HARRIS TEETER MEANS

By Bryan Strickland sistant Sports Editor

What a difference a year can make. Last season, N.C. State head basketball coach Les Robinson was riding high in his first season with the Wolfpack. Robinson, a 1965 graduate of NCSU, guided the Pack to a 20-win campaign, including impressive triumphs over next-door neighbors Duke and North Carolina.

But in the early going this season, the 'Fire' seems to be missing in Raleigh. So does the "Ice."

Chris Corchiani and Rodney Monroe, arguably the finest backcourt tandem in ACC history, have moved on to

And with "Fire and Ice" gone, the Pack is lukewarm at best.

But when the Wolfpack, (8-6, 2-2 in the ACC) hits the Reynolds Coliseum hardwood tonight at 9 to tangle with the Tar Heels (13-2, 3-1 in the ACC), the

Pack just might heat it up. Anything is possible in a rivalry of such epic proportions. Anything is possible

Station, N.Y., has

Tom

Gugliotta. "Googs," a 6-foot-10 senior om Gugliotta from Huntington

with

personally seen to it that State has survived the post-"Fire-n-Ice" era. A season ago in Raleigh, Gugliotta lit up the Tar Heels for 28 points and 10 rebounds en route to a 97-91 Pack vic-

tory. But no one really noticed. Why?

The sharp-shooting Monroe scored 37. But this season, with the overbearing shadow of Corchiani and Monroe no longer blocking the spotlight, Gugliotta is the man in Raleigh. In some circles, Gugliotta's name has become synonymous with "NBA Lottery Pick."

Gugliotta, who played his prep ball at Walt Whitman High School, has been poetry in motion in 1992. "Googs" has done it all, averaging 23.5 points (second-best in the ACC) and a league-best 10.3 rebounds per game. Gugliotta also leads the conference in 3-pointers per game (3.3) and is third in 3-point field goal percentage (42.6 percent).

Gugliotta has a couple of competent frontcourt mates in junior Kevin Thomp-

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UNC women host cold Pack

By Jay Stroble Staff Writer

The overachieving North Carolina women's basketball team (13-2, 3-2 in the ACC) is set to defend its Top 25 ranking tonight at 6 versus the 20thranked N.C. State Wolfpack in Carmichael Auditorium.

The Tar Heels, who were tied with Texas Tech at No. 25 in Monday's Associated Press poll, secured their first Top 25 ranking since the end of the 1985-86 season. The ranking came after a hard fought 72-68 loss to top-ranked Maryland Saturday and an 84-49 blowout victory against Loyola (Md.) Sunday. The win against Loyola was the 350th for Tar Heel head coach Sylvia Hatchell.

UNC is led by sophomore guard Tonya Sampson, who enters tonight's game averaging 15.7 points per contest, and freshman phenom forward Charlotte Smith, who tallies 13.6 points and 7.8 rebounds per game.

Smith, picked as the preseason ACC Freshman of the Year, has lived up to those lofty expectations, earning conference rookie-of-the-week honors three times.

Directing the Tar Heels at point guard is senior Emily Johnson. Johnson has dished out 89 assists this year to move to third place on the UNC career assist list. Sophomore Sylvia Crawley, averaging 8.3 ppg and a team-high 19 blocks, is an intimidat-

ing presence in the post.
The Wolfpack (9-6, 2-4 in the ACC) will have its work cut out for it. The Tar Heels sport a 9-1 home record, and the Wolfpack - a perennial fa-

vorite in the conference — is just 1-3

in ACC road games. All-America candidate and senior center Rhonda Mapp leads the Pack in scoring (19 ppg) and rebounding (10.1 rpg), and can sink the three. Mapp leads the team in 3-point field goal percentage at 40.7 percent.

Other key players for State include sophomore guard Tammy Gibson (15.1 ppg and a team-leading 16 blocks) and team assist leader Danyel

The Wolfpack will have history on its side for tonight's game. N.C. State has won the last seven games against the Tar Heels and holds a 35-11 advantage in the series.

The last UNC victory against the Pack came in double overtime Feb. 9, 1988, at Chapel Hill. Last season, State downed the Tar Heels 79-69 at Carmichael and triumphed 90-70 at

Reynold's Coliseum in Raleigh. The Wolfpack has been slumping of late though, having lost four of its last five games.

son and freshman Mark Davis. Thompson, a 6-11, 225-pound space eater, mans the middle for State. Last year, Thompson hit 60.5 percent from the field, an N.C. State single-season record.

This year, Thompson's percentage is even higher (60.9). His 14.9 ppg and 7.7 rpg both rank second on the team.

At small forward, the 6-5 Davis has stepped in admirably for junior Bryant Feggins. Feggins, adouble-figure scorer for State last season, suffered a seasonending knee injury during the preseason.

Enter Davis, a versatile performer who has the size to scrap down low but prefers to pop the 3-pointer. The Utica, Miss., native has averaged 10.9 points and 4.6 boards per contest. Davis ranks second in the ACC in 3-point field goal

percentage (43.5 percent). In the backcourt, Monroe and Corchiani left shoes that are simply too

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big to fill. Migjen Bakalli, a 6-6 sophomore that was State's sixth man a year ago, hit 42 of 88 trifectas, ranking the lanky left-hander among the ACC's best.

This season, Bakalli has improved his ball-handling and inside shooting touch, but he has lost some of his outside accuracy. Bakalli has connected on 29.5 percent of his treys (23 of 78). Still, he is a double-figure scorer (10.1 ppg).

Freshman Lakista McCuller manned the point guard spot most of the year before sitting out three games for academic reasons, McCuller returned to action Saturday in a 78-75 win at Clemson but did not start.

Bakalli and McCuller have been the backcourt starters most of the year, but freshman Curtis Marshall and junior Donnie Seale got the starting nod against Clemson, combining for 22 points and

Spurs oust Brown after

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO - Former UNC basketball player Larry Brown was fired Tuesday as coach of the San Antonio Spurs and replaced by Bob Bass, the team's vice president of basketball operations.

The Spurs struggled to a 21-17 record this season after two years as Midwest Division champions.

"Larry was more and more feeling that I didn't have the confidence in him that he would have liked to have had," owner Red McCombs said.

McCombs said Brown did not appear at a meeting Tuesday, and later told team officials he wanted to be fired.

"He asked to be made sure to be clear that he was not resigning, that he was being terminated," McCombs said. "It's a very unusual situation to be asked to be terminated."

The decision comes after a day of reports that McCombs had first fired, then rehired Brown after a heated meeting with players and coaches. Forward Sean Elliott declined comment about the meeting, except to say, "There was a lot of velling."

Campus Calendar

WEDNESDAY

Noon: Black Faculty/Staff Caucus will have a general body meeting in 212 Peabody. 2 p.m. Institute for Research in Social Sciences will talk about SAS GRAPH in 02 Manning.

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3 p.m. Study Abroad Office, 205 Union.

3:30 p.m. Careering ahead for Freshmen-Juniors, a step-by-step approach to career planning, will be held in 306 Hanes. Sponsored by UCPPS,

5 p.m. AIESEC will have an interest meeting in 209 Union today and in 210 Union Thursday.

5:30 p.m. The Newman Center welcomes all to Newman Student Night for "Ask Father Ron." Communion service at Lutheran Campus Ministry followed by a fellowship meal at 6:15 p.m. Asian Students Association will meet in 206 Union. Project Literacy to meet in 210 Union.

7 p.m. Rush event for Delta Sigma Pl., a business fratemity, will be in Cobb Residence Hall basement. UNC Pre-Law Club will meet in 206 Union. Society for Out-Of-State Students, 208 Union. Student-led New Alliance Party will meet in 216 Union to have a program about Lenora Fulani. Presentation by Merck & Co. will be held at Carolina Inn C Ballicoun. Society for Collina Inn C Ballicoun. Society for 2011 Union to the program of the presentation of the program of the presentation of the presenta

Student Environmental Town budget in 211 Union.
7:30 p.m. UNC Shag Club will meet in the women's gym for beginners and at 8:30 p.m. for all others.
8 p.m. UNC-Soviet Exchange, 213 Union.
11 p.m. WXYC 89.3 FM will play the latest compact disc by Shonen Knife, "712," in its entirety.

Corrections

In the Jan. 21 Daily Tar Heel photograph, "Painted Lady," several mistakes were made. Gabrella Foushee is an after-school, not a Sunday school, student at First Baptist Church. The woman painting her face is Zeta Phi Beta President LaTanya Williams. Williams painted Foushee's face Saturday as part of a tutoring program with First Baptist after-school students.

The DTH regrets the errors.



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