

Clemson may add women's golf team

School schedules
announcement

By Ed McGranahan

emcgrana@tigersnow.com

Women's golf, championed by athletic director Terry Don Phillips and men's coach Larry Penley, is expected to become an intercollegiate sport at Clemson University today.

An afternoon news conference has been scheduled "for a major announcement concerning the school's golf program."

Penley would be named director of golf and supervise both teams similarly to Clemson director of track and field Lawrence Johnson. An additional coach would be hired to join Jordan Byrd, an assistant to Penley for six years.

The team is expected to be ready for competition by 2013.

Adding a program does not require a vote of the Clemson Board of Trustees, but chair David Wilkins said last month that adding a women's program "certainly makes sense."

After Penley visited with trustees Friday in Charleston, promising to campaign if necessary, Wilkins said the athletic department would have an announcement early this week.

The bungalow at the Walker Course which has served as the base for the men's team will be expanded and remodeled as the home for the women's team.

The men are moving into a 6,600-square-foot, \$2.6 million building that will carry Penley's name.

Penley and Byrd have also assembled the first blocks to begin recruiting. A fully funded program would offer six scholarships.