



# Tribe Sports Medicine Christmas 2002 Newsletter

Happy Holidays from the Division of Sports Medicine! We have had an extremely busy fall sports season, and, as usual, several of our teams saw post-season action at the conference and NCAA levels. Everyone on the staff is ready to settle down for a long winter's nap—but we'd settle for a short one. Thanks to all of you who have dropped us a line over the past few months to let us know where you are and what you are doing. We hope that the Alumni web page has helped to keep you informed and excited about William and Mary Sports Medicine. With that in mind, here is the latest news from the 'Burg...

## Thanks for stopping by...

We really enjoyed seeing everyone at Homecoming and the Sports Medicine Tailgate. It was a great weekend that was punctuated by a 30-13 Tribe win over Northeastern. **Barron Sopchak** and his parents (all W&M alumni) stopped by the tailgate—Mrs. Sopchak was celebrating her 35<sup>th</sup> class reunion. **Jessica Meade** is at Varina High School in Richmond as a teacher and athletic trainer. **Kate (McCarthy) Leary** is completing her residency in family practice in Philadelphia. **Becky Erlich** is working at Williamsburg Physical Therapy and is applying to physical therapy school. **Mary Lewis** is back in the States working as a paralegal. **Tina Cox** is teaching in northern Virginia.



*Sports Medicine Tailgate, Homecoming '02*

Throughout the fall, we saw several sets of alumni parents. Bart and Libby Sprinkle stopped by to see Steve at a Tribe football game, even though **Phil** didn't make it this season! Mike and Marge Fedor, parents of **Mary Ellen (Fedor) Anton**, stopped by to update us on the family and to marvel at **Mary Ellen's** picture in the William and Mary Athletic Hall of Fame. Russ and Norma Riley, parents of **Lauren (Riley) Devart** stopped by to visit as well.

## Congratulations...

- **Meghan Campbell**, Tribe Intern Athletic Trainer passed her NATABOC Certification Exam to become the newest Tribe ATC.
- Tom and **Aileen (Ruaya) Meyers** announced that they are expecting their first child.
- **Chad Taylor** and Leah Keen were married on September 1, 2002 in the Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens in Richmond, VA.
- **Martha Simms** announced her engagement--a Summer 2003 wedding is planned.
- **Ted Eaves** and Jennifer Brady were married on May 18, 2002.
- **Scott and Kate (Mansfield) Clayton** announced that they are expecting their first child.
- Mark and **Robin (Gourley) Willson** announced the birth of Abigail Kay on Friday, June 28. She weighed 6 lbs. and 12 oz. and was 18" long.
- **Brian Castel** announced his engagement to Nicola East. A possible May '04 wedding is planned.

## Renée Cork Named to State Advisory Board

A special congratulations to Renée Cork, who was recently appointed by Governor Mark Warner to Virginia's Advisory Board on Athletic Training. She is the first and only woman to serve on the board. The Advisory Board on Athletic Training assists the Board of Medicine in formulating the requirements for certification and standards of professional conduct of athletic trainers in Virginia. The Board is comprised of five individuals, including only one representative from a college or university setting. The group defines the practice of athletic training throughout the state. Please join us in congratulating Renée on her appointment to this very important position.

## Dr. Oliver Retires and Dr. Michael Potter Named Team Physician

Dr. George Oliver retired from his post as Team Physician in the spring, a position that he had held since 1958. The Athletic Department honored Dr. Oliver for his decades of service to hundreds of student-athletes with a dinner at the Ramada Inn in Williamsburg in April. The dinner was very well attended by friends, family, and former Tribe athletes. Despite his retirement, Dr. Oliver is still a part of Tribe athletics—he can still be seen roaming the sideline at football games and he even made a couple of road trips.

Michael B. Potter, MD was installed as the Team Physician this summer. He earned his medical degree from Texas A & M. He completed a residency in Family Practice at Riverside Family Practice in 1999 and a Primary Care Sports Medicine Fellowship at Wake Forest University in 2000. In addition to his role as Team Physician, Dr. Potter is in private practice with the Tidewater Physicians Multispecialty Group.

## Athletic Success

It was “business as usual” for most of our fall teams this year with NCAA playoff trips for Women’s Soccer, Field Hockey, and Men’s Soccer, who made it to the “Sweet 16” and lost a tough overtime match to Penn State. Football had yet another winning season. Men’s and Women’s Cross-Country finished 14<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> respectively in the national rankings. The young volleyball squad had a tougher year, but hopes for the future are high.

For those of you who would like to stay more informed about Tribe Athletics news, you can contact Mario Machi at [sports@wm.edu](mailto:sports@wm.edu) to be added to the Tribe email list to receive all of the press releases regarding competition results, student-athlete honors and awards, and general news about the Tribe.

This high level of athletic achievement is made possible in part by the hard work and dedication of the athletic training students assigned to those sports. These students are on the front lines of injury care, both home and away, and help to keep our athletes on the field and competing at their best. With a staff of only four students, it was definitely a total team effort for both our certified staff and our students this fall. Thanks to Camille, Josh, Laura, and Sarah for all of your hard work and dedication to Tribe athletics.

## Update your address with us...

If you have moved recently, please email Andy Carter at [jacart@wm.edu](mailto:jacart@wm.edu) or call (757) 221-2790 to update your address so that we can keep you abreast of all the news from our alumni and friends. Once more, if you have an email address, please forward it to [jacart@wm.edu](mailto:jacart@wm.edu) so that we can add it to our alumni list. Finally, please let us know of any news (births, marriages, new jobs, etc.) that you'd like to share with the alumni and look for updates on the web page at [www.wm.edu/sportsmedicine](http://www.wm.edu/sportsmedicine).



*Happy  
Holidays!*

## **Accreditation Update...and Beyond**

*By Andy Carter*

It is with mixed emotions that I'm writing to you today to let you know that we have withdrawn from the accreditation process of our Athletic Training Education Program. On one hand, it's tough to see the education program that has nurtured and developed excellent allied health professionals for so many years come to an end. On the other hand, it's exciting to be a part of the Division of Sports Medicine as it evolves and grows and moves in a different direction with the same goal in mind—to provide quality health care for the Tribe student-athletes.

While the decision to withdraw from the accreditation process was very hard from a philosophical perspective, it was an easy one to make from a practical perspective. Just as the field of athletic training has evolved as an allied health profession, so have the standards for accreditation of athletic training education programs. In fact, the accrediting body has raised the bar significantly since we began the process just two years ago. Athletic training education has gone from a few required classes and 1,500 hours of experience to an academic major that requires a combination of lectures, labs, and clinical education that is modeled after other allied health programs such as physical therapy and nursing.

As all of our alumni will attest, the College is a special place that is steeped in tradition and rooted in the liberal arts. What it does—and it does better than most—is provide the student with a broad-based educational experience drawing from a variety of disciplines to prepare the student to be a life-long learner and a critical thinker. With this mission in mind, it is clear that an accredited athletic training education program, forcing its students to focus narrowly on sports medicine, would be a tough fit in this academic environment. Likewise, the College doesn't offer degrees in engineering or medicine for much the same reason.

Let it not be said, however, that we didn't try. I want to personally thank my colleagues in the Department of Kinesiology who gave me great support as I developed the course work and clinical components of the curriculum. With their help, I was able to add three lecture courses and five clinical courses to the catalog, which provide our current students with a far more comprehensive curriculum to prepare them to be athletic trainers.

I would also like to thank the administration of the Athletics Department who supported this project and supported me from the beginning. Likewise, the support of the staff of the Division of Sports Medicine was invaluable to me as I worked to meet deadlines and wrestled with the development of the curriculum. As many of you know, Steve was and is dedicated to athletic training education. Even though their will no longer be student athletic trainers at William and Mary, his lasting legacy will be the countless number of us who he mentored over the years.

Finally, I would like to thank you, the alumni and friends of the Division of Sports Medicine, for your support of the program. I appreciated all of the thoughtful questions and well wishes that have come my way over the last two years. Many of you have graciously supported the education program financially, and for that I am truly grateful. Without you, the accreditation of the program would have never gotten off of the ground.

Now, many of you who were valuable parts of this program as student athletic trainers ask the question: "Without students, what happens now?" Such is the challenge we face—how to maintain the high quality of athletic health care without a group of dedicated student athletic trainers to assist the core staff of five certified athletic trainers. Without a doubt, we will be forced to re-evaluate our staffing needs. Also, more than ever, we will rely on your continued support to help us to keep the Tribe healthy and successful.

## Donations and Gifts to the Division of Sports Medicine

We would like to thank all of those who made contributions to the Division of Sports Medicine this year. We will rely on your continued support as we shift our focus from accreditation of the education program to maintaining the high quality of athletic health care while exploring alternative staffing options.

We would like to give a special recognition and express our gratitude to the following donors whose combined gifts to the Division of Sports Medicine totaled **\$1,000 or more:**

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In 2002, there were 30 gifts to the Class of '74 Endowment totalling **\$165,354.06**. We would like to once again express our deep gratitude to Mr. Joseph W. Montgomery for his work in establishing this endowment.

# Division of Sports Medicine

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