Seminoles, Cardinals, Heels to test Bruins

BY DOUG WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

Louisville, North Carolina and Florida State pose the latest threats to UCLA's dominance of college basketball next weekend, as the NCAA finals begin Thursday in Los Angeles.

Henry Bibby and super-sophomore Bill Walton combined for 42 points, as the Bruins dropped Western powerhouse, Long Beach State 73-57, in the finals of the West Regionals in Provo, Utah.

The Bruins now meet Louisville, a 72-65 victor over Kansas State in the semifinals, while Florida State, which knocked off Southeastern Conference champ, Kentucky 72-54, attacks powerful North Carolina in the other game.

UCLA, in pushing their record to 28-0 for the season, got 20 points from All-America guard Bibby, as Walton, everybody's Player of the Year, added 19. The Bruins took advantage of a poor shooting performance by Long Beach, which hit only 29 per cent.

UCLA coach John Wooden had stated prior to the game that Long Beach would be the Bruins' toughest test, but declined to comment whether it was or not. The Bruins jumped to an early 14 point lead, a course that surprised even Wooden. "In every game, the boys have gotten off to a good start," he said. "But I expected this one to be a lot closer."

Meanwhile, Louisville, 24-5, saw a 9 point lead disappear, as Kansas State twice pulled within three points after trailing by as many as 26. As late as 1:33, the Wildcats were three down, but Jim Price and Mike Lawson pulled the game out for the Cardinals. Price led all scorers with 25, as Ron Thomas accounted for 18 and Lawhon scored 10.

"We got so far ahead, we let down," said Cardinal coach Denny Crum, a former top assistant with Wooden at UCLA. "I guess we lack the killer instinct. I don't know what you can do for that, but we had better find out fast."

Perhaps the biggest surprise of the regional tournaments was Florida State's berth in the finals. The Seminoles 26-5, who were handily destroyed by Cincinnati on regional television, were able to hold Kentucky without a basket for eight minutes of the second half, before conquering Adolph Rupp's quintet.

The Wildcats went from the 14 minute mark down to six minutes without a field goal. Down by four, 43-39, before the cold spell, Kentucky was on the short end of a 57-45 score, by which time it was too late to recover.

Six-four Ron King led the Seminoles with 22 points, while 6-10 Reggie Royal and 6-11 Lawrence McCray added 12 apiece.

"It's the most satisfying victory of my career," said FSU coach Hugh Durham. "If it is Rupp's last year, it's nice to beat him in his last game. When a team like Kentucky is averaging over 80 points and you hold them to 54, it's tough to beat you."

For Rupp it may have been his last game as a coach, due to a rule requiring a faculty member to retire at age 70. "At least I'll see the finals anyway as a spectator and not as a coach. Florida State just wore us down. We already went so much farther than we should have."

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Tuesday afternoon, Bob Kleinmoecht singled. Tommy Moody reached on a fielder's choice and scored on John Petoskey's triple. Petoskey then scored on a wild pitch let home by Kammeyer.

Stanford stole five bases on Carolina catcher Choate, while USC's runners failed to steal in either game, making it five games in a row in which a Gamecock has not thieved a base.

The USC batters take this afternoon off before facing UCLA and Cornell in tournament action on Thursday.

On the run

USC head football coach Paul Dietzel leads some of the spring grid hopefuls in a jog during Carolina's early spring practices.

Five run ninth inning lifts Indians to win

open. In the final Stanford batting show, the Indians sent 10 men to the plate to pick up their five runs.

USC secured both their runs in the bottom of the seventh, when Bob Kleinmoecht singled. Tommy Moody reached on a fielder's choice and scored on John Petoskey's triple. Petoskey then scored on a wild pitch let home by Kammeyer.

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