

Kehan aims at healthy season

By TIM PANACCIO
Collegian Sports Writer

Tom Kehan is an anxious senior. For the past three years Kehan has been troubled with an assortment of knee and leg injuries more common to foot-

ball linemen than to soccer fullbacks.

Kehan saw an entire season go down the drain last fall on the edge of a goalie's fist which caught him in the cheek against West Chester.

"What happened," he recalled, "was on a corner kick I was running in toward the goalie for a head shot. Both the goalie and I were running toward each other and he came out with his fists in the air and

got me. I guess he didn't want me in there."

And Kehan remembers the long weeks on the road to recovery and all those soccer games he missed and even those he'd played earlier on a not-so-healthy pair of legs.

"I've already had an operation two summers ago on my knees. This past summer Chris (Bahr) and I worked in the Catskill Mountains at a sports camp," Kehan said.

"We did a lot of things at the camp. There was all sports, not just soccer, although we reffed a few soccer games. Chris was one of the Board of Directors and I served as a counselor."

But Kehan didn't go to the Catskill Mountains just to teach a group of promising youngsters a few things with a soccer ball.

"I did a lot of running this past summer to help my legs," Kehan said. "Plus, I played basketball, and hockey and just about anything. Most of all though, I just walked. I walked all over to exercise my legs and now they feel good."

There wasn't much walking Kehan could do outside the mountain area because there just wasn't much to do in up state New York. "Oh man, the town was dead," he said. "I mean there were no stores, no bars no excitement or en-

tertainment. No town at all!"

As Kehan talks he gives the impression he's anxious to play. He moves nervously about. While Herb Schmidt instructs his squad seated along the sidelines, Kehan paces around with a soccer ball at his feet. When Schmidt sticks the tall, frizzy-haired fullback-turned-forward into the scrimmage he dribbles across field as if no one else is around. The anxiousness in his movements is evident.

"I guess I'm just very aggressive and I kinda overextend myself. That's probably how I got hurt," Kehan said.

Kehan is hopeful that his legs will hold up this year and he won't have another freak accident. He's also hopeful about Penn State's chances this coming season:

"We can be stronger this year — maybe the strongest team in a couple years. But a lot of guys are gonna be depended upon to score. If I play, they'll count on me too; but a lot of us are gonna have to carry the load."

*Bad knees in '71
broken cheek '72
— can Tom Kehan
outrun injury jinx?*



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