



# Poa trivia



By Cubby O'Brien

## Introduction

For those who may not know me I'm Cubby O'Brien (named after the Mousketeer). I've been a sales representative for Turf Partners, formerly Cannon Turf Supply, in Wisconsin over the last five years. Over that time I have pestered superintendents by phone and mail, dragging you guys off of your course when you were too polite to say "GET LOST!" Seriously, I do feel a sense of privilege every time a superintendent gives me any part of his no day matter how brief, and I thank you.

A couple of weeks ago I made a sales call on our esteemed publisher and editor, and the only person who got sold that morning was ME. I left Monroe's office knowing that I was going to be the newest author of the back page or I'd have my tail between my legs the next time I showed up. Really, it is a great opportunity and I am looking forward to it.

I'm a 1982 graduate of the UW - Madison turf program and have worked mostly on golf courses in Wisconsin and Illinois since then. My wife Peggy and I have a one-year old son, Riley, and we hope to be moving to the Elkhorn area by fall.

I can't take credit for the title Poa trivia. That goes to one of your colleagues who shall

remain nameless. Thanks, Randy. I am not implying that the birth of a child or a new career position is a trivial matter. It's just the best title I heard.

## Career Moves

Saeed has hired a new superintendent for the Straights Course at Whistling Straits. Grant Davey has been in Virginia at Kings Mill Resort. Prior to that he worked as a second assistant on the River Course at Blackwolf Run. Grant's new assistant is David Swift.

Steve Schmidt at Butte Des Morts CC has hired Randy Swonger as his new assistant. Randy was superintendent at Blackhawk golf course in Janesville.

John Ganske has left Spooner Golf Club to take the reigns at the Ashland Elks Club where he will be growing in a new nine.

Dean Musbach and Bruce Schweiger, formerly with Scotts, have joined Turf Partners. Both will keep the same territories that they had while with Scotts.

Jim Ferry has taken the superintendent position at Bel-Mar CC in Belvidere, Illinois. Jim was the superintendent at Beloit Krueger Men's Club.

Cory Lange is the newest assistant at Merrill Hills CC, where Randy Van Fleet is the superintendent.

## News From the Stork

Jerry Panella and his wife Debbie are the proud new parents of a bouncin' baby boy. Joseph Vincent, 7 lbs. 8 oz., was born on March 17. Hey Jerry, is that Diaper Genie a great invention or what!

Mike and Nancy Lee became parents for the third and fourth time when their twin daughters, Catherine (5 lbs. 5 oz.) and Laura (5 lbs. 3 oz.) were born on March 24th. Mike and Nancy now have four girls under the age of four - WOW! Think there might be a superintendent of the female persuasion in store for Wisconsin?

Congratulations to all!

## Other News

Kudos to Wisconsin Turf for receiving Textron Turf Care & Specialty products Customer Satisfaction Award at the 1999 GCSAA show in Orlando where John Jenson also received the Pace Setter award for 1997-98 sales.

If I have left anyone out, I apologize. Please let me know your news so I can share it with other readers of The Grass Roots. You can reach me @ 1-888-815-2437 and leave a message or e-mail me at [cobrien@turfpartners.com](mailto:cobrien@turfpartners.com).