



Remember Byrd-Man

By Art Chansky

A Boston newspaper printed last summer, just after Dennis Byrd had been cut by the AFL's Patriots, that the former North Carolina State tackle and first draft choice of the Pats in 1967 was the biggest super flop to ever enter the pros.

It went on to say that the out-of-shape Byrd was overrated and couldn't even make the Patriots, a perennial doormat of the American Football League.

The newspaper laid cause for the pre-pro build-up of super-Byrd, who was supposedly beaten out by a free agent from Boston College, with his college publicity office. That, of course, is the Sports Information Department at State.

Furthermore, the story said that the sports offices of North Carolina State and the University of North Carolina made habit of inflating publicity about some of their athletes who were, in fact, only mediocre.

Among the examples that the newspaper cited was the unjustified publicity afforded an "average" end at UNC named Bob Lacey, who was being "pushed" for All-America honors while two bona-fide candidates in Ken Willard and Chris Hanburger were being snubbed.

Maybe it's a good thing that Carolina hasn't had a "bona-fide" grid candidate for All-America since Danny Talbot, for the Boston paper may have had a point in Byrd's case.

The point not being whether Byrd was as good as his college clippings made him out to be. Any offensive tackle on a Wolfpack opponent of 1965 through 1967 can certainly attest that Dennis was, indeed, at least a super-college-Byrd.

Instead, the point being that those very clippings went right to Byrd's head at the precise time that the benefits of post-graduate living went right to his stomach. Byrd was a big man in Raleigh, so he thought he could be the same big man in Boston. Instead, he now finds himself where all the other birds in Boston reside—in the Commons eating peanuts.

-Take A Lesson, Ron

Maybe State's Ron Carpenter should take a lesson from Byrd-man's story. Anyone sitting in the Press Box for Saturday's State-Carolina game would have thought that Carpenter was the only Wolf in the Pack.

"How 'bout that Carpenter," was one comment. "When that Carpenter hits you, you know it," was another. "It was Carpenter that hit him!" was the exclamation by a half dozen State people who didn't even see the John Swofford fumble that Wolfpack defensive end Bob Follweiler recovered.

The particular point of that game is that Carpenter was not that almighty awesome against some of Carolina's less publicized players. He was good, yes, but so were some others on both teams.

But Sports Information Directors, Sports Information Director's assistants, student sports editors and student sports editor's assistants were all yelling "Carpenter, Carpenter" so frequently all afternoon that a stranger would have thought that a bad leak needed fixing.

It's only natural for a publicity agency to give publicity. But it's abnormal for a publicity agency to give unwarranted raves. Here at Carolina, Sports Information Director Jack Williams beats a horse into the ground, if that horse deserves it. But should that horse be dead or dying, Williams knows to turn his attention elsewhere and let the public see that even athletes are human.

Remember the Byrd-man. He's alive and well, but eating peanuts on the Boston Commons.



Carolina's Defensive Star Bill Richardson ... Named DTH "Lineman of the Week"

Richardson And Jackson Are Lineman, Back Of Week

Bill Richardson, junior defensive guard from Annadale, Va., and David Jackson, senior defensive halfback from Jacksonville, Fla., have been selected as the Daily Tar Heel Lineman and Back of the week, respectively, for their outstanding defensive play in Saturday's game with North Carolina State.

Richardson, a converted linebacker, recovered a Wolfpack fumble and made several key tackles in leading the defense to an inspired effort against a potent State ground attack.

Head Coach Bill Dooley praised the play of Richardson, noting that he was "all over the field all day."

Jackson, starting his first full season as a Carolina defensive back, came up quickly to jar State's pulsating runners, Charlie Bowers and Leon Mason, on more than one

occasion. His hard-nosed play in back of the Carolina line was instrumental in limiting the ground game of the Wolfpack.

Although there were many standouts on both offense and defense in the well-played game with State, the Carolina coaching staff chose



JACKSON

Harry The Heel SAYS:

Well, tough luck guys. You played a helluva game. It was the rain that beat you, not those farmers. Our passing attack got washed out, while theirs doesn't exist. It was just as I thought, God is a State fan. He knew that they needed rain to win, so He made it rain.

Anyway, I think the offense did a great job handling those defensive linemen that are supposed to be so tough. I was hiding under a table in the Press Box (because of the rain), and all the lizard State fans up there were yelling, "Go'dam, that's Carpenter all right. Go'dam, that's Hudson all right." What lizards! I think Hooley and Bounds did a great job with those two tons-of-lard.

Heels' Morale Still Strong

By RUSTY CARTER
DTH Asst. Sports Editor

Very seldom has anyone heard a Carolina football booster praise the team's effort in the past few years, especially when the effort ended in defeat. But even rarer have been the words of Coach Dooley, "we played well and think we should have won."

This was the outcome of the Carolina-State splashing battle Saturday, but again the Heels lost and they are the first to admit it. They played their hearts out to bring an opening victory to Chapel Hill but fell short. Yet, through the mud, blood, and defeat a glimpse of encouragement was seen.

Bill Richardson, junior defensive guard, was one of those muddy Heels who played his heart out only to witness the 10-3 defeat of the Heels. He was super on defense and was chosen "Lineman of the Week" by the coaching staff and the DTH, but to the modest guard, "my performance and the team's

was 8 points not good enough, no matter how well we played."

"We lost, that's the main fact no matter how you put it," Richardson said. "No one is happy with his own performance or that of the team because it just wasn't good enough because of a few mistakes that costs us the game."

Dooley has had a similar summation of the State defeat but one thing he differs on is Richardson's superb defensive play.

"He was all over the field," the coach stated. "Wherever the ball was Richardson was there too."

As a junior on a defense of seven sophomores, Richardson is a natural leader whether he likes it or not. The 20-year-old letterman alternates with junior Rusty Ross and sophomore Bill Bunting on calling defensive signals. And the veteran has nothing but praise for his sophomore-manned defense.

"The new boys did a great job on defense," he added. "They make our defense a lot quicker and therefore greatly improved. Hyman, Webster, Bradford and all the others did fine job, and anyone who knows any football can see we're greatly improved."

Still above all the praise, the 207 pounder, echos, "we weren't good enough. The defense has more ways to score than the offense," he noted, "fumbles, interceptions, punt returns, and so on. When the offense gets bogged down as it did Saturday we have to score, and we didn't."

Richardson feels the few upperclassmen have to play in addition to their prime objective of good tough defense, is "trying to keep the

younger boys from tightening up. Everyone makes mistakes and when someone does they have to play that much better and stay loose.

"The sophomores Saturday came through real well and didn't get tense," he noted.

Despite his praise for the sophomores and modesty about his own performance, Richardson's number 56 was seen in nearly every pile-up in Carter Stadium. He was a key figure in the new defense and the "Lineman of the Week" could be no more deserved than by the hustling junior.

Fans may be encouraged by Saturday's play but the team didn't get any pleasure out of losing. They plan to win and Richardson is the first to admit, "the loss won't get us down."

"We met by ourselves after the game and the spirit is still strong," he noted. "We'll have a winning season at Chapel Hill and this loss surely won't damage our morale. Personally, it built up my confidence in our offense and defense. We showed many good things

behind the mistakes we made." The determined Tar Heel sees an even stronger foe at South Carolina this Saturday but he also sees nothing but a victory by the high-spirited Heels.

"We probably won't have many Carolina fans pulling for us in Columbia," he said, "but we'll be ready mentally and physically. We plan to win for ourselves and Carolina fans."

Richardson's subtle delight in being named "Lineman of the Week" is overshadowed by modesty and the fact that "we just didn't play well enough. You can't be happy or satisfied when you lose, and we aren't."

The Saturday star is confident and so are the coaches, fans and grandstand quarterbacks. There's no doubt a winning effort will be given in Columbia and no doubt that number 56 will for the second week be "all over the field."

As Richardson puts it, "We plan to play four quarters against South Carolina this year, not just three like last season."

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Sensational Soph Reaves Wins SEC Back Of Week

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (UPI)—"We were so far ahead at the half," snickered Florida defensive coach Gene Elenson, "That all I could hear on the bench in the last half was: 'Who're you dating tonight?'" "We shut that off quickly," he added soberly. "We knew John had given us a cushion we needed. Houston can put up the points in a hurry."

He referred to dandy sophomore quarterback John Reaves, who today was named UPI's first Southeastern Conference "Back of the Week" for the 1969 season.

In one of the finest rookie performances in SEC history, Reaves tossed five touchdown passes to lead underdog Florida to a 59-34 whumping of favored Houston Saturday. His four first-half scoring throws put Florida ahead 38-6 at intermission.

The Tampa, Fla., star, who stands 6-3 and 209 pounds and reminds one of handsome Steve Spurrier, went on a local television program the night before the game and said,

"Some sportswriters are going to eat their pads and pencils after tomorrow."

Reaves' feat topped several other outstanding offensive performances in the SEC Saturday, including two other Florida sophomores. Running back Tommy Durrance caught two touchdown passes and scored one on the ground and flanker Carlos Alvarez also caught two scoring passes from Reaves—one for 70 yards on the game's third play.

Quarterback Scott Hunter led Alabama to a hard-earned 17-13 victory over Virginia Tech, Georgia's Bruce Kemp scored three touchdowns as the Bulldogs clubbed Tulane 35-0 and quarterback Archie Manning scored a couple of touchdowns in Ole Miss's 2-3 victory over Memphis State.

Reaves, as calm and collected as Spurrier the year the former Florida quarterback won the Heisman Trophy in 1966, completed 18 of 30 passes before he went out of the game after three quarters. Spurrier never in his college

career threw more than four scoring passes in one game and never came near the 342 passing yards which Reaves amassed.

The telephone rang in the Florida dressing room at the half. Offensive coach Fred Pancoast answered to hear Spurrier offer congratulations for the big lead and to warn jokingly, "Tell that kid (Reaves) to cool it—I won't have any records left."

Coach Ray Graves hesitates to compare Reaves and Spurrier this early in the game.

"Spurrier never had this kind of lead his sophomore year," said Graves, "and Reaves has never been in a ball game when we've been behind. He did a fine job but the real test comes when you've got the pressure on you."

"I still say we're a question mark," Graves added. "Any team that depends so heavily on passing will have its bad days."

"I'm delighted that our kids were such a hungry team and I hope this game doesn't make them think it's always going to be easy."

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