Gymnasts relying on experience

by Chip Ensslin Staff Writer

Ken Ourso, in his second year as head coach of the Carolina women's gymnastic team, is anticipating an improvement over last year's 4-4 record. The 1976 season begins Friday night when the Tar Heel gymnasts take on Appalachian State in Boone. The first home meet is against Duke on Wednesday, Jan. 28.

"Appalachian is one of the stronger teams we'll meet this season," Ourso said Tuesday. "but this year's team should be much, much better than last year's."

Star returnees for the Tar Heels include sophomore Teresa Trice, sophomore Joan Healy, and senior Terry Lodge.

"Joan Healy and Lynn Swisher (a Carolina freshman) are our two strongest in the all-around, and they're the two hardest workers on the team," said Ourso. "We're looking for them both to have good years."

Competitors in the all-around category perform all the four gymnastic exercises (uneven bars, vaulting, balance beam, and the floor exercise) while the others only perform one or two. A maximum of six gymnasts can be entered in each event from each team, but only the top three scorers count in final scoring.

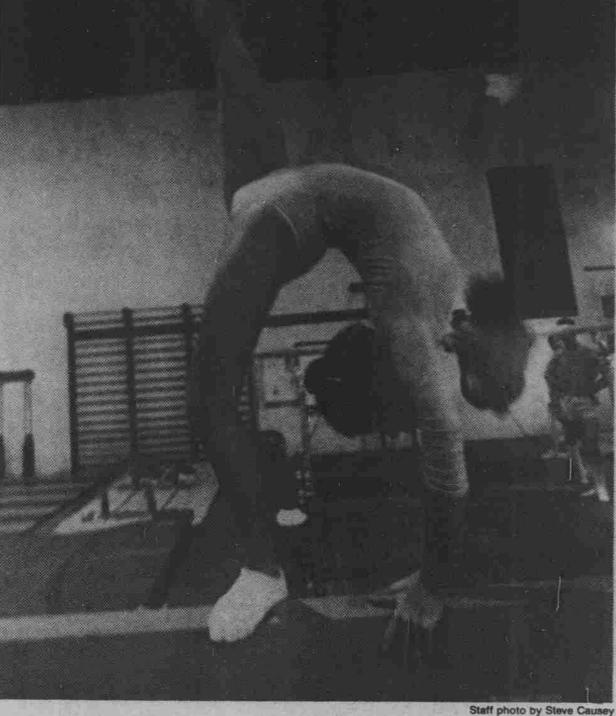
Lodge and Paula Kirkpatrick will compete on the uneven bars; Trice, Mary Dashiell, and Susie Hulse will perform on the balance beam. Ann Ritter will join Trice and Hulse in the floor exercise.

Trice won the beam and floor exercise last year in the state meet and finished second on the beam at the regionals, qualifying her for the AIAW nationals.

"She should have a good year. She worked out on her own all summer and kept in shape. Her routine on the balance beam is composed of many different elements. When she performs that routine well, it puts her on a level with almost anyone in collegiate competition," Ourso said.

Kirkpatrick and freshman Ellen Sumner year, he studied gymnastics and karate at will vault for the Tar Heels Friday. Cathy Benton will again assist Ourso, who is still adjusting to the difference between

coaching women and men.



UNC gymnast Theresa Trice practices her exercises on the balance beam.

ball game," he said. "You really have to use a different approach. Personally, I don't think the girls are working hard enough, but they're coming along."

Ourso, who teaches scuba and karate here, remains active in gymnastics competition. He was a member of the national YMCA gymnastics championship team in 1975 and was third in all-around competition. For one

backers, Rice, 48, acknowledged the task ahead. "This is a healthy challenge," he said after being introduced at a news conference by

reached."

Rice President Dr. Norman Hackerman. "I am very pleased to announce that Homer Rice has accepted our offer to become head football coach," said Hackerman, who said he made the final decision from a list of three applicants.

Homer Rice resigns

From staff and wire reports

HOUSTON-Rice University Tuesday

hired UNC Athletic Director Homer Rice to

return the school's sagging Southwest

Conference football program to the

UNC Chancellor N. Ferebee Taylor said,

"Homer Rice has performed in an

outstanding manner during his seven years

as Director of Athletics at the University of

North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His host of

friends here will miss his able leadership of

our intercollegiate athletic program, and 1

personally will miss having this fine human

being as a colleague. As he enters upon his

new undertaking, he has the warm good

"No decision has yet been made

concerning a successor for the position of

Director of Athletics. We will move as

expeditiously as possible on this important

matter but, because of institutional

processes that must be followed, it will be

some time before a final conclusion is

As the handpicked choice of monied Owls

wishes of all of us in Chapel Hill.

prominence of another era.

A source close to the selection process, though, said Homer Rice was the choice of the same alumnus who put up the \$27,000 to pay off the contract of Al Conover, in whose four turbulent years Rice fans had their laughs but no winning seasons.

Hackerman, asked about the results of an athletic department being run by alumni, denied there was any undue influence. Last week he admitted the money to pay off Conover came from outside the University. During the coaching search Rice Athletic Director A. M. "Red" Bale was left out of

he would quickly move to the athletic director job as well as Head Coach. "There are no plans to squeeze him out."

said Hackerman of Bale.

UNC AD accepts Rice position

Bale is three years short of retirement. Disgruntled Rice backers asked how a selection could be made of a man who has

UPI poll

NEW YORK (UPI) - The United Press International Board of Coaches top 20 college basketball teams with first place votes and records in parentheses (records include games played through Saturday, Jan. 17). 420 1. Indiana (42) (14-0) 406 2. Marquette (11-1) 3. Maryland (13-1) 317 198 4. North Carolina (12-1) 192 5. Nevada-Las Vegas (18-0) 181

6. Washington (14-1) 7. UCLA (13-2) 8. Rutgers (13-0) 9. Alabama (11-2) 10. St. John's (N.Y.) (13-1) 11. Oregon State (11-4)

- 12. Tennessee (10-2) 13. North Carolina State (11-2)
- 14. Michigan (11-3)
- 15. Missouri (14-2) 16. Notre Dame (9-3)
- 17. Wake Forest (11-3)
- 18. West Texas State (12-1)
- 19. Utah (11-4)

20. Cincinnati (13-2)

been a college head coach for only two years. "I know a lot of people wonder why I

would leave North Carolina, a beautiful state, and a lifetime contract," said Rice. "But they made me an offer that they would name the stadium after me."

Rice Alumnus Ted Law, a member of the selection committee, said the top recommendations for Homer Rice were his integrity and intelligence.

The author of three books and another upcoming about "Attitude Technique," and how it relates to athletes, Rice established himself as a thinking-man's athletic director during his years at North Carolina.

As head coach of the University of Cincinnati football team for two years, Rice directed the top passing offense in the country. But his experience before that included 11 years as a high school head coach and assistant coaching stints at Kentucky and Oklahoma.

"I believe in winning," he said. "We are in competitive athletics. That's the name of the game. But, gentlemen, there is something that's bigger than that. That's why I like this institution."

Recent Rice head coaches-Homer Rice is the fourth in nine years-have said it was harder to recruit and keep athletes in the 2,500-student Rice University.

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Chkyo University in Nagoya, Japan. "Gymnastics is really growing in America these days. In Russia, you know,

it's like the no. 1 spectator sport," he said. "Psychologically, it's a whole different "I'm hoping we'll get better attendance here,

Swim team hosts Wake; 'bomb squad' activated

swim team will have an opportunity to unleash its "bomb squad" on unwary opponents when it hosts Wake Forest today at 4 p.m. in Bowman Gray Pool.

The "bomb squad" consists of swimmers who were ineligible to swim in competition because of the 23-man limit imposed by the NCAA. Since the restriction was lifted, these swimmers are now allowed to compete.

Today's meet is the first home dual meet for the Heels and the first meet this year for the "bomb squad." A member of this unit, Ralph D'Iorio, remains cautious. "I'm going to approach this meet just like any other," Ralph said. "It's taken us (the bomb squad) five months to prepare for this one."

Self-appointed leader and head cheer master, Hill Carrow, rallied his fellow "bombers" in a rousing pep rally during

For the first time this season, the UNC yesterday's practice. Hill echoes the pensive words of D'Iorio. "The pressure on us is unbelievable, but I think we'll do all right. Seriously, we are looking forward to the opportunity."

> Coach Jim Wood is pleased with the NCAA rule change and is confident his swimmers will have no real problem with the Deacons. "Wake has two excellent freshmen, Gary Bice and Steve Kratt, and they have everyone back from last year's fifth-place ACC team," said Wood. "The best part of the meet will be that everybody on the team will get a chance to swim and that's great for team morale."

The Tar Heels are putting a 3-1 record on the line against the Deacons. Saturday, UNC hosts the University of Florida Gators at 2 p.m. in hopes of breaking a four-year losing streak with the Gators. - Dave Kirk

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EXPERIENCE

since our home matches are going to be in

whose wife coached the Duke girls last year.

Both Oursos are friendly with the present

the kind of thing where you can't be friendly

with your opponent," said Ourso. "You're

competing against other teams, but most of

It will be an interesting match for Ourso,

"Gymnastics is competitive, but it's not

Carmichael for the first time."

Duke coach.

talks with Homer Rice. But Rice, who Tuesday said he would work on a year at a time basis with no written contract, denied

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The listing will take place at the Carrboro Town Hall each Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; and Saturdays, 9:00 am - 12:00, beginning January 2, 1976 and continuing throughout the month of January.

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January	20	Home9:00 am - 5:00 pm
January	23	Allen Service Station 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
January	24	Allen Service Station 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
January	27	Home9:00 am - 5:00 pm
January	30	Talbert's Service St 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
January	31	Talbert's Service St9:00 am - 4:00 pm

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Orange County Tax Supervisor W. T. (Bill) Laws

