

3-11-1985

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11 March, 1985

LEE COLLEGE UPSETS THE FIELD, WINS NCCAA

Cedarville, OH -- When Lee College entered the 1985 NCCAA National Women's Basketball Tournament, the Lady Flames had to be considered as a mild threat to take the title. After all, the Cleveland, Tennessee school was only seeded sixth out of the eight-team field with a 16-13 record. However, Coach Orin "Jack" Souther's ball club proceeded to knock off the top three seeds and put the finishing touches on a "Cinderella" story by beating number one John Brown University in the final 74-71.

JBU was right where it was expected to be on Saturday night and that was in the title game. The top-seeded Lady Eagles had defeated host Cedarville 78-61, as well as 1984 runner-up Spring Arbor 84-72 with 5-10 sophomore Lesa Hunt netting 61 points in the two wins including 39 against Spring Arbor.

On the other hand, Lee stunned defending champion and third-seeded Huntington College in the tourney opener 82-78, and the Flames followed that up by nipping number two and twice-beaten Eastern Mennonite College 82-75 in overtime. Souther had gotten superb play in the two victories out of 5-11 freshman Tammy Dalton (49 points) and 6-foot senior Wendy Rudolph (48 points).

In the championship tilt, John Brown seemed to control the first half opening up a slim 38-34 lead at the intermission. Both teams used collapsing defenses in an attempt to neutralize each others front line forces. Lee's Dalton and Rudolph were held to just two points combined while JBU's Hunt managed only eight first half points.

The first twenty minutes ended up in an unexpected aerial show from the outside. The Flames Cheree Long, a 5-11 freshman who had only scored ten total points in the first two games, pumped in 17 in the period. John Brown's 5-8 junior Tammie King answered with 14 points.

The second half moved back to the inside and with eventual tourney "Most Valuable Player" Wendy Rudolph taking control underneath, Lee College set the tempo in the period and went on to the three-point victory. Rudolph netted all 18 of her points in the decisive second half and grabbed 12 rebounds for the contest. But teammate Cheree Long took game-high honors in both categories with 24 points, on 11 of 14 shooting, to go along with 14 boards.

Lee held the Lady Eagles Lesa Hunt in check with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Tammie King led JBU with 20 markers.

Championship game boxscore:

		JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY (71)				
		FG	FT	REB	PF	TP
	Clark	5-10	0-0	2	4	10
	Nelson	1-1	0-0	0	1	2
	Heavener	3-6	0-0	1	5	6
	Scribner	2-8	0-0	5	4	4
	Livengood	2-2	0-0	4	2	4
	Akins	1-1	0-0	1	1	2
	King	8-15	4-5	2	5	20
	Jackson	3-7	0-0	3	2	6
	Hunt	6-16	5-5	10	5	17
	Team Rebounds			5		
	TOTALS	31-66	9-10	33	29	71
	LEE COLLEGE (74)					
		FG	FT	REB	PF	TP
	Hicks	0-0	1-2	1	2	1
	Swafford	1-5	0-0	1	1	2
	Studer	0-1	1-2	1	1	1
	Richter	1-1	0-0	3	3	2
	Dalton	2-5	2-2	2	2	6
	Rudolph	7-18	4-4	12	1	18
	Parks	4-7	2-6	1	0	10
	Wilcox	0-0	0-3	0	1	0
	Long	11-14	2-4	14	0	24
	Fisher	0-0	1-2	0	0	1
	Evans	2-4	3-4	4	3	7
	Scott	1-2	0-0	1	0	2
	Team Rebounds			5		
	TOTALS	29-57	16-29	45	14	74

Score by halves:
JBU 38-33 - 71
Lee 34-40 - 74

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