CHANGING THE GAME



Top readers from Fred D. Wish School during their visit to UCONN for the annual Community Celebration and Field Day

ISSUE V – MAY 2013

Husky Sport Wraps-Up the 2012-2013 Academic Year

Hartford Visits UConn Once Again, Annual Community Celebration

Husky Sport's Successful Run with UConn's IGNITE! Fundraising Competition

Husky Sport Receives Financial Support

Congratulations Graduates

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2012-2013 School Year 9 years of Continued Community Building & Growth

Partners, families, UConn students, Hartford's North End community members, and, most importantly, over 250 children gathered at Husky Sport's annual Community Celebration on April 19th. Award ceremonies celebrated reading achievements and another school year full of programming and community engagement. After a nutritious brunch, children got active with Husky Sport students and staff in an afternoon of physical activities.

This year, Husky Sport extended its After School Program to students from Fred D. Wish School, in addition to its beloved students from J. C. Clark School. Husky Sport hosted its second annual Community Fall Fest, bringing together community organizations at the After School program at the Parker Memorial Recreation Center. Later in the spring, Husky Sport invited families to the After School program for a Family Day, in which parents played sports, experimented as scientists

and prepared fresh guacamole in the nutrition station alongside their children. The After School program ended with a trip to the University of Hartford for a campus tour and a baseball game!

The In-School program was as lively and positive as ever, combining nutrition education, physical activity, life skills and academic achievement. The students experienced monthly nutritional food tastings, such as organic vegetables. One of the most embraced life skill lessons this year was Community, in which students decorated maps with essential community institutions, borrowing from their own personal experiences to create a mock positive community.

Partnerships and programming continued as well with the Hartford Catholic Worker House (Green House), the Salvation Army North-End Corps and the Community Renewal Team-Generations, featuring the famous annual Green House Halloween celebration. Husky Sport also hosted clinics with physical activities, sport drills, stretching, and a special presentation on healthy choices to get active at the Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy and West Middle School, both in Hartford.



K-2nd top readers enjoying their field day and celebrating the end of a successful of Read & Raise semester.







CELEBRATING TOP READERS!

Read & Raise is a literacy initiative with Kindergarten to Eighth grade students at John C. Clark Elementary and Middle School; Fred D. Wish Elementary and Middle School; and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary and Middle School.

Husky Sport's Graduate Assistant, Evan Timme, reads with MLK students.

The top two reading classes at each school, the top student from each class in grades 3 through 6, and the top five middle school readers from each school were invited to attend The Community Celebration. The celebration included presentation of awards and recognition for Top Readers, teachers and literacy coordinators. Clark fourth grader Romano Sheff received this year's Maggie Bookman Award and will also receive a scholarship to the summer camp of his choice. Other students nominated for the Maggie Bookman Award will receive gifts in the form of book baskets and school supplies.



During the 2013 Read & Raise season, about 1,000 students from the three schools read and completed more than 25,455 books and worksheets. In the five years since the initiative was launched, Hartford students have read and completed more than 193,355 books and worksheets.



Students play Leap Frog in the nutrition station in a race to answer My Plate trivia!



Sportsmanship is about acknowledging our opponents.

The Community Celebration and Field Day was a terrific success! Thanks to its many devoted supporters.



Who wouldn't grin over the prospect of such a great brunch?



Getting silly at the Community Celebration

Visit <u>Facebook</u> to view more highlights from the experiences of the over 300 people gathered at the University of Connecticut on April 19th.

IGNITE!

Husky Sport is proud to announce its 1st runner-up finish among the 20 UConn organizations participating in the "IGNITE!" fundraising competition. We received an award for \$2,500.00. Combined with the funds from 394 donations, we raised **\$8,483.15 in total!** Congratulations to our friends at Community Outreach for a 1st place finish with a total of 417 donations. It was a fun and very close competition.

Husky Sport had the <u>highest number (205) of ALUMNI donors</u> and was credited as the organization with the "**Best Social Media Marketing**." We will be honoring our many alumni by posting 'Throwback Pictures' in the coming days on both <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>!!!

Our growing community of students, families, alumni, and partners are so grateful for your generous assistance. **Thank you!**



Husky Sport Receives More Awards!

The Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority recognize Husky Sport with \$75,000 at Community Celebration

The final donations of Ignite! completed a season of support for Husky Sport in order to continue

Hartford and UCONN community building efforts. Husky Sport was fortunate enough to receive grants from CHEFA, The Long Foundation, and The Ensworth Charitable Trust. All will support ongoing Husky Sport programming.

Enrichment Program Receives Grant (The Daily Campus)

Also continuing a tradition of giving, former UConn basketball player and a long-time friend, believer and supporter of Husky Sport, Emeka Okafor, once again provided Husky Sport with a gift to continue the relationship building between UConn and Hartford.

Once Again, Emeka Okafor Gives Back; Former UConn Center Donates \$100,000 To Husky Sport (The Hartford Courant)

Congratulations Graduates!

Patricia Bellamy

Home: New Haven, CT

M.S. Social Work

Husky Sport major roles: • In-School Program Coordinator • Lead Graduate Assistant



"To gain from this experience I open myself up to review what I've learned as a child and how I learned it, what I am learning as an adult and how I can apply it, who has helped me get to where I am and how they've helped me; these are things that my students and my experience with Husky Sport have empowered me to reflect on."

Jenn Myatt

Home: Milford, CT

B.S. Sport Management, Minor Business Fundamentals

Husky Sport major roles: • Read & Raise point person at Clark

• In-School and After-School program staff support



"Husky Sport allowed me to become more involved with my UConn community and the Hartford community. I built a lot of relationships and consider Husky Sport one of my most valued activities in my undergraduate career."

CHANGING THE GAME - Husky Sport's Newsletter

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Nicole Squadrito

Home: Ellington, CT

M.S. School Psychology (specialization: Clinical Child Counseling)

Husky Sport major roles: • Read & Raise point person at Clark and Wish



"My past two years of working with Husky Sport have allowed me to develop positive connections and relationships, and a unique and meaningful experience I can take with me both in my future career and endeavors. It's such a great feeling to share my love for sports and education with children and provide support."

Alicia Waring

Home: New London, CT

M.S. Education (concentration: Kinesiology; Sport Management

Husky Sport major roles:

• Read & Raise point person at Clark

In- School instructor



"I've learned more about who I am, related to students through similar circumstances, and established genuine, long-lasting friendships. Thank you, north end of Hartford and Husky Sport, for this unforgettable and rewarding experience."

Because we greatly value positive, consistent and sustained relationships, Husky Sport is constantly updating and communicating through our Twitter and Facebook accounts!

We hope you follow and like us as we work to invest in our relationships with you all. Thank you!

@UConnHuskySport



<u>UConn Husky Sport</u>



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