

Jack Horner's SPORTS CORNER

UNC Won Game On Opening Tipoff

HOMEWARD-BOUND WITH CAROLINA'S 1957 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS—It's mid-morning Sunday over three miles high above the clouds in a United Airlines DC-7 ship flying North Carolina's 1957 NCAA basketball champions home from last night's triple overtime victory over favored Kansas and Wilt Chamberlain in the titular tussle at Kansas City.

As the plane speeds along at approximately 335 miles per hour somewhere between Kansas City and Washington, this sleepy-eyed sports writer accompanying the Tarheels tries to reconstruct some of the highlights of Carolina's magnificent triumph.

Frankly, I think Carolina won the ball game when Coach McGuire took a leaf from the notebook of his former coach and present assistant Buck Freeman and conceded Kansas the game's opening center jump.

He put Carolina's shortest player, Terrible Tommy Kearns, against Kansas' seven-foot Chamberlain in a surprise move which could have had a mental effect on the Jayhawks, who were four-point favorites at game-time. This piece of surprise strategy was worked against Duquesne by Coach Freeman when McGuire played for him at St. John's almost 20 years ago.

Another important piece of strategy on the part of the Tarheels, if you'll pardon my saying so, was two early fouls Carolina committed on the great Chamberlain. Both saw him knocked to the floor. I can't help but believe these two floorings took some of the fight out of Wilt. Honestly, he was really clobbered. But you saw it on TV.

McGuire Out-Smarted Kansas Coach

I know it was a team victory, and a well-deserved one, and Joe Quigg's two free throws decided the issue, but I feel the master coaching job by McGuire and his able assistant, Freeman, enabled the Tarheels to bring home the bacon, as Governor Hodges said.

McGuire outsmarted Dick Harp, Kansas coach, at every turn. The Tarheels carried out their assignments on Chamberlain, greatest player in the game, almost perfectly.

A collapsing 2-1-2 zone defense kept Chamberlain bottled up for the most part and he wasn't the prolific scoring machine everyone's feared.

While bedlam broke on the floor of Kansas City's Memorial Auditorium after Carolina's spine-tingling victory over Kansas for the National collegiate basketball championship Saturday night, things were a little more orderly in Coach Frank McGuire's 12th floor suite in the Continental Hotel a half-hour after the Tarheels had showered and dressed.

Coach McGuire huddled with his proud champions and made a little speech, several coaching friends of McGuire's said a few words, the players got anything they wanted to say off their chests and the Carolina newspapers and radio men in the room were privileged to give their remarks.

Even Governor Luther Hodges and Lt. Gov. Luther Barnhardt came onto the scene and offered brief congratulatory talks in the coach's room.

Then the players were given meal money while the press assembled at Edly's famous restaurant for a dinner party.

Lennie, Pete All-Tourney

By LARRY KARL, Herald Sports Writer

It cost a shoe shine, some skin of a shin and a bruised rib to get near enough, but here's what those NCAA champions, the UNC Tarheels said as they came off the plane yesterday at Raleigh-Durham Airport.

Chamberlain, a 7-foot Negro from Philadelphia, was the only unanimous choice on the All-Tourney team selected by 50 sports writers and broadcasters who covered the NCAA finals. Lennie Rosenbluth of North Carolina, by two votes for the most valuable award.

Rosenbluth, one of the greatest shooters to appear in the tournament, missed being a unanimous choice by three votes.

Others on the first team were John Green, Michigan State; Gene Brown, San Francisco; and Pete Brennan, North Carolina.

Cook Wins At Wilson

WILSON, March 24 (P)—A par four on the first hole of a playoff gave Lawrence Cook, Wigglesville Beach, policeman, the championship in the 12th annual North Carolina amateur golf tournament at the Wilson Country Club today.

Cook became the first player to win the tournament three times. He and 17-year-old Larry Beck of Kingston were tied at 212 after regulation play, but Beck lost when he missed a five-foot putt in the playoff.

The order: Lawrence Cook, Wigglesville Beach, 75-72-71-74-212; Don Albert, Jacksonville, 75-71-70-214; Ed Gravelly, Rocky Mount, 75-70-74-217; Billie Goode, Weldon, 75-73-71-218; Clinton Tenny, Durham, 74-73-71-220; Don Bowright Jr., Pinehurst, 74-72-74-221; L. E. Johnson, Wilson, 49-73-80-222; Frank Meacham, Roanoke Rapids, 75-70-73-223; Bill Harvey, Greensboro, 76-72-75-223; Ed Gravelly, Rocky Mount, 75-73-75-224; Gene Lookabaugh, Chapel Hill, 75-73-78-224; Roscoe Baker, Kingston, 76-73-76-227; Ed Gravelly, Rocky Mount, 75-73-77-227; William Gourley Jr., Greensboro, 77-72-78-228; Bob Smith, Wilson, 78-75-75-231; P. B. Gravelly Jr., Rocky Mount, 75-75-78-231; Herck Frvin, Kingston, 77-76-81-234; S. L. Bryan, Durham, 78-78-79-235.

Huge Crowd Thrills Victorious UNC

I saw Coach McGuire when he was pushed, or shoved, and I don't believe he was punched, struck or shoved without fighting back. If anyone had punched him in the stomach, his Irish temper would have exploded and he would have defended himself on the spot.

The Kansas assistant pushed him because he was fearful of what McGuire might do to Harp if they tangled. The wire reports, I'm afraid, exaggerated the incident because they cornered McGuire soon after the ball game when he was still mad.

As for the Tarheels, someone remarked they played like professionals. I disagree. Since they are amateurs, I like to think they played like the champions they are in the NCAA tournament.

It was a wonderful thrill to see the huge crowd of around 10,000 swarming all over Raleigh-Durham Airport yesterday to greet them upon their arrival home.

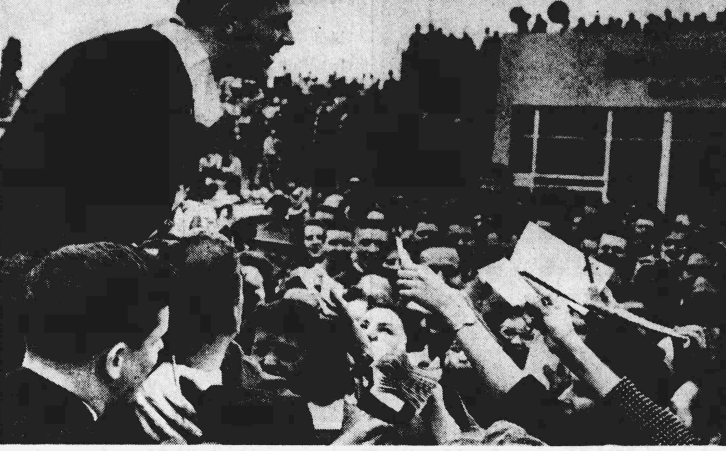
As the plane circled the field and I observed from the air the long lines of cars stretching down both sides of the roads around the airport and the tremendous crowd surrounding the administration building, it seht chills up my spine and I was only a passenger on the plane with the proud champions.

They may be transplanted Yankees but North Carolina is as proud of these Tarheels as if they were native sons.

To Win NCAA Cage Crown

Ball Control, Icy Poise Was UNC Formula

Tempers Hot On Sideline In Tense Overtime Play



(Staff Photo by Thornton)

Joe Quigg Borne Aloft Through Crowd Of Admiring Fans At Airport Reception

Carolina's Secret--Prayer

By JACK HORNER, Herald Sports Editor

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By WILL GRIMSLEY

KANSAS CITY, March 24 (P)—Coach Frank McGuire of the University of North Carolina found the formula for cooling Kansas' seven-foot Wilt Chamberlain—ball control "freeze" and icy team poise.

As a result the Tarheels today are firmly established as the nation's No. 1 college basketball team, winner 54-53 over second-ranked Kansas in a nerve-stabbing triple overtime final marked by angry exchanges and near fist fights among both players and coaches.

"We could never have beaten Kansas if we had chosen to shoot and run with them," the dapper McGuire, who led the unbeaten North Carolinians to their 32nd straight victory, said after last night's tension-loaded game at the Municipal Auditorium.

"They would have run us right out of the place. We were familiar with Chamberlain. We knew we had to control the ball and hope to cut down his opportunities to shoot. It was the only way we could have won."

With slow, deliberate basketball which had the crowd yelling itself ragged, North Carolina, an underdog despite its rank, eased into a methodical 19-7 lead, lost it, fell behind by five points with less than four minutes to play, then rallied to win in the third overtime.

"Our boys were told to play it slow and cool and control the ball," McGuire said. "We used a collapsing zone on Chamberlain, usually had two men on him, one in front and one in back."

"There were plenty of chances to panic, including the wild uprising in the second overtime period when Chamberlain and North Carolina's Pete Brennan wrestled for the ball and had to be pulled apart to keep them from clashing. Kansas Coach Dick Harp rushed onto the court. I wanted to try to prevent a fight," he said later. McGuire came over from the North Carolina bench. Hot words were swapped.

"Kansas said McGuire called them an ugly name. McGuire said Harp told him to 'shut up.' And then, the North Carolina coach said, a 'big guy' on the Kansas bench belted me one in the stomach."

"I don't know the name of the guy who hit me," McGuire said. "But he threw his fist into the pit of my stomach and pushed me back." Other personnel on Kansas' bench said "We didn't do it."

Last night, McGuire said the man who shoved him was Kansas Asst. Coach Jack Eskridge. Asked today for comment, Eskridge said: "The accusation is ridiculous. I did not strike McGuire."

Later the coaches shook hands and agreed there was no hard feeling about the incident of the game," said both McGuire and Harp.

which isn't allowed by NCAA statistics. Each player received wrist watches for the victory and a small team trophy went to the school.

All America Lennie Rosenbluth didn't accompany the team home. He flew to New York to receive his Look Magazine All America watch last night on Ed Sullivan's program, while Coach McGuire stayed in Kansas City to coach the East team in the Shrine All-Star Game tonight.

Rosenbluth was scheduled to fly back to Kansas City last night to play in the game. Then he and Coach McGuire went to New York for the Herald Tribune East-West charity game next Saturday afternoon. Coach McGuire also coaches the East in this game.

governor said later. "It was a wonderful thing for those boys to do."

The Tarheels have been saying these little prayers all season long just before the start of half games, during timeouts and at intermission.

"They've helped," declared Bob Young, flying back from Kansas City yesterday. "We sorta feel like we're riding on a star and everything's going to work out for us."

When the squad knelt down, the players said individual prayers. These prayers could have been the Tarheels' secret weapon which helped them to record 33 consecutive victories without defeat, counting the triumph over McCrary Eagles of Ashboro

'Greatest Moment Of My Life'—Cunningham

Tarheels Will Off Remember Welcoming Fans At Airport

Lennie, Pete All-Tourney

By LARRY KARL, Herald Sports Writer

Yup Joe, some crowd, felt like all 10,000 were trying to get to one spot on the strip.

The wild emotion of the cheering crowd caused the Tarheels to become deeply touched by the display put on in their honor.

Most of the cagers had tears in their eyes as they signed the never-ending autograph requests.

About the welcoming crowd and the victory at Kansas City there were more quotes.

Assistant Coach Buck Freeman: "The boys did a wonderful job and deserve a lot of credit for never giving up even when the going was toughest."

Tommy Kearns: "I can hardly believe it, this is sure great. Bob Cunningham: "It's the greatest moment of my life and will probably always be. I can't think of anything topping this."

Pete Brennan: "It was great, just great, I've never been so happy in all my life."

And reserve Gehrmann Holland: "Do I mind sitting on the bench? No, sir, not with that team out there. As much as I like to play, I'm proud to be able to wear the same uniform as these regulars."

Mrs. Frank McGuire, who somehow managed to get through that thundering herd of humanity to gain a spot at the bottom of the steps leading to the plane, greeted each of the team members and traveling party with warm congratulations.

"I'm so sorry Frank can't be here for this, I know he would really like to be with the boys now. If you live to be 95, you'll never see another demonstration like this. It is surely a fine thing for the people of the area to do for the team," the coach's wife said.

hey Pete (Brennan) How 'Bout Us Behind You!

Johnstone and McIntire Advance In North-South

PINEHURST, March 24 (P)—Mrs. Ann Casey Johnstone, Mason City, Iowa, housewife, and 22-year-old Barbara McIntire of Toledo, Ohio, won their semifinal matches in the North and South women's amateur golf tournament today. They will meet in the 18-hole finals at 10 a. m. (EST) tomorrow.

Mrs. Johnstone, after watching a four-hole lead with five holes to play gradually melt in the face of a determined bid by Anne Richardson of Columbus, Ohio, finally checked her rally by halving the last hole to pull out a 1-up victory.

Mrs. McIntire, two down after four holes, moved ahead at the ninth and led all the way coming in for a 2 and 1 victory over Mary Ann Dovey of Baltimore.

Mrs. Richardson, playing with a painfully injured left wrist, started shakily but she was determined not to default as her father had advised her.

Doctors say the trouble is caused by calcium deposits in the wrist, treated late this morning and bound in tape. It pained her through the match. Mrs. Johnstone, added to the Ohio girls' trouble by shooting a one-over-par 38 on the front side of the 6,000-yard No. 2 course of the Pinehurst Country Club.

That put Mrs. Johnstone three-up at the turn as she birdied the hole eighth and short ninth, the latter on a putt of about 10 feet.

Anne went ahead fleetingly by winning the second hole with a par four, but Mrs. Johnstone, with a par of four low state titles since 1941, swept the fourth, fifth and sixth holes for a two-hole lead.

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Tommy Kearns Is Greeted By Mrs. Frank McGuire

(Staff Photo by Tripp)

Hey Pete (Brennan) How 'Bout Us Behind You!

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