Raffle Ticket Wins Dave Ditzler Experience of a Lifetime!

ave Ditzler, Turf & Irrigation Specialist for Grinnell College in Grinell, Iowa, held the winning ticket in the first SAFE Foundation Drawing, and found himself enjoying a once in a lifetime experience. Ditzler and his wife, Tami, were awarded an expense-paid trip to Canton, Ohio, to join in the Pro Football Hall of Fame's 2001 Enshrinement Weekend celebration.

Highlights of the trip included attending the Saturday night practice sessions between the St. Louis Rams and Miami Dolphins, a visit to the Hall of Fame on Sunday, where they ran into Jackie Slater, an offensive lineman who played for 20 years with the Los Angeles Rams, and was one of the "Magnificent Seven" 2001 Hall of Fame inductees. Ditzler

even tackled the

Hanging out with heros at the NFL Hall of Fame

F Experience, a challenging taste of how one stacks up to the skills of NFL players. On Monday, Dave played in the Pro Football HOF Golf Scramble. Playing in

Dave's fivesome was Jim Houston, a 12-year player with the Cleveland Browns - a first round draft pick in 1960.

Meeting George Toma at the pre-game Tailgate Party was the icing on the cake for Ditzler. ".... George let



Up close and personal at the practice sessions

me pick his brain for an hour and a half. I was scribeven bling notes on napkins."

As well as getting some great shots of Dave and George, Tami managed to get

her picture taken with HOF inductee, Lynn Swann, the legendary wide receiver. Watching the Hall of Fame Game and all the pre-game and half-time activities was a great way to

wrap up the trip.

Now that's what I'd call a great return on a \$5 investment. Proceeds from this SAFE fund raising event will support sport turf relat-



Fleet-footed Dave at the NFL Experience

ed scholarships and research.

Special Note: We were wrapping this issue of the newsletter when the tragic Attack on America occurred. Since that time, we have made, and received, numerous phone calls from STMA members in the United States. We know that sports fields are being used as triage centers to treat survivors, and we heard from one member who was heading to New York to volunteer. We sincerely hope and pray that none of you were directly affected by this horrific act. We thought that you might like to know that our overseas members are thinking of us too.

"Dear friends, I closely together feel for you in these 'black hours' for all the people who we loved the freedom. An affectionate greeting." Daniel Sposito, STMA member # 3597, Argentina

"Dear American friends, Over the years participating in STMA and GCSAA activities and conferences, I've come to appreciate the American people's friendliness and openness, as well as your generosity in the way you welcomed me in your various groups and in many cases offered your friendship.

Even if this is done a little clumsily, I wish to offer my sincere condolences to you and yours for the terrible losses your country has suffered and the unspeakable crime that was committed against you.

Please be assured that all of us, in Quebec and the rest of Canada, stand by you in this dark hour." Francois Hebert, Lanco Amenegament, STMA member # 739