

Hampton College Basketball Players want to get paid

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By Harrington Gardiner

During last month's March madness tournament, student athletes entertained millions of students who were amazed by incredible athleticism. The students brought national recognition to Villanova and Michigan and brought considerable proceeds pouring into multiple television networks. What fans often don't realize is that the players aren't getting paid. No matter how big the school here at Hampton University the student athletes strongly believe that they should be getting paid. They argue that the sacrifices on and off the court, the financial need, and the money they bring into the university is enough for them to get paid.

This year's Hampton basketball team did not reach the NCAA March madness tournament and were unable to highlight their talents, but players were not shy of sharing their opinion on compensation.

"These players certainly deserve it for their hard work," said Hampton men's basketball coach Edward Maynor Jr.

Schools get a profit and generate revenue every single year off the hard work of athletes but the ones who are putting in the work and scoring the points don't receive a dime. Though most college athletes are on full scholarship, they still have the daily responsibilities of regular college students. Sophomore guard Jermaine Marrow said that college athletes should get paid not only for what they do on the court but, what they do off the court because it takes away from their free time.

"I think it's important for us as players because we have so many duties off the court and sometimes basketball can prevent us from that. It's more than just playing games we have to recover and study, which takes away from our free time," Marrow said.

Hampton collegiate players discuss the responsibilities along with having practice, film study, and games every week. For them it's an uphill battle and compensation is a concern especially with the amount of revenue universities generate.

It's especially challenging for students here at Hampton that come from inadequate financial backgrounds and can't afford certain things. Student athletes put blood, sweat, and tears to work hard for the university's pride and recognition, and they feel it should be fair for college athletes to get paid rather than just being work horses for nonprofit.

Kalin Fisher who is a junior guard talked about the possibility of compensation and the passion that comes with playing college basketball. "It's tough balancing everything and hopefully there will be a solution in the future but as of right now, it's our passion to play and some of us are playing here for free as opposed to paying to attend school," Fisher said.

Coaches around the country that play for collegiate basketball schools get

paid exceptional amounts of money and depending on the schools play, they get recognized and that brings in more money for the school.

Hampton Men's head basketball coach Edward Maynor, Jr. discussed the efforts of coaches and players. Maynor believes that players should get paid and share the proceeds equally.