

Tracking stations monitor weather for the pros

Turf managers for the Philadelphia Eagles, Miami Dolphins, Florida Marlins, and Cleveland Browns are counting on new professional grade tracking stations, cameras and ground sensors to deliver instantaneous, on-site weather conditions.

"The hourly forecasts are extremely helpful," said Rick Wright, director of field operations for the Dolphins and Marlins. "We're now able to 'see' approaching storms, even at night, and to alert the owners and coaches to possible threats. Streamer also let's us know when there's a possible 'window' on a stormy day. No sense in warming up a player if we're going to be rained out."

Professional Streamer, a WeatherBug product, delivers live weather data online, any time, in one interface. Team personnel can remotely plan for the next practice and then equip and prepare the players for the day's activities, such as selecting wet vs. dry practice shoes. Customizable views of playing field conditions feature live, neighborhood-level weather and wind readings, local radar, weather contour, satellite, camera views, and forecast updates. Pan and zoom capabilities enable users to observe up to five layers of overlapping weather data on the same map, including custom data, to forecast potentially hazardous conditions such as lightning or tornadoes.

"With live, on-site weather conditions at our stadium and training facility, we see significant advantages to everyone involved with the Eagles," said Philadelphia Eagles' sports field manager, Tony Leonard. "We've already saved time, manpower, and resources by being able to service the playing field and equip our staff and players to suit the weather and playing field conditions. Now, we can equip and prepare our players for minimal injury and optimal outcome and deal with potential weather hazards."

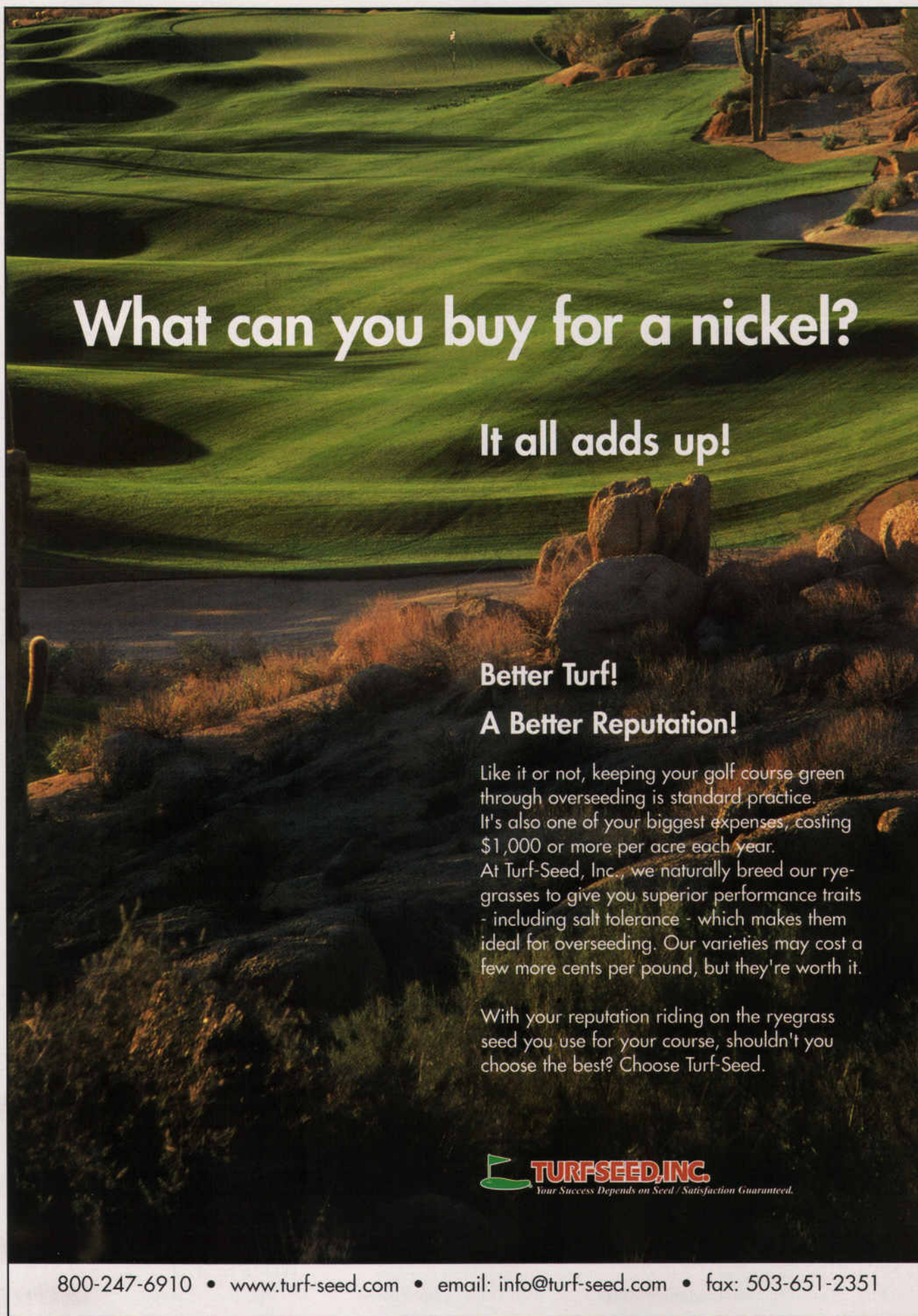
Management can select up to 23 warnings for storms, tornadoes, floods, hurricanes, non-precipitation, marine advisories, fire weather, civil emergencies, and more. They can also monitor lightning, hail and heavy precipitation and set alert thresholds for low and high temperatures, heat index, average and current wind speeds, wind chill, wind gusts, rain rate and daily rain accumulation.

The product allows insight to historical data, which helps them anticipate and prevent potential hazards based upon past experiences with similar, hazardous weather conditions.

Leveraging the network of 8,000 WeatherBug Tracking Stations nationwide and more than 1,000 cameras, the Professional Streamer features live weather conditions at the stadium and training camp grounds. Also, ground

sensors have the added capabilities of monitoring soil moisture, leaf wetness, and evapotranspiration to better manage and maintain their facilities and play surfaces.

Edited by Eric Schroder




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