

Facts & Figures

Owner: New York City Board of

Education, New York, NY

Developer: Take the Field, Inc.,
New York, NY

Type of Project: 44 new athletic
fields

Architect: The Thornton-Tomasetti
Group Inc., LZA Associates

Division, New York, NY

(architectural, site/civil,
structural, electrical and
plumbing design services)

Construction Manager:

TDX Construction Corporation,
New York, NY

Size: 30,000 square feet to

500,000 square feet (per field)

Cost: Approximately \$3.3 million
for each field

Construction Time: 2000 - 2005
(estimated completion)

The Need: Better physical
education for children in New York
City's public schools

The Challenge: Securing funding
for all 44 athletic fields within five
years

Supportive Team Members

**Garden State Engineering,
Surveying & Planning, Inc.**
Engineering & Surveying

KM Associates of New York, Inc.
Building Code, Zoning Law
Consultants & Expeditors

**Langan Engineering and
Environmental Services, Inc.**
Full-service Engineers

YU & Associates, Inc.
Environmental, Geotechnical,
Traffic & Civil Engineers



The Thornton-Tomasetti Group Inc.
Architectural, Engineering, Planning & Construction



Photos courtesy of The Thornton-Tomasetti
Group Inc., Photography by Hank Jones

New York, New York Take the Field

In 1999, The New York Times wrote a series of articles on the disgraceful state of athletic fields and the lack of athletic programs for students in New York City's public schools. With these three articles fanning the flames of outrage, three men, Preston Robert Tisch, Tony Kiser and Richard Kahn, decided to make a difference by forming Take the Field, Inc.

As a nonprofit real estate corporation, Take the Field depends solely on charitable contributions for the funding of this project. So far, Take the Field has raised \$130 million and has rebuilt 37 of 44 athletic fields. Three are currently under construction, leaving four more to be reconstructed. Once completed, each of the 44 fields will have a new synthetic turf playing field, track and field facilities, tennis and handball

courts, spectator seating, scoreboards, and additional sitework and beautification.

According to Mary Musca, executive director of Take the Field, funds are raised through three main sources. "The first are people who live in New York City and went to school here," she said. "The second are corporate leaders. We are blessed with many large companies in New York City. Charities and foundations are the third group to help." Despite the generosity of many, however, Take the Field still needs an additional \$10 million to complete the entire project.

"The greatest challenge has been [expediting] the projects so design and construction for each field is completed within a single year, and ensuring athletic facilities are only taken out of service for a single spring or fall season,"

said James H. Jones, PE, of TDX Construction Corporation, the project's construction manager. "To meet these aggressive objectives, the team utilized the flexibility it has as a public/private partnership to expedite procurement and review as well as approval time frames."

Since Take the Field has pledged to complete all 44 fields within five years, a fast-paced construction schedule must be maintained to meet the 2005 deadline. Value engineering was used throughout planning because of the project's total size as well as its aggressive schedule, which enabled changes to be made and valuable savings to be built directly into the cost early in the process. "This ongoing review and value engineering process resulted in reduced construction costs without extending the time





Photos courtesy of The Thornton-Tomasetti Group Inc., Photography by Hank Jones

needed to complete the construction documents," said Jones.

Another significant challenge has included dealing with a shortened construction year. Construction is suspended from November to March each year because of the area's harsh winters, giving contractors only seven months in which to work.

With the help of Take the Field and its charitable contributors, each New York City public school

student will have a better chance of being healthy and increasing his or her academic abilities through physical education — in addition to having a terrific new place to play. ■

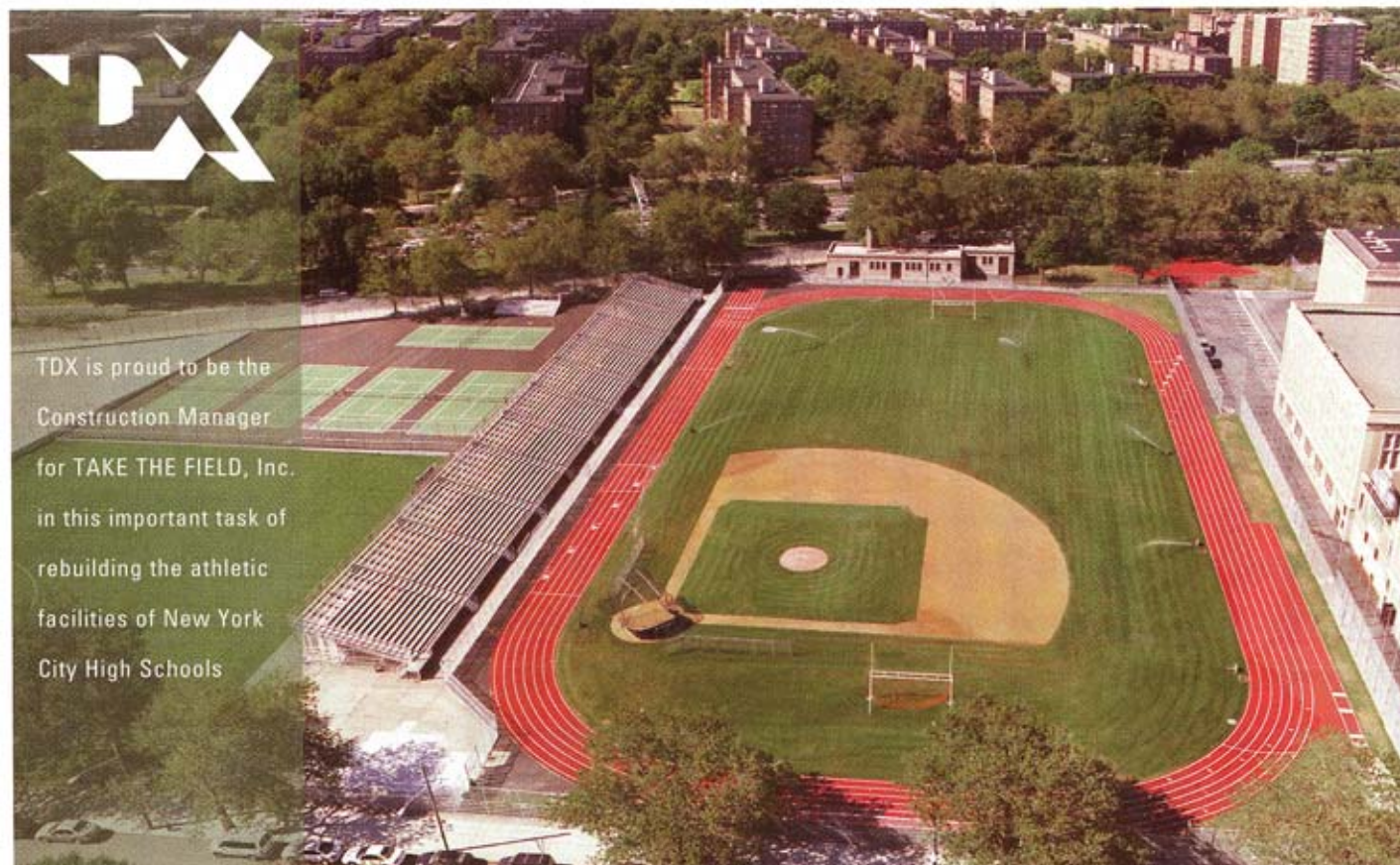
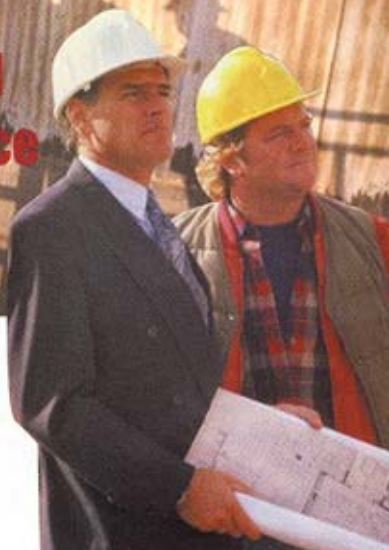
— R.C.

Beginning on page 221 you will find the regional "ShortList," a tool that will help you find and contact the region's subcontractors, suppliers, vendors and project team members that were a part of the area's most innovative, unique and challenging new construction and renovation projects. The companies that are advertised in this section and in the "Company Biography" section on page 201 have worked on the region's top projects.

Attention Project Managers, Estimators, Facility and Maintenance Managers:

If you have a publication that doesn't include the ShortList and you would like a copy, please call Connie Abrams at

248.945.4700 ext. 41



TDX is proud to be the Construction Manager for TAKE THE FIELD, Inc. in this important task of rebuilding the athletic facilities of New York City High Schools

TDX CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION 345 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10001 212 279 1981 212 279 1983 FAX www.tdxconstruction.com