



Mark Black, CGCS, aced the 160 yard, third hole at the Naples Beach Golf Club to nail down closest-to-the-pin.

four superintendents tied for low gross with scores of 71. In a match of cards, Bob Roessing took first place followed by Joe Ondo, CGCS, Mark Hopkins and Mark Henderson. Roessing led the Everglades Chapter to a first-place net victory in the team championship. Joining him on the team were Tim Haskins, Tom Calaguire and Scott Hamm. The highlight of the event was a hole-in-one scored by Mark Black, CGCS of the Quail West CC. Mark pulled off his ace with a six iron on the 160-yard 4th hole.

Sunday morning the hardcore golfers and UF alumni teed it up in the G.C. Horn Memorial Endowment Tournament. This annual event is held in memory of Dr. Granville Horn, who brought the Florida turfgrass industry to the forefront in the 1970s and '80s. Proceeds from this event have funded the Horn Fellowship which has produced two recent scholars who are actively involved in turf research at the University, Dr. Laurie Trenholm and graduate

student Raymond Snyder. This year's winners of the fun format event:

#### G.C. Horn Winners

Overall (Net 56.5): Wayne Kappauf and son Kyle Kappauf.

Scramble Nine (Net 25): Bob Shevlin and son Matthew Shevlin.

Alternate Shot Nine (Net 27): Mike Hamilton and Cliff Anderson.

JOEL JACKSON

#### EVERGLADES SPRING SEMINAR

### Symposium Tackles Drought Issues

The Everglades GCSA Spring Seminar this year held at the Naples Beach Club April 18 zeroed in on water issues and managing turf under drought conditions.

Here are some of the highlights from the presentations by the distinguished panel of speakers and their topics.

**Thomas Missimer, Ph.D., P.G.,** Missimer & Associates (Where Will Our Water Come From in the Future?)

- In the past six years we have had three 100-year droughts.
- The largest water user is the natural system the hydrologic cycle. Man uses one percent of the annual rainfall.
- The future will see higher water costs; desalinization plants using brackish groundwater; aquifer storage and recovery of treated water. Golf courses will have to use effluent if its available; we must find ways to better store water for use in drought times.



The Everglades GCSA's 2001 Spring Symposium notables from left: Mike Smith, symposium committee; Dr. Ray Cooper, nematology; John Foy, USGA; Col. Sam Sifers, plant physiology; Jim Turner, water repellancy in turf; Dr. Shoumo Mitra, rooting influenced by stress; Steve Durand, EGCSA president; Matt Taylor, EGCSA education chairman. Not pictured: Dr. Tom Missimer and Tom Burrows. Photo by Joel Jackson.

**Col. Samuel Sifers** (Physiological Responses To Turfgrass Drought Stress)

- Nutrient management and cultural practices are man's only controls over drought stress to turf: nitrogen, potassium, sulfur and iron levels; mowing heights; irrigation frequency, disease control, aerify, slicing promoting root growth; and using growth regulators to help decrease water use.
- Most warm season grasses cease evapotranspiration, turn brown, go dormant and will recover when rainfall resumes.

**Dr. Ray Cooper** (Nematology)

- To lessen impact of nematode damage during droughts: water deeply and infrequently; avoid excess nitrogen; don't mow too close; avoid compaction and poor drainage.
- Nematode eggs can survive five years without hatching.
- Sample edges of damaged areas and adjacent healthy looking areas, not the

centers of weak areas.

- Depend on plant responses not on nematode counts to judge success.
- Biodegradation of Nematicur is becoming a problem with continued use. Most bio-control products have not shown good results. Possible exceptions are Avermectin and Synzyme, but mostly anecdotal results only.

**Tom Burrows**, Brookside Labs (Interpreting Soil Samples)

- Use only accredited labs that subscribe to North American Proficiency Testing.
- Consider pesticide screening of soil and water samples to document existing levels and establish baseline levels to refute member concerns and outside claims against your club.
- Request sodium levels in soils test. Amounts greater than 100 pounds per acre can inhibit growth if they are equal to or exceed potassium levels.

**John Foy** (USGA Update)





- While we have rattlesnakes, purple grackles and raccoons as pests on golf courses, at the World Amateur Championship in Singapore they were dealing with cobras and monkeys. They also use "cowgrass" in their roughs. Guess what — it's tropical signalgrass, a weed we battle over here.

- The USGA percolation test is a guide and not absolute. Pick a lab and stick with them. Different labs can use different methods yielding conflicting results.

- Ultradwarf grasses grow lower but are not necessarily faster.

- Check temperatures of sprigs when delivered. Temperatures over 140-150 degrees can kill the plant, making grow-in and establishment more difficult.

- Paspalum turf management using higher saline water requires regular fresh water flushing cycles or salts will build up too high and harm the plant.

- Paspalum may have acceptable shade tolerance at tee and fairway heights of cut.

**James Turner**, Eco Soil Systems (Factors Influencing Water Repellency)

- Ionic plus and minus charges of soil and organic particles control the attraction or repulsion of water molecules.

- Surfactant, adjuvant and penetrant products have different modes of action for specific situations.

- Understand completely how a "wetting agent" product works and the results it gives before



### Misty, the Mooch

*Misty, the white-tailed deer, unofficial mascot of the Misty Creek CC, takes full advantage of the club's Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary status as she mooches a handout from a club member during the Suncoast GCSA's annual Suncoast Scramble event at the club. Photo by Joel Jackson.*

wasting time and money misapplying a product.

JOEL JACKSON

*Ah... spring at last when a superintendent's fancy often turns to fundraising. It seems that March, April and May comprise the primary fund-raising season for the FGCSA chapters with a few more taking place later in the summer. This year is no exception and the local chapters are to be commended for their efforts to raise money not only for research and education, but also be good community neighbors and assist local charities. Here's a quick round-up of this year's events.*

JJ



Tom Crawford, president of the Suncoast GCSA, center, presented \$2,500 checks for each organization's research funds to Don Benham, FTGA director of public affairs, left, and Joel Jackson, FGCSA director of communications.

### RIDGE INVITATIONAL

## 10-Year-Old Event Raises \$7,500

On March 12, the Ridge GCSA celebrated the 10th anniversary of their Ridge Invitational Tournament and Fundraiser.

The chapter made it special by having a blind drawing among all participants for three people to have a chance at a million dollar hole-in-one shot. The lucky, but unsuccessful, ace attempters were: Ralph Brannan, Coastal Equipment; Dennis Mosely, Central Florida Soil Testing and Scott Wynn, DJ from WPCV, 97.5 FM Country. Meanwhile, the rest of the hackers and whackers were raising \$7,500 for turf research and local charities.

Winners of the tournament held at the Grasslands CC:

**Gross Division** - Brian Mortillaro (75); Steve Bernard (78); Jim Torba (78)

**Net Division** - Bobby Ellis (64); Bayne Caillavet (67); Bobby Jacoby (68)

**Supplier Division** - Mark Wheaton (74 gross); T. Sellers (66 net)

ROY WILSHIRE

### SUNCOAST SCRAMBLE

## 19th Annual Event Sells Out Again

The 19th Annual Suncoast Scramble was another sell-out success. The traditional format calls for a chapter business meeting, entertainment, lunch and then golf followed by a reception while the scores are tallied. This is the major fund-raiser each year for the Suncoast GCSA. Tom Crawford made sure the real winner was turf research as he presented the Florida Turfgrass Association and the Florida GCSA each with a check for \$2,500 for their respective turf research



Bemuda Maverick comedians Les McCurdy (left) and Ken Sons put on their improv skits and stand-up comedy routine. Audience participation makes this part of the program a big hit each year.