

Lenox Rawlings

## Heels surpassing expectations — Smith

Small lines run beneath his eyes. Hand to head, he looks quite tired. But not worn. A continuous smile confirms pleasure.

"It seems like the three NCAA years all over," explained Coach Dean Smith, referring to UNC's Eastern Regional championship years.

"The telephone keeps ringing. People are excited, and each game is a big one." The 1970-71 Tar Heels have "surpassed our expectations so far," he offered. Placed between third and seventh in numerous preseason ACC polls, Smith's team has marched to a 13-3 overall mark and a 6-1 league leading record. Ranked 15th and 16th nationally in last week's wire service polls, Carolina has become the conference's surprise team.

Assistant Coach Bill Guthridge, who Smith termed a realist, carefully forecast a 14-11 regular season finish. "We now only have to win one more to match it," reflected Smith.

What are the reasons behind Carolina's unforeseen rise?

"It's a number of things," Smith said, lighting another Kent. "Several players have played better than expected. We've gotten off to good starts in most games. We've had six conference games at home. And we play great defense."

Guard Kim Hubbard and forward Dave Chadwick have been the most pleasant individual surprises. "Kim has done very well," Smith commented. "He's a great shooter and has helped defensively."

"Dennis Wuycik has been our most consistent player at both ends of the court. And he didn't have an outstanding preseason."

"Lee Dedmon has been consistent ever since the State game in Greensboro (Dec. 18). He hasn't scored a lot, but he hasn't shot much either. He hands it off a lot."

"We had confidence in George Karl, but I would have to say he has surpassed our expectations."

Quick starts have marked almost every Tar Heel victory. "During those three years we won, it seemed like we were always behind at the half," Smith reflected. "This year we've gotten off to good starts quite often."

"But sometimes I hate those 10-0 leads. You might have a let down."

The six ACC games in friendly Carmichael Auditorium are on obvious factor in Carolina's showing. Only six visiting teams have won in 30 conference games this year.

"All the teams are so evenly matched that the homecourt becomes more of an edge," Smith related.

With that, the grinning Tar Heel coach proclaimed it's "impossible to judge this year's team until the season is over."

"Teams with four losses may win the regular season," he said. "We have a tough road trip ahead (only one home game in the final seven ACC contests)."

"What we try to do is improve as the season goes along. If we can improve our execution, we feel that's the best preparation we can have for the tournament."

The phone rings. A North Carolina legislator desires tickets for an upcoming game. Smith handles the request pleasantly, and concludes the conversation by offering "to have dinner sometime after the season."

It will have to be then. Nine regular season games, the ACC tournament and, hopefully, the NCAA's remain.

For Dean Smith, the tired yet driving coach, it means many long days and short nights, intense pressure and hostile crowds. And, perhaps, a few smiles along the way.

## Once-beaten Tar Babies match up with Burleson, friends in Raleigh

by David Zucchini  
Sports Writer

Tommy Burleson is no leprechaun. He measures in at 7-4 and 226 pounds and occupies most of the front line of N.C. State's freshman basketball squad.

Burleson, one of the most sought-after prep stars in North Carolina high school history, will be in the sights of coach Bill Guthridge's freshman cagers tonight when the Tar Babies tangle with Burleson and his Wolflet playmates at 6:00 in Reynolds Coliseum.

The Tar Babies, who ran their season record to 9-1 and their ACC mark to 4-1 with last Thursday's 109-86 thrashing of Wake Forest, will face their sternest challenge of the season in State, which Guthridge says has "the best of the Big Four freshman teams."

State is 8-1 overall and 1-1 in Big Four play and sports decisive victories over Louisburg, Fredrick Military Academy and Isothermal Community College.

The Wolflets' only loss came at the hands of Duke in Durham, as 6-9 Blue Imp center Dave Elmer manhandled Burleson in the latter's only lackluster performance of the season.

Although Burleson, who led the Wolflets to a preseason exhibition triumph over the Wolfpack varsity, is definitely the catalyst of the State attack, he nevertheless has an abundance of front line to help in 6-8 Steve Nuce and 6-6 Steve Graham.

Nuce, a Washington, D.C. All-Metropolitan selection as a prepster, is tough and aggressive underneath, while Graham combines a strong driving ability with an accurate jump shot.

State has a sound pair of 6-3 guards in Bob Larsen and Steve Smoral. Neither of

the two backcourt men scores spectacularly, but both are steady playmakers.

The Tar Babies, whose lone blemish was also recorded versus Duke, will give away an average of four inches per man on the front line, but the tandem of 6-9 Bobby Jones, 6-6 John O'Donnell and 6-3 Darrell Elston has led UNC to a 51-40 rebounding advantage per game over all opponents.

Jones leads the Tar Babies in

rebounding with an average of 16 per game, while O'Donnell and Elston are averaging seven apiece.

O'Donnell, who has scored almost at will all year long, is especially deadly from within 15 feet and tops the Tar Babies in scoring with a 27.3 average.

Jones is right behind with a 25.3 scoring clip, while Elston's 14 points against Wake Forest raised his output to 10.5.

The Tar Babies' starting backcourt of 5-10 Ray Hite and 6-0 Fred Gianiny has

keyed the ball-hawking Carolina defense and backs up the front line with accurate outside shooting. Hite is scoring 7.7 points per game while Gianiny has a 5.1 norm.

This will be one of the few times this season that Jones will be looking up at an opponent, and he also has Nuce to contend with, who is regarded by many observers as better developed than Burleson. The Tar Babies will need their normal shooting accuracy and more to beat State in Raleigh.

## Swimming coaches are proud despite 70-43 loss to State

by Howie Carr  
Sports Writer

N.C. State dealt the Carolina swimming team its fifth loss of the season Friday night, 70-43.

In spite of the defeat, the Tar Heel coaching staff was pleased with the team's showing against an obviously superior opponent.

"We did real well," explained Assistant Coach Pat McKeown. "We were pleased with winning the events we did. We beat their best breaststroker, and their best individual medley man."

The Wolfpack took an early 7-0 lead by winning the 400-yard medley relay with a time of 3:42. The Tar Heels trimmed the margin to 10-6 as Gerry Chapman grabbed first place in the 1000-yard freestyle, and teammate Pete Barnes took third.

State swept the 200-yard freestyle, as Tom Evans turned in a 1:45 time. Tar Heel Bob Nagle finished third, behind runner-up Eric Schwall.

State senior Bob Birnbauer recorded a :22.1 time to win the 50-yard freestyle, but Bruce Wigo and Glenn Garella of Carolina took second and third, respectively.

Tar Heel freshman George Schiaffino got Carolina's second victory of the evening by winning the 200-yard individual medley with a 2:05.4 time. State divers Randy Horton and Mike deGruy dominated the one-meter diving to stake the Wolfpack to a 36-16 lead.

Dave Bedell and Jim Osborn had to settle for the runner-up slots in the 200-yard butterfly, which was won by Cliff Cato of State.

In both the 100-yard freestyle and the 200-yard backstroke the Tar Heels could manage only second place finishes. Wigo finished behind Schwall in the freestyle, and Phil McMunigal took the runner-up slot after State's Jay Hoffacker in the backstroke.

Carolina rallied as Jake Southard and Chapman swept the 500-yard freestyle, and Rich Williams followed with a victory in the 200-yard breaststroke. State's second and third places in the breaststroke, however, were enough to give them an insurmountable 58-39 lead. The Wolfpack won the two final events, the 3-meter diving and the 400-yard freestyle relay, to make the final score 70-43.

The Tar Heels, whose season record is now 5-5, return to action Feb. 13 when they host the University of Virginia at 2 p.m.

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