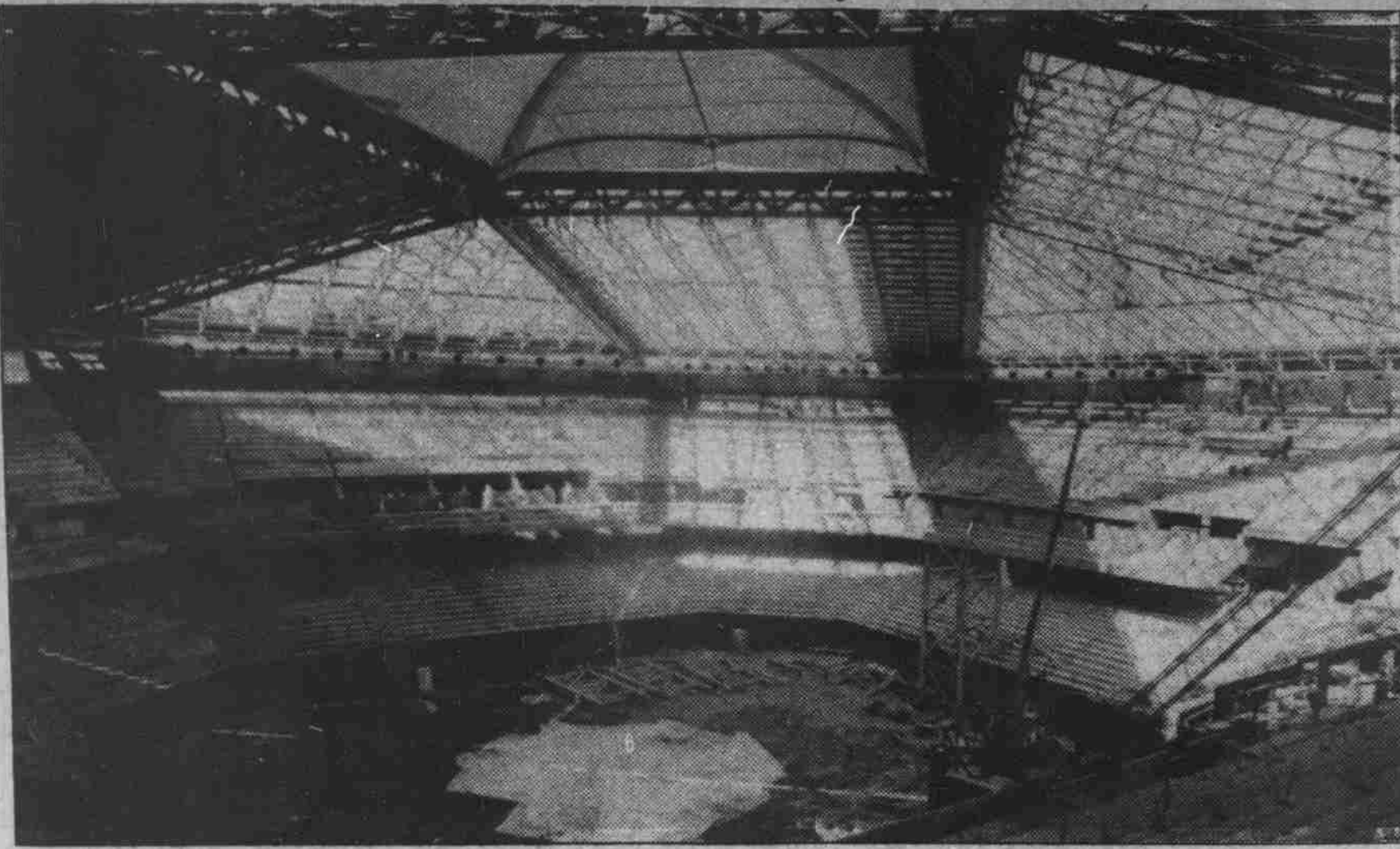


## SAC causing problems, so what's new?



The Slowly Assembling Center may not be completed for any of the North Carolina basketball season.

By SCOTT FOWLER  
Assistant Sports Editor

The SAC, whose initials should stand for the Slowly Assembling Center, has already caused a great deal of trouble in its three-year existence.

Seemingly on the verge of completion about every two months, the SAC (in reality the Student Activities Center), has managed to fire several dozen eggs from its domed roof directly into the faces of various people associated with its construction.

It was last February when UNC smashed Clemson in the "final" game at tradition-laden Carmichael Auditorium. Students went wild, buying T-shirts and bumper stickers proclaiming "I was there at the last game in Carmichael," the rims were taken down and Dean Smith's voice even cracked a little.

Now there may be an opportunity to do that all over again, although undoubtedly with a touch less enthusiasm.

On Nov. 24, the tradition-laden UCLA Bruins are coming to town in a game that has been earmarked as the one to christen the SAC. More likely, that date will see a group of fans and players shuffling back into Carmichael with rather embarrassed looks on their faces.

For the SAC is, as usual, running behind schedule. Why? Well, no one's quite sure. "I think it's hard to realize the magnitude of the place," Rams Club executive vice president Ernie Williamson said. "It takes about half a day for someone to climb to the roof."

Steve Camp, the director of the SAC, said that about 150 workers were putting in 48-hour weeks Monday-Friday trying to get the place ready, and some work also goes on during the weekends.

"There's so many people out there they probably get in each other's way at times," Camp said.

Except for "very special" instances now, the SAC grounds are closed to most everyone in a concentrated effort to get the work done. One such instance occurred Tuesday, when Camp, UNC athletic director John Swofford and North Carolina congressman Bill Cobey took a tour.

If it's any consolation, this isn't an isolated problem. Williamson got a clipping from one UNC booster recently about the 25,000-seat coliseum being built at the University of Tennessee. It's already four months behind schedule, and the East Carolina Liston B. Ramsey gym is also running about a year late in the race to finish last in the construction of southeastern college superstructures.

Those facts did little to bolster Williamson's spirits, although the recent phone call from one of the SAC's contractors, who offered to bet Williamson \$1,000 that the SAC would be open in time for UCLA, helped his mood considerably.

For everyone is itching to get into the new building, especially the people who paid for it. "I feel very strongly that if I donate the money, I should receive the tickets," said one Rams Club member who gave \$31,000 to the new facility.

You can understand the guy's position. If UNC opens in Carmichael Auditorium, the Rams Club will have 2,800 tickets to allocate rather than 9,300, meaning that a lot of people who gave over \$10,000 to the House that Alumni Built will have bought an expensive place on their own couch in front of the tube.

One rather busy place on campus right now is the Ticket Office, which has been fooling with football tickets and also has had to develop several separate plans for basketball season tickets and student distribution because of the possibility that none, some or all of the 1985-86 season will be played in (take your pick) Carmichael/the SAC.

"It's a confusing situation for everybody," said Ken Brown, director of ticket operations. "Hopefully we'll get in there by the UCLA game."

But the powers that be remain firm in their commitment not to open the Center prematurely. "You can't go into a facility with this much notoriety and publicity with it only halfway finished," Camp said.

You can almost hear a portly Orson Welles in the background, solemnly declaring, "We will open no Center before its time."

## Prop. 48 draws mixed reviews

By JAMES SUROWIECKI  
Staff Writer

Earlier this year in New Orleans, the NCAA convention ratified a proposal called Proposition 48 with the hope of strengthening academic requirements for incoming student-athletes.

Response to the legislation has been vocal and diverse. Many educators have praised it as at least a small step toward putting the student back in student-athlete. Others have attacked the proposal's reliance on the SAT as culturally biased and dangerous to black students.

One of the most vociferous critics of the new legislation has been Auburn football coach Pat Dye, whose unabashed concern for winning over academics is as refreshing as it is disturbing. Dye was recently quoted in *The Sporting News* as saying, "It'll make football like it was when I played at Georgia. Players will be smaller and slower. They'll be mostly white."

In direct contrast to Dye is UNC basketball coach Dean Smith, a supporter of Proposition 48 who nevertheless would like a revision in the legislation. "We (UNC faculty and coaches) are generally in favor of any proposal for increased academics," Smith said. "We did support Proposition 48. But we would prefer a system which incorporated class rank as well as college boards."

Smith, however, called the SAT culturally biased and said, "If you grew up in white suburbia you would score better on the college boards."

Biased or not, the legislation goes into effect on August 1, 1986. According to Jamie McCloskey of NCAA Legislative Services, it requires that in order for a freshman to be eligible for an athletic scholarship and to play or practice with a varsity team he or she must:

- Take a core curriculum of 11 courses.

- These courses must include three years of English, two years of mathematics, two years of social sciences, and two years of natural and physical sciences. To complete the curriculum, the student could take more courses in any of the above fields or take a computer science, speech, foreign

**"(Proposition 48) will make football like it was when I played at Georgia. Players will be smaller and slower. They'll be mostly white."**

—Pat Dye, Auburn Football Coach

language or religion course.

- The student must receive a 2.0 GPA in these courses.

- The student must have a combined score on the SAT of 700 or a score on the ACT of 15.

If any of these requirements are not met, the student is then ineligible to participate in varsity sports for his freshman year. McCloskey said, "The student can receive an athletic scholarship and play a varsity sport his sophomore year if he has completed 24 semester hours and is in good academic standing." The latter term varies from school to school.

Dye predicted that many of the best football players will be going to smaller schools, which are exempt from these requirements, and went on to say, "It's not important that a person gets a degree. What's important is that he gets something beneficial from the college experience."

While Dye did not touch on the concept of the core curriculum, Smith strongly praised the concept of required college-preparatory courses. "Every young man or woman who wants to get an athletic scholarship or play on a varsity team now has to take a core curriculum," Smith said. "And even though the great majority of these young people will not get athletic scholarships, think of the benefits they will have received from taking those courses."

He added that having this core curriculum might improve the board scores of students hoping to become varsity athletes. "You never know," he said. "A high school principal told me about a student-athlete who when he

needed a 72 average to play sports, had a 72, and when the next year the required average went up to 74, he got a 74. If you have standards that have to be met, you might have more people making it."

Smith, however, seemed unconvinced that Proposition 48 was passed with completely pure goals in mind. A backer of freshmen ineligibility, he said athletic directors had made freshmen eligible because they want to save money, and said it seemed the proposal was more intended to stop people from talking about freshman eligibility.

He later, however, took a more optimistic view of the situation, and said: "I hope the legislation is just designed to improve admissions criteria. It's just that talk died down about freshmen being eligible about the time this proposal was passed."

One of the crucial differences between Dye and Smith is that Dye has said as many as one-third of his players now on scholarship could not have been signed had Proposition 48 been in effect. Smith, on the other hand, said "very seldom do we have anyone under scholarship who does not fulfill those requirements."

North Carolina assistant baseball coach Howard McCullough agreed with Smith. "I don't think that it will affect us in our recruiting," McCullough said. "We want young men who are academically in a position where they're going to be able to get a degree. We just don't foresee eligibility being a problem."

Ultimately, the question of Proposition 48 is a very basic one: Are student-athletes students first and athletes second, or athletes first and scholars second? Is Dye correct when he says that a degree is not what ultimately matters or is McCullough correct when he says he's not in the business of turning out baseball robots? Or is the question not one of black and white, but of gray?

"If we recruit a young man and he finds that he's over his head academically," McCullough said, "we have done an injustice to that young man and his family." The sponsors of Proposition 48 are trying to make those injustices fewer and fewer.

## Intramurals gears up for new year

By TIM CROTHERS  
Staff Writer

Intramurals are the poor man's Super Bowl. They provide a student the enviable luxury of playing a sport without having to practice and still offer a most coveted prize: a UNC Intramural Champion t-shirt.

This fall, the UNC Intramural Program, under the direction of Ed Shields, is offering a wide range of activities from football to foul-shooting, from team tennis to the mysterious turkey trot.

This semester there are 24 activities in all, including both team and individual competition.

Some of the most popular fall sports are beginning soon. Carolina Tag football and soccer will be kicking off simultaneously this year along with the traditional Grail Softball Tournament. Captain's organizational meetings will be held for these sports on August 26 and 27.

Softball will begin first, with the first looping pitch and subsequent single to center scheduled for August 29. Golf, racquetball, and Napoleon basketball will begin in the following weeks.

There are two important rule changes this year. First, a student ID or faculty/staff privilege card will be required for

every player at every game. Anyone without proper ID will not be eligible to play that day. Second, every team will be eligible for the playoffs this year, whether its record is 5-0 or 0-5, provided it has not forfeited a game over the course of the season.

Again this year, the UNC Intramural program is looking for people to enforce the new rules. They will hire hundreds of students as officials and supervisors on a no-experience-necessary basis. Both players and officials can obtain all the necessary information and brochures at the IM-REC office in 203 Woolen Gym.

So whether your specialty is inner-tube water polo or sports trivia, the UNC Intramural Program is offering you the chance to be a star.

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