

BCTC Talent Search serves 950 middle and high school students from Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Fayette, Jessamine, Mercer, and Scott counties through funding from the US Department of Education. Our purpose is to help our participants:

- **♦ Excel in school**
- Develop awareness of potential careers
- Experience positive cultural activities
- Understand and pursue postsecondary educational opportunities

The Star News is a quarterly publication of the BCTC Talent Search Project, edited by Kelli Reno.

Information in this publication was taken from USM, the College Board, Career Cruising, and other sources as noted; it should not be copied or used for any other purposes.

### etssummer2011

Senior Recognition/Family Night 05/12

Excellent Student Celebration 06/09
King's Island

Middle School Camp 06/13-Healthy Life, Healthy You 06/16

High School College Prep Camp 06/27-Career Cruising 06/30

# SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER! BUT ETS KEEPS FOCKING!

After such a seemingly long winter and an extended school year to make up snow days, summer means a welcome break for our students. Here at ETS summer is never a break; it's just the beginning of the fun! This year, we're excited to offer summer activities that bring new experiences to our program participants—all at no cost to you!

Our summer schedule includes two four-day, threenight camps, one for middle school students and another for high schoolers. Both will be held at the University of Kentucky campus. The camps will include visits to colleges, community service projects, job shadowing opportunities, cultural activities and fun, fun and more fun! Each camp will have activities that will target social, academic, and career skills for their respective grades. There will be certain criteria that must be met for camp attendance, so be sure to keep attending ETS activities and workshops, and keep those grades up!

Speaking of attendance, many of you have been working very hard and attending ETS activities to earn incentive awards. Those of you who have the correct amount of stickers for the year will receive an invitation to our King's Island trip in June. This is just our way of saying thanks for working hard this year and keeping ETS a priority!

Please watch your mail in the next couple of weeks for more information regarding these activities. As always, pay attention to the procedures for signing up for trips and applying for camps and over-night activities.

CHECK OUT BLUEGIASS ETS ON FACEBOOK For more pictures and updates, you can request to be friends with BLUEGIASS ETS.



## Parents'

ow that we've returned from our high school trip to New Orleans, our planning for our summer programming is in full swing. Please encourage your student to participate in these free events that are packed full of information and activities that will help them navigate middle school, high school, and college. We make every effort to design our camps and activities to prepare your student for the academic, social, financial and cultural challenges they will face. We work very hard to help your student succeed, and want you to know that we are here to answer any questions you may have!

In last month's newsletter we discussed the importance of volunteering and giving back to your communities. This vital activity can help your student stand out to admissions officers at the colleges or universities to which they will apply. It truly does make a difference on many different levels: for your community, for the people within that community, and most importantly, for your student.

It is also helpful for your student to work at a job and generate an income. This teaches them the power of money, and how to budget and manage their finances. The ideal situation would be working or volunteering in a field that interests them, but encourage them to explore related options, as well. Students who work or volunteer regularly during their middle and high school years develop a strong work ethic that will be appreciated and noticed when they enter the world of work. Having to be somewhere at a certain time and completing given tasks are important building blocks for future careers, and help develop time management, interpersonal and social skills!

Summers are a great time to begin work and volunteering. Now is the best time to begin looking into available volunteering and work opportunities as they are just beginning to open up. Encourage your student to get a jump start on their peers and to be persistent. It's a tough job market out there, but with perseverance and commitment, they can surely do it!

Have a wonderful and safe summer! We look forward to seeing you all at our Family Night and Senior Celebration on May 12, 2011. This will be the last such event of the school year. RSVP by May 5, 2011 by calling 859.246.6577, emailing carol.elrod@kctcs.edu, or using the Facebook event module.





educational Bluegrass Community & Technical College Talent search

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bluegrass community & technical college SPring 2011 educational talent search news and all that

> For this year's Spring Break trip, ETS students and staff explored The Big Easy: New Orleans. The weather offered us four beautiful but humid days. While in New Orleans we got to take in such sites as the French Quarter, the River Walk, Mardi Gras World,

swamp tour, a cemetery tour, and a steamboat dinner cruise aboard the Natchez. We had a blast! However, our time in New Orleans was much more than recreational. We took the time to do community service work at City Park, helping to repair a youth baseball field that had once been covered by more than 10 feet of water during the worst of Katrina's flooding. We toured the Ninth Ward and had nightly reflections that allowed us to think about how blessed we are to have what we have. After such reflections we were touched by the revitalization and resilience that we saw in the city. We were able to visit University of New Orleans and Xavier University and see how they have been able to rebuild and continue their legacies of offering top notch educations. On our way home, we stopped in Hattiesburg, MS and Birmingham, AL. It was our privilege to be able to spend some time in the place deemed as the hub of the Civil Rights Movement.

and the Aquarium of the Americas. Additionally our explorations took us on an airboat

As a result of all the sights, sounds and the spirit of the Gulf Coast, our lives have been forever changed! Thanks to all our participants for a memorable trip!



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#### career profile

o you want to be a professional athlete? Kobe, Labron, and John Wall aside, did you know that only 1.25% of basketball players make it to the NBA out of college and only 0.08% make it there right from high school? If you're thinking of making your love for the game a career, make sure you leave plenty of options open. That doesn't mean that you should stop practicing and playing hard, but remember, even if you plan to play in college and try to go pro from there, you still have to major in something! If you are athletic-minded and want to make sports and sporting events a part of your career path, you may want to consider a career in sports marketing.

Sports marketers increase exposure for sports teams, event sponsors, and charitable causes. They work to attract fans to sporting events, plan promotions, organize group ticket sales, create and implement in-game entertainment and line up sponsors or other promoters for big events. Due to the demanding nature of the job and the competitive market, they spend a lot of time working evenings and weekends, sometimes 9 to 11 hours per day. Initiative and a strong work ethic are a must! The work can be stressful, so sports marketers must be organized, good communicators, team players, and know how to manage multiple priorities and meet deadlines—all without getting too overwhelmed.

Most sports marketing jobs require a bachelor's degree in public relations, communications, business, a specific sports marketing program, or a related field. Master's degrees are recommended for those who want to advance to the highest levels of the profession. Salaries range from \$30,000-\$100,000 per year, depending on experience, performance, and the employer. Most sports marketers' salaries are also augmented by bonuses that recognize stellar performance and results.

If you are interested in pursuing a career in sports marketing, make sure that you take advantage of volunteer or internship opportunities with event companies or small sports organizations near you. You also want to make sure to take advantage of any business classes offered at your high school, as well as classes in economics, psychology, and math. Don't slack off on English either—you have to have great written and verbal communication skills to make it in this field!

SPORTS Marketer



oing to college presents a unique opportunity to develop the skills and

oing to college presents a unique opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge that will allow you to gain employment and become more financially secure during your lifetime. However as the average cost of college continues to rise to over \$7,000 per year, the dream of attending college is threatening to become more of a fairy tale than a reality... or is it?

Many students and their families find the solution to their college financial needs in the form of student loans. For many, the mere mention of taking out a loan for school is enough to make them cringe; however before totally disregarding the idea, consider the facts about student loans.

Fact 1: A student loan is money that can be borrowed from the government, a school, or a bank.

Fact 2: All loans must be repaid.

Fact 3: All student loans are not created equal. There are many types of loans out there and depending upon where you get the loan, the terms, interest rates, and payment options may vary. No matter the loan source, be sure to look for the lowest possible interest rates, determine if an interest rate is variable or fixed, and check the fine print for hidden fees and charges.

Fact 4: Applying for student loans offered from the government is your safest bet. Student loan programs such as the Federal Perkins and Stafford loans offer undergraduate students up to \$14,000 per year for college. They also offer low interest rates and repayment grace periods of up to six months until after you have left school or graduated.

Fact 5: If you are thinking of using a federal loan to cover the cost of college you must fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA). Students wishing to apply for any form of government aid must complete and submit the online form prior to beginning classes at the college or university of their choice. Seniors, if you have not already completed the FASFA, please do it immediately! Every second that you wait may mean hundreds of dollars lost towards your college education. For more information please visit www.fasfa.ed.gov.



#### COLLEGE Profile

he University of Southern
Mississippi (USM) was founded
in 1910 and is a comprehensive
doctoral and research-driven university
that offers undergraduate and graduate
degree programs in five degree-granting
colleges – Arts & Letters, Business,
Education & Psychology, Health and



Science & Technology. In all, Southern Miss offers more than 180 degree programs for both undergraduates and graduates.

A dual campus university, Southern Miss serves students on campuses in Hattiesburg and Long Beach, in addition to six teaching and research sites in Mississippi. The university has a diverse student body of approximately 17,254 (Fall 2010) with students from all 50 states and 70 foreign countries. Student-Faculty Ratio is 16:1 and there are 14,096 undergraduate students, 3,158 graduate students total with 14,088 registered at the Hattiesburg campus and 3,166 registered at the Gulf Coast campus.

The Department of Athletics at The University of Southern Mississippi offers 16 sport programs at the Division I level sponsored by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). Nine sports for women and seven for men, including baseball, men's/women's basketball, women's cross country, football, men's and women's golf, women's soccer, softball, men's and women's tennis, men's and women's indoor and outdoor track and field, and women's volleyball. USM provides more than 300 scholarships to deserving student-athletes as they perform not only on their respective playing fields, but in the classroom as well.

Tuition rates for 2011-2012 are \$2,917 per semester for in-state (undergraduate and graduate) and \$6,895 per semester for out-of-state (graduate and undergraduate). This does not include housing which ranges from \$1,769 - \$5,300 (amount varies based on occupancy and resident hall selection), and meal plans are an additional \$1,299 - \$1,484 per semester. For more information, visit www.usm.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI Hattiesburg, MS



xercise science majors study the science of the human movement. They also learn how to help people live healthier lives through exercise, rehabilitation, and nutrition. If you enjoy working out, playing sports, and taking care of your body, this could be the major for you.

Exercise science programs differ widely, but most will require that you take an introductory course in exercise physiology. Exercise physiology is the basic study of the movements and coordination of all the body's parts and systems, such as the bones and muscles. You'll study such topics as the way we digest food, breathe, and move. You'll also look at the biology of exercise.

Students who study exercise science should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the concepts underlying the body's physiological response to exercise and nutrition's effect on human performance, as well as prescribe safe and effective exercise prescriptions from exercise testing data and assess individual fitness levels for patients of varying ages, conditions, and backgrounds.

A major in exercise science isn't just for jocks. Exercise science programs help prepare students who would like to go on to graduate studies in fields such as physical therapy, cardiac rehabilitation, nutrition and dietetics, and general medicine. If you are interested in pursing a major in exercise science or a related field, make sure you are taking advantage of advanced biology, chemistry, and human anatomy courses, as well as math courses like physics and statistics.



COLLEGE Major



