

## Fouty appointed to STMA Board



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**L**ate last year, in one of his last official duties as President of the STMA, Mike Trigg, CSFM appointed Amy Fouty, CSFM, athletic turf manager for Spartan Stadium at Michigan State University, to the STMA Board of Directors. Fouty replaced Jay Warnick, CSFM as the Colleges and Universities representative. Warnick now works for Tra Dubois at World Class Athletic Surfaces directing distribution in the west. Fouty will complete his term that ends next January.

Fouty is responsible for the Spartan Stadium field, the football practice complex, and new athletic field construction at Michigan State. She previously was a groundskeeper for rival University of Michigan for 5 years managing the daily field operations for football and soccer. Fouty holds a 2-year degree in turfgrass management from MSU and is in the process of completing her BA in psychology there. She recently served as president of the Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association, is on the education and grants committee for the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, and is active on three national STMA committees. She was awarded the prestigious STMA Field of the Year for College Football Fields in 2006. Fouty also has presented at more than 10 conferences and educational events.

Ohio State will replace the new turf at Ohio Stadium with an artificial surface, part of athletic director Gene Smith's broad plan to increase use of department facilities. The football team will be able to use the stadium more frequently for practices and camps, which Coach Jim Tressel sees as a huge advantage, according to OSU's Pamela Sherratt in her "SportsNotes" e-letter.

Brian Gimbel, sportsturf manager for OSU, told Pam, "We've been struggling with a deteriorating drainage system all year, so we are going to have to do some major work to the field anyway. With plans for the number of events on the field to increase substantially, an artificial surface seems like the best choice.

"We've had a couple of rubber-infill practice fields for several years now and the team knows what they can expect out of them. We plan to repair the drainage and resurface the field after the spring football game in April."

We're watching you dept.: The Tennessee Titans upset the Colts last December 3 at home when they kicked a record 60-year field goal with a few seconds left. Color analyst Dan Dierdorf commented on the turf conditions before the kick, saying it was "soft" and that it was December so the grass roots were shorter than normal. Tuning in, I waited for a disparaging comment about field conditions but Dierdorf said nothing else. A moment later, with his footing perfect, the Titans PK banged it through, assisted by a strong wind at his back. Good job, Dierdorf.

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