

Today's Sports Parade

By OSCAR FRALEY
United Press Sports Writer

NEW YORK (U) — The testimony of four top college basketball coaches made clear today that the National Invitation Tournament, which seemed to be facing certain death at the height of the cage scandal, has not only been saved but may be stronger than ever.

And the thing that seems to have saved Madison Square Garden's favorite court carnival was the complex, sprawling nature of its chief rival — the post-season NCAA Tournament.

When the "fixing" scandal burst about the Garden's ears three years ago and a clamor arose for a "back to the campus" movement in basketball, teams seemed to be shying away from the NIT.

And things looked mighty black for the annual tourney when the National Collegiate Athletic Association expanded its post-season carnival to include more independent teams, who always had been the chief NIT attractions. This year the NCAA has expanded more than ever, including 24 teams — 15 conference champions and nine members at large, that is, independents.

But, from what the coaches are saying, it seems that this very expansion of the NCAA has strengthened the NIT.

Coach John Taps Gallagher of Niagara, which accepted an NIT bid on Thursday for the second straight year, explained, "the NIT is a bit better for us as an independent team. In the NCAA, independent schools have to play off among each other before getting into the tournament proper."

What Gallagher meant was shown when the NCAA picked Bradley and Oklahoma City the same night Niagara was tapped for the NIT. Bradley and Oklahoma City will have to play each other in Peoria, Ill., before the winner can enter the NCAA's Western Regionals at Stillwater, Okla.

That brings up complaint No. 2 about the NCAA — it's sprawled out too much. Semi-finalists or finalists may wind up play in as many as three different cities. That means travel money; it also means time lost from class.

Coach Peck Hickman of Louisville ticked off the reasons his school accepted an NIT bid: "It's a little better financial deal for us. We're not gone so long from school won't miss as many classes, and won't have to travel as much. Also in the NCAA the independent schools have to go through a play-off before you even get in."

Coach Tom Blackburn of Dayton said his school picked the NIT because "it's better managed, better for an independent team, and we lose less school time." He, too, stressed that "an independent college has to play a series of eliminations before it actually gets in the NCAA tourney." And he concluded, "we didn't enjoy our NCAA experience two years ago in Chicago."

Witness No. 4 is Coach Donald Dudgey Moore of Duquesne, the nation's top-ranked team which turned down an NCAA offer for the second straight year to accept an NIT bid.

"The council members who made the decision felt the NIT was much simpler as far as arrangements were concerned because it's held in one spot," said Dudgey. A Duquesne spokesman mentioned less travel, less time lost and said "convenience" was the chief factor in the decision.

So it looks like both big tourneys are here to stay for a while, the NCAA boasting all the conference champs and the NIT getting most of the top independents.

Meadow Boys Win Over Pine Level

Twenty points in the final stanza while Pine Level was scoring only 11 enabled the Meadow boys to post a six point, 6-54 victory over the boys from Pine Level in a Johnston County game after the Pine Level girls had taken an early lead and steadily drawn away for a 65-37 win over their opponents.

In the first game of the evening, the girls game, Oliver pumped 34 points into the basket to lead the Pine Level girls to their victory while Johnson was high for the losers with 20.

LINE UPS
Pine Level: Oliver 34, Jones 7, Crumpler 2, Gower 9, Pike 9, Brady 2, Fredin 2, Stuckey, Grice, Strickland, McGarton, T. Creech, Fender-graph.

MEADOW BOYS WIN
In the feature game on the evening's card the Meadow boys came from behind in the final stanza to eke out a 60-54 win over Pine Level.

Johnson with 28 points led the Meadow boys while A. White of the losers took the scoring honors with 30.

LINE UPS
Meadow: Johnson 28, Peacock 4, C. Adams 10, Barefoot 11, H. Johnson 2, Lee 2, Morris 4.

NEWTON GROVE WINS OVER SALEMBOURG

Newton Grove took two contests from Salemburg Friday night, the boys winning 45-34 and the girls by a 95-73 score, in a Sampson County Conference game.

In the boys' game Herring and Raynor led the winning Newton Grove boys with 17 and 13 points respectively. H. Reynolds of the visiting Salemburg team took the individual scoring honors for the evening however with 23 points—almost two-thirds of Salemburg's total.

LINE UPS
Salemburg: H. Reynolds 22, Roy-als 1, Butler 3, B. Norton 7, Honeycutt 1, B. Norton.

GIRLS
In a preliminary game the Newton Grove girls took a 95-73 offensive exhibition from the girls from Salemburg with J. Williams leading Salemburg's J. Warren in a scoring duel 51-42. J. Warren contributed 28 points to the home girls' total while B. Hall added 13 to the Salemburg score.

LINE UPS
Newton Grove: Warwick 16, Warren 28, Williams 51, Warren, Edwards, Atkins, Jordan.

CAMELS SPLIT WITH MASSEY HILL TEAMS

The Massey Hill High School varsity drove to its 19th victory Friday night against the Campbell College JV's, 60-48, after the Campbell girls had triumphed over the girls from Massey Hill in a preliminary game 50-48.

Three Massey Hill boys, Arnette, Baker, and Bedsole hit in the double figures in scoring with Baker leading the way with 21 points.

LINE UPS
Massey Hill: J. Bedsole 15, Arnette 13, Sherrill 4, Baker 21, Starling 5, G. Bedsole 2, Naylor, A. McLean, Todd, J. McLean.

CAMPBELL GIRLS WIN
In the first game of the evening Doris Brown, former Lillington High School ace, dropped 25 points through the nets to lead the Campbell girls to a five point 50-45 victory over the Massey Hill girls. This was exactly half of her team's points.

The Campbell girls took an 19 point 30-13 halftime lead and just hung on in the last half as they were outscored by 13 points to close the game only five points to the front.

LINE UPS
Campbell: Stevens 10, Stewart 13, Brown 25, Melvin 2, Evans, Lewis, Dixon, Tidwell, Walters, Gore, Kelly.

LAFFAYETTE BOYS WIN OVER PINE LEVEL

In a quarter-finals game in the Harnett County Conference Tournament, Friday night the LaFayette boys pushed the unbeaten Lillington High School boys to the limit before bowing to them in the last period when they were buried in a landslide of baskets which ran the score up to 48-32 in favor of Lillington.

At one time just before the third quarter ended the score was tied 25-25 but from here on the superior height of the boys from the county seat was just too much for the scrappy boys on last year's championship team and the Lillington boys sizzled the net for 23 more points while LaFayette could get no more than seven to turn what had been a close game into almost a rout.

McDonald with 14 and Bain with 10 led the Lillington scoring while Sears led the losers with 15.

Lillington Boys Win Over LaFayette In Tournament

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The green-clad Lillington boys jumped to an 11-4 lead in the first quarter but the game LaFayette boys didn't give up. They came back in the second period to shave one point off that lead as halftime arrived 19-13 and then they came back after the intermission to tie up the ball game in the third stanza 25-25 before letting Lillington draw back ahead 29-25. But in the last quarter Lillington's superior height told the difference as a score from the county seat controlled both backboards to score 19 points while holding LaFayette to six for their final 16 point margin.

LINEUPS
Lillington—McDonald 14, Bain 10, Long 4, Whittington 3, Kelly 6, Howington 7.

BENHAVEN GIRLS WIN
In another quarter-final game the Benhaven girls romped past the Angier lassies 96-28 and looked every bit like the Benhaven championship team of a year ago in dominating it up by such a decisive margin.

The Angier girls were never nearly in the contest. Benhaven took a 13-4 first quarter lead and made it 33-8 at the half. The last half was not quite so bad for Angier as the Benhaven lassies again hit for 33 points while they managed to get 20.

Thomas with 29 and Holder with 22 led the winners while Adams led Angier with 9.

This was Benhaven's 17th win of the season against Harnett County competition. Coats won an early season encounter from them to hand them their only set back.

LINEUPS
Angier—Owens 7, Adams 9, Duroee 8, Taylor 2, McLeod 2, Wimberly, Gilliam, Adams.

UPSETS
Ussets marked most of the rest of the quarter-final round of competition in the tournament with every game except the Dunn-Erwin boys game ending with the sup-

son's record of 18-0.

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The Campbell girls took an 19 point 30-13 halftime lead and just hung on in the last half as they were outscored by 13 points to close the game only five points to the front.

LINE UPS
Campbell: Stevens 10, Stewart 13, Brown 25, Melvin 2, Evans, Lewis, Dixon, Tidwell, Walters, Gore, Kelly.

MASSEY HILL: Webster 13, Underwood 14, Butler 3, Todd 15, Kinsey, Smith Green.

posedly weaker team on the long end of the score.

In the first game Saturday afternoon the Coats boys pulled away from a favored Boone Trail quintet in the final seconds to win 59-54 on a barrage of free tosses after the two teams had gone down to the wire neck and neck for the larger portion of the ball game.

Coats will meet the undefeated Lillington team tonight in the last game on the agenda.

In the second game the Erwin High girls jumped to an early lead and held on to it for the entire ball game to upset Boone Trail, who finished the season tied for third place in the standings 55-46.

Erwin was in the second division. Then in the final afternoon contest the Benhaven boys, after being almost out of the contest, staged a last-minute rush which carried the minto the lead to win in a thrilling finish over the Bule's Creek boys by one point, 53-52.

And in the first night contest which finished the girls quarter-finals the Lillington High School girls upset a highly favored Coats sextet 47-37 to gain a semi-final berth opposite Erwin. This was only Coats' fourth loss of the season.

The Lillington girls, like Erwin, finished the season in the second division of the Harnett County Conference standings.

while Sewell led the Redskins with 10.

Although Robert Pope didn't score any for the Greenwaves he turned in a fine job of clearing the backboards. He was easily top rebound man for both teams for the evening.

The game started with a flurry with the Greenwaves taking a 15-12 first quarter lead after being hard pressed by the Skins who were a determined bunch of ball players.

In that first quarter the Dunn boys had taken an 8-0 lead before Erwin ever scored, but once the Erwin boys got started, they didn't want to quit and the Waves were lucky to get out of that period with their scalps. However in the second stanza they went into a five-man "figure eight" freezing the ball and threw their opponents off their stride enough to pick up eight points while limiting Erwin to a free throw by Sam Lloyd.

Going into the third quarter leading 23-13, the Greenwaves coun-

tered 14 points while Erwin could get but six and in the final period they made 12 while Erwin garnered seven to win 49-26.

LINEUPS: Dunn—Carter, Kimmel, Pope, Jackson, Lewis, Turlington 22, Goff 18, Corbett 2, H. Godwin, B. Godwin 7, Thomas.

ERWIN—Gomedella, Ennis, Denning 1, Bolter 1, Wade, Stevens, Beard, Moore, Hall 6, Byrd, Horne 3, Lloyd 3, Surles 2, Sewell 10.

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Dunn Boys Win, But Girls Eliminated

By FRANK SPEULL, JR.
The Dunn High School girls team split in two tourney engagements over the weekend while the boys won their only contest.

Friday night the girls came through in fine style over the LaFayette team to gain the semi-final round opposite Benhaven with a 45-34 victory and then Saturday night Benhaven all but ran them off the court in the first half and went on to score a 56-40 triumph over the Waves after the Dunn boys had gained a place in the boys' semi-finals with a 49-26 win over the Erwin Redskins.

In the low-scoring quarter final game Alice Prince led the Greenwaves by scoring 26 of the 45 points—well over half. Knott led the LaFayette girls with 18. She too garnered over half of her team's points.

The Dunn girls took a 13-5 first quarter lead and built it up to 19-11 at the half. In the third stanza they increased it six more with a ten point outburst while holding LaFayette to only four, but the Redskins came back in the final period to shave three points off of the margin as the game ended 45-34.

LINEUPS: Dunn—Godwin 8, Prince 26, White 11, Sorrell, Butt, Westbrook, Jernigan.

LAFFAYETTE—Johnson 2, Knott 18, Baum, Smith 14, Dean, Abernathy, Hamilton.

BENHAVEN WINS AGAIN
When the girls met Benhaven in the semi-finals Saturday night they were handed their sixth loss of the season and very unceremoniously dropped from further competition in the tournament when the Benhaven lassies took their third consecutive victory over the Greenwaves this year 56-40.

The Greenwaves were lost from the start. Benhaven took a 20-9 lead at the end of the first quarter and stretched it to 29-12 at the half. In the last half with the game already lost the Dunn girls found themselves and held their own—but it was too late. The best they could do anyway was to score 28 while Benhaven hit for 27 to pull the margin down one to 16 points.

LINEUPS: Dunn—Godwin 8, Prince 11, White 21, Sorrell, Strickland, Butt, Westbrook, Jernigan.

BENHAVEN—Cameron 4, Holder 8, Thomas 17, Cameron 27, Holder, Howard, Resser, Howard, Cox, McKinney, Morris, Thomas, McCormick.

TURLINGTON HITS 22
In the only boys' game played Saturday night the Dunn High Greenwaves moved into a semi-final berth opposite Benhaven by defeating Erwin for the third time this year—this time 49-26—with big Mac Turlington, stellar Greenwave center, ripping the nets for 22 points on six field goals and ten free tosses.

Daley Goff was second in scoring for the Dunn boys with 18 points

Truelove Rites This Afternoon

George Oscar Truelove, 70, of Dunn, Route 3, died at his home Sunday morning at 12:30 o'clock. He died suddenly of a heart attack.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, near Erwin. The Rev. A. A. Amerine, pastor of the Glad Tidings Church of Dunn, and the Rev. Millard Westbrook of Dunn, Route 3, officiated.

The body lay in state at the church from 2 until 3 p. m. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Mr. Truelove was a native of Harnett County, son of the late Jim and Jane Godwin Truelove. He was a farmer.

Surviving are six sons, G. A. Truelove of Coats, Venson Truelove of Dunn, Route 1, Maylon Truelove of Dunn, A. W. and Wilbert Truelove of Dunn, Route 3; and Leon Truelove of the home; three daughters, Mrs. Eugene Lee of Lillington, Route 2; Mrs. Edison Stewart of Dunn; Mrs. J. E. Ragan of Dunn; 19 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild; three sisters, Mrs. Pharoah Lee of Fayetteville, Mrs. Bert Coats of Fayetteville, Route 6, Mrs. J. H. Sorrell of Dunn, Route 3.

His wife, Mrs. Janie Faircloth Truelove, died November 24, 1952.

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