



COACH JERRY GREEN talks strategy with his players.

Staff photo by Sylvia Hawkins

## Grant for complex

By Joan Sterk

UNCA's athletic department received a \$350,000 state grant this past summer and is making plans to use this money to build a baseball complex and to upgrade the existing soccer field and track.

This new facility will include a baseball field, an area the size of a football field for recreational use or soccer practice, and another area the size of a field-hockey field, said Ed Harris, athletic director.

Although all this is only on paper for the present, Harris has in his mind a "very good looking baseball complex with seating."

Harris said the athletic department is aiming for a Spring 85-86 completion date.

The complex will have bleachers, fencing, a service building for sports, and perhaps a press box, said Harris.

"The stadium will not have lights when it first opens, but we hope to get the wiring in now so we can get lights in the future," said Harris.

The athletic department will also allocate some money from this grant to repair the track to "bring it up to college stand-

ards," and to work on the soccer field, said Harris.

"The soccer field has taken a lot of abuse over the years and it needs to be repaired. It is used by the soccer team, sun bathers, flag football and frisbee throwers. It is in need of repair," Harris said.

With all these renovations and repairs, the track area and the new complex should be more than enough to accommodate the outdoor sports for next spring.

The new baseball team coached by Ken Bagwell, is using McCormick Field for the upcoming spring season, but Harris hopes that by next season the complex will be ready for them to use.

The men's soccer team will practice on one of the fields in the complex, using the present field only for games.

Harris said, "This will give the main field a better appearance since it won't be used so much."

Intramurals will also benefit from this addition, Harris said flag football and softball will use one of the fields. Recreational activities, sun bathing, and frisbee throwing, will take place on the new fields as well.

# New equipment a present

By Joan Sterk

UNCA weight lifters may have a welcome-back present when they return from Christmas break in January. And behind this gift is a lucky break, not Santa Claus.

Keith Ray, UNCA's director of student development, recently owned Horizon Gym, a local work-out center. The gym closed and UNCA capitalized on the close out, by buying the gym's equipment for about one-third of the original cost, according to Helen Carroll, UNCA director of recreation and intramurals.

Now the athletic department is trying to find space for all the equipment. They are considering two options.

Carroll said they could either move some of the equipment into the dance studio or build an extension of the wall already dividing the weight room from the studio.

"We are leaning towards the second option," Carroll said. "This way we won't be taking away room, but really adding to the gym."

Ed Harris, athletic director, said finding space is a problem, but "it was just too good a deal to pass up."

Harris is still weighing the options, feeling the department "will go with the least expensive way." Harris said, "The ideal choice is to get the weights in the dance studio."

This choice would move the classes held in the studio out to the mini-gym. The problem with this move is the poor acoustics in the mini-gym.

"We are going to see if we can get something done that would help the acoustics in the big room so we can move the classes out there and have the studio for the weights," Harris said.

With either option, the athletic department has a "hopeful deadline" set for Jan. 16 when classes begin for the spring semester.

"If we get it done by then, it will be a great small miracle. But then again, I'm a believer in miracles," said Carroll, last year's coach of the national champion women's basketball team.

The future plans for the weight room will include carpeting and a new check-out center at the door leading to the parking lot behind the gym.

Carroll said the weight room, when completed, will be "one of the nicest ones in this area."

The school also bought three mirror from Ray, each about 6 feet high and 10 feet wide, which they will put along the wall if they choose the option of building an extension.

Currently the new equipment is in the old weight room with the exception of three machines, including a nautilus. "These machines are out of commission now due to lack of space," said Carroll.

There are also two exercise bikes and a scale that are in the dance studio. The free weights and benches acquired from Horizon Gym are presently crammed in the weight room.

Carroll said if the weight lifters would put the weights back after using them, there would be more room to walk around the weight room. This would also help the people who clean up.



Staff photo by Sylvia Hawkins

KIM DUNCAN tries a shot.

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