

# The Priorida Green

Spring 1997



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**SPOTLIGHT** STRIKING IT RICH, PRESIDENT'S AWARD ...... 10 Ron Hill and the Florida Green won national awards at the GCSAA's International Golf Course Conference; Steve Kuhn took the President's Award.

**About the use of trade names:** The use of trade names in this magazine is solely for the purpose of providing specific information and does not imply endorsement of the products named nor discrimination against similar unnamed products. It is the responsibility of the user to determine that product use is consistent with the directions on the label.

#### The Florida Green

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TRYING TO POISON THE QUEEN DOESN'T END HER REIGN OF TERROR. IT JUST RELOCATES IT. At the first sign of danger, fire ants are genetically programmed to cart their queen away to safety. Before you know it, the colony is thriving again.

That's the problem with using poisonous baits on fire ants. The poison kills worker and nurse ants before they can feed it to the queen. This sets off an alarm, signaling the rest of the colony to hit the road.

Award,<sup>®</sup> on the other hand, is an insect growth regulator, not a poison. It's sure to reach the queen undetected, and once there, sterilize her.

With her ability to produce new ants eliminated, the colony soon perishes.

So this year, use Award. And take care of your fire ants before they become moving targets.



A call to arms is ringing throughout the land these days. Superintendents' associations across the country are in desperate need for volunteers to step forward and take charge. While attending the GCSAA convention in Las

## Your organization needs your help... now

Vegas, this was a common topic of discussion among chapter leaders throughout the country. The need for new people to get involved now is becoming an issue of serious concern.

For lack of participation, many chapters have the same board members rotating

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dale Kuehner, CGCS President FGCSA

among the various positions. For an association to continue to grow and improve, it needs its members to become involved. Volunteering for a position on your local board is a good way not only help your fellow superintendents, but is a good way to help yourself. I can't begin to place a value on the information I have learned or the people I have met and the friends I have made during my time on the Florida and South Florida boards of directors. I can only tell you my association service has helped me become a better superintendent and a better communicator. Serving on a local chapter board usually doesn't require much time. Once you get involved you will be glad you did.

Those of you fortunate enough to have been able to attend the GCSAA convention this year had the opportunity to access a lot of great educational programs. Whether you took seminars or only attended the open sessions and trade show, the GCSAA conference was an excellent place to recharge the batteries and learn the newest turf management techniques.

If you weren't able to attend the national conference there are still a lot of educational opportunities available to you here in Florida. There will be GCSAA Regional Seminars. The USGA will be holding their annual Florida Regional conferences in West Palm Beach and Orlando in mid-April. The Everglades Chapter will be holding their Spring Seminar with a slate of topnotch speakers on April 25. The Poa will be held during May in the Naples area. The FTGA Conference will be in September. Probably your best source for continuing education is your local chapter. Most chapters have excellent educational programs available at each monthly meeting.

Attending monthly meetings gives you the chance to talk to your peers in the business and find out what problems are happening in your area. Many times during a local chapter meeting, hearing about someone else's problem might help you stop the problem from occurring on your course. If there is a speaker or a topic that you would like to hear about, I urge you to talk to your local board members. Answer that call to arms. Those Education Committee volunteers would love to hear your ideas and suggestions.

#### GOOSEGRASS

Take one infestation of goosegrass (1-leaf to 1-tiller stage). Apply Illoxan<sup>®</sup> 3EC Herbicide for turf at recommended rates. Spray well for good coverage. Results: 1 goosegrass-free golf course.

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This simple recipe is still keeping many of the South's best bermudagrass courses free of goosegrass (silver crabgrass, crowfootgrass) all season long. Superintendents like the way Illoxan works without the ugly brown spots other herbicides can cause. In fact, they swear by it. So this year, follow

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the proven recipe for great results: Illoxan for goosegrass.

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## HE FAVORITE SOUTHERN RECIPE FOR COOKING GOOSEGRASS.



Illoxan

KEEPS YOUR TURF IN TOP FORM.

In the Central Florida chapter, as part of your membership dues, a handicap can be established with our golf chairman.

## Time to establish your USGA handicap

By the time everyone reads this we will be well into the 1997 season. Along with the new year come chapter meetings, seminars and all the golf-related fund raisers and tournaments. I would like to remind everyone who does not have a

USGA handicap to please get one established this year! When you enter these events with a current handicap, it makes the tournament chairman's job a lot easier for pairing of players and scoring at the end of play.

For those superintendents who work at resorts or clubs that are difficult to get on, and commercial members who travel a lot and are not members of a club or association, I know it is hard to establish a handicap. In the Central Florida chapter, as part of your membership dues, a handicap can be established with our golf chairman. For those who turn in score cards, your scores are recorded and sent to a service every month or so. If you play other than chapter events, scores can be sent or phoned in to the Golf Chairman. The GCSAA requires verification of a USGA handicap in order to play in the annual golf championship. No letters from your golf professional or handicap chairman will be accepted.

Whether your scores are good, mediocre or bordering on the ugly side, please establish a USGA handicap this year!

When you enter (chapter) events with a current handicap, it makes the tournament chairman's job a lot easier for pairing of players and scoring at the end of play.

FORE



Joe Ondo, CGCS Vice President FGCSA



## Renovation by Rain Bird



What do Pebble Beach Golf Links<sup>®</sup>, Cypress Point Club, Muirfield Village, Shinnecock Hills Golf Course and La Quinta-Mountain Course have in common? Irrigation renovation by Rain

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Each course presented unique challenges. That's why at Rain Bird, we offer a complete range of irrigation

Reproduced by permission of Pebble Beach Company. \* As rated by *Golf Digest* 1993. products: Irrigation Control Systems—MAXI® V, PAR, MSC satellites—and The Freedom System<sup>™</sup>, our newest wireless technology; remote control valves, both self cleaning and pressure regulating in brass or plastic; quick coupling valves; and your choice of DR impact drive or EAGLE<sup>™</sup> gear drive rotors.

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#### SPOTLIGHT

## Florida superintendents strike it rich in Las Vegas

During the Opening Session of the GCSAA's 68th International Golf Course Conference and Show at the Bally's Hotel in Las Vegas, four Florida superintendents were recognized for their efforts in environmental stewardship. They were part of a group of 31 superintendents nationwide recognized by the GCSAA in partnership with Novartis, Rain Bird, Jacobsen Division of Textron and Pursell Industries. Congratulations to:

#### **National Winner**

Resort Course Division: Ron Hill of Amelia Island Plantation

#### Regional Winners-Florida Region:

Private Clubs Bobby Ellis of Indian River Club

**Public Courses** Rick Wise of the PGA Golf Club

#### Merit Winner:

**Private Clubs** Jim Lehman of Queens Harbor Y. & C.C.

As the editor of the *Florida Green*, I am proud to announce that our magazine was once again selected Best Overall in its category in the GCSAA Chapter Publications Contest.

This honor is shared with the many superintendents who take the time to write articles for the magazine; Marie Roberts, who coordinates the advertising that pays for this publication; Paul Crawford, who serves as the magazine's busi-



#### Valent Donation

Left to right. On behalf of the FGCSA Joe Ondo and Dale Kuehner receive a check for \$10,000 from Peter Blum of Valent USA. The money was a result of Valent's "Right Course" rebate program based on the sales of Orthene in 1996. This donation will be used to fund turf research in Florida. Photo by Joel Jackson.



ness manager; Daniel Zelazek, who takes such great cover story photos; Shelly Foy who coordinates the Stewardship section of each issue and keeps coming up Ron Hill, left, receives the GCSAA National Stewardship Award for Resort Courses from GCSAA President Bruce Williams.

with new ideas; Mark Jarrell, assistant editor, who keeps prodding our consciences with his thoughtful editorials in Mark My Words; and last and certainly not least, Larry Kieffer and Doris Dionne of Janlark Communica-

tions who take our words and pictures and put them together so magnificently to help create our award-winning publication.



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- Registered for golf course use

#### Heritage

- Effective against 18 turfgrass diseases
- Controls brown patch, Pythium, take-all patch, summer patch, anthracnose and snow mold
- Preventative and curative activity
- Novel mode of action
- Low risk toxicological and environmental profile

FUSILADE

- Fast-acting: Annual and perennial grasses stop growing within 48 hours of application
- Can be applied overthe-top for economical, trouble-free grass control

#### **Using Adjuvants In Your Plant Protection Program** Here's how adjuvants can improve the performance and coverage of your plant protection product applications.

Using adjuvants in your turf management program can help you improve plant protection product performance. They can even make the difference between peak and poor performance. The starting point is to find the right adjuvant for the job. The most commonly used adjuvants for turf are: wetting agents; spreader/stickers; spreader/activators; sticking agents, and buffering and compatibility agents.

#### Wetting Agents

If you've been making thorough herbicide, fungicide and insecticide applications but still aren't getting the control you expect, your plant protection product may not be penetrating plant tissue surfaces. This reduces control and leaves spray residue susceptible to wash-off. The wetting agent Riverside<sup>®</sup> Silkin<sup>™</sup> helps sprays penetrate plant tissue quicker for improved overall performance.



The wetting agent Riverside Silkin and spreader/ activator Riverside Activate Plus™ reduce surface tension of spray so that it forms "flatter" droplets, improving coverage and absorption.

#### Spreader/Stickers

Good control in some areas and poor control in others could mean drift and wash-off are taking their toll on spray performance. During application, spray droplet size varies, reducing adhesion and causing spray to miss the target. To improve coverage and adhesion, use the spreader/sticker Riverside Complex<sup>™</sup>. It adjusts droplet size for better performance, even under adverse conditions. By reducing surface tension in the spray droplet and keeping the spray mixture suspended, Complex can dramatically improve the efficiency of herbicides, fungicides and insecticides.

#### Spreader/Activators

Droplet size varies during applications, making retention and distribution more difficult. Spreader/activators work in much the same way wetting agents do. They deliver more uniform droplet distribution, quicker wetting and increased spray retention on leaf and stem surfaces when used with herbicides, fungicides and insecticides.

The spreader/activator Riverside Activate Plus improves performance and efficiency by moving the spray into plant tissue more quickly. By speeding up penetration, you get increased pest control.

#### **Sticking Agents**

Contact herbicides, and non-systemic fungicides and insecticides can sometimes be washed away by rain, irrigation or even dew. Plant protection product sprays are also affected by drift. The sticking agent Riverside Plex<sup>®</sup> helps plant protection products penetrate the vegetation canopy and stick to plant tissue. That also helps control drift. Using



# Riverside<sup>®</sup> Adjuvants Maximize Your Pest Control.

Plex will help you make applications that will last longer, even in wet conditions.

#### Approximate Actual Size



Spray droplets under 250 microns are susceptible to drift and poor coverage. Using Riverside Plex or the spreader/sticker Riverside Complex to control droplet size effectively controls drift and improves coverage. Both maintain droplet size near 400 microns, ideal for the best application.

#### **Buffering and Compatibility Agents**

If you're not getting the control you want but have followed label directions to the letter, it could be a pH problem in your tank mix. The buffering agent Riverside Combine<sup>®</sup> will help you correct the pH level for maximum performance from your spray mixture. If you're unsure of your pH level, use a pH test kit or, if you don't have one, contact your Terra representative.



Get maximum plant protection product performance with Riverside<sup>®</sup> adjuvants. They make spray mixes work harder, perform better and control more.

Adjuvants help you get the most out of your program and protect your plant protection product investment at the same

time. Riverside adjuvants make the difference between a good job and a great job. Use them with your spray applications to maximize performance.



Terra Industries Inc. P.O. Box 6000 Sioux City, Iowa 51102 1-800-831-1002 www.terraindustries.com

#### Combine® pH use chart.

	Starting pH			
	9	8	7	6
표 8	2	0	0	0
	4	2	0	0
Desired	16	12	8	0
<b>a</b> 5	20	16	12	8
	Oz	/100 g	al. wa	ter

A chart like this one makes it easy to adjust pH level for optimum results. For example, if your desired pH is 7 and your starting pH is 9, you would need to mix 4 ounces of Combine per 100 gallons of water to get the proper pH.

In addition to buffering, Combine also works as a compatibility agent. The compatibility agent Combine should be used when: more than one plant protection product is included in a tank mix; when tank mixing different formulations like wettable powders and liquids; or when applying micronutrients or plant protection products with fertilizer. Also, Combine improves spray mix stability and dispersion.

To see if a compatibility agent will help your tank mix, try the jar test. Fill two guart jars each with a pint of water or carrier. Use the same source and temperature as you would in your actual tank mix. Mark one jar "with" and one "without." Add 1/4 teaspoon of Riverside Combine to the jar marked "with" and shake it gently for 5-10 seconds. Add the plant protection product(s) to both jars in the proper volume and sequence according to the label directions. Shake gently before adding each new product. Wait 5-10 minutes. Check both jars. If no gels, sludge, flakes or other irregularities are present, the mix is compatible.

If the jar marked "with" is compatible and the jar marked "without" isn't, a compatibility agent should be added to your tank mix. If the jar marked "with" isn't compatible, the tank mix shouldn't be used.

Wait 30 minutes. If the mixture separates but readily mixes again, the tank mix can be used with proper agitation.

#### **Adjuvants Pay Off**

Overall, adjuvants can help you protect the investment you make in plant protection products by making them more effective. Whether you're using wetting agents, spreader/stickers, spreader/activators, sticking agents, buffering and compatibility agents or all five, they can help you overcome some of the common problems faced by turf professionals.

For more technical information on adjuvants, contact your nearest Terra Professional Products representative.

#### SPOTLIGHT

#### TURFGRASS PROBLEMS?

#### Why?

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- Unavailable Nutrients?
- Drainage?
- Grass Quality?
- Irrigation Water?

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#### Allan MacCurrach 1939-1997

BY JIM SHINE Retired North Florida GCSA

Allan MacCurrach passed away on January 14, 1997 while on a business trip for the PGA Tour in Palm Springs, California Allan had been the senior agronomist for the PGA Tour for more than 22 years and was responsible for the fine golf course conditions that the tour players presently play on throughout the United States and Canada.

Allan was born in Ipswich, Mass., on March 29, 1939 and grew up in Hamilton, Mass. He earned his AS degree in 1962 from Stockbridge School of Agriculture/ University of Massachusetts in Amherst after having earned his AB from Burdette College in Boston in 1959.

He started his career as golf course

#### 'Every superintendent who has ever hosted a PGA Tour event will mourn the loss'

superintendent at Valley Country Club in West Warwick, R.I. He then worked as superintendent at Chevy Chase Country Club in Chevy Chase, Md., before joining the PGA Tour as its first agronomist.

Allan was internationally recognized for his expertise in the turf management field. As a member of the GCSAA, he was one of the first in his field to earn the title of Certified Golf Course Superintendent. In 1994 he was honored by the GCSAA as the recipient of their distinguished service award.

Every superintendent who has hosted, is hosting or will host a PGA Tour event in the future will mourn the loss of a friend and champion.

Allan is survived by his wife, Carol; daughter, Jennifer; son, Allan III; and two grandchildren.



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# **Steve Kuhn:**

## Friend and Teacher

#### BY BOB KLITZ, CGCS

#### and ED MILLER

Golf Course Superintendent Williams Island C.C.

In July 1996 Steve Kuhn, golf course superintendent at High Ridge Country Club in Boynton Beach, was presented with the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association President's Award from the South Florida Chapter.

Steve had worked as a superintendent for 18 years in South Florida prior to accepting his current position in Palm Beach County. During his tenure in South Florida Steve was a friend, teacher, and, supporter of many superintendents in the three-county chapter.

Steve's interest in golf started in Welch, W.Va., where his parents operated a golf course. Joe Kuhn, Steve's father, was the golf professional and golf course superintendent while Steve's mother, Mary, operated the pro shop.

Although Steve was exposed to golf since the day he was born, his father never pushed him to make golf his career choice.

Steve's first friends at the club were the caddies. Steve's mother was constantly encouraging Steve to play golf with the members' children instead of playing poker with the caddies or looking for golf balls.

The easy-going, regular-guy personality that was evident in Steve's youth accurately portrays Steve's easily approachable and always accessible management style.

After high school Steve attended the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Only 30 hours short of a degree in

mechanical engineering at the University of Florida, the thought of having a career that kept him cooped up indoors over a drawing board and under the glare of fluorescent lights began to wear on the young man.

His love of the outdoors the beauty of the trees and mountains and flowers were indelibly embedded in every part of his being.

"This is for me," Steve thought. "It's what I want to do for the rest of my life!" And it's what he has done. Steve changed his major, won a Florida Turf Grass Association scholarship and went on to graduate with a degree in Ornamental Horticulture.

One of the lifelong motivators for Steve has been a never-forgotten remark by Florida turf legend, Dr. Granny Horn, who said, "I want to know more about bermudagrass than anyone who has ever

1996 President's Award Winnners

> Steve Kuhn Clem Stewart

lived."

It remains a guiding factor in Steve's constant quest to improve the quality of the golf course, and is prevalent in any discussion he has about turf.

Right after college, with no working mentor to guide him, he became the golf course superintendent of the Killearn Country Club in Tallahassee and hosted the Tallahassee Open in 1971. In 1975, Steve was appointed superintendent of the California Country Club in North Miami Beach. He spent almost eight years there before moving on to two prestigious, member-owned clubs - Westview Country Club in 1983 and Woodmont in 1986.

With a solid reputation in every phase of golf course maintenance and management, Steve was then appointed the head superintendent at the Doral Resort, with its four golf courses, including the famed



Steve Kuhn was an overwhelming favorite choice as candidate for the 1996 President's Award<sup>®</sup> from the South Florida Chapter. Photo by Ed Miller.

## HOWARD'S TURF PRIDE with RONSTAR® Better Than DNAs for Pre-emergence Weed Control

The problem with DNA compounds is they can't tell a bad weed from Bermuda grass. DNAs are absorbed at the root, damaging incoming premium turf right along with goosegrass, crabgrass and other undesirables. Ronstar's unique chemistry provides longer-lasting weed control without impairing turf root development. Instead of root entry, Ronstar is absorbed into weed shoots, killing germinating weed seedlings as they move upward through the soil surface. New root growth from existing plants is never affected.

Quicker turf comeback from winter stress, pest damage or traffic-injured spots.

- Safe to use with spriggs
- Better control on DNA-resistant goosegrasses
- Allows faster recovery following nematode damage

Howard's

**Premium Quality Fertilizer** 

Contact your Howard Fertilizer representative for a sample to test on your golf course. 407-855-1841 800-899-3141

Hano

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#### "Blue Monster."

While working at Doral, Steve prepared for nine PGA Tour tournaments.

#### **Hurricane Andrew**

His most vivid memories at Doral were recovering from the disaster of Hurricane Andrew in the summer of 1992. Steve and his crew had three months to get ready for the winter season. Andrew had uprooted over 3,000 trees.

In addition to tons of debris removal, 55 tractor trailer loads of sod were required to cover all of the damaged areas During this massive cleanup effort, the routine maintenance practices still had to be performed - weed and insect con-

#### 'Spend the majority of your time on the golf course. Visibility is important.'

trol, aerification, overseeding, and planting 120,000 annuals.

It is a tribute to Steve's resourcefulness and planning that all this was accomplished in time for the opening of Doral's winter season.

Steve's professional affiliations include service on the board of directors of the South Florida GCSA and the Florida Turfgrass Association, and membership in the FGCSA, GCSAA and Palm Beach GCSA.

He is the consummate professional always learning, always sharing - always teaching! He takes great pride in motivating individuals to become excited about working in the golf course industry and serving their associations.

Former assistants currently working as superintendents include Ed Miller at William's Island C.C. (current president of the SFGCSA); Gilly MacGregor at Westview C.C. (director of SFGCSA); Eric Knudson at Ocean Reef Club (joining SFGCSA board in 1997); and Eric Von Hafen at John's Island Country Club West.

In his early years in the field, fishing and outdoor sports consumed every nonworking moment, but during the Doral years, he was obsessed with the great responsibilities of caring for one of the world's best-known golf resorts and had little real time for himself.

Now at High Ridge Country Club in Palm Beach, Steve has had the chance to spend more time with his wife Faith and children, Lauren and Stephen. "It's never too late for that," says Steve.

In the spring of 1996 the SFGCSA Board of Directors met to discuss possible candidates for the President's Award nomination.

When Steve's name was mentioned the reaction of the board members was overwhelming.

Steve has viewed our golf courses, listened to our successes and tragedies on the telephone, played golf on our courses, and discussed strategies at chapter meetings with almost every member of our board. When Steve was presented with this award at our annual meeting, several superintendents thanked him publicly for his support. Congratulations, Steve, and thanks again from all of the members of the SFGCSA.

#### Steve's Personal Philosophy

- Spend the majority of your time on the golf course. High visibility is important to crew and membership.
- Be a key figure in training of personnel.
- Personally use all equipment on a regular basis, not just the fairway mower.
- Be competitive. Look at everyone else, then at yourself. Make improvements. Do not settle for being average.
- This is a "service" industry. "Serve" the members. The members are your boss. "Serve" your crew by providing them with the tools and equipment they need to succeed and excel. Treat everyone with respect.
- Have goals. At the beginning of each year set goals for yourself and your operation. At the end of each year evaluate your progress, then go out and make the next year even better.

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# Cypress Runs Professional and

A cal the stor-

The 18th green from the Clubhouse Photo by Daniel Zelazek

# Personable

#### BY JOEL D. JACKSON, CGCS

grew up in Tampa, and my memory of the trip to the Tarpon Springs area was of miles of flat, slash pine and palmetto savannas broken up by oak hammocks and cypress bayheads until you reached the sandy ridge along the coast.

Civilization has spread north from the Tampa Bay area since then. The area east of Lake Tarpon has become a minimecca of golf communities along the East Lake Boulevard corridor. One of the best groomed courses in the area is Cypress Run. In the early 1980s seven members of the Innisbrook Golf Club and Resort decided they didn't want to compete with resort guests for tee times anymore. They purchased 328 acres of old dairy farm and hired Larry Packard, who had designed Innisbrook, to design Cypress Run.

Wadsworth Golf Construction Company built it, and the course opened in 1982. The result is a gently rolling, 18hole private course that wends it way through graceful oak hammocks. The course is challenging yet very playable and member-friendly, as attested by the

#### COVER STORY

waiting list to join. The club has a very professional feel, but in a very personable and comfortable way.

That is the same way I found the superintendent, Michael Swinson, CGCS.

Each visit I make to cover courses is unique. Each operation has its own energy, excitement and direction. Cypress Run is no exception. There's a lot going

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LAMAR SAPP

6001 S.W. 19th STREET PLANTATION, FL 33317 MOBILE: (407) 479-9417 on. Lots of projects. Improvements planned and carried out in an organized manner.

With 13 full-time and six part-time employees including the superintendent to maintain the course, Mike does a great job of balancing daily grooming practices and working in the projects to keep the course moving forward and improving.

One of Mike's continuing challenges is managing healthy turf where the course runs along those beautiful oak hammocks.

"I love trees and I love wildlife and the members pay me to grow good turf, so I have my work cut out for me," said Mike. "When the sunlight is scarce and the tree roots are thirsty, the turf usually comes in second place in the competition for moisture and nutrients.

"We are on a long range plan to thin out the underbrush and prune the trees to give the turf a fighting chance. We have made significant improvements on several greens, tees and slopes with this **ap**proach."

But Mike isn't stubborn either – he's practical.

"On one hole we have these great oak trees guarding the right side as you approach, but it is also the cart path side of the hole and we just couldn't keep any decent turf growing here. So, we removed the turf and created a sandy waste area under the trees and eliminated an ugly problem."

Along the south side of the course, the low winter sun and the increased winter play spell trouble for the turf. To help his "problem child" tee snuggled up against the woods, Mike and crew have thinned out the adjacent tree canopies and sodded the tee top with more shade-tolerant zoysia grass.

More time and evaluation will be needed to declare the solution a complete success. The point is, rather than excuses,

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Mike is trying an alternative to solve the problem.

There is another problem Mike has to deal with this year, but it isn't unique to Cypress Run. This has been a remarkably warm winter, as Florida winters go.

With the exception of that mid-January freeze of 20 degree temperatures for six or seven hours, Florida hasn't had much cold weather. On a lot of days in January and February it was downright warm! And windy! The rub comes when we all have tried to get our winter overseeding established during such warm conditions. The bermuda turf didn't go dormant and it competed quite easily with the immature ryegrass. The success of the bermuda was painfully obvious as it turned into golden straw colored patches amongst our thinner-than-usual rye stands after that hard freeze.

As Mike said, "This year's overseeding has been a coin flip! Grow rye or grow bermuda?" Even attempts to reseed were almost always futile because the weather stayed too warm overall for even the reserve seed to be very successful. We will

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#### COVER STORY

all try and keep what we have (rye and bermuda) green and growing through the spring!

Cypress Run seeds greens, tees, collars, approaches and fairways. Mike also seeds all turf in view from the clubhouse and from the roadways bordering the property.

Since the roughs are not seeded except in those select areas, Mike applies a split application of Surflan to the roughs to control volunteer rye germination in unwanted places.

"We go with a 1-1/4 quarts per acre rate in October and then follow that up 90 days later with another 1-1/4 quarts in late December or January depending on how the weather has been," says Mike. "Hopefully, that will take us past the crabgrass and goosegrass germination period. Another 90 days and we apply 1-1/2 quarts per acre to see us through the summer."

Summer, spring and fall find Mike managing the 15-year-old Tifdwarf greens and Tifway 419 fairways with frequent foliar sprays recommended by his turf consultant, Ralph White.

The solutions of potassium nitrate, iron sulfate, magnesium sulfate and liquid urea are sprayed weekly. This liquid program is combined with slow-release granular fertilizers like 8-0-8 or 17-1-10 blends. Coupled with the prescription feeding comes prescription watering in the form of hand watering hot spots and stubborn mutation areas.

Mike said, "We have found that if we stay on top of these problem areas and catch them early on with the deep hand watering we can maintain an acceptable and dependable putting surface."

Mike introduced hand mowing of the greens and fairway overseeding as new standards for Cypress Run, and the improvement in conditions was well received by the membership.

Overall grooming and course conditioning are foremost on Mike's mind. He continually asks Jon Treglown, the head professional, for comparisons of Cypress Run with other courses he plays in North Florida PGA Section events.

Today was no exception as Jon reported on the appearance of the unoverseeded fairways of a nearby course.



#### **Cypress Run Golf Club**

Location: Tarpon Springs, Florida.

Ownership: Member Owned.

Playing policy: Private.

Management Team: Club President, William R. Still; Green Chairman, Earl F. Malloy; Club Manager, Mike Pelno; Head Golf Professional, Jon Treglown; Golf Course Superintendent, Michael Swinson, CGCS; Assistant Golf Course Superintendent, Michael A. McNeil.

Designed by: Larry Packard. Construction by: Wadsworth Golf Construction Co.

18 holes. Par 72 at 6,981 yards. Opened 1982.

**Course/Slope/Rating:** Gold = 73.9/138; Blue = 71.9/133; White = 69.7/124; Red = 72.4/126.

Acreage under maintenance: 110 acres.

- Waterways: 13.4 acres of lake surface.
- **Greens:** 3.5 acres. Average size = 7,500 square feet. Turf type = Tifdwarf. HOC: .140" -.156" winter and summer. Overseeding: *Poa trivialis* (Sabre) @ 12 pounds per 1,000 square feet. Green speed goal - 9.0 -10.0 feet.
- **Tees:** 6 acres. Turf type = Tifway 419. HOC: Winter .500" .562". Summer .437" .500". Overseeding = 250 pounds per acre of a perennial ryegrass blend.
- **Fairways:** 30 acres. Turf type = Tifway 419. HOC: .500" .625". Overseeding = 250 pound of a perennial ryegrass blend per acre.
- Roughs: 70 acres. Turf type = Tifway 419. HOC = 1.0" 1.25". Not overseeded.
- Irrigation: Source = 100% Effluent (Reclaimed water). P.S.I. pump station w/ Two 60 h.p. vertical turbine pumps and one 25 h.p. jockey pump. Controllers: Toro Varitime II. Heads: Greens - Toro 680 series. Tees, fairways and roughs - Toro 670 series.
- Staff: Total of 19 including superintendent. 13 Full time. 6 Part time. Equipment Technician, Robert Stalter; Pest Control Technician, Doug Deshazer; Administrative Assistant, Sherry Barker; Landscaper/Horticulturist, Brenda Webb.
- Equipment: Greens Toro Greensmaster 1000s; Tees Toro Greenmaster 3000s; Fairways - Toro Reelmaster 5100s. Roughs - Toro Pull-behind rough unit.



Scenic pond next to the clubhouse. The practice green is in the background. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.



The 18th hole as seen from the fairway bunkers. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.



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#### COVER STORY

Mike strives for neatly edged bunkers and cart paths and course cleanliness daily.

"To be neat and clean every day isn't easy," he said. "It takes consistent, dedicated manpower and that can be a budgetary concern. However, it separates your club and your operation from some of the others."

Maximizing the assets of the club doesn't stop with the managing of turf for Mike. He showed me his attempt to revitalize some slash pines suffering from pine tree decline.

They were being treated with a Systrex injection program. Mike will try to reduce the stress on these trees by redesigning the irrigation system coverage in the area to put less water on the pines.

The Cypress Run staff also rebuilt the tee on the par 3, 8th hole to yield more teeing area and pin point the white-tee yardage. They enlarged the usable surface of the practice tee from 1/3 of an acre



The par-three 18th hole receives extra attention because of the shady conditions. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.



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SPRING 1997



#### Michael Swinson, CGCS

- 1. Originally from: Stony Brook, Long Island, New York.
- 2. Family: Wife Helen. Married 8 1/2 years.
- **3.** Education: St. Leo College, Business Administration. Hillsborough Community College, Ornamental Horticulture.
- Employment History: 1992 to present, Superintendent, Cypress Run G. C.; 1991-1992 Crescent Oaks Golf & Country Club. 1987-1991 Seville Golf & Country Club; 1982-1987 Assistant Superintendent, Cypress Run Golf Club.
- 5. Role Models: People in or out of the industry who have influenced my life and career: Sid Brown and Pete Bass (See sidebar)
- 6. Goals/Accomplishments: The most important accomplishment to me has been becoming a Certified Golf Course Superintendent. I am also proud to be one of the original seven founders of the Seven Rivers Chapter of the FGCSA.
- Personal Philosophy: Don't make excuses for why you can not do something until you try. Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today.
- 8. Advice for prospective superintendents: Watch, listen and learn. Learn from your superintendent. Take the good with the bad. Learn how to interact with people. Take numerous courses to stay abreast of the industry.
- **9. Professional affiliations:** CGCS member of GCSAA; Current Vice President of the Seven Rivers Chapter of the Florida GCSA; Past External Vice President/Board of Directors FGCSA.
- 10. Hobbies and interests: Restoring and working on old cars.

#### **Two mentors**

Sid Brown, who worked for 30 years at the St. George's G & CC in Stony Brook, NY., was my first boss. I was fifteen years old when I started working for Sid — hand raking bunkers and walk mowing greens.

One day I asked Sid what it would take to become a superintendent and he said, " It will take a lot of hard work and determination and never give up! Work your way up the ladder and pay your dues. It will pay off in the long run."

The year before I landed my first superintendent's job, Sic died of a heart attack during his first year of retirement. I wish he had known that I had become a superintendent.

Peter Bass, currently superintendent at the Innisbrook Resort in Tarpon Springs, was the superintendent at Happaughe G & CC on Long Island, NY.

He and Sid Brown were good friends and I met Pete at our Christmas party one year. He told me he was moving to Florida to grow in a new golf course in Tarpon Springs.

Coincidentally, I was moving to Florida also, so Pete told me to look him up when I arrived. Some time later I moved to Florida and within six months I became his assistant superintendent.

During the next five years that I worked for Pete I gained much knowledge of the golfing industry and a lot of respect for Peter Bass, and now I longed to become a full superintendent.

In 1987, a new position opened at the Seville Golf & Country Club. I was hired for the position upon Pete's recommendation. Today Pete and I are still close personal friends and we have a mutual respect for each other.

I thank Sid and Pete for their tremendous help to me during my career.









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The 3050 adopts many of the same, proven features of the Greensmaster 3100, Toro's most successful riding greens mower. Carried forth is the same reliable hydraulic system and dependable 16-horsepower Vanguard engine that meets all CARB certifications.

#### **Standardized Components**

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#### **Ergonomic Design**

Operators will appreciate an engine that vibrates less and is more quiet for them and the environment. The updated steering system means easier maneuvering, especially on turns. For added convenience, all controls are consolidated around the operator.

#### Versatility

The Greensmaster® 3050 accommodates all existing accessories and attachments for the Toro Greensmaster 3100.

#### "Feedback" Manual Steering

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FUEL CAPACITY	7.5 gallon (28.4 liters) capacity; unleaded gasoline.				
TRACTION DRIVE	Hydraulic gear pump. Foot pedal	forward and reverse; infinitely vari	able. Front wheel orbit motors.		
GROUND SPEED	Forward – 1st, mow: 3.8 mph (6.1 km/h); 2nd, transport: 7.4 mph (11.9 km/h). Reverse – 1.9 mph (3 km/h).				
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## Tips from Cypress Run

Photos by Joel Jackson

**THINNING OUT** tree canopies and installing shade-tolerant zoyzia are two ways to improve this shady tee.





**These pine** trees suffering from decline are being treated with Systrex. Note the injection containers at the base of the trees.



**Improved water** cooler stand dispenses water, ice, two kinds of cups and has a trash receptacle built in. The rear access door is padlocked for security



**Traffic control** stakes at Cypress Run are made from old flagpoles and irrigation hytraulic tubing.



Practical alternative — This former weak, shady, high-traffic turf area was turned into a sandy waste area.

**Strategically placed** divot sand bucket (left) and broken tee caddy (center) help keep Cypress Run parthree tees neat and playable.



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#### COVER STORY



The second hole shows off neatly edged bunkers and graceful oak trees. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

to 3/4 of an acre by eliminating the wasted transition areas between the original three tiers and making one large tee.

This spring Mike and company will extend the 18th tee to give more members a chance of getting home in two shots on the spectacular and challenging finishing hole.

All of these projects and the attention to daily grooming details require Mike to spend most of his day on the course, which suits him just fine. Mike is quick to praise his crew and supporting staff.

"Sherry Barker is a computer genius and she takes a lot of the paperwork out of my hands so I can concentrate on the course. I'd say my office time is down to about 5% and my course time up to 95% thanks to Sherry's expertise.

"My mechanic, Bob Stalter, is a small engine magician. He completely rebuilt our Sand Pro, saving us money in our capital budget. No superintendent is worth his salt without a good assistant, and Mike McNeil is my right hand.

"We have a pretty good team here. Most of the full timers have been here seven or eight years and even the part timers average about three years of service."

I was impressed by the teamwork of the entire club. The well-used divot sand buckets, the full broken-tee caddies, the raked bunkers and the repaired ball marks all gave evidence of a well organized membership who had a proud stake in the club's success.

I was equally impressed by the Cypress Run Foundation. The Foundation was a way for members to bequeath or contribute financially to the Clubhouse Fund, Arbor Fund, Cart Path Fund, Irrigation Systems Fund and the General Purpose Fund for continuous improvements to the course and club.

Planning. Organizing. Achieving goals. That's what good management is all about. From my visit, I'd say that's what Mike Swinson and Cypress Run are all about. Cypress Run, a 15-year-old dream that just seems to be getting better with age.



#### **PRE-TREATMENT:**

Both areas exhibit the presence of Fairy Ring. The area on the right received 2 treatments of AQUEDUCT at 8 oz./1000 sq. ft. Treatments were applied one week apart.

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#### TWO WEEKS LATER:

Untreated area (left) shows severe signs of stress due to water repellency. Area on right (treated) exhibits recovery and shows good turf quality.

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#### HANDS ON

## A Day in the Life...

What superintendents and their crews do from dawn to dusk to dawn



*Quarry wall cleaning is a unique maintenance task at the Black Diamond Ranch. Photo by Laurie Frutchey.* 

Editor's Note: There is no such thing as a typical workday in the life of a golf course superintendent because there are no typical golf courses. That's part of the appeal of the game we serve. Every superintendent has thousands of stories to tell. On the following pages, we present a handful which, taken together, indicate the broad range of problems we deal with and the unique solutions crafted by the members of our profession.

### From Darkaphobia to Dilithium Crystals

BY MIKE MONGOVEN, CGCS Fort Myers Country Club

he day in the life of a "dirt farmer," as my wife sometimes affectionately calls me, starts early. Early is a relative term!

The hour most golf course superintendents get cracking is extremely early for your average Joe. John Wayne would be proud of us, because you won't catch many golf course superintendents "burning daylight" as the Duke would say.

One of the biggest challenges we face immediately upon arrival to work is the lack of sunlight. This presents multiple problems which include hiring a staff that is not overloaded with members that suffer from "darkaphobia," the fear of getting to work too early.

Leadership and experience are critical in managing a staff in the dark. This is a skill that most golf course superintendents will profess to have. In fact, some golf course superintendents will tell you that they are often kept in the dark.

The sunrise is always a beautiful sight. It can also be a bit painful on a Saturday morning after a few too many red pops on Friday night.

The sky lit up in pink, purple, red, blue, peach and whatever is nice. Starting in such a way can put a positive spin on the entire day.

I enjoy seeing the world wake up.

As I look at the day ahead, I generally try to "ride that wave" as they say down under. I occasionally bring my children to work with me on weekends so they can experience the awesomeness of the morning.

As the general population starts to scurry about, the day of a golf course superintendent becomes more difficult. More people means more communication.

This can be difficult and requires much patience, which should not be confused with becoming a patient or making someone else a patient. Some golfers, and dare I say, some golf professionals can be difficult to deal with from time to time. The community of golf course superintendents tends to be friendly and helpful.

Need help diagnosing a problem? Want advice on equipment? Do you just want someone to listen? There is always a superintendent friend to help during the day.

Wearing many hats is a requirement for a golf course superintendent to have a successful day. Training as a priest, rabbi, motivational speaker, drill sergeant, adult diaper changer, fireman, physician, counselor, mind reader, CPA, agronomist, coach, referee, hydrologist, horticulturist, meteorologist, herbiculturist, mole cricketologist and faith healer are all helpful in the pursuit of excellence.

Stacking all these hats on one's head and showing the talent and skill of the Cat in the Hat to wear them is something that is not taught at The University of Turf. Hopefully, after a few tries and relocations, you will have mastered it.

After a few hours — generally less than 15 — most of us can call it a day. A few hours sleep and it is off to save our piece of the planet for another day. If Scotty could just recharge those dilithium crystals a little quicker, I am sure we could cover more bases tomorrow.

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\*Patent Pending





### **Every Day is Special**

BY LAURIE FRUTCHEY Golf Course Superintendent Black Diamond Ranch

AS TOLD TO LISA A. SWING Horticulturist Black Diamond Ranch

b lack Diamond Ranch is a privately owned 27 hole golf course (soon to be 36 holes) located in Lecanto. It is owned and operated by Stan Olsen. We have the distinction of being ranked number one in Florida by *Florida Golfer* magazine and as high as number four in the United States.

On any given day, you will see me or any of my supervisors out working along with the rest of the crew. It may be manual labor or the intricacies of teaching proper operation of equipment. I believe a working boss is a respected, knowledgeable boss.

Our normal working routine starts at 6 a.m. Monday morning. At this time, my

assistant superintendents (or myself) arrive to write up a daily work schedule.

We have our "original" Quarry Course, which is built around an abandoned limestone quarry. George Moorehead, one of my assistants, handles the scheduling for these 18 holes.

The Ranch Course is currently a 9hole layout with a natural woodland setting. An additional nine holes are under construction. Maintenance schedules on the Ranch Course are handled by Kirk Osborn, also an assistant superintendent.

Our crew, consisting of 43 full-time employees, is at work between 6 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. They get their assignments or do their own jobs starting at 6:30 a.m.

Morning jobs are listed for golf course maintenance staff. Nineteen employees, plus myself and two assistants, are responsible for the morning jobs.

They prepare their tools and equipment according to their assignments. These jobs consist of cutting cups, mowing greens (either walk mow or triplex), filling water coolers, emptying trash buckets, raking sand traps, moving tee markers, etc.

Morning jobs are finished within two to three hours. During this time, we note other jobs to be completed and schedule appropriate employees to each task.

Quarry wall cleanup is one job we have here that most courses don't have to contend with. Holes 13 through 17 are constructed around the natural aquifer lake that is the core feature of the back nine. Quarry walls some 60 feet high create a stunning backdrop of natural and manmade beauty. Certain areas of these walls (only where it's safe!) are string-trimmed and brush-bladed down to give a better vision of the boulders and trees that line them.

Spring and fall are the heaviest growth periods so this is a job done on a regular basis during those seasons.

Our crew breaks for lunch at 11:30 a.m. We take a half hour lunch and resume working at noon. We then work until 3 p.m. This is the regular schedule for Monday through Thursday.

On Fridays, the crew leaves at 11:30 a.m. for the day. The crew is split in half



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#### HANDS ON

for weekends. They work a half day on Saturday and Sunday every other weekend so that their time equals 40 hours per week. They start at the same time as weekdays and do the morning jobs and leave by 9:30 a.m. weather permitting.

Other divisions of the maintenance program include a golf course/landscape horticulturist, Lisa Swing, and landscape supervisor, Jim Jarrett.

Horticultural aspects include planting and maintaining all annuals in the complex and other sites located on various properties nearby. A crew of three is included in this division.

Landscape pertains to all common ground areas, entrances, sales office, model homes and pro shop and lounge areas of the clubhouse. A crew of nine represents the landscape segment.

We have three full-time mechanics led by the head mechanic, Don Hespeler. This crew is responsible for conducting daily preventative maintenance on the equipment and trouble shooting and solving equipment failures in the field.

Crew meetings are held "as needed," usually every two to three months. This helps to keep all employees informed on company policies, staff changes, extracurricular activities, safety guidelines, etc.

It is also an opportunity for group questions and answers, complaints and frequent thank you's for jobs well done. Our supervisors meet at least once a month to cover any changes, share information and discuss morale builders or other related matters.

Course inspection is done daily. My

assistants, supervisors and I keep up on what has been done and needs to be done so that it can reflect on our scheduling for assignments. Woody Wilson, who is our spray technician, uses his eyes to spot any weed, insect and disease trouble on the course. Handled properly and efficiently, these "problems" are not quite the headache they could be.

We're in constant communications with pro shop personnel, as well as each other, via radio communications. Sprinkler heads running or a missing flag pole can sometimes be noticed quicker by a golfer and reported. Information obtained from the pro shop (tee times, last golfer, etc.) is valuable to us during our watering, overseeding or spraying.

Special events for Black Diamond include several major member and member-guest tournaments. We also host the Big League Challenge-Dodge Shootout and the Ted Williams Celebrity Tournament.

Events like these give our crew a chance to shine. Black Diamond is a gem among many and for most, to see it for the first time is breathtaking. It is always nice to hear compliments on the hard work we've done all year long. Even though we're proud of outside compliments, our members' opinions are of the utmost importance.

Each one sees the course on a regular basis and it's their opinions that have the most impact. But for the members who see it every day, to give compliments, is very special.

Therefore, special events are treated

as a usual day. Major differences are pulling in everyone from all divisions to get the golf course ready to play for earlier tee times and shotgun starts.

We hand rake traps that are usually done with the sand pro. We double walk mow greens to give them a nicer appearance and a smoother faster roll of the ball. All areas are checked and double checked so we know the course is in the best possible shape.

Sometimes it can get very hectic if a problem arises with a walk mower, so we keep a mechanic out on the course with a radio if he is needed for a quick repair. Backups are ready in the shop if a breakdown requires a major repair.

All in all, things run smoothly and it's nice to know your job is done for the day and we can turn the course over to the pro shop personnel.

Paperwork is an everyday tribulation. Our very able secretary, Margaret Sterbenc, has all paper work laid out on appropriate desks to be reviewed and signed. Reports and budgets are usually done in the office and at home.

Quiet time is the best time to dive in and accomplish mental tasks without interruption. Budgets are due on a monthly and yearly basis.

Continuing education has proven invaluable for me and my staff. From the mechanics to the landscapers, we feel that updated information and the latest technologies are very beneficial to us in our rapidly changing industry.

Time permitting, we try to attend all the special functions we can to enhance

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common turf diseases including fairy ring. With 2 to 3 weeks residual (versus 1 week), its unique class of chemistry is ideal for resistance management rotated with other fungicides. It also tank mixes with many other turf products.

**PROSTAR**<sup>®</sup> **PLUS**<sup>™</sup> Fungicide controls both brown patch and dollar spot. A premix that utilizes the lowest labeled rates of PROSTAR<sup>®</sup> and Bayleton<sup>®</sup>, the combined "synergistic" action is more effective than either agent alone. And it provides up to 30 days protection, even at these lowest labeled component rates.

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#### HANDS ON

our skills and to gain knowledge. My assistants and I split time on association and chapter meetings. When I'm away from the course, I do call in to ease my mind to know that there were no major problems.

Mr. Olsen and our general manager, Jim Carman, encourage and support our staff to attend meetings and seminars. Positive influences are a great attribute to our careers here at Black Diamond.

On a negative subject, my worst nightmare was not on the golf course but on a more personal level. It came in the form of unflattering and derogatory remarks made by an unknown person.

As a new superintendent, I was anxious to prove my knowledge and professionalism. An attack on my character was not a good start for a boost of confidence. Terry Lagree, our general manager at the time, saw how this negativity affected me and he made sure we talked in depth until my uneasy feelings were resolved.

On that day, Terry helped me to un-

derstand that what is most important is how well I do my job by my own standards and not let jealousy or hatred affect myattitude. Since that day, I've not looked back.

That situation has given me more courage in situations to deal more fairly and open minded with all types of people. So my actual nightmare turned out to be a blessing. Not only did it give me the utmost confidence in myself but it showed me the faith and support that my bosses had in me. That type of loyalty and confidence is important in any type of business.

I feel stretched thin at times with so many demands on me and my time. Golf courses as beautiful as this one help to alleviate the stress. All it takes is time to reflect.

One long ride on a nice day, fresh air and sunshine in my face and wonderment that I can say, "I help to make all of this the way it is!"

That's reward enough.

### It's a Jungle Out There

BY IOHN KOPAK Golf Course Superintendent Alaqua C.C.

> hen I arrive at work at approximately 6:30 a.m., one of the first things I do is check

the phone messages. A common message may be a salesperson wanting to get together and talk about their products or an employee whose pet cat turned his or her alarm clock off by accident and they'll be running a little late.

But here at Alaqua, a common message might be,

· "John, it's Chef Robert. Could you get the raccoons out of my dumpster?" or

• "John, this is Mrs. Smith. Could you please get the alligator out of my backyard? It's chasing my poodle" or

```
· "John, this is William at the guard
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## Changing the Course.

### New HERITAGE<sup>™</sup> Fungicide. Changing the Course of Disease Control.

w, golf course superintendents can change the course of turfgrass disease control with HERITAGE, a completely new fungicide with a novel mode of action. HERITAGE will give your golf course round-theclock protection against devastating diseases. With its powerful combination of preventative and curative activity and its high level of effectiveness against 18 of the toughest turf diseases, HERITAGE will make an outstanding difference in the quality and health of your turfgrass.

The active ingredient in HERITAGE is based on naturally occurring fungicides, called strobilurins, which are found in certain mushrooms.

Jerita

HERITAGE has a novel mode of action which is different than any other fungicide now on the market. It has both preventative and curative activity and is absorbed into the leaf blades and stems as well as taken up by the roots. This ensures that your golf course is protected from the devastating effects of turfgrass diseases.

HERITAGE is the only fungicide available that controls both brown patch and Pythium, as well as take-all patch, summer patch, anthracnose and snow mold—an unprecedented advantage for the turf professional's disease program. HERITAGE is also effective against certain fungicide-resistant pathogens, making it an extremely useful tool in resistance management strategies.

**ZENECA** Professional Products



Superintendents will find that HERITAGE is exceptionally compatible with the environmental balance of their courses. HERITAGE poses minimal risk to birds, mammals and fish, and its low use rates and extended application intervals mean less active ingredient is released into the surroundings.

For more information on HERITAGE Fungicide and how it's changing the course of disease control, contact your Zeneca Sales Representative or call Zeneca Professional Products Toll Free at 1-888-617-7690.

Once you learn about the powerful, round-the-clock protection this new fungicide offers, you'll agree that it's time to change the course of your turfgrass disease management program with HERITAGE.



## **Presenting HERITAGE**<sup>™</sup>

#### For a Totally New Spectrum of Disease Control

HERITAGE Fungicide provides golf course superintendents with a totally new spectrum of disease control for their turfgrass management programs. With its novel class of chemistry and powerful mode of action, HERITAGE controls most major turfgrass diseases. More importantly, it is the only fungicide available to turf managers that controls brown patch, Pythium, take-all patch, summer patch, anthracnose and snow mold. Superintendents across the country are discovering that HERITAGE delivers exceptional results by maintaining, and significantly improving, the quality and health of their turfgrass.

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- 5. To Learn More About HERITAGE



The Fundamentals of HERITAGE

IT'S A NATURAL When it came to the development of HERITAGE, Mother Nature and chemistry joined forces. The active ingredient in HERITAGE, azoxystrobin, is synthetically derived from naturally occurring fungicides called strobilurins. These anti-fungal compounds are found in nature in several species of wood-decaying mushrooms. Realizing the power of strobilurins, Zeneca—after years of testing and research—developed this unique class of chemistry into an effective fungicide.

#### UNIQUE ACTION

The novel mode of action of HERITAGE clearly separates it from other fungicides. HERITAGE can enter the turfgrass plant through the leaf blade, stem or root system. HERITAGE delivers double action against all four classes of fungal diseases. Its preventative activity keeps diseases from occurring, while its curative activity works against diseases *after* infection has occurred.



**Brown Patch** 



Pythium



Take-all Patch



Summer Patch



Anthracnose



Snow Mold

## Fungicide

#### TOTALLY NEW CONTROL SPECTRUM

HERITAGE offers golf course superintendents a totally new spectrum of control for their disease management programs. University trials consistently show that HERITAGE is the only fungicide that controls all six of the toughest turfgrass diseases—brown patch, Pythium, take-all patch, summer patch, anthracnose and snow mold.

#### WINNING SCORES AGAINST THE SEVERE SIX

Efficacy trials prove the outstanding activity of HERITAGE against these six hard-to-control diseases. In more than 140 field trials nationwide, from 1993 to 1996, HERITAGE delivered impressive control against the severe six.

#### Four-Year Average Percent Control (1993-1996\*)



\* Data in the above table is the average of all treatments where HERITAGE was evaluated for turfgrass disease control when tested according to the label recommendations (i.e. label rates and intervals for a particular disease). This included all trials from 1993-1996, except anthracnose, 1994-1996.

#### **UNIQUE FORMULATION**

HERITAGE is a 50 percent active ingredient, waterdispersible granular formulation that makes mixing both easy and fast. Because the granules have superior

#### Actual Size



HERITAGE Granules

The extruded HERITAGE granules are similar in size to Kentucky Bluegrass seed.



dispersal properties, they break apart and form a stable suspension in one to two minutes. Plus, HERITAGE is proven to have tankmix compatibility with a wide assortment of other turf management products.

#### PACKAGING

Packaged six to a case, the 1-pound, plastic HERITAGE container comes capped with it's own measuring cup. Superintendents will find that the compact container makes storage easy and disposal simple.

#### **Spectrum of Control**

With excellent activity against 18 major diseases, HERITAGE can provide a solid foundation for any turfgrass disease control program. (See chart on right.)

#### **Handling and** Application

Considering the superintendent's demand for convenience and ease, Zeneca developed HERITAGE as a product that allows for simple mixing and application with no special handling requirements.

#### TURFGRASS DISEASES CONTROLLED BY HERITAGE

Target Diseases	Use Rate (oz. of product) per 1000 sq. ft.	Application Interval (days)
Anthracnose	0.2–0.4	14-28
Brown Patch	0.20.4	14-28
Cool Weather Brown Patch	0.4	28
Fusarium Patch	0.2-0.4	14-28
Gray Snow Mold	0.4	14*
Leafspot	0.20.4	14-21
Melting Out	0.2-0.4	14-21
Necrotic Ring Spot	0.4	14–28
Pink Snow Mold	0.4	14*
Pythium Blight	0.4	10-14
Pythium Root Rot	0.4	10–14
Red Thread	0.2-0.4	14–28
Rhizoctonia Large Patch	0.4	28
Spring Dead Spot	0.4	28
Summer Patch	0.2-0.4	14-28
Take-all Patch	0.4	28
Yellow Patch	0.4	28
Zoysia Patch	0.4	28

HERITAGE alone effectively controls most cases of gray or pink snow mold. A severe snow mold infection, however, may require a tankmix of HERITAGE and another labeled fungicide for enhanced control.

\*Two applications, 14 days apart.

A FIRST-RATE, REDUCED-RATE FUNGICIDE HERITAGE demonstrates a consistently high level of efficacy against turfgrass diseases at one of the lowest rates of any fungicide on the market—just 0.2 to 0.4 ounce of product per 1,000 square feet. Remember to always consult the label for appropriate use rates, conversion charts and application recommendations.

#### MIXING, SPRAYING AND TANKMIXING

Mixing HERITAGE consists of a simple, three-step process: **1.** Partially fill the spray tank with clean water and begin agitation. **2.** Add HERITAGE followed by an adjuvant, if desired. **3.** Finish filling the tank with water.

Once in the spray tank, HERITAGE disperses quickly in water. You'll also find it's easy to both apply and tankmix. HERITAGE is compatible with a wide variety of fungicides, insecticides, herbicides, fertilizers and other additives.

#### **APPLICATION INTERVALS**

The residual activity of HERITAGE allows for extended application intervals from 10 to 28 days, depending on the disease and level of pressure.



#### A Good Environmental Fit

HERITAGE offers superintendents the assurance of an outstanding environmental profile that fits the diverse surroundings of a golf course.

#### FAST DEGRADATION

Azoxystrobin, the active ingredient in HERITAGE, has a relatively short soil half-life, is degraded by sunlight and breaks down primarily into CO<sub>2</sub>.

#### LESS IS MORE

The lower rates of HERITAGE mean a high comfort level for the superintendent and golfer alike. The product's use rates minimize the amount of chemical applied, which translates into a greater degree of environmental compatibility.

#### A FRIENDLY PRODUCT

Extensive research repeatedly shows that HERITAGE exhibits low mammalian toxicity. In addition, its low use rates and extended application intervals significantly decrease the amount of product handling for the worker. The signal word for HERITAGE is CAUTION. LOW RISK TO NON-TARGET ORGANISMS HERITAGE, used at labeled application rates, exhibits low risk to non-target species. Also, since it's not harmful to honeybees and other beneficial insects, HERITAGE is a good fit in your integrated pest management program.



#### To Learn More About HERITAGE

Now that you have an idea of how HERITAGE meets the needs of the superintendent's turfgrass management approach, we invite you to learn more about this new fungicide and what it can bring to your disease control program.

For more information on HERITAGE Fungicide, contact your authorized Zeneca Distributor, or call Zeneca Professional Products Toll Free at 1-888-617-7690.

#### A Bird's-eye View of HERITAGE from Tee to Green

At a glance, you can see the advantages that HERITAGE can bring to your golf course disease control program.

- Combines a new class of chemistry and powerful mode of action for outstanding control of most major turfgrass diseases.
  - Effectively controls brown patch, Pythium, take-all patch, summer patch, anthracnose and snow mold.
    - Demonstrates preventative and curative activity against diseases.
      - Has low use rates and extended
        spray intervals.
      - Fits well in the environmental balance of a golf course disease control program.

## HERITAGE<sup>™</sup> Fungicide

### Changing the Course of Disease Control

- Effective against 18 of the toughest turfgrass diseases
- Controls brown patch, Pythium, take-all patch, summer patch, anthracnose and snow mold
- Preventative and curative activity
- Low rates, extended spray intervals
- Novel mode of action
- · Low risk toxicological and environmental profile

For more information on HERITAGE Fungicide, contact your authorized Zeneca Distributor, or call Zeneca Professional Products Toll Free at 1-888-617-7690.



Always read and follow label directions. HERITAGE<sup>®</sup> is a trademark of a Zeneca Group Company ©1997. Zeneca Inc. house. I've gotten several calls about the wild pigs running down the boulevard and stopping traffic."

What???

That's right, folks. It's a jungle out there and you can add "game warden" to the list of responsibilities I hold.

The pig escapade is one of the latest of our wildlife adventures. Although I found the pigs to be most interesting creatures, they also were causing some serious damage by rooting up areas with their destructive little snouts.

After enticing them into an area with some corn and apple pie from the chef at the clubhouse, I was able to capture them and give them to a friend who raises hogs.

Explaining to Mrs. Smith that her Indian hawthorne shrubs and those pansies in her landscape are a delectable treat for the deer, and that's why she has no foliage or flowers left in front of her house, is not uncommon at all.

Nor is telling the foursome on the tenth hole that those birds in the fairway aren't buzzards, but actually wild turkeys making their way around the back nine.

One of my fondest sightings was when an eagle was sitting in a tree watching an osprey fish over a nearby pond. When the osprey caught a fish, the eagle tried to take it away in mid-air.

The osprey's mate came to the aid of his partner and kept the eagle busy while the bird with the fish made a getaway. Later on while talking to some Audubon people, I came to find out that eagles often let the other birds of prey do their work for them.

Coexisting with all of these wonderful creatures is not a burden in any way. It is truly a blessing, and everyone who has the privilege of seeing such wonders should feel fortunate.

I've learned a lot about nature while working on the golf course. I know I'll never get tired of seeing animals and birds, too numerous to name, in this great habitat that we share.



### A Day in the Life of

BY JOE ONDO, CGCS Winter Pines G.C.

ebster's definition of normal is "usual, ordinary, or typical, or the expected or usual condition." I think most superintendents, as they are driving to work, are expecting a normal day's routine, but as we all know sometimes that is not the case.

Our usual daily start and ending times are 6:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. but that changes during the longer days and other cultural practices.

Being a public golf course, the first group will usually follow the greensmower and cup setter around unless told to wait. My usual routine is to ride the course first thing to look for anything out of the ordinary, check progress on things being done, or create a list of jobs for future work.

Having a small crew, some days I will change cups, spray (spot or boom) or do the work of an employee who is sick or on vacation.

Until about four years ago I used to do all the grinding of reels and bedknives and some mechanical work. At that time my mechanic was part-time inside and part outside when needed. When he retired and went part time, we hired a full-time mechanic to take care of everything.

Having worked on equipment in the winter in Pennsylvania it came in handy for me here, but I'm glad that's done now that we have a full-time person.

The daily work schedule is posted on the bulletin board for the next day with any special instructions. We do not have many crew meetings since I am able to work with and communicate one-onone with all my employees. After the morning schedule, special instructions are given for a certain job to be done, if need be, or a note on the board.

We try to schedule any major renovation a few days after any special men's or ladies' association tournaments. Being public, our schedule is pretty flexible and usually nine holes are open so we can work on the other and have it back in play as soon as possible.

If bad weather is predicted, the pro shop will usually need two days advance notice to schedule tee times or we will wait another week to do our work.

I usually go over prices and verification of items purchased at least once a week with the owner, who is also the manager. We also discuss anything he would like to see done or future projects I have in mind for the course.

We have been rebuilding number one green for a year to convert the contaminated 328 to Tifdwarf. We have rebuilt six greens on the course and one putting green, with one on the course and one putting green left to do.

I attend as many monthly chapter meetings as I can, and pick and choose seminars so I can keep my CEUs up to date for recertification.

I am fortunate in that three of my six employees have been here over 17 years, so when I'm gone things usually don't miss a beat.

When I attend a conference or am on vacation, each employee has a list of job assignments to do and an alternate list if

I am fortunate in that three of my six employees have been here over 17 years, so when I'm gone things usually don't miss a beat.

bad weather or an equipment problem occurs. Everyone is pretty careful because they know if something breaks, it is usually flymo work or hand labor of some sort as their next job.

I play in as many amateur golf tournaments as my schedule and money allow. Most are on weekends but sometimes one will be during the week, so I have to watch how much I am gone from work.

We have had our share of irrigation blowouts, sprinklers that run all night when and where you least need it, hydraulic leaks and other incidents that give you a little more gray hair — or no

#### HANDS ON

hair at all. There have been some days more stressful than others but no really bad nightmare days so far.

Winter Pines is unique in that we do most projects in-house. They include the rebuilding of greens, levelling and enlarging twelve tee tops, installing eleven holes with automatic irrigation, replacing blacktop cartpaths with over 6,000 feet of concrete paths, and adding on to the maintenance building and extending the parking lot by pouring 250 yards of concrete.

All of these projects were completed while still maintaining the golf course for play. With our weather sometimes these projects take longer than planned, but in the long run all have made Winter Pines a little better. People can see the improvements over the years.

As you can see, some days are more challenging than others, but I enjoy this line of work and the different problems each day brings.

## You want to go where?

BY MICHAEL J. PERHAM, CGCS Director of Golf Course Maintenance The Fountains Country Club

hese were the exact words my wife Marcy said to me when I told her the job at The Fountains Country Club in Lake Worth had come open in February of 1995, and I was considering applying for it.

If chosen for the job, it meant relocating our family back to Palm Beach County, which we had left in 1984 to move to Vero Beach and employment at The Moorings Club.

Professionally for me, it was the most dramatic change I had ever contemplated undertaking. It meant leaving the confines of a 75-acre golf course with a staff of 12 and a property that I truly loved, and taking on the challenge of 54 sprawling holes and a staff of 53.

#### **About the Fountains:**

The Fountains is an 825-acre gated community, with approximately 1400 residential units. There are three 18-hole championship golf courses designed by Von Hagge and Devlin.

The golf courses were built in several phases. Twenty-seven holes were built in the late 60s, 18 more holes were added in 1975, and an additional nine holes were integrated into the 18 built in 1975, with the completion of all construction occurring in 1981.

These comprise what are now the North, West, and South Golf Courses.

The community is bordered on three sides by major roads, and split by a large drainage canal belonging to the Lake Worth Drainage District. The membership at The Fountains is served out of two clubhouses.

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#### Golf Course Maintenance Operation

I am responsible for the maintenance of the three golf courses, and all landscaping at the two clubhouses. Our Green and Grounds Department employs a staff of 53, and works out of two maintenance buildings 1.6 miles apart on our internal road system.

The L-14 Canal which splits our property, also divides the Golf Courses into 27 holes on each side of the canal. Due to the logistics involved with travel, and lost time; we treat the canal as the dividing line.

Very seldom does the maintenance staff from one side of the canal venture across the other side.

This occurs only during special tournament preparation, or summer renovation work. This allows each side of the canal to receive the attention that is required to provide the membership the end product they desire.

#### Management staff

During the interview process, I had expressed my opinion on what level of staffing reporting to me I felt was adequate to meet the demands of such a large operation. Prior to accepting the position, I was assured by the club management that we would staff the operation accordingly.

Our management structure consists of two golf course superintendents, two assistant golf course superintendents, an equipment manager, a landscape foreman, and an administrative assistant.

Each superintendent and his assistant are responsible for twenty seven holes, with each set working out of one of the maintenance complexes. The equipment manager is responsible for all shop operations that occur in both maintenance complexes. The landscape foreman oversees the landscape maintenance operations at the two clubhouses, and renders assistance when called upon by the golf

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courses.

Most importantly, the administrative assistant tries to keep all this organized, all the while having to put up with me. Which my wife says isn't easy, but that's another story.

I rely heavily on these seven individuals to perform at a very high level of proficiency in order for our operation to function efficiently. The constraints on my time dictate that I not become involved in the day-to-day operation of the golf courses.

These individuals hire, train, supervise, promote, and if necessary terminate their staffs. This instills a level of respect for their immediate supervisors by their staff members . Our entire department knows anyone can knock on my door at any time, but only after they have spoken to their immediate supervisor about the problem.

#### Is any day normal?

I generally arrive on the property each morning between 6:30 and 6:45 a.m.

My route into work from home takes me by our South Maintenance Complex first. I usually stop to talk with Aki Polvikoski, our South 27 Golf Course superintendent. (At the time this article was written, the South 27 assistant superintendent position was not staffed.)

After talking with Aki to see if he has any problems, I then drive to the North Maintenance Complex where my office is located.

Once at the North Complex, I go into my office, check to see what messages I may have received from yesterday, and spend a few minutes with our administrative assistant, Mary Lips.

We converse to catch up on what has transpired since we last saw each other yesterday, and what is on the schedule for today. It is now roughly 7:15 a.m., and its time to hit the golf courses.

This is the most peaceful time of the day, and also the most important; because many days this is the only opportunity I have to see the golf courses.

I generally speak to the North 27 superintendent, Pasi Pussinen, and the assistant superintendent, Glen Terranova somewhere on the North 27 holes.



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#### HANDS ON

My routing of the morning tour is ever so important. It is impossible to see all 54 holes during my morning tour. I try to alternate my travel route as much as possible, attempting to see different parts of 36 holes each morning.

If we are involved in projects or construction, these often dictate my morning travel plans, and decrease the opportunity to see other parts of the golf courses.

Unfortunately, by 9a.m. I am back in the office. Administrative matters associated with our operation are next on the agenda. Preparation for meetings and following up on prior assignments generally consume the remainder of the morning.

A visit to our accounting office where our controller, human resources director, and other office support personnel are located may be called for. Mary Lips visits this office twice daily, so unless I am required for a specific purpose, I may visit this office only one day per week.

Lunch time arrives with an opportunity to visit with our director of golf, Mike Nedrow, and our general manager, Douglas A. Barrett. I generally have lunch with Mike three to four days a week, and Mr. Barrett will join us two to three times a month.

Often lunch is an opportunity to con-

duct business with club officials or business associates. Several times a month I may be asked to join the club president, green committee chairmen or other special committee members during lunch to discuss ongoing or upcoming projects at the club.

The afternoon arrives with the hope of sneaking out on the golf courses to see whatever I missed in the morning. This may be a real quick whirlwind tour, with often one specific stop in mind.

Interspersed into this routine is a stop to talk with Moe Rodriquez, our landscape foreman at one of the clubhouses. I generally talk with our equipment manager, Rick Parsons, somewhere at the North Shop. Most days, this opportunity does not avail itself.

Then it is back to the office for more administrative duties or preparation for a meeting. Most days conclude sometime between 4p.m. and 5p.m. in the afternoon.

#### Meetings and planning

To give you some idea of the volume of meetings and planning that consumes the majority of my day, here is a brief sketch on what was occurring at the Fountains in the month of January when this article was written:

#### Meetings

\* Golf Course Management Staff -Two to three times a month, we meet in my office to discuss upcoming events and maintenance work. We also review our department's monthly financial statement at this time. Green and Grounds Committee \* Golf Committee \* Club Department Heads \* Irrigation Committee -Three meetings in January. \* Membership Informational Meeting - At which a proposal to replace the South 27 Irrigation System was presented by myself, in conjunction with John Foy of the USGA Green Section, and Hal Kilpatrick, our irrigation designer and consultant.

\* Coffee Talk - Five, one hour long conversations with the members at their morning coffee, to answer questions regarding the South 27 Irrigation System replacement.

#### Planning

\* North 27 Holes Irrigation System -This project includes installation of a Maxi Control Package, with associated electric wire, re-tubing all sprinkler heads, replacement of swing joints, and installation of a dual head system around the greens. Also required procuring services of a road-boring contractor to bore sleeves underneath six roadways. This project commenced installation in February.

\* Fountains Condominium Operations - Coordinate with our Property Owners Association concerning their improvements that will conflict with our installation of new irrigation control package on North 27 Holes.

\* USGA Greens - Conversations with our golf course architect, Jeff Myers, John Foy of the USGA and a golf course contractor regarding a method to repair USGA-spec greens that were improperly constructed at the Club.

\* Property Encroachment - Educate golf course architect regarding golf course improvements that are not located on club property. Architect to develop cost estimates to relocate improvements should they be required to be relocated in conjunction with a road-widening project on our southwestern boundary.

\*Road Widening - Interface with Palm Beach County officials and the contractors concerning road widening project on our southwestern boundary. Preliminary planning for security fence relocation and vegetative buffer replacement along a 1.2-mile stretch of our property line.

Property Line Survey and Fence Replacement- Procure services of surveyor to ascertain property line along a stretch of canal that separates The Fountains from Lucerne Lakes, a golf course community to our west. Coordinate with Fountains Condominium officials regarding the replacement of the security fence.

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### Remember! You wanted to do this!

The first six months on the job, I must have said this phrase to myself five times a day. I would be lying if I didn't admit that I questioned my decision several times. The transition to an administrator versus a hands-on golf course superintendent was very difficult. Now, two years have almost passed and I look forward to going to work every day.

A few thoughts that hopefully will help someone in a similar situation some day:

 Feel comfortable with the immediate professionals you work with on a daily basis. I would never have accepted this position if I had not felt extremely comfortable with my relationship with the general manager and director of golf. Research these individuals' backgrounds, just as they are researching yours.

- 2. Hire good people and hold them accountable. This advice is never more important than in a large operation like this. If someone is not doing their job, and you have to do it, you do not need that individual. Harsh words perhaps, but you must realize this is the only way you will accomplish what you were hired for in the first place.
- Have fun! It is imperative to maintain a positive mental attitude about your job. Truly enjoy what you do, and take pride in your accomplishments.

I would be lying if I didn't admit that I questioned my decision several times. The transition to an administrator versus a hands-on golf course superintendent was very difficult.

"

### Logging a Typical Day

#### BY STEPHEN M. PEARSON,

#### CGCS

The Falls Country Club

The Falls C.C., Wednesday, January 22, 1997 - Temperature 54°

#### 6:00 a.m.

My usual routine starts with opening up the main entrance gates and then the maintenance road gate. As I'm opening up the shop and driving equipment out I couldn't help but think about the past few days and how cold it was.

Saturday - 34 with heavy North winds, Sunday - 36 with no wind in the morning and heavy frost through many of the rough areas, Monday - 40 and again frost but lighter.

I know that Tuesday was a lot warmer but the frost damage from Sunday and Monday is unavoidable and its effected straw colored grass is obvious by the afternoon. Tuesday being a Ladies Member-Guest tournament was no time to charcoal greens so I planned on Wednesday morning.

#### 6:30 a.m.

The crew is given their assignments this morning and we are leapfrogging

four walking mowers. (One starts at the practice greens, one at No. 1, one at No. 2 and one at No. 3 with each one going to the next uncut green until all are cut.)

This process allows the greens to get cut in front of the golfers but more importantly in front of my sprayer. I know the mowers won't cut much grass from those purple un-overseeded Tifdwarfbermudagrass greens, but they clean up better than the rollers that we've used the past two days.

Charcoaling greens is such a nasty process. Mixing is the worst part, of course, and very time consuming but you just have to do the best you can.

After spraying a green I like to get about 20 minutes to a half hour before any golfer gets to a green. That allows time for the material to dry on the leaf blade. Our membership has learned over the years the benefits of charcoaling so even when they get some on their shoes or balls they know it will wash off.

#### 7:45 a.m.

I reconfirmed with our starter that our charcoaling is taking place as scheduled. I posted in the pro shop yesterday that this process would occur in the morning and also told my greens chairman and a few of the members that I see on a regular basis. A little advance PR goes a long way. I also told them that I couldn't let anyone start on the back nine in the morning; otherwise it would be a real problem getting the greens sprayed ahead of them. By this time in the morning I've also fed our 30 pairs of exotic ducks that we've purchased over the past two years.

#### 8:00 a.m.

The starter informs me that a single is going out in front of the others. Mr. H. wants to get in a quick 18 before he catches a plane to New York. That's OK but I know he plays fast and he'll catch my sprayer on the back nine.

Somehow we will work it out.

He understands the process anyway. Also at this time our outside contractor shows up to do our six-month preventive maintenance (PM) work on the pump station. That's no problem because it has been the same man for the past two years.

#### 8:15 a.m.

My spray tech has already finished his first tank. He has mix/loaded his second tank and has continued where he left off. We cover about six to seven greens with one tank.

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#### HANDS ON

we use Delavan cone nozzles and it takes us two tanks to cover the 4 acres of Tifdwarf bermudagrass. With the fieldjet nozzle it takes us three tanks.

#### 8:50 a.m.

The second tank has been sprayed through No.12 green and the spray tech is back loading up the last tank. Some of the other golfers are now chomping at the bit to tee off the back nine. We are still holding them up. Mr. H. has just made the turn and is playing No. 10. He has to play through.

#### 9:05 a.m.

The spray tech passes 10 tee on the way to finish 12 green. I'm standing at the tee talking to a foursome of walkers about the charcoaling procedure as he passes. Now they can start because it will take them 30 minutes to get to 12 Green. In the meantime Mr. H. is now finishing No. 12.

#### 9:15 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.

We finish 12, jump over to 17 then back to 13, over to 16 and 15 then back to 14 and finish with 18. All in which is done so Mr. H. doesn't play immediately after we spray. He doesn't mind anyway.

#### 9:45 a.m.

I check back in with the pro shop. I check out tomorrow's golf schedule and get more news on Friday's men's tournament.

I also check in with the controller and see if there are any updates on budget meetings. This is the time of the year when our budgets are prepared and various meetings are set up for review. I also swing back out to the pump house to see how our PM work is going. Everything's fine.

#### 10:15 a.m.

Back at the shop. My assistant has gotten the rest of the crew started on their other jobs for the day. I check messages on the answering machine and follow up with returning calls.

By this time of the day everyone knows what they are doing to finish the day.

I get back to scheduling work for tomorrow and let the mechanics know what equipment we intend to use. Weather has such a big part to play in what we will attempt to do tomorrow and in subsequent days so I check our satellite information service and the computer screen to see what fronts are coming or if there are any weather changes that may affect our work.

#### 11:30 a.m.

Lunch time for the crew. My lunch time may vary depending on what I may be doing at the time and how long it will take but I like to have lunch around this time, too.

We have a group of us that usually eat around this time at the Grill Room in the clubhouse - the general manager, head golf professional, controller, bookeeper and our executive secretary.

I may spend up to an hour depending on the conversation and the various discussions that take place about company work, jobs or personnel. Sometimes I may have a casual conversation with a member which helps establish an open avenue for member involvement.

#### 12:30 p.m.

I check back with our Irrigation PM contractor and he has finished. He's ready to repressurize and do the final adjustments. Thirty minutes and we're through. The station is back in perfect condition.

#### 1:00 p.m.

Back at my office I've got some more calls and need to order some liquid fertilizers for next week. I fill out the appropriate Purchase Requisitions and set them aside to be signed later by the greens chairman and general manager.

The mechanics let me know that there is a major problem with one of our hydraulic five-reel units.

We are trying so hard to get this piece to last until May when we can buy or lease a new unit and phase this one out.

It has been costing us an arm and leg to keep running. Cost analysis shows that we have already bought repair parts equaling to one third of the original purchase price into this machine since we purchased it five years ago.

#### 2:00 p.m.

Around this time of day I like to make a run around the golf course to see how the day's activities have gone and how the greens look for tonight's irrigation, if any is done at all. A few probes with the soil plugger shows the need for a cycle on greens tonight. I stop by the clubhouse again to pick up mail which usually comes in around 1 p.m.. Nothing unusual. The usual amount of junk mail.

As 3 o'clock approaches, the crew is in cleaning off the equipment and I usually spend time with my assistant to talk about tonight's watering and the schedule for tomorrow. Equipment is fueled, greased and prepped for tomorrow if it hasn't been done earlier in the day.

It's after 3 o'clock now and the crew has gone home. I usually spend some time relaxing and just thinking about what other events or schedules are upcoming. In our work with its great diversity and ever-changing variables, you can never do too much planning.

Time out: 4:35 p.m.

### Working the Plan

#### BY PETE METCALF Golf Course Superintendent

The Vineyards C. C.

he Vineyards Country Club is a 36-hole private country club with 750 golfing members. Our maintenance staff is made up of one superintendent, two assistants, one shop manager, one horticulturist and one crew foreman.

A typical day at the Vineyards begins at approximately 5:30 a.m. when the first people to arrive are the salaried employees. Yes, this even includes me, the superintendent.

My rationale for this early start stems from my belief that so often a wellthought-out schedule is doomed simply because weather conditions have changed from one extreme to another... overnight!

Therefore, rather than revising a schedule prepared for course conditions based upon the previous 24 hours, we schedule each morning following a quick check of current course conditions.

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#### HANDS ON

Once we have determined whether or not rainfall, temperatures or irrigation malfunctions have created unusual conditions, we go about the task of organizing crew assignments based on play and events previously scheduled by the golf staff.

These early morning course assessments are made before 6 a.m.by one or two members of the management staff while the others are rolling out the equipment and preparing for the arrival of the rest of the crew.

I meet with my staff in my office at 6 a.m. to go over the schedule to maximize productivity and avoid any operational conflicts. The old saying that "two heads are better than one" has been modified to "six heads are better than one!"

The staff meeting only lasts 15 to 20 minutes and provides everyone with the day's agenda, including the location of all operators and equipment. The majority of our operators are extremely reliable and follow directions to the letter.

If an occasional assignment is misun-

derstood, the collective scheduling effort allows any manager to quickly redirect the employee to the proper location.

All of our crew scheduling is done on a mass-duplicated form referred to as the daily setup sheet. This form lists all the tasks typically performed by our department which includes mowing, cupchanging and tee-marker-moving, just to name a few.

Having a preprinted schedule reduces the effort of making up the schedule and also helps prevent forgetting a routine assignment. All we have to do is fill in the crew members' names. These schedules also provide a good written record of who did what in case of a poor cut or undetected or unreported hydraulic leaks.

By 6:15 to 6:20 a.m. the assistant superintendent who actually writes the schedule for the week is now ready to assemble the crew, assign the day's tasks, and get them out on the course by 6:30 a.m.

The remaining staff, including me, goes out and changes nine holes of cups

while monitoring the work being performed and checking areas on the course that may need attention.

Our goal each day is to complete all routine tasks ahead of play. During the busy season all greens, tees, fairways, slopes and roughs are mowed before any play catches up. When our members tee off, 95% of the time the only equipment they will encounter is heading back to the shop for cleaning and refueling.

Before any crew member completes his or her first work assignment, one of my assistants will return to the shop and write up second job assignments on a centrally located chalk board.

The second jobs are taken from a list of projects that we have collectively discussed and prioritized. Usually by noon all first assignments have been completed and the crew has been reassigned to their final tasks for the day.

The staff can breathe a collective sigh of relief knowing that another day went smoothly, because we simply planned our work and worked our plan!





Did I say that it only rains hard when you lay down new sod? I lied. It also rains hard during special events. It invariably happens that in the haste to finish preparations for an event, not everyone checks with the superintendent before driving on the golf course and accidental damage is done. Photo by Joel Jackson.

# ...And then there's Murphy's Law!

# A superintendent can plan on things not going as planned

#### BY JOEL D. JACKSON, CGCS

My compatriots in this section have done an excellent job telling us about the similarities and differences of their daily responsibilities. I would agree that these descriptions are accurate at least 90 per cent of the time. They describe the relentless routine nature of our work required to produce consistent results for our members and guests. It is my task to portray items that fall into the other 10 per cent of our days. The weird things that do play a part in our "routine" days. Murphy's Law come to mind - if something can go wrong, it usually will, and often at the worst possible time! I present to you a collection of photographs of some of the things that can and do go wrong on a day in the life of a golf course superintendent.

In these photos, I have only scratched the surface of the unusual things superintendents have to take in stride on some days. Fortunately, superintendents are very gifted at solving emergencies and pulling off the impossible mission. Depending on your point of view, you may consider the routine or the unusual a typical day in the life of a golf course superintendent.



Our crews spend valuable maintenance time doing things that all golfers should do as part of golf etiquette. These rules were not written to make superintendents' jobs easier. They were written as common courtesy to keep the course playable for all of the golfers. Repairing ball marks right after they are made keeps the green a lot healthier and smoother. Photo by Joel Jackson.



I've had two helicopter adventures. The first was to stand under a hovering helicopter as it dried out wet top dressed greens so we could drag them in and open the course for a shotgun tournament the next morning. The other is pictured here when a helicopter had to make an emergency landing on the course after blowing a hydraulic line over a green during a photo shoot. Photo by Joel Jackson.

#### HANDS ON





A drain basin in a depression in a pine straw area will get clogged by the moving pine straw. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Unfortunately, not all damage is accidental. A considerable investment of time, work and money can be destroyed in a few thoughtless moments! Photographer unknown.



An irrigation blowout. Usually an overnight occurrence that greets you in the morning with a flood, a mound or a hole and lost irrigation coverage to deal with. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Superintendents are often called upon to correct flaws in a course design. Pine straw on a bare slope moves downhill in a heavy rain. That's not Murphy's Law. That's the Law of Gravity. Photo by Joel Jackson.



I wish I had a nickel for every unfilled divot on my golf course. I'd make money even though I have to pay someone to try and fill them all so the course will look and play better. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Mother nature's blowout. A phenomenon common during construction and renovation projects. It never rains hard until you lay new sod down on a slope! Photo by Joel Jackson.



A clogged drain basin produces an unexpected water hazard. Superintendents have been known to take off their shoes and roll up their pant legs and wade in to solve the problem temporarily. Eventually the sloping pine straw areas are sodded, and work turns to more important jobs, like grooming the turf. Photo by Joel Jackson.



• Minimal damage to course.

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This 405-foot-long bridge at Admiral's Cove may be one of the world's longest wooden golf cart bridges. Photo by Bill Brousseau.

# World's Longest Wooden Golf Cart Bridge?

BY BILL BROUSSEAU

Golf Course Superintendent Admiral's Cove G.C.

Some have said that our new bridge may be the longest wooden golf cart bridge in the world. Considered at least to be the longest wooden golf course bridge in Florida, the low-profile design, close to water bird sanctuaries, caused a minimum of construction disturbance. Our members use and enjoy it, but only our team knows how much planning, work, and concern for the environment went into its creation.

Admiral's Cove Community, where I am the golf course superintendent, decided to reroute a golf cart path which was infringing on home building sites.

We faced several challenges. Our mission was to create — before the winter season — an aesthetically pleasing, 450foot-long bridge which would provide a panoramic vista from the homes, while not disturbing the environmentally sensitive lake area or disrupting our members' golf games.

Our secrets of success were design, pre-construction planning and teamwork with Marine Construction, an experienced and quality builder that has built many other bridges, docks, and retaining walls in Admiral's Cove since 1985.

Admiral's Cove and the Golf Village at Admiral's Cove is a 45-hole golf course

and luxury home development of 1000 acres on the east and west sides of Alternate A1A in Jupiter.

The golf course was designed to meander through the canal systems, homes, and wildlife nature habitats. We wanted the bridge to project that same design philosophy.

Designing the bridge was a coordinated effort of Thomas Frankel, the developer of Admiral's Cove, the golf course maintenance staff, and Marine Construction. It was engineered by Mary Dwan.

The area was surveyed and plotted so that the bridge was placed in the most aesthetically pleasing area in harmony with the environment.

With the spirit of "Environment First," Marine Construction built the bridge with totally pressure treated, marine-treated wood in the fresh water setting.

All equipment was trucked in on the golf course and assembled at the building site. Ed Riggins, president of Marine Construction told me, "We have a portable boom barge which enables our crew to go from our salt water construction projects such as seawalls and marinas to work on golf course projects like retaining walls and bridges."

Mr. Riggins' experienced crew did an excellent job, on time and on budget. After construction, the equipment was dismantled and removed with no damage or interruption of the course. Prior to setting the pilings, we relocated the irrigation lines and sprinkler heads in the immediate area. During construction, we were able to use the former existing bridge and cart path from No. 9 North Green leading to the clubhouse, so there was no disruption of play or problems with cart traffic.

After completion of the new cart path bridge, the old bridge was dismantled, and landscaping was designed for the old cart path site. Our developer, residents, and club members are all delighted with the sturdy bridge.

Members now enjoy the ride over the lake, which provides a wonderful view of the birds and wild life. One of our residents says, "I am a member of the Audubon Society and an amateur bird watcher. I also like to photograph wildlife. The bridge is over a large expanse of the lake, which offers close-up views of the birds, turtles, and other animals."

The residents enjoy the unobstructed panoramic views and the reflections of the bridge on the lake. They also have more privacy, since the old golf cart path was eliminated.

I am happy that we were able to successfully complete such a difficult and challenging project before the start of our busy season. To achieve this success, we put together a great team — our golf maintenance staff, engineers, and our builder Marine Construction.

## **Super Sod Nursery**

#### BY KEVIN FITZPATRICK

Golf Course Superintendent University Country Club

How would you like to have six acres of a Tifdwarf sod nursery on your golf course? Instant access to sod for repairing any damaged areas that you may encounter on your greens! Or possibly the ability to renovate your greens completely to remedy mutations, contamination or encroachments that have occurred over time. This is the unique situation that I currently enjoy at University Country Club.

I became superintendent at University Country Club (formerly Calusa Country Club) in August, 1996. New owners Jim Hall and Paul Visaggio had just purchased the course and wanted someone to restore the manicured and well-maintained appearance of the club.

This was no small task since the previous owners had let the course deteriorate



This 6-acre Tifdwarf nursery at the University Club gives superintendent Kevin Fitzpatrick plenty of sod for renovations, repairs and some to sell. Photo by Kevin Fitzpatrick.

into what I would call a "goat pasture."

But with an infusion of capital and a lot of work, we have been able to bring back this championship course to respectability. We are currently the home course of the University of Miami golf team. In conjunction with restoring the golf course, I have been given the responsibility of overseeing the grow-in and maintenance of six acres of Tifdwarf sod being grown on a plastic base.

We have a total of 170 acres so six acres was readily available for this project.



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Installation of these fields was done under the supervision of Bill Collins who has over 30 years of experience in the turf field. Maintaining these sod fields has been a learning experience along with a great deal of added responsibility.

Due to the shallow rooting medium, water management has been the main problem. These fields tend to dry out very quickly on those hot, clear, windy days. Needless to say this requires constant monitoring by a trained eye.

Isolated dry spots are hand watered as needed. Mowing is currently being done twice weekly at 5/16" with a 3/16" height anticipated as the field gets closer to harvest.

Spraying is done as needed for pests

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including sod webworms and periodic leaf spot or brown patch fungus. Tissue samples are analyzed on a frequent basis to determine any fertilization requirements.

Of course six acres of Tifdwarf sod is not solely for my use on the golf course (What a shame!). It is available for purchase by the owners here at the club. I can vouch for the quality and purity of this sod since we have constructed a new putting green and two chipping greens from the same sprigs. It is an excellent strain with which any superintendent would be proud to have on his or her greens.

## Turtle Ridge is an Exclusive Challenge

BY TIM KILPATRICK Executive Vice President The Kilpatrick Company

Turtle Ridge is the most exclusive new golf club in the world. Membership is by invitation only and there is technically only one member and only one hole at this new golf club.

The Kilpatrick Company set out to design and build a new headquarters facility for distribution of irrigation, landscape and turf equipment products in South Florida, the Caribbean and Latin America.

Because a good amount of its total business is golf-related, the company decided to build a single par-3 golf hole on the grounds of The Kilpatrick Building.

"It allows us to test products; train our people; and demonstrate our products," commented Harold Kilpatrick, Sr., president of The Kilpatrick Company.

"And we can go out and play some, too."

The new facility has many stateof-the-art features including a water filtration and recycling wash down system that assures that no contaminated water will drain off and a 1/4acre natural preserve planted in Florida slash pines on the beautifully

ITEWARDSHI



It allows us to test products; train our people; and demonstrate our products

The Kilpatrick Company in Boynton Beach has a new facility which includes the one-hole Turtle Ridge Golf Club. The hole runs behind the building. Photo by Smith Aerial Photography.

landscaped 3.79-acre grounds.

Turtle Ridge was designed by Hal Kilpatrick II, a noted irrigation designer and consultant who does a majority of his work for golf courses.

It was christened "Turtle Ridge" because it is on a ridge or coastal dune and the company had to relocate seven gopher tortoise nests to the Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge prior to construction.

It is 85 yards long from the blue tees, with a large waste bunker on the left.

The green is a challenging 2,000 square feet with a pot bunker in the front right. It has three different grasses on it: Zoysia on the tee; 419 bermuda on the fairway; and Tifdwarf on the green.

Though it is exclusive, getting a tee time is no problem.

All you have to do is visit The Kilpatrick Building and you can take your best shot at hitting a hole-inone on Turtle Ridge.

-submitted by Paul Crawford

Editor's Note: The Florida Green never promotes one company or product over another. Since we're all in this business together and we share "Best Practices" from golf courses, we felt the innovative and environmentally responsible new venture by The Kilpatrick Company was worthy of mention. **FLORATINE** 

"My greens were very thin going into fall (1995) after 100 inches of rain. Using **Floratine** products, I had great lateral growth in the spring covering all bare areas by April."

> Scott Corwin, Supt. Belleview Mido Clearwater, FL

# KEEPERS OF THE GREEN

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# 1996 Bird Survey Wading birds actually prefer golf courses to natural lakes

#### BY C. ELROY TIMMER

Biologist/Director of Quality Control Aquagenix Land-Water Technologies, Inc.

(formerly Environmental Waterway Management)

n 1994, 1995 and 1996 our bird studies concentrated on water and wading birds. Those studies concluded

that large numbers of these birds utilize our very productive golf courses.

In fact, the results indicate that wading birds often prefer golf course lakes over natural lakes. The bird counts were conducted in February in all three years, except one March survey was included in 1996.

In the 1996 study we attempted to focus on diversity. At each location we required two Audubon counters or exhelp with the surveys."Actually I helped her. Mrs. Wyatt's knowledge was immeasurable. The surveys allowed me an experience which was a great help in a number of ways: It allowed me the opportunity to view the golf course from a new perspective; It was a tremendous learning experience being a novice birder at best. It allowed me to see what a diverse inventory of wildlife and birds in paronly some portions of the total number of birds are actually observed). The diversity includes 127 species. According to some authors this represents many more species and numbers than generally acknowledged for urban habitats.

This partial list includes some of the uncharacteristic finds.

Perhaps it could be argued that bird habitats are constantly being destroyed,

and they are using what remains, struggling to survive. I believe however that golf courses provide:

1. Marginal habitat. This habitat contains small areas offorested land surrounded by open areas and water, adding to the availability of fooditems, diversity and productivity.

2. A variety of fruit and nut crops. Many forested areas do not naturally contain these often



One of the four limpkins counted in the 1996 Aquagenix Bird Survey. Photo by Elroy Timmer.

perts to identify all the birds on the golf course.

This increase in expertise resulted in additional interesting data, even though it involved a large escalation of time and ability to secure this data. (See the list of participating golf courses).

This quote from Ron Hill, Director of Amelia Island Plantation golf Course Operations, summarizes the goals of the surveys well: "Once again, I recruited the help of Mrs. Carol Wyatt, a resident, to ticular we have at Amelia."

These surveys do not represent all the courses equally, as the golf courses are extremely varied in habitats. Many are more productive per acre than natural areas as detailed in the 1994 and 1995 bird studies.

From Anhingas to Yellowthroats the total number of birds counted in 1996 was 9,965, an average of 554 birds per course, (when counting smaller birds, planted and perhaps exotic varieties of fruit bearing trees and bushes that can be utilized as a welcome food source.

3. Perhaps some freedom from predation. Killdeers are often seen with their brood close to human habitation. This is probably an indication of years of successful breeding, with offspring coming back to the same type of location where they were raised. Except for feral cats and birds of prey, nesting birds may be exmy empt from natural predation such as snakes, rats, raccoons, opossums and other predators less frequent to city life.

4. A source of food not available in natural sites. Residential bird feeders, scraps from pets, dump sites, exotic fish and even nutrients used on our lawns and green spaces are often channeled into productivity when they reach the waterways.

If birds do not find "bed and breakfast" in the residential areas, I believe they would fly to dinner in more productive, safer areas. Adaptation takes place over a period of years but perhaps birds by their mobility are given an opportunity to adapt more quickly.

Many birds may have found a niche that we have forced on them, and seem to be facing up to the challenges well. To me it's obvious that golf courses are prime habitat and not green deserts that some concerned citizens have alleged.

The habitats we surveyed on the 2,456 acres of the 18 golf courses included 236

lakes covering 439 acres, 583 acres of forets or woodlands, and 78 acres of littoral zones.

Not only do golf courses provide habitats but also nesting opportunities. I have observed areas where least bitterns have been very successful nesting on the golf courses.

Bald eagles, ospreys, and owls are also nesting on our courses. Killdeers often frequent wet golf course sites to raise their young. Least terns are nesting on our roof tops.

Sand hill cranes are raising their young in our back yards. Common moor hens have been successful raising two or three broods every year for several years in my own back yard. Limpkins have been raising their young on Palm Aire golf course for several years, and the list goes on and on.

It is important that we not be complacent but be aware of the needs and impacts that we have on our bird neighbors; important that we think about their needs

#### **AMONG THE SIGHTINGS**

- 6 bald eagles
- 101 gray catbirds known for their "creative habits"
- 173 blue-gray gnatcatchers, a forest dweller
- 28 hawks, three species
- 24 glossy ibis
- 150 killdeers
- 23 ospreys
- 97 rufous-sided towhees, a woodland species
- 1020 warblers, eight species
- 136 wrens, three species
- 195 woodpeckers, four species

and long term future impacts we have on them; important to be cognizant of the amount of birds a golf course supports. As we become aware of these factors, we can better know how to manage our environment. I am convinced from the data,



#### STEWARDSHIP

# **GOLF COURSE BIRD SURVEY**

Enories	LUD	CD	C1	AAD	HW	CK	KG	AL	AP		DAA	PC	11.10	CH	10	DC	nn	Dhi	TOTH
Species	<b>HR</b>	CR	<b>CL</b>			CK	and the second second	AL	AP	<b>BI</b>	<b>BM</b> 12	BC	JH*	CH	LB	DC	<b>RP</b>	PN	TOTAL
Anhinga Bittern, Least			1	16	4		11			4	12	2	5	3	2		0	1	80
Blackbird, Red-winged		1		20		2	21	8	14	21	27	19	1	24	1	2	1		162
Bluebird, Eastern		1		20		4	21	0	14	21	21	15	1	24		2	1		4
Bobwhite, Northern												1							1
Bunting, Painted				1.910								- 1	1						1
Cardinal, Northern		3			2	8	1	55	28	11	5	16	35		1.1		2		166
Catbird, Gray		4				9		1		48	7	18	14				1		101
Chickadee, Carolina								25											25
Coot, American	2	2	1	7		14	57		-	18	6		54	8		3	10		182
Cormorant, Double crested	24	29	1	4			10	15		11	27	8	5	2	3	4	50	25	218
Cowbird, Brown headed				ani.					1										a daria in 1
Crane, Sandhill	2			2					1.10				3						7
Crow, American	5					11		30	45	2	15	1					5		114
Crow, Fish	1	9		14	3		175	18	24	38	8	28	13	19		15	30		395
Dove, Common Ground													5						5
Dove Eurasian Collared																	2		idom 1
Dove, Mourning	4	12		8	3	11	7	18	8	32	30	83	26	11	2	1	15	15	286
Dove, Ringed Turtle	1													18					19
Dove, Rock														19		2			2
Duck, Mottled	16		2	7			21			5	2					5		5	6.
Duck, Muscovy		2					1							7					10
Duck, Wood								5											
Eagle, Bald	-				-						3			1	1		1		
Egret, Cattle	8	-	-			-				-	2		14	6		1	15	2	41
Egret, Great	3	7	2	4	1	2	9	14		5	5		2	6		1	5	1	6
Egret, Snowy	2	4	2	2	-		4	1		4	8	1	1	5			8	2	4
Flycatcher, Great crested					1		1			12	2	1.1					2		
Flicker, Northern					1		1			12	3	11	1	1			1		3
Gallinule, Purple	-							-						17	1				1
Gannet, Northern		3		4	5		3	5	3	45	55	25	4	9	1	5	5		17
Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray Goldfinch		2		4	2		2	12	2	45	22	25	4	9		2	5		1
Goose, Chinese	-							12						7	-		1		
Goose, Domestic														22					2
Goose, Egyptian	5													22					-
Grackle, Boat-tailed	20	4		50			49			2	5	58	8	99		30	15		34
Grackle, Common	10	12		50		3	12			5	3	36	2	57		5	1		14
Grebe, Pied-billed	5	14	11	10		5	6		3	6	2	9	3	8		1	10	6	9
Gull, Bonaparte's	2										-			7					
Gull, Laughing								2	12					7					2
Gull, Ring-billed	8	2					34	8	35	1	4	3		18				3	11
Hawk, Red-shouldered		3		1	1	5	1	2		4	1	3					2	2	2
Hawk, Red-tailed										1	1								
Hawk, Sharp-shinned										1									
Heron, Black-crowned Night				3															
Heron, Great Blue	3	1	2	2 2	2	1	5 5	6		1	5 5	1		17		1	4	1	5
Heron, Green-backed						1	5			6		2	2	2			13	5	4
Heron, Little Blue	2		4	6		3		1		5	11	7	3	1			2	8	5
Heron Tricolored	1		2	6	1		6			1	2		2	8	2	1	3	3	3
Heron, Yellow-crowned Night				1				1			-				18-				
Hummingbird, Ruby-throated					2												1		
Ibis, Glossy		10	1	4			2							1				6	2
Ibis, White	61	2		10	4		2					1	1	36	-	15	38	15	18
Jay, Blue	1	5			4	2		24		11	16	21	18	9		4	3		11
Jay, Scrub							1.1.1				11.0		2						en men
Kestrel, American	1			0.0	3	2	1	1	4	1	3	1	7			3	3	1	3
Killdeer	10	4		20	4	3		6	18	22	18	7	4				16	6	15
Kingfisher, Belted		1	2	2		1	1	6	5	1		1		2		1	3		2
Kinglet, Ruby-crowned	-			1.1				12	8						1			101	2
Limpkin														4					
Mallard							10	3						40		1			5
Martin, Purple	-	10.5	-	1		1		2		2	1		1			6	5		1
Meadowlark, Eastern				4															prong 1
Merganser, Hooded								16	17							-			3
Merlin Maskinghird Northarn				-	-	9		24	10	22	1.4	40	25	9		2 4			10
Mockingbird, Northern	4	1		7	2	9	6	24	18	22	14	40	25	9		4	4		18

Oriole, Northerm         Oriole, Northerm         I <thi< th=""> <thi< th=""> <thi< th="">         I</thi<></thi<></thi<>	Species Moorhen, Common	HR 2	<b>CR</b> 10	CL 21	<b>MP</b> 53	HW 5	<b>CK</b> 24	<b>KG</b> 62	AL	AP	<b>BI</b> 21	<b>BM</b> 19	<b>BC</b>	<b>JH*</b>	CH 27	<b>LB</b>	DC 5	<b>RP</b> 39	<b>PN</b>	<b>TOTAL</b> 302
Doppoy         1         2         1         2         1         2         7         2         2         1         1         4         2           Doply Great Monthem         1         2         1         1         2         1         1         4         2         1         1         1         1         1         4         2         1 <td></td> <td>2</td> <td>10</td> <td>21</td> <td>55</td> <td>5</td> <td>24</td> <td>02</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>21</td> <td>19</td> <td></td> <td>10</td> <td>2/</td> <td>2</td> <td>5</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>302</td>		2	10	21	55	5	24	02			21	19		10	2/	2	5			302
$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		1	2				1	2			7		2		2		1		4	23
Parula, Northerm       Parula, Northerm       Parula, Brown			-					~	1				-							3
Peacock Peican, Brown Peican, Brown Peican, Brown Peican, Brown Pacock Satern Phole, Eastern Pho						2					1			9						12
Phobe, Eastern Phoure, Black-bellied         Phote, Eastern Redstart         Phote, Eastern Redstart         Phote, Eastern Redstart         Phote, Eastern Redstart         Phote, Eastern Redstart         Phote, Space															17					17
Plover, Black-bellied Robin, American Sandpiner, Spotted Sandpiner, Spotted 2 1 3 1 3 150 60 2 2 3 32 20 1 8 Sparkek, Loggerhead 2 1 3 4 4 2 2 2 2 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 Sparkek, Loggerhead Shike, Loggerhead 2 1 3 4 4 2 2 2 2 2 2 1 1 1 1 Sparkek, Loggerhead Singe, Common 1 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 1 1 1 1 Sparkek, Loggerhead Sora Sparkek, Shifter, Loggerhead Sparkek, Shifter, Shifter, Loggerhead Sparkek, Shifter, Shifter, Loggerhead Sparkek, Shifter, Shifte	Pelican, Brown								25	17										42
Plover, Black-bellied         I <thi< th="">         I         I         <thi< th=""></thi<></thi<>	Phobe, Eastern				2		4	2	42	2		3		1	1			2		59
Redstant       I<	Plover, Black-bellied									10116				1						1
Sandpier, Spotted       2       2       2       1						1														1
Sapsicker, Yellow-bellied Shrike, Loggenhead       2       1       3       1       4       2       2       2       1       1       1         Skimmer, Black       1       1       2       2       30       1       1       1       3         Sinpe, Common       1       1       2       2       30       1       1       3       3         Sparow, Sharp-Tailed       6       10       4       10       4       1       1       3       2       1       1       1       1       1       1       3       3       2       1       1       1       3       3       2       1       1       1       1       3       3       2       1       1       1       3       2       1       1       3       2       2       1       1       3       2       2       1       1       3       2       2       1       1       3       2       2       1       1       1       2       2       1       1       1       2       2       1       1       1       2       2       1       1       1       2       2       1       <	Robin, American	1	2		305		13	3	150	60		2			32			20		588
Shrike Loggenhead         2         1         3         4         2         2         2         1         1         1         3           Skimmer, Black         1         1         2         30         1         1         3           Sora         Sora         1         1         2         30         1         1         3           Sparow, Sharp-tailed         5         5         12         18         2         10         5         40         10           Sparow, Swamp         5         2500         65         26         30         94         46         23         2           Swan, Nute         5         2500         65         26         30         94         46         22         2         40         2           Swan, Nute         5         2500         65         26         30         94         46         22         4         2         2         2 <td>Sandpiper, Spotted</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>6</td>	Sandpiper, Spotted							2			2	1							1	6
Skimmer, Black         Image: Common         Image:							1											1		2
Snipe, Common Sparow, Chipping       1       1       2       2       5       1       <		2	1		3			4				2	2		2		1	1		18
Sora	Skimmer, Black														30					30
Sparrow, Chipping       Image: Constraint of the second seco	Snipe, Common	1		1						1000									8	12
Sparrow, Sharp-tailed         Sparrow, Song         Sparrow, Sparrow, Song	Sora							5												5
Sparrow, Song       Image: Sparrow, Swamp       Image: Sparrow, Swamp <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>6</td> <td></td> <td>6</td>							6													6
Sparrow, Swamp         Image: Sparrow, White-throated         Image: Sparrow, Sparrow, White-throated         Image: Sparrow, Sparrow, White-throated         Image: Sparrow, Sparrow, White-throated         Image: Sparrow, Sparrow, Sparrow, Sparrow, White-throated         Image: Sparrow, Sparrow, Sparrow, Sparrow, White-throated         Image: Sparrow, Sparrow	Sparrow, Sharp-tailed																			12
Sparrow, White-throated Starling, European         6         9         3         3         2         1         1         5         40         10           Starling, European         6         9         3         -         3         -         1         1         3         2           Swallow, Tree         5         2500         65         26         30         94         46         -         276           Swan, Mute         5         2500         65         26         30         94         46         -         276           Swan, Mute         5         7         -         2         2         22         -         22         1         4         2         2         2         2         2         2         2         2         2         1         1         1         1         2         2         1										10										10
Starling, European       6       9       3       3       12       18       2       10       5       40       10         Stork, Wood       1       7       1       7       3       -       1       3       22         Swallow, Tree       5       2500       65       26       30       94       46       23       2       2         Swan, Nute       5       2500       65       26       30       94       46       23       1       2         Ten, Forster's       -       1       2       2       2       22       22       -       4       2         Thrasher, Brown       -       1       2       31       -       5       16       22       1       -       -       9       9       4       -       -       -       2       3       -       -       -       9       9       1       -       -       9       9       1       -       -       9       1       -       -       9       1       -       -       9       1       -       -       9       1       -       -       1       1       2											4									4
Stork, Wood       1       7       1       7       1       7       1       7       1       7       1       7       1       3       2       2       1       3       2       3 <th2< th=""> <th< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td></th<></th2<>										2										2
Swallow, Tree       5       2500       65       26       30       94       46       276         Swan, Mute       1       2       3       2       2       2       3       2       1       1       1       2       2       3       1       1       2       2       3       1       1       2       2       2       1       1       1       1       2       2       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1						3					12	18	2				5			105
Swan, Mute       23       1       22         Swan, Tundra       31       5       7       2       22       22       22         Ten, Forster's       1       2       2       22       22       22       22         Ten, Royal       1       2       2       23       21       23       21       23       21       22       23       21       22       21       23       21       22       21       22       21       22       11       22       23       21       12       24       49       5       45       44       22       22       6       5		1		1														3		23
Swan, Tundra       Image: Construction of the construle of the construction of the construle of the constr			5		2500		65			26	30	94								
Teal, Bluewinged       31       31       5       7       22       4       4         Tern, Royal       1       2       1       1       1       2       2       2       1       1       1       2       3       2       1															23					23
Tern, Forster's       2       1       1       1       2       2       2       1       1       2       2       1       1       2       2       1       1       2       2       1       1       2       2       1       1       2       1       1 <th1< th="">       2       <th2< th=""></th2<></th1<>				10.0	1												1			1
Tern, Royal       Image: Source of the second								31				7								43
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Titmouse, Tufted       Image: Construction of the construction of									1											6
Towhee, Rufous-sided       3       1       2       53       16       22       1       2       1       1       1       2       2       3       2       1       1       1       2       2       3       2       1       1       1       2       2       3       2       1       1       1       1       2       2       3       2       1       2       2       6       5       5       5       4       1       1       1       2       2       6       5       5       5       4       1       1       1       2       2       6       5       5       5       4       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1 </td <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>4</td>														1						4
Vireo, Solitary       1       1       1       1       2       2       3       2       1       1       1       2       2       3       2       1       2       2       3       2       1       1       1       2       2       1       1       2       2       1       1       2       2       1       1       2       2       1       1       2       2       1       1       2       2       1       1       2       2       1       1       2       2       1       1       1       2       1       1       1       1       1       1       1		1.1.1		1.UT	11000	u/upu		UNI	34	14		20							253	53
Vireo, White-eyed       2       2       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       2       1       2       1       1       2       1       1       2       1       1       2       1       1       2       1       1       2       1       2       2       6       5       5       5       3       1       1       1       1       1       2       1       1       2       1       1       2       1       1       2       1       1       1       1       1       1       2       1       1       1       1       2       2       1														1.1						97
Vulture, Black       2       6       4       2       1       1       4       9       5       4       2       2       6       5       5         Warbler, Black-and-white       1       1       2       1       12       4       9       5       4       2       2       6       5       55         Warbler, Black-and-white       1       4       1       4       1       1       4       1       7       4       9       14         Warbler, Black-and-white       5       23       1       5       54       15       11       9       7       4       9       14         Warbler, Paime       2       1       6       4       16       5       7       4       9       14         Warbler, Yellow       1       3       6       1       1       3       6       1 <td< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td><td>16</td></td<>						1	1				2							2		16
Vulture, Turkey       2       3       2       1       12       4       9       5       4       2       2       6       5       5         Warbler, Black-and-white       1       4       1       4       1       1       4       1 </td <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>-</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>9</td>					-				2	2			1	1	-					9
Warbler, Black-and-white       I <thi< th="">       I<!--</td--><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>-</td><td></td><td></td><td>1.37</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>20</td></thi<>						-			1.37											20
Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Palm       5       23       1       5       1       5       1       9       7       4       9       14         Warbler, Palm       5       23       1       5       54       15       11       9       7       4       9       14         Warbler, Palm       2       1       6       4       16       5       7       4         Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Yellow-umped       35       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       81         Warbler, Yellow-umped       35       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       81         Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Yellow-throated       1       1       10       45       15       16       2       7       3       81         Wodgen, American Woodpecker, Pairy Woodpecker, Pileated       1       1       10       1       3       1       3       2       3       2       3       2       3       2       3       2       3       2		2	3		2	1	12					5	4		2	2		6	5	57
Warbler, Orange-crowned       5       23       1       5       1       54       15       11       9       7       4       9       14         Warbler, Pine       2       1       6       4       16       5       7       4       9       14         Warbler, Pine       2       1       6       4       16       5       7       4       9       14         Warbler, Prairie       2       1       6       4       16       5       7       4         Warbler, Yellow-rumped       35       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       81         Warbler, Yellow-throated       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       88       81         Warbler, Yellow-throated       1       10       45       16       2       2       7       3       9       13       13       16       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       2       2		1110			1000	1			4		1									6
Warbler, Palm       5       23       1       5       54       15       11       9       7       4       9       14         Warbler, Pine       2       1       6       4       16       5       7       4       9       14         Warbler, Prairie       2       1       6       4       16       5       7       4       9       14         Warbler, Yellow-rumped       35       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       81         Warbler, Yellow-rumped       35       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       83         Warbler, Yellow-tronated       1       1       4       5       5       5       5       127       33       19       13       13       83         Warbler, Yellow-throated       1       1       10       4       2       7       3       6       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       2       2												1								official second
Warbler, Pine       2       1       6       4       16       5       7       4         Warbler, Prairie       3       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       81         Warbler, Yellow-rumped       35       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       81         Warbler, Yellow-throated       1       1       4       1<			-					-		1				~	-			0		
Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Yellow       1       1       3       6       1         Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Yellow-throated Waterthrush, Northern       35       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       81         Warbler, Yellow-throated Waterthrush, Northern       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       81         Waxwing Widgen, American       1       10       45       16       2       7       2       3         Woodpecker, Downy       2       8       8       3       4       4       2       2       3         Woodpecker, Reiterd       1       1       10       1       3       1       3       2         Woodpecker, Red-bellied       1       2       7       2       33       18       25       15       16       2       2       1       3       13       3       3       2         Woodpecker, Red-bellied       1       2       7       2       33       18       25       15       16       2       2<						1		5					11	9	/		4			
Warbler, Yellow       35       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       13       81         Warbler, Yellow-throated       35       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       13       13       81         Warbler, Yellow-throated       1			2		1		6			4	16			2						
Warbler, Yellow-rumped       35       1       10       45       125       85       231       75       127       33       19       13       127       13											1	1		3				0		10
Warbler, Yellow-throated Waterthrush, Northern11111111Waxwing Widgen, American11516733Woodpecker, Downy288344223Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated1110131232Woodpecker, Red-bellied127233182515162214813Wren, Carolina Wren, Marsh112733611142111313Yellowlegs, Lesser1111421441313		1.111	25		1	10	45	Creek	105	0.5		75	107	22	10		12	12		011
Waterthrush, Northern       2       2       3         Waxwing       1       15       16       7       3         Widgen, American       1       8       8       3       4       4       2       2       3         Woodpecker, Downy       2       8       8       3       4       4       2       2       3         Woodpecker, Hairy       1       1       10       1       3       1       2       3       2         Woodpecker, Red-bellied       1       2       7       2       33       18       25       15       16       2       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, Carolina       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       8       13         Wren, Marsh       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       8       13         Yellowlegs, Lesser       1       4			33			10	45		125	00			12/	33	19					012
Waxwing Widgen, American       2       15       16       7       7       3         Woodpecker, Downy       2       8       8       3       4       4       2       2       3         Woodpecker, Downy       2       1       8       8       3       4       4       2       2       3         Woodpecker, Hairy       1       1       10       1       3       1       3       2         Woodpecker, Red-bellied       1       2       1       2       7       2       33       18       25       15       16       2       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, Carolina       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       13         Wren, Marsh       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       13         Yellowlegs, Greater       1       1       1       4       2       1       4       4       4       4					1					2	1.00	10								1
Widgen, American       1       1       8       8       3       4       4       2       2       3         Woodpecker, Downy       2       1       8       8       3       4       4       2       2       3         Woodpecker, Hairy       1       1       10       1       3       1       3       2         Woodpecker, Pileated       1       2       1       2       7       2       33       18       25       15       16       2       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, Carolina       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, House       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       1       1       3       1 <t< td=""><td></td><td>-</td><td></td><td>1.0</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>15</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>11111</td><td>2.18</td><td>7</td><td></td><td></td><td>38</td></t<>		-		1.0					15						11111	2.18	7			38
Woodpecker, Downy       2       8       8       3       4       4       2       2       3         Woodpecker, Hairy       1       1       1       1       3       1       1       2       3         Woodpecker, Pileated       1       2       1       2       7       2       33       18       25       15       16       2       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, Carolina       1       1       2       7       7       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, Carolina       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, House       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       13         Wren, Marsh       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       13         Yellowlegs, Greater       1       1       2       1       4       4       4       4       4       4       4							1		15	10							1			50
Woodpecker, Hairy       1       1       1       1       1       3       1         Woodpecker, Pileated       1       2       1       2       7       2       33       18       25       15       16       2       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, Carolina       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, Carolina       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, House       2       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       13         Wren, Marsh       1       1       2       1       1       4       2       1       13       13         Yellowlegs, Lesser       1       1       1       1       4       2       1       4       4       4       13			2						8	8	3	4	4	2				2		33
Woodpecker, Pileated       1       1       1       1       1       1       3       1       3       2         Woodpecker, Red-bellied       1       2       1       2       7       2       33       18       25       15       16       2       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, Carolina       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, House       2       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, Marsh       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       13         Yellowlegs, Greater       1       1       1       1       4       2       1       4			4	100	1		12.11		0	0	3			-		1	1.151		in the later	3.
Woodpecker, Red-bellied       1       2       1       2       7       2       33       18       25       15       16       2       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, Carolina       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, House       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       8       13         Wren, Marsh       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       8       13         Yellowlegs, Greater       1       1       2       73       36       11       1       4       2       1       4       13         Yellowlegs, Lesser       1       4						1		1	10	1	3		1							20
Wren, Carolina         1         1         2         73         36         11         1         4         2         1         13           Wren, House         2         1         1         1         4         2         1         13           Wren, Marsh         1         1         1         4         2         1         13           Yellowlegs, Greater         1         4         1         4         4         4		1	2		1	2	7					15		2	2	1	4			139
Wren, House     2     1       Wren, Marsh     1     1       Yellowlegs, Greater     6       Yellowlegs, Lesser     1					-			-									4	0		132
Wren, Marsh   1     Yellowlegs, Greater   6     Yellowlegs, Lesser   1     1   4				1.0			-						4	2						15
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			2				3		2	2	6	4	3	1	1				-	24
	chomanoa, common		5				3		2	-	0	4	5	-						2.

#### GOLF COURSE HABITAT DATA GOLF COURSES

Feature	HR	CR	CL	MP	HW	CK	KG	AL	AP	BI	BM	BC	JH*	CH	LB	DC	RP	PN	TOTAL	
Number of lakes	17	10	22	15	5	14	23	12	4	13	10	13	12	7	18	7	15	19	236	
Total Lake Acreage	20	39	15	28	9	40	43	24	6	22	16	26	6	20	25	30	20	50	439	
Forested Acreage	0	0	60	10	40	0	30	6	7	3	35	6	150	20	15	1	200	0	583	
Littoral Zone Acreage	0	0	6	3	1	0	9	0	1	22	16	14	2	0	1	1	2	0	78	
Golf Course Acreage	110	78	211	196	140	90	90	170	130	85	69	73	180	206	121	137	160	210	2456	

#### **Participating Golf Courses**

- AL Amelia Island Plantation, Links
- AP Amelia Island Plantation, Point
- BI Bonita Bay, Bay Island Course
- BC Bonita Bay, Creekside Course
- BM Bonita Bay, Marsh Course
- CL Calusa Lakes Golf Club
- CH Cleveland Heights G. & C. C.
- CR Collier's Reserve

CK Cypress Knoll Golf Club

- DC Deer Creek Golf Club
- HR Heritage Ridge Golf Course
- HW Hole-in-the-Wall G. C.
- IH Jupiter Hills Club
- KG Kelly Green G. & C. C.
- LB Lemon Bay Golf Club
- MP Myakka Pines Golf Club
- PN Pelican's Nest Golf Club
- **RP** Royal Poinciana Golf Club

my observations, existing programs and future programs that we will provide for even greater compatibility between man and the wildlife.

The number of respondents to the studies only strengthens my belief that golf course superintendents are pro-active and are willing to let the facts speak for themselves. The superintendents send in the surveys whether the bird counts are high or low. Superintendents, more than most, shoulder the responsibilities as stewards in their areas of influence.

I want to personally thank all those who have contributed to these bird counts in the past and particularly this year. I knew from 36 years of experience in aquatics, 23 managing aquatics on golf courses, and being a lover of nature, there were a lot of birds on the golf course but I was very surprised what the surveys taught me. I hope it also makes others aware of our creation and our need to be involved in it, to conserve it, and to improve it, wherever we can.

#### A Comment About These Annual Bird Surveys

(Editors Note: Participation in these surveys isn't just about getting warm and fuzzy feelings about how great golf courses are as wildlife habitats. As the following comments from Dr. Newman indicate, these surveys and other environmental efforts by golf courses provide hard data to refute unsubstaniated claims, erroneous assumptions and misconceptions. They are proof positive ways to enlighten regulators with the cold hard facts.)

The survey that has been conducted by Elroy Timmer of Aquagenix for the past three years has important applications for the golf course development industry. Recently, federal and state fish and wildlife agenicies reviewing applications for new residential/golf course developments have requested additional upland buffers from the wetland jurisdicitional line to protect fish and wildlife, particularly wading birds.

These agencies have recommended nondevelopment upland buffers to be greater than 66 feet, which greatly exceeds the normal upland buffers required by local counties and water management districts. These buffers generally range from 15 to 30 feet.

The stated purpose of these additional buffers is to protect the foraging of federally or state listed wading birds such as wood storks (*Mycteria americana*); great egrets (*Casmerodus alba*); little blue herons (*Egretta caerulea*); snowy egrets (*Egretta thula*); white ibis (Eudocimus albus) and other wildlife. The scientific basis for these recommended buffer widths is literature reviews of studies on the response of wading birds to human activity in the natural environments such as wildlife refuges. The implication is that wading birds are not compatible with the "built" environment such as golf courses.

Timmer's surveys show what every golfer and resident of a golf community knows, wading birds are a common component to ponds, lakes, and drainage ditches of golf courses and residential developments. The presence of these and other wildlife is actually considered an environmental amenity to this "built" environment.

I have been conducting observations on the foraging behavior of wading birds in residential and golf course developments. Wading birds show considerable acclimation to unbuffered human activity while foraging. Certain tangential human activities, including movement of golf carts, automobile traffic, walking and jogging, etc., generally have no effect on nearby foraging wading birds.

Intentional human activity such as directly approaching wading birds may affect certain individual birds more than others, depending upon the type of human activity, the distance from the bird, the presence of buffers such as hedges or fences, and the mount of acclimation which the individual species has developed. Some wading birds may show no effect, some individuals may move away and continue foraging, and others may be disturbed and stop foraging. In spite of this disruption, the foraging site will be used again once the disturbing human activity ceases.

Certain design features (i.e., habitat features) can enhance or diminish foraging for different species. The importance and compatbility of golf courses and residential communities with lakes and ponds for wading bird populations including those considered threatened or endangered should not be underestimated and need to be better understood by wildlife agencies.

> James R. Newman, Ph.D., Principal Golder Associates Inc. 241 NW 23rd Street, Suite 500 Gainesville, Florida 32653

AUDUBC			TATUS IN			NI	
							Fulls
Golf Course	Environ Plan	Out & Ed	Wildlife	Water	Water Enhance	IPM	Fully Certified
Amelia Island Plantation	10/11/96	& EQ	Mgt.	Cons	Enhance	IPM	Certified
Bear's Paw CC		7/10/95	7/10/95	9/5/04		9/5/04	
	7/27/94			8/5/94	11/17/05	8/5/94	11/17/05
Bonita Bay Island Course	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95
Bonita Bay Creekside	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95
Bonita Bay Marsh	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95	11/17/95
Card Sound GC	5/17/96	14000	015105	ottoloc	4 4 /4 = /0 =	olaolor	o is los
City of Cocoa Beach GC	6/13/95	4/19/96	8/6/96	8/18/96	11/17/95	8/18/95	8/6/96
Club at Pelican Bay	8/26/96						
Floridian	11/5/96						
Foxfire Country Club	7/10/95						
Hole in the Wall Golf Club	12/30/92	12/30/92	2/25/93	2/25/93	1/4/94	2/25/93	1/4/94
IGM @ Aquarina	11/11/96						
Lemon Bay Golf Club	11/13/96	11/13/96		11/13/96			
Loblolly Pines	2/22/95	7/795	7/7/95	2/22/95	2/22/95	7/7/95	7/7/95
Medalist Golf Club	2/7/96			and Distances			
Old Marsh Golf Club	3/29/95			C. D. W. C. B.			
Olde Florida Golf Club	6/24/94	10/23/95	10/23/95	10/23/95	10/23/95	10/23/95	10/23/95
Palm Beach Gardens Municipal GC	12/5/94			o mono en			
Panama Country Club	9/12/96						
Pelican's Nest Golf Course		9/12/996	12/5/96	pall the second			
River Hills Country Club	3/25/96			3/25/96		4//27/95	
Riverwood Golf Club	2/3/97		4/20/94				
Royal Palm Country Club	12/2/93			1/13/94			
Royal Poinciana Golf Club	7/3/96	12/27/96	12/27/96	12/27/96	12/27/96	12/27/96	12/27/96
St Lucie West Country Club	10/31/96			1/27/97		10/3/96	1000
Tampa Palms Golf & Country Club	3/31/93	3/31/93	9/11/92	9/24/92	9/11/92	9/11/92	3/31/93
TPC at Eagle Trace	4/25/95						
TPC at Heron Bay	1/16/97					CHAPTER.	STREET B
TPC at Prestancia	2/3/97	2/3/97			-		25
TPC at Sawgrass	11/16/95	2/1/96	11/16/95	2/1/96	2/1/96		
TPC at Tampa Bay	5/17/96	11/26/96	10/22/96			- 17 3	
Windstar Country Club	12/3/96						
Bradenton Country Club	1/8/97				1.1.1.1.1.1.1	10.31	1.1.1.1.1.1.1



# Mother Kloska's guidance pays off

The schools need your experience and resources more than your time. There are many projects that a superintendent can contribute to just by reviewing plans or surveying a site to give suggestions.

#### BY ROB KLOSKA

Golf Course Superintendent Jupiter Island Club

How many times did you hear this phrase when you were growing up, "If you give just a little of yourself, you will get a lot in return?" Mother Kloska must have said that a million times (not just to me, I have five sisters and a brother). The standard answer was always, "Yes, mother, sure, I know."

Golf course superintendents, always seem to be on the latter side of that phrase. We are usually the ones giving so much. We are at the beck and call of our members, committees, owners or general managers.

So often, they ask for things that seem to them to be so small, yet it requires large portions of our time and energy to fulfill their requests.

Recently, I have had the opportunity ofbeing on the former side of that phrase. It started last spring when I got a phone call from Shelly Foy inquiring about my interest in the Audubon School Program.

I was familiar with the Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses from my experience as golf course superintendent at the Champions Club at Summerfield.

In 1994, we became the second Signature Cooperative Sanctuary Golf Course, behind Collier's Reserve.

Getting the Jupiter Island Club into the Audubon program was one of my goals for the upcoming year. Shelly asked me if I would be interested in "adopting"



THE FLORIDA GREEN

Hobe Sound Elementary School.

She was very clear that this would not be a drain on my time. Initially, it would be about four to five hours one day a month.

Hobe Sound Elementary School has an HSE Day once per month. HSE, the school initials, has become Helping Save the Environment and is the school theme. On these days the entire student body, faculty, staff and community volunteers participate in a number of activities from weeding beds, planting gardens, composting, mulching and environmental education projects.

Shelly knew that I had the resources to donate trees to the school's plant enhancement efforts. The club graciously donated 14 Royal Palm trees to be planted by the 5th grade.

My first HSE day came, and I spent time planting trees with the 5th grade and staking sunflowers with the kindergarten class. I have been back almost every HSE Day since.

I never expected this to blossom into

the relationship I have with the school today. I look forward to HSE Days and helping Shelly plan activities for upcoming months.

In addition to the Royal Palm trees, we have helped plant a pine tree nursery, donated mulch and other materials needed for HSE Days, loaned needed equipment, improved the irrigation system, and have a list of HSE Day projects that will take us well into 1998.

Yet, it really does not ask that much of my time. Activities are scheduled well in advance and a majority of the work occurs when I can afford the time. This has been an extremely rewarding experience, and I urge you to become involved if you are asked.

The schools need your experience and resources more than your time.

There are many projects that a superintendent can contribute to just by reviewing plans or surveying a site to give suggestions.

Any help we can give is always appreciated. The members of the Jupiter Island

#### Others work with schools

If you are interested in learning more about how golf courses in Florida are working with schools, here is a list of superintendents you can call:

- George Coleman, Lost Lake Golf Club, 561-220-4833
- Darren Davis, Olde Florida Golf Club, 941-351-4441
- Adam Feltman, The Champions Club, 561-223-5590

Tim Hiers, Collier's Reserve, 941 -597-7063

- Rob Kloska, Jupiter Island Club, 561-546-1184
- Bill Lanthier, Mariner Sands Country Club, 561-283-3644
- Roy McDonald, Hobe Sound Golf Club, 561-546-7243
- Craig Weyandt, Yacht & CC of Stuart, 561-283-0199



#### **RUB OF THE GREEN**

#### What's In A Name?

Since we ran a picture of some of the old mowers and equipment from St. Andrews in this issue, I thought it might be appropriate to have a little quiz on the old names for golf clubs. The number 1 wood is still called the driver by most players. Match the club on the left with its modern day counterpart on the right. Answers on page 83.

1.	Baffy	a.	2 wood
2.	Brassie	b.	3 wood
3.	Cleek	с.	4 wood
4.	Jigger	d.	5 wood
5.	Lofter	e.	3 iron
6.	Mashie	f.	4 iron
7.	Mid Mashie	g.	5 iron
8.	Niblick	h.	8 iron
9.	Spoon	i.	9 iron

Club support my efforts and are even allowing us to hold a fund raiser at our Beach Club for Hobe Sound Elementary School's Audubon programs.

This is a program that your membership or owner should be very interested in. It brings a lot of positive image to a club.

Other local superintendents — Bill Lanthier, Roy McDonald, Adam Feltman and Craig Weyandt — are enjoying the same satisfaction that I am from being involved with local schools. I'm sure that the same holds true for them. They are giving a little, and getting a lot in return.

Thanks, Mother Kloska, for the sound guidance.

#### A note from the principal...

"Not only has Rob been an integral part of our involvement with the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program, but he has also become a contributing member of our School Advisory Council. He assists the school in completing the state mandated School Improvement Plan and has provided leadership in the area of campus beautification and development. We are extremely grateful to Rob and the Jupiter Island Club whom he represents."

Don Merritt, Principal, Hobe Sound Elementary School

#### ... And the teacher

"It's so much fun to watch Rob interact with the kids. His enthusiasm is contagious to both teachers and students. He is always there for us when he says he is going to be. We can rely on him to follow through with all of our planned projects. He is great to work with and is a teacher to all of us."

Sandy Pisano 5th Grade Teacher Hobe Sound Elementary School

Florida Club Course Designer Dick Gray Uses Georgia Grass On His Greens.



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# Here's Why!

'Predictability is key when it comes to putting. That's why I insist on certified Tifdwarf Bermuda from Millhaven Plantation. It has just what we want – exceptional texture, density and uniformity. We hydrosprigged all of our greens here at the Florida Club, which saved us a ton

of money on installation. It also reduced our on-going labor, water and fertility costs. All of the folks at Millhaven are very knowledgeable, very service-oriented, and their Tifdwarf is absolutely outstanding."

#### GCSAA NEWS

# Superintendent is 'most important person at my course,' say most *Golf Digest* readers

GCSAA in particular and superintendents in general were viewed in a positive way in the January issue of *Golf Digest*. Steve Mona, CEO at association headquarters, was listed among the 36 people deemed most powerful in golf. Mona, CAE, was ranked 29th on the list that was headed by Tim Finchem, commissioner of the PGA Tour.

In that same issue, *Digest* released the latest in its at-random series of reader surveys, this one titled "Things we didn't know until now." The final question was, "Who is the most important person at your club or course?"

The resounding answer? Golf course superintendent drew the nod from 48 percent of the respondents. A distant

# **GCSAA Online**

Items of interest from GCSAA's Online web site

second was golf professional with 25 percent. Club manager was third with 14 percent.

#### USGA president praises work of superintendents

NOTE: The following comments are excerpts from a media conference featuring Judy Bell, USGA president, conducted Feb. 10. Q. What is your outlook for your second term as USGA president?

A. The first year was terrific, and our championships were terrific. Our mission is to open the game to everyone who wants to play.

Q. What, in your opinion, is the role of the golf course superintendent in the game?

A. We have a wonderful relationship with GCSAA. I believe we are on the same page as to what we can do to improve the game of golf. We have one mind in the direction we want to go.

I can't tell you how important the golf course superintendents are to the game of golf. We need to preach that, not to the choir, but to the world. I don't think there is anything more beautiful than a



#### **GCSAA NEWS**

golf course. We need to portray our work with the environment in a positive and beautiful way.

**O**. What are your perceptions on USGA green construction specifications? A. We have 15 greens constructed around the country to do research.



Judy Bell

ing is important. We want to take our testing to the playing field.

Sometimes our specifications have taken some heat, but we strive to be good listeners. If there are concerns, or questions, we will always listen. We are hoping that this varietal testing of grasses will be the proof of the pudding.

Q. Could you comment about technological advances in the game?

A. Technology can get in the way of how golf should be played. We are so focused on the latest gadget. Courses can remain pristine and natural, they do not need to be perfect.

One of the charms of our game is it isn't like basketball or football, where the field is the same. Our playing field is different every time we play. Golf courses are natural, not contrived.

Q. What about green speed?

A. Who says that the challenge is greater for speed than it is weight and line? As golfers, we blame everything except where the blame should go - us.

Q. What would you like for the golfing public to know about the role of the golf course superintendent?

A. I don't think they have a great enough identity today. I don't think the public knows how unusual and creative their jobs are. I'd like to see that message get out.

#### "Par" begins fourth season, moves to The Golf Channel

"Par for the Course," GCSAA's awardwinning, 30-minute television show, moves this year to The Golf Channel. The production's fourth season began March 22 at 6:30 p.m. (Eastern time).

Each week, "Par for the Course" takes viewers inside the world of golf by featuring how-to-play tips from Golf Digest school instructors, interviews with industry leaders and celebrities, site visits to top golf venues throughout the world, agronomic insights and environmental success stories.

GCSAA also will produce feature segments for The Golf Channel's live tournament broadcasts. The Golf Channel is currently available in 7 million homes, but projections are that it will reach 14 million homes by the end of 1997.

"Par for the Course" was aired on the Prime Network in its inaugural season, then moved to ESPN in 1995 and 1996. This year, GCSAA will produce 13 episodes, airing every Saturday at 6:30 p.m. EST, with replays Tuesdays at 3 a.m. EST and another weekday afternoon.

GCSAA will carry on its strong relationship with ESPN, continuing to produce the popular feature segments during the network's 1997 PGA Tour and Senior PGA Tour telecasts. GCSAA also will expand its presence on the airwaves by broadcasting feature segments to be run during TBS telecasts of various PGA Tour and PGA of America events.

"We are excited about GCSAA's television presence for the upcoming year," says Bruce R. Williams, GCSAA president. "First and foremost, we have a product recognized by our membership and the golf community as high quality that promotes our association and educates the viewer.

"The Golf Channel gives us an attractive early prime-time viewing slot vital to reaching our target audience. And, the combination of The Golf Channel, ESPN and TBS provides a widespread distribution to those who enjoy the game of golf."

"Par for the Course" has been afforded honors in the past, including selection to the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) Associations Advance America Awards honor roll.

The award recognizes significant contributions to society by associations and their programs. The International Network of Golf (ING) also selected "Par for the Course" as a finalist in its Public Relations/Promotional Program category in both 1995 and 1996.

GCSAA's Scott Smith, senior manager of video services, returns for his fourth year as the show's producer, and veteran broadcaster Duke Frye also returns as host. Postproduction service will be provided by Great Plains Television and Creative Communications of Kansas City.

The Scotts Co. is once again the show's presenting sponsor, and this year's supporting sponsor is Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE). Several RISE members have also joined with the organization to sponsor a new segment within each episode.

Segment presenting sponsors are Novartis, Rhone-Poulenc Ag Co. and Zeneca Professional Products, and the segment contributing sponsors are AgrEvo USA Co., American Cyanamid and Bayer Corp.

#### **GCSAA** headquarters site joins Audubon system

GCSAA's national office has joined the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Corporate/Business Properties. Located at 1421 Research Park Drive in Lawrence, Kan., the grounds at GCSAA headquarters cover nearly eleven acres, including three acres of native grasses.

GCSAA staff members have worked on a volunteer basis to enhance the property for wildlife with deer licks, bird feeders and nesting boxes as well as installing shrubs and trees when replanting that serve as food sources . Day-to-day work activities also include energy conservation and paper and aluminum can recycling programs.

"The Cooperative Sanctuary program gives people an opportunity to do something good for the environment right where they live, work and recreate," said Neil Gifford, environmental educator for Audubon International. "We welcome GCSAA's commitment to managing the property in an environmentally sensitive manner."

Aside from the current on-site activities, plans also call for the development of a nature trail lined by bluebird nest boxes. Native plantings will be used to enhance the trail which will pass a section of prairie grasses that will be left undisturbed.

In addition to its on-site improvements, GCSAA and Rain Bird Golf Irrigation serve as co-sponsors to the ACSP for Schools program. Through the program, superintendents work with schools to create projects that foster resource conservation and wildlife enhancement.

#### Crenshaw hails Old Tom Morris in acceptance speech

NOTE: The following comments are excerpts from a media conference featuring Ben Crenshaw, 1997 GCSAA Old Tom Morris award winner, conducted Feb. 11.

In his speech to accept the Old Tom Morris Award, GCSAA's highest honor, Ben Crenshaw made this opening statement:

"I am so honored. The two awards that will always mean the most to me are the Bobby Jones and the Old Tom Morris. I've been reading about them since I was 14. They are a part of history. Bobby Jones has always been my idol. And Old Tom Morris, he's the fountainhead.

"As greenkeeper, Old Tom Morris took care of the course, but let nature take its course. But he did so much more. His life was unbelievable. He did as much to spread the game as anyone. I think those values, and those of Harvey Penick's shaped me as much as anyone."

Q. What importance does the golf course superintendent play in the game?

A. Without a doubt, the most important person on the golf course is the man who takes care of it. It's backwards [the recognition]. Those men and women are far more important than we give them credit for. They do a wonderful, incredible job, under some tough scrutiny, often times by people who do not know anything about the job. They are amazing.

Q. What is your basis for your love of golf course architecture and history?

A. What started it was my first USGA Junior at the Country Club of Brookline. It was the first time I had left the state of Texas. I was so scared to take a divot. I think I was there two days before I finally took a divot. It was so beautiful. I really fell in love with the game, the architecture and history, so it really started right there.

Q. What are your perceptions on current golf course architecture?

A. Designers are doing incredible creations on what can be called throwaway properties. We are returning to a more classic design, which I like. I feel the

#### **Answers to Quiz**

1. d. Baffy – 5 wood; 2. a. Brassie – 2 wood; 3. c. Cleek – 4 wood; 4. f. Jigger – 4 iron; 5. h. Lofter – 8 iron; 6. g. Mashie – 5 iron; 7. e. Mid Mashie – 3 iron; 8. i. Niblick – 9 iron; 9. b. Spoon – 3 wood

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#### GCSAA NEWS

timeless architectural designs are the best.

Q. How do you feel about your tournament play?

A. I still enjoy competitive golf and I feel like I've got a lot left to play.

Q. Tell us about your architecture business.

A. I am so lucky to be a partner with Bill Coore. He's an agronomist, and has taught me so much about this field. In turn, I try to work on the playability of the golf course design.

Bill's got a soft spot for the superintendent, because that is how he got his start working with Pete Dye. It is amateur play that is the basis for the strategic design of golf courses. And hand-in-hand, glove-in-glove with this design are the people who take care of golf courses.

#### PGA Reserve South named best new affordable course

The PGA golf course at The Reserve's South course has won an award for best new affordable course for 1996 from Golf Digest magazine. The North course was named this year's 7th best new affordable course. This course also was featured in



Ben Crenshaw, pro golfer, architect and golf historian, is flanked by fellw Texan and GCSAA Director Tommy Witt, CGCS, left, and Immediate Past President Bruce Williams, CGCS at the GCSAA Press Conference. Photo by Joel Jackson.

the September issue of Golf Course Management.

In addition, construction plans are under way for a vacation village complex, including the first PGA vacation club by Vistana Resort. The development, planned by the PGA of America and situated on 70 acres next to PGA Golf Club's South Course, will begin with vacation villas, a hotel and the PGA's new golf learning center.

#### **Smyers building Tampa course**

Golf course architect Steve Smyers has been selected to design and build Lochenheath in Tampa, Fla. The private, national golf club is owned by Outback Steakhouse founders Bob Bushman and Chris Sullivan. Construction of the course began in September. It is scheduled to open in fall 1997.



"Servicing South Florida"

UI

the

Fire



The Habitat Golf Course proved to be an effective fire break against this raging 900-acre brush fire near Malabar in January. Photograph by Robert McDaniel.

# Security and lower fire hazard

hole!

Expanses of green, low-growing turfs in the landscape provide a high visibility zone that discourages unwanted intruders and vandals. Such turfs offer a lowcost approach that is a viable security measure, especially around sensitive military and police installations.

Also, the low fuel value of green, prostrate-growing turfs serves a valuable function as a firebreak that significantly lowers the fire hazard if properly positioned (Youngner, 1970). This attribute is especially important for homes and buildings adjacent to extensive woodland or brush areas.

- James Beard and Robert Green

#### Fire at the Habitat

This past January a wildfire consumed approximately 900 acres of pine and palmetto woodlands adjacent to our golf course, The Habitat, in Malabar.

Arson was suspected, but no one has been arrested.

The fire did very little damage to the

course. Just a small area was burned by the twelfth tee but I think the damage could have been much worse if we had not used the irrigation system to fight it.

We have very little rough here at the Habitat. It is mostly fairways with woods on both sides. I hate to think what this course would look like if the fire had got to the other side.

As the fire approached the fairways, my irrigation technician, Doug Bonnet, would shut off the hydraulic supply to the satellites. All the heads started up at once which stopped the fire from crossing the fairway to the other side.

- Robert McDaniel

# Golf course's water saves the day

A new state-of-the-art, multipump, computer-driven irrigation system at Crane Creek Country Club in Boise, Idaho, turned out to be a lot more than superintendent Richard Hutchins could ever hope for a few months ago.

The system, newly installed under the direction of Kuhn Associates of Mercer

Island, Wash., literally came to the rescue of the homes of several residents near the course during a wildfire that raged through the Boise area late last summer.

As the fire threatened to move through some of the sagebrush and cheatgrass bordering Crane Creek fairways and toward a condominium development, Hutchins—an 11-year member of GCSAA – had his crews turn the part-circle sprinklers 180 degrees and water down the out-of-play areas.

The move effectively abated the wildfire in that area and spared the nearby homes.

"Afterwards, in looking at the fire line, it's clear that the fire stopped at the sprinklers' water line about 200 yards from our homes," resident Ivan Strand told the *Idaho Statesman* after the blaze.

"We believe that without such a generous and neighborly act by Crane Creek Country Club, the Curling Cove Condominiums would be toast today."

- GCSAA Online

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# Tift 94 Bermudagrass-Available to Qualified Certified Growers in 1997

BY WAYNE H. HANNA, PH.D. Research Geneticist Coastal Plain Experiment Station Tifton, Ga.

Tift 94 is a new cold resistant, finetextured and dense bermudagrass cultivar derived from Midiron by using Cobalt 60 gamma radiation.

It was superior to Midiron in turf quality when mowed at 12.5 or 25 mm height three times per week in replicated tests.

It has performed well in tests conducted by Joel Barber in Stillwater, Okla., A.J. Powell in Lexington, Ky., Joe Kennedy on The Little Course at Aspen Grove in Franklin, Tenn., and Southern Turf Nurseries in Lake Wales, Fla.

Tift 94 has shown high non-preference to mole crickets at Tifton, Ga., and better turf quality ratings and plant color than Tifway under fairway conditions in Tennessee.

Tift 94 is suitable for fairways, tees, athletic fields, lawns and other landscaping uses where fine-textured dense turf is needed.

It is a patented cultivar that is vegetatively propagated and produces no seed.

Foundation planting material will be available, beginning in 1997, to licensed sod and sprig producers of Tift 94.

Earl Elsner (Georgia Seed Development Commission, 2420 S. Milledge Ave., Athens, Ga. Phone: 706-542-5640; Fax: 706-542-9025) should be contacted for information on how to become qualified to be a certified grower of Tift 94 bermudagrass.

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GCSAA

# Las Vegas Glitz, Glamour and Golf

#### BY JOEL JACKSON, CGCS

Welcome to fabulous Las Vegas, the city that never sleeps!

During GCSAA's 68th International Conference and Show I stayed at the MGM Grand mega-resort that covered over one square block with all its parking lot, arena and amusement park appendages.

The hotel glowed emerald-city green in the night in tribute to the MGM movie classic, "The Wizard of Oz". One thing was for sure, Toto, we weren't in Kansas any more!

I'll admit the flashing neon lights and larger-than-life resorts along Las Vegas Boulevard were very exciting, but a three or four-day trip would be more palatable as the hustling bustling throngs of people and the "bong-bong-bong" of the slot machines got a little wearing after a while.

The pace along the main strip is pretty frenetic. If you sit still too long you feel like you're missing something somewhere. From the newest show and hotel sidewalk extravaganza, like the battling ships at Treasure Island, to the still-spectacular volcano eruption at the Mirage to the best and cheapest buffet dinners, there was always something to see and do.

By all accounts GCSAA's 68th International Conference and Show in Las Vegas was a smashing success.

The seminars early in the week were filled to capacity, setting all sorts of attendance records. I ought to know. I had to pick my fourth and fifth choices since I hesitated a little too long in getting registered.

Even then, I had two of the most interesting seminars I had ever taken.

"The Challenge of Owning Your Own Course" and "Maximizing Job Satisfaction" gave me a fresh perspective on the challenges and possibilities available to superintendents everywhere. I recom-



FGCSA Association Manager Marie Roberts let this Elvis impersonator have his picture taken with her after she hit a jackpot early in the convention.

#### SUPRINTENDENT JOURNAL



#### Vegas Revenue Review

Spinning shiny steel cylinders rolled, within the glittering Vegas web of gold. Blinking, flashing, clinking, taking toll.

> Conservative FGCSA members tried their luck at the slots. Most casting and losing, their hard earned lots.

Until one met Lady Luck and didn't get burned! Marie Roberts received a \$1,000.00 return!

- IRENE JONES

mend both of them if you need a change from bugs and weeds.

As always the peer networking was evident as seminar classmates compared notes and swapped business cards during breaks and at lunch. There is a nice thread of continuity when you run into people from across the country you met at previous conferences and you catch up on each others' lives. It's called personal growth and it shapes the kind of manager and person you become just as surely as the classroom material.

Nicklaus admitted that those "chocolate drop" mounds at Loxahatchee and Grand Cypress didn't really work.

It was fun talking to fellow Florida superintendent Joe Dougherty. He was attending his first GCSAA Conference and he was really getting pumped up and enthused by mingling with all the golf talent and absorbing information.

On the flip side, I talked to a dejected superintendent in Orlando after the conference whose club manager doesn't see any value in paying for him to attend seminars. What a shame!

While I enjoyed trying my hand at hitting a slot machine jackpot and learning to play blackjack, the bulk of my time — and that of other superintendents was spent on business. I know there are a lot of clubs out there that still don't support paying their superintendents' travel expenses to meetings and seminars just like my friend in Orlando.

A venue like Las Vegas is even a harder sell!

But my schedule managed to cut through the glitz and glamour and focus on golf. My schedule was probably typical of thousands of other superintendents. Only the names of the seminars and concurrent sessions were different.

I attended three full-day seminars and one half-day seminar for tested CEU credits toward my recertification on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

On Monday, I went to the early-morning "Innovative Superintendents Session" and then I attended a Golf Course Architects Forum with Rees Jones, Arthur Hills and Jack Nicklaus. Nicklaus admitted, to his credit, that those "chocolate drop" mounds at Loxahatchee and Grand Cypress didn't really work from a maintenance standpoint.

A little later I went to the Ben Crenshaw press conference where he talked about winning the Old Tom Morris Award. Since Crenshaw is such a golf history buff, he seemed truly overwhelmed by the significance of the award. On Tuesday, I went to the Chapter Newsletter Editors Forum in the morning and spent the afternoon at the trade show. Wednesday was devoted entirely to the trade show.

The show was filled as usual with the tools of our trade with every technological advancement prominently displayed. I walked through miles of aisles of equipment, accessories, amendments, biological controls, fertilizers, chemicals, and services.

In contrast to all the modern equipment present and of nostalgic interest was the display of mowers and equipment from the Old Course in St. Andrews, Scotland. These items have been donated to the Heritage Preservation Committee of the GCSAA, which is collecting tools and memorabilia that represent the history of our profession.

Evenings were filled with traditional functions and receptions.

There was the Opening Session on Saturday night with Capt. James Lovell, commander of the Apollo 13 mission. While generally praising the accuracy of the hit movie's account to the mission, Lovell gave a personal account of the real trials and tribulations of that event. His message: The successful solution and conclusion to that potential disaster was the best example of teamwork he could think of.

The much-ballyhooed Government Relations Session with Eleanor Clift and Fred Barnes of PBS's McLaughlin Group was interesting but a little underwhelming compared to some speakers in the past. The unflappable (shuttle bus) driver proceeded to take us all the way back to the hotel in reverse against traffic in time for us to catch the next bus

Clift and Barnes played their left and right positions true to type. Almost like caricatures!

The voice of common sense in the person of developer Kim Richards was the voice of mainstream working Americans asking for sensible laws and regulations, accountable legislators — not bureaucrats — making the regulations, and clear compliance rules and requirements before passage of the laws.

The event was a little too theatrical to be stimulating. Most of these political pundits are celebrities and not true sounding boards of the real world.

On Sunday night, the FGCSA hosted another great reception and about 450 Florida superintendents, spouses and suppliers got together to compare the week's progress and gambling losses. Many thanks to the sponsors for helping to make the reception a success.

Then there are always those special incidents and adventures that add a little color and excitement to each conference.

One morning as we were enjoying some clever repartee with our jovial shuttle bus driver, the forward gears of the transmission failed about three blocks from our hotel. The unflappable driver proceeded to take us all the way back to the hotel in reverse against traffic in time for us to catch the next bus. He gave a running commentary of the non-existent oncoming traffic and gave us all a start when we bounced over a speed bump as he claimed a collision was imminent.

Two days late and several dollars short, our own Marie Roberts gave me a little casino insider tip: Find the change makers in the slot machine areas and ask them where the loosest slot machines are located in the casino. You should reciprocate with a tip if you hit. Marie did! In fact her good fortune inspired a verse from Irene Jones (See "Vegas Revenue Revue," page 90).

In terms of the cash that I brought to gamble with, I guess some might say I left Las Vegas a loser. In terms of what I saw and heard about our profession and our association, thousands of winners left Las Vegas, excited about carrying on the traditions of the game of golf.



#### AFTERWORDS



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## **Call For Articles**

This is a call for articles for the 1997 Summer and Fall issues of the Florida Green Deadline for the Summer issue is May 16, 1997 and for the Fall issue is August 15, 1997.

Contact Joel D. Jackson, Editor for more information. Phone: 407-248-1971. Fax: 407-248-1971. E-mail: FLGrn @aol.com

#### **Hands On Topics**

Summer - Managing Your Irrigation. Superintendents are invited to submit articles that discuss topics related to, but not limited to, equipment, scheduling, system improvements, water sources, permits, conservation, problems and solutions, hand watering, surfactants and fertigation considerations. Slides and photographs are encouraged.

Fall - Renovations and Rebuilding. Superintendents are invited to submit articles relating to renovation and rebuilding projects. Topics may include the decisionmaking process, planning the project, construction techniques, problems and solutions, in-house vs. outside contractors and impacts to the maintenance and members. Slides and photographs encouraged.

- SUPERINTENDENT'S JOURNAL: Personal observations or experiences related to any phase of the turf management profession.
- **HEADS UP:** General management topics beyond turf. Examples: facilities, personnel, computers, training, etc.
- **OPINION:** Exactly what it means! Articles voicing a personal point of view on any topic concerning Florida superintendents.
- **RESEARCH:** A section reserved primarily for university and technical authors to report on research results within the turf industry.
- **RUB OF THE GREEN:** Articles and anecdotes with a humorous twist.
- **TURFGRASS TRIVIA:** Facts and tips that promote the benefits of turfgrass and golf courses.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Superintendents are invited to submit ideas and articles about environmental issues and initiatives at their courses. Contact Shelly Foy, Stewardship Coordinator, for more information. Phone: 561-2620. Fax: 561-546-4653. E-mail: 102677.257@compuserve.com

#### Letters to the Editor

Dear Joel:

I am very tardy in writing this letter, but I sincerely want to thank you and Dan Zelazek for the wonderful article ["It Takes A Village," Summer 1996] in *The Florida Green*. The journalism drew many compliments from our membership after they received their personalized copy of the article. The photos have also all been blown up to 20" x 30" and hung in the clubhouse.

A special thank you also goes to the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association for allowing The Hamlet and me to be a feature article.

Both Dan and you are a credit to your profession and your hobbies. Thank you again.

> Robin Goodell Golf Course Superintendent The Hamlet

We appreciate the kind words. The superintendents tell the stories. I just listen and put them in print so the experiences can be shared. As for Daniel, he sees our courses in a special way and captures them on film for us to enjoy again and again. Thanks for letting us know we were successful at showing and telling The Hamlet's story.

Note: There are 11 local chapters of the FGCSA. The cover story feature is rotated among the chapters. The Fall cover story is always dedicated to the course and chapter of the incoming president. Otherwise, the board of directors of each chapter nominates and selects the course and superintendent to be featured.



1997 Photo contest - Category 4 — Scenic Hole Layout, Frosty Morn on Disney's Osprey Ridge GC. Photo by Joel Jackson

# **3rd Annual Florida Green Photo Contest under way**

Category 1 - Wildlife on the Course: includes mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians.

Category 2 - Course Landscape: Formal Plantings: includes annuals, shrubs, trees, entrance and tee signs

**Category 3** - Course Landscape: Native Plantings: includes aquatic vegetation, grasses, shrubs, trees and wildflowers. **Category 4** - Scenic Hole Layout Shots: includes sunrises, sunsets, frosts, storms and any other golf hole view.

#### Prizes

1st Place (\$100) and 2nd Place (\$50) in each category
 Editor's Choice-Best Overall Photo - \$100.
 All winning entries published in the Fall 1997 issue.

#### **Easy Rules**

- 1. Color prints or slides. Only one entry per category.
- 2. Photo must be taken on an FGCSA member's course. Photo must be taken by an FGCSA member or a member of his staff.
- **3.** Attach a label to the back of the print or slide which identifies the category, course and photographer. DO NOT WRITE DIRECTLY ON THE BACK OF THE PRINT. Each photo shall be attached to a sheet of 8.5 x 11 lined paper. Line up the photo with the vertical and horizontal lines to square the photo on the page. Attach the print to the paper using a loop of masking tape on the back of the photo. Slides must be easily removable for viewing.
- **4** A caption identifying the category, course and photographer should be typed or printed on the sheet of paper below the print or slide.
- 5. Judging will be done by a panel of FGCSA members not participating in the contest.
- 6. Mail entries in a bend proof package to: Joel D. Jackson, 6780 Tamarind Circle, Orlando 32819. No entries accepted postmarked after August 15, 1997.

#### AFTERWORDS

Using my column in a quarterly magazine to make reports of my activities on behalf of the FGCSA and FTGA is like choosing the Pony Express

UF's turf program: Slowly but surely... over e-mail. Nevertheless it chronicles our progress and ensures that every Florida superintendent is aware of what's happening, even if the information is old news by the time it is read in *The Florida Green*.

A couple of significant developments have occurred in our quest to persuade the University

of Florida to enhance support of their turfgrass program.

### Mark My Words



Mark Jarrell, CGCS Assistant Editor

An outside review of the program, suggested by Jan Beljan at our big meeting with UF officials last April, was completed on February 21. I'm confident the final report will have been completed and distributed by the time this magazine is in your hands and that the report will make recommendations which IFAS will utilize to expand and improve the turf program.

We owe a great deal of gratitude to the Review Team. These gentlemen took a week of their time to come to Florida and thoroughly examine the University of Florida's Turfgrass Program.

Hats off to Dr. Bruce Clark of Rutgers, Dr. Karl Danneberger of Ohio State, Dr. James Fiescher of Clemson, Dr. Keith Karnok of Georgia, Dr. Michael Kenna of the USGA, Gordon LaFontaine of the Michigan Turfgrass Association, Gene Maples of the Turfgrass Council of North Carolina, and our own Ralph White representing the FTGA. They worked their tails off and left no stone unturned in their quest for the facts.

Thanks are also due Jeff Ball, David Barnes, Roy Bates, Jeff Hayden, and Dale Kuehner for their participation and contributions.

The other development regarding the UF Turf Program is actually a disappointment. Our efforts to hire a Turfgrass Coordinator have suffered a setback. Seventeen candidates applied for the position. The field was narrowed to five, then to two, and when one of those accepted another job we were left with one applicant.

The candidate was not offered the job, not for any glaring deficiencies, but because of the extremely high personal as well as professional qualifications we have placed on this position offering.

Honestly, I'm not that disappointed in this turn of events. I think it makes more sense to wait until the review is finalized before a coordinator is hired to lead the program. I also think we can fine tune the job description and position announcement to attract an illustrious candidate. The most disappointing thing is that it will probably take another six months or more before a coordinator can be hired due to the required protocol.

Compared to industry, the wheels at the university – any university – turn very slowly, but the potential benefits are worth the wait.

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#### AFTERWORDS

Breaking news: Groundhog Fired. Punxsutawney Phil found guilty of taking illegal contributions to alter winter weather! The famous furry weather prognosticator

Warm... and Warmer was accused of accepting illegal contributions to his retirement fund from Florida weather forecasters in return for spending a night in the Spring is Sprung bedroom of his burrow. In consideration for the illegal donations, the groundhog agreed to say that he saw his

shadow in December which completely eliminated winter in Florida this year.

After only one or two piddly frosts and one day in January when it did get legitimately cold, this has been the warmest winter I can remember in my 54 years in Florida.

So what am I complaining about? Well, it's pretty darn hard to grow a good stand of winter grass when you're not having winter.

After years of learning that we'd better overseed to stay green and playable during the heavy winter golf traffic, we have a year when we could have saved all that time and money. Maybe some folks will decide to not overseed as much next year. It's always a gamble isn't it? Maybe that's why we were in Las Vegas this year – to remember what it's like to win some and to lose some.

It was so warm this past fall that the bermudagrass never slowed down so we could get the ryegrass established. We found out how puny the ryegrass was when it did get cold and the bermuda turned purple and tan. Then it warmed back up and got dry and breezy. Now we sit and watch the ryegrass say bye-bye a little more each day. Not a bad thing for transition in general – it's just a little earlier than usual.

I have enough pessimist in me that I am worrying that a late season cold snap might zap us around the March full moon. Then we will take a lot of flack from the same people who have been playing golf all winter in shorts instead of sweaters.

I don't mean to be grinding too big an ax over this pleasant weather. I'm just bummed out because I bought some neat long-sleeved polo shirts and sweaters to wear this year and it hasn't been cold enough to get my money's worth. I also bought tens of thousands of dollars worth of seed this year. I didn't get my money's worth out of that either. There are lot more people bummed out about that.

For Pete's sake, whatever you've got out there – rye or bermuda, keep the Green Side Up!

More late breaking news: It was only a matter of time before the artistry of Daniel Zelazek reached beyond the pages of the *Florida Green*. Zelazek, *Florida Green* cover photographer since 1981, has teamed up with businessman and scratch golfer, Lawrence Mueller, to launch a new venture called Signature Golf Images by Z.

The PGA Tour has agreed to display and sell Daniel's large format lithographs of TPC golf holes at their TPC tournament locations. Currently available are 36 x 28 inch lithographic prints of the famous 17th island hole and the picturesque 11th hole at the TPC Stadium Course in Ponte Vedra. The prints are also available directly from the PGA Tour. For more information contact TPC Headquarters at (904) 273-3235. Good luck, Z!

## Green Side Up



Joel D. Jackson, CGCS Editor

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Photo of 70% Cypress Poa trivialis and 30% Trueline Creeping Bentgrass Green courtesy of Banyan Golf Club in Palm Beach, FL. Dan Jones, CGCS Golf Course Manager



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