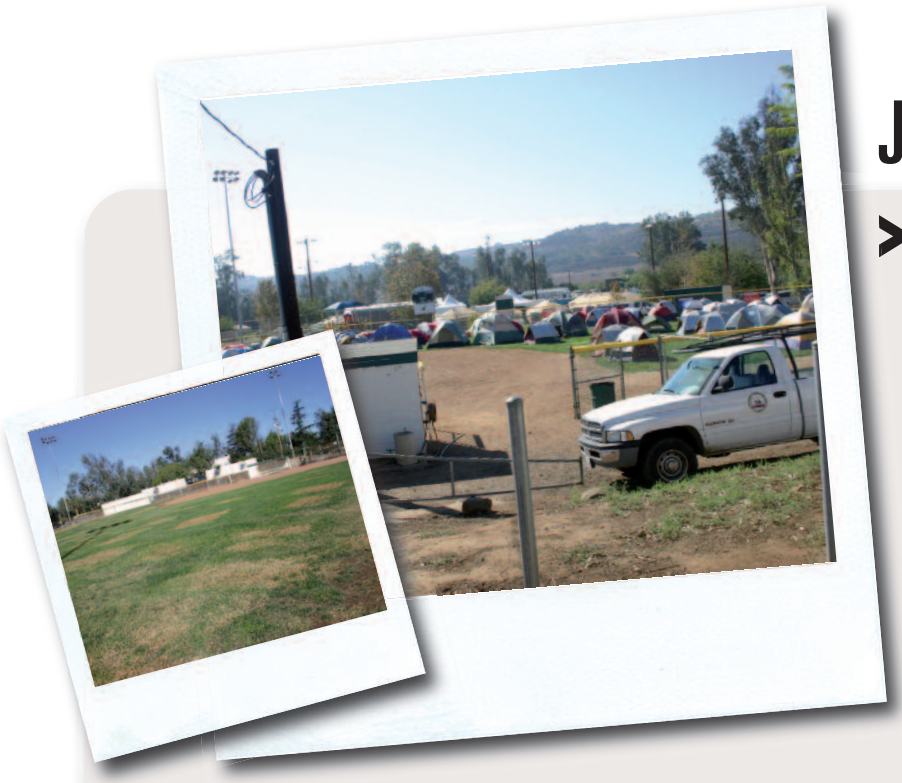


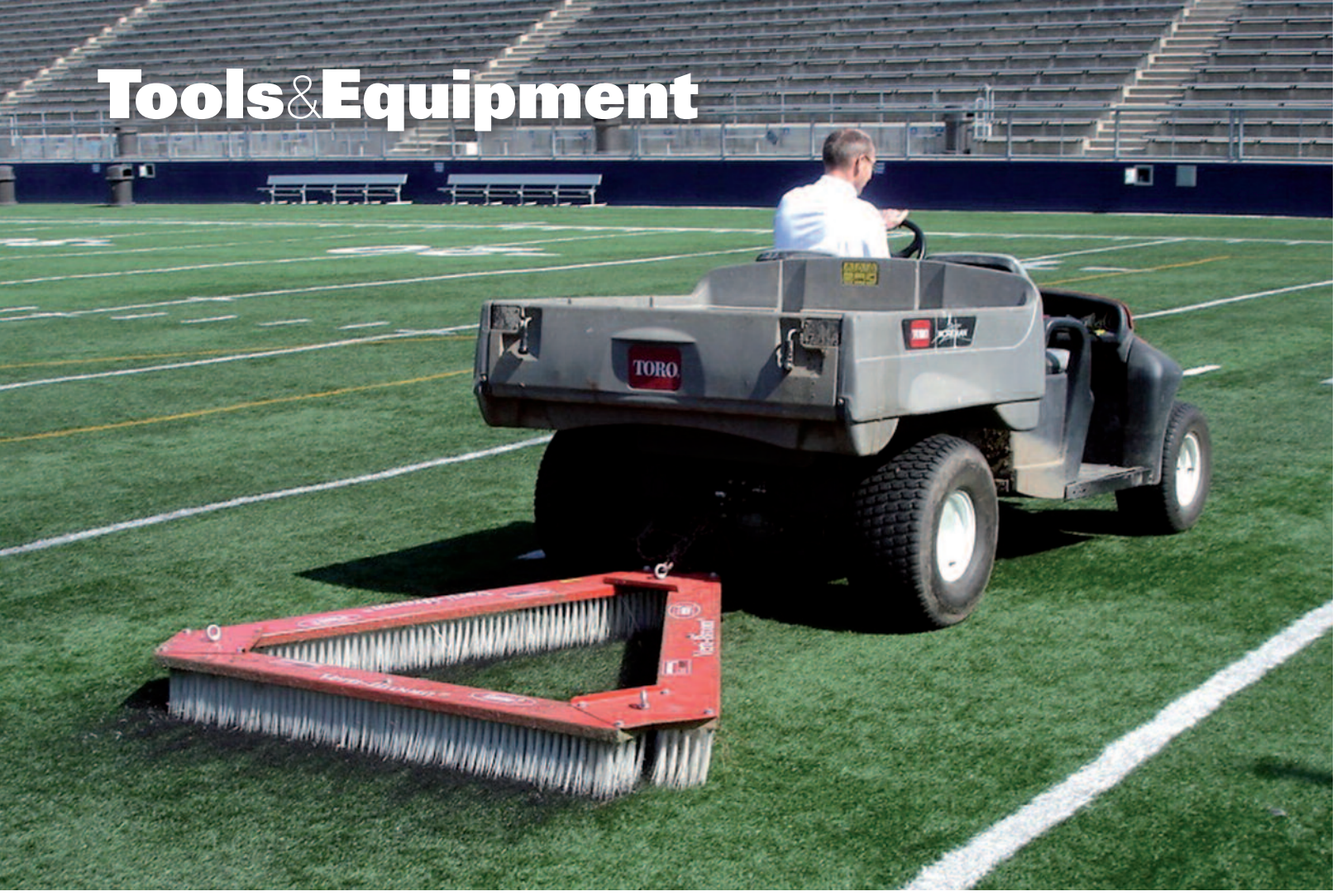
John Mascaro's Photo Quiz

>> Answer: from page 15

The brown square areas are the result of tent damage. No, this is not a Boy Scout jamboree that overstayed its welcome. During the October 2007 Poomacha Fire in Southern California, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection occupied the Valley Center Parks and Recreation District's headquarters office and 5 Little League baseball diamonds for 3 weeks. During that time, the firemen had pitched their tents on the athletic fields and front lawn area using almost the entire 9.5 acre park. The fire burned almost 50,000 acres and destroyed 138 homes and a business. After the fire crews went home, the damaged field areas were aerated and then manually seeded with annual and perennial rye; then hydro-seeded with a cool season mix. Fields were then closed down for 8 weeks to allow for growth. Cal Fire paid for the repairs.

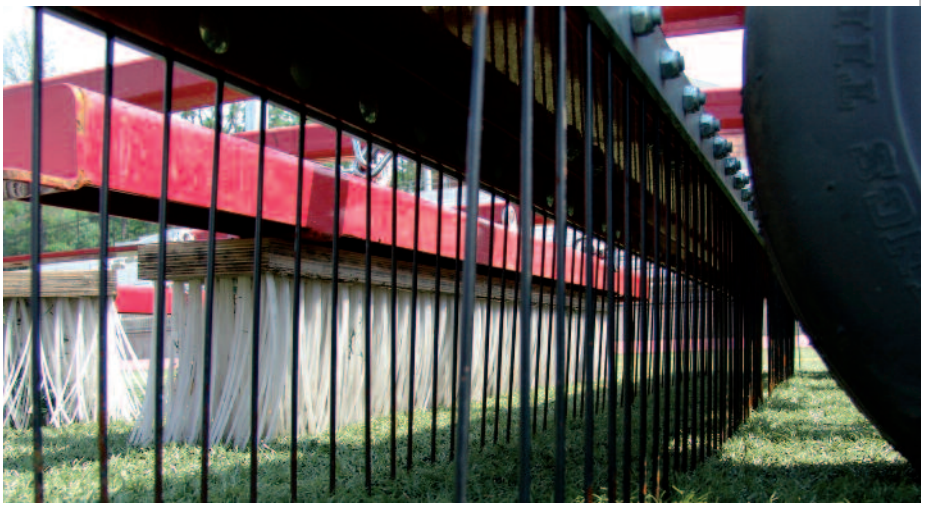
Photo submitted by Douglas H. Johnsen, General Manager of Valley Center Parks & Recreation District, Valley Center, CA.

If you would like to submit a photograph for John Mascaro's Photo Quiz please send it to John Mascaro, 1471 Capital Circle NW, Ste # 13, Tallahassee, FL 32303 call (850) 580-4026 or email to john@turf-tec.com. If your photograph is selected, you will receive full credit. All photos submitted will become property of *SportsTurf* magazine and the Sports Turf Managers Association.



>> **Above: A SIMPLE DRAG BRUSH** is a great way to groom the field and return carpet fibers to their upright position
>> **Below: PULLING SPRING TINES THROUGH THE UPPER INFILL MIX** is the only way to relieve compaction and lower GMAX concerns.

Always put a rope through the spring tines in case one comes loose or breaks.

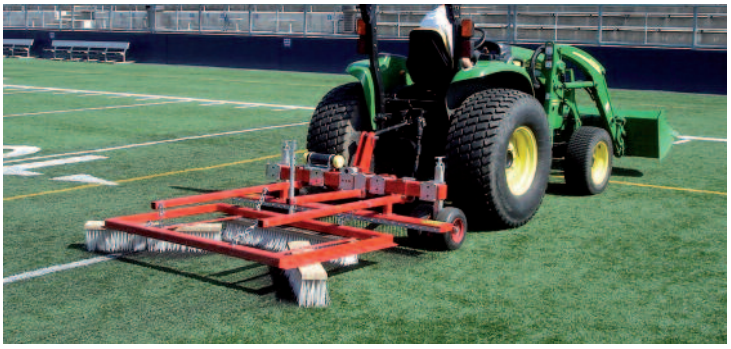


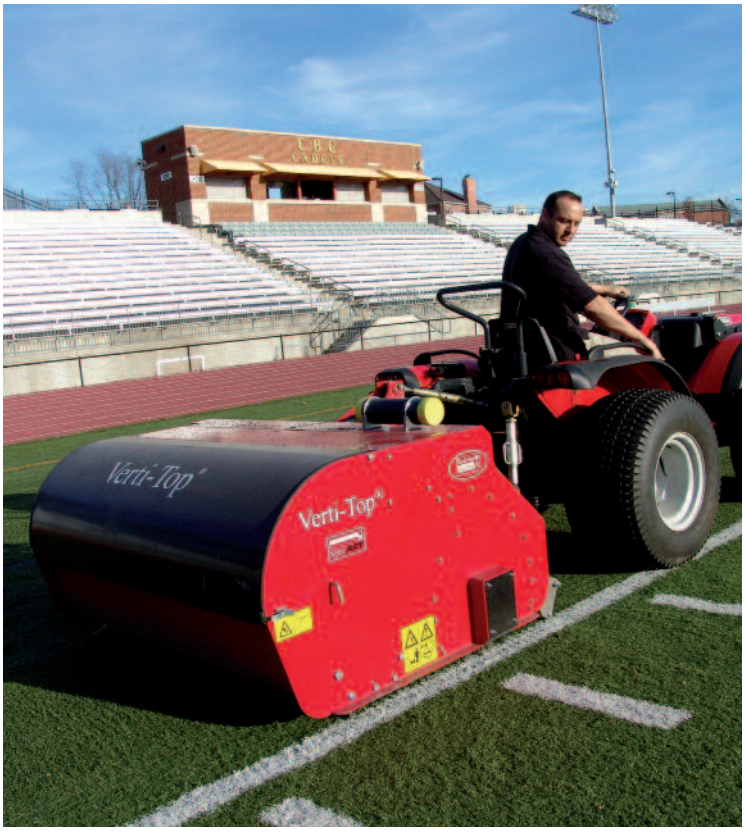
basic components of field preservation:

- Keep the surface free of debris
- Keep the fibers in an upright position
- Keep the infill free of compaction

To keep the surface free of debris, it is obvious that the debris must be removed. Organic material such as leaves should not be allowed to remain on the surface for any length of time. They can start to decompose and wander into the infill system, which can impede drainage on the field.

Some companies may instruct the owner to use a brush or backpack blower to remove the material from the surface. This may work for larger items, but when small debris such as sunflower seeds are a problem, a blower just moves the pollutant from one spot to another. To properly remove debris it is recommended to use a mechanical sweeper or vacuum to collect and remove the material. The amount of maintenance needed varies from location to location, but clearly a maintenance machine must be well maintained and the instructions must be carefully followed as to not cause any damage to the playing surface.





>> **Above: CONSIDER WHAT EQUIPMENT YOU'LL NEED** for a maintenance program when purchasing a new field.

>> **Right: SIDELINE AREAS** require special attention due to litter such as tape, sunflowers seeds, water cups, etc.

Regular grooming is a must to keep the carpet fibers in an upright position. If an artificial playing surface is not regularly groomed with a proper drag brush the surface will become slick and the fibers will wear prematurely. If the fibers are allowed to lay-over and remain bent too long they may be difficult to stand upright again, so they need regular attention. A drag brush can easily be found that can be used behind any power unit, including small tractors, utility vehicles, golf carts or even small mowers. Dragging will improve footing, redistribute infill, reduce static electricity, and improve the look of the playing surface.

Just like natural turf, all types of infill become compacted in time. Through research we know that GMAX ratings over 200, measured with a Clegg Drop hammer, pose greater risks for athletes. To reduce the compaction levels it is imperative to use a drag brush with spring tines to loosen the infill mix. The infill mixes that use sand, or a sand/rubber mix tend to see higher GMAX levels due to their design. They use sand not only as a weighted base, but to make the infill stiffer for a faster and harder playing surface.

When planning a synthetic system purchase, make sure to include the price of these three machines for proper maintenance. The maintenance program will not only provide a better looking and safer playing surface, but it is also an investment to insure a longer life for your surface.

When making a purchasing decision remember to ask these key questions:

- Can I do my own maintenance?
- Is there a recommended maintenance program?
- Is there a recommended or approved list of maintenance equipment?

Some manufacturers may try to make you think that only they or their installers can maintain a synthetic field. Many have an approved list of machines that can be used on their fields that you can buy only from them, which limits your choices and increases your costs. Be advised to look closely at manufacturer warranties before making a buying decision. Some companies have clauses that restrict users by hours of use, maintenance schedules and other items such as improper footwear. When gym class, band practice, and actual game time is added up it not only voids warranty, but it shortens the life of a playing field. ■

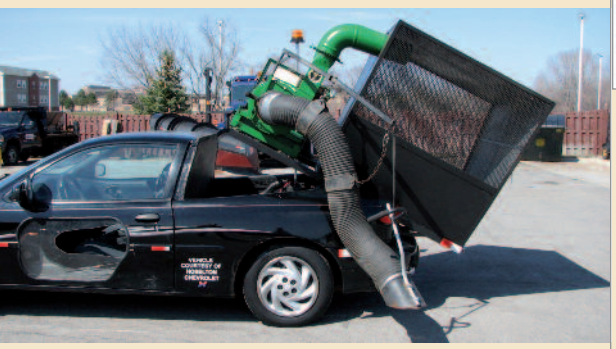
Paul Hollis is the executive vice president of Redexim Charterhouse, Inc., www.redexim.com.

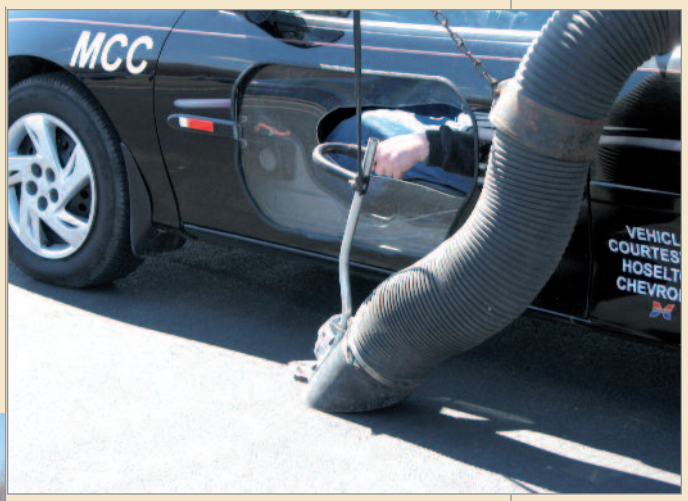
College's unique vehicle cuts costs, offers comfort

By Hency Yuen-Eng

A new vehicle at Monroe Community College in Rochester, NY, is turning heads around campus, but you won't find this model in any showroom.

Dubbed the "Trash Master," the modified, two-door Chevy Cavalier is the Facilities team's unique solution for a vehicle equipped not only to collect all sorts of trash and provide the driver with heat and comfort during inclement weather but also promises to deliver significant cost savings in upkeep.





"The car was a farfetched idea, but it's worked very fine," said Ron Fess, supervisor of campus grounds. "So far, so good."

For nearly 15 years, the Facilities team used a 6 x 4 utility vehicle that was retrofitted to collect trash, leaves and other debris around the 300-acre Brighton Campus. The gas-powered vacuum unit, a leaf vac that was refashioned to discard paper, plastic and other objects, was efficient, but the vehicle became too costly to maintain. The unconventional use of the vehicle constantly on asphalt, rather than on grass, frequently wore out the tires and damaged the axles.

With no doors on the vehicle, the driver also was regularly exposed to inclement weather. So earlier this year the Facilities team went to work to solve the problem. Workers spent a month retrofitting the used sedan donated by a local dealership, Hoselton Chevrolet in East Rochester. They carved a hole in the driver's door large enough for an arm to get through for easy access to the suction hose. They also cut the car's roofline in half; gutted the back of the car—including the trunk, back seats and rear windows—to the car's subfloor, leaving the fenders and rear bumpers intact; and mounted the existing, retrofitted vacuum unit to a custom-made framework on the subfloor.

In addition, an insulated panel between the front seat and the vacuum motor reduces outside noise for the driver.

"There were no blueprints or drawings. It was, 'Oh we'll start here and see where it takes us,' " Paul Pfenninger, auto mechanic at MCC, said about retrofitting the campus-owned vehicle with the help of staff horticulturist Greg Nickason. They helped solidify the design concept after Fess shared his vision with them.

"We didn't compromise the strength of the car. From a mechanical standpoint, it's a lot better than the old equipment. It doesn't require as much service. Parts aren't breaking down as often," Pfenninger said. "The tires on the old equipment are not designed for roadway use. We were changing tires every 6-8 weeks and changing axles three times a year."

An electric start on the 13-horsepower vacuum motor turns on the unit. Connected to the motor, the 7-foot suction hose protrudes over the driver side of the vehicle and features a handle grip within the driver's reach. The handle is kept in place with a sophisticated network of elastic cords, chains, metal bars and steel clasps.

Because the hose is flexible, the driver can easily maneuver it to pick up trash along curbs. The hose is wide and powerful enough to pull in wet leaves, glass bottles, unopened soda cans, plastic milk jugs and empty oil cans. Shredded or crushed debris is forced out through a discharge chute into a 50-cubic-foot covered metal receptacle, manufactured by Facilities workers. The container design makes it a breeze to empty the collected trash: The driver presses a toggle switch in the vehicle to activate a lift system and walks back to open the receptacle door. A front loader sits behind it to catch the debris and deposit it into a larger garbage bin.

The capacity of the metal receptacle is large enough to hold 4 days worth of trash.

"You can't buy it like that. They don't sell them in boxes. We made all this stuff on our own," Fess said about the container.

Michael Wichtowski, the main operator of the car, hopes the vehicle will last another 100,000 miles. Ten other people, who also spend 2-3 hours a day picking up trash on campus, use campus-owned golf carts to do their job. Garbage pickup accounts for one-third of the crew's daily workload.

"The new vehicle is user-friendly; it makes the route a lot quicker to do. And it has heat for the winter," Wichtowski said with a smile, a stark contrast to how he felt last winter, when he'd come in from his shift with frozen feet and his body covered with grime. "With this vehicle, the dust stays outside." ■

Hency Yuen-Eng covers Facilities news for the College and Community Relations Office at Monroe Community College in Rochester, NY.

Advice for better topdressing/spreading results

Editor's note: We asked some manufacturers of topdressing machines and spreaders to give readers three quick pieces of advice.

1. Before topdressing, always take a soil sample to determine what your field really needs. Many sports turf managers just look at what golf courses are doing and think everything they do will also work for them. Even golf courses topdress for different reasons. An example would be: Do you have soil with heavy clay content that has poor permeability and lacks the ability to hold moisture? Then you may want to consider topdressing with compost or a compost blend in conjunction with aeration.

2. Develop a strategy or plan covering how to best improve your field. You may have to work with a local extension agent to ensure you are doing what is right. Write the strategy down and then follow it, monitoring your results and making adjustments as needed.

3. I know budgets are tight, but if you are going to buy a topdresser, buy as big a unit as your budget will allow; it will save on trips to and from the pile. The final objective of topdressing is to improve the soil in your field, so that it will support healthy turf growth and improve field playability.

-John Bentley, Earth & Turf Products, LLC

1. Use a quality brush
2. Use dry materials
3. Aerate first

-Paul Hollis, Redexim Charterhouse, Inc.

1. Place the sand as close to the field as possible as it takes longer to load and travel back to the pile than it does to spread each load.

2. Use a calibration program (one is available on www.dakotapeat.com) to insure you have enough sand for the entire field. I like to run it on the short side so I can have some left over at the end to use for touch up or high traffic areas that need a little more.

3. Stay on the topdressing program; it's not a one-time fix.

-Randy Dufault, Dakota Peat

1. Precisely applying the product is most important. Precision spreading will cut waste and cost, improve plant growth by applying the precise product at the correct amount, which in turn reduces environmental impact by reducing run off of product by over application

2. You get precise applications through correct gate openings, calibrations to ground speed, and spinner spread control for width.

3. If you can keep your speed constant while at the same time controlling the fertilizer flow at a pre set amount and the spinner speed at a preset width you will have accurate spread.

-Bob Brophy, Turfco Manufacturing

1. Adjust the belt speeds and metering gate before topdressing a large area. These adjustments, as well as machine ground speed, control the amount of topdressing distributed onto the turf. It is important that these settings are pre-set before topdressing to maintain consistency throughout the area to be topdressed. Pick a small area to fine-tune the settings before going out to the main area. Otherwise, different areas will be covered with different levels of topdressing as the settings are fine-tuned. As you get more familiar with your topdressing needs, it will be much easier to establish these settings.

2. Operate at a constant throttle setting. Many topdressers use the hydraulics of a traction unit to control the speed of the belt and spinners. Some operators have a tendency to speed up and slow down their ground speeds, which will also speed up and slow down the belt and spinner speeds, leading to inconsistent topdressing. Once you have established the initial settings and select a throttle

and ground speed, stick with it for consistency.

3. Make straight lines. For a consistent topdressing application, it is important to maintain a straight line to minimize overlap. Curved lines lead to less efficient topdressing, heavy topdressing in overlaps, and possible wheel-tracking from making turns with a heavy load

-Brad Aldridge, John Deere Golf

1. Know your turf. What is the purpose of your field? What is it composed of? How much water does it retain? Will there be higher traffic in one area than another? How often will it be used? Each field is different; the soil and water requirements are different. Knowing and understanding your turf will help you make the best decisions on how to nourish and maintain your fields.

2. Use the right material. Remember the old adage, "You are what you eat"? Your field turf is the same, the material you put on your turf is directly related to the results you will receive. If you need to amend the soil and provide nutrients you should use the best product available to provide a lush, soft, sports field. Never use a topdressing product without a thorough understanding and testing of the particle size of the material. Sand is a good example. It is a long-time, excellent choice for topdressing, as it is readily available and somewhat inexpensive. However, it is important to perform a particle size analysis for the material, and never assume that a named sand will always be suitable for your needs. Numbers and names of sands can have tremendous variation, as their original purpose was usually for road building or construction, not sports fields.

3. Have the right equipment for the right job. Topdressing requires precise material application. If the equipment you have does not apply the material optimally, it's like throwing money out the window because your efforts and expense of material and labor will be wasted. There are many topdressers on the market; do your homework to make sure you have the right equipment for your turf, application and budget. If your budget can afford it, purchase a step up so you have the ability to expand the use of the topdresser as your needs increase. A field will go through stages of growth and the applications can range from spreading a variety of materials (topsoil, fertilizer, topdressing mix, lime, crumb rubber, etc) in a variety of conditions using a variety of attachments (brush, dual spinner, beaters) throughout the years. If you have the most versatile, well-made topdresser you will be saving money in the long term while having the best fields.

- Tina M Merrill, Millcreek Manufacturing ■

Topdressing critical to safety

Topdressing is one of those cultural practices that, along with aerification, are extremely important in providing safe playing surfaces. Topdressing fills divots, levels the playing surface for a true ball bounce and topdressing with the proper material can increase infiltration. When combining topdressing with aerification you can also begin to improve the composition of the rootzone making it drain better and provide a better medium for exchanging carbon dioxide and oxygen.

The most important factor in process of topdressing is choosing the proper topdressing material. Sand or a combination of sand and peat are the most popular topdressing materials although it is imperative that a particle size analysis is performed on both the topdressing material and the field soil to make sure they are compatible.

Although topdressing alone is helpful, the best time is right after aerification so the topdressing material can be incorporated deep into the rootzone. The bottom line is that a topdressing program of adding ½ inch of topdressing annually will pay huge dividends in making your athletics fields safer, more playable and better looking.

-Dale Getz, CSFM, The Toro Company

Topdresser for ProGator UVs

Specifically designed for the John Deere ProGator 2020 and 2030 utility vehicles, the TD100 Top Dresser's hopper is made of galvanized steel that resists corrosion and is supported by a steel frame for strength. For even distribution, a fixed-speed nylon/polyester cordless conveyor belt moves material under the full-width metering gate and through a rotating brush for even distribution. The conveyor belt and rotating brush are powered by a hydraulic motor that operates off the ProGator hydraulic system. The hopper capacity is 12 cu. feet full or 19 cu. feet heaped. The rated capacity is 1500 lb., and the spreading width is 56 inches. The opening adjusts from 0 to 3 inches.

www.deere.com

New MultiSpread model available

Earth & Turf LLC introduces its new MultiSpread model 320, a 1-cubic yard topdresser with exclusive, wide-spread beater, for turf maintenance professionals. Spreads topdressing materials, infield mix, calcined clay, crumbed rubber, and grass clippings. Two-wheel ground drive or available hydraulic drive with 26 x 12.00-12 turf tires insures easy pulling by 20-hp tractors. Prices start under $5,000.

www.earthandturf.com

Easy Spread now in two sizes

The self-loading Easy Spread is now available in two sizes, 52 and 63 inch working widths), and is designed to be loaded, driven to the site, and used without the operator ever leaving the seat. An electric switch, activated from the tractor cab, engages the hydraulically powered distribution drum, and a variable control valve sets the rotational speed of the drum. The spreading thickness is independent of tractor speed and can be varied from a light dusting to ½ inch. The unit is fully supported by a 3-point lift, and can spread wet or dry granular material, or salt on winter surfaces.

www.redexim.com

Turf Tiger topdresser

The Millcreek Model 4300 Turf Tiger is a large capacity, precision turf topdresser designed to provide maximum operating flexibility. The generous 3.2 cubic yard heaped capacity and 7500 lb. payload allow for fewer trips, saving valuable time. Optional extension sides further expand the capacity for lighter weight materials. The patented Saber Tooth wide spread beater provides spreading consistency and power to accommodate a variety of materials, wet or dry, coarse or fine. Alternate spreading attachments to suit a wide variety of applications include Dual Spinners, a 42-in. wide brush, and a rear cross conveyor. Spreading attachments sold separately.

www.millcreekmfg.com

Topdressers from Turfco

Go green with the Mete-R-Matic III and Mete-R-Matic XL, the ultimate machines in sports turf topdressing. Both machines allow you to just hook up and go. A patented Chevron belt delivers the most uniform application of any topdresser on the market whether its sand, compost, crumb rubber or calcined clays, regardless of moisture content. An eco-friendly, patented ground drive system assures uniform spread, even at varying speeds. And with no hydraulics, PTOs or engines, speed calibration is not required. The Mete-R-Matic III features a 23 cubic feet hopper capacity, and the Mete-R-Matic XL is three times this size at 60 cubic feet. The Mete-R-Matic series of topdressers are the only machines on the market with a 3-year warranty.

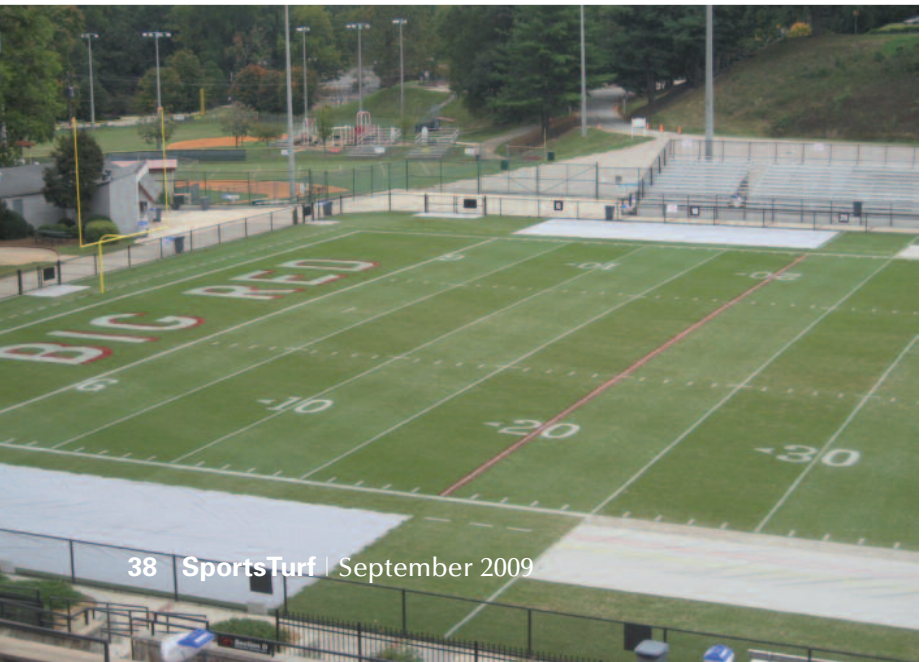
www.turfco.com

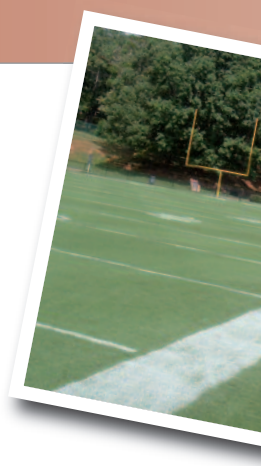
Toro Topdresser 2500

For maximum performance and power choose the Toro Topdresser 2500 - a self-contained, all-wheel drive unit towed by a Toro Workman or other utility vehicle. The 25 cubic foot capacity coupled with 8 mph topdressing speed will tackle the toughest topdressing jobs. The all-wheel drive ensures a consistent application rate on uneven terrain.

www.toro.com

>> **Above: LEFT TO RIGHT,** Barry Brooks, David Presnell and Charles Jarrard
>> **Below: THE EAST END ZONE** on Game Day.



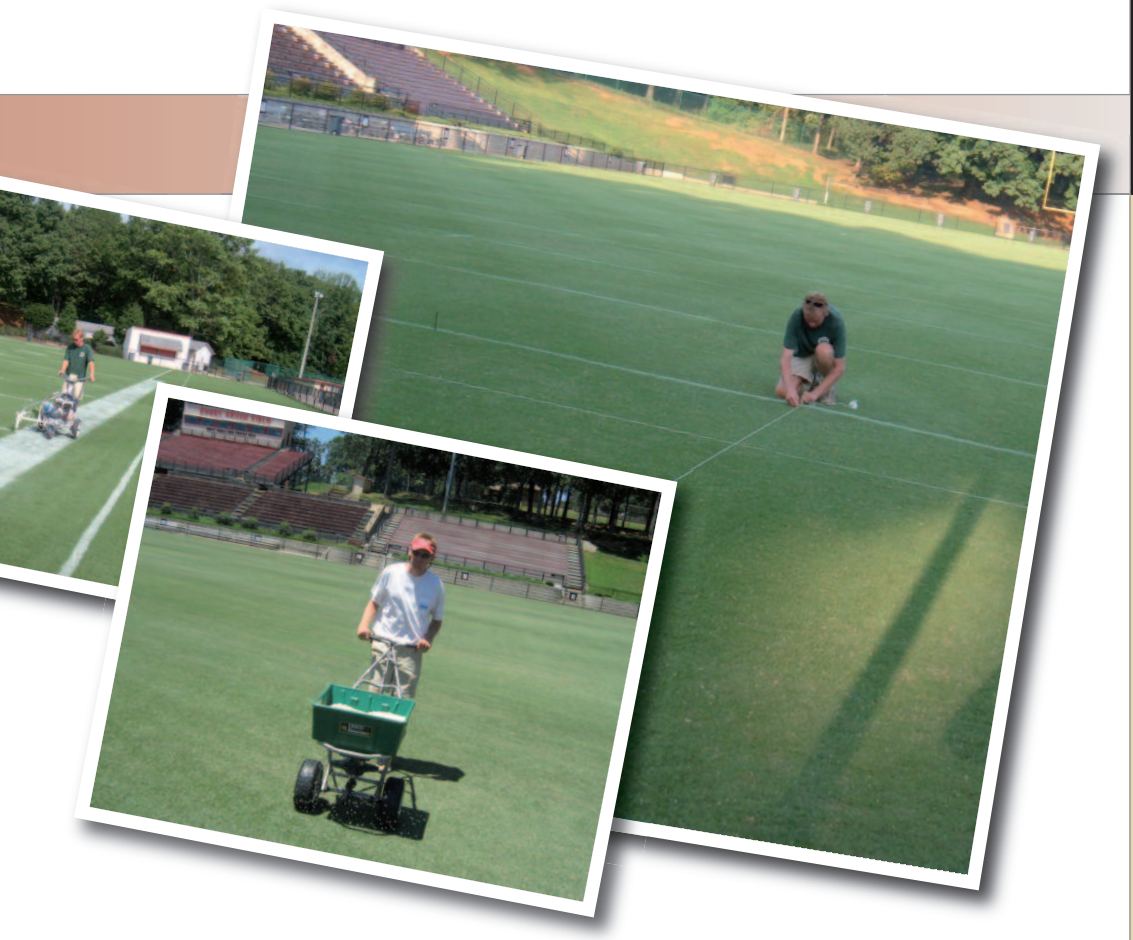


Gainesville, GA Parks wins Football Award for 2008

LED BY LANDSCAPE & TURF TECHNICIAN DAVID PRESNELL, the Gainesville, GA Parks and Recreation Agency's Bobby Gruhn Field at City Park Stadium was named STMA Schools/Parks Football Field of the Year for 2008. Charles Jarrard, parks maintenance crew leader, Barry Brooks, parks maintenance worker, and supervisor Jimmy Savage round out the team.

City Park Stadium has been around since 1916 and now features TifSport bermudagrass while hosting soccer and lacrosse games as well as football. In 2005 a sub-strata, sand-based drainage system and new irrigation system was installed, along with new turf, fencing, goal posts, perimeter walkways, retaining walls, and landscaping. Drainage issues and an uneven playing surface prompted the renovation.

"The one thing that sticks with me is that turf managers are professionals and should carry themselves like professionals."-David Presnell



» **Above: PRESNELL** spreading fertilizer.
» **Above right: PRESNELL PULLS A STRING** to set up the stenciling of his endzone logo.

Presnell related in his award entry the challenges he's faced during drought-related water restrictions:

"The sand-based drainage system has worked well in dissipating any sudden or prolonged heavy rainfall. The system also allows any irrigation water to pass through the surface rapidly and prevents the root-zone from holding much water. A prolonged drought resulted in state Level 4 water restrictions that have made it very difficult to maintain the turf properly.

"We were directed to discontinue irrigation in the fall of 2007. Exemptions allow for use of irrigation systems to water in fertilizer and herbicide applications only. We were able to maintain the overseeded rye in good condition over the winter for soccer and lacrosse play in spite of the restrictions. We then applied Revolver to remove the rye in mid-April and with limited irrigation and the 6 inches of rain we had in April and May, the Tifsport came out of dormancy.

"All went well until the first of June, when ironically we co-hosted a Turfgrass Field Day with our county extension service. The agronomists and turf experts from the University of Georgia were very impressed by our turf; however, the temperatures reached the high 90's over the following weekend and by Monday we discovered that the turf had almost burned. This was attributed to the sand drainage system that contributed to higher soil temperatures.

"Sideline wear requires annual re-sodding on both sides of the field and the Level 4 restrictions allow for 10 weeks of irrigation, 3 days a week, when new sod is professionally installed. So we quickly ordered our sod and were able to water it and the existing stand minimally, bringing back the turf."

SportsTurf: How has the recession affected your operations?

Presnell: Our budget has certainly tightened with the recession. We have subcontracted our chemical program in the past but decided this year to bring it back in-house. By handling our fertilization and IPM program internally, we have been able to better manage costs, make more timely applications when needed, and be more

Bobby Gruhn Field Maintenance Schedule

January
Fertilize field with 18-0-0 Ammonium Sulfate (1# of N per 1000ft2)(500# Total)
Re-Seed any bare spots with perennial rye if needed(30 days prior to pre-emerge)
Irrigate only to target wilt
Mow field weekly or as needed @ 1.25 inches

February
Lay-out and paint Soccer field & Lacrosse field
Contact school and have them bring Goals (Soccer & Lacrosse)
Apply Pre-Emergent to field at mid-month to target summer weed germination (5-5-25 granular fertilizer w/ 1% Ronstar / 6.7# product to 1000ft2)
Irrigate only to target wilt
Mow field weekly @ 1.0 inches (Twice weekly by end of month as temps begin to rise)

March
Take soil sample and have analyzed
Check/test irrigation system
Spot spray 3-way liquid post emergent to target broadleaf weeds
Fertilize field with 29-3-8 + 6%Fe (1# of N per 1000ft2)(300#s total)
Irrigate as needed in conjunction with temperatures and rainfall
Back-Lap Reels
Mow field every other day @ 3/4 inch

April
Spot spray 3-way liquid post emergent to target broadleaf weeds
Add nutrients/lime as recommended by soil analysis
Chemically remove Perennial Ryegrass at mid-month with Revolver (.4oz per1000ft2 / 17.4oz per acre)
Apply Heritage Fungicide at a rate of .4oz per 1000ft2 / 17.4oz per acre
Fertilize field with 16-4-8 (1# of N per 1000ft2) (500#s total)
Monitor transition to Bermudagrass
Begin irrigating as needed (monitor rainfall to allow 1.5 inches of water weekly)
Mow twice weekly @ .75 inches (mow rye every other day at beginning of month if needed)

May
Core Aerification w/ 3/4" tines and remove cores
De-thatch and sweep field
Lay-Out and paint field for Spring Scrimmage (Bring Field Equipment)
Fertilize field with 29-3-8 + 6%Fe (1# of N per 1000ft2)(300#s total)
Re sod any needed areas at mid month
Topdress new sod week after putting down
Irrigate as needed (monitor rainfall to achieve 1.5 inches water per week)
Mow every other day @ 1/2 inch

June
Take soil sample and have analyzed
Core Aerification with 5/8" tines (remove cores) and Top-dress with ¼ " USGA Topdressing Sand (50 tons)
After aerification fertilize field with 29-3-8 + 5%fe (3/4# of N per 1000ft2)(200#s total)
Mid month fertilize field with 29-3-8 + 5%fe (3/4# of N per 1000ft2)(200#s total)
Irrigate as needed (monitor rainfall to achieve 1.5 inches water per week)

responsive to problems as they occur. Of course we've had to make some scheduling adjustments and retool some of our older equipment, but it has been a positive experience.

ST: What changes to your maintenance plans are you expecting to make this year, if any?

Presnell: I am always tweaking existing practices and trying new things. Our maintenance program has been very effective over the past couple of years so we are not looking at any major changes. I am looking at some different fertilizers and possibly adjusting the application times of our fungicide program. One very positive change we made this year was increasing the number of core-aerifications this year and it seems to have been extremely beneficial.

ST: What's the best piece of turf management advice you have ever received?

Presnell: I have received a lot of great advice and hopefully will continue to get great advice from fellow turf managers. The one thing that sticks with me is that turf managers are professionals and should carry themselves like professionals. Always continue to educate yourself and always be open to new ideas. I also love the "Give an extra 15 minutes" and George Toma's "And then some" attitudes.

ST: How do you balance your work and personal time?

Presnell: This is a challenge. Maintaining our fields and facilities at the high level our clients and community expect requires many hours and lots of nights and weekends. I have a great wife and children who support me. During football season when I am working the most hours my family will come to the games so we can spend some time together.

ST: What do you see yourself doing 10 years from now?

Presnell: I would love to see myself with Gainesville Park & Rec and managing turf. The community here is really football-minded and I take a lot of pride in the football field. But one thing is certain, I will be managing an athletic field and providing a quality, safe surface for athletes to play on. ■

The STMA Field of the Year Awards Program has been made possible through the generous support of its sponsors. They include: Carolina Green Corp.; Covermaster, Inc.; Hunter Industries; Turface Athletics/Profile Products, LLC; Scotts Professional Seed; and World Class Athletic Surfaces.

Back-Lap reels
Mow every other day @ 1/2 inch

July
7/1 Complete stadium walk-thru and make punch list
Core Aerification w/ 5/8" tines & remove cores
De-thatch if needed (.5" thatch or greater)
Broadcast Amdro to target fire ants (1# per acre)
Spot treat weeds as needed (DO NOT SPRAY IF TEMPS ARE OVER 90 DEGREES)
Fertilize field with 29-3-8 + 5%fe (3/4# of N per 1000ft2)(200#s total)
Begin aerifying weekly with solid tines
Irrigate as needed (monitor rainfall to achieve 1.5 inches water per week)
Back-Lap Reels
Mow every day @ 1/2 inch

August
Core Aerification w/ 5/8" tines & remove cores
Put Goal Posts up
Bring Tarps and Field Equipment to Stadium
Paint border and yard lines two weeks prior to scrimmage
Paint numbers and yard markers one week prior to scrimmage
Paint logos one week prior to first home game
Fertilize field with 29-3-8 +5%Fe (3/4#N per 1000ft2)(250# Total)
Broadcast Amdro to target fire ants (1# per acre)
Aerify field weekly with aeravator (solid tine)
Grind reels
Mid Month be FOOTBALL READY
Fertilize field mid-month with 24-2-11 +3%Fe (3/4#N per 1000ft2)
Spray field with liquid iron 7 to 10 days prior to first home game
Fill divots with sand after each home game
Irrigate as needed (monitor rainfall to achieve 1.5 inches water per week)
Mow every day @ 5/8 inch (begin mowing football stripes beginning of month)

September
Take soil sample and have analyzed
Fertilize field with 24-2-11 +3%Fe (3/4#N per 1000ft2)
Aerify with aeravator (solid tine) after home football games
Fill divots with sand after each home game
Apply Heritage Fungicide at a rate of .4oz per 1000ft2 / 17.4 oz per acre (mid-month)
Aerify with aeravator, verticut, sweep field and overseed with Double Eagle Perennial Rye (10# per 1000)(1000#'s total seed)
Target date is 3rd week and this will be done according to football schedule
Set irrigation to light frequent times for proper seed germination
Fertilize with 18-24-12(1# of N per 1000ft2) (2 weeks after overseeding)
Mow every other day at 3/4 inch

October
Fertilize with 24-2-11 +3%Fe (3/4N per 1000ft2)(300# Total)
Apply Heritage Fungicide at a rate of .4oz per 1000ft2 / 17.4 oz per acre (mid-month)
Fill divots with sand after each home game (with perennial rye seed)
Re-seed sidelines and mid-field with perennial rye after home games
Irrigate as needed (monitor rainfall to achieve 1.5 inches water per week)
Mow every other day @ 3/4 inch

November
Fertilize field with 32-3-8 + 2%Fe (1#N per 1000ft2)(300# Total)
Re-seed sidelines and mid-field with Perennial Rye
Winterize irrigation system
Fill any remaining divots with divot mix
Irrigate only to target wilt
Mow field twice weekly @ 3/4 inch(raise to 1.25" after football season)

December
Goal Posts taken down and stored in mill
Tarps and Field Equipment to shop
Re-seed any bare spots with perennial rye (if needed)
Irrigate only to target wilt
Mow field weekly @ 1.25 inches