

STMA IN ACTION

ASSOCIATION NEWS

WADDLE KEYNOTES MIDWEST CHAPTER'S ANNUAL MEETING



Chicago Bears wide receiver Tom Waddle presented the keynote address to more than 125 sports turf managers during the Midwest Chapter's Second Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet in March. The program consisted of morning educational sessions, a luncheon, and the awards program.

Waddle related his experiences over three years as a professional athlete. He credited the excellent condition of the Bears' Training Center in Lake Forest, IL, for his success in staying well conditioned and healthy. Head Groundskeeper Ken Mrock and his assistant, John Berta, were singled out by Waddle for their contribution to the Bears' organization.

During the morning program, Harvey Foster, baseball coach at Hersey High School, related his experience in getting involved with the grounds maintenance crew on a major ball diamond project. Foster said that the combined efforts of the athletic department and the grounds maintenance department produced a quality field in addition to an improved team record and player pride.

The evolution of athletic field maintenance equipment was addressed by a panel of two distributors and one manufacturer. Rick Johnson represented Illinois Lawn Equipment, Inc. and Steve Stewart spoke for Chicago Turf and Irrigation. Terry Brown and Bill Chestnut with John Deere rounded out the panel.

Arthur Clesen, Inc., was honored for

its active participation, dedication, and service to the chapter. Mike Schiller, sales representative for Clesen, received the President's Award for service from chapter president Greg Petry.

STMA OFFICERS FOR 1992 ELECTED

The 1992 slate of officers for the Sports Turf Managers Association recommended by the nominating committee was elected during the Annual Conference in San Diego, CA.

Dr. Gil Landry with the University of Georgia in Griffin is president. Greg Petry, superintendent of parks for the Waukegan Park District in Waukegan, IL, was uncontested as president-elect. Larry Perotti with Sharp Brothers Seed Co., in Greeley, CO, is vice president (commercial). Rounding out the slate of officers are Secretary Dr. David Minner with the University of Missouri, Columbia, and Treasurer Ken Mrock of the Chicago Bears.

The five boardmembers elected for 1992 include: Stephen Guise with Santa Anita in Arcadia, CA; Jesse Cuevas,

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr. Gil Landry, Jr.

The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) is an international organization whose primary mission is to develop voluntary standards for



materials, products, systems, and services. It provides a forum for procedures, users, consumers and those having an interest to meet on common ground and write standards.

ASTM committee F-8, Sports Equipment and Facilities, is working on two issues which will affect the sports turf industry. The first is the development of a standard method for measuring field hardness. The second is to develop standard guidelines or practices for the design, construction, and maintenance of natural turfgrass fields.

It is generally assumed that such standards would be used in contracts, construction specifications, for deter-

mining liability for injury due to field conditions, etc. These standards should become a tool to obtain equipment, supplies and labor to maintain acceptable conditions.

Such standards may speed up our natural evolutionary process of developing more high-quality sport surfaces and facilities. These standards may also create opportunities for well-trained sports turf managers. In any case, the need for more technically trained sports turf managers will always be with us. As budgets grow, so do the expectations and demands for quality surfaces and facilities.

STMA members directly involved with these ASTM committees include Steve Wightman with San Diego's Jack Murphy Stadium and Dale Hansen with Kramer Sports Surfaces. STMA intends to provide its expertise for these and future issues that directly or indirectly affect our profession. One such issue which might become closely related to these standards is professional certification, which we will discuss in the future.

**Sports
Turf
Managers Association**