

Olympics, honors

# Awards dot trainer's career

BY NORMAN CANNADA

**F**EW tributes are paid to athletic trainers, but UNC head trainer John Lacey has received them all.

"When I first became a trainer, I guess I had three main goals," says Lacey. "I wanted first to be a head trainer, then be chosen to represent the U.S. in the Olympics and the last one was to make the athletic trainers' hall of fame."

Lacey has reached them all. He's been the Carolina head trainer for the past 25 years and spent several years before that as the head trainer at Maryland. Also, Lacey was the trainer for the United States basketball team at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, and eight years later, he was named the head trainer for the entire U.S. delegation to the Munich games. Lacey's final dream came true in 1977, when he was selected to the athletic trainers' section of the Citizen Savings Hall of Fame.

"There are no more plateaus," Lacey says.

At 63, Lacey has no intention of retiring in the near future. "I'm in good health and I still love what I'm doing, so I don't see why I can't be around here a lot longer. Besides, it's better than sitting around the yard looking for something to do."

Lacey says he decided he wanted to become a trainer after talking with a friend who was already working as an athletic trainer.

"Like everybody else, I played a lot of high school and sandlot sports, but I was never big enough physically to play in college. Training sounded like a great job since it was doing something helpful and still staying very close to athletics."

Although Lacey enjoys his job, he says there aren't many benefits. "You have to love what you're doing, because there aren't many benefits. But, for someone who enjoys athletics as much as I do, it's the greatest job in the world."

Lacey worked as a trainer at Yale before going to Maryland in 1951. While at Yale, he was able to take time off to work as a

trainer for three professional football teams—the Chicago Rockets, the New York Yanks and Baltimore Colts—during their preseason workouts.

"I met a lot of the big names of that time like Tom Landry and Y.A. Tittle. But I don't think that I'd ever want to do work for a professional team on a full-time basis. It's too much of a big-money thing up there."

Lacey says that the biggest changes in his department while at UNC have come from the growth of the sports medicine department.

"Back when I first got here, it was just me and a couple of others. Now we've got so many people you can't count them. The medical people are also getting more involved in our program."

"We need it that way, too. Especially in the last five to 10 years, as players are getting bigger and faster. It's a very important addition."

Lacey says problems sometimes occur in trying to keep an injured player out of action if a coach is pressuring him to reverse his action. He adds, however, that he has never been pushed to go against his views.

"Sometimes an ambitious coach might put some pressure on you to let someone play, but you have to stand your ground," Lacey says. "I've always said that a healthy second-stringer is better than an unhealthy first-stringer."

"I've never had much of a problem with that, though. I think the coaches have confidence in me and respect what I'm trying to do."

Of all the many injuries Lacey has treated, the one suffered by former UNC quarterback Curtis Hawthay is the most vivid in his mind.

"During his junior year, Curtis was playing against South Carolina. He was turning on the option and was about to be tackled. He put out his right arm to slow his fall, and just as he did



UNC football trainer John Lacey ... Long career highlighted by awards

that, some of the South Carolina players fell on his arm. It dislocated his elbow and broke two forearm bones. He came back the next year and was one of the co-captains, but he never really played after that."

Lacey was unable to go to the Montreal Games in 1976 because of a rule that restricted trainers from attending more than two Olympic Games. That rule is no longer in effect, but Lacey says he would not consider another Olympic offer anyway.

"I've been two times already and now it's time for someone else to have a chance," he says.

Lacey received another honor in 1977, when he was named to the Hall of Fame.

"You're chosen by what you've done and you go through a screening similar to what you have to go through with the Olympics. It's a great honor. There isn't anything more than this."

Norman Cannada is a staff writer for The Daily Tar Heel.

# The Cars venture out-a little - on latest album

By ROB MONATH

The Cars

Panorama

**T**HE CARS probe deeply into their own male psyches to expose a range of negative feelings about relationships with their female counterparts in *Panorama*, their new album. All but one of the songs on the LP couple a frustrated male's impression of a given male/female relationship with highly complex musical accompaniment.

Ric Ocasek and Benjamin Orr alternate on lead vocals that present these male moods through the voice of an intimate persona.

In "Touch and Go," an equivocal lover frustrates the persona and reduces him with her power: "I'm flying like a cement kite/In your headlock on the floor."

Throughout "Don't Tell Me No" the persona's feared rejection is already anticipated by his hurt tone. On "Getting Through," this hurt turns to bitterness: "I don't want to be your party doll/All flaked out in tinsel town."

## Records

And in "Running To You," the persona gives a fatalistic assessment of his own slavish behavior:

*I'm having a real time  
Taking what's not mine  
And I'm doing what I want to do  
That's running to you*

In presenting these pessimistic lyrics, The Cars employ their own distinctive new wave sound with loads of additional studio effects.

The group fiddles around with meter, speed, pitch and other technical effects. Greg Hawkes' keyboards, Ric Ocasek's rhythm guitar, Elliot Easton's lead guitar, Benjamin Orr's bass and David Robinson's drums combine to make certain passages of the title cut, "Panorama," conjure up images of invading Black Riders in a J.R.R. Tolkien movie.

Splashed against this orchestrated chaos are simple, driving rock 'n' roll motifs and rhythms like the relentless beat of "Misfit Kid." Rubber-band-sounding rhythm guitar builds in "Gimme Some Slack" in a progression comparable to the Rolling Stones' "She's So Cold." The cut, "Touch and Go," even resembles a scattered Western rock 'n' roll ballad in some places.

Despite this diversity of musical undercurrents and elaborate, polished studio work, The Cars' music on this LP doesn't really sound fresh simply because

the group has already toured this musical avenue, in a more basic form, on their past two albums.

In essence, The Cars have ventured further out on their own pioneered musical tangent, though not much further out. When one adds this musical tangent to their cynical lyrics on *Panorama*, The Cars still emerge as new wave forerunners, but they're coming closer all the time to slipping down into the bowels of musical mediocrity.

Rob Monath is Weekender record critic.

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## The Porthole Picks the ACC

A weekly feature predicting the outcome of the week's ACC football games

**"We know more about good food than we do about football!"**

LAST WEEK: 4-1  
OVERALL: 16-5

WEEK OF  
OCT. 4

Virginia Tech finds the going tough in Tiger Town  
**Clemson over Virginia Tech** 6

After two close losses, the Blue Devils find out how to lose big.  
**Indiana over Duke** 21

If complacency doesn't set in the Tar Heels should pick up another win.  
**UNC over Georgia Tech** 13

If Maryland though UNC's defense was tough, Pitt's won't be any easier.  
**Pitt over Maryland** 12

The Gamecocks have a chance to beat up on an ACC foe.  
**South Carolina over N.C. State** 14

The Mountaineers will get to work over the Cavs.  
**West Virginia over Virginia** 10

It seems that the magic is back at Wake Forest  
**Wake over William & Mary** 9

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