

with its rule because the law of the state is paramount. There are a lot of statements made by coaches, athletic directors and others, the statements of which...the statements that they make are in all sincerity made. They believe the NCAA is more powerful than the Legislature. They believe the NCAA is more powerful than the courts, and the NCAA, itself, believes that, but the fact is whenever the NCAA has come against a state law, the state law has not been brushed aside. The NCAA has to take low. What I would like to see is a law at the federal level to either abolish the NCAA or greatly restrict the kinds of things that it is able to do because what that association does is harm students. They are really athletes, misnamed students, but to make everybody feel less uncomfortable here, I will call them students. Every rule, every law, every piece of legislation that the NCAA has enacted that mentions an athlete in any way is designed to hurt or restrict that athlete, either by denying him or her a benefit that every other student enjoys or imposing a burden that no other student not an athlete would tolerate. The way we could get rid of all of these NCAA rules, even the kind that I am talking about, is to impose them across the board on all students. Not one member of this Legislature would agree that for a reason not applicable to all students certain students at the university could not get student education opportunity grants or any other grants. None of us would agree to allow a student to be humiliated in front of a class and have his or her grades and academic standing revealed to the public, and we talk about privacy rights. But an athlete must agree to give up these privacy rights in order to participate in intercollegiate athletics, and that is why you will read about their failing grades on the SAT, and any other test including academic work at the school that he or she attends. Look at these young Pages who go to school. Do you think they would stand in front of a class because a professor said stand up and be reamed out, up and down, up one side and down the other, for flunking this test? But you will watch football games and you will see a coach maybe grab an athlete in the face mask, shake him, hit him in the face with the football, kick him. No other student would tolerate that and it wouldn't be tolerated for any other student. Why for the athletes? Because they are not deemed human beings. They are serfs. They are indentured servants. They are commodities. They would have a better chance of having rights that should be accorded to them as human beings by moving under the commerce clause, the Interstate Commerce Clause, than they do as human beings. We can talk about the Fourteenth Amendment for other people. We can talk