



## ***For Immediate Release***

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# **Coach Mike Kandler named GCSC Athletic Director and Coach Rooney Scovel to serve as Associate AD**

**Panama City, FL** – Athletics is a critical component to the full collegiate experience at Gulf Coast State College. An athletic program's success depends on the coaching staff and athletic director, and both Mike Kandler, Head Baseball Coach, and Rooney Scovel, Head Women's Basketball Coach, know a few things about success. With the fall 2018 sports schedule getting closer, GCSC is making the dual announcement of the appointment of Kandler as the new Athletic Director and Scovel as the Associate AD. The changes are administrative in nature and each will still continue as the head coach of their respective teams.

"I am excited for the opportunity," remarked Kandler. "Coach Scovel and I will continue to work closely in order to best serve the College and all of the athletic teams. I am optimistic that we can keep up the tremendous level of success that we have demonstrated in the past, both athletically as well as academically."

"I am truly thankful for the opportunity to be a part of the Wellness/Athletics administrative staff," said Scovel. "The change in organizational structure two years ago resulted in all of our staff members taking on more responsibilities within the department. I believe our team has proved this to be a very effective structure and will continue to do so as Coach Kandler and I 'swap' administrative positions. He will do a great job as the new athletic director and I feel very confident that he will lead this department to great success."

"Rooney Scovel has been as great an athletic director as she has been a women's basketball coach at Gulf Coast," said Dr. John Holdnak, GCSC President. "However, her fiercely competitive nature as a coach, along with a strong desire to spend more time with family at this point in time in her life, meant that something had to give. When you are as successful as she has been in her career, you reach a point



where you get to pick and choose where you find the greatest happiness, and spend your time and energy there. I have known Mike Kandler since I was the College's AD back in the early 1990s, and have a great deal of trust in his administrative abilities. He has my full support as he transitions from the #2 to the #1 spot in the department."

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