UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS COMMITTEE  
August 23, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman, Bruce McLean.

Members and Visitors Present

Sam Baker, Cathy Beene, Kelly Berry, Kyla Clark, Dana Sparkman, Iris Durden, Joe Franklin, Chris Geyerman, Vickie Hawkins, Jerry Ledlow, Bill Levernier, Bruce McLean, John Mulherin, Lacy Needham, Keith Roughton, and Christine Whitlock

Elect new Chair

Bill Levernier was elected as the Chair for 2006-2007.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting for April 26, 2006, were unanimously approved.

Financial Update

Lacy Needham:

- The financial reports created by the Institution’s Business Office are not available at this time. However, Lacy presented a brief budget update after a review of the online Crystal Enterprise reports. She will also send out the official summary reports for July and August via email. The major activity in the revenue accounts has been student fees and football ticket sales. The increase in both fall and summer student fees is consistent with the increases that occurred last year. Football season ticket sales are up by 400 compared to this time last year. The major activity in the expense accounts has been summer school charges. We were slightly over budget in our total summer school costs. However, with more student-athletes attending summer school this was something we were expecting. The cost of a GIA for the academic year was over budgeted as a result of having to create the budget prior to actual costs being announced and so we should be able to offset the overage.

Schedule Approvals

Cathy Beene:

- The finalized 2006 women’s basketball schedule was distributed with game times for informational purposes since the schedule has been approved at the April meeting. Cathy presented schedules for men’s basketball, softball, cross country, swimming and diving, women’s tennis, and golf’s spring schedule (golf fall schedule was approved in April). All are in compliance. All the schedules were approved individually.
Athletics Update

Sam Baker:

- Welcomed back the returning UAC members and welcomed the new members. Sam relayed that the UAC serves as liaison between each of the academic areas and the athletics department.
- Sam stated that he spoke at the Liberty County Eagle Club last night and gave an update to those attending.
- Cathy Beene is working on the Gender Equity Report that is presented to the UAC in November.
- Shaun Meinecke, head track and field coach resigned four days before the start of classes. We had interviewed a young lady named Natalie Smith when Shaun became the head coach who stood out in our minds. Recognizing the need to move quickly the institution allowed athletics to offer the position to Coach Smith. She met the team on Monday night, August 21.
- Kevin Chambers, head men’s soccer coach resigned to take a position in Admissions. Sam called former women’s soccer coach, Tom Norton and asked if he had anyone he would recommend. He suggested Kevin Kennedy and after Lacy and Sam met with Kevin in Augusta, he was offered the interim head coach position. Men’s soccer opens its season on Saturday, August 26.
- Sam stated how excited he is about his overall coaching staff.
- Student-Athlete Convocation is tonight, August 23 at 7:00 pm in the Nessmith-Lane Assembly Hall. The GPA award will be presented. Football had a 2.0 GPA last fall and a 2.68 in the spring. Eighty percent of the football student-athletes had their best college grades ever in the spring of 2006. The football student-athletes like and respect their coaches and the grade increases are a reflection of that respect.
- The Bennett-Ramsey Practice Facility is almost complete. Paving the parking lot and the grass grow in are all that’s left to complete.
- Sam expressed how proud he is of the improved athletics facilities. In the last 10 years the Parrish Football Center was added and with the money freed up by paying off the Paulson Stadium bonds, we were able to renovate the Iron Works and J.I. Clements and build a Track/Soccer Stadium. The softball field is in excellent condition, but the seating area needs to be addressed. The exterior fence at Paulson Stadium is part of the overall campus beautification project. The Gene Bishop Field House should be completed by the first football on September 9. After the second game the hardscape and landscape should be completed.

NCAA Representative Update

Chris Geyerman:

- Reported that the institution sent in the GSR report.

Southern Boosters Report
John Mulherin:

- The Bennett-Ramsey Golf Facility will be featured in an upcoming issue of Golf Week Magazine.
- There is a lot of excitement in the air for the upcoming football season.
- Premium seating at Paulson Stadium has sold out.
- Contributions for 2005-2006 were over 2 million in cash which is about $900,000 over previous best.
- Dan O’Dowd has done a great job on the annual campaign. The Capital campaign is wrapping up.
- The campus kickoff for A Day for Southern is August 24.

New Business

- A discussion concerning the meeting dates and times for the fall semester took place.

Old Business

- There was no old business.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lanell VanLandingham
Senior Administrative Secretary
Department of Athletics