thr National Angelehair Basketball Tournament

by Tip Thiboutot

The 45th NWBT's opening game matched the favored Arkansas Rollin' Razorbacks against the tall and talented North Florida Renegades. The site of this confrontation was the Dupont Gymnasium at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), in Cambridge, Mass.

THE SEMIFINALS
Game 1: North Florida vs. Arkansas

It became immediately evident that Coach Harry Vines's Arkansas team was as tall as and even more talented than the opponents. In spite of a number of errant passes and even more missed shots (13 for 36)—especially layups—the Rollin' Razorbacks moved to a 28-22 halftime lead.

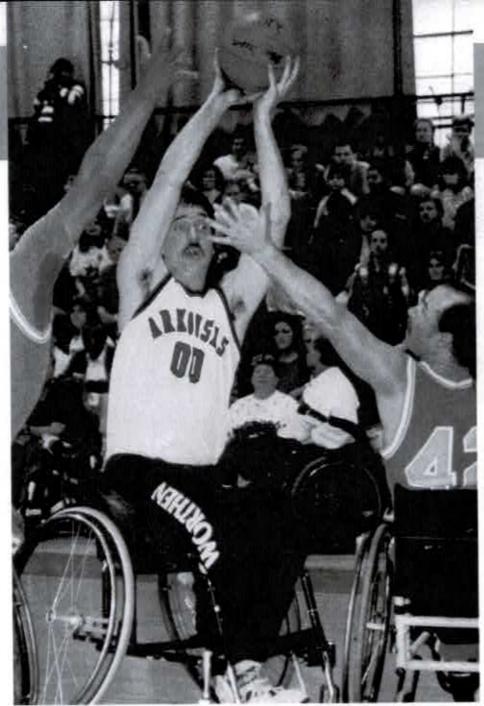
Using their triangle-and-two defense to pressure North Florida's ball handlers, Arkansas limited North Florida's normally prolific twin towers, Reggie Colton and Bill Richardson, to 6 points each in the half. Acting as the point man on many fast breaks, Tim Kazee scored 11 first-half points and lofted numerous passes to his towering and aggressive teammate, James Coughlin, who scored 9 points, most from the low post against the Renegades' match-up zone. The story of the second half was low-post baskets and lay-ups, almost all of the latter resulting from fast breaks.

Lay-ups: Outlet passes filled the arena. Almost all of them were initiated by Coughlin and Dennis Williams— Arkansas' version of the twin-tower saga. Kazee (24 total points) and Darren Schenebeck (10) found themselves on the receiving end of these passes: lay-up Kazee, lay-up Schenebeck.

Post-ups: Coughlin (28) proved to be the principal master of this offensive tactic following receipt of beautifully lobbed passes from his teammates, particularly Kazee and Schenebeck. Add several postups and set shots from the underrated Williams (16) to this powerful mix, and what have you got? A 50-point second-half explosion and a 78-49 victory for Arkansas.

The Renegades' Colton was limited to 8 points, Only John Johnston (10 points) and Richardson (17) attained moderate success against Arkansas' triangle-andtwo defense. The rattled Renegades committed 17 turnovers.

The triangle-and-two became a launching pad for Arkansas' fast-break attack. Imagine Kazee and Schenebeck pushing downcourt, unmolested, toward their team's offensive basket—and you have captured the image of Arkansas streaking toward its second national championship.



Coach Harry Vines reports that his chempion Arkansas Rollin' Razorbacks will be guests of President Bill Clinton at The White House, in Washington, D.C., on July 15: Although the team's performance at the 45th NWBT certainly ments recognition, "It helps to have a President who used to be governor of Arkansas," Vines admits.

OPPOSITE PAGE: 45th NWBT champs, the Arkansas Rollin' Razorbacks: (front row, from left) Charles Sample, Steven Tew, Greg Ridley, Darren Schenebeck, Frad Tindal, (back row) Rickey Boley, James Coughlin, Dennis Williams, Tim Kazee, Gary Woodring, and (standing) Coach Harry Vines. LEFT: Double-zero Rollin' Hog Jim Coughlin outreaches Casa's Curtis Bell and Craig Shewmake. BELOW: Condor Dave Kiley (#12), guarded by Arkansas' Darren Schenebeck, didn't lose his ball-handlin' skills after taking the season off, Kiley controls the tempo of the championship game, as Jimbo Miller prowis the back court.



Game 2: Dallas vs. Casa Colina

In the second semifinal game, the Dallas Mavericks, coached by Ron LaBar, rolled onto the gymnasium floor with a formidable starting lineup, consisting of the streak-shooting Ed Bland, the lightning-quick Abu Yilla, and Steve Welch, as well as its own twin towers—Rich Diecker and Gerry Fleming.

Dallas was challenging the defending champions, the Casa Colina Condors, winners in eight previous NWBTs since 1980—the most successful team in the history of the NWBA. Condor Coach John Chambers countered with an equally imposing lineup, including Albert Campos, Javier Gonzalez, Craig Shewmake, Jim Miller, and the great Curtis Bell. Absent from this contin-

gent and sitting on the bench was superstar David Kiley, who had chosen to come out of retirement to compete in the 45th NWBT. Kiley, even in his role as a Condor sub, was capable of taking over the game and the tournament, capable of leading his team to its ninth NWBA crown.

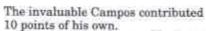
Dallas, however, dominated the opening minutes of the game, seizing a 4-0 lead on baskets by Diecker and Fleming. Casa Colina bounced back quickly to tis the score. The two teams remained locked in a near standoff for the initial 11 points. Then, with Dallas leading 14-10, the Condors ran off 14 points in the next three minutes of play, while the Mavericks would counter with no more than a foul shot by Fleming. As a result Casa

Colina surged to a 24-15 lead that they would never surrender.

Kiley lent additional firepower to his team's attack when he entered the game with seven minutes remaining in the half, scoring 7 points on two beautiful driving lay-ups and a dramatic 3-pointer. Casa Colina stretched their lead to 13 points at halftime: 36-23. Kiley would not score again. But his teammates continued firing away in the second half, extending their lead to as much as 18 points (58-40). Casa dominated the boards (32-20), with Miller (10) and Bell (9) leading the way. Miller (19 total points) and Bell (10 total), the recipients of many great lob passes from Shewmake (seven assists), led the Condor scoring attack.







Except for a late flurry of baskets by Dallas, led by Diecker's 17 points and Fleming's 10, Casa Colina was never seriously threatened, in spite of the frequent eye-catching play of Steve Welch (15 points, six assists).

Dynasties, even aging ones, may fade away, but not without providing their opponents with vivid reminders of their lingering greatness: Casa Colina 65, Dallas 58.

THE CONSOLATION GAME Dallas vs. North Florida

This was an exciting game, one marked by multiple lead changes. Dallas and North Florida fought for 40 minutes as if third place at the 45th



THESE TWO PAGES, CLOCKWISE (FROM LEFT):

Future superstar Maverick Stephen Welch chases down the ball in first-round action. Renegade Bill Richardson (#44) and Mike Gabriel harass Rollin' Hog Gary Woodring. Surrounded by Renegades, Rollin' Razorback Jim Coughlin dumps the ball off. (Left to right) Renegades Moustapha Hani (#3), Ron Van Elswyk (#31), Bill Richardson (#44), and Reggie Colton in semitinal action at the NWBT.

Slipping under the big guys, Dallas's Stephen Welch chases the elusive ball past North Florida's Reggie Colton (#43) and Bill Richardson (#44).

Dallas's Abu Yilla fights for control of the ball, in front of Casa's Craig Shewmake. Condor Jimbo Miller takes aim over long, tall Mavericks Rich Diecker (left) and Eddle Bland.

Condor Curlis Bell (#13) and Maverick Rich Diecker use fingertly control to start the semifinal game at the NWBT.

NWBT was equivalent to the national championship.

In the end, with seconds remaining, North Florida won (54-53) by executing wheelchair basketball's most effective offensive tactic, the pick-and-roll. Mike Gabriel played the executor by picking, then rolling unmolested through the key to score the final basket after receiving a pass from Reggie Colton.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME Arkansas vs. Casa Colina

Both teams opened the game with lineups identical to those that started the semifinals. Casa Colina's Kiley remained on the bench.

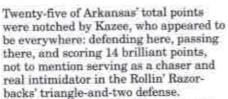
Arkansas started Coughlin, Williams, Schenebeck, Gary Woodring, and Kazee, arguably the NWBA's best player; five Rollin' Razorbacks, all destined to play the entire game.

Kazee scored a lay-up immediately following the tipoff to give Arkansas a 2-0 advantage. Both defenses dominated: Arkansas' triangle-and-two, and Casa Colina's aggressive switching man-to-man. Each defense held the majority of players on the floor in check, except Arkansas' Kazee and Coughlin and Casa's Bell and Miller.

These four players led their respective teams through a pitched battle that was marked by five lead changes in the initial 16 minutes of play, whereupon Arkansas scored the two final baskets of the half, assuming a tenuous 29-24 lead. Bell and Miller scored 18 of Casa Colina's 24 points—10 and 8, respectively.







Kazee transformed appearance into reality in the second half. He was in fact everywhere. On defense he could be found in Kiley's wheelchair, frustrating the Condor star, who fouled out in short order, scoring but 5 points. Any and all Condor ball handlers were dealt an equal dose of frustration by the determined Kazee.

On offense Kazee was the Condors' principal antagonist, scoring 18 additional points for a game-high total of 32.



NWBA TOP 25

- 1. Arkansas Rollin' Razorbacks
- Casa Colina Condors
- 3 North Florida Renegades
- Dallas Mavericks
- 5 Fresno Red Rollers
- 6 Golden State Warriors
- 7. Ottawa Royals
- 8 Grand Bapide Pacers
- 9 Chattanooga Big Wheels
- 10 Music City Lightning
- 11 Lakeshore Plonears
- 12. UTA Movin' Mays
- 13. Twin City Spinners
- 14 Toledo Silver Streaks
- Western Wheelin' Jazz
 Alberta Northern Lights
- 17. Long Beach Flying Wheels
- 18 Virginia Beach Sunwhesters
- 19. Chicago Bulls
- 20. Pasadena Big Wheels
- 21. Minnesota Timberwolves
- 22. Houston Cougars
- 23. University of Illinois
- 24. Colorado Rolling Cowboys
- 5. Charlotte Cyclones

Lest you become tempted to conclude that Arkansas is a one-man team, let me remind you that Coughlin and Williams (aka "Master of the Outlet Pass") each contributed 14 important points to their team's cause.

But clearly, even when he wasn't scoring, it was Kazee who controlled the game's tempo, gliding powerfully across the floor, balancing his team's offense, dishing out nine vital assists in addition to grabbing nine rebounds for a near triple-double.

Casa Colina, nevertheless, refused to submit to Kazee's heroics. Thanks to baskets from seven different players, they remained in the game, tying the score at 44 with ten crucial minutes remaining on the clock—plenty of time in



which to demonstrate the stuff of which dynasties are sustained.

After Arkansas had edged to a 6-point (52-46) lead with 5:47 remaining, Casa Colina's Miller was charged with a technical—a physical-advantage foul. Kazee then calmly drained both foul shots, initiating a 10-5 run by Arkansas that marked the beginning of the end for Casa Colina, who tried valiantly but failed to hold off the surge of the Rollin' Razorback momentum.

Desperation now became synonymous with Casa Colina. Players were forced to foul—fouls that Arkansas coverted into 8 points in the final four minutes of play. Those 8 points proved sufficient to preserve Arkansas' victory, 66-58. In fact, the victors outscored







Casa Colina by an astounding 20-0 from the foul line.

That was a deficit that neutralized 19 points from Casa's Bell as well as 18 from Miller. But that deficit, and all statistics, for that matter, were diminished in importance by Kazee's great all-around MVP performance and the unyielding intensity of his team's triangle-and-two defense. As a result, Arkansas garnered their second NWBT crown in three years.

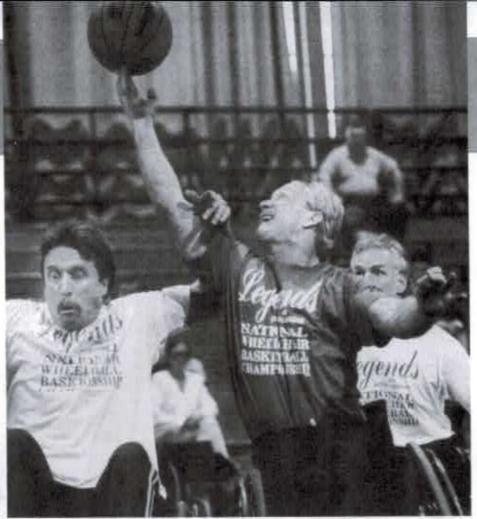
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HIGHLIGHTS & SIDELIGHTS

- Tim Kazee led all scorers, with 56 points in two games. His teammate, James Coughlin, was second with 42, followed by Casa Colina's Jim Miller, with 38.
- Miller proved to be the tournament's leading rebounder, with 23, followed closely by Coughlin, with 22.
- Kazee dished out the most assists:
 16. Dallas' Steve Welch notched 13.
 Welch dazzled the spectators and many of his opponents with his great speed and quickness, as well as several brilliant passes.

- Shot of the tournament: a back-toback spinning hook by Arkansas' Darren Schenebeck, launched in the midst of Casa's twin towers—Bell and Miller.
- Here's this observer's all-defensive team: Kazee, Schenebeck, and Woodring of Arkansas; Casa Colina's Albert Campos, and Dallas's Abu Yilla.
- The East won the Legends Game (53-49), contrary to the predictions of one Calvin Duncan, who some believe to be related to the Duncan who was observed plowing his way into the key while competing for the West, and whose prevarications...er, prognostications...were not endorsed by H. "Pointspread" McCormack, of Nashville.
- Arkansas Coach Harry Vines fell far short of his national record by insult-





THESE TWO PAGES, CLOCKWISE (FROM ABOVE):

Jay Kennedy (East) grabs the West Team's Richard Lock as he takes a flip in Legend action.

In the 1993 Legends Game, Big Willie Buchanan controls the ball for the East Team.

The '93 Legends Champion East Team topped the West, 53-49: (front row) Norm McGee, Legland Meeks, Carl Cash. Stan Kosloski. Pat Killeen. Coach Billy Kennedy, (second row) Ken Medieros, Dick Lallier, Jay Kennedy, George Norton, Willie Buchanan, (standing) East team owner Floyd Wilkins, superstar Jack Graf, referee "No-see-'um" Youakim, and Brooklyn's best burn, Saul Welger.

The oi' boys did darn good in the annual Legends Game at the 45th NWBT. Even though the West lost to the East, they at least tooked like a team: (front row) Kelth Cartwright, Vince Caputo, Johnny ("Very Young") Johnson, Phil Craven, George Veenstra, (back row) Richard Lock, Dave Vanbuskirk, Bill Duncan, Jim McEllheny, Tom Brown, and Mary Lapicola. Standing are Head Referee Al Youakim and Coach Tim Nugent.

ing only 150 individuals at this year's tournament.

COACHES' COMMENTS

Coaches responded to the following question: What was the most significant factor leading to Arkansas' victory?

- · John Chambers, Casa Colina: "It has to be Tim Kazee. He was the key to the whole game. They shot very well. Their fast break hurt us. We couldn't maintain our defensive intensity."
- · Harry Vines, Arkansas: "Team defense. Our visit to the Boston Garden."
- · Frank T. Burns, Lakeshore Pioneers; former Coach, Casa Colina: "Tim Kazee had an MVP game. Kazee and Schenebeck materialized into a

formidable defensive backcourt. Arkansas' triangle-and-two kept pressure on Casa Colina's guards. It was amazing that Arkansas' starting five played the entire 40 minutes."

- . Tim Nugent, University of Illinois: "They were patient when it was required and took advantage of every opportunity for a fast break when appropriate. They played a disciplined game and never let up. Their size and speed were significant, as were their passing and defense."
- Al Youakim, New Jersey Wheelers: "Great defense. Very few turnovers, and the ability to see when to make a fast break. Also, good percentage shooting from the field and from the foul line."

1993 HALL OF FAME

by Cliff Crase

Four inductees were honored at the 1993 NWBA Hall of Fame ceremonies during the 45th NWBT victory banquet at the Hyatt Hotel, in Cambridge, Mass., on March 27.

Vince Caputo played for the U of I Gizz Kids from 1959 to 1963 and for Chicago from 1963 to 1984, earning All-American honors. Vince Caputo established a singular reputation for himself with a no-nonsense approach to playing wheelchair basketball. He gained the respect of his teammates and opponents with a tenacity that never let up. With his strength, speed, and excellent shooting skills, Vince contributed significant-

ly to the Sidewinders' success in the



NWBA founder and past commissioner Tim Nugent (Hall of Fame '73) and S'NS photographer Curt Beamer (Hall of Fame '89) pose by the NWBA shrine at the James Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame, in Springfield, Mass.

BELOW:

NWBA Hall of Fame Class of 1993, along with their presenters: (front row) NWBA VP Armand "Tip" Thiboutot; Vince Caputo, Chicago Sidewinders; Bill Dumbroski, Connecticut Spokebenders; Jay Kennedy, presenter; (back row) George Veenstra, Hall of Fame 88, presenter; NWBA Commissioner Stan Labanowich: Mary Lapicola, Hall of Fame '88, presenter.

ALL-TOURNEY TEAM

FIRST TEAM

Eddie Bland Reggie Colton

North Florida

Jim Caughlin Tim Kazae

Arkansas

Darren Schenebeck

Arkansas Arkansas

SECOND TEAM

Curtis Bell

Casa Colina

Dave Kiley Jim Miller

Casa Cokna Casa Colma

Stephen Welch

Dallas.

Abu Yilla

Dallas

MVP

Tim Kazee

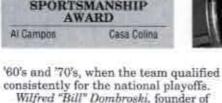
Arkansas

CAPTAIN JAMES S. URE SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Armand "Tip" Thiboutot was inducted into the Hall of Fame on his home turf; even his mother showed up to applaud him. Tip is a basketball aficionado of high repute. His involvement in the sport ranges from regional teams to serving on the NWBA Executive Board and as secretary of the Internationl Wheelchair Basketball Federation. He began his career in 1967 with the New England Clippers and went on to found the Boston Mustangs. As a player, coach, organizer, writer, and officer, Tip approaches all tasks with an analytical enthusiasm rarely found. Tip can think and tinker with the best of them. He has contributed greatly to the sport.

A truly deserving NWBA commissioner, Stan Labanowich was honored with

induction into the Hall of Fame. Since 1963, as a mentor of the highest order, Stan has influenced countless learners of the sport, athletes, coaches, officials, and students. Stan, who is in his twentieth year as NWBA's commissioner, coached the national champion University of Illinois team in 1969-70. He also coached the U.S. team in the '60's and '70's. He has served in many positions on the international level, including chairman of the International Stoke Mandeville Games Federation's Committee on Basketball and technical director of the Gold Cup Wheelchair Baskethall Committee. Stan is probably best known for making decisions (especially the unpopular ones). He challenges the status quo and continues as the vanguard of the movement.



the New Haven (Conn.) Spokebenders,

treasurer, plus past national treasurer,

of Fame. The time, dedication, and con-

ketball over the past 25 years are equal

to none. His unselfishness and his will-

ingness to help people are unparalleled.

Bill is one of those blue-collar workers

nice guy who has respect and love for

who feels no job is too small for him, no

task beneath him. He is one of those lik-

able fellows you never forget and is just a

wheelchair basketball and his family. He

Northeast Conference vice president and

was honored with elevation into the Hall

sistency Bill has given to wheelchair bas-



is admired by all who know him.