A New Element —*Administratium*— Discovered

(Ed. Note: The effects of administratium are not yet known to turf. However, the effects on superintendents is becoming more known as we speak!)

The heaviest element known to science was recently discovered in the Soviet Union at Turgid University.

The element, tentatively named Administratium, escaped detection for years due to its peculiar structure. Extensive testing has determined that Administratium has no protons or electrons, which gives it an atomic number of 0. However it does contain 1 neutron, 103 assistant neutrons, 81 vice-neutrons and 133 assistant vice-neutrons. This gives it an atomic mass of 318. These 318 particles are held together in a nucleus by a force that involves the continuous exchange of meson-like particles called morons.

Since it really has no electrons, Administratium is inert. However it can be detected chemically as it impedes every reaction it comes in contact with. According to the discoverers, a minute amount of the substance caused one reaction to take over three days to complete when it normally occurs in less than three seconds.

Administratium has a normal half-life of approximately 2.5 years. However, instead of decaying, it actually undergoes a reorganization in which assistant neutrons, vice-neutrons and assistant vice-neutrons exchange places. Some studies have even shown that occasionally the atomic mass actually increases after these reorganizations.

Research at other laboratories has indicated that Administratium occurs naturally in the atmosphere. It tends to concentrate at certain points such as government agencies, corporate headquarters and universities. At these locations, the strongest concentrations can be found at the newest and best maintained buildings.

Scientists point out that Administratium is toxic at any level of concentration, as it destroys productivity wherever it is allowed to accumulate. There is some evidence linking exposure to extensive paper handling, although this question needs further study. Attempts are being made to determine how Administratium may be controlled or eradicated, but results to date are not promising.