Husqvarna introduces the new HUV4421GXP utility vehicle. Powered by a 20-hp Honda engine and "true" all-wheel drive, the unit frames are made with aircraft-grade aluminum for longevity. Steel bed has an 800-lb. capacity and power tilt. 10 different models available to meet customer needs.

Husqvarna
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Broyhill's new TerraSport utility vehicle boasts a 1500-lb. total capacity and robotic-welded tubular steel frame. With a 16-hp Briggs and Stratton engine, continuously variable transmission (CVT), power steering, and multi-leaf spring, and dual shock suspension. Optional rear cargo box offers room for a toolbox, sprayer tank, or line marker paint tank, behind the seat.

Broyhill
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The Dumper 201 is equipped with a 6-hp Briggs & Stratton engine and 5-speed transmission with reverse. The handles have an extra support bracket and cross brace for strength. The 4.6 cu. ft. bucket lets you haul up to 440 lbs. on flat terrain and up to 330 lbs. on slopes. Features 360 degree pivoting rear wheels for maneuvering in tight areas.

Grillo America
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Marshall Jennings, director of field operations for Roger Dean Stadium in Jupiter, FL, and his crew won the Sports Turf Managers Association's 2005 Professional Baseball Field of the Year. The stadium is the heart of a 130 field complex that is spring home to both the World Champion St. Louis Cardinals and the Florida Marlins.

During the summer, Roger Dean plays host to two pro teams, the Palm Beach Cardinals and Jupiter Hammerheads of the Florida State League, making it the only stadium in the country serving as home team to two professional squads. Both teams play 70-game home schedules, part of more than 200 events that are held on the stadium field annually.

We exchanged emails with Marshall, who gives much credit to his full-time crew, Johnny Simmons and Karsten Blackwelder for their dedication:

**ST:** Did you make any adjustments, large or small, to your maintenance plan in 2006? Did you purchase any new equipment or products?

**Jennings:** We didn't make any adjustments to our maintenance plan in 2006. This was only the fourth year that we've had two minor league teams playing a 140-game schedule on the stadium field (in addition to the 32 consecutive Spring Training games). Over the first 3 years, we made the adjustments with fertility and cultural practices and we've seen improvements each year. Knowing that resodding around the homeplate area each year is inevitable, our goal is to reduce the square footage of sod that we replace each year.

**ST:** What are your keys to keeping the infield skin safe and playable through all the games and activities you have on your field? Any advice for someone who will be working a tournament for the first time?

**Jennings:** I don't know if our infield skin maintenance is much different from anyone with a "normal" schedule. We still have to water, scarify, nail drag, roll and add calcined clay as needed. Our biggest challenge is pulling the tarp with all of pop-up showers that we get being so close to the ocean. Obviously with two teams, we have to be ready to pull the tarp every single day since there are no 6 or 8-day road game series.

The second part of this question really doesn't apply to our stadium field.

We have only one tournament a year that involves the stadium field (although the rest of the complex sees tournament action a few times throughout the year). We have only the time that the tournament coordinators allow us to work the fields between games. I'm sure this is the case at most places.

They are trying to play as many games as possible in a short amount of time. They may only allow time to re-chalk the lines and drag the infield, but never time to water the skin between games. The ultimate goal for the tournament coordinators is to finish as many games as possible in order to satisfy all of the players that come from all over the country to play a "guaranteed" number of games. The best advice I could give to someone working a tournament would be to work closely with the directors of the tournament and try to help them run as good of a tournament as possible. Let them know the limits of how much work can be done within a certain time frame if there is inclement weather and just keep an open line of communication with them. While
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most of us don't particularly care for the tournaments, the reality is that they provide a source of revenue for the complex and the community.

ST: What's the greatest pleasure you derive from your job? What's the biggest headache?

Jennings: I would have to say the biggest pleasure derived from this job is the compliments received about the facility. Whether it's the Major League players, high school players, fans who have visited from all over the country, or our own front office staff, the greatest satisfaction comes from knowing that the work of our crew is appreciated.

The biggest headache by far has to be pulling the tarp. In 2005, it was pulled 70 times and 69 times in 2004. There are days in the summer that the weather will be in such a pattern that it will rain at the same time or very near it each day. It's the pop up showers that dump 1 or 2 inches of rain in a short amount of time that we have to watch for. The skies will clear just as quickly as the rain appears. No sooner than the last raindrop hits the ground, the sun will be bearing down in no time. That means the tarp must come off as quickly as possible to avoid burning the turf. Repeat these steps a couple of times each day when we are in that weather pattern and it's enough to drive any sports turf manager insane.

Before a spring game, Jennings and crew were honored for winning the Field of the Year. From 1 to r: former Florida Marlins manager Joe Girardi, crew member Karsten Blackwelder, crew member Johnny Simmons, Marshall Jennings, and St. Louis Cardinals manager Tony LaRusaa.
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For those of you who play golf each year at the Jacobsen/SAFE Golf Tournament, you may know that your golf fees go directly to the SAFE Foundation, a 501(c)3 charity. Through SAFE, its Board of Trustees oversees the funding of scholarships, education, and research. The Foundation's mission is to support sports specific research, educational programs, and environmental concerns to promote user safety. The Foundation has been awarding scholarships to deserving men and women who are pursuing a career as a sports turf manager and to those who are graduate students in research. In addition to the generous donations from Jacobsen for the tournament, the Toro Foundation Giving Program also helps to support the SAFE scholarship program.

For those who are unable to play golf, there is an easy way to contribute to the SAFE Foundation. Simply note your donation on your Membership Renewal Form in the space provided and include the amount in your total. In addition to individual donations, several STMA chapters donate to SAFE annually.

SAFE scholarship winners
SAFE has also provided funding to the STMA Student Challenge, with platinum sponsor Hunter Industries. At the conference, SAFE awarded $4,000 to each of the two winning teams of the Student Challenge to use to develop hands-on learning laboratories at their colleges or universities.

SAFE awarded $12,500 in scholarships to 10 outstanding men and women. The awardees are: Anne Beckingham, SUNY-Delhi; Amy French, Michigan State; Will Jellicorse, University of Tennessee; Jared Knoode, Michigan State; Tyler Mittlestadt, University of Tennessee; Chris Romo, Mt. San Antonio College; Brian Sayers, Michigan State; Ed Schmachtenberger, Mt. San Antonio College; Thomas Serenstis, Penn State; and Adam Thoms, University of Tennessee.

SAFE's future goal is to fund research on significant issues affecting sports field management. Together with STMA and the NIAAA (National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association), SAFE has funded a video on mound-building and home plate maintenance. The video is available for purchase through the STMA website and was offered for sale in the merchandise area at the annual conference.
Profile: **STMA VIRGINIA CHAPTER**

The Virginia Chapter kicked off a new Scholarship Fund initiative, by holding a golf tournament during its Field Days 2006 at Woodberry Forest School. In addition to several athletic fields, Woodberry Forest is blessed to have a lovely 9-hole course that proved to be ideal for the event: not too long, a nice layout but not overly challenging for a bunch of sports field managers better suited to an AFC and rakes.

The 2-day event was held June 13-14, with the Field Day Committee scheduling the tournament the first afternoon, following the morning athletic field irrigation workshop. The Tailgate Reception/Q&A followed.

Tournament format was 4-person “scramble” with a shotgun start and play was completed in a brisk 2 1/2 hours. The shotgun start allowed everyone to finish up at the same time, keeping Field Days on its tight schedule.

As a special twist, one hole, a medium length par 4, was set up as the “sports turf” hole where equipment was used in lieu of golf clubs. Equipment included a wooden baseball bat for the drive (tossed and hit), lacrosse stick for the approach, and a field hockey stick for putting. Not surprisingly, this special hole was the talk of the tournament during dinner. Donated prizes were awarded for 1st place, closest-to-the-pin, and longest drive.

Best news of all, our nine foursomes netted $900 to kickoff the Scholarship Fund.

**FORMING CHAPTERS:**

- **Idaho STMA:** 208/496-2421.
- **Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** 801/422-5467.
- **Nevada STMA Chapter:** 702/433-3113.
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