

Too Much Synthetic?

BAD NEWS! THE GUYS WILL ONLY PLAY ON THE REAL THING!



The Seattle, Wash. area has become a haven for synthetic turf manufacturers. According to a series of articles in the Seattle synthetic football fields at the high school level are booming there.

One article, written by P-1 reporter Greg Brown, notes that the 14-team South Puget Sound League has just three teams still playing on real grass. The city of Bellevue has four high school synthetic fields, valued at \$2.8-million each. Twenty-five Washington high schools, most of them in the greater Seattle area, are now synthetic.

However, another article, also written by Brown, questions the safety of synthetic fields.

"In the debut of Bellevue High

School's field Sept. 21 (1990), Mike Camlin was the fourth Redmond player sidelined in the first half in what Redmond Coach Jim Sampson calls the most injuries he's seen in a half in 12 seasons," Brown's article notes. The injuries were torn knee ligaments and cartilage (to Camlin), a bruised rib, a bruised shoulder and loss of breath.

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LETTERS

June 4, 1991

Mr. Mike Bladon
Grounds, Physical Resources
University of Guelph



Dear Mike:

Thank you very much for the copy of the book *An Athletic Field Managers' Guide*. Regretfully, as my secretary mentioned when you called, photographs of book presentations are no longer published in *At Guelph*.

I am certainly pleased to receive a copy of the Sports Turf Association's publication for the collection and do appreciate being kept in mind. In these days of increasingly tight library budgets direct support is definitely valued.

With best wishes,
Yours truly,
John B. Black
Chief Librarian,
University of Guelph

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