



by Joy DeSensi, department head



The Department of Exercise, Sport, and Leisure Studies is committed to excellence. We are dedicated to providing superior and innovative programs that will enable students to become effective and imaginative professionals, scholars, and citizens.

- **Ashleigh Huffman, Tanya Prewitt, and Sarah Hillyer** conducted a Sport for Life Peace Camp at the Wingate Institute in Netanya, Israel, to promote sport and physical activity, empower girls and women through sport, and encourage communication and solidarity between the historically divided regions of Israel and Palestine. Thirty-seven Israeli and Palestinian girls ages 12 to 17 participated in the weeklong sports camp, which provided a supportive environment where girls from different backgrounds could safely come together and exchange ideas, feelings, and beliefs while participating in sport. The goal of the camp was to encourage young girls to be ambassadors for sport and peace.
- **Dr. David Bassett**, professor of exercise science, along with **Dr. Naima Moussa-Moustaid**, professor of nutrition, co-direct the new Center for Obesity Research. See page 5 for more information about this new research initiative.
- Camp Koinonia celebrated its 30th anniversary. Camp Koinonia is a weeklong camp for 150 campers who have multiple disabilities. Under the direction of **Dr. Gene Hayes**, professor of recreation and leisure studies and founder of Camp Koinonia, and staffed by 150 UT students from diverse majors, the camp provides indoor and outdoor activities, including horseback riding, canoeing, biking, crafts, wall climbing, ropes courses, and other activities. The individuals associated with the camp are serious advocates for the rights and needs of all individuals with disabilities.
- I-LEAD—the Institute for Leadership, Ethics, and Diversity in Sport—was recently approved. Under the direction of **Dr. Fritz Polite**, assistant professor of sport management, this institute will serve as a mechanism to assist UT athletes in their quest for excellence and leadership opportunities. This will be accomplished through a combination of research, workshops, special lectures, and outreach activities.
- The Partners in Sports student organization, part of the UT Sport Management Program, which helps prepare dynamic leaders for tomorrow's sport industry, held its fifth annual conference in October in the Wolf-Kaplan Hospitality Center in Neyland Stadium. The theme of the conference was “Current

Challenges and Changes in the World of Sports.” The conference speakers included Andy Holich, president of business operations for the Memphis Grizzlies; Scott Paddock, director of sports marketing for Gatorade; John Althoff, college sports sponsorship coordinator for State Farm Insurance; and Mike Paul, president, MGP & Associates, a public relations firm. Having exposure to top executives in the sports industry through this annual conference has provided students with opportunities for developing their careers in sport management. The adidas Partners in Sports Student Development Program is a cooperative venture involving adidas America and the UT professional preparation program in sport management. Partners in Sports encourages the development of leaders for the growing sports industry throughout the world. Locally, Partners in Sports has assisted in many facets of sport management. Students have organized Punt, Pass & Kick competitions, worked at nationwide tour events, assisted with NCAA and Southeastern Conference championship events, and with UT athletic events. [a](#)



DR. DAVID BASSETT MONITORS THE EFFECTS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AS PART OF HIS OBESITY RESEARCH.