



Despite pressure, UNC kept the ball away from BA

Staff photo by Martha Stevens

Shut out Belmont Abbey, 5-0 Heels blitz Crusaders in opener

by Bill Key
Sports Writer

Played before a sparse gathering on wet Fetzer Field, the 1974 version of Carolina soccer slipped its way to victory with a 5-0 shutout over Belmont Abbey in the season opener for both teams.

Despite the sloppy conditions which hampered both teams at the outset, Carolina was able to cash in on a Dickie Drayton goal which was set up by a good move by Steve Skolsky in front of Belmont's net with only two minutes and forty two seconds expired.

Belmont, ranked third in pre-season NAIA polls, gained the territorial advantage momentarily but was turned aside by a stingy UNC defense.

With players slipping and sliding on the Fetzer turf, UNC Coach Allen noticed that the Heels were keeping the play "too much in the middle" and not "swinging it enough to the sides."

UNC gained momentum and the play

began to go in Carolina's favor around the twenty minute mark.

Sparked by a brilliant save by UNC goalie Mark Berson, quick all day, but only tested with eight shots on goal, UNC began to spread Belmont's defense out, "the essence of offense" Coach Allen said.

Beginning to use their spaces with skill, the Heels began to move well without the ball on a flat Belmont team.

A Rob Hollis score on a head-in after a nifty pass in by fullback Rob Hassold produced UNC's second score at the 24:46 mark.

Freshman standout Dickie Drayton scored his second goal of the game with less

than two minutes to play on a perfectly placed shot into the right hand corner with an assist from Rob Hollis, giving Carolina a comfortable 3-0 lead at halftime.

UNC maintained the pressure throughout the second half of play, continuing its converging defense and spread out offense.

Keeping Belmont off balance with a team-oriented style of play, Rick Culberson capitalized on a pass in from Steve Skolsky with a little over 14 minutes gone to give UNC a commanding 4-0 cushion.

The UNC defense stifled any offensive thrusts Belmont had left, playing a smart, defensive oriented brand of ball. And with twenty minutes remaining in the game, UNC

was thinking shutout.

Substitutes wrapped the game up in style as they kept most of the action in Belmont's end. Mark Johnson finished the scoring with an assist from David Harmon.

Coach Allen characterized the win as a "defensive" one. Carolina's coordinated defense only permitted eight shots on goal. It was because of the tight, converging defense the Heels were able to carry the offensive play.

Allen stated he "was pleased with the outcome and the way the team kept its poise."

The next home game pits Carolina against Davidson on Sept. 27 at 4:00 p.m.

Track team to meet

There will be a meeting for all members of the North Carolina track team on Thursday, Sept. 19 at 4 p.m. on Fetzer Field track.

Tom Ward

Winning can be fun, folks

Rain or shine, Carolina's varsity soccer team will be tough in '74.

In Tuesday's steady downpour, the Tar Heels thumped Belmont Abbey, 5-0, to kick off a new season. The team finessed its way despite the elements through the aggressive 4-3-3 Belmont set-up.

Carolina's starting line, led by freshman winger Dickey Drayton, who scored twice, and sophomore halfback Rob Hollis took the fight right to their opposition and never took off the pressure.

The first goal came after only 2 minutes and 42 seconds had expired on a twenty foot shot by Drayton who was assisted by Steve Skolsky. A header by Hollis followed by another Drayton goal gave Carolina a 3-0 edge going into the locker room.

In the final period, Rick Culberson

and Mark Johnson got into the scoring act and put away any Belmont hope.

The team was particularly pleased to come away with a shut-out as goalie Mark Berson came through with a solid performance.

The Belmont players got aggravated at the entire situation as four players were given a warning by the official. Fans naturally took advantage and thoroughly enjoyed riding their favorite criminals.

In the midst of this confusion, Carolina played nothing less than excellent soccer. It was obvious that the Heels were in better condition and were playing for keeps.

Hollis was "pleasantly surprised" at the team's play considering the condition of the field and acknowledged his respect for Belmont by saying, "it

could have been a lot different on a dry field." Belmont's normal offensive tactics of dribbling, and one-on-one were severely hampered by the rain.

"I was pleased with our hustle and ability to keep the ball on their half of the field," said Head Coach Marvin Allen. "We played well for our season opener, and I am glad to get by Belmont Abbey without getting into a lot of trouble."

Carolina's next game will be on September 20 at 4 p.m. against Appalachian State. Davidson will be the next home opponent on September 27.

There should be some good weather and exciting soccer ahead for Tar Heel fans.

If Carolina can stop the awesome Clemson scoring machine, there might even be an ACC title.



Behind strong blocking...

... junior quarterback Billy Paschall unleashes a pass against Ohio University in the Tar Heels' 42-7 opening victory. Pleased with Paschall's and Chris Kupec's play, head coach

Bill Dooley will continue to use both in Saturday's game with Wake Forest in Winston-Salem. (Staff photo by Gary Lobraico)

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