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For information, circle 177 or

see www.oners.ims.ca/2906-177



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Bailey's Wild Ass lined work pants are like traditional logger jeans but with a micro polar fleece lining for fall and winter wear. Relaxed fit leaves room for boots. Catalog available.

Bailey's/800-322-4539

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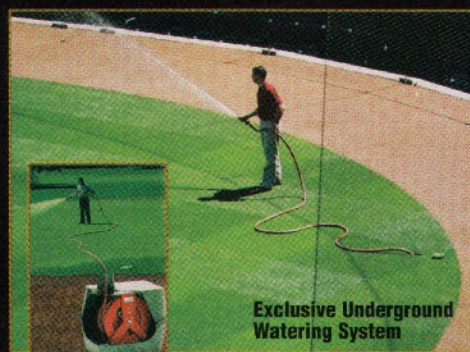
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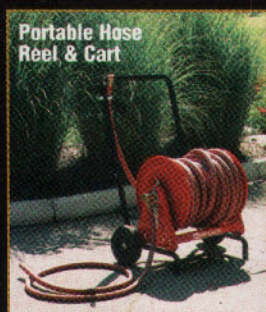
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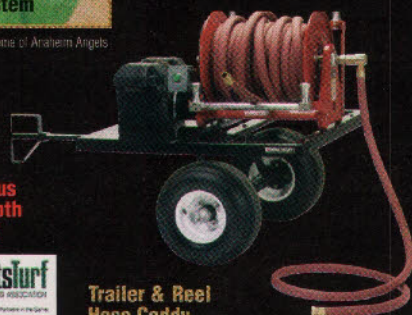


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2003 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The **SAFE Foundation** recognizes that the future of the industry lies in the education, dedication, and commitment of outstanding students such as these scholarship recipients. The Scholarships will be awarded January 23 at the Sports Turf Managers Association's (STMA) 15th Annual Conference and Exhibition Awards Banquet in San Diego.

Funding for the SAFE scholarships comes from STMA members through their participation in the Jacobsen-sponsored SAFE Golf Tournament and the Raffle, Silent and Live Auctions at the Association's Annual Conference, and through special contributions to SAFE earmarked for the Scholarship fund. In addition to the monetary award, all of the SAFE, Dr. Fred Grau and Dr. James R. Watson Scholarship recipients are provided with full registration to the STMA Annual Conference and up to \$500 toward their expenses to attend the Conference.

The \$500 Dr. Fred Grau Scholarship, since 1997 designated for the students of 2-year technical programs or community colleges, will go to Tim Hackett, Michigan State University.

Two \$500 SAFE Foundation Scholarships, designated for students of 2-year technical programs or community colleges, will be presented. They will go to Timothy

Burns, the University of Massachusetts - Amherst, and Tina Rose, Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture - Curtis.

The SAFE Foundation will award five \$1,000 scholarships for undergraduate students of 4-year College or University programs. The Scholarships will go to: David Bicknell, Texas A & M; Daniel Kizziah, Mississippi State University; Elsworth Ray Sayre, Jr., Eastern Kentucky University; Jeremy Thomas, Penn State University; and Todd Tribble, Clemson University.

The first of two scholarships established by The Toro Company in the name of long-time green industry researcher and consultant Dr. James R. Watson, a \$1,000 scholarship, will be issued to undergraduate student Nick McNamee, who is enrolled in the 4-year program of Colorado State University.

The second Dr. James R. Watson Scholarship, a \$1,500 scholarship designated for a graduate student, will be issued to J. Tim Vanini, Michigan State University.

One SAFE Foundation \$1,500 Scholarship, designated for graduate students, will go to Travis Teuton, University of Tennessee.

For information on SAFE or the SAFE Scholarship program, please contact Steve Trusty at 800/323-3875 or via email at SAFE@st.omhcoxmail.com.

2003 STMA Field of the Year and Sports Field Complex of the Year Award Recipients

The Field of the Year and Sports Field Complex of the Year Awards will be presented January 23 at the Sports Turf Managers Association's (STMA) 15th Annual Conference and Exhibition Awards Banquet in San Diego. These Awards are the highest honor STMA bestows upon a facility.

STMA is a not-for-profit international association of more than 2,500 sports turf professionals from schools; colleges and universities; parks and recreation and municipal facilities; and professional stadiums; from research, teaching and cooperative extension personnel; and representatives of commercial affiliates who unit in promoting better and safer sports turf areas. The Association and its affiliated chapters collect and disseminate scientific, educational and practical knowledge on the science of growing turfgrass and art of maintaining fields to produce safe and aesthetically pleasing playing surfaces.

Field of the Year and Sports Field Complex of the Year entrants must supply information on the design of the facility, the uses of the facility that impact the playing surface, the organization of the maintenance program and innovative solutions used to overcome playing surface problems. Photos of specific areas of the field must be provided to document the playability and appearance of the playing surface. Each of the five judges on the Awards committee review the entrants independently, grading them on each aspect of the criteria. The results of the independent input of the five judges determine the recipients of each of the awards.

BASEBALL FIELDS OF THE YEAR

2003 STMA Baseball Field of the Year in the Professional division

First American Bank Ballpark, Midland Rockhounds, Midland, Texas
Monty Sowell, Head Groundskeeper

2003 STMA Baseball Field of the Year in the College/University division

Hawks Field Haymarket Park, University of Nebraska/Lincoln, Nebraska
Dan Bergstrom, Athletic Turf Manager

2003 STMA Baseball Field of the Year in the High School/Parks division

Cape Fear High School, Fayetteville, North Carolina
Terry Nance, Instructor

SOFTBALL FIELDS OF THE YEAR

2003 STMA Softball Field of the Year in the College/University division

Alberta B. Farrington Stadium, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona
Pete Wozniak, Athletic Facility Manager

2003 STMA Softball Field of the Year in the High School/Parks division

Oran Good 5, City of Farmers Branch, Farmers Branch, Texas
F. Jeff Fuller, Director of Parks and Recreation

SOCCER FIELDS OF THE YEAR

2003 STMA Soccer Field of the Year in the College/University division

George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia
Michael Sullenberger, Sports Turf Manager

2003 STMA Soccer Field of the Year in the High School/Parks division

Olmsted Field, City of Westbrook, Westbrook, Maine
Lance Tibbetts, Deputy Director - Recreation Department

FOOTBALL FIELDS OF THE YEAR

2003 STMA Football Field of the Year in the College/University division

Scott Field, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, Mississippi
Bart Prather, Sports Turf Manager

2003 STMA Football Field of the Year in the High School/Parks division

Robinson Field, Henderson Stadium, Wesleyan School, Norcross, Georgia
Jon DeWitt, Director of Grounds Maintenance

SPORTS FIELD COMPLEXES OF THE YEAR

2003 STMA Sports Field Complex of the Year in the College/University division

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia
James R. Rodgers, CSFM, Sports Field Manager

2003 STMA Sports Field Complex of the Year in the High School/Parks division

Central Winds Park Complex - City of Winter Springs, Florida
Chuck Pula, Director, Parks & Recreation



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chapter news

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: The Chapter will meet from 7:30-8:15 AM January 14, in conjunction with the Virginia Turfgrass Council's 44th Annual Turf and Landscape Conference and Marketplace, January 13-15, at the Richmond Marriott in Richmond. Day-long classes January 13 include a Turfgrass Management Workshop and a Soils for Sports Turf Workshop. A Sports Turf Track is offered January 14-15. For more information visit the website: www.thevtc.org.

For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, contact: Bob Studholme, Fairfax County Park Authority via e-mail: Robert.Studholme@FairfaxCounty.gov or at 703-324-8590.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA): The Chapter will participate in the Eastern Pennsylvania Turf Conference and Trade Show to be held in Valley Forge January 15. Speakers include: Dr. Dave Minner, Iowa State University; Dr. Elizabeth Guertal, Auburn University; Brad Park, Rutgers University; and Dr. Andy McNitt, Penn State University. For more information on this event go to: www.paturf.org.

The Chapter also will participate in the Northeastern PA Turf Conference and Trade Show to be held at The Woodlands Inn and Resort, Wilkes-Barre, January 29. Topics include: 2003 Turf Insect Update; Thinking of Installing a Synthetic Turf Field?; Care and Maintenance of Baseball Infields; and IPM of School Grounds. For more information on this event go to www.paturf.org.

The 8th Annual KAFMO Athletic Field Conference will be held in Grantville, February 20. Speakers include: Bob Campbell, CSFM, University of Tennessee; Dr. Andy McNitt, Penn State University; Jim Koontz, Jr., Cumberland Valley School District; Mike Boekholder, Philadelphia Phillies; and Tony Leonard, Philadelphia Eagles.

For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, at tel. 610-375-8469, ext. 212; or e-mail to: kafmo@aol.com.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): The Chapter will participate in the Michigan Turfgrass Conference to be held January 19-22. For information on the Chapter or pending events, contact MiSTMA Headquarters at 517-712-3407, or email Amy Fouty, University of Michigan, at fouty@umich.edu, or go to www.mistma.org to visit the chapter's website.

Florida Chapter # 1: The Chapter will participate in the Florida Turfgrass Association Palm Beach Regional Seminar to be held at Lake Worth, January 20, and the Florida Turfgrass Association Miami Regional Seminar to be held at Pro-Player Stadium in Miami January 21. For information on these events check the website: www.ftga.org. For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, contact John Mascaro at 954-341-3115 or STMA@Turf-Tec.com.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: The Chapter presents a Sports Turf Track during the 70th Annual Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show to be held at the Polk County Convention Complex in Des Moines January 26-28.

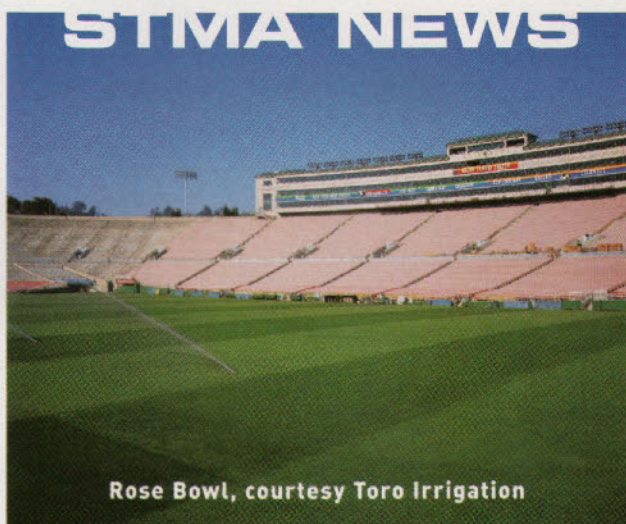
For information on the Chapter, or upcoming activities, contact Jeff Wendel of The Turf Office at tel. 515-232-8222, or fax 515-232-8228, or e-mail: Jeff@iowaturfgrass.org.

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association: Plans have begun for the KySTMA's Annual Conference to be held in Louisville in late February. More details will be announced soon. For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact Tom Nielsen at TNielsen@bats-baseball.com or Aaron Boggs at AVBoggs@netscape.net.

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: For information on the chapter, or upcoming events, contact Chris Calcaterra at e-mail: chrisc@peoriaaz.com or tel. 623-412-4231 or Bill Murphy, at e-mail: bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us or 480-312-7956.

The Greater LA Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter or pending events, call Steve Dugas, California State University - Fullerton, at 714-278-3929 or email sdugas@fullerton.edu.

Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or pending events, call Janet Gift at 530-758-4200.



Southern California Chapter: For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, call Michael Tarantino at 858-679-2526 or MTarantino@powayusd.com.

Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly called Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization - MAFMO Chapter STMA): For information on the Chapter, or other pending activities, call the Hotline at 866-818-8873 or email Nick Gammill, CSFM, at ngammill@american.edu.

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or upcoming activities, visit the Chapter's website, www.CSTMA.org, or call the Chapter Hotline at 303-346-8954, or contact President Phil McQuade at 303-237-7188 or pmcquade@jefco.k12.co.us.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, call Mike Krone, Missouri Baptist College, 314-392-2328 or email krone@mobap.edu.

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact Skip Kirby at 770-928-1580 or email skip@sportsturfmanagement.com

Indiana Chapter: For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, contact Stan Moscrip, Indiana University, at 812-856-2256 or smoscrip@indiana.edu.

Midwest Chapter STMA: For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, visit the Chapter's website, <http://mcstma.org/>, or call Libby Baker at 847-263-7603 or email Bake60ft6in@aol.com.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: For information on the

Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Jeff Hintz, Bethel College & Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota at tel. 651-638-6075 or e-mail: j-hintz@bethel.edu or check out the Chapter website: www.mstma.com.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the STMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Jody Gill at 913-239-4121 or JGill2@bv229.k12.ks.us.

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call Loren Humphrey at: 402-461-2324 or email to lhumphrey@cityofhastings.org.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call SFMANJ at 908-730-7770 or Eleanora Murfitt at 908-236-9118; or e-mail to HQ@sfmanj.org.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call OSTMA Headquarters at 888-824-9805 or 419-824-9805 or Boyd Montgomery, CSFM, at 419-885-1982; or visit the chapter's website at www.ostma.org.

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact: Jay Warnick, JayW@Seahawks.com or Mike Wagner, MWagner@Oregon.UOregon.edu.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call President, Bob Elliott, Tieco, at 800-239-9547 or Glenn Lucas at 800-837-8062; email to Glenn@tvstma.org, or visit the chapter's website: www.tvstma.org.

North Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, contact Kathy Cassmeyer at 972-603-2869 or Katherine.Cassmeyer@lmco.com, or visit the website at www.ntstma.org.

South Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Tim Loesch at 210-207-3734 or TLoesch@alamodome.com.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: For more information on the Chapter, or other pending events, contact Chris Brindley at 715-346-3622 or cbrindle@uwsp.edu.

Chapters on the Grow:

South Carolina: Efforts are currently underway in South Carolina to form a Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association. The contact is Dr. Trent Hale, a Research and Extension Turfgrass Specialist in the Department of Horticulture for Clemson University He is located at the Pee Dee Research and Education Center in Florence. For more information contact Dr. Hale at 843-662-3526 or by email at thale@clemsun.edu or the forming chapter's page on the STMA website: www.sportsturfmanager.com.

New York: For information on the chapter forming in Central New York, contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, at e-mail: Kevin@wpe.com or at 607-432-2953.

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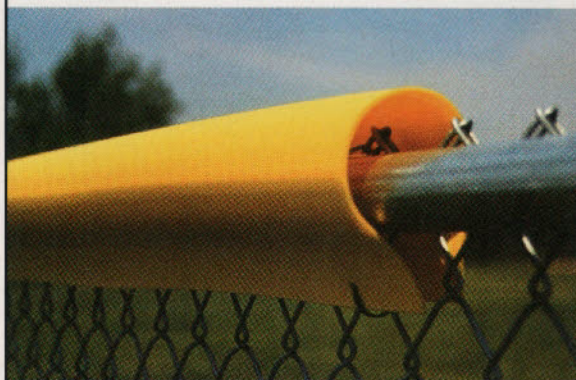
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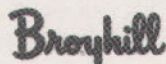
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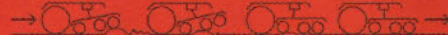
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“WHEN THE WEATHER OUTSIDE IS FRIGHTFUL . . . LET IT SNOW”

I'm working with my first sand-based football field and have been told that I need to tarp it to prevent dehydration. Are there cultural practices that will eliminate the need to cover the field? If not, what are my indicators for covering and removing? Do I monitor ground temp, air temp, wind speed, moisture content or all of the above? If we get a few warm days in the early spring do I need to open the cover?

Mike Estrem, Director of Grounds, Upper Iowa University

Since you have a sand-based field be sure that you have adequate levels of all nutrients in the soil and plant. Potassium is easily leached and it is important for winter tolerance so be sure it is not limiting. Fall applied potassium should be part of your routine winterization program. Just before you winterize your irrigation system be sure to give the field one last heavy watering. I generally don't like to raise and lower the mowing height throughout the growing season. However, if you are on sand and will not use a field cover then it is best to let the grass grow up an extra 1/2 inch so that it may trap more moisture and reduce drying during the winter. In the spring the grass will be matted down from the winter or the brown canopy can be mowed off at your normal mowing height.

Winter turf covers are a wonderful tool for athletic field managers. There are three general types of winter protection covers: 1) open woven polyethylene or polypropylene; 2) non-woven or spun bound polypropylene; and 3) impermeable materials made from polyethylene film. All of the winter protection covers help moderate temperature and reduce moisture loss. You should anticipate extended frost protection and seedling establishment when used in the fall and earlier green up and growth in the spring.

As far as winter injury goes these products have the greatest benefit by reducing winter desiccation during open, dry, and windy winters. These conditions on frozen soil or droughty sand can cause turf loss to athletic fields. Kentucky bluegrass is seldom killed by direct low temperature while perennial ryegrass and tall fescue are more susceptible to low temperature injury in northern climates. Even though winter covers moderate temperature it is likely that frozen ground will occur under winter protection covers in Iowa.

Since you have already purchased a translucent woven polyethylene cover, here is how to use it and what you might expect: If you are trying to extend the growing season during the fall play, you will need to cover when frost is likely and uncover during events. This is more work but you can get an extra month of growing time and more importantly get some extra seed established. Avoid lush growth under the tarp going into the winter by removing the cover for 2 weeks in November so the grass acclimates for the winter.

Another hidden advantage of the winter cover comes by way of limiting traffic via a nice way of saying "Closed for the winter—keep off."

My cue for winter covering may sound a little unscientific but it works. Watch the weather for the first big snow or significant temperature drop that will cause the ground to freeze. If the ground freezes you won't be able to secure the tarp with

pins in the ground. Waiting until the ground freezes also insures that the turf has had time to winter acclimate. If snow is imminent then apply your favorite snow mold fungicide and then place the tarp as the final step in putting the field to bed. In some years with additional snow cover I have experienced significant seed establishment when the covers were removed in the spring. If you miss the snow mold treatment before placing the cover then you can treat over top of the open woven covers and get some disease control.

My cue for uncovering the field is like peaking in the oven to see if the biscuits are ready. If the grass starts to grow then it is time to get the cover off of the field. The grass will first green up and then shoots will start to elongate. Get it off before the grass needs mowing. If you want to leave the cover on longer or have had trouble with a flush of growth in the spring then borrow a trick from golf supers and apply a light rate of Primo PGR just before covering the field in the late fall/early winter. This allows you to pull the tarp off later without a flush of growth occurring.

In Canada and some extreme northern parts of the US ice encasement has caused turf loss on putting greens. I would not anticipate wide scale loss of athletic field turf as the result of ice encasement because most fields have some type of surface drainage. I have seen localized loss of turf in fields that have standing water in surface depressions. Annual bluegrass is a common, and undesirable, component of northern athletic field turf. Annual bluegrass is very susceptible to winter desiccation and ice encasement injury.

The covers discussed here have many winter protection benefits for grass, but you may experience more encroachment of annual bluegrass since covers also protect this problem weed.

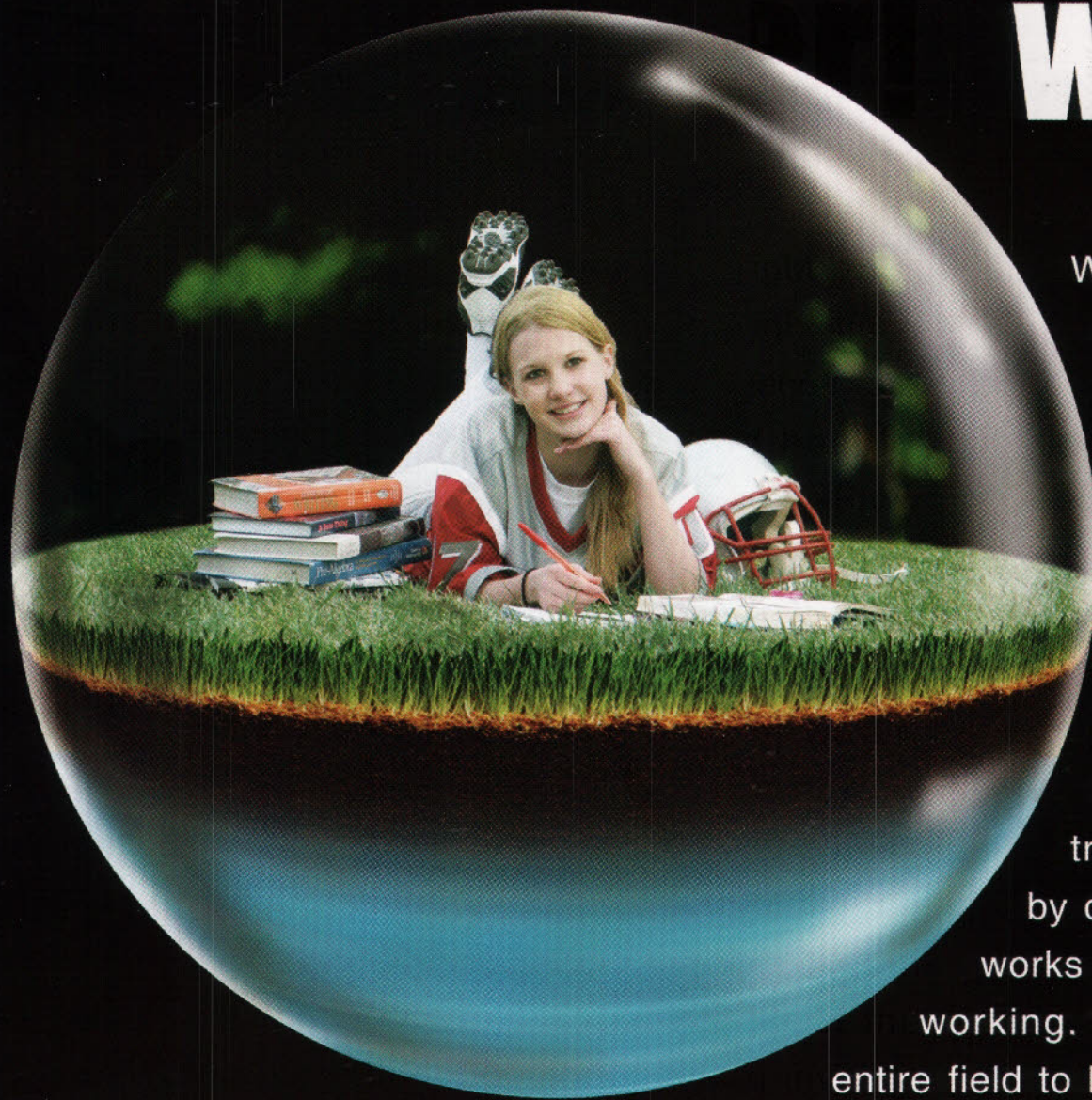
Natural snow cover provides a very effective winter blanket that prevents winter desiccation but also increases the chance of snow mold injury. If you are not very good at predicting winter conditions then winter covers may be your best choice to prevent winter injury and extend the turf growth and recovery season of sport fields. Those of you on limited budgets may choose to purchase only enough covers to advance growth in critical areas such as between the hash marks on football fields and in the goalmouths of soccer fields. Be sure to mark your pins, stakes, or staples used to secure the cover. They are easy to leave on the field and present an obvious hazard for players and mowers.

I know there are a lot of you out there that can't afford one of these nice covers yet so you may want to consider using the "poor mans turf blanket." Apply a heavy topdressing of compost or sand; something between a 1/4 and 3/8 of an inch will do just fine. The topdressing will help retain moisture around the plant and reduce winter desiccation injury. And for the time efficient lazy man, it's also a protective cover you don't have to pin down or pick up in the spring.

ST

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 gmliller@mail.lifas.ufl.edu.

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