## THE EPISTEMOLOGICAL JUSTIFICATION OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ADVISEMENT PROGRAMS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

or

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO IN THE FIRST PLACE!

By

Thomas F. Pawlowski Union County College

Recognizing the contribution of intercollegiate athletics to undergraduate education, Union County College feels a growing responsibility to provide support services for its student-athletes. The common purpose of these services is to develop the athlete as a complete individual.

The Academic Advisement Program for Student-Athletes at Union County College is based on three assumptions:

- A person who makes a <u>commitment</u> to a sport and is willing to devote the long hours necessary to strive for excellence in that sport can also show that same commitment to their education.
- A person who is <u>competitive</u> on court, track, mat, course or field can also be competitive in the classroom.
- Striving for excellence in both athletics <u>and</u> academics builds character that leads to success in life.

The role of the Academic Advisor to Athletes is to assist the student-athlete in achieving these three C's by:

- Accurate scheduling that does not cause conflict between athletic events (games, practice) and academic responsibilities...while leaving time necessary for study.
- Consistent evaluation of progress toward graduation.
- Career, academic and personal counseling on a regular basis.