

## ST. CLOUD STATE

UNIVERSITY

*Tradition of excellence and opportunity*

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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March 15, 2001

Patricia P. Cormier, Chair  
Division II Presidents Council  
National Collegiate Athletic Association  
P.O. Box 6222  
Indianapolis, IN 46206

Dear Ms. Cormier:

The enclosed draft proposal is for a resolution of support for the elimination of American Indian mascots, nicknames and logos by members of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. It is my belief that the adaptation of this resolution by this leading organization of college and university athletics programs is in keeping with the mission and the values of your organization.

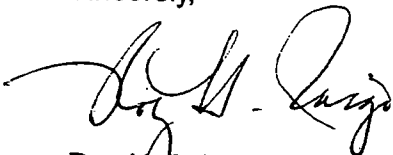
According to its mission statement and its stated values, the NCAA seeks to foster individual empowerment and personal well-being, to promote respect, communication and teamwork, and to encourage diversity. Those values are not served by the perpetuation of derogatory and stereotypical American Indian mascots, logos and nicknames as representatives of some of the organization's teams. Conceding to practices that make a segment of our students, faculty and staff uncomfortable about the degradation of their cultural heritage would seem to go against the organization's stated values.

In a recent letter to me and other chief executive officers of NCAA Division II member institutions, you stated that the "larger issues facing all the NCAA certainly will be: .....and (3) reflecting thoughtfully on the moral and ethical issues facing the Association, namely, the Confederate flag issue, sports gambling on the Internet and sportsmanship both on and off the field and the court." I feel strongly that the matter of American Indian mascots, logos and nicknames belongs among those other important issues.

On March 21, St. Cloud State University will host the Midwest Summit on American Indian Mascots to explore the implications of Indian mascots and to offer constructive methods of bringing about change.

I encourage you and the NCAA Division II Presidents Council to consider the American Indian mascot issue in the near future. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Roy H. Saigo  
President

A college sponsor of the National Merit Scholarship Program.

TTY: 1-800-627-3529 SCSU is an affirmative action/equal opportunity educator and employer.  
This material can be made available in an alternative format. Contact the department/agency listed above.

## Draft of Resolution to be brought before the NCAA Division II Presidents Council

Whereas,

We are proud members of the National Collegiate Athletic Association for the purpose of:

- \* Supporting governing bodies
- \* Contributing to the Association's Overall Development of Student-Athletes
- \* Promoting intercollegiate athletics
- \* Administering national championships
- \* Maintaining a healthy and productive work environment
- \* Developing and empowering staff
- \* Maintaining integrity and standards of fair play
- \* Communicating NCAA purposes and activities
- \* Community outreach
- \* Promoting diversity
- \* Managing fiscal resources

Be it Resolved,

That we, the members of the National Collegiate Athletic Association will not tolerate any activity that constitutes illegal discrimination against any person or group. The NCAA also seeks to provide an environment that acknowledges and values diversity of all kinds, including but not limited to race, religion and ethnicity.

Be it Further Resolved,

That we, the members of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, do not condone the use of Native American logos and nicknames, and we request that opposing teams not wear uniforms that reflect these logos and names. We promote good sportsmanship by student-athletes, coaches and spectators. Profanity, racial or sexist comments, or other intimidating actions, whether or not directed at officials, student-athletes, coaches or team representatives will not be tolerated.