

Bigger, Better in Yuma

By Larry R. Munoz

The City of Yuma/STMA Fourth Annual Sports Turf and Equipment Show, held on Friday, December 6, 1996, in Yuma, AZ, at Desert Sun Stadium, was our biggest and best ever. Over 200 participants gathered for the event, coming not only from Yuma and the surrounding area, but also from across the state. A record-breaking total of 28 vendors set up displays of turf and maintenance equipment, irrigation supplies, fertilizers and soil amendments, safety equipment, and other turf-related products.

Three outstanding guest speakers were on the program. Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale, gave an excellent slide presentation on infield maintenance featuring procedures on dragging, watering and maintaining that essential level edge from the turf to the skinned areas. He also focused on the types of equipment needed to handle infield maintenance procedures.

Dr. Dave Kopec, turfgrass specialist from the University of Arizona, gave an in-depth presentation on fertilization, mowing and turfgrass maintenance.

Dr. Chip Howard from TurfScience Inc. gave an excellent slide presentation on golf course maintenance featuring both general maintenance procedures and the overseeding process.

Outside demonstrations were added to the program for the first time this year. Jason Jarrett and Tony Ramos from the City of Yuma demonstrated pitching mound maintenance with special attention on getting the proper slope on the mound. They also demonstrated methods of edging the base paths. Craig Magdaleno and Jose Ortiz from the City of Yuma demonstrated batters box maintenance, with an extra focus on the proper steps in adding clay to the batters boxes and in front of the pitching rubbers. Dan Brower, certified arborist from Terra Verde, put on a very good demonstration on tree selection, tree trimming and general tree maintenance. Jake Pryde from Yuma Sprinkler and Bob Schottke from Hunter Industries gave an excellent program on irrigation and precipitation and provided attendees



Jason Jarrett demonstrates techniques of infield maintenance. Photos courtesy: Larry R. Munoz.

with handouts on their presentation.

Following lunch — a Mexican buffet that gave vendors and attendees an opportunity for conversation and networking — the participants moved to the exhibits that were set up on the three practice fields and the patio area. Vendors were on hand to demonstrate products and answer questions. Many of the exhibitors also provided participants with the opportunity for hands-on sessions with the equipment and supplies.

Response to the Kick-Off Golf Tournament was great. It was added to the program for the first time this year and will become a regular feature. Eight foursomes played in the tournament at Desert Hills Golf Course. A scramble format was used. The course was in excellent condition,



A record-breaking total of 28 vendors set up displays of turf equipment and related products.

and the new clubhouse won rave reviews.

On the winning team, from Horizon Turf Inc., were Greg Lewis, Larry Robinson, Bobby Johnston and Dale Lovell. They shot an outstanding round of 65. Coming in second, with a team score of 67, were Ron Ramirez and Joel Hubbard from Yuma Parks and Recreation, Mike Zozoza from the City of Yuma Fire Department, and Joe Robinson from the City of Yuma Public Works Department. Tim Meyers from Yavapia Sports Surfaces won closest to the pin, while the longest drive was won by Mike Zozoza.

Special thanks go to our speakers, demonstration leaders and exhibitors; and to the City of Yuma Parks and Recreation athletic field crew, the Baseball Complex crew, and the Desert Hills Golf Course crew, especially staff members Don King and Phil Swinford; and to Anna, Sandy, Diana, and especially Erica from the Parks office staff for making this an outstanding event.

Make plans now to attend our Fifth Annual Sports Turf and Equipment Show on December 6, 1997.

Larry R. Munoz is park supervisor for City of Yuma Parks and Recreation.

STMA Chapter News

Colorado Chapter: The Colorado Chapter extends a big *thank you* to all those who attended STMA's 8th



Bill Murphy gives a slide presentation featuring procedures on dragging, watering and maintaining a level edge from turf to skinned areas.

Annual Conference and Exhibition in Colorado Springs. We appreciated the opportunity to "show off" some of our prime sports venues and our beautiful section of the country and the chance to get to know so many sports turf managers from other areas. We're issuing an open invitation to all to come back and see us again.

The Colorado Chapter has elected its 1997 Board. Returning as president for a second term is Dave Rulli, assistant stadium manager with Jeffco Schools. Vice president is Abby McNeal, Pleasant View Fields; and commercial officer is Mitch Hovet, United Horticultural Supply. The Board of Directors for 1997 includes John Kasza, City of Westminster Parks; Jeff Henke, City of Fort Collins Parks; Ken Norkosky, City of Aurora Parks; Troy Smith, Denver Broncos; and Kim Rice, Foothills Parks and Recreation.

The entire chapter expresses thanks to its "retiring" executive secretary, Troy Smith, for his dedication and service — and welcomes the new executive secretary, Bobbi Smith.

After pitching in to host National, the new board is focusing on plans for future 1997 events.

For information on the Colorado Chapter and upcoming events, call the 24-Hour CSTMA Chapter Hotline/FAX: (303) 438-9645.

Iowa STMA: Plans are in the works for an exciting and event-filled 1997 for the Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association. For more information on the Iowa Chapter or upcoming

activities, contact Lori Westrum at The Turf Office at (515) 232-8222 (phone) or (515) 232-8228 (fax).

Florida Chapter #1: The Florida Chapter is planning the event schedule for 1997. For information on upcoming activities or the Florida Chapter, contact John Mascaro (954) 938-7477.

Southern California Chapter: The Southern California Chapter of STMA has elected its 1997 officers. Returning as president is Chris Bunnell. Vice president is Dave Ashman; commercial vice president is Dave Renner; secretary is Bruce Boman, and treasurer is Bob Womack. Special events for the year are in the planning stages.

For information on the Southern California Chapter or pending activities, contact Chris Bunnell at (619) 432-2421.

Minnesota Chapter: The Minnesota Chapter of STMA is in the process of planning the event schedule for 1997.

For information on the Minnesota Chapter or upcoming activities, contact Brian Deyak at (320) 255-7223.

Midwest Chapter: The Midwest Chapter of STMA is putting together the 1997 schedule of events.

For information on the Midwest Chapter or pending events, call The Chapter Hotline (847) 439-4727.

STMA Chapters on the Grow

Great Plains STMA: The Great Plains Sports Turf Managers Association has two seminars in the works. The first will be held on February 13th at Rockhurst College in Kansas City. The second will be held on February 20th at the old High School Building in Goddard, Kansas. Each of the day-long Seminars will cover essentially the same format and topics with many of the same speakers participating in both Seminars. Key speakers include Mark Schimming, Mark Altman of Altman & Altman Consulting, and Steve Keeley of Kansas State University.

For information on these meetings, the Great Plains Sports Turf Managers Association, or other pending events, contact Mark Schimming at (316) 729-5839.

Arizona: For information on the Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona or upcoming events, contact Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale Parks and Recreation Department, at (602) 994-7954. □

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