MINUTES
Virginia Tech Athletic Committee
September 26, 1991

The first meeting of the Virginia Tech Athletic Committee for the 1991-92 academic year was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 26, by Chairman Bennet Cassell. Those in attendance were Dave Braine, Linda Bucy, Bennet Cassell, William Chickering, Vince Cilemberg, Buddy Russell for Mace Coleman, Kelly Craven, Tony Dziepak, George Flick for John Ficenec, Will Furrer, Tom Goodale, Larry Killough, Suzanne Murrmann, Jewell Ritchey, Harry Robertshaw, Joe Thomas, and Gene Seago. Attending to present reports were Jeff Bourne and Dr. Jerry Via. After introduction of committee members, the group reviewed the assigned functions of the Athletic Committee.

Dates for meetings during fall semester were set, and are as follows:

October 16, 9:00 a.m.
November 13, 3:00 p.m.
December 4, 9:00 a.m.

Unless otherwise announced, all meetings will be held in the Bowman Room of the Jamerson Athletic Center.

Dave Braine discussed conference affiliations. He mentioned that our football conference, the Big East, has compiled the best football record of all conferences for the 1980's. Virginia Tech will compete in a complete schedule of 7 games in the 1993 season. Scheduling will be accomplished by the conference office, rather than by the Athletic Directors of the various institutions. The Metro Conference has undergone major revisions in the past twelve months with the loss of South Carolina, Florida State, Memphis State and Cincinnati and the addition of South Florida, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and Virginia Commonwealth University. There will be no automatic bid to the NCAA basketball tournament this year, but financial implications of that situation should be minor. Dave mentioned that he continues to have a goal of joining in an all sports conference. Efforts to accomplish that objective will continue.

Dave discussed coaching changes in the past several months. Steve Taylor has been hired as coach of the cross country team and his wife will serve as a graduate assistant. Both are competitive runners. Stefani Hawbecker has been hired as a full-time coach of the women's volley ball team. Dr. Larry Killough has been named as the faculty representative to the NCAA. We are currently in the process of building six new outdoor tennis courts and enlarging the indoor tennis pavilion as part of the Second Century Campaign. Dave also announced plans for development of a new track and soccer complex between Cassell Coliseum and Lane Stadium. Hopefully, ground breaking can be held in late 1992. A baseball press box is currently in the planning stages and future plans include lights for the baseball field.

Tom Goodale made the committee aware of a problem with ticket distribution for the UVA game (to be held in Charlottesville this year). Students wish to acquire tickets for the UVA game but the allocation to Virginia Tech has already been used in meeting demands from season ticket holders. This has created some hard feelings among students and has also left the Athletic

Director in a "no-win" situation. All tickets are currently allocated. None are available. Therefore, while students view the situation as a problem, there is no decision to be made by the Athletic Department. Tom Goodale was to work with Athletic Department staff in preparing a brief summary of the situation for the Collegiate Times.

Dave Braine appraised the committee of the situation with regard to Frankie Allen and Tod Scully. He also discussed changes in NCAA regulations for the current year. A 20 hour/week restriction has been placed on student athletes. This restriction includes practice time as well as time for contests. Some reduction in scholarships and coaches will be phased in for various sports over the next two to three years. These changes will have a favorable impact on collegiate athletic budgets, as reduced staff and scholarships are planned.

Jeff Bourne briefly reviewed budget allocations for the various sports for the upcoming year. This led the committee into a spirited discussion of resource allocation, which is one of the committee's designated responsibilities. More effort in this area will be asked of the committee in the coming months. Dr. Jerry Via updated the committee on academic progress of student athletes by sport and presented a report documenting the results. Joe Thomas briefed the group on current status of the Second Century Campaign, reporting current contributions and pledges in excess of $11 million.

Bennet Cassell suggested formation of sub-committees to accomplish some of the objectives of the Athletic Committee. Two possible topics were resource allocation to non-revenue sports and the current status of women's sports at Virginia Tech in light of Title IX requirements. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m., followed by a tour of Virginia Tech athletic facilities led by Don Perry.