Prayers Answered for UNC Fans

On Thursday, May 24, 2018, Luke Maye announced to the world that he was returning to UNC for his senior season. The stellar student-athlete from Huntersville, NC had a remarkable season last year and plans to continue his success onto his senior year.

Despite losing their star seniors, Cameron Johnson, Theo Pinson and Joel Berry II, the Tarheels are still in good hands with Luke Maye. The former walk-on has become a vital piece to Carolina’s success. Last season, Maye averaged a double-double, 16.9 points per game, 10.1 RPG, and 2.4 APG. He recorded 16 double doubles last season. He recorded a career high in points and rebounds at NC State, 33 points and 17 rebounds.

Maye was awarded the Most Improved Player for the ACC, and was all named first team all-ACC. From his sophomore year to junior year, Maye elevated from 5.5 to 16.9 points per game, and 3.9 to 10.1 rebounds per game. But let’s not forget about his stellar performance against Kentucky in 2017, where he dropped 17 points to help the Tarheels advance to the Final Four and later become the national champions. He was named the 2017 South Regional Most Outstanding Player for his performance against Kentucky, and his double-double versus Butler, 17 points and 12 rebounds.

Not only is Maye incredible on the court, but he takes care of business of the court as well. He has won academic all-ACC honors in all three years at UNC. He was named on to the 2018 coSIDA Second team academic all-America for having a 3.45 grade point average. Maye was awarded the Skip Prosser award for being the ACC top scholar athlete for men’s basketball.

Five players averaged over ten points per game last year: Joel Berry II (17.1 PPG), Luke Maye (16.9 PPG), Cameron Johnson (12.4 PPG), Kenny Williams (11.4 PPG), and Theo Pinson (10.3 PPG), the Tarheels are still returning Maye and Williams. Kenny Williams averaged 31.1 minutes per game, 3.7 rebounds per game, and 2.4 assists per game. Hopefully, Kenny Williams and rising sophomores, Sterling Manley and Garrison Brooks, can help Maye continue on the success that Berry II, Pinson, and Johnson gave to UNC.