

'Pack's Hot Shooting Burns UNC

By EVAN MARKFIELD
Assistant Sports Editor

RALEIGH — Winning a basketball game is a lot easier when you can't miss.

That much became apparent when N.C. State's women's basketball team turned a half-time tie into an 87-70 domination of sixth-ranked North Carolina in front of 7,741 fans at Reynolds Coliseum.

The Wolfpack (8-5, 2-2 in the ACC) shot better than 70 percent on its second-half field goal attempts and ran away from a Tar Heel team whose

offense spent the game searching for a groove it would never find.

The N.C. State offense, on the other hand, had a gameplan — and it most certainly revolved around 6-foot-6 center Summer Erb.

"We made a slight adjustment at halftime to get the ball to Summer more, and they did that," N.C. State coach Kay Yow said.



UNC guard/forward Chanel Wright tied for the team lead with 14 points in Thursday's loss.

Erb spent the first half frustrated by poor shooting and strong defense from North Carolina (17-2, 4-1). The junior was limited to nine points in the half — she averages almost 23 per game — on 3-of-8 shooting from the floor.

Early in the second half, the UNC defense continued to harass the Wolfpack center. As a pass headed toward Erb in the low post, three Tar Heel defenders swooped down on her and forced a jump ball.

On State's ensuing inbound UNC center Yanick Clay swatted away a pass intended for Erb and repeated that performance seconds later as the Wolfpack tried to pound it down low once more.

But eventually, the much larger Erb would have her way.

Clay fouled out with 12:44 remaining in the game, taking a valuable body out of the middle for the Tar Heels.

Erb finished with 24 points to lead a balanced scoring attack that she made possible by kicking the ball back out to Wolfpack players on the perimeter when double-teams descended on her in the post.

And while State couldn't seem to miss, the Tar Heels offense, which has used a run-and-gun style in averaging 86.9 points per game, was gridlocked by a variety of defensive schemes Yow presented.

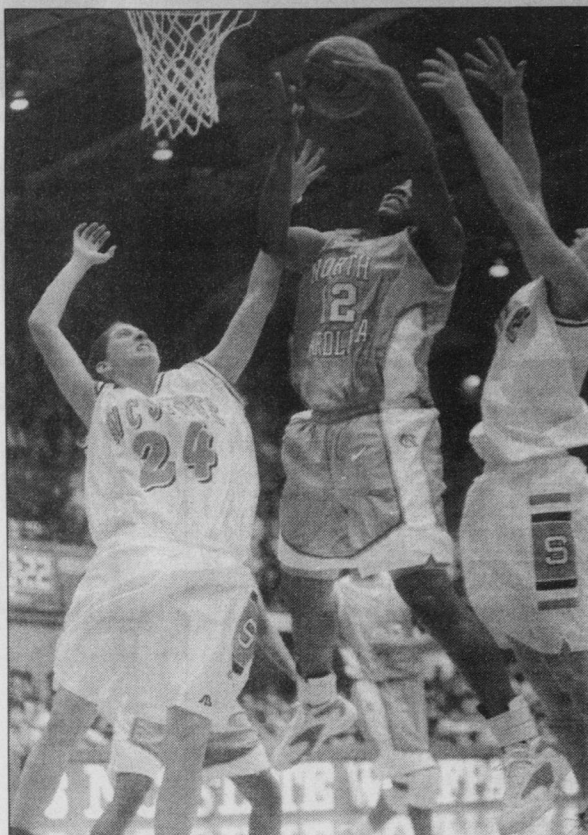
The Tar Heels managed to get open looks throughout the game but couldn't find their touch, shooting 40 percent from the field.

"We probably should have worked it for a little better shots," UNC coach Sylvia Hatchell said. "It's hard not to take it when you're open."

Having Erb patrolling the paint didn't help UNC either. The Tar Heels had minimal inside presence against the Wolfpack powerhouse, which resulted in an inability to find their way to the charity stripe.

North Carolina was 6 of 11 from the line, with all of those shots coming in the second half.

Hatchell said, "It's hard to believe the No. 6 team in the country goes an entire half without a foul shot."



North Carolina forward Jackie Higgins pulls down a rebound against N.C. State in UNC's 87-70 road loss Thursday night.

Watered Down by Brad Christensen



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THE Daily Crossword

By Louise G. White

- ACROSS
- 1 Liberal
 - 5 Financial subj.
 - 9 Basketball player
 - 14 Expose
 - 15 Lose color
 - 16 Stand up
 - 17 Manipulator
 - 18 Spoken
 - 19 Dishwasher cycle
 - 20 Birds and bees?
 - 23 Part of a wd.
 - 24 Oman's capital
 - 28 Proceeding all others
 - 32 Make off with
 - 35 Cup ending?
 - 36 Exist as a characteristic
 - 38 Timetable abbr.
 - 39 Legal action grp.
 - 40 Takes risks?
 - 43 Comfy
 - 44 In position
 - 45 One type of electron tube
 - 46 Chemical suffix
 - 47 Had a meal
 - 49 Spiritual
 - 50 Called back
 - 52 Classified
 - 54 Do a shepherd's job?
 - 61 Office notes

- 64 model
 - 65 Stalin's nat.
 - 66 we all?
 - 67 In the same place: Latin
 - 68 Capital of Okinawa
 - 69 Bigot
 - 70 Little legumes
 - 71 Spend the night
- DOWN
- 1 Border on
 - 2 Reckless
 - 3 Family plan?
 - 4 Medieval peasant
 - 5 Adhesive stuff
 - 6 Christmas songs
 - 7 Writer
 - 8 Stapledon
 - 9 Fodie Foster film
 - 10 Loaded auto
 - 11 Astrological ram
 - 12 Card game
 - 13 Curving shape
 - 14 Female sand-piper
 - 15 "The Jetsons" dog
 - 16 Turkish inn
 - 17 Larva's covering
 - 18 Hint at
 - 19 Tighter
 - 20 Carriage of "Star Wars"
 - 21 Speak mechanically
 - 22 Poet
 - 23 "Da Ya Think I'm 7?"
 - 24 Refinement
 - 25 Sea eagle
 - 26 Naval flag
 - 27 Director
 - 28 Hooper
 - 29 Attila's crowd
 - 30 Coll. senior's exam
 - 31 Workplace
 - 32 River of the
 - 33 Ukraine
 - 34 "The Blue ..."
 - 35 Make amends
 - 36 Exploits
 - 37 Faucet flaw
 - 38 Director
 - 39 Hooper
 - 40 Attila's crowd
 - 41 Coll. senior's exam
 - 42 Workplace
 - 43 River of the
 - 44 Picture for a physician
 - 45 -jongg
 - 46 Period
 - 47 Convened

LAWN ELSA BALSAs
ACHE SOUR ITEMS
DRAB POET GROUP
DETROIT REDWINGS
ACES RIA
HORSES DRAGLINE
OSAKA NOON NEA
SAN ANTONIO SPURS
EGG ORAL OLIVE
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ART COTY
TENNESSEEOILERS
OLINS KILN ERIE
ISLET ERLE TAPE
LEERS WEAR STEM

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Wolfpack's Physical Defensive Play Slows Down Fast-Breaking Tar Heels

By HUGH PRESSLEY
Assistant Sports Editor

RALEIGH — Prior to Thursday night's game against N.C. State, the North Carolina women's basketball team had seen more defenses thrown at it from foes than most football teams — everything from man-to-man to zones resembling nickel and dime packages.

And barring an 86-68 loss to UCLA back on Nov. 28 — the Tar Heels' lone loss coming into Thursday's contest — they've always found a way to make their opponents' defenses look defenseless — to the tune of 86.9 points per game.

But N.C. State coach Kay Yow had a simple, yet effective strategy for stopping UNC's up-tempo offense — a pre-emptive defense. And after the Wolfpack held the Tar Heels to only 70 points and just 16 percent three-point shooting en route to a 87-70 rout, Yow became fitting of a new title — defensive coordinator.

"We used about five different defenses tonight, and we didn't feel like we could go against (UNC) with just one defense — not even two," Yow said.

Besides combatting UNC's run-and-gun offense with a plethora of zone and man defenses, State kept the Tar Heels from utilizing their trademark fast-break game by concentrating on defensive balance rather than crashing the offensive glass. The 'Pack also made sure to put a man on UNC guard Nikki Teasley to stop the outlet pass.

The plan worked. "The first thing that we worked on in preparation for this game was stop transition," Yow said. "Maybe we can't stop it every time, but we know if you give up a lot of easy baskets to great teams, you don't have a good chance of beating them."

As a result, the Tar Heels' run-and-gun offense was chopped in half, as UNC simply gunned. Poor shot selection from the Tar Heels' perimeter players helped the Wolfpack's physical combo of 6-foot-6 center Summer Erb and 6-1 reserve forward Talisha Scates shut down the paint.

Teasley, who came into the game averaging 39 percent from three-point land in ACC competition and 32 percent overall, shot just 2 of 7 from behind the arc in the loss.

Meanwhile, UNC forward LaQuanda Barksdale failed to get decent shots inside and made only three of her 13 attempts from the field, finishing with seven points.

"The key was they were making their shots so they could set their defense," UNC coach Sylvia Hatchell said. "We've just got to get a little smarter (on offense)."

The Sports Editor can be reached at sports@unc.edu.

N.C. State 87, UNC 70

	31	39	70
UNC	31	39	70
NCSU	31	56	87

UNC: Higgins 7-13 0-0 14, Wright 5-15 4-4 14, Teasley 5-13 1-4 13, Brown 5-11 0-2 12, Barksdale 5-13 1-1 7, Dawkins 3-6 0-0 6, Clay 1-1 0-2 2, Gasper 1-4 0-2 2, Totals: 30-76 6-11 70
NCSU: Erb 9-19 9-10 28, Lewis 3-12 8-13 23, Jones 0-6 2-2 2, Gillespie 4-7 2-4 13, Scates 2-2 3-6 8, Smith 1-3 3-4 5, Bane 2-10 0-0 4, Totals: 29-67 23-31 87
2-point goals — UNC 4-25 (Brown 2-4, Teasley 2-7, Gasper 0-2, Dawkins 0-2, Barksdale 0-4, Wright 0-6), NCSU 6-14 (Gillespie 3-6, Jones 2-3, Lewis 1-2, Smith 0-1, Bane 0-2), Free throws — UNC 27 (Wright 15, NCSU 14 (Erb 11), Bane 3) — UNC 19 (Gasper 6), NCSU 21 (Gillespie 7), Bane 4 — UNC 12 (Wright 4), NCSU 2 (Jones, Lewis), Total fouls — UNC 27, NCSU 14, Attendance — 7,341

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