



Ohio State HCS News

HORTICULTURE & CROP SCIENCE IN VIRTUAL PERSPECTIVE - THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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Arsenal Attracts OSU Turfgrass Intern



Turf major Brett Tanner hopes his Major League Soccer experience will help him while interning with Arsenal FC in England.

Ohio State turfgrass science major **Brett Tanner** recently embarked on an exciting international internship opportunity. On June 6th Tanner flew to England to begin his sports turf management internship with the [Arsenal Football Club](#). An English Premiership soccer team, Arsenal recently played Barcelona for the Champions League trophy and is considered one of the top clubs. Arsenal's roster boasts many players who are currently competing in the 2006 Fifa World Cup.

Tanner will be interning under the watchful eye of Head Groundsman **Steve Braddock** at the Arsenal Training Ground in Shenley. This facility boasts ten full-size fields, two of which have under-soil heating. The fields are built to the exact specifications of Arsenal's current home field at Highbury in London. In excess of 60 soccer players use the facility on a typical day. Many youth team matches and reserve team friendlies occur on the weekends. The club will be moving from Highbury to the new Emirates Stadium in London this summer.



Sportsturf student Brett Tanner has benefited from working with OSU alum Matt Williams at the Columbus Crew soccer stadium.

Tanner originally started his turf career in golf course management, but he has been working for the past year at the Major League Soccer [Columbus Crew Stadium](#) under the direction of the Director of Stadium Grounds, **Matt Williams**. During that time he has been involved with all aspects of field management, including installation of concert protection systems, like Terraflor. Tanner is an active member of national STMA and he travelled to the conference in January to participate in the

quiz bowl. He is also an active member of the Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA) and involved in the OSU Turf Club.

The internship was organized through **Mike O'Keefe** at Ohio State's [Ohio International Intern Program](#). This program has helped numerous OSU students intern at sports stadia and golf courses all over the world. Tanner's internship is the first one with an English Premiership club, so it's an exciting venture for all involved.



OSTMA Vice-President Kevin Vaughn (right) presented Brett Tanner with a \$750 scholarship to help offset some of the costs of an international internship experience.

To help offset some of the costs involved the [OSTMA](#) awarded Tanner a \$750 scholarship. OSTMA Vice President, **Kevin Vaughn** delivered the check to Brett in front of his peers during a turf class in early June. This was a great gesture from the OSTMA and much appreciated by Brett and the turf team at OSU.

Upon his return from England, Brett is due to graduate with his degree in Winter Quarter 2007 and hopes to find a job in the sports turf industry.

Watch a narrated slideshow of this story with additional photos here: [Arsenal Attracts OSU Turfgrass Intern Slideshow](#). Free [Quicktime](#) software is required to view the slideshow.

Story by Pam Sherratt and Victor van Buchem. Photos courtesy Pam Sherratt. Web publishing by [Victor van Buchem](#).

Published June 12 2006 - <http://HCS.OSU.EDU>