

Lawnmower Man Open sets new mark

Birdies, bogies, and beverages replaced reels, rotaries, and rakes on July 24 at West Woods Golf Club in Arvada, CO. The 6th annual Lawnmower Man Open (LMO), a fund-raising golf tournament sponsored by the Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association, began with an 8:00 am shotgun start on a beautiful mile-high day. With two foursomes per hole, the field was full with hackers, duffers, and choppers, all competing for the coveted honor of winning the LMO.

Supported by more than 30 hole-sponsors contributing \$100 each, and with companies like Graff Turf Farm contributing \$1,000 for individual tee prizes and Ewing Irrigation Products donating two round-trip vacations (for 2) to the Phoenix Open in January, this year's tournament attracted 144 golfers and raised more than \$4,000 for the chapter's scholarship fund, a record LMO amount.

This year's tournament again featured the popular modified scramble format that has been a staple for the LMO. Each hole has 3 teammates playing a scramble, while the fourth teammate plays their own ball. Both scores are counted for a team total.

"This tournament couldn't even begin to be successful without the support of everyone who participates in this event," said tournament director By Hanson. "When we first started this tournament 6 years ago, we were lucky to get 40 players. Each year it has grown and improved to the level that we experienced this year. I no longer have to beg, borrow, and plead for participation or support. Now, people call me and ask what they can do to help."

The tournament's 36 teams were divided into four flights that competed for more than \$3000 in prize money. Prize money was awarded to the top five teams in each flight, making a majority of the players very happy to win prize money. "If you didn't

cash, you had a really, really bad day," said Hanson.

Disappointment started the day when it was announced that the automobile giveaway for a closest to the pin on the par 3 8th hole had to be cancelled due to the fact that the car broke down on its way to the course. The 50-mile trip from Greeley was just too much for this year's prize, a 1991 Dodge Colt with engine problems, making this annual event a casualty for the day. Usually, either the car is given away for the best golf shot of the day, or a player can get out of the competition by paying a \$5 fee.

However, the betting hole, the 180-yard par 3 twelfth hole was a huge moneymaker for the tournament. Teased with the offer of doubling your bet if you hit your ball inside the 30-foot circle, golf course maintenance mismarked the hole by only painting a 10-foot circle around the hole. This game of fair chance from 180 yards turned into a huge profit maker for the scholarship fund.

Combined with the usual long drive contest for both men and women, closest to the pin for ladies on the par 3 #6 hole, mulligan sales, and the banquet raffle, this tournament offered lots of action and fun.

The banquet raffle, hustled by Jeffco Stadium staff members Dave Rulli and Phil McQuade, proved to be the biggest event of the day. Raffle tickets were sold for such items as golf equipment, rounds of golf, autographed memorabilia, sports stuff, dinners, hotel stays, hats, shirts, game tickets, etc. Enough was raised from just the raffle to pay for everyone's lunch!

"It felt good to tear up someone else's turf for a change," quipped Invesco Field at Mile High's turf manager, Ross Kurcab, CSFM.

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STMA Chapter News

Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: The NorCal STMA's annual Fall Continuing Education Seminar will be held in November. More details will be announced soon. For information on the NorCal Chapter, or pending events, call Janet Gift at 530-758-4200.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): The Tennessee Valley Chapter is planning a November 20 meeting at the Tennessee Titans Field in Nashville. Registration begins at 8:00 AM. The featured speaker for this event is Floyd Reese, General Manager of the Titans. The meeting will include a tour of the practice facility. For information on the TVSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Bill Marbet, Southern Athletic Fields, Inc., at 931-380-0023 or 800-837-8062.

Florida Chapter #1: The Florida Chapter will hold a meeting in the Village of Pinecrest on December 5. For information on the Florida Chapter, or pending activities, call John Mascaro at 954-341-3115.

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: The Colorado Chapter will participate in the RMRTA 48th Turf Conference and Trade Show to held in December 5 - 7,

2001, in Denver, Colorado. For information on the Colorado Chapter, or upcoming activities, visit the Chapter's website—www.CSTMA.org—or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline at 303-346-8954.

Midwest Chapter STMA: The Midwest Chapter will again participate in the annual North Central Turf Expo at Pheasant Run Resort in December in conjunction with the Illinois Turf Foundation and the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association. For information on the Midwest Chapter, or pending activities, call The Chapter Hotline at 847-622-3517.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): The OSTMA 4th Annual meeting and awards breakfast will be held at the Columbus Convention Center from 7:30 am to 8:30 am on December 5th in conjunction with the December 3 - 6, 2001, Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference. Featured will be a special Sports Turf Track and vendor displays with products for the sports turf manager. For information on the OSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call OSTMA Headquarters at 740-452-4541 or Boyd Montgomery at 419-885-1982; or visit the chapter's website at www.glstma.org.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: The Minnesota Chapter will participate in the Minnesota Turf And Grounds Foundation Educational Conference & Trade Show to be held at the Minneapolis Convention Center on December 4 - 6, 2001. For information on the Minnesota Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Ron Unger, Director of Parks & Recreation, City of Kasson, at tel. 507-634-4165 or e-mail: ParkNRec@CityofKasson.com.

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: The Arizona Chapter will participate with the City of Yuma Parks and Recreation to present the 9th Annual Sports Turf Field Day and Equipment Show on December 7, 2001. The day's activities include presentations by guest speakers, seminars and the opportunity to view vendor displays. The 6th Annual "Sports Turf" Golf Tournament will be held December 6. For more information on these events, contact Larry Munoz, City of Yuma Parks and Recreation, at e-mail: Larry.Munoz@Cl.Yuma.az.us or tel. 520-329-2824. For information on the chapter, contact Bill Murphy, Recreation and Facilities Manager, City of Scottsdale Park, at e-mail: bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us or tel. 480-312-7954.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: This Chapter will be conducting athletic field educational courses in conjunction with the New Jersey Turfgrass Association Annual EXPO in Atlantic City, December 11 to 13, 2001. The day-long athletic field sessions will be presented on December 13. For information, call Jim Gavigan, Lesco, at 732-248-8979; or call Eleanora Murfitt, Director, Township of Clinton Parks & Recreation Department, at 908-735-5999.

North Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: The North Texas Chapter will participate in the Texas Turfgrass Association Institute & Trade Show to be held

December 17-19, 2001, in Fort Worth, Texas. For information on the North Texas Chapter, or pending activities, call Kayla McAfee at 972-234-6584 or Rene Aspiron at 972-647-3393, or visit the website at www.ntstma.org.

South Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: The South Texas Chapter will participate in the Texas Turfgrass Association Institute & Trade Show to be held December 17-19, 2001, in Fort Worth. The chapter will be hosting a lunch on December 18. For information on the chapter, or upcoming events, call Tom McAfee, Nelson Wolff Municipal Stadium, San Antonio, at 210-207-3754.

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: The Nebraska Chapter will participate in the 2002 Nebraska Turfgrass Conference to be held January 7 - 9, 2002, at the Holiday Inn Central in Omaha, Nebraska. For information on the Nebraska Chapter, or upcoming events, call Gregg Bostelman, City of Grand Island, at 308-385-5426.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: WSTMA will participate in the Wisconsin Turfgrass and Greenscape EXPO to be held at the Marriott, Madison West, January 8 to 10, 2002. For more information on the Wisconsin Chapter, or other pending events, call Richard Miller at 608-756-1150.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: The Iowa Chapter will participate in the 68th Iowa Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show to be held January 28 - 30, 2002, at the Polk County Convention Complex in Des Moines, Iowa. The Sports Turf Workshop is scheduled for 8:30 am to 4:00 pm on January 28. On the program are: Mike Andresen, CSFM, presenting "Budget & Record Keeping; Kevin Vos, CSFM, on Reducing Soccer Field Wear; Ted Thorn, Julie Smith, Ken Hanawalt, and Dr. Dave Minner presenting Construction Case Studies,

and Dr. Tony Koski presenting Soil Testing & Interpretation and Tips for Healthy Roots. The Tuesday afternoon Sports Turf session includes: Dr. Joe Vargas on Disease Management and Thatch Control; Bob Campbell, CSFM, with a Show and Tell presentation and the ISTMA Annual Meeting. The Wednesday morning Sports Turf Session includes: Bob Campbell, CSFM, presenting Survival Tips for Groundskeepers; Nick Gow on Low Budget Renovation; and representatives from KCCI-TV8 on Living with Mother

Nature. For information on the Iowa Chapter, or upcoming activities, contact Lori Westrum of The Turf Office at tel. 515-232-8222, or fax 515-232-8228, or e-mail: Lori@iowaturfgrass.org.

Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization (MAFMO Chapter STMA): The MAFMO Chapter will participate in the Maryland Turfgrass 2002 Conference and Trade Show to be held January 29 - 30, 2002, at the Baltimore Convention Center in downtown Baltimore, Maryland. For information on the MAFMO Chapter, or pending activities, call the Hotline at 410-290-5652.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA): The Sixth Annual KAFMO/PRPS Athletic Field Conference will be held on February 15, 2002. For information on the KAFMO/STMA Chapter, the golf outing or other upcoming events, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, at tel. 610-375-8469, ext. 212; or e-mail to: kafmo@aol.com.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Gateway Chapter, or upcoming events, call Jim Anthony, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO, at 314-977-2956.

Indiana Chapter: For information on the Indiana Chapter, or pending activities, call Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer, at 219-356-8424.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): For information on the Chapter or other pending events, call Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools, at 616-738-6974, or go to www.mistma.org to visit the chapter's new website.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the MO-KAN STMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Trevor Vance at 816-504-4271; Gary Custis at 816-460-6215; or Jody Gill at 913-239-4121.

Southern California Chapter: For information on the Southern California Chapter, or pending activities, call Ron Kirkpatrick at 858-453-1755.

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Virginia Chapter, or upcoming events, contact: Chapter Vice President, Randy Buchanan, County of Henrico Recreation and Parks, via e-mail: buc06@co.henrico.va.us or at tel. 804-261-8213.

CHAPTERS ON THE GROW

Las Vegas: With the STMA Annual Conference & Exhibition headed for Las Vegas January 16-20, 2002, plans for the formation of a Las Vegas Chapter also are moving forward. For more information on the developing chapter, please contact Rod Smith, Grounds Manager/Cashman Center at e-mail: rms@lvca.com or at tel. 702-386-7140.

New York: A chapter is forming in Central New York. The group will meet at 10:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the National Soccer Hall of Fame. For more information, contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, at e-mail: Kevin@wpe.com or at tel. 607-432-2953.

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