



*Sent via e-mail*

September 11, 2008

Terry Holland  
Director of Athletics  
East Carolina University  
Ward Sports Medicine Building  
Greenville, NC 27858-4353

Re: West Virginia Post Game Incident

Dear Terry:

Congratulations to the East Carolina Pirates for their convincing win against nationally ranked West Virginia on Saturday. Having personally experienced the game day atmosphere at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium, I would also like to congratulate the 43,610 members of the Pirate Nation who provided a national television audience with an outstanding example of how important the fans are to a great college football experience.

With regard to post game events, however, the NCAA and all major conferences have made sportsmanship and sporting behavior one of our most important objectives. It is the responsibility of the host institution to provide a safe environment for fans of all ages, members of the participating teams and all individuals who have duties on the field or court, including the news media. Further, the Conference recently adopted specific policies in this regard.

After a careful review of the post game circumstances on Saturday, I have found that fans entered the playing field while the West Virginia team members were attempting to get to their locker room. This is clearly in violation of section 5(d) of our Principles and Standards of Sportsmanship. Obviously, this policy is intended to avoid the numerous problems which can arise when visiting players from the losing team come in contact with exuberant fans from the home team that make their way onto the field.

Therefore, as mandated by the sportsmanship policy (see section 8(d)), the Conference is imposing a fine in the amount of \$10,000. Please be advised that any subsequent occurrence will result in an increased fine and could ultimately affect conference championship hosting opportunities.

It is my expectation that the fans of each institution will respect and appreciate our sportsmanship objectives and it is our job and the job of each member institution to educate our great fans about these expectations and the rationale for them.

**CONFERENCE USA**

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We appreciate the responsible manner in which both you and Dr. Ballard have responded to this important matter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Britton Banowsky". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Britton Banowsky  
Commissioner

Cc: Dr. Steven Ballard  
Judy MacLeod