

RICK BREWER

Major Leagues Crank Up Today With Question Marks

It all starts today. Put off for two days by the death of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and the racial disorder existing in many of the nation's cities, the 1968 major league baseball season is scheduled to open today.

And what a season it should be.

Washington will be the sight of the annual Presidential opener, although President Johnson is not expected to be on hand. Throwing out the first ball will be reliever Hubert Humphrey.

Despite the tension in the nation's capital, 45,000 fans are expected to flock to D.C. Stadium to see Camillo Pascual of the Senators oppose Dean Chance of the Minnesota Twins.

With all 20 teams in action this afternoon and evening, the first day of the season promises to be as exciting as the rest of the campaign should be.

The 1968 campaign will be hard pressed to top 1967, a

year when a team won the American League Pennant against 100-1 odds, a year when a National League team escaped the second division for the first time in 21 years.

But the upcoming year should be just as unusual, just as zany, just as suspenseful, and just as heart-breaking. Baseball has a way of outdoing itself.

As the season unfolds, many questions remained to be answered.

Can the Boston Red Sox do it again? Or was their fabulous rags-to-riches story just a fluke? Before this question can be answered, several others must first be resolved. Can Jim Lonborg come back from an off-season injury? Is Tony Conigliaro finished as a topflight star?

In the National League, the big question is: Were the Chicago Cubs for real last year when they soared to third place in the senior circuit? Or were they just a one-shot ballclub?

Injuries raise other questions.

Can Frank Robinson regain the form which won him the AL triple crown two years ago, after being shelved much of the past season with blurred vision?

Can Richie Allen bounce back from serious injury (his arm was severely cut in a car accident) to spark the Phillies? Are Tony Cloninger's arm troubles over? Can Willie Horton and Bill White recover from leg injuries?

Trades, made during the off-season, present more questions.

Can Tommy Davis supply the punch needed to carry the Chicago White Sox to the AL pennant? Can Zoilo Versalles plug up the hole at shortstop for the Los Angeles Dodgers?

Will the addition of Jim Bunning to the Pirate pitching staff carry Pittsburgh to the NL flag? Can Sammy Ellis regain the touch he displayed in winning 22 games for the Cincinnati Reds in 1966 now that he has been swapped to the California Angels?

And, of course, there are other questions which can only be answered by the passing of the season.

Has time finally caught up with Willie Mays? Or will he come back to have a fine season? Are veterans Eddie Mathews, Mickey Mantle, and Ken Boyer finally reaching the end of their great careers?



Carolina Pole Vaulter Rick Wilson ... Should Be Tough Against Duke Today

Both Teams Unbeaten Trackmen Journey To Duke

By RICK BREWER
Of The Daily Tar Heel Staff

It's the battle of the unbeaten at Wallace Wade Stadium this afternoon.

The name of the game is track and the opponents are traditional rivals Duke and North Carolina. They clash in a dual meet on the Duke campus at 3:30.

Duke stands 2-0 on the season, while Carolina is 3-0. The Tar Heels own victories over Wake Forest, Clemson, and N.C. State.

Coach Al Buehler of the Blue Devils is expecting an outstanding contest.

"It should be another typical Duke - Carolina meet - close, hard fought, somewhat unpredictable," Buehler says.

"They beat us last season 80-65 and we upset them by the same score two years ago.

"They're the defending state champs and they're Carolina," the Blue Devil mentor noted. "Our kids will want to beat them."

Buehler feels that second and third place finishes will decide the meet. Distance man Ed Stenburg and hurdler Jeff Howser are Duke's top performers.

Stenburg won the two mile race in the recent South Carolina State Record relays. He finished 4.3 seconds ahead of his nearest challenger.

Howser won both the 120 and 440 intermediate relays in that meet. Among his challengers was Tennessee's famed Richmond Flowers.

Distancemen Mike Williams, Bob Autry, Bill Bassett, Truett Goodwin, and Kenny Helms should provide UNC with a lot of points.

Pole vaulters Jeff Hilliker and Rick Wilson are expected to do very well. Wilson, especially looks like a good bet to defeat Duke's Clint Brown in that event.

Other top Tar Heel prospects are John Jessup in the shot put and the discus, Gary Iverson in the broad and triple

jumps, and Sonny Kornegay in the triple jump.

The meet is the first of two for each team this week. Duke is scheduled to travel to Clemson Saturday to battle the Tigers in a dual meet.

Friday, Carolina will race the powerful Maryland Terps. That meet is slated for 1:30 on the UNC track.

Carolina-State Game Postponed

The scheduled baseball game between North Carolina and North Carolina State Monday was postponed due to the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his funeral.

Tom Buskey was scheduled to pitch for the Tar Heels with Alex Cheek drawing the mound duties for the Wolfpack.

The game was called off early Tuesday and will be played at a later date in the season - not yet set.

Thus far this season, the Tar Heels own a 6-2 record overall and a 1-1 record in the Atlantic Coast Conference. The two losses have been to Adelphi College and conference fellow Virginia.

David Lemonds leads the Tar Heel pitchers with a 2-1 record and a .45 ERA. Buskey follows up with an even 1-1 mark and a .83 ERA.

Carolina's next game will be Friday against the Gamecocks of South Carolina in Columbia. After that, they will go on a nine-game Spring Vacation road trip to South Carolina and other parts south including Florida.

Scott Says Good Defense Earned Olympic Selection

By JACK WILLIAMS
Special to The Daily Tar Heel

Charlie Scott, who dazzles basketball fans with his offensive tricks, used the oldest weapon in the game—good defense—to earn a spot on the United States Olympic team.

The University of North Carolina sophomore was selected at Albuquerque, N.M., last weekend from a field of more than 80 players to represent this country on a 12-man squad at the Olympics at Mexico City in October.

"I believe that defense had a lot to do with it," Charlie said upon his return to Chapel Hill. "I'm just fortunate that I played under a coach at Carolina this season who stressed team play and good defense. That's what they were looking for at Albuquerque."

Scott helped his team plenty. He led the tryout tournament in scoring with a total of 59 points in three games. But he's much prouder of the fact that he also led the tournament in assists with a total of 23.

And all the members of the Olympic committee praised Charlie for his great defensive work.

Charlie's team played three games in the tryout tournament, losing the opener and then winning two in a row. Scott scored 15 points in the first game, then came back with 24 and 20.

"I felt that I played real well in the first game," he says, "even though I scored only 15. Then in the second game, I got going. I had a lot of steals in that game. After that, I felt I had a good chance to make it."

Scott says most of his field goals in the tournament came on jump shots. "Our coach Ray Meyer (DePaul University) had us working a lot of picks," Charlie says, "and I was getting some good shots off them."

"I think we're going to have a good team," Scott said. "You don't hear much about some of the players on the team, but believe me, they're good."

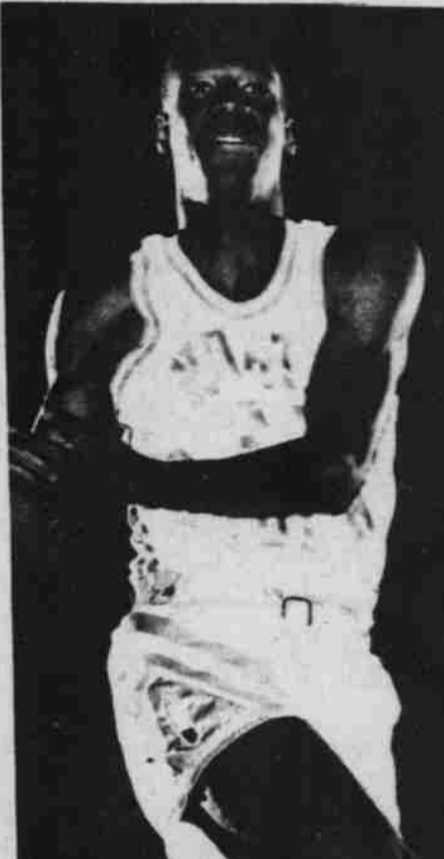
One in particular who impressed Charlie was a 6-8 center from Trinidad Junior College in Colorado named Spencer Haywood. "I'd like to see that fellow against Lew Alcindor," Scott said. "He can jump higher than any man I've ever seen. In the three tournament games, he must have blocked 18 or 19 shots."

Scott also was impressed with the play of 6-3 Jo Jo White of Kansas. "He's an exceptional player," said the Carolina star.

Charlie roomed with Cal Murphy at Albuquerque and made friends with most of the other players on hand. "It was a fine group of athletes," he said. "And it was an honor for me to compete with them."

Scott did, however, question the Olympic committee decision to hold the trials in Albuquerque.

"We drew about 400 fans in the afternoon," he said, "and about 1,000 at night. I think we would have had a lot more interest than that if the trials had been held here in North Carolina. I don't think there's a better basketball area in the country than right here in the state."



CONTINENTAL LEAGUE

MARK
ORLANDO, Fla. (UPI) — Don Jonas of the Orlando Panthers led the Continental Football League in scoring in 1966 with a record 131 points on six touchdowns, 62 extra points and 11 field goals.

WILY WOODY

COLUMBUS, Ohio (UPI) — Ohio State University football teams coached by Woody Hayes have won four Big Ten titles and two Rose Bowl appearances.

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Football Scrimmage Set

Students are invited to attend the final pre-holiday scrimmage of Carolina's spring football practice Thursday.

The scrimmage is scheduled for Kenan Stadium at 4 p.m.

This workout will conclude the first half of Carolina's spring practice work. The team will resume drills following the holiday break. Practice concludes with the annual Blue-White game on May 4.

The Tar Heels have held two scrimmage games thus far this spring with the defense shining in each of those contests.

Offensively, the Tar Heels have been led by last season's starting quarterback, Gayle Bomar. He leads a team Coach Dooley hopes will be a considerable improvement over last year's 2-8 team.

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