Should College Athletes be Paid to Play?

By David Alvarez

Should college athletes be paid to play? This is very important to colleges because sports like football and basketball bring a lot of money and attention to colleges and universities. I think colleges and universities should pay their athletes because college players put in a lot of work. Even though some colleges are already paying some of their athletes, I think they should pay all of their athletes.

To begin with, ‘’It’s reasonable that college athletes make money off his or her talent and fame,’’ said by Patrick Hruby from the Huffington Post. I think this is a very good point because many celebrities are always making money off their talent and fame. Also, the sports that bring in the most money and interest are football and basketball. Therefore, it is reasonable for college players to make money off their skills and accomplishments, especially if they are good at the sport they play.

Another great point people might say college athletes are always putting their bodies at risk when they are playing the game they love. In football, especially, there are many injuries. According to CNN.com, ‘’44 out of 55 college football players had chronic traumatic encephalopathy.’’ CTE is a disease of the brain that affects a lot of players. Some examples that CTE has done are memory loss, aggression, depression, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts. Football is the sport that has caused the most concussions out of every sport.

According to smartasset.com, even though some people might say that paying athletes could detract from their passion and make them less motivated to play hard to get to the next level.” I think that paying them could motivate them to perform even better. Also, people like collegiate sports because players play with passion and love. Collegiate sports are sports and athletic competition organized and funded by institutions like colleges and universities.

For example, if these players are being motivated by being paid to play, they can start to perform even better. If they are playing better, they can bring in more attention and more people will attend the games. Additionally, if more people attend the games, the colleges will be getting more money. Therefore, if the colleges are getting more money, they could be paying their athletes and the cycle could start all over again. Finally, colleges could be benefiting from the attention of fans, money, and gaining recognition.
College athletes sacrifice their time, school work, and body for the colleges so they can win games. Have you ever been in this position where you are working really hard on a job or project or any type of work and never got paid? This is how some college athletes are feeling right now.