



Johnny Klise

Battle for top spot continues

by Dan Collins
Assistant Sports Editor

Going into the final two weeks before the Carolina football squad's season opener with Richmond, offensive backfield coach Moyer Smith continues to describe the four-way race for the starting quarterback spot as "up in the air."

Coach Smith admits that last year's ace punter Nick Vidnovic is the leading contender but his lead is in no way insurmountable. Pressure is being applied by junior Johnny Klise and sophomores Chris Kupec and Charles Baggett.

"Right now Vidnovic holds the edge," Coach Smith said yesterday, "but nothing definite will be decided until after today's (Wednesday) and Saturday's scrimmages. By the start of the week we should know who will be the starting quarterback

against Richmond."

For Vidnovic, whose game experience last year was restricted to punting, his quest for the starting signal calling spot has been on the line since the first day of practice last spring. Battling last year's number one reserve, Klise, two highly-touted high school All-Americans and rumors that he is too small to be a successful college quarterback, the 5'11", 176 pound junior from Falls Church, Virginia, has continued to move the team in intrasquad practices.

Vidnovic got his first big break when he surprised everyone by leading the Blues to a 38-21 victory over the Whites in the annual Blue-White intrasquad game. During the game he completed five of twelve passes and two touchdowns.

Going into spring practice, John Klise was the most-often mentioned candidate to succeed Paul Miller who was lost to

graduation. Experience was thought to play a larger part in the deliberation and Klise is the only one of the four with varsity game experience.

The coaching staff, however, has decided to put much greater emphasis on practice sessions and allow game experience to take a back seat.

"All we have been relying on so far is our judgments," Coach Smith admits, "how each of the quarterbacks have performed in practice and how they are able to move the team."

Kupec and Baggett alternated for the top quarterback spot on the undefeated freshman squad last fall, with one usually starting the first half and the other calling signals in the second half. Both were impressive with Kupec being tagged as the better passer of the two and Baggett the better ball-carrier.

Baggett, the only North Carolinian of

the four, alluded opposing defenders a la Fran Tarkenton all season and ended the year with 177 yards in 31 carries for a 5.7 average.

On the other hand, Kupec has been touted as the best passing quarterback at Carolina since Danny Talbot. He proved last season that he was capable of putting the ball in the air by completing 48 passes in 76 attempts for an amazing 806 yards in only five games.

The possibility has been mentioned that the Tar Heels would go with more than one starting quarterback in a platoon type system.

"If we have two quarterbacks who can do the job," Coach Smith said, "then we will be using two quarterbacks. But if we can only find one player capable of moving the team then we'll go like we have in the past with only one quarterback."



Charles Baggett

Another swim gold

U.S. riflemen claim two medals

John Writer of Clarendon Hills, Illinois, and Lanny Bassham of Fort Worth, Texas, two of the fastest guns in the competition, finished 1-2 in small bore rifle shooting and Shirley Babashoff of Fountain Valley, California, with a clutch final leg spurt in the women's 400-meter freestyle relay, saved a gold shutout in swimming to feature Wednesday's Olympic competition.

Writer and Bassham, firing as fast as is

humanly possible, overwhelmed the field with Writer grabbing the gold medal with a world record 1,166 hits in the three positions. His total beat the old world mark, held by a Russian, by just one shot. Bassham had a 1,157 total and Werner Lippoldt of West Germany had 1,153 for the bronze medal.

In swimming, where the United States had won four of seven earlier races, the U.S. victory in the women's 400-meter

relay was the only one turned in Wednesday as Shane Gould of Australia won the women's 400-meter freestyle for her second gold of the Games, Gunnar Larsson of Sweden nipped Tim McKee of Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, in the men's 400- individual medley and Nobutaka Taguchi of Japan won the men's 100-meter breast stroke.

All but Larsson's race produced world records. Miss Babashoff, who finished

fourth in the race won by Miss Gould, took over the final leg in the 400-relay about a stroke behind her East German rival, but spurred the remaining 100 meters to win by an eyelash in 3:55.2. Swimming with her in the relay were Sandra Neilson of El Monte, California, winner of the 100- freestyle on Tuesday, Jenny Kemp of Cincinnati, and Jane Barkmann of Wayne, Pennsylvania.

The women's 400- freestyle proved a disaster for the Americans - the first time they have been shutout in swimming during these Games.

Miss Gould won in the world record time of 4:19.04 with Novella Calligaris of Italy second and Gudrun Wegner of East Germany third. Miss Babashoff was next, followed by Jenny Wylie of Mountain View, California, and Keena Rothhammer of Santa Clara, California.

In other earlier events, the unbeaten U.S. water polo team scored a 7-5 victory over Mexico to extend its record to 4-0; two of three U.S. fencers advanced to the quarterfinals in individual sabre; three of five U.S. wrestlers made it through the fourth round and bantam-weight Ricardo Carreras scored his first victory in boxing. Finals were on tap later in men's individual gymnastics; light-weight weightlifting, men's springboard diving and men's individual foils fencing. And in the basketball tournament, the unbeaten U.S. team was in action against Brazil.

New thigh injury hobbles Oglesby

Ike Oglesby's comeback has been hampered somewhat by a bruised thigh the senior tailback suffered in last week's scrimmage.

Offensive backfield coach Moyer Smith said Wednesday Oglesby has been slowed down for a few days by the injury. He hasn't seen contact work since last Thursday.

"He'll probably start contact work again late this week," Smith said. "The bruise should be no hindrance to Oglesby."

The Greensboro native should be ready for action when the Tar Heels open their season with Richmond in Kenan Stadium next week. But he is now fighting to win back the starting spot he lost when he suffered severe muscle damage in his legs a year ago.

Tommy Bradley, a sophomore from Gastonia, is currently the starting tailback. He is followed by junior Billy Hite and Oglesby. Bradley has been shifted from quarterback, and Hite saw a lot of action on last season's varsity.

"Bradley and Hite have played extremely well for us so far," Smith said.

As a sophomore in 1970, Oglesby played under the shadow of All-American Don McCauley, but saw enough action to justify big pre-season buildups. He took 126 snaps that year for 562 yards, which made him the greatest sophomore ground gainer in Carolina history. Those figures are even more impressive when you

consider the fact that he usually ran behind the second-string offensive line.

Oglesby stepped into a starter's role in 1971 after McCauley left for Baltimore. He appeared headed for all-star honors when he raced for 504 yards in the first four games, including six touchdowns. If he regains full strength, his potential is unlimited.

Carolina coaches feel Oglesby is progressing well. Smith summed it up when he said, "We know what he's capable of doing. Once he returns, he'll just have to fight back."

Club football begins practice

The UNC Football Club, entering its third season of play, will hold the first practice on August 31, 6 P.M., on the field in front of Carmichael Auditorium. Nine games have been scheduled this fall, including a tilt with American University of Washington, D.C.

The club is composed of students who want to play football, yet cannot compete on the varsity level. The Club's premise is "Football for fun," but basic conditioning and fundamentals are not forgotten. Club members are fully insured against injury, and practices are supervised.

Fischer needs one point to take world chess title

Bobby Fischer claimed and won another draw Wednesday night on the repetition of moves rule in the 20th game of his world chess championship match against Boris Spassky and inched to within one point of the world title.

The next - and possibly last - game of the championship match is scheduled for 1 p.m. EDT Thursday. Fischer, still leading Spassky by three points, now needs only one win or two draws to take the crown.

Fischer, playing for a draw, called referee Iothar Schmid to the chess board after the 54th move and asked him what

the position would be for a repetition of moves.

"Bobby was laughing and asked me, 'Say, exactly what position is a repeat of moves. I'm not certain.'" Schmid said after the game. "I got my own scoresheet because Bobby's was unreadable and showed him the position it could be. Then he grinned and said, 'Yes, guess so.'"

Schmid said Spassky played over some other possibilities after the draw had been agreed upon and told him, "Yes, it's a draw. I cannot find a way out. I'm sure there is not a win here."

However, U.S. Grandmaster Larry Evans said, "I don't think Spassky exhausted all his winning possibilities."

It was the third game in the last four that Fischer has claimed as a draw because of the repetition of moves rule. The rule, a basic one in chess, states that if any position recurs three times with the same player to move, his opponent may claim a draw if he wishes.

The draw left Fischer with 11½ points to Spassky's 8½. Fischer needs either one victory or two draws to become the first American world chess champion in modern times.

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