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President's Message

Michael Evans

The mission statement, or purpose, of the MAAGCS as detailed in Article I, Section C of its By-laws is— to promote research, and the interchange of scientific and practical knowledge relating to the care of golf courses and turfgrass operations, including the production, maintenance and improvement of tuffgrasses. In tune with those ideals, your Association is working hard for you as evidenced by many events in recent weeks. On March 12, the MAAOCS held its second annual full day Educational Seminar at the University of Maryland's Inn and Conference Center. I would like to express a heartfelt thank you to Lynn Matson, Lance Ernst, and everyone at Turf Equipment and Supply Company for partnering with us again, as the title sponsor for our March Seminar. As you might imagine, a great deal of time and effort goes into planning this event. Many days are spent gathering topics, securing quality speakers, and coordinating travel arrangements and accommodations. Kudos to Ken Ingram, CGCS, Tom Ritter, CGCS, and Executive Secretary Charlotte Norris for orchestrating another strong educational program. For the one hundred and twenty in attendance, I trust it was worthwhile, and hope to see you again next year.

At the same time our Educational Seminar was unfolding, Government Relations Director Dean Graves was in Annapolis, attending a meeting of the Maryland Drought Emergency Task Force. As you may recall, Mr. Graves was appointed to the Governor's



Task Force after the drought restrictions debacle of 1999. Thanks to Dean's hard work and persistence, Maryland superintendents now have a reasonable set of recommendations in the event of future water restrictions. The Governor, however, does have the discretion to circumvent these recommendations.

For quite some time now, the MAAGCS has given financial and human resource support to the Maryland Alliance of Green Industries. Lobbyists for MAGI represent the interests of the green industry, including golf courses, in the state legislature in Annapolis. On March 13, many representatives comprising MAGI, and MAGI lobbyist Joe Miedusiewski testified against House Bill 809. Simply stated, HB 809 would require businesses that use restricted use pesticides to run federal criminal background checks on all employees with access to restricted use pesticides. The bill also, requires that a certified applicator be present, or in constant radio contact, during the mixing and spraying of any restricted use pesticide. The feeling here, is that HB 809 is nothing more than an anti-pesticide bill cloaked under the clever guise of homeland security in the wake of September 11. On behalf of the MAAGCS, I was pleased to testify against this bill, and proud that our Association sup-

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Student News



Since December the student chapter has been involved in several events. On January 20 and 21 a number of students participated in the 2002 Toro University, sponsored by Turf Equipment and Supply Co. (TESCO). The educational program was excellent and the chapter also conducted several fund raising events, such as a 50/50 drawing and operating 2 popcorn machines at Toro U. Students manned a booth at the Maryland Turfgrass Council Education Conference and Trade Show in Baltimore on January 29-30 in which shirts and windbreakers were sold.

Two teams competed in the 8th Annual Collegiate Turf Bowl at the national Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Conference in Orlando Florida this past February. The Collegiate Turf Bowl covered seven topics within the area of golf course management from weed and turf identification to fertilizer and pesticide calculations and calibration problems. In a field of 58 teams the University of Maryland team of Eric Long, Adam Newhart, Jed Vail, and George Waranowitz placed 5th with a team score of 234 and the best team placement to date in this competition. The team of Rob Rosier, Chris Pence, and Josh Jordan placed 32 nd with a score of 174. In addition to the Collegiate Turf Bowl competition students attended educational seminars, visited the trade show, networked with superintendents, and attended the University of Mary-



land Turfgrass Alumni and the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAAGCS) receptions. The seven students that participated would like to thank the MAAGCS, Mr. Steve Evans and Dr. Kevin Mathias for their support and efforts in preparing the teams for this competition.

Students from the chapter are looking forward to some upcoming spring events such as the 2002 MAAGCS Education Seminar to be held here on campus. Also many students are pulling out their golf clubs to prepare for the Third Annual Mid-Atlantic Challenge Cup with Virginia Tech and the University of Maryland's Ag Day on April 27. One other expectation this spring is the 2002 NCAA Basketball Championship.

GCSAA COLLEGE TURF BOWL 2002 RESULTS

	<u>Total Points</u>	<u>Institution</u>
1st	264	Iowa State A
2nd	245.5	Iowa State B
3rd	245	Mississippi State
4th	240.5	Purdue
5th	234	University of Maryland

Putting Green, *continued from page 1*

and reduced irrigation, may lead to poor turf.

When trying to develop a management strategy for putting green speed, I recommend three things:

1. Pick the speed you and your golfers want your greens to be year round.
2. Use the different management practices to maintain that speed on all greens without making them slower or faster at any time during the year.
3. Remember that most golfers prefer to putt on good turf.

Steve Langlois is a professor at Rutgers University in the two-year Golf Turf Management Program. He has a Masters Degree from Penn State University and wrote his thesis on green speed.

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ports such a professional group as MAGI.

In closing, the Board of Directors earlier this year, approved funds to support Dr. Peter Dernoeden's research on alternative methods for dollar spot control. This promises to be an interesting study, on what has become an increasingly difficult problem, and we look forward to Dr. Dernoeden's results. The MAAGCS remains committed to supporting university research and the Board has set a goal of funding another trial this year.

Best wishes for a successful 2002.