



Luck of the Irish

By **Tom Schwab**, O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Every one of the 144 attendees in the WTA Golf 'Fundraiser for the Fellowship' was overjoyed to play one of the most unique golfing venues in the country for this year's event. The Irish Course at Whistling Straits played host to the annual fundraiser for the second time in five years. This is the sister course to the Straits Course which hosted last year's successful PGA Championship, and is every bit as spectacular. Every shot hit throughout the 18 holes presented breathtaking beauty and an exhilarating challenge. Our hosts Mike Lee and Grant Davey deserve many thanks for having the course in great shape and for showing us such a fun day. We certainly feel lucky, even if we're not Irish.

The weather played to our favor with sunny skies, mid-sixties temps, and moderate breeze. Lots of camaraderie was shared amongst the sold-out crowd from the time they arrived to hit practice balls to the post-game handing out of golf and door prizes. As if golf wasn't enough, it has become tradition at the WTA golf outing that every attendee is awarded a door prize, some worth more than the price of admission. Thus, thanks also go to the generous door prize donors that make the day what it is. The list of donors and their prizes is listed below. Many gifts were given anonymously, thus some donors are not listed.

A side note to mention is congratulation to one attendee. Joe Coan, the general manager from Westmoor Country Club, made WTA Golf Fundraiser history when he shot a Hole-In-One on #3. Unfortunately it wasn't one of those fancy schmancy win-a-car hole-in-ones. But he did take home a smaller prize for hitting it nearest to pin on that hole. The other event winners were:

- 1st Place in the Four Person Best Ball Contest
— Team of Bruce Schweiger, Scott Thompson,
Scott Anthes, and Dave Boyce
- #1, Closest Drive to Center of Fairway
— Jim Thomas
- #2, Shortest Drive — Tom Grimm
- #6, Nearest to Pin — Tom Kestly
- #8, Most Putts — Jesse Conto
- #10, Longest Drive — Bob Lohmann
- #11, Nearest to Pin - Brad Legnaioli
- #13, Nearest to Pin - Doug Stevens
- #14, Longest Drive - Mike Lee
- #18, Longest Putt - Dale Mondloch

The golf fundraiser was also made successful by the generous tee sign sponsors. They are likewise listed below. The entire day was a success. Attendees had a memorable golf round that they'll cherish for a long time. The WTA raised lots of important funds to further their turf research objectives through their fellowship programs. Everyone went home with a nice door prize. And Joe Coan will remember his shot on #3. Luck was in the air at the Irish Course on October 11th, 2005.

2005 WTA Golf Fundraiser Tee Sign Sponsors:

Agrotain International
Aquatrols
Arysta LifeScience
Bayer
Cleary Chemical
Contree Sprayer & Equipment Company
DHD Tree Products
Dr. Geunhwa Jung
Dr. John Stier
Dr. Wayne Kussow
Hunter Golf
Maple Bluff Country Club
Pendelton Turf Supply
ProSource One
Reinders
Reisterer & Schnell
Sue Kershasky
Tom Schwab
Verdicon
Wausau Country Club
Westmoor Country Club



Mike Lee and Grant Davey, hosts of the 2005 WTA Golf Fundraiser.

2005 WTA Golf Fundraiser Door Prize Donors:

(Partial List)

- Al NeesPrint of Crooked Stick Country Club and other stuff
- Anderson's (Dave Louttit)Yes
- AquamasterPond supplies
- AquatrolsDozen Golf Balls
- BASFGolf Bags, few gift cards from Home Depot
- BayerPutter, Driver, Camping Gear, 4 dozen Golf Balls,
Kid's Driver, Volleyball, Head Cover
- BridgesFoursome of golf
- Bruce Co.....Baby Q Gas Grill
- Cleary's (Tim Keating)2 x \$75.00 Gander Mountain Gift Cards
- Crystal Springs CC2 x twosomes of golf
- DHDGolf Bag
- DowBinoculars, Wind Breaker, Lounge Chairs, Golf Balls
- Edgewood GCYes
- Evansville CC.....Yes
- Evergreen CC.....Twosome of golf with cart
- Glen Erin GCFoursome of golf with cart
- Green Image.....String Trimmer
- Horst DistributingBunch of Logo Clothing
- Horst.....Yes
- John Deere Credit4 x Golf Shirts, Bag Watch, Dozen Balls
- John StierLogo Tee Shirt
- Lawsonia.....Twosome of golf with cart
- Lohmann Golf Creations.....Many Coolers, Windshirts, and Jackets
- Maple Bluff CC.....4 x Golf Shirts
- Northern BayFoursome of golf with cart
- Old HickoryYes
- Oneida G&CC.....2 dozen balls, sweatshirt, cap
- Pendelton Turf Supply.....2 gift certificates, other prizes
- Prosource One8 shirts, 2 dozen balls, 2 stuffed animals
- Reinders.....\$350 worth of electronics
- Roy ZehrenYes
- SAS Management LLCSeveral electronic items
- SchwabGolf Balls, Kids Toys
- SchweigerBike
- Stoughton CCFoursome of golf
- Syngenta.....Driver, Putter, Windbreaker, 2 dozen balls
- The Club at Strawberry Creek.....Foursome of golf with cart
- TIPYes
- Trappers TurnFoursome of golf with cart
- Two Oaks North GCFoursome of golf
- University RidgeLogo sweatshirt
- VerdiconPing Putter, Badger Windshirt
- Washington County GC.....2 x twosomes of golf
- Waukesha County Golf CoursesOne 18-hole round of golf
- Waupaca Sand and Solutions.....DVD Player
- Wayne Horman4 x \$25 Applebees Gift Certificates
- Whistling Straits2 PGA Posters, Putter, 20 PGA Caps
- Windy AcresCase of Berghoff Oktoberfest



Mike Lyons scouted the prizes before his number was drawn!



Beth Whitehouse and Paul Koch handled the prize distribution.



Some of the generous golf prize donations.



Few golf outings will offer as generous door prize table as the WTA does!

NOTES FROM THE NOER FACILITY



And on the first tee: Grimm, Goninen, Anthes, Blumke and Boniface.



Jon Hegge drives the ball from the 16th tee.



Mark Storby, Danny Quast and Gary Vandenberg enjoyed refreshments after golf.



Neal Martin, Keith Kelling and retired CALS dean Elton Aberle joined us again this year.



Tom Wentz and Dale March holding court after golf.



A famous foursome of Kerry Anderson, Brian Swingle, Bret Rush and John Turner.



The Irish Course offers "challenging" golf, to say the least.



The Irish Course offers spectacular views of Lake Michigan.



Low technology mowing on the Irish course!