

'Bob Did It In The Clutch,' Sez Anderson

# Rosie Gets Posies, But Toss Bouquet At Cunningham

**By Bob Quincy**

Charlotte News Sports Editor



## Subs Took Up Slack With Pressure On

KANSAS CITY — Heart stop pounding and let me write this story.

It's not an original line, would that it were, but what fits better as a description of the tension that bit an embryo ulcer into 11,000 onlookers here last night before North Carolina shakily preserved its 31-game winning streak, 74-70, in three hectic, pulsating overtimes.

The almost-villain was Michigan State Seldom has a team gutted its way through 55 minutes of nervelimiting action with such intent to kill the glory of the nation's No. 1 team. Using a catapult named Johnny Green to clear the backboards and shake the confidence of Lennie Rosenbluth in the first half, the Spartans almost did it.

Where does the real story lie? For the first time this season Frank McGuire's bench had to really assert itself—



LOTZ YOUNG SEARCY

and three comparative unknowns named Danny Lotz, Bob Young and Roy Searcy figured prominently in the advance to the finals of the NCAA championship tonight.

Then there was All-American Rosenbluth, who despite his "off night" got 31 points and pumped in the baskets that eventually led to the win.

There was Pete Brennan, playing his darndest and scoring 14, whose one-handed save of the day with only three seconds left to bring about the second overtime.

But for the guts of it—give Bob Cunningham the loudest cheer.

## Tar Heels Unhappy With Game

WHEN IT WAS OVER, a fellow walked beside the 6-4 Cunningham and said, "Tremendous job, Bob. You kept them in the ball game."

He had. His 19 points before fouling out were vital. When Rosenbluth and Brennan were off in the early part of the contest, his slightly-arched shots hit bulls-eye time and time again. And when the Tar Heels were five behind late in the regulation time, Cunningham swiped the ball from Green, pushed it in and cut the advantage to three.

"Well," said the kid from New York's toughest section, "It was as simple as this. Somebody had to do it — and if nobody else could, I guess I got the job."

Forddy Anderson, the Michigan State coach, tossed his plaudits to Cunningham. He shrugged his shoulders at estimating the lad who had proven his tactics wrong.

"Cunningham's never had a game that good," he said. "Yes, we decided to give him more room than the others. It backfired. He did it in the clutch."

The Tar Heels were unhappy with their showing. They celebrated at the conclusion, but went to their dressing room without much more than relief and a heavy sigh.

"As for me," said guard Tommy Kearns, "I couldn't get going for some reason. I can't explain it."

"We sure can't play any worse against Kansas," said Brennan.

## Lennie Started Hawking Ball

ROSENBLUTH, POSING with Cunningham for a picture, offered his sentiments. They were spoken as if he had finally paid the price of a jail sentence and had earned his parole.

"I felt awful out there for a while," admitted Lennie. "I was trying to shoot over Green and he was blocking all my shots. I finally decided to move outside and I couldn't hit, there at first."

"I kept thinking — I couldn't let these guys down. They depend so much on me and I wasn't helping them. I had to get going."

In the late stages, Lennie began hawking the ball. He stole several passes, began tearing at Michigan State's confidence with his every move.

"It was the competition of the game gnawing at my insides," continued Lennie. "This was my next to last college game and I wasn't giving them the job they deserved. I tried a little bit of everything. Then I began hitting. I'll do anything to keep this streak alive. Anything to bow out with a feeling of having done well for my teammates and the University."

A photographer finally got the shot lined up.

"At last," grinned Cunningham, "I'm getting my picture made with Lennie."

"You were great tonight," said Rosenbluth.

"He put on his jacket, headed for the exit."

"No matter how you look at it," he said as a departing shot, "we got our 31st in it."



QUICK FLIP . . . by UNC's Joe Quigg (41) tips rebound out of grasp of Spartans' Larry Hedden. (AP Photofax)

## LINEUPS FOR TONIGHT'S GAME

NORTH CAROLINA			KANSAS		
No.	Name	Pos.	No.	Name	Pos.
10	Lennie Rosenbluth	F	8	Maurice King	G
11	Ken Rosemond	F	12	Gene Eistun	F
20	Bob Young	C	13	Wilt Chamberlain	C
22	Roy Searcy	F	21	Eddie Darr	G
31	Gehrmann Holland	F	22	John Parker	G
32	Bob Cunningham	F	24	Blaine Hollinger	G
33	Danny Lotz	F	25	Lewis Johnson	C
35	Pete Brennan	F	29	Lee Green	F
40	Tommy Kearns	G	31	Harry Jett	F
41	Joe Quigg	C	32	Bob Billings	G
			33	Ronnie Loneski	F
			34	Lynn Kindred	G
			35	Monte Johnson	F

(\*Denotes Starters).

## Joe Harris Switches Teams:

# 'HOT' HEELS WILL CLIP KANSAS'

KANSAS CITY — Joe Harris, who picked Kansas and North Carolina to reach the NCAA finals, made a startling twist in his predictions for tonight.

Earlier he had seen the Jayhawks, with Wilt Chamberlain, as a two-point favorite. Now he turns to the Tar Heels, despite their questionable showing against Michigan State.

"I've seen this happen too many times," said he. "North Carolina has that winning streak going for them (31 straight). Kansas has had too many close games. I think Chamberlain will get his share, but I'm leaning toward UNC."

Hal Bradley of Duke, Murray Grosson of Wake Forest and Frank Johnson of South Carolina, all here for the coaches convention, were asked their opinions of the finals.

"Carolina made too many mistakes against Michigan State," said Grosson. "They're going to have to cut those considerable to stay with Kansas."

"I think the State Game (three overtimes) might have taken too much out of Carolina," said Bradley. "Kansas will be better rested and has the biggest man in Chamberlain."

"This may sound silly," predicted Johnson, "but I have a



McGUIRE BRADLEY

One item which should help Kansas in the finals is that 95 per cent of the crowd will be pro-Jayhawk. The noise will be ear-splitting—with UNC's little but loud band of 250 trying to compete.

Final game will start at 10 p.m. (EST) or later.

Time in your TV sets (WBTV) and pull hard. The Tar Heels need all the support they can get. Game settles the No. 1 in the nation question for good.

BOB QUINCY



4-B — THE CHARLOTTE (N. C.) NEWS — SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1957

# Can Carolina Chop Stilts From Wilt?

By BOB QUINCY  
Charlotte News Sports Editor

KANSAS CITY — From a barber's pole to the nation's top role — that's Frank McGuire and his Tar Heels.

"It was after we had won our 15th straight," said the North Carolina coach relaxing here last night after his spintangling, 74-70, victory over Michigan State in three extra periods to move into the NCAA finals.

"I was in a Chapel Hill barber shop getting a haircut. The barber says to me, 'Coach, wouldn't it really be something if your team got to play Wilt The Stilt for the championship of the country?'"

"At the time, I could have shot him for the suggestion."

"So here we are. Tonight is the big one. What defense will I use? Believe me, I wouldn't tell my wife if she were here. I know what I'd do if I were smart. I'd try to grab a two-point lead and freeze the ball."

McGUIRE HAD seen Kansas slaughter San Francisco, 88-56, in the semi-final round of the show last evening. Chamberlain, seven feet and all athlete, had scored 32 points.

"I just wonder," mused McGuire, "if we have the personnel to handle him. We have big men — Joe Quigg, Pete Brennan — but do we have the rough kid, the big rough one to push him around? I'm afraid not."

Those who saw the two games had to admit — Kansas was by far the most impressive ball club of the four and still — well, he is the only thing of his kind to have ever come along.

FRISCO PLAYED Kansas a fairly good first half, was down only four points at intermission. But the Jayhawkers came back with all guns, made a rout of it after intermission.

Chamberlain was the key — but his mates did a pretty fair country job around him. Kansas hit a phenomenal 60 per cent of its shots, as compared to the loser's 33 per cent.

In the earlier game, North Carolina and Michigan State were hoarse at getting the basket. The Tar Heels had only 31 per cent. State a meek 29.

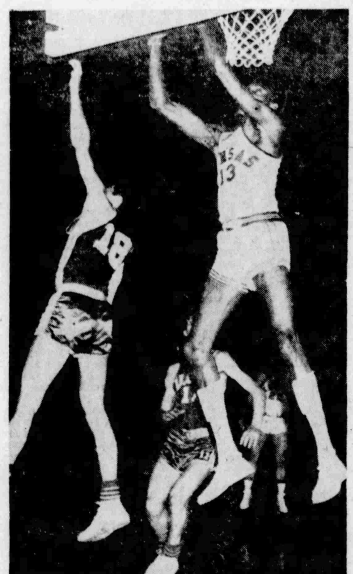
"WE HAD TWO men off in our State game," said McGuire. "Rosenbluth, despite his 31 points, had a bad night. So did Tommy Kearns, our guard. I can't recall when Kearns was so bad — it dates back to his sophomore season."

"We were lucky to beat State under the conditions. When Rosenbluth doesn't hit, we hurt. He's our gunner and we know it."

McGuire was asked if Rosenbluth wouldn't be brought out of

Continued on 2nd Sports page

## 'Need Rough Boy'



TIP FROM TOP . . . Wilt Chamberlain dumps in basket against Dons. (AP Photofax)

## ROAD TO THE BIG SHOWDOWN

MICH. STATE		G		P		T		KANSAS	
Quinn	4	6-10	1	20	Malen	8	0-0	1	0
Ferguson	4	2-2	0	10	Kilgus	0	2-4	0	2
Anderson	1	1-2	0	5	Farmer	0	3-2	1	0
Hedden	1	0-2	0	14	Presnan	0	3-2	0	2
Green	4	2-2	0	11	Dav	0	2-0	1	4
Bennie	1	0-0	1	1	Dunbar	2	2-0	1	4
Scott	1	0-2	1	4	Mansard	0	1-0	1	2
Wilson	0	0-2	1	1	Brown	5	2-0	7	10
Totals	23	21-48	18	78	Lillyard	0	1-0	1	2
					Totals	20	16-16	17	30
NORTH CAROLINA		G		P		T		KANSAS	
Rosenbluth	10	7-0	1	21	Kilgus	0	2-0	1	0
Brennan	1	0-2	0	10	McJohnson	1	0-0	1	2
Lotz	0	0-0	0	0	Green	1	0-0	1	2
Young	1	0-1	1	1	Loneski	1	0-0	1	2
Quigg	0	0-0	0	0	Chamberlain	17	8-11	0	32
Searcy	0	0-0	0	0	L. Johnson	0	0-0	0	0
McGuire	0	0-0	0	0	Mc King	1	0-0	1	2
Cunningham	0	0-0	0	0	Hollinger	0	0-0	0	0
Totals	11	7-7	2	7	Parker	1	1-0	1	0
					Totals	18	10-19	22	30
MICHIGAN STATE		G		P		T		KANSAS	
Rosenbluth	29	14-24	1	23	Kilgus	0	2-0	1	0
Green	1	0-0	0	0	Farmer	0	0-0	0	0
Searcy	0	0-0	0	0	Presnan	0	0-0	0	0
Lotz	0	0-0	0	0	Dunbar	0	0-0	0	0
Young	0	0-0	0	0	Mansard	0	0-0	0	0
Quigg	0	0-0	0	0	Brown	0	0-0	0	0
Cunningham	0	0-0	0	0	Lillyard	0	0-0	0	0
Totals	30	14-24	1	23	Totals	18	10-19	22	30

## Drapp Bought

# Hornets Hold 'Blistering' Squad Battle

By RONALD GREEN  
Charlotte News Sports Writer

FERNANDINA BEACH, Fla. — A lot of blisters were raised in the Hornets' second intra-squad game yesterday.

Angel Oliva and Tom Harkey, pitching the middle innings of the nine-inning game, each had to retire after two innings with blisters on their fingers.

Outfielder Willie Mays and shortstop Ben Pearce raised blisters on the ball with booming triples.

And John Kroy, outfielder, continued his blistering pace at the plate. In four times at bat, he collected three singles and scored on an error. In the first intra-squad scrap on Thursday, the veteran gardener had two for two.

THE TEAM took on more form with the arrival of first baseman Harry Warner and word from General Manager Phil Howard that he had purchased second baseman Dave Drapp from Chattanooga. Both were regulars with the Hornets last year.

Ossie Alvarez, who played about six weeks of second base for the Brees in 1955, will get a shot at the third base job. He's coming here this weekend with the Midland, Tex., club and will switch over to the Brees.

Warner said he was late reporting because of the illness of his father.

Twenty-year-old Ronnie Blood, sharp, nephew of Jimmy Blood, worked in pitching three innings of shutout ball in the intra-squad scrap. He fanned two of the last three batters he faced.

Cooper Wilhelm of Charlotte was clubbed for four runs in the first inning but settled down to pitch good ball in the last two. Manager Gene Verbe faced him and came away with high praise for the knuckleballer Hoyt (St. Louis Cards) taught him.

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