Board releases Dietzel's contract

BY DEBE GREENWAY AND PATRICK TYLER

Coach Paul Dietzel's contract with USC was made public last night by the USC Board of Trustees in response to persistent requests by Columbia Newspapers Inc. and on advice from state Atty. Gen. Daniel McLeod.

The disclosure of the contract terms was a result of the Freedom of Information Act and that they are therefore open to public inspection and copied the terms of that law. (See GAMECOCK Feb. 5.)

Long range ramifications of the ruling take a much broader scope than just revealing the terms of one man's contract released to the GAMECOCK includes a copy of the 1969 agreement which provides for an annual salary of $31,500 through 1979. It was re-negotiated in April 1971 and extended to 1982.

The present contract calls for an annual salary of $36,112 and includes agreements outside the University for television and radio productions relating to football games, ---permission for Mrs. Dietzel to accompany the coach on all team trips.

In addition to these benefits the agreement allows Dietzel to "get out" of the contract if could not be arranged.

It is speculated that Dietzel receives $1500 to $2000 for the coaching of the football team for the University radio station WIS-TV.

A group called Concerned Supporters of Dietzel were in the meeting last year raising questions along these lines.

Salary Terms

Salary is currently $36,112 paid in twelve monthly assignments.

Additional benefits are:

1. An expense account amounting to six percent of annual salary.
2. A bonus for participation in bowl games amounting to ten percent of annual salary.
3. Second priority to the University plane.
4. Permission to negotiate separate agreements for radio and television.
5. Permission for Mrs. Dietzel to accompany the team on road trips.

At two year intervals, if contract terms cannot be agreed upon, the University remains bound to the existing contract, while Dietzel is no longer legally bound.

One of the long terms effects of this controversy, will be more and more incidents of this kind, there will be more and more rulings that will lead to more and more open meetings.

BY DEBE GREENWAY

In the statement quoted by The State, Marchant said: "This action is taken after a majority of the board gave their approval. This was accomplished by telephone polling on Tuesday and Wednesday, and after a majority of the executive committee of the board so recommended at the meeting on Monday."

Part of the delay as explained by University officials came because several of the board members had never seen the document and requested to see them before voting.

The contract states that Dietzel is "completely responsible to and only to the chief administrative officer (President Thomas F. Jones) of the University of South Carolina."

One of the long-term effects of this controversy according to Dr. Reid Montgomery of the USC College of Journalism, "will be more and more incidents of this kind, there will be more and more rulings that will lead to more and more open meetings." See DIETZEL'S, Page 3