



U N I V E R S I T Y O F
SOUTH CAROLINA[™]
B E A U F O R T

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***Ty Rietkovich will be available to the media the afternoon of 6/4/2010:
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**USCB Announces Interim Athletic Director Rietkovich will lead
Sand Shark Athletics and Coach First Softball Team**

Who: **Ty Rietkovich** appointed Interim Athletic Director at the University of South Carolina Beaufort effective June 16.

Dual

Roles: **To lead Sand Shark Athletics program**, now competing in the NAIA Sun Conference in Baseball, Cross Country, Distance Track and Golf.

To develop the Sand Shark softball program beginning NAIA competition January 2012.

Career:

Ty's career in athletics spans 30 years, including college, high school, semi-professional and competitive travel team experience in a variety of sports. Most recently he has served as Executive Director for the Angels Girls Fast pitch Softball Organization of Southeast Georgia, the 2006 Under16 ASA Southern National Champions. The association will have 19 softball players playing for college teams during the 2010-11 academic year.

The new position is a promotion for Coach Rietkovich, who has served as Director of Athletic Marketing for USCB during the past two years. Other leadership roles he has held in sports management include Executive Director for the Southern Star Softball Showcases and South Georgia ASA Softball and fundraising consultant with Great American Opportunities for 10 years.

In addition, Ty has served as the Director of Athletic Marketing for USCB Athletics for the past 2 years and has been employed as a

fundraising consultant with Great American Opportunities for the past 10 years,

A native of West Columbia, SC, Coach Rietkovich played football at the University of South Carolina from 1980-1983, was a graduate assistant under Coach Joe Morrison at USC from 1984-1986, and served as Head Football Coach and Athletic Director at Groves High School in Savannah, GA from 1989 to 1996.

Comments:

Chancellor Jane Upshaw:

“USCB is very proud to have this experienced athletic administrator and softball coach become a member of our team. He knows USCB, having served as our athletics marketing lead. And, USCB knows the excellent quality of his work and the intensity of his commitment to the success of Sand Shark athletics.”

Coach:

“It is both an honor and a privilege to be named the Interim Athletic Director and first Head Women’s Softball Coach at USCB. Kim Abbott did an outstanding job getting Sand Shark Athletics off to a strong start and I look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead as we take the next steps forward to support this important aspect of university life at USCB. Of course, we rely on our region’s support as we move forward to build a full complement of athletic teams and facilities at USCB.”

“The most exciting challenge a coach can have, is to start a program from the ground up. I am very fortunate to have my good friend and USCB Head Men’s Baseball Coach Rick Sofield to show me how he brought men’s baseball to such a competitive level so quickly over the past two years. We will begin immediately recruiting the very best athletes possible for our first softball team, which will complete in the spring of 2012. I am thankful to join program with strong community supporters who have been key to making Sand Shark Athletics so successful so quickly.”

Family:

Ty’s wife, Patty Rietkovich, is Executive Officer for the Homebuilders Association of Greater Savannah. They have two children. Katie, 19, is a freshman at the University of Georgia on a softball scholarship. Caroline, 15, attends South Effingham High School



ABOUT USCB SAND SHARK ATHLETICS: The University of South Carolina Beaufort announced its intention to start intercollegiate athletics in March of 2007 and joined the Sun Conference of the NAIA. The team mascot, the Sand Shark, was unveiled January 2008. Teams now competing include baseball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's distance track, and men's and women's golf. Softball will begin in January 2012. Teams and individuals from all teams have competed successfully in regional and national contests. In 2010, the men's golf team was 4th in the nation; the women's golf team was 7th in the nation. For more information, please visit www.uscbathletics.com online or call the university's Sports Information Director at 843.208.8067.

ABOUT USCB:

The University of South Carolina Beaufort (USCB) is a senior institution of the University of South Carolina system serving the southeast coast of Georgia and South Carolina. The university's two campuses, located on the waterfront in historic Beaufort, S.C. and at the gateway to Hilton Head Island in Bluffton, S.C., serve a diverse student body of 1700. USCB offers students an exceptional place to learn and live in an environment focused on growth, preservation and opportunity. For more information about The University of South Carolina Beaufort, please visit www.uscb.edu online or call the university's Office of Advancement at 843.208.8240.