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A10 Advisor

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**A10 SAACs
in Action**



URI SAAC members prepare food baskets for the Johnnycakes Center (above), while Xavier's SAAC gets down and dirty during a bonding retreat (below)



Text Messaging Ban and Baseball Rules Upheld at Convention

Only one of the three legislative proposals up for an override vote at the 2008 NCAA Convention was successful. The override vote on proposal 2006-87, which allows golf student-athletes to participate in nine three-day tournaments (with 54 holes per tournament) or 24 dates of competition, was approved with nearly a two-thirds majority vote. The application of the proposal remains in effect for the remainder of the academic year, meaning golf student-athletes can participate in nine three-day tournaments OR 24 dates of competition during 2007-08. In 2008-09, golf student-athletes will be limited to 24 dates of competition.

Attempts to allow text messaging of prospective student-athletes, delete scholarship minimums for baseball student-athletes and impose squad-size limits for baseball teams failed during the Division I Business Session January 12.

The lopsided vote on Proposal 2006-40 (only 21.3 percent supported the override) was foretold by the assembly's initial refusal to move the proposal. Even once the override was on the floor for consideration, Kerry Kenny, vice chair of the Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, persuasively reiterated the student-athletes' position that text messaging between prospective student-athletes and coaches was intrusive, unprofessional and expensive. "We believe that text messaging and instant messaging are both highly unprofessional in the recruiting process," Kenny said. "You wouldn't use text messaging to contact

an employer when searching for a job, and it's unlikely that an employer would contact you with a text message to offer you the job."

Proposal No. 2007-9 was developed by a working group and approved as emergency legislation specific to baseball by the Board in April 2007. The first part of the proposal requires an institution to provide each baseball counter athletically related and other countable financial aid that is equal to or greater than 25 percent of an equivalency. The second portion capped the squad size at 35 student-athletes.

Before the override vote, the legislation was split at the request of a delegate. Only 30.3 percent of those present and voting wanted to override the minimum financial aid requirement, while 24.5 percent wanted to eliminate the squad-size limit. Since the override was unsuccessful, Proposal No. 2007-9 will be effective as written on August 1, 2008. The 25 percent minimum equivalency requirement only applies to student-athletes who initially enroll full time at the certifying institution on or after August 1, 2008.

Please be sure to check LSDBi frequently for legislative changes and frequently asked questions regarding legislative proposals.

Information courtesy of NCAA News.



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Upcoming Dead Periods



February 4-7, 2008:

**Men's and Women's Cross Country/Track & Field
Field Hockey
Football
Men's and Women's Soccer
Men's Water Polo**





February 6, 2008—

August 1, 2008

NLI signing period for :

Cross Country/

Track & Field,

Field Hockey,

Soccer and

Men's Water Polo

NLI News

The 2008-09 early signing period for the National letter of Intent went off without a hitch and ended with 350 prospective student-athletes committing to attend Atlantic 10 institutions. Here are some updates for the next signing period, which begins on February 6, 2008.

Cross Country/Track Added

Earlier this year, cross country and track were eliminated from the early NLI signing period by the Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA). These sports will now use the same signing period as field hockey, soccer and men's water polo. NLIs from these sports can be signed any time from February 6, 2008 through August 1, 2008. The normal 14-day signing and 21-day filing deadlines still apply.

Please note that the dead period that surrounds the initial signing date for the NLI has also changed for cross country and track and field. There is now a dead period from February 4-7, 2008.

Football

The regular signing period for football also begins February 6, 2008. NLIs for football

prospective student-athletes should be sent to the conference in which your institution participates for football (e.g., MAC, CAA), not to the A10. Feel free to contact the A10 with any general NLI questions you may have regarding football PSAs, but understand that the documents need to be sent to the appropriate individual(s) at your football conference. The regular signing period for football ends April 1, 2008.

Other Non-A10 Sponsored Sports

Please send any NLIs in sports other than football to the A10 office for processing. We will continue to process and file NLIs for the following non-A10 sponsored sports:

Women's Golf
 Women's Gymnastics
 Fencing
 Ice Hockey
 Men's Lacrosse
 Squash
 Skiing
 Men's Water Polo
 Women's Water Polo
 Wrestling

Briefly Around the A10

as of 1/16/08

UMass goalkeeper **Zack Simmons** has been named the UMBRO/Soccer News Net Men's Player of the Year, which honors the top men's soccer player in the country. Simmons is the first UMass player to earn National Player of the Year honors, and was also named to the College Cup All-Tournament Team and the NSCAA/Adidas All-America Third-Team this season.

Dayton continues to own the longest combined men's and women's basketball streak in the country. With 15 straight women's wins (tied for longest in nation) and 13 straight men's wins (sixth longest in nation), Dayton's 28 straight basketball wins is four better than North Carolina.

Senior outfielder **Brad McElroy** of **Charlotte** has been named a first-team Louisville Slugger preseason All-American by Collegiate Baseball. Last year, McElroy hit .401 for the Niners, becoming only the sixth player in team

history to eclipse the .400 plateau. He led the Atlantic 10 in hits (97), doubles (26) and RBI (68).

For the first time since 2003, three A-10 men's basketball teams are ranked in the *Associated Press* top 25 poll. As of January 14, **Dayton** is ranked No. 14, **Xavier** comes in at No. 20 and **Rhode Island** is No. 23.

The **George Washington** women's basketball team moved up to No. 13 in the latest AP Top 25 poll released on January 14. The Colonials have been ranked or receiving votes in every AP poll this season.

Despite not being ranked the entire season, the **UMass** men's soccer team finished the 2007 season ranked No. 4 in the NSCAA/Adidas National Top-25 Poll which was published at the conclusion of the NCAA Tournament. The Minutemen made the NCAA Tournament earning a spot in the College Cup and the National Semifinals for the first time in school history.

Dayton's 11-1 start helped head coach **Brian Gregory** earn the Jim Phelan mid-season coaching honors. Named after the legendary Mount St. Mary's head coach Jim Phelan who won over 800 games and coached in more games than any the history of college basketball, the award is presented annually by CollegeInsider.com to the top coach in America.

Former Atlantic 10 basketball standouts make up three of the four 2008 inductees into the Philadelphia Big 5 Hall of Fame. **Rap Curry** (Saint Joseph's 1990-94), **Donnie Carr** (La Salle 1996-2000) and **Claudrena Harold** (Temple 1994-97) will be honored at a luncheon held at the Palestra on January 18 and at halftime of the Saint Joseph's-Penn game at The Palestra on Saturday, January 19.

Rhode Island head golf coach **Tom Drennan** was honored by the Golf Coaches Association of America as one of three inductees into its 2007 Hall of Fame class on January 14.

Legislative Proposals Update

Defeated, Final

2007-16-A	2007-54-B
2007-20	2007-57
2007-24	2007-69
2007-30-A	2007-70
2007-31-A	2007-84
2007-32	2007-85
2007-34	2007-86
2007-39	2007-88
2007-41	2007-92
2007-53-A	2007-101
	2007-108

Tabled by Board of Directors:
2007-25, 2007-26, 2007-28

Rendered Moot by Adoption of Alternative Proposals:
2007-36, 2007-43

Adopted, Now in Override Period

The override period ends March 14, 2008. Visit LSDBi for information on how to submit an override request.

asterisked proposals are effective immediately

2006-121	2007-48*	2007-82
2007-2	2007-49	2007-87
2007-18	2007-51*	2007-89
2007-19*	2007-53-B*	2007-91*
2007-21*	2007-54-A	2007-93
2007-22*	5007-56*	2007-94*
2007-27*	2007-59*	2007-95
2007-29	2007-62*	2007-96
2007-32*	2007-63	2007-98*
2007-33-A*	2007-65	2007-99
2007-40	2007-71	2007-102*
2007-42*	2007-74	2007-104*
2007-44*	2007-75	2007-105*
2007-45*	2007-76*	2007-110*
2007-47*	2007-77*	2007-117



In Comment Period

The comment period ends March 14, 2008. Visit LSDBi to submit comments on proposals.

2007-16-B	2007-50-A	2007-78
2007-17	2007-50-B	2007-79
2007-30-B	2007-52	2007-80
2007-30-C	2007-58	2007-81
2007-31-B	2007-61	2007-83
2007-35	2007-66	2007-92
2007-39	2007-67	2007-100
2007-40	2007-68	2007-103

Withdrawn

The following proposals were withdrawn during or before the January Management Council meeting:

2007-14	2007-46
2007-15	2007-60
2007-23-A	2007-64
2007-23-B	2007-72
2007-33-B	2007-107
2007-38	



New NCAA Governance Structure

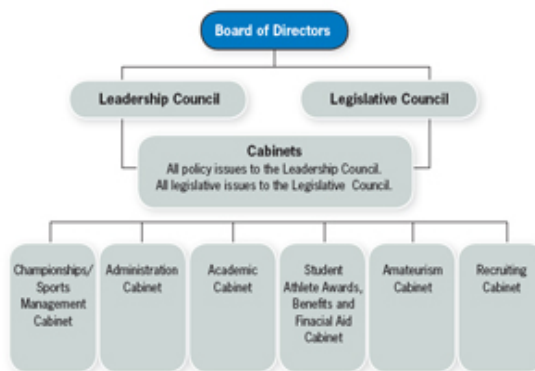
The Division I Management Council will soon be a thing of the past. The NCAA Board of Directors recently adopted a plan to revise the Division I governance structure, which will be implemented in September 2008.

Under the revised governance structure, the Management Council is replaced with two 31-member bodies, the Legislative Council and the Leadership Council. The new structure also includes six cabinets, a 31-member championships cabinet and five other 21-member bodies.

Of the two new Councils, the Legislative Council is straightforward – its role is to consider proposals in the annual legislative cycle and will serve as the primary legislative body in the Division I governance structure.

The Leadership Council will be the primary advisory group to the Board of Directors on strategic and policy issues. It will focus on examining issues on the hori-

zon of intercollegiate athletics and will assist the Board by providing background information, comments and advice on both non-legislative and legislative matters. The Leadership Council will be charged with helping to chart the division’s course and its members will be expected to have a national focus in their deliberations rather than an institutional or a conference-based one.



The Championships/Sport Management Cabinet will have 31 members (one representative from each of the multisport conferences), and each of the remaining five other cabinets have 21 members. Of the 21 members, each of the 11 FBS conferences will be represented and the other 10 members will come from among the 20 FCS/Division I conferences on a rotating basis.

The Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA) will be responsible for developing a rotation schedule.

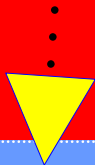


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Coming next month:

Previews of the 2008 Men's and Women's A10 Basketball Championships



JANUARY 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 A10 OFFICE-CLOSED	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
					NCAA CONVENTION	
13	14	15	16	17 Compliance Coordinators Conference Call 11 AM	18	19
	NASHVILLE, TN					
20	21 A10 OFFICE CLOSED	22	23	24	25	26
27 SAAC Conference Call 7:30 PM EST	28	29	30	31		
		AD Meeting (Philadelphia)				

Upcoming A10 Championships

- Indoor Track & Field (M&W) Mackal Fieldhouse/URI February 16, 2008
- Swimming & Diving (M&W) Erie Community College/Buffalo, NY February 20-23, 2008
- Women's Basketball Alumni Memorial Fieldhouse/SJU March 7-10, 2008
- Men's Basketball Boardwalk Hall/Atlantic City, NJ March 12-15, 2008

FEBRUARY 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 SUPERBOWL (Don't Bet on It!)	4	5	6 NLI Signing Period Starts	7	8	9
					A10 SAAC MEETING	
10 (Philadelphia)	11	12	13	14	15	16 Indoor Track & Field Championships (@ URI)
17	18 A10 OFFICE CLOSED	19	20	21	22	23
			M/W Swimming & Diving Championships, Buffalo, NY			
24	25	26	27	28	29	