

2009 GCSAA COLLEGIATE TURF BOWL

Maryland Team Takes 4th Place

It's a turf war! Teams battle over turf, about turf, in the turf, and determine the species of turf, what's under turf, what's wrong with turf, what to do with turf. You get the picture. This turf war, known as the Turf Bowl, is an annual competition open to collegiate student chapters of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

In 2000, under the guidance of Dr. Kevin Mathias, a two-person team of Maryland students traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana to enter their first national Turf Bowl contest. Scoring 185.5 points this inaugural team placed 7th out of 45 teams.

Now, fast forward to 2009 and a return to New Orleans, Louisiana where the Maryland team of Michal Owens, Steve Hutzell, Chris Thayer, and Kenny Meyers took 4th place in a competitive field of 83 teams while the team of Drew Prossa, Andrew Lichtenburg, Allen Harryman, and John Lytle placed 17th. Purdue won the event with a score of 435 while the 4th place Terp team tallied 420 points.



Standing left to right: John Lytle, Allen Harryman, Dr. Kevin Mathias (advisor), Andrew Lichtenberg, and Drew Prossa. Sitting left to right: Chris Thayer, Michal Owens, Kenny Meyers, and Steve Hutzell.

With the level of competition escalating annually the 2009 team set an enviable and first time achievement of placing the highest, 4th place, of any previous Maryland teams. Over the past ten years Maryland has placed a team in the top 10 nine times.

The Collegiate Turf Bowl tests the students' knowledge and golf course maintenance experience in such areas as weed, insect, and disease identification, mathematics, soil fertility, turfgrass growth and development, business management and turfgrass identification. Students begin to prepare for this February event during the Fall semester by enrolling in a one credit course taught by Dr. Mathias. Congratulations are in order for these years' student competitors for their hard work and outstanding performance.

15th Annual Collegiate Turf Bowl Competition / 2009 Top Ten Results

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
Purdue	1	435	Purdue	6	415.5
Iowa State	2	423.5	U. of Arkansas	7	415
Purdue	3	422.5	Penn State	8	413
U. of Maryland	4	420	U. of Tennessee	9	410.5
Penn State	5	416	U. of Wisconsin	10	408

Thanks to All our Sponsors for the GIS New Orleans
Reception

Presenting Sponsors

Finch Services, G. L. Cornell, Syngenta, Nutramax Laboratories

Supporting Sponsors

Arysta Life Sciences, Bayer, Quali-Pro, Yamaha Golf Cars of VA

Friends

Davison Golf, Hrydo Designs, McDonald & Son, McDonald Design Group, Oakwood Sod, Sports
Aggregates, Winfield Solutions