

Cota Blocks Arrington, Seminoles' Shot at Upset

By BRIAN MURPHY
Senior Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Ed Cota delivered — on defense.

Routinely criticized for his defensive play, North Carolina's 6-foot-1 point guard saved Wednesday night's contest against Florida State with a blocked shot.

His block of a Delvon Arrington jumper ignited a Tar Heel fast break that ended with a Jason Capel three-point play, turning a 67-66 deficit into a 69-67 UNC lead with 51.8 seconds.

"I knew he was going to make a move. I just timed his shot," Cota said. "Usually I put a hand in their face, but I knew I needed to get a good hand on it."

The defensive stop helped UNC hold off the Seminoles 70-67 at Leon County Civic Center. The win moved the Tar Heels (17-10, 8-5 in the ACC) into a tie for third place with Virginia.

The block and two rebounds in the last 40 seconds, including one off Ron Hale's 3-point attempt to send the game to overtime, salvaged the game for Cota, who struggled again on offense.

Against Virginia on Sunday, Cota had four assists and six turnovers. Wednesday, Cota had four assists and five turnovers. The four assists moved him into fourth place on the NCAA all-time list with 962.

Without Cota delivering a steady hand at the point, it was up to others to run the Tar Heel show. Jason Capel,

who limped off the court with a bruised right shin, had a career-high seven assists, and Joseph Forte added four.

Many of their passes went to Brendan Haywood, who played like a beast in the first 10 minutes of the second half after taking just two shots in the first half.

He tallied 11 points, three rebounds and two blocks as the Tar Heels stretched a 32-29 half-time lead into a 58-51 advantage.

"Brendan really wanted the ball in there," UNC coach Bill Guthridge said. "I wish we could have gotten the ball to him more."

Haywood took a three-minute rest after the 10-minute stretch to open the half. During that stretch, UNC, which had scored on 12-of-14 possessions with him in the game, went 0-for-5 from the field. The drought allowed FSU (10-14, 5-8) to climb back into the contest.

Haywood had a team-high 19 points and finished 7-for-7 from the floor, the fourth time this season he went 7-of-7.

Florida State, which topped UNC in January at the Smith Center, relied on Hale and Damous Anderson.

Hale, who didn't start because of a missed class, scored a game-high 22, and Anderson added 18. Arrington had



Sophomore forward Jason Capel tallied 15 points and a team-high seven assists against Florida State.

10 assists and no turnovers. But Hale missed two 3s in the final 25 seconds, including a wide-open look with five seconds left to tie the game.

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

UNC 70, Florida State 67

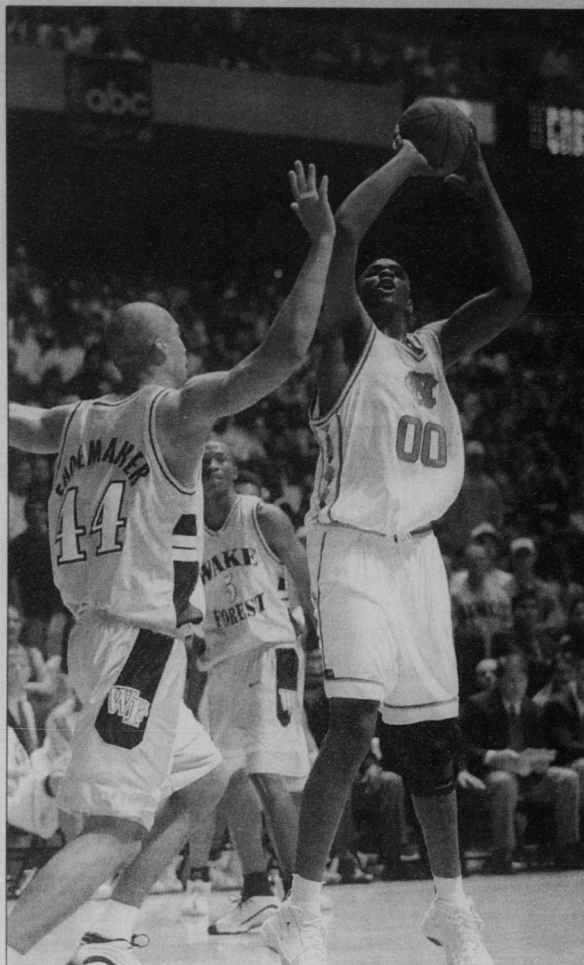
	UNC	FSU	UNC (70)	FSU (67)
	32	38	70	67
min	37	32	37	32
fg	5-8	4-6	5-8	4-6
ft	3-5	2-4	3-5	2-4
reb	0-2	1-4	0-2	1-4
a	7	14	7	14
pf	1	0	1	0
tp	1	0	1	0

Percentages — FG 59.1, FT 69.6, 3-point goals — 2-9, 2-22 (Capel 2-3, Cota 0-1, Forte 0-4, Owens 0-1). Team rebounds — 1, Blocked shots — 6 (Haywood 4, Cota, Peppers), Turnovers — 10 (Cota 5, Capel 2, Forte, Johnson, Lang), Steals — 3 (Lang 2, Owens).

	min	fg	ft	reb	a	pf	tp
Dani Anderson	21	7-10	0-0	2-5	0	2	13
Simmons	27	3-7	0-0	1-4	1	2	6
Mott	26	2-3	2-2	2-5	1	3	6
A. Dixon	20	2-3	0-0	0-0	1	1	4
Arrington	36	3-13	0-2	1-10	2	7	7
Tucker	13	2-3	0-0	0-2	0	3	4
Chibek	4	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	1	0
Hale	29	8-17	4-4	3-6	0	2	22
N. Dixon	9	0-3	0-0	1-1	0	3	0
Dan Anderson	5	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Total	200	27-61	6-8	10-27	13	19	67

Percentages — FG 44.3, FT 75.0, 3-point goals — 7-22, 3-18 (Dani Anderson 4-6, Simmons 0-1, A. Dixon 0-1, Arrington 1-6, Chibek 0-1, Hale 2-6). Team rebounds — 2, Blocked shots — 0, Turnovers — 7 (Tucker 4, A. Dixon, Dani Anderson, Simmons), Steals — 5 (Tucker 3, Dani Anderson 2, Simmons 2, Arrington).

Technical fouls — None. Attendance — 6,815.



UNC's Brendan Haywood, shown here against Wake Forest on Feb. 12, had 19 points and seven rebounds against Florida State on Wednesday.

Tar Heels Fall Again On SEC Soil

North Carolina junior Erin Niebling improved to 4-0 in the dual-match season with a victory at No. 4 singles.

Staff Report

The North Carolina women's tennis team dropped its third consecutive match Wednesday, losing to No. 14 South Carolina 7-2.

UNC junior Erin Niebling claimed the lone singles victory for the Tar Heels. She defeated USC's Tamara Sutton 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-2) at No. 4 singles. Niebling improved her record to 4-0 in dual-match singles play this season with the win.

The Tar Heels' other victory came at No. 3 doubles, where senior Jessica Zaganczyk and junior Courtney Zalinski knocked off Sutton and Kathy Boyanovich 8-1.

All three of North Carolina's losses this season have come on the road against Southeastern Conference teams — Kentucky, Tennessee and South Carolina. The Gamecocks improved to 6-3 on the season with the victory.

The Tar Heels will try to end their skid Saturday when they host No. 17 Notre Dame at 1 p.m. at Cone-Kenfield Tennis Center.

Women's Tennis	
UNC2
S. Carolina7

Tar Heels Step Into Win Against ECU

By MATT TERRY
Staff Writer

The North Carolina baseball team proved Wednesday that if it ever struggles with its bats, it should just stop swinging.

With the bases loaded in the fifth, right fielder Matt McCay was struck by a pitch from East Carolina's Will Brinson. Dan Moylan scored what proved to be the winning run on the play as the No. 4 Tar Heels beat the 20th-ranked Pirates 6-4 before 2,005 spectators at Boshamer Stadium.

"We have guys on this team with a bunch of guts, and we pride ourselves on not giving in (to pitchers)," McCay said. "It's a whole attitude that we're taking. We're taking a lot of pitches and saying, 'Fine, if you want to come inside, then come with it.' We'll turn on it."

The game turned on UNC's four-run

fifth inning. Chad Prosser led off with a liner that short-hopped the left-field wall. Two batters later, Clay Hooper walked and Moylan followed with a run-scoring single that tied the game 3-3.

Ryan Earey was hit by a pitch, and Tyrell Godwin, up with the bases loaded, brought in Hooper with an infield single in front of the shortstop.

The beanball to McCay and a wild pitch to Sean Farrell that scored Earey capped UNC's scoring.

"That's the way our season's been all year," McCay said. "Everybody gets good at-bats and hits the ball hard when we need to. That's what we did at UCLA, and that's what we did today."

Trailing 3-0, UNC (10-0) got on the board in the fourth. With one on and two outs, McCay tripled to left-center field off starting pitcher Foye Minton, bringing in Earey. Ryan Blake followed with an RBI single to left to cut the Pirates' lead to 3-2.

The Tar Heels then batted around in the fifth, using just three hits to do so.

"We just take what the other team

gives us," UNC coach Mike Fox said. "I'm not going to be picky, I'll score any way we can. If we bat around in one inning and don't score any more but win the game, that's fine with me."

The Tar Heels received solid pitching performances from starter Ryan Snare and reliever Matt Tanner. However, Snare struggled in the early going.

ECU's Justin Hyde doubled after Chad Tracy walked with one out in the third. Tracy scored on a Cliff Godwin groundout, and Erik Bakich singled home Hyde. Snare gave up another run in the third on a Tracy single.

"The second inning and third inning kind of hurt my confidence a little bit," Snare said. "But coach (Roger) Williams came over, gave me a few encouraging words, and after that I was fine."

After Williams' words of wisdom, Snare (2-0) scattered three hits, walked

none and struck out three to shut down the Pirates (6-2).

Matt Tanner pitched the last three innings for the Tar Heels. He induced a 4-6-3 double play from Hyde in the eighth and retired the Pirates 1-2-3 in the ninth for his first save of the year.

"He's done a great job," Snare said of Tanner, a freshman. "He's young, and he's got a lot of work to do, but he's going to be incredible."

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

BASEBALL UNC 6, East Carolina 4

UNC	021	000	100	—	4	10	2
ECU	000	240	00X	—	6	11	2

ECU: Hinton, Brinson (5th), Tourangeau (5th), Tucker (7th), Scott (8th) and C. Godwin. UNC: Snare, Tanner (7th) and Moylan. Leading hitters: ECU — Bakich 3-4 (2B, RBI), UNC — Moylan 2-3 (run, RBI), McCay 1-4 (3B, 2 RBI), Prosser 2-4 (2B, run).



UNC's Adam Greenberg dives back to first base to avoid getting picked off during the Tar Heels' 6-4 victory against East Carolina on Wednesday.

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CHOOSE

Next DTH Editor

The Daily Tar Heel is seeking students to serve on the panel that will choose the editor of the DTH for the 2000-2001 school year.

Applications for the seven at-large positions on the DTH Editor Selection Board are available at the DTH Office, the Carolina Union info desk kiosk.

Applicants must be available for an orientation meeting from 5-6pm Wednesday, April 5 and from approximately 8:30am-4pm Saturday, April 8 to conduct interviews and make the selection.

All students may apply for at-large positions except current DTH news staff members. If you have any questions about the process, please contact Rob Nelson (962-4086, rnelson@email.unc.edu) or Janet Gallagher-Cassel (962-0520, jgcassel@email.unc.edu).

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