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Fuss 'n' feathers

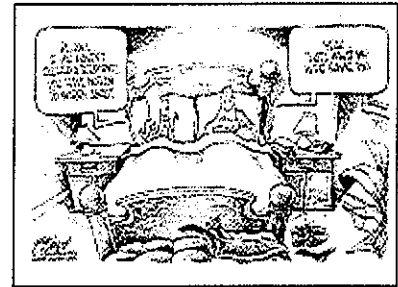
May 20, 2006 12:50 am

Fuss 'n' feathers

Bad medicine for William & Mary Tribe



THEY ARE BREATHING a sigh of relief these days at the College of William & Mary now that the NCAA has ruled that the school can keep its "Tribe" nickname, sort of.



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The issue is familiar, especially to Washington Redskins fans. Are sports-team nicknames linked to American Indians degrading to the First Americans' culture? Middle ground is hard to come by; you either find the terms--and the logos and fan customs they inspire--derogatory, or you find the whole debate a silly exercise in political correctness.

The NCAA checked with actual American Indians, who opined that William & Mary was one of several schools whose mascots and imagery were benign. But here's where the findings get tricky. While the NCAA agreed with the school that "tribe" represents the "ennobling sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community, and common cause," the school is barred from using the nickname in NCAA championship competitions and from holding NCAA events. The association also frowns on the feathers on W&M's logo. As if a member of a "tribe" should be wearing a cute little French beret.

But wait. The NCAA placed no such restrictions on the Florida State University Seminoles, whose fans wield the "tomahawk chop," often as an "Indian" charges up and down the sideline on his pinto. The NCAA's tolerance here wouldn't have anything to do with Florida State's big-money athletic programs, would it? William & Mary is justly enraged. The double standard "boggles our minds," a school spokesman says.

Now before the U.S. House is a bill that would take such sanctioning authority from the NCAA and give it to Congress. If this is the best the college outfit can do, maybe it is time to invoke the Great White Father by the Potomac.

Forgive us, but in this case there is no other way to put it: The NCAA speaks with forked tongue.

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NCAA shouldn't finger William and Mary

Advertisement



Kirk Wessler
SPORTS
COLUMNIST
Friday, May 19, 2006

Since rational thinking continues to elude what passes for a braintrust at the NCAA, I'm revved to take some Pot Shots.

The College of William and Mary on Tuesday was added to the list of schools subject to NCAA sanctions, but not because the school's nickname is the

The committee in its official statement conceded the nickname "has various connotations" and agreed the imagery of the feathers is "not inherently hostile or abusive." But the combination of the feathers and the Tribe nickname constitutes a stereotype of American Indians and "creates an environment over which an institution may not have full



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control " ...

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

Because of two feathers?

Here's a suggestion: Replace the feathers with a universal salute and send the NCAA a bird it can understand.

More screwball stuff

Give U.S. Rep. Timothy Johnson (R-Urbana) props for exhibiting rational thought beyond the NCAA's reach - although that's not a difficult task. ...

"The NCAA was established as a sports management association,"

Johnson said in a statement posted on his Web site May 4. "The organization has since assumed the mantle of social arbiters. They need to go back to scheduling ballgames and leave the social engineering to others." ...

Before you cheer, though, remember Johnson is the guy who a decade ago basically tried to make it illegal for the IHSA to move its boys basketball tournaments to Peoria from the University of Illinois campus in Champaign-Urbana. In other words, wisdom is to Johnson what brains are to the NCAA. So duck.

Johnson and Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert have introduced the Protection of University Governance Act of 2006. The bill would limit the NCAA's power to sanction schools on the basis of sports teams' nicknames, symbols, logos or mascots. While I appreciate their sentiments, the only reason these guys are wasting time with this is because Chief Illiniwek, another target of the NCAA, resides in Johnson's district and Hastert's state. The fact is the U of I has choices. Johnson and Hastert and Illini fans might not like the choices, but options exist.

Their narrowly written legislation, drawn primarily to pander to constituents of an orange-and-blue hue, is a classic example of a bad bill. It seeks to micromanage intercollegiate athletics, which already have a governing structure, however imperfect. ...

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Edit the Editors

Nobody's perfect, right? Well, the Journal Star strives to be. Do you see misspelled words, incorrect grammar, things that don't make sense? Do you have questions about why we covered a specific event in a certain way? Do you have a news tip, or a question about this story we didn't cover? Or would you like to write a letter to the editor? We want to know what you think.

I don't know about you, but I'd rather the reps concern themselves with border control, illegal immigration, alternative fuels, the direction of the war on terror. Marginally significant stuff like that

What I'm talkin' about

One huge problem with government is that even when intentions are good, one size rarely fits all. Then the bureaucracy and petty politics intervene to make a mess of our lives. ...

Take the No Child Left Behind law. I think everybody would agree all kids deserve a good education. But good intentions, minus wisdom, can turn stupid in a hurry, as brilliantly illustrated by a parody published in a newsletter by Local 6099, a teachers-union sub-group that represents paraprofessionals, clerical and cafeteria workers. ...

Titled "No Child Left Behind: Football Version," the piece incorporates the mandates of the education law. Here's one paragraph:

"All kids will be expected to have the same football skills at the same time and in the same conditions. No exceptions will be made for interest in football, a desire to perform athletically, or genetic abilities or disabilities. ALL KIDS WILL PLAY FOOTBALL AT A PROFICIENT LEVEL." ...

For more, check my blog on pjstar.com. ...

Quick shots

Not to put a damper on anyone's summer, but in case any of you have been dreaming, please listen to me: Unless he gets seriously injured in workouts for NBA scouts, 7-foot center Patrick O'Bryant will not return to Bradley for his junior season. ... The worst-kept secret in Peoria is that BU soon will tear down Robertson Memorial Field House and Haussler Hall and build gleaming new facilities to house intercollegiate athletics and indoor recreation opportunities for students, faculty and staff. ... Too bad Bradley probably will spend at least \$60 million on the project and still not have a sufficient on-campus arena in which to play men's basketball, its signature program. ... Two of the primary reasons for that decision: Political considerations that apparently require slavish devotion to the Peoria Civic Center, and lack of adequate parking and traffic flow on campus.

If you're looking for good sports reads this summer, here are three

books I recommend. . . "Cap Anson 4: Bigger Than Babe Ruth," by Howard W. Rosenberg; an exhaustingly researched and informative description of baseball in the 19th century . . . "Best Seat in the House: A Father, A Daughter, A Journey Through Sports," a loving memoir by USA Today columnist Christine Brennan . . . "Line Drives: 100 Contemporary Baseball Poems," edited by Brooke Horvath and Tim Wiles, a former Peorian who is the director of research for the Baseball Hall of Fame.

KIRK WESSLER is executive sports editor/columnist with the Journal Star. Contact him at kwessler@pjstar.com, or (309) 686-3216.

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THE TOP STORY: Government on life support

By Chris Graham/AFP Does Gov Tim Kaine have the authority to keep state government running in the event that the Virginia House of Delegates and Virginia Senate are unable to come to an agreement on a budget before the start of the new fiscal year on July 1? An answer to that question would seem to be important as the budget stalemate settles into its third month.

"The Constitution is somewhat vague in that regard - but if you look back at the intent of the founding fathers, their assumption was that the people's representatives were to hold the responsibility for the budgeting and

A quest called Tribe

W&M fighting NCAA over use of Native imagery

On the Front Row

Chris Graham

chris@augustafreepress.com

If Florida State can use an almost cartoonish Native American as its mascot, reasons the administration at the College of William and Mary, then what's so bad about a logo with a couple of feathers?

"What bothers us is that the NCAA has a problem with the use of two simple feathers - while they seem to condone the use by Florida State University of not only an Indian, but an Indian with war paint on a pony and with a flaming spear. Somehow that seems to us to be disjointed," said Bill Walker, the associate vice president for public affairs at William and Mary, which said last week it plans to appeal a ruling from the NCAA that would prohibit the school's athletic teams from wearing the feathered logo on apparel in postseason tournaments and could bar the school from being able to host postseason athletics events.

That was the bad news for W&M - the good news being that the NCAA does not consider the Tribe nickname used by athletic teams at the college to be in itself offensive

"Basically, we feel like we've gotten a major victory on that point," Walker told *The Augusta Free Press*

Karenne Wood, the chair of the Virginia Council on Indians and a member of the Monacan Indian Nation, said she thought the ruling of the NCAA was "a good way of handling the controversy "

"William and Mary got what it wanted. They got to keep the name. I agree with the NCAA that the two-feather symbol is something that could cause people to act in a way that denigrates American Indians. What the NCAA did not say is that feathers are considered sacred in many Native cultures - so it's not necessarily an appropriate symbol for a sports team," Wood told the *AFP*

Augusta Free Press : A quest called Tribe

spending . "

IN FOCUS: And the winner is...
By Chris Graham/AFP Odds are that you haven't heard of it, so don't feel bad OK, so maybe the fact that you didn't know that one of the top magazines in the country is published in your backyard is worth at least a playful smack on the forehead "The attention has helped bring in actually hundreds of new subscriptions over the phone and over the Web site - people who have read about VQR in one place or another and decided to subscribe. For us, that's exciting - because it means more readership . "

ON THE FRONT ROW: A quest called Tribe

By Chris Graham/AFP If Florida State can use an almost cartoonish Native American as its mascot, reasons the administration at the College of William and Mary, then what's so bad about a logo with a couple of feathers? "What bothers us is that the NCAA has a problem with the use of two simple feathers - while they seem to condone the use by Florida State University of not only an Indian, but an Indian with war paint on a pony and with a flaming spear. Somehow that seems to us to be disjointed," said Bill Walker, the associate vice president for public affairs at William and Mary .

BEST SEAT IN THE HOUSE: Wall-to-wall football

By Chris Graham/AFP Darryl Hammond had watched a couple of Arena Football League games, but his mind was set on bigger and better things as far as his football career was concerned "I would check it out on ESPN every now and then. I didn't think much of it I never saw myself playing it," said Hammond, an honorable mention all-Atlantic Coast Conference defensive back at the University of Virginia in 1987 - which was the year that indoor football made its debut on the professional-sports scene

SPORTS: The Sound and the Fury
 Topics include 'O, Canada' - why did we boo your song?; Bonds chasing history - literally; No respect ... yet; Is Bowden Mount ACCMore material?; Memo to LeBron James; and Is an hour enough 'Impact'?

CARLY AT THE MOVIES: 'Over the Hedge' is over-the-edge hilarious

Wood said tribal leaders in Virginia have not raised objection to the college using the Tribe name - "and I feel like the tribal leaders were pretty gracious from that standpoint."

"I don't know why they want to appeal the ruling I think they should give up - and say, Hey, we got part of what we wanted Let's stop making a controversy here," Wood said

The ongoing controversy involving the Tribe nickname dates back to 2004 - when the NCAA asked member institutions whose athletic teams use Native American nicknames and mascots to determine if the names and imagery were hostile or abusive.

John Chaney, a psychology professor at Oklahoma State University and a Native American, feels that question as to whether or not Native mascots and nicknames are offensive is moot.

"We didn't create these images. We didn't, for example, create Chief Wahoo - the big buck-toothed Indian who's the mascot for the Cleveland Indians. That's just such a stereotypical offensive portrayal of Indians We didn't create Chief Wahoo or any of the other images that are used But we know what the effects are on Natives," Chaney told the AFP.

The fact that the Seminole Nation of Florida has said that it stands in support of the use of a Seminole mascot by Florida State - which has been cited by the NCAA in its decision to permit FSU to continue to use the mascot and associated imagery - is immaterial, Chaney said.

"So it's OK with the Seminole Nation of Florida. But it's not OK with the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. So we've let one Native American tribe speak for all 700 tribes in the country," Chaney said.

"That, incidentally, is the same way we lost most of our land - by asking one Native American, and maybe greasing his palms with cash, and saying, will you sign this treaty? And they signed it, and they signed it for all Indians. It's remarkable to see how little things have changed. Just because one tribe says that it's OK with us, we don't find this offensive, then that's used as evidence that none of us should be offended," Chaney said

Wood said she wishes William and Mary and other schools facing this issue would exercise more sensitivity when it comes to deciding what to do regarding the continued use of Native mascots and nicknames.

"If I were a college administrator, I would rather err on the side of caution rather than do something that might offend any group of people," Wood said

"The question that comes to mind here is - how important are these feathers to you? Is it because you don't want to change your symbolism because it's costly - or are you invested in this in some way? And if so, why?" Wood said

Walker said the most important point to school officials is that the "NCAA has agreed with us that our nickname is not hostile or abusive."

The reason for the appeal, Walker said, is that to "say that what William and Mary does is not acceptable and what Florida State



By Carl Larsen "Over the Hedge" is the funniest thing I've seen since that day in 1937 when John Zinn's pet hog got runned over by a beer truck. And this is the best animated film to come out of DreamWorks since their two "Shrek" hits, and it somehow manages to maintain the wry, goofy tone of the comic strip it's based on. The voice casting, the story, the design are all so appealing that this movie could be the poster child for "family entertainment."

MOUSE TRAILS: Personalize your dictionary



By Ron Doyle First, I would like to thank all of you who have responded to the column from last time. I wouldn't have thought that learning how to run an old Windows 98 program on a newer Windows XP machine would have been that well received. From the number of responses that I received from readers, I guess I hit a hot spot. Also, thanks to all of you who write and let me know when you like or hate a particular column.

THE FORUM: A week in the world of politics

Topics include ... Run for the border;
The immigration quagmire;
Spendthrifts?; Stalemate in secret; and
Vote for influence.

ECOLOGY AND YOU: King Coal again raises his sooty scepter



By Erik Curren With high gas prices and the coming of Peak Oil, coal is making a big comeback these days. The industry says that it's not a question of whether we'll use coal - we'll need the energy - but how we'll use coal. Environmentalists disagree.

University does is acceptable boggles our minds."

Chaney, significantly, concedes that point

"As long as the NCAA allows Florida State to use the Seminole nickname and Chief Osceola and all the rest, and allows other schools to use similarly offensive nicknames and mascots, it's hard to pinpoint anybody for doing anything wrong here," Chaney said

This Week

Look for more on the controversy involving the use of Native American nicknames and mascots by athletic teams this week in *The Digest*

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- <http://indians.vipnet.org>
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(Published 05-22-06)

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Richmond Times-Dispatch

Two Feathers



The NCAA has decided William and Mary may continue to use its nickname, The Tribe, but must abandon its use of a logo incorporating two feathers. Apparently that decision makes sense to someone in the NCAA's front office

In 2004 the NCAA — the governing body of the nation's intercollegiate sports — asked 33 member institutions to justify their use of Native American imagery as mascots and in logos. William and Mary was included as one of the schools that had some explaining to do. In late 2005, W&M president Gene Nichol reported to the NCAA that the name *Tribe* "is designed to communicate ennobling sentiments of commitment, shared idealism, community, and common cause," as well as reflect the school's historic connection with the local Native population. Under that reasoning the college was allowed to keep its moniker.



Yet the two feathers on William and Mary's logo must go. Seems the NCAA thinks they might incite unruly fans to unleash hostility against Native Americans. And this despite: (1) local Native American tribes publicly stating they find neither the name nor the logo offensive, and (2) Florida State University being allowed to keep its Seminole mascot and continue to use a painted Indian warrior who throws a flaming spear before athletic events. The NCAA has decided not to concern itself with consistency.

The foolishness of this exercise was summed up by William Miles, chief of Virginia's Pamunkey tribe: "We're worried about poverty, homelessness, health care, and the like for our people. Not the use of the name 'Tribe'."

W&M Tribe

"While I don't believe that the NCAA should be legislating any institution's particular use of a mascot (May 20 Last Word), I don't think William & Mary should be surprised at the NCAA's ruling. It's like being a little bit pregnant — either you are or you aren't. With feathers attached to the W&M logo and its nickname, the Tribe clearly linked itself to American Indians. And unlike other institutions that had the full support of their respective Indian tribes and celebrated their heritage authentically, W&M could not receive that support or failed to make the effort to receive it. Instead of disparaging those universities that presented a forthright case, backed by their namesakes, perhaps W&M ought to try a more honest approach."

"In essence, we're just continuing through the appeal process what we have said from the very beginning. If we didn't believe [this position] in the beginning, we should have done something then."

TERRY DRISCOLL
W&M ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

W&M fighting to keep its logo

School maintains use of feathers not offensive to Native Americans

BY JOHN O'CONNOR
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

William and Mary could remove itself from NCAA cross hairs by removing the two feathers from its Tribe logo. The school has no intention of doing so, however, because W&M maintains that its logo is not offensive to Native Americans.

Earlier this month, the NCAA informed W&M that the feathered logo coupled with the nickname "Tribe" constitutes a "stereotypical reference to Native Americans" and that it is unacceptable. W&M is subject to a pair of sanctions: inability to serve as a host for NCAA post-season play and prohibition from using the logo in any NCAA postseason competition.

The NCAA found no fault with the nickname "Tribe." Rather than appeasing the NCAA by eliminating the feathers and maintaining the interlocking W and M that form the basis of the design, W&M will file an appeal to keep its feathers. The appeal will be heard by the NCAA Executive Committee, the NCAA's highest governing body and composed primarily of school presidents and chancellors.

"We do not believe our logo is hostile and abusive to Native Americans, and that's fundamentally what this is about," W&M Athletic Director

Coming tomorrow

■ Why is the NCAA upset with William and Mary over two little feathers? Columnist Paul Woody investigates in **Sunday Punch**.

Terry Driscoll said. "In essence, we're just continuing through the appeal process what we have said from the very beginning.

"If we didn't believe [this position] in the beginning, we should have done something then. We're

just following through on what we believe is the right thing."

Driscoll chose not to speculate on the financial implications of a logo change, which could be the result of this process, because W&M has not inventoried items with the logo. Among other things, it adorns stationary, walls, uniforms and officially licensed W&M gifts and apparel.

"From the economic side, on a pure-business side, you have your brand, and this has been our logo and very recognizable," Driscoll said. "So there would be a loss there of all the goodwill we've built up over the years in terms of recognition."

W&M's appeal is unrelated to the potential cost involved in logo alteration, according to Driscoll.

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



Driscoll



Removing feathers right move

Two little feathers. Why is the NCAA upset with William and Mary over two little feathers on the college's "Tribe" logo?

Here's the thing about the two little feathers.

They aren't a little matter to some American Indians

To them, the Tribe feathers resemble eagle feathers, and eagle feathers hold a sacred place in American Indian religion.

In December 1991, Thomasina Jordan, the national chairperson of the American Indian Cultural Exchange and a member of the Virginia Council of Indians said, "To the American Indians, an eagle feather is earned for an extraordinary deed. It is a mark of honor."

Jordan died in 1999. But her feelings live on.

"It would be a valid feeling for anybody who is a Native American and knows anything about their culture," said Kenneth Branham, chief of the Monacan Indian Nation.

"I'm not one who thinks a great deal about political correctness. I think it can go overboard. But eagle feathers are very important. We still give them to people in our tribe who do things that are exceptional. They are highly prized."

The William and Mary logo issue, Branham said, "Is not at the top of any of our agendas. But since the topic has come up, we need to voice our opinion on it."

The NCAA is concerned about colleges and universities whose athletic teams have nicknames that can be construed as hostile or abusive toward American Indians.



PAUL WOODY

The NCAA has asked some schools to make changes. Those that refuse to do so are not permitted to wear the logos in postseason competition or to serve as the hosts for NCAA postseason events.

William and Mary will appeal the NCAA's decision regarding the feathers.

In a statement on the William and Mary Web site, William T. Walker, associate vice president for public affairs, said: "It boggles our minds that the NCAA would find objectionable what William and Mary does and, at the same time, find acceptable what schools like Florida State do."

Florida State's nickname, Seminoles, was approved by the NCAA after the Seminole Indians gave their approval of the nickname.

"The Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives and several of his colleagues have introduced legislation that would forbid the NCAA from regulating mascots and nicknames," Walker said in William and Mary's statement.

It's nice to know that Congress is on top of this, now that immigration, the trade deficit, the national debt, the war in Iraq and the rapidly rising cost of health care are under control.

Branham has some thoughts on congressional involvement.

"If they want to do something to help us, they can pass the bills that give the Virginia tribes federal recognition," he said. "That would open doors for scholarships set up for Native American people. You have to be federally recognized to tap into those."

"Federal recognition also would help us get better health care, better housing and to retain and rebury ancestral remains sitting on shelves in museums across this country."

Federal recognition raises the specter of casino gambling, but that is something that can be addressed in the legislation.

When addressing the logo issue at William and Mary, it should be noted that "Tribe" once held Na-

tive American connotations for the Williamsburg college.

In the school's charter of 1693, a provision was made to train young, Native Americans to become clergymen and missionaries to other Native Americans.

The school did so — the number of students ranged from one to 20 over the years — until 1779.

According to Walker's statement, "Tribe" now refers to the "strong sense of community at William and Mary."

If that's the case, removing the feathers, an act of respect by an outstanding academic institution, should not be such a problem.

• Contact staff writer Paul Woody at pwoody@timesdispatch.com or (804) 649-6444.

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

6-2-06

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Chowan's feathery touch pleases NCAA

School has new mascot and logo; gets OK since feathers belong to hawk

William and Mary's feathers ruffle the NCAA. Chowan University's do not.

Chowan, located in Murfreesboro, N.C., last month changed its sports nickname from "Braves" to "Hawks" in response to the NCAA's crack-down on Native American mascots.

Chowan did so reluctantly, then modified its logo by adding a hawk's



head to the same "C" and feathers that constituted the logo when the sports teams were known as the "Braves."

"We made sure we identified the feathers as hawk's feathers," said

managing director of public and media relations, "The reality is that [Chowan's] new nickname is the Hawks, the new imagery is a Hawk, and feathers do go with a hawk. The parallel with Native Americans I don't think is the same."

William and Mary plans to appeal the NCAA ruling, though the school hasn't done so yet. Failure to change its logo would result in W&M being unable to serve as host for NCAA postseason events or participate in NCAA postseason events while displaying the feathered logo.

— **John O'Connor**

Dennis Heisel, Chowan's athletic director.

The logo of W&M's Tribe, interlocked "W" and "M" with two feathers attached, was judged unacceptable by the NCAA last month because, according to an NCAA release, "coupling the term 'Tribe' with imagery that has traditionally been linked to Native Americans [e.g., eagle feathers, arrowheads], transforms that use of 'Tribe' from one associated with 'togetherness,' 'shared idealism,' and 'commitment to a stereotypical reference to Native Americans.'"

Said Bob Williams, the NCAA's

6-14-06

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Controversy spurs sale of W&M gear

Feathered logo attracts collectible consumers after ruling by NCAA

BY JOHN O'CONNOR

TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

Last week at a Williamsburg store, a man from Northern Virginia purchased about \$200 worth of items that featured a particular William and Mary logo.

"Pencils, patches, a polo shirt," said Steve Haigh, manager of the Campus Shop, cataloguing some of what the man bought. "Anything that had the feathers." Some consumers, evidently, desire



W&M gear that may one day be collectors' items. Haigh reports that sales of merchandise with the feathers have increased since the NCAA officially informed W&M last month that the logo violates association policy.

The NCAA maintains that W&M's feathered logo reflects a "stereotypical reference to Native Americans" when coupled with "Tribe," the nickname of the school's athletic teams. The NCAA kept W&M on a list of colleges that will be prohibited from serving as hosts for NCAA playoffs and displaying offensive imagery during postseason events.

W&M will appeal. Though William T. Walker, William and Mary's associate vice president for public affairs, said yesterday "we are still hopeful that the NCAA will see the light," the feath-

SEE W&M, PAGE D6 ▶

W&M

--FROM PAGE D1

ered logo may be on its way out.

"As soon as the announcement was made, we started having folks come in [buying items with the logo]," Haigh said.

W&M must grant permission to companies that make products with its school logos. W&M continues to allow production of merchandise with the feathered logo, according to Diana Tennis, W&M's business manager and licensing administrator. W&M earns an 8 percent royalty on every item sold with a school logo, Tennis said.

Walker chose not to estimate the cost of W&M's defending its nickname and logo in the original report the school submitted to the NCAA, or the cost of the appeal that's being finalized this week after multiple drafts.

"It is a substantial amount," Walker said.

W&M's appeal will be heard by the NCAA Executive Committee, composed primarily of school presidents and chancellors. This process began in November 2004, when 33 schools were asked to submit self-evaluations to the NCAA to determine the extent of the use of Native American imagery or references on their campuses.

The NCAA last month approved W&M's use of the "Tribe," but wants the school to lose the feathers in its logo.

"I think the general tone is one of mild frustration," said Al Albert, the assistant director of development for the Tribe Club, a fundraising organization created in 1948 to support W&M athletics. "Only the most rabid of fans is spending a lot of time thinking about this."

"We're still the Tribe. If they take our feathers away, we say, 'Doesn't the NCAA have something more important to think about?'"

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

Richmond Times-Dispatch

W&M files appeal on NCAA's logo ruling

BY JOHN O'CONNOR

TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

William and Mary yesterday filed an appeal with the NCAA, which last month ruled that the nickname "Tribe" coupled with a logo including feathers could be viewed by Native Americans as offensive.

"Present NCAA determinations of mascot policy — what is allowed and what is forbidden — are neither comprehensible nor capable of being sensibly defended," Gene R. Nichol, W&M's president, wrote in a cover letter addressed to Myles Brand, the NCAA president.

In the appeal, W&M points out

that the NCAA has made exceptions to its policy, allowing Florida State to remain the "Seminoles," Utah to remain the "Utes," and other schools to keep Native-American nicknames or imagery because those schools were granted permission to do so by specific tribes.

"To put it bluntly, the NCAA is now a complicit partner in the practices it seeks to condemn," states a W&M-produced summary of the 21-page appeal. The appeal contends that W&M's "nickname and logo are a natural expression of the College's unique history and location."

W&M established a school to

educate Native Americans in 1697. That school operated for seven decades.

If the NCAA does not reverse its position regarding the W&M logo, or W&M does not change its logo, William and Mary will be prohibited from serving as a host for NCAA postseason events. Also, W&M teams will not be permitted to display the logo with the feathers in postseason competition.

"Few will understand why the College — where athletes regularly don Phi Beta Kappa keys at commencement, gain admission to competitive graduate and professional programs in unusually

high numbers, and avoid the corrupting misconduct that too often mars university sports programs elsewhere — has made it to the top of the NCAA's regulatory agenda," Nichol wrote to Brand, the NCAA president.

"It would make more sense to study and export William & Mary's approach to athletics than to penalize it."

Daily Press

W&M appeals NCAA's decision on logo

William and Mary believes the NCAA is acting illogically in prohibiting it from using Indian feathers in its athletic logo.

BY DAVE JOHNSON
djohnson@dailypress.com | 247-4649

Citing as illogical an NCAA ruling that would penalize William and Mary over its athletic logo, the college filed a formal appeal Thursday.

W&M was informed by the NCAA last month that while it may retain "Tribe" as its nickname, it no longer would be allowed to wear uniforms depicting Indian feathers on its uniforms during NCAA championship events. In its appeal, the school claims it was being dealt with "in ways that defy logic."

Specifically, William and Mary mentioned the NCAA's August 2005 decision regarding Florida State, which was given clearance

to keep "Seminoles" as its nickname. The NCAA expressed no problem with a pregame tradition at football games that includes a student dressed in full Seminole attire riding out to midfield on a horse and chucking a flaming spear into the ground.

"An interpretation that penalizes (W&M) while embracing the depiction of a brave on horseback, in war paint, plunging a flaming spear into the turf to the delight of 85,000 chanting, tomahawking fans is, at best, enigmatic," William and Mary president Gene Nichol wrote in a letter accompanying the appeal.

The NCAA announced 10 months ago that schools with "hostile or abusive" nicknames would be prohibited from using



them during postseason events. Though W&M was not on the original list of 18 institutions, it was instructed to submit a self-evaluation of its

nickname. William and Mary did so on Nov. 1, insisting the nickname "highlights the school's historical connection to the education of Native Americans."

In its May ruling, the NCAA agreed that Tribe was neither a "hostile or abusive" nickname. However, the NCAA ruled that having feathers in the logo was

The college's appeal will go directly to the NCAA's review committee, which can remove the Tribe from the restricted list itself or pass the request with recommendation along to the Division I Board of Directors. The board then would forward its opinion to the Executive Committee, which is not scheduled to meet until Aug. 4.

A major reason why FSU was

allowed to remain "the Seminoles" is because of its long-standing relationship with the Seminole Tribe of Florida, which supports the use of the nickname. But with a more generic nickname, W&M believes it has no way to prove that Tribe is not "hostile or abusive" — the NCAA's criteria for offensive nicknames.

The appeal also questions why the NCAA made its ruling without sending a representative to campus to determine the "actual effects" the nickname and imagery have on athletics and the campus environment.

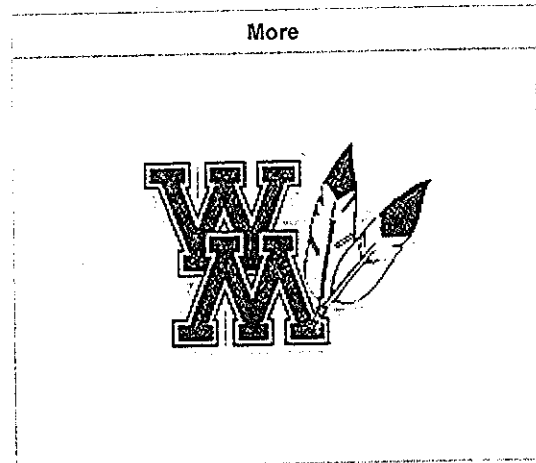
"There are costs associated with leaving logic behind when enforcing important standards," Nichol wrote. "The first, perhaps, is cynicism. Having spoken to many hundreds about the NCAA's position, I can report that it is beyond difficult to find any who believe the organization is being serious and transparent in applying its guidelines."

nbc4.com

Is William & Mary's Logo Hostile, Offensive?

School Appeals NCAA Logo Ruling

POSTED: 8:34 am EDT June 16, 2006
UPDATED: 8:52 am EDT June 16 2006



WILLIAMSBURG, Va. -- The College of William & Mary is appealing a ruling that prohibits it from using its logo showing two Indian feathers at NCAA championship events or hosting NCAA tournament games where it would be displayed.

The NCAA added the Williamsburg school last month to a list of eight offenders banned from displaying its logo at NCAA functions because it's hostile or offensive

Is William & Mary's Logo Offensive, Hostile? Letter From William & Mary To NCAA

The NCAA said William & Mary's nickname, the Tribe, can still be used

In a scathing letter to NCAA president Myles Brand on Thursday, William & Mary President Gene Nichol wrote that the NCAA's decisions regarding several schools "are neither comprehensible nor capable of being sensibly defended "

He said it's unfair for the NCAA to penalize the Tribe logo, but support the Florida State mascot, a Seminole. Nichol describes the mascot as "a brave on horseback, in war paint, plunging a flaming spear into the turf at midfield "

He also said the NCAA may want to study his school's approach to athletics than to penalize it.

" It apparently becomes permissible to contemplate levying heavy sanctions against a university that, according to your own academic performance standards, ranks fifth in the nation in scholastic attainment and graduates 95 percent of its scholarship athletes and 100 percent of its football team," Nichols said in the letter "Few will understand why the college -- where athletes regularly don Phi Beta Kappa keys at commencement, gain admission to competitive graduate and professional programs in unusually high numbers, and avoid the corrupting misconduct that too often mars university sports programs elsewhere -- has made it to the top of the NCAA's regulatory agenda "

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William Walker

From: "Adam Anthony" <adanth@wm.edu>
To: "Stewart Gamage" <shgama@wm.edu>; "Fran Bradford" <Fran Bradford@wm.edu>; "William Walker" <wtwal2@wm.edu>
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2006 11:34 AM
Subject: FYI -- Poll on NBC4.com

FYI -- the local NBC affiliate is doing an online poll on our issue, and the results are pretty one sided

Do you think William & Mary's logo is hostile or offensive?

Choice Votes Percentage of 609 Votes

Yes 23 4%

No 586 96%

Thank you for taking our survey. Check back later for updated results.

Here's the full story --

<http://www.nbc4.com/news/9380916/detail.html>

Adam Anthony
Director, Washington Office
The College of William and Mary
1779 Massachusetts Avenue, NW Suite 810
Washington, DC 20036
202-939-4003



Sales of items with feathered logo rise

388 words

18 June 2006

03:44 PM

Associated Press Newswires

English

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WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (AP) - Sales of merchandise with William and Mary's feathered logo have gone up since intercollegiate sports' governing body informed the school that the emblem is offensive because of its stereotypical reference to American Indians.

Store owners think some consumers want William and Mary gear that could one day be collectors' items. A northern Virginia man recently bought about \$200 worth of merchandise, including pencils, patches and a polo shirt, said Steve Haigh, manager of the Campus Shop near the college.

"Anything that had the feathers," Haigh said.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association last month approved William and Mary's use of the "Tribe," but wants the school to lose the feathers in its logo.

The NCAA said that the logo reflects a "stereotypical reference to Native Americans" when coupled with the athletic teams' nickname, "Tribe." William and Mary is on a list of colleges that will be barred from hosting NCAA playoff events and displaying questionable imagery during postseason games.

William and Mary is appealing the ruling, and spokesman William T. Walker said that "we are still hopeful that the NCAA will see the light."

The school continues to allow production of merchandise with the feathered logo, according to business manager and licensing administrator Diana Tennis. It earns an 8 percent royalty on every item sold with a school logo, Tennis said.

Walker declined to estimate the cost of William and Mary's defending its nickname and logo in the original report the school submitted to the NCAA, or the cost of the appeal.

"It is a substantial amount," Walker said.

William and Mary's appeal will be heard by the NCAA Executive Committee, composed primarily of school presidents and chancellors. This process began in November 2004, when 33 schools were asked to submit self-evaluations to the NCAA to determine the extent of the use of American Indian imagery or references on their campuses.

"I think the general tone is one of mild frustration," said Al Albert, the assistant director of development for the Tribe Club, an athletic booster group. "Only the most rabid of fans is spending a lot of time thinking about this. We're still the Tribe."

On the Net:

NCAA: <http://ncaa.org>

6-24-06

Daily Press

Feathered logos fly off shelves

A retailer of William and Mary merchandise says sales are up after the logo was put in doubt.

BY AUSTIN BOGUES
abogues@dailypress.com | 247-4991

A change in the university's popular feather logo could lead William and Mary merchandise retailers to see a boom in sales.

Steve Haigh, manager of a shop near campus that sells William and Mary apparel, said sales of merchandise with the

logo have increased noticeably since the NCAA decided in May that the logo is offensive and must go.

"Folks just think it's going to be something they're not going to find anymore," Haigh said.

An NCAA panel ruled that the feather logo perpetuated a stereotype of American Indians. The decision is being appealed by the university. No plans have been made for a new logo if the decision does not turn out in the school's favor, said Bill Walker, spokesman for the university.

Please see LOGO/A8

Tribes fans speak up



To watch a video of fans talking about the College of William and Mary logo, go to dailypress.com/wmlogo.

► LOGO Continued from A1

Sales up at other schools after similar rulings

The panel ruled that the school's Tribe nickname was not a hostile or abusive term, but it said that when used in connection with the feather logo, it was. If the decision holds and the university decides not to change the logo, the school could be barred from hosting postseason events.

The NCAA has imposed similar restrictions on other universities, including Florida State and the University of Illinois. The moves have sparked changes in school spirit merchandise that can have a big impact, for better or worse, for retailers.

At Illinois football games, mascot Chief Illiniwek charges on the field during halftime. Continued use of the mascot and logo led to the men's tennis team being

barred from hosting two rounds of tennis matches this spring.

But Cory Shumard, manager of Gameday sports in Illinois, said that the restrictions have led to a 15 percent to 20 percent sales boost of merchandise with the chief logo on it.

Haigh said a visitor to his shop recently bought more than \$200 of William and Mary merchandise with the logo after he learned about the NCAA's ruling.

"Collectors are very drawn to things that are either limited edition or no longer produced because there is this perceived rarity. It symbolizes a specific moment in time," said Joe Orlando, president of a company that authenticates professional sports memorabilia. "They can now pin-

point that particular jersey to a specific era or sometimes a particular year."

George Kamide, a 23-year old William and Mary alum, said examining American Indian-derived mascots and logos seems healthy.

"It was good that the NCAA was doing this type of review because there are certainly a number of Indian-based mascots that are incredibly offensive," Kamide said.

He added that students might want to keep the same icons they associated with their college years, and they might not want to purchase redesigned apparel. "The whole kit and caboodle of alumni fundraising is based on nostalgia," he said.

Some alumni say the logo is an acceptable way of paying tribute to the school's roots.

"To have something as a mascot is in no way a degradation of that people, group or entity," said Stuart Honenberger, a 2006 graduate of the university. "To me it makes them a hero. To take away the feathers when the Indians themselves have said it's not offensive to them really says that we can't lift them up and honor them for the tradition that they have."

William and Mary student Christopher Zurinski is willing to move on. "If it has the William and Mary name, I'll wear it," he said. "I might go out and buy a hat that has the logo just for a keepsake." ■

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

7-5-06

THE
VIRGINIA GAZETTE

W&M logo

"Regarding the Gazette article printed more than a week ago concerning the feathers on the William & Mary logo: Could someone explain to the NAACP and to W&M President Gene Nichol that the feathers are not Indian feathers? They are either from a turkey or a replica of a turkey feather from an eagle. Therefore, the NAACP does not have the right to refuse the feathers to be on the logo because they're 'Indian feathers.'"



8/2/06

Call them the W&M Wrens

By George W. Grayson

ESSAY

JAMES CITY
When the French Army in World War I sought to change the color of its soldiers' trousers from red (an inviting target for machine guns) to khaki, a National Assembly deputy shrilled: "Les pantalons rouge, c'est la France!" Fellow legislators realized that red pants were France, and killed the gambit quicker than un général can say "I surrender."

This brings us to the National Collegiate Athletic Association, which, among its "core values," cites "respect for institutional autonomy."

Such high-flying rhetoric aside, the NCAA's political correctness snipes have been all over William & Mary like a Peeping Tom at a nudist colony. After much squawking, the NCAA has graciously allowed the college to retain the moniker "Tribe," which is — as President Gene R. Nichol astutely notes — "so close to the heart of this community." Still, the organization wants to pluck the two feathers from our logo.

Instead of winging it, extraordinary threats require extraordinary responses. And here is one!

Rather than allow the NCAA to give us the bird, we must take the initiative. Specifically, we should red

shirt the Tribe for a couple of seasons while we take to the court, gridiron, and diamond as the "William & Mary Wrens."

While the change may leave some people peckish, the benefits are obvious.

Considered the "king of birds" in Medieval Europe, the wren enjoyed the praise of Native Americans. One of their tales speaks of

the time when the wren tricked the haughty eagle into carrying it far into the heavens, until the eagle could go no higher. At that point, the intrepid wren flew beyond the clouds, showing that it could soar higher than his carrier, according to writer Ted Andrews.

Besides, these bold and resourceful creatures with their perky tail-feathers are avid insectivores. This would enable W&M to devour the mushy Spiders of the University of Richmond. The college would have a field day should it ever confront the Banana Slugs of the University of California at Santa Clara.

Adopting the Wren as our cognomen would show respect for distaff members of the William & Mary family. As anyone who has taken a history course knows, it was

not Winston Churchill who galvanized the British public during the London Blitz, but the Women's Royal Naval Service, known, of course, as the WRENS.

Although the Tribe may be familiar to students and alumni, the cognoscenti of the world are more familiar with the Wren Building, which logically would become the new nesting place for the Athletic Department. The displaced English and philosophy profs can pen sonnets to the wren or opine on the number of angels who could pirouette on a wren's beak.

Adopting a venerable bird as our nickname and symbol would put us on the same perch as such notable institutions of higher learning as Johns Hopkins (Blue Jays), American (Eagles), Trinity College (Bantams), Stanford (Cardinals), Bryn Mawr (Owls), and Oglethorpe (Stormy Petrels).

Above all, a flight to the Wrens would preserve our two feathers. And we all agree that: "Les deux plumes sont l'université de William & Mary!"

In preparing this essay, W&M Government Professor Grayson benefited from the wisdom of Wrenaissance scholar Dr. John W. Conlee, a member of the W&M English Department.



DAILY PRESS - 8/4/2006
COLLEGES

NCAA denies Tribe appeal

*William and Mary
won't be able to use its
feathers logo at NCAA
championship events.*

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

WILLIAMSBURG — The NCAA has denied William and Mary's appeal of a ruling that prohibits it from using its logo showing two Indian feathers at NCAA championship events or from hosting NCAA tournament games where the logo would be displayed.

The news came Thursday in a letter from the NCAA Executive Committee, affirming a May decision that the green-and-gold logo is hostile or offensive to American Indians.

In that same ruling, the NCAA said William and Mary's nickname, the Tribe, was not necessarily abusive, hostile or offensive, and therefore still could be used.

The decision again was rebuked by school officials, who sent a tersely worded letter to NCAA president Myles Brand seeking the appeal in June.

"We thought we made a very good case, but apparently the NCAA didn't think so," school athletic director Terry Driscoll said.

After school officials received word about the NCAA ruling, the phones and faxes went down at William and Mary Hall, so they received no clarification of the ruling.

"We strongly disagree with the executive committee, but we have to abide by the decision and move forward from here," Driscoll said.

He said the fate of the two-feathers logo will be considered "over the next few weeks as we evaluate what's in the best interest of our student-athletes."

Driscoll said that the school is going to have to figure out changes in the logo for championship events. ■

NCAA's decision

The NCAA says that the Tribe nickname isn't necessarily abusive,

hostile or offensive, but the logo is offensive or hostile to Indians.



Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

SPORTS

Richmond Times-Dispatch FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 2006

William and Mary's appeal of feathered logo denied by NCAA PAGE D8

8/4/06

Richmond Times-Dispatch

www.timesdispatch.com

Richmond Times-Dispatch • Friday, August 4, 2006

... D3

NCAA turns down Tribe's appeal of logo

BY JOHN O'CONNOR
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

William and Mary's athletics logo remains unacceptable to the NCAA, whose Executive Committee yesterday denied the college's appeal to keep two feathers that protrude from the interlocking W and M.

The NCAA maintains that the nickname "Tribe" when paired with the feathered logo violates association restrictions regarding the use of Native American mascots, names and imagery at NCAA championships. W&M can keep "Tribe," the NCAA determined earlier this year, but must eliminate the feathers in its logo if it wants to serve as a host for NCAA championship events, such as Division IAA football playoff games. Also, W&M teams can not display the feathered logo at any NCAA postseason competitions.

W&M protested through the NCAA appeals process, but the Executive Committee in yesterday's announcement concluded that "Native American references used [by W&M] could lead to hostile or abusive environments inconsistent with the NCAA constitution and inconsistent with the NCAA commitment to diversity, respect and sportsmanship."

In a school release, Tribe Athletic Director Terry Driscoll said, "We strongly disagree with the decision by the Executive Committee and find it absurd that the NCAA continues to target William and Mary, a college that sets the standard for the student athlete — because of two feathers on our athletic logo."

Last night, Driscoll added that W&M will revere the NCAA decision in the next few weeks and "take a look at it in its entirety." Asked if W&M would be dropping the feathers from its athletic logo, Driscoll responded, "I'm not going to comment on that right now. We're going to take a little time to go through it."

Driscoll said it's possible that W&M and the NCAA could "reach an understanding" in the fall season that satisfies the NCAA and would allow W&M to serve as a host for NCAA events at the conclusion of the fall season.

William and Mary hasn't taken an inventory of school facilities, uniforms and other things that include the offensive logo "because we held out hope that our appeal might actually be upheld," Driscoll said.

According to Driscoll, the NCAA's earlier ruling that W&M could keep the nickname "Tribe" represents "the most important victory in this entire process."

Contact John O'Connor at joomo@timesdispatch.com or (804) 849-6233.

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/sports/20060803-2108-ncaa-academicpenalties.htm>

WVEC.com | News for Hampton Roads, Virginia | Virginia News

The Virginian-Pilot

8/04/06

GrandForksHerald.com

NCAA denies Tribe's logo appeal

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WILLIAMSBURG — The NCAA has denied William and Mary's appeal of a ruling that prohibits it from using its logo showing two Indian feathers at NCAA championship events or from hosting NCAA tournament games where the logo would be displayed.

The news came Thursday in a letter from the NCAA Executive Committee, affirming a May decision that the logo is hostile or offensive to American Indians.

In that same ruling, the NCAA said William and Mary's nickname, the Tribe, could be used.

The decision was again

rebuked by William and Mary officials, who sent a letter to NCAA president Myles Brand seeking the appeal in June.

"We strongly disagree with the decision by the Executive Committee and find it absurd that the NCAA continues to target William and Mary — a College that sets the standard for the scholar athlete — because of two feathers on our athletic logo," athletic director Terry Driscoll said in a statement distributed by the school.

He said the fate of the two-feathers logo will be considered "over the next few weeks as we evaluate what's in the best interest of our student-athletes."

AP Associated Press

SI.COM

<http://www.twincities.com/mld/twincities/sports/15192111.htm?template=contentModules/...>

Star  Bulletin

Vol. 11, Issue 216 - Friday, August 4, 2006

COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Daily Press

USA TODAY

ESPN

[CasSportsIna.com](http://www.CasSportsIna.com)

YOUR Hampton Roads NewsChannel 

Report: Wizards, Stevenson Agree

washingtonpost.com

Report: Wizards, Stevenson Agree

8/4/06

Friday, August 4, 2006; E02

The Washington Wizards appear to be on the verge of significantly bolstering their back court, agreeing to terms last night with guard *DeShawn Stevenson* in a move first reported by ESPN.com. Stevenson's agent, *Mark Bartelstein*, told the Web site that his client agreed to terms last night on a two-year deal worth the NBA minimum salary, which could be about \$932,000 in the first year.

Wizards President of Basketball Operations *Ernie Grunfeld* was unavailable for comment, but a league source said late last night that a deal with Stevenson could be "imminent," adding that nothing had been signed. Stevenson, a six-year veteran, averaged 11 points and 2.9 rebounds last season for the Orlando Magic.

The Wizards still have to decide by Monday whether to match the New York Knicks' five-year, \$30 million offer sheet to restricted free agent *Jared Jeffries*. The source added that the team could be leaning toward not matching the offer, for fear of surpassing the luxury tax threshold.

The Dallas Mavericks signed undrafted free agent forward *Pops Mensah-Bonsu*. The 6-foot-9, 240-pound Mensah-Bonsu averaged 12.6 points and 6.7 rebounds for George Washington last season. Mensah-Bonsu played for the Mavericks' summer league teams in Las Vegas and Salt Lake City, averaging about eight points and five rebounds per game. Trail Blazers owner *Paul Allen* has pulled out of negotiations to sell the team.

✓ **COLLEGES** The NCAA has denied William & Mary's appeal of a ruling that prohibits it from using its logo showing two Indian feathers at NCAA championship events or from hosting NCAA tournament games where the logo would be displayed.

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"We strongly disagree with the decision by the Executive Committee and find it absurd that the NCAA continues to target William and Mary -- a college that sets the standard for the scholar athlete -- because of two feathers on our athletic logo," Athletic Director *Terry Driscoll* said in a statement distributed by the school.

8/4/06

The Washington Post

NEWS & NOTES

NCAA Denies Appeal for Tribe's Logo

The NCAA has denied William & Mary's appeal of a ruling that prohibits it from using its logo showing two Indian feathers at NCAA championship events or from hosting NCAA tournament games where the logo would be displayed.

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"We strongly disagree with the decision by the Executive Committee and find it absurd that the NCAA continues to target William and Mary — a college that sets the standard for the scholar athlete — because of two feathers on our athletic logo," Athletic Director Terry Driscoll said in a statement distributed by the school.

The ruling against William & Mary is part of an ongoing process in which the NCAA is reviewing

the Native American-themed mascots, nicknames and logos used by more than 30 schools to see if they could be considered "hostile and abusive."

■ **PRO BASKETBALL:** The Dallas Mavericks signed undrafted free agent forward Pops Mensah-Bonsu. The 6-foot-9, 240-pound Mensah-Bonsu averaged 12.6 points and 6.7 rebounds for George Washington last season. Mensah-Bonsu played for the Mavericks' summer league teams in Las Vegas and Salt Lake City, averaging about eight points and five rebounds per game. Trail Blazers owner Paul Allen has pulled out of negotiations to sell the team.

■ **OLYMPICS:** The U.S. Olympic Committee barred track coach Trevor Graham from its training centers and training sites. Chairman Peter Ueberroth made the announcement in a conference call and said the ban was "permanent."

Graham coaches sprinter Justin Gatlin, who recently disclosed a positive test for testosterone or other steroids. He has been involved with at least a half-dozen athletes who have received drug suspensions. Marion Jones will not be invited to the final Golden League meet in Berlin in September because of her past links with Graham.

■ **SWIMMING:** Germany set a world record in the women's 800-meter freestyle relay at the European Swimming Championships in Budapest, finishing in 7 minutes 50.82 seconds. The German team of Petra Dalmann, Daniela Samulski, Britta Steffen and Annika Liebs set the record despite racing during a steady rain.

■ **PRO FOOTBALL:** An appeals court in Trenton, N.J., overturned a landmark \$105 million verdict against a stadium vendor that sold beer to a drunken fan who later paralyzed a 2-year-old girl in an auto wreck.

Ordering a new trial, the three-judge state appeals panel said the trial court improperly allowed testimony about the "drinking environment" at the 1999 football game at Giants Stadium.

■ **KAYAKING:** Scott Parsons of Bethesda finished sixth in qualifying and advanced to the semifinals at the ICF Slalom World Championships in Prague. Brett Heyl (Bethesda) also advanced to tomorrow's semifinal, finishing 10th. Jim Wade (Bethesda) was 86th, failing to advance. Molly Stock of Potomac begins her first world championships today with qualifying in the women's kayak.

— From News Services and Staff Reports

Factiva Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

8/7/06

QT
News
Billions and billions and billions
Zay N. Smith
The Chicago Sun-Times
769 words
7 August 2006
Chicago Sun-Times
Final
36
English
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News Item: Astronomers say the universe may be 15 percent larger than earlier believed

Do you think it would be possible for our astronomers to let one day go by without finding something that makes us feel even less significant than we did the day before?

TERROR BY ANY OTHER NAME

News Headline: "EU rejects call to label Hezbollah 'terrorist group.'"

News Headline: "U.N. says Hezbollah not terrorist organization."

Europe and the United Nations may have a point.

We need to find some less offensive way to classify these savages.

WE GET THE PICTURE

QT Trickle-On Economics Update:

Eastman Kodak, which gave its CEO a 300 percent increase in compensation last year, has announced 2,000 more layoffs as a cost-cutting measure

DIM BULB

The Not Me Decade, in which everybody else is responsible for everything, continues:

A man who was injured when he fell off a cliff while wandering without a flashlight in the middle of the night in Mt. Hood National Forest has sued the U.S. government because it did not take steps to prevent people who wander without flashlights in the middle of the night in national forests with cliffs from falling off the cliffs.

Whose tribe is it, anyway?

News Item: Chief of the local Nansemond Tribe, when asked about the "Tribe" nickname and symbol at the College of **William and Mary**, says: "I don't see a problem with them doing that."

News Item: NCAA upholds earlier ruling that prohibits College of **William and Mary** from using its "Tribe" symbol of two Indian feathers at major NCAA sports events.

The NCAA understands: Someone has to look out for the American Indians, who don't know what's good for them.

COUNTING THE DAYS

Factiva Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

8/7/06

Sports

NCAA doesn't merit feather in its hat for W&M ruling

BOB MOLINARO

607 words

5 August 2006

The Virginian-Pilot & The Ledger-Star

VP - The Virginian-Pilot

C1

English

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Double standard: How can you not agree with **William and Mary** A.D. Terry Driscoll when he complains that the NCAA "continues to target" the university over its use of two feathers in its logo? It does seem like the NCAA is picking on W&M, while Florida State is permitted to keep its Seminole-on-horseback routine.

Add W&M: The NCAA looks like a bully when it picks a fight with an athletic department that consistently honors the concept of the student-athlete and keeps sports in the best-possible perspective. The NCAA's ruling couldn't annoy me more if I were smart enough to be a W&M graduate.

Relief effort: It was just as hot this week on the Norfolk State track as it was at Colonial Downs, an agitated e-mailer reminded me, yet while Colonial Downs officials suspended racing to protect horses from the heat, young Junior Olympic athletes were encouraged to keep running. At one track, at least, somebody was practicing good old-fashioned horse sense.

Idle thought: If the Redskins are going to need two years to learn Al Saunders' offense, why don't they just make second-year prospect Jason Campbell the starting quarterback now and let him grow into it?

Kid you not: NFL officials will be keeping an eye on centers who engage in too much finger-wiggling prior to snapping the ball. It could lure defensive linemen offsides, you see. Too much finger-wiggling will result in a false-start penalty. And this is a league that wants to be taken seriously.

Traumatic event: Michael Vick didn't try to hide his disappointment when Brian Finneran, his favorite Falcons wide receiver, went down with a knee injury in training camp. "Man, this is devastating," he said. "I gotta go to my room. Pray about it. Think about it. Our season's not gone, but it changed a lot today."

Ancient history: When John Madden enters the Hall of Fame today, he'll become the 17th Raiders player or coach enshrined. A reminder of how great the Raiders used to be.

Overlooked: I feel some sympathy for Bruce Sutter. The baseball media couldn't wait for his Hall of Fame induction to be over so that they could continue speculating on how Mark McGwire will be treated this winter by writers who hold the keys to Cooperstown.

Setting the scene: I'm not telling anybody with a Hall of Fame ballot how to vote, but imagine McGwire, with all that baggage, sharing a stage next summer with Cal Ripken Jr. and Tony Gwynn. A real buzz kill.

Name game: What do Grover Cleveland Alexander, Jimmie Foxx, Rogers Hornsby, Walter Johnson, Christy Mathewson and George Sisler have in common? None are on any big-league team's five-man nomination list for hometown heroes.

The new wave: It's not a difference in talent that sets apart the current USA men's basketball team from the teams that inexplicably lost international events. It's the team's attitude and focus that are better. That's where Mike Krzyzewski's influence is being felt.

* Reach Bob at (757) 446-2373 or at bob.molinaro@pilotonline.com

Bob's blog You can't stop him. You can't even contain him anymore. More of Bob Molinaro's opinions and insights at pilotonline.com

8/7/2006

8/7/06

The Philadelphia Inquirer Incites column: Yipes! New stripes! NFL refs alter look

By Don McKee, The Philadelphia Inquirer
Knight Ridder/Tribune Business News

770 words

6 August 2006

The Philadelphia Inquirer (KRTBN)

English

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Aug 6--The world as we know it is ending. The NFL is about to change.

For half a century, the NFL has been an island of stability in a turbulent sea. Whether that makes the league an icon or just an old stick in the mud is still under debate. But the walls of the old NFL came tumbling down last week and a sea of change washed over the league.

The zebras have lost their stripes.

At one point in the misty past, referees wore white shirts, bow ties and cloth caps. Exactly when the vertical black and white stripes became the standard is unknown.

But in the decades when the NFL grew from a second-rate league to a dominant one, a financial colossus, the zebras were a common denominator.

Until now.

A redesign, first unveiled last week at a New York Giants practice in Albany, N.Y., makes the zebras look like jockeys.

"You belong on a horse at Saratoga," one leather lung bellowed as the shirts were unveiled.

The new shirts have broad white stripes and smaller black ones.

Life will never be the same.

PhilaTrivia Who was the last righthander to win 20 games in a season for the Phillies?

Rumor. The 76ers are said to be for sale. They probably are; it's a bad franchise. The real question is: Who would want to buy it? Without the building going along in the deal, there's no real incentive for anyone to invest there.

Ten more years. Two public figures made similar pronouncements Tuesday, as both voiced their desire to last 10 more years in power. They were Joe Paterno and Fidel Castro.

I like Joe to win that one.

At the Big Ten media day last week, Paterno regaled listeners with a story about hiking with his grandchildren.

On the way back, the 79-year-old icon developed a sore knee. When it persisted, he saw a doctor, who found him to be in the pink.

"The doctor says, 'You can coach 10 more years,' " Paterno said.

And all this time you thought he was trying to outlast Bobby Bowden.

What? The College of **William and Mary** is one of the nation's oldest and most distinguished.

According to the NCAA, it also is one of the nation's most hostile and prejudiced.

The college was one of more than 30 institutions originally cited by the NCAA as having a nickname -- the Tribe -- and logo that create a hostile environment because of their depiction of Native Americans.

The Tribe appealed, and the NCAA relented on the nickname. But on Thursday, the association reiterated its ruling that the school's logo had to go

The logo consists of a capital WM and two feathers

↓ This is of note for two reasons. One, the NCAA has ruled that the Florida State Seminoles, and their logo and mascot, are perfectly acceptable. Two, **William and Mary** has one of the nation's best records in graduating athletes.

Apparently, having a gilt-edged academic record counts for nothing. And how two feathers are offensive when a guy riding a horse in a loin cloth with a spear is OK beats me.

Truth in advertising. Read any media account of the Phillies the last three seasons and the word underachievers is sure to appear.

That's a nice way of saying dogs.

Now Pat Gillick appears ready to take a fire hose to the kennel. When he's finished, the Phillies will be a better team. They may not be a better collection of talent, but they will be a better team.

But none of that will matter unless Gillick can construct a bullpen. Tom Gordon is safe, but no one else in the group is, or should be. The 2007 rotation shapes up as Brett Myers, Ryan Madson, Scott Mathieson, Cole Hamels, and the proverbial "player to be named."

But after the housecleaning, there may be as much as \$40 million left to sign hard-nosed, lay-it-on-the-line players. In baseball, as in football, an era appears to be ending.

Trivia answer: Robin Roberts, who won 23 in 1955. Since then, only lefties Chris Short and Steve Carlton have won 20 for the Fightin's.

Post a question or comment for Don McKee at <http://go.philly.com/askmckee> , or by e-mail at dmckee@phillynews.com.

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ON YOUR SIDE

NCAA denies William & Mary appeal in logo ruling

↓ WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (AP) - The NCAA has denied William & Mary's appeal of a ruling that prohibits it from using its logo showing two Indian feathers at NCAA championship events or from hosting NCAA tournament games where the logo would be displayed

The news came Thursday in a letter from the NCAA Executive Committee, affirming a May decision that the green and gold logo is hostile or offensive to American Indians.

In that same ruling, the NCAA said William and Mary's nickname, the Tribe, was not necessarily abusive, hostile or offensive, and therefore still could be used.

The decision was again rebuked by William & Mary officials, who sent a tersely-worded letter to NCAA president Myles Brand seeking the appeal in June.

"We strongly disagree with the decision by the Executive Committee and find it absurd that the NCAA continues to target William and Mary _ a College that sets the standard for the scholar athlete _ because of two feathers on our athletic logo," athletic director Terry Driscoll said in a statement distributed by the school.

He said the fate of the two-feathers logo will be considered "over the next few weeks as we evaluate what's in the best interest of our student-athletes."

The ruling against William & Mary is part of an ongoing process in which the NCAA is reviewing the American Indian-themed mascots, nicknames and logos used by more than 30 schools to see if they could be considered "hostile and abusive."

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Logo still a no-go

Columnist Dave Fairbank questions NCAA's logic SPORTS, B1



The William and Mary logo, above, has been deemed by the NCAA as "hostile or abusive" because of its feathers. Florida State's logo, right, which features Chief Osceola, is OK with the NCAA because the Seminole Nation in Florida told the NCAA that it had no problems with the university's nickname and imagery of its people.

What's the difference?

To recap: "Tribe" is OK, but the feathers have to go.

Those are the rulings by the NCAA nannies who consider Native American imagery objectionable in 21st-century college sports.

William and Mary received word Thursday from the NCAA that its logo was unacceptable.

The governing body of college athletics earlier said that W&M's nickname was adequate. But the NCAA rejected the school's appeal that the logo — the letters W and M with a couple of green-and-gold feathers attached — did not present a potentially offensive image to Native Americans.

How a couple of spray-



Dave Fairbank

Painted feathers insults descendants of the country's original tenants is unclear, since the NCAA did not provide William and Mary with further clarification.

That will come later though the explanation is likely to be long on words and short on actual clarity.

"The assumption is if you're using Native American imagery or a nickname or a mascot that could lead to

a hostile or abusive environment," NCAA spokesman Bob Williams said. "So it was up to each institution to prove that the use of such items could not lead to it. Essentially the Executive Committee felt that William and Mary did not make that case."

William and Mary isn't required to change its logo. But if it does not, the school will be prohibited from hosting NCAA championship events, and its teams may not wear uniforms during post-season that feature the offending image.

In other words, it's back to the drawing board.

Even if William and Mary simply ditches the feathers and goes with a simple W and

M logo, it runs the risk of being confused with Waste Management, Inc., whose logo is also a W and M and whose colors, coincidentally are green and gold.

Nothing will brighten the day of a prestigious 300-year-old institution of higher learning like the possibility of a trademark plea fight with a garbage company, even if, as its Web site states, it's the leading provider of comprehensive waste and environmental services in North America.

William and Mary athletic director Terry Driscoll, diplomatic fellow that he is, resisted the urge to launch a full-blown rant Friday morning

Please see FAIRBANK/B6

► FAIRBANK Continued from B1

immediately satisfying as it may have been

He summed up his feelings about the ruling as "Disappointment and frustration."

"Disappointment for several different reasons," he said. "Disappointment in the process. It appears that there are some inconsistencies in how the NCAA has applied the policy. Disappointment in the fact that we were found to be hostile and abusive. Those are the frustrating aspects, because this is a very narrowly defined issue."

Driscoll added, "There's really kind of an empty feeling to this."

Here's what makes Driscoll and others crazy: A couple of two-dimensional feathers on a logo are potentially degrading, yet Florida State will continue to have mascot Chief Osceola ride an appaloosa and throw a

flaming spear into the turf at midfield before Seminoles home football games

That's because the Seminole Nation in Florida told the NCAA that it had no problems with FSU's nickname and imagery of its people.

"We don't agree that the use of the flaming spear in a pre-game show and perhaps someone dressed as a Native American riding a horse is appropriate," the NCAA's Williams said. "But we also feel strongly that we cannot dictate to a sovereign tribe how their name and image will or will not be portrayed."

In fact, various Native American tribes signed off on the nicknames at Florida State, Utah, Central Michigan, Mississippi College and Catawba College.

So mull this over: William

and Mary may have been better off if its nickname had been a specific tribe, instead of the non-specific Tribe

Say William and Mary's nickname was the Mattaponi, complete with a buckskin-wearing, war-painted, head-dressed student mascot. As potentially offensive as it would be to many, the school's nickname and logo and everything may have survived if the tribal elders sent the NCAA a note from home

But that's just playing "What if?" The school will wait to hear the NCAA's reasoning for the rejection and then go from there.

"A logo sort of represents the essence of who you are," Driscoll said. "Do we want it to be more academic and less athletic? There are a lot of things for people to consider."

Along those lines, allow us to offer a couple of suggestions:

A logo with a mortar board perched atop the W, and next to the M a couple of Ritalin, for the all-nighters. Imagine the potential marketing and financial tie-ins with pharmaceutical companies.

Or maybe a silhouette of a generic athlete running away from a student-loan collection agency

Or how about an athlete with a diploma in one hand and a beer in the other? Again, marketing possibilities. Scholarships don't grow on trees, you know.

Flaming arrows and tomahawks are probably out of the question.

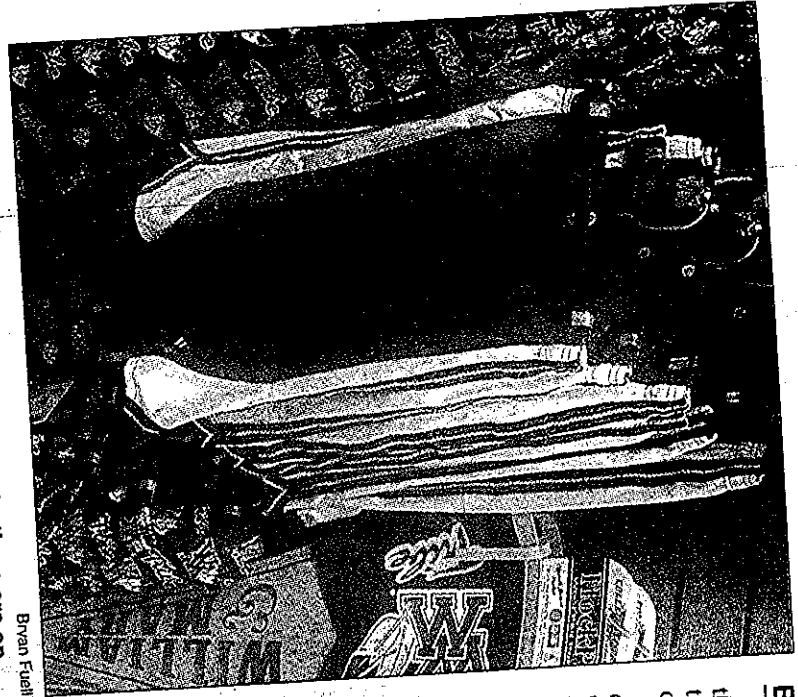
Dave Fairbank can be reached at 247-4637 or by e-mail at dfairbank@dailypress.com

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8/7/68

VIRGINIA GAZETTE

Ruling boosts sales of banned logo



Bryan Fuent

Sales of items bearing the now banned feathers are on the rise.

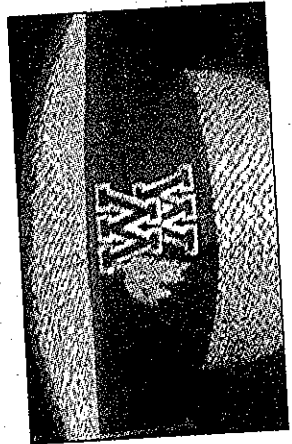
By Bryan L. Fuent

WILLIAMSBURG — What's bad for the College of William & Mary's athletic teams may be good for its marketing department.

The NCAA on Thursday rejected the college's appeal of a ruling saying Tribe teams must remove two feathers from their logos because they are deemed offensive to Native Americans. Meanwhile, sales of Tribe apparel and items bearing the feathers are jumping off the shelves at the Campus Shop and Barnes & Noble bookstore, both on Merchants Square.

"We've had many students just come in looking for the feather decal," said a Barnes & Noble sales associate. "People have heard rumors swirling around that the logo would be banned, and we have started to sell much more clothing with the feathers on them."

The NCAA ruling means that W&M can no longer use the feathers on logos when it competes in NCAA championship events or hosts NCAA events. The news came Thursday in a letter from the NCAA Executive Committee, affirming a May decision that the green and gold logo is hostile or offensive to



American Indians.

In that same ruling, the NCAA said W&M's nickname, the Tribe, was not necessarily abusive, hostile or offensive, and therefore still could be used.

The decision was again rebuked by W&M officials, who sent a tersely worded letter to NCAA president Myles Brand seeking the appeal in June. In a release, Tribe athletic director Terry Driscoll said, "We strongly disagree with the decision by the executive committee and find it absurd that the NCAA continues to target William and Mary, a college that sets the standard for the scholar athlete, because of two feathers on our athletic logo."

Added Driscoll: "We do know that William and Mary will forever be the Tribe, and that was the most important

victory in this entire process. We'll review the decision about our athletic logo over the next few weeks as we evaluate what's in the best interest of our student athletes."

The recent ruling is part of an ongoing review by the NCAA of more than 30 universities' use of mascots, nicknames, logos and imagery associated with Native Americans to determine whether they are "hostile and abusive." Universities placed on the NCAA list are prohibited from hosting NCAA-sponsored postseason games and from using the image in NCAA-sanction postseason play.

Driscoll said it's possible that W&M and the NCAA could "reach an understanding" in the fall season that satisfies the NCAA and would allow W&M to serve as a host for NCAA events at the conclusion of the fall season. W&M hasn't taken an inventory of school facilities, uniforms and other things that include the offensive logo "because we held out hope that our appeal might actually be upheld," Driscoll said.

According to Driscoll, the NCAA's earlier ruling that W&M could keep the nickname "Tribe" represents "the most important victory in this entire process." □

Daily Press

Birdbrains

The NCAA is foolhardy about feathers

There was a time, not so long ago, when a staple of college athletics was a spirited rendition of "Who let the dogs out?"

The appropriate refrain now would be, "Who let the loonies in?"

Let us start with the loony that started it all: the NCAA. Instead of focusing on the real problems that are undeniably within its purview — coaches and players acting badly, recruiting scandals, colleges that use athletes and then spit them out, uneducated, at the end of their playing days — it is making a big deal out of an issue that isn't: team names, mascots and insignia.

The NCAA ruled that schools that use tribe names or insignia it deems offensive can't host post-season tournaments and can participate in them only if the schools banish the offending words and images from their insignia and "associated athletic program activities" (like cheerleaders and bands). It will not, for example, allow the College of William and Mary to use its insignia: two stylized green and gold feathers. The college can use the name "tribe" — someone with actual sense pointed out that a tribe is an anthropological unit of human organization, not an insult — but the feathers, says the NCAA, create an offensive environment (only to a birdbrain, of course). Last week it notified W&M its appeal to continue using the feathers had been denied.

The NCAA isn't picking only on W&M. Several colleges have been told to strip Indian names and motifs off their teams, bands, walls, floors and concession stands. But for a clue to how nutty the NCAA can

be, consider this: It is letting Florida State continue to use the Seminole as its mascot, even though that brings with it such traditions as a brave in war paint running around the field, tomahawks and a cheer called the "war chant."

But wait, it gets loonier: Congress is involved. Yes, two bills involving the issue are before our lawmakers.

One would ban any entity that regulates intercollegiate sports from punishing or denying any benefit to any school based

on its team name, mascot or emblem. It flies under the pretentious title of Protection of University Governance Act.

Wouldn't it be great if we could see what Thomas Jefferson and his band of brothers

think of Congress taking on the job of regulating basketball shirts?

Another bill is even goofier. The name suggests the foolishness that lies within: Native Act to Transform Imagery in Various Environments. It would set up a grant program to help schools, elementary through college, change from team names that refer to Indians. That's right, your dollars would go to buy new cheerleader uniforms and football helmets, roadside signs and gymnasium floors.

Given what a mess the NCAA made this task, imagine what the federal education bureaucracy can do. Woe is us.

Here's the ideal solution: for college take this into their own hands, to wrest control of an NCAA run amok — and from its mission. To tell the NCAA: This is our organization, and we're not putting up with this nonsense. We insist that the makers pay attention to what's important and stop chasing after what isn't.

After all, who runs the NCAA but colleges? Who can fix it but colleges? No one wants to let the loonies in. Or let the dogs run wild. ■



8/14/06

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Richmond Times-Dispatch

VIRGINIA'S NEWS LEADER

Hypocrisy 101

The NCAA has banned Native American imagery for use as mascots and in team logos. The governing body of college athletics called such depictions "hostile" and "abusive," so here's a quiz.

Which of the following incurred the full wrath of the NCAA:

(1) A rider dressed as an Indian — with war paint and accompanying attire — who on horseback charges into a football stadium before games and fires a flaming arrow into the turf; or

(2) The use of two feathers in an athletic logo?

Anyone who chose option (1) as the most offensive needs a class in *Remedial NCAA Hypocrisy 101*. It is William & Mary's two feathers that



drove the NCAA into high dudgeon. In early August the school lost another appeal to keep the feathers as part of the college's logo. Meanwhile, Florida State University's pre-game rampaging Indian with his flaming arrow passed the NCAA's sensitivity test.

In an August, 2005, letter approving FSU's use of a Native American mascot, the NCAA wrote that "in its review of the particular circumstances regarding Florida State, the staff review committee noted the unique relationship between the university and the Seminole Tribe of Florida as a significant factor." In disallowing William & Mary's use of its feathers, the NCAA ignored the fact that the college has a special relationship with many of the tribes in its surrounding area — some of which explicitly endorsed W&M's position in filings with the athletic organization.

But then again, FSU's athletics department holds more sway in the NCAA than a school such as W&M, which focuses on academics.

The feathers are not offensive — and certainly do not deserve rougher treatment than FSU's Chief Osceola. W&M's logo serves the purpose of suggesting Native Americans and their culture still have deep roots in Virginia — and a connection to America's second-oldest institution of higher learning. If the American Indians who live in the same community with William & Mary have no objection to the use of these feathers, then the NCAA should not substitute its own selective values.

This year marks the NCAA's 100th birthday. Is it growing old gracefully — or just growing old?

8/14/06

Hold developers to promises

Bluegreen Corp recently received approval to build an enormous facility for tourists with more than 900 parking spaces in an area of the city that is adjacent to Colonial Williamsburg and is currently green. This monstrous complex will demolish one affordable home where residents have lived for 17 years and about 10 other affordable homes where families live. In public hearings on the issue, many questions were raised about how this facility reflects community values and contributes to life in Williamsburg. None were answered.

Bluegreen was surprised to learn that there was a home on the property it was about to develop. In a meeting with city residents, the developers promised to give the residents at least a year to arrange alternative accommodations. However, this week, the residents affected by this facility received a notice of eviction, giving them 30 days to leave their home of 17 years.

During a July 19 Planning Commission hearing on this development, an employee of Bluegreen told commissioners that the corporation would be happy to oblige requests, but that it did not want to keep giving in to city requests without first receiving approval. She was suggesting that if the commission would just approve the development, we could trust that it would follow through on its many promises.

Thankfully, not all members of the Planning Commission were charmed by such a promise. Elaine McBeth repeatedly questioned the proposal's impact on neighbors, those who are already residents of the city.

It seems Bluegreen determined that some of its promises were enough, that a home and people's lives can be destroyed as proper punishment for the company's minor concessions before the commission.

While serving tourists is certainly an important part of life in Williamsburg, doing so at the

LETTERS

* Ruffled feathers

When the College of William & Mary appealed the National Collegiate Athletic Association decision regarding the use of the two feathers on our logo, the college should have told the NCAA that the feathers were two quill pens that celebrated our colonial heritage.



Tom Carmine, Class of '76
Newport News

expense of residents and stakeholders in this community is not a community value that I nor (I hope) our neighbors hold.

Jodi Mincemoyer
Williamsburg

Check this out

Questions are being asked about what would make a new library perfect in the Wil-



liamsburg area. Convenience, not size, is the most cost-effective ratio. For cost-efficiency,

utilize an existing building in a shopping center

Some prerequisites that should be considered before developing a new library:

- Locate the library on a route served by Williamsburg Area Transit.

- Don't utilize a consultant from a large city. James City County is not a metropolis, yet!

- Consider that James City has about 75,000 population, lots of retirees.

- Expensive design does not make it used. This is a library, not a resort clubhouse.

- Consider Grove or the James-York area, which is a younger, lower-salaried area with children.

- Choose a site in a vacated storefront in a small shopping center.

- Have the building architecturally designed to fit the needs of the people.

- Requests for a coffee shop, gift shop or sandwich shop could be met by adjacent stores in the shopping area.

Convenience to stores and Colonial Williamsburg has made Williamsburg Regional the people's choice, with 650,000 users. Norge Library is off the beaten path and has 250,000 patrons during the same timeframe. Also note that library demands are changing with the Ipod etc. Fully 60% of items charged out were DVDs.

A shopping center site would give Mom a chance to shop while Dad and kids go to the library. Choosing smaller, more reasonable library makes the idea of several satellite libraries possible.

A library is a tax-supported have for persons who choose to use it. The most important request is that it be convenient and user-friendly.

Joan Zitzelber
James C

LETTERS POLICY

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8/14/06

THE VIRGINIA GAZETTE

W&M logo


“Although someone ingeniously pointed out that feathers are not a part of the anatomy of the early American people, we are once again facing the possibility of changing the William & Mary logo to eliminate the feathers. Here are two suggestions for a solution: (1) Add an ink pot in which the two feathers rest, which converts into the writing utensils. (2) Eliminate one of the feathers and add the ink pot in like manner. It's not what I would call a perfect solution, but it could put this matter to rest, that is unless someone feels that it's disrespectful to portray the image of feathers having been used for writing utensils before the advent of the many wonderful options we have in the area of handwriting in the modern world.”



Feathers for strength, freedom

I read with amusement George Grayson's recent essay in which he suggests that we call the William & Mary athletic teams the Wrens. This was a response to the ridiculous NCAA decision to deny W&M use of two feathers in its logo. Apparently the NCAA believes that this is insulting to Native Americans.

Perhaps we can use George's example in a different context and to our advantage. As an ornithologist, I find it impossible to relate these feathers to a species of bird, much less to a group of Americans.



It is true that Native Americans use feathers in their ceremonies and in ceremonial dress. However, they prefer bald and golden eagle feathers. They have this preference because of the reverence in which they hold these two species. They are even given special permission to use these feathers, something denied to everyone else.

The solution to our dilemma seems simple. We call the feather in our logo bald eagle feathers appropriately painted green and gold. They thus epitomize the characteristics of strength, freedom, and spiritiveness so prized by Native Americans. Even the NCAA with its twisted logic should recognize the positive symbolism engendered by the action. If this fails, we can always resort to George's wrens. I would go further and call the teams the Bewick's Wrens. I like this suggestion since Bewick's Wrens have disappeared from eastern North America as rapidly as common sense has departed the NCAA.

Mitchell A. Byrd
Chancellor Professor of Biology Emeritus
College of William & Mary

Daily Press: 'Wrens' can save W&M feathers

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

8/16/06

<http://www.dailypress.com/news/opinion/dp-01035sv0aug16.0.5353155.story?coll=dp-opinion-editorials>

'Wrens' can save W&M feathers

August 16 2006

When the French Army in World War I sought to change the color of its soldiers' trousers from red (an inviting target for machine guns) to khaki, a National Assembly deputy shrieked: "Les pantalons rouges, c'est la France!" Fellow legislators realized that red pants were France, and killed the gambit quicker than un général can say "I surrender."

This brings us to the National Collegiate Athletic Association, which - among its "core values" - cites "respect for institutional autonomy." Such high-flying rhetoric aside, the NCAA's political correctness snipes have been all over the College of William & Mary like a Peeping Tom at a nudist colony. After much squawking, the NCAA has graciously allowed the college to retain the moniker "Tribe," which is - as President Gene R. Nichol astutely notes - "so close to the heart of this community." Still, they have plucked the two feathers from our logo.

"We strongly disagree with the decision by the executive committee and find it absurd that the NCAA continues to target William and Mary - a college that sets the standard for the scholar-athlete - because of two feathers on our athletic logo," warbled William & Mary Athletics Director Terry Driscoll.

"We do know that William & Mary will forever be the 'Tribe' and that was the most important victory in this entire process. We'll review the decision about our athletic logo over the next few weeks as we evaluate what's in the best interest of our student athletes."

Rather than allow the NCAA popinjays to give us the bird, we must take the initiative. Specifically, we should redshirt the "Tribe" for a couple of seasons while we take the court, gridiron and diamond as the "William & Mary Wrens."

While the change may leave some people peckish, the benefits are obvious. Considered the king of birds in medieval Europe, the wren enjoyed the praise of Native Americans. One of their tales speaks of the time when the wren tricked the haughty eagle into carrying it far into the heavens, until the eagle could go no higher. At that point, the intrepid wren flew beyond the clouds, showing that it could soar higher than his carrier, according to writer Ted Andrews.

Besides, these bold and resourceful creatures with their perky tail-feathers are avid insectivores. This would enable W&M to devour the mushy "Spiders" of the University of Richmond. The College would have a field day should it ever confront the "Banana Slugs" of the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Adopting the "Wren" as our cognomen would show respect for distaff members of the William & Mary

family. As anyone who has taken a history course knows, it was not Winston Churchill who galvanized the British public during the London blitz, but the Women's Royal Naval Service - known, of course, as the "WRENS."

Although the "Tribe" may be familiar to students and alumni, the cognoscenti of the world are more familiar with the Wren Building, which logically would become the new nesting place for the athletic department. The displaced English and philosophy professors can pen sonnets to the wren or opine on the number of angels who could pirouette on a wren's beak.

Adopting a venerable bird as our nickname and symbol would put us on the same perch as such notable institutions of higher learning as Johns Hopkins (Blue Jays), American (Eagles), Trinity College (Bantams), Bryn Mawr (Owls), Oglethorpe (Stormy Petrels) and Stanford (Cardinal).

Above all, a flight to the Wrens would preserve our two feathers. And we all agree that: "Les deux plumes sont le College of William & Mary!"

Grayson teaches government at the College of William and Mary. In preparing this essay, he benefited from the wisdom of "Wienaissance" scholar Dr. John W. Conlee, a member of the college's English department.

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8/16/06

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NCAA's ruling on W&M logo is valid

Recently, the College of William and Mary received a ruling from the NCAA regarding the propriety of our Tribe nickname and feathered W&M logo. The ruling affirmed that although the nickname met association standards, the logo was hostile and offensive to American Indians. This final decision came down after a year-long national controversy and heated exchange with the university.

It is satisfying to see some resolution (until the next championship game). The finality of the ruling offers little comfort that William and Mary or the collegiate

community understood the substance of the NCAA's initial position.



attempts. The fact remains that few American Indians, especially with tribal ties, populate our public colleges and universities here in Virginia. Our choices to assume absent cultural identities are peculiar and incongruous. William and Mary is no exception. In fact, our nickname and logo should be subject to more scrutiny

considering the history of indoctrination at our former Indian school.

As this dialogue unfolded, I discovered that too many were attached to an empty past. An African-American myself, I welcomed our reflection about inherited culture and ownership. After all, we often seek to improve from our past. It is why I am dedicated to William and Mary. Our passion allows us to envision this great institution exemplifying its core values without its racist or intolerant ghosts.

Richael Faithful
Williamsburg

8/21/06

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

On tribes and feathers

By Ron Wheeler

JAMES CITY

You've probably read about the College of William & Mary-NCAA controversy. The NCAA wanted the college to change its team name, "Tribe," and insignia, which consists of two feathers, because they might offend Native Americans. Turns out it's all just a big misunderstanding.

At first, the NCAA thought the college's team name actually referred to a group of Native Americans, which, of course, was never true. As any anthropologist knows, tribe is simply a generic term -- like family, community or fraternity -- denoting a unit of human organization.

If you've ever witnessed the crazed frenzy of William & Mary students at a football game, you already know this. Although it was last fall, their chant still rings in my ears: "Go, Unit, go! Go, you big, tough anthropological-unit-of-human-organization, go! Give me a U, give me an N, give me an I, give me a T!"

In making the case that Native Americans were never really part of the W&M tribal unit, I'm sure officials pointed out that the first students at the college's Indian School were young slaves purchased from tribes that had captured them in battle. The officials also probably cited the college's own history book, entitled "Their Majesties' Royall Colledge."

The text mentions Baubee, a Native American who was brought to W&M in 1775 to study. When Baubee returned to his people, "he spread bitter reports about the treatment he had received and used the benefits of his education in an effort to persuade the tribes to go to war against the Americans." The history goes on to conclude: "The story of Baubee writes a sad but not uncharacteristic final chapter to the pathetic, muddled, generally uncaring and not infrequently discreditable record of William & Mary's efforts to educate the Indians..."

W&M would never have inten-

ESSAY

tionally drawn national attention to its questionable treatment of Native Americans by purposely naming itself after them. That would be as silly as, say, a team representing



Washington, home of the forked-tongued "Great White Father" calling itself the Redskins.

Given the attitude of 18th century W&M, it became obvious, even to the politically correct NCAA, that tribe could only refer to the white males of English ancestry who attended their majesties' royal college on a regular basis. These young men, the sons of Virginia's finest families, knew it was their college. As enlightened as they might have been, they apparently were not very keen about sharing the place with their Native-American brothers. Or perhaps it was just the professors who gave the Indian students a hard time.

What about the other half of the misunderstanding, the two feathers? The answer is that the feathers are quills, symbols of penmanship. This is not an original idea. It was suggested by a contributor to the Last Word. My research shows that the two feathers were always quills.

Rather than just a ruse to fool the NCAA, quills were important artifacts of the W&M scene. Think about it: The Declaration of Independence was written by alumnus Thomas Jefferson with a quill pen.

On the other hand, one of the purposes of the Indian School at W&M was to cleanse the

Native-American students of their Indian attributes. It's possible that there never was a real Indian feather at W&M. I would even speculate that Baubee and other Indians who studied there were not allowed to wear feathers.

Instead, they probably had to dress up like English-type men. If they did have a feather anywhere near the Wren Building, it was a quill. No doubt about it.

Back to penmanship.

This skill was highly regarded at W&M in the old days. It's easy to lose sight of the significance of penmanship in today's world. Thanks to computers, handwriting has become an archaic art form. But in the 18th century there were actually faculty members who taught penmanship at W&M. So it's conceivable that some poor soul was booted out of W&M based on his atrocious handwriting alone. Perhaps this happened to Baubee, which would explain his bitterness.

What if the NCAA doesn't accept the quills argument? Then there's only one other plausible explanation for the two feathers: They are horse feathers. Horsefeathers is an expression that something is highly unlikely, about as probable as that pigs might fly or horses might have feathers, which, come to think of it, might be the best way to describe this whole matter.

Ron Wheeler lives in Windsor Forest.

8/24/06

Ruffled feathers

As a William and Mary alumnus, I would accept the NCAA ruling on the W&M feathers logo and Tribe nickname if I felt the ruling had been applied equally to all colleges. Since I do not feel it has been applied fairly, William and Mary should resist the NCAA ruling as much as possible.

The Tribe nickname that was approved should remain, and only the smallest changes necessary to get the logo approved should occur. W&M should embrace its roots and



celebrate its famous alumni, such as Thomas Jefferson, John Marshall and James Monroe, by re-

placing the tied feathers with quill pens in an inkwell. This would allow the logo to remain virtually unchanged, yet remove the NCAA-objectionable reference to Native Americans

Richard Siebigteroth
Yorktown



also made quite a few plays for us "

and finished 5-6 overall

The team sputtered down the stretch, however,

With all that on his resumé, Phillips is ready to go this year.

"I've felt more comfortable this spring after being named the starter and not worrying about being No. 1 or 2," he said during the preseason practice. "I'm relaxed and playing a whole lot better "

Coming out of last season, Phillips said he had several goals for the offseason workouts

"I needed to become more comfortable being the field general," he said "I need to be more accurate with my throws, especially the deep ones."

He also bulked up with four-day-a-week weight-lifting sessions that have added 20 pounds to his frame. He now checks in at 6 feet, 3 inches and 225 pounds

"We wanted Jake to work on making better decisions with the ball and improve his accuracy," Laycock said of his offseason goals for Phillips. "He has made strides since the end of last season, and he continues to work hard every day in practice

"We need him to show good leadership, both vocally and by example "

Phillips will get his first test in a mighty big arena against an ACC opponent

Originally published August 25, 2006



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OCTOBER

7 at Massachusetts 1 p m

14 at Liberty 1 p m

21 at James Madison 3 p m

28 Villanova 1 p.m

NOVEMBER

4 at Towson 1 p.m.

11 at Delaware 1 p.m.

18 Richmond 1 p.m

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Athletics -- Indian

Symbolism

Richmond Times-Dispatch

**W&M's Logo Problem
Is Unconnected to FSU**

EDITOR, TIMES-DISPATCH:
Once again THE TIMES-DISPATCH has cited Florida State University when criticizing the NCAA's decision to ban William & Mary's logo feathers. It is a shame that the NCAA has made this decision; however, Florida State's integrity needs to be left out of the argument.

When FSU appealed the NCAA's decision regarding its own mascot, it was done with enough evidence of a mutual relationship with the Seminole tribe of Florida. This evidence was more than an endorsement by the tribe — it was evidence of a mutual relationship between the two entities. In fact the clothing worn by Chief Osceola is made by the Seminole tribe.

As an undergraduate at FSU I was fortunate enough to perform in a halftime show that described the struggles of the Seminole tribe as its territory was taken over.

The assumption in your editorial that FSU does not focus on academics is ridiculous.

8/30/06

Many of the top researchers and instructors in the country are at Florida State. Garrett Johnson, a national champion, track athlete at Florida State was named as a Rhodes Scholar this year — but Florida State does not focus on academics. (This assumption is made often because the most visible part of the school is the football program.)

I wish William & Mary good luck in its endeavor to keep the feathers in the logo. However in the future please keep Florida State out of the reasoning.
BARRY R. SUDDUTH

WARSAW.

8/30/06

Feather symbolism

Dave Fairbank wrote a column on the issue of the change of logo needed for the College of William and Mary if the school is to host NCAA championship events and wear it on uniforms ("What's the difference? Aug. 5). The polemic dealt with the team's use of two Native American feathers — green and gold. ✓

Although Fairbank clearly stated the NCAA issue: "Tribe is OK, but the feathers have to go," I was deeply perturbed by his insensitivity to the sacred nature of Native American feathers, referring to them as a "couple of spray-painted feathers" and a "couple of two-dimensional feathers."

His myopic syllogism seems to be if Florida State can keep a Native American Chief Osceola mascot with the tribe's approval, why can't William and Mary keep the feathers? He ends with some facetious suggestions that further display his cultural nescience and insensitivity to Native American sacred mythology and iconography.

Before Fairbank chose to end on some flippant note, why didn't he research the sacred symbolism of feathers? Whether in sports or academia, political correctness is still in fashion.

Margaret Bernice Smith Bristow
Newport News

8/31/06

**What Team Logo
Doesn't Offend?**

EDITOR, TIMES-DISPATCH:

Hypocrisy rules with the NCAA, but big money schools with national athletic prominence will have their way because of the revenue streams they provide.

I am writing to express my low opinion of the NCAA Rules Committee regarding their decision on the two feathers in the William & Mary logo. It seems as though the NCAA and the ACLU have the same members sitting on the board. The very small minority have ruled in this country in recent years.

I understand that the UCLA Bruins and the California Golden Bears are next on the agenda. I am getting info from the zoos and wildlife preserves around the country that the bears are really in an uproar.

The state of North Carolina will probably get on the bandwagon since folks there are probably tired of being called Tar Heels. I understand that the citizens of West Virginia are really ticked off at being referred to as Mountaineers. It seems like a stereotype from Appalachia to me. Notre Dame is giving the Irish a bad name by referring to them as the "Fighting Irish."

Gamecocks, Tigers, Lions, Wolfpack, Spartans — all your days are numbered by the NCAA. The only logos that might be safe are the Hokies and 'Hoos. The NCAA cannot figure out what they represent or who they offend.

Go Tribe, keep your two feathers. The Florida State Seminoles kept Chief Oceola.

HAROLD LANDIS

MATHEWS.

9/4/06

Daily Press

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The NCAA is acting like a bully

The nation's universities and colleges must now be experiencing some of the terror that the fictional Dr. Frankenstein felt. The monster the colleges have created is the National Collegiate Athletic Association. This organization, financially supported by the colleges' various athletic efforts, by the way, is now nothing but a bully.

The NCAA attacked Florida State University's mascot. FSU

told them that the Seminole Indians had nothing but good thoughts about FSU. Oops, said the bully.

The bully then turned its big fists on the College of William and Mary. That little school was no match. The NCAA allowed the word "Tribe" to remain; however, the feathers must go.

Is the little school in Williamsburg going to knuckle under against the bully? Sort of looks that way.

The NCAA, like the United Nations, will fight the big battle only against the little guys, just like any bully. The nation's colleges just didn't know their creation would one day come back to haunt them -- not reason with them. Who was against the green and gold feathers in the first place? Surely they are not threatening, like a war bonnet.

Tommy Seward
Williamsburg

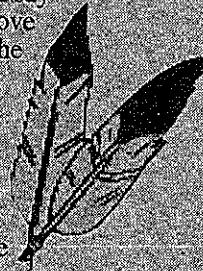
9/20/06

LETTERS

Keep the feathers

The NCAA wants William & Mary Tribe to remove the feathers from the logo. I say we should remove the logo from the feathers.

"Feathers Forever," as Ray Wright of Wright Sign Service proclaims on the side of his work truck.



I would like to see just feathers all over Zable Stadium. I don't believe the local Powhatans find the feathers offensive, but it might be too hostile for the Florida Semmole tribe.

Jim Dorsey
James City

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

9/27/06

THE
VIRGINIA GAZETTE

Tailgate parties at W&M support feather logo

Virginia Premiere Theatre (formerly Playwrights Premiere Theatre) will host two tailgate parties at William & Mary home football games to raise funds for its 2006-07 season. Sponsored by Retro's Good Eats of Williamsburg, the events are titled "Tail Feather Gate Parties" in support of W&M's feather logo recently banned by the NCAA.

The parties will feature beer, wine, sodas, old-fashioned Brunswick stew, Edwards Brand ham and rolls. Ticket prices also include discounted end-zone tickets to the games.

The first Tail Feather Gate will happen this Saturday, Sept. 30, when W&M plays Hofstra, and the second will be held Saturday, Oct. 28, during the Villanova game. The parties will begin at 11:30 a.m. and will be located across from the stadium, at 747 Scotland St.

Advanced tickets are \$25 for the party/game package, and tickets for the party only are \$15. Tickets purchased at the gate for the party/game package are \$30, party only \$20.

To purchase tickets, call 804 725-3645 or go to www.vptheatre.com.

Tickets are also available at Retro's Good Eats on Prince George Street.

10/8/06

Go W&M 'hillbillies'!

A recent "History Detectives" program on WHRO-TV offered some insights into American history that might help the College of William and Mary solve the problem with its team logo. I propose a solution that would reconnect its co-founder, King William III, with the ancestors of many Virginians, myself included.

I'm referring to the plantation of Ulster, in which William transferred feisty highland Scots to Northern Ireland, a move that earned them the nickname "hillbillies." The Scotch-Irish later brought the nickname with them (along with the recipe for their favorite homemade distillation) to the western parts of the American colonies when they were transplanted, once again, to help defend the frontiers.

Still here, still spunky as all get-out, why couldn't they carry the banner once again for King Billy and his queen? If the first nickname does not suit, one could always turn to the red wool neckerchiefs they wore as supporters of the Stuarts, which earned them their other nickname of "red-necks."

I realize that these suggestions may ruffle some feathers. But then, the feathers have to go, don't they?

Ann McLaughlin Moore
Hampton

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

Gina Woodward

From: Gene R Nichol [gnichol@wm.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2006 1:30 PM
To: staff@wm.edu; faculty@wm.edu
Subject: [staff_send] The Tribe, Our Logo, and the NCAA

October 10, 2006

Dear Fellow Members of the William & Mary Community:

I write concerning the National Collegiate Athletic Association's dispute with the College over our nickname and logo.

During the past several months, the NCAA has reviewed William & Mary's athletic insignia to determine whether they constitute a violation of Association standards. On the more important front, the Committee concluded that the College's use of the term "Tribe" reflects our community's sense of shared commitment and common purpose. Accordingly, it will remain our nickname. The presence of two feathers on the logo, though, was ruled potentially "hostile and abusive." We appealed that determination. The decision was sustained and has become final. We must now decide whether to institute legal action against the NCAA or begin the process of altering our logo.

I am compelled to say, at the outset, how powerfully ironic it is for the College of William & Mary to face sanction for athletic transgression at the hands of the NCAA. The Association has applied its mascot standards in ways so patently inconsistent and arbitrary as to demean the entire undertaking. Beyond this, William & Mary is widely acknowledged to be a principal exemplar of the NCAA's purported, if unrealized, ideals.

Not only are our athletic programs intensely competitive, but according to the Association's own Academic Progress Reports, the College ranks fifth among all institutions of higher learning in scholastic excellence. Each year, we graduate approximately 95% of our senior student athletes. During the past decade, two William and Mary athletes have been named Rhodes Scholars and 42 elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa, the national honorary society founded at the College in 1776. Meanwhile, across the country, in the face of massive academic underperformance, embarrassing misbehaviors on and off the field, and grotesque commercialization of intercollegiate athletics, the NCAA has proven hapless, or worse. It is galling that a university with such a consistent and compelling record of doing things the right way is threatened with punishment by an organization whose house, simply put, is not in order.

Still, in consultation with our Board of Visitors, I have determined that I am unwilling to sue the NCAA to further press our claims. There are three reasons for my decision. I'll explain them in order.

First, failing to adhere to the NCAA logo ruling would raise the substantial possibility that William & Mary athletes would be foreclosed from competing at the level their attainments and preparations merit. Two years ago, for example, we hosted a thrilling semifinal national championship football game against James Madison University. At present, we are barred from welcoming such a competition to Williamsburg -- in football or any other sport. I believe it is our obligation to open doors of opportunity and challenge for our students, not to close them. I will not make our athletes pay for our broader disagreements with a governing association. We have also consulted with our coaches and student athletic

advisory council on the matter. They are of the same mind.

Second, given the well-known challenges that this and other universities face -- in assuring access to world-class education, in supporting the research and teaching efforts of our faculties, and in financing and constructing twenty-first-century laboratories and facilities -- I am loath to divert further energies and resources to an expensive and perhaps multi-faceted lawsuit over an athletic logo. Governing requires the setting of priorities. And our fiercest challenges reside at the core of our mission. I know, of course, that more than one member of our understandably disgruntled community would likely be willing to help finance litigation against the NCAA. Those dollars are better spent in scholarship programs.

Third, the College of William & Mary is one of the most remarkable universities in the world. It was a national treasure even before there was a nation to treasure it. I am unwilling to allow it to become the symbol and lodestar for a prolonged struggle over Native American imagery that will likely be miscast and misunderstood -- to the detriment of the institution. Our challenge is greatness. Our defining purpose is rooted in the highest ideals of human progress, achievement, service, and dignity. Those are the hallmarks of the College of William & Mary. They will remain so.

I know this decision will disappoint some among us. I am confident, however, that it is the correct course for the College. We are required to hold fast to our values whether the NCAA does so or not. In the weeks ahead, we will begin an inclusive process to consider options for an altered university logo. I invite you to participate. And I am immensely grateful for your efforts and energies on behalf of the College.

Go Tribe. Hark upon the gale.

Sincerely,

Gene R. Nichol
President
College of William & Mary

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

News Blog

Higher-education news from around the Web

10/10/06

October 10, 2006

**2 Feathers Are the Price of
Compliance With NCAA Mascot
Rule at William and Mary**

The College of William and Mary plans to remove the two feathers from its athletics logo that the NCAA considered hostile and abusive to American Indians, the college said today in a written statement.

Fourteen months ago,, the NCAA's Executive Committee named William and Mary as one of 18 colleges and universities that had to wipe out their American Indian imagery—or face sanctions restricting their postseason opportunities (*The Chronicle*, August 5, 2005).

The NCAA ruled this year that William and Mary may keep its nickname, the "Tribe," but must get rid of the two feathers in its logo to participate in or play host to postseason events

William and Mary is changing its logo to avoid costly litigation against the NCAA, the statement said.

But university officials clearly still believe the NCAA's policy is misguided. In the statement, Gene R. Nichol, William and Mary's president, issued this parting shot at the NCAA: "It is galling that a university with such a consistent and compelling record of doing intercollegiate athletics the right way," he said, "is threatened with punishment by an organization whose house, simply put, is not in order."

Posted on Oct 10, 04:15 PM | [Permalink](#) |

Comments

- 1 Universities such as William and Mary and the University of Illinois owe it to the nation to fight the NCAA and its politically correct tyranny. It's the "brave" thing to do

-- William Oct 11, 12:15 AM #

10/10/06



ESPN.com: Page 2

[Print without images]



Monday, October 9, 2006

Updated: October 10, 12:01 PM ET

The rise and fall of Brett Favre

NCAA Postpones Discussion of Literacy Rule to Spend More Time Objecting to Feathers:
Often the NCAA looks the other way as big schools make only token attempts to educate D-I football and men's basketball scholarship athletes. But put a feather in your cap and you're asking for trouble! Recently the NCAA ruled that the feathers on the William & Mary athletic logo must be removed because they are offensive. We're not talking about disparaging caricatures of American Indians, which are indeed offensive; the William & Mary logo contains only images of *feathers*. Has the NCAA actually found one single person anywhere on Earth who claims to be offended by a drawing of feathers? Maybe birds were offended! Then again, the NCAA has a reason to want to get even with William & Mary: This academics-oriented college plays in Division I and graduates its athletes, thus creating uncomfortable comparisons for the NCAA's money-factory schools. In the most recent NCAA stats, William & Mary graduated 98 percent of its Division I-AA football players and 92 percent of its Division I men's basketball players. Hey sports studs, want to attend a major university without going to class? Chances are you will get away with it. But should you draw a feather, the wrath of Khan will descend upon you.



Freeze! NCAA Thought Police! Put your hands up and keep those feathers where we can see them!

The Football Gods Chortled: "Eric Parker is a sure-handed receiver, he never drops the ball" -- Al Michaels on Sunday night, referring to the San Diego receiver. Parker dropped the next pass thrown to him.



10/10/06

W&M to remove feathers from athletic logo

06:11 PM EDT on Tuesday, October 10, 2006

By Dottie Wikan, WVEC.com



The NCAA has objected to William and Mary's use of feathers in the school's logo.

The College of William and Mary will eliminate the two feathers from its athletic logo in the 2007 school year, it has told the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

The NCAA said the college must change the logo or face sanctions that would restrict the team from post-season play.

The NCAA ruled in May that the feathers "could create an environment that is offensive" to Native Americans, but the group also said the team nickname, Tribe, was okay.

The college appealed and it was denied in August.

William and Mary President Gene R. Nichol said the college wasn't willing to sue the NCAA over the issue. Also Online

[W&M President Nichol's letter](#)

Nichol said a new logo will be developed before the start of the fall 2007 semester. He has asked Sam Sadler, vice president for student affairs, to chair a committee of students, faculty, staff and alumni to oversee its development of a new athletic logo.

Online at: http://www.wvec.com/news/local/stories/wvec_local_101006_wm_logo_change.266a5ccb.html

<<Back

10/11/06



William & Mary to change athletic logo featuring Indian feathers

RICHMOND, Va. The College of William and Mary says it will plans to phase out the use of two Indian feathers in its athletic logo

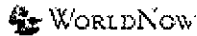
The move is in response to a ruling by the N-C-A-A calling the imagery offensive to Native Americans.

In a letter to the Williamsburg school's community, the school's president lashed out about the sanctions that ultimately forced the school to stop using the green and gold logo it has had since the late 1970s.

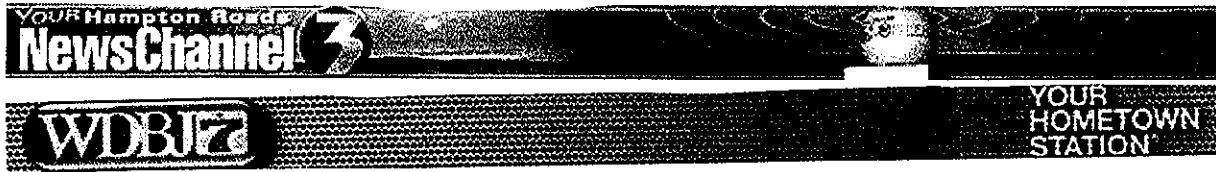
In August, the N-C-A-A denied the school's appeal of a ruling that prohibits it from using the logo at N-C-A-A championship events or from hosting N-C-A-A tournament games where the logo would be displayed. The school was allowed to continue using its Tribe nickname.

The ruling was part of an ongoing process by the N-C-A-A to review the mascots, nicknames and logos used by more than 30 schools to see if they could be considered "hostile and abusive" to Native Americans.

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10/11/06

W&M plucks feathers from logo

New design will be unveiled in fall of 2007

By Bryan L. Fuel

WILLIAMSBURG — Feathers no more. The College of William & Mary has notified the NCAA that during the next academic year, W&M will phase out of the two feathers that are currently a part of its athletic logo.

While the association stipulated that the nickname "Tribe" was not problematic, W&M was forced to change its logo or face sanctions that would restrict its opportunities in NCAA postseason play.

"If we want our kids and coaches to have the opportunity to compete at the highest level and have the opportunity to compete for the NCAA championships, then we really don't have much recourse," W&M athletic director Terry Driscoll said in an interview Tuesday. "It's frustrating to lose that much equity in a



brand, but we want to make sure the kids and coaches have an opportunity to go as far as they can go. That's more important than any logo."

William & Mary's decision to change its athletic logo is related to a review that began in 2004 by the NCAA of more than 30 universities' use of mascots, nicknames, logos and imagery associated with Native Americans to determine whether they were "hostile and abusive."

In May 2006 the NCAA ruled that W&M's "Tribe" nickname was neither hostile nor abusive but determined that the athletic logo — which contains two green and gold feathers — could create an environment that is offensive. W&M appealed that decision in June to the NCAA Executive Committee. That appeal was denied this August.

"It is galling that a university with such a con-

sistent and compelling record of doing intercollegiate athletics the right way is threatened with punishment by an organization whose house, simply put, is not in order," said W&M President Gene Nichol in a statement released through the school.

Nichol concluded that, adhering to the NCAA's decision "is the correct course for the college," adding, "We are required to hold fast to our values whether the NCAA does so or not."

Nichol said a new logo will be developed before the start of the fall 2007 semester. He has



asked Sam Sadler, vice president for student affairs, to chair a committee that will oversee the development of a new athletic logo. That committee will involve students, faculty, staff and alumni throughout the process. "It's probably five or six athletic uniforms that have the logo on their clothing," Driscoll noted. "We will carefully go through our inventory and then determine how big of an impact this is. Right now, it's not something that is on every uniform. The goal is to have everything completed for next season." □

10/11/06

FRONT PAGE

W&M, under pressure, agrees to change logo

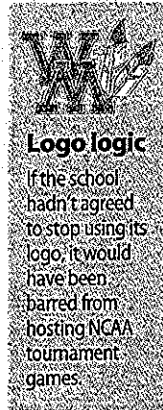
The NCAA objected to the symbol, which the school now says it will replace by next fall.

BY DAVE FAIRBANK
dfairbank@dailypress.com | 247-4637

WILLIAMSBURG — William and Mary informed the NCAA that it will change the school logo — reluctantly — rather than further challenge the decision by college sports' governing body that the symbol is potentially hurtful toward American Indians.

In a review of member schools with American Indian nicknames, mascots and logos, the National Collegiate Athletic Association ruled that "Tribe" was acceptable but that the athletic logo — the letters W and M with green-and-gold feathers — could be viewed as offensive

Please see LOGO/A6



Logo logic

If the school hadn't agreed to stop using its logo, it would have been barred from hosting NCAA tournament games.

▶ LOGO

Continued from A1

W&M hasn't begun search for new symbol

W&M President Gene Nichol said, in a written statement released through the school: "It is galling that a university with such a consistent and compelling record of doing intercollegiate athletics the right way is threatened with punishment by an organization whose house, simply put, is not in order. Still, in consultation with our Board of Visitors, we have determined that we are unwilling to sue the NCAA to further press our claims."

Had William and Mary officials chosen not to remove the feathers or change the logo, the NCAA would have prohibited the school from hosting championship events. The college may keep all of its present symbols and logos for the remainder of the school year.

W&M will develop a new logo before the fall semester of the 2007-08 academic year. Sam Sadler, vice president for student affairs, will chair a committee later this fall that will oversee development of a new logo.

Students, faculty, staff and alumni will be involved in the process.

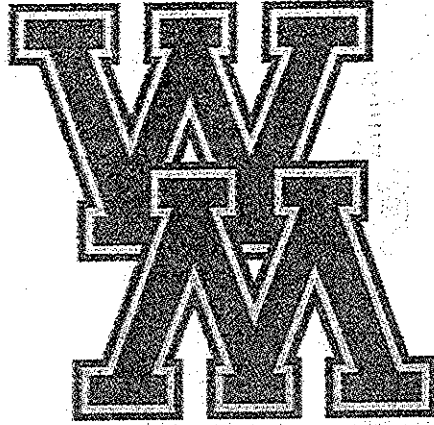
In the meantime, athletic director Terry Driscoll said that the athletic department will begin to inventory all places that display the present logo and determine how best to remove them and at what cost to the school.

"Some things are easier than others," Driscoll said. For instance, he said, stationery with the traditional logo will simply run out, while the oversized logo on the basketball floor at William and Mary Hall will require more work to alter.

Driscoll said no new logos have even been considered yet.

"We haven't really thought about this, haven't done anything about it yet," Driscoll said. "The thinking is, let's try to make this a positive experience, in terms of trying to find something that we can get a consensus on, that everybody feels, 'This is a representative logo.'"

10/11/06



The College of William and Mary has bowed to pressure from the NCAA to change its logo, but not without a parting shot.

PLUCKED

BY RICH RADFORD | THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

After thinking about suing to keep its two-feathered logo intact, College of William and Mary officials have decided the issue no longer is worth a fight.

The college announced Tuesday that it would phase out the feathers, which the NCAA says insults American Indians, but not without some public tongue-lashing.

Tribe

The nickname was given a reprieve.

"It is galling that a university with such a consistent and compelling record of doing intercollegiate athletics the right way is threatened with punishment by an organization whose house, simply put, is not in order,"

William and Mary President Gene R. Nichol wrote in an open letter. "Still ... we have determined that we are unwilling to sue the NCAA." Nichol said he did not want the college cast in a bad light, which played a part in the decision not to pursue litigation.

The NCAA targeted William and Mary and more than 30 other colleges and universities for their use of mascots, nicknames, logos and imagery associated with American Indians. The NCAA told W&M that the athletic nickname, Tribe, could stay.

"In the end, we'd be denied opportunities if we didn't comply," athletic director Terry Driscoll said.

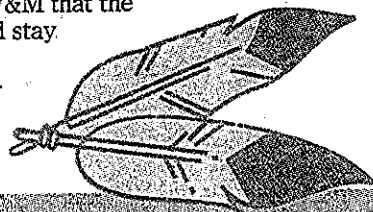
Final words

"I am unwilling to allow it to become the symbol and lodestar for a prolonged struggle over Native American imagery that will likely be miscast and misunderstood ..."

PRESIDENT
GENE R. NICHOL

Next

The college will take inventory of all its logo-bearing items - from stationery to uniforms - to begin replacements.



10/11/06

NEWS & NOTES

William & Mary Is Forced to Alter Logo

The feathers are flying at William & Mary, right off the school's athletic logo.

In response to a ruling by the NCAA that called the imagery offensive to Native Americans, the school said yesterday that it plans to phase out the use of two Indian feathers.

In a letter to the Williamsburg school's community, college president **Gene R. Nichol** lashed out at the NCAA's sanctions that ultimately forced the school to stop using the green and gold logo it has had since the late 1970s.

"I am compelled to say, at the outset, how powerfully ironic it is for the College of William & Mary to face sanction for athletic transgression at the hands of the NCAA," Nichol wrote. "The Association has applied its mascot standards in ways so patently inconsistent and arbitrary as to de-

mean the entire undertaking."

■ **PRO BASKETBALL:** Indiana Pacers forward-guard **Stephen Jackson** is "happy to be alive" after being punched in the mouth and hit by a car during a fight at a strip club in which police say he fired a gun in the air.

"I want to apologize to my teammates, to the fans and to this organization," Jackson said after his first practice since the fight early Friday.

In connection with fight, Indianapolis police yesterday arrested **Deon Willford** on felony counts of criminal recklessness and leaving the scene of a personal injury accident, and a misdemeanor count of driving without a license.

The Los Angeles Clippers signed veteran free agent forward **Lamond Murray**.

■ **COURTS:** Former NFL and Nebraska running back **Lawrence**

Phillips was convicted of seven counts of assault with a deadly weapon for driving a car at a group of young men, injuring three.

Phillips drove onto a field near Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum after losing a pickup football game on Aug. 21, 2005. He struck two boys and a 19-year-old man.

Phillips faces up to 20 years in state prison.

■ **BASEBALL:** The Minnesota Twins picked up their 2007 option on center fielder **Torii Hunter**'s contract, and his \$12 million salary will be the largest single-season sum in team history.

■ **COLLEGE BASKETBALL:** Toledo center **Haris Charalambous** died during conditioning Monday because a blood vessel to his heart ruptured, according to preliminary autopsy results.

— From News Services

10/11/06

NCAA way: think small, stand tall

The National Collegiate Athletic Association's relentless and ultimately successful crusade against the two feathers in William and Mary's athletic logo almost makes you wonder if the NCAA doesn't have a large and well-funded strike force in charge of enforcing politically correct trivialities.

It's not that hard to imagine.

Reporter: Hello? I'm trying to reach Mr. Jones of the D.O.L.T.



**JOHN
MARKON**

NCAA: That would be me, James T. Jones, Division of Offensive Logos and Trademarks.

Reporter: I guess you guys are probably tired of hearing

that D.O.L.T. spells "dolt."

NCAA: Why would we be tired of that? We're one of the NCAA's fastest-growing and most successful departments. Last Tuesday was "DOLT Pride" day at our headquarters in Indianapolis. We've got lots of dolts walking the halls here, but everyone in the building was claiming to be a dolt that day.

Reporter: My specific question was about the feathers in William and Mary's logo.

NCAA: Our latest triumph.

Reporter: Why all the heavy artillery? All we were talking about was two feathers.

NCAA: Our term is "creating a potentially abusive environment." The way we see it, where you've got feathers, you could soon have a war bonnet. Where you have a war bonnet, you could soon have buckskins. Where you have buckskins, you could soon have a tomahawk. Where you have a tomahawk, you're only a quarterback sneak away from a grandstand full of liquored-up students and alumni yelling "Scalp 'em! Scalp 'em!" We don't want that on our hands, and neither should you.

Reporter: Even though W&M attempted to show that regional and local Indian organizations supported the concept of the feathers, why was the NCAA so determined to get rid of them?

NCAA: Let's just say that some of our Native American friends aren't quite as sensitive as they could or should be on this issue. We're not letting that hold us back.

Reporter: With all the exploitation and corruption issues facing college athletics, I have a hard time believing that something like this was worth the NCAA's time and effort.

PAGE A1

William and Mary drops the feathers in its logo.

NCAA: Have you ever received a

traffic ticket?

Reporter: Well, yes, I have.

NCAA: After you were pulled over, did you ask the trooper why he wasn't out apprehending rapists and murderers?

Reporter: Actually, I did

NCAA: How'd that work out for you? Those exploitation and corruption things you're talking about have been around since Jim Thorpe and Red Grange. When you investigate them, important people get mad. In contrast, something like eradicating Indian nicknames and mascots is just so . . . doable.

Reporter: But that doesn't explain why Florida State and a few other schools higher up than William and Mary on the athletic food chain were allowed to keep their Indian nicknames and insignias.

NCAA: You know how it works with us, babe. Some days, we get so mad at Ohio State that we slap two years of probation on Prairie View.

Reporter: I'd like your reaction to a statement by W&M President Gene R. Nichol that the college found it "galling" that it was threatened with punishment by an organization "whose house, simply put, is not in order."

NCAA: Anyone who'd say anything like that couldn't possibly be a dolt.

Reporter: You really ought to consider a departmental name change.

NCAA: At our last meeting, someone proposed the Initiative to Drop Inappropriate and Outdated Terminology. I kind of liked the sound of it.

Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

ADVERTISING

10/11/06



William & Mary to change athletic logo featuring Indian feathers

Posted 10/10/2006 11:00 PM ET

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — The College of William & Mary plans to phase out the use of two Indian feathers in its athletic logo in response to a ruling by the NCAA calling the imagery offensive to Native Americans, the school said Tuesday.

In a letter to the Williamsburg school's community, college president Gene R. Nichol lashed out about the NCAA's sanctions that ultimately forced the school to stop using the green and gold logo it has had since the late 1970s.

"I am compelled to say, at the outset, how powerfully ironic it is for the College of William & Mary to face sanction for athletic transgression at the hands of the NCAA," Nichol wrote. "The Association has applied its mascot standards in ways so patently inconsistent and arbitrary as to demean the entire undertaking."

In August, the NCAA denied William & Mary's appeal of a ruling that prohibits it from using the logo at NCAA championship events or from hosting NCAA tournament games where the logo would be displayed. The school was allowed to continue using its Tribe nickname.

The ruling was part of an ongoing process by the NCAA to review the mascots, nicknames and logos used by more than 30 schools to see if they could be considered "hostile and abusive" to Native Americans.

"We're encouraged that they have made a move to discontinue use of the logo," said Bob Williams, an NCAA spokesman. "From the beginning, the NCAA instituted this policy not as punishment but to ensure that our own NCAA championships are free from Native American imagery."

Nichol said the school decided not to sue the NCAA after losing its appeal, declining to "divert further energies" to defending the logo. He said further action likely would have cost the school's athletes opportunities to compete.

"We will not make our athletes pay for our broader disagreements with a governing association," Nichol said, calling the decision the correct course of action, despite disappointing some in the community. "We are required to hold fast to our values whether the NCAA does so or not."

Nichol also touted the school's academic standards while pointing out issues taking place at other schools under NCAA supervision.

"Across the country, in the face of massive academic underperformance, embarrassing misbehaviors on and off the field, and grotesque commercialization of intercollegiate athletics, the NCAA has proven hapless, or worse," Nichol said.

The school plans to replace the logo for the start of the fall 2007 semester through input from a committee of faculty and staff, students and alumni.

Harry Driscoll, the school's athletic director, said the school would not have gone through the appeals process if it didn't think it was doing the right thing.

"Our feathers are not hostile and abusive and we've tried to articulate that," Driscoll said. "We're going to lose that brand. We won't lose our identity."

Driscoll said the department will begin to inventory where the logo appears, including scoreboards, equipment and facilities, to see what it will cost to replace them.

Several universities changed or agreed to change their nicknames or logos after the NCAA policy discouraging use of these names was announced in 2005. Other schools have filed appeals, seeking permission from the NCAA to continue use of the nicknames or logos. The University of North Dakota is the only school that has filed a lawsuit after its appeal was rejected.

Teams that have continued using Indian nicknames with the NCAA's blessing include the Florida State University Seminoles, Central Michigan University Chippewas and the University of Utah Utes.

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Find this article at:

http://www.usatoday.com/sports/college/2006-10-10-william-mary_x.htm



The Times-Picayune



Startle Grams

by Paul Bourgeois

Wednesday, October 11, 2006

Political incorrectness

10/11/06

Here's a case where your political correctness goes too far

The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va., is being pushed to eliminate its team logo over claims it is offensive to Native Americans.



Now I could understand if it had a screaming, cartoonish Indian with war paint and a big tomahawk, but this is nothing but the initials "W" and "M" and a couple of feathers

Who's to say these are even Indian feathers? They're just feathers.

Finding political incorrectness in this logo is offensive to anybody with any sense in their head...

Posted by pbourgeois on Wednesday, October 11, 2006 at 11:09 AM in [Equal rights](#), [Sports](#) | [Permalink](#)

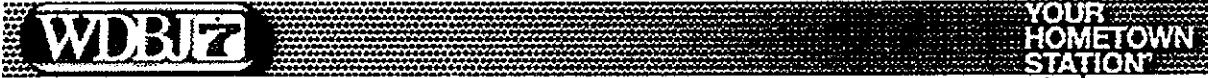
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10/11/06

October 11, 2006

William and Mary agrees to remove feathers from logo



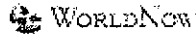
Two feathers on the College of William and Mary's athletic logo are about to be plucked. The college decided to phase out the feathers in response to a recent NCAA rulling that called the logo "hostile and abusive."

W&M has agreed to remove the feathers from its logo

The ruling came during a study of all college logos and nicknames with native American ties. Keeping the logo would have kept William and Mary from participating in NCAA tournaments and other events.

William and Mary has used the logo since the 1970's.

The NCAA ruled that the college's nickname is okay.



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Athletics -- Indian Symbolism

10/11/06

USA TODAY

WASHINGTON, DC

WEDNESDAY 2,220,863

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William and Mary won't use logo feathers

In response to an NCAA ruling that called the imagery offensive to Native Americans, the College of William and Mary said Tuesday that it plans to phase out the use of two Indian feathers. In a letter to the Williamsburg, Va., school's community, college President Gene R. Nichol lashed out at the NCAA sanctions that forced the school to stop using the logo it has had since the late 1970s. "The association has applied its mascot standards in ways so patently inconsistent and arbitrary as to demean the entire undertaking," Nichol wrote. Athletics director Terry Driscoll said, "Our feathers are not hostile and abusive."



10/12/06

Athletics--Indian Symbolism

10/12/2006

ESTABLISHED 1865

The Virginian-Pilot

Feathers ruffled, W&M wisely retreats

The National Collegiate Athletic Association hasn't said whether The College of William and Mary's left feather is the one that's "abusive," but that right one has always seemed a little "hostile" to us.

As part of a nationwide review of mascots and team names employing Native American symbols, the NCAA took a look at William and Mary's current logo, an M superimposed over a W with a couple of feathers attached.

The result was as ridiculous as the reasoning. The NCAA found offense in the feathers, the last remnants of a far more complete collegiate identification with the Indian culture from which William and Mary drew its first students. It said the school's athletic teams could still be called the "Tribe," but the "hostile and abusive" feathers had to be erased if the school wanted to host postseason games.

Had the NCAA banned all Indian (or Irish) iconography for athletic purposes, that would be one thing — a wrong thing, but still. ... Instead, the organization has applied its rules in a manner so inconsistent that it calls into question its intentions and integrity.

Florida State University, for example, is still known as the Seminoles, and its mascot is still Chief Osceola. Then again, FSU has a gigantic athletic program, and one of the most prominent and profitable football teams on the planet, so that makes it all OK.

You might think that the NCAA — an organization, after all, run for the advancement of *collegiate* athletics — would demand some intellectual rigor

for its policies and decisions. But you would, of course, be wrong, as one recent correspondent put it:

"Meanwhile, across the country, in the face of massive academic underperformance, embarrassing misbehaviors on and off the field, and grotesque commercialization of intercollegiate athletics, the NCAA has proved hapless, or worse," wrote W&M President Gene Nichol, in an electronic broadside to alumni. "It is galling that a university with such a consistent and compelling record of doing things the right way is threatened with punishment by an organization whose house, simply put, is not in order."

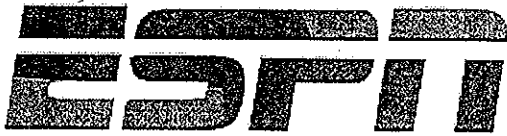
Despite that evident and justified anger, in the face of NCAA truculence, Nichol made the wise decision to end the matter now. He cited a threat to the school's athletes, its finances and its reputation that would accompany a lawsuit against the NCAA.

Foreclosing a legal option — especially since William and Mary is right — may disappoint some. But it is undoubtedly the right call.

For more than 300 years, the college has had on its many minds more important things than athletics, or symbols, or sensitivity run amok. William and Mary's identity has never been defined by two feathers, or by a team name, or by athletics, as important as those things are.

The school's identity is bound in its academics and its history. Stripping a logo of two feathers has no chance of doing any harm to either, but spending any more time, energy and money to protect them might

10/12/06



TMQ Nation fires back

By Gregg Easterbrook
Special to Page 2

Yesterday, Tuesday Morning Quarterback razed the NCAA for demanding that William & Mary remove two feathers from its athletic logo -- a demand that seems like a "Saturday Night Live" satire of political correctness. A few hours after the column was posted, William & Mary announced it was giving up and would take off the feathers. Further resistance would require suing the NCAA, and the college said it cannot justify spending parents' money on the matter -- especially since the NCAA, backed by the deep pockets of the football factories, seems willing to invest substantial resources to get its way. As Daphne Cooper of Bluffton, S.C. notes, "William & Mary thinks money is best used for education, while the NCAA thinks money is best used to increase its financial control over what was once amateur collegiate sports." The NCAA ruled that Florida State may keep the Indian-themed feather on its helmet, and the University of Utah may keep its Utes nickname and two-feathers logo -- yet is adamant the feathers come off William & Mary's helmets. But then, Florida State and Utah football are money machines. Nathan Verilla of Richmond, Va. puts it, "The NCAA's efforts to police Native American nicknames and logos is a sham. It has nothing to do with the actual nicknames or logos and everything to do with which schools bring in the money. Never mind that the majority of Native Americans don't really care about Native American imagery in sports and that the groups working to alter sports images should better spend their time on the real problems facing Native Americans today -- alcoholism, suicide, unemployment, lack of political power. If the NCAA was serious about removing Native American imagery from their member schools, it would have forced every college with such imagery to change their nicknames and logos, instead of caving to the football factories while bullying small schools like William & Mary."

Even by the standards of the NCAA, an organization that has made its name synonymous with double standards, the campaign against William & Mary's feathers seems a fool's errand. My guess is the NCAA wanted to claim it was taking dramatic action about Indian imagery, but was afraid to pick on big-money schools, so picked on the little guy. Great job of setting an example, Myles Brand! Also, William & Mary perennially embarrasses the NCAA by playing in Division I and graduating almost all scholarship athletes -- 98 percent of the school's Division I-AA football players

graduated in the latest stats Florida State by contrast does an atrocious job, graduating just 52 percent of its football scholarship holders Florida State treats education for football players as a big joke, and the NCAA lavishes special favors on that school; whereas graduate your athletes and the NCAA will punish you! Gene Nichol, president of William and Mary, said yesterday, "It is galling that a university with such a consistent and compelling record of doing intercollegiate athletics the right way is threatened with punishment by an organization whose own house, simply put, is not in order " My suggestion to William & Mary faithful: Start wearing feathers to games



The College of William & Mary/University of Utah
Do you see much difference?

10/12/06

Feedback

■ **Andrew, Hampton:** I can only assume by the lack of coverage that George Allen won the debate on Monday night. A brief recap in Tuesday's paper and Wednesday's articles about comedians' impact on the race and the Democrats' panic spending only serve to prove my contention.

Editor: The "brief recap" was a 30-inch story at the top of A-1. We haven't done a follow-up story on any of the debates but will have a story in Friday's Daily Press about the discrepancy between the different polls. The comedy story had been slated for several days. It wasn't a follow-up.

■ I'm a subscriber in Newport News. It is really hard to imagine that you would use a source of information for your weather page for the amount of rainfall daily, monthly and annually, that is absolutely incorrect for the area that a large majority of readers and subscribers live in. Surely you can do better than this.

Editor: We are working with our partners at WAVY to come up with more accurate report for the weather in north Hampton Roads.

Tell us what you think

■ Feedback here on Page A2 offers readers a chance to comment on the performance of the Daily Press, journalistic or otherwise: our news judgment, accuracy, quality, service, grammar and spelling, etc. Call 247-4748 and leave a clear voice message, or send e-mail to outfront@dailypress.com.

■ Editorial Feedback on our Editorial Page gives you an opportunity to respond to editorials, political cartoons, op-ed columnists or letter writers. Call 247-2820 and leave a clear voice message, or e-mail us at dotcomment@dailypress.com.

Today's feedback responses were written by Doug Roberson, sports editor.

✓ ■ **Tom, Williamsburg:** I have a degree from Florida State University, an institution that was allowed by the NCAA to retain its Seminole Indian nickname, flaming spear insignia and Indian chief mascot. FSU was given NCAA approval because the Seminole Indian nation proudly endorsed the university's adoption of these cultural symbols. The NCAA's decision to ban William & Mary's green and gold feather logo is insensitive and moronic. Have any Indian tribes complained about this logo? If so, can you tell us which tribe or tribes and if the college has discussed the issue in-depth with them?

Editor: No tribes have complained about the logo, which features an interlocking W and M with two feathers. The NCAA reasoned that the logos could be considered insensitive to all Native-Americans, rather than approved by one tribe, such as in FSU's case. If William and Mary nicknamed themselves after a local Indian tribe, and the tribe had no problem being associated with the school, then the NCAA would likely have allowed the feathers to remain on the school's logo.

■ I'm calling to tell you what a beautiful picture that was of those two twins on page D2 today, Owen and Max. You can look at

that picture and put a thousand captions under that little fellow's surprised look. It's a one in a million picture, and thanks for putting it in. Maybe you can get some more stuff like that in there.

■ **Earl, Newport News:** The article on Mr. Ferguson in Monday's (Oct 9) D.P. contained one significant error. The shipyard had approximately 33,000 people on its Newport News payroll in 1944 in lieu of 11,500 and employed several thousand more at its war time shipyard in Wilmington, N.C. All under the leadership of Mr. Ferguson.

Editor: The 11,500 figure came from a book published by the shipyard and the Mariners' Museum called "Newport News Shipbuilding: The First Century."

■ **Steven, Poquoson:** Thanks very much for the special magazine "Building the Bush." Peter Dujardin, Adrin Snider, Joe Fudge and the others did a great job. I'm sure I'm far from the only old aircraft-carrier sailor — in my case, Vietnam and the Mediterranean, 1970 to 1972 aboard USS America, a Newport News ship — who really appreciates this fine work. ■

Reflecting courage, history

By John Kurec

ESSAY

→ **YORK**
The College of William & Mary has finally been plucked by the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

W&M President Gene Nichol announced that the college will begin work on a new featherless logo that will pass muster with the NCAA politically correct Gestapo. Personally, I'm disappointed that Nichol, a former dean of the UNC law school, didn't do what most red-blooded Americans do nowadays, muster all those great legal minds of the esteemed Marshall-Wythe School of Law to sue the NCAA and tie this issue up in litigation for the next few decades. Be that as it may, it now seems that the time has come for the Tribe of W&M to go the way of the Amonsoquaths, Assateagues, Kiskiaks, Manahoacs and all the other extinct Virginia Native American peoples.

The cleansing of Native American-themed collegiate nicknames is not a recent phenomenon. Renowned Stanford University dropped "Indians" years ago and is now known simply as The Cardinal. Ivy League Dartmouth College's Indians became the Big Green. Marquette's Warriors morphed into the Golden Eagles, the Redmen of Saint John's University became the Red Storm, and Miami of Ohio's Redskins are now the Red Hawks. (Dan Snyder: Are you paying attention?)

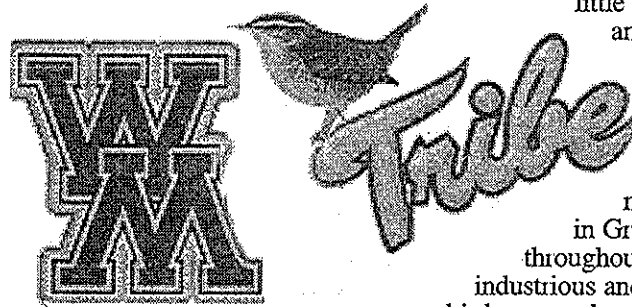
Several years ago even W&M changed from Indians to the less controversial Tribe. Now it's time for W&M to come up with a new nickname and mascot for students and alumni to rally around.

In conjunction with the Jamestown 400 commemoration, this is a unique opportunity to create a new, fresh branding of the college, replete with significant marketing opportunities. Let's explore some possibilities.

Certainly the second oldest college in the United States needs a nickname that sets it apart from all of the other Johnny-come-latelies. In addition to being unique, the new appellation should reflect the college's English pedigree and historic legacy.

Unfortunately, the most logical choice, Monarchs, is taken by Old Dominion University. The second logical choice, Royals, is the nickname of tiny Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg. Alas, King William and Queen Mary's House of Orange is spoken for by the Orange of Syracuse University. Likewise, Dukes is used by, among others, James Madison University. Dukes is problematic anyway. Are the female athletes at JMU the Duchesses? Lady Dukes certainly doesn't sound right.

Rutgers University, the U.S. Military Academy, and other lesser-



known institutions call themselves Knights. Christopher Newport University has dibs on Captains. Colonials matriculate at D.C.'s George Washington University, and Patriots attend Fairfax's George Mason University.

Now, Squires certainly has a genteel Virginia planter feel to it. However, the choice of Squires presents us with the same conundrum as Dukes. What's the feminine form? Squirettes? The ecclesiastically themed Vicars and Rectors are non-starters for church/state reasons.

The traditional symbol of England, the lion, is not a viable option for the college. Once again W&M's scion in Norfolk, ODU, has appropriated the king of beasts as its mascot. In addition you have the Lions of Columbia University and, of course, the Penn State Nittany Lions. W&M has too much class to kidnap some other school's mascot.

This brings us to the other animal on the English royal coat of arms, the unicorn. The unicorn certainly has

some unique marketing potential. The legendary one-horned horse was added to the royal coat of arms by King James I. In heraldry the unicorn is the symbol for purity and virtue, some pretty good characteristics to emulate. In mythology the unicorn is the archnemesis of the lion, reinforcing W&M's rivalry with that other university down I-64. There are no institutions of higher education with this mascot that I am aware of. The marketing and promotional opportunities are seemingly endless. You also don't have that pesky Title IX gender problem. Lady Unicorns sounds downright glamorous!

Contra-posed to the majestic mythological unicorn, I nominate the little humble wren as another candidate. The nickname "Wrens" obviously would honor the great Sir Christopher. The wren is one of the most common birds in Great Britain, and throughout Williamsburg these industrious and unpretentious little birds go on about their domestic duties. Yet when threatened, these little creatures courageously defend their nests.

W&M Wrens would be a positive reflection of the industriousness and dedication of the college's student body, faculty and alumni. In today's sensitive society, could anyone possibly be offended by a wren mascot? More important, if Wrens was chosen as the new W&M mascot, the beloved feathers could be retained. How's that for a poke in the NCAA's eye!

So there you have my suggestions, Unicorns or Wrens. Each is unique and has a nexus with the storied history of the College of William & Mary. Each is distinctive and would serve the college well as the new mascot. Which will it be? Let the W&M community decide.

John Kurec has lived in Upper York the past six years. He is an alumnus of the University at Buffalo and has always scratched his head about female students at UB called the "Lady Bulls."

10/14/06

WHERE THE NEWSPAPER STANDS



At week's end

Capsules of commentary on recent events

THE W&M LOGO

On the page opposite, you'll see William and Mary President Gene Nichol's explanation for his decision to change the college's logo rather than legally contest the NCAA's objections to W&M's athletic insignia.

The decision is reasoned and reasonable.

And in reading the explanation, you may well share with many what is no doubt a strong desire to shove a tricorn up the NCAA's institutional you know what.

To steal some of Nichol's thunder, here are portions of his essay, and they should be read with "emphasis added":

"How powerfully ironic it is for the College of William and Mary to face sanction for athletic transgression at the hands of the NCAA."

"W&M is widely acknowledged to be a principal exemplar of the NCAA's purported, if unrealized, ideals."

"Across the country, in the face of massive academic underperformance, embarrassing misbehaviors on and off the field, and grotesque commercialization of intercollegiate athletics, the NCAA has proven hapless, or worse. It is galling that a university with such a consistent and compelling record of doing things the right way is threatened with punishment by an organization whose house, simply put, is not in order."

Not in order? Nichol knows well the art of understatement.

10/14/06

OTHER VOICES

Moving on from NCAA decision, W&M will change logo

During the past several months, the National Collegiate Athletic Association has reviewed the College of William and Mary's athletic insignia to determine whether they constitute a violation of association standards. On the more important front, the committee concluded that the college's use of the term "Tribe" reflects our community's sense of shared commitment and common purpose. Accordingly, it will remain our nickname. The presence of two feathers on the logo, though, was ruled potentially "hostile and abusive." We appealed that determination. The decision was sustained and has become final. We must now decide whether to institute legal action against the NCAA or begin the process of altering our logo.

I am compelled to say, at the outset, how powerfully ironic it is for the College of William and Mary to face sanction for athletic transgression at the hands of the NCAA. The association has applied its mascot standards in ways so patently

Gene R. Nichol

inconsistent and arbitrary as to demean the entire undertaking.

Beyond this, W&M is widely acknowledged to be a principal exemplar of the NCAA's purported, if unrealized, ideals. Not only are our athletic programs intensely competitive, but according to the association's own academic progress reports, the college ranks fifth among all institutions of higher learning in scholastic excellence. Each year, we graduate approximately 95 percent of our senior student athletes. During the past decade, two William and Mary athletes have been named Rhodes Scholars and 42 elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa, the national honorary society founded at the college in 1776.

Meanwhile, across the country, in the face of massive academic underperformance, embarrassing misbehaviors on and off the field, and grotesque commercialization of intercollegiate athletics, the NCAA

has proven hapless, or worse. It is galling that a university with such a consistent and compelling record of doing things the right way is threatened with punishment by an organization whose house, simply put, is not in order. Still, in consultation with our Board of Visitors, I have determined that I am unwilling to sue the NCAA to further press our claims.

There are three reasons for my decision. I'll explain them in order. First, failing to adhere to the NCAA logo ruling would raise the substantial possibility that W&M athletes would be foreclosed from competing at the level their attainments and preparations merit. Two years ago, for example, we hosted a thrilling semifinal national championship football game against James Madison University. At present, we are barred from welcoming such a competition to Williamsburg -- in football or any other sport. I believe it is our obligation to open doors of opportunity and challenge for our students, not to close them. I will not make our athletes pay for

our broader disagreements with a governing association. We have also consulted with our coaches and student athletic advisory council on the matter. They are of the same mind.

Second, given the well-known challenges that this and other universities face -- in assuring access to world-class education, in supporting the research and teaching efforts of our faculties, and in financing and constructing 21st-century laboratories and facilities -- I am loath to divert further energies and resources to an expensive and perhaps multifaceted lawsuit over an athletic logo. Governing requires the setting of priorities. And our fiercest challenges reside at the core of our mission.

I know, of course, that more than one member of our understandably disgruntled community would likely be willing to help finance litigation against the NCAA. Those dollars are better spent in scholarship programs.

Third, the College of William and Mary is one of the most remarkable universities in the world. It

was a national treasure even before there was a nation to treasure it. I am unwilling to allow it to become the symbol and lodestar for a prolonged struggle over Native American imagery that will likely be miscast and misunderstood -- to the detriment of the institution. Our challenge is greatness. Our defining purpose is rooted in the highest ideals of human progress, achievement, service, and dignity. Those are the hallmarks of the College of William and Mary. They will remain so.

I know this decision will disappoint some among us. I am confident, however, that it is the correct course. We are required to hold fast to our values whether the NCAA does so or not. In the weeks ahead, we will begin an inclusive process to consider options for an altered university logo. I invite you to participate.

Go Tribe. Hark upon the gale.

Nichol is president of the College of William and Mary. This article originated as a letter to members of the W&M community.

10/15/06

Time to surrender in feather fight

Sports Editor:

I'm a 1980 graduate of William and Mary, and was a football manager from the spring of 1977 through the spring of 1980 and head manager in the 1978 and 1979 seasons. Upon completion of the 1979 year, I was presented a "letter" in football.

I thoroughly appreciated the Oct. 11 John Markon column on the "feathers" issue.

I have to say that I was not too surprised when I received the e-mail from Gene Nichol to the alumni of the college to explain his decision to "drop the battle" with the NCAA.

I really didn't think it likely that they would change their mind as a result of our appeal. I agree with Gene's decision to not waste additional time, energy, and more importantly, money, in a continued battle.

My years at W&M were special, and I truly enjoyed working for the athletic department. In-



terestingly, my "pay" was through a football scholarship,

and I'd have to battle the registrar each semester to explain how I, a female, was receiving a "men's football scholarship."

Our stadium manager at the time didn't work too hard, and there was no paid equipment manager, so each fall my roommates and some other friends would help me apply the logos to the helmets after two-a-day practices were over and before the first game.

We always had to be very careful to get the feathers to lay properly on the helmet, which was most difficult on the larger helmets.

I'm very glad that I still have the W&M helmet that they gave me at the end of my four years. I've made it into a lamp. Perhaps I should offer it to the athletic association to auction off as a fundraiser.

It's disappointing mostly to feel that we were treated differently than Florida State or other teams. After all, how much attention will William and Mary actually get? It's not like we're in the top 20.

The column was refreshing, but we all know it won't make a difference. The "dolts" and "idiots" probably don't spend a lot of time reading what the columnists say about them; they're off passing some other rule that will solve some other nonproblem.

**Lee Beam
Staunton**