

THE HIGHLANDS COURSE

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JAKE		MOVE SLATE TO CLUBHOUSE				
CAROL		SYRINGE GREENS				
JOHN		CUT CUPS				
ROSS		MOW FAIRWAYS				
MIKE		HAUL SAND TO #12 BUNKERS				
DAVE		FILL COOLERS + WASHERS				
JOSE		TAKE PINE STRAW TO #8 TEE BOX				
DEB		MOW GREENS				
LARRY		REMOVE TREE ON #3 CART PATH				

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8
15
22
28 29

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Oct

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NDAY

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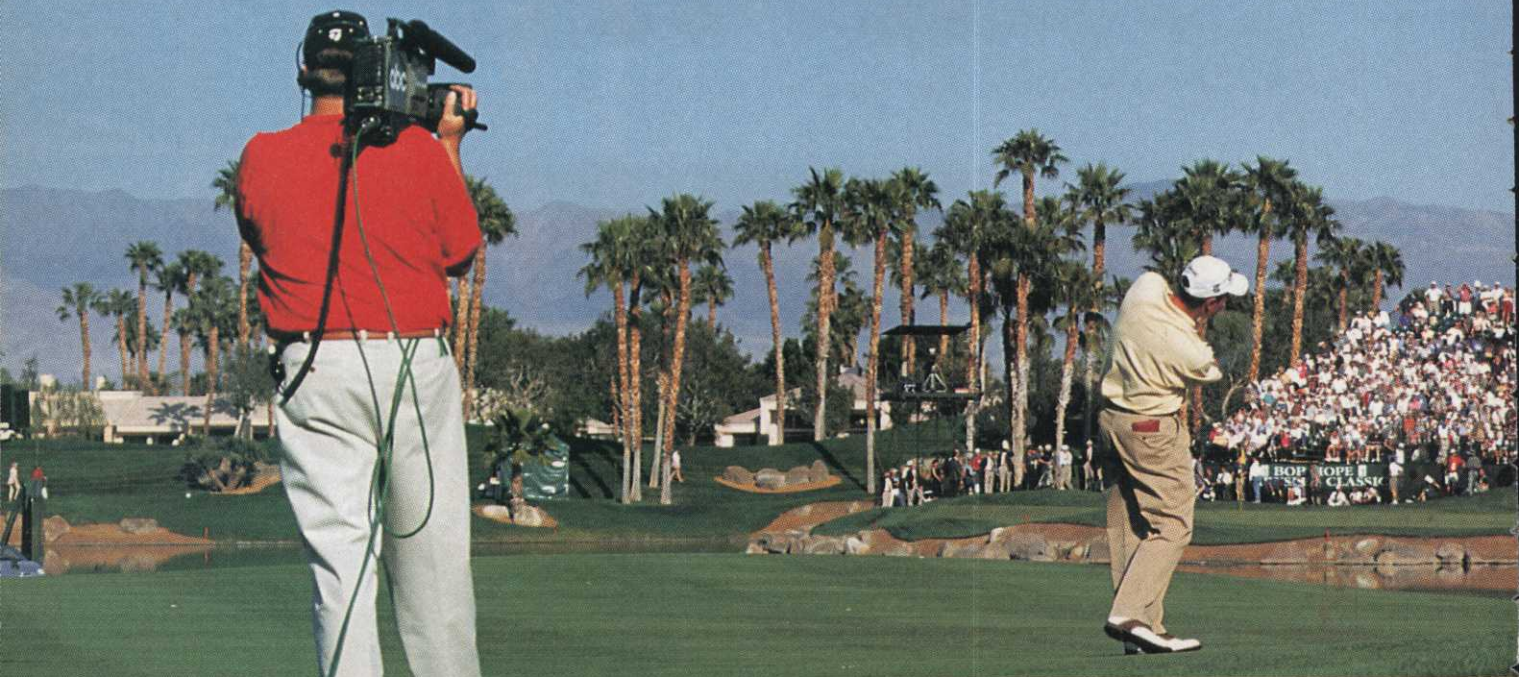
Circle No. 101



JOHN DEERE

Golfdom

APRIL 2001 • VOLUME 57 • NUMBER 4



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The Scoop from Dallas

Here's our report of what went down during the 72th GCSAA Conference and Show.

By Golfdom Staff



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By Frank H. Andorka Jr.

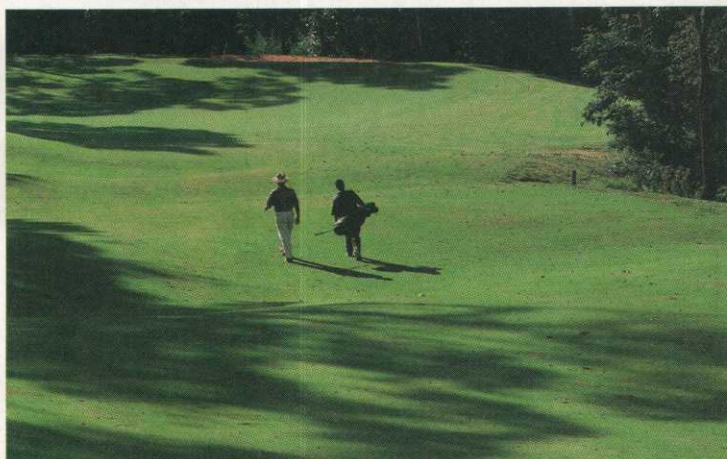


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Keeping a Mow Profile

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By Larry Aylward



MADE FOR TV



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Manufacturers say superintendents need to be better educated about slow-release fertilizer.

By Larry Aylward



cover story

BY BRUCE ALLAR

Not all golf courses are under the gun to prepare for the pressures of “lights, camera and action.” But we asked a few superintendents to share their secrets for small-screen success.

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Tony Roberts photographed an ABC cameraman filming Mark Calcavecchia teeing off during the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic at PGA West in La Quinta, Calif. Roberts photographed golfer Joe Durant, the winner of the tournament, on these pages.

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New! **Funny Business**

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If season-long surfactants lasted all season, we'd be selling one.



It's a nice idea. Sounds great in a sales pitch. And if we were the kind of company that didn't mind selling soil surfactants that we couldn't guarantee, we'd have one in our line. But the fact is "season-long" surfactants don't work well and we're not that kind of company.



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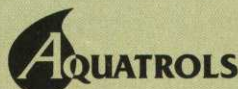
Many superintendents report that they reapply season-long surfactants every 2-3 months because one application "just doesn't last" during stressful summer months. If you're one of them, you should know that Primer could save you time and money:

Time because unlike other surfactants, Primer doesn't need to be watered in. (Yet, it will never burn your turf - it's that safe.) And because Primer can be tank mixed with many turf management chemicals, you don't need to add the application to your "to-do list."

Money because if you apply a "season-long" surfactant more than once a season, you're paying more than a season of Primer would cost.

Primer was specifically formulated to work effectively and uniformly for one month. "Season-long" surfactants are not, so simply making more frequent applications of the product is not the answer.

We know that there are superintendents who want a "season-long" surfactant, and we could add one to our product line. But we prefer to be the surfactant company that dares to be different. We prefer to stick with products that do what we say they'll do. Guaranteed.



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SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

APRIL

17 Cactus and Pine GCSA's Annual Meeting

Phoenix
Contact 480-609-6778

20 American Society of Golf Course Architects Remodeling University

Philadelphia
Contact 312-372-7090

LORDY, LORDY, OTF TURNS 40

On April 24, the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation will celebrate its 40th birthday. Started in 1960 with a budget of \$150 (less expenses of \$73.87), the foundation has funded \$3.3 million in research grants since its inception. For more information, go to www.ohioturfgrass.org.

25 American Society of Golf Course Architect's Remodeling University

San Francisco
Contact 312-372-7090

MAY

3-6 National Club Association Annual Meeting

Detroit
Contact 202-822-9822

5-6 Oregon GCSA's Annual Meeting

Bandon, Ore.
Contact 541-549-1960

6-8 California GCSA's Annual Meeting

Shell Beach, Calif.
Contact 559-643-8707

12-16 American Society of Golf Course Architects Annual Meeting

Columbus, Ohio
Contact 312-372-7090

14 Cactus and Pine GCSA's Karsten Field Day and Seminar

Tucson, Ariz.
Contact 480-609-6778

16 North Carolina State University Field Day

Raleigh, N.C.
Contact 800-476-4272

22 Management of Localized Spots and Water Repellent Soils

Houston
Contact 800-833-4451

22 Managing Turfgrass Root Systems

Houston
Contact 800-833-4451

JULY

12 Managing Turfgrass Environment

Scottsdale, Ariz.
Contact 480-609-6778

19-21 Turfgrass Producers International Conference and Expo

Toronto
Contact 800-405-8873

AUGUST

16 Michigan Golf Course Owners Association's 8th Annual Golf Outing and Field Day

Augusta, Mich.
Contact 517-482-4312

21 Cornell University Field Day

Ithaca, N.Y.
Contact 607-255-1792

NOVEMBER

1 Golf Course Managers Association of Cape Cod's Annual Meeting

Sandwich, Mass.
Contact 508-693-0578

3-7 Georgia GCSA's Annual Meeting

St. Simons Island, Ga.
Contact 706-742-2651

5-8 Virginia Turfgrass Conference

Virginia Beach, Va.
Contact 888-634-8873

6-8 Penn State Golf Turf Conference

State College, Pa.
Contact 814-863-3475

6-9 West Virginia GCSA's Annual Turf Conference and Show

Morgantown, W.Va.
Contact 304-243-4112

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Circle No. 106

Faithful readers will recall that I always return from the GCSAA show with my pockets stuffed with illegible notes on matchbooks and cocktail napkins (a typical example:

“Call Mugbyfrumph ASAP about new gibblymintrow!!”).

The problem is not my ability to take notes. The problem is that every time you turn around at the show, someone is placing another drink in your hand, and (say it with me now) beer and journalism just don't mix. However, with the help of a former CIA cryptologist, I deciphered enough of my scribbles to deliver this report on the big show.

D as in Dreadful

In our show preview, I characterized Dallas as “dull” and “hard to get around.” In hindsight, I realize that those descriptions didn't do the city justice. After spending a week there, my revised assessment is this: Dallas sucks.

Sure, there were a few positives. The shuttle system was so speedy that – even six weeks later – there are probably a few attendees *still* enjoying a never-ending ride around the city. And wasn't it cool that they designed all of those great downtown restaurants and bars to look like boarded-up buildings and vacant lots? Oh, and the weather — I can't get enough of that delightful combination of cloudy, wet and cold.

A friend of mine summed it up perfectly: “The best thing about Dallas was seeing it gradually shrink in my rearview mirror on the way back home.”

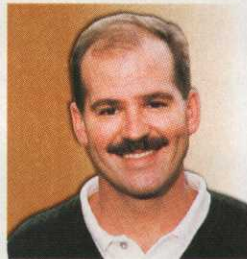
D as in Dollars

Curiously, the same factors that made Dallas a little slice of hell for attendees made it heavenly for exhibitors. Lousy weather and the daunting prospect of getting back on the shuttles kept people on the show floor in droves. Even the final half-day – which historically has been a good time for exhibitors to catch up on their reading or learn how to knit – was busy. I didn't talk with a single vendor who wasn't happy about the strong, steady traffic at the show.

Hmmm ... maybe this ironic success will inspire the association to consider other loca-

Beer and Scribbles from the Big D

BY PAT JONES



WITH THE HELP
OF A FORMER CIA
CRYPTOLOGIST,
I CAN DELIVER
THIS REPORT ON
THE BIG SHOW

tions comparable in climate and atmosphere to Dallas. Like, say, Fargo.

Pretty Darned Impressive

After nearly two years of debate and recent claims by opponents that the measure would be defeated, the bylaws changes behind the GCSAA Professional Development Initiative passed handily. Say what you will about the pros and cons of the delegate voting system, but passage by 75 percent to 25 percent is a *mandate* by anyone's yardstick.

The committed superintendents on both sides of PDI should be commended for their efforts. The intensity of the discussion is the sign of a healthy profession.

The question now is how GCSAA and its leadership use the mandate to implement the program and achieve the stated goals. The bylaws vote was not the end of the process; on the contrary, it was only the beginning.

More on Walter

Finally, I was grateful to all of those in Dallas who shared memories about the life and death of Walter Mattison (see “Flagstick,” February). Here's the one that moved me most:

An unknown individual showed up at the memorial benefit tournament held in Walter's honor and handed organizers a check for several thousand dollars. He wasn't in the golf business and had never even actually met Walter. He explained that his daughter was in a church group with Walter and that Walter would unfailingly call after every meeting just to see if the girl had arrived home safely. In short, he had been deeply touched by a man on whom he'd never laid eyes.

Pat Jones is the publisher/editorial director of Golfdom. He can be reached at 440-891-3126 or pjones@advanstar.com



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THE BROAD SPECTRUM SYSTEMIC FUNGICIDE FOR HEALTHIER PLANTS.

Retired superintendent Paul R. Latshaw should thank the golf course gods that he married a woman who was raised on a farm. Phyllis Latshaw, Paul's wife for 37 years, lived and labored on a dairy farm in Liberty, Pa., while growing up. She recalls performing chores before and after school, as well as working on weekends.

So Phyllis understood why Paul, who hung up his work boots in February after 37 years as a superintendent, had to work 15-hour days and weekends when he was tending turf at some of the world's most famous golf courses, including Oakmont, Augusta National, Riviera, Congressional and Winged Foot.

"The cows don't know that it's Saturday and Sunday," Phyllis says. "Neither does the grass."

But Phyllis did more than understand why Paul had to work so hard in his quest to become one of the nation's preeminent superintendents. She provided Paul with unwavering support in his career goals. She gave him love in its truest form — patience, devotion, support and humility.

Her tolerance for Paul's vocation was often tested. For instance, Paul and Phyllis would make a date for a Sunday-afternoon drive. But Paul, who had gone to work in the morning, would phone Phyllis shortly before he was to meet her and tell her that he would have to stay at work for the entire afternoon. Phyllis was sad when this happened, but she never read Paul the riot act.

"I knew he would rather be with me doing something fun," she says. "It was frustrating, but I understood."

Ever since Paul began his career in Jackson, Mich., in the early 1960s, he would come home from work for dinner and then return to the course in the evening to work a few more hours. Phyllis and Paul B., the couple's young son, often accompanied Paul in the evening.

"That was my recreation," Phyllis says. "We couldn't go to the movies or anything like that because he felt responsible to his job. If I didn't go with him, I didn't see him."

Phyllis Latshaw Stands By Her Man

BY LARRY AYLWARD



**SHE GAVE HIM
LOVE IN ITS TRUEST
FORM — PATIENCE,
DEVOTION, SUPPORT
AND HUMILITY**

Paul, who began his career at 23, was known in the field as a rambling man. He'd go to one course and get it in shape. Then he'd move to another course and do the same. Paul didn't stay anywhere for too long because there was always another challenge to tackle elsewhere.

Phyllis was a teacher for 15 years in various towns where the Latshaws lived. But she didn't complain about Paul uprooting her career and the family to move to places like Oakmont, Pa., or Augusta, Ga.

"Paul's the kind of guy who wants to be on top," Phyllis says. "I always wanted him to be happy and successful, and I would do whatever I could to make that happen. It was important for me to see him happy."

Phyllis confesses that being married to Paul before he retired was like being married to her father, who also worked long hours to support his family. She didn't see either man very much.

Maybe Phyllis gave in to Paul and his demanding career. Maybe she should've insisted that Paul work less and stay home more. Maybe she should have demanded that Paul take her to the movies.

But Phyllis doesn't see it that way. Despite Paul's long hours, she maintains he was a devoted husband. She believes that Paul didn't just let her and Paul B. join him at the course at night as a gentlemanly gesture — he wanted to be with them. That's why Paul also invited Phyllis to the annual GCSAA show and made her his secretary when he became superintendent at Wilmington CC in the early 1990s. That's why Paul took Phyllis with him on trips around the world.

In his illustrious career, Latshaw hosted four Masters, two U.S. Opens, one PGA Championship and one U.S. Senior Open. He was one

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