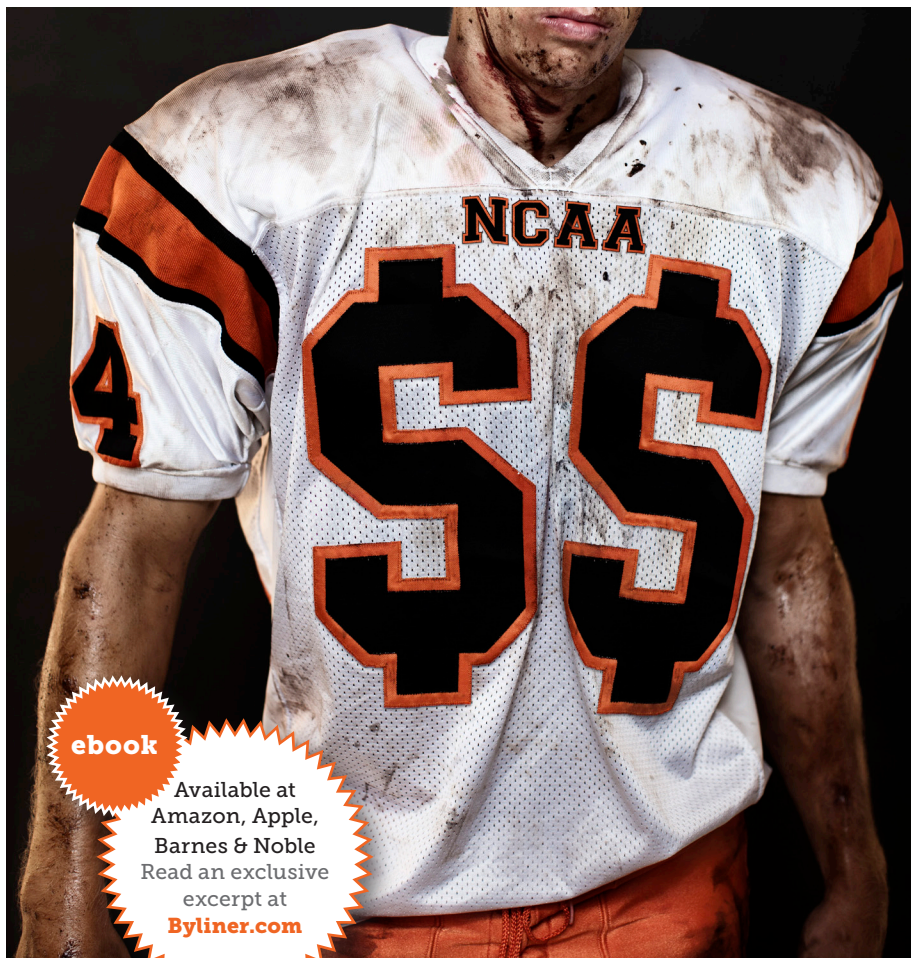


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THE CARTEL

TAYLOR BRANCH

A THREE-POINT REFORM AGENDA FOR SPORTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

1/TRANSPARENCY

AT ANY COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY THAT HOSTS an intercollegiate sports program, the principal stakeholders must be assured candid, complete, and verifiable records for athletic revenues and obligations as well as for academic standards and performance. These records should be open for public inspection and accountability, subject only to appropriate privacy protections for the identity of individual students.

The body of sports stakeholders should include representatives of the school's trustees and administrative leadership, its athletic department, its faculty, and students both on and off its sports teams.

2/BALANCE

STAKEHOLDERS MUST EXERCISE JOINT RESPONSIBILITY for the separate spheres of academics and sports. To uphold integrity in both areas, they must manage conflict and competing goals.

They should, for instance, address in detail any variance allowed for athletic recruits in college admissions. More generally, they could allocate a percentage of sports broadcasting and advertising receipts to the general academic budget. They could adjust the class calendar to accommodate seasonal demands on athletes, and take steps to encourage interaction in campus life between athletes and non-athletes. They should seek external alignments to compete athletically with schools of comparable balance and purpose, as reflected in conference rules.

3/EQUITY

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES SHALL RESPECT the basic rights of all students, applied consistently to athletes and non-athletes alike. On campus, as under the law, adult students retain the full attributes of citizenship. These include the rights and duties of informed consent, equal opportunity, representative government, and due process.

No freedom shall be abridged because of athletic status. To meet practical needs and aspirations, all students are eligible to seek fair compensation in full- or part-time jobs, entrepreneurial ventures, teaching appointments, work-study programs, and all other legitimate enterprise whether for or separate from their school.