Rancho Cañada - No 3-peat (Cont’d)

communicate maintenance tasks to the crew and provided a little comic relief.

The range of problems confronting the maintenance staff were immense. As a result of the flood waters, debris in the form of limbs, trees, picnic tables, fences and other household items from neighboring properties were scattered throughout the courses. Twenty two satellite controllers had been flooded, many contained up to a foot of silt. Sections of asphalt cart path had been lifted and floated a little comic relief.

To maintain morale we met with the crew frequently, establishing a series of short term goals, otherwise the situation looked to overwhelming. An occasional BBQ also helped relieve some of the pressure, and prior to the opening of the ‘Dream 18’, we had a staff golf tournament.

Few Reminders Remain

Eight months later only a few reminders remain from a day Greenwald and his staff would just as soon forget. “In many ways, the courses have benefited from the disaster,” reflects Greenwald. “There’s no question, the bunkers were renovated, the new bridge, and the areas that were reseeded have improved the appearance and playability of the courses.” When asked his thoughts as he looks back upon the past several months Greenwald’s smile returns as he says, “It’s amazing the challenges this business throws your way, particularly when you least expect it. In spite of it all, there’s no greater feeling than knowing that as a staff, you overcame the situation and the courses are better than ever.

Institute A Success

By all accounts, the 1995 Institute lived up to its advanced billing. Attendance at this years seminar was the highest ever, and comments were overwhelmingly positive. The topic of lake management proved to be a complex one. By days end, it was clear that the cause of aquatic problems are many, and their solutions vary based upon a variety of factors. Although the seminar may not have provided specific answers, it did present the topic in a comprehensive manner. The bottom line is that lake management is no different that any aspect of turf management. There are no single solutions, and perhaps we need to accept the fact that like putting greens, it may not be realistic for aquatic features to appear “perfect” at all times.

As always, successful events such as these are the result of the collective efforts of many. Our thanks to Dr. Harivandi, Randy Gai, Robert Tyler and staff at the Fountaingrove Resort, the affiliate members, whose participation in the trade show provides the funds for the reception, and most importantly to the membership for their annual support. Through the excellent response we received in the survey, the education committee is dedicated to making next year’s event equally successful.

Institute Sponsors

This year’s Institute would not have been possible without the generous contributions of our very supportive Affiliate sponsors. Please acknowledge this helpful group: