

Rolling Stones Help

Kickoff Nor-Cal

When the Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association held its first ever meeting at the Alameda County Complex, its 170 members were greeted by a massive six story stage built for the Rolling Stones' "Bridges to Babylon" tour. Throughout the day, stage hands and construction crews assembled the intricate steel-rigging using cranes, forklifts, tractors and trucks. It was easy to see the challenges the extravagant show presented the turf manager, who was expected to grow a high-quality professional sports field under those conditions.

Attendees of the grand opening had a chance to observe activities on the field from the country-club-like setting of the Coliseum's West Side Club, where Nor-Cal STMA President **Sal Genito** opened the day's activities. He introduced

and thanked the chapter's 17 commercial sponsors, who made a strong commitment to the group by providing seed money to establish the chapter. Without these commercial supporters' willingness to get involved, the chapter would not exist.

Next came presentations by **Bob Milano**, sports turf manager, University of California, Berkeley, on sand-based field technology; **Steve Trusty**, STMA executive director, on the national association and its services; and **Steve Wightman**, turf manager, Qualcomm



As Nor-Cal's meeting progressed, so did construction of the six-story-high stage for the Rolling Stones tour.

Stadium, on sports turf management "then and now."

Wightman focused on how our profession has changed over the last 20 years, and how professional associa-

PRO'S Choice®

INFIELD PRODUCTS

Improve Playing Conditions

- SOILMASTER** Infield Conditioner
 - Improves Infield Soil
 - Reduces Compaction
 - Absorbs Excess Water
- PRO MOUND** Mound/Batters Box Packing Clay
 - Eliminates Deep Wear Holes
 - Provides Firm Footing
 - Reduces Maintenance
- RAPID DRY** Infield Conditioner
 - Stabilizes Muddy Areas
 - Eliminates Puddles
 - Long Lasting

CALL FOR LITERATURE & SAMPLES

PRO'S CHOICE PRODUCTS
...Keeping Infields Playable...
1-800-648-1166

Circle 112 on Postage Free Card

Beacon Ballfields

The Groundskeeper's Choice



Beacon is the choice of groundskeepers everywhere. Our catalog contains everything for maintaining and equipping baseball, softball, soccer, and football fields.

- grooming equipment
- windscreens, netting, & padding
- bases & plates
- field marking & layout tools
- drags & harrows
- soil additives
- water removal equipment

Visit our web site:
www.ballfields.com



For a **FREE**
34-page catalog,
call: **800-747-5985**

P.O. Box 45557 • Madison, WI 53744-5557

Circle 113 on Postage Free Card

tions are critical in such a specialized industry. He illustrated his point by reading a job opening from a past newspaper for a stadium turf manager, and it required "a high school education, reliability, and *some* experience with turf maintenance." He then read a job opening for a stadium manager today: "must have a four-year degree in turf management or related field, must be proficient in computer irrigation management and personnel management; and must work cooperatively with decision-makers such as stadium manager, team presidents, owners, etc." Clearly, the industry and expectations have grown.

The day concluded with walking tours of the Coliseum and the New Arena in Oakland, the rebuilt home of the Golden State Warriors. Oakland A's head grounds-keeper **Clay Wood** answered questions and described how he planned to resod the entire football playing surface for the remaining Raiders home games after the four — yes, four — Rolling Stones concerts. (He did a superb job, in a very short window that was complicated by rain almost every day.)

The Nor-Cal Chapter is off to an unprecedented start, and already it's planning for a community service project and a field day in 1998.

STMA Chapter News

Midwest Chapter: The Midwest Chapter held its annual meeting December 3 at the Pheasant Run Resort & Expo Center in St. Charles, Ill., in conjunction with the Sports Turf Track of the North Central Turfgrass Exposition. Elected for 1998 are the following officers: president, **Scott Pippen**, Village of Lincolnshire; vice president, **Jim Lewandowski**, Hinsdale Central High School; past president, **Marc Van Landuyt**, Van's Enterprises; treasurer, **Donald Michaels**, Conserv FS; and secretary, **Tom Breier**, National Seed Co.

For information, call The Chapter Hotline: (847) 439-4727.

Iowa Chapter: The Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association will again participate in the Iowa Turfgrass Conference, held January 26-28 at Des Moines Convention Center.

The Monday, January 26, Sports Turf Workshop morning sessions include: "Winning Fields = Winning Teams," by **Duane Banks**; "Setting Up for Practice," **Mike McDonald**; "Pattern Mowing," **Luke Yoder**; and Round Table Discussions: "Dealing with Soccer/ Football on the Same Field and Heavy Use Fields," led by **Gary Peterson**; "Football/Soccer Painting (Rules, Techniques and Logos)," **Mike Andresen**; "Fertility/Soil Sampling," **Ron Crooker**; "Baseball/Softball Mound & Homeplate Maintenance," **Luke Yoder**; "Picking an Infield Mix," **Jesse Cuevas**; "Football/Soccer Goalmouth Maintenance," **Kevin Vos**.

The afternoon session offers a combined golf course/sports turf session, "Selecting Sands and Soil Modification," presented by **Dr. Jim Crum**.

The sports turf session on Tuesday afternoon includes: "Using Crumb Rubber to Improve Wear Tolerance," presented by **Dr. Jim Crum**; "Landscaping Your Complex," **Ron Crooker**; "Aeration: Not Just for Compaction Relief," **Jesse Cuevas**.

The ISTMA Annual Membership Meeting is at 3 p.m., and will be followed by an informal social time with hors d'oeuvres, raffles and networking.

The sports turf session on Wednesday morning includes:



When you rely on the Covermaster® Raincover System to keep your field ready for play, you'll make life easier for you and your grounds crew at the same time.

The Covermaster® Raincover System features equipment that makes it simple to install, remove and store your tarp. It will also save you time and labor.

And with our wide choice of cover materials, Covermaster can custom design your tarp in the size and configuration that will meet your special needs.

The Covermaster® Raincover System. You could say we have you covered.

For more information call us today.

TARPMATE™

This lightweight and easy to handle roller with special end caps provides safety against injury for both grounds crew and the players.



TARPMACHINE™

Takes the heavy work out of rolling the cover over the field. Attaches to the P.T.O. on your tractor.



FREE VIDEO AVAILABLE ON REQUEST!



CALL TOLL FREE
1-800-387-5808

Visit our Website!

WEB www.covermaster.net
E-MAIL info@covermaster.net

MEMBER
Sports Turf Managers Association

**COVERMASTER
COVERMASTER
COVERMASTER**

MASTERS IN THE ART OF SPORTS SURFACE COVERS

COVERMASTER INC., 100 WESTMORE DR. 11-D, REXDALE, ON, M9V 5C3
TEL 416-745-1811 FAX 416-74-COVER (742-6837)