

## No incentive as a club sport

# Future of gymnastics dark at UNC

by Jim Thomas  
Asst. Sports Editor

### Last of a three-part series

The athletic department pragmatically asserts gymnastics will survive the transition from a varsity to a club sport. "There are a lot of side benefits in being a club sport," assures assistant athletic director William Cobey. "There is more freedom on a club and potential for state aid."

Only a liar or an optimist could make such a statement. Cobey is not a liar, he has abiding faith in the Club Sports Council and honestly believes gymnastics will survive. However, realistically speaking, gymnastics is dead at Carolina; if lack of funds don't kill it the competitive nature of gymnastics will.

The difference between gymnastics and the other clubs is the difference between a sport and a game. Participation in gymnastics requires dedication not found in other club sports. Members of the gymnastics are highly skilled athletes whereas club sports are composed of frustrated jocks and varsity rejects.

The goal of club sports like football and rugby is to have a good time and "pound some Budweiser." Gymnastics is serious competition, not a parlor game. "Members of the gymnastics team work harder and longer than any other sport at Carolina,"

said former coach Fred Sanders. "They work seven days a week beginning Sept. 1 for seven straight months, and three days a week during the summer. A lot of members went to clinics during Christmas and Spring vacations instead of going home."

Even though it is now a club sport people will still come out for the team. "Gymnastics is not something you can quit just because it is not sanctioned by the University," said Bobby Semes, a co-captain on last year's team. "We worked our tails off and never got any recognition. The satisfaction came from competing."

There is no incentive as a club sport. Members of the team are ineligible to compete in NCAA sponsored meets. "That is why I fought so much to have gymnastics made a varsity sport when I came here six years ago," said Sanders. "Gymnastics is in another world from club sports. A lot of people can't put up with the pain and soreness but if there is competition to work for it is a whole different story."

"You have to have something to look forward to. Karate has different levels of proficiency that can be achieved." Gymnastics has no self-contained grading system, recognition comes from competing.

"You have to work out every day to compete in gymnastics," said Semes. "Rick Fox worked out with a cast on his leg for six



months. He knew he had to do it to stay in shape." That kind of dedication is not found in club sports.

It is difficult to recruit boys from out of state to endure such a demanding program without a scholarship and no varsity status. "Once you lower gymnastics to a club sport you can't raise it again and get high quality gymnasts," said Semes. "You will have a mediocre team. You can't recruit good men

out of high school for a club sport."

The demotion of the gymnastics team put the final nail in the coffin, but the program actually began to die last spring when Sanders announced his resignation as coach due to "an unholy marriage between the athletic and physical education department."

Sanders had to serve two bosses, Carl Blyth and Homer Rice, and pay homage to none. The P.E. department was paying his salary as an instructor, but Sanders devoted more time to being gymnastics coach.

"The athletic department was paying me a pittance in comparison," said Sanders. "I wanted to work privately and continue coaching the gymnastics team. I was also tired of third and fourth place finishes. You can't blame the kids, they worked hard, we just did not have the horses or the money."

The University refused to acquiesce to his demands for more freedom as a coach and money for a big time program so Sanders resigned and now has both.

Despite the total meltdown by the University Sanders has been able to establish a private gymnastics school which enrolls 150 students and produced a state champion in its first year of operation.

Even though his school is a financial as well as an artistic success Sanders is still

concerned about the plight of the gymnastics program at Carolina. "I feel sorry for the guys who can't transfer because of the late notification date," he said. "Some guys, like Jeff Jamieson, the best pe former on last year's team, had already decided to transfer when I announced my resignation, others would have if they had known gymnastics was going to become a club sport."

"If there was some inkling that gymnastics would be dropped to a club sport the athletic department would have made it known to the members of the team so they could decide whether to go or stay. Now a lot of people are stuck. On top of it all Blyth hired an outstanding coach from Louisiana State, Ken Ourso, who spent the last year competing in Japan."

Paul McAloon, a rising sophomore, competed in gymnastics all through high school so he could come to a college with a varsity gymnastics team. Now there is nothing to work for. The future of gymnastics is dim. The team lost five seniors in addition to Jamieson. They will leave a big hole in the program that can not be filled. "Worst of all there are 15 guys expecting to be on a varsity gymnastics team who have not been told," said Sanders. "I can not imagine anyone coming here under these circumstances."

## Around n' about ACC

Tony Waldrop, UNC's world record holding miler, announced Tuesday that he would not run in the AAU Track Meet in California this weekend.

Waldrop's decision to not participate in the AAU meet means he is ineligible to run in the USA-USSR track meet in Durham July 5-6.

"I am simply too tired to run right now," said Waldrop. "I don't know when I will run again."

John O'Donnell, a starter on the UNC basketball team last season has signed to play professional ball in France next winter. A 6-7 forward from New York City, O'Donnell recently went to France for a tryout and was given the contract to play with Muhouse, a team based near the Swiss border.

O'Donnell, a Phi Beta Kappa at Carolina, plans to eventually return to Chapel Hill to enter medical school. He will take chemistry courses through correspondence work while living in France.

In the recent NBA draft, O'Donnell was selected by the New York Knicks on the 10th round.

LINCOLN—The Atlantic Coast Conference announced Tuesday that its 1976 basketball tournament will be played in Landover, Md., marking the first time that the event has been scheduled out of North Carolina.

However, the tournament, which decides the league's representative to the NCAA playoffs, will return to Greensboro, N.C. for 1977 and 1978, the conference announced.

Non-North Carolina members of the ACC, particularly Maryland, had asked that the tournament be played outside the state. They claimed that highly-partisan crowds favored such teams as North Carolina State and UNC.

Spokesman Skeeter Francis said the one-year move to Maryland would serve as a test to see if the tournament would draw as well out of North Carolina as it has within the state.

# International soccer comes to Carolina

by Frank Randolph  
Sports Writer

A soccer team from Chapel Hill will play two matches with a team from the country of Sierra Leone at the artificial turf field by Boshomer Stadium this Saturday and Sunday. The game Saturday will start at 3:30 in the afternoon while the game Sunday will start at 2:00.

Due to the success of last year's international match between teams from Washington D.C., Ecuador, Sierra Leone

and Chapel Hill, the Sierra Leone Embassy in Washington scheduled a rematch with the team from Chapel Hill. Chapel Hill managed to tie Sierra Leone last year, the only mark on the team's record.

The Sierra Leone team arrives today in Chapel Hill. The members of the team will be housed in various homes in Chapel Hill. This type of hospitality and warm receptions has made the Sierra Leone government anxious to maintain its team composed of students from Sierra Leone that are studying and playing soccer in America. It is done in hopes

of promoting their country and the U.S. Two coaches and members of the diplomatic corps are traveling with the team.

The Chapel Hill team was put together by Kip Ward and Charlie Dorr, both involved in Rainbow Soccer organization. The team is mostly composed of young players just a few years out of school, though the team ranges from a high school senior to professors here at UNC. Several of the players played here at UNC and the team can even boast a few All-South and All-ACC soccer players.

The way the contest looks now it will be a Sierra Leone team of very skilled individuals versus the Chapel Hill team which puts emphasis on team soccer. Chapel Hill's goalie Mark Berson attested to the ability of the players from Sierra Leone.

"The members of the Sierra Leone team are tremendous players. All of their players are very skillful and in fact will be methodical in trying to go one on one with our players."

Kip Ward confirms Berson's statement and spoke of this year's Sierra Leone team.

"They are really first rate soccer players. Their current session's record speaks for their ability. The closest score that any of their opponents have finished with is five goals less than the Sierra Leone final score."

But the Chapel Hill team has been practicing for three weeks for this game. The have realized that only by playing together as a unit will they be able to win. They have practiced their skills and have come up with a game plan.

Chapel Hill will be playing a 4-3-3 defense with four "attackers", three halfbacks and three fullbacks. The halfback will be playing both offense and defense. Also they plan to commit their strong side fullback to playing offense and hope the weak side halfback will be able to compensate. Berson's comment that "Everybody will be busy" seems to be a rather large understatement.

Despite the fact that the team has only practiced for three weeks together, it has the advantage of having a lot of players that have played in various programs in Chapel Hill.

There is plenty of room around the field so everyone is encouraged to come and watch top-notch soccer and support the home team. When asked about the prospects of the game Kip said, "I would be surprised if the two games will not be close. Whatever the outcome, these international matches give people an excellent chance to see exceptional soccer during the summer."

# McKee leads netters in NCAA

LOS ANGELES — North Carolina's Rich McKee and Maryland's John Lucas were the only Atlantic Coast players still alive Wednesday after three rounds of singles in the 90th annual NCAA tennis championships.

Lucas, the ACC singles champion, defeated Arizona's Rob Cunningham 2-6, 7-6, 6-4 and McKee whipped Jeremy Cohen of Arizona State 6-3, 6-2.

Four ACC players were eliminated Wednesday, including Carolina's Billy Brock who had scored a stunning upset of UCLA's Steve Mott in Tuesday's second round. Brock lost Wednesday to Steve Wedderburn of Oklahoma City 7-6, 6-4.

Meanwhile Duke's Mark Meyers fell to top-seed Brian Teacher of UCLA 6-4, 6-4; and Carolina's Rich

Hardaway lost to Trinity's Bill Matysastik 6-7, 6-1, 6-4.

After three rounds of play North Carolina was tied for seventh in team competition with Trinity. Both had 11 points. Duke and Maryland had three each and Clemson two.

Host Southern California and defending champion Stanford was tied for first place with 15 points each.

Billy Brock of North Carolina pulled the biggest upset of the NCAA tennis tournament Tuesday in the second round when he stunned 12th seeded Steve Mott of UCLA, 3-6, 6-0, 6-1.

Brock swept nine straight games from the favored Mott, the last four at love, behind superb service returns and an accurate serve-and-volley game of his own.

After winning the last two sets he sent coach Skalko and the UNC team into jubilation. He turned it on like no other Carolina player ever has in national competition.

Other North Carolina netters, Rich McKee and Rich Hardaway notched second round singles wins for the Tar Heels and the doubles team of McKee and Brock won their match.

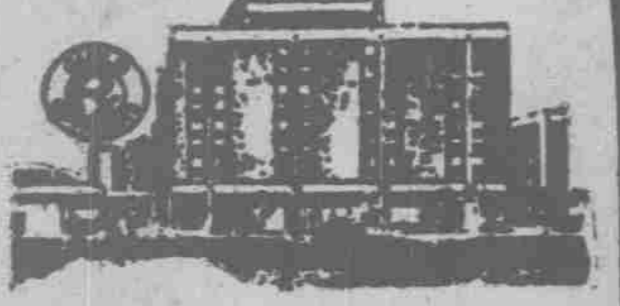
But Brock, the rising junior from Norfolk, was the big story for UNC. He completely dominated play in the last two sets. Mott is the No. 2 man at UCLA and Brock plays No. 3 at UNC.

In the first round Monday Carolina swept all its opening round matches.

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