

Modified Prop 42 permits financial assistance

DALLAS (AP) — The NCAA voted today to modify Proposition 42, the controversial measure that would have toughened athletic scholarship standards starting in the fall.

Delegates voted 258-66-1 to allow incoming students who meet only part of the academic requirements to receive regular financial help, but not athletic scholarships.

The change will retain the academic incentives "without the potential devastating financial side effects" of Proposition 42, said UCLA chancellor Charles Young.

The NCAA also voted today to keep the number of football scholarships a Division I-A team can award annually at 25, despite an appeal from Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne to return it to 30.

That vote retains a cost-cutting measure passed two years ago that dropped the scholarship number. Schools still can't exceed the 95-player limit.

Osborne said the change would have allowed schools short of players to catch up more quickly, and would have promoted a better caliber of competition.

"It's better for attendance and television," Osborne said.

That measure failed, 26-80-3.

Proposition 42, whose approval prompted Georgetown basketball coach John Thomp-

son to boycott two games last season, would have denied scholarships to incoming athletes who have a C-average overall in high schools, and don't meet two other academic requirements of Proposition 48 — a C-average in 11 core courses and minimum scores on standardized college entrance exams.

Currently, so-called "partial qualifiers" still can receive athletic scholarships, although they are not eligible for practice or competition.

About 600 partial qualifiers have received athletic scholarships in the three years since Proposition 48 was adopted.

On Sunday, executive director Dick Schultz said the NCAA should begin reforming big-time college athletics by adopting propositions designed to emphasize the classroom over the playing field.

Delegates to the 84th annual convention faced more than 120 measures, including plans to shorten spring football practice, cut the basketball season by three games to 25 and curtail preseason tournaments, and make public each school's graduation rate for athletes.

Ironically, it's the "basketball billion" — \$1 billion that CBS will pay over the next seven years for television rights to the NCAA Tournament — that will allow the organization to

overhaul college athletics, Schultz said.

"We have a unique opportunity with this new contract that we cannot afford to waste," Schultz said. "It is important that we have student-athletes, not athlete-students. ... Education is our business and must come first."

The public, Schultz said, and even schools' faculties and deans believe "the NCAA is an ineffective, do-nothing organization" that has lost control of intercollegiate athletics.

To regain control, the NCAA should look at a total overhaul, including consideration of the following:

- Allowing athletes to enter professional drafts and evaluate financial offers without losing eligibility.
- Paying athletes a stipend to cover all the costs of attending school, including trips home, clothes and spending money.
- Eliminating athletic dorms.
- Creating a tenure program for coaches to reduce pressure and improve job security.
- Establishing an emergency loan program for needy athletes and small cash bonuses for athletes graduating within five years.
- Reducing off-campus recruiting.

"Let's go back to playing for the trophy, eliminate the incentives to break rules because of

dollars," Schultz said. "Let's eliminate the comment about the \$300,000 free throw. Let's reward integrity, quality education and good graduation rates."

NCAA president Al Witte called Schultz's address to nearly 2,000 delegates on the opening day of the convention "provocative" and said his ideas "mean the '90s ought to

be very interesting in collegiate athletics."

In addition to the measures on publishing graduation rates, cutting spring football and shortening the basketball season, delegates have to decide whether to increase penalties for drug use, including steroids, and institute year-round testing.

Kasperski player of week

For the fifth time in her basketball career at Oregon, center Stefanie Kasperski has been named Pac-10 women's player of the week. Kasperski scored 55 points, grabbed 22 rebounds and blocked eight shots in the Ducks' weekend split with the Bay Area schools.

Kasperski scored 32 points on 16-19 shooting in last Friday's 73-65 win over California. The 32 points was two shy of her career high. She also hit her last 11 shots from the field.

The 6-foot-7 Kasperski is a native of Hamburg, West Germany and is in her senior year at Oregon.

The Oregon women lost to the No. 2 ranked Stanford Cardinal Sunday.

Oregon travels to Corvallis Saturday to play Oregon State and hosts Rutgers Sunday at 2 p.m.



Stefanie Kasperski

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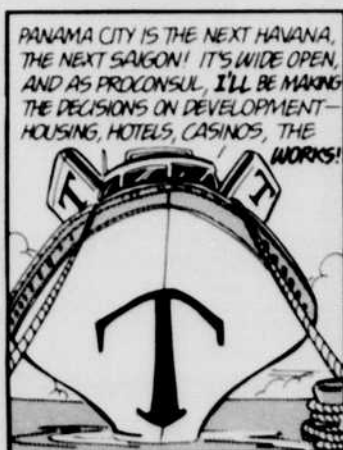
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