



Special points of interest:

November 16, 2007 — Professional Golf Management Job Fair.

November 18, 2007— PGM Club meeting . Special Guests: Representatives from Bandon Dunes Golf Resort—Bandon, OR

November 21, 2007— Thanksgiving Break

December 19, 2007 — Winter Break begins

January 3-6, 2008— Level I Checkpoint at NC State Univeristy

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Turfgrass Management at its Best!

Recently, a national survey named NCSU as having the best turf school in the country. This is a culmination of NCSU’s nationally recognized turf faculty, support from administration and the strong association between the University and the turfgrass industry. The PGM program is fortunate to have these resources available. Many of these faculty guest lecture in the turfgrass course known as PRT-311.

Dr. Art Bruneau, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Crop Science, is responsible for teaching PRT-311, the Turfgrass Management course required by all PGM students. His intent is not to make PGM students experts in turfgrass management but to give them an appreciation for the role of the golf course superintendent, what are some of the many factors involved in taking care of a golf course and why it is important for them to work with the superintendent as part of a team. In most instances, the professional is the first

responder when it comes to addressing concerns and needs of the membership, including course conditions. The pro needs to be in a position to respond in a responsible and knowledgeable way.

Students learn that superintendents are responsible for more than just mowing, watering and fertilizing the grass. Regulatory and environmental issues are just some of the other areas that superintendents need to be informed. Dr. Bruneau points out that most golf course superintendents have an advanced degree in either agronomy, horticulture or turfgrass science depending on which school they attend.

Many of the graduates of the NCSU Turfgrass program are very active in the industry and are key players in various statewide and national associations.

Students in the PRT 311 class not only learn the (cont'd page 2)



“This program is not about the game of golf, it’s about the business of golf.”
- Dr. Robb Wade
PGM Director

PGM Ambassadors Reach Out to Prospective Students

Fourteen first year PGM students have taken on the role of PGM Ambassadors. These students will serve as liaisons to prospective students which includes written and verbal communication, attending meetings and playing golf during student visits, and

allowing prospective students to shadow them in classes while visiting. Ambassadors will also assist the PGM office with special events such as job fairs and recruiting activities.

First year student Lindsay Pitts comments, “The PGM

Ambassador program has helped me understand our program better. I feel I have been able to give prospective students information that will help them in making decisions about college and about a program that is growing in prestige.”

basics about turfgrass management, crucial to passing the Checkpoint exam required by the PGA, but are exposed to various learning experiences. Students tour the new field lab at Lake Wheeler to see the latest golf course grasses (part of the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program), management practices and to see first hand some of the newest pieces of equipment and machinery used in maintaining turfgrasses. Much of equipment is donated by industry in support of the turfgrass program.

In addition, students visit the Short Game Practice Facility (used by the golf teams and the PGM students) to learn how to change a cup, rake bunkers, fix ball marks and to discuss grass selection and management practices. Both facilities are maintained by Mr. Bob Erickson, a Certified Golf Course superintendent with years of experience. Mr. Bo Barefoot of Barefoot Associates, who was responsible for the construction of the Short Game Practice Facility and a graduate of the NCSU turf program, speaks to the PGM students about the facility as well as basic construction techniques. In addition, students visit Carolina Country Club (Raleigh, NC) to learn from Mr. Ted Kiegal, Head Pro and former pro at Augusta. Another memorable visit is to Prestonwood Country Club (Cary, NC) where Mr. Ron Gilmore, Certified Golf Course Superintendent of the 54 hole complex, gives a tour of the maintenance facility and discusses how he prepares for major championships such as the Champions Tour event.

Currently, Dr. Bruneau is making plans for a summer study abroad to Wales, Scotland and England. The 10 day event will include visits to Royal Liverpool, Liverpool Football Club, the Sports Turf Research Institute, and of course, St Andrews. Specific dates are yet to be determined. PGM students, as well as Turfgrass Science students, will be invited to participate. The study tour will be shortly after spring exams or just before fall classes begin (May or August 2008). Students will have an opportunity to interact with students from Reaseheath College (Wales) and Elmwood College (Scotland).



Mr. Bob Erickson (left) observes and evaluates a student changing a cup. Erickson show students how to do it and then chooses a student at random to try. He does the same with bunker raking and greens mowing.

NCSU Finishes Fifth at Jones Cup Tourney in GA

The NC State PGM team of Michael Broeker (Sr), Chase Eubanks (Fr), Jose Furtado (Sr), Kenneth Mesimer (Sr), and John Richardson (Sr) finished in fifth place in the national PGA / PGM Universities annual golf tournament—the Jones Cup. The fifth place finish is the highest any NC State team has finished in the six years of participating in the tournament. This team knew when they left Raleigh for TPC Sugarloaf in Duluth, GA on October 7 with PGM director, Robb Wade, and internship coordinator, Andy Betz, that they had their work cut out for them.

All five qualified to represent the NC State PGM program by having the best scores combined from a series of qualifying rounds organized by PGM Club tournament coordinator Kenneth Mesimer .

Senior, Michael Broeker comments that, “It was my first time to attend the Jones Cup and go the TPC Sugarloaf. It was cool to go with my fellow PGM’ers and represent NC State. I wanted to play collegiate golf, but due to such a busy schedule I was unable to do that. So this was a great opportunity. We felt a lot of support from each other, from Dr. Wade and Andy and from all the other students and people involved with our program. It felt good to generate a good team. Mississippi State University did a great job in organizing the tournament. It was a lot of fun and I would recommend to any current, and future PGM student, to try and participate in this tournament if possible. This was a great experience.”



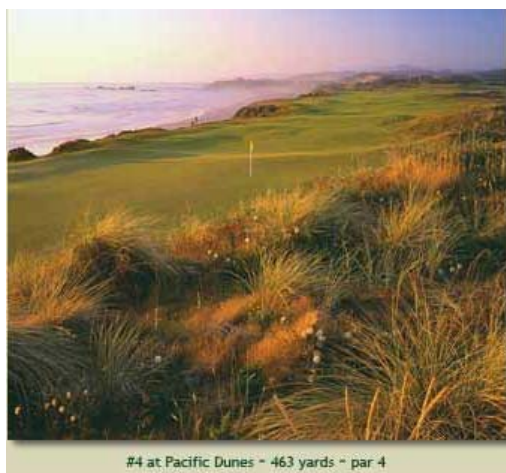
Pictured left to right: Michael Broeker, (Sr), Kenneth Mesimer (Sr), Jose Furtado (Sr), John Richardson (Sr), Chase Eubanks (Fr)



“We Work Where We Play”

In this column we will feature facilities where NC State PGM students complete internships. Since NC State’s golf course is not yet complete, local courses in the Triangle area of NC have graciously allowed our students playing privileges, as well as, opportunities to learn through work experiences. Therefore, in many cases, “We Work Where We Play.” We thank all facilities throughout the United States who have worked with our students to provide them with the hands-on learning they need to be successful in the golf industry. This month we feature:

Bandon Dunes Golf Resort, Bandon, OR
John Grothe, Director of Golf



At Bandon Dunes Golf Resort one will find three distinctly different courses built on a beautiful stretch of sand dunes perched 100 feet above the Pacific Ocean. Bandon Dunes and Pacific Dunes feature a dozen holes that run along the bluff overlooking 23 miles of sweeping, undisturbed shoreline. Bandon Dunes, Pacific Dunes — and the newest addition, Bandon Trails — weren't built as much as discovered. Among the coastal forest, dunes and gorse lie 54 golf holes that yield fresh rewards each time they are played.

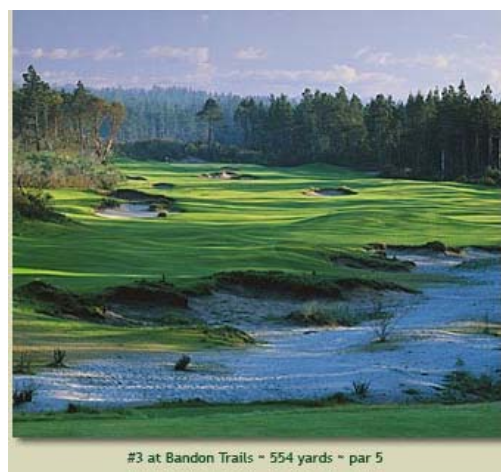
The game of golf was born on rugged, wind-swept land just like this. Every hole, every hazard, every shot is defined by nature's infinite presence. As the elements change, so does the game. It's all part of the tradition of links golf. Lies are tight and conditions are lean. Bounce and roll are a much better measure of quality than color. Mastery of the ground game becomes a more important skill than raw power. The ingenious and inventive player is rewarded with multiple options on nearly every shot. Amongst the massive dunes and hearty pines, you'll discover golf in its purest state where nature is embraced, not conquered, and where the traditions of a time-honored game yield to an experience unlike any other.

Perhaps Golf Odyssey summed it up best: "It is here, on this remote stretch of the wildly stunning Oregon coast, where the finest golf courses in the whole world quietly await you."

The NC State PGM program is proud to partner with Bandon Dunes Golf Resort to provide outstanding educational work experiences for NC State students.

Kyle Earley, a Level II Junior from Erie, PA, spent seven months as an intern at BD. He comments, "The Bandon Dunes Golf Resort Internship program is one of the best in the nation. Most internship experiences teach students how to do something. Bandon Dunes teaches you **“why”** they do it. Through the internship, a student will rotate through the golf shops, retail department, guest services, and caddie manager giving the student a full understanding of the entire golf resort. With all three golf courses ranked in the top 100, and three of four golf shops in the top 100, Bandon Dunes golf resort is second to none."

Likewise, John Grothe, BD Director of Golf, says "Kyle was mature and professional above and beyond his years. He was special. If Kyle is representative of the type of PGM students at NC State, then I put NC State in the upper echelon of the PGM Universities that we work with."



The NC State PGM program welcomes representatives from Bandon Dunes Golf Resort to Raleigh Sunday and Monday, November 18 and 19. Bandon—we thank you for your support of our program.



Descriptive text and photos courtesy of Bandon Dunes Golf Resort website

NC State University
Professional Golf Management
Campus Box 8004
Room 4023, Biltmore Hall
Raleigh, NC 27695

Tel: 919 515 8792
Fax: 919 513 7219
E-mail: susan_colby@ncsu.edu

Student "Eagle" - Kenneth Mesimer

"...And I would like to appoint Kenneth Mesimer as chairman of the PGM Club Tournament Committee." Those were the words of Dr. Robb Wade, director of the NC State PGM program, to the student membership at the first PGM Club meeting. That is because Kenneth has demonstrated strong leadership and organizational skills in the classroom, during internship opportunities and in student activities.



Andy Betz, PGM Internship Coordinator, says that "Kenneth is a very hard working young man. I see him getting more and more involved with this program."

Mesimer states, "My goal is to graduate from the NC State PGM program next year and pursue a career as a PGA Class A Teaching Professional. I am proud to be the tournament director for the NC State PGM program and enjoy the challenge of running tournaments, as well as, the competition of playing tournament golf. As far as my career path, my passion is golf instruction even though I do enjoy tournament operations."

Mesimer began playing the game of golf when he was eight years old. His father was his early role model and sparked his interest in the game. Mesimer says he was a pretty good junior golfer and lettered each of his four years on his high school team. But he says the person who has taught him the most about the golf swing and how to play the game is PGA Class A Teaching Professional Randy Joyner. "Randy has been a great teacher and role model for me."

When asked what his hope and goals for the NC State PGM program are as the program evolves and matures, Mesimer comments, "In the four years I have been in the NC State PGM program I have seen improvements to the program every year. I hope the program continues to grow and become one of the best in the country."



*"If golf is your passion ...
make it your major!"*

We're on the web at:
<http://cnr.ncsu.edu/pgm>

What Are They Saying About Being a PGM Ambassador?

"I love being a PGM Ambassador. Because we get to reach prospective students that might not know about NC State and our PGM program. These students will have a friend and feel like they know someone when they get here. Also I learn something new about our program every time we have an Ambassadors meeting. This is a great leadership experience and I am glad I have the opportunity to participate in this new program."

George Griffin
Freshman
Level I PGA Student
Rutherfordton, NC



"Being a PGM ambassador sets me as a role model for future students and other females interested in working in the golf industry. I can help give prospective students a person to network with in helping them make NC State a home in their future. I now see how vital it is to have someone helping you along this journey."

Sara Hunt
Freshman
Level 1 PGA Student
Haw River, NC



Lindsay Pitts, a freshman from Cary, NC, says "The PGM Ambassadors program has helped me understand our program better. I feel I have been able to give prospective students information that will help them in making decisions about college and a program that is growing in prestige."