Introducing The Apple Team!

The Apple Team is a group of Shippensburg staff members from the Department of Athletics and Shippensburg student-athletes. This group attended “The Apple Conference” in January at the University of Virginia. The focus of the group at the conference was to evaluate various aspects of the Athletics Department and to develop and implement an action plan to improve an aspect of the department and engage student-athletes. Shippensburg’s plan was to provide educational programming on alcohol use and abuse. To help educate the student-athletes, the Apple Team planned to have each of the teams watch HAZE, a documentary film about college drinking and hazing. This video helped paint a vivid picture of how quickly a situation can become dangerous and reiterated the Apple Team’s goal to help student-athletes make smart decisions. It also provided an opportunity to openly discuss current behavioral trends and what to do if a situation becomes unsafe. The Apple Team hopes this was a meaningful program for our student-athletes and hopes to additionally provide educational programs that improves the well-being of those within the Department of Athletics. The Apple Team is also considering extending their efforts to other areas on campus for the betterment of Shippensburg University.

The Apple Team Includes:

- Ashley Grimm
- Miranda Fisher
- Tanya Miller
- Gregg Whitcomb
- Faith Athey
- Chris Lawshe

WHAT IS HAZING?

“the imposition of strenuous, often humiliating, tasks as part of a program of rigorous physical training and initiation.”

ALFRED UNIVERSITY conducted a study on hazing to determine how problematic it may become to high school and college athletes. Take a look at the three shocking facts below:

1. “65% of college athletes have been hazed.”
2. “51% of hazing included substance abuse.”
3. “35% of high school students believed hazing was socially acceptable”

Check out more about the survey: http://www.isportstimes.com/articles/8875/20130923/hazing-hurts-ncaa.htm
The semester QPA for all student-athletes was a 2.86.
The semester QPA for men’s athletics was a 2.66.
The semester QPA for women’s athletics was a 3.15.
Seven percent (33) of all student-athletes earned a 4.0 semester QPA.
Twenty-four percent (111) of all student-athletes earned Dean’s List in Spring 2014.
Fifty percent (229) of all student-athletes earned a 3.0 semester QPA or higher.
Congratulations! Keep up the hard work and determination!
August 7th 2014, NCAA announced that 65 different Division I colleges now have the ability to set some their own rules. Student-athletes now can enjoy the benefits of superior facilities, better medical coverage, wealthier scholarships, player stipends, possible agents, and larger on-campus meal plans. The new rules could also alter the recruiting process and interaction with athletes that are still in high school. Many of richest colleges in the NCAA are a part of The Big 5 Conference. These colleges have been given the permission to spend more money on their athletes to better their athletics programs. However, other colleges and observers are worried that the student-athlete’s academic integrity and concentration on their education will decline with more of a concentration on athletics. NCAA’s board is well prepared for the disapproval of other NCAA colleges outside of the Big 5 Conference. For this legislation or the new rules to be overruled, 75 Division I colleges would have to disapprove. However, the legislation has no threats of being overturned at this time. New York Time’s writer Steve Eder states, “The N.C.A.A. is acknowledging that in college sports, all is not equal”. The new legislation is only for specific colleges and specific sports.

To read Steve Eder’s full article visit:
http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/08/sports/ncaafootball/how-new-ncaa-rules-will-work-or-not.html?_r=0

How do you feel about NCAA’s alterations to Division I athletics programs? Tweet us at @ShipASSA! Tell us what you think!