

# Lawrence to lead Heels to another bowl in '78

Sports Information Office

Fourteen returning starters, four top all-star candidates and a new coaching staff should make the 1978 football season a most interesting and exciting one for the University of North Carolina.

Carolina posted an 8-2-1 record last fall, won the Atlantic Coast Conference championship and earned a berth in the Liberty Bowl. It was the sixth post-season appearance for the Tar Heels in the last eight years.

Many of the stars on that team are back this season, giving Carolina high hopes for another strong team.

Heading the list of returnees are four players who were All-ACC selections last year who should be top All-America candidates this season. Those players are offensive guard Mike Salzano of Durham, N.C.; defensive end Ken Sheets of Woodbridge, Va.; running back Famous Amos Lawrence of Norfolk, Va.; and linebacker Buddy Curry of Danville, Va.

Other players who also could contend for all-star honors are nose guard Dave Simmons, offensive tackle Bobby Hukill and a trio of defensive backs—Bernie Menapace, Bobby Cale and Ricky Barden.

Despite the return of all these players, there will be some changes in the Tar Heel football program. Dick Crum, who guided Miami of Ohio to a 34-10-1 record over the past four years, has replaced Bill Dooley as head coach. Crum has brought an entirely new coaching staff with him to

Chapel Hill.

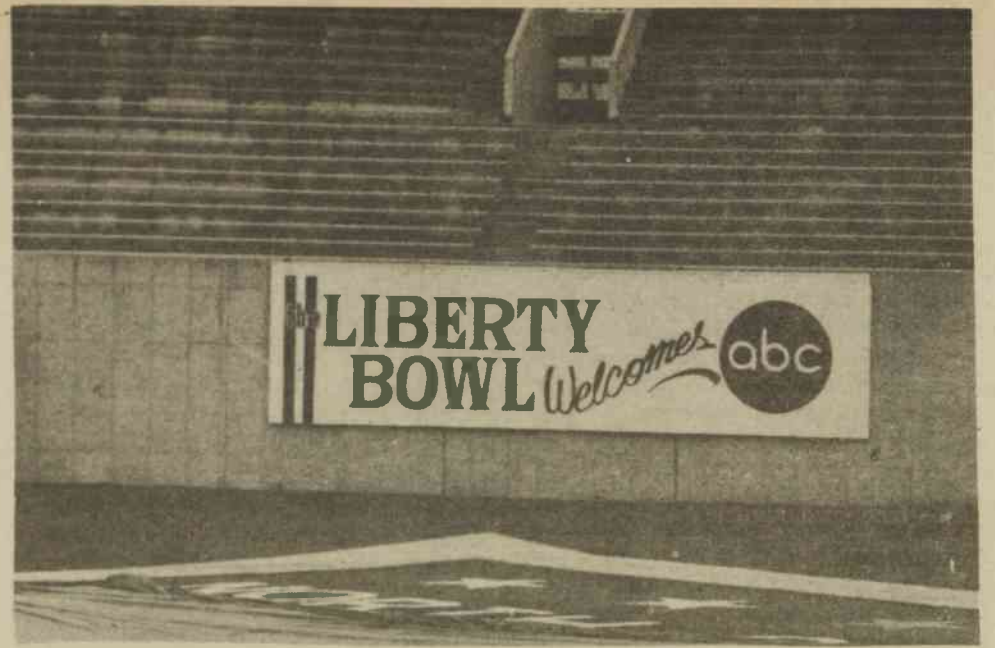
Under Crum, Carolina will continue to play a 52 defense. Offensively, the Tar Heels will switch to the veer from the "I," a formation they ran all 11 of Dooley's years.

Crum's Miami teams were mainly known for their defense, however, and Carolina has the ability to be an outstanding defensive team. The Tar Heels led the nation in scoring defense last season, giving up just 81 points in 11 games. Carolina also led the ACC in every defensive category.

If the defense is again to be solid, replacements must be found for All-America tackle Dee Hardison, All-ACC tackle Rod Broadway, linebacker Bobby Gay and All-ACC strong safety Alan Caldwell. Those were the four missing starters from last year's defense.

Bunn Rhames, a 6-2, 241-pound senior, and Donnell Thompson, a 6-4, 250-pound sophomore, played behind Hardison and Broadway last season and should be the starting tackles this fall. Both have good agility. However, depth could be a problem here. Finding solid reserves for these spots is one of Crum's two biggest problems.

The other major problem is finding another linebacker to play beside Curry. Curry had a sensational sophomore season. He made big plays every week and was voted Carolina's top defensive player in the Liberty Bowl. Battling for the other starting linebacker spot are Steve Taylor,



Last season "Famous Amos" and others led UNC to this familiar site where they were narrowly beaten by Big 8 foe Nebraska. Staff photo by David Squires.

Rick Downs, Paul Davis, Harry Stanback and Larry Tedder.

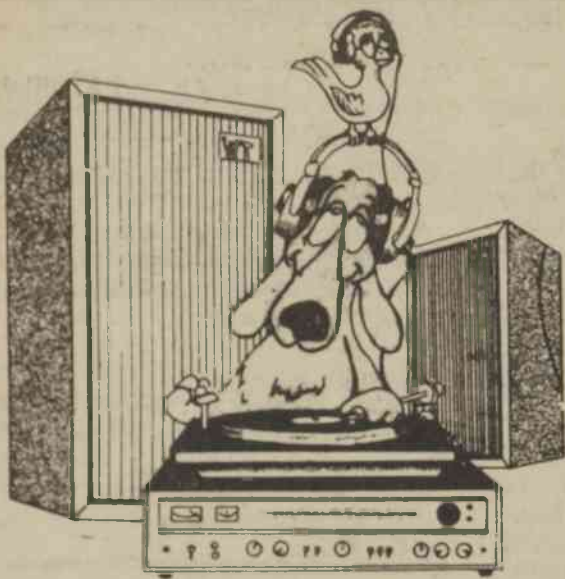
Barden, Cale and Menapace are set at three spots in the secondary. All played very well last season and should contend for All-ACC honors. Barden, one of the team's smartest young players, missed the spring work because of a knee injury he suffered last November, but will be ready this fall. Cale has intercepted nine passes in the past two seasons and Menapace is a good all-around athlete who packs a wallop when he makes a tackle.

Best bets for Caldwell's old starting job are senior Francis Winters and sophomore Steve Streater. Max McGee, Tyress Bratton and Jay Faulkner will supply backup help.

Offensively, the Tar Heels have the potential to be explosive. Lawrence gives Carolina a back capable of scoring from anywhere on the field. He ran for 1,211 yards in 10 games last season, although he started only the last six. He finished eighth in the nation in rushing.

Famous Amos broke Tony Dorsett's single-game freshman rushing record by gaining 286 yards against Virginia. He is a 180-pound speedster who runs with a football the way Phil Ford moves with a basketball. The switch from the I-formation to the veer should make him an even greater threat this year.

There are a host of candidates for the other runningback slot. Bob Loomis and Billy Johnson, who split time at fullback last year, are two of the contenders.



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