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Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Adds Women’s Soccer
National search underway for coach to build fledgling Islanders program

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi announced today that Islanders Athletics will add women’s soccer to its programs, giving the school 15 varsity teams competing in NCAA sports.

“The excitement generated by the latest World Cup competition shows that soccer is rapidly gaining popularity in the United States, especially among younger fans,” said Dr. Flavius Killebrew, president of Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. “That’s especially true in South Texas where soccer is played in the schools, and also as a lifetime sport by many adults.”

Women’s soccer is the first varsity sport to be added to Islanders Athletics since the University restarted its intercollegiate athletics program prior to the 1999-2000 school year. According to Scott Lazenby, interim director of Athletics, a nationwide search is underway for a coach to build the fledgling program.

“We’re excited to add women’s soccer to our athletics program,” Lazenby said. “This area has a tremendous number of talented prospective student athletes playing soccer, and we believe we can be quite competitive very quickly. Because of the sport’s popularity in Corpus Christi, we also expect it to be a big draw with our fans.”

The team will play at a facility on the new Momentum Campus off Nile Drive, just west of the main University campus. Construction of the facility, which features a track and field complex in addition to the soccer field, is scheduled to begin in January 2012.

-A&M-Corpus Christi-