STMA Conference Focuses on Leadership

More Than 150 Converge on Indy!

Leadership and challenge were the focus at the 4th Annual Sports Turf Manager’s Association (STMA) Conference and Exhibition, December 13-15, Indianapolis Convention Center and Hoosier Dome, Indianapolis. More than 150 STMA members, speakers and exhibitors attended this year’s event.

Key Industry Concerns Addressed

Concerns about the state of athletic fields has risen due to the constant schedule sports turf facilities must endure, which includes everything from rock concerts to tractor pulls.

“STMA members and others engaged in sports turf activity will be severely challenged during the remainder of this century and beyond,” said featured speaker Dr. Jim Watson, vice president and agronomist, The Toro Company. “We must all work together to assure the growth of uniform, dense, weed-free playing fields that tolerate the prevailing conditions and will provide an environmentally- and player-safe field.”

The 1994 World Cup soccer tournament, which will be played in the United States on nine fields was also a major topic of discussion.

“The World Cup is the world’s premier sporting event,” says Dr. Gil Landry Jr., STMA president. “It represents an opportunity for sport turf managers to display there skills to the world.”

STMA’s 4th Annual Conference attracted more than 150 sport turf professionals to the Indianapolis Convention Center and Hoosier Dome this past December. At right, STMA Co-founder George Toma (l) congratulates Chuck Raetzman, assistant director of operations, Arizona Stadium, Tucson, Ariz. Toma won the STMA’s Groundskeeper of the Year Award. Arizona Stadium was named the 1992 Football Field of the Year. Pictured above is the Hoosier Dome, home of the NFL’s Indianapolis Colts.

Conference and Exhibit Satisfy All Levels of Management

The conference offered five concurrent workshops, dealing with both education and administrative issues. Panel discussions and sports turf managers from across the country offered hints on how to best handle sport turf demands. Educational sessions covered everything from basic turf grass management to athletic field reconstruction, innovations in the industry to seed priming and pre-germination.

Join STMA in early November for the 5th Annual Conference at Baltimore’s Camden Yards!

Inside This Issue

President’s Message ..........2
Paul Zwaska .................4
Field Marking ..............5
News From STMA
Headquarters ..............6
New Members ..............7
The exhibit hall highlighted vendors from throughout the sports turf industry, featuring new and improved grasses, procedures for specifying soil texture and techniques for construction and establishment of athletic fields. More than 38 vendors were represented.

At the STMA awards banquet, the Groundskeeper of the Year: Harry C. Gill Memorial Award was presented to George Toma, NFL consultant and STMA co-founder. Other awards included:

- **Football Field of the Year**
  Arizona Stadium, University of Arizona
  Tucson, Ariz.

- **Soccer Field of the Year**
  Northwest Park
  City of LaPorte, Texas

- **Excellence in Research Award**
  Dr. Henry T. Wilkinson
  University of Illinois
  Champaign, Ill.

- **Outstanding Commercial Affiliate Award**
  John Deere & Company
  Raleigh, N.C.

- **President’s Award**
  Adams Publishing Company
  Van Nuys, Calif.

- **Scholarship Award**
  John Pridgen
  Lake Community College
  Lake City, Fla.

- **Scholarship Award**
  Patrick A. Sherer
  California State Polytechnic University
  Pomona, Calif.

“STMA is poised to gain more recognition for its efforts in the turf grass management industry,” said Landry. “This year’s conference – and the information the attendees received there – was definitely an investment in the future of our industry.”

**STMA 1993 Committees**

**Membership Recruitment & Services**
Chair: Rick Johnson, IL Lawn
Vice Chair: TBD

*Mission:* To develop methods for increasing membership, membership benefits and to assess membership needs.

**Chapter Relations**
Chair: Ray Flood, University of Maryland
Vice Chair: TBD

*Mission:* To establish and evaluate chapter/national relations.

**Education**
Chair: Mike Trigg, Waukegan Park District
Vice Chair: TBD

*Mission:* To evaluate education needs, including establishment of regional institutes, dates and locations.

**Annual Conference and Exhibition**
Co-chairs: Dr. Henry Indyk, Turfcon; Greg Petry, Waukegan Park District

*Mission:* To develop the annual conference including: date, location, program and trade show.

**Awards/Scholarships**
Co-chairs: Mark Hodnick, Pasadena Parks Division; Mike Schiller, Schaumburg Park District

**STMA Thanks Conference and Exhibit Sponsors**

The following companies participated in the 1992 STMA Conference and Exhibition. STMA thanks all participating sponsors for their role in making the conference a success.

**Conference Function Sponsors**
- AIMCOR/Turface
- Lesco, Inc.
- O.M. Scott and Sons Company
- PBI/Gordon Company
- Turfgrass Services Company (P.A.T.)

**Exhibitors**
- Barney Turf
  Belle Vernon, Penn.
- Ciba-Geigy
  Greensboro, N.C.
- Covermaster, Inc.
  Rexdale, Ontario
- Fine Lawn Research
  Lake Oswego, Ore.
- Greensmix
  Waupaca, Wis.
- Harmony Products
  Chesapeake, Va.
- Huber Ranch Sod Industries
  Schneider, Ind.
- Hunter Industries
  Naperville, Ill.
- J.S. Sports Turf Products, Inc.
  Liberty, Mo.
- Lesco, Inc.
  Rocky River, Ohio
- Lofts Seeds, Inc.
  Bound Brook, N.J.
- Pioneer Peat, Inc.
  Grand Forks, N.D.
- Smithco, Inc.
  Wayne, Pa.
- S.P.O.R.T.S.
  Mundelein, Ill.
- sportsTURF Magazine
  Van Nuys, Calif.
- Stabilizer, Inc.
  Phoenix, Ariz.
- Terra International, Inc.
  Carmel, Ind.
- Turf Products, Ltd.
  West Chicago, Ill.
- Turfco Manufacturing, Inc.
  Minneapolis, Minn.
- Turfcon
  Horsham, Pa.