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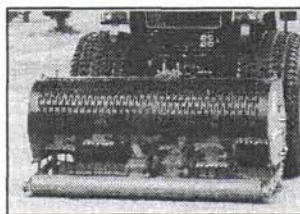
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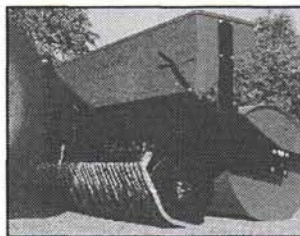
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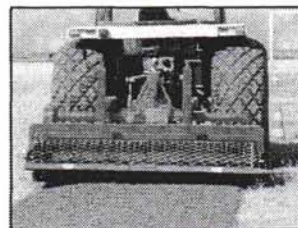
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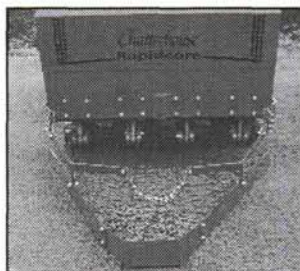
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# Godspeed, Bruce Borland

*Editor's Note: Rick Jacobson of Jacobson Golf Course Design composed this tribute to Bruce Borland, golf course architect and Peoria native who died October 25 at age 40. Bruce's eulogy, as delivered by Jack Nicklaus, follows Rick's remarks. The MAGCS extends its condolences to the Borland family and the families of the others who perished aboard the now infamous Learjet.*

Our golf community suffered a tragic loss when it learned that golf course architect Bruce Borland was aboard Payne Stewart's plane on Monday, October 25. Many of us had the opportunity to meet Bruce through his work at local courses such as Oak Brook Hills, Bull Valley, Golf Club of Illinois, Seven Bridges and the Ivanhoe Club. Those of us who were fortunate enough to also know Bruce as a friend knew an individual who found joy in giving without expecting anything in return.

Bruce found a tremendous amount of joy in earning a living through a sport he loved so dearly. He was a true reflection of the values of the game while conducting himself with integrity, honesty and sportsmanship in his daily life. How fitting it is then that the greatest golfer in the history of the game had this to say at the memorial service held in Jupiter, Florida on October 28 . . .

"When the first emotional shock hits us after a tragic accident, seldom do we think or realize how far-reaching the impact can be. Seldom do we realize the depths of the emotional pain. So when the news first broke Monday that the

private jet belonging to Payne Stewart was in peril, there was certainly enough shock and concern from all of us. But when it was learned soon after that Bruce Borland was aboard that flight, I know Barbara and I, his friends, his family and his extended family at Golden Bear were traumatized by our worst fears. Amid the reality of the last few days, those fears have been displaced by sorrow and feelings of loss.

"To call Bruce's passing a great loss is perhaps still an understatement. The gravity of how he touched all our lives is amazing.

"Certainly, we all knew Bruce in our professional lives—a tremendously talented

designer who matured with each year and with each beautiful golf course he left behind for all to enjoy. But if you knew Bruce on a professional level, you also knew Bruce on a personal level. Because Bruce always allowed his wonderful personality to flow over into his professional life.

"Bruce could light up a room and an office. When you walked into his office, Bruce always greeted you with a smile without a word being said. And you could not help but return that smile. Bruce's personality was simply infectious. He was fun to work with and laugh with.

"Bruce was a gentle man, who went about his daily life with a warm, soft-spoken demeanor that seemed to invite

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*“Certainly,  
we all knew Bruce  
in our professional  
lives—a tremendously  
talented designer  
who matured with  
each year and  
with each beautiful  
golf course he  
left behind for  
all to enjoy.”*

— Jack Nicklaus

---

friendship. He always treated coworkers with clients with equal amounts of respect and kindness. In our business or any business, kindness is sometimes considered a weakness. With Bruce, kindness was perhaps his greatest attribute.

“Whether drawing lines together or bouncing around in the back of a pick-up truck on a dusty site, Bruce always seemed content, at peace with himself, and at his happiest. The only two loves in Bruce’s life greater than the love for his work were his family and his faith.

“He was an Elder in his church who—by their presence today—was obviously respected and loved by each and every member.

“If there is a microcosm that provides a glimpse into what made up this wonderfully

giving man, it’s that Bruce recently took on a golf course design project just a few miles from his hometown of Peoria, Illinois, and it was Bruce’s intent to donate all of his design fees to his church.

“Most of all, Bruce was a very devoted husband to Kate and a loving father to his four children—Daniel, Thomas, Benjamin and Elizabeth. Too often we let our careers inch ahead and take priority over the time spent with our families. Never was this the case with Bruce.

“He always made time for his wife and children. Maybe it was to keep “date night” with Kate. Maybe it was to be at a soccer match, a karate lesson or a diving meet. Or maybe it was to just drop a fishing line into the neighborhood lake with one of his boys. Bruce loved to save

*(continued on page 24)*



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### Director's Column

(continued from page 4)

tant is that we seek individuals who, once elected, maintain their drive and commitment for the good of the Association. Being an MAGCS director entails a lot of extra work, but it is very rewarding and directors learn a great deal, with results that have value and meaning in everyday life. As past presidents, too, we appreciate the opportunity to contribute with our ideas. We realize, however, that good ideas are only great if realized, and that depends on dedicated people to see them through. Please give serious thought at our annual elections—our Association depends on it. 

### Godspeed, Bruce Borland

(continued from page 23)

a penny, but he never hesitated when he had the opportunity to buy a boat just to have something the entire family could do together. It was at these moments when Bruce was truly his happiest.

“Kate, his children and his entire family have suffered an immeasurable loss. But because Bruce had a marvelous and enviable way of making all of us feel a part of his family, we all have suffered a loss. But we are all better people for having known Bruce Borland and we thank him for touching all our lives. He will always be a part of us, and will forever hold a special place in our hearts and memories.”

Friends have set up a memorial fund to benefit Bruce Borland's children. Contact the First Union National Bank, 2000 PGA Boulevard, Suite 2200 in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, 33410.



### Do It With Someone . . .

(continued from page 14)

job and saying, “We did that.” You and your crew will look at the golf course in a new light, viewing areas on the course and remembering when certain projects were completed.

By doing the work in-house, you can start and stop the process as needs change, allowing greater flexibility in trying to meet the needs of the golfers. You have the ability to work when the conditions improve after bad weather. An hour or two at the end of the day can make a difference when added up. Then, you possess the intimate knowledge of the golf course and its underground utilities. Your crew will know where all the wet spots are after a rainstorm. You have already established a relationship with the local suppliers and can usually get materials in a timely fashion. By tackling the project yourself, you may be able to realize substantial savings for the facility, depending on how much is calculated as operating expenses and what is budgeted as capital expense.

A possible downside to doing the work in-house is that the timeframe for the project may be prolonged beyond expectations. You may not have a large enough staff or the specialized equipment needed to complete the work in a timely fashion. The possibility exists that you may not be up-to-date on the latest and greatest construction techniques that would make the project go smoothly. Unknown variables that you did not budget for may increase the cost of the job. One of the foremost issues to consider: the condition of the rest of the golf course may suffer while you and your crew are concentrating on the renovation. Members may be unhappy with the disruption

from the construction and will not tolerate less-than-perfect conditions on the rest of the golf course. This can cause lots of stress! Communication is vital here as you strive to keep everyone informed of progress and field any complaints. In some cases, having someone else responsible for the final result may be more beneficial. Sometimes it is not wise to be remembered as “the guy who built that \*\*\*\*\* pot bunker on #6.”

Clearly, many positives and negatives accompany each scenario. Any project requires your careful thought as you determine the best and most economic way to complete the work. Doing the work in-house can be very rewarding, but also very stressful. Using a golf course contractor can assure getting the work done in a minimal amount of time, but may cost more than doing the work in-house. Sometimes combining in-house efforts with a contractor's expertise makes sense; you can use a contractor for some portions and utilize your crews to do the work for which they are best suited. In some instances, postponing renovations to a later date when more funds will be available is necessary. However, with careful planning and good weather, everyone's renovations should go as smooth as silk.

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# the Bull Sheet

John Gurke  
Contributing Editor

## DATES TO REMEMBER

December 31, 1999 — Dick Clark's 97th consecutive New Year's Rockin' Eve

January 17-20 — 70th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference in Lansing, Michigan

January 24, 2000 — MAGCS Monthly Meeting at Arrowhead Golf Club

February 14-15, 2000 — GCSAA Golf Championship, Mobile, Alabama

February 14-20, 2000 — GCSAA International Conference and Show, New Orleans, Louisiana

June 24, 2000 — World Shotgun 2000

Congratulations are in order to Greg Johnson, whose beautiful Eagle Brook Country Club graced the cover of the October *Golf Course Management* magazine. Also, thanks go out to the guy who called me to point that out.

.....  
**WANTED!** Your MAGCS committee chairpersons want your involvement. If you wish to volunteer for one or several committees, please contact the committee chairperson(s).

.....  
The results are in from the Northern Illinois Golf Day at

Prairie Landing Golf Club:  
Low gross: Carmen Molinaro and Bruce Schweiger

Low net: Bret Johnson and Mike Hjelmberg

Low gross, senior: Jim Hudmon and Kerry Blateau

Low net, senior: Joe Kramer and Mike Matchen

Dom Grotti winners (superintendent and assistant team): Tony Kalina and Derek Florian—go figure.

Congratulations to all winners, and a huge thanks to the many sponsors for this event.

.....  
We are all well aware of the tragic plane crash that took Payne Stewart's and five others' lives recently. One of those others was Bruce Borland, a golf course designer who had worked in the Chicago area for a number of years before leaving in 1990 to join Jack Nicklaus' firm. Any MAGCS members who had the pleasure of working with Bruce will attest to his dedication to his profession as well as his family. He was excited about the idea of returning to Chicago some day to strike up old acquaintances and do some work. He will be missed.

.....  
Atta boy, Mike! Mike Bavier, CGCS, of Inverness Golf Club has been selected as one of this year's GCSAA Distinguished Service Award recipients. This is a huge accomplishment for

someone who is more than deserving, and we as MAGCS members should feel proud to be associated with Mike.

.....  
News from the North: Our old buddy Tony Rzxcadzcsxvski (I prefer TR for simplicity's sake), formerly of Cantigny, is at it again—he's building his third course. Tony was fortunate enough to get the gig just 15 minutes from his home, and it sounds like a doozy—the owner is a sewer contractor who knows little to nothing about golf courses, has all the equipment for a total in-house construction project, and, best of all, listens to Tony! Congratulations, TR, and keep us informed.

.....  
Another word about the MAGCS Web site. I have failed to mention the one person we are most indebted to for getting this thing going and updated so proficiently—Ken Gilliam of Mynex. We sincerely appreciate Ken's work, and I again encourage all members to check it out at magcs.org.

.....  
Condolences go out to Mark Karczewski and his family on the passing of his father. Mark is the "man behind the scenes" at *On Course*—our graphic designer who puts it all together each month in such professional fashion. Our thoughts are with you, Mark.

.....  
Another MAGCS member has hit the national press—Doug Davis was quoted in the October issue of *Golfdom* regarding the newly discovered and yet-to-be-named turf disease with a copper spot-like appearance.

.....  
News around town: Ed Fischer of the Old Elm Club has been busy this fall with a bunker ren-

ovation project. After consulting with Brian Silva (known for his thorough knowledge of Donald Ross courses), the project began on September 13 with the stripping of sod and sand removal from all bunkers. Next, some reshaping, fine grading, edging, resodding and new drainage where necessary was done. The final step will be the addition of new Thelen's #1 mason sand. The goal was to have new sand with better drainage, and to remove some of the flashing that had occurred over time.

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.....  
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.....  
 Another one bites the dust . . . Our old friend Brian Winkel has finally fallen. Brian reports that on Halloween night in Cancun, Mexico, he proposed to his longtime sweetheart Jeune, and—miracle of miracles—she

accepted! Further breaking news will be forthcoming as the groom-to-be realizes the magnitude of his impending good fortune. Congratulations to the lucky couple!

.....  
 News from the Serious North: Fred Opperman and wife Judy are doing great in their new home, where they've been since the beginning of October. Fred says he's been busy working on his kitchen as well as working for Habitat for Humanity, building two homes. All MAGCS skiers are on notice: Big Sky is in his backyard, and you need to fly into Bozeman to get there, so the first round is on him!



*The view from Fred Opperman's backyard, looking northeast towards Bozeman. They just stack the houses one on top of the other out there, don't they?*

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# The MAGCS 47th Midwest Turf Clinic and Annual Meeting

*Taking  
Turf  
into the  
Next  
Millennium*

*John Gurke, CGCS  
Aurora C.C.*

The Midwest Turf Clinic, held once again at Medinah Country Club with Dan Quast serving as our host, was a smashing success. A variety of speakers kept the program lively, and the hospitality shown us by the staff at Medinah was excellent.

Among the highlights were a fun look at golf's future by keynote speaker Pat Jones, editor of *Golfdom* magazine, and the presentation of the Ray Gerber Editorial Award to Dan Dinelli for his article titled "Using Composts to Improve Turfgrass Ecology." Dan was unable to attend, but the Gerber is old hat for the two-time winner. After the scheduled speakers, the Annual Meeting took place, during which time elections were held for the vacant positions on the Board. Your new MAGCS officers are Tom Fahey, Mike Mumper, Fred Behnke and John Gurke. Outgoing President Bob Maibusch then passed the gavel to our new president, Don Ferreri.



*Outgoing President Bob Maibusch passes the gavel to our new president, Don Ferreri.*



*Gerould S. Wilhelm, PhD, gave a thought-provoking talk on "Preservation, Restoration, and Protection of Natural Communities With Golf."*

*Dr. Wilhelm (left) is shown here with morning moderator Tony Kalina.*