Paul Foley

From: thomas dresser [thomasdresser@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2016 11:14 PM
To: Paul Foley
Subject: To the Editor

Hi Paul -
The following letter was published in the Martha's Vineyard Times this past June.
Feel free to ask me any questions about it.
Best,
Tom Dresser

To the Editor:

In the 20 years since I washed ashore on Martha's Vineyard, I've witnessed turf wars play out. Southern Woodlands. The roundabout. Now the turf war is about real versus artificial. Replacing natural grass with plastic at the high school makes no sense to me.

Why spend vast amounts of money to inject plastic into our playing fields? Can't we appreciate the natural beauty of the Vineyard landscape? Why replace athletic grounds with artificial turf? Can't we accept the earth as is?

A virtue of sports is the challenge the individual faces to play under certain circumstances. Work as a team. Listen to your coach. Play by the rules. Practice. Do your best. Nowhere does it say that changing the playing fields makes one a better player.

Tom Dresser

Oak Bluffs