1991

UA19 Athletics Notes

WKU Athletic Director

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1. As these "Notes" are being distributed, President Meredith, Dr. Cook, Mrs. Herrford and I are attending the NCAA Convention at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville through Friday, January 11. We will have convention details at our January 17 (7:00 A.M. - DUC cafeteria) head coaches' breakfast. You will also be able to get official action from your copy of the NCAA News.

2. You are reminded that the continuing eligibility requirement of a minimum of 24 hours in the student-athlete's degree program affecting the 1991-92 eligibility of your senior and fifth-year squad members is based on those students' 1990-91 academic records. A check of first semester grades and second semester schedules will help prevent any problems this summer.

3. The Alumni "W" Club will, again this year, be purchasing letter jackets for members of your squad who earned their second letter during 1990-91. This $3,500.00 total cost for all men's and women's sports is supported by the $25.00 annual membership fee and some special donations. Please take every opportunity to urge "alumni" of your sport to join the "W" Club so that they may take the advantage of membership privileges and have a part in supporting the letter jacket project. The letter jackets will be presented at the Undergraduate "W" Club's spring picnic.

4. Sun Belt Conference Commissioner Jim Lessig and his wife, Margarita, plan to be in attendance for our men's basketball game January 19, and women's basketball game January 20. Jim offered to visit with any of us during his trip. We'll know more about his schedule when I get back from Nashville.

5. Dr. Cecile Garmon, Director of Budgets, will be in attendance at our January breakfast to answer questions regarding the development of unit plans by your unit (sport) as a part of the strategic planning in Western XXI. Materials have been sent to you about this project that require your immediate attention to meet a January 30 deadline.
ATHLETICS NOTES
Jimmy Feix  February 1991

1. You are reminded that a summary of actions taken at the NCAA Convention have been published in the January 16, NCAA News. Additional, you were provided a copy of Commissioner Lessig’s memorandum dated January 18 which listed actions that have immediate or August 1, 1991 effective dates. The 1991-92 NCAA manuals are due in March and will be distributed to all head coaches upon receipt. I will have the actions summary with me at our February breakfast for any discussion you might want.

2. February Head Coaches breakfast, 7:00 A.M. Thursday, February 21, DUC cafeteria. We have a men's basketball game that evening with South Alabama. Their head coach, Ronnie Arrow, will be the speaker at our Hilltopper Athletic Foundation luncheon that day - 11:45 A.M. at the Park Inn. I hope you can attend the luncheon to meet and fellowship with our Foundation members.

3. A warm "Hilltopper Welcome" to our new head men's tennis coach Jody Bingham. Scott Vowels resigned to join a tennis playing-teaching tour. Jody has been serving as our volunteer assistant tennis coach and we are pleased to have such a qualified coach ready to assume these responsibilities. Jody is the owner of Bingham Advertising Concepts.

4. Please be reminded to turn the list of two-year letterwinners with their jacket sizes into Butch Gilbert as soon as you have designated the letterwinners in your sport (including managers, Doc E. handles the trainers). I have a copy of the form in case you've misplaced yours. The highly successful NFL Coaches Dinner developed enough funds so the "W" Club will again be able to purchase these jackets. They will be distributed during the spring picnic the alumni "W" Club has for the on-campus undergraduates "W" Club Sunday, April 28 at Lampkin Park. All coaches are invited to that affair, too.

5. Dennis Smith has taken retired David Mefford's position in the Office of Admissions. All grant-in-aid recommendations and renewal forms should be addressed to him as Chairman of the Scholarship Committee.

6. A member of the Faculty Athletics Committee has received a letter from a faculty member reporting that a student-athlete had provided a travel itinerary with departure
dates and times as approved by the Faculty Athletics Committee when schedules were approved and then, during the season, had to leave earlier. While I understand and can appreciate how emergencies, the change in starting times for contests, changes in commercial travel schedules and other such situations beyond your control may occur, my office must approve and authorize any deviations from approved departure and return times and/or dates. Those justified changes will be reported to the Chair of the Faculty Athletics Committee for the Committee's information.

7. As we head into the final quarter of the fiscal year, give close attention to your budget planning. There, obviously, are no monies to increase budget allocations beyond that of your approved budget you received at the beginning of the fiscal year.

8. You are reminded to submit the Request For Initial Eligibility (sometimes referred to as the Coach's 2.0) Form to Cheryl Chambless in Admissions for every prospective student-athlete you think might enroll. This starts the process for determining 14.3 initial eligibility. Cheryl requests academic records and test scores to determine eligibility for financial aid, practice and competition based on receipt of this form.

9. It is critical that you keep your journal of official visits by prospective student-athletes current. Names, dates, times of arrival and departures, hometowns and hosts should be recorded. Such supporting documentation is very important in responding to allegations and compliance reviews.
ATHLETICS NOTES

JIMMY FEIX

MARCH 1991

1. This month's Head Coaches' Breakfast is scheduled for the fourth Thursday (3/28) instead of the third because of spring vacation (3/18 - 22); 7:00 A.M., DUC cafeteria. Please make a special effort to arrange your schedule to attend as President Meredith plans to be with us to discuss several key subjects relating to current events and our athletics future.

2. Congratulations to Coach Paul Sanderford, Sun Belt Conference Women's Basketball Coach-of-the-year and to our Lady 'Toppers for their outstanding season.

3. We can be expecting the 1991-92 budget request materials at anytime. It would be good to go ahead and put your figures and justifications together so they can be transferred to the forms immediately. This will give us more time to meet and discuss the requests before deadline.

4. With four months remaining in the fiscal year, closer attention to and planning is required in regards to your University general fund and Hilltopper Athletic Foundation allocations. Budget overruns of spending money you don't have is unacceptable. One just doesn't "go", "do" or "buy" if money's not available, as drastic as that might be. I know you know what you've got to have and do. Resources must be saved and planned for such activities.

5. I appreciate your cooperation with the athletics director search. President Meredith will be soliciting your comments about the candidates and bring the search to a conclusion soon.

6. Pre-registration for Summer Terms is scheduled for March 11-13. Fall Semester advisement and pre-registration begins in April. The attached memorandum from David Coffey is provided for your information and follow-up.

7. Best wishes for a good spring break. I know several of you will be traveling with your teams and others on the road recruiting during next week. Good Luck!

xc: Dr. Donald Bailey        Dr. Biff Kummer
    Mr. Franklin Berry       Dr. Robert Pulsinelli
    Mr. Rob Evans            Dr. Joyce Rasdall
    Mrs. Janice Gibson       Ms. Chari Beth Rose
    Ms. Patsy Hooper         Dr. Francis Thompson
ATHLETICS NOTES

JIMMY FEIX

APRIL, 1991

1. Our final head coaches' breakfast will be **Monday, April 22, 7:00 A.M., DUC.** The change from the regular "third Thursday" is to accommodate coaches who couldn't attend on Thursday and so that President Meredith could join us on a date when all the coaches could be there. Dr. Marciani is planning to be on campus the last of this month and might be able to make this meeting before returning to Hattiesburg, as well.

2. You are reminded of the NCAA requirement of notifying all your returning student-athletes, in writing, of their 1991-92 financial aid before **July 1, 1991.** Please meet with all squad members before they leave for summer and use the **Recommendation For Renewal of Financial Aid form.** After the student-athlete and you sign and date the form, indicating the financial aid recommendation, **forward it to the Athletics Office.**

3. The Alumni "W" Club is holding its annual spring picnic for our student-athletes Sunday, April 28, 1:30 P.M. at Lampkin Park. The Club members will distribute the letter jackets (some $3,000 worth) they purchased for your second year letterwinners. All members of your squad, not just letterwinners, are invited. All coaches and their families are also extended a special invitation. Please notify your squad and help the "W" Club get the student-athletes there.

4. Dr. Bill (Yogi) Meadors ask that I request that you remind your squad members of our student-athletes helping with the April 20 Special Olympics to be in Smith Stadium by 8:00 A.M. He ask that they wear a jersey, jacket or some other "top" that indicates they're a Western student-athlete.

5. The 1991 football schedule has been approved. **The Athletics Office needs all schedules for the Fall, 1991 season (traditional and non-traditional) so that they might be submitted to the Faculty Athletics Committee this summer for approval.**
6. The Hilltopper Athletic Foundation has set Saturday, November 2 as the date for the HAF annual auction.

7. Reminders:

***All grant-in-aid books must be returned to the Athletics Office by the students before they leave the campus after finals.

***Insure that housing scholarship students officially check-out of their residence hall to avoid the $75.00 penalty charge.

8. Dr. Marciani plans to return to the campus for some working sessions before July 1. Tentatively he is planning on 4/25-29; 5/11-15 and 5/28-31. His June schedule isn't set because of some professional meetings.

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**ADIOS !!!**
A special note of thanks for the arranging of your schedule so we could have such a good attendance at our April Breakfast. Having President Meredith, Dr. Marciani and Gary West with us was a good way to end this year and serve as a "commencement" for the years ahead.

2. Lou plans to be back on the campus May 11-15 and 28-31. He is scheduled to be the speaker at the Chamber of Commerce's monthly coffee hour Friday, May 31. The meeting starts at 7:30 A.M. in Downing's Cafeteria. This is always a good meeting for our coaches to attend because you have the chance to meet and visit with our community's "shakers and movers". I hope you might be able to attend the May meeting in consideration of Lou's first public appearance with this group (he will also be addressing the Rotary Club on Wednesday, May 29).

3. Your special attention is directed to the legislature assistance column in the April 24 NCAA News. Several "reversals" in interpretations of bylaw 13 (recruiting) and a "modification" of 11.7 (coaching duties) are reported in the column.

4. You are reminded of the schedule to be followed in completing housing agreements and arrangements for this Fall as outlined in Kit Taylor-Tolbert's 4/15/91 memorandum to you. The May 13 date requested return of the information sheets and completion of agreements.

5. The Alumni "W" Club's annual Spring Picnic for our student-athletes was another huge success. A big hearty thanks to Butch Gilbert, Dr. Jack Glaser, Bobby Rascoe, Mickey Riggs and Kathy Tinius for their hard work in arranging the affair. I appreciate all the coaches and their families who made the special effort of showing appreciation by attending; and for your student-athletes in attendance. The presentation of letter jackets to our second year letterwinners was a real highlight of the affair. The Club invests some three to four thousand dollars to make sure our letterwinners have this recognition.
6. In closing, I want to express Frankie and my sincerest thanks for the wonderful staff picnic and the tremendous gifts. I know extra efforts were made to make that all happen. That occasion will always be one of the highlights of our time with our athletics family.

I wish I were capable of the words to express the emotions I feel and to leave you with some meaningful encouragement for your professional endeavors. I guess first "thanks for the memories" and "don't worry that the mule is blind, just load the wagon and go!" expresses those thoughts the best I can.