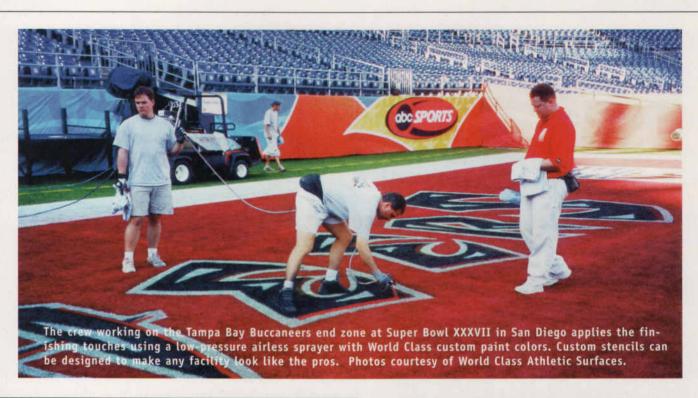
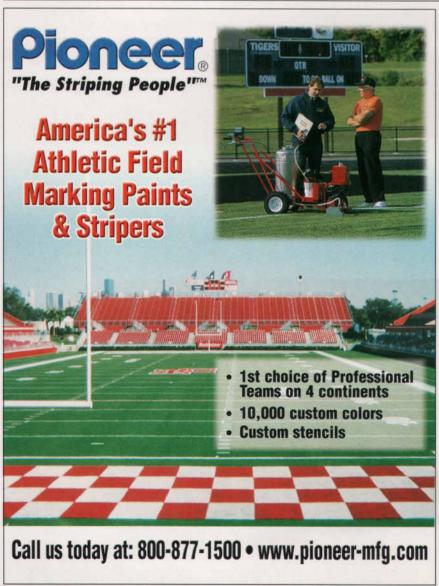
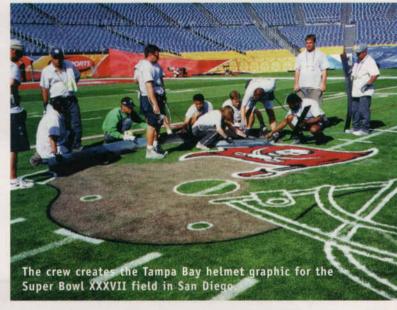
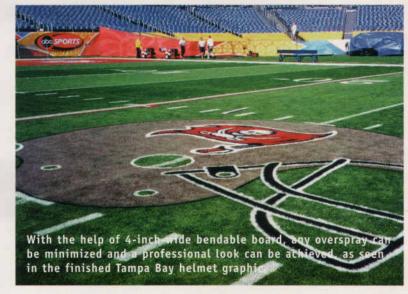
Painting the perfect picture

lthough many field managers use paint strictly for delineating the required boundaries and markers of the playing surface, field paints truly shine when colors are used for elaborate field art, such as football field end zones, midfield designs and other detailed logos. The following photo essay provides a glimpse of the possibilities that field paints offer.





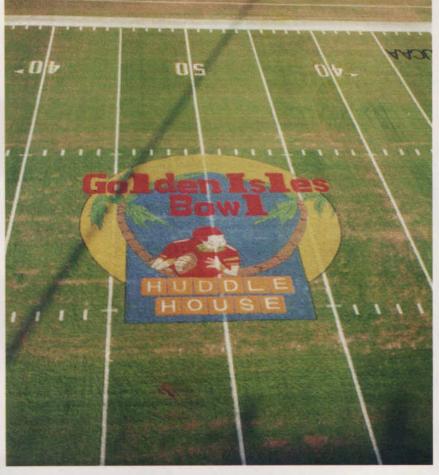




In & On the Ground



on Skeens, grounds director of Glynn County, Georgia Board of Education, has been using Game Day athletic field marking paints since 1995 on all of their athletic playing and practice fields. "For a field to look its best, the lines have to be bright and crisp, and the colors vibrant and true," says Skeens. "Game Day delivers custom colors quickly, on time, and matched perfectly to the team logos. The concentrated formula of 8010 Bright White allows us to dilute with water to achieve even better economies and to stay within our budget. The durability of the paint allows us to paint several days before our games, and the grass always grows back vibrant and healthy." Photos courtesy of Glynn County Board of Education.



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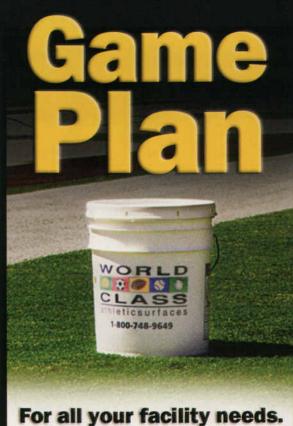
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In & On the Ground

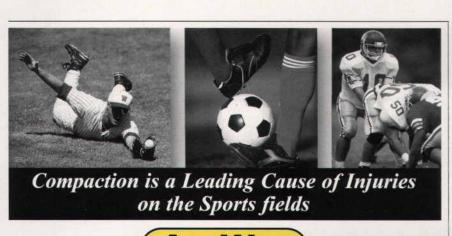
e try to paint the field at Ohio Stadium twice before each game," said Brian Gimble, supervisor of grounds at Ohio State University. "We paint it the first time around Tuesday and a second time as close to game time as possible. We do this so that we know we will have something on the field no matter how bad the weather is close to game time. This schedule has to be flexible based on weather, team practices and everything else."

According to Gimble, lines get painted first. Markers around the field indicate where the lines go, so the crew can skip the ordeal of measuring the field out each time. The crew uses a string line that is held or nailed at each end and then paints the line with a walk-behind, battery-powered paint machine called the EZ-100. This part takes a trained and steady hand and is usually done by Gimble's full time assistants instead of the students. The lines are allowed to dry before starting any thing else.

"Dependent upon the weather our paint dry time is about 20-30 minutes," said Gimble. "We then lay down string lines to mark out where the numbers and hash marks go. Then our team of student employees move the stencils around. The stencils are placed into position and painted in with a 12-foot hose and wand attachment from the paint machine using Pro-Stripe paint. On back-to-back games we usually paint them with 4-inch and 9-inch rollers, assuming they are visible enough."

According to Gimble, the end zones and the Block O are painted last. These are initially laid out with stencils, but are painted with 4-inch and 9-inch rollers the rest of the season. When the team is away for two weeks or more, the crew paints the corners of the letters with spray paint and then remeasures them for accuracy before painting them out again.

"We have a lot of student help, so the rollers help the job to go really fast," Gimble added.





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The crew at Ohio Stadium paints the second coat of the white border around Block O with a 4-inch roller using Pro-Stripe Super White.



The crew paints the end zones mid-season, being careful to keep straight lines. Photos courtesy of Whitlam Paint.



Mineral Water Bowl, Dec. 2002, NCAA Division II, Excelsior Springs, MO. ZAP field marking paint by Zeke's Paint, Independence, MO.