

**THE LOWDOWN ON SUNDAY'S GAME**

Game: No. 2 Duke at No. 4 North Carolina  
Time: 3:30 p.m.

Location: Smith Center, Chapel Hill  
Radio: WDNC-620 AM, WTRG-100.7 FM

Television: ABC  
Series Record: UNC leads 122-85.

**By the Numbers**

**Duke Stats**

Scoring Offense	92.5 (1st in ACC)
Scoring Defense	70.8 (3rd in ACC)
Rebounds	38.3 (5th in ACC)
Assists	19.14 (2nd in ACC)
FG percentage	.493 (1st in ACC)
FT percentage	.697 (4th in ACC)
3-point percentage	.404 (1st in ACC)

**UNC Stats**

Scoring Offense	80.1 (4th in ACC)
Scoring Defense	70.1 (2nd in ACC)
Rebounds	41.2 (1st in ACC)
Assists	17.52 (3rd in ACC)
FG percentage	.487 (2nd in ACC)
FT percentage	.658 (9th in ACC)
3-point percentage	.372 (4th in ACC)

Player	PPG	RPG	APG
Jason Williams	20.7	3.2	6.3
Shane Battier	19.4	6.5	1.8
Nate James	13.6	5.1	1.2
Mike Dunleavy	12.4	5.7	3.0
Chris Duhon	6.8	3.0	4.6
Casey Sanders	2.3	1.5	0.2

Player	PPG	RPG	APG
Joseph Forte	22.0	5.7	3.6
Brendan Haywood	12.1	7.3	1.3
Kris Lang	11.9	6.1	0.7
Jason Capel	11.1	7.1	3.1
Ronald Curry	5.2	3.0	4.0
Julius Peppers	6.9	4.2	0.9

**Keys to the Game:**  
The Blue Devils will face quite a test without Carlos Boozer, who broke a bone in his foot against Maryland. Duke will rely on outside shooting and needs to be more accurate from 3-point range than it was against UNC on Feb. 1, when it made 12-of-35 attempts. The absence of Boozer is vital, but Tar Heel opponents that utilize quickness, not size — notably the College of Charleston — can make Brendan Haywood a non-factor. With Casey Sanders and Matt Christensen trying to fill Boozer's shoes, Haywood has a chance to shine against Duke once again.

**Prediction: UNC 87, Duke 82**  
Compiled by Bret Strelow

**WILLIAMS**  
From Page 1

when the Blue Devils need a basket down the stretch, yet he still hands out 6.3 assists per game (second in the ACC) and heads Duke's ferocious full-court pressing defense.

"He's in another world as far as point guards in college basketball," Duke center Carlos Boozer said. That's why UNC coach Matt

Doherty, who called Forte the nation's best player Tuesday, still feels Williams deserves some consideration for college player of the year.

"I think the point guard position is so vital, and you look at his numbers, what he can do both offensively and defensively," Doherty said. "I think you can make a strong case for Jason Williams as the best player in the country."

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

**NRC**  
From Page 1

"At this point the NRC intends to try to create the largest stockpile of nuclear waste in the country without even a lousy safety hearing," Warren said.

But he also said Orange County still had the option to appeal the ruling.

"The next step would be to appeal this and ask the five-member panel to review and reconsider the order," Warren said. "Beyond that, the next step would be, if it is taken, an appeal to federal court."

Hughes said he understood the ruling does not guarantee the issue is behind CP&L. "It is not behind us, but this is an important milestone in that this is the end of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's exhaustive investigation," he said. "This has hardly been the rubber stamp people thought it would be when it started."

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**MEN'S BASKETBALL**  
From Page 1

Sanders, a 6-11 sophomore, and Christensen, a 6-10 junior, are Boozer's likely replacements. They have combined to average 3.9 points and 3.8 rebounds this season. Boozer averages 14.0 points and 6.5 boards and also leads the ACC in field-goal percentage (.602).

He averaged less than five points in losses to Stanford, UNC and Virginia earlier in the season, underscoring how important he is to Duke. The Blue Devils will rely on their 3-point touch (.403) against the Tar Heels to make up for their lost production in the paint.

"We're going to shoot 3s," Krzyzewski said. "We shoot it more than anybody because we can do it well. That's a strength. If we do it well, we have a chance to beat anybody, including North Carolina on Sunday."

That's what UNC senior center Brendan Haywood and his teammates will try to prevent. Haywood will be playing his last home game at the Smith Center and wants to go out in style.

Boozer's injury would seem to open the door for Haywood to have a monster game, but the opposite could be true.

If Krzyzewski doesn't play Sanders and Christensen, Battier could be his center. Battier has the skills of a small forward, and Haywood can't guard him outside.

"That's going to concern me most," Haywood said. "I don't want to chase him out away from the basket."

Duke's lineup in such a situation — Battier, 6-8 Mike Dunleavy and 6-6 Nate James at forward, and 6-1 Chris Duhon and 6-2 Jason Williams in the backcourt — would be scary with its shooting and pressure defense capabilities.

It would be one of the fastest and best ball-handling units the ACC has seen. It also could limit the minutes of Haywood and 6-11 Kris Lang.

"It could make them a more dangerous team," UNC guard Ronald Curry said. "I know Battier played some (center) last game. If he gets going and they've got five guys out there who can shoot 3s instead of four, it may help them."

That's what Krzyzewski is banking on. And while much of the pregame hype focuses on the Duke center who won't play, Krzyzewski will instead concern himself with the Blue Devils who will.

Sure, things could be better for his team. But Duke is still Duke. There's a reason the Blue Devils are one win away from a fifth straight ACC crown.

"We have weapons," Krzyzewski said. "We can put points up on the board. As long as you can do that, you have a chance to win basketball games."

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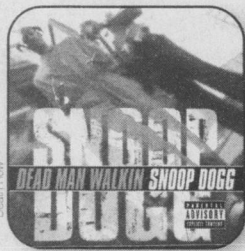
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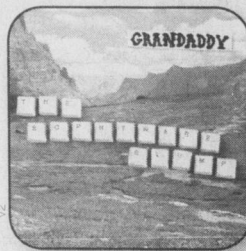
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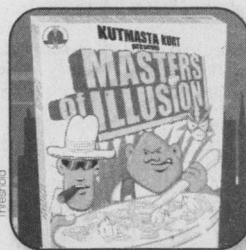
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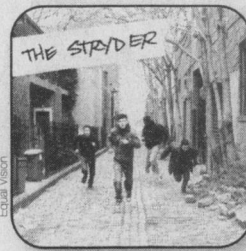
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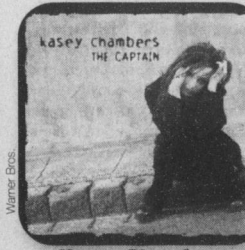
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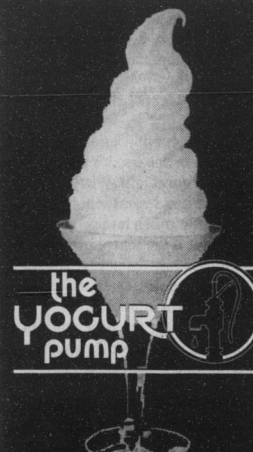


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