blew most of the sand out toward the sidelines to prepare for the four state championship games that are in the first week of December. The “infield mix” protected the turf in the center of the field.

But with Murphy’s Law we still were about to face are biggest challenges yet. Thirty-six hours before the first game it started to snow. We knew it was coming so we had the rain covers down. We would start blowing it off the covers whenever it started so it wouldn’t have a chance to accumulate, well, we started blowing off the snow at 3 AM on Thursday when there was only a dusting on the cover. Six hours later it was still snowing at 1 in. an hour. At 4 PM it was still snowing and it had accumulated to about 4 in. on the field.

Meanwhile the entire stands were snow-covered only 19 hours before kickoff. We called out the troops, every able body came with shovels in hand, and we built two 50-ft. shoots out of tin and 2 x 4s as the snow was shot down to the track from the stands, skid loaders filled dump trucks.

It finally stopped snowing at 10 PM. With a plow attached to a work cart and the blowers we had the field completely uncovered at midnight and by 1 AM the cover was off. The only thing left to do now was to paint the field! We couldn’t get it done prior due to the grooming we did on Monday and it started to drizzle on Tuesday when we put down the cover.

We had 7 hours before the pre-game warm-ups, (no sweat) all the logos, 3-ft. border, lines, numbers, and hashmarks. Did I mention that there are 4 of us to do this? We were taking the last three 5-yard strings up when the first teams came out for warm-ups.

**Q:** How do you get the most out of your crew?

A: I make them a part of all decisions, we sit around and talk about how we are going to accomplish the upcoming schedule. Make a game plan, I make it a point every day to say thank you for a great job.

**Q:** What do you do away from your field to relax?

A: Get aggravated with my golf game. Take day trips.
RECYCLED RUBBER MULCH
Made from 100 percent recycled rubber truck tires, Rubberific Mulch's most attractive feature is its longevity, says the manufacturer. It surpasses conventional mulches, which need annual replacement, by lasting at least 10 years without showing its age. Through a special treatment, Rubberific Mulch always appears new and will not fade or rot, even after years of exposure to the elements. "Not only does Rubberific Mulch save time and labor, but it stays attractive for a very long time," says Richard Hynson, superintendent of Boone Valley Golf Club in Augusta, MO.
Rubberific Mulch/866-936-8524
For information, circle 199

PRIVACY SCREENS
To ensure greater privacy of your sports field during practice sessions or special private gatherings, Covermaster Inc. offers a wide variety of custom designed screenings. Also preferred to conceal unsightly areas beyond the field's perimeter, these types of enclosures can be ordered to meet your exact need in terms of material weight, strength, colors, and ease of installation. They can even pay for themselves with sponsor messages or other advertising.
Covermaster/800-387-5808
For information, circle 177 or see www.oners.ims.ca/207B-177

WINDSCREENS
Every Beacon Ballfield windscreen panel is custom-manufactured to fit your dimensions. We do not offer off-the-shelf or do-it-yourself products. Instead, we work closely with you to create a sound design that will yield a proper fit and function for your facility.
Beacon Ballfields/800-747-5985
For information, circle 178 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-178

STORM DETECTOR
Lightning can strike from as far as 9 miles away from any storm without warning! Within a 75-mile range, the ThunderBolt storm detector's computer software analyzes and calculates the distance of lightning activity (in miles), storm intensity, and estimated time of arrival on an LCD screen. When lightning is local and most dangerous, audible and visual warnings are given as well as estimated time for the lightning to safely clear your area. With data updates every 15 seconds, the product lets your work crew, athletes, and fans know when it is safe to return to the field.
Beacon Ballfields/800-747-5985
For information, circle 176 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-176

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ITT Industries irrigates
over 10,000,000 acres of land in the U.S.
Meanwhile, Ben Paulsen has 150 acres
of wheat to harvest.

From Maine to Hawaii, our Goulds pumps bring water to almost 16,000 square miles of land. Hidden, submerged or even buried, these mechanical hearts tirelessly fill the lifelines that grow enterprise.

ITT believes technology should be invisible. People don’t have to think a lot about our engineering. Its benefits, on the other hand, cover the landscape.

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Engineered for life

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Circle 075 on card or www.onre.ca/200A075
SPORTS FLOORING
For more than 25 years Sport Court, Inc. has been supplying multi-purpose game courts and putting greens. Sport Court performance sports flooring also is the match for athletic facilities, churches, schools, professional sports center, or community centers with its patented Lateral Forgiveness and vertical flexibility which reduces stress to knees, ankles and joints.
Sport Court Inc/801-972-0262
For information, circle 180 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-180

APPLY WETTING AGENTS
Bear Irrigation has a solution to the problem of applying wetting agent with the new PGA (Pro-Gun Applicator). It's designed for most tablet type wetting agents on the market. It is made of high impact composite material and is ideal for isolated dry spots and greens applications. Available in 3/4" and 1" hose thread inlet with on-off (variable) control. Optional 3/4" Bear “Cool Shot” shower nozzle is also available for even distribution.
Bear Irrigation/800-491-4975
For information, circle 190 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-190

FLOOR RESURFACER
Pour-N-Walk is easy to apply. The self-leveling epoxy strength floor resurfacer provides a smooth, glossy uniform surface to cover spalled and damaged concrete floors. Just mix, pour, and finished with a notched squeegee, no topcoat is necessary.
Garon Products/800-631-5380
For information, circle 183 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-183
TOWABLE WEED SPRAYER

Here's a fast, cost-effective solution to the challenge of applying herbicides or insecticides on targeted or widespread areas. National rental chain HSS RentX introduces a rugged, towable weed sprayer for treating large shrubs and trees. A spray nozzle adjusts to vegetation of all types, and hassle-free rental means no clean up or maintenance.

HSS RentX/877-711-7368
For information, circle 187 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-187

MARKING FLAGS

Both custom-printed and plain marking flags are available from Blackburn Flags and Marking Products, in weather-resistant 4-mil plastic. Sizes include 2 1/2 x 3 1/2, 4 x 5, 5 x 6, and 5 x 8 in. Staff lengths range from 15-36 in. in wire, plastic, or fiberglass. Fourteen colors are available including four fluorescent. Custom orders turned around within 10 days. No screen charge for industry messages already in stock.
Blackburn Mfg./800-942-5816
For information, circle 181

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...About The Shape of Your Turf?

Delta Bluegrass Company has the solution - Tifway 419 and our patented, exclusively grown Baby Bermuda. These Hybrid Bermudas are perfectly suited for the strenuous conditions your stadium turf is accustomed to enduring. Washed for your convenience, these warm season grasses are available on sand, meeting USGA specifications, as well as peat soil.

For over a decade, Delta Bluegrass has been producing and installing the industry's highest quality peat sod. Give us a call for more information on Hybrid Bermudas and other varieties of our premium sods - Your turf will be glad you did!

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Circle 077 on card or www.oners.ims.ca/2078-077

http://www.sportsturfmanager.com • STMA
Training in Tucson

Nearly 60 groundskeepers participated in the inaugural Roger Bossard 3-day Professional Sportsfield Institute in Tucson, AZ, last December. This one-of-a-kind training camp was developed to give groundskeepers at all skill levels access to major league expertise.

During the 3-day seminar, attendees got to walk through the steps needed to renovate an actual professional field. Working through problems in irrigation, soil conditioning and mowing, the group gained a unique perspective into the profession. The training was headed up by Roger Bossard, a world-renowned sportsfield builder and head groundskeeper for the Chicago White Sox.

Alan Sigwardt, director of grounds and engineering for Pro Player Stadium, and Dr. Hank Wilkinson, a horticultural professor at the University of Illinois joined Bossard. Sigwardt brought a special knowledge of dual-use fields to the training and Wilkinson’s expertise in building and maintaining natural grass sportsfields rounded out the curriculum.

“It was really a successful event,” said Karl Rutherford, Professional Sportsfield Institute program coordinator. “We had people from many different jobs, types and locations. There were groundskeepers from right there in Arizona and from as far away as Hawaii and Peru. I think the experience and knowledge they all brought with them made the event even more valuable.”

Some of the topics covered during the program included design, construction and renovation of sportsfields; building of sportsfields from the ground up; disease, insects and weed control; daily upkeep; and special sportsfield problems.

“The experience was fantastic,” said Bossard. “I truly believe that it is our responsibility as groundskeepers to continue to develop our skills and enhance our value to the team. You could tell that everyone at the seminar took pride in their work and they were all eager to learn ways to make their fields even better. I hope that everyone took away something new from the experience, I know I did.”

Many of the attendees echoed Bossard’s comments. “I’ve been to a lot of training seminars, but I learned more at this camp than the others combined,” one attendee stated. “I thought it was a great camp, it’s nice to have training options out there,” added another. “We got through an enormous amount of information in 3-days. We covered parts of field maintenance that I hadn’t even considered.”

“I thought the entire program was very professionally,” said a parks and rec attendee. “If anything could make it better, I’d like it to be even more hands-on.” One of the sportsfield builders added, “I thought the information was very extensive, if I could do one thing differently I would have brought along one or two of my colleagues so we could have shared the experience. It was a lot to learn in such a short time and I think having someone to talk about the program when you get back home to your own field would help a lot.”

Oil Dri Corp. of America supplied this article.
Queen of the Hill!

#1 Rated for overall turfgrass quality of all seeded or vegetative Bermudas by NTEP*

PENNINGTON PRINCESS 77, the world's first and only fine textured hybrid Bermudagrass available in seed and sod, has outperformed all commercially available varieties in the United States. And PENNINGTON PRINCESS 77 performs where it matters most, in the real world. Manageable at 3/16 inch (5mm), PRINCESS 77 is drought tolerant, using 21% less water than the most widely used vegetative Bermuda**, has beautiful dark green color and provides superior spring density. Rule with the PRINCESS. Call PENNINGTON SEED for the seed distributor or licensed sod grower nearest you.

*1997 National Bermudagrass Trials 2001 NTEP Final Report Table 1A
**Univ.of AZ 2000 Masters Thesis by Sean Reynolds

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1-800-286-6100 ext 280
Outstanding drought tolerance
Requires 21% less water than Tifway†
Dark green color
Better divot recovery than Tifway
Medium fine leaf texture
High leaf density
Excellent fall color retention
Highest overall turf quality of all commercially available varieties in the U.S. including vegetative varieties

Mean Turfgrass Quality Ratings of Bermudagrass Cultivars Grown At Nine Locations In The U.S. 1/
Maintained Using "Schedule A" **
1997-2001 Data
Turfgrass Quality Ratings 1-9; 9=Ideal Turf 2/

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LSD Value
0.5 0.8 1.2 0.3 0.6 0.5 0.5 0.7 0.4 0.2
C.V. (%) 11.0 20.4 23.6 8.5 13.0 10.0 8.9 21.1 9.3 14.0

*Commercially Available in the USA in 2002.
1/ To determine statistical differences among entries, subtract one entry's mean from another entry's mean. Statistical differences occur when this value is larger than the corresponding LSD value (LSD 0.05).
2/ C.V. (coefficient of variation) indicates the percent variation of the mean in each column.
** Schedule A - 1/2-3/4 inch mowing height
3/4-1 lb. N/1000 ft²/per growing month
Irrigation to prevent visual drought stress
Mowing frequency 3-5 times per week
1997 National Bermudagrass Trials
2001 NTEP Final Report Table 1A
† Univ. of AZ 2000 Masters Thesis by Sean Reynolds
RE-USEABLE TREE BRACING SYSTEM

This patented system is constructed from powder-coated steel and engineering grade plastic materials for durability and weather resistance. The adjustable system can be used to support newly planted trees with 3-14-in. caliper trunks and tree heights to 25 ft., and also for straightening and support existing trees and limbs. The system comes completely assembled with three adjustable legs, reusable welded steel stakes, and all hardware.

One person can install the system in less than 3 minutes.

Brooks Tree Brace Systems Inc/877-246-3390
For information, circle 189 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-189

BACKPACK BLOWER

The Echo PB-460LN backpack power blower delivers professional-grade performance for sound-sensitive settings. Echo’s Power Boost engine provides 44 cc of commercial power and improved combustion efficiency. Using patented Echo sound attenuation technology, the unit operates at 65 dBA at wide-open throttle as measured by ANSI. According to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), 65 dB falls within the upper range of normal conversation.

The PB-460LN’s 64 fl. oz. see-through fuel tank ensures longer uninterrupted run times.

Echo, Inc/847-540-8400
For information, circle 185 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-185

SUNSCREEN

Rocky Mountain Sunscreen has a superior Bonding Base formula that interlocks with your skin, allowing it to stay on better and last longer. Use daily. It is non-greasy, fragrance free, hypoallergenic, and it won’t clog your pores. Product is certified by the AMC Cancer Research Center as a top quality sun protective product.

Rocky Mountain Sunscreen/303-940-8803
For information, circle 191 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-191

Shindaiwa, First with New Trimmer Innovation

The new T2500 straight shaft trimmer is the first and only trimmer of its kind available in stores now. Call 888-803-9216 for more information

- Lightweight
- Uses 50:1 mix, no dipstick!
- All-position running
- Incredible torque
- Smooth predictable power
- Increased engine life
- Better fuel economy
- Patented C4 Technology™

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Circle 078 on card or www.oners.ims.ca/2078-078
Safety for players is your number one concern. Instead of ending up with turf that looks like it's been ground up and spit out, build lush springy turf from the ground up with LAUNCH® Biostimulant.

LAUNCH® combines the best of Gordon's FOCUS® and BOV-A-MURA® into one powerful formulation that encourages strong healthy roots, increased density and wear resistance. When used regularly, it also encourages quick germination, vigorous establishment and the rapid recovery of damaged sports turf, from soccer and football fields to golf greens and fairways.

- Latest surfactant technology for maximum soil penetration
- Ideal for seeding, sodding, sprigging and hydroseding
- Contains humic, fulvic acid extract and kelp extract
- Enhanced with deodorized dairy manure slurry base
- Root and foliar uptake

SAFETY EYEWEAR
AOSafety is expanding its safety eyewear collection to offer a mix of fashion and eye protection. AOSafety's 2003 X-FACTOR Safety Sunwear Collection includes five new styles of everyday, all-occasion eyewear.

The line features contemporary unisex styles that are trendy and comfortable. All styles are lightweight for prolonged wear and all lenses are hard-coated to resist scratching. Before adding these new styles, AOSafety researched current trends in non-safety eyewear. Tinted lenses, flash mirror coatings, frame-free lenses and metal temples are some of the fashion trends incorporated into the new collection.

AOSafety/800-327-3431
For information, circle 184 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-184

FENCE GUARDS AND WINDSCREENS
Fence Guard protective covers for chain-link fencing protect players from injuries. Windscreens block wind and background distractions. Both provide a professional look to your fencing. Various styles and colors, plus rail and wall padding, are available.

Partac/Beam Clay/800-247-2326
For information, circle 179

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NEED NEW FIELDS?

Beals Sport announces the grand opening ceremony of Phase I of Milpitas School District's athletic fields. Milpitas commissioned the company to design its outdoor athletic facilities. Phase I included existing track reconfiguration/reconstruction to an all-weather, eight-lane track that accommodates CCS (Central Coast Section) meets and is an invitational-level track. The track has also been reconstructed on the straightaway for sprint and is adjacent to the existing home bleachers.

Beals Sport/408-985-7200
For information, circle 186 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-186

STRING TRIMMER

RedMax has new low price on its RCZX480 string trimmer, which is powered by the company’s new fuel-efficient second-generation Strato-Charged engine. This unit meets emission standards without a catalytic converter and has fewer moving parts than the original Strato-Charged engines to increase reliability, says the company. The stratified charge is now controlled by a piston port, rather than a reed valve, meaning the piston movement controls the fresh air charge rather than a reed valve that has to open and close.

Komatsu Zenosh America/800-281-8251
For information, circle 186 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-186

What's New?

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The web's most comprehensive site of protective sports surface covers.

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EVERGREEN™
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Circle 080 on card or www.oners.ims.ca/2078-080

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SPORTSTURF 39
OVERSEEDER/VERTISLICER

Billy Goat introduces the OS overseeder/vertislicer that gives you the same heavy-duty PR Series Power Rake with the versatility of an overseeder. The unit is constructed of 12-gauge steel and is designed to hold 20 lbs. of seed while being mounted in front. Application instructions are under the hinged steel lid. You can lift the entire unit using the handles welded to the overseeder box. The vertislicing reel comes standard for overseeding, improving soil drainage, and for thinning St. Augustine, Bermuda and running-stem grasses. An optional flail reel is available for power raking.

Billy Goat/816-524-9666

For information, circle 144 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-144

NON-INTRUSIVE AERATION

PlanetAir says their shatter knife technology, combined with a patented planetary motion, creates soft, beneficial pockets in the soil, without disruption of play. The technology maximizes water infiltration rates by allowing water to penetrate the soil profile at a faster rate and creates air exchange for healthier turf, a looser soil structure that enhances plant recovery and stimulates turf growth. Shatter Knives are available in various widths.

Our unique coring/shatter tine technology, combined with our patented planetary motion is changing industry practices. The coring/shatter tine is designed to cut a clean core at the surface, while the lower area of the tine is designed to shatter the surface below. This coring technology produces longer lasting benefits, with up to 90% less clean up over conventional aerators.

Planet Air Turf Products/507-446-8399

For information, circle 156 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-156

SEEDA-VATOR

First Products Inc. says this is the only seeder on the market that allows you the flexibility of primary seeding or overseeding with the same machine. The SEEDA-VATOR uses patented vibrating tines to fracture the soil without tearing established turf, for better seedbeds. The rear-cleated roller can be pinned to gauge tire depth.

First Products/800-363-8780

For information, circle 141 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2078-141