

sports

N.C. State fouls Houston, steals Title

By Tracy M. Sumner
For The Print

"We put ourselves in a position to win by putting them on the free throw line," was North Carolina State Head Basketball Coach Jim Valvano's analysis of his team's shocking 54-52 upset over number one ranked and highly favored Houston in the National Collegiate Athletic Association championship game on March 28.

Wolfpack was the perfect mascot for NC State in their Cinderella march to the second national championship in the school's history. True to form for a wolfpack, State attacked the soft underbelly of its opponent, a free throw shooting percent of slightly over 61 percent.

The Cougars blew nine of 19 free throw chances including two one-and-one opportunities in the game's final minute. That allowed NCS, an eight point underdog coming into the game, to steal the National title from Coach Guy Lewis and his Houston team.

Two long-range baskets by senior Dereck Whit-

tenburg tied the score at 52-all with slightly less than two minutes remaining. After a missed free throw by Houston guard Alvin Franklin, the Wolfpack worked the clock down for the last shot.

With time running out, Whittenburg launched a desperation 30-foot rainbow that turned out to be a perfect lob pass to Lorenzo Charles, who slammed home the winning deuce with less than two seconds remaining. The Cougars, seemingly too stunned to call a time out, let the clock run out to end their championship hopes and their season at 31-3.

So much for predicted point spreads.

North Carolina State's upset of Houston has to be considered one of the most stunning in the history of the NCAA tournament. The Wolfpack's front line of Charles, Cozelle McQueen and Thurl Baily, while very good, would seem to be no match for Houston's "Phi Slamma Jamma" front line of Clyde Drexler; 7-0, 240 pound center Akeem Abdul Olajuwon, and Larry "Mr. Mean" Micheaux.

Of the powerful fraternity, only Olajuwon, a

native of Lagos, Nigeria, was a real factor for Houston, scoring 20 points, grabbing 18 rebounds and playing the flyswatter defense that helped earn him the outstanding player of the tournament award.

NC State played the very game it had to, to have any chance for victory. But sadly, it was Houston's inability to shoot free throws, not superior play by the Wolfpack that decided the outcome of the game.

Valvano deserved credit for a masterful job of coaching and his players deserve credit for playing such an intelligent, opportunistic game.

Houston, on the other hand, never got their game going. Perhaps an emotional let down after the Cougar's dramatic 94-81 thrashing of Louisville Saturday was to blame. Perhaps over-confidence on Houston's part caused their poor performance. Whatever caused the team's flatness, it will never change the fact that the second best team in the NCAA final game reigns as national champion of college basketball in 1983.



NATIONAL LEADER--Roger Barnhurst, school record holder in the javelin, is currently leading the nation. Barnhurst's toss of 243+ feet was good enough to best a top field at the University of Oregon Invitational.
Photo by Dan Youngquist

Men's Tennis

Lewis & Clark rips Cougars

After blitzing Multnomah School of Bible 9-0, the men's tennis team found the going a bit tougher at Lewis and Clark on Monday. The 7-2 setback dropped Clackamas' season record to 3-3.

"They (Lewis and Clark) were good, but the matches we are losing we could be winning," Coach Dave Buckley said.

The Cougars' only two match victories came from their fourth and fifth men. Bob Martin bested his opponent 6-1,

1-6, and 6-4, while Steve Gorman needed extra games to defeat his foe 7-5, 5-7 and 7-5.

Bob and Steve played really well," Buckley commented. "It's not like we're getting blown away. Concentration is the name of the game, and we're just not doing it right now," he added.

In the win over Multnomah School of Bible Buckley felt everyone played fairly well. "They aren't a bad team. We're being competitive with the four-year schools, but

we're not beating them. I just hope the guys don't get discouraged; sooner or later they will face the same caliber at the community college level," Buckley warned.

The team hits the road once again, this time heading north to challenge Bellevue and Green River Community Colleges of Washington. "These Washington schools don't have bad teams. We'll get some good competition up there," Buckley added. The matches in Washington are scheduled for April 8-9.

Norm Berney Coach of the Year

By Doug Vaughan
Of The Print

Clackamas Community College matmen mentor Norm Berney added another accomplishment to his 11 year coaching career, as he was named the 1983 Oregon Wrestling Coach of the Year for two-year schools.

Berney was presented with a plaque by the Oregon's Wrestling Coaches Association for his outstanding coaching during the Cougars' 1983

wrestling season.

The Cougars were led by Berney to capture fourth place in the Regional tournament despite having only six wrestlers compete.

"Most likely that is why I was chosen, because we were the top placing team from Oregon," Berney said. "We only had six wrestlers so I feel that it (fourth place) was quite an accomplishment."

Berney has been honored with a similar award from the

community colleges' coaches three times since coming to Clackamas in 1971.

He served as an assistant to his former high school coach, Larry Wright, at the College before becoming the head coach in 1975.

"It is a nice award, but I did not conquer some things that I wanted to (this past season)," Berney said. "Naturally, I wanted to do better."

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