

Tatum Turns Down Indiana Post Due To "Unfinished Job"

Frosh Mermen Drop Decision

UNC's freshmen mermen dropped a close 37-31 decision to Greensboro High Tuesday afternoon in Greensboro.

The Tar Babies were able to garner only three first places. Moore took the 40 yard freestyle in 20-1 and his teammate, Paul Wachendorfer, took the only other individual first place with a time of 1:16.0 in the 120 yard individual medley.

The frosh quartet of Younts, Pittman, Rosen, and Moore captured the 160 yard medley relay.

Randy Dodson, of Greensboro, set his second National High School record in four days, taking the 100 yard breast stroke in 58.9. In addition to shattering the standard of 1:00.5 set in 1955, he defeated Wachendorfer, number one Prep School swimmer last year in that event.

Carolina-Wake Game At Winston Is Sellout

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—(AP)—The North Carolina and Wake Forest basketball game, slated for Memorial Coliseum here Feb. 26, is a sellout.

Assistant Athletic Director Jess Haddock said today that all 8,000 tickets for the Coliseum had been sold and that no tickets will be available.

He also reported that excellent tickets for the Maryland (Feb. 18) and Eastern Kentucky (Feb. 20) games are available.

'Owed It To My Family And Friends', Says Jim

By BILL KING

We hadn't seen Sunny Jim since the last game of the 1956 football campaign the other day when we dropped by his office for a little chat. The husky Tar Heel football mentor looked well-rested and greeted the writer with a hearty handshake. Could he spare a few minutes, he was asked? He sure could, and he seated himself behind his desk ready for the inevitable question.

"What's the real story on the Indiana affair coach?" We were referring, of course, to the recent rumor that Tatum was going to take over the head coaching job at Indiana. In fact, it was believed in some quarters that Tatum had definitely decided to take the job; a rumor that was squelched a few days later when Phil Dickens signed a contract as head coach at Indiana.

"Well in the first place," he said, "I think there has been too much to do about the whole thing. There is a wonderful opportunity for a coach at Indiana, but I had to consider many other things."

"In the first place, I had to consider my family. I went out to Indiana and compared living conditions, etc. with those in North Carolina. Now I want it understood that Indiana is a fine place, but I just could not see moving my family way out there after we'd been in Chapel Hill such a short while." This point Tatum emphasized.

Another primary factor, according to the Tar Heel coach, was an obligation to friends, students, and alumni of Carolina. "I felt that at Carolina I hadn't completed the job that I came here to do," he said. "I guess I felt that I owed it to my friends to stay here."

Tatum admitted that the Indiana post looked "mighty lucrative." "The conditions of the job, including the salary, looked very good," he stated. "There is a good opportunity to produce out there. But I did not want to betray the confidence that my friends and the administration had put in me, so I turned down the offer."

Tatum declined to quote any salary figures saying only that the offer was "satisfactory."

The story goes that Tatum had decided to accept the offer when he received a phone call from a friend back home and was convinced that he should remain in Chapel Hill. Tatum denies that he received a call. "The only call was one that I made to my wife to talk over the situation," he said.

Another point in the rumor that moved like hot fire for a few days concerned demands that Tatum

made on the Indiana administration. To this Tatum declared that "I'm sure the Indiana administration does not feel that I made any unreasonable demands upon it. Every request that I made was okayed by Indiana before I went out there. I knew exactly what the situation was before I left Chapel Hill."

To our satisfaction Big Jim also cleared up the matter of the supposed animosity between football and other sports here on campus. "I think the Carolina administration will verify the fact that I did not use the Indiana matter to gain any personal concessions or to put football ahead of anything else," he commented.

"As for being unhappy at Carolina, I am not. Naturally I've had disappointments, but who hasn't?" So that's the story as we have it to date. The storm has passed over and Jim Tatum is still head football coach at Carolina. How close he came to leaving Chapel Hill is something only Tatum knows. In any case, the matter is closed and we sincerely hope that it will remain as such.

Having just learned that Ed Sutton was about to sign a professional football contract with the Washington Redskins (he signed Tuesday night), we asked Tatum what he thought about it.

"I think Ed did the right thing," he said. "I'm very happy that he will be able to attend Med School during the off season." (Sutton will attend Med School at the University of Tennessee.) "The Redskins plan to use him on offense and I don't think that there will be a better offensive rookie in the league next season."

With that we left the Tar Heel mentor at his desk to ponder over the problems that will confront him when spring practice commences Saturday.



JIM TATUM decides to stay

Freshmen Win, 86-52 With Strong 2nd Half

DAVIDSON—Carolina's freshmen stymied overconfidence Wednesday night to defeat the Davidson freshmen, 86-52. Ahead by only 31-26 at halftime, Carolina defeated the scrappy Wildkittens by sheer height and shooting strength.

It was nip-and-tuck during the first two quarters but the Tar Babies opened up a wide margin in the second half.

Scoring leaders for the Carolina freshmen were Lee Shaffer with 22, Dick Kopley with 14

and York Larese with 12. High scorer for Davidson was Bill Ferguson with 14.

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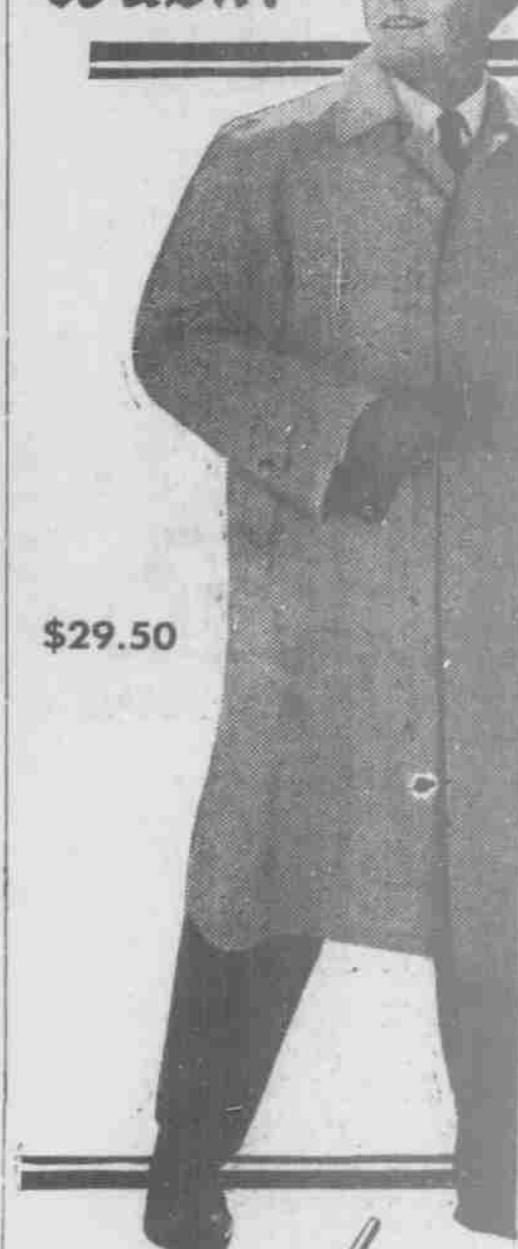
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