



A successful regional turf institute was held at Cal Poly University, Pomona, Calif. **Upper left**: The turnout for the institute at Cal Poly exceeded 500 participants, many directly involved in the sports turf field. **Upper Right**: Several knowledgeable speakers participated in the

one-day event including Kent Kurtz, Don Marshall, George Toma, and Mike Hodnick, all members of STMA. **Lower left**: Indoor exhibits were set up in the university gym. **Lower right**: Outdoor exhibits include a variety of products and equipment related to the sports turf industry.

ing and collecting information on sports fields and construction and management techniques in order to write a book on sports fields.

In order to guarantee peace and quiet so I can write, I am primarily staying in our family farmhouse in Northern Illinois. If any member needs to reach me between now and December you may find it quicker to contact me at the following address or phone:

Dr. Kent W. Kurtz; P.O. Box 101; Davis, Ill. 61019-0101; (815) 865-5691.

I welcome any information, pictures, slides or personal experiences you would like to submit for the sports turf book. Since this book will be written for my constituents in the field, I really need your assistance particularly on specifications, infield mixes, special techniques, unique pictures or situations, historical

facts, etc. So please write and let me know what you have or are willing to share.

Kent W. Kurtz, Ph.D.
Executive Secretary

500 Attend Regional Sports Turf Institute

The 2nd Annual Sports Turf Institute at Cal Poly University in Pomona, Calif., March 19, brought out 500 conferees and 40 commercial companies. Key note speakers at the general session were STMA Directors Don Marshall (Anaheim Stadium) and former director George Toma (Kansas City Royals & Chiefs).

The Sports Turf Institute served as a regional meeting for STMA drawing together current members and many potential members.

STMA members who either participated or attended were: David Jacobs (Rose Bowl), Mark Razum (Oakland A's), Mark Hodnick (Cal Poly Pomona), David Fleming (San Diego Stadium), Ken Irons (L.A. Raiders), Mert Johnson (Cal State Fullerton), Melissa Merritt (Penn Valley Community College), Mike Kartchner (Jurupa Unified Schools), Bruce Carleton and Paul Magiera (Cal Poly), Bruce Shank (Weeds, Trees & Turf), Emory Hunter (Warrens), Adrienne Cohen (Greenstuff), Larry Vetter (Northrup King), Ted Smith (City of Paramount), George Toma (Kansas City), Don Marshall (Anaheim) and Kent Kurtz.

Conferees came from Illinois, Ohio, New York, Nebraska, Kansas, Ohio, Arizona, Utah, Oregon, and Nevada in addition to California.

The turn out suggests there is a great need to hold regional conferences throughout the U.S. to assist members and non-members and updating their skills and knowledge.

In March of 1986 there will be a



A group of former students attend the Midwest Regional Conference to honor Dr. Bill Daniel on his retirement. Dr. Daniel (holding picture) was presented numerous awards including a Scottish caricature of himself. John Souter (man in kilt) is a sports turf consultant from Scotland.

Dr. William Daniel Honored At Midwest Turfgrass Foundation Conference

The Midwest Regional Turfgrass Foundation Conference at Purdue University was held March 4-6, 1985. The conference program was studded with former Purdue turfgrass graduates who are making outstanding contributions to the turfgrass industry throughout the United States.

The former students dinner and the banquet the following evening, paid tribute to Dr. William H. Daniel for his 35 years of service

regional meeting for STMA membership in Valley Forge, Penn. We will be joined by ALCA, PGMS, The American Sod Growers Association and others for a conference and trade show. More details will be provided in a future newsletter.

to the turfgrass industry. He retired from the University in March.

Daniel was the first president of STMA and now serves as a director of the association. He is noted for many research and applied contributions to our industry and most significant the invention and development of the PAT system.

STMA members Mike Schiller, Dr. Kent Kurtz, M. Kercher, Dan Weisenberger, and Roy Zehren attended the conference.



Gathering at the Midwest Regional Conference were Dr. John King (left), Dr. Fred Grau, Dr. Kent Kurtz, Bruce Shank, Mike Schiller, and Phil Hargarten.

Sports Field Injuries Serious Problem For Football Players

Nowhere in sports do injuries play a larger role in either the athlete's performance or the success of the game than in football. In professional football, players who are drafted are about equal in ability but an injury to a player which reduces his ability only 2 or 3 percent will probably end his career. Offensive football players sustain more injuries than defensive and special team players combined.

Knee injuries are almost three times more common than all other injuries put together. In fact knee injuries account for 69 to 86 percent of the serious injuries in the National Football League. It has been conjectured that the shoe, the playing surface and the interrelationship between the two may well play a significant role in the production—prevention of these injuries.

Injuries have been found to be 1.6 times higher on artificial surfaces compared with natural grass covers. In a survey taken among players in the NFL, 83.8 percent preferred to play on natural grass fields, 14.5 percent preferred synthetics and 1.7 percent had no preference.

Recently the progressive Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council pledged \$36,000 to Penn State University to research sports turf related injuries and their interrelationship to field surfaces and conditions.

Injuries at all levels of competition from the elementary schools to the professional stadiums need our immediate attention. STMA has pledged to get involved and recently joined with other allied organizations as an affiliate of the Musser Foundation in a cooperative war on injuries to make fields safer for our athletes, young and old.

There's a difference between good sound reasons and reasons that sound good!