A New Chapter In PEWSS

At the start of a new year, the Physical Education, Wellness, and Sport Studies Department has shed several majors, namely Exercise Science, Sport Management and Athletic Training, with each forming its own separate niche in the academic arena. Now, with a more focused concentration/selection of students, PEWSS is even more devoted to the quality growth of its majors. Regardless of the changes to the department, graduates are still doing great things in the community.

Student Teaching

Lauren Smith, majoring in Physical and Health Education, is performing her semester of student teaching this fall at nearby Crest High School. Lauren, who is originally from Macon, Georgia, chose the high school setting because she enjoys working with this age group. Lauren says she wants to make a difference in the lives of her students. She believes she can do this by teaching her students how to make healthy and physically-active lifestyle choices. Lauren is being mentored by Tracy Beaver, who has been a teacher at Crest High School for 3 years, and has been teaching Physical and Health education for a total of 14 years. Lauren says her favorite part of student teaching is seeing her students experience the joy of being physically active. Her supervising professor, Dr. Ken Baker, says he expects Lauren will be successful, largely due to her encouraging and vibrant personality. He notes Lauren is also hard working, well organized, and knowledgeable in most content areas. Upon graduation in December, Lauren plans to initially pursue a career as a professional golfer. Lauren adds she could ultimately see herself teaching at the college level.
Alumni Corner

Ben Johnson (’11) is teaching at Polk County Middle School. He starts the morning off with students in ISS followed by a Physical Education class and a Health class in the afternoon. He coaches Football, Wrestling, and Track & Field. They went 7-0 and are Division Champions in Football, but came up two points shy for Conference. Johnson is now getting ready for wrestling season.

Chelsea Turlington (’13) is working as a Physical Education teacher at two different schools in Rutherford County. She is at Forest City Dunbar on Monday and Tuesday, and at Harris Elementary on Wednesday through Friday. Harris is her home school. Turlington likes working at the two schools because the sets of students are totally different and in her words, they “keep me on my toes!” She also enjoys working with the physical education teachers from both schools because she is learning a lot about how to run two totally different programs.

Chelsea’s thoughts on her current position:
“What I am enjoying most are my adorable students and being a real part of a real school. I will probably want to move on eventually to have my own program, but for a first job this is pretty much a dream.”

Turlington proudly displays her first paycheck.
The PHEMA (Physical and Health Education Majors Association) goes to the National Convention:

The student majors, accompanied by advisors Mrs. Sarah McNeely and Dr. Shonna Snyder, attended the AAHPERD Convention in Charlotte, NC, in April. Students attended workshops and sessions related to nutrition, health education skills, drums alive, tennis, and many others. The students enjoyed visiting the Expo Center where they garnished some cool, free stuff, and Zack Shelton even won an Omni-kin Football for playing a tag game. The club will be attending NCAAHPERD in November.

PHEMA Upcoming Events:

Movie Night: The student majors are inviting everyone in the community out for a family movie night on Nov. 1 at the Gardner-Webb Practice Soccer field. The first film is Planes starting at 6:00 pm, followed by Monsters U at 8:00 pm and the new Superman (Man of Steel) at 10:00 pm. Bring a toiletry item or diapers and wipes to be donated to the Shelby Women’s Shelter and Crisis Pregnancy Center. Popcorn, hotdogs, candy, and drink will be available for a nominal charge.

Relay for Life: Come join our team as we walk for cancer on Nov. 2 starting at 8 pm at the GWU Spangler Stadium. Dr Snyder will get a pie-in-the-face at 10:30 pm, so you don’t want to miss out on that. You can join our team here:

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**Student Olympics**

(From left to right) Kyndal Davis, Kristen Hurley, Zack Shelton, and Lauren Smith compete in the Student Olympics at AAHPERD in Charlotte, April 2013
We want to hear from you. Send us updates to add to the newsletter.