



ATHLETIC COUNCIL

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ATHLETIC COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2000

PRESENT: Bill Anderson, Sue Carter, Charles Gagliano, Joan Garety, Mike Kasavana, Edmund Outslay, Gaylan Rasmussen, Gloria Smith, Elizabeth Turpin, Clarence Underwood, Chris Vanderpool, Michael Webber, Damon Whitten, Keith Williams, June Youatt

ABSENT: Rick Audas, Jack Lloyd, Robin Poston

GUESTS: Tom Saxton, Ann Cieszkowsky

The meeting was convened at 7:30 a.m. The minutes of the October 12, 2000 meeting were approved as distributed.

Today's guests were Tom Saxton, head Women's Soccer coach and assistant Coach, Ann Cieszkowsky, senior captain.

Coach Saxton has been at MSU for 15 years, and was named Big Ten Coach of the Year 2000 on November 3, 2000. He mentioned that the year had ended on a bittersweet note, with the team falling one game short of qualifying for the NCAA tournament.

Coach Saxton discussed the support he receives from the Athletic Department and staff of the Smith Academic Support Services Center. The Smith Center is an excellent factor in recruiting student-athletes. He expects this year to be a good

recruiting year. Currently many of his student-athletes come from Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and California. Saxton is very active in promoting club teams at the high school level and in conducting youth clinics. He believes both activities will be helpful in increasing the popularity of soccer in the central Michigan area.

Ann is a human biology/pre-med major and will finish her career at MSU with a 3.97 GPA. A SAAC representative, she was very active in the SASS program and heavily involved in community activities, including helping the Girl Scouts. A three-year starter, she suffered a broken leg during her sophomore year, yet was able to do quite well after her recovery. She transferred to Michigan State after attending Vanderbilt. She was excited to be a part of MSU's program and complimented the SASS Center for being outstanding. From a player's perspective, the center is an excellent place to study with fine facilities and excellent tutors available to help student-athletes. Ann plans to go to medical school after taking a year off after graduation. She plans to teach biology and coach at her high school during the intervening year.

In response to a question about roster management, Coach Saxton stated it has worked well for his team. He feels that the space at Old College Field is excellent and the best looking space of any college team in the Big Ten. His dream is to have the field lighted to allow for evening and night games. When the Jenison renovations are completed, then both indoor and outdoor facilities will be competitive with other Big Ten Schools.

After their presentations both the coach and the player left the meeting.

Faculty Athletics Representative Report

Chair Kasavana handed out a NCAA proposal designed to deregulate amateurism amongst student-athletes. During the discussion it was noted that this is a first attempt by the NCAA to define amateur status and the penalties for performing in non-amateur competition. There are a number of exceptions. With certain student-athletes, especially international ones, it is often difficult to document past professional experience.

Kasavana also made corrections to the subcommittee rosters for 2000-2001.

Subcommittee Reports:

Academic and Compliance Services

The report was given by subcommittee chair Smith. The subcommittee met on October 31. Present were Demetrius Marlow and Judy Van Horn. The group discussed letters of intent, the signing period and the education of booster groups concerning compliance issues.

The committee discussed the current software used to determine a student-athlete's course load, course requirements, and the preventive measures used to correct enrollment problems. At the next meeting, Smith plans to have Shelly Appelbaum lead a discussion on exit interviews.

Planning and Equity Committee

Subcommittee chair Carter gave the Planning and Equity Committee report. Greg Ianni and Shelly Applebaum were present at the meeting. Ianni discussed improvements for Jenison and Breslin, stating that Breslin groundbreaking had already taken place.

Carter presented for the Council's action a motion from the subcommittee. It reads as follows:

The council recommends that the Athletic Director inform club sports that for various reasons varsity status will not be conferred at this time on any club sports during the current academic year. The situation will be reviewed later and a discussion made whether or not to accept applications next year. Sports clubs are requested to update and resubmit applications at that time.

Communications and Operations

The subcommittee did not meet.

Drug Education and Testing

Subcommittee chair Anderson sent the following written report.

Earlier this fall, the NCAA arrived on campus, unannounced, and routinely drug tested members of some non-revenue sports, fall sports and members of the cheerleading squad. Anderson reported that the testing was very positive and favorable for Michigan State.

The committee has finished its revisions of the testing policy and he expects to bring a copy of the document to the next meeting for the council's review.

Athletic Director Report

- Athletic Director Underwood reported that AMERICORP, a national consortium will provide a matching grant to the university to fund a program to re-enroll former student-athletes to complete their degree work. SASS will oversee this program, determining selection criteria and identifying program candidates. The first group is expected to return in January. The grant from AMERICORP will fund the program for the first year, and monies raised by the Ralph Young Fund will fund the program beyond the first year.
- The AD reviewed the Breslin seating situation, particularly the availability of seats and the requirements for seating in the lower bowl. He also mentioned that the Ralph Young Fund had raised \$4,185,000 for Breslin renovations, \$325,000 for the boathouse and \$200,000 for the golf program.
- The department plans to purchase loaner laptop PCs for incoming freshmen who may lack funds to purchase them.
- The NCAA has allowed schools to have a twelfth game in football. The twelve games will be non-conference and the department may use these extra games to raise additional revenues. Michigan State will have a 12-game schedule in 2002, 2003, 2008 and future seasons.
- To reduce its liability, Michigan State University will stop contracting with outside doctors and will use doctors of the MSU Health Team.
- Spartan turf discussions continue.

- Underwood handed out copies of the athletic department budget and reminded the council of two important dates, the football bust on November 21 and the volleyball bust on November 29.

Damon Whitten, chair of SAAC, mentioned that they are currently redesigning the Peer Leadership Program.

Around the Table

There were no significant items from around the table.

The meeting concluded at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Keith A. Williams". The signature is written in black ink and has a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Keith A. Williams
Secretary