

Emotional Tar Heels Knock Off Terrapins

The UNC men's basketball team fed off of the crowd at the Smith Center to snap its four-game losing streak.

BY BRIAN MURPHY
Senior Writer

Maybe it was the boisterous crowd, filled with students who flooded the court following the win.

Maybe it was the days of cabin fever caused by the snowstorm that forced the game to be postponed a day.

Or maybe the players were tired of the constant criticism of their effort. But North Carolina's basketball team played Thursday night like it had nothing to lose.

"I don't think we had much left in us," UNC coach Bill Guthridge said of his team after the Tar Heels' 75-63 victory against No. 22 Maryland. "I don't think we could have played five more minutes."

Indicative of the team's effort was Kris Lang. Lang, hobbled by the stomach illness that limited his time in Saturday's loss to Florida State, dove after numerous loose balls.

Even after taking an IV at the half to rehydrate, Lang scored seven points and grabbed five boards in the second half.

"I had as much as (Guthridge) needed me to have," said Lang as he sat receiving medical attention. "I could have played all night. I was playing on adrenaline."

Much of the adrenaline was supplied by the 15,455 fans, nearly three-quarters of whom were students. Normally relegated to the upper deck, the students filled the lower deck and stood or jumped the entire game.

"It was a great atmosphere with the students courtside," Maryland coach Gary Williams said. "I even had a couple of people yelling at me, which hasn't happened here before."

But the crowd can't defend the 3-pointer, and in the first half neither could the Tar Heels (12-8, 3-3 in the ACC).

The Tarps (13-6, 2-4) hit 7 of 13 3-point attempts in the first half en route to a 41-34 halftime lead.

Maryland's prowess from behind the arc was also its undoing.

The Tarps fell in love with the outside jumper, hoisting 14 more treys after half-time. But this time the iron was unkind, and Maryland missed its last 10 attempts.

Content to shoot jumpers against UNC's zone defense, the Tarps didn't get to the free throw line or put up much of a challenge on the glass. UNC took 31 free throws to Maryland's 12 and grabbed 12 more boards than the Tarps.

"The game is played inside-out, and tonight we played it outside-in," Williams said.

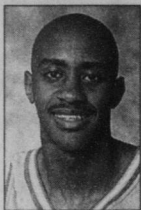
The Tar Heels used a different strategy. UNC shot miserably in the first half (9-for-25) but was 15-of-16 from the line, including a perfect 6-of-6 by Brendan Haywood.

In the second half, the Tar Heels' shooting touch returned. Joseph Forte canned a 3-pointer on the team's first possession, igniting the crowd and his team. UNC shot 50 percent in the second half.

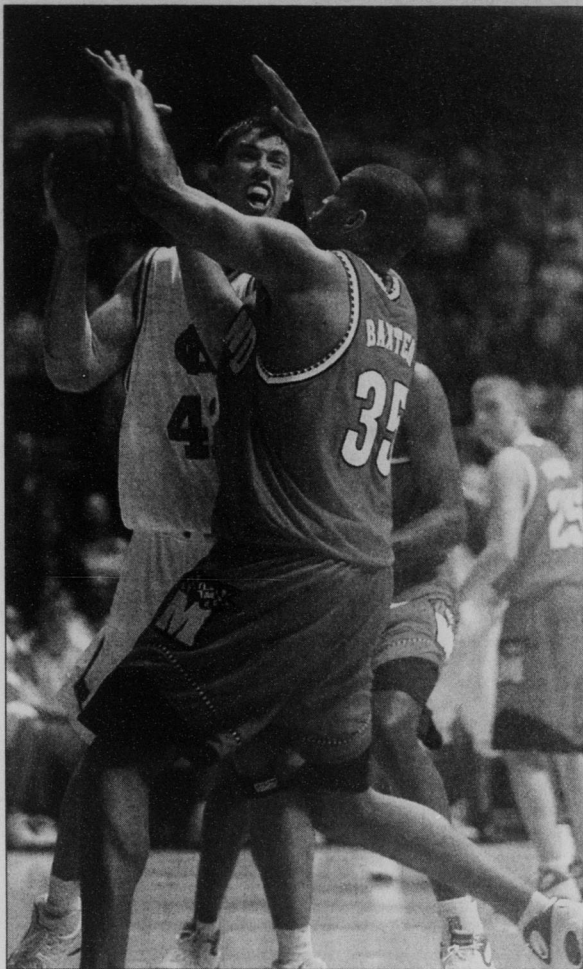
Trailing 50-47, the Tar Heels scored on six of eight possessions, rattling off 14 consecutive points. A Max Owens 3-pointer at 13:15 — and in the middle of the run — gave UNC a lead it would not relinquish.

The Tar Heels, who entered the game losers of four straight, fully understood the importance of the matchup.

"This point here was our season basically," said Haywood, who tied a career-high with 24 points. "We dug ourselves a hole, and now we've got to dig ourselves out of it."



Junior guard Max Owens hit a 3-pointer during UNC's second-half run to give the Tar Heels the lead.



UNC forward Kris Lang struggles against Maryland's Lonny Baxter. Lang scored 13 points to help the Tar Heels even their ACC record at 3-3.

Haywood Talks, Plays Good Game vs. Terps

BY EVAN MARKFIELD
Senior Writer

When North Carolina center Brendan Haywood stepped to the line for a pair of free throws near the end of the Tar Heels' victory against Maryland Thursday night, there was a noticeable buzzing in his right ear.

That buzzing was Maryland's trash-talking freshman point guard, Steven Blake. And after rattling in his first free throw, Haywood decided it was his turn to get a few words in.

"I saw him push (UNC guard) Joe (Forte), and I told him we didn't need that. Then he just started talking at me," Haywood said. "I hit a free throw, so I had to let him know about it."

Forte was glad to see Haywood feeding off the intense crowd as he played — and talked — with more fire than he'd displayed in recent games.

"Big B tried to set it straight," Forte said. "It's good to see your big man take your back for you."

But Haywood did more than just police the Terrapins' talkative point man. The Tar Heels' 7-footer tied a career high with 24 points while adding seven boards and a pair of blocks.

He was not alone. UNC's starting frontcourt of Haywood, Jason Capel and Kris Lang put in 48 of the Tar Heels' 75 points and hurt Maryland on the glass.

Capel led UNC with 12 rebounds, and Lang chipped in six as the Tar Heels beat the Terps 42-31 on the boards.

"They got aggressive and really asserted themselves in the paint," UNC point guard Ed Cota said. "Our big men

were really active."

While the Tarps had planned to keep Haywood from getting position down low, the effort was a fruitless one.

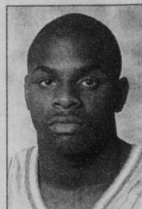
"(Maryland) didn't double," Haywood said. "My teammates got me the ball at the right times, which made me look even better."

It didn't hurt that "Big B" hardly missed the basket all night thanks to his ability to get good position inside. Haywood was 7-for-9 from the field and 10-for-11 from the line. That kind of shooting helped UNC bounce back from a 36-percent shooting effort in the first half and take control of the game.

"(Haywood) got a lot of second shots in the second half," Maryland forward Danny Miller said. "That's how they got their points in the second half."

As he smiled and jawed at Blake in the waning moments of UNC's win, Haywood might have not only been quieting the Terrapin freshman, but also the critics who have taken aim at him regularly this season.

"A lot of people criticize Brendan, and I guess he got tired of it," Forte said. "He had a big night. When he's hot, you give him the ball."



Junior center Brendan Haywood tied a career high with 24 points and added seven boards against the Terrapins.

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

Full Box Score Of Tar Heels' Win vs. Terps

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UNC	75

UNC Students Make Most of Trip Downstairs

BY WILL KIMMIE
Assistant Sports Editor

It was a battle of the ages pitting students past and present against one another.

The current students came out in droves to Thursday night's Maryland-North Carolina basketball game to fill the lower-level seats left vacant by season-ticket holders who didn't show. The UNC Athletic Department announced Wednesday that any student with a

UNC ONE Card would be granted admission to the game.

Students are generally allotted about 1,500 lower-level tickets per game, and season-ticket holders fill in the remaining seats. But on Thursday, students comprised the vast majority of that section.

"I definitely think we should be down here instead of the old people," said David Carpenter, a topless sophomore with a large 'C' painted on his chest. "Our fans suck — they just give up and leave before the game's over. I hate the

ways these fans are."

Although the Smith Center was not filled to capacity, the crowd still made its presence known. It started the game with a deafening rendition of the alternating "Tar," "Heels" chant.

"It's usually a lot more quiet with the wine and cheese crowd," sophomore Chris Helin said. "It's a lot more energetic with the students here. I like it a lot better."

When students first entered the gym, ushers told those without tickets to sit in the upper level. Just before tip-off, the public address announcer said anyone without a ticket could head to the lower level and fill in empty seats.

This caused some problems when some ticket holders showed up a bit late. "All I know is that old people show up a half hour late to the game and they

moved all of us out," junior Jacobe Foster said. "We had people standing up, and they kicked half of us out."

"The rich people get here and get mad because we're loud — this is ridiculous."

Despite some of the ill feelings between the students and the ticket holders, the crowd never got out of control — until the final buzzer when students rushed the floor to celebrate the victory.

Some of the crowd's energy seemed to carry over to the players on the floor, especially during UNC's second-half surge.

"It felt good to have the students on top of us," center Brendan Haywood said. "I'd like to get more students down low."

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Eligibility: Sophomores, juniors, and seniors are eligible for the program, which is open to both UNC-CH and non-UNC students with a 2.5 GPA or better. There is no language prerequisite, but at least two semesters of college-level Spanish or the equivalent is recommended.

Summer 2000 students will be accompanied by Amy McNichols, a Ph.D. candidate in Latin American literature from the UNC-CH Department of Romance Languages & Literatures. While on-site, Ms. McNichols will advise and tutor students, as well as serve as the Resident Coordinator in Taxco during the program.

A group flight will be available, and the orientation will take place in Mexico City prior to the beginning of courses in Taxco.

The dates: The summer 2000 program runs from June 16 to August 4, 2000.

The cost: Total billed cost \$1,451.

For further information about this program: Please contact the Study Abroad Office in 12 Caldwell Hall, or the program leader, Amy McNichols, in 114 Dey Hall.

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