

West Virginia University Compliance Monthly

February 2007

Michael Franzese Coming to WVU on March 13 & 14

Former Mafia Leader to Educate WVU Student-Athletes, Coaches, &
Staff on the Dangers of Sports Wagering



Event Information

	Student-Athletes, Coaches	Administrators & Non- coaching Personnel
Date	3/13/07	3/14/07
Time	7 PM	9 AM
Location	Mountainlair Ballroom	Jerry West Lounge

Attendance is mandatory for all student-athletes,
coaches, and athletic department staff.

Michael Franzese (pictured above) was alternately referred to by the media and members of law enforcement alike, as the New York Mob's "Long Island Don" and "The Prince of the Mafia." He was once the primary target of a massive, fourteen agency government task force that "had one assignment---to bring down the Mafia's youngest and most financially powerful new superstar, Michael Franzese." At the height of his mob activity, Michael was "one of the biggest money earners the mob had seen since Al Capone, and the youngest individual on Fortune magazine's survey of "The Fifty Biggest Mafia Bosses." (Vanity Fair Magazine).

Franzese is now a man on a mission. Determined to use the compelling experiences of his former life for the benefit of at-risk youth, professional and student athletes, corporate executives and for anyone seeking the inspiration to beat the odds and make positive changes in their lives, he has become a highly regarded motivator and a source of invaluable information.

It began when Michael got an offer he couldn't refuse. One afternoon, while he was walking in the prison yard, a command dreaded by all inmates blared over the loudspeaker.... "Michael Franzese, report to the Warden's office." This order is rarely followed by good news. His heart sank when he entered the office and was met by two FBI agents dispatched from headquarters in Washington DC., which would normally mean even worse news. Not on this day. (continued on page 2)

Visit Compliance on the Internet

To visit the Compliance Page on MSNsportsNET, simply go to www.MSNsportsNET.com and select "NCAA Compliance" from the "Departments" menu on the left side of the screen.

(Franzese, continued from Page 1)

The agents were there to recruit Michael to participate in a program designed to educate professional athletes about the dangers of gambling. Michael knew the world of gambling and sports - he knew it from first hand knowledge from the side of the Mafia. That meeting with the FBI was the beginning of something very new for Michael. He recorded a video taped message that would be presented to professional and collegiate athletes, warning them about the danger of gambling, and the impact it can ultimately have on their career.

Since that time, Michael has been a featured guest at the NBA and MLB rookie camps, featured on ESPN, Fox Sports, and HBO Real Sports. He was recently a guest on the Jim Rome show (radio and TV), as well as NPR's "All Things Considered," Armed forces Radio, CNN and Fox News.

Content from www.michaelfranzese.com

Compliance # of the Month

4,170

Number of Individual Prospects Evaluated by WVU Coaches in 2005-06

Big East Special Assistance Fund

Please let your student-athletes know the deadline for the Big East Special Assistance Fund is April 5, 2007 - which is the week after Spring Break. All receipts must be turned in by that date or the student-athlete will forfeit his or her award money.

New Rule Interp You Need to Know

Hearing Opportunity when Written Permission to Contact Four-Year College Prospect is Delayed (I)

Date Issued: Dec 12, 2006

The committee confirmed that if an institution delays a response to a student-athlete's request for permission to contact any other four-year institution or indicates that permission will be granted at a later date (e.g., at the end of the term), the institution must inform the student-athlete in writing within a reasonable time period following the initial request that he or she, on request, will be provided a hearing. [References: Bylaws 13.1.1.3 (four-year college prospects) and 13.1.1.3.1 (hearing opportunity).

Source: NCAA Legislative Services Database

February Reminders

- It is almost that time of the year again when the Compliance Office will be sending out Clearinghouse Web Status Reports on a regular basis. In order to get a preliminary look at the status of your signees and invited walkons, you must provide the prospect's social security number to Larissa in the Compliance Office.
- Phone logs are due by the 5th of each month
- Practice logs are due by the 5th of each month
- All athletic department personnel who are going to be involved with an outside sports team, particularly those consisting of prospect aged individuals, must complete a "Prior Approval for Outside Teams" form. The form is available on the Compliance page on MSNsportsNET.com.
- Be sure to remind any of your student-athletes who will be working a non-WVU camp or playing for an outside team that they must register with the Compliance Office prior to engaging in these activities.

Institutional Note Cards - Changes On the Way

As previously discussed in Rules Education meetings, Bylaw 13.4.1.1-(i) will be changed to the following, effective 8/1/07:

"(i) Institutional Note Cards. Institutional note cards that are provided to prospective student-athletes may not exceed 8 1/2 by 11 inches when opened in full. In addition, such cards may only contain the institution's name and logo or an athletics logo on the outside and may not include any preprinted information on the inside."

Here are some guidelines and FAQ about the changes to the note card regulations:

Outside of the Institutional Note Card:

Institutional Logo OR Athletic Department Logo (can be sport specific as long as it is one of your normal *trademark*) logos AND Name of Institution

Nothing else can be included on the outside of the card. Please note that this means you cannot include a 2nd logo, borders, etc. on the outside of the card.

Inside of the Institutional Note Card:

It needs to be completely blank on the inside of the note card. Please note that this means you cannot include borders, logos, pre-printed information, etc. on the inside of the card.

Question: Is it permissible to include multiple logos on the outside of the note card?

Answer: No. Each card may include the institution's name and either a single institutional logo or a single athletics logo.

Question: What would constitute "preprinted information?"

Answer: Based on the intent of the legislation, the inside of the note cards must be blank when they are received from the publisher or printer that produces the cards. Therefore, any printing on the inside would constitute "preprinted information."

Question: Is it permissible to print a message on the inside of the note card through a printer or copier?

Answer: The NCAA Division I Legislative Review/Interpretations Committee reviewed this question and determined that only handwritten information may be added to the inside of the note card.

Question: How does the proposal apply to cards that are not folded or that are not folded in half?

Answer: Even if an institutional note card is not folded, one side must be considered the outside and the other must be considered the inside. If a card is not folded in half (e.g., fold), when the card is opened in full, one complete side must be considered the outside and the other must be considered the inside. Note that a card mailed without an envelope is considered a postcard and, therefore, must be a blank card issued by the U.S. Postal Service.

Need a copy of a Compliance form? Check out the Compliance page on MSNsportsNET.com

March Madness: Don't Bet On It!



WVU student-athletes,
coaches, and staff members
are not permitted to
participate in NCAA
Tournament pools or any other
form of sports wagering.

What Were They Thinking? Violations from Other Schools

Bylaws Violated: 11.1.5 and 16.11.2.1

On October 22, 2005, the head football coach and the football coaching staff provided cigars to football student-athletes (SAs) in the locker room following a football contest. Specifically, the coach and the football coaching staff mistakenly believed that because the cigars were not lit and were not being smoked, it was not a violation for the cigars to be provided to the student-athletes. The cigars had a value of \$1.57 each.

What happened next?:

Subsequent to the discovery of the extra benefit violation, each SA that was part of the dressing party was ruled ineligible on Monday, October 25, 2005. As a condition of reinstatement, each SA reimbursed \$2.00 (actual cost \$1.57 per cigar) for the impermissible cigar to the athletics compliance office on Wednesday, October 27, 2005. This repayment will be forwarded to a charitable organization as part of the reinstatement conditions. Each SA's eligibility has been restored per NCAA bylaw 16.01.1.1 and documentation of each SA's name and the total repayment receipt has been attached. Issued a letter of reprimand to the head coach discussing the appropriate legislation. The football program will include an educational session on the use of tobacco products as part of the drug education program presented to all football SAs during the first week of football camp in August 2006 and each year thereafter. Source: NCAA Legislative Services Database

Due to the Upcoming NCAA Tournament... A 2nd "What Were They Thinking" Sports Wagering Violations from Other Schools

Bylaws Violated: 10.3

During the 2003 fall semester, a men's track and field SA solicited bets on professional and collegiate contests. Although the SA had received rules education regarding the prohibition of being involved in any gambling activities, the SA accepted bets from three individuals who were not associated with the athletics department. No other student-athletes were involved with the SA's gambling activities.

What happened next?

The institution's athletic department reported the incident to the institution's police and to the Student Judiciary Office. The SA has been dismissed from the track team and his scholarship has been cancelled. He has been declared ineligible for practice and competition for one calendar year. Gambling issues will again be addressed again in the next Student Athlete Advisory Committee rules education session, as well as in the next coaches' rules education session. Source: NCAA Legislative Services Database

Where are they now?

A monthly look at a former WVU Compliance staff member and their current position in NCAA Compliance

Keli Cunningham, graduate assistant during part of the 2002-03 academic year, is now Assistant Athletics Director for Compliance at the University of Maryland

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