

ATHLETICS

Continued from Preceding Page
 and a member of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Tribe, says his input and that of others was omitted from the university's report about its "fighting Sioux" nickname. "The NCAA was asking for some active involvement of the campus community regarding this issue," he says. "None of that took place here at UND."

In its report, the university emphasizes its American Indian programs and says it "is recognized as a national leader in providing access and opportunity for American Indians and other minority populations."

"Arguably," the report says, "the university does more than any other institution of higher education in the United States to celebrate the American Indian culture."

Mr. Jeanotte helped file a minority report with the NCAA, questioning whether such cultural programs can be used to justify the nickname. It argues that most American Indian programs at the university are financed by federal grants, and that the directors of the programs have established "outstanding reputations despite the controversy" surrounding the nickname.

Charles E. Karpfella, the university's president, says he has not seen the minority report and cannot comment on it. He notes that North Dakota's strategic plan includes support for American Indian programs, and that such institutional support "can't be explained away."

Moreover, North Dakota says it is bound by a 2001 ruling by the state's Board of Education that says the university's athletics teams must be known as the "fighting Sioux." That ruling came a few years after an alumnus, Ralph Engestrud, said that if the nickname was changed, he would halt construction of a \$100-million hockey arena he was donating to the university.

The NCAA's Mr. Jackson says that although he has not yet read North Dakota's report, the argument that a university is bound by what its state board dictates is peculiar. "The association, he says, will look into 'institutions that don't want to face up to the issues.'"

Faculty members at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign say they have

been shut out of a report on the university's nickname and its use of Chief Illiniwek, portrayed by a student who dons buckskins, paints his face blue and orange, and dances during the halftimes of football and basketball games. In June 2004 the Board of Trustees called for a "consensus conclusion" on the use of the mascot that would be acceptable to a majority of alumni, students, and faculty members.

In its report, Illinios did not explore the issues in any depth, says Stephen J. Kaufman, a professor of cell biology who is an outspoken critic of the mascot's continued use. "The report dodges and dances around many of the NCAA's questions" and shows that university administrators lack the courage to take a stand, he says in an interview. He points to the recent decision of the president of Marquette University to turn down an offer of \$2-million from two trustees—and resist subsequent pressure from like-minded alumni—to restore a retired American Indian nickname (*The Chronicle*, June 18, 2004).

Perhaps the NCAA will have similar convictions, Mr. Kaufman says. Supporters of the use of Chief Illiniwek think doing away with the symbol would have a negative impact on their university. Howard Wakefield is an associate dean emeritus of engineering and president of the Honor the Chief Society, a nonprofit group with more than 1,000 members, whose goal is to keep Chief Illiniwek a part of university life. He says "it really does something for the esprit de corps."

TRIBE BRAVES
 Amid such controversies, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke stands out as an unusual case. Founded in part by Lumbee Tribe members in 1887, the institution enrolled only American Indians until the 1950s. The student body remains more than one-fifth American Indian.

In its report, Pembroke cites widespread local support on the campus and among the local tribes for its "Braves" nickname. Jimmy Gump, chief of the Lumbees and a Pembroke graduate, calls the founding of the university "one of the greatest accomplishments of our people."

Zoe W. Locklear, a Lumbee who is interim dean of the School of Education, heard that message. "To borrow a popular line from a television show," she says "the tribe has spoken."

There are a few dissenters, as illustrated by a survey the college conducted for its official report. Around 7 percent of more than 1,300 respondents, including those on campus, alumni, and local residents said they were not in favor of continuing to use the nickname and logo. In 1991 Pembroke did respond to criticism from American Indian tribes and replaced its "Braves" mascot, a student who dressed up in an American Indian outfit, with a teal-tailed hawk.

Vernon Bellecourt, director of the National Coalition on Racism in Sports and the Media, which opposes the use of American Indian mascots, says he respects Pembroke's right as an American Indian institution to choose its own name. Nevertheless, he hopes that it will replace the nickname to set an example for other colleges and "provide leadership on this issue."

Then there is the case of the University of Hawaii-Manoa, which found its "Warriors" nickname specified for inclusion by the NCAA. As a spokeswoman explained, the nickname refers to indigenous people from Hawaii, not American Indians. The university will file a report, although it missed the May 1 deadline.

LIMITED OPTIONS

The NCAA has often been skittish about wading into intercampus debates, including this one. The association's Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct urged all colleges to stop using American Indian nicknames in 2002 but said it recognizes that controversies over nicknames "may be addressed most effectively by the individual institution, its community, and conference, rather than at the national level."

Both Florida State and North Dakota quote that passage in their reports. Philip A. Harmon, senior associate to the president of North Dakota, who wrote the university's report, was less subtle in the local *Grand Forks Herald* on May 1: "The NCAA does not have the authority to order a school to

use, or not use, a particular name, or mascot," he said. He did not elaborate in an interview with *The Chronicle*.

In the interim report it filed in 2002, the NCAA's minority-interests committee, which comprises 15 college presidents, athletes directors, and other officials, and is chaired by Robert C. Yonewis Jr., commissioner of the Southwestern Athletic Conference, says there are a number of realities that it can recommend to the Executive Committee.

In 2002 the NCAA forbade championship events from taking place in South Carolina and Mississippi because of those states' continuing use of the Confederate battle flag. Those bans remain in effect.

Apart from attempting an outright ban on American Indian nicknames and mascots, the NCAA could suggest that colleges that decline to give up such imagery be barred from postseason tournaments, or be prevented from bringing their mascots to such games, or be fined.

"It's tough to tell" what will happen, says Mr. Jackson.

If the NCAA does nothing, many colleges will be left to respond to the opinions of deep-pocketed alumni who treasure the tradition of Indian nicknames at their alma maters. Southeastern Oklahoma State University emphasizes that point in its report.

"The complete elimination of Savages as a nickname . . . is judged to be a highly value-laden process that would be emotionally charged and would immediately create a severance or disconnect with many alumni," it says. "The immediate consequences would be very costly to the university in terms of fund-raising activities with sports-minded alumni."

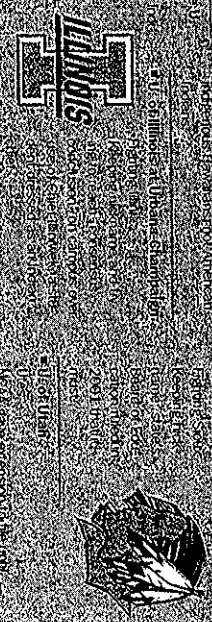
But Richard D. Little, senior director of communications at Miami University, offers some surprising empirical evidence. In 1996 the Ohio institution retired its "Redskins" nickname in favor of "Red Hawks." Before the decision was made, many alumni raised protests and threatened to permanently withhold donations.

The year after the name change, the university had the largest fund-raising response in its history.

HEADLINES OF INTEREST

Continued from Preceding Page

- **Indiana, U. of Penn. overrule**—The Indiana Board of Education and the University of Pennsylvania's Board of Trustees have overruled their respective state boards' decisions to strip the "fighting Sioux" nickname from the state's public universities.
- **Academy College**—The University of North Carolina at Pembroke's Board of Trustees has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Pembroke Braves."
- **Marquette**—The Board of Trustees of Marquette University has rejected a proposal to rename the school's athletic teams the "Marquette Indians."
- **Michigan State**—The Board of Trustees of Michigan State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Michigan State Spartans."
- **Mississippi State**—The Board of Trustees of Mississippi State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Mississippi State Bulldogs."
- **North Carolina**—The Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Pembroke Braves."
- **Ohio State**—The Board of Trustees of Ohio State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Ohio State Buckeyes."
- **South Carolina**—The Board of Trustees of South Carolina University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "South Carolina Gamecocks."
- **Virginia Tech**—The Board of Trustees of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Virginia Tech Hokies."
- **West Virginia**—The Board of Trustees of West Virginia University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "West Virginia Mountaineers."
- **Wisconsin**—The Board of Trustees of Wisconsin University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Wisconsin Badgers."
- **Yale**—The Board of Trustees of Yale University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Yale Bulldogs."
- **Yonkers**—The Board of Trustees of Yonkers University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Yonkers Yankees."
- **Arizona**—The Board of Trustees of Arizona State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Arizona State Sun Devils."
- **California**—The Board of Trustees of California State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "California State Golden Bears."
- **Colorado**—The Board of Trustees of Colorado State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Colorado State Rams."
- **Florida**—The Board of Trustees of Florida State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Florida State Seminoles."
- **Georgia**—The Board of Trustees of Georgia Institute of Technology has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Georgia Institute of Technology Yellow Jackets."
- **Illinois**—The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "University of Illinois Fighting Illini."
- **Iowa**—The Board of Trustees of Iowa State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Iowa State Cyclones."
- **Kansas**—The Board of Trustees of Kansas State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Kansas State Wildcats."
- **Kentucky**—The Board of Trustees of Kentucky University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Kentucky Wildcats."
- **Louisiana**—The Board of Trustees of Louisiana State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Louisiana State Tigers."
- **Michigan**—The Board of Trustees of Michigan State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Michigan State Spartans."
- **Minnesota**—The Board of Trustees of Minnesota State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Minnesota State Mavericks."
- **Missouri**—The Board of Trustees of Missouri State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Missouri State Bears."
- **Montana**—The Board of Trustees of Montana State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Montana State Bobcats."
- **Nebraska**—The Board of Trustees of Nebraska-Kearney University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Nebraska-Kearney Huskers."
- **Nevada**—The Board of Trustees of Nevada State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Nevada State Wolf Pack."
- **New York**—The Board of Trustees of New York University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "New York University Varsity Red."
- **North Carolina**—The Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Pembroke Braves."
- **Ohio**—The Board of Trustees of Ohio State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Ohio State Buckeyes."
- **Oklahoma**—The Board of Trustees of Oklahoma State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Oklahoma State Cowboys."
- **Oregon**—The Board of Trustees of Oregon State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Oregon State Beavers."
- **Pennsylvania**—The Board of Trustees of Pennsylvania State University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Pennsylvania State Nittany Lions."
- **Rhode Island**—The Board of Trustees of Rhode Island College has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Rhode Island College Rams."
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- **Wisconsin**—The Board of Trustees of Wisconsin University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Wisconsin Badgers."
- **Wyoming**—The Board of Trustees of Wyoming University has approved a resolution to rename the school's athletic teams the "Wyoming University Cowboys."



SPORTS

Section B

MS-COT
MICK MARR

Indian mascots banned for NCAA playoffs

Noble cause for NCAA? You've got to be kidding

In today's episode of "Annoying Busybodies," we bring you the NCAA and its decision to ban Native American mascots from its postseason shindigs.

Yes, ladies and gents, the same folks who mandated slimmer football media guides as a measure to help save the Republic will no longer allow Native American mascots to prance around during championships.

After Feb. 1, offensive nicknames or mascots cannot appear on team uniforms or

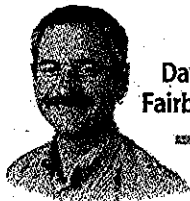
clothing at NCAA championships. Schools with such nicknames or mascots will not be allowed to host postseason events.

This raises the possibility of duct tape across Florida State helmets to cover the arrows, or perhaps a patch that reads "Big Sid's Bail Bonds" over

the offending University of Illinois logo.

We do not intend to belittle the concerns of Native Americans, who have more than their

Please see FAIRBANK/B4

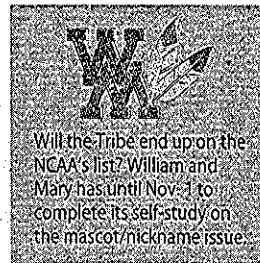


Dave Fairbank

'Hostile or abusive' nicknames

The 18 nicknames of colleges and universities that fall into the NCAA's "hostile or abusive" category:

- Alcorn State (Ala.) Braves
- Central Michigan Chippewas
- Catawba (N.C.) Indians
- Florida State Seminoles
- Midwestern State (Texas) Indians
- Utah Utes
- Indiana University (Pa.) Indians
- Carthage (Wis.) Redmen
- Bradley (Ill.) Braves
- Arkansas State Indians
- Chowan (N.C.) Braves
- University of Illinois Illini
- University of Louisiana-Monroe Indians
- McMurry (Texas) Indians
- Mississippi College Choctaws
- Newberry (S.C.) Indians
- University of North Dakota Fighting Sioux
- Southeastern Oklahoma State Savages



The NCAA deems 18 schools to have unacceptable mascots for NCAA championship events; the status of William and Mary, which has received an extension to evaluate its nickname, is unclear.

FROM STAFF WIRE SERVICE REPORTS

INDIANAPOLIS — The NCAA banned the use of American Indian mascots by sports teams during its postseason tournaments on Friday, but will not prohibit them otherwise. It's unclear what the ruling means for the College of William and Mary, whose nickname is Tribe.

Nicknames or mascots deemed "hostile or abusive" will not be allowed on team uniforms or other clothing beginning with any NCAA tournament after Feb. 1, said Walter Harrison, the University of Hartford's president. He said the NCAA's executive committee decided the organization did not have the

authority to bar Indian mascots by individual schools.

"What each institution decides to do is really its own business" outside NCAA championship events, Harrison said. "What we are trying to say is that we find these mascots to be unacceptable for NCAA championship competition."

The NCAA deemed 18 schools to have mascots that are "hostile or abusive," including Florida State's Seminole and Illinois' Illini. Florida State President T.K.

Please see NICKNAMES/B4

INSIDE
■ Q&A on nickname issue B4

► FAIRBANK Continued from B1

share of legitimate gripes about their depiction. Offensive team nicknames and mascots should be scrapped.

For example, a certain NFL team in our nation's capital should have retired its nickname, a blatant slur, long ago. But that's a topic for another day.

The NCAA executive committee's words and actions are calling for a couple of reasons.

First, the NCAA has no business in the school nickname and mascot business. Second, when it chose to delve into the suitability of nicknames and mascots, it hedged and finessed and deemed some more suitable than others.

Attempting to flex its social responsibility muscles, the governing body of college athletics actually demonstrated what a precarious hold it has on college athletics.

Walter Harrison, chair of the Executive Committee and president of the University of Hartford, said in a story that appears on the NCAA's Web site that schools may adopt any mascot or nickname they wish, calling it "an institutional matter."

Unfortunately, he didn't stop there.

"But as a national association," he continued, "we believe that mascots, nicknames or images deemed hostile or abusive in terms of race, ethnicity or national origin should not be visible at the championship events that we control."

Sounds noble and high-minded, doesn't it? It's malarkey.

Last November, the NCAA asked 33 schools that had Native American nicknames and mascots to submit self-evaluations on the depiction of imagery. On Friday, the NCAA revealed that 18 schools had not demonstrated sufficient sensitivity and would be subject to

the new guidelines.

Why are San Diego State's Aztecs less offensive than the University of Utah's Utes? Why are West Georgia's Braves acceptable and Bradley University's Braves not?

Florida State responded to its place on the List of Shame by threatening a lawsuit against the NCAA. Less than two months ago the Seminole Tribe of Florida's governing council unanimously approved of the school's nickname. Not good enough, the NCAA said.

Another question: Why Feb. 1? If the NCAA were serious about ostracizing schools with offensive nicknames and mascots, do so now.

Instead, the NCAA waits until after football bowl season, but in time for the mega-bucks, mega-audience men's basketball tournament, when NCAA reps can come on the air for three consecutive weekends and say: We're sensitive; we care.

Here in our corner of the world, William and Mary awaits word on whether "Tribe" falls into the offensive category. The school received an extension on its self-study and will learn later this fall.

What would William and Mary do if "Tribe" is deemed unacceptable? No one is sure. The school could change its nickname to reflect something colonial or maybe the "Jeffersons," after its most notable alum, though George and Weezie would probably lodge a protest.

The NCAA has plenty on its plate already. Attempting to legislate against school nicknames and mascots is a crusade it cannot win, nor should it attempt

Dave Fairbank can be reached at 247-4637 or by e-mail at dfairbank@dailypress.com

► NICKNAMES Continued from B1

Mascot ban begins Feb. 1

Wetherell, who played football for the Seminoles 40 years ago, said he will sue for an "outrageous and insulting" decision.

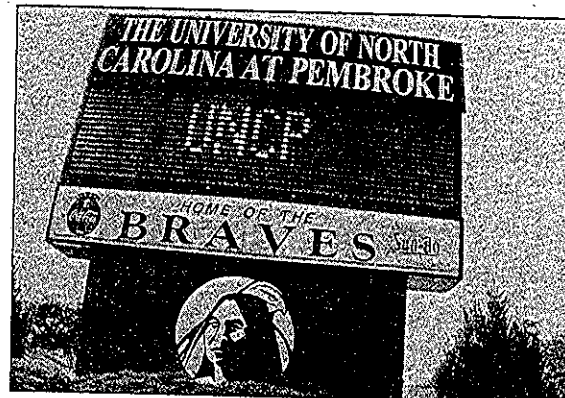
William and Mary received the NCAA request to evaluate its nickname and mascot late last fall. Because the college was between administrations, athletic director Terry Driscoll asked for and received an extension from the NCAA to present findings Nov. 1.

"We don't know where we stand," Driscoll said. "We still have to complete the self-study."

W&M doesn't use a mascot. The only image the school uses that reflects Native American heritage are feathers that are attached to the "W&M" logo on uniforms.

Not all schools with Indian-related nicknames are on that list. NCAA officials said some schools using the Warrior nickname do not use Indian symbols and would not be affected.

The University of North Carolina at Pembroke, which uses the nickname Braves, will not face sanctions. NCAA president Myles Brand said the school's student body historically has admitted a high percentage of American Indians and more



North Carolina Pembroke, a school founded to serve American Indians, is the only college in the nation exempted from a ban on using Indian nicknames and mascots. AP PHOTO

than 20 percent of the students are American Indians.

Schools on the list could still appeal.

"I suspect that some of those would like to have a ruling on that," Brand said. "But unless there is a change before Feb. 1, they will have to abide by it."

Football teams also would not be subjected to the new rules because Division I-A has no playoff and the other divisions' playoffs are over long before Feb. 1

ommended that schools determine for themselves whether the Indian depictions were offensive.

Florida State, for example, has received permission from the Seminole Tribe in Florida to use the nickname. That, however, will not suffice.

"Other Seminole tribes are not supportive," said Charlotte Westerhaus, the NCAA vice president for diversity and inclusion.

Among the schools to change nicknames in recent years over such concerns were St. John's (from Redmen to Red Storm) and Marquette (from Warriors to Golden Eagles).

The NCAA plans to ban schools using Indian nicknames from hosting postseason events. Harrison said schools with such mascots that have already been selected as tournament sites would be asked to cover any offensive logos.

Such logos also would be prohibited at postseason games on cheerleader and band uniforms starting in 2008.

The board also approved a two-year contract extension for Brand. His deal was to run through Dec. 31, 2007 and now includes an indefinite two-year rollover.

Vernon Bellecourt, president of the National Coalition on Racism in Sports and Media, was pleased with the postseason ban but had hoped for even stronger action.

"We would have hoped the NCAA would have provided the moral leadership on this issue, but obviously they've chosen to only go halfway," said Bellecourt, a member of the Anishinabe-Ojibwe Nation.

The NCAA two years ago re-

Q&A on NCAA ban

Q: How many schools does this affect?

A: 18 in all three divisions, including Florida State, Illinois, Utah, Louisiana-Monroe and Arkansas State.

Q: Why didn't the NCAA merely ban Native American nicknames?

A: NCAA Executive Committee Chairman Walter Harmsen said the organization didn't believe it had the authority to dictate school nicknames and mascots to its members. However, it's clear the association would like schools to get rid of these on their own. This is a push in that direction.

Q: How does the NCAA define "hostile and abusive"?

A: It hasn't yet in full detail and, with the help of the courts, this may take years.

Q: Do schools have any recourse?

A: Yes. They can sue the NCAA individually or file a class-action suit with other schools. However, Gary R. Roberts, director of the sports law program at Tulane, said he didn't think such a challenge had "any serious chance of success." "The long-term effect will probably be the same as a ban on member schools having such symbols and mascots, but at least superficially the decision to abandon such mascots will then be the individual schools', not (from) an NCAA mandate."

Q: How would this affect schools' financially?

A: Every sport figure to be affected in some way, and some, like basketball and volleyball, that use warm-ups and practice shirts and shorts, will be hit harder than others. Central Florida equipment manager Robert Jones said. Barring helmets, batting gloves, shoes, socks, balls, golf club covers, coaches' clipboards — everything will have to be examined. "Depending on how many logos you're talking about, it could be devastating to a budget," Jones said.

Q: What about television networks? Will they go along with this?

A: An ESPN spokesman said Friday that

the cable giant likely will discuss the issue but it's too soon to say what the outcome might be.

Q: When does this ban go into effect?

A: Starting in February 2006, schools can't host postseason play unless they change their names and can't participate unless they cover up offensive references. In 2008, the same will apply to marching bands, cheerleaders and mascots.

Q: Do schools have enough time to react?

A: The timing is bad for any affected schools. The 2005-06 budget year for many schools started on July 1. Most jerseys were ordered in the late spring, and many sets have already been delivered.

Q: Division I-A's postseason is run through the bowl system, not through an NCAA playoff. So does this affect Florida State's football team?

A: The Bowl Championship Series and other bowl games likely will feel pressure to follow the NCAA's lead, but the NCAA can't force them to do so.

Q: What about buying T-shirts and things with Florida State's logos on them?

A: Those will still be available but not at NCAA-sponsored postseason events.

Q: Is there any financial upside?

A: Possibly. Florida State, for example, annually ranks in Collegiate Licensing Company's top 10 in royalties generated from apparel and souvenir sales. If the Seminoles decided to change their nickname, fans might be inclined to re-stock their apparel.

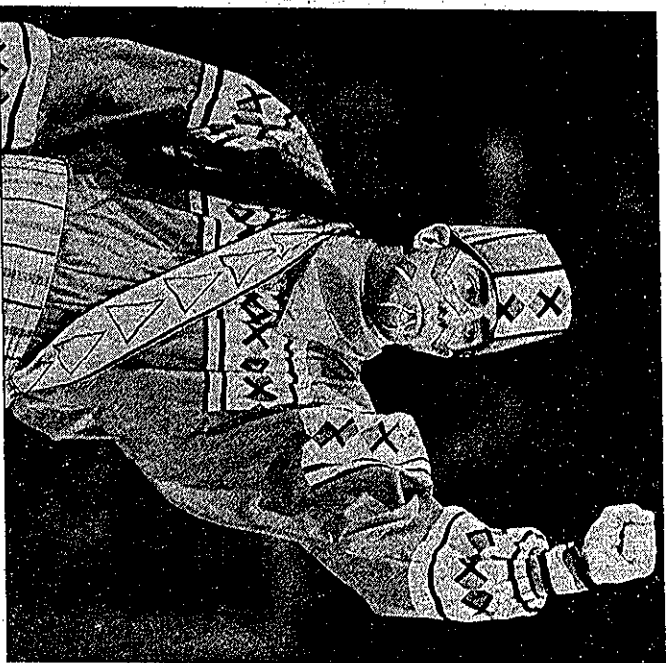
Q: How will media treat the ban?

A: Generally, the news media refer to schools by names and nicknames that schools like to call themselves. This is not likely to change.

Q: What about the San Diego State Aztecs?

A: The folks in Southern California are not affected by Friday's ruling.

ORLANDO SENTINEL



The NCAA has determined that mascots such as Florida State's Chief Osceola are "hostile and abusive" and will not be allowed at NCAA-sponsored postseason events. AP PHOTO

Publication: The Virginian-Pilot;Date: Aug 6, 2005;Section: Sports;Page: 30



Use of Indian mascots is banned from postseason

Staff writer Ed Miller contributed to this report

BY MICHAEL MAROT

ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — The NCAA banned the use of American Indian mascots by sports teams during its postseason tournaments, but will not prohibit them otherwise.

The NCAA's executive committee decided this week the

organization affected did not have the schools/C7 authority to bar

Indian mascots by

individual schools, committee chairman Walter Harrison said Friday.

Nicknames or mascots deemed "hostile or abusive" would not be allowed on team uniforms or other clothing beginning with any NCAA tournament after Feb. 1, said Harrison, the University of Hartford's president.

"What each institution decides to do is really its own business" outside NCAA championship events, Harrison said.

"What we are trying to say is that we find these mascots to be unacceptable for NCAA championship competition," he added.

At least 18 schools have mascots the NCAA deems "hostile or abusive," including Florida State's Seminole and Illinois' Illini.

Florida State President T.K. Wetherell threatened to take legal action after the ruling.

"That the NCAA would now label our close bond with the Seminole people as culturally 'hostile and abusive' is both outrageous and insulting," Wetherell said in a written statement.

"I intend to pursue all legal avenues to ensure that this unacceptable decision is overturned, and that this university will forever be associated with the 'unconquered' spirit of the Seminole Tribe of Florida."

William and Mary has been given an extension to complete a self-study on the mascot issue. William and Mary was red-flagged by the NCAA because of its nickname. The Tribe, and because its logo features a pair of feathers. The school changed its nickname from "Indians" in the late 1980s.

"We don't know where we stand. We still have to complete the self study, which of course, we will do," athletic director Terry Driscoll said.

Chowan College, nicknamed the Braves, was one of the schools deemed to be subject to the new policy. A call to the school's athletic department was not immediately returned Friday afternoon.

Not all schools with Indian-related nicknames are on that list. NCAA officials said some schools using the Warrior nickname do not use Indian symbols and would not be affected.

North Carolina-Pembroke, which uses the nickname Braves, will not face sanctions. NCAA president Myles

Brand explained said the school's student body has historically admitted a high percentage of American Indians and more than 20 percent of the students are American Indians.

Schools on the list could still appeal.

"I suspect that some of those would like to have a ruling on that," Brand said. "But unless there is a change before Feb. 1, they will have to abide by it."

Major college football teams also would not be subjected to the new rules because there is no NCAA Division I-A tournament or playoff.

Vernon Bellecourt, president of the National Coalition on Racism in Sports and Media, was pleased with the postseason ban but had hoped for even stronger action.

"We would have hoped the NCAA would have provided the moral leadership on this issue, but obviously they've chosen to only go halfway," said Bellecourt, a member of the Anishnabe-Ojibwe Nation in Minnesota.

The NCAA two years ago recommended that schools determine for themselves whether the Indian depictions were offensive.

Florida State has received permission from the Seminole tribe in Florida to use the nickname. The NCAA, however, made its decision based on a different standard.

"Other Seminole tribes are not supportive," said Charlotte Westerhaus, the NCAA vice president for diversity and inclusion.

Among the schools to change nicknames in recent years over such concerns were St. John's (from Redmen to Red Storm) and Marquette (from Warriors to Golden Eagles).

The NCAA plans to ban schools using Indian nicknames from hosting postseason events. Harrison said schools with such mascots that have already been selected as tournament sites would be asked to cover any offensive logos.

Such logos also would be prohibited at postseason games on cheerleader and band uniforms starting in 2008.

Other measures approved this week include stronger penalties for schools that repeatedly fall below the NCAA's new academic cutoff. Harrison said schools would receive a warning letter the first year; restrictions on scholarships, recruiting and playing time the second year; and a postseason ban the third year.

If a school fails to meet the standard four consecutive years, all teams at that school would be ineligible for postseason play.

"I'd fully expect that we never get to the fourth year," Harrison said. "A school should take stronger action before that. But I think this should send a message that there will be real, serious consequences if you don't."

Schools also would receive a bonus point if a player returns to school to complete his or her degree.

The board also approved a two-year contract extension for Brand. His deal was to run through Dec. 31, 2007, and now includes an indefinite two-year rollover.



Hue and cry over nicknames cast in several shades of gray

• Reach Bob at 757-446-2373 or bob.molinaro@pilotonline.com

With its ban from postseason tournaments of American Indian nicknames and mascots deemed "hostile or abusive," the NCAA has ruled that there is an important difference between the Fighting Illini and the Fighting Irish.

It's one thing to be sensitive to the culture of Native Americans. But who speaks for the leprechauns?

And who will stand up for the College of William and Mary, America's second-oldest university, which has been cited by the NCAA because of its nickname, the Tribe, and a logo that includes a pair of feathers?

William and Mary has been allowed an extension to investigate its problem with the NCAA. This shouldn't be so difficult to fix once the school informs the powers that be that the concept of "tribe" is not exclusive to Indians.

Webster's New World College Dictionary lists seven definitions for "tribe" without including the words Indian or Native American or referring to any racial or religious group.

Through biology, family and tradition, we all belong to one sort of tribe or another. Which brings us to those bothersome feathers. Again, easily resolved. Just turn the feathers into quill pens, to reflect the school's important role in Colonial history. If that's too retro, a pair of diplomas sticking out from the interlocking WM would help remind everyone that this is one university where the athletic tail does not wag the scholarly dog.

William and Mary, which thought it had resolved this debate by dropping its "Indians" nickname in the late 1980s, is finding the world to be an ever-more sensitive place. Nobody would accuse it or the 18 schools immediately affected by the NCAA's ban of being callous and hostile toward Native Americans. Fans who support these nicknames aren't racist, just a little oblivious. As we all can be.

More abusive to the Native American culture than team nicknames are mascots who wear war paint, headdresses and feathers and perform mock dances and chants. Especially if the ersatz Indian is, say, a Presbyterian from Newark, N.J.

But this is not a red or white issue. The Seminoles of Florida strongly support Florida State's use of their name and image, whereas representatives of the Seminoles of the Southwest are offended that Florida State football crowds are fired up by a spear-wielding Indian on horseback.

Seven schools on the NCAA's banned list are known as the Indians, three go by Braves. The Choctaws of Mississippi College are represented, as are the Fighting Sioux of North Dakota.

As hostile college monikers go, only one — the Savages of Southeastern Oklahoma State University — is in the same league with the NFL Redskins, which is a racial slur.

The NCAA means well, though you can't help but think that there are other things more important than nicknames that could be banned from college events, such as functionally illiterate athletes and campus thugs.

Because these nicknames and mascots arrived long before political correctness, most of us rarely think about their possible impact on some people. The Fighting Illini doesn't jolt our sensibilities the way a team named the Fighting Hispanics or Fighting Italians would.

But what about the Fighting Irish, who do not appear on any banned list? The NCAA claims to be cracking down on "hostile and abusive racial/ethnic/rational origin mascots, nicknames or imagery." Yet Notre Dame's teams are represented by a ridiculous little man in a green suit carrying a big stick.

Apparently, the leprechaun lobby has yet to be heard from.

NCAA bans 'hostile' mascots

But the decision applies only to postseason tournaments; W&M didn't make the list

BY MICHAEL MAROT
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — The NCAA banned the use of American Indian mascots by sports teams during its postseason tournaments, but will not prohibit them otherwise. The NCAA's executive committee decided this week the organization did not have the authority to bar Indian mascots by

individual schools, committee chairman Walter Harrison said yesterday. Nicknames or mascots deemed "hostile or abusive" would not be allowed on team uniforms or other clothing beginning with any NCAA tournament after Feb. 1, said Harrison, the University of Hartford's president.

PAGE 2:
Has the NCAA started down a slippery slope?

INSIDE

What each institution decides to do is really its own business" outside NCAA championship events, Harrison said

"What we are trying to say is that we find these mascots to be unacceptable for close bond with the Seminole people as culturally hostile and abusive" is both outrageous and insulting," Wetherell said in a written statement.

NCAA championship competition," he added. At least 18 schools have mascots the NCAA deems "hostile or abusive," including Florida State's Seminole and Illinois' Illini.

William and Mary, which uses the nickname Tribe, is not affected by the ruling. Florida State President T.K. Wetherell threatened to take legal action after the ruling. "That the NCAA would now label our close bond with the Seminole people as culturally hostile and abusive" is both outrageous and insulting," Wetherell said in a written statement.

"I intend to pursue all legal avenues to ensure that this unacceptable decision is overturned." Not all schools with Indian-related nicknames are on that list. NCAA officials said some schools using the Warrior nickname do not use Indian symbols and would not be affected.

North Carolina Pembroke, which uses the nickname Braves, will not face sanctions. NCAA President Myles Brand said the school's student body has historically admitted a high percentage of American Indians and more than 20 percent of the students are American Indians. Schools on the list could still appeal.

SPORTS FOCUS POSTSEASON MASCOT BAN

Pride or prejudice?

NCAA targets symbols deemed to be offensive to Native Americans

BY JIM MASHKEK

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Something interesting is going to take place next spring during the NCAA men's and women's basketball tournaments.

Florida State might make it to the field of 65, but the Seminoles will not. Utah could earn an at-large tournament berth, but the team will not be known as the Utes. And, closer to home, if Alcorn State takes the Southern Athletic Conference journey championship, the school will be represented by a nickname and mascot to be named later. Instead of the Braves.

OPINION

The NCAA's executive committee has decided use of American Indian mascots will be banned from postseason tournaments starting next spring, but otherwise, they'll be permitted.

This is sort of like saying, use whatever nickname you like, but don't expect us to recognize it. The NCAA has ruled that nicknames or mascots deemed "hostile or abusive" cannot be printed on team uniforms or other apparel in any NCAA tournament after Feb. 1.

The decision affects at least 18 NCAA member institutions.

Traditionalists aren't going to like this one bit. American Indian groups figure to be more supportive, although the Seminole Tribe of Florida has continually given its blessing to Florida State, which adopted the nickname when the school began accepting male students in the late '40s.

Tribal councilman Max Osceola told the Tampa Tribune earlier this year, "We feel that it is an honor and a reflection of the university to represent the spirit of the Seminole Tribe of Florida."

That spirit, evidently, will not be represented next spring, when FSU coach Mike Martin's baseball team plays host to yet another NCAA regional tournament. It's OK when the Seminoles are scrapping with Florida or Miami in mid-

March, but not when they're playing for a berth in the College World Series.

Theren lies the rub, according to former Alcorn State coach Dave Whitney, the first man to coach a historically black university to victory in the NCAA men's basketball tournament.

"If the NCAA is going to do something like that, they shouldn't decern it," Whitney said.

"That's kind of half-hearted, as far as I'm concerned. If they're going to do this, make it a blanket situation."

Alcorn State's president Clinton Bristow, is a member of the NCAA executive committee, but someone in his office said he was out of town yesterday and unavailable for comment.

Oklahoma Seminoles weighed in with their opposition to Florida State's nickname earlier this year. No doubt, they have a problem with Chief Osceola's pregame ritual, when the FSU mascot rides a horse onto the field and fires a burning arrow into the ground at midfield. It's easy to see their point, that it projects stereotypes. Suzan Shown Harjo, a colum-

nist for Indian Country Today, wrote, "The Seminole Nation is on record, along with the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw and Muscogee (Creek) nations, opposing tribal names and 'Native' references in sports."

It would be easy to blame the controversy on the tired term "politically correctness," but the fact of the matter is nicknames such as Indians, Braves and Fighting Sioux are offensive to some, if not most, American Indians.

Whether the NCAA should intervene is subject to debate.

Ultimately, of course, the question is where this all stops. Is there a more blatant stereotype than the scuffling leprechaun at Notre Dame? Ole Miss has had to defend its use of its nickname, the Rebels for a couple of decades. In the last year or two, Nicholls State struggled with the issue of its mascot, Colonel in Confederate garb, before choosing to reinstate the image.

And that's what really matters here.

Image. Namely, the NCAA's

• Jim Mashkek writes for the Sun Herald of Biloxi, Miss.

Nicknames Oxed by NCAA

By John Harvey

WILLIAMSBURG — The NCAA continues to toughen its stance on team nicknames involving Native Americans, announcing a new policy Friday that bars the use of

HOSTILE NICKNAMES

Alcorn State (Braves)
Central Michigan (Chippewas)
Catawba College (Indians)
Florida State (Seminoles)
Midwestern State (Indians)
Utah (Utes)
Indiana-Pennsylvania (Indians)
Carthage (Redmen)
Bradley (Braves)
Arkansas State (Indians)
Glowan (Braves)
Illinois-Chicago (Fighting Illini)
Louisiana-Monroe (Indians)
Mississippi College (Indians)
Newberry College (Indians)
North Dakota (Fighting Sioux)
Southeastern Oklahoma (Savages)

American Indians mascots by college teams involved in national tournaments.

Fully 18 colleges were told their mascots were hostile or abusive. The list includes Florida State and Illinois. While the policy bars the display of "racial, ethnic/national origin mascots, nicknames or imagery," Oddly the University of Notre Dame didn't make the list despite its use of "Fighting Irish."

It's unclear how the new policy will affect the College of William & Mary, which was among

33 colleges instructed last year by the NCAA to submit a self-evaluation of its use of Native American imagery. W&M was not among the list of 18 colleges deemed to have hostile nicknames, and the NCAA noted it had been given an extension on its evaluation though it didn't say why.

News of this NCAA ruling still hasn't reached the William & Mary campus. Reached at home Friday night, athletic director Terry Driscoll said he has received no official word on the new nickname policy.

"The way we found out about it was a news story," he said. "Until we get some understanding of what [nicknames] are hostile or abusive, there's nothing really to comment about."

The NCAA's executive committee approved recommended best practices for schools who continue to use Native American mascots, nicknames and imagery in their intercollegiate programs.

See *Indian* page 2B

★Indian nicknames

Continued from page 1B

"College and universities may adopt any mascot they wish, as that is an institutional matter," said Walter Harrison, chair of the Executive Committee and president at the University of Hartford. "But as a national association, we believe that mascots, nicknames or images deemed hostile or abusive in terms of race, ethnicity or national origin should not be visible at the championship events we control."

Back in April, W&M soccer coach John Daly announced he would welcome a nickname change. "I think there could be a

more appropriate nickname for William and Mary based on the origins of the school," he said.

Daly said nicknames such as Monarchs, Colonials, Royals and Regals as examples belittling of the second-oldest college in the country.

Harrison also said the new policy would prevent these schools from hosting any NCAA championship competitions beginning Feb. 1, 2006.

In addition, the policy states that institutions with hostile and abusive references must take "reasonable steps" to cover up those references at any pre-determined NCAA

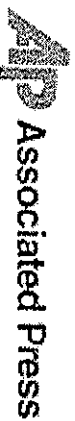
championship that has been previously awarded.

Also, institutions with student-athletes wearing uniforms or having paraphernalia with hostile or abusive references must ensure that those products not be worn or displayed at NCAA championship competitions.

Driscoll downplayed the NCAA's decision. "We have nothing to react to until we know the scope of the NCAA's study," he said. "Right now we know that 18 schools are affected and we're not one of them. We just have to wait and see."



Dow Jones & Reuters



NCAA: UNCP exempt from American Indian nickname ban in tourneys

By MARTHA WAGGONER
Associated Press Writer

670 words

5 August 2005

05:03 pm

Associated Press Newswires

English

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RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) - The University of North Carolina at Pembroke, a school founded to serve American Indians, is the only college in the nation exempted from a ban on using Indian nicknames and mascots in postseason tournaments, an NCAA spokesman said Friday.

UNCP uses the nickname "Braves" and includes the bust of an American Indian with a hawk in its logo. The new rule won't apply to the school because "based on the foundation of the school, the history and its union with the Native American community, the NCAA determined that Pembroke's use of Braves was appropriate," NCAA spokesman Bob Williams said from his group's headquarters in Indianapolis.

The school's athletic director, Dan Kenney, said the exemption made sense, based on UNCP's history.

"Even though this goes against what most people think is the right thing to do, they have told us in this community, 'Do not take away that link to our past,'" Kenney said.

UNCP's Web site even explains that its "athletic teams have had the nickname, Braves -- a term, which echoes our Native American past -- since the 1940s."

Schools had to send materials backing up requests to the NCAA to use American Indian imagery. Included in UNCP's packet was a petition signed by 2,500 local residents, Kenney said. The school is located in Robeson County, about 100 miles south of Raleigh. The county is home to the headquarters of the Lumbee Indian tribe, a state-recognized tribe with 40,000 members.

UNCP was founded in 1887 to help educate American Indians in the region and the school claims that it remained the country's only state-supported four-year college for American Indians until 1953.

The school's Board of Trustees that year approved the admission of white students up to 40 percent of the total enrollment. A year later, the school was opened to all races.

The school's enrollment of about 5,500 students is 51 percent white, 24 percent black and 21 percent American Indian. The school fields 14 teams that compete in the NCAA Division II Peach Belt Conference.

In 2004, the Braves made the Final Four in men's soccer, was seventh in the nation in wrestling and participated in the NCAA Division II golf championship, Kenney said.

The NCAA executive committee decided Friday to ban nicknames or mascots deemed "hostile or abusive" from team uniforms or other clothing at all NCAA tournaments after Feb. 1. The president of Florida State, also on the list for its Seminoles nickname, said the school would sue the NCAA.

The NCAA determined the rule would apply to 17 schools, including two in North Carolina: Catawba College in Salisbury, which uses the nickname Indians, and Chowan College in Murfreesboro, which uses the nickname

Braves.

The College of William & Mary in Virginia, which uses the Tribe nickname, asked for extension, Williams said.

Only UNCP was granted an exemption, he said.

"No other institution was able to demonstrate that their use of Native American mascot, nickname or imagery was the result of Native Americans attending or being associated with the institution," he said.

The school dropped its American Indian mascot -- which Kenney described as a "cartoonish caricature" -- in 1991 at the request of community members. The school replaced it with a red-tailed hawk that is part of the school's logo alongside the American Indian bust.

The community has supported continued use of the nickname and logo since then, said Kenney, who is not an American Indian.

"They said that what would be offensive is if you take it away and homogenize our culture," he said. "We think that other institutions do have to explain why they're using it."

NCAA Takes Hard Line On Mascots It Wants to End Use Of Indian Images

By Eric Prisbell
Washington Post Staff Writer

The NCAA will prohibit college athletic teams that use Native American images deemed "hostile or abusive" from hosting postseason events or displaying the symbols during championship competition.

The policy, announced yesterday, will affect at least 18 schools the NCAA said use derogatory references, including the Florida State Seminoles and the Illinois Fighting Illini, two schools whose programs consistently have competed in NCAA championship events.

Walter Harrison, the NCAA Executive Committee chairman and president of the University of Hartford, said: "We're trying to send a message, very strongly, that we do not think these types of mascots are appropriate for NCAA championships, and to say to the institution that you have the autonomy to deal with it as you wish."

Florida State President T.K. Wetherell said in a statement

See NCAA, E3, Col. 1

NCAA Takes Hard Line on 'Hostile' Images

NCAA, From E1

that the university is "stunned at the complete lack of appreciation for cultural diversity shown by the" NCAA and that he intends to pursue "all legal avenues to ensure that this unacceptable decision is overturned."

The NCAA Executive Committee concluded that a school may choose any mascot it wants, Harrison said, but the NCAA will control what nicknames, mascots or images are publicly displayed during its 88 championship events. However, college football's Bowl Championship Series, which includes the sport's four most lucrative bowl games, is not controlled by the NCAA.

"We would hope they would follow in the same procedures," NCAA President Myles Brand said, "but they would have to make that decision themselves."

Beginning Feb. 1, the NCAA will bar any of the 18 schools from hosting championship events. For events whose sites have already been scheduled at one of the schools, the NCAA will require schools to take "reasonable steps" to cover up references to the mascot or nickname.

The issue remains particularly controversial regarding Florida State, because the Seminole Tribe of Florida has expressed support for Florida State's use of its nickname and related symbols.

"That the NCAA would now label our close bond with the Seminole Tribe of Florida as culturally hostile and abusive is both outrageous and insulting," Wetherell said. "... It is unconscionable that the Seminole Tribe of Florida has been ignored."

"The rules as we understand them would have us cover the Seminole name and symbol as if we were embarrassed, and any committee that would think that is a proper and respectful treatment of Native Americans should be ashamed."

The No-No Names

The list of schools affected by the NCAA's decision Friday about Native American mascots and nicknames:

- Alcorn State University (Braves)
- Central Michigan University (Chippewas)
- Catawba College (Indians)
- Florida State University (Seminoles)
- Midwestern State University (Indians)
- University of Utah (Utes)
- Indiana University-Pennsylvania (Indians)
- Carthage College (Redmen)
- Bradley University (Braves)
- Arkansas State University (Indians)
- Crown College (Braves)
- University of Illinois (Illini)
- University of Louisiana-Monroe (Indians)
- McMurry University (Indians)
- Mississippi College (Choctaws)
- Newberry College (Indians)
- University of North Dakota (fighting Sioux)
- Southeastern Oklahoma State University (Savages)

As NCAA officials point out, however, not all tribes support Florida State's use of its nickname and mascot, the horseback riding Chief Osceola. In fact, the Seminole Tribe of Oklahoma has expressed opposition to the school's use of symbols.

"It came to our attention that there are other Seminole tribes ... that are not supportive," said Charlotte Westerhaus, the NCAA's vice president for diversity and inclusion. "So it is a very complex issue."

Yesterday's announcement

came after four years of research by the NCAA, prompted partly by the debate in recent years over whether to stage championship competitions in states that condone the Confederate flag.

In November 2004, the NCAA requested that 33 schools submit a self-study to examine the use of Native American images on their campuses. Brand said yesterday that not every use of a Native American nickname proved to be derogatory and subject to postseason removal.

The NCAA said 14 schools have removed all references to Native American culture or were deemed not to have references to Native American culture, including the San Diego State Aztecs and the North Carolina-Pembroke Braves, among others.

The Braves will not be barred from using images in postseason competition, Brand said, because the school's student body consists of more than 20 percent Native Americans.

The NCAA has defined which images are "hostile or abusive," with input from the organization's general counsel, said Westerhaus, adding, "We will listen to the actual individual institutions that have these mascots to get a sense of the community input."

Schools will have until 2008 to remove such references from cheerleader and band uniforms. But all team uniform images that were deemed derogatory must be removed by Feb. 1, 2006, Harrison said.

"Unless there is a change before Feb. 1," Brand said, "they will have to abide by the rule."

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Today's News

Friday, August 5, 2005

<http://chronicle.com/free/2005/08/2005080506n.htm>

NCAA Bans 18 Colleges From Holding Postseason Events Unless They Discard American Indian Nicknames and Mascots

By BRAD WOLVERTON

Eighteen colleges whose nicknames or mascots refer to American Indians will not be permitted to hold National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament events unless they change their nicknames or wipe out images of American Indians in their facilities, NCAA officials said today.

Colleges on the list -- which include Florida State University, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the University of North Dakota, all of which have refused to change their American Indian team names -- also will be barred from NCAA-sponsored postseason tournaments unless they remove what NCAA officials have deemed to be "abusive or hostile" references to American Indians from their uniforms.

The NCAA's decision, which was announced at a news conference this morning, was reached by its Executive Committee on Thursday, following a four-year study of the issue. Colleges that wish to appeal the new policy must do so to the committee by February, when the uniform restriction takes effect.

Institutions whose facilities have American Indian images and are scheduled to play host to NCAA postseason events must cover up those images starting next February. By 2008, institutions must get rid of the images if they want to hold postseason events.

The new rules do not prevent colleges from using American Indian nicknames during regular-season play and will affect only the few institutions with facilities large enough to handle NCAA postseason events. Those disparities led some critics of racial stereotyping in sports to criticize the NCAA for failing to banish inappropriate images of American Indians from the field of play.

"The NCAA has missed an enormous opportunity to correct a longstanding wrong in intercollegiate athletics," said Stephen J. Kaufman, a professor of cell and structural biology at the University of Illinois, in an interview today. "The NCAA is sending a very clear message that they are indifferent to Native Americans and to their own nondiscrimination and diversity policies."

But T.K. Wetherell, president of Florida State University, whose "Seminoles" nickname has received support from the Seminole Tribe of Florida, took the NCAA to task for considering any change.

In a statement released after the NCAA's decision, Mr. Wetherell said the university was "stunned at the complete lack of appreciation for cultural diversity" shown by the association.

"That the NCAA would now label our close bond with the Seminole Tribe of Florida as culturally

hostile and abusive is both outrageous and insulting," the statement said.

Other college officials lamented the high cost of covering up American Indian images in their athletics facilities. At the University of North Dakota's \$100-million Ralph Engelstad Arena, the scheduled site of an NCAA postseason hockey competition next spring, hundreds of images of its "Fighting Sioux" logo are emblazoned into marble, rock, and the center of the gymnasium floor.

Under the new rule, the university must get rid of those images, said Phil Harneson, senior associate to the president. The cost, he said, could run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The NCAA's new policy affects the following colleges and universities:

- Alcorn State University (Braves)
- Arkansas State University, main campus (Indians)
- Bradley University (Braves)
- Carthage College (Redmen)
- Catawba College (Indians)
- Central Michigan University (Chippewas)
- Chowan College (Braves)
- Florida State University (Seminoles)
- Indiana University of Pennsylvania (Indians)
- McMurry University (Indians)
- Midwestern State University (Indians)
- Mississippi College (Choctaws)
- Newberry College (Indians)
- Southeastern Oklahoma State University (Savages)
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Illini)
- University of Louisiana at Monroe (Indians)
- University of North Dakota (Fighting Sioux)
- University of Utah (Utes)

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W&M nickname still under study

NCAA gave Tribe until Nov. 1 to finish examination of mascot

WILLIAMSBURG — William and Mary hasn't yet been cleared by the NCAA on the issue of the school's nickname, Tribe.

The NCAA last Friday adopted a policy that prohibits colleges and universities from displaying "hostile or abusive" mascots, nicknames or imagery at NCAA playoffs. Also, those schools cannot play host to NCAA championship events beginning next year.

W&M was not on the list of 18

schools identified by the NCAA as subject to the new policy. Those schools' nicknames could be considered offensive to American Indians, according to the NCAA.

W&M was given an extension to complete its self-study on the mascot issue.

"They had come back to us about midway through the assessment [asking] about more time to compile data," said Bob Williams, the managing director of public and media relations for the NCAA.

Schools, in essence, are allowed to explain the origin of their nickname and defend them before the NCAA makes a determination.

W&M has until Nov. 1 to complete its self-study.

"I can understand in principle what the NCAA is trying to do," said W&M Athletic Director Terry Driscoll. "We're in the NCAA. We're going to try to abide by their rules. But also, William and Mary is an institution that has been here for 300 years, and we're going to do what's right for William and Mary."

W&M's sports teams were known as the Indians until the late '70s. The school gradually pulled away from that nickname and went with the Tribe.

— John O'Connor



JOHN O'CONNOR

W&M AD Terry Driscoll



Dow Jones & Reuters

Op-Fd

AS I SEE IT

NCAA's action demeans Native Americans

HUGH M. SCOTT

The Patriot-News

696 words

17 August 2005

Patriot-News

FINAL

A13

English

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I am incensed with the NCAA Executive Committee guidelines restricting the use of Native American mascots in college athletics. It is to me an example of an elitist, wrongheaded and ultimately counterproductive action that will ultimately harm the very people the action purports to aid.

The committee's actions imply that I am simply too ignorant to be trusted with Native American history and it must be protected by these so-called "defenders" of political correctness.

I am convinced that this action at best represents a minority view of Native Americans and a distinct minority within the overall population of the United States. We are a democracy; a democracy is defined in part by how it deals with minority constituencies within the larger body politic. The goal is to accommodate minority interests, protect the weaker among us from abuse while at the same time promoting individual freedoms and the rule of law.

This action, taken by an unelected body, accountable to no public entity, is an attempt not at compromise, but rather a coup de main against selected schools that have been singled out with an arbitrary definition of the words "hostile" and "abusive." It flies in the face of what a democracy is and should be. It is the opposite of the democratic process; it represents the imposition of a tyranny of the minority.

I have written strongly worded letters to both my undergraduate and graduate institutions in protest of the action. Specifically, I will withhold the annual contribution that I make to each of these institutions if the action of the NCAA Executive Committee is allowed to stand. One of the institutions that I attended is directly affected by the decision. I completed my bachelor's degree at the **College of William and Mary**, which has been given an extension to "further study" the mascot issue.

William and Mary's offense? Their logo has two feathers that adorn the "WM" in the manner of an American Indian headdress. William and Mary athletes are cheered on by shouting "Go Tribe!" For this, my alma mater is being put on probation. In effect, William and Mary is being told to contemplate their sins and errors and ordered to repent before the NCAA or lose the "privilege" of competing in their own uniforms at any NCAA-sponsored championship (not that we'll be seeing the Tribe at the Rose Bowl anytime soon, but that's another matter).

IT IS NOT an investigation, it is an inquisition and guilt already has been established.

The irony to me is that last year the West Shore YMCA Indian Princesses program finally abandoned the Indian Princesses moniker in favor of the more neutral (and far less satisfying) "Adventure Guides." I submitted willingly to this neutering of our tradition, in part because I was a part of the leadership and I felt it important to set an example for the girls and for the other fathers. In retrospect, I should perhaps have stayed with my gut and put up more of a protest.

I can readily cite a specific example of how the divestment of our "Indian" heritage has only resulted in a loss to the Native American community. Last year, I was the leader of the Shawnee "tribe" within the West Shore Indian Princesses. Because of my interest in history, and seeing an opportunity to study Native Americans in more detail, I began the process of preparing a history of our particular tribal group in short form for our

What to do about the Tribe's name? Just call us the Team

In a burst of political correctness the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) has decided that college mascots that refer to Native American names will not be welcome at its championship events. A large group of institutions are on notice that they should change their mascot names.

The College of William and Mary is in limbo, not on the current list. The NCAA is giving William and Mary a little more time to reply. We will no doubt claim to be using "Tribe" in a generic sense. After all, weren't

Archibald is a professor of economics at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg.

On My Mind

ROBERT B. ARCHIBALD

The Visigoths a tribe, aren't the Masai a tribe? Still, given the feathers that often adorn the W&M logo and the fact that we were the "Indians" not so long ago, it is quite possible that when the situation clears up, William and Mary will be on the list of colleges and universities that should change their team name. How should we react?

I suggest that we should see this as an invitation to let creativity reign. It is a little bit like being

told that you have to rebuild your kitchen after a hurricane. The process will be painful, but, within some boundaries, you have a chance to be creative.

William and Mary has some advantages. There is a lot of high ground left in a state in which the two most prominent universities call their teams the "Wahoos" and the "Hokies." There are some problems, too. Perhaps the two most obvious good names are already taken. First, the "Monarchs" is very appropriate for William and Mary, but is already used by Old Dominion University. Second, the William in question was William of Orange, so, despite the green and gold uniforms, we

could be the "Orangement" or just the "Orange." Alas, Syracuse University already uses this name.

We should not despair. Team names are a wonderful opportunity to let creativity flow. Many a family plays the game of trying to guess the appropriate team name for the high school in the towns they pass in the car. One of my uncles lives next to the town of Basalt in Colorado. He is sure that their high school teams should be called the "Teens." Unfortunately, the College of William and Mary is already such a mouthful that it does not lend itself to that kind of cleverness.

Please see TRIBE/15

► TRIBE Continued from H1

'Go, Team, go!' The cheers are already written

History isn't too helpful either. Both Dartmouth College and Stanford University used to be the "Indians." For some reason they both chose to change their mascot to a color. Dartmouth is now the "Green," and Stanford is the "Cardinal" — the color, not the bird or one of the gentlemen who selects the pope. While there are several colors left untaken, there is the pesky issue of the uniform

colors, green and gold.

The more one ponders this problem, the more difficult it becomes. It is not a short-term decision. Despite some recent examples, colleges and universities shouldn't go about changing their mascots at the drop of a hat. It is a decision that deserves a lot of thought. Lots of clever mounds should be put to work on this problem.

To get the discussion start-

ed, I would like to make an early suggestion. What about the "Team?" Like Tribe,

Tribe is a generic. Unlike Tribe, Team does not have the possibility of offending even the most thin skinned. There are already many a cheer designed to encourage the team. Teamwork is a very important part of sports.

There is no I in Team, but there is in Tribe.

This suggestion has lots to

recommend it. It is concise.

It is simple. It would save space on the sports pages — "the William and Mary Tribe football team" could be replaced by the "William and Mary football Team." It is distinctive. While lots of colleges and universities denote various groups of players as teams, they are not *the* Team.

If not the Team, what would you suggest? ■

Briefs

NCAA: Namesake tribes' support crucial

The support of "namesake" tribes will be a significant factor in weighing appeals by schools previously deemed to have hostile and abusive American Indian mascots and nicknames, the NCAA announced, using language clipped straight from Florida State's own appeal. "That's very, very important," NCAA executive committee member Arthur Kirk said Friday, referring to FSU's blessing from the Seminole Tribe of Florida.



Dave Fairbank

Tribe debate sizzles on campus

In that incubator for radicals and educated malcontents tucked into the colonial capital, otherwise known as the College of William and Mary, there is a buzz of activity — and not just because parking spaces are as valued as a final-grade nulligan.

The school has a new president for the first time in a dozen years, law professor and former college quarterback Gene Nichol. There is construction galore: new dorms and renovations and a parking deck.

On the fun and games side, the school spent \$50,000 for a permanent hardwood floor in William and Mary Hall.

They dug up the old track at Zable Stadium, in preparation for laying down a new one next spring. Despite appearances, they swear the old ballyard will be ready in time for the football home opener in 3½ weeks.

New soccer and lacrosse practice fields near the Dillard dorm complex are almost complete, and the installation of permanent lights at Zable awaits only state approval.

But the most intriguing athletic issue on campus these days has nothing to do with fields and buildings, and everything to do with perception.

William and Mary is in the process of assembling a report to the NCAA about its nickname — "Tribe" — and why it should not be judged "hostile and abusive" to Native Americans.

Thirty-two of the 33 NCAA member schools with Native-American nicknames and mascots recently learned if they were acceptable. W&M received an extension because it was between administrations.

Any school that produced four U.S. presidents and that was judged "notest small state school" by Newsweek needs no outside help to argue its case, but part of its report will go something like this:

"Tribe" is about as innocuous a reference to Native-Americans as it gets. The closest thing to a mascot the school has is a green, fuzzy creature called Colonel Edirt ("Tribe" spelled backwards). Who obviously was named on a day when all the clever kids slept late.

Areva Indian tribes have not protested the school nickname as hostile or insensitive. The only visible Native-American references are a couple of green-and-gold feathers on the school logo.

In the rare instances when inclined, William and Mary fans perform maybe the nation's most pitiful, half-hearted "Tomahawk Chop."

Naturally all of this guarantees that the NCAA will deem "Tribe" hostile and abusive.

Thus, the school will be denied the chance to host postseason competitions. It must cover or alter offending logos, and athletic director Terry Driscoll will have to pay full retail at the NCAA store in Indianapolis.

William and Mary's nickname predicament may be blamed on a former student.

Please see FAIRBANK/B3

Athletics — Indian Symbolism

► FAIRBANK Continued from B1

W&M athletic teams or regally were known as the Orange and White, and later the Orange and Black, after the school colors.

According to the book, Goal to Goal, a history of W&M football.

In 1916, a student named William Durham Harris, who was editor of both the campus paper, The Flat Hat, and the literary magazine, suggested calling the teams the "Indians," after the Indian school that was housed in one of the original campus buildings during colonial times.

For decades, W&M had mascots dressed in Native-American costumes and had a cartoon Indian as its logo. The school gradually did away with those images.

Under former athletic director Jim Copeland (1981-85), William and Mary began to shift the nickname from "Indians" to "Tribe."

"We did it more for marketing than for political correctness," Copeland said recently from his office at SMU, where he has been athletic director for a decade. "We thought that 'Tribe' had a better feel to it, in

terms of our teams and team concept."

Under Copeland's successor, the late John Randolph, the athletic department completed the shift to "Tribe" in the mid-1980s.

W&M officials will present their report by Nov. 1 and await the NCAA's verdict — expected early this winter — before responding.

The NCAA allows that schools' nicknames and mascots are their own business, but believes it has the right, as well as the obligation, to administer postseason competition not only fairly but sensitively.

Problem is, sensitivity can no more be legislated than can compassion or charitable contributions. Absent the truly offensive or legitimately aggrieved, most action appears to be needless meddling.

The thickness of the NCAA rule book is a testament to which way the NCAA leans on that notion.

Dave Fairbank can be reached at 247-4637 or by e-mail at dfairbank@dailypress.com

Athletics - Indian Symbolism

Daily Press

8/24/05

NCAA clears Florida State's use of 'Seminoles'

Florida State is removed from a list of colleges with American Indian nicknames that were restricted by an earlier NCAA decision.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — The NCAA will allow Florida State to use its Seminoles nickname in postseason play, removing the school from a list of colleges with American Indian nicknames that were restricted by an NCAA decision earlier this month. The NCAA said it was recog-

nizing the relationship Florida State has long enjoyed with the Seminole Tribe of Florida, which assists the university with its pageantry and celebration of its culture and supports the school's use of its name.

"The staff review committee noted the unique relationship between the university and the Seminole Tribe of Florida as a significant factor," NCAA senior vice president Bernard Franklin said in a statement released Tuesday.

"The decision of a namesake sovereign tribe, regarding when and how its name and imagery can be used, must be respected even when others may not agree."

Florida State president T.K. Wetherell had threatened to sue the NCAA immediately after its

Aug. 5 announcement that the school's highly visible nickname, "Seminoles," was defined as "hostile and abusive" by a committee.

"The two things we requested in our appeal were granted," Wetherell said. "I'm ready to play football, start school and have classes begin and all that kind of stuff."

Lee Hinkle, vice president for university relations, said the school e-mailed 250,000 alumni and friends of the NCAA decision.

"I don't think anything has brought them together quite as much as this," said Wetherell. "Whether you're a Gator, Hurricane or Bulldog, those entities believe it's a Florida decision."

Gov. Jeb Bush also applauded the NCAA's reversal.

"When you make a mistake it's important to realize it and move on," Bush said. "They came to the right conclusion ... the Seminole mascot and the tradition at Florida State, is not offensive to anyone."

The NCAA said it would handle reviews from other schools on a case-by-case basis. The Illinois Fighting Illini, Utah Utes and North Dakota Fighting Sioux are among other prominent school nicknames that remain affected by the edict.

Utah athletic director Chris Hill said the school is expecting a similar ruling on its appeal. The university is working on its appeal with the Ute tribe and it should be filed within a week or two, he said. ■

Richmond Times-Dispatch

8/24/05

NCAA allows Seminoles nickname in postseason

Review panel notes relationship between university and tribe

BY BRENT KALLESTAD
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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similar ruling on its appeal. The university is working on its appeal with the Ute tribe and it should be filed within a week or two, he said.

"We want to do it as fast as possible, but we want to do everything thorough," Hill said. "We felt all along that we would get a favorable ruling."

Under the NCAA restrictions, teams with American Indian nicknames would not be able to display them on uniforms or have their mascots perform in postseason tournaments.

9/28/05

SPORTS FOCUS WILLIAM AND MARY'S NICKNAME

Tradition on trial

School administrator defends response to NCAA regarding the use of Tribe as an emblem

BY JOHN O'CONNOR
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

WILLIAMSBURG

In his William and Mary office yesterday, Provost P. Geoffrey Feiss described the school's response to an NCAA request that the nickname "Tribe" be justified.

The setting was appropriate. The Provost's office is located in The Brafferton, the small brick building in which W&M operated a school for American Indians during the 18th century.



Feiss

"So you had the school for the young sons of the colonists over there," Feiss said, motioning across a yard. "And you had the Indian School here. So there is that history."

The NCAA in August adopted a policy that would prohibit member schools from displaying "hostile and abusive" racial/ethnic/national origin mascots, nicknames or imagery at NCAA championships. Schools that do so, by the NCAA's standard, would not be allowed to play host to NCAA championships. William and Mary was on a list of 19 schools targeted by the NCAA, which asked for a nickname self-study from each school by May 1 of this year. W&M requested and received an extension — to Nov. 1 — because of the July 1 installation of a new school president, Gene R. Nichol.

Feiss, who is in charge of the school's self-study,

said "I've heard everything, from 'This is none of the NCAA's business,' to 'Get rid of the whole [Tribe] thing,'" Feiss said. "I'll be honest. This is one of those you're-not-going-to-make-everybody-happy situations."

The NCAA's self-study form includes about 20 questions. The school is asked to explain how it came to adopt its athletic mascot and logos, whether its alumni and leadership groups support the mascot and logos and what American Indian representatives think about the mascot and logos.

Last week, W&M formally began discussing the issue with alumni, its Board of Visitors and the school's Parents Council. Feiss had meetings scheduled yesterday with faculty and student-body groups. Meetings with tribal chiefs in the region are being arranged, according to Feiss, who said he also has spoken with faculty whose scholarship is in the area of American Indians.

"I'm sure there's a range of opinion on this matter, and I think we have to listen to that. I think that's important to listen to," Feiss said. "Because the implication of expropriation of identity, it's not an insignificant matter. . . . We're going to try to listen to as many people as we can, and there will be people on both sides of this issue."

Neither Feiss nor the school's athletic director, Terry Driscoll, said he has been contacted by American Indian organizations that object to the "Tribe" W&M's athletic teams were known as the Indians until the late 1970s, when the school began pulling away from that nickname.



Driscoll

Feiss doesn't believe W&M's nickname qualifies as "hostile and abusive," and adds "I can see a term like 'Redskin' fulfilling that. But a term like 'Tribe' is only to a certain extent applicable to Native

Americans."

William and Mary's athletic logo — interlocking W and M with two feathers protruding — is painted in yellow on the street in front of the school's admissions office and adorns much of



W&M's merchandise. Feiss said elimination of the feathers, while keeping the Tribe nickname, could be a compromise position.

"This will be a decision made predominantly by the president," Feiss said. "My sense is that he is open to hearing, but that he feels fairly strongly that this is a traditional name, it's a name that is non-pejorative. He would want to hear good sufficient reason why [a change] would be something he would want to do."

"But we're not going into this process with our mind already made up. That would be inappropriate."

According to Driscoll, there has been "overwhelming support" for the nickname "Tribe" among those William and Mary alums and friends with whom he regularly comes in contact.

Some W&M backers decades ago used to dress like Indians at games. The school's primary fundraising group was called The Tomahawk Club. W&M publications referred to each home-game setting as The Reservation. Other than the feathers that are part of the logo, there is no visible link to American Indians when the Tribe plays.

The only "hostile and abusive" aspect of last weekend's 56-0 win over Liberty at Zable Stadium came with 6 minutes left and W&M ahead 49-0. As Liberty lined up to punt, the Tribe's cheerleaders chanted "Block that kick! Block that kick!"

• Contact John O'Connor at (804) 649-6233 or joconnor@timesdispatch.com

Gina Woodward

From: Gene R. Nichol [gnichol@wm.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2005 1:28 PM
To: staff@wm.edu; faculty@wm.edu
Subject: [staff_send] William and Mary's Self-Evaluation of the Nickname "Tribe"

Dear Friends:

Some months ago, the National Collegiate Athletic Association asked William and Mary--along with 30 other colleges and universities--to determine whether the Native American nickname and logo associated with our athletic program are "hostile and abusive."

This fall, I appointed Provost Geoff Feiss to chair a steering committee preparing the College's self evaluation. I want to share with you the committee's work, which has been completed and forwarded to the NCAA. The entire report and my cover letter can be found at www.wm.edu/NCAA.

After careful consideration, the self-evaluation committee, the Board of Visitors and I find no basis for concluding that the use of the term "Tribe" violates NCAA standards. On the contrary, the "Tribe" moniker communicates ennobling sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community, and common cause.

I'm pleased to tell you that my recent conversations with nearby Virginia Indian tribes have affirmed their acceptance of the nickname, which highlights, of course, the historical connection between the College and its role in educating Native Americans.

Geoff and his colleagues conducted a thorough and thoughtful review. I'm grateful for their work--for the input I've received from not a few alumni, students, and friends of the College--and, most of all, that our community's powerful sense of common endeavor indeed deserves the name "Tribe."

Go Tribe. Hark upon the gale.

Gene Nichol



W&M will fight to keep 'Tribe', 1B

The Virginia Gazette, Williamsburg 11/2/2005 1B

Sports & schools

W&M makes pitch to remain Tribe

By John Harvey

WILLIAMSBURG — The College of William & Mary has told the NCAA that it wants to keep "Tribe" as its nickname.

In a letter Tuesday to Ronald Stratten, vice president of education services for the NCAA, W&M president Gene Nichol defended use of the nickname in a 3-page letter. He said that "Tribe."

■ Powerfully and pointedly describes the remarkable sense of attachment and commitment that W&M students, staff and faculty fell toward one another and their institution.

■ Appropriately highlights the defining, historical connection between the college and the education of Native Americans. A principal element of W&M's founding mission was the education of indigenous peoples.

■ Does not offend regional Virginia tribal

leaders, who do not consider its use at W&M to be "hostile and abusive."

"I think we've made a strong case," Nichol said of W&M's self-study. "The task force felt like I did, that the Tribe nickname is not hostile or abusive. I think the position the task force took was the correct position."

Last November the NCAA asked 30 institutions to examine their sports nickname because of an association with American Indians. Each college was asked to complete a self-analysis regarding logo, mascot and nicknames that could be viewed as offensive.

The University of Illinois (Fighting Illini), University of North Dakota (Fighting Sioux) and Bradley University (Braves) were among the institutions asked to change their nicknames.

Florida State was also on the list, but the NCAA backed down after the university was able to show that Seminole Indians in the state supported the use of the name.

Completed surveys were due last May, but W&M was granted an extension because of the transition to Nichol as the college's new president, and the selection of a new director of the alumni association.

Tuesday was the deadline for W&M to submit its report to the NCAA. The NCAA has set no timetable to issue its response to W&M.

Nichol said that it's possible to read some of the preliminary NCAA determinations as penalizing the display of any Indian-related name or imagery, regardless of its character, unless the

name is owned by a particular tribe. That tribe would have to grant permission for its use. He also called ironic the possibility that Tribe could be deemed unusable, yet a local tribe's name could be acceptable.

W&M field hockey coach Peel Hawthorne said Tribe is a part of the area's culture.

"The early beginnings of William and Mary included the formation of an Indian School, which was housed in the Brafferton," Hawthorne said. "Regardless of its controversial nature, our interaction with indigenous Indian tribe is an undeniable part of our history."

Hawthorne has coached field hockey at W&M for 18 years and says the nickname embodies the essence of team and community. "Tribe brings to my mind the values of family, honor, tradition, strength, courage and unity, all of which are qualities we emphasize in sport." □



Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

Daily Press

11/2/05

W&M tells NCAA why 'Tribe' should remain

William and Mary submits a report to the NCAA defending its use of its nickname.

BY MARY O'BRIEN
mobren@dailypress.com | 247-4963

W&M was not included on an NCAA list of 18 schools with hostile and abusive nicknames and mascots.

WILLIAMSBURG — William and Mary has asked the NCAA to allow the college to retain the "Tribe" nickname and logo for its athletic teams. W&M President Gene R. Nichol made the request Tuesday morning in a letter submitted to the NCAA that included the school's self-examination of the nickname.

Nichol was responding to an NCAA request, made last fall, that W&M evaluate whether the nickname and logo are "hostile and abusive" to the Native American community. "The school does not have a mascot, but Native American feathers are attached to the "W&M" logo on uniforms.

In August, the NCAA ruled that nicknames or mascots deemed hostile or abusive will not be allowed on team uniforms or other clothing beginning with any tournament after Feb. 1. W&M was not included on an NCAA list of 18 schools with hostile and abusive nicknames and mascots, and was given until Nov. 1 to submit a self-evaluation defending its use of the name.

The evaluation submitted Tuesday represented the views of Nichol, the school's Board of Visitors and a task force assigned to review the matter. They cited several reasons "Tribe" should not be considered offensive.

■ The Tribe moniker is designed to communicate ennobling sentiments of commitment shared idealism, community and common cause. Nichol said that countless students have told him that "Tribe" powerfully and pointedly describes the remarkable sense of attachment and commitment that William and Mary students,

staff and faculty feel toward one another and their institution."

■ The use of the term "Tribe" appropriately highlights the school's historical connection to the education of Native Americans. It stated that the school began enrolling young Indian men in 1697 and has long dedicated special attention and resources to the study and education of Native Americans.

■ Regional tribal leaders with whom they consulted indicated that they did not consider "Tribe" to be hostile and abusive.

Nichol said he does not know when the NCAA will rule whether the school can keep its nickname. He did not rule out an appeal if the organization finds against W&M.

"I think we've made a strong case for our position with the NCAA, and I don't want to speculate what might happen should they rule against us," Nichol said. "I think the position that our task force, Board of Visitors and that I've taken here today is the correct position.

"I'm confident the NCAA will agree with that. If they don't, we'll consider what to do at that point. There is an appeal process from this determination."

Nichol said he hoped that the NCAA does not adopt a "permission-only" standard, where a school can use a nickname only if a Native American tribe authorizes it. The NCAA allowed Florida State to keep the Seminoles moniker because it received authorization from the local tribe. Nichol said that standard does not apply to "Tribe" because the name is generic. ■

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism 11/2/2005

Richmond Times-Dispatch

11/2/05

W&M issues report

School responds to
NCAA, defending use
of Tribe as nickname.

WILLIAMSBURG — William and Mary has no intention of changing its athletic nickname, Tribe.

The school yesterday submitted its report concerning the issue to the NCAA, which identified "Tribe" several months ago as a nickname that could be viewed as offensive as it relates to American Indians. W&M and 10 other Division I schools on the NCAA's list were required to complete a self-examination.

The NCAA will now analyze W&M's report. If the NCAA determines that "Tribe" is "hostile and abusive," W&M could be prohibited from using its nickname and logo in NCAA postseason events and also could be declared ineligible to serve as host for NCAA postseason events.

"I think we've made a strong case for our position to the NCAA, and I don't want to speculate on what might happen should they rule against us," said Gene R. Nichol, who became W&M's president in July.

In a letter to the NCAA, Nichol states that W&M's nickname "is designed to communicate enduring sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community and common cause." W&M dropped the nickname "Indians" and became the "Tribe" in the 1980s.

According to Nichol, American Indian tribal leaders in Virginia with whom W&M consulted have no objection to the nickname "Tribe."

— John O'Connor

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

From Bacon's Rebellion

11-3-05

An Outbreak of Common Sense at William & Mary

It's encouraging to know that there are some outer boundaries of political correctness that even Virginia's vanguard universities will not cross. In response to a National Collegiate Athletic Association initiative, the College of William & Mary has evaluated the use of the Native American logo and nickname -- the Tribe -- and concluded that they are not "hostile and abusive."

President Gene Nichol appointed an evaluation committee, which gave the matter careful consideration. Not only does the term "Tribe" not violate NCAA standards, the moniker "communicates ennobling sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community, and common cause," Nichol wrote in a letter published on the W&M website. "My recent conversations with nearby Virginia Indian tribes have affirmed their acceptance of the nickname, which highlights, of course, the historical connection between the College and its role in educating Native Americans."

One can never take for granted the triumph of common sense on a university campus.
This is truly cause for celebration!

Athletics - Indian Symbolism

VIRGINIA^{THE} GAZETTE

11/5/05

Tribe nickname cont.

'Thank you to William & Mary President Gene Nichol for standing up to the politically correct NCAA. He informed the NCAA that the College of William & Mary had no intention of changing the school nickname, the Tribe. The NCAA had indicated the term might be hostile or abusive, and as such should be changed. Nichol stood up for our community and advanced the outstanding achievements of our Tribe.

W&M defends Tribe nickname to NCAA

BY PHILIP WALZER THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT • Reach PhilipWalzer at (757) 222-5105 or phil.walzer@pilotonline.com

Memo from Gene Nichol to the NCAA: Don't massacre the Tribe.

The president of The College of William and Mary has sent the NCAA a letter defending the use of the nickname as representing the campus "remarkable sense of attachment" and its historic connections with Native Americans.

The NCAA had asked William and Mary for a "self-evaluation" by Nov. 1 to determine whether the use of the name is "hostile and abusive."

The term, Nichol said, is "almost the opposite of hostile and abusive. We think it's meant to communicate sentiments of commitment and common cause among members of this community."

The name, he said, also has support from Indian tribes.

W&M does not have a mascot. The school's logo sometimes appears with feathers.

NCAA spokesman Bob Williams said the association had not reviewed W&M's letter. He did not know when it would respond. If it disagrees, the NCAA could add W&M to a list of 15 campuses banned from hosting championships.

"I think they're going to do the right thing," Nichol said, "and they're going to recognize that the use of the term the 'Tribe' is a long distance from hostile."



Richmond Times-Dispatch

11/5/05



■ In August the NCAA banned the use of Native American mascots and imagery at sponsored events if such use was perceived as "hostile and abusive." Virginia's William & Mary — a/k/a The Tribe — was one of 31 schools asked to examine its nickname. Following a recent investigation, the school decided to keep its logo. Provost Geoff Feiss' investigating committee found that the term refers to "ennobling sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community, and common cause." Nearby Indians also lent a supporting voice for keeping the moniker. **WILLIAM & MARY** Derived from the Greek word *tribus*, which refers to a group of Roman people, college officials came to a sane and balanced decision about use of the term in question. Fight on, mighty Tribe.



Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

May 16, 2006

VIA FACSIMILE [757-221-1259]

P.O. Box 6222

Indianapolis, Indiana 46206

Telephone: 317/917-6222

President Gene Nichol
College of William and Mary
P.O. Box 399
Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-0399

Shipping/Overnight Address:

1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive

Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

www.ncaa.org

Dear President Nichol:

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) staff committee has reviewed the College of William and Mary's institutional self study and corresponding documents and determined that, based on the use of Native American feather imagery in conjunction with the nickname "Tribe," William and Mary should be included on the list of colleges and universities subject to the provisions of the policy.

The position from which the NCAA staff review committee began its deliberations is that there is a rebuttable presumption that the use of Native American mascots, names and/or imagery by member institutions for their athletics teams and programs creates a hostile or abusive environment for members of the campus community and/or general public who are subjected to it and/or the student-athletes involved in NCAA championship competition. Specifically, the Association's principle of nondiscrimination states in part, "The Association shall promote an atmosphere of respect for and sensitivity to the dignity of every person." At an ever increasing rate of occurrence and volume, Native Americans have expressed their objection to the use of names, terms, imagery and mascots associated with athletics teams.

William and Mary raises three points to support its conclusion that the use of the term "Tribe" by the college is consistent with the NCAA Constitution and principle of nondiscrimination. First, the college contends that the nickname "Tribe" is designed to communicate ennobling sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community and common cause. The institution notes that, several years ago, on its own initiative, it abandoned the use of the nickname "Indians," as well as a Native American mascot. Second, the college suggests that the term "Tribe" appropriately highlights a historical connection with the education of Native Americans in that a principal element of the college's founding mission was the education of indigenous peoples. Finally, the college notes that regional tribal leaders have indicated that they do not consider William and Mary's use of the nickname "Tribe" to be hostile or abusive.

National Collegiate Athletic Association

An association of over 1,200 members serving the student-athlete

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The committee agrees with the institution's position that the nickname "Tribe," has various connotations and notes that, absent Native American imagery, the term "Tribe" does not invoke Native American meanings. However, the committee believes that coupling the term "Tribe" with imagery that has traditionally been linked to Native Americans (e.g, eagle feathers, arrowheads), transforms that use from one associated with "togetherness," "shared idealism," and "commitment" to a stereotypical reference to Native Americans.

The committee comments the college for the steps it has taken to eliminate the nickname "Indians" and to discontinue the use of a Native American mascot in an attempt to diminish the potential for expropriation and disparagement. Additionally, the committee recognizes the college's focus on Native American research and studies, as well as the opportunities provided for Native Americans. However, the NCAA Executive Committee's policy and the staff review committee's application of the policy have consistently held that good intentions and well-meaning efforts by schools cannot by themselves overcome the objection of those being characterized by such terms. The committee believes that, while the college's rationale for the use of the nickname and imagery is not inherently hostile or abusive and the college may not intend to malign Native Americans, the continued use of such Native American references creates an environment over which an institution may not have full control. Fans, opponents, and others can and will exhibit behaviors that indeed are hostile or abusive to Native Americans.

The committee also recognizes the support from the Virginia tribal leaders but notes that, while not all Native Americans are of the same mind with regard to the effect of such nicknames, mascots and imagery, a significant majority of the two million individuals who designate themselves as solely Native American concur that stereotyping of their culture and customs has contributed to a continuation of the hostile or abusive environment in which they have been placed for generations.

I would point out that the NCAA policy governs championships participation and hosting opportunities and does not preclude an institution from autonomously selecting and using a mascot or nickname of its choice during regular season and conference competition. The Association supports the concept of institutional autonomy and recognizes the right and responsibility of each institution to address these issues at the campus level. However, consistent with its core principles pertaining to cultural diversity, ethical sportsmanship and nondiscrimination, the Executive Committee's policy reinforces the belief that stereotyping Native Americans through nicknames and imagery is wrong. In this regard, William and Mary may choose to continue the use of the nickname "Tribe," with associated Native American imagery but, as such, would be subject to the provisions set forth in the policy.

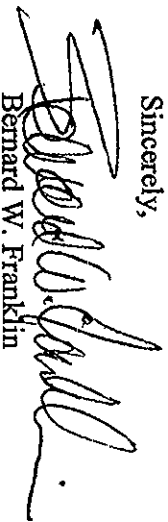
It is also important to note that there is an appeals process for any decision that is reached by the staff review committee. If an institution disagrees with a decision by the staff review committee, an appeal can be filed with the Executive Committee within 30 days after receipt of this letter. If the institution submits an appeal within the 30-day timeframe, the provisions of the policy would

President Gene Nichol
May 16, 2006
Page No. 3

be stayed until the Executive Committee renders its decision. This appeal must be submitted in writing. Depending on an institution's divisional affiliation, appeals will be reviewed by the appropriate presidential governance entity for a recommendation to the Executive Committee. (In the case of William and Mary, it is the NCAA Division I Board of Directors.)

I hope this information is helpful as you work through these issues on your campus and in your community. We certainly recognize the sensitivity and complexity of these matters, and we stand ready to provide assistance as needed.

Sincerely,



Bernard W. Franklin
Senior Vice President for Governance and Membership

BWF:jw

cc: Selected NCAA Staff Members

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

Statement by NCAA Senior Vice-President for Governance and Membership Bernard Franklin on the College of William and Mary Review

For Immediate Release

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Contact

Bob Williams

Managing Director of Public and Media Relations

317/917-6117

"The NCAA staff review committee has included the College of William and Mary on the list of colleges and universities subject to restrictions on the use of Native American mascots, names and imagery at NCAA championships.

"The staff review committee reviewed the College of William and Mary's institutional self study and corresponding documents and determined that, based on the use of Native American feather imagery in conjunction with the nickname "Tribe," the College of William and Mary should be included on the list of colleges and universities subject to the provisions of the policy.

"The College of William and Mary raised three points to support its conclusion that the use of the term "Tribe" by the college is not inconsistent with the NCAA Constitution and principle of nondiscrimination. First, the college contended that the nickname "Tribe" is designed to communicate ennobling sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community and common cause. The institution noted that, several years ago, on its own initiative, it abandoned the use of the nickname "Indians" as well as a Native American mascot. Second, the college suggested that the term "Tribe" appropriately highlights a historical connection with the education of Native Americans in that a principal element of the college's founding mission was the education of indigenous peoples. Finally, the college noted that regional tribal leaders have indicated that they do not consider William and Mary's use of the nickname "Tribe" to be hostile or abusive.

"The committee agrees with the institution's position that the nickname "Tribe," has various connotations, and notes that absent Native American imagery, the term "Tribe" does not invoke Native American meanings. However, the committee believes that coupling the term "Tribe" with imagery that has traditionally been linked to Native Americans, for example eagle feathers and arrowheads, transforms that use from one associated with "togetherness," "shared idealism," and "commitment" to a stereotypical reference to Native Americans.

"The committee commends the college for the steps it has taken to eliminate the nickname "Indians" and to discontinue the use of a Native American mascot.

Additionally, the committee recognizes the college's focus on Native American research and studies as well as the opportunities provided for Native Americans. However, the Executive Committee's policy, and the staff review committee's application of the policy have consistently held that good intentions and well-meaning efforts by schools cannot by themselves overcome the objection of those being characterized by such terms. The committee believes that while the college's rationale for the use of the nickname and imagery is not inherently hostile or abusive, and the college may not intend to malign Native Americans, the continued use of such Native American references creates an environment over which an institution may not have full control. Fans, opponents, and others can and will exhibit behaviors that indeed are hostile or abusive to Native Americans.

"The committee also recognizes the support from the Virginia tribal leaders but notes that while not all Native Americans are of the same mind with regard to the effect of such nicknames, mascots and imagery, a significant majority of the two million individuals who designate themselves as solely Native American concur that stereotyping of their culture and customs has contributed to a continuation of the hostile or abusive environment in which they have been placed for generations.

"The NCAA's position on the use of Native American mascots, names and imagery has not changed, and the NCAA remains committed to ensuring an atmosphere of respect and sensitivity for all who participate in and attend our championships.

"If an institution disagrees with a decision by the staff review committee, an appeal can be filed with the NCAA Executive Committee. This appeal must be submitted in writing. Depending on an institution's divisional affiliation, appeals will be reviewed by the appropriate presidential governance entity for a recommendation to the Executive Committee. In the case of William and Mary, it is the Division I Board of Directors."

Decision gives W&M half of what it wanted on mascot and logo

The NCAA rules William and Mary may keep its "Tribe" nickname but can't use American Indian feathers on its icon

BY MARTY O'BRIEN
mobrien@dailypress.com | 247-4963

WILLIAMSBURG — The NCAA informed the College of William and Mary on Tuesday that use of the nickname "Tribe" for its athletic teams was neither hostile nor abusive to American Indians. But the

association also ruled that the school would be subject to penalties if it continued to attach Indian feathers to the "W&M" logo on uniforms.

The college's reaction to the news was mixed.

William T. Walker, associate vice president for public affairs,

praised the National Collegiate Athletic Association for allowing the school to keep the Tribe name. But he disagreed with its ruling on the green-and-gold feathers.

"The good news is that we are forever going to be the Tribe," he said. "We won the most important point. What we object to is they

won't allow us to use the feathers, but they let Florida State use violent imagery like braves throwing flaming spears, the war paint and that sort of thing."

William and Mary can file an appeal to the NCAA Executive



Please see W&M LOGO/A9

► **W&M LOGO** Continued from A1

Indian official OK with generic 'Tribe'

Committee within the next 30 days. Should it lose the appeal, the Tribe can't wear the logo on its uniform during NCAA championship events, and it can't host NCAA events.

Tuesday's ruling is the latest in a process that began in November 2004, when the NCAA asked 33 member institutions — William and Mary among them — to submit a self-analysis of their use of Indian mascots.

Since then, the NCAA has denied the use of Indian mascots at several schools, including the use of "Fighting Sioux" at the University of North Dakota and "Illini" at the University of Illinois.

In November 2005, William and Mary President Gene R. Nichol submitted a letter to the NCAA, requesting the school be allowed to keep its nickname and

logo. Nichol's letter cited several reasons that "Tribe" shouldn't be considered offensive:

■ The "Tribe" name is designed to communicate ennobling sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community and common cause.

■ The use of the term "Tribe" appropriately highlights the school's connection to the education of American Indians, going back to 1697. Nichol also highlighted the attention and resources that the school had committed to the study and education of Indians.

■ Regional tribal leaders with whom the college consulted indicated that they didn't consider "Tribe" to be hostile and abusive.

In allowing William and Mary to keep the "Tribe" nickname, the NCAA agreed with the

school on the first two points of Nichol's letter. It also commended William and Mary for eliminating its former nickname of "Indians" (during the mid-1980s) and discontinuing the use of an Indian mascot.

The committee also recognized that though some regional tribal leaders supported the college, it didn't agree that the school be allowed to use feathers on its logo.

The NCAA report read in part: "The Executive Committee's policy reinforces the belief that stereotyping Native Americans through nicknames and imagery is wrong.

"In this regard, William and Mary may choose to continue the use of the nickname 'Tribe' with

associated Native American imagery but, as such, would be subject to the provisions set forth in the policy."

The NCAA ruling makes sense to Reggie Tupponce Jr., vice president of the Virginia Indian Tribal Alliance for Life.

"For me personally, it's kind of a good thing," said Tupponce, of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, outside Richmond.

"William and Mary has said it is not using 'Tribe' in the Indian sense of the term. If the feathers are not there, it makes that (assertion) clear.

"It wasn't so much the name (Tribe) I didn't like, it's the things that go along with it — the use of the Tomahawk Chop and so forth." ■

ATHLETICS -- Indian Symbolism

5/17/06

W&M can keep Tribe

But NCAA tries to pluck feathers as offensive

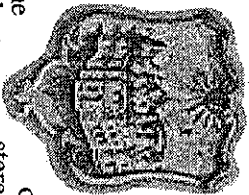
By Rusty Carter

WILLIAMSBURG — The College of William & Mary scored a partial victory Tuesday when the NCAA agreed to allow W&M's athletic teams to keep the nickname "Tribe." But it considers the two feathers depicted on some W&M logos as offensive to Native Americans.

W&M undertook a self study of its name after the NCAA listed the college among several institutions it said had nicknames considered offensive. The list was pocked with peculiarities, dingy one college nicknamed the Braves but ignoring another with the same moniker. Florida State, which calls its teams the Seminoles after an Indian tribe, did not make the list.

W&M held that the Tribe nickname should stay based on three points:

- The nickname is used to "communicate ennobling sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community and common cause.
- It abandoned its Indians nickname several years ago, and removed an Indian mascot.
- Regional tribal leaders indicated they did



not find the nickname Tribe to be hostile or abusive.

In a 3-page letter Tuesday to President Gene Nichol, Bernard Franklin, the NCAA's senior vice president for Governance and Membership, said the committee agreed with W&M's position that Tribe has various connotations.

The feathers were a different story. "The committee believes that coupling the term 'Tribe' with imagery that has traditionally been linked to Native Americans (i.s. eagle features, arrowheads), transforms that use from one associated with 'togetherness' to a stereotypical reference to Native Americans," Franklin wrote.

"While the college's rationale for the use of the nickname and imagery is not inherently hostile or abusive... the continued use of such Native American references creates an environment over which an institution may not have full control."

According to W&M spokesman Bill Walker, the college will appeal the ruling.

Tribe OK, logo isn't

NCAA objects to
W&M's feathers;
nickname accepted

BY JOHN O'CONNOR

Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

The NCAA wants William and Mary to scrap its feathers.

The governing body of college athletics yesterday ruled that W&M's nickname, the Tribe, is acceptable but objected to the two feathers that are part of a logo the school's



sports teams sometimes employ. William and Mary was among 19

schools the NCAA identified last year as users of "mascots, nicknames or imagery" related to American Indians that could be considered "hostile and abusive."

About 30 years ago, W&M dropped the nickname "Indians," its American Indian mascot, and all other athletics-related imagery linked to American Indians, except the feathered logo.

The NCAA commended W&M on the modifications and recognized that its nickname drew support from Virginia tribal leaders. After W&M defended its use of Tribe and its logos in a report to the NCAA, the NCAA determined that the nickname is not offensive absent American Indian imagery.

But in a letter received yesterday by Gene Nichol, W&M's president, Bernard W. Franklin, the NCAA's senior vice president for governance and membership, wrote that the nickname coupled with the feathered logo creates "an environment over which an institution may not have full control. Fans, opponents, and others can and will exhibit behaviors that indeed are hostile or abusive to Native Americans."

Franklin also wrote that W&M's nickname paired with the feathered logo transmits "that use [of Tribe] from one associated with 'togetherness,' shared idealism, and commitment, to a stereotypical reference to Native Americans."

The NCAA cannot force a school to change its nickname or logos. If W&M chooses to keep the feathers on its logo, it is subject to two NCAA sanctions: The school cannot serve as a host for NCAA postseason competition, and W&M can-

SEE TRIBE PAGE E3 ▶

*Athletics - Indian Symbolism
5/17/2006*

Richmond Times-Dispatch

5-17-06

Tribe

—FROM PAGE E1

not display the logo while participating in NCAA postseason events.

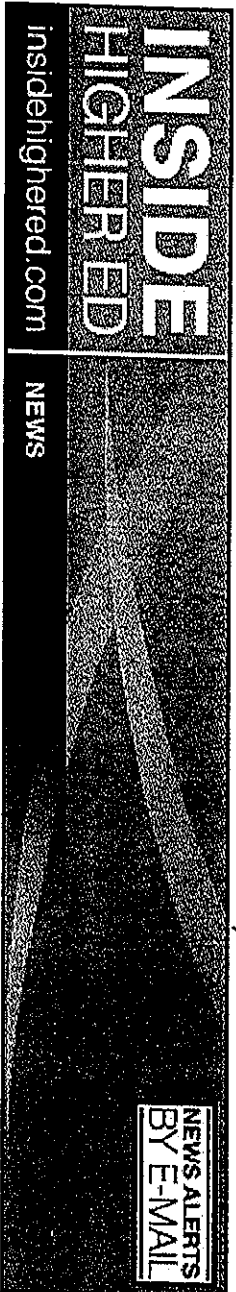
"We feel like this is a victory. They've acknowledged that 'Tribe' is not hostile or abusive," William T. Walker, W&M's associate vice president for public affairs, said last night. But he added that W&M will appeal the NCAA ruling as it applies to the feathered logo.

Walker noted that the NCAA granted Florida State permission to continue use of Seminoles and its American Indian mascot after FSU demonstrated support from the Seminole tribe of Florida.

"To say what William and Mary does is not acceptable and what Florida State University does is acceptable boggles our minds," Walker said in a W&M release.

• Contact staff writer John O'Connor at joconnor@timesdispatch.com or (804) 649-6233.

Athletics -- Indian Symbols



News, Views and Careers for All of Higher Education

May 17

Quick Takes: Calif. Action Against Photo School Voided, NCAA Condemns 'Tribe' Nickname at William & Mary

- The California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Vocational Education violated its own procedures when it found that Brooks Institute of Photography had misled prospective students and barred the for-profit college from enrolling new students, the California Department of Consumer Affairs has concluded. The department, of which the vocational education bureau is a part, said that the bureau had failed to give officials of the college, which is owned by the Career Education Corporation, a chance to contest the findings before the agency took action last July. The finding is largely a procedural one, and the consumer affairs department directed the vocational education bureau to extend Brooks's current approval to operate until the agency conducts a qualitative review of Brooks's performance.

The College of William & Mary's "Tribe" nickname, in conjunction with its use of Native American imagery like eagle feathers, warrants its inclusion on a list of colleges with icons deemed "hostile and abusive," the National Collegiate Athletic Association announced Tuesday. William and Mary will be restricted from participating in and playing host to NCAA championships as long as it maintains the Native American imagery, under a policy the association adopted last year. William and Mary's president, Gene R. Nichol, had noted in its petition to the NCAA that the college had changed its nickname from "Indians" and discontinued its Native American mascot, and argued that the use of the name

— Doug Lederman

Comments

There currently are no comments on this item.

Got something to say? Add a comment.

An article of **DailyProgress.com**
The Daily Progress

William & Mary restricted from using mascot in NCAA championships

Associated Press
Tuesday, May 16, 2006

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. - The College of William & Mary may keep its "Tribe" mascot, but can't use it in NCAA tournaments, college athletics' governing board said Tuesday.

The NCAA included William & Mary on its list of schools subject to a policy banning the use of "hostile" and "abusive" Indian nicknames, mascots and imagery at championship events. That means the university also cannot host an NCAA tournament.

"The good news is that we are forever going to be the Tribe," William & Mary spokesman William T. Walker said in a statement.

The school had submitted a review, in which it argued that the Tribe nickname was consistent with the NCAA's policy of nondiscrimination. It claimed the nickname "is designed to communicate ennobling sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community and common cause," that it appropriately highlights the school's founding mission to educate indigenous peoples and that regional tribal leaders had indicated they do not consider the school's nickname hostile or abusive.

The NCAA, in a letter to President Gene Nichol, said it agreed that the nickname "Tribe" wasn't offensive, but combined with the logo showing two feathers "transforms that use from one associated with 'togetherness,' 'shared idealism,' and 'commitment' to stereotypical reference to Native Americans."

The body said the school's use of the imagery "creates an environmental over which an institution may not have full control."

"Fans, opponents, and others can and will exhibit behaviors that indeed are hostile or abusive to Native Americans," the NCAA said.

Four schools, including Florida State, won appeals to keep their mascots because of support from Indian tribes. Walker said William & Mary also would appeal the NCAA's decision.

"To say that what William and Mary does is not acceptable and what Florida State University does is acceptable boggles our minds," Walker said.

"Perhaps it is the absurdity of judgments like these that is causing the U.S. Congress to consider taking this matter out of the hands of the NCAA."

Legislation being considered in the U.S. House would limit the NCAA's authority to sanction its members over their use of nicknames and mascots.

This story can be found at: http://www.dailyprogress.com/service/Satellite?pagename=CDP/MGArticle/RTD_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1137836123017

The Washington Post

COLLEGES

William & Mary to Appeal NCAA's Dictate

William & Mary plans to appeal an NCAA ruling that has determined its logo, which consists of the nickname "Tribe" flanked by two feathers, is discriminatory.

The NCAA ruling, rendered in a two-page statement released Tuesday, represented a split decision for the college, which had argued that its nickname conveyed "ennobling sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community and common cause." NCAA officials agreed in part, ruling that "Tribe" itself was not objectionable but that linking "Tribe" to an image of two feathers was. As a result, William & Mary has been retained on a list of schools subject to penalties because of what the NCAA deems to be "hostile and abusive" nicknames or mascots.

The NCAA's executive committee in 2005 ruled that schools that displayed such nicknames, mascots or logos would be barred from hosting postseason games and not allowed to wear uniforms displaying the offending imagery in the postseason. The Florida State Seminoles were granted a reprieve, however, partly because a local Seminole tribe supported the nickname's use.

Bill Walker, associate vice president for public affairs, said William & Mary felt compelled to fight for the right to display its logo. "It's hard for us to understand how the NCAA could approve Florida State's wild representation of an Indian on horseback with the flaming spear and be perturbed about feathers," Walker said.

— Liz Clarke

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

NEWS JOURNAL
WILMINGTON, DE
WEDNESDAY 117,389
MAY 17 2006

NCAA bans Tribe mascot from tourneys

From staff and wire reports 9318

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — The College of William & Mary may keep its "Tribe" mascot, but can't use it in NCAA tournaments, college athletics governing board said Tuesday.

The NCAA included William & Mary on its list of schools subject to a policy banning the use of "hostile" and "abusive" Indian nicknames, mascots and imagery at championship events. That means the university also cannot host an NCAA tournament.

"The good news is that we are forever going to be the Tribe," William & Mary spokesman William T. Walker said in a statement. ✓

Athletics - Indian Symbolism

OMAHA WORLD -
HERALD
OMAHA, NE
DAILY 196,284
MAY 17 2006

COLLEGE

**William & Mary
mascot banned**

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — The NCAA has added William & Mary to its list of schools subject to restrictions on the use of Indian mascots, names and imagery in the governing body's championship events.

William & Mary will be allowed to keep its "Tribe" nickname, but can't use it in NCAA championship competitions and also is barred from holding NCAA events.

Gina Woodward

From: Gene R. Nichol [gnichol@wm.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2006 3:04 PM
To: staff@wm.edu; faculty@wm.edu; students@wm.edu
Subject: [staff_send] The Tribe and the NCAA

May 17, 2006

To the Campus Community:

We learned last evening that the NCAA staff review determined the use of the nickname "Tribe" by our athletic teams was neither "hostile nor abusive." The report did object, however, to the use of feathers as part of our sports logo. We will appeal the ruling as it applies to the logo.

The good news, of course, is the NCAA has agreed with our assessment of the term "Tribe." The nickname -- so close to the heart of this community -- will remain the College's moniker.

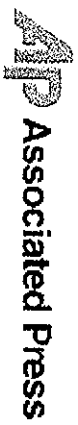
The NCAA's varied interpretations of mascot policy -- what it allows and what it rejects -- are impossible to comprehend or justify. It is unsurprising, therefore, that the U. S. Congress is considering taking the matter out of the Association's hands. It remains my belief that the William and Mary athletic program should be touted as a national model for unparalleled academics and athletics.

Go Tribel

Hark upon the gale!

All the best,

Gene Nichol



Clarification: William & Mary logo

72 words

17 May 2006

01:39 PM

Associated Press Newswires

English

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WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (AP) - In a May 16 story, The Associated Press reported that the NCAA ruled the **College of William and Mary** can keep its Tribe mascot. The story should have specified that the ruling involved the Tribe nickname, rather than mascot, as correctly stated elsewhere in the story. The school dropped its mascot 30 years ago, when the nickname was changed to Tribe from Indians.

7

Document APPRS000020060517e25h0005b

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Athletics -- Indian Symbols

Daily Press 5/18/06

COLLEGE SPORTS

W&M alumni blast ruling


The NCAA's decision on the Tribe name and school logo doesn't make sense, they say.

BY MARY O'BRIEN
mobrien@dailypress.com | 247-4963

WILLIAMSBURG — William and Mary alumni weighed in Wednesday on the NCAA's decision allowing the school to keep the "Tribe" nickname but not the green-and-gold feathers on the "W&M" logo. Their reaction: ridiculous.

On Tuesday an NCAA committee said, in effect, that "Tribe" is neither hostile nor abusive to American Indians, but that the feathers can be interpreted by some as offensive imagery. W&M wants to keep the feathers, so it is appealing the decision.

The school can't host NCAA championship events if it keeps the feathers on its logo, nor can it display feathers during NCAA

The NCAA'S ruling
William and Mary can keep using the  Tribe nickname, but the school must lose those green-and-gold feathers on the "W&M" logo. The school is appealing the decision.

postseason games. W&M alum Harriet Storm doesn't expect the school to defy the NCAA if the appeal is unsuccessful, but she hopes the association will reverse the ruling.

"It's a simple logo," said Storm, a 1964 graduate and a member of the executive committee of the W&M Athletic Educational Foundation. "It's not like we have a caricature to go with it like the Cleveland Indians."

Please see **TRIBE/83**

Critics of ruling say there's nothing defamatory about the symbol

Non-fiction author Mike D'Orso, whose most recent book, "Eagle Blue," chronicles the high school basketball season of a team of Gwich'in Indians in Arctic Alaska, echoed Storm.

"There's nothing defamatory about that symbol," D'Orso, a 1975 graduate, said of the feathers. "When I was at William and Mary, we were the 'Indians' and Chief Wahoo graced the 50-yard-

line.

His face lit up on top of the scoreboard after each touchdown. I can understand how that might be deemed offensive.

"I've talked to friends in the Native Alaskan community who think this is absurd. They think there are a lot more serious issues people should turn their attention to."

Jim Ukrop ('60) and Joe Mont-

gomery ('74) said the NCAA should place its focus on William and Mary as a national model for the student-athlete Storm agreed.

"Our football team has a 100-percent graduation rate, and the men and women on all of our 23 teams are true student-athletes," she said.

The NCAA decision irks many William and Mary alumni because Florida State is allowed

to retain its nickname, the Seminoles, as well as its American Indian mascot (Chief Osceola) and imagery. Last August, the NCAA ruled that there is a unique relationship between FSU and the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

"Where is the fairness?" asked Bud Porter, a 1962 W&M graduate and former Tribe football player. "How can the NCAA

allow an Indian with a flaming spear and war paint to ride around on a horse at Florida State and we can't have two feathers?"

W&M associate athletic director Rob Dunn said that until the appeal is decided, the school will postpone placing a logo on the field turf being installed at Zable Stadium and won't order any new uniforms.

"This is the most ridiculous

thing I've ever heard," said Walter J. Zable, the 1937 graduate for whom the football stadium is named. "The NCAA should support things like the National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame's 'Play it Smart' program that helps kids study and get scholarships.

"It doesn't make sense that they have time to criticize schools over their names and logos." ■

Daily Press

5/19/06

Feather-brained

On the W&M logo, the NCAA's logic and priorities are flawed

Oh, spare us.

With all the NCAA has to deal with, it's worried about feathers.

There are athletes committing violent crimes and engaging in all kinds of fawdtry behavior. Coaches using sex to lure recruits. Schools where the graduation rates for some teams are so abysmal that any pretense of scholar-athletes has been abandoned in favor of straight-up, big-dollar sports/entertainment, with any connection to education purely coincidental.

And the NCAA is concerned about some feathers on some T-shirts and bumper stickers at the College of William and Mary.

The NCAA has graciously, finally, agreed to let the Tribe keep on being the Tribe, deciding that the term isn't hostile or abusive to American Indians. This note of progress suggests that someone at the NCAA got hold of a dictionary, or sparked some synapses into firing sequentially after a well-deserved "well, duh" smack in the head. "Tribe" isn't an insult; it's a social unit, a collection of families, clans or other groups that share some link, usually common ancestry and culture. The reference can be to ancient Romans, Greeks or Israelites as well as latter-day Indians — or even a gaggle of folks who share a common interest.

But the Tribe can't use the two pecky feathers that have long decorated its logo, because the NCAA thinks they constitute an offensive stereotype. That's a reach, given the logo's stylistic design and green-and-gold color scheme.

Consistency doesn't seem to be an issue with the NCAA, either, since the Florida State Seminoles won approval of its mas-

cot, a brave in war paint, it also uses tomahawks and a cheer called the "war chant." Now we're talking stereotypes.

It's all part of the NCAA's ill-managed examination of team nicknames, mascots and insignia with Indian references. It ruled that teams with any insignia that it deemed offensive couldn't host post-season tournaments or bring uniforms, bands, mascots, cheerleaders or paraphernalia with such insignia to tournaments.

It's like putting pepper in the eye of a wounded elephant. It has the effect, or possibly the purpose, of distracting from the real pain that pervades college athletics. Like the athletes — and coaches — gone wild from the University of Colorado to Virginia Tech to Duke, to mention just a few.

Big-time college athletics has come to be the embodiment of corruption, one that paints with an ugly brush the upright schools and athletes as well as the fabled. And the NCAA's big issue is a couple of feathers?

Spare us, and spare William and Mary. Where the athletes really are scholars. Where the graduation rate for varsity team members is one of the highest in the nation, and Phi Beta Kappas regularly suit up and hit the field, the court, the track, the parallel bars and other venues for inter-collegiate sports. Where the president, a legal scholar with finely honed sensitivities when it comes to diversity, signs his e-mails, "Go Tribe."

But William and Mary had to waste a lot of time and energy on a self-study of its nickname. When it could and should have been spending that time and energy on issues related to its mission: the education and development of young men and women. When it could and should be dealing with matters more important than what's drawn on the cup you get at the concession stand.

Spare us. ☐

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

Daily Press

5/20/64

THE NUCLEAR OPTION

The business regarding the NCAA's review of the College of William and Mary mascot and nickname is too absurd to resist additional commentary. Earlier this week, we noted with relief that the NCAA was OK with "Tribe," ruling that the term wasn't hostile or abusive to Native Americans. But the NCAA objected to W&M's use of feathers as part of its logo. The college will appeal that part of the decision.

Perhaps what really warrants review is the existence of the NCAA — given its failure to maintain the integrity of big-time college athletics.

While nothing so radical is likely in the cards, W&M President Gene Nichol, in an e-mail to some alumni, offered evidence that relief from a higher power may be on the way. Said Nichol:

"The NCAA's varied interpretations of mascot policy — what it allows and what it rejects — are impossible to comprehend or justify. It is unsurprising, therefore, that the U.S. Congress is considering taking the matter out of the Association's hands."

That's our emphasis in the previous sentence.

Let it be a message to the NCAA that its mascot policy is so misguided that rational people now begin to see hope for resolution through congressional intervention.

When you look to Congress for help, you know things are messed up. ■

This article
originally by

TimesDispatch.com

NEW! Get Movie Schedules in Entertainment!

I-AA NOTES

Richmond Times-Dispatch
Saturday, May 20, 2006



FEATHERS FLAP: Say you're ordering uniforms for William and Mary's teams. Include the logo with feathers, or without?

W&M and the NCAA are going at it over the two feathers that are part of one of the school's athletic logos. The NCAA believes the feathers, when coupled with the nickname "Tribe," constitute an unacceptable stereotypical reference to Native Americans.

"The good news, of course, is the NCAA has agreed with our assessment of the term 'Tribe.' The nickname - so close to the heart of this community - will remain the college's moniker," Gene Nichol, the school president, said in a release.

"The NCAA's varied interpretations of mascot policy - what it allows and what it rejects - are impossible to comprehend or justify. It is unsurprising, therefore, that the U. S. Congress is considering taking the matter out of the Association's hands. It remains my belief that the William and Mary athletic program should be touted as a national model for unparalleled academics and athletics."

W&M will appeal. It would lose the opportunity to serve as a host for NCAA postseason events and would have to use uniforms without the offensive logo in postseason competition if the appeal is denied. According to Brian Whitson of W&M's public affairs office, the school is not prepared to speculate on how it would respond if the NCAA rejects the appeal and thus offers an unpalatable choice: lose the two feathers or suffer the two NCAA sanctions.

W&M has 26 days remaining to appeal. Whitson said W&M expects to get an NCAA reply concerning the forthcoming appeal by the end of the summer.

UR KICKER: Placement specialist Andrew Howard, from Hermitage High, will join the UR football program in August. As a freshman, he has a shot at being the Spiders kicker for their opener at Duke, according to UR coach Dave Clawson.

UR desperately was seeking a kicker after Syracuse transfer Ricky Krautman matriculated at Richmond in January with three seasons of eligibility remaining and left UR soon after that for personal reasons. Howard is a two-time all-Colonial District kicker, and was first team all-Central Region. In his Panthers career, he made 13 of 18 FG attempts and 101 of 104 point-after tries.

JMU SCENE: Go to www.jmusports.com and click on the Bridgeforth Stadium WebCam icon to see in real time how the removal of the artificial surface and installation of the FieldTurf is coming at James Madison's football stadium. - John O'Connor

This story can be found at: http://www.timesdispatch.com/servelet/Satellite?pagename=RITD%2FMGArticle%2FRITD_BasicArticle&%09s=1045855934926&c=MGArticle&cid=1137836205310&path=%

<http://www.timesdispatch.com/servelet/Satellite?pagename=Common%2FMGArticle%2FP...> 5/22/2006

KnoxNews

*Athletics - Indian
Symposium*

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URL: http://www.knoxnews.com/kns/other_sports/article/0,1406,KNS_304_4714812,00.html

Julian: Two feathers create ticklish situation at William & Mary

BY ROLAND JULIAN
May 21, 2006

The NCAA needs to get out of the Indian business.

And Indians who approve of college teams bearing their nicknames have a right to get the NCAA off their backs.

The latest maneuver by the NCAA was against the College of William and Mary - all over a couple of feathers. The NCAA apparently assumed that because they were pictured with the word "Tribe" that it is discriminatory.

According to a Washington Post story, William & Mary has been retained on a list of schools subject to penalties because of what the NCAA deems to be "hostile and abusive" nicknames or mascots.

It would appear that the NCAA is discriminatory in making such an assumption. Remember gambler Jimmy the Greek and the Dodgers' Al Campanis? They made statements about physical differences in blacks and other races. They were fired from their jobs because of their comments - regardless of whether they were true or not. You know, the politically correct bit.

So, how did the NCAA conclude that "Tribe" means Indian? And that anyone adorned with feathers are Indians? Remember that stripper Sally Rand started a successful career by hiding behind a couple of ostrich feather fans. Back to associating feathers and a tribe: What kind of feathers were used in William & Mary's illustration: Turkey? Ostrich? Wren? Chicken?

Horse feathers! That's more like it.

Evidently some Indians, maybe even Indian tribes, argue that using an Indian name for a team is demeaning. Have they considered that the use of an Indian nickname by an athletic team or school gives their race positive recognition, not negative.

And isn't it odd that Thomas Jefferson, one of the most-powerful advocates of liberty in America, graduated from William & Mary in 1762 - 137 years before the NCAA was born - and I doubt if Jefferson ever went on record as one who slammed the Indian nickname at his school.

It would seem the NCAA has more-important issues at hand than worrying about mascots and nicknames. It hasn't figured how to implement a playoff for Division I football - but it has successful playoff plans for Divisions II and III.

One can only laugh at the ineptness of the guys who legislate - college presidents. Ruling against the very institutions over which they preside, do they not have the backbone to tell the moaners-and-groaners to get a life?

More than 65 schools have no nicknames or mascot. What happens when those schools play each other? It could be boring and about as confusing as NCAA decisions - including those that prevent schools from having athletic dorms strictly for athletes. It's no wonder the media reports almost every day that a college athlete is in trouble with the law. By NCAA standards, the Indian issue is more important.

"Tribe" flanked by two feathers discriminatory? What about the Boston College Eagles. Lots of feathers ... The Louisville Cardinals ... lots of feathers. The Kansas Jayhawks ... lots of feathers. Maybe NCAA brass should take a couple of shots of Three Feathers and chill out.

The NCAA even banned the word Illini, the University of Illinois' nickname. You know, it's in the Land of Lincoln. It was Abraham Lincoln, who is credited with freeing the slaves. Yet, the NCAA is attempting to hold certain universities or colleges hostage because of their nicknames. It wasn't the NCAA which forced integration of colleges, or even in college athletics. State and the U.S. governments resolved that problem. Now it's the NCAA which discriminates when it comes to the use of a nickname.

What about the Irish of Notre Dame? Do immigrants from Ireland like being affiliated with an odd-looking leprechaun? Evidently it's no problem.

And isn't it odd that the nickname at Haskell Indian Nations University is - all together now - INDIANS!

Tribe doesn't necessarily refer to an Indian nation. The Israelites were divided into 12 tribes, according to the Old Testament. And what about the tribes of African natives? Or Australian natives? Or South American natives?

Maybe universities and colleges with Indian nicknames should follow the lead of Florida State coach Bobby Bowden. He caused the NCAA to tuck its tail and run. It might help if Bowden came to the aid of schools being threatened and support their cause. He's already won his war.

If the NCAA has the legal right to determine school nicknames, what's to keep it from banning the nickname Volunteers at Tennessee? Yeah, then assign a nickname like Draft Dodgers or Deserters?

It's odd that schools aren't permitted to use Indian nicknames, yet businesses aren't held to that same standard. For instance: Indian motorcycles, Cleveland Indians, Atlanta Braves and Red Man chewing tobacco. The tobacco pouch has a man in headdress printed on the package. Maybe the NCAA will ban the Levi Garrett product from NCAA competitions. Come to think of it, it has already.

Just another case of infringement of individual rights.

As Indians in movies of the 1920s, '30s and '40s used to say: "Paleface (NCAA in this case) speaks with forked tongue."

Roland Julian may be contacted at julian@knews.com.



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Opinion

ESSAY: How W&M got its feathers

By Will Molineux

Print Page

Published:

Saturday, November 7, 2009 2:19 AM EST

JAMES CITY -- William & Mary's former, but certainly not forgotten, sports logo featuring two feathers was originally displayed upside down.

It was adopted almost overnight, without the studied deliberations of a committee, and flipped at the suggestion of the chief booster of the college athletic program. And it was created on the cheap.

This now-lamented symbol appeared in the summer of 1974 and entered the campus arena casually to replace the face of a grinning Indian whose image had adorned football tickets and the scoreboard at Cary Field. Soon the new uncomplicated logo became a universal symbol affixed to shirts and caps and anything else that imaginatively might be marketed as being associated with the college.

The twin feathers have since been officially erased as possibly offensive to Native Americans, despite the lack of their complaint. What were once the Indians of William & Mary are now known collectively as the "Tribe," an appellation that denotes a broad range of amicable connotations. Today a committee of the college community's most inventive minds is laboriously selecting a new mascot, a decision out of which will emerge a new sports logo.

Before that announcement is made next year, it is appropriate to record how the twin feathers came into being. It was a creation informally conceived.

Three college administrators who occasionally had lunch together were of like mind: The use of a cartoon characterization of an Indian brave had to go. "This silly toothy Indian," as Ross Weeks Jr. labeled it in e-mail correspondence, "was inappropriate for a distinguished university trying to build its national image." Weeks, who now lives in Tazewell, then headed the public relations staff and edited the Alumni Gazette. He avoided acknowledging that the scoreboard Indian could be seen as resembling the trademark of the Cleveland Indians baseball team.

Barry Fratkin, the sports information director who that year became executive director of the W&M Athletic Educational Foundation, also wanted to take down the toothy Indian for practical reasons. "It wasn't original, correct or proper for William and Mary," he recalled.

Weeks and Fratkin and the late S. Dean Olson, who led the publications department, called in George Crawford, then a graphic artist for Colonial Williamsburg who took on outside projects. He is the designer of logos for Williamsburg Community Hospital, the Trellis, W&M Law School, Housing Partnerships and other institutions.

"I went over to the campus to see Dean on my coffee break," Crawford recalled, "and he had a quick little assignment to craft an insignia for football. He said he needed it right away. Like tomorrow."

Crawford was instructed to "get rid of the Indian face," but he could keep the feathers so as not to eliminate recognition of the traditional W&M Indians. Even then, the Indian nickname was commonly replaced on sports pages by the term "Tribe."

"That night I drew boxed-styled 'W' and 'M' letters overlapping to create a sporty look. I found out that the Powhatan Indians of Virginia wore feathers on the back of their head so that they hung down, and I

added feathers pointing down." The letters were green, the feathers golden with tips of green.

In a day or so Crawford presented his sketch to Olson, Fratkin and Weeks. "They liked it."

Sometime later, Fratkin, a 1964 W&M graduate, had an inspiration: "Put the feathers up, and that way they form a V for victory." All that had to be done was to turn the logo upside down, since the block letter "M" instantly became a "V" and the "W" became an "M."

"That was it," Fratkin reported in a telephone conversation from Richmond where he now lives. The feathers-up logo was appropriated by his Athletic Educational Foundation.

While the use of feathers was, as Fratkin said, "a tieback to the Indians," the images and terminology implicit of Native Americans were fast fading from use. The word "Indians," which had not been on football jerseys, was taken off basketball uniforms in 1975. Indian dancers left the sidelines and Chief Wampan gave up giving out war whoops. Papier-mache Indians failed to show up for Homecoming parades. Without notice and without deliberate design, W&M had become a reservation with only feathers as a reminder of its athletic Indians.

The twin feathers logo remained an innocent logo until 2006 when it was decreed inappropriate by the NCAA, a sideline snipe that the college unsuccessfully appealed.

Crawford, who lives in the Williamsburg area and teaches art at Kecoughtan High School in Hampton, recalled that Dean Olson asked him to submit a bill. "I figured I had spent about an hour and a half on the project. So I said \$37, and he paid it."

Will Molineux is a retired newspaper editor who contributes to the journal Colonial Williamsburg.

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