

SPORTS TURF MANAGERS ASSOCIATION ISSUES AWARDS OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION

STMA issued Awards of special recognition at the 11th Annual Conference.

The recipient of the 1999 **Harry C. Gill Memorial Award** was **Dale Getz, CSFM, Athletic Facilities Manager for the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana.**

The Harry C. Gill Memorial Award is one of STMA's four Founders Awards - the highest awards issued by the association. Harry Gill was STMA's second president, serving in that capacity from 1982 - 1983. His commitment to the sports turf industry and his support of the goals and standards on which STMA is based are legendary. The Gill Award denotes an individual's long-time service and commitment to STMA and those same goals and standards.

Dale has achieved the status of Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM). He oversees the athletic fields and facilities of one of finest, and most visible, collegiate sports venues in the World. Notre Dame sports fans fill the stands and view the action via television, with the playing fields always at the heart of the viewing. Through all the scrutiny, player safety and field playability remain the prime factors of his program with aesthetics ranking third in importance.

Dale is a longtime member of STMA at both the National and Chapter levels. He's shared his expertise through on-site meetings with Notre Dame athletic fields as the backdrop for hands-on learning, through speaking at numerous conferences, writing for regional and national publications, and as a

resource for the one-on-one networking so vital to the growth of professionalism within STMA and the sports turf industry.

Mr. Getz has served as co-chair of the STMA Certification Program, overseeing its development from an idea to reality. He continues in that capacity to advance the program benefits and importance to all those building, maintaining, using and observing athletic fields. The consummate professional, his contributions to furthering the goals and objectives of the Association and its role within the green industry have been outstanding.

The recipient of the 1999 **Dick Ericson Award** was **G. C. (George) Trivett, Athletic Director**

for Granite Falls Middle School, Granite Falls, North Carolina.

The Dick Ericson Award is another of STMA's four Founders Awards - the highest awards issued by the association. It was named for Mr. Ericson in honor of the significant contributions that he has made to STMA, including serving as its first President in 1981-1982, and his continuing impact in raising the level of professionalism within the industry. This Award is issued to someone who is planning and executing the sports turf management of their facility and represents the ideals established by Mr. Ericson.

Mr. Trivett, the 1999 recipient, is a physical education teacher and *continued on page 18*

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head football coach with 23 years experience at Granite Falls Middle School. He has been Athletic Director for the past 18 years, as well as being in charge of the maintenance at all the athletic facilities. Attesting to his expertise in sports turf management, the school's major facility, the multi-sport M. S. Deal Stadium, was named the 1999 STMA/Beam Clay®/sportsTURF magazine Diamond of the Year in the school, municipal or park category.

Mr. Trivett has been a member of STMA since 1986, has earned the Certified Grounds Manager designation from the Professional Grounds Management Society, and is a member of the North Carolina Turfgrass Council and the Southern Turfgrass Association.

Mr. Trivett has marshaled the community in his continuing improvements of the school's athletic fields, always making the most of his resources. He's shared his expertise through his participation in workshops, through speaking at turf seminars, and through providing information and persuasive drive to improve local and regional athletic facilities.

Through his individual activities, his demonstrated leadership, and his continuing contributions, G. C. Trivett is positively impacting the sports turf industry.

The recipient of the 1999 **Dr. William H. Daniel Award** was **Dr. Donald V. Waddington, Professor Emeritus of Soil Science, with Pennsylvania State University.**

The Dr. William H. Daniel Award, (formerly the Excellence in Research Award), is another one of STMA's four Founders Awards - the highest Awards issued by the Association. The Award was named for the late Dr. Daniel in behalf of his pioneering efforts and long-term support of STMA. The pattern he set for the partnership between the educators in this industry and the sports turf managers who incorporate the knowledge, training and research advances in practical, on-the-field applications is key to the progress that has been made, and continues to be made, in providing better and safer sports turf areas.

The Dr. Daniel Award was presented to Dr. Waddington for the tremendous impact that he has made in the sports turf industry. During his tenure at Penn State he taught more than 1100 students, published over 50 refereed articles in scientific journals, edited 3 books, wrote 4 book chapters, published over 80 trade magazine articles, and presented more than 200 public lectures or seminars. He led the development of an impact absorption apparatus

and traction measuring device (Penn-Foot) for evaluation of athletic fields. His expertise in soil science has contributed significantly to the foundation of information used today in athletic field construction, maintenance, and playability assessment.

Dr. Waddington is a frequent speaker at turf conferences and workshops throughout the U.S. He serves as Chair of the Natural Playing Surface Subcommittee, which is within the Sports Equipment and Facilities Committee of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). He also has served as visiting scientist in the Turfgrass program



Founders Award Winners (l-r): G.C. Trivett; John Souter (1998 Garry C. Gill Memorial Award Winner); Dale Getz; Boyd Montgomery & Dr. Don Waddington (Bob Curry & Floyd Perry were unavailable for photo)

at Mississippi State University.

This Award recognizes Dr. Waddington's past accomplishments, present dedication, and continued years of service to the sports turf industry.

The recipient of the **1999 George Toma Golden Rake Award** was **Boyd "Rob" Montgomery, Facilities and Maintenance Director for Sylvania Recreation, Sylvania, Ohio.**

The George Toma Golden Rake Award is another of STMA's four Founders Awards - the highest awards issued by the association. It was named for one of STMA's Founders, Mr. George Toma, whose work with the National Football League on Super Bowl field preparation has made him one of the Association's most high profile members. Besides being one of STMA's Founders, Mr. Toma is also a long-time STMA supporter, who has served, and continues to serve, as a mentor for many of those in the sports turf industry.

The recipient of this Award is someone who is on

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that quest to reach their goals and is demonstrating the "and then some" spirit which is so much a part of Mr. Toma's approach to sports turf management.

Mr. Boyd "Rob" Montgomery, the 1999 recipient, has provided Sylvania Recreation with top-notch recreation facilities for the last 6 years. His expertise is demonstrated by the 1998 STMA Softball Field of the Year Award earned by one of the many athletic fields within his program. He shares his expertise by serving as a speaker and workshop leader both in Ohio turfgrass and parks and recreational conferences, at regional conferences and at the national level through the STMA Annual Conference.

Mr. Montgomery is President of the Great Lakes Sports Turf Managers Association and actively promotes both GLSTMA and STMA.

He demonstrates the "and then some" factor through such community outreach activities as his recent assistance with the field maintenance program and field renovation of one of the Sylvania school system stadium fields. He's also President of the Sylvania Chamber of Commerce and has chaired the Chamber's golf outing and served on its arts show program and fall festival committees.

Mr. Montgomery's outstanding dedication and commitment exemplify the standards recognized by the George Toma Golden Rake Award.

Recipient of the **Outstanding Commercial Affiliate Award for 1999** was **Covermaster Inc. of Rexdale, Ontario, Canada.**

The Award was presented to Covermaster in recognition of the company's long-standing and continuing support of STMA and of the personal commitment to STMA demonstrated by company President, Bob Curry.

The company is a long-term advertising supporter of STMA's publications; helps support the annual Conference; and continues to promote professionalism within the sports turf industry. Bob Curry, President of Covermaster Inc., has been a dedicated STMA Board member, serving as Category V (commercial) representative, Commercial Vice President, and as Exhibits Chair of the STMA Annual Conference & Exhibition. In addition, Mr. Curry has actively promoted STMA and its programs for field safety, playability, and increased professionalism within the sports turf industry across North America and overseas.

The recipient of the **1999 Presidents Award** was **Floyd Perry, Director of GMS (Grounds Maintenance**

Services) for Sports Fields, Orlando, Florida.

Mr. Perry is a long-time supporter of STMA and of the sports turf industry. This Award was presented, "In grateful recognition for the sharing of knowledge that exemplifies the Sports Turf Managers Association Mission Statement." The STMA Mission Statement is: "To be the leader in the sports turf industry, to enhance, promote and improve professionalism through excellence in communication, training, research, education and services.

Mr. Perry's continuing efforts to bring high standards of safety and playability to every athletic field through his clinics and workshops, speaking at local, regional and national conferences, and through his books and newsletters have made a positive impact throughout the industry. In addition, he is an active member of the STMA Certification Committee. Mr. Perry spreads the message of the importance of wise use of existing resources to create the best possible playing conditions for athletes of any age or level of ability.



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