

UNC Freshmen Take Hardwood With Roller-Coaster Performances

BY STEVE POLITI
SPORTS EDITOR

The crowd hopped to its feet the minute Jerry Stackhouse had an open lane to the basket Wednesday night.

He moved past his Western Kentucky defender like the guy wasn't even there, took the ball with two hands and did a spectacular behind the back, rim-rattling dunk.

Only problem was, the ball didn't go in. And Stackhouse went out.

"When he missed it," guard Donald

Williams said, "I think everybody in the gym knew he was coming out."

UNC head coach Dean Smith stomped his foot on the ground. He didn't say anything to the highly recruited freshman, but the moment he got to the bench, Smith gave Stackhouse a long, cold glare.

"He knew that I felt as bad as anybody in the whole arena, so he let me deal with that myself," Stackhouse said, "and he gave me confidence to go back in."

Smith said: "Stackhouse did some good

things and some things we didn't like, and we'll talk about it. I expected him to play better defense."

The good things outweighed the bad: Stackhouse played 27 minutes, scored 15 points on 4-of-7 shooting and grabbed six rebounds.

His fellow freshmen, Rasheed Wallace and Jeff McInnis, played significantly less, but contributed to the win. Wallace played 14 minutes, scored six points and pulled in six rebounds. McInnis played seven min-

utes and picked up four fouls, scoring six points and turning the ball over five times.

"I'm happy with the three freshmen," Smith said, "but it's easy to be happy when you win."

The freshmen were Smith's first three choices off the bench. With 16:56 remaining in the first half of UNC's game with Western Kentucky, Smith turned to his bench and ushered in UNC's new generation.

Well, sort of.

Wallace checked in. McInnis checked in. But Stackhouse arrived too late at the scorer's table and had to sit on the court for 12 seconds. But when he stepped on the court for the first time, his white athletic

socks pulled to his knees, the crowd went ballistic.

"It was exciting, but I took it as any other game," Stackhouse said. "The fans giving me the ovation that they did, that was a tremendous feeling."

After UNC's 101-87 win, all three freshmen agreed they weren't at all overwhelmed by the quick pace of the college game, the TV cameras or the 20,863 fans at the Smith Center. They are used to that.

"I didn't come out and look at the rafters and say wow, national champions and stuff like that," Wallace said. "That's history. This team is looking to this year and the future. We came out early to shoot around and to listen to Coach."

And they didn't seem worried about things they weren't used to — like Smith's disdain for flashy dunks, North Carolina's defenses or close-called games by referees.

"Rasheed would have played more if he knew the defenses like we'd like him to," Smith said. "Senior Kevin Salvadori knew the defenses, so he played more."

"Jeff had a tough time out there. I didn't see the fourth foul, but we decided to go with Dante (Calabria) and Donald (Williams) after that."

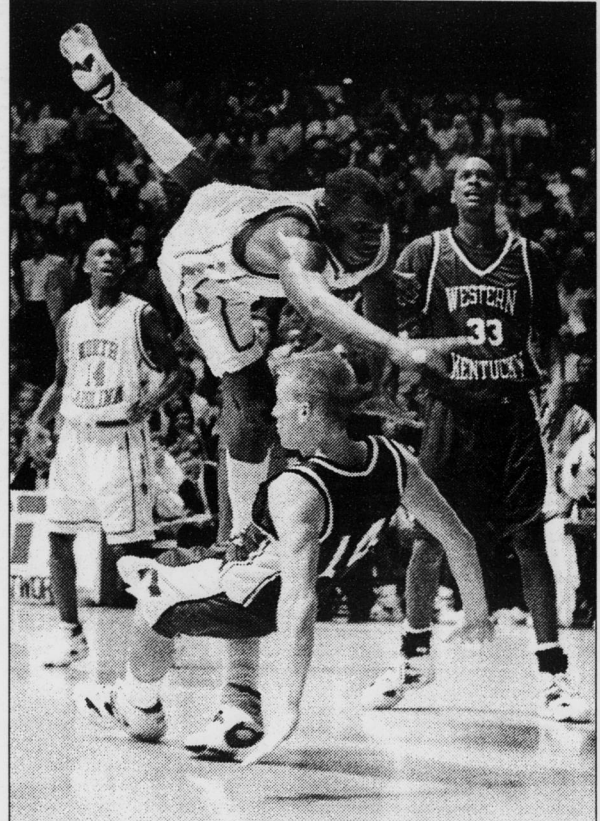
Wednesday's game wasn't a true indication of the Class of 1997's talent. The game showed, however, that all three will play an integral role on the North Carolina team.

UNC vs. Western Kentucky Score Box

| | | | |
|----------------|----|----|-----|
| W. Kentucky | 38 | 49 | 87 |
| North Carolina | 51 | 50 | 101 |

| W. Kentucky (87) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| min | fg | ft | rb | a | pf | tp | | | | | |
| Robinson | 26 | 6-15 | 4-6 | 2-2 | 0 | 4 | 17 | | | | |
| Burton | 19 | 5-9 | 3-4 | 2-5 | 1 | 5 | 14 | | | | |
| Hall | 34 | 4-8 | 3-8 | 3-6 | 1 | 4 | 11 | | | | |
| Horn | 36 | 4-15 | 6-7 | 1-5 | 2 | 4 | 14 | | | | |
| Fralix | 30 | 4-8 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 4 | 4 | 9 | | | | |
| Rogers | 12 | 2-10 | 0-2 | 1-10 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | | | |
| Jackson | 12 | 0-1 | 2-2 | 0-1 | 0 | 0 | 4 | | | | |
| Macklin | 17 | 3-7 | 2-2 | 3-3 | 0 | 3 | 8 | | | | |
| Flowers | 5 | 1-1 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | | | | |
| Glass | 9 | 2-5 | 0-1 | 1-1 | 0 | 2 | 6 | | | | |
| TOTALS | 200 | 31-74 | 20-31 | 13-28 | 8 | 31 | 87 | | | | |

| UNC (101) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| min | fg | ft | rb | a | pf | tp | | | | | |
| Reese | 21 | 4-7 | 1-3 | 1-1 | 5 | 3 | 9 | | | | |
| Salvadori | 22 | 4-6 | 4-6 | 3-9 | 1 | 4 | 12 | | | | |
| Montross | 35 | 8-10 | 5-6 | 1-10 | 2 | 3 | 21 | | | | |
| Williams | 31 | 8-17 | 9-9 | 1-1 | 4 | 2 | 27 | | | | |
| Phelps | 18 | 0-1 | 2-2 | 0-3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | | | | |
| Wallace | 14 | 3-6 | 0-1 | 0-3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | | | | |
| Calabria | 23 | 0-1 | 3-4 | 1-3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | | | | |
| McInnis | 7 | 2-2 | 2-2 | 0-0 | 2 | 4 | 6 | | | | |
| Stackhouse | 27 | 4-7 | 7-10 | 1-6 | 3 | 3 | 15 | | | | |
| Landry | 1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Zwickler | 1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| TOTALS | 200 | 33-57 | 33-43 | 9-42 | 22 | 26 | 101 | | | | |



Tar Heel freshman Jerry Stackhouse trips over Hilltoppers guard Michael Fralix in North Carolina's 101-87 win in the first round of the Preseason NIT.

BASKETBALL

"I think we missed Phelps, and it showed in our ballhandling," Smith said. "I think we missed (forward Brian) Reese, too, and you could see his ankle bothering him. He was limping in the second half."

Reese's injury helped open the door for more playing time for the ballyhooed Tar Heel freshman class. Center/forward Rasheed Wallace and guard Jeff McInnis entered the game at the 16:56 mark of the first half, but forward Jerry Stackhouse, who came in at 16:42, got the most playing time.

The Kinston native scored 15 points and snared six rebounds in 27 minutes of play. Wallace scored six points in 14 minutes of his debut.

McInnis also tallied six points but committed four fouls and five turnovers in seven minutes.

"I'm happy with the play of the three freshmen," Smith said, "but it's easy to be happy when you win."

North Carolina almost didn't. After struggling early, the Tar Heels built a 51-38 halftime lead behind a blistering shooting performance. The Tar Heels made 20 of 31 first-half shots, a 64.5-percent clip. Meanwhile the Hilltoppers were 0 for 10 from 3-point range and shot 38.2 percent in the first stanza.

But the second half was a different story. Western Kentucky came out more aggressive and quicker than the taller Tar Heels, paring UNC's lead to 64-62 with 13:26 left after two Chris Robinson free throws.

"We were taking quick threes in the first half and weren't hitting them," Western Kentucky coach Ralph Willard said. "In the second half we did a much better job of just running our offense and getting good shots."

Smith was not pleased by UNC's second-half breakdown.

"Our defense in the second half was just horrible," he said. "Their offense, to their credit, was great."

Williams said the Tar Heels gave the Hilltoppers whatever they wanted offensively.

"They were swinging the ball on us, and we weren't getting out in the passing lanes," he said.

"One thing we try to do is take the other team out of their offense, and that's something we didn't do in the second half."

But the Tar Heels withstood the run,

pulling away late with a 23-9 run, spurred by Williams. The 1993 Final Four MVP scored 10 points during the spurt.

"It was some of what you expect in a first game," Montross said. "There were people at the helm of the offense who weren't used to being at the helm. We didn't play our best, and I'm sure neither did they. But I think it was a good first game."

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THE Daily Crossword by Melvin Kenworthy

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ACROSS

- 1 Samoan capital
- 5 Curves
- 10 Recipe abbr.
- 14 Kind of slip
- 15 Singer Lenya
- 16 — regia
- 17 Mathematical term
- 19 Ladder part
- 20 Continent: abbr.
- 21 Singer Burl
- 22 Search for food
- 24 Governing body
- 26 Man from Tulsa
- 28 Bill of fare
- 30 Wise
- 33 Reads studiously
- 36 Clubs and hearts
- 38 "— the ramparts..."
- 39 Augury
- 40 Abraham's wife
- 41 — B'rith
- 42 Finis
- 43 Sphere of action
- 44 Track events
- 45 North wind
- 47 Coll. subj.
- 49 Ream parts

DOWN

- 11 Vaulter church parts
- 2 Resentment
- 3 Entomb
- 4 Alias letters
- 5 Football team
- 6 Irate
- 7 Glacial term
- 8 DDE's command
- 9 Present
- 10 — and feathered
- 11 Back to — (try again)

62 Sine — non

63 — culpa

SPAT BLOB DALI
LARVA LAVA EPIC
BROOM AMES PINE
SIDCAESARSALADS
ELBE EBONY
PRATES OTTER
EON EACH LEFTS
NATKINGCOLESLAW
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FOUND: Large very friendly obviously well-cared for orange, black and white calico cat Carolina Apartments. No tags or collar. Please call 942-6821.

FOUND: Ring on Friday, 11/12. Call Chem at 914-0447 between 9pm and 11pm.

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LOST: Keys with leather ID holder in Fetzer Gym, 11/15. If found call Kern, 932-1326.

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