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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Gil Landry Jr.

The development of professional relationships or networking can and should be one of the more rewarding aspects of association membership. It is natural for individuals to share personal experiences, and most professionals enjoy sharing their views of turfgrass management. In fact, I feel this sharing is one of the best services an association can facilitate.



Many of the professional turf managers I have had the good fortune to work with will visit regularly with their professional associates to compare growing conditions, to get another opinion on some article, to ask their opinion of some new product or technique, and so on. Sports Turf Managers Association encourages networking like most associations do.

STMA members recently received one of the association's best networking tools, our *STMA 1993-94 Membership Roster & Resource Manual*. This manual represents an important forum for information exchange throughout the country. Together, members can learn,

grow, and increase the knowledge and scope of our rapidly expanding profession.

About three years ago, U.S. cities with synthetic turf fields that wanted to bid for the 1994 World Cup soccer championship tournament realized they had to figure out how to apply natural grass over synthetic turf if they hosted the event. One result of this dilemma is the development of a patent on "transportable natural turfgrass playing surfaces," called Integrated Turf Management by The Greenway Group in Horsham, PA. Turf grown in transportable modules was installed in the Silverdome in Detroit with the assistance of Michigan State University.

Two of the parties involved in this state-of-the-art process. Dr. Henry Indyk of the Greenway Group and Dr. Trey Rogers of Michigan State University will be sharing their experiences on these systems with STMA at our annual conference and exhibition November 7-9, in Baltimore. What a great opportunity to hear about this new technology! Obviously, there will be many other educational opportunities, tours and exhibits at the conference. Look for more information in future issues of *sportsTURF*, or call STMA headquarters at (312) 644-6610.

STMA Chapter News

Florida Chapter #1, STMA: The International Turfgrass Society Research Conference will take place July 18-24 in Palm Beach, FL, with headquarters at the Breakers Hotel.

Sports turf managers are encouraged to attend the July 23 symposium "Quantification of Surface Characteristics of Sports Fields," which will be chaired by Dr. D.V. Waddington of Penn State University. Scheduled sessions are as follows:

8:25 - 8:30 a.m. — Introduction and announcements by Dr. Waddington.

8:30 - 9:10 a.m. — "Concepts of Playing Quality: Criteria and Measurements," by S.W. Baker and P.M. Canaway, Sports Turf Research Institute.

9:10 - 9:50 a.m. — "Alteration of Sports Field Characteristics Using Management Practices," by S.T. Cockerham, V.A. Gibeault and R.A. Khan, University of California.

10 - 10:40 a.m. — "Soil and Turf Properties Governing Playing Quality," by P.M. Canaway and S.W. Baker, Sports Turf Research Institute.

10:40 - 11:20 a.m. — "A Multivariate Risk Analysis of Natural Grass and AstroTurf Playing Surfaces in the National Football League, 1980-1989 — an Epidemiological Study of Ankle Injuries," by J.S. Powell and M. Schootman, University of Iowa.

11:20 - Noon — "Playing Quality, Performance and Cost-Effectiveness of Soccer Pitches in the UK," by R.J. Gibbs, NZ Turf Culture Institute, W.A. Adams, University College of Wales, and S.W. Baker, Sports Turf Research Institute.

1:30 p.m. - 2:10 p.m. — "A National Approach to the Performance Testing of Cricket Grounds and Lawn Bowling Greens," by K.W. McAuliffe and R.J. Gibbs, NZ Turf Culture Institute.

2:10 - 2:50 p.m. — "Present Status of Quantification of Sports Turf Surface Characteristics in North America," by