



THE GRASS ROOTS

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Even in Phoenix,

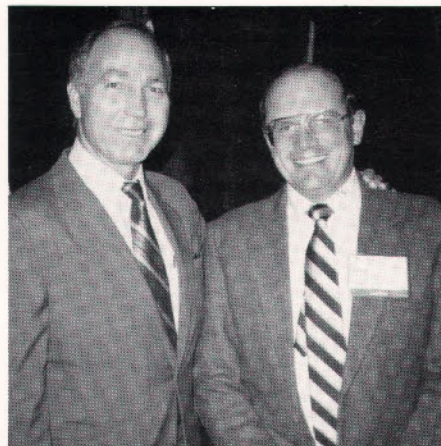
WHEN YOU SAY WIS • CON • SIN YOU'VE SAID IT ALL

By Michael Semler

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's 1987 Conference was held in Phoenix during the week of January 26th through February 3rd and if it hadn't been for the warm weather, you could have been mistaken and thought you were back in Wisconsin. Members of the Wisconsin golf course industry were present in such large numbers and with such force and visibility that making such a mistake was easy. The WGCSA long ago decided that greater involvement and higher visibility on the national level was essential to our continued success and that we needed to provide some leadership at the national level. The Phoenix conference, once again, proved that we have reached that goal and are maintaining it.

The Conference started in grand style on Thursday evening with the opening session. Three Wisconsinites - former Green Bay Packer quarterback and coach Bart Starr, retired University of Wisconsin-Madison Soil Science Professor Jim Love and UW-Madison student Michael Lee were present front and center on the stage of the Phoenix Symphony Hall. They were prominent among the honored guests.

The highest honor the GCSAA can give to anyone is their Distinguished Service Award. The list of previous honorees is impressive. The name of Dr. James R. Love will now rightfully join that select group. No one, in my mind, could be more deserving than Dr. Love. His dedicated involvement with students has been an example and inspiration for all of us and sets a standard for the industry. In his acceptance speech, Dr. Love expounded on how solid the



A dream come true... the Editor meets one of his heroes, Keynote speaker Bart Starr.



Mike Lee accepts his GCSAA scholarship from Director Jerry Faubel at the Opening Session. Professor Love watches with great pride.

program in Wisconsin at the UW-Madison is and gave the audience a few insights into the reasons the UW program is as strong as it is. His receipt of this award set the stage for the rest of the week in the visibility of Wisconsin's

leadership in the golf turf world.

Another Wisconsinite, Mike Lee, received a scholarship from the GCSAA. The scholarship is based on several criteria, including excellence in studies, dedication and interest in the golf turf industry, and personal accomplishment. Mike, a senior in the Soil Science Department's Turf and Grounds Management program, joined six other students from around the country that were so honored. For the second year in a row, a "W" man has received a scholarship under the new approach given this program by director Jerry Faubel. There is now broader recognition of the undergraduate education program at Wisconsin and all of the fine graduates that have come from there over the years. Make no mistake, there

Continued on page 30.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

When you say WISCONSIN	1
President's Message	2
Editorial	3
The Black Layer	6
An Architects Opinion	9
Jottings - Wisconsin Bluegrass	14
Shop Talk	16
WGCSA '87 Education Program	17
Opening Days	19
John Deere Story	21
UW Turf Short Course	33
Reinders Turf Conference	35
Watson "Man of the Year"	37
Brayton Meeting	39
MILORGANITE: NOT Cause of Disease ...	40
USGA Regional Conference	43
Harrison Retires as WTA President	45
Milorganite Innocent	45
GCSA Seeks Sites	46
News Clippings	47
Spreading the Breeze	48