

— Sports History At UNC —

—Carrying The Olympic Torch For UNC



CHARLIE (CHOO-CHOO) JUSTICE

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baseball player. The name was George Stirnweiss, who answered to the sobriquet of Snuffy. George played everything — basketball, baseball and football. He played them well.

After his Carolina eligibility expired, Snuffy turned to professional baseball. He fitted the Yankee mold and became a fine second baseman, daring on the double play and a smart base runner. In 1946, Stirnweiss led the American League in hitting with a .309 mark.

Stirny died a few years ago. He was riding a train that wrecked on the outskirts of New York. This brings to mind a great friend and colleague of Snuffy's, Andy Bershak. An All-American end in 1937, Bershak later was to die of Bright's disease.

Thoughts turn to basketball and the team comes before the individual. The year was 1937 and a sports miracle was to transpire. The Tar Heels of the hardwood went through an entire season without a loss. It meant the National Championship at Kansas City with a one-point victory over Kansas and the Jayhawker star, Wilt Chamberlain.

It was a team of talent and fortitude and an amazing lack of nervousness. Often it was behind. Never did the immense pressure stir panic. The fabulous five seemed to know what was ahead.

A thin kid who looked as if he needed a care box from

Europe was the scoring star. Name: Lennie Rosenbluth. The ball was a hot rivet in his hands. He got rid of it quickly, usually in the direction of the basket. When the heat was on, Lennie's accuracy increased.

Other members of the starting family were Tommy Kearns, Bob Cunningham, Pete Brennan and Joe Quigg. The latter two were tall and rebound hungry. Kearns was the cocky quarterback. At tip-off time in the NCAA finals, Tommy, 5-11, jumped at center against Chamberlain, 7-1. It was good for a laugh but most folks believe that Tommy inwardly felt he could control the ball.

Basketball has been superb at Carolina season after season. Do not leave the scene without a tribute to George Glamaek. He was a two-time All-America from 1940-41. He developed a hook shot that had the appeal of a fan dance by Sally Rand. George, the famed Blond Bomber, was scoring 20 points back when that total decided some games. In 1941, he hit 45 against Clemson.

Cross-Country

Each sport has championed its great ones. Jack Milne, packed with stamina, was the NCAA cross-country champion almost 20 years ago. Track at UNC gave Harry Williamson, Chuck Simmons, Bill Albans and Jimmy Beatty to the U. S. Olympic forces. Beatty, an All-America dis-

tance man here, later became the first American to eclipse the four-minute mile. How Jimmy did it is Jimmy's secret. His size went against him at 5-5 1-2. Bigger, stronger guys took strides twice his measurement. But nobody challenged Jimmy Beatty and got away with it. Most of his 127 pounds was heart.

Thompson Mann rates swimming's top accolade. A Carolina co-captain and one of the great competitors of the Atlantic Coast Conference, he made the Olympic team and set a world mark in the backstroke. It was a gold medal at Tokyo for the young Virginian who is now in medical school at Richmond.

Mann was one of five All-Americans on the Carolina team his senior year. His style was smooth and efficient. He improved steadily and strength gained the summer of the Olympics set him in business as one of the nation's finest swimmers.

Another Tar Heel, now an assistant coach, was a gold medal winner at Tokyo. He is Larry Brown, a transplanted New Yorker who will be professor of freshman basketball this winter. Larry was the mastermind of the American cage team which swept aside all competition, defeating Russia in the finals.

Lacrosse is a relatively new sport on campus. Yet, Jeff Parker, who owns the physique of Davie Crockett, earned third team All-America honors last spring. He scored

seven goals against Virginia last season.

When Vic Seixas took racquet in hand, he moved much in the same manner as Doug Fairbanks, the silent screen idol, with sword. Graceful, swift and poised, Seixas won Southern Conference honors as a Tar Heel, later was listed as the nation's

No. 1 player. He took the big one at Wimbledon. A year ago he was honored by being named captain of America's Davis Cup team.

Like Seixas, Harvie Ward had the dash and flair of an actor. He wasn't rugged of stature, but when he slapped a golf ball it took off for the great beyond. Harvie won the

National Amateur and the British Amateur. He had a following like the Beatles when he stroled the links.

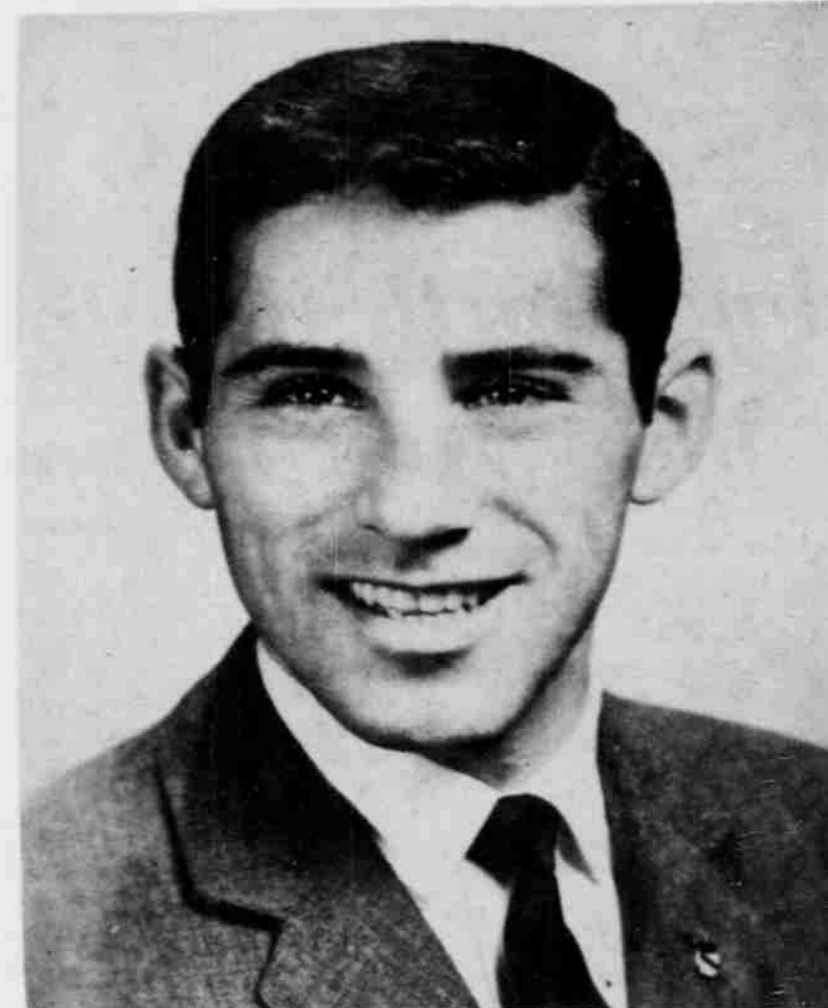
William R. Kenan

He wasn't one of Carolina's greatest athletes, but no man has ever given more to his school in spirit and material than the late William Rand Kenan Jr. Good halfback as a footballer and a baseball player as well in the 1890's, Kenan went on to become an industrial tycoon. He always remembered his University.

Kenan Stadium, regarded by many as the nation's most picturesque football arena, is a gift from the former athlete. His interest and donations to Carolina's athletic program was immense. Death took Kenan at the age of 93 last summer.

The names roll off the tongue easily. Justice, Weiner, Severin, Ramsey Potts, Archie Henderson, Pete Greene, Branch, McDonald, Dillon, Bill Hayward, Harrison Merrill, Burgess Whitehead, Rip Hawkins, Donnie Thomas, Barclay, Cunningham, Brennan, Willard, Carmichael Quarles and a telephone directory more.

The school has never been without the big ones. The little ones were there, too, working diligently. There will be others to add to a list now long and respected. There is something about Carolina that demands athletic excellence. Tar Heel athletes can fill a sizeable section of any Who's Who in sports.



BIG JIM BEATTY

An Artists Palette With A Thousand Shades Of Tan

By JOHN V. ALLCOTT

old buildings in the vicinity of the Old Well is part of every freshman's first impression of



PERSON HALL TODAY, a detail from the wall which faces Old West. The wash has been removed revealing the 1795 wall laid in Flemish bond, a shimmering example of "colonial" brickwork.

the campus. And as each person through the years discovers the individual walks, doorways, wall, cracks, cornerstones, statues, and one-by-one other parts and aspects of the old campus, that tan color is always there. It mounts in ones mind as a special topic for wonder and meditation.

All of these buildings are brick. Some are washed with a brown-tinted cement under which one can see the bricks. Others are stuccoed smooth, and are incised in "blocks" to suggest stone construction. The color varies from building to building. Here it is clear and strong; there, a layer of paint has flaked off to reveal a redder wash underneath.

Have you yet had the good fortune to leave your office late on an afternoon — after a rain — to see these buildings wet and orange in sunlight and purple in shadow? The old campus was not always washed tan. Through the late 18th and early 19th century the buildings stood as red brick. The change from red to brown came in the 1840's as part of an early Victorian fashion which swept through American architecture of the times.

The new fashion was anti-colonial, tired of those over- cheerful colonial buildings with their sparkling red brick and white mortar walls. It was associated with the romantic revival of classical temples, gothic and other historical styles of stone buildings. But, in direct language, the new taste was a taste for itself, for stucco and for plain surfaces. Not for structures made of stone placed on real stone, or for design developing from using brick as visible brick, but for stripped-down volumes

in the magical substance of stucco.

The above ideas are covered in how-to-do-it books written for masons and builders of the time. For example, in "The Model Architect," 1852, by Samuel Sloane. Sloane, incidentally, was the designer of the Governor's Mansion in Raleigh, and of our Old Memorial Hall, now destroyed. In talking about fine homes Sloane expresses a taste which applies to public buildings as well:

"It now seems conceded on all hands that brick buildings are out of place in this country. Wooden buildings are too perishable, and stone is difficult to obtain. How then can we erect a handsome and permanent dwelling? The walls must be of brick, and the exterior stuccoed. Many have thought to introduce an improvement here by pointing the surface in imitation of stone. If a design for a stone building is executed in stucco, then this artifice must be resorted to; but if the building be for stucco, such an imitation destroys the original effect. The present tastes and economical views of the times, demands such imitations; but if architects were allowed to exercise their own taste, they would exclude all such absurdities.

Any Color Walls

The walls could be tinted any color that suggested itself to Victorian fancy, such as lavender or green. The high-spirited Baptists at Brown University in 1834 covered the venerable colonial walls of University Hall with green

At Chapel Hill the change of color came within a thoroughgoing program of "improvements" in the 1840's and 50's.

During this period the campus was transformed from its original, rude state to one of order and control.

Let us visit the campus on the eve of the transformation. The accompanying diagram shows the buildings which existed then. Two men were prominent in developments to come. David L. Swain, former Governor of North Carolina, and since 1836 the President of the University. And Professor Elisha Mitchell, "walking encyclopedia," chemist, mathematician, botanist, mineralogist, surveyor — the man whose name was given to the mountain whose height he measured, sometime bursar of the University, and Superintendent of buildings and grounds.

In 1836 Mitchell wrote in his journal, "The wall was commenced on the fourth of July." This is the famous old rock wall around the campus, made from stones which had lain strewn over the ground. Mitchell killed off campus disorder and vague boundaries with the same stones.

Campus Beautified

In 1838 the Trustees authorized the thinning of the trees around the campus and the planting of ornamental and shade trees. The following year they granted \$3,000 for the repair of buildings and grounds. This grant and continuation grants in successive years enabled the University to plant trees and lay out walks. And of course the grant meant "go" on the project's stones.

Campus Beautified

Mitchell inquired of U. S. Army Engineers, "What will be the cheapest and most durable way for improving the appearance of the exterior walls of the college buildings.

He was given information on experimental construction in cement for cisterns and even for "edifices!" He was instructed on stucco. And he was told about "wash to preserve brick walls, — this mode of covering decidedly preferable to repairing the mortar in the joints. But it is a matter of taste you know. This mode is the fashion of the day."

President Swain inquired of Paton, the man in charge of construction of the impressive stone Capitol building just being finished in Raleigh. Paton lived in a grand stone realm high above repair jobs and brick jobs; he relayed the inquiry to someone below. The reply to him read:

"Sir, you inquired on what mode was adopted in Philadelphia to improve the outside appearance of brick and stone buildings. This is done by giving it two coats of plastering after which it is trowelled smooth. Then it is struck out in blocks of the proper size, and the joints penciled. Finally the whole is sprinkled with a preparation that gives it the blue cast peculiar to granite which it resembles so nearly as to deceive the most practiced eye, except on a close examination.

Paton's practiced eye must have turned stoney as he read these optimistic words.

He sent the information along to President Swain with the caution, "Should you wash the fronts of the buildings in the way proposed without their being benefited they will lose their architectural character and be without beauty or expression."

No Stucco

Paton also gave President Swain an estimate of the cost of stuccoing, \$1 per square yard. And it was probably this stiff price which caused the University to give up the idea of stucco in favor of simple wash. A few days later President Swain wrote to a friend, "We are about to change the dull aspect of the exterior of the college edifices by covering them with a preparation made of equal quantities of Roman cement and common unslaked lime, with the addition of one tenth of sulphuric acid to the quantity of water with which the cement is mixed and it was a success. An important North Carolina newspaper, The Raleigh Register, took note of it in an article on commencement activities for 1841:

"Our University . . . the eye of the visitor cannot but be struck with the improvements which have been made in the external appearance of the University within the last three or four years. The dark colored walls of the buildings have been clad in a lighter livery, forming a tasteful contrast with the deep green of the surrounding foliage. The 'Campus' will soon be enclosed within a neat and substantial stone wall. Trees have been set out in various parts of the college area, and the venerable old grove has been so grubbed and trimmed and thinned, as to lose much of its rude forest garb. These improvements, however, altho' pleasing to the eye of everyone who remembers how long that lovely place lay in its native rudeness, do not convey to the heart half so much pleasure as is derived from witnessing the improved deport-

ment of the young men of the Institution."

About five years later additional wash was required to cover new construction on the campus, the extensions of Old East and Old West, with the great facades looking to Franklin Street. The designer was the distinguished American architect, Alexander Jackson Davis, who earlier had been a member of the firm which designed the Capitol in Raleigh.

Davis dreamed of covering the old and new parts of the buildings with great pilasters and stucco decorations. He had to suppress these grandiose ideas, but his final design was in terms of stucco. And he got "Mr. Gill, the stucco man" to over to come down to Chapel Hill and do the job for 50 cents a square yard, half the price which Paton had quoted earlier.

And a local bidder, Dabney Cosby, offered to do the work "in good style such as is only to be seen in Pittsboro, for 40 cents a yard, and from here to Boston, I reckon, at 50 cents." But the University could not yet venture into the luxury of stucco, and the new additions were merely washed.

The washing of the new parts of Old East and Old West mad the previously washed old parts look a little sad. A small matter you might think, but it was of great concern in 1847. This was the year of the Polk Commencement, when President Polk "revisited his Alma Mater after an absence of 29 years." Within an all-out hustle and bustle of preparations for the President and his suite the old parts were re-washed.

The next development, at long last, of course, was stucco. It arrived as encasement for a wonderful new ballroom, now become the Playmaker's Theater. Students and socially conscious alumni had been agitating for a ballroom "to promote gentility" for 15 years, and the Polk Commencement only pointed up the need for one.

Image Important

But public image was as important in those days as now, and how could the University dance and maintain its sober posture? Where there was a will there came a way. Davis designed a library, the book shelves around its walls to be covered by "muslin curtains (painted with flowers), . . . at library hours to be rolled up like window curtains," and at non-library hours to be rolled down again for the ball. The library had a "music gallery." On the exterior walls Davis got his stucco pilasters all around.

The next buildings erected on the campus, New East and New West, were also stucco. Their present charming patina is a by-product of drastic remodeling. They complete our group of tan old buildings; after them came the Civil War which stopped campus projects for 25 years.

The fashion for wash and stucco ran its course, and in time gave way to other enthusiasms. One of these has to be noted here: the return of colonial. Old University Hall at Brown University, for example, "for more than 70 years hidden under green stucco," was restored to colonial in 1905. And the brown wash was removed from some of our buildings, partially from South, and with determination from Person Hall. But today, alas, the original brick walls of these buildings are being devoured by yet another new fashion, — that for ivy.

To students who would like to find out something more about the old buildings, go out on the campus. Check the points we have mentioned, and you will be surprised at what other points you discover. A short, lively account of the old campus is found in "An Address on the History of the Buildings of the University," delivered by Kemp Battle in 1883, when he was President of the University. Copies of this pamphlet are in The Carolina Room at The Wilson Library, and in Art Library.



PERSON HALL IN 1919, showing wash and paint. Built as a chapel. Person was given arched windows instead of rectangular windows as on other campus buildings.

The central door which faced the campus, and also a door which faced the campus, and also a door visible at right, have now become windows.

