



Opening Tip!

Summer has definitely arrived and ECU is in the middle of the first summer session. Although the amount of programming is less than the traditional Fall and Spring semesters, impending construction for new office spaces, the addition of new staff, and a team of SRC babies on the way has kept our world at an accelerated pace. This month we will be continuing to host Aqua Theatre movies at the Outdoor Pool, are bracing for the first of seven Freshman Orientation sessions, and wrapped up our final date of Project YEAH, a collaborative program done with Pitt County Schools. In addition, we've had an active month for alumni news. Read on . . .

Nielson Featured in University Publication

Alan Nielson, Coordinator for Aquatics and Facilities was featured in the May 19, 2006 Edition of "Pieces of Eight," a publication for Faculty and Staff at ECU. The story was done in coordination with the Recognition and Rewards Committee of the ECU Staff Senate and designed to honor exceptional ECU Staff members. Alan trains lifeguards and works with safety services offering students and members of the community the opportunity to enroll in lifeguard classes, CPR, and first aid instruction, and AED certification through the Red Cross. Please read the complete story by clicking on the link below: <http://www.ecu.edu/news/poe/poehome.cfm>.

We Keep on Building . . .

A number of building projects are either happening now or planned within the next few months that will have major impacts on the Department. Earlier this month was the completion of construction of a fifty foot Alpine Tower at the Team Training Center and Challenge Course located behind the Blount Field Complex. The tower is up at the entrance to our current Challenge Course and will effectively replace the high elements of the course. This addition will take our Challenge Course to a new level in terms of programming opportunities and has significant potential for revenue generation with corporate clientele. In addition, a variety of office moves are anticipated later this summer with the "flex" space in the Student Recreation Center second level being closed off between the Marketing office and Fitness Assessment Center. This area will become the new Campus Wellness Center. More on these projects will follow.

Outreach Programs at the Student Recreation Center

The SRC has hosted Project YEAH for the fifth consecutive year and Lynn Briley has done an outstanding job of coordinating this collaborative effort with Pitt County schools. Through this arrangement, county elementary schools monitor participation by students in physical activity and then the most active students at each school are rewarded with a trip to the Student Recreation Center for a variety of games, climbing, cart races, hula hoop off challenge and much more. In total there are eight dates to the program, generally with two schools attending on each date. The final date for this program in 2006 was Monday, June 5.

Starting mid-month was the beginning of Freshman Orientation sessions that will be conducted throughout the months of June and July. Our department will have a number of opportunities to share programs and services including student presentations, parent presentations, and by hosting the Organizations Fair on the Sports Forum at the Student Recreation Center. There will be seven dates.

In May and continuing throughout the summer, the Outdoor Pool has once again played host to Aqua Theatre. This program involves showing the weekly University Unions Film at the Outdoor Pool on a drop down screen complete with beach chairs, pool flotation devices, and free drinks and popcorn. Aqua Theatre will also be hosted on Orientation nights. While audience numbers have fluctuated over the years, crowds of about 150 have been in attendance in the past.



Babies Start Arriving!

Todd Riddick and his wife celebrated the birth of Sawyer Brett Riddick on Sunday, June 11. The baby boy was seven pounds, two ounces, and was nineteen inches long.

Suzanne McDonald is due in July, and Jenny Gregory in August. The new Marketing Director, Kathryn Hunt is due in September with the first child for her and husband.

There is a theory that there must be something in the water at the SRC!

New Staff Are On the Way

After about six months without a full-time Marketing Director, the wait over. Approximately 60 individuals applied for the position, now reclassified as an Associate Director, and Ms. Kathryn Hunt has accepted the position and started on Monday, June 19. Kathryn is a graduate of both Old Dominion University and North Carolina State University but grew up in eastern North Carolina in Jamesville. She previously worked for a corporate firm known as KIOTI in Wendell, NC and brings a tremendous background in marketing strategy, graphic arts, publications, and writing to the Department. Due to academic commitments with Physical Therapy school Tara Marshall will be unable to continue next year in the role of Marketing Graduate Assistant, however Kelly Jones from Meredith College has accepted the Graduate Assistant position in Marketing and will be starting in August.

In the Club Sports area, Allen Sutton from Barton College will be replacing Alex Langley, who departs after seven years with the department, in the Graduate Assistant position. Susan Doggett is expected to return for her second year as the other club sports GA. We are also excited to welcome Diane Elhoffer as the new Program Assistant for Youth & Family. She was enrolled at ECU this past year and served as a valuable member of the Advisory Council.

The Pirate Grapevine

Complete with the latest information about happenings related to our alumni, the grapevine is your link to former colleagues. Please submit any Grapevine information either directly to David Gaskins at gaskinsd@ecu.edu or by completing the web form on the alumni page off the main Recreational Services page at: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/recserv/index.cfm?load=homalu>

- Shawn Christenbury, former Intramural Sports multi-sport official, married Megan Callahan at St. Pius Church on Saturday, May 26th. Campus Recreation & Wellness staff members Todd Riddick and Blair Peck served as a groomsman and bridesmaid respectively.
- Heather Crisco, former Customer Services Attendant and Facility Manager, is currently an MA student at the American University in Cairo, Egypt in the sociology/anthropology department.
- Diana Dodson, former Main Office Assistant and Customer Services Attendant, is working full-time as an Inmate Case Manager at Polk Correctional Institution, the only super maximum prison in the state, and just graduated with her second degree (Criminal Justice). She is also working part-time as a Field Supervisor for Durham Parks & Recreation.
- Daniel Finn, former Intramural Sports multi-sport official, is leaving his teaching and Head Football Coach position at DH Conley High School, to become the new Head Football Coach and Care Coordinator at Southeast Raleigh High School.
- Sandy (Meadows) Fisher, former Intramural Sports Site Manager, multi-sport official, and Supervisor, and husband Matt are expecting their second child in December.
- Shay Hayes, former ARISE Graduate Assistant, Summer Camp Counselor, and Intramural Sports basketball/volleyball official, has left her teaching and coaching positions at Farmville Central High School and will be taking a new job at Holly Springs

- HS, a brand new school in Wake County, where she will be Head Women's Basketball and Volleyball coach in addition to teaching Physical Education.
- George Hollen, former Intramural Sports Site Manager and Multi-sport official, started the MBA program at UNC-Wilmington in May and was also promoted a few months ago to Manufacturing Supervisor AAIPharma.
 - Jeremy Howard, former Intramural Sports multi-sport official and Sports Camp Counselor, completed outstanding seasons as both Head JV Boys Basketball and Head Varsity Women's Softball Coach at E.T. Beddingfield High School in Wilson, NC. In basketball, his team completed the first winning season in eight years for the JV Boys. In Varsity Softball, Jeremy's team completed a 19-6 season in the first round of the playoffs. The nineteen victories were the most in school history in the sport.
 - April Kollar, former Main Office Assistant, is working at Wachovia Bank in Greenville.
 - Nila Lilyquist, former Fitness Trainer, is selling nuts and bolts for a company in Surf City, SC and is living on the beach near Myrtle Beach, SC.
 - Chris Miles, former Intramural Sports Soccer Official, served as Head Women's Softball Coach at North Pitt High School and completed a remarkable turnaround by capturing the NCHSAA 2-A State Championship in a four team double-elimination tournament over the weekend of June 2-3. David Boal, former Sports Camp Assistant Director was the Assistant Coach. When Miles took over the team five years ago they had not won a single game in the previous season.
 - Dana Moore, former ARISE Program Assistant, Intramural Sports Site Manager, Supervisor, and multi-sport official, was in the Oakland Coliseum when Barry Bonds hit his historic 714th home run tying Babe Ruth for second on the all-time list for Major League Baseball.
 - Stephen Smith, former Intramural Sports Site Manager and multi-sport official, and his wife Amy celebrated the birth of their second child, Emily Grace, on Friday, May 19. She weighed 6 lbs. and 10 ounces and everyone is doing well.
 - George Swarts, former Intramural Sports Soccer and Basketball official, is the manager of the recently opened "Tokyo to Go" restaurant in Greenville.
 - Aaron Thorpe, former Intramural Sports Site Manager and Supervisor, got engaged to be married in February and is planning a December 2006 wedding.
 - Megan Zullo, former Sunday Slam Youth Basketball Volunteer, was selected by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) as the Girls Athlete of the Year for 2005-2006. Zullo starred in Volleyball, Basketball, and Track & Field at Farmville Central High School where she lead the Lady Jaguars to the 2-A State Basketball Championship this past season. This was the first time in the 21 year history of the award that it was presented to an athlete from Pitt County. She was coached by CRW Alumni Shay Hayes and will be attending North Carolina State University this Fall on a basketball scholarship.

That is all for this month. Keep the information coming for the update next month.

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