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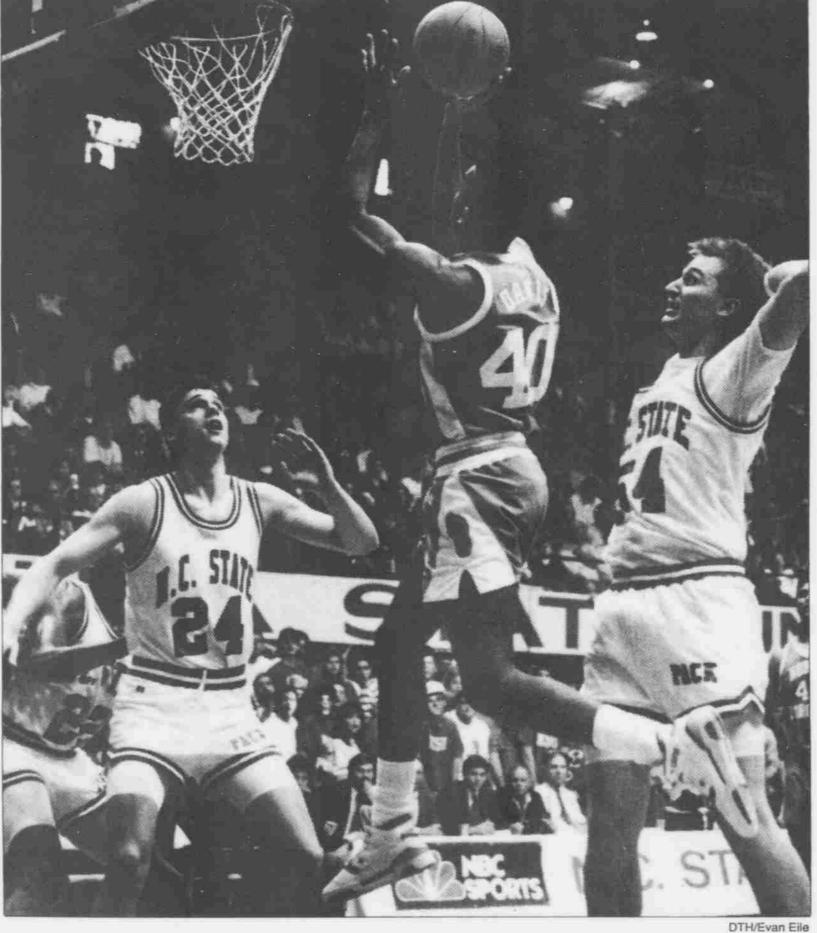
Heels emerge as leaders of the Pack

Davis not a frosh anymore

By JAMIE ROSENBERG Sports Editor

RALEIGH - He's got a baby face. He's still known as Uncle Walter's nephew. He was advised by Dean Smith to play in a less competitive conference to have any chance at seeing the court regularly. And he lurks in the shadows of Rick Fox, Scott Williams, Kevin Madden, King Rice and maybe even George Lynch.

But one of these days, Hubert Davis will have to be taken seriously. Alabama didn't take him seriously, and he lit up the Tide for five three-pointers. Colorado didn't take him seriously, and



Second-half surge sparks 91-81upset

By DAVE GLENN Senior Writer

Going into Saturday's UNC-N.C. State game, State's Reynolds Coliseum was one of the few places on this planet where UNC head coach Dean Smith didn't have a winning record.

He was 14-14 there, and 14-15 seemed to be a realistic possibility against Jim Valvano's hungry and feisty Wolfpack, which entered the game with an impressive 13 wins against three losses.

But it was the unranked (but not for long) Tar Heels who huffed and puffed and blew the house down with a 55point second half en route to their third consecutive conference win, a convincing 91-81 triumph over the 19th-ranked Wolfpack. UNC upped its record to 13play from everyone."

Sensational? Wow. Everyone? Yes. After the teams battled to a 36-36 deadlock at the half, North Carolina's Hubert Davis and Rick Fox joined Williams in the Tar Heels' second-half barrage.

Davis, who was scoreless in the opening 20 minutes, scored UNC's first seven points after intermission with two three-point plays sandwiched around a strong inside move for a layin. After Davis converted a layup and free throw for his second troika, the Tar Heels were up by five at 46-41. Davis scored all 15 of his points in the second half, when he was 4 of 6 from the field and 5 of 5 from the charity stripe.

Then it was Fox's and Williams' turn. The Tar Heels' 6-7 guard contin-

he scored a career-high 24 points while pulling down nine rebounds.

And Saturday afternoon in Reynolds Coliseum, N.C. State didn't take Davis seriously, and Davis once again answered gratefully, pouring in 15 second-half points and sinking all four of his free throws in the final 1:27 to keep the Wolfpack down and eventually out.

The logic here isn't hard to see. Opponents can't give Fox, Williams or Madden open shots; they can't foul those guys down the stretch. So they turn to Davis for a good choke, but Davis, a 6-foot-4, 172-pound sophomore from Burke, Va., is starting to prove that he can swallow any pill given to him.

"I enjoy being in those pressure situations," he said. "I probably was a prime candidate to get fouled, and I enjoy that."

Fans and foes, know this: Davis is no more the lovable lone freshman with token playing time. He has scored in double figures 11 times this season and is averaging 11 points and 21 minutes per game. His numbers in UNC's four ACC games are even better: 13 points, 28 minutes and a .562 shooting percentage. His 34 minutes against the Wolfpack was a career high and second only to Rice's 37.

"It's a totally different scene for me," he said. "I'm not scared on the court anymore. Last year, throughout the game I was nervous. I didn't know if I should be out there.

"But I feel very comfortable on the court now."

The more comfortable Davis feels, along with role players such as Lynch and Jeff Denny, the more difficult it will be for other teams to find a Tar Heel weakness to exploit.

"Everybody's clicking," UNC center Scott Williams said. "People have been saying everybody looks to me to score, but that's not what's going on out there. Everybody can have a good game for us, and down the line you can't foul any one of us."

Said Fox, "If we get in the situation where they don't know who to foul, that's a pretty good situation."

All of Davis' 15 points Saturday came in the second 20 minutes of play, mostly because he spent the first half in the shirt of State's Rodney Monroe. After starting in place of Kevin Madden, Davis was given the impossible task of guarding Monroe, a gunner who could rack up 35 points before you could say "defense."

Davis, however, with help from a few friends in blue, held Monroe to a modest 12 points at the half before being told to relax his defense efforts a little and start taking it to Monroe on the offensive end.

6, 3-1 in the ACC; State dropped to 13-4, 2-2 in conference play.

The Pack, obviously still feeling the effects of Thursday night's 61-57 win over Wake Forest, was left huffing and puffing and gasping for air in the uptempo, game-breaking second half.

"They seemed to be dragging a little bit," said UNC senior center Scott Williams, who led the Tar Heels with 27 points and 10 rebounds. "They just played (Thursday), and I think it showed. Guys were holding onto their shorts and holding their hands on their knees early in the first half.

"We just kept running them up and down the court and applying defensive pressure, and I think it caught up to them in the second half."

Besides blowing the house down with a second-half assault, the Tar Heels topped off their invasion of Reynolds by shooting the lights out. UNC hit 18 of 27 shots from the field (67 percent) in the final 20 minutes.

The Tar Heels' sharpshooting even brought a unique adjective from Smith. "Offensively, we were sensational in the second half," he said. "We got great ued the UNC run by hitting Kevin Madden for a monster slam; Madden finished with 10 points on 5-of-7 shooting. After two Fox free throws and another Davis trey, the Tar Heels were up by 10 at 53-43.

UNC's next 17 points, which put the game away, were all scored by Fox or Williams. Fox poured in a three-pointer from the left wing; Williams pounded his way inside for two offensive rebound baskets. Fox hit a 12-foot leaner, Williams an eight-foot jump hook. Fox, who was 7 of 7 from the field on the afternoon, finished with 21 points.

"We were trying to get the ball inside, and our big guys really held up strong today," said UNC point guard King Rice, who dished out 12 assists and had only two turnovers. "Every time we threw it in, they were catching it and scoring." Rice also pitched in by holding Wolfpack point guard Chris Corchiani to only six points and four assists.

When Rice hit Williams for an alleyoop slam with eight minutes to go in the

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Late shot sends Heels home with 90-88 loss

By DAVID J. KUPSTAS

DURHAM - Lightning seems to have struck the UNC women's basketball team twice in the same place.

Duke point guard Leigh Morgan hit a 14-foot jumper with one second left to give Duke a thrilling 90-88 win over the Tar Heels Saturday at Cameron Indoor Stadium in the fourth Ronald McDonald House Challenge Game. All proceeds from the game will go to the Ronald McDonald Houses in Chapel Hill and Durham.

Morgan's buzzer-beater gave North Carolina its second heartbreaking Ronald McDonald loss in a row. Sue Harnett scored on an inbounds play with four seconds remaining to give Heel supporters. Officials were hoping

Duke a 74-72 win last year. Duke and for a higher turnout, closer to the 4,872 North Carolina have each won the annual charity event twice, with the last three contests coming down to the final possession.

Hubert Davis scores two of his 15 points as the Wolfpack's Brian D'Amico (54) looks on with horror

"I don't think you could ask for a more exciting game," UNC coach Sylvia Hatchell said. "We scored enough points to win, but we couldn't keep them from scoring." Her team remained winless in the ACC with an 0-4 record, 9-7 overall. Duke is now 13-4, 3-2 in the conference.

Although a few of the "Cameron Crazies," those rowdy Duke fans that make life miserable for visiting teams during men's games, were present, a good portion of the 2,314 fans were Tar

present for the first Ronald McDonald game.

"I was disappointed more people weren't out here since it was the Ronald McDonald game," Hatchell said. "We have (close games) every year. It's almost like we plan it that way."

UNC, which trailed by as many as 12 in the second half, tied the score at 88-88 with 12 seconds left. Center Kareema Williams knotted the game with a turnaround jumper in the paint.

The Blue Devils took a timeout with seven seconds left. The Tar Heels knocked the ball out of bounds twice, giving Duke the ball underneath the basket with three seconds remaining. Morgan caught the inbounds pass be-

inside the free-throw line for the winning bucket.

Duke used only six players the entire game because of injuries. Included among the wounded are forward Marcy Peterson (10.5 ppg) and center Sue Harnett (18.2 ppg, 8.8 rpg). As a result of all the minutes played, three Blue Devils scored 20 points or more Saturday: center Monika Kost (25), guard Dana McDonald (23) and forward Katie Meier (20).

The Blue Devils took control of the game early with a 14-4 start and coasted into the locker room with a 48-40 advantage. Duke stayed comfortably ahead because of the sizzling threepoint shooting of Morgan and

hind the three-point line and drove just McDonald. The two combined to hit seven of eight from three-point land. During five minutes of the first half, all of Duke's scoring came from four treys.

"They were smoking," Hatchell said. "I said to my assistants, 'I don't think they can keep this up the whole game.""

Hatchell was right. And she made sure she would be right by changing defenses, putting more emphasis on Morgan and McDonald. The Tar Heels held the Duke backcourt tandem to just one attempt from behind the arc in the second half.

Meanwhile, UNC guard Tanya Lamb answered with some treys of her own. Lamb, with her four second-half three-

See DUKE, page 7

Gymnastics vaults past GWU but tumbles to West Virginia

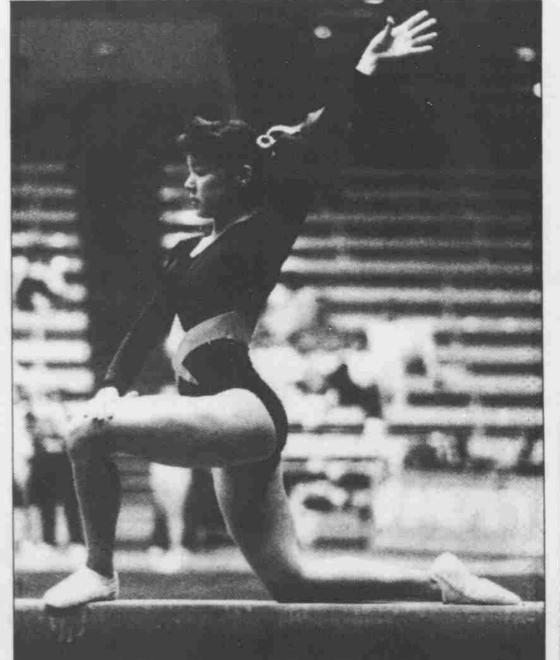
By LAURIE DHUE Staff Writer

Sometimes you win; sometimes you lose. Sometimes you do both at the same time.

In its first tri-meet of the season, the North Carolina gymnastics team vaulted its way to victory over George Washington University but fell short against

Washington was third in this event, scoring 44.4 points.

The uneven parallel bars, an event which demands agility, continuous movement and at least 12 moves including change in direction between the two bars, was also won by the Mountaineers, led by Heather Meyers. However, the high scorer was again ceived a score of 8.15 in a routine that would have earned her over nine points. "The girls have been practicing well on the beam, so I was a bit surprised and disappointed with the lower scores," Galvin said. "A lot of it was nervousness and the fact that the floor music was distracting. It's not something I'm



"Coach came to me at halftime and said that I was playing a little timid out there, and he wanted me go out and play the basketball that he thinks I can play," Davis said.

"I felt that way myself. I wanted to go out there and be aggressive offensively, because I felt that my mind was too oriented toward trying to stop Rodney."

So Davis switched into offense mode and wound up matching Monroe's 15 points in the second half. In fact, he even shot better than Monroe, hitting 4 of 6 shots, 2 of 3 from three-point land, while Monroe made 3 of 6 and 2 of 4.

Smith never tries to predetermine his players' scoring outputs. He believes that falls into place naturally. "We don't pay attention to who's doing the scoring," he said. "The defense dictates that a little bit."

So far, generous defenses may be dictating Davis' scoring output, but how long can it be before Davis starts dictating the defense?

West Virginia University in Carmichael Auditorium Saturday night.

Sophomore sensation Angie Denkins led the pack in the all-around competition, capturing first place in three events for a score of 38.60 out of a possible 40 points. Her closest competitor followed two points behind. Other strong performances for UNC were turned in by juniors Carrie Suto and Debbie Sigler.

"I feel really good about the meet because of the effort that the girls put in," head coach Derek Galvin said. "West Virginia is a very strong team and finished well in the NCAA regionals last year. I'm not concerned with winning as much as I am with individual performances, becoming more confident and qualifying scores."

In the vault, West Virginia led the way with 45.9 points, though the high scorer was last year's ACC champion Denkins, who tallied up a 9.65 with her powerful handspring front vault. George

Denkins, whose fluid style and full extension earned her a score of 9.6 for her efforts. Sigler, an All-ACC Invitational gymnast in this event, tied for third place with 9.25 points.

The balance beam proved to be the only event which Denkins did not win. She was outscored by WVU's Meyers, who received a 9.7 compared to Denkins' not-too-shabby score of 9.6. Kathy Goonan and Alex Arenales, from GWU, were third and fourth in this contest, with 9.45 and 9.3 points, respectively.

The Tar Heels were hampered in the balance beam exercise not by weak performances but rather by penalties for falling off or going past the alloted time. Sigler stuck her difficult front tuck mount solidly but did not hear the judges' ten-second warning to finish her routine due to the loud music being played for the WVU women, who were on the floor exercise at the same time. Because Sigler did not hear the judge, she failed to finish on time. She rejust going to have to simulate meet conditions in practice."

really worried about, though. We're

UNC summoned all of its strength; energy and spunk for the final event, the floor exercise. After watching the Mountaineers triumphantly rack up 47.1 points with solid performance after solid performance, the Tarheels danced, flipped and twisted their way into the hearts of the crowd. Dynamic performances were turned in by Sigler (9.35 points), sophomore Holly Joyner (9.30) and Suto, last year's ACC bars champion, whose tumbling improvement showed with a score of 9.30.

But the queen of the floor was Denkins, who reigned o'er all mere mortals with her score of 9.75 points. She executed double back pikes, while delighting the crowd with her grooving dance moves to the beat of Janet Jackson.

The final score after all events showed UNC defeating George Washington 179.9 to 178.15, but falling short to West Virginia 184.1 to 179.9.

DTH/Milton Artis Carrie Suto displays her balance beam form in Saturday's meet