

MANUEL

FROM PAGE 10

from Manuel on the defensive end, where he has made his reputation. But while many observers might see the senior as a shut-down specialist, his teammates were far from surprised to see his shots falling against USC.

"Jackie's been doing the same thing all year," said junior Rashad McCants. "He may have surprised you guys because in a game situation he's more of a defensive stopper, but he's always our pressure-release guy as far as coming in and giving us a boost when we need it."

The energy Manuel provided on the offensive end likewise was not lost on those playing with him.

"He gets to the boards, he gets to the open spot and he gets loose balls," said forward David Noel. "He runs the floor constantly, constantly."

Even with the game well in hand, he went up for a hard dunk in the second half only to watch the ball slam off the back of the rim and bounce away.

Only then did he reveal the extent of his fatigue.

"He came out and said, 'Man, I'm tired,' Noel said. 'I'm like, 'I know. You look tired. But you kept running. That's all you've got to do to get points.'"

Running wasn't something the entire team was able to do consistently Sunday. Four games and three long plane rides in the course of a week took its toll on many of the players, but Manuel recovered more quickly than most of his teammates.

"He was really active today in the shoot-around," said Coach Roy Williams. "He was really alive. ... He probably feels better, quicker, coming back from Maui than anybody else."

Despite the Tar Heels' overall fatigue, however, Manuel helped spark his teammates to a strong defensive effort as a group.

North Carolina players repeatedly jumped into passing lanes and created fast-break opportunities for the entire 40 minutes. Nine different Tar Heels had steals against the Trojans.

"Defense wins games," said freshman Marvin Williams. "Defense wins games, and that's what Coach tries to stress every day."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

LAS VEGAS

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the first half.

Liad Suez led all scorers with 16 points and added eight assists to keep the Wildcats close.

Suez keyed a late rally with a pair of 3-pointers, trimming a 13-point deficit to 58-52 with 1:28 to play.

But she didn't get much help from her teammates — Kate Dessart Mager, who scored 14 points, was the only other Villanova player in double figures. The Wildcats shot just 35 percent as a team.

"We have to make jump shots to be successful," said Villanova coach Harry Perretta. "If we don't, you see what happens."

North Carolina went 7-of-9 from the free throw line down the stretch to secure the victory and finished 14-of-18.

Larkins added 12 points for North Carolina, while Bell finished with nine and a game-high 10 rebounds.

The first half featured six lead changes, and North Carolina trailed 26-25 at halftime.

But the seventh lead change was the last, after a jumper by Bell on North Carolina's first possession of the second half.

"We just had to calm down and not get frustrated," Little said. "We knew we could take over the game in the second half."

UNC 84, UNLV 76

| | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|
| North Carolina | 49 | 35 | 84 |
| UNLV | 40 | 36 | 76 |

North Carolina (84)

| | fg | ft | rb | a | pf | tp |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|----|----|
| Little | 4-9 | 1-2 | 0-4 | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Atkinson | 4-7 | 2-2 | 2-10 | 3 | 1 | 10 |
| McBee | 1-3 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Latta | 3-7 | 1-4 | 10-11 | 0-2 | 7 | 1 |
| Metcalfe | 3-8 | 2-2 | 0-3 | 1 | 0 | 10 |
| Larkins | 2-9 | 0-0 | 4-4 | 3-7 | 1 | 3 |
| Nelms | 3-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bell | 1-4 | 1-2 | 1-1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Total | 20-52 | 20-23 | 6-28 | 24 | 20 | 84 |

Percentages — FG 38.5, FT 87.0, 3-point goals — 6-11 (54.5) (Latta 4-7, Metcalfe 2-3, Bell 1-1). Team rebounds — 5. Blocked shots — 7 (Little 4, Latta 2, McBee). Turnovers — 25 (Little 6, Larkins 6, Latta 6, Metcalfe 3, Atkinson 2, McBee 2, Bell). Steals — 12 (Little 5, Bell 2, Atkinson, McBee, Latta, Metcalfe, Larkins).

UNLV (76)

| | fg | ft | rb | a | pf | tp |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|----|----|
| Holmes | 3-9 | 2-4 | 2-6 | 2 | 4 | 9 |
| Henry | 3-8 | 1-1 | 4-5 | 5-9 | 1 | 4 |
| Moore | 4-10 | 2-2 | 7-7 | 1-2 | 2 | 2 |
| Hitchens | 2-5 | 0-2 | 1-4 | 2 | 4 | 7 |
| Coleman | 2-8 | 2-2 | 2-4 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| Clark | 2-14 | 2-2 | 4-8 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Simmons | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Law | 3-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burris | 2-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lottis | 3-2 | 0-1 | 2-2 | 0 | 1 | 7 |
| Total | 20-57 | 19-23 | 17-31 | 13 | 18 | 76 |

Percentages — FG 35.1, FT 82.6, 3-point goals — 4-16 (25.0) (Holmes 2-8, Henry 1-2, Hitchens 1-1, Holmes 0-1, Coleman 0-2, Clark 0-1). Team rebounds — 7. Blocked shots — 3 (Holmes 2, Burris). Turnovers — 20 (Moore 8, Hitchens 4, Holmes 3, Henry 2, Coleman 4, Henry 2, Moore, Hitchens, Clark).

Technical fouls — None. Attendance — 605.

VOLLEYBALL

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lead in the match, but they were unable to convert game points at 29-28 and 33-32. The Gamecocks then benefitted from three consecutive UNC attack errors to even the match with a 35-33 win.

Game three proved to be the turning point, as the Tar Heels raced out to a 9-2 lead they would not relinquish. South Carolina would get as close as 19-17 before UNC took 11 of the final 15 points to win the game, 30-21, taking a 2-1 match lead.

The Tar Heels capitalized on a 10-0 run early in the fourth game to take a 16-5 lead that would prove to be insurmountable. They held South Carolina to a hitting percentage of .025, winning the game, 30-15, and the match.

While UNC proved unable to qualify for postseason play, two ACC teams — Georgia Tech and conference champion Maryland — did hear their names called during Sunday's selection show.

SOUTHERN CAL

FROM PAGE 10

and sharing it," said center Sean May, who recorded his first double-double of the season with 17 points and 10 rebounds. "Against Santa Clara, I think that's what hurt us, is guys started trying to do things on their own. Coach said, 'Let's get back to playing the way we know we're supposed to play.' Ever since that game, we've done a great job of distributing the ball."

It's no coincidence that the Tar Heels have played better as a team since Felton returned to the lineup after being suspended against Santa Clara.

"I think it definitely gets contagious, when you see a guy has a wide open layup and throws a lob to Jawad," May said of Felton. "I think it just trickles down the line. Last year I think that was our problem — we all were excited when we scored. This year, when our teammates score, you see everybody get excited."

But the difference between Sunday's win and the victories against Tennessee and Iowa earlier in the week was UNC's ability to carry its defensive intensity over to the second half.

The Tar Heels allowed Iowa to shoot 65 percent from the field after halftime but held the Trojans to just 35 percent in each half.

"If you were going to say 'consistently,' I'd say no," Roy Williams said. "But we've come closer to playing the way I want to play than we did at any time last year probably."

Sola finishes 2nd for UNC at Mat Town

FROM WIRE REPORTS

LOCK HAVEN, Pa. — Junior Evan Sola finished second at 133 pounds to lead the North Carolina wrestling team to a ninth-place finish at the 2004 Mat Town USA Invitational on Saturday at Lock Haven University's Thomas Field House.

The Tar Heels tallied 55.5 points, while Minnesota won the team competition with 154 points. Penn State was second with 146.5 points.

Sola, who is now 6-1 on the season and is currently ranked No. 6 nationally at 133 pounds, opened with a 9-0 major decision against Minnesota's Manuel Rivera. He next pinned Maryland's Sean Carr in just 1 minute, 47 seconds and then downed B.J. Compton, 8-1, to reach the final.

The Golden Gophers' Mack Reiter posted a 7-5 sudden victory win against Sola in the final.

Sola was also the runner-up at

last weekend's Missouri Open.

At 197 pounds, sophomore David Dashiell took fourth for the Tar Heels. After dropping his opening round bout, Dashiell ran off four consecutive victories, including a pin of Minnesota's Matt Koz to reach the third-place match where Penn State's Phil Davis edged Dashiell, 5-4.

UNC freshman Isaiah Britton, the reigning ACC Wrestler of the Week, finished seventh at 141 pounds with a pin of Maryland's Andrew Schlaffer in the seventh-place bout, while Tar Heel sophomore Spencer Nadolsky, who was 2-3 on the day, finished eighth in

the heavyweight division.

The Tar Heels topped the only other ACC team in the meet, as Maryland finished 13th.

USC remains No. 1 in poll

NEW YORK — Second-ranked Oklahoma and No. 3 Auburn were idle on Saturday. Southern California took advantage.

After a dominant performance over Notre Dame, the Trojans extended their advantage atop the latest Associated Press college football poll released Sunday.

USC, which scored 38 unanswered points to rout the Fighting

Irish, 41-10, received 52 first-place votes — four more than last week — and 1,610 points. The Trojans had 1,603 points last week.

California, Utah, Texas, Louisville, Georgia and Miami retained the fourth through ninth slots, respectively, while Virginia Tech leapfrogged Boise State for 10th.

Iowa is 12th, followed by Louisiana State, Michigan, Tennessee, Florida State, Wisconsin, Virginia, Pittsburgh and Florida.

Arizona State is 21st, while Texas A&M, Boston College, Texas Tech (7-4) and Ohio State (7-4) complete the poll.

THE Daily Crossword

By Alan P. Olschwang

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ACROSS

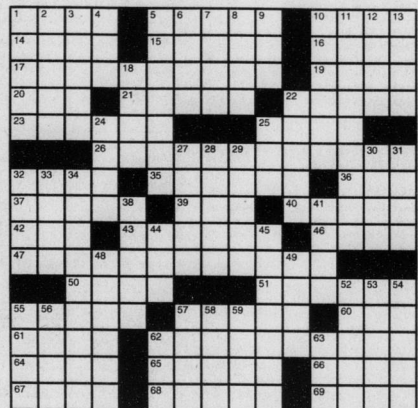
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- 69 —in-the-wool

DOWN

- 1 Tel Aviv
- 2 Disney's mermaid
- 3 "Rebel Without a Cause" co-star
- 4 Ovine comment
- 5 Remove cargo
- 6 Miscellany
- 7 Distinct region
- 8 Periods
- 9 First name of 3D
- 10 Largest desert
- 11 Dry food
- 12 Wrinkled fruit
- 13 Accomplishes
- 18 Secure with a cord
- 22 Ariene and Roald

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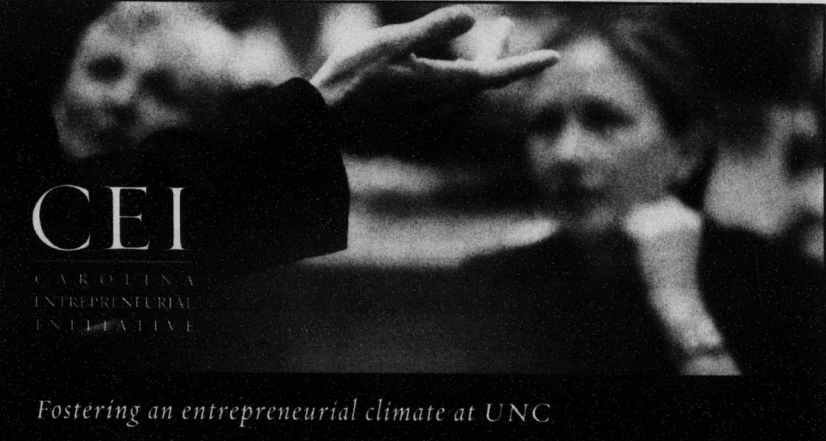
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