

University of Delaware Emergency Care Unit

Special Interest Articles

UD-1 OOS

Semiformal

Training



Training Update: Medic Assist Class Sussex Style

Paramedic 1st Class Mike Carunchio

By: Jeff Sands

On Tuesday November 11, 2008, the elusive Mike Carunchio graced us with his presence for a Paramedic assist class. Mike, a former UDECU Tech/Driver, is now a full-time Paramedic with Sussex County EMS. His wife Ashley, also a former UDECU Tech, who is now a nurse in the Christiana Healthcare System, also helped out. Mike brought his gear from work and showed us the different equipment that

Sussex County EMS has at its disposal on runs. Much of the equipment is similar to that used by New Castle County Paramedics as well so it was helpful to see how it is all used. The Lifepak-12, which is the monitor that they carry, began the presentation. All \$30,000 worth of it is capable of performing a 12-lead ECG, pulse oximetry, capnography, as well as defibrillation, pacing, and cardioversion. Mike managed to refrain from cardioverting Charlie, but

did demonstrate how to attach the 4 leads to him. He then went into the different drugs that they carry, demonstrating how to "spike" a bag, set up the Epinephrine and Atropine, and showed the Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI) drugs that they carry. Airway supplies, such as intubation tubes, cricothyrotomy kits, and CPAP were also shown. Mike's interesting stories and humorous commentary made the class very helpful. Thanks Mike and Ashley!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

11/7: Dan Grove
11/9: Elizabeth Stene
11/18: Meg Keenan
11/22: Christine Gaydos
11/ 25: Christine Kuhl
11/30: Danielle
Zambardino



UD-1 Out of Service

By: Jesse Marsh

On Friday, November 7th, UD-1 was transported to the closest appropriate receiving facility following an unknown mechanical problem. Was a report written? Was the tow truck driver getting eval'ed? What was their general impression of our faithful chariot? While all of this is unknown, for educational purposes, the information regarding the incident must be disclosed (all personal information blacked out, of course).

It was drivers training. It was a road that everyone drives often, and it was a crew that could re write the check out sheet by memory. Jeff Sands, Andrew Brayman and Mary Fannon were out on a seemingly normal fall day, and knowing Jeff, probably en route to the local Dunkin Donuts to buy some iced coffee. Everything seemed fine until the crew got to Delaware Stadium on 896 South. When interviewing passenger and crew member Mary Fannon, she said that there started to be a "rattling that got progressively worse". When Jeff tried to apply the brakes, they decided not to work. After coasting to a stop, UD-1 expert Andrew Brayman assessed the brakes, and agreed with Jeff that they no longer exist. The crew started calling everyone that could help, and a tow truck was sent to aid UD-1 and our crew in starting to get the problem fixed.

Since that Friday was the night of our semi-formal in Wilmington, a backup ambulance was not immediately needed, but because of the impending football game the next morning, UDECU E-Board members started looking for a spare. Thankfully, Aetna HH&L said that they would donate one of their ambulances (A7) for the game and the weekend that followed. Apparently they did many on campus runs the night of the semi, and donating an ambulance to us was in the best interest of everyone.

On the following Monday, on the way back from New Castle with the county loaner ambulance, UD vehicle maintenance called, and said that our ambulance was fixed, and that only the vacuum pump for the brakes failed, a cheap and easy fix. UD-1 was retrieved, and immediately taken out of bypass. The saga was complete, and thanks to the help of the county ambulance association and Aetna HH&L, UD-1 saw no unplanned interruptions in service to the UD community. The crew handled this problem excellently, and because of fast thinking (and Dunkin Donuts), it happened non emergency, and not on the way to a call.

Sensational Semiformal

The social committee has been working on overdrive this semester and has been putting on great social events that are bringing UDECU members together. The biggest social event of this semester would have to be UDECU's first semi-formal held on November 7. The social committee went to great lengths working with the RSO office, the bus service, and the location to put on a very entertaining event. The evening started out with an hours d'ouvres hour at Tom and Charlie's house. After some food, beverages, and music we made our way up S. Chapel street to the Courtyards where the buses were to pick us up. The ride to Wilmington was not long and was pretty comfortable on UD buses rather than big yellow school buses. When we arrived at Catherine Rooney's we were shown upstairs where we would have the whole floor to ourselves until 1AM. The DJ stated to set up and the 21 year olds began to partake in the cash bar. The pigs in a blanket, spinach dip, and other appetizers were great and went really fast. Once the DJ started to play people were a little slow to dance, but as the night progressed the dance floor was packed. We were happy to have some alumni attend and were very grateful to



Jack for attending the semi-formal and keeping our rowdy bunch under control. As the night came to a close we loaded back on the buses right around 1AM and enjoyed the short trip back to UD. Thank you again to the social committee for your wonderful work. Hopefully we can make the semi-formal and annual event!