

THE FRONT OFFICE

OPINION PAGE



The Ideal Forum

Before dealing with an event of significance, the upcoming STMA annual conference, let me first introduce myself as the new editor of *sportsTURF*. Mike Augsdorfer, my predecessor, left this publication to pursue other interests — but not without passing

along his warmest regards to STMA members and others in the turf industry.

I look forward to following in Mike's footsteps and especially to meeting as many STMA members as possible at the annual conference. The members I have talked to so far have proven very cordial and helpful, and I hope your kind assistance continues. My knowledge of sports turf is not so much comprehensive as intimate — from having my face buried in a football field beneath a 200-pound linebacker. With the help of STMA members, I hope to become better grounded in this fascinating industry.

So, let's all meet in Anaheim January 24 through 28 for STMA's Seventh Annual Conference & Exhibition. This issue carries a full-page ad outlining what the conference offers as well as information on how to get more details.

Billed as the "one place to find all your 'Sports Turf Solutions,'" the conference offers a kaleidoscope of exhibitors, seminars, workshops, demonstrations, tours and local attractions such as Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm. Throw in future Hall-of-Famer Tony Gwynn of the San Diego Padres as the keynote speaker at STMA's annual Awards Banquet, and you have half the conference. The other half is the chance to compare problems, exchange solutions or just shoot the breeze with other turf managers from around the country — easily the best form of education available.

After almost two decades in the magazine business, this writer has learned that readership makes a magazine. The collected experiences, knowledge and wisdom of readers is far greater than that of an editorial staff, which primarily serves as an information bureau through which readers educate themselves and others. If you have comments, corrections or tips, send them to us; we'll make room to print them. Working together, we can create turf just a bit tastier for those quarterbacks who get stuffed into it.

Jim Wilkin

EVENTS

CALENDAR

November

27-28 OSHA Compliance Workshop. Aladdin Hotel, Las Vegas, NV.

To register or for more information, contact Keye Productivity Center, (800) 821-3919 or (913) 345-2140. (Also offered November 29-30 in Los Angeles, CA; December 4-5 in Oakland, CA and December 6-7 in San Jose, CA.)

27-29 North Central Turfgrass Exposition. Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, IL. Contact: Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, (312) 201-0101.

December

1 Deadline to register for 60-hour "Green School," offered by the University of Massachusetts Extension, January 3-March 21, 1996. Fee: \$350. CEUs and certificates offered for passing grades. Contact: Kathleen Carroll, (413) 545-0895 or Mary Owen, (508) 892-0382.

5-8 Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference and Trade Show. Columbus, OH. Contact: (614) 261-6750.

6-8 Forty-second Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Regional Turfgrass Association. Currigan Hall, Denver, CO. Contact: (303) 688-3440.

11-13 Texas Turfgrass Conference and Show, sponsored by the Texas Turfgrass Association. Houston. Contact: Shirley Duble, executive director, (409) 693-1656.

12-14 1995 Georgia Turfgrass Conference and Show, sponsored by the Georgia Turfgrass Association. Georgia International Conference Center, Atlanta. Contact: (770) 975-4123.

17-18 Twenty-sixth Annual National High School Athletic Directors Show. San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA. Contact: National Federation of State High School Associations, (816) 464-5400.

continued on page 9