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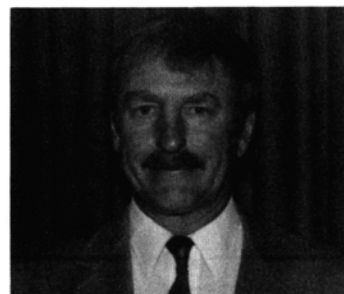
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Bull Sheet printed by Ever-Redi Printing, 5100 East Ave., Countryside, IL 60525.

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 675 issues per month.

President's Message



Ray Schmitz

Hopefully the unpredictable spring of 1992 is on its way out and the temperatures start to moderate. If we're confused regarding the weather just imagine a tender shrub or a grass plant which is waiting for a signal from mother nature to start its new seasons growth. I recorded soil temperatures of 40 degrees in January and soil temperatures of 50 degrees in February. A cold spell during the first week in April resulted in soil temperatures in the 30's.

All things taken into consideration, the golf courses in the Chicago area look very good coming out of the winter. However, any new seeding, both bluegrass and bentgrass that was seeded late last fall suffered severely due to the extremely cold temperatures that occurred during the latter part of October and early November.

The board of directors of the GCSAA and its new president Bill Roberts, have been very busy with the affairs of our national association as evidenced by the various mailings we all have received regarding changes in the by-laws. I ask that our MAGCS association members study these proposals very carefully and voice your opinions to the directors of the national association or to me personally so I can pass your thoughts along through the proper channels. Perhaps the subject could be addressed during the new business section at one of our monthly meetings.

Important dates to remember for May — the Combined Illinois Turfgrass Foundation Golf Day May 4th at Short Hills Country Club and Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club with brothers Jeff and Jon Scott our hosts. Proceeds will benefit the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation research fund. Although it is slightly more than a 2 hour drive, let's play some golf and show our support for this worthwhile event. Due to the ITF Combined Golf Day there will not be a MAGCS monthly meeting in May. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Manager/Superintendent meeting May 6th at River Forest Country Club. Wendy Stebins, a renown motivational speaker, is the keynote and Joel Purpur is our host.

Ray Schmitz