

**THE BULL SHEET, official publication of the
MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE
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Bull Sheet printed by Ever-Redi Printing, 5100 East Ave., Countryside, IL 60525.

The **Bull Sheet** is published once a month. All articles are required by the 10th of the month to make the next issue. Advertising is sold by the column inch, by the quarter page, half page, and by the full page. All artwork to be finished and in black and white. Circulation is over 500 issues per month.



President's Message

Spring is finally here. We narrowly missed having a freak April snowstorm this year, instead we received two inches of welcome rain. The predicted warm, sunny weather will definitely force us into high gear once again. This spring I have observed that most turfgrasses are two to three weeks ahead of normal spring greenup and growth. This is probably due to the lack of extreme winter weather and the subsequent early warmup of soil temperatures. It could be a bad year for insects and diseases due to the mild winter.

With the advent of spring comes the thought of spraying for cool weather diseases and those little yellow flowers that dot the landscape. This year, or in future years, it may become more difficult to accomplish the task of "spraying" on our golf courses. I just received some information that will affect all of us in the future. There have been three bills that were introduced in the Illinois State House of Representatives recently that will have a dramatic effect on the turfgrass industry if they become laws. The following is a brief summary of each. 1. House Bill 0794 — Lawn Chemical Applicator Notice Act. Requires posting of a notice on any lawn to which any chemical such as fertilizers or pesticides are applied by any person. All turf areas, whether public or private, would be subject to the posting requirement. 2. House Bill 0918 — is similar to 0794, but it applies only to persons who commercially apply lawn chemicals. 3. House Bill 0990 — Amends the Pesticide Act of 1979. It would permit non-home rule units of local government to regulate the commercial non-agricultural application, storage, or other use of pesticides within their jurisdiction. These bills not only affect residential lawns, but all turfgrass areas. There will be more information on these bills in a later issue of the **Bull Sheet**.

The CDGA Annual Green Seminar had record-breaking attendance with over 325 people. The presentation Frank Gasperini from Dupont gave entitled "Chemical Usage and Liability" was very informative and timely. Oscar Miles, Superintendent at Butler National Golf Club also did an outstanding job with the topic "Putting Green Management and Tournament Playability", citing some very good reasons why the stimpmeter can be a useful tool for the superintendent. Overall, I thought the program was well organized and the speakers all did an excellent job.

Spring also is a time for golf and M.A.G.C.S. has several golf outings planned. First, I would like to thank Mike Bavier, superintendent, and Stan Ferguson, golf pro at Inverness Country Club for hosting the April 23 meeting. I'm sure everyone

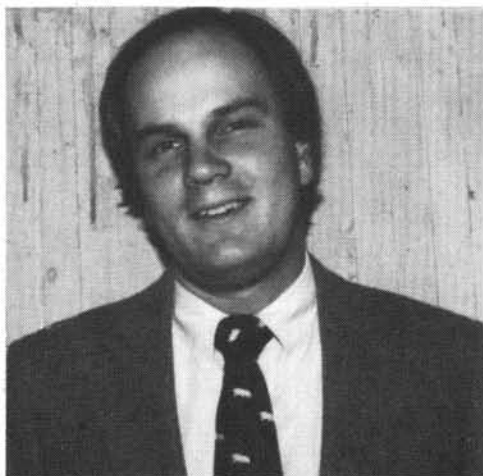
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (cont'd from page 2)

enjoyed the golf and fine facilities that Inverness had to offer. On May 18, we will be meeting at the Pontiac Elks Club. For many superintendents, it is a long distance to travel to Pontiac, but it is a good opportunity to meet and converse with fellow superintendents from our allied associations. Also, some of the proceeds will benefit I.T.F. research. We would encourage M.A.G.C.S. members to try and attend this joint meeting if at all possible.

We have tentatively scheduled a Pro/Supt. golf outing and meeting for Thursday, June 11 at the newly constructed Golf Club of Illinois in Algonquin. The Illinois P.G.A. led by President Sherman Finger of Knollwood Club is in charge of organizing the event and activities. There will be two players per team, each consisting of the golf pro and the golf course superintendent, both representing their particular golf courses. The idea is to get the professionals and the superintendents together on an informal basis, hopefully to open a line of communication between each other. In some cases there is too much distance between the superintendent and the golf professional, exemplified by the lack of communication. We both need to develop a better working relationship, resulting in a clearer understanding of each other's problems. More information will be published in the June issue of the **Bull Sheet**. We would hope to have at least 50 superintendents and 50 golf pros play in the outing, and we would encourage all M.A.G.C.S. superintendents to sign up.

James E. Evans

David C. Louttit Biography



David C. Louttit has been a superintendent for six years. He has just this year started at Innsbrook Country Club. Innsbrook? Yes, Gary C.C. has been renamed — Innsbrook. This is David's first year as a Director but looking back into his past we see that he served as President of his graduating class at that fine college of higher learning — Penn State. Dave graduated from PSU in 1981. His interests are basketball (explains his height), golf and softball. He and Cheryl have one child, Kristina age 2.

Director's Column What's in a Name

by David C. Louttit
Innsbrook Country Club

For many years I have been aware of Gary Country Club, and its respected golf course superintendent, former MAGCS President, Ed Wollenberg. In late summer of 1986, when Ed announced his upcoming retirement, I was encouraged by many of my fellow superintendents to apply for Ed's soon to be vacant position. As eager as I was to leave my current job, I was a bit reluctant to apply for a job at Gary Country Club. After all, wasn't Gary Country Club located in that wonderful resort town of Gary, Indiana? I had conjured up visions of holes being routed around and through decaying steel mills, vacant lots, and boarded up buildings. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Since its inception 67 years ago, Gary Country Club has been located in Merrillville, Indiana, not Gary. Merrillville, once a small quiet town made up of immigrant steelworkers, is now a bustling urban area complete with its own shopping mall, restaurants, businesses, and entertainment complexes.

Unique by its design — 6 par 3's, 6 par 4's, 6 par 5's, equally divided between the front and the back nines, the club is especially proud of its diverse tree collection. Through countless years of tender loving care and a little bit of luck, the club now boasts a roster of trees second to none in the area. With a species list close to 150, one can find Tuliptrees, American Holly, European Larch, Amur Corktree, Ironwood and Purple Beech flourishing depending on whether he slices or hooks his tee shots.

Don't let the name of a club or its location fool you. What really matters is the layout and condition of the course, not the name. If one was to pay close attention to the actual location of some of the finest courses in the Chicagoland area, he might be surprised. After all, the Chicago Golf Club is really in Wheaton, and the Evanston Golf Club is actually in Skokie. By the way, in an effort to attract new members, the membership at Gary Country Club changed its name to Innsbrook Country Club, effective January 1, 1987. Oh well, a "name" does matter to some people.

"May Doing Her Thing"

Springing forth in every way,
Is the Merry Month of May.
With Avenues of Grass — Tee to Green,
Answering Golfer's Winter Dream.
Blooms ablaze in Floral delight,
Framed by Leaves everywhere in sight.
Bird's busily building new nests,
Happily chirp, May is the Best.
What a way to appreciate Spring,
Watching May doing Her thing.

Kenneth R. Zanzig