

Bears reach for stars

Carolina survives brush with Mercer, 73-70

By GENE UPCHURCH
Sports Editor

Carolina won its game with Mercer Monday night as expected, but the way the nationally No. 3-ranked Tar Heels went about winning it was anything but expected as Carolina narrowly won 73-70.

The game between the two teams was supposed to be an uphill struggle for Mercer and a play period for the Carolina reserves. But Mercer turned it into a battle with their hot shooting hands and an effective zone defense and put the outcome up in the air with 20 seconds left in the game.

The Bears, trailing 71-70 as the clock wound down, had two shots at the basket by Stewart Reese and David Lewis to go ahead of Carolina. One of the shots hit the basket rim. Tar Heel freshman Al Wood grabbed the rebound off the second shot and was fouled.

Wood — whose home is only 10 miles from Macon, Ga., where Mercer is located — hit two free throws with four seconds left in the struggle to ice the win for Carolina. Wood started the game, because he is from Georgia.

Mercer fought Carolina evenly throughout the game and led at the half 38-37 on a jumper by Reese, who had a game-high 26 points. Carolina eased ahead by nine midway through the second half, but the Bears came back.

UNC coach Dean Smith ordered Carolina into its four-corner stall offense with 4:45 left to try to force Mercer out of a nagging zone defense which was shutting down the Tar Heels' inside play and forcing them to take outside shots.

Phil Ford put on a ball-handling show in the stall game but, when fouled, missed three straight free throw opportunities. He was fouled with 1:06, :34 seconds and :16 seconds left in the game, but he missed the free throws.

"I was very surprised," he said after the game. "I just knew it was going in. The more I missed, the more I knew I'd hit the next one."

Mercer gave the Tar Heels the opportunity to turn the game into the expected rout in the second half. Carolina, paced by Ford, outscored the Bears 14-2 in a five-minute stretch to pull ahead 65-56 with 8:57 left. But Mercer came back to force the ensuing white knuckles.

"It was the kind of game where I'm at fault for not having the team ready," Smith said. "We gave Mercer the opportunities early and then they said, 'Hey, we can play this team.' The first half left a lot to be desired. We didn't play bad at all in the second half. After we gave them a chance, they played well."

Ford led Carolina with 21 points but uncharacteristically missed four of his free throw attempts.

Mike O'Koren scored 16 points and suffered a minor ankle injury late in the game, but he was able to continue playing. Wood and Zaliagiris added 12 points each. The Tar Heels shot 49.2 percent from the floor while the Bears hit 53.4 percent of their shots. In addition to Reese's 26 points, Mercer was led by Everett with 10 points.

MERCER	MP	FG	FT	R	A	TP
Black	16	2-6	0-0	6	1	4
Lewis	30	2-7	2-2	7	0	6
Mim	38	3-7	2-4	10	0	8
Everette	20	4-7	2-2	1	2	10
Reese	39	12-19	2-2	2	2	26
Livette	21	2-3	0-0	0	1	4
Daugherty	25	3-4	0-0	4	0	6
Walker	6	3-3	0-2	1	0	6
Fische	2	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
Ross	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Totals	200	31-58	8-12	25	6	70

CAROLINA	MP	FG	FT	R	A	TP
Bradley	12	1-2	0-1	0	0	2
O'Koren	34	4-6	8-11	9	4	16
Yankov	23	2-3	0-0	7	3	4
Zaliagiris	33	5-12	2-2	0	1	12
Ford	34	9-19	3-7	1	5	21
Virgil	6	2-4	0-0	0	0	4
Wolf	15	1-3	0-0	4	1	2
Wood	28	5-8	2-2	3	2	12
Colestock	7	0-1	0-1	0	2	0
Doughton	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Bulko	4	0-1	0-0	1	0	0
Crompton	2	0-0	0-0	3	0	0
Totals	200	29-59	15-23	31	16	73

MERCER CAROLINA 38-37 — 70
37-36 — 71

Team Records — Mercer 3, Carolina 1.
Total Fouls — Mercer 22, Carolina 14.
Fouled Out — Lewis, Everett.
Technical Fouls — None.



Phil Ford floats in for two more points in Carolina's 73-70 win over Mercer Monday night. He led Carolina with 21 points. Ford missed three free late in the game to give the Bears a chance to win the game, but two Mercer shots missed as time ran out. Staff photo by Billy Newman.

Crum

Continued from page 1.

soon as possible. I would like to have my family down here by the first of March."

Crum said his staff of Denny Marcini, Cleve Bryant, Jack Hiebauch, John Matsko, Chuck Priefer, Jim Tressler and Randy Walker haven't been disappointed after their first week in Chapel Hill.

"They love it. The people at the University have been extremely friendly. They've been very kind. They've offered all kinds of help. A lot of students not associated with the athletic department have been very pleasant. I really like it. I'm anxious to get to know everything there is to know about the people and the area."

Crum inherits a remodeled field house that includes weight rooms and added office and meeting spaces. Dooley waited for 10 years before he got the facilities he wanted and used them one year. Crum is particularly pleased with the weight facilities.

"The weights are super important. We put a great emphasis on off-season conditioning. Not only because it gives the individual a chance to develop and mature, but also because it makes them stronger and more flexible. It's like adding another piece of equipment."

Crum directed Miami to a 34-10-1 record in four seasons, winning three Mid American Conference titles. And although he credited the MAC as being a balanced and competitive league, he pointed to two main factors that would limit a MAC team's success against a steady diet of large schools.

For one, the players don't possess the size and skill at Miami and other MAC schools that they do at more powerful schools. And two, there aren't as many quality players per team.

"Physically there's a tremendous difference in the athletes here and those at Miami," Crum said. "These guys are bigger and more highly skilled. They've just got to turn loose and play with reckless abandon. That's one trait that made Miami capable of beating any team on any given Saturday — we'd just lay back our ears and play."

Matmen in ACC play, host Duke at 9 tonight

By KEITH JONES
Staff Writer

The UNC wrestling team returns to ACC competition at 9 tonight when the Duke Blue Devils invade Carmichael Auditorium.

"All our dual meets from this point on are important," UNC coach Bill Lam said. "These league meets help determine the seeding in the tournament at the end of the year, so we really want to do well. We can't take them lightly."

The Blue Devils have several very fine individuals, but lack overall team strength. At 126 pounds, Duke has the defending ACC champion in Doug Sumner, a short, powerful wrestler. He will be paired against Carolina's C. D. Mock. Mock has been having an excellent year as a freshman and a win over Sumner would not come as a surprise to Lam.

Hockey wins two

The UNC hockey team scored two close victories over Duke and N.C. State last weekend to move its record to 4-1 and into a first place tie with the previously undefeated Blue Devils.

Peter Griffin's two goals paced Carolina over Duke, 4-3, Thursday night, and center Marc Isaacson tallied the winning goal in overtime in a 2-1 victory Sunday over State. UNC plays Wake Forest Thursday night in Greensboro's Triad Arena.

Women netters face ASU

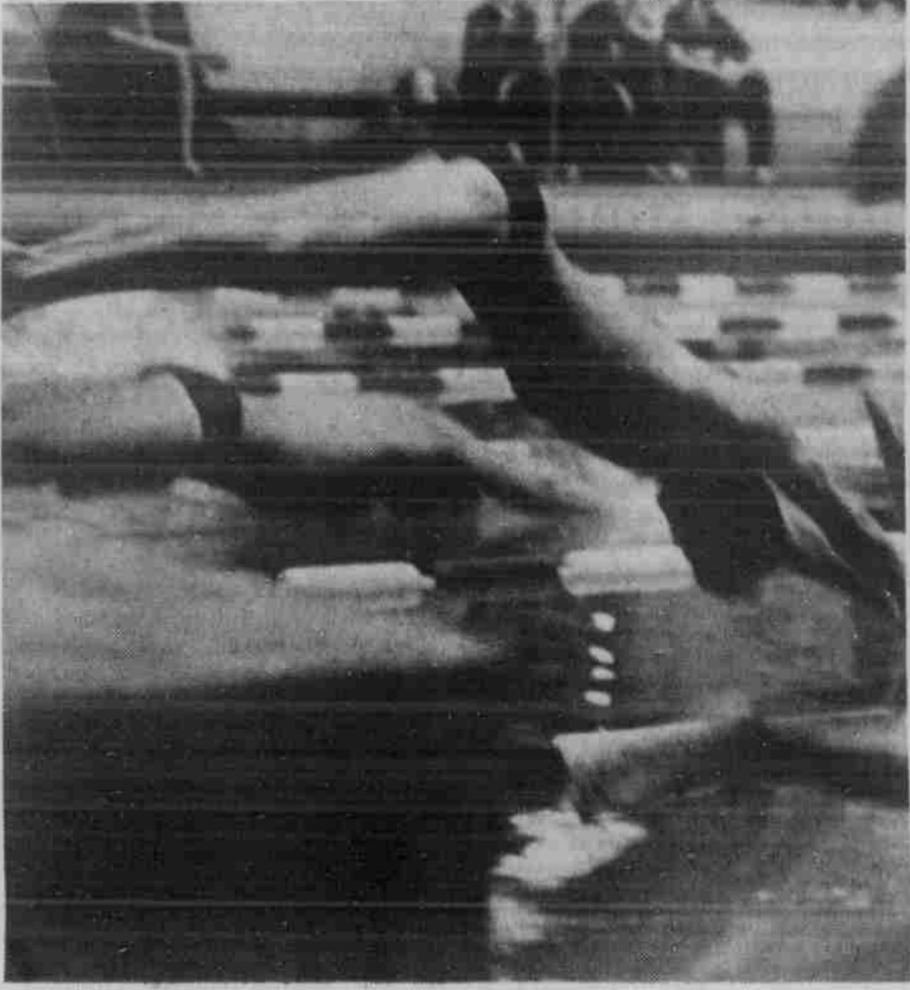
By DEBORRAH JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The ACC regular season battle is over for the UNC women's basketball team, but its North Carolina AIAW Division I battles are just beginning to unfold as it faces Appalachian State tonight in Carmichael Auditorium in its first divisional rematch of the season.

One of Carolina's key reserves will miss the game because of an injury. Kathy Sapp injured a ligament and tendon in her foot and ankle in practice Monday and is out indefinitely. Another reserve, Micky McGlade, will miss the ASU game because of illness.

Except for a game with Ohio State on Feb. 4 and the ACC Tournament Feb. 9 through 16, all remaining Tar Heel games are divisional matches. UNC's record against divisional teams determines if the Tar Heels advance to post-season play.

The game will provide the Tar Heels an opportunity to avenge an earlier 93-84 loss to Appalachian Dec. 2. In that game, the second of the Tar Heels' season, UNC



Carolina's swim team is home again this Friday at 3 p.m. against Auburn in the Bowman Gray Pool after losing to South Carolina this past weekend.

Swim loses first meet

The UNC women's swim team dropped its first meet of the season to South Carolina, 72-59, here Saturday. The men's record fell to 3-4 in their 72-41 loss.

The meet got out of hand early for the Tar Heel teams. At the first break for the diving, the men trailed 35-17 and the women were down by 11 at 36-25. It never got much closer.

The Gamecocks came into the meet well-prepared. Having had two tough meets against Clemson and Miami this week, USC was shaved and tapered, giving it a physical and mental edge. Carolina was neither shaved nor tapered.

"They felt bad about having shaved for us," UNC coach Frank Comfort said. "He said it took some of the satisfaction away from the win."

The bright spots were few for Carolina in the meet. Lauran Dupree swam what Comfort called "maybe the best meet she's ever had." Janis Hape set a pool and meet record in her win in the 200-yard breaststroke.

The Tar Heels face another tough opponent at 3 p.m. Friday in Bowman Gray Pool. Auburn, fifth-ranked last season, has beaten No. 2 Alabama this season and should give Carolina its hardest meet of the season.

— KEN ROBERTS

Carolina still third

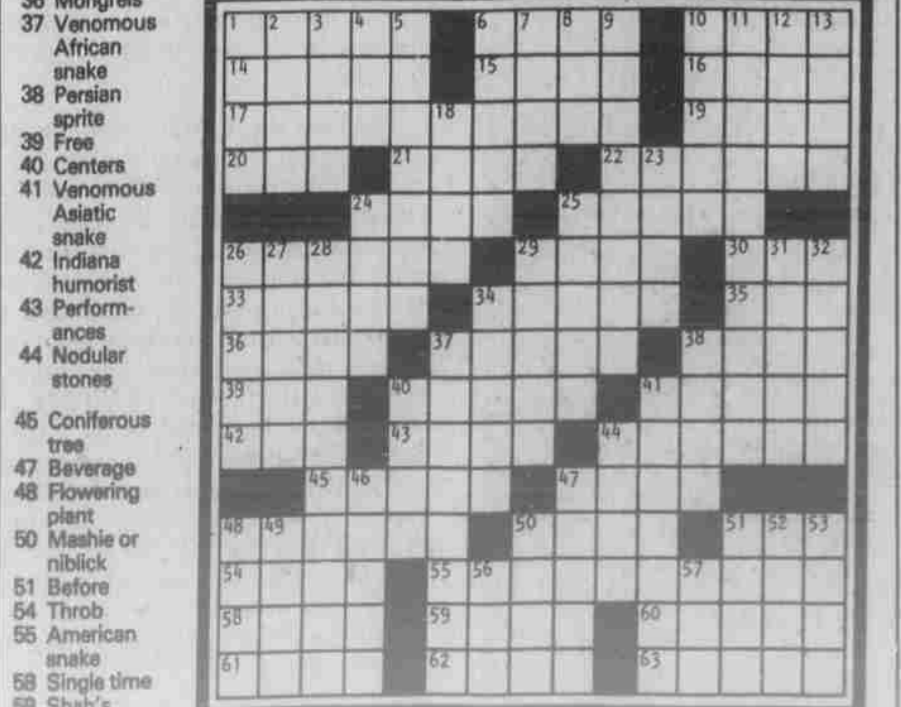
NEW YORK (UPI) — The United Press International Board of Coaches college basketball ratings with won-lost records through games of Sunday, Jan. 29, and number of first place votes in parentheses:

Team	Points
1. Kentucky (36) (14-1)	404
2. Marquette (1) (15-2)	288
3. NORTH CAROLINA (16-3)	249
4. Arkansas (3) (19-1)	227
5. Michigan St. (15-1)	207
6. UCLA (1) (14-2)	200
7. Notre Dame (14-3)	184
8. New Mexico (14-2)	95
9. Kansas (16-3)	84
10. Louisville (12-3)	60
11. Georgetown (14-2)	35
12. Florida St. (15-2)	33
13. DePaul (16-2)	31
14. San Francisco (15-4)	24
15. Virginia (14-2)	23
16. Providence (16-2)	20
17. Texas (16-2)	18
18. Duke (15-4)	15
19. Syracuse (14-3)	12
20. Nebraska (16-3)	5

THE Daily Crossword

by J. P. Campbell

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|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| ACROSS | 60 Roman calendar date | 11 Vanomous snake | 47 Actor George — Best | 51 Ferber or Best |
| 1 More proficient | 61 Forest animal | 12 Lily plant | 48 Footless animal | 52 Canelike growth |
| 6 Siberian river | 62 Cozy place | 13 Lodging bill | 49 Author Grey | 53 Gaelic word |
| 10 Disfigurement | 63 Rank | 18 Seasoned Part of B.A. | 50 Lupino and others | 57 And not |
| 14 River in France | DOWN | 24 Epochs | | |
| 15 Religious image | 1 — Mater | 25 Plants of Ghana | | |
| 16 Warsaw man | 2 Large snakes | 27 Liquid | | |
| 17 Rattlesnake | 3 Speech imperfection | 28 Large viper | | |
| 19 On top of | 4 Vocalized pauses | 29 Citrus fruits | | |
| 20 Venomous snake | 5 Red ornament | 31 Eagle's nest | | |
| 21 — Porsena | 6 Twisters of the truth | 32 Taunts | | |
| 22 Floor cover | 7 Old French coins | 34 Open courtyard | | |
| 24 Breakfast dish | 8 Christmas drink | 37 Venomous snake | | |
| 25 Stallion | 9 Constrictor | 38 Ship's nose | | |
| 26 Noisy brawl | 10 Goats | 40 Anxiety | | |
| | | 41 Walling | | |
| | | 44 Expand | | |
| | | 46 Horatio — | | |



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