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Our new T-17D Bobcat riding mower. We gave it premium features from the ground up. Commercial features you'd expect to pay thousands more for: A heavy-gauge steel up-front cutter deck, offset 15" for superior trimming. Maneuverability so tight, it leaves an uncut circle of only 11". Single-pedal hydrostatic control, for effortless forward and reverse motion.

Plus a low center of gravity for cat-like hill climbing, and full-floating deck for a fine, contoured cut.

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BOB-CAT®

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**WE PACK A FULL SEASON
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**Only CHIPCO® RONSTAR® herbi-
cide gives you safe, season-long
control of crabgrass, goosegrass
and tough broadleaf weeds.**

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Unlike most turf herbicides, CHIPCO RONSTAR herbicide controls weeds without harming turfgrasses. In fact, tests prove that CHIPCO RONSTAR herbicide will not cause the root pruning problems associated with other products.

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Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company, CHIPCO Department, P.O. Box 12014, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.



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RONSTAR®**
HERBICIDE

RP RHÔNE-POULENC AG COMPANY

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VOLUME FOUR, NUMBER FOUR

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MAIN EVENTS

14 OLSEN FIELD: COLLEGIATE DIAMOND SPARKLES

Leo Goertz had every intention of becoming an agricultural economist when he joined his older brother at Texas A&M University in College Station. But a part-time job as a student manager at the university's new Olsen Field, which Goertz took to help pay for his education, has since become a full-time one as head groundskeeper. He has no regrets and this year his hard work at Olsen Field won the Baseball Diamond of the Year Award for the collegiate level.

22 CHANNEL DRAINS

A growing number of sports turf managers and groundskeepers are discovering the advantages of channel-type drains. The tall, narrow drains provide a greater tolerance to slope and simplify installation. Drainage problems can be remedied without expensive equipment or major surface disturbance.

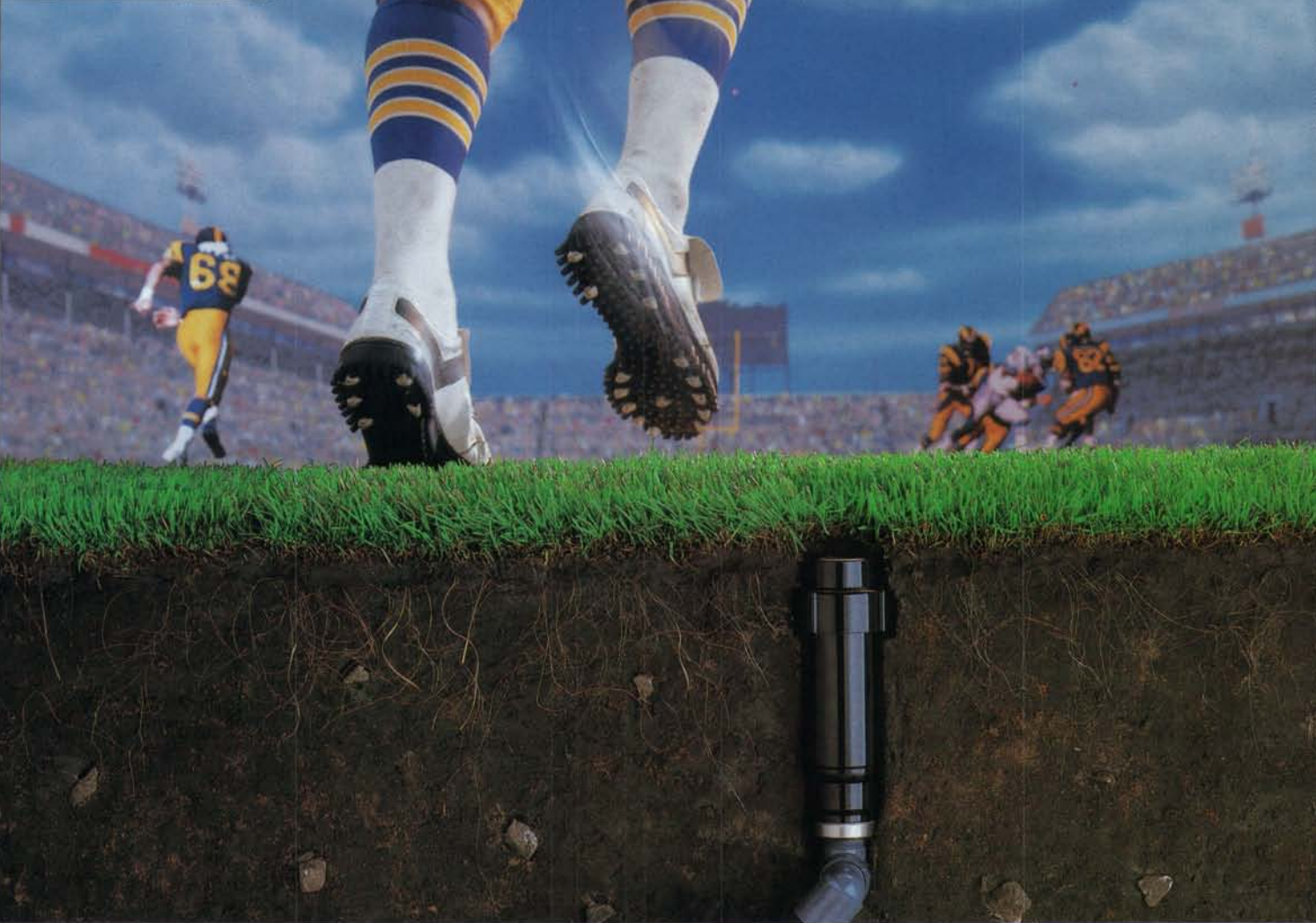
24 POSTEMERGENCE WEED CONTROL: HELPING TURF ON THE REBOUND

Sports turf is in a constant state of recovery. It is gouged, trampled, mowed low, aerated, verticut, and played on when injured or dormant. Yet, with proper care and use, it rebounds within days. A major part of that care is weed control, both preemergence and postemergence. In this article, turf specialists from across the country describe key problem weeds and their control once they have become established.

LINE-UP

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- 34 CHALKBOARD
- 42 ROOKIES
- 50 SCOREBOARD

COVER: *The Aggies baseball team practices on Olsen Field at Texas A&M University in College Station.*



Toro 640. Competition 0.

For reliability, ruggedness, and all-around high performance, Toro's heavy-duty 640 sprinkler beats all challengers hands down. No wonder it's been the leading choice for U.S. athletic fields for over a decade.

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For more information, contact your local Toro dealer, or Toro directly at 5825 Jasmine St., Riverside, CA 92504. (714) 688-9221.



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HOW TO PREVENT DOLLAR SPOT & BROWN PATCH FROM RUINING YOU ON INSPECTION DAY.

PREVENT DOLLAR SPOT, BROWN PATCH AND OTHER DISEASES EARLY, BEFORE THEY BECOME A PROBLEM.

You don't want to be put on the spot; use the Banner® preventive program. Banner works systemically to control disease from the inside out. Once absorbed by the leaf and stem system, Banner won't wash off and keeps on working after drying, unaffected by rain or irrigation. Used as directed, Banner is safe to turf and applicators.

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CIBA-GEIGY

© 1988 CIBA-GEIGY Corporation, CIBA-GEIGY, Ag Division, Box 18300, Greensboro, NC 27419. Always read and follow label directions. Banner can be used on all turf grass varieties. (Use on all turf grass varieties label pending.) The following restrictions apply to Bermudagrass and St. Augustine grass: Do not use more than 2 oz. per 1,000 square feet every 30 days. Not labeled for use in California.



THE BANNER PREVENTIVE PROGRAM

How to prevent dollar spot

Apply Banner at a 1 oz. rate early (April-May through September) to prevent dollar spot from ruining your greens for full 28-day control.

How to prevent brown patch and other diseases

Apply Banner at the 2-4* oz. rate (May or June through September) for 10-21 day brown patch control. And at 1-2 ozs., Banner provides excellent systemic control of anthracnose, powdery mildew, rust, red thread and stripe smut. Or, use Banner at the higher 2-4* oz. rate to achieve broader-spectrum control of leaf spot and melting out for 14-21 days. And the 4* oz. rate for summer patch and spring dead spot at 30-day intervals.

Tank mix Banner to control already-present brown patch

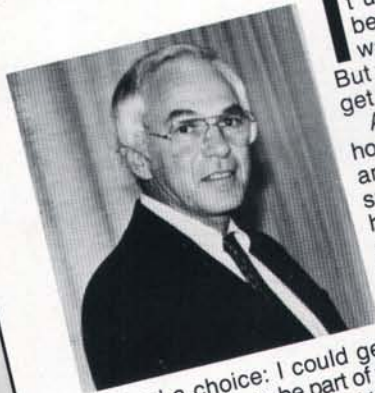
As with all turf fungicides, Banner's scheduling is critical. But when schedules are interrupted and brown patch is present, use Banner at a 2 oz. rate in a tank mix with contact fungicides like Daconil 2787® or Chipco® 26019. The contact fungicides will control existing diseases and Banner will prevent future infections.

New Banner. Unsurpassed protection for greens, tees, and fairways. And you'll know it on inspection day. *4 oz. label rate pending

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FROM THE PUBLISHER



It used to be that I would get to an airport 15 minutes before a flight to catch my plane. Sitting around airports was not my idea of making the best use of my time. But with the airlines the way they are today, one had better get there early.

A couple of weeks ago, I was in New York on my way home. I got to the airport an hour early. I was tired and hungry and just wanted to get home that evening. But my plane, supposedly bound for Los Angeles, sat at the gate for an hour-and-a-half after the scheduled departure. There was a mechanical problem. I watched as another plane took off for San Francisco. We all started to lose our cool. Tempers began to flare. I felt sorry for the agents at the gate, taking criticism for something over which they had no control.

I had a choice: I could get madder each minute and join the ticket agents. Surprisingly, they didn't get busy and try to be part of the solution. I decided to try and make the best of a bad situation. I got up, walked around the desk, and explained the problems. I kidded with them—I told some of them that I was flown in by United Airlines from their home office in Chicago just to placate them—others I told something else.

But in the end, the passengers realized that I was just another passenger, wanting to get home. All of a sudden they realized that the only way to get home was to work with the agents to solve our plane problems. The agents realized that the passengers were as stuck as they were. Now it was *three hours* after our scheduled departure.

It was like being stuck in an elevator. We couldn't move until the mechanics fixed the problem. Getting madder and madder didn't help a bit. Gradually, everyone cooled down. The agents and the passengers could think more clearly. We were going to deal with this problem as a team instead of as a bunch of irritated individuals.

Everyone was given a meal voucher. We ate and returned to the gate hopeful of a solution. Well, it took another couple of hours before we were on our way. We touched down at 2 a.m., waited for our bags for another 30 minutes, and I pulled into my driveway at 3 a.m. Talk about exhausted!

The experience taught everyone on that plane a lesson. Nothing gets accomplished by blaming others for your predicament. You can't blame people who are caught in the middle, with little power to come up with a solution. Once you realize that only the group as a whole has clout, then you start to make progress.

Many parks and municipalities in this country are stuck with mechanical problems and limited resources. Fields and sports facilities sit in poor condition because the only action being taken is complaining, not rational discussion.

The parks and sports complexes were built for the citizens of that city or town. If that municipality has not allowed enough in its budget for upkeep, and the citizens gripe about it to one another but not to the city officials, they have no one to blame but themselves. On the other hand, if we allow the city officials to do their thing, then just look at the condition of our parks. If we don't let our city officials know that we are unhappy about wheel gets the grease," holds true here.

I am constantly amazed at how much use our parks and recreational areas get. It seems that every night the various sport fields are used for softball leagues, soccer leagues, T-ball and football.

Park and recreational personnel are caught in the middle. Their hands are tied. They have limited budgets to get the park in condition, yet the citizens (for whom the park was built) see their children play under poor turf conditions.

Maybe if the citizens got together with the personnel from Parks and Recreation as well as the city managers or the city council, they could devise a way that would work to everyone's benefit. You never know until you try. Complaints turn into positive suggestions and the public can relate better to the problems of public officials when they are more aware of them. Then progress begins.

We can always come up with solutions—maybe not to everyone's satisfaction, but a solution can be found. Working together is what this world is all about.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. E. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in the bottom right corner of the page.