

### Lacrosse—Next Major Sport In Tarheella

By Elson Armstrong, Jr.  
On Saturday, May 23, some 6,000 sun-drenched fans flocked to UNC's Fetzer Field in 95-degree heat to witness the most prestigious lacrosse match ever played in the Triangle area.

It was the NCAA semifinals and UNC mounted a fourth period surge that sunk Navy 17-8, with the win Carolina now advances to the national title game against Johns Hopkins on May 30 in Princeton, New Jersey.

The title game will match two unbeaten teams that have been ranked No. 1 and No. 2 all season. Johns Hopkins has won the last three titles and currently holds a 22-game winning streak. The Maryland school earned its sport in the big game by defeating Virginia 10-6. North Carolina has become the first "deep south" school to ever advance this far in lacrosse, a sport that has been dominated by schools from the middle Atlantic region.

UNC's rise to the lacrosse elite can be credited to their hard working 33-year old coach Will Scroggs. Scroggs, who took over as head coach in 1978 on a shoe string budget has built UNC into a powerful machine that is steadily gaining popularity among both UNC students and the surrounding population.

Lacrosse, which is often called the fastest sport on two feet has elements of field hockey, soccer, and basketball, the action divided into four 15-minute periods is non-stop.

Although there are no native Tarheels on this UNC squad, there are already signs that lacrosse may be the next sport to hit the big time here.

North Carolina State has also made breathtaking strides in the sport (UNC barely edged the Wolfpack 19-17 for the ACC crown) and this healthy rivalry with the Tar Heels is already sparking interest among young fans.

It is quite possible that lacrosse is now in the stage where basketball was in this state 30 years ago, in the 1950's N.C. State, Duke and UNC had to virtually import all of their great players from the northeast or midwest but by the late 1960s the high school cage programs in North Carolina were as strong as any in the nation and native North Carolinians became among the most sought after players around.

As recently as 1970, only a handful of N.C. high schools fielded soccer teams, today the sport is growing by leaps and bounds.

So on Saturday, May 30, UNC will challenge Johns Hopkins for No. 1. (This will be Carolina's third national title game in ten weeks — in March Indiana defeated UNC 63-50 for the basketball title, in early May Florida State defeated UNC's women's softball team 4-1 in championship game.) Win, lose or draw, I say thanks to Coach Scroggs and his well-disciplined team for opening our eyes to the fastest sport on two feet.

## Sports In Brief

By Larry Barber

During recent weeks as the world is enthralled in rapid newsmaking demanding our attention, some of the "who did what's" are overshadowed by other who's accomplishing some what's. To combat this fact, let us briefly captivate some of the continuous bombardment of sports news.

### BOXING

On May 11, former World Boxing Council champion Ken Norton, who had come out of retirement for one more jab at the title, met universal number one contender Gerry Cooney in Madison Square Garden on Home Box Office television, and was knocked out by the

Irish-American in 54 seconds of the initial round. Norton said in a televised interview that he gives Cooney credit for being a better boxer and harder puncher than he anticipated, but that the 24-year-old contender could not defeat WBC champion Larry Holmes.

Six days after that fight, Eddie Mustafa Muhammad, World Boxing Association light heavyweight champ, tried his luck on moving up to the heavies' rank. but

dropped a ten-round decision to Renaldo Snipes. Mustafa, up from 175 pounds to a beefy 201, lost the fight not from getting hit, but for not fighting back.

Last Saturday, Wilfred Benitez, whose only career defeat was when he lost the WBC welterweight title to Sugar Ray Leonard; made good his bid to move up by knocking out Maurice Hope in the 12th round to capture the WBC super welterweight crown. Benitez, who once held the

junior welterweight championship, became the first boxer in over 40 years to have won titles in three different weight classes. At one point during Saturday's match, Benitez stuck out his tongue at Leonard, who was a CBS-TV commentator. After his brilliant performance, Benitez said of Sugar, "He's afraid of me. He's afraid to give me a rematch because he knows how good I am. He knows I'll come to fight in the

(Continued on Page 8)



Mr. Bernard Day, left, and Ms. Pearl Bullock bowled Memorial Day weekend in the 'Bow! Your Way To Europe Tournament' in Washington, D.C. They represented Village Lanes here. There were some 450 bowlers in the nation's capital from over 250 Brunswick recreation Centers across North America. They won out in local competitions from some 450,000 league bowlers nationwide.

### Summer Bowling league To Start Monday

The Summer League of the Hazel B. Plummer bowlers, will begin on Monday, June 1, at 8:45 p.m.

Due to management change and a few changes in policies and procedures, it is important that all members meet at 8 p.m. at Village Lanes for clarity and definition of same.

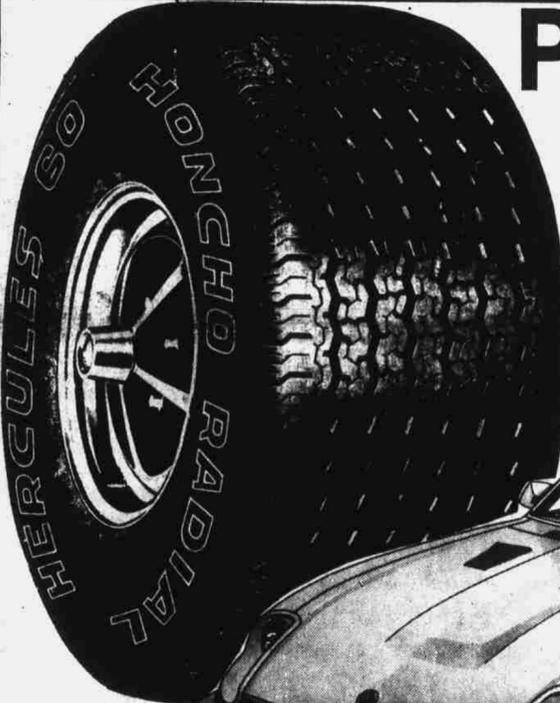
### Elson's Best Of NFL Over 20 Years

By Elson Armstrong, Jr.

The heat of summer is already upon us, and while I sat here in a cool spot trying to avoid the 90-degree plus heat, I got to thinking that it was time for me to come forth with another all-time teams list. This time it's the NFL's best from 1961 to the present. Anything before that time is a different era and the teams would have to be rated in separate categories.

1. Pittsburgh (1978) This was the best of the infamous Steel Curtain outfits that came to be known as the "Team of the 1970s". They had a perfect blend of an explosive offense and a punishing defense.
2. Miami (1972) It is likely that no other team will ever go 17-0 like this Dolphin team did, they were criticized for playing a weak schedule but no other team ever went unbeaten in the NFL — weak schedule or not.
3. Pittsburgh (1979) The club that made history by winning the Super Bowl a record fourth time. When they were hot they were just awesome.
4. Oakland (1976) Somehow this club is often overlooked when all-time teams are rated, but John Madden coached this club to a 16-1 record and won his only Super Bowl by thrashing the Vikings 32-14.
5. Green Bay (1968) This 14-1 team was Vince Lombardi's best and they left a legacy that will last forever in Wisconsin. (By the way, the Packers were voted the team of the 1960s.)
6. Miami (1973) This team was so good and methodical that it was just boring to watch.
7. Pittsburgh (1975) Who will ever forget the thrilling 21-17 Super Bowl win over Dallas. The game is featured in the movie "Black Sunday".
8. Dallas (1977) Another team that's overlooked. But just check the stats and you'll see that they were barely tested in their march to the Super Bowl title.
9. Pittsburgh (1974) This club held three playoff teams (Buffalo, Oakland, Minnesota) to less than 150 yards combined on the ground.
10. New York (Jets, 1968) The team that gave the AFL (now AFC) its own identity and Broadway Joe is still hated in Baltimore for what he did to the Colts.

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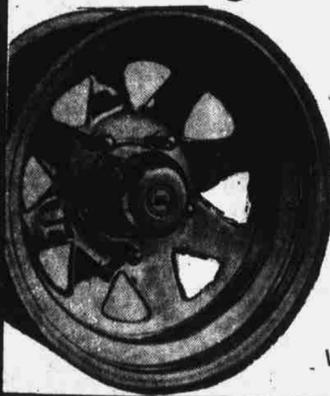
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