

The NCAA News



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Federal judge backs NCAA position on drug tests

The NCAA's drug-testing program does not violate a student's privacy rights, a Federal judge has ruled.

U.S. District Judge Walter McGovern's decision February 25 also upheld the University of Washington's right to enforce the drug-test program.

The challenge to the NCAA's drug-testing program was brought by track athlete Betsy O'Halloran, 19.

McGovern said, "The invasion of

her privacy interest by the specimen-collection procedures of the drug-testing program is outweighed" by the NCAA's interest in protecting student-athletes' health, reducing temptations to use drugs and ensuring fair competitions.

"I think the decision is correct in all particulars and accurately stated the law," said John J. Kitchin, NCAA legal counsel in Kansas City, Missouri.

The American Civil Liberties Union, which filed the suit on behalf of

O'Halloran and another athlete who later joined the case, will likely appeal to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, said Kathleen Taylor of the ACLU.

"It's a defeat in a way," O'Halloran said. "But I think we've got a great chance in the 9th Circuit. I really don't think his arguments are very good."

O'Halloran initially filed suit against the university for its mandatory drug-testing program, and a King County Superior Court judge

ruled in July that the university program was a violation of both state and U.S. constitutional privacy rights.

But that oral ruling was never formally entered; the NCAA was ordered to be a defendant in the case, which was then moved to Federal court.

Last month, the university dropped the mandatory aspect of its drug-testing program, revising it so that testing was voluntary and required only for those athletes

suspected of drug use.

The claim against the university program was then dismissed, with the claim against the NCAA program and the university's participation in the program remaining.

Washington athletes still are required to sign a drug-testing consent form required by the NCAA.

Milo R. Lude, the university's athletics director, said O'Halloran would be welcomed back if she complies with the NCAA rules and

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Raymond M. Burse



Phyllis Howlett

Programs recommended for minorities, women

The NCAA Council in its April 18-20 meeting will consider several recommendations to enhance opportunities for ethnic minorities and women in intercollegiate athletics.

The recommendations were sent to the Council by the Administrative Committee after it considered several proposals by the Special Council Subcommittee to Review Minority Opportunities in Intercollegiate Athletics and the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics.

Raymond M. Burse, president of Kentucky State University, chairs the Council subcommittee, and the women's athletics committee is chaired by Phyllis Howlett of the Big Ten Conference.

The Administrative Committee has approved the creation of a position in the Association's national office to coordinate and administer an ethnic minority enhancement program, which the Council subcommittee has recommended be established.

The program would consist of an internship program in the national office for minority college graduates, a vita bank at the national office of qualified job candidates and a post-graduate scholarship program for minorities interested in sports administration.

The women's athletics committee has requested that the internship program be expanded to include women and that the length of the internship be nine to 12 months, that women be included in the vita-bank proposal, that 50 percent of

the previously approved funds for postgraduate scholarships in sports administration be allocated to women, and that a subcommittee of representatives of the Committee on Women's Athletics and of the Council subcommittee be appointed to monitor the administration of the minority enhancement program.

The subcommittee on minorities has recommended internships at the national office that would last about 14 weeks, but it agrees that the program could be extended with

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Final Four history parallels country's growth

(The fourth in a 10-part series commemorating the 50th anniversary of the NCAA Final Four)

The continental United States was much larger in the 1940s than it is today. It had nothing to do with geographical size. It had everything to do with being able to bridge those thousands of miles between East, Midwest and West.

Television was not part of every home then. Transcontinental air travel was for daredevils and military pilots, not vacationers and businessmen. Fast food was a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

And college basketball was largely isolated in various regions, where everyone thought they had the best players and teams.

The game was strong along the Eastern seaboard from New York to Washington. Midwestern states

like Indiana, Kansas and Oklahoma were considered hotbeds, as were Oregon, Washington and northern California in the West.

But teams in those areas had no way of judging just how they matched up against others. Intersectional play was infrequent and usually meant teams from the West and Midwest traveling long days on trains to the East to play in college double-headers at New York's Madison Square Garden.

"You didn't have any idea who was the best team in the country," said longtime DePaul University coach Ray Meyer, who retired in 1984. "Maybe one team from the West would come east, and then all the teams out there would gauge how well that team did against Eastern teams against how well they had played that team. You compared a lot of scores."

more interaction with delegates than has been possible in the previous two Forum sessions, in June 1987 and January 1988.

"Each of the first two programs featured a single topic, and that naturally led to something of a lecture approach," Sliger said. "With three distinct topics this time, we can schedule open discussion of each before moving to the next one."

"When delegates preregister for the Forum, each will be assigned to one of the seven discussion groups," he explained. "Each group will have a 'convener' who will coordinate the discussion, and the seven 'conveners' then will submit a coordinated report from the 'breakout' sessions when the full group reconvenes."

Sliger also said each group will

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Format changed for June Forum; group discussion sessions planned

The format for the June 20-21 Presidents Commission National Forum in Orlando, Florida, has been changed to provide a half day for each of three topics and to include "breakout" discussion sessions in each half day.

Meeting February 26 in Atlanta, the Commission's Ad Hoc Committee on the National Forum agreed to extend the schedule for the June Forum to a full day June 20 and a half day June 21. Originally, the program was scheduled from 1 p.m. June 20 to 1 p.m. June 21.

The committee also decided that those attending will be divided into seven smaller groups for discussion of each of the three topics on the agenda—the NCAA membership structure, NCAA legislative and interpretative procedures, and the proper basis of financial aid for student-athletes.

"The Commission's executive committee and the NCAA Administrative Committee suggested to us that the original time schedule was not sufficient to cover adequately these three important topics," said Bernard F. Sliger, president of Florida State University and chair of the ad hoc committee. "They proposed that each topic be allotted approximately half a day, and we agreed."

Those same groups also urged the ad hoc committee to achieve

Ticket procedure for '89 tournament outlined

Ticket applications for the 1989 Division I Men's Basketball Final Four are being accepted until midnight April 15, 1988.

The 1989 Final Four will be held in the Kingdome, Seattle, Washington, April 1 and 3. Tickets will admit the bearer to two semifinal games April 1 and the championship game April 3. Tickets are \$55, \$40 or \$25. A \$1, nonrefundable, handling fee has been added to each order.

A ticket application is included in this issue of the News. Applications also may be obtained by writing NCAA Final Four Tickets, P.O. Box 1906, Mission, Kansas, 66201 or by calling 913/677-1989 Monday through Friday between the hours

of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Central time).

An official order form or a photocopy of same must be used to apply for tickets. A personal check for the correct amount, payable to the "NCAA Final Four," must accompany each form. Payments without application forms will not be accepted, and each payment must be accompanied by a separate application form. No application shall be accepted for more than four tickets. Please do not include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Applications received after midnight April 15, 1988, will be returned, unopened, to the sender. The NCAA will not make excep-

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Branch McCracken coached Indiana Hoosiers to 1940 NCAA title

Football fatalities in 1987 were at an 11-year low

Deaths directly due to participation in football during 1987 equaled the lowest number recorded in the past 11 years and were down sharply from the 1986 season, according to an annual report on football-injury research.

Four deaths—all at the high school level—were directly attributable to football last season, according to the latest Annual Survey of Football-Injury Research. Another five deaths—three in high schools and two in colleges—were reported as indirectly due to football.

During the 1986 season, a decade-high 11 deaths were directly attributed to football, while eight deaths were due indirectly to the sport.

The report was prepared by Frederick O. Mueller of the National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury Research at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and Richard D. Schindler, assistant director of the National Federation of State High School Associations. The annual study is conducted for the American Football Coaches Association, National Federation of State High School Associations and the NCAA.

Very low rate

Mueller and Schindler describe the number of directly related fatalities occurring in 1987 as "very low," considering that approximately 1.575 million people participated in the sport at the high school, college, sandlot, and professional and semi-professional levels.

New push on promotions is proposed

A new promotions package designed to increase awareness of NCAA championships and improve championships attendance was approved by the NCAA Communications Committee at its annual meeting February 23 in Kansas City.

The new plan, which includes five different promotion tiers, will go into effect for the 1988-89 championships season, if approved by the NCAA Executive Committee's Budget Subcommittee.

The new promotions package would include, among other items, television exposure for in-season women's basketball games and for the women's volleyball championship in Division I.

Two new features of the promotion plan would be the development of special video spots for selected championships and the provision of all promotional materials to a championships site six months before the event.

Promotional materials would include posters, premiums, radio spots and ticket trade-outs with local media. Every round of competition for each championship will be incorporated into the plan, including first- and second-round sites.

In other action, the committee:

- Voted to endorse a program of regional meetings with NCAA Executive Director Richard D. Schultz and student-athletes at member institutions.

- Suggested that the NCAA reinstitute regional media seminars.
- Recommended that the NCAA staff continue to attend meetings of member conferences and national organizations.

- Suggested that the NCAA be allowed to use photographs of eligible student-athletes in posters promoting NCAA championships.

The rate of directly related deaths per every 100,000 players was 0.25. Broken down, the rates are 0.30 in high school/junior high football and zero for college football.

Directly related deaths are defined as those resulting directly from participation in the fundamental skills of football (tackling, blocking, etc.). Indirect deaths are defined as fatalities caused by "systemic failure" as a result of exertion while participating in football (cardiac arrest, heat stroke, etc.), or by a complication that was secondary to a nonfatal injury.

The four directly related deaths recorded in 1987 equaled previous lows recorded in 1979 and 1983. The number of direct deaths has topped 10 only three times since rules were changed in 1976 to prohibit using the head as a primary and initial contact area for blocking and tackling. The number fell from 18 in 1976 to 10 in 1977, then fell to single figures before rising to 11 in 1986.

Two of the directly related deaths that occurred in 1987 resulted from head injuries and the other two resulted from neck injuries.

Games more hazardous

Mueller and Schindler also report that three of the direct deaths occurred during regularly scheduled games, compared to one in practice, and that three of the players suffered their injuries while tackling. The activity of the fourth player was unknown.

Two of the deaths occurred in September, one in October and one in November.

In addition to the deaths termed direct and indirect, four deaths were reported as not related to football. They involved a college player who collapsed while working out on his own and died from cardiac arrest; a college player who died after an asthma attack in his dormitory; a high school player who suffered cardiac arrest during minor knee

Fatalities Directly Due to Football

| Year | SANDLOT Direct | PRO AND SEMIPRO Direct | HIGH SCHOOL Direct | COLLEGE Direct | TOTAL Direct |
|---------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| **1931-1959 | 115 | 68 | 262 | 41 | 486 |
| 1960 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 14 |
| 1961 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 6 | 19 |
| 1962 | 6 | 1 | 12 | 0 | 19 |
| 1963 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 2 | 16 |
| 1964 | 4 | 1 | 21 | 2 | 29 |
| 1965 | 4 | 0 | 20 | 1 | 25 |
| 1966 | 4 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 24 |
| 1967 | 5 | 0 | 16 | 3 | 24 |
| 1968 | 4 | 1 | 26 | 5 | 36 |
| 1969 | 3 | 1 | 18 | 1 | 23 |
| 1970 | 3 | 0 | 23 | 3 | 29 |
| 1971 | 2 | 0 | 15 | 3 | 20 |
| 1972 | 3 | 1 | 16 | 2 | 22 |
| 1973 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 9 |
| 1974 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 1 | 11 |
| 1975 | 1 | 0 | 13 | 1 | 15 |
| 1976 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 18 |
| 1977 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 1 | 10 |
| 1978 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 9 |
| 1979 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 1980 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 9 |
| 1981 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 9 |
| 1982 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 9 |
| 1983 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| 1984 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 6 |
| 1985 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| 1986 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 1 | 11 |
| 1987 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| TOTALS | 172 | 75 | 594 | 80 | 921 |

* No study was made in 1942.

** Yearly totals available from past records.

surgery and died three months later, and a high school player who collapsed on a practice field and died due to reasons not related to football trauma.

"The authors of this research are convinced that the current rules (that) eliminate the head in blocking and tackling, the helmet research conducted by NOCSAE, excellent physical conditioning, and proper medical supervision have played the primary role in reducing fatalities and serious head and neck injuries in football," Mueller and Schindler state in the report.

They note that deaths related to head and cervical spine injuries

increased from 1965 to 1974 but fell after the 1976 rule changes outlawing such activities as butting, ramming and spearing.

"There is no doubt that the 1976 rule change has made a difference and that a continued effort should be made to keep the head out of the fundamentals of football," the authors write.

Proper conditioning exercises, fundamentals and equipment should be made part of that effort, and emphasis should be placed on the idea that a helmet should be regarded as a protective device rather than a weapon, according to Mueller and Schindler. Also,

coaches are urged to seek immediate medical attention and supervision for players who show any sign of head trauma.

Mueller and Schindler also urge increased vigilance for the problem of heat stroke, noting that it was the cause of 74 deaths from 1960 to 1987, compared to only five deaths from the survey's first year (1931) to 1959. One indirect death involving a high school player was attributed to heat stroke in 1987.

Other recommendations

The authors make several other recommendations based specifically on data collected during the 1987 football season:

- Mandatory medical examinations and medical histories should be taken before allowing an athlete to participate in football.

- All personnel concerned with training should emphasize proper, gradual and complete physical conditioning, with emphasis on neck-strengthening exercises.

- A physician should be present at all games and practice sessions.

- Personnel should be knowledgeable about problems and safety measures related to physical activity in hot weather.

- Institutions should try to retain an adequately prepared and qualified team trainer as a regular member of the faculty.

- Coaches, trainers, physicians, manufacturers, administrators and other groups interested in athletics medicine should maintain cooperative liaisons.

- Games rules and administrative regulations designed to protect the health of athletes should be enforced by administrators, coaches and officials.

- A renewed interest should be placed on employing well-trained personnel, providing excellent facilities, and securing the safest and best equipment possible.

- Research concerning safety in football should continue.

Legislative Assistance

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NCAA Bylaws 1-2 and 1-3— basketball contact and evaluation

The following is a summary of the provisions of Bylaws 1-2 and 1-3 for the sports of men's and women's basketball at Division I member institutions.

1988 Division I men's basketball contact and evaluation periods

January 1-February 7: Quiet period.

February 8-February 29: Evaluation period.

March 1-March 30: Contact and evaluation period.

March 31-April 5 (12 noon): Dead period (NCAA Final Four).

April 5 (12 noon)-April 11 (8 a.m.): Contact and evaluation period.

April 11 (8 a.m.)-April 13 (8 a.m.): Dead period.

April 13 (8 a.m.)-April 16: Contact and evaluation period.

April 17-July 9: Quiet period.

July 10-July 31: Evaluation period.

August 1-September 16: Quiet period.

September 17-October 7: Contact and evaluation period.

October 8-December 10: Quiet period.

December 11-December 31: Evaluation period.

Quiet Period—No off-campus contact or evaluation.

Dead Period—No on- or off-campus contact or evaluation.

[NOTE: Division I institutional staff members shall be limited to observing a maximum of four basketball contests in which a prospective student-athlete competes during any academic year. Observing a contest shall count as one of the four permissible observations of each prospective student-athlete on both teams. Any contest observed during the academic year in which a prospect participates against outside competition (e.g., involvement in a recreation league or all-star game) counts as one of the four permissible observations. Contests involving prospective student-athletes of fewer than five participants per team (e.g., one-on-one, three-on-three) or any activities conducted in conjunction with practice sessions do not count as observations for purposes of this legislation.]

1988 Division I women's basketball contact and evaluation periods

January 1-February 7: Quiet period.

February 8-February 29: Evaluation period (except in those states that play the high school basketball season in the fall or spring).

March 1-March 29: Contact and evaluation period (all states).

March 30-April 4 (12 noon): Dead period (no contact or evaluation—Division I Women's Basketball Championship).

April 4 (12 noon)-April 11 (8 a.m.): Contact and evaluation period (all

states).

April 11 (8 a.m.)-April 15 (8 a.m.): Dead period (no contact or evaluation—National Letter of Intent signing).

April 15 (8 a.m.) and April 16: Contact and evaluation period (all states).

April 17-April 28: Evaluation period only in those states that play the high school basketball season in the spring (quiet period for all other prospects).

April 29-July 9: Quiet period.

July 10-July 31: Evaluation period (all states).

August 1-September 16: Quiet period.

September 17-October 7: Contact and evaluation period (all states).

October 8-November 7: Quiet period.

November 8-November 28: Evaluation period only in those states that play the high school basketball season in the fall (quiet period for all other prospects).

November 29-December 10: Quiet period.

December 11-December 31: Evaluation period (except in those states that play the high school basketball season in the fall or spring).

NJCAA and AAU national basketball championships: Evaluation period (all states).

Quiet Period—No off-campus contact or evaluation.

Dead Period—No on- or off-campus contact or evaluation.

[NOTE: Division I institutional staff members shall be limited to observing a maximum of three basketball contests in which a prospective student-athlete competes during any academic year. Observing a contest shall count as one of the three permissible observations of each prospective student-athlete on both teams except that observation of any tournament, including the NJCAA or AAU women's basketball championship, shall count as a single observation if it occurs during the academic year. Any contest observed during the academic year in which a prospect participates against outside competition (e.g., involvement in a recreation league or all-star game) counts as one of the three permissible observations. Contests involving prospective student-athletes of fewer than five participants per team (e.g., one-on-one, three-on-three) or any activities conducted in conjunction with practice sessions do not count as observations for purposes of this legislation.]

This material was provided by the NCAA legislative services department as an aid to member institutions. If an institution has a question it would like to have answered in this column, the question should be directed to William B. Hunt, assistant executive director, at the NCAA national office.