

Hats Off to The Denver Broncos Turf Team!

Congratulations to the entire Turf Management Team for the Denver Broncos/SMC for winning the 2002 "Turfgrass Professional of the Year"



Award from the Rocky Mountain Regional Turfgrass Association (RMRTA).

This team consists of: Ross Kurcab, CSFM,

Brooks Dodson, and Abby McNeal, CSFM, Andrew Hoiberg, Mitch Oullette and Scott Lane - Invesco Field at Mile High; and Troy Smith, CSFM and Wes Conway at the Broncos Practice Facility. Kurcab, Dodson, McNeal, Smith and Conway are all STMA members.

The RMRTA is a conglomerate of various aspects of the Rocky Mountain turfgrass industry (Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association, Rocky Mountain Golf Course Superintendents Association, Colorado Sod Producers and the Colorado Association of Lawn Care Professionals). This Award is their highest honor and has always been given to an individual, making this their first-ever team award.

The award was given based on the following criteria:

The Construction and Grow-In of Invesco Field at Mile High

There is no other athletic field like this in the world. It incorporates state-of-the-art technology in terms of soil

temperature control, soil atmosphere/moisture control, and field stabilization. These systems were thoroughly researched,



studied, and evaluated by Kurcab and his staff. The ability of all of these individuals to delegate, to work independently when need be, or to work cooperatively when called to, exemplify what it means to work as a "team".

Emphasis on Education

Kurcab encourages continuing education among all members of the Broncos Turf Team. He set a great example by becoming the first Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM) in the world in 2000. He then encouraged Smith and McNeal to prepare for and take their certification exams; which they both passed in 2001. The Broncos having 3 CSFMs is quite a feat, considering that there are currently only 22 CSFMs worldwide.



Kurcab also has supported Dodson as he completed his B.S. degree in turf management at the Ohio State University

this year.

In addition, Kurcab, Smith and McNeal are frequent speakers at CSTMA Chapter meetings, CSU Turf Club meetings and regional turf conferences, as well as the STMA Annual Conference & Exhibition.

Emphasis on Professionalism

Kurcab, Smith and McNeal are very active on both the local

and national levels of the STMA. Smith is the current President of the Colorado Chapter: STMA. Kurcab is a



current member of the Certification Committee and has served on numerous other national STMA committees, and McNeal chairs the National STMA Chapter Relations Committee and also is a Board Member of the RMRTA.

Hats off to all of these individuals who give unselfishly of their time, work for an organization which allows them to be active members of these committees, and are blessed with the ability to work together as a true "Turf Management Team."

