

By Chris Cobbs

Sport Gives Helping Hand

It must have been Do-Something-Nice-For-The-Rich Day. Tuesday the helping hand went out in the realm of sport, bestowing goodies on those already blessed with athletic niceties.

You only had to look as far as Carmichael Auditorium to see a hardy Carolina receive aid. The Tar Heels were buttressed from within.

Senior forward Bill Bunting played one of his best games since he began his Chapel Hill career. Oregon center Stan Love was especially impressed.

"I think Bunting came as near single-handedly killing us as anything," said Love. "He has to be the strongest 190-pound man I've ever seen."

Bunting had 14 points, played aggressive defense and rebounded strongly and frequently.

The Heels found another bonus in highly regarded sophomore Lee Dedmon. "The kid's really coming," Coach Dean Smith praised. "Dedmon will doubt our inside game with a little experience under his belt. He still hurts us just a little on defense, but we'll get that down before long."

With Kentucky coming up Saturday, UNC's juicy Tuesday could prove quite timely.

Ohio State, the country's number one college football team was done a courteous deed by Notre Dame, which is perennially the country's best team in the summer but something less by the middle of winter.

The Irish not only tied Southern Cal last week to bump the Trojans from their perch atop the grid ratings, but Ara Parseghian and his staff devised a defense to stop O.J. Simpson.

The odd thing was that the defense worked.

O. J. gained only 55 yards, and nobody had ever held him to such a low pick-up. Most teams were previously lucky to limit Simpson to 100 yards a half.

But the Irish studied the All-American's unstoppable style—his way of ambling up to the line of scrimmage to look for day light before flashing his feet and hitting the hole he found.

Notre Dame decided to let O. J. come to them. The Irish defensive forwards were told "to hit and slide with O. J." by the board of experts assembled by Parseghian.

This non-aggressive play changed abruptly when Simpson rushed into the line, changing to highly effective pursuit and gang tackling.

So Ohio State, Rose Bowl bound to take on O. J. and USC, was a lot better off Tuesday. They were newly-voted number one and they had, in all likelihood, found a way to stay there.

Baseball, everyone says, is in danger of dying of boredom. The boredom brought on by batters not being able to hit the ball was the target of the game's rules committee Tuesday.

In major rules' changes, the strike zone was reduced to the area between the armpits and tops of the knees, and the height of the pitching mound was chopped from 15 to 10 inches.

But men who hit .300 most of their careers before falling off in the last two or three years probably won't find the move itself as rejuvenating as a lot of fans might hope.

"If they think this is going to make .300 hitters," said outspoken pitcher Don Drysdale of the Los Angeles Dodgers, "They've mistaken. Last year could have been just a one year thing. I think they should have waited a year to see how it goes before panicking like this."

Last season overpowering hurlers reduced the number of swingers in the charmed .300 circle to six.

But anyone with a lifetime mark over the select mark—natural hitters such as Hank Aaron, Roberto Clemente and Tony Oliva—just doesn't figure to stay down long. They've got the ability and have demonstrated it year after year.

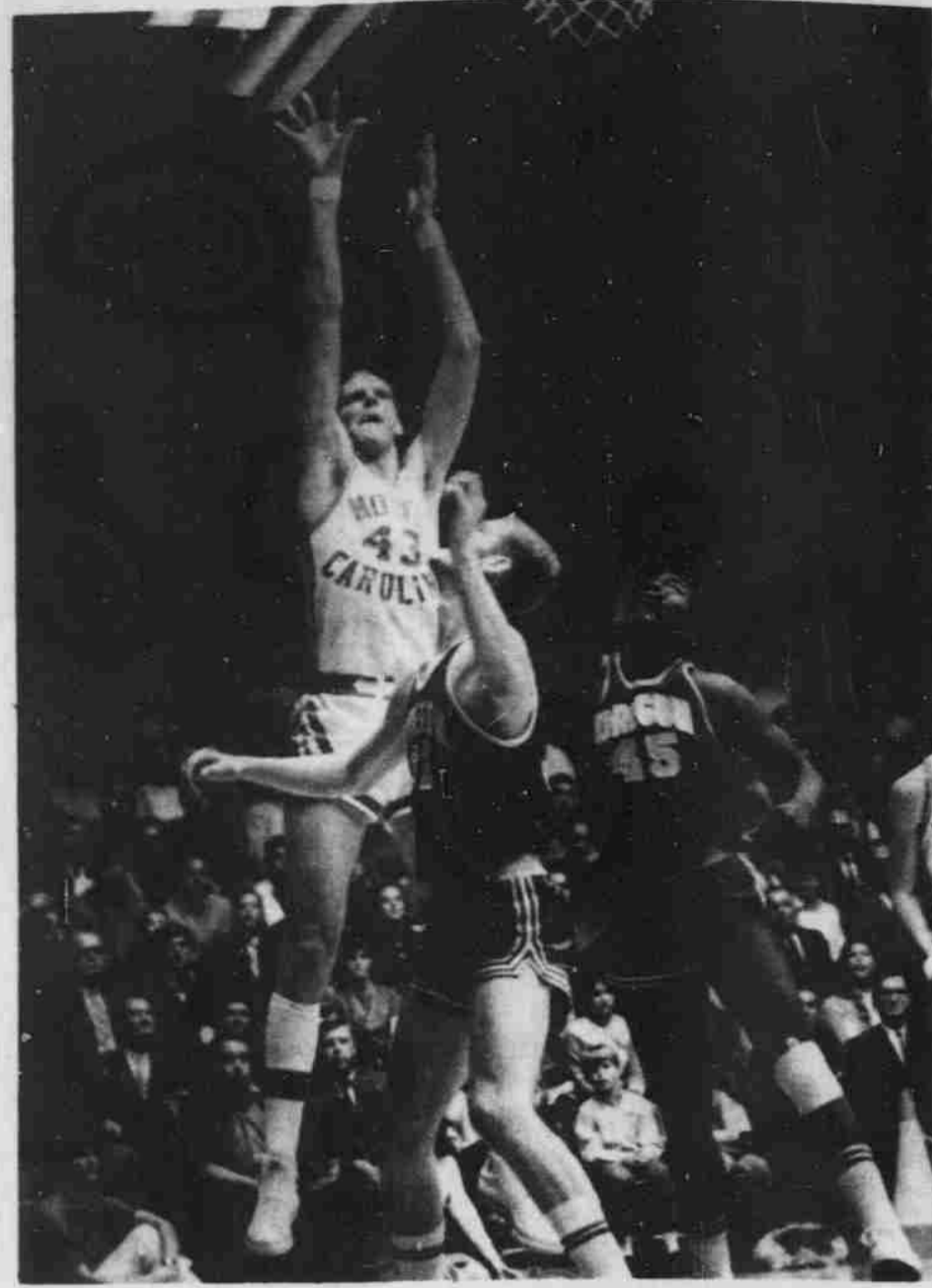
And now they've got the rules seemingly in their favor.

It was just eight years ago that baseball was threatened by too much hitting. Remember Roger Maris, the man who made asterisks as famous as Babe Ruth made home runs? And remember the "rabbit ball" he clouted out of ball parks in such profuse numbers?

The rabbit ball might have been a kinder gesture than the mini-mound.

'We Haven't Earned A Thing Yet'—Smith

By ART CHANSKY
DTH Asst. Sports Editor



—DTH Staff Photo By Tom Schnabel

Rusty Clark jumps high for the Heels.

Head Coach Dean Smith must have breathed a sigh of relief when his Tar Heels bombed Oregon Tuesday night after just sliding past the Ducks the previous evening in Greensboro.

"You would never realize that it was the same Oregon team as last night," Smith said after the Chapel Hill victory in his never-too-optimistic manner. "Our defense tightened up a little, but I felt that we played aggressively both nights."

"We haven't earned a thing so far except two victories over Oregon," he continued. "We don't have an ACC victory and it's too early to tell anything in regard to polls and ranking."

The two wins over the Ducks were significant in light of each other, however. Tar Heel fans left Greensboro Coliseum Monday night with doubts about their precious hoop team, but they were rocked back into the "Hey, Blue Power" state Tuesday when Carolina exploded for a decisive victory that brought with it confidence for another sensational year.

It was a devastating win, one that made Oregon Coach

Steve Belko bow his head in dejection after the buzzer. Belko, whose ducks had stayed within striking distance of Carolina throughout Monday's game, saw nothing but blue from the opening tap Tuesday and remained that way until the 106-73 demolishing had been completed.

"We're still green," he summarized later, "but we'll be all right once we get home. This is the third game we've played on the road, and we are finally going home."

Belko was forced to keep high scoring guard Billy Gaskins on the bench for most of the game due to a leg injury suffered in Monday's contest.

"Not having Gaskins hurt, but it was in not decisive," he concluded.

Gaskins or no Gaskins, the Tar Heels were not to be denied in front of the huge opening night throng. With junior guard Eddie Fogler replacing Joe Brown in the starting lineup, the Heels turned on the running game from the start, racking up ten straight points after the Ducks opened with a 4-0 lead. From then on, it was all Carolina, and the crowd loved it, including actress Ava Gardner who was in front row

attendance. Bill Bunting, formerly just a rebounder, turned scoring demon and was second only to Charlie Scott's razzle-dazzleness from individual honors.

Dick Grubar was his superb self on defense, and Joe Brown and Lee Dedman took Fogler's and Gerald Tuttle's passes and turned them into one crowd-pleasing bucket after another. Scott took his own passes and made the place go beserk.

It was a good early season victory, one that enabled Smith to clear his entire bench before the game ended. All 14 Tar Heels needed a shower before leaving the locker room.

"Grubar and Bunting do so much defensively, that their efforts often go unnoticed," Smith said. "And Fogler did a fine job quarterbacking the club in his first start."

Regardless, the coach warns that the Tar Heels are still far below their peak and must improve greatly if they hope to beat Kentucky in Lexington on Saturday night.

"Kentucky is a better team than in each of the past two years," he said referring to Carolina's two straight victories over the Wildcats. "It would be a great boost to the club if we could beat them, but everyone must play to his capacity and we have to have the supreme team effort."

Smith announced that senior guard Gerald Tuttle, a native of London, Ky., would start in Lexington for "other than sentimental reasons."

"Gerald has played excellent basketball against Kentucky for the past two years, and it's my hunch that he will play well again in front of the home crowd," Smith said. "We have great confidence in Tuttle's ability, and that's why he will play."

So the Tar Heels journey to Lexington to play the Wildcats in a place often termed the hardest in the country for a

visiting team. It will be a boisterous crowd, a lot like the one on hand in Chapel Hill Tuesday night except for one thing—the absence of Ava Gardner.

Coach Smith had Miss Gardner sitting in his recruiting section, and few will argue that she's the best looking prospect to come along—since Larry Miller.



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JV Swimmers Whip Duke Varsity

DURHAM—The UNC Junior Varsity swim team won 11 of 12 events Wednesday afternoon and beat the Duke University varsity swimmers 63-31 at Durham.

Coach Pat Earey called the victory "fairly easy," and the

scores well indicate why. Freshman Gene Stallings led the dolphins with two first place finishes in the 1000-yard freestyle and the 500 free. Another freshman, Dave Bedell won the 200-yard butterfly. The best time of the day was

recorded by Rick Hood in the 200-yard individual medley.

"The boys looked as strong as they did against Clemson," Earey said. "Now we're ready for South Carolina, and we'll use some of the boys on the

varsity then."

The swimmers host the Gamecocks at 2 p.m. Saturday at Bowman Gray Pool.

Wednesday's results:
1000 yd. free—Stallings (UNC) 11:49.8.
200 yd. free—Lester Shaw (UNC) 1:57.4.
50 yd. free—Jack Hodgson (UNC) 23.3.
200 yd. individual medley—Rick Hood (UNC) 2:10.1.
200 yd. butterfly—Bedell, (UNC) 2:18.7.
100 yd. free—Chris Solliday (UNC) 51.7.
500 yd. free—Stallings (UNC) 5:37.9.
200 Breast—Bob Pollard 2:33.6.
1 Meter Diving—Chuck Humphrey (UNC) 226.1 points.
400 yd. Medley Relay — UNC 3:55.6.
400 yd. Free Relay — 3:33.0.

Closed-Circuit Telecasts Have One More Chance

Closed-circuit telecasts of Carolina home basketball games in Memorial Hall will be

continued "for at least one more game" according to athletic department business manager Vernon Crook.

The telecast, next scheduled for the Virginia encounter here Dec. 17, drew an audience of about 600 to Tuesday night's home opener against Oregon.

The crowd-size didn't measure up to expectations, but Crook said, "We didn't get enough publicity to the students. The holiday break limited publicity, and then the announcement in the Daily Tar Heel didn't come out until the morning of the game."

"If enough interest is expressed with reasonable attendance at the Virginia telecast, we will go ahead with our planned five showings."

The Tar Heels have eight home games remaining, but one will be telecast on WUNC's broadvision and two on commercial television.

The next Carmichael Auditorium contest Dec. 16

against Clemson will be shown on television, and the Duke and N.C. State games Jan. 4 and 8 will be on the conference's scheduled telecasts. Closed circuit operations will only be for those games not otherwise telecast.

Crook was pleased with first night results aside from the less-than-full house.

Tickets Available Friday

Tickets for Carolina's next home game against Clemson Dec. 16 will be available to students Friday morning.

Ticket windows at the Carmichael Auditorium ticket office will open at 8 o'clock for distribution to students.

Students may pick up tickets for the Dec. 17 home game against Virginia on Dec. 10. Tickets for the Jan. 4 game here against Duke will be available on Dec. 13 and student tickets for the Jan. 8 battle with ACC rival N.C. State will be available Jan. 7.

Hixson Rated Passing Leader

NEW YORK (UPI) — The question now is, what can Chuck Hixson do for an encore?

Hixson, a sophomore at Southern Methodist University, finished as the top passer in major college football for 1968 according to figures released Wednesday by the National Collegiate Sports Services.

The 6-foot-2 youngster from San Antonio, Tex., completed 265 of 468 pass attempts for 3,103 yards and 21 touchdowns while leading the Mustangs to a 7-3 record and a berth opposite Oklahoma in the Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl.

Senior quarterback Greg Cook of Cincinnati, the nation's total offense leader with 3,120 yards, finished second to Hixson in the passing

department with 219 completions out of 411 attempts for 3,272 yards and 25 touchdowns.

Gordon Slade of Davidson was third in passing, followed by Marty Domres of Columbia and Steve Ramsey of North Texas State.

Four of the five passing leaders ranked among the best in total offense with Hixson (2,995 yards) finishing second to Cook. Domres (2,404) was third, Ramsey (2,367) fourth and Bill Cappelman of Florida State (2,342) fifth.

Fencing Tourney To Be Held Here

Carolina will host the largest fencing tournament ever held in North Carolina Saturday in Woolen Gym.

Nearly 150 fencers are expected to compete in the second annual UNC Open, which begins at 9 a.m. and continues until 9 p.m.

Tar Heel fencing coach Ron Miller will direct the tourney and about 35 UNC fencers will compete.

"We expect at least five men to do well in each event," Miller said. "But to win a fencer will have to win 15-20 preliminary bouts."

The tournament will have competition in men's foil, sabre and epee division and

women's foil. About 25 women will compete and Miller says UNC Katy Hill should do "very well."

"She has really improved since her first meet where she took second place," he said.

The tournament is only the one of its type in this part of the country and is open to anyone with amateur status. Classified and unclassified fencers can compete.

Fencers from North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia will compete as well as many non-collegiate fencers.

The tournament will be scored strictly on an individual basis with no team scores kept.

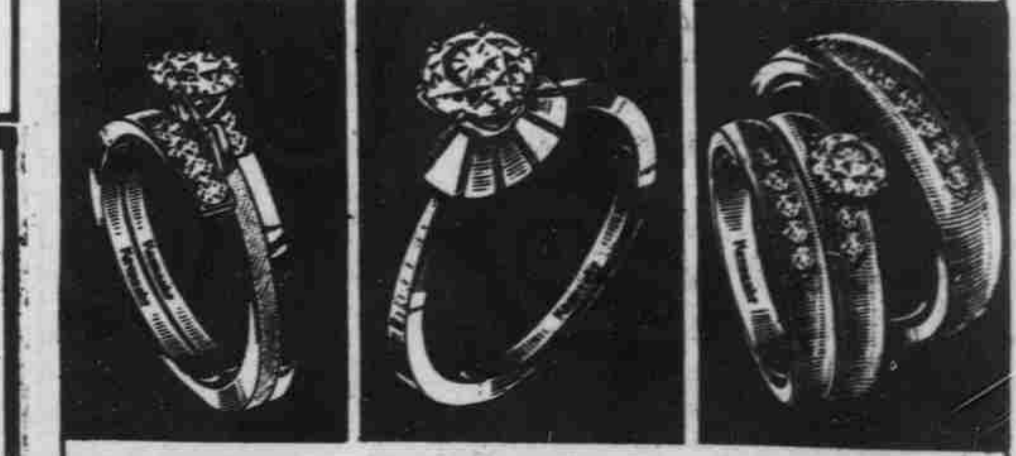


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