

# New rules to speed up games

DENVER (AP) — College basketball's long-range gunners can rest easy, at least for another season.

The NCAA said Tuesday it will not push back the 3-point line from the current distance of 19 feet, 9 inches, although it will allow conferences to experiment next year with using the international 3-point line distance of 20-6.

"Why fool around with something that's been extremely successful?" asked Edward Steitz, secretary of the NCAA Men's Basketball Rules Committee. "We never say never, but we have a great game. To me, the game has never been better."

The committee did, however, make rule changes it said were designed to cut down on intentional fouls, speed up the game and hand out stiffer penalties for fighting in the 1990-91 basketball season.

It also decided to give three free throws to a player fouled while attempting a shot from beyond the 3-point line.

Under the new rules, players will be given technicals for taunting or swearing at opponents and will be suspended for the season if they are involved in two on-court fights. Any player fighting will be automatically suspended for his team's next game.

"The stuff that has been going on has been totally undesirable," Steitz said. "We just don't think this should be part of the college game."

Coaches or players given two technical fouls will now be ejected from games, while the head coach will be ejected after three bench technicals have been called on his team.

In an effort to speed up the game, players will be given two free throws instead of a one-and-one after the opposing team's 10th foul of each half and timeouts will be cut from four to three for each team in televised contests.

"We want to minimize the time it takes to play the last few minutes of the ballgame," Steitz said. "We felt this was a gradual approach toward doing that."

Steitz said the rules committee debated changing the 3-point line but decided not to because of the excitement it adds to the game. He noted that shooting accuracy from 3-point range has fallen from 38.6 percent to 36.6 percent over the past three years and that 30 games in this year's NCAA tournament were decided by five points or less.

The National Association of Basketball Coaches last week said it would recommend to the committee that the line be moved back to correspond with the international line. Steitz predicted that no conferences would adopt the experimental 20-6 line used in the Olympics and other international competition.

"We had it as an experimental rule two years ago and we had no

takers," he said. "I don't see many conferences opting to use it this time."

The committee also decided to offer to conferences on an experimental basis a "no foul out" rule that will allow players to remain in games no matter how many fouls they pick up.

Under the rule, a player fouled by another player who has six or more fouls will get three foul shots to make two.

The rule replaces an experimental six-foul rule used by three conferences this year, that Steitz said was dropped after a poll of coaches showed only 21 percent supported it.

"I do think we'll have some conferences that will opt for the no foul out rule," he said.

Other changes approved by the committee for the 1990-91 season include:

— A player will be assessed a technical if he grasps or hangs on the rim unless he is fouled or is trying to avoid an obvious injury to himself or another player.

— The 45-second clock will not be reset when a blocked shot goes out of bounds.

— Only four players from each team may line up on the lane during free throws.

# UNLV has title, now Tarkanian must answer lingering questions

DENVER (AP) — UNLV had been national champions for less than an hour when the cynical questions began.

How long will they let Tark look at? Will the "V" stand for vacated? Does Duke get its first title as a promoted runner-up?

You have to admit there were flashbacks to the 1981 meeting between Al Davis and Pete Rozelle when Jerry Tarkanian accepted the championship trophy from Jim Delany, chairman of the NCAA tournament committee.

The moment snapped everyone back to reality after watching what has to be one of the top performances in a championship game.

The Runnin' Rebels' 103-73 victory over Duke on Monday set offensive records and a defensive standard. From now on, all will be measured against what UNLV did to the Blue Devils in extending the worst postseason record — no titles in eight trips to the Final Four.

"I don't think you people realize what you saw," Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski said during his five-minute glowing tribute to UNLV's defensive effort. "I think it's the best a team has played against me as a coach. They're great. That was great defense."

It was the first 100-point effort in a championship game and it was the largest margin of victory in a title game. The Runnin' Rebels had a record 16 steals; they set a tournament scoring mark with 571 points in six games; and the 30-point margin of victory was their third such blowout of the tournament.

The Final Four games provided a sharp contrast to the first four rounds, where 23 games were decided by three points or less.

The closest game this weekend was nine points and that was UNLV's 90-81 semifinal win over Georgia Tech. It was the second half of that game which began UNLV's 60 minutes of defense.

The Runnin' Rebels trailed Georgia Tech by seven and Tarkanian was upset with the defensive intensity.

## Tarkanian puts ill feelings aside, accepts NCAA trophy

DENVER (AP) — In his ultimate moment of glory, Jerry Tarkanian didn't want to collect the spoils of victory.

Tarkanian said he had to be talked into accepting the championship trophy from the NCAA after UNLV routed Duke 103-73 Monday night to win the national title.

"I really did not want to accept the trophy," Tarkanian said. "I wanted our athletic director to take it but they told me I had to, so I did."

Not that Tarkanian was trying to sleight the NCAA, which he has battled for the better part of the last two decades.

On the contrary, he wanted to show he wasn't going to bear a grudge in his finest moment.

"I wanted to make the point this was not the biggest thing for me," Tarkanian said. "The big thing to me is our fans. Probably

the greatest satisfaction was our kids played so well for people that it meant so much for."

Tarkanian mounted a platform set up at midcourt and took the trophy from Jim Delany, chairman of the Division I basketball tournament.

Thousands of Rebels fans cheered the ceremony.

"It's not revenge, it's sweet," Tarkanian said. "I never felt I could win the tournament, and that's what makes it so great."

Tarkanian called his team's dominating performance probably the best pressure game he ever has had a team play. He also called this year's team, which was ranked No. 1 in preseason, the best he has ever coached.

"It's like a fairytale to be here," the 59-year-old coach said. "This has got to be the best team UNLV ever had. Without a doubt, without a question."

Whatever he said at halftime did the trick because in the next 60 minutes, UNLV held the opposition to 40 percent field-goal shooting (36 for 90) and forced 30 turnovers.

"We had a period in the second half against Duke where our defense couldn't be any better," Tarkanian said. "This was one of those games you dream about."

The New York Times reported Tuesday that the coach's troubles with the NCAA investigators may not be over and that Tark and his program may face additional sanctions in connection with infractions dating back to 1977.

Jim Marchiony, a spokesman for the NCAA, said reports that the association would not pursue the 1977 matter were inaccurate. "The NCAA has made no such agreement," Marchiony told the Times.

# Stewart not bitter over Cy Young snubbing

PHOENIX (AP) — Although three straight 20-win seasons didn't get Dave Stewart any Cy Young Awards, two World Series wins made him a national star and got him an MVP trophy.

"Somebody just keeps on putting together a little bit better year," the Oakland right-hander said. "That happens. But I don't think there's any doubt in anybody's mind that in the last 3 1/2 to four years, I've been the most consistent pitcher around. Sometimes that's more rewarding than actually winning the Cy Young."

In 1987, Stewart finished third in the Cy Young voting after a 20-13 season, the first 20-win season for Oakland since Mike Norris in 1980.

Stewart won a career-high 21 games against 12 losses in 1988, but finished fourth in the balloting.

Last year, he was 13-4 at the All-Star break and appeared on his way to the Cy Young. He finished 21-9, but Bret Saberhagen of Kansas City was 23-6 and won it.

"Sometimes you have to wait," the easy-going Stewart said with a smile and a shrug. "I think I'll win it someday. It's better late than never is the way I look at it."

He will make \$850,000 in 1990 in

the final season of a three-year deal for \$2.3 million guaranteed. That's underpaid by today's standards, so on Jan. 17 Oakland agreed to a two-year extension for \$7 million. Stewart got a \$2 million signing bonus and will earn \$2.5 million in both 1991 and 1992 seasons.

"The A's feel that I'm the best pitcher in major league baseball, and I'd like to think so too, based on my past three seasons," Stewart said. "Those are the rewards of being consistent and posting the numbers that I have."

Stewart is the first to string together three consecutive 20-win seasons since Jim Palmer got four straight from 1975-78. The only other Oakland pitcher to do it was Hall of Famer Catfish Hunter from 1971-74.

Using a wicked split-finger fastball and pinpoint control, Stewart has won 62 games from 1987-89, Boston's Roger Clemens and Saberhagen won 55 each in that span.

"I'm ahead of them by a pretty good little margin," Stewart said. "Consistency is what I strive for. You want a guy out there you can depend on who can at least keep you in the ballgame. I represent that on this club."

# Austin scrambles to finish Pokes training facility

AUSTIN (AP) — Football fields for a Dallas Cowboys training camp, and sports facilities Austin residents get to use in return, should open within a month despite troubles the project has faced, city officials said.

To woo the Cowboys' training camp to Austin, the city council last fall promised \$191,000 to build football fields at St. Edward's University.

In exchange, the university promised to open its swimming pool, soccer fields, gymnasiums and other sports facilities to the public.

However, the city is finding it difficult to fulfill its obligation to the university.

City estimates did not anticipate drainage improvements to the fields, costing an additional \$181,000. To make up part of the money, some construction requirements were trimmed back, including spacing drainage pipes 20 feet instead of 10 feet apart.

Private donations made up the rest of the cost, and city officials say the fields will be completed by the original April deadline. The Cowboys are to begin training in Austin in mid-July.

Assistant City Manager Alicia Perez said city and university officials also are negotiating the details of opening many of the university's sports facilities to the public.

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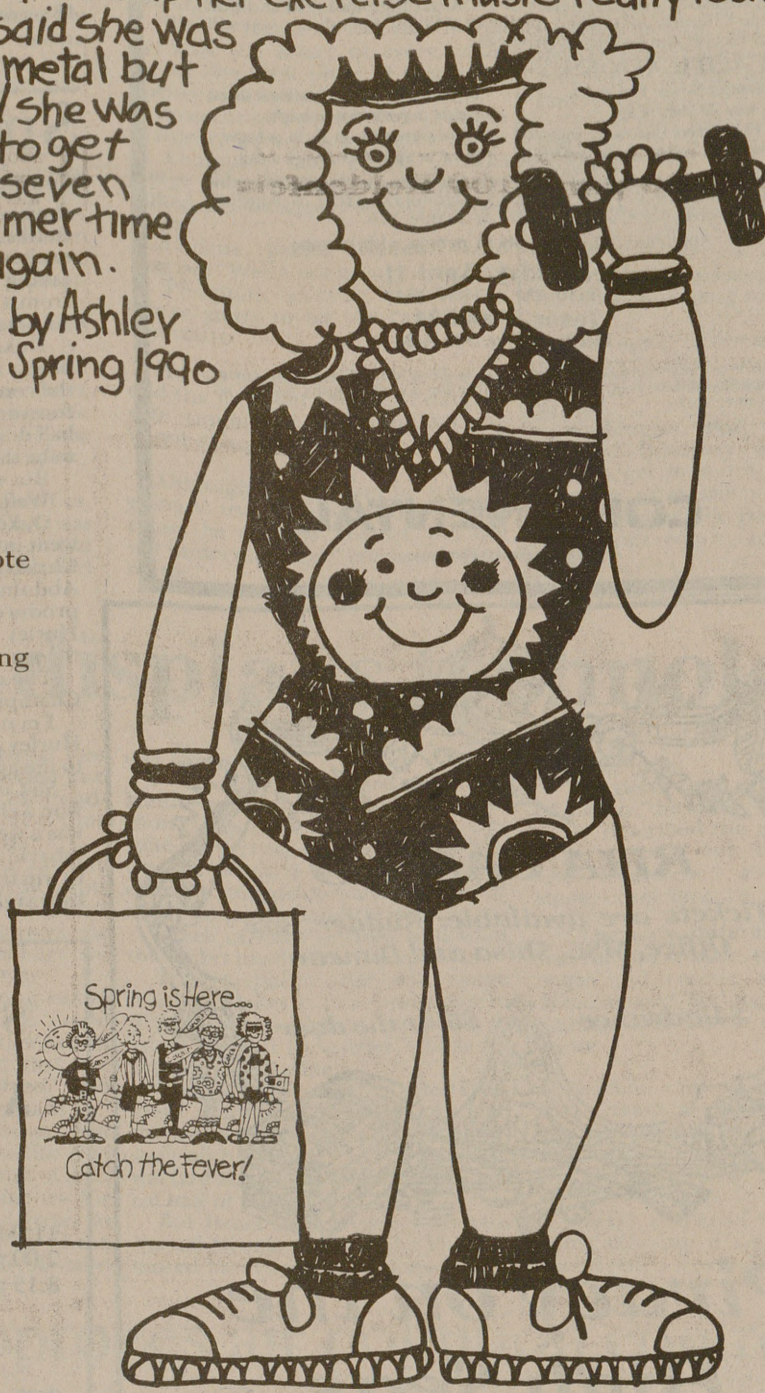
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# Spring is Here and Daddy said my Mommy is really into heavy metal.

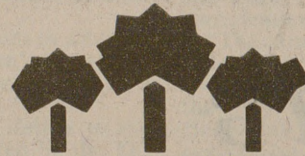
Every year when the new spring fashions come out Mom always goes to the mall and spends all day trying on new clothes. This year she came home and put on her pink tights and turned up her exercise music really loud. My Daddy said she was into heavy metal but Mommy said she was just trying to get into a size seven before summer time gets here again.

by Ashley Spring 1990



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