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May 11, 2010

Hello and welcome to the Provost's Vlog. I am Mark Myers, Provost of SWCID Community College for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons. I am proud to tell you about our new athletic program, specifically the men's and women's basketball teams.

The Athletic Department is committed to providing student athletes a great opportunity for participating in a collegiate athletic program, which is a significant factor in the college-life experience. Athletics not only offers entertainment and participation for all students, but it also serves as a motivator for the student athletes to remain focused on their educational goals. Deaf and hard of hearing students enjoy participating in competitive athletic activities as much as any other student on any college campus. Our mascot is Rattlers!

This past year we established a new SWCID men's basketball team. We have made the switch from intramural to extramural sports. Believe it or not, in addition to my role as the Provost, I served as the head coach for the men's basketball team. This first group of student athletes, which was comprised of a team put together from men living in the residence hall, have played against community college Varsity and university JV teams that are members of the NJCAA and NAIA. This men's team has been the pioneers and played a huge part in developing a solid basketball program. Although we did not have a winning season in the first year, the team remains in excellent spirits with good attitudes and sportsmanship. I am very pleased to have watched and helped these fine young men as they continued to grow and become talented athletes. Let's watch a brief footage of previous games.

Video shown

It is always good to watch our men's team playing basketball on the video.

We are excited to form a new women's basketball team for next basketball season 2011-2012. I would like to introduce Mark Adams who is starting his second year as the SWCID Athletic

Director. He has his Master's Degree in Administrative Education, his B.S. in Social Science. His experience includes: Collegiate Athletics for 25 years and Athletic Director for 7 years. He is assisting in the development of a competitive intercollegiate athletic program. Mark is now in the process of scheduling basketball games for both the men's and women's basketball teams.

Mark, what is your viewpoint of our Athletic Program for the next year?

We are very excited about our new athletic department. This year was our inaugural season in men's basketball and we are proud to announce we are starting a women's basketball team this upcoming season.

Our goal is to have a very competitive program, not just in basketball but to expand to other sports in the near future.

Thank you, Mark.

Next, I would like to introduce Roni McCarthy. She is the Head Residence Hall Supervisor and Extramural Coordinator. She plans, organizes, and supervises students in both the Intramural and Extramural Activities. She arranges game schedules, officials, and transportation for the basketball teams.

Roni, what's your perspective on establishing the new women's basketball team next fall?

First, it's a good way to show SWCID's athletic program is complying with Title IX. This ensures that female student athletes will have the same equal access and opportunity as male student athletes.

Also, as you mentioned, we are making progress towards becoming affiliated with NJCAA in the future. In other words, the implementation of a women's basketball program indicates that our athletic program is expanding to incorporate new sports.

We are excited to have a good number of female basketball players coming to SWCID this fall as our women's basketball program looks very promising!

Thank you, Roni.

I have had several of the female students approach me asking about the program. I know they are very excited.

Our coaches strive to bring out the best athletic performances. We take pride in our facilities that are maintained to enhance players' abilities. Our student athletes prosper under the values of upholding integrity, sportsmanship, respect, responsibility, and leadership. We focus on each student which culminates in a sense of pride, well-being and the greatest sense of camaraderie among athletes.

The presence of an athletic program encourages student pride and spirit on campus and also adds an integral component to campus life. As a SWCID Rattler, student athletes are proud of the level of athletic skill, academic success, and strength of character, and sportsmanship that is a part of their college-life experience!

Thank you very much for you time and attention. See you all next time on the Provost's Vlog.
So long!