Soccer team opens year

By KEVIN KIRK DTH Staff Writer

Carolina's soccer team opens its 1981 season against High Point at 2 p.m. Sunday at Fetzer Field.

Although Carolina dominated last. year's match, Coach Anson Dorrance is not taking the game lightly. "We haven't been able to scout during the pre-season, so we will be going into the game blind," he said.

"Early in the season, a team's patterns haven't developed. It's more difficult to build an attack. So if they've got their defense down more than our offense, it could be a bloody tight match."

Dorrance said his goals for the early season were to mold the defense, which has many new faces, and to try to crank the offense up early. "Even though we set a record for goals scored last year, we had problems putting the ball in the net in the beginning. We'd like to avoid that this year."

Adding to the difficulties of the early season will be incorporating 11 freshmen and first year players, nearly half of the 24-man roster.

"They're (the freshmen) very competitive," Dorrance said. "Of course, they won't be seasoned, but they bring the enthusiasm that any player has in his first season. We're hoping that enthusiasm will overcome their inexperience."

One of the most impressive new faces has been Billy Hartman. Dorrance cautions against making sweeping statements of praise before performances in the actual game, but he described Hartman as having great potential. "He trains with tremendous intensity, and any time someone trains that hard, he's going to improve."

Hartman, who will start on Sunday at the left midfield position, seems ready to step up to the college level. He says his biggest challenge will be to keep up physically. "I feel I'm on the same skill level, but the players are much bigger."

Besides Hartman, starters in the mid-field will be Adam Abronski and Mike Fiocco. Pat O'Donnell, another freshman, will be a leading reserve at the position.

On defense, captain Ricky Marvin is the only returning starter. Geoff Drayton, who will inherit the goalkeepeer's position from graduated Kevin Kane, has looked solid during the preseason. In front of those two, Dorrance named Joe Maher, Robert Kelly and Jim Poff as probable starters. Poff has been particularly outstanding in practice, Dorrance said.

The offense will have less trouble with inexperience. Tony Johnson, John Boettigheimer and Tim Ensley were all starters on last year's team.

Swimmers represent country

stall and wire reports

University of North Carolina swimmer Sue Walsh captured one gold and two silver medals for the United States in Russia last weekend.

Ericson and Gayle Hegel travel to Toyko, Japan, for a six-nation International Swim Meet.

ton, Del., and Hegel, a junior from Turnersville, N.J., left Chapel Hill Tuesday for Japan, where they will participate for the U.S. team against swimmers from Canada, Australia, China, the Soviet Union and Japan.

fourth-place finishes in the nationals. Ericson earned a spot in the 100-meter backstroke competition with a time of 57:92. Hegel turned in a 2:19.92 time in her event, the 200-meter individual medley.

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