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inception in 1955, The GCSAA Foundation has provided more than \$1 million in support of numerous research studies and more than 1,000 student scholarships.

RIDGE INVITATIONAL

Record Set at Grasslands

With the March winds coming in like a lamb instead of a lion, the Grasslands CC in Lakeland was less intimidating than in previous years. Proof is in the pudding they say, and Steve Bernard, superintendent at the Adios GC in Coconut Creek, stuck in his thumb and pulled out a plum in the shape of a course-record 66 during the Ninth Annual Ridge Invitational tournament March 13.

Perennial low grossers Mark Hopkins, Bartow GC and Jim Torba, USF GC had to settle for a tie 10 shots back at 76. In the sandbaggers' division, Bob Hall, Ray Cuzzone and Bob Drake tied for first low net. In the suppliers' group, Mark Wheaton repeated as winner of the low gross division and Tom Wells took low net honors with a 64. The chapter team winners used home venue advantage as the Ridge Runner team of Cuzzone, Drake, Dan Smokstad and Hall brought home the trophy.

Most important of all, the full field event, with the help of the sponsors, raised over \$11,000 which will be distributed to turf research projects and local charities.

SOUTH FLORIDA TURF EXPO

Record 392 Attend Expo

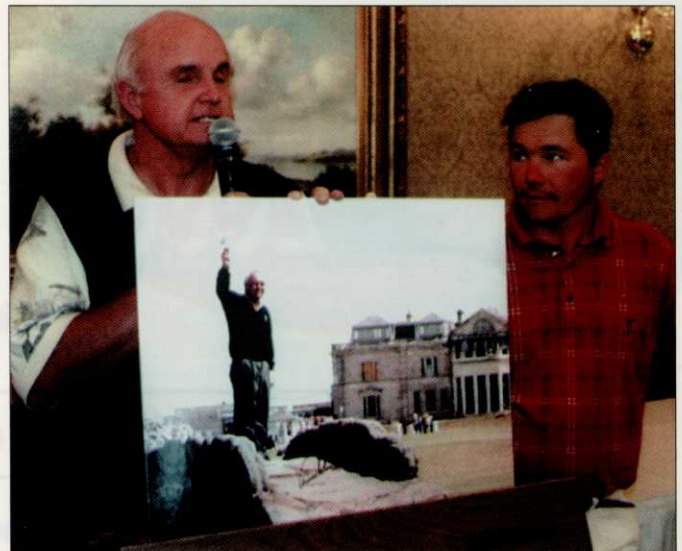
On March 16, the South Florida GCSA Turf Expo set an attendance record with 392 people at the 14th annual event at the UF/IFAS Research and Education Center in Ft. Lauderdale. It was a full day of equipment trials, turf plot tours, mini-trade show, and classroom presentations.

This event draws not only golf course superintendents from southeast Florida, but also large numbers of mechanics, spray techs, irrigation techs and commercial/municipal turf care personnel. There were separate training sessions for all these folks conducted by the equipment companies.

Diamond Turf, Hector Turf, Kilpatrick Turf, Florida Coast Equipment and NuCrane Machinery demonstrated their equipment and 30 vendors also manned the product booths for the mini-trade show, which took place between the morning and afternoon research presentations by IFAS faculty thanks to the organization of Dr. John Cisar.

Special thanks to Wiley McCall and Ray Carruthers of the Emerald Island Turf Company for donating and cooking the barbecue lunch for this record crowd. Their generous participation allows more of the registration dollars to go to research.

This event, which has been held since 1988,



ABC Sports golf commentator and former Gator touring pro Steve Melnyk was the master of ceremonies at the North Florida Mike Richards Memorial Scholarship Tournament awards banquet. NFGCSA Secretary/Treasurer Andy Maguire in the background assisted Melnyk with the presentations. Photo by Joel Jackson.

generated a check for \$26,000 which was presented by SFGCSA President Jim Walker to FGCSA President Darren Davis at the FGCSA board meeting in Naples May 18. These funds, along with local chapter contributions, pay for the FGCSA turf technician who works with IFAS faculty and maintains the Otto Schmeisser Research Green at the Research Center.

MIKE RICHARDS MEMORIAL

Dollars for Scholars

On April 10, superintendent Greg Tharp and the Jacksonville G&CC hosted the Mike Richards Memorial Scholarship Tournament. This annual event is held in honor of the late Mike Richards who was a sales manager for Tresca Industries. In recent years, the North Florida



Bruce Hays Tom Smillie



Mary Ann Richards, widow of Mike Richards

GCSA also added scholarships in memory of PGA Tour agronomist Alan MacCurrach to the event. ABC TV golf announcer



Seven Rivers President Paul Illgen (left) accepts the presenting sponsor check of \$12,500 from Barbaron's Mike Kitchen, Jr. and Terry Lagree. Barbaron's generous sponsorship helped the SRGCSA raise \$50,000 for equipment and research at the Envirotron Research Lab in Gainesville.

and former Gator golfer and TV announcer Steve Melnyk was once again on hand to show his support for the North Florida chapter by acting as master of ceremonies. North Florida Secretary/Treasurer Andy Maguire presented Melnyk with a plaque thanking him for his participation and support.

This year the \$3,000 Mike Richards Scholarship went to Christopher Gonnella, who was unable to attend the event. However, Bruce Hays and Tom Smillie were on hand to accept Alan MacCurrach Scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each. Hays and Smillie are in the Turf Equipment Managers program at Lake City Community College.

ENVIROTRON CLASSIC

Classic Nets

\$50,000

Perhaps it was fitting that the team from Barbaron, Inc should win this year's event on the Rolling Oaks and Pine



Superintendents Mike Swinson of the Pine Barrens course (left) and Paul Illgen of the Rolling Oaks course, had their courses in magnificent condition for the event. World Woods donated use of the courses for the event. Photos by Joel Jackson

Barrens courses at World Woods in Brooksville. Barbaron has been the Major Champion Sponsor, donating \$12,500 to lead the support for this popular and productive fund raiser.

Seven Rivers Treasurer Stuart Bozeman reported that this year's Classic earned \$50,000 for the second year in a row. This event, begun in 1993, has now raised over \$300,000 to help fund equipment purchases and special

research projects at the Envirotron Research Laboratory on the University of Florida campus in Gainesville.

A record 312 golfers gathered for this year's April 17 tournament. On hand to meet and greet the many contestants and to whack the ball around themselves were several UF/IFAS faculty including IFAS Vice President Dr. Mike Martin. Following golf the contestants enjoyed a steak-and-shrimp dinner while the prizes were being awarded.

Congratulations to Tournament Chairman Glen Oberlander, the Seven Rivers Chapter, and host superintendents Paul Illgen and Mike Swinson for putting on another premiere event.

SUNCOAST SCRAMBLE

Putting The Fun in Funding

Sporting one of the most unusual and appealing chapter events in the state, the Suncoast Chapter hosted its 18th Suncoast Scramble. The industry-networking format calls for a supplier to join a threesome from each area club made up of the superintendent, golf pro and club manager or green chairman. The Misty Creek Country Club in Sarasota was the site of this year's event March 23. Tom Crawford was the host superintendent.

But before these groups tee it up, they are exposed to a brief business meeting so everyone gets caught up

on serious and official business. Over the past two years, the Suncoast Chapter has taken advantage of the new FTGA director of public relations and FGCSA director of communications positions to make brief presentations on current issues. Once business is done, the fun begins.

For the past several years the Suncoast Chapter has booked the Les McCurdy Comedy Club to entertain the crowd with monologues and improvisations. McCurdy, himself an avid golfer, pokes fun at the game and business much to the delight of the audience. After a barbecue lunch the contestants play a four-man scramble event and later gather back at the clubhouse for snacks and libations as the scores are totaled.

Continuing another tradition at this event, Suncoast GCSA President Tom Hilferty presented checks for \$2,500 each to the FTGA and the FGCSA for turf research. The Suncoast Chapter has us laughing all the way to the bank. Thanks to the sponsors and participants for making it a truly enjoyable way to help the industry.

POA CLASSIC

Hosts Win Own Tournament

The Everglades Chapter was a perfect host for the 2000 Poa Annu Classic in every way except one — they won their own tournament, trouncing all

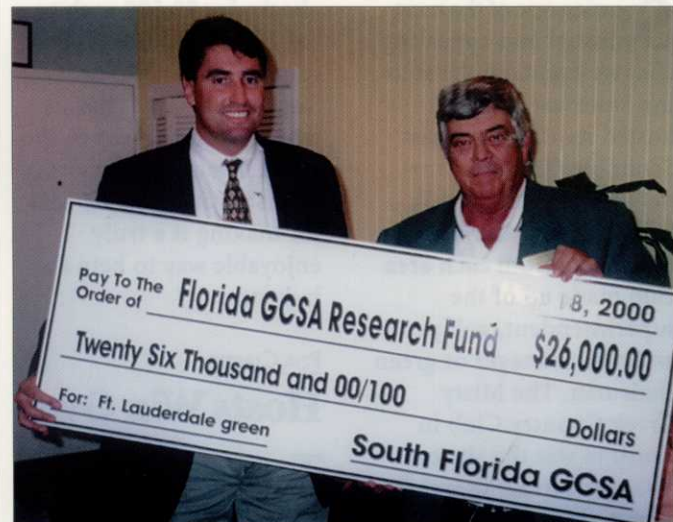


Dr. Fred Yelverton of NC State University presented a GCSAA Regional Seminar titled "Advanced Weed Control for Florida Grasses" to over 50 superintendents and technicians at the Naples Beach Club on May 19. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Along with the Poa sponsors, the dynamic duo of Steve Durand (left) and Mike Smith deserve the lion's share of credit for making the 30th Poa Annua Classic a huge success. Photo by Joel Jackson.

of the guest chapter teams. The team of David Fry, Greg Maze, Tim Larson and George Renault captured the title of the state's oldest superintendent golf rivalry. The Poa Annua Classic began 30 years ago with the newly formed Everglades Chapter inviting and challenging the venerable South Florida chapter to a friendly intrastate competition. With the addition of a barbecue dinner in



FGCSA President Darren Davis (left) accepts a research fund check for \$26,000 from South Florida GCSA President Jim Walker at the FGCSA summer board meeting during the Poa Annua Classic weekend in Naples. The money was raised at the South Florida Turf Expo in March. Photo by Joel Jackson



FGCSA President Darren Davis (left) accepts a check for \$1,000 from West Coast External Vice President Eric Joy at the spring FGCSA board meeting in Naples. The funds are to help pay for the services of Mike Goldie, the FGCSA/FTGA political consultant in Tallahassee. Photo by Joel Jackson.

1975, the Poa Annua Classic was officially born, and we've been going to Naples ever since.

Persistence paid off for River Wilderness superintendent John Van Vranken of the Suncoast Chapter. After teeing it up for 12 years at the



Van Vranken



Robinson

Poa, "Johnny V" took home the low gross title, which qualifies him for a paid entry on the FGCSA golf team competing at the GCSAA Golf Championship next

February in Dallas. Low net honors went to Treasure Coast's David Robinson of the Harbour Ridge Y&CC in Palm City.

Golf isn't the only thing going on at the Poa Classic every year. On May 18, the FGCSA board of directors held its spring board meeting at the Naples Beach Club. Minutes of the meeting will appear in the July/August *Green Sheet*.

Highlight of the meeting was the presentation of a check for \$26,000 to the FGCSA by South Florida GCSA President Jim Walker. The money was the proceeds from the South Florida Turf Expo in March and will be paired with donations from all chapters to help maintain the Otto Schmeisser Research

The Florida Turfgrass Association and Seven Rivers Chapter of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association want to recognize the following sponsors
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Green in Ft. Lauderdale.

On Friday, the FGCSA hosted a GCSAA Regional Seminar titled Advanced Weed Control for Florida Grasses presented by Dr. Fred Yelverton of North Carolina State University. Over 50 people attended the seminar and earned .55 CEU's toward GCSAA certification. Topics covered in the seminar:

- the biology, ecology and life cycles of major turfgrass weeds;
- maximizing control strategies while minimizing herbicidal inputs;
- how turfgrass management practices influence species presence, competition and population shifts;
- the development of herbicide resistance by weeds;
- the fate and behavior of herbicides and plant growth regulators;
- degradation, runoff, volatilization and adsorption by soil colloids;
- managing purple nutsedge, torpedograss, spurge, goosegrass,

seashore paspalum, crabgrass and poa annua.

Attendees cited information about the development of weed resistance to herbicides as being one of the most important take-home messages they got out of the widely acclaimed nuts-and-bolts presentation by Dr. Yelverton.

The Poa banquet on Friday night and the Jazz on the Green festival on Saturday rounded out the activities of this 30th Annual Poa Annuia Classic weekend.

The success of this year's event goes in large part to the hard work and long hours put in by Steve Durand and Mike Smith. These gentlemen did yeoman work in all phases of the event, and could be seen manning the registration tables in the lobby and at the golf events all weekend.

Congratulations to this dynamic duo and the Everglades chapter for another fantastic Poa event.

JOHN DEERE CLASSIC



David Court, CGCS



Bob Klitz, CGCS

Deere Picks 2 for VIP Event

Two Florida superintendents and their employers have been selected to play in the John Deere Classic golf tournament July 23-2: David Court, CGCS, director of grounds and greens at the Boca Lago Country Club in Boca Raton, and his general manager, Gene Paul Stifter, CCM; and Bob Klitz, CGCS, general manager at Orangebrook Country Club for Golf Hollywood in Hollywood, and his president, Alan Weitzel.

The VIP program includes paid travel and expenses, receptions, meals, lodging and two rounds of golf during the John Deere Classic to be held at the TPC at Deere Run in Silvis, Ill.

To be eligible, certified superintendents had to document how their employers supported or recognized their efforts to increase business efficiencies, enhance agronomic improvements, develop professionally, support environmental stewardship, or enhance the image of a professional golf course superintendent.

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Three Win GCSAA Essay Contest

Three undergraduate students have been selected as the 2000 Essay Contest winners by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

The contest, created in 1963, is open to GCSAA-member undergraduate and graduate students pursuing degrees in turfgrass science, agronomy or any field related to golf course management. The contest awards a \$1,000 scholarship to the first-place recipient, \$600 for second-place and \$400 for third-place. In addition to the scholarships, the winning essays may be published or excerpted in the GCSAA's publications -- Newsline or Golf Course Management magazine.

Winners were selected by an independent panel of judges on the basis of originality, organization, persuasion and creativity on topics within the golf course management area of research.

The 2000 Essay Contest winners:

- First Place: Aaron Patton, a senior at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, studying turfgrass management, for his entry "Purifying Water with a Boilermaker: Utilizing Innovative and Practical Approaches to Water Purification." Aaron has won several scholarships from GCSAA. This is the third year in a row that he has won the Essay Contest.
- Second Place: Mark Spears, a senior at Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan., studying golf course management, for his entry "Golf Course Operations -- Environmental Case Study."
- Third Place: Ella Harrod, a senior at Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, Miss., studying turfgrass management, for her entry "To Tree or Not to Tree." Ella also won a Scholars Award in 1999.

GCSAA Staffers Win TOCA Awards

Several print and electronic publications of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) recently received 2000 Turf and Ornamental Communicators Association (TOCA) writing and design awards.

Golf Course Management (GCM) magazine, Newsline and NewsWeekly staff members received first-place awards that were presented April 29-May 1 at a banquet during TOCA's annual meeting in Boston, Mass.

An independent panel of judges reviewed the entries in 29 categories and TOCA awards were received for the following:

- Roger Billings, publications designer, won a first-place award in the Best Use of Photography category for his design of "Hidden Gems" in the October 1999 issue of GCM.
- Ken Moum, NewsWeekly editor, won first-place in the Writing for Commercial Publications Online category.
- Mike Perrault, former GCM staff writer, won a first-place award in the Writing for Commercial Publications category for his article "Rx for color" published in the November 1999 issue of GCM.
- GCSAA's member newsletter, Newsline, was judged best in the industry in the Overall Newsletter Design category. The issue cited was August 1999, which was designed by Lori Seaberg. Newsline is edited by Amy Bird.

"GCSAA is truly honored to receive such highly-regarded industry awards," said GCSAA CEO Steve Mona,

CAE. "This recognition shows the dedication and creativity of our staff, and the commitment and involvement of our membership to producing high-quality work."

TOCA is an association of editors, writers, public relations practitioners and others involved in green industry communications. It was formed in 1989 to foster better communications within the industry and provide for professional improvement for its members.

Golf Course Management magazine is the industry's leading professional journal, providing cutting-edge technical information every month from outstanding scientists, instructors and experts. The GCM magazine staff includes Ed Hiscock, editor-in-chief; Scott Hollister, managing editor; Angela Nitz, associate editor; Teresa Carson, assistant editor; Alicia Meyer, publications coordinator; and Seth Jones, publications intern.

NewsWeekly is an electronic newsletter delivering timely golf course industry news to GCSAA members and constituents. It was launched in November 1999.

Additional Legacy Award Winners

In addition to the two students Florida noted on page 10, eight other high school or college students, all sons, daughters or grandchildren of GCSAA members, have been named 2000 Legacy Award winners.

- Ryan Best will be attending Texas A&M University majoring in biology. His father, Robert Best, CGCS at Tierra Verde Golf Club, Arlington, Texas, is a 17-year GCSAA member.
- Allison Emanuel attends the University of Kentucky majoring in music education. Her father, Joseph H. Emanuel Jr., CGCS at Hurstbourne Country Club, Louisville, Ky., is a 26-year GCSAA member.
- Sean A. Mogle attends the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana majoring in comparative literature and economics. His grandfather, John C. Ebel, has retired from the profession and is a 44-year GCSAA member.
- Benjamin Alan Nielsen will be attending California Polytechnic State University majoring in civil engineering. His father, Alan Lee Nielsen, CGCS at Royal Oaks Country Club, Vancouver, Wash., is a 22-year GCSAA member.
- Lindsey Rollin attends the University of Washington majoring in business with an accounting option. Her father, Vern G. Rollin, golf course superintendent at West Seattle Golf Course, Seattle, Wash., is a 14-year GCSAA member.
- James W. Rohret will be attending the University of Arizona majoring in business management. His father, William D. Rohret, CGCS at Angel Park Golf Course, Las Vegas, Nev., is a 25-year GCSAA member.
- Jennifer Russell attends Emory University majoring in political science and environmental studies. Her father, Randolph Russell, golf course superintendent for the City of Austin (Texas) Parks Department, is a 21-year GCSAA member.
- Jennen Diane Shrum will be attending Oklahoma State University and has not declared a major. Her father, William Dowl Shrum, CGCS at The Golf Club at Chaparral Pines & The Rim Golf Club, Payson, Ariz., is a 22-year GCSAA member.

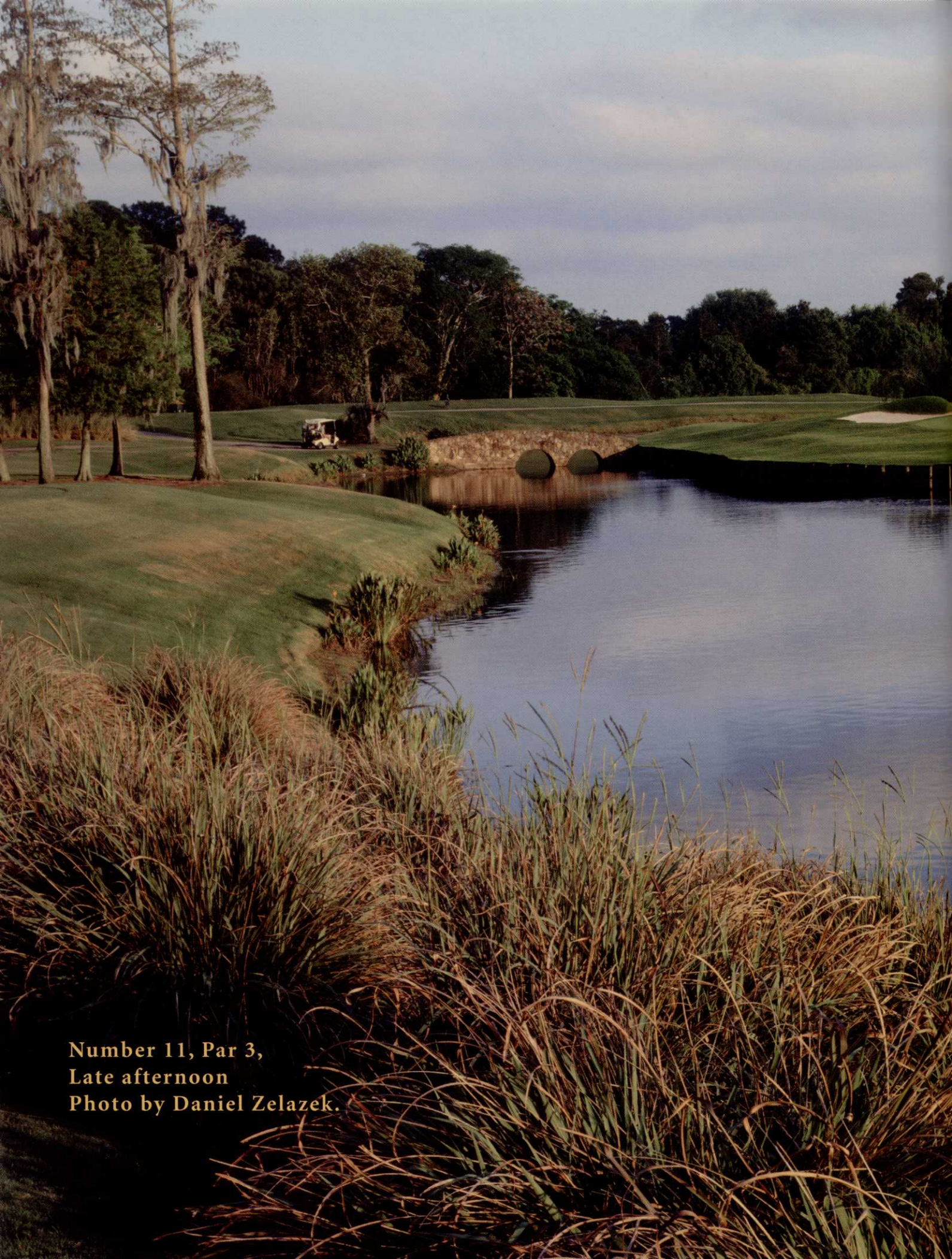
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**Number 11, Par 3,
Late afternoon
Photo by Daniel Zelazek.**