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THRU THE GREEN

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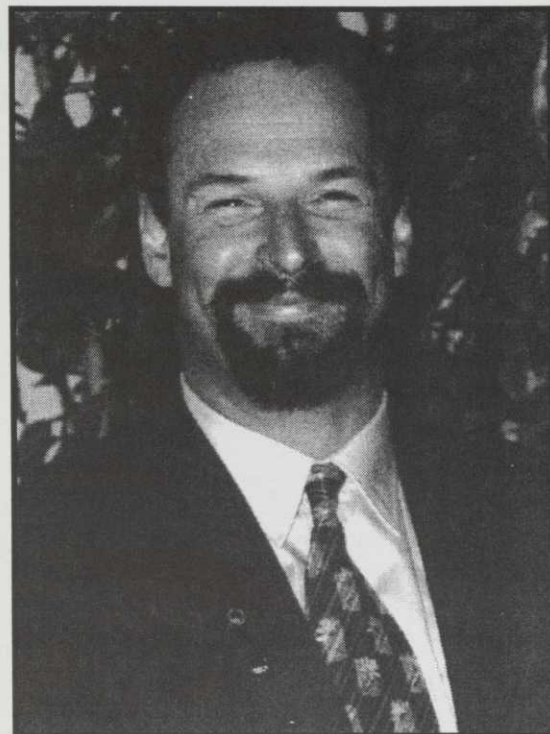
THRU THE GREEN**From The President**

The final installment.... Many have hoped and prayed for this day. Without any further delay lets begin.

I had no idea the influence our December host had on the weather. After a Thursday night rainstorm, the sky cleared and the weather was glorious for golf. Thank you Mr. Bibber and the staff at Del Monte. I'd like to give a special thanks to the entire Pro Shop staff for their work. Terry Grasso reported this to be the easiest event for him due to their efforts. It was another great turn out for dinner and the "entertainment." Congratulations to all the winners. There are always comments about the event. Many are positive some are not. Do we continue with the same format? There has been talk of returning to the Crab Feed of years past. Mentioned in some dark corner was a Casino Night after crab.....please pass your comments on to the Board. It is after all, a party for all to enjoy. We may as well do something enjoyable. A final thank you to the vendors and affiliates who continue to support this event.

The annual meeting is scheduled for January 18. Remember to bring your golf equipment donations for the Alameda Junior Program. Gerry Berrow will be on hand to let us in on his program and accept the donations. We also have the election of officers and our new Affiliate Representative. All interested individuals are encouraged to participate. Finally there is the PDI presentation. Ray Davies, CGCS will be on hand for the presentation. He is also there to take your comments and questions back to the GCSAA Resource Committee. If we don't hear opinions at this meeting then we surely don't really care about the future.

My final thought...I have been fortunate to work with a wonderful group of people on the Board of Directors. We have made decisions, without always agreeing, we

**Dave Davies, CGCS**

have asked for and gotten input and done the best we could with our limited understanding of the desires of the membership. My one disappointment is the lack of involvement from our members. I hope we can find ways to make participation an attractive addition to people's work load. It has been an honor to represent this Association as President for the last 21 months. Thank you for the opportunity. /

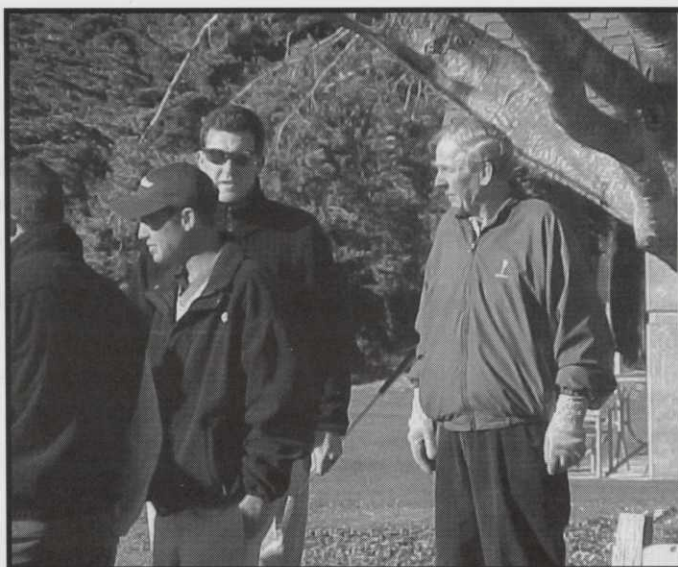
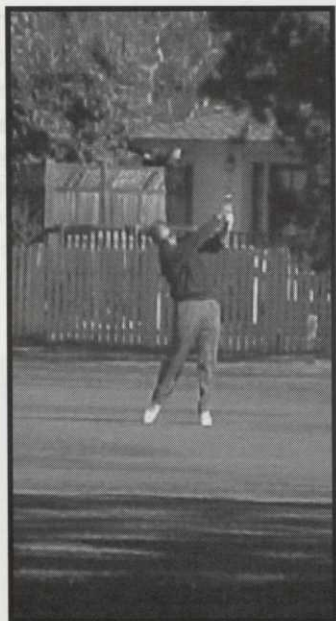
Office Notes

By: Barbara Mikel

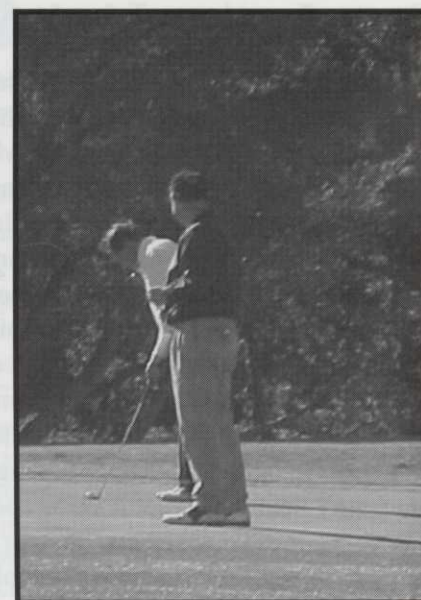
As a member of the USGA, GCSANC recently received an invitation to participate in the USGA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. This meeting is usually held on the east coast and we never get an opportunity to attend. I would like to extend the invitation to a member who would be able to attend. The Fairmont Hotel event on January 22, 2000. Included is a complimentary dinner. If you are interested please let a member of the board or me know. We have an opportunity to send

Office Notes Continued on Page 3

GCSANC has a blast at Old Del Monte



Host Pete Bibber, CGCS and the guys at Old Del Monte



Naumann works with Garvale on the finer points of putting

**See Holiday Meeting Golf Results on page 5*

Office Notes (Cont'd)

more than one person. It is short notice I know, but we do have members in the area! I would only ask to receive a brief synopsis for the newsletter.

Renewals are coming in "hot and heavy". Membership cards are here and will be circulating as I update databases with new information and mail it out to all of you. I know this must sound like a broken record, but please make sure you send in your membership questionnaire. Each year after we publish the directory I get a call from a member wanting to know what his address, telephone number or company name isn't correct. Well folks I can only publish what I have. Your accounting departments sometime fail to forward the questionnaire. When I receive a renewal check without the questionnaire, I fax a second questionnaire to you. If I don't receive this back I can only assume you want your information to remain the same.

This brings me to another point. Some members are requesting a "lower case" email or upper and lower case on email accounts. The **email addresses are not case sensitive**. Dashes, spaces, etc. are important for email address but not letter case. Trying to convert these after they are entered into a database is time consuming! /

Unflappable Dave

course uses recycled water that is blended on site with potable water.

Future plans include expansion of the parking lot, renovation of six more greens, a new practice green complex, and a tree planting program.

Dave's been at Palo Alto nearly seven years now. Previously he was Superintendent at Dry Creek Ranch GC in Galt where he was very active in the Sierra Nevada chapter. He served as an assistant at Sunol, Crystal Springs, and Saratoga CC. Raised in Cupertino, Dave credits all the superintendents he has served under including Paul Dias, Bill Huff, Pete Galea, and Bill Andrade. Dave has his AA in Business Administration and just renewed his GCSAA certification status.

Dave was married in June to his lovely wife Beth. Both Dave and Beth each have two children from previous marriages. Dave enjoys music, snow skiing and of course "The Motorcycle." Dave logs between 5 - 10,000 miles per year on the bike. He's hoping to make Sturgis and the Memorial Day run to Washington DC sometime in the next few years. He's looking forward to a summer vacation now that his major course remodeling is done. He and Beth are talking about going to Canada or Europe in the next couple years.

Dave's shown an unwavering commitment to our Association over the years. He's stepped to the plate and took on way more than anyone expected. He has stood strong through thick and thin and has taken the criticism as well as the compliments. I hope all of you will let Dave know how much he is appreciated, even if it is with just a slug in the shoulder. /

State Justices Limit Scope of Sexual Harassment Lawsuits

The California Supreme Court limited the scope of sexual harassment suits yesterday, ruling that victims can sue their employers but not the co-workers who harassed them.

By a unanimous vote, the high court said the State's harassment laws apply only to employers who know or should know about the offensive conduct and do not stop it.

If an employer fails to take "immediate and appropriate corrective action," Justice Ming Chin wrote in the court's opinion, "there may be an unlawful employment practice, but it is by the employer, not the co-worker."

In a side note, the court made it clear for the first time that if a supervisor is doing the harassing, the employer is automatically liable, whether it knew about the conduct or not. However, it did not address whether supervisors can be held personally liable if they harass people who work under them.

The ruling does not mean that a harasser can escape unpunished. The justices said the co-workers can still be held responsible under other statutes, including battery and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

But the court didn't rule out personal liability if a supervisor is doing the harassing. The bottom line is that supervisors are still on the hook.

Attorney Kathleen Stosuy, said yesterday's decision brings California in line with federal law and most other states. She said the harassment law "is directed at employers, who have the best resources and incentive available to prevent any sort of conduct or deal with it when it occurs." ↗

CDFA Establishes Fire Ant Response Line

The California Department of Food & Agriculture has established a toll-free telephone Pest Response Line for residents to report the locations of any Red Imported Fire Ant colonies on their property or in their neighborhood. The line will be staffed during normal business hours. Residents also may leave a message after hours. RIFA Hotline 1-800-491-1899

Also, more information can be found on the Department of Food and Agriculture's Red Imported Fire Ant page: http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/pests/fire_ants/new/index.html

Naumann's NorCal News

Mark Michaud is leaving his position as Superintendent at Pebble Beach Golf Links and will be taking another position on the East Coast....**Peter Galea** has left the Links Course at Half Moon Bay and is now the Superintendent at Pajaro Golf Course in Watsonville. Pete is replacing **Gary Feliciano** who has moved on to another position at Pasadena GC....**Dan Miller**, Superintendent at the Half Moon Bay Golf Courses is in the middle of another construction project. This time there is a reconstruction of the Ocean Course. Nine holes are being completed this year and the balance in the Spring.....

Welcome New Members

James C. McPhilomy	Class A
Cordevalle Golf Club	
Robert Miller	Affiliate
The Scotts Company	
Cameron Wright	Affiliate
Turf & Industrial Equipment	
Bruce Brown	Class C
Bridges Golf Club	
Joel Erickson	Class C
Cordevalle Golf Club	
Ken Vis	Class C
Tilden Park Golf Course	
William Conrad	Class B
Summitpointe Golf Club	
Chris Dalhamer	Class B
Carmel Valley Ranch	

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Candidate Statements

Candidate Statement – Gary Skolnik

Once again it's time to elect new Board Members. For those of you who don't know me, I'm Gary Skolnik, Golf Course Superintendent at the Fountaingrove Resort and Country Club in Santa Rosa. I feel that since our chapter covers so much area, it would be good to have a North Bay representative on the Board. My big concern has always been member participation at our monthly meetings. With so many environmental issues facing all of us in the next millennium, it is essential that we work together as a group to promote the great aspects of the game of golf.

Candidate Statement – Jeff Shafer

Since 1991, I have been a member of the GCSANC attending monthly meetings when possible. During this time, golf course construction has dramatically limited my ability to attend these meetings as much as any member should that is supporting this organization. During this time, I only attended two to three meetings per year. However, in the beginning of the year 1999, I was approached by the existing Board of Directors to consider offering my time as a Board Member. While I was honored to be considered, I felt that my consideration should only exist when I could actively demonstrate that I can attend not only meetings regularly, but also offer support when needed. During the past year, I made a conscious effort to attend meetings whenever possible, offer support when requested and offer unsolicited comments to the Board.

Therefore, I believe in my heart, that I now have the right to request to the general membership that they consider me as a candidate for the Board of Directors position. I do not take the role of supporting, assisting, and possibly directing, this organization lightly. I look forward to working with the future Board and respectfully request consideration to enhance the outstanding organization we are so proud to be members of.

On a personal side, I am married to my wife Seana and we have two wonderful children, Sean and Taylor. As a family, we enjoy our active role in our local church through Sunday school teaching, drama productions and children's choir directing.

My golf career started in Michigan in 1974 and I have been employed in most aspects of the industry. After relocating to California in 1984, I began in earnest my career in golf course maintenance. I became a superintendent in 1991 and am currently the superintendent for The Course at Wente Vineyards.

Candidate Statement – Mike Hill

Hello, my name is Mike Hill and I am employed at the Moffett Field GC on the Onizuka Air Force Base in Sunnyvale. I have been a member of the GCSANC for two years, formally a Southern California GCSA member for eight years. I have not had the experience of working with either chapter yet, but felt it was about time to become a little more involved.

I enjoy attending as many monthly meetings and other related func-

tions as possible. Therefore becoming involved in chapter Board meetings would be a welcome experience.

Candidate Statement - Bob Costa, CGCS

I am grateful for the nomination to serve as the Vice President of the GCSANC. Although serving as an officer has not been an aspiration of mine, I am excited by opportunity to further my association involvement in a leadership role. As Vice President, I will offer my support to Gary Carls, CGCS as he works to strengthen the media program and increase GCSANC educational activities.

As an officer, I intend concentrate my efforts on the continued growth of the sponsorship program as well as expanding our research activities. It is also my hope to encourage greater participation amongst our association's assistant superintendents.

With the support of the membership and what will soon be a new board, I look forward to the challenges that lie ahead and the opportunity to shape the future of our association.

Candidate Statement - Roger Robarge

Hello, my name is Roger Robarge and I am honored to be a candidate for the GCSANC Board of Director's seat. I have been an active member of the association since 1992 when I was a student member at Cal Poly. Currently, I am the golf course superintendent at the California Golf Club in South San Francisco.

The success of a member-oriented association is the willingness of its membership to actively participate in the organization. When Mr. Davies asked if I was interested in serving on the Board, it was not a question of if I would participate, but rather when I would participate. Please accept my bid for the Director position on the GCSANC Board of Directors. This is my opportunity to give back to the profession, which has been so generous to me. Thank you for your time.

Candidate Statement - Bob Lopic

I would be honored if you would consider me for the position of Secretary/Treasurer of our association. For the past 22 years, I have received many benefits and pleasures from working in our industry with Members of the GCSANC. I would appreciate the opportunity at this time to give something back.

My work experience has included working at private, municipal and resort courses. My mentors have been Fred Mays, Jim Ross, Leonard Walsh and John Fleming. It is my hope that through my experience, I would be able to represent our association fairly.

It has been my good fortune to see first hand what the power of the media can do to further one's career. It would be of special interest for me to facilitate our media director's job by sharing with him the outstanding work done by our members. Thank you for this opportunity to serve you.

* Ken Mangum has withdrawn from the race for Secretary/Treasurer. He will run again for Director. In his place, Sam Snyder, CGCS will run against Mike Wallace.

State Panel OKs Guidelines to Clean Up Runoff Pollution

Attacking the state's most problematic water pollution problem, state regulators pushed ahead with a sweeping effort on December 14, to clean up the urban runoff that continues to taint California's coastline.

The State Water Resources Control Board voted unanimously to approve a 61-point regulatory plan to control runoff. "Polluted runoff is the major environmental pollution problem we're facing in this state," said Mary Nichols, the governor's secretary of resources. "This is definitely a step forward."

The ambitious blueprint requires strict monitoring of coastal water quality and calls on state and local government to aggressively clean up sources of polluted runoff, which can range from pesticides to metals flecked off auto brake pads to the mountains of muck produced at dairy farms.

Any headway will come at a price, by some estimates as high as \$14 billion over the next decade. That staggering bill would be footed by taxpayers as well as affected businesses—most notably the state's booming building industry—that have to alter their current practices. In addition, money earmarked for the cleanup is included in Proposition 13, an environmental initiative on next March's ballot.

Among the changes being studied are al-

tered development strategies to create catch basins for runoff, improvements to do a better job of scrubbing drainage from the state's network of highways and stricter rules for businesses such as restaurants and auto shops. Golf courses were not mentioned specifically but will probably fall under general requirements.

The statewide plan, mandated by the federal government, would set up a three-tier approach. Voluntary rules would first be developed. If the pollution problem didn't improve, regulations would be set in place. And if all else fails, authorities could take tough enforcement steps against the most notorious sources of pollution, fining and dragging a chronic polluter into court.

Next month, the plan will go to the California Coastal Commission, which is expected to approve it, and then to two federal agencies for final review. If the document isn't cemented soon, more than \$5 million in federal funds to jump-start the effort would be jeopardized, water board officials said.

Although cities across the nation are plagued by polluted runoff, Southern California remains the biggest battleground. The paved urban sprawl produces the perfect environment to flush rainwater down storm

drains and concrete flood channels to the sea.

Even small rainstorms can pick up oil, grease discarded by restaurants, lawn fertilizers and other pollutants and carry them out to sea. The flow can continue in even the driest summer months, as runoff from irrigation keeps a trickle of tainted water headed to sea.

Although the federal Clean Water Act mandated controls on urban runoff more than a dozen years ago, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has until recently focused most of its attention on water pollution from industries and sewage plants. Now the agency has made polluted runoff a top priority.

California has lagged behind for years, but its new plan is the most ambitious in the nation. Most coastal states only attempt to address polluted runoff generated near the shoreline. California's plan applies to any watershed that ultimately feeds the sea, in some cases stretching hundreds of miles inland.

The plan also calls for a concerted effort to educate the public and businesses on ways to stop polluted runoff at its source, whether it is not dumping oil in a storm drain or taking steps to avoid summertime over-watering.

"This plan alone is not going to fix our runoff problems," said Linda Sheehan of the Center for Marine Conservation. "They're only going to be solved over time." ↗



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Technology Update: Internet Tools

Here's your guide to some of the free tools we have found that make using the Internet more fun!

- RealPlayer 7. RealPlayer 7 is the latest installment from Real.com. It allows you to play all RealAudio and RealVideo on the internet. Get the RealPlayer 7 at: http://scopes.real.com/real/player/player.html?src=991110choice_1&dc=111211111110
- RealJukebox allows you to play and manage all the music you bring to your PC. Some features of the RealJukebox include putting your own CD collection on your PC and recording CDs. Get the RealJukebox at: <http://proforma.real.com/realjukeboxjukebox.html?src=topnav.991122rjbchoice&dc=112411231122>
- Are you missing phone calls while on the internet? Are you paying for a second phone line JUST for your computer? If so, you may want to check out the Pagoo Call Catcher. Try it for free here: <http://www.pagoo.com/asp/signup/signupwelcome.asp>

Great Links: Consumer Information

Have a question about a certain product? Want to do a little investigating before you buy? Here's a quick guide to some helpful consumer information sites:

- Consumer Reports: <http://www.consumerreports.com>
- Epinions.com: <http://www.epinions.com>
- Bizrate.com: <http://www.bizrate.com>
- Better Business Bureau Online: <http://www.bbbonline.com>
- Consumer's Checkbook: <http://consumer.checkbook.org/consumer>
- Consumer World: <http://www.consumerworld.org>

The government also has sites that provide consumer information:

- Consumer.gov: <http://www.consumer.gov>
- Consumer Info Center: <http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov>

PDI Update

If you haven't yet looked at the Professional Development Initiative (PDI) section on the GCSAA web site, please do so. This is especially important if you cannot make it to the Annual Meeting in Palo Alto. On the site, you'll find a presentation which was given to chapter delegates and includes FAQs and much more.

For more information regarding the PDI, visit: http://www.gcsaa.org/members/pdi/pdi_fr.html

Media News

By Greg Crawford

Over the next year as your Media Director, I would like to increase the environmental stories that we produce out to the media. We have all heard the negativity about golf courses and we know almost all of this to be untrue and rather than just sit back and take it, it is time once again time to be proactive. Proactive is not a bad word either, it is a great term almost always used by responsible people.

I know many of you have great environmental success stories at your golf courses and if you care to share, I will let the media know about them. Please send me an e-mail or call in regards to the above.

I also have a new address and phone for my office:

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Portland, Oregon 97209-3504
Fax and phone (503) 796-0823
e-mail GMCGOLF@compuserve.com

On a similar note, one of our big media supporters was inadvertently left out of the last GCSANC Directory. Hopefully you'll take a look at his publication when you come across it.

Jack Rosol
Golf Today
3357 Cropley Court
San Jose, Ca. 95132
Phone (408) 946-2697
Fax (408) 946-2614

Holiday Meeting Golf Results

Superintendent Gross: (Ayrshire Trophy)	1) Ross Brownlie	74
	2) Bob Lopic	76
	3) David Hayes	76
Superintendent Net: (Larry Lloyd Trophy)	1) Kim Trainer	63
	2) Dave Davies	68
	3) Eric Johnson	69
Affiliate Net:	1) Russ Mitchell	70
	2) Mike Ginelli	71
	3) Perry Taristano	72
	4) Kevin Eppich	72

Closest to the Pin – Supt. Only: Mike Garvale (Prize – Color TV donated by HV Carter)

Selecting The Best Perennial Ryegrass Variety For Golf Course Fairways – The Trial At Sunnyvale Golf Course

By Ali Harivandi and Bill Hagan, UC Extension

On most golf courses in the Northern half of the United States, the choice grass for fairway seeding is perennial ryegrass, primarily due to its seedling vigor and superior playing characteristics. Unfortunately, ryegrasses are susceptible to many turfgrass diseases, including Pythium Blight and Gray Leaf Spot. A rapid increase in use over the past several years of perennial ryegrass monostands (no other turf species included in a seed mix) has turned the latter, which had been a relatively minor disease problem of a few years ago, into the primary perennial ryegrass malady. Since 1995, Gray Leaf Spot, caused by the fungus *Puccinia grisea*, has devastated many golf courses in the Eastern and Central US. Fortunately, the disease has not yet been reported west of the Rocky Mountains; however, undoubtedly, it will not be long before we are dealing with it in California. Although some fungicides temporarily stop the disease, costs for a typical golf course using these chemicals have exceeded \$60,000 annually!

In cooperation with the GCSANC, the National Turfgrass Evaluation program, and the Sunnyvale Municipal Golf Course, we have begun a research trial at the Sunnyvale golf course to evaluate and determine the most suitable perennial ryegrass cultivars for golf course fairways, parks, sports fields, and home lawns. This research seems particularly timely given the rapid and devastating progress of ryegrass diseases including Gray Leaf Spot. We hope to collect information for Northern California golf course superintendents about varietal disease tolerance, as well as environmental suitability. Because we believe some perennial ryegrasses will possess greater natural resistance to this disease than others, we have included and established as many different varieties as we could find. Variance in disease tolerance should be quickly apparent. Our plots include all commercially available and experimental perennial ryegrass varieties. We will not purposely inoculate the disease, but wait for natural infestation. If we never get the disease (which would be fantastic!), the information we develop on performance characteristics of these varieties will still help to the California golf and landscape industries choose the most suitable cultivars for their use.

Preparation of the trial site at Sunnyvale began in early October of 1999. The plot area (110 ft. x 120 ft.) was sprayed with Roundup (donated by Mike Ravel of United Horticultural Supply) several times to kill existing weeds. The site was then tilled several times and leveled for seeding. Preplant fertilizer (donated by Chuck Dal Pozzo of the Scotts Company) was incorporated into the seedbed and the irrigation

system (including components previously donated by Mike Ginelli of West Star Distributing, and Craig Stenehiem of RV Cloud) was upgraded. On October 19, 1999, 144 commercial and experimental perennial ryegrass varieties were hand seeded at the rate of 6-lb./1000 sq. ft. in 5 ft. x 5 ft. plots, replicated 3 times, in a randomized complete block design. Seeds were lightly raked by hand and irrigated to start germination. Plot perimeters were seeded with tall fescue (donated by Dave Gilpin of Pacific Coast Seed.) Seeding took eight people three days to complete. Grass on all plots germinated successfully and established seedlings were mowed for the first time in late November.

This research will run for three to five years. During this period, plots will be irrigated as needed, using potable water. Depending on cultivar performance, we may eventually switch to irrigating with reclaimed water to evaluate their response to salinity. Plots will be mowed at 1.5 inches to 2 inches regularly. On a monthly basis, we will evaluate these varieties for various quality components and disease activity. We will summarize data annually and provide annual preliminary reports to the industry. A final report at the end of the study should provide the basis for perennial ryegrass variety recommendations for use on golf courses and other sports grounds in N. California.

We are very excited about this new project. In addition to the groups and individuals mentioned above, we wish to acknowledge on behalf of the UC Cooperative Extension the generous assistance of the following individuals:

Sunnyvale Municipal Golf Course: Curtis Black, Chris Gose, Tommy Bracamonte, Jose Medina, Fernando Velez, and Emilio Perez.

UC Cooperative Extension Volunteer: Roy Yokote /

In Memoriam:

Tracy Barcelona of Becker-Underwood suddenly collapsed at his desk Thursday morning December 16th. The cause of death is believed to be either a brain aneurysm or congenital heart failure. He was 38 years old.

Tracy was very involved in both the State and Southern California chapters. A graduate of Cal Poly Pomona, Tracy spent many years with Germain's Seeds. He had recently taken the position with Becker-Underwood following work representing Allied Custom Gypsum. Tracy is survived by his wife Bonnie and two children Cameron age ten, and Haley age four.

Tournament Tips for January

By Terry Grasso

Superintendents, bring your assistants to the Annual Meeting on January 18 at Palo Alto GC. This is the first Annual Meeting of the Association to be held in January. It's a great opportunity to break free from the course and attend this special event. We are anticipating a large turnout for the meeting.

Remember to bring all the used golf equipment you can find for the Alameda Junior Golf Program. The best part of the day may be after the meeting, when we get to play the recently remodeled Palo Alto GC!

Rain Bird Sponsors Turf Scholarships

Thanks to a sponsorship from **Rain Bird International**, four golf architecture and turfgrass students will have a chance to tour some of the best golf courses in the United States this spring.

The Grand Tour Scholarship, organized by Bettina Schrickel, a graduate student at the British Institute of Golf Course Architects (BIGCA) and design associate with GOLFPLAN-The Ronald Fream Design Group Limited, offers two study tours of leading golf courses in the United States. Two students will be selected for each route. The western route includes a tour of 18 golf courses in three weeks and the eastern route includes a tour of 22 golf courses in four weeks. Both tours will be held annually in April. Airplane tickets, rental cars, travel expenses and cellular phones for the journey will be provided. Applicants must be at least 21 years old, have a valid passport and an international driver's license.

The application deadline for the April 2000 tours is Jan. 20, 2000. For information and an application form, fax your request to Bettina Schrickel in Wildenbruch, Germany, at (011) 49-33205-64035.

Quick Quote

"One who slings mud into the air will eventually find it upon his head."

— Iranian Proverb —

San Joaquin Delta College Offers Turfgrass Certificate Program

San Joaquin Delta College in Stockton is offering a turfgrass certificate program designed to teach students the skills necessary for employment in the turfgrass industry. The two-year program consists of 17 courses totaling 48 units. The program is made up of courses selected from the GCSAA list of approved courses. Classes include plant ID, turf, landscape design, maintenance, and construction, irrigation, entomology and equipment operations. As part of the program, students will be required to gain hands-on experience at local golf courses or sports facilities. For more information, contact Michael Toscano at 209-954-5501 or email him at mtoscano@sjdccd.cc.ca.us

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