

Endurance, Timing Essentials For College Soccer Players

By KEN DENLINGER

Soccer is the only major college sport where a player's hands become a detriment. It is a game played by 11 men with educated feet.

A soccer player must have the speed of a sprinter, the endurance of a cross country runner and the timing of a punter. Of these basic essentials perhaps the most important is timing. The most powerful of booters is nothing if his timing is off.

This is also one of the few sports remaining for the so-called little man. Unlike a college football coach, the soccer mentor is sometimes flabbergasted at the sight of a 200-pounder showing up for a tryout. And the fact that a player has size does not assure him a place on the team because the smaller, more agile man stands a good chance of possessing these attributes so vital for a winning squad.



Ken Hosterman

Ken Hosterman's booters are a good indication of this lack of mammoth size. The starting team will probably average around 5'9" in height and weigh about 165 pounds per man. This is, of course, not puny by any means, but by normal college recruiting standards men this size would be passed.

Now, what is the difference between a good high school soccer player and a good college player.

The college player must be more versatile. He must be able to kick accurately and with both feet.

Passing is extremely important to the precision-dominated college game. A high school star, who is

able to take the ball downfield himself may not fit into a college coaches scheme of things, although if the player has the ability to take the ball himself in high school he probably can learn to direct it to a teammate in the college ranks.

It takes quite a bit of skill to play college soccer. Many people see no point to a game where a player can literally get a swelled head from playing. But not many men possess the ability to play college soccer. Just ask coach Hosterman how hard it is to find collegiate soccer material.

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Baker Lands Net Coaching Job

Form Nittany tennis captain Jim Baker ended a standout career for State last spring, but it appears that graduation was only the proverbial "end of the beginning" for the classy netter.

Last week Baker migrated South to assume duties as head tennis coach at Florida State University in Tallahassee. The school's "brass" informed Baker of the appointment last month at the Youngstown (Ohio) Country Club where he served this summer as tennis professional.

At the same time, the ex-Lion tennis star will begin study to-

wards a master's degree in physical education and instruct gym classes.

Outstanding tennis players are few and far between at State, but veteran tennis coach Sherm Fogg found "one who ranks with the best ever to perform" in Baker.

Baker was respected for his game and drew such praises as, "He has all the shots," from Fogg; "He's got terrific form," from Army tutor Leif Nordlie, and "He's one of the best I've ever seen play," from Bucknell coach Henry Peters.

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