

The neutral corner

By Keith Flynn — Kaleidoscope Sports Editor

Short Subjects:

There is no doubt that the catalyst for the Washington Redskin's recent 27-17 Super Bowl victory over the Miami Dolphins was running back John Riggins. After rumbling through post-season defenses for four consecutive 100-yard games, Riggins turned his attentions to the Super Bowl and set records with 166 yards on 38 carries. The hole card in question remains, however, whether or not Riggins will return to the Redskin organization. On Tuesday he will become a free agent.

There is the possibility that Riggins will retire. After almost a decade in the game—a lifetime for any back-Riggins could decide to stop the Sunday poundings and the Monday morning headaches. Or he could take the bait that will be offered by a multitude of NFL teams and jump ship for what could probably be a record-breaking settlement. If he does, the offense geared to giving the "hoss" running room may have to gear itself to plugging a big hole instead of making them for a powerful backfield.

Although many athletes have opted to retire at the height of brilliant careers instead of waiting for the star to tarnish, it is doubtful J.R. would make such a move. He is one of the few old men on a young and explosive unit filled with rookies and second-year men. A second Super Bowl ring is alluring enough to keep leading an old horse to water and a \$70,000 payoff for one afternoon's work will certainly prompt him to drink. Don't look for Riggins in the sportscasting booth or in the battle colors of another club. He'll stay in the alignment right behind his big "HOG" offensive line and sign a contract Tuesday with Redskin owner Jack Kent Cooke for one of the largest contracts in professional football.

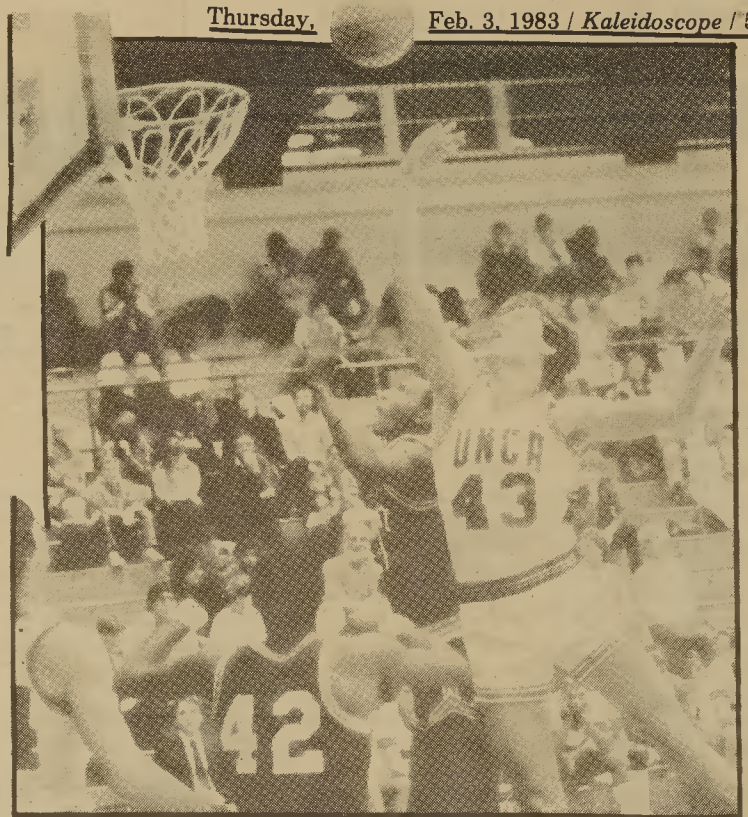
When everybody says that they are washed up, the Dean of college coaches throws a monkey wrench in the sportswriting machinery and comes up with a winner. The UNC Tarheels, after losing three of their first six games and falling out of the rankings in December, have regained the top spot in the Associated Press' college basketball poll.

The defending national champion Tarheels found the ingredient needed when Black Mountain product Brad Daugherty stepped into the starting line-up and the Heels reeled off 14 straight wins. With the 6-10 Perkins and 6-11 Daugherty providing the muscle and Michael Jordan the firepower, UNC has an ACC mark of 6-0 and seems a favorite to challenge for one of the four spots in the NCAA finals.

"Since we're such a young team, maybe this will be good for our confidence," said Head Coach Dean Smith when notified of the results of the voting. "But really, there are too many good teams to say someone is best." Sure, Dean, sure....

Although many people raised a public outcry when the Philadelphia 76ers acquired center Moses Malone for a 6.2 million dollar price tag, it seems NBA owners are not as dumb as even this writer had assumed. Since his ascension to the Sixer high post, Moses has averaged 24.1 points and 15.5 rebounds a contest. Not only that, the Sixers have the finest won-loss record in the entire professional ranks.

Philadelphia has not lost a game since December 23 and has posted an almost otherworldly 38-6 record for an astronomical winning percentage of .864. Maybe Moses can part the Red Sea.



Here comes the Flying Dutchman! No 43 Roy Van Oosteroom scores in a recent win against Methodist College. Photo by Carol Whitener



UNCA's newest addition to the tennis team is Danny Young, a Canadian who is becoming quickly Americanized. Photo by Carol Whitener

Player Profile: A Canadian Comes to Carolina

By Jodi Andrews

Danny Young was recruited this past January to play for the highly successful men's tennis team at UNCA. A high school graduate from Toronto's York Mills Collegiate School, Danny started playing tennis at the age of ten at Ottawa New Edinborough Club. His first experience with frontline competition was for players 12 and under at the Ottawa club. He responded by winning the club tournament.

After that rather impressive start, Danny began to think seriously about some other tennis competition. Danny seemed a little more mature than most boys his age and his older brother allowed him to hang around with him and his friends. One of those friends encouraged Danny to train harder and

to continue to take an interest in the sport. The influence paid off.

The first time he played winter tennis indoors Danny won the Eastern Ontario Regionals for players 14 and under and has since developed a long list of tennis accomplishments. In 1979 he was the youngest player ever in the Ontario region to win the Mason Cup, a tennis tourney with an open men's field. He was the Rolex Grand Prix Qualifying winner for the 18 and under bracket in 1982 and then captured the North York Junior Championships in the same year.

When asked about the differences between U.S. and Canadian tennis competition, Danny noted three major distinctions. The United States has more money that leaks to her athletes and this can also be used to sponsor tournament play. The U.S.

has a climate conducive to tennis. In Canada tennis is almost always played indoors. But in the States, both warm and cold weather allow players to jump ahead in their development. The major difference, however, lies in the structure of the school systems. The Canadian system is similar to the British school system with 13 grades rather than the 12-grade American system. "In Canada there is less time for extra-curricular activities," says Danny. "Most of the time is just spent on study and more study."

The United States is like a big brother to Canada. Almost everything becomes Americanized sooner or later, which only serves to make the international transition that much smoother. "There is more cultural pride in America than in Canada," Danny said. "I guess a lot

of that is due to the steady flow of foreigners."

Danny chose UNCA because of the desired combination of athletics and academics. He also liked Coach Ed Harris. "Danny's position on the team for now will have to remain in a supporting role," says Coach Harris. "But he has tremendous potential."

According to Danny, there is plenty of time to try to realize his potential, but not much time for anything else. "In Toronto I used to go to bars and listen to good bands, but now my time is full." Danny says he rises every day at 6:00 a.m. "I'm at the gym at 6:40 or 7:15 for tennis practice, eat breakfast, go to class, eat lunch, back to practice, then dinner and homework. I don't have much free time."