as they are finalized. Don’t miss out on this great event and your chance to hear how the pros operate, and also participate. Tickets will be available so attendees can catch the baseball games following the workshop.

For information on the OSMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call OSMA Headquarters at 740-452-4541 or Boyd Montgomery at 419-885-1982, or visit the chapter’s website at www.snapshot.org.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: The Minnesota Chapter is planning a spring workshop. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the Minnesota Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Jeff Limburg, Head Sports Field Manager, and the OSTMA. Tickets will be available so attendees can catch the baseball games following the workshop.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MSTMA): The Michigan Chapter’s annual meeting will be held June 20, at Okemos High School. MSTMA will also join the Ohio Chapter for a summer workshop with the Toledo Mudhens on June 26, at the brand new 5/3rd Field in downtown Toledo. Educational sessions will be conducted by Jeff Limburg, Head Sports Field Manager, and the OSTMA. The MSTMA Chapter also has been invited to participate. Tickets will be available so attendees can catch the baseball game following the workshop.

For information on the MSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call MSTMA Headquarters at 740-452-4541 or Boyd Montgomery at 419-885-1982, or visit the chapter’s website at www.snapshot.org.

Kansas City Chapter STMA: The Kansas City Chapter’s next workshop will be held June 20, at Lawrence Tech. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the Kansas City Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Steve Dugas, California State University-Fullerton, at 714-278-3929 or email sdugas@fullerton.edu.

Southern California Chapter: For information on the Southern California Chapter, or pending events, contact Bill Murphy, Recreation and Facilities Manager, City of Scottsdale Park, at e-mail: bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us or tel. 480-312-7954.

Eastern Colorado Chapter: For information on the Eastern Colorado Chapter, or pending events, call Dana Trelfa, Athletic Director, City of Denver, at 303-723-4400.

South Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the South Texas Chapter, or upcoming events, call Craig Potts, Texas A & M University, at tel. 979-458-8841, or e-mail: cpotts@athletics.tamu.edu.

Sports Turf Managers Association gains more space

The Headquarters of the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) has relocated to gain more office space. The new location is 1027 South 3rd Street, Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503. The new phone number is 712-379-2623 (7862). The toll free phone number remains the same: 800/323-3875. Both fax numbers remain the same: 712-366-9119 and 800-366-0391.

The new E-mail address is STMAHQ@st.omhco.com. Staff members also have individual E-mail addresses using their first name, such as Steve@st.omhco.com. The website address will remain the same: www.sportsturfmanger.com.

Steve Trusty, STMA executive director, says, “All indications point to continuation of the excellent growth the association has experienced over the past several years. In addition, STMA has continued to add services for our membership including the Certified Sports Field Manager Program, the newly introduced Mentoring Program, and the coordination of a bigger and better website. In order to accommodate all of this, we have upgraded equipment and increased our staff. In the process, we have outgrown our office space. We’re excited about what lies ahead for the association and are pleased to report that the new STMA Headquarters site provides adequate space now and can accommodate future growth.”
Jaydee Drive Liner

The Jaydee Drive Liner is a self-propelled riding line marker. The 35-gallon paint tank carries enough marking material for a complete game field, or several practice fields. The 2-gallon flush tank cleans the discharge lines for work breaks, travel, or overnight. The center or side-mark spray shields are always operator-visible. A nearly zero turning radius reduces or eliminates back and turn maneuvers.

Jaydee Equipment Company
202 East Joliet Highway, Box 278
New Lenox, IL 60451-0278
TOLL FREE: 1-800-443-3268
jaydee@theramp.net • www.jaydeeeqco.com

All-Star Team of Turf Care Equipment

The leaders in Sports Turf Maintenance Equipment have assembled an all-star team of equipment for your sport turf care needs. Choose Bob-Cat®, Bunton®, Cushman®, Jacobsen® and Ryan® for mowers, aerators, infield rakes, utility vehicles, seeders and sprayers. Off the field they are easy to maintain. Rugged design and construction keeps them running for years.

Call 1-888-922-TURF today or visit us at www.texronturf.com for more information or demonstration.

Mar Mound CLAY

- Reduces high stress areas
- Red in color
- Sand-Silt-Clay mix for greater compaction and bonding
- Used throughout the United States by professional groundskeepers
- Available in 50 lb. bags or bulk
- Call for other quality products

Kifco has introduced a line of Turbine Drive Water-Reels® to complement the popular line of Bellows Drive machines. These self-traveling sprinklers are ideal portable irrigation systems for all types of turf grass. Machines are available for both large and small areas. Water-Reels® are compact, easy to use, operate unattended and shut down automatically. Kifco has specialized in traveling irrigators for more than 35 years.

KIFCO
P.O. Box 290, Havana, IL 62644
Web Site: www.kifco.com

THATCH - MASTER

48" & 60" FINE TURF VERTI-CUT

1. Commercial quality fine turf verti-cut
2. PTO powered - 20 to 30 H.P.
3. Thin (.060) blades do NOT leave grooves
4. Extremely low maintenance
5. Fast

Turf Specialties, Inc.
320 Third Street, S.W.
Winter Haven, FL 33880
Telephone: (863) 289-3330

Southern Athletic Fields
1.800.837.8062
www.mulemix.com

TRU MARK

FIELD MARKING EQUIPMENT & ACCESSORIES

“Paint Mule”

RS-500

PROVIDING QUALITY EQUIPMENT FOR THE NATION’S LEADING GROUNDSKEEPERS

www.trumarkafm.com
1-800-553-MARK
Classifieds

For classified advertising rate information, contact Chris Dziubla at 630-295-9617.

FOR SALE

GOT PAINT?
GET IT!

A FM
(Athletic Field Markings)

by FPC

www.franklinpaint.com
1-800-486-0304

FOR SALE

50% OFF

Used Verti-Drain Parts

All parts in good serviceable condition. Commercial Turf and Tractor 800-748-7497

HELP WANTED

Sales - A fast growing, aggressive Northern California turf company is currently seeking positions in the following areas: an Outside Sales Representative for Turf Sales and a Construction Superintendent for its Spots Turf Renovation division.

Company offers competitive compensation benefits & the opportunity for advancement. Qualified candidates please forward resume to: Company, PO Box 487, Stockton, CA 95201 or Fax 209-469-7972

Advertise here!

call

Chris
Dziubla,

630-295-9617

Athletic Field Manager Position

Athletic Field Manager for Division III University in St. Louis, MO. Need experience in almost every aspect of athletic field maintenance. Call Bill Tomko at 314-645-5112 ext. 30 or send resume to (fax) 314-645-2570 Attn: Bill Tomko 7243 Devonshire Ave. St. Louis, MO 63119

Advertisements Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Page #</th>
<th>R.S.#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anderson Lawn Product Group</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aventis Environmental Science</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>insert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASF Corp. Professional Turf &amp; Ornamental Products</td>
<td>Cover 2</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broxhill</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covermaster</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cygnet Turf</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Products</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flowtronex PSI</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.C. Whittam Paint</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaydee Equipment</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kifo Inc.</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laser Leveling</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Mower</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Earth Resources</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partac/Beam Clay</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Athletic Fields</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textron Golf &amp; Turf</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textron Golf &amp; Turf</td>
<td>Back Cover</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIF 94 Growers Associates</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiftway Sports Inc.</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toro Company</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turf Manufacturing</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turfgrass America</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turf Seed Inc.</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turf Specialties</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varioire Technologies</td>
<td>Cover 3</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Horticulture Supply</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagner Industries</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Coast Turf</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://www.sportsturfmanager.com • STMA

SPORTSTURF 53
Q&A

Looking for a little help and advice

I coach a high school soccer program in Louisville that uses a 3-year-old Bermuda field. It is now brown and dormant and we are considering playing games on it in early March. The field will be a little damp, but fairly dry for this time of the year. Will there be short-term and/or long-term damage if the field hosts four 80-minute games high school-age players? The high school team won’t be playing until August. I have been told that you probably cannot damage this type of Bermuda field at this time of the year with minimum play.

Coach John
Louisville, KY

In 1981, as a 25-year-old graduate student with Dr. Jake Butler at Colorado State University, I learned the answer to this question. I’ll always remember his sighing through the weathered mustache that filtered many pearls of wisdom: “Dave, there are grass problems and there are people problems. Smart people can usually solve grass problems, but grass seldom solves people problems.”

The booming demand for access to fields has accentuated the need for people to work together to solve “grass problems.” There is a limit to the type and amount of traffic that grass fields can tolerate. It is very rewarding to hear from a coach who was concerned about the present and future condition of his field. I could make an argument for both sides of this situation, but the more I put myself in the roles of grounds manager and coach, the more I realized that the real message is in the decision process and not the judgment.

In reality a soccer game or two played on a dry and dormant Bermuda grass field would probably not cause substantial damage to the field. Most turf managers would agree, but their fear is that doing so will open the door for more activity and they will lose all control over traffic regulation. Allowing added activity could be perceived as a sign of weakness. Since the grass is dormant and not able to actively recover it does not take much more than a few games before the protective mat of vegetation is removed and the soil exposed.

Some of our traffic trials in the transition zone of Missouri showed that Bermuda grass football fields could recover from fall traffic if they did not receive any spring or summer traffic. The combination of fall football and spring soccer proved too much for the Bermuda grass. Traffic when the Bermuda is dormant is in the spring or when it is starting to green seems to really set back the fields.

In this case it is a measure of how much traffic do you allow in the spring and how much injury actually occurs. Let’s put it this way: If the ground is moist and wet and the players are bringing up any soil or mud, then you are causing substantial damage. Native soil fields that are too wet for play can be severely damage in a single event.

Here is how I make the call on whether or not the field is too wet. Check for “squishy feet” by standing on any part of the field where you have concern and shift your weight back and forth from one foot to another for a minute. If you start to make a noticeable depression in the ground or you develop a wet spot as if you are squeezing water out of a sponge, then the field will likely have substantial tracking and divots. It may look fine for a couple of minutes, but as the contest progresses repeated trampling of the soft ground will give way to muddy conditions. This is of course the worst-case scenario and should be avoided since this single event can have an immediate and long-term negative effect. This is especially troublesome in early spring when soils are wet and evapotranspiration is low and also in late fall when grass is thin and soils take longer to dry.

Moderately moist soils, somewhere between just after irrigation and field capacity, are also prone to compaction. Water is not pumped out of the ground as in the “squishy feet” example, but the surface will have many noticeable cleat marks pressed into the Play-do-like soil surface. Both of these situations will result in mud sticking to shoes and exposed on the surface.

If the field is sufficiently dry enough so that there is no free moisture on the surface and there is no sticky soil exposed, then it is likely that the compaction will not be a major concern for that particular event.

But here’s the tricky part: Even with these guidelines it is not solely the field’s condition that I use as the basis for making a final decision. In fact my response has less to do about grass and everything to do about people, because people solve grass problems.

You need to build a working relationship with all of those who take ownership in the field: coaches, players, turf managers, athletic directors, boosters, and volunteers. Somewhere in this group an alliance must be formed that says “I will help you if you help me.”

Back to the judgment call. You fight to keep people off of the field under conditions of “squishy feet” and all of your allies should support you in this because it will be detrimental to all the field’s users. Even with all of these guidelines you sometimes find the game being played, e.g., it rains after the game starts but it’s decided to finish anyway. Don’t say, “I told you so” and make enemies, just submit your list to help remedy the situation.

This is a good time to request topdressing, sod, equipment, etc. You are one up on the alliance scorecard and you should capitalize on it.

Now suppose conditions are not as wet as squishy feet and instead are more in the Play-do stage. It is correct that moist soils will add to compaction, but when you have to make the judgment call, you need to think about developing the relationship with other users. You may know that it adds to the cumulative effect of compaction, but you also know that the coach may really need to get in one more practice before the big game. Be smart about picking your battles and knowing when to strengthen the alliance.

It’s about give and take and building relationships. I am not saying roll over and let the fields be repeatedly destroyed. You have probably already been down that dead end street before. Given a reasonable chance most of you can grow grass, but to get that chance you may find you need to grow a relationship with the field users.

In addition to your arsenal of things that make you better (i.e. mowers, players, new uniforms, fertilizer, helmets) be sure to give proper attention to reason, patience, fairness, and trust. These tools could also use a little sharpening from time to time.

Have Questions?
Send them to Dave Minner at Iowa State University, 106 Horticulture Hall, Ames, IA 50011, or email dminner@iastate.edu. Or, send them to Grady Miller at the University of Florida, PO Box 110670, Gainesville, FL 32611, or email gmillr@mail.ifas.ufl.edu.
Water-logged athletic field?

Trade downtime for maximum use by installing the very best drainage system that...

- is easiest to install
- is least disruptive
- prevents field damage
- maintains schedules
- outlasts other systems
- is cost-effective

MULTI-FLOW
drainage systems by Varicore

Contact Varicore Technologies, Inc.
800.978.8007 or Fax 320.978.6607
www.varicore.com
e-mail: service@varicore.com

Circle 123 on card or www.OneRS.net/204sp-123