### SPORTS

## Tar Heels see a new day on horizon but can't make it past Dawn, 'Hoos

#### By Warren Hynes Assistant Sports Editor

Wednesday night's duel with No. 1ranked Virginia ended in a loss for North Carolina, but the 2,250 present in Carmichael Auditorium witnessed a much larger victory for the Tar Heels.

In losing to the Cavaliers 83-68, the Tar Heels gave a performance that might have been the turning point for the UNC women's basketball program. "I think a lot of people believe in us now," said UNC head coach Sylvia

Hatchell. "They should." The Tar Heels, now 10-1, 1-1 in the

ACC, remained within 10 points of the

in the game. It was not without a dra-matic rescue from NCAA Player of the Year Dawn Staley that Virginia fended off the suddenly upstart Tar Heels.

Staley scored 16 of her game-high 21 points in the second half, shooting 6 of 8 from the field in the latter stanza. Yet, with each of Staley's jump shots and no-look passes, the Tar Heels seemed to climb back into the game.

With 7:30 left on the clock, UNC forward Charlotte Smith (team-high 15 points), hit a turnaround jumper to narrow UVa.'s lead to 63-59, the closest UNC had come since the Cavaliers led 17-13 with 13:01 left in the first half.

Cavaliers (12-0, 2-0) until 2:37 remained Yet, twenty seconds later, Staley responded with a jump shot that pushed UVa.'s lead back to six.

Two minutes later, with Virginia leadng 70-63, Staley stole the ball from UNC's LeAnn Kennedy, dribbled around a crowd of Tar Heels, and found a wide-open Amy Lofstedt underneath the basket. Lofstedt's bucket widened UVa.'s lead to 72-63.

At the 4:24 mark, UNC center Sylvia Crawley hit two free throws to narrow the margin to 72-65. Eighteen seconds later, Staley responded again with a 3pointer, giving her team a 10-point lead that it would not relinquish.

'When I really got to feeling, 'Hey, we're really in this game, we've got a shot here,' she would come down and hit a 3-pointer," said UNC point guard Emily Johnson. "That's why she's a great player. When the game was on the line, it was in her hands, and she did a good job."

Throughout the contest, Virginia seemed unable to finish off the Tar Heels. Sporting an average victory margin of 30.7 coming into the game, the Cavs never led by more than 13 until 1:03 remained in the game, and led by less than 10 for much of the contest.

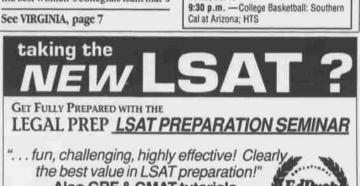
"I think maybe we took UNC for granted just a little bit, and they came out and they played very hard and they surprised us," said UVa. senior guard Tammi Reiss, who scored 16 points. But the word 'loss' never entered the

minds of the Cavaliers, Reiss said. "There's no doubt in our minds when

we're on the floor that we're going to win," she said. "We just know we're not going to lose. That just comes with experience.

'We know the desire to win, and we

know how to win." Hatchell said this Virginia team was in a class by itself. "They're probably the best women's collegiate team that's



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## UNC faces depleted Tiger squad

#### By Eric David Assistant Sports Editor

Santa was not very nice to Clemson basketball coach Cliff Ellis last year. He probably asked for the next Michael Jordan or David Robinson. Instead he got a ticket to Chapel Hill to face the eighth-ranked Tar Heels, 9-1 overall, 0-1 in the ACC, in the Smith Center tonight at 8

A year that started with the loss of 6-foot-9 forward Wayne Buckingham to a knee injury and ended with the academic dismissal of the team's lone senior - 6-5 guard David Young appears to be going nowhere but downhill as Clemson (6-2, 0-1) heads into the meat of its ACC schedule.

The Tigers are led by a bevy of newcomers. Six-foot guard Chris Whitney, a transfer from Lincoln Trail Junior College, is averaging 14.6 points

the starting nod. Devin Gray, a 6-6 Baltimore native, is averaging 13.4

### Basketball chart ...

ppg, and 6-10 forward Sharone Wright from Macon, Ga., is averaging 12.4 ppg. Wright also leads the team in re-

bounds with eight. UNC head coach Dean Smith is im-pressed by Ellis' new faces.

"They are a completely different team from last year with six newcomers," said Smith. "They have really helped themselves through the junior college route. In addition, Devin Gray and Sharone Wright have played well as freshmen.'

The Tigers began their season with five straight wins, but have gone 1-2 in their last three games, including an ACC loss to Wake Forest, 73-58.

Clemson faces a Tar Heel squad that has rebounded strongly from its ACC home opener, an 86-74 loss versus Florida State Dec. 15.

As expected, North Carolina is led by senior guard Hubert Davis. Davis is averaging 20.2 ppg on 52.2 percent shooting. Davis' 30-of-70 shooting from

3-point land also leads the Tar Heels. Junior forward George Lynch is

also playing well, averaging 15 ppg and 9.8 rebounds per game. Lynch's performance has keyed the Tar Heels strong board play this season. North Carolina is averaging nearly 10 rebounds more than its opponents.

Sophomore guard Derrick Phelps has led the UNC defensive effort.

Phelps has menaced opponents all season, averaging 3.5 steals per game, including a school record eight steals against Central Florida.

More importantly, according to UNC head coach Dean Smith, is Phelps' all-around defensive play.

"Wedon't judge defense by steals," Smith said. "But, Phelps is playing very well defensively." As a team, UNC is allowing its

opponents 69 points a contest on 39percent shooting. Note: The CAA has announced that

student IDs will be checked for entrance with a student ticket.





per game. In the frontcourt, two freshmen get

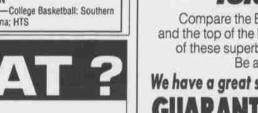
On Tap

Thursday January 9 MEN'S BASKETBALL, vs. Clemson, Smith Center, 8 p.m. Friday, January 10 WRESTLING, at Virginia Duals, Newport News, Va., all day.

lanta; TBS

North Carolina; 5 9:30 p.m. -College Basketball: Houston at Texas; ESPN

Sports on TV Thursday, January 9 7:30 p.m. -College Basketball: Michigan at Iowa; ESPN 7:30 p.m. —College Basketball: Louisville at Virginia Commonwealth; HTS 7:35 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Dallas at At-8 p.m. - College Basketball: Clemson at





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