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Master of Business Administration Gives Krysta Schaus '18 Managerial Skills for Job

Krysta Schaus, Gardner-Webb University alumna and former graduate assistant golf coach, started playing golf when she was 12 years old. More than a hobby, she wants to share her passion for the game with others. Before her graduation from GWU, Schaus was offered the job of assistant golf professional at The Toronto Golf Club in Ontario, Canada—the third oldest golf club in North America. Her Master of Business Administration degree helps her assist the head golf professional with various aspects of the job.

"My MBA classes have prepared me for the financial side of the golf industry and the managerial side," Schaus observed. "Having knowledge on how to properly manage employees and learning ways to interact with consumers are important skills that are sometimes overlooked."

Schaus discovered her interest and talent for golf by accident. A hockey player in her hometown of Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, she wanted something fun to do in the summer. She visited the golf course near her home, found she liked the sport and started devoting her time and energy to becoming competitive.

She was recruited to play at Erskine College in Due West, S.C., and was named the Conference Carolinas Women's Golfer of the Year as a senior. She also won the New Brunswick Ladies Provincial golf championship the same year. At GWU, she helped head golf coach Tee Burton guide the men's and women's teams to a second- and third-place finish in their respective conference championships.

Krysta Schaus, front row, right, was a graduate assistant coach for the GWU men's and women's golf teams.

"That was a fantastic experience," Schaus said in an interview with her hometown newspaper. "Tee was always willing to work with me, but he also allowed me to work with the men's and women's teams as much as I wanted to, and kind of take them under my wing."

The GWU position gave her the opportunity to earn her MBA with a concentration in marketing. "I knew I wanted to continue working in the golf industry," Schaus asserted. "My MBA will not only allow me to work as a golf professional, but will give me the opportunity to become a director of golf or a general manager of a golf course in the future as I gain experience."

She appreciated how the professors took a genuine interest in her success. "I was never a number at GWU as all of my professors knew me on a first name basis," she observed. "Dr. (Don) Caudill was an instrumental part of my success. He sets his students up for success by applying textbook concepts to real-life scenarios. This not only makes textbook concepts interesting, but it also helps students truly grasp and understand the material."

Schaus concluded, "Gardner-Webb is a fantastic school for hard-working individuals who strive for success. All students, faculty, and staff have made Gardner-Webb's environment a warm and welcoming place for fellowship, higher learning and more."