

the Bull Sheet

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Contributing Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

September 16 – University of Illinois/CDGA/ITF Field Day, Midwest Golf House, Lemont, IL. Details below.

September 23–26 – *Golfdom* presents “Education at the Expo” at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, KY. Details follow.

September 27 – MAGCS Annual Scholarship and Class C Golf Outing at Glen Flora Country Club, **Paul Bastron**, CGCS host.

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.

The University of Illinois, in conjunction with the CDGA and sponsored by the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, is hosting its first-ever Field Day on September 16, 2004 at the Midwest Golf House in Lemont. This is a fantastic opportunity to see turf research on the newly opened Sunshine Course. The research has been carefully planned out over the last several years and is ready for review. All the investigators from the U of I, as well as Randy Kane and Lee Miller of the CDGA, will be explaining their methods and findings on many different turf afflictions. Registration forms can be found at www.illinoisturfgrassfoundation.org. Plan on attending this educational

day and bring your ideas for future research.

On September 23 through 26, *Golfdom* magazine and Pat Jones will host a new event called “Education at the Expo” in Louisville, Kentucky. This event will be a part of the International Lawn, Garden and Power Equipment Exposition 2004 at the Kentucky Exposition Center. It will feature educational workshops and seminars given by several renowned industry leaders, including Dr. Karl Danneberger of Ohio State University, Dr. Joe Vargas of Michigan State University and design author and critic Geoff Shackelford. Also featured at the Expo is a huge 20-acre outdoor demo area where all types of equipment from more than 500 exhibitors will be available for hands-on testing. To register, go online at www.expo.mow.org.

Congratulations to Kari and **Scott White** of the Links at Carillon on the birth of their baby son on August 9. Jackson “Jack” Mackey White was born at 5:40 a.m., weighing 6 lb., 8 oz. and 19 inches long. Mom, dad and baby boy were healthy, happy and doing great, and Scott says he’ll give Jack a few weeks to get accustomed to his new world before sticking a golf club in his hands.



Scott and Kari with son Jack.

Condolences to the family of **Dave Ward** (Coyote Run G.C.) on the recent passing of Dave’s mother.

While most of the members of MAGCS were enjoying their beautiful day at Biltmore Country Club (thanks to superintendent **Brian Thomson**, CGCS), a few of us were equally fortunate to have been invited to the Chicagoland Club Accountants Association’s golf outing at Shoreacres on the same day. Thank goodness for the venue—the beautiful Shoreacres, with its breathtaking view of Lake Michigan, its ravines, its fast greens and rolling fairways, provided enough excitement to quicken the pulse of even the most accountant-like of accountants. Big thanks from everyone in attendance to **Tim Davis** and the staff at Shoreacres for a great day.

GCSAA Certification Committee chairman **Bob Maibusch**, CGCS (Hinsdale Golf Club) recently announced that the new certification process will begin November 1. Starting then, members interested in becoming certified will be subject to a new exam and certification process. According to chairman Maibusch, “The evolution of the certification program has seen it transformed from a process of exclusively demonstrating competencies to a process of building skills and competencies through self-evaluation, assessment by your peers, compilation of the portfolio and the completion of the exam. I am confident that every member who takes the time to participate, regardless of their final results, will come away with the feeling that their professional skills were enhanced.”

Of bingo and biospheres—if you haven’t read about it yet, this item from *Golfweek’s SuperNEWS* shows how far we can go in this industry with technology and imagination (or perhaps just a lotta dough): A domed 18-hole golf course along with a 1,200-room hotel, 80,000-square-foot casino and 374,000-square-foot convention center on a 540-acre site has been approved in Tunica County, Mississippi. If it comes to fruition, the proposed dome would be 40 stories high and a mile long, and be made of translucent, Teflon-coated, vinyl-laminate coating, and would allow

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golf to be played indoors on real grass with real trees and plants abounding 24/7/365. Projected cost of the course, gardens and dome is \$100 million. Sounds cheap for all that. The only thing that could cause the project to fail is if 31,000 people opened all 31,000 doors at the same time, causing catastrophic vacuum effect (CVE) and forcing the dome to implode into itself, taking trees, turf and golfers alike with it into the fourth dimension. I made the last part up.

50 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH IN MAGCS:

• Scientists were talking about putting detergents in the soil to make it "wetter." In fact, the Atlantic Refining Company developed a "soapless soap" that had become popular with housewives in the early '50s.

• The list of winners of the August golf event and door prize draw was a virtual MAGCS Hall of Fame—Dom Grotti, Bill Saielli, Marv Gruening, Jock McIntosh, Dan and Frank

Mastroleo, John MacGregor, Amos Lapp and Frank Dinelli.

• MAGCS and the Wisconsin Greenkeepers Association held their annual joint meeting and golf tournament at the North Hills Country Club in Milwaukee. This is obviously something we need to revisit—a joint meeting with the Wisconsin chapter at any old course up that way . . . a course like, say, Whistling Straits . . . yeah, let's get this thing back on the schedule, huh? Can you tell it's PGA Tournament weekend while this is being written? What a great-looking golf course!

40 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH IN MAGCS:

• A toxicology study performed at the University of Pennsylvania by dermatologist Walter B. Shelley showed that exposure to thiram could cause skin irritation and rashes on the sensitive individual. At that time, thiram was still used in the processing of rubber products, so Dr. Shelley's notes in the AMA's

Journal stated that thiram-sensitive people should avoid contact with art gum, erasers, bunion pads, eyelash curlers, condoms, gloves, goggles, dress shields (?), dental dams, bathing caps, headrests, garters, pessaries (again, ?), elasticized garments and mammary prostheses. And golf courses. Okay—I can see giving up golf, but NOT my bunion pads.

30 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH IN MAGCS:

• University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service advisor Dr. James A. Fizzell wrote an article titled "Plant Trees for a Nicer Tomorrow." Little did he know that 30 years later many of those trees would be on the "To Be Removed" list on many courses that got a little too carried away with his advice.

20 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH IN MAGCS:

• Marilyn and Jim Burdett celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on August 25. So, congratulations and happy 45th anniversary, Jim and Marilyn!

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Play for Wayne on September 20!

As you may know, Wayne Otto has been diagnosed with Stage IV pancreatic carcinoma. Effective treatment for Wayne is not available in the United States; however, a few clinics around the world have had some success using an alternative method called hyperthermia. In their hope to combat this disease, Wayne and JoAnn have pursued this alternative treatment at the Klinik Saint Georg in Germany (www.optimalhealth2000.com/pdf/toohot/pdf).

Wayne has completed his initial three-week visit and, by all accounts, the treatments have gone well. Wayne's hopes remain high. They are returning to Klinik St. Georg on September 26 for his second phase of treatments and will be there for two weeks.

As you have probably deduced by now, this treatment and associated expenses are not covered by Wayne's medical insurance, nor is it covered by Medicare. Wayne and JoAnn are directly paying for each trip to Germany and the cost of the treatments. The estimated expenses for each trip are expected to exceed \$25,000.

Our hope is to assist Wayne in defraying the cost of his treatment. An account has been established at M&I Bank in Beaver Dam, WI in the name of "The Wee One Recovery Fund." A benefit golf outing and silent auction has been organized for Monday, September 20, 2004 at Pine Hills Country Club in Sheboygan, WI. We ask for your participation and/or a generous donation (**The Wee One Recovery Fund, P. O. Box 94, Juneau, WI 53039; phone 920/386-9000**).

Although Wayne and JoAnn are prepared to meet these expenses at the present, there's no telling how long the treatments will continue. For now, please make plans to participate and/or donate to the P.O. box listed above, and please keep Wayne and JoAnn in your prayers.

Sincerely,
Danny H. Quast, CGCS
Michael W. Handrich, CGCS
Patrick H. Sisk, CGCS
Rodney W. Johnson, CGCS
Paul D. Bastron, CGCS
Mark Petitgoue
David J. Radaj II, CGCS
Chad Ball, CGCS
Beverly J. Quast

- Triplex mowing of fairways was just starting to catch on, and Ted Woehrle was considering using them on his fairways at Oakland Hills for the 1985 Open there.

AND 10 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH IN MAGCS:

- *The Bull Sheet* was still kinda pea/baby-food green with the cup-cutter guy on the cover, but many things were the same as they are now. **Don Ferreri** was hosting the September meeting at Seven Bridges (back then there were still only three bridges), Roger Stewart was praising the virtues of the new TurfTalk computer bulletin board (the precursor to our MAGCS Web site's Members Area), and Ruth Lake C.C. was digging stuff up (**Tom Lively** was installing a new Toro LTC Version 2.0 control system).

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On Saturday, August 14, the MAGCS held its annual and ever-popular Kane County Cougars outing at Elfstrom Field in Geneva. This year's rendition was similar to previous years in many respects (same general location in the right field "Leinie Lounge," same great atmosphere and same result—

Cougars win), but also featured some new improvements that were quite well-received. First off, we were treated to the all-new All You Can Eat dinner extravaganza, featuring burgers, dogs, brats, chicken, plus chips, pop, beer and Oberweis ice cream for dessert. Another popular new addition was face painter Marisa Lewis, sponsored by the Women's Center for Health (thank you, Linda and **Tim Anderson**), who kept the many children present both happy and more importantly, occupied. They also popped for the cookies that made the rounds, allowing for some creative ice cream/cookie concoctions. Every one of the 142 folks who attended had a fantastic time—many even forgot there was a ball game going on what with all the other things to do. Once the game ended, the fun was just beginning, as the Jesse White Tumblers took the field for a demonstration of their great talent. Time to go home, right? Nope—after the aerial display another aerial display began—the fireworks show. This is no Podunk fireworks display, either—this is a bona fide 4th of July kinda deal here without our crews having to clean up

after it. The finale was spectacular, but we weren't quite done yet. The last item on the packed agenda was the run around the bases for kids and parents alike (a perfect way to work all the cotton candy, ice cream and assorted other sweets out of their little systems before strapping them in for the ride home). I've described this event in these pages for years, and I must reiterate how great it is to bring the family out for an evening of pure fun (and at a very low cost). If you haven't participated in the Cougars outing, plan on it next year—it's an event that kids of all ages really enjoy. Thanks to our generous sponsors **Palatine Oil Company, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc.** and **Turf Professionals Equipment Company** for making this event possible, and to Jennifer and **Luke Cella** (okay—mainly Jenny) for arranging everything, including the kids' goodie bags and all the other fun glowy things to be had. Can't wait for next year!



Watching the fireworks extravaganza.



The Leinie Lounge, complete with extra umbrellas to deflect those pesky homers.



Marisa Lewis creates another masterpiece.



If you had the chance to look, there was actually a ball game going on, too.