

Like many of you, over the years I have enjoyed the occasional visit from Stan Kinhead, president of National Mower and the grandson of the founder, R.S. Kinhead. We have a number of his machines and have appreciated their durability, simplicity and reliability. National was headquartered in St. Paul, MN, but now it is a Wisconsin turf manufacturer, sort of.

Kinhead sold National Mower to the Ariens Co. of Brillion. Ariens is another family owned business going back to 1933. Dan Ariens, current president of Ariens Co., is the great grandson of founder Henry Ariens.

The purchase of the National Mower Company adds to Ariens acquisition of Locke Turf Equipment Co. earlier in 2006, and

complements their Gravelly line of commercial grass machinery.

Congratulations to Dr. Joe Vargas. He was named the 2007 USGA Green Section Award recipient, and golf course superintendents in Wisconsin have first hand knowledge that he is very deserving of the award. We study from his textbooks, and learn from his seminars and lectures. Dr. Vargas has been a speaker at our WGCSA Golf Turf Symposium, and he has spoken at every Reinders conference since its inception. Two years ago he was at the LESCO pathology conference at The Bull in Sheboygan Falls.

In fact, you will have the chance to hear him lecture in the state in

the next couple of months. He will be at the 2007 LESCO pathology meeting on January 31 in Milwaukee and again at the Reinders conference in Waukesha in mid-March.

I hope we have a chance to raise a toast to him and his career at the USGA meeting in Anaheim in February. The meeting is held in conjunction with the GCSAA conference.

If there is one organization I am familiar with that isn't afraid of change, it is the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association. If you made it to this year's EXPO, you know what I mean. The EXPO committee reworked the format extensively, reduced the exhibition hall costs

RECIPIENT

2007
USGA GREEN SECTION
AWARD

DR. JOE VARGAS, JR.



DEC. 19, 2007

Dr. Joseph Vargas
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPT. OF PLANT PATHOLOGY
181 WILSON RD.
EAST LANSING, MI 48824

As Bobby Knight says,
"If one sticks around
long enough, one can
win a few awards."

This one's deserved.
(Monroe Miller told me
to say that.)

Thanks for your longtime
contribution to the
game of golf. We're
much further ahead
because of your efforts.

Gene Haas
2025 NO. 116 ST.
Wauwatosa, WI 53226
(414) 258-3484
EHAAS4@WI. RR.COM

