



LPGA star Nancy Lopez was one of many celebrities on the show floor.



Jim McCumber of McCumber Golf in Jacksonville strolls by the USGA booth, which was busy throughout the show.

## GCSAA Show continues to grow

BY TOM BENEFIELD, CGCS

The much-awaited GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show of 1994 got started with a big bang in the Big D. From the opening session, which featured motivational speaker Zig Ziegler to the elections at the annual meeting, this conference and show had plenty to offer the attendees.

The GCSAA golf championships started all of the events off, being played on superb courses with miserable weather. Some golfers at this event took



The Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders are always a big hit with visiting conventioners... and Florida golf course superintendents were no exception.



This innovative top-dressing brush was voted best new product by a large, but unofficial group of Florida superintendents.

shelter from the brutal weather during their rounds by using the covers for the greens to stay warm.

From Austin they migrated to Dallas, home of the defending Super Bowl champions and NFL rushing champion and former Florida Gator Emmitt Smith.

Here the attendees took a record number of seminars to polish up on the newest and best information in the turfgrass industry. The environmental session was standing room only and has become one of the premier events at the conference.

The major news item of the week was the release of the GCSAA Mortality Study.

The first phase of the study yielded more questions than it did answers. The one aspect that is not in dispute, however, is the conclusion that cigarette smoking causes lung cancer and that this was the largest single reason for deaths among GCSAA members looked at in this first phase.

One of the highlights for the Florida members was the reception on Friday evening. A record turnout was on hand to feast on Mexican cuisine and their favorite refreshments.

This event was well attended by guests from around the world. The new director and officers from GCSAA as well as new CEO and COO were on hand to see what these Florida members were all about.

The show was spectacular as usual. All



Randy Waldron stopped by Lake City Community College's booth to chat with John Piersol.

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FGCSA Executive Secretary Marie Roberts had no trouble finding takers of the latest issue of the Florida Green. She also talked to many new advertisers.

of the suppliers for the turf industry were on hand with their newest innovations and fresh ideas to help solve old problems. Lots of old friends met and chatted and many new friends were made along the way. It was a truly wonderful experience.

The annual meeting this year seemed to be one of the better-run annual meetings of the GCSAA in some time. The bylaw issues were disposed of in a timely manner with only two proposals failing

to get the two-thirds majority needed for passage. The new president is Joe Baidy of Pennsylvania, and our own favorite son, Gary Grigg from Naples, was elected vice president.

All in all, it was a great learning experience by all. If you are not a member of GCSAA and do not attend this conference and show, you are falling behind your colleagues. Don't hesitate to join today; the industry and you will be the better for it.



No visit to Dallas would be complete without the welcome sight of a police cruiser.