

For PMs of Tuesday, Contact: David Cawood

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UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA REPRIMANDED BY NCAA

MISSION, KANSAS.--The University of Georgia (Athens, Georgia) has been publicly reprimanded by the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Committee on Infractions for violations of NCAA legislation occurring during the 1975-76, 1976-77 and 1977-78 academic years.

The action taken by the NCAA does not include sanctions and the university's athletic teams remain eligible for postseason competition and television appearances

The violations, which were initially reported to the NCAA by the university primarily involved personal loans and gifts of small amounts of cash to seven student-athletes (basketball and football players) from a former member of the university's basketball coaching staff.

Upon learning of these violations in the spring of the 1977-78 academic year, the university initiated an internal investigation and disclosed its findings to the NCAA Committee on Infractions for appropriate action. The NCAA conducted additional inquiries which supported the findings of the institution.

"In considering an appropriate penalty in this case," said Charles Alan Wright, chairman of the NCAA Committee on Infractions, "the committee noted that the violations in the case were self-disclosed by the university after a prompt and thorough investigation. Also," continued Wright, "the violations were isolated in that they related to the personal friendship that existed between the former coach and the athletes and no outside funds were involved."

Following is a text of the penalties imposed upon the university and a summary of the violations by the university.

Penalty to be Imposed Upon Institution

1. The University of Georgia shall be publicly reprimanded and censured, and admonished to avoid a recurrence of similar violations in the future.

Summary of Violations of NCAA Legislation

1. NCAA Constitution 3-1-(g)-(5) and 3-4-(a) [violations of the principles governing extra benefits and financial aid to student-athletes] -- (a) On various occasions during the 1975-76, 1976-77 and 1977-78 academic years, an assistant basketball coach loaned or gave small amounts of cash to seven student-athletes for their own personal use; (b) An assistant basketball coach gave two student-athletes cash to pay a portion of their educational costs at the university.

2. NCAA Constitution 3-1-(g)-(5) [violation of the principles governing extra benefits to student-athletes] -- On various occasions, an assistant basketball coach loaned an automobile to a student-athlete for his own personal use.

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