


A Thousand Words

By **Tom Schwab**, Manager, O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility, University of Wisconsin-Madison

You've all heard the saying, "A picture tells a thousand words". Those pictures are how I'm going to describe this year's Wisconsin Turfgrass Association Summer Field Day. The event was so educational and fun with great camaraderie and perfect weather that I wish you all could have been there to experience it. The crowds were down with only 186 attendees, but the trade show was well staffed with 27 companies and an additional 65 knowledgeable sales staff there

to answer all your commercial questions.

Many highlights took place during the day. One was the presentation by the Wisconsin Green Industry Federation (WGIF) of their 2013 Hall of Fame Award to the late Dr. Charles Koval. Dr. Koval's wife Patricia and son Mike were present to accept the award. Then there was a surprise visit by Dr. Jim Love, who started the Turf and Grounds Management Program at the UW-Madison in 1961 at the suggestion of world renowned golf turf agronomist and UW-Madison alumni O.J. Noer.

His many former students were so happy to visit with him. Another highlight was to witness a grass court tennis demonstration by U.S. Tennis Hall of Famer, and U.S. senior Player of the Millennium John Powless. A number of attendees took the opportunity to hit some balls with John on the grass. The whole day could not have been any more perfect with temperatures in the low 70s, slight breeze and overcast skies. 

Summer Field Day Exhibitors

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Three generations of advising Turf and Grounds Management students in the Department of Soil Science were all present including Drs. Doug Soldat, Wayne Kussow, and Jim Love.

NOTES FROM THE NOER

Top Left: Dr. Paul Koch talks about the UW's latest initiatives in turfgrass rust research.

Top Right: Dr. Chris Williamson talks about management of mound building ants in turf.

Bottom Left: UW-Madison Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab manager Bruce Schweiger talks about managing fine fescues in various landscapes.

Bottom Right: Former UW-Madison graduate student and soon-to-be assistant professor at the University of Nebraska Bill Kreuser talks about his latest research findings on applying colorants for turf management.



NOTES FROM THE NOER



Six past or present WTA presidents visited Field Day including Wayne Horman, Dan Biddick, Paul Huggett, Dan Barrett, Chris Wendorf, and Curt Larson.

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NOTES FROM THE NOER



Top Left: 1951 Toro tractor being driven by O.J. Noer staff members Nate and Ryan Kruser.

Top Right: PhD student Brad DeBels talks about drought tolerance and management of different turf species and cultivars.

Middle Left: Master artist Paul Zwaska from Beacon Ballfields helping beautify the grounds for Field Day by painting Bucky Badger.

Middle Right: WTA ambassador Monroe Miller, WTA president Paul Huggett, and WGIF past president Tom Halter.

Bottom Left: Patricia Koval and son Mike accepting the WGIF Hall of Fame Award for her late husband Dr. Charles Koval from past president Tom Halter.

Bottom Right: U.S. Senior Tennis Player of the Millenium John Powless posing with Spencer Grams.