

Sports Turf Managers Win Big in Vegas!

Winners! That's what we have to say for all of you who were able to attend the Conference in Las Vegas. And, from all accounts, the Conference itself was a winner too!

Whether you golfed, toured or attended the Floyd Perry Seminar on Wednesday, everyone started off with a healthy dose of camaraderie and Las Vegas



(l to r: Paul Garris, *SPORTSTURF Magazine*; Kevin Meredith, *National Soccer Hall of Fame*; Ron Hall, *Landscape Management Magazine*; Brian Muntz, *Seed Research of Oregon*)



Catch the scoop on Award and Scholarship recipients inside this issue.

Saturday began with more concurrent sessions and an upbeat, interactive session on Maximizing your Potential, with Dr. Bree Hayes. After our Lunch and Annual Meeting, we adjourned to the ever popular Round-Table Discussions. The networking continued as the room literally buzzed with the information flow amid the groups clustered around the 14 discussion hubs. The remainder of Saturday was open for attendees to explore the city on their own.

Whether you were in Vegas or not, you can see that the STMA Conference & Exhibition is THE place to be, so make your plans NOW to be in San Antonio, January 15-19, 2003 for the 14th Annual Conference & Exhibition at the Hyatt Regency Hotel (on the Riverwalk) and the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. See you there!

weather followed by a breathtaking view of the city from the top of the Riviera. Our first time attendees reception was the biggest ever - with over 200 first-timers!

Thursday mornings educational sessions started out with a bang - with insight into various sports aspects by Gene Smith, Arizona State University and Coaches Dwaine Knight and John Robinson of the University of Nevada/Las Vegas. After lunch, attendees had their pick of concurrent sessions covering the basics, technical information, tricks of the trade and professional development.

We then boarded the buses for the Cashman Center and our biggest trade show ever with 115 companies exhibiting their wares!

Friday gave attendees a 2nd opportunity to mix and mingle with vendors in the morning, followed by winning workshop sessions in the afternoon.

As always, the Awards Banquet was a huge success.

Visit TOROsports.com

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SPORTS TURF MANAGER

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President's Message

We're On A Roll!

By Murray Cook

It's official!! Another successful and exciting conference for our members has also met our financial goals for the Association. Thanks to the vendors, members and our STMA staff for all of your support in Las Vegas.

Now we look to San Antonio, Texas, for our next conference which is shaping up to be a tremendous show. The dates are January 15 - 19, 2003. Our Headquarters Hotel is the Hyatt Regency Hotel on the Riverwalk. Our Exhibition Site is the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. I spoke with many of you in Vegas about the conference and how to make next year's program even better. I appreciate the feedback.

Speaking of feedback, I heard from many of you about our magazine, SportsTURF. Both good and bad comments were taken to the Board for review and advisement. Obviously, we hope the new style and layout will be a positive concept for our sponsors and readers. Adams Business Media is working closely with the staff and the Board to determine how we can continue to improve the publication for everyone based on the comments received about the previous issues. We thank you for your input and your patience!

For those who were unable to attend the Conference, please welcome our new Board members: Boyd Montgomery, CSFM, Director of Facilities and Maintenance for the Sylvania (Ohio) Recreation Corp. who represents the members serving in Parks and Recreation positions and Vickie Wallace, Technical Agronomist for Turf-Seed, Inc., who represents our Commercial members.

The web page is growing with tremendous content and interactive discussions for anyone who needs informa-



Murray Cook

tion. Our service provider BlueStep is also taking notes on how we can better utilize our web page for communication purposes. What I find exciting is the ability to post information or questions you may have for general discussion. Take a minute and link up to www.sportsturfmanager.com.

At the annual Board meeting we appointed chairs for the following committees. Each committee chair would love to hear from you about issues or ideas about how we can grow our organization:

- Mike Andresen, CSFM, Membership Committee Chair
 - Dr. Tony Koski, Education Committee Chair
 - Vickie Wallace, Marketing Committee Chair
 - Abby McNeal, CSFM, Chapter Relations Committee Chair, and Dave Rulli, Board Liaison
 - Dale Getz, CSFM, Certification Committee Chair
 - Mike Trigg, CSFM, Networking Committee Chair
 - Mike DePew and Mark Razum, Technical Committee Co-Chairs
 - Boyd Montgomery, CSFM, Web Site Committee Chair
 - Tim Moore, CSFM, Finance and Audit Committee Chair
 - Bob Campbell, CSFM, Strategic Planning Committee Chair
 - Tim Moore, CSFM, Awards Committee Chair
 - Bob Campbell, CSFM, Conference Committee Chair, with Dr. Tony Koski Conference Education
- continued on page 3*

President's Message

continued from page 2

Subcommittee Chair and Monty Montague Conference Exhibition Subcommittee Chair

- Rich Moffitt, Nominations Committee Chair
- Rich Moffitt, Bylaws Committee Chair
- Rich Moffitt, Past Presidents Committee Chair

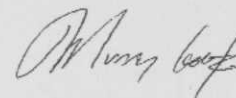
These folks and all of your Board members can use your help on completing the initiatives set forth in our Strategic Plan. Several of these committees have subcommittees that could use assistance as well. Contact Steve or Suz Trusty at STMA Headquarters for potential openings if you feel your background can help your industry in these areas.

I would like to thank Rich Moffitt for leading our organization as President during the past two years and for the input he'll continue to provide as he serves on the Board as Immediate Past President.

Last, but certainly not least, I ask you to join me

in thanking two individuals who have made great contributions to the Association and the Industry over their years of serving on the STMA Board. Steve Guise, Director of Business Development for Marina Landscape, Inc., served in several positions over his long-time service as Board Member and Officer, and leaves the Board after completing his role as Immediate Past President. Lynda Wightman, National Specifications Manager for Hunter Industries, leaves the Board as the retiring Commercial Vice President after previously serving as the Board member representing the Commercial membership.

It's this kind of dedication and commitment that have brought your Association to ever higher levels. Remember, get involved! Working together, our future will be even brighter!



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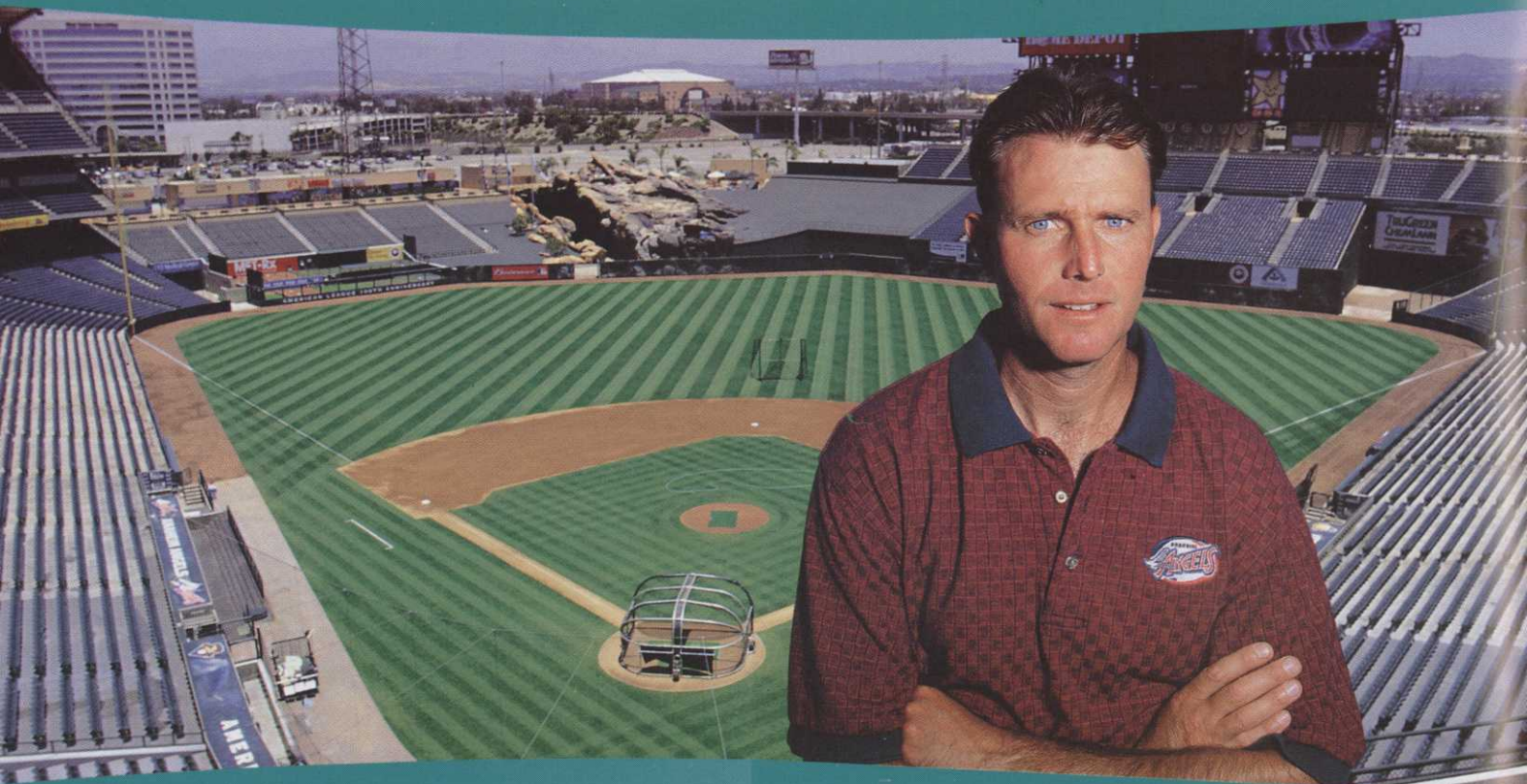
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NEWS FLASH!

If everything goes as planned, about the time you read this, your STMA Headquarters will be moving to new digs. The Trustys are in the process of purchasing a building in Council Bluffs that will become their new offices and the offices of STMA and SAFE. Until everything is finalized and for whatever time is necessary, contacts with Headquarters will still be able to be made with all the old addresses and numbers. When the move is finalized, the new physical address will be 1027 3rd Street, Council Bluffs, IA 51503. Payments will still be mailed to the PO BOX in Omaha (PO Box 3480, Omaha, NE 68103-0480). The new phone and fax numbers have not yet been assigned. We are in the process of obtaining new, faster Internet addresses. The new offices will allow for continued growth and expansion of services. We hope that if you are ever in the Council Bluffs area that you will stop by and see your National Headquarters.

I've worked in lots of ballparks with many different turfgrasses and Bull's-Eye is the best I've seen. It outperforms other bermudas in color, overseeding and recovery.



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—Barney Lopas
Field Manager
Edison International Field,
home of the Anaheim Angels
Anaheim, CA.

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Welcome New STMA Members

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Ron Barendt

Sturgeon Bay, WI

Kevin Beach

Turf Clippings
Indianapolis, IN

Larry Berry

Olivet Nazarene University
Bourbonnais, IL

Robert Keith Blasingim

Lee County Parks & Rec.
Ft. Myers, FL

Scott Brickman

The Brickman Group, Ltd.
Gaithersburg, MD

Rich Callahan

Highlands Ranch Metro Dist.
Highlands Ranch, CO

Cleary Chemical

Paul Walgenbach
El Dorado Hills, CA

Dallas R. Cott

Winged Foot Golf Club
Mamaroneck, NY

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City of Bozeman
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Gail Materials
Corona, CA

Stephen Ellsperman

City of Aspen
Aspen, CO

Chris Fay

Univ. of N. Carolina/Greensboro
Greensboro, NC

Charles R. Ford

Univ. of Nebraska/Lincoln
Lincoln, NE

Gerardo Garcia

Rose Bowl Operating Co.
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Joel Gomez

City of Alhambra
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Canyon New Park
Grand Junction, CO

Bo Henley

Southern Athletic Fields
Columbia, TN

Ryan Hix

University of Kentucky Athletics
Frankfort, KY

Pablo Adorno

Lee County Parks & Rec.
Ft. Myers, FL

Greg Bates

City of Hobbs
Hobbs, NM

Michael J. Beadle

Noblesville Parks & Rec.
Noblesville, IN

Sean Billante

Hunter Industries
Orange, CA

Jeffrey Borger

The Valentine Research Center
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Decatur Park District
Decatur, IL

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City of Portland Parks & Rec.
Portland, OR

Keith Colesberry

U.F. Recreational Sports Div.
Hawthorne, FL

James R. Crowley

Lenape Regional H.S. District
Shamong, NJ

Richard Dodrill

Glendale Community College
Glendale, AZ

Joel Eaton

Cincinnati Bengals
Cincinnati, OH

Evaporative Control Systems, Inc.

Mike Mazzaferri
Reno, NV

Aaron Feider

Student/Walla Walla Comm. College
Walla Walla, WA

John Fox

Pittsburgh Steelers Sports, Inc.
Pittsburgh, PA

Edward Gemoya

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Sandy, UT

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York, SC

O'Neal A. Bourgeois

St. Martin's Episcopal School
Metairie, LA

Daniel H. Brown

City of Mason City
Mason City, IA

Johnny Christensen

Park District of Highland Park
Highland Park, IL

Christopher Collier

S & S Processing, Inc.
W. Pittsburgh, PA

Paul Curtis

Penn State University
University Park, PA

Jason Drummond

Northampton Country Club
Belchertown, MA

Mike Echols

Clemson University
Clemson, SC

Fafard Peat Moss

Tim Fancher
Agawam, MA

Bryan Finnegan

City of O'Fallon
O'Fallon, MO

Bill Frierson

Opti-Gro
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Highlands Ranch Metro Dist.
Highlands Ranch, CO

Ben Goodall

Goodall Landscaping
Topsham, ME

Carol Gundlach

Mt. San Antonio College
Walnut, CA

Luke Hall

Student/Walla Walla Comm. College
Walla Walla, WA

Stevie Hicks

City of Pasadena
Pasadena, CA

Rich Hook

Pittsburgh Pirates
Pittsburgh, PA

Maureen K. Anami

Glendale U.S.D.
Glendale, CA

Ryan Baumbach

Zeeland Public Schools
Zeeland, MI

Kevin Benyo

Opti-Gro
Remington, VA

Jason Blair

Farison Sports Turf
Louisville, KY

Briarcliff Sod, Inc.

Donald J. Wilcenski
Peconic, NY

Burnside Services, Inc.

Jake Burnside
Montgomery, TX

James Clark

Clark Companies
Delhi, NY

Andrew Collins

Opti-Gro
Hartsdale, NY

Marcus Dean

Student/Univ. of Kentucky
Lexington, KY

Alex Duran

Spanish Trail Country Club
Las Vegas, NV

Chris Ecton

Pittsburgh Steelers Sports, Inc.
Pittsburgh, PA

Eric Fasbender

Schuamburg Flyers
Schaumburg, IL

Ladd Fischer

Highlands Ranch Metro Dist.
Highlands Ranch, CO

Michael Galligan

Riverdale Country School
Bronx, NY

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Chisago City, MN

Marjorie Goodman

Opti-Gro
Baltimore, MD

Paul Guza

Arlington Heights Park District
Arlington Heights, IL

Roger D. Havlak

Texas A & M University
College Station, TX

Tom Higdon

Peoria Park District
Peoria, IL

Garry Howard

Park Tudor School
Indianapolis, IN

Once again we have a record number of new members - they are continued on page 7

2001 Scholarship Recipients

Once again a record number of excellent and worthy scholarship applications were received. Once again, a record number of scholarships were awarded through the generosity of those participating in the SAFE Foundation Silent Auction, Live Auction and Raffle, and through the designated funds of the Dr. Fred Grau memorial, and of The Toro Company on behalf of Dr. Jim Watson.



front row l to r: Lisa Lundberg, Tim Vanloo, William Casey Reynolds, Justin Peloquin, Michelle DaCosta, Marcus Dean
back row l to r: Todd Rinehart, Don Frantz, Greg Elliott, Matthew McQuaid, James Newberry

This funding provides not only for the actual scholarship awards as noted below, but also up to \$500 each to be applied toward the travel and lodging costs for the STMA Annual Conference. STMA provides complimentary Conference registration for each Scholarship recipient.

With the establishment of the SAFE Foundation, and beginning with this 2001 Scholarship program, the scholarship program is administered through the Foundation, bringing tax benefits to those who make auction donations. Funds collected during

the 2002 STMA Conference in the SAFE Foundation Silent Auction, Live Auction and Raffle, and the designated Grau and Watson funding will continue to support the scholarship program.

The presentation of the following Scholarships took place during the STMA Awards Banquet held on January 18, 2002, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Fred Grau - Two Year Program Scholarship - \$500
Greg Elliott - Michigan State University

SAFE - Two Year Program Scholarship - \$500
Matthew McQuaid - Michigan State University

*Undergraduate - Four Year Program -
Dr. Jim Watson - \$1,000*
Don Frantz - Colorado State University

*SAFE Undergraduate - Four Year Program:
Undergrad: \$750*
Tim Vanloo - Michigan State University
Marcus Dean - University of Kentucky
Justin Peloquin - University of Massachusetts
Todd Rinehart - Ohio State University

Graduate: Dr. Jim Watson - \$1,500
James Newberry - Colorado State University

SAFE Graduate - \$1,000
Lisa Lundberg - Michigan State University
William Casey Reynolds - North Carolina State University
Michelle DaCosta - Rutgers University



STMA Board Meeting Reports

The STMA Board of Directors met in conjunction with the Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. The first meeting took place on January 15, 2002, from 8 AM to 12:00 PM. The 2001 Board members reviewed Committee Reports, updates of the STMA Strategic Plan timelines, the preliminary end of year financial reports and conducted an overview of Conference details.

The STMA Annual Meeting took place on January 19, 2002, from 12:30 to 1:40 PM. Committee

Chairs presented status reports. Membership continues to grow and STMA remains financially sound. The membership voted to approve the SAFE Foundation Board of Directors. The 2002 Officers and Board Members were duly installed as previously elected by the STMA membership.

The STMA Board met at 4:30 to 5:30 PM on January 19 for a post-Conference review. The next Board Meeting will be held March 22-23, 2002, in San Antonio, Texas, site of the 2003 Conference.



Welcome New STMA Members *(continued from page 5)*

Jeff Howard
Novozymes Biologicals, Inc.
Salem, VA

Jeff Kelderman
Vermeer Manufacturing
Oskaloosa, IA

KORO U.S.A
Larry Wendell
Littleton, CO

Steve Kundick
Lexington Legends
Lexington, KY

Tommy Lane
Keller I.S.D.
Keller, TX

Kevin Lewis
Michigan State University
Warren, MI

Bill Ludington
Cycle Works
Longmont, CO

Todd Martin
University of Georgia
Athens, GA

Matt McKinnon
Pawtucket Red Sox
Pawtucket, RI

Cory Messer
Student/Mississippi State Univ.
Savannah, MS

Warren Mitchell
John Deere Turf Care, Inc.
Raleigh, NC

Sean Nicely
City of Coshocton
Coshocton, OH

Chris Pangman
Opti-Gro
Irving, TX

Bill Perry, CGCS
City of Ottumwa
Ottumwa, IA

Billy Petoskey
Richland School Dist. #2
Columbia, SC

Jesse Pritchard
Student/University of Tennessee
Louisville, TN

Mark Ragole
Turf Star
Brea, CA

Patty Reedy
Texas A & M University.
Bryan, TX

Kurt Richmond
Michigan State University
E. Lansing, MI

Steven Rodgers
Penn State University
Montank, NY

Ryan Jensen
City of Broomfield Parks
Broomfield, CO

Jared Kent
Toledo Mudhens Baseball
Maumee, OH

Wayne Krabbe
City of Grand Junction
Grand Junction, CO

Brian Kusler
Mike Rose Soccer Complex
Memphis, TN

Chris LaRocca
NJ Sports & Exhibition Authority
E. Rutherford, NJ

Rob Lewis
Douglas County Parks & Trails
Castile Rock, CO

Larry Madrid
Glendale Community College
Glendale, AZ

Patrick T. Matsui
County of Maui Parks & Rec.
Wailuku, HI

John McKnight
U.S. Athletic Fields, Inc.
Skillman, NJ

Bill Miller
Student/Auburn University
Auburn, AL

Francis Miyazono
County of Maui Parks & Rec.
Wailuku, HI

Nat Nuovo
Opti-Gro
Remington, VA

Bill Paprocki
Stabilizer Solutions, Inc.
Phoenix, AZ

Jason Perry
Western Turf
Reno, NV

Ryan Pfeiffer
Lexington Legends
Lexington, KY

Eric A. Prunty
Maryland Soccer Foundation, Inc.
Boys, MD

Rahn Industries
Marty Curtis
Prior Lake, MN

Will Rego
Iolani School
Honolulu, HI

Tim Riley
Sodexo Marriott Services
Crawfordsville, IN

Jennifer Roeber
Lincoln Pro Baseball
Lincoln, NE

Eric Johnson
Cal State Long Beach
Long Beach, CA

Kris Kircher
Chandler Parks & Rec.
Chandler, AZ

Mark Kresovich
Penn State University
University Park, PA

Henry Lacher
Univ. of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA

Todd Leary
City of York Parks & Rec.
York, SC

Larry D. Liggett
Lesco, Inc.
Moreno Valley, CA

John Maeder
PROFILE Products, LLC
Raleigh, NC

Ken Mauser
Aquatrols Corp. of America
Bakersfield, CA

Molly McLoughlin
Highlands Ranch Metro Dist.
Highlands Ranch, CO

Paul Miller
City of Greenwood Village
Greenwood Village, CO

Marc Moran
Atlee High School
Mechanicsville, VA

Chad Olsen
SPORTSTurf Services/Brickman Group
Baltimore, MD

Larry Patterson
City of St. George
St. George, UT

Brett Peterson
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, UT

Michael Posey
San Marcos, CA

Kim Quick
Fremont Community Schools
Fremont, IN

Bernie F. Rangel
City of Lockhart
Lockhart, TX

David C. Reiss
Wasatch School District
Heber, UT

Peter J. Rizzo
Polo Turf Consultants
Boca Raton, FL

David Runkle
Luck Stone Corp.
Charlottesville, VA

Tara Jordan
City of Greenwood Village
Greenwood Village, CO

Josh Klute
Nebraska College of Tech. Ag.
Curtis, NE

Michael Alan Kudrna
Boone Golf & Country Club
Ames, IA

Lake Mountain Turf Farms
Warren Bell
Sandy, UT

Larry B. Leff
Kenosha U.S.D.
Kenosha, WI

Rod Lobe
City of Olympia
Olympia, WA

John Marman
West Coast Turf
Las Vegas, NV

Scott McCoy
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, MA

Pete Menza
Leyden H.S. District #212
Franklin Park, IL

Kris Milobar
City of Green River
Green River, WY

Alan Morrison
Rose-Hulman Institute of Tech.
Terre Haute, IN

Norm Ott
USAF Academy
USAF Academy, CO

Permaline Sports, Inc.
Jean Prevost
Westmount, PQ

Don Peterson
Ankeny Community Schools
Ankeny, IA

Prestige Sports
Mike McGraw
Tampa, FL

Paul Quinn
Comm. College S. Nevada
Henderson, NV

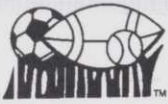
Reams Sprinkler Company
Grand Island, NE

Robert Revello
Morristown Beard School
Morristown, NJ

Bryan Robinson
Midwest Turf & Irrigation
Lincoln, NE

Paul Salmon
PROFILE Products, LLC
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

continued on page 13



Chapter Events



STMA welcomes the newest affiliated chapter: The Greater LA Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association. For information on the Chapter or pending events, call Steve Dugas, California State University - Fullerton, at 714-278 - 3929 or e-mail sdugas@fullerton.edu.

Midwest Chapter STMA:

The Midwest Chapter will hold its Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon on March 15, 2002, at Alexian Field in Schaumburg, IL. The focus of this years meeting will be professional development for the sports turf manager and the presentation of Field & Facility Awards and scholarships.

For information on the Midwest Chapter, or pending activities, visit the Chapter's website-<http://mcastma.org>--or call Libby Baker at 847-263-7603 or e-mail Bake60ft6in@aol.com.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA):

The Northwest Pennsylvania Athletic Field, Turf and Ornamentals Conference will be held Tuesday, March 19, 2002, at the Allegheny College Campus Center in Meadville, Pennsylvania.

Sessions specific to Athletic Fields include: Basic Drainage, presented by Dr. Andy McNitt, Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences; Soccer, Soccer and More Soccer, presented by Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame; and Selecting a Topdressing by Dr. Andrew McNitt. The KAFMO Chapter is a co-sponsor of this event, along with Penn Sate Cooperative Extension and Allegheny College.

For information on the KAFMO/STMA Chapter or upcoming events, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, at tel. 610-375-8469, ext. 212; or e-mail to: kafmo@aol.com.

The Gateway Chapter is planning a March Meeting at Busch Stadium. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the Gateway Chapter, or upcoming events, call Mike Krone, Missouri Baptist College, 314-392-2382.

Florida Chapter #1:

The Florida Chapter will take part in the IFAS field Day to be held in Davies, Florida, in March. More details will be announced.

For information on the Florida Chapter, or pending activities, call John Mascaro at 954-341-3115.

Minnesota Chapter STMA:

The Minnesota Chapter is planning a spring workshop. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the Minnesota Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Jeff Hintz, Bethel College & Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota at tel. 651-638-6075 or e-mail: j-hintz@bethel.edu.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey:

The Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ) will host a Spring Field Day on Wednesday, April 3, 2002, at Plainsboro Township Community Park. Sports field managers, grounds crew members, coaches, athletic directors, parks & recreation directors, buildings & grounds, DPW, administrators and supervisors are encouraged to attend. Attendees can meet vendors, see new products, and watch professionals demonstrate various aspects of athletic field management.

For information on the New Jersey Chapter, or upcoming events, call Jim Gavigan, Lesco, at 732-248-8979; or call Eleanora Murfitt, at 908-236-9118; e-mail to SFMAN-JCHAPTER@netscape.net.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association:

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Meet Your New Board Member

Name: Boyd "Rob" Montgomery, CSFM
Title: Facilities & Maintenance Director
Facility: Sylvania Recreation Corp.
Years Associated With STMA: 7
STMA Offices Held: Board of Directors ,
 Website Committee & Chairmen, Conference
 Committee



Educational Background: Associates Degree
 - Landscape Turf from Owens Community
 College, Certified Sports Field Manager -
 STMA, North Carolina State and NRPA -
 Professional Management Course, Associated
 Parks & Recreation Professional - NRPA

Honors & Awards: 1998 Ohio STMA President's Award - Professional of
 the Year /1998 Ohio STMA and TURFACE Sports Products - Parks &
 Recreation Field of the Year - Soccer and Baseball/Softball /1998
 National Sports Turf Managers Association - Parks & Recreation Field of
 the Year - Softball /1999 Ohio STMA and Profile products - High School
 Soccer Field of the Year - Cat Stadium /1999 National Sports Turf
 Managers Association recipient of the George Toma Golden Rake Award
 /2001 Ohio STMA President's Award

Hobbies: Spending time with my family, water sports, golf, and softball!

Why did you decide to become a member of the STMA? - I wanted to
 become a better sports turf manager and the STMA offered education,
 professionalism, and networking opportunities.

*What do you feel are major issues facing the sports turf industry
 today?* - Recognition for the jobs we do and professionalism within the
 industry.

What would you do to resolve some of these issues? - I think with the con-
 tinued support of the STMA to promote our industry and the jobs we do,
 as well as the certification program, we will see sports turf managers gain
 the recognition and professionalism they so much deserve! My personal
 goal is to educate and promote the industry in a professional way when-
 ever I have the chance!

Do you have any words of wisdom for your peers in the STMA? - The
 STMA is a tremendous resource that EVERY sport turf manager at ANY
 level should take advantage of!



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Chapter Events

continued from page 8

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA):

The OSTMA chapter will hold a spring workshop with the Cleveland Browns in May. More information and registration forms will be available on the website as soon as they are finalized. Don't miss out on this great event and your chance to hear how the pros operate, and also network with your peers!

Come join the OSTMA as they host a summer workshop with the Toledo Mudhens on June 26, 2002, at the brand new 5/3rd Field in downtown Toledo. Jeff Limburg, Head Sports Field Manager, and the OSTMA will have a great day of education as well as tickets to the game afterwards. For more information, check out the website or call headquarters. The MISTMA Chapter has also been invited to participate in this great event!

For information on the OSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call OSTMA Headquarters at 740-452-4541 or Boyd Montgomery at 419-885-1982; or visit the chapter's website at www.glstma.org.

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:

The Colorado Chapter Board for 2002 includes: President - Kalin Stoval, Colorado State University; Vice President - Troy Smith, Denver Broncos; Immediate Past President - Jim Mueller, Hall-Irwin; Commercial Officer - Dave Cromley, Helena Chemical Company and Directors: Riley Caldwell, Denver Parks and Recreation; Phil McQuade, Jeffco Stadium; Ryan Jensen, City of Broomfield; Dan Rockne, Foothills Park and Recreation District; and Tom Moody, Aurora Higher Education Center. Bobbi Smith is Executive Secretary for the Chapter.

For information on the Colorado Chapter, or upcoming activities, visit the Chapter's website--www.CSTMA.org-- or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline at 303-346-8954.

Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization (MAFMO Chapter STMA):

The MAFMO Board of Directors includes: President - David Navarro, Jr., University of Maryland; Vice President - Walter McKain, Calvert County Park and Rec; Treasurer - Bob Shumate, Georgetown University; Immediate Past President - Tim Moore, M-NCPPC. Board Members: Tim Anderson, Meyers Seed International; Al Capitos, Baltimore Orioles; Devin Morris, National Turfgrass Federation; and Dale Stevens, Oakwood Sod Farm.

For information on the MAFMO Chapter, or pending activities, call the Hotline at 410-290-5652.

North Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:

The North Texas Board for 2002 includes: President - Scott Piecha, Gail's Flags; President Elect - Greg Zimmerman, City of University Park; Past President - Rene

Asprion, Diamond Pro (Txi); Commercial Vice President - Bruce Watson, Professional Turf Products; Treasurer - Kayla McAfee; Directors: Advertising - Kathy Cassmeyer, Lockhead-Martin; Communications - Randy Thompson, City of Allen; Events - T. J. Thompson, City of Colleyville; Membership - Rob Anthony, Southern Methodist University; Programs - Shawn Ray, City of Cedar Hill; Special Projects - Mike Pender, Turfgrass America. Executive Secretary is Dr. James McAfee, Texas A & M University. For information on the North Texas Chapter, or pending activities, call Kayla McAfee at 972-234-6584 or Rene Asprion at 972-647-3393, or visit the website at www.ntstma.org.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA):

The Tennessee Valley Chapter has launched its new website: www.tvstma.org.

For information on the TVSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Bill Marbet, Southern Athletic Fields, Inc., at 931-380-0023 or 800-837-8062.

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Southern Athletic Fields

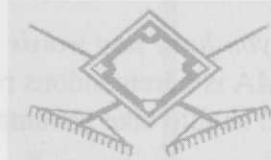
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DOC'S DUGOUT - An Inning From Our Past

By Dr. Kent Kurtz - STMA Historian

How Did Some of Today's Ideas, Technology & Products Originate?

Great Depression /Post World War II Years

The state of affairs in turfgrass management in the year 1935 was somewhat bleak as the "Great Depression" lasted nearly 15 years. Professor H.B. Musser was in charge of turfgrass research at Penn State. Dr. Fred Grau received his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland and was hired as Penn State's first extension agronomist in turf. His responsibilities as turf extension specialist were to evaluate problems in the field and discuss them with research personnel who would then try to solve them. Musser and Grau addressed a meeting of Pennsylvania and Ohio turfgrass managers on the subject of developing classes at Penn State for young men who would like to become turf managers, they were repulsed by the curt statement, "we don't want young college-trained whippersnappers coming in to take our jobs."

During this time many turfgrass managers were sowing seed on hard-packed soils with a wheelbarrow seeder. Very little of the seed grew because there was no soil cultivating equipment and the maintenance of grasses consisted of more "secrets than science." Fertilizers for the most part, were high-phosphorus farm grades, sulfate of ammonia, and activated sewage sludge. In Philadelphia, Charles Hallowell was the county agent involved with turf, while in Pittsburgh, Henry Eby had the same interest and function. The use of sodium arsenite for weed control in turf was a popular topic for discussion at meetings and for demonstrations on athletic fields and golf courses. Leo Previti from Municipal Stadium was among the early leaders in the use of sodium arsenite.

World War II

The war effort took nearly all of the turfgrass people for service in several branches of the military. Dr. Howard Sprague and Professor Musser were liaison men with the air force. Dr. Fred Grau worked with Dr. John Monteith, Office Chief of Engineers, on dust and erosion control. STMA's Dr. James Watson served as a bombardier in the air force during the War. Throughout the country turfgrass areas suffered from neglect, lack of personnel, not enough fertilizer, no parts for equipment and gas rationing. Finally, when people got back to their civilian duties, they found weeds, thatch, insects, disease and rusted equipment. The situation

was deplorable, but not hopeless.

The Arlington Turf Gardens were abandoned in the early 1940's to make room for the construction of the Pentagon. All promising grasses and research studies were moved to the Plant Industries Station at Beltsville, Maryland.

Post War Years

Recovery was underway by 1945 and Dr. Fanny Fern Davis, who had been acting Director of the USGA, Green Section, along with Drs. Mitchell and Marth, USDA, were working on the early stages of 2,4-D for broadleaf weed control. Its discovery and development was to have a tremendous impact on all kinds of turf for broadleaf weed control. Dandelions and plantain could be eliminated, with certain exceptions, without harm to the grasses.

The turf plots, which had been transferred from the Arlington Turf Gardens now located in Washington D.C., were in need of updating. The next eight years saw the greatest "explosion" of advancement in turfgrass science, technology and professionalism the world has ever known. The major focus of the work was for the benefit of golf courses and their personnel, but it also benefitted other phases of turf culture, including athletic fields.

With Charles Hallowell's assistance, Dr. Grau received a visit one fall day from brothers Tom and Tony Mascaro from West Point, PA. Grau (in personal papers) recalled the Mascaro brothers had in mind building something for turf---perhaps a leaf baler. Compacted soil was on Grau's mind and, as a result, the Mascaro brothers went home with some crude sketches of a device to aerate or cultivate turfgrass soils without destroying the sod.

Grau (personal papers) later saw their shop and the chief feature he remembered was a hand saw run off the left rear wheel of a model-T Ford. At any rate, the brothers succeeded in building the FG Aerifier, which was demonstrated at a Beltsville Field Day and a field day at Penn State in 1947. This development was destined to be a great one for all turf, but particularly for golf courses and athletic fields where there was the greatest need. Tom Mascaro hauled the machine to Pittsburgh and Chicago and even to North Carolina where one-inch spoons on a tractor-drawn machine did a job on turf areas. Horrible as it looked, the grass

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DOC'S DUGOUT

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always recovered and was greatly improved. Now the water, lime, fertilizer and air could reach the grass roots through the perforations. Yes, it was a minor miracle.

At the same time something else was going on at Beltsville that was to have a tremendous impact on turf of all kinds everywhere. Dr. K.G. Clark had succeeded in making a fertilizer from urea and formaldehyde, which came to be known as ureaform. In 1947 the ureaform (38-0-0) was first applied to test plots on the front lawn of tall fescue at the Plant Industry Station at Beltsville. It was a historic event as the turf world now had a safe, non-burning, slow-release, long-lasting nitrogen source which has been used in nearly every specialty turf fertilizer from that day forward.

In 1946, Dr. Grau was asked to seek out the possibility of turf investigations in the south. He made the trip by car and went all the way to Miami, FL. On his return trip he spent some time in Tifton, GA, with Dr. Glenn Burton, who was USDA's geneticist in charge of pasture and pearl millet research. Among Burton's bermudagrass selections for pasture and forage there were a few isolated low-growing, fine-bladed types which seemed to have promise for turf. On the way back to Beltsville, Grau assessed his findings and made the resources available (initially \$500) to finance Dr. Burton's initial work in the field of warm season grasses.

Turf managers everywhere know of the benefits that have been derived from this early work at Tifton. Tifgreen, Tifway and tifdwarf were the first of the hybrid bermudagrasses which have been followed by many recent introductions. These early accomplishments in plant selection were highlighted at the 30th Southeast Turfgrass Conference at Tifton, GA, in April of 1976.

At the National Turfgrass Field Days at Beltsville in the early 1950s, one of the features was a demonstration of the playability of properly maintained U-3 bermudagrass turf. First, several professional golfers were asked to hit various shots from a natural lie.

Then the University of Maryland football players were invited to try to tear up the turf with their cleats during sharp turns and sudden stops. All concurred that the U-3 bermudagrass turf was about the best for both golf and strenuous athletics. In the years to follow, this warm season grass was widely distributed. Its popularity waned in 1963 when an early warm spell started active growth only to be killed by a late heavy freeze.

Grau (personal papers) fondly recalled that while attending the first turf conference in Texas in 1946 he met a turf student by the name of James R. Watson. Jim was about to graduate and was interested in post-graduate studies. Grau phoned Professor Musser at Penn State and learned that they could accommodate a graduate student. It was three years later that Jim received his Ph.D. degree working on problems of irrigation on turf. Jim was the first person in the United States to receive a Ph.D. in turfgrass science rather than in pasture or forage grass management. From this time forward others have followed in Jim's footsteps with their academic endeavors.

A project that was destined to have great significance for golf clubs and athletic turf areas everywhere was conducted at Beltsville by the USGA Green Section with the assistance of Dr. Roger Humbert, soil scientist, USDA. Cup-cutter plugs, full depth, were collected from golf courses scattered all over the United States. It was requested that turf managers send in two plugs, one from a green that was hardest to maintain and one from a green that was easiest to keep. Physical analysis of sands, silt, and clay were run together with photomicrographs of thin sections of representative plugs. The findings were that the "easy-to-keep" greens were always characterized by higher sand content and much lower silt and clay fractions. This work paved the way for future work with sand. Sand was recognized as one of the most important factors in building turf that would be easier to maintain.

Many of the aforementioned ideas, technologies and products paved the way for today's turfgrass industry and particularly the STMA. At the recent STMA conference in Las Vegas it was exciting to see so many students scattered among the new comers and old timers. It was most satisfying to see the number of women in attendance and to know they are finding equitable positions commensurate with their education and abilities. We are indeed grateful to the pioneers in our industry who throughout the years paved the way for a better life for all of us. Thanks.



Welcome New STMA Members *(continued from page 7)*

Elsworth R. Sayre, Jr.
Eastern Kentucky University
Lexington, KY

Frank Sever
Mayfield City School Dist.
Highland Heights, OH

Tony Sloan
City of Moberly
Moberly, MO

Steve Spurdute
S & S Processing
W. Pittsburg, PA

John Staffenhagen
Upper Iowa University
Fayette, IA

Tim Thilo
City of Greensboro
Greensboro, NC

Turf Star
Ron Brooks
Brea, CA

Mason Ward
City of Carrollton
Carrollton, TX

Donald "Butch" Webb
Clark Companies
Delhi, NY

Dan Wheeler
Long Beach ROP
Long Beach, CA

Wiedenmann North America, LLC
Will Woverton
Savannah, GA

Michael J. Wilson
Professional Turf Specialties, Inc.
Fullerton, CA

Rick Wright
Pro Player Stadium
Miami, FL

Jeff Schimmelpfennig
Olivet Nazarene University
Bourbonnais, IL

Gary Sheffield
USAF Academy 1
USAF Academy, CO

Brad Smith
Louisville Bats
Louisville, KY

SPORTECHNIC 2000, Inc.
Daniel LeBlanc
Ile Perrot, PQ

Collison Stewart
Paul Brown Stadium
Cincinnati, OH

Ryan Thornton
Elon University
Graham, NC

Curtis Walker
Highlands Ranch Metro Dist.
Highlands Ranch, CO

Eric Warren
Univ. of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA

Mark Weekley
Chantilly Turf Farms
Chantilly, VA

Michael Whelehan
R.M. Landscape
Hilton, NY

Jack Wilfong
Truf Equip. & Supply Co., Inc.
Jessup, MD

Pat Wilson
Greener Grass Systems, Inc.
Eau Claire, WI

Chris Schlosser
Iowa Cubs Baseball
Des Moines, IA

Ryan Sherwood
Clark Companies
Delhi, NY

Doug Smith
Teton County School Dist.
Jackson, WY

SPORTEXE
Jeff Richardson
Fonthill, ON

Kari A. Tarantino
Student/Cal Poly Pomona
San Diego, CA

John Tierney
Township of Piscataway
Piscataway, NJ

Scott R. Waller
Steelville, MO

Josh Warstler
Michigan State University
E. Lansing, MI

Western Farm Service
Tim Isle
Santa Ana, CA

Tim White
Fairfax County
Fairfax, VA

Chris Williams
Mississippi State University
Starkville, MS

Larry Wittkopf
Wittkopf Landscape Supplies
Spokane, WA

Rick Sedbrook
City of Broomfield Parks
Broomfield, CO

Joe Skrabak
SPORTSTurf Svcs./Brickman
Columbia, MD

Smith Group JJR
Paul J. Wiese
Chicago, IL

Sports Field Mgmt. Systems
Ken Krausz
Paramus, NJ

Patrick A. Tate
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX

Travis L. Tindell
Columbus Parks & Rec.
Columbus, IN

Kevin Walsh
St. Andrew's Parks
Charleston, SC

Russell Washegesic
Lansing Lugnuts
Lansing, MI

Western Turf
Don Dunivan
Reno, NV

Matt Whitis
Olivet Nazarene University
Bourbonnais, IL

Eric Williams
Pro Player Stadium
Miami, FL

Clark Wooten
Tri-State Turf, Inc.
Newton Grove, NC

STMA Issues Awards of Special Recognition

The Sports Turf Managers Association issued Awards of special recognition during its 13th Annual Conference and Exhibition held January 16 to 20, 2002, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The recipient of the 2001 Dr. William H. Daniel Award was Dr. Coleman Y. Ward, *(left in photo with Rich Moffitt)* Professor Emeritus of Auburn University.



The Dr. William H. Daniel Award is 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.

Dr. Ward has been an educator, resource and mentor

in the turf industry, both during his pre-retirement years, and just as strongly in his retirement years. He has been a supporter of the sports turf industry recognizing the special needs of the profession and working to coordinate and facilitate the spread of information among industry professionals and among those entering the industry. He also has worked to help gain recognition of the sports turf factor within the general turf industry and the entire green industry, with field user groups, facility owners and managers and the general public.

Dr. Ward has served as a speaker at sports turf conferences on the national, regional and state levels. The articles he has developed for numerous turf publications continue to contribute to the educational and professional body of knowledge that is elevating field maintenance prac-

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STMA Issues Awards of Special Recognition

continued from page 13

tices throughout the industry. This Award recognizes his ongoing contributions to the development of sports turf management practices that fit the needs of athletes within the parameters of today's multi-use facilities.

The recipient of the 2001 George Toma Golden Rake Award was Terry Nance, Horticulture instructor for Cape Fear High School near Fayetteville, North Carolina.

The George Toma Golden Rake Award 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. The recipient of this Award is someone who is on 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.

Nance has demonstrated the "and then some" factor in building the school's agriculture program from one



that maintained approximately 70 students and one instructor, to one that presently contains over 200 students and two instructors. He is the only instructor in the 35 county Eastern Region of North Carolina that provides a Career Day for his students. Nance assumes the responsibility of management of the Cape Fear High School athletic fields in keeping with his philosophy of extending the classroom to hands on exposure to sports turf management. In 2001, he organized and coordinated a 2-day in-service sports turf workshop which brought together over 30 agriculture instructors and sports turf industry leaders from across North Carolina.

The 2001 Dick Ericson Award was presented to Heather Nabozny, Head Groundskeeper for the Detroit Tigers Baseball Club, Detroit, Michigan.

The Dick Ericson Award was named for Mr. Ericson in honor of the significant contributions that he has made to



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FIELD OF THE YEAR AWARDS PRESENTED

The Field of the Year Awards were presented during the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) Awards Banquet held on January 18, 2002, in Las Vegas, Nevada, in conjunction with our annual conference.

The commitment to excellence by the individuals named below to overall field quality, safety, playability and appearance earned their facilities the Field of the Year honors. The Awards are presented for top maintenance of natural playing surfaces and support facilities in four major sports areas: baseball, softball, football and soccer and are the highest honor STMA bestows upon a facility.

Baseball Field Honors

The Dell Diamond of Round Rock, Texas, home of the Round Rock Express, earned the 2001 STMA Baseball Field of the Year Award in the Professional division. Dennis Klein, Head Groundskeeper for The Dell Diamond, and his staff manage the Dell Diamond's maintenance program.

Patriot Field of the Putnam City Schools Putnam City West, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, earned the 2001 STMA Baseball Field of the Year Award in the High School/Parks and Recreation division. Rick Newville, Baseball Coach, was in charge of this field maintenance program.

Softball Field Honors

Samford Field of Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama, earned the 2001 STMA Softball Field of the Year Award in the College/University division. Joe Collins, Sports Turf Manager for TruGreen Land Care/Samford University, manages this program with the support of his staff.

The McInnish Softball Complex of The City of Carrollton, Texas, earned the 2001 STMA Softball Field of the Year Award in the High School/Parks and Recreation division. Andy Babbitt, Athletic Manager, and Mason Ward, Athletic Supervisor, and their staff are key to this facility's program.



front row l to r: Kurt McLarren, Dennis Klein, John Gaffney, Andy Babbitt, Kevin Vos, CSFM, Joe Collins
back row l to r: Rick Newville, Jimmy Rodgers, CSFM, Peter Petrov, Keith Evans

Soccer Field Honors

The Soccer Stadium of Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Pennsylvania, earned the 2001 STMA Soccer Field of the Year Award in the College/University division. Kevin Yeiser, Director of Grounds and Athletic Facilities for the College, and staff members Keith Evans and Peter Petrov, are key the field maintenance program.

The Muscatine Soccer Complex of Muscatine, Iowa, earned the 2001 STMA Soccer Field of the Year Award in the Parks and Recreation division. This facility's program is managed by Kevin Vos, CSFM (Certified Sports Field Manager), Supervisor of the Athletic Facility.

Football Field Honors

The University of Virginia's David A. Harrison III Field at Scott Stadium in Charlottesville, Virginia, earned the 2001 STMA Football Field of the Year Award in the College/University division. Jimmy Rodgers, CSFM, Sports Field Manager for the University, oversees and coordinates this facility's maintenance program.

The Rush/Henrietta Central School's Elmer Gordon Stadium football field in Henrietta, New York, earned the 2001 STMA Football Field of the Year Award in the High School/Parks and Recreation division. The maintenance program of this facility is managed by John Gaffney, Head Groundskeeper for the Schools, and his staff.

Rodgers statement is echoed by all of the Field of the Year Award recipients, "We feel so fortunate and proud to be selected. We view this as a significant honor and point of recognition for our field and our program."



Headquarters Report

by Steve Trusty, Executive Director

Your Headquarters staff is busy finalizing all the figures and follow-up needed from the 2002 Conference. It appears as though the final attendance figures will be very close to what we had last year. According to what I have been reading about other conferences post 9/11, that is a great accomplishment. It shows that STMA members are really serious about learning from and sharing with others. Initial reports on speakers indicate that we were right in feeling we had a terrific line-up this year. STMA has reached a new level with the biggest ever Trade Show. Most exhibitors have reported outstanding results from the show. A great many of them have already booked their space for next year in San Antonio. While a few reported that they felt attendance was a little light on Friday, most felt that for Las Vegas and all of the distractions, traffic was very good both days of the show. A great big Thank You to all who attended and made sure to visit all of our exhibitors. For those few that didn't spend the time on the show floor that they could have, please remember in the future that you are very important to the exhibitors and

your absence is noticed.

Work has now begun on the 2003 conference in San Antonio. Make sure that you have January 15 to 19 marked in big red letters on your calendar and that you do whatever you need to do to assure that you won't miss out next year. If there are any topics that you want on the program please contact Headquarters or Conference Education Chair, Dr. Tony Koski, with that information so they may include it in the planning.

Member renewals are coming in very strong. If you haven't sent yours in yet, please do so as soon as you can. Save yourself the possibility of missing out on all the membership benefits for the coming year and save your association the expense of having to send out a second notice. If for any reason you do not have the original invoice that was mailed in December, please let us know and we will get one out to you.

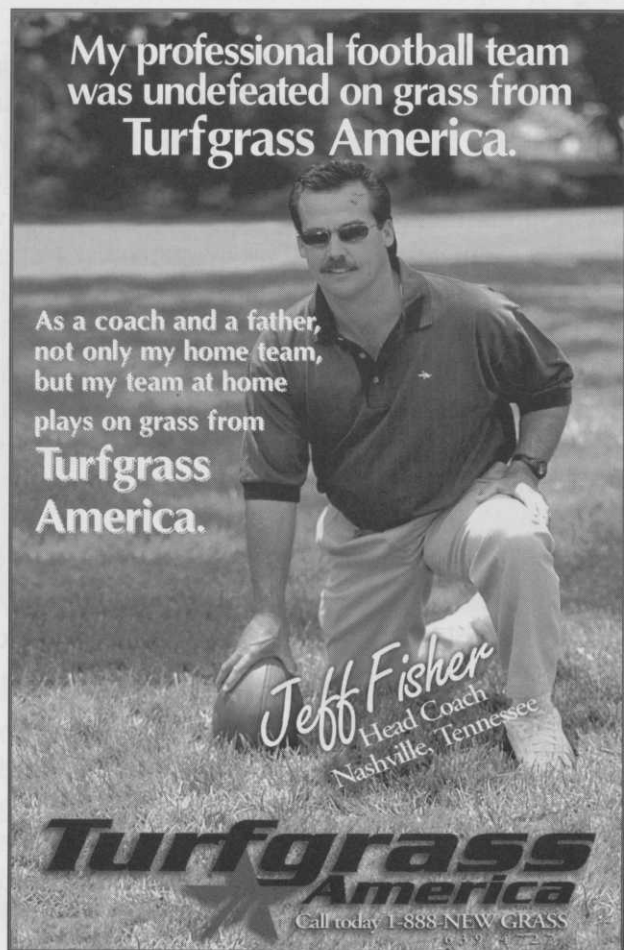
Are you talking up membership in STMA? Remember that you will receive a \$10 certificate for each new member that you sponsor. These certificates are good for any purchase from STMA Headquarters. That includes dues, books, merchandise or Conference Registration. What a way to encourage and build membership and help yourself at the same time. Your Mentoring Committee will make sure that each new member that you sponsor will be made to feel welcome soon after the application and payment is received.

The COTS session was well attended on Tuesday before the Conference. Chapter Officers exchanged information and ideas. During and after the Conference we have heard from a number of people that they are interested in getting chapters started in their area. We are putting these folks in contact with others in those areas to facilitate Chapter startups. If you are interested, please let us know so that we might add your name to the list.

Your Website Committee is continuing to upgrade and add information to the Website. Keep checking www.sportsturfmanager.com on a regular basis. Let us know if you have any ideas for further improvement.

Our "Official Magazine," Sportsturf, continues to improve. It is the goal of the magazine staff, Headquarters, and your Board to make each issue better than the previous one. Let us know what you think and how you feel we can make further improvements. This is your magazine.

We hope spring weather arrives at just the right time for you and that your challenges are no more than your individual talents and collective knowledge can handle.



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Count on it.

STMA Issues Awards of Special Recognition

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STMA, including serving as its first President in 1981-1982, and his continuing impact in raising the level of professionalism within the industry.

Ms. Nabozny has developed her leadership role in sports turf management, serving as Head Groundskeeper for the West Michigan Whitecaps in Comstock Park, Michigan, before moving to her current position as the first female Head Groundskeeper in Major League Baseball.

Nabozny actively promotes the networking aspect of sports turf management. She has been an active member of STMA for a number of years and supports both the national STMA and the Michigan Chapter. She has hosted events and individual visits at her facility to assist in the education and training of other sports turf managers. Nabozny is well deserving of this award as one who is effectively leading her own team in accomplishing their goals in field maintenance.

The recipient of the 2001 Harry C. Gill Memorial Award was Dan Douglas, Stadium Grounds Superintendent for the Reading Phillies Baseball Club in Reading, Pennsylvania

The Harry C. Gill Memorial Award was named for Harry Gill, 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.

Douglas is not only recognized for his commitment to excellence in his sports turf management program's focus on the safety and playability of the Reading Phillies baseball field, but also for his outreach efforts within the sports turf industry. He has been instrumental in the formation and development of the KAFMO Chapter of STMA; serving as Chapter President and guiding its leadership team. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council and sits on several state Advisory Committees.

Douglas has been a speaker on sports turf topics at national, regional and state turf conferences, including the STMA Annual Conference. He has written articles on sports turf topics for national and regional turf publications. He also has served at the national STMA

Conference as a Round-Table Discussion leader and as a session moderator. He has been a nominee for the STMA national Board of Directors and currently serves on the national STMA Marketing Committee.

Douglas' relentless pursuit for safer and better sports turf has long been apparent in his work. His commitment to improving sports fields and sports field manager through education, training and image and his contributions to furthering the goals and objectives of the STMA at the local, regional and national levels have been outstanding.

Recipient of the Outstanding Commercial Affiliate Award for 2001 was National Mower and Turfco Mfg. Inc. The Award was presented in recognition of the company's long-standing and continuing support of STMA. 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.

Greg Petry, Executive Director, Waukegan (Illinois) Park District, is the recipient of the STMA 2001 President's Award. The Award was inscribed, "To Greg Petry in grateful recognition for the pivotal role you played in the history of the Sports Turf Managers

Association and for your continued dedication and commitment to STMA's growth and Mission." Greg has held various positions on the national STMA Board, helping guide the Association through many challenges, and served as STMA President in 1994 and 1995. He received the Harry C. Gill Memorial Award in 1996. He continues to support increased professionalism throughout the industry.

Another outstanding individual was honored at the STMA Banquet, when Sportsturf Magazine announced Dr. Tony Koski as the recipient of the magazine's 2002 Manager of the Year award. The recipient is selected by the magazine following input by the previous recipients of the award. Koski has been involved with turfgrass teaching, research, and extension since 1980. He has been a member of the STMA since 1990 and is currently a Board member, Education Committee Chair, member of the Certification Committee and serves on the SAFE Foundation Board.



Game Day Preparations

by Steve Wightman, Qualcomm Stadium

We all know that the true test of quality game day preparations are from those fields that consistently provide excellent playability and aesthetics when the cameras are nowhere to be found and the crowds are small.

Successful game day preparations require a comprehensive, well defined field management plan along with the resources and ability to execute the plan within the desired realistic expectations.

The plan will contain the schedule of all the events on the field including practice times, warm-up times, game times, and other sporting and non-sporting events, cultural practices, sport-specific maintenance practices, game setup procedures, including timelines, and personnel schedules.

Cultural practices include, mowing, fertilization, irrigation, aeration and topdressing. Sport-specific practices for baseball include mound repair, infield grooming, edging and dugout cleaning, while some examples for football include divot repair, and goal post maintenance. Examples of game setup procedures for baseball include infield grooming, clay repair, and chalking/painting while football game setup includes painting the field, setting up the team bench areas, putting up

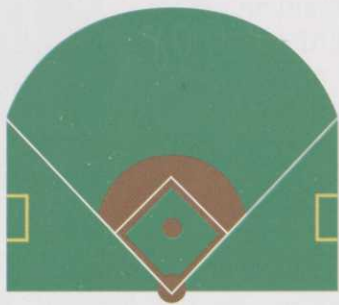
goal post pads, and setting out yard line markers. Finally, examples of personnel schedules include the day-to-day work times for staff members on, at least, a 2-week calendar.

These are only some of the examples included within a comprehensive preparation plan. The more detailed the plan, the more effective and efficient the preparation will be.

As with any effective plan, contingency plans must also be developed. You must play the "what if" game. What if this piece of equipment breaks down - do we have other equipment that can get the job done? Or, if Joe is ill, do we have someone else that can do the job?

One of the biggest and most prevalent variables to be considered is the weather. There is no other industry in our society where weather plays a more significant role. We must always look at the weather and factor it into our preparation plans throughout the course of the year.

Let's take a look at a typical day in baseball field game day preparation. As mentioned earlier, we need to schedule the cultural practices for that day. This most likely would include mowing and some strategic watering either by hand
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Game Day Preparations

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or with selected sprinklers to supplement the irrigation from the night before. In what order should these be done?

Although it's preferable to mow when the grass is dry and the dew is gone, preparing the field for today's game requires that mowing is done first thing in the morning. This allows for adequate time to groom the infield and repair the clay areas before batting practice begins. The impact that the mower creates when turning on the infield skin should be done before the grooming and the wet-downs take place. Mowing before spot watering will prevent unnecessary compaction and turf damage caused by equipment on wet soil.

If edging the infield areas is scheduled, it should be done after mowing and before any subsequent supplemental watering, especially any watering along the edges. All edges should be detailed and cleaned up before any water is applied in these areas as it will obviously create a muddy mess if edging is attempted soon afterwards.

Immediately following mowing and edging, the field should be selectively watered as early as possible to allow infiltration, percolation and surface drying to take place before any activity occurs. Key areas of strategic watering

include the grass edges along the infield skin and baselines, as well as high traffic areas in front of the dugouts and around the home plate and mound areas. It's usually better to minimize the amount of water applied in the high traffic areas with the irrigation system and then apply any additional water by hand. That way constant visual observations are being made on the areas where exact amounts of soil moisture are critical. Once these are done, the infield skin and other non-grass areas can now be prepared for the game without being impacted by other maintenance procedures.

Cleaning the dugouts is something that also should be done fairly early on game day. Invariably, the media will begin setting up early with many of the setup locations in and around the dugout areas. So, it would behoove the field manager to prepare those areas that will soon be impacted by TV, radio and team personnel before they arrive instead of having to work around them.

Clay repairs at home plate, the mound and bullpen areas also should begin early after mowing has occurred. Early preparation of the clay areas also allows adequate time

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Chapter Events

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South Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:

For information on the South Texas Chapter, or upcoming events, call Craig Potts, Texas A & M University, at tel. 979-458-8841, or e-mail: CPotts@athletics.tamu.edu.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:

For information on the Iowa Chapter, or upcoming activities, contact Lori Westrum of The Turf Office at tel. 515-232-8222, or fax 515-232-8228, or e-mail: Lori@iowaturfgrass.org.

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:

For information on the chapter, or upcoming events, contact Bill Murphy, Recreation and Facilities Manager, City of Scottsdale Park, at e-mail: bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us or tel. 480-312-7954.

Southern California Chapter:

For information on the Southern California Chapter, or pending activities, call Ron Kirkpatrick at 858-453-1755.

Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:

For information on the Nor-Cal Chapter, or pending events, call Janet Gift at 530-758-4200.

Indiana Chapter:

For information on the Indiana Chapter, or pending activities, call Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer, at 219-356-8424.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA):

For information on the Chapter or other pending events, call Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools, at 616-738-6974, or go to www.mistma.org to visit the chapter's new website.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association:

For information on the MO-KAN STMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Jody Gill at 913-239-4121.

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association:

For information on the Nebraska Chapter, or upcoming events, call Gregg Bostelman, City of Grand Island, at 308-385-5426.

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association:

For information on the Virginia Chapter, or upcoming events, contact: Chapter Vice President, Randy Buchanan, County of Henrico Recreation and Parks, via e-mail: buc06@co.henrico.va.us or at tel. 804-261-8213.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association:

For more information on the Wisconsin Chapter, or other pending events, call Richard Miller at 608-756-1150.

Chapters On The Grow

Las Vegas: Plans for the formation of a Las Vegas Chapter also are moving forward. For more information on the developing chapter, please contact Rod Smith, Grounds Manager/Cashman Center at e-mail: rms@lvcva.com or at tel. 702-386-7140.

New York: A chapter is forming in Central New York. The group will meet at 10:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the National Soccer Hall of Fame. For more information, contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, at e-mail: Kevin@wpe.com or at tel. 607/433-1158.



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Game Day Preparations

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for the field manager to provide optimum clay conditions which may change from day to day based on climatic conditions. Hot sunny days may require more work in repairing the clay than cool cloudy days. Allowing yourself time enough to prepare it just right will ensure better playing conditions and, most likely, happier players.

Football game day preparations involve similar procedures relating to cultural practice and time management as those of baseball. However, there are significant differences in game day setup procedures and some maintenance practices that are specific to football.

The two most critical differences between baseball and football field preparations involve soil moisture and field painting. The tremendous stresses placed on the grass from football require a surface that provides maximum strength and durability. This condition is usually achieved with a rootzone that has minimum water. So, the irrigation regime for football is of paramount importance.

Obviously, the amount of water applied to a football field in preparation for a game is different for nearly every game. To achieve the proper soil moisture at kick-off requires a field manager who is at the top of his game. He must be keenly aware of the soil conditions of his/her field along with the efficiency of the irrigation systems and the weather conditions at all times.

There are many different factors that effect the proper amount of water to apply regardless of the type of sport played. Hot dry days can necessitate as much as four times the amount of water to adequately irrigate the turfgrass as cool humid days. The duration of sunlight and its intensity in early autumn is greater than it is in late winter. Winds can have a significant effect on the amount of water to apply to maintain healthy turfgrass yet provide firm, solid field conditions. Maintaining proper soil moisture for each football game is, I think, the biggest challenge a field manager faces.

Another important factor in football field preparation is painting. A football field requires a significant amount of paint in defining the parameters of the sport. The type of paint used and the equipment used to apply it are important decisions to make in successfully preparing the field. All required markings must be properly placed according to league specifications. What tools should be used to accomplish this? How long will it take to paint the field? How many people will I need? These all are questions that must be answered before a preparation plan can be formulated.

The field manager must also be aware of the

weather conditions when painting as with everything else. Hot sunny days will dry paint much more quickly than cold days. So, as the season progresses and colder days prevail and frost becomes a factor, it will take longer to paint the same field.

Scheduling personnel is just as important as any other part of the management plan. When the staff leaves the shop and heads for the field each staff member should have a clear understanding of his/her job for that day. They must also understand the order in which each job is to take place throughout the day. Everyone knowing what the logistical order is for the work to be done during the day will possess a better understanding of the importance of his/her particular job. Everyone performing in a smooth clockwork fashion will allow for many tasks to be accomplished in a minimum amount of time with high quality results. One of the main responsibilities of the field manager is to ensure that the work being done is within the timeframe adopted and is of the quality desired and expected.

Game day preparation involves much more than just performing certain tasks. Successful preparations involve a field manager willing to take charge in identifying the various tasks to perform, determining the best way to accomplish those tasks and determining the order in which the tasks are done. Successful field managers learn from previous experiences and seek out information that will help them formulate a good management plan.

Adapted from Steve's presentation at the 2002 STMA Conference & Exhibition, Las Vegas, Nevada.



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