

HAPPENINGS

West Coast Anniversary

West Coast Turf's Las Vegas branch is celebrating its second year anniversary by expanding into a new location at 3033 West Ford Avenue, Las Vegas, next to Boomtown Casino. The company has also added more trucks to help with local deliveries, and has hired John Marman as a sales representative. According to Marman, "We [now] have the means to go out and solid sod a golf course for a contractor, as well as deliver a couple of pallets to a homeowner."

West Coast Turf's recent Las Vegas projects include the Desert Pines Golf Course, Primm Valley Golf Club and TPC Summerlin's new Canyon Course.

Turf for Carolina

Thomas Bros. Grass Co. of Granbury, Texas, recently installed 12,000 square feet of its new turfgrass sod in Erickson Stadium in Charlotte, North Carolina, home of the Carolina Panthers.

Five semi-truck loads of Tifway 419 Bermudagrass sod made its way from Granbury to Charlotte, where a crew from Texas laid the sod in ten hours.

Said Dwane Smith, manager of the company's farm in Granbury, "It's real pleasing for us to get to supply and install the grass for football stadiums ... Pro football is the upper echelon of where grass is used."

Thomas Bros. began farming turfgrass in 1970 on ten acres of land. Today, the company has five turf farms in Granbury and Wharton, Texas; Fayetteville and Nashville, Tennessee; and Rome, Georgia.

Diagnostics News

Turf Diagnostics & Design (TDD), an agronomic development company specializing in high performance sports turf systems, and HOK Sports Facility Group will be returning to Cleveland, OH, for another stadium project. The Cleveland Browns' new stadium will be designed by HOK. TDD will be the turf

system designer. The companies previously worked together on the Kansas City Chiefs' field conversion to natural turf at the Truman Sports Complex in Kansas City.

To reduce field related injuries, TDD has developed a system to make sports fields safer. Utilizing the Clegg Impact Hammer and the newly developed software by TDD called STRIPE (Sports Turf Rebound and Impact Performance Evaluation), the system defines the "hardness" of athletic fields to determine if the players have an increased risk from injury due to the field conditions.

By providing leading edge expertise in the design of high performance sandbased turf systems, TDD continues to garner high profile clients like Disney World's Reedy Creek Sports Complex. A multiple sandbased field design, the complex offers two primary benefits: excellent drainage and safety. □

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