



FAMILY NEWSLETTER

October 2006
Volume 3, Issue 2

Summits and Service: The Outdoor Pursuits Expedition does more than just climb

By Mitch Davis

The Fort Lewis College Outdoor Pursuits team recently returned from their latest expedition which took them to the top of Mt. Elbrus, the highest point in Europe, and Africa's highest point, Mt. Kilimanjaro. With four of the world's highest peaks conquered, the Outdoor Pursuits program has built a reputation for high adventure. But during this most recent expedition, there was another focus: service.

"These trips are climbing *and* cultural expeditions," explains Chris Nute, Outdoor Pursuits team leader.

Even before leaving the States in late June, the Outdoor Pursuits program worked with the International Mountain Explorers Connection and the IMEC's

Kilimanjaro Porter Assistance Project to facilitate the donation of over 200 articles of outdoor gear from Purgatory resort. The clothing is bound for the porters that all climbers, including the OP team, are required to hire before attempting Kilimanjaro. Often these porters are ill-equipped and severely underpaid.

The day before beginning their climb of Kilimanjaro, the OP team stopped in the town of Moshi, Tanzania, to work with a women's group that processes food and either sells it or gives it to the less fortunate.

"Shiri Tumaini Women's Group is a self-formed group of 17 women who are working together to improve the life standard of the members' families and village children by earning extra money through communal activities," Chris explains.

Continued on next page



Team members Josh Kling, Tony Miles and Allen Ottman working with local craftsman to set one of the backboards on the newly constructed basket- and net-ball court.



The Outdoor Pursuits team on the summit of Europe's highest peak, Mount Elbrus (18,510 feet and ~15° below zero). Elbrus is located in the Caucasus mountain range of the Russian Federation. July 5, 2006



ACE Team members presenting retired Purgatory uniforms to the International Mountain Explorers Connection's Kilimanjaro Porter Assistance Project (KPAP) office manager. The ACE Team facilitated the donation of over 200 articles of outdoor gear to KPAP. KPAP loans outerwear and gear free of charge to porters to insure that they are properly equipped.

Summits and Service: The Outdoor Pursuits Expedition does more than just climb (continued from page 1)

To lend a hand, the OP team picked roselle, an African plant used in jelly and drinks, and cut mangos to be pickled.

A week later, after conquering Kilimanjaro, the OP team headed for a small village called Kidia. There the team launched into a four-day service project that included building a basketball/net-ball court and painting the village's school.

"It was one of the best parts of the trip," says Allen Ottman, a member of the OP team. "It felt like home."

The local "fundies," or village craftsmen, built two basketball backboards which the OP team erected along with laying and compacting 20 yards of gravel for the court itself. In order to get the dimensions right, the team

used a picture from an old World Book Encyclopedia, a prized possession of the village school.

"It was pretty rudimentary," says Chris. "We were using tree stumps to compact the gravel."

At the conclusion of the service project, Chris said the villagers were both amazed and grateful.

"To you it might seem to be only an exercise, but to us it is the Golden Fleece," a tablet presented to the team by the villagers read. "The efficiency with which you work is beyond comprehension and the product is marvelous. We even thought you were some kind of soldiers only to learn that you are ordinary rock and mountain climbers."



Besides climbing, Outdoor Pursuits team members planned, facilitated and implemented three service projects during the 39 day expedition. Here, the team is spreading and compacting gravel on the newly constructed basketball/net-ball court at the Kidia Secondary School in Kidia, Tanzania. July 22, 2006.

FALL 2007 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Winter Term Registration:	
Advising	Monday-Friday, October 23-November 3
Registration	Monday-Friday, November 6-17
Thanksgiving Break	Monday-Friday, November 20-24
Last day of classes	Friday, December 8
<i>Deadline for withdrawing from term</i>	
Final exams	Monday-Friday, December 11-15
Commencement	Saturday, December 16
Final grades available to students	Thursday, December 21

WINTER 2007 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

New Student Orientation for Winter Term	Thursday-Friday, January 4-5
Classes begin	Monday, January 8
Census Date	Tuesday, January 23
<i>Deadline for payment of final bill (Winter tuition and fees due)</i>	
<i>Deadline for adding classes</i>	
<i>Deadline for dropping individual classes without a recorded grade</i>	
Next Family Newsletter posted on the Fort Lewis	February, 2006
College web page, www.fortlewis.edu , click on	
<i>Visitors/Parents</i> , then click on <i>Family Newsletter</i>	
Mid-term grades available to students	Thursday, March 1
Spring Break	Monday-Friday, March 5-9
Summer and Fall Term Registration:	
Advising	Monday-Friday, March 12-23
Registration	Monday-Friday, March 26-April 6
Last day of classes	Friday, April 20
<i>Deadline for withdrawing from term</i>	
Final exams	Monday-Friday, April 23-27
Commencement (two ceremonies)	Saturday, April 28
Final grades available to students	Thursday, May 3

Fort Lewis College Hires New Athletic Director

Kent Stanley is the new Director of Athletics. Kent's background includes both coaching and administration.

He believes that athletes need to excel both academically and athletically. Kent's background as a women's basketball coach at Fresno Pacific University and Oklahoma City University attests to the success he has had with this philosophy. He led the OCU Stars to back-to-back NAIS national championships in 1999 and 2000 while being named National Coach of the Year twice. During his time at both universities, Kent saw 100 percent of his senior student-athletes graduate. His teams were named to the WBCC Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll three years in a row, including having the third highest GPA among NAIA schools in 1996.

More recently, Kent has served as the chief enrollment officer at Simpson University in California and Associate Athletic Director at Eastern Washington University. During his time at EWU, Kent was very involved in the fund-raising aspect of college sports; he increased all phases of external funding and motivated the booster club into an effective fund-raising organization. He did this at the same time he was building new athletic facilities.

Kent selected his position at Fort Lewis College because we met his four criteria: a defined sense of its place in higher education, a location in a small community, a football program, and a president who believed athletics played a significant role.

We welcome Kent, his wife Hollie and his two children, Zachariah (7) and Mikayla (4) to our community.

Information from this article was adapted and quoted from an article by Mitch Davis in the faculty and staff newsletter. To read the full article go to: www.fortlewis.edu/news/messenger.asp



Kent Stanley
Director of Athletics

Yvonne Bilinski Hired as Director of Native American Center

After having been away from home working on the East Coast, Yvonne, a Four Corners native and a member of the Navajo tribe, is returning home to do what she loves best. "I want to help students move along their academic continuum, wherever it takes them," she explains. "I want to provide a new outlook on what it means to be an educated Native American."

Yvonne received a BS in Education (History and English Literature) and a master's degree in US History from New Mexico State University. She studied for three years towards her Ph.D. (US History) at UCLA. Yvonne has served as Director of the Higher Education Opportunity Program and Office of Minority Student Affairs at the University of Rochester in New York. She then served as the Associate Director of Student Services and Operations in the American Indian Program at Cornell University.

For over two decades at the University of Rochester and Cornell, Yvonne worked to recruit and retain her students and to instill in her students the experience of giving back to their communities. "I believe in the full circle," she says. "The full circle begins with recruitment of students. Once they are recruited, then the next piece of the circle is to retain them and graduate them. During this time, students are encouraged to give back to their various communities through internships and volunteer activities - all to fulfill the last piece of the circle---returning to one's community."

Information from this article was adapted and quoted from an article by Mitch Davis in the faculty and staff newsletter. To read the full article go to: www.fortlewis.edu/news/messenger.asp



Yvonne Bilinski, Director of
Native American Center


Upcoming Events in Student Housing

Our residence halls are abuzz with activities and events this time of the year. Homecoming week was October 9 - 15. Each hall had a Homecoming parade entry. This year's theme was "All Things Golden", celebrating the 50th year of Fort Lewis College on the mesa. Many residence halls participated in the traditional Homecoming powder-puff games, sponsored by Intramural Sports and ROCA (Residents on Campus Association) and had teams for the annual mud football game, sponsored by the Business Club.

We're excited to have so many fun and educational programs planned for your students in the upcoming month. In particular, please encourage your students to be on the look out for publicity about these events:


- As part of our series of "First Friday" activities, The Bader Snyders is hosting a bonfire and s'mores night for campus students at the camp fire pit behind the Bader Snyders, Friday, October 20.
- ROCA is hosting a week of events for Halloween, featuring a Halloween bingo game, pumpkin carving contest, and Halloween dance.

Student Housing and Conference Services Residential Closures



- ***Residence halls will close for Thanksgiving Break on November 18, 2006, at 9 am and re-open on November 26, 2006, at 1 pm.*** The last meal served will be dinner on November 17, 2006. Meals will begin after the Break with dinner on November 26, 2006. The apartments will remain open during Thanksgiving Break. Students who leave their vehicles on campus over break must move them to the Stadium parking lot (Lot D) prior to departure from campus. In the event of snow during the break, vehicles parked in other lots will be towed at the owner's expense so that the lots can be plowed. Apartment residents staying for the break will be notified in advance should plowing be necessary. All vehicles must have a valid parking permit. Residents are required to let housing staff in their buildings know about any overnight guests and/or their vehicles.

- ***Residence halls and apartments will close for the Winter Break on December 16, 2006 at noon and reopen on January 7, 2007, at 1 pm.*** The last meal served will be breakfast on December 16, 2006. Students are required to check out of their residence hall or apartment within 24 hours after their last final to preserve the quiet, academic environment for others. Students must properly check out of their rooms and apartments with a staff member. Final examination schedules are available on WebOPUS.



Please contact the Student Housing and Conference Services Office at
(970) 247-7503 if you have questions or would like additional information.

Residence Hall Associations Make A Difference

All residence halls and the apartment complexes have a hall government, called a Residence Hall Association (or RHA). RHAs address student concerns in the hall, provide social programming, and provide some leadership training. Now that these groups are formed and officers elected, they are already getting involved with making a difference in the Fort Lewis College community. Recently, RHA members participated in Jump Start Leadership, a 3 hour leadership workshop for club leaders across campus. They learned valuable skills on facilitating effective meetings, event planning and publicity, fundraising, recruiting and retaining members. They have hosted social events, put together teams for Homecoming competitions and begun plans for fostering hall pride through hall t-shirts and other efforts. The RHAs also have a number of exciting plans in the works for the rest of the term: they are bringing the nearby wolf refuge to campus for an educational program, engaging in hall improvement activities and addressing environmental and recycling concerns of residents. We are proud of your sons and daughters making a difference right where they live! RHAs are always looking for new members. Students should contact the Residence Director of his/her hall/apartment complex for additional information.

**Colorado's Public Liberal
Arts College
Durango, Colorado**

Family Newsletter
1000 Rim Drive
Durango, CO 81301
Phone: 970-247-7212
Fax: 970-247-7282
familynewsletter@fortlewis.edu

Remind your Student ...

If your student drops a class from the schedule, remind your student to go to his/her WebOPUS account, or check with the Records Department at 160 Miller Student Center, to confirm that the class has been dropped.

New Staff in Career Services Office

The Career Services Office is pleased to welcome Scott Kuster as Career Services Specialist. Scott, who started in late September, brings a broad range of experiences and knowledge to the Career Services Office. He speaks Spanish, has experience in the field of education, and has lived and traveled throughout the world. Scott is available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday to work with students needing guidance with career decision making, planning and job search techniques. Scott also is available to give presentations to groups and classes.

With his arrival, the Career Services Office can continue to offer the many quality services and programs for students. For more information about the Career Services Office you can go to our website at <http://cso.fortlewis.edu>. The telephone number is (970) 247-7562.



Academic Standards

Your student will be suspended from Fort Lewis College if his/her grade point average is below 1.0 for a semester. These students will not be eligible to continue unless reinstated by appeal to the Academic Standards Committee. There are additional ways in which upper level students can be suspended (refer to web page below). To learn about the appeal process go to: http://www.fortlewis.edu/academics/course_catalog/default click on Fort Lewis College Academic Policies, click on "Academic Standing Policies," then go to Page 5.

DO YOU WANT THIS NEWSLETTER MAILED TO YOUR ADDRESS?

If you want this newsletter mailed to you, please call the Counseling Center at (970) 247-7212, Fax (970) 247-7282, e-mail familynewsletter@fortlewis.edu, or send us the information below. Look for the February issue of our Family Newsletter on the Fort Lewis College website at www.fortlewis.edu; click on Visitors/Parents, then on Family Newsletter.

Student Name _____

Family Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Please mail the above information to: Family Newsletter
Fort Lewis College, 1000 Rim Drive, Durango, CO 81301