

# the Bull Sheet

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Contributing Editor

## DATES TO REMEMBER

April 4 — “ADA, FMLA and Workers’ Compensation in Illinois” seminar in Oak Brook Terrace, IL. Call 715-833-3940 or go online at [www.lorman.com](http://www.lorman.com) for details.

April 22 — MAGCS monthly meeting at Tamarack Golf Club, **Luke Cella** host. Education provided by **Paul Vermeulen** of USGA.

May 6 — ITF Golf Day at Stone Creek Golf Club in Urbana, IL, **John Parkes** host. Northern Illinois-area members are urged to attend.

May 6 — Annual Penn State University Alumni Outing at Riverside Golf Club, **Shane Kissack** host.

May 21 — MAGCS monthly meeting/ITF Golf Day at Whisper Creek Golf Club in Huntley, IL, **Jim Wyffels** host.

Everybody please send your thoughts and prayers in **Albie Staudt’s** direction. Albie, the former golf course superintendent at Geneva Golf Club and longtime MAGCS member, began treatment for a tumor in his throat on March 4. Well-wishers can send Albie a note to 732 Carlisle Road, Batavia, IL 60510. Get well soon, Albie—we have nobody trained to “. . . move we dispense with the reading of the minutes . . .”

The assistant superintendent ranks are changing, as evidenced by the many new assistants recently taking positions in our area: Justin Schroeder, a recent University of Illinois graduate, is now the assistant

at Naperville Country Club; **Derek Florian**, formerly of Prairie Landing Golf Course, is now at Aurora Country Club (no—there is no pipeline from Prairie Landing to Aurora); Ryan Kepler is now at Skokie Country Club; **Brian Mores**, formerly of LaGrange Country Club, is the new assistant superintendent at Inverness Golf Club; and Connor Healy is the new second assistant at Olympia Fields Country Club. Any others I’ve missed are strictly the fault of their respective superintendents who didn’t call me and tell me.

Congratulations to **Brock Burton**, former assistant superintendent at Skokie Country Club under **Don Cross**, CGCS, who is now the big cheese—the head honcho—the top banana—el major domo—the superintendent of Geneva Hills Golf Club in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Cheers to Linda and **Ted Fist** of Wynstone Golf Club on the birth of their new baby boy. Ryan Edward Fist was born on February 20, and was pronounced by his proud father to be “a keeper,” entering the world at 20-1/2” and 8 lb. 2 oz. Congratulations, Fists!



Since you were probably going to ask anyhow, here’s what’s going on down at the U of I: **Dr. Andy Hamblin** has been busy with several research projects, including Karen Simmons’ research into the dynamics of Kentucky bluegrass blends in response to various diseases and a study of the genetic inheritance of brown patch resistance in tall fescue. (Karen is the first recipient of the Carl Hopphan/Illinois Turfgrass Foundation Graduate Fellowship.) Also, Joyce Jones, who will begin her M.S. studies in May, is working on a project to evaluate the DNA marker and phenotypic diversity of ornamental switchgrass. Joyce’s graduate studies will hopefully involve an ITF/MAGCS/GCSAA-funded project to study the effectiveness of overseeding in creeping bentgrass. **Dr. Bruce Branham** has been focusing his research in several areas: He is currently in the middle of a USGA-sponsored project to determine the best management practices to reduce runoff of pesticides from turf. Bruce also is continuing his research into plant growth regulator use on fine turf and the control of annual bluegrass seedheads. Finally, Bruce will be beginning his third year of trials to determine the effective use of soil sterilants to reduce the annual bluegrass soil seed bank prior to establishment.

**Dr. Tom Voigt**, along with his cultivar evaluations of Kentucky bluegrasses, tall and fine-leaf fescues, perennial ryegrasses and bentgrasses, is currently working with Sam Schmitz on his ongoing study of divot recovery. Sam is writing his thesis now and hopes to finish his M.S. in May. **Dr. Tom Fermanian** is working with graduate students this spring investigating the technology for the direct sensing of turf to determine its nitrogen and moisture content—a project that is partially supported by John Deere and the ITF. Finally, **Dr. Hank Wilkinson** is busy with the Interactive Turf program, which will take off full-swing this year. Hank will also oversee studies into water use by turf species and sod, as well as research

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using molecular biology (DNA) applied in the war against patch diseases. Can any of us sleep until the results of these intriguing experiments are revealed?

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Congratulations to these MAGCS members who were named winners of the 2001 Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards cosponsored by GCSAA and *Golf Digest* in partnership with Syngenta Professional Products; Rain Bird Corp., Golf Division; Textron Golf, Turf and Specialty Products; and Pursell Technologies Inc.: **Kerry Satterwhite, CGCS** of The Den at Fox Creek, and **Chuck Anfield** of Heritage Bluffs Golf Club. Great job, Kerry and Chuck.  
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**MORE EQUIPMENT ON THE BLOCK:**  
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For sale: Two (2) National 84" Triplexes: A 1999 that runs well is for sale—buy it and receive a 1995 unit (needs some work) free! Both machines have anti-scalp roller kits. Make a CASH offer. Call **Dean Tomaselli** at 847-639-2545.  
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For sale: Three (3) Jacobsen 26" walking tee mowers in good condition; one (1) Jacobsen LF-100, 10 years old and still running well; one (1) 160-gallon Cushman-mounted sprayer with boom; and one (1) (brand name withheld) old walking topdresser with chain belt. Make an offer! Call **Dave Schlagetter** at 847-251-2414.  
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Finally, as we head into another long season of long days and little time to spend with family, always remember that "if the grass around your home is longer than the rough at your course, your marriage may be in trouble."  
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### More Orlando Magic

Better late than never: **Scott Speiden** of Itasca Country Club was another area superintendent who was lucky enough to participate in some extracurricular fun while in Orlando for the GCSAA convention. For Scott's birthday, his wife Dawn gave him the opportunity to fulfill a lifelong dream—to drive a race car. Scott attended the Richard Petty Race School on February 10 and actually raced a car around the Walt Disney World race track—and in near-record time (for an amateur who is a golf course superintendent with a deep voice and goatee, hunts a lot and has a wife named Dawn). Scott completed the 16 laps with an average of 124.89 miles per hour—a good 3 mph faster than the next-fastest golf course superintendent with a deep voice and goatee that hunts a lot and has a wife named Dawn. Is there anything you CAN'T do in Orlando?

