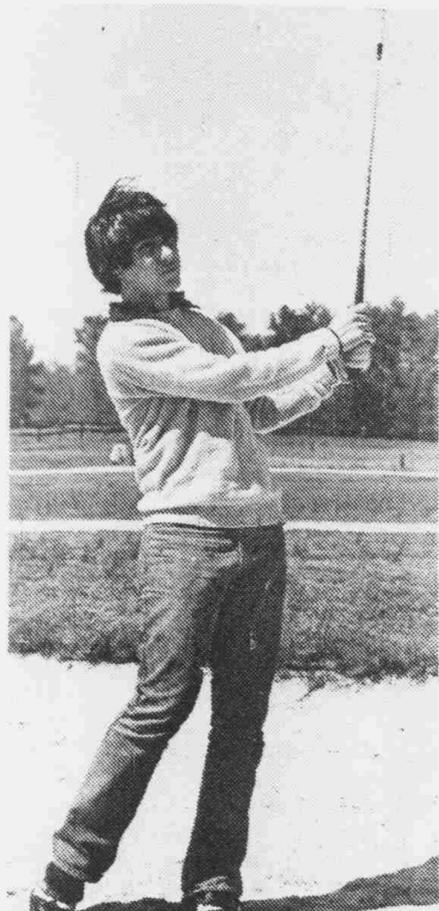


Carolina Golfers hit the big-time

Men compete in NCAAs in New York...

By RICK SCOPPE
Staff Writer



Kevin King

UNC's men's golf team opened competition Wednesday in the 72-hole, stroke-play NCAA championships at Colgate University in New York buoyed by a very optimistic Head Coach Mike McLeod. It is UNC's first trip to the NCAAs since 1965.

Coach McLeod was very confident of UNC's chances in the NCAAs and said that he was looking for the team "to finish in the top five, with a realistic goal being third but anywhere in the top ten would be excellent."

Leading UNC's assault on New York is Bill Sibbick, who, two weeks ago, was UNC's medalist in the Southern Intercollegiate golf tournament in Athens, Ga.

Carolina, as a team, finished seventh in the tournament, their last regular season competition, 30 strokes behind winner Georgia, who also will be taking part in the NCAA championships.

Going with Sibbick to Colgate are teammates Scott Humrickhouse, John McGough, Bill Buttner and Kevin King. Sibbick, along with being UNC's medalist in the Southern Intercollegiate tournament, also was UNC's leading golfer in the Big Four tournament. King led UNC in three tournaments, the Pinehurst Intercollegiate, the Bing Crosby and the Furman Intercollegiate. Buttner and McGough both led UNC in the Palmetto Classic.

King achieved notoriety earlier this week by becoming the only amateur in the Charlotte sectional to qualify for the U.S. Open, to be held next week in Tulsa, Okla. King shot 144, which was the cut off score. The qualifying caused him to miss

most of the practice rounds at Colgate.

The tournament itself runs through Saturday. Both Monday and Tuesday of this week were devoted to practice rounds while also on Tuesday there was an East-West Best Ball tournament where the golfers got to know one another.

Among the top teams listed by Coach McLeod at the championships were Oklahoma State (winners last year), Brigham Young, Georgia and Houston. Coach McLeod also listed UNC in the top contenders.

Individually, Coach McLeod hopes to have at least one of his golfers finish in the top 15, thereby almost guarantying the golfer All-American recognition.

Coach McLeod said that any of his five golfers were capable of finishing in the top 15 and it all depended on who was playing his game.

Every one of UNC's golfers have been medalist at least once this year, though Sibbick appears to be at the top of his game going into the championships. Coach McLeod said that "if he (Sibbick) can avoid his one bad round that he always seems to have then he may do it (finish in the top 15)."

Coach McLeod cautioned, saying the players "were really psyched up and might be too high. They have been looking toward the NCAAs and now that they are there I'm just tinkled pink."

The course, Coach McLeod stated, is "extremely difficult and is very flat and tight with a lot of little creeks running through it." With all of that water cutting across the course Coach McLeod said the tendency is to raise golf scores since "golf balls don't float." The course is so difficult that only three golfers have broken 70 there in the last three years.

...while women pack their bags for AIAWs in Hawaii

By WILL WILSON
Sports Editor

"We'd really like to play well this year, because the nationals are going to be in Hawaii next June. If we finish in the top 20, I think we'll get to go. Just think, wouldn't it be great?"

-Dot Gunnells, UNC women's golf coach
Sept. 7, 1976

Next June has arrived, and the UNC women's golf team, having achieved its goal, will be winging its way out of Raleigh-Durham Saturday morning on the way to the 1977 Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Collegiate Championship in Kahuku, Hawaii.

And while Coach Dot Gunnells has been saying "Aloha" and practicing her hula since her team took the state championship last fall, she was still not sure the team would be selected until the word came in mid-May.

Selection was based on the lowest 10 18-hole tournament rounds of the season. The low 20 teams were selected, plus several individuals from non-qualifying schools.

No other North Carolina school made the field, but Debby Stewart of Duke and Nina Foust of Appalachian State were invited individually. Gunnells felt that several of her



Susan Cary

team members would have been invited had not the team qualified, but they would not have accepted.

"They voted not to go individually if the team didn't make it," Gunnells said. "That shows what kind of team spirit we have."

The makeup of the team is rather unusual, possibly contributing to the spirit. Two seniors and three freshmen make up the contingent heading to Hawaii.

Sally Austin and Mindy Moore, the two who graduated last month, have seen the team grow up from its infancy three years ago. They've always been the backbone of the team, and when they got players the caliber of freshmen Stephanie Kornegay, Susan Cary and Janet Haire to join them this season, the team was set to become a national contender.

Austin led the team in stroke average, with a 78.3, followed by Kornegay at 78.6, Cary at 78.8, Moore at 80 and Haire at 82.

All team members except Haire are finishing play today in the Eastern Amateur at Southern Pines. The four will spend tonight in Chapel Hill and play a practice round at Finley Golf Course Friday. Haire will meet the team at a stopover in Atlanta Saturday, and the team will spend that night in Los Angeles.

Sunday, they will fly on to Kahuku, on the island of Oahu. Practice rounds are scheduled Monday and Tuesday on the tournament's course, the Kulima Hyatt Resort Hotel and Country Club, and the 72-hole event will get underway Wednesday and last four days.

Gunnells said she didn't know if the team

would have much time for sightseeing. They're going to enjoy the trip, but she has set a goal of a top 10 finish. If the team's success at achieving the earlier goal is any indication, they should make this one with ease.

IMs play, too

The first annual Carolina Faculty-Staff Golf Classic will be played Friday, June 17, at Finley Golf Course.

Entries for the 18-hole medal-play classic will be taken until 5 p.m. June 15 for any number of golfers from a department or unit. Graduates and undergraduates will be divided into separate divisions.

The top three scores gross and net will count as the team score. Tee times will begin at 12 noon Friday.

Eight awards will be given to the faculty-staff division and two to the graduate-undergraduate division. Those for the faculty-staff division are: first place unit or department team gross and team net; individual low gross; individual low net; longest drive; closest to the pin; fewest putts; and most honest golfer.

The two awards for the graduate-undergraduate division are first place unit or department team net and individual low net.



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