

Falling Fast

By David Brandenburg, Editor, The Grass Roots

Is it possible October is here and the leaves are changing colors and falling to the ground? How does the time go by so fast. We can only hope for a nice fall with an extended growing season for turf to recover from summer stress and golfers to enjoy our product many more times.

Football season is well underway with the thrill of Friday night high school games, the Badgers on Saturday and the World Champion Packers on Sundays. Luckily the Packers success leads to late Sunday and Monday Night games to allow golfers to play before the game. Wisconsin sure does shut down to watch the Green and Gold play on the gridiron each Sunday.

At the same time the Brewers have won their division for the first time since 1982 and are headed to the playoffs against the Arizona Diamondbacks. I might be in the minority for preferring baseball over football but I really don't follow the NFL until after the World Series. I hope in my lifetime my team will be there once but as a fan of the Chicago Cubs I realize many fans have been born, raised and died without seeing the pennant raised at Wriggley Field.

Recently ESPN has been playing the documentary "Catching Hell" by Ales Gibney. The central theme is the 2003 collapse of the Chicago Cubs in the League Championship against the Florida Marlins after Steve Bartman interfered with a foul ball that may have been caught by outfielder Moises Alou. It covers some great history of both the Cubs and Red Sox who also struggled to win the World Series for a long time.

It shows how quickly we can turn an innocent act of reaching for a high flying foul ball into a demonic act. Bartman only did what so many fans around him did and do

every game. His deflection of that foul ball turned him into a scapegoat for the entire stadium and changed his life forever.

It is a reminder on how quickly we judge others without looking at ourselves.

The turf industry lost another past industry leader and WGCSA Past President when Elwood "Woody" Voight passed away on September 9th at the age of 83. Woody retired in 1991 as the Parks Commissioner of Ozaukee County Parks and their two golf courses Hawthorn Hills and Mee-Kwon.

Woody got his start in the golf industry as a high school student working at a 9 hole course during World War II. After military service Voight worked a few jobs and re-entered the golf business in 1955 at a course his cousin owned in 1955. He made the move to Ozaukee County in 1969 and stayed for 23 years.

Elwood was a regular at monthly meetings until he moved to Arkansas in 1991 to enjoy his retirement. Rod Johnson discusses how he was influenced by Woody. *"Woody was a friendly face to WGCSA members never missing a monthly meeting or educational opportunity. He was WGCSA President when I joined the group and certainly made me feel comfortable and encouraged me to get involved."*



Woody Voight carefully chooses a prize at a meeting. (Photo from *The Grass Roots Files*)

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



If you have any trees that look like this 15' Norway Spruce the damage is likely from Imprellis herbicide. The new product from DuPont worked great on weeds but has caused significant damage to White Pine and Norway Spruce but also many other evergreen trees.

Damage has also been reported on some deciduous trees. Your first step is to call DuPont at 866-796-4783 to start the claims resolution process. Shortly after that a team will visit your golf course to evaluate and document your damage. It is important to start the process soon and be sure you do not sign any settlements with DuPont or a third party.

There are a number of law firms trying to latch onto the Imprellis refund process so proceed cautiously.

Our site visit was last week with 17 trees documented. They were

Gene Haas provided this drawing to say goodbye to Dr. John Stier as he starts his new position at the University of Tennessee.

mainly Norway Spruce but one Blue Spruce and three Honey Locusts that turned color and lost it's leaves on half the branches in late July. DuPont has stopped selling the product and will begin a return and refund process soon. The official Imprellis website is <http://www.imprel-is-facts.com/>.

Enjoy the shorter days of fall and remember to appreciate the numerous sunrises we are privileged to see in this business.

PENDELTON TURF SUPPLY

Ed Witkowski
414-640-6447
pendeltonturf@tds.net

805 Ela Avenue
Waterford, WI 53185
Phone: 262-534-3334
Fax: 262-534-2990



Todd Fregien
414-640-2265
pendeltonturf@tds.net

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