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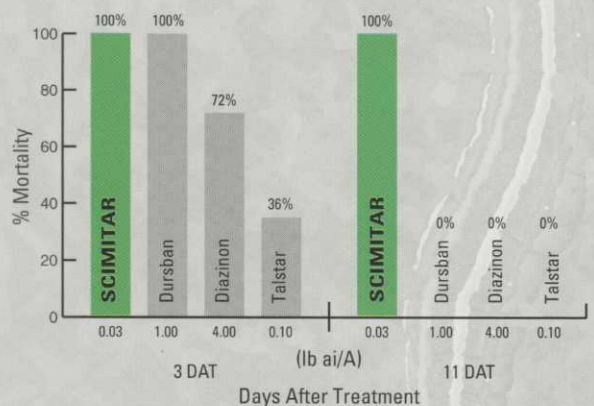
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From left: Don Benham, FTGA Director of Public Relations; Rich Skorepa, Bayer Corporation; Dr. Pat Cobb, Professor Emeritus Auburn University and John Kopack, President Central Florida GCSA were part of the program at the annual Central Florida/FTGA Turf Research Tournament held at the Interlachen CC in Winter Park. Photo by Joel Jackson.

CENTRAL FLORIDA GCSA

12th Annual Event Funds Research

A total of 32 teams participated in the 12th Annual Turf Research Tournament at the Interlachen Country Club in Winter Park Jan. 10.

The two-man scramble pairs a superintendent with an official from his/her club.

This event is a combined effort of the Central Florida GCSA and the FTGA to raise money for turf research.

Dr. Patricia Cobb, professor emeritus from the Entomology Department of Auburn University, was the guest speaker for the education portion of the

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day's events. Dr. Cobb's appearance was sponsored by the Bayer Corporation. She spoke at several superintendent meetings around the state in January.

The purpose of Dr. Cobb's presentation was to offer an alternative method of controlling mole crickets with Merit that would also control grub populations that may be on the increase since the widespread use of Chipco Choice.

Dr. Cobb was quick to point out that Choice does an excellent job on mole crickets, but grubs are not affected by the active ingredient in Choice.

Dr. Cobb encouraged all superintendents to return to basics with their insect control programs by utilizing scouting, mapping, flushing and life cycle observations to accurately time the application of chemicals for the most efficient application of products to control target pests.

She calls it, "Intelligent Plant Management."

By careful observation of the development of the female adult mole crickets in the spring, a superintendent can time an application of Merit that will not only control the new hatch of mole crickets, but it will also control grubs when they are near the surface.

A word of caution — it is better to be a little early than late or the grub cycle will be missed and the mole cricket nymphs are best controlled when they are small.

Armed with those words of wisdom, the audience

adjourned to a bountiful buffet lunch prepared by the Interlachen culinary staff.

After lunch the players battled traditionally tough pin placements on the immaculate greens groomed to perfection by host superintendent Stuart Leventhal.

The Interlachen C. C. donates the use of the golf course and carts for the event and the only costs are for the lunch, guest speaker and prizes.

This year we want to thank the Bayer Corporation for sponsoring Dr. Cobb's appearance. The remainder of the proceeds will be donated to the FTGA Research Foundation.

JOE ONDO, CGCS
Winter Pines GC

RIDGE GCSA

**Paul Hickman
Roasted at Lone Palm**

In a rare display of touchy-feelie emotion, the Ridge Chapter embraced Paul Hickman during their November meeting at the Lone Palm CC in Lakeland.

Known for capturing the bragging rights in many of the state's golf tournaments, the members of the Ridge GCSA paid respectful homage to Paul Hickman, one of the chapter founders and the former superintendent of the Grenelefe Resort.

Hickman, now vice president of Landscape and Golf Services for OneSource, Inc, was presented an FGCSA President's Award at the chapter meeting following



Paul Hickman, CGCS (center) of OneSource Landscape & Golf was honored and roasted by his former proteges and peers at the Ridge GCSA meeting in November. Presenting Hickman with the 2000 FGCSA President's Award were Steve Ciardullo, president of the Ridge GCSA, and David Barnes, president of Greg Norman Turf, Inc. and former classmate of Paul's at the University of Florida. Photo by Joel Jackson

the golf outing. The audience was full of Hickman's proteges, many of whom are now practicing superintendents in the area. Professionals like Alan Puckett, Bobby Ellis, Buck Buckner, Steve Ciardullo, Mark Hopkins, Tom Cowan, Roy Wilshire, David Barnes, and Jack Harrell, Sr. came to praise and mildly roast Hickman.

Each had a tale of either working with or for Hickman, and the old war stories were a poignant and often humorous testimony to the affection each person had for their classmate, friend or mentor. To a man they claimed Hickman to be a tough task master, but that they learned good work habits under his tutelage. Hickman was visibly moved by the outpouring of sincere love and appreciation by his former interns and assistants.

Hickman was raised in

**1999 FGCSA
President's Award
Winners**

- Paul Hickman
- Dave Holler
- Steve Pearson
- ✓ Al Ross
- ✓ Dale Walters

Jasper and graduated from the University of Florida in 1971 during the G. C. Horn years. He took a job at Palm Aire CC but soon found himself at the Bardmoor CC in Clearwater with classmate David Barnes. In 1975 Hickman was hired as the superintendent of Grenelefe West. He had just ten on the crew.

As golf grew in the region, Paul organized informal golf outings with area superintendents and they would sit around and

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talk shop after the round. Travel time to attend meetings of the closest chapters, Central Florida and West Coast was a burden for most of the superintendents so they just continued to meet informally to discuss problems and issues.

In 1990, when the FGCSA organized, the Ridge group decided to formalize their organization. The first set of bylaws were written on a cocktail napkin and the Ridge legend was born.

Hickman is considered the instigator and chief founder of the organization often making phone calls and mailing out meeting announcements to get the chapter rolling. The

founders decided quickly to make the primary purpose of the chapter to continue a relaxed friendly atmosphere and not get caught up in politics. It was to be service and substance above all else.

If there can be a measure of the success of the chapter's approach it can be found perhaps in the relatively low turnover rate for superintendents in the area. In his acceptance speech Hickman pointed to the spirit of community that has been fostered over the years. Indeed the Ridge Chapter is involved in several regional programs including annual donations of time and money to the Winter Haven Youth Soccer program, Bartow Youth Girls Villa, Ministry for

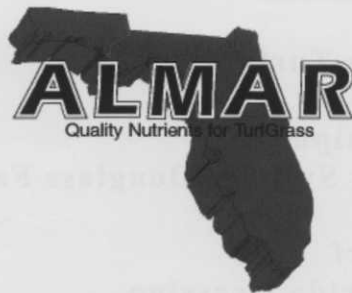
Boys, Ag Crime Unit, Disaster Relief Fund, Children's Hospital and last year the Ridge Chapter stepped in to help a young boy with spina bifida replace a stolen bicycle and helped his family get a special wheelchair.

This spirit of helping stems in part from Hickman's own set of values where he ranks Christian living, family life and being a superintendent as the order of the priorities in his life. He met his wife Terry on his crew at Grenelefe. He had to fire her so he could marry her. They have been married 20 years and have two children, Will (16) and Anna (12).

Hickman sees the fierce

competition for business and jobs as creating a stay-at-home mentality for many superintendents. He said, "With golfer and management expectations so high these days, it is easy for superintendents to fall into a rut and not take time to get away for meetings and even continuing education. They get so afraid something is going to happen if they're gone, so they stay on the job longer and longer and lose confidence in themselves and they lose balance in their lives."

Hickman says superintendents need to be encouraged to become involved in their communities and their associations. He worries that the young



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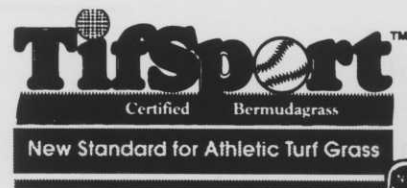
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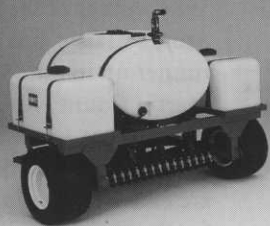
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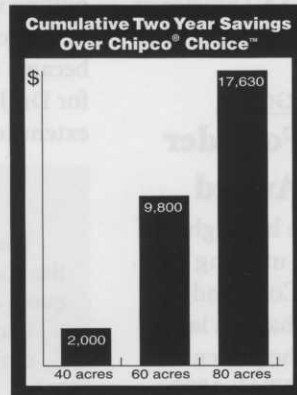
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Steve Keller, GCS of The Moorings Club, presented Treasure Coast GCSA founder Dave Holler with an FGCSA President's Award for Lifetime Service at the joint Treasure Coast & Palm Beach GCSA meeting held at the Jupiter Island Club last October. Photo by Steve Pearson.

men and women coming into the profession can't or don't appreciate the hard work and dedicated service that it took our predecessors to take our profession to where we are today.

Hickman says, "The new generation must now jump in and participate to help continue the progress."

JOEL D. JACKSON, CGCS
FGCSA Director of
Communications

TREASURE COAST GCSA Chapter Founder Receives Award

One of the highlights of the joint meeting of the Treasure Coast and Palm Beach Chapters last October was the presentation of the FGCSA's 1999

President's Award for Lifetime Service to David C. Holler, one of the founders of the Treasure Coast GCSA.

Dave grew up in State College, Pa., the home of Penn State University. He lived a couple of blocks from the old University Golf Course, and at the age of 12 in 1950 Dave began pulling weeds and caddying at the golf course. He became the regular caddy for Dr. Jack Harper, the extension specialist for

Penn State University. Dave also played a lot of golf and he played extremely well. He holds the course record of 63 at the Old University golf course.

Dave graduated from high school in 1956 and was offered several scholarships, but because his father was in poor health, he had no choice but to go to work to support his mother, father and younger brother. Eventually Dave would enroll at Penn State while holding down a regular job as a concrete inspector.

In 1960 Dave was drafted into the Army and had the tough job of giving golf lessons to the officers. After his service was over he returned to Penn State and enrolled in the turfgrass program. Dave married his wife Virginia in 1964 and they are the parents of two children, Dave, Jr. and Karen.

Some of Dave's mentors were Ed Steiniger of Pine Valley, who encouraged him to get involved in the superintendents association; Harry McSloy of Wilmington CC, who helped Dave start the Philadelphia GCSA newsletter; and Warren Bidwell and Tom Mascaro who were good friends.

Dave served as membership chairman for the GCSAA and worked closely with Bill Wagner and George Cavanaugh to help

organize the present Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Dave's resume includes nine golf courses in four states over the past 32 years with stints at Wilmington CC, Delaware; Wildwood G&CC, New Jersey; Schuylkill CC, Schuylkill, Pa.; and in 1971 he was the 32nd superintendent in the nation to be certified while at Gulph Mills GC in King of Prussia, Pa.

In 1980 Dave moved to Coral Gables and began his Florida tenure at the Riviera CC followed by tours of duty at Stuart Y&CC; Quail Ridge, Boynton Beach; Ballantrae, Port St. Lucie; and Frenchman's Creek, Palm Beach Gardens. Dave shifted to the supplier side of the business working for O. M. Scott's, Inc. and he now is currently with Bunch Wholesale Inc. of Texas.

Dave is a great source of information and he is also a collector of golf scorecards, antique golf balls, wooden shafted clubs, seed bags, golf tees and books. In fact he is the author of a short golf instructional book, *Golf Made Easy*. Dave was the 1981 winner of the Poa Annuu Classic and was the runner up in the 1985 Martin County Amateur tournament.

Dave's accomplishments are extensive. His passion for the game of golf and the business of turf management and his willingness to help others make him an excellent recipient for this year's President's Award.

STEVE KELLER
The Moorings GC

CORRECTION

The following sponsors were inadvertently left out of the Sponsor List for the West Coast GCSA/Bud Quandt event on page 17 of the Winter 2000 issue.

Platinum Sponsor - **Golf Ventures**.
Gold Sponsor - **Wesco Turf**.



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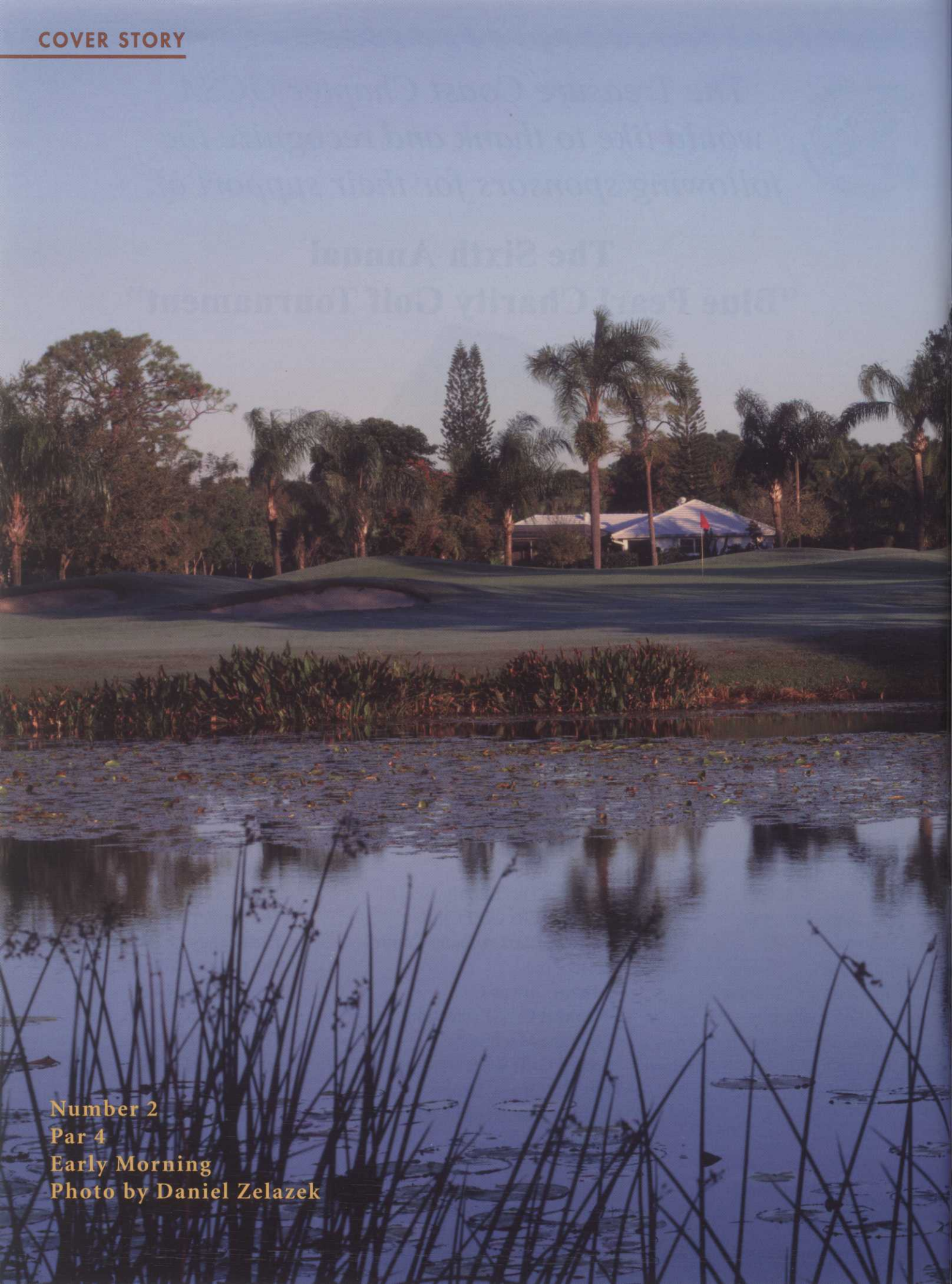
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Number 2

Par 4

Early Morning

Photo by Daniel Zelazek