cleanup crew

And the Winner is...

e received many crazy on-the-job stories in response to our January golf shirt giveaway, including one about accidentally digging up human remains and another about an irate customer who, when told the weed on her lawn was knotweed, responded, "What do you mean that's not a weed?" The one that busted our gut the most, however, was the story about the danger of high water sent in by Mike Fresh of Mike's Lawn Service, Blackfoot, ID. Apparently, one of Fresh's employees drove his zero-turn rider too close to the Snake River, which had overflowed onto a customer's lawn. When he got stuck in the mud, he tried to get out by going forward. When the tire on the upslope suddenly gained traction, the mower spun into the river. The employee had the good sense to jump off the mower, but the mower was lost for good. "Too bad mowers don't float," Fresh said.

Another month, another shirt

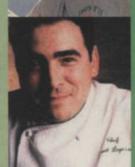
We've got plenty more shirts to give away, and this time you need to tell us (in 200 words or less) what the most productive day you ever had was and why. We'll pick the best story, and you might even see it in print if you win. Entries are due by April 15, 2001. Send your submissions via e-mail to jstahl@advanstar.com or snail mail to: Landscape Management, 7500 Old Oak Blvd., Middleburg Heights, OH 44130.

Separated at birth?

J.R. LandCare Group president Rob Diaz



Food Network show host and master chef Emeril Lagasse



Even though Rob Diaz looks like Emeril Lagasse, he doesn't claim to have any great culinary talents. He spends his time cooking up landscapes. In fact, his Las Vegas, NV-based company recently won first place from the Southern Nevada Water Authority in the category of commercial maintenance for designing a landscape that was judged to be both beautiful and water efficient.



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