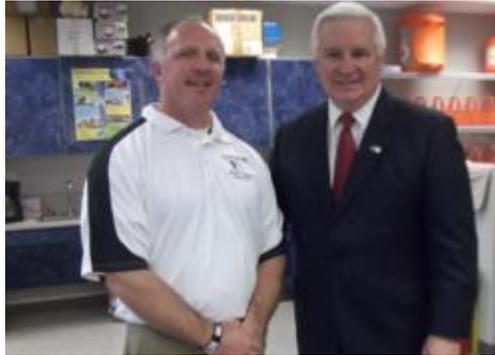

Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATs) Organizes Hike 2 Harrisburg to Promote the Field of Athletic Training

March is National Athletic Training Month in the state of Pennsylvania and across the country. As such, the Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society is once again organizing a trip to the state's capitol to discuss pertinent matters and promote the field of Athletic Training with PA's lawmakers on March 12, 2013.



PATs Public Relations Chair, Paul LaDuke with Governor Corbett in Lower Dauphin's Athletic Training Room

"An opportunity to give back to the profession but more importantly a chance to improve the profession of athletic training within the state of Pennsylvania for the next generation of athletic trainers."
(PRWEB) February 28, 2013

Since its inception in 1975, PATs has worked tirelessly to Promote, Advocate, Transact business, and Serve its members to advance the field of Athletic Training in Pennsylvania. As a result, we have seen the state legislature pass legislation which greatly affects the field of Athletic Training. The most significant bill to date has been the licensure bill for athletic trainers. Other pieces of legislation which have further advanced our efforts to protect the young athletes of PA are the Safety in Youth Sports Act and Sudden Cardiac Arrest Bill.

On the national level, long-time Representative Jim Gerlach from Chester Springs, PA has introduced the Student-Athlete's Bill of Rights. The resolution calls for, among other things, athletes being monitored by athletic healthcare team members, pre-participation exams as well as concussion management plan, playing in environments with venue-specific emergency plans coordinated by the athletic healthcare team and immediate on-site injury assessment with decisions made by qualified sports medicine professionals. These issues are at the heart of every athletic trainer in the nation and are finally being recognized for their importance.

With tomorrow being the first day of March, aka National Athletic Training Month (NATM) and the theme is "Every Body Needs an Athletic Trainer", PATs is again organizing the "Hike 2 Harrisburg." On March 12th, athletic trainers from all over the state will convene on 300 North Street at the state Capitol to sit down with rookie and veteran lawmakers to further promote our cause and educate them about what Athletic Trainers do. As well as, how we do it and how our profession is there to protect the average active person in PA. Our goal is to convince them that, in fact, Every Body does need an athletic trainer.



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Public Relations Committee chair, Paul LaDuke views this opportunity as, “An opportunity to give back to the profession but more importantly a chance to improve the profession of athletic training within the state of Pennsylvania for the next generation of athletic trainers.” He goes on to state, “We are where we are currently as a profession because of the hard work of many athletic trainers through the 70s, 80s and 90s. It is now our turn to better the profession for the next 30 years.” For more information, please contact Paul LaDuke at publicrelations@gopats.org.

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