

# Teamwork spells success

The success of the joint community service project teaming the Tennessee Titans and the Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA) will be celebrated by cheering fans at the official dedication August 29. That's when the Whites Creek High School football team will kick off their season opener with Glencliff High School on the field professionally renovated by TVSTMA volunteers and topped with sod donated by the Titans.

The joint project was sparked last winter when Terry Porch, the Titan's head groundskeeper and TVSTMA member, first talked with the chapter about donating the Coliseum sod to a local high school. The idea grew as the chapter discussed the field preparation needs at the potential high school site and the process of stripping, transporting, and installing the donated sod. They determined they could pull it off with donated services by chapter member companies and the coordinated efforts of chapter volunteers.

Porch and his assistant Marty Kaufman presented the idea to the Titans, who not only embraced it wholeheartedly, but also marshaled the forces of their community relations department to coordinate media coverage to spread the news.

The Metropolitan Nashville School District selected the Whites Creek High School after consultation with the Titans and TVSTMA.

TVSTMA member companies volunteered goods and services. Precision Sports Field prepped and laser graded the Whites Creek field before installa-

tion. Saunders Landscape and Maintenance provided the trenching for the irrigation system and the irrigation system installation. Tieco/Rain Bird provided the irrigation system sprinklers, valves, and control system. Turfgrass America provided supervision and labor to harvest the Titans sod at the Coliseum and install the donated turf at Whites Creek. Clarkland provided

fertilization and topdressing of the new Whites Creek turf. Harrell's provided fertilizer and weed control products. Among the other contributing chapter member companies were Lesco and Southern Athletic Fields. Individual chapter members also contributed their time and expertise to complete the project.

The Titans featured the project on their website, [www.titansonline.com](http://www.titansonline.com). That coverage included the following:

"The members of the Sports Turf Managers Association are the professionals who combine scientific agronomic principles with technical expertise to develop and maintain safe and aesthetically pleasing playing surfaces."

"Our common goal is to provide the best sports surfaces for all levels of play," said Bob Elliott, president of TVSTMA. "We believe safe, playable fields are the right of any athlete, male or female, no matter how old or how young, or how well developed the level of their talents and skills. That's why we're combining our Chapter's volunteer efforts with those of the Tennessee Titans on this field renovation project."



## STMA Chapter News

**Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey:** The Chapter's 2nd Annual Fall Field Day will be held at Paramus Catholic High School in Paramus August 5. Registration begins at 8:00 AM.

The Chapter will hold an Athletic Field Maintenance & Renovation Field Day October 2, co-sponsored by SFMANJ and Rutgers University, Snyder Research & Extension Farm, at the Farm. Registration begins at 11:00 AM.

For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call SFMANJ at 908-730-7770 or Eleanora Murfitt at 908-236-9118; or e-mail to [HQ@sfmanj.org](mailto:HQ@sfmanj.org).

**Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Chapter will again participate in the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association Summer Field Day to be held August 12 at

the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility in Verona. The day's events include: the research tour and presentations, workshops, Ask-The-Experts discussion sessions with researchers, equipment demonstrations, and the Trade Show. Chapter members are encouraged to participate in the WTA Fundraiser Golf Outing on October 8 at the Jack Nicklaus-designed course, The Bull at Pinehurst Farms, in Sheboygan Falls.

For more information on the Chapter, or other pending events, contact Chris Brindley at 715-346-3622 or [cbrindle@uwsp.edu](mailto:cbrindle@uwsp.edu).

**Minnesota Chapter STMA:** The Chapter's annual Tour on Wheels will be held August 13 and will again incorporate a St. Paul Saints game. Planning is underway for an October 16 Fall Workshop. Details will be

announced soon.

For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Jeff Hintz, Bethel College & Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota at tel. 651-638-6075 or e-mail: [j-hintz@bethel.edu](mailto:j-hintz@bethel.edu).

**Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Chapter will hold its second Annual Safeco Field Day August 19. Events begin with Registration/Continental Breakfast from 7:45 to 8:45 AM. At 8:45 Chuck Armstrong, President and Chief Operating Officer of the Seattle Mariners, will welcome attendees. Field Day Rotating Sessions run from 9:15 to noon and 1:00 to 2:45 PM. Sessions include: Pitchers Mound Maintenance and Construction - with Leo Liebert and Tim Wilson - Seattle Mariners; Athletic