

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 18th, 2015

## **Local Pair Joins Pippins Front Office** CWU graduates Wendy King and Jordan Halstead join Pippins staff

YAKIMA, Wash. - With a significant move to downtown Yakima now successfully executed, the Yakima Valley Pippins continue to make moves aimed at building upon a successful 2014 campaign with the addition of two new members to the front office roster.

Team president and general manager Zachary Fraser announced today the addition of a pair of Central Washington University (CWU) graduates to the staff: Wendy M. King (1989) as the Director of Market Development and Jordan Halstead (2014) as Operations Coordinator. They will work out of the team's new downtown offices, located in the Larson Building at 12 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

"As we continue to develop a foundation in this Valley, we were looking for honest, hardworking and talented people who love baseball and know the community," said Fraser. "Wendy is one of the most respected professionals in Yakima, with her extensive work with the Memorial Foundation and other well-respected organizations, and Jordan brings a passion for the game and for creating a first-class customer experience for our fans at the Stadium."

"To top it off, we are able to strengthen our relationship with Central Washington, which along with Heritage University, represents the quality of higher education opportunities in the Yakima Valley."

King, who most recently served as the Coordinator of the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals program on behalf of the Memorial Foundation, brings over 20 years of sales, marketing, event management and operations experience, all in the Yakima Valley. In addition to industry-specific success, she loves the game of baseball and the experience of families gathering at the ballpark.

"Joining an organization like the Yakima Valley Pippins is an exciting opportunity for me," King said. "I am excited to make Yakima County Stadium a location for the community to gather in the summer. Yakima is a baseball town and being to have this level of play in our community is exciting."

Halstead, who is on pace to finish a Master of Science degree (with a specialization in Athletic Administration) from CWU in 2016, originally hails from the Kitsap peninsula before relocating east of the mountains, for both school and better weather. He played baseball at Olympic College in Bremerton, and was an operations intern for Northwest Collegiate Baseball League, a development league for small schools and junior colleges primarily in the Pacific Northwest. As the operations lead, he managed ticket sales, stadium operations, baseball operations, and social media.

"I have been involved with baseball my entire life," Halstead said. "The opportunity to work in a front office in the West Coast League (WCL) was hard to pass up as a former collegiate baseball player. I am excited to become a member of the community that supports summer collegiate baseball."

Interested community members can meet Wendy, Jordan and the rest of the staff this Thursday, March 19 from 4 P.M. to 6 P.M. as the Pippins and Hunky Shaw's Team Shop will be hosting an open house with the Yakima Valley Chamber of Commerce at the new location. Specials on tickets and merchandise, craft beer from partner Yakima Craft, and more will be available as the Yakima Valley welcomes the start of another baseball season.

For more information, or to connect with Wendy and Jordan on opportunities to be a part of Pippins baseball as a sponsor or ticket holder, please visit <u>www.pippinsbaseball.com</u> or call 509.575.HITS (4487). The 2014 East Division Champions are busy preparing for next season and want you to be involved. The 2015 season begins on June 5<sup>th</sup>, and season tickets are currently on sale as well as our full retail line at our new downtown Yakima offices, located at 12 S. 2nd Street. You can also purchase Pippins Gear online at <u>www.pippinsbaseball.com</u>.

Website: www.pippinsbaseball.com

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