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1997 Midwest Turfgrass Field Day kicks off William H. Daniel Center

WEST LAFAYETTE, IN – Purdue University's Turf Program is on a roll.

Its new 25-acre William H. Daniel Turfgrass Research and Diagnostic Center (even without its 7200-sq.-ft. education building which is under construction) was a big hit with 750 turfgrass managers. The occasion was the Midwest Turf Field Day on July 28. This was the largest attendance ever at the field day, a 15 percent increase over 1997's attendance. This was the first-ever field day held at the new site.

Turfgrass mangers from Indiana and surrounding states enjoyed perfect weather as they reviewed what turf experts at Purdue were working on. Besides the



Dr. Clark Throssel reported that so far results have been inconclusive on attempts to control *Poa trivialis* in creeping bentgrass by using pesticides.

12



Perfect summer weather attracted over 700 to Midwest Turfgrass Field Day at Purdue. The new 25-acre site provided more room for supplier displays.

technical discussions at each separate research plot, the visiting turf pros seemed to appreciate the extra space provided to suppliers. The new site is four times larger than the former research site.

The Turfgrass Science Program at Purdue received approval and finished plans for the teaching and research facility in the summer of 1996. That same summer drainage and irrigation were installed at the site, which is adjacent to Kampen Golf Course and just a mile or so from Ross-Ade Stadium. In October 1996 two acres were seeded there at the Daniel Turf Center, with eight additional acres seeded in 1997.

July 1997 saw the installation of specialized irrigation plots for biological control research, and by October 1997 a 1-acre USGA green was in place. It was seeded this past spring.

But, the biggest boost to the program will come with

the construction of the 7200sq.-ft. turfgrass education building. Construction began this summer. It will house a teaching laboratory for 60 people, offices for grad students and faculty to use while working at the Daniel Turf Center, a field lab, an office for Don Fassnacht, the facility manager, and space for equipment storage.

"We plan to use the teach-

ing laboratory for undergraduate classes in turf management and also for seminars for professional turf managers," says Dr. Clark Throssel, turfgrass professor at Purdue.

"Our goal is to provide for as much hands-on education for students as we can. We want students to be able to learn by seeing turf and turf problems with their own eyes and getting their hands dirty." More than 70 students are majoring in Turfgrass Science at Purdue.

The new research/education site was named to honor the late William H. Daniel, a nationally respected turfgrass educator and researcher at Purdue, and the co-inventor of the PAT natural turf sports field construction system.

TruGreen-ChemLawn buys Ruppert Company

ServiceMaster subsidiary, TruGreen/ChemLawn and Ruppert Landscape Company announced on August 26 that TG/CL has acquired the Ruppert company. Ruppert's team will lead the TG/CL landscaping division, which will be headquartered at Ruppert's current base in Ashton, MD. Ruppert will continue to operate under its current name and leadership structure for the foreseeable future. Craig Ruppert will stay on as President of Ruppert Landscape Company, and will take on added duties to manage the new division, which currently operates from 14 offices throughout the U.S. Additional expansion is planned for the division, reports Ruppert. The buy gives TG/CL's landscape division annualized revenues in excess of \$140 million. □

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preading mulch and compost by hand is a costly and labor intensive process. It limits production and puts workers at risk for injuries. The Express Blower is cutting edge technology. It will turn an inefficient process into a profit center and blow your competition away!

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o more wheelbarrows! Soon, this one- wheeled tub on two handles will be obsolete because of a new technology that is sweeping the landscape industry. Rexius Forest By-Products of Eugene, Oregon has patented a highly efficient system that will pneumatically apply a wide variety of mulch and compost materials at distances up to 800 feet away. This new system is fully automated and operates with remote control allowing only one person to apply 30 to 100 cubic yards of material per hour! No other equipment can match the power and versatility of an Express Blower.

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The capabilities of the Express Blower are continuing to grow and in recent months they have been expanded upon with an all new "Supplemental Injection System" which actually injects seed, fertilizer or any number of other granular materials directly into the blow stream while blowing. Express Blower technology literally replaces the need for hydroseeding in many cases, and eliminates the cost of two separate applications. The Express Blower is powerful enough to blow topsoil blends designed for new lawn installation and apply the grass seed, all at once! Consider the ease and effectiveness of blending pre-emergent herbicide and landscape mulch together in just one application, or compost and native seed blown on sloped embankments for immediate and long-term erosion control. The possibilities are endless with the Express Blower.



Companies all over the country are expanding their business and realizing the profitability of an Express Blower. They have reached into several new markets spreading mulch, compost, topsoil blends, playground chips, and even animal bedding for the livestock and poultry industries. They have also expanded into new areas of business such as sports turf topdressing and erosion control for highway departments and municipalities. If you are looking for an edge on your competition or a new business venture that will bring a high rate of return, the Express Blower is the key to expanding your possibilities.

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>HOT TOPICS

Landcare USA, Brickman still buying

LandCare USA and The Brickman Group continue to acquire commercial landscape companies.

"We're on a path to become the leader in the commercial landscape and tree services business," Bill Murdy, chairman and CEO, told LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT. "We intend substantial more growth."

In August the Houstonbased company announced that it had acquired:

Clean Cut, Inc., Austin, TX, founded in 1985 by Dennis Dautel and Rex Gore;

Landscape West, Inc., Anaheim, CA, founded by Barry L. Konier in 1962;

Horticultural Industries, Inc., Sarasota, FL, founded by Donald and Bill Davoli in 1987:

Gator & Gator Landscape Co., Longwood, FL, founded by Scott Annan and Chuck Richardson in 1983;

Continental Landscape Management, Inc., Phoenix, AZ, founded by Aaron Eubank in 1985.

These additions, completed with a combination of stock (81 percent) and cash (19 percent), provide 83 percent maintenance and 17 percent installation services. Several other acquisitions will be announced in September.

"We have closed a couple of other companies, but we have not released those names," Murdy told LM. "They want to have a chance to have their employees understand the whole thing."

Meanwhile, The Brickman Group Ltd., headquartered in Langhorne, PA, in July purchased Allen Keesen Landscape, Inc., based in Denver.

"We're going to continue moving west," Scott Brickman, president and CEO, told L.M. Brickman's goal is also to be a national service provider.

Earlier this year Brickman acquired KT Enterprises, Chantilly, VA; Kopabianco Landscape, New Haven, CT; BMI, Indianapolis, and Cannon Landscape Services, in Maryland. Founded in 1939 as a landscape business for homeowners by Theodore W. Brickman, Sr., The Brickman Group now has more than 60 locations, most of them east of the Mississippi.

"We're growing as we always have, primarily through internal growth," Scott Brickman said, adding that his organization is always looking for other companies to embrace "as long as they're good fits."

Leaf mulch not bad for turf

WEST LAFAYETTE, IN – The easiest way to dispose of leaves is to mulch them into the turf. Though this practice has been recommended for many years, there is little data on the long-term effects of tree leaf mulching into turf. Work at Purdue University and Michigan State University could change that.

"After four years, everything has been positive regarding mulching leaves into the turf," said Zac Reicher at the Midwest Turf Field Day. Reicher, an extension turfgrass specialist, was referring to a long-term study at Purdue focusing on multiple years of annual leaf mulching on turf performance.

Every October since 1994, Purdue investigators have collected maple tree leaves to apply to the turf. These leaves are run through a graden shredder and applied to a perennial ryegrass—about 4000 lbs./A in a single application and immediately mowed with a mulching mower. (A woodlot will drop about 3000 lbs./A/yr of tree litter.) Dr. Zachary Reicher, turfgrass extension specialist, says leaf mulch won't harm turfgrass.

Since the researchers felt that the high car-

bon-to-nitrogen ratio in the tree leaves would eventually limit nitrogen in the stand they used three annual nitrogen rates. Beginning spring 1195, N rates used were 0.2 and 4 lbs. N/1000 ft²/yr. However, by summer 1996, the ryegrass receiving no additional nitrogen declined dramatically and so the annual N rates were adjusted to 2, 4 and 6 lbs. N/1000/ft²/yr.

Data collected includes monthly clipping weights, visual quality and color ratings, and annual evaluations of thatch, soil pH and soil nutrient concentrations.

"There has been no negative effects of mulching these leaves into the turf," said Reicher. "There is no disease effects, no weed pressure effects, no nutrient effects, and no effect on soil pH.

"We're not saying that everybody can mulch the leaves into the turf. But what we do recommend is that any place that you can, consider mulching the leaves." \Box



The floating green at Coeur D'Alene GC

GOLF COURSES

Blackhawk CC Madison, WI

Blackhawk is an enviable golf course and **Monroe Miller** is a fine golf course superintendent. But, behind the scenes, Miller has been a leader in his profession for decades. As editor and publisher for The Grass Roots, the Wisconsin GCSA's award-winning publication, Miller is an unsung hero of professional education. He's also been a voice for the average superintendent nationally at times when few others were speaking out.

City of Albuquerque Albuquerque, NM

David Chavez, CGCS, runs one of the best-managed public golf de-

partments in any municipality in the United States. Despite tremendous play pressure, Chavez and his team deliver great conditions at five facilities that are among the only public access golf courses in the region. In his spare time, Chavez has been a leader in GCSAA and his local chapter.

Coeur D'Alene GC Coeur D'Alene, ID

The famous floating island green gets most of the attention, but the rest of the course is an eyepopping treat maintained to the highest standards by John Anderson and crew. Green Industry professionals visiting Idaho for the turf seed field days would be well advised to schedule a side trip to this outstanding achievement in environmentally sound management.



Top of the Rock designed by Jack Nicklaus.

CC of Rochester Rochester, NY

Wherever Joe Hahn, CGCS, pictured, goes, quality follow.



Hahn, who oversaw Oak Hill CC through two Opens and a Ryder Cup, has brought outstanding turf quality to this quietly excellent club.

Hahn is a class guy who commands the respect of his peers and earns the goodwill of those who play his courses. No one preps a course for a major better than Hahn.

Crooked Stick GC Carmel, IN

How would you like to be the superintendent in Pete Dye's backyard? **Chris Hague, CGCS,** loves it. He's brought the same outstanding conditions to Crooked Stick that he brought to Hazeltine National during the 1990 Open. This may be the best course in Indiana and Hague is up to the challenge.

Dakota Dunes CC Dakota Dunes, SD

Remember those pictures of golf courses completely submerged by floods in 1993? Dakota Dunes was one of them. Now, despite periodic flooding, this blending of river



delta, links and woodland features is home to a Nike Tour event and a favorite for executives at nearby Gateway 2000 headquarters. **Doug Hausman, CGCS,** and his staff battle the elements to provide great golf in the northern plains.

Emerald Dunes West Palm Beach, FL

This daily fee gem combines the highest maintenance standards with innovative and effective business practices. They were among the first to install cart-mounted computerized range finders, a technology that not only speeds up play, but enhances player satisfaction and boosts revenues through advertising. Superintendent **Steve Bernard** and owner **Ray Finch** continue to make Emerald Dunes a

> truly marvelous experience for the more than 300 corporate outings the facility hosts each year.

Fox Hollow at Lakewood Lakewood, CO

If other courses are models of environmentalism, Fox Hollow is a model for accessibility. **Don Tol**-

son, CGCS, has led the course's commitment to providing great golf for all, despite disabilities. Fox Hollow has hosted an annual tournament for the American Disabled Golfers Association and Tolson has been one of the leaders in educating superintendents about the Americans with Disabilities Act and its implications for golf.

The General at Eagle Ridge Galena, IL

Bob Graunke, CGCS, and his staff at Eagle Ridge do things right



— and they do it affordably. The addition of The General in 1997 was a major enhancement to the Eagle Ridge facility. This scenic beauty was designed by Roger Packard and Andy North for daily play, but it's also a delight for firsttimers as well.

Hazeltine National GC Chaska, MN

Jim Nicol, CGCS, always tells it like it is, but he's modest about his team's accomplishments at Hazeltine. This 1991 Open course continues to deliver great golf under Nicol's leadership and is one of the true greats of the North. Superbly conditioned despite some of the toughest winters around.

The Honors Course Ooltewah, TN



Colorful grounds surround Illinois State University



David

Stone, pictured, is a consummate professional. The Honors Course is a Pete Dye masterpiece and one of the first facilities

certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. The Honors has emerged under Stone's leadership as a seamless blend of golf and nature. Look for big things in this Tennessee beauty's future.

Ivanhoe Club Mundelein, IL

Pete Leuzinger, CGCS, pictured, of Ivanhoe has done as much as any superintendent to advance the cause of environmental golf.



He has been an active spokesman for the industry's efforts to become "greener" and for the past four years, he's brought that same spirit of

education to Ivanhoe, a blending of prairie, marsh and forest in Chicagoland. The members have enthusiastically embraced Leuzinger's approach, and the club is a model for how golf can proactively create a better image for itself.

Merion GC Ardmore, PA

Merion is one of the granddaddies of American golf. This suburban Philadelphia classic has been under the excellent care of **Paul B. Latshaw**, son of Paul R. Latshaw, * one of the deans of the profession. The younger Latshaw has helped to revitalize the relatively short Merion course and bring it back to its former glory.

The Metedeconk National Golf Club Jackson, NJ

This coastal New Jersey club is a spectacular blending of nature and golf designed by Roger Rulewich during his days working with Trent Jones. The course winds its way through irreplaceable wetlands and is a favorite of celebrities, politicians and other notables from the nearby Big Apple. Superintendent **Dennis Parker** continues the quality standards set by Steve Cadenelli, CGCS, (Metedeconk's longtime super and former GCSAA president) as well as the club's strong commitment to education and research.

Ohio State University Golf Courses Columbus, OH

Pretty tough to maintain two great courses (Crimson and Gray), be a laboratory and classroom for one of the nation's finest collegiate turf programs, and live up to the legacy of Jack Nicklaus's school days, but Gary Rasor and his squad do the job year after year. A trip to the Ohio State courses is a must for any turf pro visiting Columbus.

Ojai Valley Inn Ojai, CA

Sam Williamson, CGCS, and his team, have produced one of the best kept secrets in southern California at the Ojai Valley Inn & Spa. Nestled just north of Los Angeles, the course is a beautiful, highly playable centerpiece for a great resort and conference facility. The course is extremely challenging, but thanks to Williamson, very fair for the thousands of first-timers who visit the facility each year as part of corporate groups.

The Orchards Lawrence, KS

A nine-hole executive golf course in the LM100? It's true!



Anyone who has visited this miniaturized classic in northeast Kansas (just a stone's throw from GCSAA headquarters), knows why we think it's spe-

cial. Top-notch cohansey bentgrass putting surfaces and carpet-like zoysia fairways combine with a great layout that weekday visitors can play for \$10 during a lunch hour. With maintenance overseen by **Dick Stuntz, CGCS**, and his crew at nearby Alvamar G&CC, it's one of the best executives in the country.

Papago GC Phoenix, AZ

noema, Az

This enduring and endearing little course in the shadow of the Superstition Mountains is one of the best public golf values in the Southwest. **Jerry Zidow, CGCS,** one of the true gentlemen in the golf course maintenance business, leads a team that keeps this course in top shape despite tremendous playing pressure from the snowbirds and numerous corporate outings.

Peachtree GC Roswell, GA

Asked privately how he'd rate Peachtree GC, one Georgia-based golf executive said flatly, "It's the best in the state." Better than that well-known course down the street in Augusta? "Yup, no question." High praise, but justified for the only course designed collaboratively by the Jones boys (Robert Tyre and Robert Trent). **Bill Shirley, CGCS,** and his staff keep the greens lightning fast for some of the south's finest amateur players. Flush with florals, Peachtree is a southern belle in all her glory.

Pinehurst Resort Pinehurst, NC

What can you say that hasn't been said? Pinehurst, with its eight courses overseen by **Brad Kocher**, **CGCS**, and **Bob Farren**, **CGCS**, and



a tremendously professional staff, is arguably the best golf complex in the world. The greens on Pinehurst #2 have been successfully converted to Crenshaw bent in preparation for the 1999 U.S. Open, thus curing the only potential fault in this classic course's bid to be one of the greatest tournament sites of all time. Tom Fazio's new Centennial Course (#8), is only a few years old but looks and plays like a mature masterpiece.

Sandhills GC Minden, NE

If you build it, they will come. That was the thinking behind Sandhills, a genuine classic in the middle of western Nebraska's scenic dunes land. Ben Crenshaw designed it and a team led by **Corey Crandall** maintains it. Built in 1995, the course isn't just environmental it's actually part of the environment. It's proof of the old Donald Ross adage, that architects don't build courses, God does — architects just find them. It's tough to get to this isolated tribute to the Scottish dunes classics, but the trip is worth it.

Sawgrass CC Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

While the masses enjoy the TPC at Sawgrass across the street, **Frank Sbarro** and crew provide tremendous golf for members and guests at Sawgrass CC. Build among the mangrove swamps, this course was environmental before environmentalism was cool. Great golf, plentiful wildlife and a quiet setting. Just heed Sbarro's warning not to worry about errant balls hit into the swamp — they belong to the snakes and gators.

Spencer T. Olin GC East Alton, IL

Just east of St. Louis lies one of Arnold Palmer's oldest and best designs, Spencer T. Olin GC (named for one of Palmer's earliest supporters and the founder of the Olin firearms and fittings companies). **Rob Dillinger, CGCS,** and staff have battled the Mississippi River periodically with mixed success (you needed scuba gear to play it in 1993). But, when the river cooperates, this is one of the finest and best maintained public facilities in the Midwest.

Top of the Rock Ridgedale, MO



Taking over new turf.

You know our M-Series mid-size tractors for their all-round versatility. Now we're going after some new turf.

Introducing our M4700, 2-wheel drive Turf Special. It's got wide flotation turf tires, a low-profile front end, creep



Kubota also offers an M4700 model with 4-wheel drive.

speed for spraying and turf conditioning and a sunshade for added comfort.

Like all Kubota tractors, the M4700 is loaded with features that increase pro-

ductivity and make operation easy.

An ISO-mounted, semi-flat deck greatly reduces vibration

Creep speed transmission has 12 forward speeds (0.17-13.76 mph) with turf tires. and minimizes fatigue, while hanging pedals add comfort and ease of operation.

The E-TVCS 5-cylinder diesel engine delivers maximum power, with high torque, low noise and low vibration. Enhanced combustion efficiently

reduces fuel cost and lowers emissions.

The Kubota M4700 Turf Special. It's designed from the ground up for landscape and turf applications. And then some.





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A Nicklaus-designed nine-hole course in the middle of southern Missouri? Yup, and it's an Audubon Signature course as well. This tasty little morsel in the midst of the Ozark Mountains is the brainchild of Bass Pro Shops founder Johnny Morris, with help from the Golden Bear and Audubon International's "Green Bear," Ron Dodson. Now lovingly cared for by natural resources manager Terry Frost, Top of the Rock combines the best of playability and environmental responsibility in a small package.

Turning Stone Casino Resort Upstate New York

Joe Baidy, CGCS, pictured, is simply one of the best guys in the industry. After many years at Acacia CC, a Cleveland-area Don Ross



treasure he helped to restore, he has taken on a new challenge at Turning Stone. Baidy is a remarkable superintendent who has also devoted much

of his professional life to serving his colleagues through GCSAA, local superintendents associations and the Penn State alumni group. Joe won't acknowledge that he's been one of the profession's greatest leaders, but he gets plenty of credit for the current status of GCSAA.

GROUNDS FACILITY MANAGERS

Germantown Parks and Recreation, TN

This community of nearly 40,00, with 522 acres, not including greenways, keeps **Harvey Faust**, Director of Parks and Recreation, busy. For



the city to maintain a high level of service to the community requires a commitment at all levels. Faust says. "We contribute back to the quality of life. We think of ourselves as not being a bat and ball organization but one that is vital to the health and welfare of our citizens."

Northbrook Park District, Northbrook, IL

Ed Harvey, Executive Director of Northbrook Park District, oversees 200 acres of parks and a 215 acre golf course. He sees planning as the most significant aspect of maintaining a high quality operation. The biggest challenge Harvey see is the increasing demand on and for public space in a community bounded on all sides. Presently, Northbrook is doings an overall needs assessment for athletic fields as they receive heavy use not only by the community but also by affiliated groups and organizations. Northbrook needs to plan for the future, and identify the number of fields that they will need and to look into options for finding the room for the fields.

City of Plano Parks and Recreation, Plano, TX

Don Wendell, Director of Parks and Recreation, has been with the city for 17 years. The park system is 3400 acres and responsibilities include general parks, athletic fields, a



golf course, public buildings grounds and medians. In a city that is growing by about 12,000 people a year, the expectations are very high. For Wendell planning is an important part of meeting these expectations. "Parks and open spaces are a really and important part of the community and important part of each person."

Wheaton Park District, Wheaton, IL

The environment has been a focus for this community with a 120 acre marsh to maintain and develop and a golf course with Audubon designation. But that is only a part of the challenges for Bob Dunsmuir, Director of Parks and Recreation, with a park system of about 44 sites on 900 acres which range in size from a 0.25 acre to a golf course of 221 acres. Says Dunsmuir, "We have to work with a lot more of the storm water issues, the wetland issues than ever before." That includes renovating the golf course built in 1927 and creating more wetlands, managing a 70 acre park with a lagoon, and joint community responsibility for a 70+ acre wetland mitigation banking program which allows developers to replace wetlands lost to development.

South Suburban Park and Recreation District Littleton, CO

David Lorenz, Executive Director of Parks and Recreation is kept busy with nearly 2,881 acres of developed parks and open areas, including three golf courses. Lorenz believes that the community benefits both from being a parks and recreation district rather than a city, and by having a dedicated staff of professionals. The most recent challenge has been taking on the responsibility for Hudson Gardens, 30 acres complete with 16 demonstration gardens. Says Lorenz, "The whole theme of this was to promote Colorado landscaping and xeriscape concepts for education."

Ft. Worth Parks and Community Services Ft. Worth, TX

Richard Zavala, pictured, has been Director for the past five years. The extensive park area of 9,889 acres with 195 parks and public spaces includes five golf courses. According to Bob Riley, Manager of Park Planning and Resource Management, Zavala has brought to this department "quality of service ... we have clearly been providing the same level of service throughout



this community. We standardized things very much so, and on the other hand prioritize things." Much of the work is contracted,

100% of the medians, and another 35-40% of grounds work is contracted out."

Skokie Park District Skokie, IL

Steve Hartman, Director of Parks and Recreation, for 43 sites over some 240 acres, says, "We spend as much time traveling as we do working." The biggest project has just been completed. "We rebuilt all 43 parks. We're a community that's 70 years old and many of the parks still had the original equipment in them. We have rebuilt all of our neighborhood parks, so our oldest park infrastructure is 5 vears old now. Not only did we rebuild all our parks, we rebuilt all of our in-door facilities too. We spent about 40 million dollars." The new challenge will be to maintain the up-dated parks.

Waterfront Plaza, Honolulu HI

If you think that a small property would be an easy job, talk to Mark Gwinner, Director of Landscaping here. With only 3.5 acres and three full-time people and one half-time person, you might think his job is easy. But the high volume of use, morning, noon and night, not only increases the maintenance work due to the high amount of damage, vandalism and theft that occurs, but also adds scheduling challenges both for safety and for efficiency. For this small property, close to the water, IPM is important. Says Gwinner "We put a lot of emphasis on trying to do as much natural control as we can, hosing off the plants and cleaning up leaves and any of those kinds of things."

Broadmoor Hotel Resort Colorado Springs CO

Broadmoor is the longest standing 5 star resort in the country, for

20