

# NCAA rules against Shepard

**United Press International**  
**HOUSTON** — Illegally recruited University of Houston quarterback Darrell Shepard has been told by the NCAA he cannot play in a bowl game the remainder of his collegiate career unless he transfers to another school.

Shepard Monday received a May 7 letter from the NCAA informing him that Houston's appeal of Shepard's bowl ban was refused, a spokesman for the Houston athletic department said.

Athletic department officials upset about the decision released the news and the contents of the letter.

"The (eligibility) committee voted to confirm its previous decision to deny the university's appeal for restoration of the young man's post-season eligibility at the University of Houston," the letter said.

Houston athletic officials interpreted parts of the letter as a suggestion that he go to another school.

"The committee requests that the University of Houston inform Shepard of the committee's decision and inform him of his opportunity to transfer to another member institution," the letter said.

Neither Shepard nor head football coach Bill Yeoman could be reached for comment.

The 5-10, 180-pound athlete has three years of eligibility remaining after red-shirting in 1978. He finished the Cougars' spring training as the third-string quarterback.

When Shepard was not allowed by the NCAA to suit up for the 1979 Cotton Bowl, Houston Athletic Director Harry Fouke appealed the bowl ban imposed in 1977.

"I think they (the NCAA) made the wrong decision," Fouke said.

Shepard, 20, embarrassed Texas coach Fred Akers on the Southwest Conference signing date in 1977 by breaching a verbal commitment and leaving Akers standing at his Odessa, Texas doorstep with a contract to be signed. Shepard signed later in the day with Houston.

Houston was found by the NCAA to have illegally recruited Shepard by helping him finance a car and by exceeding the number of allowable visits with him. The NCAA sanctions banned the Cougars from playing in a 1977 bowl and from playing in bowl games was made to cover his collegiate career while at Houston because the illegal recruitment occurred before he had decided to go to Houston, an NCAA official said.

NCAA Executive Assistant

# New FCA structure dedicated

**United Press International**  
**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** — The new national headquarters for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, a \$1.6-million structure built on a hill overlooking the Harry S. Truman Sports Complex, was dedicated Monday.

"We have built our new building on a hill so that everyone can see the work of the Lord," said Durand Holladay, chairman of the FCA national board of trustees and a Charlotte, N.C. businessman. "Every time we look at this building, it will remind us of what commitment and love of God can do."

During the hour-long ceremonies, Holladay and Tom Landry, coach of the Dallas Cowboys and past chairman of the board, were presented keys to the building.

The FCA's National Recognition Banquet, held Monday night at the posh Crown Center Hotel, was attended by about 1,300 people. During the banquet, awards were presented to high school, college and professional athletes who have committed themselves to the ideals of FCA.

Landry received the top coaching award. Brooks Robinson, former All-Star third baseman for the Baltimore Orioles, was named the outstanding professional athlete. Cindy Andrews, an Arizona State volleyball player, and Scott Hall, a Wheaton (Ill.) College quarterback, were voted outstanding college athletes. Cam Cameron, Terre Haute, Ind., and Joyce Gibson, Tama, Iowa, received high school awards.

Three persons received the Branch Rickey Award, an award for service to the FCA. They were Gladys Kelce of Kansas City; Don Moyers of Tulsa, Okla., and the Rev. Roe Johnston of LaGrange, Ill.

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# 1954 Ags reunite in hill country

**United Press International**  
**JUNCTION** — Paul "Bear" Bryant said recently his 1954 football team at Texas A&M University may not have won many games, but it represented some of the toughest and classiest young men he has known.

Bryant, now head coach at the University of Alabama, and members of the 1954 Aggie team, which survived one of the most grueling training camps ever conducted in Texas, gathered for their first reunion in 25 years Friday at the scene of the camp.

The 10-day training camp, conducted in this remote town at the height of a drought in scorching temperatures, began with about 100 trainees and when it ended, only 27 of them were left.

"This turned out to be the nucleus of the bunch that won the Southwest Conference in 1956, the first time the Aggies ever won it," said Joe Beck, manager of the Kimble County Chamber of Commerce which helped make arrangements for the reunion.

Bryant, in an effort to build one of the many winning football teams he has coached over the years, selected Junction because of its remoteness and because at the time Texas A&M operated an adjunct campus in the hill country town. The campus is now operated by Texas Tech University.

Many names among the 27 who lasted through the camp and went on to play on the 1956 team — which won 10 games, suffered no losses and had one tie — are household names in the sporting world today.

They include Jack Pardee, now head coach of the Washington Redskins; Jerry Caliberne, head coach at the University of Maryland; Marvin Tate, athletic director at Texas A&M; Don Watson and Dee Powell, both former assistant coaches at Texas A&M; Gene Stallings, assistant coach for the Dallas Cowboys; Tom Tips, an assistant for the Green Bay Packers; and Willie Zapalac, an assistant for the Buffalo Bills.

The other players also went on to make their marks in the athletic or business world, them being tried chicken Joe Schero of Houston, who up to Dallas in his private plane to bring Stallings down for hours of reunion before he turned for the Cowboys' camp Saturday.

"I have a lot of memories that year," Bryant said. "They didn't beat many that year, but they had a class and came back after Saturday."



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