

Dooley's trenchmen untried on offense but superb on defense



Dee Hardison

By LEE PACE
Assistant Sports Editor

In his 10 years as head football coach at Carolina, Bill Dooley has frequently referred to "the trenches," those imaginary ditches that cover a football field where only the strong of heart survive.

The Tar Heel football brochure annually includes his remarks about "getting in the trenches with the men," and should Rich Little ever be inclined to assemble a repertoire of college football coaches, it wouldn't be complete without Bill Dooley's deep, resonant voice talking about trenches. A writer even joked with the coach the

other day that the UNC practice field even had a real trench now that workmen broke a sewer line while digging a well last week.

So it seems only fitting that the fortunes or failures of Dooley's football team this fall be decided in the trenches.

His trench fighters on the offensive side for the most part are so inexperienced that the number of points the Tar Heels score will depend on how well the offensive line develops.

And those on the defensive side are so good that they'll likely claim much of the credit for any defensive success this fall.

Line inexperienced

"We feel real good about our backfield, our ends and our specialty teams," Dooley told a group of writers and broadcasters Saturday. "The problem is the offensive line. We've got good football players there, but they're inexperienced. How quick they mature and come along will determine how well the offense will do."

In Carolina's Wing I formation, the tailback is traditionally the workhorse. But even if a runner has the talent of a Don McCauley or a Mike Voight, he can do little good without blocking up front.

Last year the blocking was excellent. In fact, three of last year's seniors tried out with the pros and another was all-ACC.

This year's line could do as well. But it might do much worse.

"So far we're making progress," center Scott Davison said Saturday during a break in an afternoon scrimmage. "I don't know if we'll blow off the line like last year, but I think we'll do the job. Practice has gone pretty good so far."

Offensive line coach Pat Watson isn't worried. "I've felt like this year's line can be as good as ever," he said.

The best of the blockers, the coaches say, is junior guard Mike Salzano. The 6-foot-4, 242-pound junior saw limited action last fall because of an ankle injury, but he's still "the best in the conference. If he isn't, I don't know who is," Watson says.

Tackle Bobby Hukill and guard John Rushing, both of whom played a good bit last fall, and Steve Junkmann, a former defensive lineman, complete the line.

But even if the starters do an adequate job, they'd better stay healthy. Freshman are the top backups at four of the five interior positions.

Johnson a bruiser

Dooley also has problems in the offensive backfield but they're pleasant ones.

The Tar Heel depth chart after two weeks of practice includes no less than 19 possible combinations of players at tailback and fullback, and Dooley and his staff are currently deliberating over the best duo.

Billy "The Horse" Johnson is listed No. 1 at tailback after toiling last year as a fullback.

"We're juggling things around, trying to come up with the best combination at tailback," Dooley says. "We're not settled. Billy Johnson can play either tailback or fullback, and might play both. Doug Paschal can play either spot. Mel Collins can play wingback or tailback."

Johnson was bruising Saturday. It was all the second team defense could do to dive for his legs and try and hold on until help came.

"He's like a Mack truck," Dooley said. "He's awesome. He can be as fine a football player, with experience, as there is in the country one day. When he graduates I'm going to retire and manage him as a Masked Marvel."

Phil Farris, Terence Burrell, Carey Casey and Amos Lawrence, along with Johnson, Paschal and Collins, could play at tailback. Bob Loomis could share time with Johnson and Paschal at fullback.

Defense is tough

The defensive line Saturday was simply brutal.

The front is the best Dooley's had at UNC, and it boasts two potential All-Americans, tackle Dee Hardison and end Ken Sheets. Because they play side-by-side on the left, it's likely opponents will favor running the other way.

However, on the right are giant tackles Rod Broadway and Bunn Rhames and one of two ends in Stan Lancaster or T. K. McDaniels, a former tackle. David Simmons is in the middle.

"I think we have one of the best defensive lines in the South," Hardison said. "We have a lot of experience and are fast and strong. Our whole defense will be better. Everybody's back and we've got another year of experience."

Dooley said the only worry he has on defense is how well an inexperienced cornerback and newcomers to the safety position will perform.

Ricky Barden and Bernie Menapace aren't as concerned.

"I think I'm coming along pretty good," the 5-foot-9, 170-pound Barden said. "Although I played some last year, I was just learning the position. But I'm really getting into it now. Practice last spring made me feel like I could do the job."

Barden is currently listed with veterans Bobby Cale and Francis Winters as candidates for the two cornerback spots. Alan Caldwell is solid at strong safety while Menapace, who played quarterback last year, is enjoying his chance at free safety.

"I like playing defense," he said. "I feel pretty calm. I know I've got a job to do. Everyone else has a job to do. If everybody does his job, we'll all be happy."



Carolina could practically stock a warehouse with all its tailbacks. The Tar Heels currently have seven players fighting for the starting berth in UNC's Sept. 10 opener at Kentucky. Through two weeks of practice none of them seem to have that much of an edge over the others. Above is sophomore Terence Burrell, who picked up several yards on this play in Saturday afternoon's scrimmage. Sophomore Billy Johnson (right), who played fullback last fall and who could run at either spot this year, watched from the sidelines.



The Carolina Union Activities Board, Eric Locher, pres.
If interested in serving on a committee, stop by the Union information desk.

CURRENT AFFAIRS — Nancy Mattox
The Current Affairs Committee reaffirms commitment to the education and well being of the student community, both by dealing with the current concerns of the immediate community and issues facing the state and country at large. The aim is to bring students together with decision makers and experts in participatory Group-Think. Topics may range from scientific responsibility and recombinant DNA to the recall of a student body president.

FORUM — Ed Nanney
Striving to present a balanced program, the committee selects and presents speakers which represent the wide-ranging interests of the university community. Classroom visits, informal receptions and other opportunities for personal contact with students are incorporated into the speaker's itinerary when possible.

GALLERY — Susanna Bowen
The Gallery Committee involves working with and meeting new, exciting people who are interested in expanding their knowledge of Art. A variety of exhibits ranging from crafts to sculpture will be selected and displayed by the committee.

PERFORMING ARTS — Carolyn Jack
The committee provides the UNC campus with entertainment and cultural events in the areas of dance, comedy and variety, music and drama. It seeks to enrich campus life not only with professional programs, but with opportunities for students to display their own talents and to create their own cultural atmosphere.

PUBLICITY — Richard Young
Utilizing *The Tar Heel*, other newspapers, monthly calendars, posters and fliers, radio and TV, and the infamous Cube, the committee's staff of artists and writers will keep the university community abreast of what is to come.

RECREATION — Helen Ruth Fleming
The Recreation Committee is in charge of coordinating and creating both competitive and spontaneous events. Areas of interest include: the College Bowl, bowling, billiards, bridge and chess. Whether through tournaments, exhibitions or instruction, the committee provides a year-round program of activities.

SOCIAL — Ana Mari McClanahan
Weekly entertainment in Deep Jonah, the Union coffeehouse, will be the major focus of the Social Committee whose program also includes dances in the Pit, disco nights and other informal parties and gatherings.

SOUTH CAMPUS — Nick Long
The South Campus Committee will attempt to coordinate programs between the dorms "south of the Bell Tower" and the various Union committees. It will serve as a catalyst to create a better living-learning environment for South Campus residents and for the entire campus as well.

SPECIAL PROJECTS — Dana Papke
As the name implies, Special Projects encompasses a myriad of focal points whether initiated by an individual student or student groups. In addition, the committee organizes such projects as the Free University Program enabling students to engage in the "classroom experience" as either student or teacher.

VIDEOTAPE — Clarence Burke
Using amateurs and students with video experience, the committee will provide students with interesting and informative shows. They will select "canned" programs and provide promotional tapes for other union events.

CAROLINA UNION

TAR HEEL classifieds bring results.

Grid notes: scrimmage okay, injuries minor

There were a number of offsides and illegal procedure penalties, perhaps a few too many fumbles and the usual missed blocking and defensive assignments.

But Bill Dooley wasn't overly concerned following Saturday's two-hour scrimmage in Kenan Stadium.

"We've just got a lot of little things to iron out," he said. "We're not exactly a smooth football team right now."

The Tar Heel defense was particularly impressive against the second team offense.

Dooley ran the team through eighteen 40-yard sprints following the scrimmage, which was held in oppressive heat and humidity. "We need to be in a little better shape," he said. "That's why we did the extra running."

Although a number of players are suffering from various bumps and bruises, the Heels haven't been hurt very hard by injuries — so far.

"We're just keeping our fingers crossed," head trainer John Lacey said.

Tight end Brooks Williams and freshman reserve Donnell Thompson each twisted an ankle during the scrimmage, but Lacey said he didn't think either was serious.

Reserve center Phil Ragazzo suffered a bruised knee.

Dooley was brought before the ethics committee of the National Coaches' Association at its convention last winter concerning the "Swinging Gate" play the Tar Heels used in their 14-10 opening victory over Miami of Ohio last year.

The committee wondered about the play because quarterback Bernie Menapace pretended to be hurt before he flipped the ball to Mel Collins, who sped 69 yards unimpeded for a touchdown.

Rules say a player shouldn't fake an injury.

No action was taken by the committee, which was headed by Georgia Head Coach Vince Dooley.

Tar Heel coaches felt that the offense lacked depth behind Williams at tight end, so linebacker Mike Finn has been moved back to offense. Finn, a senior, began his career at Carolina as an end but was shifted to linebacker early last fall.

The Tar Heels received votes in preseason balloting for the Associated Press Top 20 poll, but not enough to make the list. Oklahoma is ranked first, followed by Michigan, Notre Dame, Southern California and Ohio State. Maryland is listed 10th in the AP poll, voted by the media, and ninth in the United Press International's coaches' poll.

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