

HE DID IT WITH STYLE

By Monroe S. Miller

No phrase is more trite than "time flies", but none could be more true. I am struck by the reality that Professor Charles Koval is retiring. It shouldn't be possible that a person so young in spirit and outlook, appearance and demeanor, and even in years is leaving the faculty at the UW-Madison. I speak for so many when I say "we're really going to miss him."

Chuck's decision has left me feeling a little lonely, a little insecure and a whole lot sad. There has always been a great sense of comfort for those in our business in knowing Dr. Koval was no farther than a phone call away when we needed advice or some help. That made him the superb extension urban entomologist that he was for so long.

Students who were in his classes loved his teaching — enthusiastic, patient and pragmatic.

And as much as anything, we have been fortunate for these three decades past to have had this wonderfully articulate, striking, personable and bright individual in our corner. He represented us with class. He has done us more good turns than we will ever know about.

Selfishly, I have dreaded this moment for years. When I was a student and for many of my years as a Wisconsin golf course superintendent, the University of Wisconsin-Madison was embodied in Love, Worf, Newman and Koval. Who wouldn't be sentimental when the last of these four areat individuals reached retirement?

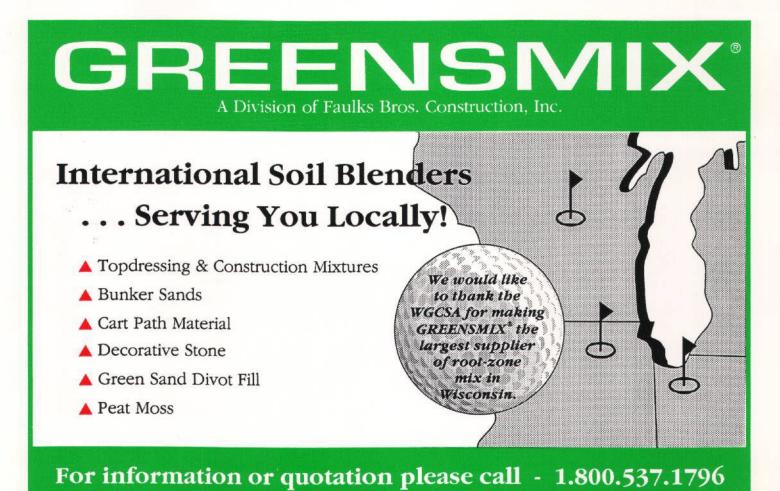
There is no question about it — he will be sorely missed. He had a style that was his and his alone. We can hope that soon his position will be filled by CALS administration. But Koval will never be replaced.

I know this, too — all of his friends in our industry wish him, in the words of James Thompson from two centuries ago,

"An elegant sufficiency, content,

Retirement, rural quiet, friendship, books."

To those things we'll add "and a desk at the Noer farm." We still want to see you at least once in awhile.



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