

N.C. State Takes Festival Final

By ALEX YANNIS

North Carolina State captured the Holiday Festival at Madison Square Garden last night with a 64-55 victory over St. John's, the winner of last year's tournament.

For the Wolfpack, it was their first appearance in the 29-year-old tournament, and it made Jim Valvano's return to what he calls "the mecca of basketball," a triumphant one. North Carolina State beat Iona, the team Valvano coached last season, by 61-58 in the first round Friday night.

Penn defeated Iona in the consolation game last night, 82-66.

The Wolfpack established the tempo early in the first half, in which the Redmen scored only 17 points. St. John's converted only one of its first 16 shots from the field in the early stages and made 22 of 57 attempts over all.

Lowé Is Voted M.V.P.

Sidney Lowé, a guard who was voted the tournament's most valuable player, scored 15 points and had 10 assists for North Carolina State. He sank 13 of 14 free throws in the final 11 minutes. Thurl Bailey led the Wolfpack with 17 points, and Art Jones had 10.

For the Redmen, David Russell, the most valuable player in last year's tournament, had 14 points. Curtis Redding added 13 and Wayne McKoy 10.

For Valvano, the boos were just as loud last night as they were Friday night before the victory over his former team.

A large number of Iona fans resented it when Valvano deserted for the greener pastures of North Carolina State. Valvano had coached the Gaels for five years, with last season's 29-5 record the best.

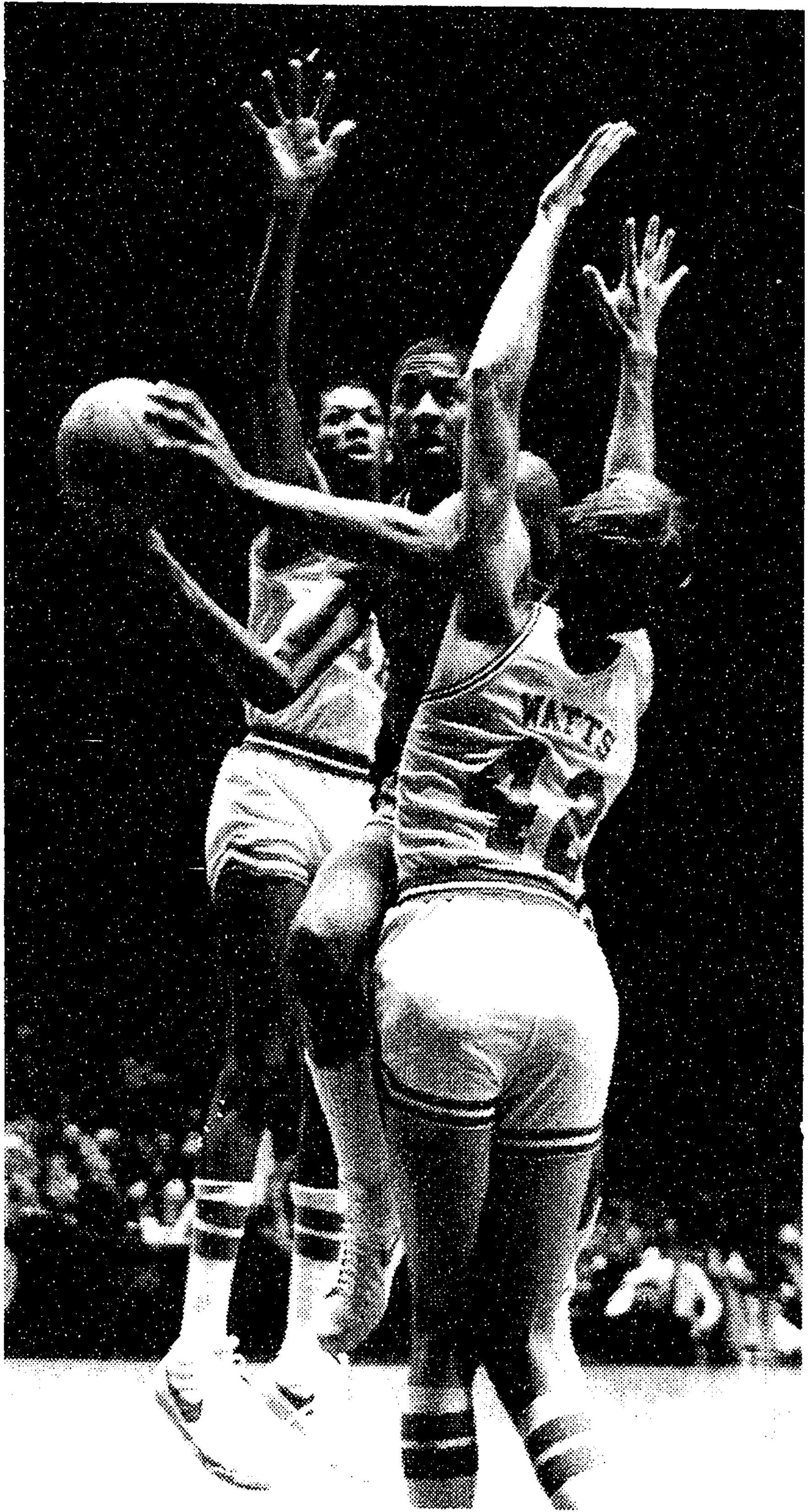
Dynamic Backcourt

With Lowé and Dereck Whittenburg in the backcourt, Lou Carnesecca, the St. John's coach, said North Carolina State has the "finest guards in the country." They are both sophomores out of DeMatha High School in Washington.

They were the key to the victory over Iona. Although Whittenburg was not so effective last night, Lowé took up the slack.

Lowé made 13 foul shots toward the end of the game, when the Wolfpack scored 20 of its last 24 points from the free-throw line.

"I can't say that we should have



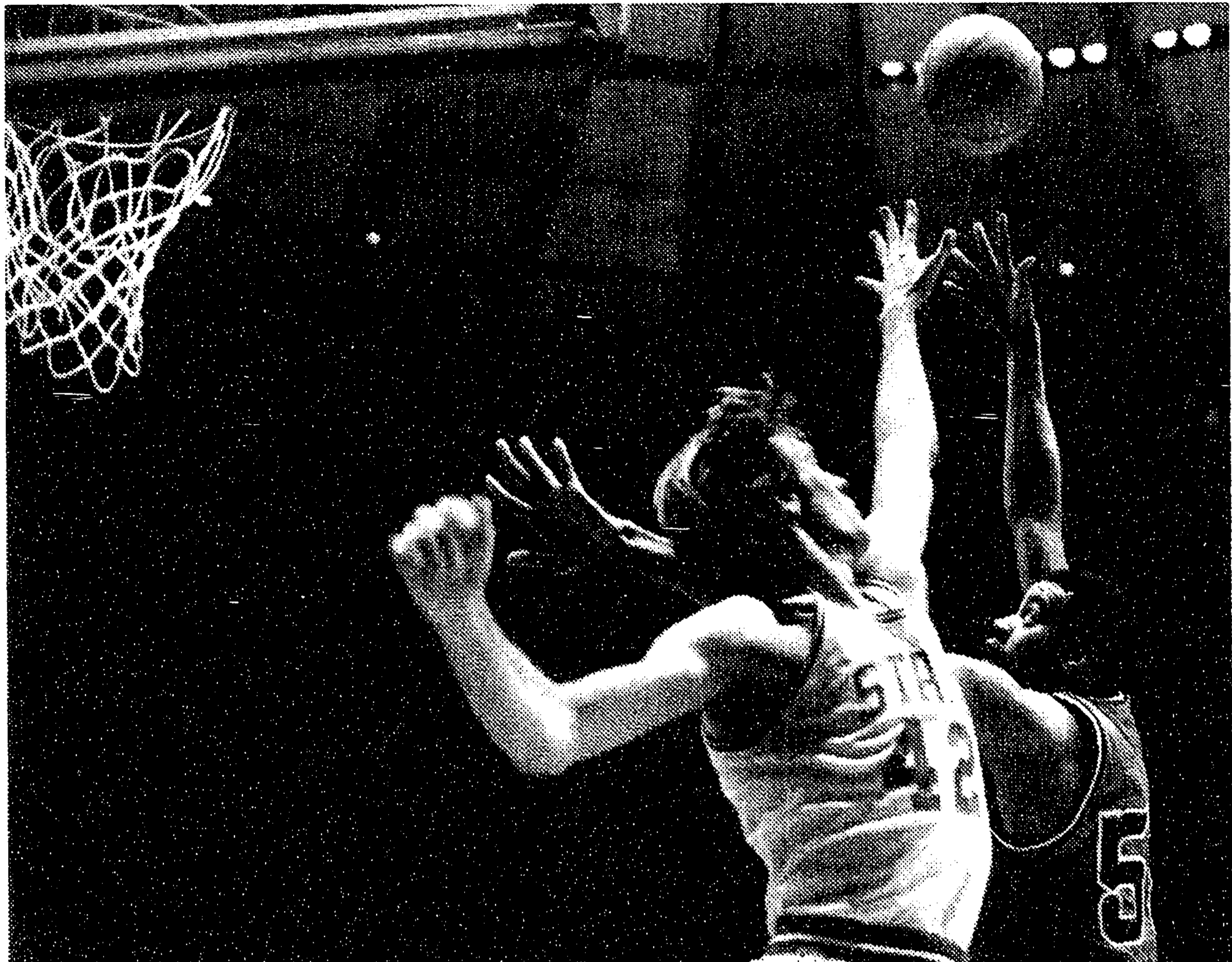
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David Russell, caught between Craig Watts of North Carolina State and another defender, going up to score for St. John's last night at the Garden.

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Craig Watts of North Carolina State attempting to block a hook shot by Wayne McKoy of St. John's

North Carolina State Triumphs

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blown them out, the way they were playing in the first half," Lowe said. "We just tried to play our game, control the ball and run only when we wanted to."

For North Carolina State, the victory was the seventh against two losses, the same record as St. John's has. The Redmen's other defeat was against Princeton.

In the consolation game, Iona and Pat Kennedy, Valvano's replacement as coach, suffered their fourth defeat in a row and seventh of the season.

Springer in Foul Trouble

One of the reasons the Gaels had little chance against the Quakers was because Gary Springer spent much of the second half sitting on the bench in foul trouble. Springer finished with 22 points, but 18 came before intermission.

Springer also led the Gaels in rebounds with seven. Mike Ice had 13 points and six rebounds, and Kevin Vesey blocked five shots.

Bob Weinbauer, Penn's coach, emptied his bench in the late stages as the Quakers raised their record to 4-3.

Long Island U. 71, Cameron 64

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 27 (UPI) — Ernest Bynum scored 16 points to lead Long Island University to a 71-64 victory over Cameron in the opening game of the 45th All-College tournament tonight. Jeff Meriweather added 15 points and Robert Cole 13 for L.I.U.

North Carolina-Charlotte 75, Northeastern 62

PORTLAND, Me., Dec. 27 (UPI) — Phil Ward scored 21 points in leading North Carolina-Charlotte to a 75-62 victory over Northeastern tonight in the championship game of the J.C. Best Holiday Classic.

Ward, a junior guard, had two baskets early in the second half to give the 49ers (6-3) a 44-36 lead, and Roland van

Den Bergh added another. Northeastern (7-1) got no closer than 8 points the rest of the way.

Brooklyn 82, Stony Brook 71

Steve Niles scored 32 points to help Brooklyn College down Stony Brook, 82-71, in the opening round of the Kingsmen Classic last night.

The score was tied, 30-30, at halftime, but the Kingsmen had an 18-point lead with 5:30 left in the game.

In an earlier game the University of Buffalo defeated City College, 72-47. Mike Richardson of City College led all scorers with 16 points.

Baruch 96, Dominican 88

Baruch College, led by Clifford Marshall's 16 points, defeated Dominican College, 96-88, last night to win the Hunter College Christmas tournament. Old Westbury defeated Hunter in the consolation game, 100-99, in overtime. Gene Gilchrist led Old Westbury with 23 points.

Purdue 95, Florida 87

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 27 (AP) — Drake Morris of Purdue had 24 points, and Brian Walker scored 14 of his 16 in the second half tonight as the Boilermakers defeated Florida, 95-87, in the final of the 30th Gator Bowl tournament.

In the consolation game, Jacksonville held Georgia Tech scoreless for the first 10 minutes and went on to win, 64-41.

Florida led briefly in the opening minutes of the final, then Purdue took an 11-2 advantage. The Boilermakers were ahead, 42-31, at intermission and led by as many as 19 points in the second half.

Ronnie Williams, a 6-8 freshman forward for Florida, scored 36 points for a Gator Bowl record.

Minnesota 72, Texas Tech 56

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 27 (AP) — Mark Hall scored 17 points and led Minnesota to a 72-56 victory over Texas

Tech tonight for its seventh straight championship in the Pillsbury classic.

Washington won the consolation game, 68-62, against Yale.

Minnesota (6-1) took a 21-7 lead as Hall made a leaping steal and passed to John Wiley, whose slam dunk capped a surge of 12 straight points. The Gophers led, 37-18, at halftime.

Illinois 93, Oklahoma 63

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., Dec. 27 (AP) — Mark Smith scored 22 points to lead Illinois to a 93-63 victory over Oklahoma in the final of the Illini Classic tonight.

In the consolation game, Bradley rolled to an 84-56 triumph over Ohio University.

The Illini (7-1), behind 8 points by Smith, took a 12-2 lead. The Sooners cut that lead to 12-8 before Illinois reeled off 16 consecutive points, 6 by Smith, to build a 28-8 lead.

Oklahoma (4-7) pulled within 33-18, but Illinois scored the next 9 points for a 42-18 halftime edge.

Queens Topples Temple In Women's Basketball

Sheila Horak scored 25 points to lead Queens College to a 90-68 victory over Temple last night in the Lady Knights' holiday basketball tournament.

Miss Horak had two baskets and two free throws during a 12-0 spurt that gave the Lady Knights a 78-57 advantage with 5:47 remaining. Jennifer Gowan had 22 points for Temple, which trailed by 37-35 at halftime.

In the first game of last night's doubleheader, Virginia beat Indiana by 58-56. Linda Mitchell scored 21 points for Virginia, and Kim Land had 14 for Indiana.

In an afternoon doubleheader yesterday, East Carolina routed Massachusetts, 88-64, as Kathy Riley produced 31 points, and Northwestern beat North Carolina A & T, 64-57, as Amy Pritchard scored 20.

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