

# SPORTS

## A tall tale of interest for all of you wolves

by Susan Shackelford  
Asst. Sports Editor

"Come on in," invited the intercom-like voice of Tim Stoddard, as I stood in the doorway still closing my umbrella after a wet jaunt across the motel parking lot. The husky Stoddard walked past the television, which blared advertisement of the upcoming feature, "Wonder Woman." Somehow, this reporter couldn't avoid a take-off reflection about herself.

"I wonder what this woman hopes to find out?"

Such a thought passed quickly out of mind as the N. C. State forward, looking like an oversized John Boy Walton, boomed over the telephone:

"Hey, Burl, the girl's here to see you."

Umbrella against the wall and raincoat removed. Hardly an opportunity to glance around the spacious accommodations before Tim lumbered to the door to answer a knock.

And...there was Burl...Tommy Burleson, all 7-4 of him, towering like the Empire State Building over the 5-4 writer, who began to think of herself more as a munchkin each minute.

Timmy, and Tommy, and Munchkin were soon joined by Steve Nuce, another member of the no. 1 Wolfpack, who in a hasty entrance brought teammate Burl a soft drink to accompany an evening sandwich.

"You must be the one from the Tar Heel Daily," Nuce interjected hurriedly, lingering briefly in the doorway.

"It's the Daily Tar Heel," Munchkin clarified politely while Burl was offering to share his sandwich. "No thank you, Tommy" and now to sit and talk.

During the next hour and a half the All-America, who now anticipates the UCLA Bruins in Saturday's national semi-finals, certainly couldn't close the physical gap of height. He eliminated another gap—the personality behind the uniform.

"My height got me out of Avery County," he said firmly. "And, when I came to college, I guess I was like an unpolished stone."

Tall Tom, with feet propped on one of the motel beds specially made to attract traveling ball clubs, pointed to Stoddard now stretched out on the other bed reading *The Exorcist*.

"You take Timmy over there—he played against some tough competition in high school," Tom said. "I just didn't have that. Then, I just had natural talents and height. I've had to refine and mature those talents to play in this level of competition."

"7-2's my honest height," he responded to the frequent exaggerations. "I was pretty normal in the sixth grade, but then I grew four inches several years in a row."

Burleson said most girls he dates are between 5-4 and 5-9 in height. "I once dated a girl who was 6-2, but she was so inhibited about her height it bothered me."

Though interested in economics and the stockmarket, as a business major, Burleson expressed an absolute desire to pursue professional basketball in N.C., calling it his home. He has been pegged by the Carolina Cougars along with UNC's Bobby Jones in an American Basketball Association secret draft.

Many sports writers and fans have speculated about Burleson's thoughts about not making first team all-conference. He spoke to the subject:

"I don't really have anything to say about that. I'd heard before actual voting that McMillan and myself would probably be on the second team."

"Walton's very physical," Burleson began. "He uses his weight to an unbelievable advantage, constantly running into you." Comparing Walton with Elmore he said: "They play a lot alike, rebounding and defensively, but I don't think Elmore is noted as much for his offensive. Walton is much more explosive."

The most underrated player he's encountered? Darrell Elston is the answer.

"I think he's a great player. He's been one of the key factors in the UNC offense especially with his percentage shooting from the outside. He ran guard so well and you hardly hear about his game. I don't think he got enough recognition."

Burleson looks back with satisfaction at the UNC-State rivalry, although admitting that some people carry it to the extreme.

"It's easy to get up for a game against Carolina. Just walking into the coliseum was enough to get ready. We always know that we have to play our best to come out on top."

A congenial fellow, considerate and very humble—that's what Tom Burleson seems to be. He's also got a sense of humor relating this brief story about his height:

"I met this drunk guy in Shoney's one night. I came through one door of a narrow hallway and he staggered through a second. We met halfway. He started at my feet and went up with his eyes and fell over backward onto the floor. I didn't know what to say."

The room TV, still blaring, indicated that "Wonder Woman" was over, as this reporter, gathering her notebook and umbrella, no longer wondered about the person behind the Red and White 24.

## Tennis match at 2 p.m.

# Carolina hosts Cincinnati today

Tennis fans will get their chance to see North Carolina in action today at 2 p.m. as the Tar Heels host Cincinnati on the varsity courts...if the rain holds off.

North Carolina, defending ACC champion, has been able to keep out of the rain so far this season. While the rain fell on Chapel Hill Friday along with a sudden chill in the weather, the Heels trounced Southern Conference member Davidson in blazing fashion.

Carolina blanked the Wildcats, 9-0, the seventh

shut out of the year by the Heels who now have run their record up to seven wins and one defeat. The one loss came against powerful Florida in a match played on the Gators' home courts in Gainesville.

Rich McKee kept his record on the number one court unblemished winning his eighth singles match of the year when he defeated Davidson's Bill Allen, 6-2, 6-0. On the number two court, Rich Hardaway downed Rich Quinby 6-1, 6-3 while Billy Brock took the third singles away from Davidson's Gary Bressler 6-3, 6-4.

Tommy Dixon, Joe Garcia and David Oberstein all won their matches to round out the singles. Dixon and Garcia won 6-3, 6-3 and 6-1, 6-1 respectively while Oberstein had to fight his way past John Mitchell, 3-6, 6-2, 7-6.

McKee and Brock continued their winning ways at the first doubles spot, wiping out Allen-Quinby 6-1, 6-2. Hardaway-Dixon won their number two doubles match 6-3, 6-3 as Bill Correll and Flag Flannigan teamed up at the third spot to capture the last doubles match 6-2, 6-1.

# Track team in action Saturday

by Jim Thomas  
Sports Writer

Finally! The UNC track team opens its season against Clemson tomorrow afternoon at 1:30 on Fetzer Field.

This will be the Tar Heels' first meet since the ACC indoor championship February 23 at College Park, Md. Most of the other spring sports started at least a week ago.

Saturday was supposed to be the first appearance of Tony Waldrop before the

home folks but he will not run as expected in order to rest for the Florida Relays at Gainesville next weekend.

Waldrop did not run at home during indoor season because he was crisscrossing the nation; Richmond, New York, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and San Diego. The only time Chapel Hill residents will definitely get to see this record-setting runner will be the ACC outdoor championship May 13-14 when school is over.

Aside from Clemson there will be

only one other dual meet this season. "Track has pretty much come down to relays in the past few years," said coach Joe Hilton. "Relays are more spectacular and more interesting. They involve more teams, use more men and have different types of races."

Clemson was fifth in the conference last year and the Tigers did not score well in the indoor championships a month ago. Despite their mediocrity, however, Clemson does have some outstanding individuals in the field events and sprints.

Ed Fern has high jumped 6-11 which places him among the national leaders. Bruce Brown and Neal Gerard provide stiff competition for Carolina's Sam Beasley in the broad and triple jumps. Brown and Gerard have both leaped 24' and 46' in the jumps, respectively. Gene Horit has run a 9.8 in the 100 yard dash.

Carolina will be strong in the weights, distances and jumps but will be hurt by the loss of middle distance runner Kent Taylor due to an injury. Also, Mike

Voight will not compete in the high hurdles because of spring football practice; however Hilton hopes Voight will be available later on in the season. Senior co-captain Danny Deacon and Dave Robinson will man the pole vault for the Tar Heels. Deacon was out most of the indoor season with an injury but still managed to vault 15-6.

Footballers Mark Gaines and Terry Taylor provide strength in the shot put and discus. Gaines finished third in the ACC indoor championship with a put of 50-1 while Taylor has finished in the top three in the discus every year he has thrown.

Freshman star Tommy Ward and Mike Garcia will try to make up for Waldrop's absence in the mile. Ward was a surprise second place finisher behind Waldrop in the indoor championships with a time of 4:09.

William Southerland and Mike Stratford will run the 880. Dave Hamilton will be competing in the three mile run.

# Baseball games here

## Carolina Baseball

North Carolina's baseball team will begin a five game home series today at 2:30 p.m. when the Tar Heels play host to Pembroke University's Camels in Cary Boshamer Stadium.

The Heels will be trying to bounce back from an upset loss to Virginia Tech this week. Carolina had defeated the Gobblers 21-1 in their initial meeting then fell to V.P.I. by the surprising score of 9-0.

Saturday, Carolina will host Appalachian State University at 2 p.m. and will then host Western Carolina Sunday, also at 2 p.m.

Western Michigan will visit Chapel Hill next Tuesday afternoon at 2:30, then the Tar Heels will play at home for the last time that week when they host High Point College in Boshamer at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Thursday of next week the Heels will make the short journey over to Durham to take on the Duke Blue Devils in a 3 p.m. meeting in Duke Stadium.

Admission to the games played in Boshamer is free to students with I.D. and athletic pass.

## Women's Golf

Carolina's women golfers were defeated yesterday by Duke in match play

competition, 9 1/2-2 1/2 at Finley Golf Course.

It was the first match of the season for Coach Jeanne Eller's crew, who will be involved in a triangular match March 28 with Furman and UNC-G, two of the best teams in the Southeast.

## Carolina Rugby

North Carolina's valiant men in blue, the Tar Heel Rugger, will travel to Raleigh Saturday to face the rusty red rascals known as the Wolfpack in an action-packed affair set for a noon showdown on the field below the NCSU forestry school.

State's rugger, affectionately called "The Red-Necked Ruffians of Raleigh," have always been a thorn in the side of Carolina's 11 and the Blues have sworn an oath upon Thomas of Canterbury's grave to wipe the Rouges of Reynolds from the memory of humanity.

Beer and festivities will follow the exhibition of athletic power and prowess by the Blues.

## Napoleon Basketball

Wanted: basketball players, must be under 6 feet tall with tennis shoes, three-man teams for Napoleon Basketball. Entries are due in the Intramural office, 205 Woollen Gymnasium by 5 p.m. today.

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Must be under 6 feet tall with tennis shoes, three-man teams for Napoleon Basketball. Entries are due in the Intramural office, 205 Woollen Gymnasium by 5 p.m. today.

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REWARD: Information leading to return of Barry, black/white, 90 lb. Malamute. Last seen Friday, March 8, Pritchard and Rosemary. Wearing black collar and I.D. Call 929-2345 or 942-3421. 1

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