

SPORTS

# Criminal justice graduate prefers team handball in his court

By Rodney Cline  
Staff Writer

Recent UNC graduate Steven Penn knew that team handball was the second biggest participation sport in the world. However, until a March trip to Austria as a member of the United States Team Handball National Team, Penn didn't realize how well-liked it really was.

"It's amazing how popular the sport was over there," Penn said after returning from the World Championship Qualifying Tournament. "The sport is right behind soccer. All gyms have team handball courts, just like they have basketball courts over here."

"In Austria, we were on live television, and we played in front of sellout crowds of 3,000. In the championship game between Norway and Austria (which Norway won), more than 11,000 people packed the place."

Those numbers are a far cry from the sport's popularity in the United States. Team handball is still relatively unknown in this baseball-, basketball- and football-crazed country. For team handball to be noticed, the U.S. must per-

form well at the international level, and Penn is one player who may get the U.S. over the hump.

Penn, a native of Brevard, graduated from UNC last December with a degree in criminal justice. He spent two years playing for the UNC Team Handball Club, and that was enough for him to be noticed nationally.

"I didn't even know what the sport was three years ago," Penn said. "I had a friend who played when Doc (John Silva) started the club at Carolina. I quit playing football and got into team handball. This is a very athletic sport."

Penn spent the summer of 1990 practicing with the national team in Colorado Springs, Colo. He also participated in the Olympic Festivals in 1990 and 1991, and he was invited to be a permanent member of the national team after graduation.

After two months of practice in Colorado Springs, Penn and the national team travelled to Czechoslovakia to play some exhibition games. From there, it was on to Austria.

"We really played awful in Austria," Penn said of the team's 14th-place fin-



Steven Penn

ish in the 16-team field. "I didn't play at all in Austria. Once we got into the tournament, I didn't expect to play, though. This was my first trip, and the other guys had been on the team from a

minimum of three up to eight years. "Plus, I'm learning to play a new position."

The learning process takes place at the United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. Practices are held twice a day, two hours apiece, for six days.

"Some of the guys on the team worked while we were out there, but I didn't get a job because I was only there two months," Penn said. "I sat around a lot, watched TV, and read. You get a lot of free time if you don't work."

The team started practice on May 4 for a tournament in Cuba from June 4-14. Penn and his teammates will get the summer off because they did not qualify for the Olympics in Barcelona, so the next chance for the U.S. to gain respect is at the Student World Games in Russia in October.

"I have enjoyed being a part of the national team so far," Penn said. "It's tough to get adjusted to the schedule, but the competition is awesome. I've been in athletics all my life, and I'm getting to learn a new game and to better myself at a great sport."

Silva, who still coaches the UNC Team Handball Club, said Penn has a great opportunity with the U.S. team. "He has the physical capability to play on the national and international levels, and he has above average throwing abilities," Silva said. "He also has decent speed and quickness."

"I practiced with him some when he was in Chapel Hill, and I can tell that he now has a much better understanding of team handball. His timing is better, he is more patient, and he is more accurate with his shot."

Silva said that Penn has developed a bounce shot while with the national team, a very difficult shot to defend.

"Right now, the biggest challenge Steven faces is his new position, center back," Silva said. "The center back runs the team like a point guard, and you can't let the team unravel. Steven has a great opportunity at that position."

"I spoke with the (United States Team Handball) Federation, and they are looking for a center back now. The timing is good for Steven. He must have a good understanding of the game and make

the proper play calls. "I think he can do it if he works hard." Along with Robert Mayfield and John Keller, Penn is the third former Tar Heel on the U.S. National Team roster. He hopes to help take the United States to that next level, international prominence on the team handball court.

"The U.S. has the athletes and the talent," Penn said. "We just need the experience. It's a lot like baseball and basketball in some foreign countries, lacking the right mechanics. The rest of the world has grown up playing team handball."

Penn points to the 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics as a time to popularize the sport in this country. "We'll get an automatic bid since we're hosting it," he said.

For now, the learning process continues for Penn. Perhaps one day he will anchor a great team, but watching and learning comes first.

"More than anything else, I was able to see some great competition while in Austria," Penn said. "That's the best part of learning. It was good to see it."

## Commissioners, alter your atrocious divisions

Please, oh please, Fay Vincent, heed the urgings of several teams and realign the divisions in the National League.

The way the divisions are set up now is absurd. Atlanta and Cincinnati are in the Western Division, Chicago and St. Louis are in the East. What's wrong with this picture? Wouldn't it make sense to have teams from the Eastern part of the country in the Eastern Division and teams from the Western part in the Western Division?

Now that the National League has added the Florida Marlins and Colorado Rockies for 1993, there has never been — nor will there be for a while — a better opportunity to adjust the divisions in a commonsense manner. The addition of those two teams will disrupt the scheduling routine the league has enjoyed for 16 years anyway, so why not take advantage of the chance to move teams to their more geographi-

cally correct divisions?

Florida can join the NL East, Colorado can move into the NL West, and the Reds, Braves, Cubs and Cardinals can simply switch to the other division. Very simple.

It seems that now the Cubs are the only team opposed to the realignment, their reasoning being that a move to the Western Division would mean later broadcast times for more of their games on cable station WGN. (This is not as self-serving as it seems — fewer prime-time games means less chance for residents on the East Coast to hear the



David J. Kupstas  
The "W" Column

sweet-sounding Harry Caray.) You were quoted, Mr. Vincent, as saying: "It has to be determined whether it's proper for one club to block what has been unanimously supported by the other clubs."

Go ahead, Commissioner, lay down the law. And while you're at it, can you get in touch with NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue to see if he can do anything about the football divisions? Some of those are worse than your National League divisions.

Once again, Atlanta's team is banished to the West, playing against the likes of San Francisco and Los Angeles twice a year. Other atrocities are Phoenix and Dallas in the NFC East and Tampa Bay in the NFC Central.

I propose a major overhaul for the NFL in which the AFC and the NFC would be shuffled together to form the perfect divisions. The new alignment,

with possible expansion teams included, would go something like this:

AFC East: Buffalo, New England, N.Y. Giants, N.Y. Jets, Philadelphia  
AFC Central: Cincinnati, Cleveland, Kansas City, Pittsburgh, St. Louis  
AFC West: L.A. Raiders, L.A. Rams, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle  
NFC East: Atlanta, Charlotte, Miami, Tampa Bay, Washington  
NFC Central: Chicago, Detroit, Green Bay, Indianapolis, Minnesota  
NFC West: Dallas, Denver, Houston, New Orleans, Phoenix

These divisions look nothing like the ones like the ones we are used to; they are simply a geographically logical grouping of teams. If teams were moved from their current divisions, attempts were made to keep them in the same league to preserve rivalries.

Major League Baseball and the NFL can both learn a lesson from the NBA and the NHL, where intra-division rivals are located somewhat close to one another. Hockey's Patrick Division features the N.Y. Islanders, N.Y. Rangers, New Jersey, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Washington, all located within a 200-mile radius, while Adams Division has five teams all located within a 300-mile radius.

Neither the NFL or the major leagues will cease to survive if there is not realignment. It would just be nice to see the leagues make a move in the direction of organization. Baseball should jump at the chance expansion has given it for realignment, and when the NFL expands, it should take advantage of the same opportunity.

## Camden

50,402 of them. Yes, more than 50,000 Baltimore fanatics turned out to watch a truly bad team play baseball. It was dubbed "Fantastic Fans" night. Fantastic indeed.

The fans were rewarded for their remarkable faithfulness — the Orioles

downed the Rangers 9-4 for their first victory at home on the season. But in addition to the rare triumph, the fans were also awarded in the way of an announcement.

Prior to delivery of the first pitch that May 2, Maryland Gov. William Donald

Schafer delivered an exciting message, one that would wed Baltimore and its Birds into the 21st century.

Schafer told Baltimore's fans that the Maryland Stadium Authority and the Orioles had agreed on a lease for a new downtown ballpark, what we today know as Oriole Park at Camden Yards.

Undoubtedly, the park that now stands on the old site of the Baltimore & Ohio Camden Yards rail center will be a favorite baseball haven for years to come. The \$105 million jewel assured a harmonious relationship between the Orioles and their followers. But if the turnout for the May 2, 1988, game at Memorial Stadium carries any weight, Baltimore and its fans would still be together even without the fancy new home.

But it's still a nice thing to have.

## Golf

named to the Smith-Corona All-Schools Golf Team. Moore joins six other ACC players on the All-America team. Wood is one of three ACC players on the academic team.

Two from women's hoops make junior teams

UNC's Charlotte Smith and Gwendolyn Gillingham were chosen by USA Basketball to the Women's

Junior National and Junior Select Teams after four days of trials at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Smith, a rising sophomore, will compete in the Women's Junior World Championship Qualifying Tournament in Mexico City August 23-30. Gillingham, a rising sophomore center, will compete with the Junior Select Team in a series of games against Canada from June 24-July 5.

## Libraries

which are not going to go away."

Faculty, teaching affected Taylor added that faculty recruiting also was affected by weak library resources. "When the University tries to recruit faculty they may say, 'Whoops, I can't work here. They don't have what I need.'"

Jenkins said the health sciences faculty were suffering from the lack of materials. "In the health sciences it has an absolutely devastating effect. A lot of faculty request us to buy materials that we can't afford to buy."

The lack of library resources also has

a negative effect in the classroom, Jenkins said. "(Instructors) are not able to bring current information into the classroom," she said. "We're not sending well-trained students out to practice because of lack of resources in the library."

Health, law libraries suffering

The Law Library and the Health Sciences Library also are unable to maintain and obtain up-to-date library materials.

"We're buying very few monographs because we spend so much on continuing serials, so some of the new books on

the cutting edge we are not able to buy," Coggins said.

A report prepared by the Law School Development Office and the library staff states that \$97,500 in subscriptions and other materials have been canceled in the past two years. "Additional cuts will be made this year," the report states.

Health Sciences Library officials said they also were forced to severely cut their subscription lists and book purchases. "Over the last three to four years we've canceled more than 1,000 serials in conjunction with buying 50 percent less books," Jenkins said.

## Edwards

perverts the CPOs.

"Keith Edwards was given a similar test (to Perry), but she didn't even know it was coming," McSurely said. "The test was very similar to the textbook Officer Perry had just used at crime prevention officer's school."

But DeVitto testified that the tests were administered fairly. "I asked each individual question to each applicant in the same order," DeVitto said. "During her interview, Officer Edwards stated the questions were unfair, and she also indicated that she had a grievance pend-

ing against me.

"My method of interviews, as it was in the military, was to put people under stress and see how they react," added DeVitto, who was a career army officer before coming to UNC in 1988.

Shortly before applying for the position of CPO, Perry had attended a crime prevention officer's training school. While Edwards also completed the course, it had been several years since she had reviewed the material, McSurely said.

Perry already had been given the

position of CPO in March 1990, a few weeks before then-CPO Ned Comar was scheduled to retire.

Soon after the personnel change, Edwards and three other officers, contending that the transfer actually was a promotion, filed grievances. Chancellor Paul Hardin ordered DeVitto to open the position and to post notices of the vacancy at the police station.

DeVitto, the first witness called in the three-day hearing, said Perry's initial change in duties represented a lateral transfer, not a promotion.

## THE Daily Crossword by Harvey L. Chew

- ACROSS
- Protective ditch
  - In no — (at once)
  - Pierre's priest
  - Domini
  - Buenos —
  - Surfeit
  - "All I Want for Christmas Is ..."
  - Paul Bunyan's tool
  - Bearing
  - Related on Mom's side
  - What a snob puts on
  - Defame
  - Virtuous
  - Collect
  - Army
  - Do, re, mi etc.
  - Posed
  - "I'm dreaming of ..."
  - Susan of TV
  - White heron
  - Nimbus
  - Summoned
  - Peril
- DOWN
- Lady of the house
  - Gemstone
  - Before: prof.
  - Barge
  - Becomes weary
  - Horse or curtain
  - Males
  - The e in i.e.
  - Representatives
  - Crushed sugar cane
  - He made 34A famous
  - Angry
  - Office need
  - Four-poster
  - "His cheeks were like roses, his ..."
  - So be it
  - Fencing with bamboo sticks
  - Precipitation
  - Endure
  - Chair or street
  - "Green Gables" girl
  - DOWN
  - Sheepish sound?
  - Mont. city
  - Anesthetic
  - Burning
  - Leave out
  - Bedevels
  - It. wine center
  - Bright
  - Ancient Indic language
  - Afr. country
  - Sewing machine man
  - Pallid
  - Felt sore
  - Loose rock debris
  - Self-satisfied
  - Swiss river
  - Despot of old
  - Prickly herb
  - Easter rollers
  - Strong flavor
  - Obvious
  - Dance music
  - Egyptian symbol
  - Double
  - Fragrance
  - Neon and

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52 Unit of force  
54 DDE  
55 Parrot  
56 Time period

See solution, page 2

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