

# Outlining The Need For Change In College Athletics

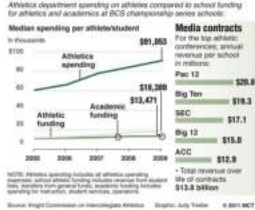


College athletics have always been an integral part of university life. They bring pride, unity, and entertainment to students, alumni, and communities. However, as times have evolved, so too have the challenges facing college sports. This article aims to shed light on the need for change in college athletics, addressing key issues, and proposing potential solutions.

## **The Commercialization of College Sports**

In recent years, college athletics have become increasingly commercialized. The focus on revenue generation has led to a shift in priorities, with universities, coaches, and administrators prioritizing profitability over the educational and personal development of student-athletes. This shift has sparked debates regarding compensation, exploitation, and fairness.

### Money and college football



## Untethered: Outlining The Need For Change in College Athletics

by Tom Hickman (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

- Language : English
- File size : 2618 KB
- Text-to-Speech : Enabled
- Screen Reader : Supported
- Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
- Word Wise : Enabled
- Print length : 88 pages
- Lending : Enabled



One of the primary concerns associated with commercialization is the exploitation of student-athletes. While universities can profit immensely from the performances of these athletes, they often receive little in return. Scholarships may cover tuition and some expenses, but considering the time commitment and physical toll required for their sport, many argue that further compensation or benefits are necessary.



Furthermore, the focus on profitability has led to a widening gap between the revenues generated by college sports and the educational resources available to non-athletic students. Many universities invest a significant portion of their budgets into sports programs, leaving fewer funds for academics, scholarships, and other essential resources. This disparity raises questions about the purpose and values of higher education.

### **The Pressure on Student-Athletes**

College athletics can put intense pressure on student-athletes, often overshadowing their academic pursuits and personal well-being. Balancing rigorous training schedules, games, and travel with academic responsibilities can be overwhelming. Additionally, the constant scrutiny and high expectations can take a toll on the mental health of these young individuals. As a result, cases of burnout, anxiety, and depression among student-athletes are on the rise.



It is crucial to address this issue and ensure that student-athletes' overall well-being is prioritized. Support systems, such as mental health counseling, time management assistance, and flexible academic schedules, should be provided to mitigate the detrimental effects of the intense athletic environment.

## **Proposed Solutions for Change**

Addressing the challenges faced by college athletics requires a multi-faceted approach. Here are some potential solutions that can contribute to a much-needed change:

### **1. Fair Compensation and Benefits**

Implementing a fair compensation system for student-athletes is one way to address the exploitation issue. Providing additional benefits, such as healthcare coverage, lifetime educational scholarships, and financial literacy programs, would also ensure their well-being beyond their playing years.

## **2. Balancing Academics and Athletics**

Colleges should strive to create an environment where student-athletes can excel academically while pursuing their athletic ambitions. Implementing academic support programs, granting appropriate time for studying, and offering tutoring resources can help strike a balance and ensure their success in both realms.

## **3. Enhanced Sports Governance**

The governance of college sports should be reevaluated to prioritize the educational mission of universities and protect the interests of student-athletes. Transparency, accountability, and fair regulations should be established to ensure that the focus remains on developing well-rounded individuals rather than solely generating revenue.

## **4. Mental Health Support**

Colleges must invest in mental health resources specifically tailored for student-athletes. This includes providing access to sports psychologists, implementing mental health awareness programs, and dismantling the stigma surrounding seeking help.

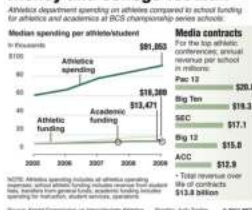
## **Embracing Change for a Better Future**

Change is necessary for the future of college athletics. By addressing the commercialization, prioritizing student-athletes' well-being, and implementing comprehensive solutions, universities can create an environment that truly

supports the growth, development, and success of both academically and athletically inclined students.

It is essential for stakeholders to acknowledge the need for change and work collaboratively to bring about the necessary reforms. With the right emphasis on fairness, education, and well-being, college athletics can continue to thrive and inspire while maintaining their true purpose within the realm of higher education.

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In every state in America, the highest-paid state employee is a men's college basketball or football coach. The most disturbing piece of this statistic isn't even that these coaches are paid at levels astronomically higher than their academic counterparts, but that they earn these salaries off the backs of free laborers: college athletes. Some say the full coverage of college attendance is compensation in it of itself — but this compensation pales in comparison to both the money generated by intercollegiate athletics and the salaries of the coaches.

The discrepancy in salaries is only the tip of the iceberg in regard to the double standards and injustices perpetrated against Division I athletes. Untethered:

Outlining the need for change in College Athletics, combines the perspectives of athletic departments, university administrators, and fans to paint a new picture of intercollegiate athletics. The result tears down the NCAA's idea of amateurism and exposes its lack of creativity in compensating Division I athletes. Paul Aklilu's first book will change how you see the NCAA — and show you how the NCAA should and could change.



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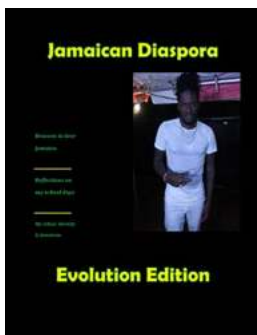
WATERCOLOR DOG: #156



*Cross Stitch Pattern*

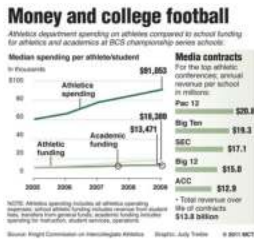
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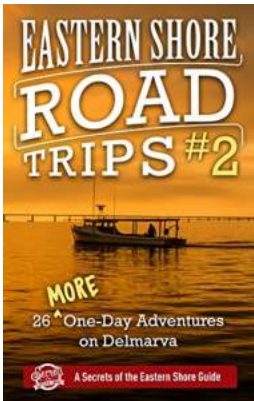
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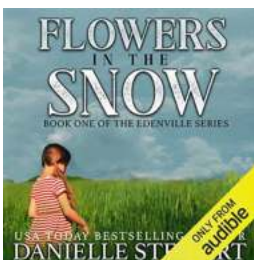
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