

Newton Win? Ho-Hum, But by 98-83? Wow

Rams Zoom Past Carver in AA; E. Rome Kills Newnan Central

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The score seemed about right, only the teams were switched. It was Newton County that came within two points of 100, and finished 15 ahead of Carver of Atlanta, the defending AA champion, 98-83. And, it's Newton that will play East Rome, a runaway winner over Central of Newnan, for the state AA crown Saturday night at the Tech Coliseum.

"We've got one state trophy and one runner up trophy in our case, and maybe tomorrow night we can get another," said Ron Bradley, Newton's

"Our kids were sky-high for them," Bradley said.

THE REAL shock of the evening was not so much that Newton won, but the margin. It was a known fact that Carver is not as good as last year, and Newton is better than last year. So, putting the two together and adding the 66-61 result, a Newton win is not too much of a surprise.

However, 98-83 is. It is the biggest loss Carver has suffered in years.

"I thought there would be a lot of scoring tonight. I told our scorer to bring this many pencils," Bradley said, indicating a fistful with his right hand. And the scorer needed them before the end of the fourth period.

Newton took an early lead, 18-9, which against most teams would indicate the trend of the game. But, not against Carver, and here the Panthers came back to take a 47-46 lead to the dressing room at halftime.

THEN, behind sharp-shooting George Anderson, Carver took over and edged out to a maximum six-point lead, 61-55, about midway the third period. Here, again, against most teams this would indicate a trend, but not Newton. And, back the Rams came.

Bubba Hill, who finished the night with 37 points, put Newton ahead, 68-67, on the first shot of the final quarter. Robert Taylor's field goal put Carver back in the lead, 69-68, but Hill again hit a jumper and Carver never led again.

In fact, before Carver scored again, Newton was ahead by nine, 78-69. Taylor made it 71 for Carver, but Newton was out to an 84-71 lead before the next Carver point was recorded.

With 54 seconds to go Newton was holding an astounding 20-point lead, 95-75, and Carver could trim only five points off, despite a 48-point performance by George Anderson.

"I THINK this one of the best tournaments we've had in a long time," Bradley said after his team's win. "It's got to be

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The racial situation was more tense than the actual game Friday night between Carver of Atlanta and Newton County. For a report, see story on page 2-B.

coach. Of course, there's no doubt which trophy Bradley wants to make a pair of.

It was the second time Carver and Newton, without a doubt the top basketball schools in AA, have met. The first time was in the quarterfinal rounds of the '69 tournament. Carver won, 66-61, and went on to a state title.

But, it's hard to beat either team twice in a row and the '69 outcome had a decided effect on Friday night's game.



Staff Photo—Charles Jackson

**SOMETHING TO CHEER ABOUT
n AA State Tournament**