

# Frosh guards: separate origins, same goal

By SCOTT GOLD

Assistant Sports Editor

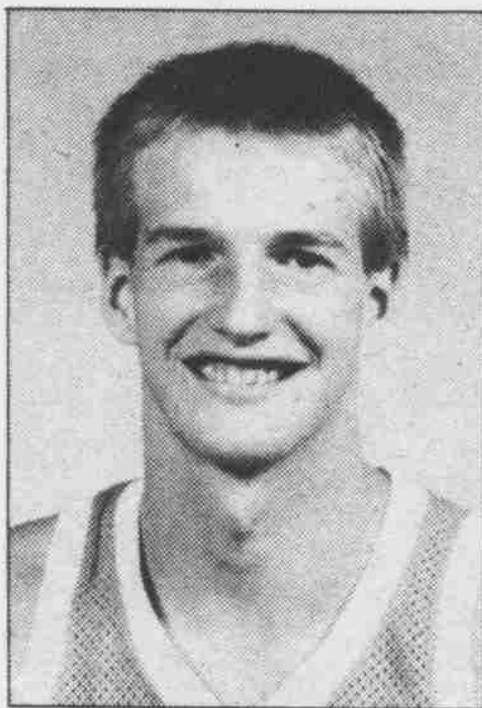
Parkersburg, West Virginia. Heusenstamm, West Germany, to Chapel Hill. Believe it or not, Parkersburg and Heusenstamm have produced players that many North Carolinians have heard about.

Who, you might ask, hails from Parkersburg, or even West Virginia itself? And who on earth lives in Heusenstamm?

Back in 1975, a small-town player named Moses Malone, believe it or not, popped out of Parkersburg, packed his bags and took off for the pros. He's still there, and it's apparently time for something else big to come out of the Mountaineer state.

Enter 6-foot-2, 165-pound Kenneth Wayne Harris, who not only grew up in the same town as Moses, but in the same neighborhood too. When a few of the nation's top-rated guards that North Carolina was seeking as recruits signed with Duke, Brigham Young and Georgia Tech, the Tar Heel coaching staff had to look no further than West Virginia to find Harris.

Though Harris was in the midst of deciding between Virginia and Virginia Commonwealth, he was imme-

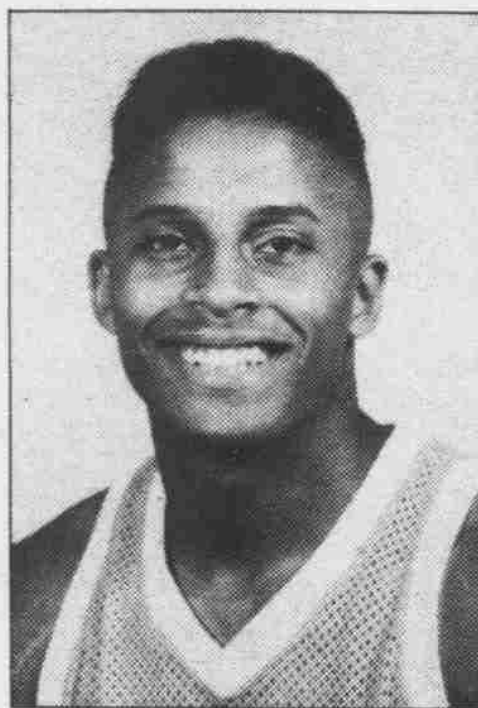


Henrik Rodl

diately sold when the possibility of going to North Carolina came up.

Though a few players, like Duke's Bobby Hurley and Billy McCaffrey, were ranked higher than Harris coming out of high school, there is more than one expert in the country who think Harris is just as well-rounded.

Though he played at the point most of his career, it was Harris' high school



Kenny Harris

coach who discovered his ability to shoot the ball. He became the team's shooting guard his senior year.

This year, Harris will return to his old spot, playing backup to King Rice. Hubert Davis, the temporary starting shooting guard due to the injury of

center Scott Williams (and the subsequent move of guard Rick Fox to fill in for Williams up front) can perform in a peripheral role for the Tar Heels, but Harris' past scoring and shooting laurels have UNC coaches biting their nails in anticipation.

Actually, in order for Harris to stay in his place in the hierarchy of UNC's team, his scoring instinct may have to be toned down for certain games, especially when it comes down to the wire. He has been known to be "quick-with-the-J," and in many people's minds is not a pure point guard.

Harris, though, should be an integral part of the Tar Heels' key to success. A good combination guard is something that the Tar Heels' have needed now for a while. Harris' defense is quick and smothering, though perhaps not as frustrating as Rice's.

In the annual Blue-White game, Harris made his presence felt from the start. In 26 minutes, Harris poured in 10 points on 4-of-11 shooting. Half of his four field goals came from beyond that magical three-point line, a small preview of what may be

coming.

Well, that was the easy one.

Remember Heusenstamm, West Germany, to Chapel Hill? The last time a basketball player came out of Chapel Hill and we still heard about him after high school, someone by the name of Ranzino Smith won North Carolina's high school basketball player of the year award in 1983 and continued to play in Chapel Hill under Dean Smith for the Tar Heels.

The latest Chapel Hill high school prodigy also won North Carolina's player of the year and will also play under Smith.

Enter Henrik Markus Rodl, who won the player of the year award in 1987 while playing under an exchange program with West Germany. The 6-foot-7 forward should fit into Smith's hierarchy and unit-style play well.

Rodl's feel for the game has been compared to his teammate Kevin Madden's. For a big man, his passing is well above average, and his defense is improving. Though quick for his size, with a little more speed Rodl could be the ACC's first Magic-like swingman.

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