

SPORTS

College swimmers, volleyball players sue NCAA over transgender policies



AP

Administrations change, our mission endures.

AP delivers accurate, nonpartisan reporting that holds power to account and informs four billion people daily. Support independent journalism.

DONATE

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Atlanta, details the shock Gaines and other swimmers felt when they learned they would have to share a locker room with Thomas at the championships in Atlanta. It documents a number of races they swam in with Thomas, including the 200-yard final in which Thomas and Gaines tied for fifth but Thomas, not Gaines, was handed the fifth-place trophy.

Thomas swam for Pennsylvania. She competed for the men's team at Penn before her gender transition.

Thomas was the first openly transgender athlete to win a Division I title in any sport, finishing in front of three Olympic medalists for the championship. By not making the final, the lawsuit mentions that Florida swimmer Tylor Mathieu, who was not a plaintiff, was denied first-team All-American honors in that event.

Other plaintiffs included athletes from volleyball and track.

RELATED STORIES



As college sports move toward pay for play, Title IX looms as another hurdle for the NCAA



Georgia Republicans recommend further law to restrict transgender women's participation in sports



New York roller derby league loses bid to temporarily block ban on trans athletes

The lawsuit said the plaintiffs “bring this case to secure for future generations of women the promise of Title IX that is being denied them and other college women” by the NCAA.



White House says Colombia agrees to take deported migrants after Trump tariff showdown

Trump wants Egypt and Jordan to take in Palestinians from Gaza. Here's why the idea is rejected

Trump wants Jordan and Egypt to accept more Palestinian refugees and floats plan to 'clean out' Gaza

Commanders warned referees can 'award a score' after 4 penalties near goal line in loss to Eagles

Taylor Swift watches boyfriend Travis Kelce and the Chiefs beat the Bills and get back to Super Bowl

In policy reversal, Trump eliminates help for Black and Latino communities hit harder by pollution

“College sports are the premier stage for women’s sports in America, and while the NCAA does not comment on pending litigation, the Association and its members will continue to promote Title IX, make unprecedented investments in women’s sports and ensure fair competition in all NCAA championships,” the NCAA said in a statement.

In 2022, the NCAA revised its policies on transgender athlete participation in what they called an attempt to align with national sports governing bodies.

The third phase of the revised policy adds national and international sports governing body standards to the NCAA’s rules and is scheduled to be implemented for the 2024-25 school year.

The lawsuit also lists the University of Georgia system as a defendant because one of its schools, Georgia Tech, hosted the 2022 championships. The suit seeks to halt the NCAA from employing its transgender eligibility policies “which adversely impact female athletes in violation of Title IX” at upcoming events being held in Georgia.

Representatives from the Georgia schools said they had not been served with the lawsuit and would not comment.

AP college sports: <https://apnews.com/hub/college-sports>





The Associated Press

Advancing the Power of Facts

The Associated Press is an independent global news organization dedicated to factual reporting. Founded in 1846, AP today remains the most trusted source of fast, accurate, unbiased news in all formats and the essential provider of the technology and services vital to the news business. More than half the world's population sees AP journalism every day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

[AP.ORG](#) ↗

[CAREERS](#) ↗

[ADVERTISE WITH US](#) ↗

[CONTACT US](#)

[ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT](#)

[TERMS OF USE](#)

[PRIVACY POLICY](#)

[YOUR PRIVACY CHOICES](#)

[DO NOT SELL OR SHARE MY PERSONAL INFORMATION](#) ↗

[LIMIT USE AND DISCLOSURE OF SENSITIVE PERSONAL INFORMATION](#) ↗

[CA NOTICE OF COLLECTION](#) ↗

MORE FROM AP NEWS

[ABOUT](#) ↗

[AP NEWS VALUES AND PRINCIPLES](#) ↗

[AP'S ROLE IN ELECTIONS](#) ↗

[AP LEADS](#) ↗

[AP DEFINITIVE SOURCE BLOG](#) ↗

[AP IMAGES SPOTLIGHT BLOG](#) ↗

[AP STYLEBOOK](#) ↗

Copyright 2025 The Associated Press. All Rights Reserved.

