

Bylaw break in '95

In contrast to stormy '93 election, no amendments offered

By PETER BLAIS

SAN FRANCISCO — Controversial bylaw amendments made for good news copy the past two years. But the news in 1995 is that *no* bylaw amendments are on the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America agenda at this month's International Conference and Show.

"So much has been added and so many changes have occurred in the last year, the board of directors decided to sit back for awhile and prove it could do what it's talked about," said GCSAA spokesman Scott Smith.

Two years ago, the membership surprised the board by overwhelmingly rejecting proposed amendments dealing with dues increases, delegate voting, membership classification restructuring and requirements for a simple rather than two-thirds majority to pass association proposals.

The main objection seemed to be that members were never consulted or sufficiently informed about the proposals. The board responded by holding a chapter relations meeting in Lawrence, Kansas, in September 1993, to explain to chapter presidents the reasoning behind the proposed 1994 bylaw amendments.

The result last year was passage of all the proposed measures, with the exception of creating new membership classifica-

tions for non-superintendents. Rejecting membership restructuring for a second time indicated that members wanted to keep the association focused on superintendents.

"The members felt," incoming GCSAA President Gary Grigg said, "that creating classifications for non-superintendents [i.e. irrigation technicians, spray technicians, equipment managers] would di-

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Special GCSAA Show Coverage

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The championship flight will be staged at Poppy Hills Golf Course on the Monterey Peninsula.

Georgia team looks to repeat

By PETER BLAIS

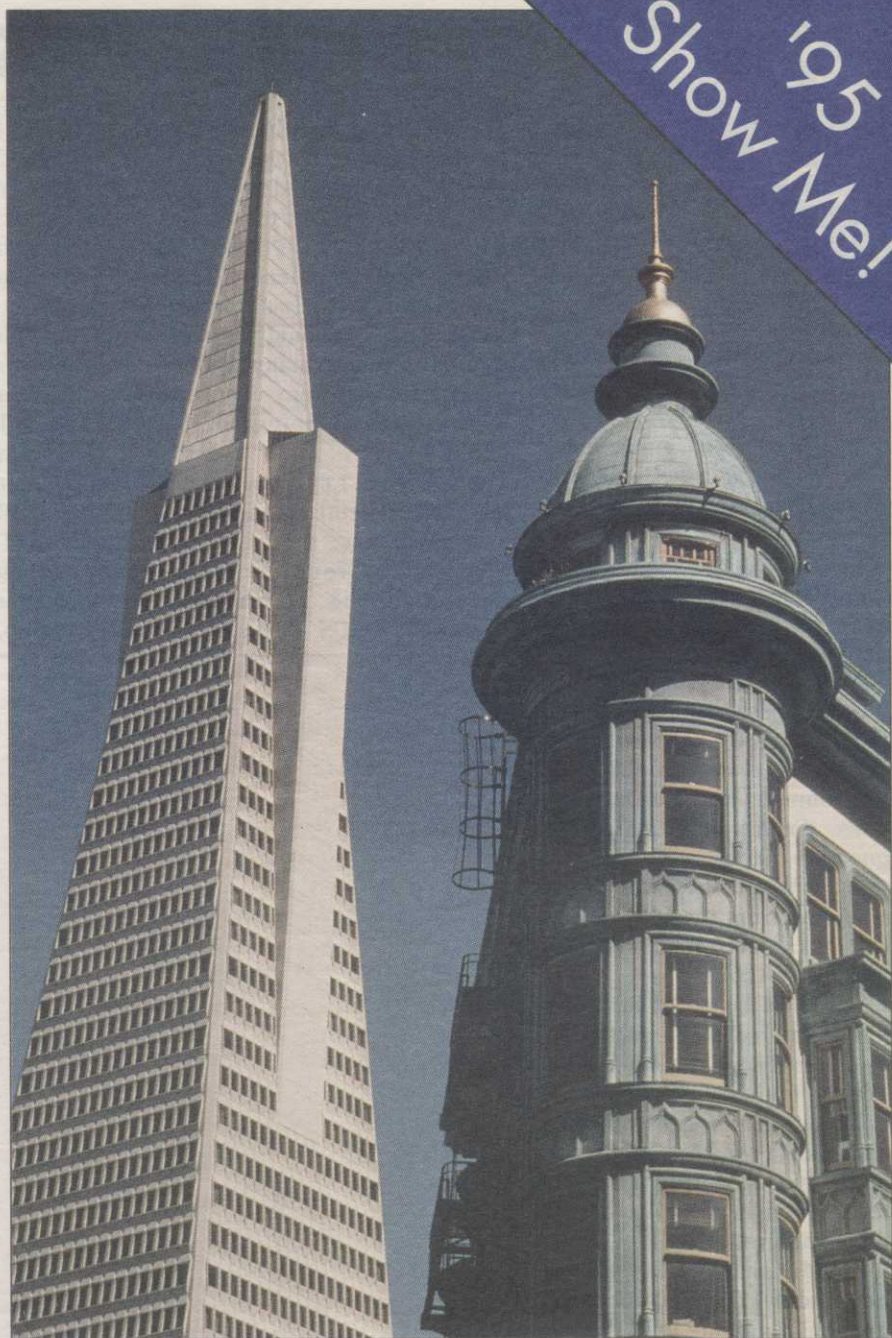
MONTEREY, Calif. — With so much emphasis on the singles title, the team competition is often overlooked at the annual GCSAA golf championship to be played here Feb. 20-21. But the team award is important to the competitors and a source of pride to the local chapters they represent, according to participants and organizers.

"It's always a big deal when the trophy is given out," said Mike Wilson of Cannongate at White Oak GC, a member of the Georgia No. 1 team that has won two of the past three team titles. Wilson's teammates are Jim Dusch of Atlanta National GC in Alpharetta, Randy Nichols of Cherokee Town & CC in Dunwoody and Randy Waldron of the GC of Georgia in Alpharetta.

This foursome has been together several years, winning the 1992 (Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.) and 1994 (Austin, Texas) titles sandwiched around a second-place finish in 1993 (San Diego). Southeastern U.S. entries have dominated the team championship since the early 1980s, taking 12 of the last 15 titles. During the last decade and a half, Carolina teams have taken seven championships, Florida three and Georgia two. Rocky Mountain, Midwest and California associations have one apiece.

"The Southern states have a distinct advantage because they get to play year-round," said Tommy Witt, head superintendent at Wynstone GC and chairman of the tournament committee.

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The diversity of San Francisco is born out in the city's architecture which features, side by side, the modernist, skyskewering Transamerica Pyramid (1972) and the furbelowed, flatiron Columbus Tower (1907).

WHERE TO GO IN SAN FRANCISCO

Vistas & victuals make San Francisco a city worth exploring and savoring

By STEVE SCHROEDER

SAN FRANCISCO — From the edge of the Embarcadero, a grayish fog can be seen lurking over the span of the Golden Gate Bridge. The distinct chime of the Cable Car completing its turnaround at Powell or Hyde Street gives you a sense. The faint sound of a foghorn heard in the distance confirms you've arrived in the City by the Bay, San Francisco. And, while widely acknowledged as one of the great tourist cities in the world, what should you do when passing through this bustling metropolis? Here are a few thoughts to consider.

A good place to start your adventure would be a visit to Union Square, located in the heart of town. Shopping abounds around the Square, with everything from smaller boutiques to retail outlets. A lot of territory can be covered in just a few blocks, but bring your check-

Steve Schroeder, our point man scouting out San Francisco for GCSAA conference attendees, is vice president of operations at Robert Trent Jones II, whose headquarters is in the suburb of Palo Alto. He and the entire Jones II staff "wish everyone a pleasant and relaxing stay in the City by the Bay."

A trip to the Cliff House at the North End of the Great Highway can provide relaxation, where a sumptuous brunch is served while taking in dramatic views of the Pacific Ocean.

book and credit cards to this portion of town. A special feature in this area is the Union Square ticket office, where you can get half-price seats during the day for many of the shows around the city, including the current sensation, Phantom of the Opera.

For those who want to try a different shopping atmosphere, Ghiradelli Square near Fisherman's Wharf offers a specialized array of stores and is famous for its outstanding varieties of chocolate. And, for you hard-core retail shoppers, Stonestown, situated along 19th Avenue on the city's West Side, provides the more traditional "shopping mall" experience where you can bounce quickly from store to store.

Finally, the truly adventurous shopper, weather permitting, should head for the Red and White Fleet Ferry

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Prayer Breakfast Sunday, Feb. 26

SAN FRANCISCO — State Sen. Tim Leslie, an active pro-family legislator who serves a sprawling 25,000-square-mile district encompassing 13 northern California counties, will speak at the annual Prayer Breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 26, during the GCSAA Conference and Show here.

The 52-year-old Leslie has been chairman of the California Prayer Breakfast the last three years and keynoted the Chile National Prayer Breakfast last October. An enabler at the National Youth Semi-

nar on Faith and Values, which is held annually in Washington, D.C., the last three years he has chaired the Family Congress.

Vice chair of both the Judiciary and the Budget and Fiscal Review committees, Leslie has received numerous commendations including the Hang Tough Award by the National Tax Limitation Committee, Legislator of the Year citation from the Sacramento County Taxpayers' League, and several Mothers Against Drunk Divers awards.

GCSAA Tourney

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"But you get strong teams from other areas, too. There are 20 to 30 guys here in Chicago who are very strong golfers," he added, noting that Midwest AGCS No. 4 was last year's gross division runner-up and Midwest AGCS No. 6 the net division winner. The net unit included Illinois superintendents Robert Maibusch of Hinsdale GC in Clarendon Hills, Les Rutan of Beverly CC in Chicago, Roger Stewart Jr. of Stonebridge CC in Aurora and Bruce Williams of Bob O'Link GC in Highland Park.

In fact, Northern superinten-

dents dominated the competition in its early years, said Frank Lamphier, head superintendent at Aspetuck Valley CC in Bethel, Conn. Led by six-time singles champion Emil Masciocchi, Cleveland GCSA won five consecutive titles from 1946-52 (there was no tournament in 1947). It wasn't until the Southern California GCSA's back-to-back titles in 1970-71 that a non-Midwest/Philadelphia association won the event. "There just weren't a lot of players from the South 30 years ago. But with all the new courses, there are a lot more players down there," Lamphier said.

Many credit Lamphier with

Show '95 Me!

turning the if-there-is-enough-interest-we'll-hold-it GCSAA Championship into a major annual event. The Vermont native coordinated the tourney every year from 1968-88. Prior to that, there had been no tournament since 1963 and only sporadically held events before that. To show its appreciation, GCSAA named the net division award the Frank Lamphiere Net Trophy. The Scottish International Trophy goes to the winning gross team.

"Mel Lucas appointed me coordinator in 1968," Lamphier recalled. "We basically had to decide whether to keep holding it or give it up. Organizing it gave me something to do in the winter. It's gratifying to see the way participation has grown. In many ways, I'd rather go to the tournament than the conference. The ideas that are exchanged during the tournament and afterward in the clubhouse are some of the most valuable information you take home."

Approximately 50 superintendents participated in the 1968 GCSAA Championship. Almost 500 individuals and 80 teams are expected to take part in this year's event. The Monterey-area tournament locales include Bayonet GC, The GC at Quail Lodge, Old Del Monte Forest GC, Poppy Hills GC and Rancho Canada GC. Bayonet and Poppy Hills will host the championship flight.

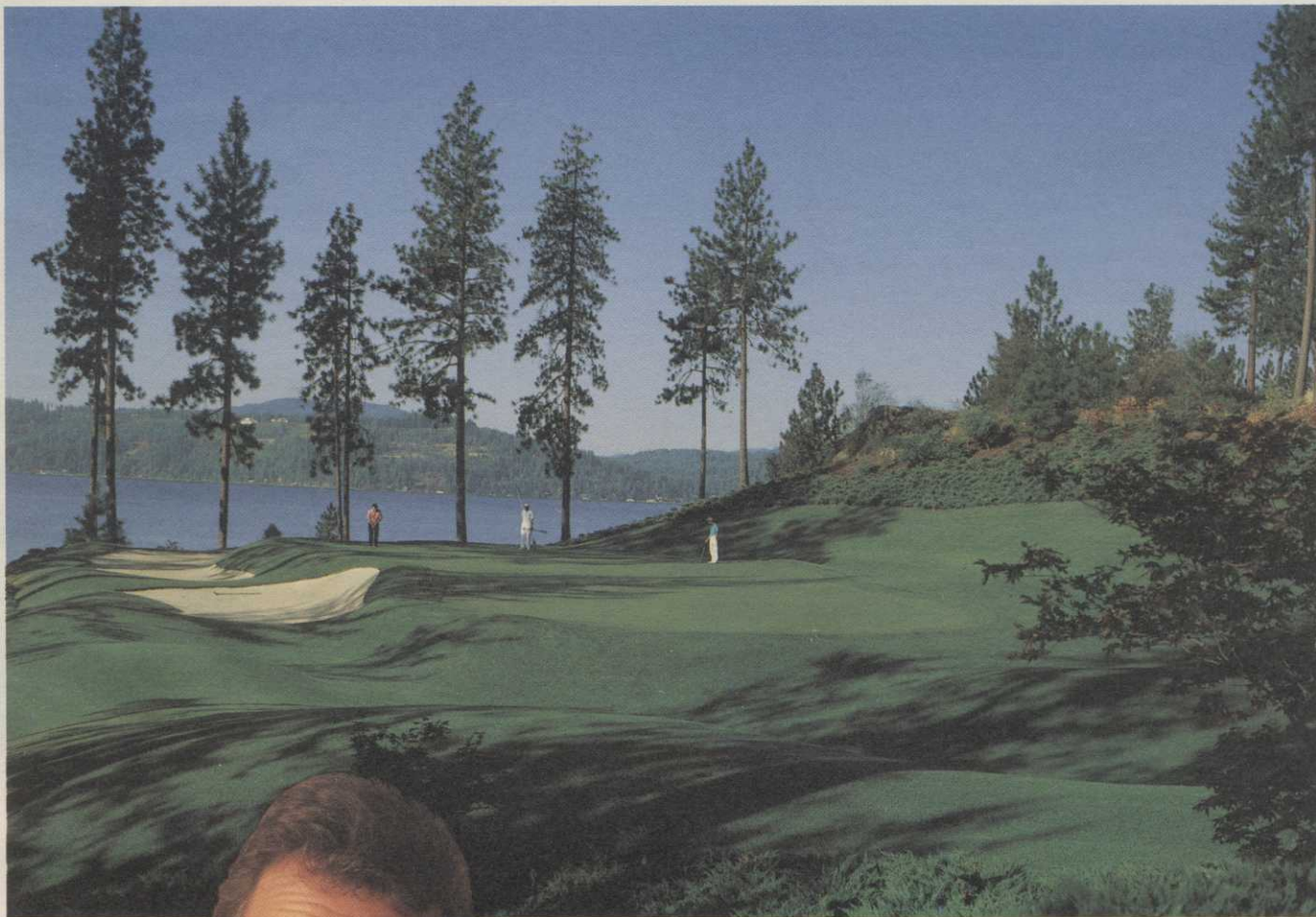
The top teams consist of players participating in the championship flight. Some teams, like Georgia GCSA No. 1, have been together for many years. Others are pieced together during a chapter qualifying tournament.

"That's the way we did it in Texas," said Witt, who recently moved from Bent Tree CC in Dallas to Wynstone. "We had an annual championship. The top four finishers became our No. 1 team and the chapter paid their way to the tournament."

Still other teams are established the day before the tournament, Witt added.

Team members compete in the 36-hole individual competition and are awarded team points for a bogey (1), par (2), birdie (3) and eagle (4). Points are tallied at the end of the first round so that a team knows where it stands after 18 holes. Additional points are tallied at the end of the second round and trophies awarded. Last year's gross division winners from Georgia garnered 248 points to best runner-up Midwest AGCS No. 4's 225.

"The team competition gets pretty serious," said GCSAA Director of Communications Pat Jones. "Winning it is a source of pride for the chapters."



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Tony Jacklin is the winner of 14 PGA European Tour events (including the 1969 British Open) and 11 other international events (including the 1970 U.S. Open). Tony is also a four-time European Ryder Cup captain, and has recently joined the Senior PGA Tour.