

**SJR**

**5**

**WITNESS LIST FOR**  
**SJR 5: Supporting NCAA Basketball Preseason Tournaments**

**In Juneau:**

Senator Loren Leman, sponsor

**At Fairbanks LIO:**

- Ann Ringstad, Director Government Relations
- Mona Lisa Drexler, Fairbanks North Star Borough Municipal Clerk
- Mike Kramer, Fairbanks Youth Sports
- Dr. Steve Cobb, UAA Athletic Director
- Vice Chancellor Cindy Matson
- Randy Pitney, UAF Athletic Director
- Chancellor Ed Gorsuch, UAA
- Bart LeBon, President FNSB School Board

**At Anchorage LIO:**

- Jim Olson, Safeway Corp.
- Steve Nerland

**OFFNET:**

- Dr. Rick Goeb, Senior Associate Athletic Director at (907) 474-6807



# SENATOR LOREN LEMAN

Northwest Anchorage

716 W 4th Ave, Suite 520, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 258-8189  
Web Site: <http://www.akrepublicans.org/Leman.htm>

Session: State Capitol, Juneau, AK 99801 (907) 465-2095  
Email: [Senator\\_Loren\\_Leman@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Senator_Loren_Leman@legis.state.ak.us)

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Juneau, Alaska 99801  
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During Interim, June - December:  
716 W 4th Ave, Suite 520  
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## Senator Loren Leman

### SPONSOR STATEMENT

#### SJR 5: Supporting NCAA Basketball Preseason Tournaments

Senator Gary Wilken and I have introduced this resolution in support of the Great Alaska Shootout in Anchorage and the Top of the World Classic in Fairbanks because we are concerned about the deleterious effect the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) legislative proposal No. 2000-106 will have.

Our Alaska tournaments have given student athletes the opportunity to meet Alaskans and enjoy our unique beauty and culture. Likewise, they give Alaskans across our state an opportunity to see top-flight Division I basketball and a venue to showcase our University and its athletic programs to onsite spectators and television audiences.

These two tournaments have grown in stature in the college athletic world and are becoming viewing draws and traditions comparable to the Iditarod and the Yukon Quest.

Keeping the partial exemption for games played in our tournaments will enable that UAA and UAF to continue to attract top Division teams. We need to maintain this interstate competition for the benefit of Alaska student athletes, our viewing public and the athletic programs at the University of Alaska.

The NCAA Management Council has extended public comment on legislative proposal 2000-1006 through January 31, 2001. It is our hope that this resolution will be approved in time to submit it under the public comment deadline.



PO. Box 6222  
 Indianapolis, Indiana  
 46206-5222  
 Telephone 317/917-6222

*al-Lind  
 Kirtz*

November 29, 2000

NOV 29 2000  
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Mr. Randy Pitney  
 Director of Athletics and Recreation  
 University of Alaska Fairbanks  
 211 Patty Center  
 Fairbanks, Alaska 9974-7440

Dear Mr. Pitney:

This letter is intended to solicit comments concerning the potential impact of Legislative Proposal No. 2000-106 (copy enclosed) from sponsors of events that are certified by the NCAA in the sport of basketball.

As you probably know, the Division I Management Council initially adopted Proposal No. 2000-106 during its October 25-26, 2000, meeting. If passed in April 2001 by the Management Council and Board of Directors, this legislation would limit NCAA Division I institutions to 29 basketball games and one exhibition contest or scrimmage beginning in 2002.

Initial approval without specific endorsement by the Management Council, however, was for the purpose of starting the 90-day membership comment period in order to generate reactions from all interested parties, whether favorable or unfavorable, for consideration in April 2001. This and all other legislative proposals that received initial approval in October were circulated to the Division I membership November 6. Through this letter, you also are invited to submit formal comments in writing to Dave Schmasse at the national office by mail or facsimile (317/917-6622) during the 90-day comment period, which ends January 30, 2001. I do not plan to forward past correspondence with the new comments you submit unless you advise me otherwise.

Although many of you have contacted me or other NCAA staff members directly concerning individual events, please note that the members of the Management Council and the Division I Board of Directors who vote on these issues receive counsel concerning a voting position primarily from conference offices. To the extent you wish to influence the final vote on this issue in April, I suggest that you submit comments to the national office in writing and seek support from conferences or members of the Management Council or Board of Directors.

Those who wish to present legal arguments also should correspond with NCAA General Counsel Elsa Cole at this office. Our advice to the Management Council

**National Collegiate Athletic Association**

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Mr. Randy Pitney  
November 29, 2000  
Page No. 2

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and Board, upon review of information available to date, will be that the final decision on how to best proceed should be based on the merits, or lack thereof, of Proposal No. 2000-106. New legal concerns may be raised and we are aware generally of concerns regarding game and television contracts. In this regard, the Management Council continues to take the position that it will not recognize any contract that was signed after July 25, 2000. However, those contracts in effect prior to that date should be forwarded to Ms. Cole along with a statement of how the proposed basketball game limitation could impair the provisions of the contract.

I hope this information is of assistance in your evaluation of this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,



S. David Berst  
Chief of Staff for Division I

SDB:vlm

Enclosure

cc: Collegiate Commissioners Association  
Division I Management Council  
Selected NCAA Staff Members

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION - 2000-15

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EXEMPT PRE-SEASON TOURNAMENTS

WHEREAS the University of Alaska's Top of the World Classic (TOWC) basketball tournament, along with University of Alaska Anchorage's "Great Alaska Shootout," are two of the premier basketball tournaments in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) is considering a proposal to eliminate certified exempt pre-season tournaments; and

WHEREAS Governor Knowles and others are urging rejection of the proposed ban; and

WHEREAS, the Top of the World Classic, through its Adopt-a-School program, provides Fairbanks North Star Borough students an opportunity to meet student athletes and learn about college life and the demands placed on student athletes; and

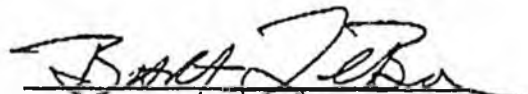
WHEREAS the Top of the World Classic allows hundreds of local students to perform during the tournament half-times before a large audience; and

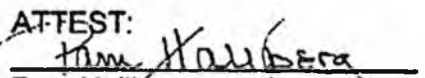
WHEREAS the tournament provides students an opportunity to see Division I quality basketball; and

WHEREAS the tournament is a community event in which the school district joins other community businesses and organizations in welcoming Division I teams to Fairbanks;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education urges the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to reject a proposal to eliminate certified exempt pre-season tournaments, including the Top of the World Classic that greatly benefits our students and community.

PASSED AND APPROVED DECEMBER 19, 2000.

  
Bart LeBon, President  
Board of Education

ATTEST:  
  
Pam Hallberg  
Secretary to the Superintendent

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By: Rick Solie, Jr.  
Bonnie Williams  
Introduced: 12/14/00  
Adopted: 12/14/00

RESOLUTION NO. 2000 - 51

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING "BP TOP OF THE WORLD CLASSIC" AND THE "GREAT ALASKA SHOOTOUT" BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS AND REQUESTING THE NCAA TO REJECT A PROPOSAL TO BAN CERTIFIED EXEMPT PRE-SEASON TOURNAMENTS.

WHEREAS, there is currently a proposal before the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to amend their bylaws section which would ban certified exempt pre-season tournaments; and

WHEREAS, the NCAA states that the purpose for this change includes their desire to have all schools play the same number of games and to minimize missed class time but this does not seem to bother the NCAA when these students miss class time for up to three straight weeks during the NCAA tournament; and

WHEREAS, while any league can propose legislation to the NCAA's management council, attendees at the June 2000 Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA) failed to propose an amendment and subsequently the CCA enlisted the NCAA committee of the championships/competition cabinet to put the proposal before the management council; and

WHEREAS, this proposal has proven to be unpopular nationally among colleges, universities, sports fans, media, leading one commissioner who wished to remain anonymous to state "You won't see any one conference stand up and sponsor the legislation, because everyone's worried about backlash, so we clouded it in the legislative process. That way it's faceless." and

WHEREAS, all legislation of the NCAA requires two management council approval votes before going to the board of directors for a final vote, exemption elimination has now passed the first of three necessary steps; and

WHEREAS, this change to the NCAA bylaws will eliminate the "bp Top Of The World Classic" (TOWC) Basketball Tournament, the "Great Alaska Shootout" (Shootout), Black Coaches Association (BCA) Classic, Tip Off Classic, Foreign Team in Canada, Maui Invitational, Pre Season National Invitational Tournament (NIT), Coaches Against Cancer, and any Women's pre-season exempt tournament; and

WHEREAS, these tournaments have become a tradition within their respective communities promoting a strong sense of community excitement and community participation; and

WHEREAS, these tournaments will only assist the top schools in the big power conferences, the ACC, Big 12, Big East, Big Ten, Conference USA, Pac-10, and SEC, which does not meet the criteria of the NCAA treating all programs in an equitable manner; and

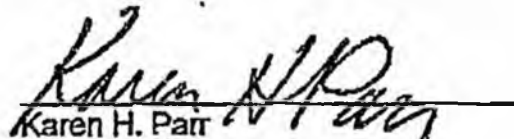
WHEREAS, the "bp TOWC" and the "Great Alaska Shootout" have become two of the premier tournaments in the nation. They foster community excitement, economic advantages and the opportunity for fans young and old to experience Division I basketball, while interfacing with nationally known coaches and players, subsequently increasing fan support of those teams as they follow them through their season into the NCAA field of 64 on to the Final Four.

WHEREAS, coaches and players who have experienced the "bp TOWC" and the "Shootout" have commented on the educational experience their teams have derived from the culture and the opportunity to be in communities that embrace the teams from the moment they arrive until they leave the community.

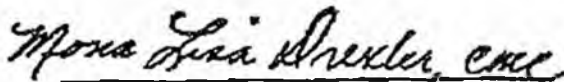
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the Honorable Mayor Rhonda Boyles urge the NCAA to reject the proposal to ban certified exempt pre-season basketball tournaments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Governor Tony Knowles, Senator Ted Stevens, Senator Frank Murkowski, Congressman Don Young, and members of the Interior Delegation of the Alaska State Legislature.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14<sup>th</sup> OF DECEMBER, 2000.

  
Karen H. Parr  
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:



Mona Lisa Drexler, CMC  
Municipal Borough Clerk

Ayes: Foote, Sattley, Beck, Cummings, Hutchison, Solie, Veazey, Parr  
Noes: None

RESOLUTION NO. 2000-51  
Page 2 of 2

## Preseason Tourney Reps File Lawsuit Against NCAA

Dec. 22, 2000

By Andy Katz

ESPN.com

Organizers for as many as six exempted, non-conference tournaments filed a lawsuit against the NCAA Thursday for damages that would be incurred if the NCAA votes to eliminate the tournaments.

A law firm in Cincinnati is representing the plaintiffs of the Coaches vs. Cancer, all the tournaments in Puerto Rico, the NABC and the CoSIDA tournaments. The suit is essentially claiming an anti-trust violation by the NCAA on exempted tournaments.

The NCAA management council put out for discussion a proposal that would make all non-conference tournaments count for as many games as were played in the tournament on the maximum 29-regular season schedule. The tournaments claim they can't be competitive if that's the case because high-profile schools won't want to give up home games in exchange for three or two neutral site games.

Presently, exempted tournaments count as one game against a 28-regular season maximum schedule.

The Preseason NIT decided not to join the lawsuit. Neither did school-sponsored tournaments in Anchorage (The Great Alaska Shootout), Fairbanks (Top of the World Classic), Maui (Invitational by Chaminade) and tournaments at BYU-Hawaii, Hawaii-Pacific, Hawaii-Hilo and the University of Hawaii. But the plaintiffs left open the possibility of any of them joining the suit.

The NCAA contends that the legislation is only out for discussion and isn't up for voting until April at the next management council meeting. But the organizers contest that the proposal is already hurting their tournaments. The NCAA ruled that the exempted tournaments couldn't sign any new contracts after July 25, 2000 for tournaments beyond 2002.

One of the organizers said they wanted the NCAA to have a copy of the lawsuit when it meets at its non-voting convention in Orlando next month.

The lawsuit called the NCAA "anticompetitive" and "monopolistic" because its practices restrict independent organizations from making money off its product.

The plaintiffs requested a jury trial and request damages they said they lost because of NCAA rules.

Jane Jankowski, an NCAA spokeswoman in Indianapolis, said she could not comment because she had not seen the lawsuit.

At least one conference commissioner, who was originally one of the commissioners who voted for the legislation at the conference commissioners meeting in June, said he didn't think the legislation would pass. He said the coaches, who favor keeping the tournaments, would lean heavily on key commissioners like the ACC's John Swofford. A conference like the Atlantic 10, which relies heavily on the postseason NIT, isn't expected to vote for the legislation.

**adn.com**

Anchorage Daily News

## **NCAA avoids Shootout talk**

**CONVENTION: UAA and UAF officials make the most of backroom politicking.**

By Lew Freedman  
Anchorage Daily News

*(Published January 11, 2001)*

Steve Cobb brought the fight to save the Great Alaska Shootout to the NCAA Convention this week, but the University of Alaska Anchorage athletic director never got a chance to say a word in public.

The so-called open forum on a proposal to eliminate the longstanding exemption permitting teams to avoid counting games against their schedule limits when they participate in preseason tournaments was brushed aside in favor of other Division I basketball concerns.

Instead, backroom politicking dominated the scene at the annual event in Florida, and while Cobb said he felt he scored points with up to 18 athletic directors and commissioners of major conferences, he feels the looming vote before the NCAA Management Council in April is too close to call.

"If I wasn't superstitious, I would tell you they'll be so split in April, they won't even vote on it," Cobb said Wednesday. "If it's 50-50, it would be easy to let it die. But it would be easy to chuck it up to the presidents."

If the Management Council approves the measure in April, it goes before the Division I Board of Directors, which consists of school presidents.

The plan, pushed by conference commissioners and passed by NCAA committees, is scheduled for a spring vote as part of the NCAA legislative process. UAA and administrators of more than 30 exempt tournaments, including the Shootout and the Top of the World Classic in Fairbanks, charge that proponents are trying to wreck the tournaments while enriching themselves by adding another regular-season home game.

Instead of a forum discussing the issue at the convention, a basketball hearing dealt with other matters.

"They controlled the microphone," Cobb said of the NCAA.

Cobb said he spent much of his time at the weeklong event lobbying conference commissioners and athletic directors.

"Everybody's at least aware it's an issue," he said. "Half are for us, half are not. And half on each side don't really understand it."

Yet Cobb said he felt growing sentiment in favor of preserving the tournaments and a particularly strong desire to stay out of court.

However, a federal lawsuit alleging antitrust violations was filed in December in Ohio by directors of a group of several exempt tournaments, including the Coaches vs. Cancer IKON Classic, over this issue. And last week, the NIT filed a separate lawsuit in New York, making similar charges.

This new suit also challenged a 1970s NCAA provision prohibiting teams from participating in the postseason NIT if they play in the NCAA tournament. Once, the NIT was the more prestigious event, and at one time teams could compete in both postseason events.

Thus far, neither UAA, nor the University of Alaska Fairbanks, which operates the Top of the World, has joined any lawsuit.

"We're still taking a wait-and-see attitude," said Cobb.

If the Management Council and the Board of Directors support the plan in April, it becomes NCAA law. There would be one avenue left to overturn the measure, though. If 100 Division I schools vote against it at the next NCAA Convention, implementation would be suspended. At this convention, UAF officials gathered dozens of signatures from Division I schools backing the tournaments, according to Cobb. UAF athletic director Randy Pitney could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

Between now and April, UAA will continue lobbying the Management Council and Board of Directors, said Cobb.

"We want them to know the other side of the story," he said.

Sports editor Lew Freedman can be reached at [lfreedman@adn.com](mailto:lfreedman@adn.com).

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**Shootout at the NCAA corral**  
Preseason tournaments wage battle for their lives

By Lew Freedman  
Daily News Sports Editor

(Published December 31, 2000)

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The threat to the Great Alaska Shootout and other early-season NCAA basketball tournaments began as many wildfires do, with a spark in a cloistered area of the forest. But unlike many conflagrations ignited by natural causes, this is one blaze started and nurtured by arson.

The fire was set at the annual meeting of the Conference Commissioners Association in Park City, Utah, in June. At this out-of-the-way gathering, the commissioners endorsed a plan to kill the NCAA exemption that allows Lower 48 teams to play games they don't have to count against their schedule limits in the Shootout and other popular events.

By the time a stunned and angry University of Alaska Anchorage athletic director Harry Larrabee was warned of the potential danger during his last days on the job in August, his fingers were on fire. And by then major-college commissioners were already quietly using NCAA political channels to push what could amount to the death penalty for the Shootout.

"The operative word is sleazy," said Larrabee.

Although there is no scheduled vote during the annual, weeklong NCAA convention that begins Thursday in Florida, UAA officials who believe the survival of the traditional Thanksgiving week event as they know it is at stake, will try to use the meeting to rally crucial support against the proposal.

To UAA -- and other well-respected events like the Maui Invitational, the Preseason NIT and the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Top of the World Classic -- killing the exemption ruins their tournaments. They say prominent schools won't make the trip if tournament games count the same as regular-season games.

"I knew it could be very devastating," said Larrabee recently from Shelbyville, Ind., where he now coaches the boys high school basketball team. "You're upset. Your mind spins about what action you can take."

The man who phoned the alarm to Larrabee was former Big Ten

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The man who phoned the alarm to Larrabee was former Big Ten commissioner Wayne Duke, now general chairman of the similarly besieged Maui Invitational. Duke noted that many modifications of NCAA rules governing tournaments were made in the 1990s, but "This time, this one, is more ominous."

Pending legislative proposal No. 2000-106 -- which would take effect Aug. 1, 2002 -- is multi-pronged. It would:

remove the exemption that currently permits schools to play two extra games in early-season tournaments without counting them against their schedule limits.

substitute an increase in the regular-season game limit from 28 to 29.

recognize only tournament contracts that had been signed by July 25, 2000. (Tournaments try to book teams several years in advance.)

cap Division I exhibitions or scrimmages.

At the urging of conference commissioners, the proposal has advanced through two NCAA committees -- under the umbrella justification of benefiting student welfare and across-the-board scheduling equity.

"That isn't an outright lie, but that sure is making the truth nervous," said Steve Cobb, who succeeded Larrabee as athletic director and is spearheading UAA's efforts to bury the plan.

While not publicized, more meaningful for most proponents is likely the chance to grab a bigger chunk of college basketball's riches.

"Anybody who denies that (money's at stake) is being hypocritical," said Big East commissioner Mike Tranghese.

From the moment Larrabee buzzed chancellor Lee Gorsuch for an urgent appointment following Duke's alert, UAA has been at war with commissioners like Tranghese. Gorsuch, Cobb and men's basketball coach Charlie Bruns have mobilized allies throughout the United States, joining forces and lobbying efforts with key officials at UAF. Gov. Tony Knowles is writing letters, and U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens was recently approached for help.

These opponents charge that the legislation is merely a thinly disguised, greed-driven measure that would enrich the most powerful basketball-playing schools in the country's largest conferences, and that the reasons offered to back it are ridiculously off-base.

One big problem, Bruns said, has been putting a face to the enemy. No individual claims authorship of the measure, and the NCAA presents itself as a neutral facilitator, simply doing its job handling membership-requested proposals.

However, six major conferences -- the Big Ten, the Southeastern, the Pac-10, the Big East, Conference USA and the Big 12 -- stand accused of being the core group of supporters, and some of their commissioners admit it. Recently, what originally seemed like an under-radar attempt to alter the landscape of college basketball has spilled into the public arena, with coaches becoming increasingly vocal.

At the annual pre-Shootout coaches luncheon, Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim blasted the plan as "Stupid, idiotic, shortsighted." He sarcastically added, "Oops. I didn't mean to read the definition of the NCAA."

The urgency of the danger has crystalized since late October, when the NCAA Division I Management Council, a powerful 51-member group that can advance policy changes, approved the legislation. Following two days of meetings at NCAA headquarters in Indianapolis behind closed doors, the council sent the issue forward to a 90-day school comment period with "no specific endorsement." Initially this was seen as only tepid backing, but the terminology soon came to be viewed as a cloaking maneuver.

"It's clear that when the Management Council and the NCAA approved this new legislation, they tried to color their approval with ambiguity," said Rick Giles of Princeton, N.J., executive director of the Coaches vs. Cancer IKON Classic.

Unless sidetracked, the matter will be taken up by the Management Council a second time in April, and if approved again, sent to the Board of Directors, who are Division I presidents, for implementation.

Chris Spencer of Worldwide Basketball and Sport Tours Inc., in Cincinnati, which administers the Puerto Rico Shootout and the Puerto Rico Holiday Classic, read the October vote as a signal the NCAA is seeking to put him out of business.

"I think they've been determined to do this for a while," said Spencer in early December.

Two weeks later, a group of tournaments (including Spencer's and Giles') filed a lawsuit challenging the NCAA on antitrust grounds.

This bitter fight -- which places small schools like UAA and UAF at ground zero -- could determine the future of college basketball's early-season tournaments, who controls scheduling, and which of the 318 eligible Division I schools have the best chance to qualify for the lucrative NCAA tournament.


At issue above all is the distribution of millions of dollars.

#### 'IT'S WHAT SETS US APART'

The man who invented the Great Alaska Shootout is probably rolling over in his grave.

Bob Rachal, the former UAA athletic director, is the visionary who understood and exploited the 1955 NCAA rule that granted off-mainland schools (first in Hawaii, and later in Alaska and Puerto Rico) the special privilege of inviting Lower 48 teams to play in events without counting games against their schedule allotment.

The oldest exempt basketball tournament is the Rainbow Classic. Hosted by the University of Hawaii in Honolulu, the annual Christmas holiday event just completed its 35th year. Hawaii, the only non-Lower



48 Division I program, conducts several exempt tournaments, and assistant athletic director Marilyn Moniz-Kahoochanohano said her school is unique.

"We play all of our nonconference games in tournaments," she said. "Otherwise we wouldn't have a home schedule."

The second oldest exempt tournament is the Shootout, founded in 1978. Rachal's stewardship of UAA athletics lasted just one year, and he died of cancer in 1985 without ever witnessing a Shootout game in person, but his legacy thrives.

Though doubters ridiculed him, Rachal realized the allure of playing three "free" games. He boasted that Indiana and Louisville would come to Alaska. He was right. So did North Carolina, Kentucky, Arizona, UCLA and Duke. They still come, despite a 2-year-old rule reducing tournament benefits to two free games.

The Shootout, now regarded as the cornerstone of the UAA sports program, became a phenomenon.

All-Americans and future NBA stars such as Glenn Robinson, Ray Allen, Antawn Jamison, James Worthy, Joe Dumars, Danny Manning, Glen Rice, Vince Carter and local star Trajan Langdon played in Anchorage.

Local families hosted players for Thanksgiving turkey. ESPN broadcast games (UAA's current, nine-year television contract runs through 2006, paying the school \$705,000) and teased the nation with the mystique of Alaska, offering priceless advertising for Anchorage and UAA. Players went dog mushing and rode snowmachines.

"We tried to expose them to a lot," said coach Eddie Sutton of Oklahoma State, who has brought three different teams to four Shootouts. "Stuff they wouldn't get in the Lower 48. The biggest value is the educational experience you get. The hospitality is sensational."

Next to the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, the Shootout is indisputably Alaska's most prominent sporting event, now regularly selling 8,000-plus tickets a session at Sullivan Arena. The event is vital to the health of UAA's nine-team athletic department, which operates on a \$3.7 million budget, and the Shootout of 1999, incorporating women's play for the first time, produced a profit of about \$413,000.

"It's our Kentucky Derby," said Gorsuch in a recent interview. "This makes our program. Without this, we're run-of-the-mill. This is clearly our cash cow."

The Shootout's stature provides an incalculable basketball advantage over other Division II schools, too.

"It's what sets us apart," said Bruns. "It has an awful lot to do with our recruiting."

The tangible benefit to Anchorage is even more impressive. P.J. Hill, a UAA economics professor, made an in-depth study of the 1996 Shootout -- estimating a \$2.45 million local impact before four women's teams were added to the eight-team men's field.

"My guess is it would be a little bit bigger now," said Hill in November.

All of college basketball is bigger now. The exemption rule was expanded to allow charitable tournaments. Some 35 exempt men's and women's tournaments were sanctioned for the 2000-2001 season, and this proliferation of events has drawn the ire of conference commissioners.

"We have tried to get a common number of games played and put a cap on the number of games played," said Tom Hansen, commissioner of the Pac-10, who is anxious to change the system. "Nothing seems to really get at the problem. Some teams play 40 games, some 28."

However, Giles scoffed at this logic. Teams will never play the same number of games as long as there are conference tournaments, and the granddaddy of them all, the March NCAA championship tournament, he said.

"It's a mythical thing they put out there," said Giles.

Roy Kramer, commissioner of the Southeastern Conference, said setting a limit at 29, or even 30 games, would still allow schools to play in an early-season tournament.

"You can go anywhere you want to play those games," said Kramer.

That comment is seen as disingenuous by others. Cobb said UAA could still hold a Shootout, but top teams will not travel to Alaska without the exemption.

"We would lose the luster of our tournament," said Cobb. "If we kept the tournament going, it would be, 'I hope the winner makes the NCAA' instead of 'I hope the winner makes the Final Four.' "

#### MONEY MATTERS

Follow the money.

That's the first rule of politics and law enforcement when motives seem suspicious. More than ever, that philosophy applies in sports. So when reasons given for the legislation ignore money, the aggrieved yell.

Giles, Cobb and Jack Powers, executive director of the NIT events, said money is at the root of this evil.

"Greed," said Powers, who administers the NIT for five New York City colleges. "Everybody's talking about it."

Although the 32-team postseason NIT, dating back to 1938, is older than the NCAA championships, the 16-team Preseason NIT, founded in 1985, is the foundation of the organization's 10-year TV contract. Powers said this plan jeopardizes the Preseason NIT, and if the event goes under, the postseason NIT will collapse, too.

There was no mention of dollars and cents in the "rationale" section when the Management Council considered the legislation Oct. 25-26



after it passed through the NCAA's Division I Championships and Competition Cabinet.

The Management Council -- weighted with voters representing the same major conferences pushing the agenda -- was presented with two main reasons for support. One was scheduling "equity," meaning all Division I schools would play the same number of games. The second was enhancing "student-athlete welfare ... in what is traditionally a key period of the academic year."

"The kids take an academic hit," said the Pac-10's Hansen.

This ignores the facts that most tournaments take place during Thanksgiving week or Christmas break and that several others are four-team, two-day affairs. Plus, no school can enter more than two tournaments in four years.

Who wrote the rationale?

According to Jane Jankowski, the NCAA's assistant director of public relations, members of the organization's staff massaged the message after receiving input from the conference commissioners, the competition cabinet and other staff.

Cobb said most of these selling points are false or misleading. He referred to the student-welfare provision as "a crock. The rich get richer."

Exactly how will not be read in the language of the proposal but can be explained by real-life application. A 29th game would allow major teams to schedule another home game, or possibly attract another lucrative TV opportunity.

The suggestion by commissioners that everyone would benefit from scheduling equity is seen as laughable by others. Traditional powers from the Big East, the Pac-10 and the Big Ten do not schedule road games against teams from the Southland Conference, the Colonial Conference or the America East Conference.

"It's somewhat insulting," said Chris Monasch, commissioner of America East and also a Management Council member who opposes the legislation. "It doesn't wash. There's nothing equitable about playing the better teams on their home court. It doesn't benefit the mid-majors at all."

Monasch said at the Utah meeting Division I-AA commissioners like himself were not allowed in the room when some discussions were held and a sub-group of Division I-A commissioners presented the proposal.

"I think the real reason is so that the bigger programs can make more money," he said.

Jackson State coach Andy Stoglin, whose Tigers played in this year's Top of the World Classic and in the 1994 Great Alaska Shootout, snorted when asked if the proposal will help him. He once cut a deal with Missouri: Missouri would play in Jackson in exchange for three appearances in Columbia. Early-season tournaments provide an

invaluable alternative, said Stoglin.

"That's the only way we're going to play any of those (major) teams," he said.

Some commissioners like the SEC's Kramer are blunt about their desire to control scheduling. If one of his highly rated schools plays an attractive intersectional match because of the luck of the draw in a tournament, only the event benefits.

"How do you justify the student-athletes of Texas or Kansas, or wherever, supporting them (tournaments' sponsoring schools)?" said Kramer. "They should have a way to finance their own programs."

One more home game can be very valuable. Bill Hogan, athletic director at the University of San Francisco and co-director of the Puerto Rico Shootout, said his rule of thumb is that 10,000 seats sold equates to \$200,000. However, price and the number of discounted student tickets can vary.

Miechelle Willis, associate athletic director of Ohio State, said filling her school's Value City Arena's 19,100 seats means \$250,000 for the school's coffers.

"We lose a heck of a lot of money," she said of Buckeyes road games.

Ohio State's men's and women's teams played in the 2000 Great Alaska Shootout. Willis, a member of the Management Council, journeyed north but said "I didn't learn anything new." She sounded an anti-tournament theme about "a concern of the cost of participating."

The NCAA requires tournaments to cover most travel costs for a basic traveling party of 18, and UAA paid about \$15,000 to each participating team. However, the Buckeyes will lose between \$20,000 and \$30,000 because their traveling parties were larger than the tournament allotment, said Willis.

There are also complaints many schools are never invited to play in the tournaments -- the Big East's Tranghese claimed "15 conferences never get to play in these events." Tournament officials say that contention is wrong.

"BS. We did a study," said Spencer of Worldwide Basketball, saying 143 schools have participated in recent years. "It is about 50-50."

Gorsuch debunked the myth from the Shootout's standpoint in a letter sent to key figures before the October vote. In the first 20 years of the Shootout and the old Northern Lights Invitational women's event, some 90 schools from 26 conferences played, he said.

Major conference commissioners know how they're being viewed.

"I understand we're being cast as the bad guys on this," said Tranghese.

One way big schools can make big bucks is by becoming one of the 65 teams selected to play in the 2001 NCAA tournament. Although big

schools risk playing other big schools in glitzy TV games that offer five- or six-figure payouts, avoiding the pitfall of a random early-season tournament matchup can help protect power ratings.

March Madness can be tremendously profitable. Under the NCAA formula, a team that played a single game in the 2000 tournament earned one "unit." Each unit was valued at \$94,000. For each round a team progressed it earned another unit up to a maximum of five by reaching the Final Four. The NCAA revenue distribution plan is based on a rolling, six-year period, and last year the pie was worth \$70 million. All payoffs go directly to conferences to divide among institutions. It is expected that the value of each unit will increase for the 2001 event.

Giles, citing Gonzaga's three-game sweep in the 1997 Top of the World Classic, said tournaments offer less-famous schools a chance to influence the selection committee. If they get in, it could come at the expense of a "Big Six" conference school.

"They (commissioners) want to have as many of their teams in the NCAA as possible and keep others out," said Giles. "It extinguishes mid-majors from getting at-large bids."

Giles considers conference commissioners greedy. He said the five men's and two women's Coaches vs. Cancer tournaments held have raised \$1.5 million for the American Cancer Society.

"I had a conference commissioner say to me, 'Why should they get that?' " he said. " 'We're also a non-profit.' "

How do commissioners respond to the greed charge?

"It's a nice defense of their position," said the Pac-10's Hansen.

#### UAF WOULD FEEL THE PINCH

What else should the University of Alaska Fairbanks think?

After three years of losing money, the Nanooks turned a \$150,000 profit on the Top of the World Classic in 1999. That's huge for a school with a \$2.1 million athletic budget, even if it's less than a single-game gate for many Division I schools.

"They buy that many sweatshirts for boosters," said UAF athletic director Randy Pitney.

Events like the Great Alaska Shootout, the Maui, hosted by Chaminade, the Big Island Invitational, hosted by Hawaii-Hilo, the Hawaii Pacific University Thanksgiving Classic, the Puerto Rico Shootout and the Top of the World are put on by geographically remote Division II schools.

These schools are the smallest and least influential in big-time college basketball. Until 1997, when the NCAA restructured, representatives of Division II schools might sit at the table during business sessions with Division I school reps. Now they can't get in the door.

At Chaminade, a school of 725 students and minimal staff, which

contracts out the operation of the 17-year-old Maui, athletic director and basketball coach Aaron Griess said the sports program might shut down if the tournament folds.

"If the tournament goes by the wayside, the athletic department probably goes by the wayside," said Griess.

Maui's Wayne Duke said he believes the event accounts for 50 to 65 percent of Chaminade's athletic budget.

The Shootout is not as dominant in UAA's big picture, and the school will not drop athletics if the Shootout dies, said Gorsuch.

"We will survive," he said. "We're committed. We're going to maintain intercollegiate sport. But, boy, this would set us back."

Counting the Shootout as both, six of the exempted men's tournaments and two of the women's tournaments are hosted by members of the Pac West Conference. League commissioner Woody Hahn said fans, players and coaches love the events, and Alaska and Hawaii schools need them.

"I think they give a particular edge you deserve for being remote," said Hahn. "But it's a Division I issue, and the Division I's could care less. It's sad. I'd be crushed if this happens."

They are on full alert in Fairbanks. Pitney and UAF men's coach Al Sokaitis have lobbied coaches, administrators and the Management Council non-stop for months. Before the October Management Council meeting, Pitney put his sixth-grade daughter Kimberly to work preparing outgoing letters during a school break.

"Whatever it takes," he said.

Pitney will lead a four-person UAF delegation to the convention.

"Even if we felt we had the votes, we would still do the work," said Pitney. "We're leaving no stone unturned."

For nearly two decades, the Nanooks looked on enviously as UAA conducted a showcase event, so when the Top of the World started in 1996 it was a proud moment for the school.

Providence, coached by Pete Gillen, won the first tournament. After changing jobs, Gillen brought Virginia in 1998. He is effusive about the Top of the World.

"We took a chance," said Gillen. "We didn't know if it would be organized. We felt it was a gamble. It was wonderful. It's someplace a lot of people won't ever go in their lives. You see the Alaska Pipeline, ice carvings. I think culturally it is a tremendous experience."

Carlson Center attendance ranged from 2,500 to 4,000 for the 2000 tournament. Rooters displayed posters on balcony fronts. UAF's mascot, a stuffed polar bear, was displayed in a glass case at one end of the court. It was a festive atmosphere.

Adding the tournament has upgraded the Nanooks' program. It raises the ante in recruiting, said Sokaitis, and enables UAF to play a more impressive schedule. This season UAF earned \$80,000 in appearance fees playing road games against Division I teams.

UAF guard Doug Lamb, an Alaskan, said it is excruciating to contemplate the Classic's possible demise.

"That scares us a lot," said Lamb. "That would be very bad for the community."

#### LAST-DITCH EFFORTS

The NCAA hates him, said Chris Spencer of Worldwide Basketball.

And that was before he became party to a federal lawsuit filed Dec. 21 in U.S. District for the Southern District of Ohio in Columbus, claiming "anticompetitive" and "monopolistic" practices by the NCAA.

Spencer said he became persona non grata fighting last year's NCAA new rule limiting schools to playing in just two tournament every four years, and for protesting the rule requiring payment of travel costs. He said he can't afford it.

While the Alaska events attract thousands of state fans and the Maui Invitational sells about 2,400 tickets a session, Spencer's Puerto Rico tournaments attract between 500 and 1,000 fans, he said. Representing American University of Puerto Rico's tournaments, Spencer's company forges links between basketball fans who want to follow their teams and community tourism needs.

"It's pretty much all the people we bring over," said Spencer.

UAA, UAF, the NIT, Maui, the Puerto Rico Shootout, Coaches vs. Cancer, make for somewhat uneasy bedfellows. But this legislation makes no distinction between longevity and recently founded events, no distinction between a school-run event and a privately supervised event. No distinction is made, period. And that infuriates UAA's Gorsuch.

When Larrabee told Gorsuch the NCAA might alter the exemption rule again right after the two-tournaments-in-four-years plan took effect, Gorsuch was incredulous.

"I said, 'The ink's not even dry yet, are you kidding me?'" said Gorsuch.

Even some supporters of the proposal admit tournaments are fun and offer student-athletes rare travel and cultural opportunities. Yet none can think of a way to preserve some and eliminate others.

"Certain events people would be very comfortable keeping, in my opinion," said the Big East's Tranchese. But after talking to his legal counsel, he said, "You can't craft something that would let Game A be played and not Game B be played."

UAA and UAF are keenly observing the Ohio lawsuit.

"We benefit, or we lose, just as they do," said Cobb. "They picked exactly the law I expected them to pick."

The NCAA has endured some court thumpings. Former UNLV coach Jerry Tarkanian fought his NCAA suspension for years and won. More recently, assistant basketball coaches won a \$67 million triple-damages, class-action suit because the NCAA tried to limit their salaries.

The NCAA's response to this fresh lawsuit is pointed. Jankowski noted it challenges a rule that has not even taken effect and that "does not prohibit any of these contests from taking place."

Court aside, the legislative battle will continue at the convention. No action is scheduled on the emotional issue, but the open forum UAA officials have craved to air the matter is set for Jan. 8 at Disney World in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

"I would love to debate it at the courthouse at high noon," said Cobb.

The proposal passed the Management Council by a two-thirds margin, minus abstentions, and is due to come before the body again April 9-10. A favorable vote would send it to the presidents later in April. Passage by that group would make it NCAA law.

However, a little-known last-resort procedure exists in NCAA bylaws. If 30 schools protest in writing, the legislation goes into effect but is subject to a Division I-member vote at the next national convention. If 100 schools protest, implementation is suspended until a convention vote. Neither Cobb nor Pitney were aware of these options.

"That sounds almost too easy to get it done," said Cobb.

If so, it would be the only aspect of the dispute that is.

Speaking from the perspective of five decades involved in intercollegiate sport, Wayne Duke, 72, was saddened by the whole battle.

"The one thing I have seen," said Duke, "and it's supported in so many ways, is the changing of spelling the word 'principle' from 'le' to 'al.' "

From principle to principal. This is, he said, all about the money.

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# Proposed NCAA legislation could gobble up Shootout

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By Beth Bragg  
Daily News Executive Sports Editor  
(Published November 19, 2000)

As Anchorage prepares for its traditional mix of basketball and Thanksgiving, it's time to talk turkey.

Not regarding what's on the menu this week but what might be off the menu two years from now.

The Great Alaska Shootout, the 23-year-old tournament that brings Division I college basketball to Sullivan Arena, could face extinction because of a proposed piece of NCAA legislation that would wipe out the Shootout and similar tournaments by 2002.

The legislation, being pushed by the commissioners from all Division I conferences, would eliminate an exemption given to the Shootout and other preseason tournaments. The exemption allows teams to play in a select group of preseason tournaments without counting all of the tournament games toward their NCAA season limit of 28. Currently, teams that come to the Shootout play three games but only one counts toward their season limit.

The exemption allows teams like Kentucky, North Carolina and Kansas to come to the Shootout. Without the "free" games, many teams would stay home and play a single nonconference game that would net the school more revenue.

If the exemption is eliminated, the Shootout would either fold or serve up a steady diet of Division II teams or low-level Division I teams.

The proposal will be debated at the NCAA's annual convention in January.

"Maybe this Thanksgiving Day, this is something to be thankful for, that we still have the Shootout," said Tim McDiffett, associate athletic director at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

UAA runs the tournament, which for the second straight year will combine men's and women's action.

The tournament begins Tuesday evening with a pair of women's

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The tournament begins Tuesday evening with a pair of women's games. Men and women will share the stage Wednesday, when four games, including the women's championship at 6:45 p.m., will be played.

The nighttime spot for the women's championship game is new. Last year, it was played in front of a sparse afternoon crowd and drew criticism from fans who said the women were not being treated equally.

This year, UAA decided the women should go prime time.

While juggling the women's schedule, UAA also tinkered with the men's schedule and reduced the number of Thanksgiving Day games from three to two. "We modified it to give fans more of their Thanksgiving Day back," McDiffett said.

This year's field features only one ranked team, No. 22 DePaul. Other men's teams include Syracuse, Florida State, Ohio State, Missouri, Valparaiso, Rhode Island and UAA. The women's field includes Ohio State, Valparaiso, Rhode Island and UAA.

Coach Jim Boeheim's Syracuse team is making its third appearance.

Syracuse has taken full advantage of the NCAA's preseason tournament exemption over the years, having played in eight events since 1987. But Boeheim has a special feel for the Shootout.

"We've always loved coming to this tournament. The people have been great to us, the fans have been great," he said. "It's probably the most well-attended in terms of the crowds every day. The number of the fans and their enthusiasm is super."

The tournament exemption is threatened because conference commissioners say they want the athletes to miss less class time -- even though most tournaments are held during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays -- and because a limited number of teams are invited to preseason tournaments.

Pat Kennedy, the DePaul coach, disagrees.

"Although the NCAA says it's trying to help out the lower-tier schools, the rationale is not legit," he said. "I don't mind when the NCAA gets into governing the competition, but the argument doesn't add up. When I was with Iona, we were up at the Shootout, and that was a great recruiting tool for our program.

"It's highly inaccurate to say that these tournaments only benefit the big, powerful schools."

There's no doubt, though, that the biggest beneficiary is UAA, a Division II university. Last year's tournament netted \$413,000, a figure that represents about 20 percent of the athletic department's \$3.7 million budget.

The Shootout's intangible value is that it brings exposure to the university and the state that no event besides the Iditarod can equal.

In past years, as many as 1,000 fans from visiting teams have filled the city's hotel rooms and restaurants during Thanksgiving week, typically one of the slowest times of the year for tourism.

What's more -- conference commissioners aside -- universities nationwide value tournaments like the Shootout.

"I like having the exemption games," said Ohio State men's coach Jim O'Brien. "I think it's good to get in a few more games.

"(And) typically, going to places like Hawaii and Puerto Rico and Alaska offers a new experience to guys who wouldn't otherwise get it."

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## **National Collegiate Athletic Association**

### IN PROGRESS

## **2000-106 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS - CONTEST LIMITATIONS - BASKETBALL**

Intent: To establish a maximum of 29 basketball contests that may be played during the institution's regular playing season; further, to specify that prior to the beginning of the regular playing season, an institution is limited to participating in either one informal scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution or one exhibition contest against a non-Division I four-year collegiate institution; finally, to eliminate the process that requires certification of basketball contests in which Division I institutions are participants.

A. Bylaws: Amend 17.5.3.1, page 237, as follows:

"17.5.3.1 Exceptions - Practice Scrimmage/Exhibition Game. ~~The following basketball contests (games or scrimmages) are permitted.~~ Prior to the first contest dates specified under 17.5.3., An institution may participate in one of the following:

- "(1) ~~Practice Scrimmages Informal practice scrimmages with outside competition provided they are conducted in privacy without publicity or official scoring.~~ One informal practice scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution, provided it is conducted in privacy without publicity or official scoring and is conducted at a site located within a member institution's state or, outside that state, no more than 200 miles from the institution's campus; or
- "(b) ~~BCA Basketball Classic, Tip Off Classic, Foreign Team in Canada, Great Alaska Shootout, Top of the World Classic, Maui Invitational, NABC Classic. The following basketball games may be played on or after November 7 by a Division I institution.~~ One exhibition game against a non-Division I four-year collegiate institution played in the arena in which the Division I institution regularly plays its home contests.
- "(1) ~~For Division I members only, contests in the BCA Basketball Classic Classic.~~
- "(2) ~~The Basketball Hall of Fame Tip Off Classic.~~
- "(3) ~~All games in the Great Alaska Shootout or Top of the World Classic basketball tournament sponsored by an active member located in Alaska.~~

- ~~"(4) All games in the Maui Invitational men's basketball tournament sponsored by an active member located in Hawaii; or~~
- ~~"(5) Contests in the NABC Classic;~~
- ~~"(c) U.S. Basketball and Foreign Team Games. The two basketball games exempted per Bylaws 17.5.5.2.2 (f), 17.5.5.2.2 (g) and 17.5.5.2.2 (h) may be played on or after October 31;~~
- ~~"(d) Preseason National Invitation Tournament. Participation in the Preseason National Invitation Tournament sponsored by the Metropolitan Intercollegiate Basketball Association. The tournament shall be a 16-team, single elimination event (with one consolation game) conducted each year during the period from November 15 through November 30. Participation in the tournament shall be limited, by institution, to once in any four year period and, by conference, to one institution of a member conference per tournament;~~
- ~~"(e) Preseason Women's National Invitation Tournament. Participation in the Women's preseason National Invitation Tournament sponsored by the Women's Collegiate Sports Association. The tournament shall be a 16-team, team, single elimination event (with one consolation game) conducted each year, starting no sooner than seven days immediately before the start of the regular season. Participation in the tournament shall be limited, by institution, to once in any four year period and, by conference, to one institution of a member conference per tournament."~~

B. Bylaws: Amend 17.5.5, pages 237-239, as follows:

"17.5.5 Number of Contests

"17.5.5.1 Maximum Limitations-Institutional. A member institution shall limit its total regular-season playing schedule with outside competition in the sport of basketball in any one year to ~~28~~ 29 contests (games or scrimmages) except for those contests excluded under Bylaw 17.5.5.2:

[17.5.5.1.1 and 17.5.5.1.2 unchanged.]

"17.5.5.1.3 Maximum Limitations-Student-Athlete. An individual student-athlete may participate each academic year in not more than ~~28~~ 29 basketball contests. This limitation includes those contests in which the student-athlete represents the institution in accordance with 17.02.8, including competition as a member of the varsity, junior varsity or freshman team of the institution. Further, an individual student-athlete may participate each year in only one postseason basketball tournament as a member of the institution's varsity, junior varsity or freshman team.

"17.5.5.2 Annual Exemptions

~~"17.5.5.2.1 Certification Required. A member institution may exempt only participation in the preseason men's or women's National Invitational Tournament from its maximum number of basketball contests, provided it is certified as an annual exemption by the Championships/Competition Cabinet Subcommittee on Special Events pursuant to Bylaw 30.10.1.~~

~~"17.5.5.2.2 Certification Not Required. The following basketball contests each year may be exempted from a member institution's maximum number of contests:~~

[17.5.5.2.2-(a) through 17.5.5.2.2-(e) renumbered as 17.5.5.2-(a) through 17.5.5.2-(e), unchanged.]

~~"(f) Foreign Team in U.S. An exhibition contest against a foreign team in the United States played in the arena in which the member institution regularly plays its home contests. In Division I, an institution may play two exhibition contests against a foreign team in the United States during any year in which it does not utilize the exemption set forth in 17.5.5.2.2 (g) or 17.5.5.2.2 (h) or may play one exhibition contest against a foreign team in the United States and one exhibition contest against a "club" "club" member of USA Basketball or one practice scrimmage as defined in 17.5.5.2.2 (h).~~

~~"(g) USA Basketball Club. For Divisions I and II only, an exhibition contest against a "club" member of USA Basketball played in the arena in which the member institution regularly plays its home contests. In Division I, an institution may play two exhibition contests against a "club" member of USA Basketball during any year in which it does not utilize the exemption set forth in 17.5.5.2.2 (f) or 17.5.5.2.2 (h) or may play one exhibition contest against a "club" member of USA Basketball and one exhibition contest against a foreign team in the United States or one practice scrimmage as defined in 17.5.5.2.2 (h), and~~

~~"(h) Exhibition against a Non-NC.I.1 Division I Four-Year Collegiate Institution. An exhibition contest against a four-year collegiate institution (other than an NC.I.1 Division I institution) played in the arena in which the member institution regularly plays its home contests. An institution may play two exhibition contests against a non-NC.I.1 Division I four-year collegiate institution during any year in which it does not utilize the exemptions set forth in Bylaw 17.5.5.2.2 (f), 17.5.5.2.2 (g) and 17.5.5.2.2 (h), or may play one exhibition contest against a non-NC.I.1 Division I four-year collegiate institution and either one exhibition contest against a "club" member of USA Basketball, one exhibition contest against a foreign team in the United States or one~~

~~practice scrimmage as defined in Bylaw 17.5.5.2.2 (f), and~~

"(f) Practice Scrimmage/Exhibition Game. An institution may participate in one of the following: ~~An informal practice scrimmage with outside competition provided it is conducted in privacy without official scoring. An institution may play two practice scrimmages during any year it does not utilize either of the exemptions set forth in 17.5.5.2.2 (f) or 17.5.5.2.2 (g) or may play one practice scrimmage and either one exhibition contest against a foreign team in the United States or one exhibition contest against a "club" member of U.S.A Basketball.~~

"(1) An informal practice scrimmage with outside competition against a four-year collegiate institution, provided it is conducted in privacy without official scoring and is conducted at a site located within a member institution's state or, outside that state, no more than 200 miles from the institution's campus; or.

"(2) One exhibition game against a non-Division I four-year collegiate institution played in the arena in which the Division I institution regularly plays its home contests.

~~"17.5.5.3 Certified Events. An institution shall be permitted to participate in in no more than one certified event during a given academic year and not more than two certified events every four years. In addition, institutions shall not participate in a certified event in the same state or territory outside the continental United States (i.e., Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands) more than one time during a four-year period. Participation in a certified event shall count as a single contest in the institution's maximum contest limitations. Such events, other than foreign tour (see Bylaw 17.5.5.3.1), must be certified by the Championships/Competition Cabinet Subcommittee on Special Events pursuant to Bylaw 30.10.1. (Note: Those contracts between member institutions and events for participation in certified events during the 1999-00 academic year and thereafter may be honored, provided they were in effect on or before October 30, 1998.)~~

~~"17.5.5.3.1 Exception - Certification Not Required - Foreign Tour. The games played on a foreign basketball tour conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in Bylaw 30.7 do not need to be certified by the Championships/Competition Cabinet Subcommittee on Special Events (see Bylaw 17.30). However, an institution may not engage in such a tour during any year in which it participates in one of the certified events."~~

[17.5.5.4 renumbered as 17.5.5.3 unchanged.]

C. Bylaws: Amend 30.10.1, pages 378-380, as follows:

~~"30.10.1 Basketball Contest Certification. The following criteria must be satisfied for a basketball contest to receive certification from the Championships Competition Cabinet:~~

~~"30.10.1.1 Application Deadline. The application for an exempted event must be received by the Championships Competition Cabinet Subcommittee on Special Events not later than April 15 preceding the academic year in which the event will be conducted.~~

~~"30.10.1.2 Competitive and Cultural Experience. Each exempted event must provide participating student athletes a unique competitive and/or cultural experience. The committee will review an annual report submitted by the event to determine whether the event meets this criterion.~~

~~"30.10.1.3 Sponsoring Agency. The sponsoring organization of any exempted event shall be either an active or affiliated member or a member conference of the Association. An institution that is a sponsoring organization must conduct the sport of basketball on the intercollegiate level. For exempted events in Alaska, Hawaii or Puerto Rico, the sponsoring agency must be an active or provisional N.C.A.A. member located in that state or territory. (Adopted: 1/9/96 effective 8/1/96, Revised:~~

~~"30.10.1.4 Team Selection. The N.C.A.A. institution sponsoring the exempted contest must be responsible for team selection, which must be open to all Division I members.~~

~~"30.10.1.5 Management of Event. Each exempted event must demonstrate that its administration is experienced in managing basketball events, that competition is conducted in a manner compatible with Division I standards and that it is financially sound. If the Championships Competition Cabinet has reason to doubt an event's ability to pay the expenses of the competing institutions as required by 30.10.1.8, it may require event management to post a letter of credit in an amount sufficient to cover all such expenses. An N.C.A.A. member institution participating in the administration of the exempted event must participate in establishing and approving its budget. Sponsors of exempted events are prohibited from charging an entry fee or requiring teams to purchase a minimum number of tickets. A sponsoring organization, at its own expense, may be required to appear before the Championships Competition Cabinet Subcommittee on Special Events.~~

~~"30.10.1.5.1 Participation by Division I Institution. Each exempted event must have at least one Division I institution directly participating in the management of the event for contests played within the 48 contiguous states. For exempted events in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico, at least one N.C.A.A. institution in any division division shall serve in this capacity.~~

~~"30.10.1.6 Financial Report. An annual financial report must be filed by the sponsoring organization on a form and by a date approved by the Management Council. Sponsors shall be required to submit a financial report of the previous event as part of their application for future exemptions. The Association shall conduct an audit of each certified contest once every five years.~~

- ~~"(a) Minimum fee for basketball events \$500~~
- ~~"(b) Basketball events with gross receipts \$1,000 over \$100,000~~
- ~~"(c) Basketball events with gross receipts \$2,500 over one million dollars~~
- ~~"(d) Basketball events with gross receipts \$5,000 over three million dollars~~

~~"The financial report of the previous year's event shall be used to determine the amount of the certification fee, except for new events, for which the fee shall be based on the proposed budget. A Division I institution or conference shall not be required to pay more than \$5,000 in combined fees for events certified under 30.10.1 and 30.10.3.~~

~~"30.10.1.7 Conference Representation. No more than one team from any Division I conference may participate in any one preseason or in-season exempted event during any academic year.~~

~~"30.10.1.8 Reimbursement of Expenses. Each exempted event shall, at a minimum, reimburse the expenses (within 60 days of the event) of each Division I participating institution as follows:~~

- ~~"(a) Travel Party. Travel Party. The size of the official travel party, for which reimbursement shall be made, shall be 18 individuals.~~
- ~~"(b) Travel. Exempted events shall provide a minimum percentage of the official travel party's actual air fare (based on coach fare at the 21 day rate) and/or ground transportation expenses each year, as follows:~~

- ~~"(1) Seventy-five percent of the official travel party's actual air fare and/or ground transportation expenses for men's basketball events conducted during the 2000-01 academic year.~~
- ~~"(2) One hundred percent of the official travel party's actual air fare and/or ground transportation expenses each year for men's basketball events conducted during the 2001-02 academic year and thereafter.~~
- ~~"(3) Seventy-five percent of the official travel party's actual air fare and/or ground transportation expenses each year for women's basketball events conducted during the 2002-03 academic year through the 2005-06 academic year.~~
- ~~"(4) One hundred percent of the official travel party's actual air fare and/or ground transportation expenses each year for women's basketball events conducted during the 2006-07 academic year and thereafter.~~
- ~~"(c) Lodging. Exempted events shall provide lodging for the official travel party for each day of the event, plus one travel day. Rooming assignments shall not exceed three persons per room.~~
- ~~"(d) Per Diem. Exempted events shall provide \$30 per day (for each date of competition and one day of travel) for each member of the official travel party.~~
- ~~"30.10.1.8.1 Waiver. The sponsor of an event located in Alaska or Hawaii or the sponsor of an event in the contiguous 48 states that wishes to invite an institution located in Alaska or Hawaii to the event may request a waiver of the travel reimbursement requirement set forth in 30.10.1.8 (b) from the Championships/Competition Cabinet Subcommittee on Special Events.~~
- ~~"30.10.1.8.2 Exception. There shall be an exception to the reimbursement of expense requirements listed above for any nontournament, regular season event in Alaska and/or Hawaii and in women's basketball for any regular season tournament either against or under the sponsorship of an active N.C.A.A. Division I institution located in Alaska and/or Hawaii.~~

~~"30.10.1.9 Guarantee. Sponsors of exempted events that provide any institution a guarantee to participate in the event must demonstrate that these monies are at least equal to the actual expenses required in 30.10.1.8."~~

~~"30.10.1.10 Insurance. Sponsors of exempted events shall carry general liability insurance and maintain primary comprehensive general coverage listing the N.C.1.1 as an additional insured, with combined single limits of at least \$1 million per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage."~~

~~"30.10.1.11 Missed Class Time. An exempted event shall be scheduled to minimize lost class time for participating student athletes."~~

~~"30.10.1.12 Officials. Officials for the exempted event shall be assigned from an agency that regularly assigns officials for Division I institutions, institutions, and the officials shall be experienced in officiating Division I basketball contests."~~

~~"30.10.1.13 Experimental Rules. An exempted event may be conducted under experimental rules, provided such a request is made by the N.C.1.1 Men's or Women's Basketball Rules Committees and approved by the Championships Cabinet."~~

~~"30.10.1.14 Trademark. The trademark of an exempted contest, if any, must be held by an N.C.1.1 institution."~~

~~"30.10.1.15 Prepayment of Travel Expenses. Sponsors of exempted events may not require participating institutions to make deposits or payments prior to the dates of the competition in excess of \$2,500 and shall not charge a late fee for a deposit not timely received."~~

Source: NCAA Division I Championships and Competition Cabinet (Certified Events Subcommittee).

Effective Date: August 1, 2002. [Note: Those contracts between member institutions and events for participation in certified events subsequent to August 1, 2002 and thereafter may be honored, provided they were in effect on or before July 25, 2000.]

Rationale: Currently, institutions are permitted to participate in 28 countable contests, which includes one certified event and two preseason exhibition contests. Some certified events involve multiple competitive opportunities for participating institutions while other certified events involve only a single basketball contest between the involved participants. This proposal will promote the principle of competitive equity by eliminating the certified event process and establishing a uniformed number of contests in which Division I institutions may participate during the regular playing season. It also will permit institutions to continue to participate in 30 basketball activities (29 regular season contests and one preseason activity). In addition, limits on the number of competitions that are permitted prior to the first regularly scheduled contest date should enhance student-athlete welfare by alleviating some of the demands on basketball student-athletes during what is traditionally a key period of the academic year. This proposal also is consistent with the Association's deregulation efforts and reinforces that institutions should be vested with the responsibility of making individual scheduling decisions in the interest

of the institution with consideration of student-athlete welfare and business interests. [Estimated Budget Impact: None.]



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22-LS0363V  
Luckhaupt  
1/23/01

**CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5( )**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY**

**Offered:**  
**Referred:**

**Sponsor(s): SENATORS LEMAN, Wilken, Pearce, Ellis**

**A RESOLUTION**

1 **Relating to supporting the Great Alaska Shootout, the Top of the World Classic, and**  
2 **similar preseason basketball tournaments, and requesting that the National Collegiate**  
3 **Athletic Association reject legislative proposal No. 2000-106.**

4 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 **WHEREAS** the State of Alaska and many of its institutions participate in interstate  
6 organizations and enter into many interstate agreements for the benefit of Alaska residents  
7 and the residents of other states; and

8 **WHEREAS** one of these interstate organizations is the National Collegiate Athletic  
9 Association (NCAA); and

10 **WHEREAS** the University of Alaska Anchorage's Great Alaska Shootout basketball  
11 tournament and the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Top of the World Classic basketball  
12 tournament are two of the premier early or preseason basketball tournaments for NCAA  
13 member schools; and

14 **WHEREAS** the Great Alaska Shootout began in 1978 and, throughout the past 23  
15 years, has been the host to more than 4,860 male and female student athletes who have been

1 exposed to the unique culture and experience of Alaska while interacting with the people of  
2 Alaska; and

3 **WHEREAS** the Top of the World Classic began in 1996 and provides students in  
4 Fairbanks with the opportunity to meet student athletes from schools participating in the  
5 classic and to interact with positive role models from different areas of the country and  
6 different backgrounds while also exposing the student athletes to the unique culture and  
7 experience of Alaska; and

8 **WHEREAS** the Great Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World Classic provide an  
9 opportunity for Alaska's Division II intercollegiate athletic teams to be exposed to and  
10 compete against Division I schools while providing Alaska elementary and secondary school  
11 students the opportunity to personally witness topflight intercollegiate athletic competition;  
12 and

13 **WHEREAS** the Great Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World Classic have  
14 become a tradition in their respective communities, if not in all of Alaska; create a strong  
15 sense of community excitement and participation while providing a needed boost to the local  
16 economies; and are integral financial contributors to the athletic programs at the University of  
17 Alaska; and

18 **WHEREAS** the Great Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World Classic, along with  
19 tournaments such as the Black Coaches Association Classic, the Tip Off Classic, the Maui  
20 Invitational, Coaches Against Cancer, and other tournaments conducted in Hawaii, Puerto  
21 Rico, and other locales, are classified as "certified" events under current NCAA regulations,  
22 which means that games played at these tournaments count as a single contest under the 28-  
23 basketball-game limit that each NCAA Division I member may schedule each year; and

24 **WHEREAS**, on October 25 - 26, 2000, the NCAA Division I Management Council  
25 adopted legislative proposal No. 2000-106, which would limit NCAA Division I member  
26 institutions to 29 basketball games and one exhibition contest or scrimmage each year and  
27 would eliminate the exemption for games played at basketball tournaments such as the Great  
28 Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World Classic, thereby eliminating an incentive for a  
29 NCAA member institution to participate in these tournaments; and

30 **WHEREAS** the NCAA Division I Management Council and Board of Directors are  
31 scheduled to consider legislative proposal No. 2000-106 in April 2001;

1           **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges that the NCAA Division I  
2 Management Council and Board of Directors recognize the positive contribution that  
3 tournaments such as the Great Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World Classic make to the  
4 lives and experiences of the student athletes who participate in the tournaments and to the  
5 communities that sponsor the tournaments; and be it

6           **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the NCAA Division  
7 I Management Council and Board of Directors to reject legislative proposal No. 2000-106;  
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9           **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges all NCAA member  
10 institutions that have participated in the Great Alaska Shootout or the Top of the World  
11 Classic, their coaches, and their students to contact their conference officials and the members  
12 of the NCAA Division I Management Council and Board of Directors to urge the rejection of  
13 legislative proposal No. 2000-106.

14           **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to all NCAA Division I Board of Directors;  
15 all members of the NCAA Division I Management Council; Cedric Dempsey, President of the  
16 NCAA; Dave Schnase, National Office, NCAA; David Berst, Chief of Staff for Division I,  
17 NCAA; Mark Hamilton, President of the University of Alaska; and to the Honorable Ted  
18 Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,  
19 U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

During Session, January - May:  
State Capitol, Room 115  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907) 465-2095  
465-3810 FAX




During Interim, June - December:  
716 W 4th Ave, Suite 520  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 269-0240  
269-0242 FAX

## Senator Loren Leman

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Gene Therriault, Chairman  
Senate State Affairs

FROM: Senator Loren Leman 

DATE: January 18, 2001

RE: SJR 5- National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) resolution

Please schedule at your earliest convenience a hearing on SJR 5 – relating to opposition to National Collegiate Athletic Association legislative proposal 2000-106.

The proposal before the NCAA would adversely affect, if not eliminate, pre-season basketball tournaments, including the Great Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World Classic. There is a public comment period that officially ends January 30, 2001. It is my intent to have this resolution passed by that date, thus the need to hear SJR 5 next week.

Senator Wilken has introduced a similar resolution, SJR 4. After working with Senator Wilken, it is our intent to substitute a committee substitute that essentially replaces the text of SJR 5 with the language of SJR 4.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please call me at extension 2095.

# Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR  
GENE THERRIAULT

Mailing Address:  
119 N. Cushman, Suite 101  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
(907) 488-0857  
Fax: (907) 488-4271



Senate

While in session  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska  
99801-1182  
(907) 465-4797  
Fax: (907) 465-3884  
Senate District Q

Date: 1/23/01  
4

Number of Pages including cover: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Ann Ringstad  
Fax: 474-7520  
From: Joe

Re: Please let me know if there's  
anything the committee should  
correct/revise.

22-LS0363\F  
Luckhaupt  
1/22/01  
*Leman*  
1:22:01

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19 Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,  
20 U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.