

Tournament panel prepares Vegas championship

IRVINE, Calif. — The Tournament Committee of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has finalized recommendations for the 1997 members-only golf championship to be held in Las Vegas, and to preview courses for the 1998 tournament.

More than 700 golfers competed in the 1996 GCSAA Golf Championship held in February in Orlando, Fla., as part of GCSAA's International Golf Course Conference and Show. The Tournament Committee has recommended to the association's board of di-

rectors that registration not exceed 720 participants. Other committee recommendations include:

- Changing the tournament entry deadline to Nov. 15.
- Enhancing the tournament software package to ensure timely postings of second-day tee times and correct pairings, including an automated tee-time system.
- Grandfathering entry into the 1997 event those competitors who have played three of the past five years, if registration is received on or before Oct. 1, 1996.

- Providing handicap and flight information to participants in advance.

The committee's recommendations were approved by GCSAA's board of directors at its spring meeting, May 2-5 in Lawrence, Kan. The 47th GCSAA Golf Championship will be held next Feb. 5-6, in Las Vegas at Sunrise Country Club-West Course, Badlands Golf Club, Las Vegas Paiute Resort - Nu-Wav Kai (Snow Mountain) and Tav-ai-Kaiv (Sun Mountains) Courses, Wildhorse Golf Club and Las Vegas Hilton Country Club.

Student essay winners named

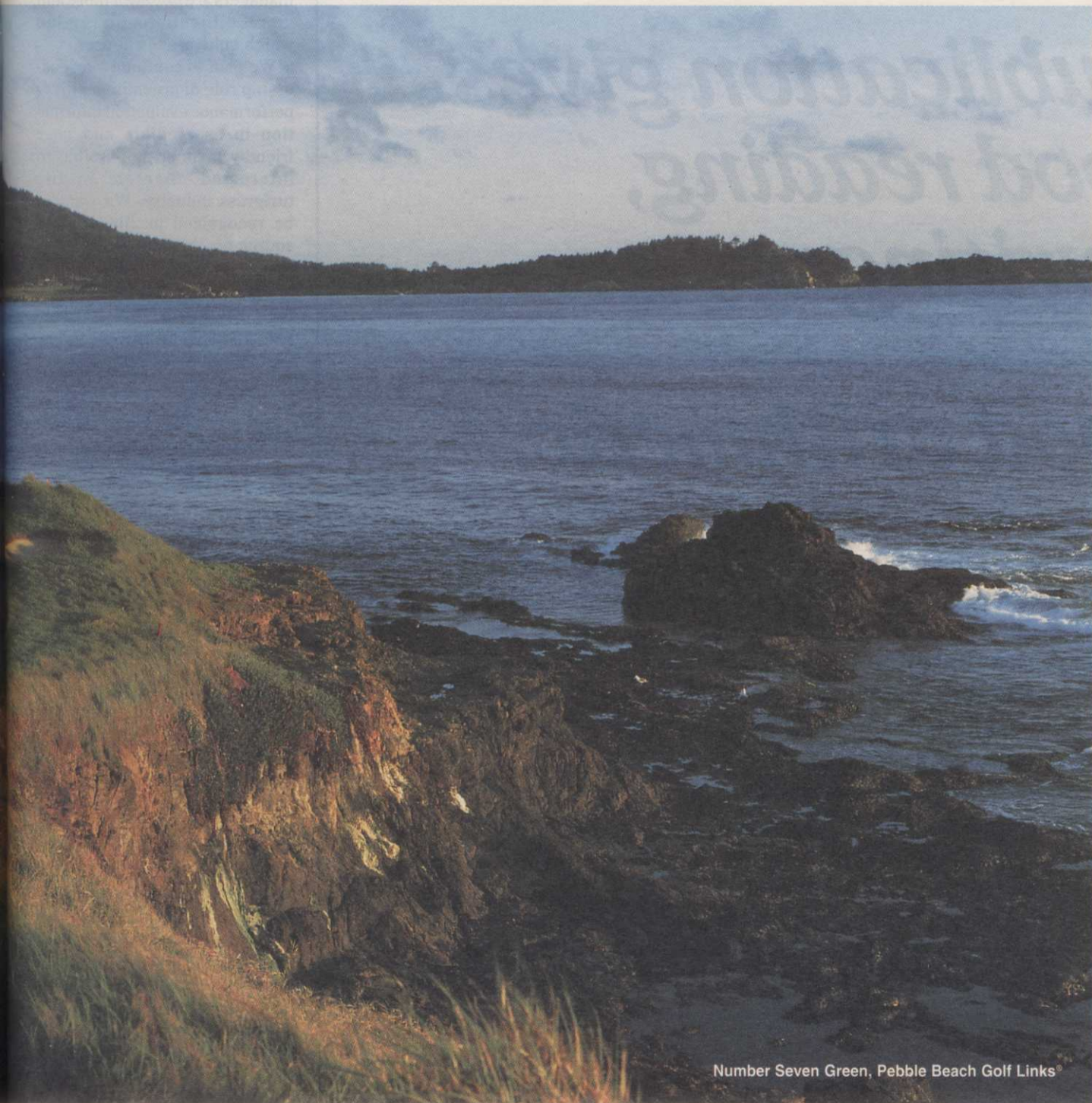
The board of trustees of The GCSAA Foundation, a subsidiary of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, has announced the three winners of its student essay contest. The contest is designed to promote environmental awareness among tomorrow's golf course management professionals.

The essay chosen by the judges for first place was "Three-Phase Golf Course Ecosystem Management for Cool-Season Turfgrass Environments," which was written by Matthew J. Fagerness, a master's degree candidate at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Mich. Fagerness will receive a cash prize of \$1,000 and plans call for his essay to be published in the August edition of Golf Course Management magazine.

Second place of \$600 went to Keith L. Williams, second-year student at the Institute of Applied Agriculture at the University of Maryland, College Park, Md., for his story, "IPM: All Things Considered."

The third-place award of \$400 went to Allison North, first year student at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, Calgary, Canada, for her essay, "Help Students Help Promote Sustainable Golf Courses."

All essays focus on the relationship between golf and the environment. The contest drew nearly 20 qualified entries. The annual contest is open to undergraduate and graduate students pursuing degrees in turfgrass science, agronomy or any field related to golf course management.



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MEMBERSHIP TOPS 16,000

Membership in the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has exceeded the 16,000 mark. As of May 31, membership totaled 16,039.

Superintendents, assistants, business professionals, educators, students, corporations and others enjoy the services and benefits provided by GCSAA membership. A professional staff of more than 90 now serves the membership from association headquarters in Lawrence, Kan.