Tech To Announce Women's AD Post

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Sportswriter

A women's athletic director, who will oversee several upgraded sports this year at VPI & SU, should be named within the week according to Tech President William Lavery.

The school's first women's athletic director will probably be selected from the eight mentors now coaching 11 women's extramural sports at Tech. Heading the potential director list, according to one source, is Jo Kafer, head of women's intramural sports, who coaches volleyball and field hockey.

VPI also fields archery, bowling, fencing, gymnastics, karate, track, basketball, swimming and tennis extramural teams for women. The last three sports are now without coaches and, along with field hockey, appear as the most likely extramurals to bid for intercollegiate status this year.

"I would emphasize there are some obvious ones we need to move with now," said Lavery, "but to designate any particular program at this time would be a little early."

The appointment of an AD must be "a process assuring leadership and funding to the upgrade of sports is under consideration by the administrative committee studying women's sports."

Intramural and extramural sports are currently funded through university general funds. Intercollegiate sports - basketball, football, wrestling, swimming, track, tennis, golf, soccer, baseball and cross country - gain financial support from the university athletic association through private monies. Most varsity support, said Athletic Director Frank Moseley, last month, comes from football profits with basketball coming close to covering its own expenses.

acceleration has been caught up in the administration process during this summer, but with the approaching athletic season and the requirements of Title IX, an amendment prohibiting educational discrimination, the Tech administration must reach a decision soon.

The 1975 federal law required, effective July 26, public educational institutions to "carefully evaluate ... and conform current policies and practices to the requirements of the regulation." Although the amendment demands no formal plan, it warns university officials the one year "adjustment period is not a waiting period."

"In the total aspects of Title IX, an administration group has been working on a regular basis," explained the Tech president. "We're taking a look at all the aspects and evaluating it regularly."

"As far as women's sports," espoused Lavery, "we may be talking about four or five sports. I think interest and proportion are the two keys."

The president added, "A process assuring leadership and funding to the upgrade of sports is under consideration by the administrative committee studying women's sports."