



SPORTS MONDAY

Indiana 87	Wisconsin 80	Missouri 68	Kansas State 56
Louisville 90	VCU 78	Ohio State 72	Purdue 62
Kentucky 82	LSU 65	Southern 101	Jackson State 80
Long Beach St. 70	N. Mexico St. 62	Texas Tech 88	Houston 76

10/The Daily Tar Heel/Monday, March 15, 1993

Phelps-less Tar Heels lose ACC final

GEORGINA TECH 77
UNC 75

By Warren Hynes
Senior Writer

CHARLOTTE — In its 40 years of existence, the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament has always loved the upsets. It's part of the deal here: struggling team finds new life in the frenzy of postseason basketball.

You can't escape it. Even if you're North Carolina. Even if you're No. 1.

The Tar Heels, playing without starting point guard Derrick Phelps, found themselves stung by a suddenly potent Georgia Tech Yellow Jacket squad, 77-75, in the ACC Tournament final before 23,532 in the Charlotte Coliseum.

The Yellow Jackets (19-10, 11-8 in the ACC) jump-started their season with tournament victories against Duke on Friday, Clemson on Saturday and UNC on Sunday. Georgia Tech was the first No. 6 seed to win the ACC Tournament since N.C. State in 1987. That year the Wolfpack also beat a top-seeded UNC squad in the final. And the Jackets earned themselves an NCAA Tournament bid, all right: Tech is the fourth seed in the West Regional, and it will play Southern Friday in Tuscon, Ariz.

"Don't let their sixth-place (ACC) finish deceive you," said UNC head coach Dean Smith. "This team can win the national championship."

"People around the country say, 'If that's the sixth-place team, that's a pretty good league.'"

As for North Carolina (28-4, 16-3), it earned the top seed in the East Regional despite the loss. UNC will play Colonial Athletic Association champ and UNC-system friend East Carolina Thursday in Winston-Salem.

But the Tar Heels probably will not finish the season ranked No. 1 in The Associated Press Poll. They'll find out today. "It would have looked nice on the banner, but that's about the extent of

East Carolina first up for UNC in tournament

By Bryan Strickland
Senior Writer

Ninety minutes after North Carolina's 77-75 ACC championship-game loss to Georgia Tech, the top-ranked Tar Heels began putting the temporary setback in their rear-view mirror.

That's when UNC (28-4) learned its NCAA Tournament fate. Despite Sunday's loss, the Tar Heels earned the No. 1 seed in the East Regional, and they earned the right to meet East Carolina in Thursday's first-round action. The Tar Heels and Pirates will tangle Thursday at Lawrence Joel Coliseum in Winston-Salem.

The 13-16 Pirates, the No. 16 seed in the East and, for all intents and purposes, the No. 64 team in the tournament, are the first team with a losing record to reach NCAA play since Montana State made it in 1986. ECU received an automatic bid by virtue of its 54-49 ousting of James Madison in the Colonial Athletic Conference championship.

Because of a University policy that states that the Tar Heel football and

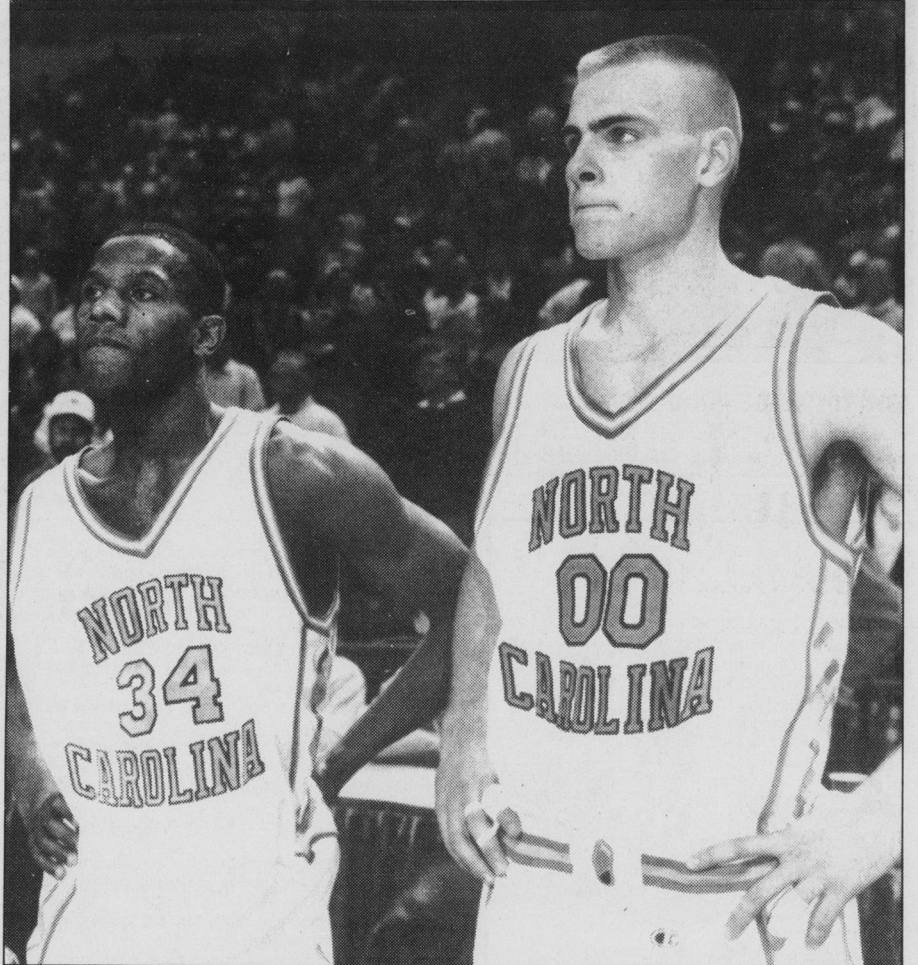
basketball teams will not compete against non-conference, in-state opponents, Thursday's game will mark the first time that the UNC hoops squad has faced such an opponent in 25 years. The Tar Heels last met a non-ACC, in-state team March 16, 1968, downing Davidson College in the second round of the NCAA tourney.

After the Tar Heels easily out-manned East Carolina, things will get a little tougher. But a quick read between the brackets suggests that the Tar Heels may have drawn the easiest road to the Final Four of any of the four top seeds.

In Saturday's second round, the Tar Heels would meet the winner of No. 8 Rhode Island and No. 9 Purdue. Many thought that the Atlantic 10-member Rams (18-10) would be on the outside looking in when the pairings were announced. But Rhode Island received an at-large bid despite finishing fifth in the Atlantic 10.

Purdue (18-9) could be a more dangerous second-round matchup for the Tar Heels. Paced by Big Ten scoring

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George Lynch and Eric Montross grimace as Georgia tech celebrates its ACC Tournament win in the Charlotte Coliseum Sunday. DTH/Jayson Sings

it," said UNC center Eric Montross. "It wasn't what we were playing for."

Phelps bruised his tailbone severely in a fall during Saturday's semifinal win against Virginia. His status is listed as day-to-day. The absence of the point guard damaged UNC's defensive attack, as the Tar Heels were unable to gamble like they do when Phelps plays.

"I knew it was going to be a tough one," said senior George Lynch. "I actually thought we were going to lose by 10 or 20. It definitely should be a motivating factor knowing that we played as well as we did without Derrick."

Concern No. 2 for the Tar Heels is the team's shooting — from the outside and inside. After hitting 49.3 percent of their shots in Friday's quarterfinal win against Maryland, UNC hit just 37.9 percent against Virginia and 39.4 percent against Tech. North Carolina missed several uncontested shots.

"There are times when this team is a very good shooting team overall," Montross said. "But it is disheartening when you take good shots and they don't go in."

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Snubbed in ACC voting, Forrest retaliates with memorable 3-day scoring tear

By Warren Hynes
Senior Writer

CHARLOTTE — There was snow on the ground outside the Charlotte Coliseum this weekend. But inside, there was a Forrest fire.

In one of the most dominating performances in ACC Tournament history, Georgia Tech forward James Forrest scored 80 points in three games and shot 68 percent from the field, leading the sixth-seeded Yellow Jackets to a surprise tournament triumph.

All 6 feet, 8 inches and 255 pounds of him was ablaze.

Forrest led all scorers Sunday with 27 points and hauled in 10 rebounds as his team staved off No. 1 North Carolina 77-75 and snagged the No. 4 seed in the West Regional of the NCAA Tournament.

The sophomore forward had finished sixth on the ACC's regular-season scoring list this year but was not named to the first-, second- or



James Forrest

third-team All-ACC squads. "I came out with a vengeance," he said Sunday, a freshly-clipped net dangling from his neck. "I wasn't really disappointed, but I had to prove that I was at least a candidate."

Said North Carolina center Eric Montross: "I think he may have been real upset that he wasn't on the all-conference team. If that sparked him, then they'd better put him on the all-conference team next year."

Sunday, Forrest was given an honor that couldn't possibly be denied him: tournament most valuable player.

"I thought Forrest was just tremen-

dous throughout the tournament," said UNC coach Dean Smith.

Added Georgia Tech head coach Bobby Cremins: "He became a man now. I hope he can continue that. There's lots of expectations."

Forrest hit the clutch shots: His 15-foot jumper with 1:07 left in Friday's quarterfinal with Duke gave Tech a 68-66 lead, a lead not to be relinquished. And Forrest was in the middle of the Yellow Jackets' rallies: He scored 10 of 12 unanswered points in a torrid first-half run Sunday.

"I felt in order for us to make the NCAA Tournament, we had to come in

and at least win one or two games," Forrest said. "After we won the first one, we said, 'Why can't we win the second one?' And after we won yesterday, we said, 'Why can't we compete for the ACC championship?' We just came out with the right attitude."

Forrest's buzzer-beating 3-pointer knocked Southern California from the NCAA Tournament in last year's second round. With his performance this weekend, you get the feeling that this is a man who knows what March is about.

"I just came in with a lot of confidence," he said. "I was confident from day one. Coming in against Duke, I was

hyped up. I just stayed in the comfort zone."

Forrest played center in high school and has been adapting to the small forward position for the past two years.

"He's still learning the game and the perimeter skills," Cremins said. "You can see that his perimeter skills are starting to improve."

"I really think he's going to be a great one before his career is over."

And he's still learning. This may not be the last tournament MVP trophy of James Forrest's career.

"I'm just trying to step up to the plate and hit the open shots," he said.

Sampson fires blanks, UNC falters

By Amy McCaffrey
Senior Writer

ROCK HILL, S.C. — With 23 seconds remaining in the first overtime of the 1993 ACC Championship, UNC junior guard Tonya Sampson was screaming, "Let's play defense, ladies! Let's play!"

But Sampson was yelling from a front-row spectator seat rather than from the court. And she was witnessing Virginia defeat Maryland in triple-overtime, not leading her 18th-ranked Tar Heels in their first championship game since 1986.

Sampson shot a combined 11 for 35 in this year's ACCs, scoring 36 points and nabbing 16 rebounds and nine steals in two games.

A breakdown of the games tells the story: Against N.C. State in the tourney's quarterfinals March 6, Sampson scored 28 points, nabbing seven rebounds and six steals.

North Carolina won, 89-71.

In the semifinals versus Maryland

MARYLAND 75
UNC 61

March 7, Sampson made eight points on 1-of-19 shooting. Sampson missed her first seven shots before connecting on a 3-pointer with seven minutes, 54 seconds remaining in the first half. In the second half, Sampson's lone points were free throws made with 19 seconds left in the game.

And North Carolina lost, 75-61. "If Tonya's had just had a normal game, we probably could have pulled it out, because we had all the other players," said UNC coach Sylvia Hatchell.

Sampson's normal game would have translated to about 21.2 points, tops in the league during the regular season.

Add in her steals (3.7 per game, first in the ACC) and rebounding (8.2 per game, fifth in the ACC), and it's clear why Sampson was named first-team All-ACC at the regular season's end.

But Maryland was a complete reversal.

"It was a bad game," Sampson said. "The shots just wouldn't fall. I was wide open and everything."

Without Sampson, the rest of the Tar Heels shot 45.7 percent from the field. A largely-unguarded Stephanie Lawrence led UNC with 16 points, including four 3-pointers. Sylvia Crawley and Toni Montgomery each shot 5 for 9 for 11 and 13 points, respectively.

Part of the problem was Maryland's defense — the Terps used a zone that had been successful in their Feb. 20 win against the Tar Heels.

"Defensively, I don't know if we could have played any better," said Maryland coach Chris Weller. "I thought we did a good job on Sampson."

But even Weller conceded that her team couldn't take complete credit for Sampson's performance. "I don't know if that's us. You'll have to ask UNC."

The Terrapins spread out their offense when main gun Jessie Hicks found herself double- and triple-teamed throughout most of the game. Malissa Boles scored a career-high 24 points on

8-of-16 shooting. Katrina Colleton added 16 points.

Hicks, who had scored a career-best 29 points the day before against Florida State, finished with 15 points and seven rebounds. Seven of those 15 came from free throws.

"We really didn't emphasize offense coming into this game," Weller said. "We really wanted to stress defense." The Terrapins held UNC to 33.8 percent shooting, and the Tar Heels turned the ball over 22 times.

Following Monday's title game, three Terps were given All-ACC Tournament honors: Hicks was named to the first team, and Colleton and Monica Bennett were named to the second team.

In the NCSU game, Sampson asserted herself in every facet of the game. She was there on offense: scoring 12 points inside, 12 points from the 3-point arc and four of five shots at the charity stripe. She also tallied six assists.

"She had an exceptional shooting day," said NCSU coach Kay Yow. "It would have helped us if she hadn't been



Tonya Sampson

in quite that manner. It's just another thing to sort of plague you. You play really hard, really good, then she steps back, shot and it's for three points."

But she was also there on defense: stealing the ball six times and snatching five of her seven rebounds on the State half of the court.

Lacrosse defeats 3 in Top 17

By Justin Scheef
Staff Writer

UNC's third-ranked lacrosse team rallied behind senior attackman Steve Speers Saturday to defeat No. 6 Loyola College 17-8. The victory ended a sparkling Tar Heel homestand that saw the team raise its record to 5-0 with three wins against nationally ranked squads.

North Carolina opened the Spring Break homestand in front of 3,000 Fetzer Field fans March 7 with a 14-10 upset against top-ranked Syracuse. The Tar Heels followed that victory with a 25-3 thrashing of 17th-ranked Penn State March 10.

Against Loyola, Speers had two of his career-best six goals in the fourth quarter as the Tar Heels pulled away from the Greyhounds. North Carolina outscored Loyola 9-2 in the second half of the rain-soaked affair, played with temperatures in the low 30s.

UNC took on No. 1 Syracuse in the rain in the first game of the week. The Orangemen jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first four minutes of the game, prompting the numerous Syracuse faithful on hand to chant, "WE ARE ... S.U.!" Disgruntled UNC fans responded by substituting "OBNOXIOUS!" or "ON PROBATION!" for "S.U."

The Tar Heels quieted the Syracuse partisans by coming back to tie the score 7-7 at half. UNC outscored the Orangemen 4-1 in the third quarter to take control of the game, getting goals from Ryan Wade, John Dolan, Donnie McNichol and Ousmane Greene.

"I just think that we came to play today," Speers said. "We were in better

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Editorial page will be back in Tuesday's DTH

The Daily Tar Heel editorial page will return Tuesday in its normal location.

Because much of the edit-page staff is digging out from the century's worst winter storm, we were unable to provide a coherent page.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

Letters to the editor should be submitted by noon today to be considered for publication in Tuesday's paper. Letters must be typed, double-spaced and limited to 400 words.

Wrestlers nip State, defend ACC crown

Staff report

DURHAM — North Carolina claimed its second-straight ACC championship and eighth overall last weekend, edging N.C. State by one point in the ACC tournament held at Duke's Cameron Indoor Stadium.

"I'm just excited for the entire team," UNC head coach Bill Lam said. "That's a total team effort. It told the team before the tournament we had no chance to win. Just go out and everybody wrestle as hard as they can and when it's all over, we'll look up and see how we did."

UNC finished with 78.5 points, besting the Wolfpack's 77.5 total. Clemson finished third with 66.25, followed by Maryland with 65 points.

Sophomore T.J. Jaworsky, the top seed in the 134-pound weight class, and Marc Taylor at 158 led the Tar Heels.

Jaworsky pinned Clemson's Marcus Pollock at 4:58 in Friday's semifinal and won the championship Saturday with a pin at 4:57 against State's Clayton Grice, the second seed.

Taylor, the second seed at 158, outpointed Duke's Dan Goffredo 15-8 in the semifinals before eking out a 3-2 win against top-seeded Vasilius Lahanas of Maryland.

North Carolina also had three wrestlers finish as runners-up in their divisions.

Dave Leonardis came in second at 142, falling to No. 1 seed Mark Cesari of NCSU. Stan Banks fell to State's

Chris Kwortnik in the final at 167, while Rick Hall forfeited to State heavyweight Sylvester Terkay in the final after the team title was already clinched for UNC.

All the conference champions and runners-up earned automatic entry into the 1993 NCAA wrestling championship. Three Tar Heels earned wild-card bids to the NCAA Tournament as well by winning the consolation rounds of their classes.

Jared Ezzell, who lost to eventual champion Troy Bouzakis of Clemson in the semifinals, earned a bid at 126. The fourth-seeded Ezzell defeated No. 3 Jim Guzzio 2-0.

Mike Chase earned a bid at 150, besting State's Tom Lee 1-0, while Damon Michelsen was named an alter-

nate at 190. Michelson defeated Duke's Pete Ackerman 8-4.

Other tournament champions included:

- 118 — Sam Henson, Clemson
- 150 — Steve Woods, Maryland
- 177 — Tim Morrissey, Clemson
- 180 — Dan Madson, NCSU

The Wolfpack claimed four individual champions, besting Clemson's three. Terkay's title was his fourth, making him only the fourth ACC wrestler to claim four conference titles.

State led after the first day of competition with 57 points, while UNC and Maryland battled for second.

The Tar Heels held a 50.5-50 edge over the Terrapins after Friday's semifinal round.