



San Antonio

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NEWS

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Building construction futures

Kids from Park Village Elementary School learned first-hand about the construction industry with the help of the **National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC)** Block Kids Program held Feb. 23.

The educational program encourages students to use their imagination in a contest to build the structure of their choice. Children are given one hour to construct a project with 100 interlocking blocks, a length of string, a piece of foil, a

square of Styrofoam, a small rock and a sheet of poster board.

The goal is to create awareness of the many job opportunities in construction.

Block Kids winners are:

- 1st Place: Vanessa Taylor
- 2nd Place: Angelica Martinez
- 3rd Place: Michelle Torres
- Best use of String: Delicia Ramirez
- Best Use of Foil: Alex Rodriguez
- Best Oral Presentation: Chelsea Comeau

-kf



Industry FOLKS

Brett Niccum
Martin Marietta Materials



Brett Niccum, sales representative with Martin Marietta Materials, is a sports fan, but golf is not his game.

"I am pursuing the whole golf thing. I haven't quite figured it all out yet, but they tell me it's important for business, so I'm working on that one," Niccum said. "I went to one tournament and made a fool of myself, but that's all right. People enjoyed it. I'm not any good, but I love to play."

"I would be the one with the worst score. But, knowing that, I don't have high expectations for myself, so I can go and have a good time and feel like I performed the best I could."

With the number of golf tournaments in the construction industry, Niccum hopes to improve his golf skills while networking for Martin Marietta.

As a sales rep he handles contractor accounts and deals with all product lines including base stone, gravel, asphalt and concrete. He also does market research for the company.

"I have been involved in company presentations as well. It's nice to be involved in the presentation of it."

Niccum just concluded his first year at Martin Marietta, and is also a relative newlywed. He and wife, Jill, have been married for two years.

Niccum was born and raised in San Antonio and graduated from Madison High School. The Aggie blood runs strong in his veins, as a Class of 2003 graduate of Texas A&M University. He recently attended the Aggie game

against Memphis at the Alamodome during March Madness, and tries to attend at least one football game in College Station each year.

"I enjoy going back to see how everything is developing - and seeing my frat buddies."

With intentions of becoming an engineer, he earned a degree in agricultural systems management.

"It's a hybrid - a cross between agricultural engineering and agricultural business. But I didn't enjoy being inside all the time. I enjoyed mathematics and design and everything I was learning on the computer, but the part about being stuck inside wasn't for me."

"This other degree allowed me to stay involved with mathematics and science and I was able to get outside and play in the grass a little bit."

"I love working in the yard and if I could spend my days outside, I would. I enjoy gardening and caring for my lawn."

Niccum spends a fair amount of time at the coast as well, bay fishing. His family has a cabin north of Rockport. -kf

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