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Hockey Standout Tapped for National University Team

A member of the women’s hockey team will compete at the 2011 Winter World University Games in Erzurum, Turkey. Senior forward Tiffany Juha has been selected to play with the U.S. Women’s National University Hockey Team.

Juha was chosen for the team after the USA Hockey Winter World University Games Evaluation Camp, held Aug. 6-8 in Grand Rapids, Mich.

The U.S. team is made up of players from collegiate ice hockey teams affiliated with the American Collegiate Hockey Association. Eleven states and 10 universities will be represented.

This will be the first time the United States will send a women’s team to the event in its 25-year history. The games will take place Jan. 27-Feb. 6, 2011.

"At tryouts I was introduced to an entire new level of play. It was a very fast-paced game," Juha said. "I was ecstatic, because I felt like I had to prove something to be chosen out of so many talented girls. This is a great honor."

Juha has been the Cal U team’s leading scorer in each of the past two seasons. She has 61 career goals, 45 assists and 106 total points. After winning the Delaware Valley Collegiate Hockey Conference Division III title in 2008-2009, the team’s first year, the Cal U women’s hockey team moved up to the conference’s Division I level. The team finished second last season in both the regular season and the post-season tournament.

New Group ‘United’ for Men of Color

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Cal U Fusion Focus of Mission Day

At Cal U, professors aren’t telling students to turn off their cell phones in class.

In fact, a growing number of faculty encourage students to use smart phones and handheld devices, such as the iPad or iPod Touch, to access information, take notes or keep up with current events.

And the University will include mobile devices — and student scholarships — among the giveaways at its annual Mission Day event on Oct. 6.

On Mission Day XII the campus community will examine Cal U Fusion, a campus-wide mobile technology initiative that has begun to explore innovative ways to use mobile devices as tools for teaching and learning.

Mission Day allows all members of the University community to engage in dialogue, share ideas and voice recommendations as equals in order to advance the institution’s mission and goals.

Daytime classes will be canceled so that students, faculty, staff and alumni can discuss the topic. Evening classes may be canceled at the instructor’s discretion.

Mission Day sessions are scheduled from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., beginning and ending in Steele Hall Mainsite Theatre.

After a call to action by University President Angelo Armenti, Jr., speakers George Saltsman and Bill Rankin of Abilene Christian University will deliver the keynote address, discussing mobile technology initiatives for the 21st century.

Saltsman is the director of educational technology for the Adams Center for Teaching and Learning at Abilene Christian, in Texas. He is also a university instructor in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, and an electronic publishing consultant.

Rankin is an English professor at Abilene Christian who has worked closely with Saltsman and a university-wide team on the mobile technology initiative. He has given numerous presentations on technology and learning.

After the keynote, breakout sessions will focus on three topics: “Enhancing Student Learning and Teaching Strategies through Technology,” “Integrating Technology and Technical Support,” and “Teaching and Learning Centers: Models and Best Practices.”

Afternoon sessions feature a question-and-answer session, “Mobile Technology and Cal U,” moderated by Saltsman and Rankin. The event closes with drawings for scholarships and mobile devices such as the iPad and iPod Touch. Participants must be present to win.

“Mobile technology has the potential to reshape our ideas about how professors teach and students learn,” said President Armenti.

“With Cal U Fusion, we intend to bring 21st-century technology onto our campus and into our classrooms. Our students deserve nothing less.”

To register for Mission Day, or to learn more, visit www.calu.edu/events/mission-day.
Students and their family members can climb aboard a military helicopter from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Check www.calu.edu for the location.

Several Army National Guard soldiers and Cal U students who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan are bringing the military choppers to campus for Cal U’s Family Weekend, which will be held Friday through Sunday.

ROTC and active-duty veterans will be on hand to take photos with families near the CH-47 Chinook multi-mission heavy-lift transport helicopter and the UH-60 Blackhawk medium-lift utility helicopter.

Family Weekend is a growing tradition that brings parents, family members and friends together with their Cal U student for a weekend of fun. Parents and guests will have the opportunity to enjoy athletic events and participate in a variety of other activities.

Last year, more than 800 students and family members participated.

“Family Weekend at California University is a truly special time — an opportunity for you to build memories together as you explore the many activities and events here on campus and in the region,” University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. said.

“There is truly something for everyone on the weekend’s busy schedule, and we welcome everyone to spend time at

Pittsburgh Symphony Concert to Benefit Alumni Scholarships

An elegant reception and a performance by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra will support the Alumni Scholarship Fund.

The Cal U community is invited to attend the Oct. 12 benefit event sponsored by the Alumni Association. Cost is $75 for the reception, symphony performance and optional shuttle service between the Kara Alumni House and Steele Hall.

The pre-symphony reception begins at 6:45 p.m. in the Michael and Julia Kara Alumni House. PSO conductor Thomas Hong is expected to attend the gathering of Cal U alumni and friends. Hearty hors d’oeuvres and limited bar service will be offered.

The PSO takes the stage at 8 p.m. in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre.

The program includes the Overture to The Pied Piper by Johann Strauss Jr., Concerto No. 1 in G minor for Violin and Orchestra, Opus 26, by Max Bruch; and Symphony No. 39 in E-flat major, K. 543, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Students who wish to attend the performance only will be admitted free with a valid CalCard. Cost is $10 for members of the Cal U community or the general public and can be purchased by calling the Steele Box Office at 724-988-5943.

The PSO first performed at Cal U in 1994, and the fall concert has become an annual tradition. Each spring, Cal U students, alumni and University friends travel to Pittsburgh for a symphony performance in Heinz Hall.

For benefit tickets or more information about the pre-symphony reception, contact administrative assistant Montean Dean at dean@calu.edu or 724-938-4418. A portion of the ticket price benefits the Alumni Scholarship Fund and is tax-deductible.

California University.”

For a complete schedule of events and registration form, visit the Family Weekend website at www.calu.edu/events/familyweekend/.

Cal U Men United Aims to be Resource for Men of Color

— Continued from page 1

future meetings that will include community and corporate leaders who have expressed an interest in being involved with this student group,” McBride said.

Senior Ronald Taylor, who is president of the Black Student Union and vice president of the Student Activities Board, attended the dinner.

“I commend Cal U for putting this group together. It will be a great resource, and I think it will become something bigger than we can see at this moment,” Taylor said.

At Cal U, recruiting and retaining students from diverse backgrounds is one of the objectives of the 2009-2012 Strategic Plan.

As of last semester, there were 323 men of color enrolled at Cal U.

Nationally, the declining numbers of African-American and Hispanic males graduating from college are distressing not only because of the implications for the men themselves, but also because of the consequences for society, according to

the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education.

In addition to McBride and Perry-Burley, other faculty and staff are mentoring the group: LaMont Coleman, associate dean in the Office of Student Affairs; Eric Tarpley, assistant director of Admissions; Dr. Charles Crowley, assistant professor in the Department of Exercise Science and Sport Studies; Jennifer Ramsey, instructor/counselor in the Department of Academic Support Services; Dr. Todd Carlisle, assistant professor in the Department of English; Dr. Kelton Edmonds, director of the Frederick Douglass Institute and associate professor in the Department of History and Political Science; and Dr. Harrison Pinckney, assistant professor in the Department of Earth Sciences.

McBride said one goal for the University is to endow scholarships for male and female students of color. Cal U is working with the Pittsburgh Promise, which gives scholarships to students in the Pittsburgh Public Schools to attend certain post-secondary schools, to have even more students enroll here.

Helicopters Land for Family Weekend

Students from diverse backgrounds is men of color enrolled at Cal U. busy schedule, and we welcome everyone to spend time at in the region,” University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. said.

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Campus Briefs

Students Convene Tuesday

University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. will host the 2010 Fall Student Convocation at 11 a.m. Tuesday in the Performance Center.

The Student Convocation, held each semester during a Common Hour, gives students a chance to hear University news firsthand and to ask questions of the President.

Dunley Redbirds Day Set Sunday

Cal U’s men’s soccer team will present its annual Dunley Redbirds Day on Sunday at Roadman Park.

The festivities will begin with a cookout at 11:30 a.m. at the Roadman Park pavilion. The Cal U men’s team will face West Virginia Wesleyan at 1 p.m.

Participants can view a nostalgic display of soccer photos, and they will receive commemorative group pictures that will be taken after the varsity game.

Dunley soccer supports youth programs and a men’s open division with no age limits. “Cal U has become an extension of the Mon Valley Youth Soccer Association, which started in the spring of 1978,” said Cal veteran men’s soccer head coach Dennis Laskey. “Many players from the Dunley youth teams, as well as other youth programs, boys and girls, in the Mon Valley, moved to California, and a number of former Vulcan players joined the Redbirds after college.”

For more information about the event, contact Laskey at 724-938-5793 or laskey@calu.edu.
Constitution Day Program Examines Rights in Wartime

Dr. Michael Slaven began Cal U's Constitution Day program by paying tribute to the late Sen. Robert Byrd of West Virginia. The longest serving senator in U.S. history, Byrd introduced the legislation mandating annual Constitution Day observances at all educational institutions that receive federal funding.

"He was a firm believer that the Constitution of the United States was the most important thing Americans needed to know," Slaven said.

The late senator always carried a copy of the Constitution in his pocket, Slaven added, and he memorized much of the document. Today, schools across the country celebrate Constitution Day on the anniversary of the document’s signing on Sept. 17, 1878.

This year’s theme for Cal U’s celebration was “Civil Liberties at Time of War.” Faculty members Drs. Azeef Al-Khattar, John Cencich and Craig Smith raised thought-provoking questions on the topic.

Al-Khattar discussed ethnic profiling, particularly in regard to Muslims and Arabs. Hundreds were arrested and thousands questioned after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks but none were found guilty, he said.

"Generalizing is not justified, and ethnic profiling is ineffective, counter-productive and illegal," he said.

Cencich explained how the Geneva Conventions of 1949 apply to the detention of both military war-fighters and unlawful combatants, such as terrorists. Prisoners of war cannot be criminally prosecuted for their actions on the battlefield, he explained. Unlawful combatants, as civilians, also have rights under the law.

Cencich, who has been involved in the investigation of war crimes, also addressed the use of torture — including techniques such as waterboarding.

"Torture does not work," he said, adding that confessions obtained through torture are not admissible in U.S. courts “Torture is a serious felony.”

Smith discussed how the impact of U.S. Supreme Court decisions regarding civil rights in wartime.

He cited a World War II era case in which justices ruled that public schools Minesville, W.Va., could compel students who were Jehovah’s Witnesses to salute the American flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance, despite their religious objections. The decision led to increased persecution of Jehovah’s Witnesses in the United States — and the Supreme Court reversed its decision a mere three years later.

"The Supreme Court … realized the hostility could no longer be tolerated," Smith said.

He drew a parallel with a Florida pastor’s recent announcement that he would burn a copy of the Koran, the Muslim holy book, on the anniversary of 9/11.

"Does this pastor have a Constitutional right to freedom of expression? Or would his actions lead to other unlawful acts that should be prevented?"

The program was co-sponsored by the Office of the President, the Office of the Provost, the American Democracy Project, the School of Graduate Studies and Research, the Department of History and Political Science, and the Department of Justice, Law and Society.

President to Staff: Cal U Still Growing

At their fall convocation, President Armenti urged University staff members to become involved with the Cal U Fusion initiative.

"The world is changing very rapidly, and we have to change with it," he said. "I am convinced that all of education is going to be transformed through the use of mobile technology, and the largest revolution will involve the smartphone. Even laptop computers soon will be obsolete."

The President urged the staff to participate in the Cal U Mission Day, which will focus on this initiative and how to implement a teaching and learning center that focuses on mobile technology.

"We must begin to plan for, and work aggressively toward ubiquity — when everyone has a mobile device," President Armenti said. "The very best students are going to want to go to a school that’s ‘with it’ and where the technology is."""The University’s budget situation remains challenging, with declining state funds and the elimination of federal stimulus money next year, the President reported, but Cal U continues to succeed by practicing methods employed by private institutions."

"Privately funded scholarships remain our single greatest need," he said. "This will ensure we not only survive, but thrive." Despite the nation’s recent economic downturn and a decline in the number of students graduating from Pennsylvania high schools, the University continues to grow.

Enrollment has increased for a 13th consecutive year, President Armenti said, with a total head count of about 9,400 students. Total full-time enrollment has increased by 43 percent over the past six years, and by more than 4 percent compared to the 2009-2010 academic year.

President Armenti praised the staff for its role in the University’s growth and continued success.

"You need to give yourselves a round of applause," he said. "Many of you have a lot to do with this, because you interact with our students and their families. All of you help make us better, and I appreciate what you do."
McKinney Scores Again with Hall Induction

Editor’s Note: Cal U will hold its 16th annual Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet Oct. 15 at the Performance Center. For reservations, contact Monica Dean at 724-938-4413. Throughout the fall, The Journal will profile each of the 2010 Hall of Fame inductees.

S ara McKinney, a four-year starting guard/small forward for the women’s basketball team from 2001-2005, is among the seven sports standouts who will be inducted next month into the Cal U Athletics Hall of Fame.

Once called “The Willie Mays of the PSAC” by an opposing coach, McKinney was a three-time All-American, four-time all-conference selection and three-time PSAC-West All-Star of the Year.

She becomes the third Hall of Fame member from Cal U’s 2004 NCAA national title team, joining 2009 inductees Becky Sembak ’04 and Sameera Philyaw ’04.

“I was pretty excited when Becky called about seeing the new Hall of Fame class on the website,” McKinney said. “I really just wanted to play basketball and never expected all the achievements and goals that we were able to attain. This is a great honor.”

McKinney averaged 17 points, 11 rebounds and six assists per game as a freshman, while leading the 2001-2002 team to the program’s first-ever PSAC-West and PSAC championships.

She is the only player in PSAC history to be named the division’s Rookie of the Year and Player of the Year in the same season. She was also the PSAC Tourney’s Most Valuable Player, helping the Vulcans reach the NCAA Division II Regional finals.

Despite missing seven games because of an injury in her sophomore season, McKinney helped Cal roll to a 32-2 overall record, a perfect 12-0 PSAC-West mark and its second straight conference crown, advancing to the NCAA II Final Four.

During McKinney’s junior season, Cal attained the ultimate goal by winning the NCAA II National Championship with a school-best 35-1 overall record. A healthy McKinney averaged 18 points and nearly nine rebounds a game.

Always playing at her best in the big games, she led all scorers with 26 points in Cal’s 75-72 national title game win over Drury University, and she averaged 20 points and seven rebounds per game at the NCAA II Elite Eight tourney. Before hitting those marks, she produced per-game averages of 17 points and nine rebounds at the NCAA Regional and 18 points and 13 rebounds in the PSAC tournament.

“My teammates and I wanted it,” she said. “I did not want to let down the seniors. I just wanted to play for them, and I knew I had to step it up as a leader and get the team started. That’s all I tried to do.”

McKinney capped her brilliant career by leading the Vulcans to a 26-6 overall record in 2004-2005 after averaging 18 points and 10.5 rebounds per game. Among many awards, she was named the 2005 Women’s Division II Bulletin Player of the Year. Five years later that publication listed her as the second Player of the Decade and Cal’s 2004 team as the decade’s finest.

After playing at Duquesne High School, McKinney said, only former Cal U head coach Darcie Vincent recruited her — but being overlooked was a source of inspiration.

“It motivated me a lot, and people said I had a bad attitude,” McKinney said. “For years Tennessee and Connecticut (universities) came to see Swim Cash play in McKeesport. I was just five minutes and a bridge away, but they did not come to see me. So I had something to prove to all those people. I had to show all of them what they passed up.”

McKinney has kind words for Vincent.

“She’s a great coach who knew how tough my buttons and get me started,” McKinney said. “If I came out flat, she knew exactly what to do to get me back on track. I respect her and (associate head coach) Heather (Kearney). They both know basketball so well. She took me under her wing, kept me out of trouble and prepared me.”

Overall, McKinney finished her career with 2,117 points, 1,204 rebounds, 882 field goals and 315 meals — all school records at the time.

During the McKinney era, Cal compiled a 119-15 (.888) cumulative record and 44-4 (.917) divisional mark with four PSAC-West titles, three PSAC championships, two NCAA II Final Four appearances and one National Championship.

After earning her bachelor’s degree in criminal justice, McKinney played professional basketball for one season in the Netherlands. Single and a resident of Pittsburgh, she currently is pursuing a master’s degree in business management at DeVry University while also working as a chef at the University of Pittsburgh.

McKinney praised the overall support she received at Cal U rather then singling out a certain individual.

“It was a challenge, coming from Duquesne, to adjust to college life,” McKinney said. “But all my teachers were good influences and pushed me hard. I was not there just for basketball and wanted the college degree. “Everyone knew who you were, and the people were nice to you. I loved it.”

Trio Named to Select Team

Two players and the head coach of the men’s hockey club have been chosen for the 2010-2011 American College Hockey Association Division III Select Team.

Cal U seniors Ryan Jones, a forward, and defenseman Nick Posa are part of the 25-player roster representing 17 universities and nine states. They were selected from more than 250 players.

Both received College Hockey East post-season honors last spring. Justin Berger, head coach of the Cal U club, served on the Select Team Selection Committee and was named an assistant coach. Chris Van Timmerman, of Hope College (Mich.), was named head coach; and Sean Weaver, of Central Florida University, also will coach the team.

This winter the ACHA Select Team will compete in a showcase tour that will travel through Switzerland, Austria and Germany.

“Making the team is a big accomplishment,” said Posa. “Just being able to play hockey at a college level is something that I have dreamed about for awhile. I’m not just playing for Cal or myself, but for every player on the team.”

In addition to competing, Jones is looking forward to a once-in-a-lifetime trip.

“The best thing we can do is take as much as we can from this experience,” he said. “Just like any hockey game I am going out there to play, I expect to win.”

Last season, the Cal U club compiled a school-best 29-1 overall record. The team advanced to the ACHA national quarterfinals after winning its fourth consecutive College Hockey East title.

“This speaks volumes about these three people and our program,” said the club’s general manager, Jamison Roth. “We obviously are very proud and wish them the best.”

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