Tiger Woods overcame multiple obstacles to win the AT&T Pro-Am in Monterey. He survived fierce wind, rain, fog, losing the head off his driver, six-hour rounds, Tom Smothers’ yo-yo antics and a Monday finish to outlast 180 professionals at the event. His final round 64 included an eagle on the par 4 15th hole. This was Tiger’s six straight PGA Tour win bringing him within five of Byron Nelson’s all time record of 11.

Tiger’s $720,000 victory check brought him to within $40,000 of the PGA Tour’s career earnings record held currently by Davis Love III. The event was contested over GCSANC member Manny Sousa’s Poppy Hills GC, Eric Johnson’s Spyglass Hill GC, and Mark Michaud’s/ Eric Greypok’s Pebble Beach Golf Links. Congratulations guys for a well run event!

In an era when job related stress finds most superintendents relishing the opportunity to “get away” at day’s end, Stanford’s Williams makes his home right on the golf course. “It has its advantages,” says Williams, a devoted family man. “It’s given me greater flexibility to spend time with my kids, particularly when working the weekends.” The home, which was originally constructed in 1877, sits amongst what was once Leyland Stanford’s stock farm, where at one time over 300 horses roamed. Some horse stables still remain and are located adjacent to the golf course. Its occasional aroma is a constant reminder to Williams of Stanford’s equestrian heritage.

In spite of the challenges of managing a university golf course and raising a young family, Williams has found the time to make an impact within the association, serving as a Director in ’98 and ’99 and as the newsletter editor since last spring. Williams was also instrumental in developing the highly successful Turfgrass Field Day, which debuted last May at Crystal Springs and will travel to Ruby Hill this year. On March 6th, Williams and Stanford will play host to the first in a series of GCSANC educational meetings that will feature a four-hour Etonic seminar followed by afternoon golf. “Our staff is excited and very much looking forward to hosting the GCSANC and the Etonic Seminar series” says Williams, an education advocate whom you could say is truly at home, down on the farm.

GCSAA Develops Limited Budget Outreach Program

GCSAA is asking local chapters to identify limited budget golf facilities in their area. They will then match those facilities with local superintendent members who are willing to serve as mentors and provide assistance. The overall mission of the program is to help and enhance course conditions in order to help grow the game of golf, thereby fostering increased golfer enjoyment and participation in the sport.

This outreach program will promote communication and technical information transfer between experienced superintendents and those individuals in charge of maintenance at limited budget golf facilities. The program is geared to utilize existing relationships as much as possible and would use a non-threatening approach. Look for more information in the coming months in GCSAA’s Newsline.