

McGuire's St. John's Team Did It UNC First Carolinas Club To Rate No. 1

"I'll say one thing—it's great to be called No. 1, even if the bottom falls out later."
The philosopher was Frank McGuire, who had returned to his Chapel Hill home from New York just in time to hear his North Carolina Tar Heels had ousted Kansas from the weekly basketball throne.
"Well, the kids deserve it. I've never seen a group work harder for their honors. We're not sitting back smugly. We're going to continue our workouts right through exam periods."
For the Irishman, the top rank in the Associated Press poll brought a bit of reminiscence.
Answer: none.

"IT WAS IN 1952," said McGuire, "when I had my only previous chance for a club of mine to be placed No. 1. That was at St. John's. We held the spot for a week."
When they played the University of Kentucky at Lexington. They beat us by 40 points. They killed us. We never got back on top again and you can guess who was No. 1. But later we got another chance at Kentucky. We took them."
As soon as the Tar Heels were placed as best in the nation, speculation began as to what other area team had gained so lofty a rank.
Answer: none.

league when you realize that State, the defending champion, can conceivably finish eighth this year."
It is a toss-up who is more popular in Chapel Hill, McGuire or the team. It is easily the most successful team ever to represent NCU. Winner of 15 games, the team reaped its richest reward yesterday by being voted the nation's top college team in the weekly Associated Press poll.
McGuire refused to single out any one individual as instrumental in the team's success.
"Our success is the result of a tremendous team effort," he said. "While Lenny Rosenbluth has been our chief scorer, Pete Brennan, Joe Quigg, Bob Cunningham and Tommy Kearns, our quarterback and play maker, have been just as valuable."
"Naturally, I'm pleased with our unbeaten record but from a coach's standpoint, I'd feel much better had we lost a game or two along the line. The feeling now among our fans is that we can't lose. I'm afraid they'll be terribly disappointed when we lose one."
"You can't educate the fans. They expect a championship and I hope for their sake as well as our own that we can give it to them. But I won't be surprised if we get knocked off in the first round of the championship tournament. That's the kind of league this is."

AP Poll

LAST YEAR, North Carolina State finished second to San Francisco in the AP balloting—but never commanded top spot in the weekly yardstick.

It seems the Tar Heels are the first in the Carolinas or Atlantic Coast area ever to be placed on top.

McGuire, coach of the nation's only major unbeat college basketball team, feels his Tar Heels could lose at least three of their remaining nine games.

The popular mentor, while careful to laud his cagers as the finest aggregation he's had in 10 years of coaching, said it would take a near miracle for his team to maintain their unbeaten record.

"I would not be at all surprised if we lost three or four games before the season's end," he said, "and I say this in all sincerity."
"We've got nine games left to play and eight of these are Conference games. And I dare say the Atlantic Coast Conference is probably the strongest league in the country. Teams like Duke, Wake Forest, N. C. State and Maryland are capable of giving any team in the country a rough time on any given night. You get a pretty good idea of the strength of our

The top 10 teams with first place vote and weekend records through Saturday, Jan. 19, in parentheses (wins-loss-ties):

1. North Carolina (19-0) 1,100
2. Kansas (15-1) 602
3. New State (15-1) 592
4. Louisville (15-1) 582
5. Kentucky (15-1) 572
6. Georgetown (15-1) 562
7. UCLA (15-1) 552
8. Illinois (15-1) 542
9. Michigan (15-1) 532
10. Bradley (15-1) 522

SECOND TEAM

11. Wake Forest (15-2) 478
12. Ohio State (15-2) 468
13. Vanderbilt (15-2) 458
14. California (15-2) 448
15. Duke (15-2) 438
16. Oklahoma (15-2) 428
17. West Virginia (15-2) 418
18. Kansas State (15-2) 408
19. Western Kentucky (15-2) 398
20. Oklahoma State (15-2) 388

21. North Carolina State (15-3) 378
22. St. Francis (N. J.) and West Virginia Tech.

By Bob Quincey

Charlotte News Sports Editor

Duke Staff Next In Line For A Change



NOTES & MUSINGS: Next piece of coaching news in the area will involve the retirement from football of one of Duke's most solid assistants. . . He'll remain on the school's athletic staff, however. . . Bill Murray is conducting a quiet, unpublicized interview campaign, should come up with a replacement within the next few weeks, if not sooner.

Had Jim Tatum taken the Indiana job (and he was tempted since he has not found Chapel Hill the Utopia he once had imagined) there would have been a strong move by alumni to push Moose Bass, the South Carolina assistant and former UNC helper, for the job. . . Bass, incidentally, also figured as a possible replacement had Warren Giese departed Columbia for the oil of Houston.

During the recent Atlanta Touchdown doings, I asked Johnny Majors why his brother, now at Florida State, had forsaken the trip to Knoxville to visit the All-American. "But he figured he wasn't suited for the single wing. But I've got other brothers coming up and they'll probably attend Tennessee. Are they prospects? Everyone seems to think so."

Promoter Jim Crockett, happy over the spurt in attendance for his 1957 football shows, says he has to feature a big-name added attraction next week to keep the turnstiles rolling. . . When great coaches of the Carolinas are enshrined in the sand of time, Billy Laval, who died earlier this week, will earn a place near the top.

—A Shorty Who Is Long On Points

BILL HARRIS, destined to patrol the Carolinas as a Washington scout, seldom is mentioned in Giantville for his discovery, but he was among the first to bring Columbus of the group to sight the future of Willie Mays. . . He watched the Say Hey Kid in the Negro leagues, quickly jotted down Willie should be a MUST for any organization.

Columbia's Chet Forte, a full 15 inches shorter than Witt the Sixth of Kansas, nonetheless is pushing the giant for the national scoring leadership. . . Who here for the Carrousel tournament, Howard Hartman, Columbia's personable coach, sang the praises of Forte. . . "He has a drive-and-jump shot that can't be guarded," said Hartman. "He'll make a guard retreat, then soar into the air with nobody around him."

Georgia Tech's Bobby Dodd told Carl Wells, the Clemson assistant, he would be first on his list for the backfield post should Bob Hagan, currently with Rice, not be available. . . "Wise more than likely will depart Tiptonville for Houston if Tech fills its spot Wells, the All-ACC half-back. "He's the finest youngster to coach I've ever seen. On or off the field, he's 100 per cent gentleman."

There is the true story of the local golfer who went to Miami for the New Year's festivities, found the fish biting on the links and more than financed his trip from his winnings (near \$1,000). . . Don Kellett, Baltimore Colts' president who visited here Sunday, says his team may be interested in Bob Pascal, the ex-Blue Devil, if he doesn't return to Peabody Walker's Montreal Alouettes.

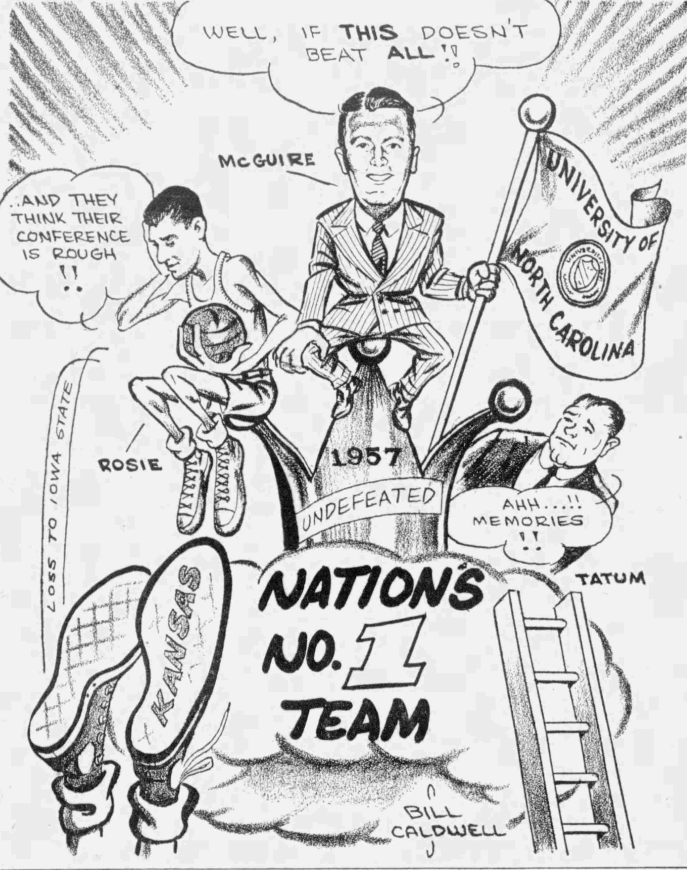
—Case Has His Eye On Tournament

OVERHEARD During Weekend Conversations: FIRST GUY — "Say, what's the name of that fellow who used to coach George Washington a few years back and is such a good banquet speaker?" SECOND GUY: "You must mean Bob Rowland." . . FIRST GUY: "Yeah, Bob Rowland. Great fellow. He's a close personal friend of mine."

Charlie Rock, the Clippers' prey, says Clinton has added a goalie who should rival Philadelphia's Ivan Walmaley for color and excitement at the net. . . "I watched him against Washington last week," said Rock, "and he was terrific. Name is Andre Binette and he has a fire about him that's contagious." . . Could be this is a buildup for Thursday night—or could be Binette is something special.

Phil Hower, general manager of the Charlotte Hornets, reveals the youngsters are signing his 1957 contracts with gusto but the vets are "slow and demanding." . . What about Ken Wood, the leftfielder who says he may retire. . . "I fully expect Ken to be back with the club," said Hower. "I want him for I know he can help us win the long haul. As far as keeping him happy on the payroll, I think that can be accomplished."

Charlotte's Whitley Lockman, the Cards' outfielder-first baseman, is keeping silent on the subject but he's just as happy the rumor shifting him to the Phillies hasn't developed beyond that stage. Quote By Case of North Carolina State: "So we're getting licked on occasion. I'm not surprised. The tournament is the thing—and I feel my Wolf-pack will be ready for the tournament."



Indiana Was Tempting But . . . 'NO CONFLICT' — TATUM

By SANDY GRADY

Did friction with Frank McGuire's basketball regime influence Jim Tatum to consider leaving the University of North Carolina last week? Tatum admitted today that he had been strongly attracted to the U. of Indiana head coaching job—but he flatly denied any conflict with McGuire's Tar Heel basketball machine.

"I have known Frank Allen, the Indiana athletic director, for a long time," Tatum explained to The News. "I knew they were building a 56,000-seat stadium and an 18,000-seat indoor arena and were definitely expanding in athletics. Allen told me I was the man he wanted for the football job. I was in contact with him at the St. Louis NCAAA meeting and became so interested I went to Bloomington last week."

Tatum said the position paid more than he is now making—the Indiana post reportedly would have paid him over \$20,000—but he turned it down. Why?

"I left a wonderful job at Maryland because Carolina represented a challenge to me, and because I had so many friends at Chapel Hill," said Jim. "I can't put out now simply because the road is smoother at Indiana. I thought we made real progress last year despite the win-loss record (0-10)—although I know some people believe that is the whole point. "Business isn't everything. People were so fine to me after that losing season—why, I was never treated better after a winning season! I've got a job to do at Chapel Hill and I intend to stay until it is done."

Does Tatum have a quarrel with McGuire, as reported in the Chapel Hill student newspaper? Jim snapped an answer: "It's ludicrous. Why should there be friction between McGuire and me. Nobody has actually talked to me about it—it's a fairy tale. Why, basketball and football don't use any of the same facilities. This isn't a small school where the same personnel and facilities and coaches are involved."

"There are two reasons why I like to see Carolina win in basketball. First, it helps me to influence football players to come here—I'm selfish about that. Second, I'm an alum of this school."

Continued on D2 Sports Page



FAMILIAR FACES . . . to fans in this area, Corky Devlin (left) and Gene Shue of Pistons.

Hawks Play Here Under New Coach

The St. Louis Hawks, fighting for the lead in the Western Division of the National Basketball Association, will be directed by a new coach in their Charlotte game tomorrow night.

It is Alex Hannum, 6-7 defensive "holler guy" who was named head Hawk coach by Owner Ben Kerner last night, Hannum was picked at the insistence of Slater Martin, who had served as temporary coach since the firing of Red Goetzman recently.

"I can't play and coach, too," said Martin. "Alex handles the team well. We can win under him."

The Hawks—who meet Fort Wayne in an important NBA game at the Coliseum tomorrow night—have won five of their past six games under Martin and Hannum. They are now a half-game out of the Western Division lead.

FORT WAYNE, defending its Western title, has split 20-20 in its first 40 games. Voluble Charley Eckman has a well-knit, poised club constructed around George Yardley, Larry Foust, Mel Hutchins, Bob Houbregs, Gene Shue (ex-Maryland) and Chuck Noble.

St. Louis sports the top scorer in the NBA, according to statistics released today. Former LSU star Bob Pettit jumped his scoring last week to 27.2 per game and a latter lead over Philadelphia's Paul Arizin. Fort Wayne's Yardley is seventh in the scoring, while St. Louis' easy Ed Macaulay is ninth.

Macaulay scored his 10,017th point last week.

CHARLOTTE fans will see four Southern standouts in the game. They are Shue, former Maryland and New York Knick guard; Corky Devlin, ex-vet star; Pettit, LSU, and Cliff Hagan, ex-Kentucky performer.

Succeeds Suggs Vet Bill Harris To Scout, Assist Verble With Bees

WILLIAM (Bill) Harris, veteran major league baseball scout who since 1946 has served the New York Giants and New York Yankees, has been named by the Washington organization as chief talent recruiter for the Carolinas. The announcement was made today by Ossie Bluege, farm director of the Senators, who said he felt "indeed fortunate to secure the services of such a capable individual as Harris."

Harris, who for 25 seasons was an active major and minor league pitcher, will also be closely associated with the Charlotte Hornets—and will be called upon to assist Manager Gene Verble in readying his club for Sally League competition.

"Bill is living near Matthews," said General Manager Phil Hower of the Hornets, "and will have every opportunity to visit our park often during the spring and summer. He should be of invaluable service to Manager Verble, especially in the development of young pitchers."

Harris, an enthusiastic worker and highly respected as an appraiser of baseball flesh, will take the job left vacated by the death of Chick Suggs, who had served the Senators in the area since 1950.



BILL HARRIS

ACTUALLY, Bill Harris is coming home.

In 1921, he signed his first baseball contract here in Charlotte when Felix Hayman, then major domo of diamond industries, induced him as a Hornet.

For the next quarter of a century, the record of Bill Harris, pitcher, reads like a railroad timetable.

After 26 wins at Winston-Salem in 1922, Cincinnati grabbed his contract. He was with the Redlegs the next two seasons.

In 1925, Bill shipped down to Minneapolis and wasn't heard of again in the majors until 1931, when Pittsburgh called him up from Fort Worth of the Texas League.

Three years with the Pirates and the hurler was off again, this time to Buffalo of the International set. He won 18 and 18 games in consecutive seasons before catching the eye of the Boston Red Sox. He finished 1938 with them, had a 5-5 record.

Harris spent from 1939 through 1943 with Jersey City, a Giants farm club. In 1944, he took over as manager of Erie in the Pony League and served two summers.

It was 1946 when Harris began his duties as a scout for the

Yankees in a similar capacity.

ONE OF the first duties for Harris will be offering instruction to prospects at the Hornets' training camp at Fernandina Beach, Fla., beginning in March. He'll call Charlotte his base and room the two Carolinas during the season.

"Having Bill around should be an invaluable aid to Gene Verble," said Phil Hower, general manager of the Hornets. "Bill knows pitching inside out and he can offer valuable instruction. It's something that has been lacking in recent years."

Harris, other than his baseball interests, has been associated in the sporting goods and insurance businesses. He resided in Charlotte until recently decided to become a "country gentleman" and purchase a farm.

A native of Texas, Harris was regarded as one of the most durable pros of his day. His major league career spanned more than 20 years as an active athlete to the rating.

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