



Ohio State HCS News

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Horn Named 2007 Joe Motz Sports Turf Student of the Year



Russell Horn earned the 2007 Joe Motz Sports Turf Student of the Year for his enthusiasm for the sports turf industry.

The 2007 recipient of the Joe Motz Sports Turf Student of the Year Award is **Russell Horn**. Given to a student that has shown great enthusiasm for their studies and the sports turf industry, Horn embodies the spirit of the award. An excellent student who personifies excellence, Russ graduated from OSU in March 2007 with a major in turfgrass science and a minor in plant pathology.

A native of Wooster Ohio, the Horticulture & Crop Science student made the Dean's List several times and was awarded an Ohio Turfgrass Foundation (OTF) Scholarship in 2005. An active member of the OSU Turf Club, Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association and OTF, Horn competed in the national Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) student quiz bowl twice. Russell recently started a new position as assistant groundskeeper at the Washington Redskins.



Russell Horn was mentored by head groundskeeper Chris Powell during his internship with the Cleveland Browns.

Russ began his career as a groundsman at the College of Wooster in 2000. Since then he has worked with Ohio State University Varsity Athletics and interned at the Cleveland Browns. **Chris Powell**, Field Manager for the Browns, was impressed with his education and interest. "Russell Horn's transition from the classroom to the field was very impressive. Russell's depth of knowledge and its practical application assured me of his thorough understanding of the concepts taught to him. With such a sound foundation, coupled with his work ethic, he excelled well

beyond the expectations of an intern. Russell is definitely ready for our profession and our profession is definitely looking for people like Russell."

Horn earned an Associate of Science in Horticultural Science from Ohio State Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI) before transferring to the Columbus campus. "Russ works hard and does quite well with the plant identification courses," said **Laura Deeter**, ATI Assistant Professor of Horticultural Technologies. "He asks intelligent and relevant questions and is a studious and attentive student."

The Joe Motz Sports Turf Student of the Year award is given in honor of OSU Alum, **Joe Motz** (BS Horticulture 1977). Motz established one of the largest sports turf construction companies in the world. President and CEO of [The Motz Group](http://www.themotzgroup.com) in Cincinnati, Ohio, his firm currently has field projects in the USA, Europe, Australia, & the Middle East. Joe sponsors this award with a monetary gift for the student and a donation to the OSU Turf Club.

Previous Joe Motz Sports Turf Student of Year winners include: [Weston Appelfeller](#) (2006) and 2005 co-winners, [Erica Titus and Rodney Bockrath](#).

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