In an industry where tradition is sacred, experience essential and innovation vital, the Toro reputation for leadership is legendary. Built on a track record of more than 35 years of service to golf, the Toro name has come to represent the finest in total turf solutions for thousands of courses around the world. In fact, 74 of America’s top 100 courses* are irrigated with Toro systems.

When it comes to golf course irrigation, the Toro commitment ranges from offering the industry’s largest and most diversified selection of quality products to providing unprecedented programs for after-installation service. But the Toro golf package is more than just products and service. It is a carefully woven fabric of key elements that combine to create the “right” irrigation system for each course.

Toro leadership is further exemplified through its strong commitment to the golf industry in general. Toro is the official turf equipment and irrigation supplier to The First Tee, an organization committed to making golf more accessible and affordable to young people throughout the nation. The Toro Scholars Program supplies scholarships through the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), and Toro is an Old Tom Morris-level supporter of the GCSAA Foundation.

**The Total Renovation Package**

Maintaining the quality of established courses is an ever-present challenge for golf course superintendents. While the maturing of a course often brings character and tradition to the overall layout, it also creates a need to replace and update an aging infrastructure.

Toro leads the industry with a comprehensive package of professional services expressly for golf course renovation. System assessment, irrigation design and installation referrals, quality products, and after-sale support and training all are brought together in a centralized program through the Toro distributor. It is this total-package concept that ensures a dimension of cost efficiency and customer convenience unequalled in today’s golf industry.

Flexibility is another important element. From irrigation systems specifically designed to meet rigid cost and watering requirements to a menu of after-installation service programs tailored to ensure successful performance, Toro offers the options and expertise to make it the number one renovation expert in the world.
**Golf Sprinklers**

Simply said, Toro products are built to last. Manufactured of durable engineering plastics, Toro golf sprinklers feature the performance and long life required on today's courses. In addition, Toro sprinklers have the industry's lowest maintenance cost and are the easiest to service. Ideal for renovation projects, Toro sprinkler technology is backward compatible so that older sprinklers easily can be updated with simple conversion assemblies.

Among Toro's many outstanding models is the new 720 Series, which is particularly well suited to the golf course renovation market. Its advanced design provides superb coverage in challenging areas. With a radius of 20 to 55 feet, the 720 Series has an adjustable gallonage, arc and trajectory that allow the watering pattern to be customized for hard-to-reach spots.

Toro golf sprinklers also offer a full range of features such as adjustable part-circle and full-circle operation, manual control at the sprinkler, factory-set pressure regulation, durable stainless-steel risers, and up to four-inch pop-up heights. Electric or hydraulic valve-in-head models help reduce pressure spikes and damage to hydraulic systems. Check-O-Matic technology, which prevents low-head drainage, also is available. All Toro sprinklers offer color-coded nozzles for easy in-field identification.

**Central Control**

Built with the superintendent in mind, Toro's central control systems are designed to ensure programming flexibility and optimum watering precision in any golf course application. Used at more than 1,000 sites throughout the country, SitePro offers precise programming capability to save time and money. And, of course, SitePro is backed by Toro's comprehensive NSN, as well as the distributor sales and service group.

The wireless OSMAC® field satellites are also well suited to renovation projects because there is little disruption to the golf course. For renovation projects requiring the ultimate in flexibility, Network LTC Plus satellites can be installed wireless, wireline or hybrid (a combination of wireless and wireline), depending on the specific site conditions. Network LTC Plus also allows up to 64 stations for more precise control.

Toro satellites are ideal for golf course renovations. Existing hydraulic systems and old control boxes can be upgraded with either OSMAC or Network LTC Plus, providing enhanced control and programming flexibility. This in turn means better playing conditions. And isn't that the ultimate purpose of golf course renovation? For more information, contact your local Toro distributor.
SPOTLIGHT: 8
Dick Blake and Paul Crawford receive FGCSA's top awards

COVER STORY: 14
The Great Outdoors... where the GM is an MG

HANDS ON: 32
Computers work their way into the maintenance shop

INDUSTRY NEWS: 36
Tight budget leaves good research projects on cutting room floor

STEWARDSHIP: 40
Bluebird restoration project a huge success

RESEARCH: 48
Statewide biological control of mole crickets becomes a reality

PHOTO CONTEST: 52
"Mr. Mossback's Walk" takes top honors

AFTERWORDS: 55
Jarrell finds an exciting book and Jackson amplifies the regulatory beat

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ADVERTISER INDEX

Aerification Plus.............................. 45
Almar Turf................................... 22
Aventis Environmental Science........... 6
BASF........................................... 23
Beeman's Nursery............................ 51
Central Florida GCSA....................... 13
Century Rain Aid............................ 39
Chemical Containers........................ 10
Ducor International........................ 17
ER Jahna Industries......................... 25
Floratine Products Group................... 12
Golf Agronomics Supply..................... 19
Golf Ventures................................ 35
Green-Way.................................... 44
Harrell's...................................... 41
Hendrix and Dail............................. 09
Howard Fertilizer............................ 31
Kilpatrick Turf............................... 35
Kubota Tractor Corp........................ 21
Laserturf..................................... 24
Lesco, Inc................................... 5
North Georgia Turf.......................... 10
Nucrane Machinery......................... Back Cover
Palm Beach GCSA............................ 47
Par Aide....................................... 22
Pike Creek Turf Farms...................... 26
Profile Products............................. 49
Ringhaver Equipment Col................... 11
Roots, Inc.................................... 27
Seaisle One................................... 24
South Florida Grassing..................... 28
Southern States.............................. 54
Spread-Rite.................................. 17
Tee-to-Green Turf Products................. 43
Textron Turf Care & Specialty Products... 35
The Haverland Companies.................... 30
TifEagle Growers Association.............. 18
TifSport Growers Association.............. 16
Tifton Physical Lab.......................... 46
TMI Turf Merchants......................... 29, Inside Back Cover
Tom Burrows Turfgrass Service............ 18
Toro Dealers of Florida...................... Insert
Tresca Turf and Tractor..................... 35
Turf Technologies.......................... 42
United Horticultural Supply................ 33
Upstart...................................... 17, 53
Wesco Turf................................... 1, Inside Cover

AUTUMN 2001 3
Let me begin by thanking all of you for giving me this opportunity to serve as your president. It will be an honor and a privilege to guide this association through the coming year. This job is facilitated in part by the strength and commitment of those who have gone before me, as well as those currently serving on the board. My thanks go to Cary Lewis, CGCS, who served our association admirably this past year; I know I can rely on Cary as I can the rest of the board for advice this coming year.

We have a very supportive staff in Marie Roberts and Joel Jackson, CGCS. They are the people who work diligently to make this association as good as it is through the changing of presidents and of the board members.

Working and living here in Florida is a far cry from what I had imagined my life would be while growing up in the coal mining area of northern England. Most of my schoolmates followed in their fathers’ and grandfathers’ footsteps and entered the mining industry. I was lucky enough to venture further afield thanks to Tim Hiers, CGCS, who offered me employment as an intern in 1986.

To be able to work outside in what can only be considered paradise is great. Couple that with the fact that your colleagues share the same enthusiasm for their work as you and now you’re talking. Sometimes the pressures of maintaining the course to others’ expectations, dealing with Mother Nature, repudiating bad press and so on, can wear on you. But if I think back to what might have been, I certainly prefer doing what I’m doing now.

To maintain our work in paradise, we will need the efforts of all of our members, not just those of a few. As each month goes by, more and more legislation is passed, more ordinances written, and more restrictions are applied. I don’t want to appear as if I am against legislation or ordinances—far from it. We should look at the work we do closely and make sure we don’t adversely affect the environment and others.

My hope is that we as superintendents will be some of the first people who are contacted for input when issues are being discussed. We can offer real life experiences that can help produce quality, workable, and worthwhile directives. Our director of communications is our point man when it comes to the issues. Let him know as soon as you hear of something. He will get the word out and share it with others to see if we can’t become involved as a partner, not as an adversary.

In closing, I would like to wish you all a very successful overseeding season, free from torrential downpours, and Pythium and most of all enjoy what truly is a great profession.
AN EARLY MORNING RIDE
DOWN YOUR FAVORITE FAIRWAY
MAKES YOU APPRECIATE
YOUR HARD WORK
AND LONG HOURS.

LESCO is there.

Some days everything seems just right. Other days are less than perfect. But one thing is for sure. Building, growing-in or maintaining a golf course presents many challenges. And it's up to you to turn the challenges into opportunities. The problems into solutions.

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TECHNICAL EXPERTISE. LESCO is there with turf professionals who appreciate the challenges you face and are fully prepared to answer your questions. Turf management and product use recommendations are all part of the job...part of the convenience and service.

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Here you see the stubby, stunted roots of once-healthy bermudagrass. They’re stubby and stunted because the plant has been treated with a pre-emergent herbicide that attacks roots -- a member of the DNA class of herbicides, to be specific. DNA herbicides can control annual grassy and broadleaf weeds. The problem is they can also damage your turf.

The photo to the right tells a different story. No root pruning here, although this grass has also been treated with a tough pre-emergent herbicide. The difference? The herbicide is Ronstar.
Ronstar controls goosegrass, crabgrass, and many broadleaf weeds by absorption through the shoots, not the roots. That means that Ronstar won't impede root development of desirable turf. In fact, Ronstar is so easy on turf that you can apply it during bermudagrass sprigging. And you need only apply it once to get season-long control. While tough weeds like goosegrass have been shown resistant to many herbicides, Ronstar remains completely effective against them.

It probably won't surprise you then that Ronstar is the number one choice among superintendents for uncompromising goosegrass control, and the very picture of healthy, weed-free turf.
Four-time superintendent association president Dick Blake (left) receives the 2001 FGCSA Distinguished Service Award from the Palm Beach Chapter President Randy Bushway at the PBGCSA’s July 18th meeting.

Blake wins DSA

From New England to Kansas to Florida, Dick Blake has left a legacy of leadership in his wake as he sailed through his golf course management career.

On July 18, the FGCSA recognized Blake for his unselfish, lifelong devotion to the profession by presenting him with the Distinguished Service Award as he was surrounded by his Palm Beach peers at a local chapter meeting.

“I was totally surprised by the award,” said Blake, “but I am extremely pleased and proud to receive it. I had a couple of the Palm Beach members call me and ask if I was planning on coming to the chapter meeting, which was a little unusual, but I had no idea this was coming.”

Blake’s presidential record sets the bar for professional association volunteerism and duty as he banged the gavel for the Rhode Island, New England, GCSAA and Florida superintendent associations.

“Of course each presidency was preceded by years on each board of directors before moving up to the top spot,” Blake said.

Blake’s service to his profession has given those associations much more than they can repay with a plaque, but at least he knows his sacrifices of time and energy were appreciated.

Blake’s reflections on his career yield fond memories and insights that still ring true in today’s work environment. Blake recalled the result of some of his early work, “When I visit New England, it is very satisfying to see the maturity of the courses I helped build and to know I have left a mark on the landscape. Just as important is to watch the growth and development of over 30 superintendents that worked with me over the years.”

Dick Blake

Education: Stockbridge School of Agriculture, Mass.
Career History: Massachusetts - Mitchell Brothers Corp. (golf course building and renovation); Whittinsville CC; Concord CC; Salem CC and Mt. Pleasant CC.
Vermont - Woodstock G&TC, Rock Resort Chain.
Florida - Card Sound G&CC; Quail Ridge CC; Bocaire CC and Growing Technologies, Inc.
Association Presidencies: 1968 Rhode Island GCSA; 1970 New England GCSA; 1971 GCSAA (first director to be nominated and elected from the floor); 1987 Florida GCSA

For those contemplating the life of a superintendent, Blake advised, “You cannot be thin-skinned in this business. You should expect to work long, hard hours to pay your dues before becoming a head superintendent. While paying your dues, do yourself a favor and develop sound business-management and people-handling skills. Take speaking and business-writing courses.

“Communication is a critical part of the profession today.”

In a telephone interview, Blake said he has been heartened by the past year by a resurgence in attendance at local superintendent meetings. “We had some bumpy years where attendance had fallen off, but it seems like the demand for professionalism by employers is spurring superintendents to seek out more education to remain competitive.”

Blake also recounted his move to Florida and how local superintendents like Lou Oxnevad and Paul Turcotte — whom he had met at GCSAA conferences — helped him adapt his management techniques to fit warm-season grasses.

“Those guys and others rolled out the southern hospitality to me and my wife. Their generosity and willingness to help me is a true salute to the brotherhood of superintendents everywhere,” he said.

Joel Jackson

Crawford Wins President’s Award

Paul Crawford’s winning the FGCSA’s President’s Award for Lifetime Service this summer is like getting elected to the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame on your first eligible ballot.

This award was created in 1990 to honor those superintendents who served the turfgrass industry for a minimum of 20 years, which is exactly the number of years Crawford has been employed at the Palm Beach Country Club. This is a reflection of the high esteem and appreciation that his contemporaries in the Palm Beach Chapter regard him and his many contributions.

But it isn’t only the Palm Beach Chapter that has recognized Crawford for his outstanding service to the golf and turf industry. In 1996, he won the FGCSA’s Distinguished Service Award, a “yearly award presented to a golf course superintendent who has given his time unselfishly in promoting golf course management and unification of the Florida Golf Course Superintendent.”

It seems that as soon as he became a superintendent, Crawford embraced the spirit of giving back to his peers and his chosen profession.

After winning the FGCSA Distinguished Service Award in 1996 and a roasting by his good friend Butch Gill (left), Paul Crawford didn’t rest on his laurels. His continuing state and national committee service earned him a 2000 FGCSA Presidents Award for Lifetime Service. Photo by Joel Jackson.

I first met Crawford in a hospital room in Jupiter in 1981. We were both visiting Harold Murphy, my former boss and general manager at Sugar Mill C.C., and Paul’s former associate at Jupiter Hills.

While I can claim no prescience about his future dedication and service to our industry, I was aware that I had met a caring person of strong character. The next 20 years proved that my first impression was correct, as he went on to become one of the most insightful, dedicated, and productive superintendents in our state’s history.

Crawford first joined the
board of the Palm Beach Chapter in 1987, becoming president in 1992. He did double duty during this period, serving on the FGCSA board from 1989 until becoming president in 1993. He was instrumental in laying the groundwork for the establishment of the successful Otto Schmeisser Research Green at the UF REC in Ft. Lauderdale... and the FGCSA hiring a technician to maintain it. His business savvy helped transition The Florida Green into the financial success it enjoys today, serving as business manager of our award-winning magazine for several years following his presidency.

Not content to rest on these laurels, Crawford then turned his attention to both the GCSAA and the Florida Turfgrass Association. He served on the GCSAA's Chapter Relations Committee, and over a seven-year period served the FTGA with a term as a director and at various times as a member of the external affairs, events, administration operations, publications, funding and endowment, finance, and member services committees.

By 2001, Crawford decided to scale back on his level of involvement and politely declined requests to serve on boards and committees. It is a well-deserved respite, but one I’m sure will be punctuated by many instances of service to the industry.

Awards like this are won by toil and accomplishment recognized by peers in your industry, but there is a side to Paul that, in my opinion, exceeds any professional achievement. Though he is divorced like so many of us, Crawford is the rock of stability and support for his two children Chris, 16, and Kelli, 14. His children come first in Paul Crawford’s life, and if you’ve seen them with him in Naples, the Keys, or some other setting, you realize what a great job he has done raising these two beautiful and well-behaved young adults.

Nowadays Paul can be found more frequently at his place in the Keys, usually accompanied by Chris and Kelli, kicking back and enjoying life on the water in his boat “Crawdaddy,” which is also his nickname; it seems appropriate even if Paul didn’t enjoy fishing and diving for lobster as much as he does.

Mark Jarrell, CGCS

PALM BEACH FUTURE OF GOLF

Full field sloshes through delayed fund-raiser

Perseverance should be the motto of The Palm Beach Chapter GCSA. The June 2 event at The Falls CC in Lake Worth was washed out with the first heavy rain in months as the players were teeing it up on the first hole. Drought or no drought, the chance of playing in the afternoon during the summer is pot luck at best!

The rescheduled make-up date of July 14, didn’t look much better. Typical afternoon showers were expected. The full field of 128 players was in attendance and ready to play. The 1 p.m. shotgun start went off without incident. The first nine holes were played with a couple of intermittent showers, but at least the tournament was going to have a team winner in this four-man scramble format and they were Mike Bonetti, Howard Hulsebosch, Ken Kniaz and Bob Harper.

After 15 holes, the skies opened up and everyone headed for the clubhouse. After everyone dried out, they sat down to enjoy a buffet dinner. Afterwards, lucky raffle ticket holders picked up over $2,000 worth of prizes. The finale was the Aventis Power Pack Auction which netted $1,400 for the event.

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The 2001-02 FGCSA Officers elected at the August Annual Meeting from left: Greg Pheneger, secretary/treasurer; David Court, CGCS, vice president; Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG; and Cary Lewis, CGCS, who is taking it easy already! Photo by Joel Jackson.

FGCSA Board of Directors for 2001-02 from left: Front row: Dale Walters, CGCS, Everglades; John Lammrish, Central Florida; Joe Pantaleo, South Florida; Back row: Andy Maguire, President North Florida; Mark Henderson, Palm Beach; John VanFranken, Suncoast; Roger Taylor, Calusa. Not pictured: Doug Abbuhl, Coastal Plains; Greg Tharp, North Florida; Steve Ciardullo, Ridge; Buddy Keene, Seven Rivers; Eric Joy, West Coast. Photo by Joel Jackson.

The 2001-02 FGCSA Officers elected at the August Annual Meeting from left: Greg Pheneger, secretary/treasurer; David Court, CGCS, vice president; Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG; and Cary Lewis, CGCS, who is taking it easy already! Photo by Joel Jackson.

the many tournament sponsors, the Palm Beach County Chapter was able to raise $21,000 for turfgrass research. A few weeks later at a Palm Beach GCSA chapter meeting Dr. John Cisar was presented with an $8,000 check for his continuing research project on ultradwarf bermudagrass management.

Steve Pearson

CENTRAL FLORIDA CROWFOOT OPEN

Silver Anniversary for Kamphaus Crowfoot Open

The Central Florida GCSA celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Larry Kamphaus Crowfoot Open Aug. 4-5 at the Grand Cypress Resort in Orlando. From its humble beginnings in 1976 as strictly a fund-raising golf tournament to its present business, golf and social format, the Kamphaus Crowfoot Open has taken its place among the must-attend events of the year.

This year's event was kicked off by the summer meeting of the Florida GCSA board of directors and the election of officers at the ensuing annual meeting. Darren Davis welcomed Cary Lewis, CGCS to the ranks of past presidents as Lewis passed the gavel to new FGCSA President Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG. Joining Coggan on the 2001-02 Executive Council will be Vice President David Court, CGCS and Secretary/Treasurer Greg Pheneger.

Saturday was devoted to rest, relaxation, theme park attendance with families and practice rounds for those wishing to tune up for the golf tournament on Sunday. On Saturday night, the poolside buffet

Deltona Hills C.C. superintendent Chris Carlin shot a 1-under-par 71 to claim the Crowfoot Open medalist trophy. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Joining Coggan on the 2001-02 Executive Council will be Vice President David Court, CGCS and Secretary/Treasurer Greg Pheneger.

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