

Duke names McGee to replace Harp

DURHAM — Mike McGee, a former Duke star guard, Thursday was named new head football coach at Duke University less than 24 hours after the firing of five-year veteran Tom Harp.

McGee, 32, a former Duke assistant coach who spent the past year as head football coach at East Carolina University, said "I am honored to return home to my alma mater."

"We are convinced that the future of Duke football is indeed bright," said the young head coach, who told newsmen he found leaving ECU "the most difficult decision of our lives."

There was no immediate announcement for a successor to McGee at East Carolina, but McGee indicated that one would probably be chosen from the present coaching staff at the Greenville institution.

Harp, who had four losing seasons before putting together a 6-5 overall mark and missing the Atlantic Coast Conference championship with a final

loss to North Carolina, was fired Wednesday afternoon.

Harp said he has no plans.

Duke Athletic Director Eddie Cameron said the school athletic council looked for a man who would fit in the job at a private university where academic standards are high and will remain high.

"We believe we have found the man who will encourage our players on the gridiron and in the classrooms," said Cameron.

Cameron presented McGee to the council Wednesday afternoon, and he won quick approval.

Cameron said "All of us wanted to act quickly so there would be no lapse in our football program."

McGee, who in 1959 won the Outland Trophy as outstanding lineman on the Duke team of which he as captain, holds a masters degree from the University of North Carolina.

Following his graduation, McGee played in the 1960 college all-star game in Chicago, then joined the St. Louis Cardinals football team.

Bitter Harp points to tough sked

But doesn't regret playing best, he says

by Mark Whicker Sports Writer

"Give me VMI, Kentucky and Vanderbilt instead of Georgia Tech, Florida and Ohio State and we might've had a great season. But we played the best and that's the way we wanted it."

Duke's Tom Harp is one head coach who doesn't try to bottle up his feelings of bitterness and disappointment after being fired. The Duke Athletic Council dismissed him Wednesday after five years in Durham, where his record was 22-28-1.

Mike McGee decided to leave his post at East Carolina and return to his alma mater to replace Harp Thursday. McGee was a guard of the 1959 Blue Devils and was named the conference player of the year.

But why was Harp fired anyway? The Blue Devil football program made sharp improvement in the past two years. If Duke had overcome Don McCauley and the Tar Heels on Nov. 21, it would have meant a conference title, the first one at Durham since 1962.

"We already had 20 high school players ready to sign with us this Saturday," Harp said after his dismissal.

"In prior years, the most we ever had was three."

Harp has many good memories at Duke: "sprint-killer" shoestring play that beat Carolina last year, the emergence of

Leo Hart as one of the nation's best passers, the satisfaction of recruiting prospects like Steve Jones, Rich Searl and Ernie Jackson away from bigger football schools, the 46-30 upset of Georgia Tech in 1968 and the 21-13 win over West Virginia this year that made Harp "national coach of the week."

But in 1967 and 1968, when Bill Dooley's building process was in its early stages, Harp had two golden chances to beat Carolina and lost both times.

And despite outstanding individual efforts by Searl, Dick Biddle and Bob Matheson, Harp's defenses at Duke rarely got the job done until this year.

Harp has much reason to be bitter about the timing of his dismissal, after the coaching job he did this season. The Devils started the season by fumbling away a chance to upset Florida in Jacksonville 21-19, then plodded past Maryland and Virginia for their first two conference wins.

Duke refused to play sacrificial lamb at Ohio State on Oct. 3, holding the Buckeyes to a 6-3 halftime lead and fighting to the end of a 34-10 setback.

Harp's passing to Chesson rallied the Blue Devils at Columbia Nov. 14 to a

42-38 win over South Carolina; Jones was injured, but replacement Art Bosetti carried the ball 42 times for 242 yards. Harp called it "the best team effort I've ever been involved with."

Then came the holocaust at Chapel Hill, and Harp's job was in jeopardy.

McGee figures to enjoy the benefits of Harp's persistent recruiting, and if he does as well as Harp did in North Carolina

the program will keep flourishing. Jones, Hart, Chesson Brad Evans and Frosh and quarterback Chuck Mohn are all Tar Heel products.

As one Duke official put it Wednesday night, "I don't know if many people could do what Harp did with the situation as it was when he came here, but I think somebody would be better now, with the material at hand."

14 UNC fencers in Illinois Open

by Don Albright Sports Writer

Fourteen members of the UNC fencing team will travel to Champaign-Urbana, Illinois this weekend for the Illinois Open Fencing Championships. The meet will begin tonight and continue all day Saturday.

The Tar Heels are fresh from impressive wins over Vanderbilt and Tennessee.

Head Coach Ron Miller is very optimistic about the Open. He feels as though this year his fencers have their best chance in three years for their highest finish.

Five Tar Heels finished in the final rounds last year and Miller is looking for an improvement over that performance.

"This is the first year we've had a great deal of experience in every weapon," he said.

Leading the Tar Heel attack will be Bo McGee, Steve Piantodosi, Bud Griscom,

Dave Brown, and Garrett Walker in sabre; Jon Pavloff, Ben Brinson, Chad Hilton and Dave Lynn in epee; and Charlie Poteat, Dick Betts, Brad Veslick, Bob Varley and Robert Cromartie in foil.

Teams expected to field the strongest competition will be Detroit, Wayne State, Wisconsin, Air Force, Kansas, Iowa, Iowa St., and Chicago in addition to Illinois, the host team.

While the fourteen will be competing as individuals in Illinois, the remainder of the team and the fencing club will travel to Raleigh for the North Carolina Fencing Association Novice Tournament on Saturday.

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Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- Crates
- Tangled masses
- Place for worship
- Require
- Conjunction
- Christmastide
- Mixture
- Afternoon party
- Tibetan priests
- Fuss
- Diex
- Leased
- Printer's measure
- Decelerates
- Mends
- Tidings
- Seasoning
- Church dignitary
- Condescending looks
- Farne Islands whirlwind
- South American animal
- Fintail duck
- Doctrine
- Genus of heaths
- Desert
- Pack away
- Tissue
- Near
- Weirder
- Negligent
- Recipient of gift
- Animal

DOWN

- Breakfast food
- Part of "to be"
- Secret agent
- Hebrew month
- Musical sign of Psalms
- A state (abbr.)
- Pronoun
- Latin: I love
- Festive
- The Duke of Brooklyn
- Carries
- Decrees
- Mohammedan prince
- Make amends
- War god
- Part of flower
- Dilate
- Small valleys
- Part of meadow
- Newspaper paragraphs
- Heavenly body
- Balance
- Remained at ease
- Send forth
- Meal
- Chairs
- Sharp and harsh
- Philippine Muslim
- Toward shelter
- Emerge victorious
- Wine cup
- College degree (abbr.)
- Note of scale
- Exists

Answer to Yesterday's Puzzle

PRO	HASTE	MOT
OUR	OILED	BVA
PEG	STERE	DAD
AGE	ENNUI	
ACW	OPS	STAB
SAL	ENS	SEERS
AZURE	MUARE	
AMASS	CAN	RAT
MATE	MET	GALE
IDEAL	BOE	
TOO	ATLAS	EAT
URN	STAIN	AGO
GAS	TERSE	NET

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Coach fired

BOONE (UPI)—Appalachian State University said Thursday head football Coach Carl Messere has resigned to assume fulltime teaching duties in the School of Business.

Messere, 34, has headed the Mountaineers football team since 1965, coaching the team to a 34-36-1 overall record for those six years. ASU's record this season was 5-5.

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