

UNC freshman cager Fred Gianiny comes up with a loose ball in the midst of two East Carolina players. The UNC frosh routed East Carolina 92-75 Monday night in Carmichael Auditorium. (Staff photo by John Gellman)

Nightmare

It's ending for wrestlers

by Howie Carr
Sports Writer

How would UNC wrestling coach Sam Barnes describe the changes in southern wrestling over the past 10 years?

"It's gotten better, but we haven't," says Barnes, whose team is nearing the end of a nightmare 1-8 season.

When Barnes arrived in North Carolina in 1950, he says, there were five collegiate and six high school squads in the whole state. Today, there are 22 college squads and 175 high school teams.

"There are more collegiate teams in this state than in any other except Pennsylvania and New York," explains Barnes, "and there's just not enough talent to go around."

And that's where the crunch is, in recruiting. Maryland and Virginia are the only two ACC schools to award wrestling scholarships, and "there's no way of knowing how many they give," according to Barnes, because of the numerous partial scholarships and work-study programs.

One of the Tar Heels' newer rivals, both athletically and academically, is East

Carolina. The Pirates gave out 14 wrestling scholarships to freshmen and junior college transfers this year to replace their senior-dominated 1970 squad, and it paid off in a 42-0 victory over UNC.

In contrast with the lavish budgets of his competitors, Barnes says, "all we've got to offer recruits is a smile and a warm handshake."

While other so-called "minor sports" have received scholarship funds from the UNC athletic establishment, wrestling continues to rely solely on walk-ons, a method Barnes sees as the only feasible way.

"It was a mutual agreement with the University not to give scholarships," he says. "The idea of a little bit of help in wrestling is just not feasible when a person can contribute in only one division."

"It's not like in, say, basketball, when you get a Charlie Scott who can come in and turn a whole game around," he continues. "If you want to get into big-time wrestling you've got to have two full squads, and it's ridiculous to think of giving 20 wrestling scholarships when

Frosh down ECU 95-75

by Ben Kushner
Sports Writer

Carolina's Tar Babies played their shuffle offense better than Nipsie Russell in picking up their tenth victory of the year in Carmichael Monday night as they blitzed East Carolina 95-75.

Bobby Jones completed a three point play with 7:30 to play in the first half to give the Babies the lead for the remainder of the game.

The Pirates, with as much team play as an all star play ground team, received some flashy ball handling and scoring from Ray Peszko, who had 17 points.

Strong Nicky White, a 6-8 center, kept ECU in the game for the first six minutes as he scored 9 points and it was tied at 17-7. He led their scoring with 19 but sat out much of the second half with 4 fouls.

Peszko and Steve Steinberg then teamed for six points to take a 25-21 lead at 10:16.

A basket by Bill Crouch and two by Jones made it 29-27, followed by Jones' three pointer and the Babies had the lead for good.

The Tar Babies' pressing man for man then took its poisonous effect, limiting the Pirates to only three more first half points.

The Tar Babies' outstanding duo of Jones and John O'Donnell teamed for 53 points, O'Donnell gathering 29 and Jones 24.

Jones had 13 rebounds to outdo everybody in that department, with the Pirates' White and O'Donnell recovering 11 each.

In the second half ECU got as close as 55-51 after Peszko hit a free throw, but baskets by Hite, Mayfield, O'Donnell and

Crouch lifted it to 10 points at 63-53 with 9:52 to play.

The Babies during this period employed their shuffle and fast break to the positive extreme, leaving the Pirates helpless.

These offenses gave them a very

accurate 58.5 shooting percentage for the game. ECU shot for 48.5 per cent.

Carolina outrebounded the Pirates by a slim 38-34 margin. With White sitting on the bench, however, ECU lacked most of their strength under the boards.

The loss made their record 11-4.

New stadium, frosh hurlers give Rabb, Tar Heels hope

by Mark Whicker
Asst. Sports Editor

Carolina's baseball team, hoping to rebound from a disappointing 12-20 record last spring, will move into 2,000-seat Cary Boshamer Stadium sometime in mid-April.

By then, Coach Walter Rabb will know how effective his three freshman pitchers are, and how much the Tar Heel hitters will have improved—just in time to begin play in a well-balanced Atlantic Coast Conference.

"Many of our players improved themselves during the summer," Rabb says, "and if I didn't think our new pitchers had the potential to be stoppers in the conference, I wouldn't have recruited them."

All three are left-handers and ran up impressive high school records. Fred Gianiny of Wheaton, Md., currently a starting guard on the freshman basketball team, Jim Chamberlain of Greensboro, and John Danneman of Norfolk, Va. could make Carolina's pitching staff one of the league's best.

They will join southpaw Rusty Brindle (1-4, 2.11 ERA last season) and righthanders Greg Pavlick (2-6, 5.24), Dave Bullard (1.2, 2.16), and Jim Rhodes (1-0, 2.36).

"One of the reasons we scheduled such a strenuous southern trip during spring vacation was to test our pitchers," the coach explains. Beginning March 26, the Tar Heels will play nine games in nine days in South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

An improvement in hitting will be crucial for a rise in conference standings.

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The Heels hit only .221 last season. The leading returnee with more than 50 at bat is centerfielder Ronnie Cox, who hit .230.

Next are catcher Mike Roberts (.224) and shortstop Bob Elliott (.173). Roberts is being pushed by sophomore Russell Niller, and Elliott may play second or third in addition to shortstop. Infield front-runners at this time are first baseman Larry Kiser, who can pitch if needed, second baseman John Wilson, and third sacker Mickey Hickerson.

Outfielder Pete Franklin can also play shortstop. Both Hickerson and Wilson hit .333 in limited action last season, and Rabb reports that Kiser "is capable of giving us some of those extra base hits that we needed so much."

The Gillis brothers, Jack and Tom, are contending for outfield positions along with Doug Lanham, who seems to have helped the Tar Heels to the conference title.

Although it is traditionally difficult to pick the conference favorite, Rabb points to South Carolina and Clemson as the teams to watch in terms of returning material.

"Both teams have the resources," Rabb says, "and Clemson has the pitching duo of Rusty Gerhardt and Dave Van Volkenburg coming back as juniors."

Until Boshamer Stadium is finished, the Tar Heels will play their home games in Durham Athletic Park. Robb arranged the schedule so that UNC has only two home dates, with Kent State March 23 and Yale March 24, before mid-April.

The April 10 contest with Clemson may have to be moved to Durham, also.

But Rabb promises that the new facility will be worth waiting for. "It'll be as good as any college baseball stadium anywhere when it's completed," he says. "Our main concern is to cultivate a good playing surface, and then to put a good team out on it."

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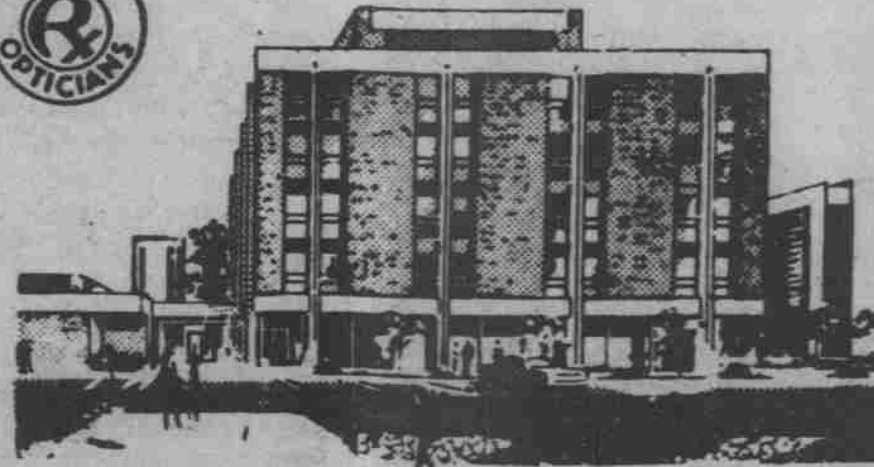
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