



## “You’re Gonna Like This Guy”

### *UW-Madison Hires Scott Mackintosh to Manage the Noer Facility*

By Dr. Frank S. Rossi

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I introduce to you the new Station Manager of the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility, Scott Mackintosh. Scott received the offer as a result of a rigorous national search and interview process conducted by the UW-Turfgrass Group (Dr.’s Meyer, Koval, Kussow, & Rossi) with Dr. Marsh Finner and Tom Harrison presiding. As I write, Scott is completing his M.S. in Turfgrass Science at the University of Massachusetts under the guidance of Dr. Richard Cooper (himself the former Research Station Manager at Ohio State). We expect Scott to officially join us by June 15th.

Scott Allen Mackintosh was literally born on a golf course in the Berkshire Mountains of Western Massachusetts in October of 1966. Scott’s father, A. Roy Mackintosh, is a golf course superintendent and has clearly had a significant impact on Scott’s professional as well as personal life. Scott’s interview was filled with references to learning experiences from his years with his Dad, who Scott describes as a “working superintendent, hardworking and dedicated, committed to enhancing the professionalism of the industry.” Additionally, as a result of Scott’s enormous exposure to the golf course, he enjoys both recreational and competitive golf—hey, Rod, you got your wallet handy!!

Scott is happily married and his spouse, Diane, is excited and supportive about the move to Madison. They are expecting twins this July!! So, Scott will make the trip to Madison on his own at first, return to Massachusetts for the birth of the children and rejoin us in time to aid with Field Day activities. Diane will venture out sometime after she and the twins recover and the Grandparents give them a few months of lovin’. With the twins in July and Julie Meyer and her husband Wayne expecting their child in August, we will be renaming the facility the



Scott and Diane Mackintosh

O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Daycare Facility!!

Scott speaks fondly of his experience with Dr. Rich Cooper, describing Rich as “easy going, with an open-door policy that made for an excellent learning experience.” Scott’s M.S. research investigates the fertilizer potential and environmental impact of sewage sludge applied to the turfgrass system. He evaluated some experimental material and used Milorganite as the standard treatment by which to compare performance. I had the opportunity to attend Scott’s presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Agronomy last November in Minneapolis, Minnesota. At the time I was thoroughly impressed by his command of the material, never thinking he would be joining us. Also, I remember thinking that I finally met someone

who could talk as fast as me while making a presentation!

One of the recurrent themes in my conversations with Scott has been his soft-spoken enthusiasm for the position. He indicated how impressed he was with the open and friendly, team-based relationship among members of the Turfgrass Group. Additionally, having been working out of a mobile home trailer with used equipment for the U Mass Research Facility, he stated that the O.J. Noer Facility was the best in the country—“equipment heaven”. He feels challenged by the opportunity to work with both experienced and new turfgrass researchers, as well as regular interaction with the turfgrass industry.

Help me in giving a warm Wisconsin welcome to Scott and his family, marking a new phase in the growth of the UW-Turfgrass Program! 🍷