

the Bull Sheet

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DATES TO REMEMBER

August 9 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Biltmore Country Club in North Barrington, IL, **Brian Thomson, CGCS** host.

August 14 – MAGCS Kane County Cougars Outing at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL.

August 30 – 2004 John Deere Team Championship at Crystal Lake Country Club, **Steve Van Acker, CGCS** host.

September 13 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Oak Grove Golf Course in Harvard, IL, **Paul Sandall** host. The MAGCS Annual Championship will be contested at this event.

October 4 – Rutgers University Professional Golf Turf Management School begins its fall session.

October 5 – MAGCS/ITF Fall Golf Day and College Championship at Calumet Country Club, **Keith Peterson** host (for those few of you not attending the Rutgers thing).

Please send your thoughts and prayers to Wayne and JoAnn Otto and family—Wayne was recently diagnosed with Stage 4 pancreatic carcinoma with metastasis to liver and lung, for which there is no treatment or surgery. At the time of this writing, plans were being rapidly formulated to get Wayne to Munich, Germany and the Klinik St. George where hyperthermic treatments have proven successful. Hope . . .

GCSAA has announced the winners of its 2004 essay contest, which is open to undergrad and grad students pursuing degrees in turf science or

other golf-related fields. Third place was taken by Patrick McCullough of Clemson University with his scintillating essay, “Pre-emergence Herbicides May Exacerbate Genetic Instabilities of Ultradwarf Bermuda-grass.” Now, how did THAT not win?

Pat Norton, CGCS recently penned a very good article titled “More of a Tropical Atmosphere,” which was printed in *The Green Breeze*—the official publication of the Greater Cincinnati Golf Course Superintendents Association. To paraphrase and condense, Pat’s theme was based on the need (especially in the ultra-competitive public course sector) to convey a warmer image to our patrons. To do this, it is necessary to have the right people in the key managerial positions who will convey this “tropical” atmosphere through sound business decisions and smart marketing, resulting in a better bottom line. Hey Pat—you “coulda been a contendah” for a Ray Gerber Editorial Award if you’d sent this thing our way!

Sight seen: While watching television coverage of Sunday’s final round of the U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills, I caught a glimpse of a bright red head assisting with the cup placement on the now-infamous seventh hole. The head belonged to **Jon Jennings, CGCS** of Chicago Golf Club, who was one of the fortunate few who DIDN’T get blamed by USGA’s Tom Meeks for “letting the seventh get away from us.”

On Wednesday, June 30, the 4th Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing took place at Pinecrest Country Club in lovely Huntley, IL. The event was a four-person scramble with proceeds helping fund scholarships awarded through MAGCS and the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation in John’s name. The order of the day is fun first, with a little golf thrown in with the

prizes, food and drink. The winning team with a 12-under-par 60 was **Dave Kohley, Rick Wilson, Al Wheatland** and **Clark Peterson** (winning by scorecard playoff over Gale Stenquist’s team). Dave Kohley also won the long-drive contest, while **Mark Gilmour** took closest-to-the-pin by knocking his tee shot on the very first hole of the day to within two feet (and that shot held up all day). The winning raffle ticket for the 2004 John Deere CS Gator drawn by J. W. Turf’s Kelli Eberly turned out to belong to Paul Seylers’ two-month-old baby. (Paul is manager of a JD store in the Quad Cities and is the brother of Ambrose Seylers, who owned Buck Brothers.) Congratulations to all the winners, especially this year’s MAGCS John Buck Memorial Scholarship winner **Tony Doruff**, son of Sharon and **Ron Doruff** of Steeplechase G.C.



Kelli and Danna Eberly on the raffle prize before handing over the keys to its winner.

Speaking of scholarship winners, congratulations are also in order for those who earned the other three MAGCS scholarships: Patrick Maguire, son of **John Maguire** (J.W. Turf); Brianne Smith, daughter of **Jeffrey Smith** (Springbrook G.C.); and Kelly Murray, daughter of **Dan Murray** (Settler’s Hill G.C.). Look for publication of the winners’ essays in our September issue.

Since he’s getting so much ink, let’s talk more about Dave Kohley. As you know, Dave is the current MAGCS golf champion (a title won last September at Shoreacres). What you may not know is that this honor includes the famous Champion’s Chair—a prize its winner keeps for the year of his reign. After an exhaustive search utilizing all of

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MAGCS's resources, a private investigator and chair-sniffing dogs, the chair was finally recovered and delivered to Dave recently. Belated congratulations, Dave, and enjoy!



MAGCS 2003 golf champion Dave Kohley enjoying his prize.

Along with the countless fireworks displays (is it me, or are more and more golf clubs doing these things?) this past 4th of July weekend, another event of note took place—the Cialis Western Open at Cog Hill Country Club in Lemont. **Ken Lapp** and the staff at Cog once again provided a superior golf course for this yearly stop on the PGA Tour, and the scores showed that even a rain-softened Dubsdread is capable of biting the world's best players in the behind. Thanks also to **Tracy Murphy** of Murphy's Lemont Paving for hosting the hospitality tent on their property during the Saturday round.

Conversation heard:

Assistant: "Boss? I dropped my radio."

Superintendent: "Where?"

Assistant: "On the third green bank. Under the Toro. While it was mowing. Keypad looks OK."



The result of the epic Motorola vs. Mower battle. The mower was unscathed.

Better late than never . . .

On June 16, the Ivanhoe Club and **Tom Prichard** held the grand reopening of the 27 holes, which were reconstructed by Arthur Hills/Steve Forrest and Associates. The daylong event, called the "Rebirth of a Champion," included a press conference with Arthur Hills, lunch, ribbon-cutting ceremony, a shotgun golf event, and cocktails after, and was a wonderful "welcome back" for the heralded club.

A brush with fame . . .

You know when you're playing golf and your partner putts it halfway to the hole and you say, "Hit it, Alice"? **Dave Braasch** (Glen Erin Golf Club) recently got to say that a lot. As it turns out, Alice Cooper—ugly, old, rock-and-roll guy who plays a lot of golf—was performing at the Riverfest in Janesville, WI and decided to play a round at Glen Erin, and Dave was asked to play along. Dave reports that Alice was every bit the gentleman (in other words, he limited the makeup to just some eyeliner), although a bit off on his usually-strong game, and even gave him tickets to the concert that night. Some guys have all the luck.

A little bird tells me that **Peter Leuzinger** has been found safe and sound and living in Elburn, IL. Pete will soon be "spreading the word" with his new (and very fitting) position as consulting environmentalist for Audubon International. Pete will concentrate his efforts on the Great Lakes Region, giving him ample

room to move about and promote Audubon International's programs for golf courses. Congratulations, Pete, and welcome back!

In following up on the news of **Paul Voykin's** Superintendent of the Year award (from *Golfweek's SuperNews*), the latest accolade paid Paul was Briarwood Country Club's declaration that Friday, June 25 was Paul Voykin Day. The day included golf for the family and friends of Paul, who came in from all over the country, followed by a dinner and testimonial given by Paul's family members and various club members, and a gracious thank-you message from PV himself. In all, it was a great tribute to a great guy, and that's all I have to say about that.

Condolences to the many friends and family of Dr. George W. Hamilton, who passed away on July 9. Dr. Hamilton had been involved with Penn State University's turfgrass program since 1982, most recently serving as its technical advisor for the Two-Year Golf Course Turfgrass Management Technical Program for which he taught courses in cultural turfgrass management and golf course specifications, construction and renovation. All of us at MAGCS—especially those who were fortunate enough to have known Dr. Hamilton—will miss his presence in our industry.



It's August in the Midwest, it's probably hot and humid, and we're all feeling a bit frayed at the edges. Fret not—winter is just around the corner, bringing with it all of those favorite pastimes we enjoy, like sledding, skating, ice fishing and of course . . .



Oh to be winter again, when we can all resume the age-old custom of golf course jeep skiing.