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# Bowl situation settled, but foggier than even

ing to bowls, even though they wanted to. Brigham Young and Nebraska are going to bowls, but not the ones they wanted to. And Florida and Florida State are going to THE bowl, but they're not the teams the fans wanted. Except those from Florida, of course.

It seems like it wasn't until the bowl picture got settled that it got confusing.

"I'm terribly disappointed for Wyoming, especially the student-athletes, coaches and fans," WAC commissioner Karl Benson said. "They

were certainly deserving of a bowl game. At least Notre Dame, 8-3 and ranked 18th in the final AP poll, reluctantly chose not to go after losing to Southern Cal, failing to qualify for one of the biggies. They'll stay home for the first time since 1986.

"At Notre Dame, we expect the best and we deserve the best," offensive guard Mike Rosenthal said, speaking for the majority of his teammates. "The team agreed that if there wasn't a top bowl, there shouldn't be any bowl.

Wyoming finished 10-2 and ranked 22nd, but it lost the WAC title to BYU 28-25 in overtime on Saturday and didn't get a bid. The Cowboys would have gone just about anywhere if asked.

It's no longer for the kids," Wyoming Athletic Director Lee Moon said, admitting that Wyoming's problem was it only had 3,500 fans it could send to a bowl game. And it's a travesty that a team gets excluded simply "because

you can't generate a large fan base," he said. At the same time, BYU had to settle for a lesser bowl, a matchup with Kansas State in the non-alliance Cotton Bowl, despite a 13-1 season and No. 5 national ranking.

Four of the alliance teams — Texas, Nebraska, Virginia Tech and Penn State — are ranked lower than BYU. BYU and the WAC were so upset they are still considering legal action.

"At this juncture, a decision has not been made whether to file any type of claim," the WAC commissioner said. "We believe it's more important over the course of the next month to focus on the success of BYU and Utah in their bowl games and let our bowl partners conduct games without a cloud of controversy. As a result, we will delay the possibility of any legal action."

Another WAC team, Utah, is in the low-profile Copper Bowl.

At least No. 6 Nebraska remained in a bowl alliance game, matched against No. 10 Virginia Tech in the Orange Bowl, although a loss to Texas in the Big 12 championship game cost the Cornhuskers a shot at a third straight national championship.

For many, Florida-Florida State is just a rerun, and with No. 2 Arizona State going against No. 4 Ohio State in the Rose Bowl, it might not even be for the national title.

In the game of the century two weeks ago, Florida State beat then-No. 1 Florida 24-21 in a nail-biter.

College Bowl matchups



'You would think that if you beat N ing the regular season, you wouldn't h beat them twice," Florida State coach B

Of course, Bowden's team is No. 1, for

# Barkley expected to play Oilers becoming frustrate tonight despite foot injury

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston station KRIV. "I had a little Rockets forward Charles Barkley missed Monday's workout with a foot injury, but

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (AP) -

Some 20 years after fulfilling his

Alabama, Mike Dubose got Bryant's old job and with it the

pressure of preserving the tra-

dition the coaching great

started years ago.
Athletic director Bob

Bockrath announced the

hiring Monday at a news

conference packed with

former players and oth-

abama "family."

er alumni, many of whom pushed for Gene Stallings'

replacement to come from the Al-

Bockrath said details of Dubose's

He said he expected the deal to be come true.'

expects to play on Tuesday against the Minnesota Timberwolves.

"Thank God it's not a stress fracture, but obviously right now I am in a lot of pain,'



**Dubose to succeed Stallings** 

CRIMSON TIDE

contract have not been worked out. hard and be patient, dreams do

problem jumping the past couple of games.

Barkley said doctors told him he had a neuroma, a benign tumor of nerve tissue that develops as a result of damage to a nerve.

"The foot thing does concern me and hopefully it will get better," Barkley said before leaving with the team for Tuesday night's game. "The last game I played I didn't feel I played with confidence. I feel like every time I get ready to juimp, the next step I Barkley told Houston television take it's going to break."

at least three years, maybe longer.

Michigan.

record.

"I hope every citizen in the state of Alabama ... that this will

send this message to them: Don't be

afraid to dream. And don't be afraid

to dream big. Because if you work

### HOUSTON (AP) — Frustration, season. They can't win the a condition common to the ones and their mistakes

Houston Oilers during their recent slide, is beginning to show.

The harder they try, the more mistakes they seem to make, and that was clear on Sunday as the Oilers committed four turnovers and two critical penalties in a 23-17 loss to the Jacksonville Jaguars.

It was the Oilers' fifth loss in seven games, and led emotional cornerback Cris Dishman, an Oiler for nine seasons, to say he's had enough.

"For the next two weeks I'll be proud to wear the Houston Oilers Oilers' turnovers. All three A bundle of t uniform, but after that ... I need a change," said Dishman, the Oilers' franchise player

Stallings will coach Alabama "I don't intend to be back. dream of playing for Bear Bryant at
Alabama. Mike Dubose got

Statings this code.

through its Jan. 1 appearance in
the Outback Bowl against I'm frustrated with everything, it's the big picture, the coaches, players myself, everything. In order to do what's right for my-"This is proof that dreams do come true," said Dubose, self I need a change.

43, the team's defensive co-Dishman, whose contract exordinator and a member of pires in the off-season, said he Bryant's Crimson Tide teams during 1972-74, couldn't imagine playing for the Oilers next season. who compiled a 32-4

"If God tapped me on the shoulder and said 'You've got to stay with the Houston Oilers,' I'd ask him if I could retire," Dishman said.

The Oilers started the year 5but they've gone 2-5 since then continuing a problem trodome this season, inc that's been around since last losses in a row.

at critical times.

Coach Jeff Fisher admitte was angered by Dishman's or ments after Sunday's game. by Monday, he was putting best spin on the incident.

"Cris' comments were a I remembere product of the frustration yo when you work so hard to On Physics! ( and press to win the

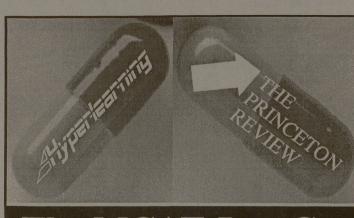
nd press to win the So up to the three games (of the With a bag fu son) to get into the offs and then to los And then in a way we did," Fi said. "We're all trated." Quarterba Down to the Steve Mol He was dress

had three of the Oilers points. A rough the-passer penalty against Walker in the fourth que He had a nice and a defensive holding And I laughe against Dishman in the The notes I h quarter kept Jaguar scoring Soon gave m

ves alive. "Cris always speaks with all 1 spoke not a emotion and it's difficult to go. And despite when there is not a lot of emo So listen up k around him," Fisher said. "But Give them re

will come back and play hard. The Oilers certainly aren't gett And rememb much emotion from their shrink fan base. Only 20,196 fans, thet So hear me e smallest crowd to see the Oh Your finals a play in the Astrodome, showe for Sunday's game.

The Oilers are 2-5 in the



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