

## Sports

# Burke makes a statement

By Stephen Tobey

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LOWELL - While Michael Burke was the leading scorer in the Dual County League this fall and he broke the Concord-Carlisle boys soccer team's single-season record for scoring, the timing of his four most recent goals was everything.

The hat trick the George Washington University-bound senior scored in the second half of Saturday's MIAA Division 2 North semifinal helped C-C overcome a three-goal deficit to defeat Masconomet, 4-3. In Monday's sectional final, he scored the first goal and assisted on Theo Terris' goal in C-C's 3-1 victory over Dracut.

"He has a great shot," said Masconomet coach Len Emmons after Saturday's game. "His teammates set him up and he does a great job finishing."

Burke has scored 21 goals this season, eclipsing the previous record that Matt Anacon set in his junior year of 1997.

Terris, who assisted on Burke's goal in the sectional final, will also be playing for George Washington next year. They have played together since they were 6 and are on the same club team. Burke spent four years at St. Sebastian's Country Day School in Needham before reuniting with Terris at C-C last fall and helping the Patriots win the Division 2 state title.

"It helps with finishing if your teammates can set you up," Burke said. "We've been playing together for 10 or 11 years."

Said Terris, It works out perfectly. He's able to use the ball wherever I can put it. It's been huge having him back in the lineup."

Said C-C coach Ray Pavlik, "There's probably not a better duo in the state."

Burke returned to the Patriots lineup for the sectional semifinal after missing 2 ½ weeks with a concussion.

"I came back [to practice] on Thursday and I was a little rusty," Burke said. "The team helped me a lot. I feel a lot better, but I have to be careful heading the ball. I was advised not to head the ball off punts."

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