

**"It'll be a matchup of thoroughbreds v.s. clydesdales"**  
**FLORIDA STATE WILL WIN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP;**  
**NEBRASKA SHOULD BE ABLE TO COVER THE NUMBER**

W.G. Ramirez

"It'll be a matchup of thoroughbreds v.s. clydesdales," says Las Vegas Sports Analyst Jimmy Spats, speaking about the Orange Bowl. The stage is all set for the national championship game which pits #1 Florida State against #2 Nebraska on New Year's Day in Miami, Florida.

The Seminoles will be led by Heisman Trophy winner Charlie Ward, while Nebraska will bring their smashmouth-style play into the afternoon's biggest matchup.

Spats says he "absolutely loves" the Seminoles to nail down the national championship for Head Coach Bobby Bowden, but can't understand why the point spread is so high. The Seminoles are currently 17-1/2 point favorites over the Cornhuskers and could possibly be bet up to 18 or 19 by game time.

"In my opinion the top three teams in the nation right now are: Florida State, Tennessee and Notre Dame," concedes Spats. "I also think its an absolute disgrace that Nebraska is getting a shot at the national title. If the Bowl Committee doesn't start taking in consideration the strength of schedule, teams like Nebraska will never schedule tough opponents, because they know they will always have a shot at the national championship every year."

Although he is completely against the big matchup, Spats still doesn't understand how the national championship would have such a big line.

"If these are supposedly the top two teams in the nation, why are the 'Noles such big favorites?"

"Sure on any given day, anyone can compete against anyone else, and Nebraska will be out to prove that they're not completely outclassed."

Florida State undoubtedly has top-notch athletes, referred by Spats as "the thoroughbreds," and Ward will be well prepared for New Year's Day.

"He will become a better basketball player, but his complete athleticism will guide the Seminoles to the national championship," concluded Spats about the game.

As for the other matchups on January 1, 1994, Spats was quick to say that "Notre Dame will dwarf Texas A&M." The two will meet in the Cotton Bowl at 1:30 p.m. in Dallas, Texas.

"The Irish have better athletes, have played a tougher schedule and they have Lou Holtz."

Spats' seemingly favorite team is Tennessee, a team that boasts his favorite player in the entire nation - quarterback Heath Shuler.

"Heath is a better quarterback than Charlie Ward and will prove that next year. The kid is just starting to come into his own as QB. His all-around ability is outstanding. He has a strong throwing arm."

"One thing is for certain, when he decides to make himself available to the NFL - he will be #1. No question about it!!!"

Spats is leaning towards UCLA in the granddaddy of them all - the Rose Bowl. Pending the status, health-wise, of the Bruins' squad, Spats thinks they could have a cakewalk.

"UCLA is a well-coached team, they'll be playing at home and they will just come into this game well-prepared."

One team that doesn't exactly excite the local handicapper, is undefeated West Virginia. He admits that they've overcome tough opponents in Miami, Fla. and Boston College, but feels that when analyzed on paper, the Mountaineers don't deserve to be considered for the national championship.

"The only reason that they're getting consideration for #1 is because of their 10-0 record. If they were 9-1, they wouldn't even be looked upon."

Spats says he and his crew are ready for the climax of the most mentally straining season - football. His service, located in Las Vegas, has had its ups and downs, like any service in the industry,

(See Bowls, Page 22)

**MICHAEL JORDAN'S RETIREMENT**  
**TOP SPORTS STORY IN THE WORLD**

Former Chicago Bulls superstar Michael Jordan is back in the headlines again. Actually it was the headlines of his retirement announcement that was voted the top sports story in the world in a 30-nation survey conducted by The Associated Press.

It was October 5, 1993 in Comiskey Park - Chicago, Illinois. It happened to be opening night for the 1993 Major League Baseball Playoffs, and the Chicago White Sox were playing host to the defending world

champion Toronto Blue Jays. Then the rumor began to surface, and eventually made its way to the national television audience.

"MICHAEL JORDAN WILL RETIRE TOMORROW!!!"

When the 11:00 nightly news aired, the Jordan rumor had turned into the top story, and basically was confirmed.

The next morning, Jordan, 30, took his seat at Berto Center, in Deerfield, Illinois, the site of the Chicago Bulls' training camp, with wife Juanita, and assured

the league, paparazzi and a nationwide audience that "the NBA will survive," and that "the game is still entertaining. The game goes on and it will be just as exciting."

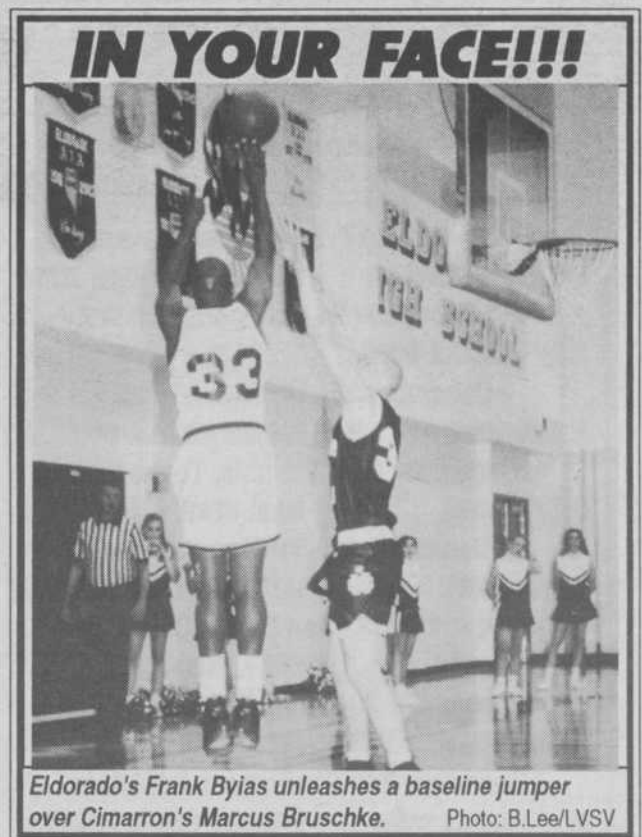
The sport's greatest player of all time had just shocked the world and conceded that he didn't need the fanfare anymore to live, and definitely not to survive.

"The toughest decision was leaving the team - my teammates. I really love them alot."

Jordan had said that before

making the final decision, he asked his former head coach, Phil Jackson, "Quite frankly, is there anything more for me to prove as a basketball player?"

"And he thought for a second, and that's all I needed, and that's the way I left it," responded Jordan.



Eldorado's Frank Byias unleashes a baseline jumper over Cimarron's Marcus Brusckke. Photo: B.Lee/LVSV

**Southern Nevada Prep Basketball Scoreboard '93-'94**

**TUESDAY'S RESULTS**

CIMARRON-MEMORIAL 61 ELDORADO 56  
 LAS VEGAS 62 BONANZA 60 OT  
 CHEYENNE 72 VALLEY 48  
 WESTERN 80 BASIC 65  
 GREEN VALLEY 83 BISHOP GORMAN 81 OT  
 CLARK 68 CHAPARRAL 57

| SUNSET DIVISION |          | SUNRISE DIVISION |          |
|-----------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| CIMARRON        | 0-0, 3-1 | GREEN VALLEY     | 0-0, 4-0 |
| CHEYENNE        | 0-0, 3-1 | ELDORADO         | 0-0, 3-1 |
| CLARK           | 0-0, 3-1 | RANCHO           | 0-0, 2-2 |
| WESTERN         | 0-0, 3-1 | CHAPARRAL        | 0-0, 1-3 |
| DURANGO         | 0-0, 2-2 | LAS VEGAS        | 0-0, 1-3 |
| GORMAN          | 0-0, 2-2 | BOULDER CITY     | 0-0, 1-4 |
| VO-TECH         | 0-0, 2-2 | VALLEY           | 0-0, 0-4 |
| BONANZA         | 0-0, 1-4 | BASIC            | 0-0, 0-4 |

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*Toys For Tots* **8**

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