Joanna Eagle, a well-known sprinter at Southern Miss, has a birthday coming up. A close friend asks if she can throw Joanna a party at a local restaurant/club (think Ropers); Joanna agrees. The friend creates a poster advertising the event. The poster includes the name and location of the host venue, and is similar to those pictured at right. The poster is shared with the community through social media. Joanna does not receive any gifts or compensation from the venue, and pays the cover charge herself. Have any NCAA rules been violated here?

Yes! This is a real violation that occurred at a different school. The NCAA prohibits student-athletes from allowing the use of their name or picture to advertise or promote a commercial product or service.

Remember this: If your name or picture appears in an event promotion or other item similar to those pictured at left, make sure your coach or the Compliance Office is aware of it beforehand.

Social Media Reminder

Please keep in mind that it is against NCAA rules for anyone at Southern Miss, including student-athletes, to publicly comment on a prospect. When you tweet at prospects, write on their wall, or even re-tweet them you have committed a violation of NCAA rules. If you want to interact with a recruit you have met, do this through the direct message feature on Twitter or Facebook.

SOUTHERN MISS TRIVIA

1.) Who holds the Southern Miss football single-season interceptions record? Hint: He is more famous for playing a different position.

2.) In Women’s Basketball, which student-athlete leads the nation in assists?
SEYMOUR’S COMPLIANCE TIP

March Madness is almost upon us, and both our men’s and women’s basketball teams are well-positioned to make a run at a coveted NCAA tournament berth! As you know, you are not permitted to gamble on NCAA-sponsored sports. Did you know that a violation of this rule, however minor, will result in an automatic 1-year suspension from all competition? When it comes to the NCAA tournament, take Seymour’s advice:

- Do not enter a March Madness pool or other contest in which money or anything of value is at stake.
- You may fill out a bracket, but only for fun.

IN THE NEWS

After a close loss to Wisconsin last week, a University of Iowa basketball student-athlete responded angrily on Twitter to users posting negative comments about him. This caused the head coach to ban Twitter use for the remainder of the season. Iowa basketball is not the first program to ban Twitter use. What do you think about this approach? Is it fair to student-athletes?