

Cavaliers 'better than record'

Dooley shuns bowl talk, points to Virginia

by Al Thomas
Sports Writer

The next two weeks are full of opportunities for Carolina's football team.

If the Tar Heels can manage wins over both Virginia and Duke, they would:

-win their first outright Atlantic Coast Conference championship.

-almost assuredly receive a bowl invitation, possibly to the Peach Bowl in Atlanta.

-become only the fourth team in ACC history to have a spotless conference record.

-sport the best regular season record for a Carolina team since the Charlie Justice era of the late 1940's

That "if" is a might big word, however, one which Carolina coach Bill Dooley said must be answered week by week.

"We're not thinking about any bowl games right now," Dooley said during his weekly press luncheon Tuesday. "We

have to continue taking one game at a time, and the other things will take care of themselves."

Dooley said his Tar Heels are now only concerned with Virginia, a team he said he highly respects. "Virginia has had some real tough, close losses," Dooley noted. "They're much better than their record indicates."

The Cavaliers have won only two games this year while losing seven, but in their last three performances have beaten State in Raleigh and lost squeakers to Army and Virginia Tech.

Virginia seems to be finally jelling.

"They have people who can get the job done for them," Dooley warned.

"They have real good people, but just don't have a lot of depth. Injuries hurt them earlier but now almost all their people are healthy."

Virginia coach Don Lawrence, a former All-American interior lineman at Notre Dame, discussed several of his players Tuesday over a telephone hook-up.

"Tailback Kent Merritt has great speed and great potential," Lawrence said. "He runs the 100 in 9.5 and all he needs is experience."

"Bill Davis is leading the ACC right now as an end with 36 receptions for 377 yards," the Virginia coach continued. "Davis has height (6-4) and speed and is a very disciplined type receiver. He's just a young man."

Lawrence also mentioned his

quarterback Larry Albert who "has a lot of finesse but has been hampered physically by a shoulder operation last spring" and fullback Gary Helman who "led Virginia in rushing last year with 743 yards."

Helman missed the first few games of the season with a shoulder injury, Lawrence added, and then had his ankle hurt after playing in the Vanderbilt game. Lawrence said Helman is healthy now.

Virginia's leader on defense has been tackle Andy Selfridge, a 6-5 225 pound senior who was being touted for All-American honors during pre-season by the Cavaliers.

"We've had problems with injuries," Lawrence noted. "Especially on offense, we've been missing senior leadership."

"I do think our youngsters will definitely be up for this game with

Carolina," he continued. "UNC and Virginia Tech are the biggest rivalries we have, and I also feel that if we are to build any type of program here we have to win in the conference."

For Virginia, the game is a chance to redeem a disappointing season and to begin building prestige. For Carolina, although Dooley refuses to think about it, the game is one more step toward an ACC title and a bowl bid.

Bethea's hands-finally noticed

By Mark Whicker
Sports Editor

Earle Bethea caught seven passes in the Blue-White game last spring for 157 yards and no touchdowns.

The life of a split end at Carolina can be rather lonely. Except for a few blocks and occasional receptions, he usually runs

his pattern out, returns to the huddle, runs it out again, and so on.

Tar Heel quarterbacks under Bill Dooley have had great success throwing to the tight end and wingback, working together on the right side. Lewis Jolley and Johnny Cowell are leading the receivers with 19 catches each right now.

Even fullback Geof Hamlin has more receptions than Bethea. Earle has rarely been the target; his first catch was in the fifth game of the year, against Tulane.

"It didn't really feel too good," admits Bethea. "But we're winning."

Indeed the Tar Heels are, and Earle finally got some attention in a 26-13 win over Clemson Saturday. He snagged three passes for 57 yards, including a 28-yarder in the second period.

"They gave us the pass to Bethea, so we took it," explained Coach Bill Dooley afterward.

Until last Saturday, Bethea was one of the few offensive bright spots for the Tar Heels in a 16-0 loss at Notre Dame.

After the Heels fell behind 6-0, Jolley

Karl okay

Coach Dean Smith said this week that guard George Karl had suffered only a slight groin injury in Saturday's Blue-White basketball scrimmage.

Karl, one of four returning starters from last year's NIT champions, collapsed in the fourth quarter and was taken to the dressing room.

took the kickoff, drew the Irish toward him, and suddenly passed to Bethea with blockers in front on the sideline.

Only one Notre Dame man was in the way - Clarence Ellis.

"In the films, I saw where I could have have cut back and maybe gotten some more yards," Bethea says. "I was looking to cut back anyway if they took Ellis out of the play. But he wouldn't go down, so I ended up running into the blockers."

If they play didn't work, Bethea did his best to give UNC a score in the third quarter. After Bill Brafford recovered a fumble, Bethea made a picture catch after beating Ellis on the Notre Dame three.

"It was a curl pattern, and I had Ellis a step coming in," Bethea recalls. "But the pass led me a little too much and I had to jump for it. I might have scored then."

The Irish defense reacted to hold Carolina on downs and then blocked Ken Craven's field goal attempt.

Bethea is a redshirt sophomore from Springfield, S.C., where he played halfback on high school that went unbeaten until the playoffs. He played split end on the freshman team, but was redshirted as a defensive back.

"Being redshirted wasn't so bad for me," Bethea says, "because I wasn't in there getting hit on every play like the linemen were."

Placed at split end last spring, Bethea was the hit of spring practice. After his Blue-White performance where he received the "outstanding lineman" award, almost everyone but Bethea



Earle Bethea

expected him to catch a lot of passes this fall.

"I hoped I would, but I knew our attack," Bethea says philosophically. "Actually, in the Blue-White game they like to open the attack a lot more, and I was operating against inexperienced defensive backs."

Bethea has a brother, Frank, playing guard on Clemson's freshman team. A recreation major, he'd like to be a head football coach somewhere after graduation.

And, presumably, he'd have his quarterback throw to that lonely split end.

Cross country ACC title

Hilton-'a team effort'

by Dan Collins
Sports Writer

Carolina Cross Country coach Joe Hilton couldn't have been prouder of his two best runners Reggie McAfee and Larry Widgeon after his team nosed out favored Duke to win the ACC championship, last Monday.

After all the two had led the Heels like so many times before this season by finishing second and third in the individual times.

But the veteran coach felt it was more than a two man victory, instead a victory that should be credited to the team as a whole.

"It couldn't have been done without a whole team effort," Coach Hilton said. "Even those who couldn't run today. It takes the efforts of all those people to build a championship."

"It's a very healthy situation. Fortunately it worked out well for us."

Many people considered Carolina a team with two good runners but not much else. The Heels proved otherwise Monday, however, due to the efforts of a virus-riddled sophomore, a transfer known only for his short distance skills and a previous unknown.

As it turned out the real keys to the first-place finish was the balance provided by Tony Waldrop, Lennox Stewart and Mike Garcia.

Waldrop ran his first good race of the season after being hampered all season by a virus. The sophomore, who was rated as one of the conference's best runners last season, finished tenth with a 25:58 time.

Lennox Stewart is known as a good runner, but only in the short distances. He transferred to Carolina along with McAfee but was overshadowed due to the latter's prowess in cross country.

Stewart had his glory Monday however, when he finished thirteenth with a 25:45 time.

Despite all of the heroics, the big story of the day was the surprise sixth place finish of unknown Mike Garcia. Considered by many to be a second-rate runner, Garcia ran a first rate race to equal the previous course record of 25:06.

The Fayetteville, N.C. native contributed most of the Heel's success to team spirit and a strong rivalry with the Blue Devils.

"It was just a desire to beat Duke," Garcia said. "It was hard to lose to them twice but we knew we were a lot closer to them than many people thought. We knew we could beat them."

Garcia also gave Coach Hilton much of the credit for the team's championship.

"I just like to win for him," Garcia said. "He has given the cross country team a hundred per cent the entire season. It made me feel really good to see him so happy after the meet."

Mark Whicker

What's with the Cougars?

By Mark Whicker
Sports Editor

The first thing you do when you see the Carolina Cougars is marvel at the talent they have.

Coach Tom Meschery has such well-respected names on hand as Jim McDaniels, Larry Miller, Ted McClain, George Lehman, Joe Caldwell, Wayne Hightower, Bob Verga, George Stone and Randy Denton.

The next thing you do is look at the Cougars' record.

After Friday night's 109-106 win over the Floridians in Greensboro and Saturday night's loss to Dallas in Charlotte, Carolina is 3-9 and squirming on the bottom of the ABA's Eastern Division.

The third thing you try to correlate the talent with the record. And that doesn't get you anywhere at all.

True, Caldwell is still hobbling around on a mangled knee that will not allow to

play like the old Joe for at least another month.

True, McDaniels, Denton and McClain are rookies and subject to mistake.

True, the Cougars are playing in a competitive division with Virginia, Kentucky and New York all contending for the top.

But that doesn't explain why Carolina is in last place. And in Friday night's performance, they showed a surprising amount of polish.

"Both McDaniels and Denton defended better tonight," said Meschery after the game, "switching on and off the other center."

McDaniels, the 7-foot rookie from Western Kentucky, scored 30 points. Denton came in when McDaniels reached foul trouble and broke an 81-81 tie to propel the Cougars home.

The big surprise in the Cougar camp is 6-7 Warren Davis, an A&T veteran who always managed to kill Carolina while playing for other teams. He scored 17 in

the first half for a 57-54 intermission lead, and came in for seven in the stretch.

Most of the 5,109 fans in the Coliseum came to see Chris Evert and Laura DuPont in a Tennis exhibition (Miss Evert won quickly 6-0, 6-2) and to see Caldwell's first appearance since a knee operation.

Caldwell played only 14 minutes, starting at the beginning of each half, and missed both shots he took. His three assists, however, established the Cougars' inside game to Davis and McDaniels.

"I've got to start," said Caldwell, "because my knees stiffen up after warmups. I figure it be about another month before I'm really ready. I'm glad I didn't hurt the team tonight."

"It takes a helluva lot of guts for him to be out there just testing the knee," observed Meschery.

The coach inserted Ed Manning, a former Baltimore Bullet, when Caldwell got tired, and Manning made like Wes Unseld. He got 16 rebounds and 15 points on unorthodox shots that frustrated Floridian rallies.

Mack Calvin and Larry Jones were averaging 47 points in the Floridian backcourt; George Lehman and Larry Miller held them to a total of 28 but couldn't stop Al Tucker, who scored 28 although averaging only 11.

Miller has made a smooth adjustment to guard. The former Tar Heel forward played all 48 minutes (while Verga ate popcorn on the Cougar bench) and came up with two great plays.

At the end of the third quarter, Lehman whipped a full-court pass to Miller, leaping between two defenders to score. "I always thought he'd make a great flanker," said one writer.

If he looked like Otis Taylor on that play, Miller pulled a Dick Butkus with six seconds left. Warren Jabali (formerly Armstrong; the name means "the rock") got the ball with a chance to tie the game.

"I'll pick him up," Miller promised Meschery, and promptly cut in from of Jabali's drive to draw a charging foul. That sewed Carolina's third victory.

McDaniels, averaging over 25 points, was confident that Friday night represented a turning point.

"We're getting more cohesive and I think we showed it," Mac said. "I'm getting my education up here, trying to learn something every game."

He's already learned about the pushing and shoving that goes along with the roughest non-contact sport in captivity. "Man, I love that contact," McDaniels grinned. "In fact, I guess I contacted a little too much and picked up some fouls."

"We're getting it together. We've just been together for two months, but I can feel it coming, and when we do get it together, you better look out."

Club finale Saturday

The Carolina Football Club will close out its season Saturday afternoon on Navy Field with a special game against Duke.

The contest will begin at 1:30 p.m.

This will be a memorial game dedicated to the late faculty advisor to the football club, Dr. Raymond Magus.

Magus, of the school of medicine, drowned last spring while attempting to rescue two fellow canoeists. Their canoe had capsized in the Haw River.

Admission to the game is free. However, any donations will be appreciated.

The donations will be accepted for the establishment of a scholarship fund for Magus' two young sons.

Alpha Phi Omega, the service fraternity, will assist the club by staffing the donation points. All proceeds will go to the scholarship fund.

Don Stewart of the football club says all students should bring something to keep warm and a radio to keep up with the Carolina-Virginia game Saturday afternoon.

It's the season finale for both football clubs.

Basketball preview next week

Basketball coach Dean Smith will deliver a preview of the 1971-72 season in the Carolina Union's Great Hall Thursday night, November 18, at 8 p.m.

Tickets are free and can be obtained at

the Union information desk. Smith's talk will include highlight film of the Tar Heels' victory in the National Invitation Tournament in New York last March.

Ehringhaus blanked

In the play-offs for the All-Campus Tag Football Championship the two favored teams made it to the finals. A very interesting match is due for the final game as the Independent Flavuses and Phi Delt Blue put an undefeated season on the line. Phi Delt Blue shut out Ehringhaus A Blue 39-0 as they were led by Ehringhaus with 2 TDs and Sitterson with 2 TDs and 3 extra points. The Flavuses got a fine game from the B-Ball twins, Fogler and Delaney, plus TDs from O'Rourke, Brantley and Smith, as they shut out Phi Delt White 34-0.

In Volleyball the Lab Retrievers made it to the finals of the Grad-Indep League by spiking Phac Out 15-6, 15-7. They will meet the winner of the Phac-In, BB Rackers game. The finals will be held Thursday night and will be filmed to be used as instructional material for coaching.

The schedules for the first round of the Grail-Mural Basketball Tournament can be picked up in the Intramural Office, Room 215 Woolen Gym. Please do not phone.

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