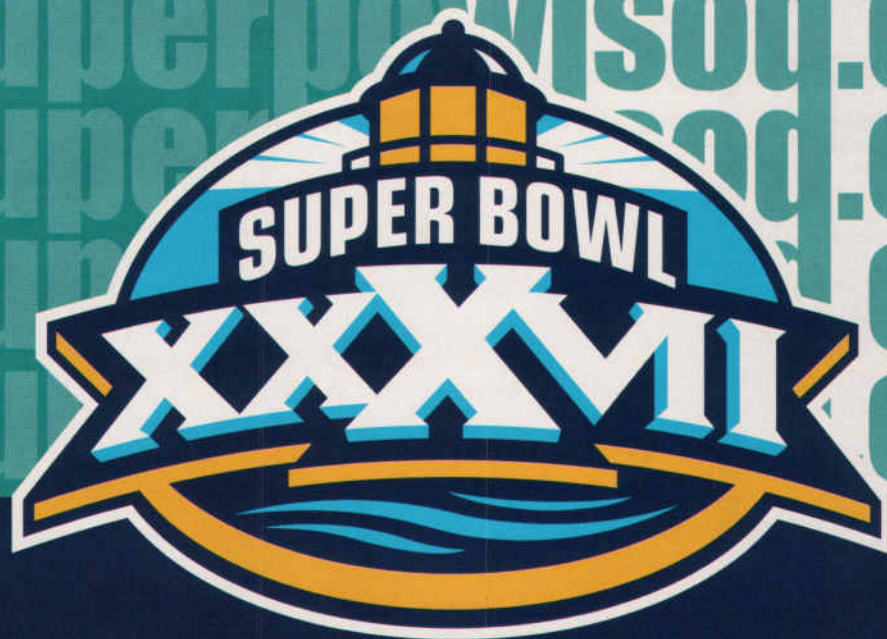


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**In & On the Ground**

**FUNGICIDE FOR TURF USE**

Vital 4L fungicide, marketed by Griffin LLC, has received EPA approval for use in turf and ornamentals. The product is a systemic liquid fungicide that controls Pythium, Phytophthora and downy mildew pathogens that has been used effectively in the agricultural market for years, and may be a very cost-effective treatment when compared to the standards used in the turf market today, says the company.

Vital can be tank-mixed with Junction, Concord and Pentathlon. There are no heavy metals in the formulation, which means the product is safer to both plants and applicator. The fungicide is rapidly absorbed and translocated throughout the entire plant through the xylem and phloem.

California registration is expected within the next year.

Griffin LLC/800-737-3995

For information, circle 164 or

see [www.oners.ims.ca/2077-164](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2077-164)



**TURFACE**

The TURFACE line of sports field products includes Pro League, MVP, Quick Dry, Red, and Double Team. Manufactured from raw clay mineral, TURFACE products relieve compaction and prevent bad hops and rainouts on skinned infields. On football, soccer and other turf-based fields, these products improve drainage and reduce compaction for superior playing surfaces.

Profile Products LLC/800-207-6457

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**TURFACE**  
*Pro League Red*  
Color • Conditioning • Performance

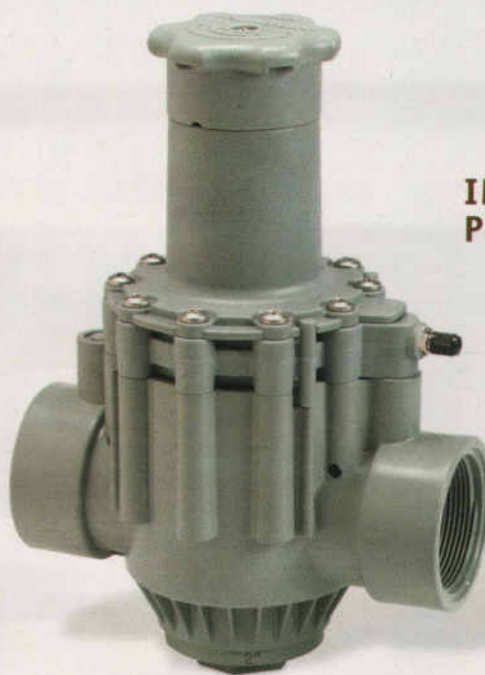
**IMPROVE IRRIGATION PERFORMANCE**

When a water pressure-reducing valve is desired, try the new Rain Bird PRV, made of PVC, a pressure-regulating valve that is designed for point-of-connection applications. By reducing high inlet pressures to lower outlet pressures, the PRV improves irrigation performance and conserves water at the same time, says Rain Bird.

Rain Bird/800-282-1933

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see [www.oners.ims.ca/2077-162](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2077-162)



Nothing else stacks up to

**BLT**<sup>TM</sup>  
BLACK LAYER TREATMENT

when it comes to fighting  
black layer in turf

The exclusive granular  
combination for effectively  
treating problematic turf

Traditionally, treating black layer meant aeration, improving drainage and the use of wetting agents and soil amendments. While these methods are encouraged, they alone cannot alleviate black layer problems.

BLT<sup>TM</sup> is the new advanced greens grade granular product with ingredients proven to combat black layer and its effects, providing an alternative to costly reconstruction, renovation or ineffective inputs and practices.

BLT<sup>TM</sup> will reduce the severity of black layer for several months after application and a regular maintenance schedule will keep susceptible areas from recurrences.

Contains these unique ingredients:

**activated carbon**

The activated carbon in this product is 100 times more active than activated charcoal and adsorbs the hydrogen sulfide present in the soil.

**enzymatic system**

The enzymes in BLT degrade the protective film covering anaerobic bacteria in the black layer, thus restricting their production of toxic gas.

**penetrating agent**

Our premium wetting agent, Respond,<sup>®</sup> provides help in moving the carbon and the enzymes sub-surface to where the black layer resides.

**root stimulants**

The addition of Prospect<sup>®</sup> fertilizer additive and other bio-stimulants encourage the turf to repopulate the area where the black layer has inhibited root growth.

**soil amendment**

BLT is placed on a carrier of EcoSand<sup>®</sup>, a zeolite soil amendment, which aids in oxygen movement and absorbs excess water.

For more information, contact your local UHS sales representative  
[www.uhsonline.com](http://www.uhsonline.com)



# Super Bowl XXXVII review

## Toro's been there since 1967

**T**he Toro Company and the NFL's Super Bowl grounds team collaborated to initiate a new program targeted at enhancing the skills of emerging sports turf professionals. The Toro Super Bowl Sports Turf Training Program offered hands on experience to winner Loyd Bowman, a Michigan State turf student, in how safe playing fields are established and maintained for the highest level of football competition—the Super Bowl. Bowman was in San Diego to help the grounds crew maintain practice facilities, NFL Experience areas, and the game field for Super Bowl XXXVII.

Each year since the inaugural World Championship in 1967 and the 36 succeeding Super Bowls, the NFL grounds crew has called on The Toro Company for its expertise to prep the game field as well as multiple practice facilities and fan recreational areas including the NFL Experience.

"Getting ready for a Super Bowl is a complex process," says Ed Mangan, NFL grounds manager for the Super Bowl. "The turf has to respond to the players. Keep them safe. Help their game. It also has to survive pre-game festivities and half-time performances as challenging as running a herd of elephants through the field.

"Toro has helped us answer that challenge with products and agronomic consultation," Mangan says. "Toro's expertise goes beyond having products to care for the turf to expertise that helps us predict how the turf will respond with the set of conditions at each host facility. And they've been there every year."



Photo by AP/WWP, courtesy of West Coast Turf

For the NFL, this program is another opportunity to expand its reach into communities in unique ways. The NFL Grassroots initiative has provided more than \$8 million for the construction and renovation of community football fields. But the needs of these fields don't end following construction. "In the past we've addressed many aspects of the future of the game: participation, coaching and accessibility to fields," says Jim Steeg, senior vice president of special events for the NFL. "The Toro Super Bowl Sports Turf Training Program reflects our interest in helping to provide trained turf professionals to

maintain safe playing conditions at all levels of competitive football."

Toro's outreach program began when James R. Watson, Ph.D. joined Toro as an agronomist in the 1950s. Now retired, Toro continues the focus with agronomist Van Cline, Ph.D. and other industry training programs. Toro is a sponsor of a turf training curriculum for high school athletic directors through the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. Annually, Toro hosts the Professional Sports Turf Symposium dedicated to turf managers with the NFL and Major League Baseball teams. Additionally, Toro maintains an on-line home for the best ideas and advice for anyone managing sports turf at [Torosports.com](http://Torosports.com).

In addition to the Toro Super Bowl Sports Turf Training Program, Toro offers the Dr. James R. Watson Scholarships administered by the Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments and the Sports Turf Managers Association for turf students dedicated to sports turf maintenance.

# THE PLAYERS ARE SAFER

When the roots are deeper and the grass is greener.



All turfgrass starts with the root system, where it develops strength, resistance, and the ability to come back week after week. Strong roots grow dense turf and grow it back after every game. If you want the best stand of grass for hardiness and consistency, you need the **ROOTS®** turf program:

- **ROOTS® Turf Food**, 3 or 4 applications. This is the organic based fertilizer that grows grass better than any chemical fertilizer.
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- **StandUp** for the best play. It makes every blade of grass stand up and toughen up, for the best play and the safest play.
- **endoROOTS** every spring after aerification, to provide the beneficial Mycorrhiza spores that maximize root growth.

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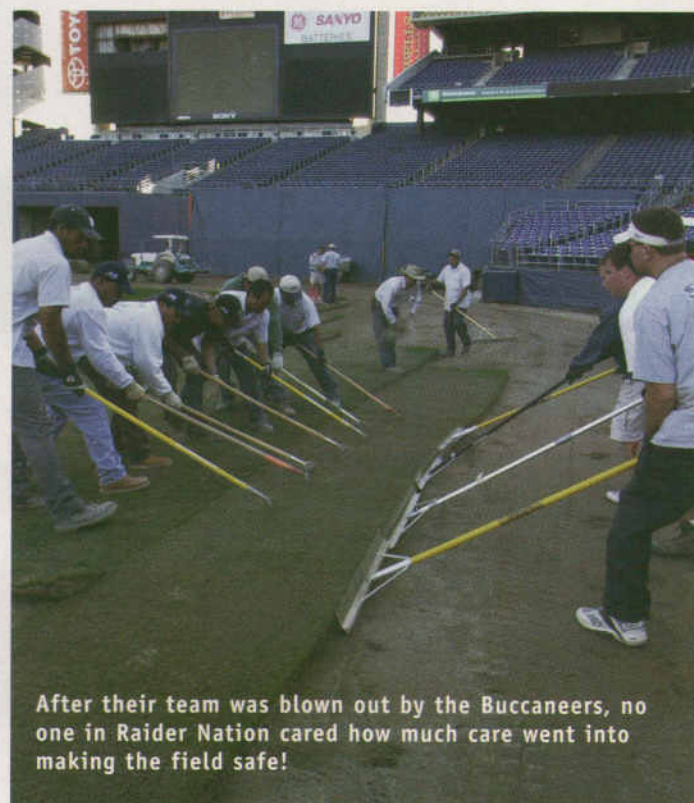
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# Before the hype

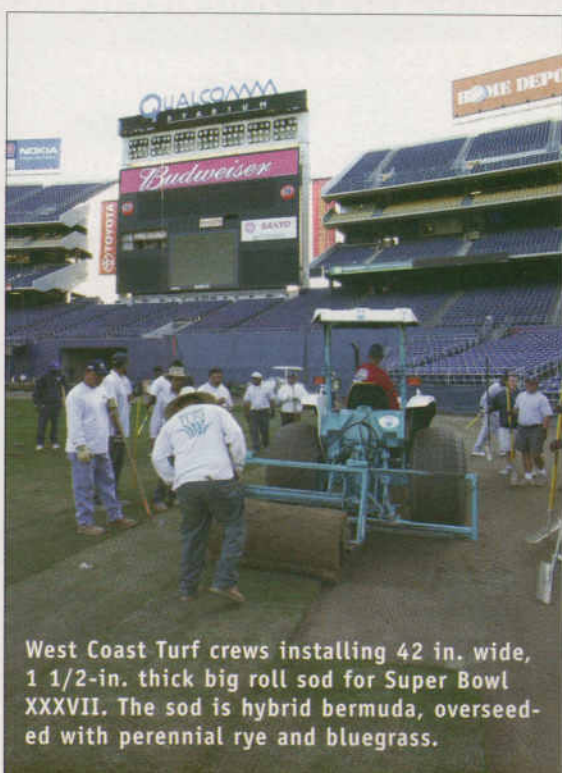
Photos courtesy of West Coast Turf



Turf installation was completed on Day 3.



After their team was blown out by the Buccaneers, no one in Raider Nation cared how much care went into making the field safe!



West Coast Turf crews installing 42 in. wide, 1 1/2-in. thick big roll sod for Super Bowl XXXVII. The sod is hybrid bermuda, overseeded with perennial rye and bluegrass.



San Diego Super Bowl crew members from Tokyo to Tennessee, Kansas City to Vermont, including member from West Coast Turf. Marquis de Sod George Toma is center with yellow shirt. Qualcomm's Steve Wightman is missing from this photo.

# EVER PLAYED IN A PGA TOUR EVENT? THIS COULD BE YOUR YEAR.

**Play The Fantasy Golf Contest Exclusively  
For Sports Turf Managers And Their Crews!**

It's free. It's fun. It's The Major Challenge, the fantasy golf contest where you're the coach and the world's best golfers are on your team! As your team competes in the Masters, the U.S. Open, the British Open, and the PGA Championship, you have a



chance to win great prizes,



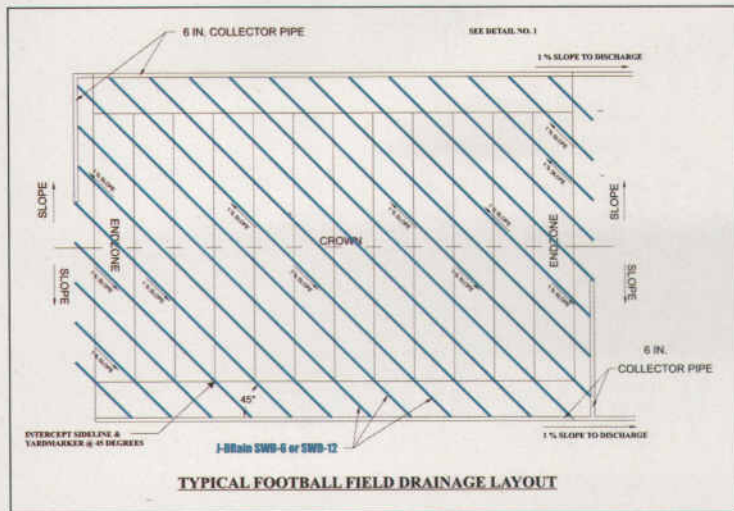
from travel golf bags to an all-expense paid trip to play in the Monday Pro-Am at the John Deere Classic in September!



The Major Challenge is sponsored by the John Deere Golf & Turf Division and is being offered to sports turf managers and their crews. Go to The Major Challenge website and register your team today!

[www.majorchallenge.com/sportsturf](http://www.majorchallenge.com/sportsturf)





## TURF DRAINAGE SYSTEM

J-DRain is a composite turf drainage system consisting of a 3D, high flow, drainage core and a non-woven, needle-punched filter fabric, which is wrapped and bonded to the core, preventing intrusion of the filter fabric into the flow channels during backfilling. Soil particles are held back by the filter fabric allowing water to pass through to the drainage core, and allowing water to be collected and conveyed to the discharge point. Used in both natural and synthetic turf applications.

JDR Enterprises/800-843-7569

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## PROFESSIONAL GROUNDSKEEPING PRODUCTS



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Diamond Pro/800-228-2987

For information, circle 169 or  
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## ARTIFICIAL TURF TESTING

Turf Diagnostics & Design has expanded its services to include artificial turf hardness and subgrade testing. Expanded testing capabilities include F355 or Gmax testing, which provides the capability to determine field hardness. Subgrade testing is to ensure that the materials used in field construction meet project specifications for material size, hardness, and drainage. This testing, which should be performed before and during field construction, helps to ensure that the field will drain properly and have consistent performance and playability.

Turf Diagnostics & Design/913-780-6725

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## FILTRATION SYSTEM

The Lee County Sports Complex, winter home of the Minnesota Twins, hosts four baseball



fields including the main stadium. Irrigation water is supplied to the fields from a small lake in the complex. When first testing the source water from this lake, visible clumps of biomass sludge were discovered. The lake that supplies the irrigation water had a foul odor and was loaded with anaerobic organics that had turned septic from stagnation. The automatic 850-gpm irrigation system was automatically activated each night, and each morning a crew had to repair clogged irrigation heads.

Miller-Leaman supplied a 10-Pod Automatic Turbo-Disc filtration system to resolve the problem. The grounds supervisor reported that no repair service for clogged irrigation heads has been required after the system has been installed.

Miller-Leaman/386-248-0500

For information, circle 166 or  
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## 1. EDGE IT

With its adjustable guide shoe, the Bannerman **Diamond Edger** is surprisingly easy-to-use. Its three-inch blade depth and reversible, 20-inch concave disc work together to quickly eliminate ridging. Debris is spiraled into the infield for fast and easy clean-up.



DIAMOND EDGER: MODEL NO. B-DE-20



DIAMOND MASTER: MODEL NO. B-DM-6

## 2. GROOM IT

The **Diamond-Master**® (pictured) and **Ballpark-6**® groomers will give your ball diamonds a surface just like the professional teams demand, and reduce the time, effort and labour required to do the job.

## 3. LINE IT

The Bannerman **WetLiner** is a simple, practical tool for line marking of turf surfaces. Other wet liners spray, while our WetLiner paints each blade of grass to the ground for solid, longer lasting lines. Paint saver roller is available as an option.



WET LINER: MODEL NO. B-WLM-234



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# Complete fleet

Part two in a  
two-part series

**T**o determine what type of equipment should be in any sports turf manager's equipment fleet SPORTSTURF magazine asked several industry experts the following two-part question about what constitutes a complete fleet:

What pieces (and brands) of equipment and tools do you feel are essential to your job, and why is each piece important?

**Connie Rudolph, Head groundskeeper, St. Paul Saints, Midway Stadium, St. Paul, MN**

Midway Stadium, home of the St. Paul Saints minor league baseball team is an intensely scheduled stadium. In addition to baseball, the facility hosts football, soccer, concerts and other major events. A full calendar brings field maintenance headaches. To be successful in my job, I need the proper equipment. The following are the essential pieces of equipment I use and why they are important:

**Mowers** - A sharpened reel mower keeps the grass looking good by providing a nice clean cut and the rollers give off the beautiful striped look. It's important to follow the one-third rule of never cutting off more than one-third of the grass blade at one time. Ideally, it would be nice to have a triplex for the outfield and a smaller single reel mower for the infield. I have a John Deere triplex and a National Infield Mower. In addition, I have a Toro Groundsmaster for my outside grounds and as a backup for my main field.

**Aerators** - I own a Turfco pull-behind core aerator, an old Ryan Greensaire (for small areas), and I am able to borrow a Cushman GA60 as well as an Aerovator. In my mind, aerating is one of the most important things you can do for your turf. It relieves compaction, provides topdressing material, creates air exchange in the soil, and stimulates root growth.

**Topdresser** - I have to borrow this equipment and I use it 1-2 times a year, especially after football when my turf is torn up and the ground is uneven. I

usually perform this in conjunction with seeding and aerating, so the topdressing material will provide soil contact with the seed to make sure it germinates. It's important to match your topdressing material as close as you can to your existing soil. I use a Turfco topdresser.

**Utility Vehicle** - This is one of the most versatile and useful pieces to own. I have a Cushman Truckster and it's used for hauling and pulling equipment.

**Field Groomer** - The groomer I own is a Cushman, which leaves a nice surface on my skinned area and doubles as my football field painter.

**Tractor/Loader** - I have a small, older Mitsubishi loader that works well for loading the topdresser or the utility vehicle.

**Roller** - I am lucky to have an older Rolles roller that I can use to firm up my infield or use for sodding projects. It's a smaller roller, so the weight isn't excessive and won't overly compact the soil.

**Power Rake** - This piece of equipment isn't used often, but is handy when needed. I use it on my infield after I've core aerated to break up the cores. I then drag the loose soil back into the holes and it doubles as fill for low spots.

**Fertilizer Spreader** - The two brands I have are Thompson and Prize Lawn. One fits on the back of my Cushman and the other is a push model. The key is finding a spreader that spreads your material evenly.

**Sod Cutter** - I own a Turfco sod cutter and it is handy to have for field repairs and renovations.

**Painters** - I have two painters. The large unit I use for painting football is made by Minnesota Wanner and fits on my field groomer. The other painter is a 5-gallon unit made by Broyhill that I use for baseball and football touchups.

**Edger** - A small edger is desirable to own. Nothing makes the field look better than a nice sharp edge between playing surfaces. The model I have is a Little Wonder.

**Nail Drag** - This is a must if you have baseball or softball. It loosens up the playing surface to reduce bad ball hops. It is a simple tool to make and can be