

Salmagundi* V



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C SFM practice exams are now available online. Considering certification as a Sports Field Manager? Take the Certified Sports Field Manager practice exam to determine the content areas that you are strong in and where you might need a refresher. To determine if you have the 40 points necessary to be eligible to take the test, contact Leah Craig at Sports Turf Managers Association headquarters, 800-323-3875. Remember, you can take the test at a time and location convenient to you.

Reds go green. The Cincinnati Reds, baseball's first all-professional team and the first MLB team to play night games, are striving to become the first team to be fully "green" in its ballpark operations, according to Will Weiss at baseballprospectus.com: "At Great American Ballpark, high-efficiency lighting illuminates all parts of the stadium, from the structures that light the field to the internal office areas. In addition, a computerized motherboard regulates the ballpark's lighting system. At various points during a game, the unit will recognize areas in greatest need of either heating or cooling (luxury boxes, team clubhouses), and transfer power to that area from an area of the stadium that doesn't exhaust as much power. During post-game cleanup, stadium lights are programmed to shut off on a timed basis, contingent upon the area of the stadium that is active," he writes.

Field of the Year wins, exposure in this magazine can improve career prospects. Jon DeWitt is the new sports turf manager for Georgia Tech athletics in Atlanta. He told me he didn't think the two STMA Field of the Year Awards he's won, including one last year, "hurt his resume"! DeWitt's predecessor, Kris Harris, was profiled for his work with the Yellow Jacket's football field in our January 2007 issue. He emailed "I took a position as Director of Turf at Southern Methodist University . . . by the way, it was the article that got me the job, so thanks."

Authors wanted. Yes, we at SportsTurf magazine want YOU! Many readers of this magazine are national experts on many topics relating to maintaining athletic turf and the sports turf management profession in general. Writing an article is a great way to give back to the STMA and your peers, gain points toward certification, or share your passion for your work. It's also an avenue to take if you want to put your name and knowledge in front of potential employers, aka networking.

And if you're concerned about not being the world's greatest writer or grammarian, please know that that is our department and we'll work together with you to get it right. Any time, any topic, please contact me at 717-805-4197 or eschroder@m2media360.com. Your fellow sports turf managers will be glad you did.

* "A heterogeneous mixture; medley; mishmash."

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