# SPORTS

## Tar Heels take on Ohio State in Syracuse

By S.L. PRICE Stoff Writer

Caught you at it again, eh?

You did it once before, when you thought that the dream final in the ACC Tournament between North Carolina and Virginia was a certainty, and then you drove home Saturday night, cursing out all the Wolfpack-red stoplights.

Then you did it again, when you figured Syracuse would roll over Ohio State last weekend to set up another incredible matchup in Syracuse. Syracuse rolled over all right, rolled over and died, bleeding orange while the Buckeyes celebrated a sparkling 79-74 victory.

And now, once more, you're doing it. Don't try and hide it in the back of your closet, where you keep your Reese's peanut butter cups. Admit it. You're looking ahead to the NCAA Eastern Regional Finals against St. John's on Sunday.

St. John's, you say, will blow Georgia right out of their silver britches Friday night, and North Carolina will send the Buckeyes back to the Midwest, leaving them only a field full of corn and memories of Woody Hayes to tide them over until summer.

How soon we forget.

Don't you know that UNC coach Dean Smith has been trying all week to come up with ways to stop the Buckeye quicksilver backcourt? Ron Stokes and Troy Taylor as a unit account for over 22 points a game.

#### SPORTS PREVIEW

"I don't think that anybody is quicker than Stokes and Taylor," Smith said. Nobody. Not Othell Wilson, not Sidney Lowe.

And Tony Campbell, who OSU coach Eldon Miller calls "the finest athlete I've ever coached", leads the Buckeye attack with a 19.1 scoring average and an All-Big Ten nod to back it up.

"We must stop the penetration of their guards," Smith said. "If we can play defense as well as we did last Saturday, then that will go a long way in helping us."

The Tar Heels didn't have to go a long way at all last week, taking the short bus ride to Greensboro and riding back to campus with a convincing 68-49 win. Sam Perkins poured in 18 points and Sporting News Player of the Year Michael Jordan added 16 to seal the victory.

But OSU center Granville Waiters, although balding, still cuts it close under the basket with a 10.6 average, and the Buckeyes will be looking to shear any Tar Heel hopes for an easy win Friday night.

Even though Perkins has recovered from his big toe injury, it's still tender, and center Brad Daugherty is still coming back from a severe shin splint problem. To top it all off, forward Matt Doherty has been plagued by recurring lower back problems.

And with all these little troubles, you're still looking forward to Sunday. Even though it's the middle of Lent, your fingers are still itching to get at those peanut butter

"Some of you were talking last week about playing Syracuse at Syracuse," Smith said. "That's why you should never discuss some game that won't come about."

### UNLV's Tarkanian receives Coach of the Year award

From staff and wire reports

Jerry Tarkanian, who helped make basketball a headline act at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, was named UPI's Coach of the Year Thursday.

The Rebels enjoyed their finest season in the 25 years basketball has been played at the school. Given little regard as a national power at the start of the year, UNLV won its first 24 games.

The Rebels concluded their season with a 28-3 record and a No. 6 ranking. They

were defeated by N.C. State in their first game in the NCAA Tournament.

In balloting by 152 sports writers and broadcasters across the country, Tarkanian was an easy winner with 52 votes. Lou Carnesecca of St. John's was second with 25 and Houston's Guy Lewis was third with 15.

"It's just a tremendous honor," Tarkanian said. "I'm very flattered."

Tarkanian has been an outlaw of sorts in college basketball. In 1973 he left Long Beach State some 10 months before the school was placed on probation for three years. Then in 1977, with Tarkanian at the helm. UNLV was hit with a two-year probation sentence after being charged with illegal recruiting among other violations.

The school was directed by the NCAA to suspend Tarkanian for two years. But he stayed on as a result of court appeals and protracted legal maneuvering and the matter has yet to be resolved.

Tarkanian, the winningest active coach in the country on a percentage basis, said he does not see the coaching award as a vindication for the past.

"I haven't had any problems with the NCAA the past five years," he said. "I like to think I don't have any problems with the NCAA. I don't think Coach of the Year makes up for anything."

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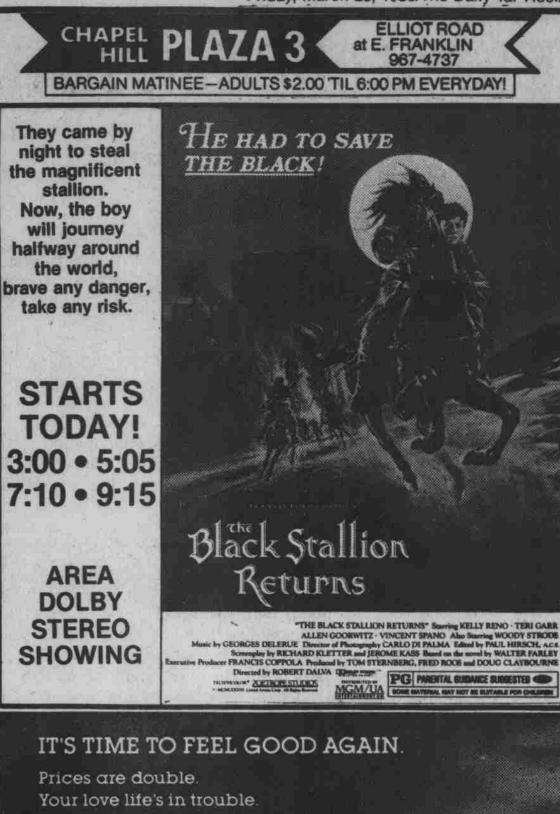
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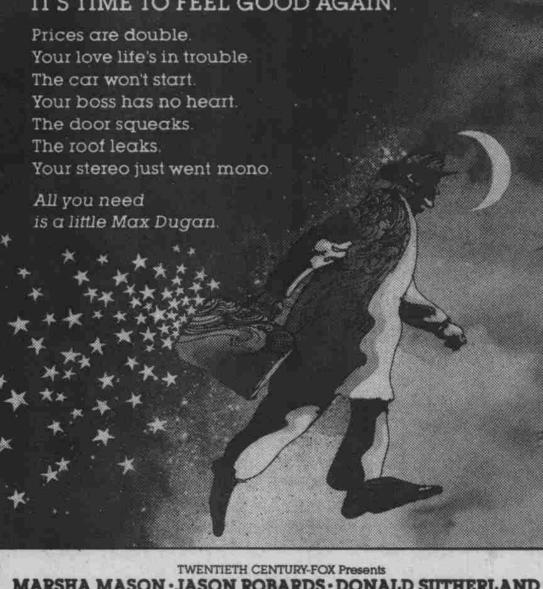
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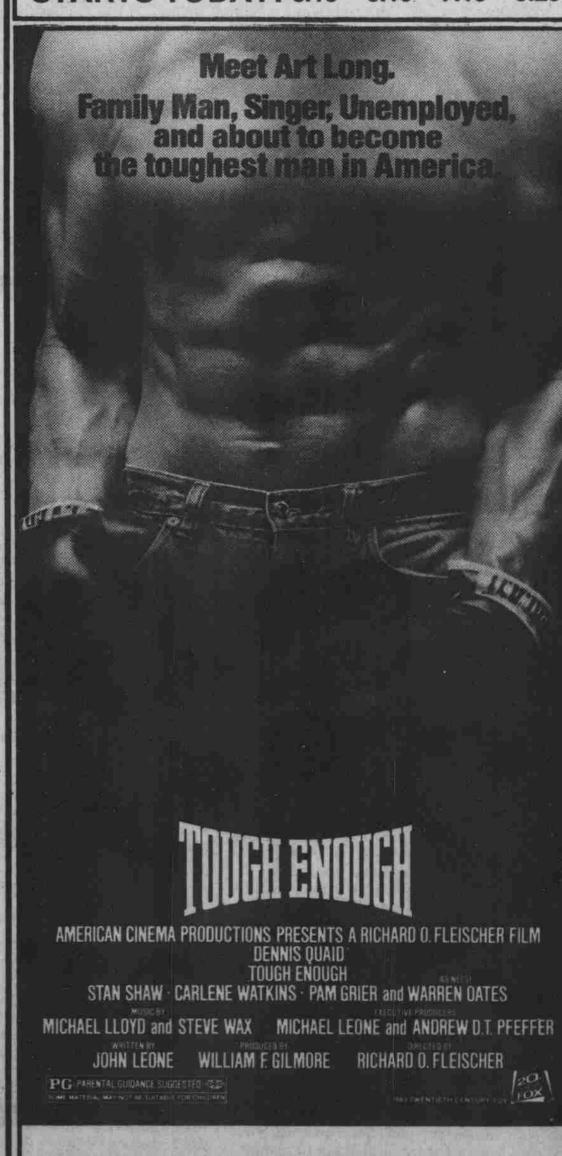
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