

# Patriots won't give Parcells permission to leave

■ **NFL:** The coach of the AFC Champions will likely sit out a year rather than stay with the New England Patriots for another year

The Associated Press

FOXBORO, Mass. — Bill Parcells cannot coach or work for any other NFL team next season without permission from the New England Patriots, commissioner Paul Tagliabue ruled Wednesday.

It was the second setback in four days for Parcells — following the 35-21 Super Bowl loss to the Green Bay Packers — although he could move to another NFL club if the Patriots agree.

They undoubtedly would demand compensation in the form of cash, players, draft choices or a combination of those.

It is unlikely that Parcells, who has a cool relationship with Patriots owner Robert Kraft, will return to the team for a fifth year as coach. He could sit out a season and wait until after Jan. 31, 1998, when the Patriots lose their rights to him, to work elsewhere in the NFL.

Parcells reportedly was in line to go to the New York Jets, who have the top pick in this year's draft but would not consider sending that to the Patriots as compensa-

tion. Their head coaching job has been available since Rich Kotite announced Dec. 20 that he wouldn't return.

ESPN reported that the Jets are putting together an offer for Parcells to the Patriots.

The Jets refused comment "until the entire process is completed," said team president Steve Gutman.

Tagliabue's ruling was in response to requests from Parcells and Kraft that the commissioner mediate their contract dispute.

Parcells claimed his original five-year contract, negotiated with former owner James Orthwein, allowed him to get out of the last season by paying the owner \$1.2 million — one year's salary.

At Parcells' request, Kraft agreed last January to eliminate the last season, 1997, moving the expiration date up to this Saturday. That revision also gave the Patriots the exclusive right to employ Parcells if he decided to continue working in the NFL next season, Tagliabue ruled.

Parcells can work as a college coach or pursue other business opportunities, such as broadcasting, without the Patriots' permission. After Jan. 31, 1998, he would be free to work as a head coach or in a comparable position in the NFL, according to the decision.

There is nothing to prevent Parcells from

challenging the decision in court, although the NFL constitution and by-laws make the commissioner the final arbiter of such disputes.

Shortly after 3 p.m., about 2 1/2 hours before the decision was announced, Parcells evaded waiting cameramen by driving his dark green Cadillac outside through a back exit. His attorney, Joel Kozol, did not return a call seeking comment.

Kraft left Foxboro Stadium without commenting about a half hour before the NFL announced the ruling.

The Patriots issued the following statement:

"We are pleased that the National Football League has affirmed the validity of the contract between the New England Patriots and Bill Parcells, as amended on Jan. 12, 1996. Bill Parcells has been an important part of the success of this organization. It is now time for the Patriots to move ahead and build on the success of the 1996-97 season."

The relationship between Kraft and Parcells soured during last year's draft when Kraft overruled the coach and sided with player personnel director Bobby Grier, who wanted wide receiver Terry Glenn. Parcells preferred a defensive player. Glenn ended up setting an NFL rookie record with 90 re-

ceptions.

"Bill and I had a great relationship," Grier said Wednesday. "If he's not here, it's going to be hard to replace him."

Grier commented while standing outside in the cold after the Patriots administration building was evacuated for about 45 minutes because of a bomb threat.

Kraft left the building at the time and drove away with Patriots assistant coach Bill Belichick shortly after 5 p.m.

"It's another day at the office," Grier said before Tagliabue's decision was announced.

Reports in the days before the Super Bowl had Parcells being replaced by Pete Carroll, San Francisco's defensive coordinator. Carroll had a 6-10 record with the Jets in 1994, his only season as an NFL head coach.

He was succeeded by Kotite, whose 1-15 record was the worst in the NFL last season.

Parcells won two Super Bowls with the New York Giants and then led the Patriots to an 11-5 record and the Super Bowl.

In his ruling, Tagliabue said Parcells' interpretation of his contract would make the key part of the revision "meaningless and of no effect" and would be "contrary to common sense, as well as to Massachusetts law," the commissioner said.

## Health Education Workshops Winter '97

\* The following workshops are FREE to registered UO students \*

### Weight Management

Increase energy, motivation and enthusiasm for life! Heighten self-confidence and learn habits for becoming physically and mentally fit including nutrition, cooking and exercise tips.

Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
January 28-February 18  
Health Center Cafeteria



### Stress Reduction

Feeling stressed? Identify stressors, understand the cognitive and physiological responses to stress. Explore, experience and discuss techniques such as progressive relaxation and meditation.

Thursdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
February 6-February 27  
Medical Library



### Quick and Delicious Low Fat Cooking

What's for dinner? Think it's too time consuming to cook? Guess again! Learn how to cook quick and healthy meals. Come hungry.

Wednesdays, 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
February 5-February 19th  
Health Center Cafeteria



### Self Defense

Learn physical, mental and emotional tools for self defense.

Mondays, 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
February 3-February 17  
Medical Library



Call 346-4456 to register or stop by the Health Education Room on the first floor of the Health Center.  
Health Center Health Education Program

## Jesse Jackson may defend Rodman

■ **NBA:** The civil rights leader has met with the suspended star to discuss the kick and the suspension

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Dennis Rodman is getting advice from all over.

First, President Clinton suggested that Rodman shape up and admit he was wrong to kick a photographer. Now Jesse Jackson says he is advising the Chicago Bulls star, and the civil rights leader wants to plead Rodman's case before the NBA.

Jackson said he planned to meet with NBA commissioner David Stern on Wednesday in New York concerning Rodman's 11-game suspension for the Jan. 15 incident. NBA spokesman Brian McIntyre said no meeting was scheduled.

Jackson's father, Noah Robinson Sr., died in South Carolina on Monday night, and it was unclear if Jackson had gone there.

"Like everybody else, I don't condone Dennis' action," Jackson

told the Chicago Sun-Times in Wednesday's editions. "I want to convey to the commissioner my sentiment and the sentiments of a growing number of people, that Dennis has already been punished enough for the very act in question."

The Bulls' 111-96 victory Tuesday night at Vancouver was the sixth game of the suspension, which is costing Rodman more than \$1.1 million in salary and incentives. He also was fined \$25,000 by the league, and he has agreed to pay a \$200,000 out-of-court settlement to Minneapolis cameraman Eugene Amos.

Stern has insisted that before Rodman is reinstated, he must undergo psychiatric counseling and assure the league he will adhere to acceptable standards of behavior.

"It's one thing to punish a man. It's another thing to take away his dignity," Jackson said.

Jackson and Rodman met Monday in Los Angeles after the player's agent, Dwight Manley, con-

"I dig what the brother does, and he appreciates what I bring to the table. He is one of the few public figures that I truly admire, because I think he is really sincere."

— Dennis Rodman  
Chicago Bulls Forward

tacted the former presidential candidate.

"I dig what the brother does, and he appreciates what I bring to the table," Rodman said. "He is one of the few public figures that I truly admire, because I think he is really sincere."

Jackson said Rodman is basically a good person with a bad temper.

"But we had prayer," Jackson said. "I gave him my ideas and advice on the matter, and I intend to continue counseling him as long as he wants me to, and I feel I can help."



ODE Classifieds...  
Worth Looking Into!

# SCANDAL'S

2222 Centennial Blvd.  
Eugene • 343-4734

START YOUR WEEKEND EVERY **THURSDAY** NIGHT.

**MUSIC**  **DANCING**  **BIG** **SCREEN TVS!**



**ALL BEVERAGES ONLY \$2.00**  
**ALL NIGHT LONG!**



**JOIN US!**

Don't Forget Friday's Party!