#2 Memphis Defeats UConn to Win Championship

Chris Douglas-Roberts scores 33, elected Tournament MVP

box score

NEW YORK (AP) - Chris Douglas-Roberts scored a career-high 33 points and No. 3 Memphis, after racing out to a big early lead, held on to beat Connecticut 81-70 on Friday night in the championship game of the 2K Sports College Hoops Classic.

Freshman sensation Derrick Rose added a career-high 24 points for the Tigers, who opened an early 15-point lead but found themselves trailing by one at the half.

Douglas-Roberts, the tournament MVP, broke open a close game during a decisive second-half run, hitting a pair of free throws with the game knotted at 60 and less than nine minutes to play. That set off a 16-5 spurt capped by his jumper with 3:55 left, effectively putting the game out of reach.

A.J. Price scored 23 to lead Connecticut (3-1), often playing much bigger than his 6-foot-2 frame. He routinely threw himself among the Memphis forwards, slicing through the lane to help the Huskies rally in the first half and stay close after the break.

Jerome Dyson scored 14 of his 17 points after halftime for UConn, which also got 11 points and nine rebounds from Hasheem Thabeet.

Memphis forward Joey Dorsey, who aggravated a shoulder injury in a semifinal win over Oklahoma, played sparingly in the first half and finished with four points and 12 rebounds, most of those as the Tigers (4-0) pulled away late.