

Nemesis 'numero uno' on lawns: brown patch



Brown patch: a frequent summer killer of turf

According to a survey of turfgrass disease diagnostic centers across the U.S., brown patch is the leading killer of grass across three frames of reference: frequency of occurrence, intensity of damage and estimated economic impact.

"There are some surprises

here," says survey originator Chris Sann of the Turf Information Group, Wilmington, Del. "Conventional wisdom holds that dreschlera and dollar spot are the most common turfgrass diseases, rather than fifth and third, respectively.

"That brown patch is first is a mild surprise, but that anthracnose is second and pythium root rot is fourth is a huge surprise." Sann says that bipolaris coming in sixth is also a "moderate surprise."

The survey numbers indicate the number of specimens tested by labs. *However*, many turf managers can often diagnose the most common diseases themselves, simply

by symptoms and cultural factors—including weather patterns—and thus do not send specimens to labs.

"These results indicate that labs are more sophisticated than thought, and that management practices, product use and plant breeding are having an effect on disease occurrence," says Sann.

The survey was part of a future project being conducted cooperatively by the Turf Information Group, *LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT* magazine and *American Cyanamid*. Forty-eight questionnaires were mailed, and 27 were returned. Here are the complete results:

'Day on Hill' features Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., will be the guest speaker at PLCAA's 8th Annual Legislative Day on the Hill in Washington D.C., Feb. 3-4, 1997.

Also participating will be Edward A. Grefe, chairman of International Civics Inc., who will be conducting a classroom session entitled "Strategic Management of Political Issues & Grassroots Politics." Grefe specializes in coalition building and crisis management.

PLCAA says all lawn and landscape professionals are encouraged to attend its Legislative Day on the Hill and help influence legislation. One-on-one visits with legislators on Capitol Hill are the highlights of the event. There is no registration fee, and most meals are included.

For more information on Legislative Day, contact PLCAA Director of Government Affairs Tom Delaney at (800) 458-3466; fax is (770) 578-6071; e-mail: plcaa@atcom.net.

TURF DISEASE SURVEY

Disease	Frequency of occurrence	Intensity of damage	Est. economic impact
Brown patch	4.08 (1)	3.48 (1)	3.59 (1)
Anthracnose	3.26 (2)	2.89 (4)	2.74 (4)
Dollar spot	3.22 (3)	2.56 (6)	2.48 (7)
Pythium root rot	3.07 (4)	3.30 (2)	3.00 (2)
Dreschlera diseases	3.04 (5)	2.56 (7)	2.37 (8)
Bipolaris diseases	2.96 (6)	2.56 (8)	2.56 (6)
Red thread	2.96 (7)	2.33 (9)	2.04 (12)
Pythium blight	2.67 (8)	3.07 (3)	2.80 (3)
Rust	2.63 (9)	2.11 (13)	2.30 (9)
Summer patch	2.63 (10)	2.70 (5)	2.74 (5)
Pink snow mold	2.30 (11)	2.33 (10)	2.04 (13)
Gray snow mold	2.26 (12)	2.04 (14)	1.81 (14)
Necrotic ring spot	2.19 (13)	2.26 (12)	2.19 (11)
Take-all patch	2.15 (14)	2.30 (11)	2.30 (10)

NOTES: Numbers are average of all responses (5=most frequent, 1=least frequent). Numbers in parentheses are rank in group. Responses based on best estimates of personnel at participating diagnostic centers.

THE LM 100:

Excellence is
everywhere!

Our spin on some of the best and most visible golf courses, athletic and grounds facilities and lawn/landscape companies—ones that help set the standards for green industry excellence.



Golf course and grounds facility selection based on design features, reputation, accessibility, volume of acres managed, and solicited, peer-group opinion.

Landscape/lawn care companies chosen for their volume, regional and/or national reputation, and media accessibility.

We know we could have included at least another hundred. Nonetheless, we hope you find this informative, entertaining and useful. —The editors





GOLF COURSES

Augusta National Golf Club, Augusta, Ga.

Formally opened for play January of 1933, the course was built and designed by Bob Jones and Dr. Alistair Mackenzie.

"All members of the maintenance staff receive a daily schedule every morning with their specific responsibilities," says Jack Stephens, chairman of Augusta National Golf Club. "Frequent meetings are conducted to update the staff on the latest innovations and procedures in the turfgrass industry."

Boone Links/Lassing Pointe, Florence, Ky.

The two Boone Links courses—Brookview and Lakeview—were designed by the von Hagge Company and golf professional Bruce Devlin. Lassing Pointe was designed by



Michael Hurdzan.

"I bring out the best in my people," says superintendent Jerry Coldiron (shown). "I look at everybody as an individual. We let them

know how much we appreciate them."

Bob O' Link, Highland Park, Ill.

A Donald Ross course from 1916, Bob O' Link is known for its elevated greens and large bunkers. Certified superintendent Bruce Williams—who is also the current GCSAA president—followed in his dad Bob's footsteps at Bob O' Link.

"Agronomically, I try to stay up with everything as much as I possibly can," says Williams, who reads constantly. "I try to stay on top of the cutting-edge technology, through reading and turf conferences."

Collier's Reserve, Naples, Fla.

One of the first Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary courses, Collier's is a lesson in how to build a golf course without disturbing the native wildlife and vegetation.

"There's not a whole lot of



room for boredom in this business if you're motivated," says certified superintendent Tim Hiers (shown) a staunch defender of golf course superintendents as environmentalists.

Canterbury Golf Club, Beachwood, Ohio

Since 1921, Canterbury has been a frequent stop for touring pros. It's hosted four U.S. Open Championships and four USGA



championships.

Superintendent Terry Bonar (shown) says he had fun getting the course ready for the 1996 U.S. Senior Open Championship, held at Canterbury this past July.



"I think we exceeded the USGA's criteria," says Bonar. "They wouldn't let us

get the greens any faster than 10 [on the stimpmeter]. We could have had them up to 11."

Congressional Country Club, Bethesda, Md.

Two nine-hole courses—The Blue Course and The Gold Course—were designed in 1924 by Devereux Emmet, a dog trainer/golfer/huntsman from New York City. Many have reworked or added to the course since then, including Donald Ross, Robert Trent

THE LM 100

Jones, Rees Jones and Roger Rulewich.

Superintendent Paul Latshaw—now in his third season at the Congressional—is readying the course for next year's U.S. Open.

"What keeps me going is the satisfaction of seeing your work reach completion," says Latshaw, who has also served as superintendent of Oakmont.

Fairmount Country Club, Chatham, N.J.

Hal Purdy designed Fairmount in 1960, with moderate undulations and "fall-away" greens. Vince Bracken (shown), superintendent at



Fairmount since 1989, calls the course "difficult but fair."

Seeding a bluegrass/rye mixture in the roughs has recently helped Bracken highlight the con-

tours between fairways and rough areas.

Firestone Country Club, Akron, Ohio

The North Course was a 1969, Robert Trent Jones/Roger Rulewich design. William Way gave us the South course in 1929. Firestone is the site of the NEC World Series of Golf, held every August. Brian Mabie is the superintendent.

The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.

Robert Mitchell (shown), executive director of golf & grounds, keeps the three Greenbrier courses



running smoothly with the help of a solid team of people.

Sixty percent of the Greenbrier's business comes from groups staying at the

resort hotel that is part of the Greenbrier complex. Average annual "guest days" at the hotel reach 230,000.

Mitchell says his strengths include being able to bring about a teamwork approach, and the budgeting/accounting side of managing a golf course resort.

"Slammin'" Sam Snead is The Greenbrier's golf pro emeritus.

Harborside Golf Course, Long Grove, Ill.

Formerly the site of two Chicago landfills, the links-style, 456-acre Harborside International Golf Center is under the care of superintendent Clay Putnam.

"My biggest concern is the health of the turfgrass," says Putnam. "I want to be as efficient as



possible. I want to achieve the perfect balance, between amount of fertilizer and pesticide used. I would also like to establish a true integrated pest management program."

Assistants Mark Schmitz and Donnie Fitzgerald help Putnam manage 72 employees.

Hartfield National, Avondale, Pa.

This one-year-old, 18-hole course is one of the finest public courses in America—as Tom Fazio designed it to be, according to superintendent Steve Edkin.

"We are an upscale public course that gives the daily fee player a country club experience," says Edkin. The course draws golfers from Philadelphia, Delaware, south New Jersey and Maryland.

Crenshaw/South Shore creeping bentgrass greens are nicely contrasted by perennial ryegrass fairways and tees, and roughs are sodded Kentucky bluegrass.

The Honors Course, Ooltewah, Tenn.

Superintendent David Stone says the Honors Course has been

known to have great greens and zoysiagrass fairways. It hosted this year's NCAA Championship, won by teen phenom Tiger Woods.

"It's always been an environmentally-friendly course; it was designed that way," says Stone, who has been with the Pete Dye-designed course since it opened in 1983.

The Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail, Alabama

You can golf all you like in Alabama nowadays, with the completion in late 1993 of 18 courses by Robert Trent Jones, Sr. The trail winds through the foothills of the Appalachians in north Alabama, down to the Gulf of Mexico. Included are Highland Oaks in Dothan and Cambrian Ridge in Greenville, both voted among the best new public courses of 1994.

Kiva Dunes, Gulf Shores, Ala.

Golf professional Jerry Pate designed it, and Mike Rienzi built it, grew it in and is the superintendent of this 18-hole course voted by *Golf Magazine* as one of the best public golf courses of 1996.

Rienzi calls himself "a perfectionist," an attitude he says he developed during stints at Augusta National and Old Waverly in Mississippi.

"I have an eye for detail and above-average playing conditions," says Rienzi. I see and do things above and beyond what is considered good enough."

La Quinta Hotel, Golf & Tennis Resort, La Quinta, Calif.

Michael Tellier says computers and safety issues are very much in the future of the golf course superintendent's job.

"Agronomically, water management is an increasing issue," says Tellier. The courses of La Quinta—Citrus, Dunes, Mountain and Resort—were designed by Pete Dye between 1981 and 1987, and comprise much of that designer's contribution to California golf.

The Merit Club, Gurnee, Ill.

The club is composed of 30

acres of wetlands, a 30-acre savannah and a two-acre nursery. Owner Bert Getz wanted to save the scenic and natural character of the land when he built the course. "I didn't want to see it paved or roofed over," he says. Oscar Miles is the superintendent. Pennlinks, Penneagle and Penncross varieties are used. Natural grasslands grow as high as four feet.

Oakmont Country Club, Oakmont, Pa.

Legendary Oakmont was designed by Henry Fownes in 1904, and later improved by his son, William. Described in one golf encyclopedia as a model of "the penal school" of golf course design, the course under William Fownes was meant to be "the toughest course in the world."

Certified superintendent Mark Kuhns tries to check each green's speed every day, with a stimpmeter in one hand and a putter in the other. Greens are mowed twice, with riding and walking mowers.

Oak Hill Country Club, Pittsford, N.Y.

Designed by Donald Ross, the east course was host to the 1995

Ryder Cup. Oak Hill has hosted six LPGA events, a U.S. Senior Open and a U.S. Open.

Superintendent Joe Hahn (shown) believes in doing

mechanical turf care operations at "the right time," which just might mean aerifying greens during times of busy play, for example. As far as staff management, "I try to surround myself with good people, and mold them into the best they can be," says Hahn.

Oakland Hills Country Club, Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

Oakland Hills consists of a North and South course, and has been the host course for six U.S. Opens. It was designed by Donald Ross in 1917-1918, and later reworked by Robert Trent Jones.



Strong enough to stand on its own four wheels.

You understand the difference between spending and investing. That's what sets the Toro Workman® utility vehicle apart from all others.

You not only get the versatility you expect, but generous dividends as well. Surefooted stability. Easy maneuverability. And unfailing strength to take on the toughest conditions, year after year. The Workman 4000 series' four wheel

drive gives you amazing traction and stability on just about any terrain, wet or dry. With a very tight turning radius. High torque power. Huge cargo capacity. Quick hitch systems for tools and attachments. And, of course, Toro's legendary durability.

The Toro Workman utility vehicle. Another product of our longtime partnership with grounds maintenance professionals. Making your investment a sure thing.



Workman with topdresser attachment.



Workman with sprayer attachment.

TORO

©1996 The Toro Company, 8111 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55420. All rights reserved. "Toro" and "Workman" are registered trademarks of The Toro Company.

For more details, contact your local Toro distributor.

1-800-803-8676
ext. 176

Circle No. 137 on Reader Inquiry Card



The Workman utility vehicle is manufactured in Tomah, WI ISO 9002 Certified Plant.

THE LM 100



Superintendent Steve Glossinger (shown), a superintendent for 21 years, is relaxed and confident on the job. "My system is to stay organized, stay focused," says Glossinger. "Look at your priorities: tees, greens and bunkers."

Pinehurst Country Club, Pinehurst, N.C.

Donald Ross built Pinehurst's #1, #2, #3 and #4 courses, and was also the pro at Pinehurst until his death in 1948.

Brad Kocher (shown), certified superintendent and director of golf course maintenance, puts his own beginnings in the business back to when he was 12 years old and he watched his dad build a par three course in eastern Ohio.



"We try to bring the right people into supervisory positions, and do a lot of promoting from within," says Kocher. Four of the current six Pinehurst superintendents were promoted from the ranks of foreman or assistant superintendent.

Pine Valley, Pine Valley, N.J.

Pine Valley opened in 1922. Builder/designer George Crump began the project in 1918, and had it nearly completed, but died before the course was finished. The course is generally acknowledged to be among the world's finest. Rick Christian is the superintendent.

The Stanwich Club, Greenwich, Conn.

Designed in 1963 by the father & son team of William and David Gordon, the greens are some of the most undulating anywhere, says certified superintendent Scott Niven.

"You cannot get away from good technical skills," says Niven,

who emphasizes the importance of the mowing, the watering and the spraying. "You have to eat, drink and sleep it." Then, says Niven, you have to be able to communicate well, whether it be to the staff, members, the press or the public.

Sylvania Country Club, Sylvania, Ohio

Many consider virtuoso designer Willie Park, Jr. to have been the best ever. He built this private course near Toledo in 1917. Superintendent Michael Barton says the large push-up greens decline sharply in back. "I think Park thought that the guy who could putt the best would win the match," suspects Barton, now with the club for nine years. His strengths are in, "communication, and the management of the whole thing.

"They give you the tools and the money to grow grass, and most of the time you can," says Barton, who grows *Poa annua* greens and fairways of *Poa annua*, *Poa trivialis*, bentgrass and rye.

Valhalla Country Club, Louisville, Ky.

Designed by Jack Nicklaus, Valhalla was the site of the 78th PGA championship in August. Superintendent Mark Wilson's motto is "no problems, only solutions."

"Establish your goals and make habits into routines, like making your bed in the morning," he says. "Our people know the plan, and the backup plan. If something goes wrong, we find a way to fix it."

The Waconda Club, Des Moines, Iowa

Waconda features extreme changes in elevation. Fairways are narrow, and heavily-wooded with oaks and hickories.



Superintendent Steve Cook (shown) has been in the golf maintenance industry for the past 15 years, the last four at this private, 18-hole club. He also built a golf course in Paris, France, called Golf



de Joyenal.

"Work hard, pay attention to details, and have fun" is Cook's philosophy. "You can always look around and find something else that needs to be done."

The Wilds, Prior Lake, Minn.

The Wilds opened in 1995 and quickly made it to *Golf Magazine's* list of the "Top Ten Public Courses" in the U.S.

Designed by Jay Morrish and Tom Weiskopf, The Wilds fits nicely into the surrounding countryside. "There's a great variety of very playable, solid golf holes," says certified superintendent James Gardner.

Wynstone Golf Club, North Barrington, Ill.

"It gets pretty hectic," says 16-year veteran superintendent Tommy Witt

(shown). "Wynstone is a family club. We have to understand the season is short and our members want to enjoy the course as much as possible."



Witt says the best golf courses, "don't happen by accident. It's a tri-fold effort between a qualified staff to manage it; a governing body that's willing to fund the effort; and a membership that is proud and willing to take care of it."

GROUNDS & ATHLETIC FIELDS

Boone Community School District, Boone, Iowa

Bill Antons has been the super-

intendent of buildings and grounds here for eight years. His athletic field responsibilities include getting the stadium ready for junior and senior high school play, flag football and of course, band practice. "Get out and make sure the preventive stuff is done on time," suggests Antons, who uses a computer to keep track of field care—fertility, spraying and striping.

Broward County Schools, Broward County, Fla.

Lanny Dixon is the certified pest control operator for 200 schools and educational sites. Her responsibilities include all fence line spraying, fire ant control and sports turf management on 80 acres of fine turf, along with close interaction between the mowing and irrigation departments.

"We also maintain close to 100 clay surfaces," says Dixon, who believes she is most adept at coordinating the various work schedules, and using her computer skills to help plan and implement the program.

Carol Department of Parks, Carol, Iowa

Carol—pop. 10,000—is a "well-turfed" city, with 11 neighborhood parks and eight ball fields. Seven more fields are under construction.

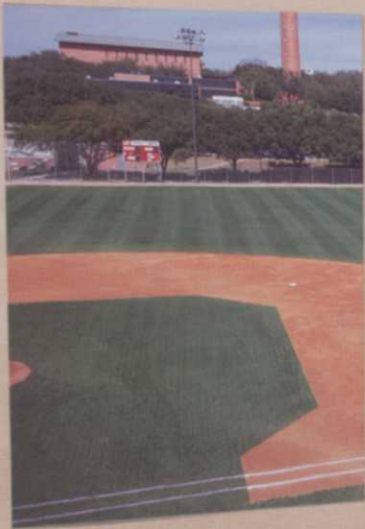
Among his many duties, Parks Superintendent Scott Parcher grows 15,000 annuals each year. He's been with the city for 16 years.

"I have to be versatile," says Parcher. "For a town this size, you need somebody with a wide range of skills."

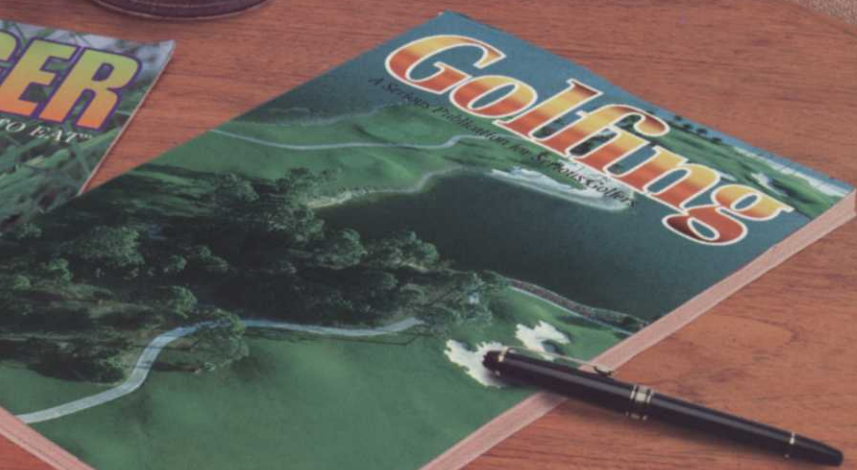
Chicago Bears Practice Facility, Lake Forest, Ill.

Ken Mrock (shown), in his 11th season as head groundkeeper for the Chicago Bears NFL team, will open five acres of new practice fields in November, including 80,000 sq. ft. of fields heated with the Sub-Air system. The sand-based fields are seeded with seven propri-





*Everywhere
you look,
ISI makes
the scene.*



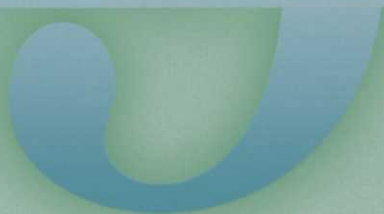
"Seed - the Gift of Life"®

INTERNATIONAL SEEDS, INC.



HOUND DOG

TURF-TYPE TALL FESCUE



TALL FESCUE AT ITS FINEST

Recognized as among the very best in mean turfgrass quality ratings for turf-type tall fescue cultivars, Hounddog 5 represents unparalleled achievements in turfgrass breeding technology. Its number two ranking in the mean overall quality ratings at 45 NTEP test locations throughout the United States and Canada attest to Hounddog 5's results-oriented breeding.

Its diverse genetic background means Hounddog 5 will deliver excellent turf density, a lush dark green color and resistance to a broad spectrum of turf diseases commonly found in warm and cool climatic regions of the U.S.

Hounddog 5 natural resistance to leaf and crown feeding insects also contributes to an improved biotic and abiotic stress tolerance.

It will produce and maintain a fine leaf texture with good durable wear characteristics and low fertilization requirements.

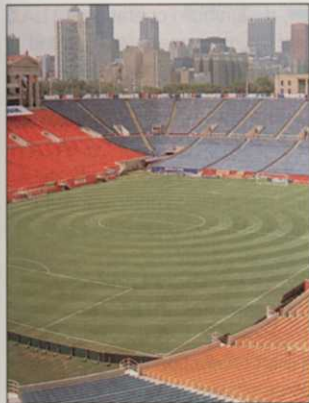
As the tests show, Hounddog 5 was bred to deliver the results that will satisfy the demands of not only turf and lawn care professionals, but those of the discriminating homeowner as well.

Developed specifically for permanent turf on home lawns, sportsfields, commercial and municipal grounds in regions where tall fescue is adapted, Hounddog 5 offers you the perfect solution to creating and maintaining a beautiful, healthy turf.

"Seed - the Gift of Life"®

 **INTERNATIONAL SEEDS, INC.**

Post Office Box 168 • Halsey, Oregon 97348 • (541) 369-2251 • 1-800-445-2251 • FAX (541) 369-2640 • intlseed@intlseed.com



etary Kentucky bluegrasses.

"We've had good success at our field days," Mrock notes. "We're just hard workers who share our mistakes with everyone, and pour our hearts out." (Shown is Soldier Field)

City of Claremont, Claremont, Calif.

Whether it's receiving awards for drought-tolerant or water-effi-



cient landscapes, or for its urban forestry/street tree program, Claremont, Calif. (pop. 33,000) has every right to be proud of its city landscapes.

"Our urban forestry program is on the cutting edge," claims Mark Hodnick (shown), who manages the city's parks, facilities and urban forest program. "The trees really add to the whole 'oasis' feeling Claremont has, too."

Danvers Tree & Grounds Division, Danvers, Mass.

Jack Schmidgall, supervisor of trees and grounds for the city of Danvers, Mass., oversees the maintenance of roadsides, parks and athletic facilities, with 150 acres to mow. He's developed a working long-term plan in the 13 years he's been with the city, and has a degree in turf management from the University of Massachusetts.

University of Delaware, Wilmington, Del.

Landscape engineer Tom Taylor and assistant director for grounds maintenance Sam Jones manage 400 acres of athletic fields and landscaped areas. Compost amendments are a big part of the program. Two hundred yards of leaf compost was recently used to complete "The Grove," a two-acre stand of beech trees, ground covers, walkways, nightlighting and seating areas.

Fremont Parks Department, Fremont, Neb.

Ken Walter directs about 50 full-time employees and up to 300 seasonal workers, all of whom are needed to maintain 400 acres of playgrounds and athletic fields.

This summer's projects include a new playground and softball diamond. Soon, a new greenhouse will be installed to grow up to 200,000 bedding plants, a regular practice for the past 20 years.

"I suppose my strong point is working with employees and the public," says Walter, who calls himself a 'people person.'

Howard County Bureau of Parks, Howard County, Md.

Jeff Bourne (shown) oversees care of about 6,000 acres of park sites that vary in size from 600 acres to a mere sixteenth acre. An "open space dedication program" enables the county to acquire small pieces of land adjacent to all new developments, thereby matching the growth of park land to the rate of develop-



ment in the county.

"My strength is in listening to people, trying to make sure they know what our goals are, from turf management, to sports fields," says Bourne, who has been the director of the Bureau of Parks since 1989.

Jacksonville Sports Complex, Jacksonville, Fla.

The complex is home to the NFL expansion team Jacksonville Jaguars, and the Detroit Tigers' AA ball club. Prescription Athletic Turf is used on the baseball infield. The football stadium and three football training fields are built to USGA greens specifications, using a 90/10 mix of sand/Dakota reed sedge peat. Turf of choice is 419 bermudagrass.

"We're good at juggling it all at the same time, to make it all happen," says manager Mark Clay.

Jacobs Field, Cleveland, Ohio

It's become visible in major league baseball for its newness, its resemblance to the ball fields of old, and for the Indians' resurgence as World Series contenders.



Brandon Koehnke (shown) is manager of field

maintenance at the site. His success is based on attention to the infield, a good crew and an optimistic attitude.

Jefferson County Schools, Lakewood, Colo.

By Hanson and his assistant Dave Rulli have squeezed 70 football games each of the past two years out of 40-year-old Jefferson County Stadium. But they've done



it, and all the work is paying off. Trailblazer Stadium (soccer and football) opens Aug. 29th, and three more stadiums to accommodate the 17 local high schools are slated to be completed by the 1998 season.

"By that time, we will have a system that could be a model for all other school systems," says Hanson, manager of stadium operations.

Midway Stadium, St. Paul, Minn.

The four-year old facility is home field for the St. Paul Saints of the



Northern Baseball League; Hamlin and Bethel colleges; Minnesota youth baseball and various adult sports teams.

"There's a lot of 'grin-and-bear-it'-type situations and last-minute details," says facilities manager Connie Rudolph (shown), "and it takes an easy-going personality to deal with it."

Jack Murphy Stadium, San Diego, Calif.

As many as 125 events keep Jack Murphy Stadium hopping throughout the year. The Padres, Chargers and San Diego State Aztecs are the



major sporting events, along with motocross, "monster truck" clashes and concerts.

"You have to be able to work around all the scheduled events, and

make people want to get a job done; and when times get tough, to keep them going," says Field Manager Steve Wightman (shown). After 23 years in the business, Wightman says he "knows what the players like and don't like."

Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, Neb.

Twyla Hansen, grounds manager at Nebraska Wesleyan Univer-

THE LM 100

city since 1982, also serves as curator of the Alice Abel Arboretum in Lincoln. University grounds under her supervision include three multiple-use athletic fields. Hansen, a graduate of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, is most accomplished in the proper placement of plants and turf.

University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Ind.

Site of many a classic football contest, the field used by the Fighting Irish of

Notre Dame is managed by Dale Getz (shown), who has been in charge for the past seven years. Getz says his strength is in managing



the human resources required to get the job done.

E.J. Nutter Training Facility, Lexington, Ky.

It's not easy to grow bermudagrass as far north as the University of Kentucky (in the heart of bluegrass country), as Bucky Trotter can tell you. But with Vamont and Quickstand, it's not only possible, it's preferable.

"The University of Kentucky football coaches and players like the bermuda because it's better on their legs," Trotter says. "It's dense so it covers up some of the rocky soil we have here in Kentucky, and we mow it at less than one inch, so the players feel real fast on it."

The bluegrass/ryegrass mix Trotter used to use wouldn't hold up during two-a-day practices, so Kentucky turf prof Dr. A.J. Powell recommended the bermuda.

City of Pompano Beach, Fla.

Grounds supervisor Tom Curran (shown) oversees work on 175 acres of turfed landscapes, including 11 large parks, grounds surrounding an amphitheatre, equestrian trails and a stadium. He's been with the city for eight years.

"I try to praise the crew when they do a good job, and I try to get their suggestions," says Curran,



Parks & Greenhouse Department, City of Sandusky, Ohio

Superintendent Tom Ott has served the city for 25 years. He's got a knack for plant propagation, and grows more than 100,000 plants per year in the Sandusky greenhouse.

Ott's management style doesn't allow him much time behind a desk. "I work with everyone in the crew," he says. "That way, you know what they need. It gives everyone a better feeling when we're working together for the same goal."

Schaumburg Parks, Schaumburg, Ill.

Dan Otto, superintendent of parks and planning, is teamed with assistant superintendent Jeff Richards and park foreman John Gerker. They and their crews handle 40 baseball infields, 13 soccer fields and 60 playground sites for the park district's 73,000 users; 103 park sites cover 26 square miles. Mowing is divided into 80-acre zones. Add ornamental care and maintenance, and you're looking at a busy week.

"The key to efficiency is management of time," says Otto. A new 79,000 sq. ft. maintenance facility has helped to tweak efficiency and organization.

Sea World of Ohio, Aurora, Ohio

In this video age, horticulturist Rob McCartney wants to "bring unique, intriguing plants to people, to evoke a reaction." The landscape around a theme park, says McCartney, "can be a feature that complements an exhibit."

Waukegan Parks District, Waukegan, Ill.

Superintendent of parks Mike Trigg (shown) handles maintenance

who seeks crew opinion on equipment purchases, and believes that once you know the job, you shouldn't have too many questions.

of all grounds and properties of the District's 38 park sites, as well as athletic field maintenance of 34 ball diamonds, 12 soccer fields and a football field.



Trigg credits the look of the fields and his smooth-running operation to the daily working of a

well-devised plan, as carried out by a dedicated team.

LANDSCAPE COMPANIES

Allen Keesen Landscape, Inc., Denver, Colo.

Keesen provides quality "exterior care" services on Colorado's Front Range. Allen and Bev Keesen started this firm in 1975 focusing on design/build and maintenance. Executive Vice President Eric Keesen says the company, which has about 120 employees, is constantly reinventing its service delivery.

Arteka Corporation, Eden Prairie, Minn.

Arteka has been providing clients with quality, award-winning landscapes for over 20 years. It installs, designs and builds, and maintains many types and sizes of projects, from medium size residential to large commercial. Arteka, with over 100 employees, will generate revenues of \$7.5 million in '96.

Bland Landscaping Co., Inc., Apex, N.C.

This company began in Tom Bland's home in 1976. Now the company has five divisions with 90-95 employees in peak season. At first, BLC focused on commercial installation but has since added commercial maintenance, floriculture, and residential services too. BLC is a multiple award winner at the state and national levels.

The Bruce Co. of Wisconsin, Inc., Middleton, Wis.

Bruce has a nursery (500 acres) and sod farm (150 acres), retail cen-

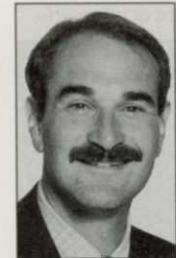
ter, design/build operation (12 L.A.s) and maintenance division. Leland Bruce started this company literally as a schoolboy in the mid-1950s, and he remains its driving force. In recent years The Bruce Co. has been earning praise for golf course and remodeling construction; it's building five courses this year.

Byrne Brothers Landscaping, Inc., Middleton, Mass.

Byrne Brothers uses state-of-the-art production methods so its 35 employees tackle a lot of big jobs, a BBL specialty. With offices in Massachusetts and Santa Rose Beach, Fla., this firm offers commercial management, design/build, irrigation, and arboriculture services.

Scott Byron & Co., Lake Bluff, Ill.

This "total care" landscaping firm offers integrated design, installation and maintenance services for 800 to 1000 residential customers. Formed by Scott Byron (shown) in 1984, the company's most visible designs are on display at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe. The company strives for "simple yet elegant" designs.



Cagwin & Dorward Landscape Contractors, Novato, Calif.

This 41-year-old contractor provides commercial maintenance, ornamental pest control, irrigation, renovation, construction, erosion control and color programs. One unique feature of this quality company is its emergency phone response. A designated emergency on-call person is available 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. The firm reported a 1995 gross dollar volume of \$11.5 million, and has 265 employees.

Chapel Valley Landscape Co., Woodbine, Md.

Landon Reeve (shown) and wife Janet started this company in 1968. That first year the 3-person company generated revenues of