

Turf BUSINESS

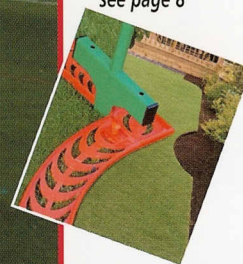
A cut above the rest

MAY 2009

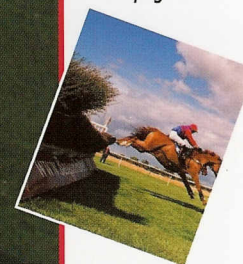
Pitch carpet's annual deep clean



Those ride-ons do the cutting business everywhere see page 8



Product Update Take stock of what who you can call on see page 15



Out and about to see turf and seed 'in action' see page 28

cover STORY

A 3G synthetic pitch at Loughborough University, the country's centre of sporting excellence, gets an early summer 'revite' courtesy of specialists Technical Surfaces

LOUGHBOROUGH UNVIVERSITY was the venue for a St George's Day series of demonstrations by specialist company Technical Surfaces showing maintenance techniques for synthetic surfaces. The Loughborough University Sports Technology Institute is home to the world's largest university-based sports technology research group, which has been partnering leading brands for over 20 years. This £15M initiative in partnership with the East Midlands Development Agency aims to boost enterprise in the sport and leisure sector and develop cutting-edge technology to support future British champions. It was a fitting setting for high tech subject matter. Technical Surfaces unveiled a new state of the art research project in tandem with the Institute into the effects of maintenance brushes on sythetic sports carpets. The company also launched a new corporate image reflected in an impressive new company brochure and re-designed website (www.technicalsurfaces.co.uk). Nick Harris, the company's UK sales manager then introduced a series of demonstrations on one of the University's artificial sports pitches to show the different types of machinery Technical Surfaces uses to maintain synthetic surfaces. Highlighted were its Revite and Rejeneration processes along with drag brushing and power cleaning. Loughborough University is the jewel in Technical Surfaces' synthetic maintenance crown and now boasts one of the highest concentrations of top class sports training facilities in the world. They all have to be maintained to the very highest standard too.



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Tapping wealth

Has the recession brought the silly season forward? There was certainly a daft story in nationals recently saying that a well cared for lawn would soon be a mark of affluence - even decadence. A university prof. reckons that climate change and consequent water shortage will mean that those irrigating their lawn will be seen as extravagant toffs. My paper had an aerial shot of Rod Stewart's well preened football pitch in his Epping 'back garden' to illustrate the point, so it could be the leg up the social ladder greenkeepers and groundsmen have long been overdue then. Not such a joke is Steve Welch's Wembley demise. The two words that always seem to have been in the background: chalice and poisoned.

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