

# STMA IN ACTION

## ASSOCIATION NEWS

### BASEBALL DIAMOND WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Baseball groundskeepers from Florida to Arizona got the good news in February that they had won the 1991 Baseball Diamond of the Year Awards. The panel of four Major League groundskeepers selected the three winners from more than three dozen entries. The contest is co-sponsored by the STMA, sportsTURF magazine, and Partac Peat Corporation of Great Meadows, NJ.

The professional diamond of the year award has been awarded to the St. Lucie County Sports Complex in Port St. Lucie, FL. Stadium Superintendent Greg Kaufman and Project Manager Rick Wise submitted the entry for the multi-field spring training complex of the New York Mets.

The collegiate diamond of the year award went to Illinois State University in Normal, IL. Superintendent of Grounds Charles Scott and Athletic Turf Specialist Mike O'Grady entered Redbird Field and captured the college prize.

Apache Junction High School in Apache Junction, AZ, won the school, park, and municipal category. Voted the best high school baseball field in Arizona by the Arizona Baseball Coaches Association, the field is under the direction of coach Mark Cisterna and groundskeeper Chad Mulholland.

Stories on the facilities will appear in the next three issues of sportsTURF magazine.

The distinguished panel of judges for this year's contest were: Don Marshall, recently retired operations manager of the stadium and golf courses in Anaheim, CA; Gary Vandenberg, head groundskeeper at Milwaukee County Stadium; Ralph Frangipani with the Philadelphia Phillies; and Larry Norton with the San Francisco Giants.

Entries for the 1992 Baseball Diamond of the Year Award will be accepted up to November. Groundskeepers who would like to enter should take photos during the season to include with their entry.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Dr. Gil Landry, Jr.*

**O**ur present game plan began forming with the election of new board members and officers during the annual meeting in San Diego. I want to commend nominations committee chair, Steve Cockerham. We have six excellent new members joining the board this year. They include Larry Perotti, Stephen Guise, Jesse Cuevas, Dr. Henry Indyk, Joe Ardolino, and Bob Milano. Those board members present in San Diego worked long and hard trying to match our limited resources with our priorities.

The board settled on the following 10 priorities listed here with individuals responsible for pursuing this objective with our executive director. The first priority, aligning our association with an existing national publication, was completed January 15 through great work by Greg Petry, our president-elect.

The other priorities include:

1. Providing support for Aimcor and Pro's Choice educational seminars (Steve Wightman);
2. Developing Little League educational seminars (Dr. Henry Indyk);
3. Establishing educational seminars in four metropolitan areas (Larry Perotti);
4. Publishing a bi-monthly newsletter (Mike Schiller);
5. Developing Youth Soccer educational programs (Bob Milano);
6. Working with the American



Federation of High School Associations to develop educational programs (Dr. David Minner);

7. Developing a short-term budget to see us through our financial deficit (Ken Mrock);

8. Establishing chapter development standards which take into account both national and chapter needs (Greg Petry);

9. Conducting five regional institutes in the Northeast (Indyk); Carolinas (Landry); Midwest (Schiller); California (Guise); and Northwest (Cuevas).

Other key items being addressed by the association now include:

1. Formal arrangements with national publications for regular coverage of STMA activities. This job is being handled by Publicity Chair, Bob Tracinski of Deere & Co.

2. Working on a committee of the American Society for Testing and Materials to develop standards pertaining to playing surfaces of recreational fields. Dr. Minner heads the effort at the national level and is assisted by Steve Wightman for baseball fields and Dale Hansen, Kramer Sports Surfaces, for artificial surfaces.

Let me close by encouraging your involvement in STMA because it is nothing without you. With the support of our board, our chapters, and you, our members, there is no reason 1992 can't be our best yet!