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we find that deep watering helps the aerators penetrate better. We frequently include a deep water cycle after each step of the process.

After the final deep-watering cycle we will start mowing at 1-inch height, three times a week. Mowing at least three times a week thickens the canopy while less frequent mowing is less effective. We continue to water and fertilize at levels designed to get maximum root and leaf growth throughout the remainder of the summer.

This process is complicated by event scheduling as we do host several athletic camps and one major athletic department event over the summer. We also have some intramurals and smaller student events. We adjust our schedule so that the fields we have completed are sufficiently recovered when needed for an event. During smaller events we move to areas as far from the event as possible so we will not disturb our customers, and of course we must suspend operations during major events all together.

This is the process we use to try to get the turf restored to the same or better condition at the start of the year as it was the previous year. Sometimes it seems that the entire summer is not enough time to get it all done but somehow, year after year, the season starts and we are ready with the grass looking green and healthy when that first student steps on Penberthy to play.

Bob Marcotte is Turf Foreman for the Recreational Sports Department, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.
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We have another exciting conference this year offering more than 60 educational sessions and workshops designed to supply you with the most up to date information on Sports Turf Management. New this year is our free pre-conference workshops with four sessions to choose from including Why isn’t my turf green?, Turfgrass ID of cool and warm season grasses, Wear tolerance and associate mechanisms, and Fertility management of the sand based system. Don’t forget about the 8th annual SAFE Golf Tournament as well as our Off Site Seminars consisting of tours of more than seven sports facilities and sessions conducted by MLB, NFL and MLS Sports Turf Managers! Our conference package includes over 19 hours of networking, 9 hours of new product viewing as well as receptions, breakfasts, lunches, and much more.

This is the perfect place to obtain valuable information to take back to your employers and co-workers! Everyone in the sports turf profession can benefit from what we have to offer, from the Sports Turf Manager to facility crew members and athletic directors. It is the perfect occasion to build your network within the Sports Turf industry. Students are also encouraged to attend and we have added a new student forum to provide students with the tools they need to enhance their careers!

We look forward to seeing you in Phoenix!

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**[speakers and education]**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16**

**8:00am-12:00pm (2 concurrent Institute sessions)**

**Institute I-Introductory**

**Soil Basics- Understanding soil physical and chemical properties**

Jim Crum- Michigan State University

Jason Henderson, Ph.D.- University of Connecticut

Attendees will walk away with a greater understanding of how the physical and chemical properties of soils and root zone mixes affect turfgrass growth. Attendees will help interpret laboratory test results for the purpose of constructing and/or maintaining athletic fields. These skills will empower athletic field managers to make the appropriate root zone management decisions. Learn your soils before you learn your grasses.

**Institute II-Advanced**

**Soil Water Management and Irrigation Scheduling**

Michael DePew, Ph.D.- ETS

This presentation will discuss how water moves into, through, and is retained in the soil profile. The effects of compaction on drainage, water retention, and aeration porosity will also be discussed.

**Dealing with Saline Irrigation Water**

Darr Kopen, Ph.D.- University of Arizona

About 45% of all turf will be forced to use non-potable water sources in the not too distant future. Salinity content and how to deal with it will be addressed. Students will get hands-on worksheets for irrigation based on salinity content of irrigation water.

**2:00pm-4:00pm (4 concurrent Pre-Conference Workshops)**

**Why Isn’t My Turf Green?**

Brad Jakubowski- University of Nebraska

Turfgrass managers strive for a green, healthy turf, however, what do they do when the turf doesn’t cooperate? This 2-hour workshop focuses on developing a broader perspective towards troubleshooting turfgrass problems.

**Turfgrass ID of Cool and Warm Season Grasses**

Aaron Patton, Ph.D.- University of Arkansas

This program will provide managers from across the country with hands-on experience identifying cool and warm-season turfgrass plants. This will be an interactive session where managers will learn to identify turfgrass plants in a hands-on setting.

**Wear Tolerance and Associate Mechanisms**

J. Scott Ebdon- University of Massachusetts, Amherst

The influence of cultural intensity will be discussed in relationship to wear tolerance mechanisms. By understanding these plant mechanisms, the sports turf practitioner will have a greater appreciation for “best management practices” for optimum wear tolerance and in turn provide greater resistance to soil compaction and pest encroachment.

**Fertility Management of the Sand Based System**

Nick Christians, Ph.D.- Iowa State University

The seminar will provide basic information on soil science as they relate to the management of sand-based systems.

**THURSDAY JANUARY 17**

**8:00am-10:00am — General Session 1**

**Introductory Remarks by STMA President Mike Andresen, CSFM**

**Conference Highlights by David Minner, Ph.D.**

**Keynote Address by Craig Karges**

The “extraordinist” is an award winning entertainer, nationally recognized speaker and an author. His presentation is an amazing blend of entertainment, message, and motivation. Karges delivers a powerful message concerning the potential of the human mind. He combines the art of magic with the science of psychology and the power of intuition to create the impression that nothing is impossible.
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10:30am–11:45am (8 concurrent Breakout sessions)

How to Prepare an Annual Operating Budget
Don Savard- CSFM, CGM, Salemianum School
This presentation takes the Sports Field Manager through the budgeting process and helps take the guesswork out of budget time. Sports Field Managers who know their costs are more valuable because they can develop and manage better programs and achieve the best results. This presentation integrates site and operations inventories into the budget process helping to uncover the true costs.

Using Plant Growth Regulators on Fields
Pam Sherratt- Ohio State University
There are several plant growth regulators on the market. How do they work? What advantages might they offer athletic field managers? This session will give an overview of the different growth regulators and look at what research on these products has discovered over the last 10 years. For example, can they help control Pao, increase wear tolerance, and improve quality?

ASTM Standards: How Can They Help You?
James Brosnan- University of Hawaii, Mano
This presentation will address some of the ASTM standards relevant to the construction, maintenance, and safety of both natural and synthetic turf athletic fields. Emphasis will be placed on the newly revised ASTM F-2107, “Standard Guide for the Construction and Maintenance of Skinned Areas on Baseball and Softball Fields.”

Exactly How Do You Maintain a Synthetic Field?
Webb Cook- A-Turf, Inc.
Darian Daily- Paul Brown Stadium
A panel will discuss the different ways to maintain a synthetic field. It will cover different situations that people have had to deal with on these fields and the solutions they came up with. The discussion will be very interactive and have a continuous Q&A.

Pesticide Issues – The Good, Bad and the Ugly Panel Discussion
Kevin Trotta- North Rockland Central School District
Mary Owen- UMass Amherst Turf Program
Rich Watson- Delcofield Property Mgt.
Our industry has seen an increase in scrutiny and debate regarding the use of chemical pesticides. This panel discussion will attempt to identify and shed light on the issues and concerns. Attendee participation in discussion is encouraged.

Steps in Disease Diagnosis
Douglas Linde, Ph.D.- Delaware Valley College
Three logical steps a turf manager can take to diagnose a turf disease will be presented using PowerPoint. The three steps include: gather evidence, compare evidence with resources, and consult an expert.

Poa annua Control Strategies that Work
Scott McElroy, Ph.D.- Auburn University
Poa annua is one of the most difficult weeds to control in all turfgrass environments. Even with the new introduction of numerous new herbicides, Poa annua control is still not easily achieved. This presentation will evaluate the potential problem of herbicide resistance, herbicide cost, and reducing the number of herbicide applications on both warm and cool season turf.

Management Strategies for High Traffic Natural Turf
Steve Wightman- Qualcomm Stadium
Real-life look at management strategies that can minimize the detrimental effects of high traffic situations. Focus will be on turfgrass management in less than ideal conditions and steps to take in providing the best playing surface/conditions possible.

1:30pm–2:45pm (8 Concurrent Breakout Sessions)

Five Keys to Success
Eric Fasbender- CSFM, University of Oregon Athletics
Today, being a successful sports turf manager means not only executing on the field, but also in other aspects of the business world. Whether you want to be more successful at your job or you want to advance to the next level, this presentation will focus on the five keys to success in the sports turf industry.

The Field Wear Index
David Schlaibibauer- BYU
The Field Wear Index will give the Sports Turf Manager the facts and figures to ask for increases in his budget by showing his managers the amount of actual wear that is taking place on his fields.

Ball Field Construction: Getting it Right the First Time
Robert Sanderson- Nazareth College
This presentation describes the organization and development of a design/plan team, design and construction of an inter-collegiate softball field at Nazareth College. Nazareth College is a division III school located in Rochester NY. The presentation covers the design challenges of supporting a March, April, early-May softball season in western NY.

Synthetic Turf Field Base Construction Panel (1:30-4:00)
John Schneider- FieldTurf
Doug Morgan- Track Master
Patrick Maguire- Stantec
Darian Daily- Paul Brown Stadium
Learn the details of proper base construction for rubber-in-fill fields from an architect, field contractor, and synthetic turf supplier. Find out how the New England Patriots converted from grass to rubber-in-fill during the playing season.

What’s Up with Bio Stimulants, Humates, Composts and Other Supplements?
Mary Owen- UMass Amherst Turf Program
The public push for organic turf and land management in many areas of the U.S. and Canada has led to demands for organic management of publicly owned properties, particularly sports fields. This presentation will discuss several categories of materials being used or promoted for use in sports turf management systems, particularly organic sports turf management.

Bermudagrass Fields: Weed Control on a Budget
Jeffrey Beasley- Louisiana State University
Herbicde options for bermudagrass sports fields can be extremely confusing for many turfgrass managers. Therefore this workshop is designed for sports field managers who are on a budget. Economical herbicide options will be discussed. Several examples and case studies will be presented as well as an easy method for calibration demonstrated.

From Sprigging to Playing in 30 days
Brad Freesenberg- University of Missouri
Athletic field construction has always put constraints on turfgrass establishment - wrong time of year, less than perfect methods of establishment. This presentation will provide an accelerated method of bermudagrass establishment, from sprigs to playability in 30 days.
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Developing Playing Quality Standards for Natural Turf Athletic Playing Surfaces
William Dest, Ph.D.- University of CT
U.S. studies have been carried out relating turfgrass impact absorption characteristics and traction to vegetative cover, soil physical properties and maintenance procedures. However no studies have been conducted in the U.S. to relate these objective tests for surface properties to player perception of what constitutes a quality surface.

Managing Fields with Effluent Water
Joe Wagner- City of Iowa City
This session will discuss the pros and cons of effluent water in turf management.

Getting Ready for the Season After Multiple Off-Season Events
Joe Trafigura- West Coast Turf
Grant Trenbeath- Arizona Diamondbacks
Chase Field is a natural grass facility, home to the Arizona Diamondbacks. They entertain numerous off-season events which cause several obstacles that must be addressed prior to the baseball season. Removing of existing turf, tilling the subgrade, laser grading, irrigation work, fertilizer application, resodding, then getting ready for the season.

Microbial Diversity is the Key to Healthy Soil
Gerard O'Donovan- University of North Texas

[schedule at a glance]

Tuesday, January 15
6:00am - 9:00am Registration Open - Hyatt
6:15am Buses Depart for Golf Tournament
7:00am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast
8:00am - 4:00pm Optional: SAFE Golf Tournament - Sponsored by Jacobson, a Textron Company (additional fee of $125 before 12/14/07 or $150 after 12/14/07 and pre-registration required)
8:00am - 4:00pm Optional: Seminar on Wheels I - Tour of Sports Facilities (additional fee of $60 before 12/14/07 or $70 after 12/14/07 and pre-registration required)
3:00pm - 7:00pm Registration Open - Hyatt
4:00pm - 8:00pm STMA Certification Exam (prequalification and pre-registration required)
6:00pm - 9:00pm Chapter Officers Training (COTS) & Idea Exchange (Chapter Officers Only) dinner provided

Wednesday, January 16
7:00am - 7:00pm Registration Open - Hyatt
7:00am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast
8:00am - 12:00pm Optional: Institute 1 - Introductory (additional fee pre-registration required)
8:00am - 12:00pm Optional: Institute 2 - Advanced (additional fee and pre-registration required)
8:00am - 4:00pm Optional: Seminar on Wheels II - Tour of Sports Facilities (additional fee of $60 before 12/14/07 or $70 after 12/14/07 and pre-registration required)
2:00pm - 4:00pm Pre-Conference Workshops I, II, III, IV (included in full conference registration)
4:30pm - 6:30pm Sports Turf Networking Kick-Off
7:00pm - 7:30pm First Time Attendees Reception
7:30pm - 10:00pm Welcome Reception - Sponsored by The Toro Company & Covermaster

Thursday, January 17
6:45am - 7:45am CSFM Breakfast
6:45am - 7:00am Registration & Merchandise Open - Convention Center
7:00am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast
8:00am - 10:00am General Session 1 - Keynote address by Craig Karges
10:30am - 11:45am Breakout Sessions - 8 Concurrent Sessions
12:00pm - 1:15pm STMA Annual Meeting and lunch
1:30pm - 2:45pm Educational Sessions - 8 Concurrent Sessions
2:45pm - 3:00pm Break
3:00pm - 4:00pm Educational Sessions - 8 Concurrent Sessions
4:00pm - 6:00pm 1st SAFE Silent Auction Open
4:00pm - 8:30pm Opening of the Trade Show

Friday, January 18
6:30am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast
6:30am - 2:45pm Registration & Merchandise Open - Convention Center
6:45am - 7:45am Past Presidents' Breakfast
7:00am - 7:50am Innovative Sessions - Three 50-minute presentations
8:00am - 10:00am General Session 2 - Plenary I & II
8:00am - 10:30am 4th Annual Student Collegiate Challenge - Sponsored by Hunter Industries
8:30am - 9:30am Commercial Member Meeting
9:45am - 10:00am Break
10:00am - 2:45pm Trade Show Open with lunch
1:00pm - 2:45pm Student Forum
1:30pm - 2:45pm Poster Session on Trade Show Floor
3:00pm - 4:00pm Educational Sessions - 7 Concurrent sessions
4:15pm - 5:15pm Educational Sessions - 7 Concurrent sessions
6:30pm - 7:30pm Pre-Awards Banquet Reception - Sponsored by Kubota & Live Auction
7:30pm - 10:00pm Awards Banquet

Saturday, January 19
7:00am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast
7:00am - 9:00am Registration Open - Hyatt
8:00am - 10:00am Educational Roundtables
8:00am - 12:00am STMA Certification Exam (prequalification and pre-registration required)
8:00am - 4:00pm Optional: Offsite Seminar/Workshop conducted by MLB/NFL/MLS (additional fee of $60 before 12/14/07 or $70 after 12/14/07 with a full conference registration, $85 after 12/14/07 or $95 after 12/14/07 without a full conference registration and pre-registration required)

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Please select the primary facility type where you are employed:
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- Parks and Recreation

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- Commercial $295
- Commercial Associate* (Additional member(s) from the same commercial company) $75

- Affiliate (Person who is indirectly or on a part-time basis, involved in the maintenance/management of sports fields) $50

- Chapter Dues (contact headquarters for amount)

- Chapter name

- Contribution To SAFE Foundation (research, education and scholarship): $ __________

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The value of this presentation to the turf manager is in presenting non-traditional practices that when used give the sports turf manager healthier soil and turf, turf that will bounce back faster after play and a cost effective way in treating turf that will save them money.

**Weed Control Everywhere Else**
Scott McElroy, Ph.D. - Auburn University

Many sports turf managers have to deal with more than just the sports fields themselves. This presentation will present information about weed management of turfgrass and ornamental areas outside the playing area. It will focus on developing management practices that reduce the amount of time that these areas have to be dealt with, while maximizing the aesthetic value they bring to the complex.

**Selecting Traffic Tolerant Grasses Using NTEP**
Kevin Morris - National Turfgrass Evaluation Program

The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) evaluated hundreds of cultivars and experimental selections nationwide. Information is collected on many traits, including traffic tolerance. This presentation will provide background information on NTEP, how it works, and how to use NTEP data to select traffic tolerant cultivars.

**Monmouth Park Race Track: Reconstruction**
James Murphy, Ph.D. - Rutgers University

In preparation for the 2007 Breeder's Cup World Championships at Monmouth Park Racetrack, a Rutgers Team was chosen to plan, design, and monitor the reconstruction of the turf course. This presentation will describe problems with the old turf course, the rationale for choosing the root zone and drainage elements of the new turf course, and how construction techniques and site monitoring allowed the design to be successful.

**Field Performance Testing Standards - A New Zealand Sports Institute Program**
Dr. Keith McAdam - New Zealand Sports Turf Institute

In Tribute to Dr. Kent Kurtz - An overview of sports surfaces performance testing systems and application in New Zealand and Australia.

**3:00pm-4:00pm (7 concurrent Educational sessions)**

**Preparing for, Surviving, and Recovering from a Rain Game**
Pam Sherratt - Ohio State University

If a game is played in the rain it can severely damage an athletic field. This session will look at a recent study done to evaluated topdressing products that may help maintain the integrity of a field during inclement weather.

**Tennis on This Side of the Pond**
Michael Burns - CSFM, Longwood Cricket Club
Tim Burns - Longwood Cricket Club

Discussed will be the challenges of managing 25 *Poa annua* courts. Current maintenance procedures and design considerations will also be addressed.

**Student Forum**
Tennison - CSFM, Milwaukee Brewers, Pam Cailen - STMA

Participate in this workshop designed specifically for students! Join us and find out how to make the most of your internship experience, enhance your professional skills, what STMA can do for you, and more.

**Contractors Perspective on Natural Turf Construction**
Chad Price - CSFM, Carolina Green, Matt Hein - Turf Services

Southern and northern contractors, provide an overview of 4 types of field construction. Compare the differences in material, construction costs, methods of construction, the expected wear tolerance, maintenance requirements, and best intended use for each field.

**Hosting Non-Sporting Events**
Waldo Terrell - University of Georgia Athletic Assoc.

In an attempt to generate revenue, administrators will often turn to hosting non-sporting events at a large outdoor facility. Monster trucks, concerts, even corporate outings each present unique challenges. We will share our experiences to prepare others for such events.

**Warm Season Grass Management (3:00-5:15)**
Grady Miller, Ph.D. - North Carolina State University
John Soroosh, Ph.D. - University of Tennessee

This presentation will focus on species and variety selection, management including fertility and cultivation, overseeding, topdressing, plant growth regulators, and pesticide use.

**The CSFM Test Demystified (3:00-5:15)**
Tony Koski, Ph.D. - Colorado State University

Chris Calabretta - CSFM, M.Ed, CRSP, City of Peoria Sports Complex

Learn what to study and how to prepare to take the exam. Pest management, agronomic and administration sections will be thoroughly reviewed and content presented will appear on the test. You’ll take a practice exam to help you determine your readiness. If you plan on taking the CSFM exam in 2008, this is the best review offered.

**4:15pm-5:15pm (5 concurrent Educational sessions)**

**Communication and Leadership**
Boyd Montgomery - CSFM, SGPS, The Toro Company