



## NEWS RELEASE

**DATE:** February 3, 2009

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### **Synthetic Turf Council Launches the ‘Search for the Real Field of Dreams’**

**Atlanta, Ga.** – From ‘Rudy’ to ‘Remember the Titans,’ everyone knows a heartwarming sports story. Unfortunately, some of the best stories are never heard. That’s why the Synthetic Turf Council is launching the Search for the Real Field of Dreams, a national contest looking for the high school with the most compelling story about its synthetic turf field. Synthetic turf empowered the Barrow Whalers to become the first Arctic high school football team in northern Alaska and helped Lakeland High School in Shrub Oak, New York win the New York State Field Hockey Championship in 2006. With more than 1,000 synthetic turf fields installed in the United States annually, the success stories are endless.

“We’ve seen the way synthetic turf fields have helped teams go from worst to first and brought together entire communities,” said STC president Rick Doyle. “It’s important for the inspirational stories behind these fields to be shared. The pride high school students have in their sports teams is unique, and the Search gives them an opportunity to inspire others nationwide.”

The Search for the Real Field of Dreams is open to any public or private high school in the United States that has a synthetic turf field. A winning school will be selected in April by an outside panel of judges and will win \$2,500 for its athletic program, along with a sign recognizing its field as a contribution to the overall success of its athletic program. In addition, the second place school will receive \$500 and eight national finalists will receive \$250 for their schools. Interested students, coaches, faculty and parents can nominate their school by filling out the application at [www.syntheticurfCouncil.org](http://www.syntheticurfCouncil.org). Entries are due by March 31, 2009.

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### About the Synthetic Turf Council

Based in Atlanta, the Synthetic Turf Council was founded in 2003 to promote the industry and to assist buyers and end users with the selection, use and maintenance of synthetic turf systems in sports field, golf and landscape applications. The organization is also a resource for current, credible, and independent research on the safety and environmental impact of synthetic turf. STC members produce and install most of the synthetic turf sports fields in North America. Membership includes builders, landscape architects, testing labs, maintenance providers, installation contractors, infill material suppliers and other specialty service companies. For more information, visit [www.syntheticurfCouncil.org](http://www.syntheticurfCouncil.org).

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