

Tar Heels get defensive on Tigers



DTH/WILL COOPER

Harrison Barnes brutalizes Clemson's Milton Jennings with a one-handed dunk with three minutes left in UNC's 64-62 win against Clemson on Saturday. Barnes scored a game-high 20 points and grabbed five rebounds.

Barnes' dunk shifts momentum for UNC

BY LOUIE HORVATH
SENIOR WRITER

CLEMSON, S.C. – Both teams struggled to play anything resembling basketball for the first 37 minutes of North Carolina's 64-62 win against Clemson.

But then UNC freshmen produced two flashes of physical prowess that helped propel the Tar Heels to a victory.

With just more than three minutes left, Harrison Barnes muscled a dunk through the hoop off a spin move that left Milton Jennings sprawled on the ground and Clemson's fans aghast.

MEN'S BASKETBALL
UNC 64
Clemson 62

Two possessions later, Kendall Marshall swiped the ball out of Demontez Stitt's grasp and took the ball the other way for a layup to increase the lead.

"It was kind of a spur-of-the-moment thing," Barnes said of his dunk. "I got high enough that I could, and I just dunked it."

Barnes did not plan to join former Tar Heel Jerry Stackhouse, who was in attendance on Saturday, in the pantheon of most memorable UNC dunks — it just happened.

"I was more reacting to the way the dude fell," Marshall said. "Harrison's a strong kid, and to see him go up like that and keep elevating on a dunk like that. That was a Blake Griffin-type dunk."

Barnes' dunk launched a tranquilizer dart into the neck of the Clemson faithful. The crowd's pointed silence reverberated through Littlejohn Coliseum.

"I saw Harrison do that in the summer, I had never seen him do that in the game," forward John Henson said. "I think that's a top-10-play type thing. I can't wait to see it on film."

After Marshall's steal, the freshman point guard showed experience beyond his years, as he pushed the ball despite appearing to go 1-on-2.

He outraced one Tiger and finished the layup over the other to widen the lead to four points.

"Easy baskets are hard to come by tonight. They're a great defensive team, especially at home, so I wanted to take advantage of the break," Marshall said.

The game as a whole was not pretty, as both teams combined to shoot 36 percent from the field.

Some of the offensive futility could be attributed to a lack of movement, but both defenses should get credit for shutting down each offense's strength.

"We have always said we want to win in the 90s, but we got to be able to win in the 60s," UNC coach Roy Williams said. "We work on it all

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UNC throws block party

Henson intimidates Clemson in low post

BY JONATHAN JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

By now, opponents of North Carolina should have seen the scouting report on John Henson.

He's long and he blocks shots. Yet the entire contest Clemson went into the lane against the 6-foot-10 forward like he was a contestant for the Bob Cousy Award.

"It's just human nature," said Henson, who scored 14 points and gathered nine defensive rebounds. "You've been playing basketball so long you're not just going to back down. Rightfully so, you shouldn't. My length always bothers people, surprises people. It's something you've got to deal with."

The Clemson big men refused to deal. The Tigers tried the paint early and moved outside once they realized Henson and fellow forward Tyler Zeller would have none of their high-percentage shots.

The duo was especially effective on a day when Clemson shot 34.4 percent from the



DTH/WILL COOPER

John Henson used his length to bully would-be Clemson scorers on Saturday. He swatted four shots while daring Tigers to enter the paint on defense.

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Nebraska pins North Carolina

BY CHRIS MOORE
STAFF WRITER

The North Carolina wrestling team knew that beating No. 14 Nebraska would be a tall task.

Immediately following Saturday's duel with the Cornhuskers, the Tar Heels (8-9-1) realized just how tough it was. On senior day for the Tar Heels, UNC lost 31-6.

Eight UNC wrestlers dropped their bouts against Nebraska on Saturday. No Tar Heel registered a takedown until the sixth match nor did his opponent until the seventh match.

"We just got beat by a better team today," coach C.D. Mock said. Mock attributed the large score gap to the Cornhuskers' experience. Nebraska, of the historically strong Big 12 Conference, only wrestled one freshman. The Tar Heels threw six rookies onto the mat.

"It was just confidence and experience," Mock said. "Wrestling in the Midwest ... these guys are banging heads with very, very tough teams every single week all year long, and they gain valuable experience pretty quick."

Thomas Ferguson was one of two UNC wrestlers to win his bout, picking up the decision in the final match of the afternoon.

Each of the Cornhuskers first three wrestlers was nationally ranked in the top 15, which helped Nebraska take the 184-pound, 197-pound and heavyweight bouts over Tar Heel freshmen.

Jake Correll, Pat Owens and Mike Rappo also couldn't provide any answers for UNC, falling 6-0, 7-1 and 10-3, respectively.

Down 21-0, the Tar Heels found hope in the 149-pound match. After wrestling fairly even through the first five and a half minutes, Nick Stabile scored two points on a reversal and gained a lead which he kept until the final buzzer.

Stabile's win reenergized the UNC squad, especially with thriving Corey Mock wrestling next.

"I was definitely riding off that momentum," he said. "I was feeling good, but later when I started my legs started getting tired."

Mock set the tone in the first set, registering a two-point takedown when he dragged his opponent back into the ring by his foot and put the Cornhusker on his back.

But he was soon spent. Nebraska's Tyler Koehn fought back and took control of the match, scoring a fall when he pinned the freshman with just eight seconds left.

"I didn't cut my weight very well I don't think," Corey Mock said. "I was really tired, I blew all I had in that first takedown."

The fall clinched the win for Nebraska by putting the Cornhuskers ahead by 24 points.

"They're tough," Stabile said. "They wrestle Big Ten, Big 12 style. We're trying to adapt to that, and that style is clashing right now, but we'll get there."

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Miami 3-pointers bury No. 13 UNC

Williams, Yderstrom star as Tar Heels fall to 4th in ACC

BY MEGAN WALSH
SENIOR WRITER

It was a game of threes Sunday in Carmichael Arena as the North Carolina women's basketball team faced Miami.

But they weren't exactly falling from the hands of the Tar Heels in their 78-66 loss to the Hurricanes.

No. 13 UNC (22-4, 8-3 ACC) failed to hit a single one of its nine 3-point attempts in the first half and sank just two in the second to shoot an abysmal 9.1 percent from beyond the arc.

"Good shooting cures a multitude of sins, and we're 2-for-22 from the three and they're 10-for-24," UNC coach Sylvia Hatchell said. "You gotta make your shots."

Meanwhile, thanks to four 3-pointers apiece from guards Riquana Williams and Stefanie Yderstrom, No. 20 Miami (22-3, 8-2) had no trouble putting up big numbers to maintain a steady lead throughout the game.

"That had to surprise Carolina a little bit — that was big for us," Miami coach Katie Meier said. "They swarm the ball so heavy. They're so unbelievably hard to score in the paint against, you kind of have to get it in and kick it out and say a nice prayer and hope it goes in."

Although junior Chay Shegog powered through three Hurricane defenders to tie the game at 44 less than five minutes into the second half, Miami's shooters were there to once again widen the gap with a 10-0 run.

"I thought when we tied it up that we'd get things going," Hatchell said. "And then we came down and didn't match up a couple times on transition defense, and they got open and made a three."

The Tar Heels' woes certainly started from 3-point rage, but the team's defensive approach provided nearly as many problems.

Miami outrebounded UNC, most notably in the offensive category, picking up 16 second-chance points to pull away — all while maintaining composure on transition plays to keep UNC from scoring.

"I think we're one of the few teams in the league

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DTH/DANIEL TURNER

Starting at forward, Laura Broomfield scored 18 points and grabbed a season-high 15 rebounds for UNC in the loss. She was the lone bright spot offensively for the team.