

Brad Helms -N- Palatine Hills Golf Club

Pat Norton
Nettle Creek G.C.

For Brad Helms, it was an early, an easy, and an almost classical choice. There is something about this business, this golf course management business, that really gets deeply into the blood.

For Brad, it all began sixteen years ago when his father introduced him to Frank Krueger at Palatine Hills. Krueger hired the sixteen-year-old on for summer help. Like so many of us, the hook was set very deeply into this young man. "After one summer," as Brad says, "I knew that the golf course industry was my bag."

Since those early days, the overriding constant in Brad's life has been Palatine Hills. He continued working there after high school while earning his degree at William Rainey Harper College. He continued on at Palatine Hills until Frank Krueger's retirement in 1991, when he was named to the position of golf course superintendent.

Since 1991, Brad has been a very busy man at Palatine Hills. He has been involved in numerous capital improvement projects over the years, which when viewed as a list look pretty darn impressive—and labor intensive too! Here they are:

- 1991 Rebuilt green surrounds and bunkers on five holes. Constructed a 21-stall driving range.
- 1992 Toro LTC double-row system installed. Installation



of steel piling along 16th green/17th and 18th pond.

- 1993 Parking lot paving project.
- 1994 Supervised "in house" installation of over one mile of drain tile (sounds like tons of fun, doesn't it?).
- 1997 Supervised construction of 1.5 miles of paved cart paths.
- 1998 Currently working on construction of pond on No. 7, which will be their signature hole. About 960 feet of steel piling was installed this past winter on this project. (Actually,

(continued on page 22)

**From tree pruning
to tree removal
to hazard tree evaluation...**

McGinty has been shaping up trees for beauty and health reasons for a long time.

If you are trying to decide whether your trees need work or not, let us do an evaluation for you. Your trees may just need pruning. One of them may need more extensive care such as soil aeration to allow the roots to access more oxygen, water and nutrients. Or, total tree and stump removal may be what you need. We can also provide cabling and lightning damage prevention. Whatever tree needs you have we can help.

McGinty
BROS., INC. est. 1959

847.215.2112

Brad Helms -N- Palatine Hills G.C.
(continued from page 8)

this does sound like a lot of fun!) This fall, another project involving the dredging of the pond on No.18 will commence.

This list is precisely why golf course work gets so deeply into a guy's blood! And it sounds like Brad has a very serious case of "golf course addiction syndrome"!

Palatine Hills was originally designed as a 6,800-yard championship course by Edward Lawrence Packard and built by Wadsworth Construction Company in 1966. It originally opened for play way back in 1967. Brad reports that now the popular course hosts over 50,000 rounds of golf annually. He also states that with so much golf there, it's no wonder that their new soft spike policy has made a remark-

able difference in the wear and tear of their greens!

Professionally, Brad is proud to report that he recently received his certificate for graduating from the two-year Executive Development Program from the University of Georgia. He has also started working on certification through the GCSAA.


On the personal side, Brad and his mate Jerri have been married for six years and are proud parents of their first child, Lauren Elizabeth, who just turned one-year-old on July 2. They've recently purchased a home in Palatine, but as Brad notes, "The new demands of parenthood leave little time for extra projects now that Lauren is mobile!"

Take it from us older guys, Brad. Parenthood is a lot like the Energizer Bunny: it just keeps going . . . and going . . . and

going. There is not a breather in the parenthood game.

When he has any spare time whatsoever, Brad digs into cars at car auctions and the Volo Auto Museum. He also enjoys bike riding, camping, fishing, and playing in a softball league.

Soon all of Brad's cool personal activities will be curtailed as he winds his way down the path of fatherhood, right? Soon he'll be remembering his younger days as "the king of the course." Soon he'll be showing his children pictures of himself as a young man, with lots of hair and muscle definition!

And some day, he'll look back on his years at Palatine Hills as being very fruitful and memorable and thank his father and Frank Krueger for hooking him into this golf course life that runs so deeply in the blood. 

Q. Why FLOWTRONEX PSI?

REASON #1.

SUPERIOR PRODUCTION.

The Silent Storm Variable Frequency Drive pump station combines efficiency and simplicity to save you up to 50% on your power bills and countless hours in maintenance to your pump station and entire irrigation system.

REASON #2.

INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP

FLOWTRONEX PSI is the world's largest pump station manufacturer, with more installations than all of our competitors combined.

REASON #3.

WORLDWIDE SERVICE.

Using the revolutionary FlowNet service network, FLOWTRONEX PSI is able to provide 24-hour support and fast on-site service when you need it.



- Variable Frequency Drive or Conventional
- Vertical Turbine or Horizontal Centrifugal
- Prefabricated or Retrofit

FLOWTRONEX PSI
Pumping Systems

Absolute Service

Mike Green
Ph: 414-427-1399
6979 Woodland Ct.
Muskego, WI 53150

Chris Plumb
Ph: 630-207-3850
Pager: 708-399-9210
24 hr. service
1N678 Park Blvd.
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137