



DBD Structures Streamlines Turf Care Facility Development

By Kenneth Williams, CGCS



DBD Structures, a GCSANC Affiliate Member and design/build general contractor specializing in the design, permitting and construction of golf course turf care facilities is our Lead Sponsor for this year's Superintendent's Institute, November 4th and 5th in Santa Cruz. Ken Williams recently sat down with Brian Gaunce, President of DBD Structures to learn more about Brian, the Company and their involvement with GCSANC.

Brian Gaunce, President of DBD Structures

Ken: The GCSANC appreciates DBD Structures' involvement with the Association. What made you decide to provide lead sponsorship for the Superintendent's Institute this year?

Brian: Since DBD Structures joined the Association we have been very impressed with both the high quality of the organization and the warm reception we have received from the members. We have participated as a minor sponsor at previous events including last year's Institute, where I was a speaker, and we wanted to do something to assist the Association in a more substantial way. Sponsoring the Superintendent's Institute is a great opportunity to acknowledge the support the members of the Association have given us.

Ken: Tell me about DBD Structures. How long has the Company been in business?

Brian: Well first off, perhaps I should tell you a bit about myself. I was raised and educated in Canada where I received a degree in Civil/Structural Engineering from Queen's University in 1982. After emigrating to the Bay Area in 1983, I worked for a structural engineering firm and two large general contractors until 1987. I formed DBD Structures in late 1987 and we have grown the Company from there.

DBD Structures offers both General Construction and Project Management services. Our mission is the consistent delivery of project excellence through our commitments to professionalism, honesty and attention to detail.

Our abilities include seismic/structural upgrades, ground-up buildings, tenant improvements, building redevelopment and specialty projects. Our project experience includes the redevelopment of the 750,000 SF Townsend Center and seismic upgrade of 625 Market Street, both in San Francisco and the ground-up construction of a 60,000 SF warehouse building for Frito-Lay in Alameda.

Ken: How did DBD Structures become involved in the design and construction of golf course turf care facilities?

Brian: Our involvement traces back to a call I received from Walt Barret at Greenhills Country Club in Millbrae back in 1997. DBD Structures is a dealer for Star Building Systems and Walt responded to a flyer we sent out promoting Star buildings for golf course turf care facilities. We supplied and erected the building for Greenhills, which won Star's 2000 Master Builder Award by the way, and things have expanded from there.

Turf Care Facilities are a perfect project type for our Company. They work best as design/build projects, they are a great application of our Star Building Systems product, they are relatively complex (particularly when you consider the hazardous materials used and waste streams generated by the facility), the project size is a comfortable fit for the Company and we get to work with a great group of customers...the superintendents of the GCSANC!

Ken: What projects does DBD Structures have on the go today?

Brian: We are particularly pleased to have recently received a design/build contract award from Lou Tonelli and the Lake Merced Golf and Country Club for their new 10,000 SF Turf Care Facility and 1.0 million gallon Irrigation Water Storage Tank for well water and tertiary treated waste water. We started design on the Project last week. We have several other projects in the pipeline, however we can't discuss these yet.

Ken: You have mentioned "design/build" several times...What exactly does design/build mean?

Brian: Design Build is a process where the contractor is completely responsible for the design, permitting and construction of the Project. Design/Build streamlines the development cycle, improving the functionality and quality of the project while saving both time and money for the customer. This method also provides a

single point of contact and responsibility for the customer...so there isn't any "finger-pointing" between the design team and the contractor if things aren't going right. The majority of our project personnel are degreed engineers or architects, with many years of construction experience, so we are particularly qualified to deliver projects using the design/build method.

Ken: How is your golf game?

Brian: Well...I golfed every day, all summer long as a teenager in Northern Canada, but I'm just getting back to it as an adult. So I would have to say that I've got a lot of work ahead of me!

Ken: Any last thoughts?

Brian: I just want to take this opportunity thank the members of the GCSANC for their generous support of DBD Structures. It is a pleasure to be able to acknowledge this support by sponsoring the Institute this year. Man-Yin Tang, Jim Aude, Greg Vicas, Jim Strickland and I will all be attending the event, it will be a great program and we look forward to seeing all of you there!



Greenhills Country Club Turf Care Facility

Presidents Message

By Jeff Shafer

THANK YOU!

One of the many special rewards of being involved in our association is to repeatedly watch person after person step up from behind the scenes.

Jo Harlow has been involved in publishing our newsletter for years. Jo recently notified us that she would be retiring from that duty to spend more time with her family. Jo, THANK YOU for your dedicated work and putting up with those missed superintendent deadlines! Once we were notified, Ken Williams and Bob Costa quickly organized a plan of action and the ball was handed off to Trish Hill of Hill Design. Without the many hours of meetings and calls, through the helpful eye and comments from Barb Mikel, this process would not have gone off so smoothly. While the last issue was delivered in mid-month, we hope that everyone likes the new format. Trish has many great ideas and with Ken's assistance we look forward to continuing to produce a newsletter that meets and exceeds your needs.



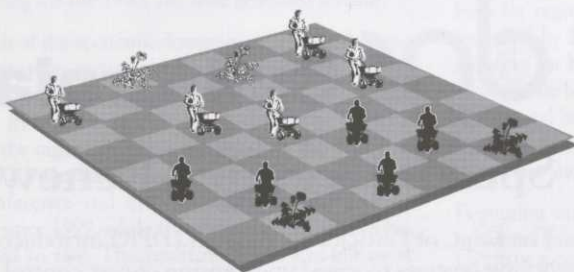
Jeff Shafer
The Course At Wente Vineyards

Our "Take Us Out To The Ballgame" had over 200 attendees and I want to thank every attendee for making this new idea a success right out of the blocks. We had close to 20 golf courses represented with Blake Swint bringing 34 people and Tim Sedgley making the trek down south from Winchester CC with 11 other staff members. All of this could not have been possible without my staff from Wente, P.J. Spellman and several others stepping up when I almost caught myself on fire while cooking! With an hour to spare, all were fed, the clean up had begun and everyone headed for the game. An A's win was a fitting conclusion to a great day. I want to say THANK YOU to all those that helped and to Clay Wood, Head Groundskeeper for the A's, for securing the tickets.

There are many other members that continue to write, call and speak in person on ways we can improve our organization. While this year is almost over, the current BOD looks forward to advancing what our previous associates have started. Please be part of this wonderful association and make your voice and actions heard and seen. THANK YOU!



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Office Notes

By Barb Mikel

We have a new newsletter publisher, as if you didn't notice with her first issue in September. Welcome aboard to **Trish Hill** of Hill Design in Saratoga. The professional production of "Thru the Green" will continue. We hope to take the newsletter to another level in the coming year and I am quite certain Trish is up to the job. I would certainly like to thank retiring publisher **Jo Harlow** of Key Publications who has exited to the golfing greens of Contra Costa County. Jo Harlow took the newsletter to another level when she began her seven-year tenure in 1995. **Happy retirement Jo and thank you for your years of service to GCSANC!**

A new advertising effort will be undertaken in the last quarter of 2002 and first quarter of 2003. We hope to entice you to use the expanded services and advertising, which will be available in "Thru the Green." If you have advertising needs, but not much technical ability, we can provide answers so please give us a call.

The **C.L. Bryant Sponsors** program has produced real financial rewards for the Association. We received the first check in September. Thanks to **Dave Trieschman** of C.L. Bryant for bringing this program to the association. Thanks also to all participating clubs for your support of the association.



Barb Mikel - GCSANC
Executive Secretary

I wonder how much technology is enough? If the fax doesn't work, the email is down, and the telephone isn't working, how quiet our offices would be. The more complex doesn't always mean better, unless it serves your needs. I find most modern conveniences useful and look forward to the next innovation, however.... We all need to know how and when to reserve time for ourselves. The season for some "down-time" is here so take the opportunity while you

have it! Fall is a beautiful time of the year in the Sierra's. I know I will be enjoying the slowing pace and hope you will too.

Election of new GCSANC Directors will be held in January. If you have ever wondered, "What in the world does the Board do?" Well, now is your chance. I urge you to become a part of the association leadership. It's good for your career and it's good for the organization. I look forward to new faces (*old ones are also appreciated.*)

As an Affiliate member or a Superintendent, you can participate in YOUR Association.



Barb predicts "GROWING TRENDS" for the GCSANC in 2003!



Gary Carls, - CGCS, new elected President of the CGCSA, took time out of his busy schedule to do an up-close interview on Voice of the Valley Television Show. Carls provided an excellent overview of the state association, while also highlighting his long time involvement with the GCSANC.

dpr California

Speeds Licensing Renewal

The Dept. of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) introduced new online services to speed up licensing of pest control professionals this fall. With new and improved online services, licensees will not have to wait to receive their renewal applications by mail; they can download licensing forms from the DPR web site. The DPR requires a qualified applicator certificate for those who use or supervise the use of a restricted use pesticide in an appropriate pesticide use category.

DPR streamlines license services, information:
<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/pressrls/august28.htm>



GCSAA announces fee and proposed dues increases

By Mark J. Woodward, CGCS, secretary/treasurer, and Julian M. Arredondo, CAE, chief financial officer of GCSAA.

The strong financial state of the association enables GCSAA to provide leading-edge programs and services for its members, affiliated chapters and important constituencies, including golf course owners/employers and the industry that supports professional superintendents.

At the spring meeting of the GCSAA Board of Directors, several revenue increases were approved in order to sustain the positive momentum that GCSAA members have enjoyed and expect. The following provides historical perspective and an explanation of upcoming fee increases and the proposed dues increase.

Historical perspective

During the last 10 years, the board of directors has purposely reduced the size of operating financial bottom lines in favor of plowing net revenues into new programs and services for the membership.

The association has established sufficient financial reserves to provide an intended safety net and has developed systems to effectively manage the organization's finances at historically low margins. This is in recognition that GCSAA's mission is not to generate a large bottom-line profit, but to provide strong programs and services for the membership.

The organization's revenues are principally derived from three sources - membership dues (*approximately 20 percent of total revenue*); user fees, including education and conference and show registration, (*approximately 25 percent of total revenue*); and industry support generated by advertising, trade show exhibit fees and sponsorships (*more than 50 percent*). Significant returns from reserve investments during the late 1990s also have generated revenue.

As a result of the economic downturn experienced during the last two years and its impact on corporate earnings and related marketing budgets, there has been a significant decrease in industry spending and investment returns. Further, the organization has not sought a dues increase since 1997, a significant education fee increase since 1996, or a conference and show attendee or exhibitor fee increase since 1999, while the cost of doing business has continued to rise. The resulting effect was felt most significantly during the 2001-2002 fiscal year.

At the time of this writing, the significantly negative effect of the down investment markets has resulted in a projection of overall negative earnings for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2002. In an effort to postpone any significant member fee or dues increases until absolutely needed, the organization has relied on established program reserves (*as reported in the financial statements the last three years*) to support "basic" operations (*operations less investments*), which would otherwise have been negative for two fiscal years. In addition, like virtually every company in America during the last two years, GCSAA's board and staff have challenged and prioritized spending,

and as a result, the organization is leaner and more focused than ever. Specific operating and program expenditures have been reduced, eliminated or postponed. That said, in order to continue to provide quality programs and services for the membership, it is now time to increase dues and fees.

Proposed dues increase for FY 2003-2004

A 20-percent dues increase is being proposed for the dues year beginning July 1, 2003. The last increase was in 1997 when Class A dues increased from \$210 to \$250.

Under the proposal, Class A and Superintendent Member dues would increase from \$250 to \$300, and Class C assistant superintendent member dues would increase from \$125 to \$150. Such an increase will require approval by the membership at the 2003 Annual Meeting in Atlanta.

The board would then approve corresponding increases in the remaining membership classes, including: affiliate dues from \$250 to \$300, student and educator dues from \$55 to \$65, and associate dues from \$125 to \$150. Retired and inactive classes would remain unchanged at \$70 and \$30, respectively.

Membership dues are the most stable source of revenue for the organization. Given the historical perspective and reasons for the increase noted above, a dues increase has been discussed informally during the last two years at the Chapter Delegates Meeting. There seems to be recognition that a dues increase is needed.

Seminar fee increase for FY 2002-2003

It remains GCSAA's goal to provide quality education that is affordable and accessible.

Fees for regional and conference seminars are being increased by \$10 an instructional day to \$130; half-day seminars are being increased by \$5 to \$65; and two-day seminars are being increased by \$20 to \$260. In addition, continental breakfasts are being eliminated. It is believed that there would be no impact on the quality of education, and the resulting cost savings is substantial.

Beginning with the FY 2003-2004 seminar season, the minimum prepaid attendance for regional seminars will be raised from 20 attendees to 30 (*break-even is approximately 40 attendees*). GCSAA will continue to work with chapters with attendance close to the minimum required attendance. This timing provides significant advance knowledge for chapter planning.

Conference and show registration fee increase for Atlanta 2003

Costs to the association for conference and show have increased significantly in the last few years, particularly in the areas of food and beverage and transportation (*specifically the hotel shuttles*). As an example, shuttle costs will be on average 45 percent higher in Atlanta 2003 than in Orlando 2002 and Dallas 2001.

Again, members last experienced a registration fee increase in Orlando 1999. Prior to that, there was an increase in 1997 at the Las Vegas event and in 1994 in Dallas. The pattern has been set for an increase, if needed, every three to four years. Following are the 2003 conference and show increases:

- *Discounted full-pack (trade show and conference education) early registration will increase by \$20 for members from \$230 to \$250; early registration for non-members will rise from \$290 to \$350.*
- *Full-pack on-site registration will increase from \$285 to \$350 for members and from \$350 to \$450 for non-members.*
- *Discounted three-day trade-show-only passes for early registration will increase from \$100 to \$150. There is no member/non-member differential.*
- *Three-day trade-show-only passes for on-site registration will increase from \$125 to \$200. There is no member/non-member differential.*
- *The increase for distributor and exhibitor early registration will remain consistent with the three-day trade show pass increase (from \$100 to \$150).*
- *On-site registration for distributors will be \$200; however, additional on-site exhibitor badges will remain at \$150 in recognition of the significant commitment that exhibitors make by virtue of their exhibit fees. In addition, the badge allotment for exhibitors will increase from four to five badges per 100 square feet of exhibit space purchased.*

Finally, it is anticipated that fees for exhibit space will be increased for the 2004 conference and show in San Diego. Again, this is in recognition of related cost increases since the last fee increase will have been five years previous in 1999. Although the 2001 Industry Advisory Council acknowledged the need for a reasonable increase, it wasn't enacted because of the negative effects of the poor economy on the earnings of GCSAA's industry partners. Further, because industry support accounts for 50 percent of GCSAA's overall revenue and enables the organization to fund many programs and services that do not fully support themselves, it was considered appropriate to increase member dues and fees first.

Dues and fee increases are never popular. However, after carefully scrutinizing spending, increasing GCSAA's revenue is necessary to sustain the positive momentum of the organization. The proposed dues increase will be discussed at the fall 2002 Chapter Delegates Meeting, and it is anticipated that the proposal will be placed before the members for a vote in Atlanta 2003.

The board of directors and staff of GCSAA remain committed to taking the required leadership role in the association's collective effort to serve members, advance their profession, and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf.



SURF'S UP IN SANTA CRUZ

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT INSTITUTE 2002

Don't miss this year's Golf Course Superintendent's Institute November 4th and 5th at the beautiful Cocoanut Grove Banquet and Conference Center in Santa Cruz.

Our gracious sponsor is DBD Structures. Monday includes a riveting day of educational sessions plus the trade show. On Tuesday, we'll play 18 holes of golf at Boulder Creek Golf and Country Club. Two days at the Institute is just what you, the cutting edge superintendent of the 21st century, needs to stay at the top of your game.

Monday, November 4

This year's program "IPM for Intelligent Plant Management" promises to be packed with valuable information presented by the top people in their field. Find out from the experts how IPM programs are developed. Then discover how the experts, your fellow superintendents, deal with the realities of implementing these programs. Join Ray Davis of CourseCo, Inc., Christa Conforti of The Presidio Trust and John Heersink, Superintendent of The Presidio Golf Course as they share their IPM experiences with you.

The *Anguina pacificae* nematode is appearing in record numbers. Dr. Becky Westerdahl of U.C. Davis gives you a behind the scenes look at what this pest we call a nematode is all about. Then Bob Klinesteker, Superintendent of San Francisco Golf Club, gives his personal account of his years of struggle with the *Anguina pacificae* nematode. Rounding up this day of stimulus for your intellect is our very own USGA Agronomist Pat Gross with his common sense approach to everyone's favorite topic – Turf! On Monday be prepared for more thrills than riding the wooden roller coaster on the boardwalk!

Tuesday, November 5

Enjoy a round of golf at the beautiful Boulder Creek Golf and Country Club. \$30 gives you 18 holes of golf, a cart and box lunch. Golf format is typically a skins game. Thanks to host superintendent Bill Keller and Leonard Walsh. Bring your sticks and have a great time!

Miscellaneous

Overnight accommodations are available at the West Coast Santa Cruz Hotel (831) 426-4330. **Make your reservations by October 17.**

Registration brochures were mailed out at the end of September.

Early bird registration deadline is Monday, October 28.

If you have not received one call Babara Mikel at 877 942-7262.

Water and Anthracnose Lead the List of Concerns in the Southwest

SOUTHWEST REGION UPDATE

by Patrick Gross

Water availability – Limited rainfall earlier in the year coupled with recent high temperatures have many courses concerned about water availability through the end of the year. Facilities that rely on surface water, on-site reservoirs and wells are reporting critically low levels, and many of these courses are purchasing potable water at a very high cost to meet basic irrigation needs. Some courses in Colorado and Southern California that do not have access to supplemental water have resorted to spot irrigation of greens, tees, and fairway landing zones.

Colorado River water allocations – Michael Gardner from Copley News Service reported in a July 28th column that the clock is ticking on a December 31st deadline for California to submit a plan for reducing its draw of Colorado River water. If an agreement is not reached by the deadline, Interior Secretary Gale Norton is under court order to quit sending California 800,000 acre feet of Colorado River Water – enough for 1.6 million households. Under federal law, the Metropolitan Water District's right to nearly 600,000-acre feet of the water could be the first to be diverted to Phoenix and Las Vegas instead of San Diego and Los Angeles. The central issue is the San Diego Water Authority's bid to buy water from Imperial Valley farmers. This would allow San Diego to reduce the amount of water it gets from the Colorado River and Metropolitan Water District, which accounts for 90% of their water supply. A variety of proposals are under discussion, but the threatened cuts are a clear signal that Southern California needs to get its act together.

Anthracnose – Infections of anthracnose have been showing up on many courses throughout the Southwest Region. Fortunately, damage seems to be limited to small areas. Some superintendent's are worried about possible resistant strains of the pathogen. Information from Dr. Larry Stowell of PACE Research Institute and Dr. Frank Wong at UC Riverside indicates that no resistant strains have been identified. Dr. Wong stressed the importance of rotating fungicides to avoid the possibility of resistance. Other important practices are to closely monitor irrigation to avoid moisture stress, and minimized leaf wetness during the night by scheduling irrigation just before sunrise. This is also a good time to back off intensive management programs including low mowing, sand topdressing, and vertical mowing.

Pat Gross is the Director of the USGA Green Section Southwest Region

Famous Bridge at St. Andrews in Scotland

L to R pictured: GCSANC member Greg Jetter of Spring Valley Golf Course along with his dad Rick Jetter, and brother Dana. It was a rare moment in time that the three family members got a chance to play a round of golf together. Normally you'll find all three Jetter's busy at work at Spring Valley Golf Course in Milpitas.



Right Photo: Newly Designed Silver Creek Country Club

L to R pictured: On hand to introduce "Eighteen memorial Holes" to media, were Forest Fexxler-Construction Manager, Nick Checklenis - Golf Course Superintendent, Mike Stranz - Designer & Golf World's "Architect of the Year," and Jackson PGA Director of Golf.

A Time to Remember

By Gary K. Carls CGCS

As I write this message the anniversary of September 11th has just passed and I heard a lot of amazing stories about events of the day and weeks immediately following the tragic events. Two main items really came into focus for me as I heard the stories of those that survived and the unfortunate ones who were not so lucky on that day. What really stood out was how people came together and focused on what they had to do to get through those days. I have read many different columns about how suddenly a lot of little things did not mean that much any more and everyone had the single focus of doing whatever they could to help save lives. One of the things I remember most about that day was the story my brother told me about the events in his life for that week. He works for United Airlines in Philadelphia and was moved to Newark airport on September 12th to help with the expected rush of passengers out of New York in the days after September 11th. He talked about the eerie feeling of spending two days in the airport with armed troops and no passengers. He was then switched back to Philadelphia when flights were resumed. For the next several days he and others working there dealt with most of the passengers who had been scheduled to fly out of New York on the 11th. There was a great deal of emotion when you combined the new fear of getting on a plane with the strong desire for people to get back home to their loved ones. Everyone had to pull their strongest emotions together to get through those days. On that day I think we all realized that nothing is as important as life and family.

For me it brought back into focus a column I had posted on my office walls several years ago by Bob Brame of the USGA. The point of the column was "do the best you can

do and then go home". In this business we often feel pressured to produce the best turf possible every day. Most of us have been around long enough to know that it will not happen every day. We work with a lot of elements that we don't control such as nature. We can do our best to try and manage them but at times things are just not going to go our way. If you stay at work that extra hour is it going to fix the damage caused by that irrigation failure when it was 105 degrees last week? Can you regrow that poa you lost to anthracnose in that extra hour? It is important to be there to do whatever you can, but at some point you've done all you can do and you have to let nature heal its' wounds. So do what you need to do to get through the tough times. Be open and communicate with your players about the problems and what you are doing to make things better and be there when you need to be. At the end of the day be comfortable that you have done your best and go home and be with your family.

The second main thought I had about September 11th was how important your family needs to be. In this business we all need to be supported by family and friends because it is a business that has no real schedule or timeline. Despite the best of planning I'm sure most of us have missed some family functions because of our jobs. Believe me, I never had intended to spend nights sleeping in my irrigation pumphouse when I first came to California because my system on our newly seeded golf course was not yet fully automated. Those long days spent prepping for some special event also took away from my family and friends and often meant I wasn't in a great mood when I did get home.



Friends often wondered how anyone could like a job where you have to get up at 5am every morning, earlier for special events, and couldn't go on a real vacation until it started to rain. Those of us in the business know what is so special about the early morning or late evening at the golf course. You know, when the players aren't there yet or have left for the day. That time alone out on the course as the sun is rising or setting is very special and why many of us love what we do so much. The challenge of working with nature inspires us every day to try and do a little better. You also have to know how special your family and friends are for starting to realize how important all of this is to you. You never know when you will lose your family or friends and that is why it is important to enjoy them while you have them. Spend every moment you have with them and enjoy life. Appreciate both their weaknesses and strengths as they do yours. As the holiday season approaches remember that this is the time most meant to be with those you truly care about. Make a little extra time this year and truly enjoy all the blessings of family and friends.

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125	9.0	4.6	2.7	1.7	0.9	0.7	
Pounds	150	10.8	5.5	3.2	2.0	1.1	0.8
Product	175	12.6	6.5	3.7	2.4	1.3	0.9
Per Acre	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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Participating in the John Deere Classic

By Alan Andreasen, CGCS
Los Lagos/Rancho Del Pueblo Golf Courses

I had a great experience this summer. I was able to participate in the John Deere Classic with my employer. The golf tournament, sponsored by Deere, was held near their headquarters in Moline, IL. I simply filled out an on-line form and was lucky enough to have my name drawn in their Superintendent/Employer Recognition Program. That meant two spots in the John Deere Superintendent Pro-Am. The event was held at the TPC at Deere Run during the week of the PGA Tour's John Deere Classic.

Winning the drawing meant I had to choose a partner. After some major whining and arm-twisting, I invited Ray Davies, CGCS to join me as my employer (*no, my job was never in jeopardy.*)

"I would also like to announce that we did NOT come in last place in the Pro-Am and Ray and I were not rushed to the hospital immediately after the round, even though the temperature was 94 with 90% humidity."

Seriously, I'd like to encourage all superintendents to apply for the program. It is an all-expense paid trip to Moline, IL, three nights at a nice hotel, two days of golf, numerous meals, entertainment and the opportunity to spend some quality time with your boss. The tee prizes were not too shabby, either. Having the opportunity to play the Deere Run course right before the John Deere Classic was a treat. The John Deere people and GCSAA did a fantastic job of organizing the event. It was amazing how smoothly everything ran. During breakfast the day of the Pro-Am, Jim Colbert gave a talk highlighting some humorous moments during his career with other pros. He also is on record as stating that superintendents are the most important and well-educated members of the golf course management team and that we should take more initiative in becoming the leaders at our facilities.

The following is a diary of our activities at the John Deere Superintendent Employer Recognition Program.

First Day: Sunday July 21

Ray flew out of Oakland; I drove down to Orange County to see my wife, get my travel bags and flew out of John Wayne Airport. My plane was crowded, dirty and the movie was a dumb animation. How can they charge \$5 for a head set anyway? I arrived at Moline about 4:30 p.m. The opening reception was at 6:00 p.m., so I was feeling a bit rushed. A John Deere representative met five of us at the airport and had us on a nice big bus and on our way. After a brief stop at the hotel, they drove us to John Deere Headquarters for a nice cocktail & hors d'oeuvres

reception. The Deere Headquarters building is quite impressive. The reception was held in a display area with memorabilia and equipment. Did you know you could buy a 12-Row Corn Combine for only \$233,000.00? We then had a nice chicken dinner, welcoming talk from Gregg Brenningmeyer, Dir. of Sales & Marketing, and found out that our other two team players were from a course in Casper, WY. For a tour pro, we drew Brad Fabel, a very nice 18-year tour player who was just coming off shoulder surgery, we found out the next day. It was then back on the bus to the hotel. We kindly declined an invitation from Sal, our local John Deere salesman, for a "night cap." I picked up my registration goodies which I hadn't had time to do before the reception; Odyssey putter, very nice travel bag, pro-am money clip, dozen Pro V 1's, hat, John Deere shirt and a tee towel. I got to bed about 10:00 p.m. IL time.

Second Day: Monday July 22

At 7:30 a.m. We met for breakfast at Planted Earth in the John Deere Commons across from the Radisson hotel. We had a very nice buffet style breakfast with about anything you would want, except Bloody Marys or Screw Drivers!

"Moline is one of the cleanest towns I have ever been in. Just a good 'ole mid-west country town dominated by John Deere."

After breakfast, Jim Colbert, the Senior PGA Tour player gave his short talk. Did you know GCSAA pays him to wear our logo on his shirt? It was then back on the buses and out to Deere Run TPC where we were assigned our caddies. These were local high school golfers that Deere had recruited. Deere donates \$50.00 each to their golf programs. We were asked not to tip the caddies. I drew Andrew, a very likeable son of a doctor who was a great help... carrying water, towels and the ball my Dad made a hole in one with. I told Andrew I wanted to use it on the par 3's if there wasn't a chance I could lose it. He would pull it out and remind me. I have never had a hole in one, still haven't! Our tee time wasn't until 12:30, so we had plenty of time to practice... and sweat. Fabel didn't play that well, our high handicapper never made a par and Ray kept hitting it in the woods!

"He claimed because we were playing from the white tees, he kept hitting it through the fairway. I had to start pointing out that the fairway was in front of us, not to the right or left."



I made 4 of 4 sandies from fairway bunkers and 1 of 1 from greens bunkers. Only one birdie. We shot a net 63. Steve Mona, Gregg Brenningmeyer, Randy Nicols (*past Pres. GCSAA*) and Bob Anderson with Hank Kuene won the tournament. My protests went unheeded! After the tournament there was food and the awards ceremony in the John Deere hospitality tent behind the 18th green. Again, a very nice affair. It was back on the bus and back to the hotel. We declined another invitation for a "night cap" from Sal took a much needed shower and into bed.

Third Day: July 23

Breakfast at Planted Earth at 7:30 a.m. and on the bus to Dearborn C.C. across the mighty Mississippi in WS. We played a four-man scramble, WITH carts, thank god, but without Sal, who didn't make it. Our third was Mike Sherman, Division Manager, Golf and Turf Leasing. Fore caddies were optional, but we hired Andrew again. Ray kept asking him for direction and advice, as if it could do any good! We alternated hitting Sal's ball between the three of us. We shot a 68 that turned out to be good for third place in the second division worth \$25.00 each. I spent Sal's share and Ray gave me his so I could buy a shirt. The weather was much better, with the temperature only about 83.

"The course was very nice, old style. The 18th hole was about as hard a finishing hole as I've ever played. Bogey was our best ball."

At 6:30 p.m. there was a reception with hors d'oeuvres and an open bar at the Deere display room in the John Deere Commons. I actually got a chance to sit in that 12-Row Corn Combine this time! At 8:00 p.m. the Beach Boys concert started (*Ray said that he had heard of them from his Dad.*) The concert was held in an in-door arena on the other side of the hotel. After the concert we declined another "night cap" from Sal and headed for bed.

Day 4 July 24

Buses ran on the hour all day to the airport. My flight wasn't until about 12:30 p.m., so after breakfast at Planted Earth I had a couple of hours putting up with my ribbing.

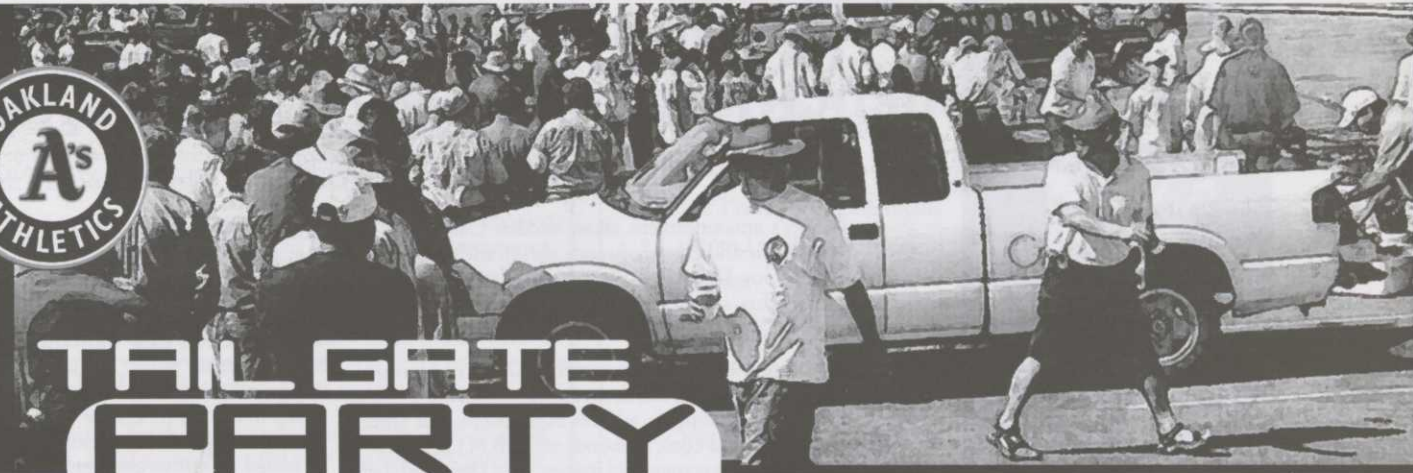


GCSANC

SEPT. 19, 2002



TAILGATE PARTY



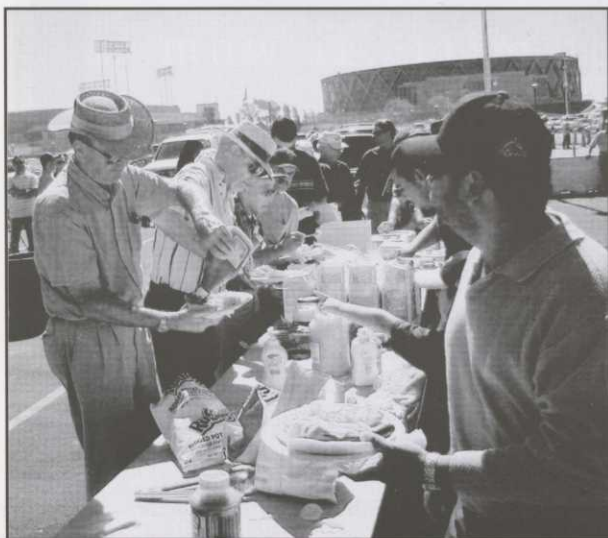
Where's the **BEEF!!!!**



President, Jeff Shaffer and P.J. streamline the BBQ process like pros... "Was that a Tofu Burger, fries and a coke?"



YES...it was Jeff Shaffer who invited these Anaheim Angel fans!



An-tic-ip-a-a-tion...is making me wait. Hungry tailgaters have little patience for condiments.



Crowd gathers to discuss what was in Jeff's secret sauce recipe!#*



GOVERNOR DAVIS

Asks President Bush For Aid To Fight Sudden Oak Death!

Federal Aid Sought in Addition to New Funds in State Budget

"Today's announcement about Sudden Oak Death in Douglas fir and coast redwoods significantly raises the stakes," Gov. Davis said. "As a state, we will continue to tackle this serious economic and environmental problem but we need federal resources as well."

Last year, the federal government's Office of Management and Budget turned down a request from the USDA for federal funding to address SOD issues. But since Douglas fir and coast redwoods are two of California's most important commercial species, Gov. Davis said that federal resources should be committed to bolster the state's funding.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) also announced that as a result of the latest scientific findings, existing regulations in 12 counties restricting the movement of the 15 known species that can harbor the SOD fungus will be extended to include coast redwoods and Douglas fir. CDFA and the USDA are currently working on additional regulations regarding these two species.

Some key accomplishments of the Davis Administration's fight against Sudden Oak Death include:

The California Oak Mortality Task Force, which brings together public agencies, non-profit organizations, and private interests to address SOD in California in a comprehensive and coordinated manner; Issuing emergency regulations that require permits to be issued by authorized agricultural official to move host plants or materials within or from infested areas; Signing AB 62 by Assembly Member Carol Migden (D-San Francisco), which authorized \$3.586 million to address Sudden Oak Death in the 2001-02 budget, based on task force recommendations; and An additional \$2 million in the 2002-03 budget.

GOVERNOR GRAY DAVIS
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
(916) 445-2841



SACRAMENTO

With news that UC Berkeley scientists have found the fungus that causes Sudden Oak Death (SOD) in Douglas fir and coast redwoods, Governor Gray Davis today sent a letter to President Bush requesting \$10 million in federal funding to fight the fungus. The Governor said that the federal aid will supplement \$2 million of new funding included in the 2002-03 state budget that he is expected to sign into law on Thursday.

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