Time for a Big Five?

## Mark Whicker

# New look, but old 'mouth'

"Ah, they thought I looked like too much of a redneck," said Bill Currie, gazing forlornly at the Carolina freshman basketball team practicing in Carmichael Auditorium last Friday. "So they told me to change my image.

"They" were the people at KDKA radio-TV in Pittsburgh, where Currie's sports broadcasts are breaking all rating records and educating coal miners and steel workers to such terms as "more money than a show dog can jump over" and "too wet to plow."

And what "they" had done was something to behold.

Davidson County's own Bill Currie was wearing wire-rimmed glasses. Longer hair, A white belt. A shirt and punts that, although they didn't seem to match at first glance, looked like the American flag on a bad trip,

But, even in new clothes. Currie is still the same old "Mouth," the same as on the Tar Heel network.

They told me to grow my hair long, so it's going down to my shoulders," he said. "And then when they tell me to get it

out, it's all coming off." For the record, Currie is happy at Pittsburgh. "It's as close to a small town as you can get in the North," Bill reported. "All the people have been great to us up there. And of course

we have a lot to talk about up there." What Currie talks about gets listened to more than any other sports commentary in the Steel City. He was at his best when the Pirates won the World Series, and is also one of the few announcers in the country that can make the Steelers, the Penguins, and the Condors interesting.

His old formula - "How many people really care about all those statistics?" - is paying off. "We try to keep the commentary as light as possible," Currie said Friday. "I get the scores over with quick."

Currie does three radio shows and two TV shows a day, both about five minutes long. He'll admit that he owes part of that success to Pittsburgh as a city.

"A lot of people up there came from the South, and many others are small-town. There's a lot of support in the suburbs up there. So I think I've blended in better than many people thought I would."

He called the Associated Press report about the World Series celebration in Pittsburgh "a big lie." They said the town was burning up, that people were getting raped left and right, and

"Well, hell, there were 100,000 people downtown, but the performing as a career, if he gets tired of sportscasting? rest of it was all exaggerated. There was a sexual assault, but that was on the other side of town.

"And they talked about drunks - well, you can pick up drunks almost any night of the week up there. Probably find me up there if you look hard enough."

There is a hard core Southern streak in Currie, however, that belies his civic pride in his new home. "Hell, you know we miss everybody down here," Currie said. "We take a Charlotte paper to keep up with stuff, but nobody up there could give a damn so we don't broadcast any of it."

Mallette Poole, Currie's traveling companion (as in many other cases, the "Mouth" took Mallette out of an orphanage and has become his legal guardian) looked at the gleeful reception Currie received in the Kenan Studium press box Saturday. "Pittsburgh is about the nicest place to go in the North," Mallette said. "But often I wish we were back down here."

Currie is meeting the cost of living in fine style, however. His speaking engagements and his recent night-club comedian career are both very profitable.

"I had a big orchestra in my first engagement," Bill recalled. "Just went off real well."

Is he adjusting his repetioire so the ladies in the audience won't be offended by his often off-color speech patterns?

"Oh, you know me," Currie retorted. "I'm always clean," He has even succeeded in PTA programs, a feat over which Currie's friends marvel. And Bill hasn't been shying away from

His expose of the harsh coaching of the McKeesport Little Tigers, a successful midget league football team, jammed the KDKA switchboard.

"The people who were against it were the players' parents," Currie snorted. "They told me it was good for the kids-"it makes them say yes, sir.' I told them that in a penitentary the inmates say 'yes, boss' too.'

"But I can't understand what's going on down here lately. I don't know much about it, but I do know that Bill Dooley is a fine coach and a fine person, and some of the people opposing

Although Currie can argue emphatically and emotionally about issues close to home, and although he is still as complex and highstrung as ever, Bill Currie always leaves people

As a comedian, he might be even more of a success, but the best of both worlds keeps him going. Does he ever think of

"Hell, I don't know," said Bill Currie. "Sometimes I think I ought to go wash cars."

# William & Mary - bad memories

catches at end.

Heels.

34-12. Carolina went to the Sugar Bowl

where it bowed to Oklahoma, 14-6, in a

in 1948, led by a hard-running fullback,

another outstanding cast. William and

Mary is 5-2 and boasts a victory over

Tulane, a team which conquered the Tar

William and Mary had a sparkling team

Now the Indians come back with

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Sunglasses

by Jack Williams

UNC Sports Information Dept.

When Carolina players from the great 1946-47-48 teams come back to Kenan andium this week for the Tar Heel football game with William and Mary, the could stir some haunting

It was in this same stadium in the 1948 anon that a William and Mary team

Couch Carl Snavely's team had opened liat season with six straight wins. The 1-14: Wake Forest, 28-6; N.C. State,

#### Swim meet entries due

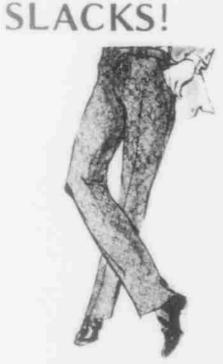
Entries for the intramural all-campus wimming meet must be in today. The meet will be held Thursday.

Pairings for the all-campus handball tournament are on display at the Intramural Office in Wollen Gym. With luck, the tag football playoffs will continue this week.

The paddleball and squash tournaments are moving along slowly but surely and Dave Edelman has his eye on a Tiple crown - championships in hundball, squash and paddleball.



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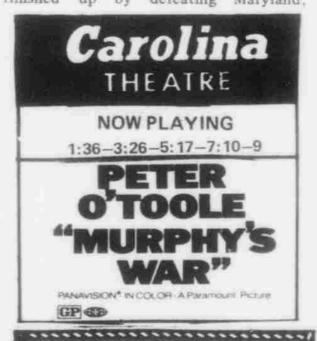
DURHAM

14-0; Louisiana State, 34-7; and 49-20; Duke, 20-0; and Virginia, Tennessee, 14-7.

Then came William and Mary - and Carolina was an overwhelming favorite to smear the Indians. But it didn't happen

Vito Ragazzo, who later was to Jack (Flying) Cloud, Ragazzo made circus become a Carolina assistant coach, caught a first quarter touchdown pass for William and Mary. The Tar Heels spent the rest of the day trying to catch up. alled one of the all-time shockers, Finally, late in the third quarter, UNC did obbing Carolina of a perfect regular tie it, 7-7. Neither team could score after

The tie marred an otherwise perfect regular season for Carolina. The Tar Heels Tar Heels flattened Texas, 34-7; Georgia, finished up by defeating Maryland,





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Randle is trying hard

Saturday was a dark, dark day for the Pack.... but a very important one for the

by Al Thomas

Sports Writer

State hosted the Pirates from East Carolina, an upstart school situated in rich tobacco country down East, and was run out of its own stadium.

The Pirates, winners of only one game going into the sectional battle with State, struck paydirt in the first quarter and

by Dan Collins

Sports Writer

dilemma, stiff competition at the

When Baggett stepped into the

Carolina campus after being one of the

most sought-after prospects in the State

he found a totally new problem awaiting.

For the first time he had a rival at the

quarterback spot, the only position he's

As it turned out Carolina also recruited

Chris Kupec, a freshman from Syosett,

N.Y. with an outstanding quarterbacking

reputation of his own. Baggett realized

that his days as a high school superstar

were over, for the main problem facing

talent-laden Carolina freshman starting

Since his arrival, Baggett has been

partially successful in his goal to become

freshman quarterback. Coach Moyer

Smith has decided to handle the situation

the same way he did last year when he

had both Nick Vidovic and John Klise

calling signals. He decided to give both

quarterbacks approximately the same

playing time and give them both a chance

For a player that has never alternated

"Of course everybody would like to

before Baggett has adapted to the

play all the time," Baggett said,"but

really I like the alternating system. This

now was to win a spot on the

Dallas Cowboy's Craig Morton feels.

quarterback position.

Charles Baggett knows well how the

Baggett doesn't mind

alternating for frosh

As it turns out they both face the same yards a completion.

went on to a surprisingly easy 31-15 on big-time college athletics in North

If the Pirate victory would have come on an interception, a fumble or a freak play, then the outcome could have been excused or dismissed. Instead, the visitors from ECU soundly whipped the Wolfpack not only in the final score but statistically notion.

The implications are many.

The Pirates have begun upgrading their sports programs and are desparately trying to break the Big Four monopoly

passing quarterback in high school, in the

first two games this season he has only

thrown ten times. Of the ten he has

completed only three, but they were

plays," Baggett said. "Whether I pass or

not depends on the situation and the past

Evidently the strategy has worked. The

Tar Babies have easily won both games,

the first victory over N.C. State 42-21

On quarterback keepers and scrambling

Although Baggett is the first black

signal caller at Carolina since Ricky

Lanier, he admits there have been no

I like it because it's close to home, It'll

give me a chance to go home sometimes."

freshman team as a whole, "I think we

a lot of talent on the team. We also get

have a very good team," he said. "There's

He has listed his two current goals as

"having a good freshman season and

Baggett has also been pleased with the

added pressures. "I haven't felt any," he

said. "I've gotten used to it."

business administration.

seen of Carolina so far.

along really well together."

going 5-0."

and the second over Wake Forest 45-6.

running."

good for 114 yards, an average of 38

Carolina.

The Pirates have always suffered in recruiting the top high school stars in the state because they were considered small-time. The very solid victory over State goes a long way in dispelling this

ECU football coach Sonny Randle had termed the game "The Super Bowl" as far as his team was concerned. He realized the importance of the outcome not only for the present players but for the program as well.

The Pirates will have more chances to prove themselves in the future, especially since Carolina is scheduled to play them twice within the next three years.

A few more victories similar to Saturday's could change the Big Four to the Big Five. It's still a long way off, but the change is no longer inconceivable.

As for the Welfpack, the defeat has to be considered among the most

Interim coach Al Michaels was an optismistic man before the season began. After long years as an assistant coach, he

was finally getting his chance. Michaels' optimism and enthusiasm "Coach Smith lets us call our own spread to the State players and others throughout the area during pre-season. For some reason, that enthusiasm simply

two games the situation has called for has not matured into victories. Michaels was not the only disappointed Atlantic Coast Conference coach

> In fact, Carolina was the only ACC team to win, and that was against conference foe Wake Forest 7-3.

Baggett has excelled, gaining 83 yards in Except for the Wolfpack, the Duke 10 rushes for an average of 8.3 yards per Blue Devils were probably the most disappointed players in the conference.

Duke was considered too strong for Navy to have much of a chance, but the Midshipmen came alive in the second half for a 15-14 win.

Duke hurt itself throughout the Baggett is at the moment undecided on contest, fumbling four times and having his major but he is leaning towards three passes intercepted.

"There's a fine line between winning The 6 foot 180 lb. Fayetteville native admits he is satisfied with what he has and losing," Duke coach Mike McGee said during his press luncheon Monday. "To "I like Carolina," he said. "I like the win, you just can't make the kinds of mistakes we made. people and I like the coaching staff. Also

"We made mistakes offensively and defensively," he continued, "and had bad field position throughout the game, Eight times we took over possession within our

The three other ACC members had about as much luck as Duke, with Army edging Virginia 15-9, Florida rallying past Maryland 27-23 and Auburn shattering Clemson 35-13.

#### Even though Baggett was primarily a The most

way everyone gets to play.

situation surprisingly well.

to prove themselves.

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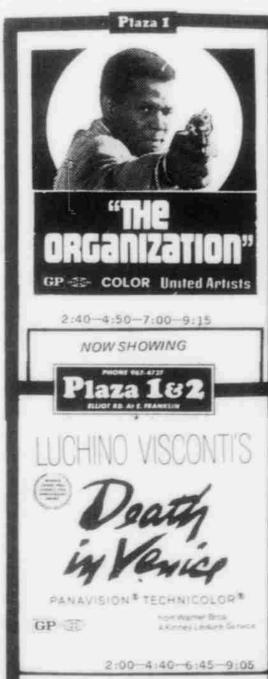
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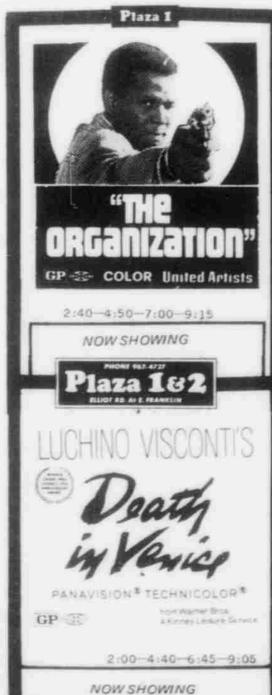
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