

Final Four size up foes

United Press International

The semifinals of the NCAA basketball tournament, which will be held in Seattle next weekend, perhaps more appropriately should be played at the foot of Mt. St. Helens.

It would form the perfect backdrop for a program cover. After all, three of the teams in the Final Four have mountainous big men who at any time can erupt like a volcano.

Patrick Ewing of Georgetown, Mel Turpin and Sam Bowie of Kentucky and Akeem Olajuwon of Houston are all 7-footers who throw their weight — and elbows — around with considerable authority.

It is ironic that the fourth team in the semifinals, Virginia, does not have a dominating big man. The Cavaliers had the nation's most dominating college center the past three years in 7-4 Ralph Sampson but never won the NCAA tournament

(Akeem) Olajuwon was all-everything Sunday in the Cougars' 68-63 triumph over Wake Forest. He scored 29 points, grabbed 12 rebounds, blocked three shots and changed the arc of countless others.

and reached the Final Four only once.

Virginia's center this year is skinny, 6-11 Olden Polynice, who performed well, if not spectacularly, in the Cavaliers' 50-48 East Regional triumph over Indiana last Saturday. Polynice will be put to the supreme test Saturday when he goes up against Olajuwon in the opener of the double-header at the Kingdome.

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bounds, blocked three shots and changed the arc of countless others.

Wake Forest guard Danny Young was so impressed with Olajuwon that he compared him favorably to Sampson, who was voted college basketball's Player of the Year three times.

"I think Akeem is more active on defense (than Sampson)," said Young. "On offense, I don't see much difference. Both of them have very good offensive moves. Akeem surprised me with some of his moves today. I knew he was a good of-

fensive player. I didn't know he was that good."

The Georgetown-Kentucky contest will pit All-America Ewing against the so-called "Twin Towers" of Kentucky, Turpin and Bowie.

"It'll be the Rockies against the Alps," said Dayton Coach Don Donohoe when asked to size up the game. "They might want to go to a four or five-man (officiating) crew for that game. They might want an NFL crew."

Kentucky, too, is very physical and Georgetown Coach John Thompson thinks a key to the game will be how well his forwards, Ralph Dalton (6-11) and Michael Graham (6-9), play against a team as big up front as the Wildcats.

"We'll be against bigger teams," said Thompson, "but our (defensive) pressure will be important, too. Ralph and Mike will be the key to that."

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill



A&M Handball team takes second place

By Karen Wallace
Staff Writer

The Texas A&M handball team brought home a second place trophy from the 1984 United States Handball Association's National Collegiate Tournament held in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

"We came in second in the nation out of an 18 team field," said Lance Lowy, coach of the team. Lake Forest, from Chicago, Illinois, won the tournament, but A&M gave them a run for their money, Lowy said.

"Lake Forest gives scholarships for handball so they are an automatic powerhouse," Lowy said. "We had a great chance to beat them, but we came out a little short."

The tournament was broken down into men's and women's A, B, and C divisions.

Lowy said that Matt Pokryfki, the top player on the team, played a major part in the team's success. Pokryfki, a senior on the team, placed second in division B.

Pokryfki said everybody had a hand in bringing home the team's second place title.

"It felt good to place second because for the last three years we've placed third," Pokryfki said. "It wasn't just me, it was everybody."

Another place holder is Brent Burtran, who placed fourth in division C for the second year in a row.

"Burtran is twice as good as he was last year and he still placed fourth," Lowy said, showing you how fast the quality of changes."

Lowy, who has won various tournaments, said it was the women on the team that pulled them through.

"We would have the best women's team in the country if we had a separate women's team," Lowy said.

Lowy said the men and women are one to one team for the 'teammate comradeship."

Julie Werner placed second in the women's division A, Renee' deLassus placed third, women's division A, and Kay Kern placed division A.

"My girls are all champions," Lowy said. He said the best part of the tournament was the bond created among the team members.

"There was a great feeling of togetherness," Lowy said. "The players who lost in the rounds went beerk cheering in the stands. We do the best we can. Some got beat, but it was a great learning experience."

Lowy said the handball team consists of 22 members chosen from his handball classes.

"Each person deserves recognition for their contribution to the team," he said.

Owls roast Hogs

United Press International

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — David Hinrichs' pitching bottled up Arkansas Monday, helping Rice to a 7-2 victory over the Razorbacks in Southwest Conference baseball action.

Hinrichs allowed nine hits and struck out 10 Hogs in winning his sixth game without a loss.

The victory by 20th-ranked Rice, now 23-4 for the year and 3-3 in SWC play, kept the Hogs from a three-game series sweep. Arkansas, 25-5 and 4-2, is 11th in this week's Collegiate Baseball magazine poll.

Controversy erupted in the Rice fifth when, leading 4-1, Owl first baseman Carl Mikeska hit what an apparent two-run homer. But Razorback catcher Mark Berry pointed out to umpire Bob Roberts that Mikeska's bat lacked a required marking 18 inches from the handle.

Roberts agreed, calling Mikeska out for using an illegal bat and nullifying the home run.

A two-run double by James

Thompson gave the Owls a first inning lead. The Owls scored single runs in the fourth and fifth innings, and clinched the win with three in the ninth, including Scott Johnson's solo homer.

Arkansas' runs came in the first inning, when Mike Loggins doubled home Jim Ward, and in the sixth on Brett Harrison's RBI single.

Kevin Campbell, 3-1, suffered the loss despite allowing only three hits in five innings.

Meyer leaves without crown

United Press International

ST. LOUIS — If a Hollywood writer had been scripting this year's NCAA tournament, he would have had Ray Meyer and DePaul preparing to meet Houston in Sunday's NCAA Midwest Regional final.

He would have had grandfatherly Meyer taking his team to the Final Four in Seattle — and winning that elusive national championship in his 42nd and final season. And Meyer would have been carried off the floor by his jubilant team as a champion.

But Meyer was a spectator Sunday, watching Houston defeat Wake Forest, 68-63, the team that ended his career in melodramatic fashion.

Instead of the jubilant final, the end was a tearjerker. Meyer, frustrated by his team's turn-overs and missed free throws

down the stretch in the 73-71 overtime loss to Wake Forest, tried to put up a smiling front.

But the pain of the loss and the degree of the disappointment was too strong.

"It'll take a while to get over that loss," Meyer said.

figured.

"I don't think anyone dreamed we'd do what we did. That is why this team is very special to me," Meyer said.

It was that theme that Meyer tried to convey to his dejected squad in a small clubhouse in

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the St. Louis Arena Saturday. "The coach" downplayed any sympathy that fans and media alike were showing for the 70-year-old Meyer.

"I don't feel sorry for myself. I feel sorry for the players,"

Meyer said "I told them out and hang their heads. They are not losers."

But the players couldn't shake off the feeling that let down a man who had entered the Hall of Fame who built DePaul into a power.

"When I saw that last in, I felt very low," said Tyronne Corbin, who wanted to win this year's title.

Joey Meyer, who started first day as head coach, could only wipe the look around the arena and reflect.

"There were so many down the stretch we couldn't win the game," Meyer said. "It wasn't to be."

An ending that would have been different if they were in the aisles.

Astros, Rangers both score wins

United Press International

Astros 5, Tigers 4

Ray Knight singled home Jose Cruz from third base with one out in the twelfth inning to give the Houston Astros a 5-4 exhibition baseball victory over the Detroit Tigers Monday.

Cruz led off the inning with a single, reached second base on a balk and moved to third base on Alan Ashby's infield grounder.

Denny Walling singled home the tying run for Houston in the bottom of the eighth inning.

The Astros took a 3-0 first inning lead off Detroit starting pitcher Jack Morris, scoring on Phil Garner's two run double as Jerry Mumphrey's RBI single.

But Detroit gained a tie against Houston pitcher Nolan Ryan when Lou Whitaker singled in a third inning run and Tom Brookens doubled in two

runs in the fourth.

The Astros are 14-8 in exhibition games. Detroit is 8-14.

Rangers 3, Orioles 0

Four Ranger pitchers combined on a six-hit shutout and an error by Todd Cruz led to three unearned runs in the seventh Monday to give Texas a 3-0 victory over the Baltimore Orioles.

With two out in the seventh, Jim Anderson singled and went to second on an error by Orioles rightfielder Dan Ford. George

Wright was safe on third man Cruz' error, sending the game to a tie.

Bobby Jones doubled. Anderson to make it 1-0. Gary Ward followed with a run single for a 3-0 lead.

Rangers' starter Frank Tompa pitched the first six innings, allowing four hits and one run. Relievers Tom Odell Jones and Dave shut out the Orioles on the rest of the way.

LIGHTS...
CAMERA...
BUT WHERE'S THE ACTION?

THE BIG EVENT

MARCH 31st

Young eyeing title; wants to help team

United Press International

ST. LOUIS — Third-team All-America forward Michael Young of Houston was 20 minutes away from disaster — a silent end to his college basketball career.

Unlike fellow forward Clyde Drexler, Young chose to return to Houston for his senior season and one last shot at the national title. He averaged 20.3 points to help the Cougars win the

Southwest Conference championship and advance to the Midwest Regional round of the NCAA Tournament.

But Houston overcame a disastrous 5-of-22 shooting performance by Young to win the 78-71 semifinal victory. Memphis State Friday and held a precarious half-time lead Sunday in the Midwest title game against Wake Forest despite a error points from Young.

But it was a different Young who came out in the second half, scoring 13 of his 15 points to propel the Cougars to a 63 victory over Wake Forest and a berth in the NCAA Final Four for the third straight year.

"It would have been tough to end my career that way, knowing I didn't do much to help out," said Young. "I was the fourth all-time leading scorer in Southwest Conference history."

"In order for us to get here (regional), I knew I had to do something out there on the floor. I didn't do very much the first half — I was just out of standing around."

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