

# Badger State Turf Clippings

By John Jensen and the Reinders Team

If you have ever seen the beginning of the 1987 movie "Throw Momma from the Train", Larry Donner a novel writer is stuck on the beginning lines to his new book. Although he is trying to describe a hot humid night it could almost be fitting to plug in the word cold in its place and it would begin the possible novel to our Wisconsin weather through this past October and November. It would go something like this in the movie.

"The night was cold, wait no, the night, the night was blistery. The night was blistery, no wait, cold, cold. The night was cold. The night was cold and wet, wet and cold. The night was wet and cold, cold and wet, wet and cold; that's blistery. The night was cold. The night was damp, yet it was raining."

Now that we have 2009 almost behind us, I am looking forward to 2010 even if the economy doesn't rebound entirely. I am sure; each and every one of us was looking at great things ahead back in the fall of 2008 although we had little idea on what would be asked of us as we forged through 2009. Many of you were asked to cut back on labor, budget, wages, do more with less and then cut some more from that point. So you may ask, "why would I be looking forward to the New Year?" Easy, we now have a road map as to what to do if it continues at this pace. Scale back when it's possible, but remember to keep investing in the right people, buy quality products to get the job done right the first time and keep a positive attitude.

**Births:** Scott Anthes, Superintendent at Brown County Golf Club and his wife Jessica welcomed a new addition to their family, a baby girl, Olivia on October 1, 2009. She is 7 lbs and 19 In. long. Mom and Dad are doubly blessed because they sold their house near Portage Wisconsin after two years on the market.

Chris Jens of Blackstone Creek Golf Course and his wife Lori gave birth to their first child, a baby girl on August 25th. Audrey Leeann Jens. She weighed 8 1/2 lbs and was 20" long.

Todd and Lisa Clendenning also wel-

comed to the world their first child on October 16th. Ava Marie weighed 7lbs, 20 inches long. Todd is the Superintendent of the American Legion Golf Course in Wausau, Wisconsin.

Derek and Shelly Kastenschmidt added a third child to their already growing family, a baby boy named Brett Andrew. Brett was born September 25th and weighed 8lbs, 13 ounces and measured 21" long. Derek is a Sales Representative for Reinders Commercial Equipment Group

Jon Canavan and his wife are enjoying their new addition to the family, Evelyn Marie Canavan born July 21st and weighing in at 8.8lbs. Jon is the Golf and Recreational Turf Manager for the Milwaukee County Park System.

Mike Handrich who is the Superintendent of Racine Country Club became a Grandpa back in September when his oldest daughter Holly and her husband gave birth to a beautiful baby girl named Leila Lyn. He is certainly a proud Grandpa for sure.

Jon Dippel and his wife Brittany had their first child, a boy named Logan, on August 17th. Jon is the new Assistant Superintendent at New Berlin Hills Golf Course.

Zach and Missi Todd had a baby girl, Charlotte Ann born October 29th, weighed 7 lbs, 2 ounces and is 18" long. Zach is the Superintendent of Timberstone Golf Course located just over the Wisconsin border in Iron Mountain, Michigan.

Congratulations to all the new Mom's, Dad's and Grandparents listed above and if we missed anyone, please email me with the information and we will be sure to include you in the next article.

**Retirement:** Keith Nienow Golf Course Superintendent of Peninsula Park Golf Course is retiring after many years with both Peninsula Golf Course and previously with the Milwaukee County Park System. My sources' tell me that Keith plans on moving closer to family down in the Milwaukee area where he will enjoy a well deserved retirement. Congratulations Keith!



Dave Berg, ready to ride



Helmets Save Lives

**No Evil Knieval but similar results:** Dave Berg, Reinders Turf Divisions Business Manager, decided to take an extended weekend get away with family in Texas this past October. His brother-in-law and him decided to rent Harley's and ride the open road just as Dennis Hopper and Peter Fonda did in the movie "Easy Rider". Unfortunately, when your brother-in-law decides to cut you off at a corner the end results looks similar to an Evil Knieval jump that has gone bad. Now, although Dave thinks the story is much better told with him diving through a window of a burning building to rescue a little girl and her cute kitten and then unselfishly jumping with them from a 2 story building to take the blunt of the fall with his own body. It just wouldn't explain why his motorcycle helmet has such a big scratch in the side along with the condition of the bike.

After four broken ribs and a broken shoulder blade, Dave is doing well and has his helmet to thank. Glad to see he is ok and was smart in wearing a helmet. This is something all riders on the open road should do including yours truly.

Keep those updates coming. Have a good winter! 🌿