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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.

For information call the STMA Show Office at
401-84-STMA2 (847-8622) or 1-866-84-STMA3 (847-8623)
or visit www.sportsturfmanager.com

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!
cover story

08 Sports Turf Managers Association 16th Annual Conference & Exhibition
Here's a list of exhibitors that will be in Phoenix January 20-22 for this one of a kind industry event.

12 Speakers and seminars
A full roster of scheduled events at the STMA Conference

features

IRRIGATION/DRAINAGE

22 Synthetic turf dry during flood
Complex in Olivet, MI, survived record showers in May. Proper drainage design is key in synthetic set-ups.

GREEN SCIENCE

24 Managing Rubber Infill Fields
Dr. A. J. Powell, Jr., and Mike Andresen, CSFM, focus on maintenance and management issues that turf managers have identified or experienced to date with the new generation artificial fields.

Around the Grounds

35 PGMS survey results cite money and manpower as two biggest issues among their members.

ON THE COVER: Increase your value as a turf manager at STMA show in Phoenix. Courtesy of Phoenix Tourism Bureau.
I TRIED THE
PRO SPORT
AND I’M GLAD I DID!

Troy English - Jacksonville University Grounds Manager, Jacksonville, Florida

“We recently renovated all common turf areas, the football field and installed a new women’s softball field. We did a lot of research looking for the best irrigation equipment as well as innovative turf products. Our goal was evenly green, beautiful turf everywhere and, we wanted maintenance to be a breeze,” said English.

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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 and professional stadiums went back to natural grass, citing players' health as a deciding factor. Even though the readers of SPORTSTURF can tell the difference between natural and the new generation of products, many fans from their seats or couches probably cannot. The first time I set foot on an artificial surface was spring 1978 as a freshman at Penn State. My friend was playing intramural lacrosse on the "plastic," another buddy and I took our turf surfaces. Even though the readers of SPORTSTURF can tell the difference between natural and the new synthetic products. 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 your career goes.

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 and management issues turf managers have experienced to date 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.

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.

email eschroder@aip.com, or write P.O. Box 280, Dauphin, PA 17018.

ERIC SCHRODER, EDITOR

SPORTSTURF • http://www.greenmediaonline.com
Get in the game — a simple phrase, but one that is particularly powerful for all of 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, David 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
bcampbell@UTK.edu

http://www.sportsturfmanager.com • STMA
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January 19-23 in Phoenix

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(R Division of Surface America, Inc.)
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AIRFIELD SYSTEMS, LLC 430
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AMERICAN CIVIL CONSTRUCTORS, INC. 637
Littleton CO
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ANDERSONS TECHNOLOGIES, INC. 438
Maumee OH
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AQUAMAXX, INC. 721
Mamaroneck NY
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AQUAMOLS 331
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Aeration equipment, large turf rollers, topdressing machines, infield groomers, wet and dry liners, overseeding equipment and turf comb.
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DIVERSIFIED SPORTS SPECIALTIES 632
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Provides turf managers tools to make sure fields are lined perfectly. Alphanumeric and Line-Up hash mark painting system. www.dssworks.com

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Provides PVC piping components with a commitment to service.
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