

## Tour of Duty

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### Long

layout where the blue liquid comes into play on 12 holes. The 9th and 16th are particularly picturesque, with the 9th having been captured in watercolor and released by the New York Audubon Society as an example of how golf courses can complement the environment. Barton Creek received a National Environmental Stewardship Award.

**Made-for-TV preparations:** Aside from some additional striping, "there aren't many details we do for the tournament that we don't do for regular play," Long noted. Long normally overseeds the hybrid Bermudagrass fairways and roughs with ryegrass, but didn't do so this year. "Things are already pretty well greened up," he said in early April. The past two years have been among the four wettest ever recorded. "It's made weed control more critical, but it really hasn't impacted the course," he said.

### Fisher

and lake that fronts the 17th green with an exiting stream that laps the edges of the 3rd green. New tees have been added at the two holes. Other renovations include a 4,000-square-foot expansion of the 5th green, additional spectator mounds and 300 new trees. A 15-inch diameter red oak planted on the corner of the 18th fairway turned the easily cuttable dogleg into a truly difficult finishing hole.

**Made-for-TV preparations:** To maximize color for the cameras, approximately 1,000 mums will be planted in tee boxes on the 11th, 13th, 14th and 17th holes, Fisher said. Directional fairway mowing will highlight course contours while cross-cutting landing areas will yield the tightest, firmest lies possible. Greens rollers are being used for the first time to increase putting speeds. Fisher estimates Stimpmeter readings will be in the 10 to 10.5 range, compared to 9.5 last year.

### Esoda

and some disease, particularly spring dead spot and cool-weather brown patch on the greens. "The only thing we're not prepared for is good weather," Esoda joked.

**Made-for-TV preparations:** Getting the dormant Bermudagrass green in time for the television cameras will be the major challenge, Esoda said. Iron, water soluble fertilizers and paint will be applied in occasionally generous proportions to achieve the desired color. The green complexes around the bentgrass putting surfaces on 11 and 13 have seen heavy traffic and require particular attention, he noted.

## MAINTENANCE

# Growing Georgia GCSA expands scope of programs

To meet the demands of growing membership, the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association has expanded its programs.

In addition to the two Spray Technician Seminars, held Feb. 15 and 22, a third is now set for June 28 at The Landings in Savannah.

Also new are two golf course construction tours — Maple Ridge Golf Club in Columbus, on May 3, and Oak Grove Island Golf Club in Brunswick on May 10. Both tours are sponsored by Mike Young Designs.

Add to the list the May 25 Member/Guest Golf Tournament at the Standard Club in

Duluth, Ga.; the GGCSA Superintendent/Ladies Golf Outing on June 14 at St. Ives Country Club, Duluth; and a golf outing at Green Island Country Club in Columbus, Ga.

The GGCSA Summer Conference arrives Aug. 1-3, at the Augusta Raddison Hotel. Sunday night will find members touring the new golf course maintenance building at Augusta National Golf Club, in addition to treating their palate at a buffet barbecue afterward.

Monday, Aug. 2, features education, golf at West Lake Country Club and an evening

riverboat cruise with a prime rib dinner. Tuesday brings the conference to a close with educational speakers.

Oct. 4 brings the Superintendent/Vendor Tournament at Great Waters in Greensboro, with the GGCSA Annual Meeting Nov. 7-9, at Kiawah Island Resort in South Carolina. Golf will be held Sunday and Monday, with elections and education on Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 8 and 9.

For further information on these and other events, or for membership information, contact Karen White, executive director, at 706-769-4076.

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