

science majors and 27 of them are looking for a career in sports turf.

There are currently 18 graduate students in the OSU turf program and 2 post-doctoral associates. Two Ph.D. students recently graduated. One of them, Young-ki Jo, will be going on to the University of Wisconsin as a post-doc to study gray leaf spot and pink snow mold resistance. Some of the graduate student research projects are: characterization of biomass on sand systems; sports turf rootzone materials; phosphorus fertilizer programs; and effects of foliar nitrogen.

Dr. Dave Gardner advises sports turf students and has revitalized the OSU turf club to encourage greater participation from sports turf students. One change has been to make sure that a sports turf student holds either the President or VP position. This year, sports turf student John Koenig is VP.

We are blessed to have great sports turf internships at professional facilities like the Cincinnati Reds, Boston Red Sox, Ohio Stadium, Jacksonville Jaguars, Akron Aeros, and Columbus Crew. This spring we had three students with Dave Mellor at the Red Sox. International internships are also a possibility. The International Program annually sends 3-5 turf students to England, Ireland or Australia. Most recently, Erica Titus worked at Cirencester Polo Club in England, preparing pitches (fields) for England's royalty. Once they have graduated, sports turf students also have the chance to go on to work at professional sports facilities, such as Brian Holtzapfel, who just started a job with the LA Dodgers, or Derrick Grubbs at the Cincinnati Reds.

There is now far better representation from professional organizations such as STMA, and the OSTMA. Students now have professional organization that encourages them to participate and awards student scholarships. In 2004, the OSTMA awarded over \$2,000 in scholarships to Weston Applefeller, Erica Titus, Gregg Caspio, and John Koenig. 2005 was the first year of participation in the STMA Collegiate Quiz. 11 students made the trip to Phoenix in January. The OSU team took 6th place in the quiz and is planning for next year. 2005 was also the first year for the Buckeye Sports Turf "Students of the Year" awards. This year was a tie between Erica Titus and Rodney Brockwrath.

**CA Poly-San Luis Obispo**

By David Green

Cal Poly's turfgrass program had another exciting year in 2004-2005. Our students continued to diligently prepare for their future, but still found plenty of time to have fun. The year started with the first Cal Poly Turfgrass field day in October.








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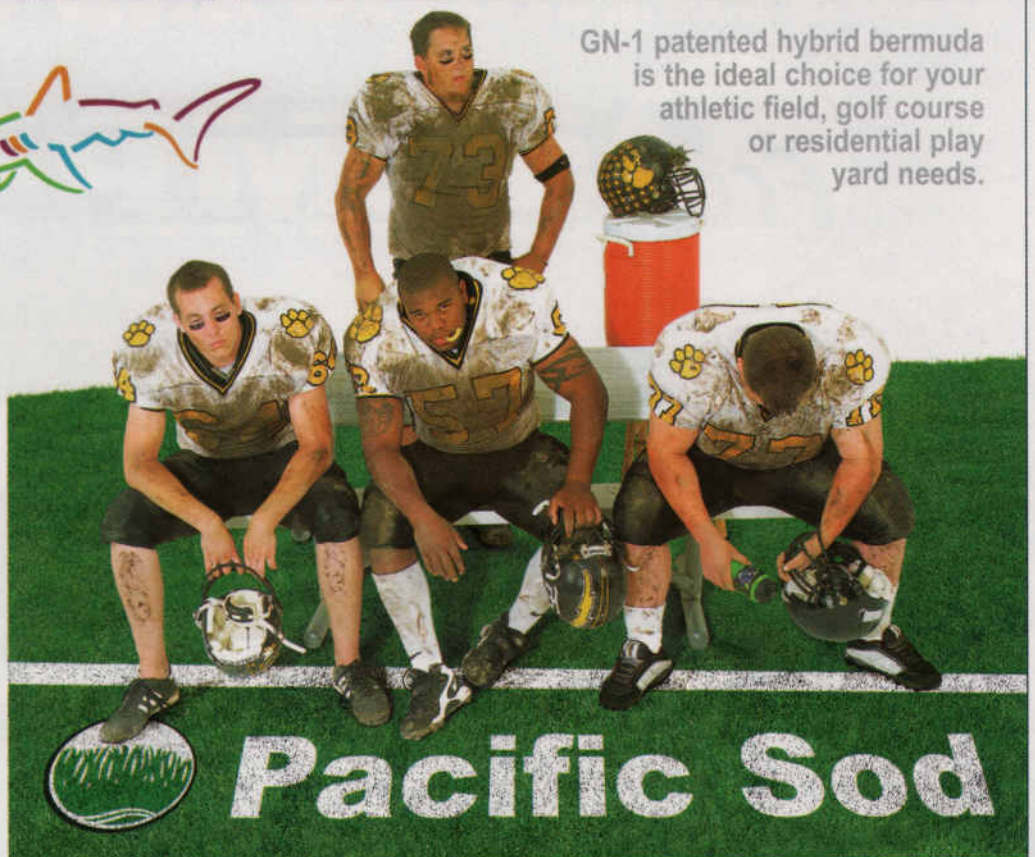
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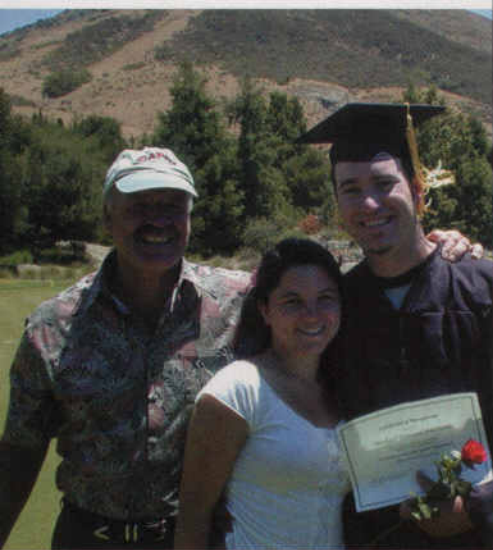




More than 55 participants were provided updates on cultivar and fungicide evaluations conducted in 2004 and progress reports from the students on their senior project research, which was embraced warmly by the industry. A big thanks goes out to the students who helped make this first field day a success. A second field day is being planned for fall 2005.

In February Cal Poly students attended annual meetings of the Sports Turf Managers Association and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. The opportunity to meet and interact with individuals in the turfgrass industry is always a valuable experience that is appreciated by our students. At the GCSAA meeting in Orlando we once again had two teams participate in the Collegiate Turfbowl, a comprehensive 3-hour exam that would challenge the most experienced turfgrass managers. Students competed in teams of four against teams from other universities and found the experience fun and very educational.

In May, the turf club hosted their first golf tournament at Cypress Ridge in Arroyo Grande, CA, raising more than \$2000 to assist in funding travel to the annual meetings of the GCSAA and SMA in 2006. Students also had the opportunity to tour several great turfgrass facilities of southern California in their Advanced Turfgrass Production class. Facilities included PetCo Stadium and The Bridges of Rancho Santa Fe Country Club, and a new course under construction



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This summer our students are once again out among the industry in a variety of internships. These internships include sport field management at the Philadelphia Eagles stadium and at prestigious golf courses such as the Olympic Club in San Francisco County, and Poppy Hills Golf Course in Monterey. We also wish the best to recent graduates as they begin their careers in the turfgrass industry.

Finally, we look forward to the fall 2005 implementation of a turfgrass concentration in the Environmental Horticultural Science major.

Developed through a collaboration of the turfgrass industry and Cal Poly faculty, this curriculum will ensure that our students are receiving the best education possible to succeed in California's turfgrass industry. **ST**

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