



Poa trivia

By Cubby O'Brien



Turf Talk

This is that special time of year when turf is, for the moment, in the back of most of our minds. Let's just enjoy the holidays with our families and friends with little thought to which, at this point, we can do little to change. The snow mold materials have been down now for more than a month, the irrigation systems have been blown out, the fall projects are completed and now it's time to RELAX.

The only concerns I've heard in the field are those of some possible desiccation because of the way winter introduced itself. But you know what? There is nothing that can't be worried about until spring when the snow recedes and you hold your breath for a moment to see how the turf came through the winter.

We can learn a little something from the grass we all spend so much time pampering. It uses fall as a last chance to regain some strength it may have lost during the season and then settles in for a "long winter's nap." I'm not suggesting you go to your office, shut the door and pass out there for three months.

I am saying that you've done what years of experience teaches you to do in preparation for winter, and now just sit back and regain some of the strength that you may have lost during the season. If the strength of the bond between you and loved ones was diminished because of

time spent on the course instead of home, what better time to reinforce that bond? Maybe it is personal time you missed.

Go ice fishing, or take a week or two in Vegas or Florida or wherever. Just RELAX. You've earned it and you know what? The grass will be there when spring comes. It might be dead, but it will be there! I'm kidding; relax!

Babies!

Mark Schwarting, superintendent at The Bridges in Madison, and his wife had more presents under the Christmas tree this past month. Derek William was born October 25th at 11:30 a.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 3 oz.

Doug Laak and his wife had a baby girl November 6th. Autumn Rose weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz. at birth. Doug is superintendent at Camelot CC in Lomira. He is also helping with the grow-in at West Bend Lakes Golf Course in West Bend.

Congratulations to both Mark and Doug!

Job Changes

Jordan Sensibar, formerly with Progreen Plus, has taken a sales position with Tyler Enterprises, a supplier of fertilizers and chemicals for the golf course and landscape business.

Sore Loserman

What an election! I am sure glad it's over and that it ended the way the it did. I am reluctant to show my conservative colors, but I've got to tell you, most of

you are on the same page I am. If there are any liberals in our business, I've yet to meet them. I've got more opinions on this sham in Florida than pages in *The Grass Roots*, but I will share a few.

The way the media was falling all over themselves because of the concession speech algore made was nauseating. He dragged the country through 35 days of misery (civics lesson? Ha!) for his own personal gain (sound familiar?) and when he couldn't win after changing the rules to help his vote totals, it took the US Supreme Court to undo the mess created by the Florida Supreme Court, he conceded.

By the way, how many know that the last recount that was halted by the US Supreme court was actually favoring BUSH? And how many know that Gore called Bush a mere 10 minutes before he went on prime time to concede? You don't suppose he was waiting for a last ditch idea from his attorneys on how to get more votes than he deserved, do you? I also wonder how many know that the Supreme Court voted 7 - 2 to overturn the Florida Supreme Court decision on hand recounts as unconstitutional, not 5 - 4. It was 5 - 4 as to how to correct the problem.

I'm done. I will leave you with a quote that I believe would help a man such as Al Gore: "Character is doing the right thing when nobody is watching."

Happy New Year! 