

Foul Trouble, Poor Offense Derail UNC

BY KELLY LUSK
Senior Writer

WINSTON-SALEM — Rashad McCants stood on the sideline, wringing a towel in his hands. He rolled his eyes, raised his arms in a questioning manner and clapped his hands in frustration.

There was 1:22 left on the clock at Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum on Wednesday night, and North Carolina was down 72-56 to No. 9 Wake Forest. McCants had fouled out with more than five minutes left in the game, and the Demon Deacons had successfully put the game out of reach.

Wake Forest secured at least a share of the regular season ACC title with its 75-60 victory against UNC, while the Tar Heels will have to continue to fight to make sure they end their season at or above .500 to ensure a postseason bid. "It's frustrating to give such a great effort and come up short," said UNC coach Matt Doherty.

The Tar Heels' steady defense kept the game tight until Wake's star senior Josh Howard came alive in the second half. A Howard 3-pointer with 8:55 left in the game sparked the Deacs on a 17-4 run. That, combined with UNC having four of its five starters in serious foul trouble, doused any Tar Heel hopes of an upset. "When Wake Forest shoots three times as many foul shots, and we have our best players on the bench, yeah, that causes problems," Doherty said.

To make things worse, center Byron Sanders fell to the floor with just less than eight minutes left on the clock. He

hopped off the court and did not return. Doherty said after the game that Sanders suffered a "bad sprain" in his right ankle.

UNC (15-14, 5-10 in the ACC) only scored two points in the next two minutes before McCants committed his fifth foul. Wake (22-4, 12-3) scored seven points during that time.

"Foul trouble gets a player out of sync," McCants said. "You can't do anything right; you can't play defense how you want to."

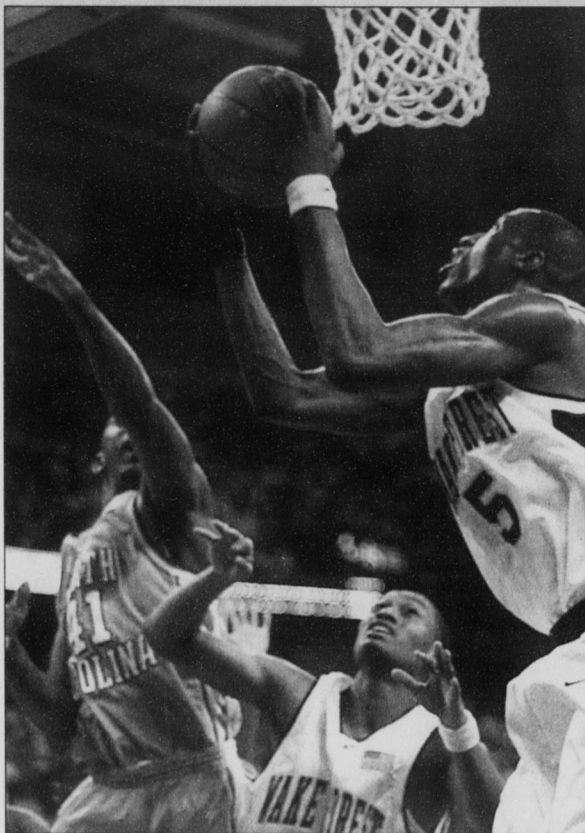
But defense wasn't North Carolina's biggest problem. Lack of offensive production crippled UNC down the stretch.

Tar Heel point guard Raymond Felton said he knew he was having a bad game when he botched a layup attempt with 7:30 left in the first half. He shot 2 of 14 from the floor (14 percent), including 1 of 8 from behind the arc.

"Our offense wasn't clicking tonight," said Felton, who finished with five points. "The defense was there. But the offense just wasn't."

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

Wake Forest 75, UNC 60			
UNC	33	27	60
Wake Forest	37	38	75
UNC: Williams 6-13 1-2 12; McCants 3-6 3-3 10; Noel 4-7 0-0 9; Felton 2-14 0-0 5; Manuel 5-8 0-0 12; Scott 2-6 1-2 7; Sanders 0-0 0-2 0; Johnson 0-0 0-0 0 Totals: 22-55 9-30			
Wake Forest: Howard 10-21 0-0 24; Levy 4-7 4-10 13; Danielus 3-8 2-3 8; Williams 3-4 0-0 6; Downey 2-6 1-2 6; Ellis 0-0 0-0 0; Gray 5-8 5-7 18; Joyce 0-0 0-0 0; Laporte 0-0 0-0 0; Stockland 0-3 2-2 2; Schwarz 0-0 0-0 0 Totals: 27-55 14-24 75			
Point guards — UNC 11-29 (Williams 4-8, Scott 2-4, Manuel 2-5, McCants 1-2, Noel 1-2, Felton 1-8); Wake 7-14 (Howard 4-8, Levy 1-1, Gray 1-1, Downey 1-3); Rebounds — UNC 28 (Manuel 8, Williams 6); Wake 40 (Howard 9); Assists — UNC 12 (Felton 4, Wake 15 (Levy 4, Downey 4)); Steals — UNC 8 (Noel 3); Wake 8 (Levy 5); Total fouls — UNC 23, Wake 12.			
Attendance — 14,656.			



Wake's Josh Howard (5) goes up for a reverse layup as UNC's Byron Sanders (41) contests in the Deacon's 75-60 win on Wednesday.

DTH/GARRETT HALL

Howard Dominates on Senior Night for Wake

BY IAN GORDON
Senior Writer

WINSTON-SALEM — For a while Wednesday night, it all came slow for Josh Howard.

Forget the rousing Senior Night send-off, which included an adoring 14,656 at Joel Coliseum, many of them waving placards that said "J-Ho! Player of the Year."

In the first half of Wake Forest's game against North Carolina, Howard could barely keep his composure.

Not only did he struggle offensively, shooting 3 of 11 for seven points, but the man guarding him, UNC's Jackie Manuel, went off on the other end, scoring nine first-half points.

So at halftime, Howard turned away from the adulation and took a little time for himself.

"I came into the locker room at half and realized that the Senior Day stuff was over," he said. "I was ready to go and play."

Was he ever. And in the second half, the 6-foot-6, 203-pound senior forward from Winston-Salem showed why he is the odds-on favorite to win the ACC Player of the Year award.

Howard broke free in the second half for 17 points on scorching 7-of-10 shooting en route to leading the Demon Deacons to a 75-60 win against the Tar Heels.

"He was struggling in the first half, but he was still playing hard and scrapping on the offensive boards," said Wake coach Skip Prosser. "I've been around a whole bunch of Senior Nights, and it's not unusual for that to happen."

At the start of the second half, the missed putbacks and errant 3-pointers were to begin. Howard drained a left-wing triple to end the half, then came back on the other end to take a charge on Manuel.

"That got him into the flow of the game and from then on, he kept hitting big shots, getting easy baskets, dunks and stuff," Manuel said.

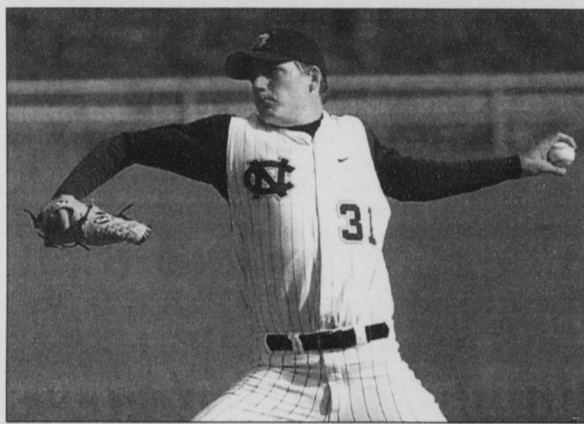
As the teams battled back and forth, Howard continued to pour in the points.

In a decisive 20-6 swing toward the end of the game, Howard scored 12 points including two 3s and three thunderous dunks to effectively seal the game.

It was enough to get a chant of "MVP" from the crowd with 3:30 to go. And it was more than enough for the hometown kid to get a thank-you standing ovation when he came out of the game with 59.5 seconds left, his team up 16 and still in first in the ACC.

"He's been doing it all season, so why not for his last game?" said Wake's Taron Downey. "He went out on a blast."

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



North Carolina starting pitcher Adam Kalkhof held Davidson to just one run on two hits in five innings of work in UNC's 13-1 win Wednesday.

DTH/JOSHUA GREER

UNC Honors Maintenance Employee

Hubbard has been at UNC for 50 years

BY BRIAN HUDSON
Staff Writer

The beauty of UNC is one of its greatest bragging rights, but many students don't realize the countless hours of labor grounds employees spend keeping the campus maintained.

On Wednesday, UNC officials honored William "Bus" Hubbard, who has spent the past 50 years as a grounds worker — the longest any UNC employee has worked in University history.

More than 100 people attended the ceremony Wednesday to honor Hubbard at the Employee Forum meeting in the Assembly Room of Wilson Library. Most people in attendance were Hubbard's fellow employees, each clad in their denim work uniforms.

"He's a hard worker. Everyone on campus knows who he is," said Tommy Griffin, Employee Forum chairman. "He set a standard for all of us."

Hubbard, now 66 years old, started working at UNC in January of 1953.

"He's been here one-fourth of the history of the University," Griffin said. The average tenure of a grounds employee is five years, he said.

During the meeting, Griffin joked about the young age at which Hubbard began working. "I won't tell you how old he was because it is against labor laws," he said.

During the ceremony, members of the Employee Forum passed a resolution honoring Hubbard and his colleagues.

The resolution honored them for having "braved frigid and dangerous conditions to carry on around-the-clock, exhausting work" and bringing "widespread acclaim to the campus through painstaking maintenance."

The resolution also proposed to name the new Grounds Department facility the William J. Hubbard Grounds Facility. Although the building has been designed, a location has not yet been confirmed. Grounds Director Kirk Pelland said that once a site is chosen, construction should take 12 to 14 months.

Hubbard was presented with a framed picture of the resolution honoring him and a framed picture of an artist's rendering of the facility.

Griffin made clear that the award was for Hubbard's integrity and character as much as his endurance and diligence. "Anyone that knows Bus knows he's a great person."

Chancellor James Moeser also was in attendance. "It is a tremendous honor to recognize Bus Hubbard," he said as Hubbard stood next to him, beaming from ear to ear. "He's an example to everyone."

Throughout the ordeal, Hubbard remained grateful yet reserved. "I feel alright," he said. "I just enjoy my job. That's why I stay here."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

Donohue Qualifies for Tournament

BY BRANDON PARKER
Staff Writer

Emotions ran high inside Eddie Smith Field House at the UNC Indoor Madness Meet on Wednesday.

As the hopeful track and field athletes began to step up into their blocks and prepare for the start of their events, they knew what was at stake. Either gain their respective qualifying marks or waste a chance to receive an invitation to the NCAA Indoor Track and Field National Championships.

In the end, sophomore Erin Donohue automatically qualified for the tournament while senior Blair Woodward posted provisionally qualifying marks. Senior Adam Shunk and sophomore Laura Gerraughty, having earned berths earlier in the season, posted NCAA qualifying marks.

Before the events began, UNC coach Dennis Craddock noted that there were "five or six people that are a couple seconds or a couple inches from nationals."

Donohue needed a time of 4 minutes,

43.2 seconds in the 1,600 meters. With her friend and teammate Shalane Flanagan — who already had qualified for nationals with her regular-season marks — pacing her, Donohue began her ascent to the front of the pack. Flanagan ran with her teammate for 1,200 of the 1,600 meters, and Donohue took it from there.

"(Flanagan) is an awesome runner and I knew she would bring me through, so I just followed her for the first 1,200 meters," Donohue said. "Then for the last 400 meters, I just went all out because I knew I had to get that time."

Donohue's valiant effort on the last lap proved to be the difference, as she posted a time of 4:42.99 and earned an automatic trip to nationals.

However, not all of the athletes on the brink were as fortunate as Donohue. Woodward, a long jumper, needed 4 more inches to reach the automatic qualifying distance of 25 feet, 2 inches. He achieved this goal on his final jump, but a fault erased the mark — and his chances. "Four inches is really a little amount

if you think about it," Woodward said. "But I'm pretty sure I can get it at Iowa State this weekend."

This optimistic attitude will accompany Woodward to the Iowa State Last Chance meet on Saturday, along with Bobbi Jo Munson in the 800, the women's 1,600 relay team and others as they get one last shot at nationals.

Craddock said he's hopeful for all the national qualifications the Tar Heels can get, especially on the women's side, because he thinks that they have a shot at placing in the top five at the NCAAAs. Nevertheless, he said he was pleased with their efforts on Wednesday.

"Track and field is a matter of tenths and hundredths of a second and inches and other things, and that's just the name of the game, but they all have had good efforts," Craddock said. "In a meet like this, you just hope everybody is going to do it and make nationals."

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

Applications for Town Manager Roll In

BY KATHRYN GRIM
Staff Writer

More than 60 applicants already have responded to Carrboro's national recruitment efforts for a new town manager, according to a progress report presented to the Board of Aldermen on Tuesday.

The cutoff date for submission is March 17.

The town's search firm, The Mercer Group Inc., said in January that it expects to receive 100 to 120 applications by the deadline.

The firm will narrow the list of applicants this month to a group of 12 to 15 for review by the mayor and the board during a closed session scheduled for April 1.

Board members will receive a complete list of all applicants at that time and will later be given access to other applications if they are not satisfied with the first narrowed pool of candidates.

The board chose to use a search firm in December after former Town Manager Robert Morgan left the post to

become Greensboro's assistant town manager.

It chose the Mercer Group based on its previous experience with University towns.

In the past two months, Attorney Mike Brough has served a double role, working also as interim town manager and often "switching hats" during board meetings to speak from each position.

He will fill both posts until a candidate is selected by the board and will lead the aldermen through this year's budgeting process.

The Mercer Group made two visits to Carrboro in January to collect data about the town and interview department heads. It also conducted focus groups with community leaders, members of the town staff and the board and commission chairmen.

The firm then drafted a recruitment brochure, which the board approved Feb. 5.

According to the report, the search firm placed advertisements in professional journals and related publications, including minority and women's publi-

cations. The firm also posted on Carrboro's Web site and other related local government Web sites, in addition to sending out personalized invitations to a targeted list of potential applicants.

The firm has kept in contact with applicants it considers especially compatible with the criteria compiled during the two Carrboro visits. Officials declined to release any information about the courted applicants.

The mayor, the board and the firm plan to discuss the narrowed list of applicants and reconfirm interview dates for finalists, all of which in January were scheduled to be conducted about April 5.

The board has decided to keep confidential the list of applicants until it has narrowed it to the final group.

This is to attract more qualified candidates who might consider leaving their places of employment to work for Carrboro.

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

Hewitt Hits 2 Home Runs As UNC Wallops Davidson

BY KELLIE DIXON
Assistant Sports Editor

Keep it solid. That's what North Carolina baseball coach Mike Fox asks of his team — solid pitching, solid defense and solid hitting.

And while the latter came a little later than Fox would have liked, it didn't cost the Tar Heels as they cruised to a 13-1 victory against Davidson at Boshamer Stadium on Wednesday.

It started with freshman Adam Kalkhof, who in just his second start of the season pitched five innings, allowed two hits and struck out five batters.

"He wasn't really sharp to start the game, but he settled down and made some pitches when he needed to," Fox said.

Kalkhof's pitches, which included a pair of called strikeouts in the second inning, served to buffer UNC's offensive presence, which at first struggled a bit.

That is, until Sammy Hewitt led off the bottom of the second. With a 2-1 count, the junior drilled the ball over the left-field fence to give UNC (7-2) a lead it would not relinquish.

Hewitt had started something. Two batters later, Ryan Blake singled to right field, bringing home designated hitter Chris Jannetta.

"When one person on the team gets going and the hits start stringing along, it kind of gets everybody going," Hewitt

said. "It gets them picked up a little bit."

In the top of the sixth, Davidson (3-3) got its first real chance at any sort of comeback when Wildcat Chris Emond hit a sacrifice fly to right field, scoring shortstop D.J. Dailey. With that run, Davidson trailed 2-1.

The Tar Heels weren't having it. Chad Prosser knocked in Blake in the bottom of the sixth to pad UNC's score by one.

In addition to dealing with strong pitching that limited them to three hits in the game, the Wildcats had to face Hewitt.

Hewitt, who missed last season due to shoulder surgery, homered again in his third at-bat.

"(Hewitt's) got some juice in his bat," Fox said. "He stays inside the ball like he did and at any time the ball can jump out of the ballpark. We need that."

And it kept going that way for the Tar Heels, who racked up six runs in the bottom of the seventh to seal the win.

Prosser collected three RBI on three hits after making some minor adjustments in his swing. Instead of lunging, he waited a bit. He prospered.

Wednesday's game gave UNC a chance to polish its offensive production, which it will need to complement its pitching.

"That's the good thing about pitching and defense," Prosser said. "If you've got that then you know you're going to have a chance as long as you can string a few hits together."

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

Commissioners to Study School Merger, Not Referendum

BY JESSA GIROUX
Staff Writer

In a cautious debate over the potential merging of Orange County Schools and Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, the county's Board of Commissioners voted Wednesday to proceed with only an investigation of the merger's implications.

But, Commissioner Barry Jacobs said, "This is only the beginning of the process."

At the meeting, the commissioners agreed to conduct an investigation that only would answer questions about a merger's effects on the county, leaving out language for a referendum that would give Orange County residents the final say.

Jacobs raised the issue of public opinion in the decision-making process.

All commissioners except Alice Gordon agreed to move on with the study without the inclusion of a promise for a referendum if the merger is eventually improved.

"(It is) a little premature to jump to a decision on a referendum," Jacobs said.

Commissioner Stephen Halkiotis agreed, saying he supports the study to simply gather data but not to escalate the issue.

Halkiotis said that if the referendum issue is raised at the present moment, "Irrational behavior and comments will escalate even further."

Commissioner and Chairwoman Margaret Brown said that she is still not

sure about what the merger would do and that she wants to find out.

"Just information — that's what I want from (the study)," Brown said.

Personally, Jacobs views merging as bringing both benefits and problems.

"(Merging is) a way to unify the county in a manner that it's not currently unified," Jacobs said in an interview before the meeting.

The main advantage to merging would be giving every student the equal opportunity for an equal education, he said.

Delores Simpson, Orange County school board member, said that if a merger were to eventually occur, it should benefit the students and be cost-effective.

"If it will serve the students in both the southern and northern Orange County more effectively, I would be in favor of it," Simpson said. "However, I haven't seen evidence of it at the present time."

Simpson said that Orange County and the CHCCS school districts have yet to analyze the problems and benefits of merging. "I don't think the two groups have ironed out the pros and cons," Simpson said. "We have to see what the best step is for our children."

The consolidation of county school districts has been a nationwide trend for a while now.

North Carolina has experienced a decrease from 170 school districts in 1933 to only 117 districts now.

One of Simpson's other concerns

about the potential merging is the socioeconomic and population differences between the two districts.

"I think there is a traditional difference between the southern and northern part of the county," Simpson said.

If merger occurs, Orange County residents would have to match the district tax that Chapel Hill-Carrboro residents pay, yet Orange County residents have about half the average income of CHCCS citizens.

Simpson added that in a survey given last summer to both northern and southern Orange County residents, both did not feel a great need for the merger.

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.