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January 16-20, 2002 - Las Vegas, Nevada
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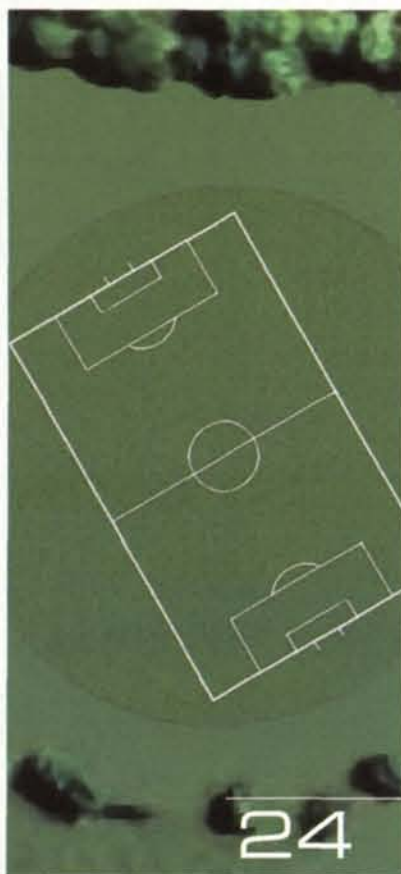
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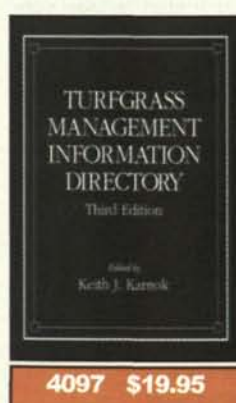
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ON THE COVER UNLV fullback Steve Costa breaks through vs. Air Force at Sam Boyd Stadium. Photo by Steve Spatafore, courtesy of University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

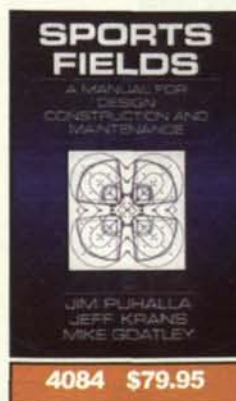
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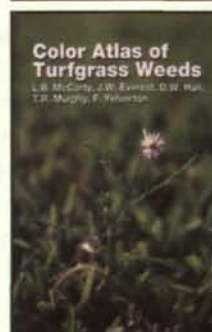


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Like minds

I'm privileged to be the first to read what the gentleman writes for the page opposite this one. This month I saw that we were of like minds: Rich, inviting one and all to Las Vegas for the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) conference and show next January, and my espousing the benefits of attending such events.

And "like minds" really is the main reason to spend the time and money involved. You and your fellow attendees have a lot in common even though you don't necessarily know one another. You're all interested in providing the best athletic playing surfaces possible given your region's climate-for the least amount of money, most likely, or at least within your budget.

STMA executive director Steve Trusty says, "The STMA exhibition has grown tremendously over the past 6 years. It is the only marketplace where those companies with products and services designed for the sports turf manager can meet face-to-face with the majority of the best sports turf managers in the world under one roof. The ability to get together in a relaxed, but working atmosphere with a reception, lunch, and ice cream social all included is an added bonus for attendees and exhibitors alike."

Steve's as right on as a Mariano Rivera 0-2 slider in October. Bringing together the companies that sell the tools, products, and services you use daily in your work so you can compare them and ask questions face to face is invaluable for making important purchasing decisions. Still more important, as Rich points out on page 7, is the chance to talk over your problems and solutions with others experiencing similar situations. Networking is necessarily always about making contacts for future jobs!

Having attended many trade shows for the various industries I've covered the past 19 years, I'm an expert on the "do's and don'ts" of attending such events. Here are several from that list for your consideration:

DO

- ➔ Wear your badge. No one likes them much but in this setting it's rude not to.
- ➔ Attend some seminars. More than a few times, speakers I'd never heard of walking in have motivated and educated me on things I'd never considered before.
- ➔ Enjoy yourself. Go out at night with old or new friends and see what the host city has to offer. There's plenty of time to rest when you get home.

DON'T

- ➔ Stay home. Even the current increased anxiety in travelling shouldn't keep you at home. This is the only show of its kind for the most successful turf managers.
- ➔ Play golf with your friends all day. You can do that at home for less money.
- ➔ Party for 3 hours past your normal bedtime. You WILL regret it in the morning.

ST

See you in Las Vegas!



Comments always welcome.
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BUSINESS MEDIA

Sports
Turf Managers Association



president's message

Are YOU getting that Vegas feeling?

Consider this your personal invitation to join me and many more of your peers at the STMA 13th Annual Conference & Exhibition, January 16-20, 2002, in Las Vegas, NV. This issue is packed with information on the Conference, including the exhibitor listings (as of September) and the outline of the educational program.

The Exhibition will be bigger and better than ever-and it's all for you! Every exhibitor taking part in this event offers products and services that focus on your facilities and your fields. These are your vendors and your potential vendors, companies, and individuals who want to work with you to achieve the ultimate goal: providing the best sports surfaces for all levels of play.

The atmosphere is different from the "traditional" trade show, too. You don't grab a quick, over-priced hot dog and a watered down cup of soda off in a corner of the exhibition hall far removed from the display area. Here there are food stations with a wide variety of great items provided courtesy of the exhibitors and placed at several locations throughout the exhibition hall. You, the other attendees, and the exhibitor personnel meet, mingle, and munch during the Thursday evening exhibit hours and share lunch together during the exhibit hours the following day. It's a casual setting with a serious purpose, helping you make the connections for the products and services you want and need to do your job better, faster, and easier.

The educational sessions were also developed to fit your needs, whether you're just getting into this profession or have years of experience under your belt. The concurrent sessions are organized by tracks that help you know just what to expect: The Basics Track; The Technical Track; Tricks of the Trade; and Professional Development.

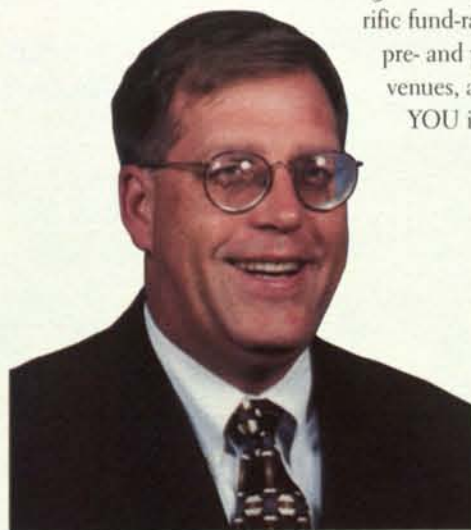
You'll have the opportunity to choose one of 12 different workshop topics for a deeper look at key issues in a more interactive format. The Round-Table discussions take that interaction a step further, with a free flowing exchange of ideas. There are 14 topics, with time to dig into three of them. The general session are winners. See the Special Show section for details on our featured speakers (p. 16).

The formal events start off with an opening reception that is tops in more ways than one! There's also a great reception and the Annual Awards Banquet on Friday night, all included in your attendee registration fee.

And, as excited as I am about sharing all this with you, I personally believe the greatest jackpot of the STMA Conference is the networking. Just to make sure you have a chance to meet new friends and catch up with old ones, we start each day with a casual continental breakfast

and gather for group lunches and hold some super optional events: a terrific fund-raising golf tournament, a Seminar with Floyd Perry, both pre- and post-Conference Seminar on Wheels tours to area sports venues, and an area sights Tour on Sunday. I can hardly wait to see YOU in Vegas!

ST



Rich Moffitt.
STMA President

Rich Moffitt

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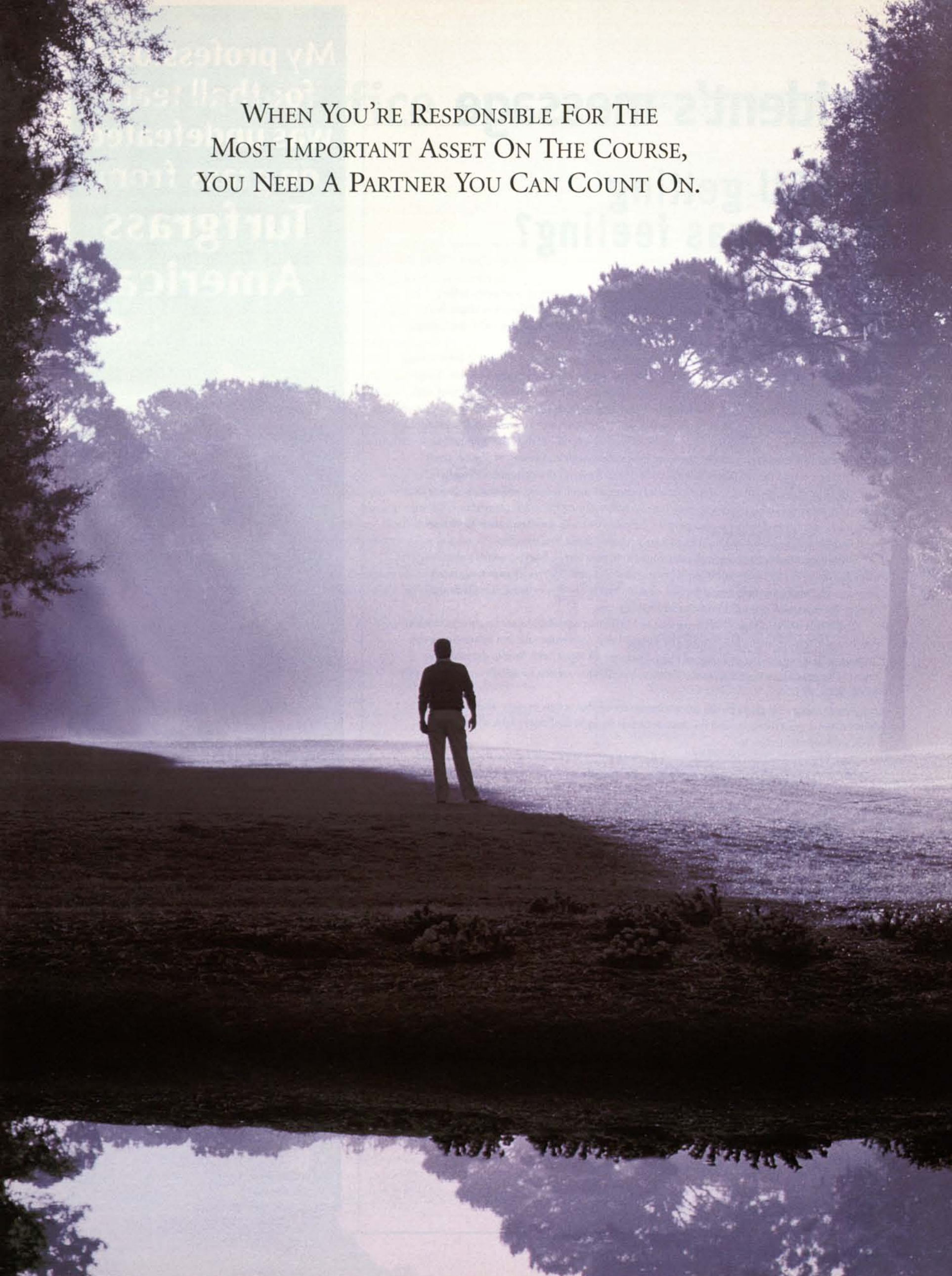
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Adams Business Media/Sportsturf Magazine

Chicago, IL
www.greenindustry.com
Booth 132

Lowdown: Sportsturf magazine is the official publication of the Sports Turf Managers Association.

Aerway

Norwich, ON
www.aerway.com
Booth 227

Aitkin Agri-peat

Elk River, MN
Booth 216

Lowdown: Bulk and bagged peat supplier for root-zone and topdressing mixes.

American Sport Products Group

Leander, TX
www.aspginc.com
Booth 114+

Lowdown: Group includes American Athletic, PortaFloor, and Southwest Recreation Industries.

Athletic Turf Magazine

Cleveland, OH
Booth 529

Aventis Environmental Science

Shawnee, KS
Booths 425, 524

Lowdown: CHIPCO Professional Products Group produces fungicides, insecticides, herbicides, and PGRs.

AXIS

Reno, NV
www.minerals.epcorp.com
Booth 130

Ball Products, Inc.

DeLand, FL
www.ballproducts.com
Booth 405

Lowdown: Manufactures windscreens, fence and wall padding, rail padding, safety rail, and more.

Bannerman Limited

Rexdale, ON
Booth 1110

Lowdown: Products include aeration equipment, large turf rollers, topdressing machines, & infield groomers.

BASF Corporation

Tallahassee, FL
Booth 225

Lowdown: Company markets a wide range of herbicide and fungicide products.

Beacon Ballfields

Middleton, WI
Booth 607

Lowdown: Supplies soil amendment materials, athletic field maintenance equipment, custom netting, padding, and windscreens.

Bothman, Robert A. Inc.

San Jose, CA
Booth 514

Lowdown: A general contractor specializing in sports turf.

Broyhill Company/Fleet

(Line Markers) Ltd.
Dakota City, NE
www.broyhill.com
Booth 913+

Lowdown: Company's sprayer and turf equipment line includes new terraforce turf utility vehicle.

C & H Baseball Inc.

Bradenton, FL
www.chbaseball.com
Booth 320

Covermaster Inc.

Rexdale, ON
www.covermaster.com
Booths 305, 307

Lowdown: Supplies baseball/football athletic field covers, mound and plate covers, turf growth blankets, concert covers, and protective wall padding.

Covertch Fabricating Inc.

Etobicoke, ON
www.covertchfab.com
Booth 220

Lowdown: Manufactures multi-purpose turf cover made of a material designed to provide winter protection of natural turf.

Dakota Peat & Equipment

Grand Forks, ND
Booths 633, 635

Lowdown: The company provides peat and blenders. Turnkey rootzone packages available using organic products.

Delta Bluegrass Company

Stockton, CA
Booth 407

Lowdown: Specializes in USGA sand and peat grown turf blends for sports industry; offer many turf management-related services.

Diamond Pro

Dallas, TX
www.diamondpro.com
Booth 211+

Lowdown: Provides groundskeepers a line of products and equipment.

DTN Weather Services

Omaha, NE

www.dtnweather.com

Booth 112

Lowdown: Provides high-resolution radar and satellite images.

Fieldmaster Infield Groomer

Lenexa, KS
www.fieldmaster.com
Booth 711

First Products Inc.

Tifton, GA
www.1stproducts.com
Booths 401, 500

Lowdown: Manufactures the patented vibrating tine AERA-vator; applications include aerating, primary seeding, overseeding, and topdressing.

FloraSport Turf Products

Collierville, TN
www.florasport.com
Booth 406

Lowdown: Turfgrass management and agronomic consulting company for sports fields.

GeoTechniques Inc.

Wixom, MI
www.geotechniques.com
Booth 229

GEOTURF

Edmond, OK
Booth 311+

Lowdown: Provides Airfield sports turf systems, which feature turnkey construction and available financing.

Gro-Power Inc.

Chino, CA
www.gropower.com
Booth 125

Lowdown: Manufactures humus base fertilizer/soil conditioner products.

Harco Fittings

Lynchburg, VA
Booth 1134

Lowdown: Manufactures Duclite iron fittings and PVC fittings for the irrigation market.

Hummer Turfgrass Systems Inc.

Lancaster, PA
Booth 517+

Lowdown: Field contractors specializing in design and build projects.

Hunter Industries

Sandy Hook, CT
www.hunterindustries.com
Booth 301+

Lowdown: Manufactures irrigation products-valves, controllers, and rotors.

