

Four trackmen represent Carolina in NCAA's

by Mark Whicker
Asst. Sports Editor

Coach Joe Hilton and four Tar Heel trackmen intend to score some points in the NCAA Indoor Games in Detroit's Cobo Arena this weekend. Triple jumper Darryl Kelly, shot putter John Jessup, half-miler Tony Waldrop and two-miler Larry Widgeon will leave for Detroit tonight at 7:00 for the two-day meet Friday and Saturday.

"I feel Darryl and Tony have equally good chances to place," says Hilton. "It will be a little harder for John and Larry to make the first six, but we're hoping to get top performances out of them."

Carolina's four is the largest contingent from the ACC, outside of conference champ Maryland. Although Duke finished second ahead of the Tar Heels in the conference meet two weekends ago, the Blue Devils could qualify only three representatives—hurdler Jeff Howser and distance men Mike Graves and Bob Wheeler.

Kelly, a sophomore from Newport News, Va., has jumped 51'4" and was ranked seventh in the country earlier this season by Track and Field News. He placed ninth in the nationals as a freshman.

One of the most overlooked sports nationally, the triple jump contenders have unfamiliar names, but closely bunched distances.

The best at mid-season was Cal Poly's Mohinder Gill, who jumped 53 feet. Other contenders include Patrick Oryango of Wisconsin (51'11"), Robert Reader of

Oregon State (51'10"), Larry Vanley of Texas-El Paso (51'9"), and Barry McClure of Middle Tennessee State (51'9").

Waldrop chugged out a 1:51.7 mile earlier this year and stands a good chance to break into the top six.

Top time among collegians at mid-season was Eamon O'Keefe of Florida, with 1:50.4. Terry Thomas of Minnesota and Wisconsin's Don Vandrey were both under 1:52.

"Anytime you start running around 1:51 when you're a freshman," smiles Hilton, "you're doing pretty good."

The task for Widgeon and Jessup will be much harder. Jessup's best heave of the season was 58'5", a drop in the bucket compared to some of the elephants competing in Detroit.

Karl Salb of Kansas has a 65'5" distance, three feet better than teammate Steve Wilhelm. SMU's Sam Walker threw 64'7" earlier this year, and Fred DiBernardini of Texas-El Paso was a 63-foot distance.

However, Jessup has apparently improved with each performance this season and Hilton hopes for a respectable showing this weekend.

Widgeon will be confronted with two of the best known track names in the country—celebrated two-milers Steve Prefontaine of Oregon and Marty Liquori of Villanova.

Prefontaine, the prodigy of distinguished Oregon coach Bill Bowerman, has an 8:31 to his credit. Liquori, better known for his mile exploits, sports an 8:35. Prefontaine's teammate Steve Savage has run an 8:46.2. Other two-milers of note are Grant McLaurin of Western Ontario (8:43), Jerry Richey of Pittsburgh (8:44), and Dave Henley of Brigham Young (8:49).

Widgeon, who captained the cross-country team and punished himself into school records and ACC championships, has a top time of 8:51.

"He'll have to have his best race in order to place," says Hilton. "We hope to keep him up in the thick of things—maybe improve his time by five or six seconds."

The coach warns that all these opponent's times and distances were recorded earlier in the season, and all may have improved in later meets.

But this is the strongest representation Carolina has had in the nationals in quite a while, and since only Jessup is a senior, Hilton keeps looking ahead optimistically.

Pitching solid

Rabb's mound staff key to Heel season

by David Zucchino
Sports Writer

Solid pitching will take a baseball team a long way and can do quite a bit to make up for a ballclub's lack of consistent hitting and run production.

Witness the 1963 World Series when the Los Angeles Dodgers, who featured a wafer-thin lineup of punch and judy hitters which was lucky to squeeze out a measly two runs per game, whipped the power-laden New York Yankees in four straight games behind the overpowering throwing of fellows like Sandy Koufax, Don Drysdale, and John Podres.

Carolina Coach Walter Rabb indicates that the 1971 Tar Heels will go as far as the pitching staff will carry them. Although the beginning of spring is still two full weeks away, the Tar Heels appear to be blessed with a polished, well-stocked mound corps.

Don't expect an unbroken string of shutouts and no-hitters from UNC arms, but do look for Tar Heel pitchers to lower a few opposing batting averages.

Returning lettermen Greg Pavlick, Jim Rhoder and Russell Prindle are back from last year's staff and will probably share the mound duties in the Tar Heels' opener next Wednesday versus State in Raleigh.

"All three of our lettermen pitchers have been throwing well in practice," says Rabb. "We won't have anyone ready to go a full nine innings by next week, so we'll give these three players the first shot against State. They'll probably split the game three ways and we'll see then how they perform."

Joining righthanders Pavlick and Rhodes and southpaw Prindle in the fight for jobs in the Carolina starting rotation will be a trio of talented freshmen lefthanders.

Jim Chamberlain of Greensboro, John Danneman of Norfolk, Va. and Fred Gianiny of Wheaton, Md., most recently a starting guard on the freshman basketball squad, have already begun to receive a little speculative fanfare. But Rabb refuses to go overboard with praise for the trio and is waiting instead to see how

the freshmen perform under fire.

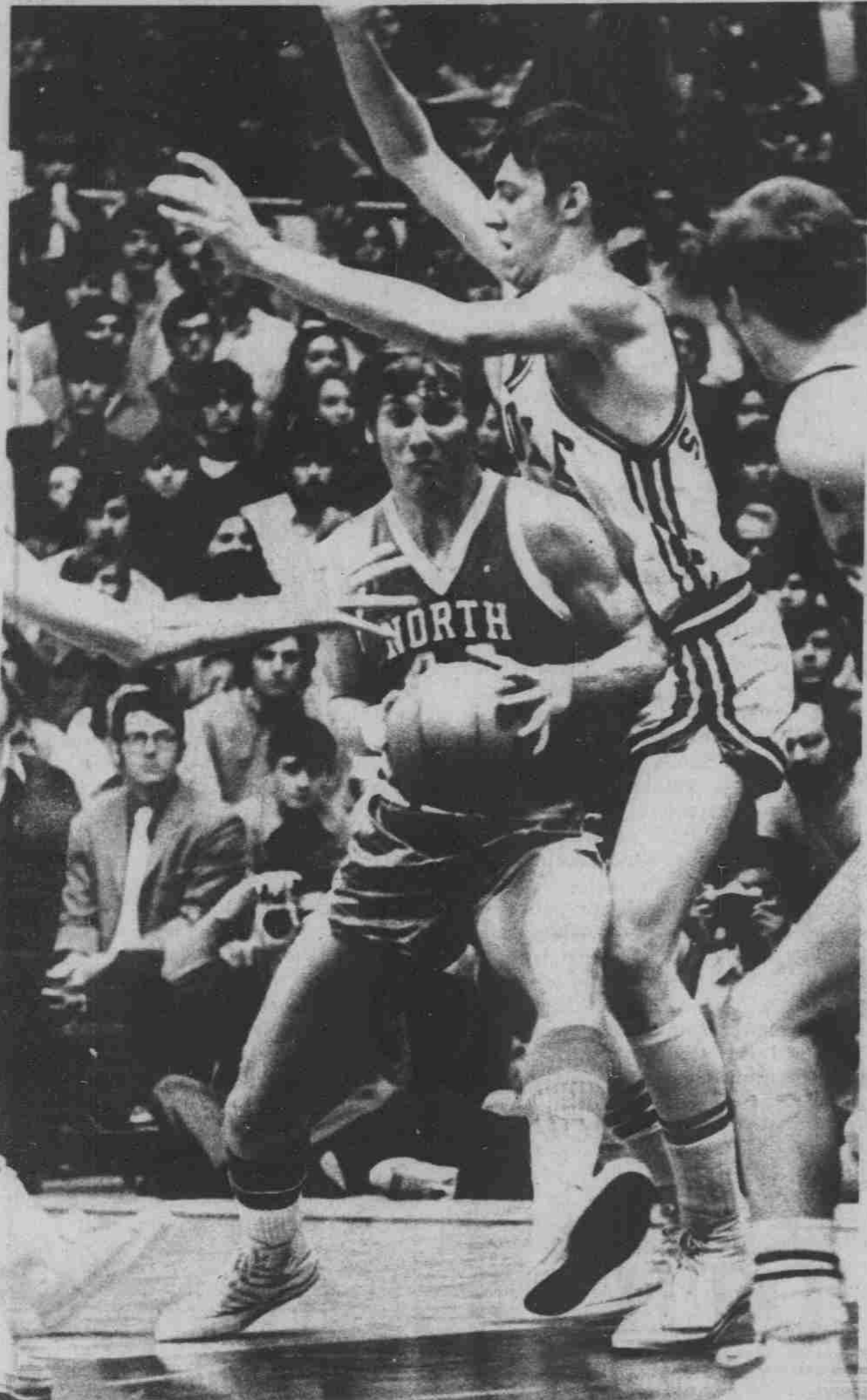
"All three of our freshmen lefthanders show great promise to become good, solid varsity pitchers," claims Rabb. "We expect to give them plenty of opportunity during the early portion of the season to see if they can earn a spot in our starting rotation."

The emphasis on pitching effectiveness in baseball is certainly more than justified, but no team ever won a game, much less a championship, without scoring their share of runs. The Tar Heel hitters will no doubt do their best to keep the mound staff from taking up permanent residence in the headlines and Rabb thinks his current batch of stickmen is an improvement over last year's inconsistent crew of run-producers. "Our hitting has been handicapped so far, since we haven't had enough batting

practice because of the weather," says Rabb. "We're hitting in practice now much better than we did last year at this corresponding time and two or three of our boys are really hitting the ball well. I'd have to say that our hitting looks very encouraging at this point."

Players who currently have the best shots at spots in the starting lineup include catcher Mike Roberts, who was voted All-ACC last year as a sophomore, outfielders Ronald Cox, John Gillis and Peter Franklin, along with senior shortstop Bobby Elliott and sophomore infielder Mickey Hickerson.

"I expect some improvement in our defense," Rabb promises, "along with a total pitching staff improvement. If we can just develop a little consistency, we'll aggravate a few of these other teams, even if we don't beat them."



Dennis Wuycik finds himself among Blue Devils Gary Melchionni (left), Larry Saunders, and Rick Katherman (right), but starts his drive for the basket anyway. (Staff photo by John Gellman)

Swimmers

The UNC swimming team journeyed to Philadelphia last night to compete in the Eastern Intercollegiate Swimming Championships, which open today at the University of Pennsylvania.

Perennial champion Yale again figures as the prohibitive favorite, although UNC coach Pat Earey predicts that the Elis "will have tougher competition than ever before," from hosting Pennsylvania and Army.

"Our job is to make it even tougher for Yale," says Earey, whose team usually finishes in the top ten, despite sending a squad only half as large as most of the Northern schools.

In addition to individual performers, the Tar Heels will be entering both a freestyle and a medley relay team in an attempt to qualify them for the NCAA finals to be held later this month.

Carolina will be without the services of some of its best swimmers because of an Eastern rule which prohibits freshmen from competing in the event.

Nears 3rd free throw title

C. D. can set ACC record

Carolina continues to dominate the ACC statistics going into the tournament, with three team championships and one individual lead, but Charlie Davis of Wake Forest has a chance to make history.

Davis seized the free throw shooting accuracy lead from Carolina's Dennis Wuycik this weekend. Should he hold it (he's leading Wuycik .867 to .860) he will be the first player in conference annals to take that championship three years in succession.

Davis can be the 14th ACC player to score 700 points with 33 points in the tournament. He has won the scoring title with a 26.7 average. South Carolina's John Roche is second at 22.8.

Carolina is unchallenged for the team scoring lead. The Tar Heels average 86.7 points a game compared to second-place Duke's 81. South Carolina is third with 79.7.

UNC is shooting 52.8 from the field, way ahead of Duke's 49.1 figure. The only team title Carolina might lose is average winning margin; the Heels outscore their victims by 11.7 a game, but South Carolina has an 11.5 "kill ratio."

Clemson is the defensive leader, holding opponents to 65.5 points a game. South Carolina is second, Maryland third and North Carolina seventh.

The Tar Heels are fourth in foul shot accuracy with a 74.8 record. First is Duke, with 77.5, and second is Virginia.

Maryland moved ahead of Duke in the team rebounding race, with 45 captures



Lee Dedmon

per contest compared to Duke's 44.6.

State is second (the only category in which the Pack rands in the first division) and Carolina fourth, with 42.9.

Duke's Randy Denton and South Carolina's Tom Owens bring identical 12.6 rebound averages into the tournament today.

Owens has won the title two straight years, and has 289 rebounds in 23 games. Denton has 315 rebounds in 25 contests. Scott McCandlish of Virginia is third, Gil McGregor of Wake Forest is fourth and Virginia's Bill Gerry is fifth.

In the scoring race, Denton ranks third behind Davis and Roche with a 20.9 norm. Others in the top ten include Wuycik (19.8), Jim O'Brien of Maryland (16.7), Ed Leftwich of State (16.4), Howard White of Maryland and Barry Parkhill of Virginia (15.4), Owens (15.2) and McCandlish (15.1).

Wuycik has a wide lead in field goal accuracy, hitting 62.2 of his attempts. Denton and Carolina's Bill Chamberlain are tied for second with 56.1, with State's Paul Coder and Carolina's George Karl rounding out the top five.

Chamberlain is tied with McGregor for 14th in the scoring race, at 13.7 points a game. Karl and Lee Dedmon are tied for 20th with 12.3 averages.

Dedmon's 8.5 rebounds per game make him seventh in the conference along with Barry Yates of Maryland. Dedmon is also 12th in free throw accuracy with a 72.5 percentage.

Among conference notables with low field goal percentages include Leftwich, no longer with the team (39.2), Parkhill (41.1), Roche (44.3), Duke's Rich O'Connor (39.4), and O'Brien (41.5).

Clemson, Carolina's first-round opponent, has few representatives among the individual leaders.

Center Dave Angel is 13th in scoring with a 14 point average, seventh in field goal percentage at 51.5 percent, and 13th in rebounding with seven rebounds a game.

Dave Thomas is 18th in scoring with a 12.8 average.

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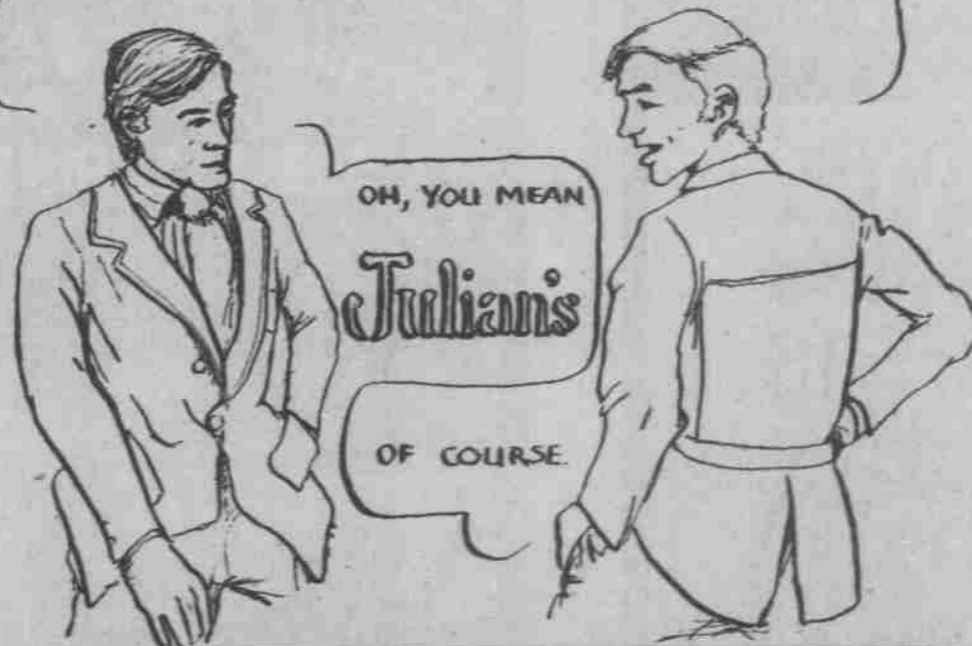
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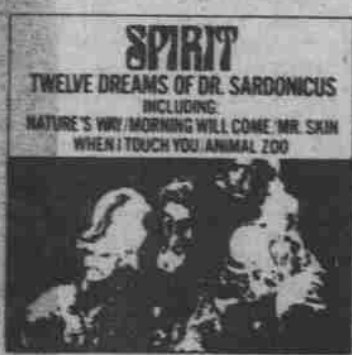
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Spirit has evolved from their jazzy origins to a powerful rock band. The new album is their first one on Epic, their first produced by David Briggs

(who now produces Tom Rush and Neil Young), and they consider it their best album yet. (They've had three previous albums, all highly acclaimed by critics and freaks.) From the new album: "Morning Will Come" a Randy California special.

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