# **North Carolina gets** past Cincinnati in OT

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) - A dunk didn't do it in regulation, but three-pointers in overtime did. And now, North Carolina is going to the Final Four for the ninth time under coach Dean Smith.

The top-seeded Tar Heels (32-4) had a chance to beat secondseeded Cincinnati (27-5) at the regulation buzzer Sunday, but Brian Reese missed a dunk after taking an inbounds pass with eight-tenths of a second to play.

Donald Williams took care of things in overtime from beyond 19 feet, 9 inches, making con-secutive three-pointers as North Carolina beat the Bearcats 75-68 and kept them from returning to the Final Four.

"Generally, you let down after a missed chance like that," Smith said. "We regrouped against an excellent basketball team, a difficult team to play against.

North Carolina will meet Kansas, winners over Indiana in the Midwest final, in the national semifinals next Saturday in New Orleans. When the two teams met in the 1991 semifinals, Roy Williams, Smith's long-time assistant, beat the Tar Heels when Smith was ejected late in the game.

'We won a tournament this weekend, and we'll go and try to win another one," Smith said in his usual, low-key way.

The Tar Heels were in trouble

in the first half when Cincinnati guard Nick Van Exel snapped out of a tournament-long shooting slump with 21 points, all but three on three-point field goals. The Bearcats led by as many as 15 points in the opening 20 minutes

But the Tar Heels rallied to take a lead late in the half, and then clamped down on Van Exel, holding him to two points after halftime.

We knew they were going to make a run." Van Exel said. "We just didn't expect it in the first half. I knew they wouldn't crash, not with that coach.

'They went into their zone, but not because of me," Van Exel said. "I probably wasn't looking for my shot in the second half as much as I should have, but I was trying to get everyone else involved in the scoring. Down the stretch, 1 didn't hit the big ones.

Williams believed North Carolina guard Derrick Phelps had a lot to do with it.

'He got a lot of good open looks at the basket in the first half," Williams said. "In the second half, we wanted to make sure we ran at him, but we have to give credit to Derrick Phelps. He did an outstanding job on him, wearing him down and getting him tired.

Williams, North Carolina's only legitimate perimeter threat,

Turn to CAROLINA, Page 14A

## NCAA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

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### EAST REGIONAL

First R. First Round Thursday, March 18 B. Joel Memorial Colin Winston-Salem, N.C. 85, Texas Tech 87 94, Holy Cross 64 Joed 74 Parchas 68 Island 74. Purdue 68 55. East Carolina 65

Friday, March 19 At The Carrier Dome Syracruse, N.Y. Massachusetts 54, Pennsylvania 30 Virginia 76, Manhattan 66 New Mexico State 93, Nebraska 79 Cincinnati 93, Coppin State 66

Arkansas 80, St. John's 74

East Rutherford, N.J.

Regional Championship Sunday, March 28 North Cafolina 75, Cincinnati 66

#### SOUTHEAST REGIONAL

First Round Thursday, March 18 At Orlando Arena Orlando, Fla. Wstrn Kentucky 55, Memphis St. 52 Seton Hall 81, Tennessee State 59

At Memorial Gymnasium Nashville, Tenn. Wake Forust 81, TN-Chattanooga Iowa 82, Northeast Louisiana 69

Kentucky 96. Rider 52 Utah 86. Pittsburgh 65

Second Round Seturday, March 20 State 94, Tulane 63 m Kentucky 72, Seton Hall 68

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ulay, March 21 Wake Forest 84, Iowa 78 Kentucky 83, Utah 62

Regional Semificals Thursday, March 25 At Charlotte Collseum Charlotte, N.C. Florida State 81, W. Kentucky 78, OT Kentucky 103, Wake Forest 69

tegional Championship Saturday, March 27 At Charlotte Coliseum Charlotte, N.C. Kentucky 106, Florida State 81

#### MIDWEST REGIONAL

First Round Thursday, March 18 At The Horiz Kansas 94, Ball State 72

Brigham Young 80, S. Methodist 71 Duke 105. Southern Illinois 70 a 66, Louisiana State 64 Friday, March 19 At The Housier Dome

Xavier, Ohio 73, New Orleans 55 Indiana 97, Wright State 54

Louisville 78, Oklahoma State 63

Regional Semifinals Thursday, March 25 At St. Louis Arena Kansas 93, California 76

al Cha gional Championsh Saturday, March 27 At St. Louis Arena

#### WEST REGIONAL

First Round Thursday, March 18 At The Jon M. Huntsman Conter Salt Lake City Illinois 75, Long Beach State 72 Vanderbill 92, Boise State 72 Santa Chara 64, Arizona 61 Santa Clara 64, Arizona 61 Temple 75, Missouri 61

Friday, March 19 At The McKale Center Turson, Ariz. Geo. Washington 82, New Mexico 68 Southern. Univ. 93, Georgia Tech 76 Michigan 84, Coastal Carolina 53 UCLA 81, Iowa State 70

Second Round Saturday, March 20 Vanderbilt 85, Illinois 68 Temple 68, Santa Clara 57

Sunday, March 21 Geo. Washington 90, Southerr Michigan 86, UCLA 84, OT m U. 80

Regional Semifinals Friday, March 26 At The Kingdome Seattle, Wa. Michigan 72, George Washington 64 Temple 67, Vanderbilt 59

Regional Championship Sunday, March 28 Michigan 77, Temple 72

THE FINAL FOUR

At The Superdome New Orleans Semifinals Saturday, April 3

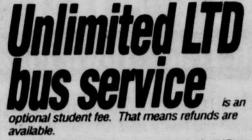
First game starts al 2.42 p.m. Kentucky (30-3) vs. Mich. (30-4), TIFA N.C. (32-4) vs. Kansas (29-6), TBA

Championship Monday, April 5

Semifinal winners, 6:22 p.m.







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Second Round Saturday, March 20 orth Carolina 112, Rhode Island 67

Sunday, March 21 Virginia 71, Massachusetts 56 Cinciunati 92, New Mexico State 55

Regional Semifinals Friday, March 26 At The Meadowlands Cincinnati 71, Virginia 54 North Carolina 80, Arkansas 74

Florida State 82, Evansville 70 Tulane 55, Kansas State 53

Friday, March 19

Louisville 76. Delaware 70 ond Rou Saturday, March 20 Kansas 90, Brigham Young 76 California 82, Duke 77

Sunday, March 21 Indiana 73, Xavier, Ohio 70

Indiana 82, Louisville 69

Indianapolis ma State 74, Marquette 62

#### all term!

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