



Shelby Christopher

Sport & Recreation
ManagementSchool of Tourism &
Hospitality Management

Temple University

The Story

Monthly Feature: Shelby Christopher

Who is Shelby?

Shelby is a student at Temple University where she will graduate with a degree in Sport and Recreation Management. A recent retiree from the Division 1 Temple Women's Lacrosse team, Shelby has remained on the Dean's List for the past 3 years. If you want to know all about her academic and athletic achievements, you should just read her resume. But a resume won't tell you what you should really know. What's more important is how she got to where she is and the type of person, student, and employee that she is.

Growing up with a big family has strongly shaped her character. As one of four kids she did not always get what she wanted and had to learn how to cooperate and work with others. Nothing came without effort and she worked hard for everything she has achieved. With 3 siblings, competition was essentially an obligation. Shelby grew up as a competitor, it's what drives her to succeed. Spending a life creating opportunities for herself has taught her how to approach the world in a fashion that allows her to see openings, and then attack them. Being involved in athletics and having a big family taught her teamwork and patience. It taught her how to push past former limitations and allowed her to realize that sometimes you have to take things into your own hands to make a difference. Shelby actively pursues her goals and perseveres through obstacles. That's who Shelby is.

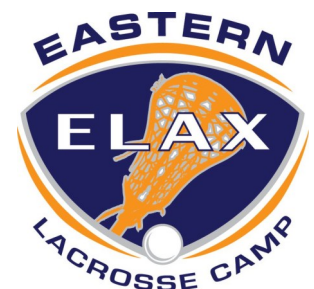
Leading Lady . . . Behind-the-Scenes

Shelby thoroughly enjoys being the leading lady in many performances . . . as long as she's leading behind the curtain, of course. She may not be the star of the show but without her, there would be no show. Shelby has worked numerous events including festivals, sports tournaments, and social meeting events. Being highly engaged in the planning and development of a single event is a strength that she utilizes on the frequent. Working on every aspect of an event is challenging and a lot can be overlooked. However, with her detail-oriented mind, she analyzes all angles. Shelby enjoys working behind the scenes so that she can later see what her efforts have created.

Her knowledge in this area comes heavily from her work at United Sports; an athletic facility in Downingtown, Pa. where she held the title of Administrative Director of the Eastern Lacrosse Camp. She handled paperwork, scheduling, filing, rooming arrangements, vendor agreements, and all other necessary preparations for over 3 months prior to the camp that lasted 4 days. Her interpretation of timelines and how she manages her efforts accordingly has helped her excel in work and life.

-SHELBY'S
TIP-

PREPARE
FOR THE
WORST
AND HOPE
FOR THE
BEST



At A Glance: Industry Involvements and Tasks

United Sports: Scheduling of lacrosse tournaments, communication with food and merchandising vendors, hotel accommodations, payment filing, creation and stuffing of binders with tournament information, construction of contracts and paperwork, game-day operations.

Friends of Elwyn Festival: Organization of festival layout and placement of booths, documentation of the event through photos, communication with attendees and staffers, assistance with procedures at select booths, break down and clean up upon festival conclusion.

American Transplant Congress: Greeter of surgeons, researchers and invitees, distribution of programs, ensuring the stocking of food stations, recording number of attendants at each seminar, assistance for attendants in navigation through the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

Temple Women's Lacrosse: Assistance and participation in charity walks and runs within Philadelphia, free clinics for inner city girls, welcome event for the National Lacrosse Team of Japan, volunteer at Temple sporting games such as field hockey, basketball and football.



Above: Shelby outside the Pennsylvania Convention Center

Below: Shelby with teammates and members of Japan's National Team



FUTURE PLANS

Shelby's post-collegiate plans are not as specific as she would like them to be but that does not mean she is not prepared. She has been properly groomed for the professional world that awaits by the School of Tourism & Hospitality Management at Temple University and her experience from internships and hours devoted to multiple facets of the industry.

Shelby has two desirable areas of the industry and will capitalize on either opportunity. She plans to place herself in an area where she can either be very involved in event management or in college athletic administration.

Having completed a previous internship with a facility devoted to events and programs such as tournaments, leagues, parties and clinics, she has a good jump on event management.



Her prior knowledge and organizational skills give her an advantageous edge in the industry and allow her to exercise her abilities full throttle.

If she takes the other route, athletic administration, her desired focal point will be the National Collegiate Athletic Assoc. (NCAA). Shelby has a strong understanding of the NCAA and is very familiar with compliance and procedures. Her participation in college athletics as a former student-athlete has fueled her interest and provided her with knowledge that many other people do not have.

Working as a compliance officer in an athletic department is ideal but she is very interested in actually working for the NCAA. She would love to see how that organization functions on a daily basis and how they approach current issues that arise regarding their rules.