

Gator Grows

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regularly sprayed with Round-Up and the lids painted. Snap-Valves are marked with a piece of 6" pipe backed filled with rock, both valve lid and rocks are sprayed twice annually. It is money wasted to have people pitch-forking for a lost valve or splice box.

Summary — This sounds like a lot of work but for this amount of work on 36 holes, it is easily handled by an irrigation technician with an occasional helper. Performance is periodically checked by the superintendent or his assistant. We usually require the course foreman to assist the technician so that he or she become familiar with the system functions. I also require the assistant superintendent to work with the technician until he can perform all his duties as this is generally their weakest area due to lack of experience either in school or on the job training. The superintendent should likewise be knowledgeable of all the phases of auto irrigation from the pump house to the sprinkler head. Working with electricians when called in can increase his awareness of the energy system and make minor adjustments and recognize when either in-house or outside repairs are required.

With most systems hitting the \$200,000 plus range and pump stations nearly half that, it is foolish to think this valuable tool requires service only when it fails to function. There are courses with equipment inventories of less than half the cost of irrigation with a full time mechanic and one or two shop men but the only time the irrigation system gets checked or the pump house looked into is when one or the other has a failure. Even then, outsiders are called in who lack the necessary expertise or the proper parts along with the usual delays and results.

Routine maintenance of the entire system scheduled on a regular basis makes for peace of mind, a better functioning system and consequently a better looking golf course. ■

Dan Hall, Jr. is superintendent of Golf Courses for Imperial Golf Club, Naples, Fla. He has been an active superintendent in Florida since 1955 and is a member of the Quarter Century Club of the GCSAA, E.G.C.S.A. and Fla. W.C.G.C.S.A.

Bay Hill Hosts 5th Crowfoot Open

A record turnout of superintendents and commercial members helped make this year's annual Crowfoot Open the most successful on record. Alan Stoffell, Fernandiana Beach Golf Club, won the medalist honors with his playoff victory over Ron Hill, CGCS, Amelia Island Plantation. Both members of the North Florida chapter and from neighboring courses of the exclusive resort area north of Jacksonville, carded 74's over the PGA Tour site in Orlando. Stoffell, a Lake City College graduate, birdied the first hole with a thirty-foot putt to defeat Hill. Three golfers missed the playoff by a single stroke.

Palm Beach chapter won both the team events thus winning the Crowfoot Open Trophy. Their gross score was seven strokes better than North Florida. The Palm Beachers four low gross scores were Bill Whitaker, Seminole, 75; Kevin Downing, Atlantis Golf Club, 75; Glen Klauk, Delray Dunes, 75; and Fred Klauk, Pine Tree, 76. The Open title is decided on a Calloway scoring system. Palm Beach won that by one stroke over North Florida. Both teams had four net 72's, so the tie breaker was the fifth man score which again was a 72 for Palm Beach. This victory gave Palm Beach a sweep of both statewide tournaments this year since they won the Poa Annuu Classic in April.

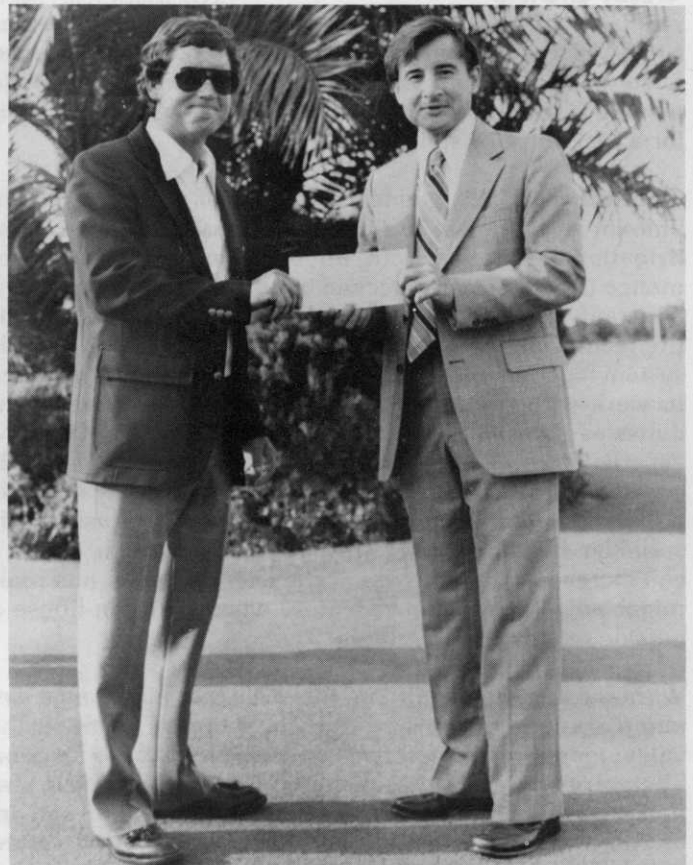
Larry Guest, *Orlando Sentinal Star* newspaper, won the commercial division with a calloway net 71.

Jim Ellison was the host superintendent and tournament director. Every detail from the golf course to the inn was superb. Our thanks to the entire Bay Hill staff for a job EXTREMELY well done. ■





Top: FTGA President Jim Carter (center) accepts a check for \$1,000.00 from Lonnie Stubbs (left), superintendent of Port Charlotte Country Club. The money was donated by General Development for research on mole crickets and nematodes. General Development has a big stake in the future of golf courses in Florida with seven golf complexes.



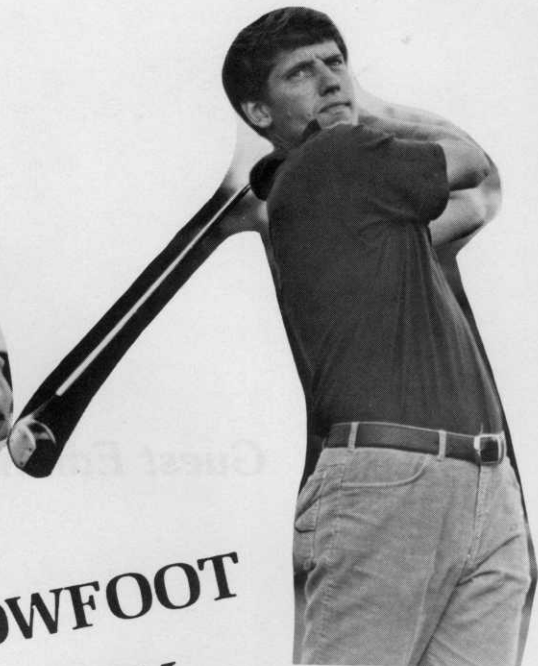
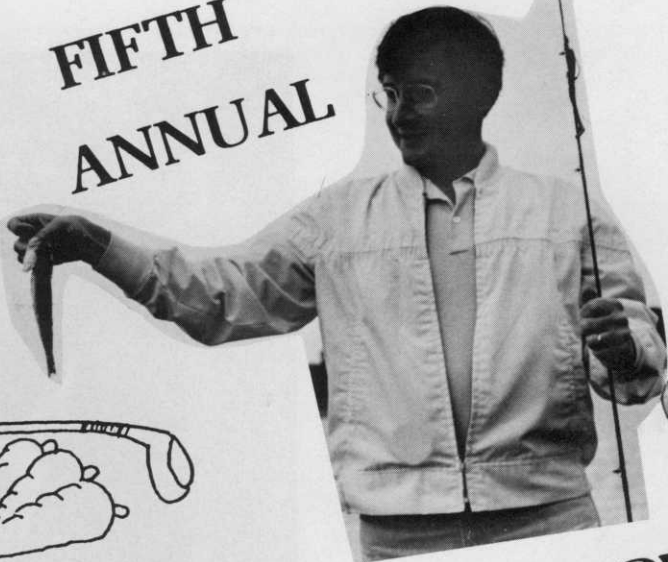
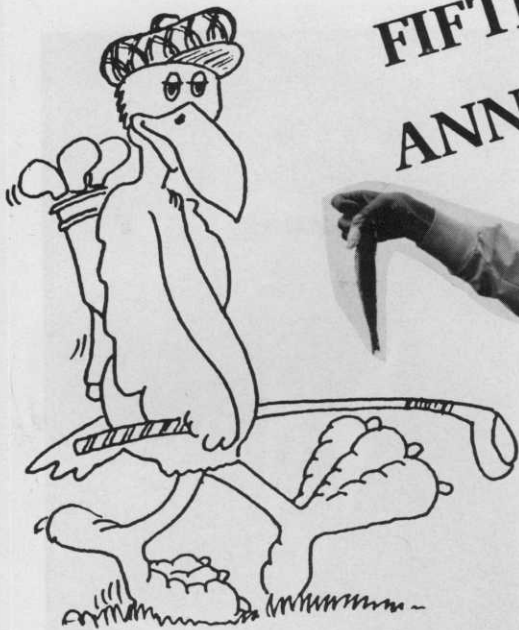
Top: Jim Ellison (left), superintendent of Bay Hill Club and host of the fifth annual Crowfoot Open, presents a scholarship check for \$500.00 to Jerry Cheesemen, Director of Golf Operations, Lake City Community College. Bottom: Jim presents a check for \$500.00 to Make Bavier, president of GCSAA for the Scholarship and Research Fund. The donations were made possible by the great support of the gold and diamond sponsors of the Crowfoot Open.



gold	diamond	 CROWFOOT OPEN 5 th annual SPONSORS	diamond	diamond
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FIFTH ANNUAL



CROWFOOT OPEN

