



# Intramural Recreational Sports



# Alumni Newsletter

**Volume 4, Issue 1**

**Fall, 2014**

## HOMECOMING Picnic

Once again we have plans to host a homecoming picnic for our alumni and friends. This year's picnic will feature a true tailgate experience – plenty of food and music (yes, we will have a DJ). We will also have several give-a-ways for everyone in attendance!

Come on back to the “Hill” and join us during Homecoming with the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). Tour the Preston Center, meet the current staff, renew friendships, share your past experiences with everyone, and enjoy a little food and fellowship prior to the game.

Our homecoming picnic will be Saturday, November 8th, 2014 at 11:00 am - 1:00 pm (food will be served during this time but come early and stay late if you want.) We'll be located on South Lawn in front of the Preston Center (look for the Big Red IMREC Sports Tent)

Spread the word to our fellow alumni who are not on the WKU IMREC Alumni list serve. Thanks for your help with promoting this event.

### MENU

barbecue chicken  
pull pork shoulder  
fried fish  
meatless spaghetti  
baked beans  
french fries  
cole slaw  
cookies  
brownies  
soft drinks  
water



Please, RSVP

Contact Number: 270-745-6060

Email: [steve.rey@wku.edu](mailto:steve.rey@wku.edu)

We hope to see you November 8th!



# Regional Conference

This year's Region II Conference was held at the University of Richmond. The conference included pre-conference workshops, a student lead-on followed by two days of educational sessions and networking opportunities. The theme for the 2014 NIRSA conference was InspiRiVERation, and highlighted the many opportunities that are offered through the field campus recreation.

This year, Director Steve Rey and Student Wellness Graduate Assistant Kimberly Horan presented a session "WKU Toolbox to Success." The presentation informed universities about our collaborative Master Plan week for incoming freshman.



From left: Student Wellness GA, Kimberly Horan; Director Steve Rey; Fitness GA, Chrissy Strow; and Sport Clubs GA, Cybbi Barton


inspiRiVERation

## ORAC

Our ORAC has been off to a fantastic start for the fall semester! 11 out of 12 trips have sold out including the Appalachian Trail, Red River Gorge rock climbing, Ocoee Tennessee rafting trip, and Dog Sledding in Northern Minnesota- all of which filled with a waitlist within five days! Our Grand Canyon trip over Thanksgiving break filled in two weeks. We have had two semesters of successful rock climbing trips.

The Annual S'mores Clinic was a success as usual! Students, staff and families gathered in front of the Preston Center on a cold and rainy evening to roast some good ol' fashion s'mores over an open coal fire.

Participant interest is flourishing this year. We are so glad to see students and guests taking advantage of all ORAC program services.

Check out our photography here on ORAC's instagram! 

# Dance BIG RED

This is our first dance marathon lead by Western Kentucky University students! The event will be held to increase funds and awareness for Kosair Children's Hospital.

The Kosair Children's Hospital Foundation is fortunate to have the opportunity to partner with Western Kentucky University for the inaugural Dance Big Red.

IMREC Sports was approached by Junior Kelli Robinson in 2013 regarding this event. She explained her passion to make a difference and her ties to someone touched by Kosair Children's Hospital. Kelli began to think through creating that same synergy and excitement at WKU's campus with similar dance marathons.

Students can sign-up as an individual or as a team. Independent and Greek students are welcomed. Several campus organizations have a team represented. The cost to participate is \$12 representing the 12 hours of dancing. We have a fundraising goal of \$88 per participant representing the 88 newly diagnosed cancer patients each year.

Dance Big Red will be held Friday, February 20, 2015 (8 p.m. – 8 a.m.) at the Raymond B. Preston Health and Activities Center.

The final hour of the event will be a "community hour" for those who have participated in the event. The total amount raised will be announced during the final hour.

## How you can help

Individuals and businesses can participate in one of many sponsorship opportunities or make a donation/pledge to the event. To learn more, or to donate, Visit DanceBigRed.com [CLICK HERE](#)

For more information contact [kelli.robinson738@topper.wku.edu](mailto:kelli.robinson738@topper.wku.edu)



# SEB OLYMPICS

This December the Preston Center will be the host of its 3rd annual Student Employee Board (SEB) Olympics. The SEB Olympics are a time when employees from all areas of the Department of Intramural Recreational Sports come together for food, fun and competition. Employees form teams based on which department they work in (facilities, small areas, intramurals, or the fitness center.) Sports such as volleyball, basketball and dodge ball are just a few of the activities that are planned. This year small areas will be defending their back-to-back titles and hopes to create a "three-peat."

This year our theme for the SEB Olympics will be "The Ugly Christmas Sweater." Prizes will be given to the employee who comes up with the best outfit! The theme always provides a fun and festive atmosphere for all of the employees, both student staff and professionals. The event will take place the week of December prior to finals week as a way to celebrate the end of a successful semester.



# I heard it through the grapevine...

Nicole Merchant ('14)  
Assoc. Director of Operations  
Winthrop University

Margaret Stringer  
('12) & Ben Ramaeker ('13)  
married Sep. 20, 2014

Adam McKnight ('08)  
had his 2nd baby, Wyatt,  
in April 2014

Sean Sherwod  
baby boy, Casen Stewart,  
Sept, 2014

Malcolm Lunceford  
('14)  
Marketing & Special Events  
Coordinator  
University of Alabama –  
Birmingham

Lindsay Inman ('06)  
married  
June, 2014

Charlie Burk's ('99)  
1st baby, Annalisa Marie Burk,  
Oct. 12, 2014

Nick D'Amato ('14)  
Intramural and Club Sports  
Coordinator  
Keene State College

Alissa Arnold  
second baby girl,  
Ellen Marie Arnold,  
July 27, 2014

Sabrina Pate  
had second baby boy, Grady  
Oct 30, 2014

Andrew Deer ('14)  
Informal Recreational  
Coordinator  
Univ. of Alabama

Meredith  
Ley ('11) Stadium  
Operations Manager at  
Columbus Crew Stadium.  
Columbus OH

Darrell  
Shaw ('13) and wife  
Sam (New) Shaw ('13) had  
second daughter, Nora.  
Oct. 5, 2014

Jeff Moad('10)  
graduated from the Univ. of  
Kentucky Law School in  
Spring 2014

Brandi  
Breden had her  
second boy, Jack  
July 29, 2014

Todd  
Misener completed  
his Doctorate in Health  
Promotion

Mark "The Shark"  
Williams  
Director of Recreational Sports  
Notre Dame

Jarrode Davis ('14)  
Coordinator of  
Competitive Sports  
The Ohio State  
University

## How you can support IMREC Sports

How to give to  
IMREC Sports

**CLICK  
HERE**

- 1) go to wku.edu
- 2) click "make a gift"
- 3) Enter amount and choose  
"select the fund(s) for your gift"
- 4) Scroll down to Student Affairs  
and check the box for  
Intramural and Recreational Sports
- 5) Complete form and press continue

How to join the  
Alumni Association

**CLICK  
HERE**

- 1) go to wku.edu
- 2) click Alumni on the left side toolbar
- 3) Click membership on the top left side of  
the page
- 4) Select the join option now
- 5) Select the join option, again
- 6) Complete form and submit

Don't forget to check us out on Facebook

