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BASF Professional Turf & Ornamentals will sponsor an Official 2006 People vs. the Pros qualifying golf tournament for Minnesota GCSA superintendents at Albion Ridges in Annandale, Minn., on Monday, July 17.

The 2006 People vs. the Pros golf tournament, presented by BASF, provides a national platform to recognize the professional dedication and crucial attention to detail that the superintendent brings to the game of golf and, in turn, helps elevate the status of the superintendent at all levels. The regional tournaments give busy superintendents time to enjoy the game as well as providing a venue to exchange professional knowledge with one another.

BASF will host the tournament champion on an allexpense paid trip to compete at the fourth annual People vs. the Pros championship tournament at Pinehurst on August 18 - 22, 2006. The July 17 winner will be one of up to 200 amateur golfers playing in the 54-hole national stroke play event utilizing handicaps for a chance to win \$50,000 for charity by defeating professionals Retief Goosen (49-and-under) or Gary McCord (50-and-over division) in front of a national television audience on ESPN2.

The Albion Ridges tournament is one of 20 regional qualifier tournaments that BASF is conducting specifically for superintendents across the country and the winner will join 24 other superintendents at the national finals. Over 1,000 superintendents will vie for a spot in the Pinehurst final through the regional BASF events. Additionally, at every regional tournament, BASF will donate \$2,000 to the hosting GCSA chapter to help support their education fund.

Dr. Toni Bucci, business manager for BASF Professional Turf and Ornamentals said, "This is our third year sponsoring these regional events and the national tournament. It's an honor to help provide a national platform to highlight the professional dedication of golf course superintendents."



The 2006 People vs. the Pros Tournament at Pinehurst

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 a PGA pro in an 18-hole stroke-play match. The winner in each division, be it pro or amateur, will win \$50,000 for the charity of his or her choice.

The 2006 championship event is scheduled for August 18 - 22 at Pinehurst Resort. The top amateurs with the lowest net scores from the three-day tournament will compete against either Retief Goosen (49-and-under) or Gary McCord (50-andover) on Pinehurst No. 8 for the top charity prize.

Last year, professional golfers Justin Leonard and Ben Crenshaw defeated their amateur challengers at Barton Creek Resort and Spa in Austin, Texas.

While Goosen is a first time participant, McCord will be making his second appearance at America's Ultimate Pro-Am Championship. In 2004, McCord was defeated by amateur Phil Johnson of McKinney, Texas, on Pinehurst No. 2.

BASF Superintendent's Cup

In addition to the two national finals matches, BASF Professional Turf and Ornamentals will host the third annual BASF Superintendents' Cup, where the top two golf course superintendents from the Pinehurst tournament (who do not qualify to play against a pro), will compete in

head-to-head match play for a \$10,000 cash prize and \$10,000 worth of BASF products for their home course. The runnerup will receive a \$5,000 cash prize.

Rafael Martinez, superintendent at the Via Verde Country Club in San Dimas, Calif., defeated Greg Wiles of The Links at Echo Springs in Johnstown, Ohio, for the second annual Superintendents' Cup championship at Barton Creek's 2005 People vs. the Pros tournament.

(Editor's Note: For more information on the Carter Plantation event, please contact David Oberle at oberled@basf.com. If you plan to participate, you must present a verifiable USGA handicap at the tournament. For more information on People vs. the Pros, visit www.peoplevsthepros.com. For more information on BASF Professional Turf & Ornamentals, visit www.turffacts.com.)

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