

# Environmental stewards in U.S. and the world honored by GCSAA

LAS VEGAS—Thirty-one golf course superintendents have been named winners of the 1996-97 Environmental Steward Award program for their protection, enhancement and promotion of the environment.

As a tribute to the winners, Novartis (formerly Ciba Turf & Ornamentals Products and Sandoz), Rain Bird's Golf Division, Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc., and Pursell Industries will donate more than \$23,000 to the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Foundation, which supports educational opportunities for future golf course superintendents and scientific advancements in golf course management.

The 1996-97 Environmental Steward Award winners were named in three categories: Private, Public and Resort golf courses. The national winners are:

**Private** — Kerry Satterwhite of Rock River Country Club, Rock Falls, Ill., and Glenn Smickley of Robert Trent Jones Golf Club, Gainesville, Va.

**Public** — Timothy Kelly of Village Links of Glen Ellyn, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

**Resort** — Ron Hill of Amelia Island Plantation, Amelia Island, Fla.

Kelly earned national honors for the third consecutive year. This year he was recognized for outstanding promotion of his conservation programs and his community partnership. Satterwhite and Smickley, who tied in the Private course category, and Hill are first-time winners at the national level.

The Environmental Steward Award recognizes superintendents for overall course management excellence, outstanding programs to maximize pesticide and fertilizer efficacy, and irrigation and equipment efficiency, as well as wildlife preservation and enhancement. All entries are reviewed by an independent panel of judges selected for their expertise in environmental issues and turfgrass management.

Judges for this year's competition were Dr. Lee Berndt, a certified professional agronomist; Dan Farrier, Irrigation Planning & Design; Dr. Bob Robertson, North Carolina State University; Ron Dodson, President of Audubon International; and Dr. Peter Stangel, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation.

Winners were honored Feb. 9, during the Government and Environmental General Session here at the GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show. In addition to the national winners, 21 regional winners and

six merit winners were selected from throughout North America. They included:

## FLORIDA REGION

**Private Course:** Robert K. Ellis, Indian River Club, Vero Beach, Fla.

**Public Course:** Richard C. Wise, PGA Golf Club, Port St. Lucie, Fla.

## MID-ATLANTIC REGION

**Private Course:** Scott A. Schukraft, Huntsville Golf Club, Shavertown, Pa.

## MID-CENTRAL REGION

**Private Course:** Peter V. Leuzinger, Ivanhoe Club, Ivanhoe, Ill.

**Public Course:** R. Brian Green, Sunset Valley Golf

Course, Highland Park, Ill.

**Resort Course:** Dale Miller, Barton Creek Resort, Austin, Texas.

## NORTH CENTRAL REGION

**Private Course:** Donald F. Ewoldt, Jr., Sand Creek Country Club, Chesterton, Ind.

**Public Course:** Fred E. Soller, Jr., Old Works Golf

Course, Anaconda, Mont.

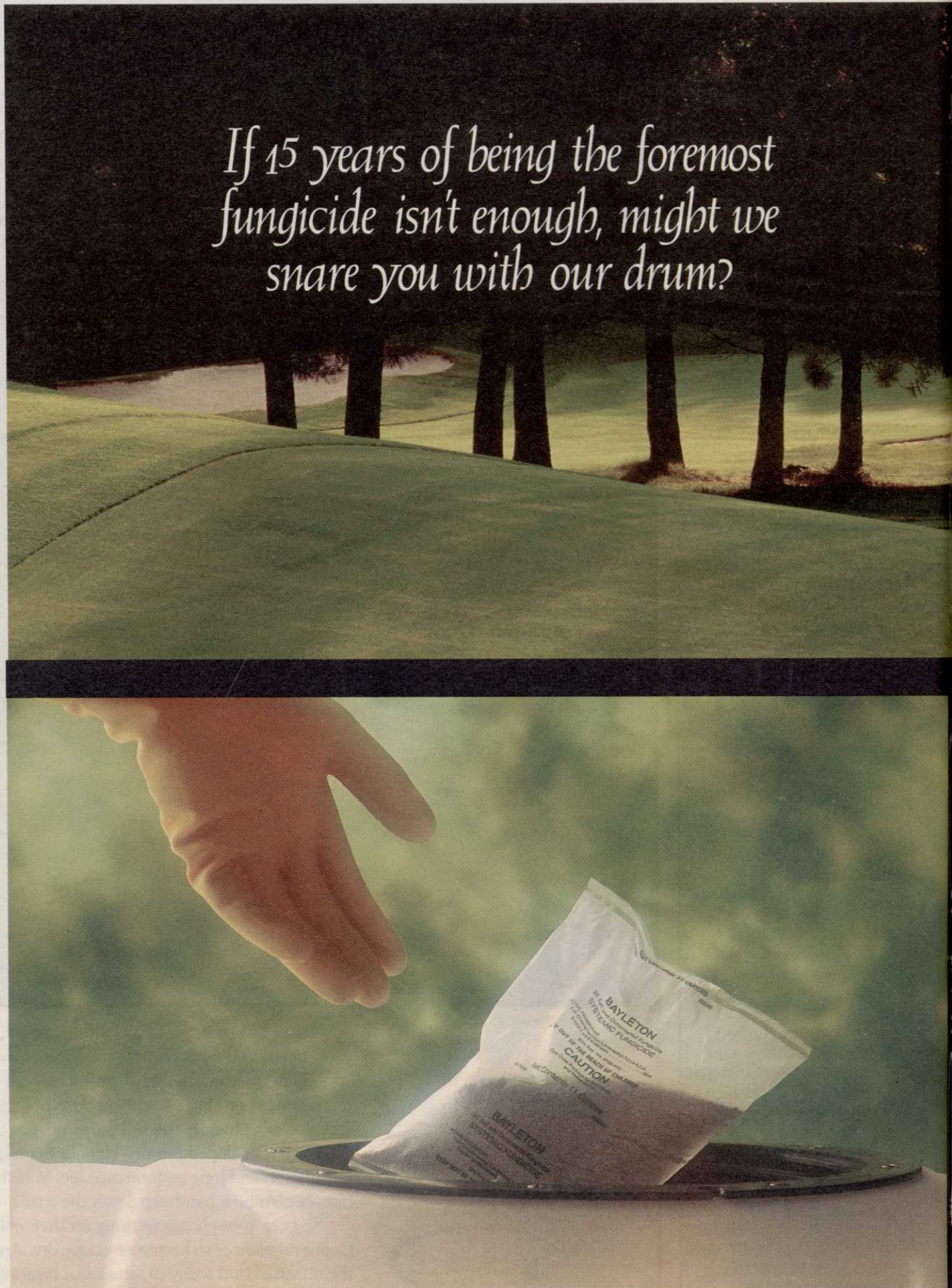
**Resort Course:** Steve Schumacher, Izatys Golf & Yacht Club, Onamia, Minn.

## NORTHEAST REGION

**Private Course:** Karl E. Olson, National Golf Links of America, Southampton, N.Y.

**Public Course:** James M.

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## Association modifies position on alternative spikes

LAS VEGAS — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) board of directors has modified its position on the issue, taking an information-gathering stance.

The action was taken Feb. 3, in a board meeting prior to the start of GCSAA's 68th International Golf Course Conference here.

Previously, the GCSAA "alternative spikes" position recommended individual courses adopt a policy that best served their respective operations. However, a GCSAA ad hoc committee comprised of Immediate Past President Gary Grigg, CGCS at Royal Poinciana Golf Club, Naples, Fla., and

directors Dave Fearis of at Blue Hills Country Club, Kansas City, Mo., and Tommy Witt of Wynstone Golf Club, North Barrington, Ill., late last year began to examine a position on alternative spikes based on scientific/agronomic data.

Upon review of that information, the committee deter-

mined inconclusive results precluded a stronger policy on the issue.

The committee believed the GCSAA's policy should emphasize its role in accumulating and disseminating relevant and useful information to the golf industry to assist in the decision-making process. GCSAA

has already begun to collect data from shoe manufacturers, scientific/agronomic research, perception surveys from various organizations and policies of allied golf associations.

Additionally, GCSAA surveyed golf course superintendents at its conference and show. Work has also begun on a white paper that will examine agronomic issues (plant health, aesthetics, soil) and golfer issues (slippage, comfort, putting quality), current trends in the industry (course conversion rate, professional tour players opinions, allied association policy, legal precedence) and GCSAA's strategy in assisting facility decisions and educating/informing influential golfers/employers.

The white paper will be presented to the board for additional action this spring. It is anticipated that complete/comprehensive information packets will be available for distribution June 1.

## Stewards honored

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Perez, East Mountain Country Club, Westfield, Mass.

**Resort Course:** John A. Boyer, Marriott Seaview Resort, Absecon, N.J.

### SOUTHEAST REGION

**Private Course:** Henry D. Kerfoot, III, Carmel Country Club, Charlotte, N.C.

**Public Course:** Wendell T. Nealon, The Legacy, Springfield, Tenn.

### WESTERN REGION

**Private Course:** Bill Schilling, Wing Point Golf & Country Club, Bainbridge Island, Wash.

**Public Course (Tie):** Tom Janning, Rosewood Lakes Golf Course, Reno, Nev.; Daryl D. Dinkel, River Valley Ranch, Carbondale, Colo.

**Resort Course:** Kent Nishijima, Kapalua Golf Courses, Lahaina, Hawaii.

### CANADIAN REGION

**Private Course:** Paul Dermott, Oakdale Golf & Country Club, Downsview, Ontario.

**Public Course:** Bruce Thrasher, Westwood Plateau Golf Club, Coquitlam B.C.

### INTERNATIONAL REGION

**Resort Course:** Ian Smith, Half Moon Golf Club, Montego Bay, Jamaica, W.I.

The Merit winners included James L. Lehman, Queens Harbour Yacht & Country Club, Jacksonville, Fla.; Fred Behnke, Mount Prospect Golf Club, Mount Prospect, Ill.; Michael A. Sandburg, Lakeside Country Club, Houston, Texas.; Douglas Mahal, Minikahda Club, Minneapolis, Minn.; Tom Morgensen, Countryside Golf Course, Mundelein, Ill.; and Lee A. Mangum, Resort at Squaw Creek, Olympic Valley, Calif.



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