



Poa trivia



By Cubby O'Brien

Turf Talk

It's the first week of December as I'm writing this and we finally got the first dusting of snow. I'm sure most of you are hoping this won't be a repeat of December '98, unless you are a daily fee course that benefits from the additional revenues generated from 70 degree weather. It has to get a little confusing when the "January Thaw" occurs before there's anything to thaw. I'm talking mostly about snow mold control for those who treat around Thanksgiving or sooner. It must be tempting to want to reapply your preventative treatments when the turf starts growing a month after you put it to bed. Oh well, here's hoping it's a "normal" winter and you guys can kick back a bit and go to the shows, enjoy the holidays, and recharge the batteries a little.

Speaking of recharge, I'd like to see a show of hands from those who blew-out your irrigation lines only to recharge them again. This had to be one of the driest transitions from fall to winter in recent memory. It certainly reduced the incidence of pink snow mold but it also had a few still fighting dollar spot well into November.

Deer Tails

It sounds like it may have been a good hunting season based on the info I've gotten thus far. Donny Ferger's group, which includes fellow super Brad Wagner, bagged a couple of 8-pointers along with a 10 early

in their annual trip north. I was also told second hand that Jeff Millies from Edgewood got a nice one bow hunting. James Krutilla got a nice 8 pointer as did his hunting partner Bruce Schweiger when they visited the Tomah area. I haven't heard whether or not Mike Handrich is munching on jerky this winter or not. He usually has a pretty impressive new picture on his desk about this time of year but I won't find out until next week. I'm not a hunter myself but I must say that I envy those of you who make it a point each year to hook up with buddies and "take off" to the great white north for some well deserved r&r.

Career Moves

Dustin Riley is the new superintendent at Oconomowoc CC. Dustin is a '94 graduate of the UW-Madison and a '97 graduate from Penn State. He was assistant superintendent to Scott Schaller of North Shore GC in Menasha for 4 years.

Mike Lees, former superintendent of Tyrana GC in Lake Mills, landed the superintendent job at Koshkonong Mounds in Fort Atkinson.

T.R., aka Tony Radzski, is the new superintendent at a course currently under construction near Lisbon called Woodside Golf Course. Tony had been working for J.W. Turf prior to taking the job at Woodside. If you don't know Tony, just look for the guy behind the wheel of the dozer with a big grin on his face!

New Arrivals

I understand that our esteemed editor is anxiously awaiting the arrival of his first grandchild. I'll keep you posted as soon as "Gramps" fills me in on the details.

Bruce Livingston and wife LuAnne are the proud parents of a 7 pound 6 ounce baby girl. Kyle Monroe was born September 28th. Hey Bruce, hope you weren't counting on catching up on sleep this winter! Congrats to both of you!

Mechanics Without Borders

Head mechanic Dan Wenzell of Merrill Hills CC in Waukesha is currently in Costa Rica at the Mellia Con Chal resort giving first hand training to their mechanics on basic golf course equipment maintenance and repair. Mellia Con Chal is one of the top golf resorts in the Dominican Republic and sports a RTJ Jr. design course. If all goes well for Dan, he will be making this an annual trip.

Trivia

The answer to last edition's trivia question is 257 (60,68,64,65) 27 under par shot by Mike Souchak in the 1955 Texas Open at San Antonio.

This issue's question: When was the first metal wood introduced and by which company?

Please contact me with information that you would like to share by calling at 1-888-815-2437 or by e-mail at cobrien@turfpartners.com. See you at the shows! 