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From The President

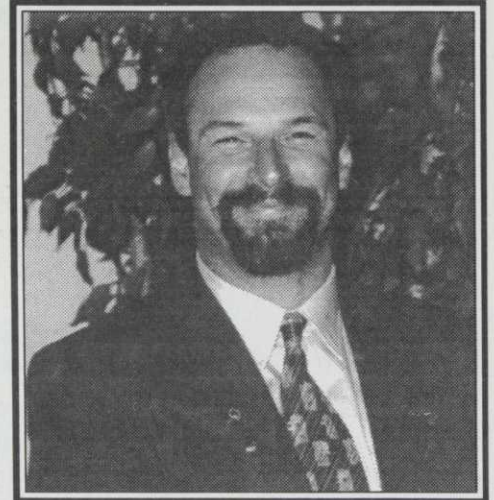
Welcome to the end of summer. I hope everyone has had a successful season. There really is nothing like having to put a jacket on in the morning to reduce the stress level about growing grass.

A few brief comments about meetings, golf and headaches. Please remember that much of what takes place at our monthly meetings is done by volunteers. All of the details involving golf are handled by committee members, the host superintendent and members of the host facility staff. There are opportunities to sign up with specific people and play with your friends but you must follow the instructions on the registration form. Last minute changes, late registration and people that think showing up and paying at the door is acceptable have never been in a position to have to deal with the headaches these situations present. Pairings, scorecards and scoring take a great deal of someone's time, please consider this when you ask for "special" treatment. One final comment on the golf. Our events are played under USGA rules. The Tournament Committee asks that everyone complete the scorecard by totaling and signing the card. Incomplete cards may be disqualified!!!!

Congratulations to the Sierra Nevada Chapter for the success of the joint meeting at Tahoe Donner. Sierra Nevada won the team competition. My thanks to all the "volunteers" that played for our Chapter. Joel Blaker and his staff provided an excellent facility, beautiful weather and the program presented by Jeff Bolig of GCSAA was very informative.

The Board is moving forward with both of our primary objectives for the year. The sponsorship program has been written up and will be distributed in the next few weeks. We hope it becomes a more effective tool for our Affiliate members to use during the year. The Media Director position is moving forward and we hope to have Greg Crawford in attendance at the Institute to meet everyone. This would be a great opportunity to ask questions about what he feels he can do for us.

I attended the NCGA Annual Meeting this morning and was pleasantly surprised by the conversation at my table. Tom Morgan,



Dave Davies, CGCS

Executive Director of the Southern California Golf Association, Tillie Brunello, President of the Pacific Women's Golf Association and Denny Davenport, Executive Director of the NCGA all had opinions on the golf industry in general and the impact we could have as a unified voice. This, of course, is a current issue to both the local and State Boards. The state is hoping to fund the financial impact study statewide with the help of SCGA and NCGA. We are moving forward with a media director. The NCGA employs the same lobbyist, George Steffes, as the State Association. The topic of a "summit conference" was brought up with all golf related organizations represented. Could something like that benefit the golf industry? I hope there will be more to report in the future on these possibilities. I think it would be great to have interested parties sharing information, perspective and direction.

Remember to get your registration in for the Institute in November. The program promises to be very "hands on". Golf will be held the day before at DeLaveaga. Thank you in advance to Don Paul for hosting us. . . . And the final thought — the December meeting will be in the Monterey area with golf at Pacific Grove and dinner to follow at the Monterey Beach Hotel. Make plans to attend. Last year's event was a great success and I would expect no less this year. Rumor has it the board is already making plans to keep the microphone out of my hands.