

Men's Soccer Field Reconstruction

Over a period of many years the College observed the wide-spread presence of an invasive grass species on its men's soccer field. The invasive grass had a characteristic limited root structure and heavy thatch. This, coupled with an increasingly ineffective drainage system, caused the Athletics Department to deem the field unplayable after just one game in the fall of 2006.

The College considered several scenarios for addressing the field condition including: i) removing the current grass and installing new sod; ii) reconstructing the drainage system and installing new sod; and iii) reconstructing the drainage system and installing a synthetic playing surface. After careful consideration of the maintenance efforts required for a grassed field (i.e., weekly mowing, regular application of fertilizer and pesticides, over-seeding, topdressing, and irrigation), as well as limits on the frequency and reliability of use of a grassed field, the College decided to reconstruct the field with a new drainage system and a synthetic playing surface. The synthetic surface installed is Field Turf's "Duo" "filled-turf" field, which consists of synthetic "grass" fibers with sand and granular rubber infill.



Project Completed:	August 2007
Total Square Footage:	100,000 sf
Project Cost:	\$1,100,000
Project Manager:	Mark Gleason
Engineer:	Gale Associates, Weymouth, MA
Construction Manager:	SD Ireland Construction Co., Burlington, VT