



NEW YORK—Undefeated Larry Holmes (left) will defend his heavyweight championship against top-ranked contender Gerry Cooney (right) March 15, 1982 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. UPI Photo

North Carolina Vs. Kentucky Clash Of The Titans

By Elson Armstrong, Jr.
Collegiate cage lovers, we definitely get a treat this week. On December 26, No. 1-ranked North Carolina will clash with No. 2-ranked Kentucky in the Meadowlands at East Rutherford, New Jersey.

According to some forecasters, this game could be a preview on next March's NCAA title game. But even if they weren't so highly ranked, just getting Kentucky and North Carolina to play each other would create huge interest—especially in the southeastern U.S. where both teams have legions of fanatic followers.

When it comes to collegiate basketball, three names stick out in NCAA annals—UCLA, Kentucky and North Carolina. Except for national titles won in many areas UNC and Kentucky have even outstripped UCLA. Consider this:

Going into this season, Kentucky holds the NCAA record for games won with 1,284; UNC is second on the all-time list with 1,221 (UCLA is fifteenth with 1,045).

While UCLA's tremendous success mostly came after 1963, Kentucky and North Carolina have been big on the national for at least four decades.

Both teams are easily the most loved and the most hated in their respective states. While school children in the Bluegrass state keep posters of U.K. heroes,

children in Tar Heelia swarm around UNC players for autographs. Kentucky has won five national titles, two NCAA runner-ups, and one NIT crown. North Carolina has two NCAA titles, four NCAA runner-ups and also one NIT title.

Both teams have large radio networks in areas where basketball is more than a sports—it's a fact of life. Kentucky, under Adolph Rupp, ruled the SEC through most of his tenure but has found the going rougher with the SEC strengthened since the early 1970's. Still Kentucky is the team that most of its league foes like to beat the most.

North Carolina, under Frank McGuire and Dean Smith, has won more ACC titles than any other school. But since this league has historically been well-balanced, the Tar Heels haven't been as dominant as UK. Still, Carolina is the most hated team in the ACC.

North Carolina is probably the only team that has played Kentucky more than fifteen times and leads in the over-all series with the Wildcats. UNC currently holds a 12-6 bulge, still more remarkable is Dean Smith's 7-2 mark against UK. No other coach—not Bobby Knight nor John Wooden—can boast that claim.

Kentucky and North Carolina both sport nearly the same shade of

blue and white uniforms. But that's not all that makes the two winningest teams in collegiate basketball similar.

Both are the largest universities in their respective states, therefore they sport the most powerful alumni—much to the chagrin of other state schools.

UNC and UK have similar policy of not playing in-state rivals. Since Duke, Wake Forest and N.C. State are members of the ACC, the Tar Heels do play those North Carolina teams, but other than Kentucky, there's no other SEC team in the Wildcats' home state. Therefore they never play ANY other Kentucky team.

These policies have created yells of "chicken" in both states, but both schools strictly adhere to this policy.

When Kentucky and North Carolina meet each other, it's more than a game, it's a war for regional pride. The last time they met was an interesting and memorable match in the finals of the 1977 Eastern Regionals.

Kentucky entered that game ranked No. 2. Big, mean and healthy, many observers felt that the 'Cats were on their way to the National Title. North Carolina, ranked No. 6, was hobbled by injuries and had been winning in the playoffs largely on emotion, but it seemed like that would come to a crashing and

possibly embarrassing end at Maryland's Cole Field House on March 17, 1977 before a capacity roaring through plus a national tv audience.

When it was over, it was UK, not UNC, that was red-faced. UNC jumped out to as much as a 16-point lead in the first half and held off a furious UK charge in the second half to win 79-72. That defeat caused deep depression throughout Wildcat country and it nearly cost Coach Joe Hall his job. What the Kentucky partisans were hopping mad about was the way UNC has won. In the second half, UNC didn't score from the field over the last ten minutes, but they gave UK a clinic in free throw shooting (perfect) and the four corners.

Hall only quieted his critics when his team beat Duke for No. 1 in 1978.

So, it's been four years since these two giants did battle, but on Dec. 26, before a national tv audience (NBC) they renew their war—a war that could be replayed in New Orleans in March.

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Thanks to these unsung heroes, America might be ringing with praises for what is regarded as the best telephone service in the world.

Bowl Game Matchups Set Tournaments Set

By Elson Armstrong, Jr.
Triangle area sports fans get a variety of all kinds of sports over the next two weeks. There's everything from bowl games to wrestling to satisfy the sports appetite.

North Carolina and Clemson will be going "bowling" over the holidays as their football teams in the national top ten all season seek to add some prestige to the ACC. Carolina will play Arkansas in the Gator Bowl on Dec. 28. The

Gator Bowl has become a sort of ACC host bowl over the years. UNC enjoyed one of its biggest triumphs ever when it upset Michigan in the 1979 Gator Classic, 17-15.

Clemson really enjoys a rare honor for an ACC team. The Tigers are ranked No. 1 and if they defeat Nebraska in the Orange Bowl on New Year's night, they'll become the first ACC team to win the mythical national crown since Maryland of 1953.

On the cage front, all local teams return to action on both the high school and college levels. The Durham Sun Holiday Tournament should draw record crowds to Durham High School because of the strong field plus the added attraction, Curtiss Hunter of Durham Southern, generally acknowledged as the No. 1 high school prospect in North Carolina this year. The tourney gets going with a bang as unbeaten Southern tangles with unbeaten 4-A power Kingston on opening day.

There's the Iron Duke Classic a Cameron In-

door Stadium in Durham on Dec. 29-30. The field comprises Duke, Davidson, Auburn and William & Mary.

There's also collegiate and high school wrestling. Jordan High in Durham will host the Bull City Invitational while UNC (No. 5 ranked nationally) and N.C. State wrestling squads will take on two national powers in Iowa and Oklahoma.

With all this going on, there are still the numerous bowls and NFL playoffs on the tube, yeah. If you're into sports, then you should be in ecstasy.

Hornets Crush Millbrook Wildcats 77-53

Steve McCormick and Ronald Douglas combined for 20 rebounds to lead Hillside to a 77-53 victory of Millbrook Friday, Dec. 18.

The Hornets led Millbrook 9-8 at the end of the first period. That was as close as Millbrook could come for the remainder of the ball game.

Hillside managed to gain many inside offensive buckets on second and third shots because of strong offensive rebounding by Douglas and McCormick.

Antwan Smith led the Hornets in scoring with 15 points while McCormick added 11.

Millbrook girls team slipped past Coach Tony Ford's Lady Hornets 38-33. The 2-6 Lady

Hornet team was led in scoring against Millbrook by Deloris Powell who poured in 12 points.

On Saturday, Dec. 19, in Tunstall, Virginia, Hillside varsity team was defeated by Tunstall 81-61. The Hornets dropped to 5-3 overall.

Hillside trailed Tunstall at the end of the first half by only three points, 31-28. However, at the end of the third period, Tunstall had increased its lead to ten points, (52-42).

Antwan Smith paced the Hornets with 14 points. Hillside will try to get back into the winning column on Monday against Smithfield at 2 p.m. at Durham High's Sykes Gymnasium.

Hillside Jayvees Still Undefeated At 8-0

By B. Dawson
Hillside High School's junior varsity basketball team, with its three-guard running offense, still has not settled down, said Coach Al Eubanks.

The squad is undoubtedly shooting for a perfect season and Eubanks believes that his players must make their free throw shots and avoid costly turnovers for the remainder of the 1982 season to stay undefeated.

The team has received some outstanding defensive performances from 6-2 center Johnny Traylor and guards Harold Harris and Robin Scott

On the offensive end of the court, Demorris Tucker leads Hillside in scoring with 15.0 points per game, and he's averaging over 10 rebounds a contest. Fred Young is second in scoring at 12.0.

Coach Eubanks says he's happy that his team goes into the Christmas break undefeated. The Jayvees will work out twice a day over the holiday break preparing for the January 5 rematch against Tunstall.



DES MOINES—World Welterweight Champ Sugar Ray Leonard gives some tips to Golden Gloves boxers in Des Moines for a national team tournament. Leonard conducted a clinic for the fighters prior to their final matches. UPI Photo

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NCCU Basketball at McDougald Gym
NCCU Eagles vs Shaw Univ. Bears
Friday, Jan. 8th
7:30 p.m.
The Eagles and Bears are fighting for one of the four berths from the Southern Division for the CIAA tournament. The Eagles are 2-3, 0-1 in the CIAA. They defeated the Bears on December 4th in the opening round of the Bull-City Invitational 52-39.
Tickets at the door: Adults \$4; Non-Central Students \$2.

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