

**RHYS'S PIECES**

○ **Tom Mynaugh**, former assistant at Manor Country Club, is now superintendent at the Walden Golf Course. Best wishes Tom!

○ **Bob and Donna Miller** are grandparents again. Bob's daughter Debbie presented them with a 7-lb., 10-oz. granddaughter Jessica Leona Sergi on February 24. Congratulations!

○ **Russ Bull**, formerly at G.L. Cornell is now at N. J. Richardson & Sons, Inc.

○ **Mark Merrick** has announced

that **Ladies Night** will be held this year on the Spirit of Baltimore Cruise Ship, which will depart out of Baltimore City on **Sat., Oct. 10, 7:00 - 10:00**. Look for more information on Ladies Night in future *Turfgrass Matters*.

○ Last month's issue of this newsletter incorrectly reported that nonresident member **Joel Ratcliff** won low net in his flight at the National Championship. Actually, Joel won low gross, and is not the sandbagger most of you think he is.



The Western Section of the MAAGCS played at Cochise Golf Course in Scottsdale, Ariz. in February. Present were (l-r) Virgil Robinson, host, Desert Mountain Courses; Bill Black, Congressional CC; Tom Regan, Ariz. State's Karstan GC; Bill Emerson, Paradise Valley CC

**1992 Legislative Update**

*by Mark Schlossberg, Pro-Lawn Plus, Inc.*

There are several bills in the Maryland Legislature this spring that would have an effect on the turfgrass industry in the state. The Maryland Alliance for the Responsible Regulation of Pesticides (MARRP) has been working to get our industry's viewpoints known to the legislators. We have hired Jim Doyle, who has been a lobbyist in Annapolis for over 20 years, to represent us.

Following is a list of the bills that affect us and their status as of March 6, 1992:

**HB 762/SB 549 - Pesticides - Uniform Regulation.** This bill would preempt local jurisdictions from enacting their own pesticide regulations. We are obviously for this bill. As of March 6, the bills had hearings in the House and Senate. However, the Prince George's and Montgomery County delegations are strongly against this bill. We feel we probably can get the bill passed, but we may need to compromise to accomplish that.

**HB 655 - Fertilizer and Pesticide Tax - State Water Protection.** This bill would have established an 8% tax on all non-agricultural fertilizer and pesticide sales and use to establish a state water protection program. Turf is considered non-agricultural in this bill. The hearing was on February 19 and, as of this writing, it was not voted on. However, we feel we made strong arguments on the damage this tax would do to Maryland business. Basically, we could buy our materials from out-of-state suppliers and avoid the tax because taxing the "use" would be difficult to enforce. We hope to receive an unfavor-


able report on this bill.

**SB 571 - Clean Bay and Groundwater Protection - Fertilizer and Pesticide Tax.** This bill would establish a 2% tax on all fertilizer and pesticide sales

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