

Lottery board wants state to run games

BY VALERIE MATCHETTE
THE GAMECOCK

South Carolina's lottery debate took another turn Monday as the Lottery Accountability Board warned the state not to use a private agency to run the games.

Ken Wingate, chairman of the board, told Gov. Hodges, who has accused the state legislature of stalling on the issue, not to rush into contracts with agencies that might not have the state's welfare at heart.

"Governor Hodges is in such a rush to get to the lottery altar that he has not taken a good look at his new bride," Wingate said.

Wingate said because outside agencies have had histories of corruption in other states, South Carolina's lottery should be operated by a new government committee.

"The best chance we have for running a clean lottery in South Carolina is to have a state-run lottery, that is, one operated by public officials," Wingate said.

Wingate explained some of the ways agencies abuse positions, saying they "influence opponents, fighting legally and illegally for advantages in obtaining contracts to run state lotteries, manipulating contract terms to their financial advantage and using their muscle as the world's largest and richest gambling company to retain contracts and to stall payments of fines and penalties."

"You name it, they do it on a regular basis."

Wingate and the Lottery Accountability Board, which developed out of "No Lottery 2000" to try to control how the lottery is operated, presented a list of the measures they would like to see added to S-177, the lottery bill:

- Ban political contributions to candidates and parties by entities doing business with the lottery corporation.

- Make the lottery corporation subject to the same laws and procedures other state agencies are subject to, such as the Administrative Procedures Act, state ethics laws and the Legislative Audit Council Review.

- Limit the lottery corporation's powers as listed in S-177, taking away its authority to conduct market research, establish lines of credit, and pay employees production incentive bonuses.

- Make lottery board members be elected by and accountable to the General Assembly, not the governor.

- Change the definition of "vendor" to include the parent company of contracting parties.

According to Wingate, if the state decided to let outside agencies run the lottery, these changes to the bill would "prevent some of the abuses we have seen in other states."

The city desk can be reached at gamecockcitydesk@hotmail.com

Odom sticks close to Southern roots

BY BROCK VERGAKIS
THE GAMECOCK

Dave Odom has a record that could have landed him a coaching job at a lot of universities. But Odom only wants to live in the South. It's where he's lived his entire life, and he wants to stay close to his roots.

Odom grew up in a small town in eastern North Carolina and took his first coaching job at the high school he was graduated from. After 11 years of high school coaching in North Carolina, he earned a job as an assistant at Wake Forest before becoming head coach at East Carolina, where he attended graduate school.

The one time Odom left the Tar Heel state was during a seven-year stint as an assistant at Virginia before he returned to Wake Forest as head coach.

"Why South Carolina?" he said. "I wanted a huge challenge ... I grew up in North Carolina, and I've been around this area all my life. Sometimes, as you mature, one of the things that kind of weighs on you in a nice way is you want to stay close to your people, to your roots."

As coaching vacancies appeared around the country, South Carolina became an attractive option for Odom.

"I know that I looked at South Carolina from afar and at times wondered what's going on," he said. "And at times had to resist making some flirting action that would hopefully catch their eye."

Part of what makes South Carolina attractive for Odom is that it's in a narrowly defined region he would like to live in.

"I can never see myself coaching north of Virginia, I don't want to go south of Atlanta and I want to coach in a state that touches the Atlantic Ocean. That pretty much tells you why I'm here."

Odom has been through the Palmetto State on many occasions with his wife and sons on vacation, as well as in his games against Clemson.

He said while some people might argue about the differences between North and South Carolina, to him, there aren't major discrepancies.

"The biggest difference to me is the sign at the border," he said.

However small he might think the

'I know that I looked at South Carolina from afar and at times . . . had to resist making some flirting action that would hopefully catch their eye.'

Dave Odom
Head Basketball Coach

differences in the two states are, there are definite differences between coaching at small private university in the ACC and at the state's largest university in the SEC.

The first lesson Odom learned is that in South Carolina, unlike in ACC country, football is still king. When Athletics Director Mike McGee was introducing Odom, he referred to him as the new head football coach — for the second time.

Despite the SEC's reputation as a football-dominated conference, Odom said the SEC has a tremendous amount

of respect from the ACC as a basketball conference.

"There is a great respect from within (the ACC). The caliber of basketball in this league takes no backseat to anyone,"

To a rousing round of applause at the volleyball competition facility, Odom said. "I would put it, I'm happy to be in the SEC. There's as much respect for the SEC as there is the ACC."

The university desk can be reached at gamecockudesk@hotmail.com

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reservations about not being the school's top choice.

"Sometimes you mix and match in a basketball game. You start out with one game plan, you end up entirely some place else," he said. "Did this university do that? I can't answer that. And I will tell you, it's not important to me."

"The names that I have heard were involved in this search, if they were talked to, they should have been. They're great coaches. . . . Nobody needs to make an apology about that."

Odom said his first order of business would be to sit down with returning Gamecock players and get to know them better.

He said he is committed to their education first and foremost.

"I don't know their status athletically," he said, "but I can assure you, it is far more important that their status

academically be addressed. . . . There are very few days left in the academic calendar, and I want them to spend most of their time directing their efforts in that area."

Odom's contract will be for five years with an annual salary of \$150,000. Including compensations for radio, television, shoes and apparel, and \$75,000 guaranteed camp income for 2001. Total, Odom will make \$750,000 minimum his first year as head coach. He also can earn extra income through incentive clauses.

The university desk can be reached at gamecockudesk@hotmail.com

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HOLY WEEK MASSES

PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND (April 7-8)
Saturday 4:30p.m., Sunday 11:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY (April 12)
Parish Supper 5:00p.m., Mass 7:00p.m.

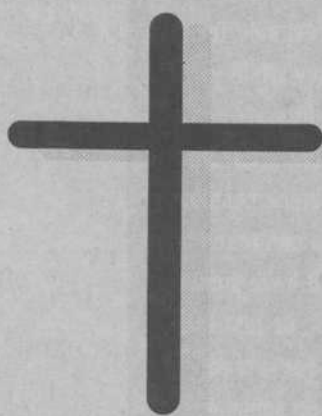
GOOD FRIDAY (April 13)
Service of the Lord's Passion 3:00 p.m.
Tenebrae Service 7:00p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY - THE GREAT VIGIL 8:30 p.m. (April 14)

EASTER SUNDAY (April 15) - 11:00 a.m.

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Earth Day Festival 2001

USC School of the Environment, S.A.G.E. & Facility Services Department

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| <p>11:00 am - 1:00 pm</p> <p>Wednesday, April 18</p> <p>Mid-day Events on Greene Street by the Russell House</p> <p>4:30 - 5:30pm</p> <p>5:30 - 7:00pm</p> | <p>Celebration of the Earth and the Environment Showcase of Environmental Programs, Research & Activities at USC, as well as Community & Environmental Organizations. Listen to music by The MoonshineBand, enjoy Free Food, participate in a variety of events (Greene Street in front of Russell House)</p> <p>Awards ceremony in front of Russell House. Environmental Stewardship & Environmental Essay Contest</p> <p>Clean Carolina Earth Day Sweep. Free T-Shirts to participants! (Sign-up tables will be located on Greene Street)</p> <p>Frisbee Fun! Green Space next to Longstreet Theatre</p> <p>The Soul Mites, live music on the Russell House Back Patio. (Free and open to USC Community)</p> <p>Litter Awareness Blitz, Greene Street (Pickens to Main) Trash receptacles will be placed along Greene Street all day. Do your part and help us keep it clean.</p> |
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For more information, please contact the School of the Environment at 777-1325 or email: earthday@environ.sc.edu