Dean and the SAC are reeling

By SCOTT FOWLER
Assistant Sports Editor

God is not dead, but the UNC Board of Governors just gave him a good kick in the groin.

In essence, Dean Smith thought the BOG's recently-issued report about the state of college athletics in the UNC system didn't make him out to be the "Clean Dean" we all know and love. He's right.

Turns out Smith has accepted an athlete into his revered basketball program who made less than 500 the first time he took the SAT, although he eclipsed that magic 500 mark the second time he took the test. "If he graduates, we were right (in recruiting him)," Smith said. "If he doesn't, we've exploited him."

Among other things, the report also said that of 15 basketball scholarship athletes who had enrolled at UNC from 1978-1981, only eight had graduated.

Coupled with Tuesday's disclosure that the Student Activities Center wouldn't be ready until early next year, the UNC basketball program is at one of its lower points in recent history. Mud on its face, big disgrace, all that stuff. Now is a good time for any and all to take their potshots at the program, and that's what a good many newspapers have been doing. Everyone likes to see a superhero stumble, and there's no denying that Smith has tripped a little bit.

But he quickly righted himself, ripping off a seven-page letter to Art Padilla, one of the people involved with the report. Smith pointed out that 30 of his 34 lettermen have graduated from 1976-1984, and indignantly asked, "What would you folks have had me do differently?"

the far sideline

Nothing, Dean, nothing. No matter what they say, you're the best. And by the way, I've got a really tall younger brother who's really good on the boards that you get rebounds off of, but not so good on his college ones. Interested?

But I'll tell you who's really screwed up — the contractors for the Slowly Assembling Center. Who are these guys, and how many more words can they pull out of the thesaurus to substitute for "incompetence?"

"(The architects) now feel that the uncertainty involved with fine-tuning a project of this magnitude with eight different subcontractors is too much to accomplish to insure a Nov. 24 opening," UNC Athletic Director John

Swofford said in a statement Tuesday.

Fine-tuning? Does that mean stuff like making sure the seats are correctly numbered, or that the popcorn prices are all posted? I don't know about you, but I'd gladly watch a roughly-tuned game against UCLA in the SAC. I know everyone remembers that sentimental time last February when we bade Carmichael a tearful goodbye.

Well, hello, hello again, as the Car(Michael)s would say. Because of some
more building problems, we all get to
get razzed now by all of our non-UNC
friends. It's a little like leaving your
girlfriend at home with an emotional,
passion-packed kiss when you're going
to college and then walking back to
her house a few minutes later because
you have a flat tire.

As for the players, they seem to be some of the very few who don't give a damn where they play. They don't think much about it, as evidenced by this recent exchange with Curtis Hunter.

Reporter: Curtis, what do you think about the SAC?

Curtis (with no hint of sarcasm): The who?

Yes, Curtis, there may be some concerts in the SAC sometime, but not anytime in the near future.

Joe Wolf said he doesn't care where they play. "If we get there, we get there, if we don't, we don't," Wolf said. "I've followed Tar Heel basketball since the fifth grade since my brother Jeff was here. Carmichael has been our home. We're happy here but whenever they get ready to move us, we'll move."

But let's hope they get started playing somewhere soon. It's time to start whacking some teams into oblivion on the court so people can forget what court it's on or stop guessing as to whether Chris Washburn still holds the record for testing deficiency.

SPORTS

Field hockey takes easy win over Duke

By MIKE BERARDINO Staff Writer

It was just another day at the office for North Carolina's powerful women's field hockey team, as coach Karen Shelton's squad used a suffocating defense and two goals from junior Maryellen Falcone to register an easy 4-0 blanking of Duke yesterday at Hanes Field in Durham.

In raising their record to 10-2, the third-ranked Tar Heels racked up three first-half goals and were never seriously threatened by the Blue Devils, now 7-5-1

"I'm pleased with our performance,"
Shelton said. "This is always Duke's biggest game of the year and you can throw the record books out when we play them."

Although the Blue Devils were obviously sky-high for their ACC rivals at the game's outset, Falcone's icebreaking goal at the 9:48 mark staked UNC to a 1-0 lead and began the rout. Falcone, a 5-7 forward from Trumbull, Ct., gained control of a loose ball several

yards in front of the net and rolled a well-placed shot past Duke goalkeeper Kathy Swanson.

Less than six minutes later, Falcone's "statemate" Louise Hines connected to make it 2-0 for the Tar Heels with 19:38 left in the opening half. Hines, a senior forward and (like Falcone) a native of Connecticut, was the beneficiary of perfect execution on a penalty corner situation by her teammates. Judith Jonckheer and Claire Dougherty worked the ball to Hines, stationed near the goal box, and the speedy all-American took care of the rest.

Not content to sit on their early lead, the Tar Heels pressed on and made it 3-0 on Falcone's second goal of the contest 10:30 before the half. Following a tenacious struggle by Duke defenders in front of the goal, UNC was awarded another penalty corner and it was instant replay time. Jonckheer to Dougherty to Falcone produced the game's third score and, for all intents and purposes, it was over.

Jonckheer, the sophomore midfielder who is tied with Hines for the team lead in goals, rounded out the scoring with just ten minutes left in the game. It was North Carolina's tenth consecutive win over the Devils from Durham.

As usual, the Tar Heels destroyed their foe on the stat sheet as well as the playing field. UNC outshot Duke 23-3 for the game, including a 16-0 advantage in the opening frame. They also took 15 penalty corners to the Blue Devils' three. In addition, North Carolina's outstanding goaltender Jan Miles made three saves to preserve her fifth shutout of the season.

One Tar Heel whose contribution won't show up in the score book, but is nonetheless a critical part of UNC's success is sophomore sweeper Lori Bruney. On several occasions, Bruney used some fancy stickwork to prevent Duke from even getting a shot off.

"Lori cut off several potentially dangerous situations," Shelton said. "She just played a great game."

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Tickets are now available for both Blue-White basketball games as well as the exhibition against the Greek National Team.

Blue-White #1 will be held on Saturday, October 26th after the Florida State football game. Blue-White #2 taps off after the Clemson football game on November 9th. The exhibition against the Green National Team will be played on Saturday evening, November 16th. All games will be played in Carmichael.

Students can pick up their tickets at Carmichael from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Additional guest passes will also be available for all of the above mentioned games. Please have your UNC I.D. card and athletic pass with you. We expect these games to be total sellouts and therefore urge you to get your tickets early.

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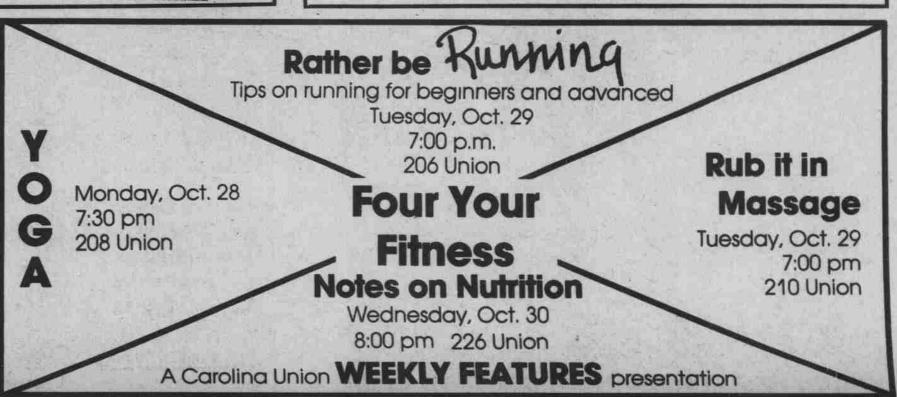
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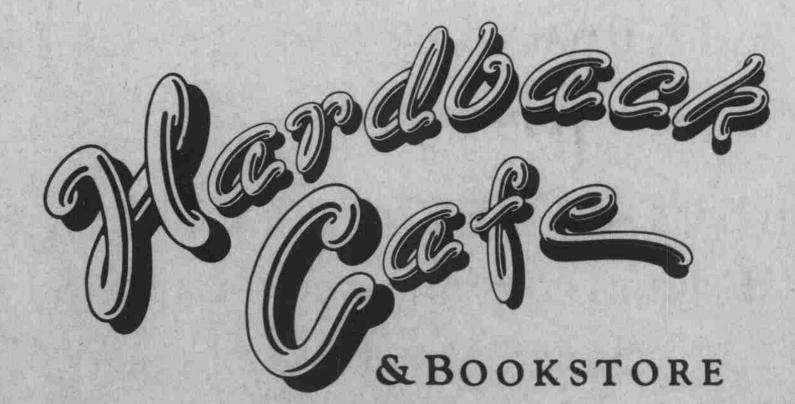
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