

Tar Heels Win War With Tigers to Halt Losing Streak

■ UNC survives a tight defensive battle to win for the first time in four ACC games.

BY TODD GRAFF
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

CLEMSON, S.C. — On the wall adjacent to the North Carolina bench, rising above the Clemson cheerleaders and draping just below its band, a sign at Littlejohn Coliseum read, "ROTC sez it's a **Men's Basketball UNC** 53 battle, it's a **Clemson** 48 war."

While the sign was removed from the wall during halftime, its implications never left, as UNC and Clemson engaged it what is becoming a perennial war at Littlejohn.

It was only when Terrell McIntyre missed a 3-point try to tie the game with 10 seconds left that Wednesday night's final battle had been waged, and UNC (17-7, 8-4 in the ACC) prevailed in the war 53-48 before a sellout crowd of 11,300.

"We won a defensive battle tonight," UNC coach Dean Smith said. "We couldn't score, and I thought we did a good job defensively on them."

While UNC had difficulty scoring, its defense limited Clemson (14-7, 4-7) to only 16 second half points and 30 percent shooting to the game.

"I think our defense in the second half was the key," McIntyre said. "By the end they didn't know what to expect."

But as the tradition continues, the war extended beyond the court. For the second consecutive year, Smith spoke to a Clemson player on the floor. This year it was Bill

Harder, as Smith commented on Harder's defending Dante Calabria by tugging on his shirt.

"I don't know what the problem is, I really don't," Clemson coach Rick Barnes said. "I've been in this league two years now, and I've never talked to an opposing player."

But to survive any war, a team needs a leader, and UNC guard Jeff McInnis played leader and scorer for UNC. He set the tempo early, knocking down his first two 3-point attempts, and he finished with eight, tying the school record held by Dante Calabria and Hubert Davis.

McInnis ended the game with a career-high 25 points, but more importantly, he controlled an offense which looked hapless without him.

"Jeff took it upon himself to have a great game tonight," UNC guard Shammond Williams said. "He knocked down some key shots, he ran the team great, and I just have to take my hat off to him, he played extremely well."

And it was McInnis who set up the clinching play for UNC. Holding a 49-48 lead with 30 seconds remaining, McInnis drove to the lane, and when the defense converged, he found Shammond Williams open in the corner.

For Williams, opportunities for game-winning shots are overflowing lately. But he missed a chance at N.C. State and dribbled the ball out of bounds against Maryland.



UNC'S SHAMMOND WILLIAMS hit two of his final three free throws to seal the win.

And when Williams' 3 from the corner fell short, it appeared another opportunity had vanished. But he was fouled on the play by Greg Buckner, and he dropped the last two of his three free throws to give UNC a three-point lead.

"I'm glad," Williams said. "It does feel good to finally knock down a shot at the end of the game."

And on Clemson's next possession, it could not get a good shot, and the Tar Heels' losing streak was left at three.

"This is a tough place to break a losing streak," Smith said. "So our guys ought to feel very pleased."

But the game started like the last few losses for UNC as the Tar Heels were bombarded on the boards. Clemson ran UNC off the glass for nine defensive rebounds and 20 overall in the first half — nine more than the Tar Heels. And Tony Christie drilled 3 of 4 attempts from beyond the 3-point arc.

While the Tar Heels outshot Clemson 44 percent to 39 percent, they still trailed 32-30 at halftime.

"We controlled the game, we controlled the tempo," Barnes said. "We just needed to make some more baskets in the second half."

In the second half, UNC's defensive pressure was overwhelming, limiting Clemson to only four field goals on 21 attempts for a total of 16 points. After nailing six 3s in the opening stanza, the Tigers hit only 1 of 9 after halftime.

And UNC reversed its first-half difficulty on the boards by snatching 15 to Clemson's 13 in the second stanza.

"I thought we got stronger and limited them to one shot," Smith said. "Sometimes they wouldn't get a good one. Most of the time they wouldn't get a good one."

Slumping Women to Face Rising Tigers

STAFF REPORT

When the North Carolina and Clemson women's basketball teams met at Carmichael Auditorium on Jan. 14, life was grand in Chapel Hill.

The Tar Heels demolished the then-No. 23 Clemson 93-68 to assume sole command of the ACC race. Even without standout forward Tracy Reid, who played sparingly in that game, North Carolina managed to deal the Tigers their first loss of the season in convincing fashion.

Now, one month later, the two squads will tussle at Clemson's Littlejohn Coliseum tonight at 7 under vastly different

circumstances. Clemson has climbed up in the polls, while UNC has tumbled steadily downhill since blowing out the Tigers.

North Carolina (12-10, 7-5 in the ACC) is coming off a frustrating 83-70 loss at home to Virginia on Monday night, while the No. 19 Tigers (17-4, 7-4) dropped a 74-72 contest to Maryland on Saturday. The Tar Heels are now equipped with the services of Reid, who riddled the Cavaliers for 26 points.

But Reid's presence hasn't served as a cure-all for North Carolina, which has lost four of its last five games. And the most perplexing aspect of the Tar Heels' losing

stint has been that in each matchup, UNC has had its chances to notch a 'W.' Still, Duke, Georgia and Virginia have all denied North Carolina wins in their respective contests.

In the Jan. 14 game, North Carolina guard Tonya Cooper emerged from relative obscurity to pour in 28 points in leading the Tar Heel charge.

Cooper has been stifled since that game, but Clemson's Stephanie Ridgeway, who lit up UNC for 25 points, has continued on her scoring tear. The senior guard averages 15.8 points and 4 rebounds per game to lead Clemson.

McInnis Scorches Nets, Ties School Record With 8 Treys

BY ROBBIE PICKERAL
SPORTS EDITOR

CLEMSON, S.C. — The ear plugs, North Carolina's Jeff McInnis said, were for a cold.

The Tar Heel point guard said he did not insert the tiny plastic pellets to shut out the rowdy crowd at Littlejohn Coliseum on Wednesday night — even though the junior from Charlotte was the designated man-target for the baseline fanatics.

But the Tiger taunters might have done better to leave North Carolina's second-leading scorer alone.

The jeering only seemed to incite — and excite — McInnis more, all the way to burying a school record-tying eight 3-pointers as UNC beat Clemson 53-48.

"Coach told us how sweet it would be to shut them up at the end of the game," he said.

Indeed, McInnis was the key cause of the postgame silence. Not only did his eight treys tie the marks of Hubert Davis and senior Dante Calabria, his 25 points were a career high.

"Jeff's 3-pointers were very gutsy," UNC coach Dean Smith said. "That's all he made, I think. He didn't hit many others."

McInnis shot 8 for 13 overall on the night, as his two 2-point attempts didn't fall.

But while McInnis was the main go-to man on the scoreboard, he was the rallying man on the floor. He kept his team inspired in the huddle and calm on the court.

"He kept everybody motivated, he kept the team under control," sophomore guard Shammond Williams said.

Especially in put-up-or-shut-up times, i.e., the closing moments of the win. In games past, the Tar Heels had been known to rush shots — or take too long to find a

shot when the game was on the line. But although Clemson did force two shot-clock violations late in the second half, McInnis didn't let it antagonize his team.

"I just tried to take over and be a leader, and just let them know that we're not going to get a loss like that, by not getting shots," he said.

He was such an emotional leader that few of his teammates in the locker room knew he was the school's new trey leader.

"Eight — he hit eight?" Calabria asked. "He came out firing and hitting. When a guy's hitting like that, feed him the rock. I knew he played well — I didn't know he had eight 3s, though."

He opened the game by whisking two straight treys from the same spot, which led to the crowd making him the designated taunt-man for the evening.

But he took it all in stride. They insulted his family, he barely spared a glance. They insulted his coaches, his head gave a little shake. They insulted him, he looked up and laughed.

Then, he put in his ear plugs because he was cold. Bring it on.

"I like to have fun when I play the game," he said. "I take it seriously, but I still like to smile and have fun on the court."

Six treys plus a free throw later, he was having even more fun walking off the court — with a personal record and a team win. "Yeah, they were talking, and I was just telling them, 'Get a little louder. Get a little

Team	Points	Rebounds	Assists	Steals	Blocks	Turnovers	3-pts	2-pts	FT
North Carolina	53	30	23	53					
Clemson	48	32	16	48					

Player	min	pts	reb	ast	stl	blk	3-pt	2-pt	FT
Carroll	12	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Jameson	33	4	4	4	4	1	3	12	0
Zwikker	28	0	4	0	1	4	0	4	25
McInnis	36	8	13	12	3	4	25	0	0
Calabria	35	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	0
Oktajala	30	1	2	1	1	2	3	0	0
Williams	22	3	2	3	0	3	2	10	0
Geth	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
TOTALS	200	17-41	5-15	7-28	11	17	53		

Player	min	pts	reb	ast	stl	blk	3-pt	2-pt	FT
Jurkunas	35	2	13	4	2	5	0	3	9
Jameson	26	0	0	15	2	3	0	0	0
Wideman	30	2	3	4	4	1	2	7	0
McIntyre	28	2	2	1	3	4	1	8	0
Buckner	34	3	3	4	2	0	3	9	0
Christie	27	4	1	2	4	1	2	12	0
Harder	18	1	3	0	0	2	3	1	3
Jones	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
TOTALS	200	17-41	13-18	13-33	11	15	48		

Percentages — FG .415, FT .533.
3-point goals — 11-24, 458 (McInnis 8-11, Williams 2-3, Calabria 1-3, Carroll 0-2).
Team rebounds — 1.
Blocked shots — 5 (Jameson 2, Zwikker 2, Oktajala).
Turnovers — 10 (Zwikker 2, McInnis 2, Williams 2, Carroll, Jameson).
Steals — 3 (McInnis, Calabria, Oktajala).

CU (48)
Percentages — FG .288, FT .722. 3-point goals — 7-23, 304 (Christie 3-5, McIntyre 2-5, Harder 1-3, Jurkunas 1-9, Buckner 0-1). Team rebounds — 1.
Blocked shots — 2 (Jurkunas 2, Turnovers — 10 (Christie 4, Buckner 2, Wideman 2, Jameson, McIntyre). Steals — 2 (Jameson, Wideman).
Technical Fouls — none. Attendance — 11,300.

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Pair of UVA. Basketball Players Arrested for Shoplifting

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Scott Johnson and Darryl Presley of the Virginia men's basketball team have been arrested and charged with petty larceny in connection with a shoplifting incident before Christmas.

The players were served summonses Tuesday by Albemarle County police after officials at a Leggett department store in

Charlottesville swore out warrants accusing them of shoplifting from the store on Dec. 16.

Johnson and Presley will be arraigned on Feb. 21 in General District Court, Albemarle County community resources spokeswoman Lee Catlin said Wednesday.

They face up to a year in jail and fines as high as \$2,500.

Johnson, a 6-foot-10, foul-prone forward, appeared in 19 of Virginia's first 21 games.

Presley has played a total of 47 minutes thus far this season.

The players were suspended from Virginia's Dec. 21 game against Virginia Commonwealth. Coach Jeff Jones said then they had violated Virginia's team policy.

Dilbert

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THE Daily Crossword by Diane C. Baldwin

ACROSS

- Burn with liquid
- Cowhand's gear
- Quickly, briefly
- TV's "Kate and..."
- "Believe — Not"
- Dramatic part
- Ready
- Actor Baldwin
- Troubled
- Presidential nickname
- Recedes
- Lines of cliffs
- Blow in stormy gusts
- French city
- Sign of remorse
- Na Na
- Aim
- "— Haw"
- Peachy
- Bout site
- Baking instruction
- Mars or Venus
- Velvety plant
- Croc's doc?
- Wild guesses
- Asian range
- Bubbly thirst quencher
- Fire
- Some bills
- Act impulsively
- Animated

DOWN

- Enervates
- Hoofbeat sound
- Inter —
- Itemization
- Poor grade
- Marksman's weapon
- Indian
- China
- Notable time subj.
- Degas or Monet
- Laundry target
- Lotion ingredient
- Await judgment
- Smears
- Public transports
- Lhasa —
- Town
- Cumberbund
- Move slowly
- Make adjustments
- Actor Alejandro
- Assault
- German city
- Swiss river
- Company officer
- Med. school
- Guitar kin, for short
- Sentry's shout
- Refrain syllable
- Adorn, as leather
- Emcee
- Fur trapper's prize
- Seductive women
- Atl. fliers
- "Of — I Sing"
- Tops
- Gad about
- Fur trapper's prize
- Mississippi feeder
- Jackknife, for example
- Zoo favorites
- Sunshine State: abbr.
- Owls

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