The Wait For Tom Tests Suitors, Fans

The deliberations concerning his future are growing as lengthy—and as pregnant with possibilities—as Tom McMillen's highly coveted six-foot, eleven-inch body.

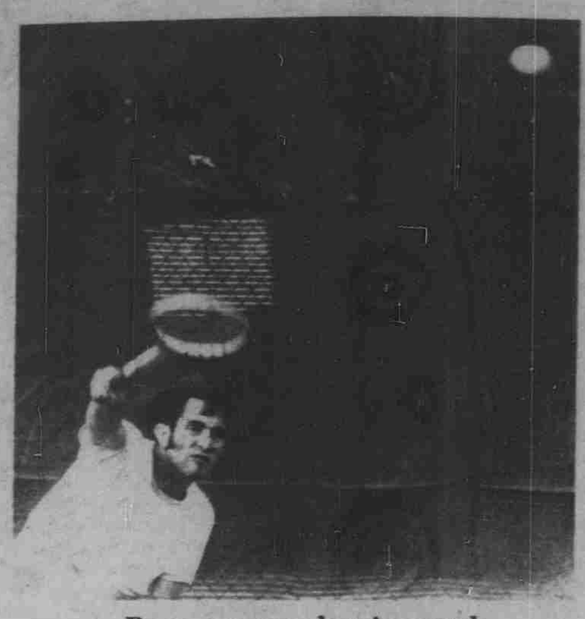
Amid speculation that traditional basketball powers Kentucky and UCLA had come into contention for his services, McMillen postponed a press conference scheduled for Wednesday night in Elmira, N.Y.

This marked the second occasion on which the Mansfield, Pa., high shooler had put off the announcement of his choice of colleges.

Carolina Coach Dean Smith, along with representatives of four or five other teams still reportedly in the running, hastened to McMillen's side Wednesday, presumbably to remain there until he makes up his mind.

Front page accounts of the wheeling and dealing appeared in North Carolina dailies as reader interest intensified. No player had entered the college game with so much fanfare since Lew Alcindor, four years ago.

McMillen had the small consolation, as the pressure mounted, of not having to listen to all the rumors pertaining to his decision.



Dorn returns shot in match

Cock Netters Fall

Heels Expose USC Misnomer

By Ken Tilley
Sports Writer

Clemson appeared to be running away with the Atlantic Coast Conference baseball race until arch-rival South Carolina came to town.

The Gamecocks spoiled Clemson's perfect 6-0 record by splitting a doubleheader with the Tigers. Second place Maryland, 3-0 through Monday's games, now moves up on the Clemson team, and will face the Tigers in a crucial match Saturday afternoon.

The rest of the conference teams are no doubt breathing sighs of relief from the knowledge that Coach Bill Wilhelm's Tigers are not invincible.

North Carolina's hopes to move into the first division among conference teams were greatly improved by a 2-1 victory over fourth place Duke. The Tar Heels have risen to sixth place with a 2-3 conference mark.

Carolina versatile first baseman-pitcher Eddie Hill stands high in both conference batting and pitching. The senior co-captain ranks second among ACC batters with a .458 average. Maryland's Dave Sauve, with a .463 average, leads the league and is the only other conference player hitting over the .400 figure.

Hill also leads the league in home runs with four. The Tar Heels' Pres Ruddell, batting .370, was ranked seventh in confernce play, while his three triples tie him for the third position.

Pitching finds Clemson once again in the lead. Dave Van Volkenburg, with a 4-0 record, and Alan Demarest, 3-0, hold the two top spots in the ACC for the Tigers. Three other Clemson hurlers are among the top 20 mound performers.

Carolina could place only one member of its pitching staff among the league's best. Nobody should have to think twice about who that player is. Eddie Hill's 2-0 record (not including his victory over Duke Tuesday) is fifth in ACC standings. His 1.12 ERA is also fifth in the league.

A night doubleheader with Wake Forest Saturday could give the Tar Heels a chance to climb higher in the ACC and, depending upon the outcome of the Clemson-Maryland contest, might send Coach Walter Rabb's team back into the race for its second straight conference crown.

But in order to be a threat to the league leaders, someone must give support to Hill. Ruddell, Tommy Donaldson, and Ron Cox have been the only other Tar Heels to provide any consistent offense, while no other pitcher has managed more than a single win. Larry Kiser (1-3), Greg Pavlick (1-2), and Jim Dunlap (1-2) will all be expected to develop stability on the mound if the Tar Heels are to fashion a winning conference season.

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Tiger Express Slowed As Heels Begin Climb

By Bruce Gurganus
Sports Writer

Two college tennis teams met Wednesday on the Varsity Courts in Chapel Hill. According to the monograms on their shirts both teams represented "Carolina Tennis."

But before the afternoon was over, the Tar Heels of North Carolina had handed the misnamed Gamecocks from South Carolina a smashing 8-1 defeat.

The convincing win was the thirteenth of the season for the undefeated netters of Coach Don Skakle. South Carolina is coached by former ACC singles champion Bobby Hezld.

As usual, senior captain Lee Langstroth began the grudge-match with a 6-4, 6-2 over a much improved Lewis Weisser.

South Carolina's 5-4 win over the Heels in 1968 is the only home loss in the last three years for the UNC netters.

The four seniors on the Carolina team played in that loss so the revenge was sweet indeed.

At the number two position freshman Freddy McNair got off to one of his poorest starts of the season as he struggled to a 7-5 win in the first set over Kevin McCarthy. McNair regained his usual composure with a 6-0 win in the second set.

Playing on the third court Joe Dorn fell into a two game losing streak as he was upset by Bill Austin by 6-4 and 7-5 scores. Austin beat Dorn at his own game, which is consistency, a thing few of Dorn's opponents have been able to do over the past three years.

Jimmy Corn seems to be a sure bet to win another ACC championship in his flight as he disposed of Art Kamm 6-4, 6-2. Senior Fred Rawlings took a quick win over Todd Hansen 6-1, 6-2, as Rawlings too, appears to be headed toward another tournament championship.

Wrapping up the singles action was senior veteran Allen Lassiter who took a 6-3, 6-1 victory over Barry Altman. Lassiter has been completely demolishing his number six opponents all year.

The doubles action went according to Tar Heel plans as Dorn and McNair are continuing to prove their supremecy among ACC competition. They teamed for an easy win over Weisser and Austin 6-2, 6-1.

In the number three doubles action Corn and Rawlings are still looking for some viable competition as they easily disposed of McCarthy and Kamm 6-1 and 6-0. Langstroth and freshman Forrest Simmons were extended to three sets in their number two win over Hansen and Ray Cowan.

The Heels travel to battle Princeton there on Saturday and return home against Wake Forest May 1st.

Deacs Visit Finley For Showdown

By Mark Whicker
Sports Writer

The charging Carolina golfers, treating unfamiliar golf courses like old friends, beat Clemson 11-10 and Wofford 14½-6½ Monday and South Carolina 14½-9½ to remain undefeated in the conference and 5-1 overall.

Now Coach Ed Kenney.s Heels prepare for the showdown with Wake Forest at 1:00 Friday afternoon at Finley Golf Course.

The two road wins confirmed the feeling that UNC is a genuine threat to win conference honors. Out of the 15 Carolina rounds played in the two matches, no score was above 78.

Marty West was the medalist in Monday's match with a 70, while John Vanderbloemen and Tom Byrd carded 74s. At 76 were Bill Boles and Jack Hooks, while Chip Donahue and Joe Hackler fired 78s.

The return of Hackler was the best part of the trip. He was on the varsity last year, and shot even par through two qualifying rounds to get back on last week. He's an experienced, consistent player, and he came in with a 73 at South Carolina, one-over-par. However, Jack Hawkins of USC took the match 2-1.

Boles was the medalist Tuesday with a 71 that blanked Wade Mayo, 3-0. USC's top man, Ronnie Smoak, fired a 72 to West's 76 and won 2½-1½, but Byrd continued his superb play with a 73 and a 3-0 win over UNC's Wylie, and Hooks topped Billy Gregory 2-1 with a 75.

Donahue won over John Dennis 2-1 by shooting a 73, and Lytton Perritt, playing eighth, fired a 74 for a 2-1 win over Earl Pruet. Vanderbloemen, at 76, lost to Happ Lathrop 2-1.

The suspicion is that Wake Forest is being carried by its reputation this year. After first man Larry Wadkins, who has already lost twice, the Deacs have no visible edge over the rest of the conference teams.

Byrd, Donahue and Hackler are all giving the top three of Hooks, Boles and West first-rate support. The team is so balanced that Coach Kenney can switch the players in just about any order without giving up anything.

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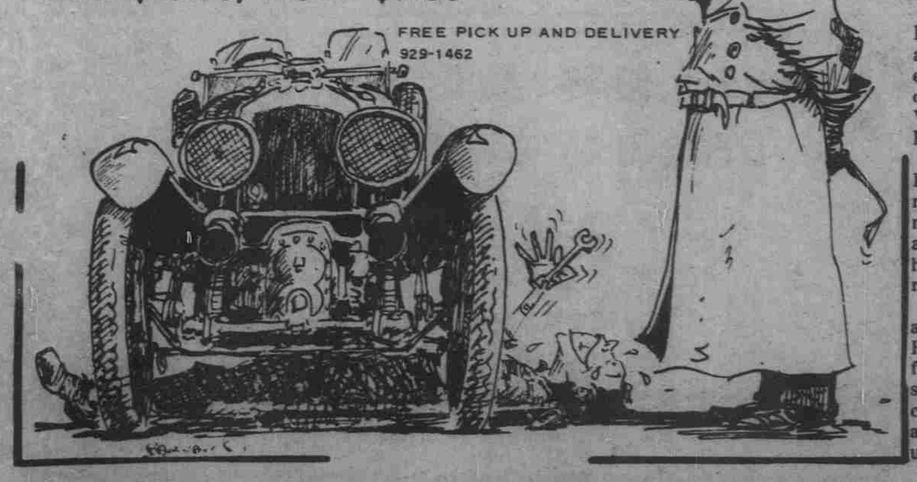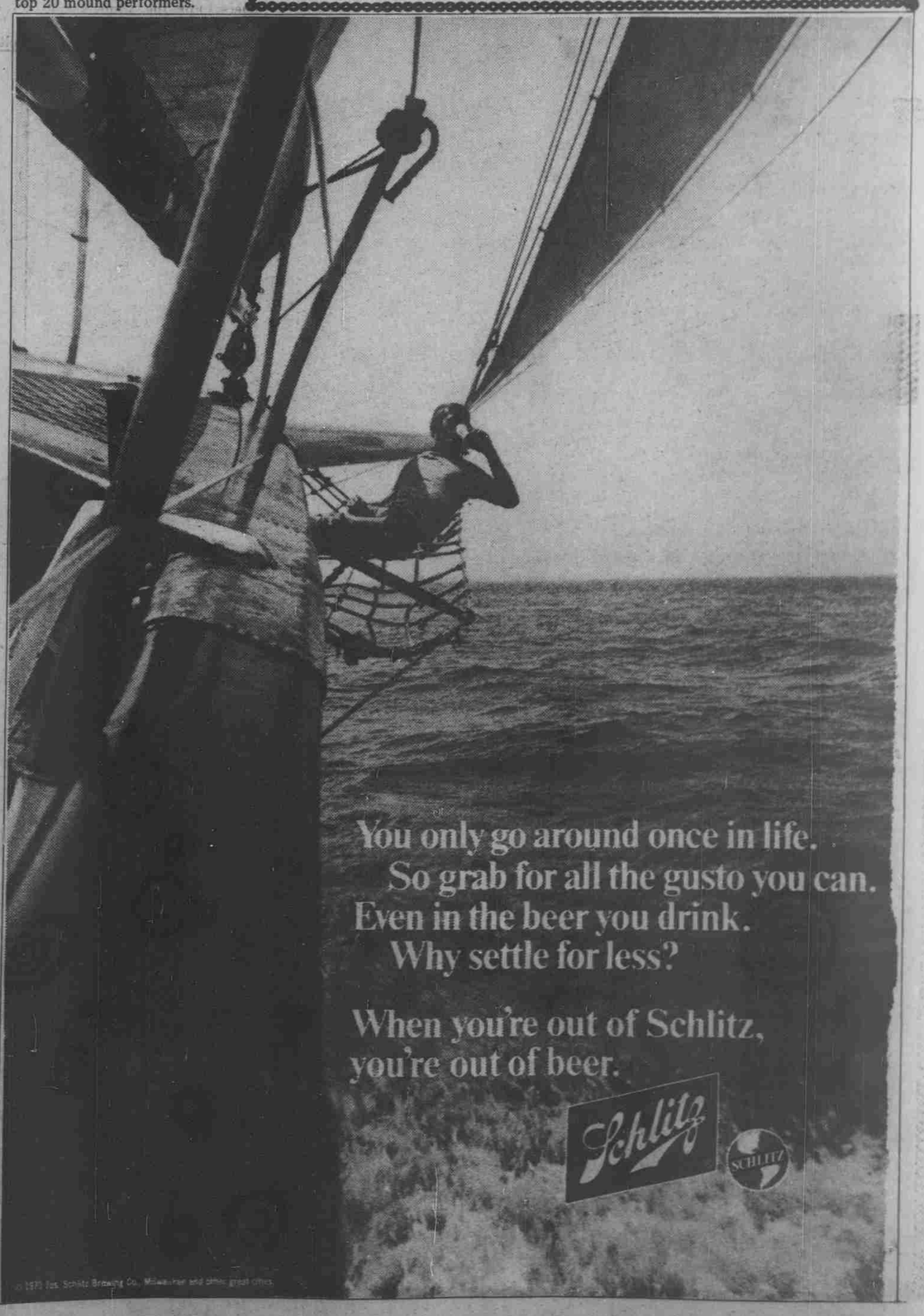
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