



## Final Thoughts . . .

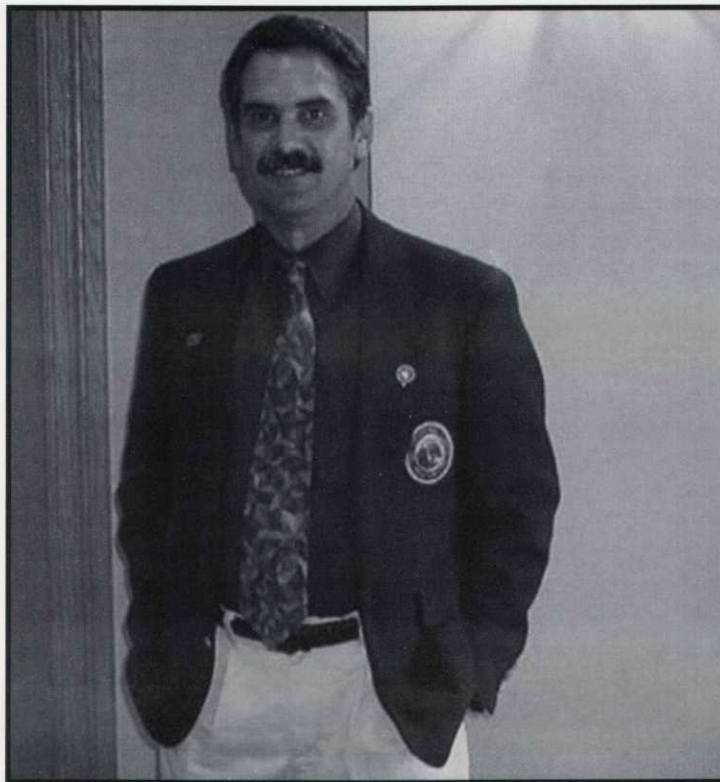
By Bob Costa, CGCS

**G**oing, Going, Gone  
Still reeling from the news of Jason Giambi's departure to the Big Apple, I have somehow managed to gather myself in time to compose what are truly, my final, Final Thoughts. Unlike Giambi, who alleges his life long dream was to wear the Yankee pinstripes, mine was not to wear the Blue Blazer as GCSANC President. However, in retrospect, I'm glad I did. Personally it has been the most rewarding year in my association with the GCSANC, and I owe it to my fellow Board members whom have served you well.

When we gathered in the early spring, we collectively laid out a plan for the coming year. Our objectives were many and included; increasing member participation, providing value for all member classes, establishing new research alliances and recognizing contributing members. As the months past, we remained committed to these goals and now, in the final days of our season together, can take pride in our accomplishments.

### This One's for the Team

Much like Giambi's fellow pinstripers, their success is predicated on the collective efforts of many. **Jeff Shafer** and **Roger Robarge** teamed to develop one of the finest and most organized program schedules I've witnessed, the result of which was rejuvenated meeting attendance. Roger, who has elected to step down after one-term as a Director, didn't go quietly, having already completed the entire 2002 lineup, which will be announced shortly. Roger's efforts will be missed.



**Vince Keats**, in his first year, made a significant contribution working with Gary Carls in the selection and scheduling of GCSAA regional seminars along with the development of our 75th year ad. Vince also played an important role in Ball Mark Repair Week.

Secretary treasurer **Bob Lopic**, came up big again this year during Ball Mark Repair Week. Bob coordinated the booth activity at the Transamerica and as he has on several occasions served as a spokesperson and radio personality for the GCSANC.

**Pat Finlen** made the most of his first year as well, handling the membership chair with ease, as well as spearheading our involvement with the Anguina nematode research project. Pat's currently exploring our ability to create a benevolence fund, which speaks directly to our goal of enhancing member value.

Although he also is concluding a one-year term, **Joel Ahern's** contributions have included chairing the scholarship program, which he completed recently by chairing a committee that selected the 2002 winners.

Our Affiliate members came up huge. **Rex Gentry** put up MVP like numbers as the chair of the scholarship tournament, assisted by **Andy Slack**. In addition, Rex was a behind the scenes contributor at most every golf event and, along with H.V. Carter, hosted many a Board meeting, as well as served as the co-sponsor of the Institute

Finally, I can't say enough about one of our most respected members **Gary Carls**. During his term as past president Gary drafted two bylaw changes, chaired the awards and election committee, served on the Workshop and Institute committee, as our state board represen-

tative, wrote several historical articles and remarkably did not miss a single Board meeting. Gary, deserves all of our thanks.

### In Closing

As for me, I have enjoyed everything this position has brought; the opportunity to lead this association, the many friendships that have developed and the chance to share my thoughts with you each month. It has been one of my goals in my President's message to recognize the accomplishments of the many individuals who have, and will continue to make a difference in the future of this association. Thanks to all of you. I have also attempted to acknowledge the importance of family. To mine, I offer my gratitude for their patience, support and daily inspiration. And, as my final, final thought, I would simply say that as important as it is to dedicate yourself to your job and profession, your family should be the most important thing in your life. And if it is not, you should work harder to make it so. ✍

## Office Notes

By Barb Mikel

### Happy New Year.

2001 is history ! Just to finish "last of last year items", I would like to thank **Laurie Gentry** (Mrs. Rex Gentry, H.V. Carter Co) & **Beth Davies** (Mrs. Dave Davies, Palo Alto Golf Course) for purchasing Holiday gifts (In a weak moment both volunteered to take on that task next year!) Thanks are also due to **Jodi Hayes**, Monterey Beach Hotel( Mrs. David Hayes, Salinas Golf & Country Club). Each year the hotel offers a great venue & great accommo-

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## Office Notes (Cont'd)

dations for our December events. I would like to thank all those wonderful members attending the December meeting! Hope you had as much fun as I did this year!

I think it was the first time all of us just "let down" after September 11. The commercial members came through again with great gifts for the evening activities. Please take a moment to review the list in the newsletter of those contributing to the association. These people support your events throughout the year and need to be acknowledged and supported.

The office is busy with membership renewals. We are still getting GREAT answers to the survey mailed this year. The incoming board of directors will tabulate and compile, getting your guidance on members future needs and wants. One thing I have noticed is almost everyone reads the newsletter! Thanks to **Ken Williams**, CGCS for his continued devotion to the newsletter. Pictures are great too, Ken.

Some of you need to upgrade your membership. Class C members no longer working as assistants need to upgrade. Class B members with three years or more experience as a superintendent need to upgrade to Class A. The GCSAA PDI requirements will impact differently depending on your superintendent classification. We will include a membership application and a membership reclassification application in the February newsletter. Check membership classifications in the membership directory and send in a change of classification request.

Unfortunately, the beginning of the new year means saying goodbye to outgoing board of directors. I have enjoyed working with **Roger Robarge, Rex Gentry & Joel K. Ahern**. Rex did a great job with the Corde Valle Scholarship Tournament. Roger has committed lots of time to arranging club and meeting locations for 2001 and 2002. The Scholarship Committee was ably guided by Joel K. Ahern and awards will be announced later in the year. /



*(Left to Right) Paul Dias, CGCS, Director of Parks and Golf for the City of Palo Alto, and Dave Davies, CGCS, Golf Course Superintendent for Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course, recently joined Emmy Moore Minister on Voice of the Valley Television Show. The program focused on course improvements at Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course as well as the important role of today's golf course superintendents. The show will air on local cable access channels in Silicon Valley and along the San Francisco Peninsula throughout all of San Mateo County.*



*Brian Bagley, Barb, Katie, Gerald and Sara Barber*



*Brian Morris chats with Naumann*