Cross-country team drops '71 openers

BY JIM HIRSCH
Sports Writer

The Carolina cross-country team, riddled by injuries to key performers, opened the 1971 season with two meets involving four opponents.

On Sept. 27, the Gamecocks travelled to Chapel Hill for a meet with the University of North Carolina and Virginia Tech. USC dropped a 16-47 decision to UNC and also lost to VPI by 20-49. North Carolina won the meet as they defeated VPI by a score of 21-38.

Reggie McAlte, North Carolina's acclaimed long-distance star, was the individual winner with a time of 25:00 over the 8.0 mile course. Larry Widgeon, also of UNC, was second in 25:08.

Wayne Thomas, a freshman, led the USC squad with a 26:22 clocking. His time was good enough to finish seventh in the meet.

Sophomore Rod Dalton was 12th, seniors Jack Miller and Jim Davis finished 16th and 20th and freshman Mike Drennan was 23rd. They rounded out the top five runners for Carolina.

Freshman Bill McAllister, 24th, and Mike Shelley, 25th, were the other Gamecock runners at Chapel Hill.

Duke and Clemson provided the competition for USC in the second meet. The meet was held on the 5.3 mile Carolina home course at Sesquicentennial State Park.

The Gamecocks topped Clemson, 21-36, but were defeated by Duke, 15-46. Duke also beat Clemson by a score of 18-45 to win the meet.

The Blue Devils' Bob Wheeler, a 3:58 miler, and Scott Edin tied for first in the meet with a time of 26:47 on the 5.3 mile course.

Thomas again was the Gamecock's top finisher with a time of 27:29, good for another seventh place finish.

Sophomore Jim Schaper, one of USC's injured runners, returned to action with a 28:02 time and an eighth place finish. Schaper had been forced out of action by an upper respiratory ailment.

Dalton, 11th, Miller, 14th, and Davis 16th, gave USC the necessary depth to defeat Clemson. Also USC freshman Jim Layden, 19th, Drennan, 23rd, and McAllister, 24th, were able to finish before Clemson's fifth man.

Sophomore Don Brown, 26th, and freshman Skip Earle, 27th, also ran in the meet for USC.

Coach John West hopes that his team can get the injured runners back to top shape by the State Collegiate Championship meet on November 2.

"The team is working hard and we have a chance to win the State meet if our team is healthy by then," West commented.

Larry Schemel, a sophomore and 8:58 two-miler, is still sidelined due to an upper respiratory ailment. He will be able to resume training Oct. 25.

USC meets Furman in Greenville October 12. Furman has the reputation of always having fine teams and should give the Gamecocks a tough time.

The USC barriers then have back-to-back home meets with Baptist College, Oct. 21 and Georgia, Oct. 30.

The State Championships are Nov. 2 at Greenville. Nov. 15 the Gamecocks travel to Atlanta to meet Georgia Tech in a dual meet. The season concludes with the NCAA championship, Nov. 22, at Knoxville.

Eye in the Keyhole

By Doug Williams
Sports Editor

At this University, as well as countless others throughout the United States, intramural sports play a vital role in the students' extracurricular activities. Although the play may not resemble even a loose conglomeration of 12-year-olds on a sandlot, the competition is keen and the desire to win is intense.

As in any sport, the game of football must be played according to the rules. Be it a varsity or an intramural game. In order to keep some kind of order, the Intramural department provides officials. Unfortunately, few exceptions, these people are officials in name only.

Granted, the officials may not be totally responsible for any given win or loss. Nonetheless, they should have the proper command of the game to operate in an efficient manner. At this University, to be quite blunt, the majority of the 'officials' are inept.

The Intramural Officer did have some clinics for the prospective 'officials' prior to the start of school. Then, through the course of the season, a few more wander in. The 'officials' are taught the rules of flag football while attending these clinics.

Therefore, it seems a reasonable assumption that those who did not attend these clinics are not fully versed in the rules and regulations of flag football. After school starts, attendance at these clinics is not mandatory, and the caliber of the 'officials' bears this fact out.

The organizations that participate in flag football are entitled to a little better treatment by the Intramural department. Some of the antics of these people are quite

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