

Sports

Craziness, Wolf rule the Dean Dome

By JAMES SUROWIECKI
Assistant Sports Editor

Is basketball a crazy game or what? Two weeks ago, in UNC's first Blue-White game, the azure-clad Tar Heels rocked the boys in the white jerseys 101-85. The game wasn't even close. Saturday, the stars realigned themselves. Joe Wolf played a terrific game and the White team won 104-91.

Wolf, who went down with a knee injury in the first intrasquad game, had his soft turnaround jumper working all day and took freshman sensation J.R. Reid to school to the tune of 28 points. More impressively, Wolf, no doubt motivated by his two-page spread in Sports Illustrated, owned the boards, ripping down 13 rebounds.

"Wolf had, for me, the outstanding game today," UNC coach Dean Smith said. "He battled constantly on the boards and I thought he was definitely the dominant big man in the game."

Did we say things had changed a bit since two weeks ago? Take Kenny Smith, the Tar Heels' sleek point guard. In the first game, Smith was 5-of-6 from three-point range and poured in 30 points. He looked two or three steps faster than the rest of the team. Saturday, Smith played a solid game, but hit just two of six three-pointers and had 18 points overall. Of course, he did have seven assists and no turnovers.

The Dean was pleased with his ace's play. "I thought Kenny did his usual good job," he said. "He was

consistent in getting people the ball."

Let's throw another Smith into the pot, just to get everybody even more confused. Ranzino had his second straight good game, throwing in 23 points and leaving bodies scattered across the paint with his double-pump drives.

Reid was also impressive, and seems to be playing for a starting job. Although Wolf manhandled him when Reid was on defense, the flat-topped freshman had 22 points, including a couple of monstrous jams that had Rams Club members dancing in the aisles. Well, maybe not dancing.

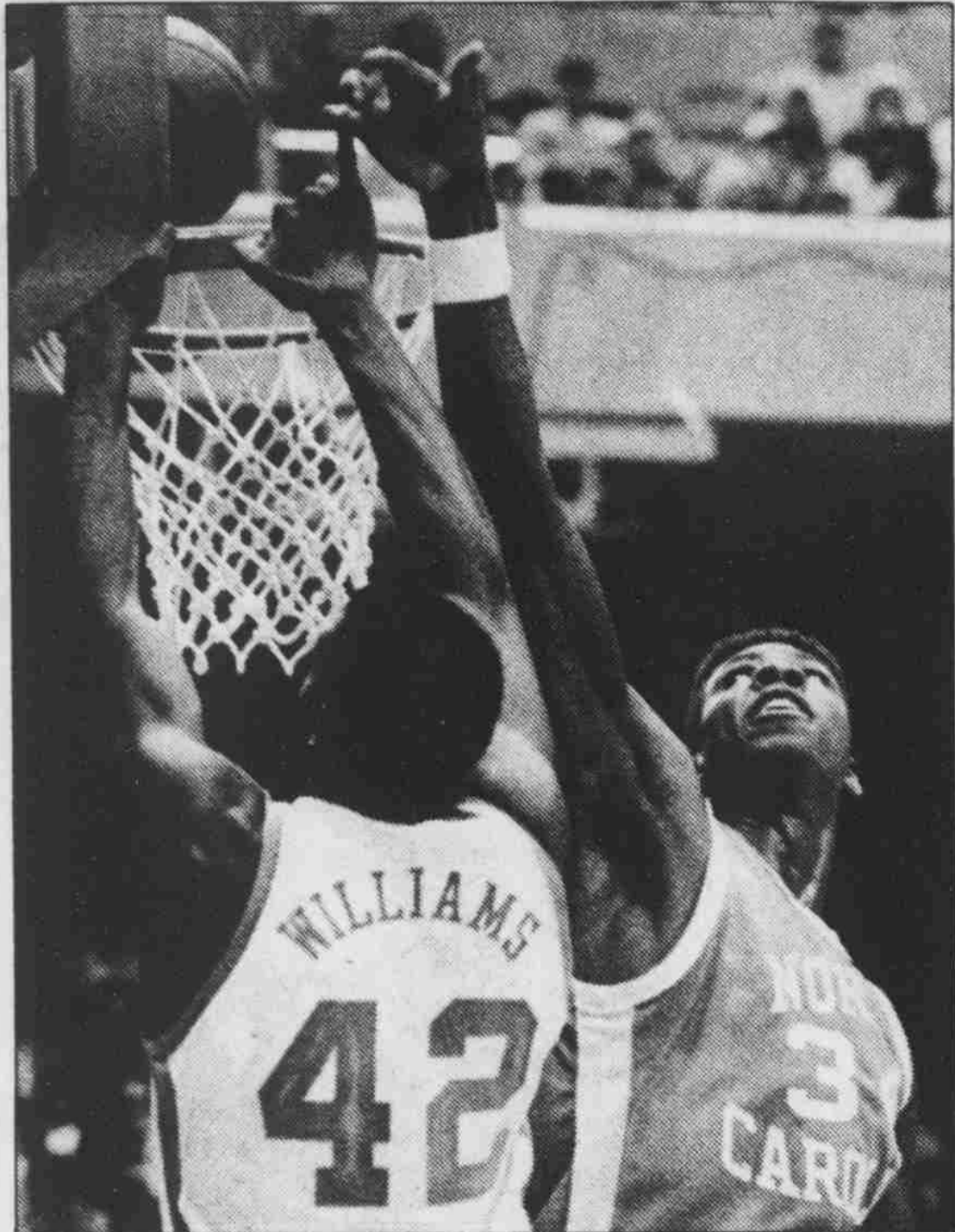
The strangest moment of the whole game came courtesy of Kenny Smith. The Jet stunned the Smith Center audience when he missed his

familiar open-court, watch-out-baby-I'm-gonna-wake-up-this-crowd reverse jam (patent pending until he can accept endorsement contracts). But he missed with such style that he got a rousing round of applause.

Afterward, Smith was unconcerned about the miscue. "Hey, it's just Blue-White," he said. "I won't miss that in a game."

Dean Smith seemed equally, unfamiliarly, loose. "I like to see him dunk, because he's going to make more dunks than he's going to miss," he said. "But that's the first one I've ever seen him miss. It doesn't bother me. It was showtime."

Showtime? When has Dean Smith ever said showtime? Is this a crazy game or what?



Freshmen Scott Williams and J.R. Reid battle it out above the rim. DTH/Iony Deitel

Farmer wins Region III meet

From staff reports

UNC's Jim Farmer used his superior kick to pass Clemson's Martin Flynn in the final 100 yards and take the individual title at the NCAA Region III cross country championships at Furman University. He now advances to the NCAA championships Nov. 24 at Tucson, Ariz.

Farmer finished the 10,000-meter course in 30 minutes flat. Flynn, who had defeated Farmer for the ACC title, was second at 30:02. Reggie Harris was the second-best UNC

runner, placing 17th with a time of 30:48.

Farmer's victory marked the second straight year that a runner from UNC won this meet. Last year, George Nicholas was the winner, he went on to finish 12th at nationals.

The Tar Heels men's team placed 10th as a team, as Florida took the team title.

UNC's women's team finished 13th in their race. The top women's runner was Karol Chambers, who was 52nd.

Fenner's day convinces coach

By MIKE BERARDINO
Assistant Sports Editor

Nearly an hour after the greatest single-game rushing performance in the history of North Carolina and Atlantic Coast Conference football had been completed, UNC offensive coordinator Randy Walker fielded one of the day's final questions, thought for a moment, and answered it.

"It was a pretty big performance. He did a great job," said Walker of Derrick Fenner's 328-yard feast Saturday afternoon that broke Amos Lawrence's nine-year-old record of 286. "I mean, he just flat out played his butt off. I don't know if I've seen any bigger days than that."

Considering Walker has been an integral part of Kelvin Bryant's six-touchdown game against East Carolina in 1981, Tyrone Anthony's 232-yard explosion against Duke in 1983, and a host of other outstanding rushing shows, that's quite a compliment.

"It was fun," Fenner said of the inclement conditions. "The mud felt good after a while. We had a real slopoff out there, but it was great to run and be successful, basically on every play. I just play well in any conditions."

Thus far in his career, Fenner has merely been part of the UNC tailback rotation, playing most of the game but still taking an occasional breather. On Saturday, things were different.

"Before every game, coach Walker asks me how many (carries) I got in me. And I say, 'How ever many you can get me.' Today he said, 'We're going to give it to you all day.'" Walker kept his word and Fenner rushed 39 times, a career-high for the Oxon Hill, Md., sophomore.

Coming into the game against the sagging Cavaliers, Fenner needed 122 yards to join UNC's 1,000-yard club. He eclipsed that mark early in the second quarter with a six-yard bolt up the middle on just his 11th carry of the day. Not bad for a guy who started the game watching starter Torin Dorn from the sidelines.

Fenner was kept out of the starting lineup because he was late for not one, but two practices during the week. The explanatory phase of the post-game featured an interesting version of dueling stories by UNC head coach Dick Crum and his tailback.

Crum, pleading a hazy memory of the whole scenario, attributed the tardies to an apparent apparel cross-up. "Our equipment man is one hard-nosed son of a gun, and when Derrick didn't have his hand sweats back on time, he made him go get them and that's why he was late."

Fenner's version was different. Much different. He said he was "talking to my Spanish teacher after class. I can't comprehend some of the things in class and I need extra help. That's why I was late both times."

When informed about Crum's explanation, Fenner laughed and said, "No, that wasn't part of it."

Comments regarding the game itself were a little more lucid. Fenner, whose longest scamper before Saturday was 33 yards, scored on two beautiful runs of 68 and 73 yards. On the latter, which came early in the fourth quarter and staked UNC to a 20-0 bulge, Fenner took a pitch, broke through a huge hole on the right side of the line, shook off a few tacklers and outran the Virginia pursuit to the end zone. Fenner's description of the play was just as fine.

"I saw the goal line. I wanted to score. I felt the goal line," he said.

With verve. That's the way Fenner ran throughout the game. "There were some people who doubted some things about Derrick. I was one of them," Walker said.

After breaking a long-standing conference record, reaching the 1,000-yard plateau and establishing himself as one of the best backs in the South, Fenner spoke the heretofore unspoken.

"My biggest goal is to be up for the Heisman (Trophy)," he said. "Just to be up for it is a great achievement."

For Fenner, so is getting to practice on time.

Wrestlers win first match

From staff reports

The North Carolina wrestling team continued its strong start this season, beating the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga 26-15 to open its dual-match season Saturday at Carmichael Auditorium. Last weekend, the Tar Heels were the team champions at the Eastern Nationals meet.

The Tar Heels, who are ranked fifth nationally by Amateur Wrestling News, got a pin at the 38-second mark by Rob Koll over Greg Hinkle in the 167-pound class. Koll, who was last week's Daily Tar Heel Athlete of the Week after he was named outstanding wrestler in the Eastern Nationals, is ranked second in the nation in the 158-lb. class. Last year, Koll finished third nationally at 158 and is the only wrestler ever to receive the status of All-America in both his freshman and sophomore years.

Another outstanding performance was turned in by Al Palacio, who won at 126 by an 11-2 count over UTC's Tom Herring. Palacio, like Koll, is ranked second in the nation at his weight class, 118. Palacio finished second at the NCAA championships last spring. Palacio, like Koll, will drop down to his best weight class later in the season.

Other winners for the Tar Heels were Chip McArdle at 134, Enzo Catullo at 142, Jon Card at 158 and Joe Silvestro at 177. Card also won his match impressively, defeating Spiro Comitos of UTC 13-5.

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