

Wichita State University

THE SPORT MANAGER

2009-10: A Year to Remember

This has been one of the busiest and most exciting years in the history of the sport management programs at WSU. As the academic year nears its conclusion, it seems appropriate to reflect on many of the key events that have made 2009-10 a memorable year.

July 15: The Commission on Sport Management Accreditation (COSMA) approves WSU's sport management programs as candidates for accreditation with their review scheduled for 2010-11.

Aug. 27: The Sport Management Student Association (SMSA) holds its annual bowling party with more than 50 students, faculty and staff enjoying pizza and bowling at Northrock Lanes.

Sept. 18: SMSA holds a tailgate cookout prior to a WSU volleyball match. Athletic department staff members join the group for the pre-game meal.

Oct. 16: SMSA co-sponsors the Shock Cancer Walk at Charles Koch Arena. The event generated more than \$8,000 in proceeds going to the American Cancer Society.

Nov. 12: Sport Management Recognition Night features a number of awards going to individuals with exceptional achievements/contributions to the department. Dr. Steve Dittmore of the University of Arkansas is the

keynote speaker.

December: Dr. Mark Vermillion secures his fifth publication of the year in a peer-reviewed research journal. The publications in which his work was featured include *The Journal of Sport Administration and Supervision* and the *International Journal of Sport Management*.

Dec. 11: SMSA holds its end-of-the-semester social at Louie's.

Jan. 6: The Sport Management Alumni Association (SMAA) awards four \$500 fellowships to deserving students.

Jan. 19: The spring semester begins with Mike Ross joining the sport management faculty.

Feb. 1: The Sport Management Advisory Council, a group comprised of students, alumni, and practitioners, holds its annual meeting, reviewing the programs' effectiveness and making recommendations regarding future directions.

March 6: Department administrative manager Mary Myers receives the Honor Award in recognition of her service to the Sport and Recreation Law Association.

March 12: SMSA sponsors a trip to Oklahoma City to meet with staff members from the NBA Thunder

franchise and see that night's Thunder victory over New Jersey.

April 6: The annual Sport Management Career Fair, co-sponsored by SMSA and the Office of Cooperative Education, draws more than 12 exhibitors and nearly 75 guests.

April 12: Dr. Jeff Noble is named as the recipient of the 2010 College of Education Teaching Award.

April 20: The annual SMSA-SMAA baseball cookout is held prior to that night's Shocker game against

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Dr. Jeff Noble wins COE Teaching Award

The 2010 recipient of the WSU College of Education Teaching Award is Dr. Jeff Noble, instructor in sport management. Dr. Noble was elected as the award winner by the college's Faculty Personnel Committee and will be recognized for his accomplishment in a number of ways over the next year.

"This is an important honor, and Dr. Noble is a worthy recipient," said Dr. Clay Stoldt, department chair. "He is a dedicated and talented teacher, and I know the selection committee was particularly impressed by his commitment to continual improvement in his teaching methods."

Dr. Noble joined the WSU faculty in 2004, and he teaches courses ranging from the Introduction to Sport Management class required of all undergraduate majors to the Management in Sport course required within the master's program. He consistently receives high teaching and advising ratings and has been nominated for WSU's prestigious Academy for Effective Teaching Award.



Alumni Association Membership Drive Underway

The Sport Management Alumni Association (SMAA) has begun its 2010 membership drive. The SMAA sent letters inviting alumni to join or renew their memberships earlier this semester. If you are a graduate of the program and did not receive a letter, please contact Mary Myers at mary.myers@wichita.edu or (316) 978-5445.

The SMAA plays a vital role in insuring the sport management programs' effectiveness by providing scholarship monies for students, networking opportunities for students and alumni, and feedback to faculty regarding developments in the field.

Lu Gao-Thank you America: my second home.

I have been studying in Sport Management program for almost one and half years. As a student who comes from China, I have learned a lot of things regarding the profession of sport management and American culture.

The sport management program offers many courses I have been very interested in. In my sport marketing class, I learned how to develop a marketing plan. In the sport ethics class, I learned how to use different ethical theories to explain athletes' behaviors. In sport leadership class, I learned how to negotiate with other parties. All of these courses I took are very useful. I believe that when I have a job someday, the knowledge I gained from the sport management program will definitely be beneficial to my career. That is why I feel that coming to the USA for studying in sport management program is a very meaningful thing.

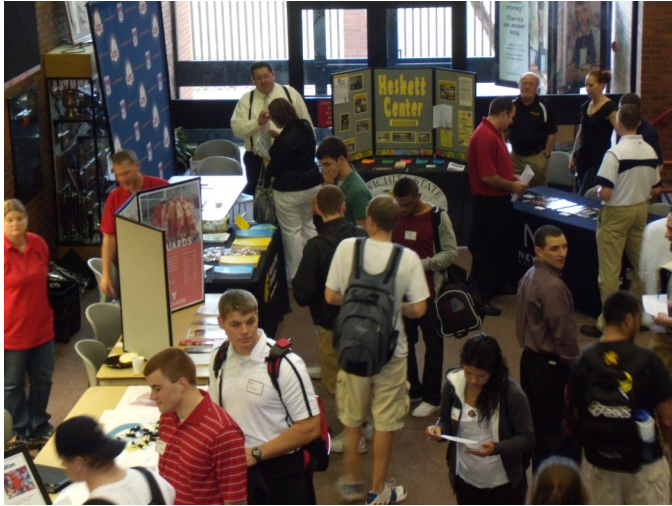
Besides the coursework, I have also learned a lot of things from the special events which have been held by sport management department. For example, we went to Oklahoma City to watch a Thunder home game. I gained a lot of information from the Thunder staff members who spoke to us and also learned that watching sport games is a really important thing to American people. As rookie in American culture, I feel excited when I get to know about this beautiful country.

Since most American people are very nice, I have made a lot of friends among them. I have learned American English and culture from every friend. For example, I thought "tell me about it" means that I tell them something, but that is not right. If my friend didn't teach me the real meaning of "tell me about it", I would never understand what it really means while they are using that.

I am so lucky that I can get a chance to study overseas. Studying in another country is not an easy thing to me, but I enjoy the process and find that I am improving my knowledge and skills every single day. Thank you America, my second home.

Photo taken during trip to Oklahoma City, March 12, 2010:
(from left) Lu Gao, Mark Vermillion, Mike Ross, Clay Stoldt, Mary Myers (front)





The 2010 Career Fair was a great success. Twelve exhibit booths were staffed by representatives from such local sport and recreation companies as Genesis Health Clubs, YMCA, The Wichita Wild Indoor Football, Thunder Hockey, Wingnuts baseball, WSU Athletics, WSU Cooperative Education, and much, much more. At least 60 students visited the booths and shared their resumes with representatives.



[On March 12, SMSA students, department faculty and staff enjoyed a trip to Oklahoma City to tour the Ford Center and watched the evening's NBA game with a lunchtime stop at Earl's Rib Palace.

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