



“Cruz Control” - Don Paul, CGCS & DeLaveaga GC

By Ken Williams, CGCS

When it comes to nice places to work in this world, a golf course has to rank right up there. And when your course lies high above the Pacific in beautiful Santa Cruz, California, life is good. That's what Don Paul, CGCS enjoys at the DeLaveaga Golf Course in Santa Cruz, with its entertainment and easygoing life-style, is just a perfect fit for Don.

Don's golf course, DeLaveaga, is an 18-hole Municipal Course owned and operated by the City of Santa Cruz. The course is located in DeLaveaga Park, a 500-acre park donated to the City to use for recreational purposes. The golf course takes up 175 acres of the park and is completely surrounded by natural forest. The course averages a robust 75,000 rounds a year.

Architect Bert Stamps designed DeLaveaga. It plays to a par of 72 and measures 6,300 yards. The course opened in 1970 and has a full driving range, BBQ facility, and restaurant and bar. The course is operated by the City of Santa

Cruz Parks and Recreation staff and has no management company involvement. The maintenance staff numbers 12, including Don, his able assistant Miles Hicks, and quality mechanic Gene Lynberg. All employees are unionized City Maintenance Workers who receive a full benefits package plus salary. The course is a member of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program and is working toward full certification.

Although there are no plans to expand the golf course, Don has stayed busy with a number of improvement projects. The maintenance building and yard have been expanded to facilitate equipment storage and interior improvements to the office, break room, locker room, and restrooms. Bunkers are being renovated both in-house and with the help of a contractor. They are replacing the old sand with an improved whiter one, adding new drainage, and reshaping the contours and edges. Don says, “I've learned a lot of patience in being involved with these projects,

from dealing with City government requirements and red tape, to working with different contractors. One of the most difficult things through all that is trying to produce the results we are looking for.” On top of that, Don is currently seeking a consultant to develop a Golf Course Master Plan for the entire facility.

Don's been at DeLaveaga for nine years where he earned his GCSAA Superintendent Certification in October of 1998. Prior to DeLaveaga, he spent three years as Assistant Superintendent at Marin CC. He also worked on the crew at both Spyglass Hill and Poppy Hills for one-year stints. Don is originally from Corvallis, Oregon and was involved with two golf courses there before moving to California in 1988. Don received his BS degree from Oregon State in Horticulture with a Turf Management Concentration. Don credits his success in the business to the great mentors he's had over the years. It started with OSU professor Tom Cook, and followed with superintendents

Tom Zoller, Dick Fluter, Paul Colleran, Michael Sauls, and Stan Burgess. Don is also quick to credit his father who introduced him to the game of golf at age eight. “My dad gets a lot of credit, for introducing me to the game, teaching me to appreciate the game and the etiquette involved, being my biggest fan and supporter through high school golf.” “He allowed me the opportunity to play thousands of golf courses and encouraged me to pursue the Golf Course Superintendent Field.”

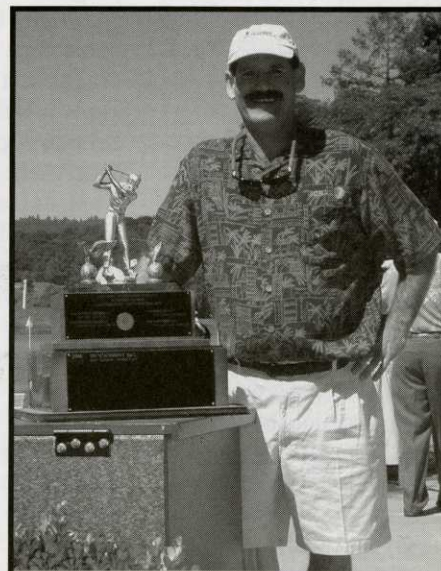
For fun, Don plays golf at least once a week and tries to play tennis twice a week. He's single and loves walking the beaches of Santa Cruz, hanging out with friends, and listening to music. He also enjoys going to church. As far as aspirations go, Don has a great outlook on life, “I just want to be happy in whatever I'm doing, wherever I'm doing it.” And being a well-respected Golf Course Superintendent in beautiful Santa Cruz, it sounds like Don's got things on his own personal “Cruz control.”



Above: Palo Alto Hills 9th Green overlooking the Bay

Left: Host Mike Garvale, CGCS receives a plaque from Jeff Shafer

Right: Gary Skolnik returning the Superintendent/Pro Trophy



See pages 6 and 7 for other pictures



PALO ALTO HILLS SCORING RESULTS

SUPT/PRO TEAM NET BEST BALL

Place	Name	Club/Company	Score	Prize
1st	Rich Bin/Dave Davies	Palo Alto GC	66	\$100
2nd	Mark Doss/Roger Robarge	California Club	66	\$75
3rd	John Snopkowski/Chris Dubas	Santa Teresa	66	\$55
4th	John Maltabano/John Pina	La Rinconada	67	\$45
5th	Mick Soli/Ross Brownlie	Mariners Point	67	\$40
6th	Jason Boldt/Sean Battistini	Vintor's GC	68	\$35
7th	Jeff Pace/Mike Clark	Oakmont GC	68	\$30
8th	Terry Meyers/Mike Basile	Santa Clara GC	68	\$25
9th	Chris Pryor/Forrest Arthur	The Preserve	69	\$20
10th	Ted Anderson/Mike Hill	Moffett Field	69	\$15

2 Person Team Net Best Ball

1st	Kevin Castle/Scott McVicar	Turf Star/Pac Bell Park	60	\$70
2nd	Russ Mitchell/Adrian Bertens	R.Mitchell Irr. Designs /Hydro Engineering	67	\$45
3rd	Mike Ginelli/Mark Condos	Turf Star/Brentwood CC	69	\$35
4th	Mark Rogers/Gordon Cambell	Bay Area Fence/Sky West	69	\$25
5th	Tim Coles/Don Naumann	BlackBerry/Sierra Pacific	70	\$20
6th	Mitch Frasier/Mark Barrentos	Turf Star	70	\$15

Supt/Aff/Member/Guests Ind. Gross

1st	Ross Brownlie	Mariners Point	76	\$75
2nd	Scott Lewis	Menlo Park	78	\$45
3rd	Mike Hill	Moffett Field	80	\$35
4th	Mike McCraw	Seascape GC	83	\$25
5th	Chris Dalhamer	Carmel Valley	85	\$20
6th	Mike Phillips	Pasadera GC	85	\$15

Supt/Aff/Member/Guests Ind. Net

1st	Roger Robarge	California Club	70	\$75
2nd	Dave Davies	Palo Alto GC	72	\$45
3rd	Scott McVicar	Pac Bell Park	72	\$35
4th	Sean Battistini	Vintor's GC	73	\$25
5th	Mitch Frasier	Turf Star	73	\$20
6th	Sam Singh	Tilden GC	76	\$15

Professional Gross

1st	Rich Bin	Palo Alto GC	71	\$400
2nd	Mick Soli	Mariner's Point	72	\$200
3rd	Gordon Cambell	Skywest GC	74	\$130
4th	Jeff Pace	Oakmont GC	74	\$100
5th	Bobby Poole	Menlo CC	74	\$80
6th	John Snopkowski	Santa Teresa	76	\$65

Closest To Pin - Supt/Aff/Member/Guests

"#2 - Dave Archer, Pump Repair Service, 7' 6 1/2"'''

"#5 - Mike Phillips, Pasadera GC, 6' 10"'''

Closest To Pin - Professionals

"#2 - John Snopkowski, Santa Teresa, 6' 1"'''

"#5 - Holly Juergens, Salinas GC, 5' 8"'''

"#11 - Mitch Frasier, Turf Star, 12' 6"'''

"#15 - Don Paul, De Laveaga, 10' 6"'''

"#11 - John Maltabano, La Rinconada, 12' 4"'''

"#15 - Mark Doss, California Club, 8' 0"'''



Jeff Shafer checks in Clark and Rogers

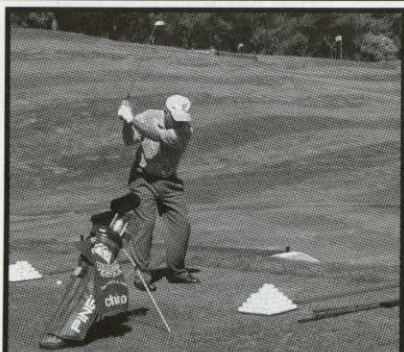
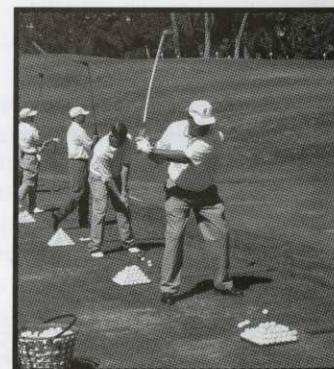


Schwark and Gose share laughs at Superintendent/Pro

Garvale reminds participants to leave the course in better shape than they found it.

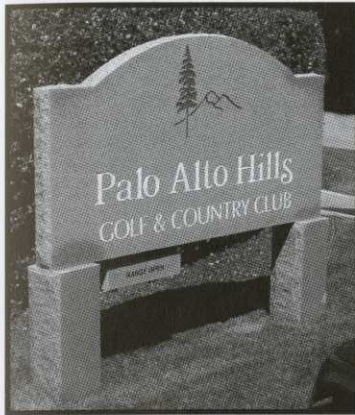


Chris Gose shows off his power move





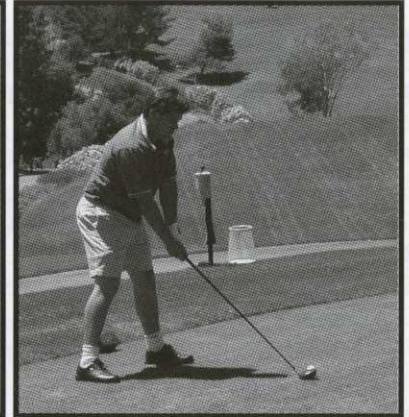
Superintendent/Pro Tournament at Palo Alto Hills



Garvale's wonderful hand action



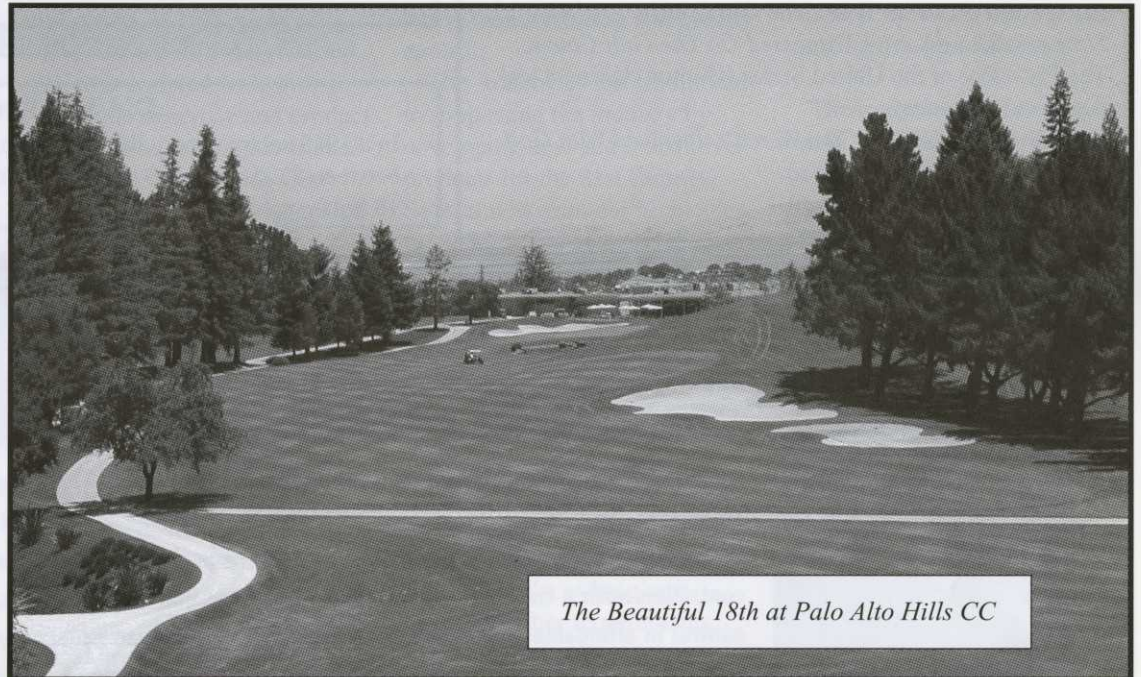
John Pina at impact (Too bad there's water right).



Kevin Eppich lines up a tee shot



Gary Carls Loosens up



The Beautiful 18th at Palo Alto Hills CC



TurfStar's Mark Barientos strokes a putt

Naumann's NorCal News

Mark Licon has left Ruby Hill CC in Pleasanton to become the Supt at The Bridges GC in San Ramon. He is replacing **Mike Orren** who moved on last fall....**Chuck Pratt** is the new Supt at Skywest GC in Hayward. He was the Supt at the newly opened Monarch Bay GC in San Leandro. Chuck was the Supt during the construction of the facility....**Dick Rudolph** has accepted the Supt position at Mountain Shadows GC in Rohnert Park. Dick was the Director of Maintenance at Aviara CC in the San Diego area....**Scott Stambaugh** is the new Supt at Hiddenbrooke CC in Vallejo. Scott was the Supt at Snow Creek GC prior to his move back to the Bay Area....