

San Antonio Optional Events - Big - Huge!

By Mike Trigg, CSFM

The STMA 2003 Conference is just around the corner and final preparations are being made on the conference program. I am excited to report that the Seminar on Wheels Tours and Optional Event are jam packed, and will offer tremendous opportunity for numerous sport site visits, as well as networking with other sport turf managers.

Here is the tentative schedule:

Wednesday, January 15, 2003 - Seminar on Wheels Tours

• Southwest Texas University, San Marcos TX.

Home of the Southwest Texas Bobcats w/student body 23,000.

Steven Nunez, Supervisor of Sports Field Maintenance Facilities.

Tour will include SWT Baseball/Softball Complex (teams



Southwest Texas University - first stop of the Wednesday, January 15, Seminar on Wheels Tour

compete in Division I). Also, Bobcat Football Stadium, under conversion in 2002 from natural to artificial turf. Steven will report on the conversion and reuse of soil materials removed from the stadium and utilized on the campus, and also on the other recreational sports fields on campus for which he is responsible. We will then drive across campus to view 2 sand based soccer fields.

• University of Texas, Austin TX

Brook Whitaker, Facilities Manager and Jeff Wakefield, Turf Manager, will begin tours at the Texas Memorial Stadium and view the newly installed fertigation system and then proceed to the Mike E. Myers Track & Soccer Stadium. Our final stop



Home of the Round Rock Express

at the university is to the football practice field and the newly installed practice field bubble.

• Round Rock TX

Home of Round Rock Express, Double AA, Affiliate of the Houston Astros.

Dennis Klein, Head Groundskeeper, will conduct a tour of the three-year old facility, which is the 2001 STMA Professional Baseball Diamond of the Year Award recipient. Lunch will be served in the Texas Room of the clubhouse.

• Texas Lutheran University at Soquin TX

Cody Farr, Sports Turf Manager.

Tour will include the softball and baseball fields and football practice field. Cody will report on his one-man sports turf maintenance practices and innovative field improvements.

continued on page 6

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continued from page 1

Wednesday, January 15, 2003 - Optional Event

• Nelson W. Wolff Municipal Stadium, Professional Sports Turf Managers Field Maintenance Workshop.

This hands-on workshop (6 stations) will focus on efficient methods to handle daily tasks and techniques to accomplish quality field maintenance. Participants will spend the day with sports turf managers of professional team facilities who will both show and tell key points of baseball field maintenance.

Wednesday, January 15, 2003 - Optional Event

• SAFE/Textron Golf Outing

For the 3rd year in a row, Textron is proud to sponsor our optional golf outing. This year's event will be held at the Quarry in San Antonio. Designed by nationally recognized golf course designer Keith Foster, The Quarry is recognized around the country for its unique setting and



University of Texas, Austin

character. The front 9 plays through native rolling grasslands while the entire back nine is nestled in a 100-year-old quarry. This will definitely be one of the most memorable rounds of golf you will ever play.

Sunday, January 19, 2002 - Seminar on Wheels Tour

• Nelson W. Wolff Municipal Stadium, San Antonio TX

Home of San Antonio Missions, Double AA, Affiliate of the Seattle Mariners.

Tom McAfee, Stadium Manager

• Luther Burbank High School, San Antonio TX

Mike Pinon, Sports Turf Manager

Athletic facilities include baseball stadium, 3 softball fields, 2 soccer fields, and football stadium.

• Turfgrass America Sod Farm (lunch stop)

Pat Searight, Sales Representative

Bus tour of acres of warm season grasses. Pallet samples of Bermudagrass; Zoysiagrass and Paspalum will be displayed. Also, view big roll sod being cut.

• Trinity University, San Antonio TX

Mike Schweitzer, Grounds Maintenance & Assistant Director of Physical Plant.

Tour a baseball field, which is the recipient of 1994 Beam Clay Baseball Diamond of the Year Award. Also tour E.M. Stevens Football Stadium, baseball and softball fields, and lacrosse/intramural field. The university is landlocked and Mike will speak of the athletic field demands that have doubled over the last 10 years.

Plan on adding to your overall conference experience by taking part in one or more of these optional events.



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