



The Surrounds

By Wayne G. Horman



What a great fall! After such a horrible, late arriving spring, we average out the length of our growing season once again. It always seems to average out, a wet spring or summer leads to a dry fall or winter. A hot summer like summer of 1995 led to a very cool fall that year.

The big news out of the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility is that Jeff Gregos has been hired to help manage the Turf Disease Diagnostic Lab. Gregos is a four year graduate of Pennsylvania State University's turfgrass program. Since his graduation a year ago, Gregos has been working at the research center at Penn State. He will be responsible for turfgrass samples from the commercial side of the industry and will help deal with snowmold trials.

In other news from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Department of Horticulture will soon be filling the Rossi position. The interviewing process could be completed as early as the WTA Winter Conference in January.

The Wisconsin Turfgrass Association held its annual fall golf outing at Wausau Country Club on September 30th. The golf outing raised over \$7,000 for turf research. Once again, a big thank you goes to Jeff Bottensek, golf course superintendent at Stevens Point Country Club, who organized the event. Ed Devinger did a great job in collecting prizes for the event, and Randy Slavik, who hosted this year's event, deserves a round of applause.

The month of October saw a few of our superintendents out

traveling. Monroe Miller made his annual trip to the east coast in early October. Miller even had a chance to visit with former UW-Madison professor Frank Rossi who is now at Cornell University.

Rod Johnson, golf course superintendent at Pine Hills in Sheboygan, went with a group of members to play golf in Scotland. I sure hope he took pictures, since the editor of *THE GRASS ROOTS* would surely expect an article from such a great trip.

Jim Van Herwynen also went to Europe in October. Jim, who is the golf course superintendent at South Hills Golf and CC in Fond du Lac, traveled to the Netherlands for two weeks to visit relatives.

Mike Semler, who is the superintendent for the golf courses that The Bruce Company manages, has another addition to keep him busy. Danielle Marie was born in September to Kris Semler. This is their second child.

Chad Johnson is a very proud first time father. Calib Alexander was born on September 28th. Johnson is the golf course superintendent at the Coachman's Inn and Golf Resort in Edgerton.

I hope you all enjoyed the Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium in Brookfield. Once again, Milorganite put on a great program for golf turf managers. Enjoy the rest of the fall season and call when you have information. 🌱



Al Fude, Kris Pinkerton, Scott Schaller and Steve Schmidt at the WTA Golf Outing at Wausau Country Club.