

# THE BULL SHEET

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



# June 2009

*Committed to the Indian*

A big welcome to the new members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, who are:

- Bret Rush**, Class E, Arysta Lifescience,
- Christopher Holt**, Class C, Highland Woods Golf Course
- Todd Kerry**, Class E, Water Well Solutions

And a big thank you to the Toro Company for contributing \$500 to the Environmental Institute For Golf in the name of MAGCS 1, the winners of the Gross Division of the Chapter Team Flight at the 2009 GCSAA Golf Championships in Gulf Shores, AL. The team members were **Dave Kohley**, **Al Pondel**, **CGCS**, **Tommy Robinson** and **Tim Scott**, **CGCS**. Way to go, guys.

Congratulations to Highland Park Country Club's **Dan Cherrstrom** on his recent certification with GCSAA, making him now and for evermore (unless he doesn't keep up with those pesky points) **Dan Cherrstrom**, **CGCS**.

Longtime MAGCS member **Jim Reed** (Reed Irrigation Services) has been named the sales representative for the Sto-Cote Industries GreenJacket impermeable and permeable turf covers for the entire state of Illinois. For information, go to [www.greenjacket.com](http://www.greenjacket.com).

Layne-Western (**Joe Eisha** and **Tom Healy**), which has been in business for 80 years in Northern Illinois and is a division of Layne Christensen Company, announced on May 5th that they have purchased certain assets of Meadow Equipment Sales and Service, Inc., including key field equipment, selected inventory, client lists, files, and records pertaining to

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- June 1 – Deadline for applications for the GCSAA's Scholars Competition.
- June 15 – MAGCS monthly meeting at the Club at Strawberry Creek in Kenosha, Wisconsin, **Matt Kregel** host. The Dom Grotti, Class C, and Senior Championships will be contested at this event.
- July 1 – Deadline for receipt of nominations of candidates for the 2010 GCSAA Board of Directors.
- July 8 – Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing at Pinecrest Golf Course in Huntley, IL, **Brian Comiskey** host.
- July 25 – MAGCS Family Night Picnic and Kane County Cougars baseball game at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL.
- July 27-29 – Illinois Open at Hawthorn Woods Country Club in Hawthorn Woods, IL, **David Schingel** host.
- August 1 – Deadline for entries for Lebanon Turf's 2010 Dog Days of Golf Calendar.
- August 18-19 – Junior Solheim Cup at Aurora Country Club, Aurora, IL, John Gurke, CGCS and **Virgil Range** hosts.
- August 21-23 – Ping Solheim Cup at Rich Harvest Links in Sugar Grove, IL, **Jeff Vercautren** host.
- August 25-26 – Inaugural iTurf Expo at Midwest Golf House in Lemont, IL, **Dr. Derek Settle**, **Keith Rincker**, and **Chris Painter** hosts.

projects, and a special phone forwarding service to Layne when calling in to their main phone number.

The 21st of April was a big day for **Dr. Randy Kane** (CDGA). On that day, Randy and his longtime girlfriend Anne Desjardins were married "in a ceremony that was short compared to the courtship" at noon in front of Judge Dave Dubicki in Peoria, IL. Randy and Anne have big plans for their future as well—they recently received an offer on their house in Peoria and are headed out to Bangor, Maine to start their married life together. Congratulations and the very best of luck to both of them!

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Randy and Anne take the plunge in front of Judge Dubicki.



Randy in a trap—a sign, or just a coincidence?

For the second consecutive month, I am privileged to report a new face added to the team at Midwest Golf House. Dr. Settle and Keith Rincker welcome the new CDGA Turfgrass Program intern Nick Devries to the fold. Nick grew up in Michigan, went to college in Florida, and completed an internship at Cape Cod National Golf Course in Cape Code, MA under superintendent Steve Cadanelli, CGCS, past president of GCSAA. Apparently Nick is drawn to peninsulas. Nick will assist with all the research projects underway at Golf House, and hopes to begin working toward his Masters in Plant Pathology with a focus on Turfgrass. Nick was hired with a grant from the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation to help in an effort to help for the upcoming iTurfExpo. Welcome and good luck to Nick.

Following up on the news that our own **Carl Hopphan** will be inducted into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame was a very complimentary article in Carl's hometown *Aurora Beacon News* newspaper on May 7th by staff writer Jim Owczarski. The article details Carl's 31 years as Aurora CC's superintendent, along with the 12 years he spent at Evanston CC and his most recent post with ITF, and features a photo of his flawless backswing.

The Environmental Protection Agency has issued its initial list of pesticides that will be screened for any potential disruption to the endocrine system, and it includes several commonly used golf course products. Among the 67 active ingredients on the list are 2,4-D, chlorothalonil, and imidacloprid. The testing is

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being conducted through the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Process, an initiative under the broader Food Quality Protection Act. This initial list was developed on the basis of exposure potential, and EPA says it should not be construed as a list of known endocrine disruptors. So put that in your pipe and smoke it. But wash your hands first.

'Tis the season to call all golf course dogs. Lebanon Turf, in conjunction with *Golfdom* is looking for dogs for its 2010 Dog Days of Golf Calendar. All photos accepted, including fully nude dogs. Deadline for photo entries is August 1st, and more information can be obtained from Cynthia Andrews at 800-532-0900, ext. 253.

May 15th was a big day for the **Jemsek** family, when the long-awaited renovations to the No. 4 Dubsdread course at Cog Hill Country Club were debuted to the public. The project, which was designed by Rees Jones and built by Wadsworth Golf Course Construction, was initiated to update the course for today's players and equipment, provide a better playing experience for the public, ratchet up the challenge for PGA Tour pros, and be selected as the site for the U. S. Open when it returns to the Midwest, perhaps in 2017 (all this according to Chicagoland Golf's Phil Kosin). Can't wait til September 10 through 13 when the BMW Championship comes back to Dubs and we see **Ken Lapp's** new baby.

A pretty cool thing happened at Cantigny Golf Club (**Scott Witte, CGCS** and a cast of thousands) just prior to Armed Forces Day. Y'know all those helicopters our guys use that you hear about and see in movies like Apaches and Chinooks and Blackhawks? Well they all landed on the parade ground over there, and it was pretty awesome. Amazing they found dry ground to land on, huh?

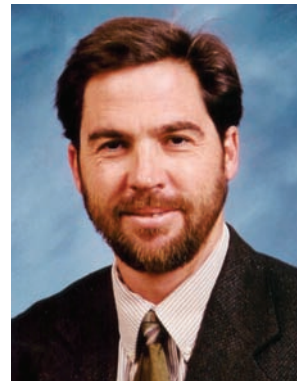


Best quote heard about the crazy wet weather we've witnessed (or would we say WETnessed?) this spring came from **Dan Anderson, CGCS** (City of Aurora): "Mother Nature needs to get laid." Yeah, huh?

As if we've had it bad, the guys down in Southern Illinois had a freakin' inland hurricane blow through there last month that really wreaked havoc. This was like a tornado but worse, and left behind all the same devastation.

Without the whole saltwater deal or the storm surge since they don't have an ocean down there. And of course no shrimp boats ended up in people's yards. But it was still bad.

The Illinois Open takes place at Hawthorn Woods Country Club on July 27th through the 29th, with **David Schingel** hosting. Here's a couple other interesting tidbits you might not have known. Before Dave and his assistant Alfonso Nava came to Hawthorn Woods, they built the Canyata Golf Club in Marshall, IL—*Golf Digest* magazine's 42nd ranked course in the nation. Also, Davis was named "Superintendent of the Year" by Kemper Sports, who manages over 90 courses nationwide. We're not done yet—Hawthorn Woods became the 49th course in Illinois to attain Certified Cooperative Sanctuary status by Audubon International in March, and Dave was featured on a special with Dan Roan of Channel 9 sports relating to the "Green to a Tee" program that he developed for Kemper for all its properties. Great work by Dave, eh?



*David Schingel*

Nice item about the Aurora City golf courses (Fox Valley and Phillips Park—**Todd Schmitz** superintendent) in May's *Golf Chicago* magazine. That's the one where three guys named Link Rat, Lefty, and TV Guy go and play public courses and rate them, and they enjoyed their day in Wayne's World on the 2 old tracks. Good pub for some good inexpensive courses.

Condolences to our members who have lost loved ones recently. Mary Ann Clesen, mother of **Arthur G. Clesen** and wife of the late Arthur N. Clesen passed away in late April. Shirley Burge, mother of **Jim Burge** of Reinders passed away in January after a courageous journey with metastatic breast cancer. Finally, on April 26th Jerry McNair, brother of Leon and **Jim McNair** passed away in his home.

Mark your calendars for September 8th—the MAGCS Golf Championship will take place at Kemper Lakes Golf Club (**Dan Tully** host). This event was originally scheduled to be played at Elgin Country Club, but an unforeseen conflict arose and Dan took the reins. **Phil Zeinert, CGCS** and Elgin CC will be our host in 2010. Thanks to both of these clubs and their superintendents for their generosity.

MAGCS members recently spotted in print include **David Marquardt**, whose "Labels, Marketing, and More" article was reprinted in *The Green Breeze*, the publication of the Greater Cincinnati GCSA in May, and **Paul Vermeulen**, our

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past USGA Green Section Agronomist and current PGA Tour agronomist was on the cover of GCM last month, being featured in an article about the teamwork between he and the host superintendent of a PGA Tour event.

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 The April MAGCS meeting was hosted by **Tony Kalina, Eric Mundt, and Travis Dykstra** on the 28th at Prairie Landing Golf Club. The day, although a bit windy and chilly, was a far cry from last year's snow/sleet mix, and the 100+ members in attendance enjoyed another great Spring Scramble. The day began with the education event which was presented by **Rusty Stachlewitz** (ProGrow Solutions), who was summoned at the eleventh hour to fill in for Ted Werenski of Richmond Fisheries who could not attend due to an emergency. Following lunch, it was off to the links for 18 holes of four-person scramble golf—all of which played into the gale-force wind. The winning score of 59 was carded by Chuck Anfield, Dennis Buck, Mike Nielsen, and Brian Racette; with 2nd going to Doug Davis, Mike Hatton, Greg Mark, and Rick Wilson; and third place to Tim Davis, Ed Fischer, Brad Johnsen, and John Lebedevs. The four proximity events were won by Mark Norville, Mike Nielsen, Rick Wilson, and Chad Rotert. Congratulations to all the winners—and aren't we really ALL winners, when you think about it? In fact, I think the only foursome that didn't win anything was mine. But I'm not bitter. Anyhow, it was a great day for which we thank Tony and everyone at Prairie Landing and our generous sponsors, who were: **Burris Equipment Company, John Deere Golf and J. W. Turf, Inc., Nadler Golf Car Sales/Authorized Club Car Distributor, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc., and Quali-Pro.** Thank you all!



*A beautiful day to play golf or fly a plane.*



*Gentlemen and Ladies: Start Your Engines*



*Kelli Zopfi and Danna Eberly were on hand to sell raffle tickets for the upcoming John Buck outing.*



*Host superintendent Tony Kalina*



*Education presenter Rusty Stachlewitz eyes his shot (you don't need very good distance vision to keep an eye on those).*



*Host superintendent Tony Kalina's dinner*

*(continued on page 23)*





Luke handles a minor scoring dispute



Education Chairman Mike Siefken and late inning relief presenter, Rusty Stachlewitz.



Half of the winning team of Chuck Anfield (L.), Dennis Buck (R.), Brian Racette, and Mike Nielsen.



(continued on next page)



(Above) Tim Johnson, Jim Keith, and Ed Braunsky posed outside for this pic but really welcomed everyone inside (below).



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