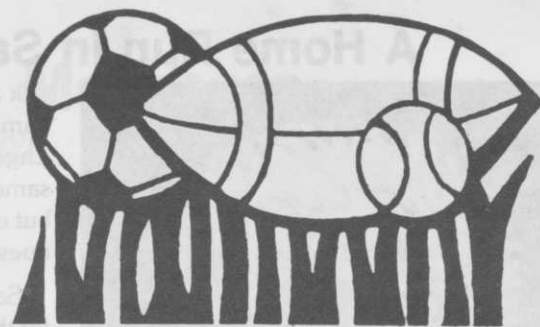


# Sports Turf Newsletter



SPRING 1986

VOLUME II NUMBER 1

## Chicago, Chicago is STMA's Kind of Town!

**Midwest Sports Turf Institute  
June 26—Glen Ellyn, Illinois**

The first Midwest Sports Turf Institute, sponsored by STMA, will be held at The College Of Du Page in Glen Ellyn, Illinois June 26 (8:30 am — 3:30 pm). An outstanding program and Trade Show is planned. The General Session will feature speakers on field safety, liability insurance and good facility planning. Four *concurrent* sessions will follow with loads of information on current and valuable topics — demonstrations on proper infield preparation and vertical sand injection for drainage, plus more, is on the agenda for the afternoon.

For information, telephone or write Suzie Bensen or Susan Glasgow — Business and Professional Institute — College of Du Page, 22nd and Lambert Road, Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137-6599. (312) 858-2800, ext. 2770.

STMA Members: \$30  
Non-Members: \$35

### Midyear Board Meeting

STMA's board and officers will meet June 24 and 25 at the Midway Motor Lodge in Elk Grove Village, Illinois to discuss membership, ways to improve member services, by-laws, and other Association business. If any member has any concerns, ideas or suggestions be sure to contact us immediately.

### DUES are DUE

Your 1986-1987 Membership Dues are now due. Dues notices have been mailed. Our fiscal year is from July 1 to June 30. Support your organization to keep our Sports Turf momentum rolling.

If your address, job title or phone numbers have changed please update and notify us so the next directory will be accurate and reflect all the changes.

### From the President...

On behalf of all the officers and board of directors of STMA for 1986, I'd like to extend a warm heartfelt hello and welcome. We all look forward to working with you this year in promoting better sports turf.

As with any young organization, identifying the membership's interests and then acting on those is the primary order of business. It was felt early on that all groups within the sports turf industry must be represented since each has much to offer in terms of knowledge, expertise, and help. With that, the four main categories of membership were established: Professional; Parks, Schools, Educators; Students; and Commercial Affiliates.

The whole purpose of STMA, since its inception, has been and always will be to provide, promote, and share information in the management of sports turf with *all* members involved in all facets of the sports turf industry at *all* levels. I sincerely believe we're on the right track toward

the accomplishment of that goal, but we need your input.

The success of any organization is dependent, not upon the Executive Committee, but rather on the involvement and the participation of the membership. I extend to you an invitation to share your thoughts, ideas, successes and failures so we may all learn more about this exciting sports turf industry. This will not only make for a stronger organization, but will also help us become better managers and suppliers.

If you have any information you would like to share with the membership, please submit to:

Sports Turf Manager's Association  
Dr. Kent Kurtz  
1458 North Euclid Avenue  
Ontario, California 91764

Summer mailing address:  
Post Office Box 101  
Davis, Illinois 61019-0101

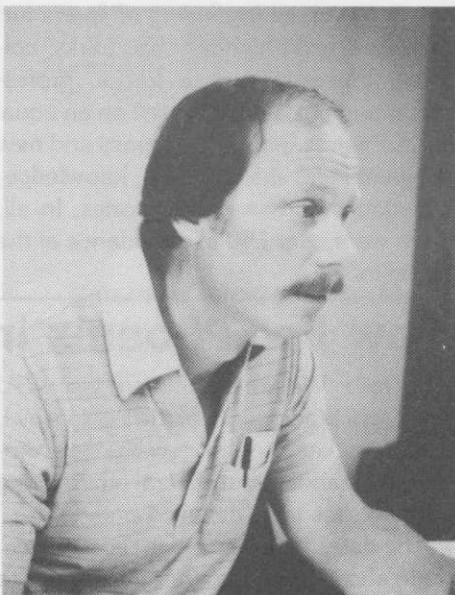
*Communication* is the key element of progress so won't you join me in getting started?

I am truly honored to be a part of STMA and I'm committed to helping organize the dissemination of information on sports turf management to *all* levels of play. I wish you all a very successful 1986 and sincerely thank you for your interest and support in helping to promote better sports turf!

Sincerely,

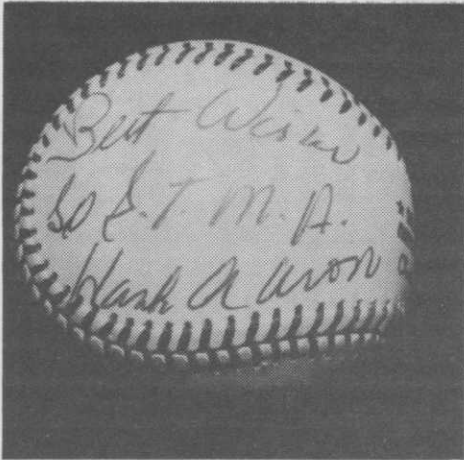
*Steve Wightman*

President, STMA



Steve Wightman, President, STMA

## A Home Run in San Francisco



By far the most rewarding aspect of our annual conference and meeting in San Francisco was the excitement, enthusiasm and sincerity generated by those in attendance. The hospitality room sponsored by Pacific Sod for STMA was a big hit both nights in San Francisco. The big hitters of the turfgrass industry visited our hospitality room and shared their knowledge. One conferee remarked, "just imagine the number of years of experience we have in this room. Where else could you go to



Harry Gill, Grounds Supervisor, Milwaukee County Stadium, and STMA Director, spoke on "Who am I, What am I," a Sportsturf Professional

talk and share ideas with the likes of Dr. James Beard, Dr. Bill Daniel, Dr. Ralph Engel, Dr. Fred Grau and others in the same room? These guys are all legends but each one took the time to answer my questions."

Sam Newpher, ground superintendent for the Atlanta Braves, was so pleased that his management allowed him to attend the annual meeting he shared this excitement with the home run king and hall of famer, Henry Aaron, and Hank also became excited so he autographed a baseball for STMA and sent it to San Francisco with Sam. The autographed ball appears on this page.



Connie Borg, Events Coordinator, Rose Bowl, Pasadena, California, who talked in San Francisco on "An Event Coordinator Needs Turf Savvy."

The meetings were successful because everyone in attendance went out of his/her way to be the professionals they are. It was in intermingling of sports turf managers from high schools, parks, colleges, universities, race tracks, professional stadiums and others all on an equal basis. Friends, peers, colleagues and new acquaintances sharing ideas, knowledge, techniques and swapping stories. In all, there were over 150 in attendance at the seminars.

## SportsTurf is NOT STMA

A certain amount of confusion has resulted by the initiation of the new trade publication *SportsTurf*. *SportsTurf* magazine is owned by Gold Trade Publications, Inc. of Encino, California. Gold Trade publishes two other trade magazines: *Landscape and Irrigation* and *Arbor Age*. Many members receive *Sports-Turf* magazine as well as other trade publications such as *Grounds Maintenance, Weeds, Trees and Turf* and *Golf Course Management*.

STMA is not subsidized or does not own any of the above publications and the opinions and editorials expressed in these publications are not necessarily those of STMA or its board.

STMA does support the idea of an active and free trade press. It encourages its members to subscribe to and read these excellent publications. At times, members of STMA have contributed and will contribute articles to the trade magazines which reflect the interests of its members

### A Quote With Substance

The golf course superintendents have been using an excellent quote attributed to Theodore Roosevelt and I would like to share it with you because it really expresses how most STMA members feel.

*"Every man owes a part of his time and money to the business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has a moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is striving to improve conditions within his sphere."*

Thanks GCSAA for sharing this with mankind.

## Plan Now For Phoenix in '87'

Those who missed our Annual Meeting in San Francisco won't want to miss the one in Phoenix. We will once again join with our colleagues, the golf course superintendents, to participate in the largest indoor trade show, have our own seminars, annual meeting and turf-

grass tour. We are planning to visit ASU Sun Devil Stadium site of the Fiesta Bowl, the Milwaukee Brewers new baseball complex in Chandler and several other spring training sites in addition to a sod farm.

The dates for the meeting, conference, trade show and tour are January 31 to

February 3, 1987. We would welcome suggestions for seminar topics, speakers and items to discuss at our annual meeting on how to improve STMA. An early bird registration will be sent to all members in late October. Check now on special super saver airline prices.

# Welcome New STMA Members

(Add these to your directory)

## STUDENT MEMBERS (3)

Mark A. Henson, Student  
Michigan State University  
502 Chester Avenue  
Ottumwa, Mi.

Brian W. Smith, Student  
Purdue University  
617 Young Graduate House  
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907  
(317) 743-6878

Steve Beeler, Student  
Purdue University  
610 Preston Drive, Apat. 331  
Bollingbrook, Illinois 60439  
(312) 739-1796

Patrick Hickner, Student  
Purdue University  
610 Preston Drive, Apt. 331  
Bollingbrook, Illinois 60439  
(312) 739-1796

Larry A. Clayton, Senior Turf Mgr.  
Oklahoma State University  
#3 Skyridge  
Arcadia, Oklahoma 73007  
(405) 396-2837

James Michael Lang, Student  
Cal Poly University  
2185 North Crawford Avenue  
Altadena, Ca. 91001  
(818) 797-6079

## Professional Members (1)

Joseph H. King, Supervisor of Courses  
New York Racing Association  
Post Office Box 90  
Jamaica, N.Y. 11417  
(718) 641-4700

## Schools, Parks, Sports Fields, Cities (2)

Bernie Rupp, Stadium and Field Maintenance  
Milwaukee Brewers/Milwaukee County Stadium  
146 S. James Street  
Waukesha, Wi. 53186  
(414) 549-0051

Terry D. Spahr, Plant Mgr.,  
Village Christian Schools  
8930 Village Avenue  
Sun Valley, Ca. 91352  
(818) 767-8382

Brian G. Blair, Director Rec. & Parks Dept.  
City of Millington  
7930 Nelson  
Millington, Tn. 38053  
(901) 872-7735

Robert J. Schneider, Maintenance Supervisor  
P. O. Box 633,  
Ridgefield Parks  
Ridgefield, Ct. 06877  
(203) 438-4544

Dan Johnson, Landscape Supervisor  
City of Irvine  
15029 Sand Canyon  
Irvine, Ca. 92713  
(714) 857-0124

John C. Beres, Jr., Lead Groundworker,  
Irrigation Specialist  
Downey Unified School District  
9068 Baysinger Street  
Downey, Ca. 90241  
(213) 923-6711, ext. 812

H. E. McClintock, Park Supervisor  
City of LaVerne  
3660 "D" Street  
LaVerne, Ca. 91750  
(714) 596-8700

Lance H. Moll, Parks & Facilities Supt.  
City of Pompano Beach  
801 N.E. 6th Street  
Pompano Beach, Fl. 33060  
(305) 786-4111

Gary Perruzzi, Park Supervisor  
City of Paso Robles  
816 10th Street  
Paso Robles, Ca. 93446  
(805) 238-4772

Rob Barnes, Campus Foreman/Grounds,  
Upland High School  
565 West 11th Street  
Upland, Ca. 91786  
(714) 981-5861, ext. 263

Robert Wright, Supervisor of Grounds,  
Collier County Public Schools,  
Maintenance Dept.  
5702 Cougar Lane  
Naples, Fl. 33942  
(813) 774-2255

William G. Gibbs, Stadium Groundskeeper  
San Diego Stadium  
3155 30th Street  
San Diego, Ca. 92104  
(619) 563-5565

## Persons Outside U. S. (6)

Eddie Connaughton, esq. Souter of  
Stirling (Sports Turf) Ltd.  
Cunningham Road  
Stirling, FH7 75L Scotland.  
U.K. 0786-72141

Arthur E. Read, President RVA  
Omnisports, Inc.  
160 Duncan Mill Road.  
Don Mills, Ontario, Canada M3 B125  
(416) 445-4360

C. Peter Prakke, Mgr. PAC Consultants  
RR #4  
Smith Falls, Ontario, Canada K7 A 4S5  
(613) 283-3166



## Commercial Affiliates (4)

John Gray, President  
Gray Contracting Co., Inc.  
1180 Utoy Springs Road  
Atlanta, Ga. 30331  
(404) 344-3931

Ted C. Smith, President  
Smithco, Inc.  
11 West Avenue  
Wayne, Pa. 19087  
(215) 688-4009

Bruce Beckman, President  
Beckman Turf and Irrigation  
16635 Chesterfield Airport Road  
Chesterfield, Mo. 68017  
(314) 532-8880

Mark Doble, Asst. General Manager  
Western Sod  
P. O. Box 1062  
Casa Grande, Az. 85222  
(602) 836-8246

Jim Broun, Division Mgr.  
Bauer USA, Inc.  
1010 Cavalier Blvd., P. O. Box 6870  
Chesapeake, Va. 23323  
(804) 487-4446

Donald A. Hogan, President  
Amerold Turfgrass Farms, Inc.  
13990 16th Street East  
Sumner, Wa 98390  
(206) 838-9911

Lynda Minchin, Regional Market Mgr.  
Hunter Industries  
1940 Diamond Street  
San Marcos, Ca 92069  
(619) 744-5240

Frank D. Smith, President  
Frank D. Smith and Associates, Inc.  
P. O. Box 517  
Palatine, Illinois 60078  
(312) 359-4571

William Bedrossian, Director of  
Grounds Management  
Servicemaster Industries, Inc.  
2300 Warrenville Road  
Downers Grove, Ill. 60515  
(312) 964-1300, ext. 349

Craig Arnold, Grounds  
Servicemaster Industries, Inc.  
400 Chesterfield Center, Suite 510  
Chesterfield, Mo. 63017

Joel Derketsch, Vice President  
MANTEK  
1775 The Exchange, Suite 300  
Atlanta, Ga. 30339  
(404) 952-0228

Robert Wellford  
Agro-chem, Inc.  
11150 W. Addison Street  
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131  
(312) 445-6900

## College and University (2)

Dr. Henry W. Indyk, Extension Specialist  
Turf Mgt., Soils & Crops Dept.  
Cook College, Rutgers University  
New Brunswick, N.J. 08903  
(201) 932-9453

Dr. C. Richard Skogley, Professor of Agronomy  
Plant Sciences Dept.  
University of Rhode Island  
Kinston, R.I. 02881  
(401) 792-2570

Robert J. Hudzik, Golf Course & Athletic Field  
Supervisor  
The Penn State University  
267 Recreation Bldg. Golf Course  
University Park, Pa. 16082  
(814) 865-1635

H. A. Garono, Mgr. of Campus Grounds  
Youngstown State University  
253 W. Rayen Ave.  
Youngstown, Ohio 44555  
(216) 742-7200

Harold "Hal" E. White, Grounds Maintenance  
Foreman  
Occidental College  
1600 Campus Rd.  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90041  
(213) 259-2655

David L. Meredith, Maintenance Technician  
Kankakee Community College  
P. O. Box 888 River Road  
Kankakee, Ill. 60901  
(815) 933-0230

George W. Rokosh, Bldg. & Grounds Mgr.  
College of Du Page  
425 22nd Street  
Glen Ellyn, Ill. 60137  
(312) 830-2200, ext. 2120

Ed Warren, Athletic Facilities Supervisor  
Arizona State University  
1341 West Laird  
Tempe, Az. 85281  
(602) 968-2850, (602) 965-3892

Daniel Loehman, Grounds Supervisor  
College of Du Page  
22nd and Lambert Rd.  
Glen Ellyn, Ill. 60137  
(312) 858-2000, ext. 2319

Matt Casey, Director of Physical Plant  
California Baptist College  
8432 Magnolia Ave.  
Riverside, Ca 92504

Mike Bolton, Supervisor  
LaSalle University  
20th and Olney Avenue  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19141  
(215) 951-1315

## 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:**

**Dr. Kent W. Kurtz  
Executive Secretary, STMA  
Post Office Box 101  
Davis, Illinois 61019-0101**

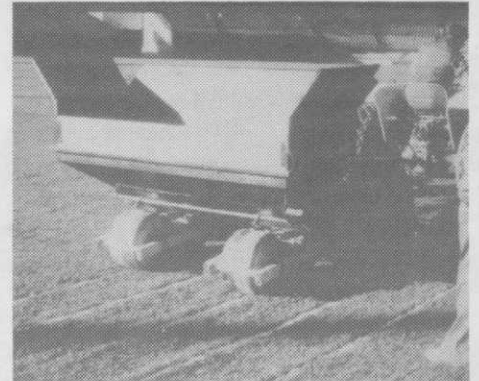
Dr. Bill Daniel and I plan to spend this summer writing our Sports Turf book. If any of you have pictures, stories or material you feel would be useful please send it to me. We need some case histories outlining successful sports turf maintenance and construction.

## 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.

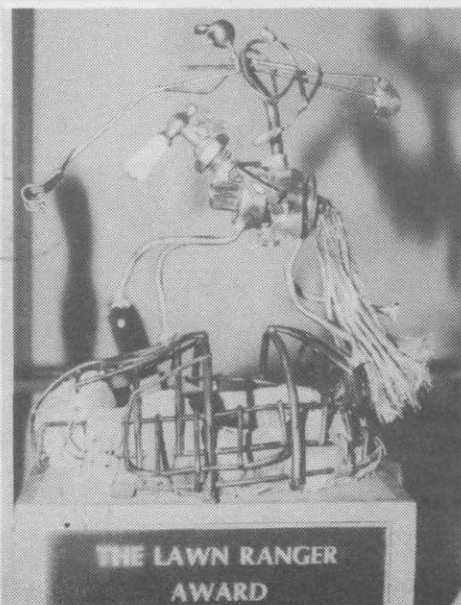


## Lawn Ranger Award

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*



# European Drainage Systems

By-pass or slit drainage, as it is sometimes called, has been widely used in Europe to successfully drain athletic fields. Europeans have recognized that an athletic field has unique properties that require a different drainage system other than our accepted standard of applying an agricultural drainage technique to athletic turf.

The earliest published research dates back to 1939 with additional work that was published in the 50's. In the mid 60's, the first practical machinery was introduced that was capable of successfully installing by-pass drainage. The word by-pass is used since the water does not pass through the soil as in normal drainage systems. Narrow columns of sand are installed which allow the water to move through vertical columns of sand, by-passing the soil. These columns of sand, which are approximately  $\frac{5}{8}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " of an inch wide and at a controlled depth of up to nine inches, are crossed at right angles with small diameter tile. These tile lines are spaced as close as 40 inches apart, and the tile may be as small as 25 millimeters ( $\frac{3}{4}$  inch) to the more generally accepted 35 millimeter (1.2 inches) in diameter. The sand used is critical. It must be absolutely uniform in particle size to allow rapid drainage of up to 60 inches per hour, yet at the same time, sufficiently small to create gravitational pull or wicking action. Generally a sand approximately .25 millimeter meets the above criteria.

Columns of sand extend to the soil surface where a top dressing program is strongly recommended to assure a matrix for lateral movement of water to the slits. The narrow columns of sand are generally run in a goal line to goal line configuration on an athletic field, on a pre-engineered spacing that may range from five inches to 40 inches apart. (The design formula is not given here, due to its complexity and amount of verbiage required to explain.) The formula does take into consideration the sand, the filtration that may be naturally occurring in the existing soil, slope of the field, run-off, and other factors. Following this, another formula states the amount of rainfall that can be removed from an athletic field in a given period of time. Often, the amount is six inches per day or greater. The narrow slits that we have described above are interconnected to 35 millimeter tile that are bedded in fine stone and topped with sand. These tiles cannot be installed in trenches wider than two inches in width. A width greater than this will dry out in the summer time and cause the grass growing in the sand to die back, leaving the athletic field with a poor appearance and an unlevel playing surface. In addition, trenches two inches or greater in width, are subject to disturbance by athletic shoes, even after grass has grown over. The system described above, works extremely well and is very cost effective. It does, however, require exacting work

and specialized equipment to install. Systems installed in the late 60's appear to drain well currently. The system can be used in new construction and as a refit to an existing field, often between scheduled games. Perhaps the greatest advantage is the system's ability to guarantee drainage on an athletic field at an economical price. The economics make a number of poor playing fields better all-season fields, at a cost most schools can afford.

by David Heiss, Turf Services

## JOB MART

The JOB MART section is a service to STMA members. Any members who are seeking positions or persons who have positions available can use this section at no charge. . .

### - POSITIONS WANTED -

★ MIAA College grounds superintendent seeks challenging position with major sports facility. Experienced in sports field preparation with ten years turfgrass experience. Please contact:

**Jim Ehnis**  
337 S. Sheldon  
Charlotte, Michigan 48813  
(517) 543-3032

★ Seeking position as superintendent or assistant superintendent in turf management. Completed turf management program at Stockbridge, University of Massachusetts. Two years experience as Superintendent of athletic fields for a large university, eight years experience in golf course maintenance. Willing to relocate. Available immediately. Please Contact:

**Matthew A. Jankowski**  
4 Stevens Road  
Middleburg, CT 06762.  
(203) 758-9133



## Sports Turf Manager's Association

President . . . . . Steve Wightman  
1st Vice President . . . . . Tony Burnett  
2nd Vice President . . . . . Mike Schiller  
Treasurer . . . . . Mark Hodnick  
Secretary . . . . . Melissa Merritt  
Director . . . . . Sam Newpher  
Director . . . . . James Long  
Director . . . . . Harry Gill  
Director . . . . . Rowland Lehman  
Director . . . . . Dale Sandin  
Past President . . . . . David Frey  
Executive Secretary . . . . . Dr. Kent Kurtz

Dr. Kent W. Kurtz  
Executive Secretary  
Sports Turf Manager's Association  
1458 North Euclid Avenue  
Ontario, California 91764

