

# the Bull Sheet

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- June 15 — MAGCS monthly meeting at Fox Valley G.C.
- June 25-28 — Motorola Western Open at Cog Hill G.C.
- July 17-19 — Ameritech Senior Open at Kemper Lakes G.C.
- July 20 — MAGCS monthly meeting at Hughes Creek G.C.
- July 20-21 — Field's Classic at Merit Club
- July 21-25 — U. S. Junior Amateur at Conway Farms G.C.
- July 23-25 — Illinois Women's Open at Odyssey Club
- July 28 — Midwest Regional Turf Field Day, Purdue University
- August 6-8 — Illinois Open at Orchard Valley G.C.
- August 19 — Turfgrass Field Day at University of Illinois
- August 20 — Turfgrass Field Day at Michigan State University
- August 27 — MAGCS monthly meeting at Palatine Hills G.C.
- August 30 — MAGCS picnic and Cougar baseball game
- September 12-17 — U. S. Senior Amateur at Skokie C.C.

The Editorial Committee has decided to go with another painting for our December 1998 cover of *On Course*. Are there other artists out there besides Peter Leuzinger who would like to paint a golf-related picture for our cover? If so, please contact the Editor or Fred Behnke by August 15. If there are several who would like to do a cover, we will have you submit a pencil sketch, and the committee will choose the winner.

We are looking for private clubs which will host a foursome with Mark Karczewski, our graphic artist, to play a round of golf at their club. To help your association, if you can have a foursome at your club sometime, please give Luke Cella, who has volunteered to head up the arrangements for Mark's golf, a call at 630-584-9225.

Congratulations to Dave Schlagetter on being elected president of the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

The Mundelein Park District and the grounds crew at Steeplechase G.C. have voted to join the Teamsters Union. This may be one of the only golf courses in our area to have union workers. Ron Doruff is the new superintendent, and the vote took place just days after he started the job. Ron, congratulations on the new job, and good luck with the union.

Jim McNair, Orchard Valey G.C., and Robert Vaughan, director of the Fox Valley Park District, were

notified by the GCSAA that they had won one of ten spots in the Quad City Classic Pro Am Tournament, July 5-7, in Moline, Illinois. This was a contest sponsored by John Deere to recognize certified golf course superintendents and their employers who have made significant contributions to the role of the golf superintendent.

Bruce Birchfield has changed jobs and is now at Winghaven C.C., which is being built with plans to open in the summer of '99.

Terry Dilner, superintendent at Woodmar C.C., has been busy lately. He recently became certified with the GCSAA and is currently involved in an in-house bunker renovation project. Last fall, 21 of 56 bunkers were completed. He is also rebuilding and adding some championship tees to the 73-year-old course.

The deepest sympathy of the members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents is extended to the John Clark family due to the death of John on April 3. John was the superintendent at Evergreen G.C. for 25 years and had retired in 1994.

The golf game at the June meeting will be two-man total (net). Play with whomever you want, but your two-man partner will be a blind draw. In addition, as a matter of rule this year, when we are playing a non-scramble event (such as this), regardless of the format or event, the low gross individual and the low net individual will also get a prize. In July, we will have the Senior Championship. Three Flights: Regular (everyone below age 50), Senior (50-59), and Super Senior (60 and over). All retired seniors play free.

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Congratulations to Mrs. Ray (Jo) Gerber who turned 94 on June 12. Mrs. Gerber along with Mrs. Paul Burdett (Jim's mother) were one of the ones responsible for the women's program at our annual GCSAA conference.

Two of our members received some press time in the past couple of months. Jim McNair, Orchard Valley G.C., was quoted by Len Ziehm, *Chicago Sun Times*, on the use of softspikes on his course and how they are becoming pretty much accepted at so many other courses. Luke Cella, Pottawatomie G.C., wrote "Going Native on the Course" in *The USGA Green Section Record*, March/April 1998.

At the April meeting, 127 golfers turned out for the annual opening scramble. The winning teams from the April golf event were: Low Net—Dave Blomquist, John Gurke, Mike Mumper and Dan Sterr. The Low Gross team

consisted of Dave Louttit, Eric Swanson, Gene Thompson and Paul Yerkes. Fred Behnke was the closest-to-the-pin winner, and Tim Scott took the long drive contest. Congratulations and a BIG thank you to the entire staff at the Schaumburg G.C. Everyone enjoyed the sunny, but cool, afternoon. Additionally, thanks to everyone who contributed to the Leukemia Society by purchasing a mulligan. We'll see you June 15 at Fox Valley G.C.

The members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents would like to extend their sincere condolences to the family and friends of William (Bill) Miller who died in his home in Wheeling on Friday, April 24, 1998, at the age of 86. Bill was the superintendent at Palatine Hills G.C. from 1969 to 1973, when he retired at the age of 62. Prior to that, he was superintendent at Pebble Creek G.C. in Palatine, an area now developed with homes and an office park. Bill was a dear friend

to many superintendents and will be greatly missed.

Dave Schlagetter and Chad Ball were in an auto accident April 30 while on their way to play golf with fellow superintendents at Bull Valley G.C. Both were hospitalized after the accident but were sent home that day.

Chad Ball of Conway Farms will be moving into a new maintenance building sometime this year. The new building will be 60 ft. x 180 ft., or 10,800 sq. ft., with all of it heated. A chemical storage building will be alongside that measures 20 ft. x 30 ft. Both buildings will be block with some vinyl siding.

Ray Kearney at Marengo Ridge C.C. is installing an Osmac system with touch net controls on nine of the holes. This system is replacing the 35-year-old one. It will have a new Flowtronex PSI pump station with the capacity of 1,300 GPM.

**Understanding and Treating . . .**

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**Couch:** No, they do not work. It has been shown that mechanical cultivation of aerification and verticutting is best to keep thatch levels below one-half inch. Consult your local state turfgrass specialists as they will provide more detailed information on thatch management. As with all biocontrols, you cannot maintain high enough levels for a long enough period of time.

**Question:** Why has there not been more work on these problems?

**Couch:** Drew Smith did a great deal of work, but we are dealing with a variety of causes for what is termed Localized Dry

Spot. We continue to look for solutions.

**Question:** Prostar provides excellent control; are there other products that may provide control of Localized Dry Spot and Fairy Ring?

**Couch:** Prior to Prostar, I would recommend the use of sterol-inhibitors, but they needed to be used at high rates, and some associated phyto could occur. Heritage may also provide control, but I am not sure where the data was produced and who produced it.

**Question:** Why not use the wetting agent and Prostar together to make it easier?

**Couch:** The key is not being

easy. The key is solving the problem of Localized Dry Spot and Fairy Ring. The wetting agent set the soil profile to accept the fungicide. It is a process.

**Question:** Can you treat for *Rhizoctonia* at the same time since Prostar controls *Rhizoctonia* as well?

**Couch:** Since Prostar will be drenched in, I would follow up with another foliar treatment four days later, especially in the summer when *Rhizoctonia* occurs.

