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Ph: (312) 977-0999 Fax: (312) 980-3135 Web: <http://www.greenmediaonline.com>

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### STMA OFFICE

1027 SOUTH 3RD ST., COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA 51503

PHONE: (800) 323-3875

E-MAIL: [STMAHQ@st.omhcoxmail.com](mailto:STMAHQ@st.omhcoxmail.com)

WEB SITE: [www.sportsturfmanager.com](http://www.sportsturfmanager.com)

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## Perceptions

I'm thinking about changing the name of this column. I inherited "The Front Office" and didn't think much about it. But after spending time with some of you at your real offices, the fields, and talking to other readers about the demands often made of them, I'm not sure I want to be associated with the folks in "the front office."

Now I don't want to paint with too wide a brush here because many of our readers may in fact be, or may perceive themselves as, members of their organization's "front office." This is about perception, though, and I've discerned that most turf manager types would just as soon be left alone by whoever's in the "front office."

Of course perception works both ways. No matter how professional you are, some front office types are assuming you're there to cut grass and that's it. They are wrong but don't know it. And so in contrast, check yourself. Do you treat anyone from your front office poorly? Do you assume contact with administration is going to be a pain? If so, try harder next time to have a good conversation and perhaps replace perceptions with reality, on both sides.

In the meantime, I'm changing the name of this column to "From the Sidelines!"

Speaking of perceptions, a mistake was brought to my attention and I want readers to know our policy. A 1-page story on the Super Bowl in the March issue was written by Toro's public relations staff. While this is not unusual, the fact that we didn't run, as we normally do, a sentence identifying the source or author of the piece was a mistake. Our policy is full disclosure so readers know where the information originated. My apologies for this oversight.

I saw where Giants Stadium in The Meadowlands is going to FieldTurf, the third NFL field to do so by my count. The new generation of surfaces is here and it is an issue that many readers may be faced with in the next few years, especially if budget cutting for states and municipalities continues. Please see Bob Campbell's opinion on the opposite page.

On page 30 in this issue we have the first installment in a series of turf manager profiles we're calling "Talkin' Turf with . . ." Our first victim, uh, subject is Steve LeGros from Hersheypark Stadium. We expect to share success stories, disasters, tips, and more from these pros. Please check it out.

In our February list of where to find hand-held power equipment, we inadvertently deleted what John Deere offers. Their Pro-Series lineup includes chain saws, line trimmers, blowers, hedge trimmers, and edgers. Other portable power equipment includes generators, multipurpose saws, and pumps. We regret the omission.



Comments always welcome.  
Call Eric at 717-805-4197,  
email [eschroder@aip.com](mailto:eschroder@aip.com), or write  
PO Box 280, Dauphin, PA 17018.

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