doug Brede of Jacklin Seed Co. has apparently devised an accurate formula for easily computing stimp-meter ratings for sloped golf course greens.

"The mathematical equation takes out the effect of the slope without being complicated," Brede tells LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT. "It's a very simple formula that a golf course superintendent can use with a calculator that allows him to read particular spots of a green."

In the November/December issue of USGA Green Section Record, Brede reveals the formula. Step one is to take two stimp-meter readings, one up the slope ( $S_u$ ) and one down the slope ( $S_d$ ). Here is the formula:

$$\frac{2 \times S_u \times S_d}{S_u + S_d}$$

The USGA likes the idea.



Dr. Doug Brede

"We plan to do a major rewrite of the stimp-meter instruction brochure this January," says USGA Green Section director Jim Snow. "It's the first major rewrite since the stimp-meter was introduced some 13 years ago. We plan to incorporate this new formula into the revised stimp-meter recommendations." □

## EVENTS

### JANUARY

**21-23: Michigan Turfgrass Conference**, Clarion Hotel, Lansing, Mich. Contact: Michael Saffel, 584G Plant & Soil Science Bldg., Michigan State University, E. Lansing, MI 48824; (517) 353-9022.

**22-24: Inland Northwest Turf & Landscape Conference and Trade Show**. Contact: Jones & Associates, Park Center, Suite 200, N. 908 Howard St., Spokane, WA 99201-2261; (509) 327-5904.

**23-24: Northern California Turf & Landscape Exposition**, Santa Clara Convention Center. Contact: 425 Oak St., Brentwood, CA 94513; (415) 516-0146.

**23-25: American Sod Producers Assn. Midwinter Conference and Exposition**, San Antonio (Tex.)

Hyatt Regency. Contact: ASPA 1855-A Hicks Rd., Rolling Meadows, IL 60008; (708) 705-9898.

**31: Southern California Spring Horticultural Trade Show**, Los Angeles County Fairgrounds. Contact: Richard Staples, 3136 Root Ave., Carmichael, CA 95608; (916) 488-6434.

### FEBRUARY

**5-12: International Golf Course Conference**, Las Vegas (Nev.) Convention Center. Contact: GCSAA, 1617 St. Andrews Dr., Lawrence, KS 66047-7878; (913) 841-2240 or (800) 472-7878.

**14: Connecticut Turf and Landscape Conference**, Hartford (Conn.) Civic Center. Contact: Elizabeth Maisano, P.O. Box 876, Bethel, CT 06801; (203) 791-8615. □





'Sincerely yours, for better turf...'

#### **GRAU** from page 11

In 1968, Grau organized the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation to develop qualified leaders in turfgrass science and promote safer sports turf. The National Sports Turf Council followed in 1986.

Stricken by polio in later years, Grau's pace was slowed. However, his enthusiasm in turf research remained vibrant.

Grau was a prolific and opinionated writer. Whether in his "Musings" and "Gleanings" columns, "Grau's Q&A" (which he wrote for 30 years for *Golf-dom* magazine) or his informal, handwritten notes, Grau provided his fellow turf professionals with direct, honest observations.

A memorial service was held on Dec. 8.

—Terry McIver □

## **LETTERS**

### **Remembering Fred Grau**

To the editor:

In the summer of 1986, as the managing editor of *LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT*, I traveled to Fred Grau's home in Maryland to talk turf. When he opened the door, I saw a large, elderly man with failing eyesight, sitting on a cart that seemed almost an extension of himself.

He looked up with a big smile and asked, "What would you like for breakfast?" But before I could answer, he took out the eggs (farm fresh, brown ones) and began scrambling. The eggs...and my mind. Fred, after all, was always coming up with new ideas and inventions, though he's best known for crown-vetch.

My first image of him as "elderly" was completely wrong. He was perhaps the most youthful, energetic person I have ever met.

I followed Fred down the street as he whizzed ahead on his cart, eagerly telling

me about his neighbors with the brown lawn. Later we had homemade ice cream at the University of Maryland's dairy farm. The ice cream tasted rich that steamy day. But the richest experience was just getting to know Fred Grau.

He sent me home with stacks of his writing, and ideas on improving the safety of athletic fields and—most importantly—educating field managers.

Although I saw Fred many other times at trade shows, it is that day I remember most. The athletic turf articles were published with a special thanks to Fred. And the editorial I wrote then, about injured athletes, was called "Images of Grief."

"Grief" is a word Fred would give little credence. So when remembering Fred Grau, remember instead the images of life.

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# Disposal of grass clippings may soon be illegal.

It's true. The landscape maintenance profession has come under the scrutiny of lawmakers and environmentalists. Several states have passed laws against dumping grass in the local landfill and by 1995 nearly all states will have some form of legislation governing the disposal of lawn wastes.



The only complete maintenance system in its class—equip your Hustler with the 8-bushel BAC-PAC and side-mounted edger for fast clean-up and a professional finish.

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Don't be left holding the bag. Now you can shred your clippings as you mow with the Hustler Turbo Shredder™ rotary mower from Excel. The Turbo Shredder reduces clippings to tiny particles which fall quickly, harmlessly, (and legally) back to the soil surface. No one will know you left them behind to decompose naturally.

## The Case for Shredding

When you shred clippings, you help the turf recover valuable nutrients that would ordinarily be hauled to the landfill. University studies have shown that leaving

the clippings can eliminate one fertilizer application per year. You also save the cost of the labor to put it on.

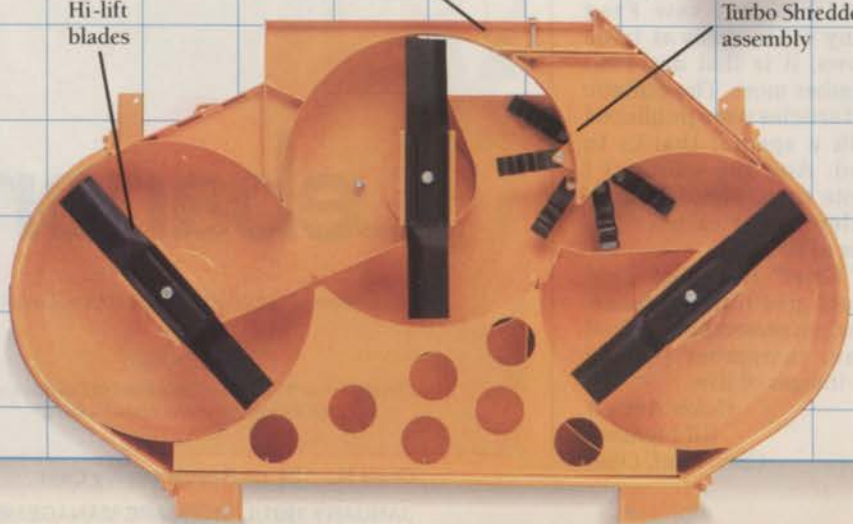
If you shred your clippings instead of bagging, you can slash your time and labor by 50%! Say good-bye to raking, bagging, hauling and dumping. You'll have more time to pursue new customers or tackle other projects.

The unique design\* on the eight double-edged shredder blades is the key to Hustler's superior finish. (shown larger than actual size.)  
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back seat and simple twin lever controls.

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Turbo Shredder clippings

Unlike grass cut with a conventional rotary mower, shredded clippings work their way down to the soil surface for rapid decomposition. (All clippings shown actual size on a 1/2" grid.)



Conventional clippings

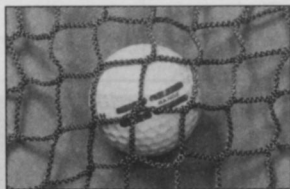
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# NEWS BRIEFS

**FROM THE HILL...**Congress recently amended the Small Business Act. The Small Business Administration now has the authority to grant money to local governments for the purpose of contracting with small businesses to plant trees on land owned or controlled by the state or local governments. To apply for a grant, call (202) 643-6605.

**THE SUBJECT WAS BENTGRASS...**at the recent Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium in Milwaukee. **Dr. Joe Duich**, speaking on bentgrass research in Pennsylvania, advised seed buyers to make careful note of seed lot numbers, and retain all records, "to insure they get what they pay for." **Kevin Dushane**, superintendent at the Bloomfield Hills Country Club in Union Lake, Mich., said that, when it comes to bentgrass fairways, "players—principally lower handicap players—would like to have a fairway lie where the ball sits up on the turf. Mowing at 1/2-inch with a good stand of bentgrass can deliver that playing condition."

**MAKING PLANS...**The Associated Landscape Contractors of America's recent long range plan, "Visions '95," details numerous five-year goals. "By 1995," the report reads, "(ALCA) will be viewed as a spokesperson for the industry." Goals:

- to be strongly influential in curriculum development at institutions of higher learning,
- to be a clearinghouse for legislative and environmental updates.
- to provide guidance and information regarding green industry questions.
- to be a "force for research and development."

**HORSE TURF...**Southern Turf Nurseries of Norcross, Ga., has signed an agreement with Fibresand Ltd. of Mansfield, England, to be the first American company to sell and install the British firm's formulated surface for equestrian sports. Fibresand is described as a clean, free draining silica sand, reinforced with synthetic fibers. According to Southern Turf, the formula provides a forgiving yet consistent surface when under load from horses' hooves, and can be installed indoors or outdoors.

**AKA...**Mycogen Corp. has changed the name and logo for several of the products it's licensed from Safer Inc. Safer Insecticide Concentrate is now M-Pede insecticide, and Moss & Algae Killer now carries the name DeMoss moss and algicide. SharpShooter herbicide retains its name. All products display the Mycogen "sunburst" logo.





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## PEOPLE

### Semi-retirement suits former super Bidwell



Warren Bidwell

Semi-retirement has been kind to Warren Bidwell, one of the true "legends" of the turf industry. Bidwell checkerboards the world, singing the praises of bentgrasses in general and

the "Penn" varieties in particular since his retirement from golf course superintendent-ing 10 years ago.

"The greatest thing to happen to the golf industry is the use of bentgrass for greens farther south all the time," Bidwell observes. "However, if a superintendent in the South is foolish enough to over-fertilize bentgrass greens, he (or she) will have some problems."

Bidwell—the deliberate, opinionated ex-superintendent at Congressional Country Club in the Washington, D.C. area—never formally studied turf.

"I'm a non-college person," he says. "Short course to short course is the closest I've been to academia. But *continued on page 22*

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