

College newspapers permit Internet gaming ads, poll finds

by Tony Batt

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Student newspapers at all 65 universities that qualified for this year's NCAA men's basketball tournament either take or would publish advertising for Internet gambling, the American Gaming Association said Thursday.

The finding comes from an informal poll solicited by the AGA. National Media, a firm in Alexandria, Va., conducted the poll from March 19 through March 26 after being hired by an AGA consultant, said AGA spokeswoman Naomi Greer.

AGA president Frank Fahrenkopf issued a news release saying the poll results show the hypocrisy of the NCAA's efforts to outlaw betting in Nevada on college sports.

"The universities themselves are promoting the very activity that the NCAA claims to be concerned about," Fahrenkopf said. "Not only are these schools promoting illegal gambling, they

are also profiting from it."

Efforts to reach the NCAA for comment were not successful.

AGA and the Nevada congressional delegation are offering alternative legislation that, among other things, would require NCAA member schools to establish gambling prevention programs for students instead of a betting ban.

In addition to the 65 tournament schools, the 11 universities represented on the NCAA's board of directors also would run ads for Internet gambling, the AGA said.

National Media conducted the poll by phoning the newspapers' advertising departments and asking if they would sell advertising space for Internet gambling sites. None would have refused and all quoted the cost of running the ads, according to AGA.

Internet gambling has grown from 30 sites and bets of \$17 million in 1996 to 1,400 sites \$3 billion in bets last year, according to the Center for Policy Alternatives.

Higher education initiative introduced in Congress

by Brian Stockes
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A group of House Democrats has introduced a measure which could make higher education more affordable for all students, including American Indians.

The new bill also aims to strengthen colleges and universities which primarily serve African American, Hispanic, and American Indian students.

"The 21st Century Higher Education Initiative" was introduced by Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., and House Democratic Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., along with 92 other members. The bill would double maximum value of a federal Pell grant and double federal support for "historically black colleges, Hispanic serving institutions, and tribally controlled colleges."

Miller said the bill is intended to increase the opportunity for all minority Americans to benefit from higher education and was developed with input from tribal colleges.

"Tribal Colleges were involved in a variety of ways, from working with the committee in developing the bill, to helping identify some of the support that's needed to help out American Indian students," Miller said.

There are 31 tribal colleges across the United States that use cultural relevance to encourage American Indians, especially those living on reservations, to overcome some higher education barriers they face. For 30 years these institutions have allowed a number of American Indian students to attend college near their communities.

A report issued by the American Indian Higher Education Consortium showed that American Indian enrollment increased 62 percent, from 2,100 students in 1990 to 25,000 students in 1996.

The primary source of support for tribal colleges is the federal government, under the Tribally Controlled College or University Assistance Act. However, the approximately \$3,000 available per American Indian student is almost 40 percent less than the typical community college receives in per-student funding from federal, state, and local government revenues.

"Our communities suffer from so much economic depression and social adversity," said Janine Pease-Pretty on Top, former president of Little Big Horn College in Crow Agency, Mont.

"Tribal colleges provide real opportunity that strengthens our economic development, cultural understanding, and social stability. We need to build on these successes and make college possible for a much broader group of American Indian people."

The consortium reports that all 31 tribal colleges offer associate degrees, four offer bachelor's degrees and two offer master's degrees. The average age of a tribal college student is 32, and 64 percent are women. Most attend on a part-time basis.

A major provision of the bill would double resources and build infrastructure for developing institutions like tribal colleges. The initiative would double funding for minority serving institutions under Titles III and V of the Higher Education Act over three years. Funding for tribally controlled colleges and universities would increase to \$45 million and funding for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions would increase to \$20 million.

"The ultimate goal is to build on the record of academic excellence of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges," Rep. Miller said.

"We look forward to helping all students prepare for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century."

Coach dismisses exotic dancer from track team

by Billy O'Keefe
TMS Campus
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A female track and field star has been dismissed from California State University, Fullerton's track and field team after refusing to give up her job as an exotic dancer at an area night club.

Cal State-Fullerton track coach John Elders told sophomore Leilani Rios that she could either quit dancing and remain on the team, or keep her job and turn in her uniform. Rios, who credits her job with financing her college education, chose the latter and saw no reason why she couldn't do both.

"I had to do what I felt was best not only for the team and the program, but for Leilani as well," said Elders, who said that Rios' decision to continue dancing would tarnish the accomplishments of her teammates and the university as a whole. "It's my responsibility to protect the team's image."

But in an interview the Daily Titan student newspaper, Rios reiterated that she had done nothing wrong.

"I chose my job so I can afford to go to school," she said. "I don't like the fact that they can kick you off for no reason at all because that's not a right reason to kick somebody off the team."

Elders said that he first heard of Rios' dancing after a group of CSUF baseball players recognized her while she was performing. Word spread around campus, and the entire track team knew before long.

Rios, who ran cross country as a freshman, said that she is the first person in her family to go to college, and that she plans to work in physical therapy.

Napster fans: RealNetworks' new service is off key

by Todd Pack

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Hoping to convert Napster's 50 million users into paying customers, three of the world's largest record companies have closed a deal to start an online music-subscription service by fall.

But experts and music fans say it'll be a tough sell.

The music industry, citing copyright infringement, squelched Napster's free online song-swapping service. But people may be unwilling to start paying because there are scores more sites offering pirated music at no charge.

What's more, the music labels will ask people to pay for songs they aren't allowed to keep.

MusicNet, announced Monday by RealNetworks Inc. and record-label owners AOL Time Warner Inc., Bertelsmann AG and EMI Group PLC -- whose acts include Christina Aguilera, Eric Clapton and Santana -- will let people download songs onto

their PCs, the same as Napster.

But special software will prevent subscribers from saving songs on portable music players or burning them onto compact discs they can play elsewhere.

And if a customer cancels his subscription, the song files stop working. Tunes downloaded from Napster and other pirated-music services are in the MP3 format. That means they can be freely copied, and they don't expire.

RealNetworks chairman and chief executive Rob Glaser, appointed chairman and interim chief executive of MusicNet, said the service is designed to make it virtually impossible for subscribers to copy songs. Concern about piracy has been one of the main reasons record companies haven't made a big push online.

But forcing users to listen to their songs only on a PC isn't good business, said Phil Leigh, a digital media analyst at Raymond James & Associates, a St. Petersburg investment firm.

"A big part of listening to music is in your car, not sitting at your desk,"

"I don't think anybody's going to pay for songs they can't keep....If you want that, you'll listen to the radio or watch MTV."

- Sterling Thomas, a Napster user and sophomore at Rollins College in Winter Park.

Leigh said.

MusicNet's target audience, which includes college students, also scoffed at the idea.

"I don't think anybody's going to pay for songs they can't keep," said Sterling Thomas, a Napster user and sophomore at Rollins College in Winter Park. "If you want that, you'll listen to the radio or watch MTV."

That isn't what RealNetworks wants to hear. The company spent a year working on the subscriber service, Glaser said in a conference call. Under terms of the deal, the record labels and RealNetworks will each

own a minority stake in MusicNet; RealNetworks will own the largest share, 40 percent. Each label will license music to the service on a non-exclusive basis; RealNetworks will provide the technology.

MusicNet will then contract with other companies to distribute the music. Its initial partners, AOL and RealNetworks, will tailor the service to their specific needs and set their own subscription rates, Glaser said. Digital-media analysts say online music services probably will charge \$10 to \$15 a month.

The deal marks the first time so

many major labels have agreed to license music for online distribution. Vivendi Universal SA and Sony Corp., whose acts include Eminem and Bruce Springsteen, plan to launch a fee-based online music service called Duet by summer.

But "Duet doesn't cut it, and neither does 'Trio,'" said P.J. McNealy, a senior analyst with the Gartner Group, an e-commerce consulting company in Stamford, Conn.

"Consumers don't know music by label," so any service that doesn't have music from all five major labels may prove unpopular, McNealy said.

Still, despite its shortcomings, MusicNet represents a step forward, said Eric Scheirer, an analyst with Forrester Research, an e-commerce consulting company in Cambridge, Mass.

"The real good thing to me is that the labels are getting away from their fear that all these problems 'over security and selection' need to be solved," Scheirer said. "They're not expecting everything to be square from day one."

Citing concerns of violence, Brown student group pulls Horowitz invitation

by Billy O'Keefe
TMS Campus
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Citing student concerns of a possible violent backlash, a Brown University student group has withdrawn an invitation to conservative activist David Horowitz, whose newspaper ad condemning reparations for descendants of slaves ignited off a storm of protest on campuses nationwide.

Horowitz's full-page ad, "Ten Reasons Why Reparations for Slavery Is a Bad Idea—and Racist Too," touched off heated protests last month on several college campuses, including the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the University of California-Berkeley and Brown, where protesters stole more than 4,000 copies of the issue containing the ad.

According to BCR spokesperson Todd Auwarter, the group invited Horowitz to debate NAACP Providence chapter President Clifford Montiero on the merits of reparations, but the possibility of a violent fallout made for a gamble best not taken.

"We wanted to have a good, intellectual debate, but there was a great possibility that simply bringing him to campus would result in violent protests," Auwarter said. "We knew the risks of inviting him and were willing to take them. But we don't want to put others in harm's way."

Auwarter cited a meeting with students from the Brown College Democrats and the Student Labor Alliance, as well as a former Herald editor, as instrumental in the decision to rescind the invitation, and said that group's decision was its own and was not influenced in any way by the university, a point reiterated by university spokesperson Mark Nickel.

Horowitz, however, doesn't buy it. On his Web site, he remarked that the event was "cancelled by Brown," while Horowitz spokesperson Stephen Brooks told the Providence Journal that Horowitz's inability to appear is a failure on the part of the university's ability to maintain an environment "where all students will be heard."

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