

## Why Play Without the Pay? by Nash Chillura

The confetti settles, another big win put in the books for another college program. The players worked hard and performed without error and the coaches, the coaches sat on the sideline calling plays that would only work with their athletes. And what do the coaches get for the big win? The coaches get bonuses, hundreds of thousands of dollars are given to the coach and not one athlete gets money for the big win. The players bring in so much revenue for their programs, but they don't get even a little bit of spending money for their abilities. Athletes in the NCAA deserve pay, they earn it and deserve it more than anyone.

Think about this for a second, the players make money but they don't get any of it. They put in the work to win, but the coaches get all the money. It's not fair to the athletes playing to the best of their abilities to win. Sooner or later the players are going to open their eyes and realize that they are basically being scammed. They are going to stop working hard because it's not worth it. When a coach wins a bowl game or nowadays a "playoff game", he gets lots of extra money because of the win. The players deserve a bonus for the win, that's the only way it will be fair towards the players.

Alumni want what is best for the team, they give players money to play which is illegal. Recruiting season for the next year of play is where it really hits hard on universities. Alumni give high school students money to come to their university and play with the university not knowing and this is highly illegal. I say let them do it. If there is a four star recruit looking at the school it should be allowed to bid on the players. This would cut down on suspensions for the program and the recruiting violations would dissipate. People get caught doing this nowadays and they get the whole program suspended making this the most unnecessary rule ever made in the NCAA. I mean you are going to make money off the kid so might as well pay him in advance. The poor kid might go to your school make them a lot of money then gets payed nothing. So here you have a kid worn down from football, most likely broke and if he's not on a winning team the odds of him making it to the NFL are very slim.

Many say that college athletes get paid through the scholarships that they receive, that's a valid point, but it's not true. Each college football player is worth about \$121,000 per year and basketball player is worth about \$265,000 a year, but these numbers are for very successful football or basketball programs. These players are worth well over their tuition. The athletes should be given spending money, now I'm not saying \$100,000 or even \$50,000, but if you were to give a player \$20,000 dollars a year by the end of four years he would have made \$80,000. But sadly this isn't the case about half of the college football players in the nation are below the poverty line when they return back home. They have a lot to offer to their football program but when they go home they have nothing to offer. If you are a college athlete you don't have time to get a job and a lot of them aren't smart enough, so they plan on making it to the big leagues and if that doesn't happen then who knows what they will end up doing.

The NCAA overall is scamming these kids and they are well aware of it, but people are just now starting to realise how idiotic it is that they don't pay the kids. They are holding this off because this is a war that they know they will not win. All the NCAA cares about is the money they make and they do make a lot of it. They should give a portion of that money to the athletes. They care about the well being of their players when it comes to concussions, injuries, or possession of drugs or alcohol. These kids might be selling drugs to get by. The NCAA needs to pay their athletes.