



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

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It is with great pleasure that I write this endorsement letter for Sarah Panzau. We were fortunate to have Sarah at the University of Missouri on September 22, 2008 to speak to our student-athletes. Her presentation is one like I have never seen before and one that left our students with a sense of gratitude for their lives and those around them.

Sarah gave her presentation to over 170 athletes. Her amazing story caught their attention right away, but it was her ability to keep them engaged that impressed me. Typically, our students will listen to a speaker for about 30 minutes and then shut the person out for the remainder of their speech. During Sarah's presentation, the students were on the edge of their seats listening to her the entire time and truly soaking in her message. After her presentation, there was a line of students waiting to meet her and thank her for presenting her incredible story.

Sarah's story is one that could happen to any college-aged student and through her unique ability to instantly connect to the students, she is able to send a very powerful message. Many students commented that they could see themselves in her and could relate to her youthfulness. Sarah was not a typical alcohol awareness speaker that talked about a ton of facts and statistics and simply told them not to drink. Instead, she sent an even bigger message that will stay with our students for many years to come. They left the auditorium with a greater appreciation for their family, friends, and the abilities that they possess as Division 1 student-athletes.

From an administrative standpoint, Sarah was one of the best speakers we have ever brought on our campus. She was easy to work with, prepared and very charismatic. She delivered her presentation in such a way that you could tell how passionate she is to spread her story and impact as many students as possible. If I could, I would bring Sarah back every year to talk with our student-athletes.

Overall, I cannot say enough positive things about Sarah Panzau. If your school has the opportunity to bring in one speaker, make sure it is Sarah! Your students will not be disappointed and the lessons they will take with them are priceless.

Sincerely,

Kim Martin
Director of Life Skills
University of Missouri
Department of Athletics