



FREE-FLOWERING VARIETIES

The Abunda series bacopa from Ball Horticultural adds cascades of blooms to pots or baskets. The series includes extremely free-flowering varieties that display hundreds of non-stop flowers in either blue or white all season long. Abunda bacopa is more heat tolerant than other bacopa varieties on the market, but it also performs exceptionally well in cooler temperatures.

Ball Horticultural Co./800-879-BALL
For information, circle 054 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-054



ALGAECIDE REGISTERED IN NY

Radiance algaecide from Aquatrols has received registration approval from New York State and is now available for sale across the continental U.S. and Hawaii. Unlike traditional copper-based products that fall quickly through the water column, Radiance self-disperses from a single application point and remains in suspension to prevent recurring algae blooms.

Aquatrols/800-257-7797
For information, circle 066 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-066

AGRISEL BROCHURE

Agrisel USA, Inc. has a brochure to help customers and dealers. "From fungicides to surfactants, our company provides a wide range of chemical products," says Art Assad, president.

Agrisel/877-480-0880
For information, circle 055 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-055



DUMP-BOX ATTACHMENT FOR TRUCKS

Amerideck, Inc. now has the ChoreMaster multi-purpose dumper that can serve as a cargo loading system, an insert dump unit with 40 cu. ft. capacity, and as a drop and leave refuse container or for ground level material loading and unloading.

Amerideck, Inc./717-597-2306
For information, circle 056 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-056



A World Class Facility



Congratulations Mississippi State University & Scott Field for being named "STMA Collegiate Football Field of the Year for 2004"

Given by the Sports Turf Manager's Association, this award is the highest form of recognition available for a sporting facility in the United States and is chosen by the professionals in the sports turf industry. Our compliments to MSU Athletic Field Supervisor Bart Prather and his staff on a job well done!

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Sports Turf Management launches baseball field firm

Skip Kirby, owner of Atlanta-based Sports Turf Management, LLC, has announced the launch of a new company dedicated exclusively to baseball field construction and renovation. The new enterprise, named STM Baseball, will provide in-depth expertise and service in design, construction, management, and renovation of baseball fields.

"While STM will continue to build quality athletic fields for other sports, we desired to establish an entire company to cater to the special needs and intricacies of baseball fields. We are known for our passion for baseball and STM Baseball is a natural progression for us to expand in a niche in which we excel," said Kirby.

Since its founding in 1999, Sports Turf Management has experienced rapid growth and notoriety due in part to its work in building quality baseball fields. The firm is known in baseball circles throughout the Southeast, especially in collegiate and high school networks.

For more information, contact STM Baseball at 888-486-4786 or in Atlanta at 770-928-1580. Or visit www.sportsturfmanagement.com, which soon will link to www.stmbaseball.com, currently under construction.

PRIME LINE 2004 CATALOG

As part of its mission to provide customers with a high-quality, one-stop source for all outdoor power equipment service parts, Prime Line released its new, easy-to-use 2004 catalog this month. New features include 379 new part numbers and an alphabetical format. Includes an extensive line of genuine, popular products for commercial applications.

Prime Line/217-324-9400

For information, circle 057 or

see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-057



LARGE NATURAL GAS-HEATED WASHERS

Landa has added six extra-large models to its VHG line of compact, natural gas- (or liquid propane-) heated hot water pressure washers. The six models, three powered by a 15-hp motor and three by a 20-hp motor, deliver cleaning power of up to 3000 PSI and 6 and 8 GPM.

Landa/800-547-8672 Ext. 175

For information, circle 059 or

see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-059

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12TH MAN PROGRAM

Grounds Maintenance Services, run by Floyd Perry, will supply housing Sunday through Thursday, two breakfasts and two dinners to field managers who want to learn by doing in Orlando, FL. Only requirements are getting to Orlando and a Workers Comp certificate. Uniforms are provided. Grounds Maintenance Services 800-227-9381 For information, circle 061



TRAILING IMPATIENS

The #1 bedding plant in the world, impatiens are the perfect choice for shady areas. Fanfare series impatiens are one-of-a-kind - their unique trailing habit allows them to spread vigorously in the landscape, meaning you need to use fewer plants per square foot than with other impatiens varieties. Guaranteed to get attention, Fanfare varieties fill in extremely fast in landscapes and containers to provide lots of quick color.

Ball Horticultural Co.

800-879-2255

For information, circle 060 or

see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-060

BULK SPREADER

SnowEx has the new Vee Pro 8000 bulk spreader that carries up to 1.5 cu. yd. of material. Designed for use with standard pickup boxes, primary job of this unit is to spread salt or salt/sand mixtures in parking lots, intersections, etc.

TrynEx International/800-725-8377

For information, circle 062 or

see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-062



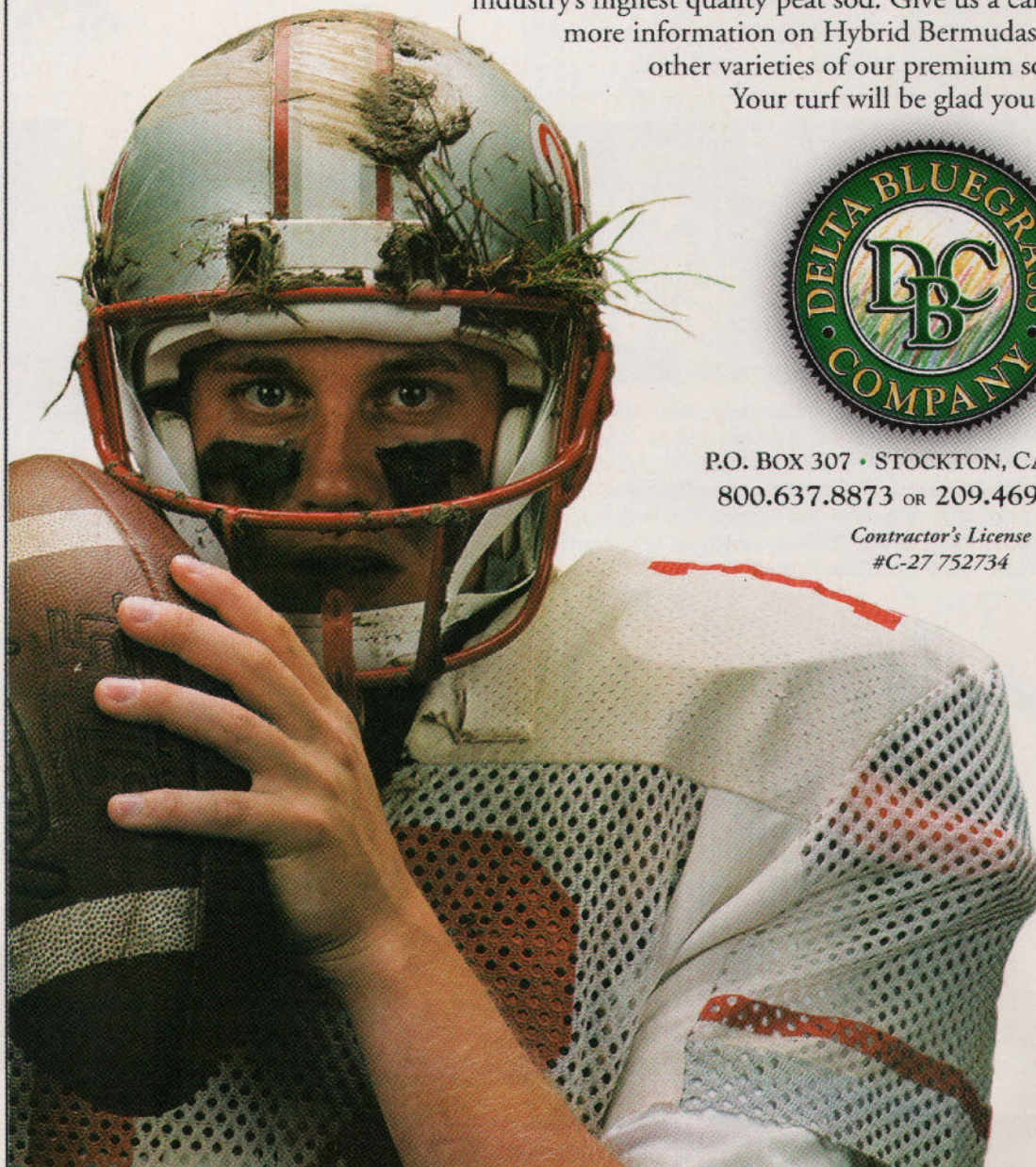
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Circle 133 on card or www.oners.ims.ca/2906-133



GLOVES IN A BOTTLE

Conventional lotions only attempt to replace natural moisture with artificial moisture but it comes off every time you wash. Gloves In A Bottle is a lotion that turns your outer layer of skin into what works like an invisible pair of gloves to keep the moisture robbing irritants out while retaining your own natural moisture.

Gloves in a Bottle/800-600-1881
For information, circle 070 or
see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-070

STRONG SHOVEL

UnionTools has made the industry's strongest shovel even stronger by giving its new Razor-Back Professional fiberglass handle shovel an exclusive raised backbone head and redesigned steel reinforced head-to-handle connection.

UnionTools/800-888-4196
For information, circle 063 or
see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-063



COLD H2O PRESSURE WASHER

The Landa Pump is now installed on the eight models of its top-of-the-line, belt-drive, cold water pressure washers. The PG series handles a variety of applications, from cleaning concrete and heavy equipment to vehicles and buildings.

Landa/800-547-8672, x175
For information, circle 065 or
see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-065



COMPLIANT TRIMMER

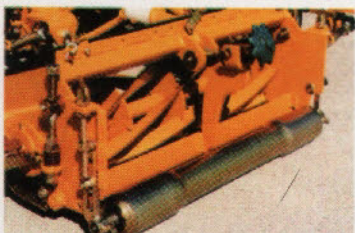
A powerful new string trimmer that meets CARB and EPA 2005 standards without a catalytic converter is available. The 29.4 cc, 1.4 hp, Strato-Charged engine is the most powerful engine in the 30 cc class. The engine is also equipped with a heavy duty, commercial air cleaner and RedMax's Free Flow system.

Komatsu Zenoah America/800-291-8251
For information, circle 064 or
see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-064

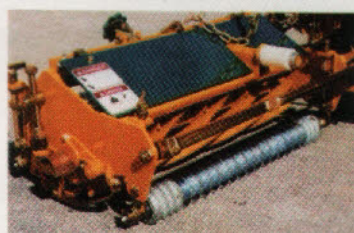


Kesmac Transportable Reel Mowers are available with cutting widths from 7 ft. to 25 ft. and your choice of 5 to 9 Blades per Reel. With low HP requirements our mowers deliver a quality cut from 1/2 in. to 3 1/4 in. with minimal turf stress. Rugged, Round Tubular Frame minimizes build up of clippings and open reel frames give good clipping flow. Kesmac Mowers have high flotation tires for less compaction and better performance in any conditions, wet or dry. They also feature a proven self adjusting drive belt system that keeps you going in tough conditions.

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Garon Products/800-631-5380
For information, circle 071 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-071



WEATHER STATION UPGRADES

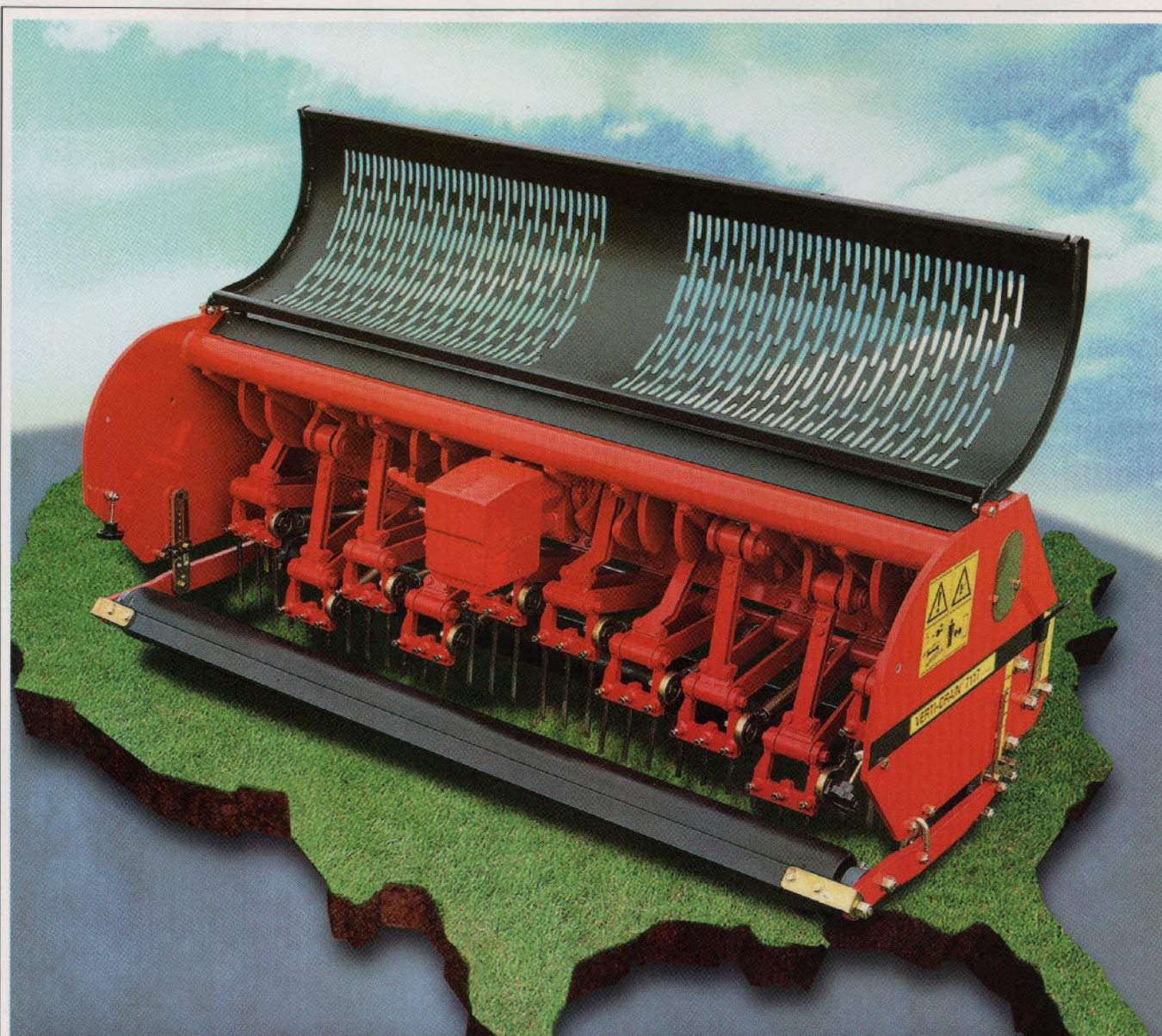
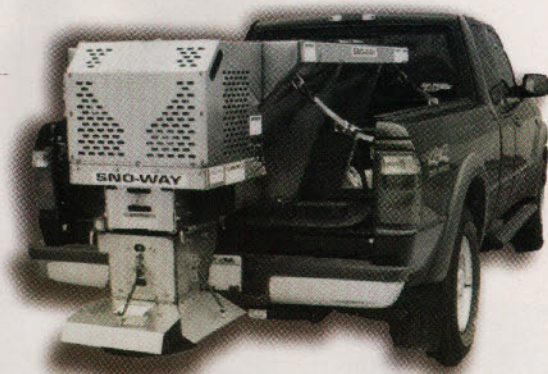
Onset Computer has two Universal Sensor Adapters for its HOBO Weather Station products. The new 12-bit 4-20 mA adapter and 0-5 VDC voltage Universal Sensor Adapters enable users to quickly and easily supplement Onset's wide range of plug-and-play smart sensors with specialized third-party sensors.

Onset Computer Corp./800-564-4377
For information, circle 067 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-067

ELECTRIC V BOX

The 6-foot Electric V Box from Sno-Way is a 6-ft. long low profile spreader 26 x 38 in., made in mild steel or stainless steel. It can be used to spread sand, salt or a combination and holds .75 cu. yd. Sno-Way's swing away chute design allows for simple unloading.

Sno-Way/800-662-1453
For information, circle 069 or see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-069



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BY BECKY TALBOT

RACING WITH TIME

It was a good news/bad news situation last year when Chris Weavil found out that Tanglewood Park would once again be hosting an annual steeplechase horse race. As maintenance supervisor of the park, he would have to get the track in shape within a matter of months. And it was the middle of a July drought.

For 31 years, the park held an annual spring steeplechase event on its 9.99-mile track, but lost its slot during a management transition. "We'd been out of the steeplechase race for 3 years in 2002," says Weavil, who started as horticulturist at Tanglewood in 1991. "During the time we didn't have the race, we continued mowing the track, but we didn't fertilize or groom it. Basically it was a 10-acre pasture."

The former estate of William Neil Reynolds, brother of R.J., the tobacco king, Tanglewood Park is located in Forsyth County, North Carolina, just outside Winston-Salem. Among other endeavors, Reynolds bred and raised harness horses and operated one of the largest harness racing tracks in the South. He deeded his estate to Forsyth County when he passed away in the early 1950s and the county turned it into a park.

Encompassing 1300 acres, Tanglewood Park embraces two 18-hole golf courses, an arboretum, several fishing lakes, a paddleboat lake, horse stables, tennis courts, and playgrounds, in addition to the steeplechase track. A certified arborist and registered North Carolina landscape contractor, Weavil maintains more than 500 acres of turf and landscape plants, including an 800-shrub all-American rose garden, the expansive front lawn of the lodging facility, and hundreds of large, mature trees, as well as the track. The golf course operates separately from the rest of the park activities.

Fescue shades out Bermuda

Located 100 feet from the Yadkin River, the steeplechase track is a combination of fescue and bermudagrass. "We keep the fescue at 6 inches year-round and that shades out most of the bermudagrass," says Weavil. "Taller grass is good for the race because it slows

the horses down. If they start running flat out, they could miss their jump and get hurt. We raise the height to 10 inches for the actual race; at that height it's like dragging your feet through snow."

But Weavil had a tough time last year keeping the grass as high as 6 inches. In 2002, North Carolina experienced a severe drought. "We were about 30 inches short of rain when we heard in July that we would be hosting the race in October," he says. "We knew we had to do something to get the grass kicked up again."

Though Weavil had always used Nitroform Blue Chip on the track, he hadn't been fertilizing during the hiatus for the race. "We have always liked the way Nitroform works," says Weavil. "It has a very low water-soluble component, just enough to provide a nice, green color quickly. The rest of the product is broken down by soil microbes. We could keep the track green with one timely spring application each year."

Weavil knew it was a little late for a nitrogen application this time. "We knew we were living on the edge a little, but we also knew that Nitroform wouldn't burn the grass any more than it was already burned by the drought," he adds. "We took a chance and made the application. Then we started getting rain in early September and within a month the track turned around and greened up. It was perfect for the race the first weekend in October."

Weavil was skeptical about applying a quick-release fertilizer because he knew if he didn't get rain, he wouldn't have any grass. "The high salt-index would have burned it to nothing," he says. "We pulled soil samples in September and got them back from analysis before the race last year. The only thing we needed was a little more nitrogen. Being in a river bottom, it's fairly silty, so all of our nutrients are present."

Horse traffic, in addition to foot traffic getting to the infield and parking areas, tore up the track during the race last year. "After the race, we aerated as soon as there was enough ground moisture for our pull-behind aerators to work," says Weavil. "But we only lime the track about every 3 years."

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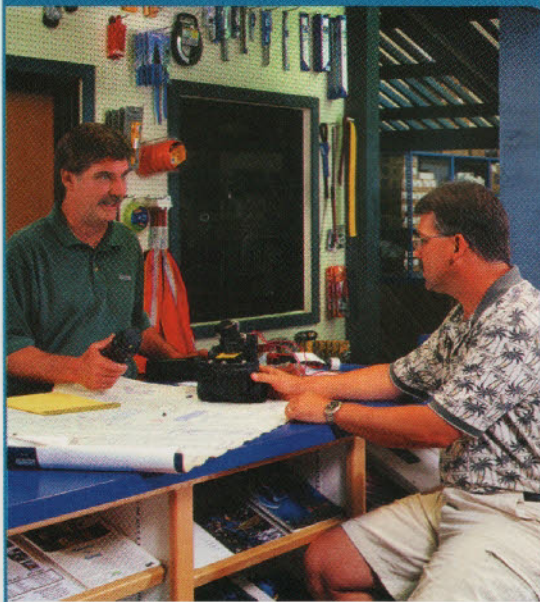


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around the grounds



Last fall, Weavil spread Nitroform on the track at the rate of 1 lb. N per 1,000 sq. ft. He applied it with a granular Vicon spreader, putting 300-400 lb. of product in the hopper at a time. The spreader provides a smooth, even distribution. He then made a light application of Nitroform in the spring to jump-start the fescue for the season. It keeps the cool-season grasses green throughout the summer months, he says.

In North Carolina, the weather this year did a complete flip-flop from last year. It rained so much the track was under water three times and the riverbank was higher than the infield. "We couldn't aerate until May because it was so wet," remarks Weavil. "But the microbial activity was going strong and the track stayed green all summer."

The National Steeplechase Association provides parameters for track conditions before the race, including grass height, compaction, and health. Association

representatives make inspections at 2 months, 1 month, 2 weeks and 2 days before the race. The last inspection looks for holes and hazards in the track.

Back in the day, the Tanglewood Steeplechase Race attracted some 12,000 people. Now sponsored by a Winston-Salem radio station and televised locally, the race drew 8,000 last year, but many more are expected this year as word of the new time slot spreads. Tickets are sold as tailgating spaces, with sponsors' row of tents providing food and beverages. In one afternoon, five three-lap races are held, rain or shine.

It takes Weavil's 22-member crew at least a week to clean up afterwards. "But it's well worth it to get the race back," he says. "It's an exciting event and we look forward to hosting it for many more years." **ST**

Becky Talbot is a free lance writer living in Ambler, PA.



Members of Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Joseph County, Indiana listen in as representatives from Toro and Notre Dame talk about what it takes to keep the turf at Notre Dame Stadium in top shape. Toro is the exclusive provider of grounds maintenance equipment for the University of Notre Dame's athletic facilities. Back row, left to right: Tony Wittrock, Tom Nowlin, Andrew Nemeth and Dorothy Johnson. Front row, left to right: Marcus Neely, Joe Wukowtich, Andrew Vandervort and Courtney Black.