

FOR RELEASE CONTACT:

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April 10, 1986 Assistant Director of Enforcement

NCAA ADOPTS PACIFIC-10 PENALTIES AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Mission, Kansas--The NCAA Committee on Infractions announced today that it has adopted Pacific-10 Conference penalties that were imposed upon the University of Southern California in December 1985 for violations found in the university's football program.

A two-year probationary period (effective December 11, 1985) was imposed in the case, and the university will be limited to 22 initial grants-in-aid to new recruits in football for the 1986-87 academic year (rather than the normal 30) and will be limited to 14 initial grants in the 1987-88 academic year. The Pacific-10 Conference penalty limited total grants (initial and overall) to 91 and 92 (rather than 95), respectively, for the next two academic years. The NCAA's initial grant limitations were based upon the university's representation that the conference penalty would reduce the number of available initial grants to 22 and 14.

In addition, the university was limited to the use of eight full-time assistant football coaches (rather than the normal nine) who could recruit off campus during the 1985-86 academic year, and the university will be required to monitor the physical activities of prospective student-athletes during visits to the university's campus in order to assure compliance with the NCAA recruiting regulations.

The university also will disassociate one athletics representative from involvement in any athletics-related matter at the university (with the exception

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of ticket purchases) during the probationary period as a result of his involvement in an improper recruiting contact.

The significant violations found in the case occurred during the 1984-85 academic year and primarily involved the actions of one assistant football coach who resigned during the processing of the case.

Frank J. Remington, chair, NCAA Committee on Infractions, stated that "although this case did not involve a pattern of serious violations, the committee was quite concerned that violations took place during a period when the university was on NCAA probation. In fact, the penalties imposed by the NCAA would have been more severe if the committee had not been convinced that the university took swift and meaningful corrective actions on their own initiative prior to the NCAA's involvement in the case.

"It also should be noted," said Remington in closing, "that the efforts of Pacific-10 Conference personnel to investigate and collect complete information concerning the matters under inquiry were exemplary, and the university's cooperation with conference and NCAA personnel aided the committee in the consideration of this case."

The violations found in the case included improper distribution of complimentary tickets, recruiting contacts, minor recruiting inducements, out-of-season practice and tryouts.

The following is the complete text of the penalty and a summary of the violations found in the case.

Penalty To Be Imposed Upon Institution

1. The NCAA Committee on Infractions voted to adopt the Pacific-10 Conference penalty as the NCAA penalty in this case as follows:

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a. The University of Southern California shall be placed on probation for a period of two years (effective December 11, 1985, the date this penalty was approved by the chief executive officers of the Pacific-10 Conference) and shall be publicly reprimanded. During that period, the athletics administration of the institution shall conduct a careful examination of all phases of the program in which violations occurred. A review of the program also shall be conducted by the Pacific-10 Conference and NCAA enforcement staff.

b. The position of full-time assistant football coach that was vacated by the university may not be filled until July 1, 1986. It is understood that only eight full-time assistant football coaches may recruit off campus until July 1, 1986.

c. The number of grants-in-aid in the sport of football (per NCAA Bylaw 6) that the institution shall be permitted to award will be reduced to 22 initial grants for the 1986-87 academic year and 14 for the 1987-88 academic year.

d. The university also will monitor the physical activities of prospective student-athletes visiting the university's campus to assure compliance with NCAA rules.

e. In accordance with the "show cause" requirements of the NCAA penalty structure, the University of Southern California shall take disciplinary and corrective action in regard to one representative of the university's athletics interests, which shall preclude this individual's involvement in any activities associated with the recruitment of prospective student-athletes on behalf of the university during the university's probationary period.

Summary of Violations of NCAA Legislation

1. Violations of the principles governing the provision of complimentary tickets [NCAA Constitution 3-1-(g)-(3) and Bylaws 1-1-(b)-(1), 1-8-(f), 1-8-(i)-(5) and 1-8-(m)] -- (a) In November 1984, three prospective student-athletes were provided four to five complimentary tickets each (permissible limit of three) for intercollegiate football contests played on the university's campus; (b) during December 1984, three prospective student-athletes and two high school football coaches were provided complimentary tickets to postseason football contests, and (c) in December 1984, an assistant football coach gave two complimentary tickets to a student-athlete and one to the father of a second student-athlete to attend the 1985 Rose Bowl; further, these tickets were provided in addition to the four complimentary tickets already available to each student-athlete.

2. Violations of NCAA rules related to improper practice or workout activities [NCAA Bylaws 1-1-(b)-(1), 1-6-(a) and 3-1-(a)] -- (a) On numerous occasions

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during the 1983-84 and 1984-85 academic years, a weight-training coach violated the provisions of NCAA legislation governing tryouts by observing or conducting weight-training activities that involved prospects; (b) during the summers of 1984 and 1985, a weight-training coach conducted out-of-season practice and tryout sessions; further, two assistant football coaches participated in or observed these workouts on one occasion, and (c) on numerous occasions during the 1984-85 academic year, an assistant football coach and a weight-training coach provided T-shirts to prospective and enrolled student-athletes at no cost to them.

3. Violations of NCAA legislation governing in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts [NCAA Bylaws 1-2-(a), 1-2-(a)-(1), 1-2-(a)-(3), 1-2-(a)-(4), 1-2-(f) and 1-3-(b)] -- During the 1983-84 and 1984-85 academic years, six prospective student-athletes were contacted in person, off campus for recruiting purposes contrary to the provisions of NCAA recruiting-contact legislation.

4. Other violations of NCAA rules [NCAA Constitution 3-1-(g)-(5) and Bylaws 1-1-(b)-(1), 1-2-(b), 1-8-(d), 1-8-(j) and 1-8-(j)-(4)] -- (a) In February 1985, an assistant football coach provided two prospective student-athletes one-way automobile transportation at no cost to them between their home towns and the university's campus (approximately 75 miles) in order for the young men to take a precollege entrance examination; further, one of the prospects was not required to pay an examination fee for this test; (b) on September 14, 1984, an assistant football coach provided one-way automobile transportation to a student-athlete at no cost to the young man between the university's campus and his home town (approximately 75 miles); (c) during December 1984, two prospective student-athletes were provided round-trip local transportation and a meal in conjunction with a Rose Bowl practice session; (d) in January 1985, five prospective student-athletes were provided souvenirs of their visits to the university; (e) in January 1985, two prospective student-athletes were improperly entertained during their paid visits to the university by an assistant football coach, and a representative of the university's athletics interests had an in-person, off-campus contact with the young men; (f) in February 1985, an assistant football coach provided a prospective student-athlete local automobile transportation in the young man's home town; (g) during August 1985, a prospective student-athlete was provided a pair of the university's football shoes to wear in a high school all-star football game, although the shoes subsequently were returned unused, and (h) during October 1984, an assistant basketball coach provided the use of his

automobile for a student host to entertain a prospect during his official paid visit.

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