



The New York Times/Sara Krulwich

Curtis Redding of St. John's shoots over Steve Blackmon and Linton Townes

St. John's a Winner In Opener by 67-58

By DEANE MCGOWEN

St. John's University corrected its early shooting problems, then came on strongly to defeat James Madison University of Harrisonburg, Va., 67-58, in the opening game of the sixth Joe Lapchick Memorial basketball tournament last night at Alumni Hall.

In the second game of the double-header, Penn, leading by 3 points at the intermission, pulled away with a 16-0 spurt in the second half for a 68-56 victory over Weber State of Ogden, Utah. Angelo Reynolds led the Quakers with 18 points; Todd Harper scored 17 for Weber State.

The Quakers will meet St. John's for the championship tonight at 9 o'clock. James Madison and Weber State will play at 7 P.M. for third place. The Redmen have won the previous five times in this tournament, named in honor of their former coach.

It was the season opener for St. John's, which moved to a 37-29 halftime lead after having fallen behind by 8 points.

McKoy Sparks Comeback

Wayne McKoy, the 6-foot-8-inch, 255-pound senior center, sparked the comeback with 14 points. He had 10 more in the final 20 minutes and led all scorers. David Russell, the sophomore forward, had 19 points.

It was the work of those two that gained control of the boards for the Redmen. The husky McKoy pulled down 10 rebounds, and Russell, 6-6, displayed his leaping ability by getting 8.

James Madison, a small school with an enrollment of 8,800, used a 2-3 zone defense in an effort to contain the Redmen, but it failed as St. John's was able to penetrate most of the time.

McKoy, who likes to confound the opposition with his hook shot, had little chance to do that as the Dukes collapsed around him. He retaliated by taking turnaround jumpers from the low post.

Russell drove the base line for most of his points, and he charged the offensive boards to make some spectacular tip-ins.

"James Madison was a very disciplined team," said Lou Carnesecca, the

Redmen's coach. "We knew they would handle the ball well and not take any bad shots.

"I was glad that my team did not panic even though they fell behind at the start and missed half a dozen shots. I thought our defense picked up very well as the game went along, and we finally got control."

Duel in the Middle

McKoy had to contend with Dan Ruland, the Dukes' 6-8 center. "I felt I played him pretty good," McKoy said, "but he was tough, a good, strong player. I was afraid I'd foul him."

Ruland was held to 2 points in the first half and 8 in the second.

McKoy got a lot of help from his teammates, he said, who got the ball to him in the low post "giving me a chance at those short jump shots."

Brooklyn 70, C. W. Post 64

With the help of 21 points from Steve Niles, a forward, Brooklyn College defeated C. W. Post, 70-64, last night on the winners' court. It was Brooklyn's first victory over Post in 12 meetings, since the series began in 1964.

Post, a Division II school, led by 44-39 at halftime, but the Kingsmen, in Division III, opened the second half with 6 straight points. Aronia Parker, who finished with 10, put Brooklyn ahead, 45-44. The Kingsmen improved their record to 2-1 under Mark Reiner, their first-year coach.

Gene Higgins, center, led Post with 14 points.

Morgan State 59, City 58

Morgan State University overcame a 16-point deficit early in the second half to beat City College, 59-58, at the Nat Holman Gym last night. It was the opening game for the Beavers. Morgan State is 2-0.

Yar Roberts led a second-half Morgan State attack, scoring 17 of his game-high 21 points. Henry Edwards led City with 15 points and James Jeffries added 12.

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