



Examples of Sports Turf

Like last year, the voting was very close for this year's 1996-97 Field of the Year Awards. Read the article about the amazing Dodd Stadium in this issue and see if you don't agree that it deserves to win just about any contest of beauty. Yet it edged the runner-up in its category by one point. It therefore came away not so much *the* winner as an example of the kind of work sports turf managers today in general are doing.

As one of the judges for the Beam Clay Baseball Diamond of the Year Awards wrote on his ballot: "All of the participants deserve to win. It was tough to judge, and all deserve to be rewarded. Thank you for having me for a judge. I read all the entries, and all were very good."

Saying this, he recognized all entrants for their "excellence in maintaining safe, professional quality diamonds" — the standards by which the Beam Clay Awards are judged. He also voiced the praise of the other judges, a panel consisting of the following Major League groundskeepers: Joe Mooney, Boston Red Sox (AL-East); Tom Burns, Texas Rangers (AL-West); Barry Foley, Pittsburgh Pirates (NL-Central); and Steve Peeler, St. Louis Cardinals (NL-Central).

Through articles in the next two issues, you will see the other shining examples the judges selected for the Beam Clay Awards. Then in subsequent magazines, you'll get to meet the winners of the prestigious STMA Field Awards, which presented its judges with equally tough choices.

To everyone who submitted a field for consideration, the staff of this magazine thanks you for entering the race and allowing us to look on. And, of course, we must congratulate the following for leading their respective packs:

- Beam Clay Professional Baseball Diamond: Thomas J. Dodd Memorial Stadium, Norwich, Connecticut; Will Schnell, stadium superintendent.
- Beam Clay College Baseball Diamond: Mark Light Stadium, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida; Kevin Hardy, head groundskeeper.
- Beam Clay Schools/Municipalities/Parks Baseball Diamond: Wausau Athletic Park, Wausau, Wisconsin; Greg Freix, park manager.
- STMA Softball Field: Jim Drikakis Field of John Bailey Park, Battle Creek, Michigan; Mike Varner, head groundskeeper.
- STMA Soccer Field: Legion Field, Birmingham, Alabama; James Boynton III, director.
- STMA Collegiate Football Field: Jack Trice Field, Cyclone Stadium, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa; Mike Andresen, athletic turf manager.
- STMA High School Football Field: Flinn Memorial Stadium, Quincy, Illinois; Kurt Knuf, turf manager.
- STMA Special Recognition for Community Involvement and Most Improved Field in a Year's Time: John Reed Football Field of Riverside High School, Oakland, Iowa; Richard Harris, athletic director; Dave Thomas, school superintendent; and Charles Vance, landscaper.

March

18 "Irrigation System Operation and Principles of Design," an educational seminar cohosted by the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents and the GCSAA. Bethesda, Md. Phone: (800) 472-7878.

18 "Turfgrass Ecology," an educational seminar cohosted by the Central New York Golf Course Superintendents Association and the GCSAA. Syracuse, N. Y. Phone: (800) 472-7878.

19 "Irrigation Water Quality," an educational seminar cohosted by the Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents and the GCSAA. Philadelphia, Pa. Phone: (800) 742-7878.

19-20 18th Annual CLCA Landscape Industry Show. Long Beach, Ca. Contact: Kim Heckes. Phone: (916) 448-2522.

20 "Turfgrass Stress Management," an educational seminar cohosted by the Greater Cincinnati Golf Course Superintendents Association and the GSCAA. Cincinnati, Ohio. Phone: (800) 472-7878.

20 "Drainage Systems," an educational seminar cohosted by the Cactus & Pine Golf Course Superintendents Association and the GCSAA. Phoenix, Ariz. Phone: (800) 472-7878.

April

22-23 University of California Extension - Davis, in cooperation with U.C. Cooperative Extension, offers "Integrated Turfgrass Pest Management for Professionals." Contact: University Extension, University of California, Davis, CA 95616. Phone: (916) 757-8899.

Send announcements of your events two months in advance to:
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