

## Holidays throw work/family balance in sharp relief



**ERIC SCHRODER**  
Editor

[eschroder@m2media360.com](mailto:eschroder@m2media360.com)

717-805-4197  
P.O. Box 280,  
Dauphin, PA 17018

**M**any dedicated sports turf managers spend a lot of time at work. This can be especially noticeable during the holiday season. We asked three Certified Sports Field Managers how they maintain a healthy work/family balance:

Kevin Malone, 52, is manager of the Baker Field Athletic Complex at Columbia University in New York City. Kevin spends nearly 4 hours a day commuting from Long Island via train. Malone says his family issues aren't about spending time with his children because they are college-age; rather, he does what he has to do because part of his compensation package is free tuition for his daughter to attend Ivy League Columbia, which is worth about \$40,000 a year. As well, the university picks up 50% of his son's tuition at St. John's University, which is worth another \$10K a year.

His football season is as crazy as anyone's; he sometimes spends about 75 hours a week on the job during the season even though he's a salaried employee. "It's not expected; I choose to do it," he says. "It's the right thing to do, and it's worth it. I love what I do even during the long, tiring days."

Kari Allen, a veteran of minor league baseball, spent the past year as an hourly worker for the first time and it's made a difference in her lifestyle. "I am not the person making all of the management decisions for the fields so I no longer bring any work or work-related stress home with me, and I only work a typical 40 hour week. The family/work balance is not a major issue for me at this time," she says.

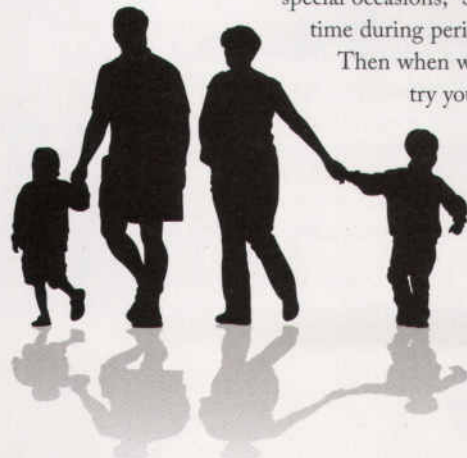
"This balance had been a challenge for me previously, however. I am extremely fortunate to have a husband who has worked in minor league baseball and understands its demands."

Jeff Salmond is athletic turf manager for the University of Oklahoma. "I believe that you need to have a wife and family that are very understanding of your profession. You need to be able to communicate, stay on the same page, and be able to have some give and take.

"My wife, Loida, is also in college athletics and we have a young daughter. We really have to work together and coordinate our demanding schedules. Between our schedules there are a few missed birthday parties, holidays and special occasions," Salmond says. "Therefore we try and make up for lost time during periods of inactivity, which sometimes may be minimal.

Then when we have times with family at home or the holidays, you try your best to give them 100% of your undivided attention.

"I also believe that you have to surround yourself with trusted and loyal staff . . . that you take care of because they are your lifeline."



1233 Howard Street, Suite 2I  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
Phone 415-839-5060  
Fax 415-398-3511  
[www.greenmediaonline.com](http://www.greenmediaonline.com)

The Official Publication Of The Sports Turf  
Managers Association

**SportsTurf**  
MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

**PRESIDENT** Mike Andresen, CSFM  
**PAST PRESIDENT** Mike Trigg, CSFM  
**PRESIDENT ELECT** Abby McNeal, CSFM  
**VICE PRESIDENT COMMERCIAL** Dale Getz, CSFM, CSE  
**SECRETARY** Chris Calcaterra, M.Ed., CSFM, CPRP  
**TREASURER** Troy Smith, CSFM  
**STMA BOARD MEMBERS** Larry DiVito, Amy Fouty, CSFM,  
Jody Gill, Mike Goatley, PhD, David Pinsonneault, CSFM,  
Chad Price, CSFM

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER** Kim Heck

### STMA Office

805 New Hampshire Suite E  
Lawrence, Ks 66044  
Phone 800-323-3875 Fax 800-366-0391  
Email [STMAinfo@sportsturfmanager.org](mailto:STMAinfo@sportsturfmanager.org)  
[www.sportsturfmanager.org](http://www.sportsturfmanager.org)

### Editorial

**GROUP PUBLISHER** Douglas Hebbard  
**EDITOR** Eric Schroder  
**TECHNICAL EDITOR** Dr. Scott McElroy  
**ART DIRECTOR** Brian Snook  
**PRODUCTION MANAGER** Marjorie Williams  
**EDITORIAL DIRECTOR** Richard Brandes

### STMA Editorial

#### Communications Committee

Chad Price, CSFM, Kevin Casey, Jim Cornelius, Mark Frever,  
Dr. Scott McElroy, Kevin Meredith, CSFM, Dr. Grady Miller,  
Brad Park, Rick Peruzzi, CSFM, Dr. Rodney St. John



SportsTurf (ISSN 1061-687X) (USPS 000-292) (Reg. U.S. Pat. & T.M. Off.) is published monthly by m2media360, a Bev-Al Communications company at 760 Market Street, Suite 432, San Francisco, CA 94102. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Sportsturf, P.O. Box 2120, Skokie IL 60076-7820. For subscription information and requests, call Subscription Services at (847) 763-9565. Subscription rates: 1 year, \$40 US & Poss.; 2 years, \$65 US & Poss.; 1 year, \$65 Canada/Foreign Surface, 1 year, \$130 Airmail. All subscriptions are payable in advance in US funds. Send payments to Sportsturf, P.O. Box 2120, Skokie, IL 60076-7820. Phone: (847) 763-9565. Fax: (847) 763-9569. Single copies or back issues, \$6 each US/Canada; \$9 Foreign. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA and additional mailing offices. COPYRIGHT 2008, SportsTurf. Material may not be reproduced or photocopied in any form without the written permission of the publisher.

Member of BPA Worldwide.

