

SPORTS FRIDAY



Home
Fencing vs. JMU and clubs, Sat. and Sun. All Day
Wrestling vs. Virginia, Sat. 7:30 p.m.
Women's Hoops vs. Georgia Tech, Sun. 3 p.m.

Away
Track at U.S. Air Invitational, Fri. and Sat. All Day
Wrestling at Clemson, Fri. 7 p.m.
Swimming at Virginia, Sun. 1 p.m.

The Daily Tar Heel/Friday, January 29, 1993/5

THE PITCH



Warren Hynes
Senior Writer

Chemistry, heart fuel UNC's ascent to upper echelon

It has been leading to something like this all along. North Carolina's 21-point comeback in the final 11:48 of Wednesday night's game against Florida State was an outburst waiting to happen. UNC's 82-77 victory before 21,572 delighted Smith Center fans gave the Tar Heels a record of 17-1, 6-0 in the ACC, and a lock on either the No. 1 or No. 2 spot in Monday's Associated Press Poll should UNC win at Wake Forest Saturday.

But more importantly, North Carolina's wild Wednesday win gave the team's followers and a national television audience a chance to see precisely what makes this squad as good as it is.

Chemistry. There is something about this team, something that cries out "intangible," that has everything to do with players knowing exactly what each other is thinking, seeing and doing.

Something that makes a player dive for loose balls, reach a little farther for the steal, bump up against the big guys inside, knowing that if it wasn't him making that play, it would be another in blue and white.

It is the kind of deal where you know that these guys really do like one another, and when you hear Eric Montross say, "We win together and we lose together and we grow together," you know he means it.

The Tar Heels are not sneaking up on anyone now, as was the case earlier in the year when Duke, Michigan, Kentucky, Kansas and Indiana all stood in front of UNC in the polls.

But you also get the feeling that no matter how much attention this squad gets, it's just not going to matter. Some team may knock off UNC in the NCAA Tournament. But this team won't be rattled.

And at this point, as Florida State will attest, knocking off North Carolina is tough. Real tough.

"I think this team definitely has a lot of determination out there," senior guard Henrik Rödl said. "It's funny — when I go on the court and I have a thought that we need to settle down or we need to do this play or we need to be aggressive, two or three of my teammates will say the same thing before I even open my mouth."

Adds Montross, "This team has definitely got desire and a heart."

A game such as Wednesday night's is as big a gut test as there is. It forced the Tar Heel players to search within and see how much they wanted it. And in the final 10 minutes of that game, the Tar Heels showed what they'd been showing all along — that the last thing anyone should question about this team is its heart.

Dallas fans prepare to eat up their Buffalo foes

The Associated Press
DALLAS — If you think the Democrats had a grand time on Inauguration Day after a 12-year absence from the White House, wait till you see what fans are cooking up for the Dallas Cowboys' first Super Bowl in 14 seasons.

They're stirring buffalo chili and mixing blue margaritas, for starters. They're decking out offices, homes and cars with blue and silver streamers, pennants and posters. Some are even hiring dancers dressed — at least initially — as pompon-waving cheerleaders.

And you don't need any expensive gowns or tuxedos for these affairs.

But how about a big-screen TV? A 46-inch Zenith at Best Buy is \$1,699 and a 52-inch Sony is \$3,399. Sorry, all the rentals in town have been snatched up for about \$175, or the cost of that Super Bowl ticket you didn't get.

The biggest bash is Sunday's Cowboys watching party at the Corral at Texas Stadium in Irving, where 3,000 fans will pack the tent to watch 26 big-screens. Parking and admission are free, but beer and burgers aren't. Novelties will be sold at a discount and pennants will be given at the door.

Roadside merchants have helped get fans into the spirit with their wares.

Laura Taylor and Kay Yeary, who work for an insurance company in Dallas, stopped by one stand to get presents for friends and family outside Texas.

"We're also getting stuff to wear to the party," Taylor said.

"My brother rented a margarita machine and we're having blue margaritas for the Cowboys."

Wendy Sanders of The Cake Lady

UNC AT WAKE FOREST

Saturday, 4 p.m., WRAL TV 5
Joel Coliseum, Winston-Salem

The Lowdown
Backcourt If you like stats, you'll probably love Randolph Childress. Read the numbers and weep: 20.7 ppg, 56 assists, 33 minutes per game. Georgetown transfer Charlie Harrison has found his shooting range of late for the Deacs. UNC's Derrick Phelps tends to shut down the opposition on defense, while senior Henrik Rödl hit key 3's vs. FSU.

Frontcourt They don't come much better than Wake's Rodney Rogers, who continues to make his game more and more versatile. UNC's Eric Montross (15.5 ppg, 7.9 rpg) should destroy 6-foot-9 Derrick Hicks (4.7 ppg, 9.2 rpg). Senior George Lynch, with eight double-doubles on the year, will provide a classic — and quite even — matchup for Rogers.

Depth Take away Childress or Rogers and UNC's bench could hardly beat what was left of the Deacons. Only forward Travis Banks (6.6 ppg) and guard Marc Blucas (2.0 ppg) see much time off the pine for Wake. UNC's Donald Williams (14.4 ppg) could be the nation's most explosive sixth man. UNC's Kevin Salvadori has reformed his shot.

Coaching With each passing game, Dean Smith looks more and more like the god some Tar Heels claim he is. He has molded this team into perhaps one of his best, and most surprising, squads. Smith has successfully employed zone defenses versus the Deacons in the past. If wise, the Deacs' Dave Odom won't try to make this one a battle of wits.

Intangibles Perhaps Wake's greatest ally is the law of averages. After losing 24 of 25 games vs. the Tar Heels, the Deacons are probably due a victory. Both teams are coming off great wins, but UNC's miracle against Florida State had to be draining. The Tar Heels must avoid a letdown, while the Deacons must get over their fear of winning the big game.

N. Carolina 78, Wake Forest 72 — Compiled by Stewart Chisam

Little brother Wake hopes to upset sibling rival UNC

By Stewart Chisam
Staff Writer

Of all the rivalries ACC basketball has produced, perhaps none is more brotherly — more prone toward that fierce, yet distinctly fraternal intensity of sibling battles — than that between North Carolina and Wake Forest.

Like brothers in the backyard, the squads attack each other — season after season — with mutual pride and arrogance, always pushed by a special intensity, always jawing with gentle jibes of familiarity ...

... and nearly always ending with the same result.

Saturday at 4 p.m. in the Demon Deacons' Joel Coliseum, third-ranked North Carolina will attempt to leave the same message it has taught the Deacs 24 of the last 25 times the two teams have met: "We're bigger and more experienced, and thus we beat you — just like big brothers are supposed to do."

The Deacons, on the other hand, appear ready to prove that they have earned their place at the grown-ups' table. One of the country's hottest teams, the Deacons — now 12-3, 4-2 in the ACC — fell only two votes shy of a Top 25 ranking in the latest AP poll. A 75-73 win at No. 15 Virginia Wednesday certainly won't hurt the Deacons' chances at breaking into the next poll.

But as Wake has improved, its "big brother" has kept pace — and then some. At 17-1, 6-0 in the ACC — and fresh off a miraculous 82-77 victory against Florida State — the Tar Heels are playing perhaps their best basketball since the national championship season of 1982.

Still, Wake finally might be ready to give its sibling-like rival a run for its

bakery said she has dozens of orders for Cowboys cakes with either blue icing or blue inside "and no orders for Bills cakes."

Pony kegs were going fast at Centennial Liquor's 37 stores and Red Coleman's 25, employees said.

Of course, not everybody in Dallas is a Cowboys fan. Take Tammy DeMarco. She is a customer service representative at Occidental Chemical Corp., which moved its corporate headquarters from Niagara Falls, N.Y., to Dallas in 1987, bringing hundreds of transplanted Buffalonians.

DeMarco organized a pep rally at Humpertink's bar and grill in suburban Addison on Thursday night, billing it as the largest gathering of Bills fans in Texas.

She's also throwing a party for about 40 people Sunday. "I'm going to serve buffalo chicken wings. I found a store that sells Frank's Hot Sauce, that's the only kind to use on chicken wings. It's absolutely delicious," she said. "We're also going to make Sahlen's hot dogs, flown down from Buffalo along with Ted's chili hotdog sauce. Of course, we'll also have Texas barbecue for token Texans."

DeMarco said she was sure the Bills wouldn't lose their third straight Super Bowl, but said even if they did, she would remain a loyalist.

"I don't think you can find any fan truer than the Buffalo Bills," she said. "If you haven't sat through a game in sleet, snow and freezing rain, through 1-13 records, you're not a fan." Her favorite saying this week is: "The 'Boys may be back, but men win Super Bowls."

Gymnasts begin home competition

By Marc Franklin
Staff Writer

The UNC women's gymnastics team opens its home season tonight when the Radford University Lady Highlanders visit Carmichael Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

The Tar Heels come into their first of four home meets with a record of 4-1. In its season opener at George Washington, UNC finished behind the host team and ahead of third place Navy. Last weekend the Tar Heels topped all com-

petition finishing ahead of host William & Mary, Pittsburgh and Miami of Ohio. Radford enters tonight's meet at 0-3.

North Carolina coach Derek Galvin is pleased with his team's early season performance which has been highlighted by strong efforts on the vault and the floor exercise. Galvin added that his team's progress has been hampered by inactivity during Winter Break.

The balance beam is the squad's strongest event. "Our performances will stand out compared to other teams because of the high element of difficulty,"

Galvin said. Galvin added that North Carolina's routines on the 4-inch wide balance beam provide the most excitement for spectators.

The UNC squad is anchored by seven experienced juniors. The team features six scholastic All-Americans returning from last season.

Scheduled to compete in the all-around tonight are juniors Alisa Musser and Tracy Knowles, two of UNC's all-

See GYMNASTICS, page 7



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