

UNC To Field Improved But Inexperienced Team

FROM PIGSKIN PREVIEW

North Carolina's Tar Heels will launch the second season of Bill Dooley's rebuilding program with new hope... but some of the same old problems.

Everyone in the Carolina camp, from Dooley to the waterboy, firmly believes that the Tar Heels will field an improved team. Optimism reigned throughout a spirited spring practice.

But there's no hiding the fact that there are problems. The two main ones are a serious lack of depth and the fact that the Tar Heels will be playing many inexperienced men.

"There is a good chance that about half of our first 30 players will be true sophomores," Dooley said. "These players should show gradual improvement as the season progresses, but they're going to be awfully green at the start."

Carolina won only two of 10 games last season, but finished in a blaze of glory with a 20-9 upset win over arch-rival Duke. It is hoped that victory will have some carry-over value in the new campaign.

"I have no doubts that we're going to be an improved team," Dooley says. "For one thing, the players who return from last year's squad will have the advantage of a season's experience under a new system. And we do have some fine new players coming up from our freshman team."

"But this doesn't necessarily mean that our record will be a whole lot better. I think the Atlantic Coast Conference, as a whole, is going to be a much tougher league with better balance from the top to the bottom."

There are 27 lettermen in the Tar Heel camp, but the figure is very misleading. Two of them are kicking specialists and many players, who actually saw only limited service, were awarded monograms.

Some of the best players on the 1967 squad graduated. This list includes defensive halfback Jack Davenport, voted the team's Most Valuable Player; halfback Dave Riggs; quarterback Jeff Beaver; end Charlie Carr; tackle Tom Ingle; guard Lou Pukal; tackle Jim Masino; and line backer Mike Horvat.

There is some sparkling talent among the returnees. Some of the best are quarterback Gayle Bomar, halfbacks Saulis Zemaitis and Dick Wesolowski, fullback Tommy Dempsey, guards Ed Chalupka and Battle Wall; tackles Mike Smith and Mike Richey, and Peter Davis.

At this stage, five players, Bomar, Dempsey, Chalupka, Davis and Smith, appear to be the Tar Heels' top all-star candidates.

Bomar was one of the conference's better players last fall, running and passing for a total of 1,402 yards. He is left-handed quarterback who rates as an exceptional runner and an adequate passer.

Davis led the Tar Heels' in pass catching in 1967, hauling in 30 for 338 yards and two touchdowns. The lean flanker from Clarksville, Va., also rates as an outstanding blocker.

Dempsey crashed for 501 yards from the fullback post last year, averaging 3.9 yards a carry. Tar Heel coaches rate him a blue chip performer and predict he'll have an outstanding senior season.

Smith, a 235-pounder from Wheeling, West Va. came on strong at the end of last season and could be one of the AAC's better defenders.

Then there's Chalupka, the hard-smashing offensive guard from Canada. He may be the best blocker on the Tar Heel squad. A fierce competitor, he's sure to be one of the best players in the league.

At quarterback, Bomar will be backed up by sophomores Johnny Swofford and Ricky Lanier. Those two are battling for the No. 2 spot and Swofford appeared to hold a slight edge at the end of spring practice.

Another sophomore, Bucky Perry is operating behind Dempsey at fullback. He shows fine promise.

Wesolowski and Zemaitis give the Tar Heels two veterans at halfback. But a sophomore, Don McCauley, is fighting for a starting job. He led the freshman last season with 705 yards and an average of 4.6 a carry. The 195-pounder from Garden City, N.Y. was voted best offensive player in the spring Blue-White game. Bill Dodson will see action at wingback.

On the offensive line, there'll be some new faces. Davis

appears set at split end, and sophomore Tony Blanchard, son of the famed Doc Blanchard, could win the starting job at tight end. Tony packs 233 pounds on a 6-3 frame and shows promise of becoming a Tar Heel star.

Veterans Ev Cowan and Mike Richey are the leaders at offensive tackle and Chalupka is set at one guard. But the other guard post is wide open with sophomores Paul Hoolahan, Jim Papai and Joe Jansen the leading candidates.

Chip Bradley started at center the past two seasons, but is being pushed for the No. 1 job now by newcomer Keith Hicks of Fairfax, Va.

The defensive end positions still are a question mark. Veterans Tom Cantrell and Tim Karrs are the leading candidates. Ron Lowry, who played at defensive halfback a year ago, has been switched to defensive end.

Smith will start at one tackle spot. Neil Rogers is another veteran at tackle, but he's being pushed for the job by Ron Grzybowski, a sophomore from Shamokin, Pa.

Battle Wall is a returning starter at guard and Mike Hollified and Tom Renedo saw much action there last season. Best of the newcomers is Flip Ray, a 240-pounder who was injured and missed much of the spring practice.

Bob Hanna and Mark Mazza return as linebackers. Hanna, a hustler from McKeesport, Pa., was voted the top defensive player in the spring Blue-White game. Two highly promising newcomers are sophs Bill Richardson of Annandale, Va., and Larry Pochucha of Fairfax, Va.

Ken Price returns to the safety position and should have a fine season. John Harris and Dave Jackson, who saw some action, also return. Jim Griffith, a transfer from the Naval Academy, looks like the best of the newcomers in the defensive backfield, along with Rusty Ross.

Rebel Good All-Stars

Some one has got to be kidding!!

When was the last time you saw a .216 hitter elected to a major league all-star team? Or, for that matter one hitting .240?

Well, sports fans, it's happened this year. The American League elected Harmon Killebrew to be its representative at first base. He just has to be about the best .216 hitter around.

And there is Hank Aaron in the National League outfield ripping the horsehide at a .240 clip.

It's just got to be the year of the pitcher. The AL has but one starter, Carl Yastrzemski of the Red Sox, hitting over .300. After him the averages really tail off.

Minnesota Rod Carew, second base, is hitting .294. This is the second game for Carew, last year's AL Rookie of the Year.

Out fielder Willie Horton, Detroit, is hitting a solid .287 with 18 homers. Except for Yaz he's the one to carry the American's attack.

Frank Howard, Washington, is batting .286, but this represents a drop of over 60 points in a month. He's only hitting about .150 for the past month.

Angel Jim Fregosi at shortstop is pecking away at .271. He's a slick fielder and his hitting won't hurt.

Detroit catcher Bill Freehan, .260, Baltimore third baseman Brooks Robinson, .243, and Killebrew round out the starting lineup.

Killebrew probably expressed it best. When informed of his selection he said, "I'm embarrassed."

The National League definitely has the edge in batting punch. Four of its starters top .300.

Hustling outfielder Pete Rose, Cincinnati, brings a .337 average into the fray and already has over a hundred base hits for the season. He has previously been selected to the team at second and third bases.

Cardinal Curt Flood, outfield, is finally breaking out of the long shadow cast for so many years by Willie Mays. Flood is hitting .316.

Met catcher Jerry Grote is making his first all-star appearance. He won his berth by dint of his .309 average.

The Giants' Willie McCovey holds down first base. He is the NL home run and RBI leader and carries an even .300 average.

Cincinnati's Tommy Helms, second base, Cubs Ron Santo, and Don Kessinger, third base and short-stop respectively, and Aaron complete the NL starting lineup.

Now we come back to the pitchers.

As before, the National League is far superior. Their combined won-lost record as of Thursday was 78-36, with four of the eight having earned-run averages below 2.00.

Dodger Don Drysdale, Cardinal Bob Gibson, and Giant Juan Marichal are probably the three best hurlers in the majors. The AL may never score a run off of them.

They are amply backed up by Mets Tom Seaver, making his second appearance, and rookie Jerry Koosman, plus Pirate Woody Fryman, Cardinal Steve Carlton, and Ron Reed of the Braves.

The AL staff must rely on Tiger Denny McLain, who pitched three perfect innings in last year's game, and Luis Tiant of the Indians, who has six shutouts to his credit this season.

The rest of the staff is just not up to the quality of that fielded by the National League.

Soooo, here's the way it's going to be Monday night in Houston's Astrodome.

The American League won't score more than one run, if that. The NL pitching is just too strong.

The NL will start slowly, but will soon solve the AL pitching and will win by at least four runs.

UNC Sports Briefs

FROM PIGSKIN PREVIEW

North Carolina sports writers already have their typewriter ribbons tangled and their tongues tied trying to figure out the name Ron Grzybowski. But they had better learn to spell it and pronounce it, too.

Tar Heel coaches predict a big football future for Grzybowski, the sophomore from Shamokin, Pa. He's 6-2, 210 pounds and quick.

The name is pronounced "ja-bus-key." You'll be hearing it a lot in future years.

"Ron is one of our most promising new players," says Tar Heel defensive chief Lee Hayley. "He has the size and the quickness to be an outstanding

player in the Atlantic Coast Conference. All he lacks is the experience."

Grzybowski was one of the top defensive players in the Blue-White game in May.

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Carolina senior quarterback Gayle Bomar hopes to get a shot at professional football.

"I'd like very much to play in the pros," he says, "either as a quarterback or a defensive back. I've played both those positions at Carolina."

Bomar also is an outstanding professional baseball prospect. He has not take part in baseball at Carolina because of his football activity and the pressure of studies. He's a first baseman.

FROM PIGSKIN PREVIEW

Chuck Erickson, in his new position as consultant and advisor to the Department of Athletics, will play an active and important role on the University of North Carolina sports scene.

That's the word from Chancellor J. Carlyle Sitterson who last month announced changes in the Tar Heel athletic setup.

The Chancellor appointed Erickson to the new position and said that Walter Rabb will be acting athletic director while a search is conducted for a new athletic director.

"I can assure everyone I'm going to be active in my new position," Erickson said. "I wouldn't have it any other way."

Erickson has been a part of the Carolina sports scene since 1933 and has served the University as Athletic Director since 1952. He is renowned as

one of the country's top athletic administrators.

"I feel we've made a lot of strides here in my time," Erickson said. "But there's a lot of work to be done and I plan to be a part of it."

In outlining the new setup, Chancellor Sitterson made it clear that he considers Erickson an important figure in future Tar Heel athletics.

"Mr. Erickson has provided outstanding direction to the University's intercollegiate athletic program," the Chancellor said, "and the results of his leadership are evident at every hand—fine playing fields and facilities; excellent coaching staffs; highly successful teams and widespread participation by students in athletics."

"I want to thank him on behalf of the University and to say how happy we are that the University will continue to have

the benefit of his knowledge, experience and counsel as consultant and advisor to the Department of Athletics."

Under Erickson's direction, Carolina has enjoyed its finest hours in sports. Most of the athletic facilities here, which rank among the best in the nation, are the result of his planning and direction. Erickson personally raised the money from supporters and backers of the University for many of the building projects.

Erickson suffered a stroke last December while he was attending the winter meeting of the Atlantic Coast Conference at Myrtle Beach, S.C. He has made a rapid recovery and has been back on the job at Carolina for more than three months.

"I am feeling stronger every day," he says. "I'm enthused over the future of Carolina athletics and I'm looking forward to the role I will play in it."

Erickson Active In New Post