



Seahawk Sports

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The naked sports writer

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ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Sportswriters are objective at games. They sit quietly on press row to report the events unfolding on the court.

Fans, on the other hand, stand in the bleachers yelling subjective comments to the players, coaches and referees.

I'm usually one of the press row populace gleaming material for an article. For Homecoming, however, I had a different perspective. I was able to watch the game from the student section for the first time in over a year.

Pre-game, I was looking forward to a loud crowd in packed Trask. I wanted to be one of the 6,100 cheering the Seahawks toward a victory. I've missed getting riled up during the starting lineup announcements.

In the beginning of the game, it was difficult for me to convey my loyalty to the Seahawks. I'm just not used to cheering externally. As the game progressed, I remembered that I was not chained to the press pass and could be more vocal in support of UNCW.

After halftime and as the game grew more intense, I got louder and more passionate for the Seahawks to secure the win. By the end of the game my reserved vocal cords paid the price. It was nice being able to hoist my team after the game instead of slump to the pressroom awaiting a few lines from the teams' members. I walked out of the coliseum able to enjoy the homecoming victory — that will keep me coming home.

Students who attended the game Saturday came out with mixed reviews of Homecoming 2002. Some were pleased in not only the final score, but also in the crowd support. Others walked away discontented by the close score and the encouragement (or lack thereof) from the bleachers.

Although several first-year students had never been to a UNCW homecoming game, they all had expectations entering the contest.

Jerry Godwin, a freshman communication studies major from Wilmington, said overall he was pleased with the game and atmosphere. "I thought the outcome of the game was excellent," said Godwin, who is also a member of the Screamin' Seahawks. "From my standpoint, this was one of the best games for crowd involvement.

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Seahawks grab close Homecoming win

JESSIE NUNREY

STAFF WRITER

During halftime of UNCW's homecoming game against James Madison, the university crowned another homecoming king. However, Brett Blizzard was the king of the Trask Coliseum court, scoring 23 points in route to a 63-59 Seahawk victory.

The win, which lifted the Seahawks to 11-6 overall and 6-1 in the Colonial Athletic Association, was spearheaded by Blizzard, who in the previous two home games had gotten off to a slow start. Saturday's game would be different, as the junior guard got off to a quick start by converting two fast break layups and scored seven of the first nine Seahawk points.

Blizzard's quick start was important, but was negated by four first half three-pointers by James Madison forward Dwayne Broyles, who was perfect from behind the arc and knocked in 12 points before halftime. Broyles' points were instrumental because the UNCW defense held the Dukes' leading scorer, David Fanning, to just three first-half points on one of four shooting.

The Seahawks were able to head into the half with a 30-29 lead and even build a 13 point second-half lead. Stepping in and playing big, meaningful minutes was sophomore guard Anthony Terrell, who scored 12 points along with eight rebounds in his best game of the season.

Terrell, known as the most athletic player on the team, used an all-around

game on Saturday night, scoring on inside moves and even more impressively, mid-range jumpers.

"It's something the coaches and me have been working on," Terrell said of his jumpshot. "If I have the opportunity to shoot them it opens the floor up."

James Madison would continue to fight late in the second half, scoring six quick points. After a jumper by Broyles cut the lead to 55-44, sophomore guard Chris Williams knocked in a jumper and was fouled on the play. Williams missed the three point opportunity, but the Dukes were fortunate to get the rebound and score another basket, cutting the Seahawk lead to 55-48. In all the Dukes would cap an 11-2 run with free-throws by forward Pat Mitchell and the Seahawk lead dwindled to four.

The Seahawk lead was only two with 1:35 to play, but out of a Seahawk timeout, Blizzard, as he has done so many times, hit a clutch jumper for a 61-57 lead. With two point lead and just 23 seconds to play, junior point-guard Lou Chapman missed the front-end



Brett Blizzard leads the Seahawks to victory over James Madison University with 23 points. The victory moves the Hawks to 6-1 in the CA/ and a first place standing.

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Seahawk Hecklers create an advantage

BRAD HUTCHINS

STAFF WRITER

At Trask Coliseum, opponents have found sneaking a win against the Seahawks as hard as any chore they face. Over the last five seasons, UNCW has a home record of 35-5 against all CAA opponents; a record that makes opponents tremble when entering the doors to a packed sea of teal and gold.

One of the distinct advantages afforded by Trask is a rowdy and raucous group of students, strategically placed nearby on top of the playing surface. Along the northeast sideline sits what could be the most devout student groups in the nation. With brilliant creativity and an in-your-face attitude, the Seahawk Hecklers can make an opponent's visit to UNCW pure hell.



The Hecklers help create an excited crowd at basketball games.

For every home game, the Hecklers have a pre-game party at one of their loyal member's residence.

"We call it 'The Practice,'" said Tim Greenhouse a UNCW junior and founding Heckler. "We sit around, talking about the game and getting psyched up."

Arriving at the game early is a trademark of the Hecklers. With research thoroughly complete on each opposing player, the group holds up banners on both sides, targeting any effeminate flav opponent may have. At player introductions the Hecklers greet the opposition with a hard "You Suck!" following their name announcement.

At tip-off, the UNCW cheerleaders take a big seat to the Hecklers, as "Seahawks, Seahawks" seems to be the war cry that all other fans conform to. From the moment they arrive at Trask

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