



Brian Johnson, Director of Athletic Facilities for Arizona State University, is a recognized pro at free-hand field painting. Here, he demonstrates that art for attendees.

heat." He wants "the natural grass green, soft and no holes." Findley stated that he was extremely pleased with what Brian and his crew supplied. Since spring drills had just concluded, Findley also spent some time talking about this year's team and his thoughts on how they should do.

Through the Chapter Sponsorship program, STMA Executive Director, Steve Trusty, was able to attend and make a presentation on "Professionalism and Certification." He also answered questions about national STMA programs and what both chapter and national members can gain from participating.

Dr. David Kopec followed up with an "Herbicide Update." He provided data on University trials and noted how they provide information especially useful for Arizona sports turf managers.

Following a lunch out on the football practice fields, the group viewed exhibits from the area vendors and observed demonstrations on equipment and techniques.

This event—and similar ones held by local STMA Chapters around the country—provide an excellent opportunity for everyone involved with maintaining athletic fields to see fine facilities, learn from experts, share information and ideas with each other, visit with vendors, and see problem-solvers in action. Be sure to watch for events in your area.

## STMA Chapter News

**Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA):** TVSTMA is planning its Summer Educational Seminar for June 20th at Neyland Stadium of the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee. Making presentations in the morning session are: Dr. Dave Minner and Mike Andresen, CSFM, both of Iowa State University; Darian Daily of the Columbus Crew Major League Soccer Club; and Dr. Tom Samples and Bob Campbell, both of the University of Tennessee. Afternoon Workshops will be conducted by Dr. Alan Windham, on "Turf Diseases and Weed Identification;" by Dr. Frank Hale, on "Insects;" and by Mr. Bill Marbet, on "Evaluating Infield Soils." Vendor exhibits will be on display on the University of Tennessee football field from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Also planned is a July meeting at Vanderbilt in Nashville, Tennessee.

For information on the TVSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Bill Marbet, Southern Athletic Fields, Inc., at 931-380-0023 or 800-837-8062.

**Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA):** MiSTMA will meet on June 21 at Okemos High School in Okemos, Michigan. Morning educational sessions will include "Professionalism and Certification," presented by Steve Trusty, STMA Executive Director; "The Business End of Sports Turf," presented by Tim Moore, CSFM, Ballfield Coordinator for MNPPC and Secretary of STMA; "The Future for the MiSTMA with the MTF," pre-

sented by Tom Smith, President of MTF; "Effects of Cultural Practices for Athletic Fields," presented by Lisa Lundberg, MSU graduate student; and "Athletic Field Systems Study," presented by Jason Henderson, MSU graduate student. A tour of MSU Athletic Field Research and the Okemos High School Athletic Fields will take place in the afternoon.

For information on the Chapter or other pending events, call Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools, at 616-738-6974, or go to [www.mistma.org](http://www.mistma.org) to visit the chapter's new website.

**Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Colorado Chapter will hold its Annual Seminar on Wheels Tour on June 21 in Denver, with stops to include All City Stadium, All Star Park and North Area Athletic Complex. The Chapter's Mountain Seminar will be held on July 20 at Canyon View Park in Grand Junction. The 65-acre park is home to eight soccer fields, four softball fields and a baseball field. Watch for more details on the 6th Annual Lawnmower Man Open Golf Tournament, to be held on July 24 at Westwood Golf Course in Arvada. Another coming attraction to be held this fall is Turf Day At Invesco Field at Mile High, the new home of the Denver Broncos.

For information on the Colorado Chapter, or upcoming activities, visit the Chapter's website—[www.CSTMA.org](http://www.CSTMA.org)—or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline at 303-346-8954.



## STMA Chapter News

### Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey:

The New Jersey Chapter STMA will meet on June 22 at the Somerset Patriots facility, Bridgewater, NJ. The program will focus on Baseball Field Maintenance Practices. Speakers include Dr. James Murphy of Rutgers University, and Ray Cipperley, Head Groundskeeper for the Somerset Patriots.

For information on the New Jersey Chapter, or upcoming events, call Jim Gavigan, Lesco, at 732-248-8979; or call Eleanora Murfitt, Director, Township of Clinton Parks & Recreation Department, at 908-735-5999.

### Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization

(KAFMO/STMA): The KAFMO Sports Turf Managers School will be held June 25-27, 2001, at the Little League National Headquarters in Williamsport, PA. This school stresses a practical approach to field management. Techniques for baseball, soccer and football fields will be covered. The school will provide classroom and hands-on instruction about soils and soil amendments, field layout, construction and maintenance. For registration information contact KAFMO, 1451 Peters Mountain Rd, Dauphin, PA 17018, tel. 717-921-8803.

For information on the KAFMO/STMA Chapter, or other upcoming events, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, at tel. 610-375-8469, ext. 212; or chapter e-mail address: kafmo@aol.com.

**Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:** Upcoming events for the Iowa Chapter include a Construction Workshop, to be held at the Prairie Ridge Youth Sports Complex in Ankeny on June 27; an Irrigation Workshop, to be held at the Iowa City Kickers Soccer Complex in Iowa City on July 18; Iowa Turfgrass Field Day, to be held at the ISU Horticulture Research Station in Ames on August 2; and a Baseball/Soccer Workshop, to be held at Upper Iowa University in Fayette on October 9. The Iowa Chapter also will be joining the Minnesota Chapter for the annual Chapter Clash on July 13 and 14, 2001.

For information on the Iowa Chapter, or upcoming activities, contact Lori Westrum of The Turf Office at tel. 515-232-8222, or fax 515-232-8228, or e-mail: Lori@iowaturfgrass.org.

### Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:

The Arizona Chapter will participate in the Summer Flagstaff Conference on Cool Season Grass. It will be hosted by the City of Flagstaff Parks and Recreation. Phillip Garcia is the contact for this event. The Arizona Parks and Recreation Annual Conference will be held in Phoenix on August 16th. For information on this event, please contact Chris Calcaterra, City of Peoria.

For information on the chapter, or other upcoming events, contact Bill Murphy, Recreation and Facilities Manager, City

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of Scottsdale Park, at e-mail: [bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us](mailto:bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us) or tel. 480-312-7954.

**South Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:** The South Texas Chapter is planning a June/July meeting in the Houston area. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the chapter, or upcoming events, call Tom McAfee, Nelson Wolff Municipal Stadium, San Antonio, at 210-207-3754.

**Minnesota Chapter STMA:** The Minnesota Chapter's annual Minnesota/Iowa Chapter Clash is set for July 13 and 14, 2001. The annual Tour on Wheels will be held on July 25. The Chapter will participate in the MTGF Field Day to be held at the University of Minnesota on July 26. Details on these events will be announced soon.

For information on the Minnesota Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Ron Unger, Director of Parks & Recreation, City of Kasson, at tel. 507-634-4165 or e-mail: [ParkNRec@CityofKasson.com](mailto:ParkNRec@CityofKasson.com).

**Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA):** OSTMA will host the second annual Regional Chapter Workshop on July 18th at Ohio State University. The event will include presentations by L. Murray Cook, President of Global Stadium Services and President-Elect of STMA; and Steve Trusty, STMA Executive Director; as well as a tour of the OSU athletic facilities, conducted by Brian Gimbel; a tour of the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Research Center, conducted by Dr. John Street; a tour of Cooper Stadium, home of the Columbus Clippers, conducted by Jeff Limburg; and a tour of Crew Stadium, home of the Columbus Crew, conducted by Darian Daily. The day will conclude with attendees enjoying dinner at the Crew Stadium and then watching a professional soccer game. The Ohio Chapter anticipates attendees from the Michigan, Midwest, Indiana, Tennessee and KAFMO Chapters and issues an open invitation to others to attend. Contact OSTMA or STMA National Headquarters for more information on this event. This event will be followed on July 19th by the OSTMA first Annual "Chapter Challenge" Golf Outing, also in Columbus, Ohio, with the proceeds to benefit the OSTMA scholarship fund. OSTMA is accepting scholarship and Field of the Year nominations until October 1, 2001. Visit the website or contact Boyd Montgomery for further information.

For information on the OSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Joe Zelinko at 800-897-9714 or Boyd Montgomery at 419-885-1982, ext. 50; or visit the chapter's website at [www.glstma.org](http://www.glstma.org).

**Midwest Chapter STMA:** Upcoming events for the Midwest Chapter include: a Tour on Wheels in August, a Fall workshop at the Lincolnshire Sports Complex in October, and the annual North Central Turf Expo at Pheasant Run Resort in December.

For information on the Midwest Chapter, or pending activities, call The Chapter Hotline at 847-622-3517.

**Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Nebraska Chapter is planning an August 6th event at

## SAFE Foundation Drawing

**T**he SAFE Foundation is running a drawing for an NFL Hall of Fame Game and golf scramble package, as a fundraiser for SAFE (Safer Athletic Field Environments). SAFE's Mission Statement is "to support sports field-specific research, educational programs and environmental concerns to promote user safety," and SAFE's Vision is "to use science as the foundation to benefit sports fields in areas of playability, user safety and the environment." The package for two (one winner, and his or her guest) consists of the following:

- Admission to the Pro Football Hall of Fame (HOF), August 5th
- Admission to the NFL Experience, August 5th
- 2001 HOF Golf Scramble (with NFL players), Shady Hollow Country Club, August 6th
- HOF Tailgate Party, August 6th
- Tickets to the 2001 NFL HOF Game, St. Louis Rams vs. Miami Dolphins, August 6th
- Special Parking Credential
- Hotel room for the nights of August 5th and 6th
- Travel to and from Canton, OH, for these events
- Please Note: Winner is responsible for all other expenses not outlined above

The cost of one chance in the drawing is a \$5 donation to SAFE. Or, to get a volume discount, purchase five chances for \$20. The drawing will be held on July 4th, and the winner will be notified on July 5th. Please mail your donation (one entry per \$5, or five entries per \$20) to the address below. Be sure to enclose a note with your daytime telephone number, and make checks payable to "SAFE Foundation."

SAFE Foundation  
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1375 Rolling Hills Loop  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503-8552  
Phone: 800-323-3875  
e-mail: [SAFEFoundation@aol.com](mailto:SAFEFoundation@aol.com)

the Mead Turf Show in the morning and Seward in the afternoon. In the planning stages is an October meeting at Haymarket Park in Lincoln, Nebraska, the new home of the University of Nebraska Huskers Baseball Team and the professional baseball Northern League team, the Saltdogs. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the Nebraska Chapter, or upcoming events, call Gregg Bostelman, City of Grand Island, at 308-385-5426.

**Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization (MAFMO Chapter STMA):** The MAFMO Chapter is planning an August 24 Design and Construction Seminar to be held at the Annapolis Waterfront Marriott Hotel.

For information on the MAFMO Chapter, or pending activities, call the Hotline at 410-290-5652.

(continued)



# STMA Chapter News

**Florida Chapter #1:** For information on the Florida Chapter, or pending activities, call John Mascaro at 954-341-3115.

**Indiana Chapter:** For information on the Indiana Chapter, or pending activities, call Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer, at 219-356-8424.

**MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information on the MO-KAN STMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Trevor Vance at 816-504-4271, Gary Custis at 816-460-6215, or Jody Gill at 913-681-4121.

**Southern California Chapter:** For information on the Southern California Chapter, or pending activities, call Ron Kirkpatrick at 858-453-1755.

**Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information on the Gateway Chapter, or upcoming events, call Mark Jennings at 314-983-5345; or Jim Anthony, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO, at 314-977-2956.

**Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Nor-Cal Chapter is in the process of planning their annual Seminar on Wheels event. Details will be announced soon. For information on the Nor-Cal Chapter, or pending events, call Janet Gift at 530-758-4200.

**North Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information on the North Texas Chapter, or pending activities, call Kayla McAfee at 972-234-6584 or Rene Asprion at

972-647-3393, or visit the website at [www.ntstma.org](http://www.ntstma.org).

**Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information on the Virginia Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Chapter Vice President, Randy Buchanan, County of Henrico Recreation and Parks, via e-mail: [buc06@co.henrico.va.us](mailto:buc06@co.henrico.va.us) or at tel. 804-261-8213.

**Mid-South Chapter STMA:** For information on the Mid-South Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Robert Bodi at e-mail: [TURF419@aol.com](mailto:TURF419@aol.com) or Jim Calhoun at tel. 901-755-1305.

**Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association:** For more information on the Wisconsin Chapter, or other pending events, call Richard Miller at 608-756-1150.

## Chapters On The Grow

**Las Vegas:** With the STMA Annual Conference & Exhibition headed for Las Vegas January 16-20, 2002, plans for the formation of a Las Vegas Chapter also are moving forward. For more information on the developing chapter, please contact Rod Smith, Grounds Manager/Cashman Center at e-mail: [rms@lvcva.com](mailto:rms@lvcva.com) or at tel. 702-386-7140.

**New York:** A chapter is forming in Central New York. The group will meet at 10:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the National Soccer Hall of Fame. For more information, contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, at e-mail: [Kevin@wpe.com](mailto:Kevin@wpe.com) or at tel. 607-432-2953.

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# Q&A

## Don't Let It Drag You Down

BY DR. DAVE MINNER, PH.D., ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

### Have Questions?

SEND THEM TO DAVE MINNER AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY, 106 HORTICULTURE HALL, AMES, IA 50011, OR E-MAIL: DMINNER@IASTATE.EDU. OR, SEND THEM TO GRADY MILLER AT UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, P.O. BOX 110670, GAINESVILLE, FL 32611, OR E-MAIL: GMILLER@MAIL.IFAS.UFL.EDU.

**I** am an Athletic Director in Okinawa, Japan, and I have questions about a couple of issues concerning softball field maintenance.

1) Will a Gator work as well as a Bunker Rake with regards to softball field dragging?

2) If I had a choice between buying a Gator and a Bunker Rake, which would you choose?

3) Should an infield be turned over and scarred up regularly, to ensure it does not become too compact?

Will Marjenhoff, Athletic Director  
Okinawa, Japan

**H**ere are some of my thoughts, along with those of our Sports Field Manager, Mike Andresen, at Iowa State University, and Grady Miller, University of Florida.

The Gator and Bunker Rake that you mentioned are both made by John Deere and they have been widely used in the sports turf, golf, and construction industries. Other companies that provide a wide range of utility and field grooming equipment that may fit your needs include: Bannerman ([www.sportsturfmagic.com](http://www.sportsturfmagic.com)), Kromer ([www.kromer-afm.com](http://www.kromer-afm.com)), Textron ([www.ttcsp.textron.com](http://www.ttcsp.textron.com)), Toro ([www.toro.com](http://www.toro.com)), and others. Since you specifically mentioned the Gator and Bunker Rake, I'll use them as examples.

This question basically comes down to what are your most important needs. The Gator is primarily a utility vehicle with a cargo bed that can be used to transport people and

materials. All field grooming attachments must be pulled behind the Gator. The Gator can be used to pull home-made or manufactured drags and scarifiers. Many parks departments use this as their primary equipment for grooming dirt infields. The major drawback to using any utility vehicle for this purpose is the wide turning radius and inability to maneuver the drag in tight areas. Since it does not have a center mounted scarifier that supplies down pressure it does not offer the flexibility of deep scarifying and dragging at the same time, if desired. Regardless, the Gator with various drag attachments has been effectively used to manage baseball/softball skin areas. The obvious advantage in purchasing a utility vehicle to drag the fields is that you then have a utility vehicle to do many hauling and transportation tasks. If hauling is more important than simplicity and effectiveness in dirt grooming then the Gator is for you.

If your utility vehicle demands are already met, then you may want to consider purchasing a dedicated field grooming machine like the Bunker Rake. Be sure to get the field grooming version of John Deere's Bunker Rake. The Field Rake is specifically for athletic fields—it has a different type of push blade on the front and has the belly-mounted, heavy-duty scarifier for cutting the skin on the infield.

Mike Andresen manages soccer, football, and softball/baseball fields at Iowa State University. He has both

the Gator and Field Rake from John Deere. Here was his response when I put your question to him. "Without a doubt, I buy the Bunker Rake with the Field Groomer attachment. The Gator has the advantage of hauling material, but is far inferior for dragging (turning radius the most obvious). The Gator has no scarifier, so you will need to build or buy a sturdy nail drag to work the surface. The Field Rake has a special air cleaner for working in dirt, has a negative turning radius for sharp turns and, most important of all, comes with a scarifier. If budget is a concern, then buy the Bunker Rake and use wheel barrows for hauling dirt."

In response to your question on fighting compaction and working the dirt, Mike recommends, "Generally, we dig up or deep scarify our infield immediately prior to a rainfall. We roll frequently to get the firmness we desire, so it is important to deeply scarify to help avoid a 'pan-layer.' This is also the time we can move soil around to fill in low spots and remove high spots. The rainfall helps firm the soil again, yet we have the drainage quality afforded us by the deep scarifying. If sufficient rainfall doesn't occur, we hose water and roll."

Grady Miller, from the University of Florida, makes another important point. He suggests that you also consider the distance you are required to haul items like bases, hoses, rakes, and other maintenance items before making your decision.



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