

mind, everyday thoughts and conversations become the playing field for which I am to bring the game of movie line insertion. So I got that going for me.....which is nice. (Caddyshack)

Walking the trade show floor is kind of like walking through candyland for and adolescent when it comes to this silly little game I play with myself. I carry on conversations with familiar people and strangers. I am bombarded and stimulated with interesting thoughts, ideas and tangible things. The movie one liners are free and flowing .

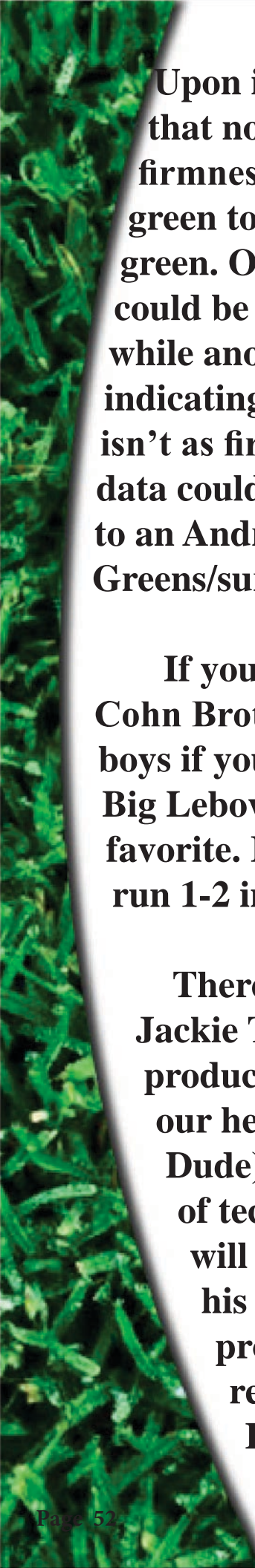
“Badges? We don’t need no stinking badges!” (Blazing Saddles), uttered in a conversation about lost credentials.

“So you’re saying there’s a chance.” (Dumb and Dumber), uttered when told the price of a new mower.

“Run away!, Run Away!” (Monty Python and the Holy Grail), the thought running through my head when cornered by a pushy flag peddler.

The above were the family-friendly quotes. You can imagine some of the other ones. So there I was happily traversing the wide Orange County Center isles when all of a sudden I saw a devise that sparked my curiosity originally, then quickly became the bain of my GIS existence. I had discovered the Fieldscout Trufirm measuring devise.

At first I thought it was another version of the TDR 300 moisture meter. I purchased one of these last year and found it to be a very valuable tool in profile and root zone water content measuring as many other superintendents have.



Upon inquiry, I was told that no, this was to measure firmness of greens, both from green to green and intra-green. One spot on the green could be .42 on the meter, while another would be .28, indicating one spot on the green isn't as firm as the other. The data could also be downloaded to an Android device for plotting Greens/surfaces. Ummmm, Ok.

If you are a devotee of Cohn Brothers films, (local boys if you haven't heard), The Big Lebowski is surely your favorite. It and Caddyshack run 1-2 in my world.

There is a part where Jackie Treehorn (a porn producer) is chatting with our hero Jeff Lebowski (The Dude) about the wonders of technology and what it will do for the end user of his morally questionable product. The dude's response was "Well, I still (take care of

business) manually." Me too dude, me too.

Really? A firmness meter for a green? What's next? I looked at the thing and decided that this was an evil contraption. Not that I don't think it would be kind of interesting putting some sort of value to how firm your greens are, it's just that some things just shouldn't be quantified. I'm sure if you are in this game long enough at some point somebody has griped about a particular green being firmer than a couple others, but do you really want to run out with your skippy meter and find out?

And what are you going to do about it anyway? Run a steam roller over a six square foot section of your green to make up that .10 difference? It's ridiculous. I'm going to lay a wager that the low areas are not as firm as the high areas, and the normal entry/exit ways from the cart path are firmer than the rest of the green. (Just a hunch.)