

After serving 5 years as agronomist with the USGA Green Section's Mid-Continent Region, **Ty McClellan** will be leaving Illinois to take over his new duties as Manager of the Green Section's Education Program. His new role with the USGA will focus on expanding its multimedia educational products and outreach designed to help communicate the principles of turfgrass science, golf course management practices and golf sustainability issues to multiple audiences such as turf management professionals, course officials, golfers, and the general public. Ty will continue to travel extensively, frequently making presentations, writing articles, and assisting in coordinating the Green Section website content and producing the Green Section Record. As part of this change, Illinois will be moving into the North Central Region where agronomic support from the USGA will now be provided by Director Bob Brame and Senior Agronomist Bob Vavrek. Both Bobs have been part of the Green Section for more than 20 years and offer a wealth of experience to golf facilities that subscribe to the Turf Advisory Service. We wish Ty the very best in his exciting new position which will take him to Pennsylvania, and thank him for his 5 years of exceptional service to our region.



**Ty McClellan**

Also on the move is **Andrew Perry**, former assistant superintendent at Black Sheep Golf Club who has accepted the superintendent's position at Blackstone Golf Club in Marengo, IL. Andy takes over for **Nick Leu** who has taken a superintendent's job at a private club in Nebraska. Congratulations to both of these young gentlemen!



**Andrew Perry**

Due to the previous item, Black Sheep Golf Club is looking for an assistant superintendent. Interested parties should contact **Dave Biery** at 630-761-0379. It would really make Dave's life simpler if your name is Andy.

And another of our old friends has left us as of the end of 2011. Rubigan AS fungicide is officially no longer being sold by the Gowan Co. due to the increase in regulations outside the U.S. and rising regulatory costs within the U.S. according to the manufacturer.

Assistant superintendent columnist needed: If you an assistant and would like your voice to be heard, *Golfdom* magazine wants to hear from you. For 2012, *Golfdom* is making some changes, one of which is the addition of a column written by an assistant that will run three to four times per year. If you are interested, YOU SHOULD BE WRITING ARTICLES FOR ON COURSE!! And after you do that, you can email your resume along with a sample of your writing and two ideas for columns you'd like to write to *Golfdom*. Details at [www.golfdom.com](http://www.golfdom.com) by clicking on the "Assistant Superintendent Columnist Needed" headline.

How about those kooky researchers at the University of Maine? It seems they have developed a way to turn lobster shells into golf balls. After nine months of development and research, they think they have got it, by Jove. And that isn't the best part—the balls are biodegradable to boot. The University is currently taking steps to patent the process. This just has **Randy Kane's** name ALL over it.

Last month, on the 10<sup>th</sup>, the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents held its Annual Shop Tour. The three-stop junket began at Makray Memorial Golf Club in Barrington with **Tim Christians** hosting the large group for donuts and coffee and a look around his shop. From there the caravan moved a bit south and east to **Brian Mores'** maintenance facility at Inverness Golf Club, which featured some very ingenious ways of storing equipment in limited space. The final stop of the day was at the host club for the 2013 Ryder Cup—Medinah Country Club. Host **Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS** and his very helpful and courteous staff members led the attendees on a tour of their revamped facilities, after which a great lunch provided by a Chicago legend—Portillo's—was enjoyed by all who came out. It was a January day that found shop overhead doors open and attendees jacketless due to the odd winter weather, and it was enjoyed by all. Thanks to everyone involved for a really great day away from our own work environs.



**Tim Christians**

(continued on page 18)