

Heel Prints...

By Owen Davis

While the major leagues sip grapefruit and cactus juice at various spring training sites in Florida, California and Arizona, and college basketball teams play regular season games, pitcher David Lemonds attends classes at Carolina.

Lemonds, who signed with the Chicago Cubs for an \$80,000 bonus last June after his sophomore season at Chapel Hill, does not have a team at the moment.

He can't join the pros, because the military draft will grab him. But college baseball is out, too, since he pitched in the minor leagues last summer.

Lemonds, College Player of the Year in 1968, is like a man without a country. He's a twirler without a team, a southpaw without a squad.

It's not that nobody wants him. Every big league club from San Diego to Montreal and all the sandlots in between would like Lemonds starting on the mound every fourth day.

But the guys in olive drab, who fire bullets instead of baseballs, have priority over everyone, even the big business New York Yankees in pinstripes.

And Lemonds' local draft board in Charlotte wouldn't dare let a prize grenade-thrower escape without a struggle.

So Lemonds, looking like any other student except his wallet is thicker, listens to lectures on history instead of the hummer.

But the blue-eyed, blonde, who has the handsome features and casual air of a guy who knows he will make it, will be pitching for the Raleigh-Durham Phillies in the Carolinas League when the season begins April 16.

"I'm on lease with the Phillies until the end of school," said Lemonds Tuesday. He was smacking a ball in his big, leather glove, looking for someone to throw to while his old UNC teammates worked out in the wet in Kenan Stadium.

"I'm on my own right now. I'm supposed to use my own judgment about getting into shape."

But Lemonds doesn't feel like a doorstep bonus baby whose parents have left him.

"Pitching here will help me, it's great," he said. "Otherwise I would have wasted more than a month and not pitched. The best thing for me is to play against people, to go against competition in a game situation."

Lemonds will be at all Raigh-Durham home games and will make the road trips when it's his turn to start.

After the school year, he will probably pitch again for San Antonio in the Texas League, although he says, "I could go higher."

Meanwhile the lean lefty practices with the Tar Heels, as he has done since Feb. 1, by permission of Coach Walter Rabb.

He hurls batting practice and loosens up everytime he can find a spare man who can hold onto his hard one.

"I miss college ball," he said, "but from the viewpoint of reasonable, logical thinking, signing the contract was the only thing I could have done. I saw the team play Saturday. They looked real good."

But Lemonds doesn't feel compelled to have another 7-1/1.49 record, earned run average for a college club. He's had his amateur fling, and the time has come to make big money and support his new wife, a former airline stewardess.

"I don't have any particular timetable for making the majors," he said, "but I figure it ought to take two or three years."

"I've got to learn to throw off-speed pitches better. It's something that doesn't come with you. You have to learn it and think more about what you're doing on the mound."

Besides missing the warm sunshine and rookie life in training camp, Lemonds has also not thrown under the new baseball rules, which are aimed to curtail the overpowering effectiveness of the pitcher.

The mound has been lowered 10 inches and the strike zone reduced.

But Lemonds merely shrugs. He wouldn't flinch if he faced Henry Aaron with the bases loaded and all his teammates were taking a mid-day siesta in the outfield.

"The lower mound might actually help me since my ball sinks," he said. "And if you're a good pitcher, you know what you're doing out there."

(Continued on page 5)

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Bunting rushes Purdue defender for rebound.

Photos by Tom Schnabel

Tar Heels Set 3 School Records In Winning Third Eastern Title

North Carolina's Tar Heels, champions of Eastern basketball for the third consecutive year, set three new school records in the season just concluded.

Bill Bunting, the fine senior forward from New Bern, N.C., came up with the only new individual record, hitting 59.8 percent of his field goal attempts to become the best marksman in Tar Heel history. He connected on 217 of 363 shots.

Bunting easily topped the old field goal percentage mark of 55.9 set by Donnie Walsh in 1962.

As a team, the Tar Heels set

new records for most points scored in a season and highest scoring average. Carolina tallied 2,844 points, topping the 1968 mark of 2,680. And this year's scoring average—88.9 points a game—easily topped the old mark of 83.7 set in 1968.

Despite two disappointing setbacks in the National Finals at Louisville, Carolina finished with an outstanding record of 27-5. This brought the Tar Heels' three year total to 81 victories and only 15 losses. Only three-time National Champion UCLA can boast a better three-year record.

Five seniors who played the major role in compiling that

Carolina opened its outdoor track season on the road against Clemson last Saturday and won a narrow 75-70 victory.

Coach Joe Hilton's thinclads captured firsts in 10 of 17 events, but Clemson took enough seconds and thirds to make the overall score close.

Tar Heel standouts of the indoor campaign were mainstays again last weekend. Miler Kenny Helms, 440 runner Terry Sellers, broad jumper Tom Wolfe, pole vaulter Rick Wilson and shot putter John Jessup all annexed victories as they had been accustomed to doing.

UNC's 440 relay team swept home in 41.9 to win the day's opening competition and give the Tar Heels a point lead they never relinquished.

Then Helms edged out Clemson's Furst and Lowry in the mile and Carolina had a 10-4 advantage. Helms was clocked in 4:18.

Dennis Suich and Cam Beck trailed the Tigers' Taylor in the high hurdles, but Sellers came back to take the 440 with a clocking of 49.7.

Clemson's Josh Collins sprinted the 100 in 9.8 and nosed out Tar Heel Mike Canzonieri.

Alex Covington took second in the 880 for UNC, and Kent Autry was third.

The Tar Heels went up 33-26 in the team standings when Cam Beck did the 440 hurdles in 55.6. Canzonieri followed by turning the 220 in 22.2.

Carolina built its point margin further as the mile relay team of Richard Smith, Don Wheelless, Doug Pryor and Terry Sellers denied Clemson points in that competition.

There will be a Monogram Club meeting March 25 at 8 p.m. New keys will be given out.

Dave Hilliard's high jump of 6'2" gained him a blue ribbon: Bob Boswell was third in the event.

The broad jump and pole vault both went to performers in blue and white and the Tar Heels had won four consecutive events. Tom Wolfe leaped 21'3 1/2" in the former and Rick Wilson cleared 14'8" in the vaulting.

John Jessup was the last Carolina winner as Clemson closed strong. He threw the shot 51 feet.

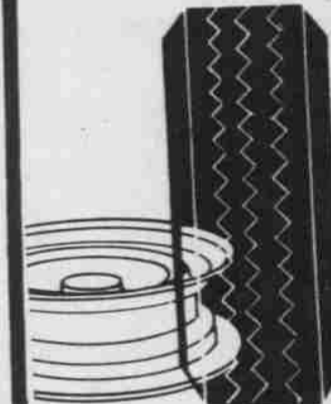
Coach Hilton had anticipated that his tracksters would be strong in the javelin, but Charles Gibson was the only Tar Heel to place, and he was third.

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Chi Psi Thumbers Outslug KA, 18-10

Intramural softball action continued this week with the accent remaining on heavy hitting. Many teams scored in the "teens," with the Chi Psi Thumbers' 18-10 victory over SAE White being the biggest slugfest of all.

The most lopsided game of the day was the AFROTC Aces' fly win over KA White. The flyers demolished the apparently land-laden KA's, 12-1.

Other frat softball results: Chi Phi Black 11-Kappa Psi Red 9; Phi Kappa Sig White 15-Navy DD's 7; DKE White 7-Phi Gam White Owls 4; Chi Psi Thumbers 18-SAE White 10; AFROTC Aces 12-KA White 1; Zete White 15-PIKA Grunions 8; DU Elysian Fielders 8-Beta Bombers 2; PIKA Goofballs 13-Pi Kappa

Phi White 3; Kappa Psi White 11-TEP Mops 1; ZBT Diggits 11-Sig Ep Green Gnats 7; Phi Delt Red 11-Chi Psi Thumbers 11-9.

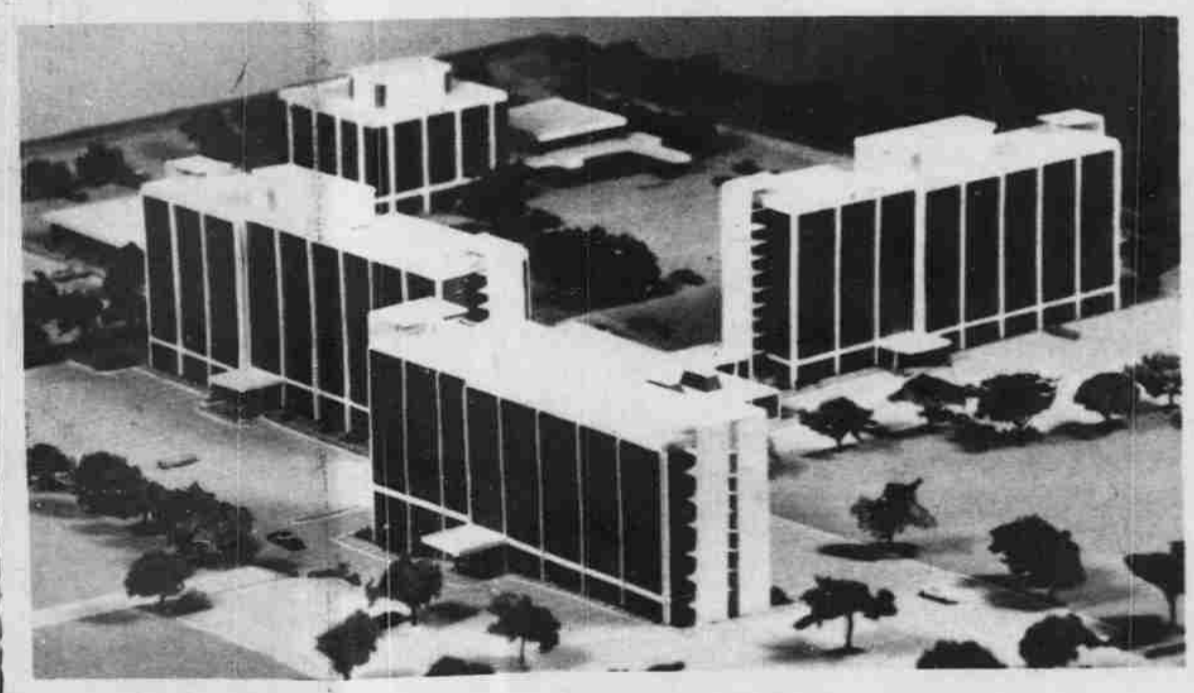
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