

**THE BULL SHEET, official publication of the  
MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE  
SUPERINTENDENTS.**

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## President's Message

by Dave Meyer

What a beautiful Fall! Great weather for those fall projects we all have to accomplish.

I was pleased to hear that the attendance at the I.T.F. Golf Day at Flossmoor and Ravisloe were bigger than ever and that the September meeting at Woodmar was so well attended.

Good news. Tom Fermanian is still a part of the I.T.F. advisory board, contrary to what I reported last month.

My wife and I, and a few other Superintendents, had the pleasure of attending the 75th Anniversary of the C.D.G.A. The event was a black tie affair with all the trimmings and speeches. Arnold Palmer was the guest speaker who told of many memories of the Chicago Golf Courses. He praised all the volunteerism of the C.D.G.A. members making the game of golf what it is today. He spoke of his P.G.A. friends and then reminded everyone that the golf courses would not be what they are without the x##?x that always plug the greens when they play or top dress when their wives play. He proudly recognized our group for being in attendance at this fine event.

I was happy to host the October meeting at Prestbury G.C. We had a great turnout for golf and dinner. It was saddened with the passing the previous day of our good friend Bob Breen. Bob regularly attended all our functions and served this Association as Director and President. He was always ready for a good laugh or was ready to second a motion to keep the meeting moving. He was a friend to all and will be sadly missed.



## Director's Column

by Roger A. Stewart, Jr., CGCS

To the best of my knowledge, I have served on the MAGCS Board of Directors since 1980. This is my last year. I have found it to be one of the most rewarding experiences of my career. The MAGCS has made significant strides during those years which have brought us to a beginning of an era that has great promise for our association. I am proud to have had a hand in directing MAGCS to this point. It started with the tremendous foresight and vision of people like Pete Leuzinger and Len Berg, and was carried through by people like Dave Behrman and Jim Evans. Dave Meyer's long term as Secretary/Treasurer kept the affairs of our association on course through the roughest waters. I thank all these people and all the many people who served in other capacities on the Board of Directors and Committees during my tenure in office. Your association owes all of you a debt of gratitude.

I have decided to leave the Board this year to pursue other association activities with the Chicagoland and to allow some very capable people coming up through the Board an opportunity to pursue some of the same goals I had some nine years ago. I hope that when you read this, the proposed bylaw changes have been enacted because we need to be able to give the Officers of this association an opportunity to serve more than one year to see their programs through to fruition. I don't know at this time if a dues increase will be voted on at this time or not. Either way, I think it is necessary in order for MAGCS to continue to grow. We need to take a more active roll in supporting turf research both locally and nationally. We need to improve our own education programs with more innovative approaches to providing these services for our members. We need to improve our golf events with better prizes and more member oriented prizes such as shirts, sweaters, jewelry, golf equipment, etc. with our logo to promote MAGCS and the Golf Course Superintendent whenever possible. Personally, I would like to see a Sterling Silver Cup awarded to our Champion as a traveling trophy with an appropriate listing of all the past champions. Corresponding lesser cups should be awarded to winners in the flights and they should be of caliber similar to the Championship cup that the winner would be able to keep. I think the Championship Trophy should be called the "Midwest Cup" or other appropriate title. We also could stand to institute team competition on a limited scale using handicaps throughout the season.

In order for all this to happen we will have to expand our administrative end of MAGCS. We need to expand the responsibilities and scope of our Executive Secretary's position to take over more of the administrative duties now performed by members of Board for more efficient operation over all. This will all cost more money this is true, but the benefits each member would receive would more than offset the expense.

On a closing comment, I would hope each and every member of MAGCS would consider running for election to the Board of Directors of MAGCS. These are very progressive and exciting times for our association. Don't sit back and let them pass you by, participate in whatever way you can and participate in the future of MAGCS. Good luck to the upcoming Board members and thanks again to all the MAGCS members who have supported me over the past nine years. Who knows I might be sometime in the future!

## "The Perception"

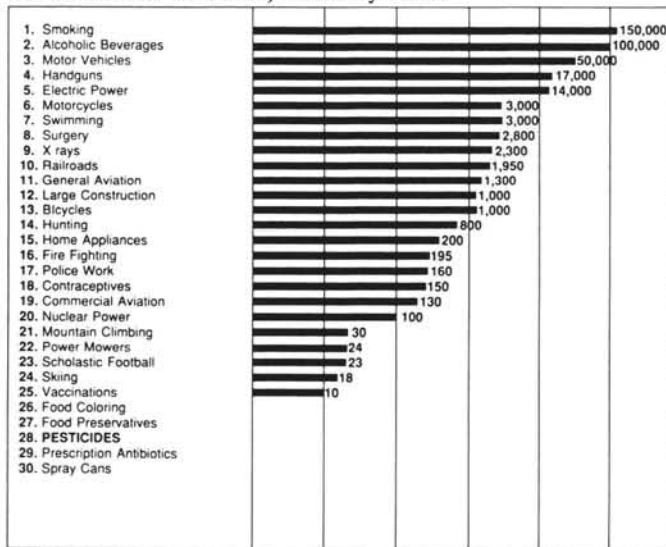
How Three Groups Perceive the Significance of Pesticides as a Cause of Death

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS	COLLEGE STUDENTS	BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL CLUB MEMBERS
1. Nuclear power	1. Nuclear power	1. Handguns
2. Motor vehicles	2. Handguns	2. Motorcycles
3. Handguns	3. Smoking	3. Motor Vehicles
4. Smoking	4. PESTICIDES	4. Smoking
5. Motorcycles	5. Motor Vehicles	5. Alcoholic Beverages
6. Alcoholic Beverages	6. Motorcycles	6. Fire Fighting
7. General Aviation	7. Alcoholic Beverages	7. Police Work
8. Police work	8. Police Work	8. Nuclear Power
9. PESTICIDES	9. Contraceptives	9. Surgery
10. Surgery	10. Fire Fighting	10. Hunting
11. Fire Fighting	11. Surgery	11. General Aviation
12. Large Construction	12. Food Preservatives	12. Mountain Climbing
13. Hunting	13. Spray Cans	13. Large Construction
14. Spray Cans	14. Large Construction	14. Bicycles
15. Mountain Climbing	15. General Aviation	15. PESTICIDES
16. Bicycles	16. Commercial Aviation	16. Skiing
17. Commercial Aviation	17. X-rays	17. Swimming
18. Electric Power	18. Hunting	18. Commercial Aviation
19. Swimming	19. Electric Power	19. Electric Power
20. Contraceptives	20. Food Coloring	20. Railroads
21. Skiing	21. Prescription Antibiotics	21. Scholastic Football
22. X-rays	22. Mountain Climbing	22. Contraceptives
23. Scholastic Football	23. Railroads	23. Spray Cans
24. Railroads	24. Bicycles	24. X-rays
25. Food Preservatives	25. Skiing	25. Power Mowers
26. Food coloring	26. Scholastic Football	26. Prescription Antibiotics
27. Power Mowers	27. Home Appliances	27. Home Appliances
28. Prescription Antibiotics	28. Power Mowers	28. Food Preservatives
29. Home Appliances	29. Vaccinations	29. Vaccinations
30. Vaccinations	30. Swimming	30. Food Coloring

Mortality rate due to pesticides is not the problem most people perceive it to be. (Information contained in the February, 1982 issue of Scientific American magazine.)

## "The Reality"

Actual Numbers of Deaths, Ranked by Cause



Credit: Scientific American, February 1982

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L to R front row: Len Berg (R), Fred Opperman (5), Bruce Williams (3), Peter Leuzinger (2); 2nd Row: Julius Albaugh (2), John Jackman (5), Tom Nestor (2), Mike Hessineius (R), Joel Purpur (4), Steve Tedhams (R), Al Fierst (3), Steve Stewart (3), Jim ? (R), Dave Blomquist (2), Dave Fisher (2). R = Rookies and #'s = number of trips.

## “Whitewater Revisited”

by Al Fierst, Oak Park C.C.

An intrepid group of fifteen recently survived another edition of “The Gauley”. As has been the custom of past years, a group of Chicagoland and Midwest Golf Course superintendents journeyed to West Virginia to experience some of the finest and most intense Class V whitewater to be found. The river is named the “Gauley” and is regarded as among the top rivers in the world for whitewater. It’s Class V designation refers to the difficulty and danger factor of the whitewater — a class I river is placid and a class VI river is too dangerous for any human passage. It is intense.

Day one on the river presents the most imposing sight many will likely encounter, the sight of over 3300 cubic feet of water per second being released at the base of the Summersville Dam. We launch our rafts directly in front of this water torrent and begin the 28 mile trip on the river. Directed by our experienced river guides, the river rafters (having been briefed on river technique and safety) begin to negotiate a series of dramatic and widely variant rapids. Names such as Lost Paddle, Iron Ring, Sweets Falls, Pure Screaming Hell, and Insignificant tell of past experiences and river “subtleties”.

After an enjoyable and intense day of rafting, camp is made at the raft company campground along the river. Food (gourmet) is prepared, participants relax (ask Pete “Hiccups” Leuzinger about this), or try to relax (ask Lenny “No Sleep” Berg) and recount the days adventures.

Day two brings more of the same type adventure with wild whitewater and very intense river action. Al “Iron Ring” Fierst and Dave “Howdy Doody” Blomquist can testify to the rocket-like action of the rapids when it comes to launching a person from the raft. We start with an early voluntary swim after throwing ourselves from a 30’ ledge called “Jump Rock” and then it’s on to a second day of great river action. It’s all over too soon and back on the road to our hotel and preparations to hit the early road back to Chicago.

Plans are being formulated for next years trip. Ask any of the veteran river runners about the trip or contact Joel Purpur and Al Fierst about reservations.

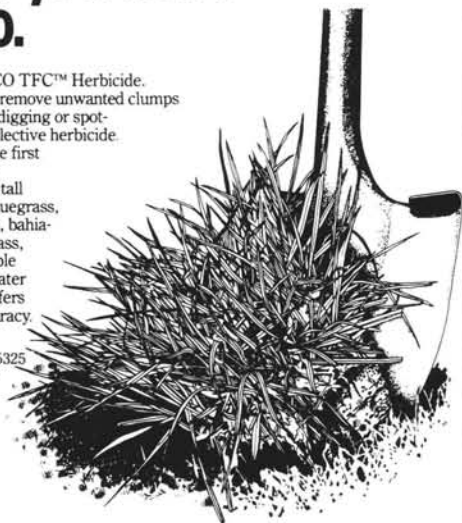
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## Midwest Assn. of Golf Course Supts. November 8, 1989

This is a slate of candidates for the MAGCS, Inc. Board of Directors for the 1989-1990 year.

PRESIDENT EMERITUS: David Meyer  
 PRESIDENT: Bruce Williams  
 VICE PRESIDENT: Al Fierst & Ray Schmitz  
 SECRETARY-TREASURER: Tim Kelly  
 DIRECTORS: Four (4) Positions to Fill  
 Joel Purpur, Don Cross,  
 Kerry Blatteau, Ed Braunsky,  
 Paul Baston, Brian Green,  
 Doug Long

DIRECTORS WITH ONE (1)  
 YEAR REMAINING: Mike Bavier & Dennis Wilson

### PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES

CURRENT: Article V, Section 1

The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be elected by the members of the Association at the annual meeting. All officers shall be Charter or Class A members of this Association and must be in good standing at the time of their election to office. No person elected to the office of the President, First Vice-President or Second Vice-President shall succeed himself in the office to which he was elected.

PROPOSED: Article V, Section 1

The officers of this Association shall consist of a **President**, **First Vice-President**, and **Secretary-Treasurer**, who shall be elected by the members of the Association at the annual meeting. All officers shall be Charter or Class A members of this Association and must be in good standing, at the time of their election to office. **All officers shall be elected for a term of one year and shall be eligible to succeed themselves in the office, to which he was elected, for one additional term.**

CURRENT: Article V, Section 4

The Second Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President and the First Vice-President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President. He shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors shall prescribe.

PROPOSED: Article V, Section 4

**Eliminate the office of Second Vice-President.**

CURRENT: Article V, Section 5

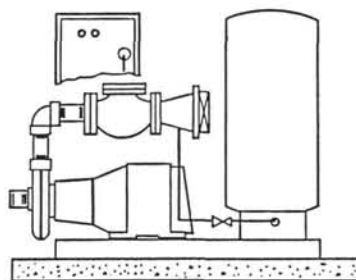
The Secretary-Treasurer shall attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and shall record the minutes of all meetings in a book which shall be kept for that purpose. He shall have custody of the funds of the Association and shall keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books which shall be the property of the Association and shall deposit all monies and other valuable property in the name and to the credit of the Association in such depositories as the Board of Directors may designate. He shall give or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors. He shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors shall prescribe.

PROPOSED: Article V, Section 4

**The Secretary-Treasurer shall, in the absence of the Presi-**

(cont'd. page 8)

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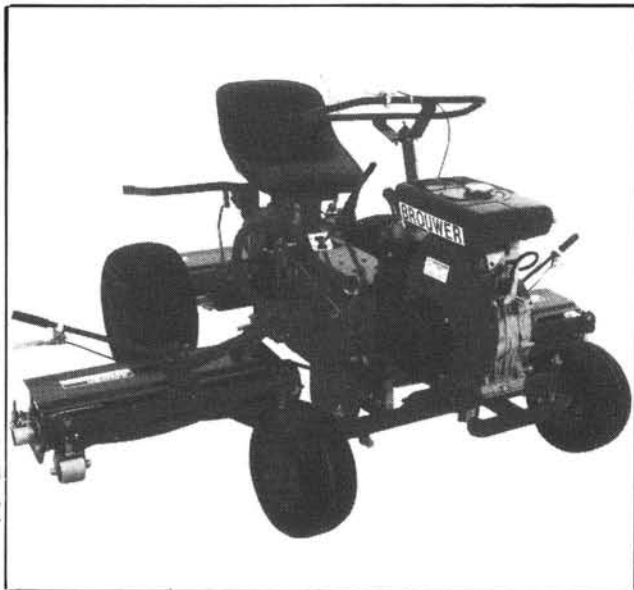
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(Proposed By-Law Changes cont'd.)

**dent and the Vice-President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President.** The Secretary-Treasurer shall attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and shall record the minutes of all meetings in a book which shall be kept for that purpose. He shall have custody of the funds of the Association and shall keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books which shall be the property of the Association and shall deposit all monies and other valuable property in the name and to the credit of the Association in such depositories as the Board of Directors may designate. He shall give or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors. He shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors shall prescribe.

**CURRENT:** Article VI, Section 1

The Board of Directors shall consist of six Directors each of whom shall be a Charter or Class A Member of the Association in good standing. Five of the Directors shall be elected for a term of two years or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The sixth Director shall be the immediate Past President who shall serve for one year or until his successor qualifies.

**PROPOSED:** Article VI, Section 1

The Board of Directors shall consist of **seven** Directors each of whom shall be a Charter or Class A Member of the Association in good standing. **Six** of the Directors shall be elected for a term of two years or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The **seventh** Director shall be the immediate Past President who shall serve **until his successor qualifies**.



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## **"Proper Restitution"**

by Brian Green, C.G.C.S.

Sunset Valley Golf Course

It's the middle of July and we're only two days away from our major tournament of the year. Everything is coming together like clockwork — the fairways are showing good density and color, the greens' speeds are rising daily and the rough is getting pretty testy. Weeks of tuning up for this event are paying great dividends and the weather is cooperating for a change. What could throw a wrench into these works besides the usual obstacles like a flood, windstorm or a hydraulic leak on greens? These are hard-to-accept problems that we all live through and become better managers for — I hope.

A routine 5 A.M. check of the course that morning revealed the obstacle that really can still throw me for a loop. In front of me, illuminated by the headlights, was our 13th green appearing to be more covered by soil and dislodged turf than the usual smooth green turf. "———!" What did these vandals use — a Roto-Tiller? A closer inspection confirmed that it was as bad as it looked. This 4000 square foot putting surface had been maliciously defaced with over 200 divot-like marks, some being excavated to an 8" depth. So widespread was the damage that a decent cup setting couldn't be found. Further checking of the course, I found the 12th green in a similar condition, but not quite as bad — maybe 100 divots.

Have you seasoned veterans that have been through this countless times learned to accept this better than us younger supers? This is probably my 50th vandalism incident in the 8 years of being superintendent, but my reaction is like the first time. "Let's kill them!" Contemplating irrational acts of revenge and countless mutterings out of earshot are all an important part of the process for my emotions. However, these reactions are not within the guidelines of my position. Once the storm of emotions pass and I realize my job is greenskeeper not revenge seeker, the forward steps need to be in the right direction if there will be any kind of proper restitution.

Proper restitution, besides hanging, has a two-part meaning for me today and lays out a proper direction. The first part means to do the footwork for reporting and information so that reimbursement can be made. Second, it means to take immediate actions to restore or return these areas to their former condition.

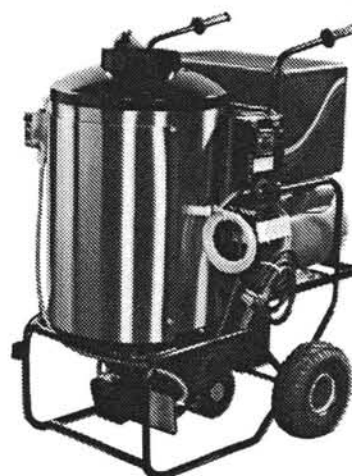
In reporting and informing, we municipal courses are well adjusted to this paperwork beginning with; filling out police reports and informing detectives; reporting to Pro Shop so that golfers can be informed by signs on the front desk as to the vandalized area; reporting to supervisors the damage in writing so they can inform the insurance company or insurance lawyer; and finally, I find it important to keep your own record of the event to keep your thinking clear and straight.

Second, and perhaps in conjunction, we begin restoration to the area as soon as possible to return it to a playable condition. In this case we began plugging from our nursery as our best means of repair.

Most of you, unfortunately, are all familiar with this routine and may be aware of a sticking point. After making several calls, I realized a large variance in estimating the actual damage. In several reports we're asked to estimate and I personally find it a sticking point. Again, my emotional response is how in the

(cont'd. page 14)

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