Irish eyes are frowning as UNC trounces Tigers, 103-69

UNC looks to extend 4-game streak in N.Y.

By Warren Hynes

The first-year head coach of the Notre Dame basketball team is not, shall we say, on MacLeod Nine.

As John MacLeod returns this weekend to the arena in which he coached last year, he stands as inheritor of a basketball program that has been fading and fading fast. What's more, he is in the midst of a brutal nine-game road trip that has the Fighting Irish, now 3-5, heading to Madison Square Garden to face the eighth-ranked North Carolina

Tar Heels (10-1) Saturday at 1:30 p.m. MacLeod accepted the head coaching position at Notre Dame May 4 of last year. In doing so, he departed from the historic Garden, where he coached the New York Knicks last season. MacLeod led the Knicks to a 32-35 mark and an NBA playoff berth after taking over 15 games into the regular

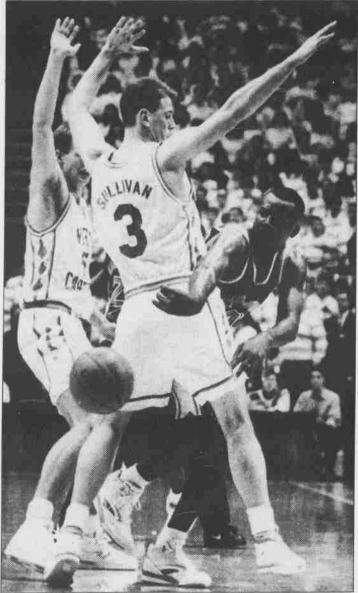
In addition, MacLeod coached the Dallas Mavericks for three years and the Phoenix Suns for 14 seasons. His 707 NBA wins place him eighth on the league's all-time coaching list.

MacLeod is attempting to fill the shoes of Digger Phelps, the winningest coach in Notre Dame history. In 20 years, Phelps guided the Fighting Irish to a 393-197 record, 14 appearances in the NCAA Tournament and three in the

But things have not been as rosy for the Irish in recent years. After finishing 21-9 in 1988-89, Notre Dame slipped to 16-13 the following season, just squeaking into the NCAAs before dropping a first-round game to Virginia. Last year, the Irish plummeted to 12-20, the team's worst record in nine years. A frustrated Phelps resigned in May.

Notre Dame looked to MacLeod, a 54-year-old New Albany, Ind., native, to revamp the Irish and return prosperity to the hardwoods of South Bend. And the new coach started off by adding a Tar Heel.

Thirty-year-old Jimmy Black, point



UNC's Pat Sullivan (3) and Henrik Rödl put the clamps on Clemson's Corey Wallace

guard and tri-captain of UNC's national championship team of 1981-82, was signed on as an assistant coach June 11. Black served as an assistant at South Carolina last year, as an assistant at St. Joseph's in Philadelphia for six years, and as a graduate assistant at UNC for

UNC's second all-time assist leader,

Black has been provided the opportunity to work with a backcourt that is Notre Dame's strongest area. Senior shooting guard Daimon Sweet averaged 17.7 points per game in the team's first seven contests. Point guard Elmer Bennett poured in 13.3 ppg and 5.4

See PREVIEW, page 9

Clemson fails 37th-straight test in Chapel Hill

By Stewart Chisam Assistant Sports Editor

The 21,572 fans who filed into the Smith Center Thursday night were given a subtle reminder that Christmas Break was over and classes had begun. In the spirit of the season, the most descriptive phrase of the evening switched from 'ho, ho, ho," to "ho, ho, hum."

Like those obnoxious professors who hold their toughest lectures on the first day of classes, the North Carolina Tar Heels schooled Clemson 103-69 behind Hubert Davis' 18 points and George Lynch's 17 points and eight rebounds. Five Tar Heels scored in double figures, even though head coach Dean Smith began clearing the benches with 9:35 remaining. Two other North Carolina players, guards Derrick Phelps and Henrik Rödl, tallied nine points for the

Davis' outing marked the 11th time this season the senior has scored in double figures and the 27th time in his last 28 contests that he has done so.

Eighth-ranked North Carolina upped its record to 10-1,1-1 in the conference. Clemson fell to 6-3, 0-2 in the ACC. The loss marked the 37th consecutive time the Tigers have fallen in Chapel Hill, Clemson has never beaten the Tar Heels on North Carolina's home turf.

The Tigers, playing with no seniors and only three players who had ever played at the Smith Center, were outmanned and outgunned throughout the night. Clemson made only 8 of 40 shots in the first half, while the Tar Heels' 7foot tandem of Kevin Salvadori and Eric Montross - No. 1 and No. 2 in blocked shots in the ACC - had the smaller Tigers running scared and shooting timid with two swats apiece in the first 20 minutes.

North Carolina finished the night with 10 blocked shots, four by Salvadori. In addition, the Tar Heels successfully pounded the ball inside for easy baskets throughout the evening. All of Lynch's 12 first-half points were off layups or free throws. In contrast, Clemson shot 22 of 81 on the game (27.2 percent) and was forced to heave 22 3-pointers, nine of them successful.

"We really were annihilated in the paint in every way," said Tiger head coach Cliff Ellis. "They were bigger, stronger, and we got pushed around.
"They're so big, they're going to

make a lot of people look ugly. Clemson held the lead once during the night, at 2-0, but Davis quickly converted a three-point play after driving the baseline, scoring a bucket and drawing a foul off the Tigers' Steve Harris. Clemson came back to tie the game at 5-5, but North Carolina went on a nine-point run spurred by Pat Sullivan's first 3-pointer of the season with 16:05 left in the half.

The Tar Heels never looked back. The lead quickly spread, erupting to 21-9 when Sullivan flipped a no-look pass to a driving Lynch for a crowd-inspiring layup. The Tar Heels never let up, extending the margin to 27-12, then

"I think we kind of took them out a little bit," Phelps said. "We made them shoot real quickly and take a bad shot. We worked the ball really well and did a lot of moving around, trying to keep them moving and keep them out of their defensive sync.

We just played well together and

put a lot of layups out there."
Thanks mostly to those layups, Phelps grabbed nine assists on the night, while Rödl added six dishes for points.

After entering the locker room with the score 49-26, North Carolina refused to let up in the second half. Led by two consecutive 3-pointers by Clemson's sophomore guard Andre Bovain, the Tigers edged within 54-36. But UNC once again returned with a scoring flurry that drowned the young Tigers' spirits. In a stretch lasting 1:05, Davis tallied

two 3-pointers, while Sullivan, increasingly confident from outside the stripe, canned his second trey of the night. Soon after, Montross added an easy bucket off a Phelps assist, and Rödl returned to can a 3-pointer.

Sullivan, who tallied four assists and 12 points, attributed much of the team's motivation to a Dec. 15 conference loss to Florida State in the Smith Center.

"Being in last place in the ACC for over a month now, it's good to get that first win under our belts," Sullivan said.

Confident that the Tar Heels' first conference victory was in hand, Smith inserted the reserves with the score 80-51, only to have UNC's bench players outduel the Tigers 23-18 through the

Every Tar Heel except Scott Cherry scored for UNC. Jason Burgess scored his first point of the season, a free throw with 1:33 remaining.

Brian Reese, normally a starter, sat out the game with a sprained ankle. Reese should return for Saturday's 1:30 p.m. tilt with Notre Dame in New York's Madison Square Garden.

UNC 103, Clemson 69

		P16011	mer A s				
Clemson	1 (69)						
		fg	ft	rb			
	min	m-a	m-a	1-0	a	pf	tp
Hamis	17	2-8	0-2	3-4	0	3	4
Hines	12	2.7	0-0	5-6	0	5	4
Wright	31	4-12	2-4	6-8	0	3	10
Bovain	20	3-8	0-0	1-5	2	1	9
Whitney	36	3-14	4-4	0-0	6	4	13
Gray	24	1-11	1-2	5-8	0	2	3
Burks	22	5-7	3-3	4-5	1	2	16
Wallace	26	2-7	6-8	3-3	0	4	10
Smith	2	0-2	0.0	0-0	0	0	0
Amestoy	4	0-2	0-0	1-1	0	0	0
Martin	- 6	0-3	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
TOTALS	200	22-81	15-23	33-45	9	25	69
Phonone	200	- co	020	FT OO	0 1		1-4

Percentages — FG. 272, FT. 696. 3-point goals — 9-22, ...409 (Whitney 3-11, Bovain 3-4, Burks 3-3, Wallace 0-1, Amestoy 0-1, Martin 0-2). Team rebounds — 5. Blocked Shots — 5 (Wright 5). Turnovers — 15 (Whitney 7, Harris 3, Bovain 2, Burks 2, Hines). Steals — 10 (Whitney 3, Wright 2, Bovain 2, Harris, Gray, Martin).

UNC (103)

	19	- 22	- FD			
nin	m-a	m-a	o-t	:0	pf	tp
29	5-8	0.0	1-6	- 4	1	12
28	7-10	3-5	4-8	1	2	17
19	5-8	5-7	3-5	1	3	15
25	4-8	7-7	1-2	- 1	0	18
21	3-6	3-3	0.2	9	3	9
22	3-4	2.3	2.4	6	1	9
9	2-2	0-0	0-1	0	2	4
14	4-9	3-3	5-8	- 1	3	11
11	1-6	0-0	1-3	1	0	3
10	0-5	0.0	2-3	3	2	0
4	0-0	1-4	0-2	0	0	- 1
Burgess 4 Stephenson 4		0-0	0.0	0	0	2
4	1-2	0-0	3-4	0	0	2
	28 19 25 21 22 9 14 11 10 4	min m-a 29 5-8 28 7-10 19 5-8 25 4-8 21 3-6 22 3-4 9 2-2 14 4-9 11 1-6 4 0-0 n 4 1-1	min m-a m-a 29 5-8 0-0 28 7-10 3-5 19 5-8 5-7 25 4-8 7-7 21 3-6 3-3 22 3-4 2-3 9 2-2 0-0 14 4-9 3-3 11 1-6 0-0 10 0-5 0-0 4 0-0 1-4 0-4 1-1 0-0	min m-a m-a o-t 29 5-8 0-0 1-6 28 7-10 3-5 4-8 19 5-8 5-7 3-5 25 4-8 7-7 1-2 21 3-6 3-3 0-2 22 3-4 2-3 2-4 9 2-2 0-0 0-1 14 4-9 3-3 5-8 11 1-6 0-0 1-3 10 0-5 0-0 2-3 4 0-0 1-4 0-2 0,4 1-1 0-0 0-0	min m-a m-a o-t a 29 5-8 0-0 1-6 4 1 28 7-10 3-5 4-8 1 19 5-8 5-7 3-5 1 25 4-8 7-7 1-2 1 21 3-6 3-3 0-2 4 9 2-2 0-0 0-1 0 14 4-9 3-3 5-8 1 11 1-6 0-0 1-3 1 10 0-5 0-0 2-3 3 4 0-0 1-1 0-0 0-0	min m-a m-a o-t a pf 29 5-8 0-0 1-6 4 1 28 7-10 3-5 4-8 1 2 19 5-8 5-7 3-5 1 3 25 4-8 7-7 1-2 1 0 21 3-6 3-3 0-2 9 3 22 3-4 2-3 2-4 6 1 9 2-2 0-0 0-1 0 2 14 4-9 3-3 5-8 1 3 11 1-6 0-0 1-3 1 0 10 0-5 0-0 2-3 3 2 4 0-0 1-4 0-2 0 0

Percentages — FG .522, FT .750. 3-point goels — 7-17, 412 (Davis 3-6, Suilivan 2-3, Williams 1-4, Rödl 1-1, Phelps 0-2, Cherry 0-1). Team rebounds — 2. Blocked Shots — 10 (Salvadori 4, Montross 2, Sullivan, Phelps, Williams, Stephenson). Turnovers — 14 (Phelps 4, Davis 2, Williams 2, Smith 2, Sullivan Lynch, Rödl, Wenstrom). Steals — 8 (Sullivan 2, Rödl 2, Montross, Phelps, Salvadori, Williams).

Clemson North Carolins Technical Fouls - None. Attendance -

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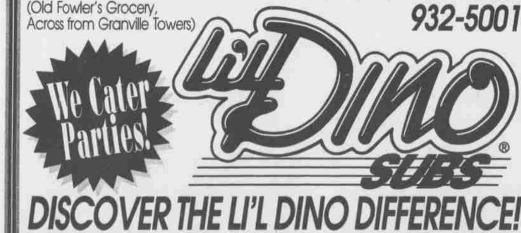
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