

A Chapter Is Born



Kauffman Stadium, home of the Kansas City Royals, opened its doors on Saturday morning, April 1, for the first official seminar of the newly forming MO-KAN Chapter. This group is based in Kansas City and intends to serve the surrounding Missouri and Kansas areas. Despite the cool morning air and the weatherman's threat of rain, around 100 attended the event. The core group of chapter organizers demonstrated their enthusiasm with warm smiles, a well-orchestrated registration system and lots of donuts. With attendees gathered in the stands, Royals Head Groundskeeper Trevor Vance welcomed the group to a field he, Assistant Groundskeeper Jon Reed and their

top-notch staff had in its prime, ready and waiting for opening day. STMA President Rich Moffitt and Executive Director Steve Trusty presented a brief overview of STMA and its services. Vance outlined the plans for chapter development, noting they would be discussed in detail during the lunch gathering.

Vance then explained the format for the program. Separate stations had been set up at home plate, third base, the dugout entrance to the irrigation system pump room and all around the warning track. Each station had a designated topic, from an explanation of the field's irrigation system, details of the maintenance equipment used, plate and mound preparation and repair details, skinned area dragging techniques, field painting techniques, fertilizer application patterns and topdressing programs and techniques. Vance, Reed, Royals grounds crew members, Kansas City Chiefs Head Groundskeeper Andre Bruce, Grounds Coordinator for the Blue Valley (Kansas) School District Jody Gill and numerous vendor personnel served as the presenters and discussion leaders at each of the stations.

Vance invited the attendees to split into small groups, with each group heading for a different station, and then rotating to the next station in a clockwise direction at the signal to move. This gave everyone the opportunity to see each of the demonstrations and hear all the presentations. The stadium buzzed with discussion as the groups and presenters interacted in the question, answer and idea exchanges at each of the stations.

As noon approached, members of the Royals grounds crew broke out the grills and started cooking. Attendees then gathered at the grounds department's office and shop area to fill up on the great lunch, learn more about the forming chapter, sign on as members and join in the drawing for Kansas City Royals balls, hats, clothing and other donated door prizes. Hats off to the MO-KAN Chapter organizers. It was an excellent kickoff meeting.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association

TVSTMA met on March 3 at Vanderbilt University. Approximately 30 attendees gathered for the seminar. Host for the event was Bill Randles, sports turf manager for Vanderbilt University. Seminar speakers included Robert Bodi of Hard Four, Inc. and Dr. Richard Large of A & L Analytical Laboratories.

The opportunity to visit other facilities and gain first hand information on their athletic field programs is always a



Photo courtesy: STMA

Andre Bruce, far left, of the Kansas City Chiefs, discusses aeration techniques with the group at his station.

MICRO 44

Sports Turf Irrigation

The perfect watering system for sportsfields, golf courses and landscaping. For low pressure systems the Micro 44 SS has its own booster pump included.

For further details contact:

ABI

P.O. Box 909, Villa Rica, GA 30180
1-800-832-6224
770-459-4401; 770-459-6877 Fax

Circle 119 on Inquiry Card

highlight of such chapter meetings. Attendees posed for a photo on Vanderbilt's newly renovated natural grass football field during the tour segment of this event.

Midwest: The chapter will meet on May 18 at the Kane County Cougars Stadium in Batavia, Ill. Events will begin with a pre-game preparation demonstration by Head Groundskeeper Sarah Martin. This will be followed at 4 p.m. by a picnic social. Attendees are welcome to stay for the Cougars' evening baseball game. July 11 is the date of the Multi-chapter Meeting to be held at the University of Notre Dame campus. The morning's educational

Chapter News

Florida: The chapter will meet on July 18 at the Town of Lantana. The education theme is "Overseeding Sports Fields and Maintaining High Wear Athletic Field Areas." A tour of the Town of Lantana's athletic fields will be included in the program. The Florida Chapter also will have a booth at the Florida Turfgrass Association meeting on Aug. 15 and 16. For information on the Florida Chapter or pending activities, contact John Mascaro at (954) 341-3115.

Colorado: The chapter will hold a Baseball Seminar on May 17 at Larry Walker Field in Aurora, Colorado. The seminar will include speakers from Clement Park, adjacent to Columbine High School, and will detail their renovation of the park following the thousands of visitors last spring. Among other Seminar speakers will be representatives from Metro State College, 1998 College Field of the Year. In the planning stages are the second annual Seminar on Wheels and an August 3 Football Seminar at Folsom Field on the University of Colorado campus. For information on the Colorado Chapter or upcoming activities, log on to the chapter's Web site—www.cstma.org—or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline: (303) 346-8954.

Minnesota: The Iowa/Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Chapter Challenge will be in Des Moines, Iowa, with the Golf Challenge on July 14 and the Softball Challenge on July 15. The Minnesota Chapter's annual Tour on Wheels will be held on July 26. Already on the agenda are a stop at St. Olaf College to check out the new softball field and closing the event by attending the evening St. Paul Saints game. For information on the Minnesota Chapter or upcoming events, contact Ron Werner at (507) 634-1176.



Great Fields Get Noticed.

Turfco offers you a strong team of turf building equipment. They're the fastest and most versatile equipment to let you build hardier and healthier turf. Your sports fields become safer to play on and easier to maintain. Originators of Mete-R-Matic® top dressers in 1961, Turfco's professional equipment gives your field a look that gets noticed.

Pro Turf Edger

Special design makes it easy to follow any edge. Eliminates spade work around the diamond. Oscillating blade action cuts fast and clean. Leaves no mess or no thrown debris to clean up.

Economy Aerator

Now you can afford to breathe life into any sports field. This low cost, 62" aerator has no hydraulics or mechanical linkages for easy use and low maintenance. Hooks up to any vehicle in seconds.

Precision Top Dresser

Fast, uniform, versatile. Patented chevron belt lets you handle top dressing, lime, crumb rubber, gypsum, calcine clay, compost and even overseeding with precision. Level fields and amend soil consistently.



For details and the name of your local dealer, call

1-800-679-8201

Turfco Manufacturing Inc.
1655 101st Avenue Northeast
Minneapolis, MN 55449-4420

*Choice Performers,
Choice Fields.*

TURFCO