

Coast-to-coast wins move Carolina record to 12-1

Heels claim Rainbow title with Ford, O'Koren

By GENE UPCHURCH
Sports Editor

HONOLULU — Late December in Hawaii is not an ideal time or place for a group of college students to think seriously about winning basketball games.

But, despite wide, sandy beaches, tropical weather and Polynesian beauties, Carolina's basketball team was able to sweep to the championship of the 14th annual Rainbow Classic with wins over Brigham Young (94-84), Texas Tech (88-76) and Stanford (92-61).

The climax of the tournament was expected to be a showdown between No. 2 Carolina and then 13th-ranked Providence, but the Friars were knocked off by Stanford in the semifinal game.

Carolina guard Phil Ford was named the tournament's outstanding player after scoring 31, 25 and 13 points for Carolina in three wins. Mike O'Koren was named to the five-player all-tournament team.

Carolina had little trouble defeating any of the teams in the tournament, culminating a strong comeback after a surprise loss to unranked William & Mary Dec. 7. The Tar Heels defeated Rochester 101-43 Dec. 10 and Cincinnati 67-59 Dec. 17.

Carolina built a 16-point lead in the opener against Brigham Young before a sparse, apathetic crowd in Blaisdell Center Arena here. (The crowd had lost interest in the tournament when host Hawaii lost its opener the previous evening and eventually dropped the rest of its games in the consolation to finish eighth.) Carolina's lead was cut when the Cougars stole Tar Heel passes and converted the steals into eight straight points. Brigham Young cut the lead to five in the second half and again to six

when Carolina was in its four-corner offense, but Ford took control and converted three straight one-and-one opportunities to put the game out of reach.

The Tar Heels overcame the jet lag caused by the five-hour time difference between the East Coast and Hawaii in time to shoot ahead of Texas Tech in the semifinals 22-8 with 12 minutes left in the first half. Carolina led by as much as 16 in the first half and by 14 at halftime on nearly flawless execution. The Red Raiders cut the lead to seven in the second half, but a full-court press by Carolina caused several turnovers. Carolina built its lead to 23 before Tar Heel coach Dean Smith cleared his bench.

Many people were picking Stanford to be the giant-killers of the tournament after downing Providence in the semifinals, but Carolina overwhelmed the Cardinals in the opening minutes of the game, blowing out a 27-2 lead in the first eight minutes. Most of the points came off fastbreak opportunities and Stanford turnovers. Stanford changed to a zone defense and cut the lead to eight at halftime, 38-30. After Stanford cut the lead to six at the open of the second half, Carolina ran off 10 unanswered points and dazzled the small crowd with a show of lightning-quick passing that left the Stanford defenders bewildered.

"We've had an excellent December," Smith said. "We have improved."

He said the Classic answered several questions about Carolina and helped the players adjust to the roles they had to assume with three starters from last year missing.

"We played better ball in this tournament than we did in early December," he said, temporarily ending speculation that freshman Al Wood would be moved to a starting position replacing Dudley Bradley.



Tar Heel guard Phil Ford, shown reaching for two points against N.C. State in the Big Four finals, was named Most Valuable Player as Carolina took three victories on its way to the Rainbow Classic championship in Honolulu. Staff photo by Allen Jer-nigan.

Heels scorch Virginia with uncanny shooting

By WILL WILSON
Staff Writer

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — From the build-up here, one might have thought North Carolina and Virginia were playing basketball last Saturday night for the ACC championship, as they have done the past two seasons.

As the game turned out, the 76-61 UNC win at University Hall was just another in a series of well-played contests for the Tar Heels, but it was an earth-finding loss for the previously undefeated Cavaliers, who had been flying high after eight wins.

Several factors provided for the almost tournament-like atmosphere. To start with, like any pair of ACC teams, UNC and Virginia already had an intense rivalry, heated by those two ACC tournament final games, both close with each team winning once.

This year, Virginia did not face a ranked team in winning its first eight games, so this was its chance to show it deserved its 12th-place national ranking, if not a higher one.

On top of that, Virginia Coach Terry Holland made some widely-publicized remarks about UNC Coach Dean Smith the week before the game, saying Smith was not the gentleman he appeared to be.

Holland continued his boldness at a Thursday luncheon here, saying, "I think we're on the verge of being the best team in the ACC. And I'm not just talking about this year, but about the future. This game is very important to us."

All this led to the scene at University Hall Saturday night. So many tickets were distributed to students, who still had a week before they were to return to school, that

they were told to sit closer together than normal. Outside, some of those without tickets were offering at least \$40 for a pair of them.

For just over 16 minutes, the game lived up to its advance billing. With 3:40 to go in the first half and the score 29-29, the game had been tied four times, the lead had changed three times, and a technical had been called on each bench.

But from there on, the contest degenerated into a Tar Heel runaway. Virginia's next score did not come until 17:42 was left in the second half. By that time, Carolina had built up a 43-29 lead, scoring the last 10 points of the first half and the first four of the second.

The Cavaliers managed just one shot and committed three turnovers in those last three and a half first half minutes.

That 10-point halftime lead put the Tar Heels on the launch pad for a phenomenal second-half shooting performance that never really let Virginia back into the game. Carolina hit on 16 of 17 field goal attempts for 94 percent.

"We certainly gave them their 10-point lead," Holland said afterwards, "but UNC made their breaks the rest of the way."

Several UNC turnovers midway the second half helped Virginia cut the score from 53-35 to 55-45. But after a UNC timeout, Tar Heel guard Phil Ford put in 10 straight points to break it wide open again. The score reached 74-47 with 4:32 left before Virginia made it closer against the Tar Heel reserves.

Ford led the scoring with 23, and UNC's Mike O'Koren had 16. Freshman Jeff Lamp led Virginia with 16.

The win improved Carolina's ACC record to 2-0 and its overall mark to 12-1. Virginia is 1-1 in the conference and 8-1 in all games.

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Carolina slips by vicious Tigers

By LEE PACE
Assistant Sports Editor

CLEMSON, S.C. — Clemson did an excellent job of ruining Dean Smith's offensive plans in two crucial plays late in an ACC game last Wednesday. In fact, the Tigers did a little too well.

When the Tar Heels owned the ball with 24 seconds remaining in regulation trailing 72-70, the Tigers figured either the old reliable Phil Ford or the hot-shooting Mike O'Koren would be the one to take UNC's final attempt.

And later, with 14 seconds to go in overtime and Clemson ahead 77-76, everyone in Littlejohn Coliseum expected the ball to go to Ford or O'Koren.

The Tigers shut off Ford and O'Koren. They forgot about Gelf, Crompton and Tom Zaliagris.

Crompton took a pass from Zaliagris with seconds left in regulation, wheeled and powered a layup over the helpless arms of two Tiger defenders to send the Tar Heels and Tigers into overtime in the first ACC clash for both teams.

And after UNC blew a three-point lead in overtime, O'Koren hit Zaliagris breaking toward the basket left of the foul lane. Zaliagris twisted for a layup and was fouled by Colon Abraham. Zaliagris' three-point play sealed Carolina's 79-77 win, its 11th in 12 starts.

"Mike and Phil were supposed to run a two-on-two play, but Clemson trapped both of them off," said Zaliagris, whose 15-point scoring total was second behind O'Koren's 23. "My man must have picked up Phil, because the lane was wide open."

"I was trying to draw the foul more than make the basket, but I was

concentrating on that, too. I didn't know whether it was going or not. All I could think of was us winning the game. I had been a little down on myself because I missed several shots late in the game that we needed."

Clemson nearly won it in regulation following Crompton's bucket. Stan Rome took a long pass from Chubby Wells about 18 feet to the left of the Tiger basket, dribbled once and arched a jumper that barely rimmed out at the buzzer.

"I thought it was in all the way," said UNC's Smith. "They shouldn't have gotten that good a shot."

Clemson's final attempt in overtime wasn't as close, however. Reserve guard Bobby Conrad took the inbounds pass, raced upcourt and forced an awkward 20-footer that wasn't close. "We were just trying to get a shot," said Tiger coach Bill Foster. "There's not a whole lot of strategy when you've got to go 94 feet in 10 seconds."

Clemson had opportunities in regulation and in overtime to nearly put the game out of reach of the No. 2 Tar Heels. Crompton fouled Wells with 37 seconds to play in regulation and Clemson up by two, but Wells missed the front end of the one-and-one.

With Clemson leading by one with 33 seconds left in overtime, Ford fouled Conrad, who also missed the one-and-one.

"We had a lot of chances to win it," Foster said. "No one play cost us the game. We missed some golden opportunities. They hit the buckets when they had to have them."

Beside their failures late in the game, the Tigers, 9-1 entering the contest, played an excellent overall game, "perhaps our best from beginning to end all year," Foster said.

UNC still No. 2

NEW YORK (UPI) — The United Press International Board of Coaches college basketball ratings with won-loss records through games of Sunday, Jan. 8, and number of first place votes in parentheses:

TEAM	RECORD	POINTS
1. Kentucky (39)	40-0	417
2. NORTH CAROLINA	12-1	336
3. Arkansas (2)	12-0	279
4. Marquette	9-1	273
5. UCLA	11-1	211
6. Notre Dame	7-2	187
7. Indiana State (1)	10-0	154
8. Louisville	9-2	139
9. Syracuse	11-1	107
10. Kansas	11-2	48
11. Michigan State	10-1	25
12. Georgetown	10-2	20
13. Indiana	8-2	14
14. Holy Cross	9-1	13
15. (tie) Providence	10-1	10
(tie) New Mexico	9-2	10
(tie) Nebraska	12-1	10
18. North Carolina State	10-1	9
19. Cincinnati	8-3	8
20. Texas	10-2	6

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THE Daily Crossword by John H. Hales

ACROSS

- 1 Brief expression
- 5 Cyclops and others
- 10 Lugosi or Bartok
- 14 Butter's rival
- 15 Makes warm
- 16 Jewish month
- 17 Ting-a-
- 18 Guilty
- 20 Adjective for some walkers
- 22 Lower
- 23 Dias
- 24 College disciplinarian
- 26 Navigation method
- 29 Containers
- 30 Harbor: abbr.
- 33 Possess

DOWN

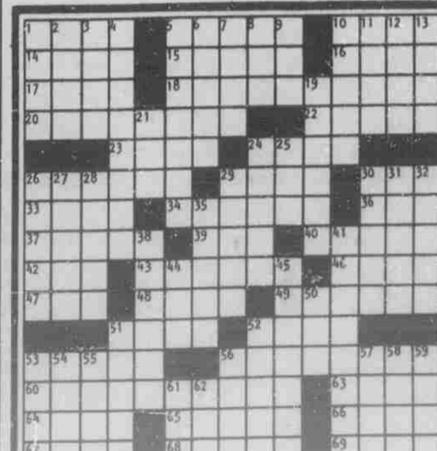
- 1 Aggressive flirt
- 2 Stungullion
- 3 Western city
- 4 Exhausted
- 5 Toledo folk
- 6 Style
- 7 Evolute
- 8 Old verb ending
- 9 Mariner's direction
- 10 Influential one
- 11 Ancient country
- 12 Rustic way
- 13 Jason's vessel
- 19 Brightly-colored fish

ACROSS

- 34 Bowling scores
- 36 - cupla
- 37 Oaths
- 39 Beverage
- 40 Amends
- 42 Slugger
- 43 Organic compounds
- 46 Part of QED
- 47 Exist
- 48 Discretion
- 49 Gridiron man
- 51 Exclamation of contempt
- 52 Acerb
- 53 Land pirate
- 56 Worn out
- 60 Disordered
- 63 - Marquette
- 64 Hammer part
- 65 - Haute
- 66 Kind of type: abbr.

DOWN

- 21 Spanish lady: abbr.
- 24 Knievel, for one
- 25 Somme summer
- 26 Queen of
- 27 Abraham's wife
- 28 Egg-shaped city
- 29 Certain servant
- 30 Conceited smile
- 31 Flower part
- 32 Preference
- 35 Mend
- 38 Begin a trip
- 41 The worse for wear
- 44 - Paulo
- 45 Stored away
- 50 Arctic bird
- 51 Showy flower
- 52 Quito money unit
- 53 Pith helmet: var.
- 54 Shedde
- 55 Piece of news
- 56 Vetch
- 57 Plexus
- 58 Of an age
- 59 Farmer's place
- 61 Lb. and oz.
- 62 Perceptive



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