id you see it at the National? Did you hear about it from a friend? Yes, it is true, our association’s entry in the annual GCSAA newsletter competition, the May/June issue of "Turfgrass Matters," was chosen as first runner-up in its category. "Turfgrass Matters" was considered in Category Two: a newsletter with a budget greater than $7500, an unpaid editor, and at least 50% of the work performed by superintendents. I am grateful for the recognition, the support, and the enthusiastic response that we have received with "Turfgrass Matters" over this past year. I would be entirely remiss not to take a moment to thank some of the individuals who have contributed to our newsletter's success. My thanks to: Tucker Mostrom, Bruce Cadenelli, Dean Graves, and Lynn Matson for all their help in making "Turfgrass Matters" an award winning newsletter.

Lest I/we get a big head, another year is upon us and we need to continue right where we left off last year. As always, articles will be gladly accepted whenever any of you wishes to submit one. Please consider being a contributor to your association's newsletter. Local flavor and fresh perspectives can only help us meet our goal of providing the MAAGCS members with an informative educational newsletter.

Speaking of fresh perspectives, look for two new regular sections in this and all future editions of "Turfgrass Matters." First, in an effort to keep all MAAGCS members more informed, we will be running a "Bullets from the Board" column highlighting specific Board decisions. We will also be including a "Superintendent Speaks Out" section modeled after the back page of the GCSAA "Showtime" newspaper that is distributed daily at the national convention. Doug Fleming, assistant superintendent at Suburban C.C., will be contacting various members throughout the year to quote their opinions on timely issues.

Lastly, I would like to ask all the class F members who are considering advertising in any of the MAAGCS publications to contact me as soon as possible in order to best take care of their needs. To date, two mailings detailing all the available options in the newsletter, bulletin, and directory have been sent to all class F members. If you have not yet received one, or want to make arrangements for advertising, please call me at (301) 762-0570. Please note, if 1997 is anything like last year, available space will become limited very soon, so hurry!

Chris Ayers
Director of Communications

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