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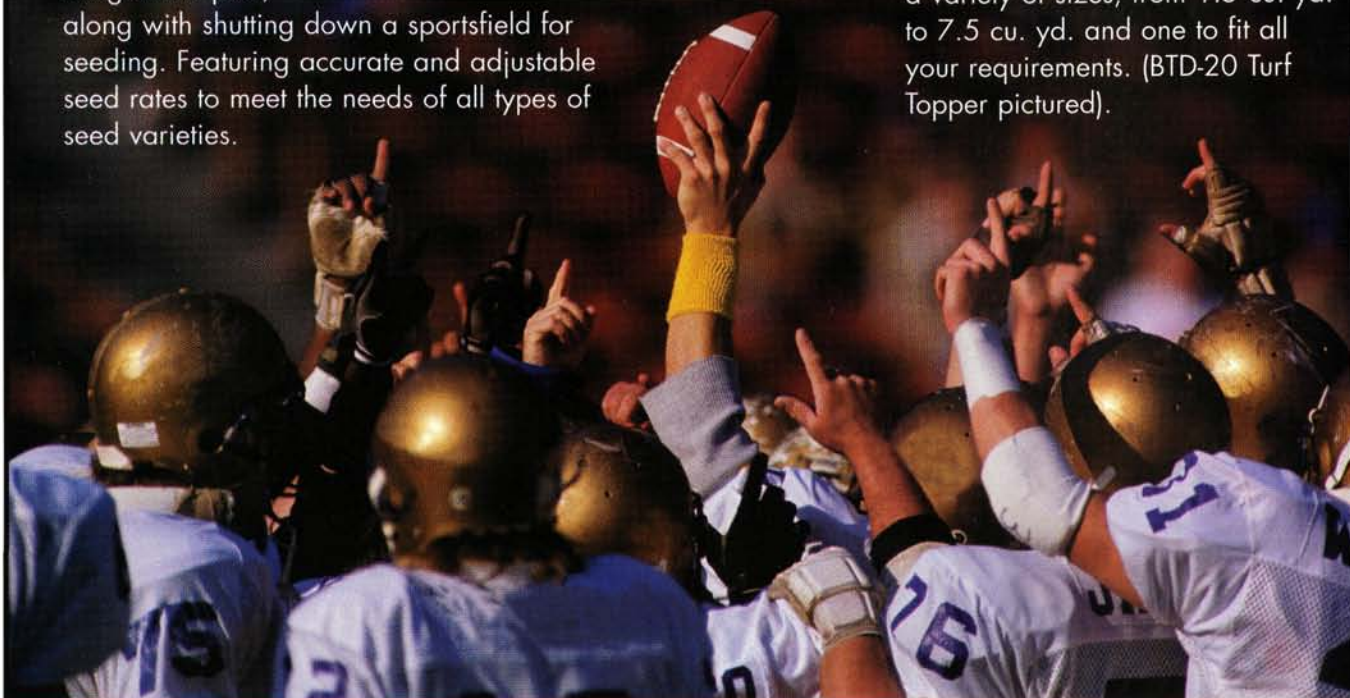


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PROGRAM

VOLUME 17, NUMBER 8

AUGUST 2001

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Night shot at a Northwestern University football game. Ryan Field won STMA's College Football Field of the Year.

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August 15

Ohio Turfgrass Foundation (OTF) Turfgrass Research Field Day, OTF Research & Education Center, Ohio State University West Campus, Columbus, OH. Contact: Kevin Thompson, OTF, PO Box 3388, Zanesville, OH 43702-3388; (888) 683-3445 or (740) 452-4541, ext. 3151; fax (740) 452-2552. Web site: <http://www.ohioturfgrass.org>.

August 22

Michigan Turfgrass Field Day, Hancock Turfgrass Research Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. Contact: Kay Patrick, (517) 321-1660 or mtf-turf@man.com. Web site: <http://www.michiganturfgrass.org>.

September 18

Turfgrass and Landscape Management Field Day, University of California, Riverside, CA. Contact: Susana Aparicio, Department of Botany and Plant Sciences, (909) 787-4430 or susana@citrus.ucr.edu.

October 1

Ohio Turfgrass Foundation's (OTF) Golf Tournament, The Country Clubs of Fox Meadow, Medina, OH (Cleveland area). Contact: Kevin Thompson, OTF, PO Box 3388, Zanesville, OH 43702-3388; (888) 683-3445 or (740) 452-4541, ext. 3151; fax (740) 452-2552. Web site: <http://www.ohioturfgrass.org>.

October 31-November 1

The Turfgrass Landscape & Equipment Expo, Fairplex, Pomona, CA. Contact: Southern California Turfgrass Council, 7100 Sunnyslope Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405; (800) 500-SCTC (7282) or (818) 764-5016; fax (818) 764-3363; expo@turfccouncil.org. Web site: <http://www.turfccouncil.org>.

November 4-6

Mississippi Turfgrass Association Conference and Trade Show, Hattiesburg, MS. Contact:

(continued on page 40)



[insert "change" quote here]

Regular readers of this space will notice another unfamiliar face atop the column this month; I'm Eric Schroder, the third editor of sportsTURF in the past four issues. What does that mean to you?

Well, a lot and a little. A little because sportsTURF remains the official publication of the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA), which means Steve and Suz Trusty, their staff, and all the STMA officers and members who contribute their energy and expertise to these pages haven't gone anywhere. Complete chapter news, peer-written technical articles, business advice, and other insight from STMA remain the foundation of the magazine no matter whose mug shot might appear in "The Front Office."

A lot because an editor should see and engender the "big picture" and provide something useful and/or entertaining when you pick up his or her magazine. A lot because if and when we meet I'm going to ask for your opinion about how sportsTURF can be better. A lot because my name is linked with the quality of this magazine as much as yours is to your showcase field.

Here's where I hum that familiar tune asking you to let me know how I'm managing your magazine. It's customary for editors to do so and with good reason; no matter how hard I try I'll make mistakes and I want to know about it. My job is to make your job easier, so help me by zipping me an email or picking up the phone when there's something, good or bad, you have to say.

One warm June morning this summer I bugged out of the office and headed for my local muni 9-hole golf course in the name of "research" for my new job. Playing around, I had new appreciation for the work that went into renovating several holes last year; then I came upon a crew dealing with a soggy ditch that I remembered as being dry ground. The timing was wrong but I wanted to ask them, "Hey, what's the problem?"

So don't be surprised, especially you Chicagoland region readers, if I call you someday and ask to come see your problems--and your accomplishments, of course.

My arrival foreshadows another change next month that you'll notice immediately--a physically larger, redesigned magazine that will focus more on the tools and services you rely on to do your best possible work. We hope that change, combined with my steadfast effort to present relevant information every issue, will ease your using sportsTURF like a reliable tool.

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Strength and conditioning programs

As summer rolls to a close, things are heating up for many sports turf managers. College and university fall sports programs are underway by mid-August, with the athletes already "in training" and the remainder of the student body soon to return to campus. High school athletes also are beginning their fall routine with those dreaded "two a day" practices weeding out football team lineups. The marching bands at both colleges and high schools are working on their half-time performances. Practice fields, game fields, and intramural fields are geared up and ready for—or already into—their fall workouts.

Major League Baseball ballfields remain constantly in the public eye. Those in charge of NFL practice facilities and pre-season game sites already are coping with the field damage today's players inflict thanks to the bigger, stronger bodies honed by year-long strength and conditioning programs.

Sports turf managers constantly upgrade the "strength and conditioning programs" for their fields as well. Off-season for the teams often is the only time for the aggressive maintenance tasks that yield top in-season field performance.

Sports turf managers upgrade their own strength and conditioning programs by increasing their knowledge. They attend educational sessions, take part in seminars and workshops such as Chapter-sponsored events, dig into research on specific topics, and through networking harvest the vast knowledge within this industry.

The Sports Turf Managers Association also is constantly upgrading its "strength and conditioning program," for the association and for the profession. By the time you read this, the STMA Board will have completed our July meeting. Reports and recommendations presented by the Certification, Chapter Relations, Annual Conference Education, Annual Conference Exhibition, Finance and Audit, Marketing, Membership, Strategic Planning, Survey, Technical Standards, and Website Committees all will have been reviewed, discussed and, where recommendations require Board approval, voted upon. STMA is continually working for you to promote the profession and gain acknowledgement of the important role filled by those within the profession.

"We're on a Roll" describes the progress of STMA. It's the STMA 2002 Conference Theme and ties into the Conference's Las Vegas location. Mark your calendars now—the dates are January 16-20, 2002.

I'm pleased to announce another exciting event, the first SAFE Foundation Drawing. Dave Ditzler, turf & irrigation specialist for Grinnell College in Grinnell, IA, held the winning ticket in the July 4 drawing. Dave and his wife, Tami, will take an expense-paid trip to Canton, OH, to enjoy a visit to the Pro Football Hall of Fame (HOF), take part in the NFL Experience, join in the 2001 HOF Golf Scramble (with NFL players) at Shady Hollow Country Club, join in the HOF pre-game Tailgate Party, and attend the HOF Game between the St. Louis Rams and Miami Dolphins. Proceeds from this fund-raising event will support sports turf-related research and scholarships. Congratulations, Dave and Tami!

Rich Moffitt
STMA President

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FIELD OF THE YEAR



Excellence Earns Northwestern University's Ryan Field STMA College/University Football Field of the Year Honors

by Steve and Suz Trusty



Results of the \$30 million stadium renovation project, completed in 1997, were made even better with the field work completed in 1999.

Commitment to excellence earned the STMA 2000 College/University Football Field of the Year honors for Ryan Field of Northwestern University. The University, located in Evanston, IL, completed a \$30-million stadium renovation project in the fall of 1997. Renovation to the stadium included new seating and an enclosed three-tier press box on the stadium's west side, complete with Stadium Club Suites. A new end zone facility was constructed to house the football lock-

er room, sports medicine room, and equipment room. Key to the project was replacing the existing artificial turf with a sand-based, natural turf field.

Eric Adkins, CSFM, joined the University as Agronomist in September 1997. He says, "Football has long been a highlight of the Northwestern athletic program. The old stadium, built in 1926, was named for William A. Dyche, former vice president and business manager of the University. In 1905, he had directed construction of the origi-

nal wooden stands that had a seating capacity of 10,000. By the early 1920s, football popularity had outgrown the wooden stands and Dyche spearheaded the planning of a 45,000-seat stadium. In 1949, the stadium was enlarged by enclosing the south end, which increased the seating capacity to 49,256. The 1997 stadium renovation continued the University's commitment to excellence in athletics.

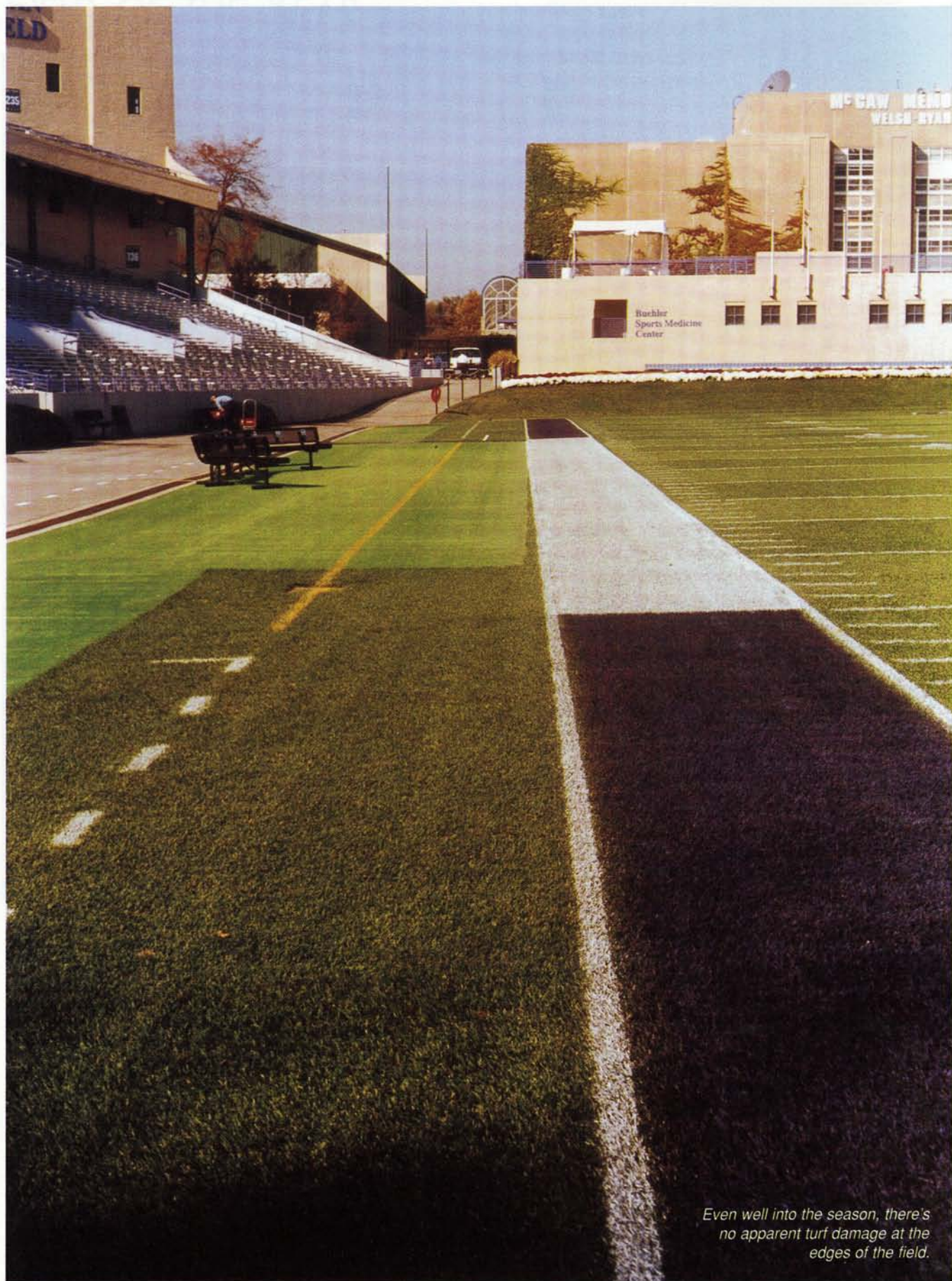
"The renovated facility was renamed Ryan Field. To enhance the beauty of the stadium, 900 purple and



Excellent footing and stability provide the best possible playing surface for the athletes.



The striking display of Mums at the north end of Ryan Field serves as a striking background for the "Wildcats" painted in the end zone and adds to the overall experience of a college football Saturday.



*Even well into the season, there's
no apparent turf damage at the
edges of the field.*