

## **RODNEY TOCCO**

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### **OBJECTIVE**

To enhance my knowledge and understanding of the techniques of Golf Course Management through Plant Sciences at The University of Tennessee. I am looking for a career in turfgrass with a position in the industry or at a university where I can apply my experience and education while continuing to learn so as to become an intricate part of the turfgrass realm.

### **EDUCATION**

B.S. Crop and Soil Sciences, Golf Course Management- May 2005

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan GPA: 3.16

M.S. Plant Sciences, Golf Course Management- July 2005 to Present

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee GPA: 3.86

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

The University of Tennessee- 2005 to Present

Graduate Research Assistant working with CO<sub>2</sub> Enrichment.

Michigan State University- 2001 to 2005

Turf related research for Dr. John Rogers. Worked directly under Tim Vanini (Doctoral Graduate Student). Specialty of research in sports field management and related areas of turfgrass wear tolerances in sports conditions.

Bel Air Golf and Country Club- Summer 2003

Second Assistant to Superintendent (internship). Responsible for 10-15 crewmembers at any one time. Gained valuable experience with warm season grass. Mentored by a Master Greenskeeper (Brian Sullivan).

Lochmoor Golf and Country Club- Grosse Pointe, MI

Greens Staff; Two and a Half Months of Summer 2002. Mastered aspects of machinery use and maintenance. Began responsibilities including spray technician and crew supervisor.

Selfridge Air National Guard Base Golf Course (Summer Employment for High School)

S.A.N.G. Base, MI; Greens Staff 1998-2001.

Hockey Referee 1995-Present

Professional and College Hockey Linesman.

### **SPECIAL SKILLS**

Webpage Building

Adobe Photoshop & Image Ready

Design of Experiment (DOE)

Spanish

- Three Years Schooling

Division I Goalie

- Michigan State University

### **SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT**

Tennessee Turfgrass Club

Turf Club and UT Turfgrass Webmaster

MSU Men's Varsity Goalie; 2002-05

Residential Advisor (Mentor); 2002-03

Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity

National Fraternity Honor Society

### **PERSONAL**

I have been here at UT since the summer of 2005 as a graduate research assistant under Dr. John Sorochan and my current aspirations are to become a valuable asset to the Golf Course Superintendent by doing research in turfgrass.