

field can be a sign of an improperly treated clay soil base.

Solutions to soil issues will vary as much as the soil itself and include:

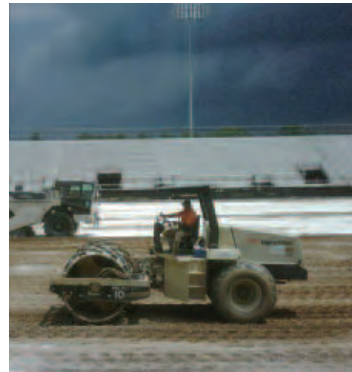
- Undercutting the soil and bringing in better dirt or rock. This is one of the more common solutions for clay soils. In most cases, rock will generally compact better to enhance stability.

- Introducing lime to stabilize clay soil and reduce its plasticity and moisture-holding capacity. Using a cement material to improve sand and silt soils. If properly applied, the cement will mesh with the on-site soil to act as a lean concrete slab.

- Using fly-ash material in the same way as cement and lime. In all cases, the intent is to induce a chemical reaction with the soil to improve the compressive and shearing strength. A geotechnical engineer should be consulted to determine the best product given the existing soil condition.

When considering an investment of a \$1 million or more in a new athletic field and subsequent replacement surfaces that will be needed every 10 years or so, it makes eminent sense to invest in a good sub-base. A thoughtful approach to stabilizing the soil will support the field and replacement surfaces over generations of use. ■

Jameson Sheley, CFB-S, CTB, is a certified field builder and certified track builder and project manager for Byrne & Jones Sports, which for more than three decades has installed more than 1,000 athletic surfaces. www.byrneandjonessports.com



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In memoriam:

The life and legacy of industry legend Dr. James R. Watson

IMAGINE, if you will, a bright, warm day in Pennsylvania in the spring of 1950. A young man named James R. Watson walked across the stage at Penn State to receive his Ph D in agronomy. Just 5 years earlier, this young man was in the 8th Air Force, where he received a Purple Heart for action over Berlin during the Second World War. The future seemed much brighter now, on that brilliant, vernal day, than it had before.

Then a professor at Penn State, James, or “Dr. Jim,” as he would become affectionately known, was hired by The Toro Company in September of 1952 as Director of Agronomy. David Lilly, president of Toro from 1950-1968, believed that the company needed an agronomist, but wasn’t quite sure what to do with one, so Dr. Watson had to work with Mr. Lilly to build his own job description. That same year, the company opened a new 24,000-square foot research and development building on the 25+ acre plot of land on which the company’s corporate headquarters now resides.

Leading a team of 25 researchers, Dr. Watson established 50 test plots, some with underground heating cables and others in climate controlled green houses, encompassing more than 10 acres of land; this facility is now known as the Dr. James R. Watson Research & Development Proving Grounds. Research was conducted on a wide variety of grasses, seeds, yields, the type and nature of soil conditions best suited to different varieties of grass, optimal fertilization and watering practices and the best approaches to controlling unwanted grasses, disease and pests. This was pioneering research that set the global stage for the future of the turf industry.

Dr. Watson spent the next 46 years with Toro, where he continued to pioneer turf and water management research that had an increasing global impact. Many of the world’s leading golf courses, parks and sports facilities frequently sought Watson’s advice and counsel. Throughout his career, Dr. Watson was



held in the highest regard throughout the industry for his kindness, knowledge, and professionalism.

Dr. Watson remained active in the industry following his retirement from Toro in 1998, serving as a consultant to both the company and the industry at-large, as well as serving on a number of prestigious turf and water management boards, organizations and research efforts.

While Dr. Watson had received countless awards and recognition for his years of research and accomplishments, his true goal was the advancement of the industry. Today, people have Dr. Watson to thank for many of the scientific innovations that have contributed so significantly to their enjoyment of beautiful, healthy, thriving, environmentally-friendly green spaces around the world.

Dr. James R. Watson passed away peacefully on October 1 of this year. A loving family man and a devoted scientific pioneer, Dr. Watson’s life and good works touched countless lives. As a man of science, Dr. Watson was undoubtedly familiar with the First Law of Thermodynamics, which tells us that energy can neither be created, nor destroyed. Perhaps, in a poetic way, it also tells us that even though he is no longer with us, his life and legacy are quite literally all around us. ■

Biographical timeline:

- Born, December 24, 1920 in Leesville, LA
- 1943-1945, bombardier with 8th Air Force over Europe
- Received Purple Heart and Silver Star for action over Berlin, March 1945
- BS in Agronomy 1947 from Texas A&M University
- PhD in Agronomy 1950 from Penn State under Dr. H. Burton Musser
- 1950-1952, Professor Texas A & M University
- 1952-1998, Vice President of Agronomy, The Toro Company
- 1998-onward, Consultant to The Toro Company and the industry

Awards and Recognition:

- Fellow American Society of Agronomy
- Fellow Crop Science Society
- 1967 Turf consultant to professional football’s first Super Bowl – a relationship Toro continues to enjoy to this day
- 1976 United States Golf Association’s Green Section Award for distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass
- 1977 American Society of Agronomy’s Agronomic Service Award
- 1979 Elected to the Board of the International Turfgrass Society
- 1982 Appointed to United States Golf Association’s research committee
- 1983 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America’s Distinguished Service Award
- 1983 Appointed adjunct professor in the Horticultural Science and Landscape Architecture Department of the University of Minnesota.
- 1985 Elected Director of National Golf Foundation
- 1985 Elected Director to the Board of the Freshwater Foundation
- 1986 Landscape Management’s Man of the Year
- 1986 Landscape and Irrigation’s Man of the Year
- 1987 First recipient of the Crop Society of America’s Fred V. Grau Turfgrass Science Award
- 1988 Elected to the Board of the Sports Turf Managers Association
- 1989 Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents’ Distinguished Service Award
- 1989 Appointed to the Board of the Landscape Architecture Foundation
- 1991 Appointed to the Executive Board of the Landscape Architecture Foundation as Vice President of Research
- 1991 Sports Turf Management Association’s Harry Gill Award
- 1993 Appointed to the Planning Council of the Irrigation Association and Water Science and Technology Board Committee on “The Future of Irrigation”
- 1994 Served as agronomic coordinator for nine of the World Cup venues
- 1994 Donald Ross award from Golf Architects Society of America
- 1995 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America’s highest honor – the Old Tom Morris Award
- 1998 Texas A & M University, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences’ Outstanding Alumni Award
- 1998 United States Golf Association’s Green Section’s Piper and Oakley Award
- 1999 Honorary Member of the Sports Turf Managers’ Association
- 1999 Inducted into the Minnesota Golf Hall of Fame
- 2002 Appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Agronomics Science Foundation
- 2007 American Society of Irrigation Consultants’ Ray Williams Memorial Award
- 2009 United States Golf Association’s Ike Grainger Award

JOHN MASCARO'S PHOTO QUIZ

Answers from page 17

ALTHOUGH the uneven playing surface on this high school football field could have been caused by an angry herd of pigs, this photo is actually man-made. This school district located in the southern United States had rebuilt this field about 8 years previously to when this photo was taken. The resulting renovated field had a good soil mix however cutbacks in the school maintenance program as well as cutbacks in manpower had left the field in disrepair. Severe compaction as well as some marching band ruts and some low spots had formed from intensive use by the high school. Instead of the long, normal road to recovery, the maintenance director opted to flag the irrigation heads and rototill the entire field down to a depth of 8 inches. After this process, the field was laser graded and then rolled, leaving the tilled bermudagrass in the root zone. The field was then irrigated on a schedule similar to sprigging and within 30 days, the entire field was grown back in and ready for play. This process was deemed successful enough that they did this process to several other fields the following year. ■

Photo from John Mascaro's collection.



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.



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F.O.Y.

Field of the Year



TD Ameritrade Park Omaha

- Level of Submission: College
- Category of Submission: Baseball
- Head Sports Turf Manager: Dan Blank
- Title: Turf manager
- Education: Associate's degree, horticulture and turf management
- Experience: Internships with St. Paul Saints ('04) and Milwaukee Brewers ('05); Assistant Groundskeeper for Louisville Bats ('06); Head Groundskeeper for Birmingham

Barons ('07) and Buffalo Bisons ('08-'10); Turf Manager at TD Ameritrade Park Omaha ('10-present).

- Full-time staff: Eric Williams, assistant turf manager
- Original construction: 2011
- Turfgrass variety: Original sod from Graff's Turf Farms. Currently: 85% Kentucky bluegrass/15% perennial ryegrass
- Overseed: Compared to 2011, we tried to ramp up our overseeding program for

2012. Because of the variety of events we host throughout the season and its constant use, overseeding is definitely part of our regular maintenance plan. Rates and frequency of seeding are as follows: 1 lb /1,000 bluegrass at least once a month; 1/2 lb/1,000 ryegrass every other month

- Drainage: Corrugated plastic drain tile. 24" to 18" main line running down center of field (centerfield to home plate). 6" lateral lines every 10. Also have SubAir system; heated air forced through drainage system.

CHALLENGES

TD Ameritrade Park Omaha opened in 2011 with the intent of being a multi-use facility. That being said, management has certainly held up their end of the bargain in the short amount of time that the facility has been in use. Aside from being the home of the NCAA Men's College World Series, we also host Creighton University baseball, the College Home Run Derby, RedSky music festival, Omaha Nighthawks football, and in February 2013, hockey! Just the sheer variety of events held at the stadium creates challenges in terms of trying to develop, schedule, and implement an annual management plan for the field.

When the College World Series moves in, the stadium is transformed top to bottom. On our end, we are challenged with coordinating our routine field maintenance around all the extra practices, run-throughs, meetings, and additional setup that occurs on the field before the tournament. In particular, we assist ESPN with installing in-ground microphones at home plate and the pitcher's mound. Once those are in the ground, our crew has to be careful not to purposely rake or drag over them as we prepared the field for the games.

The summer of 2012 was absolutely brutal. Like much of the nation, we were faced with intense heat and drought conditions for much of June, July, and August.

The RedSky Music Festival is about the worst-case scenario you can imagine for a sports field. In mid-July, two-thirds of the field was covered with protective plastic flooring for 10 days. Additionally, a large stage was built in centerfield, and temperatures averaged around 98 degrees for the duration of the event. Needless to say, the field took a severe beating.

The Omaha Nighthawks of the United Football League also call our place home. The league has been plagued by financial problems for the last two years, and quite frankly, we weren't sure until September if they were going to play or not. From our stand point, we did as much as we could to the field to prepare despite the uncertainty.

This coming February, we are hosting an outdoor hockey event on our field. Although some of the details aren't completely worked out yet, we have a basic understanding on the logistics on building the rink and general set up. However, perhaps the most obvious challenge that remains is how the weather will be for the event, and what measures we need to take to protect the turf. After the event, we will have one month to get the field ready for Creighton baseball in March.

SportsTurf: What channels of communication do you use to reach coaches, administrators and users of your facility? Any tips on communicating well?

Blank: For Creighton University games and practices, I deal directly with the coaching staff and also receive information from our Event Manager for the stadium.

During the College World Series, every day I speak often with NCAA committee members and again am frequently in contact with the Event Manager.

For any other event, I get most of my communications from the Event Manager.

We use the standard forms of communications; cell phones, emails, two-way radios, but the most effective is face to face.

ST: What are your specific job responsibilities? What do find most enjoyable? What task is your least favorite and why?

Blank: My primary responsibility is to provide the best possible baseball field that I can for the biggest stage in college baseball. One that looks great, but more importantly, plays flawlessly. Far and away, any baseball game is my favorite event, and the College World Series is the most chaotic and the most enjoyable. My least favorite task is, without a doubt, snow removal. I used to look forward to a good blizzard or two during the winter months but assisting the maintenance staff with snow removal has pretty much taken all the joy out of it.

ST: How did you get started in turf management?

Blank: I got a late start in this industry. I received my bachelor's degree in an unrelated field and spent seven years as a manager of operations in the hospitality industry in the Minneapolis area. Being born and raised in Minnesota, I have always been a big Twins fan and maybe even a bigger fan of the game of baseball itself. In the early 2000s I knew in my heart that the Twins would soon be getting a new outdoor stadium and if I wanted to be a part of that crew I would need to get after it. While continuing to work full time, I returned to school and received my Associate Degree in Sports Turf Management. I began my climb in this industry with internships with the St. Paul Saints and the Milwaukee Brewers followed by my biggest break of all, heading down to Louisville, KY to spend a season with Tom Nielson at Louisville Slugger Field. Following that summer in Louisville, I became the Head Groundskeeper for the Birmingham Barons (through Southern Athletic Fields) for a season. Then the Buffalo Bisons came calling, and I spent three fun seasons in western New York. In the fall of 2010, the opportunity to be the Turf Manager at TD Ameritrade Park Omaha came up and between taking over a brand new facility and returning to the Midwest, it was too good to pass up. Three seasons under my belt and looking forward to many more.

▼ **CREW MEMBERS;** Kyle Poljanac, Alex Sindelar, Joe Morgan, and Brandon Cutler painting the CWS logo.

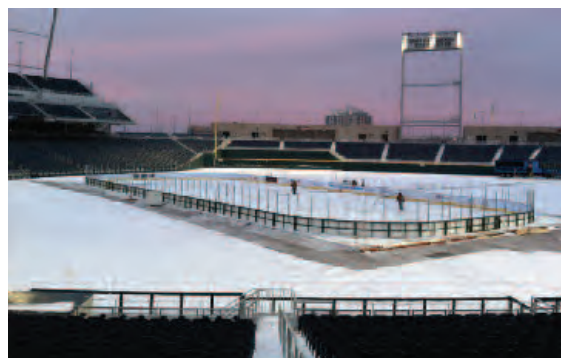
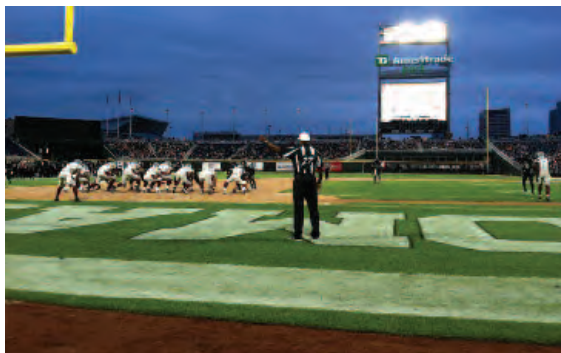




▲ **LSU takes** the field during the College World Series practice and media day.

▼ **Top: THE OMAHA NIGHTHAWKS** of the UFL called our field home for the 2011 and 2012 seasons.

▼ **Bottom: FLOODING OF HOCKEY RINK** in preparations for the Mutual of Omaha's Battles on Ice.



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

Blank: During an event such as the CWS, there is not much of a balance. My wife and kids actually move back to Wisconsin for those two weeks in June. For Creighton games and other events that we host, I am fortunate to be able to have my family come down and spend time with me during the events themselves.

ST: What changes are you planning to make or have you made to your maintenance plan for 2013, if any?

Blank: The biggest change we made was the addition of a continuous seeding program. We slit seeded the entire field with Kentucky Bluegrass three times this season at a rate of about 3.5 lbs./mft². We also went out twice a week with a broadcast spreader in the areas that would show wear in an effort to always have new turf coming up.

ST: Are you yet involved in sustainable management practices? If so, what are you doing?

Blank: We perform the more traditional practices such as returning clippings, the application on humus in some of our fertilizers, regular aeration and topdressing, annual soil testing to determine next year's fertilizer requirements, and the use of foliar fertilizer applications to increase the plants uptake while using less as compared to a soil feeding.

ST: How do you see your job changing in the future?

Blank: I see pressures being put on Turf Managers in general to get more involved with the previously mentioned "sustainable" management practices. I also feel that water use issues will become more and more of a hot topic in the coming years.

As far as TD Ameritrade Park Omaha, who knows? It makes me a little nervous for my turf when I think about the kind of events a creative sales staff can come up with but exposure of the ballpark to a greater audience is never a bad thing. ■

REV new humic compound from Dakota

REV PTF6000, from Dakota, is an all-natural, organic humic compound that dramatically improves plant health while increasing the longevity of fertilizer and fungicide performance. REV assists in disease suppression and enhanced soil biology as well. REV easily tank mixes with most products and can be used in conjunction with granular applications for longer lasting results. REV has been proven to decrease turf operating costs by 30% or more. REV uses the world's highest quality all natural materials and compounds in its formulations.

Dakota



Sweeper cuts maintenance time on synthetics

The 3-three-wheel Broce Turf Boss sweeper can groom a typical turf field in a single pass, with full 8' brush contact, reducing field maintenance time by up to two-thirds. Its reversible brush rotation, included as standard equipment, can double productivity by allowing the operator to sweep in both directions without turning around. Turf Boss sweeper's hydraulics are engineered to deliver more power to the brush, which enables full brush-turf contact for faster field maintenance. To combat overheating issues on turf fields, its radiator is designed to operate in 140°F ambient temperatures. It is the only sweeper of its kind to incorporate a hydraulic oil cooler as standard equipment. Comes standard with turf-specific 12-inch wide tires that tread lightly on turf.

Broce Manufacturing Co.



Self-priming centrifugal pumps

Griswold Pump Company says that its H Series high head self-priming centrifugal pumps have been designed with key features and options that make them ideally suited for a wide variety of water applications, including turf irrigation where greater flows and higher heads are needed. Unlike standard end suction centrifugal pumps, the H Series is able to maintain its prime even when check valves or foot valves have failed. Since the suction line on the H Series is located higher on the pump housing than conventional centrifugal pumps, it keeps the impeller and mechanical seal covered with water at all times eliminating the need to re-prime the pump and protects the seal from running dry resulting in costly replacements.

Griswold Pump Company



Katana herbicide Early Order and Bundle Bonus program

Professional sports turf managers can get a head start on next year's maintenance plans while conserving valuable budgets with an early order incentive and product bundle bonus program, available from PBI-Gordon Corporation, for its Katana Turf Herbicide. The program includes different opportunities to save: Katana Incentive, with a minimum purchase of eight bottles or two cases of Katana, you can receive a \$100-per-case rebate. Katana is packaged with four 3-ounce bottles per case (receive \$100 per case with each additional case after minimum is met). Also Bundle Bonus Rebate, add 10 gallons of SpeedZone and/or SpeedZone Southern to each case of Katana ordered and earn an additional \$2.50 per gallon rebate on the SpeedZone products. Early delivery bonus also available.

PBI Gordon



Bayer CropScience introduces Specticle plus Fertilizer

Environmental Science, a division of Bayer CropScience LP, has launched Specticle plus Fertilizer, an herbicide that provides warm-season turf managers up to 8 months of residual control at low use rates. The characteristics of Specticle deliver excellent weed prevention and fertility. Specticle plus Fertilizer is available in two different concentrations and a variety of fertilizer blends to provide for increased flexibility that meets the needs of warm-season turfgrass professionals. Specticle is a unique class of chemistry that offers an environmentally responsible solution and helps address weed resistance. Specticle plus Fertilizer delivers extended residual pre-emergent control of more than 75 broadleaf and grassy weeds, including annual bluegrass, goosegrass, crabgrass and annual sedge. The easy-to-use Specticle plus Fertilizer helps streamline turf management practices and simplify application.

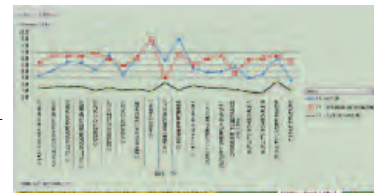
Bayer



Tool to aid in seed variety choice

WinField is committed to providing turf managers with the tools they need to stay at the top of their game. Case in point: its proprietary new Turf Tech Tool that helps efficiently choose the best seed varieties for your sites. The Turf Tech Tool, part of the WinFieldInsights Tech Kit, combines data from the National Turfgrass Evaluation program into one convenient database that makes the seed selection process easier. This industry-exclusive tool allows users to quickly pinpoint the best turf seed for their specific conditions. Features university evaluations of six turf species and more than 1,000 turf varieties. Allows users to compare varieties based on 150 attributes. Includes charting and sorting capabilities to evaluate varieties on national, regional and state levels. Quickly matches the optimum turf seed to specific environmental and playing conditions.

WinField



Get rid of geese

Canada Goose deterrent company Away With Geese has a new product: the Sports Cage. The Sports Cage protects the Sports Unit, a unit designed to avert theft in public spaces, from vandalism. The two together get rid of Canada Geese from any public area, while also averting theft and vandalism of the unit. All Away With Geese products feature a solar-powered light that is scarcely noticeable to humans but is very disruptive to the sleep of the geese, causing them to find another habitat after just a few restless nights. Like all Away With Geese units, they are maintenance free; once placed and secured, they require no upkeep and are guaranteed to rid the area of Canada Geese.

Away With Geese



New spreader/sprayer with electric features

TurfEx introduces the RS7200E spreader/sprayer with advanced features to maximize the efficiency of lawn care professionals. The new unit boasts an electric start, adjustable electric spray pump, and a hand-held spray wand. The RS7200E is driven by a 7-horsepower Subaru EX210 engine with electric start and a 0.95-gallon fuel tank. Its heavy-duty transmission has two forward gears, neutral and reverse. A hand-operated transmission disc brake and foot-controlled sulky band brake allow smooth, confident operation of the unit, and the machine's low center of gravity further increases the safety of the RS7200E. A 17-gallon tank system has a single port for easy filling and a balanced design for enhanced stability. To apply the liquid, the RS7200E includes a front-mounted boomless nozzle, which can spray between 3 and 11 feet wide, as well as a professional-duty spray wand.

TurfEx



F.O.Y.

Field of the Year



► PRE-GAME Prep

Tiger Park, Louisiana State University

- Level of Submission: College
- Category of Submission: Softball
- Head Sports Turf Manager: Eric Harshman (now with University of Kentucky)
- Title: Assistant Sports Turf Manager
- Education: Bachelor's Degree in Marketing
- Experience: Started off in the golf industry in 2005. In 2007 started working

for the Louisville Bats. Spent one season on the game day staff, one season as seasonal full-time and two seasons as first assistant. In June, 2011 moved to Baton Rouge and became the assistant sports turf manager at LSU.

- Full-time staff: Matt Mitchusson, Caleb Hatcher
- Other crew to recognize: Paul Wedig, Jake Wilson

- Original construction: 2009
- Turfgrass variety: Celebration bermudagrass
- Overseed: Perennial Ryegrass is applied to the playing field and grassed seating area beyond the outfield wall in late October at a rate of 14 lbs/1000.
- Drainage: Herringbone drainage system, 4" drain line, 15' off center.

CHALLENGES

Saying that Tiger Park is overused is an understatement. From September 2011 to July 2012, 56 games were played at Tiger Park. Our fall season consisted of 12 games in the month of October. Because we reside in southeast Louisiana we have the luxury of living in a warmer climate and because of that, our season starts a bit earlier than most. Practices start in January just like everyone else, but we are hosting tournaments starting the first weekend in February. Tiger Park and LSU hosted three separate tournaments this past season that consisted of 22 games. Sixteen of those were non-LSU softball games; 24 home LSU games were played at Tiger Park and 40 games total for the 2012 season. Just as the season came to an end in early June, it was time for softball camps to begin. Three separate camps took place at Tiger Park. Each camp had in average of 116 participants. LSU's head softball coach, Beth Torina, is also the coach for the USSSA Florida Pride of the National Pro Fastpitch league. A four-game series was played between the Carolina Diamonds and the USSSA Pride in early July which brought some great exposure to LSU and Tiger Park. We got a short, and much needed break in the month of August, just to have fall softball start up again in September to repeat the process.

We are very fortunate that our softball team helps with the tarping of the field. Our grounds staff and the softball coaching staff have been able to work out a system that benefits everyone. The team is responsible for tarping the field after practice if needed and they help our staff during games. In the morning and during the day all tarp duties fall on the grounds staff. At last count the grounds staff had the team outnumbered in tarp pulls with 13 to their measly five tarp pulls. I joke, but again I am very fortunate to have the help from the team with this. Though we had the team out numbered in tarp pulls, those five times saved our staff some major headaches.

In 2012 the entire coaching staff entered their first season at LSU. With new coaches means learning their expectations and gaining their trust. There is a fine line of balancing the needs of the team with the needs of the facility. I make it a point to stop by their offices regularly and see how everything's going and letting them know that if they need anything to not hesitate, but ask. This has helped build a working relationship with the coaching staff. Teamwork was the key to success in 2012.

SportsTurf: What attracted you to a career in sports turf management?

Harshman: The appeal of being around sports every day and working outside.

ST: What are your specific job responsibilities? What do find most enjoyable? What task is your least favorite and why?

Harshman: I managed and maintained the day-to-day operations at both the LSU Soccer Complex and Tiger Park. I scheduled maintenance programs for the playing fields and landscape, and managed and instructed crews on game and non-game days and kept an open line of communication with coaching staffs/liaisons, marketing, and game management personnel regularly.

When not at Soccer/Softball I would assist where needed, for example.

- Tiger Stadium (Football) - Paint end zones/game prep and assist in maintenance program



▲ MID-SEASON

- Alex Box (Baseball) – Game prep, assist in maintenance program
- Practice Football Facility – (3 natural grass fields) (1 synthetic outdoor field) (Indoor facility) Assist in maintenance program
- Helped maintain two High School fields (Baseball, Football/Soccer)
- Track & Field – Paint sector lines for shot, discus & javelin. Make necessary repairs to throws field (patch divots, irrigation breaks)
- Concert and event prep

Most Enjoyable: I really enjoy opening day (for any sport) The nervous excitement sets in and you have that moment of satisfaction, knowing that all the hours the crew and I put into getting the field ready has paid off.

Least Enjoyable: Inclement weather and living and dying by weather sources. I use multiple weather sources via the internet and more often than not none of them are accurate. Percentages are different, radar maps are different. I try to go with my gut instincts and learning the weather patterns has been very beneficial.

ST: What was your first sports turf job?

Harshman: After spending several years working in the golf industry I made the transition into sports turf working with the Louisville Bats and head groundskeeper, Tom Nielsen. I spent four seasons in Louisville starting off as game day help, to a full time seasonal position and finally as the first assistant for two seasons. After leaving Louisville I have been blessed with the opportunities to work at both Louisiana State University & the University of Kentucky, serv-



▲ **PAINTING** the Tiger Eye - Done twice a week during the season

ing as the assistant sports turf manager working with CSFM's Eric Fasbender and Marcus Dean.

ST: What advice would you offer when relocating to begin a new Turf Management job, both personally and professionally?

Harshman: Personally: If married/family, make sure to talk out any detail imaginable. Be considerate of your spouse and family. Make sure everyone is on board. The decision you make will not only have an impact on you, it will impact your family!

Professionally: First and foremost, look to challenge yourself and broaden your horizons. Be confident in your abilities, but look toward others when advice is needed. Know that mistakes are going to be made and that you can learn from them. Relocating can be exciting and can be very stressful if you allow it to consume you. Control the controllable!

ST: What channels of communication do you use to reach coaches, administrators, and users of your facility? Any tips on communicating well?

Harshman: I use a wide variety of communication methods (e-mail, phone calls, texts). I find that the best way of communication is in person and to the individual/individuals looking for answers. By going straight to the source you eliminate any concerns/questions that may be lost in translation via texts or even with e-mail.

ST: How do you see your job changing in the future?

Harshman: The sports turf manager's job is ever-changing. Cultural practices and the means to apply them change at a rapid rate. Doing research on the latest products (equipment, fertilizers etc.) is a



▲ **PRE-GAME** Water

constant. I believe that turf managers are now being asked to do more than manage the playing surfaces. We are now taking on the responsibilities of facility director, stadium operations and event managers. ■

▼ **TIGER INVITATIONAL** Eight game weekend tournament

