

## In The Spotlight - On The Spot

**P**lay ball! Those words turn the spotlight on your field and put you on the spot. Just as if a director had shouted "lights, camera, action" - your field - your work - your professional image - become the focus of attention. The sport may be baseball, softball, football, soccer, rugby, polo or bocce ball. Whatever the game, your field is front and center, the stage on which all action will take place. Spectators in the stands, watching TV screens, or scanning newspapers view the results of your efforts.

Athletes - from the seasoned professional to the youngest, least experienced player - put their bodies and their skills to the test of the playing surfaces you have prepared for them.

Neither the spectators nor the players care that insects, diseases, heat and drought, drenching rains, or cold and snow have attacked your field. They don't care that your fertilization budget has been cut, your irrigation system is outdated, or your equipment is out for repair. They don't care that the field has hosted 20 events in the last week or a regional marching band competition yesterday. They only care about today, this game, right now.

To the players and their dedicated supporters - each game is an end in itself - as important to them in that moment as the final round of the College World Series or the last play of the Super Bowl. Your field is in the spotlight and you are on the spot because this game, each and every game, is that important to you, too.

Good field conditions give the athletes the opportunity to concentrate on the game and play to the best of

their abilities. Poor conditions draw their attention away from the game and reduce the level of their play. Bad conditions may put them at risk for injury.

If the field looks good, the spectators probably won't notice. If the field looks bad, they'll probably complain and offer their opinions about how you are doing your job whether or not they know you, the sport, turf, or sports turf management.

You know all this - and have chosen to be a sports turf manager. You face head-on the ever-changing challenges Mother Nature throws at you, determined to overcome them all. You find a way to work through overscheduled field use and budget and resource limitations. You focus on constantly improving your skills and those of your crew. You work at educating all those you interact with about the importance of field maintenance and field conditions. You do all this to produce a top quality, highly playable field. You're a sports turf manager - a true professional.



Rosenblatt Stadium - Home of the College World Series  
 photo courtesy Donna C. Lynn, STMA Headquarters



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## SPORTS TURF MANAGER

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1027 S. 3rd Street  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503-6875  
712/322-STMA (7862), 800/323-3875  
(FAX) 712/366-9119  
(e-mail)

STMAHQ@st.omhcoxmail.com  
(world wide web)  
www.sportsturfmanager.com



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## President's Message

### Planning is Key

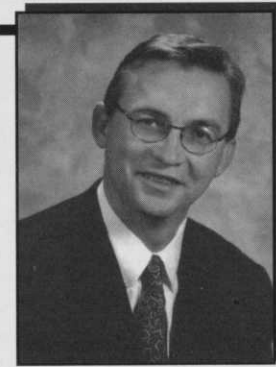
By Murray Cook

Planning is the key to success. Many of you plan throughout the year to ensure that your facilities and your careers stay on track. Some of you strategically plan at conferences, at your desk, in office structures and so on... I am sure I am not alone on this one - but for years I planned most of my work and career changes on a mower. Two hours a day, every day, without interruptions was extremely valuable. Once in a while the use of a headset for tunes would come in handy for enhanced meditation. (Even now I fight my son for the mower to take care of the yard.)

It's so easy to get bogged down on the challenges of the day and put off focusing on the big picture. But the most successful programs come from sorting through those always too long "To Do" lists, identifying the truly important issues, and tackling the planning necessary to make a positive impact on those issues. August can be a pivotal period towards preparing for your next sports season. Prioritizing and finalizing those capital improvement budgets also can use those final touches of planning. This can be especially important if you work for a municipality or other entity where multiple departments must submit their individual budgets for consideration in the overall budget.

Before you hop on that mower, take a few minutes to review the top items on your priority list to take full advantage of the uninterrupted planning time.

Are you ready to rumble!! Great things happen this time of year. Kids go back to school (which makes many parents very happy) and from high school to the pros the month kicks off workouts and exhibition games for FOOTBALL SEASON! The month of



Murray Cook

August signifies a seasonal change in many types of sports. The dog days of summer normally begin to wind down from baseball in August/September and begin to crank up with football. Fall is just around the corner.

Right now, temperatures and growing grass are still tough for many of you bluegrass lovers and of course great for the bermudagrass turf handlers. When I connect with friends in Arizona they talk about the dry heat and I talk about the humid heat. Well, for much of this summer, it has been just plain hot all over. In addition, many areas of the US are dealing with drought conditions and water-use issues. Other areas have been drenched with torrential downpours - and some have experienced flooding. Networking with other sports turf managers is a great way to plan solutions to whatever nature brings your way.

The other HOT news to share with you includes information regarding scholarship criteria. Details are in this issue and posted on the STMA Website now ([www.sportsturfmanager.com](http://www.sportsturfmanager.com)). Information and application forms also will be sent to educators and to all STMA Student members shortly after Labor Day. Please contact Headquarters if you have questions or want further information.

**P.S. Plan now to attend our Conference in San Antonio! (That's January 15-19, 2003)**

# Strategies for Sport Turf Managers on Using Grub Controls

Dr. David Shetlar

Landscape Entomologist, The Ohio State University

Almost all sports field managers have now switched to one of the two new grub insecticides, Merit or MACH2. As far as grub controls are concerned, Merit (=imidacloprid) and MACH2 (=halofenozide) remain top performers (Table 1), both with over 90% control in university-based evaluations. However, many experienced managers may be using these new grub insecticides as if they were the old products such as Oftanol, Diazinon, Sevin or Dylox/Proxol. These traditional organophosphates and carbamates were most effective as "curative" treatments, i.e., when small to medium size grubs were present in the turf. This was necessary because the traditional products generally had residual activity periods of several days to several weeks and the new grubs of the season were usually present from the last two weeks in July through mid-August.

Research data and field experience is indicating the Merit



White grubs feeding on roots

photo courtesy Dr. David Shetlar

and MACH2 applications result in active residues sufficient to control early instar grubs for 60 to 90 days. Therefore, an application of Merit in mid- to late May would result in active residues present in the soil-thatch area (where grubs feed) into late July and August. Likewise, an application of MACH2 in early June would also be able to control the new "crop" of grubs that arrive by mid-August. When asked why they don't apply Merit or MACH2 earlier in the season, some sports field managers often respond with, "That's not the time I've traditionally applied grub controls," or "I can only get onto the fields in July or August." In fact, if you don't have many windows when your sports fields are not being used, this longer application window, late May through August, provides greater flexibility.

It has been my experience that most Ohio sports fields, whether professional or municipal, are also attacked by one or more of a variety of other insect pests - especially billbugs, cutworms or sod webworms - NOT JUST GRUBS! Therefore, one should ask, "Can Merit or MACH2 control these other pests AND white grubs?" And, the quick answer is a definite YES! However, there are some definite differences between Merit and MACH2 and the spectrum of other pests that each controls.



Typical grub damage symptoms on turf

photo courtesy Dr. David Shetlar

Both Merit and MACH2 are excellent at controlling billbug larvae. If Merit is used, use the higher label rate (e.g., 0.4 lb. active ingredient per acre) and make the application in the last two weeks of May. If

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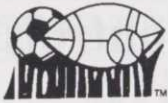


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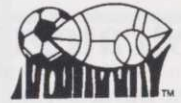
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## Chapter Events



**Congratulations and Welcome to STMA's Two Newly Affiliated Chapters: The Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association and the Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association.**

### **Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association:**

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: GA-STMA will meet on September 6 at Georgia Tech in Atlanta. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact Lori Turek at 770-509-3663 or [gastma@earthlink.net](mailto:gastma@earthlink.net).

### **Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association:**

PNWSTMA is in the process of planning a Field Day at the Mariners for August 19. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact in Washington, Jay Warnick at [JayW@Seahawks.com](mailto:JayW@Seahawks.com) or in Oregon, Mike Wagner at [MWagner@Oregon.UOregon.edu](mailto:MWagner@Oregon.UOregon.edu).

### **Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey:**

The SFMANJ Chapter will hold a Field Day at Dunham Park in Bernards Township New Jersey from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm on August 8. On the program are: soccer field maintenance and renovation; soil tests; Dos and Don'ts of writing specs, Equipment demos; and more.

For information on the New Jersey Chapter, or upcoming events, call Fred Castenschiold at 908-722-9830 or email to [mkc@blast.net](mailto:mkc@blast.net); or call Eleanora Murfitt, at 908-236-9118; e-mail to [HQ@stmanj.org](mailto:HQ@stmanj.org).

### **Minnesota Chapter STMA:**

Minnesota Chapter STMA: The Minnesota Chapter's annual Tour on Wheels is scheduled for August 9. Attendees will tour area fields and the University of Minnesota Research facility and end the day with a St. Paul Saints baseball game. The Fall Workshop will be held in Woodbury on October 17.

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

### **Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA):**

The Michigan Chapter will participate in the MSU/MTF/MiSTMA field day which will be hosted by the MTF at Michigan State University on August 13. This event will team sports turf managers and business managers with a focus on the business end of maintaining sports fields.

For information on the Chapter or pending events, contact MiSTMA Headquarters at 517-712-3407, or email Amy Fouty, University of Michigan, at [fouty@umich.edu](mailto:fouty@umich.edu), or go to [www.mistma.org](http://www.mistma.org) to visit the chapter's new website.

### **MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association:**

The MO-Kan Chapter will hold a Fall Turf Management Field Day at the Pembroke Hill High School Football Stadium on August 14. The program will cover maintenance and repair on high use football fields, including topdressing and renovation. There will be a field painting seminar with tips and shortcuts to get fields painted accurately and efficiently. "Hands-on" practice painting custom field logos also will be offered. Instructors include: Chuck Dixon, JL Bruce & Assoc.; Brad Fresenburg, University of Missouri; Jim Wilson, Blue Valley Schools; and Field Paint and Equipment Sales Professionals.

For information on the MO-KAN STMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Jody Gill at 913-239-4121; Gary Custis at 816-460-6215, or Mike Green at 913-208-6158.

### **Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA):**

The OSTMA chapter will participate in the OSU/OTF Research Field Day in Columbus on August 14. The OSTMA Fall Field Day will be held at Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy in Cincinnati on August 20. Morning

*continued on page 8*

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**EPIC of Wisconsin, Inc.**  
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# DOC'S DUGOUT - An Inning From Our Past

By Dr. Kent Kurtz - STMA Historian

## Not So Long Ago-Success on a low Budget to reduce injuries

**D**uring the 1980's there was a period of time when many school districts were inundated with lawsuits stemming from playground and athletic field injuries. Lawyers were taking these negligence cases and many of them paid out some huge sums of money.

A special meeting of the Seattle School Board was called into session during the fall of 1982 to deal with the liability issues stemming from its high school football teams practicing on fields of dirt and rocks. Player injuries had been quite high and coaches, parents and players were very unhappy with the conditions found on the district's practice fields. It was decided that something had to be done since the district had just settled a multi-million dollar injury lawsuit. At the meeting, the board allocated \$100,000 to make improvements to eight district-owned practice fields.

Professional opinions were sought by the Seattle grounds department to determine the extent of what could be done for field improvement. The opinions were different and the cost estimates ranged from \$30,000 to \$70,000 per field. A session was held to determine what was wanted compared with what was essential. It was determined they wanted a good grass playing surface with an automatic irrigation system that could be easily maintained. It was further decided that all work on the field renovation would be accomplished in-house, except the installation of the irrigation system. Sand-based fields were also selected for player safety.

A local irrigation contractor designed the system and contracted the installation of the sprinklers for approximately \$4,000 per field. All fields were rototilled to a depth of 14 inches and clods of sod and as many rocks as possible were removed. The sprinkler system was installed using 1 1/4 inch PVC and 10 sprinkler heads to cover all grass areas within the running tracks. The playing field was covered with sand, the areas between the hash marks received a depth of 8 inches and the remainder of the field tapering to the sidelines 4 inches. The fields were seeded and within 2 weeks grass was growing. Some schools were using the fields within 120 days. Eight fields were completed at a cost that averaged \$10,150 per field, including labor.

### The Result

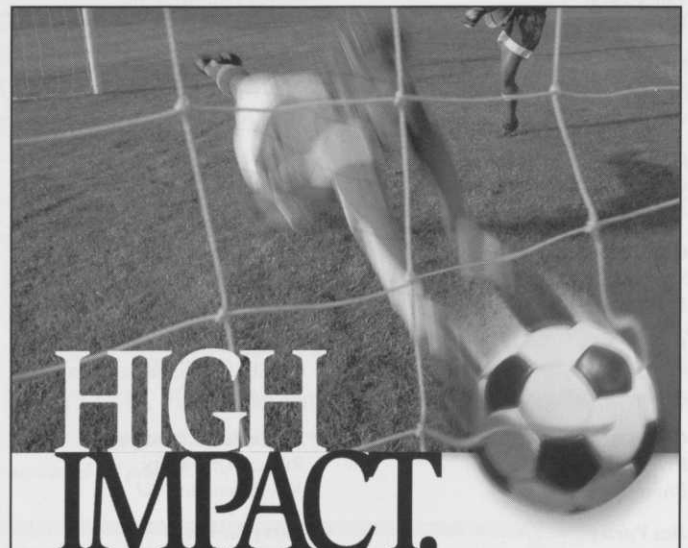
An ongoing plan was put into place that included aeration and fertilization twice per year and topdressing and overseeding once per year. Sod was grown in a sand-base so they could patch badly worn areas when needed. Through trial and error they found out that sod grown on soil would not survive if transplanted on a sand-based field.

The fields were reported to look beautiful and there

was a substantial decrease in injuries. The following are the reported injury statistics for three of the eight schools:

<u>Before Renovation (1982)</u>	<u>After Renovation (1983)</u>
387 ankle injuries	169 ankle injuries
68 knee injuries	26 knee injuries
493 wrist injuries	112 wrist injuries


It is apparent the installation of sand-based grass practice fields was the key to a reduction in player injuries. Coaches reported the cost of tape was cut by 1/3 and the life of football clothes was increased due to the elimination of the abrasive surface. The key to the success of the Seattle School District program has been the maintenance performed by school district personnel. Without good people and their dedication to the job there would not be safe fields. We at STMA applaud all of the people in the sports turf industry for their dedication, persistence and hard work to make this world a safer place to play.



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# Headquarters Report

by Steve Trusty, Executive Director

Welcome to our two newest Chapters. The Pacific Northwest and the Georgia Chapters have completed all of the necessary paperwork to become officially recognized as STMA Affiliated Chapters. I look forward to speaking to the Georgia Chapter at their September 6th meeting. We are still working on a date for me to speak to the Pacific Northwest Chapter. I had hoped to be there in August, but my open dates didn't jibe with their schedule. Chapter visits are one of the most pleasing aspects of my work with STMA. While I enjoy presenting any of the several topics that I speak on, it is most gratifying to get out and visit with so many people on the local level. It gives me a much better handle on the challenges and concerns of the Sports Turf Manager. I also get the opportunity to visit with potential members, their bosses and their employees. Other dates on the schedule include: Michigan Chapter on August 13, Greater LA Chapter on September 12 and New Jersey Chapter on December 12. I hope I can get scheduled to meet with your Chapter in the near future.

If you are involved in planning a program for your chapter or another local or regional event, check out the Speakers Bureau site on the STMA web page - [www.sportsturfmanager.com](http://www.sportsturfmanager.com). You will not only see the topics that are available from Headquarters, but many other speakers and their range of topics are listed there. Speaking of the website, do you check it regularly? There are several features of the website that I had expected members to use more frequently. Check out the discussion section. Post a question or reply to other's questions. I would think this could be very useful to you. Another area that should be getting a lot of use is the PowerLinks. Anytime you are looking for a product or service that one of our Commercial Members might be offering, check out PowerLinks. All you need to do is click on the type of product and then click on the company or companies that you want to get more information on. I would love to find that kind of service on things that I might be interested in for the STMA Headquarters.

No matter what your needs are for products and services, be sure you give those companies that are STMA sponsors and advertisers a fair shot at your business. Many of them have invested a lot in STMA. They are much more likely to continue their support if you let them know that you saw their ad or their sponsorship and that because you saw and recognized their support, you are

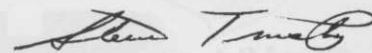
giving them a shot at your business. Thank them every chance you get for helping you and STMA.

Are you documenting your potential Award Winning Field? Now is the time to be doing that. Your copy of the Awards Booklet is enclosed in this newsletter. If you have any questions about the procedures, contact headquarters.

Another use for the website is to check out Chapter events - for your own chapter, for one you might have a chance to visit, or to get ideas for programming in your area. Each of our 25 chapters has space to list their events and other items of interest. These areas are open to the general public so they can also be used to drum up interest on the local level. If your chapter's web page could use a little work, why don't you volunteer to help out?

If you can't do that, let your Chapter Officers know what you can do to assist them. If you don't have a chapter in your area, now would be a good time to get one started. Just let Headquarters know of your interest and we'll provide all the details.

Until next issue, get more involved in YOUR Association. You'll reap benefits many times greater than what you put in.



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## Chapter Events

*continued from page 4*

educational sessions include: "Picking the Correct Seed for the Job," presented by Randy Heilman of Central Farm and Garden Center, and "Maintenance of High School Complexes," presented by Michael Bell, Director of Facilities for the school. Bell also will conduct a tour of the school's athletic facilities. The Vendor Showcase will be the focus of the afternoon events. The Chapter also will participate in the Paul Zwaska Ball Field Workshop to be held September 10 at the OSU Intramural complex off Lane Avenue in Columbus.

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.ostma.org](http://www.ostma.org).

### **Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:**

The Colorado Chapter will meet at Shea Stadium/Highlands Ranch on August 21. A meeting at Coors Field is being planned for September 10th.

For information on the Colorado Chapter, or upcoming activities, visit the Chapter's website--[www.CSTMA.org](http://www.CSTMA.org)--or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline at 303-346-8954.

### **Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:**

The Iowa Chapter will hold a Workshop on August 28 at the Muscatine Soccer Complex and Kent Stein Park in Muscatine. Rich Klimes, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation for the City, will open the Workshop at 8:30 am with a welcome to participants. Educational sessions will include: "The In's and Out's of the Construction &

Maintenance of the Muscatine Soccer Complex," presented by Kevin Vos, CSFM, Athletic Facilities Manager; "What's New in Athletic Field Grass Seed," by Dennis Christiansen of Williams Lawn Seed; "Layout & Design Tips for Painting Field Logos," and "Results of Primo Growth Regulator Program on a Soccer Field," both by Vos. Following Lunch, Vos will present "Aeration Strategies for Soccer Fields. Next "Topdressing in Sports Turf," will be presented by Mike Embree of Acme Materials. The Workshop will conclude with a tour of the Kent Stein Park Ball Diamond Complex.

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

### **Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA):**

TVSTMA is planning an August event with the Tennessee Titans.

For information on the TVSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Bill Marbet, Southern Athletic Fields, Inc., at 931-380-0023 or 800-837-8062 or visit the chapter's website: [www.tvstma.org](http://www.tvstma.org).

### **Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:**

The Arizona Chapter is again partnering with the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association for another packed day of educational sessions at the APRA 2002 Conference. The Conference will be held August 27 - 30 at Pointe Hilton Tapatio Cliffs Resort in Phoenix. August 29 will feature one break out session focused on sports turf management and one on parks maintenance. The opening two hours, from 7:00 to 9:00 AM, are devoted to registration and Trade Show viewing. Educational sessions begin at 9:00 AM and run through 2:50 PM with the lunch hour beginning at noon. Topics and speakers for the Sports Turf Sessions are: "Chemical Elimination of Rye in Overseeded Bermuda," presented by Dr. Dave Kopec, University of Arizona; "Common Sports Turf Problems," by Dr. Gil Landry, University of Georgia; "High Profile Field Preparation," by Bob Campbell, CSFM, University of Tennessee; "A World Series Year," by Grant Trenbeath, Arizona Diamondbacks; and "Turf Nutrition," by Mike Pfeiffer, Pesticide Training Resources. Registration information for this event is available on the web at: [www.azpra.org](http://www.azpra.org) or by calling 877/443-2670.

For information on the chapter, or upcoming events, contact Chris Calcaterra at e-mail:

*continued on page 12*

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**SPORTS TURF  
MANAGERS ASSOCIATION**

**AWARDS  
PROGRAM**



# **FIELD OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

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## STMA AWARDS PROGRAM

The Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) recognizes that you make personal and professional contributions to our industry and the organization you serve. Both members and non-members are encouraged to participate in the STMA Awards Program. If you are currently not a member of STMA, please join us.

This year, the following awards will be bestowed at the STMA Annual Awards Banquet, Friday, January 17, 2003, in San Antonio, Texas.

1. STMA Baseball Field of the Year Award
2. STMA Softball Field of the Year Award
3. STMA Football Field of the Year Award
4. STMA Soccer Field of the Year Award
5. STMA Founders Awards: The Dick Ericson Award, The George Toma Golden Rake Award, The Dr. William H. Daniel Award, and the Harry C. Gill Memorial Award

The Awards Program is grateful for the support of our commercial sponsors. Sponsors and their categories are as follows:

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Sponsorship of the Awards Program brings the following benefits to the designated individual of each facility achieving the Field of the Year Award:

An Award Plaque

An STMA Jacket

Registration for the STMA Annual Conference

Up to \$500 towards travel/lodging expenses for the Conference

Each Award Winning Field is featured in an issue of SPORTSTURF magazine

All entry materials must be submitted in accordance with the procedures outlined for each award. The awards committee will judge the information as submitted. **All entries MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN October 15, 2002.** Send entries to:

STMA Headquarters

1027 S. 3rd Street

Council Bluffs, IA 51503

Attn: Awards

**All Award recipients will be selected by an Awards Committee made up of five highly-regarded STMA professionals.**

Feel free to contact STMA Headquarters with any questions at  
phone: 800/323-3875 fax: 800/366-0391

# STMA BASEBALL FIELD OF THE YEAR

## CRITERIA:

The following must be submitted:

- 1.) Playability and appearance of playing surface
- 2.) Organization of maintenance program
- 3.) Uses of facility that impact playing surface
- 4.) Innovative solutions to playing surface problems

## HOW TO ENTER:

1.) No more than 15 slides or color photographs (5" x 7") - **photos are preferred** - illustrating the baseball field. The color slides or photographs (5" x 7") must include:

- Picture(s) of sideline areas, dugouts, bullpens
- Picture(s) of center of outfield area
- Picture(s) of infield area
- Picture(s) of maintenance crew(s) working with equipment on the field
- Picture(s) of overall field from behind home plate
- **IMPORTANT: Digital photos may be used for judging, but may not be suitable for publication should your entry be named Field of the Year, so please back up your digital shots with slides or prints. Send two sets of color slides or prints**

2.) Narrative description of baseball field:

- Cover page with your name, address, and telephone number, geographical location of baseball field, category of award (Professional, College, High Schools/Parks).
- A narrative not to exceed three pages double spaced of why you think your baseball field deserves to be recognized as the baseball field of the year. Included should be how many months per year facility is used, brief history and components of the facility (seating capacity, lighting, age, etc.). Also include comments on scheduling, special maintenance challenges, solutions to problems, irrigation system components, uniqueness of facility, other events/activities held on the field other than baseball, etc.
- An outline of your maintenance program not to exceed one page (can be single spaced). Include types of materials and supplies used.
- An outline of your budget for one year not to exceed one page (can be single spaced).
- A description or outline of equipment used to maintain the field (borrowed, leased or owned), not to exceed one page (can be single spaced).
- An outline or organizational chart of how your staff, crew or people are organized, including total number of maintenance staff.
- Who is to be named on the plaque if your field wins?

3.) Deadline for entries: **Entries must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN October 15, 2002**

**\*NOTE: While prints are preferred for judging, most publications prefer color slides. As you photograph your field, shoot both types of film and take some vertical shots.**

# STMA SOFTBALL FIELD OF THE YEAR

## CRITERIA:

The following must be submitted:

- 1.) Playability and appearance of playing surface
- 2.) Organization of maintenance program
- 3.) Uses of facility that impact playing surface
- 4.) Innovative solutions to playing surface problems

## HOW TO ENTER:

1.) No more than 15 slides or color photographs (5" x 7") - **photos are preferred** - illustrating the softball field. The color slides or photographs (5" x 7") must include:

- Picture(s) of sideline areas, dugouts, bullpens
- Picture(s) of center of outfield area
- Picture(s) of infield area
- Picture(s) of maintenance crew(s) working with equipment on the field
- Picture(s) of overall field from behind home plate
- **IMPORTANT: Digital photos may be used for judging, but may not be suitable for publication should your entry be named Field of the Year, so please back up your digital shots with slides or prints. Send two sets of color slides or prints**

2.) Narrative description of softball field:

- Cover page with your name, address, and telephone number, geographical location of softball field, category of award (Professional, College, High Schools/Parks).
- A narrative not to exceed three pages double spaced of why you think your softball field deserves to be recognized as the softball field of the year. Included should be how many months per year facility is used, brief history and components of the facility (seating capacity, lighting, age, etc.). Also include comments on scheduling, special maintenance challenges, solutions to problems, irrigation system components, uniqueness of facility, other events/activities held on the field other than softball, etc.
- An outline of your maintenance program not to exceed one page (can be single spaced). Include types of materials and supplies used.
- An outline of your budget for one year not to exceed one page (can be single spaced).
- A description or outline of equipment used to maintain the field (borrowed, leased or owned), not to exceed one page (can be single spaced).
- An outline or organizational chart of how your staff, crew or people are organized, including total number of maintenance staff.
- Who is to be named on the plaque if your field wins?

3.) Deadline for entries: **Entries must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN October 15, 2002.**

**\*NOTE: While prints are preferred for judging, most publications prefer color slides. As you photograph your field, shoot both types of film and take some vertical shots.**

# STMA SOCCER FIELD OF THE YEAR

## CRITERIA:

The following must be submitted:

- 1.) Playability and appearance of playing surface
- 2.) Organization of maintenance program
- 3.) Uses of facility that impact playing surface
- 4.) Innovative solutions of playing surface problems

## HOW TO ENTER:

1.) No more than 15 slides or color photographs (5"x7") - **photos are preferred** - illustrating the soccer field. The color slides or photographs (5"x7") must include:

- Picture(s) of sideline
- Picture(s) of center of the field
- Picture(s) of goal area(s)
- Picture(s) of maintenance crew(s) working with equipment on the field
- **IMPORTANT: Digital photos may be used for judging, but may not be suitable for publication should your entry be named Field of the Year, so please back up your digital shots with slides or prints. Send two sets of color slides or prints**

2.) Narrative description of soccer field:

- Cover page with your name, address, and telephone number, geographical location of soccer field, category of award (Professional, College, High Schools/Parks).
- A narrative not to exceed three pages double spaced of why you think your soccer field deserves to be recognized as the soccer field of the year. Included should be how many months per year facility is used, brief history and components of the facility (seating capacity, lighting, age, etc.). Also include comments on scheduling, special maintenance challenges, solutions to problems, irrigation system components, uniqueness of facility, other events/activities held on the field other than soccer, etc.
- An outline of your maintenance program not to exceed one page (can be single spaced). Include types of materials and supplies used.
- An outline of your budget for one year not to exceed one page (can be single spaced).
- A description or outline of equipment used to maintain the field (borrowed, leased or owned), not to exceed one page (can be single spaced).
- An outline or organizational chart of how your staff, crew or people are organized, including total number of maintenance staff.
- Who is to be named on the plaque if your field wins?

3.) Deadline for entries: **Entries must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN October 15, 2002.**

**\*NOTE: While prints are preferred for judging, most publications prefer color slides. As you photograph your field, shoot both types of film and take some vertical shots.**

# STMA FOOTBALL FIELD OF THE YEAR

## CRITERIA:

The following must be submitted:

- 1.) Playability and appearance of playing surface
- 2.) Organization of maintenance program
- 3.) Uses of facility that impact playing surface
- 4.) Innovative solutions of playing surface problems

## HOW TO ENTER:

1.) No more than 15 slides or color photographs (5"x7") - **photos are preferred** - illustrating the football field. The color slides or photographs (5"x7") must include:

- Picture(s) of sideline
- Picture(s) of center of the field
- Picture(s) of goal area(s)
- Picture(s) of maintenance crew(s) working with equipment on the field
- **IMPORTANT: Digital photos may be used for judging, but may not be suitable for publication should your entry be named Field of the Year, so please back up your digital shots with slides or prints. Send two sets of color slides or prints**

2.) Narrative description of football field:

- Cover page with your name, address, and telephone number, geographical location of football field, category of award (Professional, College, High Schools/Parks).
- A narrative not to exceed three pages double spaced of why you think your football field deserves to be recognized as the football field of the year. Included should be how many months per year facility is used, brief history and components of the facility (seating capacity, lighting, age, etc.). Also include comments on scheduling, special maintenance challenges, solutions to problems, irrigation system components, uniqueness of facility, other events/activities held on the field other than football, etc.
- An outline of your maintenance program not to exceed one page (can be single spaced). Include types of materials and supplies used.
- An outline of your budget for one year not to exceed one page (can be single spaced).
- A description or outline of equipment used to maintain the field (borrowed, leased or owned), not to exceed one page (can be single spaced).
- An outline or organizational chart of how your staff, crew or people are organized, including total number of maintenance staff.
- Who is to be named on the plaque if your field wins?

3.) Deadline for entries: **Entries must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN October 15, 2002.**

**\*NOTE: While prints are preferred for judging, most publications prefer color slides. As you photograph your field, shoot both types of film and take some vertical shots.**

## FOUNDERS AWARDS

### *The Dick Ericson Award*

Dick Ericson is one of the Founders of STMA. Besides his own sports turf management activities, he has made significant contributions to the Sports Turf Managers Association, including serving as its first President in 1981-1982. He has, and continues to have, an impact in raising the level of professionalism within the industry.

To honor all that Dick has achieved and to continue the focus on effective management and striving toward increased professionalism within the sports turf industry, The Dick Ericson Award has been established.

This Award is to be issued annually to someone who is planning and executing the sports turf management of their facility, who is effectively leading their team to accomplish their goals in field maintenance, and who is positively impacting the sports turf industry.

The Dick Ericson Award acknowledges the superior performance of the sports turf manager/management of a professional facility, parks and recreation department fields, college, university or other school athletic fields, or any other sports turf area.

#### **NOMINEES MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:**

- At least five years of service in a sport field related position
- Job performance and work ethic that consistently meet or exceed expectations
- Management techniques that make the most of existing resources
- Efficient and effective personnel management
- Constantly improves the management program, introducing creative and innovative ideas to enhance the field management program
- Receptive to ideas and creative skills of staff members and other industry professionals
- Supportive of, and works to increase professionalism within, the sports turf industry

Deadline: ***Written nominations, including why you feel the individual meets the outlined criteria, must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN October 15, 2002.***



## **FOUNDERS AWARDS**

### ***The Dr. William H. Daniel Award***

Dr. William H. Daniel was not only one of the Founders of STMA and one of its supporters, he also set the pattern for educator/researcher involvement in the Association. The partnership between the educators and researchers 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.

To honor all that Bill achieved, The Dr. William H. Daniel Award (formerly the Excellence in Research Award) recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the sports turf industry through his or her research, teaching or extension outreach. The influence of the individuals in this segment of the industry may be highly visible or behind-the-scenes. In the research area, their persistent, consistent, detailed analysis provides the data that affects sports turf management practices now and in the future. In the teaching area, their ability to instill the basics of necessary knowledge along with a quest for life-long learning is reflected far into the future by those whose lives they touch. In the extension outreach area, their ability to bring the latest in education and research to the realities of the sports turf managers' on-the-job performance raises the level of professionalism now and for decades to come.

#### **CRITERIA IN RESEARCH AREA:**

- Conducted research relevant to the sports turf industry
- Research enhanced the understanding of the sports turf industry
- Research has practical implications
- Research was published in a professional journal

#### **CRITERIA IN TEACHING AREA:**

- Developed and/or executed teaching programs relevant to the sports turf industry
- Teaching programs enhanced the understanding of the sports turf industry
- Teaching programs provide technical background and/or practical training
- Teaching programs channel outstanding individuals to the sports turf industry

#### **CRITERIA IN EXTENSION AREA:**

- Developed and/or executed extension programs relevant to the sports turf industry
- Extension programs enhanced the understanding of the sports turf industry
- Extension programs provide technical background and/or practical training
- Extension programs assist in improving quality of sports turf areas

Deadline: ***Written nominations, including why you feel the individual meets the outlined criteria, must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN October 15, 2002***

## FOUNDERS AWARDS

### *The George Toma Golden Rake Award*

George Toma is not only one of the Founders of STMA, and one of its supporters, he has served, and continues to serve, as a mentor for many of those in the sports turf industry. He continues to emphasize the importance of the entire crew in effective sports turf management. He also has proven that starting from the ground up, it's possible to achieve your highest goals - if you love what you do and give it your all - *and then some*.

To honor all that George Toma has achieved and to keep that *and then some* spirit growing and thriving within STMA, The George Toma Golden Rake Award has been established.

This Award is to be issued annually to someone who is on that quest to reach their goals and is demonstrating that "*and then some*" spirit along the way.

The George Toma Golden Rake Award acknowledges the superior performance of a sports turf crew member in "on the job" activities and in community service – the *and then some* factor.

#### **NOMINEES MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:**

- At least two years of service in a sport field related position
- Job performance that consistently meets or exceeds expectations
- Work ethic that consistently meets or exceeds expectations
- Offers ideas and brings creative skills to the department in a professional manner
- Assists in additional non-job related sports events and activities for the community
- Is a true believer in the "*and then some*" tradition of grounds maintenance

Deadline: ***Written nominations, including why you feel the individual meets the outlined criteria, must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN October 15, 2002.***

## FOUNDERS AWARDS

### *The Harry C. Gill Memorial Award*

Harry C. Gill was one of STMA's Founders and its second President, serving in that capacity in 1982 - 1983. His commitment to the sports turf profession and his desire and efforts to nurture the young STMA organization are legendary among those who were fortunate enough to have known him.

The Harry C. Gill Memorial Award was established to honor an individual for their hard work in the sports turf industry and to acknowledge their dedication to STMA. Harry himself became the first recipient of the Award. Traditionally, nominations for the Harry C. Gill Memorial Award have been made by STMA members – other than the nominee – to acknowledge an individual for "long-standing service to the STMA."

The Award itself is a rather unique piece of art, depicting a groundskeeper armed with the tools of his trade: a rake of hope; a hose of determination; a shovel of passion; a hoe of dedication; and a smile of spirited uncertainty as he rides off into the unknown atop a horse named desire.

#### Past recipients are:

- 1982 - Harry C. Gill, (deceased), Milwaukee County Stadium
- 1983 - William H. Daniel, Ph.D., (deceased) Purdue University
- 1984 - Steve Wightman, Mile High Stadium
- 1985 - Anthony Burnett, RFK Stadium
- 1986 - Kent W. Kurtz, Ph.D. Cal Poly Pomona
- 1987 - Mark Hodnick, Cal Poly Pomona
- 1988 - Dale Sandin, Orange Bowl
- 1989 - 1990 David Frey, Cleveland Stadium
- 1991 - James Watson, Ph.D. The Toro Company (retired)
- 1992 - George Toma, Kansas City Royals & NFL
- 1993 - Mike Schiller, Schaumburg Park District
- 1994 - Henry Indyk, Ph.D., GSI Consultants/Turfcon
- 1995 - Gil Landry, Ph.D., University of Georgia
- 1996 - Greg Petry, Waukegan Park District
- 1997 - Eugene Mayer, The Scotts Company
- 1998 - John Souter, Turfgrass Consultant, Scotland
- 1999 - Dale Getz, CSFM, University of Notre Dame
- 2000 - Mary Owen, University of Massachusetts
- 2001 - Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball

#### CRITERIA FOR THIS AWARD:

- STMA Membership
- Dedication for developing and maintaining quality sports turf areas
- Outstanding ability and commitment to the sports turf industry
- Professional involvement and service to the Sports Turf Managers Association on a local, regional and national level
- Professional leadership in promoting STMA, its members and the sports turf industry
- Contribution of written communications in articles, magazines, manuals, legislation and/or research

Deadline: *Written nominations, including why you feel the individual meets the outlined criteria, must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN October 15, 2002.*

## The Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA)

Because people believed that sports turf could be better through the sharing of knowledge and the exchange of ideas, the Sports Turf Managers Association came into being in 1981. The key leaders in STMA's infancy were Harry "Pops" Gill (Milwaukee County Stadium), Dr. William Daniel (Professor Emeritus, Purdue University), Dick Ericson (Minneapolis Metrodome) and George Toma (NFL, Kansas City Royals and Chiefs).

STMA members work to combine the science of growing turfgrass and the art of maintaining both natural and artificial athletic field materials to produce safe and aesthetically pleasing playing surfaces.

STMA represents all segments of the sports turf industry. STMA members are involved in the management of school, municipal and university facilities that serve amateur athletes as well as in the management of the practice and game facilities of professional sports. STMA members also include full-time students, landscape contractors, and commercial affiliates. Sports played on member facilities include soccer, baseball, softball, football, polo, racing, field hockey, boccie, lawn tennis, rugby, lacrosse and cricket. STMA is spreading country by country across the globe.

STMA's 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."



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• web site: [www.sportsturfmanager.com](http://www.sportsturfmanager.com)

## Strategies for Sports Turf Managers on Using Grub Controls

continued from page 3

MACH2 is used, make the application in the first two weeks of June.

Merit is very good at suppressing chinch bug populations (a rare occurrence in sports fields), IF it is applied in May. Once June rolls around, the chinch bug nymphs seem too big to be controlled. Again, I would recommend using the higher rate, so that you will guarantee enough residues will be present to control the white grubs that arrive in July and August. MACH2 has very little effect on chinch bugs and would not be a good choice if chinch bugs and white grubs were your major concerns.

MACH2 has excellent activity against turf-infesting caterpillars such as sod webworms. While Merit can control small caterpillars, MACH2 seems to take out both large and small stages. Therefore, if MACH2 was applied in late June, the new crop of sod webworms would be eliminated and there would still be sufficient residues present in the soil-thatch interface to control the new grub crop.

In short, what I'm talking about is what Dr. Harry Niemczyk and I have called "The Multiple Target Principle." In other words, "pests in turf do not occur one at a time at any one time," (HDN, 1999). By applying this principle, you should be able to use the new grub insecticides and get control of two to three troublesome turf insects. This can also eliminate the need of applying two to three separate insecticide applications, always an environmental plus.

To get more information on using this principle, you might want to get a copy of the recently published book, *Destructive Turf Insects*, second edition available from the *Lawn and Landscape Magazine*. The book can be ordered from their site: [www.lawnandlandscape.com](http://www.lawnandlandscape.com)

You should note that it appears that Merit, MACH2 and Meridian (a new, yet to be registered product from Syngenta) also have the ability to control grubs in late August and early September. I caution you to not use these products at this time. First, sports fields have to go into the fall season with excellent root systems. If grubs are allowed to damage the roots, there may not be sufficient time for the turf to recover sufficiently to withstand the wear-and-tear of play. Second, while Merit, MACH2 and Meridian WILL kill the larger grubs at this time period, the grubs may not show outward signs of death for 20 to 30 days after the application. Therefore, if skunks or raccoons are digging, they will not cease. On the other hand, an application of Dylox should result in dead and dying grubs within three to five days after the application - thereby stopping animal digging.

Table 1.

Ranked Efficacy of Registered White Grub Insecticides - 1976-2001<sup>1</sup>

Insecticide lb. ai./a.	rate	ave	# tests	range	% of tests
	% control			% control	below 70%
Imidacloprid (=Merit)	0.3	93.7	58	58-100	7
Halofenozide (=MACH2)	1.5	92.8	57	10-100	10
Trichlorfon (=Dylox, Proxol)	8.0	77.6	90	0-98	19
Carbaryl (=Sevin)	8.0	74.3	40	13-100	37

<sup>1</sup> Data from Insecticide and Acaricide Tests & Arthropod Management Tests, Entomological Society of America (using masked chafers and Japanese beetle evaluations 1977-2001 and label recommended application timing). Note, these data include tests up to 2000, not 2001 evaluations.

compiled by D.J. Shetlar, Sept., 2001.

Editors Note: Information also is available in the publication, "Destructive Turfgrass Insects; Biology, Diagnosis and Control," by Daniel A. Potter. - contact STMA Headquarters for purchase information.

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# How Do You Do...?

## **The question: How Do You Re-condition Your Fields Following 4th of July Activities?**

*Answered by Kevin Parnell; Grounds Maint. Supervisor; City of High Point, NC*

Whether it is baseball, soccer, cookouts, or fireworks Fourth of July activities involve the majority of our facilities and after a busy day of fun this makes for several days of work on our different athletic fields.

We begin re-conditioning with a deep watering. This is then followed up by aerification in two directions which is then followed by topdressing with a mixture of 70% sand and 30% organic matter. After dragging the mix in we apply a 34-3-11 slow release fertilizer at a rate of 100# per acre followed again by deep watering.

The final step takes place about 2 weeks after this process began. The fields are aerified once again with slicing tines in two directions.

The Fourth of July celebration for us tends to last for 2 to 3 weeks, but the results from our "celebration" helps to get us through the busy fall season.

*Answered by Chris Calcaterra, Mark Janz, Darin Budak, Al Siebert; Maintenance Crew, City of Peoria (AZ) Sports Complex*

The Fourth of July brings many enthusiastic people out to enjoy the fun, festivities, and fireworks all in one day! The problems facing turf managers is the set-up time, event time, and tear down time. If all goes well, it would be a smooth, seamless entry and exit for the event. More than likely, a turf manager will deal with many issues and concerns within a short time span before the event. Where does the stage go? Where does the beer truck park? And lastly, where to place those port-a-johns? These are necessary evils to sustain the thousands of people that come to ooh and awe at the fireworks spectacle. One of the first precautions you can take against damage to the turf areas is your watering schedule. Cut back two days out from your planned event to allow for move in and set up times. Cut back does not mean cut off. You may have to syringe several times during the day to keep the canopy cool and lessen the affects of stress on the turf plant. After you have planned your watering windows, pre-plan with the event coordinator to allow for the most minimal impact to your sensitive turf areas. Remember that forcing thousands of people into roped off vendor tents or seating areas causes severe trampled aisles. Avoid this by allowing open seating and spreading vendor tents across your event area. When moving heavy trucks and trailers into a turf area, use plywood roads to spread the weight (center of gravity). After your event you will want to survey the event area for worn and compressed areas. If applicable, aerify those areas that are compacted and fertilize the entire turf area with a starter fertilizer to begin the process of healing the turf. Resume your normal watering schedules and mowing schedules to promote growth. The most important advice of all is never let your turf area alone when vendors, contractors, and

event staff are moving in and setting up. They have little if any stake in how it looks when they leave, so, for them, the turf manager or turf manager's concerns are more of an inconvenience.

*Answered by Connie Rudolph, CSFM; Head Groundskeeper, Midway Stadium, St. Paul, MN*

The main problem I have after a Saints game on the Fourth of July is fireworks debris. On that day we cross our fingers and pray the wind is blowing out of the ballpark to make our job easier. If the wind isn't in our favor, we've had debris to pick up as far away as home plate (they are shot from behind the center-field homerun fence) and many labor hours can be spent picking up the mess. Over the years, I've tried many pieces of suction equipment, but so far the only one that does a decent job on the grass is called a "Billy Goat". It's a medium sized walk behind vacuum with a fabric bag catcher. It clearly worked better than the rest on grass. Another option, which doesn't always work

*continued on page 13*

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## Dick Doyle Wins Hall of Fame Package!

Lightning may not strike twice in the same place, but good luck obviously does. Once again Iowa claims the winner of the SAFE Pro Football Hall of Fame Raffle. Dick Doyle, Systems Control Analyst for Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, is the lucky winner. Co-worker, Todd Boyd, will join him for the trip.

As an added twist of luck, Dick's supervisor, Mike Andresen, CSFM, actually purchased the ticket for Dick. Doing his part as an STMA Board Member to support the SAFE fund raising efforts, Mike bought enough tickets to fill one out for all of his staff members. So it looks like Dick will have a pretty easy time convincing his boss to give him the time off to make the trip for the August 4th and 5th events!

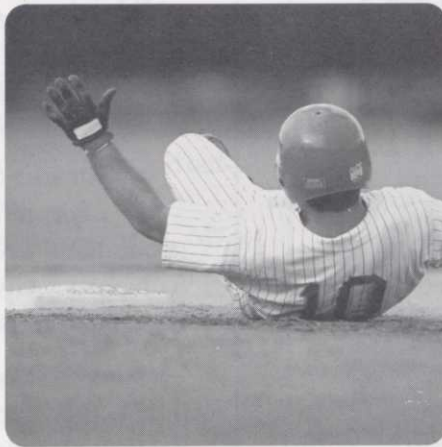
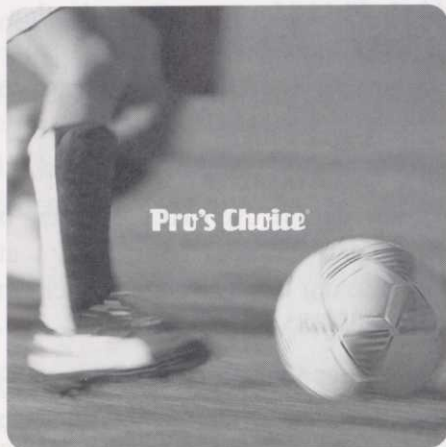
The package Dick and Todd will enjoy includes: Admission to the NFL Experience, slots in the HOF Golf Scramble, Admission to the HOF Tailgate Party, tickets to the 2002 NFL HOF Monday Night Game, travel to and from Canton, Ohio, and two nights lodging.

At that Tailgate Party, they may just have the opportunity to meet some of the impressive HOF Class of 2002: Coach George Allen, who racked up regular season stats of 49-17-4 with the Los Angeles Rams and 67-30-1 with the Washington Redskins in his 12 years of NFL coaching; Tight end Dave Casper, dubbed "The Ghost," who was not only an outstanding receiver, but also a great blocker; Defensive end Dan Hampton, who earned the nickname "Danimal" for his aggressive style of play; Quarterback Jim Kelly, who led the Buffalo Bills to four consecutive Super Bowl appearances with his mastery of the infamous "no-huddle" offense; and Wide receiver John Stallworth, who helped the Pittsburgh Steelers to four Super Bowl victories.

Proceeds from this drawing will be applied to sports specific research through the SAFE Foundation, so - thanks to all who participated.



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## Chapter Events

continued from page 8

chris@peoriaaz.com or tel. 623-412-4231 or Bill Murphy, at e-mail: bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us or 480-312-7956.

### Midwest Chapter STMA:

The Midwest Chapter's Tour on Wheels will be held in late August.

For information on the Midwest Chapter, or pending activities, visit the Chapter's website-<http://mcstma.org/>--or call Libby Baker at 847-263-7603 or email [Bake60ft6in@aol.com](mailto:Bake60ft6in@aol.com).

### Florida Chapter # 1:

The Florida Chapter will participate in the Florida Turfgrass Association Show to be held in Tampa September 16-18.

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

### The Greater LA Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:

The Chapter will have a booth at the Turfgrass and Landscape Expo (SCTC) Fairplex in Pomona on October 9 and 10. In the planning stages is an October Field Day at Edison International - date and time to be announced soon.

For information on the Chapter or pending events, call Steve Dugas, California State University - Fullerton, at 714-

278 - 3929 or email [sdugas@fullerton.edu](mailto:sdugas@fullerton.edu).

### 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.

### Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association:

For information on the Gateway Chapter, or upcoming events, call Mike Krone, Missouri Baptist College, 314-392-2328 or email [krone@mobap.edu](mailto:krone@mobap.edu).

### Indiana Chapter:

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

### Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA):

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](mailto:kafmo@aol.com).

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

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

### Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association:

For information on the Nebraska Chapter, or upcoming events, email Loren Humphrey at: [lhumphrey@cityofhastings.org](mailto:lhumphrey@cityofhastings.org) or call Gregg Bostelman, City of Grand Island, at 308-385-5426.

### North Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:

For information on the North Texas Chapter, or pending activities, contact Greg Zimmerman at 214/987-5491 or [bef-irrigation@att.net](mailto:bef-irrigation@att.net) or Rene Aspiron at 972-647-3393, or visit the website at [www.ntstma.org](http://www.ntstma.org).

### South Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:

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

### Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association:

For information on the Virginia Chapter, or other upcoming events, contact: Randy Buchanan, County of  
*continued on page 13*

## Southern Athletic Fields

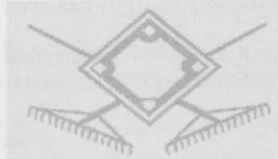
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## Chapter Events

*continued from page 12*

Henrico Recreation and Parks, via e-mail: buc06@co.henrico.va.us or at 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**

**Kentucky:** For information on the chapter forming in Kentucky, contact Tom Nielsen at TNielsen@batsbaseball.com or Aaron Boggs at AVBoggs@netscape.net.

**Las Vegas:** For information on the chapter developing in Las Vegas, contact Rod Smith, Grounds Manager/Cashman Center at e-mail: rms@lveva.com or at 702-386-7140.

**New York:** For information on the chapter forming in Central New York, contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, at e-mail: Kevin@wpe.com or at tel. 607-432-2953.

### **Across the Border Sports Turf Events**

Canada's Sports Turf Association will hold their 15th Annual Field Day on September 12 at River Oaks Recreation Centre in Oakville, Ontario. Educational sessions include: "Intelligent Irrigation," with Gregory Snaith of Rain Bird International; "The Olympic Experience," with Becky Kellar, member of the Team Canada Women's Hockey team; "Introduction to Turf Covers," with Dr. Julie Dionne of the University of Guelph; and "The Ace of Diamonds Tour Athletic Field Maintenance Seminar," with Mel Lanford. Also included in the day's events will be opportunities to view both indoor and outdoor exhibits and to meet with the exhibitors.

For more information contact Executive Manager, Ms. Lee Heuther, via e-mail: sta@gti.uoguelph.ca or at 519/763-9431.

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## How Do You Do...?

*continued from page 10*

but is worth a try, is to get the front office staff to come out and help. It's amazing how fast the work goes when there are many hands helping. But, you have to ask REALLY nice.

A couple of other 4th of July issues I've had this year have been burn marks where they ignited the fireworks on my sod nursery area and a between inning site gag, which involved contestants wrestling in a plastic pool full of potato salad. Some of the potato salad spilled on to the grass and killed a small area. On the burned turf, I put a seed/soil mixture on it. On the potato salad area, I did the same, plus sprayed it with green paint, since it was on the field area. Who knew potato salad could be so dangerous!



## Are You Ready To Tackle Certification?

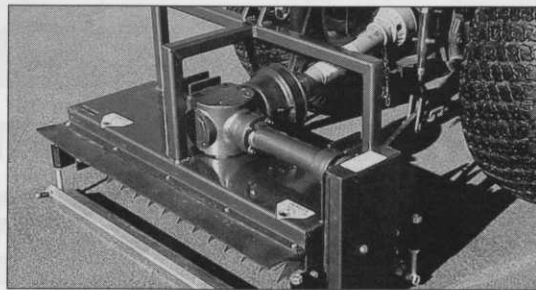
Having recognized the importance of fostering and improving professionalism within the sports turf industry, the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) developed the certification program for sports turf managers.

The STMA firmly believes that a combination of education and experience are necessary to be the best possible athletic field manager. However, it also recognizes that in a profession as diverse as the sports turf industry, experience should play a major role.

In order to successfully gain certification, you must meet certain education and/or experience requirements. These requirements were set to establish minimum criterion for becoming certified. You will notice, however, that there is a strong leaning toward experience as a sports field manager. For example, it is possible to be certified without having any formal education beyond high school if you have enough years of experience. You can not, however, become certified by virtue of education alone.

*continued on page 14*

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# Are You Ready To Tackle Certification?

continued from page 13

## CSFM Requirements

A total of 40 combined education and experience points are required to take the certification examination.

### EDUCATION

Program	Points
<i>Associates Degree</i>	
Non-Turf	2
Turf Related	8
<i>Bachelors Degree</i>	
Non-Turf	8
Turf Related	16
<i>Advanced Degree</i>	
Turf Related	24

*Note: Education points are not cumulative.*

### EXPERIENCE

Activity	Points/Year
Sports Turf Crew	1
Sports Turf Supervisor	3
Sports Turf Manager	6
Golf Asst. Supt.	1.5
Golf Superintendent	3

*No more than 50% of total experience points can be earned on a golf course.*



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The Certification Program is challenging -- and rightfully so. Its aim is to identify those who are serious about being the best they can be; those who are serious about committing themselves to a life-long goal of continually learning and growing in their profession.

The Certification Program gives you an organized list of competencies to review which provides the guidelines necessary for preparation. This step alone helps you sharpen your skills.

And then it asks you to put yourself to the test. Again, a challenge, but one you can meet and conquer.

The examination for certification covers four major areas of sports field management:

- Agronomics
- Pest Management
- Administration
- Sports Specific Field Management

If you are committed to increasing professionalism in the sports turf industry, if you are interested in providing the best sports surfaces for all levels of play, if you are interested in raising the level of sports turf management, then consider becoming a Certified Sports Field Manager.

It may be the best thing you can do for your career.

For more information on the Certified Sports Field Manager Program contact STMA Headquarters.

### **Congratulations 2002 Certified Sports Field Managers!** **The following individuals officially achieved**

#### **CSFM status in 2002:**

#### **George C. Trivett, CSFM**

Athletic Director/Teacher/Sports Turf Manger  
Granite Falls Middle School, Granite Falls, NC

#### **Brian D. Wimble, CSFM**

Sports Turf Manager  
New York Giants, Albany, NY

#### **George Bernardon, CSFM**

Sports Turf Consultant/Horticulturist  
Sodexo Services, Gaithersburg, MD

#### **Nick Gammill, CSFM**

Sports Turf Supervisor  
American University, Washington, DC

#### **James R. Rodgers, CSFM**

Sports Field Manager  
University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

#### **Michael Wagner, CSFM**

Manager of Grounds  
University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

#### **Jay Warnick, CSFM**

Field Director  
Seattle Seahawks, Seattle (Kirkland), WA

#### **James Hermann, CSFM**

President  
Total Control, Lebanon, NJ

# Professional Development - Molding a Team

The ultimate test of management is the ability to motivate and encourage individual employees to work together as a team. Most managers say their greatest asset is their people. Yet, many managers focus more on their operating systems than their operators.

Molding a group of individuals into a well-functioning team doesn't just happen. It takes planning, action and follow through.

First, clearly define your program's goals and objectives. Establish the big picture with your overall goal - such as providing the best sports surfaces for all levels of play. Then define the broad, yet specific, objectives that must be

met to achieve those goals. This might be an outline of the level of maintenance required for each game field and each practice field, or the annual maintenance program for each field or field group broken down by month, or the schedule of events that will be held on the fields, or a combination of all these details. This helps all personnel understand the objectives and focus on the goals.

Next define individual job assignments and responsibilities and the contributions these make in meeting the objectives. In other words, define the role of each employee and how it impacts field quality. This helps individuals recognize the importance of their contributions and the contributions of others and helps them function as a team working toward a common goal.

Provide the proper training, tools and materials to enable each individual to fulfill their assignments and responsibilities. Do make sure each person has the ability and skills necessary to successfully complete each aspect of the job. Do encourage individuals to "think outside the box" and to provide ideas and suggestions to perform tasks more effectively or efficiently and to improve overall field maintenance programs or field quality.

When and where possible, allow employees the flexibility to organize their tasks in a manner that best matches their working speed and performance levels.

Do accept the fact that mistakes will be made and problems will occur. Do establish the policy that the individual and staff are to focus on rectifying the mistakes and solving the problems, rather than assigning blame.

Do support continued success by complimenting individuals, assignment groups, and the entire team on a job well done.



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