Game: North Carolina at No. 4 Duke

Radio: 100.7 FM, WCHL-1360 AM

Series Record: UNC leads 121-84.

Location: Cameron Indoor Stadium, Durham

Keys for UNC: Stay close early. The Tar Heels had to rally from 19 down in the last meeting just to force overtime. UNC must avoid getting in a big

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Television: ABC

UNC, Clemson to Tangle **Again at ACC Tourney**

BY WILL KIMMEY Assistant Sports Edito

It's ACC Women's Basketball Tournament time again, and that can mean only one thing. North Carolina will face Clemson.

The Tar Heels and Tigers have tan-gled in the tourney every season since 1995-96. UNC beat Clemson for the title in 1997 and 1998. The Tigers returned the favor last year, dropping UNC to capture the crown.

The two squads renew their postsea-son rivalry Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Greensboro Coliseum.

"Of course it gives us a little more motivation that they knocked us out of the championship last year when we were ahead," UNC junior Leah Sharp said. So this time, the fifth-seeded Tar

Heels (16-11, 8-8 in the ACC) serve as the squad seeking revenge. In addition to last year's title-game loss, they also

to last year's title-game loss, they also dropped two tight regular season con-tests this year to No. 4 seed Clemson (18-10, 9-7) by a total of five points. "The games shouldn't have been that close," Sharp said. "The season didn't go as well as it should have, and a lot of the games aren't representative of what we're canable of doing on the court." we're capable of doing on the court."

UNC, picked as the preseason favorite in the ACC, has struggled through a season that has closely resembled a game of Chutes and Ladders. The Tar Heels started off the campaign successfully, going 9-3, maintaining a top-15 ranking and heading up the ladder.

But when the new millennium dawned, UNC did not find itself Y2K

No. 4 Clemson

No. 5 UNC

No. 2 Duke

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No. 3 N.C. State 6 p.m.

No. 6 Georgia Tech

1 p.m.

3:30 p.m.

First Round Friday, March 3

No. 1 Virginia

No. 9 Wake Forest

No. 7 Maryland

No. 8 Florida State

Do you

8 p.m.

6 p.m.

compliant. It lost seven of its first eight games as well as its starting point guard in 2000. Nikki Teasley missed seven games, starting on Jan. 6 when she took

a leave of absence from the team. That's when the Tar Heels experienced the chute portion of the game. Their shooting percentage plummeted. As did their winning percentage. And their ranking. And their confidence.

UNC hit rock bottom with a 101-58 whipping at the hands of Duke on Jan. 27. "That was probably the lowest point in our season," UNC coach Sylvia Hatchell said. "After that, we knew that we had to

do something then or it was over." They did. The Tar Heels worked on their shooting after practice. They started playing better defense. Teasley returned to the team. UNC won six of its final eight games, including the last four in a row. North Carolina finished its regular

season with an exclamation point. It avenged its humiliating loss to Duke by shocking the No. 9 Blue Devils 73-64 on Feb. 27 to even its conference record.

"I think a lot of people expected us to stay down, and then we picked it back up toward the end of the year," UNC guard Juana Brown said. "A lot of teams are descending in the way they play right now, and we're just reaching our peak." With its renarwad serves of confidence

With its renewed sense of confidence. UNC now looks to vanquish any thoughts of missing the NCAA tournament by capturing its third ACC Tournament title in four years. And it all starts with Clemson, the defending champ.

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the entire group. Strauss said he and his fellow tent-

CAMP-OUT

From Page 1

mates had no problem abiding by the rules and making tent checks. "It's a fairly easy process," Strauss said, adding that it involved just a little reshuffling of schedules.

"Usually, with 10 people, somebody is always free," Strauss said as he leaned on a brick wall in the evening hours of the final Tuesday before Judgment Day, with all the ease of someone who had settled into a com fortable routine.

While Strauss shed light into the internal processes of K-ville, another 100 or so residents lazily reclined on lawn chairs with a halfhearted study attempt within arm's reach. Camping life in K-ville might tem-

porarily displace students, yet the sampling of tenting students is representa-tive of the student body as a whole,

"Everyone comes together – Greeks, student government and ath-letes," said Ray Holloman, a junior from Littleton.

Holloman stood by the entrance to a cavernous tent complete with a string of beer cans welcoming visitors across the threshold

The Amstel Light banner proudly hung over the tent was an implicit tes-tament to how idle hours were spent.

Yet hours in K-ville were not entirely disposable. The campsite was perched mere meters away from acad emic buildings, a nagging reminder of students' academic obligations.

Duke has brought K-ville and the great outdoors into the new millennium by installing Internet connections in lamp posts. Cyberspace has become accessible to tenters' fingertips.

There was not much surfing once 5 p.m. Thursday arrived, when all tent members were required to be present.

But the lazy tranquility of the campground transforms 48 hours before the game, when every camper becomes

personally responsible. Tent checks become personal checks, and individual campers are required to make three of these five

become the sixth man on the floor. Holloman said students looked for ward to this game every year. "Duke-UNC is what college basketball is all about," he said. "The coaches

season, including eight in ACC play.

Scored a game-high 25 points and h 10 rebounds in first meeting at UNC.

THE LOWDOWN ON SATURDAY'S GAME

F KRIS LANG, 6-9

G JOSEPH FORTE, 6-4

A strained quadriceps limited hin 23 minutes against Georgia Tech.

C BRENDAN HAYWOOD, 7-0 Scored nine points and had 10 rebounds against the Blue Devils in February.

North Carolina (18-11, 9-6 in ACC)

VS.

No. 4 Duke (23-4, 14-1 in ACC)

G JASON WILLIAMS, 6-2 Frechman has started all 22 games and is G NATE JAMES, 6-6

CHRIS CARRAWELL, 6-8 (F) SHANE BATTIER, 6-8

C CARLOS BOOZER, 6-9

Freshman averaging 15.4 points and 6.7 rebounds in 20 games since Dec. 11.

JASON CAPEL, 6-8

es in 13 of last 14 gan

d his 29th 10-assist ACC game dnesday, gc. d for third all-tim

Freshman has started all 27 games and third on the team in scoring (14.5 ppg).

Team's lone senior is favorite in ACC Player-of-the-Year race.

hot dogs on the grill wafted through-out the camp and settled on games of

Young entrepreneurs wandered the crowds displaying silkscreen T-shirts against the backdrop of a forgotten

The assorted games, snack foods and antics resembled a languid sum-

chess and slapjack.

concession stand.

mer evening.

G ED COTA, 6-1

(F

and players are really appreciative." Strauss said that every year before the game, Krzyzewski – better known as "Coach K" – visits the campsite to deliver a pregame pep talk, as players amble through the grounds. "I've been to the Vatican in Rome.

Every Sunday the pope comes out to speak to the masses," Strauss said. "It feels like that when Coach K

steps out of his office to speak at a rally

Students are admitted into Cameron

hole again. Give the ball to Joseph Forte. The freshman is taking, and making, UNC's biggest shots. He can create off the dribble or spot up. Keys for Duke: Endurance. Without sixth man Mike Dunleavy (out with mononucleosis), the Blue Devils' starting five will be on the floor a lot. If Duke can avoid getting too excited on Senior Day, it can make up for a lack of depth. UNC Bench: With Lang ailing, Julius Peppers scored a career-high 14 against Georgia Tech. UNC will need another strong offensive performance from him. If someone finds Max Owens, please pick up the red courtesy phone. Owens played three

ites Wednesday, and his man hit two 3s. Duke Bench: Without Dunleavy, who was averaging more than 25 minutes a game, the Blue Devils are thin. Nick Horvath and Matt Christensen are likely the only reserves Duke will use. Prediction: Duke 84, UNC 74

Compiled by Brian Murphy

until a fire marshal cuts off the flow of eager fans. Faculty, administration and umni hold upper-level seats.

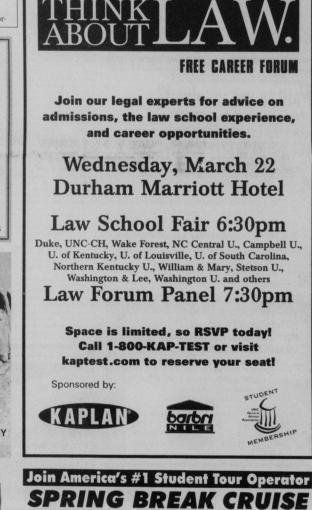
And as of now, students are just a day away from the thrill they have

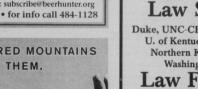
been camping for for weeks. Sam Mathias, a freshman from Boca Raton, Fl., said the rivalry was more than one game.

"Even if it's not that great of a game, no one who camped out will say it wasn't fun, because then they would have wasted three weeks.

> The Features Editor can be reached at features@unc.edu.







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