

# NOER Facility Dedication Held During Field Day

By Monroe S. Miller

It seemed too good to be true, maybe because it's taken so long. But the dream of many Wisconsin golf turf people did come true on August 18th when the O.J. NOER TURFGRASS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FACILITY was officially dedicated.

It was a perfect day for a ribbon cutting ceremony. The sun was shining, the temperature at the noon-time dedication was 75° and the breezes were light.

It seemed somehow appropriate that the research center was dedicated on the tenth anniversary of our field day—we celebrate a birthday and a birth at the same time.

And who could have lost sight of the significance of the presence of the new dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the newest addition to the CALS Ag Re-

search Station system for such a ceremony.

Isn't it somehow appropriate that Dean Roger Wyse comes from a state (Rutgers University in New Jersey) where the largest agricultural crop is turfgrass?

The dream script was complete when Dr. Frank Rossi stepped in place with the other dignitaries. The NOER facility was important in keeping that position and in attracting Rossi to Wisconsin.

The official opening was also an appropriate time to honor Dr. Leo M. Walsh, who played a key role in bringing the NOER research facility into reality. Without some key decisions on his part, the project wouldn't have happened.

It was a great day to say thanks to Profs. Kussow, Koval and Newman. All were there and Wisconsin Turf-

grass Association president Gary Zwirlein emphasized their collective contributions in planning and building the new turfgrass research station.

Marcy Schultz Heim, CALS fundraiser in the UW Foundation, received praise for her role. Marsh Finner's tremendous leadership was key in finishing off final details of the NOER facility. We can take great comfort knowing that it will remain under his control, now that our work is done.

Finally, the dedication ceremony offered a time for all those in the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association to reflect back on and enjoy the fruits of several years of hard work and commitment to the NOER project. It was, really, a good old-fashioned grass roots effort.

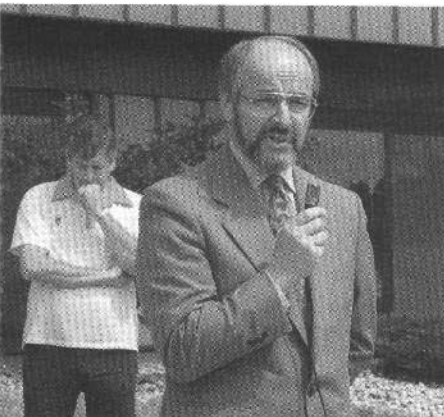
What a grand day it was!



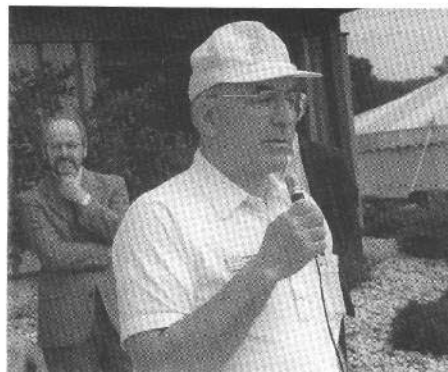
WTA president Gary Zwirlein made introductions and offered his thoughts at the official opening of the NOER facility. L to R are Wayne Kussow, Marcy Heim, Leo Walsh, Marsh Finner, Chuck Koval, Roger Wyse, Frank Rossi and Gary Zwirlein.



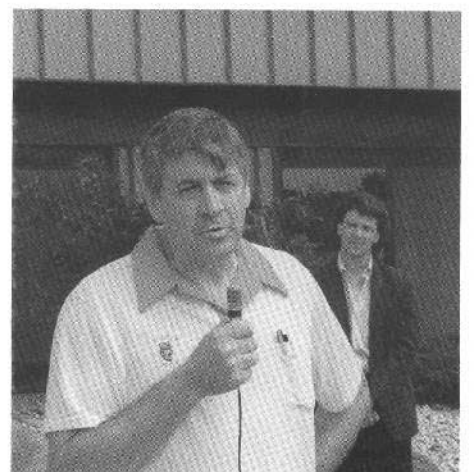
Marsh Finner and Gary Zwirlein handled official ribbon cutting duties!



Dr. Roger Wyse, new CALS dean, is keenly aware of the value of the turfgrass industry. He offered his support during his tenure as dean.



Professor Marsh Finner has the important job of overseeing the operation of the NOER facility. He is director of the UW-Madison's system of Agricultural Experiment Stations; the NOER facility is the newest addition to the system.



Professor Chuck Koval spoke on behalf of the faculty at the UW-Madison.