

**Fifth consecutive North Carolina victory**

# Tar Heels topple Spartans, 89 - 82

By Ernie Boone

Call it nerves, maybe adrenalin, or just plain bad luck -whatever - a red hot North Carolina team road 63 percent shooting to post a 50-34 halftime lead then hit free throws down the stretch to continue its dominance over Michigan State with an 89-82 victory in Chapel Hill N.C. Tuesday, December 1. It was the fifth consecutive victory over the Spartans for North Carolina. The Tar Heels trounced the Spartans twice last season, including the 17-point drubbing in the national championship game last season. The Spartans won't have time to brood. Wofford comes to Breslin Center Friday, December 4 for a 7 p.m. non-

conference game. The Terriers gave Illinois a tough time hitting consistently from 3-point range. They were tied 50-50 in the second period before the Illini went on an 8-0 run to create some distance and go on to post a 78-64 win. To their credit, the Spartans didn't wilt against North Carolina. In fact, they fought valiantly and came within a shot or two of overtaking the Tar Heels and snatching victory from the jaws of defeat. But each time MSU threatened to pull even in the waning moments, the Spartans fell inches short. Trailing 80-74 after Kalin Lucas had snatched an offensive rebound and flipped a pass to Durrell Summers who nailed a three-



**Raymar Morgan**

pointer and getting a stop on defense, Lucas intercepted a pass in position to go in for a lay up to get within four, but he collided with Raymar Morgan who was headed for the same pass. The Tarheels recovered and with numbers got an Ed Davis dunk on the



**Durrell Summers**

other end to go up by eight with 1:40 remaining. A minute later, trailing 86-80, Lucas stole the ball under the MSU basket, flipped a pass to Korie Lucious for a wide open three and the shot, which would have cut the lead to three with 0:40 to go, fell short. Larry Drew II nailed four straight free throws in the final minute to seal the victory.

The Spartans accomplished, however, one of the things that head coach Tom Izzo wanted. They competed. They went head-to-head with one of college basketball elites and played well enough to win. It was the Tar Heels' hot shooting hands and the Spartans' uncharacteristic long range inaccuracy that made the difference. North Carolina hit 21 of 33 shots, including 3 of 5 from three-point range, in the first half. They came down to earth to hit 12 of 24 (2 of 5 three-pointers) after the intermission. Meanwhile, MSU shot just 10 percent from beyond the arc (2 of 20), and 34-79 overall for 43 percent on the game. Lucas went (0-3), Lucious (0-5), and Chris Allen (0-6); only Summers connected from long distance, hitting 2 of 6. The Spartans were even on the boards, 39-39, and had the

edge in points in the paint, 52-38; points off turnovers, 14-12; second chance points, 28-15; and 14-13 and points off the bench, 23-21. But the Tar Heels held the edge where it counts the most: Final score 89-82. Ed Davis, a 6-10 sophomore forward, led the way for the Tar Heels with 22 points and 6 rebounds, while sophomore point guard, Drew added 18 points and 6 assists. Morgan led the Spartans with 18 points and 6 rebounds. Summers had 16 points and 2 rebounds, Lucas 15 points and 4 assists, and Draymond Green had 13 points and 7 rebounds. The Spartans will travel to the Citadel for a game December 7, return home for contests with Oakland, December 10, IPFW on the 19th, travel to Austin to face Texas on the 22nd, and finish their non-league slate against Texas-Arlington, December 30.

## MSU football players under investigation, 8 players suspended

While coach, Mark Dantonio and his MSU football team await news of their bowl destination, at least 10 players have a lot more to worry about. Two players, running back Glenn Winston and safety Roderick Jenrette, were dismissed just before Thanksgiving when news first came of their involvement in a fist-fight with members of a fraternity in a MSU dormitory. University officials, December 2, announced Dantonio's decision to suspend eight other players who are under investigation. The suspended players are said to have been present at the fight at a potluck dinner at Rather Hall on the MSU campus. Among the suspended players are three who would be counted on heavily if

available to compete in a bowl contest. Wide receivers B.J. Cunningham and Mark Dell, two of the Spartans' top deep threats offensively and starting cornerback Chris L. Rucker (said to be MSU's top secondary defender) are among those suspended. Others suspended are wide receiver Fred Smith, running back Ashton Leggett, linebacker Brynden Trawick, defensive tackle Ishmyl Johnson, and defensive end Jamiir Williams. MSU police expect to complete their investigation in another week and present their report to Ingham County prosecutor Stuart Dunning III. The fight, which involved the football players and members of Iota Phi Theta fraternity, occurred at a

potluck given by the fraternity November 22. The football players had just left the team's awards banquet. Police continue to attempt to identify all of what witnesses said were 15 to 20 players involved. That identification is hampered by the fact that at least three participants wore ski masks. There are no indications of what, if any, charges will be made or what individuals will be charged at this time. At least one fraternity member has reported injuries and has retained an attorney. While the players have been suspended from the team, they have not been suspended from school. Dantonio, as is his custom, simply announced the suspensions and indicated that the players had violated team rules.

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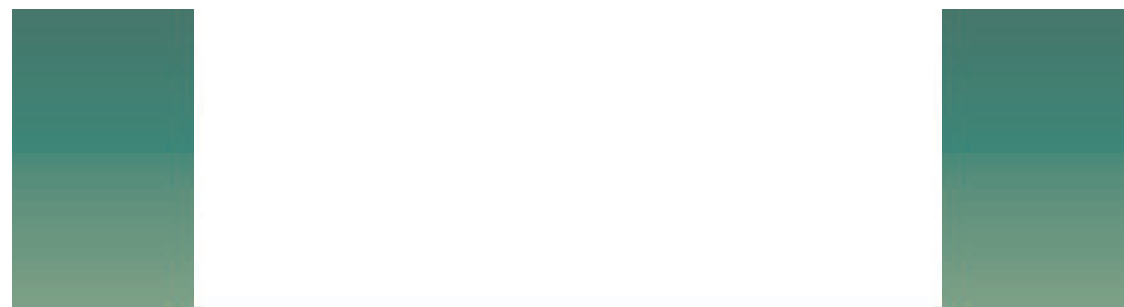
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