

# ACC BASKETBALL

## A short journey up and a long fall down

by Michael Davis  
Sports Writer

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN — It was a short trip and a long fall for the Tar Heels Saturday in their all-too-abbreviated appearance in the National Invitation Tournament.

The Tar Heels, venturing forth to the perils of post-season action seeking answers, returned to Chapel Hill in the bleak Sunday morning hours pondering more questions about themselves.

In a consistently sloppy and uncharacteristically awkward forty minutes of basketball, the Purdue Boilermakers made a mockery of Carolina's 8th-place national ranking and their no. 1 seed in the tourney, eliminating the Heels 82-71 before 10,110 Madison Square Garden fans.

Purdue came out in the opening minutes and penetrated the Carolina defenses with ease, capitalizing on several UNC turnovers and setting up and hitting men underneath as if Carolina had an all leprechaun frontline.

The Tar Heels were able to slice a 25-16 Purdue lead over a two-minute period, knotting the game at 25-all with 8:32 remaining in the half.

It took the Tar Heels most of the first period to lose their inhibitions to go underneath to Jones and Kupchak for the high percentage shot.

Inexplicably, after the halftime respite, the Tar Heels fell apart. Along almost every parameter — physically, emotionally and perhaps, most importantly, psychologically.

Carolina looked as if they were playing scared. Dubious of their abilities, they seemed to abandon control, passing the ball recklessly, missing the open man and shooting with a visible absence of confidence.

Outscoring Carolina 14-4 in one four-minute stretch, the Boilermakers were able to build a slim one-point lead at the 14:38 mark to a 65-52 advantage with 10:01 on the clock.

Although the Heels made a run at Purdue late in the game, Carolina played like a defeated team throughout most of the second half.

Carolina shot only 38 per cent from the floor for the game, while their guard corps, who had their troubles both shooting and passing against Purdue all afternoon, hit on only five of 19 attempts for an incredible 26 per cent for the game.

The Tar Heels recorded 33 turnovers to Purdue's 21 and uncharacteristically Carolina was outstayed by the Boilermakers, 21-13.

Dean Smith used every twist in his coaching repertoire to try to salvage the opening round NIT match, yet nothing seemed to work.

Even the traditional saving grace, the Four Corners offense, was ineffective in a brief trial in the first half.

Almost as if some perverse spell had been cast upon the Tar Heels, the team that played with such tremendous confidence, fluidity and accuracy at midseason, went limp in the final two important appearances of the season.

"We've got to regroup," said a dejected Dean Smith in the post mortem scene in the Garden press room.

"They'll be some changes made next season but I can't say exactly where. It'll still be a North Carolina (style) team, but I'm going to have to evaluate the situation," said Smith in a subdued voice, visibly shaken by the untimely crumble of his team.

Smith was a man desperately groping for answers while drowning in a sea of questions.

## Heels romp over V.P.I., 21-1

# Carolina baseball team wins

by Steve Levin  
Assistant Sports Editor

What a difference a year makes. Carolina's hitless wonders of a year ago have turned into hitters and they showed the home fans the transformation yesterday as they racked Virginia Tech 21-1.

Not even the scoreboard at Cary Boshamer Stadium was able to handle the Tar Heels' onslaught as it failed to register any of their hits or runs after they passed the number 19.

The Tar Heels bombed three Gobbler pitchers for 20 hits, including five doubles and a homerun, and took advantage of 10 walks and five errors.

VPI's starting pitcher Bruce Brushwood lasted just 1 and 1/3 innings and his first reliever, Dennis Waxmunsky, lasted just 2/3 of an inning more.

Meanwhile, Fred Gianiny held Tech to just three hits—all singles, as he raised his record to 2-1.

Gianiny was never in serious trouble until the seventh inning when VPI loaded the bases with only one out. A sacrifice fly by Sandy Hill scored the Gobblers lone run, but Gianiny struck out Ed Bawman to end the threat.

The second inning was the decisive frame of the game as 15 Tar Heels trooped to the plate and mixed seven hits with four walks for 11 runs. Early Jones cracked a bases loaded double to score three runs, and after Mike Wilkerson walked to score another run, designated hitter Lindsey Ethridge singled in two more. The Tar Heels also picked up runs on single by Dale Lydecker and Jones, and doubles by Chris Kupec and Tom Kennedy.

Three walks in the third inning enabled UNC to push

across two more runs on sacrifice flies from Lydecker and Kupec to up the lead to 13-0.

A three-run homer by Guthrie in the fifth inning led the Tar Heels to five more runs. The smash was his fourth of the season. Guthrie and Steve Rackley combined to knock in three more runs in the seventh inning to finish Carolina's scoring.

The victory raised the Tar Heels' record to 7-2. They play the same VPI squad today at 2:30 p.m. at Boshamer Stadium.

The Tar Heels took their yearly Florida trip and met with fond success. Paced by lefthander John Danneman's three victories and Dale Lydecker's bat, they went 6-2. Lydecker batted .500 for the trip, and he was followed by Guthrie at .325, Ethridge at .304, and Kupec at .282. The Tar Heels' record on the trip last year was 3-5.

## Waldrop wins NCAA mile championship

DETROIT—3:59.5 is the slowest of Tony Waldrop's seven consecutive sub-four minute miles, nevertheless the time was good enough to win the NCAA mile championship March 9, while everyone else was on spring break.

"This race meant more to me than any of the others," said Waldrop. "The NCAA

championships are something special. It was important to me to win.

"I was never really pushed," said the indoor world record holder after easily beating Mike Durkin of Illinois (4:01) and Tom Gregan of Villanova (4:01:4).

"I just ran positioning for 3/4 of the race," said Waldrop. "I made my move when I was

about two laps away from the finish."

Continuing the streak of sub-four minute miles was not Waldrop's main objective. "I was not aiming for any particular time I just wanted to win," he said.

Waldrop had been bothered by a cold going into the race. "The cold was more in my head than it affected me physically," he

said. "My nasal passages started to clear up by the time I started running."

It was only the second sub-four minute mile in the meet's history. The first was run by Jim Ryan in 1967 when the former Kansas star ran a 3:58.6.

Waldrop needed a hot last quarter-mile to break the four-minute mark for the seventh consecutive time this season. He ran the first lap in 60.5 seconds, the second in 59 and the third in 64.5.

His time of 3:04 for the three-quarters mark was sputtering along compared to his other races, but Waldrop shifted gears to run the last lap in a blazing 55.5.

As for this spring, Waldrop has no definite plans. "I have not sat down with coach Hilton and mapped out my schedule yet," he said. "I will not run this Saturday though," when the Tar Heels meet Clemson on Fetzer Field.

## Gymnasts blast tough Indians

by Carolin Bakewell  
Sports Writer

Spring break may have lured most of the fans away, but the lack of spectators didn't prevent the UNC gymnastics team from rounding out its regular season competition with a 130.8 to 103.7 win over the Indians of William and Mary.

Despite the number of empty seats in Carmichael March 8, the Tar Heels captured every event but vaulting, to up their overall record to 6-2.

The Blue team began the meet by sweeping the floor exercises, with Carlos Rodriguez taking first, Rick Ludwin capturing second and Ben Edkins taking third, shutting out the Indians.

William and Mary suffered a similar fate in the parallel horse event, as once again Carolina took the top three slots, denying the Indians, 42.9 to 28.1. Joe Burt took first.

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Ben Edkins took second and Bob Clark rounded out the victory with a third place.

The Indians gained a little ground in the rings event, as their man took first place, but the Carolina squad edged out the rest of the competition, with Rick Fox taking second and Rick Ludwin close behind at third.

Vaulting was the only bright spot of the evening for the Virginia squad, as Martin Rich captured first place with a meet-high 8.6 and Bob Gessner took second, leaving UNC's Ben Edkins to tie with another Indian for third.

The Tar Heels' lapse in the vaulting event didn't put much of a dent in their lead, however, as they remained ahead

throughout the meet, standing 21 points ahead of the Indians going into the parallel bars event.

Senior Ben Edkins placed for the fourth time of the evening, winning the top spot for the Heels with a 7.85. W&M's Rich captured second, but a Carolina man, freshman Rick Ludwin took third, giving UNC the event.

William and Mary captured another first place in the high bars exercise, with Don Fergusson scoring an 8.6. Ben Edkins grabbed a second for UNC with a 7.6 and another Virginian captured third place with a 7.3.

Carolina far out-distanced the Indians in the all-around, as senior Ben Edkins almost doubled the score of his nearest rival.

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## Netters blitz Wildcats after loss

Carolina's tennis team recovered quickly from a tough loss at Florida March 16 and went on to defeat the Kentucky Wildcats 9-0 March 17 on the Heels' own courts.

Kentucky downed Duke 7-2 Sunday morning, but couldn't survive the Tar Heels, despite some uncertain moments. Rich McKee lost the first set 4-6 to Scott Smith and found himself losing the second, 3-0 before rallying to win, 6-3, 6-4.

Rich Hardaway slipped by Steve Gilliam, 6-3, 6-4 and Billy Brock topped Ricky Harmson, 6-3, 7-5. Dave Oberstein overcame Chet Allgood 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 and Tommy Dixon went three sets to beat Randy Edmisten, 7-5, 2-6, 6-3. Joe Garcia whipped Glen Booth 6-3, 6-1.

In doubles, McKee-Brock combination beat Smith-Gilliam, 8-7, Dixon-Hardaway outlasted Edmisten-Fairmon 8-6, while Oberstein-Garcia beat Allgood-Harmon 8-2.

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