

Golf faces top teams in Memphis Golf Classic

By DAVID McNEILL
Staff Writer

Carolina's men's golf team will take part in one of the biggest tournaments of the fall season when they tee off in the Memphis Fall Classic this weekend.

Defending NCAA champion Houston heads a list of 10 of the top 15 finishers in the nation last year, which will be competing at Memphis. The tournament will consist of three rounds to be played this Friday through Sunday. UNC golf coach Devon Brouse anticipates a highly competitive tournament in the tournament.

"It is probably the best tournament of the fall," Brouse said. "The top teams in the nation from last year will be there. We will be without Bill Buttner. His shoulder is bothering him, but we will still be taking a strong team to Memphis."

Bill Sibbick, John McGough, Kevin King, and freshmen Frank Fuhrer and Eric Lawhom will make the trip for the Heels. Sibbick, McGough, and King all began their fall competition last week in Furman. Fuhrer and Lawhom have played in both of the tournaments this fall. The experience from those two matches will aid the freshmen as they participate in a big tourney such as Memphis.

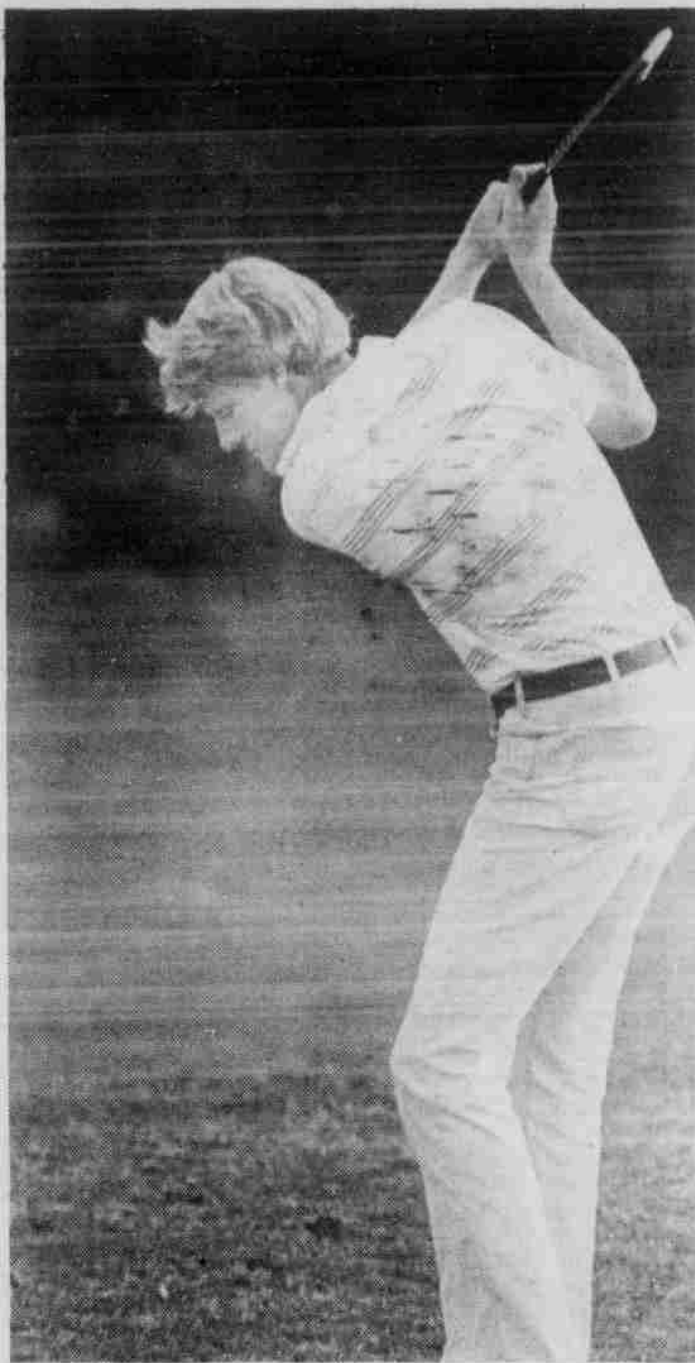
"Coach played a couple of freshmen at Foxfire, and Eric and I also played at Furman," Fuhrer said, "so we have been getting some good experience. There will be 24 teams at Memphis, and I am really looking forward to it."

"My first main objective when I got here was to make the starting team. Now my goal is to stay on the 'A' team and improve as the year goes along."

King and Sibbick were the low scorers in the Furman tournament last week. Sibbick also is excited about the Memphis trip.

"The top teams in the NCAA will be there so I am really looking forward to it," Sibbick said. "It will be a fall preview to see how we stack up and see what we need to work on. We will be missing Buttner and we are taking two freshmen, so it will be interesting to see how we stand up against the tough competition."

"I am trying to play consistently. I played well this summer and I am concentrating now on being consistent in order to help the team. The tournament this weekend is our biggest of the fall. It is a lot to get up for, and we are looking forward to it."



Bill Butner will not participate in the Memphis Fall Classic this weekend because of a sore shoulder, but Bill Sibbick, John McGough and Kevin King will lead the Tar Heels. Staff photo by Fred Barbour.

Cross country in Tennessee race

Carolina's cross country team makes its biggest trip of the year this weekend as it travels to Knoxville, Tenn. to participate in the Tennessee Invitational Cross Country Meet.

The event replaces a Clemson meet on the cross country schedule and Coach Bill Lam said the team would be better off with the stiffer competition.

"We're tired. We've been working all this week," Lam said. "We're in pretty good shape."

Lam will be taking his top seven runners to compete. They include Ralph King, leader in Carolina's first two encounters, and his constant running mate, Gary Hofstetter. Also traveling are Doug Slack, Jim Cooper, Mark Thompson, Ron Boatwright, and Dave Drechsel.

"This will be an excellent chance for Ralph and Gary to see what they can do," Lam said. "It'll be more for them than just a team situation."

"This will be a good test for us, and an opportunity to see how good we are."

Included in the field of entrants are most of the NCAA's national cross country contenders, primarily from the Southeastern Conference. Alabama, Auburn, Kentucky, and defending champion Tennessee will be in Knoxville, and Lam added that small Western Kentucky, a strong contender for national recognition, will be at the competition.

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