

Sports

Centerless 'Doughnut' Cavs to take on Tar Heels

By MIKE BERARDINO
Sports Editor

For the past five years or so, ever since Ralph Sampson slinked out of Charlottesville and moved on to the NBA with nary a Final Four appearance, coach Terry Holland's Virginia basketball team has been like a glazed doughnut.

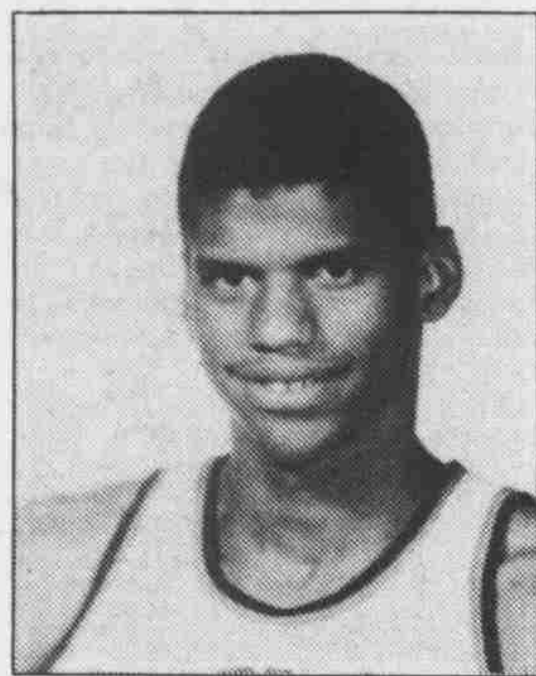
You know, shiny on the outside with a big hole in the middle.

Oh, sure, the Cavaliers had Olden Polynice for a few years, finally making it to the big dance in Seattle in 1984, but Polynice was always more of a power forward, anyway. Then there was Tom Sheehy, who wasn't very handsome and played an equally ugly game, but who was effective. But he was more of a one-man goon squad than a pivot man.

Now, Holland's starting "center" is a guy named Bill Batts, a 6-foot-8 sophomore from South Euclid, O., whose scoring average coming into this year was a whopping 2.2 points. It will be up to Batts to slow down the likes of J.R. Reid and Scott Williams when the Cavs meet second-ranked North Carolina Saturday night.

Game time in the Smith Center is 9 p.m. Virginia will bring marks of 8-7 overall and 1-1 in the conference into the contest. UNC is 12-1 overall, 1-0 in the ACC.

Wahoo watchers tout Batts for his outstanding leaping ability, which makes blocking his shot quite diffi-



Bill Batts

with his 3.9 assists per game.

Disbelievers who shake their heads at Virginia's sparkingly low turnover totals (just five against Clemson and eight the day before against Duke's pressure defense) need only look at the man running the Wahoos' offense to comprehend their proficiency.

"Being able to get a shot is important," Holland said when asked about his team's ball protection. "In order to make a shot, of course, you've got to get them."

Unfortunately for Holland, there have been times this year when the basket has shrunk to spool size on the Cavaliers. For the season, Virginia is shooting just 43 percent from the field. The severity of that number is tempered, however, by the fact Virginia's opponents are shooting even worse.

One thing's for sure, though. As long as gunners like Mel Kennedy and Richard Morgan wear the blue-and-orange, Virginia's not going to win any shooting percentage titles.

Kennedy, whom Holland suspended for academic reasons before the season began, returned in late December and immediately started firing away. The fact he's misfiring almost 60 percent of the time hasn't discouraged the 6-foot-5 Long Islander.

The same holds true for Morgan, a 6-foot-3 guard, who apparently doesn't care that he's shooting 28 percent (16-for-57) from three-point range. A slump is one thing, but Morgan's brickmanship is becoming a megatrend.

But hold your chuckles, please, and recall last year's Virginia-UNC game in the Smith Center — when the Cavs took the Tar Heels into overtime before falling 74-73. A month later at the ACC Tournament in Landover, Md., it took UNC two OTs to subdue UVa., 84-82.

"Doughnut" team or no, there's no reason not to expect another tasty matchup this time around as well.

	UNC	Edge	Virginia
Guards	Senior Ranzino Smith is formidable threat from 3-point land (19-42 going into Md. game). Point guard Jeff Lebo leads UNC with 58 assists (vs. 30 TO).	E	Wily senior point guard John Johnson is leading the team in scoring (16.3 ppg) and assists (3.9 apg). Long-range gunner Richard Morgan has 11.8 ppg.
Forwards	Scott Williams (13.3 ppg, 6.3 rpg) is forever up and down. He's shooting 70 percent from the line, up from 55 last year. Steve Bucknall has 35 assists.		Senior Mel Kennedy (15.1 ppg and 6.1 rpg) ripped Clemson for 27 points on Sunday. Freshman Kenny Turner has been impressive (6.3 ppg, 4.7 rpg).
Center	J.R. Reid has made 67 percent of his field-goal attempts (81-120) and 69 percent from the line. On the down side, his 38 turnovers lead the team.		Sophomore Bill Batts, a 6-8 leaper from Euclid, O., is the starter. Much nicer than Tom Sheehy, Batts is averaging 9.1 points and 6.6 rebounds.
Bench	Forward Peter Chilcutt (8.1 ppg, 4.8 rpg) has been a significant contributor. Frosh guard King Rice is shooting just 26 percent from the field (5-19 FG).		Freshman guard John Crotty, a 6-1 New Jerseyite, is the leading reserve for Holland. Senior guard Derrick Simms and 6-9 Jeff Daniel follow.
Coaching	Dean Smith has a record of 622-126 in 27 years at UNC. The Tar Heels have beaten Virginia in 11 of their last 12 meetings over the past five years.		Terry Holland is 279-139 in his 14th season in Charlottesville. His teams simply don't make turnovers and can be counted on to give the Tar Heels fits.

— compiled by Mike Berardino

Freshmen lead swimmers past Kenyon, will meet Clemson next

By DAVE GLENN
Staff Writer

Freshmen led the way Thursday in Koury Natatorium as the UNC men's and women's swimming teams splashed their way to victory over Division III power Kenyon College.

The 13th-ranked women's team pushed their record to 6-0 with a 150-67 victory, capturing 11 of 13 events in the process. The men moved to 5-0 by winning 10 events in their 129-80 triumph.

The Kenyon Lords are the eight-time defending NCAA Division III champs, while the Ladies have captured the last three Division III swimming championships.

Marc Ferguson and Hannah Turlish, both freshmen, highlighted the afternoon with convincing victories in the 1000-yard freestyle events.

Ferguson, a Honolulu, Hawaii, native, raced to a time of 9:21.17 in the event, establishing the second-best time in UNC swimming history. Only Danny Flack's 1986 record remains to be conquered.

Turlish, who hails from Lewiston, Maine, made her mark in the UNC record books with a time of 10:14.71 in the women's event, good enough

for the eighth-best time in UNC history.

Neither freshman seemed intimidated by collegiate competition. "Collegiate swimming has much more intense competition than what I have faced in the past," Ferguson said. "But we just try to maintain a strong mental attitude and clear focus toward what we are trying to accomplish."

Turlish had similar impressions of the college sports world. "I don't really think about the other swimmers that much," Turlish said. "I just try to relax and concentrate on what I am doing."

Both swimmers said that the young Tar Heel teams have benefited from experiencing solid competition early in the year. "Practice time can only help you to a certain degree," Ferguson said. "A meet is when everything you have been working so hard for comes together."

Turlish said that she saw this early experience as preparation for future meets. "Clemson (coming into town for a Saturday afternoon meet) will be a real test for us," she said. "But we feel like we're ready for the challenge."

Other victorious freshmen for the Tar Heels were Karen Andren, Klaus Baer, John Davis, Naila Deeb, Nunzio Esposito and Ralph Vick.

Head coach Frank Comfort said he was pleased with the performance against Kenyon and that the younger swimmers can only benefit from this kind of competition.

Senior Susan O'Brien, captain of the women's team and a three-time All-American, said it was a good victory to take into this weekend's home meet against the Tigers, whose women are ranked fifth, while the men's squad is 20th.

O'Brien, who won the 200-yard freestyle Thursday, said the team hoped that Tar Heel fans would pack into Koury Natatorium for the ACC dual meet. "It would be great to see some home support for this one," she said. "I think the biggest factor is the pride involved. Whenever two ACC teams compete in anything, pride is on the line."

Sophomore Tod Schroeder added a different flavor to the contest. "I think there is a revenge factor involved," he said. "They beat us last year, and we want to return the favor."

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Date-Game	Distribution Date and Time	
Jan. 21 Duke	Sun. Jan. 17	6-9 p.m.
Jan. 30 Georgia Tech	Sun. Jan. 24	6-9 p.m.
Feb. 11 N.C. State	Sun. Jan. 31	6-9 p.m.
Feb. 17 Wake Forest	Sun. Feb. 7	6-9 p.m.
Feb. 20 Maryland	Sun. Feb. 7	6-9 p.m.
Feb. 21 Temple	Sun. Feb. 14	6-9 p.m.
Feb. 28 Clemson	Sun. Feb. 14	6-9 p.m.

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TRACK — Joe Hilton Invitational, Tin Can, 11 a.m.
WRESTLING at VMI, 2 p.m.
SWIMMING vs. Clemson, (W) 12 p.m., (M) 3 p.m., Koury Natatorium

SUNDAY
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Georgia Tech, 2 p.m., Smith Center (WXYC-FM 89.3)
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Slumping Tar Heels face Tech

By LANGSTON WERTZ
Staff Writer

Sometimes a basketball game can mean a whole lot more than just one win or one loss.

Such will be the case when a struggling UNC women's basketball squad tries to halt a month-long, five-game losing streak Sunday. But Georgia Tech will bring the ACC's top two leading scorers into Chapel Hill to try and spoil the Tar Heels' hopes for a sixth consecutive title.

Game time in the Smith Center will be 2 p.m., with WXYC-FM 89.3 broadcasting the game beginning at 1:50.

UNC last won on Dec. 18 with an 82-79 victory over Florida State which upped their record to an impressive 6-1. Since that time, however, UNC has dropped all of its games, including the most recent 72-61 setback Tuesday at the hands of N.C. State in Raleigh.

Ending the losing binge will not be easy. Georgia Tech is bringing in what

UNC coach Sylvia Hatchell called the Jackets' best women's team ever.

Tech is led by seniors Dolores Bootz and Marielle Walker. Bootz is second on the team and the conference in scoring, averaging 21.6 points a game.

"Bootz is a big girl, 6-7," Hatchell said of the Marlboro, N.Y., native. "She's a senior and she's playing really, really well for them. She was All-ACC last year and has the height to give her the chance to play international ball."

Walker is no slouch, either. The 6-foot forward from Casanova, Va., leads the ACC in scoring at 22.4 points per game, is second on the team in rebounding with 7.5 boards per game, second only to Bootz's 11.5 per game average.

Tech coach Bernadette McGlade, a former UNC star, said that Walker has earned the respect and confidence of her teammates.

"I think Marielle is without a doubt our best shooter," McGlade said.

"The players call her Larry Bird."

In addition to ladies with a "Bird-like" touch, the Techsters also sport former juco player of the year, point guard Val Avant. Avant was sought by many Division I schools, including UNC.

The Tar Heels will try to counter the 7-4 Yellow Jackets with a balanced attack led by 6-foot-2 senior forward Kathy Wilson, who is averaging 19.3 points and has stepped into the large shoes left by former UNC great Dawn Royster.

But UNC has been hurt by the loss of freshman point guard Tanya Lamb (7.0 ppg, 11.5 assists), who has been declared academically ineligible.

"Tanya's loss puts a real dent in our team," Hatchell said, adding that 5-foot-11 junior Marsha Matthews will be playing some point guard for the Tar Heels.

This basketball game at the Smith Center could mean much more to the Tar Heels' confidence level than simply a win or a loss.

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Maryland

After the game, Maryland coach Bob Wade waxed philosophical about his team's effort. "We played very poorly. The execution was poor, our defensive rotation was poor and Massenburg was never into the basketball game,"

Wade said. "We didn't do a good job getting the ball inside to the big kids. But even on a night like this, we stayed in the game. We played lousy, but we were still in the basketball game."

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