

January 30, 1992

36 Legislative Council Bill #15

University of Colorado  
Student Union

Sponsored by: CCS Speaker Edward J. Batchelor  
Music Representative Tony Spano, Jr.

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A BILL

BILL HISTORY

As stated in the Colorado Daily of January 17, 1992:

"In 1980, the football team had a record of one win and 10 losses. At the same time, the athletic department was set to overspend its budget by \$1 million.

To get the program in the black, the regents killed seven varsity sports. Simultaneously, they imposed a mandatory, \$10 per-student, per-semester athletic fee. That fee was called a "Title IX" fee. It was supposed to meet Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments; Title IX forbids sexual discrimination in any federally funded educational program. In short, the athletic fee was to bring "equity" to men's and women's sports." (Talbot, C., p.12)

It is obvious that equity has not been achieved with this "Title IX" fee. Even when the original fee was allocated to be only for women's sports, the first year (1981-82) generated \$387,250 in fees of which only \$242,810 comprised the entire women's sports budget. Presently, the athletic fee is still earmarked for women's athletics. This year, the fee generated \$1.5 million while the women's sports budget was \$827,875.

Ceal Barry became coach of the Lady Buffs basketball team in 1983 and has led the team to finish at or near the top of the Big Eight Conference. She is reported to earn \$53,000 annually. Joe Harrington, who was hired about 19 months ago, is guaranteed \$160,000 annually to coach the men's basketball team. Unfortunately, the men's basketball team has finished at the bottom of the Big Eight in five of the last six years.

February 1980

Q. Do you favor or oppose increasing student fees by \$30 per year to help fund CU's NCAA Intercollegiate Athletics, in return for free student admission and the best seating for all CU athletic events.

FAVOR 760

OPPOSE 1878

45 Q. Do you favor or oppose increasing student fees by  
\$30 per year to help fund CU's Intercollegiate  
Athletics? (Note: If this passes all students  
would still have to separately purchase tickets  
to football and basketball games)

FAVOR 134 OPPOSE 2521

50 February 1981

Q. Should the Board of Regents continue the assessment  
of the student fee subsidy to the athletic department  
(currently \$10 per semester)?

55 YES 889 NO 3535

October 1981

60 Q. Do you think tuition dollars should be used to  
fund any varsity athletic endeavors including  
athletic scholarships?

YES 539 NO 1939

65 Q. Should the University of Colorado Student Union (UCSU)  
request and fund an independent and comprehensive audit  
of the University of Colorado Athletic Department to  
be conducted by a reputable non-University, non-State  
agency?

YES 2073 NO 376

70 April 1985

Q. Would you be willing to pay a \$10 or more per-student,  
per-semester student fee that goes towards  
intercollegiate varsity athletics in order to  
retire projected athletic department deficits  
and improve the quality of varsity sports at CU?

75 YES 1351 NO 2881

April 1991

80 Q. Should the University of Colorado students be required  
to pay athletic fees (which currently stand at \$33 a  
semester) to subsidize the operating budget of the  
CU athletic department?

YES 1197 NO 4328

85 There has been speculation as to how to make the athletic fee  
more equitable to the students. When many students buy season  
tickets to the football games and attend many other sporting  
events, they will pay \$76 per year to the athletic department. 1  
But students who never attend a single event still pay \$66 per  
year.

90 The current suggestion to solve this equity problem is to have  
students pay higher ticket prices and a lower athletic fee. A  
"universal sports pass" has been one example that could be bought  
for an entire year, covering all sporting events.

100 This plan could benefit the Big Eight Conference with increased revenue in ticket sales, according to Bill Marolt, CU's Athletic Director. And this plan could benefit the students of the University of Colorado by taxing the students who use the services provided by the athletic department and put less of a burden on the students who don't use them.

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105 **BILL SUMMARY**

A referenda question shall be placed on the Spring 1992 UCSU ballot to measure whether or not students would pay higher ticket prices for athletic events in return for a lower athletic fee.

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110 **BE IT ENACTED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Student Union, THAT:**

115 **SECTION 1:** The referenda question so presented in SECTION 2 will be placed on the spring 1992 UCSU election ballot.

120 **SECTION 2:** "Should University of Colorado students pay higher athletic event ticket prices in return for a lower athletic fee (currently \$33 per-student, per-semester)?"

**SECTION 3:** This bill takes effect upon passage.

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125 **1/30/92 - Tabled 13-3-1**