



I Had A Dream

By Chad Eberhardt

*"The hope I dreamed was a dream,
Was but a dream; and now I wake,
Exceeding comfortless, and worn,
and old,
For a dream's sake."*

— Christina Rossetti

On May 15, 1994, I, as president of the newly formed Badger Golf Course Coaches Association, was one of the principal speakers at the outdoor gathering of golf course coaches in Madison, Wisconsin. My address was spoken from the steps of Bascom Hall.

I am happy to join with you today in what will go down in history as the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation.

Seven score years ago, Old Tom Morris, in whose symbolic shadow we stand, established a benchmark by which we can all measure ourselves on a professional level.

The life and times of Old Tom have been a great beacon light of hope for thousands of golf course professionals who have long been seared in the flames of withering injustice.

But 140 years later, we must face the tragic fact that the golf course coach is still not free.

140 years later, the life of the golf course coach is still sadly crippled by the chains of discrimination.

140 years later, the golf course coach is still languishing in the corners of American society and finds

himself in exile in the professional world.

So we have come here today to dramatize an appalling condition which can be traced back directly to that fateful movie "Caddyshack."

It is obvious that America has defaulted on its promissory note insofar as her citizens in the golf course business are concerned.

Instead of honoring its obligation of justice for all, America has given the golf course coach a bad check; a check which has come back marked "insufficient funds."

We have come to this hallowed spot to erase the past. We have also come to remind America of the fierce urgency of now.

No more fear mongering.

No more "Caddyshack" reruns!

It would be fatal for the future of golf for the nation to overlook the urgency of the moment and to underestimate the determination of the golf course coach.

This sweltering summer of our legitimate discontent will not pass until there is an invigorating autumn of equality. 1994 is not an end, but a beginning.

But there is something I must say to you, my brothers, who stand on the threshold which leads into the palace of justice.

In the process of gaining our rightful place we must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline.

Our militancy must not lead us to a distrust of the club professional.

The pro will come to realize that his destiny is tied up with our destiny. Without us they've got nothing.

Go back to Milwaukee, go back to Green Bay, go back to La Crosse, go back to your home, knowing that somehow our situation can and will be changed.

No more wallowing in the valley of despair.

I say to you today, my friends, that in spite of the difficulties and frustrations of the moment I still have a dream.

I have a dream that golf course coaches will attain the level of remuneration they deserve.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that Paul Harvey will no longer haphazardly deviate from his conservative roots.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that those who employ the golf course coach will one day realize that they cannot golf on Ashworth shirts or hamburgers.

I have a dream today.

This is our hope.

With this hope we will be able to transform the discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood.

Let freedom ring from every green and tee in America!

And then I woke up and realized it was time to get ready for another long day of work. I was only dreaming! 🌱

Flexstake is the most practical accessory to appear on the golf course maintenance market in a decade. The above ground portion is made of color-fast polycarbonate which can be mowed over with reel mowers.

Our Flexsign, O.B. Markers and Yardage Markers are designed to allow a golf cart or a tractor to ride over them with no damage.

For a free sample of **Flexstake** or a video of our complete **Flexstake** line, call or write.

FLEXSTAKE®

Paul Ronyak, Distributor of Flexstake Products
W193 N16366 Lea Fond Circle • Jackson, WI 53037

1-414-677-3855