

## Around the Grounds



### DEBRIS, LEAF PUSHER

SweepEx has introduced its new debris & leaf pusher attachment, ideal for leaves, cans, and bottles. This pusher basically adds a strong net to the broom attachment that allows you to carry more material farther. The pusher bolts to the front of any SweepEx Pro Series broom, which are available in 48-, 60-, 72-, and 90-in. lengths.

TrynEx International/800-725-8377  
For information, circle 181

### GENERATORS

Shindaiwa's EGR6000 and EGR6000E generators provide quiet electric power and feature brushless alternators, electronic ignition and pull starters, automatic return-to-idle feature, and oil sensor that automatically shuts off engine if oil level falls, to protect the engine.

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## Extra points

**FOOTBALL FANS REVEL** in the touchdowns, the passing game, and the power rushers. Few, however, realize the importance of the kicking game. The same is true from a historical standpoint.

American football as we know it began very similar to its ancestors, soccer and rugby. Early matches emphasized the kicking game. But throughout the years the importance of the "goal from the field," or "field goal" as it came to be known, has changed. In 1882 a field goal was worth five points. In 1904 it was changed to four points. And in 1909 it changed to the current 3 points. As the game evolved, so too did the goal posts.

According to Kent Stephens, collections manager at the College Football Hall of Fame in South Bend, IN, records show that the goal posts used in 1873 were simply two poles 25 feet apart.

"In 1876 rule number 4 in the football rule book required that the goal posts be 11 feet in total height, 18-feet 6-inches wide and the cross-bar be placed 10 feet high, which only allowed for one foot over



the cross-bar," said Stephens. "By 1890 the uprights had to be 20 feet in height. In 1959 college football widened the posts to 23 feet 4 inches. And in 1991 the posts were moved back to 18 feet 6 inches."

According to Gene Henshaw, president/GM of Stackhouse Athletic Equipment, a Salem, OR, manufacturer of athletic equipment, Stackhouse has been making goal posts for 30 years and has used steel and aluminum for the duration of those 30 years.

"Prior to that, going back to the 1940s and 1950s goal posts were wood and in the H style," said Henshaw. "In the late 50s or early 60s goal posts trended toward steel or aluminum."

Stephens could not pinpoint an exact year in which the last stadium switched from wooden goal posts to steel or aluminum, but added that the Rose Bowl was still using wood as late as 1969.

- John Kmita