

## Ballfield Maintenance

*Continued from cover*

Are there big "lips" or humps where the grass and the infield meet on the baseball or softball field? Is the infield area bumpy with depressions and holes? Does the infield have many rocks or other abrasive material? Are there deep holes in the batter's boxes and pitching areas? Does the field drain water well?

The third step is to evaluate the resources available for maintaining the field during the season and throughout the year. What equipment and materials are available for maintenance? What is the availability of personnel to work on the field? What is the weather like during the times the field is in use and when it is not in use? What is the budget? What is the priority for having this field in tip-top shape?

Before answering any of the above questions, look at how the field is now being used, what condition the field is in and what resources are available. Once these issues are identified, a good ballfield maintenance program can be developed in time for first pitches everywhere. Remember: The more use a field has, the more care must be given to provide for a safe and enjoyable experience. □

*Steve Wightman, Jack Murphy Stadium, San Diego, Calif., is an STMA Board Advisor.*

## Preparing for Spring Sports

*From the STMA-Chesapeake Chapter*

**A**re you ready for Spring sports? Go through this checklist to be sure:

- Is your equipment serviced?
- Did you receive a game schedule?
- Are your supplies stocked?
- Have you completed a turf maintenance schedule for 1993?
- Have you made adjustments and contingency plans to avoid last year's problems?
- Are you aware of this season's weather forecast?

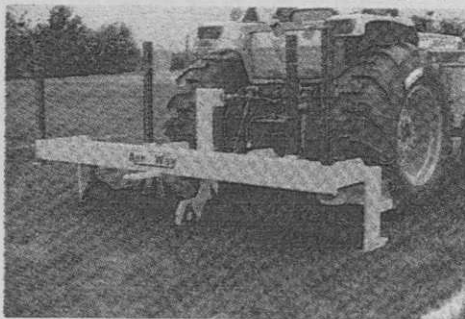
Only you are responsible for your fields. Make sure you are organized and efficient to anticipate next year's problems. Remember, field excellence translates into a higher level of play and fewer field-related injuries. □



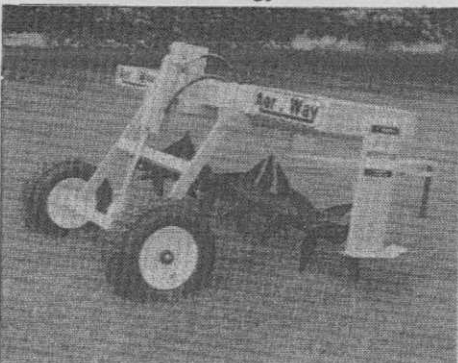
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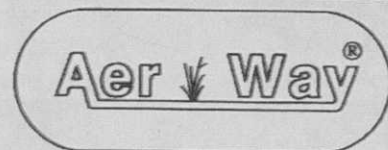
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