had the opportunity to travel to Spain with the Nomads girls under-18 and
girls under-16 (my daughter Kelli’s team) when they participated in the
10th Costa Blanca Cup played in the city of Benidorm.
While I was busy trying to come up with ways to make this an education-
al trip for Kelli, e.g., speaking Spanish, etc., I realized I could make it edu-
cational for myself as well.
We began in Barcelona where the teams trained at El Montanya resort, which
has a full soccer training facility on the grounds. Using an interpreter, I spoke with
members of the grounds staff about their maintenance practices. Their turf is a mix
of Bermudagrass, Kikuyu, and ryegrass, which they affectionately refer to as a
“Heinz 57” and say it’s the best they can do.
El Montanya goes through extreme temperature changes, teens in the winter
and 90+ degrees in the summer. I learned that this facility is used for training only
so that’s why the maintenance is minimal. Weekly reel mowing, fertilization every 6
weeks dictated by weather conditions, and irrigation (through aboveground impact
heads) as needed was about it.
We bussed to our game sites, built with Spanish federal government funds, and
then turned over to local governments to operate and maintain.
Our first game was at a beautiful venue in Benidorm that featured mostly well
groomed Bermuda. They mowed this field three times a (continued on page 35)
Latest weather technology for turf managers

BY CHRIS WHITTINGHILL

The next generation of weather technology is here and with it comes convenience and simplicity for turf managers. Weather service information helps handle rain delays and event management while protecting patron, player, and employee safety.

Accurate weather information means a smoother running operation and more control over budget. Weather forecasts are easy to interpret, readily available via the Internet, and can be set up to go anywhere the user goes via cell phones, pagers, and e-mail. The result is precise, real-time weather information that provides both advance warning and adequate preparation times for severe weather events that could impact users' locations.

For sports turf managers weather technology offers up-to-the-minute weather information including the ability to accurately gauge rainfall and severe weather, monitor lightning, check wind speed, and keep tabs on the heat index. Localized forecasts provide accurate outlooks at hourly intervals as far as 10 days out. Rainfall details on how much rain will fall and how much is already on the ground helps managers determine irrigation schedules.

Lightning protection

Because safety is a top priority, weather systems afford turf managers the chance to set up custom advisories and receive weather information that is only pertinent to their exact location. For example, to offer protection against lightning, today's weather systems sound an alarm or issue an audible warning when a lightning strike occurs within a stadium's designated coverage area.

State-of-the-art weather systems should also be able to provide precise precipitation monitoring tools to automatically monitor radar data for exact start and stop times for rain and other precipitation events affecting that location. Alarms can be set for notice of light, moderate or heavy precipitation, which prepares you to give advance warning of anticipated conditions and plans for proactive action. By using alarms and alerts, you know when severe storms are approaching as well as exact arrival times so that ground crews can be advised and work schedules adjusted.

INSECT REPELLENT

Buggspray is the only repellent EPA-approved to repel mosquitoes that may transmit West Nile virus, encephalitis, malaria, dengue fever, and Lyme-carrying ticks. Contains DEET but not the accompanying foul odor. Available in two 25-percent DEET formulas: Original and Buggspray for Biting Flies. Bugg Products LLC/763-569-9800 For information, circle 060 or see http://www.oners.ims.ca/2913-060

PORTABLE GOALS

Future Pro offers a complete line of portable aluminum soccer goals with three sizes of goals with white powder coated 4 x 4-in. aluminum crossbar and corner posts, and five sizes of goals with 2 x 4-in. crossbar and posts. All these units feature QwikTrack net attachment tracks that eliminate Velcro, wire clips, welded-on or screwed-on net attachment systems. Wheel kits are standard on 4 x 4 goals. Bison/800-247-7668 For information, circle 056 or see http://www.oners.ims.ca/2913-056

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When planting annuals in the middle of summer, it's important to choose plants that perform well and continue to flourish even in high temperatures. Ball Horticultural offers reliable, exceptional plants that perform well in heat, including AngelMist angelonia, with its tall, stately spires of tiny orchid-like flowers, or Aztec verbena, with bold, bright blooms and a spreading habit for fast fill-in. Ball Horticultural Co./ 630 231-3600 For information, circle 061 or see http://www.oners.ims.ca/2913-061

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http://www.sportsturfmanager.com • STMA

Circle 167 on card or www.oners.ims.ca/2913-167
SOCCER GOALS
Bison ShootOut line of soccer goals is available as aluminum or steel. Aluminum portables are with white powder coated 4-in. square posts and uprights are available in three sizes and include wheel kits. Unpainted aluminum 2 x 4-in. goals come in five sizes. Tubing on all Bison soccer goals has soft edge radius for player safety. Steel goals can be permanently mounted in concrete footings or semi-permanently mounted in an optional ground sleeve.
Bison/800-267-7668
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SAFETY PADDING
Bison introduces DuraSkin player safety padding for soccer goals. This padding is specially molded to have minimal impact on the ball rebound off the goal posts. Duraskin slips on with no fasteners, straps or buckles. Each corner post is covered to a height of 72 in.
Bison/800-267-7668
For information, circle 055 or see http://www.oners.ims.ca/2913-055
SAFE Wants to Hear from YOU!

The Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments (SAFE) was created by the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) to provide research, educational programs and scholarships geared to sports fields. The SAFE Foundation Board of Trustees continues to move forward on following the parameters set to help SAFE meet its goals established during their spring Board Meeting in Chicago.

The Board recognizes the fact that SAFE has much work to complete before it can supply the sports turf industry with the desired level of programs. Additional funding is needed to fulfill all three arms of our mission: the scholarship program, research and education. SAFE's major thrust for 2004 is seeking greater funding for sports specific research, finalizing the research criteria, and beginning assessment of research projects for funding. The Board continues to make positive steps in all of these areas. Progress has already been made on the research criteria and development continues on the forms for research grant applications.

SAFE encourages sports turf managers to provide their input on specific areas of sports turf related research needs by contacting SAFE by phone at 800-323-3875 or via email: SAFE@st.omhcoxmail.com. These research suggestions will augment the information gathered in an earlier call for research recommendations. It is the intent of the SAFE Board and the SAFE Research Committee to identify key areas of research needs and then solicit these needs to the researchers. Thus it is important that this information on key areas of research needs come from STMA members, STMA Chapters and other sports turf managers. SAFE will focus on research that is applicable and repeatable; practical research that meets the needs of sports turf managers.

Next, significant scholarship funding is available thanks to the funds raised through the combination of the Jacobsen-sponsored SAFE Golf Tournament, and the Raffle, Silent and Live Auctions held in conjunction with the STMA Conference held in San Diego last January. The SAFE Board has authorized the allocation of up to $18,000 in direct Scholarship dollars and funds toward travel and lodging expenses to allow the recipients to attend the STMA 2005 Conference in Phoenix. Scholarship application information and application forms are sent directly to STMA Student and Educator members as well as to 2- and 4-year Colleges and Universities offering turf programs. These materials also are posted in the SAFE section of the STMA website.

(continued from page 31) Week with a reel mower and have an aggressive fertilization program, including applying a high nitrogen product during the peak growing months. The program includes winter and spring applications of high phosphorus and potassium, supplemented with iron and sulfur. A combination of core and slice aerations are done bi-monthly, based on use.

Topdressing material is applied after each core aeration with seeding of an annual rye during winter. The irrigation system is conventional, controller, remote control valves and gear-driven rotors. The system is adjusted daily according to weather conditions and scheduled events. The site is used for club and semi-pro soccer, as well as track and field events.

The same landscape management company that maintains this facility also handled the field at our next venue, Alfas Annexo.

We then went to Alfas Estadio, which had two soccer fields that needed care. Local volunteers maintain this field and so there is no maintenance program or resources available, other than donations. The volunteers filled low spots with topsoil, and most areas had good stands of the Heinz 57 played fine.

Our final stop was Calpe, which was another impressive facility, with one turf field and one synthetic. Our game was at night and so there were no grounds personnel around to talk to, but the turf was Bermuda mowed tight, and it was a deep shade of green indicating some fertilization and irrigation was being used.

Whether it is wear spots, lack of resources, or a lack of trained professionals, the one constant with turf management in the US is we all have similar problems. ST

Mike Tarantino is grounds and operations superintendent for the Poway Unified School District, Poway, CA. He can be reached at mtarantino@powayusd.com.

http://www.sportsturfmanager.com • STMA
OSTMA gets zoned in at Paul Brown Stadium

BY BOYD MONTGOMERY, CSFM

The Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association held a 2-day irrigation workshop June 17-18 at Paul Brown Stadium in Cincinnati. Attendees had a great opportunity to learn about irrigation inside and out.

Dr. Ed McCoy from Ohio State kicked off the event with a detail explanation on how soils effect and interact with moisture. He demonstrated his new software that allows him to time lapse the infiltration and saturation of different soil mediums.

Lynda Wightman from Hunter Industries then explained the basic principals in irrigation and system workings. Mike Myers, also with Hunter, spoke on efficiencies and the more detailed aspects of operating a system.

The day concluded with Bengals' head sports turf manager Darian Daily giving the participants a tour of the stadium and explaining the process of the new FieldTurf system that is being installed at the facility. When we walked out onto the field, we saw temperature readings shoot from 101 degrees to 137 degrees within minutes once the sun popped out. This is even before they had the infill material in the carpet.

The second day began with Jeff Emgbroff of Hunter Industries speaking on the design aspects of irrigation systems. The group was then split up into three groups that rotated around to three different stations. The three topics we covered were Irrigation head troubleshooting, controller troubleshooting, and valve troubleshooting.

STMA seeking Board nominees

The Sports Turf Managers Association's Nominations Committee is seeking individuals who are interested in serving on the STMA board in the following categories: Sports Turf Managers of facilities used by professional teams; Sports Turf Managers of the facilities of schools other than colleges and universities; and STMA Commercial members.

The STMA board meets four times a year and board members are asked to chair or serve on one or more committees.

Direct nominations and questions to STMAHQ@st.omhoxmail.com, 800/323-3875.

"Every man owes a part of his time and money to the business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has the right to withhold his support from an organization that is striving to improve conditions within his sphere"  
Teddy Roosevelt
Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: CSTMA will meet August 6 at the Western Eagle County Metropolitan Recreation District to focus on Topdressing and Overseeding. The Chapter will host a Painting Workshop at the University of Colorado September 16. For info see www.CSTMA.org or call the Chapter Hotline at 303-346-8964, or contact Chapter President Ryan Jensen at 303/646-6587 or njensen@ci.broomfield.co.us.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: The Third Annual SFMANJ Outdoor Trade Show and Equipment Demonstration Day will be held August 17 at the Plainsboro Township Community Park. This event has been planned with the support of the New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association, The Irrigation Association of New Jersey, and the New Jersey Recreation and Park Association and will be the largest of its kind in the state. For info contact SFMANJ at 908-730-7770 or Eleonora Murfit-Hermann at 908-236-9118; or e-mail to HQ@sfmanj.org or visit: www.sfmanj.org.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): The Chapter will participate in the OSU OTF Turfgrass Research Field Day to be held at the OSU Research & Education Center at Ohio State August 18. The OSTMA Fall Field Day and Vendor Showcase will be held September 7 at the OSU Intramural Complex Fred Bechman Park. The Chapter will also participate in the OTF Annual Golf Tournament October 5 at the Golf Club of Dublin. For info call 888-824-9805 or 419-824-9805 or Boyd Montgomery, CSFM, at 419-886-1982; or visit www.ostma.org.

South Carolina Chapter of STMA: The Chapter will participate in the 2004 South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association Conference to be held at the Charleston Convention Center with sports turf focused programs scheduled August 30-31. For a complete schedule of events, including offsite sessions at Collins Park and Joseph P. Riley Jr. Park, home of the Charleston Riverdogs, visit the Chapter website. The Chapter also will participate in Clemson University’s Annual Turfgrass Field Day at the University’s Madren Center Pavilion September 14. Participants may choose between two optional events that afternoon: playing in the fundraising Golf Tournament at the Walker Course on campus or visiting the University’s sports field facilities. For more info, contact Dr. Hale at 843-662-3526 extension 206 or email to chalea@clemson.edu or on the Chapter’s website www.scthma.org.

Florida Chapter # 1: Make plans now to attend the Florida Turfgrass Association 52nd Annual Conference & Show to be held September 12-15 at the Hyatt Regency Downtown Tampa. The Florida Chapter will lead a tour September 13 beginning at noon. Sites include a local golf course, Raymond James Stadium, and Legends Field. For information on this event, visit the website: www.tfa.org. For info contact John Mascaro at 954-341-3115 or STMA@Turf-Tec.com.

The Greater LA Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: The Chapter will hold a general meeting September 15 at UCI. For info, call Eric Johnson, University of Southern California, at 213-821-5654 or email ejohnson@busaff.usc.edu.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MISTMA): MISTMA is planning a half-day hands-on workshop September 21 in the Kalamazoo area. More details will be announced soon. For info contact MISTMA Headquarters at 617-712-3407, or email Amy Fouty, Michigan State University, at fouty@ath.msu.edu, or see www.mistma.org.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: The Chapter will hold a Workshop September 22 at Rosenblatt Stadium in Omaha, NE. Event host will be Jesse Cuevas. For info, contact Jeff Wendel of The Turf Office at tel. 515-232-8222, or fax 515-232-8228, or e-mail: Jeff@lowaturfgrass.org.

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: The Chapter will participate in the Iowa Chapter’s Workshop September 22 at Rosenblatt Stadium in Omaha. Event host will be Jesse Cuevas. For info, call Loren Humphrey at: 402-461-2324 or email to lhumphrey@cityofhastings.org.

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association: The Kentucky Chapter will participate in the Kentucky Turfgrass Council Conference and Trade Show to be held November 9-11. A special Sports Turf Track will take place on November 10. For info see www.kystma.org or contact Tom Nielsen at TNielsen@bats-baseball.com or Donnie Merford at dbmerf00@email.uky.edu or call him at 859-257-1451.

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Chris Calcatteria at e-mail: chrisrcpeoriaaz.com or tel. 623-412-4231 or Bill Murphy, at e-mail: bmurphy@cic.scottsdale.az.us or 480-312-7966.

Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or pending events, call Janet Gift at 530-758-4200.

Southern California Chapter: For information on the Chapter, or pending events, call Michael Tarantino at 909-791-2526 or MTarantino@powayusd.com.

Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly called Mid-Atlantic Field Managers Organization - MAFMO Chapter STMA): For information on the

Chapter, or other pending activities, call the Hotline at 866-818-8873 or email Nick Gammill, CSFM, at ngammill@american.edu.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, call Mike Krone, Missouri Baptist College, 314-392-2328 or email krone@mobap.edu.

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact Skip Kirby at 770-926-1580 or email skip@sportsturfmanagement.com.

Indiana Chapter: For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, contact Stan Moscrop, Indiana University, at 812-856-2256 or smoscrop@indiana.edu.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA): For Information on the Chapter or upcoming events, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, at tel. 610-375-8469, ext. 212; or e-mail to: kafmo@aol.com.

Midwest Chapter STMA: For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, visit the Chapter’s website — http://mcstma.org/— or call Libby Baker at 847-263-7603 or email Bake60find@aol.com.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: 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 or check out the Chapter website: www.msmtma.com.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, call Mike Green at 913-888-8055 or mikegreen@3and2baseball.com.

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, contact: Bob Christofferson at bchriso@mariners.org.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call Bob Elliott, Tieco at 800-239-9547 or Glenn Lucas at 860-837-8602; email to Glenn@tvstma.org, or visit www.tvstma.org.

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: The former North Texas Chapter and the former South Texas Chapter have merged to become the Texas Sports Turf Managers Association. The mailing address for the Texas Chapter is: PO Box 1078; Keller, TX 76244; phone is 866-897-8621. Web is www.tstmtn.org. The alternate contact is: T. J. Thompson, Treasurer, phone: 972-670-2138 or email: TXTurfManager@prodigy.net.

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or other upcoming events, contact: Bob Studholme, Fairfax County Park Authority via e-mail: Robert.Studholme@FairfaxCounty.gov or at 703-324-8590.
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