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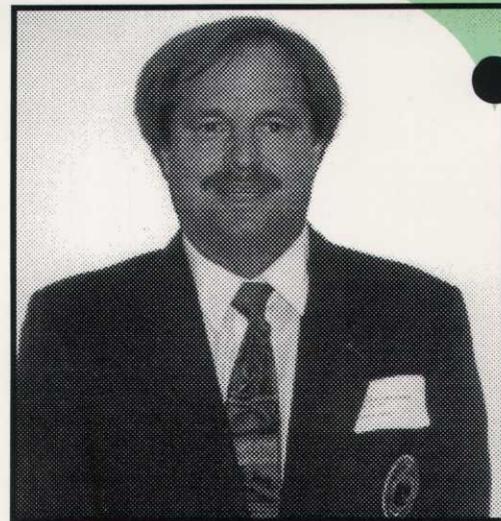
THRU THE GREEN

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From The President

"El Nino," we've heard it for several months now. Warmer than normal water temperatures in the Pacific Ocean that could help produce greater rainfall totals than those of 1982, a year that many golf courses were mowed wall to wall with string-trimmers. I hope they're wrong, but they're probably right. We may again have to deal with what we cannot control — the weather. It might not be a bad idea to purchase a couple of additional small mowers before it hits. Installing a few mainline drains is another idea. Smaller drains that may be added later to the mainline drains would have a place to take the water. Add a helicopter to the capital equipment budget? No, then we would have to employ a pilot. Whatever we do probably won't be enough. It's going to come down to how well we communicate with those we work for as course closures occur.

As far as the weather goes, it's not all gloom. We have had a cooler than normal summer with lots of air movement. As a result, some of us have lost less turf on greens this year compared to years past. This has presented another communication opportunity. As a member or manager has told me that we have done a great job with our more difficult greens this season, I have stressed that we have been consistent with our care and that the milder temperatures have done most of the work. Again, we can't control the weather, one of the most



Blake Swint, President

significant factors relating to growing putting green turf.

On a lighter note I share some frustration. Changes in our industry continue to alter our course. How many of you, like I, have found it difficult to walk through a set of newer sprinklers in operation that are turning counterclockwise compared to those that have been turning clockwise for so many years? I keep getting wet, something I may have to get used to this year.

Have a good Indian Summer, it arrived September 19th.

Blake

Mira Vista (Cont'd)

The very first meeting of GCSANC I attended was a Mira Vista meeting "way back when" I began working with the Superintendents Association. I was impressed with the terrain, view, course and Frank Barberio then and have not changed my opinion. The challenging course is best left to those who can play, say and comment. I suspect that a Mira Vista member playing 90 years ago had some choice comments on his game too!! I have traveled and viewed the San Francisco Bay Area from the air & ground and most do not know the beauty and challenges provided to golfer and observer from this location. I do remember the faces and comments of various members as they entered the clubhouse for a late lunch following the tournament.

Many of you know the efforts undertaken for a monthly meetings of this Association are burdensome and rewarding. Those few who undertake to

shepherd the SRE Tournament, undertake the full implications of a monthly meeting plus the added responsibility of making sure there is "money in the bank" to fund next year's contributions to the Scholarship Research and Education Funds. Without this fundraising effort, the future education of worthwhile superintendents, assistants, greenskeepers, and students would be more financially difficult if not impossible in some circumstances. Congratulations to John and all his Committee on this successful year!

This year's golf participation, prizes, raffles, contributions enabled the organization to raise over \$ 8,000.00 net to add to the scholarship research and education fund. This represents a net gain of \$2000.00 over this year's disbursements to worthwhile individuals. Everyone who participated, contributed and enjoyed this tournament should be thanked.