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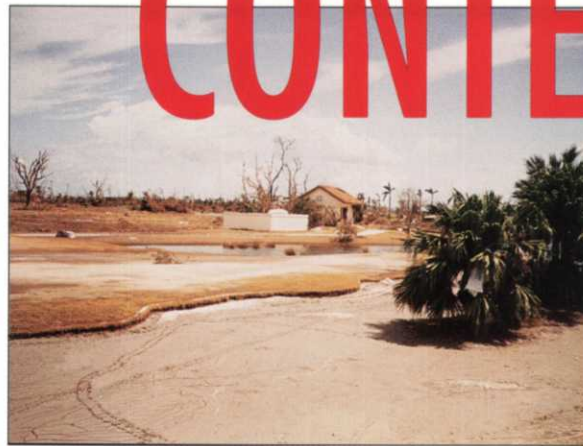
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1992-93

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Official Voice of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association

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TURFGRASS QUIZ

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Problem:
Extremely heavy moisture on Number 18 fairway.

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Clue: Four-wheel drive needed to pull mowers.

Answer: See Page 12



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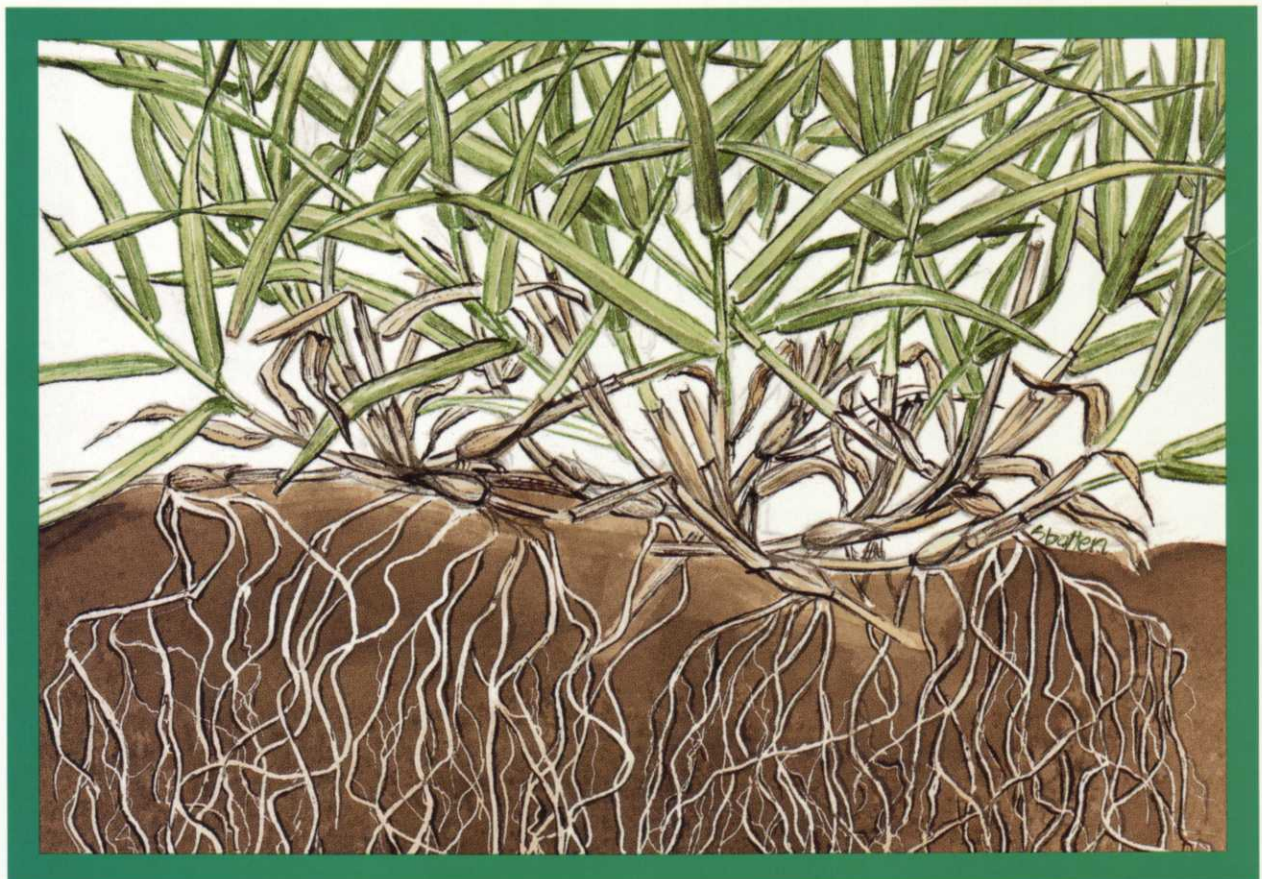
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When a crisis occurs



Mark Jarrell

Mark Jarrell, CGCS
President
FGCSA

I'm not the first person to observe that crisis illuminates character.

Hurricane Andrew, the Big One we've been expecting for decades, violated the southern tip of the Sunshine State Aug. 24. As the authors of Victorian novels put it, he "had his way" with us. Rape is too mild a word for the physical, economic and emotional devastation this father of all storms ripped out of south Dade County.

Tornadoes destroy neighborhoods; Andrew took out half a county with one mighty punch below the citrus belt. Flattened it. Took away its innocence, its infrastructure and its image of invincibility in a few predawn hours that must have been sheer terror to those who lived through it.

But we've all seen the television pictures, talked with friends who were taken to the mat by Andrew and many of us took sight-seeing excursions to what used to be Kendall and Perrine and Homestead, often in the guise of pressing business.

Still, I wasn't all that excited when I learned that this issue of *The Florida Green* was going to focus on Hurricane Andrew. We know the damage was bad, but of more than 1,000 golf courses in Florida, fewer than 100 were disrupted by the storm and fewer than a dozen suffered really significant damage. My own golf course, about 70 miles north of the hurricane's eye, sustained nothing more than a messy layer of leaves and small branches — less than we often get in a fast-moving summer thunderstorm.

Then I began to read my fellow superintendents' stories of their recovery from the storm. More than one wrote about the "true grit" displayed by crew

members, many left homeless themselves, who worked bone-numbing hours to help homeowners remove debris and water from their homes before turning their attention to the golf course.

I wondered, with a touch of awe, at the loyalty of workers who would labor like mules for long hours to clear debris and restore golf courses to playable condition in just a few days. Loyalty like that is developed only through enlightened leadership.

Rodney McNeill, superintendent at Calusa CC, wrote how proud he was to be part of an organization that would raise relief funds, not for its own members, but for its members' employees. Yes, I'm proud of our Hurricane Andrew Relief Fund too — and of David Meda, assistant superintendent at Boca West CC, for getting the ball rolling.

But more than anything else, I am proudest of the leadership exhibited by those superintendents who faced Hurricane Andrew's full fury and dealt with its aftermath. It's not uncommon for one person to rise up and perform an act of heroism in a cataclysmic moment. It's an altogether different matter to instill a sense of loyalty and dedication in your work force so that, when a crisis occurs, it will instinctively and unselfishly meet the challenge and focus on the job at hand.

While it is important to know what needs to be done, the real test is getting people to do it in the face of adversity. I'd say the character of golf course superintendents came through Hurricane Andrew standing tall and shining brightly.

“Best overseeded grasses on the putting green were Sabre and Cypress cultivars of *Poa trivialis*”

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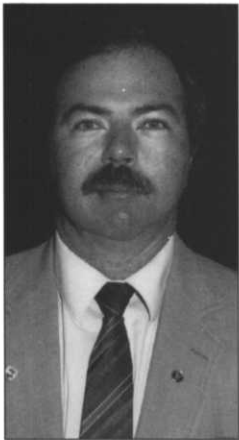
Table 2. Monthly and seasonal months for turf quality of winter overseeded grasses 'Tidward' bermudagrass putting green from December 1991 to April 1992 at Gainesville, FL.

Turfgrass	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Mean
Sabre	7.8	8.2	8.4	8.0	5.5	7.8
Cypress	7.2	7.4	7.4	8.0	6.0	7.4
Pinnacle	7.5	7.8	7.3	6.6	5.5	7.1
Premier	7.8	7.7	7.1	6.8	4.5	7.0
Mix #1	7.4	7.7	7.5	7.3	5.0	6.8
Mix #2	7.2	7.8	7.9	6.9	5.3	6.8
GH-89	7.1	7.3	7.0	6.5	5.5	6.8
Southern Select	7.5	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.8	6.8
Mix #1	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.3	6.1	6.8
Leader Board	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.6	6.8
Medalist	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.0	6.1	6.8
Repell II	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Essence	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Cowboy II	6.8	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
CBS II	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Evening Shade	6.8	7.5	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Pennant	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Mulligan	6.8	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Ph.D	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Pebble Beach	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Sunrise Primo	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Prelude II	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Alliance	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Patriot II	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Turf Seed Blend #1	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Competitor	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
WX-1	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
WX-115	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
WX-P-83	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Turf Seed Blend #2	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Palmer II	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Essence	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Pennant	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8
Blend	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.1	6.8

In the eye of the storm

**‘You too
have a
story
everyone
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benefit
from’**

Editorial License



Tom Benefield, CGCS
Editor

Just when you thought it was safe to read *The Florida Green* again a shocking rumor was circulated, I have to admit it is true, they've asked me to be the editor.

Actually it's Joel Jackson's fault. If he had not asked me several years ago to be his assistant I would not find myself in this predicament.

Some say it is like letting the inmates run the prison, while more philosophical people say that even the best made plans of mice and men sometimes go astray. Well, I sometimes wander but hardly ever stray, except maybe in New Orleans while watching Florida play in the Sugar Bowl game. But no chance of that this year so I think we are safe for now.

I must admit however that I am honored to be asked to be editor and will work diligently to keep *The Florida Green* to the high standards it has become and which other industry publications are judged by. It will not be an easy task. To follow in the footsteps of Joel (and before him Dan Jones) will be a difficult mission. Two of the most ethical and dedicated men in the turf industry have steered this publication into the position of leadership it attains today. My hat is off to them, they have performed admirably and each of us in our association owe them a debt of gratitude.

This issue marks other changes in the magazine. With this special Hurricane Andrew issue we return to a quarterly publishing schedule. It also begins a positive restructured arrangement of duties and responsibilities with the publisher, Janlark Communications Inc. The old agreement was not fair to either them or us and the new one is beneficial to both parties. We are pleased to continue the relationship with Janlark and look forward to many fruitful years with Larry Kieffer and company.

However, the success of this publication relies more on you rather than me. For, you see, I am simply the steward, the figurehead and guiding hand who will mold the shape and focus of the issues. You, however, are the integral part of the wheel that will give the magazine back the flavor of superintendent-written articles. It is the responsibility of every member of the FCGSA to write an article for the magazine. Each of us have ideas and

stories to tell and we want you to tell yours.

It doesn't have to read like a Louis L'Amour paperback novel. All it has to do is make sense. We can make it read and flow in a proper editorial manner. But you have to do it first, just like the guy who puts his mole cricket mating-call tapes in an ice chest, floats it in the lake, and swears that the crickets are eaten by the fish when they land on the water, you too have a story everyone can benefit from.

You also have another direct role to play in the success of this magazine; you can support those who advertise in *The Florida Green*. These companies are putting their profits back into your magazine to help us educate and help fellow superintendents. The advertisers deserve your support in return for their commitment of supporting our association. So you see, it is just like I said before. You — not I — have the greater influence on how well our magazine will succeed. I promise you this: I will do my part. All I am asking is that you do yours.

This hurricane issue is a prime example of how your experiences have filled the pages for the good of all. I would like to thank all of those who returned hurricane surveys and wrote first-person accounts. While editing the articles for this issue I felt at times that I was right in the eye of the storm myself and thank God that I was physically 100 miles north of the destruction. It is truly a credit to the human spirit and strong moral fiber of Americans which allow for us to survive and rebuild when all that was left after the storm was sorrow and despair. The donations, the volunteers, the good will of the American people to come to the aid of others in times such as these demonstrates that we are the greatest nation in the world. The courage and dignity of American people were never so evident than in the stories which follow.

The real heroes of Hurricane Andrew are everywhere: neighbors, strangers, people of all walks of life pitching in and doing for others even when they had nothing left themselves. It makes one proud to be an American. Well, enough from me today. If I'm not careful I'll be singing the national anthem before I finish; I'm already humming it.

Before I go I must say a bit about the proposed GCSAA bylaws changes. I'm rather curious if there is anyone else out there who is as concerned with

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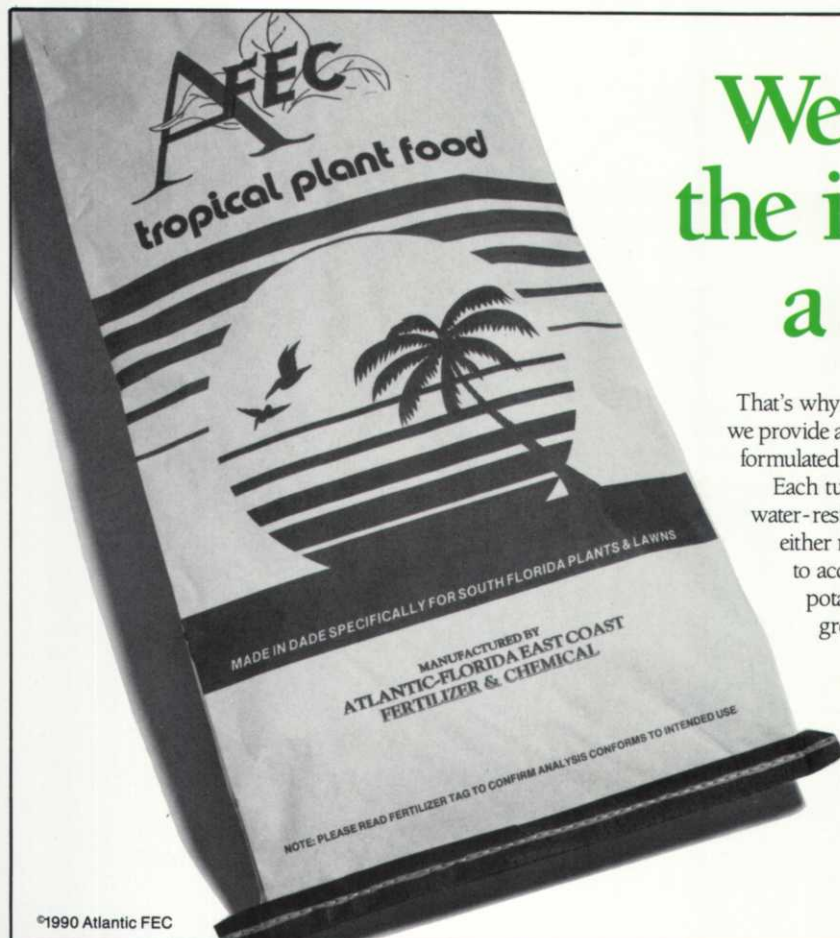
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Tom Benefield

continued

the slick, glossy media blitz coming out of Lawrence, Kan. To read the "unbiased" GCM one would get the impression that the whole universe supported these changes. I guess what is so unsettling is that everyone I speak to in other states has an opposite opinion of what the GCM relates. If GCM can't present both sides of the issues now, how do we know we can trust it to fairly present the future candidates in their magazine? If delegate voting is outlawed, how can we trust GCM's editors to not pick their choice for directors and slant the information on those candidates to sway the election? The past few months have raised a lot of questions not only about the bylaws but also the "slick Willie" campaign to push them through. So until next time, take care and keep thinking those good thoughts.



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FGCSA board opposing some proposed GCSAA Bylaws changes

Minutes of a special meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors regarding GCSAA bylaws changes

A meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors took place on Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1992, at Palm Beach National GC. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposed GCSAA bylaws amendments and establish a position statement to be published in the next issues of *The Green Sheet* and *Florida Green*.

All officers were present. Also attending were external vice presidents Dale Kuehner, Prentice Knott, Alan Puckett and John Gallagher. Kevin Downing, who served on the GCSAA Standards Committee, and Gary Grigg, GCSAA board member, were also present.

President Mark Jarrell began the meeting by stating that the FGCSA wants to be open-minded about our views on the proposed amendments. Much time has been spent studying them at board meetings, informal discussions, and at the local chapter level. By coming up with a published position statement, the FGCSA is letting our position be known so that any FGCSA member who is planning to vote with the FGCSA bloc and disagrees with any of our views, will still have time to remove their name from the bloc at Anaheim during check-in.

It is no secret that the FGCSA is opposed to many of the proposed changes and we do not feel that we are the only chapter opposed to the amendments as they are written. We feel that compromises could be made to make them more acceptable and, where prudent, will offer suggestions and changes to improve the current procedures. Our position statement is not to be misconstrued as a vote of "no confidence" to the current GCSAA board. Rather, we feel it is our inherent

right as dues-paying members of this association to disagree with any proposed change to the GCSAA Bylaws that we feel are not in our best interest.

After some discussion, the following was established for each of the ballot proposals. In the interest of space, we have condensed the reasoning behind the decisions.

Ballot A: Name Change.

Position: Yes

Ballot B: Majority Vote.

Position: No

Reason: We feel that if the proposed amendment is a good amendment then it should not have trouble getting a two-thirds of the voters to agree that it should pass. If it can not get this type of support, then maybe it is not a good amendment.

Ballot C: Elimination of Voting Delegate

Position: No

Reason: While we feel there are some problems with the current method of voting at the Annual Meeting, we do not feel that a member's right to vote through either a delegate or a proxy should be eliminated. Rather we propose that it be amended to allow for voice vote or have all vote results published, listing each chapter's vote.

Ballot D: Legal changes

Position: Yes

Ballot E: Qualifications for memberships

Position: No

Reason: Qualifications for Class A memberships should be set and approved by member vote.

Ballot F: Additional Classifications

Position: Yes

Ballot G: Dues increase without membership approval.

Position: No

Reason: We feel this proposed amendment could merit our approval if it were re-written to include a ceiling for the amount the increase could be in any one year, and perhaps a time lapse period between increases. As far as anyone could remember, the GCSAA has always received approval by the membership when a dues increase was needed.

Ballot H: Voting Procedure

Position: No

Reason: As stated above, we are in favor of delegate voting. However, we do agree with the proposal to vote for secretary/treasurer rather than having an appointed position. We also agree with having the option of running the president-elect unopposed.

Ballot I: Majority Voting

Position: No

Reason: See Ballot B above.

The FGCSA board voiced their concerns with the field staffing program. Even though the majority of the board is in favor of field staffing, it was felt that this should be phased in very slowly.

This person should do more than recruit new members. Concern was raised over the type of person that would be hired for these positions.

Would we be creating our own outside consultants? The board is aware that if Ballot G is not approved, there will be a vote at the annual meeting to increase dues to cover expenses of field staffing.

We, the FGCSA, feel that the best course of action on many of these proposed amendments would be to restructure them into member-oriented posi

