

Sports

Knight says Indiana, Penn State played by the rules to win titles

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Coach Bob Knight says his Indiana basketball team struck a blow for the good guys in college athletics by winning the NCAA championship — just as he believes Penn State did in football.

"I think it's great that two teams with high graduation rates and no recruiting garbage can win national championships in the same season," said Knight after capturing his third national title.

Knight takes pride in Indiana's adherence to NCAA's rules and his insistence that student-athletes fulfill the first part of that description.

"It pleases me tremendously for the kids and for our system," the coach said in the aftermath of Indiana's 74-73 victory over Syracuse Monday night in the NCAA championship game.

"I'm obviously a target for a lot of criticism for one reason or another — some justified and some not — and here we have three different sets of kids with three championships. Our record has been pretty good in the tournament, and what that means to me is pretty good testimony that we're doing things the way they should be done."

He believes by winning the college football title, Penn State did the same. "The last couple of regular-

season games, I was rooting for Penn State and Joe Paterno to win the football championships," he said.

Knight relaxed his philosophy somewhat when he allowed transferred junior-college players to join his team. In his 16th season at Indiana the 1984 Olympic gold medal-coach, realized that junior-college players could provide the instant help that was needed if the Hoosiers were to stay competitive.

Keith Smart, one of those players, was the most valuable player in Indiana's victory. He figures prominently in Knight's plans for next season.

After third-ranked Indiana, 30-4, had defeated No. 10 Syracuse, Knight talked as if he couldn't wait to get going again, even though Steve Alford, a two-time All-American guard, will no longer be around.

"I can't wait to see Keith Smart at point guard as a senior," Knight said of the 6-foot-1 junior.

In the game, Smart scored 21 points, including the game-winner — a 16-foot corner shot with five seconds left. He took over when it appeared the Orangemen, 31-7, were on their way to their first national title before an NCAA record-equaling crowd of 64,959 at the Superdome. Smart scored 12 of Indiana's last 15 points as the Orangemen

let the game slip away. He made nine of 15 from the field and added six assists and five rebounds.

"If it goes in, it's my shot," Smart said of his game-winner.

What it did was put Knight in select company with coaches who have won more than two NCAA crowns — UCLA's John Wooden (10) and Kentucky's Adolph Rupp (four).

There were 13 ties and 19 lead changes. Syracuse held the largest lead, eight points (52-44) with 13:09 left in the game and Sherman Douglas (20 points) did best to keep the Orangemen in front.

Syracuse, now 31-7, furiously tried to call a timeout after Smart's basket, but the officials didn't call it until the clock ticked off to one second left.

"We discussed it at the (scorer's) table," referee Jody Silvester said. "When the timeout was picked up, there was one second left."

Syracuse's Derrick Coleman, who finished with 19 rebounds, tried a long pass from under the basket, but Smart was there to intercept it. He tossed the ball some 30 rows into the seats after the horn sounded.

Alford, Indiana's all-time leading scorer, finished with 23 points and 2,438 for his career.



A&M catcher Maury Martin demonstrates the finer points of catching to two Little Leaguers at

the Little League Clinic held between games A&M's double-header with North Texas State

A&M takes two from NTSU Aggies pound out 22 hits in 5-2, 14-1 wins

By Doug Hall
Sports Writer

Tuesday night's double-header between Texas A&M and North Texas State was a series of numbers. And fortunately for the Aggies, who improved their season record to 29-12-1 with the two victories, they were holding all the right cards.

Between the two games, A&M used 22 base hits and 10 North Texas State errors to outscore the Mean Green 19 to 3. In the opening game, Scott Centala improved his season record to 5-2 with a 5-2 win. In the finale, Russ Greene evened his record at 1-1 as the Aggies won 14-1.

A&M Head Coach Mark Johnson, whose team is coming off a three-game sweep of Texas Tech in Lubbock, said this series is a big one for the Aggies, especially with the Baylor Bears coming to Olsen Field for a three-game weekend series.

"There is no doubt about it," Johnson said, "we were definitely pushing for a good series against them (North Texas State). And they're probably going to throw their ace against us tomorrow."

"In the second game, I thought we really hit the ball well. Russ (Greene) threw the ball well, and Ed Perez got to throw some.

We're trying to get as many pitchers across the line as possible to get a good indication for this weekend."

In all, Johnson continued his policy of using as many pitchers as possible in non-conference games by using seven different pitchers over the two games.

Darryl Fry, whose five victories tie him with Gary Geiger and Centala for the team lead, opened the first game and faced the minimum nine batters over the first three innings.

In the fourth, however, Johnson put Centala on the mound, and the sophomore transfer struggled through the next two innings.

After the Mean Green took a 2-1 lead on several Aggie errors in the fourth, Johnson's squad responded with a three-run fifth. Shortstop Ever Magallanes contributed two RBI with a double off the glove of North Texas State left fielder Reggie Petty.

The Aggies' leading hitter, third baseman Scott Livingstone, who has been in and out of the lineup lately with an injured shoulder, then brought in Magallanes with a line-drive single to right field. The Aggies added an insurance run in the sixth, but North Texas State never threat-

ened again thanks to the superb pitching of Pat Werning, who earned the save.

So Centala, who is struggling with a tender arm, had the impressive performance that wound up in the winner's circle.

If the Mean Green, whose season record fell to 9-26, threatened even momentarily in the first game, then the second game was all A&M's.

The Aggies jumped out to a 0 lead in the second game as pitcher Don Coen by combining walk with four straight hits. In that, the Aggie pitching staff had the game under control.

Of the Aggies eight at-bats in the second game, only twice did they fail to have someone on the plate.

Combining that high-run production with strong pitching from Sean Snedeker, David Johnson and Perez, North Texas State would probably have done better by staying in Denton in the weather.

Johnson said freshman Ryan Pryor would take the mound in the first game of the series that starts at 3 p.m.

"We've been working Ryan every week and just hope that will be able to work in to a conference game."

New bill to allow lawsuits against boosters

AUSTIN (AP) — A Texas Senate committee approved a bill Tuesday that would allow schools and conferences to sue boosters who violate NCAA rules. The boosters could be sued for up to \$10,000 per violation.

Sen. John Montford, the bill sponsor, reminded his colleagues that four of the nine Southwest Conference schools are on probation for violating NCAA recruiting rules and three others are under investigation.

"It has become obvious that the NCAA rules cannot handle the problem associated with alleged irregularities in intercollegiate athletic recruitment. To compound that

problem, the NCAA rules will not reach a booster or an alumnus situation where that person is outside any type of sanction or purview of the NCAA rules," said Montford, D-Lubbock.

"The institution is particularly vulnerable since it, along with the players, is normally the subject of the sanctions, and yet it has virtually no recourse against boosters who engage in this type of conduct," Montford said.

The bill does not provide for criminal sanctions, but "it does provide significant meaningful civil pe-

nalties in the event a violation occurs," he said.

The bill "does not reach players or coaches," Montford said. He added that he felt current sanctions by the National Collegiate Athletic Association "are arguably adequate in that regard."

Sen. Gene Green, D-Houston, asked if Montford had considered allowing others, such as ex-students' associations, to sue boosters and alumni who violate NCAA rules.

"I have no personal objection to that. I would hate to just throw it open to anybody without some reasonable connection to the university," Montford said.

Lady Ag tennis team blanked by Trinity

The Texas A&M women's tennis team was shut out 9-0 by 8th-ranked Trinity Tuesday afternoon at the Omar Smith Tennis Center.

The Lady Aggies were no match for Trinity, which has three of its players ranked in the top 50 in the country.

In singles, A&M's Kim Labuschagne, ranked 47th in the nation, lost to Jane Holdren 2-6, 3-6, and Laura Liang fell to Trinity's Ann Hulbert 6-1, 1-6, 2-6.

"I thought Laura played an excel-

lent match against Hulbert," A&M Coach Bobby Kleinecke said. "I was really pleased with her effort."

In other matches, A&M's Lisa Keller fell to Elvyn Barrable 4-6, 0-6, A&M's Jennifer Jones lost to Jana Klepac 1-6, 0-6. Trinity's Katrina-Crawford defeated Missy Kibler 6-0, 6-1, and Dabney Langhorne knocked off A&M's Melissa Dowling 6-0, 6-0.

In the doubles bracket, Labuschagne and Liang lost to Hulbert and Holdren 3-6, 3-6, and Jones and

Keller fell to Trinity's Barrable and Klepace 2-6, 3-6. A&M's duo of Kibler and Sami Gonzales lost to M.L. Cladis and Mary Graber 2-6, 1-6.

"Trinity's an excellent team," Kleinecke said. "They are more talented than I thought. They can put you in a position to beat yourself, but they don't make mistakes."

The Lady Aggies have a busy weekend on the road ahead of them. They will face Arkansas in Fayetteville Friday and play SMU Saturday in Dallas.

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