

MEN'S BASKETBALL
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through big stretches where we weren't scoring points and they were. The zone was probably the key."

Trailing by as many as 11, UNC whittled the lead to one following an Ed Cota 3-pointer and two Capel free throws.

Forced to foul, the Tar Heels sent UCLA junior reserve Ryan Bailey to the line with 14.9 seconds remaining and the Bruins leading 69-68. Bailey banked in the first free throw, and the second one hit the back of the iron, rattled around and fell through the net.

"He's a guy who's going to throw up some crazy stuff, but his crazy stuff goes in," said Kaponno, who played just 22 minutes because of foul trouble but scored 14 points.

Down to UNC's last possession, Capel launched a leaning 3-pointer trying to draw a foul. Lang rebounded the miss and kicked it to Cota, whose heave fell short at the buzzer.

Cota, the senior point guard who had eight points and eight assists but four turnovers, addressed the team's problems after the game.

"There's a lot of pressures on us right now," Cota said. "We can't control what people feel about us. We've just got to be able to bounce back. Right now, we're underachieving."

Added Haywood: "I know this team is better than we're showing right now, and a lot of people are going to get down on us. A lot of people are going to write us off."

The Tar Heels, as evidenced by their postgame quietness, know that words alone will not change those opinions.

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

UCLA Big Man Responds With Clutch Performance

By T. NOLAN HAYES
Sports Editor

It was a battle of unappreciated big men.

On one side was Brendan Haywood, North Carolina's much-maligned 7-foot center. On the other was Jerome Moiso, an often-criticized 6-10 post player for UCLA.

Both players are used to catching considerable blame from fans and media when their teams lose. Fairly or not, people often say of Moiso and Haywood that they "disappeared" in losses or that they "played without passion."

But after the Bruins' 71-68 win against UNC on Saturday, Moiso can relax — at least until Thursday, when UCLA hosts second-ranked Arizona. He was a major inside presence with 19 points and 11 rebounds.

"I'd been struggling a little bit lately, and I just had to do something," said Moiso, a sophomore from Guadeloupe in the West Indies. "I did it tonight."

Moiso connected on 9 of 15 shots from the field and was instrumental in UCLA's early offensive spurt and late-game heroics.

He scored 10 points in the game's first 10 minutes as UCLA raced out to a 27-16 advantage. Moiso displayed a feathery touch on left-handed jumpers for three of his initial five field goals.

Late in the game, he scored two of UCLA's final three field goals — both on

putbacks — to help hold off the rallying Tar Heels.

"It was physical, but I like big teams — I don't know why," said Moiso, who is a sleek 235 pounds. "I like to play better against great teams, and today I did just that."

And Moiso's performance came at just the right time for UCLA.

The Bruins had suffered a 71-59 defeat to crosstown rival Southern California in their previous game and needed Moiso to do better than the 12 points and six rebounds he posted against the Trojans.

"Oh, my God. Jerome was just like an active dog out there," said freshman guard Jason Kaponno, who scored 14 points. "He proved that he's like the most talented player in the country. That guy just played off-the-wall great. He showed his true self today."

While Moiso bathed in the accolades of his teammates, postgame interviews were business as usual for Haywood after his team lost. Neutralized by UCLA's active matchup zone during the game, Haywood had to explain his seven-point, six-rebound effort after it.

"Really I don't know how the zone

was working — it was just kind of smothering in there," Haywood said.

Haywood was limited to six shot attempts, a continuation of one of college basketball's strangest trends. Haywood leads the nation in field goal percentage (73.2 percent), yet he averages only 6.6 shots per game.

Wouldn't it make sense for the Tar Heels to get him more shots?

"I'd like for him to get as many as he can, but if a team won't let us throw the ball into him, it's pretty hard to get him shots," UNC coach Bill Guthridge said. "I thought they did a good job of keeping the ball out of the low block."

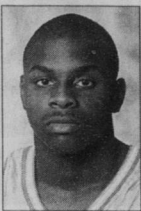
It was Moiso who was largely responsible for denying Haywood and UNC forward Kris Lang (seven field goal attempts) chances inside Saturday. He rarely left the paint and never left the floor, playing a season-high 40 minutes.

Moiso also set a new season high with his 11 boards and tied his season bests in blocks (three) and assists (two). He even escaped the ever-present whispers that he wasn't playing as well as he could.

Well, almost anyway.

"It was unbelievable. He played awesome today," UCLA guard Ryan Bailey said. "He hadn't been playing up to his potential, I don't think, and today he really showed everybody how he can play."

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UNC center Brendan Haywood attempted six shots against UCLA and finished with seven points and six boards.



DTH/MILLER PEARSALL

UCLA forward/center Jerome Moiso registered game-high totals with 19 points and 10 rebounds as the Bruins defeated UNC 71-68.

UNC Looks to End Skid Against Virginia

By BRIAN MURPHY
Senior Writer

Saturday it was the zone that did in North Carolina. Tonight when the Tar Heels take on Virginia, they will face an entirely different type of defense.

The Tar Heel big men were handcuffed by UCLA's matchup zone, which limited UNC's power forwards and centers to 18 shots and 21 points in the Bruins' 71-68 victory.

When the Tar Heels travel to Charlottesville for an 8 p.m. contest with the Cavaliers, UNC's big men can rest easy — they will face not one with the size and quickness of UCLA's Jerome Moiso or Dan Gadzuric.

Instead, it is UNC's guards who could be in for a long night against Virginia's frantic trapping defense.

"We have to be able to handle their presses," UNC coach Bill Guthridge said. "They're a very good team."

Guthridge said the Cavs' 109-100 overtime loss to Duke was among the best games he has seen this year. Despite the loss, the pace of that contest is to Virginia's liking.

In his second season at the helm of the Cavaliers, Pete Gillen has Virginia playing the same type of trapping defense that helped build his former club Xavier into a solid team.

The Cavaliers (11-5, 2-2 in the ACC) are averaging 83.5 points per game. Guard Donald Hand and forward Chris Williams lead the club with more than 15 points per game apiece.

But it is Virginia's defense that keys the offense, and the Cavaliers do it by causing turnovers (17 a game).

Turnovers have been one of the

THE LOWDOWN ON TONIGHT'S GAME

C BRENDAN HAYWOOD, 7-0
Managed only six shot attempts in 31 minutes against UCLA.

F JASON CAPEL, 6-8
Regained his offensive touch vs. UCLA, scoring 21 points.

F KRIS LANG, 6-11
Averaging 11 points, 5.2 boards since rejoining starting lineup.

G ED COTA, 6-1
Tied for third in the nation with 8.2 assists per contest.

G JOSEPH FORTE, 6-4
Made just seven of his 26 shots in UNC's last two games.

No. 21 North Carolina (11-6, 2-1 in ACC) vs. Virginia (11-5, 2-2 in ACC)

G DONALD HAND, 5-11
Leads the Cavs in scoring, averaging 15.6 points a game.

G ROGER MASON, 6-5
Went 0-for-5 from the field against Clemson with six points.

F CHRIS WILLIAMS, 6-7
Sophomore scored 18 points in Saturday's win against Clemson.

F WILLIE DERSCH, 6-6
Averaged 7.5 points in two games against UNC last season.

C TRAVIS WATSON, 6-7
Second-leading rebounder in the league with 9.3 per game.

Game: No. 21 North Carolina at Virginia
Time: 8 p.m.
Location: University Hall
Radio: WCHL 1360 AM, 100.7 FM
Television: Raycom/Jefferson-Pilot
Series Record: UNC leads 113-40.

Keys for UNC: Senior point guard Ed Cota must control the tempo of the game so that Virginia doesn't turn the contest into a track meet. In the past, Brendan Haywood is five inches taller than counterpart Travis Watson.

Keys for Virginia: The Cavaliers have won six of the last 11 games against the Tar Heels at University Hall, and in UVa.'s last two wins, Virginia has scored less than 75 points. Donald Hand needs to ignore that stat and get the Cavaliers into an up-tempo game. Virginia has won 102 of the last 110 games when it scores at least 80 points.

UNC Bench: Guard Max Owens is averaging 6.2 points a game since Kris Lang was inserted into the starting lineup five games ago. Six-foot-six, 280-pound Julius Peppers is averaging 6.6 boards a game in that span.

Virginia Bench: Coach Pete Gillen has used eight different starting lineups this season, so the Cavaliers have gotten contributions from a lot of players. Guard Keith Friel has hit 39 percent of his 3-point tries this year.

Prediction: Virginia 84, UNC 75
COMPILED BY BRET STRELOW

undings of the Tar Heels this season. UNC has turned the ball over 57 times in the past three games, including 17 times against UCLA, which played a tough zone but did not apply much on-the-ball pressure.

"We just have to play smarter I guess," UNC forward Jason Capel said. "We got a little excited and tried to

make the big play."

With Virginia trapping so much, the ball will be in the hands of senior point guard Ed Cota, the nation's leader in assist-to-turnover margin. If Cota, who had eight points and four turnovers against UCLA, can break down the UVa. pressure, the Tar Heels could have success.

Cota said this game is crucial for the

Tar Heels (11-6, 2-1), coming off back-to-back losses to UCLA and Wake Forest.

"We still got goals for this team that we can achieve," Cota said. "... At some point it's going to be too late, where we can't bounce back."

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UCLA 71, UNC 68

Box Score

UCLA	38	33	71
UNC	37	31	68

UCLA (71)	min	fg	ft	rb	a	pf	tp
Kaponno	22	5-9	1-1	0-5	1	4	14
Lang	40	9-15	1-1	5-11	2	2	19
Gadzuric	35	4-10	2-4	7-10	0	1	10
Hines	26	3-6	0-1	2-4	2	4	6
Watson	38	3-14	3-4	1-1	6	2	11
Young	6	0-2	0-0	0-1	1	0	0
Bailey	20	2-3	2-2	2-3	1	4	6
Barnes	10	2-4	0-0	0-1	0	0	4
Knight	3	0-0	1-2	0-1	0	0	1
Total	200	28-63	10-16	19-38	13	17	71

UNC (68)	min	fg	ft	rb	a	pf	tp
Capel	30	7-12	4-6	1-3	1	4	21
Lang	31	4-7	1-1	3-7	2	1	9
Haywood	31	3-6	1-2	1-6	2	4	7
Forste	35	6-16	0-1	0-4	5	1	13
Cota	37	3-6	0-0	0-1	8	0	8
Newby	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Owens	15	2-4	0-0	0-0	0	2	6
Peppers	18	2-4	1-2	3-6	0	0	6
Total	200	27-65	7-12	10-30	18	17	68

Percentages — FG: 44.4, FT: 62.5.
3-point goals — 5-12 (Kaponno 3-4, Watson 2-5, Hines 0-2, Young 0-1).
Team rebounds — 1.
Blocked shots — 3 (Moiso 3).
Turnovers — 15 (Bailey 3, Moiso 3, Gadzuric 2, Hines 2, Watson 2, Barnes, Kaponno, Young).
Steals — 10 (Hines 3, Bailey 2, Moore 2, Watson 2, Kaponno).

Technical fouls — none.
Attendance — 21,672.

Tar Heels to Play 2000 Exhibition In Carmichael

The North Carolina men's basketball team will return to Carmichael Auditorium next season — for at least one game.

Carolina Athletic Association President Tee Pruitt said Monday that the Tar Heels would play a preseason exhibition in Carmichael. No date or opponent has been set.

It will mark the first time the men have taken the court there since an exhibition against the Charlotte Royals on November 12, 1995, when Vince Carter was a freshman.

Pruitt said the decision was reached after he met with Athletics Director Dick Baddour on Friday. The Blue-White game will still be played in the Smith Center because it is the most heavily attended contest on the preseason slate.

The contest at Carmichael will be targeted toward students, and they will be allotted a "vast majority" of the courtside seats, Pruitt said.

— Will Kimmy

UNC Wrestlers Split Weekend Set On Road Against UVa., Maryland

The Terrapins captured the final four matches from the Tar Heels to defeat UNC for the first time since 1993.

Staff Report

Josh Weidman shut out North Carolina's Jamie Groudle at 165 pounds to lift Maryland's wrestlers to a 21-19 victory against North Carolina on Saturday in College Park, Md.

UNC (2-3, 1-2 in the ACC) held a one-point lead heading into the final match, but Groudle, an NCAA qualifier last year at 174 pounds, could not handle Weidman. Weidman scored a takedown in the second period of the match and went on to a 3-0 triumph to give Maryland the upset.

Corey Bell (174 pounds), Clint Osborn (197), Matt Kenny (heavyweight), Skyler Holman (125) and Brad Byers (133) were victorious for UNC

before the Tar Heels dropped their last four matches to the Terrapins (2-1, 1-0).

Byers gained a 2-1 decision in double overtime against Maryland's Brandon York to capture UNC's last win.

The loss came one day after the Tar Heels continued their dominance against Virginia, defeating the Cavaliers by a 27-9 margin in Charlottesville, Va.

The Cavaliers — in the midst of a 26-match losing streak — last defeated UNC 28-14 in Chapel Hill during the 1974-75 season.

Virginia took an early 6-4 lead in the meet, but the Tar Heels took six of the last seven matches to capture the victory.



Wrestling coach Bill Lam has not lost to Virginia since the Cavaliers beat UNC 28-14 in 1975.

North Carolina also recorded a victory against the Cavaliers earlier this month at the Virginia Duals in Norfolk, Va.

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