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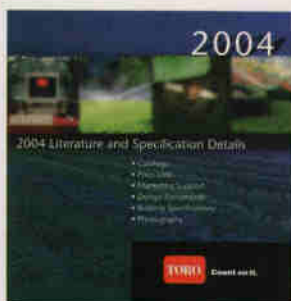
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## chapter news

**Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA):** The Chapter will hold its South East Ohio Field Day on from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM July 8 at the University of Rio Grande's Bob Evans Farm Hall. Low budget field maintenance will be the focus of this event. A Collaborative Golf Outing between OSTMA & OLCA will be held July 28 at Apple Valley in the Columbus area. The OSU/OTF Turfgrass Research Field Day will be held at the OTF Research & Education Center at Ohio State University in Columbus August 18. The OSTMA Fall Field Day and Vendor Showcase will be held September 7 at the OSU Intramural Complex Fred Bechman Park. The Chapter also will participate in the OTF Annual Golf Tournament to be held October 5 at the Golf Club of Dublin. 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](http://www.ostma.org).

**Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Chapter will participate in the Turf Research Field Day to be held July 8 at the University of Kentucky Spindletop Farm. An alternate event for those in

Northeastern Kentucky is the joint KYSTMA/OSTMA meeting at the University of Rio Grande. KYSTMA will hold its First Annual Field Day at the University of Kentucky in Lexington July 22-23. For more info see [www.kystma.org](http://www.kystma.org) or contact Tom Nielsen at [TNielsen@batsbaseball.com](mailto:TNielsen@batsbaseball.com) or Donnie Mefford at [dbmeff00@email.uky.edu](mailto:dbmeff00@email.uky.edu) or call him at 859-257-1451.

**Minnesota Chapter STMA:** Chapter members head to Iowa for the annual Iowa - Minnesota Chapter Clash to be held July 9-10. The two Chapters vie for bragging rights in the golf and softball competitions. For info contact Jeff Hintz, Bethel College & Seminary, St. Paul, at tel. 651-638-6075 or e-mail: [j-hintz@bethel.edu](mailto:j-hintz@bethel.edu) or check out [www.mstma.com](http://www.mstma.com).

**Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Chapter will host the annual Iowa - Minnesota Chapter Clash to be held July 9-10. The Chapter will participate in the ITI Field Day scheduled for July 22 at the ISU Horticulture Research Station in Ames. The Chapter will hold a Workshop September 22 at Rosenblatt Stadium in Omaha, Nebraska. Event host will be Jesse Cuevas. For information on the

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# chapter news

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@lowaturfgrass.org](mailto:Jeff@lowaturfgrass.org).

**Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly called Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization - MAFMO Chapter STMA):** Chapter members are invited to participate in the July 14 Turf Research Field Day & Open House at the Turfgrass Research Facility. See [www.md turf council.org](http://www.md turf council.org) for details. For info call 866-818-8873 or email Nick Gammill, CSFM, at [ngammill@american.edu](mailto:ngammill@american.edu).

**Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA):** The Chapter is planning an event at Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis July 18. For information on the TVSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Chapter President, Bob Elliott, Tieco, at 800-239-9547 or Glenn Lucas at 800-837-8062; email to [Glenn@tvstma.org](mailto:Glenn@tvstma.org), or visit the chapter's website: [www.tvstma.org](http://www.tvstma.org).

**Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:** The annual Lawnmower Man Open golf tournament will be held at The Heritage at Westmoor July 20. The Chapter also will hold an event August 6 at the Vail Recreation District and a Painting Workshop at the University of Colorado September 16. For info see [www.CSTMA.org](http://www.CSTMA.org) or call 303-346-8954 or contact Chapter President Ryan Jensen at 303/464-5687 or [rjensen@ci.broomfield.co.us](mailto:rjensen@ci.broomfield.co.us).

**Florida Chapter # 1:** The Chapter will meet July 20 at Florida International University in Miami. Make plans now to attend the Florida Turfgrass Association 52nd Annual Conference & Show to be held September 13-15 at the Hyatt Regency Downtown Tampa. The Chapter will lead a tour on Monday, September 13 beginning at noon. Sites include a local golf course, Raymond James Stadium and Legends Field. For information on this event, visit the website: [www.ftga.org](http://www.ftga.org).

For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, contact John Mascaro at 954-341-3115 or [STMA@Turf-Tec.com](mailto:STMA@Turf-Tec.com).

**Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association:** VSTMA will hold its Field Day at Atlee High School, Hanover County, July 20-21. Host is Marc Moran, VSTMA Category 3 Director. For Field Day Information contact Marc: [mmoran@hanover.k12.va.us](mailto:mmoran@hanover.k12.va.us). The chapter also will participate in the Virginia Tech Field Day July 27-28. For information contact David McKissack at 540-231-5897 or [turf1@vt.edu](mailto:turf1@vt.edu). For information on the Virginia Chapter, or other upcoming events, contact: Bob Studholme, Fairfax County Park Authority via e-mail: [Robert.Studholme@FairfaxCounty.gov](mailto:Robert.Studholme@FairfaxCounty.gov) or at 703-324-8590.

**Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA):** MiSTMA will participate in the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation Field Day July 21 at the Hancock Turfgrass Research Center in East Lansing. MiSTMA also is planning a half-day hands-on workshop for September 21 in the Kalamazoo area. More details will be announced soon. For info contact MiSTMA Headquarters at 517-712-3407, or email

Amy Fouty at [fouty@ath.msu.edu](mailto:fouty@ath.msu.edu), or visit the chapter's website.

**Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Chapter will participate in the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association Summer Field Day, which will be held from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM July 27 at the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility in Verona. Turfgrass research is showcased during the morning research tours followed by an extensive trade show in the afternoon. For info contact Chris Brindley at 715-346-3622 or [cbrindle@uwsp.edu](mailto:cbrindle@uwsp.edu).



**Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey:** SFMANJ will participate in the Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field Days. The Landscape and Sports Turf Research Field Day will be held from 9:00 AM-3:30 PM July 28 at the Plant Science Research & Extension Farm in Adelphia. The Golf and Fine Turf Research Field Day will be held from 9:30 AM-2:30 PM July 29 at the Hort Farm II, North Brunswick. The Third Annual SFMANJ Outdoor Trade Show and Equipment Demonstration Day will be held August 17 at the Plainsboro Township Community Park. For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call SFMANJ at 908-730-7770 or Eleanora Murfitt-Hermann at 908-236-9118; or e-mail to [HQ@sfmanj.org](mailto:HQ@sfmanj.org) or visit the chapter's website: [www.sfmanj.org](http://www.sfmanj.org).

**South Carolina Chapter of STMA:** The Chapter will participate in the 2004 South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association Conference to be held at the Charleston Convention Center with sports turf focused programs scheduled for August 30-31. For a complete schedule of events visit the Chapter website. The Chapter also will participate in Clemson University's Annual Turfgrass Field Day to be held at the University's Madren Center Pavilion September 14. Participants may choose between two optional events that afternoon: playing in the Charles P. Willimon, Sr. Memorial Turfgrass Research and Education Fundraising Golf Tournament at the Walker Course on campus or visiting the sports field facilities at the University.

For more information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact Dr. Hale at 843-662-3526 extension 206 or by email at [thale@clemson.edu](mailto:thale@clemson.edu) or on the chapter's website [www.scstma.org](http://www.scstma.org).

**The Greater LA Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Chapter will hold a general meeting September 15 at UCI. For informa-

tion on the Chapter or pending events, call Eric Johnson, University of Southern California, at 213-821-5654 or email [ejohnson@busaff.usc.edu](mailto:ejohnson@busaff.usc.edu).

**Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Chapter will participate in the Iowa Chapter's Workshop September 22 at Rosenblatt Stadium in Omaha. Event host will be Jesse Cuevas. For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call Loren Humphrey at: 402-461-2324 or email to [lhumphrey@cityofhastings.org](mailto:lhumphrey@cityofhastings.org).

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

**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 Chapter, or pending activities, call Michael Tarantino at 858-679-2526 or [MTarantino@powayusd.com](mailto:MTarantino@powayusd.com).

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:smoscrip@indiana.edu).

**Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA):** 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](mailto:kafmo@aol.com).

**Midwest Chapter STMA:** For information on the Midwest Chapter, or pending activities, visit <http://mcstma.org/> or call Libby Baker at 847-263-7603 or email [Bake60ft6in@aol.com](mailto:Bake60ft6in@aol.com).

**MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call Mike Green at 913-888-8055 or [mikegreen@3and2baseball.com](mailto:mikegreen@3and2baseball.com).

**Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact: Bob Christofferson at [bchristo@mariners.org](mailto:bchristo@mariners.org).

**Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:** The former North Texas Chapter and the former South Texas Chapter have merged. The mailing address is PO Box 1078; Keller, TX 76244, phone 866-897-8621, the website [www.ntstma.org](http://www.ntstma.org). Another contact is T. J. Thompson at 972-670-2138 or [TXturfmanager@prodigy.net](mailto:TXturfmanager@prodigy.net).



# Meet the newest Certified Sports Field Managers

**R**ecognizing the importance of fostering and improving professionalism within the sports turf industry, the Sports Turf Managers Association developed the Certified Sports Field Manager certification program. The stated purpose of the program is to: Increase professionalism in the sports turf industry; promote better and safer sports turf areas; establish credentials that signify a specific level of expertise; increase career opportunities and promote the sports turf manager and the profession; provide recognition for attaining a level of expertise and performance as professionals in the industry; stimulate and motivate improved performance and increased professionalism; and increase opportunities for education and training.

CSFM status denotes those individuals who have gone above and beyond the requirements of job performance and have demonstrated a superior level of competence. Since January of 2004, five individuals have achieved certification status:

Jason DePaepe, CSFM, is Athletic Turfgrass Manager for the University of Colorado Athletic Department, Boulder. He is responsible for all athletic field maintenance programs at the University.

Michael Buras, CSFM, is Assistant Superintendent of Grounds for the Longwood Cricket Club, Chestnut Hill, MA. He is responsible for supervision of personnel in maintaining the grounds at the tennis club, which includes 25 grass courts, 13 clay courts and landscaped areas. His duties include designing and overseeing improvement projects and managing the tennis courts during men's Pro Championships, Davis Cup, Federation Cup and numerous amateur grass court national championships.

Joseph Case, CSFM, is Superintendent of Grounds for St. Mary's College of Maryland, St. Mary's City. He supervises all athletic field maintenance, purchases, and budget. His duties also include supervision of all campus maintenance of the grounds, including turf, plants, and trees.

Ronald Hostick, CSFM, is Gardening Specialist for San Diego State University. He oversees all aspects of maintenance of sports turf at the University, which includes two sand-based fields, three native soil fields, and two multi-use fields.

Kevin Malone, CSFM, is Project Manager and develops and manages sales of athletic field construction and renovation at The LandTek Group, Amityville, NY.

In order to qualify for the opportunity to test for certification status, the individual must achieve, and document the achievement of, a minimum of 40 points earned through a combination of education and experience. After verification of achievement of the 40 points in education and experience, the individual must take the Certified Sports Field Manager in-depth, four-part written examination. This examination addresses competencies established by professionals, educators and researchers within the industry on agronomic, administration, pest management, and sports specific issues. In order to achieve certification, the individual must score a minimum of 80 percent on all four segments of the examination.



Beaver Stadium, University Park, PA, September 2001. Photo by Paul Curtis.

Those achieving CSFM status have demonstrated their personal level of professionalism and their ability to apply those professional standards in their own sports field management program. The 3-year certification renewal cycle is designed to keep Certified individuals responsive to industry progress and technological advances.

Just as great sports accomplishments raise the bar for all competitors, excellence in field care raises the level of expectations for all sports turf managers. The results are better fields and safer fields at all levels of sports competition. If you are not already a Certified Sports Field Manager, consider taking the steps to become certified. Contact STMA Headquarters to receive the information you need to start the process: STMAHQ@st.omh-coxmail.com or 800-323-3875.

## Looking for the BEST!

Each year the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) presents Field of the Year Awards in Baseball, Softball, Football and Soccer. A panel of judges views and evaluates all entries, making selections by type of field within the following categories: professional; college and university; high school, municipal or park. Each field is evaluated on the qualities of the field along with how well the resources available for the maintenance of the field are used. In 2003, the program was expanded to include the Sports Field Complex of the Year Award for multiple field/multiple use facilities in the same three categories.

Each of the award recipients will be featured in an article in *SPORTSTURF*. And thanks to the continued support of the Awards Sponsors: Bayer; Carolina Green; Covermaster Inc.; Hunter Industries; Jacobsen; Nu-Gro; TURFACE; Turf-Seed, Inc.; West Coast Turf; and World Class Athletic Surfaces, each of the recipients will receive a plaque, a jacket and up to six crew shirts, one registration for the STMA 2005 Annual Conference & Exhibition in Phoenix and up to \$500 toward travel and/or lodging expenses for the Conference.

Your field looks great, so why not take pictures now for submission into the Field of the Year or Sports Field Complex of the Year program? Take shots of the sidelines, centerfield, the infield and outfield, the goal areas. Show your field prepped for action; show you and your crew on the field, painting, mowing, all of those things that you do. Snap action shots of players. For the sports field complex, show an overview of the facility and fields. And make sure to include a few "vertical" shots, especially a "beauty" one.

Detail the challenges you've faced and overcome, your maintenance program, your budget for one year, a description or outline of the equipment used to maintain your field and an outline or organizational chart of how your staff or crew are organized (to include the total number of maintenance staff). Include your own special "tricks of the trade" and why you feel that your field or complex merits top honors.

Complete criteria for each of the awards are included in the Awards Program Booklet. You can download it directly from [www.sportsturfmanager.com](http://www.sportsturfmanager.com) or call 800-323-3875. **ST**



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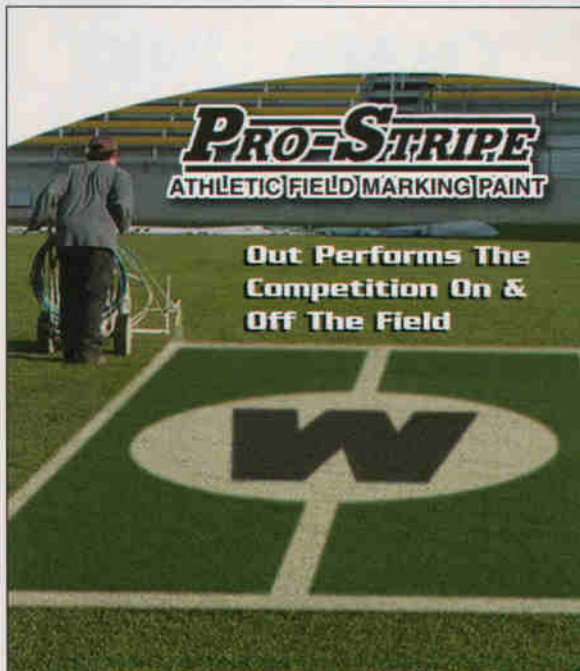
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# Traffic survey update

The most frequently asked question I receive still involves how much traffic is too much traffic. You seem to seek the same information but from different angles. As managers of the field you seek data or recommendations that you can throw back at the boss or user group that basically says that the fields are being used too much and that is why it is impossible to keep any reasonable amount of turf cover on the field. The boss or those involved with scheduling events are usually faced with too many scheduled events and too few fields. Their motivation is often revenue driven since more tournaments and user groups mean more dollars to keep the facility operational. The most forward thinking city planners seek the magic number of fields that will be needed to support current and projected growth by their community.

Over the past 4 years we have been collecting survey information relating field use to field performance. The survey form and field evaluation form can be found at <http://turfgrass.hort.iastate.edu/extension/traffic.pdf>. Nearly 300 surveys were completed by sport field managers of soccer and football fields across the entire US. Field use ranged from eight events for professional football to 656 events for youth groups. Because of field use diversity we are now developing a person hour model that is sport and age group specific.

PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU HAVE BEEN COLLECTING FIELD USE DATA BY HOURS AND USER GROUP. I would like to have your input in developing the new person hour survey.



Annual number of events per field	Avg	Range
Total	125	8-656
Breakpoint # of events until field will not recover	79	4-475
Maximum # of events but field will recover	64	2-325

Data collected from 300 soccer and football fields across the entire US ranging in age from youthgroups to professional sports.

The survey provides general guidelines and is the best information I have to offer until the sport specific person hour survey is completed. On average an individual field is receiving 125 events per year. A field receiving over 79 events should not be able to recover to an acceptable level. Most sports turf managers feel they could maintain an acceptable field if the annual event schedule were less than 64 events.

These are not magic numbers for all situations. For example, at the college or professional level a stadium field will not tolerate 64 events and still be acceptable for that type of competition. On the other hand a city planner looking for the number of fields to build for youth soccer can use the 64 to 79 event schedule as a planning tool for developing the appropriate number of fields for their community. Some facilities even had successful turf at the end of 150 events.

There are many variables in the traffic management game that may cause you to tolerate more or fewer events on your specific field. Variables include; warm/cool season climate, soil type, grass selection, irrigation, cultivation, seeding/sodding renovation, etc. If you are going to make a case to regulate activity on specific a specific field you would be better off using your own internal measurements that reflect field activity and performance instead of blindly accepting

these broad national averages presented here.

To regulate field use and improve playing performance it is more important to evaluate your specific fields relative to your specific type of traffic load and level of management. Most sports turf managers intuitively do this, but I bet you don't have a per field record of activity and playing quality throughout the year that documents when the field has had too much traffic. Without this type of data it will be difficult to limit field use or to plan the appropriate number of fields when building for future growth. Use the field evaluation form at the website address above to rate your fields each month and combine this with accurate field use records on a person/hour or field/hour basis to develop a picture relating field performance to user group activity.

Put another way, quit crying about all the activity on your fields and give your administrators some information to make sound decisions. Get off the mower, take off your hat, shine your boots, and take a season's worth of information to your boss. This is a great exercise to build communication with your administration and user groups, even if you don't have high traffic issues at your facility. With this type of information you will be viewed as part of the solution, not part of the problem.

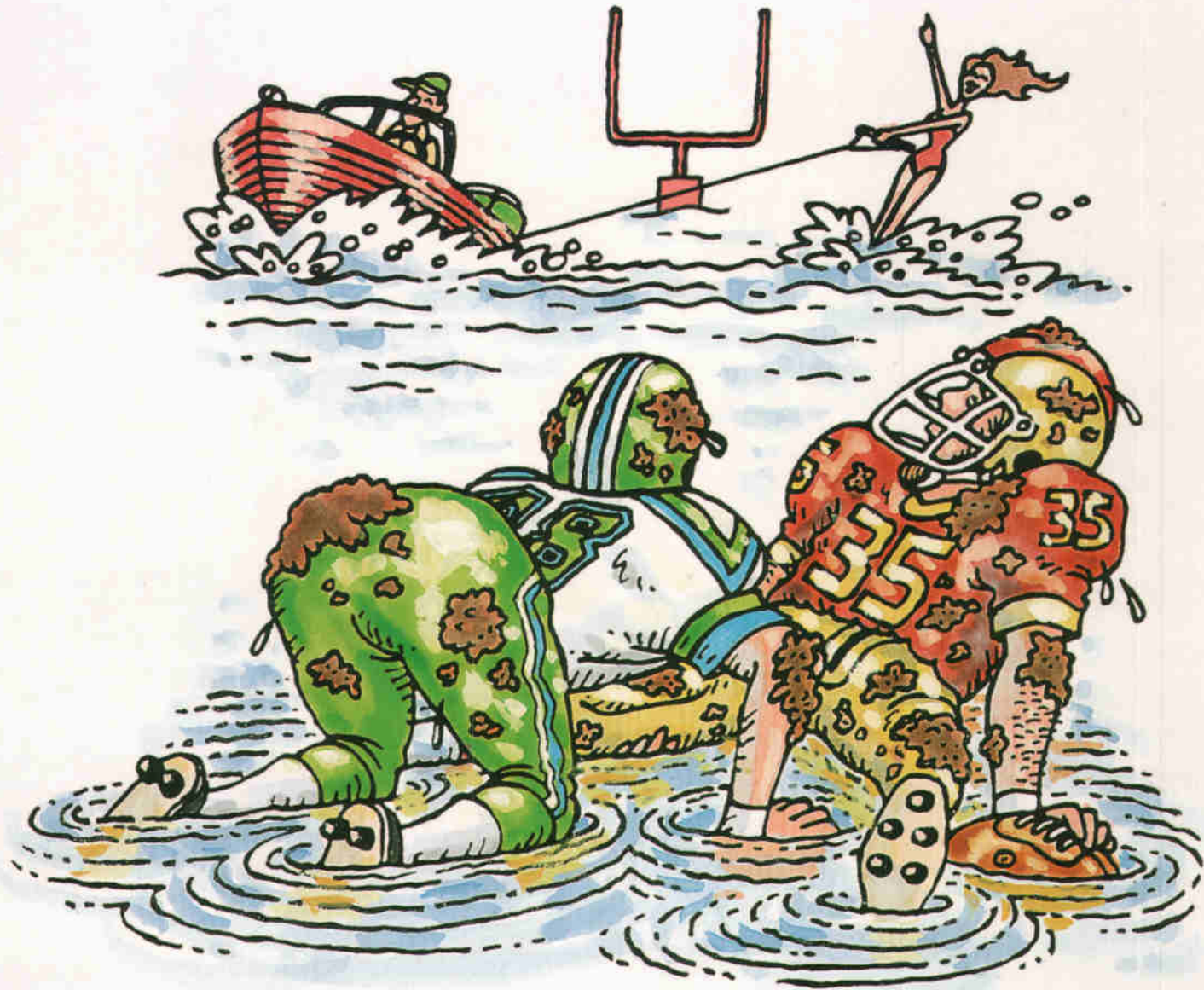
An appropriate amount of funding must be channeled to grounds management to off set field damages from high use. In cases of extreme field activity there may be no level of funding that will keep the fields from wearing out and your only recourse is to close the fields for re-vegetation. Develop written strategic guidelines that include; anticipated field performance, measured level of activity and turf quality rating system per field, and a field maintenance budget that includes closing a field for re-vegetation if needed?

In my next column I'll share the individual success stories and strategies that you have relayed dealing with specific traffic problems such as, coaches who don't spread the traffic, playing games when it is too wet, field rotation, and the band. Drop me a line so I can reference your solution to the difficult problem of traffic troubles.

ST

**QUESTIONS?** Send them to Dave Minner at Iowa State University, 106 Horticulture Hall, Ames, IA 50011, or email [dminner@iastate.edu](mailto:dminner@iastate.edu). Or, send them to Grady Miller at the University of Florida, PO Box 110670, Gainesville, FL 32611, or email [gmler@mail.ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:gmler@mail.ifas.ufl.edu).





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