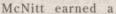


\$10,000 Musser scholarship given to Penn State graduate student

The Musser International Turfgrass Foundation has named Andrew S. McNitt as the recipient of the 1998 Award of Excellence. The award includes a scholarship of \$10,000 towards the Pennsylvania State University student's doctoral studies.

The Musser Foundation is a

non-profit organization dedicated to supporting turfgrass education and research. The Award of Excellence acknowledges outstanding scholars seeking their PhDs in turfgrass sci-





Andrew S. McNitt

bachelor of science degree in horticulture at Penn State. He also received a master of science degree in agronomy and is toward working completion of his doctorate in turfgrass soil science at Pennsylvania State University. His thesis deals with the use of inorganic inclusion elements as amendments for sand-based soils and is titled, "Evaluation of Fiber-Amended Soil as an Athletic Field Root Zone."

In high school, McNitt was a National Honor Society member, co-captain of the football team and varsity wrestler. He has also received the Watson Graduate Fellowship Award, been recognized as the Outstanding Graduate Student in Turfgrass by the Sports Turf Managers' Association, and received the Harry W. Skinner Scholarship as an undergraduate.

McNitt is a member of the American Society of Agronomy, Soil Science Society of America, honor society Phi Kappa Phi and other academic and public service organizations. He is the author of five peer-reviewed articles and numerous other articles for various research journals, extension bulletins and popular journals.

The Musser International Turfgrass Foundation is named for Professor H. Burton Musser, who was a turfgrass pioneer at Pennsylvania State University for four decades.

Over the past 10 years, the Musser Foundation has awarded \$89,000 to graduate students.

Finlen presented Mendenhall Award

The Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association (HAGCSA) has presented Pat Finlen the Chester H. Mendenhall Award and Jeff Elmer the Superintendent of the Year Award.

The Mendenhall Award was established in 1983 to honor an HAGCSA member "who has devoted extensive time and effort into the promotion of golf, the art of greens keeping and other related fields.'

The superintendent at Lake Quivira Country Club, Finlen has spent a tremendous amount of time the last two years on the Heart of America Conference and Show. For the past few years he has taken the lead in organizing the HAGCSA Christmas Party. He has served on many committees throughout the years.

The Superintendent of the Year Award was established in 1970 to honor an HAGCSA member who has demonstrated dedication and outstanding service to his profession.

Elmer, from Oakwood Country Club, completed the rebuilding of five green complexes, two tee boxes and a driving range tee. He also completed several drainage projects, irrigation upgrades and installations, and numerous other course improvements.

In addition, Elmer was editor and publisher of Heartbeat, HAGCSA's official publication, for the fourth straight year. He also served on the Public Relations Committee in 1997. He has been an active member of the HAGCSA since 1988.

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