

Badger State Turf Clippings

By Tom Wentz and the Reinders Team

The spring golf season is in full swing. As I travel around it doesn't appear to me that golfers are coming out in droves this spring as we might expect after the Masters tournament kick off. Is it the weather? With the winds that have been so strong this spring, the snowfall in April and erratic temperatures may have "cooled off" the early golf spurt that we come to expect. It seems each day in the news there are reports of the threat of global warming. We can draw our own conclusions if this is a myth or a fact. I believe if you keep continually reporting something like global warming without a backup of facts to support it, some believe it to be a fact. I certainly don't want to give any credit to the individual who won the 2007 Academy Award for producing a B grade movie about a threat that many scientists can't support with hard evidence. Of course this is the same person who claimed a few years ago to be the inventor of the internet!! OOPPS!! I better stop right here before I get too political. Back to the more important news.

Ace Challenge Finals

Congratulations to **Bill Knight**, Director of Park Operations for Ozaukee County, who has won an all expense paid trip to Greensboro, NC for him and his wife. Bill was entered in a drawing for the Ace Challenge Finals, sponsored by Syngenta, because he was closest to the pin at the local Ace Challenge event held in June 2006 during the Wisconsin GCSA outing at Mee Kwon GC in Mequon. Bill will have a chance to win \$50,000 worth of Syngenta products, \$5,000 in home entertainment equipment and \$5,000 in Dell computers if he sinks a hole in one on the Ace Challenge

hole at the Grandover Resort. Good luck Bill!!

Superintendent Moves

Damon Soderberg has become the new superintendent at Hawk's View GC, Lake Geneva in April. Damon is the son of Jack Soderberg, superintendent at Western Lakes GC in Pewaukee. More recently Damon was the assistant superintendent at Grand Geneva Resort. He had also worked as an assistant at Milwaukee CC. Congratulations!!

Kasey Vande Berg is the new superintendent as Scenic View GC in Slinger taking over on April 25th. Kasey is a 2000 graduate of UW-River Falls with a degree in soil science. Kasey interned at Cherokee CC in 2001. He then served as an assistant at Prairie Landing GC in Illinois in 2002-2003. More recently he was the assistant at Mequon CC from 2004-06. Congratulations!!

Seth Brogren as taken over as superintendent at Saddle Ridge GC in Portage. Seth is a graduate of the two year turf program at Michigan State. Seth served his internship at Grand Geneva Resort during college. He was an assistant at Wisconsin River GC and more recently was the superintendent at Irish Waters GC in Kaukauna. Congratulations!!

Assistant Superintendents

Phil Davidson is the new second assistant at University Ridge GC in Verona. Phil received his biology degree from Lawrence University. He had worked for two years as an assistant at Foxboro GC in Oregon and three years at Hawks Landing GC in Verona.

James Van Sickle is the new assistant superintendent at

Oconomowoc CC. James is originally from Rockford and holds a horticulture degree from Kishwaukee College in Illinois. James had served as an assistant superintendent at Riverside GC and Blackhawk GC in Janesville.

New Parents

Dan Dommer and his wife Jacki welcomed a second son on October 25, 2006. Owen Daniel weighed 7lbs, 4 oz and was 20 1/2 inches long. Owen joins his three year old brother, Isaac, at home. Dan is the assistant superintendent at Hidden Glen at Bentsdale Farms in Cedarburg.

Seth Brogren and his wife Nicole had a second son on January 24th. Travis Neil weighed in at 10 lbs, 3 oz and was 22" long. Travis will catch up to his big brother, Joshua in no time. Seth is the new superintendent at Saddle Ridge. Wow!! new job, new son, new move!!

Steve Spears and his wife Marcia welcomed into the world a new baby girl, Ella Rae on April 16th. She weighed 7 lbs, 12 oz and was 19 3/4 inches long. Steve is the superintendent at St. Germain GC.

Congratulations to all the new parents!!

Just Married!!

Joel Peterson, superintendent at New Berlin Hills GC, was married to Kari on May 12th, 2007. They will be delaying their honeymoon once the golf season winds down. Congratulations to the newlyweds!!

I'm sure we missed other important news from around the Wisconsin. If so, please pass along to your local Reinders rep. We don't want to leave anyone out. You can also email me at twentz@reinders.com or call me at 608-220-6592. 🌿