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Judge slams big-time abuse

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The warning issued by U.S. District Judge George M. Marovich to college coaches, administrators and boosters deserves repeating. They could be next in line. In sentencing sports agents **Norby Walters** and **Lloyd Bloom** to prison for signing amateur college athletes to improper professional contracts, Judge Marovich expressed his and the public's dismay at the state of college athletics.

Who deserves any sympathy? Not the colleges and not coaches like Barry Switzer who announced his resignation as football coach at the University of Oklahoma on Monday, saying he was frustrated by the NCAA rules that don't "recognize the financial needs of young athletes."

If it's no fun anymore, it's because at too many big-time colleges sports has become, at best, a big-time business and, at worst, a big-time racket.

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