

THRU THE GREEN

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is a great pleasure to announce that the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has selected Dr. Ali Harivandi as one of three recipients to be honored with the Association's 1995 Distinguished Service Award. The awards will be presented during the Opening Session on Thursday, February 23 at the GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show in San Francisco.

Many of us have known Ali for a number of years and are familiar with his dedication to the golf course superintendents. He is always accessible to help solve a problem whether it be simple

or complex. In his role as an environmental horticulturist with the University of California Cooperative Extension, Dr. Harivandi has been a moving force establishing the use of effluent water on golf courses. He has produced publications which will be beneficial to generations of superintendents and horticulturists as well. Dr. Harivandi's expertise as a research scientist is greatly appreciated today and in the years to come.

Dr. Harivandi has been very active in our Association here in Northern California, most notably as co-chairman of our Annual Golf Course Superintendents Institute

which has proven to be a very successful undertaking. Ali occasionally attends our board of directors meetings to bring us what is "new" on the horizon and also what should be passed along to our superintendents. He is also a regular contributor to our newsletter.

We, the golf course superintendents of Northern California, are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and true friend. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Ali Harivandi for receiving this well deserved and prestigious award.

See you on the tee,
Randy Gai, CGCS
President

Rutgers Report

by PJ Spellman, II

After completing my final year at Rutgers Professional Golf Turfgrass Management School, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank some individuals who helped make it possible. First, I'd like to thank Randy Gai, the Board of Directors of GCSANC, and anyone else responsible for granting me the \$1500 scholarship last June. That scholarship paid for my tuition and allowed me to use money from my savings account to help support my family while I was away at school. Second, I'd like to thank my superintendent, Manny Sousa, and General Manager, Paul Porter, for approving my personal leave of absence and supporting my decision to pursue quality education. Finally, I'd like to thank my lovely wife, Tina, for encouraging me and supporting my decision to attend Rutgers. We both realized that attaining Rutgers certification would enhance my turfgrass career and outweigh the hardship of a temporary separation.

So what is the Rutgers program? This course is presented in two ten-week sessions of comprehensive learning focused on golf turfgrass management. Also required are two seasons of supervised field experience at a golf course of your choice to allow the student to apply some of the technical and intellectual skills developed in the classroom.

Some of the topics taught in this program are: botany, soils, turfgrass morphology and ID, weed ID and control, diseases of turfgrass and ornamentals, landscape plants and design, and irrigation, just to name a few. Also included are personal skills such as managing employees, writing skills, effective speaking, computer skills, and budgeting and financial management. Needless to say, there's a lot to learn in a ten week period. However, the combination of textbooks and a binder each year to hold all handouts and other materials gives each student an ample supply of resources to keep for future

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