

SPORTS

MHC Booters Record Dismal Opening Three



Mars Hill defense saw a lot of action during the opening week of the soccer season.

what Dr. Coates called "A learning experience", Mars Hill Soccer team finished its season by being destroyed by UNC-A, Highpoint, and Elon, 15-0, and 10-0, respectively.

UNC-A registered fifty-seven shots on goal compared to only one for Mars Hill. Lion goal keeper Chip Kiley was credited with twenty-seven saves. Backup goal keeper Kirk Palmer notched seven saves when Coates moved Kiley to midfield.

Lions' first soccer game as a varsity squad faced them off against the top Bulldogs of UNC-A. The first half was a defensive strategy of the Lions back as the Bulldogs scored five goals. The first goal came five minutes into the game when four UNC-A players penetrated the fullback line and scored on a diagonal kick to the lower corner of the Lions goal.

"Despite the margin of goals they won by, Jeff Morgan and Mike Butler played exceptionally well on defense. They saved shots that I couldn't reach, and never stopped encouraging the other players", said Chip Kiley.

Other scores for the half came on a diagonal kick and three other blind side goals. Mars Hill kept up enthusiasm in the second half, but was unable to generate any offensive threat. Midfield was totally controlled by UNC-A as Mars Hill halfbacks were caught out of position. Center fullback Mike Butler was injured. "We were totally outclassed by the best teams in the nation. Mars Hill was on our side of the field for five out of ninety minutes, which is a little time to rest."

Play improved for the Lions' second game against High Point. Though the defense had its hands full again with an aggressive High Point offense, some pressure was taken off by an improving Lion attack.

Doc Wells: Sarcastic Medicine

Outplayed for the second day in a row, the Lions' injuries from the previous day caught up with them. Thigh problems plagued Jeff Bryson, Wayne Randall, and David Adams. Also, a fractured nose and bruised ribs of goalie Kiley hampered his playing ability.

Two goals were the result of balls deflecting off Mars Hill players. A penalty kick was awarded when center fullback Mike Butler was called for an illegal tackle within the Goalie Box. "It was not a good call, I thought it was a good tackle," said Mike Butler.

Kiley notched twenty-one saves on forty-eight shots with the Lions tallying only one shot on goal.

The Lions' third game pitted them against the Fighting Christians of Elon. With plans of feeding the Christians to the Lions, Mars Hill traveled to Burlington, only to be turned away for the third time in a week.

Once again, the midfield failed to control the ball, which spent the majority of the game on the Lions' half of the field. Halfback John Weinman played exceptionally well as he deterred Elon's halfbacks from setting up scoring strikes.

Dr. Coates made personnel changes in hopes of generating some offense. Mike Butler was moved to center forward for his ball control and excellent shot. David Julan moved to right fullback, which provided the defense with an aggressive control player, who stopped Elon's left wing continually throughout the game.

Doc Wells at work in the training room.

athletic injury is not only a physical problem, but for some, can be a psychological one also. After weeks of practice and intense training, you twist an ankle or hurt your knee, only to be taken to the training room. At the threshold of modern sports medicine stands John Wells, Head of Sports Medicine. A sheepish smile crosses his face as he reflects on the experience he practiced the night before in his laboratory. You cringe as you see one of his training assistants take off his shoes before being allowed to enter the Holy Healing Room. The terror really begins. You are laid up on a table, where "Doc" examines the injury, making sarcastic after-the-fact remark about chances of recovery. Finally, you are turned over to a trainee (who keeps mumbling about his breath, "One hundred and thirty-three hours left of training") who gives orders to ice and wrap. Your fear has dispersed from your face when "Doc" leans in the door and orders "whirlpool and RA SOUND." Once again horror strikes as you are propelled back into "THE TRAINING ZONE". You try to hear Rod Stieger explain the alerting affects of ULTRA HEATING as you sit on the training table. The student trainee in an attempt to explain the deep heating method is suddenly pounced upon by "Doc", who after knocking the trainee to the ground, demands to know what "Doc".

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Newcomer Bobby Collins provided endurance and enthusiasm at midfield in the second half, which helped spark a rally, ending with Butler's shot on goal from thirty yards out.

Goal Keeper Kiley was injured thirty minutes into the game after four balls had crossed the goal line. "It was the worst game I've played; I was out of position on every goal. The third goal went right through my hands while I tried to punch it over the bar," said Kiley. Kiley was replaced by Kirk Palmer who then was replaced by Colin Cristie. Cristie played the entire second half, and came up with some excellent saves.

Despite the three losses, the Lions predict things to get better. Their upcoming schedule puts them up against Anderson, Montreat, Tusculum, and King colleges. The soccer team would like to thank all the supporters, especially the "Golden Pride".

Football Team Wins Season Opener

The Lions began the 1983-84 season with a decisive victory over Concord college in West Virginia on Saturday, September 10.

MHC got off to an early lead when Sean Bowles connected with Dale Similton for a 17 yard touchdown pass on Mars Hill's first possession of the game. Dave Shealy then widened the lead to 7-0 with the first of his 4 extra points.

After forcing Concord to punt, the Mars Hill Lions scored their second touchdown of the game. It was Bowles to Similton again, this time on a 57 yard pass with 6:37 still remaining in the first quarter.

In the second quarter, Jackie Williamson blocked a punt on the Concord eleven yard line. Two plays later, Bowles connected with Danny Gilbert for our third touchdown. By the end of the first half Mars Hill enjoyed a 21-0 lead.

The third quarter proved to be uneventful, but in the fourth quarter, Concord scored a touchdown with a two point conversion, averting what might have been a Lion shutout.

In the closing minutes, MHC's Ricky Stiles returned Concord's short kick-off to their 37 yard line. Then with the help of the offensive line, Halfback Tony Dawkins broke through the secondary for a 25 yard gain to the Concord 12. Two plays later, freshman Pete Calhoun scored the last touchdown of the game from 10 yards out, making the final score MHC 28, Concord 8.

With a much improved offense and a very effective defense, the Mars Hill Lions showed that this year they mean business. Go Lions!