

Doc's Dugout



Time sure flies as here we are into basketball, football is winding down and right around the corner is baseball. Once again we will celebrate the holiday season with gifts, the joy and voices of happy children, festive lights, singing, delicious food, family get-togethers and the warmth of love and friendship.

I would like to reflect on an event that took place nearly 10 years ago in Milwaukee, Wisconsin during the holiday season. A gentleman we have all come to know and respect - Harry Gill - started what we call today STMA, by sending out holiday greeting cards to other head groundskeepers around the country. Harry did this with the dream that it might lead to getting groundskeepers better acquainted with each other, and hence, initiate a sharing of knowledge, expertise and possibly some close and lasting friendships. Well, it has blossomed and prospered from those meager beginnings into a well-respected international association with a membership of nearly 800. But STMA would not have evolved so rapidly without the volunteer assistance, hard work and dedication of the many individuals like Harry Gill, who have given so much of themselves.

While many of you will enjoy the holidays in the warmth of your home, several of our dedicated members will have the holiday festivities cut short by the demands of the job or the adversities of the weather. Some will be plowing snow, others de-icing roads, while the more fortunate will be nurturing the seed that was sown earlier, fertilizing a weakened sward or painting end zones and logos in preparation for the main event; football.

Our hats are off to each and everyone of you who will spend the holidays performing the most important job in sports - preparing a field of play which is safe, aesthetically pleasing and agronomically sound for the athlete. For this dedication we are proud of your accomplishments. We all support your efforts and are with you in spirit. Remember, "when the going gets tough, the tough get going." It is the inner pride, the job satisfaction, and the opportunity to make the most of yourself that is most important in our profession.

Last spring I had the privilege of listening to the legendary, retired head basketball coach from UCLA, John Wooden. He talked about the seven point creed that was given to him by his father when he graduated from a small country grade school. John has tried to live by this creed throughout his life and I feel it is worth sharing with each of you and possibly will be material for some New Year's Resolutions.

The creed is called, "*Making the most of one's self.*"

1. Be true to yourself
2. Make each day your masterpiece
3. Help others
4. Drink deeply from good books
5. Make friendship a fine art
6. Build a shelter against a rainy day
7. Pray for guidance and give thanks for your blessings everyday

Thanks John Wooden for this wonderful message, it certainly is food for thought.

Now, may I wish each and every one of you a joyous and safe holiday and a healthy and prosperous 1989 Sports Turf season.

I look forward to seeing you, and encourage your attendance and support at our first annual International Sports Turf Conference and Show at Dodgertown in Vero Beach, Florida, January 13-15, 1989.

Yours for better and safer sports turf,

Kent W. Kurtz
Executive Director

President's Farewell

First of all, I would like to wish all STMA members, affiliates, their families and friends a very happy holiday season and a very happy and prosperous new year. As the time is growing closer for STMA's Annual Meeting and Conference, I hope all of you have made plans to attend. A great deal of effort has gone into the planning of the educational session and trade show and it promises to be one of the best conferences that STMA has ever offered. I am personally looking forward to participating in the conference and meeting many of you at Dodgertown.

Since this is my last "President's Message," I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and help this past year. STMA has continued to grow at a phenomenal rate through the efforts and leadership of some very dedicated people. The most notable accomplishment this past year has been the establishment of SPORTSturf Magazine as our official journal. The second, but not any less important, has been the decision to sponsor our first "solo" Annual Conference. In the coming years, my most sincere hope is that the enthusiasm and dedication that has benefited me during my tenure as President will continue and that STMA and its members will continue to lead the industry in the management of quality sports turf.

Sincerely,

Mark Hodnick
President

TRIVIA

1. When was the first night baseball game held in Wrigley Field history?
2. How many miles of hot water pipes are required under a regulation soccer field to adequately transfer heat from the shaded side while still keeping the grass in tip-top condition throughout the problem months?

Answers are on page 13

Help! Help!

We need your assistance southern California STMA members.

WHEN? February 13 & 14, 1989.

WHY? Our friends from the Institute of Groundsmanship in the United Kingdom are coming to Anaheim for the GCSAA Conference (Feb. 9-12, 1989).

WHAT? IOG members would like to tour local sports turf facilities (Rose Bowl, Santa Anita, Industry Hills, El Prado Park) and have dinner before returning to Anaheim - Monday February 13.

IOG members will present a seminar at Cal Poly, Pomona, on Feb. 11, from 8 a.m. to noon. Presentations include: Parks of Britain, Landscape Gardening, Sports on Grass, the IOG, Horticulture Journalism, and more. Everyone is invited. Lunch and campus tours in the afternoon.

We need drivers, sponsors for coffee breaks and lunch, and assistance in general. Let's show our friends a great time. Please call Kent at 714-869-2176, Mark at 714-869-3049, or Kathy at 714-869-2218.

to last month. There are three essential ingredients in the kicking teams, says Souter — the plan, the talent, the technique. He is a frisky coach who keeps his own special teams play-book.

On a weekly basis, I might see out 10 or 20 applications," she said that other day from Washington. "It has been just unbelievable. We did not anticipate such a response, and the list jury applications had been approved.

The enthusiastic are poor bunch of guys if its friends they been longed because we're kids."

Until this longest in a game, but he has 33 in the against the goals set a points equalled missing his first has been goals and 14 of to last season. There are 10 in the league — the top 10. He keeps his own book.

Returner

We tell our as the "trig" been Bobby leader with average. He has 77 yards for a turned two other just like every yards and is in kickoff return to be 15, third in but like it is worried.

The week chals are po bunch of guy practice. The don't go to going to play in making a mista too tired to do

And they describes his return-men as the "trigger." For kickoffs it has been judged whether it's the league leader with an extraordinary 38.5 average. He has run one kickoff back 77 yards for a touchdown, and returned two others for 41 and 40 yards.

When an agent applies for certifica tion, he or she is sent a questionnaire that resembles a job application. It asks about the applicant's personal and professional background, as well as who else may represent. It's a subtle

We Haven't Received Your Dues Yet



"Do Not Squander Time, For Time Is The Stuff Life Is Made Of."

Ben Franklin

Answers to Trivia Questions

1. The first night game in Wrigley Field history was held in Los Angeles, California, April 28, 1961, when the California Angels were tenants. That Wrigley Field has since been torn down.
2. According to Souter of Stirling, if correctly installed by a skilled crew, the most economical method of heating a soccer field with hot water pipes requires 26 miles of pipe.



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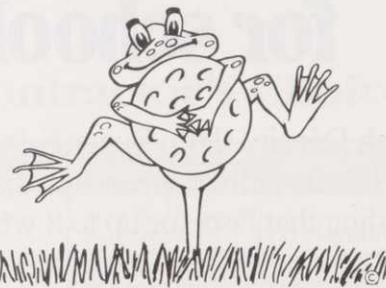
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