

Sports

NCAA letter informs UT of 19 rule violations

AUSTIN (AP) — The NCAA has sent a letter to the University of Texas alleging football rules violations in 19 categories over a seven-year period, some of them involving David McWilliams, a former assistant and now head coach.

McWilliams admitted Monday he made mistakes as an assistant and "was wrong in doing it."

The NCAA has been investigating the Longhorns' football program since September 1985, according to UT President William Cunningham and Knox Nunnally, a Houston lawyer hired by UT to conduct an internal investigation.

Each category listed in the NCAA's Letter of Official Inquiry, which covers a period from 1980 to 1986, contains one or more allegations of rules violations, Nunnally said.

The allegations include loans and gifts of small amounts of cash to athletes, the loan of automobiles, the employment of a prospective recruit by a UT alum while the athlete still was in high school, free auto transportation between an athlete's home and his future employer's business, and entertainment cash in excess of that allowed by NCAA rules for athletes who host recruits during visits to the campus, Nunnally said.

The NCAA also contends that extra benefits were provided to athletes in the form of free meals, free dental and legal services, and the sale of complimentary football tickets in violation of NCAA rules.

Athletic Director DeLoss Dodds on Monday characterized the listed violations as minor.

The Texas program "has withstood the scrutiny of this investigation and has emerged with no major blemish," he said.

McWilliams, 44, is mentioned with others as providing cash for athletes or arranging for athletes to receive money, some of which was repaid.

The NCAA also said McWil-

liams and others arranged for athletes to receive the free use of automobiles and that McWilliams loaned his car to athletes on two occasions — once to drive another athlete to class and another time to conduct personal business.

"On one instance, I did loan an athlete a small amount of money to go home," McWilliams said at a news conference. "On another instance, an athlete who had flunked out of school was not able to get his transcript to try to transfer to another school — I did help him . . . and I did loan my car for a period of 20-25 minutes to an athlete for some personal business."

Asked if he considered the acts serious, McWilliams said, "They were certainly serious because they're wrong . . . Certainly I made a mistake on those things, and I was wrong in doing it . . . I apologize to the University of Texas, its alumni and anyone else I caused this embarrassment to."

Before the press conference, Cunningham told the University Council he wanted to apologize to students, faculty and staff at UT and the public "for any violations of the NCAA rules that may have occurred in the football program."

"At the University of Texas at Austin, the violation of rules is simply unacceptable," he said.

Cunningham said he met Monday with Dodds, McWilliams and assistant athletic directors and football coaches.

"My message was and is a simple and direct one: Anyone who knowingly violates NCAA rules, or who is involved in a coverup of NCAA violations, will be terminated from the university," Cunningham said.

Dodds said, "I don't think there will be anybody terminated who's on the staff at this time."

The university received the letter from the NCAA on Friday and released it Monday. Nunnally said UT's response should be filed by April 13.

Aggies gain split with Cornhuskers

By Hal L. Hammons
Sports Writer

The Texas A&M softball team salvaged a split of a double-header with Nebraska Monday at the Penberthy Intramural Complex, but it took an extra inning of play in the second game to do it.

The win and loss to the No. 4-ranked Cornhuskers made the Lady Aggies 27-3 on the season. Nebraska went to 15-4.

With no score at the end of the scheduled seven innings of the second game, the Lady Cornhuskers finally touched Lady Aggie pitcher Shawn Andaya for a run in the top of the eighth. A&M had been equally powerless against Nebraska pitcher Donna Dearthoff but found its bats just in time.

A&M third baseman Judy Trussell opened the inning with a double. Shortstop Liz Mizera followed with a double of her own that hung in the air too long to score Trussell.

After designated hitter Tory Parks popped out and pitcher Shawn Andaya was intentionally walked, center fielder Erin Newkirk singled to score Trussell and tie the score. Catcher Carrie Heightley grounded to the shortstop, but the throw to the plate was in the dirt, allowing Mizera to score the game-winner.

Carpenter allowed three runs in the first inning of the opener before settling down. She shut out the Nebraska batters afterwards, allowing only three hits. However, the three-run lead held up as Nebraska's All-America pitcher Lori Sippel scattered nine hits and two runs to pick up the win.

A&M Coach Bob Brock said, "Julie Carpenter is pitching as well as anybody in the nation — after the first inning."

Brock said his team was having trouble leaving runners on base, and he attributed that to waiting to start rallies with two outs. In the loss, the Lady Aggies left five runners on base in the last three innings, four of whom were in scoring position.

The loss broke a string of 20 consecutive wins for the Lady Aggies.



Photo by Bill Hughes

Nebraska catcher Ruth Chatwin tags out A&M's Julie Smith during the Aggies' 3-2 loss to the

Cornhuskers in the first game of a double-header Monday. A&M won the second game 2-1.

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