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Let’s Pay College Athletes what they

With so much money in the NCAA how can a University not give the athletes compensation for bringing in all the revenue, yes you are probably thinking that they get scholarships for the sport which is just like getting money but, most of the time the scholarships the athlete will receive is not enough to pay for college and will only hurt them in the long run. Most athletes end up being worth more than the college tuition and room and board. In Division 1 football programs the 15 highest paid coaches are making 53.4 million dollars, and the athletes that do most of the work do not see a dollar out of it or it becomes one of the biggest problems in the NCAA, under table pay-offs. All of these things can be fixed very easily by allowing college coaches and the universities to give some of their players a little compensation for all that they have done for that college program. don’t you think it is time we look into helping out these players, who end up giving 50 hours a week for their sport, on top of having class. It is one of the hardest things to do, on average a day in a college football players life consist of him waking up at 5:30 in the morning working out, then a practice shortly followed by a couple classes then back to practice. That ends up being pretty rigorous, so when will these kids find time to try and find a job to pay back these huge student loans, probably never, lets pay these student athletes, it can only help.

There is an abundant amount of money circulating around the NCAA, “between College Basketball and Football programs they generate more than $6 billion in annual revenue“ (ESPN The Mag). The players who keep this money coming in do not see a dime of it and if they do then it is a violation of NCAA rules. This is why most of America agrees, College athletes should be paid. How can this not be a no brainier, they are the reason these colleges are making the money, Most of the time the athletes do not even get enough money out of scholarships to cover the cost of tuition, which for some families is not an option so they resort on their son or daughter to get a job, but, D1 regulations say other wise and on top of that, coaches do not allow their players to get jobs. So when do we finally start paying the players and cutting out of the 6 billion dollars to help those who cant afford it but, are still needed on the team. “This shows how colleges are using the players as un-paid employees of the university and how they are not, and can not get help financially” (Taylor). Universities do not pay their athletes because it is a NCAA violation. Some might argue, well the scholarships they are getting are plenty of money, well in fact most of the time a D1 college athlete will need financial help because the scholarship they got was just not enough money and will still have to pay a good bit of it off. But, D1 athletes can’t get jobs, this causes a lot of money build up and can end up hurting the player financially in the 4 years of playing that college sport. This is now affecting many families around the nation.

College athletes should be paid for playing for the university; D1 college athletes are not allowed to get a job, which makes it hard for some under privileged families to pay for college, they are not receiving any financial compensation and, this would solve the NCAAs biggest problem, under table violations. “The player, if good enough ends up being worth more that the tuition and room payments” ( Allen). Paying college athletes would solve most of the major problems in the NCAA.

 The average amount a D1 scholarship amount is 17,000, on average a college cost $28,500 per year in tuition and fees. That leaves 11,000 dollars to be made up, without getting a job. Between the 15 best coaches in Division 1 football there total salary was 53.4 million dollars, the total amount 13,877 D1 football players make, zero. Turner Broadcasting and CBS signed a 14-year, $10.8 billion deal for the television rights to the NCAA men’s basketball national championship tournament, and what did they players get from this? Nothing. If you aren’t going to pay the players then why not let them endorse products, maybe like the jersey that the local bookstore sells with their last name on the back of it, nope, nothing from that. “If the student as athlete can find a way, he/she should be able to endorse products, to have paid-speaking gigs, to sell memorabilia” (Slack) They are employees of the university, employees who are working for free, spending up to 50 hours a week with there team, and not receiving any financial help from it. This makes it very hard for underprivileged athletes to continue to attend the university, and puts a lot of pressure on the family to help paying it off, since the players aren’t allowed to get a job. When a player is not well off like some student-athletes then that is when scandals happen, the under the table pay-offs. This is when the NCAA is violating laws, but paying the players a small amount keeps them from being in trouble, or allowing them to get a job. This would help them when trying to pay off college and pay back money for student loans; this would help the university and the player’s family. “If the student as athlete can find a way, he/she should be able to endorse products, to have paid-speaking gigs, to sell memorabilia, as Allen Sack, the author and professor at the college of business at the University of New Haven has suggested in recent years. The best college athletes in the two revenue-producing sports have always been worth much more than tuition, room, board and books. The best football and basketball players in the Big Ten have produced to the degree that a television network has become the model for every conference in America, a network worth at least tens of millions of dollars to the member institutions. Yet, no player can benefit from that work. The players have become employees of the universities and conferences as much as students -- employees with no compensation, which not only violates common decency but perhaps even the law”

 This is true as well, most of the players are worth more than the tuition of a school, and some players will be making millions of dollars by the time they are 22 and are getting used for college football. Basketball players make just the same amount and some will become the most famous players to play the game and they are not even getting a free hamburger because of NCAA rules. if you are a good enough college athlete for people to want to give you free things then why not take it. The NCAA won’t let them get free things because it will look bad? This article is contradicting to my stand on the topic, the article said that if a car dealership wants to give an athlete a free car, that is the car dealerships decision and shouldn’t affect the players choice.

Andrew Luck the QB for the Stanford Cardinal football team ended up being worth more than his scholarship actually gave him, if he were to make money he would be making more than what the college was supplying for his scholarship. That does not include the endorsements he could have signed with. He would have been making an abundant amount of money, actually so much money, he was worth more than the college was. He had surpassed the cost of tuition and room and board by his junior year. He was seeing none of the money from it at all though. This also happened with A.J. Green a receiver for the Georgia Bulldogs. He was not making any money and needed some; he decided to sell his jersey to a fan that was willing to pay thousands of dollars for it. He was suspended from games and was fined by the NCAA, for selling something that had his own name on it and was his property.

College athletes should be paid is because they are the kids who bring in all the revenue, would people show up to an empty stadium to watch nothing? No these athletes are the reason 100,000 people show up on Saturdays and, to watch their teams basketball games. If they weren’t to play the university would lose over half of the revenue they bring in, plus the coaches are getting paid an absurd amount,

Urban Meyer the new head coach of Ohio State is getting paid 24 million dollars over 6 years of coaching. How can we be ok for a player who can not pay off student loans, not get any financial help from the college he plays for, or take an endorsement given to him, because if they do it’s a NCAA violation. Which then helps my point of saying paying college athletes keep the NCAA from speculations of under the table pay offs. Under-table payoffs like allegations that were reported about Auburn Cam Newton. His father was given 180,000 dollars to have his son play for them. Terrell Pryor, Quarterback was kicked off the Ohio State football team for taking endorsements from a car dealership. Running back Reggie Bush was stripped from his Heisman title 7 years after he was chosen as the winner, for accepting money from USC. The University of Miami had an old staff member give hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash to Miami players and the service of prostitutes and entertainment at his million dollar homes and yachts. He also said he arranged bounties on opposing players like Florida’s Tim Tebow and Florida State’s Chris Rix. These could all be demolished if a little bit of money each week was given to these players, the colleges and universities with all this money floating around would be completely unaffected.

College athletes receiving compensation for playing and bringing in all the revenue for the university would only be a plus. With 6 billion dollars floating around the NCAA, they should be paid. In no way should this make college sports become like professional sports, but they should receive a bit of money for bringing in all the money, fans, and sponsors for the college. Without the athletes bringing in 100,000 fans to the stadium each Saturday, the NCAA would be making only a quarter of what they do now, so don’t you think maybe the university is relying on them to much? Using them as their free employees? You decide for yourself but they are getting used and getting much too little in return, considering some of these athletes will be worth more than the tuition and room that they are getting for free from a scholarship. This is a ongoing argument even today people are still bringing up the fact they are not getting any money at all and need to start getting help. Colleges should look back and see where most of there money is coming from and take a long hard look at who is bringing in that money, that will find that it is the college athletes who are not getting one dime from these universities.

**Works Cited**

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Allen says yes college athletes should be paid because they have earned that right and if they are going to do it they should make it a trial run for them by paying them a low amount.

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Griffith says athletes should not be paid because it would make it to pro like and not makes it worth playing and wouldn’t want to see that.

Nocera, Joe “Lets Start Paying College Athletes” NY Times: December 30 2011 Dean Robinson

This says we should for sure pay them because there is so much money circulating in the NCAA why wouldn’t we be able to give them some money

Wilbon,Micheal “College Athletes Deserve to be Paid” ESPN the Magazine: July 18 2011

Wilbon says “there is 11 billion dollars in NCAA because of the players, not because of anything else”.

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This is an article that is refusing to pay college athletes and how it will change college sports forever and how terrible it will be for colleges to do.