WE CAME WE SAW. WETOOK PICTURES.

Call of the wild We spotted this primate during a visit to the Control Solutions Inc./Quali-Pro headquarters in Pasadena, Texas. This Namibian baboon was taken by CSI president Mark Boyd in 1991. The CSI lobby contains more than 80 trophy mounts, from antelope to wildebeest.

Golfcon

Pass the mic Merion GC superintendent Arron McCurdy reports the afternoon assignments to the crew during the 2013 U.S. Open.

The weight room is that way Tom Marzolf, senior design associate at Fazio Golf Course Designers, points out some landmarks at Merion to a couple of golf fans. The Hogan plaque, where Ben Hogan hit his 1-iron shot in 1950, was a few paces away.

Brilliant minds think alike Matt Shaffer, director of GC operations at Merion, brainstorms with friend John Zimmers, superintendent at Oakmont (Pa.) CC. The Open heads to Zimmers' course in 2016.

Preferred reading We were happy to see copies of Golfdom circulating around the Merion maintenance facility. (OK, honestly, we put them there ourselves.)

The champ is not here Dumb luck meant Golfdom EIC Seth Jones got to catch a ride with the U.S. Open trophy. Jones doesn't deserve to hoist a junior high golf trophy, let alone this beauty.

Latshaw's lads Retired superintendent Paul Latshaw Sr. (right) takes time for a quick photo with Zimmers, one of his many students in the industry.

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**Nerves of steel** Despite soggy conditions to start the week, the crew at Merion was determined to get the job done, and with a smile.

**Green day** A train of John Deere fairway mowers rolls in formation on the front nine at Merion.

What I did for summer vacation Somehow we convinced a high school guidance counselor to let Sawyer Opalich (right, with *Golfdom* publisher Pat Roberts) come work for us for a few weeks. Sawyer's report back included a lot of "golf course site visits." Nice work (and swing), Sawyer!

**Eye on the prize** Robert Smith, equipment technician at Merion, keeps a close eye on clippings as work is being done at the U.S. Open. For a story on Smith, and how he helped create a mower, see 'Mower Rebirth' on page 10.

**Don't you call this a regular mag** We're just going to guess that we're the only turf mag with a shot of rapper/actor L.L. Cool J in it this month. A recent *Golfdom* team building event in Cleveland included 18 holes of golf followed by an L.L./Public Enemy/Ice Cube/ De La Soul concert. If this issue has a funky beat, now you know why.

**13** Like white on rice Golf cups get painted at Standard Golf in Cedar Falls, lowa. We were treated to a tour of the facility recently, and came out with a new appreciation of the work that goes into the accessories we take for granted on the course every day.

**Does it all** We asked Steve Tyler, national sales manager for Standard Golf and a former superintendent, to describe his job. The self-proclaimed "Old Dog" pretty much does it all, we've decided.













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