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Coach Saberhagen scouted for top turf

Former major league baseball player Bret Saberhagen spent more than 15 years playing big league ball, and he has been to more baseball fields than he can count. When he took over the head baseball coach position at Calabasas High School he looked to the head turf managers of a couple of the best fields in baseball for recommendations to support his new state-of-the-art \$600,000 field.

One phone call to Kansas City Royals head groundskeeper, Trevor Vance, led Saberhagen to contact Los Angeles Dodgers head groundskeeper Eric Hansen. Vance and Hansen's fields were voted #5 and #1 respectively by MLB players in a poll by *Sports Illustrated*. Both fields are grassed by West Coast Turf.

"I've known Trevor from Kansas City for a long time. He knows what he's talking about when it comes to turf. Living in LA, I see a lot of Dodger Stadium, and that field always looks pretty much perfect," Saberhagen said of the Bull's-Eye Bermuda.

"I knew I wanted natural turf, there was no question about that. I played on a lot of artificial turf and didn't want my kids having to play on it. Baseball was meant to be played on grass," he said.

Saberhagen raised the funds needed to build the field through his Bret Saberhagen Make a Difference Foundation, private donations, and various events such as golf tournaments, dinners, auctions, and a casino night.

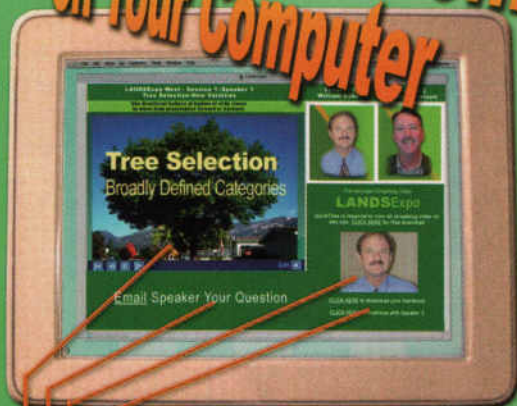
"I designed the field from top to bottom," Saberhagen said. And, you'll even find the former World Series MVP and two-time Cy Young Award winner spending his off days mowing and edging the new field. "I got pretty lucky to have Eric Hansen give me a lot of hands on advice. He was the first one out there with us getting dirty. When it's all said and done, it's probably going to be the best playing field in all of Southern California," the former All-Star said.

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