

Eric Cook

UNC forward leads booters...

by Paul Williams
DTH Contributor

As the lofted soccer ball curved towards the goal, a Carolina player made his move. He bypassed defenders and placed a head shot just out of the goalie's reach. Eric Cook had scored again.

Cook, a junior, leads the Carolina varsity with six goals for the season, three of which have come from head-in shots.

"Anytime there's a direct kick or a corner kick, it's like I receive an added dose of adrenalin. I give 100 per cent concentration, and I generally feel confident I can out-jump my man."

He refuses to take all the recognition for his goals. "Fifty per cent of my credit goes to Zoltan Berky, because of his consistent, skillful placement of the ball on direct kicks."

Eric and his brother Kenyon, a senior, have played together on the varsity for two years. They began playing soccer in Denmark in 1963, and their interest quickened with their family's move to Latin America three years later. Eric said, "The two contrasting styles of play—the European and the Latin American—have bettered Kenyon's and my game."

Eric is used to a winning tradition. He played at Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, Md., where his team lost only four games in three years. One member from the team in now playing goalie for the U.S. Olympic team, and several others play professionally.

This year Eric has started at the center halfback position. As a freshman, he played that position for the junior varsity, and as a sophomore he started there for the varsity.

"I changed to forward during the Maryland game because we didn't have any offensive thrust." He expects to continue at forward against Duke, filling a gap left by Tim Fenton, who was injured early in the

State game.

UNC Head Soccer Coach Marvin Allen said he is pleased with Eric's improvement at UNC. He said Eric's work on his strength since his freshman year has paid off. "Eric physically has improved a great deal, which has helped his game." He added, "Eric's always had good knowledge and good skills."

Kenyon said he is very happy about the confidence and ability that Eric has shown. "Eric's excelled this year. Everything stems from his confidence. He came back from the Marines (Marine Officer Training Camp this summer) with the great mental attitude which means so much to a player."

Kenyon said Eric has been instrumental in turning the team around to a winning season. "Without a doubt his greatest asset this season has been his heading. He's worked very hard to be good at it." Saying that their relationship has nothing to do with his prediction, he thinks that Eric should be an all-ACC choice.

Eric said he believes this team is better than that of last year. He attributed the change to a year of experience, and to having Martin Trimble in the goal and Tim Fenton at forward. Another difference he cited was that the team is more closely knit, with a better attitude both on and off the field.

He does not feel that the team has played with consistency.

"We haven't performed this year to our utmost capability for 90 minutes. We get a last chance against Duke." Cook said if the team could play consistently as it did in the second halves of the Virginia and Maryland games, it would be top twenty caliber.

However, Cook said ratings are not all-important. He stresses the team's performance in the Atlantic Coast Conference. "The ACC games seem to bring the best out in the team. If we perform well in

the ACC that will get our ranking. The other games are like a warm-up, with the ACC games as a second season."

Cook said his priorities don't lie in his personal play but in the team's accomplishments. His goal while at Carolina is to make the NCAA playoffs, which he said is a definite possibility for next year. "I think the ingredient that could make the difference between winning most of our games and winning all of our games is an explosive forward like Dickie Drayton, who is taking a year off in Europe to strengthen his game."

Cook said he may follow a similar course of action. He said he wants to go to Sweden this spring for study at the University of Stockholm, where he would also play amateur soccer before returning to Carolina next fall.

"If I play what I think is professional level soccer my senior year, I might give it a try for a couple of years, but I've got career pursuits which are more important than soccer." An international relations major, he said his studies are directing him towards work in economic development and population.



UNC forward Eric Cook

Staff photo by Charles Hardy

Sports briefs

ACC focus in Winston

Duke will be seeking to keep its title ambitions alive and Wake Forest will be out to make it a clean sweep of its state loop rivals when the two clubs clash at Winston-Salem Saturday in the feature ACC battle of the day.

A second conference scrap on the third from last regular-season weekend of the year has Clemson at North Carolina. Both clubs will be seeking to snap losing streaks.

In non-league play, N.C. State travels to Penn State for one of the day's biggest intersectional clashes while Maryland visits Cincinnati for the first meeting ever between football teams of the two schools. Virginia also faces a new foe when it plays East Carolina for the first time.

Duke, with wins over Virginia and Clemson, and Maryland, which has three ACC wins to its credit, are the league's only unbeaten clubs. Since the two teams do not meet each other it is possible they could share the championship.

The UNC club football team defeated defending state champion Central Piedmont Community College last Friday. UNC's first score came on a 40-yard interception run by linebacker Mike Mull. Lou Guigou's extra point and a 38-yard field goal by Harvey Pons concluded scoring in the first half. CPCC scored on a third quarter pass but failed to convert. UNC's season record is now 7-1.

WCAR (550 AM) will provide exclusive coverage of the UNC Varsity Blue-White basketball game Saturday. Coverage will begin at 4:25 p.m.

... into showdown against Devils

by Mike Egan
Staff Writer

The Duke Blue Devils meet the Carolina soccer team in a showdown match today at 3 p.m. on Fetzer Field. This afternoon's contest determines second place in the ACC. It is the last game of the season for both teams.

Carolina revived its hopes for a runner-up spot to Clemson with a 2-0 victory over Maryland last Friday, raising its ACC record to 2-2. After a scoreless first half, the Heels executed well in the second period and hope to carry that momentum into today's game.

Duke has a 2-1-1 conference mark, its only blemishes being a loss to Clemson and a tie with N.C. State. The Devils are fresh off a 2-0 win over Maryland.

Injuries, not a UNC problem most of the season, have suddenly plagued the starting lineup. Geoff Griffin has a broken collarbone and Tim Fenton is recovering from a knee operation. Both are forwards. Senior fullback Rob Hassold injured his leg in the Maryland game and is a doubtful

starter today. But UNC Head Coach Marvin Allen has been pleased with the steady performance of his bench.

A win today would cap a successful 7-4 season for Carolina. Losses were to Clemson, Rollins, Appalachian State and

arch-rival N.C. State.

The outlook for the future is bright for UNC. The squad has had as many as four freshmen in the starting lineup, including goalie Martin Trimble who has had a strong year.

Women swimmers open at Duke

by Dave Kirk
Staff Writer

"This year's team has a much more positive attitude than last year's. The girls believe in themselves and they know what to expect from themselves. It's a close-knit squad."

UNC Head Swim Coach Jim Wood is optimistic about the women's team this year. Today marks the beginning of the season for the Tar Heels as they travel to Duke for a relay meet. The team's first home meet is against East Carolina University Nov. 15.

With the return of last year's team members (9-2 record) and the addition of

outstanding freshmen, Wood said his squad can expect another successful season. He said he expects the team to defend its state championship crown. The thing worrying Wood is the team's lack of depth.

"Overall, we have an outstanding squad, but we are weak in several events," said Wood. "In the breaststroke and backstroke we have some excellent individual talent but not enough to swim those events. On the other hand, I expect the butterfly and freestyle events to be our strongest."

The major reason for Wood's high hopes are the freshmen.

"This has been our best recruiting year ever. We have a potential top-ranked swimmer in Ann Marshall, who will swim freestyle and backstroke. Another outstanding prospect, Laurie Potter, will swim butterfly and provide strength in our individual medley team. Two other freshmen, Dale Alton and Gale Thompson, will swim breaststroke and freestyle, respectively. An awful lot will depend on how the freshmen adjust to college level

competition," said Wood.

Returning from last year's team will be captain Beth Cameron, a junior who will swim breaststroke and Madelyne Warcholik, a sophomore in the butterfly and freestyle. Among the young members, these two experienced swimmers should add stability to the squad. Coach Wood has been working his team quite hard, allowing the freshmen to work against a higher level of competition.

"This is the first year the men and women have practiced together. It gives us two hours of practice time, so we're working much harder this year. Consequently, we lost a few that weren't interested," said Wood.

As far as opposition is concerned, Wood looks to Virginia Commonwealth (sixth-ranked last year), Tennessee, and N.C. State to have strong programs. This is the first year for women's swimming at State, but because four scholarships were given, State recruited quite well.

All Carolina home meets, including the state championships, will be held in the indoor pool adjacent to Woolen Gym.

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