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## Jim Jarrett Recipient of the Division I-AAA ADA Lifetime Achievement Award

**Cleveland, Ohio** – Jim Jarrett, director of athletics at Old Dominion University was selected as the recipient of the 2006 Gary Cunningham Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the Division I-AAA Athletics Directors Association (ADA).

The award was presented during the Division I-AAA ADA Meeting at the NACDA Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana in June. It is the highest award presented by the association.

“It is a great pleasure to announce Jim Jarrett as the second recipient of the Division I-AAA Athletics Directors Association Gary Cunningham Lifetime Achievement Award,” says 2006-07 Division I-AAA ADA President **Pat Meiser**, director of athletics at the University of Hartford. “As an athletics administrator, Jim has continually displayed excellent leadership, dedication and a commitment to making collegiate sports better. He is very deserving of this award.”

Jarrett arrived on the campus of Old Dominion in 1967 as a health and physical education professor, taking over the reigns of the athletics department in 1970. In his 36<sup>th</sup> year as AD, Jarrett has led the Monarchs from an NCAA Division II member to a Division I power that has captured 25 national championships.

In 1974, Jarrett became the first athletics director in the state of Virginia to award grant-in-aids to women student-athletes. Five years later, in 1979, the Lady Monarch won the first of three national championships in women’s basketball.

Under his leadership, the department’s athletics venues have tripled, including the Bud Metheny Baseball Complex, the Sailing Center, the Athletics Administration Building and the 8,500 seat Constant Convocation Center. Currently, Jarrett is overseeing the construction of the ODU Soccer Building, an indoor tennis facility and renovations to the Athletics Administration Building, which include a new weight room, training room and academic advising area.

Including this lifetime achievement award, Jarrett has also earned this recognition from VaSID. In 2003, he was named the Southeast Region Athletics Director of the Year by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA). He has also received the Collegiate Director’s Award from the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA), and the Norfolk Sports Club Man of the Year.

Jarrett has served as a member of the NCAA Women’s Basketball Committee and is a past president of the Colonial Athletic Association and the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame. He currently resides on the Division I-AAA ADA Executive Committee.

Now in its sixth year, the Division I-AAA Athletics Directors Association’s mission is to enhance initiatives common to its Division I-AAA membership (the 90 Division I institutions that do not sponsor football), in particular, aspects related to their flagship basketball programs.

The Division I-AAA Athletics Directors Association is administered by NACDA, which, now in its 42<sup>nd</sup> year. NACDA is the professional and educational association for more than 6,100 athletics directors, associates, assistants and conference administrators at more than 1,600 institutions throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. Through its series of management seminars, clinics and workshops and publication of the bi-monthly magazine *Athletics Administration*, NACDA offers educational opportunities to its members. More than 2,000 athletics administrators annually attend the NACDA Convention. Additionally, NACDA operates the Sports Academy Directors’ Cup program, which honors the all-sports champion in each of the NCAA Divisions -- I, II and III -- and the NAIA, for a total of four trophies.

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