DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY
Athletics Annual Report
2003-2004

I. MISSION STATEMENT

As a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the Gulf South Conference and New South Intercollegiate Swim League, Delta State University adheres to the policies established by these organizations. In addition, the University supports the NCAA Division II statement of philosophy. This philosophy is based on the belief "that a well-conducted intercollegiate athletic program based on sound educational principles and practices is a proper part of the educational mission of a university and that the educational welfare of the participating student athlete is of primary concern."

Additionally, the objectives of the athletic program are to be compatible with the overall mission of the University. The activities of the athletic program will serve the purpose of preparing students and student athletes for life as they reinforce the principle of competition emphasizing fair play and good sportsmanship. The welfare of students and student athletes is of primary concern—emotionally, physically, and academically. This philosophy stands on the following principles of the NCAA Division II Philosophy Statement:

1. "...offering intercollegiate athletic participation opportunities to as many of its students as possible, whether or not these students are athletically recruited or financially equitable";
2. "...striving for broad participation and competitive excellence, encouraging sportsmanship and ethical conduct and developing positive social attitudes in all of its athletic endeavors";
3. "scheduling the majority of its athletic competition with other members of Division II insofar as geographic location and traditional or conference scheduling patterns permit";
4. recognizing the dual objectives in an athletic program of serving both the campus and the general public."

II. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The department of athletics expects success out of all 13 programs and the administrative functions there to serve the sports programs. Success will be measured from the perspectives of athletics, academics, and service.

Goals and Assessments
The Department of Athletics has three goals that it continuously works to accomplish in order to enhance the campus and community through intercollegiate athletics. These goals are consistent with the stated mission of Delta State University.

**Goal Number One:** Enhance the development of the total person by providing opportunities to meet the interests of the students, both as participants and spectators, in a wide variety of cultural, athletic, and other extracurricular activities.

**Expected Results:** Delta State University will provide a variety of sports that meet the interests of the students who attend Delta State University.
**Assessment Procedures:** The interest in the sports of Women's Golf and Volleyball has grown at the university. Both programs can help bring high-quality student athletes to our campus. The annual questionnaire demonstrates and interest in Women's Golf and Women's Volleyball.

**Actual Results:** After evaluation of programs and questionnaires, the additions of women's golf and / or women's volleyball are recommended in order to meet the needs and interests of student athletes at Delta State University.

**Use of Results:** Plans are being made to add Women's Volleyball. DSU is the only institution in the Gulf South Conference without a Volleyball program. Most importantly, there is an interest in this program in our state and at this institution. A feasibility study and budget was conducted and formulated this spring. Funds are being requested through the legislature.

**Goal Number Two:** Increase the graduation rate of student athletes. Have a minimum of 75% graduation rate of the student athlete in a five-year period.

**Expected Results:** The graduation rate of the DSU Student-Athletes will increase annually and by the end of year five, be at least equal to 75%.

**Assessment Procedures:** Check graduation rates of all student-athletes annually. The Registrar will verify all student athletes who have graduated in this five-year period. The athletes' graduation rates are required to be published for the State of Mississippi when competing for the Halbrook Award. This award honors the schools with the highest graduation rate of athletes over a five-year period. This data will allow us to track our progress.

**Actual Results:** The graduation rates of athletes over the last four years are as follows:

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<th>FY01</th>
<th>FY02</th>
<th>FY03</th>
<th>FY04</th>
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<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>63%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>66%</td>
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</table>

**Use of Results:** These results help the Athletic Department support:

1. The need for more academic guidance and supervision with student athletes. The department recently hired a full-time Coordinator of Academic Performance. This hire along with construction on the academic performance building with a completion date of January 2005 with tremendously aid this effort. This building will provide a dedicated space for academic performance, but an academic plan is already being formulated by our new Coordinator of Academic Performance prior to the building's completion date.

2. The need to recruit students who have higher class rank, ACT/SAT scores, and GPA's. There is a positive correlation between high grade point and ACT scores with graduation rate. All coaches agree with the need to recruit better students.
**Goal Number Three:** Improve the facilities available for sports activities. Provide the facilities and physical environment which contribute to the intellectual, cultural, moral, physical, and social growth and development of the student and the surrounding community.

**Expected Results:** To have facilities that are safe and appealing for participants and spectators. The facilities will need to meet the NCAA requirements and guidelines. They will also need to be esthetically pleasing to the fan.

**Assessment Procedures:** The football field, basketball court, baseball field, softball field, tennis courts, swimming pool, soccer fields, golf course and cross country trail all meet NCAA guidelines. This is checked by having the facilities meet the specified dimensions required for the NCAA championships. These venues need enhancements necessary to provide a fan friendly experience. Feedback is given daily by constituents to the program.

**Actual Results of Facility Improvement:**
1. Construction of the Billy Dorgan, Jr. Student-Athlete Performance Center has begun with completion date January 2005.
2. Bid phase of the J.A. "Bud" Thigpen Baseball Annex has begun.
3. Development of the new Soccer Field and Practice Fields has been completed.
4. Parker Field improvements include two sets of permanent bleachers on the visitors side installed, new fencing installed around the perimeter, new windscreens attached to new fencing, completion of improvements to the ticket booths, fencing around the perimeter of the football practice area.
5. New fencing around the perimeter of Ferriss Baseball Field. Two outfield decks completed (student section and fan section), installation of two storage areas under the decks.
6. Renovation of the coliseum to include the training and weight facility.

**Other Assessments:**
1. Annual Graduate Survey – 2003
   Athletics Program Satisfaction - 1.9 on Likert Scale (1 very satisfied, 2 satisfied, etc.)
   Demonstrates satisfaction with athletics.
2. National Graduation Rates (Cohort) – 1997 Division II Public Schools Group
   All Students 43%, Student – Athletes 49%
3. Delta State University Graduation Rates (Cohort) 1997
   All Students 42%, Student – Athletes 50%

**IV. PROGRAM ACHIEVED OUTCOMES**

**A. Summary Outcomes**
- One National Championship
- One Conference Championship & One Conference Championship Finalist
- Eight teams participated in NCAA regional tournament competition
- Nine teams participated in Conference tournament competition
- Conference Top Eight Athletes: two
- NCAA Player of the Year: one
- NCAA Freshman of the Year: two
• Professional Contracts: three
• All-America Athletes: seven
• Academic All-America Athletes: two
• All Region Athletes: thirteen
• All Conference Athletes: thirty six
• Academic All-Conference Athletes: three
• Conference Honor Roll Athletes: forty eight

B. Detailed Outcomes

ADMINISTRATIVE

• Private donations increased 600%
• Memberships increased 39%
• Advertisement sales increased 30%
• Dorgan Performance Center 40% complete
• Thigpen Baseball Annex announced
• Development of the new Soccer Field and Practice Fields
• Parker Field improvements include two sets of permanent bleachers on the visitors side installed, new fencing installed around the perimeter, new windscreens attached to new fencing, completion of improvements to the ticket booths, fencing around the perimeter of the football practice area.
• New fencing around the perimeter of Ferriss Field. Two outfield decks completed (student section and fan section), installation of two storage areas under the decks.

FOOTBALL
• Overall record 9-2
• Finished season with a national ranking of #16
• Defensive lineman Anthony Maddox was drafted by the Jacksonville Jaguars
• Defensive lineman Anthony Maddox was named to five All-America squads (three first team, two second team)
• Wide Receiver Ellis Debrow was named to three All-America squads
• Placekicker Trey Crum was named to two All-America squads
• Offensive tackle Mark Barron was named to one All-America squad
• WR Ellis Debrow, OT Mark Barron, PK Trey Crum, DL Anthony Maddox were all named First Team All-Region; DL Joey Sylve was named Second Team All-Region; RB David Yeates was named Third Team All-Region
• QB Scott Eyster was named National Player of the Week on 10/13 by D2Football.com and 10/12 by Don Hansen’s Football Gazette
• DT Anthony Maddox was selected to play in the "Whataburger" Cactus Bowl
• WR Ellis Debrow, G Justin Ashley, DL Anthony Maddox, DL Joey Sylve, DB Cha Cha Berry, PK Trey Crum all named First Team All-Gulf South Conference
• QB Scott Eyster, RB David Yeates, T Mark Barron, LB Cedric Cotton, all named Second Team All-Gulf South Conference
• Justin Ashley, Mark Barron, and John Weaver all named to the GSC All-Academic team
• Quarterback Scott Eyster was named Gulf South Conference Freshman of the Year
• Justin Ashley, Ryan Barker, Mark Barron, Chad Blalack, Warren Bowling, Jeremy Burge, Scott Eyster, Will Johnson, Jeremy Miller, Damian Moore, Woody Stringer, Adam Sykes, Will Taylor, and John Weaver all named to the GSC Academic Honor Roll

WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
• Finished 2nd in the Lyon College Invitational
• Finished 9th in the GSC Cross Country Meet
• Kari Girdley, Vanessa Meneses, and Lindsey Moore all listed on GSC Academic Honor Roll

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
• Overall Record: 23-8
• GSC Record: 12-4
• Advanced to finals of GSC Tournament
• Earned berth in NCAA South Region Tournament
• Jessica Dunlap named First Team All-GSC
• Emily Mabus named Second Team All-GSC
• Dunlap, Mabus both named to All-Tournament Team
• Amber Gean, Lauren Adams, Natalie Ellington, Janna Lyons, Emily Mabus named to GSC Academic Honor Roll

MEN’S BASKETBALL
• Overall Record: 10-17
• Gulf South Conference Record: 2-14
• Marcus Greene named to Gulf South Conference Academic Honor Roll
• Head Coach Steve Rives won 350th career game

SOFTBALL
• Overall Record: 36-16
• Gulf South Conference Record: 16-7 (2nd place)
• Advanced to winners’ bracket of Gulf South Conference Tournament
• Coach David Kuhn won 200th career game
• C Joy Long, OF Alyse Hasty, 1B Meredith Coleman were named to the All-Gulf South Conference First Team
• P Duana Meseyton, P Jenna Smart, P Laura Dixon were named to the All-Gulf South Conference Second Team
• C Joy Long was named First-Team NFCA All-Region
• 1B Meredith Coleman was named Second-Team NFCA All-Region
• OF Alyse Hasty, P Laura Dixon both earned Player of the Week honors
• P Duana Meseyton was named to the Gulf South Conference “Top Eight”

BASEBALL
• 2004 Division II National Champions
• 2004 NCAA South Central Region Champions
• 2004 Gulf South Conference Champions
• Overall Record 54-11 (Team Record for Wins/Season)
• GSC Record: 19-3
• Coach Mike Kinnison won 350th career game
• Hosted third consecutive NCAA South Central Region baseball tournament
• Coach Mike Kinnison was named Gulf South Conference, South Central Region, and ABCA/Rawlings National Coach of the Year
• OF Jud Thigpen was named ABCA/Rawlings Division II Player of the Year
• OF Jud Thigpen, DH/P Chris Reed named First Team All-America
• 3B Mark Broome named Second Team All-America
• 3B Mark Broome, C Craig Newton, OF Jud Thigpen, DH/P Chris Reed named First Team All-Region
• P Josh Barton named Second Team All-Region
• 3B Mark Broome, SS Eric Patten, OF Jud Thigpen, P Matt McAlpin named First Team All-Gulf South Conference
• C Craig Newton, 2B Clay Smith, DH/P Chris Reed, P Josh Barton named Second Team All-Gulf South Conference
• 1B Bert Pickard, OF Jud Thigpen, P Matt McAlpin all named Gulf South Conference Player of the Week
• 3B Mark Broome selected in 41st round by St. Louis Cardinals
• OF Jud Thigpen signed a free agent deal with the Colorado Rockies
• OF Jud Thigpen was named to the Gulf South Conference "Top Eight"
• Won 11th consecutive Gulf South Conference-West Division Championship
• Won 2nd Straight Gulf South Conference overall Championship (first team since Troy State in '86-'87 to repeat)
• 1B Bert Pickard was named NCAA Championship Tournament MVP
• 1B Bert Pickard, C Craig Newton, P Scott Ellison named to All-Tournament Team at Division II Baseball Championships
• OF Will Waldkirch was named NCAA South Central Region Tournament MVP
• C Craig Newton, SS Eric Patten, OF Will Waldkirch, OF Jud Thigpen, P Josh Barton named to NCAA South Central Region All-Tournament Team
• Brett Cerda, Keith Fitzgerald, Chad Greenlee, Brad Lightsey, Jonathan Mitcham, Craig Newton, Rusty Rayborn, Chris Reed, Will Waldkirch, Wade Whitaker all listed on GSC Academic Honor Roll

MEN'S GOLF
• Final Ranking of #18
• Finished 2nd at Gulf South Conference Tournament (one shot behind champion)
• Finished 6th at NCAA Regional Tournament
• Kevin Jones won individual honors at Gulf South Conference Tournament
• Clark Richardson, Pier Andre Roy, and Matt Sellers all named to GSC Academic Honor Roll
• Captured team championships at Doyle Wallace Classic, Bill Hill Memorial, and Arkansas Tech Collegiate Classic
• Pier Andre Roy captured individual honors at Doyle Wallace Classic
• Kevin Jones captured individual honors at Bill Hill Memorial
• Rodney Boswell captured individual honors at Arkansas Tech Collegiate Classic
• Clark Richardson captured individual honors at UCA Invitational
• The four individual tournament wins and Jones' individual GSC championship marked five consecutive tournaments where a Statesmen golfer captured individual honors.
• Clark Richardson, Matt Sellers, Pier Andre Roy all named to GSC Academic Honor Roll
• Kevin Jones named GSC Freshman of the Year
• Jones, Clark Richardson both named to the First Team All-Gulf South Conference
MEN'S TENNIS
- Final Record: 14-6
- GSC Record: 2-1
- Earned bid to NCAA South Region Tournament
- Jafet Banuelos, Alex Nicolau, Julian Noreux, Thomas Pasquet, and Arnold Van Dyk all named to GSC Academic Honor Roll
- Ale Alvez named GSC-West Player of the Year
- Alvez, Alex Nicolau, and Jeffery Farris named All-GSC First Team
- Thomas Pasquet named All-GSC Second Team
- Jeffery Farris named Charles S. Kerg Award Winner

WOMEN'S TENNIS
- Final Record: 18-6
- GSC Record: 7-1
- Advanced to semifinals of GSC Tournament
- Earned Bid to NCAA Regional Tournament
- Natalie Dean, Celine le Saulier, Wendy Owen, Helene Thalamy, Paula Uchida, Shani Van Der Merwe all named to GSC Academic Honor Roll
- Paula Uchida and Shani Van Der Merwe all named First Team All-GSC
- Wendy Owen named Second Team All-GSC

WOMEN'S SWIMMING
- Finished 2nd at New South Intercollegiate Swim Conference meet
- Kasey Perkins qualified for national championship events
- Ann Marie Mayers named Charles S. Kerg Award Winner
- Ann Marie Mayers named Academic All-Region

MEN'S SWIMMING
- Won New South Intercollegiate Swim Conference Title for fourth consecutive year
- Finished sixth at NCAA national championships
- Qualified twelve swimmers for national championship events
- Jared Woodford named Academic All-Region
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