

DUKE
FROM PAGE 1

from the 3-point line. If the rest of the team could pick up part of his 20.4 points-per-game tally, Duke might have a conference victory.

Eric Meek, who originally planned to redshirt his senior year to better his "professional" outlook, has been a pleasant surprise. He has chipped in 10 points and eight rebounds a game while hitting 71 of his 108 attempts.

Duke's freshman class is its best since Johnny Dawkins, Mark Alarie and Jay Bilas joined the team in 1983, but the transition to ACC hoops has been a tough one. Ricky Price has suffered ankle problems, Steve Wojciechowski has been erratic at times, and Trajan Langdon started off slow.

The latter was the most celebrated of the trio and has picked up his game of late. Langdon had a career-high 20 points in last week's 74-72 loss to Maryland, including 14 straight in the second half.

With the addition of the trio to the Duke backcourt, sophomore Jeff Capel has been able to focus more on scoring and less on being the floor leader. The Fayetteville native has scored in double figures six of the last nine games and had a career-high 28 in a 91-88 double-overtime loss to Virginia at home.

And speaking of home, that's the one thing Duke has going for it. The Cameron Crazies, according to acting head coach Pete Gaudet, are still behind their boys in blue.

"The regular student body, the kids I've talked with, have talked an awful lot about not being fair-weather, but really supporting the team," Gaudet said. "My experience (with the fans) has been very good for the support of the team."

But what about Gaudet? The man has been with Coach K for 12 years, but the head job is a bit more stressful than associ-

THE LOWDOWN ON TONIGHT'S GAME

- C RASHEED WALLACE, 6-10**
Swatted three Wake offerings; that's his average (3rd in ACC).
- F DANTE CALABRIA, 6-4**
Cooled off a bit in the Wake game, going 0 for 2 from treyland.
- F JERRY STACKHOUSE, 6-6**
Is 3rd in ACC scoring (20.3) and 6th in rebounds (7.9).
- G DONALD WILLIAMS, 6-3**
Scored 15 of his game-high 20 in 2nd half last year in Durham.
- G JEFF McINNIS, 6-4**
Connected on 3 of 3 at Wake Forest from the 3-point line.

**No. 2 North Carolina (16-1, 6-1 ACC)
at
Duke (10-9, 0-7 ACC)**

- G JEFF CAPEL, 6-5**
Has scored in double figures in six of Duke's last nine games.
- G TRAJAN LANGDON, 6-4**
Established a career high with 20 points against Maryland.
- F RICKY PRICE, 6-6**
Picking up steam after missing four games with a sprained ankle.
- F ERIK MEEK, 6-10**
Is the team's fourth-leading scorer (10.1 ppg).
- C CHEROKEE PARKS, 6-11**
Has been virtually forgotten in a league dominated by big men.

Game: No. 2 North Carolina (16-1, 6-1) at Duke (10-9, 0-7).

Time: 9 p.m.

Location: Cameron Indoor Stadium, Durham

Radio: WCHL 1380 AM, WTRG 100.7 FM

Television: Raycom (WRAL-TV 5)

Series Record: UNC leads 114-78.

Keys for UNC: Remember who they are playing. Duke's not the Blue Devils of old, but it has as much talent as the N.C. State team that gave the Tar Heels their only loss. Also, the Tar Heels need to pressure the ball and force Duke into turnovers, its biggest weakness.

Keys for Duke: Get out to an early lead, or at least don't fall behind from the outset. Duke can win this game on emotion alone if it keeps the fans in it throughout. The Blue Devils must shoot consistently for all 40 minutes. They have been a streaky team thus far.

UNC Bench: Ed Geth and Shammond Williams have steadily increased their minutes. No one scored off the bench in the 62-61 Wake Forest win on the road.

Duke Bench: 'Wojo' is the first off the bench and leads the team in assists (76). Senior Kenny Blakeney has done a good job spelling the backcourt starters. Chris Collins who?

Prediction: UNC 92, Duke 78.

COMPILED BY JACSON G. LOWE

ate coach. Don't believe it? Check out footage of UVa.'s 23-point comeback in Cameron Indoor Stadium. Gaudet paced the sidelines drenched in sweat while his team folded down the stretch. People aren't pointing fingers yet, but it was assistant Mike Brey and not Gaudet drawing up the last-second play against Maryland in the huddle Saturday. Give Coach K some credit — this team misses its leader.

No matter who is running the show on the sidelines, Duke has a golden opportu-

nity to get back some of that national respect wallowing in the sewers of Durham. No. 2 North Carolina is riding the wave of a 10-point comeback at Wake Forest and has looked dominant since an 80-70 loss to N.C. State on Jan. 4.

"Our efforts are focused on North Carolina, obviously a steamroller right now," Gaudet said. "They're playing terrific basketball. Their starting five are guys who are playing 32 minutes a game it seems. Those are the guys we're going to see the most."

"They're a very strong team, and that's an understatement. What makes them strong is a lot like Maryland — they're strong at all positions."

Understatement is an understatement in this case.

No starting five since the Jordan years has been stronger. You have Jeff McInnis, the point guard who can shoot (a UNC rarity since the days of Kenny Smith) with a better than 2:1 assist-to-turnover ratio.

The off-guard, senior Donald Williams, who has been superb of late on both ends of the court — he's averaging 14.8 ppg and has hit 37-of-92 3-pointers. Dante Calabria has hit his share of 3s ... he's leading the nation in trey efficiency (38-61). But he's also shown the ability to go the hole and cause havoc around the hoop.

Rasheed Wallace and Jerry Stackhouse. 'Nuff said.

But for all the greatness of Chapel Hill, and all the weaknesses in Durham, this is still UNC versus Duke. Since 1984, they have met 25 times, and UNC has won 13. But there is one final note.

Duke is 0-2 since this year's Tar Heel sophomores have arrived. One source close to the DTH (and even closer to Hickory) said he overheard Wallace informing Meek that Duke would never beat UNC while the trio is in uniform after UNC's 87-77 win at Cameron last year.

That's a bold statement. But this year, North Carolina has made its share of statements. Tonight's game just might be interesting.

Smith's 29 Points, 21 Boards Lead Terrapins Past Cavaliers

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Joe Smith had 29 points, 21 rebounds and seven blocked shots as No. 5 Maryland pulled away from 15th-ranked Virginia in the final seven minutes of a 71-62 victory Wednesday night.

Smith, bouncing back from a career-low 6-point game Saturday against Duke, dominated both ends of the floor in leading Maryland (17-3, 7-1 in the ACC) to its sixth straight victory.

The All-America sophomore center had a career-high in rebounds and matched his career-best total in blocks. It was his 28th

double-double in 50 college starts. Keith Booth scored 15 points for the Terrapins, who are 12-0 at home this season. Maryland had not won six straight ACC games since the 1978-79 season.

Junior Burrough led Virginia (12-6, 5-3) with 25 points and Harold Deane had 13.

Maryland took the lead for good when Booth made a layup with 7:18 to go to make it 55-53. Johnny Rhodes then hit a follow shot, and Burrough answered with a dunk. Smith followed with a layup and then sank two foul shots to put the Terps up 61-55 with 3:35 left. A layup by Booth gave Maryland an eight-point cushion.

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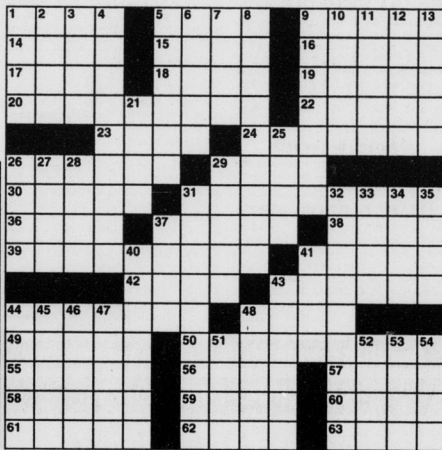
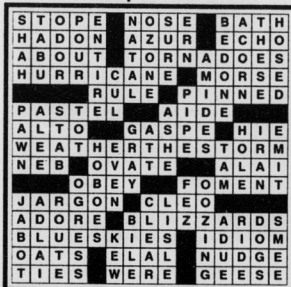
Calvin and Hobbes



THE Daily Crossword by Roger Jurgovan

- ACROSS**
- 1 French city
- 5 Woe is me!
- 9 Beat it!
- 14 Monster
- 15 Spanish painter
- 16 Greek letter
- 17 —a-brac
- 18 Mimicked
- 19 —gin fizz
- 20 Certain typewriter key
- 22 Offer verbally
- 23 Skating jump
- 24 Delectable decapod
- 26 World —
- 29 Heap
- 30 Factory
- 31 Certain greeting
- 36 Laborer of old
- 37 Taylor of films
- 38 Yalies
- 39 Sash
- 41 Gluts
- 42 Travel
- 43 — Monday
- 44 Ford again
- 48 Accomplishment
- 49 Apportion
- 50 Ineffectual
- 55 Robust
- 56 Landed
- 57 English river
- 58 Search party
- 59 Rebel
- 60 Pianist Peter
- 61 Smirk
- 62 Carry**
- 63 Derived**
- DOWN**
- 1 "Georgia Peach"
- 2 Taj Mahal site
- 3 — the Red
- 4 Certain gown features
- 5 Adjusts to a specified use
- 6 Bolivian capital
- 7 Sir Guinness
- 8 Kept from active participation
- 9 Flashing lights
- 10 Lads
- 11 Pardon
- 12 Make amends
- 13 Wave amplifier
- 21 Fat
- 25 Ye — tea shoppe
- 26 Force out in a stream
- 27 Lioness of note
- 28 Indian princess
- 29 Velvet finish
- 31 Advantageous beginning
- 32 Strategic central region
- 33 Voice
- 34 City on the Dnieper
- 35 Being
- 37 Baseball stats
- 40 Harness racer
- 41 Iranian sovereign, once
- 43 Divan
- 44 Grates
- 45 John
- 46 Near
- 47 Awaken
- 48 Pass off as genuine
- 51 Meat and vegetable stew
- 52 Always
- 53 Painful to the touch
- 54 Winter white

Wednesday's Puzzle solved:



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