

Course builders vote Rossi Award to Nicklaus

By JOEL JOYNER

LINCOLN, Neb. — The Golf Course Builders Association of America (GCBA) has unanimously voted Jack Nicklaus as the recipient of the 2000 Don A. Rossi Award.

The presentation will take Feb. 15 at the association's annual awards dinner, held in conjunction with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's annual conference and trade show in Dallas, Texas.

The honor recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the

game of golf, and who have inspired others by their example. Don Rossi, during his tenure as director of the National Golf Foundation from 1970 to 1983, led the foundation to an expanded role in the world of golf.

"It is fitting that it comes on the relatively close heels of the award we gave Arnold Palmer a couple of years ago," said Frank Hutchinson, GCBA president.

"With the exception of Mr. Rossi, who was the first honoree in 1991, I believe Palmer and Nicklaus are the only two recipients who have been voted unanimously by our board."

Past winners include Robert Trent Jones and Brent Wadsworth.

"The absolutely significant part is that Jack Nicklaus is known throughout the world, to those inside as well as outside of golf, as a leader and contribu-



Jack Nicklaus

tor," said Hutchinson. "He has stood the test of time in a world where sport heroes are barely remembered more than a few months. And that, to me, stands out about the man."

As a golf architect, Nicklaus has designed, co-designed or redesigned more

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— Frank Hutchinson

than 200 courses. At least 30 of his signature courses are ranked in the top 100 courses in the world. Nicklaus Design has opened more than 40 courses in the past two years and currently has more than 50 projects in the construction or design stages, including the company's first project in the Middle East — an 18-hole layout in Dubai. As a player, Nicklaus has over 70 Tour victories.

Nicklaus also is a supporter and contributor to the World Golf Foundation's First Tee program, co-chairing the program's capital campaign with golfer Juli Inkster.

GCSAA presents Distinguished Service Award winners

DALLAS, Texas — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) will honor Euel Coats, Ph.D.; L.W. "Sonny" DuBose Jr., CGCS; and Arthur

Weber with the 2000 Distinguished Service Award here at the Adam's Mark Hotel during the Feb. 14 opening session of the

72nd International Golf Course Conference and Show.

"The superintendent profession, the association and the game of golf owe much to them for their dedication and commitment," said GCSAA president R. Scott Woodhead.

The award, first presented in 1932, recognizes the three recipients as having made an "outstanding, substantive and enduring contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent profession."

Coats, a turf-weed scientist at Mississippi State University, has been responsible for the development of several weed control programs, including one for the Virginia buttonweed. He has served on the GCSAA's educational advisory committee and has conducted research analyzing the performance of fertilizer carriers for herbicides.

Retired superintendent of the private Houston Country Club, DuBose is a founding member and past president of both the

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