Can you identify this sports turf problem?

Problem: Soil exposed on parts of field
Turfgrass Area: High school football field
Location: Tiverton, Rhode Island
Grass Variety: Bluegrass/ryegrass blend

Answer to John Mascaro’s Photo Quiz on Page 35
If you would like to submit a photograph for John Mascaro’s Photo Quiz please send it to John Mascaro, 1471 Capital Circle NW, Ste # 13, Tallahassee, FL 32303 call (850) 580-4026 or email to john@turf-tec.com. If your photograph is selected, you will receive full credit. All photos submitted will become property of SportsTurf magazine and the Sports Turf Managers Association.

Answers from page 17

The soil exposed on this high school field when viewed from a distance appeared to be some sort of animal damage. Upon further inspection and the fact that most animals cannot spell, it was determined that the problem might have been caused by humans. As it turned out, the damage actually was a result of three high school students, two shovels and three six-packs of beer. These vandals got liquored up one night and decided that they would expend some of their energy digging up this football field. The culprits were subsequently arrested because of the fingerprints left behind on one of their cans of liquid inspiration. The areas were too badly torn up to have the divots reinserted so the areas had to be backfilled with soil and then re-seeded with a combination ryegrass/bluegrass blend and PennMulch. Care had to be taken to get the correct seed match so the areas blended into the surrounding turf as the other word spelled out on the field could not be published in this magazine.

Photo submitted by Bill McGeough, President of McGeough’s Turf Management of Tiverton, RI and maintenance company for this field.

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Groundskeeper Barney Lopas uses less man hours on his crew than most major league grounds crews. To find out how Barney readies his field for the 2010 All-Star game assault using less labor, download the case study at:

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