

## Letter to the Editor:

(Editor's Note: This letter was received last November and was lost in the shuffle of changing editors. My apologies to Steve Shumansky for this. My feeling is that what you wrote is still very important and timely for our members. Thanks for writing.)

\* \* \* \*

Dear MGCSA members,

This is "One Guy's Opinion." We as turf professionals are under the scrutiny of our club members all the time. We have chosen to do this; no one is forcing us to. We deal with one problem or another day in and day out and for the most part we handle those problems in a professional manner. Wouldn't you think our employers, our clubs would handle issues the same way, in a professional manner? Well, I have something to share with you that happened to one of our peers and my good friend. I'm sure this has happened to someone you know at one time or another, He or she lost their job! It's not that he lost his job that bothers me, rather HOW he lost it.

There were three weeks left before he had to put his course to bed. Two Board members came to his shop on a Friday and told him he was terminated and to pack up and go! ON THE SPOT WITH NO WARNING! This left his assistant, who had not put this course to bed for winter before, with the task of figuring out what to do. They just

dropped it in his lap! He or none of his staff knew it was coming; it was a total shock to all.

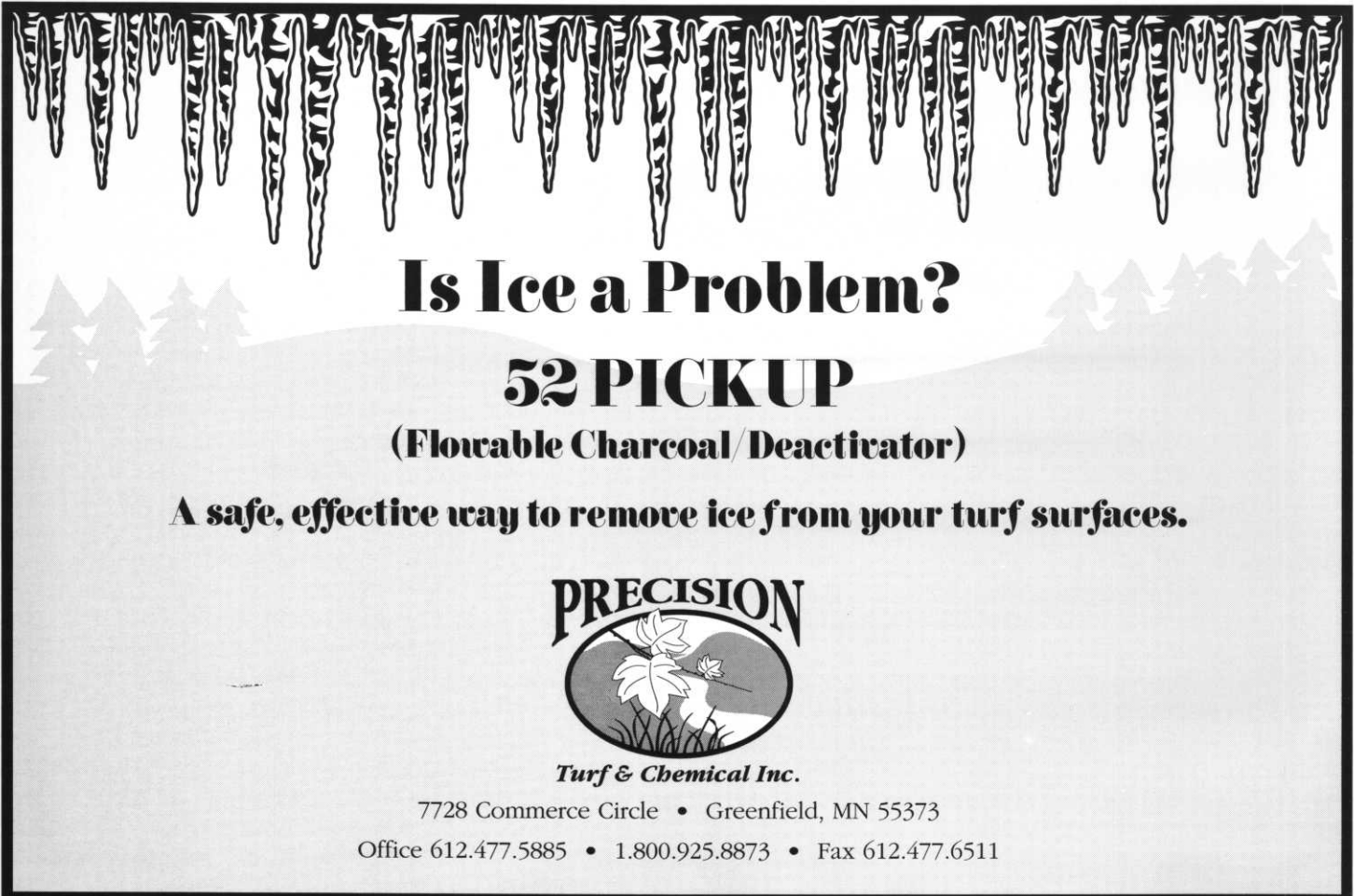
What were they thinking? I mean, if they were going to get rid of him, my question is, why didn't they at least let him finish the season, lay off his staff and then do it? Sure, he is going to be compensated for awhile, but again I say, it's the way they handled the situation! I know we are all at the mercy of our clubs, but we should also be treated like the professionals we are! We all put ourselves through a lot during a "normal" season, whatever that is. I've yet to see one. We give up a good share of our life for what we do and we get little or no respect from some. They just don't understand or want to! Maybe I don't.

There's a phrase I read last summer that I would like to share with you; it really hit home for me: **It's not what we do that's important, it's how we feel about what we do that's important.** So take heed to what I've written. We're all in this together.

— Thanks,  
Steve Shumansky

## BEWARE


It is reported that a company out of California is filing bogus orders for checkered flags and sending out false confirmations. A past employee of the company is in jail accused of fraudulent billing.



**Is Ice a Problem?**

**52 PICKUP**  
(Flowable Charcoal/Deactivator)

**A safe, effective way to remove ice from your turf surfaces.**

**PRECISION**  


**Turf & Chemical Inc.**

7728 Commerce Circle • Greenfield, MN 55373  
Office 612.477.5885 • 1.800.925.8873 • Fax 612.477.6511