The Daily Tar Heel

SPORTS

5 Cities Set to Play Expansion Roulette for **2** Pro Football Franchises Charlotte, St. Louis Are Front-Runners CHARLOTTE

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS ROSEMONT, III. — The long wait is

most over. St. Louis and Charlotte are the favorites as five cities await the NFL's verdict on which two are in as expansion franchises. The owners begin meeting on Tuesday, with a decision expected by the end of the day, according to league spokesman Greg Aiello.

Baltimore, Jacksonville and Memphis are the other cities in contention. The league's first expansion since 1976

will give the NFL 30 teams when the new begin play in 1995. Given the record of NFL owners on major decisions, though, it could be a longer week than anticipated

On Tuesday morning, the league's com-bined expansion and finance committees are scheduled to recommend its choices. are scheduled to recommend us thousand Then the 28 owners will vote, with a city needing 21 votes to be approved.

JACKSONVILLE

m: 82,000-seat Gator Bowl will undergo a \$121 million renovation in franchise is granted. The stadium will have a seating capacity of 73,000, including 10,000 club seats and 68 luxury boxes. wnership group: Touchdown Jacksonville! Ltd., headed by Connecticut shoe executive J. Wayne Weaver. Group also includes his brother, Ronald; Jeb Bush, son of former President George Bush; Jacksonville businessman Thomas J. Petway III; and former NFL player Deron Cherry. TV Market: No. 56, lowest among bidders.

Other sports: No professional franchises, although area is headquarters for the PGA and ATP tours. City hosts two major college football games - the annual Florida-Georgia game and the Gator Bowl. **Pro football history:** Jacksonville had franchises in the WFL in the 1970s and

USFL in the 1980s. The Bulls led the USFL

"I'm not sure we'll be able to get any-thing done quickly unless we amend the rules for the vote," said Cleveland Browns owner Art Modell, referring to the three-quarters vote. He suggested a procedure Bowl sites, where the city getting the few-est votes on each ballot is eliminated.

But one ranking league official noted that expansion franchises, for which the that expansion manchises, for which the groups will pay the league \$140 million, are a far more important long-term venture than Super Bowl sites. Last time the NFL expanded, the Tampa Bay and Seattle fran-chises paid \$16 million each.

St. Louis and Charlotte appeared to be e front-runners, with Baltimore third if St. Louis is rejected. Most owners seem inclined to give one franchise to a city that lost one — St. Louis lost the Cardinals to Phoenix in 1988 and Baltimore lost the Colts to Indianapolis in 1984.

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in attendance. In the past 15 years, the Baltimore Colts, New Orleans Saints, Houston Oilers and Atlanta Falcons have all discussed moving to Jacksonville. Travelog: Located on St. Johns River on Florida's Atlantic coast, the city is a major port. St. Augustine, the nation's oldest city, is 20 miles to the south. Amelia Island, a popular resort, also is nearby. Jacksonville Landing, a revitalized downton entertainment and retail complex, is located on the river.

BALTIMORE

Stadium: Team owners will build a \$160 million stadium with a capacity of more than 72,000 - including 108 skyboxes and 7,500 club seats - paid for with bonds backed by special lotteries and stadium revenue.

Ownership group: The only candidate with two ownership groups vying for one team. Clothing magnate Leonard "Boogie" Weinglass leads one group, which features

filmmaker Barry Levinson and former NFL player Joe Washington. The other group is headed by Florida-based investor Malcolm Glazer, who said his sons will run the team. TV Market: No. 22.

Other sports: Baseball's Orioles, who moved into acclaimed Oriole Park at Camden Yards last year. There are several small college teams in the city, while the University of Maryland plays its home

games on campus, about 25 miles away

MEMPHIS Stadium: Liberty Bowl will undergo a \$60 million renovation if the city gets a franchise

The city-owned stadium, which seats 63,000, was built in 1967 and last renovated in 1987 for \$22 million. New renovations, financed by local government bonds, would increase seating to 68,000, including 8,300 club seats and 100 skyboxes.

Ownership group: Memphis Pro Football Inc. is led by William B. Dunavant, a cotton merchant. Also in the group are Paul Tudor Jones II, a Wall Street money manager and Dunavant's cousin; Willie Davis, a member of the NFL Hall of Fame and businessman; and even the Elvis Presley estate. TV Market: No. 39.

Pro football history: Memphis sought an expansion franchise in 1974 but lost out to Tampa and Seattle. The Southmen of the WFL played at the Liberty Bowl in 1974. The

Showboats of the USFL were considered on

humor. They can pass through the gates, but their instruments must stay behind.

dium: Ownership plans a stadium seating 72,000. The franchise would play the

1995 season at Clemson University.

restaurants

TV Market: No. 29.

from the state

Dwnership group: A 15-member group is led by Jerry Richardson, whose Flagstar Companies operates Denny's and Hardee's

Other sports: The NBA Charlotte Hornets will

play their sixth season this fall after making

the playoffs for the first time last spring. They led the league in attendance for four seasons, with a streak of 194 straight sellouts at the 23,698-seat Charlotte

Coliseum. The city also has a minor-league

hockey team, the Checkers; the Knights, a

Triple A farm team of the Cleveland

Indians; and Arena Football. College

basketball is king in North Carolina, with the last three NCAA champions coming

ST. LOUIS

Famer Walter Payton, NFL career rushing

leader for the Chicago Bears during a 13-year

career that ended in 1987; and limited partner

James Busch Orthwein, owner of the New

TV Market: No. 18, the largest without an

Other sports: Baseball's Cardinals and

hockey's Blues. St. Louis University is a

soccer being the major sports

member of the Great Midwest Conference

with men's and women's basketball and men's

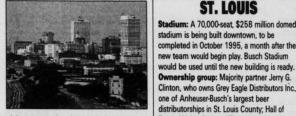
England Patriots.

NFL team.

Hockey's Washington Capitals franchise is in nearby Landover. **Pro football history:** The Baltimore Colts played in the NFL from 1953-83, when

owner Robert Irsay packed up moving vans in the dead of night and took the team to Indianapolis. The city also had a USFL team, the Stars, who played at the University of Maryland.

Travelog: Baltimore, 40 miles from the nation's capital, features the Inner Harbor, about a quarter-mile from Camden Yards.



but the Mer nphis Chicks are the Double A farm team of the Kansas City Royals. The Memphis Riverkings of the Central Hockey League play at Mid-South Coliseum. Indoor soccer and minor league basketball teams are no more Travelog: Largest city on the Mississippi River



World Football League had a one-year stint in the city's 20,000-seat stadium. The franchise died with the league in 1975. Two USFL exhibitions were played in the city, but the league never located there. Travelog: It has been a perennial home to NCAA postseason basketball and is host for the two NASCAR races. There are museums, a performing arts center and an amusement park south of the city on the South Carolina border



Pro football history: The Cardinals moved from Chicago to St. Louis in 1960 with limited success. Owner Bill Bidwill moved the team to Phoenix after the 1987 season. In 1974-76, coach Don Coryell compiled a 31-11 record, but the team never had a home playoff game. Travelog: Located on the Mississippi River, it is known worldwide for its Gateway Arch on the downtown riverfront. It also was famous for the blues and was where rock 'n' roll legends Chuck Berry and Tina Turner got their starts

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Va. Trip Reaps More Orange Than a Florida Orchard U UVa.'s secret other ACC locales for its madcap, off-color

hen I pulled up a sheet of bleacher in Scott Stadium Saturday afternoon I had an inkling of what I was in for Being ostracized by UVa. fans form y choice of schools was expected, but hey, at least I was sitting in the UNC section, right? Section 6, row V, seat 13 — the ticket gods were not kind.

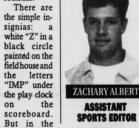
gods were not kind. So the greater part of my football day was awash in a melange of orange and blue. As if I hadn't spent enough of the day taking in the sights. The graduates of Tho-mas Jefferson's school herded back to the

grounds in Charlottesville for alumni week-

grounds in Charlottesville for alumni week-end with "V" flags a-flyin'. You can tell who they are. They kneel to the umpteen busts, statues and other ren-derings of ol' TJ as if he were the Pope. They troop around the lawn, hearkening back to their experiences as a "fourth year" student, not as a senior. They remember back to the great basketball teams of ..., or of Well, never mind.

Anything orange suddenly becomes fashionable in this enclave of the Com-monwealth. Every 50 feet on the main street, a huge (orange) "V" leaps out and reminds you that you're in Virginia. Just in case you forgot.

Nor will anyone let it slip your mind inside the stadium. The field house is dubbed "Hooville," a name only Dr. Seuss could love, and the surroundings are gar-nished with mysterious symbols denoting



endzone's general seating lies a 30-foot "7" that separates an alpha and omega, topped off with an infinity sign. I figure it works out some type of chemical equation for something. Something orange. I asked a member of the event staff what

ny of these signs meant. The man told me that there were simply seven societies that kept secrets from each other. "They try to be Ivy League during the week and Big Ten

on Saturdays," he explained. All secrets aside, this football Saturday

An secrets stude, uns to han sector any had all the hype it deserved without the added fanfare of a college band. This is good for Virginia, considering its troupe of scab musicians is about the size of a Duke Ellington small group. If you weren't aware, the UVa. pep band was banned from Scott Stadium and

So during the game, the hired-gun band of two dozen or so thumps out soft tunes beside the student section, while the more beside the student section, while the more organized, but more obnoxious, pep band belts out pomp from across the street. The issue has festered into the grand scope of the BCC controversy, complete with aerial advertisement. Midway through

win actual advertisement. Midway through the second quarter, a biplane circled the field with the message, "Hey!! Where's the pep band?" I was informed that this was the group's follow-up to the last home game's anthem, "Why is it so quiet?"

But the real noise was made by the Hob fans (you sure couldn't hear the band). After every touchdown, field goal, or extra point, the UVa. faithful linked arms and swung into "The Good Ol' Song," which praises Virginia to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne." In the Cavalier seating, it's like New Year's Eve in October. Fortunately for me, the lyrics were

printed on the stadium's plastic cups, so I could see how "Wahoowa" is spelled. The

stadium didn't run short on the cups either. In the third quarter, an industrious group of students began shelving cups upon cups upon cups. The resulting creation was a gigantic "cup snake" that extended from front row to back. "Must be engineering students," one parent quipped.

But even if I forget all these things about the trip, I will always remember the class shown by one Virginia fan who sat beside me that day. A wiry man in his 80s talked to me about his lone visit to Chapel Hill back in '43, and the football he had seen in his years. He waved his pom-pom and blew a whistle the entire day and told me

lege football could use more of. More of him and less orange.

When he left, he held my shoulder and shout the players. When he left, he held my shoulder and shook my hand. I didn't even know his name, but I thanked him for his consider-ation to this Tar Heel. It's something col-







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en St. Louis and New Orleans, Memphis is a regional hub for transportation. Its major tourist attraction is Graceland, Elvis Presley's

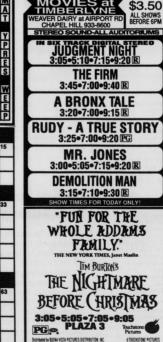
of the strongest franchises in the league Other sports: No major pro team in any sport

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