CHRIS COBBS

Anyone For Tennis

For countless male sports fans, the challenge posed by tennis is not unlike that of girl-watching: the possibilities are fascinating, but how does one get introduced?

Things being what they are at Carolina, only a token effort can bring forth delicious rewards. Especially for the would-be tennis viewer.

Consider the record.

Tar Heel net teams have won 100 of 104 Atlantic Coast Conference matches in the league's 17-year history. Even Paul Newman doesn't score with kind of consistency.

This year's squad may be Carolina's best ever, says Coach Don Skakle. Moreover, it may be as good as any in the country.

The Heels, with four returning ACC singles champions, stacked up as a potent entry in preseason estimations.

Shored up by a contingent of new blood, they lost only nine individual contests in their first nine team matches, all of which the Tar Heels swept in impressive manner.

Promising Rookies

Two freshmen of much promise have moved swiftly into the swing of things. They are Freddie McNair and Forrest Simmons.

McNair was the No. 1 rated high school player in the country last year. He won the National Interscholastic Championships and is playing at two currently for Carolina.

Simmons recently cracked the singles lineup and is teaming with Lee Langstroth at No. 2 doubles.

The infusion of youth complements nicely the array of veterans Skakle has around to bring in more wins and clippings.

No. I singles man Langstroth is a senior who Raleigh. The Carolina Cougars recently departed "golden age" compiled a 16-4 individual mark last year. Oddly enough, he didn't win his flight in the ACC championships.

"Lee was upset by a Virginia man after beating the Dorton Arena. same guy the day before in the last match of the regular season," Skakle explained.

"Langstroth may have lost a little mental sharpness, which he isn't very likely to do this time, not with his of Jim Beam in the air for all experience," the coach said.

Langstroth is joined by McNair and seniors Joe Dorn, Bunting can't play now, with a is as much of a mystery for Fred Rawlings and Allen Lassiter along with soph 20-point lead, he won't never Bunting as for his legions of

Jimmy Corn in the singles lineup. The only real competition they've had so far has been rain.

"We need a solid week of playing every day," Skakle believes. "Every time-we start to come around, it rains. "But when the weather permits, we'll pull together and be twice the team we are right now."

Skakle Speaks Out

Such words could serve as storn warnings for future opponents. If not, Skakle has others:

"I think our players receive a tremendous psychological boost knowing that they are probably in better shape than anyone they will come up against.

"We might miss a shot, but we are at least going to get to it."

Sounds presumptuous, huh?

Then listen to documentation of Skakle's conditioning program, as provided by one who survived it only to be cut from the team, at the last moment, for talent considerations.

"Starting in early February, 30-40 boys out for the play for the Cougars. team began a running, excercising workout at two every afternoon," said the near-miss netter.

"We loosened up with a half-mile jog, got in hopping and sprinting work and sometimes did as many as 40 100-yard dashes.

"Running up and down the steps in the Fetzer Field stands was another of Coach Skakle's leg tougheners."

Skakle's preseason routine is, by his own admission, as demanding as any in the country, where tennis is 107-83. Bunting pulled two concerned.

But, according to our anonymous insider, not a single candidate for the team failed to last out the conditioning.

Road Trip May Be Key To Heel Flag Repeat

By Ken Tilley Sports Writer

Carolina's defending ACC baseball champions begin defense of their conference crown this weekend in a road trip to South Carolina.

South Carolina for a single game Friday, and Clemson in a afternoon.

The only conference game of the season so far was a 2-0 loss to N.C. State, thus the contests with USC and the called on for relief pitching league-leading Tigers may very duty. In response, he has well indicate how well the Tar 73 els will fare in the ference race this spring.

sign of things to come?

Waiter Rabb, pointing out that three of the losses were by a single run, and that the opposition facing his baseballers has been unusually

Who are Carolina's leaders prior to the crucial trip

southward? Eddie Hill certainly deserves initial mention. His .416 batting average ties him with Pres Ruddell for the batting lead. Both have collected 15 The Tar Heels will face hits in 36 times at bat, and each has latted in seven runs.

In addition, Hill has slugged doubleheader Saturday four home runs to lead Carolina in the power

department. Rabb's "most versatile player," Hill has also been pitched 15 innings, allowing

only one run for a 0.06 ERA. With a 1-0 record, this Is the team's 4-7 record a All-ACC first baseman will probably start on the mound Probably not, says Coach against South Carolina. Rabb will most likely choose from Larry Kiser (1-2), Jim Dunlap (1-1), or Dave Bullard (0-1) for other pitching appearances this

Spring Football: Rain And Endless Drills

A downpour drenched Navy

As a result, UNC fell further

The weather has been playing havoc with Coach Bill

Dooley's plans all Spring, and

now Thursday practices will be

necessary for the squad to

The Heels are due to try

Dooley is pleased with the

running of senior Don

McCauley and sophomore Ike

Oglesby, he said after reviewing

Tar Heel progress to mid-week.

Hoolahan, a pair of senior

tackles, also drew praise for

their efforts in the offensive

Some players have "just

Meanwhile, Dooley would

be perfectly happy if the skies

would just clear up . . .

6-foot-9 frame.

been standing around," the

coach said. This is somewhat

normal, of course, in the

Jim Hambacher and Paul

again for some contact work

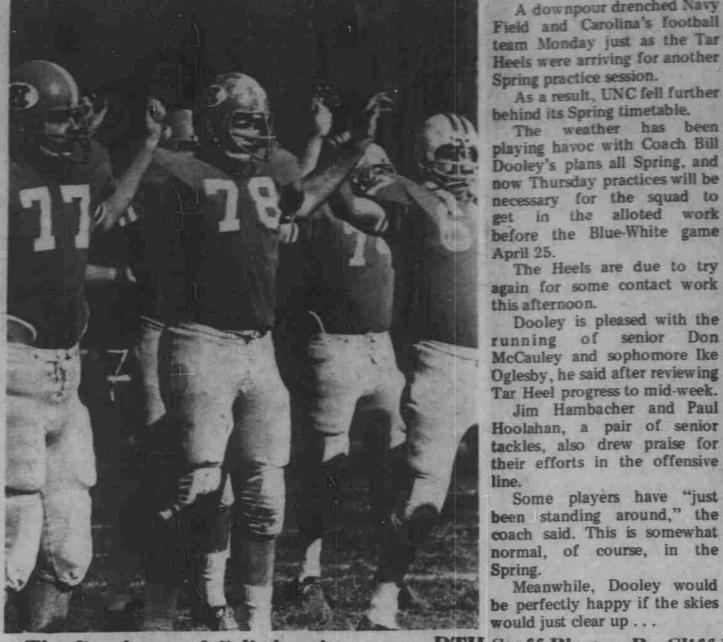
this afternoon.

in the alloted work

team Monday just as the Tar Heels were arriving for another

Spring practice session.

behind its Spring timetable.



The Drudgery of Calisthentics

DTH Staff Photos By Cliff Kolovson

before the Blue-White game

Sharpening Passing Skills

Bill Bunting One Year Later

By Bobby Nowell Contributing Editor

first half, the Cougars had built a 46-27 lead. One boisterously to see, whooped, "Well, if



Bill Bunting

He was referring, of course, to Bill Bunting, the former

wrong this time. Bunting 10-player limit. wasn't sent in when the club with 2:52 left in the final quarter, Carolina nursing a 90-80 advantage, Coach Bones McKinney motioned for Bill.

the game, won by the Cougars rebounds off the glass, made a pair of free throws, and missed his only shot from the floor.

Two points and two season aren't much higher than

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PASTGATE SHOPPING CENTER CHAPSI HILL

Here is a man whose name Niemann gives Carolina sheer

still flutters pulses among fans strength in the pivot It was Friday night in who cherish the memory of the were in the process of of Tar Heel basketball. A other center. destroying their American three-year starter at UNC and Basketball Association rivals, All Conference as a senior. A which to compete under the the Pittsburgh Pipers, at shooting forward who helped the Heels fashion an 81-15 With 6:25 remaining in the record in those three seasons.

He signed a reported multi-year, six-figure contract time, he is still rail thin by pro inebriated fan, waving his pint to turn pro. But no one has heard much from him since. Why he hasn't been playing

admirers. Although the Cougars have better personnel than many clubs in the ABA, they have been struggling around the .500 won-lost mark all year. Since midseason, Bunting's contributions have been virtually nill, because McKinney simply hasn't pounds. extended the calls.

for Bill, but he has several scaled less than 185 explanations for his nonactivity.

"I'm the 11th man on the totem pole," he said after the rebounding team. He averaged Pipers' victory. "And I don't 17.7 as a senior and still feels want to rock the boat. "We have three rookies on

and Calvin Fowler)." Bunting's situation as 11th

UNC star who seldom gets to man has caused him to be left behind sometimes when the But the drunken fan was team goes on the road with a "Then, too, we have been

had a 20-point lead. However, trying to catch Kentucky for second place in the Eastern Division, and Coach wanted his best big men in there all the time," he pointed out. "I He played the remainder of haven't really had time to show

"I thought my best games this year were at the beginning of the season, when I was playing center some," he declared. Bunting scored a rebounds. Sadly enough, campaign high of 27 points in Bunting's stats for the 1969-70 one game, but he returned to the sidelines when the Cougars acquired ex-Boston Celtic Rich Niemann.

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At 7-foot-1 and 245 pounds unmatched by either Bunting or George Peeples, the club's

Lack of brute power with runaways. boards has probably been the primary factor in Bunting's benching, Although Bill weighs more now than at any other standards-200 pounds on a

The importance of the weight factor was demonstrated in a recent game with Denver, in which McKinney inserted forward Hank Whitney as the pivot when both Niemann and Peeples got into foul difficulties. Whitney, only 6-7. say exactly what. I probably got the nod over Bunting

Bunting was never top It is an embarrassing subject heavy as a Tar Heel-he always pounds-but he could afford to concentrate more on shooting because UNC was an excellent ha can do it in the pros.

because he weighs about 235

Now, however, "all the guys the team, but I have less seem bigger than I am," experience than either of the Bunting admits. "I'm going to other two (guards Gene Littles have to work hard on my

> He's a member of our "Milestone Club." That means he's way out in front.



Jerry Lawson

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201 1st Union Bank Durham, N. C. 27701 Chapel Hill, N. C. 942-3200 PROVIDENT weight this summer. Fifteen to to play regularly." 20 more pounds sure wouldn't There is a final, darker

Bill asserts. "But he has to. It's slats.

a long season-84 games-and it's a man's game, fast and every day."

couldn't spell it out until I get

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possibility. The Cougars were Despite all of these reasons, founded on the premise that a it is hard to understand why lot of native North Carolina Bunting almost never talent would help the club gain plays-even when the games are its feet at the box-office. With former area collegians like The volatile McKinney is a Littles, Bob Verga, Doug Moe, ruthless taskmaster, and his Larry Miller, and Richie "doghouse" for insurgents and Mahaffey swapping starting non-hustlers is well known. But jobs all year, the Cougars have Bunting even disclaims this as a paced the loop at the turnstiles while failing to consistently "He drives us hard, sure," burn up the opposition on the

A lot of hoopla surrounding Bunting's signing with the physical. You have to be ready Cougars-but, judging from his scanty playing time, the Is adjustment to the pro Bunting name seems to be his style still a drawback? "No. I sole contribution so far. Was it feel I've learned a lot in my intended that way, Bunting as first season, although I can't a drawing card and not as a

(SEE WHERE PG. 5)

Poor Play Costs Heels 1st Golf Loss

Carolina's golfers played poorly for the first time this year and lost to Davidson Monday 1119912 at Charlotte's Country Club.

The Tar Heels head into conference play this Thursday at Finley against Virginia.

Thundershowers hit the course during the match and caused unusually high scores. The low cards were held by Davidson's Danny White and UNC's Bill Boles, who both shot 74s.

White defeated Jack Hooks, who had a 77, and Boles downed Wildcat second man Doug Clark 3-0.

Davidson wrapped up the match with victories in the fifth and seventh positions. Scott Sheftell and Rusty Boyd posted 21/21/2 wins over UNC's John Vanderbloemen and Chip Donahue, who shot 82 and 80 respectively.

Third man Marty West had an 80 to tie Ed Terry, and Lytton Perritt's 75 deadlocked Davidson's Toby Dawson in the number six match. Tom Byrd also had an 80, but it was good enough to down Bill Guerrant 2-1.



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