

Staying informed just got easier

Visit us at our new home on the Web

www.sportsturfonline.com

Through www.sportsturfonline.com, our goal is to provide relevant content that will enhance our audience's ability to work smarter. This information includes advice from industry professionals, coverage of specific projects, details on the latest products and innovations, and news from around the world. We encourage visitors to share their experiences with us to help create what we hope will be engaging discussions about the important issues facing our industry.





Future Home of the Cleveland Indians Spring Training Ballpark



Construction Manager: Barton Malow

1620 W. Fountainhead Pkwy.
Suite 601
Tempe, Arizona 85282
(480) 422-7400
www.bartonmalow.com

**Barton
Malow**
Construction Services



Architect:
HOK Sport
300 Wyandote
Suite 300
Kansas City, Missouri 64105
(816) 221-1500
www.hoksport.com



Thank You Wood Family for Your Generous Land Donation!

Tribe building new complex in Arizona

By Chris Harrison

Some people want to live in a community built around a golf course. Goodyear, AZ is betting that people will want to live in a community built around a baseball field.

The Cleveland Indians are building a new stadium in Goodyear, a suburb of Phoenix on a 242-acre site about 30 miles west of downtown Phoenix. The 10,000-seat

stadium will be the centerpiece of a project called Ballpark Village.

Ground was broken in 2007 and the Indians hope to play at their new home starting next year, in the spring of 2009. That will make them the 13th team in the Cactus League.

In all, there will be six fields at Ballpark Village. "This isn't just a spring training facility," says Jim Folk, the Indians' vice president

of ballpark operations. He notes that the team will have a complete player development complex about a quarter-mile from the ballpark.

Folk says the complex will be used for instructional league play, rehabilitation for players, and as a facility where players can work on their skills during the off-season.

The vision, Folk continues, is that players will relocate to the area and be able to work at the facility with the Indians staff on a year-

round basis. It will be more convenient for the players. "It's a great opportunity for us to enhance player development," he says.

"We will have one practice field that will be virtually identical to Progressive Field (the team's home field in Cleveland)," Folk says. The other five fields will be standard ball fields. In addition, there will be batting tunnels, pitching mounds, agility fields and the workout and rehabilitation facilities that are part of a modern ball club.

Viewing the fields

The turf for the Stadium field and the practice fields is being grown by West Coast Turf Farms. It is a Tifway 419 bermudagrass.

Through the winter, the bermuda was dormant. However, they are taking bimonthly soil samples for analysis of the growing medium.

"Tifway normally goes dormant through the winter in Arizona," says Joe Traficano, sales manager for West Coast Turf's Arizona

operations. Tifway has been around for decades and is a proven sports field performer. It has a medium-fine texture, and rich dark green color. In addition to baseball fields, it commonly is used for golf course tees and fairways.

In the spring, when the grass comes back, it will be mowed every other day at a height of one-half inch.

The grass is fed via fertigation with some supplemental granular material based on soil test. "Typically, we'll use a 10-34-0 analysis and perhaps some 21-0-0 ammonium sulfate," Traficano continues. "It might be a bit different based on the soil test."

They also run close checks on the micronutrients like calcium, sodium, and magnesium.

While bermudagrass typically would be overseeded in the winter, that step was skipped this season since there is no need to keep the green color. "It will green up in the spring," Traficano says.

The grass should be ready for harvest by late April or very early May. The 419 has a dense, rapidly spreading growth habit. It is known as a tough, durable variety with quick recovery from injury. Other factors that account for its popularity in sports settings are its tolerance for close mowing and its disease resistance. Tifway 419 likes to be mowed at heights from 3/8 inch to 1 inch.

It thrives in full sun (in fact, it will not do well in shade).

While it does require a degree of maintenance, and will be highly maintained in the Stadium field, it will not break the budget for a city looking at a turf that will be both functional and economical.

Each of the fields is roughly two acres. When it comes time to harvest the sod, it will take about 2 days to harvest, deliver, and install sod for each field.

"We are planning on taking 2 weeks (to sod the ball fields)," Traficano says. The tim-

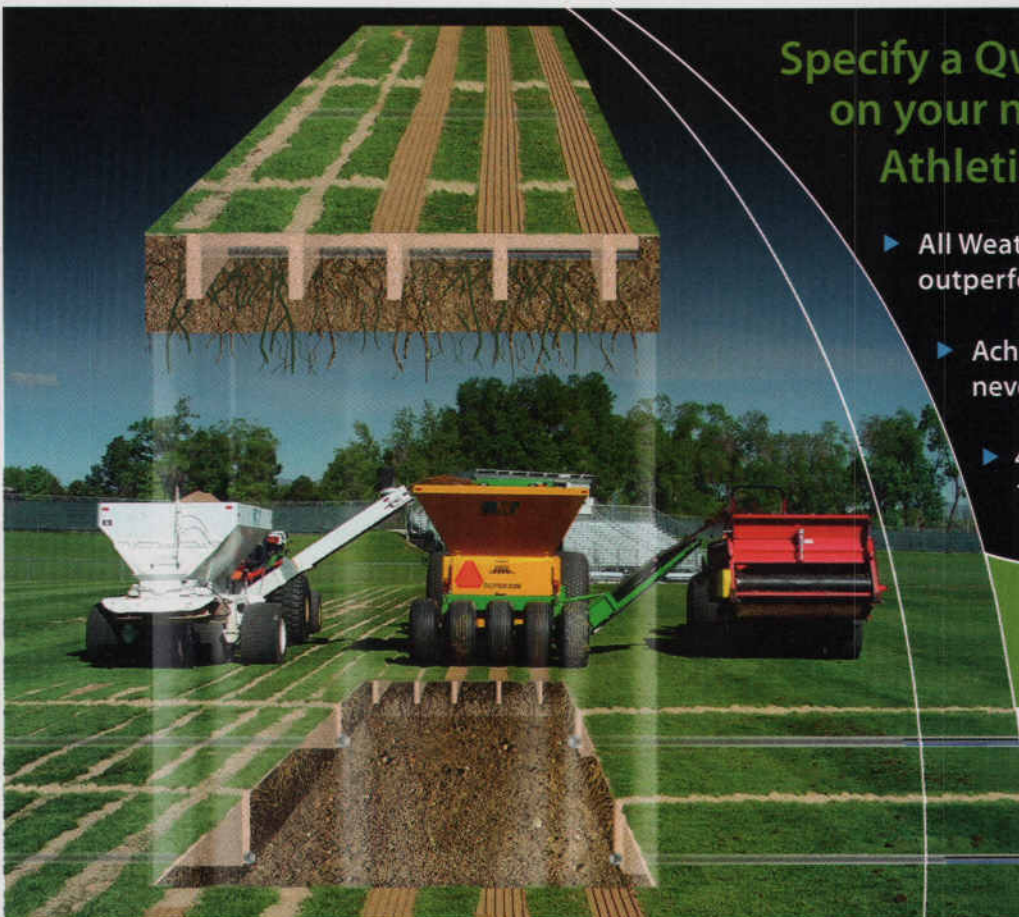
Specify a QwikDRAIN System on your next Natural Grass Athletic Facility . . .

- ▶ All Weather, High Performance that outperforms World Cup Class Fields
- ▶ Achieve maximum Sustainability never before seen in Natural Turf
- ▶ 4 times the Performance for 1/2 the cost of Sand Based Fields

QwikDRAIN SYSTEMS

www.qwikdrainsystems.com

1.888.567.6872



Fill in 125 on reader service form or visit <http://oners.hotims.com/14680-125>



West Coast Turf Farms is supplying the Tifway 419.

ing will actually depend on how quickly the rest of the project is completed. The turf installer is typically the last contractor on the job, following the sand, irrigation, and warning track installation. "We're the caboose of a big train," Traficano laughs. "But I want to be done by July so they can make their August turnover date."

A lot of preparation has gone into making it a success.

Stadium design

The design work was done by HOK Sport, Kansas City, the same outfit that designed the team's Cleveland home, Progressive Field. Also on the design team was Terra Sport, Port Charlotte, FL. The general contractor on the job is Phoenix-based Barton-Alow.

"Our association with Progressive Field did not hurt any," acknowledges Brian Smith, senior associate with HOK Sport. "But the

project I would most liken this one to is the stadium in Surprise (Arizona) that we did for the Royals and Rangers 5 years ago."

There are differences between the Stadium field and the six practice fields, although the latter are all similar.

"The dimensions on the ballparks will be fairly generic," Smith continues. No effort made to design a field with any remarkable dimensions or construction differences.

"We were striving for a solid design," Smith says. "They are fairly prototypical in that there is nothing eye-catching about the fields."

There was still some question at press time as to whether the same sod will be used on all of the stadiums. "That would be the ideal situation," Traficano says, looking at both installation and on-going maintenance. "It makes sense to do that."

The Stadium field itself is designed to major league standards. There will be a 4-inch gravel drainage base with a perforated pipe under-drain system.

Above that is the 10-inch rootzone that will drain to the lower level.

"We'll skinny the rootzone to 8 inches on the practice fields," Smith says. The six full-size practice fields and the one half-field will otherwise be about the same as the Stadium field.

The two major league fields will be

reserved for use by the Indians year-round. The six practice fields will be for minor league and community use. There is no specific local commitment yet on those fields. At present, the city is hoping to use them for senior tournaments and community recreational use.

"This isn't just a spring training facility."

— Jim Folk

Beyond baseball

There is more than baseball at Ballpark Village. Spearheaded by the City of Goodyear, Ballpark Village will be a first of its kind mixed-use development anchored by the 10,000-seat ballpark and practice facilities for the Indians and, potentially, a second

Major League Baseball team. The first phase of the project will be the construction of the Spring Training ballpark and practice facilities. Subsequent phases will be private, mixed-use development including residential, retail, hotel, and conference facilities, and Class A office serving Phoenix area residents and visitors.

"The City is doing all of the heavy lifting on this project," Folk says. "Their people are terrific." Of course, the Indians have input into what happens at the ball field.

In a way, this move back to Arizona will be a homecoming for the Indians. They trained a bit farther south, in Tucson, until 1993. Their current spring home is in Winter Haven, FL. They moved there after the Homestead, FL, site they had built was destroyed by Hurricane Andrew.

A private consortium that includes Goodyear-based developer Rose Properties Southwest, LLC; the Wood family, fourth-

COMBINATOR

STRIP IT...

SANDMASTER

DRAIN IT...

AFT TRENCHER

TRENCH IT.

864.225.3666
www.blecusa.com

RESHAPING THE FACE OF NATURE
BLEC
USA, INC.

Fill in 126 on reader service form or visit <http://oners.hotims.com/14680-126>

1988

2008

WORLD CLASS
athleticsurfaces

20th Anniversary

Do Your Field A Favor.....
Choose WORLD CLASS

WORLD CLASS
athleticsurfaces
1-800-748-9649

Aerosol Paints • Bulk Paints • Custom Stencils
www.worldclasspaints.com • 1-800-748-9649

Fill in 127 on reader service form or visit <http://oners.hotims.com/14680-127>



Latest look at Goodyear project. Courtesy JMI Sports LLC.

generation owners of the underlying property; and San Diego-based JMI Sports LLC, received the green light to advance the design and construction of the Spring Training complex and surrounding private development. The City also authorized the issuance of up to \$10 million in bonds for ballpark development and approved a special use agreement with the Indians for 14 games to be played each season through 2029.

"There have been a number of successful field projects in the Cactus League that have been great for their communities," notes Erik Judson principal in JMI Sports. He points to Surprise and Peoria as two such projects. "The region has a long track record of successes," he continues.

JMI made its name in San Diego with the successful conception and implementation of master-planning the redevelopment of the surrounding neighborhoods when building PETCO Park. JMI was hired by the City of Goodyear to be the project manager.

Goodyear's own people will oversee the installation of the sod. They have experts on staff who are knowledgeable about bermudagrass in Arizona.

Upon installation, the sod will be one-half inch thick. "That is mostly root mass,"

Traficano says. The sod will be laid in strips 42-inches wide and 100 feet long. "That's 350-400 square feet," he continues.

To cover the 88,000 square feet will take about 200 rolls.

"We'll do the infield first," Traficano says. That is the toughest job since it has the most cuts. Then they will do the apron and finally will roll out the outfield.

"We want the base to be at field capacity...as close to flooding as we can get it."
— Traficano

One thing Traficano demands is a wet sand base. "We want the base to be at field capacity . . . as close to flooding as we can get it," he says. This is to eliminate ruts from equipment in the base. Even a slightly dry sand base will even leave footprint marks that will disrupt the installation.

"That's the number one thing that can cause issues," Traficano says. Otherwise, he sees a typical installation.

Where this project is different, Judson

says, is that there will be more, higher-density development around the sports facility. Judson sees the likelihood of a couple of million square feet of office, entertainment, hotel and residential development over the coming many years.

"It's important to provide the amenities," Judson continues. "This will be a great civic gathering place for games, of course, but also for the rest of the year. The ballpark will be the catalyst for this."

The result, he predicts, will be a "cool, active environment."

"This speaks to the vision of the community of Goodyear," Judson says. "They are learning from the successes of other communities in the Valley of the Sun (Phoenix area) and are trying to improve upon that."

The field should be good for the Indians, too. In fact, Smith went out on a limb about the new design and said it "guarantees" that the Indians will win a World Series the season that they start practicing in the new facility.

"Tell Jim Folk he can take that to the bank," Smith laughs. ■

Chris Harrison is a veteran free lance writer on turf issues.

NTEP Policy Committee slates upcoming trials, new trials

The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) Policy Committee met in February and slated trials in 2008 including bentgrass (putting green and fairway/tee) and fineleaf fescue. Each trial will include a total 17 trial locations, which includes several ancillary trials sites. Ancillary trials test cultivar response to specific stresses or under unique environmental conditions. For example, the bentgrass and fineleaf fescue ancillary trials will be conducted on one site each that is irrigated with saline or recycled irrigation water.

Other ancillary trials will focus tolerance to stresses such as snow mold (bentgrass putting green), traffic (bentgrass putting green and fineleaf fescue); and shade (bentgrass fairway/tee and fineleaf fescue). In addition, two bentgrass putting green locations will be established on courses where they will receive golf traffic.

Other items discussed during the meeting include NTEP's efforts to strengthen its data collection protocols and methods, visits to NTEP trial sites and two new trials in the planning stages. These new "trait specific trials" (see below) focus on the evaluation of drought tolerance and traffic tolerance, over multiple species.

The Policy Committee also took its cultivar testing in a new direction by establishing a new program, Trait Specific Trials (TSTs). Trait Specific Trials focus on the evaluation of specific traits or stresses, comparing multiple species in the same trial at several locations. NTEP feels that the TST program will address the demands of the American consumer by identifying grasses with improved tolerance to stresses such as low-quality irrigation water, low maintenance, drought, etc. ■

NTEP is excited to be partnering with the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA), through the SAFE (Safer Athletic Fields Environment) foundation, in developing and funding the traffic tolerance trials. STMA members and turfgrass researchers with traffic tolerance experience will be involved in determining trial protocols and locations.

AerWay®

AerWay® venting tines can be used all season to keep the soil surface open. Water and nutrient applications are more efficient because they are absorbed immediately into the soil profile.

AerWay® saves water, nutrient and chemical costs



for more information call

1-800-457-8310

Advanced Aeration Systems

www.aerway.com email: aerway@aerway.com

Fill in 128 on reader service form or visit <http://oners.hotims.com/14680-128>

Hydraway™

Drainage Systems

Hydraway Drainage Systems Can Solve the Most Demanding Drainage Applications!

"We have used other drainage systems in the past. We chose Hydraway for basically three reasons. First, Hydraway system has far greater strength than the other products. This is important because construction loads are very demanding. Secondly the "in-flow" rate is very high, it re-assuring that we know that the Hydraway System handle as much flow as possible. Lastly, we realize an economic savings when we use Hydraway, not only in its initial cost, but also its ease of installation saves on the labor costs."

Chuck Morris P.E. - President
JEM Morris Construction
Chicago, IL



1-800-223-7015
www.hydraway.net

Fill in 129 on reader service form or visit <http://oners.hotims.com/14680-129>



How a one-man operation paints his fields

ners; at least three 300-foot tape measures, preferably metal; aerosol turf paint; an aerosol turf paint line marker; and a current rule book with field dimensions for each sport.

"Since usually I'm a one-man show I need 5000 feet of string so can string all lines on field and paint all at once. Generally I will aerosol all lines on field first then will follow with Kromer that holds 30 gallons of paint and do three or four fields at once.

"I have had greatest success with Pioneer Brite stripe paint for brightest lines and easy clean up. That paint is wicked bright. During times of heavy turf growth I have mixed a little Primo TGR with paint to help keep

from mowing off lines.

"The key I find to successful painting is taking time and having nice weather; now if I only had more time and lived where the weather is always nice. One thing that I cannot live without is aerosol paint because here in New England the weather is not always dry. The other thing I cannot live without is the Kromer. Being that I'm using 60 gallons a week, without it I'd spend all week painting and not much more than that and I like mowing and all the rest that goes along with it.

"Currently we are set for two baseball, one softball and eight lacrosse, so there is a lot of painting. Being efficient helps our fields look their best all the time." ■

We asked Field of the Year winner Peter Thibeault, CSFM of the Noble & Greenough School in Dedham, MA how he, as a one-man operation, prepares to paint his fields:

"Here's some things that are necessary: dense, healthy athletic turf; a good breakfast (because I'm about to do a lot of walking); about 5000 feet of string spooled onto an old hose reel; 30 nails for holding string (see photo); coffee cans filled with cement to make permanent field cor-

TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

New, small Bobcat skid steer

New, small Bobcat skid steer Bobcat Company introduces the S70, the smallest model in the company's line of skid-steer loaders. It can fit in many areas where

other equipment cannot, and has a rated operating capacity of 700 pounds and is powered by a 23.5-horsepower diesel engine that powers a fully hydrostatic, four-wheel drive system with a travel speed of 6.1 miles per hour. With an operating weight of 2,845 pounds, the S70 is also easy to transport.

Bobcat Company

For information, fill in 054 on reader service form or see

<http://www.oners.hotims.com/14680-054>



Deere backpack blower

John Deere's BP65LE Backpack Blower features a 64.7-cc John Deere M-Series low emission engine, 190-mph air velocity and 630-cfm air volume at the end of the tube. Comfortable, padded backpack harness absorbs vibration for all-day comfort, and fully adjustable straps fit every size. Electronic ignition for low maintenance. Air jet pulls air over the user's back for cooler, more comfortable operation.

John Deere

For information, fill in 055 on reader service form or see

<http://www.oners.hotims.com/14680-055>



TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

New Titan Split tine

Toro has a new aeration tine with core-splitting technology, the Titan Split Tine, which simultaneously splits the core as it is pulled, breaking the core into smaller pieces. The smaller, partial cores created by the split tine are much easier to manage and will require significantly less time to dry. Quicker drying time means less waiting before processing, allowing you to complete the aeration process sooner and get your turf back in play.

The Toro Company

For information, fill in **056** on reader service form or see

<http://www.oners.hotims.com/14680-056>



New Titan HydroSeeder

The all-new Finn Titan HydroSeeder package is loaded with a Tier III 170-hp engine; hefty pump configuration; dual discharge capabilities; independently controlled 3rd agitator; larger hatch and fillport; operator remote controlling system; advanced tank top support system; and more.

Finn Corporation

For information, fill in **058** on reader service form or see

<http://www.oners.hotims.com/14680-058>



Eco-Liner SP athletic field marker

Newstripe's new Eco-Liner SP is a walk-behind striper adds the speed and convenience of being self-propelled. With the Qwik-Lock hands-free spray trigger, the unit offers the convenience of activating the spray trigger just once without having to continually squeeze the trigger while striping. A second squeeze of the trigger stops the spray. Weighing 125 lbs. the unit is maneuverable and easy to control.

Newstripe

For information, fill in **070** on reader service form or see

<http://www.oners.hotims.com/14680-070>



EnkamatPlus®
Sideline Mat & Concert Cover

New & Improved

Tougher
fabric for the
Toughest
crowd

Toll Free: 800-365-7391
Web: www.colbond-usa.com **COLBOND**

Fill in **130** on reader service form or visit <http://www.oners.hotims.com/14680-130>

Honda trimmer

The HHT35S handheld trimmer is the most powerful trimmer in Honda Power Equipment's lineup and uses Honda's 360cc inclinable GX35 mini four-stroke engine known for its low noise level, low vibration level, and ease of starting. This model effectively bridges the weight gap with the two-stroke competition while delivering all the advantages of a four-stroke engine.

Honda Power Equipment

For information, fill in **060** on reader service form or see

<http://www.oners.hotims.com/14680-060>



New Redmax blower

RedMax introduces the ergonomically designed EBZ7100 backpack blower. The 64.9cc Strato-Charged "Green" engine moves up to 812 CFM of air at up to 205 MPH. With fewer moving parts, this engine requires less maintenance than its 4-cycle counterparts. No valve maintenance is required and the engine delivers improved fuel savings. An oversized, 2-stage fresh flow air filter system keeps debris from clogging the engine.

RedMax

For information, fill in **061** on reader service form or see

<http://www.oners.hotims.com/14680-061>



Tailgate mount for Giant-Vac

The new Giant-Vac Tailgate Mount Truck Loader quickly loads leaves and debris into a truck. The combination of the retractable discharge nozzle with the swivel discharge stack is designed to make it easier to unload the debris at the dumpsite without removing the unit. The new Industrial Skid Mount is available with a powerful 10-hp Kohler/Yamaha Command Pro engine.

Giant-Vac

For information, fill in **062** on reader service form or see

<http://www.oners.hotims.com/14680-062>



New Turf Tender blender option

Dakota Peat & Equipment has introduced a blender option for the 440 Turf Tender that allows you to blend materials on site. Blender can mix the perfect 90:10 topdressing mix or a wide variety of other materials including colored mixes with the sprayer option. The blender can mix at speeds as low as 1 ton per hour for small jobs like divot mixes or can mix as high as 60 tons per hour for bigger jobs.

Dakota Peat & Equipment

For information, fill in **063** on reader service form or see

<http://www.oners.hotims.com/14680-063>

