Carolina earns right to face State tonight

By TEDDY HEFFNER
Sports Editor
GREENSBORO— North Carolina survived the first round of the eighteenth annual Atlantic Coast Conference tournament with a 72-61 win over Maryland, earning the right to advance to the semi-finals tonight against North Carolina State, which stunned Duke, 68-61, in the opening game of the night session.

The semi-final match will feature the same two clubs that battled in the tournament championship last season. State won a 42-49 overtime verdict over the then third ranked Gamecocks. It will be the sixth meeting between the two clubs. State has won all but one, a 80-79 overtime upset in 1961. Little Scotty Ward sank four crucial free throws in the last minute to key the first round USC win.

State won 66-61 in 1958, behind Lou Paull's 33 points, won 75-72 in 1959 and 75-62 in the 1966 semi-finals.

The Wolfpack has the best tournament record of any ACC school. They have a 26-11 slate entering tonight's game. State has won six tournament titles, two more than anyone else.

State has reached the finals twice in the last three years, losing 62-38 to USC in 1968, after upsetting Duke 12-10 in the semi-finals. USC threw up a pressing man to man defense to offset a spread Maryland offense and made Maryland Coach Lefty Driesell eat his words. The Terp mentor had been quoted in a Washington area paper as saying "Roche and those boys don't know how to win." USC's man to man, a combination trap and rotation, made the most of second half turnovers and left 6'11" Tom Owens open to roam.

USC was not bothered in the least by a jersey switch by Driesell which had the Maryland players wearing teammates numbers.

Owens responded with several bank shots and 15 rebounds. He also came up with 16 points. "Owens is a tower of strength underneath," said McGuire after the win. "He was under there to stop the little guy (Howard White) from shooting."

White had hurt the Gamecocks in both earlier meetings with a 38 point effort in the teams' first

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N.C. State surprises Duke in shocking upset victory

By TEDDY HEFFNER
Sports Editor
GREENSBORO— North Carolina State's "nifty nine"'s shocking 68-61 upset of Duke proved to be the highlight of the first round of the Atlantic Coast Conference's eighteenth annual tournament.

The Wolfpack, hurting from the loss of two top players, completely outplayed and out hustled Duke's talented and taller Blue Devils.

"I can't tell you exactly how I feel," State head coach Norman Sloan said. "We have a bunch of young men that didn't have a very good year. We didn't play well at times. We've won two games."

They wanted to prove they could play basketball.

"We are very proud. We played well under pressure."

Sloan would not discuss tonight's semi-final bout with USC. The rarity Wolfpack mentor smiled and said, "This is one of the most... We want to win the game."

"We want another shot. We lost by five down there (Chapel Hill) and by one at our place. We know we can play with them. We'll have a difficult time controlling the tempo against USC, but I don't think we can run with them."

Wake coach McClokey didn't put much stock in the last shot. "We lost the game in the first half. We didn't lose it in the second half and we didn't lose it on the last shot. We played the most non-point game, we just made them miss a bunch of shots."

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