

San Diego 2004: It Was A



Beverly and Dan Quast with Brian Bossert.



Your contributing editor and Pat Jones of Golfdom magazine contemplate skipping town with the raffle money.



The Vermeulens don't appear to be regretting the decision to donate their raffle winnings to turf research, and Kevin DeRoo and Sylvia are happy to take the money.



Lucky Brian Baker (middle) with Ed Braunsky, Luke Cella and 750 simolians from the raffle.



*Tommy Robinson celebrates his long-sought-after victory.
(Photo courtesy Bruce Matthews)*



*Tommy returns to the stage with keynote speaker Jim Nantz.
(Photo courtesy Bruce Matthews)*

Very Good Year

The GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show in sunny San Diego is a recent memory, but what a memory for the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents!



*Jon Maddern presents the DSA to Danny Quast.
(Photo courtesy Bruce Matthews)*



Fred Behnke being amused with himself.



Larry Raschko and Chuck Anfield.

For whatever reason—either the planets were aligned perfectly, or a preponderance of rabbits' feet were stashed in our luggage, or perhaps luck-bringing runes, charms or spells had been bestowed upon us—MAGCS rocked this show! The signs that it was to be a great show were present long before our arrival in beautiful San Diego, given our foreknowledge of **Danny Quast's** receiving the Distinguished Service Award and **Paul Voykin's** nomination for *Golf Week's* 2003 Superintendent of the Year. Next on the agenda for MAGCS was a thorough whipping of the field in the Annual Golf Championship, highlighted by **Tommy Robinson's** stunning victory in the Championship Division A Flight, followed closely by **Al Pondel, CGCS** in second place. **Tim Scott, CGCS** decided to let some other jamokes get in the top 10, and finished in seventh place—three MAGCS members in the top 10 spots! Other notable MAGCS highlights included **Dave Arden**, eighth place in 2nd Flight Gross and ninth place in 2nd Flight Net; **Paul Schaefer, CGCS**, third place in 5th Flight Gross and fourth place in 5th Flight Net; **Don Cross, CGCS**, seventh place in 6th Flight Gross; **Chad Ball, CGCS**, seventh place in Senior I Gross and third place in Senior I Net; **Ed Fischer, CGCS**, second place in Senior II Gross and seventh place Senior II Net; and **Al Fierst**, ninth place in 6th Flight Net. As for team honors, MAGCS pulled off another coup by taking first place in the Gross Point Division, thanks to the team of **Dave Kohley**, **Al Pondel**, **Tommy Robinson** and **Tim Scott**. The team of **Don Cross**, **Al Fierst**, **Bob Maibusch, CGCS**, and **Les Rutan** took sixth place in the Net Point Division. On top of all this, we did pretty well in the Four-Ball Event, with **Tommy Robinson** and **Al Pondel** taking third in the 2-Man Gross; **Steve VanAcker, CGCS** and **Brad Legnaioli** grabbing seventh place in the Net; and **Peter Leuzinger, CGCS** and **Miller McClintock** winning first place in the 2-Man Net II division. And then, to put the icing on the cake, **Chuck Anfield, CGCS** and his partner won *Golf Week's* Super News Event. Fantastic job, and congratulations on a job well done to all of this year's competitors!

Once attention turned from the golf course to the conference, Midwest's run of good fortune did not end. At the Opening Session on Thursday the 12th, GCSAA President Jon Maddern, CGCS presented the Distinguished Service Award to the very-deserving **Danny Quast, CGCS**. Danny's acceptance speech was a model of graciousness and class—a true reflection of the kind of gentleman he is. **Gordon Witteveen** and **Gordon LaFontaine** were the other winners of the DSA, ensuring their place in history as the first time ever that two Gordons won in the same year. A few other awards were given out to non-MAGCS members (we didn't want to appear greedy), and then the Session's keynote speaker, **Jim Nantz** of CBS Sports, took over. One of the first things Jim did was bring **Tommy Robinson**

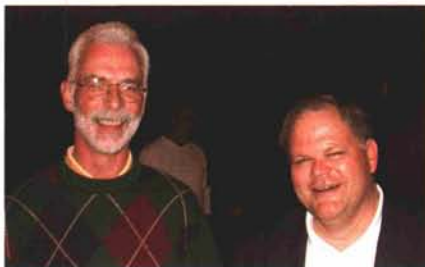
(continued on page 40)



Mike Mumper and Peggy Adducci.



Jim Knulty and Jean Davis
(or is it Davies?).



Tim Davis and Roger Stewart.



Tina and Aiden Schmitz.



Brian Winkel and Garry Anderson.

back onstage to enjoy a “proper” trophy presentation, complete with the obligatory “hold it over your head with both hands” move made famous by trophy-winners throughout history. Some other comments by Mr. Nantz—who seemed like a really nice guy—that stuck in my memory included his thoughts on the halftime incident at the Super Bowl and how it may serve to change the telecast in future years, bringing the football aspect back to the forefront, rather than the halftime show. He also spoke in depth about his passion—hosting the Masters broadcasts, and all the great moments he’s had the good fortune to be a part of, including “a win for the ages” and “the Bear has come out of hibernation.” Jim also told the audience that he is in awe of what we do, and promised to champion our cause from this point on—something he acknowledged that he hadn’t done previously. Good guy.

The Trade Show, with its usual assortment of booths filled with goodies and gadgets that we can not possibly live without, offered the opportunity to work off any overindulgences from the night before. A nice thing about the floor was its straightforward layout and the ease of getting around. A REALLY nice thing about the floor was its location—a five-minute walk to either the waterfront or to the Gas Lamp Quarter, both of which offered great dining and sightseeing (and where one could see the HMS Surprise frigate from the movie *Master and Commander*—did I mention to anyone that I’m reading those books, and that there’s 21 of them?).

Things just kept on rolling for us, as *On Course* magazine FINALLY won an award at the Chapter

Newsletter Editors Session. (Okay, it was like fourth runner-up to third honorable mention to next-to-second, but it was a start!) Luke Cella, Scott Witte and I attended the presentation, held on Friday the 13th.

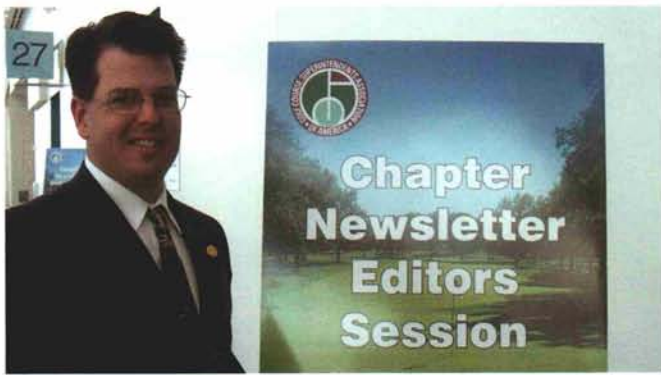
As usual, though, the real highlight of the Show was the MAGCS Hospitality Suite, held this year at the Marriott Marina Hotel on the 12th and 13th. The room was huge (although it lacked the marina view that we originally had been promised—credit GCSAA and their “eminent domain” stuff), and the service was outstanding. Commercial representative **Sylvia Lima** and her committee did an incredible job with the arrangements and adding new twists, such as the raffles and sign-in table. By the way, congrats to raffle winners **Brian Baker** and Paul Vermeulen! On Friday, a special ice sculpture recognizing Dan Quast was on display at the buffet table, and **Brian Bossert**, CGCS gave a very nice introduction for his mentor to come to the podium and be honored by his friends. Friday was also the day that *Golf Week* named Paul Voykin its Superintendent of the Year, adding a crowning glory to his illustrious career. It truly was a great year for MAGCS, and the Hospitality Suite was the perfect way to enjoy our many accomplishments. Big thanks to Sylvia and the Commercial Advisory Committee, to Luke Cella for his great work on the PowerPoint presentation that ran during both nights (and was even updated for Friday), and most importantly to our sponsors, who once again stepped up to the plate and generously contributed to make the room the absolute best in the business! 



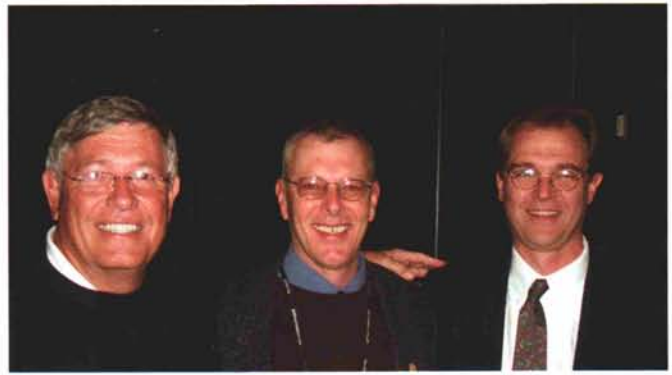
Derek Florian and Dan Anderson.



The ice sculpture—
stolen from Dairy Queen?



Editorial Committee chair Scott Witte shows off the award presented to On Course at the Chapter Newsletter Editors Session.



Wally Fuchs, Fred Behnke and Nick Hongisto.



Don Ferreri, Ed Braunsky and Luke Cella.



Mike O'Neill with Robyn and Bob Kohlstedt—Bob was the lucky winner of Prime Turf's Callaway driver raffle on the Show floor.



The Huber clan—Jim, Ann and John.



Kurt and Cindy Galisdorfer with Rick and Tammy Bowden.



Jan Fischer and DeeAnn Leuzinger keep the photographer on his feet.



Sylvia Lima describes to Dave Nadler just how big the sandwich she had for lunch really was.

(continued on page 42)