

**From:** Harrel, Donny

**Sent:** Thursday, March 01, 2012 10:29 AM

**To:** Kost, Glenn

**Cc:** Wilson, Jonathan S.; Wilkinson, Justin; Wilson, Judy; BallfieldRental; Hogan, William; Guerra, Eric

**Subject:** SU Baseball - BIG THANK YOU - City of Bellevue and Staff

To All:

First - please pass this on to all those involved with the Bannerwood and the work that has and is being done there on a regular basis. I left the park last night and completely felt "blessed" by all of you and those we work with in this arrangement. We played 2 games yesterday afternoon and evening that would have never been played 3 years ago when we started this quest. Pat and Ryan were absolute "rock stars" working with our guys yesterday to get all the water off the tarp and getting the field ready for our games against Nebraska-Omaha.

I am always thankful to Justin for his trust in us and knowing we would never play a game that would damage the field for further usage or jeopardize the safety of those on it. The new outfield drainage did exactly what you guys thought it would and took some heavy rains, with a little snow mixed in, and held up. The area built up behind the right field fence stopped all the water flow from the hill above it and pushed the water out behind the center field fence and never got to right field or the warning track. Again, another great idea and project that worked to perfection!

Our new turf bullpens allowed for all the rain to never stop us from being able to play - like the old ones in the field would have. The lighting that Brett added into the bullpen areas is night and day better than before. The entire space is now safe and a huge visual upgrade. Speaking of lighting...the park was in full glow last night and there were many fly balls hit that were caught!!! Still need a few more games under them to get over that fact that the poles seem to low - but Brett has talked me out of that illusion! I also wanted to add that our fans are very pleased with the parking lot lights for safety purposes and for car purposes since we had a few break-ins over the last couple of years. Those lights really gives the entire place a professional and safe feeling. Musco and the phone service to turn on and off the lights has been easy as well.

The shed you guys donated to our side of the park has been huge as well. We have been able to work with Justin's crew and still store some of the tools needed for the park. The new set-up definitely keeps the work area underneath the stadium much more user friendly for Pat and his helpers. Our ability to store all of our field equipment there has been truly appreciated. The Umpire locker room has been nice for those guys as well, and again, has keep the area under the stadium less jammed.

Wind screens, fence caps, new paint, dimension adjustments through fencing, and all the other little things have added up to a big time environment. I CAN NOT THANK ALL OF YOU ENOUGH. We talked about making Bannerwood Park the "premier" baseball facility on the east side and I am happy to say that we are well on our way. You guys have been amazing and your support, along with getting your hands dirty on site, is a terrific example for the entire east side for how thing should be done. I hope all those in the City of Bellevue Parks and Community Services realize what a great job all of you are doing. I know this is a little long, but I do not care! This compliment is more than well deserved and long over due. Thank you guys again for everything and I look forward to continually working with you!

***Donny Harrel***  
***Head Baseball Coach***  
***Seattle University***

