Two from Florida win GCSAA scholarships

Two of the first 10 GCSAA Legacy Awards for outstanding scholarship have gone to Florida women.

Jennifer Jackson, daughter of Joel Jackson, CGCS, Orlando, and Melissa Marie Sohn, granddaughter of Louis Earl Trapp, Lake Placid, each have received $1,500 stipends to further their collegiate education.

Legacy Awards, financed by GCSAA Scholarship and Research fund, are available to the children and grandchildren of active and retired GCSAA members.

Candidates must be enrolled full-time at an accredited institution of higher learning with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 (on a 4.00 scale), demonstrate a broad base of interests including community involvement, volunteer activities and outside work, and complete a short essay on his or her parent's (or grandparent's) involvement with the GCSAA.

"The selection committee members were very impressed with the caliber of the candidates, particularly the essays," said Pat Jones, GCSAA director of communications. "These stipends were made solely on the basis of merit under the criteria, not on the basis of need."

The selection committee was comprised entirely of educators and collegiate administrators who had no connection to the GCSAA or the golf course management industry.

Jennifer Jackson will enter Wake Forest University near Winston-Salem, N.C. this fall as a freshman. Her father, editor of the Florida Green and past president of the FGCSA, is a superintendent at Walt Disney World.

Melissa Sohn has attended South Florida Community College on a part-time basis during her junior and senior year of high school and is enrolled for the fall term at Troy State University in Alabama.

Thus, although she just graduated from Lake Placid High School, she'll probably carry sophomore hours into Troy State. Sohn's grandfather was superintendent at Dayton (Ohio) CC from 1935 to 1974.

Other GCSAA Legacy Award scholarship winners:
• Mary Flaherty, Berkeley Heights, N.J., daughter of Joseph R. Flaherty, CGCS.
• Amy Jo Miller, Middleton, Wis., daughter of Monroe S. Miller.
• Jennifer Jane Shermer, Folkston, Ga., granddaughter of Edwin T. Mattson.
• Vincent R. Streiff, Middleton, Ohio, son of Thomas R. Streiff III, CGCS.
• Grier Wallace, Unionville, Conn., son of Michael Wallace, CGCS.
• Ian K. Wallace, Unionville, Conn., son of Michael Wallace, CGCS.
• Ty Townsend Webb, Memphis, Tenn., son of Lee Archer Webb, CGCS.
• Laurie Ann Wilcoxen, Stillwater, Okla., daughter of Stephen N. Wilcoxen.

GCSAA forms service for international members

The GCSAA has formed a new department to develop and implement programs for international members.

Tom Akins, GCSAA director of planning, will head the department and assume the new title of director of planning and international programs.

"International requests for assistance and information have steadily increased over the last several years," Akins said. "We're excited about the opportunity to provide tools for superintendents outside the United States.

"Many countries already have established golf federations and associations that are providing quality professional development for their membership. Our desire is to work cooperatively with those associations, lending our expertise while learning from their unique methods."

Of the more than 10,800 GCSAA members, 734 live and work in 47 different countries outside the U.S.

A new irrigation system installed by inexperienced installers.
Improper spacing did not allow water to reach adjoining sprinkler heads. Installers blamed problems on fertilizer, insects, disease and mowers. They were found liable for a bad installation and had to redo it.