

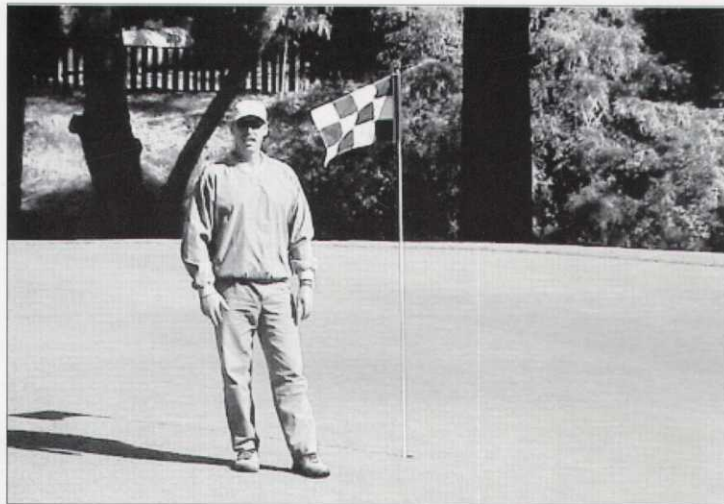


BOULDER CREEK'S

Bill Keller To Host The GCSANC This Month



Bill Keller, G.C.S.
Boulder Creek Golf & Country Club



Club in preparation for the '98 US Open.

Bill has faced numerous challenges during his tenure at Boulder Creek. His course averages 65" of rain a year and he has seen temperatures as low as 8 degrees and as high as 112 degrees. In the El Nino year of 1997-98, his course received an amazing 108" of rainfall. He lost portions of fairways to the surging Boulder Creek and could not mow for over three

Bill is looking forward to hosting the GCSANC. He proclaims that there are some great places to stay alongside the golf course and hopes to see everybody come up.



"This really is a special place, I hope everyone gets a chance to experience it."

By Ken Williams

I wish you could hear Bill Keller describe his golf course. Just talking with him brings out a feeling of emotion and love for this wonderful course set amongst the towering redwoods. Located high in the Santa Cruz mountains, Boulder Creek G & CC is an ideal setting to host golf for this year's Institute Meeting. With tennis, swimming, and a great stay/play package, Boulder Creek should be a great way to conclude the two-day educational event.

Boulder Creek's history is really a story of two nines. The front, built in 1961 by Jack Fleming, shows many signs of the influence of Dr. Alister Mackenzie. The back nine was constructed in 1971, done by retired superintendent Leonard Walsh. The back lies on what was an old airport runway. In fact, the current maintenance building utilizes an old airplane hangar. The course is a par 65 executive design with about 55 acres of maintained turf. Bill has a crew of eight, plus a mechanic in season and drops down to four or five in the winter.

Bill Keller started at Boulder Creek in 1988 just as Leonard Walsh was about to retire. Bob Lopic was there at that time and soon became superintendent. Bill is quick to credit both Lopic and Walsh for their inspiration and help in the business. Bill took over as superintendent in 1996 when Bob moved on to the Olympic

months. One of his biggest challenges has been dealing with an increasing number of wild pigs.

The photos demonstrate the destruction the pigs can inflict. Bill has utilized a fencing system to exclude the "Mad Swine" from his most problematic fairways but still sees the pigs a little more often than he'd like.

Growing up in Southern California, Bill's first career was in commercial fishing. His first trip out was at age 13. He fished for a number of years, even spending time on the big Purse Seiners out of San Pedro. Fishing is now simply Bill's hobby. He has a boat he can quickly jump on down at the harbor. He goes out fishing a lot, many times with fellow superintendent Dean Gump in tow. When talking fishing, Bill understates his ability, but notes, "Well, I still know how to find a few fish out there."





Presidents Message

By Jeff Shafer

ASSOCIATION BUDGET

Your current Board of Directors has worked extremely hard the last several years to provide quality meetings and functions that meet the needs of all the members, but to also control costs. The last two years have produced meetings that break even financially, such as the Superintendent – Pro and Annual meeting, or have reached the targeted revenue goals, such as the Institute and Scholarship meetings. Though these efforts have been successful, the bottom line is that the expenditures required to continue the association requirements have exceeded our revenue sources. All of you are well aware of how the economic times continue to change within your own respective businesses, and this association is no different.

Therefore, the Board has submitted an official filing request, per the bylaw requirements, for a proposed dues increase for 2003. In order that every member has the opportunity to completely understand our financial situation, Pat Finlen, CGCS, your current Secretary-Treasurer, will be providing specific economic details in the December newsletter.



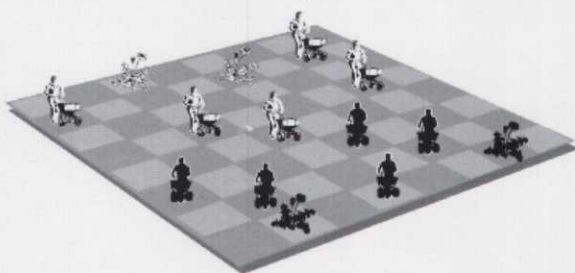
Jeff Shafer
The Course At Wente Vineyards

Before commenting on this increase, please take the time to get all the facts. While the next newsletter will provide many details, our Board meetings are a great way to experience what is happening within the association. These meetings are always open to the membership. Additionally, you can always reach any Board Member through e-mail or telephone. I commend every Board member for their hard work in this area. I hope you will take the time to get a complete understanding of the issue. Your educated support for the increase will not only be appreciated by the current membership, but for those that follow.

In addition, I would like to thank every affiliate who is a member of our association. Every one of your membership dollars is appreciated. To those active in our sponsorship programs, meeting attendance and other areas, THANK YOU! We cannot run our business effectively without your generous support.



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Office Notes

By Barb Mikel

Wow, time flies! So what else is new? It's time for you to renew your membership. The dues statements are being mailed this month. Your membership runs from January to December. The bylaws specifically require dues to be paid with any late assessments by January 2003. If you pay by December 31, 2002 you're ok. Anything after that date requires another \$20.00.

If you are like me, you don't like getting renewal notices three months in advance. Last year we began to send only one notice and the "FINAL" notice. We save considerable time and money (postage and printing costs) by only sending two notices.

Accompanying your dues statement is an Employment Update Questionnaire. This is the time to make changes to telephone numbers, emails, mailing addresses, place of employment, etc. Membership classification is included for your information. If you need to upgrade or reclassify, please contact the office. There is no charge to change classifications but we do need a signed application for our records.



Barb Mikel - GCSANC
Executive Secretary

Information provided by the questionnaire will be used update the Membership Directory.

We want to include all the members with their current information. Your help with a prompt response is greatly appreciated. I have a board approved deadline for submission of membership information of January 31, 2003. If you don't provide changes to your membership information WE MUST assume what we currently have it correct. Any member who hasn't processed the membership renewal by January 31, 2003 will be excluded from the new directory. I must have your check for dues renewal and any outstanding balances owed to the Association by that date. If there is a question regarding balance due, you must contact the office prior to January 15, 2003.

An example of what happens when I make "last minute" changes to the directory information was the unfortunate exclusion of Clifford and Myrtle Wagoner from this past directory. I can only apologize to the two of them. This omission was due to the printer making a last minute change to another record.

Please make a note of the current information:
Clifford & Myrtle Wagoner
1233 Kansas Ave
Modesto CA 95351
camgwagon@aol.com
209 523-7141

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Particles Per Square Inch Calculator

		Size Guide Number (SGN)					
		100	125	150	175	215	240
Pounds Product Per Acre	100	7.2	3.7	2.1	1.3	0.7	0.6
	125	9.0	4.6	2.7	1.7	0.9	0.7
	150	10.8	5.5	3.2	2.0	1.1	0.8
	175	12.6	6.5	3.7	2.4	1.3	0.9
	200	14.4	7.4	4.3	2.7	1.5	1.0
	225	16.2	8.3	5.0	3.0	1.6	1.2
250	18.0	9.2	5.3	3.3	1.8	1.3	

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Nauman's NorCal News



Jim Guthrie has left Saddle Creek G. C. in Copperopolis. His replacement has yet to be named....**Tom Huesgen** and the staff at Pebble Beach Golf Links are looking forward to moving into a new 18,000 square foot maintenance facility. The new shop is located along the 10th fairway....**Tracy Shanahan** has recently completed the rebuilding of two new greens at Saratoga G & CC.... **Troy Flanagan** at Roundhill CC in Alamo, is putting on the finishing touches of two new greens at his course....

In the last few weeks, there were some outstanding professional events going on in the Bay Area, the LPGA was at HiddenBrooke CC in Vallejo (**Sean Battistini**, Supt), the PGA Seniors were at Silverado CC (**Bill Hamilton**, CGCS Supt) and the Buy.Com Tour was at Bayonet/Black Horse Golf Courses (**Tom Bevan**, Supt.) **Bevan** is also hosting two stages of PGA Tour Qualifying this month...



OVERSEEDING...Part II

I would like to amplify my article Overseeding – Boon or Curse?

(September 2002) with the following points:

by David L. Wienecke - USGA Green Section Agronomist

- Few issues generate more controversy in golf course management today than the topic of overseeding. This issue is very complex and no one article can adequately address all these issues. As economic concerns are coupled with increasing competition between golf courses controversial issues, such as overseeding, become more not less controversial.

- There are both benefits and problems with overseeding. Our goal in making agronomic decisions regarding golf course management is to provide the best quality playing conditions possible throughout the year. The basic problem is that in the warm-season turf areas of the Southern United States no one grass will provide perfect conditions 12 months of the year. This is true whether golf course overseeding is done or not.

- In California, numerous microclimates exist. Even small distances between golf courses may require different cultural requirements for turf health and vigor. Overseeding and bermudagrass transition success are ultimately founded on climatic conditions, such as light intensity and quality, soil and air temperatures, water quality.

- Golf course cultural procedures also affect overseeding and bermudagrass transition success. Cultural practices that enhance turf health including mowing height and frequency, fertility program, irrigation procedures, and cultivation procedures (i.e. core aeration, vertical mowing, sand topdressing) have dramatic impacts on turf quality.

- A recent example illustrates the value of good cultural practices. A superintendent in southern California who has had good results over the past 15 years from his overseeding program has also found routine core aeration, vertical mowing, and sand topdressing of his fairways are needed to maintain turf quality and health. Golf courses that stop sand topdressing or other cultural programs inevitably find reduction in bermudagrass and overseeding success. The bottom line in all these discussions is that proper agronomic procedures for turf health of both the

cool-season and warm-season grasses are needed. To simplify the overseeding discussion to only the overseeding neglects the real issue of overall turf health. Both warm and cool-season turf health is necessary year-round if overseeding is to be successful.

- There is a direct correlation between staff and budget levels for golf course maintenance and golf course playing quality. The maintenance staff and budget level should be tied to cultural requirements needed to produce the playing quality expected by the golfers who are paying to play there. Overseeding decisions are agronomic decisions that should be based on their effect on play quality just like any other maintenance choices for golf course maintenance.

- Overseeded areas will provide a green playing surface during warm-season winter dormancy periods. This is especially important in areas with high numbers of winter play.

- Overseeded areas provide turfgrass fill in for areas with poor turf density. This procedure will also protect and stabilize soil during winter dormancy periods. Golf play especially when carts are used can be very disruptive to dormant turf.

- Weed encroachment is a topic that illustrates the complexities behind these agronomic decisions. While overseeded areas may reduce weed encroachment by some weeds due to providing increased turf density following overseeding establishment, (i.e. two to four weeks after seeding), the cultivation, planting, and irrigation procedures applied during the overseeding may also increase spread and encroachment of weeds. There are annual and perennial weed seeds and reproductive plant parts always available for growth when conditions favoring growth occur. This reservoir of weeds is referred to as a seed bank. The seed bank is a primary source of *Poa annua* (annual bluegrass) spread. As an example, *Poa annua* seeds remain viable in the soil for up to six years.

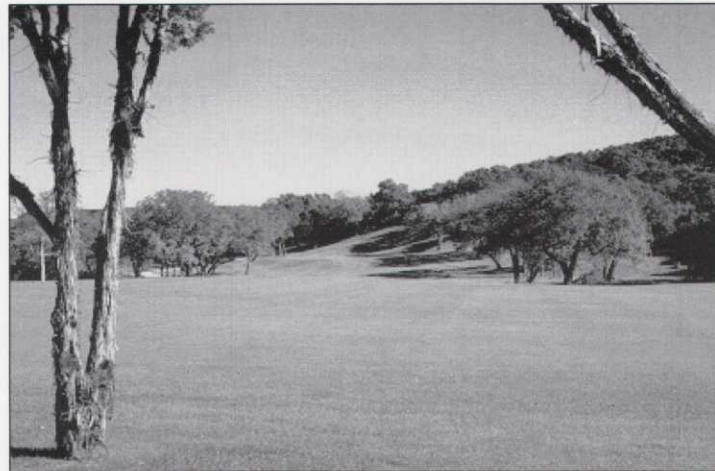
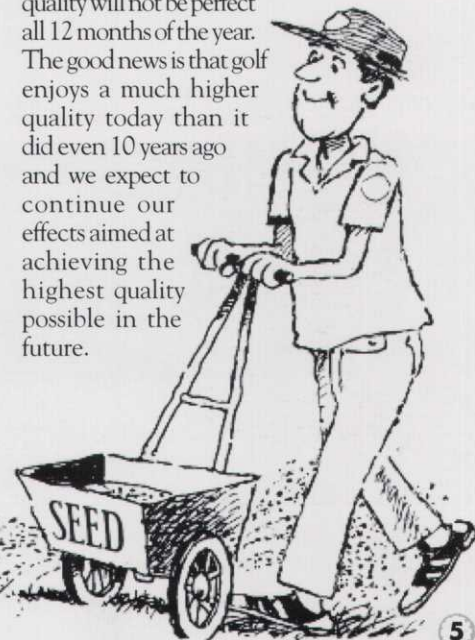


Photo provided by Spot Water Management

- Golf play, cart traffic, mowing, cultivation, and natural processes, such as frost, flood, hail, and drought, are also disruptive to the turf surface. The golf course turf playing surface is a living organism subjected to many changes during a 12-month period. This is true whether overseeding is done or not.

Conclusion

Overseeding provides benefits and problems at golf courses throughout the Southern United States. The issue is complex as are many of the agronomic decisions made at golf courses year round. Most golfers simply want the best playing surface possible year round. It takes a combination of sound agronomic practices conducted by educated professions supported by the golfing public to successfully achieve this goal. Unfortunately, turf quality will not be perfect all 12 months of the year. The good news is that golf enjoys a much higher quality today than it did even 10 years ago and we expect to continue our effects aimed at achieving the highest quality possible in the future.





Putting the Breaks on the Anthracnose Epidemic

Rerearchers Offer New Hope for Preventing an Anthracnose Outbreak on Your Course

Adopted from an article written by Dr. Bruce Clark and Dr. James Murphy Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Anthracnose has to be one of the most dreaded—and deadly—turfgrass diseases to affect golf courses—and golf course superintendents. Few know that better than the superintendents along the East Coast and mid-western states where, over the past few years, this disease has soared in incidence and severity—and has been extremely difficult to control.

Fungicides normally used to control the disease were frequently ineffective, even when used at labeled rates and at recommended intervals of application. The result: Many golf courses suffered extensive damage and major disruptions in play, particularly on greens.

This left superintendents scratching their heads, while agronomists and pathologists searched for some answers. Though it's doubtful that any particular factor is responsible for the recent increase in anthracnose in the U.S., the researchers do agree that certain management practices commonly employed on golf courses may be enhancing the severity of this disease and making it more difficult to control.

What follows is a look at how the disease evolves, as well as how various management practices may be setting the stage for anthracnose. Last but not least, the researchers offer some helpful hints on what you might do to prevent an anthracnose outbreak on your course.



Fig 1. Yellowing and general thinning associated with early symptoms of anthracnose on *Poa annua*.

Telltale Symptoms and Signs of Anthracnose

At its onset, anthracnose—caused by *Colletotrichum graminicola*—seems harmless enough: small patches of yellow to reddishbrown turf just one to two inches in diameter (see Figure 1). But give it the right conditions and this insidious killer takes off, rapidly becoming large, irregularly shaped areas of discolored turf. The pathogen may first infect older or senescing leaves, causing yellow leaf lesions (see Figure 2). But at the slightest hint of mechanical or environmental stress, the pathogen dives deep, attacking the weakened plants' stems and leaf sheaths. Causing an affliction commonly known as basal stem rot, the lesions on the stems and leaf sheaths are, at first, water soaked but quickly turn black as the tissue is destroyed.

At this point, the plant's death is almost certain. But unfortunately, the disease lives on and can be unwittingly—and quite easily—spread.

Here's how it works: If you were to look at the affected foliage and stems, you'd generally see, at this stage, that they're covered with small, black protrusions or reproductive structures called acervuli.

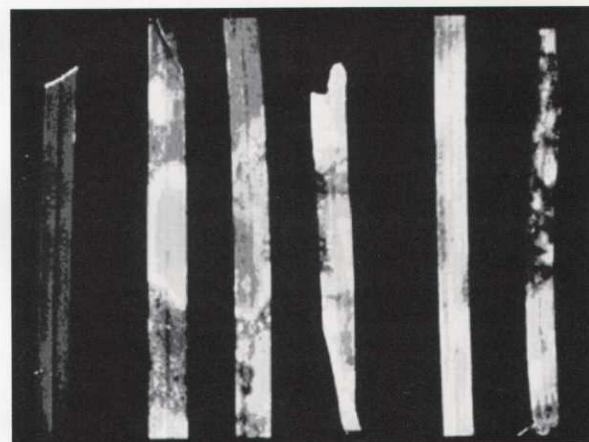


Fig 2. Leaf spots caused by *Colletotrichum graminicola* on *Poa annua*.

As the acervuli mature, they produce long, black spines called setae, which are the telltale signs of anthracnose (see Figure 3). Each acervuli contains dozens of one-celled, crescent-shaped, asexual spores called conidia. It's the conidia that spread the disease to uninfected turf when moved by wind, water, or unavoidable mechanical means.

Unfortunately, this disease can strike almost any time of year, but it most commonly makes an appearance between April and September. It's not picky about which turfgrass species it infects, but it is particularly severe on annual bluegrass (*Poa annua* L.) and a little less so on creeping bentgrass (*Agrostis stolonifera* L.).

Annual bluegrass is generally hardest hit because it's the weaker of the two turfgrasses with a prolific production of seed heads, particularly between late April and early June.

Aside from being undesirable to golfers, these seed heads are often the culprit in anthracnose infections—primarily because they often deplete the essential carbohydrate reserves of the plant by early summer. This weakens the plant and, ultimately, its defenses against anthracnose, particularly if there are environmental stresses, such as hot, humid weather.

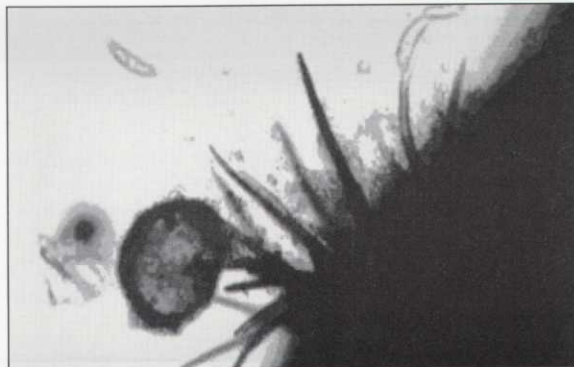


Fig 3. An acervulus with black setae and one-celled conidia produced by the anthracnose pathogen, *Colletotrichum graminicola*.

For best results, do not apply more than two or three consecutive applications of any fungicide used to control anthracnose.

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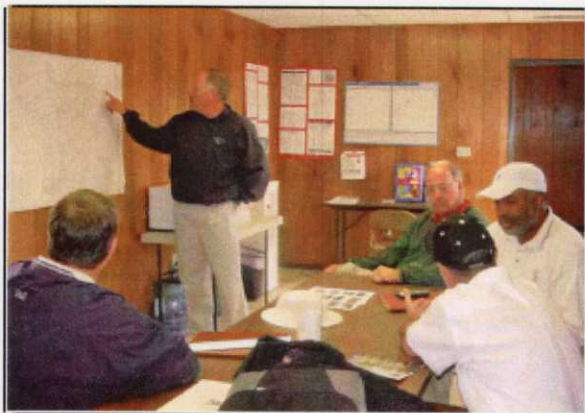


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A Brief Biography of George Santana

By Gary K. Carls CGCS

On June 6, 1932 a group of 20 greenkeepers from Northern California met at the Presidio Golf Club in San Francisco and formed the Northern California Greenkeepers Association that later became the GCSANC. They were among the first group of superintendents to form a chapter that would work to provide opportunities for their members to meet and share information. One of the members attending this meeting was George Santana of San Jose Country Club.

Those early years were the important to building the strong foundation for the association we have today. George Santana was first elected to the board of directors in 1934 and was elected president in 1936. As the depression and World War II hit many courses struggled to survive. Supplies, staff and equipment were all in short supply, as everything was concentrated to the war effort. This was also tough times for the association. A few members like George Santana helped hold the association loosely together until the end of the war and the return to a fairly normal life in the area. In April of 1946 a reorganization meeting was held at Green Hills Country Club in Millbrae with Stanley Pitcher

leading the effort as the new association president. In the coming years George Santana rarely missed a chapter meeting.

George Santana left his position at San Jose CC in 1946. In 1947 George and Aubrey Babson built a golf hole at the Livermore Veterans Hospital for the patients. He later worked at Almaden CC in San Jose directing course construction. George Santana returned to the GCSANC BOD in 1958-59 while he was working at the El Rancho Verde Golf Club (*Alma GC*), a course that he owned and managed. He also was involved in the design and construction of several golf courses in the bay area including Santa Teresa GC in 1962. In 1964 George was named the chairman of the Northern California Turfgrass Council. In 1974 in recognition of all his contributions to his chapter, George was made an honorary life member of GCSANC.

The respect he had earned from his fellow superintendents was always evident when George Santana was around. Cliff Wagoner CGCS said that George earned that respect from his fellow superintendents by setting a great example and always encouraging them

to better themselves. He was very down to earth and always went out of his way to help whenever he could. Jim Ross recalled how George was the first superintendent to come over and introduce himself and offer assistance when he started working at La Rinconada CC in the early 60's. His first comment when I asked him about George was "what a nice guy." My first memories of George Santana were when he and his group would make occasional visits to play at Los Altos CC in the mid 80's. He remained an excellent golfer in his later years and was known to have shot his age on several occasions.

In 1987 George Santana was the first recipient of the GCSANC Distinguished Service Award in honor of his years of service and dedication to the superintendents of Northern California. When George passed away in 1992 the award was renamed the George Santana Distinguished Service Award in his honor. His great dedication to our profession and the fine example he set for all of us is why this award is the highest honor a member of our chapter can receive. Without the strong dedication of many of these early founding fathers GCSANC would never have become the strong association that it is today.

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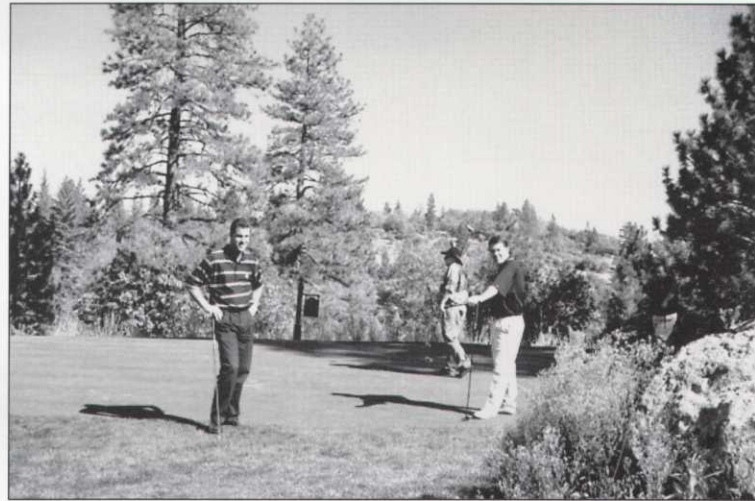
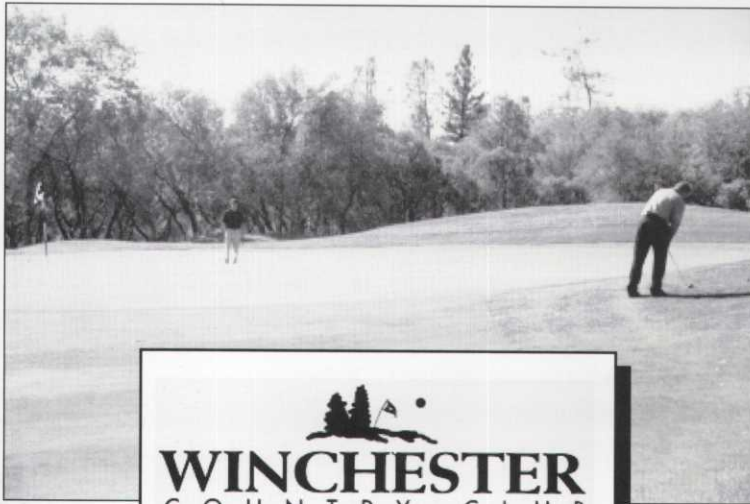
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WINCHESTER GOLF EVENT



Jason Green ignores another Brownlie shot down the middle.



GOLF Tournament Scoreboard SNGCSA/NCGCSA

Hosted by Sierra Nevada

Low Net:

1st Low Net: Jack Prust

2nd Low Net: Rick Lantgen

3rd Low Net: Pete Fredeen

Low Gross:

1st Low Gross: Scott Lewis

2nd Low Gross: Ross Brownlie

3rd Low Gross: Mike Nunemacher

Closest to The Pin:

#2 Hole: Ross Brownlie **5'-6"**

#15 Hole: Joe Gardner **2'-6"**

**NorCal Victory In
Ryder Cup Matches:
7 - Points to 4 - Points**



The greens were SLICK at Winchester!



Kevin Breen, CGCS, Tim Sedgley, CGCS and Mike Souza on the green.



WINCHESTER COUNTRY CLUB

One of NorCal's most elite destinations, Winchester Golf and Country Club is located at the base of the Sierra foothills. The course features sweeping panoramas, fairways that reward creativity and the design expertise of Robert Trent Jones.



"Ryder Cup" participants strike a pose at Winchester Golf and Country Club.



Jim Husting, CGCS, Bob Lopic and Scott Lewis, CGCS



Chapter Execs. Irene and Barb



A time to network and catch up with old friends.



*NorCal's Board Members:
Mike Hill, Jeff Shafer and P.J. Spellman*



GOVERNOR DAVIS SIGNS CLOPYRALID BILL

SACRAMENTO

The governor signed A.B. 2356, to address compost contamination prevention. The golf course exemption was removed from the bill and golf courses will be required to go through the regulatory process to obtain an exemption to continue to use products containing clopyralid. A.B. 2356 will:

- 1) Prohibit all persons except licensed pest control dealers from selling pesticides that contain the active ingredient clopyralid;
- 2) Allow only pesticides containing clopyralid that are labeled for lawn and turf, including golf courses, to be sold to qualified licensed applicators;

3) Require the Dept. of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), by Apr. 1, 2003, to determine in writing those lawn and turf applications where there is "no reasonable likelihood that the specified use will result in persistent residues in compost."

4) After this determination, the DPR will either impose restrictions or cancel the lawn and turf uses the agency decided did not meet the criteria above.

Text of A.B. 2356:

http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/bill/asm/ab_2351-2400/ab_2356_bill_20020916_chaptered.html



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