

# McCants, UNC women rally late to best Xavier

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Xavier 67  
UNC 73

BY CHRIS HEMPSON  
STAFF WRITER

No. 4 North Carolina's Rashanda McCants stood hunched over at the 3-point line.

She stared ahead as her teammates quickly passed the ball around the key, her hands lightly gripping her shorts.

As Alex Miller grasped an incoming pass, McCants sprang into action.

She ducked passed her defender and turned her body as Miller whipped a chest pass to her. In rhythm McCants turned and fired. Swish.

After trailing for more than 12 minutes Wednesday against No. 23 Xavier, McCants had finally given the Tar Heels the lead with less than 10 minutes to go.

"We ran some plays to get her the ball down low on the block," coach Sylvia Hatchell said. "We got it to her down there. Her jump hook is good, and she scored and got it going."

Even with McCants' momentum-changing play, the Musketeers were within four points in the game's final minute. McCants watched the Tar Heels close out a 73-67 win from the bench after fouling out with 2:54 remaining.

But with a game-high 27 points, even that tiny setback couldn't put a damper on her evening.

Because for a two-and-a-half-minute stretch during the second half, McCants was unstoppable, scoring 11 straight points.

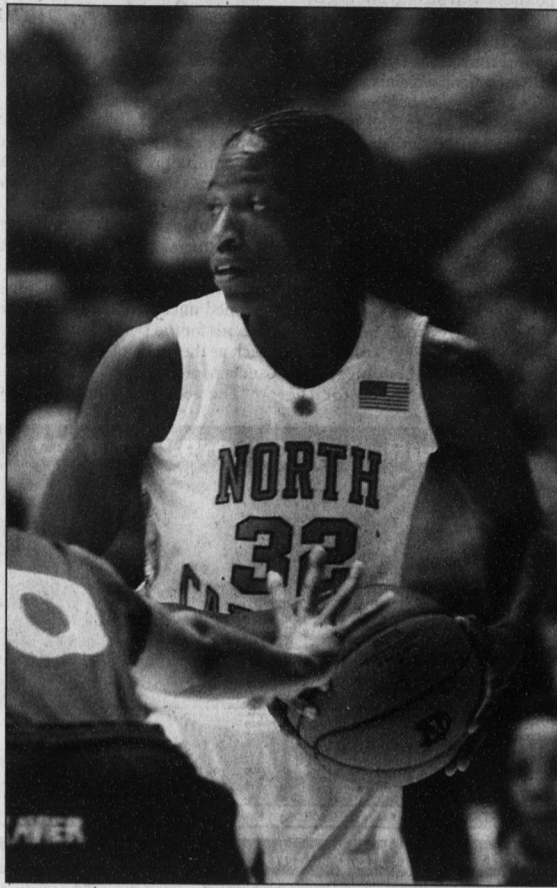
"I was feeling the defense, and whatever they gave me I was making the shots," McCants said.

"What I was thinking is that we're not going to lose this game. So whatever I had to do, I had to get it done."

Despite McCants' inspired offensive performance and stellar play from Italee Lucas and Cetera DeGraffenreid, the Tar Heels (4-0) struggled for most of the game against Xavier center Ta'Shia Phillips.

The rugged Musketeer imposed her will in the paint, as Hatchell sent body after body inside to try and combat her post presence.

Nothing worked. In the first half alone, Phillips



DTH/BETHANY NUCHESTERLEIN

Rashanda McCants scored 20 of her 27 points in the second half to help North Carolina come back from a five-point deficit on a 14-0 run.

had 13 points and 15 rebounds. Her bruising play continued in the second half, despite consistent double-teams. She ended the game with 23 points and a Smith Center-record of 25 rebounds.

"It doesn't take talent to box out," Hatchell said. "It just takes a little bit of effort and willpower."

"We will be having a rebounding practice, I can guarantee that."

Despite her team's rebounding problem, Hatchell obviously had no problems with her backcourt.

DeGraffenreid stopped Musketeer momentum continuously with quick hands and ball-hawking defense. Plus, her chem-

istry with Lucas was evident.

After Xavier (2-1) raced to a 9-3 lead to start the game, DeGraffenreid stole a pass and led a fast break with Lucas, the two whipping three passes between them before Lucas slid in a contested layup.

The team leapt off the bench and McCants pumped her arms — a fitting display, as those same arms led the team to victory.

"We got the ball to Rashanda, and she came through," Hatchell said.

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

# Heels exploit XU turnovers

BY DANIEL PRICE  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Take a quick look at the box score of Wednesday's game between Xavier and North Carolina, and it might appear as though the Tar Heels got dominated.

And in many respects, they did. With Xavier led by center Ta'Shia Phillips, whose 25 rebounds broke Sean May's Smith Center record, the Musketeers destroyed UNC on the boards, out-rebounding the Tar Heels 59-34.

Xavier also managed to limit UNC to 32.8 percent shooting.

But UNC was able to come out on top thanks to one important stat — one that has been far from a strength in the Tar Heels' first three games.

Turnovers. UNC committed just one more than half of its season average of 24.

"Thank goodness," coach Sylvia Hatchell said. "We only had 13. That was good."

Largely responsible for the unusually low number of miscues were UNC's point guards Cetera DeGraffenreid and She'la White.

The two kept the Tar Heels calm on the floor and had just two turnovers between them, while dishing out a combined seven assists.

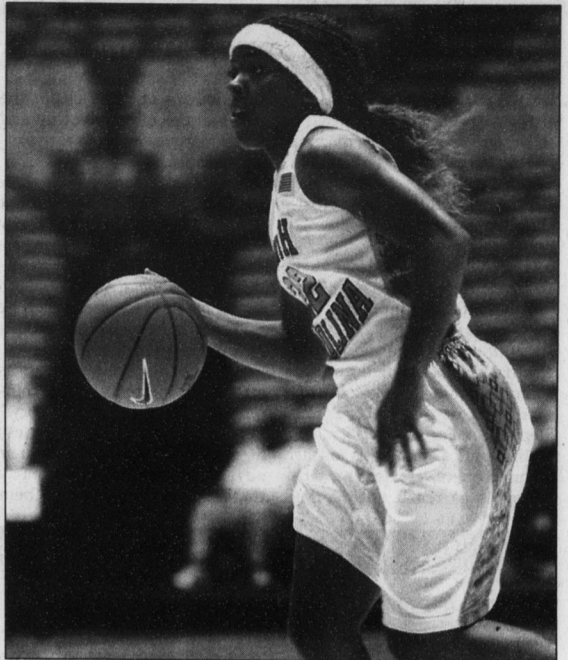
As North Carolina was able to maintain possession for most of the night, the Musketeers were not.

Xavier, who came into the contest committing only 15.5 turnovers per game, handed the ball over to the Tar Heels 26 times.

"They're terrific defensively. They give you a lot of different looks," Xavier coach Kevin McGuff said. "It was really a very physical game."

DeGraffenreid contributed in a big way with her three steals.

"I knew that they were going to be going off screens," DeGraffenreid said. "I just tried to just stay in the defense the whole time and keep putting pressure on them."



DTH/CAMERON MOSELEY

Guard Cetera DeGraffenreid had three steals and only one turnover Wednesday, and the Tar Heels finished with half the TOs Xavier recorded.

Many of the Musketeers' miscues came when UNC baited them into a more hectic style than the post-laden Xavier club is accustomed to, something which Hatchell said was a halftime talking point.

"Once we got the traps, we were getting out there and getting our hands on the passes," Hatchell said. "Our rotations were really good on our defense, and it made them play chaotic, which is what we wanted to make them do."

Perhaps Xavier's biggest turnover of the game came with just under 13 minutes of play remaining. UNC first-year center Chay

Shogog, who spent her 22 minutes locked up with Phillips in the post, broke into a passing lane at half court, streaked down the court and was fouled on the ensuing layup.

The free throw brought the Tar Heels to within two points and sparked a Rashanda McCants run that gave the game to UNC.

"I thought it was a big spark for the team," McCants said. "Because you have a freshman — and a center at that — getting into the passing lane and actually making a steal."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

**UNC STV**  
STEALING YOUR ATTENTION SINCE 1983  
CHANNELS 4 & 33  
www.uncstv.org

**Guardians of the Flame**  
**Traditional Mardi Gras Indians FREE!**

**Today**  
3:00 P.M. PERFORMANCE IN THE PIT BY TRADITIONAL MARDI GRAS INDIAN TRIBE, THE GUARDIANS OF THE FLAME

3:50ISH JOIN THE PARADE AS WE DANCE THROUGH THE QUAD WITH THE KREWE ON THE WAY TO CAMPUS Y

4:00 P.M. LECTURE BY COUNCIL QUEEN, CHERICE HARRISON-NELSON ON THE HISTORY OF THIS RICH TRADITION, THE SIGNIFICANCE, AND THE ROLE OF ARTS IN THE REBUILDING OF NEW ORLEANS AS THEY PRACTICE IT

PRESENTED BY CUAB SOCIAL COMMENTARY COMMITTEE CAROLINA PERFORMING ARTS WITH SUPPORT FROM THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE AMERICAN SOUTH

The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life proudly announces

## Order of Omega National Greek Leadership Honor Society Fall 2008 Class

### Membership Requirements

- Junior or Senior Status
- 3.000 Cumulative GPA
- Outstanding Leadership to the UNC-CH Campus and Greek Community
- Limited to the Top 3% of Greeks at UNC-CH

- Rachel Aaron, Phi Beta Chi Sorority
- Eric Anderson, Pi Lambda Phi Fraternity
- Lindsay Ash, Alpha Delta Pi Sorority
- Mia Barnes, Alpha Kappa Alpha
- Lee Becker, Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity
- Keri Berman, Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority
- Melissa Biediger, Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority
- Amelia Black, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- Jared Fox Brown, Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity
- Heather Burleson, Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority
- Alysa Campbell, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- Jennings Carpenter, Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity
- Frederick Chandler, Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity
- Michael Chomat, Pi Lambda Phi Fraternity
- Kelsey Crews, Alpha Chi Omega Sorority
- May Doan, Alpha Delta Pi Sorority
- John Duckett, Phi Delta Theta Fraternity
- Anna Garcia, Kappa Delta Sorority
- Josh Gresham, Chi Phi Fraternity
- Brittany Hill, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- Ashley James, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
- Alex Lassiter, Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity
- Samantha Lunny, Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority
- Gracie Mills, Chi Omega Sorority

- Chris McCrory, Beta Theta Pi Fraternity
- Emily Patterson, Alpha Delta Pi Sorority
- Heather Piercy, Phi Mu
- Amy Plyler, Kappa Delta Sorority
- Joshua Pugh, Sigma Nu
- Jenny Qin, Phi Beta Chi Sorority
- Ellen Regan, Kappa Delta
- Jacqueline Rice, Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority
- Melissa Riggins, Phi Mu Sorority
- Cameron Rosenow, Alpha Tau Omega
- Ashley Rouse, Kappa Delta Sorority
- Laura Mae Salpietra, Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority
- Caroline Saunders, Kappa Delta Sorority
- Emily Schrag, Sigma Rho Lambda Sorority
- Chelsea Sessoms, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority
- Kristina Simmons, Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority
- Melissa Smrekar, Delta Delta Delta Sorority
- David Sneed, Alpha Iota Omega Fraternity
- Sophie Solomon, Sigma Rho Lambda Sorority
- Meghan Starnes, Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority
- Kharmika Tillery, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- Rebecca Whitaker, Pi Beta Phi Sorority
- Amy Wilson, Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority

- Building the Best Greek Community in North America
- Scholarship
  - Community Service
  - Campus Involvement
  - Sisterhood/Brotherhood

