

WELCOME BACK TO CAMPUS!

As the summer came to a close I would like to think that everyone's summer went well. Hopefully all internships were educational and life changing. Now that we are in the *swing* of classes with any luck the experiences you took away from your summer co-ops or jobs will help you enormously in all your GEM classes.

As a department we are once again very busy as our program *continues* to grow. And I have a couple items of interest to update everyone on.

GEM 445 - Events Management Holds Their Own Golf Tournament

One of GEM's newer classes, Events Management, started the semester off with the First Annual Homecoming Golf Scramble. Last Wednesday, September 30th at the Menomonie Country Club the students of GEM 445 not only ran their own tournament but also played in it! It was open to all to enjoy and had a turnout of around 40 players. The winning team carded a 26 with a number of groups right on their heels. The tournament was also a fundraiser for the Local Charity Food Bank and they rose over \$100. Thanks to all those who participated for your generosity and we hope to see an even bigger turnout next year.

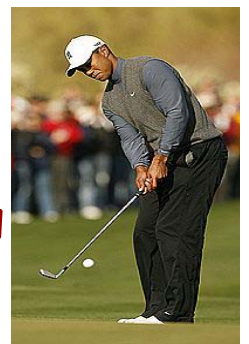
Student Goes Above and Beyond at Internship

Remember GEM's newest class Software and Technology? That focused mainly on Fore! Reservations? Well not only did Stout student Stephen Jurgella get his internship because of the training in Fore! that he gained from this class but he also excelled on the job beyond the call of duty. One of Fore's newest marketing schemes is a Birthday Club Touch Screen Kiosk to get players email addresses. The program has been very successful for most courses that have implemented it and at the Spring Meadows Golf Club in Maine where Stephen interned, successful is an understatement. With Stephens devoted promotion he was able to get over 400 customers to sign up. So if you see Stephen on campus be sure to congratulate him on his accomplishment.



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ON THE FRINGE



GEM Distant Education Student is a Guest Instructor with LPGA Champion Nancy Lopez!

Steve Nockerts, who is the Assistant Pro at the Fox Valley Golf Club in Kaukauna, Wisconsin and a GEM Online student, was part of an amazing fundraiser this summer. In conjunction with US Oil's fundraising efforts for Basic Needs, former great LPGA Pro Nancy Lopez hosted a clinic for women golfers at Fox Valley where Steve works. The clinic along with a Golf Tournament held the next day aided in US Oil raising over \$1.4 million dollars to help fight poverty in the Fox River Valley.



Steve Nockerts with LPGA Champion Nancy Lopez

This was an enormous accomplishment and Steve was a proud guest instructor at this unbelievable fundraiser. Steve commented that they had a great turnout with wonderful students and that Nancy was outstanding. After the clinic that lasted the entire day she stayed around and talked to the staff for over an hour. Steve put it well when he said Nancy is a very kind and classy lady!

Adding More GEM Classes – Sort of...

Have any of you GEM Students been looking at your Program Plan and dreading taking Basic Merchandising because it has NOTHING to do with golf and everything to do with *fashion* and department stores? Well you're in luck because starting this semester we have added our very own GEM ONLY section of Basic Merchandising. This GEM section is being taught by Wild Ridge's very own, PGA Professional Jim Buyze. The class will be offered every semester following this fall and is sure to be a *hit* for all of us golf guys and gals. Be sure to add it to your schedule next semester!!