

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.

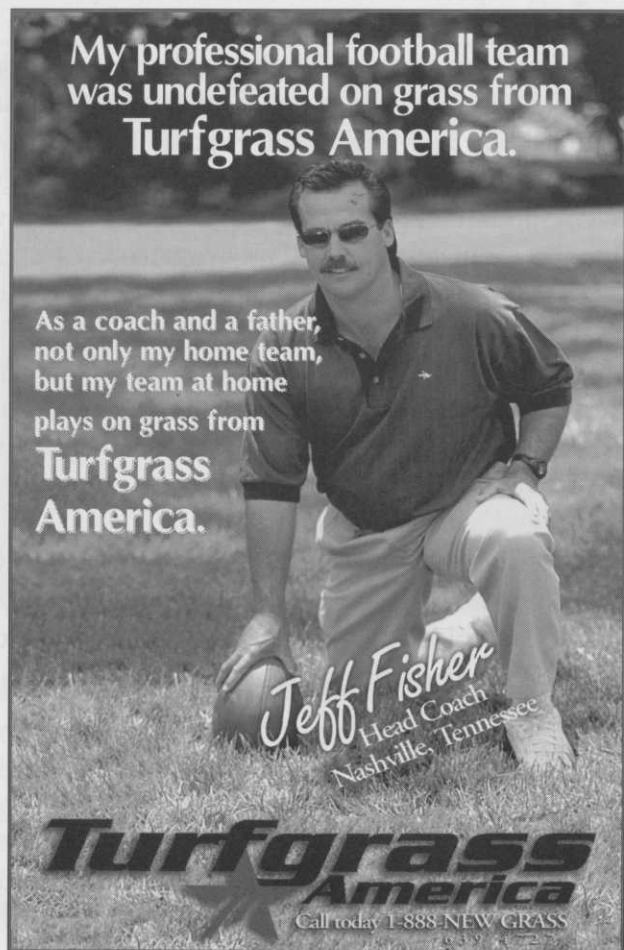
Are you talking up membership in STMA? Remember that you will receive a \$10 certificate for each new member that you sponsor. These certificates are good for any purchase from STMA Headquarters. That includes dues, books, merchandise or Conference Registration. What a way to encourage and build membership 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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