

ACC Awaiting TV Decision

From Associated Press
And Observer Staff Reports

If the courts permit, Raycom Sports, Inc., of Charlotte and Capitol Broadcasting Co., of Raleigh will broadcast ACC football.

Raycom announced that ACC commissioner Bob James and ACC athletic directors have agreed to a contingency plan that would give the Raycom and Capitol group live telecast rights to ACC football games.

In September, Georgia and Oklahoma challenged the NCAA's exclusive control of NCAA football television rights. Denver's 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in May upheld a lower-court decision to permit colleges to negotiate their own contracts. The court, however, sent the case back to the lower court. Its job is to determine any boundaries to be put on the schools.

There is speculation a decision will be made this summer.

Raycom and Capitol have not announced specific plans. Which games will be featured, which television stations will carry them and how much money the group will pay for the right "depends on what the court ruling is," said Ken Haines, vice president of network operations.

Haines did say the games would be seen in all ACC areas, from Maryland to Georgia.

Raycom has a similar agreement with Jefferson Productions of Charlotte to televise live ACC basketball games.