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STMA 16TH ANNUAL Conference & Exhibition

January 19-23, 2005 - Phoenix Civic Plaza
Phoenix, Arizona *Get in the Game!*



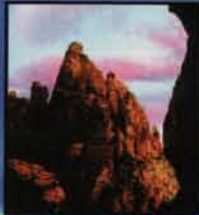
The STMA Conference & Exhibition is the place to be this January. The Trade Show boasts extensive exhibits with a vast selection of products and services to meet your needs. The Educational Program offers exciting and informative sessions and discussions. Plus an MLB/NFL sports turf managers off-site seminar/workshop.

- Round table discussions
- Hands on workshops
- Tours to local facilities
- Inspirational speakers

Get in the Game... Join your team in Phoenix and network with other industry professionals at Show Receptions, and on the Trade Show floor. Enjoy Live and Silent Auctions where you can bid on valuable sports memorabilia.

Keynote Speaker - Ron Santo Thurs., Jan. 20, 11:30am-12:15pm
The greatest third baseman in Chicago Cubs' history, and winner of 5 Rawlings Gold Gloves awards during his 15 year major league career.

Phoenix, Arizona offers diverse and exciting side trips and adventures from Jeep Tours to the famed red rock formations, to a visit to the Diamondbacks Baseball Stadium. The exquisite Hyatt Regency Phoenix is the official Show hotel, conveniently located adjacent to the Show, and offers discounted show rates.



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OPTIONAL EVENTS:

- Wednesday Seminar on Wheels to regional sports venues
- Wednesday SAFE/Jacobsen Golf Tournament
- Wednesday late Afternoon Sports Turf Jam Sessions
- Sunday Seminar on Wheels to area sports complexes

and more!

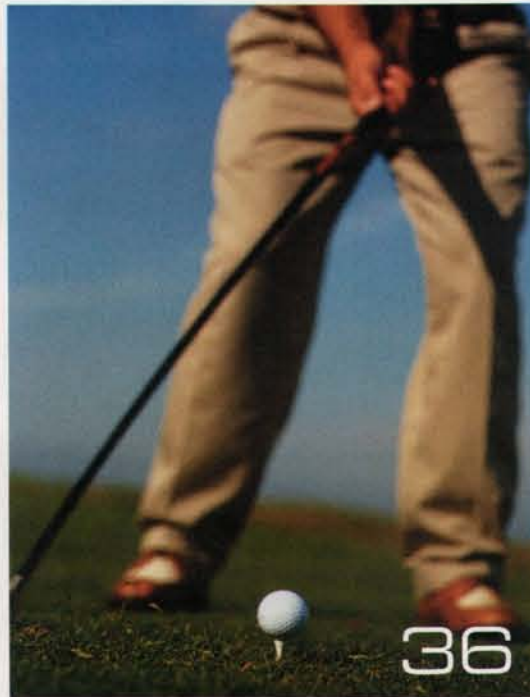
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Troy English - Jacksonville University Grounds Manager, Jacksonville, Florida

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from the sidelines

Pragmatism prevails

The first time I set foot on an artificial surface was spring 1978 as a freshman at Penn State. A friend was playing intramural lacrosse on the "plastic;" another buddy and I took our baseball gloves so we could play catch while we watched the game. And yes, the bounces were perfect. I fielded balls like Dave Concepcion.

What began as part of the "8th Wonder of the World" (as the Houston Astrodome was called in the 1960s), AstroTurf and like products grew in popularity. But by the mid-1990s, many college and professional stadiums went back to natural grass, citing players' health as a deciding factor. Who can forget the story of Wendell Davis, a Chicago Bear wide receiver who went down on the notorious carpet at Veterans Stadium in Philadelphia and tore both ACLs at once?

Today new technology and innovation has made vogue the "Second Generation" of artificial turf surfaces. Even though the readers of SPORTSTURF can tell the difference between natural turf and the new generation of products, many fans from their seats or couches probably cannot.

Old schoolers and new schoolers always have preferred playing on real grass. But the demands put on playing surfaces from multiple users (and multiple revenue-producers don't forget) these days means more and more colleges, school districts, and park districts are considering the new synthetic products.

To their credit, most turf managers (and certainly the leaders of STMA) have gotten over any lingering annoyances they might have had with anything short of Mother Nature's wonderful product. The bottom line is, if you want to be a successful, knowledgeable turf manager today you have to investigate these new surface choices. You don't want your boss asking what you know if the answer's "nothing"!

A better idea is to learn all you can, from the manufacturers, research literature, your peers, this magazine, the STMA Conference, etc. The knowledge increases your value no matter where your career goes.

To that end, there are several interesting pieces in this issue. Beyond the numerous sessions on the topic that will be presented at the STMA Conference in Phoenix next January and are listed starting on page 14, please also turn to page 24. Here Dr. A.J. Powell from University of

Kentucky and Mike Andresen, CSFM, from Iowa State, with help from others, have put together a cutting edge article on the maintenance and management issues turf managers have experienced to date with the new generation of fields. Great stuff.

Finally, not to be outdone, Dr. Dave Minner, another Cyclone, in his "Q&A" on page 42, shares the results of his research into the importance of keeping rubber infill fields irrigated in the name of safety. Please check out this fresh information as well.



ERIC SCHRODER, EDITOR

Comments always welcome.

Call Eric at **717-805-4197**,

email eschroder@aip.com,

or write P.O. Box 280, Dauphin, PA 17018.

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833 W. Jackson, 7th Floor, Chicago, IL 60607
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STMA OFFICE
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LAWRENCE, KS 66044
PHONE 800-323-3875 FAX 800-366-0391
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president's message

Get in the game

Get in the game — a simple phrase, but one that is particularly powerful for all us when we think about the STMA conference and show. This is truly an opportunity to get involved in our profession by accessing the dozens of educational and networking opportunities offered at the conference.

You will learn from leaders in turfgrass research and in field management, and be able to take back to your facilities useful information and ideas. Sessions, workshops, roundtables and tours have been designed so that you can choose the topics specific to your needs. Yet, the scheduling provides you with maximum learning opportunities.

Our keynote speaker, Ron Santo, formerly with the Chicago Cubs and White Sox, will entertain us with stories and insights gained throughout his 15-year major league career and from his most recent 15 years as a WGN Radio color commentator for the Cubs. Highly recognized for their wealth knowledge and experience, our three featured speakers, Dr. Andrew McNitt, Dr. John (Trey) Rogers, III, and Grant Trenbeath will provide interesting perspectives on topical issues.

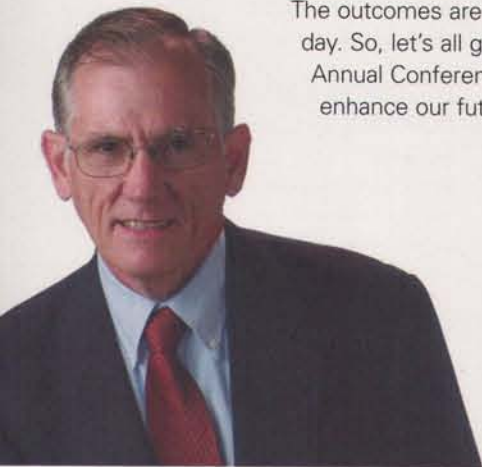
Networking with your peers is another way you can enhance your knowledge while at the conference. STMA prides itself on the willingness of its members to share information and knowledge with others. Simply by asking you will get valuable advice from your peers as they relate their experiences to help you solve your problems.

The Exhibition offers an excellent opportunity to see new products, meet face-to-face with your suppliers, and gather information to assist you with your purchasing decisions. No other event locates industry suppliers in one place for you to spend uninterrupted time evaluating and learning about their products and services. STMA has made a commitment to you to offer trade show-only time with nothing scheduled against it. This allows you time to walk the trade show floor asking questions of the product developers that focus on your needs without missing critical educational sessions.

Another commitment we can make to get involved in our profession is to pursue certification. Many of you are eligible to test for the designation. I encourage you to contact STMA headquarters to find out your specific path to become certified. On the website www.sportsturfmanager.com you'll find a contact list of those who are certified if you have any questions about the process. By making those calls now, you may be able to test at the conference and begin reaping the personal and professional rewards of being a Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM).

By taking advantage of the education, networking, and information at this year's conference, you are making a commitment to further your professional development, which helps to build a stronger profession. An old saying, "A rising tide raises all boats," is especially fitting. By personally committing to continuing education each one of us contributes to the advancement of the entire profession.

The outcomes are more recognition and increased respect for the jobs we do every day. So, let's all get off the sidelines and "get in the game" at the STMA 16th Annual Conference and Exhibition in Phoenix January 19-23. It's 5 days that will enhance our future in sports field management.



BOB CAMPBELL, CSFM

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Bob

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HORIZON 738

Phoenix AZ
Horizon has convenience and buying power of a chain with the personal service of a neighborhood store. Vendors include Rain Bird, Hunter, Irritrol, Exmark, and Monsanto.
www.horizononline.com

HUNTER INDUSTRIES 1021

San Marcos CA
Leading manufacturer of water-efficient valves, controllers and rotors help provide safe surfaces.
www.hunterindustries.com

JACKLIN SEED 121

Washington C.N. OH
From turfgrass species to forage grasses, count on Jacklin Seed for top-performing, proprietary seed varieties and expert consulting. www.jacklin.com

JACOBSEN, A TEXTRON COMPANY 1315

Charlotte NC
Serves the golf, sports field and commercial grounds care markets with full range of precision mowers, aerators, utility vehicles and sprayers.
www.jacobsencorp.com

JADE RUN SOD FARMS 1241

Bethel DE
Jade Run Sod Farms delivers three varieties of sod. www.jaderun.com

JAI TIRE INDUSTRIES, INC. 1230

Denver CO
Company reuses natural resources and produces crumb rubber. www.jaitire.com

JOHN DEERE CO. 809

Cary NC
Products include: hand helds, walk behinds, front mowers, zero turn mowers, tractors, skid steers, utility vehicles and special machines for athletic turf maintenance. www.johndeere.com

K-RAIN MANUFACTURING 826

Riviera Beach FL
Manufacturers of gear driven rotors, sprinklers, sprays, controllers and valves.
www.k-rain.com

KLAWOG-KLACON BY WESSCO, INC. 1234

Copley OH
Provides a consistent mound and batters box material in red or gray.
www.klawog-klacon.com

KROMER CO., LLC 309

Plymouth MN
Specializes in equipment for athletic fields. Their AFM is the only machine that applies dry lines, wet lines, grooms, conditions, mows, aerates, spreads, sprays and will cut and paint a line at the same time. www.kromer-afm.com

KUBOTA TRACTOR CORPORATION 109

Torrance CA
Kubota Tractor Corporation markets a complete line of tractors, the BX, B, L and M Series as well as more than 80 tractor models up to 99.5 PTO horsepower, along with a line of performance-matched implements, utility vehicles, construction equipment, consumer lawn and garden equipment and commercial turf products.
www.kubota.com

LASERTURF SOUTHEAST INC. 316

Jensen Beach FL
We build precise laser-controlled equipment for fine grading on sports turf, skinned areas and warning tracks.

LEBANON TURF 731

Butler PA
Produces innovative fertilizers and combination products and also offers seed varieties with consistently high NTEP ratings. www.lebturf.com

LESCO, INC. 1338

Anaheim CA
Distributor of turf products to more than 130,000 turf and lawn care professionals worldwide. www.lesco.com

LOCKE TURF, INC. 935

Opp AL
Manufactures turf products including walk-behind reel mowers, vertical mowers, wide-area rotaries, reel sharpeners, and aftermarket parts.
www.locketurf.com

L.R. NELSON CORPORATION 221

Peoria IL
A leading manufacturer of professional in-ground irrigation products.
www.LRNelson.com

MAGIC GREEN CORP. 1137

Silex MO
Corporation develops efficient, plant nutrition technology by combining industrial by-products with nutritionally valuable ingredients. www.magicgreen.com

METEORLOGIX 830

Minneapolis MN
Provides customers with the most current, relevant content, and convenient access to weather information.
www.meteorlogix.com

MILLCREEK MANUFACTURING 209

Leola, PA
Millcreek manufactures material application spreaders and spreading equipment; Turf Tiger, mulcher, spin groomers, and turf aerators. www.millcreekmfg.com

MILLIKEN TURF PRODUCTS 531

Spartanburg SC
Makers of Blazon Spray Pattern Indicator and marketers of products and programs for keeping your turf in its best possible condition. www.millikenturf.com

MISSOURI TURF PAINT 1217

Kansas City MO
Manufactures and distributes products used in athletic field marking, including bulk and aerosol paint, turf dye, stencils, application equipment and marking systems/accessories.
www.missouriturfpaint.com

NORTH PACIFIC AG PRODUCTS 938

Portland OR
Distributes palletized gypsum, pelletized calcitic and dolomitic lime, organic turf fertilizer, and palletized humate and rock phosphate. www.gypsumsales.com

NOVOZYMES BIOLOGICALS 538

Salem VA
Produces microbes used in high quality turf products such as biostimulants, micronutrients, mycomhiza distributed by Cleary Chemicals. www.novozymes.com

NU-GRO TECHNOLOGIES, INC. 1108

Grand Rapids MI
The largest merchant/manufacturer of slow release nitrogens. Products include Nitroform, Nutralene, SCU, PSCU, PCU, and IB Nitrogen. www.nugrotech.com

PARKS REC BUSINESS

Jackson NJ
Magazine that features the latest news and products, plus features and profiles for 15,000 parks and recreation professionals. www.parksandrecbusiness.com

PEAT INC. 321

Elk River MN
A peat supply company affiliated with Plaisted Companies which means control from harvest to final mix.
www.peatinc.com

PENNINGTON SEEDS 427

Madison GA
Provides warm- and cool-season turfgrass varieties such as Princess-77 Hybrid Seeded Bermuda and Applaud perennial ryegrass.
www.penningtonseed.com

PERMALINE SPORTS INC. 432

Montreal, Quebec Canada
A clearly visible and environmentally friendly permanent synthetic inlaid field-lining system for natural grass.
www.permalinesports.com

PICKSEED WEST, INC. 215

Tangent OR
Leader in the development, production and distribution of cool season turfgrass and forage crop seeds.
www.pickseed.com

PIONEER MANUFACTURING 1308

Cleveland OH
Specializes in providing quality stadium and athletic maintenance products.
www.pioneer-mfg.com

PROFILE PRODUCTS/TURFACE 626

Buffalo Grove IL
TURFACE soil conditioners for infields or turf. Celebrating 40 years!
www.turf.com

PRO'S CHOICE 715

Chicago IL
Pro's Choice has a Soilmaster product that'll work for you. www.proschoice1.com