

from the sidelines

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

THE MINNESOTA CHAPTER of STMA sponsored a community project to renovate a local baseball field that plays host to nearly 800 kids in a suburb of St. Paul. Tough-as-nails former major league pitcher Jack Morris got his start on this same field.

Mike McDonald, CSFM, University of Minnesota turf manager, says, "We are excited to help the community by offering our expertise in renovating a local facility. Local vendors supplied sod, ag-lime, black dirt, transportation, edgers, and a skid steer loader. MTI, the local Toro distributor, provided a utility vehicle for the project, which proved to be essential for hauling materials and grooming the skinned areas of the fields."

Let's hope the parents and family friends of these players recognize and appreciate the experience and expertise of the "renovators."

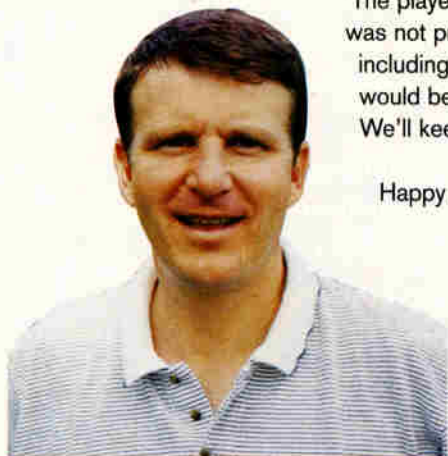
Husqvarna has voluntarily recalled some mowers that might have a loose blade bolt which could cause the blade to come loose or the blade adapter to crack, resulting in the blade's falling off. Product is the Husqvarna Royal 53S or ROY53INTEK walk-behind mowers with serial numbers between 24600001 and 31000205. The model number and serial number can be found on a decal mounted above the left rear wheel axle. The mowers were distributed by Husqvarna dealerships and Lowe's Home Improvement Centers from December 2002 through August 2003. To remedy, contact Husqvarna technical support representatives at 800-448-7543 to receive a free service kit including a new blade adapter, blade bolt, and associated hardware with a complimentary blade to be installed by a Husqvarna dealer.

By the time you read this or shortly thereafter, the two New York Yankees accused of assaulting a Boston Red Sox grounds crewmember will have had their preliminary hearing, according to a report in The Boston Globe. A clerk-magistrate will decide whether misdemeanor assault and battery charges will be issued against the players. If charges are brought and they are convicted, each would face a maximum penalty of 2 1/2 years in prison and a \$500 fine, according to the newspaper's report. A Boston DA was quoted as saying there was no chance of jail time, just as there would be no jail time for a fight between Yankee and BoSox fans outside the gates.

Boston police say crewmember Paul Williams was assaulted in the Yankees' bullpen after he waved a towel in support of the Red Sox during a playoff game. Police working security detail in the bullpen said several Yankees, one of who said, confronted Williams: "If you're going to cheer, go to the other side."

The players have said Williams provoked them, but police said the attack was not provoked. Williams was treated for head, mouth, and body injuries, including cleat marks on his body. The paper reported that Williams' shirt would be used as evidence because it was shredded by metal cleats. We'll keep you posted.

Happy and safe holidays to all, see you in sunny San Diego!



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