

the Bull Sheet

John Gurke, CGCS, Contributing Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 14 – 2005 University of Illinois Turfgrass and Landscape Field Day in Urbana, IL, all the U of I guys hosts.

September 19 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Idlewild Country Club in Flossmoor, IL, **Kurt Sams, CGCS** host.

September 26 – The Wee One Foundation's Annual Golf Outing at Pine Hills Country Club in Wisconsin.

September 29 – "Fair Labor Standards Act in Illinois" seminar at the Hyatt Lodge in Oak Brook, IL.

October 3 – MAGCS/ITF Combined Golf Day at Inverness Golf Club in Palatine, IL, **Mike Bavier, CGCS** host.

October 14-16 – EXPO 2005 at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, KY.

October 3-December 9 – The Rutgers University Professional Golf Turf Management School's Two-Year Certificate Program Fall Session at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ.

October 18-19 – The Environmental Resource Center's "Hazardous Waste Management: The Complete Course" seminar at the Wyndham O'Hare in Chicago, IL.

October 20 – The Environmental Resource Center's "DOT Hazardous Materials Training" seminar at the Wyndham O'Hare in Chicago, IL. Details on all of the previously listed programs follow.

October 25-27 – The Toro Customer Factory Service Training Program in Bloomington, MN. Call 888-838-5778, ext. 5545 for details.

November 2 – 53rd Annual Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah Country Club, **Tom Lively, CGCS** host.

First things first—welcome to the newest members of MAGCS!

- Douglas Bauer**, Class E,
Eubanks & Associates, LLC
- Matthew Breeden**, Class C,
Seven Bridges Golf Club
- Christian Daman**, Class E,
Thelen Sand and Gravel, Inc.
- Benjamin Grimme**, Class SM,
Links and Tees Golf Facility
- Alan R. Hill**, Class C,
Ruth Lake Country Club
- Jeffrey Plassmaert**, Class C,
Bryn Mawr Country Club
- Adrian Roach**, Class C,
Highland Park Country Club

Best of luck to all of you, and your involvement in MAGCS is highly valued.

The July 27th edition of the *Kane County Chronicle* featured a story about the drought and its effects on Fox Valley golf courses, and several MAGCS members were chosen to offer their thoughts and experiences for the article. Nice job to **Tony Kalina** (Prairie Landing G.C.) and **Derek Florian** (Fox Valley G.C.) on their very professional assessment of the potential problems this drought can bring in the feature "Rainfall Not on Par This Season" by Roald Haase.

November is just around the corner, and you'll not want to miss the 53rd Annual Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah Country Club. The Education Committee has a great lineup of speakers and topics for the event, including keynote speaker Mike Ditka—legendary coach and player for the Chicago Bears. Block off the 2nd on your calendars now and don't miss (I hate to do this, but . . .) Da Coach. I'm so embarrassed. Oh, and please—no "woof woof"-ing. In the event that Mr. Ditka cannot attend, Bud Grant has been found in a rowboat on the 10,000th lake in Minnesota and has agreed to fill in, offering his unique brand of lively wit.

The combined MAGCS/ITF Golf Day at Inverness Golf Club (Mike Bavier, CGCS) will be held on October 3 (just bad timing for those of you attending the above-mentioned Rutgers University Professional Golf Turf Management School's Two-Year Certificate Program Fall Session, which gets underway October 3). This event will feature the ever-popular and hotly-contested College Team Championship. Put your team together and wear your colors proudly (just no depictions of Native Americans, pissed-off drunken Irish leprechauns, or anything that might be considered offensive). I don't know what Nittany means, but it probably offends someone . . .

And for those who just can't get enough education, the seminars listed in Dates to Remember are just the tonic for what ails you. To reserve your spot for the September 29th Fair Labor Standards Act thingie, call 866-352-9539. To learn everything you wanted to know about Hazardous Waste Management and DOT Hazardous Materials Training, call 847-297-8464.

Now, if you want to learn all the above and MORE, just sign up for the 2005 University of Illinois Turfgrass and Landscape Field Day, to be held on September 14 at the Landscape Horticulture Research Center and the Hartley Selections Garden, both on South Lincoln Avenue in

(continued on page 30)

Urbana. You should have received a mailer about this event, but if not, call 217-333-7847 for information. There's college girls there.

Our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of longtime MAGCS member Terry Dillner, who passed away suddenly last month of a massive heart attack. If you read nothing else in this magazine, please read the letter from Connie Dillner (Terry's widow) featured on page 37. Terry and his family—wife Connie, son Tom (27), daughters Teresa (21) and Laura (17)—moved to Jackson, Michigan in 2000 after residing in our area since 1974. Terry served in the capacity of assistant superintendent at Evanston Golf Club under Walter Fuchs and Carl Hopphan, and superintendent of Woodmar Country Club from 1992 to 2000.

Don't forget about the Wee One's Annual Golf Outing the 26th of this month at Pine Hills C.C. in Wisconsin. This organization was founded on behalf of the late Wayne Otto to assist golf management professionals (or their dependents) who incur overwhelming expenses due to catastrophic illness without comprehensive insurance or adequate financial resources. Most recently, the foundation held a charitable golf outing on August 8 on behalf of **Dan Nielsen**, the golf course superintendent of the Golf Club of Illinois who is battling pancreatic carcinoma. More than 75 supporters participated in the event (held at Dan's club), and by all accounts the day was a complete success. To date, the Wee One Foundation has donated more than \$80,000 to support superintendents in need, and

through the participation of all who can attend the outing on the 26th, and all who have joined the foundation, the sky's the limit for the future. In fact, the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents recently contributed \$500 to the fund for Dan and his family, and much more can be done! Please contact either **Dave Radaj**, **Mark Petitgoue** or **Paul Bastron** to donate to this important cause.

On a happier note, congratulations to **Erwin McKone**, CGCS on his recent certification through GCSAA. Erwin, superintendent at Briar Ridge Country Club in Schererville, IN, has been the director of golf operations at Briar Ridge since January 2004, and also recently changed his last name to "McKane" according to the GCSAA press release, so congrats on both of these achievements, Erwin!

The Turf Professionals Equipment Company (TPEC) sponsored an August 3rd junket to the Bears training camp on the campus of the Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais. Those in attendance were treated to VIP treatment at the practice, followed by a round of golf at Green Garden Country Club (**Rennie Jacobson**). They had the honor of being the last ones (possibly ever) to see Rex Grossman actually stand without the aid of crutches.

In Washington D.C., the EPA released its comprehensive assessment of the herbicide 2,4-D, concluding that it poses no risk to human health when used according to label instructions. The risk to homeowners (and their pets) who blowtorch their lawns every spring

with the stuff is another matter altogether . . .

Great scheduling on the PGA Championship/Walker Cup same-weekend thing, huh? Thank God for Tivo! While the PGA was being contested in steamy New Jersey, our neck of the woods played host to one of the most renowned and historic events in golf—the Walker Cup at Chicago Golf Club (**Jon Jennings**, CGCS). The last time this shindig took place at Chicago Golf Club, in 1928, Bobby Jones and Chick Evans led the U.S. to a resounding thumping of the Great Britain-Ireland team. The rematch proved more difficult for the U.S., but the result was the same—the U.S. team won by a 12½ to 11½ skin-of-the-teeth margin. Conditions were "U.S. Open-caliber" thanks to the 8,742 volunteers from around the solar system who descended upon Wheaton for the event, and the quality of golf was superb. The U.S. team's ace in the hole was John Holmes—a guy known throughout many circles for his length—who, along with Nicholas Thompson, put a whoopin' on Oliver Fisher and Matthew Richardson from the GB&I squad. Congratulations to the United States Walker Cup Team, and to Jon Jennings, **Aaron Willing** and the many MAGCS members who donated their time and expertise toward the success of this historic event.

This just in—Augusta National is going to be lengthened. Again.

Congratulations to Monroe Miller, our colleague up the road a way at Blackhawk Country Club in Madison. Monroe was inducted into the Wisconsin Golf Hall of Fame recently for his MANY contributions to our industry, including his fine editing of the Wisconsin association's award-winning magazine, *The Grass Roots*.

The August MAGCS monthly meeting was held on the 15th in "The Friendly Village" of Worth, IL at the Water's Edge Golf Club. Host superintendent **Jason Lemanski** and PGA pro/GM Steve Dell and the staff at Water's Edge provided a wonderful

(continued on page 32)



Dave Radaj, Dan Nielsen, Paul Bastron, Chad Ball, Beverly and Dan Quast on August 8 at the Golf Club of Illinois.

day from beginning to end. The education portion was very apropos for the site—a panel of experts spoke on the benefits (and risks) of using biosolids as a soil, soil amendment or topdressing material on golf courses. The reason it was timely? Water's Edge is built on a 9" layer of biosolids courtesy of the Metro Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. Thomas Granato of the MWRDGC started the fun, and was followed by **Dan Dinelli, CGCS** (who has been experimenting with biosolids as a component of fairway topdressing material and divot mix), then Pauline Lindo, U of I's **Tom Voigt**, Lakhwinder Hundal and finally Albert Cox—all of whom had expertise in the use of biosolids. Once the education

program came to an end, it was time to experience the course and enjoy the breeze off the Cal-Sag Channel. Although this reporter played like . . . biosolids, there were some nice scores recorded on the tight, demanding track. The Golf Committee came up with a really cool twist by giving each foursome two range balls to be used by each player in a progressive system whereby player #1 uses it on the first hole, player #2 on the second, and so on through the entire round. The score made by the player with the range ball was the team's score on that hole. Losing both balls meant elimination (in our case on the 5th hole). Prizes were then awarded randomly to the first, third and sixth place teams. Taking top honors was the team of **Rick**

Uthe, Don Ferreri, Dave Kohley and Mike Vilendrer with an 86 (who were spotted hawking balls on the range during the round, I might add). Third place went to **Eric Swanson, John Lamkin, Scott Stratton and Gordon Hagberg** with a 93. Sixth-place winners were **Dave Nadler, Dave Louttit**, Jason Lemanski and **Larry Tomaszewski** with 99. Low-gross winner was **Dave Kohley (71)** with **Kurt Sams (74)** taking second. Low-net winner **Rick Uthe** shot 64, followed by runner-up **George O'Hara's 67**. Closest-to-the-pin was **Rob Lewis** and longest drive was kicked there by this guy doin' the talking right now. The Great Gonzo Grey Goose Giveaway capped the day's fun with **Hans Hoppfan and Mark Schmitz** each



Water's Edge
PGA pro/GM
Steve Dell.

Tom Granato.

Dan Dinelli.

Pauline Lindo.

Tom Voigt.

Lakhwinder
Hundal.

Albert Cox.



Doug Davis, Tony Kalina,
Derek Florian and George O'Hara.

Patti, Sharon, Tom Prichard
and Marsha.

Rick Uthe, Dave Kohley,
Don Ferreri and Mike Vilendrer.



Kurt Sams, Ed Esgar, Dave
Holler and Keith Peterson.

Sam Wineinger,
John Gurke, Paul Yerkes
and Dan Anderson.

Jason Lemanski, Larry Tomaszewski,
Dave Nadler and Dave Louttit.

Jason and
Paul Bastron.

winning a hat, and **Jim Shone** taking home the grand-prize gift basket with oversized bottle of booze and assorted accessories. Thanks to everyone who had a hand in making our day so great—Jason and Steve at Water's Edge; Sharon, Patti and Marsha for again running the raffle hole; and our day's sponsors: Burris Equipment Company, J.W. Turf, Nadler Golf Car Sales, Palatine Oil Company, Syngenta, The Andersons and Turf Professionals Equipment Company (TPEC). You are all the best, and that's no bull biosolid!

CLASSIFIEDS

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