WHO IS WILLIAM WASSON?

Dr. William N. Wasson was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and grew up in Louisville, Kentucky where he attended Central High School. In 1937 he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Louisville Municipal College. While in college, he played football, basketball, and ran track. In 1946, Dr. Wasson enrolled at the University of Michigan to pursue a Master’s degree in Physical Education. During his stay at Michigan, Dr. Wasson was introduced to intramurals when he took a class from Dr. Elmer Mitchell, the “father of intramurals.” From there he went to Dillard University as a biology teacher and served as the assistant football coach, the assistant basketball coach, and the head track coach. He developed an intramural program for Dillard University students and was then given a grant from the Carnegie Foundation in 1948 to study student intramural programs at black colleges.

As a result of the grant, Dr. Wasson collected data and wrote “A Comparative Study of Intramural Programs in Negro Colleges.” This document was mailed to all participating colleges and ultimately led to the meeting of intramural directors from 11 colleges at Dillard University in 1950. At this meeting the National Intramural Association (NIA) was created and Dr. Wasson has since been known as the founder of the Association.

Dr. William Wasson passed away on July 31, 1991. He is survived by his wife Lee, of Lithonia, Georgia, who continues to attend NIRSA Annual Conferences. Dr. Wasson left a rich legacy of service and involvement. Dr. Wasson was once asked how he would like NIRSA to remember him. He humbly responded, “As the person who accidentally happened to have been there because, certainly not in the back of my mind, did I think we would get organized and become a national or rather an international organization.”

The William N. Wasson award was created to recognize top undergraduate and graduate students who are participants of and/or employed by the Department of Recreational Sports. The award gives NIRSA an opportunity to honor outstanding student leaders who are active participants, employees, and/or volunteers at their institution. 

(Source: www.nirsa.org)
NEBRASKA’S WASSON AWARD WINNERS

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Since the inception of the William N. Wasson Student Leadership & Academic Award in 1993, forty-five students at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln have been honored by the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA).

JASON LACEY (LACE) – 1993
Then: Intramural Staff Assistant, CRAC President
Now: Allied Insurance Group, Commercial Underwriting Sales Officer; Lives in Urbandale, IA, just outside of Des Moines.
Family: Wife Marcie and 3 girls

KURT LUND – 1993
Then: Outdoor Recreation; Facility Manager; Informal Recreation

BLAKE ANDERSON – 1994
Then: Outdoor Recreation; Facility Manager; Informal Recreation

KATHY HARKREADER – 1995
Then: Facility Manager; Informal Recreation

PATRICK BOLTE (P-BOLT) – 1995
Then: Intramural Staff Assistant
Now: Lives in Santa Fe, NM and works as a Pharmacist; Continues to love hunting and fishing.
Family: Wife Cecily and two daughters Madelyn (6) and Lauren (5)

KEVIN ANDERSON – 1996
Then: Intramural Staff Assistant
Now: Works at Lyons-Decatur Northeast HS as the Agriculture Education Instructor; Serves as the head football coach and FFA Advisor.
Family: Wife Kara and children, Elise (6) Brayden (4), and Linden (1 month)

SCOTT ROSKILLY – 1997
Then: Outdoor Recreation; Facility Manager; Informal Recreation

JASON OTT (OTTER) – 1997
Then: Intramural Official
Now: Is a school Teacher in Rockville, Maryland.
Family: Wife Carolyn and daughter Hannah (3)

AMY (LUCHT) – 1998
Then: Fitness Instructor

ANGIE (HAGSTROM) FREDERICK – 1999
Then: Instructional Programming and Fitness & Wellness
Since: Fitness Director at Georgia Southern University 2001-05, Associate Director for Facilities & Fitness 2005-07; Assistant Director for Fitness & Wellness at UNL 2007-2008.
Now: Director of Fitness & Wellness at Georgia Gwinnett College; Runs half & full marathons.
Family: Husband Kurt, baby on the way (Oct. 2008), Max & Merlin (4-legged variety)

JEFFERY LATTER (J-LATT) – 1999
Then: Intramural Staff Assistant
Now: Teaches in Gresham, Oregon and works as Triple-A Baseball umpire.
Family: Wife Kendra

MATT DEVRIES – 1999
Then: Crew Sport Club member; CRAC member

JASON BOYKIN – 1999
Then: Graduate Assistant for Intramural Sports
Now: Coordinator for Sport Clubs & Youth Activities at UNL.; Officiates high school football and basketball.

SHinya TakaHAsHi – 2000
Then: Fitness and Wellness Graduate Assistant at UNL.
Now: Strength and Conditioning Coordinator at UNL since 2000; Originally from Japan, Weight Lifter, PhD Student (Instructional Technology).
Family: Wife Stephanie, son Taiyo (3), second child on the way (Nov 2008)

JEANette (PRyor) KleppInGer (JP) – 2000
Then: Intramural Sports, Sport Club Graduate Assistant
Now: Living in Omaha.
Family: Husband Scott and two children, Evan (2) and McKenna (6 months)

MEGAN ALEXander – 2000
Then: Office Assistant, IPC Staff, CRAC Member
Now: Working for the Girl Scouts in Oklahoma and running two camp facilities.
ROBIN WHISMAN – 2001
Then: Graduate Assistant for Injury Prevention & Care
Since: Assistant Athletic Trainer at Northern Illinois University 2002-03, Adjunct Faculty at Hamilton College 2003-04.
Now: Assistant Director for Injury Prevention & Care at UNL 2004-Present; Plays volleyball and is becoming a Rockband superstar!
Family: Cooper the Wonder-Dog

RYAN SALLANS – 2001
Then: Outdoor Recreation Staff
Since: Community Educator with Planned Parenthood of Nebraska & Council Bluffs, 2005 to Present; Real Estate Agent with Woods Bros Realty, 2007 to present; Professional Speaker.
Family: Partner Michelle, four legged children: Gracie, Maddie, PJ, Taber

SEUN LAWAL – 2001
Then: Graduate Assistant for Injury Prevention & Care
Now: Medical school student in Orlando, FL.

JEREMY A. GLASSER – 2001
Then: Intramural Staff Assistant
Now: Lives in Omaha, NE and works for 21st Century Systems.

JESSICA DWORAK – 2001
Then: Facility Manager, Informal Recreation

JARROD CROUSE – 2001
Then: Intramural Staff Assistant
Now: Lives in Lincoln, NE; Works as an attorney for Baylor Evnen, LLP and is a sports official.

TRAVIS ZAHL (T-ZAHL) – 2002
Then: Intramural Staff Assistant
Now: Lives in Carrolton, MO; teaches high school and coaches football and basketball.

ERIN (MILLER) STARR – 2002
Then: Intramural Staff Assistant
Now: Lives in Fairbury, NE and works as registered nurse at Fairbury Hospital.
Family: Husband Jered and son Benjamin (3)

HOLLY WADE – 2002
Then: Instructional Programming
Now: Coordinator of Group Fitness and Wellness at James Madison University (Harrison, VA) since 2006; Enjoys yoga, hiking, and helping others practice Wellness.

MICHELLE TETHEROW – 2003
Then: East Campus Rec employee

RYAN BABL – 2003
Then: Facility Manager, Informal Recreation; Head Lifeguard

JOHN WASHO (J THE I) – 2003
Then: Intramural Sports Intern
Now: Works at DePaul University as the Assistant Director for Intramural Sports, Outdoor Recreation and Sport Supervisors.
Family: Getting married in September (Jenn)

JASON BAKEWELL (BAKE) – 2003
Then: Outdoor Adventures, Club Sports (Soccer), Intramural Sports (Soccer Referee)
Since: Graduate Assistant for Southern Adventures, Georgia Southern University 2004-06; Senior Field Instructor, Second Nature Wilderness Programs, Utah 2006-07; Masters Degree in Recreation Administration (GSU), Traveled to World Cup Soccer Championship in Germany 2008, Moved back to Lincoln in January 2008.
Now: Outdoor Adventures Coordinator, University of Nebraska - Lincoln; Qualified for Boston Marathon at the Lincoln Marathon in May 2008.

DAVE PEARSON (BIG DAVE) – 2003
Then: Intramural Sports Graduate Assistant
Now: Lives in Pullman, WA; Works at Washington State University as the Assistant Director of Competitive Sports, Special Events & Youth Programs.

DAWN DWORAK – 2004
Then: Facility Manager for Informal Recreation

TROY WATSON – 2004
Then: Graduate Assistant for Injury Prevention & Care
Now: Youth Minister in Corpus Christi, Texas.

ZAC BROST (BRONCO) – 2005
Then: Intramural Sports Staff Assistant
Since: Graduate Assistant for Intramural Sports at UNL 2005-2007
Now: Intramural Sports Coordinator at UNL (2007-present); Basketball & football official.
Family: Daughter AJ (born 2004); married Jenni Keil (July 2008)

BLAIR SCHUYLER – 2005
Then: Facility Manager for Informal Recreation
Now: Director for Game Operations for the University of Missouri athletic department.

DAX KUYKENDALL (CHICKEN) – 2005
Then: Intramural Sports Graduate Assistant
Now: Lives in Boynton Beach, FL; currently works at Florida Atlantic University as their Associate Director for Facilities.
Family: Wife Jessica

MATTHEW BECK (BENKELMAN) – 2006
Then: Intramural Sports Staff Assistant
Since: Graduate Assistant at Oklahoma State University 2006-2008
Now: Lives in Lawrence, KS; University of Kansas as Coordinator for Intramural Sports; Blackbelt in Judo.
Jenni Keil (Donk) – 2006
Then: Worked as an Intern with Campus Recreation 2005-2006
Since: Graduated with M.A. in Educational Administration (Student Affairs)
Now: Works as an Academic Advisor for the College of Arts and Sciences at UNL.
Family: Married Zac Brost on July 26, 2008

Irma Sulejmanovic – 2007
Then: Member Services, Trainer, Facility Manager
Now: UNMC Nursing major; taking classes at UNL; plays Intramural Soccer and volunteers for the American Red Cross; founding member of the European Student Unite student organization at UNL.

Matt Wilkinson – 2007
Then: Intramural Sports Staff Assistant
Now: Intramural Sports Graduate Assistant at University of Southern Mississippi 2008-present; Boy Scout Extraordinaire.

Jessica Betts – 2008
Then: Facility Manager Member Services
Since: Graduated in May 2008
Now: Graduate school student at University of Kansas Medical School.

Tara Hindman – 2008
Then: Member Services, Head Lifeguard
Now: Pursuing Master’s degree in Community Counseling and working as graduate assistant at Chadron State College.

Diane Sylofski – 2008
Then: Graduate Assistant for Instructional Programs
Now: Fitness Coordinator at the University of Florida.

Fatemeh Parsa – 2008
Then: Fitness Supervisor, Facility and Member Service manager, Marketing Assistant; Now: President of Campus Recreation Advisory Council; Majoring in Bachelor of Fine Arts with emphasis in Graphic Design; Originally from Iran, lived in Netherlands and as a result speaks Dutch and Farsi just as well as English.

WHAT’S NEW WITH YOU?
Do you have any exciting news you’d like to share with your fellow alums?
A new address? New job? Perhaps the birth of child?
We would love to hear from you!

Please send your news (and photos!) to
Holly Koopmans at hkoopmans2@unl.edu

HUSKERS

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INTRAMURAL SPORTS STAFF ASSISTANTS
REUNION & FRIENDS TAILGATE

WHO: Former UNL Staff Assistants and families as well as any other friends of Campus Rec
WHEN: Saturday, September 27
WHERE: Campus Recreation Center southwest patio
TIME: 3 hours before game time or earlier depending on game time

RSVP by 9/22 to:
Jennifer Rezac (a.k.a. Bundle)
540-230-7711
Rezac@vt.edu

http://cerc.unl.edu
ANNUAL ALUMNI GOLF OUTING

The Annual Alumni Golf Outing was held on Monday, June 16, 2008 at the Iron Horse Golf Course in Ashland, Nebraska. Beginning with a shotgun start and ending with a suntan, 43 golfers participated in this year’s event. Providing an opportunity to catch up and reminisce, June 16th proved to be a wonderful day! Team results and pin prizes are listed below.

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT
1st Place with a score of 56 – Jeremy Eickhoff, Brad Fisher, Jeremy Jensen, Tim Matulka
2nd Place with a score of 56 – Bill Goa, Terry Kenny, Ken Mar, Mike Monk
3rd Place with a score of 59 – Chris Arent, Dave Bell, Mark Powell, Dan Werner
4th Place with a score of 61 – Dan Houlden, Stan Houlden, Jerry Priebe, John Weiss
5th Place with a score of 62 – Jason Boykin, Keith Joseph, Jennifer Rezac, Matt Rezac

FIRST FLIGHT
1st Place with a score of 63 – Zac Brost, Jarrod Crouse, Rod Chambers, Deb Chambers
2nd Place with a score of 63 – Jeff Spiegel, Anne Streich, Brain Watkins, Mike Wulf
3rd Place with a score of 63 – Stan Campbell, Tim Fichter, Wade Phillips, Mark Stencil
4th Place with a score of 68 – Mark Hakel, Rocky Keeshn, Nancy Welniak
5th Place with a score of 73 – David Coffin, Josh Johnson, Steve Ketelhut, Tom Whiteing
6th Place with a score of 77 – David Dibelka, Todd Johnson, Tanner Teply, Mel Sinnard

PIN PRIZES
Hole 1: Closest to the Pin with 2nd Shot – Dave Bell
Hole 2: Closest to the Pin with 1st Shot – Ken Mar
Hole 3: Longest putt made from on the green – Anne Streich
Hole 4: Closest to the Pin with 2nd Shot – Mark Powell
Hole 5: Closest to the Pin with 1st Shot – Steve Ketelhut
Hole 6: Closest to the Pin with 2nd Shot – Mike Monk
Hole 7: Closest to the Pin with 2nd Shot – Nancy Welniak
Hole 8: Closest to the Pin with 3rd Shot – Mike Wulf
Hole 9: Longest putt made from on the green – Rod Chambers
Hole 10: Closest to the Pin with 3rd Shot – Jerry Priebe
Hole 11: Closest to the Pin with 1st Shot – Tim Matulka
Hole 12: Longest putt made from on the green – John Weiss
Hole 13: Closest to the Pin with 2nd Shot – Wade Phillips
Hole 14: Closest to the Pin with 2nd Shot – Mark Hakel
Hole 15: Closest to the Pin with 1st Shot – Jeremy Eickhoff
Hole 16: Longest putt made from on the green – Jarrod Crouse
Hole 17: Closest to the Pin with 1st Shot – Jeremy Jensen
Hole 18: Longest Drive in the fairway – David Coffin

2009 GOLF EVENT: JUNE 22, 2009
FIRETHORN GOLF CLUB – LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

http://crec.unl.edu 6