

Gamble Stumbled Into Track Career

Senior Nicole Gamble earned 12 All-America titles and one national title during her time at UNC.

By Rachel Carter
Sports Editor

This had happened before. North Carolina senior track jumper Nicole Gamble had danced on the fine line between failure and glory.

At the NCAA Indoor Championship on March 6, she faulted on her first two jumps, leaving her only one chance to get to the finals. She needed 42 feet 6 inches to advance.

And she did, leaping 45-1. Then, in the finals she came from behind with a 46-1 1/4 to defeat Pittsburgh's Treca Smith.

So at the USA Championships in Eugene, Ore., Gamble was not in an unheard situation.

But unfortunately for Gamble, she did not make that third jump perfectly and fouled.

Gamble finished last, far behind UNC alumna Marion Jones' second place finish. She missed out of a trip to the World Championships in Sevilla, Spain and also a spot on the Pan American team.

Together with LaShonda Christopher, Gamble helped both the

indoor and outdoor women's track and field teams to several titles. Gamble captured her only national title this year in indoor triple jump.

In addition to ACC titles and her national title, Gamble collected 12 All-America trophies in her four years as a Tar Heel, though she swears it's more like 13 titles.

"I gotta ask my coach about that," Gamble said. Coach is UNC's Dennis Craddock who first saw Gamble at a junior national competition.

"Some coaches said, 'she's awfully short,'" Craddock said, "What you can't measure is the heart. We just saw a fierce competitor."

Gamble, from Sumter S.C., said she discovered track in high school because she wanted to hang out after school.

"In a sense, I'm fairly new to this," Gamble said. She jumped in middle school, but said basketball was her first love.

Use to staying after school, Gamble took up track in the spring after basketball season ended. She started out as a sprinter, but by the end of her sophomore year, she claimed South Carolina's triple jump title.

Following friend Monique Hennagan to UNC's track team, Gamble immediately improved her jumps.

Craddock said she added two feet to her jumps during college and became more consistent.

With Gamble having used her eligi-



Nicole Gamble is a 12-time All America trophy winner who hopes to make the 2000 Olympic team.

DTH FILE PHOTO

bility up, Craddock must try to replace his All-American jumper.

"I don't think you replace some one like her," Craddock said. "She's been pretty unique."

To be a good triple jumper, Craddock said an athlete needed good strength, leverage, speed and power explosion.

It was these assets that landed Gamble on the World University team in Spain.

Gamble said she would try to make the 2000 Olympic team but otherwise had not decided what was next.

Craddock said one of the things the team would miss most about Gamble was her attitude and leadership.

Craddock said, "I think all of (her teammates) admire her work ethic."

The Sports Editor can be reached at sports@unc.edu.

Unfinished Business Spurs Alderman's Run

By Jacob McConico
City/State & National Editor

Alex Zaffron announced last week that he would seek a second term in the Carrboro Board of Alderman.

Zaffron said he was running again because he wanted to finish programs that had been started by the board.

"We've done a lot of work in the past four years," he said. "If you work on something you want to see it through."

As examples, Zaffron cited the board's work on the small area plan, which required developers to build smaller housing units in designated areas.

"We just got the small area plan into place and we're not sure how it is going to work yet," he said.

Zaffron said he was also interested in developing Carrboro's downtown to suit the interest of residents.

"We need to see how we can get more out of the downtown," he said. "I would like to start a series of workshops with local residents on how we want to see the downtown used."

Zaffron said it was important to involve Carrboro residents so that decisions were not made by one group.

"If everybody could agree on a way to do this we could do it according to town standards," he said.

Zaffron was elected to his first term as alderman in 1995 by receiving 22 percent of the vote. He ran on a platform that placed the need for affordable housing at the forefront.

He said Wednesday that the need

had not been met yet.

"There's a lot more to get done," he said. "We have done a lot though."

Zaffron said his time on the board had proven challenging and rewarding.

"It's been interesting," he said. "It's been tough. It's been fun, but it has not been easy."

Zaffron said he was not sure what campaigning tactics he would use and that decision would depend on how competitive the race became.

"I'm kind of doing it low key," he said. "We'll see how competitive it gets."

Zaffron said if the race did become competitive he would use mailings, public appearances, door-to-door campaigning and possibly a Web site to get his message out.

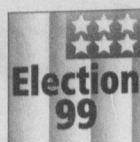
Zaffron's filing made him the first to announce his intention to seek re-election to the Board of Aldermen. Since his filing Joal Broun has filed for re-election and local nightclub owner Mark Dorosin has filed for a spot on the Nov. 2 ticket. Mayor Mike Nelson has also announced that he will seek re-election.

The deadline for filing is noon Aug. 6 and applicants must file at the Orange County Elections Board in Hillsborough. There is a \$10 filing fee.

The City/State & National Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.



Carrboro Alderman Alex Zaffron has announced he will seek a second term on the Board of Aldermen.



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BOND

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and community colleges.

"I think the referendum was a smokescreen for those people who really just opposed the work we were trying to do for the University," he said.

Basnicht and other Senate members were against a voter referendum on the package because they thought legislators were elected to make these decisions.

Student Body President Nic Heinke said he was greatly bothered by the General Assembly's failure to compromise. "It is really disturbing because it shows that a lot of people in politics are more concerned with politics than with our universities and our kids," he said.

Heinke said UNC leaders would continue the fight. "I think we need to sit back and collect our thoughts and then go towards a new approach," he said. "We need to make sure that we really show the merits of the package."

Heinke said it was easy for legislators to think of UNC-CH simply as a place where they could come to watch a basketball game or marvel at the Old Well. "But they aren't the ones sitting in 95 degree classrooms."

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MCCOY

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all the schools and departments were informed on the cuts they needed to make.

Jim Ramsey, Vice Chancellor of Finance, said administrators met with different groups to get advice on what areas of the budget could be cut.

UNC has a yearly budget of \$1.2 billion, but was about one percent over budget, Ramsey said. He said that administration began cutting three million from its budget in the first week of July.

McCoy started back last week and helped to begin another look at the budget deficit.

"With a new interim chancellor, he wanted to go through (the cuts) and

that's what we're doing now," Ramsey said.

The provost said that the budget was almost at a point where he could say, "this is the way we've decided to take and this will be the consequences."

Ramsey said the bond package's defeat would prove to be a problem for the University.

"We have very significant space needs," Ramsey said. "It's a huge set back."

Broad said that she was disappointed in the legislation. She said, "In the end, too many legislators could not set aside political differences about long-term financing approached an order to agree on a short-term solution for the current budget cycle."

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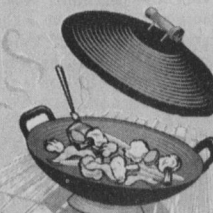
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CARROLL

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said renovations to Carroll Hall were made by raising over \$4 million from companies and private donors.

Chuck Stone, Walter Spearman Professor of Journalism, said one advantage of the move was the new central location.

"We are all together in one building, and the new Carroll Hall will provide a professional, academic and educational merit," Stone said.

Cole said, "We had always had the brains, but not the bricks, now we have both."

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