

SCOREBOARD

WOMEN'S LACROSSE Penn 8 UNC 7

MEN'S LACROSSE Cornell 8 UNC 13

MEN'S TENNIS Howard 0 UNC 7

SPORTS BRIEFS
SWIMMING & DIVING



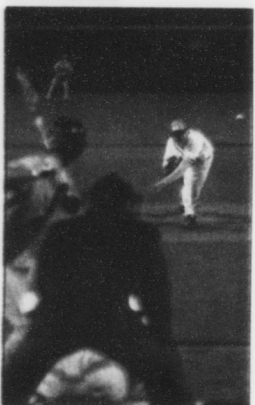
DTH FILE/KELVIN YEUNG

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ATLANTA — Led by freshman Joe Kinderwater's ACC championship in the 1,650-yard freestyle, the North Carolina men's swimming and diving team placed second to conference champ Virginia at the 2008 Atlantic Coast Conference Men's Swimming and Diving Championships.

The second-place finish was the best for UNC at the ACC Championships since the 2001 team placed second. The Tar Heels ended a streak of six straight third- or fourth-place finishes for UNC.

BASEBALL



DTH FILE/NICOLAS GULLETT

ROCK HILL, S.C. — Catcher Tim Federowicz belted a key solo home run in the eighth inning, and four pitchers combined on a four-hitter to give No. 5 North Carolina a 4-2 win against St. John's on Sunday in the championship game of the Coca-Cola Classic at The Winthrop Ballpark.

UNC's Kyle Seager had his fourth straight two-hit game and led the team (7-1) with 10 RBI on the weekend.

First baseman Dustin Ackley scored two runs, drove in one and hit safely for the 12th straight game in the victory.

SOFTBALL

COLUMBUS, Ga. — Danielle Spaulding struck out a career-high 16 batters, but it was not enough as Illinois State knocked off No. 23 North Carolina 2-0 on Sunday in the final game of the NFCA Leadoff Classic.

UNC fell to 15-6 on the year while Illinois State improved to 10-10.

ONLINE SPORTS

The men's lacrosse team defeated No. 5 Cornell on Sunday at Fetzer Field. See dailytarheel.com for stories.

The women's lacrosse team fell to Penn 8-7 on a last second goal Friday night. See dailytarheel.com for stories.

The gymnastics squad overcame another injury to win on its Senior Day. See dailytarheel.com for story.

THIS WEEK

TODAY

MEN'S GOLF
Seminole Intercollegiate
TIME: All day
LOCATION: Tallahassee, Fla.

WOMEN'S GOLF
SJSU Spartan Invitational
TIME: All day
LOCATION: San Jose, Calif.

TUESDAY

BASEBALL
vs. William & Mary
TIME: 3:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Cary

SOFTBALL
vs. South Carolina
TIME: 4 p.m.
LOCATION: Anderson Stadium

MEN'S BASKETBALL
vs. Florida State
TIME: 8 p.m.
LOCATION: Smith Center

Comeback kids defeat BC

BY GREGG FOUND
SENIOR WRITER

CHESTNUT HILL, Mass. — Roy Williams had a plan for beating Boston College. It just didn't go as planned.

"In the pregame show I said we've got to hope that Tyrese (Rice) doesn't go off for 35 points," Williams said after the game.

Rice, Boston College's feisty leader, not only went off. He went off for 46 points — the most against North Carolina in any ACC game.

MEN'S BASKETBALL
UNC 90
BC 80

But his heroic effort wasn't enough to stop the determined Tar Heels (27-2, 12-2 ACC), who charged back from an 18-point deficit in the second half to win 90-80.

"I will say that that's about as impressive as anything I've ever seen," Williams said of Rice's performance, which included 34 points — already a career high — by halftime.

But during the break the Tar Heels plotted an epic comeback.

"I promised them we'd be there at the

end, but they had to play," Williams said.

The subsequent UNC streak could be described in a variety of ways — a 18-0 run that stretched into a 32-8 run or a 17-point BC lead becoming a seven-point UNC lead.

The most impressive part was this: In that span Tyler Hansbrough didn't score a single point.

Instead, Wayne Ellington and Danny Green torched the nets.

The pair combined to outscore the entire Boston College team 30-26 in the second half in front of an enthusiastic Tar Heel crowd that drowned out BC fans late in the game.

"Wayne's big threes, Danny's big 3s — it was just a snowball effect," junior Marcus Ginyard said. "Everybody started getting into the groove, and guys were out there playing for other people."

It was as if the early lead by BC (13-14, 4-10) was too much too soon. There was plenty of time left for UNC to come back.

And even the comeback happened faster than anyone thought.

Williams was just hoping to trim the defi-

cit down to 10 points with 10 minutes left.

"We got there a lot quicker than that," he said.

By then UNC had a one-point lead.

Their comeback was buoyed in practice and spirit by Ty Lawson's return, who received an ovation from the crowd when he checked in at the 15:03 mark in the first half.

Lawson was supposed to play only a few minutes if at all but instead racked up 21 minutes — and spent most of them guarding Rice.

"In my first game back I checked in on someone who's killing like that," Lawson said. "It's tough."

His scoring (four points) and quickness didn't return to their usual levels, but he threw several crafty passes to set up his teammates.

"It's hard to explain, but everything just feels more at peace, more set into place when Tywon's out there," Ginyard said.

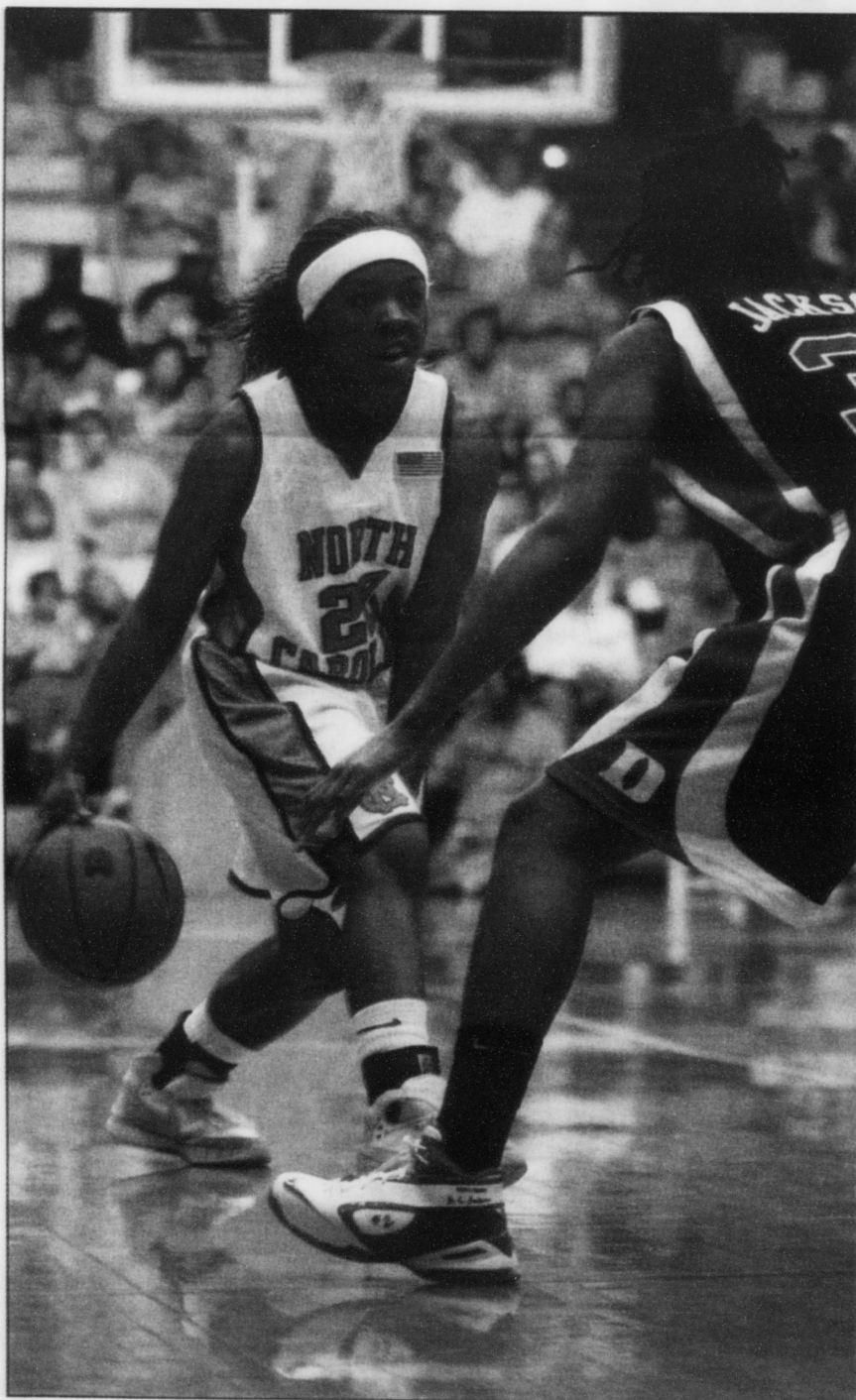
The team as a whole surely felt more at peace when they could look back and exam-

SEE COMEBACK, PAGE 9



COURTESY OF COLLEEN O'CONNOR / THE HEIGHTS
North Carolina junior Mike Copeland rises up for a layup during UNC's 90-80 comeback victory against Boston College on Saturday.

SWEET PERFECTION



DTH/SAM WARD

Freshman guard Cetera DeGraffenreid brings the ball upcourt during North Carolina's 82-51 defeat of Duke on Sunday. With the win the Tar Heels secured the program's first regular season undefeated conference record.

UNC dominates Devils in finale

BY MIKE EHRLICH
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Duke vs. UNC is not supposed to be a blowout.

It should be a knock-down, drag-out fight to the finish, maybe even coming down to the last possession.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Duke 51
UNC 82

ONLINE

For the game's final stats, see the box score at dailytarheel.com.

But with a convincing 82-51 season finale against the No. 12 Blue Devils on Sunday, North Carolina defied conventional wisdom and completed its first undefeated ACC regular season.

"I think it's such a great accomplishment," senior center LaToya Pringle said. "A lot of people weren't expecting us to do it, but I think we knew we could do it."

Conference win No. 14 was never even close.

With 12:44 remaining in the first half, a Cetera DeGraffenreid 3-pointer capped a 10-0 run that put the No. 2 Tar Heels up by 12, and they would never look back.

Four Tar Heels scored in double figures, and senior Erlana Larkins recorded her ninth double-double to lock up the ACC regular season title and put an exclamation point at the end of the best regular season in school history.

UNC coach Sylvia Hatchell said such an accomplishment is magnified since it came against the ACC and the Blue Devils.

"To have this record in this conference is special," she said.

"This win over Duke — that's major because Duke's a great team. They've got like eight or nine McDonald's All-Americans on that

SEE ROUT, PAGE 9

Seniors delight on their night

BY POWELL LATIMER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

When asked how No. 2 North Carolina gave No. 12 Duke a shellacking on Senior Night, forward Erlana Larkins didn't miss a beat.

She simply smiled and pointed to herself and fellow senior forward LaToya Pringle.

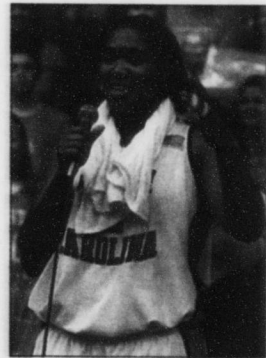
She was only half-joking, and she had the force of the previous 40 minutes to back her up.

Larkins and Pringle combined for 28 points and 18 rebounds to conclude their Carmichael Auditorium careers in style.

"I was telling everybody, I wouldn't want to play us on Senior Night," Pringle said. "We just tried to come out and play hard, and we won — that's all I care about."

The two appeared to have an extrasensory awareness of one another on the court. Pringle took care of the defense, blocking six shots on the evening. It seemed as though each of those rejections fell eerily into the hands of Larkins to jump-start a fast break.

On offense Larkins was a



DTH/KELVIN YEUNG

UNC senior Erlana Larkins speaks to the Carmichael Auditorium crowd after the last home game of her career.

warrior who just kept pounding for 14 points. Her stat line also boasts three assists, including one bounce pass threaded through the lane to set up Pringle for a layup.

SEE SENIOR NIGHT, PAGE 9

11 All-ACC nods for UNC

BY DAVID REYNOLDS
STAFF WRITER

North Carolina freshman Walter Henning stepped into the thrower's circle, stopping briefly to whip off leftover chalk on the ground with a towel, and calmly lifted his 35-pound hammer, preparing to throw.

Moments later, the weight flew more than 71 feet and Henning stepped out of the circle on his way to becoming an ACC champion in the meet's first event.

And so began this weekend's ACC Indoor Track and Field Championships with a bang for the Tar Heels, who finished tied

ONLINE
The UNC track and field team enjoyed a home-track advantage.

Virginia Tech ran away with the women's championship. Both schools dominated their ACC competition by nearly 50 points.

UNC sophomore Donte Nall joined Henning as an individual ACC champion by winning the high jump, and nine other UNC athletes received all-ACC honors during the meet.

for second in the women's competition and fourth in the men's.

Florida State captured the men's title, and

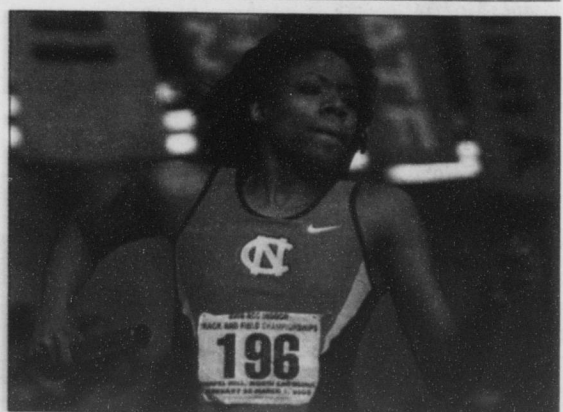
The meet also showcased UNC's young talent, as 10 of the 11 to earn ACC honors were non-seniors.

UNC coach Dennis Craddock said that the team's performance, especially from the younger athletes, impressed him but that inexperience might have prevented the team from placing higher.

"We did a lot of things good; it's just that sometimes when you have freshmen and sophomores they start to give out of gas that second day," he said.

Henning was one such young athlete who stepped up to the chal-

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DTH/EMMA PATTI

The North Carolina track and field squads saw 11 Tar Heels earn All-ACC honors this weekend at the ACC Indoor Track and Field Championships.