

Stockton University to Host Inaugural Post-Concussion Syndrome Awareness Game Women's Soccer Hosts Awareness Game Fundraiser Oct. 28

For Immediate Release; coverage invited

Monday, October 26, 2015

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Galloway, NJ – Stockton University's Athletics program is hosting an inaugural Post-Concussion Syndrome Awareness Game during the university's women's soccer game against Rutgers Camden. The event will take place during Stockton women's soccer's "Senior Night" on **Wednesday, Oct. 28 at 7 p.m.** at the G. Larry James Stadium, adjacent to the Sports Center.

The event will serve as a fundraiser, with proceeds from T-shirt sales, 100 percent of gate ticket sales and donations benefitting the Jefferson Comprehensive Concussion Center of Jefferson University Hospitals in Philadelphia.

At Stockton, every intercollegiate athlete, with the exception of non-contact sports, is baseline tested with several standard concussion testing assessments.

"Stockton's been doing this for years," said Chris Klenk, who has served as a certified Athletic Trainer at Stockton for 13 years. "This is a hot topic in sports right now, especially in the NFL and in the media, but our concussion protocols have always been based on [National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA)] and NCAA recommendations."

In addition to the efforts of the Athletics staff, the issue of post-concussion syndrome is a personal one for the Stockton women's soccer team.

Jackie Adams, a senior Education major and the squad's honorary team member, suffers from post-concussion syndrome.

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Adams suffered a traumatic concussion while playing varsity soccer as a sophomore at Ocean City High School, forcing her to sit out from soccer during her junior year.

Adams became depressed and made her first attempt at suicide in 2008 by jumping in front of an oncoming car. Her multiple suicide attempts led to severe head injuries, more concussions and PCS.

Last year, Adams completed a treatment program at Jefferson Comprehensive Concussion Center that helped her make progress toward dealing with her post-concussion syndrome.

A concussion is a traumatic brain injury that alters the way the brain functions, and often results from injuries and collisions in sports. The Mayo Clinic defines post-concussion syndrome as "a complex disorder in which various symptoms such as headaches and dizziness last for weeks and sometimes months after the injury that caused the concussion."

At Stockton's inaugural Post-Concussion Syndrome Awareness Game, Stockton Athletic Training Services will offer modified baseline concussion screenings and the Stockton Neuroscience Club, a student-run organization, will distribute information on concussion awareness and prevention.

For more information, visit www.stocktonathletics.com

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