

1993 National Convention Report

By JOHN HARRIS, Editor



Greg Hubbard, Manitou Ridge, and Joe Moris, Tartan Park, present Jim Latham, USGA, a research check.

The opening session at the Hilton in Anaheim was well-attended, and the presentation given by the GCSAA Board of Directors, with William Roberts, CGCS, chairing the session, was an example of dedication, professionalism and direction regarding the past, present and future.

The video shown on two large screens, accompanied with excellent audio, covered virtually every aspect that confronts superintendents today.

The awards presentation was highlighted by the first ever Environmental Steward Awards. Clay Loyd assured me that the upcoming issue of *Golf Course Management* will cover this in detail, and by now many of you already have received and read all the details.

The Distinguished Service Awards went to Dr. James A. Beard and Dr. Victor Gibreault. The Leo Feser Award was given to John Baranski, CGCS. John is the author of "Surviving Japan's Rainy Season."

The Student Essay Contest winners were Gary Harshman, Bethesda CC, Maryland; Nicole Schwehr, Apple Creek CC, Bismarck, N.D., and Michael Echols, a senior at Lake City Community College.

The President's Award was presented to the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses. I know of some facilities in our area that participate in this program. This award is a reflection of its success through your participation.

Then along came Johnny Bench, the keynote speaker. Mr. Bench provided a humorous outlook on life while playing "in the show" and thereafter. While listening to his presentation, I could get a feel for his attitude and beliefs. It was easy to see why this man is successful in everything he does.

The concurrent sessions were most informative with professors heading up "Golf Course Management Techniques" and Managing Today's Environment." I particularly enjoyed Dr. Beard's presentation on "Rolling Greens" as he spoke before a standing room only audience.

The show opened on Thursday, and the usual throngs besieged the exhibitors. It was difficult to see it all in a day, but I covered as much ground as possible and saw many new features, particularly in pesticide application equipment.



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