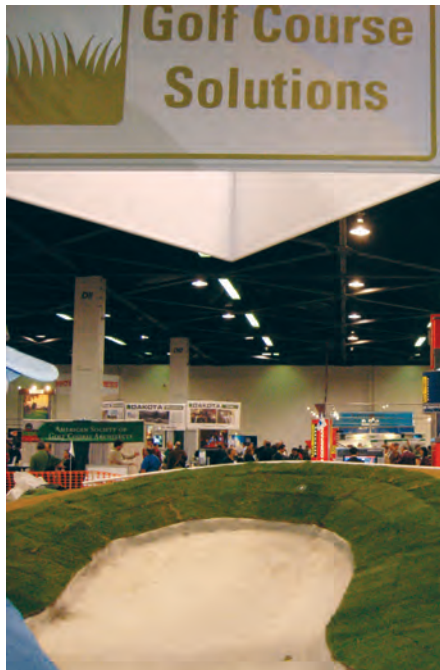


Golf Industry Show breaks records

Exhibitors, buyers, total attendees set new marks; Florida golf team takes national championship

This year's Golf Industry Show Feb. 22-24 in Anaheim, Calif., achieved an all-time high of 23,109 total attendees, surpassing last year's figure in Atlanta by more than 4,000. The most impressive number was the 9,697 qualified buyers (those who are part of the purchase process) in attendance. A three-year best, those buyers were greeted by a record 981 exhibitors covering another record 291,250 square feet of exhibit space.

Leaders from all areas of the golf industry participated as exhibitors, attendees and contributors to seminars, forums, sessions and special meetings. Sixty-eight countries were represented,



In Orlando in 2005 the Golf Course Builders Association built a green on the trade show floor. In Anaheim they built a bunker in the Golf Solutions Center. Photo by Joel Jackson.

with 1,931 international attendees.

Florida's FGCSA golf team finished first in the Team Gross Division and South Florida's Bob Harper tied for second with Paul Jett of Pinehurst, finishing two shots behind Jason Regan of Selma (Ala.) CC. Jim Torba from

the Everglades GCSA finished fourth overall.

Around three hundred people attended the FGCSA Reception in Anaheim at the Sheraton Park Hotel just down the street from the convention center. The annual FGCSA Benevolent Fund raffle earned nearly \$2300 thanks to raffle winner Steve Ehrbar, CGCS, Lost Tree G, who donated back his share to be used for the Mike Ballard Relief Fund in Palm Beach.

The Old Tom Morris Award was presented this year to Charlie "Just Let Me Play" Sifford, the first African-American to win a tournament on the PGA Tour. A video of Sifford's battle to break the color barrier highlighted his playing career and a taped message from Tiger Woods, who calls Sifford his uncle, preceded the award presentation.

Next Johnny Miller, the often critical King of Grain golf announcer, proved to be quite human as his love of the land and of his role as family man came through a surprising and emotional keynote address during the memorable and diverse Opening Session. The session began with a couple of Native American songs played by members



One of the largest post session crowds ever stayed around to meet and greet Johnny Miller after his emotional Opening Session speech. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Charlie Sifford receives the Old Tom Morris Award in Anaheim from GCSAA President Sean Hoolehan, CGCS. Photo by Joel Jackson.

of the Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla tribes from the Umatilla Indian Reservation, where GCSAA President Sean Hoolehan, CGCS oversees the Wildhorse Casino Golf Resort.

Check out the photos highlighting the week that was in Anaheim.



Steve Ehrbar, CGCS donated his raffle winnings back to the Benevolent Fund to help Mike Ballard and family recover from a fire that destroyed their home. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Stephen Fox, the fourth member of the FGCSA Team. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Seth Strickland, Bob Harper and Jim Torba celebrate the Florida Team victory at the FGCSA Reception in Anaheim. Photo by Joel Jackson.