

UNC football

Ailing Fighting Irish invade Kenan Stadium

by Susan Shackelford
Sports Editor

The air will be warmer against their faces, only partially covered by face masks and helmets. They are used to brisker afternoons, larger stadiums and a bigger brand of football.

The Fighting Irish seldom come South for an Atlantic Coast Conference football game. The last time they played in Chapel Hill, the University of North Carolina won 12-7. That was in 1960.

But in their last four meetings, Notre Dame has romped over the Tar Heels, including shutouts the last three times. Those wins have all been at home in South Bend, Ind. and under circumstances different from today's.

Notre Dame is on the road for the first time with only 48 players. In its earlier road trips, the independent power could take 60 because a court injunction held up the NCAA's institution of the 48-player limit. The limit hurts the Irish because they have so

year head coach Bill Dooley, are 2-2. Notre Dame's defense is the most well-established element of the game, though several players are injured. Keyed by All-America tackle Steve Niehaus, it has given up an average of only five points a game and has chalked up five pass interceptions.

End Ross Browner will miss the game because of a sprained ankle suffered last week against Michigan State. Starting in his place is Tony Zappala.

Other injured defensive men include linebacker Doug Becker, who did not make the trip. He is replaced by freshman Steve Heimkrieter. Randy Harrison expects to see limited action, with Tim Simon starting at his free safety position. Both Becker and Harrison also have sprained ankles.

Quarterback Billy Paschall leads the UNC offense. Last week against Virginia, he displayed an ability to maintain a sustained offensive push, after a slow start from having played baseball this summer.

Carolina's young offensive line is led by center Mark Cantrell. It must block effectively, though the Irish are the toughest defense challenge they've met, to provide the catalyst for running backs Mike Voight and James Betterson, who both notched their season's best rushing efforts last week.

The Carolina defense could have an edge over the Irish offense, at least in the early stages. Notre Dame had to replace 10 starters on offense this season and many of those are now sidelined with injuries. The ND quarterback has also been fluctuating between Rick Slager and Joe Montanz. Slager is expected to start today.

Running back Al Hunter, a native of Greenville, N.C., made the trip but is a doubtful starter because of a severely bruised back. Fullback Jim Browner is out with a sprained knee. Harry Woebkenberg and Pat Pohler are injured at the right tackle spot, which will be filled by Steve McDaniels.

Backing up Hunter is sophomore Terry Eurick, shifted from halfback. Jerome Heavens has the fullback slot and proved himself against Northwestern with a bulldozing style of 106 yards rushing in only one half.

This offensive limbo could give the UNC defense early opportunities to curb the Irish attack, which may need perhaps a quarter or half to generate a well-executed team effort.



Staff photo by Charles Hardy

UNC linebacker Bobby Gay wraps up Maryland fullback Dan DeCarlo in the Tar Heels' 34-7 loss to the Terps three weeks ago in Kenan Stadium.

Notre Dame runs out of a Wing-T formation, staying mostly on the ground, a characteristic of the Parseghian era.

Carolina's offense "presents problems we haven't had to prepare for yet this year. North Carolina used the Veer against Maryland and this past week they ran from the Slot-1," said Devine.

"This will be a game between two young teams. Last week we started six sophomores

and a freshman both on offense and defense," Devine noted. UNC starts only four seniors, only one of whom is on defense, and 11 juniors.

Notre Dame has defeated Boston College, Purdue and Northwestern; UNC has beaten William and Mary and Virginia. Last week ND fell to Michigan State 10-3. ND, which fumbled seven times, will be anxious to regain the offensive prestige, dashed by a hard-hitting Michigan State team.

Boom Boom out

North Carolina's tailback James "Boom Boom" Betterson will miss today's game because of an injury.

Betterson, who suffered a charly horse (thigh injury) in last Saturday's game at Virginia, didn't practice this week. The *Daily Tar Heel* also learned that Betterson spent several days in the hospital here this week but that the injury doesn't seem severe enough to sideline him for the rest of the season. Betterson was averaging 26 yards on punt returns and 4.1 yards a carry.

many injured. Carolina, as the home team, is allowed to dress 60.

Notre Dame also brings a different coach to face the Tar Heels. Ara Parseghian headed the nationally-ranked school the last 10 years. Now Dan Devine, having left the Green Bay Packers as coach and general manager, coaches the Irish, who are 3-1 so far this season. The Tar Heels, under nine-

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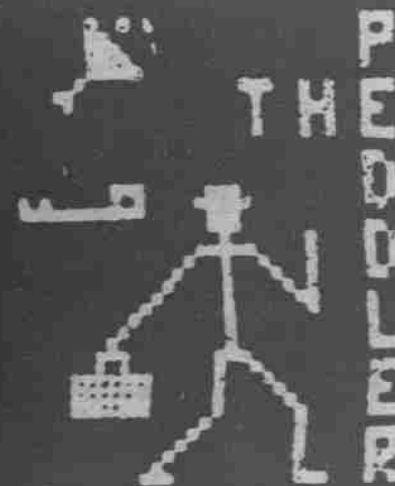
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