

NORTH TEXAS SUPERS DONATE GREEN FOR CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

More than 30 members of the North Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association (NTGCSA) participated in its Marathon of Golf held at Walnut Creek Country Club on March 23. The association raised more than \$12,000, exceeding its goal of \$9,000. NTGCSA is contributing these funds toward construction and maintenance of a small putting green in honor of Quinton Johnson within the new James F. Chambers Jr. Youth Fitness Park at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas. These facilities will provide opportunities for young people who are physically disabled to participate in sports and other activities previously not available to them. The hospital specializes in working with such individuals. On May 20, a special dedication ceremony was held at the putting green site.

Meyer leads Canada's supers

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He was president of the Quebec Golf Superintendents Association in 1984-85 and became Quebec director of the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association in 1991. He is a master superintendent in Canada and a certified golf course superintendent with the Golf Course Superintendents

Association of America.

Meyer is married with two children, David and Karen.

Meyer has done some design at Cedarbrooke. He reconstructed the bunkers and added a pond on the par-3 8th hole. "It was the most boring hole on the course, but is now our signature hole," he said. He has also naturalized many

areas to be more environmentally friendly and adding color.

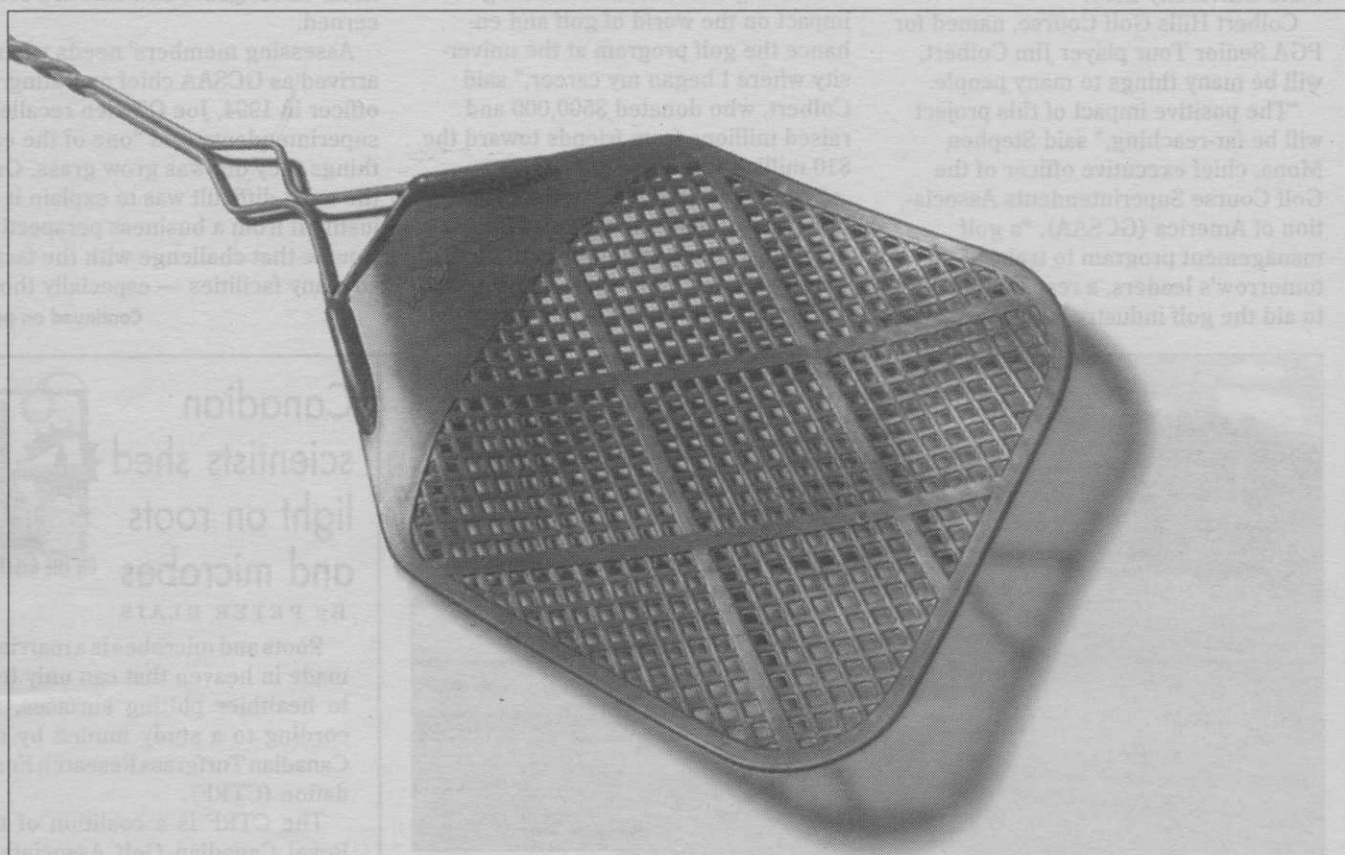
Meyer has also sought to educate local groups, especially children, about the environmental benefits of his course and golf. He invited a group of school children to the course, had the assistant pro give each a one-hour free golf lesson, and gave each child some balls and a free club from the club's lost-and-found.

During the winter, Meyer went to the school, provided the students with materials to build bird houses for bluebirds (a species that had not appeared at the course before), and had the students return to install them during the summer. "The project was very successful," he said. "We had the kids put their names on each bird house. Then my wife went out each week, took notes on the number of eggs and sent the information back to let them know how successful their houses were."

Being a Quebec native, Meyer is naturally a National Hockey League fan. "Two years ago, I got an emergency phone call at home at 1 p.m. on a Sunday afternoon," Meyer recalled. "It was Claude Lemieux of the Avalanche. He said he had (Avalanche goalie) Patrick Roy and another friend who wanted to play. I told him to come on over around 3 p.m. and maybe I'd play nine holes with them. So, they show up in the parking lot and the other friend was Fred Couples. We had a great time. We went out to supper that night and then went over to Patrick Roy's house. Fred Couples put on Patrick's goalie pads and we went downstairs and started shooting pucks at Fred Couples. You never know who you're going to meet in this business."

Although not of Couples' caliber, Meyer is an accomplished golfer, having represented his country at four Ransomes International cups and one Hayter Cup. During a recent speech in Calgary, Meyers said that becoming involved in the Canadian association has afforded him the opportunity to travel and play golf. "One of my dreams as a superintendent was to cut the 18th green at St. Andrews," he said, pointing to a slide on a screen behind him. "That's me at 5:30 in the morning, cutting that green."

Another international event, El Nino, had a major effect on Meyer's course this winter. Quebec was hit with a major ice storm in early January that left some people without electrical power for a month or more. But being from a country that has spawned such famous comedians as Howie Mandel, John Candy and Rich Little, Meyer was able to see the funny side. "Most of the maple trees had their tops snapped off, the canopies were gone," he noted. "It was a great chance for superintendents to get rid of trees that were giving them shade problems around their greens."



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