Can you identify this sports turf problem?

Problem: 4-5 inch deep brown depressions
Turfgrass area: Minor League Baseball Stadium
Location: Trenton, New Jersey
Grass Variety: Kentucky bluegrass

Answer to John Mascaro’s Photo Quiz on Page 33
**John Mascaro’s Photo Quiz**

**Answers from page 17**

These four to five inch deep brown depressions on this Minor League Baseball Stadium Field are the result of a strong man competition held over the field July 4th weekend. This was the first time this facility had hosted this type of event. The event consists of several competitors performing lifts of five different atlas stones ranging from 225lbs to 352 lbs each. This had to be completed on the grass instead of the infield dirt or warning track because the officials didn’t want any dirt or debris to touch the stones and to make sure the strongmen wouldn’t lose their footing. The grounds crew placed a layer of plywood and a large tractor tire to protect the field when they dropped the stones from the top of the platform after they completed each lift. That wasn’t nearly enough to protect the sand based field, and three of the five stones left considerable depressions in the field. The Sports Turf Manager reported that if they were going to host this event again, they would use more plywood and find a larger tire to absorb the fall of the stones and/or accept the fact that these stones weigh too much to avoid damage no matter what precautions are taken.

Photo submitted by Ryan Hills, Head Groundskeeper for the Trenton Thunder (Minor League Baseball Team for the New York Yankees).

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.