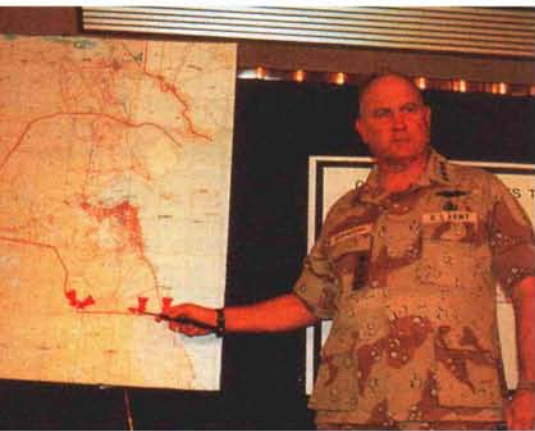


The Nineties:

# Golf's Boom Parallels America's Prosperity

*The beginning of the '90s was difficult for many. In the midst of a recession and a severe slump in the real estate market, individuals find their houses worth less than they paid for them just a few years earlier. Sinéad O'Connor holds the #1 spot on the music charts with "Nothing Compares 2 U." The number-one grossing movie for the year is Home Alone.*



*Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of the allied forces in Operation Desert Storm.*

"Five months ago, Saddam Hussein started this cruel war against Kuwait. Tonight the battle has been joined. Our goal is not the conquest of Iraq, it is the liberation of Kuwait," notes President George Bush on the eve of the Gulf War, January 16, 1991. After 100 hours of the Gulf War, the coalition has achieved its missions: the liberation of Kuwait and the destruction of Iraqi forces. George H.W. Bush reaches record approval ratings at the conclusion of the Gulf War conflict.

"Politically correct" and "sexual harassment" are two phrases that gain momentum in the '90s. Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton and Tennessee's Senator Albert Gore, Jr., win the presidential election in November 1992. During Clinton's time in office, the U.S. enjoys more peace and economic well-being than at any other time in our history. Clinton is the first Democratic president since Franklin D. Roosevelt to win a second term. He is able to point to the lowest unemployment rate in modern times, the lowest inflation in 30 years, the highest home ownership rate in the country's history and reduced welfare rolls.



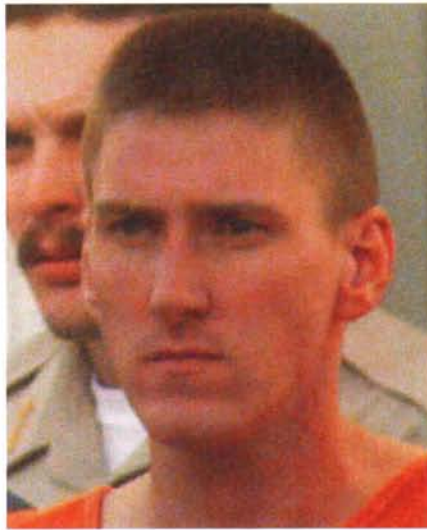
*In 1993, the Midwest experiences record floods.*

In 1998, as a result of issues surrounding personal indiscretions with a young female White House intern, Clinton becomes the second U.S. president to be impeached by the House of Representatives. He is tried by the Senate and found not guilty of the charges brought against him. He apologizes to the nation for his actions and continues to have unprecedented popular approval ratings for his job as president.

On Friday, February 26, 1993, on the second anniversary of the end of the Gulf War, a massive explosion occurs in the underground public parking garage of One World Trade Center in New

York City, creating a 22-foot-wide, five-story-deep crater. As a result of the explosion, six people die and more than 1,000 are injured. The site of the blast becomes the largest crime scene in NYPD history. Estimates show damage in excess of half a billion dollars. The towers are cleaned, repaired and reopened in less than one month. Four individuals are apprehended for the attack and go on trial September 13, 1993. Ramzi Ahmed Yousef is arrested in Pakistan and returned to the United States by the FBI for trial on bombing charges. The World Trade Center bombing is known as the gravest act of terrorism to occur on American soil.

On April 19, 1995, at 9:03 a.m., just after parents dropped their children off at day-care at the Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City, a massive bomb inside a rental truck explodes, blowing off half of the



Timothy McVeigh.

nine-story building. Ninety minutes after the explosion, an Oklahoma Highway Patrol officer pulls over 27-year-old Timothy McVeigh for driving without a license plate. Shortly before McVeigh is to be released, he is recognized as a bombing suspect and charged with the bombing.

*(continued on page 16)*

*Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton and Tennessee's Senator Albert Gore, Jr., win the presidential election in November 1992. During Clinton's time in office, the U.S. enjoys more peace and economic well-being than at any other time in our history. Clinton is the first Democratic president since Franklin D. Roosevelt to win a second term.*

## COMPOST

Think of it as REALLY GOOD Topsoil

- that doesn't have weeds
- that contains about eight times the organic matter in topsoil
- that contains active families of beneficial microbes
- that contains useful micro-nutrients
- that's been used successfully by superintendents all over Chicagoland for improving turf, repairing divots, planting decorative beds, jumpstarting sod, transplanting shrubs and trees - and just about anywhere they need things to grow quickly and well

Available Year Around



**GreenCycle Incorporated**  
400 Central Avenue, Suite 200  
Northfield, Illinois 60093  
847-441-6606

When McVeigh's ex-Army buddy, Terry Nichols, discovers that he too is wanted for questioning, he voluntarily surrenders to police in Herington, Kansas and is later charged with the bombing.

Just weeks before the 1996 Summer Olympics are to begin in Atlanta, Georgia, national jubilation turns to sorrow: on July 17, 1996 at 8:31 p.m. EST, TWA Flight 800 explodes in the evening sky off Long Island and plunges into the Atlantic Ocean, killing all 230 people aboard. Extensive investigations reveal a fault in the fuel system, which caused the plane to explode.

A year later, on July 1, 1997, Great Britain's 99-year lease on the New Territory of Hong Kong ends, returning control to China.

*During the 1990-91 season, the Bulls set a regulation team scoring record of 155 points against Phoenix. Michael Jordan is voted the league's most valuable player for the second time and reaches the 15,000-point plateau. The Bulls beat Los Angeles handily in five games and win the first NBA Championship in the Bulls' 25-year history.*

Hong Kong is a strategic trading and business port torn between two worlds, that of the Chinese and that of a reigning British empire. Overthrown for a brief period during World War II by the Japanese, British troops retook the island when the Japanese surrendered in 1945. Today Hong Kong is a member of the World Trade Organization and continues to operate as a key player in world commerce under China's rule.

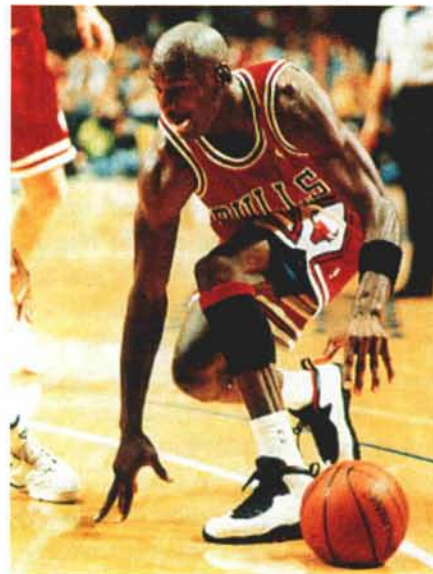
In May 1998, the whole world is astounded. Two archenemies have just begun a new race. Welcome to the race for development of nuclear weapons between India and Pakistan. The United States imposes strict economic sanctions against both countries.

Finally, we lost some famous icons in the '90s: Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Richard Nixon, Princess Diana, Mother Theresa, John F. Kennedy, Jr.

### **Sports Reach New Heights**

Phil Jackson replaces Doug Collins as head coach of the Chicago Bulls for the 1989-90 season. Beginning that November, the Bulls win a record 15 consecutive home games. The team also assembles an eight-game road-winning streak. During the 1990-91 season, the Bulls set a regulation team scoring record of 155 points against Phoenix. Michael Jordan is voted the league's most valuable player for the second time and reaches the 15,000-point plateau. The Bulls beat Los Angeles handily in five games and win the first NBA Championship in the Bulls' 25-year history. In 1991-1992, the Bulls face Portland in a difficult match-up. The Bulls rally from a 15-point fourth-quarter deficit for the biggest fourth-quarter comeback in finals history. The Bulls become only the fourth NBA franchise to win back-to-back titles.

In the summer of 1992, both Jordan and Scottie Pippen play on the United States Dream Team, which wins a gold medal in the Summer Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain. In 1992-93, for the second consecutive year, Chicago never loses more than two games in a row. In game seven of the championship, Chicago's John Paxson hits a dramatic three-pointer with 3.9 seconds remaining to give the Bulls a 99-98 victory over



*Michael Jordan.*

Phoenix and their third straight NBA title.

In 1993, Jordan announces his retirement at age 30, but during the 1994-95 season, he returns to the game. Jordan, who had been toiling without much success as a minor league baseball player attempting to make the majors, realizes that he misses basketball. Horace Grant, who had left the Bulls in the off-season, comes back to haunt the Bulls in their semifinals loss to the Orlando Magic in game six.

In 1995-96, the Bulls beat the Sonics in game six to win their fourth NBA title. In 1996-97, the Bulls beat the Utah Jazz in the final minute of game five, 90-88, to win

their fifth NBA title. In 1997-98, game 6 back in Salt Lake is one of Jordan's finest performances ever. With Pippen severely limited by back pain, it is on Jordan's shoulders to deliver another title. With the Bulls trailing by one in the final minute, Jordan steals the ball from Malone and buries the series-winning jumper with 5.2 seconds remaining. Chicago beats Utah 87-86 for the Bulls' sixth NBA championship. Following that season, coach Phil Jackson announces that he will not return.

For the 1998-99 season, the rebuilding begins. Jackson, Jordan, Pippen, Longly, Kerr, Rodman and Buechler are gone, leaving Chicago with the memories of the greatest series in basketball history.

Of course, great golfers abound in the 1990s, too. One who stands out among all others is Eldrick (Tiger) Woods. Woods



A major earthquake jolts Los Angeles in 1994.

plays his first professional tournament as an amateur in the 1992 Los Angeles Open. Following his third U.S. Amateur victory, Tiger Woods turns professional on August 27, 1996. He plays his first Major championship in 1995, making the 36-hole cut in the Masters and the British Open; an injured wrist forces his withdrawal

from that year's U.S. Open. Tiger Woods becomes the youngest individual to win the Masters in 1997 at 21 years, three months and 14 days. In his third full season as a professional, 1999, Woods wins eight times on the PGA Tour, including the PGA Championship at Medinah, and

*(continued on page 18)*

**You can get the job done if you...  
Apply the right pressure.**

When you need a powerful pressure washer that's tough on clean-ups and easy on your budget, check out the AaLadin 1000 series washers. Filled with outstanding standard features, these units really put on the pressure and make things shine! Every AaLadin unit is built to highest quality specifications in the industry. Stop in today for a complete demonstration.



**HIGH PSI LTD.**

25 South Park Street, Roselle, IL 60172  
(630) 893-0777 Fax(630) 893-1045  
**(800) 666-3900**



A Distributor of



CETA CERTIFIED

®



**Fast, long-lasting relief of Localized Dry Spot**  
**Convenient and flexible formulation that allows preventative or curative control**

**Easy to apply and saves time**  
**Safe to use any time of the year**



27310 W CASE RD  
WAUCONDA, IL  
(848)526-0007

6730 SOUTH STREET  
TINLEY PARK, IL  
(708)532-4723

earns \$6,616,585. Tiger concludes the decade ranked as the #1 golfer in the world.


On October 25, 1999, a Lear jet carrying champion golfer Payne Stewart and five others, including golf course architect Bruce Borland, flies a ghostly journey halfway across the country, its windows iced over and its occupants apparently incapacitated, before nose-diving into a grassy field in South Dakota.

**Golf Maintenance in the Nineties**

The '90s is a period of fine-tuning for golf courses. Golf course equipment becomes more refined, allowing the superintendent to manage turf at a new level. Green speed that was good in the early part of the decade is now considered slow by many standards. The green roller makes a resurgence in the early '90s, and by the end of the




Tiger Woods.




## Chemical Storage Buildings


14' Wide x 22' long offers the combination of heated chemical storage and equipment rinse capacity in one unit. Doors located to fit your present facility.



Propane or natural gas heater.




Wash tub with emergency eye-wash




Galvanized ramps make loading and unloading safe

**Eagle Companies**

2010 N.E. Perry Street  
Peoria, Ill. 61603 Ph # 309-686-9054  
Contact Doug Martin, Sales  
Ph # 309-579-2285 Fx # 309-579-3377





LOHMANN

GOLF DESIGN

Imitating Nature and Building on Tradition

18250 Beck Road  
(815) 923-3400

Marengo, Illinois 60152  
FAX: (815) 923-3662

e-mail: [design@lohmann.com](mailto:design@lohmann.com) web site: [www.lohmann.com](http://www.lohmann.com)

American Society of Golf Course Architects

decade you are hard-pressed to find a maintenance facility that does not have one. Many superintendents are spraying growth regulators on greens to increase speed.

The Toro Hydroject aerifier emerges as a tool that can aid the superintendent during stressful periods and is minimally invasive to the turf surface. In June 1990, Tony Rzadzki, assistant superintendent at Cantigny, writes, "The design engineers at Toro finally constructed a machine that I feel will revolutionize one phase of golf course work; aerification. The Toro Hydroject is just the machine to accomplish this task."

Black Layer is a major concern to those growing in and maintaining USGA greens. For the 1997 U.S. Open at Congressional, Paul Latshaw walk-mows fairways to avoid laying the rough down with conventional fairway mowers. Not to be outdone, Winged Foot Golf Club double-cuts their fairways with walk-mowers for the PGA Championship in August. The move to hand-mow fairways raises questions and eyebrows in the golfing world, especially among superintendents.

### **Golf and the Environment**

1991 marks the year when the United States Golf Association, in cooperation with the New York Audubon Society, creates a certification program for golf courses. Realizing that all green spaces are important, the two entities unite to work with more than 7,000 USGA member clubs around the country. In 1993, St. Charles Country Club, under the direction of superintendent Peter Leuzinger, becomes the first course in the continental United States to fulfill all of the criteria for full certification under the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. To reach certification, a course must demonstrate that it is main-

taining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas. These categories include: wildlife planning, public involvement, integrated pest management, wildlife food enhancement, wildlife cover enhancement, water conservation and water enhancement. Naturalized prairie areas become popular and many golf courses look for unobtrusive ways to fit them into their out-of-play areas to provide wildlife enrichment and aesthetically balance the course.



*Peter Leuzinger.*

Ornamental grasses find their way onto golf courses that are looking for ways to improve areas without having to plant costly shrubs or flowers. Congress passes the "Right to Know Act" in 1990, which requires employers to provide information regarding hazardous substances to employees. The inaugural Cutter Cup Challenge is held in 1993, pitting the turf classes of Penn State against Michigan State. Penn State wins the first year 2½ to 1½. Also in 1993, rinse and spill containment systems become mandatory on golf courses. Two main requirements of the act are (1) notification of pesticide use on golf courses, and (2) a wash water/rinsate containment

*1991 marks the year when the United States Golf Association, in cooperation with the New York Audubon Society, creates a certification program for golf courses. Realizing that all green spaces are important, the two entities unite to work with more than 7,000 USGA member clubs around the country.*

area to be utilized for the capture of pesticide spills or residues from application.

In May 1994, the *Wall Street Journal* prints an article citing information from studies based in New York suggesting that golf courses are irresponsibly using pesticides merely to make golf courses green and pretty. On September 1, 1994, Paul Harvey blasts golf courses publicly on his noon program for being detrimental to the environment in their maintenance practices. He states that golf courses are killing wildlife in their quest to keep grass green. He infers that due to heavy pressure from golfers to keep everything green, superintendents are over-applying chemicals, which in turn are killing off birds and other wildlife. Water quality and contamination are issues surfacing with the public in regard to agricultural practices. Underground storage tanks come under close scrutiny and become large liability issues at many golf courses. All underground stor-

*(continued on page 20)*

age tanks must meet EPA approval by 1998.

Barricade and Dimension come on the market as new pre-emergent products for the control of crabgrass. Dimension offers both pre- and post-emergent properties that give greater flexibility for the application window. Drive 75 DF is introduced as a post-emergent annual grass herbicide controlling crabgrass and other nuisance weeds. Moss continues to be a major problem on greens. Dr. Norm Hummel at Cornell University performs an extensive study to research various controls for moss on putting greens. Later in the decade, Frank Rossi embarks on a quest for the eradication of moss and comes up with a few different approaches than Norm Hummel did in the early '90s. Dr. Hummel is also instrumental in the updated guidelines for USGA green specifications.

New bentgrasses are developed. The superintendent is given many options to choose from regarding drought, disease and stress tolerance, coupled with the ability to mow at very low cutting heights. Pennlinks, Putter, Cobra, Crenshaw, Cato, Southshore, L-93 as well as the A- and G-series are options.

*Water quality and contamination are issues surfacing with the public in regard to agricultural practices. Underground storage tanks come under close scrutiny and become large liability issues at many golf courses.*

Joseph Duich, the educator and mentor to many Chicago-area superintendents, retires after a long and prestigious career at Penn State. 1994 is the year that Jim Latham, agronomist and friend to many throughout the Chicago area, retires. The Green Section reorganizes its territory and Illinois and Iowa become part of the Mid-Continent Region. Paul Vermeulen is shifted from his office in California to assume Latham's spot as the new director of the Mid-Continent Region. We lose Dr. Bill Daniel in February 1995. Dr. Daniel, an inspiration and motivating force in the lives of turf managers throughout the Midwest, had been on staff at Purdue for 35 years. Dr. Bruce Branham leaves Michigan State University in August of 1995 to join the turf team at the University of Illinois.

Wynstone Golf Club becomes the first course in the country to go spikeless. 1997 marks the year that the Illinois PGA makes spikeless shoes mandatory for all of its events. Spikeless alternatives for golf shoes are mandatory at almost all golf clubs by the end of the decade. Green conditions dramatically improve, especially at courses that suffer from heavy play.

The Food Quality Protection Act is passed in 1996 and creates a political web for turf managers to negotiate. Image and professionalism become the focus of a GCSAA campaign called the Professional Development Initiative. Gray leaf spot makes the scene, ravaging ryegrass on many Midwestern golf courses. The only control is heavy preventative chemical applications or regrassing to other turf varieties. Prior to 1998, gray leaf spot outbreaks were mainly concentrated in the Mid-Atlantic region with only a few isolated cases documented in central Illinois. Now it has become a serious threat to all courses growing perennial ryegrass.

GCSAA membership reaches new levels, topping 20,000 in 1999.

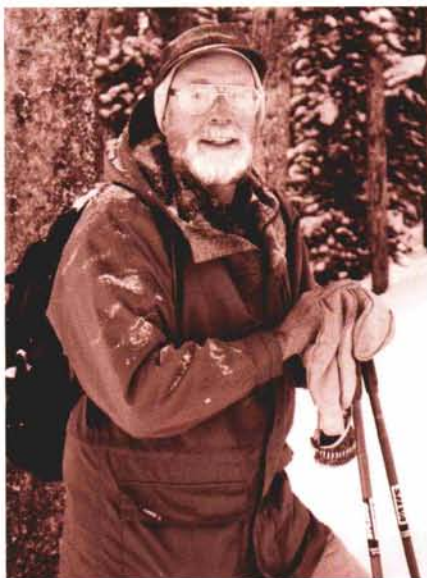
### **The Bull Sheet Becomes On Course**

*The Bull Sheet*, the MAGCS newsletter, originated in 1948 as a single mimeograph page. The picture of the bull was eventually dropped and replaced by a graphic of a man changing a cup. This is because changing cups is the only duty among all that superintendents do that is totally unique from any other job in the world.

A survey in 1991 suggests that the name of the Association's newsletter should change. However, the prevailing sentiment is to maintain the newsletter as *the Bull Sheet*. Another survey is sent out in 1995. This time, changing the name is a go. Five finalists are selected from more than 100 suggestions from the membership. The Board of Directors and the Editorial Committee are in agreement with the top choice. The winning name, *On Course*, comes from none other than Bob Williams, who also suggested the original name.

The cover of the new magazine is to feature a full-color photo of the club that is hosting that month's meeting. December 1995 is the last issue of *the Bull Sheet*. In January 1996, the MAGCS unveils a dramatic new look for their monthly publication put together by Fred Opperman and his editorial staff. The magazine-style newsletter is now called *On Course*. In addition to the full-color cover, color photos are scattered throughout the publication. *The Bull Sheet* was not completely eliminated; it became a monthly column, formerly known as Midwest Breezes. The cover of that inaugural issue of *On Course* is a color photo of Bob Williams.

In 1999, after 16 years of tireless service, Fred Opperman steps down as editor of *On Course* to move to Montana with his wife. Fred began as editor in 1983, taking the reins from Ray Gerber and making many positive contributions to the Association and newsletter. No stranger to the world of golf, Cathy Miles Ralston is selected by a search committee comprised of Fred Opperman, Jim McNair and a select group of past presidents to become the new editor. John Gurke is enlisted as contributing editor to assist with collecting information for "the Bull Sheet" and soliciting articles. The July 1999 issue of *On Course* sees the torch officially passed from Fred to Cathy and John.



*Fred Opperman hiking, somewhere in Montana.*

Western Open moves from its home of many years at Butler National to Dubsdred at Cog Hill. The 1995 Ameritech Senior Open is held at Stonebridge Golf Club. The LPGA *Sun-Times* shootout is held at Oak Brook Golf Club. Graham Marsh of Australia captures the U.S. Senior Open championship title, the first major championship of his 28-year career, in 1997 at Olympia Fields Country Club. Marsh pars the 18th hole to beat South Africa's John Bland. And the last Major of the millennium, the 1999 PGA Championship, is held at Medinah Country Club. Tiger Woods holds on to win the PGA by one shot over Sergio Garcia in one of the most competitive and memorable Major championships in recent history.

### Championships Come to Chicago-Area Golf Courses

Throughout the century, a number of Major championships have been played in the Chicago area. This tradition continues in the

'90s. At age 45, Hale Irwin becomes the oldest U.S. Open champion and the fifth player to collect three titles when he prevails over Mike Donald on the 19th hole of a playoff in the 1990 U.S. Open at Medinah. 1991 is the year the

### Computers Become Commonplace

The Internet started when the military planners of the U.S. Defense Department (Advanced

*(continued on page 22)*

## PRECISION BLENDED TOP DRESSING

Custom blended to your specifications by our modern equipment.

*Buy when you need —  
Eliminate costly storage*

We sell an air-dried, uniform and free flowing top dressing.

*ASK THE MAN WHO HAS USED IT.*

## HENRY FRENZER

Area Code 847  
658-5303

620 Webster St.  
Algonquin, IL  
60102

## ROOTS 1>2>3

Deep, even color throughout the year

Optimum root development

Faster grow-in (seeding & sprigging)

Reduction of dry spots

Complete chelated micronutrients

Non-phytotoxic, non-polluting formula



27310 W CASE RD  
WAUCONDA, IL  
(848)526-0007

6730 SOUTH STREET  
TINLEY PARK, IL  
(708)532-4723

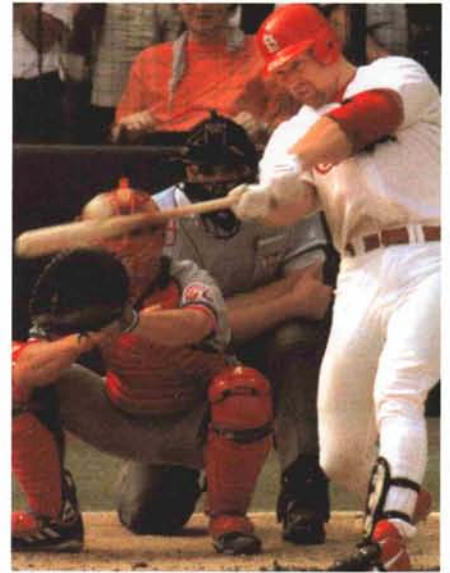


Research Project Agency) sought to design a computer network that could withstand partial destruction (such as a nuclear attack), yet still be able to function. Every computer on network should be able to communicate with other computers on the same network. Thus, if part of the network were destroyed, the surviving part would be able to automatically reroute communications through a different path. This project eventually attracted networkers outside the military.

In the '90s, the Internet becomes part of our everyday life. Russ Fink of Tamarack Golf Club introduces Turftalk online to the Chicago area in 1990. This is a bulletin-board service that sets the prototype for the forums of today. In 1994, Peter McCormick creates *Turfnet*, a monthly publication later joined by a Web site providing information to subscribing mem-

bers. *Turfnet* covers equipment reviews and offers unbiased member discussion in the world of golf maintenance. GCSAA launches its new Web site in 1996 to disseminate information to the public about golf course superintendents and act as a source of information for its membership. MAGCS launches its Web site to provide local updates and offer a forum for members to discuss problems and ideas and offer insights to situations that are regionalized to our area.

With notable assistance from Danny Quast, TGIF at Michigan State University is saved from despair when the 10-year period of USGA funding expires. Satellite downlinks for weather become commonplace in maintenance facilities, giving superintendents the ability to have real-time radar and forecasts at their disposal. Considered a luxury item at the beginning of the decade, cellular phones are



Mark McGwire.

now standard gear for superintendents, creating instant access and allowing business to take place in the field. Walkie-talkie features enable individuals to communicate instantaneously with the use of cellular technology. Weather stations

## Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc.

A Tradition — More Than 60 Years  
Of Complete, Dependable, Economical Tree Service  
For Private Estates, Municipalities, Schools, Industrial Areas,  
Parks and Golf Courses  
(847) 475-1877  
912 Pitner Ave., Evanston, IL 60202

Since 1930

become integrated with irrigation systems. They provide site-specific data, allowing superintendents to make educated decisions regarding irrigation, fertilizer and chemical application based upon the climactic conditions at their golf courses

### **Improved Economic Times for the Game**

The Dow sets a record at 2810.15 on January 2, 1990—the first new all-time high since October 1987. Following the recession of 1990-1991, the United States economy and consumer confidence take another giant leap forward.

Golf also enters a new era this decade. The professional players are more fit and athletic than in any other period. Golf's popularity sparks a demand for new golf courses throughout the country. As the number of players increases, especially in urban areas, long waits to get onto public golf courses become common. A comprehensive program to "pick up the pace" is instituted in order to make people aware of slow play with the increased number of participants, and to move more people through golf courses. Waiting lists to join some private clubs grow from a couple of months to eight to ten years. The surging demand for golf allows clubs the financial means to improve outdated infrastructure. Irrigation systems, clubhouses and major renovations become commonplace as clubs feel confident of their financial stability. After teasing investors three times by crossing the 10,000 level, the Dow finally closes above the 10,000 mark March 29, 1999.

### **New Courses Open in the Nineties**

Adding to the already wonderful array of courses in the Chicagoland area, the '90s were a busy period of golf development. Courses that opened during this period included Blackberry Oaks

G.C., Boulder Ridge C.C., Broken Arrow G.C., Bull Valley G.C., Conway Farms G.C., Crystal Tree G.C., Dunes Club, Eagle Brook C.C., Heritage Bluffs G.C., Hughes Creek G.C., Merit Club, Mistwood G.C., Nettle Creek G.C., Odyssey Club, Orchard Valley G.C., Prairie Landing G.C., Royal Melbourne, Ruffled Feathers G.C., Seven Bridges G.C.,



*Past president Raymond Schmitz.*

Stonebridge C.C., Tamarack G.C. and the Ivanhoe Club.

### **The Tradition of Leadership Continues**

The MAGCS has produced many great leaders since its inception in 1926. During the '90s, members serving as president of our Association include Bruce Williams, Raymond Schmitz, Timothy Kelly, Alan Fierst, Joel Purpur, Donald Cross, Edward Braunsky, Kevin Czerkies and Bob Maibusch. Bob Williams is elected into the Illinois PGA Hall of Fame in September of 1990. In 1996, Bruce Williams is elected president of GCSAA; Bob and Bruce are the only father-son pair in the history of GCSAA to both preside over the national organization. Later, Tommy Witt of Wynstone Golf Club is elected to the GCSAA Board of Directors.

### **The Nineties Come to an End**

As the '90s conclude, the #1 grossing movie for the year is *Star Wars: Episode I, The Phantom Menace* and the #1 song on the charts is "Smooth" by Carlos Santana and Rob Thomas. The song pervading the airwaves, though, is Prince's "1999" as the country prepares and holds its breath as the new millennium approaches.

The Y2K "millennium bug" resulting from date coding on computer systems prompts companies and individuals to spend billions of dollars worldwide to update and prepare these computers, back up data and increase security. Individuals stock up on food, batteries and gasoline in the event of a disaster. Some people feel that the power will go out and overall chaos will reign in the world as a result of computers being unable to recognize the year 2000. Corporate managers camp out in offices with emergency plans in the event of failure. As we all know now, no major Y2K event occurred and golf, along with the brave new world, marched defiantly into the next millennium.



*Past presidents Roger Stewart and Bruce Williams.*