

## STMA Conference Called a Success

By all accounts, the STMA's Sixth Annual Conference and Exhibition in Bradenton, FL, was a tremendous success. Cochairs **Mike Schiller** (Schaumburg Park District), **Dr. Henry Indyk** (Turfcon) and **Eugene Mayer** (O.M. Scott) put together a program that drew attendees and exhibitors from all walks.

In terms of attendance, the 1995 conference was the best ever. Attendance has tripled in the past three years. We intend to build



Attendees examine outdoor exhibits at the STMA Conference and Exhibition in Bradenton, FL.

on this success with the 1996 Conference, which will be held in Anaheim, CA, January 24-28. The week began with a Saturday bus tour of local municipal, college and professional sports turf facilities. On Sunday, we were greeted by Bradenton Mayor **William A. Evers** and international sports turf experts **Dr. James Beard** (Sports Turf Institute) and **John Souter** (Souter of Sterling). **Tom Jadin** of Winnebago Mental Health Institute ended the day with some excellent guidance on stress management.

On Monday, we had a full day of education with break-outs on regional agronomics, equipment maintenance, sod installation, rebuilding and grooming infields, irrigation and a session highlighting several technological advances. The STMA Annual Awards Banquet was the highlight of Monday evening. **Larry Barnett**, American League senior umpire, capped off the banquet with a look inside baseball.

**STMA Award Winners:** (front row, left to right) Ed Birch; Jim Puhalla, project manager, Dave Dravecky Field, Boardman (OH) High School; Mike Williams, head groundskeeper, Binghamton (NY) Municipal Stadium; Timothy Moore, Chesapeake Chapter STMA; (back row, left to right) Joe Maruskin, Dave Dravecky Field; Steve Roser, SportScore Soccer Complex; Dan Bergstrom, Iowa State University; Chris Bunnell, Southern California Chapter STMA; Bob Curry, Covermaster; and Dr. David Minner, Iowa State University.

### CHAPTER NEWS

**Midwest Chapter:** "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" is the theme of the July 19 meeting. The event will begin with a tour of the Rockford, IL, Park District Sports Core, chosen by the STMA as the 1994-95 Soccer Field of the Year. The meeting will move to Marinelli Field, home of the Rockford Cubs, for a behind-the-scenes tour. Participants can stay for that night's baseball game. The Midwest

Chapter will charter a bus from Chicago for this meeting. More details will be announced soon.

Chapter board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month. For more information about the July meeting, bus arrangements, or information about the chapter or upcoming events, call the Chapter Hotline, (708) 439-4727.

**Colorado Chapter:** The Colorado Chapter will hold a summer seminar/workshop at Coors Field in Denver on June 29. For more information on the

Awards of Distinction were given in the following categories: Harry Gill Memorial Award — **Dr. Henry Indyk** (Turfcon); Football Field of the Year — **Don Wirick** (Meriville High School, Meriville, IN); Soccer Field of the Year — **Steve Roser** (Sportscore); Research — **Dr. David Minner** (Iowa State University); Baseball Diamond of the Year (School, Municipal or Park) — **Dave Dravecky Field**, Boardman High School, Boardman, OH; Baseball Diamond of the Year (College) — **E.M. Stevens Baseball Field**, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX; Baseball Diamond of the Year (Professional) — **Binghamton Municipal Stadium**, Binghamton, NY, (Mets); and 1995 Scholarship — **Daniel Bergstrom**, Iowa State University.

The results of the election for the two open board of director positions were also announced at the banquet. **Mary Owen**, University of Massachusetts extension agent, and **L. Murray Cook**, stadium superintendent of the city of West Palm Beach, will each serve a two-year term. Other director positions remain unchanged through 1995.

On Tuesday, more than 60 exhibitors showcased their products and services on a full day of outdoor exhibits, hands-on demonstrations and education. The conference ended Wednesday with the seats still full for a half day of educational sessions. As the hotel emptied following adjournment, one attendee remarked, "That was like four years of education in four days."

## STMA

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seminar, the Colorado Chapter or other upcoming activities, call: Ross Kurcab, Denver Broncos, (303) 629-9000; or Mark Leasure, Colorado Springs Sky Sox, (719) 597-1449.

**Southern California Chapter:** San Diego Jack Murphy Stadium will host the Southern California Chapter on Sunday, June 25, for a behind-the-scenes tour. Cost is \$30 and includes private sky box seating for the Padres-Rockies game. For information call Steve Wightman, (619) 525-8272 or Chris Bunnell, (619) 432-2421.