

Down In Front

by Biff Roberts

Ave Atque Vale

After 29 years of service to the University as the head of Carolina athletics, Robert A. (Coach Bob) Fetzer will step down on July 1 to assume a new position as executive secretary of the Morehead Foundation.

For those who have been closely connected with Carolina athletics, it's a move that's hard to believe. Coach Bob has nursed our athletics from a sickly baby into a growing giant and when you think of the athletic program at Carolina you automatically think of him. He has always been a symbol of everything great at Carolina.

For a long time he conducted a one-man war to build up the Carolina reputation. When he came here in 1921 he and his older brother, Bill, made up the athletic staff. Since that time, under Coach Bob's direction, the staff has grown into a department of some 40 people.

Coach Bob came here originally as football coach, but track has always been first with him. He has also been head track coach in addition to his directorship, and the tremendous progress he made in that sport is indicative of the fine job he has done as athletic director.

His teams have won 17 of 24 outdoor titles and 12 of the 17 indoor championships down through the years. But in addition to building the sport here at Carolina, he has been instrumental, perhaps more than any other person, in furthering it in the South. He has long been an NCAA track committeeman.

Builder Of Men

It was through his efforts that the Southern Conference Indoor Games, held here every year, were begun. The meet, which is one of the most colorful of all sport spectacles, has been held for 17 years. He also brought the University its track field, which fittingly bears his name.

But more than his material contributions, Coach Bob has done more than any man to build up the famous Carolina spirit. In developing track he has also developed his men. His coaching ability has made great runners out of boys who had never participated in track before they came to Carolina.

In his many years here, Coach Bob has been the loser in only a very few seasons. He could have retired many times when he was on top. But this year, when Carolina has had so many misfortunes in its athletic events, Coach Bob bows out.

As Jake Wade, sports publicist, so capably puts it, "It is somewhat sadly ironical that he moves from athletics to scholarships in a year that hasn't been too gaudy for Tar Heel teams. He could have picked almost any other than this one, during all those past and bowed out as track mentor and champion. Track has always been his first love and he was a brilliant and talented artist at coaching the sport. Yet his resignation had to hit when the Tar Heels packed their poorest track wallop in many a year.

But Coach Bob never put winning above other greater virtues, so maybe it's just as well."

Success To His Successors

Regardless of the success this year, Coach Bob can leave his post with the knowledge that he completed a good job, well done. A man gets no greater satisfaction from doing a job than being able to look back at it and seeing exactly what he has created. The present athletic organization which he has built is one which would make any man proud.

When he moves to his new job in July, Coach Bob can also be confident that his baby is in caring hands. His two successors Dr. O. K. Cornwell and Chuck Erickson, have worked well with him in the past and are well experienced in their fields.

Dr. Cornwell, who will be chairman of the department of physical education and athletics, has been working in that field here since 1935. And Coach Erickson, who has handled the golf team as well as being assistant athletic director since 1946, will have little difficulty assuming his position as athletic director.

We hate to see Coach Bob leave a job that he has loved so well and one which he has carried out so well. He has two fine successors, but they will have a tremendous gap to fill. If they can produce an era half so successful as Coach Bob's then they, too, will be worthy of the praise he has received for these past 29 years.



COACH BOB FETZER
Twenty-Nine Years of Progressive Athletics

UNC Defends Championships As SC Net Tourney Starts

Tennis players from all over the Southern Conference will gather in Charlotte today for the opening of the annual conference tennis tournament. No team scores will be kept but Carolina will be the unofficial defending champion, since they swept the championships in the singles and the doubles last year.

Del Sylvia, Carolina's number one man, was seeded number one last year but is not likely to retain this rating because of a regular season defeat at the hands of Tom Boys of William and Mary. Boys will probably get the number one position with Sylvia second.

In the doubles, the William and Mary team of Boys and Ronald Barnes will probably get the number one seed due to their win over Sam Handel and Sylvia this season. The Carolina pair will probably be second. Another Carolina doubles combination, Herb Browne and Bob Paype, are expected to be strong contenders for the title also.

In last year's tournament Buddy Ager, Carolina's number two man, beat Sylvia in the finals of the singles championship. In the doubles, the Carolina team of Heath Alexander and Ager beat the number-one seeded team of Boys and Barnes.

Duke is the conference champion this year in individual meet competition, having beat Carolina, the defending champions, 5-4. Duke's number one man is Kes Deimling who will probably be seeded number three behind Sylvia.

The tournament will last for three days with the finals scheduled for Saturday. In case of rain the proceedings will be carried over to Sunday.

BASEBALL SCORES

National League
New York 8, Cincinnati 3
St. Louis 5, Brooklyn 1
Philadelphia 9, Chicago 2
Boston 4, Pittsburgh 3

American League
Detroit 3, Washington 2
Chicago 6, Boston 3
New York 5, Cleveland 3
St. Louis 12, Philadelphia 4 (6 innings)

Kenan-Carr Cop Softball Crown, 20-2

The Kenan-Carr women's softball team defeated the Chi Omega sorority squad 20-2 Tuesday in the finals of the Women's Athletic Association softball tournament. The winning team was made up of residents of both Kenan and Carr dormitories.

Carolyn Jessup was the winning pitcher for the dorm team, pitching fine ball and allowing only two runs. Ott Oettinger started for the Chi O's but gave way to Lou Restrepo. Before the end of the game Restrepo was relieved by Mel Stribbling.

The tournament has been in progress for two weeks and the seven teams entered played on a single game elimination basis. The Tri Delt, KD, Pi Phi, and A Pi sororities and McIver dorm were the other teams represented in the tournament.

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