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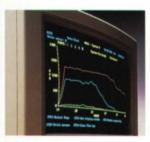
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President Greg Plotner discusses proposed amendments to the GCSAA bylaws regarding chapter affiliation. Keep the Florida family intact.

SPOTLIGHT WREATH OF GRASS, PRESIDENT S AWARD, FLORIDA TOUR 8 Billy Wright is one of three superintendents honored in 1995 for lifetime service to the Florida GCSA. Mark Jarrell was awarded the Wreath of Grass, FTGA's highest award. The PGA Tour's Disney Oldsmobile Classic and the LPGA/PGA Tour's JCPenney Classic concluded the 1995 Florida Tour.

Gasparilla Island Golf Club, named after the quaint island it occupies, is full of charm and wildlife. Superintendent Royce Stewart is responsible for landscaping at an inn, restaurant, marina, beach club and several cottages... and a golf course.

Greg Plotner and Shelly Foy begin a four-part series describing the complete journey through the process of becoming a certifide Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. Indian River Club achieves Audubon Signature status; Y&CC of Stuart profits from recycling; 14-page photo essay on wildlife on the golf course; golf courses may hold key to survival for an endangered species.

Darren Davis describes five tips he picked up from master greenkeepers; Scott Bell discusses meetings and conventions; Mike Hamilton talks about professionalism.

Al Dudeck reviews the new hybrid bermudagrass FLoraTeX, looking at its seedhead production and nitrogen response.

Golf is a game played with, not against, Mother Nature.

Mark Jarrell urges everyone to seize the opportunity to learn more about the profession when the GCSAA's 67th Annual Conference and Show opens in Orlando in February. Joel Jackson describes the superintendent's job in 28 verses.

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.... Larry Kieffer

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Over the next couple of months, an important issue concerning chapter affiliations with the GCSAA, will need to be addressed by all local chapters of the Florida Golf Course

Keep the family intact

Superintendents
Association. If the proposed amendments to the GCSAA by laws are accepted at the Conference and Show in Orlando this coming February, each local chapter will be asked to sign an affiliation agreement no later than January 1, 1997 in order to be affiliated with the GCSAA.

My personal opinion is that all of the local chapters should affiliate with the GCSAA. There are a couple of good reasons why. At this time, it does not look as if the GCSAA would recognize local chapters if the only affiliated chapter in the state is the FGCSA. Therefore, all local chapters would *only have a voice in Florida* and all interaction with the GCSAA would have to funnel through the state association. As some chapters are very active in local and national affairs, the sensible choice is to affiliate.

Another important point is that the GCSAA will allow only one delegate per affiliated chapter to attend the Annual September Chapter Relations Meeting in Lawrence. With the FGCSA having over 800 members, it is important to have more than one representative at this informative meeting. If all chapters were to affiliate, we would be able to send 10 delegates. If our only affiliated chapter is the FGCSA, we would be able to send only one delegate.

As President of the FGCSA, I have taken a stand on the GCSAA affiliation process. It is best, that the local chapters in the state sign the agreement, upon its approval in Orlando. However, I do not

want to see the destruction of the FGCSA because of this. I want to remind everyone that the very reason the FGCSA was formed was to unify the golf course superintendents in Florida and give them a strong voice when it came to national affairs. The FGCSA has the largest voting block within the GCSAA and is recognized nationally as a strong and well organized association. From our award winning magazine "The Florida Green" to our own research green, we have come a long way in a few short years.

Something else everyone should keep in mind is that the FGCSA has always taken a pro-active role in finding ways to support and improve our great industry. Our contributions to research funding and scholastic programs continue to increase each and every year. Many industrial leaders are teamed with the FGCSA to ensure that these funds and programs have the necessary money and equipment it takes to keep them in existence.

Most of all, the FGCSA has some truly excellent superintendents throughout the state. They give endless hours in helping make others truly understand and appreciate the profession of the golf course superintendent and our all so very important influences on the game of golf.

Let's keep our *family*, the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association, intact. Let's continue to be the proven leaders that we are among our peers. We should accept the affiliation agreement with the GCSAA, but not at the expense of our association, the *FGCSA*! The current affiliation between the state and the local chapters should not change.

In closing, may the love and happiness of the Holiday Season be with you and your families now and throughout the New Year.



Greg Plotner, CGCS President FGCSA

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Billy Wright: A Man of Many Talents

BY DAVID COURT, CGCS

It was back in 1978 when the South Florida Chapter of the FGCSA consisted of six counties: Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, St. Lucie, Martin and Indian River. At that time it was decided by several key people that the association was too large and needed to be divided into smaller groups. Out of this came a new association called Tri-County GCSA, and one year later divided again into what is now the Palm Beach GCSA.

Leading this change of action were superintendents Bob Strait, George Cavanaugh, Otto Schmeisser, Carl Smith, Carl McKinney, Bill Kriegal and Billy Wright. Billy, a member of the founding board of directors, started out as the treasurer and in the second year of its existence became president of the newlyformed association.

Billy has been in the golf business for some time now. In fact, he was mowing greens for summer work at the Peachtree Golf Club before many of our current superintendents were born. His career was interrupted by Uncle Sam in 1967. For two years he served as staff sergeant in the First Infantry Division Rifle Company. While in Vietnam he earned the Bronze Star, the Combat Infantry Badge, and the Air Medal. Perhaps this is where he developed his expertise in bunker construction.

Back in the states, the native Georgian came to work as the superintendent of Arvida's Boca West Country Club, where he constructed and maintained the first two courses. In 1973 Billy headed a few miles north to Delray Beach, where he supervised the construction and maintenance of Villa Del Ray Golf Club. In 1980, it was back to the now Arvida/ Disney Corporation at the Boca West Club, this time as the Director of Golf Courses and Landscape Operations. From 1981 to 1985, Boca West was the site of the nationally-televised Chrysler Team Championship, a PGA event.

With the membership purchase of the club, Billy has remained at Boca West. He has taken the courses to their best condition ever. As we know, great leaders have great people working under them,

President's Award Winners: 1995

Mike Barger Paul Frank Billy Wright

and Billy is no exception. Karen Mital has been his secretary for ten years. Augie Montes, the head mechanic, has been in his position for fifteen years, while Don Kirk has served Billy since 1970 initially as the landscape superintendent and now as shop foreman. Each of the four courses at Boca West has its own superintendent.

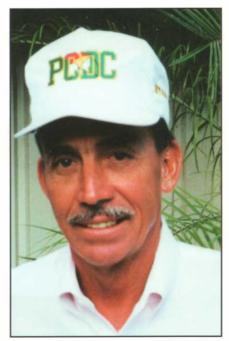
In the event he should ever want to leave the turf business, Billy has other interests. Billy can also sell real estate, pilot a single-engine aircraft and captain 100-ton vessels — and he has the licenses to prove it

Scott Spara, Paul Housewright, Bill Henderson and Andy Lemmel make up the four who give the courses their individual attention.

Over the years, Billy has had several members of his staff go on to improve their careers and become quite successful. Mark Sigfried took a position with Lesco, Steve LaFrance is the superintendent at Jacksonville's Marsh Landing Golf Club and Randy Waldron is the superintendent at the Golf Club of Georgia, outside of Atlanta.

Construction has been the challenge at Boca West over the past eight years. They have regrassed greens on all four courses, dug lakes, lengthened holes, and completed other similar projects which the large membership demands. Next year's project will be the reconstruction of the entire #1 course. The club is currently under a \$24 million facelift — at that price you get the whole body, too.

In the event he should ever want to leave the turf business, Billy has other interests. Billy can also sell real estate, pilot a single-engine aircraft and captain 100-ton vessels — and he has the licenses to prove it! I don't know where he found the time to do all this, but I do know that it makes all kinds of careers possible for Billy. Perhaps he could sell intercoastal real estate while being a captain on the water taxi!

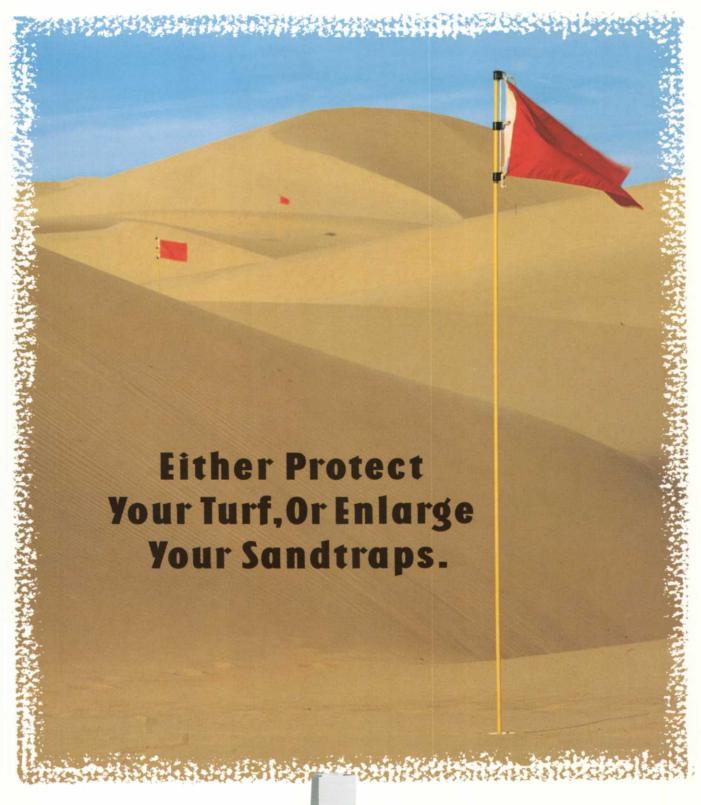


Billy Wright

Billy doesn't usually take lunch breaks; instead, he runs to keep in good physical shape. His other pastime is fishing on his boat, aptly named "Shin Splints." Maybe running has taken its toll after all.

Billy is a special person to all of us here in Palm Beach County, as well as to his many friends throughout Florida, Georgia and Alabama. All the people I contacted for this article have only great admiration and respect for him. Congratulations, Billy, on being a recipient of the President's Award. You deservedly join a fine group of individuals who have received this recognition.

8



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Mark Jarrell receives Wreath Of Grass Award



BY DAVID BAILEY

The Florida Turfgrass Association awarded the 1995 "Wreath of Grass" to Mark Jarrell at the annual FTGA meeting last October in Tampa, Florida. The Wreath of Grass is the FTGA's highest honor.

Mark is affiliated with the Palm Beach National Golf Club in Lake Worth. A graduate of the University of Florida in 1973, Mark is one of the last students to study turfgrass management under the legendary Dr. G. C. Horn. Mark is one of the avid Gator alumni that has enjoyed success this fall on and off the football field.

Mark has been an FTGA member and office holder for over twenty years. He is a past president of both the Palm Beach GCSA and the Florida GCSA. He has served on numerous IFAS and local county agricultural councils. Mark has been our journalism representative for GOLFWEEK magazine for nearly ten years. He currently serves as assistant editor for The Florida Green magazine.

Mark has now received both of the highest honors in the state from his profession. He received the Florida GCSA "Distinguished Service Award" in 1988.

One of Mark's closest friends and fellow superintendents said it best, "Mark is the ultimate behind the scenes leader. When any group needs a worker, Mark is there. We have all benefited from his countless hours of work and dedication. Every golfer in the state owes him a thank you."

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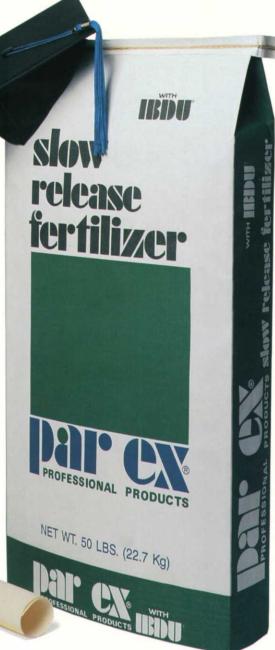
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The Walt Disney World-Oldsmobile Classic

by Joel Jackson, CGCS
The Walt Disney WorldOldsmobile Classic is rated as
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Larry Kamphaus, CGCS, Manager of Walt Disney World Golf Course Maintenance, is a 25-event veteran of the Disney-Oldsmobile Classic. He is flanked by Bob Karnes, right, superintendent of the Palm Course, and Joel Jackson, CGCS, of the Magnolia and Oak Trail courses.

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The Florida Tour Part 3 - FALL

Disney Oldsmobile Classic JCPenney Classic

tournaments; and tee gifts. This year was a milestone for the tournament. It was the 25th anniversary of the event. Head superintendent, Larry Kamphaus, has been there for all of them. His name was flashed on the electronic scoreboard daily with a few others to honor their participation.

The format for the event utilizes three courses. This year the three original Joe Lee courses, Lake Buena Vista, Mag-



Magnolia, Oak Trail and Palm crew members meet on Palm #16 to take a bow for a great job well done during the Classic.

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other diseases. And, since there is multiple site activity, there is minimal risk of resistance. Together, Terra Aliette T&O and Terra Thalonil put control of summer stress complex in the bag. It's the pair that'll fit your P.O. Box 6000 Sioux City, Iowa 51102 1-800-831-1002 turf disease program to a tee. Thalonil 90DF

nolia and Palm, were selected to celebrate the silver anniversary event. Lake Buena Vista had dropped out of the rotation recently because of renovation projects to the greens and the irrigation system.

Television coverage was provided by the two-year old Golf Channel network. The major networks had abandoned coverage of this Fall event in favor of college football and the World Series which challenged the market for viewers at this time of year. The Golf Channel folks were great to work with during set up and the broadcast. The only problem they had was the same one we had, the weather!

Our tournament operation and schedule is planned around a two week event. We host the Oldsmobile Scramble National Finals the week before the Classic. The Scramble format calls for the finalists to play the last round with a tour player and so the incoming pros are tapped on Monday of Classic week to participate. Of course it means we have to maintain tournament conditions for two weeks instead of just one.

We split our staff into morning and evening shifts with most still working in the mornings. Both tournaments run a 1 and 10 start daily. We do the usual routines in the mornings: rake bunkers; mow tees and collars; mow greens; set cups and drag dew. In the afternoons and evenings, we mow and blow the fairways and the practice range, the walkways and fairway collars. Every spare moment is spent filling tee and fairway divots either after play or before play. This year would be different!

Because of the record rainfall during the summer, we were lucky to catch a brief lull in the weather in early September to whip the courses into shape. Everyone was feeling good about the conditions. Then the bottom fell out. With the Oldsmobile Scramble only a few hours into its first round, we received a two inch downpour. The round was canceled and from then on we were working around 7:00 am shotgun starts as players had to finished rained-out rounds and then travel to the next course and try to get in the next round. Cart path only conditions prevailed slowing play down. The rains slacked a bit and they finished their contest. We had endured 4 inches of rain during Scramble week as we tried to maintain tournament conditions for the upcoming Classic. Working with a three day rain break we touched things up for the Classic. Our luck didn't hold. We had another two inches of rain during the Classic scattered over the event causing the officials to shorten the event to 54 holes. They played lift, clean and place rules the entire week. We couldn't even mow the fairways after Wednesday. The ground was so saturated the players were leaving 1/2 to 3/4 inch deep footprints in the turf.

It was disheartening and frustrating to say the least: a feeling we all have shared this stormy season. There were a few silver linings though. The Bonnet Creek courses sent over extra people to help with the course prep each morning as we labored to pump out bunkers, repair washouts and hand-drag the dew ahead of play. I also give credit to those tour players who took the time to stop members of our crew to thank them for their efforts. Most notable were Tom

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From left, Bill Grosser, Vern Easter, Greg Osborne and Arlin Grant of Innisbrook Resort.

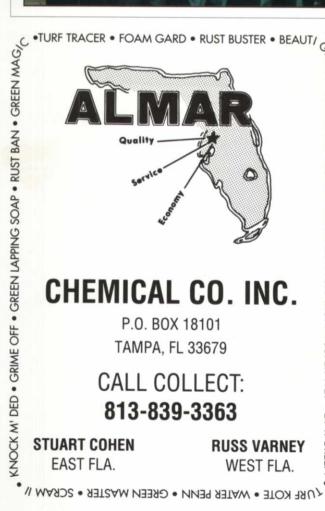
Kite, Phil Blackmar and Mike Hulbert. To a man they commented about what a shame it had to rain so much because they could see past the puddles and tell we had the turf in good condition from the few times they played without rain.

On the last day with storm clouds building by the minute, Brad Bryant completed is own Cinderella story by earning his first PGA victory over Hal Sutton and Ted Tryba.

Within 15 minutes, another rain event began that launched a six inch deluge making tournament tear down over the next week just as brutal as the set up and

Superintendent Doug Rouse (front row left) and the Lake Buena Vista crew will have hosted the Disney-Oldsmobile Classic, a U.S. Women's Amateur Qualifying tournament and the LPGA HealthSouth inaugural between October and January. Anybody want to trade schedules?

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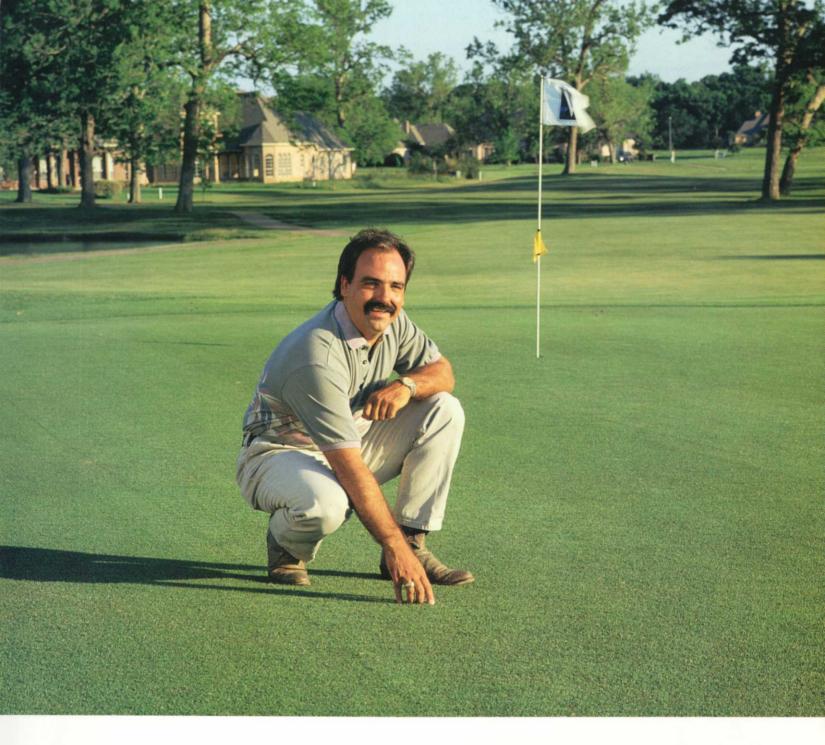


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John Walker, Golf Course Superintendent Weston Lakes Country Club operation had been.

The skies have cleared. The courses are drying out. The damage has been repaired. Our overseeding is down. Time for all of us to move on and get ready for next year's Florida Tour.

J. C. Penney Classic

by J. Arlin Grant, CGCS

Every fall members of the LPGA and PGA Tours team up to play the J. C. Penney Classic. The past six years Innisbrook has hosted the event on the Copperhead Golf Course. During the week of the event (November 27 to December 3), forty-three employees along with Golf Course Director, Greg Osborne, and supervisors, William Grosser and Vernon Easter, worked a split shift, 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

We had 13.5 inches of rain in October, which hampered our October overseeding plans. We managed to get the seed out on October 23rd and 24th. The greens were overseeded with a two-to-one blend of Sabre and Pro-Am Poa trivialis at a rate of 14 pounds per 1,00

square feet. Our Tifway 419 tees were seeded with Resort perennial ryegrass at a rate of 25 pounds per 1,000 square feet, and our green's collars were seeded at 20 pounds per 1,000 square feet with a blend of Commander (50%), Assure (30%) and Legacy (20%) ryegrasses. The driving range was also seeded with the Resort blend at 25 pounds per 1,000 square feet.

Our mowing program was designed to achieve a green speed of 10.0 to 10.5 feet on the stimpmeter. It was necessary to cut some greens four or five times to get the desired result. We used walk mowers set at .125. We mowed our tees with triplexes and fairways with 5-gang mowers daily at .5 inch. the driving range was also mowed daily with triplexes. The roughs were mowed as needed only with either 5-gang units or 3-gang trim mowers. Our cultural practices of grooming, verticutting, fertilizing and topdressing were done up to tournament week.

We hand raked the bunkers every day. All bunkers were tamped with a power tamper to prevent any buried lies. Each day we also filled fairway divots with a charcoal sand mix. Divots on tees were filled with a green sand mixture. Cups and tee markers were changed under the supervision of the LPGA and PGA officials.

One week prior to the tournament the entire course was roped for gallery control. Bleachers were put up at the 9th, 14th, 17th and 18th greens. Electronic scoreboards were installed at various locations around the course. TV camera crews and technicians laid miles of cable two days before the tournament. The event was broadcasted on ESPN on Friday and Saturday (December 1st and 2nd), and on ABC on Sunday, December 3rd.

We had .5 inches of rain on Wednesday and then perfect weather the rest of the event. the temperatures were in the mid 50's at night and low 80's during the day. In fact, our only concern during the event was a raccoon on the 7th tee that would come up to the players and beg for food.

The team of Beth Daniel and Davis Love combined their talents for a score of 27 under (257) to win the tournament.

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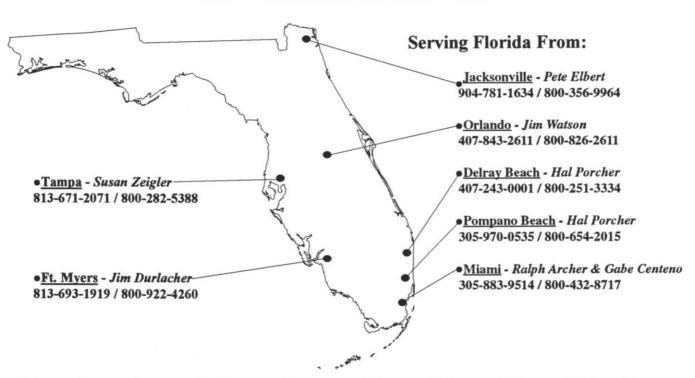
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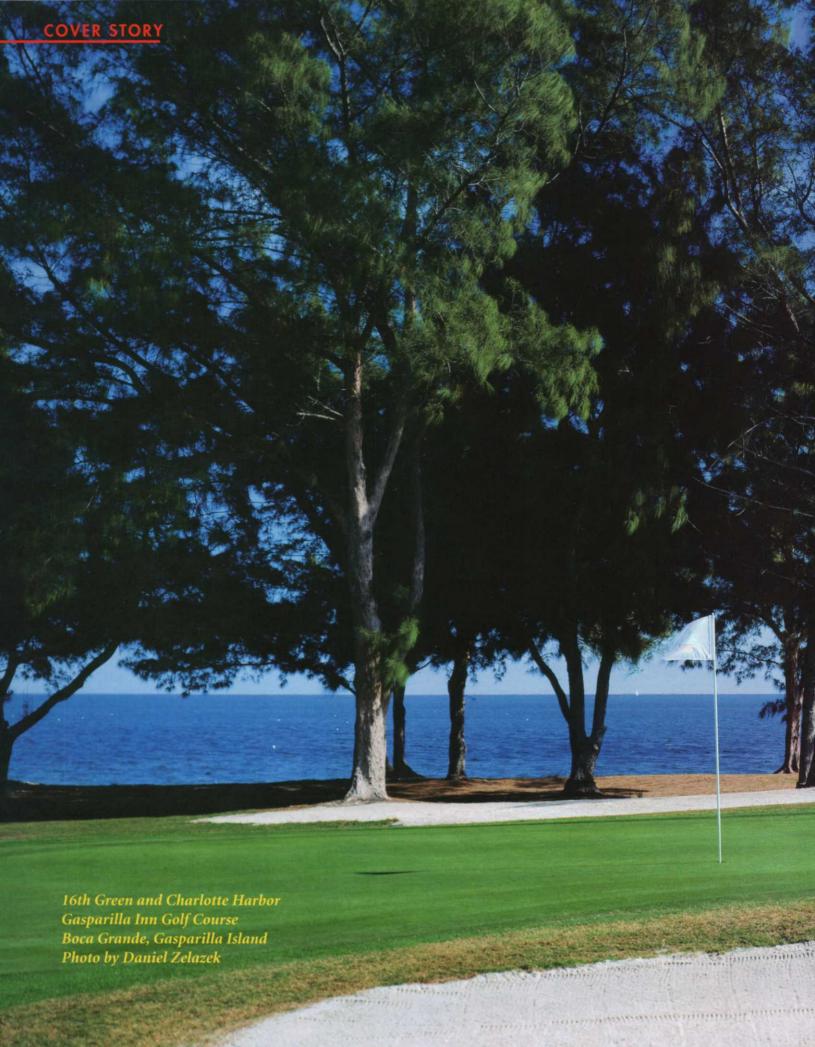
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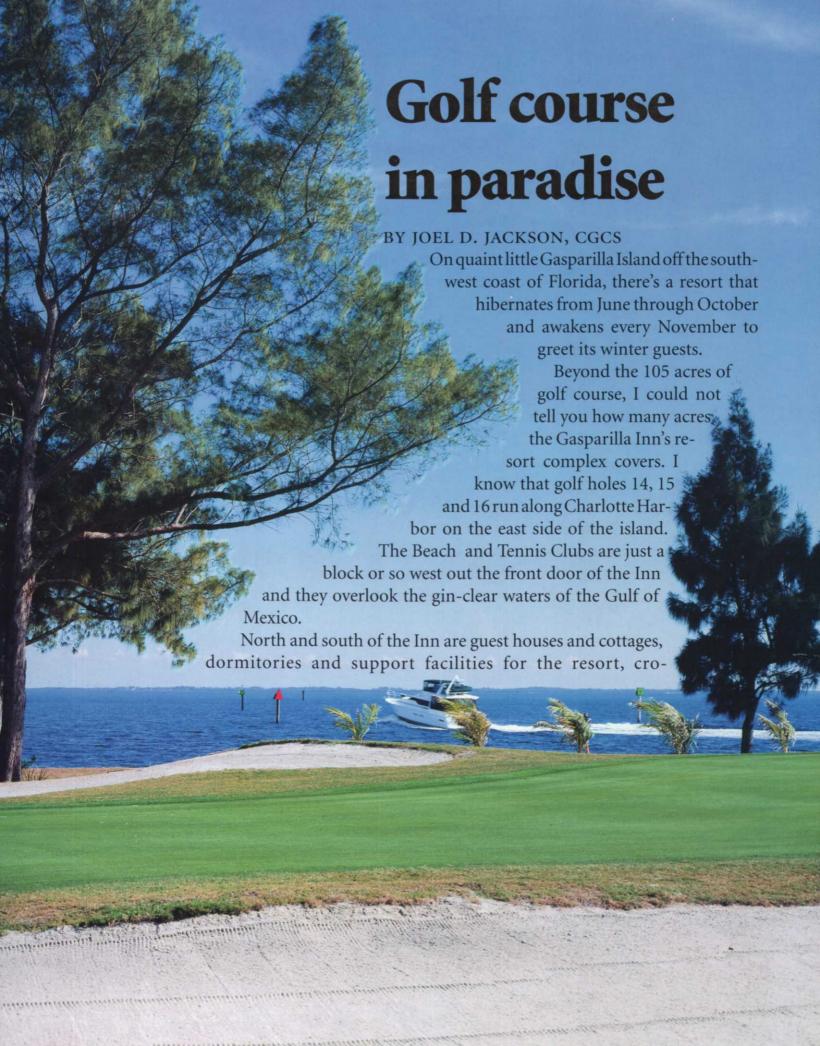


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Island Charm



Photo by Joel Jackson

The restored train depot, formerly the arrival point for vacationing gentry, is now the hub of a quaint downtown area of shops and restaurants.

quet courts, a marina, a restaurant, and a motel all belonging to the Gasparilla Inn.

Two blocks south of the Inn on the main road is the official "downtown" of the city of Boca Grande with a few stores and shops. A gas station, a clinic and some eclectic restaurants with names like: The Loose Caboose; Loon On A Limb; and The Temptation round out the "downtown" area. The Inn has its own restaurant across the street called, The Pink Elephant. The locals just call it "The Pink."

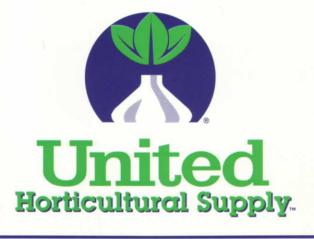
This geography lesson is necessary to understand the range and scope of the responsibilities of the superintendent, Royce Stewart. If the Inn owns it and it has turf, trees, ornamentals or annuals, then Royce and his 18-person staff take care of it!

Royce's staff level stays constant all year while the Inn fluctuates from a small skeleton staff in the summer to a maximum of 225 people during peak season. While the head chef, a 25-year veteran and has a home locally, most of the staff works at jobs or hotels in North Carolina, New York and Maine in the



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From behind the 15th green. The majority of the course's layout lies between Boca Grande Bayou by the pro shop and Charlotte Harbor seen to the right.

Island Charm

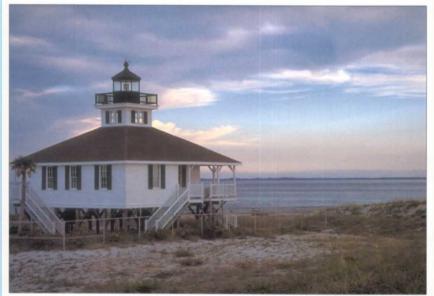


Photo by David Bailey

Boca Grande Light used to guide phosphate barges to the natural deep water harbor at the southern tip of the island.

summer and here at the Inn in the winter.

Many of them, like the chef, are 25- to 29-year veterans. There are five dormitory buildings on the property to provide housing for the hotel staff. Royce has a two-bedroom, two-bath apartment just a pitching wedge from his office.

I know someone is saying, "That's living on the job! That's not for me!"

There are compensations.

Housing is provided and the area is one of the premiere fishing grounds in the state. Boca Grande Pass is famous for its tarpon fishing. Royce has caught a 140 pounder and his son, Jamie landed a trophy silver king of 186 pounds after an hour long battle and a close encounter with a large hammerhead shark.

Remember, the course is closed from June 15th to November 1st.

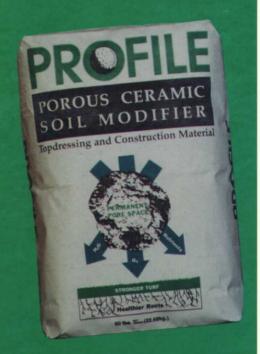
There's plenty of time to do projects like: rebuilding small tees to provide more teeing area to overcome winter wear; recontouring a green or two to have more pin positions; planting trees;

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Royce Stewart

Originally from: Lakeland, Florida.

Family: Royce, Jr. (27), Jason (25) and Jamie (22).

Education: Lakeland High School, Kansas Junior College, Florida Southern College.

Employment: Superintendent of: Gasparilla Inn Golf Club, Boca Grande (1990-present); Imperial Lakes C.C., Lakeland (1983-1990); El Conquisador C.C., Bradenton (1977-1983); Seminole Lake C.C., Seminole (1970 -1977). Manager or Skyview Lakes G.C., Lakeland (1966-1969).

Hobbies/Interests: Golf, fishing, baseball, football.

Professional affiliations/ Honors: Member of Suncoast Chapter of FGCSA, Florida Turfgrass Association and Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. Former positions: Board of Directors, West Coast GCSA; Vice President, Suncoast GCSA; Chairman Membership Drive, FTGA. Received 1995 FGCSA Presidents Award.

Memorable moments: My most memorable moments would have to be the three visits to the Gasparilla Inn by President Bush. Getting to meet him and to witness all the security measures was really extraordinary.

Personal philosophy: Be dedicated to your career but take time to enjoy life as well. If you do a good job with your career, that will make life more enjoyable in itself.

Introduction to the business:

Strange as it my sound, I married into the business. My father-in-law, Jamie Jackson, was a golf professional and vice president of the PGA. He asked me to go to work for

him at Skyview Lakes G.C. in Lakeland and my career developed from there.

Mentors: My life and career have been influenced primarily by two individuals. Jamie Jackson, my father-in-law, and lack Harrell, Sr. of Harrell's Turf Supplies. I will always be thankful for Jamie's encouragement and help to get started in golf course maintenance. lack has been and continues to be a personal friend and professional mentor. Whenever I have a problem or dilema, Jack is the first person I call because of the wise counsel I always receive from him.

Advice: Get a good education. Work hard. Seek advice and ask questions

when you have a problem. Sometimes you get into more trouble by not asking for help. Be sure to maintain your course to fit your general membership. Know what conditions they want and then manage the turf accordingly.

Iland Charm



Photo by Joel Jackson

Boca Grande Theater. In days gone by, it was a sawdust-floored movie and live performance theater; now it's a restaurant.

removing exotics, like the infamous Melalucca; and replenishing the crushed-shell cart paths.

There are scores of other landscaping projects scattered over the Inn's property to keep Royce and his crew busy all summer. On my visit, Royce had a contractor putting the finish grading on the completely rebuilt driving range.

The Gasparilla Inn was built in 1913 and the golf course was built in 1927. At that time the complex was owned by Baron Collier. The original course was a 9-hole layout. A second 9 holes was built "in-house" sometime later. The designers or creators are unknown.

The current owner, Mr. Bayard Sharp, purchased the property in 1975 and has made numerous improvements to the course over the years. Most notably for Royce, a new maintenance building finished last year. In turn, Royce converted





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Gasparilla Inn

Location: Boca Grande. Florida on Gasparilla Island.

Ownership: Mr. Bayard Sharp

Playing Policy: Private. Members and hotel guests.

Management Team: Club President, Mr. Bayard Sharp; Club Manager, Mr. Steve Sidensticker; Head Golf Professional, Bob Kinard.

Opened: 1927. Designer unkwown.

Major renovations: 1986-87 rebuilt greens with Tifgreen 328 and installed a new irrigation system; 1993 rebuilt tees; 1994 new maintenance facility: 1995 rebuilding range and replacing irrigation system.

Acreage: Total turf = 105 acres. Ponds and waterways = 4 acres.

Greens: 3 acres(including 3 croquet courts). Average size = 5,000 square feet. Turf type = Tifton 328. HOC = 3/16" summer. 5/ 32"-1/8" winter. Green speed goal = 7.5. Overseeding = 4 pounds Cobra bent and 6 pounds Sabre Poa trivialis per 1,000 square

Tees: 2 acres, Tifway 419. HOC = 1/4". Overseeding = Gator ryegrass at 24 pounds per 1,000 square feet.

Fairways: 35 acres, mix of Common, Ormond, and Tifway 419 bermudagrasses. HOC = 5/8" year round. Overseeding = Gator ryegrass at 425 pounds per acre.

Fair-roughs: 20 acres, same turf mix as fairways. HOC = 1.25''. No overseeding. Deep roughs = 2". No overseeding.

Irrigation Source: Effluent. Equipment: Pumps = 2-60 hp mains & 1-30 hp jockey. Controls = 48 Toro VT12 satellites. Heads = Double row Toro 670's.

Staff: Total of 19 including superintendent.



Unusual conditions:

Coastal barrier island. Tidal salt water ponds. Salt water intrusion into soil profile. Soil = muck over oyster shell. Permitting required to prune mangroves as needed. Course closed annually from June 15th to November 1st. Weight restrictions on bridge requires special trucking and stockpiling of materials.

Grow-in: When the course was built in the 1920's, the primary equipment was a mule and buggy team.

Mowing/maintenance equipment: Green, tee and approach mowers = 5 Toro triplexes. Fairways = 2 John Deere 3235's. Roughs = 2 Toro Grounds Masters.

Cultural/Pest Control/ Fertility programs: Frequent verti-drain aerification of fairways. Annual gypsum applications at 1,500 pounds per acre for high sodium levels. Use slow release Polyon fertilizers. Pest contol spraying only as needed.

Wildlife inventory includes: Bald eagles, Osprey(nesting platform on #13 tee), waterfowl and wading birds, Wild turkeys and raccoons.

Island Charm



Photo by Joel Jackson

Banyan Street is one of the most popular photo opportunities the downtown area

the old maintenance site into a pitch and run practice green area with a comfort station complete with porch and chairs.

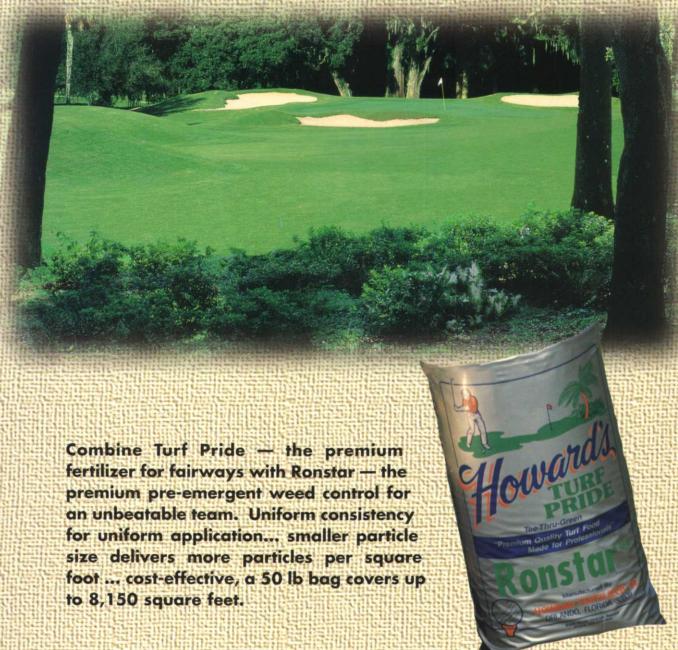
The golf course is unique for its historical preservation of some local dwellings. The pro shop is an old three-story beach house complete with a widow's walk tower on the top floor.

The second-story apartment served as quarters for one of only five superintendents the golf course has ever had. A gazebo was very tastefully added in 1990 to create a porch and snack bar area. Barged up from Useppa Island in 1930, this old beach house now dominates the golf course skyline.

Just north of the main hotel building is the Croquet Club. The small building that serves as the clubhouse is another old home from the area.

Royce said, "Every year around mid-January, the Inn hosts a week-long cro-

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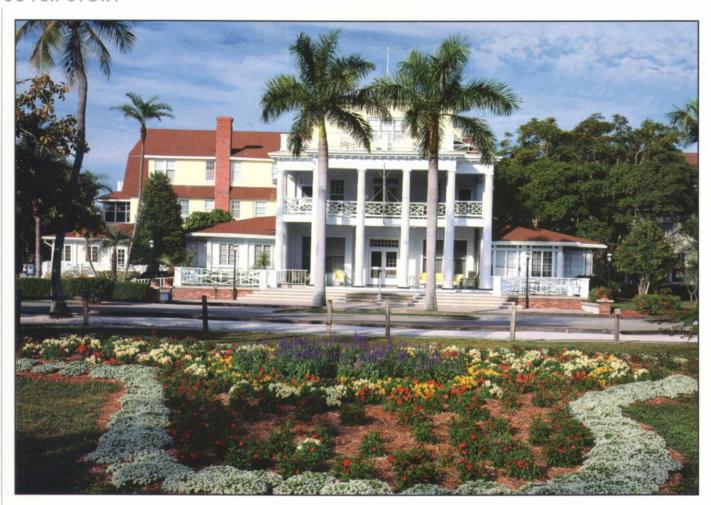
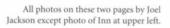


Photo by Daniel Zelazek

This is the range
and scope of the
responsibilities of
Royce Stewart: If the
Inn owns it and it
has turf, trees,
ornamentals or
annuals, then Royce
and his 18-person
staff take care of it!









quet tournament with participants coming from all over the United States. It is one of the big events on the island. These folks are pretty intense competitors, so we maintain our three croquet courts just like our greens. The only difference is that I overseeded the greens with a bent/ poa mix and this year I'm trying rye on the courts."

The last of the preserved dwellings is a fisherman's house from Placida, the closest mainland town. Relocated and refurbished, the small building now serves as a comfort station in the northeast corner of the golf course. Of course, there's the Innitself. It's only a paltry 84 years young! A grand dame of traditions, elegance, and style.

There is a price to pay for living and working in paradise.

Gasparilla Island is seven miles long and maybe a quarter mile wide. Like most barrier islands, it is susceptible to storm surges from hurricanes and other severe tropical storms.

1995 was bad enough for the Gasparilla Inn Golf Course with a summer of record rainfall. Royce reported over 68 inches in a 16-week period.

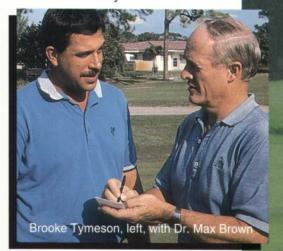
Then Hurricane Opal added more insult to injury. The hurricane's winds





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several times, and we got some good turf growth. The hurricane set us back a little on those holes. Without a doubt this has been the toughest course I've ever managed because of the possible extreme conditions. Because of the frequent salt water flooding, I apply 1,500 pounds of gypsum per acre annually to help neutralize the sodium content."

On the one hand, there's been too much water lately. However, there are times when the irrigation water supply becomes critical on Gasparilla Island.

Royce uses reclaimed water for his irrigation source. With only 500 island residents from late spring to late fall providing effluent, there are times when the fairways can only be watered once every three weeks in order to have water for the greens and tees.

During the peak winter season, the population swells to 1,500 to 2,000 inhabitants and shortages are not as frequent. In mid-November, Royce was having to watch his watering schedule closely to have enough effluent to give his two-week old overseeding a nine-minute syringe.

That brings up another idiosyncrasy of living on a sleepy little island. The toll bridge is only rated for 20 tons. No large trucks allowed.

Royce has an agreement with a local contractor to stockpile his topdressing and other bulk materials on the mainland at Placida, and then he has them trucked over in smaller loads.

Bulk fertilizer orders have to be divided and delivered in small trucks as well. The toll to the island is \$3.20. Royce and all of his employees have an annual \$35 toll pass that the Inn buys for each person. It is a \$700 line-item in his budget.

For all of the built-in challenges that come with the territory, one of the biggest adjustments Royce had to make was to the island lifestyle.

Royce said, "It has taken me awhile to learn that while the expectations for quality and excellence are the same here as anywhere in our business, the sense of urgency is not as acute. The pace is more relaxed as evidenced by our closed season.

"Even in the winter season, you don't know that the island is busy except when you go to the post office or a restaurant for dinner. Our busiest days on the course will see 130 to 140 players.

"There are no tee times! People come out and just find an open hole if the first tee is backed up! It is the way the members want it.

"I have developed a good comfort level with the unique nature of this position. About the time I get tired of the more intense golf schedule in the winter, along comes our summer projects to focus on. Then after the long hot summer, it's good

to see the members, guests and hotel staff come back again. It really helps to break up the year."

Three visits by President George Bush *really* helped to break up the routine and Royce ranks them among the top highlights of his career.

"The security measures were just unbelievable," he said! "They made the air space over the island off limits to all aircraft. They had a Coast Guard cutter stationed out front of the home where he stayed. They even had Navy Seals in the water between the cutter and the shore.

"He would arrive by helicopter and land on the fourth and fifth fairways. Sharpshooters would be stationed on the top floor of the pro shop building. While he played golf, the Secret Service would keep two station wagons loaded with enough armament for a small army in our maintenance compound. They let us look inside once. It was absolutely amazing!"

"Mr. Bush's routine usually consisted of jogging the perimeter of the course every morning and then spending half a day playing golf with Mrs. Bush and the other half fishing.

"When he jogged, there was a group of agents all around him and advance and rear guards as well. Two of his visits were while he was in office.

"The last one was after he left office. Then he only had four agents guarding



This grove of palms behind #16 green literally had to be rescued from Hurricane Opal. The area where Royce is standing was eroded away by the storm surge. Note the high shell content of the soil.

Photo by Joel Jackson



Friends and neighbors



Dinner Time



Defending the homestead



him. We had a 'no carts allowed' restriction one day so he just slung his golf bag over his shoulder and walked the course.

"I got to meet him and have my picture taken with him. It was definitely a rare and unusual experience for a golf course superintendent!"

Gasparilla Island has a long and rich history from Spanish exploration in the

1600's to American presidential visits in the 1900's. It has remained largely undeveloped commercially over the years. The old buildings and the golf course are being renovated to preserve the traditional and quiet ambience of the island.

For Royce Stewart, the Gasparilla Inn Golf Course is a unique management opportunity and the place he calls home.

Meanwhile, back at the rookery...

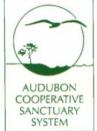
David Bailey focuses his camera on a Great Blue Heron family in a rookery at the Gasparilla Inn G.C. and captures some scenes from a day in the life of wildlife on a Florida golf course.

What does it take to become a CERTIFIED

Audubon Cooperative

Sanctuary?

A journey through the process in four installments



1995. The ACSP staff estimates that it takes 30 minutes to 1 hour to complete this form, however we found that it took a little longer.

The purpose of the Resource Inventory is to help you describe your property and management practices, thus making it easier for you to decide on the types of projects you would like to undertake. The Resource Inventory is eight pages and filled with check off boxes which makes it easier to complete.

Some suggestions to keep in mind when working on your Resource Inventory:

- Start with the information you already know
- Estimate your acreage, don't go crazy trying to get specific
- Don't hesitate to write "I don't know."
- Don't forget that pictures are indeed worth a thousand words
- Including a property map or course diagram is helpful

Remember, this is general informa

BY SHELLY FOY AND GREG PLOTNER

question that is often asked is "How do I become a fully certified golf course in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program?"

In an effort to encourage others to participate and offer help along the way, we will be writing a 4-part series on a golf course becoming a fully certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. We will document the progress made, as well as offer any tips we can to smooth the way for others.

The golf course we will be following through certification is the Medalist Golf Club in Hobe Sound. They joined the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP) in May 1993.

In June of 1995, Greg Plotner, CGCS became the golf course superintendent and set a goal of becoming a fully certified cooperative sanctuary in one year. Greg has experience with the ACSP, as his previous club, Tampa Palms Golf & Country Club was the first golf course in Florida to become fully certified.

The Resource Inventory for the Medalist Club was completed in November

Audubon Society (NY) goes International

For the last several years, the Audubon Society of New York State (ASNY) has been working to establish proactive conservation programs that are aimed at involving people in programs and projects that will benefit the environment. ASNY has gone a considerable distance toward reaching its goals.

In order to expand and build upon our endeavors, it is necessary that a new broader and stronger foundation be established. To unify our national and international programs into a cohesive unit, we are pleased to announce the creation of Audubon International Center For Sustainable Resource Management

Audubon International has become the umbrella organization under which will fall all of the programs formerly managed by ASNY including the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System and associated wildlife and environmental education programs. In addition, several new and exciting programs are being created which will focus on:

- Research
- Education
- Conservation Assistance

Ron Dodson, President of New York Audubon says that "The move was made because of the rapid growth we've seen, and the interest in our program well beyond the borders of New York State."

For more information, call (518) 767-9051



ENVISION THE POSSIBILITIES



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tion which is meant to help ACSP staffbecome familiar with your course. Once they have this, they will send you a report written specifically for your golf course which will make recommendations on projects they feel you will be able to undertake.

Always remember, you are the one that makes decisions on what you do or not do. The ACSP staff only makes recommendations.

After receiving your report, the next step is the Environmental Planning Worksheet.

As part of this worksheet, you will need to identify people who will serve on your Resource Committee. Why do you need a Resource Advisory Committee? They can help reduce some of the work by undertaking projects, assisting with the resource inventory or even helping to list wildlife species.

Your resource committee should contain golf course staff, green committee members, golfers, and people in your community. Educating the public on the value of golf courses is an opportunity which cannot be passed up.

Having individuals on the resource committee who are not involved with your golf course is a great way to be proactive in your community.

Having individuals on the committee outside of your golf course is a good way to be proactive in your community. This will allow you the opportunity to educate the public about the value of a golf course.

Your Resource Committee can also help you with:

- Planning
- Technical Knowledge
- · Volunteer Work
- · Publicity
- · Continuity

Here is a copy of the Environmental Plan for the Medalist Club, which includes the Resource Committee. We may add to this group as we go along.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN

Request for Certification

Course Name: Medalist Golf Club

Address: 9650 SE Federal Highway, Hobe Sound, Florida

33455

Phone: 407-546-0647

Contact Person: Greg A. Plotner, CGCS

INSTRUCTIONS: The purpose of the Environmental Plan is to help you define your goals and plan strategies to fully develop your Cooperative Sanctuary. The plan does not have to be elaborate — a simple outline will help you get started. However, the plan should address what you plan to do in each certification category, who will be responsible for each area, and what your time frame is for completion. This form is designed to help make this process both simple and comprehensive. We encourage you to make a plan that will not only be useful for certification, but will be valuable when managing various aspects of your cooperative sanctuary. Over time, you can review your plan to see if you're on track, check off goals that you've achieved, and periodically update it to respond to new ideas, needs or concerns. If you have any questions when filling out this form, please call us at (518) 767-9051. When you've completed your Environmental Plan, please make a copy for your records and send this form to us at the above address. We'll review it, send you a "Certificate of Recognition" in Environmental Planning, and forward guidelines for completing certification in the remaining categories.

STEP 1: Define Overall Objectives.

 What does your course want to achieve as a Cooperative Sanctuary participant?

The Medalist Golf Club recognizes the natural scenic and habitat value of the native upland and wetland habitats on site. As such, the Master Plan of the course was designed to effectively integrate the golf course in a way which enhances golf course play while protecting the value of the wetland and upland preserve areas. We as a participant wish to demonstrate to others our abilities to continue with our master plan and share our experiences with others.

- What unique features or constraints of your site have to be accounted for when developing your golf course sanctuary (eg. public play, member privacy, tournament play, neighboring land owners, unique habitats, lack of space, environmental regulations, etc.)?
 - 1) Member Privacy
 - 2) Unique & Protected Habitats
 - 3) Environmental Regulations
 - 4) Prohibitive Activities

STEP 2: Review Each Certification Category and Outline Plan-Of-Action.

Use the project checklists on the following pages to decide which projects you will implement. The checklists are provided for guidance; feel free to come up with additional projects that suit your course. As you outline your plan in each category, try to



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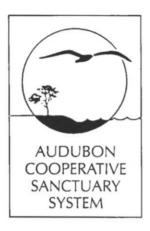
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Public/Member Involvement and Education

The intent of this category is to help you gain recognition and support for your environmental programs, increase golfer understanding of wildlife and environmental quality on the golf course, and let the public know that golf courses can be valuable community assets.

Member and public awareness and involvement in environmental projects is often the key to their success.

Choose projects to help you focus your efforts, increase participation, build support, and generate positive publicity for the work you do.

Audubon Resource Committee -List possible contact people (members or regular golfers, local resource people/organizations, staff, etc.) that can provide special information or assistance to help you carry out your plan.

define the following:

- · What are your priority projects?
- Who will be responsible for implementing projects in each certification area?
- What is your time-line for when projects will be initiated and completed?

If you have already completed projects, simply write "complete" in the space provided for "Projected Completion Date." Feel free to attach additional pages as needed for comments or details.

PUBLIC/MEMBER INVOLVEMENT AND EDUCATION Audubon Resource Committee

Name	Title/Relation to Course	Area of Focus/Expertise
Greg Plotner	Golf Course Superintendent	•
Shelly Foy	USGA Green Section	Audubon Program
Jane Krebbs	Tom Lucido & Associates	Land Planner for Medalist
Dave Coogan	Blue Flag Aquatics	Wetland/Upland Mitigation
Tom Aiello	Aiello Landscape	Landscaping Contractor
Steve Beeman	EcoShores, Inc.	Aquatic Plant Management
	ive contacted Resource People or	

Public Involvement Project Checklist Please check projects that you plan to do.	Projected Start Date	Projected Completion Date
Education/Public Information Projects (may include	e):	
 Display of ACSP registration, wildlife list, project info., etc. 		
☐ Educational Posters	Oct. 1995	Ongoing
☐ Newsletter articles	Nov.1995	Ongoing
☐ Brochure of ACSP/Environmental Activities		
 Presentations at workshops or seminars 	1993	Ongoing
☐ Press releases		
☐ Tournament publicity		
☐ Other:		
Involvement Projects(may include):		
 Member, scout, or school involvement in nest box building or monitoring 		
 Member/Public involvement in wildlife inventory 	Dec.1995	
☐ Member/Public help with planning or publicity		
☐ Member/Public help with planting projects		
☐ Nature trail, wildlife walks, or tours of course		
☐ Nature guide to the course for member/public use		
☐ Kids projects:		
"Adopt a School" - sponsor a school in ACSP for Schools		
☐ Other:		
Person(s) responsible for Public Involvement p	rojects: Shelly	Fov
Comments:		17.00F

SURVIVING THE SUMMER OF 1995

Nutters Crossing, Salisbury, MD



FEBRUARY 22, 1995

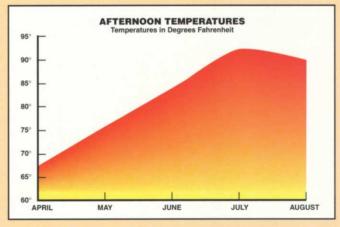
Aerial infrared photography was used to determine the distribution and moisture content on the golf course. Fairways, tees, and surrounds display more uniformity and moisture content than greens.

Primer® 604 Performs...

"It wasn't as hard to manage the course this summer as it would've been without Primer. If my greens made it through the summer of '95 with Primer, they can make it through anything."

> Chuck Poole, Golf Course Superintendent Nutters Crossing, Salisbury, MD





FEBRUARY THROUGH AUGUST

Environmental conditions worsened during the late spring through summer months. Temperatures became very hot and rainfall was more than 12 inches below average, resulting in extreme stress to turfgrass. In many areas or the golf course, turfgrass continued to weaken during this period.



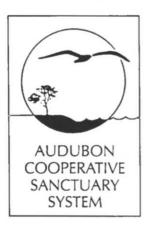
AUGUST 22, 1995

Primer 604 was applied to greens on a monthly basis at labeled rates, February through August. Fairways, tees, rough, and surrounds show moderate to severe stress. Greens exhibit excellent uniformity and moisture content.

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Wildlife and habitat management

This category encompasses the management of non-play areas to provide habitat for wildlife on the golf course. The size of the property and diversity of existing habitats will impact what you are able to do. The intent of "Wildlife & Habitat Management" is to maximize the space you have to provide the best possible habitat given your location, size, layout, and type of property.

Water quality management

Water quality is a crucial issue for government agencies, environmental groups, and the public. Concerns are often raised about the impact of golf course chemical use on the water quality of lakes, streams, and ground water. In order to feel confident that your course is maintaining good water quality, it is important to have a strategy in place to monitor water quality, improve conditions if warranted, and deal with any problems should they arise.

Wildlife & Habitat Management		Projected				
Project Checklist Please check projects that you plan to do.	Projected Start Date	Completion Date				
Wildlife Cover Enhancement Projects (may include))•					
☐ Leave woodland understory when possible	1994	Ongoing				
☐ Leave dead trees standing when not a safety hazard	July 1995	Ongoing				
 Create brush piles for small mammals 						
☐ Naturalize non-play areas						
☐ Mount and monitor nest boxes						
☐ Protect or enhance special habitats:						
☐ Protect threatened or endangered species:	1993	Ongoing				
Wildlife Food Enhancement Projects (may include):						
 Choose food sources for hummingbirds, butter- flies or songbirds in landscaped and garden areas 						
 Emphasize native plants in landscaping 	June 1995	Ongoing				
☐ Maintain bird feeders						
Water Enhancement Projects (may include):						
 Buffer shorelines around ponds and other water sources with aquatic vegetation 	August 1995	Ongoing				
 Mount an osprey nesting structure (if applicable) 						
 Protect or enhance wetland areas 	July 1995	Ongoing				
☐ Other Projects:						
Also required when applying for certification in Wi & Habitat Management:	ldlife					
A map of the course with natural areas						
Person(s) responsible for Wildlife & Habitat projects: Jane Krebbs Comments:						

Water Quality Management Project Checklist Please check projects that you plan to do.	Projected Start Date	Projected Completion Date
☐ Establish baseline data for water quality.	1994	1994
☐ Test key water sources on a regular basis.	1995	Ongoing
 Protect streams from erosion and pollution inputs. 	1994	Ongoing
☐ Enhance (if needed) or protect wetlands.	1995	Ongoing
□ Establish vegetative buffers and "no spray zones" around water features to filter runoff, reduce erosion, and minimize chemical input.	1994	Ongoing
Minimize or eliminate chemical additives in water sources.	1994	Ongoing
 Maintain equipment wash down and maintenance area to protect water sources. 	1995	Ongoing
☐ Other:		

Person(s) responsible for Water Quality Management: Greg Plotner

Comments:

Integrated Pest Management Projected Project Checklist Projected Completion Please check projects that you plan to do. Start Date Date June 1995 Regular turf scouting and monitoring. Ongoing Identifying problem "hot spots" and indicator lune 1995 Ongoing June 1995 Ongoing Setting threshold levels for problems. □ Written record keeping of monitoring activities control measures used, and results to detect trends from year to year. Proper cultural practices with emphasis on June 1995 dealing with underlying problems or conditions. Ongoing Reduction of turf stress due to carts, traffic, or low mowing heights. Use of appropriate plant materials for climate and soils. 1994 Ongoing Use of slow-release or natural-organic fertilizers 1994 Ongoing Least toxic pest controls chosen. Pesticide applications on a curative basis when 1994 possible. Ongoing Education and training for employees. Sept. 1995 Ongoing ☐ Proper care and storage of equipment. June 1995 Ongoing General appearance of environmentally-June 1995 responsible maintenance facility. Ongoing Other: Person(s) responsible for IPM: Greg Plotner Comments:

efficient maintenance area.



Integrated pest management

help to ensure a healthy environment

manage turf areas with environmental

management, and provide a clean and

for both people and wildlife. Your

IPM program includes efforts to

sensitivity, educate workers and members about responsible plant

A comprehensive IPM program will



THE PROFESSIONAL

Tank Capacity: 5.5 Gallons: Delivery Volume: 33 Gallons/acre

This elite sprayer is designed and built for the professional user for the accurate treatment of large areas of fine turf, such as bowling greens, cricket squares, golf greens and tennis courts.

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ACCESSORIES American Eagle Bayco EZ-Rake Fairway Markers Flex Stakes Fore Par Markers, Inc. Master of the Links

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Marking Paint &

Chalk Grid System Igloo Coolers Tee Towels TMI - VIP Blends, Poa Triv., Rye, Bent **EQUIPMENT**

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Stihl Tanaka Axis

Broyhill Sprayers (Grains Keeper) Red Max **Tool Totes**

FERTILIZERS & SOIL AMENDMENTS Break Thru Howards Fertilizer Plant Marvel (Nutriculture) **PARTS & SHOP** SUPPLIES

Accu-Gauges **Back-Lapping Machines**

Grinders Lapping Compound Lifts & Lift Tables R & R Distributor Safety Equipment Tire Changers Tools (Wholesale) SERVICES

Pesticide Applications, Inc. **Campbell Aerifications** Services

with HAND DREDGING the play goes on!



WITH OUR PATENTED SYSTEM THE <u>PLAY GOES ON!</u>
WHILE WE CLEAN DREDGE YOUR LAKES, PONDS, CULVERTS, PIPES
AND INTAKES, MAKING YOU LOOK GOOD! MAKES US LOOK GOOD!

◆ EXCLUSIVE PUMP & DUMP ◆

WITH OUR PATENTED SYSTEM PUMP & DUMP WE PUMP DIRECTLY INTO OUR WAITING TRUCKS, FAR FROM THE DREDGE SITE. WE'RE QUIET, FAST, EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE.









and

present...



Reelmaster® 6000 Series Fairway Mowers

The first family of mid size mowers delivering exceptional power, agility, productivity and quality of cut. Everything you need for picturesque fairways and superb playability. Even under the toughest turf conditions.



The Toro Reelmaster® 6000 series are the first true mid size fairway mowers.

You want your golf course to be exceptionally beautiful and playable. So you may be using one mower for thick, warm season grasses. And another during cooler months. Now with either Toro's Reelmaster 6500-D or 6700-D your turf conditions can be handled

all year 'round. The 6000 series are true mid size fairway mowers offcring breakthrough technology, a consistently superb quality of cut and up to 10 acres per hour productivity.

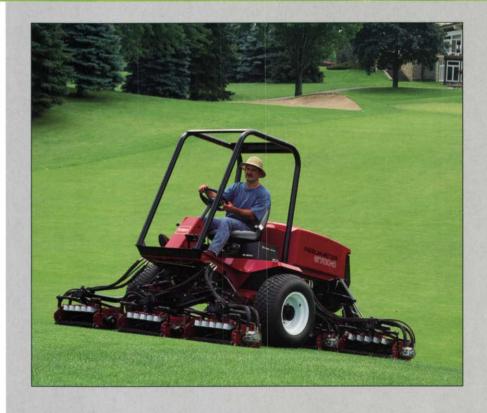


Power Pack

Our 2 or 4 wheel drive Reelmaster 6500-D has a powerful 38 hp Peugeot diesel engine. It's ideal even for high altitude areas where most mowers lack reserve power.

The 6700-D comes with an extremely efficient 42 hp Peugeot diesel with standard 4 wheel drive. It generates energy that not only moves the machine but also drives its *seven* hydraulic cutting units. The 6 position joystick controls either 5, 6 or 7 cutting units for up to 11 feet of exceptional productivity.

Both models tackle heavy bermuda, zoysia, overseeded rye, bent and blue grass. Quietly. Measuring a super low 76 decibels at a distance of 25 feet.



Reelmaster® 6500-D and 6700-D Specifications

	REELMASTER 6500-D REELMASTER 6700-D MODEL 03800, 2-WD OR MODEL 03801, 4-WD MODEL 03802, 4-WD						
BRAKES	Wet triple disc brakes on front planetary assemblies may be actuated individually for service brakes or locked together for transport or parking brakes. Dynamic braking through hydrostatic traction drive.						
STEERING	Power steering with dedicat	ed power source.					
CUTTING UNIT SUSPENSION	Equal length lift arms with the	ne L-I-N-K-S™ suspension	system.				
SEAT	Deluxe seat with adjustable	suspension and fore-aft lo	cation. Optional	Armrest Kit, Model	30707.		
ROPS	A 4-post ROPS with canopy	and seat belt; standard o	n Models 03801	and 03802, optiona	I on Model 03800.		
		Height	Length	Transport Width	Operational Widtl	h Wheel Tread	Wheelbase
OVERALL DIMENSIONS		60" (152 cm) w/o ROPS 84" (213 cm) w/ROPS 84" (213 cm) w/ROPS	120" (305 cm) 120" (305 cm)		110" (279 cm) 147" (374 cm)	70.25" (178 cm) - front 41" (104 cm) - rear 70.25" (178 cm) - front 41" (104 cm) - rear	58" (147 cm
NET WEIGHT WET	Model 03800: 3,200 lbs. (1, Model 03801: 3,300 lbs. (1, Model 03802: 3,800 lbs. (1,	497 kg) with 5 blade cutting	g units and full f	luid levels.			
WARRANTY	One year limited warranty. F	Refer to the appropriate Op	erator's Manual	for further details.	: 40 ;		
SOUND LEVEL	82 dB(A) under normal ope	rating conditions.					
CERTIFICATION	The Reelmaster 6000 series with required kits and ballas	s complies with American it installed.	National Standa	rds Institute (ANSI E	371.4-1990) and Eur	opean Community (CE)	specifications
		HYDRAUL	IC SYSTEM				
PUMP	A three section gear pump	provides hydraulic flow to p	ower the cutting	units, power steeri	ng and cutting unit lif	ft.	
CONTROL BLOCKS	All hydraulic functions are covalves and solenoid operate	ontrolled by two integrated ed directional control valves	hydraulic contro s.	I blocks utilizing car	tridge type relief valv	es, solenoid controlled p	roportional
AUTOMATIC REEL SPEED CONTROL	Reel drive circuit is split into front and rear independent circuits with separate pump and valve control of each circuit. A separate proportional cartridge bleed valve is provided for each circuit. The ECU measures reel speed of each circuit from a sensor on front center and left rear cutting unit, traction speed from a sensor on the wheel motor and detects the desired clip from a potentiometer located under the control panel. The ECU then determines what duty cycle of voltage to apply to the proportional cartridge valve to achieve the desired clip (i.e., reel speed).						
LIFT CYLINDERS	The front right and left units units on Model 03802 are ra	and the rear two units are aised individually. All lift and	raised by individ	dual cylinders in sep es are controlled by	arate series circuits. the ECU.	The front center unit and	d outer rear
HYDRAULIC OIL RESERVOIR	100% of oil from reservoir p	asses through a 100 mesh	suction strainer	before entering the	reel drive circuit. 8.	5 gallon (32 liter) capacity	y.
HYDRAULIC OIL FILTER	11 gram cap at 10 gallon (3 pressure service indicator.	7 liter) per minute flow Ave	Beta = 20 at 3	micron. Filter head I	nas integral 50 psi (3	3.4 bars) bypass and a tri	ue differential
		5 AND 11 BLAD	E CUTTING UN	ITS			
TYPE	Five 22" (56 cm) width cuttir Front or rear discharge sele					units; fully interchangeable with movable shield.	e.
WIDTH OF CUT	96" (244 cm) total.				with 5 cutting units, (338 cm) with all se	114.5" (291 cm) with 6 coven cutting units.	utting
HOC RANGE	*"-1 ¼" (9.5 mm-32 mm) height of cut range. Recommended use: 5 Blade—¾"-1 ¼" (19 mm-32 mm); 11 Blade—¾"-¾" (9.5 mm-19 mm). Achieve 1 ½"-3 ½" (29 mm-79 mm) with High Height of Cut Kit, Model 03880.						
REAR HOC ADJUSTMENT	Quick height of cut adjustme	ent mechanism in 1/8" (3.2	mm) increments	s with threaded mic	ro adjust for finer adj	ustment.	
REEL CONSTRUCTION	Fairway reels. All welded co	nstruction. 7" (17.8 cm) dia	meter reels.				
REEL DRIVE	Reel motors feature quick d	isconnect for removal or in	stallation onto cu	utting unit. Cutting u	nits can be driven fro	om either end.	
BEDKNIFE/BEDBAR	Single point adjustment med	chanism, .0005 in adjustme	ent per click.				
CLIP FREQUENCY	.375" - 1.25" (9.5 mm - 3.1 current forward speed and t	7 mm). Reel speed automa he pre-set reel type and he	atically adjusts to	maintain proper cli	p. Reel speeds conti	nuously calculated base	d on the
ROLLERS	Front roller: 3" (7.6 cm) dian with two conventional single Full roller, P/N 93-3040, is a	lip seals and Toro labyrith	seal to provide t	5" (6.4 cm) diameter our sealing surface	Full roller. All rollers to protect the bear	s use the same heavy duings. Optional 3" (7.6 cm)	ty ball bearings diameter

ACCESSORIES							
Model No.	Description	Model No.	Description	Part No.	Description	Part No.	Description
03854 03856 03870	5 Blade Cutting Unit 11 Blade Cutting Unit Thatching Reel	30707 03880	Armrest Kit High Height of Cut Kit	94-2836 85-4750	Rear Weight Kit Hand Held Diagnostic Tool	93-2962 93-2967	Rear Roller Scraper Kit Front Roller Scraper Kit

^{*} Specifications and design subject to change without notice. "Toro", "Reelmaster" and "Toro 4-Matic" are registered trademarks and "Automated Control Electronics", "ACE", "Data Log", "L+N-K-S" and "TurfDefender" are unregistered trademarks of The Toro Company, 8111 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington, Minnesota, 55420-1196. Products depicted in this brochure are for demonstration purposes only. Actual products offered for sale may vary in design, required attachments, and safety features.

COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS



Helping You Put Quality Into Play®



Easy on the Environment. 50% Recycled Fiber – 10% Post Consumer.



Heavy Duty Reels

Toro technology is cutting edge. Exemplified by the 6000 series heavy duty 5 or 11 blade reels. All reels are interchangeable. All can be quickly changed from steerable to non-steerable. All feature single point reel to bedknife adjustment. In addition, they come with an exclusive self centering system to ensure proper tracking when reels are lowered.

Contoured Cutting

With the 6000 series you can count on a consistently fine quality of cut, due in large part to another Toro exclusive. Our L-I-N-K-S™

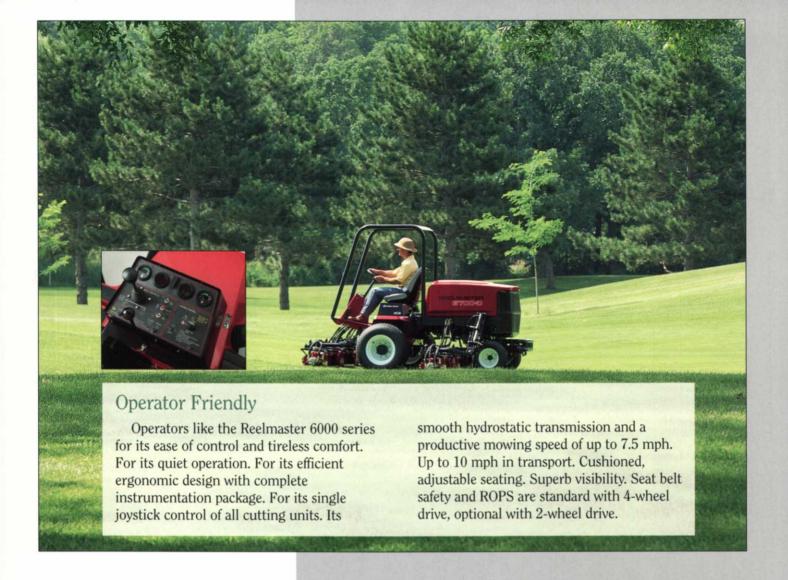
system. Its four bar floating linkage and individual lift arm dampers afford extraordinary contour following ability and reduces "bobbing" better than any other fairway mower. Another advantage



comes with Toro's Automated
Control Electronics™ (ACE) system
that automatically adjusts reel speed
to mowing speed to maintain a
consistent rate of clip. It can also be
programmed to limit the maximum
mowing speed.

Sense-ational Hydraulics

The Reelmaster 6000 series hydraulic system is state of the art. Toro's exclusive TurfDefender™ electronic leak detection system "senses" and alerts the operator to damaging leaks and minimizes false alarms that plague conventional systems.







Easy Maintenance

By easy, we mean fast, simple access to all components. No tools required. An oversized hydraulic cooler tilts out 90 degrees for a clean sweep. A proven planetary traction drive system increases reliability as does its large rear air draw. Hoses are frame mounted for minimal wear. Cutting units are interchangeable. And our Data Log™ system helps to diagnose intermittent electrical problems.

Automated Controls

ACE™ (Automated Control Electronics) is yet another Toro exclusive that aids the mechanic in determining hydraulic versus electrical problems and quickly tests over 32 switches and circuits.

Legendary Longevity

You see many Toro old timers still on the job at golf courses everywhere. Maybe your own. That's because we build Toro durability and reliability into every Toro product, including the 6000 series. That means you can expect a long, productive service life. Without early retirement.



Reelmaster® 6500-D and 6700-D Specifications*

	REELMASTER 6500-D MODEL 03800, 2-WD OR MODEL 03801, 4-WD	REELMASTER 6700-D MODEL 03802, 4-WD				
ENGINE	Peugeot, 4 cylinder, 4 cycle, overhead cam, 116 cu. in. (1.9 liter) displacement, liquid cooled diesel engine. Model 03800/03801: 38 hp (28 kW) @ 2300 rpm; governed to 2500 rpm. Model 03802: 42 hp (37 kW) @ 2550 rpm; governed to 2750 rpm. 23.5:1 compression ratio, 3.27" (83 mm) bore x 3.46" (88 mm) stroke. Automatic glow plug controller. Heavy duty, 2 stage, remote air cleaner. Oil capacity is 5.3 quarts (5 liters) with filter. Optional Spark Arrestor Muffler, P/N 94-2849.					
RADIATOR	Rear mounted, cross-flow agricultural type radiator; 5 row, 7 fins per inch. Remote mounted, 1 quart (.94 liter), degassing/expansion tank. Cooling system capacity is 3.5 gallons (13.2 liters). Air to oil cooler with 2 rows, 6 fins per inch, mounted in front of radiator tips outward for cleaning. Removable oil cooler/radiator screen.					
ELECTRICAL FEATURES	12 volt, 650 cold cranking amperes at 0°F (-18°C), 105 minute reserve starter. 55 amp alternator with I.C. regulator/rectifier. Automotive type e	capacity at 80°F (27°C), maintenance free battery. 1.4 kW electric lectrical system. Seat switch, reel and traction interlock switches.				
FUEL SYSTEM	Rotary fuel injection pump with integral energized-to-run (ETR) fuel flow solenoid. Replaceable spin-on fuel filter/water separator with water sensor. Fuel capacity: 15 gallon (64 liter).					
CONTROLS	Foot operated traction and brake pedals. Hand operated throttle, traction speed limiter, parking brake latch, ignition switch with automat preheat cycle, single joystick control for cutting unit on/off and lift/lower. Cutting unit backlap switch located under operator's seat. Reel input located under control panel. HOC selector knob for setting corresponding HOC setting of machine per decal under seat frame.					
GAUGES	Hour meter, speedometer, fuel gauge, engine coolant gauge, and warni indicator, glow plug, water in fuel indicator, low water indicator. Reel cont	ng light cluster: engine oil pressure, high engine temperature, charge trol lamp that lights to indicate the reels are not providing desired clip.				
DIAGNOSTICS	The Automatic Control Electronics, ACE™ system allows precision timing and control of machine functions for maximum reliability. Standard diagnostic display connects to an electronic control unit to pinpoint any electrical problems quickly and easily. Available DATA LOG™ system allows mechanic to find intermittent problems. Diagnostic test ports are provided for front and rear cutting unit drive, cutting unit lift, steering, and hydrostatic transmission charge pressure. Power to the front drive wheel is via servo-controlled hydrostatic pump operating individual fixed displacement axial piston wheel motors that operate a planetary gear assembly. Foot pedal control of forward/reverse ground speed. Toro 4-Matic® 4-Wheel Drive System only: couples rear drive axle to hydrostatic transmission via overrunning clutch for full time on-demand 4 wheel drive. A Roll Over Protection Structure (ROPS) and seat belt are standard.					
TRACTION DRIVE						
GROUND SPEED	0-10 mph (0-16.1 km/hr) forward; 0-4 mph (0-6.4 km/hr) reverse.					
TIRES/WHEELS/ PRESSURE	Two rear steering tires: 20 x 10.00-10, tubeless, 6-ply rating. Two front Recommended tire pressure: 10-15 psi (69-103 kPa).	traction drive tires: 29 x 12.00-15, tubeless, 6-ply rating.				
MAIN FRAME	All welded steel frame includes tie-down loops.					

Water Conservation

Water conservation is a key environmental concern for golf courses across the country. Having a comprehensive water conservation program in place helps to show your course's commitment to judicious water use and environmental stewardship

Conclusion:

So, we're off and running at the Medalist Golf Club. In the next issue we will let you know what the course report suggests and how our environmental planning worksheet was received. We will also be applying for certification in other categories. Stay tuned!

P.S. If you have not joined the program, now is a good time to fill out your application and mail it in. If you need an application, call NYA at (518) 767-9051.

Water Conservation Project Checklist Please check projects that you plan to do.	Projected Start Date	Projected Completion Date
Operate irrigation system for maximum irrigation efficiency.	1994	Ongoing
Planning to install new irrigation system to increase efficiency.		
Check irrigation system for proper distribution.	1994	Ongoing
Note leaks quickly and make repairs in a timely manner.	1994	Ongoing
Incorporate evapotranspiration rates or weather data.	Aug. 1995	Ongoing
Avoid watering at peak evaporation times.		Ongoing
Set watering priorities.	Aug. 1995	Ongoing
Reduce irrigated turf areas where possible.		1994
Incorporate water conservation landscaping and/or drought-tolerant plants.	1994	Ongoing
Choose turf species well suited to climate and soils.	1994	Ongoing
Use mulches in gardens to reduce water loss.	1994	Ongoing
Select water sources for least impact on local supplies.	1994	Ongoing
Other water conservation measures in place:		
Water reduction documented if possible.		



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WINTER 1996



Photo by Kim Sargent

Hole #11 is a demonstation of design adapting to the natural surroundings.

Indian River Club achieves Signature Status

Vero Beach
development becomes
third project in the
world to receive
Audubon
International's
highest award for
environmental
stewardship on a
grand scale

BY BOBBY ELLIS

Director of Golf & Grounds Maintenance

n November 27, 1995, Ron Dodson, President of Audubon International granted the organization's highest award, that of Audubon Signature Status, to Indian River Club, located in Vero Beach.

The Signature Status award is granted to a new project development which demonstrates and documents programs aimed at environmental awareness, most notably through conservation, efficiency, and the minimization of waste.

Indian River Club is the third project in the world to receive this prestigious award, which reflects the commitment, planning, and implementation by Audubon International.

Indian River Club is a 300-acre, master-planned golf and residential community located in south Indian River County. It is the dream of owner Mr. Jeff Reynolds and managing partner Robert Swift, to be a low-density community with no more than 260 residences and 390 memberships, thus assuring lasting beauty and value for homeowners and members.

At the heart of the project is an 18-hole championship golf course designed by Ron Garl. It was built on land offering a diversity of existing landscapes including mature pine and palmetto forests, large oak hammocks, and even the coastal sand ridge containing sand pines and scrub oak habitats.

The construction of the golf course was a challenge readily accepted by the entire development team.

Careful attention was given to the preservation of unique native habitats and landscape which reflect development ideas, especially through input from the Signature Sanctuary Program.

Being sensitive stewards of the land, native material was left in place wherever possible. If development required removal, all that was possible was relocated to enhance the natural beauty of the site.

The golf course was constructed to exacting standards which reflect the ideas of conservation. This includes minimizing turfed areas, thus using less water, and applying irrigation through a computer-assisted delivery system using weather data to determine exact needs.

Landscapes were designed using drought-tolerant, native materials to minimize the need for supplemental water, including vast expanses of native grasses for wildlife enhancement and increased reliance of integrated pest management programs through reduced pesticide and fertilizer use.

Certain areas were set aside as nondevelopable to help promote the abundance of wildlife located within the community, such as an upland preserve and a dedicated scrub jay habitat enhancement area.

Conservation extends to all building construction, which must meet guidelines established by Indian River Club for energy and water use efficiency.

Residential landscapes are designed using low-maintenance plant materials indigenous to Florida plantscapes and minimal turf areas.

Irrigation for the entire project is controlled by the grounds maintenance department through the use of the computer-assisted delivery system. Effluent water will be available during early 1996 for the golf course, common areas and residential lawns.

In order to fully implement all conservation, IPM and resource management programs, a highly efficient work area is required.

The center of the Signature Program is the maintenance operations center, or Natural Resource Management Center, as referred to by Audubon International. It must be fully operational to support ongoing programs such as energy efficiency, water conservation, recycling, waste management (pesticide rinsates, clipping disposal, etc.), and maximizing productivity through design.

While much has been said about the negative impact of golf developments, it is an honor to work with people who take a proactive approach about the benefits of these true natural settings. The real beauty of Indian River Club is its ability to enhance and coexist with nature, the founding principles of sustainable development as set forth by Audubon International.

While tremendous commitment is required to obtain Signature Status, reachable development goals are obtainable through conservation and environmental awareness. Be we cannot stop here. We must continue to educate not only our development, but the entire community concerning these ongoing programs. Together we can all make a difference.



Photo by Kim Sargent

Hole #16 shows reduction of maintenance areas due to minimal turf outside of play areas and incorporation of existing plantscapes into the hole design.



Photo by Craig Weyandt

A 5-by-5-by 3-foot bale of pine straw gathered on site by a mechanical sweeper has been dropped off to mulch an azalea bed behind the green.

Recycling is profitable at Y&CC of Stuart

BY CRAIG WEYANDT

Golf Course Superintendent Yacht & Country Club of Stuart

Recycling and waste reduction have been receiving a good bit of attention for several years now. While good for the environment, some people have the opinion that it is expensive and a waste of time. The following are three recycling strategies that have proven to be just the opposite at the Yacht & Country Club of Stuart.

1. I was fortunate when I arrived at the Yacht & Country Club because there was a good variety of equipment on hand. One piece was a Vermeer 620 chipper that was primarily used to reduce the mass of limbs and debris collected from the course and surrounding property. These chips were then hauled off as waste

At the same time, I was purchasing cypress mulch at \$15. - \$18. per yard. My Green Chairman and I decided to try the hardwood mulch that we generated on

the property in the most critical area possible (the clubhouse) as an experiment.

We both waited for the phone to ring and, when it never did, we asked people if they noticed anything different. Mulch was never mentioned. Once the members were told that we did not have to throw away anything and that this mulch did not cost anything, the smiles started and the program was eagerly accepted.

Another type of mulch we use is pine straw. It sells for approximately \$3 per bale. We have tried hand-raking before, but it is just too labor intensive. We found that a PTO-driven Olathe sweeper with a good operator was a perfect harvester. It makes a 5' x 5' x 3' bail that can be dropped wherever you need it. There is still an occasional need to purchase pine straw, butwe now produce 95% of our own mulching material.

2. Recycling aluminum cans is something everyone can do. It's easy and everyone, from your golfers to your staff, generates them. Some ballwasher/trash

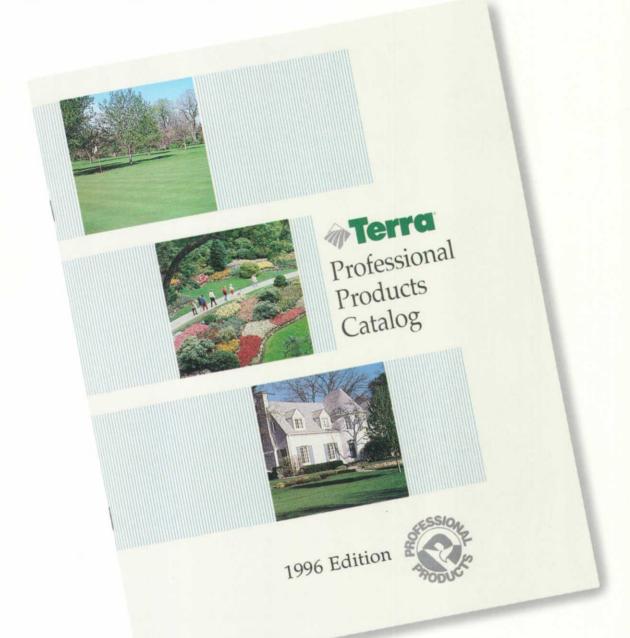
containers made today have recycle containers as accessories. At the Yacht & Country club, we have three locations on property marked "Aluminum Cans". On rainy days the cans are taken to the recycle center.

3. The third recycling effort at the Yacht & Country Club is the easiest, most profitable and most logical idea yet. A newspaper recycling bin, courtesy of Southeast Recycling Corporation, is located at my maintenance facility.

Club members place their newspapers here for recycling. Every three to four weeks, the newspapers are picked up and another container is dropped off. One week later, Southeast Recycling sends a check to the Yacht & Country Club. This money goes to supplement the tree fund for the golf course. To date, this money has helped to plant 262 trees on property.

The best part about recycling newspapers is all I do is make a call when it is time for a pickup. You can call Southeast Recycling at (407) 282-1211.

INVENTORY CONTROL.



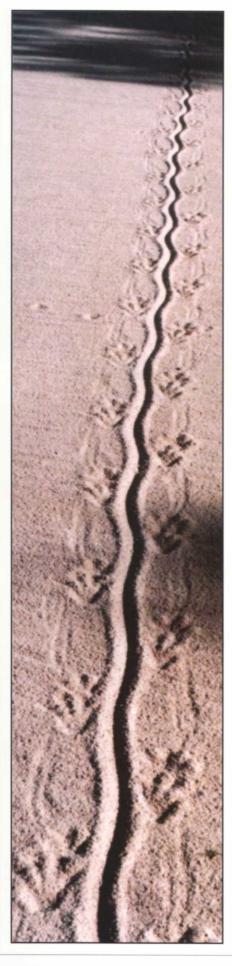
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The golf course is a great place to live!

Wildlife inventories at 81 Florida golf courses revealed nearly 200 species of birds, 40 mammals, 25 snakes, 20 butterflies, 40 reptiles ...and too many insects to count!

BY SHELLY FOY

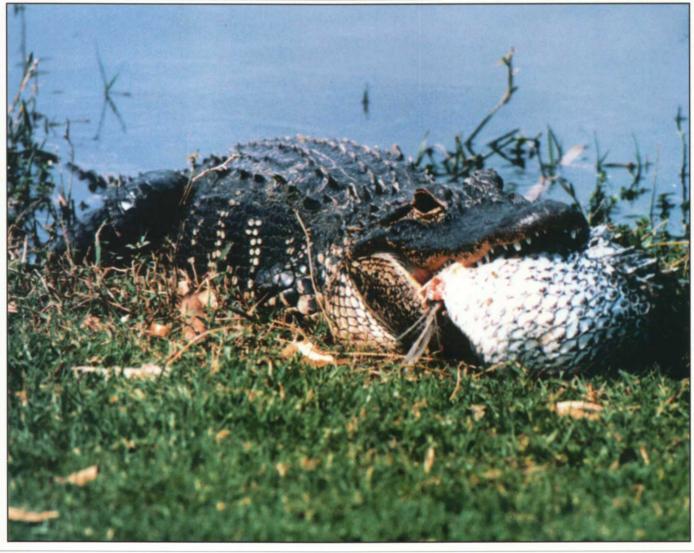
ave you ever heard the statement: "Wildlife Can't Live on Golf Courses?" For those of us in the golf industry, we know otherwise.

In this issue of the *Florida Green* dealing with education, we as individuals need to realize what an important role we play in the process. We need to educate golfers and the general public about the efforts underway to preserve and enhance the many different environments found on and around golf courses. Wildlife in particular benefits greatly from the abundance of habitat found on golf courses. We know this, now

A photo essay by David Bailey, Darren Davis, Joel Jackson, Jay Staton and John Sullivan









we need to let others know.

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses (ACSP) is a good educational tool. One of the first steps in this program is to complete a Resource Inventory that describes your property and the existing wildlife. Florida currently has 150 golf courses registered in the ACSP, with half of these members having returned their resource inventories.

A simple way to start and keep a wildlife inventory for your course is to get the golfers involved. Make it an ongoing process. Post it in the clubhouse, newsletter, or other locations where your golfers can assist in the documentation process. Also, have a copy in your maintenance facility and get your staff involved.

According to the Department of Interior's 1985 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife Associated Recreation, 82.5 million Americans feed birds. This amounts to 46% of all Americans, and this number is increasing daily. So, if you are not sure of a particular species, chances are good that someone from your golf course

Text continues on Page 60



YEARS OF UNIVERSITY TESTS SHOW CYPRESS POA TRIVIALIS AS THE SUPERIOR CHOICE FOR OVERSEEDING!

Since 1991, Cypress Poa trivialis has had a proven record in university trials for being better and different than comparable varieties. Differences such as a darker genetic color, faster

establishing rate, and better disease resistance.

Instead of taking our word for it, here is what the experts have to say...



Cypress' prostrate growth habit is apparent in these P.V.P. trials. One picture is worth 1000 words.

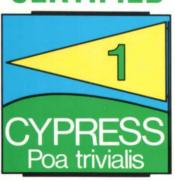
TMI will be happy to send to you copies of the complete trial data for any of the trials we have mentioned below.

	1991-92 Overseeding Trials Gainesville, Fla.								
	Mean Quality Scores Color								
ı	Cypress	7.2	7.8						
	Sabre	7.2	5.4						

University of Arizona 1992-93 Overseeding Trials							
M	Mean Quality Scores Color						
Cypress							
Laser	5.0	5.0					

USGA Stimpmeter tests at University of Arizona revealed a higher average ball speed of 92 inches for Cypress; better than for Laser.

CERTIFIED



Although Cypress and Sabre Rough
Bluegrass had equal seasonal Turf Quality
Ratings of 7.2, the "Cypress" cultivar had better
color and less dollarspot disease in May."
Univ. of Florida Gainesville 1991-1992 overseed Trial.

Monthly and seasonal mean values for turf quality on cool-season grasses overseeded on a 'Tifdwarf' bermudagrass putting green from Dec. 1993 to Mar. 1994 at Gainesville, Fl.

Hom De	C. 1993 K	ivial. 199	4 at Gairlesviii	e, ri.	
Turfgrass	Dec.	Jan.	Quality Feb. — Rating —	Mar.	Mean
Cypress	6.8	8.2	8.0	6.8	7.25a
Colt	7.1	8.2	7.8	8.5	7.19a
PT-GH-92	6.3	7.8	8.0	7.1	7.19a
LPT-CT (Loft)	6.6	7.8	8.0	6.8	7.16a
PT-GH-89 C11 (Dark Horse)	8.1	7.3	7.8	7.0	6.97a
Danish Common	7.5	8.2	7.5	5.8	6.94a
LPT-HWY (Loft)	6.6	7.7	7.9	8.2	6.88a
Winterplay	6.6	7.5	7.8	6.3	6.88a

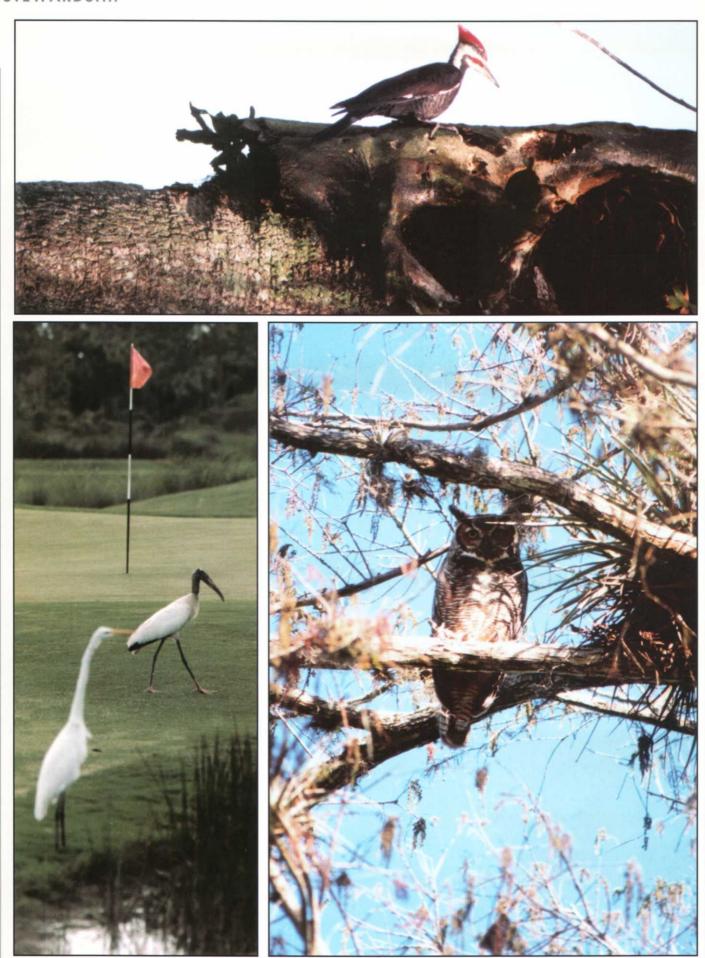
Quality mean based on eight visual ratings on a scale of 1-9 where 9 = best

Establishment rate of Poa trivialis varieties overseeded on dormant bermudagrass in Florida (data from Dr. A.E. Dudeck, Univ. of Florida)							
days:	7	14	21				
—% ground cover —							
1991							
Cypress	2	23	79				
Sabre 1992	2	17	70				
Cypress	87	93	86				
Laser	36	58	83				

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THANK YOU

On behalf of the Lake City Community College and the GLO Alumni Committee, we want to thank all of the sponsors who participated in this years LCCC GLO Alumni Golf Tournament held on Saturday, September 23rd, at the TPC of Tampa Bay.

Over the last five years, corporate sponsorship has enabled the GLO Alumni Committee to raise in excess of \$20,000 for the LCCC Endowment Fund. This fund raises money to support all of the programs, advancements in technology, and provides scholarships for worthy students at Lake City CC.

Congratulations to the low gross winners Glenn Zakany, Roy Bates, Richard Colyer, and Gary Newcomb. Low net winners were Ted Owen, John Fake, Billy Greg and Bill Lloyd.

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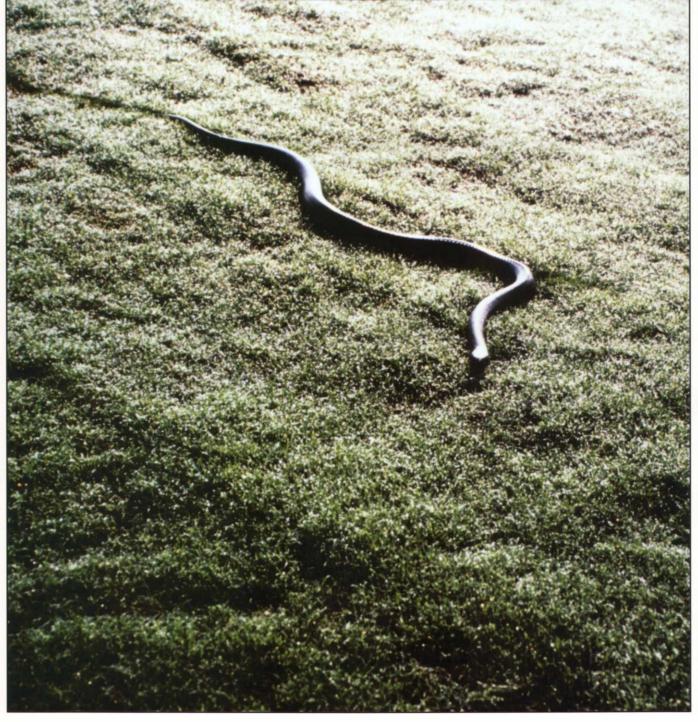
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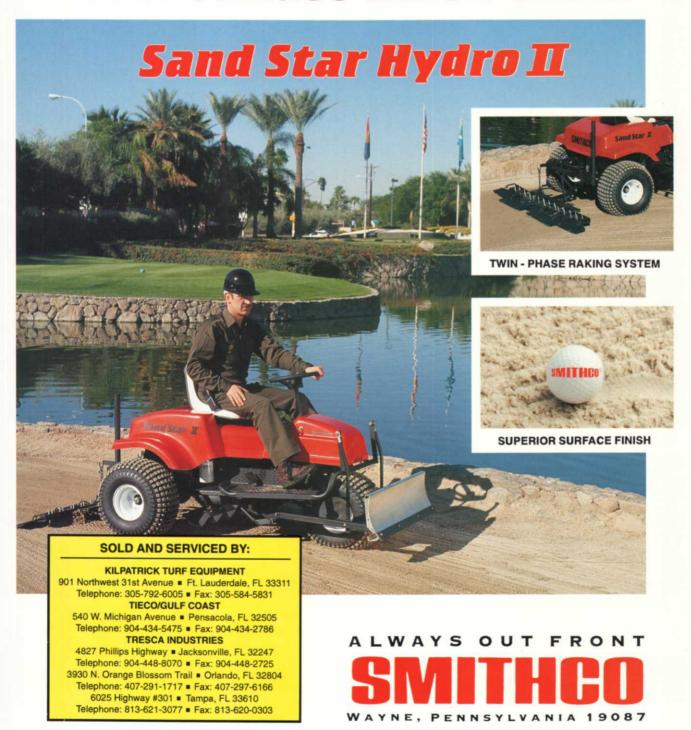
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"The Golf Course Specialists"

Continued from page 53

will be. Another benefit from getting your golfers involved is you are gaining support for programs and helping create a sense of responsibility for the wildlife on site.

Recently I had an opportunity to view the ACSP wildlife inventories returned from Florida. There are almost 200 bird species listed, 21 of which are either "Endangered," "Threatened," or a "Species of Special Concern" according to the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

There were approximately 40 mammals, including black bears, manatees, Florida Panthers and otters, just to name a few. There were over 25 snake species, 20 butterfly species, and over 40 different reptiles and amphibians. The pages of insects listed were too numerous to count.

These numbers are the result of 81 golf course resource inventories. Imagine what the numbers would be if we had a wildlife inventory from all of the golf courses in Florida.

We are currently working on a statewide wildlife inventory for Florida golf courses which will be published in a future issue. Anyone wishing to share their wildlife lists and photos, please call me at (407) 546-2620.





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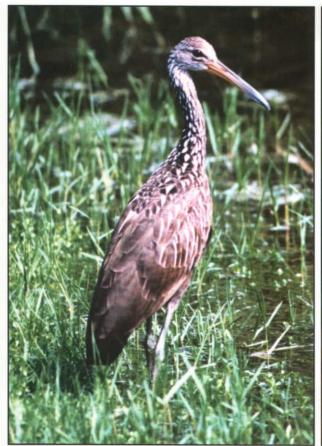
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Big Cypress fox squirrels are losing their native upland pine habitat in the face of rapid development of Southwest Florida. Sixty Naplesarea golf courses will be studied as urban habitats for the threatened subspecies.

Photos taken on Royal Poinciana G.C. by Rebecca Ditgen

Golf courses
with open parklike landscapes
and a rich
mixture of food
and nesting trees
can provide
ideal habitat for
these large and
graceful
squirrels.

Golf courses may hold key to survival of fox squirrels

BY REBECCA SELFRIDGE DITGEN Fox Squirrel Research Project University of Florida

ox squirrels (*Sciurus niger*) are beautifully colorful natives of the open, upland pine forests of Florida. They are easily recognized by their long, full tails, their varying color patterns of glistening black, chestnut and brilliant blond, and their long and bounding gait.

As fox squirrels frequently forage and travel on the forest floor, they prefer areas where the understory is kept open by fire, grazing or mowing. Golf courses with open, park-like landscapes and a rich mixture of food and nesting trees can provide ideal habitat for these large and graceful squirrels.

Big Cypress fox squirrels (Sciurus niger avicennia) are losing their native upland

pine habitat in the face of rapid development of Southwest Florida.

Golf courses, with their relatively open forested landscapes, often provide habitat suitable for the threatened subspecies.

My study seeks to document the status and habitat use of the urban populations of Big Cypress fox squirrels on 60 golf courses in the Naples area of Southwest Florida and to provide guidelines for landscape design and management that favor the viability of these populations.

The study specifically considers the following attributes of landscape and golf course management as they relate to fox squirrels:

- tree species combinations that will provide forage throughout the year
 - · tree species suitable for nesting
- squirrel dependence on pines which are subject to die-off on courses in southwest Florida



Golf course
management directed
to benefit fox squirrels
may be critical to their
survival in urban
habitats.

- ground cover treatment and management favorable to squirrel movement and travel
- suitable spacing and density of trees to create centers of activity
- size and configuration of courses and multiple course complexes that encourage larger populations and movement between smaller populations

The project has two components.

First, squirrel populations will be located through interviews with golf course superintendents. The number of individuals on each course will be estimated by censusing 3 times over the next 18 months.

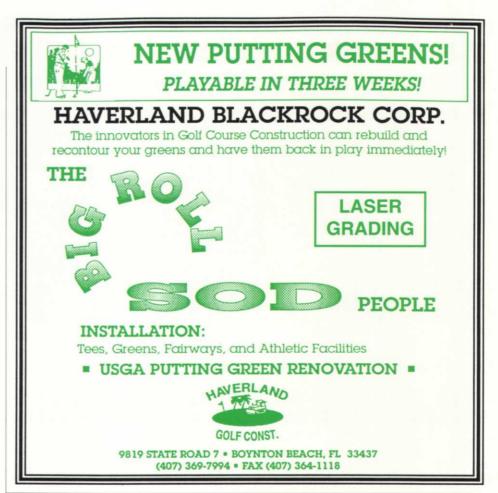
During one census, landscape and vegetation attributes will be recorded for each course. Attributes favorable to fox squirrels will be identified using logistic regression analysis.

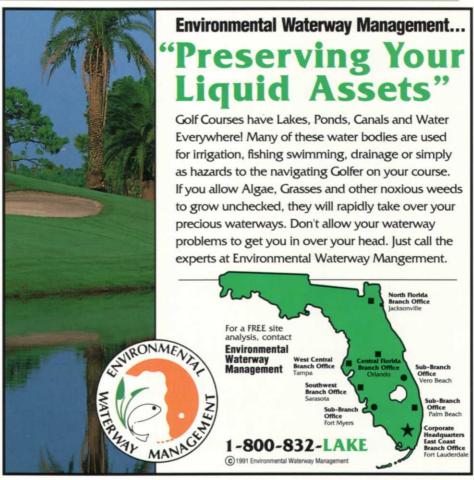
Second, two large populations on selected golf courses will be radio-collared and monitored for 18 months to determine their movements within the course and into adjoining habitats and to examine their use of specific habitats.

Location of all course populations will be mapped on a digital coverage created by the Florida GAP analysis of land cover and movement date of intensively studied populations will be mapped on digital coverage of those courses.

Big Cypress fox squirrels are a beautiful and colorful part of the native wildlife in Southwest Florida. Golf course management directed to their benefit may be critical to their survival in urban habitats.

I believe this study will add greatly needed information to golf course management efforts and landscape design, and thus increase the chances fox squirrels will remain in at least one major element of the urban landscape of the region.







The Central Florida GCSA Chapter meets at the Alaqua CC where members learn the latest local, state and national information affecting golf course turf management.

Reality Bites: The Learning Never Ends

If you can't anticipate, anticipate, communicate, appreciate and participate in the big picture, you will have wasted much of your education.

alph Waldo Emerson once said, "The things taught in schools and colleges are not an education, but the means of education."

We can argue till the cows come home about the pro's and con's of learning your basic skills in a two-year specialty program, or a traditional four-year program, or from the school-of-hard-knocks at a master craftsman's side.

No matter the varied paths we take to become a superintendent, it is how well we learn the important lessons along the way that matters most.

If you can't anticipate, communicate, appreciate and participate in the big picture, you will have wasted much of your education.

I have met outstanding superintendents from all walks of life and educational backgrounds. The one thing they all have in common is that they never stop learning or educating themselves. That education takes many forms. Reading. Traveling. Listening. Questioning. Conversing. Experimenting. Failing. Succeeding. Sharing.

These same successful superintendents can be found religiously attending their local chapter meetings, regional and national seminars, national and international conferences and trade shows.

It is in these venues that the best minds gather. It is here that the good superintendent gleans the knowledge to feed his hungry mind. The good superintendent then takes new ideas and information back to his job and applies it for the betterment of his/her golf course.

We are obviously in the midst of an communication/information revolution. The wise will participate either for the adventure or at least for self defense and survival.

Those with closed minds, superintendents, owners and operators alike, will be swept away in time by the winds of change. It is education in all its forms that prepares us for the challenges of success.

Joel D. Jackson, CGCS Disney's Magnolia G.C.

Mockery is The Best Form of Flattery

by Darren J. Davis

I once had a fellow superintendent tell me, "My success is not attributed solely to my knowledge and training." He added, "A large part of what I have done is based on things I have seen other superintendents do." He felt he was one of the best "copiers" in the business. If you knew who made that comment, I think you

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would agree that it is an extremely humbling statement from a very intelligent person.

At the risk of copying him, I will tell you that I also have learned the art of copying! One of the best things about our profession is the free sharing of information that golf course superintendents practice on a daily basis.

I gain a vast amount of education from talking with my peers. I especially enjoy visiting the courses of some of my friends in the business. The following are a few of the innovative ideas they have shared with me.

Mark Michaud, Golf Course Superintendent, Pebble Beach Golf Links

At Pebble Beach, Mark grows Poa greens and ryegrass fairways. A lot of Mark's watering is done manually by "pulling a hose."

Mark wanted a method to transport the hoses around the course without taking up the needed space in his utility vehicles. To accomplish this, Mark has made a hose rack from two tire



Mark Michaud, golf course superintendent of Pebble Beach Golf Links, inspects one of his mounted hose racks.







What you can learn from your peers

Cordgrass, above, planted around the maintenance facility at Colliers' Reserve. Right, the trailer attached to the Hydroject at the Merion Golf Club. Below, the clipping basket at equipment wash area at Congressional CC.



rims and a support bracket bolted to his utility vehicles. The metal supports are welded to both the front and back of the rims so that the hose will rest securely in the groove.

Tim Hiers, CGCS, Golf Course Superintendent Colliers Reserve

If you look up the definition of "environmental steward" in the dictionary, you would find Tim's picture. Tim has been a mentor to my environmental awareness.

One of the things I have copied from Tim is the use of cordgrass (*Spartinia bakeri*) planted around the maintenance facility.

The cordgrass has many advantages. it provided a good wildlife habitat, forms a low level wind break, eliminates the need for pesticides, fertilizers, irrigation and mowing. Eliminating mowing not only saves labor hours but conserves fuel, oil, etc..

Paul Latshaw, Sr. Golf Course Superintendent, Congressional Country Club

Like many golf courses, Paul has an older maintenance facility. Paul was aware that he had a potential problem in the equipment wash area. He decided to bring his old site up to date since he is unable to currently build a new wash down area. The first step was to devise a way to capture solids/clippings.

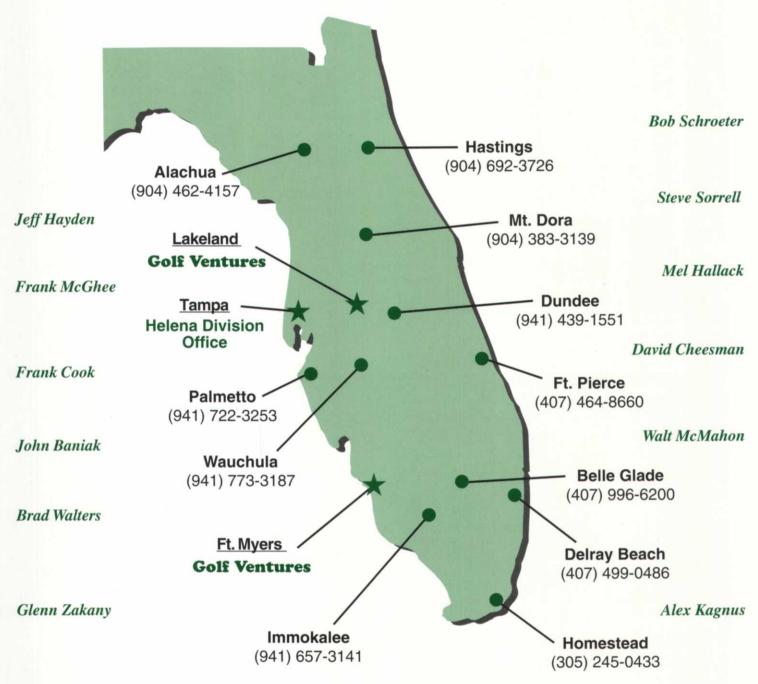
He constructed a sump with a recessed lip and a stainless steel basket to fit in the sump. Once the grate is removed the basket can be pulled up with two handles. The bottom of the basket comes to a "V" and all four sides are stainless steel mesh. Using mesh sides decreases the weight of the basket making it easier to remove when it is full of clippings.

Paul B. Latshaw, Golf Course Superintendent, Merion Golf Club

When taking a tour of Paul's equipment storage area I came across a unique item. Paul has designed a tow-behind trailer for his Toro Hydroject. The trailer eliminates the need for a second person, or for a vehicle. When the operator reaches his destination, the trailer is unhooked next to the quick coupler, the hose stretched out and the machine is ready to go.





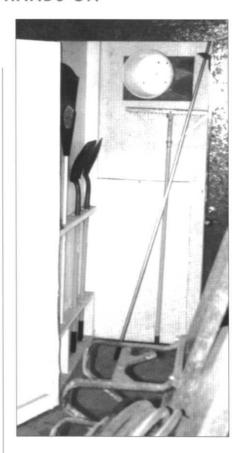








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The trailer is actually quite simple. A manual hose reel is mounted above the trailer to store the 3/4 inch hose. Attached to the side of the reel is the incoming water line. This rests on the bed of the trailer with the quick coupler attached when not in use. There is storage space on the bed of the trailer for tools, filters or other items that might be needed.

Paul and his staff have also built some very handy tool storage lockers. The lockers are made of wood and are very roomy. On the side of the locker is a tool storage rack so that hand tools can be secured safely.

There is also room for personal protection equipment and other small equipment. Paul has found that by assigning each employee his/her own tools they take greater pride in them and are less likely to break or lose them. In the long

An employee's individual small tool locker at the Merion Golf Club run the extra cost up front easily pays for itself.

Conclusion

It is often too easy to become wrapped up in the hustle and bustle of our very demanding jobs and not get out and visit our peers. While playing golf at other courses is one way of achieving this, it is cetainly not the only way. I am amazed at what you can learn from your fellow superintendents by taking a riding tour of their courses, or by just walking through their maintenance facilities.

A wise person once told me something that made a lot of sense. He said, "The day you stop learning is the day you die!"

Meetings and Conventions

by Scott Bell

The strength of an organization or association depends on the participation of its members. The same can said for the meetings and conventions put on by these groups. The need for good participation by superintendents is equal at all levels,





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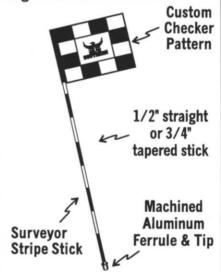


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In-depth one- and two-day seminars with CEU examinations are college-level courses presented by the GCSAA at regional and national conferences.



Whenever superintendents gather together at meetings or golf outings, the talk always turns to sharing ideas and solutions to problems... a surefire benefit to the individual and his club.



Trade shows offer a unique opportunity to do side-by-side comparisons of products and equipment... and maybe even save money by purchasing show specials.

starting at your local chapter right up to the GCSAA Conference and Show.

This participation is beneficial to both the individual and the organization. I've seen meeting sites range from maintenance buildings to civic centers and from restaurant nooks to posh hotel conference rooms. I've heard speakers from local sales reps and superintendents to progolfers, golf course architects and Ph. D.'ss.

No matter what the setting or who the speaker, the important thing is that we learn something from the experience and we participate. If you go to a meeting thinking that you know it all, then you probably won't learn too much. Good input and conversation by superintendents can raise a meeting to new heights and benefit many.

Local Chapter Meetings. Meet Your Neighbors. Discuss Local Problems

As a past president of a local chapter, I know the importance of good attendance, especially by superintendents. I am also a busy superintendent and father of four so I am aware of the demands on a busy person's time. Local meetings are a great place to exchange ideas and techniques with fellow turf managers.

They are also ideal spots to cultivate friendships with other superintendents and suppliers. Usually the local chapter meetings have speakers who address local, state or regional topics. Local meetings offer a perfect place to get a speaker that you may specifically want to hear.

Contact your local board members with all your speaker ideas. From past experience I know that a local or state education director is very receptive to and appreciative of any speaker leads that come their way. Good speakers are a real treat and an asset to all meetings.

Remember that usually it's just a handful of people that devote much of their own precious time to make the local meetings successful and informative. Poor attendance puts a bad taste in everyone's mouth. Especially the host superintendent who spends extra manhours and effort to present a perfect golf course to his peers.

I think that with most meetings that I have attended, the superintendent has the course in member-guest shape! Poor attendance is like a slap in the face to the

host! We are very fortunate that we get to play many fine well-groomed courses. Consider that most self-motivated people like to showcase their talents and product, and superintendents are perfect examples of such people.

This pride in product also carries over to the various clubhouse and professional staffs at each club. Please support your local meetings because you are also showing support and appreciation for your fellow superintendents.

Networking with your local turf managers and suppliers is the hidden and unadvertised benefit of attending the local meetings. Exchanging war stories is a great learning experience and acts as an informal support group for those tough times. Those who question the value of the time spent at a local meeting need to consider the value of learning a new idea or solution to an old problem.

A meeting discussion or just a conversation during lunch or golf may provide an idea that saves your club hundreds or even thousands of dollars. Or maybe, it may be an idea that just makes the course and you look better. If you have a com-

plaint about a meeting, more than likely, everyone will benefit if you offer your help or suggestions to correct it.

Finally, don't forget about the new guy. People complain that not enough superintendents attend their own meetings. This is often true and I would venture to say that poor attendance is most chapters' biggest problem.

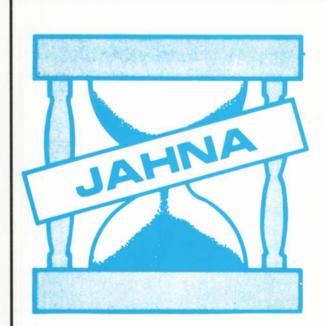
Bringing in new members and keeping them coming back until they feel comfortable is very important. If no one welcomes them to the group or talks to them, chances are they won't be back. Each and every member of a chapter is very important to the success of the whole association.

The FTGA & GCSAA Conferences: One Stop Shopping and Education Galore

The big conventions and trade shows offer the superintendent a side variety of educational and hand-on opportunities. The trade shows are huge often offering everything from computerized golf cart location devices and weather radar to turf equipment and uniforms.

Poor attendance puts a bad taste in everyone's mouth. Especially the host superintendent who spends extra manhours and effort to present a perfect golf course to his peers.

The education is just as diverse ranging from twenty minute research updates to two-day long seminars and field trips. The FTGA and GCSAA spend much time and money to secure top quality educational programs usually in exciting locations.



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These larger conventions usually have many university level speakers and researchers who disseminate the latest information from their current projects. These sessions are usually open to all conference attendees and are grouped by general topics like "southern turf management" or "public golf."

I like that these presentations ions are only twenty to sixty minutes long so you can see and hear a lot of information in a morning or afternoon session and even talk to the speaker. Since everyone attending these sessions is looking for answers to similar problems the possibility of discussion and idea exchange is very high.

The other type of education at these conferences is specific in-depth one or two-day seminars. These are usually very specific in nature. They are taught in a classroom setting by experts in that particular field. Many of these classes that I have attended are of college level quality.

There is usually a separate charge for these seminars, and in the case of the GCSAA Conference you had better make your reservations early or they may be sold out.

You always receive supplemental printed matter and course syllabus that can be used for future reference.

Certified superintendents can earn continuing education credits by taking an examination at the end of the GCSAA classes.

Most conferences offer speakers who are motivational as in the case of GCSAA's opening night keynote speaker. Many of the speakers are not related directly to golf, but rather they deliver positive messages about overcoming obstacles, believing in yourself and being successful.

Their role is to get the convention off on a positive note.

The FTGA & GCSAA have done excellent jobs of getting top notch panels to discuss timely topics such as environmental relations and product comparisons.

The GCSAA has brought in national politicians, famous media personalities and top level environmentalist to sit on these various panels.

This year's Environmental General Session on February 8th looks very interesting.

Then there is the Trade Show. The show of shows. The perfect opportunity to see the latest in turf technology and sometimes non-turf technology. I have seen everything from electric triplex greensmowrs to chairs with built-in back massagers.

There are two things you need to remember when attending a trade show.

First, wear comfortable shoes for the ten-mile walk you will take.

Second, remember that you are wearing a name tag and that salesman shaking our hand is not your long lost childhood friend but rather a professional at marketing who can read your name tag.

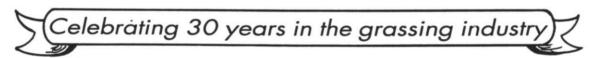
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Professionalism and Education

by Mike Hamilton, CGCS Grey Oaks Country Club

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fect his or her skills. No one gets better at anything unless they are educated by some means, either by being taught in some fashion or through experience.

I am a very strong believer in the philosophy that most people have to be taught how to learn, and taught how to succeed.

If you ask the superintendents with the most prestigious jobs how they got to where they are, I would bet a very large percentage would tell you they had great teachers. The most noticeable characteristic of most all of these superintendents is that they themselves are great educators and they preach professionalism.

Our industry has grown tremendously in the past 50 years in both respect and compensation for the superintendent. The people in the industry most responsible for that growth have been those who are great educators and who act professionally. One problem we have as an industry is that the percentage of these leaders is not as high as it could be.

Can you imagine how much money all of us would make and how good our jobs would be if 100% of our superintendents shared these same characteristics? I truly believe those characteristics can be taught to most people! Therefore, it is our responsibility to our profession to educate our people, especially the youth.

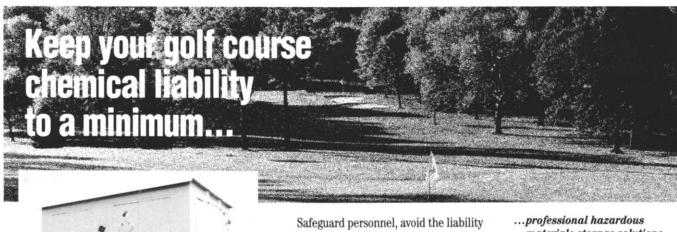
When I was in high school, I was not a joiner. Although I was involved in athletics, I was not involved in any clubs or other extra curricular activities.

I was not into education. My grades bordered on failure. I was on the road to mediocrity. I believe the reason was because I was never taught how to succeed.

I started working on a golf course in my sophomore year in high school. When I began showing signs that I had an interest in the industry, the superintendent started taking me to meetings and teaching me as much as he could. He encouraged me to further my education with college, and he constantly preached to me about a professional image.

If it were not for that man, I would not be where I am today.

Because of the tutelage I received when I was young, and the fact that I was allowed to attend meetings, it has always been second nature for me to continually I started working on a golf course in my sophomore year in high school. When I began showing an interest, the superintendent started taking me to meetings. He encouraged me to further my education with college, and he constantly preached to me about a professional image.



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Watch your mail for reminder postcards highlighting seminars in your area! educate myself and my staff. I also feel it is my responsibility to get involved in helping to build our professional image.

Yes, it is a lot of extra work, but it is a payback to a profession that has rewarded me and my family tremendously. If I had not had that professionalism influence when I was young, I'm sure I would have fallen into my old natural pattern on not getting involved.

If any of my efforts have helped any association I was in, even in a small way, wouldn't have been a shame if I had never participated?

I start by letting the employee do every job on the golf course for a certain period of time. That period is dependent on how long they plan to be with me.

I let them spend a little more time on the specialty positions like spray tech, irrigation tech, service tech and administrative assistant. I even let them act as the assistant superintendent for a week.

During the time they are with me, I require them to read turfgrass books and take tests on the materials they read. I take the technical information and relate

it to the practical applications on the course.

I also let them attend at least one superintendent's meeting while they are with me. After that meeting while the experience is fresh in their minds, they get my involvement and professionalism speech. In the last few weeks of training, I help them prepare a resume.

I then interview them. If the person does not interview well, I make suggestions and interview them again and again if necessary. After I feel they interview well, I will then negotiate with them. Again I do it until I feel they have learned good negotiating skills. The final process is for the students to critique the training program, so I can see where improvements can be made.

Many of you may think this kind of a training program is too much work or a waste of time. I don't. I have seen some very positive results. I believe that if I can help one person the way I was helped, and they become a fellow crusader to raise our professional standards, then the time I spent was well worth it!

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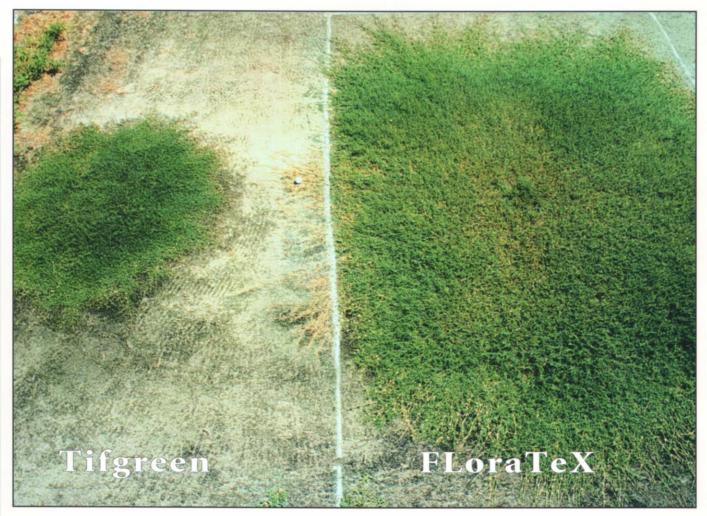


Figure 4. Establishment rate of FLoraTeX bermudagrass (90% cover on right) was 10 times greater than that of Tifgreen bermudagrass (9% cover on left). Plots are two months old after being established from a single 6-inch pot that was planted in center of each 9x14.5-foot plot. Fertilization rate was 0.5 pounds of nitrogen per 1000 square feet per week.

Seedheads
and nitrogen
response on
FLoraTeX
bermudagrass

BY A. E. DUDECK University of Florida

loraTeX® bermudagrass was jointly released in 1992 by the Florida and Texas Agricultural Experiment Stations. FloraTeX™ is a low maintenance bermudagrass for cemeteries, golf courses, lawns, parks, roadsides, and sports turfs in warm-humid and warm-semiarid climatic regions of the United States. Its merits and limitation are summarized as follows:

Merits

Widely adapted and produces acceptable turf quality throughout the
warm-humid and warm-semiarid regions of the southern United States
especially under low maintenance
inputs.

- Widely adapted to soil pH especially on alkaline soils.
- Very low nitrogen requirements due to superior nitrogen stress tolerance.
- Excellent drought resistance and dehydration avoidance.
- · Superior rooting depth and mass.
- Excellent fall low temperature color retention.
- · Very early spring greenup.
- Good wear tolerance similar to Tifgreen and Arizona Common.
- · Resistant to bermudagrass stunt mite.
- Tolerant to the short winged mole cricket.
- Tolerant to lance and spiral nematodes.
- Least affected by dollar spot under low nitrogen stress.
- Can be identified by its starch gel electrophoresis banding pattern aconitase.

Limitations

- Prolific seehead producer at certain times of the year.
- Produces viable seed which may contaminate turf with off types.
- Must be vegetatively propagated by plugs, sod, or sprigs.
- · Lacks cold hardiness.
- Poor shade adaptation which is a characteristic of all bermudagrass cultivars.

These characteristics should make it ideally suited for golf course fairways and roughs, yet Florida golf course superintendents have shown little interest in this new cultivar. Many have expressed concern about its seedhead problem and its unknown response to *high* rather than *low* nitrogen fertilization. Are these legitimate concerns? Indeed they are. Additional discussion on both issues may, perhaps, minimize some of these concerns.

Seedheads

FloraTeX® does indeed produce seedheads, especially in May and June of most years, and if pollinated with a different pollen source, FloraTeX® will set viable seed. It should be emphasized that appearance of seedheads does not imply concurrent viable seed! It normally takes two to three weeks *after* pollination for viable seed maturation. Hence seedhead production in FloraTeX® may be controlled - not eliminated - with timely mowing.

In other grasses, it is known that nitrogen fertilizer stimulates vegetative growth and concurrently suppresses reproductive growth. During the 1994 growing season at Gainesville, FL, supplemental nitrogen was applied to FLoraTeX® at rates of 0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, or 1.0 pounds per 1000 square feet on monthly intervals. FloraTeX® was responsive to nitrogen fertilization (Fig. 1). Turf quality increased 57% at a rate of 2.7 times per unit of nitrogen from a turf quality score of 5.1 on plots receiving no supplemental nitrogen up to a maximum turf quality score of 8.0 at the highest nitrogen rate of one pound per 1000 square feet per growing month (Fig. 2). Concurrently, seedheads decreased 65% from 66 seedheads per square foot to a low of 23 seedheads per square foot on plots receiving 0 or 1.0 pound of nitrogen

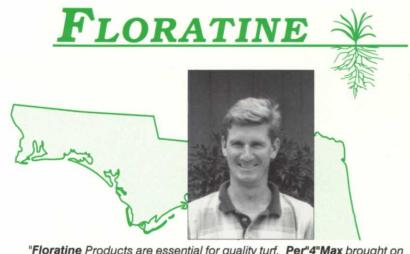
per 1000 square feet per growing month, respectively. High rates of nitrogen are not recommended as a control measure for seedheads in this grass, but rather, application of nitrogen fertilizer should be timed with maximum seedhead production which is in May or June.

Considerable effort by various seed companies is currently being devoted to development of seed-propagated bermudagrass cultivars. We presently have seeded bermudagrasses under test at Gainesville, Fla. After two years of study, the Sundance cultivar marketed by Lesco, Inc., had turf quality equal to that of Tifgreen and Tifway bermudagrass. If the golf course superin-

tendent of today is interested in the new grasses for tomorrow, improved seed-propagated bermudagrass cultivars are just on the horizon. In this light, as long as the wind blows and birds fly, we will always have a potential problem of viable seed contamination in our bermudagrass turfs.

Nitrogen Response

As illustrated in Figures 1 and 2, FloraTeX® bermudagrass was very responsive to supplemental nitrogen fertilization. This is further illustrated in Figure 3. As expected, at low rates of nitrogen fertilization, FloraTeX® was superior to Tifway bermudagrass in turf



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Jim Morgan, Supt. Bay Point Yacht & CC Panama City Beach

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Figure 1. Response of FLoraTeX bermludagrass to monthly applications of supplemental nitrogen on seedhead suppression and turf quality. Plot on left received 1.0 poound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet per month from ammonium sulfate compared to center plot which received no supplemental fertilization.

quality. At high rates of nitrogen fertilization, Tifway bermudagrass produced a maximum turf quality score of 8.0 at a nitrogen rate of 0.9 pounds per 1000 square feet and then declined! On the other hand, turf quality scores in FloraTeX® increased 1.03 per unit of nitrogen application to its maximum turf quality score of 8.0 at a nitrogen rate of 1.0 pound per 1000 square feet, yet, turf quality scores continued to increase! What this actually means is that Tifway bermudagrass is much more nitrogen dependent than FloraTeX®, especially at low nitrogen nutrition. FloraTeX®, when fertilized according to our recommendation with a single application of one pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet in the spring and no additional supplemental nitrogen throughout the growing season, had a turf quality score of 7.0 out of a possible score of 9.0; whereas, Tifway bermudagrass required 0.5 pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet per growing month to produce turf of equal quality. Stated another way, Tifway bermudagrass required 3.0 pounds of nitrogen per 1000

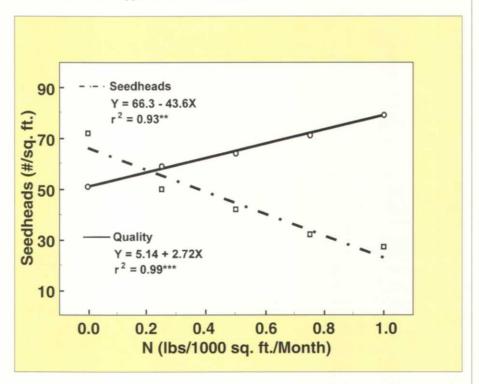


Figure 2. Seasonal average influence of monthly applications of supplemental nitrogen on seedhead suppression and turf quality of FLoraTex bermudagrass at Gainesville, Fla. in 1994.

square feet per year (6-month growing season) to produce a turf quality score of 7.0. this quality rating was equal to that of FloraTeX® bermudagrass with no supplemental nitrogen. At the highest monthly nitrogen rate of 1.0 pound per 1000 square feet, turf quality scores of FloraTeX® and Tifway bermudagrass were equal at 8.0. From this three year study, we concluded that FloraTeX® bermudagrass was superior to Tifway bermudagrass at low nitrogen levels, but both cultivars were equal in turf quality when maintained under a high nitrogen fertility program.

Under high nitrogen fertilization, FloraTeX® bermudagrass had the fastest rate of ground cover establishment when compared to 35 other experimental bermudagrass lines. In two months after planting, FloraTeX® produced 90% ground cover compared to Tifgreen which produced only 9% ground cover under the same conditions (Fig. 4). All grasses were fertilized weekly at a rate on 0.5 pounds of nitrogen per 1000 square feet/

So what does all of this mean? It simply points out that no turfgrass cultivar is perfect for all uses. Each has its own

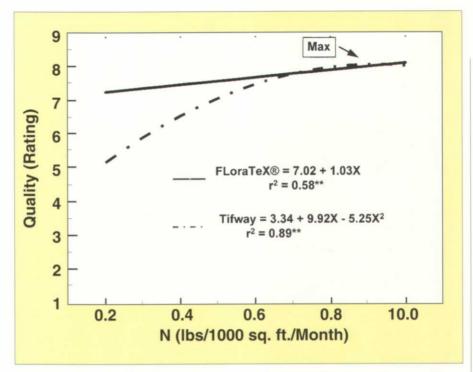


Figure 3. Average turf quality response of FLoraTeX and Tifway bermudagrass cultivars to monthly nitrogen fertilization at Gainesville, Fla. from 1978 to 1980.

unique advantages as well as some disadvantages, and so it is with FloraTex® bermudagrass. How do you know if

FloraTeX® is a bermudagrass cultivar for you? You may never know unless you try it.



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"Servicing South Florida"



Record summer rainfall and a nasty hurricane season kept many fairways like this under water too long to survive. Recovery will require time and understanding.

BY JOEL D. JACKSON, CGCS

ell, it's December 1st and the 1995 Hurricane Season is officially over. From Allison to Tanya, 19 named storms caused an estimated \$9.2 billion in damage to the United States. In Florida, we had another record breaking rainfall year and we felt the wrath of hurricanes Allison, Erin and Opal, and tropical storm Jerry.

Across the state, inundated golf courses and clubhouses were just a side bar to the stories of inaccessible neighborhoods and flooded communities. Cleaning up and restoring normal conditions to those areas will take hard work and patience.

The same is true for all the affected golf courses as we dealt with power outages, downed trees, erosion, silt deposits on the turf, continously saturated root zones and flooded maintenance buildings.

Jeff Babineau, a sportswriter for The Orlando Sentinel, gets an "atta boy" for his article, "Rain puts a damper on local golf." Several key points were made that the golfing public needed to hear:

- ".....the inclement weather has delayed the normal overseeding process that helps a golf course transition into the winter months..."
- "It wasn't fun to be closed....but the course was so soaked it just made no sense to be open."
- "....a wet golf course is vulnerable to damage by golf cart traffic.....deep toughto-repair marks left in the soft sod."
- "The ground is so full of water the grass just starts to shut down...."
- "We're making the best of a problem that is really Mother Nature's."
- "The effect of all this rain can be devastating.....what can you do except hope it stops raining. A sentiment that renders a man and a golf course rather helpless."

Meanwhile, in a twist of irony, golf courses in the north and east were fighting just the opposite problem as record heat and drought turned their summer upside down.

Our courses were flooding and float-

ing away while there's were drying up and blowing away. Articles written by the USGA appeared in association newsletters, *Golf Journal* magazine and local newspapers to answer the complaints of poor course conditions.

My favorite piece comes from the Greater Cincinnati GCSA It has a lot of common sense that applies to course conditions everywhere. The italics are mine:

On The Road With The USGA

by Bob Brame, North Central Region The harsh summer weather has left its mark on most operations, Nevertheless, a few courses have come through with minimal scars.

These are the courses golfers sometimes latch onto and say, "Gee, Truegreen C.C. (just down the street) looks good. The subtle question being, "Why doesn't this course?" "What happened here?" Such questions are not always easy to answer. Let's think about it.

First of all, every golf course is different. Golf courses can no more be accurately compared than you and I. Just like people



Flood waters caused erosion like this to greens and fairways bordering usually benign lakes, ponds and canals.

have similarities, so do courses. However, the other side is equally true. You could say (although discretion is important here), "Mr. Chairman, have you noticed Mr. Jones is tall and thin? Why aren't you?" "Ms. Smith has a 2 handicap; why don't you?"

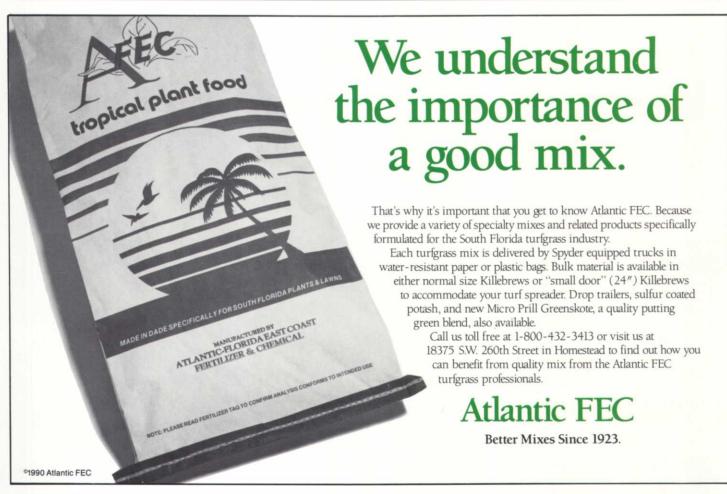
The foundational components that determine how a course will come through difficult weather are normally complex and hidden.

Superficial comparisons almost always over simplify the facts.

Golf turf management is a business/ career for the superintendent, but most course officials (private clubs) approach it differently.

Normally, course conditioning for the non-paid official is on an emotional level. Bragging rights and pride are part of the equation

Sometimes this emotional approach from course officials, is subconscious. It is very important to stick with the facts when discussing why turf loss occurred and recognize the fact that you (the superintendent), are coming from



a different perspective than the chairperson and/or course official. Don't argue. Don't personalize it. Be professional even in the face of emotional comments. *Positive communication always has been tougher than agronomics*. When reviewing the agronomics, of the 1995 summer season, start with the big four:

- 1. Grass Growing Environment
 - sunlight (especially early morning hours)
 - · air movement
- 2. Mowing Height (bench setting, equipment & blade sharpness)
- 3. Fertility
- 4. Water Management
 - · drainage (aerification)
 - · irrigation capabilities

Limitations with one or more of these building blocks, allowed the harsh weather patterns to be more destructive. Water management looms as the single biggest weakness for many.

Ultra fast green speeds and low mowing heights was a close second. Now is the time to regroup, recover, review weaknesses and plan for 1996.

Golfis a game played with (not against) Mother Nature. Sometimes she scores better than others. Isn't that part of the attraction we all have for this game? Remember, grass is a renewable resource.

Finally, as an antidote for "The Mean Season" I offer the following piece which I received from the folks at TurfNet Assoicates, Inc.

It will be my greeting card for the holidays. It expresses sentiments I think we could all stand to live by. Take care one and all until we meet again!

Desiderata

Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly, and listen to others, even the dull and ignorant: they too have their own story.

Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others you may become vain and bitter, for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your own achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble. It is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery. But, let this not blind you to what virtue there is: many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love, for in the face of all aridity it is perennial as the grass. Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. but do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline be gentle to yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars. You have a right to be here. And, whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive him to be, and whatever your aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace with your soul.

With all its sham, drudgery & broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Strive to be happy.

written by Max Ehrmann

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In February, the greatest show on turf comes to Orlando in the form of the GCSAA's 67th Annual International Conference and Show. Though presented by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, nearly all of golf's allied

Seizing the opportunity to learn

associations will be participating, making this event the largest and most comprehensive program staged for those involved in the design, construction, maintenance or operation of a golf facility.

There is no better opportunity available for learning the new issues, products, regulations and technology affecting our industry, or for brushing up on agronomic fundamentals. We expect a good turnout among Florida's golf course superintendents, since it's in our own backyard, but what about those who don't attend? What are their reasons for missing this opportunity, or various other seminars and educational programs available to them throughout the year?

If you ask them, various reasons are given - many of them quite legitimate — but it is my feeling that in most cases, the reason stated is a convenient rationalization, that the truth has more to do with their club's attitude about their attendance than with any authentic impediment. If a club discourages a superintendent from taking the time and/or money on educational

opportunities, no matter how subtly, the superintendent is likely to quit asking. Who wants to cause friction or drive a wedge between themselves and management? No one! So superintendents don't go to this or that function because they "had to fertilize tees that afternoon" or "had an irrigation problem" or any number of other excuses that obscure the fact that management at their club has little understanding or respect for what a superintendent does.

How else can it possibly be explained? If a club official does not encourage and support his superintendent's attendance at educational programs, he obviously does not understand what a dynamic industry the golf business is and how much there is to know. The business of being a professional golf course superintendent is a lifelong learning experience, and none of us can claim to know it all. I really believe that many people think that all our problems are spelled out in some golf course maintenance "cookbook," and that all we have to do to provide flawless playing conditions is look it up under the appropriate chapter.

When was the last time your golf pro called to discuss the pros and cons of using growth regulators, or your club manager informed you of new EPA regulations affections your operation, or your green committee chairman knew what a VFD pump station was before you recommended installing one? Superintendents know that they have the most technical and diverse range of responsibilities in the golf course operation, but other decision makers may not. Maybe you've just been too darn busy to do a good selling job on the benefits of attending seminars and conferences and the absolute necessity

Mark My Words



Mark Janell

Mark Jarrell, CGCS Assistant Editor

of continuing education, or maybe you're just too tired of fighting for adequate funding of your operation to argue for money to attend a conference and show.

For the budget-conscious official who questions the wisdom of spending the money to send his superintendent to the GCSAA's main event, equipment selection invariably provides the financial justification he is seeking. Where else can you evaluate all the available equipment under one roof? Most golf courses now carry about a \$500,000 equipment inventory and spend over \$40,000 a year to maintain and repair it. Just one trade showbased enlightened decision justifies the superintendent's travel expenses.

Another advantage of the GCSAA conference and show is the expertise of the manufacturer's reps who attend these shows. They can explain things that local distributors cannot. While the information is still fresh in your mind, you can walk over to a competitor's booth and make a valid comparison. And there are always show specials to save you money if you are able to make a purchasing decision.

For some of us, the best part of the annual conference and show is the positive mental effect it has upon us. It is very satisfying to attend an event of this magnitude that is focused upon us as professionals and primary customers. It is stimulating to share ideas with peers and hear how they have developed new ways to solve old problems. You return from the show refreshed

and renewed, better able to handle the demands of your job.

You are cheating yourself and your club by not attending several such educational opportunities each year. A good superintendent knows when he can and can't get away from his golf course and should be the one to make that decision. If you're one of those

superintendents who feels pressure to stay at home, or is outright denied the opportunity, show the schedule and conference agenda to the one giving resistance. Invite him or her to participate with you. Once they see the scope and quality of the GCSAA conference and show, it should be hard to refuse you in years to come.

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I track the morning dew with herds of white tailed deer and flocks of wild turkeys.

I play hide and seek with the Barred owl and the Red-tailed hawk.

The Superintendent

I watch in fascination the diving osprey and the soaring eagle.

I surprise sunning alligators and turtles as they splash into lakes.

"I can recall the memory of thousands of sunrises..."

I remove any number of serpents from harm's way or from creating harm.

I yield the pathways to the grey squirrel and brown rabbit making a dash for cover.

I feel frustration and contempt for those misguided souls who still call me "polluter."

I am a constant student of my craft. Learning from my peers and from turf specialists at national conferences, regional seminars and local chapter meetings.

I am a manager of resources. A leader. A planner. A team player.

I am a jack of all trades. From agronomist to zoologist.

I am counselor and disciplinarian to the unmotivated.

I am friend and mentor to those who earn my respect.

I am the receiver of the proverbial

buck. It always stops here!

I try to balance demands and expectations with budgets and reality.

I am challenged to please all golfers from scratch to 36 handicaps on the same day.

I am the expert problem solver unless my practical experience and classroom knowledge differs from the opinion of the purse holders or the nay sayers.

I often have as much job security as the next difference of opinion.

I court Mother Nature and often win her favor.

I have seen her wrath and seemingly capricious destruction beyond comprehension.

I am ironically held accountable for torrential rains and unrelenting drought.

I am expected to somehow turn muck and clay into sandy loam.

I bear red scaly cancerous patches on my skin from an on-going love/hate relationship with the sun. The dirt under my finger nails and the callouses on my hands have been earned in honest toil.

I dodge more lightning bolts and taste more rain drops than I should admit.

I still thrill to the grandeur of the changing seasons from spring buds to fall frost.

I meet some of the finest and most interesting people on earth in my work.

I seem to be driven by myself or others to deliver perfection in an imperfect world. No one seems to understand this paradox except those who walk in my shoes.

I am The Superintendent.

Green Side Up



Jack D. Jackson

Joel D. Jackson, CGCS Editor

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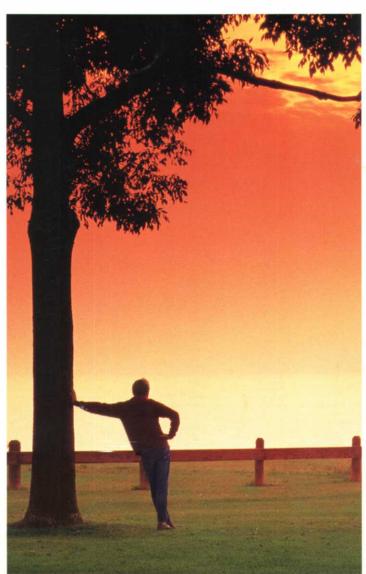
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