

Aggressive 'D' Heels' comeback falls short

routs UNC-A

BY BRIANA GORMAN
SPORTSATURDAY EDITOR

During the first half of Tuesday's North Carolina women's basketball game against UNC-Asheville, it looked like the No. 7 Tar Heels had left their scoring touch south of the border.

While the Tar Heels were in Cancun, Mexico, for Thanksgiving break, they shot 47.6 percent and 53.7 percent from the field against No. 16 Arizona State and TCU, respectively.

But in Carmichael Auditorium it was a different story, as UNC struggled to find the basket early in the first half, missing easy shots and turning the ball over 13 times.

Despite its slow start, UNC eventually found its offensive rhythm to defeat UNC-A, 83-43.

"It was frustrating because we just felt like we couldn't hang on to the ball," said sophomore Erlana Larkins.

"We were missing easy shots. We were fumbling the passes. We were just out of sync. We just weren't together at that point in time in the game."

UNC (5-0), known for its fast-paced offensive style, started the game sluggishly and UNC-A (3-1) battled to within three points midway through the first half — but that was as close as the Bulldogs got the rest of the game.

UNC settled down and went on a 14-8 run to pull away from the persistent Bulldogs, closing out the first half with a comfortable 42-25 lead. Larkins led the charge, scoring 10 of her 13 points in the first half.

"We were getting out-rebounded pretty good at halftime, so that's what we talked about more than anything else," said UNC coach Sylvia Hatchell about her halftime speech to her team.

"Just continuing to do what we were doing but making easy shots and just getting on the boards harder."

The Tar Heels came out of the locker room a different team, immediately pouncing on the Bulldogs by going on a 15-5 run. The high-intensity defense and fast-moving offense that was missing in the first half for the Tar Heels returned as UNC dominated the Bulldogs.

The tenacious UNC defense forced an astounding 40 UNC-A turnovers during the game.

Senior La'Tangela Atkinson led the defensive effort with five steals while three other Tar

UNC 83, UNC-Asheville 43

UNC Asheville		25		18		43	
North Carolina		42		41		83	
UNC Asheville (43)							
	fg	ft	rb	a	pf	tp	
Elder	24	16	22	24	1	3	4
Shepard	23	15	0	28	1	6	2
Barton	21	2	12	24	2	1	6
Hendley	28	25	0	0	1	3	8
Hood	13	15	3	0	1	2	5
Baldwin	21	24	0	0	0	4	5
Alford	23	39	2	0	3	2	9
Young	8	11	0	0	1	2	2
Baker	16	0	0	0	2	1	0
Mulick	8	12	0	23	0	0	2
Monroe	8	0	0	0	0	3	0
Branch	7	1	0	0	3	2	2
Total	200	15-48	11-33	11	28	43	

Percentages — FG 326, FT 571, 3-point goals — 5-12, 417 (Hendley 24, Barton 13, Baldwin 12, Alford 12, Hood 10), Team rebounds — 3, Blocked shots — 2 (Elder 2), Turnovers — 40 (Hendley 6, Baker 6, Hood 5, Baldwin 5, Alford 5, Elder 3, Barton 3, Young 3, Monroe 2, Shepard, Mulick), Steals — 11 (Shepard 3, Barton 2, Alford 2, Elder, Baker, Monroe, Branch).

North Carolina (83)		42		41		83	
	fg	ft	rb	a	pf	tp	
Little	18	28	22	0	1	7	
Larkins	23	6	0	13	1	0	13
Adkinson	18	24	0	27	2	1	4
Sell	10	22	0	1	1	2	5
Latta	28	39	44	13	9	0	11
McCart	17	39	0	22	1	6	
Miller	19	0	1	2	0	1	2
Pringle	13	45	67	23	1	2	13
Clayton	13	16	12	0	1	1	4
Dewitt	13	13	13	1	2	3	
McFarland	11	24	0	46	0	2	4
Nelms	9	23	24	04	0	0	6
Austin	4	12	0	1	1	0	2
Wood	4	0	1	0	1	3	
Total	200	51-61	20-28	17-40	22	16	83

Percentages — FG 468, FT 714, 3-point goals — 5-14, 367 (Clayton 15, Latta 13, Little 12, Larkins 11, Sell 11, McCart 10, Nelms 10), Team rebounds — 3, Blocked shots — 2 (Larkins, Pringle), Turnovers — 23 (Larkins 2, Adkinson 3, Latta 2, Pringle 2, Dewitt 2, McFarland 2, McCart, Miller, Clayton, Wood), Steals — 24 (Atkinson 8, Miller 4, Pringle 4, Dewitt 4, Latta 3, Larkins 2, Little, McCart).

Technical fouls — None. Attendance — 1,131.

Heels had four. The team's offensive effort also was not lacking as every player on the UNC roster saw action — and put points on the board. And the scoring was balanced, as Larkins and LaToya Pringle led the team with 13 points each.

The offensive spark in the second half vaulted UNC to its third straight game where it has shot better than 45 percent from the field. The offensive output comes as no surprise from a Tar Heel team that likes to run the court and overwhelm teams with its speed.

"We like that up-tempo game and I thought that was in our favor tonight," Hatchell said.

"I thought we were a bit sluggish, probably because of that travel and it hasn't been that long since we got off the airplane. But again it was a good team effort and we are looking forward to the rest of the games this week."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

BY BRANDON PARKER
SENIOR WRITER

North Carolina's sparse fountain of experience entered Tuesday's matchup against its first bonafide opponent in No. 12 Illinois just three players strong. But it didn't take long for this source to be depleted.

Before tipoff, sophomore point guard Quentin Thomas was scratched from the lineup with a stress fracture in his toe.

Then, eight minutes into the contest, junior forward Reyshawn Terry darted to the locker room to tape up a sprained ankle, temporarily leaving senior David Noel to serve as the grand sage for the Tar Heels.

And although Illinois found a geyser of youthful support in its backcourt of Bobby Frasier, Marcus Ginyard and Danny Green, it was the Fighting Illini's spring of leadership in point guard Dee Brown that proved the difference.

The preseason All-American shook off a tough outing (14 points, 0-for-6 from behind the arc and five turnovers) to sink two crucial game-ending free throws that stopped a late UNC surge and allowed Illinois to hold on for a 68-64 victory at the Smith Center.

"We really went on the court together," Noel said. "Sometimes it takes a loss to bring a team together. We really fought hard to get back into the game and we had a chance to win it. They knocked down some hard shots all night and that helped them prevail."

North Carolina (3-1) rode the play of Noel, who had all 12 of his points in the first half, to maintain a slim lead throughout the early portion of the contest. The young backcourt of Ginyard and Green played well off each other and found a number of easy shots through backdoor cuts and no-look passes.

Meanwhile, Frasier managed to keep good track of the speedy

Illinois 68, UNC 64

Illinois		35		33		68	
North Carolina		35		29		64	
Illinois (68)							
	fg	ft	rb	a	pf	tp	
Randle	20	4-5	2-4	2-3	1	4	12
Pruitt	18	2-2	0-2	0-2	0	3	4
Augustine	38	4-6	5-6	6-13	3	2	13
McBride	33	4-11	1-1	0-3	5	1	12
Brown	38	6-19	2-3	0-0	3	4	14
Smith	14	3-5	0-1	0-0	1	1	3
Frazier	14	0-2	0-0	0-2	1	1	0
Arnold	15	2-2	0-0	2-2	0	2	4
Carter	8	0-2	0-0	1-3	0	0	0
Brook	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Total	200	25-64	10-17	13-33	14	20	68

Percentages — FG 453, FT 588, 3-point goals — 8-21, 581 (McBride 38, Brown 38, Smith 34, Randle 22, Frazier 14), Team rebounds — 5, Blocked shots — 2 (Randle 2), Turnovers — 18 (Brown 5, Randle 3, Pruitt 2, Augustine 2, McBride 2, Smith 2, Carter 2), Steals — 12 (Augustine 3, Randle 2, Brown 2, Pruitt, McBride, Frazier, Arnold, Carter).

North Carolina (64)		35		29		64	
	fg	ft	rb	a	pf	tp	
Noel	36	4-8	4-4	3-5	3	5	12
Terry	23	3-11	0-0	3-3	0	3	6
Hansbrough	31	4-8	9-11	1-6	2	4	17
Ginyard	32	6-11	1-2	0-3	1	1	14
Frasier	34	3-6	0-1	1-1	2	1	7
Green	20	2-5	1-2	1-3	2	1	5
Miller	14	0-0	0-0	0-2	0	0	0
Sanders	10	1-2	1-3	1-2	0	1	3
Total	200	23-51	18-23	11-29	12	16	64

Percentages — FG 451, FT 586, 3-point goals — 2-13, 554 (Terry 34, Frasier 31, Ginyard 31, Noel 32, Green 20), Team rebounds — 6, Blocked shots — 5 (Green 2, Noel, Terry), Turnovers — 18 (Noel 4, Hansbrough 3, Ginyard 3, Frasier 2, Green 2, Terry, Sanders), Steals — 12 (Ginyard 4, Frasier 3, Noel 2, Hansbrough 2, Green).

Technical fouls — None. Attendance — 21,273.

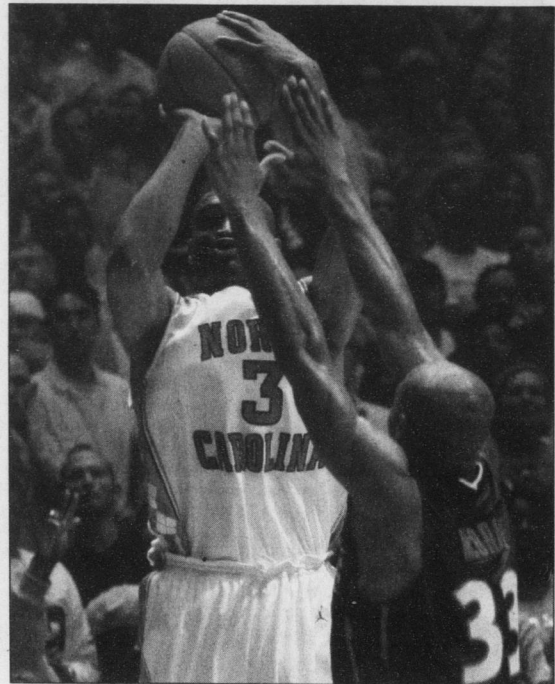
Brown and forced him into a number of bad shots and uncharacteristic turnovers.

But this momentum did not carry over into the second half for Illinois, and the three-point shooting it had been unable to rely on in last season's title game came through.

Brown drew a world of attention with each drive to the lane, freeing up McBride and Jamar Smith in the corner for 3-pointers that created a 13-point Illinois lead with seven minutes to go.

But just as the water seemed to run dry for North Carolina, that fountain of youth sprang up when most of the UNC faithful were looking to Noel or Terry to take over.

Hansbrough made his presence



UNC forward Reyshawn Terry (3) has his shot challenged by Illinois guard Rich McBride in Tuesday's loss. Terry shot a woeful 3-of-11 for the game.

felt in the paint, as he drew foul after foul to register easy points at the line. Around the perimeter, Ginyard quickly transformed from Mr. Newcomer to Mr. Big Shot, draining a huge 3-pointer at the 4:10 mark to cut the lead to six and a long stepback in the final minute to make it a two-point game.

But just as Illinois coach Bruce Weber and the Fighting Illini had expected, it was Brown who provided the answer. After UNC failed on two chances to tie the game at 64 by turning the ball over and losing a loose ball off a missed Illinois free throw, Brown calmly stepped

to the line for two points from the charity stripe and iced the game.

But given the gutsy performance from his unexpected sources of passion and big-game play, the Tar Heel coach certainly gained some confidence in his squad.

"It was a joy for me to watch that and the way they competed," Williams said with a smile. "It's something that you have to go through, but as long as we keep competing as hard as we are and get better ... we're going to be OK."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

Freshmen show moxie in close loss

BY DEREK HOWLES
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

It's hard enough to go on a 12-0 run in the final three minutes of a game to give your team a chance at the end.

But to do it with points scored only by freshmen? Ones who are playing in their fourth college game?

That would appear to be a daunting task.

Unless you're North Carolina and the game in question is your 68-64 loss to No. 15 Illinois on Tuesday night.

Mostly playing four freshmen at once, it took the runnin', gunnin', youngin' Tar Heels just 2:57 to cut a 64-50 Illinois lead to 64-62 — and to put themselves in position

to reward an ear-splitting Smith Center crowd with a victory.

And while victory lay just out of reach, the UNC freshmen proved they wouldn't back down in an electric atmosphere reminiscent more of late March than of late November.

"We weren't going to let in," said freshman forward Tyler Hansbrough, who led the babes in baby blue with 17 points. "I don't think they were expecting us to come out with that intensity, and it sparked a little run."

Point guard Bobby Frasier started by hitting the first 3 of the game for the previously 0-for-8 Tar Heels, and seconds later forward Danny Green went straight up to stuff Illinois forward Shaun Pruitt and gave UNC

the ball in the ensuing tie-up.

After two Hansbrough free throws and a turnover by Illinois All-American point guard Dee Brown, guard Marcus Ginyard swished another 2 from the corner to cut the deficit to six and force Illini coach Bruce Weber to call a timeout.

But that timeout couldn't stop the bleeding, in part because an earlier timeout by UNC coach Roy Williams had instilled in his youngsters the attitude needed to stage a comeback.

"He got intense, got down on in a defensive stance and was growling and was in our faces," Frasier said. "He made us believe that we could win this game if we just played hard every possession."

And it was Frasier's Dee-fense that was another big part of the comeback. He guarded Brown more than any other Tar Heel and held him to 6-of-19 shooting. Not to mention the Illini floor general committed five turnovers — including the big one down the stretch.

"Everyone says we're a young team but we're a capable team," Ginyard said. "We have to get ready for the game on Saturday."

And while Kentucky will be a heavy favorite in that game, don't be surprised if the Tar Heels do something more suited for a Wildcat if they face a big deficit: claw back.

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

SPORTS CALENDAR

- TODAY**
- **SWIMMING & DIVING** vs. N.C. State (women), 7 p.m. Koury Natatorium
- THURSDAY**
- **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** vs. Charleston Southern, 7 p.m. Carmichael Auditorium
- FRIDAY**
- **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** vs. South Florida, 7 p.m. Carmichael Auditorium

- **VOLLEYBALL** vs. College of Charleston, 7 p.m. NCAA First Round Smith Center
- SATURDAY**
- **MEN'S SOCCER** vs. Southern Methodist, 1 p.m. NCAA Quarterfinals Fetzer Field
- **MEN'S BASKETBALL** at Kentucky, noon Lexington, Ky.
- **FENCING** Dual Meets at Pennsylvania, 8 a.m. Philadelphia, Pa.

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Cartoonists: Bring two sample editorial cartoons—preferably witty and interesting—to the DTH offices in Suite 2409 in the Student Union, and leave them for the Opinion Editor, Chris Cameron.

Editorial Board: Meets every Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 5:30 until 7:00pm. Writes two to three times per week. Send 550 word sample on a topic relevant to UNC students to ccameron@email.unc.edu.

All applications are due by Dec. 9. If preferred, paper forms will be available at the front desk in Suite 2409. We do have a conflict of interest policy that states staffers may not hold prominent positions in outside organizations. Any questions should be directed to the Opinion Editor, Chris Cameron, at ccameron@email.unc.edu.

The Daily Tar Heel

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