

WNBA Finals

Ogwumike lifts Sparks to WNBA title

By DAVE CAMPBELL
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Nneka Ogumike's short jumper with 3.1 seconds left gave the Los Angeles Sparks a 77-76 victory over the defending champion Minnesota Lynx for their first title in 14 years in the deciding game of the WNBA Finals on Thursday night.



The league MVP joined her teammates in celebration as a stunned crowd slowly filed out after finishing with 12 points and 12 rebounds. Candace Parker had 28 points and 12 rebounds to earn MVP honors of the Finals. It was Parker's first WNBA title.

"She's been through so much," Ogumike said of Parker. "She's probably the most misunderstood person in the league. I told her I wanted her to get one. She had an awesome game tonight. She's been our leader."

Parker said she listened to one of Pat Summitt's speeches



Los Angeles Sparks' Nneka Ogumike, left, shoots the decisive game-winning shot with about 4 seconds left over Minnesota Lynx defender Sylvia Fowles as the Sparks won the WNBA championship with a 77-76 win over the Lynx in Game 5 of the finals Thursday in Minneapolis.

AP Photo/Jim Mone

close, setting off Los Angeles' celebration as Parker and Sparks owner Magic Johnson embraced in a long hug.

Johnson spoke to the team after the loss at home in Game 4 on Sunday. His presence in Minnesota was all the more impressive considering the Dodgers, the other pro club he's invested in, were playing baseball in Los Angeles at the same time in Game 5 of their National League championship series.

"I told them the series wasn't over and that there was still a Game 5 to be played. They had to believe they could do it on a tough home court. This team Minnesota is tremendous," Johnson said. "We just beat the champions so I give them a lot of credit to. Our leaders led us and we had a great coach in Brian and they believed all season long. I told them this was their year. I wanted them to do it for Candace Parker. She deserves to be a champion. Great group of ladies."

Moore had 23 points and 11 assists for the Lynx, who fell short of matching the WNBA record of four championships. The Houston Comets won four straight titles from 1997-2000.

The Lynx played in the finals for the fifth time in the last six years. They won three.

NFL

Rodgers throws Packers past Bears

By GENARO C. ARMAS
Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Aaron Rodgers set a record. The Chicago Bears lost another quarterback.

After a slow start in the red zone, the Green Bay Packers picked up the pace in the second half to overpower their offensively-challenged NFC North rivals.

Rodgers threw for 326 yards and three touchdowns, Davante Adams and Ty Montgomery emerged as playmakers in the second half and Packers beat the Bears 26-10 on Thursday night.

Rodgers was 39 of 56, setting a franchise mark for completions in a game. It was the Packers' first contest without injured running back Eddie Lacy.

"A lot of moving parts, a very satisfying victory at home," coach Mike McCarthy said.

The Packers (4-2) moved effectively on short gains most of the night, but couldn't break into the end zone until Adams caught the first of his two touchdown receptions with 9:11 left in the third quarter for a 13-10 lead.

Rodgers and Adams combined again for a 4-yard score on the first play of fourth quarter for a 10-point lead.

The Bears (1-6) lost quarterback Brian Hoyer to a broken left arm in the second quarter. With Jay Cutler already out with a right thumb injury, Chicago turned to third-stringer Matt Barkley.

An offense that was already 31st in the league in scoring got worse. Barkley was 6 of 15 for 81 yards and two interceptions.

Local Slate

PREP FOOTBALL

Today
Riverside at Nyssa, 6 p.m.
Hermiston at Redmond, 7 p.m.
Bend at Pendleton, 7 p.m.
Mac-Hi at Baker, 7 p.m.
Umatilla at Irrigon, 7 p.m.
Ione at Dufur, 7 p.m.
Cove at Echo, 7 p.m.
Stanfield at Heppner, 7 p.m.
Pilot Rock at Culver, 7 p.m.
Arlington vs. Riddle (in Salem), 7 p.m.

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Saturday
OOL Districts: Echo vs Joseph (at La Grande), 9 a.m.
BSL Districts: Ione vs Arlington (at The Dalles), 10 a.m.
OOL Districts: Helix vs Powder Valley (at La Grande), 11 a.m.
CBC Districts: Heppner vs. Pilot Rock, Noon
CBC Districts: Weston-McEwen vs TBD, 2 p.m.
CBC Districts: Culver vs. TBD, 4 p.m.

PREP BOYS SOCCER

Friday
Riverside at Irrigon, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday
Baker at Mac-Hi, 11 a.m.

PREP GIRLS SOCCER

Saturday
Baker at Mac-Hi, 1 p.m.

PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Today
Mac-Hi, Umatilla at Baker Invite, 3 p.m.
Heppner, Condon/Wheeler at Mikaela Reser Memorial Invite (Condon), 2 p.m.
Stanfield, Weston-McEwen, Helix at Helix Stubblebuser Run, 4:15 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Saturday
Montana Western at Eastern Oregon, 1 p.m.

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Today
Eastern Oregon at Multnomah, 5 p.m.
Blue Mountain at Treasure Valley, 6 p.m.

COLLEGE MEN'S SOCCER

Today
Eastern Oregon at Corban, 2 p.m.
Saturday
Eastern Oregon at NW Christian, 7 p.m.

COLLEGE WOMEN'S SOCCER

Today
Eastern Oregon at Corban, Noon
Saturday
Blue Mountain at Columbia Basin, Noon
Eastern Oregon at NW Christian, 5 p.m.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Saturday
Eastern Oregon vs. Alumni, 10 a.m.

COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL

Saturday
Eastern Oregon vs Alumni, 7:30 p.m.

COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Saturday
Eastern Oregon vs. Alumni, 5:30 p.m.

Prep Standings

5A Special District 1	Conf	Ovr	PS	PA	Rnk
x-Summit	5-0	6-1	227	143	1
Hermiston	4-1	4-3	207	137	6
Bend	3-2	5-2	218	166	13
Redmond	3-2	3-4	273	217	16
Mtn. View	2-3	4-3	183	183	15
Pendleton	2-3	3-4	187	264	24
Ridgeview	1-4	1-6	92	267	27
Hood River	0-5	0-7	93	283	30
x-cinched playoff berth					

5A Special District 1	Conf	Ovr	PS	PA	Rnk
x-La Grande	2-0	3-4	264	223	17
Ontario	1-1	5-2	242	91	4
Baker	1-1	5-2	156	138	12
Mac-Hi	0-2	2-4	102	218	33
x-cinched playoff berth					

3A Eastern Oregon League	Conf	Ovr	PS	PA	Rnk
Vale	3-0	4-3	148	118	8
Burns	2-1	5-2	218	104	11
Nyssa	2-1	3-3	129	116	12
Umatilla	1-2	5-2	153	127	19
Irrigon	1-2	2-5	156	215	24
Riverside	0-3	1-6	98	244	31

2A Columbia Basin Conference	Conf	Ovr	PS	PA	Rnk
x-Heppner	3-0	6-1	213	88	4
x-Stanfield	2-0	6-1	300	151	2
W-McEwen	1-2	2-5	266	201	16
Culver	0-2	1-5	128	231	17
Pilot Rock	0-2	0-6	58	186	27
x-cinched playoff berth					

4A Greater Oregon League	Conf	Ovr	PS	PA	Rnk
x-Ontario	3-0	2-2	35	22	13
x-La Grande	3-1	10-2-1	51	15	7
Mac-Hi	2-2-1	6-6-1	34	24	14
Baker	0-5	1-9-2	12	48	35
x-cinched at least 4A play-in game					

3A Special District 4	Conf	Ovr	GS	GA	Rnk
x-Riverside	4-0	7-3-1	53	9	5
Irrigon	2-1	6-2-1	61	11	28
Umatilla	2-2-1	6-4-2	45	31	22
City Christian	0-4	0-10	7	81	44
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4A Greater Oregon League	Conf	Ovr	GS	GA	Rnk
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