

# CSTMA's Spring Irrigation

## CLASS 2000: ANOTHER SUCCESS

by Ross Kurcab

Once again, the Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association's (CSTMA) Spring Irrigation Class was marked by good attendance, great speakers, plenty of interactive learning and good fun. It was held on March 2, 2000, at the Denver Broncos Training Facility. A wet spring snow dusted the landscape but didn't dampen the spirits of the CSTMA's membership. As we often say in Colorado: "Rain or snow, it'll go."

As registration took place, the group of 60 attendees settled into the Broncos team meeting room and were treated to the NFL Films video presentation of the greatest games ever played.

The program kicked off with Cita Berthelsen of Hunter Industries guiding us through the various aspects of efficiency in the application of water. Cita's comprehensive talk covered literally all areas of irrigation efficiency from climatic/environmental concerns like plant material, soil type, evapotranspiration and site evaluation, to the irrigation system itself in terms of hydraulics, design, precipitation rates, etc. Bolstered by some wonderful slides and her years of experience in the field, Cita's presentation left everyone with a much better understanding of irrigation efficiency. She also provided attendees with a nine-page review of her talk to take back to work as a reference.

After a short break, we were back at it with a

**"If you missed it, you missed out, great program, great conference."**

presentation by Dave Cooper of CPS Distributors. Dave's outstanding talk, "Spring 2000 Tune-ups and Troubleshooting," was full of helpful strategies based on his 20 years of experience serving the Colorado irrigation industry. A long time supporter and member of the CSTMA, Dave took us through every part of our irrigation system from the tap through the piping and control systems and all the way out to the furthest head, detailing the many things that typically can go wrong during a system's winter slumber. Dave has literally seen it all in his experience all over the Rocky Mountain region, and he gave us a great approach to charging up our irrigation systems this spring. He also provided a written review of his talk to take home with us.

Finally, attendees were given a hands-on look at the Broncos practice fields and shop operations. The Broncos have been working with vented evergreen turf covers for the last two winters, and attendees all saw some thick, green grass in the middle of winter!

Our thanks go out to the Denver Broncos, as well as

Cita, Dave and all who attended. If you missed it, you missed out. "Great program, great conference," was the overwhelming response of and all who attended. If you missed it, you missed out. "Great program,



Courtesy of Ross Kurcab



Ross Kurcab, turf manager for the Denver Broncos, shows some dramatic results from his work with winter field covers.

## Chapter News

**Florida #1:** The chapter is scheduled to meet the third week of May at the Miami Dolphins Training Facility in Davie, Fla. The meeting will be held in conjunction with Kilpatrick Equipment Company. Featured on the program will be a discussion of equipment maintenance and a presentation titled, "Weed Control for 2000 and Beyond," by Dr. Phil Busey of the University of Florida. CEUs will be issued. For information on the Florida Chapter or pending activities, contact John Mascaro at (954) 341-3115.