

## ACC swim championships here

# Carolina takes aim at favored Wolfpack

by Dave Kirk  
Staff Writer

Every March the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) holds its version of the basketball playoffs to determine the national champion, but what has resulted is a tournament called,

the "UCLA Invitational." Similarly, the ACC Championships have taken the shape of a N.C. State Invitational Tournament in past years—leaving the other ACC squads floundering in their wake.

Today, Carolina hosts the ACC Championships in the Bowman Gray

Indoor Pool with hopes of getting closer to the Wolfpack's swimming dominance. The competition lasts until Saturday with trials beginning at noon and finals at 7:30 p.m. today and Friday. Saturday, trials begin at 10 a.m. and finals at 5 p.m.

"We're going in to win," said UNC Head Coach Jim Wood of the 6-3 Tar Heels. "Our goal all year has been to swim State closer and narrow the gap between our scores in last year's Championship (250 point difference).

"State has to be favored, probably by quite a few points, but there are a lot of events in which I think we have a shot of either winning or finishing strongly," Wood said. "I definitely think that the races will be much closer than our dual meet with them (State won, 88-25). We should be very strong in the 100 and 200-yard backstroke, both individual medley events, and all freestyle races."

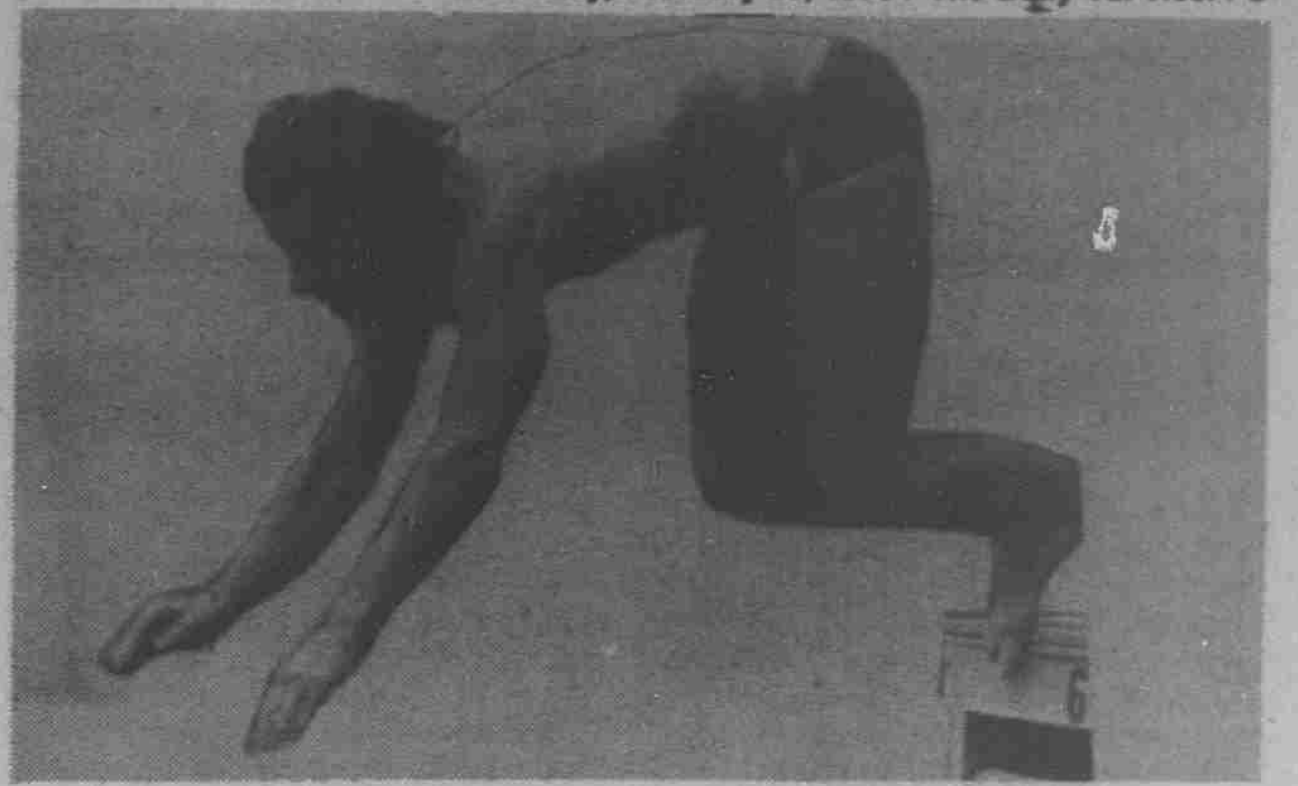
Last night, the Carolina swimmers held a "religious ceremony" of sorts in the Woolen Gym shower room by "shaving down." Shaving down is the culmination of a month-long tapering

or resting period. At the end of this period, the swimmers gather together to shave all the hair off their bodies to lower their times.

Assistant Coach Rob Dickson describes the process as an "old Indian ritual." Coaches have their team shave while performances are at a peak. "To a swimmer, shaving-down is sort of a religious experience," Dickson said. "We do it only once a year and it is the culmination of our tapering schedule. Nobody really understands why or how it works, but times will drop to the lowest of the year."

"Mainly I think it's mental. I'd say that the shaving and tapering are about 20 per cent and mental preparation 80 per cent of the time drop," Dickson said.

Carolina is a top contender for a second-place finish, with Virginia as one of the stronger squads. The Heels will be out to erase an earlier 60-53 loss to the Cavaliers, the only ACC loss other than State. This year's team has suffered only one other loss, that to the mighty Volunteers of Tennessee. It has been an impressive squad throughout the year.



"This year's team is stronger than last," Dickson said. "We've got more confidence, our training has been better, and we're swimming loose, but seriously. Two years ago, it was inconceivable to think that we could swim with State. Each year we're trying to get closer and closer."

"The meet is going to come down to whoever is better prepared for the meet. The toughest swimmer in the stretch is the guy who is going to win," Wood said. "Our earlier meet with State will have no effect on our swimming in the championships. We're going to have

somebody who can figure in the finishing in each event."

**Today's schedule:** 500-yard freestyle, 200 individual medley, 50 freestyle, and 400 medley relay.

**Friday:** 400 IM, 200 freestyle, 100 backstroke, 100 breaststroke, 200 butterfly, and 800 freestyle relay. 1-meter diving will be held at Duke.

**Saturday:** 1650 freestyle, 100 freestyle, 200 backstroke, 200 breaststroke, 200 butterfly, 400 freestyle relay, and 3-meter diving at Duke.



UNC sophomore Paul Tendler (foreground) and teammate Dave Oberstein for the tennis opener Sunday against Penn State. Staff photo by Margaret Kirk

## UNC tennis team talent-laden, ACC champs return seven

by Kevin Barris  
Staff Writer

The UNC men's varsity tennis team opens its season Sunday with a home match against Penn State at 2 p.m. The Tar Heels have participated in the National Indoor Tournament this year, but Sunday's match is Carolina's first regular match this season.

For the first time, Carolina will be playing all its home matches on a hard surface this year, instead of the composition courts which the Tar Heels used previously. UNC's matches this season will be held on the recently resurfaced courts behind James dormitory.

"Part of the success of our season will depend upon how well we adjust to this kind of surface," UNC Coach Don Skakle said. "We have enough talent, that if we can put it together we could have a 21-3 season or better."

The Tar Heels go into the season with seven players returning from last year's Atlantic Coast Conference championships (UNC has won six straight ACC titles, and 15 of the last 17). Defending ACC singles champion Billy Brock holds down the first singles court. His doubles partner from last season, Tommy Dixon will probably play No. 2. Brock and Dixon, defending ACC doubles titlists, will play the No. 1 doubles.

Other returnees for the Tar Heels include Earl Hassler, David Oberstein, Cliff Skakle, Junie Chatman and Jon Kraut. The only newcomer to this year's team is Bruce McNair.

Carolina will once again be the favorite in the ACC race, but Maryland can be expected to give UNC a run when the ACC tournament opens in College Park, Md., April 16. "I don't think any of the teams in the ACC will be weak this year," Skakle said, "but Maryland will probably be our toughest competition in the ACC."

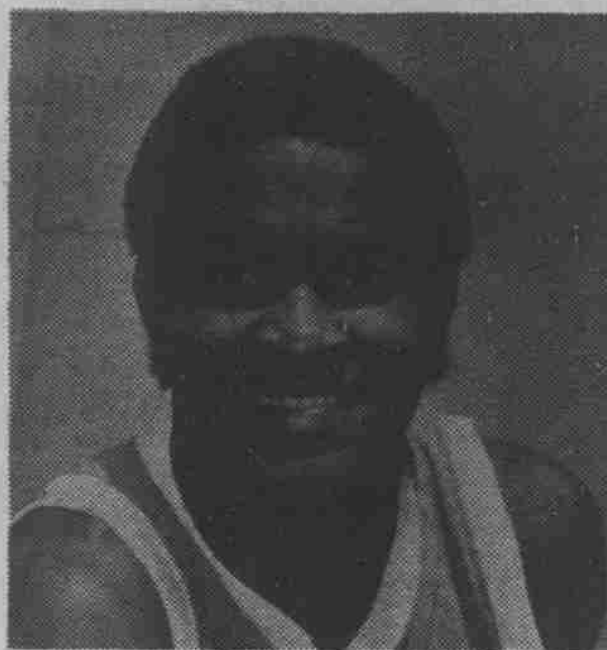
Carolina plays only two ACC matches at home, Clemson April 1 and Wake Forest April 7, while facing State, Virginia, Maryland and Duke on the road. Of their 18 non-conference foes, the Tar Heels play 11 of them in Chapel Hill.

On the road, the toughest competition for UNC should come against Florida, Florida State, Tennessee and Princeton. The Tar Heels' biggest home matches are March 25 against Pennsylvania and April 10 against Miami.

In Sunday's match against Penn State, Brock and Dixon will be on the first two singles courts, but Skakle hasn't decided on the rest of his lineup. The doubles lineup will probably be Brock and Dixon on court No. 1, Hassler and Oberstein on court No. 2, with Skakle and Chatman on No. 3.

## Randy Wiel: a foreign accent on versatility

by Gene Upchurch  
Staff Writer



UNC freshman Randy Wiel

As he strummed his guitar to a popular song on the radio, Randy Wiel, talked about his home, the Olympic games and his athletic career.

When Wiel, the 6-4 195-pound freshman basketball player, talks about home, it is a place called Curacao, one of several islands in the Dutch Antilles, off the coast of Venezuela.

And when Wiel talks about his athletic career, he talks about swimming in the 1966 Pan-American Games, running track in the '68 Olympic Games, and playing basketball on the Dutch Antilles national team.

Wiel swam against Mark Spitz, who won seven gold medals in the '72 Olympics, in the Pan Am games, and remembers him as cocky.

"He told me that if I was going to swim against him, I would have to swim for second place. As it turned out, he got beat too," Wiel said in an accent that suggested his Dutch background.

The 24-year-old Wiel still holds three swimming records in his country, but said that he no longer swims competitively.

"I still mess around in the pool. But

when you swim, you peak young. You get to a certain point, and you can't swim any faster," he said.

Thus, Wiel began running track and qualified for the '68 Olympic Games in Mexico City. In the games, he competed in the 400 relays, 200-meter sprints and set a national record in the 100-meter sprint with a time of 10.1.

"You always perform better in the Olympics than usual. And in individual events, when you mess up, you know who messed up," he said.

"It's a thrill to go to the Olympics. You get to meet people from so many different places, and they are all good, talented athletes.

"Being from such a small place, most of them didn't pay attention to me until I did so well in my events," Wiel continued. "Then they started coming up to me and asking where I was from."

It was during the '68 Olympics that United States runners John Carlos and Tommy Smith, standing on their runners platforms, raised their fists

during the national anthem in protest of black oppression in America.

"I thought to myself, 'They're ruining the whole show!' I couldn't figure out their protest," said Wiel, present in the stadium. "I never have understood racial differences. In my country, even though I'm black, I date white girls. We don't have a thing about race like there is here."

Wiel played on the Dutch Antilles national basketball team, coached by former Duke player, Dick DeVenzio. Wiel said that his experience on the team was limited because they could only play teams from the surrounding islands and Venezuela.

"DeVenzio told me that if I wanted to learn the game of basketball, I should go to Carolina and play under Coach (Dean) Smith. He told me that he liked UNC's style of play. He never mentioned Duke to me," Wiel said.

Wiel has done well adjusting to the Carolina style of play. He has played in six junior varsity games and is averaging 13.5 points and five rebounds a game.

"I hope to become better. I think I will," Coach Smith can't play us all the time," Wiel said. "I had to adjust to

playing with other people and new systems.

"You have to wait your chance to play. And when you get your chance, you have to show what you can."

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## Heel matmen ailing but hopeful

by Lee Pace  
Staff Writer

"I really don't know what to say. I've never experienced anything like it in coaching. But they say if you coach long enough you'll experience it all sooner or later."

This comment seems unusual for a wrestling coach whose team had just defeated defending conference champion Virginia to clinch the Atlantic Coast Conference regular season wrestling title. But UNC Wrestling Coach Bill Lam had his reason(s).

He was speaking of injuries. Injuries that have plagued his Tar Heels from the beginning of the wrestling season and injuries that now, a day before the ACC Wrestling Tournament opens in Carmichael Auditorium, muffle UNC's cries that it is the best wrestling team in the ACC.

"I honestly feel," Lam said, "that if we

weren't hurting we'd be the favorites. This is the best team I've ever coached. They did an outstanding job this season in beating Maryland for the first time and winning the conference outright. No matter how it ends up we're gonna give 100 per cent. I'm really proud to have worked with these guys this year."

The Conkwright brothers (Scott and Chris), Mike Benzel and Dean Brior are presently the ailing members of a Tar Heel squad which posted a 12-6 overall and 5-1 ACC record.

Both Conkwrights have bad knees—and have had for some time—with Scott not having worked out this week. Benzel injured his knee several weeks ago at Maryland. Now Benzel's knee has healed, but a week-long stay in the hospital must figure into his physical condition.

Brior dislocated his ankle last Friday at Maryland and has since been on crutches.

Benzel, a 158-pounder who was 2-0-1 in the three ACC matches, has "been looking pretty good," however, according to Lam. "He's surprised me. I'm worried about Brior, though, most of any of them. His ankle's been giving him a lot of pain."

Early in the year, his team's youth (the

Heels have started five freshmen and three sophomores most of the season) gave Lam most of his worries. But now, that's changed. "They've matured very well," he said. "Most of them have come right along. It's not the inexperience factor I'm worried about as much as the injury factor."

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### Crossword Puzzler

Answer to Wednesday's Puzzle

<p><b>ACROSS</b></p> <p>1 Imitated</p> <p>5 Secret agent</p> <p>8 Hits lightly</p> <p>12 Den</p> <p>13 Baker's product</p> <p>14 Semi-precious stone</p> <p>15 Transgress</p> <p>16 Waterway</p> <p>18 Period of time</p> <p>19 Near</p> <p>20 Harm</p> <p>21 Pronoun</p> <p>23 Part of "to be"</p> <p>24 Approaches</p> <p>26 Contort</p> <p>28 Temporary shelter (pl.)</p> <p>29 Rodent</p> <p>30 Beverage</p> <p>32 Academic subjects</p> <p>33 Center of activity</p> <p>34 In bed</p> <p>35 Peer Gynt's mother</p> <p>36 Haul</p> <p>37 Old-womanish</p> <p>38 Part in play</p> <p>40 Urge on</p> <p>41 Hebrew letter</p> <p>43 Babylonian deity</p> <p>44 Verve</p> <p>45 Spanish article</p> <p>47 Arabian garment</p> <p>49 Pertaining to the cheek</p> <p>51 Monk's title</p> <p>52 Impurity</p> <p>55 One opposed</p> <p>56 Make face</p> <p>57 Gaelic</p>	<p><b>DOWN</b></p> <p>1 Appellation of Athena</p> <p>2 Mates</p> <p>3 Goddess of healing</p> <p>4 Physician (abbr.)</p> <p>5 Meats</p> <p>6 Liquid measure</p> <p>7 Affirmative vote</p> <p>8 Proposition</p> <p>9 Simian</p> <p>10 Correspond to</p> <p>11 Bridge term</p> <p>16 Mongrels</p> <p>17 Ravellings</p> <p>20 Chapeaus</p> <p>22 Symbol for tantalum</p> <p>25 Go in</p> <p>26 Idle chatter</p> <p>27 Fanatical</p> <p>28 Chinese pagoda</p> <p>29 Carpet</p> <p>31 Dutch town</p> <p>33 Tint</p> <p>34 Later</p> <p>36 South American animal</p> <p>37 Macaw</p> <p>39 Faroe Islands whirlwind</p> <p>40 Young shrub</p> <p>41 South American rodent</p> <p>42 Black</p> <p>44 Lamb's pen name</p> <p>45 God of love</p> <p>46 Path</p> <p>48 Emmet</p> <p>50 Danish land division</p> <p>51 Evergreen tree</p> <p>53 Note of scale</p> <p>54 Symbol for tellurium</p>
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