

In Knoxville Saturday

Harriers compete in NCAA's

by Dan Collins
Sports Writer

Jim Beaty was the last All-American in cross country at Carolina in 1956.

Fifteen years is a long time to go without an All-American but Coach Joe Hilton feels that at least three of his runners have a crack at the honor when his team travels to Knoxville, Tenn., Monday to compete in the NCAA tournament.

Approximately 50 schools and 125 individual runners will be competing, a pack of close to 500 runners. All-American honors will go to the top 25 finishers.

"I think we've got two men, Reggie McAfee and Larry Widgeon," Coach Hilton said, "that have a good chance to be All-American and possibly a third, Mike

Garcia, who ran what I called an inspired race in the conference meet."

Last year, without McAfee, who was still running at Brevard Junior College, the team made a strong showing in the NCAA's, finishing 30th. This season, however, Coach Hilton feels the squad can finish much higher.

"We certainly hope we can finish in the top ten," he said. "The team is looking forward to the race. We think we have a considerably better team than last year and we're looking to improve."

Both Coach Hilton and captain Larry Widgeon feel the victory over Duke in the conference meet two weeks ago will help prepare the team mentally for the NCAA's. This past weekend Duke finished third in the IC4A meet, a membership consisting of some of the top teams in the East.

"The Duke victory," Coach Hilton said, "certainly should give the team a lot of confidence going into the nationals. The whole squad has to realize the reason we're there is because we're just as good as the rest and even better than some."

"I think (Bob) Wheeler of Duke will be one of the top two or three individual finishers at the NCAA's. He was the top individual finisher in the IC4A meet. I think the running in our conference is as tough as any in the nation."

One bright spot for the Heels is the fact Tony Waldrop, although still not fully recovered from his season-long virus, is stronger now than any other time this year.

"He'll be better than before," Coach Hilton said, referring to Waldrop, "but I still wouldn't say he'll be at his top peak or condition."

Indoor track—depth is problem

by David Zucchini
Sports Writer

With the 1971 ACC cross country championship safely tucked away, Carolina track coach Joe Hilton now turns his attention to indoor track in his quest for another conference title.

Hilton's cross country squad ran off with the ACC title two weeks ago in Raleigh, overwhelming heavily-favored Duke in one of the most enjoyable upsets in recent Carolina athletics.

The indoor track season doesn't open until Jan. 14, but Hilton is already assembling a talented cast of solid returning veterans and unproven freshmen.

Last year's crew was loaded with top-notch individuals in almost all events, but there was precious little manpower beyond that.

This season's squad may face the same handicap.

"It takes a lot of good athletes to run a successful track program," Hilton says, "and it looks as though we may have a problem with depth again this year. We're hoping that our freshmen will help us in this area."

The Tar Heels will be hard-pressed to match last year's crop of newcomers, which featured pole vaulter Danny Deacon, broad jumper Hank Snowden and runners Mike Garcia and Tony Waldrop, who placed eighth nationally in the 880.

"We have several good freshmen in the 440 and in the dashes, where we badly need some added depth," Hilton points out. "Most of them were fairly successful athletes in high school and we expect them to help us tremendously."

The Tar Heels are strongest in the field events, where the talent is strong and deep. Broad jumpers Snowden and Hubert West return, along with ACC triple jump champion Darryl Kelly.

Hot Cougars

The Carolina Cougars, winners of three straight after their 113-101 win over Denver in Charlotte Wednesday night, meet the New York Nets in Greensboro tonight and play Kentucky at Louisville Saturday.

The Cougs are within a half-game of escaping the Eastern Division cellar of the ABA. Wednesday's win was keyed by rookies Jim McDaniels and Ted McClain, who combined for 46 points.

Tonight's game will be the first return of John Roche, now a sub for New York, to the floor where his South Carolina team edged Carolina in the ACC tournament last March.

In the pole vault, Deacon was impressive last year as a frosh, and Hilton likes the looks of freshman Phil Hatch, who provides much-needed back up strength.

The weight department is a problem. Ace shot and discus man John Jessup carried the two events almost single-handedly last year, but he has since graduated.

Hilton is counting on two freshmen, Brad Mullinex of Kernersville and Tar Baby football standout Charles Waddell of Pinecrest, to fill the void left by Jessup in the shot. Another freshman, John Fleming, will throw the discus, along with footballer Terry Taylor.

The distance events appear stronger with the return of Mike Caldwell, who has been sidelined by a leg injury. Caldwell was running smoothly in cross country competition until straining the tendons in his leg early in the season.

Another essential cog in Carolina's cross country achievements was junior transfer Reggie McAfee, who finished in the ACC meet.

"McAfee will certainly help us in the mile and two-mile events," Hilton says. "He has very good speed for a miler, which makes him tough to beat."

McAfee will be joined in the distances by junior transfer Lennox Stewart and, steady, reliable Larry Widgeon. The mile

and two mile events should be two of Hilton's best.

The high jump department also looks better than ever. Junior Charles Ball placed among the conference leaders last spring and will be bolstered by the return of Dave Hilliard.

Hilliard holds the current UNC record in the high jump but missed all of last season because of a broken shoulder.

Hilton expects considerable improvement in the sprints, in which first-place finishes were few and far between last season. The hurdling should also be much stronger, with the return of Reid Hilton after a long injury spell.

4 p.m. today

Blue-White swimming meet

by Dan Collins
Sports Writer

Some interesting questions may be answered when the Carolina swimming squad holds its annual Blue-White meet at 4 this afternoon.

—Will the added spirit, instigated and led by co-captain Gerry Chapman and Bob Nagle, account for better performances?

—How much have the returnees, such as Chapman, Nagel, Glen Garella, Bob Darylmphe, Mike Southard and Dave Bedell, improved over last year?

—Are the incoming freshmen such as

Dave Medlin, Peter Ray and Bill Koczyk as good as they have appeared in fall practices?

—Will the team be strong enough to survive its schedule, probably the toughest in the Southeast?

Of course many of these and other pertinent questions will not be answered until the regular season is well under way, but the intrasquad meet will no doubt indicate to some extent what caliber of team the Heels will have.

A new spirit of confidence definitely prevails over the team this season. The enthusiasm of Nagel and Chapman has rubbed off on the whole team and they

feel they will be in the same class with the top teams of the area.

"Our spirit has changed a lot since last year," Chapman said. "The whole team is psyched up."

Last season, N.C. State was truly the cream of the conference and the Wolfpack are expected to be as good or better this season. Chapman, however, feels the Heels will give the Wolfpack a good run for the conference crown.

"Maryland will be tough," he said, "but I think it will be between us and State."

The top returnees this season outside of Nagel and Chapman, will be Glen Garella, a sophomore sprinter, Mike Southard, a sophomore in the free style, Dave Bedell, a senior in the butterfly and Bob Darylmphe, a junior in the free style. "Bedell has really improved," Nagel said. "We're hoping he will qualify for the nationals in the butterfly."

The schedule will be rigid to say the least, with four of the opponents, Fla. State, Florida, Tennessee and N.C. State finishing in the top 13 in the nation last season. Another opponent, Alabama, sent several members to the nationals.

The opening meet of the season will be on Dec. 1 against Duke at home.

One bright spot for the squad is the outstanding crop of freshmen on the team.

Can the elderly ruggers survive busy weekend?

Tonight is the night for the UNC O.F.A.P. game with the Carolina young bucks. The O.F.A.P., led by the indefatigable Scot, Adrian Scott, the tired old man of rugby, Bob Porter (who is soon to celebrate his 65th or so birthday) and a score of other drunks and burnt-out athletes, will do battle with their younger counterparts of the regular UNC rugby club.

If all concerned come out of the affair in reasonable condition from this 7 p.m. match on Ehringhaus Field, then the two groups will combine to play South Carolina at two the next day, at the same place.

Spectators are invited to spend their afternoon watching the match with ears

attuned to the monumental clash of American football rivals in the Chapel Hill suburb of Durham. Though thousands will attend the more traditional and historic game of rugby football, the club will forgive those few who may take some passing interest in this "Johnny-come-lately" sport.

The traditional spiritual service and choir practice will take place after the Saturday matches.



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