

## Advocacy Update October 24-October 29

**COLLEGE ATHLETES' RIGHTS: Some athletes lose their single-year scholarships to better players** (October 23)— When student-athletes sign their letters of commitment, most did so with the idea that they would be attending and playing for that institution for the duration of their collegiate careers. However, scholarships are only one year agreements subject to renewal. [Read More](#)

**College athletes: TV revenue should go toward educational costs** (October 24)—More than 300 men's basketball and football players signed a petition organized by the National College Players Association (NCPA). The players had five requests including a request to for schools to pay all costs associated athlete's sports related medical expenses. [Read More](#)

**Student-athletes ask; will NCAA listen?** (October 25)—The student-athlete voice has remained muted throughout conference realignments and other major happenings within collegiate athletics. With their recent petition, Dana O'Neil wonders if this will be the beginning of student athletes becoming more vocal. She also ponders if their voices will be heard. [Read More](#)

**Oral Roberts to join Southland** (October 25) — Oral Roberts University announced on Tuesday that they would be leaving the Summit League and joining the Southland Conference. University President, Mark Rutland said that the school was not looking to leave the Summit League but among other factors, the Southland was a better geographical fit. [Read More](#)

**Finding proper alignment: As money in college football grows, so do fans' questions about ESPN's credibility** (October 26)—On Monday, following NCAA President Mark Emmert's visit with the Knight Commission, LSU Chancellor Michael Martin joked, "I think we could end up with two enormous conferences, one called ESPN and the one called Fox." Laughable, though in a very real sense it articulates most people's view that the two networks are influencing conference realignment. His statement is not isolated either. BC athletic director Gene DeFillipo, in a statement that was later retracted, made a very similar comment regarding ESPN's involvement in the recent additions to the ACC. Kelly McBride of the Poynter Institute, which is serving in an ombudsman capacity for ESPN, prompted by Martin's witty remarks, wrote this article stating that as long as ESPN can preserve journalistic separation and credibility, the critics will be kept at bay. [Read More](#)

**DI Board adopts improvements in academic standards and student-athlete support** (October 27)—On Thursday the Division I Board of Directors approved reforms dealing with cost of attendance, academic progress rates, scholarships, the penalty structure, and recruiting. These changes stem from the August Presidential Retreat and are expected to be the first of many. [Read More](#)

**West Virginia to join Big 12 next season** (October 28)—In a much anticipated move, West Virginia has been formally accepted into the Big 12. In its released statement, the Big 12 stated that they will remain at ten members, including West Virginia and leaving Missouri off the list. [Read More](#)