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*Peter Smith, Superintendent  
Shinnecock Hills Golf Club*

“When you’re hosting the U.S. Open, the quality of your greens is going to be evaluated by the best golfers in the world and a national television audience. That’s why I use only Buntun mowers to maintain my greens here at Shinnecock Hills,” says Golf Course Superintendent Peter Smith.

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**On teemowers:**

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VOLUME FOUR, NUMBER SIX

JUNE 1988

## MAIN EVENTS

### 12 MODERN STANDARDS INCREASE PRESSURE ON TURF DISEASE CONTROL

As maintenance standards and use levels increase, sports turf no longer has the time or ability to defend itself naturally against diseases. In many cases, once symptoms appear the battle is partly lost and some damage is inevitable. To have a tight grasp on his job, the sports turf manager must have some control over turf diseases. He must have a plan in case weather and use conditions tip the scale in favor of diseases.

### 16 NEMATODES INVITE DISEASES

If you are following all the recommendations to control summer diseases and you still can't seem to beat them, there is one more test to make, especially if your turf is growing in sandy soil. Have your soil tested for nematodes. These microscopic worms pierce turfgrass roots weakening them and providing an entryway for fungi. A nematode specialist gives tips to detecting, controlling and avoiding nematode problems in turf.

### 20 RENOVATING HYBRID BERMUDAGRASS BY SPRIGGING AND STOLONIZING

No turfgrass takes the heat and the beating of sports better than hybrid bermudagrass in the summer. However, too few sports turf managers give the warm-season grass the attention it deserves during the winter and spring. The vegetative turf may require periodic renovation by planting sprigs or stolons into thin stands. The problem is the use of the turf must be restricted for up to 90 days during the spring or early summer. Experts report that the results are worth the wait.

### 26 AMERICAN GOLF MANAGES ITS WAY TO 100 COURSES

In 1971, David Price started American Golf with three golf courses in southern California. Today, Price and his staff manage 106 golf courses across the country by a system that took years to perfect. Read this phenomenal story about the growth of the company and the development of its management structure.

## LINE-UP

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COVER: Arrowhead Golf Club in Littleton, CO. Photo courtesy: American Golf Corp.

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# THE FRONT OFFICE

## OPINION PAGE



### IT'S TIME TO JOIN FORCES

**A**fter we launched *sportsTURF* magazine three years ago, sports turf managers started calling us up to ask how they could become members of the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA). They thought that the magazine and the association were one and the same. They weren't, but we were glad to help.

After all, STMA's mission and ours are the same — to help the sports turf manager be recognized for his vital role in both turf management and the business of sports. Why duplicate efforts or compete with each other when both of us could do more for the industry by working together.

I'm gratified to say that with this issue, *sportsTURF* magazine is "The Official Publication of the Sports Turf Managers Association." The STMA board and Denne Goldstein, the publisher, have agreed to combine our resources where practical to move this industry forward—faster.

Each month, STMA will have its own column in the magazine to report its news, promote its events and generate interest in membership. All material in the column, called *The Extra Point*, is produced by the association. Views presented therein are those of the officers and staff of STMA.

We believe it's very important for the magazine and the association to work together, but we also believe the two organizations must be able to express different views on important issues. That is why the column will be treated as an independent part of the magazine to provide an open forum for the association.

A desire for independence is shared by both STMA and *sportsTURF*. The STMA board wants you to know that its opinions will be voiced in *The Extra Point*. Opinions expressed in the remainder of the magazine are strictly Denne's and mine. The opinions and views of any other organization or individual are also invited. We want to present all sides of industry issues.

We are pleased by STMA's faith and trust in *sportsTURF* magazine. After fighting side-by-side in the trenches for years to accomplish very tough goals, the board, Denne and I feel close to each other. We have all accomplished things that many people felt were impossible. We have become partners in a mission to help inform the professional and we have learned to respect each other for those things we have been able to contribute to the industry. Today we share the same concept for the future.

The most important thing for everyone to remember as the sports turf industry grows is that we are no stronger than our weakest link. We have to help each other build the muscle and knowledge to claim our rightful place in the turf and landscape industries. The golf course superintendent and the stadium grounds manager need to help their peers at schools, parks and universities. By working together some of the roadblocks to safe, quality sports turf have already been removed.

The relationship between the magazine and the association could not have been more timely. There are major issues to resolve as quickly as possible. We have only begun to see the tip of the iceberg when it comes to water conservation, pesticide safety, and liability for injuries that occur on sports turf. We are highly vulnerable if we act separately. Together we have the resources and ability to establish and defend the importance of recreational turf management.

Remember: United we stand. Divided our detractors can pick away at us until there's nothing left. The choice is obvious.

*Bruce F. Shank*

# EVENTS

## CALENDAR

### JULY

**12**

Eastern Sports Turf Institute, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA. Contact: PGMS, 12 Galloway Ave., Cockeysville, MD 21030, (301) 667-1833, or STMA, 400 N. Mountain, Suite 301, Upland, CA 91786, (714) 981-9199.

**19-20**

Athletic Facilities - Maintenance Seminar, Mulberry Street Recreation Center, City of Lenoir, NC. Contact: Professional Grounds Management Society, 12 Galloway Ave., Suite 1E, Cockeysville, MD 21030, (301) 667-1833.

**25-27**

International Lawn, Garden & Power Equipment Exposition, Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center, Louisville, KY. Contact: Katie Stanford, Expo 88, (800) 558-8767.

**28-29**

Athletic Field Maintenance Seminar, Wyoming Grounds Keepers and Growers Assoc., Green River, WY. Contact Roger Moellendorf, City of Green River, 50 East 2nd North, Green River, WY 82935, (307) 875-5000, Ext. 51.

### AUGUST

**2**

Turfgrass Field Day, Purdue University Agronomy Farm, West Lafayette, IN. Contact: Jo Horn, Dept. of Agronomy, Purdue University, W. Lafayette, IN 47907, (317) 494-4803.

**3**

University of Georgia Turf Field Day, Georgia Experiment Station, Griffin, GA. Contact: Dr. Gil Landry, 2400 College Station Rd., Athens, GA 30605, (404) 542-5350.



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# THE EXTRA POINT

## STMA NEWS

### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



It gives me great pleasure on behalf of the Board of Directors, officers, management and members of the Sports Turf Manager's Association to announce that sportsTURF magazine has been selected as the official publication of the Association.

sportsTURF is the first and only publication here in the United States designed and written exclusively for the manager of sports turf. Call it hindsight, foresight or just persistence, but the idea and the realization of the publication was conceived by the publisher and president of Gold Trade Publications, Inc., Denne Goldstein.

Bruce Shank, associate publisher and executive vice president of Gold Trade Publications, Inc., has long been a supporter and promoter of STMA. In STMA's early years Bruce was very instrumental in securing advertising and commercial affiliate memberships to assist in sponsoring STMA's first educational programs. He further designed and distributed the first STMA membership application forms and wherever he travelled spoke positively about the young, struggling organization.

Through the efforts of Denne and Bruce the sports turf industry has prospered, moved forward, and become a force to be recognized in the green industry throughout the United States.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention Harry Gill, director of buildings and grounds for Milwaukee County Stadium, the granddaddy and founder of the STMA. He had great vision and a dream that individuals who maintained and cared for athletic turf would one day join together to share knowledge, ideas, and compare methods of operation and the 'tricks of the trade.' He wanted to provide sports turf managers with the opportunity to learn new information, gain stature as professionals and be recognized for the efforts that they were performing. This man of vision is kind, gentle and humble, but yet a driving force behind the STMA concept.

In 1980, Harry shared his visions and dreams with other sports turf managers through notes, Christmas cards and telephone conversations. In a concerted effort in early 1981 Harry Gill, Dick Ericson, Tony Burnett, Dr. Bill Daniel, George Toma and others gathered at the Midwest Regional Turfgrass Conference held at Purdue University where STMA was established. They developed a constitution, bylaws, and held elections and the dream, vision and concept came together and STMA was born.

STMA became an independent organization in 1984 with a total of 60 members and established an office in Ontario, CA. One year later STMA was granted non-profit corporation status and membership increased 300 percent. Today the main office is in Upland, CA. We have almost 800 members and a full-time employee, Melissa Merritt.

We publish a quarterly newsletter, sponsor four conferences and trade shows, provide scholarships and research grants, provide knowledge, education, good will and professional status to members. Now we have entered into an

agreement with Gold Trade Publications to provide our membership with an official publication. We have come a long way in a very short time—but we're just beginning, the future is yet to come, the potential is unlimited. The teamwork between STMA and sportsTURF appears exciting.

*Kent Kurtz, Executive Director*

### ROKOSH APPOINTED TREASURER

George W. Rokosh, manager of buildings and grounds, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL, has been appointed treasurer by STMA President Mark Hodnick to fill the unexpired term vacated when Sam Monson resigned recently. Rokosh has been instrumental in making the Midwest Sports Turf Institute successful and has contributed much time and effort toward making the association successful. The College of DuPage is one of the largest community colleges in the United States with over 30,000 students.

### SPORTS TURF SCHOLARSHIPS

The STMA presents a number of scholarships each year to exceptional college students preparing for careers in sports turf management. The next scholarships will be presented during the annual meeting in Dodgertown in January 1989. Students should contact STMA for information on qualifying for one of the scholarships this summer. STMA urges professors and teachers of turfgrass management to notify their star students about the scholarships. Faculty opinions are an important part of the selection process.

### CATCH THE ACTION

*Mark your calendar*

#### June 22 - 3rd Annual Midwest Sports Turf Institute

College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL.

8:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M. - Seminars, On-Site Demonstrations, Trade Show Exhibits - Keynote Speaker - Billy Williams, Chicago Cubs Hall of Fame Player. Contact: Susan Glasgow/Nancy Thomas, (312) 858-2800, Ext. 2770.

#### July 12 - 1st Eastern Sports Turf Institute.

Holy Cross College, Worcester, MA.

Held in conjunction with the Professional Grounds Management Society.

8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. - Seminars on Landscape Maintenance, Sports Turf Management - the Basics and Advanced, On-Site Demonstrations, Trade Show Exhibits. Contact: Melissa Merritt, STMA, (714) 981-9199 or Jim Long, Holy Cross College, (617) 793-3477

#### January 13-15, 1989 - STMA Annual Meeting.

Dodgertown, Vero Beach, FL

STMA's Annual Meeting, Conference, Awards Banquet, Trade Show and On-Site Demonstrations. An exciting experience at one of the premier spring training sites - 27 holes of golf, conference center, guest rooms. A once in a lifetime experience. Plan now! Contact: Melissa Merritt, STMA, (714) 981-9199.

