

## Getting outside feels good

**G**etting outside, polishing diamonds, and working fields felt extra special this spring! What a long and challenging winter so many areas of the country and beyond endured. It seemed at our place that even coaches and administrators had more patience and realized the difficulty we all had in getting fields playable for spring sports.

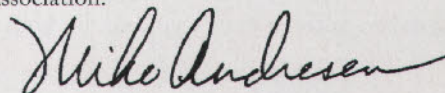
Noted author and speaker Hanoeh McCarty is quoted as saying, "Let your friends, colleagues and family know about the good you see; it will help them see it too." We made an effort on our crew to simply make sure each day we came with a positive outlook and attitude. Sure, tempers were short at times and stress seemed to be omnipresent, but we were committed to being the one staff at Iowa State with a positive outlook no matter what the challenge. When someone would bemoan the endless winter, we talked about the treat it was to have winter behind us and turf actively growing.

One aspect I didn't anticipate with the positive vibe was how the Field Crew seemed to find our pace more quickly than in years past. We were hitting on all (OK, most) cylinders early! We still bobbed a few and fumbled a few, but the crew seemed excited, motivated, and very prideful of their work this spring. Maybe just pushing the past away and focusing on what we can do to maximize today while thinking about tomorrow made a big impact on our crew dynamics.

Did McCarty's quote have an impact? All I know is that work wasn't work this spring. It was back to being fun and rewarding. We work in sports and athletics, folks. We drive to parks and stadiums for our jobs. Take a fresh look, and I hope you can see it doesn't get much better than that. I know our crew appreciates the renewed perspective. The bonus comes when your crew pounds out work better than anyone thought they could. It's such a phenomenon that some of the guys are 2 weeks now wearing their lucky socks. They're afraid they'll mess up the karma.

I want to let you know about the work by the Bylaws Committee on our Governance structure that I mentioned at our annual meeting (see page 43). The Committee is working diligently to write bylaws that clearly present the new Officers' ascension process and other revisions affecting your Board. The most dramatic change is having Officers serve 1-year terms. Another modification combines the Secretary and Treasurer positions into one single office. The committee work is well underway. Updates will be communicated electronically on our website at [www.STMA.org](http://www.STMA.org), and regularly in this magazine, our official publication. The Committee will present these changes for a membership vote later this fall. Please dig in to how the changes will affect STMA and be prepared to vote. I think the changes will have great positive impact on STMA!

It's a real privilege and pleasure to serve on your behalf. Thank you for being a member of this great association.



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