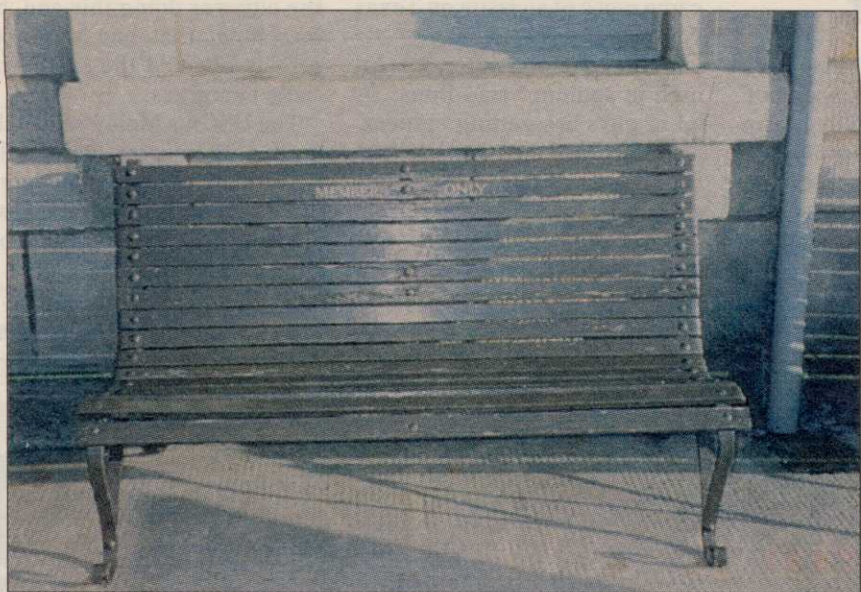


Terry Buchan photo



TRULY ROYAL ... AND ANCIENT

One of the world's most exclusive "tee benches." It is situated just outside the entrance to the clubhouse at the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland.

Patino the Old Tom Morris choice

SOTOGRADE, Spain — Jaime Ortiz-Patino, owner, president and golf course superintendent at Valderrama Golf Club here, has been selected to receive the 1999 Old Tom Morris Award from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). The award presentation will take place in Orlando, Fla., Feb. 13 during the association's 70th International Golf Course Conference and Show.

GCSAA's most prestigious honor, the Old Tom Morris Award is presented each year to an individual who, "through a continuing lifetime commitment to the game of golf, has helped to mold the welfare of the game in a manner and style exemplified by Old Tom Morris."

Morris (1821-1908) was greenkeeper and golf professional at the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland; a four-time winner of the British Open (1861, '62, '64 and '67); and ranked as one of the top links designers of the 19th century.

"Golf is truly an international game and Jaime Ortiz-Patino is certainly a recognized figure in the industry worldwide," said GCSAA President George Renault. "He is a person who has not only given his time, talents and resources to benefit the sport, but has also advanced numerous philanthropic causes throughout the world."

Ortiz-Patino has had ties to GCSAA and the golf course superintendent profession for more than a decade. Since his purchase of Valderrama Golf Club in 1985, he has attended the association's annual conference and show, participating in numerous education seminars and forums. In fact, despite wearing numerous hats at Valderrama, he says he is "a golf course superintendent at heart."

Last year, Ortiz-Patino agreed to serve as the campaign chair for GCSAA's \$3.5 million endowment campaign — Investing in the Beauty of Golf — which will support applied research and expanded educational opportunities for golf course superintendents.

"In the future of golf it will be necessary to have expert people looking after golf courses," Ortiz-Patino said. "This profession really only exists in America. Other countries in Europe are beginning to have golf course superintendent associations, but they really don't have the education or training that you get in the States. And I think it is very important that if I can help, I am very happy to help."

Ortiz-Patino's interests also include a past term as president of the World Bridge Federation (for 10 years), and collections of art, wine, books and one of the world's most extensive collections of golf memorabilia.

GCSAA seeking steward award nominees

LAWRENCE, Kan. — A call for entries for the 1999 Environmental Steward Award has been made by Novartis Turf & Ornamental Products, Rain Bird, Pursell Technologies Inc. and Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products with Cushman, Jacobsen, Ransomes and Ryan brands, in partnership with the Golf Course

Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Applications for the 1999 awards are available through the GCSAA Service Center (800-472-7878) and from each of the participating sponsors. The application also is available on the GCSAA web site (www.gcsaa.org).

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