

# the Bull Sheet

Official publication of the MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

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## On Course with the President

I would be remiss if in this President's report, I failed to recognize the Commercial Members (sponsors), the MAGCS Board and especially Al Fierst and Janet Good for the excellent MAGCS Hospitality Room at Anaheim. I received many favorable comments on the MAGCS Hospitality Room, both from MAGCS members and guests.



To all involved it was a job well done. It looks like this past February was another excellent opportunity for our members to get their batteries charged up for the rapidly approaching 1993 Golfing Season. I hope that everyone was able to take advantage to: spend time with family, vacation, or relax.

I want to compliment our two MAGCS Voting Delegates, Roger Stewart, and Bob Maibusch on performing their enormous task with aplomb. These two individuals did an excellent job interviewing candidates, reporting to the membership at the MAGCS Caucus, and voting at the GCSAA Annual Meeting. The MAGCS Membership was well represented at the GCSAA Annual Meeting. This was a grueling meeting, it took a very long time to tabulate the votes for Proposed Bylaws Changes. This meeting began at 8:00 a.m. and adjourned at 12:45 p.m. I appreciate our two delegates perseverance, and dedication to see the task to completion. The MAGCS Membership that turned out for the Caucus had to be a record high number - 22! Congratulations to all present!

I was able to be present at the GCSAA Annual Meeting in Anaheim. The balance of my President's Message will report on the GCSAA Annual Meeting and Election. I personally had a great deal of interest in this meeting, due to the Proposed Bylaws Changes and the election of Officers and Directors. The election results for the Proposed Bylaws Changes are listed below. A  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority was needed for acceptance of any Proposed Bylaws,  $5433 \text{ votes} \times \frac{1}{3} = 3622 \text{ votes}$ .

Ballot A passed —	4107 yes	1226 no
Ballot B failed —	1175 yes	4258 no
Ballot C failed —	1321 yes	4012 no
Ballot D failed —	3229 yes	2173 no
Ballot E failed —	1822 yes	3541 no
Ballot F failed —	2408 yes	3025 no
Ballot G failed —	924 yes	4513 no
Ballot H failed —	1497 yes	3939 no
Ballot I failed —	1299 yes	4062 no

The election results for the Candidates for GCSAA Offices are as follows, those marked with an asterisk\* were elected.

President	*Randy S. Nichols (Georgia)
Vice President	*Joseph G. Baidy, 3248 (Ohio) Gary T. Grigg, 1879 (Florida)
Director	*Gary T. Grigg, 4377 (Florida) *David W. Fearis, 3826 (Missouri) *George E. Renault, 3453 (Maryland) Charles T. Passios, 2041 (Mass.) Joseph M. Hahn, 1481 (New York)

(continued on page 3)

After his election President Nichols stated that he would defer at this time the appointment for the open position on the Board of Directors, until he has conferred with all elected and standing Members of the of the GCSAA Board of Directors. There was not any further new business, no proposed dues increase. Two new members were elected to the Board, while two incumbent members were voted off the Board. I congratulate the entire newly Elected Officers and Board Members of GCSAA. This new Board will be involved in making important decisions, upon the various issues that are facing GCSAA. These elected individuals need our support and input, so that they can make the best decisions for GCSAA and its Membership.

Our next MAGCS Monthly Meeting will be held at Nordic Hills on Monday, March 15th. I hope to see you there.

*Timothy Kelly*

**Editor's Comment:** Randy Nichols, President GCSAA has appointed R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS, Valley View Golf Club, Bozeman, Montana, to fill the one board vacancy.

## Director's Column



by Joel Purpur  
River Forest G.C.

Wow! What a conference and golf tournament. This is the first time in a while that we have had great weather almost all week. My forehead (which seems to be growing) actually got sunburned during the golf tournament.

I don't understand why more people don't take part in the golf portion of the conference. It is a chance to play excellent courses with superintendents from throughout the country. The tournament is set up on the point system for all of the flights except the championship flight, so you don't have to worry about being out of contention if you have a real bad hole. Everyone in my division is as bad as I am!

Even with all of the rain and flooding prior to our arrival the courses I played on were in very good shape with only a few wet spots. Eastlake and Mt. Woodson Country Clubs were the two golf courses the second division had the opportunity to play. Eastlake Country Club had some beautiful holes with waterfalls which I particularly enjoyed, and Mt. Woodson, well, I'll talk about later.

Just a brief summary of my rounds. Not playing golf since October I knew my game would be grooved, and I did not have a practice round. This was evident when I got to the practice tee and hit the first ball. If the tip of the toe on the club had a sweet spot, I got it! Instant proof. Proof that they did not put up the netting around the range high enough on the right side.



I looked around and saw some pretty ugly shots by others too, so I removed the dirt clod off of the club and continued to loosen up. The round was a lot of fun and we saw a variety of golf shots because everyone else was as bad or worse than I was, so we had a lot of laughs.

**The round was a lot of fun and we saw a variety of golf shots because everyone else was as bad or worse than I was, so we had a lot of laughs.**

The second day started off real early, tooo early! We shouldn't have gotten those Pacers V.I.P. cards. After a 50 minute drive to Mt. Woodson and the bags under my eyes didn't go away, I realized it could be the start of a rough day. The sun was now up enough to see that there was frost on the golf course

and a significant delay was inevitable. An hour and a half later the first group was on the tee. The first hole on Mt. Woodson is short so I chose an iron for the first tee to play it safe from the O.B. right, the pond, and because of the delay a crowd was watching on the first tee. I did not disappoint them. I hit it so fast the ball could not even carry the little pond that I could throw it across! My first "X" was out of the way, double bogey 6.

Standing on the elevated second tee, it was a beautiful view. Rocky canyons and hills painted with patches of green that we were to play this game on. My next observation was that these patches of green that we were supposed to play on were too small for me, and why are the tee markers all the way back again? The others went first of course and after hitting a rock and bouncing back in, we were on our way again. This golf course was a construction wonder. All rocks! How did they build this place let alone find enough soil to grow grass on? I bet that the irrigation system was also a joy to put in. The wooden bridge between 2 and 3 which crossed a canyon was amazing and cost close to a million dollars alone!

**It was too bad that they had to tarnish the experience by tricking up the course. Why they felt a need to trick the course for the 13-16 handicap golfers is beyond me.**

As the round went on I developed a real appreciation for the golf course design and the land it was built on. It was too bad that they had to tarnish the experience by tricking up the course. Why they felt a need to trick the course for the 13-16 handicap golfers is beyond me. I would rather have people score a little bit and have fun rather than get beaten by the course, leaving them discouraged and negative. I scored well enough to have fun and finish 7th in the flight. Playing with superintendents from all over the U.S. was interesting,

they were a lot of fun to golf and talk shop with. I would encourage anyone to talk to their club to include the tournament in your conference package. Seeing how others manage golf courses throughout the country is a learning experience and I always take an idea or two home with me. It is a worthwhile activity that more superintendents should take part in and I hope to see you there next year.



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## "On the Waterfront"

by Jim Reed



This month's article from the Keller-Bleisner Engineering report on "Designing, Operating, and Maintaining Piping Systems Using PVC Fittings" is on "Installation Considerations". This section is one that you will want your irrigation specialist to read.

One of the characteristics of PVC piping systems that makes them attractive is the ease of installation, due to their light weight and ease of fabrication. However, precautions must be taken, as with other materials, in storing, handling, joining, laying, blocking, backfilling, filling, and pressure testing.

### Handling

Because of the light weight of PVC, there may be a temptation to handle it roughly. Care should be taken to avoid dropping pipe or fittings since undetected fractures could result, causing later problems. Also, physical damage to the pipe or fittings in terms of scratches or gouges may significantly reduce the long term strength of the component, especially under cyclic surge conditions. Special care should be taken in cold weather to avoid impact damage due to the increased brittleness of the material at reduced temperatures.

If pipe and fittings are going to be stored for extended time periods, they should be shielded from direct sunlight by some opaque covering, allowing air circulation around the components to avoid over-heating. Storage at high temperatures may cause some distortion of the components of the piping system and should be avoided.

### Solvent Welding

Solvent weld joints require care during assembly. ASTM Standard D2855 should be followed, as well as any manufacturer's recommendations. Common problems associated with solvent cement joints are:

1. Inadequate primer or poor priming techniques which fail to provide sufficient glaze breaking and softening of the joining surfaces.
2. Improper application of cement, resulting in non-uniform, coverage, e.g. dry places on either of the joining surfaces or puddling inside the joint.
3. Allowing the cement to become too dry before assembly, resulting in poor bonding.
4. Incomplete insertion of the spigot into the socket on assembly, reducing the solvent weld contact area.

If problems such as these occur, inadequate bonding between the spigot and socket occur, which may lead to failure.

Next month: "Installation Considerations (cont'd.)"



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## ***Safety First!***

by Marty Baumann, Fresh Meadows G.C.  
EMT-P West Dundee Fire Dept.

By now, even if you haven't lived in Chicago for years, you've probably realized that spring is right around the corner. With the warm days of spring comes birds, squirrels, green grass, golfers and grounds maintenance. As we climb out of our winter hibernation and start to hire new employees, the hustle and bustle in our shops starts to increase. New employees rifle through the mechanic's tool box looking for a ½-inch box wrench. Old employees leave their tools where they always do, in the wrong place. You and your winter staff are used to each other and your routines are now being disrupted after a long winter of doing everything the same way.

All these things add up to one thing: An accident just waiting to happen.

Now I know what you're thinking — "My mechanic has been with me for sixteen years. Those shovels have been hanging on the same nail since Eisenhower (the president, not the expressway). We have been working the same way for years without any problems, safety is for guys with new employees, new shops, new equipment," or any other reason to justify filing your shop safety program at the back of the desk drawer.

Well, let me pass on a small incident that recently happened in a well-established shop. This particular mechanic is a professional who has been working on equipment in some capacity for over thirty years. It seems the springs on the snow plow needed changing. As he's done for years, the mechanic blocked the blade, loosened the bolts and compressed and removed the springs. He then put the new springs on, bolted one end down and used pry bars to flex the springs into position to bolt

**As he put the bolt in, he first reached over the plow and stuck his little finger in the hole ...**

them to the plow. As he put the bolt in, he first reached over the plow and stuck his little finger in the hole to make sure the holes were lined up correctly. What happened next is still up for discussion — either the pry bar slipped or he bumped it, but the results were the same when the spring snapped back ...

Now this guy has done springs this way for years. There were never any problems before. He is considered a very safe mechanic in his shop, follows the posted rules, etc. But no amount of medical magic will give him back the last knuckle of his little finger.

So, how does this effect us every day in our shops? The truth is we can never make this world one of rounded corners and safety shields. We do dangerous work at times and accidents can happen. What we can do is not let our guard down. It is our job to make sure our employees work safely. It is also our responsibility to assist them in thinking smarter while they work.

The best thing we can do is to lead by example. But there are many other programs we can bring on board to help. Monthly safety meetings over lunch or breaks keep this information fresh. A simple daily tally of days worked safely reminds your employees of a job well-done. A safety audit done by a different employee every month will give you a fresh look at the shop you work in every day; the audit will probably pick up things you might miss. Also, if you have Spanish employees, are your safety signs bi-lingual? Some shops even have a small budget for a cash or gift certificate awarded monthly to employees for practicing safety on the job.

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## National Campaign Against Slow Play

### Major Golf Associations To Join In Campaign To "Pick Up The Pace"

ORLANDO, FL — A wide-ranging national campaign to speed up play is being launched by GOLF Magazine with the cooperation of major golf organizations, announced Editor-in-Chief George Peper at the PGA Merchandise Show here.

Though complete details of the comprehensive campaign, "Pick Up The Pace," will be announced in the April issue of GOLF Magazine, Peper did reveal two elements: a USGA Pace Rating of golf courses, and timing the play of PGA Tour pros.

#### Pace Ratings

At the suggestion of GOLF Magazine, the USGA is developing a formula to determine playing times for golf courses. These Pace Ratings — similar to Slope Ratings, which rate the difficulty of courses — will set a reasonable time for completing a round on a course. The Pace Rating will take into account course difficulty, length, and distances between greens and tees. Separate ratings will be developed for carts and for walking.

The USGA will announce details of the Pace Rating program at its Annual Meeting in Nashville on February 6.

#### Timing The PGA Tour Players

Every PGA Tour player will be timed and ranked by GOLF Magazine on how quickly he plays tee shots, approach shots from the fairway, and putts. The magazine began recording times at the Northern Telecom Open, using a system developed in concert with the PGA Tour. GOLF Magazine will publish the rankings each month, starting with the April issue, and the slowest players in each category will be highlighted.

#### Major Associations Joining

"Every major association in golf is joining in the Pick Up The Pace campaign," said Peper. "This is not just a string of slogans, posters, and buttons. We have solutions, and we're convinced our combined efforts will improve the pace of play on America's courses."

## Tree-Care Seminar Slated for March 4

A half-day seminar on tree care for golf course professionals will be held Thursday, March 4, 1993, at the Wheeling office of Hendricksen the Care of Trees, 2371 S. Foster Ave. Experts will cover a variety of practical topics on tree care and related concerns, including species selection, tree inventories, maintenance, pest control, lightning protection, and liability issues.

The featured speakers are Oscar Miles, golf course superintendent of the Merit Club, Libertyville; Kris Bachtell, horticulturist and plant collections director at the Morton Arboretum, Lisle; Chuck Schramm, Insurance consultant, Lamb, Little & Co., Rolling Meadows; Larry Hall, vice president, and Rex Bastian, Ph.D., entomologist and technical services coordinator, Hendricksen the Care of Trees.

The sessions begin at 2:30 p.m. and conclude at 5:00 p.m. A reception will immediately follow. Admission to the seminar and reception is free.

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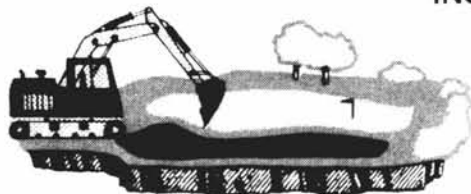
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