

Three officials reality; 'mechanics' approved

By RICK SCOPPE
Staff Writer

The use of three officials in basketball, conference tournaments for women's athletics and a revised baseball play-off format were among the decisions reached by Atlantic Coast Conference coaches and athletic directors meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC May 16-18.

A major decision, unanimously passed by both coaches and athletic directors, was the use of three officials in all conference games and all other games where a team of ACC officials are working beginning with the 1977-78 season.

For the past few years the ACC had been mulling over whether to use three officials. Last year the coaches recommended it but the athletic directors turned it down. The Big 10 is currently the only conference using three officials, though there are other conferences considering the use of three officials.

According to UNC Athletic Director Bill Cobey the main reason for enactment this year was simply the "mechanics" had been worked out. Cobey continued, saying that last year the athletic directors felt the mechanics involved in an official going from a two-man team to a three-man team was not quite complete.

The third official will be placed near the sideline approximately parallel to the foul line and will be most concerned with happenings away from the ball, especially three- and five-second calls.

Another big decision made at the ACC meetings involved women's conference tournaments, the first of their kind, in both basketball and tennis.

When asked why the sudden decision concerning women's athletics Cobey pointed out that a few years ago interest in women's

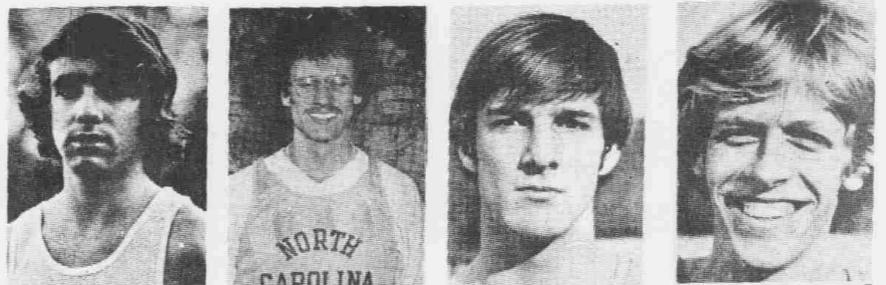
athletics was not that big but now with the increased interest the ACC wanted to expand "the development of competition (for women) and be a leader in women's athletics."

Two other decisions to come out of the meetings were a revamped baseball playoff format and a recommendation concerning TV time for ACC schools.

In the baseball playoffs next year the three first round games will be held at the schools finishing second, third and fourth. The three winners and the ACC Champion (who has a first round bye) will then meet at the champion's school for a double elimination tournament.

Concerning the TV recommendation there was the discussion that a need for a more equal distribution of TV time was needed for all ACC schools. The recommendation called for no school to appear more than two more times than any other school.

One decision left unanswered was where the ACC basketball tournament for 1979 will be played. The three choices were the Omni, in Atlanta; the Capital Centre, in Landover, MD; and the Greensboro Coliseum, in Greensboro.



King

Hofstetter

Jones

Taylor

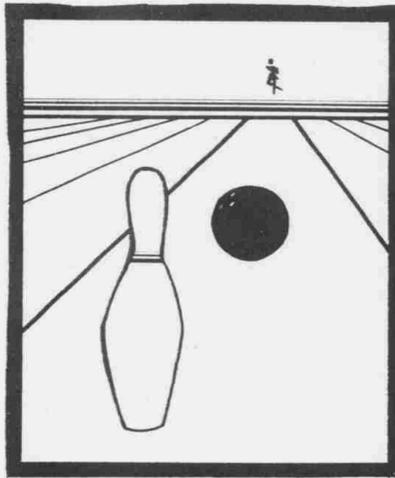
King leads Carolina to meet

Double-distance man Ralph King leads the Carolina contingent of three into competition at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships at Champaign, Ill. this weekend.

King, a rising senior from Atlanta, shattered the ACC record for 5,000 meters at the conference meet at Charlottesville, Va., on April 23, then came back later that same day to take the 1,500 meters.

Joining King will be freshman Gary Hofstetter, who qualified along with King in the 5,000, and high jumper Erwin Jones, runner-up in the conference.

Steeplechaser Kent Taylor will also make the competition. Maryland leads the ACC in participants with six qualifiers, then the four from Carolina, N.C. State and Virginia with two apiece, and Clemson with one.



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