

Looking for a way to win when you've got nothing to gain?

By COURTNEY DANIEL
Chronicle Intern

The annals of sport are full of great upsets, when David met Goliath on the field, or on the court and battled against the odds to emerge victorious.

But what about those underdogs who find themselves trampled by the soles of Goliath's 44W sandals, there are no spectacular records of their failed attempt at the improbable.

Such is the story of Wofford's Jan. 30 venture into the LJV Coliseum to face the 2nd-ranked Demon Deacons of Wake Forest. And while the Terriers, playing David, had nothing to lose, the question for Dave Odom was, "What could Wake Forest gain by facing a less talented team in the middle of the war that is the ACC-regular season?"

His answer was to get a good workout for his second string. A decision that could pay off down the stretch if Wake needs quality minutes from is bench later this season.

Odom started a first unit of Tim Duncan, Ricky Peral, Loren Woods, Tony Rutland, and Jerry Braswell for first the 8 minutes of the first half then went to his bench for whole sale substitutions.

"I wanted to stay with the substitution pattern unless the bottom just fell out," said Odom. "This game was a good time to

get the 2nd team a good sweat." The team of Joseph Amonett, Sean Allen, Steven Goolsby, Rodney West and Marc Scott played the rest of the first half. Amonett and Goolsby led the team in playing time for the game with 31 and 30 minutes respectively.

It was a good chance for the bench to get some off the rust off, and get some experience in meaningful situations. It proved none too soon because the rust was thick for the Demon Deacons, who were actually outscored over the last 12 minutes of the half by Wofford.

Odom played a mixture of the first and second five in the second half and eventually got a chance to empty his bench in the 68-51 win. Odom also used the game as a chance to work out the kinks in the Demon Deacons full-court pressure, a defense the team will use more on the backside off their ACC schedule.

"As far as the game is concerned I thought Wofford was real patient and I wish our second five had played better," coach Odom said. The bench only scored 19 of Wake's 68 points, and accounted for 9 of Wake's 16 turnovers (6 in the first half), but the decision to give them the extended minutes seems the only reasonable recourse for coach Odom. In essence he found a way to gain experience for his club in a game where Wake was supposed to have nothing to win.

Duncan has no remorse over streak's end

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The only "loss", if it can be called such, for Wake Forest in their 68-51 win over Wofford, was the end of Tim Duncan's stellar 26 - game double-double streak. Duncan said that he couldn't care one way or another about the streak and the night before admitted he didn't even know how many games in a row he had gotten a double-double. That statement and his play over the last week and half is perhaps the most compelling argument for his bid for the Wooden Award, given annually to the best collegiate basketball player.

Duncan was asked after the loss to Maryland to get his teammates involved in the offense, especially the backcourt, and sacrificed his personal statistics to do so. In the game against Wofford and the one directly preceding it, against Virginia Tech, Duncan fought hard on the defensive end, and was always mindful of getting his teammates more touches of the ball. He downsized his offensive output, and allowed the rest of the team to pick up the slack. Duncan has never sulked, never given less than his all wherever it is needed and has done whatever has been asked of him. He has always cared more about the improvement of his team, and about winning, than he has cared about his own numbers.

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Tim Duncan had 26 consecutive double-double games before last week's game against Wofford.

And in a world where the NBA seems to be flooded with premature injections of spoiled college kids complete with million dollar mouths and billion dollar egos, the quiet team-play of the nation's premiere college player is not only refreshing, it is heavenly. John Wooden must smile at night when he thinks that this year's shoe-in for the Award that bears his name understands the game as he taught it.

Twin City to hold signups Saturday

Twin City Little Leagues will host signups on Saturday (Feb. 8) at recreation centers throughout Winston-Salem.

Signups will be held from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The league will also have representatives available at its complex on Waterworks Road and at the Winston Lake YMCA. The league, which fielded 40 teams last year is open to boys and girls between the ages of six to 18 years-old.

This week's signup is the first

for the upcoming season. The league will also hold signups at the same sights on Feb. 15 and Feb. 22. Teams are currently being assembled for the start of the season. Parents are encouraged to sign up their children as soon as possible to guarantee them a spot on the roster.

Twin City will also host a coaches and umpires clinic on Saturday from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. League coaches are encouraged to participate in the clinic.

Call Sam Davis at 722-8624 to report your scores

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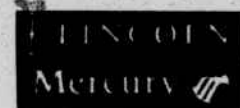
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R.J. Reynolds Grant to Help With Carver

Carver High School has received a \$1,000 Community Involvement Plan grant from R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. The grant will be used to fund the final phase of Carver's weight room improvement project.

The plan grant provides financial support for selected projects in organizations where RJR employees volunteer or serve in other ways.

James Allen Edwards, James H. Jackson, Jacalyn W. McCloud, and Helena H. Ford, four RJR employees, recommended the grant.

All four of the individuals who recommended the grant are actively involved in the Yellow-jackets' athletic program. Edwards, of RJR's graphics department, helps Carver by taking up-tickets, working in the concession stand and on the chain gang at games. He also serves as a mentor to several of our young men.

Jackson, of RJR's diet department, works with the booster club and on the chain gang. McCloud, of RJR's leaf divisions, volunteers in the concession stand and supports the booster's club.

Helena Ford, of RJR's computer operations, serves as a mentor to young ladies at Carver.

Carver High School has a proud tradition of academic achievement and athletic excellence. Dan Piggott, Carver's principal, and the staff members are committed to improving learning, teamwork, diversity, quality, imagination, leadership, and attitude of all Carver students.

Because of the weight room improvements made possible by this grant, as many as 300 student athletes and hundreds of physical education students will benefit each year.

Under RJR plan, non-profit organizations can receive up to \$250 per year from one employee's recommendation and up to \$1,000 annually on behalf of all employee requests. In 1995, R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. made Community Involvement Plan grants totaling more than \$120,000 on behalf of its employees in North Carolina's Piedmont Triad region.

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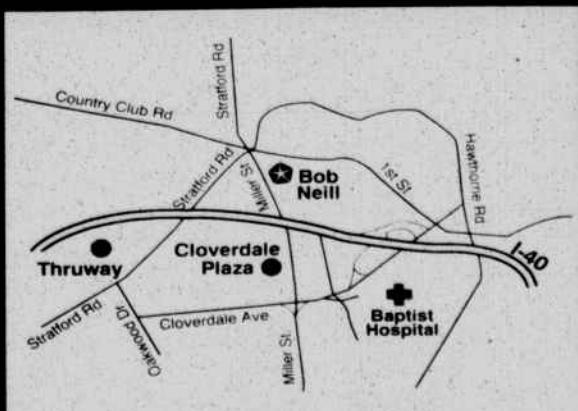
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