

## Jacobsen matches golfers' donations

By Patrick Allen

Ninety-five of the one hundred forty-four golfers scheduled to play in the cancelled SAFE/Jacobsen Golf Tournament donated all or part of their registration fees to the Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments (SAFE). Additionally, Jacobsen has generously pledged to match 50% of the \$11,797 donated by the players, meaning a total of \$17,695 has been raised for SAFE. Without a swinging a club or posting a score, the would-be golfers and Jacobsen have made the tournament a tremendous success for another year.

"Having to cancel the tournament for the first time was disappointing for us," says Karla Cuculi, Jacobsen's Director of Marketing Communications. "However, we felt that through matching the donations of the individuals and companies scheduled to compete, Jacobsen could still contribute to the SAFE Foundation at a level similar to years past."

Since the inception of the tournament, the field has grown from fewer than 80 to a full tournament of 144 golfers. "Jacobsen originally hoped to establish a reliable source of income for the SAFE Foundation, and to be able to expand that source in the future," says Monty Montague, regional sales manager out of Phoenix, and organizer of the tournament. Montague continues, "Looking at the numbers, it seems that has been accomplished, and we look forward to hosting a full field in future tournaments."

The prizes that were to be presented to the flight winners were auctioned off in the SAFE Live and Silent Auctions, bringing in more than \$2,000. Montague and his staff worked the crowd on the STMA Exhibition floor, asking people to match the donations of the winning bid for Taylor Made drivers and "rescue" clubs.

The Seventh Annual SAFE/Jacobsen Golf Tournament was scheduled for January 17 at the Quarry Golf Club in San Antonio. The Quarry would have provided a unique golfing experience; the entire back nine plays on the floor of a 100-year old limestone quarry. This golf experience is something that Jacobsen tries to provide for the players each year. "Courses like ChampionsGate last year, which hosts PGA players for the WorldPoints Father/Son Challenge every fall, are always fun. Next year in Phoenix, there are some amazing courses that we are considering, and the players will not be disappointed," says Montague. Jacobsen scours the region hosting the STMA Conference and Exhibition each year for a top-100 course and sometimes one that hosts the PGA Tour.

"One thing is certain; Jacobsen is committed to this tournament and helping the SAFE Foundation to attain its goals year-in, year-out," says Cuculi. SAFE, the students it supports, and the STMA members who tee it up each year couldn't be happier.

Jacobsen manufactures a full range of turf maintenance equipment and vehicles for golf courses, sports fields, and municipal grounds applications. The company markets Jacobsen brand products internationally

## John Mascaro's Photo Quiz

**A**  
**Answer:**  
**from page 14**



The white objects on the turf are mushrooms. This park was created on a former landfill but the landfill was not the culprit for the unexpected mushroom population boom. The landfill was properly capped with an impermeable membrane along with state of the art air scrubber for landfill gas collection.

Drainage lines then were installed over top of the membrane and 14 inches of soil, which was comprised of 65% sand and 35% loam mix with an the organic content of 5-8%, was brought on site. The project was completed in late fall by installing the soil mix but the sod was not put down until a warm Christmas Eve.

When spring came around the sports turf manager was greeted at the park by thousands of newly sprouted mushrooms. As it turns out, some of the organic matter in the soil mix came from compost that apparently also had a few mushroom spores within it. The sports turf manager reduced the amount of irrigation and continued his mowing and after 5 weeks, the mushrooms went away and have never returned.

*Photo submitted by Nick Caggiano, Superintendent, Parks & Recreation Department, Nashua, NH. ■*

If you would like to submit a photograph for John Mascaro's Photo Quiz please send it to Turf-Tec International, John Mascaro, 1471 Capital Circle NW, Suite # 13, Tallahassee, FL 32303 or email to john@turf-tec.com. If your photograph is selected, you will receive full credit. All photos submitted become property of SportsTurf Magazine.

# STMA in Action

through an extensive independent distribution network, and Ransomes brand products through independent distribution in Europe, Middle East and Africa. Jacobsen is a Textron company with headquarters in Charlotte, NC. Additional information is available at [www.jacobsen.com](http://www.jacobsen.com).

The SAFE Foundation (The Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments) was formed in 2000, to serve as the charitable arm of the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA). It was created to provide funds for research, scholarship, and education to help sports turf managers with the challenges they face in managing athletic fields. Since its inception, it has awarded more than \$50,000 in scholarships and grants.

## Golfers donating to SAFE

Mike Andresen	Jerry Carr	Brad Garrison	Don LeMaster
Ty Arndt	Steve Christian	Steve Gilbertson	Jeff Limburg
Rene Asprion	Chris Collier	Jody Gill	Jeff Martin
Bret Baird	Joe Collins	James Goebel	Greg Mayfield
Frederick Ballard	Jeff Cordes	Leo Goertz	Mike McDonald
Bill Barse	Dave Cummings	David Goodwin	Nick McNamee
Brian Blount	Ken Curry	Curt Grieser	Phil McQuade
Jason Bowers	Bob Curry	Dana Grode	Scott Meinke
George Brandt	Scott Cuthbertson	Vince Henderson	Kevin Meredith
Nate Brewinski	Darian Daily	Tim Hightshoe	Dave Minner
Greg Brodd	Chris Des Garennes	Brian Horgan	Deanna Morgan
Michael Buras	Dan Douglas	Tim Hubbard	Colleen Murphy
Tom Burns	Alan Dungey	Todd Jeansonne	Joe Nelson
Chris Calcaterra	Blair Elliott	George Jimenez	Dan Nelson
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Matt Carl	Eric Fasbender	Retha Lachance	Ezra Paddock

Dean Pearson	Ron Reed	Ryan Snead	David Wallace
Ben Polimer	Jimmy Rodgers	Wynne Stallcop	Andrew Walsh
Dwayne Polk	Dave Rulli	Dale Stevens	Matt Warner
Craig Potts	Robert Schillawski	Michael Sullenberger	Travis Waters
Ryan Preister	Mike Schiller	Heather Sullenberger	Lynda Wightman
Chad Price	Eric Schroder	Waldo Terrell	Tom Works
David Quinn	Pat Searight	Mike Trigg	Luke Yoder
William Ratliff	Troy Smith	Peter Van Drumpt	Steve Young

## LeGros joins TURF & dirt Inc.

Steve LeGros is now TURF & dirt's Sports Turf Field Consultant for the Mid-Atlantic Region. LeGros has more than 22 years of experience in sports turf and sports venue management gained through his positions at HERSHEY PARK Stadium, the University of New Hampshire, and Paetec Park soccer stadium. LeGros has managed, constructed and renovated natural grass sports fields and has overseen the construction and maintenance of synthetic athletic field systems.

In 2004 he was recognized by STMA for raising the level of professionalism in the Sports Turf Industry with the Dick Ericson Award.

"I am excited to have such a dedicated and talented professional join Turf & dirt" says Kurt Nilsson, President. "Steve is a major contributor to our industry", says Nilsson, "and his experience in sports field and stadium operations management will be a great benefit to our company. Steve fits the company's vision of providing the best possible customer service to sports turf managers and others who rely on us for their Green Industry needs." LeGros can be reached at [grstains@yahoo.com](mailto:grstains@yahoo.com) or 877-357-4505.

## STMA Chapter News

### STMA Chapters' Profile

Following is an aggregate profile of STMA's affiliated chapters:

Membership Numbers: Range from 30 to 800 members;

\*Median: 114; \*Average: 147

Dues: Students - free to \$20; Professional Members - \$10 to \$50; Commercial \$30 to \$150 (2 members)

#### Average Membership Breakdown by Category

	Chapters	STMA National
Schools:	16 percent	10 percent
Colleges & Universities:	13 percent	15 percent
Parks & Recreation:	32 percent	24 percent
Professional facilities:	5 percent	15 percent
Students:	4 percent	10 percent
Academic:	3 percent	3 percent
Commercial:	27 percent	23 percent
Percent of Chapters that award scholarships:		63 percent
Chapter Board Meeting frequency:	Bi annually	15 percent
	Quarterly	33 percent
	Monthly	30 percent
	Bi-monthly	22 percent

Chapter Event frequency: Average of 5 events per year.

\*Eliminates the high outlier and the low outlier

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**Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:**  
[www.azstma.com](http://www.azstma.com).

**Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization - MAFMO Chapter STMA):**  
[www.ccstma.org](http://www.ccstma.org).

**Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
[www.cstma.org](http://www.cstma.org).

**Florida #1 Chapter:**  
954/782-2748

**Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
[www.gatewaystma.org](http://www.gatewaystma.org).

**Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
706/542-7859.

**The Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
562/985-8586.

## Illinois Chapter

STMA: 847/263-7603.

## Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:

www.imstma.org.

## Iowa Sports Turf Managers

Association: www.iowaturfgrass.org.

## Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA):

www.KAFMO.org.

## Kentucky Sports Turf Managers

Association: www.kystma.org.

## Michigan Sports Turf Managers

Association (MiSTMA): www.mistma.org.

## Minnesota Chapter STMA:

www.mstma.org.

## MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers

Association: www.mokanstma.com.

## New England STMA (NESTMA):

www.nestma.org.

## Nebraska Sports Turf Managers

Association: 402/441-4425.

## North Florida STMA Chapter:

850/580-4026.

## Northern California STMA:

916/366-8350.

## Ozarks STMA: 417/862-6974.

## Sports Turf Managers of New York:

www.stmony.org.

## Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey:

www.sfmnj.org.

## Ohio Sports Turf Managers

Association (OSTMA): www.ostma.org.

## Pacific Northwest Sports Turf

Managers Association: www.pnwstma.org.

## Southern California Chapter:

www.socalstma.com.

## South Carolina Chapter of STMA:

www.scastma.org.

## Texas Sports Turf Managers

Association: 866/897-8621.

## Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers

Association (TVSTMA): www.tvstma.org.

## Virginia Sports Turf Managers

Association: http://www.vstma.org.vt.edu/.

## Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers

Association: www.wstma.org.

## FORMING CHAPTERS:

Nevada STMA Chapter: 702/433-3113.



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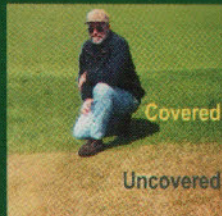
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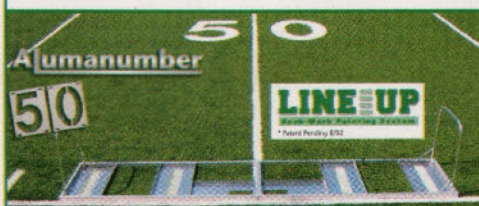
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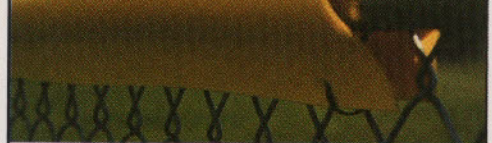
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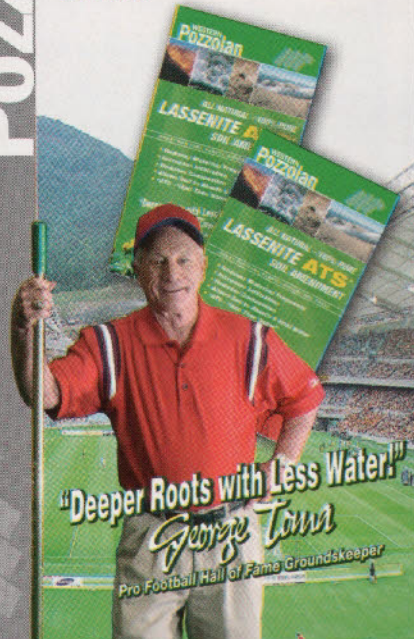
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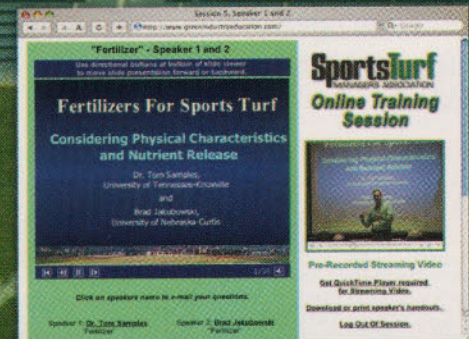
- Speaker 1- Floyd Perry, Grounds Maintenance Services
- Speaker 2 - Dr. Grady Miller, University of Florida
- Speaker 3 - John Mascaro, Turf-Tec International
- Speaker 4 - Dr. John Cisar, University of Florida

Session OC02 - Parks & Recreation

- Speaker 1 - Preston Courtney, Disney Wide World of Sports
- Speaker 2 - Floyd Perry, Grounds Maintenance Services
- Speaker 3 - Bill Berry, City of Rock Hill
- Speaker 4 - Richard Sanger, Sarasota County

Workshop OC03 - Developing A Master Plan

- Speaker 1- Francois Hebert, Consultant



Workshop OC04 - Building Athletic Fields

- Speaker 1 - Dr. Chuck Darrah, CLC Labs
- Speaker 2 - Boyd R. Montgomery II, The Toro Company
- Speaker 3 - Mark Heinlein, The Motz Group

Workshop OC05 - Fertilizer

- Speaker 1 - Brad Jakubowski, University of Nebraska
- Speaker 2 - Dr. Tom Samples, University of Tennessee

Demonstration OC06 - Outdoor Demonstrations

- Speaker 1 - Dr. Roch Gaussoin
- Speaker 2 - Floyd Perry, Grounds Maintenance Services
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## Field Vandalism

SportsTurf recently received a question about vandalism. The issue related to a person that drove on a field with a car or truck and maliciously spun "donuts." The specific question related to the charges filed and recouping repair cost. While the question was great, as an agronomist I am significantly more qualified to address repairing the field than the legal aspects.



**BY DR. GRADY MILLER**  
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I would imagine that many of you have come into work on a Monday morning and found that some knucklehead decided that your beautifully manicured field was an ideal spot to try and replicate the Olympic rings by spinning his tires. It seems that athletic fields and golf course greens provide too much temptation for some people.

I suspect the first thing most field managers do as they survey the damage is utter something about the questionable ancestry of the perpetrator. Depending on the extent of damage, it just became anywhere from a one to ten antacid day. Once you calm down, you should call your supervisor and the local sheriff's office to report the vandalism. You may want to make phone calls to inquire about insurance coverage. After you finish the initial calls, I suggest you take a set of digital pictures of the damage from several angles. Include some common object for a size reference. The pictures may be needed for insurance and/or legal proceedings.

Before discussing field repair, let's set up a few potential scenarios: 1) A dry field so damage is mostly to turfgrass surface, minimum surface depressions; 2) damage to turf and tire depressions from a quarter to half an inch deep; and 3) field was wet such that perpetrator's vehicle was at least momentarily stuck before they were able to "spin it free."

Along with these scenarios, there is an issue of how long you have before the field is needed for the next major event (i.e., was this in the off-season or a day before a scheduled championship game). A third issue that can impact repair and recovery relates to the location of the damage and the percentage of the field affected. If you're lucky the perpetrators just targeted your endzone logo, although there seems to be some sort of magnetism to the center of a field.

In scenario one, it is probably sufficient to topdress the field as you normally would to fill uneven areas. Use a soil amount similar to what you use as part of your normal cultural practice. A normal aeration would also be beneficial. I would also suggest fertilizing the field to promote turf recovery, especially if your field is a (non-dormant) bermudagrass field. If your field is a cool-season grass, then I would suggest re-seeding the damaged area. You are basically treating the field as if you have just had a hard game that resulted in heavy divoting.

If the damage has resulted in tire depressions or rutting that is deeper than your normal sand topdressing, then the depressions will have to be filled. Before you begin to fill



these ruts, I would suggest you take a spading fork and work the soil depressions made by the tires similar to how a golfer fixes a ball mark on a green. This will alleviate some of the compaction while mending the turf along the rut's edge. If the rutting is over a significant area, then a mechanical core aerifier may also be used to reduce the compaction. But in most cases using the spading fork will likely give better results.

If the field is bermudagrass and damage occurred during its growing season, and you have several weeks before the field is needed, then the ruts may be filled with a soil similar to your field's soil and you can re-grow in those areas. If time is an issue, then sod may be used to replace the damaged grass. It is usually best to take sod from the field sidelines so that the replacement grass and soil match what is on the field.

If the field is overseeded bermudagrass or a cool-season grass, you can put down the sod or re-seed the rutted areas, depending on the amount of time you have available for the turf to grow before the field is used. Note that immature grass will likely look and play a little differently. Until the grass matures, it will likely be a lighter green color than the rest of the field and will be more prone to divoting. I have seen some instances where the damaged areas have taken a year or more before matching the surrounding turf. Using green turf paint can be used to blend the areas in the short term.

The third scenario is the most troublesome because significant damage to the soil profile can result in long-term negative response. There is also the potential of drainage tile and irrigation line damage. These components should be inspected as best you can before field repair is started. If they are not damaged, repairs to the field can be initiated much like in the previous scenario. While backfilling these ruts and re-establishing grass can provide a successful fix, the only way to ensure field uniformity is to do a total renovation.

No matter what renovation measures are used, the field should receive increased attention for the first 6 months to year following the repair. To ensure uniform turf and try to prevent soil layering, frequent core cultivation, topdressing, and rolling will be necessary. Maybe now is the time to consider putting a fence around your fields. ■





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