

Doc's Dugout

It has recently come to my attention that numerous people think and feel that STMA puts too much emphasis on the professional and stadium turf manager. Even though several professionals like Harry Gill (Milwaukee County Stadium), George Toma (Kansas City-Arrowhead and Royals Stadium), Dick Ericson (Metrodome), and others founded STMA these gentlemen would be the first to admit that the organization is for everyone and that the people who need the most help and assistance are the schools and municipalities. I personally know that many of our professional members have given freely of their time and energies to assist athletic facilities in their neighboring areas.

As an organization STMA has established regional seminars, one in California at Cal Poly University in Pomona, and the second in Illinois at the College of Du Page in Glen Ellyn. These seminars are intended to assist both members and non-members at schools, parks and athletic facilities with their maintenance programs, in making the most of their budgets, in learning new techniques and in sharing ideas.

STMA is unique in that all members can vote and have representation on the board. Even our commercial affiliates have Board representation.

One of the main focuses of STMA is to provide safe sports turf for all participants. All members are encouraged to be involved in learning about and establishing safe



Dr. Kent W. Kurtz, Executive Secretary, STMA

playing surfaces on all levels of sports. United we are strong and can accomplish our goals, singly we are weak, disorganized and open for participant injury. If you need help, assistance or just want to talk with someone about your sports turf give us a call. **Note: The summer phone number for STMA is (815) 865-5691, and the summer address is:**

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Post Office Box 101
Davis, Illinois 61019-0101**

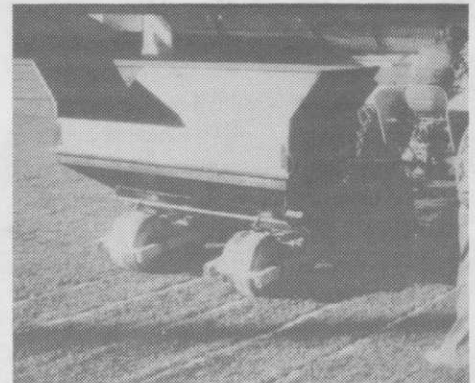
Dr. Bill Daniel and I plan to spend this summer writing our Sports Turf book. If any of you have pictures, stories or material you feel would be useful please send it to me. We need some case histories outlining successful sports turf maintenance and construction.

Sand Splitting Vertical Sand Injection

An Old Idea, A New Technique

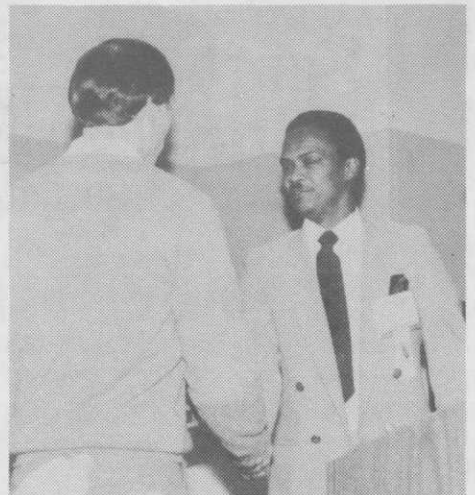
Although this method of improving drainage on sports turf is relatively new in the United States it has been quite popular in Europe and The United Kingdom for some time. In fact, STMA honorary member John Souter, from Stirling Scotland, has done numerous sports fields using sand slitting.

In the United States, STMA members David Heiss, Jerome Hutchison and John Moreland currently are using this technique to alleviate drainage problems on sports fields. Last fall David Heiss used his machine to install a slit trench system at Comiskey Park in Chicago and Milwaukee County Stadium. The photo shows Heiss' machine operating under the watchful eye of Harry Gill, STMA Director at Milwaukee County Stadium.



Lawn Ranger Award

Tony Burnett, Chief Groundskeeper at the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium in Washington, D.C. was selected by his peers to receive the Lawn Ranger Award for 1984-1985. The award is presented each year at the STMA annual meeting to the Sports Turf manager who best exemplifies what the Association stands for — Hard work, dedication, adherence to the principles of quality turfgrass management, assistance to other sports turf managers who need guidance and help, and above all integrity, honesty and the ability to provide the very best sports turf which is safe, aesthetically pleasing and functional for the athletic participants. STMA salutes Tony Burnett.



Tony Burnett (r), Chief Groundskeeper, Robert F. Kennedy Stadium, Washington, D.C. receives Lawn Ranger Award from Steve Wightman, President, STMA

