

SPORTS

# UNC's Reese steps forward, elevates game

By Warren Hynes  
Assistant Sports Editor

Reese's pieces are starting to come together. And for the North Carolina men's basketball team, they are becoming quite a treat.

In a program searching for a spark at small forward, sophomore Brian Reese has brought a welcome surprise to UNC with his recent play.

"I'm confident with Brian, I really am, and it's been awhile in coming," said UNC head coach Dean Smith. "Late in November, he really went to work with his game. He comes out early, he stays late."

"He has room for improvement, but he is coming."

Indeed, Reese has been coming on strong. In the past five games, the 6-foot-6, 211-pounder has averaged 13.6 points and 3.6 assists per game while steadily improving his defensive play.

"I'm getting more confident every game," Reese said. "I know the things that I have to do on the court offensively and defensively. I'm really meshing in. The team is meshing in. We're getting a good chemistry going."

The addition of Reese as a legitimate offensive threat has taken some of the heat off of shooting guard Hubert Davis,

center Eric Montross and power forward George Lynch, who have combined for almost half of UNC's points this season.

Said Lynch: "Teams were keying on Hubert, and they were just sagging in on Eric and myself, because the guys weren't too prepared to shoot the outside shot. I think now with Brian hitting his threes, it's going to put a lot of pressure on teams trying to play us inside."

Reese is now third on the team in scoring (10.2 ppg), in 3-point field goal percentage (34.6) and in assists (4.5).

As well as Reese has been hitting the outside shot, it has been in driving to the basket that Brian Reese has been most effective.

"He's an explosive player," said UNC forward Pat Sullivan. "He gets up."

There it is: The swooping glide of Reese streaming toward the basket, soaring above the tallest of defenders, either to punch in an easy layup or to crash the rim with the most titanic jams the Smith Center knows these days.

In UNC's 76-64 victory against



Brian Reese

Villanova Jan. 19, Reese had four dunks that seemed to inspire the Smith Center crowd and the UNC team. But to Reese, the slam dunks were nothing but drops in the bucket.

"I don't know how the crowd or anybody else takes it, but it's nothing but two points to me," he said after the game.

Offensive exploits are simply not what Brian Reese is in search of. That stuff comes naturally. It is excellence on the defensive end of the court that he is striving for.

"I'm not trying to get 20-point games, 10-point games, whatever the case may be," he said.

"I want to have the great defensive game, the great rebounding game. I just want to always be into the game, and just work my hardest."

UNC guard Henrik Rödl, not a bad defensive player himself, said he was quite impressed with Reese's defense of late.

"He's really found his confidence defensively," Rödl said. "We all knew he was a great leaper and a great dunker, but he can really play."

Reese's stamina has been questioned throughout his first 1 1/2 years as a Tar Heel. He admitted that he had not exercised enough in the off-season, and said he did not wish to make that error again.

"That was one of my mistakes this summer: I went home and I didn't really concentrate so much on staying in shape," he said.

"I know better this summer. I'm going to stay at Carolina, go to two sessions of summer school, and just really work hard and try to be ready in the early part of the season."

For a man already looking toward November, how does Brian Reese judge himself right now, in January?

"All I can say is, 'Ask Coach Smith,'" he said. "I hope I'm improving, because he's the teacher. He gives me the grades. 'If he sees improvement from me, I'll be in there playing.'"

# Tyson rape trial: Day 2

Staff and wire reports

INDIANAPOLIS — Attorneys in Mike Tyson's rape trial clashed Tuesday as each side tried to probe potential jurors' fundamental feelings about rape: whether a woman might "ask for it," or lie about it.

Eleven jurors have been seated. Marion Superior Court Judge Patricia J. Gifford estimated as court adjourned for the day that selection of a panel of 12 jurors and four alternates would end Wednesday, with motions and opening statements thereafter.

Tyson, 25, has been charged with rape, criminal deviate conduct and confinement. If convicted, the former

world heavyweight boxing champion could be sentenced to 63 years in prison.

## Sport your slamming skills

The Carolina Athletic Association will sponsor its fifth-annual slam dunk contest tonight at 7:30 in Carmichael Auditorium. The top three dunkers in tonight's round will advance to the final round, to be held in the Smith Center Feb. 5 during halftime of the UNC-Duke men's basketball game.

The grand prize is a pair of free round-trip tickets for a four-person trip to Panama City, Fla. Anyone can sign up today in the CAA office.

## CAA

use were helping with the clear out of the game," Elliott said. "So the stuff that should have gotten done didn't get done."

Arnold Trujillo, University public safety director, said Tuesday that he did not know about the plan to monitor a student line during Saturday's game.

"I wasn't aware of that policy," Trujillo said. "They told us that students would be lining up, but we weren't supposed to stop them from doing it."

Elliott said he and Doll made adjustments for Sunday's ticket distribution for the Wake Forest game.

"Anthony and I talked about making some corrections," he said. "For the next distribution, I think we have a clearer understanding about what each party's responsibilities are. I think there was confusion with the police and who was responsible for what."

Elliott said the CAA had more control over ticket distribution but still needed to take the upper hand in providing security and ensuring students' spots in line.

"I told Anthony that if (the CAA) is going to be responsible for distribution, they are going to have to take some of the measures necessary to protect the

people and the people's places in line," he said.

Kenny Monteith, a senior from Bryson City, said having students save spots in line for their friends was unfair.

"Two people camp out, and 16 people join them and get numbers," Monteith said. "There has to be a better way to do this ticket distribution."

Two other students complained that they had spots in line that normally would have given them lower-level seats, but so many students cut in line that no lower-level tickets were left.

"The people behind us started at No. 137, and they ended up No. 773," said

sophomore Elizabeth Biedenbach. "People just jumped in line wherever."

David Leete, a junior from Oak Ridge, Tenn., said the ticket policy needed revamping.

"I was No. 689, and ... I got out there five minutes before the UVa. game ended," Leete said. "I would be hard-pressed to believe that almost 700 people were in front of me then. I think I was maybe 200th."

"The system is not very efficient. It doesn't seem fair. This lineup system gives too many people a chance to get ahead of those who try to (line up) by the rules."

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### Show & Tell Video

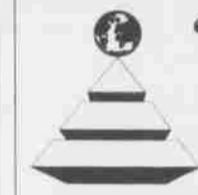
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