



Outdoor Leadership Program  
Asheville, NC 28815-9000

## Instructor Development Practicum

And they're back! After an eight-day Wilderness First Responder course in beautiful Panthertown Valley, and a 14-day Outward Bound course in the Table Rock/Linville Gorge area, the IDP 2Thou3 gang is back in town.

The Instructor Development Practicum course is an eight-credit class open to anyone who wants to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to assist them in successfully teaching, living, and traveling in the backcountry. The general feelings within the group upon returning from the woods were of newfound strength, knowledge, direction, and self-renewal. The class wrapped up the experience by taking Asheville middle-school students to Cedar Rock and climbing with them for a day. The bugs didn't hold back, but at least the rain did, and everyone had a great time. All in all, IDP 2Thou3 was a kick-ass experience. The course is available to everyone so I invite you all, if you're up for the challenge, to dive on in.

## Initiatives at Local Middle School

Mallory McDuff's Initiatives class spent two hours teaching fourth and fifth graders at Black Mountain Middle School. The fifteen ODL students were in six groups of two or three with each group in charge of twelve fourth or fifth graders. The kids had a wonderful time playing and were happy to be out of the classroom.

## 2003 Graduates: What's Up?

Two ODL Wild Women, Colette Frogale and Ginger Dixon are hiking the Appalachian Trail. Ginger and her boyfriend started in Maine and are heading south. Colette decided to go from the south and head north.

Meghan Lundy Jones wrote "Hey there professor types. Just wanted to let you all know that I wrote a grant this spring to the WNC Community Foundation for my garden program and just heard news that I got it! \$14,000!! So I will be working at the YWCA and the Swannanoa 4H Center all summer teaching kids about where their food comes from. Pretty fabulous."

Will Norfleet is riding his bike coast to coast across America this summer in the name of cancer prevention, while raising funds to support research of Dr. Diane Wilson which involves looking at how certain diet and exercise practices may impact on cancer risk reduction.

Llanin Davidson, P.J. Gravis, Zanna Proter, Sephen Schillriff and Alise O'Niell are all working for various adventure education programs scattered across the U.S.

# Outdoor Leadership

## Newsletter

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### Service Learning and the ODL Department.

Understanding the moral responsibilities of leadership and being prepared to exercise leadership in service to others is part of our departments mission. One of the ways that we get that to happen is by including a service project requirement in several of our courses.

We strongly believe that service learning is a powerful tool to help students to merge theory and practice. It allows them to test and apply concepts and theory. It also allows them to come up against preconceived notions, prejudices or assumptions they may have about themselves or others. Most importantly, when combined with reflection, it is a powerful catalyst for the transfer of learning. The following are student reflections from courses that contained a service learning component.

**“Well even when I fall on my face, at least I am still moving forward.”**

***K. T. Maloney***

This statement came from the mouth of a 16-year-old junior paralympian on April 25th. Shine, who competes in wheelchair basketball, wheelchair rugby, swimming, and track and field, was one of the many athletes Ellen Graves, Tyler Grove and I had the delight to work with at the Sport-tacular clinics in Atlanta. Blaze Sports organizes clinics throughout the southeastern United States designed to get athletes with disabilities involved in athletics and fuels the pool of potential paralympians. Ellen, Tyler, and I spent the afternoon helping the Sports-tacular clinic aimed at kids with disabilities ages 6-18. The kids cycled through four clinics, wheelchair rugby, wheelchair hockey, tennis, and karate. Highlights of the day included watching the UD junior national basketball team, watching an able-bodied black belt get thrown onto a mat by a fellow sparer who uses a wheelchair, seeing Tyler and I get smoked in wheelchair rugby, and for Ellen, a full day as a karate specialist.

### Environmental Education

#### McGhee Penrod and Jessica Staton

The students in this year's Methods and Materials in Environmental Education class had a full term of active projects to undertake. One of these projects was to develop and make interpretive trail signs for the newly created Cane Creek Nature Trail in Fletcher, North Carolina. After meeting with the Fletcher's town planner, the class identified four topics which could be incorporated into the nature trail, including tree identification, natural history, river ecology, and invasive exotics. Volunteering their time and creative energy the class assembled a prototype sign and presented their proposal incorporating the four themes to the Fletcher Town Council. They were met with enthusiastic approval and thanks. The signs were installed in late May.

In a second project, students developed and facilitated an Earth Day curriculum for Issac Dickson Elementary School on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The day started at 8:45 and ended at 2:00p.m. with each student teaching five lessons, which proved to be an interesting and challenging experience! These original student made lessons ranged from planting trees to scavenger hunts, nature weaving, and building a bean trellis. All who were involved had a wonderful time and gained yet another valuable experience to add to their teaching knowledge. Thanks you Mallory who helped orchestrate another successful environmental education experience.

### The First Ever WWC Adventure Race on Campus

#### Tracy Bleeker

Sunday April 27, 2003 was a beautiful, sunny day. Though the multisport event team transition set up was to be at noon on the soccer field, all seven three-man teams gathered slowly, in accordance with their own time clocks. Therefore the event began at the usual "Warren Wilson Time." The four student teams and three staff teams claimed set up stations, organized suggested individual gear (which included a mountain bike, helmet, running shoes, shorts, top, warm layer top, rain jacket, H2O bottles/ H2O bladder, power bar and a compass), then listened as Lecky Haller (Paddling Coach) and Jason Michaels (Outdoor Programs and Cross Country Coach) explained the race rules and handed out course maps and cards to stamp at the various check points along the way. Soon we were off.

I will say now that (1) we are blessed with a beautiful campus and (2) this was a real race. When my fellow Team Duran Duran members Jasmine and Evan mentioned the race to me, I was told it would be VERY low key and that we might even incorporate a nap into our race plan. There was no nap. Instead, there was Suicide Ridge, Jones Mountain, Poison Ivey, barbed wire, mountain tops, creek beds, pastures, the Swannanoa River, blood, sweat, tears and, of course, naked sunbathers at the pond calling out lethargic cheers. We ran, we biked, we found one check point then another, we took a wrong turn, lost our card, found our card then found the Butterfly Garden, sailed down a swelling Swannanoa river, climbed up Dogwood Pasture, and finished! I will certainly be anxiously awaiting the Second WWC Adventure Race on Campus this fall.