

# Chapel Hill History

diately following revelation that he was part of a student-townspeople gambling ring. After having coached at several colleges, Cartwell ended his career as the track coach at West Point.

Between the world wars, UNC developed a nationally recognized athletic program with multichampionship teams in football, basketball, and track and field. When William "Bill" and Robert "Bob" Fetzer came to UNC in 1921, the sports facilities were still in the "first generation" stage of development. Bynum gym was available for basketball, gymnastics, and boxing, but its pool had been declared unsanitary and closed. There were a dozen or so tennis courts. Emerson Field hosted organized baseball, football, and track and field events.

In 1922, Bob Fetzer became athletic director and the brothers assumed the shared responsibility of coaching the basketball team. Since neither knew very much about the game, their "coaching" consisted primarily of being present at games. They could hardly have devised a better strategy. Their 1922 team went 9-3 during the regular season, then won the Southern Conference Tournament with victories over Howard, Newberry, Alabama, Georgia, and Mercer. The 1923 squad was undefeated in 14 scheduled games — including a 39-9 rout of N.C. State — and beat Mississippi College in the opening round of the tournament, then fell to the University of Mississippi 32-34. Norman Shepherd took over as coach in 1924 and guided the Tar Heels to a perfect 23-0 season, including four lopsided tournament

triumphs.

When the students learned that their Tar Heels had defeated Alabama in the title game that year, head cheerleader Vic Huggins led 500 of his classmates to the Durham train station to welcome Cartwright "Cart" Carmichael, Jack "Spratt" Cobb, and their teammates. The loud, well oiled trek back to Chapel Hill ended at 4 a.m., no doubt to the relief of the solemn element of the community. Among the innovations that have allotted him a permanent slot in UNC sports history, Huggins invited coeds to join the cheerleader corps; he wrote "Here Comes Carolina," and convinced Charles Thomas Wollen to shell out \$25 to order a mascot from Texas — Rameses I.

Carolina fever became chronic during the 1922 football season. Bill and Bob Fetzer were the coaches and Grady Pritchard the captain of a team that won nine and lost only to powerhouse Yale, 0-18, in a game in which UNC had three touchdown plays called back because of penalties. Chapel Hill the village was well represented on the 1922 team. Besides guard Pritchard, there were halfbacks Edwin Tenney and Ralph

Pendergraft, tackle Herman McIver, quarterback George Sparrow, and the great running back Chancie Lee "Jack" Merritt, the great-great-grandson of Old Kit Barbee, the great-great-grandson of the Rev. William H. and Susanna Barbee Merritt, and the son of Lonnie Lee Merritt.

From 1918 to 1921 when Jack Merritt played for the Chapel Hill High School, his teams lost only once to a high school and beat several college teams. The "Hillians" defeated Greensboro 70-0 to win the state high school championship in 1919 and repeated in 1920, losing only to Elon College while beating freshmen teams at State, Wake Forest,

and UNC. Merritt carried his nickname, The Battering Ram, with him to UNC, and by 1924 when Vic Huggins decided it was time to select a team mascot, a "battering ram" was the immediately obvious choice.

Huggins and some tuxedo-clad classmates introduced Rameses I to the student body by escorting him to mid court in the Tin Can, the all-purpose, tin, perpetually leaky gymnasium built in 1923 on the site now occupied by Fetzer Gymnasium. While the audience and his dignified attendants sang "Hark the Sound," Rameses broke the ice by relieving himself on the polished floor. Huggins led the mascot onto the football field for the first time on 8

November 1924 while Carolina was warming up to face favored VMI. But the ram came through. Late in the fourth quarter of a scoreless game, Jack Merritt broke free for a 37-yard run which set up a Bunn Hackney drop-kick field goal for a 3-0 UNC win.

**This piece was extracted from Chapel Hill, An Illustrated History. For details see advertisement at bottom left of this page.**

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## Crime

Carlton then delivered a 15-minute speech, ignoring the Hendon case but pleading innocent to charges that he had killed his wife Isabella. She had died shortly after suspicion fell on her husband, and authorities suspected Carlton had murdered her to

keep her from implicating him in the burglaries and the attack on Mrs. Hendon. They exhumed her body, and Prof. A.F. Redd discovered evidence of poison and powdered glass in contents taken from her stomach.

After the protestations of innocence, the preachers prayed, the audience sang "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood," friends bade the condemned farewell, deputies app-

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