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Team honors were captured by the host Everglades Chapter. Members of the winning team with the four lowest net scores were (l-r): David Fry, Rick Tatum, Roy Bates and standing in for Scott Hamm is Jim Osburn, Tournament Chairman. Photo by Joel Jackson.

management of any pest is knowledge of their biology and ecology. Recent research has provided a clearer picture of the mole cricket and its ability to escape our best control efforts." Brandenburg went on to discuss the various products and control programs that

are being used. Dr. George Snyder, a professor of soil and water science from the University of Florida gave a presentation on "The Value of Soil Testing." Snyder who has been with the university since 1967 is most currently working on developing and

conducting research to investigate nutritional problems of warm season grasses and to examine the fate of pesticides in turfgrass soils. Dr. Snyder's presentation included several laboratory demonstrations of various soil-testing techniques.

On Saturday the Poa Annuum Golf Tournament was played on the newly renovated and partially remodeled Naples Beach Hotel's golf course. The first, ninth and tenth holes have been redesigned to accommodate the new clubhouse and conference center expansion. Perennial contender and past champion Mark Hopkins once again put together a sub-par round to take the individual championship. Mark has now earned the first spot on the 2000 FGCSA golf team to compete in

Alabama next February at the GCSAA Golf Championship. Team honors went to the host Everglades Chapter. With the most golfers to choose from, they found four low netters to capture the trophy and keep the bucket of *Poa annua* at home. Team members were the unlikely quartet of Roy Bates, David Fry, Scott Hamm and Rick Tatum. These guys have been playing too much golf!

It was great to see the families of some of the regulars. Kids growing up. Now driving the family to the Poa. And even better was to meet some new faces and see how much they enjoyed this weekend get away. I had to smile as they all said, "I didn't how great this was. We will definitely be back next year." And that how the traditions live on. Long live the Poa!

JOEL JACKSON, CGCS



FGCSA President Mike Perham, CGCS, left, accepts a check for \$24,000 from South Florida Chapter President Jim Walker at the Spring Board meeting in Naples, FL. The funds came from the 1999 South Florida Turf Expo and will be used to maintain the FGCSA Research Green in Fort Lauderdale. Photo by Joel Jackson.



FGCSA President Mike Perham, CGCS, left, presents Paul Crawford with an award recognizing his five years of service as the business manager of the Florida Green. Paul is stepping down and Mike will assume his duties to help oversee the operation of the magazine. Photo by Joel Jackson.

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^aNovartis ^bRohm & Haas Co. ^cDow AgroSciences LLC ^dRhône-Poulenc



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Number 2 North
Par 3, 200 yards
Photo by Daniel Zelazek.



Killlearn Country Club

The Growing of the Green

BY JOEL D. JACKSON, CGCS

With a name like Killlearn and a shamrock for a logo, it's not hard to conjure visions of the rolling green fields of Ireland when picturing what the Killlearn Country Club in Tallahassee must look like. The clubhouse, pro shop and 39-room inn painted white and trimmed in green sit on a hilltop northwest of downtown in a forest of oaks and



The rolling elevation changes of Killlearn are evident on #3 South, a downhill, 178 yard, par 3 hole. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

pinetrees. The fairways of the 27-hole complex meander up and down the rolling hills bordered by brick homes reminiscent of Georgia and the Carolinas.

Killlearn Country Club is a Bill Amick creation and the original 18 holes were opened for play in 1967. The private membership course was the site of the PGA Tour's Tallahassee Open for 20 years from 1969 to 1989. Then the LPGA Tour came to town for their Sprint/Centel Classic from 1990 to 1993. Killlearn Golf and Country Club was the original home for touring professional Bert Yancey early in his career, and in 1971 Lee Trevino won the Tallahassee Open and from there went on to win the U. S. Open, the Canadian Open and the British Open. In 1981 an additional nine holes, the North Course, was added to the original South and East nines.

In 1972 the Golf Course Superinten-

Coastal Plains Chapter

History: Serving the greater Tallahassee and Big Bend area of the state, the Coastal Plains Chapter was founded in 1988 by Robert Giehls, John Fake, Scott Price and Jeff Vietmier. Originally called the Big Bend Chapter, the name was changed to Coastal Plains in 1995.

Activities: Besides holding traditional monthly meetings, the chapter hosts the annual Coastal Plains Classic Turfgrass Research Tournament. The proceeds from this event are used to support the University of Florida's Research and Education Center in Milton, FL and research at the Coastal Plains Station in Tifton, GA.

Mission: Golf courses in the Florida panhandle are few in number widely scattered over a large area. The Coastal Plains Chapter is doing its part to help organize and educate the superintendents in the north central part of the state. Current officers are:

President & External VP: Doug Abbuhl, Seminole GC

Vice President: Mike Echols, Summerbrooke GC

Secretary/Treasurer: Jeff Heggen, Hilaman Park GC

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dents Association of America held its National Golf Championship at Killlearn when the conference was being held in Cincinnati, a mere 725 miles north on I-75. The headquarters for the tournament was the new Holiday Inn hotel downtown and room rates were \$12 - \$17 for single or double occupancy. Ah, the good old days! Today, Killlearn Country Club is part of American Golf Corporation's Private Club Division.

In selecting Killlearn to represent the chapter, Coastal Plains Chapter made Geri Buchheit the first female superintendent to have her course featured as the cover story for the *Florida Green*.



Superintendent Geri Buchheit checks one of the drift fence and trap locations on the course. The traps are part of a wildlife inventory project to identify small mammals, reptiles and invertebrates that currently inhabit the golf course. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Gerri Buchheit

Originally from: St. Louis, Missouri.

Education: 1987 - B.S. in Agronomy with specialization in Turfgrass Management from Texas A&M University.

Employment history: 1992 to present, Killlearn Country Club, Tallahassee; 1990 - 1992, assistant superintendent, Colonial C.C., Ft. Worth, TX; 1987 - 1990, assistant superintendent, Stonebriar C.C., Frisco, TX; Co-op program internships at Cherry Hills C.C., Denver, CO; Emerald Bay G.C., Tyler, TX and Oakmont C.C., Denton, TX.

Professional affiliations/Honors: Member of: GCSAA, FTGA and Coastal Plains Chapter of the Florida GCSA. Service: 1996 - President Coastal Plains Chapter; 1996-98 Coastal Plains Classic Golf Tournament Committee; 1996-98 Leon County Advisory Committee for Master Wildlife Conservationist Program; 1997 - American Golf's Highest Rated Regional Superintendent determined by membership survey.

People who have influenced your life and career: Dan Hedrick, superintendent at Creve Coeur GC, the first course I worked on. He made it fun. Jim Mills, my advisor at Texas A&M. I got some great job experience because he encouraged me to go through the Co-op program. My parents got me a great education and instilled a strong work ethic. My dad also encouraged my change of my field of study from Industrial Technology to pursue a turf degree. Floyd Robinson, our mechanic for his support and guidance. Floyd has been in the business for 30 years and was a former superintendent at Killlearn.

How did you get into the business: I applied for a job with the City of Creve Coeur in St. Louis through the CETA program. They hired quite a few kids to work in the Streets and Parks Dept. and one or two for the golf course. The first day I happened to be standing next to Don Hedrick, the superintendent, and he asked me if I was afraid of a handmower? I said, "No!" He asked me if I wanted to work on the golf course and I said, "Sure!" I continued to work for Don the next three summers after the program ended.

Memorable moments: I have been fortunate to work on courses hosting professional golf events eight times: 2-Colonial//SW Bell Invitationals; 1985 PGA Championship at Cherry Hills; 1991 US Women's Open at Colonial; 2-LPGA Skins Games and the Murata Senior PGA Reunion at Stonebriar; and the 1993 LPGA Sprint Classic at Killlearn.

Hobbies and interests: Saltwater fishing, soccer and cooking.



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No. 7 North, a 170-yard par 3 seen from behind the forward tees. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

Geri is one of only about 53 women superintendents who are members of the GCSAA.

Buccheit said she feels no special pressure to prove herself as she assumed her first superintendent's position.

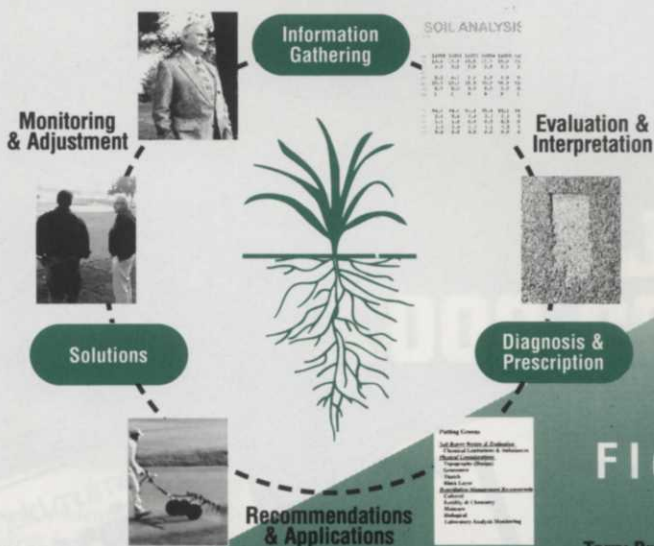
"They hired me evidently feeling I was the best qualified for the job, and I guess I've been doing something right since then," She said. "I've always had the philosophy that the results of hard work always speaks for itself."

Evidently the members agree as she earned a 1997 American Golf Highest Rated Regional Superintendent award based on a membership survey.

Buchheit has been at Killlearn's helm for the past seven years. She hosted the last LPGA event at Killlearn in 1993, but she is no stranger to preparing a golf course for professional tour events. Buchheit has two Southwest Bell-Colonial Invitationals and a U.S. Women's Open as an assistant superintendent at the Colonial C. C. in Ft. Worth, Texas.

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