

# the Bull Sheet

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Contributing Editor

## DATES TO REMEMBER

October 7 — MAGCS monthly meeting and ITF Fall Golf Day at Glen Flora Country Club, **Paul Bastron**, CGCS host. This is the MAGCS Annual College Championship, so put your team together and win one for the Gipper.

October 7 — December 13 — The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School's Two-Year Certificate Program at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ.

October 14 — University of Illinois Turf Alumni Golf Outing at Ruth Lake Country Club, **Dan Marco**, CGCS host. More details follow.

October 15 — MAGCS Scholarship Fund Outing at Salt Creek Golf Course, **Gary Hearn** host. Noon shotgun, 72-golfer limit. Cost is \$65 for golf and dinner, or \$35 for dinner only. Proceeds go to the MAGCS Scholarship Fund. Contact Gary Hearn at 630-773-4790 for more info.

October 17 - 18 — OSHA Comprehensive Safety Training Courses at the Georgios Comfort Inn in Orland Park. Call 1-800-206-6705 for registration info. This course is also offered on October 28-29 and 28-31 (four-day course) at the Holiday Inn in Rolling Meadows.

October 19 — MAGCS Fall Dinner Dance at Bryn Mawr Country Club, **Pam and Brian Bossert**, CGCS hosts.

November 6 — Annual Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah Country Club, **Tom Lively**, CGCS host.

As mentioned in Dates to Remember, the University of Illinois (0 and 2 at the time of this writing) Turf Alumni Golf Outing will be held at the Ruth Lake Country Club with the ever-hospitable Dan Marco hosting. Nobody seems to know how many have occurred up to this year, but it is more than several and fewer than a lot. Either way, the day includes golf, happy hour where all students and future superintendents get to meet and be disappointed by their U of I predecessors, and a gala dinner to top off the day's activities. If you are a U of I alum (or have the desire to hang around with many of them), contact Turf Club president Travis Williams at 217-652-7192 or by e-mail at [tswilli@uiuc.edu](mailto:tswilli@uiuc.edu).

Big BIG news from a couple of our retired MAGCS legends: First off, **Wally Fuchs** (former proprietor of Turf Products/Turf Partners, Inc.) has had enough of the quiet life and is back in business. Wally, along with majority owner **Trent Bradford**, has opened Chicagoland Turf, a full-scale supplier of turf products for the Chicagoland market. Just couldn't let a sleeping dog lie, huh Wally? Second, **Ray Schmitz**, the recently retired and long-time superintendent (23 years) of Flossmoor Country Club, is even MORE recently UN-retired. Ray has joined **John Berarducci** and Bear's Turf Products, Inc. to form a "marriage made in heaven," with over 60 years of combined turf experience. Congratulations, Ray—how many hours WAS your retirement? Best of luck to all these great guys.



Trent Bradford, Ray Schmitz and not Wally Fuchs, but since we possess no photo of Wally, we used an almost-dead-ringer in Ed Fischer.

While speaking of Ray Schmitz, **Dudley Smith** (another retired legend who will undoubtedly get sick of it and go back to work) offers this recap of a great day for Ray and his family: "Hoo-ray Ray!" On Tuesday, September 3, the members of Flossmoor Country Club gathered for a scramble golf event and a delicious picnic supper on the clubhouse patio to honor the retirement of their superintendent Ray Schmitz.

A 15-piece band serenaded those assembled with Glen Miller and Tommy Dorsey medleys. Ray Schmitz began his Midwest career with the Walsh family at Hickory Hills C.C. in 1966. Then Tom Walsh had him do the grow-in at a new course, Green Garden in Frankfort. For the last 23 years, Ray has served at Flossmoor C.C., and served as MAGCS president in 1992 (along with being the unofficial MAGCS photographer for countless years). At the podium, a very emotional German dairy farmer from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin introduced his wife Jan and his three sons: Todd, Andy, and Mark (two of whom are local superintendents today—**Todd Schmitz** at Fox Valley Golf Club and **Mark Schmitz** at Meadows Golf Club). Ray spoke highly of his past association with his former green chairman and golf professional. As the club president presented Jan with retirement gifts, the band broke into strains of "On Wisconsin" and the club members stood and shouted, "Hip Hip Hooray—Hooray for Ray!"

On to the GCSAA (couldn't manage a segue here). Big Brother has released some very important information regarding the 2003 Conference and Show in Atlanta in February—the most significant (and appreciated) news being that there will be people-movers on the trade show floor!

Congratulations and best of luck to **Scot Spier**, formerly of Lesco, who is with Simplot Partners now. Look for Scot in a shop near you soon.

The August 26th MAGCS monthly meeting was held at Green Acres Country Club with **Dave Radaj**,

(continued on page 28)

CGCS serving as our gracious host. One hundred-plus members turned out for a great day on a great golf course. The event was a two-man best ball, net and gross, with a blind draw. Gross division winners were 1st, **Tim Scott** and **Steve Jump**—72; 2nd, **Dave Schlagetter** and **Dave Kohley**—77; and 3rd, **Charlie Brugler** and **Rick Reed**—77. Net division winners were 1st, **Charles Ardell** and **Jim Huber**—62; 2nd, **Curt Franklin** and **Jay Druhan**—64; and 3rd, **John Anderson** and **Frank Heery**—64. Other awards were given out, too: closest to the pin on #6—**Dave Blomquist** (3'11"); longest putt on #3—**Jim Shone** (74'2"); closest to the pin on #16—**Mark Petitgoue** (3'9"); longest drive on #13—**Dave Kohley**; closest to the pin on #9—**Dan Quast** (10'2"). On no. 11, **Marsha Traves** and **Patti Thorson** of Illinois Lawn ran a betting hole that raised \$650 for the 100 Club—a charity for the Chicagoland families of policemen and firefighters who have fallen in the line of duty. Edu-

cation was provided by **Larry Tomaszewski** and a colleague from AXA Advisors, who spoke on retirement investing in today's goofy market. Thanks to **Dave Radaj** and all the wonderful people at Green Acres for a marvelous day.



Larry Tomaszewski

The 2002 John Deere Team Championship was held at Turnberry Country Club (**Jim Evans** host) on September 9. Congratulations to the team from Glen Oak Country Club that won the event (superintendent **Andy Dauksas**, club pro **Danny Mulhearn**, manager **Mark Rudins** and club president **Ed Gilligan**) with a searing 56.

Our very own **Bob Maibusch**, CGCS of Hinsdale Golf Club is running for secretary/treasurer of GCSAA for 2003. Please show your support for Bob and MAGCS at the Conference in February. If you vote for him, he might tell you the one about the golfer who gets called off the course because his wife has had an accident. That's all I can say about that.



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## A Family Affair

Another great MAGCS event took place this past August—the Kane County Cougars family picnic at Elfstrom Field in Geneva. This annual event is a wonderful way to introduce our families to our compadres in the turf business while enjoying an afternoon of food, fun and America's pastime. If you haven't taken the opportunity to attend, you are missing out on a great time. Just beware of batting practice—it gives new meaning to "baseball-sized hail." After the game, families were treated to a splendid fireworks show and an opportunity to run the bases like the real (semi) pros. Many thanks to **Kevin DeRoo** for once again setting up this great day. A fine testimonial to the whole operation came from an unlikely source—a local club pro who attended with his family as our guests—who remarked how impressed he was with our Association and the classy things it does for its membership. See you there next year.



*Ball sails into the picnic area, drawing a bead on Kevin DeRoo's child's head. Ball is heroically blocked by unidentified Bull Sheet author. Ball pops harmlessly up into the waiting hands of Kevin. Didn't spill his beer. Didn't give the ball up!*



*Big inflatable Ozzie was just one of many attractions for kids and adults alike.*



*You know you're in the "sticks" when corn is used as an ornamental plant.*



*Ed Braunsky (whose Vikings, by the way, lost to the Bears in the season opener) heads up the piñata committee.*



*Luke Cella watches as the fatal blow is struck and piñata guts start spilling, leading to a feeding frenzy of already-oversugared kids.*



*Not pictured, but under the pile—Ed Braunsky.*