

# Family Night Picnic



*As the rain fell early on Saturday morning July 19, it was uncertain if the MAGCS would be able to come together with their families at the Cougar baseball game. Though the rain fell steady into mid-morning, the Cougar website proclaimed "Game On". At 4:00 pm the gates to the ball park opened up, our members enjoyed the barbeque buffet, and at 6:00 pm the first pitch was thrown.*

MAGCS thanks all of the sponsors that helped make this night memorable and fun, especially for the kids. **Reinders, Nels J Johnson Tree Experts, Nadler Golf Car Sales – An Authorized Club Car Distributor, J.W. Turf Inc., Bayer Environmental Sciences, Palatine Oil Company and Burris Equipment Company.**

As an added bonus, immediately following the ball game, nearly 4,000 fans were given pillows and allowed on the field to take part in the world's largest pillow fight. Several of the MAGCS picnic attendees took part in the event which is now in the process of verification by Mr. Guinness himself. The current record stands at 3,648 that was set at the University of Albany in New York on April 17, 2005. The Cougars claim they smashed this record with 3,872 fans that fought this night.

## Scholarship Winners Awarded

For the past several years MAGCS has invited the scholarship winners and their families to the event to recognize their accomplishments. This year, all three winners were present.

**Angela Galsidorfer**, daughter of MAGCS member Kurt (Exmoor Country Club) won the John Buck Scholarship. Angela will be entering Iowa State University this fall.

"Leadership is defined as an act or instance of leading, guidance, or direction. When this word comes to mentality, it's not easy to consider myself a leader. Hearing the word, military commanders, rulers of countries, or even teachers and my class president comes to mind. Reassessing my high school career, I realize that even the nominal contributions can make an impact.

In 7th grade I became involved in the Vernon Hills Park District summer camp for children ages 2-6. To this day, I continue to be involved with the program every summer. Needless to say each summer I met some unique kids. Every year I

enjoyed teaching kids everything and anything they wanted to know. Without a doubt, in their eyes I was already a leader. However, my most memorable year in the program was when we had a very special camper—Tyler.

Tyler had a developmental problem. In the beginning it was hard to know how to communicate with Tyler. None of the other children had interest in talking or playing with him because of his lack of self control. It was difficult to train Tyler to get into a scheduled routine. But everyday I worked with Tyler, remained patient, and showed the other children how it was imperative to accept diversity.

As an assistant counselor, I thought it was important for me to give Tyler one on one time, break down directions, and explain things in smaller terms. Initially it was hard to handle, and it wasn't enjoyable; we almost wanted to give him to another group. I will never forget when Tyler was first accepted by the other campers. Seeing the other kids want to join in with Tyler and I building sandcastles in the sandbox was a small step, but meant everything to not only Tyler, but me as well.

These days were followed by Tyler participating more in group activities, like the Friday kickball game where he was able to get on first base. By the end of the summer, Tyler fit perfectly with the group and his outbursts were sparingly. Although getting Tyler to fit into the group seems like a meaningless event, it impacted not only Tyler and his family, but the other children at the camp as well. For the first time in his life, Tyler was able to say he had friends, and his family couldn't be more proud of his social progress.

Even though I didn't change the world, I made an impact on a child's life. As a leader, contributing to someone's childhood is a reward incomparable to any other. The leadership skills I learned while working with Tyler I plan to carry with me not only now, but in the future as well."

-Angela Gailsdorfer

**Taylor Behrman**, daughter of MAGCS member Dave (Midlothian Country Club) won the George Minnis Scholarship. Taylor will be entering the University of Illinois this fall.

"Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do things you think you cannot do." Leadership is exactly that. A leader must face the fears that no one else wants to and guide the followers through what is unknown. Heading an organization involves taking risks and knowing in the end no matter what, whether you succeed or fail, a lesson will be learned.

Throughout my high school career I have defined myself as a leader. I was elected by my fellow classmates to serve as the class president of my school for three consecutive years. Having a position of this nature has helped me grow as an individual and also has allowed me to help others define their goals. Being in charge does not mean that you always know what is best or that you tell everyone what to do. A leader has to adapt to the diversity of people and guide them toward a common goal through teamwork.

At my high school, Victor J. Andrew, I am involved in a very prominent leadership program that has taught me dynamic leadership skills. Our most recent focus has been on school safety. As a leader, I have promoted awareness in both identifying potential problems and reacting to crisis situation. First and foremost, our school promotes the concept of peer mediation. Additionally we encourage students to seek help from the faculty or through students trained in our natural helpers program. I was directly involved in creating a plan of action in the event of a crisis such as a shooting at our school. The plan has been implemented including scheduled drills.

I feel strongly that leadership ability evolves through participation. During my collegiate life, I plan to continue my current course of action by being both a leader and excelling in my academic studies. Life will still bring about fears, but my passion for leadership and proven determination will drive me to success."

-Taylor Behrman

**Megan Schaefer**, daughter of MAGCS member Paul (Prairie Isle Golf Club) won the MAGCS Scholarship. Megan will be entering her sophomore year at the University of Illinois this fall.

"One controversial problem on college campuses is an increasing number of students using prescription drugs to help them study for long periods without becoming distracted. Students looking for these drugs, designed for people with ADHD, can easily obtain them on the black market.

After taking a drug such as Adderall, students can concentrate and study for hours. It may sound harmless, but problems can occur from the abuse of these drugs. Students can become dependent, because they feel like they cannot study without them. Negative side effects include nausea, vomiting, and insomnia. After long-term use, tolerance develops and students need more of the drugs, harming their health and draining their wallet.

Universities across the country should implement a plan to decrease the abuse of ADHD drugs on campus. First, incoming freshmen and transfer students should be required to attend a seminar during the first week of classes. This seminar would give students studying, note taking, and exam tips to reduce stress. It would also detail the dangers of using ADHD drugs as a study aid. During midterms and final exams, universities could hold new optional sessions of the seminar. Posters and brochures about studying placed in dormitories and high-traffic buildings would help during high-stress times as well.

This solution would increase awareness about this huge problem that college campuses face every year. It would also put stress-reducing studying tips into the minds of students, so they would be more likely to study without the aid of ADHD prescription drugs."

-Megan Schaffer

This year there were fifteen applicants for the MAGCS Scholarships. Each applicant was judged upon college/high school transcripts, community service, volunteer work, other extracurricular activities, their essay, and application packet. MAGCS recognizes the importance of youth education and hopes to provide more scholarships in the future.

The current sources for our scholarships are:

- The John Buck Memorial Outing held by J.W. Turf, Inc.,
- The raffle held in conjunction with our Hospitality Room,
- and this year, a gift from the Oscar Miles Fund a part of the Illinois PGA Foundation.

Thank you to all those that contributed and those who participated in these events throughout the year. **-OC**

*(more pictures continued on next page)*











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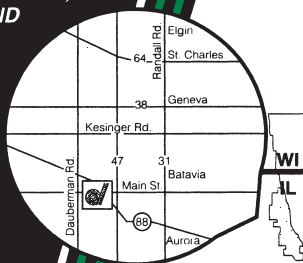
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