

SUPER-ULTRA CAGE BATTLE IS CLASSIC

By Warren Brown

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Basketball's big league came to Chicago last night.

Basketball at its biggest, basketball at its best, basketball--as conquering Collegiate All-Stars and clever Harlem Globe Trotters played it that supplied, in this one man's opinion at least, the superlatively exciting competitive spectacle encountered along a well rounded sport line in more than a quarter of a century.

Small wonder, then, that basketball's greatest crowd in all history is all agog today, and can hardly wait for the renewal of this great spectacle, inaugurated by The Chicago HERALD-AMERICAN at the Chicago Stadium last night.

It left nothing to be desired, this show that began smoothly, took on an entertainment momentum that increased as the minutes ticked away, and finished with a sensational climax that left 20,853 fairly limp from contemplation of it all.

Elsewhere in these pages, you who were unlucky enough not to have been present as the game took its place among Chicago's and the nation's sporting fixtures, will get the glowing details of the things that Stan Szukala of DePaul, Erwin Prasse of Iowa, Ralph Vaughan of Southern California, Bill Hapac of Illinois, Bob Carpenter of Texas Teachers and all the other Collegiate heroes did, and how they did it. You will read of the Globe Trotters' Bernard Price, "Sonny" Boswell, Ted Strong and the other heroes of the world's professional champions.

We're going to be content to draw a picture -- inadequate as it will be-- of the pageantry, the excitement, the crowd.

Seems simple enough, doesn't it?

But where to begin -- will it be with that demonstration of more than 20,000 persons on their feet continuously in the final frantic minutes of play? Will it be that mass production of basketball for all, when at the half time, as the young legionnaires were beating drums and blowing bugles, while some beautiful young ladies from Lake View were twirling batons---down from the upper reaches of the vast Stadium descended hundreds of yellow balloons?

Probably the proper procedure will be to take it all in stride, from the spot-lighted presentation of the Collegiate mascot, Miss Dorothy O'Kelly, and of the Globe Trotters' mascot, Miss Miriam Ali, to the last second of the last minute as that more than 20,000 gave its last, its final, its all endorsing whoop of sheer joy at having been part of a spectacle that will live long in Chicago's sport promotional history.

There was the presentation of the Collegiate players, in the spotlight, each lad trotting across the floor until all members of the squad, and their victorious coach, Arthur (Dutch) Lonborg, had been introduced. Then came the Globe Trotters, all together, entering the vast arena as they played in it, one for all and all for one.

Then came the stirring rendition of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by John Pane-Gasser.