

Mike Werth to Compete in the National 2005 'People vs. the Pros' Tournament at Barton Creek in Texas!

By **Marc Davison**, Golf Course Superintendent, Green Bay Country Club

Mike Werth, superintendent for the Monroe Country Club, will represent golf's unsung heroes - the superintendents - in the 2005 People vs. the Pros tournament presented by BASF. He will have a chance to compete head-to-head against professional Justin Leonard at Barton Creek Resort and Spa Sept. 12 in Austin, Texas, and win \$100,000.

Playing with his USGA handicap of 16, Werth's net score of 69 beat out participating superintendents from across Wisconsin during the June 13 regional qualifier at the Green Bay Country Club.

"This is the first time that I've ever won a golf event!" exclaimed Werth.

Mike will now go on to compete against 288 other amateurs for a chance to play with his handicap against professional golfer Justin Leonard.

A casual golfer, Werth is looking forward to the challenge at Barton Creek.

"I play in a weekly nine hole league each week," said Werth, "I have to credit our golf pro at Monroe Country Club for pushing me and keeping me involved in playing each week."

The regional qualifier was the ninth of 17 tournaments held nationwide on the road to the People vs. the Pros third annual tournament.

Dr. Toni Bucci, business manager for BASF Professional Turf and Ornamentals said, "Sponsoring these events locally and being a presenting sponsor at the national tournament provides BASF a national platform to recognize the professional dedication of golf course superintendents. It's our way of saluting the crucial work that superintendents around the country are doing to provide quality turf for

their home courses and especially for the golfers who play on them."

Additionally, at every regional tournament, BASF will donate \$2,000 to the hosting GCSA chapter to help support their superintendent's educational fund.

The People vs. the Pros tournament allows two amateurs-one in a 50-and-over division and one in a 49-and-under division-to compete head-to-head against PGA pros Ben Crenshaw and Justin Leonard, respectively, in an 18-hole stroke-play match. The winner in each division, be it pro or be it amateur, will win \$100,000. The runner-up will receive \$50,000.

Last year, professional golfers John Daly and Gary McCord were defeated by amateurs John Sniegowski of Cadillac, Mich., and Phil Johnson of McKinney, Texas.

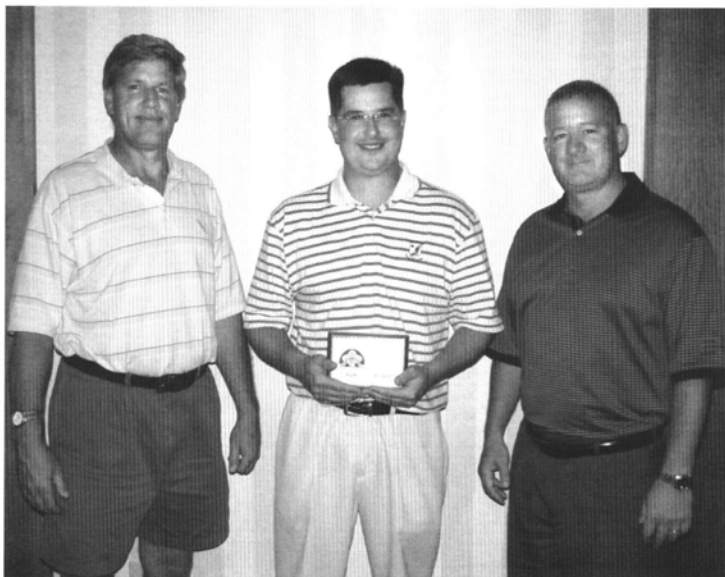
In addition to the grand prize tournament, BASF Professional Turf and Ornamentals will host the second annual BASF Superintendent's Cup on Barton

Creek's Fazio Foothills course where the two golf course superintendents with the lowest net scores from the three-day, 54-hole handicapped stroke-play event, will in a head-to-head match play for \$10,000 cash and BASF products for their home course. The runner-up will receive \$5,000 cash.

Last year, Kip Wilson, superintendent at the American Legion Golf Course in Kokomo, Ind., defeated Matthew Fitzpatrick of Dublin Country Club, Dublin, Ga., at the inaugural event played on the famed Pinehurst No. 2 course.

The final match-up between pro and amateur will be broadcast on ESPN on Sept. 19 and will feature highlights from the Superintendent's Cup event.

For more information on People vs. the Pros, visit www.peoplevsthepros.com. For more information on BASF Professional Turf & Ornamentals, visit www.turffacts.com. ♻



Marc Davison, Wisconsin GCSA chapter president (left) and BASF Professional Turf and Ornamentals senior sales representative **Dave Oberle** (right) congratulate the tournament winner **Mike Werth** (center). Werth is the superintendent for Monroe Country Club.