



Jim Coghill

Assistant DTH Sports Editor

The Blue Dukes are still number one and with just reason. They beat the Tar Heels of the University of North Carolina.

A determined Tar Heel team could not find that spark it needed to unseat the Blue Devils as best team in the nation.

"I was disappointed in the team's playing," Coach Dean Smith said, "but not in their effort."

Smith continued saying, "(Jack) Marin couldn't be stopped and when we had to give up a shot, he was there to take it."

Marin was singled out by Coach Smith as the most underrated player in the conference not getting the publicity deserved of such a fine athlete.

The Tar Heels were not sharp yesterday afternoon, but the Dukes were ready and rarin' to go. Long shots, short shots, rebounds, ball handling — they could do no wrong. When one of the tall Blue Devils got into trouble, another giant came off the bench to take his place. With that type of team, anyone is going to have trouble.

Bob Verga looked most impressive with his shooting and Steve Vacendak handled the ball superbly.

Although Duke won, they don't deserve all the praise. Miller looked terrific under the boards and he and Bennett played the middle nicely.

"I think this is the best game of Miller's brief career," Coach Smith said, "and Bennett was hustling all the time."

In elaborating further at his press conference, Coach Smith said, "Bob Lewis played a fine defensive game." Lewis, the nation's second best scorer was held to 18 points.

Coach Smith in talking with reporters after the game said, "The Duke team seems to have gotten up for all the big games which include UCLA, Michigan and North Carolina."

"They just didn't show any signs of pressure that I had expected from the number one team in the nation," Smith said.

The Vic Bubas squad carries an 11-1 overall record for the season, but that record doesn't mean the Blue Devils can't meet defeat, and remember North Carolina fans — Carolina has another crack at the Dukes on February 26.

So on February 26: "Go Heels Go, Beat Dook."

Thinclads Beat State, Tie Duke

By DRUMMELL BELL
DTH Sports Writer

The Carolina thinclads opened their indoor season in the Tin Can with a win over N. C. State and a tie with Duke. The final outcome was decided in the last relay which Duke won by inches, and Carolina had to settle with a 50-50-25 score.

As in past years, the running events were the strong point for Carolina. However, the field events showed great improvement as Garry Iverson won the broad jump with a leap of 21'6".

Lester Hyder and Bill Busby showed unexpected depth in the pole vault as they finished

right behind Duke's Homer who won the event with a vault of 12'6". Duke scored eight points in the shot put as Conference Champion Bob Stewart won impressively with a fine put of 55'8 1/2".

Carolina gained ground in the dashes as Jon Levin ran a very fast 6.4 in the sixty defeating Duke footballer Dave Dunaway. State scored a victory in the 70 yd. Hurdles as Steve Corn won in 9.4. Corn was the major point-getter for N. C. State as he also placed in the broad jump and high jump.

The distances were dominated by Duke and Carolina, and State only placed in the mile. Sophomore Mike Williams ran a fine tactical race against State's Mel Woodcock and sprinted away on the last turn to win in 4:26.5. Carolina's slim lead was increased in the 440 yd. dash where Ed Daw kicked home in 52.2 ahead of Blue Devil Rod Stewart. In both the mile and 440 Carolina picked up two additional points with the third places of Russell Putnam and Dave Kropelnicki.

Sophomore Bill Bassett won the 880 yd. run going away as he lead from the gun and finished ahead of Duke's Jim Zozda and Billy Weldein in the respectable time of 2:02.2. In the two mile Captain Jim Meade ran a gainst Duke's Soph sensational, Paul Rogers. Meade took the lead and held it through the first mile and a half; however, with three laps to go, Rogers sprinted into the lead and ran away from his competitor. The time of 9:34 earned Rogers the second best effort of the day.

The mile relay was the deciding factor of the meet, which Carolina had to win in order to beat the Blue Devils. Holding only a two point lead the thinclads showed tremendous effort, but Ed Daw, Carolina's anchorman, could not catch Dunaway and lost by a foot in the finest effort of the meet. Thus, Carolina had to settle with a 50-50-25 win and tie in its first triangular meet of the early Indoor season.

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Duke Pushed By Courageous Play

By BILL ROLLINS
DTH Sports Writer

The man who coaches the top-ranked college basketball team in America walked away from his dressing room down to the end of a long hall, and then turned to face a triple-handful of sportswriters who had just seen his team beat Carolina for its ninth straight win.

"Gentlemen," Duke's Vic Bubas began, "I would say that we played this game very courageously today. By that I mean that we met every challenge—each time they pulled close, we were able to get key baskets and hold the lead."

He was quickly asked about the play of his top two scorers. "Jack (Marin) and Bob (Verga) both had excellent shooting days, he acknowledged, but we haven't had a real good overall game like this one since before Christmas, and we were real pleased to have it come today."

"But," he said, "one of the main things was that we lost two ball games to Carolina last year, and we really wanted to come back from that."

In the first half, Marin carried Duke for the most part, hitting almost everything he threw up for 14 points. Then Verga, who had 10 points at the midway rest began to bomb after action resumed, and poured in 17 to enable the Devils to hold and slightly expand their lead to its final reach of 88-77.

Another factor—a very big factor—which Bubas made significant mention of was the fact that Duke was able to convert sixteen out of 17 free throws in the second period. For the game, they scored on eighteen of 21 chances. From the floor, Duke shot 57.4 per cent, and Bubas said of this two-pronged accuracy:

"When you hit that well, you're going to win most of the time."

Duke went with a man-for-man defense until center Mike Lewis drew his fourth foul with 14:56 left in the game. At that juncture, Duke held a 50-47 lead.

"We switched to a zone then," said Bubas, "and they

(UNC) seemed to have more trouble with that than they did with the man-for-man."

Even at that, Carolina held the Duke lead in the three-to-six point range until Duke got two bombs from Verga and six straight points to open it up at 79-66 with 3:56 left.

"Bobby hit a lot of clutch baskets for us down the stretch," Bubas stated, "and that's one reason why he is so valuable."

Duke is pretty well known for its ability to successfully execute a pressing defense, and Bubas was asked why he didn't use it at all during this game.

"We always go with what is giving satisfactory results," he answered, "and today we felt pretty confident with the man-for-man and the zone."

As was expected, Bubas assigned his 6-6 forward Jack Marin to the task of guarding UNC's Bob Lewis, who carried a 31.8 average into the game. Lewis came out of the scrap with 18 points, and this is what Bubas had to say about that:

"We always give Jack the job of guarding the opposing team's top scorer when we run a man-for-man. Before this game we challenged him to cover Lewis and 'hold him down,' and I think he did an excellent job in holding him below his average."

Bubas also commended his other forward, Bob Riedy, for his job on Larry Miller.

But Vic, Miller hit over his 23-point average.

"I still consider the job which Riedy did on Miller to be a real fine one, considering the ball player that Miller is."

"Both Miller and Lewis are devastating when they get close to the basket. They get a lot of squirming, twisting shots and make a good percentage. They're both fine basketball players."

"Carolina played their press well," he said. "We had faced the press before, but today we had more trouble finding the open man than usual. But we hit from outside well."

"I have said before that I think Carolina is the most underrated team in the conference, and after today I'll say it again."



Talbott Receives Award

Danny Talbott, named earlier by the Atlantic Coast Conference Sportswriters Association as the ACC's "Player of the Year," received the official award yesterday in a half-time presentation at the UNC-Duke game.

Alex Crockett of the Durham Morning Herald, an executive member of the association, presented the award to the Tar Heel junior who combined passing (1,084 yards) and rushing (397 yards) to lead the ACC in total yardage.

Danny also smashed the single-game total yardage record at UNC, rolling up 318 yards against Georgia to pass Charlie Justice's old mark of 304. His 70 points (7 TD's, 13 PAT's, 5 FG) placed him second to Justice in seasonal scoring at UNC.

Another Talbott statistic for the year includes 103 pass completions which tied a school record.

He also was the All-ACC first baseman in baseball, hitting for a .364 average as a sophomore.



Gene Rector

DTH Sports Editor

Just how good is this unbeaten freshmen basketball team of ours?

Even with the fine start of the varsity — nine victories in their first 12 games — there seems to be a "wait 'till next year" attitude on campus.

The frosh have registered six straight victories with little more effort than required to lace shoes and pull on "Carolina Blue" and white basketball togs.

Just how good are they?

"We haven't had any real tough games as yet so I'll have to wait a while to pass judgement," said

Just how good are they?

"We haven't had any real tough games as yet so I'll have to wait a while to pass judgement," said Coach Larry Brown, a former Tar Heel star performer now in his first year of coaching at his alma mater.

Maybe we don't have the super-star such as Lewis or Miller, but we have six boys I think will help the varsity.

Let's take a closer look at these top six performers:

RUSTY CLARK — (6-11 center) "It has been a long time since we have had a boy this size in school," said Brown. "At 6-11, he doesn't have the moves of Lewis and Miller, but he is an outstanding defensive player for his size and a surprisingly good passer. He can be as good as he wants to be — if he works."

BILL BUNTING — (6-8 forward) "When Coach Dean Smith recruited Bunting, he was impressed with his speed and quickness," said Brown. "You can teach a boy many things — but speed and quickness are God-given. Bunting will have to improve physically (gain weight), but with Bill's desire, he should be an outstanding prospect."

JOE BROWN — (6-5 forward) "Brown is probably the hardest worker of them all," he said. "He gives 100 per cent each game. He will be a little small for a college forward, but he has been tremendous on the boards so far. He needs more confidence in himself."

DICK GRUBAR — (6-3 guard) "Grubar had about 80 scholarship offers when he was in high school. Coach Smith feels that he can be the superstar of the club. Of course he may not get 30 points every game — although he can score — but he is an excellent defensive player, sees exceptionally well, and can make that big pass when it is needed. He's also extremely agile for his size — people don't realize he is 6-3."

GERALD TUTTLE — (guard) "Gerald is the type of boy we have needed here for quite a while — completely unselfish. He is much like Grubar in that he sees real well and can come up with that big pass play."

JIM BOSTICK — (6-3 guard, forward) "Bostick probably had to make the biggest adjustment of all," said Brown. "We use him both at guard and forward. Bostick is not really the sixth man because I consider all six of these boys as starters. His versatility has meant a great deal to the team. We have been getting into foul trouble and when we put Bostick in he doesn't let us down one bit."

John Lotz Will Become Familiar Face At UNC

By SANDY TREADWELL
DTH Sports Writer

Lotz is a coach. His big job is to teach, inspire, and develop the boys in blue.

What do the players think of him?

"He's a tremendous guy, and he's doing a great job," says Bobby Lewis.

As for Lotz's impression of his new job: "I couldn't be happier. I'm pleased to be a part of such a great University. I've never worked with a better group of boys. I have a great deal of respect for Dean Smith. He gets total effort out of his boys. The freshmen team is characterized by its very unselfish play. This is inspired by Larry Brown's example, and it's a real tribute to him."

"I really look forward to the rest of this season. Next year will take care of itself."

Carolina did a great job in recruiting last year. And one of its finest catches was the tall man in the dark suit, John Lotz.

Lotz isn't a household name in Carolina sports, but it soon will be.

Whenever there's a time out in Carmichael Auditorium he stands quietly and attentively behind a cluster of athletes. John Lotz isn't in the spotlight, but he shoulders all the work that goes with a college coaching job. And he shoulders it happily.

Coach Lotz is a recruiter. He journeys to high school gyms all over the country in search of basketball talent.

"We're mainly after boys who live within a thousand miles of Chapel Hill," the coach said, "but we'll reach out to the west coast if we hear about a player whose really interested in us. The ACC allows us to give five scholarships each year."

The final selection of the five athletes is done by the three coaches. We're not after only the 6'10" ball players. Each boy must have speed and quickness. The final decision is based on those who will play and help the team."

John Lotz is also a scout. Early in December he logged a lot of miles in planes and rented cars. Between ball games he flew to Columbus, Ohio; Richmond, Va.; and Tallahassee, Florida in order to help Dean Smith devise game plans against upcoming teams. But first and foremost, John

Brown: Thrilled By Fan Support

By BILL ROLLINS
DTH Sports Writer

Larry Brown extended his arms at full length in front of his body and popped the tab top off a can of coke.

But before he even took time for the pause that refreshes he exclaimed—with a cool but wide-eyed enthusiasm which is his alone:

"Oh gee, I was just thrilled to death with the crowd tonight. They gave us tremendous support and tonight it was really needed."

Brown's Tar Babies had just put their sixth straight win in the books by stopping Duke's spirited threat by 78-65. It was a game in which they had shown flashes of brilliance in some instances, but which had been dominated by ragged play, seeing them suffer more than 20 floor mistakes—at least twice their usual quota.

But Brown wasn't through with his first topic of comment yet.

"I could never say enough about all the students (official estimate: 4,500) who came to see us play. Those standing ovations really fired the boys up, and I can tell you they did something to me too. It was really great."

The self-styled Long Island native—who departed from his usual navy blue suit to don a flash burgundy and white sport coat for this one—stood near the shower room door and watched his boys climb out of their sweat-soaked uniforms.

A somber atmosphere prevailed, being saved from absolute dejection only by the fact that the foe had been bested.

"These fellas really gave it a fighting effort tonight," Brown said. "Maybe we weren't as sharp as we have been, but they were really ready to play when we left there before the game. Then when we got out there (to the court) the crowd lifted them pretty high."

When the crowd drowned out the public address announcer at the player introductions, Brown just pulled his boys off the bench one at a time and sent them out. And when Gerald Tuttle met the er four starters at center-court, they almost yanked each other's arms out of their sockets as they piled up hands.

At the game's end, they had shot for 54.2 per cent to Duke's 36.4, rebounded the Imps by a slight 52-45 margin, and meshed their play for 31 assists—even slightly above their usual total.

But they had misplayed 13 times and Duke had swiped 11 passes for an error total of 24. And they had continued their atrocious foul shooting, making only 14 out of 31 tries.

Rusty Clark had missed eight of 12 first half shots, including several pokes from outside and sat out eight minutes of the second half with four fouls. He could not be consoled by the fact that he hit each of his four second half shots and collected 10 rebounds and scored 17 points plus handing out four assists and making three steals.

Dick Grubar had engineered seven assists, four outright steals and scored nine points while riding the bench for 12 minutes with his first foul difficulty of the season. He just pelted the pile of sweaty uniforms with a sock, shook his head and headed for the shower when congratulated, obviously feeling he hadn't done his part.

Joe Brown played brilliantly for the third consecutive game, scoring 11 out of 15 UNC tallies in the opening nine minutes of the second period, finished with 14 points and eight rebounds. In the past three games, Joe has hit 21-of-28 shots while averaging 16.3 points and eight rebounds per game.

Bill Bunting led UNC in rebounding with 11, and hit 10-of-16 field goals in his total of 24 points—his high for the season.

Gerald Tuttle matched Grubar with seven assists and continued to be the frosh version of John Yokley with his floor play and six steals. He scored eight points.

The Tar Babies were played point-for-point in the early going, but a basket by Bunting at the end of a fast break gave them a 15-14 lead at 10:29 of the first half, and they never trailed again.

The lead was 38-29 at the half, but the strong rebounding and scoring of 6-7 Duke forward Fred Lind early in the final period pulled the DU boys to within 45-41 at 13:51.

Then at 10:03, Duke center and team leader Steve Vandenberg, who was held to eight points and three rebounds by Clark, fouled out and the Duke bench drew a technical foul.

Bunting then hit the penalty shot, plus two free throws and two quick baskets to drop the Imps hopelessly arrears at 62-47, with 7:17 left. UNC's biggest lead was 17 points.

Disregarding everything else, Brown said in finality: "We won and we beat Duke — and that's the only thing that counts."

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