

UNC's Hyman selected

Writers determine All-America predictions

by David Zucchino
Sports Editor

They sit in quiet motel rooms late at night with nothing to do but watch TV. After a few beers, they yawn and search for a diversion—any diversion—to put some sort of meaning back into the late-night hours.

From sheer desperation, they sort aimlessly through a stack of dull white papers piled half a foot high on a motel desk. From the top of the stack falls a three-page list of college football players, in order by position with the name of each player's school in parentheses.

Suddenly they breathe easier, grab the nearest pencils, and gleefully begin to

mark elaborate checks and X's in some of the spaces provided beside each player's name.

And as they do, another pre-season All-America team is born.

The men are sports reporters. To them goes either the honor, the responsibility or the duty of selecting most pre-season All-America squads. Sometimes they take their selections lightly, other times they're entirely serious. Regardless, the teams that they pick are pure fantasies that spring to real life only in the minds of sports publicity men.

The sportswriters generally think All-America teams picked at the end of every season is a darned nice idea. It gives a few hard-working college kids the credit

they deserve, and besides, they're secretly flattered to be doing the picking.

But picking a pre-season All-America squad is like having a group of international writers give out Olympic medals sometime in the middle of March. It's simply a matter of pick and choose, of choosing the names that sound familiar and the schools with the winning reputation.

The reporters are considered well-informed if they've seen one-third of the players on the list either in person or on television. A sportswriter would have to travel from coast to coast for four solid months in order to see every possible candidate for any single pre-season list.

As for the sophomore All-America candidates, the task borders on the impossible. Very few full-time sportswriters get in the habit of watching freshman football teams mix it up. Those that do aren't invited to choose pre-season All-America teams anyway.

The publicity men, the people who narrow down the possible choices to a manageable hundred or so, are faced with the same kind of problem. Most of the players are strangers to them, too.

They rely instead on what they read, what the coaches in their areas are saying, and regrettably, what they hear from other sports publicity men.

And by the time all the pre-season All-America teams are announced, almost

every major school in the nation can lay claim to at least one pre-season All-America, or at the very least a "possible All-America mention."

Carolina is no exception. The Tar Heels seem to come up with one every year, and this season defensive tackle Eric Hyman is their man.

Hyman, however, offers a refreshing change. He realizes the kind of things that go into making up All-America teams and views them as curiosities rather than as hard core realities. To Hyman, pre-season squads are the ingredients of which sandwiches are made.

"Most of it is a bunch of baloney," he said when asked for his opinion. "I think an awful lot of it amounts to little more

than publicity. There are some regional biases involved, too, which makes the selections pretty inaccurate."

It could make Hyman's pre-season pretty inaccurate, too. Does this mean that he doesn't deserve the recognition?

"I'm afraid I don't," he said flatly. "It's a nice honor, so don't get me wrong. But I'd much rather wait until after the season, when the selections are at least partly accurate. Right now there are plenty of guys in the ACC alone that could've been picked as easily as myself."

Hyman began getting the All-American build-up at the tail end of last season, when he acquired a reputation around the ACC as a virtually unstoppable pass rusher.

But injuries, the single factor that keeps more players off All-America teams than anything else, kept Hyman off the playing field for the entire 1970 season. He also missed two games last season due to a shoulder separation, and played only sparingly in Carolina's 28-18 win over Richmond Saturday because of an ankle injury.

But if the injuries' only effect was keeping him off All-America teams, Hyman wouldn't give the matter a second thought.

"You have to be halfway decent to make the team, of course," he said. "But you also have to be lucky, get the right publicity and be in the right place at the right time. It's almost meaningless."

"For instance, I talked to Don McCauley and Lewis Jolley after they went to a couple of these college all-star games, and what they told me was amazing. They said they couldn't believe some of the guys who made the squad. They really felt let down, so I figure there must be something wrong with the way the players are chosen."

And in the case of the pre-season teams, what's wrong is the fact that they're chosen at all.

Soccer is all skill for Heels' Dawson

by Elliott Warnock
Sports Writer

An amateur is one who cultivates a pursuit for the sheer pleasure of it without pursuing it professionally, specifically in sports. Perhaps no player on the Carolina soccer team epitomizes this attitude better than Steve Dawson.

He loves soccer for what it is, a free sport where skill is the single most important factor.

"A small man can compete with a larger one," he says. "What he lacks in skill, he can make up with desire and skill. That's what the game is all about."

Steve learned how to play at North Springs, where he met and played on the same team as UNC forward Danny Ariail.

"I talked to Danny before coming up here and he really pushed the school ball thing," Dawson said.

Dawson's style of play fits his attitudes toward the game. Five feet nine inches tall and weighing 150 pounds, he depends mostly on his speed and passing to beat larger opponents.

Underrated by spectators but not by the rest of the team, he is rarely seen with the ball because he passes off so quickly.

"We don't have any ball hogs on our team," says Dawson. "We're basically a one touch team; we move around to the open space."

A sophomore, Dawson still has an almost freshman exuberance about

soccer.

"Soccer players are different from all other sects of athletes. There are no jocks on our team, it's really a very intelligent game. I am very happy about playing with this team."

He goes on to say, "Even the practices are enjoyable, although we work very hard."

Head coach Marvin Allen thinks of Dawson as one of the team's hardest workers. "Steve is an excellent player and a very fine halfback," he said. "He's the (Anson) Dorrance type. I put him out there and don't worry about him; I know he'll play the game."

When asked if he would start, Allen laughed and said, "Yes, yes, of course."

Allen says one of Dawson's strongest assets is his passing ability. "He distributes the ball very well, and he has good ball control."

Dawson can play halfback or fullback, whichever is necessary. As a freshman he played with the varsity and started at the end of the season.

The regular season begins this Friday when the team travels to Buies Creek to play Campbell College of the NAIA. Dawson is not taking them lightly.

"We've seen them play before and they're a tough team. They are very skilled and have their foreign flavor, their imports."

"We've been working more on defense this week in preparation for Campbell, trying to get it to congeal... We are determined to win. We will win."



Steve Dawson

Track meeting

A meeting for all persons interested in running track at Carolina will be held at 7:30 p.m. today in 304 Woolen Gym.

Carolina track coach Joe Hilton will discuss plans for the upcoming season. All students interested in track are urged to attend.

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Hite paces grid stats

Tailback Billy Hite carried the ball twenty times in Carolina's 28-18 victory over Richmond last Saturday and ended up as the Tar Heels' leading rusher. Hite carried the ball a total of 86 yards for a 4.3 average.

Quarterback Nick Vidnovic had a higher average (4.5 yards) but carried the ball fewer times (11) for a second place total of 49 yards.

Fullback Tim Kirkpatrick took third place rushing honors with 40 yards in 8 carries for a 5 yard average.

Back-up quarterback Johnny Klise had the highest average of all the UNC runners (6 yards), but had only six carries for 36 yards.

Both Vidnovic and Klise passed for 34 yards, but Klise had the better completion percentage. He went 3 for 3 while Vidnovic completed four of nine attempted passes for a .444 average.

No Tar Heel caught more than one pass but seven receivers totaled 68 yards against Richmond.

Richmond led the Heels in four categories: yards passing, passes attempted, passes completed, and yards lost in the running game.



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