Sports

Ferguson likes natatorium, Comfort's persistence

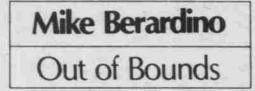
Three of coach Frank Comfort's North Carolina swimming recruits got their first taste of Koury Natatorium's chlorine last week in the U.S. Olympic Festival.

Karen Andran, Cameron Cole and Marc Ferguson were the future Tar Heels at the Festival. Andran is a backstroker from Fairfield, Conn., who was second in the 1987 YMCA Nationals in both the 100- and 200-yard back.

Cole, a native of Dunwoody, Ga., was state high school champion the past two years in the 200 yard individual medley and 500 yard freestyle.

Ferguson is a particularly interesting story. A Fayetteville native, Ferguson's family moved to Honolulu 21/2 years ago when his government official father was transferred.

Ferguson, whose brother Mike swam for UNC from 1980-83, was



widely-recruited as a senior in high school. But Comfort's persistence landed the prize recruit.

"I was looking at a lot of different schools - Stanford, Cal-Berkeley, Clemson, Yale - but Frank was the only coach who was really persistent in his recruiting," said Ferguson, who swims for Rainbow Aquatics on the Island. "He wrote or called me at least twice a month over a six- or sevenmonth period. That impressed me."

Comfort met with Ferguson in Florida at the U.S. Open swimming championships and in California at the U.S. Nationals. He also had Ferguson flown into North Carolina for a recruiting visit last December after the U.S. Open.

Ferguson was impressed with UNC's state-of-the-art swimming facility. "It's an incredible pool. And it's very fast," said Ferguson, who was ranked 25th in the U.S. in the 1,500 meter freestyle in 1986. "The only thing that's missing is a warm-down pool. But I'm not complaining."

With the basketball portion of the U.S. Olympic Festival concluding Wednesday night, it's time to reveal a couple of utterly unofficial All-Festival teams. Barring any amazing last-day performances, these should hold up just fine.

All-Men's Team: At the guards, I'll take Brian Oliver of Georgia Tech and Chris Corchiani of N.C. State; at the forwards, let's go with Dennis Scott of Georgia Tech and Terry Mills of Michigan; and at center, the pick is UNC's J.R. Reid. Reid gets the MVP award, hands down.

All-Women's Team: In the backcourt, we have Jennifer Azzi of Stanford and Tracey Rutledge of Alabama; up front, we have Georgia's Tari Phillips and Virginia's Dawn Bryant; and in the middle, I'll take the women's MVP, Tennessee-bound Daedra Charles, the second coming of the Round Mound of Rebound.

All-Beef Team: No sex discrimination here, folks. If you're clearly fat, you're on the squad. At guard, we have Southern Illinois' Dana Fitzpatrick (5-8, 180) and Rumeal Robinson of Michigan (6-2, 192 conservatively). At forward, we have Tennessee's Daedra Charles (6-3, at least 190) and Sheri Bouldin (6-3, 185). At center, with apologies, J.R. Reid (6-9, 245).

Jefferson-Pilot recently announced the 13-game ACC football television schedule, with telecasts scheduled to begin at noon, eastern time. Games in the schedule could be pre-empted either by CBS of ESPN.

Here 'tis:

Sept. 5	Illinois at UNC
Sept. 12	Virginia at Maryland
Sept. 19	N.C. State at Wake
	Forest
Sept. 26	Ga. Tech at Clemson
Oct. 3	Ga. Tech at N.C. State
Oct. 10	Virginia at Clemson
Oct. 17	UNC at N.C. State
Oct. 24	Duke at Maryland
Oct. 31	UNC at Maryland
Nov. 7	Clemson at UNC and
	Virginia at Ga. Tech
Nov. 14	Maryland at Clemson
Nov. 21	Duke at UNC



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