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MARCH 1988

MAIN EVENTS

12 PORT CHARLOTTE: A STAR FOR THE TEXAS RANGERS

When the Texas Rangers decided to consolidate two of its spring training facilities in Florida, Charlotte County gave the team the chance to build a state-of-the-art training complex on 82 acres in Port Charlotte. The Rangers built the complex prior to the opening of the 1986 baseball season and brought in Tom Burns to give the stadium, five practice fields and landscape a professional quality. The Port Charlotte Spring Training Facility and Burns entered and won the 1988 Baseball Diamond of the Year Award in the professional category.

18 BASEBALL FIELD ALIGNMENT

The consistency of any baseball field is based largely on maintaining correct distances and angles. Michael Hebrard, baseball field consultant and former groundskeeper, gives a step by step procedure for aligning baseball fields.

24 SOIL AND IRRIGATION EFFICIENCY: GETTING TOUGH ON WATER USE

The cost of water will rise dramatically in the future to promote conservation. The sports turf manager needs to understand the impact of soils on turfgrass irrigation and drainage so he can reduce water consumption while preserving the ability to recover from sports-inflicted damage.

34 MANAGING YOUR EXPOSURE TO LIABILITY ON THE PLAYING FIELD

Dr. Neil Dougherty, director of the School of Applied Health Sciences at Rutgers University, reveals how a sports turf manager and his employer can wind up in court if an injured athlete can prove they had a duty to provide safe fields and that their negligence caused the injury. Dougherty makes seven specific recommendations to reduce your exposure to injury liability.

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COVER: Texas Rangers Spring Training Facility in Port Charlotte, FL.