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**Media Release**

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**College Suspends Athletics Program**

At the regular meeting of the Blue Ridge Community College Board of Trustees on Monday, College President Molly A. Parkhill recommended the Board suspend the College's intercollegiate athletics program. This came after she stated last January that she would conduct a thorough review of the men's baseball and women's volleyball programs at Blue Ridge. The study was prompted by the inability to field teams in both sports for 2009-2010.

Dr. Parkhill stated that her recommendation to suspend was based upon the growing challenge of generating revenue for a quality athletics program in the current economy. She also mentioned the present difficulty of recruiting student athletes who were truly committed to academic success. Students, faculty and staff were also polled to gauge their level of support for the program.

The 15-member Board of Trustees voted unanimously to accept the President's recommendation and suspend the intercollegiate athletics program indefinitely.

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