



DAVID MOSES
YOUR BOY

Roy looks to break drought

Roy Williams is a very good coach. But Williams is not a great coach — at least not yet.

Williams officially owns one of the least desired monikers in sports — the best coach never to win a national championship.

His 40 NCAA Tournament victories put him at the top of the list above Eddie Sutton for the most victories without that incredibly elusive title.

If he wants to go down as one of the greatest coaches in college basketball history, Roy will have to get that monkey off his back against a very talented Illinois team in a Phil Mickelson-like performance.

Much of the talk leading up to this weekend had been about the four great coaches at this year's Final Four. The two with national championships, Rick Pitino and Tom Izzo, are gone, as they couldn't get their teams past superior opponents.

But while Roy must have given quite the halftime speech and made some great midgame adjustments, he's certainly not Dean Smith on the sidelines — or dare I say it, even Coach K.

"I think when it gets down to this stage, there is the same amount of pressure on everybody," Williams said earlier in the week. "Somebody's going to win two games; who is it going to be?"

In his tenure at Kansas, Roy took the Jayhawks to four Final Fours, but was never able to cut down the nets.

Probably the most memorable experience was his team's finals loss to Carmelo Anthony and Syracuse even though Kansas had what many considered the superior roster.

Granted, that team was without injured future All-American Wayne Simien, but that wasn't Roy's only disappointment in his time in Lawrence.

His 1997-98 team started 22-0 and won the Big 12 by four games, but it couldn't make it past the Sweet 16 and finished the year 34-2.

Even though everybody puts the pressure on Roy to win, he said that team taught him that winning isn't everything.

"That (1998) team didn't make the Final Four, that team didn't win a national championship," Williams said. "When I'm 75 and they're 55, and I think of that team, that's what I'm going to think about, and that's about as unhealthy as you can possibly be. So I decided that was stupid."

The very next year, Roy's boys were led by first-team All-Americans Raef LaFrentz and Paul Pierce — but they were unable to even make it past the first weekend, as they were ousted in round two and finished the season 35-4.

Some writers are already saying that Illinois has the advantage because Roy stalks the sidelines for the Tar Heels, and he has a propensity to lose important games.

"We beat Georgetown (in 1982), and I was so relieved because I thought it would shut up all those people that said Coach Smith couldn't win the big one, and I said that to him," Williams said. "I said that when I hugged him out on the court that I was so happy to win because it would shut all those people up, and he said, 'I don't really think that I'm really that much better of a coach than I was 2 1/2 hours ago.'"

Tonight's game is meaningful so the seniors can come full circle after the 8-20 season and so the juniors can show they can play as a team, but it might be even more crucial for Williams' coaching legacy.

One game might not determine a coach's overall ability, but despite that he says otherwise, this championship game is incredibly important for Good Ol' Roy to show that he can win the big one.

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UNC FALLS TO JOHNS HOPKINS

Spellman can't save lacrosse team

BY DEREK HOWLES
STAFF WRITER

Less than a minute into the third quarter Saturday, Johns Hopkins midfielder Kyle Harrison took a feed, stepped right and spun back left to fire a sidearm laser past North Carolina goalkeeper Paul Spellman that increased the No. 1 Blue Jays' lead to 3-1.

But before the ensuing face-off, a severe weather delay forced the teams off the turf at Fetzer Field.

The 45-minute stoppage threatened to erase JHU's momentum, and

MEN'S LACROSSE
Johns Hopkins 7
UNC 5

when North Carolina midfielder Kyle Henderson scored soon after play resumed, the No. 17 Tar Heels looked poised to defeat the Blue Jays for the first time in 10 years. UNC has not beat a No. 1-ranked team since the 1996 season.

But it was not to be. Five minutes later, Johns Hopkins attackman Peter LeSeur flicked in a one-handed shot from his knees after being pushed to the ground. He struck again one minute after that, and the Blue Jays went on to win 7-5.

"First half, we did really well defensively, and (I) got some easy saves in the cage," Spellman said. "Second half, they got some better looks, and when they had opportunities they canned it."

The Tar Heels (2-6) dropped



Johns Hopkins' Kyle Harrison (right) slices through the North Carolina midfield during the Blue Jays' 7-5 victory against the Tar Heels on Saturday.

their second straight game, after getting handled by Maryland last weekend in College Park. However, all six of North Carolina's losses come at the hands of teams ranked in the nation's top 11.

Neither squad managed to get on the board in the first quarter, largely because of the stellar play of both teams' goalies.

Spellman, in particular, was remarkable throughout the first half, stoning three would-be scorers on point-blank shots. The senior finished the game with 10 saves.

"Paul's had a great year up to this point, and he's been very consistent for us," said UNC coach John Haus. "He's played outstanding, and I think at the

defensive end we're getting better."

But North Carolina's defense couldn't shut down the vaunted Blue Jay offense forever.

Just minutes into the second quarter, midfielder Paul Rabil — who notched three goals in the game — split-dodged to his left and deposited the ball into the back of the net. He struck again

about two minutes later, beating Spellman with a sidearm shot off another split dodge to give JHU (6-0) a 2-0 cushion.

"No one took anything upon themselves," Rabil said. "We just try to put the ball in the goal a lot, and it happened to be me in the first couple shots."

SEE HOPKINS PAGE 13

Tar Heels outlast Cavs in rainy sweep

BY GABRIELLE DE ROSA
SENIOR WRITER

Who knew baseball could be viewed as an endurance sport?

BASEBALL
Virginia 2
UNC 3

11 INNINGS

Virginia 5
UNC 10

Virginia 7
UNC 8

14 INNINGS

The North Carolina and Virginia baseball teams demonstrated the new athleticism the sport requires after playing a 12-hour, 40-minute series, including Saturday's two rain delays, as the Tar Heels swept the Cavaliers.

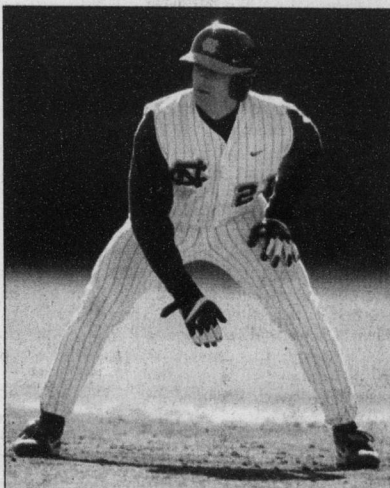
"You don't hear that much in baseball about stamina," said UNC coach Mike Fox. "I'm proud of (my players) for sustaining that and having enough energy and mental capacity to get it done."

Right fielder Jay Cox was largely responsible for keeping UNC (24-5, 8-2 in the ACC) in Friday and Sunday's extra-inning games.

After the Cavaliers' Matt Street launched a solo home run in the top of the 10th Sunday, putting his team up 2-1, Cox hit a sharp single to third base with two men on to tie the score again at 2.

UNC kept the Cavs (19-9, 4-6) at bay in the top of the 11th. Then Tar Heel Matt Ellington stepped up with runners at the corners and two outs. The sophomore hit an RBI bloop to right center field, winning the game 3-2.

Cox was responsible for putting the Tar Heels in extra innings Friday on a sacrifice fly to tie the game in the ninth and sealing the deal in the bottom of the



COURTESY OF UNC ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

North Carolina's Jay Cox (21) knocked in the game-winning run against Virginia in the 14th inning Friday to give the Tar Heels the 8-7 victory.

14th with a game-winning single in the 8-7 victory.

"Friday night, I got behind in the count," Cox said. "But I don't change nothing if you're down a run or up a run. I just try to stay the same in the batter's

SEE BASEBALL, PAGE 13

FSU and Elon prove no match for No. 16 UNC

BY GABY REMINGTON
STAFF WRITER

The No. 16 North Carolina women's tennis team defeated both Florida State and Elon on Saturday at the Cone-Kenfield Tennis Center, winning 6-1 and 7-0, respectively.

The Tar Heels (15-6, 3-1 in the ACC) got off to a solid start against the No. 32 Seminoles, winning the doubles point and losing only one match at the No. 1 seed in singles. UNC is still undefeated at home this season.

North Carolina freshman Charlotte Tansill played an endurance match against Florida State's Amberly Tantee at the No. 6 seed. The match went to three sets with Tansill taking the first and third.

"I felt really good about how I played today," Tansill said. "I think it's good to win a three-setter mentally."

Tansill kept up the positive mentality in her second match against Molly Cade of Elon (4-8), this time playing at the No. 4 seed due to the injuries of fellow teammates Aniela Mojzisz and Sara Anundsen.

"I just want to play at a high percentage for every point and not give up any three points," Tansill said. "I wanted to make

"We dominated today as far as the score, but we also put in a lot of energy and focus."

BRIAN KALBAS, UNC COACH

her play and not take her for granted."

Teammate Jenna Long was also victorious against opponents Lindsay Deason of Florida State (9-7, 4-3) at the No. 3 seed, and then again against Elon's Elizabeth Kernodle at the No. 2 seed in the afternoon.

"It was real hard to refocus after FSU," Long said. "I think the whole team was pretty focused with FSU, and then everything was pretty solid for the most part, so it was a fun day."

The Tar Heels are looking forward to a promising ACC tournament with new confidence after defeating FSU (9-7, 4-3) on Saturday and Wake Forest on Thursday — two teams that North Carolina struggled against last season.

"I feel like we got a lot of

SEE TENNIS, PAGE 13

Hoyas fend off late surge

BY MARY DUBY
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The North Carolina women's lacrosse team dug itself into the ground in the second half against Georgetown on Sunday.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE
Georgetown 11
UNC 10

Oregon 8
UNC 21

3 Tar Heels might manage to claw their way back.

But the hole was just too big, and UNC dropped a frustratingly close 11-10 contest to the No. 8 Hoyas at Fetzer Field.

"You can't have lapses like we had (Sunday)," said UNC coach Jenny Levy. "I was disappointed

to see that in the beginning to the middle of the second half we were asleep and gave up a lot of stuff and weren't playing very disciplined.

"It's great to have the surge and all, but you gotta be in the whole game. You can't rely on coming back, tying it to win it in the thriller — you just can't. It's getting later in the season, and (the other teams are) going to play a whole 60 minutes, and we have to too."

UNC (9-3) had won its last three games in a row, including a 21-8 slaughtering of first-year varsity program Oregon on Friday.

The Tar Heels came within one after a Georgetown defender lost control of the ball. UNC attacker Christina Juras came up with the possession and took off in a footrace towards the goal.

Finding herself one-on-one with the goalie, Juras quickly netted the ball with 3:36 remaining in the game.

Despite winning the following draw control, UNC turned over the ball, and Georgetown (6-2) stalled away the final minutes on the clock to seal the victory.

"I think the defense played a really good offensive team (Sunday)," Levy said. "We didn't do a good job on them."

The Hoyas controlled the pace for the majority of the game and beat UNC on groundballs 31 to 22. Georgetown jumped out to a 3-0 lead, as Coco Stanwick netted the team's first goal eight minutes into the game. The sophomore attacker led the Hoyas with five goals.

SEE GEORGETOWN, PAGE 13



North Carolina standout Aniela Mojzisz missed this weekend's matches against Florida State and Elon, but UNC still pulled out two easy victories.