

Advocacy Update

May 16 – May 20, 2011

Racial Implications of “Amateurism” (May 16) – This is a summary of an article that will be appearing in the *Texas Review of Entertainment & Sports Law*. Essentially, what the article suggests is that the current structure imposed by the NCAA that limits the amount of scholarship dollars that can be distributed to student-athletes and prevents them from receiving actual compensation for their participation negatively impacts African-Americans disproportionately. Upon a review of the racial composition of student-athletes and college administrators and coaches at the top men's basketball and football programs, the researchers determined that the student-athletes in these programs are disproportionately African-American, while the majority of administrators and coaches are of European American descent. Since amateurism regulations do not apply to school administrators, the large revenues generated by these sports flow towards the administrators who are primarily of European American descent and away from student-athletes who are disproportionately African-American. [Read more.](#)

Paying Athletes – The Debate Continues (May 20) – More and more conference commissioners are expressing interest in re-examining the existing rules surrounding scholarships for student-athletes. The issue in question revolves around finding an appropriate balance between monetarily supporting student-athletes through their collegiate careers and maintaining their status as amateur athletes. [Read more.](#)