

Is Mickey Mouse ready for the gridiron?

Can you believe that football season is only one month away? That's right. Just one month until touchdowns are scored, pads are popping and fans are watching gridiron action.

Just as the baseball pennant races, and the temperature, are heating up and golf is becoming a bit more prominent, football is just lingering around the corner waiting to pounce on those action-thirsty fans tired of slow baseball games.

The college football season always seems to start early, with the Kickoff Classic held at the Meadowlands in New Jersey. But this season there is a new entry to the early ball game hysteria. Believe it or not, Mickey Mouse is going to dabble with football.

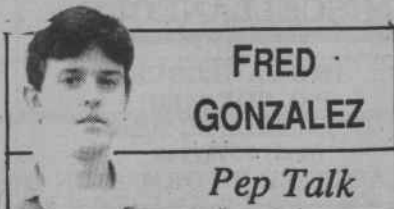
That's right. The cute mouse we've all come to love will be holding a football game at his Disneyland home. It's the Pigskin Classic in Anaheim, Ca. at Anaheim Stadium on Aug. 26. The game is scheduled for 1 p.m.

The combatants in Mickey's Mouse Bowl are very formidable: the University of Colorado versus the University of Tennessee. Both squads finished last year with 11-1 records, yet the Buffaloes had a bit more of the national spotlight.

If you remember, Colorado was the nation's top ranked team headed into their showdown with Notre Dame in the Orange Bowl. The Buffalo players had dedicated their season to their teammate Sal Aunese, who had died shortly after the 1989 season started. Even though they came up one game short of a national championship, they won the Big 8 crown and made college football a bit more interesting.

Over in Knoxville, the Vols of Tennessee weren't expected to do much in 1989. Back at the start of 1988, the Vols lost their first five games and head coach Johnny Majors was under extreme criticism. But his squad won their last six games to salvage the season.

Then last season the Vols looked like contenders for the national championship. Tennessee



FRED GONZALEZ

Pep Talk

won their first five games of the season, including an impressive win over a highly ranked Auburn team in front of a national t.v. audience. Then came their single loss to Alabama, after which the Vols responded with six more wins, including a Cotton Bowl victory over Arkansas, 31-27.

Now heading into the 1990 season, this match up could have national title implications.

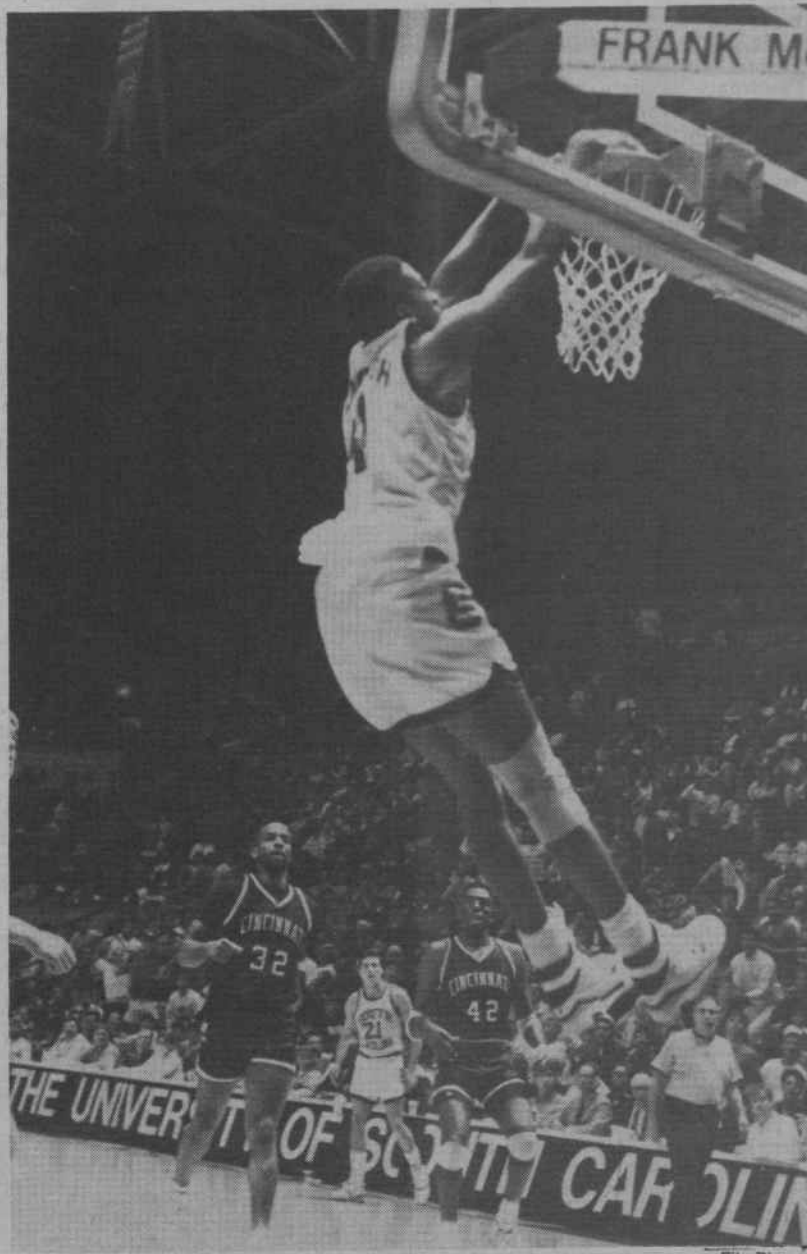
The Buffaloes bring back quarterback Darian Hagan and tailback Eric Bieniemy. Hagan rushed for 1,004 yards and scored 17 touchdowns in Colorado's wish bone attack. Bieniemy rushed for 561 yards and scored nine touchdowns.

Tennessee has a top running game led by sophomore Chuck Webb, who as a redshirt freshman last season rushed for 100-yards in five straight games. He set a school rushing record against Ole Miss with 294 yards and he rushed for 250 yards against the Razorbacks in the Cotton Bowl.

Both squads bring back stingy defenses led by Alfred Williams and Kanavis McGhee for Colorado and Shazzon Bradley and Darryl Hardy for Tennessee.

So it looks like Mickey did his homework and came up with two formidable opponents for his Pigskin Classic. But are games like this really necessary? Wouldn't it be beneficial for these student-athletes to not miss their first days of classes just for a ball game that will generate big bucks not only for Disneyland and Raycom Sports, but for each school?

These schools will have to start their practices at an earlier date and play one extra ball game. On the surface, this project seems great to the fans and the t.v. people, but the whole ball of wax might not be what college football



File Photo

Jammin' Jo Jo

USC basketball star Jo Jo English scores two last season against Cincinnati. This year he and his teammates will face UNC in the Diet Pepsi Tournament of Champions.

Gamecocks face UNC in Charlotte tourney

From Staff Reports

If you thought the rivalry between the University of North Carolina and USC was dead, better think again.

This fall the two squads will face each other in the Diet Pepsi Tournament of Champions.

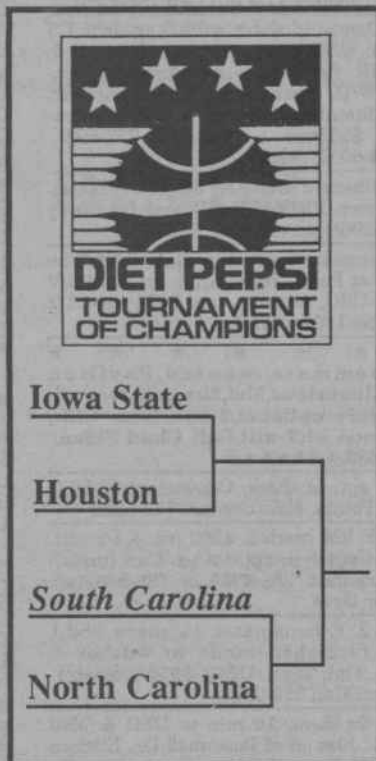
The four-team college basketball tournament in Charlotte brings together three national powers to take on the ACC's Tar Heels or N.C. State. The event will tip off on Friday, Nov. 30 at the Charlotte Coliseum.

The 1990 field includes UNC, USC, Houston of the Southwest Conference and Iowa State of the Big Eight.

In the first round on Friday, Nov. 30, Houston will face Iowa State at 7 p.m. and USC will battle UNC at 9 p.m. On Saturday, Dec. 1, the two losers will play in the consolation match at 7 p.m. and the two winners will play in the championship game at 9 p.m. The tournament will be broadcast live on television by the Raycom Sports Network.

New USC assistant coach Jimmy Black, a former Tar Heel, will have a chance to coach against his former mentor one week after the Gamecocks open the season in the Great Alaska Shootout in Anchorage, Alaska on Nov. 23-26.

In the inaugural Tournament of Champions in 1988, UNC defeated Missouri 76-60 after getting by Arizona 79-72 in the first game.



Arizona beat Temple 68-50 in the third-place game. UNC's Rick Fox was named tournament MVP.

Last year N.C. State defeated Pittsburgh 100-87 to claim the championship after defeating Ohio State 68-54 in the first game. Oklahoma State defeated the Buckeyes 81-59 in the third place game. Tournament MVP last year was the Wolfpack's Tom Gugliotta.

The field for 1991 consists of N.C. State, UNC-Charlotte, DePaul and Alabama

Now ACC considering expansion

By The Associated Press

GREENSBORO, N.C. — The Atlantic Coast Conference will reopen expansion talks at a meeting of league athletic directors and faculty representatives July 25 in Greensboro, officials said.

"The meeting was set up particularly to talk about

needs. As the sport grows more and more into a business, who is really benefitting from all of this? You try and answer that one.

expansion," North Carolina athletic director John Swofford said. "This is a continuation of some of the informal talks we've been having in recent months."

The ACC decided at its February business meeting to maintain the eight-team league's status quo rather than expand. But since then, the conference has watched as leagues around it began to vigorously pursue expansion.

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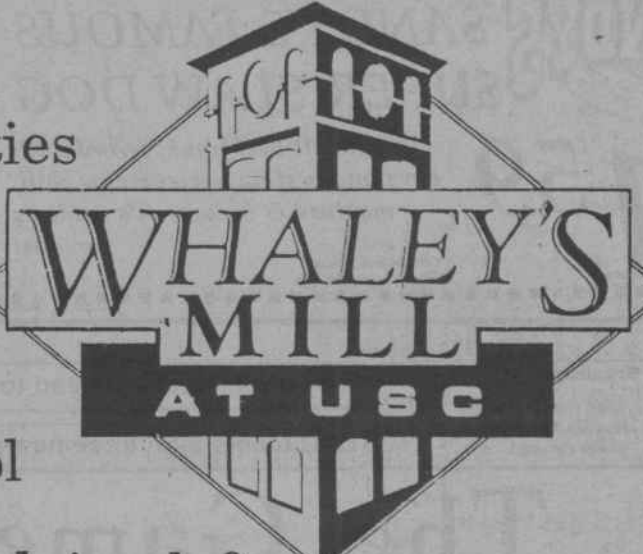
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