

A good omen for Carolina? Netters topple Notre Dame

By WILL WILSON
Staff Writer

If Notre Dame's basketball team has as much trouble with Carolina tonight as the Irish tennis team did Wednesday, then Digger Phelps and company will wish they had never gone to College Park.

UNC Coach Don Skakle's netters recorded their fifth 9-0 win in six matches (the sixth was a 6-1 UNC win) over Notre Dame, whose first loss of the season dropped its record to 4-1.

The contest began an eight-match homestand for the Tar Heels on the new courts off Country Club Road. Today at 2 p.m., Dartmouth is the guest, while Miami of Ohio visits Chapel Hill Friday at the same time.

"We're getting tougher," Skakle said during the match. "By the end of next week when we host Princeton (5-4 winners over Carolina last year), we'll be as tough as nails."

The Tar Heels did not drop a set in either the official team matches or three exhibition matches. Jon Kraut was forced into a tiebreaker against Marty Horan in the No. 5 singles, but he took it 5-1 and then won the next set 6-1.

Cliff Skakle and Junie Chatman, the No. 2 doubles team, also were forced into a first-set tiebreaker, against Brian Hainline and Tony

Bruno. The UNC pair won it, 5-3, then ripped through the second set, 6-1.

Notre Dame Coach Bob Fallon did not seem surprised at the outcome of the match. "We knew they'd be tough," he said. "We lost two kids this year. Rich Slager (the football quarterback and No. 1 tennis player last season) decided not to play this year in order to prepare for law school, and another kid became ineligible. But even with them, it would've been tough down here."

Against Dartmouth today, Coach Skakle said he would change his last two singles players, putting in Neal Carl and Dek Potts. Gary Taxman and Kraut, the two being replaced, will team up the third doubles match.

The results against Notre Dame:
Singles: Earl Hassler d. Randy Stehlik 6-3, 6-1; Dave Oberstein d. Brian Hainline 7-5, 6-0; Junie Chatman d. Carlton Harris 6-2, 6-0; Cliff Skakle d. Tony Bruno 6-4, 6-2; Jon Kraut d. Marty Horan 7-6 (5-1), 6-1; Gary Taxman d. Tom Westphal 6-3, 6-1.

Doubles: Hassler-Oberstein d. Stehlik-Harris 6-3, 6-3; Chatman-Skakle d. Hainline-Bruno 7-6 (5-3), 6-1; Kraut-Dek Potts d. Horan-Mike Kieffer 6-2, 6-2.

Exhibition Singles: Neal Carl (UNC) d. Bob Royal 6-4, 6-2; Potts (UNC) d. Kieffer 6-4, 6-2.

Exhibition Doubles: Carl-Jamie Karson d. Westphal-Royal 6-1, 7-5.



Staff photo by Rouse Wilson

Carolina's tennis team routed Notre Dame Wednesday afternoon, with each Tar Heel, including Cliff Skakle (above), winning his match.

Carolina, WCU settle for split

By PETE MITCHELL
Staff Writer

After taking what seemed to be batting practice against Atlantic Christian Tuesday, the Tar Heels gave the old horsehide much less of a beating in the doubleheader Wednesday with the Western Carolina Catamounts.

Carolina took the opener, 3-1, behind the pitching of senior Bob Thomson but lost the other seven-inning game, 3-2.

The Tar Heels, now 5-6, managed a total of just 11 hits in the two games.

"We had the opportunities in the second game, but we had trouble hitting the curve ball with men on base," Carolina coach Walter Rabb commented. "Pitching hasn't been a problem. None have been racked up so far."

Wednesday, Thomson (2-0) and Matt Wilson (1-2) went the distance as did Greg Norris the day before against Atlantic Christian. In three home games, Tar Heel pitchers have yielded just four runs on 14 hits. Monte DeRatt has his turn on the mound this afternoon when Old Dominion visits Boshamer Stadium at 2:30 p.m.

Aside from Thomson, who kept the Catamounts guessing all day with a wide assortment of pitches, battery mate Dwight Lowry contributed the most to the 3-1 UNC win.

The freshman from Pembroke threw out two Western Carolina runners attempting to steal and gave Carolina its third run with a two-out single to right field in the sixth inning.

"He's moved the ball well for a freshman," Rabb said. "He doesn't have any bad habits at the plate and is a great thrower."

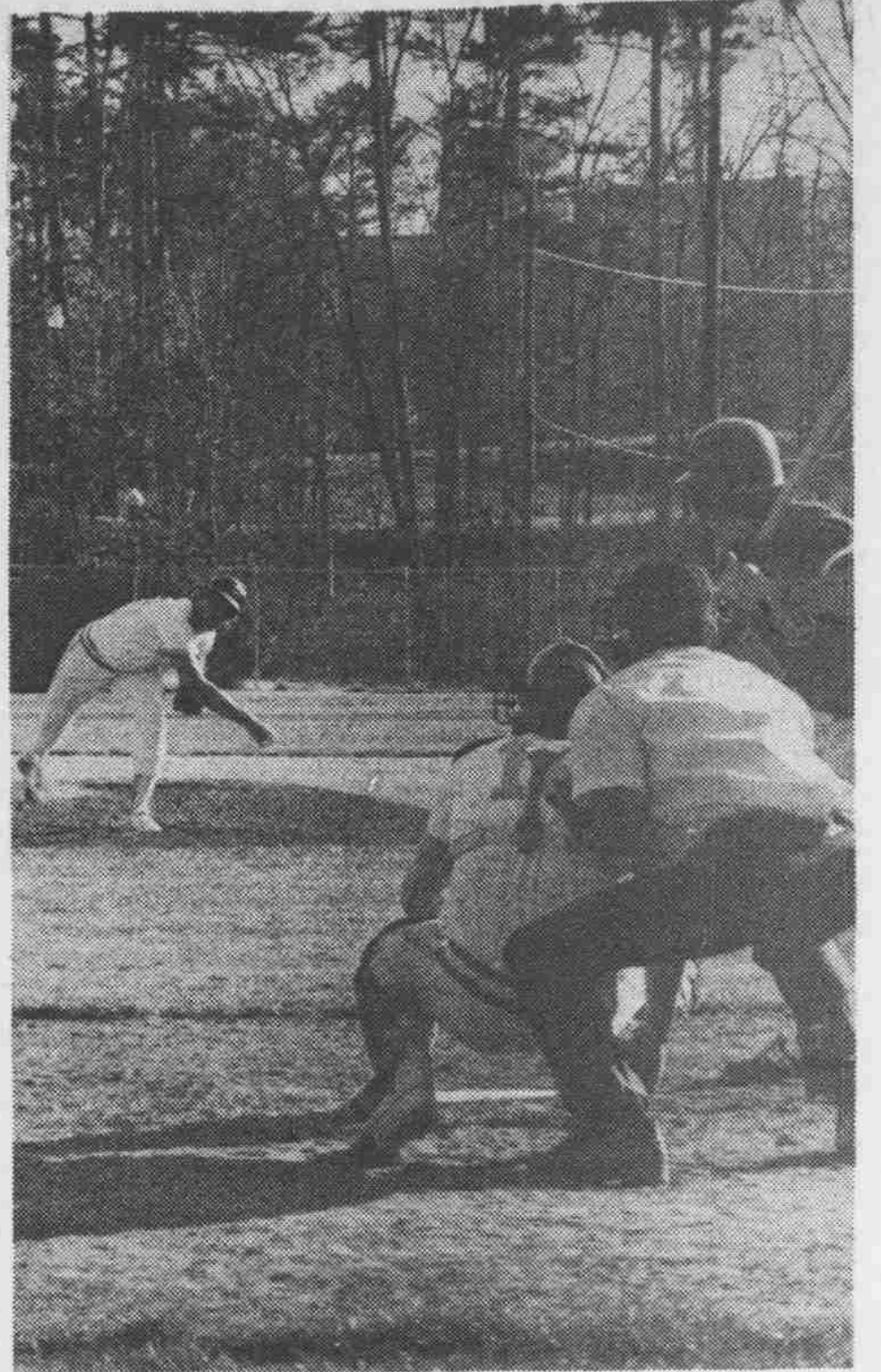
Lowry's gunning down of Catamount Wayne Tolleson in the sixth was especially important because the next man up, third baseman David Ball, stroked a long double which would have tied the score.

"I've always had a pretty strong arm," said Lowry, the only freshman on the team. "Today, I had a good day; tomorrow, I might not throw nothin'."

Wilson equalled Thomson in the second game by giving the visitors a meager four base hits, but one of them was a two-run homer to left field by first baseman Keith Ebersole in the second.

The Tar Heels scored their only runs in the second when Kevin Caddell doubled, Steve Coats singled him home and then second baseman Mike Fox singled in Kevin Haebler who had reached first on a fielder's choice and stolen second base.

In the first game, Lowry, Rick Alexander and Jim Rouse all had RBI singles. Rouse also stole two bases.



Staff photo by Rouse Wilson

UNC split a doubleheader with Western Carolina Wednesday afternoon, winning the first game 3-1 and losing the second 3-2. Above, Matt Wilson, who went the distance in absorbing the loss in the nightcap, delivers to a WCU hitter.

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Gymnasts take third in regionals

North Carolina's gymnastics team finished third in the regional tournament at Appalachian State last weekend out of a field of 16 teams from a five-state area.

Teresa Trice finished first out of 60 competitors in the floor exercise with a 9.0 score. She finished fourth on the balance

beam with an 8.3 score. Freshman Tia Walker finished fourth in the all-around competition with a score of 34.1, which met the qualifying score for national competition. Walker was also fourth in the vaulting competition with an 8.9 score and fourth in the floor exercise with an 8.9.

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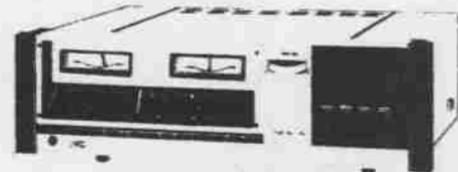
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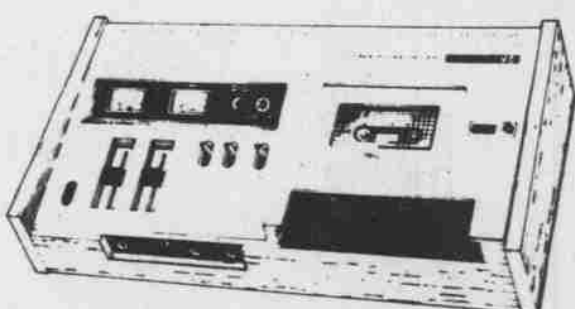
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