

# The Interpreter

February 2006

## *New Legislation*

Many college administrators kicked off 2006 at the annual NCAA convention held in early January. The 2006 meeting marked the NCAA's centennial annual gathering.

The membership will continue to work on the academic reform program and recruiting, as well as a new challenge—fiscal responsibility. Overall, the focus will be on making athletic programs a value-based component of education.

Some of the proposals that go into immediate effect are listed below:

### Eligibility

#### 2005-61—Prior Approval of Summer Courses Taken at other Institutions.

Intent: To eliminate the requirement that a student-athlete receive prior approval of summer courses completed at other institutions to use the credits to meet progress-toward-degree requirements. Effective Date: Immediate

#### 2005-81—Non-recruited Student Exception.

Intent: To permit a student-athlete to use the non-recruited student exception to the transfer residency requirement, provided he or she has not competed for any previous institution and has not engaged in countable athletically related activities in intercollegiate athletics at any previous institution beyond a 14 consecutive-day period, which begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in countable activities. Effective Date: Immediate

### Recruiting

#### 2005-75 – Sports Other Than Basketball and Football.

Intent: In sports other than basketball and football, to specify that in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts shall not be made with a prospect or the prospect's relatives or legal guardian(s) before July 1 following the prospect's completion of the junior year in high school; further, to eliminate the telephone call to a prospective student-athlete during his or her junior year in high school. Effective Date: Immediate

#### 2005-172 - Admissions and Graduation Data – Disclosure Report.

Intent: To require an institution to provide prospects and prospects' parents or legal guardians with information contained in its academic progress rate and graduation success disclosure report. Effective Date: Immediate

#### 2005-78 - Transportation to Enroll or Attend Required Orientation – Summer School.

Intent: To permit an institution to provide transportation to a prospective student-athlete from the nearest airport, bus or train station to the institution's campus for initial enrollment in the institution's summer term, provided he or she has been awarded athletically related financial aid for the summer term. Effective Date: Immediate



### Amateurism

#### 2005-24—Amateurism— Promotional Activities— Use of a Student-Athlete's Name or Picture to Promote a Camp.

Intent: To specify that a violation of the bylaw restricting the use of a student-athlete's name or picture to directly advertise or promote a camp does not affect the involved student-athlete's eligibility. Effective Date: Immediate

#### 2005-64-B-Amateurism - Media Activities.

Intent: To remove the 30-mile radius limitation for the receipt of actual and necessary expenses by a student-athlete for appearances or participation in media activities related to intercollegiate athletics that occur during playing season; further, to specify that a student-athlete may not miss class to participate in such activities, except for participation in away from home competition and a conference-sponsored media day. Effective Date: Immediate

## FOOTBALL AND SOCCER NLI SIGNING PERIOD



### Football

Signing Dates:  
February 1 ~ April 1

Dead Period:  
January 30 ~ February 2\*

Unlimited Phone Calls  
(beginning at 7 am):  
Feb. 1 ~ February 3

### Soccer

Signing Dates:  
February 1 ~ August 1

Dead Period:  
January 30 ~ February 2\*

Unlimited Phone Calls  
(beginning at 7 am):  
February 1 ~ February 3



\* The dead period remains in effect for the full four days, even if a prospect signs a National Letter of Intent during the dead period.



# 2006-2007 NLI Signing Dates

# Schools Required to Send GSR and APR Scores

In an effort to educate prospects, the NCAA has added two documents to the required mailings coaches must send to NLI prospects. The first is the Graduation Success Rate (GSR). This number is similar to the federal graduation rate, but takes into account transfers and other student-athletes who leave school while academically eligible. The GSR report comprises of data for all full-time enrolled undergraduate students and student-athletes who were on scholarship. The final number is a percent based on the number of students who entered a college and the number of those who graduated with in six years.

The second is the Academic Progress Rate (APR), which is an aggregate score of student-athletes who graduated or remained eligible after first and second semester to the total number of student-athletes on scholarship. The rate is calculated for each team.



Sport	Initial Date	Final Date
Basketball (Early Period)	November 9, 2005	November 16, 2005
Basketball (Late Period)	April 12, 2006	May 17, 2006
Football (Midyear JC Trans)	December 21, 2005	January 15, 2006
Football (Regular Period)	February 1, 2006	April 1, 2006
Soccer	February 1, 2006	August 1, 2006
All Other Sports (Early Period)	November 9, 2005	November 16, 2005
All Other Sports (Late Period)	April 12, 2006	August 1, 2006



## From the Interpretation File



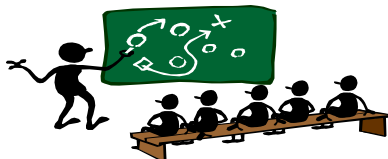
### Telephone Calls to Prospects After the Limit on Calls during a Particular Time Period is Reached

The committee confirmed that once an institution has made a countable telephone call to a prospect or a prospect's relatives or legal guardian(s) that results in the limit on calls for the particular time period being reached (e.g., one per month, one per week, two per week), the institution may not initiate an additional telephone call during the same time period, even if no direct conversation occurs during the second call (e.g., voicemail message). December 13, 2005, Official, Ref. 5



### Institution Providing Recognition to High School Coach who is an Alumna or Alumnus

The membership services staff determined that it is permissible for an institution (including its athletics booster club) to publicly recognize (e.g., via press release, in an alumni magazine) a special achievement (e.g., retirement, coaching accomplishment) of a high school coach who is an alumna or alumnus of the institution so long as no material benefit is provided (e.g., award, certificate, meal) to the high school coach. 12/21/05, Staff, ref. a



### Application of the Midyear Replacement when a Team is Subject to Contemporaneous Penalties

The membership services staff confirmed that, in football and volleyball, an institution may apply the appropriate midyear replacement provision if it has provided financial aid during that academic year to the maximum number of overall counters based on the new team limit established following implementation of a contemporaneous penalty. For example, if an institution is subject to a contemporaneous penalty of five overall scholarships for a particular academic year in Division I-A football, the midyear replacement provision may be used if the institution has awarded 80 overall scholarships. 1/4/06, Staff, Ref. a





# In the News....



## Weber State Athletics Placed on Probation for Violating NCAA Rules.

The NCAA decided in late January to punish Weber State's athletic program for violating NCAA rules and regulations. Weber State's violations involve student-athletes wrongfully using scholarship money to buy non-textbook items at the campus bookstore. The NCAA agreed on a punishment of two-years probation for Weber State's athletic program. When the alleged activities were discovered the university conducted an internal investigation. The violations were subsequently reported to the NCAA.

The school found 193 student-athletes, from a variety of sport teams, had wrongfully used scholarship money to purchase items other than textbooks or course-related materials between 2001 and 2004. The expenditures totaled \$8,467 the school said. Of the total amount spent, \$3,747 was spent on school supplies, such as pens or notebooks, while \$4,720 was used to purchase personal items such as clothing. (Associated Press, ESPN.com, 1/19/06)



## Littleberry Kicked off Clemson Team

Clemson defensive end Xavier Littleberry was kicked off the Tigers Football team for violating unspecified team rules.

Littleberry, a redshirt freshman, who collected one sack in all three games he played in last season, is now a suspect in an assault and indecent exposure incident on Dec. 26 at an Orlando, Florida hotel where the team was staying.

A sheriff's office report said a man later identified as Littleberry exposed himself to a 57-year-old hotel housekeeper and tried to force his way into the room she was cleaning at the time.

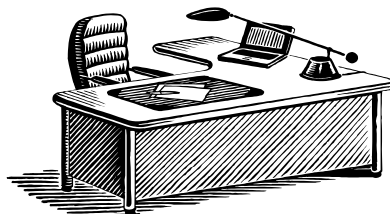
Littleberry, a 20-year-old from Columbus, Ohio, was sent home before the team's bowl game for violating team rules. (1/17/06, A.P, Sportingnews.com)

## Student-Athletes Shirk Responsibility but Still Get Paid

The NCAA has suspended two Bradley basketball players for getting paid for work they did not perform. Two additional players were also accused of being paid for work they did not perform, but were only forced to repay the money. Patrick O'Bryant, a center, was suspended for eight games, while point guard Will Franklin must sit out six games.

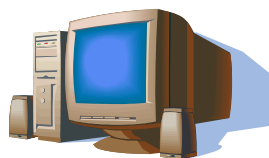
Getting paid for work not performed or getting paid more than the going-rate, is a violation of Bylaw 12.4.1—Employment. The NCAA made a statement that O'Bryant received a total of \$1,100 for work he did not do over the summer. He was paid a weekly salary of \$400 whether he showed up or not. Franklin was paid more than \$40 per hour for a job that should have paid approximately \$12 per hour.

Both players feel as though they have let their team down, but remain eager to participate when they are allowed. (AP, 11/22/05, sportingnews.com)



## NCAA Convention Video Available Online

2006 marks the inaugural year that the NCAA has made available video recordings of various sessions from the NCAA national convention held in early January. Topics included corporate sponsorship, amateurism issues, life-work balance and gender and minority issues. You can find the video clips on the NCAA webpage at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) under the media section.



## Bowl Participants Get Gifts from NCAA

Players from Texas and the University of Southern California benefited from a recent change in the NCAA rules. In previous years the maximum amount allowed in gifts from the tournament organizer at a post season bowl was \$350, but new legislation upped the gift amount to \$500.

Players from UT and USC received Sony Playstation portable systems among other gifts. Some say this may be a further sign that elite college athletics is no longer about intrinsic motivation but more for extrinsic rewards. Others say the hike in allowable gift amount is due simply to inflation. (Garza, T. 1/26/06, [dailytexanonline.com](http://dailytexanonline.com))



## Florida A&M Still Awaits Penalties.

A press conference was scheduled to be held on January 27th, but was postponed by the NCAA. FAMU hopes the NCAA accepts the self-imposed sanctions, and does not add further penalties.

Over 200 violations were found throughout the athletics program from incomplete paperwork to eligibility and continuing progress issues from 1998 to 2005.

FAMU fired their football coach Billy Joe, however, during the hearing in front of the infractions committee Billy Joe was cleared of any wrongdoing.





## February Recruiting Calendar



## Interpreter On-Line

## COMPLIANCE STAFF

### Football

Feb 1-Feb 2  
Feb 3-28

Dead  
Quiet

### Men's Basketball

Feb 1-28

Eval

### Women's Basketball

Feb 1-28

Eval/Quiet

### Baseball

Feb 1-28

Quiet

### Softball

Feb 1-28

Cont/Eval

### Volleyball

Feb 1-28

Cont/Eval

### Soccer

Feb 1-Feb 2

Dead

The Interpreter can be found on-line at [www.seminoles.com](http://www.seminoles.com) by clicking onto "NCAA Compliance" in the left column. The Interpreter icon is under the "What's New??" section.



*The Interpreter* is published by Megan McHugo. All comments should be directed to **The Interpreter**, P.O. Drawer 2195, Tallahassee, FL 32316, phone (850) 644-4272, or by e-mail: [mfm03@fsu.edu](mailto:mfm03@fsu.edu).

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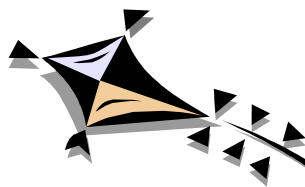
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