

Michigan mistake gives Tar Heels championship

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Two blunders. Two national championships for Dean Smith.

North Carolina capitalized on a last-second mistake by Michigan and gave Smith his second title with a 77-71 victory Monday night.

Both titles came at the Superdome, but the 1982 game ended on a closing jumper by Michael Jordan and a botched pass by Georgetown's Fred Brown. This game wasn't settled until Michigan's Chris Webber called a timeout the Wolverines didn't have with 11 seconds left.

"In the heat of the moment, strange things happen," Michigan coach Steve Fisher said. "Chris said he heard someone hollering and calling for a timeout. It's an awful way to end the season."

The Tar Heels (34-4) won with a powerful inside game of Eric Montross and the 3-point shooting of Donald Williams as Michigan's Fab Five lost in the title game for the second consecutive year.

Smith becomes the fourth active coach to win two national championships. Indiana's Bob Knight has won three, while Louisville's Denny Crum and Mike Krzyzewski of Duke have each won two. Only John Wooden with 10 at UCLA, Adolph Rupp of Kentucky with four and

Knight have won more than Smith, who was making his ninth appearance in a Final Four.

North Carolina was leading 73-71 when Pat Sullivan missed the second of two free throws with 20 seconds left. Webber grabbed the rebound, charged up court and stopped in front of his bench to call timeout. The Wolverines had already used their allotted three and a technical foul was called.

Williams, who finished with 25 points, made both free throws on the technical and he added two more when he was fouled on the ensuing possession for the final margin.

When the buzzer sounded the Tar Heels charged the court and mobbed Smith, the second-winningest coach of all time who had always been maligned for his Final Four failures.

Asked about getting his second championship on a bizarre play, Smith said, "I don't want to say that was another fluke."

The Tar Heels got the lead for good when Derrick Phelps scored on a layup with 3:12 left for a 68-67 lead. Jimmy King of Michigan threw up an air ball from 3-point range and the Tar Heels extended the lead to three when George Lynch scored in the lane with 2:10 left.

Montross, who had 16 points, dunked with one minute left and it was the Tar Heels by six.

Ray Jackson's jumper with 47 seconds left brought Michigan within three again. An unforced turnover gave the ball back to the Wolverines and Webber scored on a rebound with 36 seconds left. Those were Michigan's final points for a season in which it went 31-5, but failed again in the final game.

Williams, the Tar Heels' only legitimate perimeter threat, had five 3-pointers in the semifinal win over Kansas and he matched that against Michigan in 11 attempts.

While Williams was scoring outside, Montross was occupying most of the Michigan frontcourt inside. That allowed Lynch to come up with 12 points and 10 rebounds, and allowed Williams to get off the long jumpers.

Michigan had taken a 67-63 lead with 4:13 left on a jumper by King, but Williams hit a 3-pointer to bring the Tar Heels within one and set the stage for 10-4 run that closed the game.

Webber finished with 23 points and grabbed 11 rebounds. King had 15 points, while Jalen Rose added 12.

Smith's NCAA record improved to 55-

23, the most tournament victories for a coach: Fisher dropped to a still-amazing 17-3. He led the Wolverines to the national championship as the interim head coach in 1989.

Michigan finished 5 for 15 from 3-point range, far from the 0-for-4 effort against Kentucky in the overtime semifinal.

Michigan's one-game run without any 3-pointers ended early, and three long jumpers on as many possessions started the Wolverines on the way to a 23-13 lead with 11:33 left in the half. Reserve Rob Pelinka hit two 3s to start the 19-4 run and Rose followed with another as Michigan scored 11 straight points.

North Carolina tied at 25 when Williams' first 3-pointer capped the 12-2 run with 8:01 left.

Michigan was struggling early with foul trouble because every starter but Rose had two personals with 8:38 left in the half. Only Jackson picked up his third by halftime, but by then the Tar Heels had a 42-36 lead.

North Carolina dominated the boards early, but the Wolverines were within 19-18 by halftime. The only statistic of significant difference was turnovers — Michigan had 10, North Carolina just three.

Sophomore comes up big for North Carolina

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Surrounded by two of college basketball's greatest recruiting classes, Donald Williams — the only sophomore on the North Carolina roster — delivered the national championship for the Tar Heels Monday night.

Williams is the afterthought in the North Carolina lineup, often overlooked in the glow of the other starters. And yet, when there was a championship to be won, it was the slender sophomore from Garner, N.C., who made the difference.

When Michigan nosed in front 60-58, Williams went on a run of eight straight points, including his fourth and fifth 3-pointers. That kept the Tar Heels in business.

As important as that streak was, Williams then punctuated his effort with a key steal following baskets by Derrick Phelps and George Lynch. That led to a basket by Eric Montross, a member of Carolina's talented junior class, that built a 72-67 lead, an edge the Tar Heels never surrendered.

Williams wasn't finished.

Chris Webber, one of Michigan's Fab Five sophomores, called for a time out when Michigan had none left and was charged with a technical with 11 seconds remaining. Williams coolly dropped both free throws to make the score 75-71.

A moment later, with Michigan out of options, the Wolverines fouled Williams again. With the bright lights of the Superdome glistening off his shaved head, the youngster dropped two more free throws home, sealing the victory.

Williams finished with a game-high 25 points on 8-for-12 from the field, including 5-for-7 one 3-point attempts. The 5-for-7 on 3-pointers mirrored his production in North Carolina's semifinal victory over Kansas.

Carolina fans take to the streets

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — An estimated 6,000 students and other fans screamed away Monday night watching North Carolina win the NCAA championship, then streamed into the streets for what was expected to be an all-night party.

"We're No. 1. There is no other," said Bobby Hooper, of Reidsville, N.C. "They've proven to be the best team out of all of them."

For Terry Woodley of Rocky Mount, the victory meant some payback when he returns to a job full of Wolverine fans.

"This is great," he said. "I work at a place with nothing but Big Ten fans. All I hear about is the Fab Five. We're going to rub it in at work tomorrow."

The celebration drew fans from all over.

"I came here because it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Chuck Cody, a Campbell University student from Covington, Va., who was in Carmichael Auditorium as the Tar Heels sealed a 77-71 victory over Michigan.

"I came all the way from Lynchburg, Va. to see this," echoed Chris Parker. "UNC is my team."

Carmichael Auditorium, where North Carolina played before moving to the larger Dean Smith Activity Center, was festooned with streamers of toilet paper in white and Carolina blue as fans watched the game on a big screen television.

"In '82, I was in New Orleans, but after the game there was no party. All the Carolina fans just went home," said Mike Thornbury, a UNC alumnus from Cary, N.C. "I wanted to be here this year."

Carolina won its only other NCAA title under Smith in

New Orleans 11 years ago.

Even before the outcome was decided this time, the university and city officials prepared for Monday night's reaction.

Close to 100 officers from Chapel Hill, Carrboro and the university police department, along with Orange County Sheriff's deputies, were to be on hand to guard against any trouble.

Police asked bars not to serve drinks in bottles, spokeswoman Jane Cousins said.

Law enforcement agencies in Chapel Hill have come to learn that a key feature of the town's celebration of sports triumphs is a desire to paint the town blue in the Tar Heels colors.

Police asked hardware stores to remove all cans of oil-based paint in sky-colored "Carolina Blue" from their shelves, and replace it with water-based paint.

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APPLICATIONS: Applications are available at all Area Desks and at the University Housing front desk and are due back to any Area Desk or the University Housing front desk, no later than Noon, Wednesday, April 7, 1993. Applications may be screened on the basis of their quality and only completed applications will be guaranteed consideration.

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