

## THE LOWDOWN ON TONIGHT'S GAME

**C BRENDAN HAYWOOD, 7-0**  
Nation's leader in field goal percentage (73.9) connected on 4-of-5 shots vs. UVA.

**F JASON CAPEL, 6-8**  
Team leader in points (17) and rebounds (nine) against the Cavaliers.

**F KRIS LANG, 6-11**  
Limited by a virus to 25 minutes against the Seminoles in Chapel Hill.

**G ED COTA, 6-1**  
Missed the Tar Heels' Jan. 22 home loss to FSU with a viral infection.

**G JOSEPH FORTE, 6-4**  
Team's leading scorer had 15 points against Florida State in January.

**North Carolina (16-10, 7-5 in the ACC)**

VS.

**Florida State (10-13, 5-7 in the ACC)**

**G D. ARRINGTON, 5-11**  
ACC's third-leading assist man handed out 10 assists as FSU beat Georgia Tech 64-54.

**G RON HALE, 6-9**  
Team's leading scorer posted 17 points in Monday's win against Georgia Tech.

**F DAMOUS ANDERSON, 6-7**  
Erupted for 25 points against UNC in Chapel Hill. Scored 26 Monday vs. Georgia Tech.

**F OLIVER SIMMONS, 6-8**  
Senior forward grabs 5.0 rebounds per game to lead the Seminoles.

**C DAVID ANDERSON, 7-0**  
Suffered a broken nose Monday against the Yellow Jackets and played only three minutes.

**Game:** UNC at Florida State

**Time:** 9 p.m.

**Location:** Leon County Civic Center, Tallahassee, Fla.

**Radio:** 100.7 FM, WCHL-1360 AM

**Television:** Raycom/JP Sports

**Series Record:** UNC leads 24-6.

**Keys for UNC:** A win is a necessity if the Tar Heels don't want to sweat out Selection Sunday because Saturday's loss to Virginia did nothing to help UNC's tourney hopes. In order to win, UNC needs to get the ball inside to Brendan Haywood, who had a mere five shots against the Cavs. UNC's offense is better when the big guy gets the ball.

**Keys for FSU:** Balance and the 3-pointer. Damous Anderson scored 25 points, and the Seminoles hit 10-of-18 attempts from behind the arc in their January win against the Tar Heels. Adding in Ron Hale's 17 points, FSU had enough offense to stop UNC.

**UNC Bench:** The Blue Team played well against UVA, providing a spark and giving the starters a rest. But forward Julius Peppers and swingman Max Owens are the real contributors.

**FSU Bench:** The Seminole reserves had just eight points in the first meeting against the Tar Heels. Freshman Nigel Dixon, all 6-foot-10, 385 pounds of him, will see some playing time.

**Prediction:** UNC 78, Florida State 63

Compiled by Brian Murphy

# Despite Success, Cavaliers Still Struggle for Respect

By Will Kimmey  
Assistant Sports Editor

Some people might mistake Pete Gillen for Rodney Dangerfield. The Virginia coach has a quick wit, and his team gets no respect.

Normally, the ACC's third-place squad is a lock for the NCAA Tournament, but not the Cavaliers. Pundits have dubbed Virginia a bubble team despite the fact that it holds an 8-5 conference record (18-8 overall).

Detractors might point to the Cavs' nonconference schedule. While they played teams from the major conferences — Arizona State, Minnesota, St. John's and South Carolina — the Cavaliers defeated only the Sun Devils.

Naysayers also remind Virginia that its ratings percentage index (RPI) ranking — a big factor in the tournament selection process — stands at 59. A number that high doesn't bode well for a team in hopes of one of the 35 at-large bids.

"I don't worry about that; I can't control that," Gillen said in Tuesday's ACC coaches teleconference. "We're just going to try to win as many as we can and leave it in the hands of the experts."

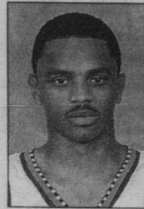
Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski chimed in to defend the Cavaliers, who forced his team to overtime on Jan. 5 before falling 109-100.

"It's obvious right now that the way the teams are ranked, there's a flaw in the RPI. Some teams that are not in a major conference have an RPI ahead of

Virginia — are you kidding?" said Krzyzewski, who added that those teams would find it difficult to compete in the ACC.

The Duke coach went on to criticize those who have called the ACC a weak league.

"Our conference, top to bottom, is as good as any," he said. "There's not an easy win in our conference, especially on the road."



Maryland guard Juan Dixon ranks second in the ACC in scoring with an average of 18.7 points per game.

traits in terms of body build, the heart and ability to score," said Clemson coach Larry Shyatt, whose Tigers faced Dixon and the Terps on Tuesday.

But Dixon, who was named ACC Player of the Week on Monday, is by no means one-dimensional. He leads the league in steals, averaging 3.0 a game — 0.7 more than his closest competitor. Plus, he's good for 5.5 rebounds per contest. Entering play Tuesday night, the little guy had grabbed at least seven boards in 11 of Maryland's 24 games.

"I think he's having a terrific year," Shyatt said. "He is a player who is underappreciated at things besides scoring."

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



## Dixon Adds Beef to FSU Front Line

Florida State's Nigel Dixon has become a force in the paint because of increased minutes and fewer pounds.

By T. Nolan Hayes  
Sports Editor



FSU freshman center Nigel Dixon is averaging 4.5 points, 5.3 boards and 12.3 minutes in his last four games.

Nigel Dixon is fat. No, wait. Make that *phat*. Dixon, Florida State's 6-foot-10, nearly 400-pound center, is gradually trimming down. The freshman from Orlando, Fla., is rounding into shape, having dropped his weight to about 385 pounds from 425 at the start of the school year.

Dixon's waistline is shrinking, but his impact on games continues to grow as he learns how to throw his considerable weight around against the ACC's best big men.

Dixon tied a season best with eight rebounds in 14 minutes Monday as the Seminoles defeated Georgia Tech 64-54. He tallied 12 points and four boards in the game before that against Duke.

"Nigel is a young man who has worked really hard all season long," FSU coach Steve Robinson said Tuesday. "He's improved daily. I think, and I've said all along, that Nigel has a chance to really be a force around the

league. "Nigel has good touch, and he's a very good athlete. For a young man of that size, I think he surprises a lot of people with just how nimble he can be."

Brendan Haywood and the rest of North Carolina's front line will get their second look of the season at Dixon when UNC (16-10, 7-5 in the ACC) takes on the Seminoles (10-13, 5-7) at 7 p.m. at Leon County Civic Center.

Dixon scored three points and grabbed three rebounds in seven minutes against the Tar Heels on Jan. 22, when Florida State won 76-71 at the Smith Center.

Because FSU center David Anderson suffered a broken nose against the Yellow Jackets and is questionable for tonight's game, Dixon could play about twice that much this time.

Dixon is still not in good enough shape to play much longer than that, but he hits the boards when he's out there. He's averaging 12.7 points and 15.5 rebounds per 40 minutes played this year.

"He is playing more, and I think he's a very good player," UNC coach Bill Guthridge said Tuesday. "He already presents some big problems in there. He has a wide body, good hands and has really improved a lot."

Dixon raised plenty of eyebrows when the Seminoles visited Chapel Hill earlier in the season, something he has done everywhere he's gone this year. Spectators at some places (read: Cameron Indoor Stadium) were particularly rough on him, but Robinson said Dixon is used to the treatment.

Besides, if Dixon continues to develop, it won't be long before he proves to fans everywhere that his game is bigger than his body.

"The thing we all have to understand is that Nigel Dixon is a human being," Robinson said. "We all have a responsibility to treat him as a human being and not as some obstacle or object out there that we can just say anything and everything about. He is a human being, and he does have feelings."

"But Nigel takes it in stride. Hopefully everyone will just understand that here's a young man who just wants to be a college basketball player and do the best job he can every time he steps on the court."

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

## UNC Frosh Earns ACC Accolade

North Carolina third baseman Sean Farrell was named ACC Player of the Week after his performance against UCLA.

North Carolina baseball player Sean Farrell was named the ACC Player of the Week for his effort in UNC's three-game sweep of UCLA last weekend.

The freshman third baseman finished the series 5-for-10, including two home runs and a double, and knocked in nine runs.

"I just felt comfortable at the plate," he said. "I was seeing the ball real well."

In the first game with the Bruins, Farrell helped propel UNC to an improbable 13-run ninth inning for a 17-13 comeback win. He entered the game in the sixth inning as a pinch hitter and was 3-for-4 with five RBI, and he scored twice.

Farrell followed that performance up with his second homer of the season, a two-run shot in the sixth, in Saturday's 6-4 victory. In the series finale, he had two sacrifice flies in helping the Tar Heels to a 12-11 win in a rain-shortened game.

### Football Releases Home Schedule

An Oct. 14 matchup with N.C. State highlights the Tar Heels' home slate for 2000. It will mark the first time the two teams have played in Kenan Stadium since 1996.

The season kicks off Sept. 2 as Tulsa comes to town. UNC entertains Marshall on Sept. 23 as part of Family Weekend.

UNC seeks to avenge a drubbing at the hands of Maryland when it hosts the Terrapins in the annual homecoming game Nov. 11.

The home schedule is rounded out with ACC games against Georgia Tech on Sept. 30 and Clemson on Oct. 21.

From Staff Reports

### Do you suffer from cold sores?

If so, then you may be just who we're looking for. We are conducting a paid (\$350) research study of an investigational medication for the treatment and possible prevention of cold sore lesions. You must be 12 years of age or older (with parental consent, if appropriate), and in good general health to participate. You do not need to have a cold sore now to qualify.

If interested, please contact:  
Susan or Heather at 966-0029  
University of North Carolina Hospitals

### Spring Break Snow Bash

4-Night Lodging/  
Lift Ticket Package  
March 5-8 or March 12-15

Tan your cheeks without getting sand in your shorts.

- Huge Parties
- Live Entertainment Each Night
- Crazy On-Slope Games
- Snow Bucks and More!

Receive Snow Bucks for participating in events. Use your Snow Bucks to bid on awesome prizes like skis, snowboards, trips and more during the Snow Buck Auction.

from \$169\*  
per person

\*All packages based on four students lodging at the Inn @ Snowshoe and based on availability. Taxes not included. Rate quoted based on student lift ticket rate. Valid college ID required for student discounts.

Snowshoe's Spring Break Snow Bash is brought to you by:



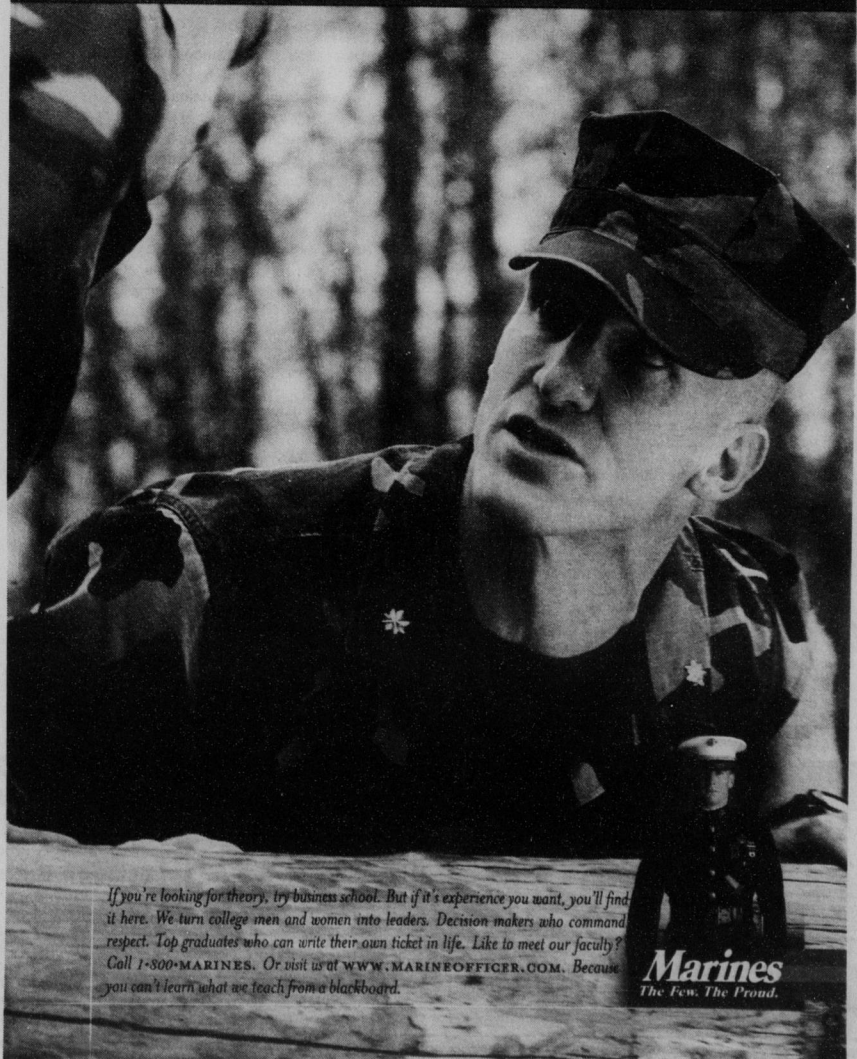
Voted one of the top 50 bargains by SKI Magazine

Call 304-572-5252 to make reservations or book it on-line at [www.snowshoemtn.com](http://www.snowshoemtn.com)



Naturally, the country's premiere leadership school offers a renowned staff of courteous instructors.

Professor Henry



If you're looking for theory, try business school. But if it's experience you want, you'll find it here. We turn college men and women into leaders. Decision makers who command respect. Top graduates who can write their own ticket in life. Like to meet our faculty? Call 1-800-MARINES. Or visit us at [WWW.MARINEOFFICER.COM](http://WWW.MARINEOFFICER.COM). Because you can't learn what we teach from a blackboard.

Marines  
The Few. The Proud.

EASTERN FEDERAL THEATRES  
CHapel Hill

PLAZA THEATRES  
Elliott Rd. at East Franklin  
967-4737 All Auditoriums Surround Stereo

THE BEACH  
Daily 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

PITCH BLACK  
Daily 3:15, 5:25, 7:35

SCREAM 3  
Daily 9:40

HANGING UP  
Daily 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10

BOILER ROOM  
Daily 3:20, 7:00, 9:20

DOWN TO YOU  
Daily 3:05

HURRICANE  
Daily 5:00, 8:00

MOVIES AT TIMBERLYNE  
Weaver Dairy at Airport Rd.  
933-8600 All Auditoriums Surround Stereo

TIGGER  
Daily 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:40

MAGNOLIA  
Daily 4:45, 8:25

AMERICAN BEAUTY  
Daily 3:20, 7:00, 9:25

WHOLE NINE YARDS  
Daily 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:35

SNOW DAY  
Daily 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10

SCREAM 3  
Daily 3:30, 7:05, 9:30

\$4.50 ALL SHOWS BEFORE 6PM  
SHOW TIMES FOR TODAY ONLY

Eastern Federal Theatres Equipped for the Hearing Impaired