



SAFE Scholarships Awarded to 13 Students

The Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments has awarded scholarships to 13 students who are pursuing a degree that will prepare them to become sports field managers. The Toro Company Foundation funds a major portion of the scholarship program. Students who are in two-year, four-year and graduate programs are eligible to submit an application.

To submit, students must fill out a comprehensive application form and information sheet, write a biographical essay, submit recommendations from an employer and faculty advisor, and provide a copy of their most recent transcript. Students are judged on their academic preparation, experience in sports turf management, their professional goals as well as their potential to make a future impact in the industry.

Winners this year include:

(2-year program)

Julio Cesar Carbajal, Mt. San Antonio College, who received the prestigious Fred Grau award named in honor of the first extension specialist in the U.S.;

Daniel Blank, Anoka-Hennepin Technical College; and Justin Hoffman, Southeast Technical Institute.

(4-year program)

Nathan Salmore, University of Massachusetts Amherst, who received the Watson scholarship, named in the honor of Dr. James Watson, a pioneer in the turf industry; Justin Scott, University of Missouri; Shawn Mahonski, Pennsylvania State University; Kyle Slaton, Pennsylvania State University; Aaron Fineberg, Pennsylvania State University; Andrew Bartley, Pennsylvania State University; Timothy Allen Burns, University of Massachusetts Amherst; and Kristen Althouse, Pennsylvania State University.

(Graduate program)

Joshua McPherson, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, who also received a Watson scholarship; and Matthew Neils Anderson, Michigan State University.

Along with the scholarship, winners received a paid conference registration

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to the Annual STMA Conference and Exhibition and either air travel or lodging costs up to \$500. Winners were recognized at the STMA Awards Banquet last month in Phoenix.

A special thanks goes out to the SAFE Contributors who made this program possible, especially The Toro Company Foundation.

SAFE thanks its 2004 Contributors

Thanks to all who contributed to the Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments (SAFE), STMA's charitable corporation, in 2004. Your generous contributions funded the awarding of more than \$11,000 in scholarships to 13 bright turf students. In addition to the scholarships, SAFE contributions helped these students attend the STMA 2005 Annual Conference by paying for their registration and up to \$500 of hotel and travel expenses.

SAFE contributions will also be used during 2005 to award scholarships and to launch a fundraising exploration campaign to assess the charitable giving market for sports turf research.

SAFE's mission is to support sports field-specific research, educational programs, and environmental concerns to promote user safety. SAFE believes that science is the key to benefit sports fields in the areas of playability, user safety, and the environment. The results of SAFE's support will assist athletes at all levels with safer playing fields.

There are several ways to contribute to SAFE. Participate in the annual Jacobsen/SAFE Golf Tournament at the Conference; provide or purchase an item at the SAFE auction and raffle at the annual conference; include your monetary donation with your annual dues payment; mail a check made out to SAFE to STMA Headquarters at 805 New Hampshire, Ste. E, Lawrence, KS 66044; or call 800-323-3875 and staff can process a credit card donation.

The SAFE Board of Directors includes Mike Schiller, CSFM, Chairman; Boyd Montgomery, CSFM, Vice-Chair; George Trivett, CSFM, Secretary; Bob Curry, Treasurer; Dale Getz, CSFM; Greg

Petry; Mark Schmidt, Ph.D.; Lance Tibbetts, CSFM; Joe Zvanut; and Kim Heck, SAFE Executive Director. (Continued on page 41)



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