

Badger State Turf Clippings

By Tom Wentz and the Reinders Team

Happy New Year 2008!! Time is flying by, and it goes faster the older you get! I hope all of you are still keeping your New Years resolutions and are planning for an even better year ahead. Turning the calendar to a new year offers a fresh start and a motivator to try to improve yourself, your business, your golf course, your family life. My wish to you is that you all achieve your goals for 2008!

Retirement

December 1, 2007, **John Krutilla** became a retired Turf Head!. John started his turf career in 1968 in Illinois at The Elks GC in Kankakee, IL. In 1972 he moved his family to Stevens Point where he was Superintendent at Stevens Point CC until 1976. John then moved to Lake Lodge GC in Delevan. He remodeled the golf course in 1989. From 1990-1993 John grew in the new Palmer and Player golf courses at Geneva National. From 1994 until his retirement, John had been serving as assistant superintendent at Janesville CC. John was active in the GCSAA, serving on the Conference and Show committee, along with his involvement in the WGCSA. John and his wife Joyce will now have more time to spend together enjoying their five grandchildren. Congratulations John!!

New Jobs

Jonathan Baus is the new superintendent at Irish Waters GC in Freedom, WI. Jon previously worked at Eagle Creek GC; North Shore GC and Reid Municipal GC.

Andy Brownlow is the new assistant at Minoqua CC as of Jan. 2, 2008. Andy is a graduate of Michigan State and comes back to Wisconsin after serving as an assistant at The River Course at Keystone, Colorado for 2 years. He also spent 2 years as assistant at the Yellow Stone GC. Andy is now back home closer to where he grew up in Weyauwega.

Congratulations

Tim Schmidt was married in the Bahamas in early January 2008. Tim is the son of Steve Schmidt at Butte Des Morts CC in Appleton where he serves as the assistant superintendent.

David Herr and his wife **Cathy** are proud parents of a baby girl, Ellie Ann Kathleen born on November 19, 2007. Ellie weighed in at 7 lbs. 2 oz. She joins her two older brothers, Isaac and Alex. David is superintendent at Deer Run GC in Brillion, WI

Did you Know

Rick Weiterman, assistant superintendent at West Bend CC will be inducted into the USSSA (United Sports Specialties Softball Association) Hall of Fame in November 2008. The induction ceremonies will be held in Orlando, Florida.

Rick played professional softball for 20 years from 1979 - 1998. He played as a pitcher turning pro after playing his college baseball at UW- Oshkosh. His professional softball experience led him all across the United States playing for various teams. His softball resume is as follows:

- 1979- 1982: Rick played with the professional team in Milwaukee-The Milwaukee Schlitz. The team played in the World Series of Softball in 1979. ESPN's very first broadcast began in 1979 by televising this World Series game. That year Rick was the MVP of the World Series and league MVP along with batting champion.
- 1983- 1990: Rick played for the Steel Sports Company based in Cleveland, Ohio. He also represented the company with his own insignia bats along with balls and gloves. Rick traveled the country playing and promoting the products.
- 1991-1998: Rick played for Riche's Superior based out of Windsor Locks, Ct. The team was sponsored by Louisville Sluggers. During this time Rick played in 49 out of 50 states in the United States. He also promoted his own line of bats.

During his career, Rick pitched on teams that won 35 National Championships and 12 World Series titles. In 1998, Rick was inducted into the National Softball Association Hall of Fame. In 2003, he was inducted into the USSSA State Hall of Fame. In 2005 Rick was inducted into the Wisconsin Amateur Softball Association Hall of Fame.

Rick, congratulations on a magnificent softball career and accomplishments!! We'll have to call you the "Tiger Woods of Softball!!"

Finally

Congratulations to **David Brandenburg** on taking over the role as editor of The Grass Roots. This association looks to volunteers to carry on important tasks to keep the sound traditions of the WGCSA. Dave will do a great job carrying on the high standards that **Monroe Miller** had magnificently set for over 24 years. 🌿