

Cole McInnis at the Helm of Willow Point

by Melanie Bonds

Since October of 2002 we haven't seen much of Cole McInnis at AGCSA outings, and there's a good reason for that. You could say he's been "buried" in the course renovations at Willow Point. When we see the magnificent results achieved by Cole and his team, we will have to forgive him for neglecting the Association.

Cole received a bachelor's degree in turf from Auburn University. He studied architecture for three and one half years, but all that time sitting at the drawing board was hard on a man who enjoys being outdoors as much as Cole does. Certainly, a background in architecture serves as a nice complement to Cole's work with course renovation.

Cole worked with Tommy Dickinson, the original superintendent at Willow Point, for two years after he finished school at Auburn. From there he went to Florida to work for Doug Ward at Lost Tree in North Palm Beach. Gene Davenport had asked Cole to stay in touch, and Gene called Cole when Mr. Dickinson retired.

Tommy Dickinson and Doug Ward set Ward on the right path in his career. He is happy to be back at Willow Point. It is a "beautiful place, great golf course, and the the company I work for and its members are wonderful. I can't think of



a better place to work and hope to always be at Willow Point in some capacity."

Cole enjoys spending time with his family, wife, Karen McInnis, son, Forrest age 11 and daughter Mally, age 3. He loves to play golf occasionally and

though he has played a lot of really good courses, his loyalty is to Willow Point. "If I had to pick just one course to play every day, it would be Willow Point."