Heidenberger

Open play Saturday

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Women's tennis looks for strong fall season

By SHARON KESTER DTH Staff Writer

When the UNC women's tennis team opens its fall season against Virginia on Saturday afternoon, it will be with the help of four already seasoned players.

Coming off of a 1980-1981 performance that earned them a national post-season ranking of 11, Kathy Barton, Betsy Heidenberger, Margie Brown and Captain Katharine Hogan now occupy the top four singles positions.

"And any one of them can beat another one in that line-up," Coach Kitty Harrison said.

The intra-squad competition has been particularly advantageous, she said.

"The girls have been pretty intense in challenge matches up to this point, which is good because it makes them compete hard and get back into it," she said. "They'll be, to a certain extent, matchtough when they play against Virginia."

By that time, if practices continue to be as effective as they have been, Harrison said the girls would have overcome the rustiness that had plagued them since August. This week's practices also are important for determination of the No. 3 doubles team, she said.

"I've got two doubles teams that are surefire." Harrison said of Julie Kirby, Hogan, Heidenberger and Brown. "I don't have to play around with them. They're established pretty much. And, I might add, those two teams are very close."

Harrison said she might fill in the blank with at least one of the four players from her talented crop of freshmen, made up of Sarah Dickinson, Pam McNierney and the Monaco twins - Lisa and Margit. "I don't exactly know how they'll fit into this picture yet," she said.

Two important veterans won't be back this year. Co-captain Lloyd Hatcher graduated while Jennifer Balent, a consistent singles and doubles player, quit to go to school in her home state of Florida.

One veteran Harrison hopes to fit back into the picture is senior Sandy Fleischman, who was unable to compete last year because of a bad elbow. She's been practicing this season and might play at sixth singles, Harrison said. Kirby will play at fifth.

In looking ahead to Saturday, Heidenberger says one need only to look at the team's depth. "There are no one or two top players and then a sudden drop," she said. "We've got great depth - something Virginia doesn't have."

Another thing Virginia doesn't have is a veteran

coach. Coach Harrison, in her sixth year at UNC and last year's regional coach-of-the-year, doesn't know how that will affect Virginia's team. She said that all other teams in the Atlantic Coast Conference, with the exception of Clemson and Maryland, also had been in a state of flux as far as their coaching staffs.

"As usual, Clemson will be our hardest [opponent], but I don't think that we can ever gloss over the others," Harrison said. "Duke can always be a contender, and Wake Forest and Virginia. And perhaps not so much State and Maryland."

Aside from six dual matches with ACC teams and the ACC tournament, the team will play in the South Carolina tournament.

"South Carolina will always be a tough one," Harrison said. "They've got some fine new recruits down there, and they'll also have Indiana there [at the tournament] and they're going to be very strong. But it should be a good time for us to take our measure and see what we'll be like on the national scale." UNC is no stranger to the top 20, having been

ranked for the past three years.

The women's tennis team which has four ACC crowns in its history plays a split schedule, with most of the regional and national play in the spring.



Barton

Black goes for his kicks

By GEOFFREY MOCK **Assistant Sports Editor**

Safety Walt Black is determined to make a name for himself the hard way. When fellow secondary mate Greg Poole intercepts a pass he goes easily in for a touchdown, but when Black intercepts a pass, the return goes for one yard and is quickly forgotten. Instead, Black becomes famous by putting his face in front of kicked balls.

Black, a Morehead Scholar from Kernersville, N.C., saved the shutout against East Carolina two weeks ago by blocking a Pirate field goal attempt and last week set up a Carolina touchdown by pressuring Miami punter Steve Bumpass into throwing an incompletion from his own end zone.

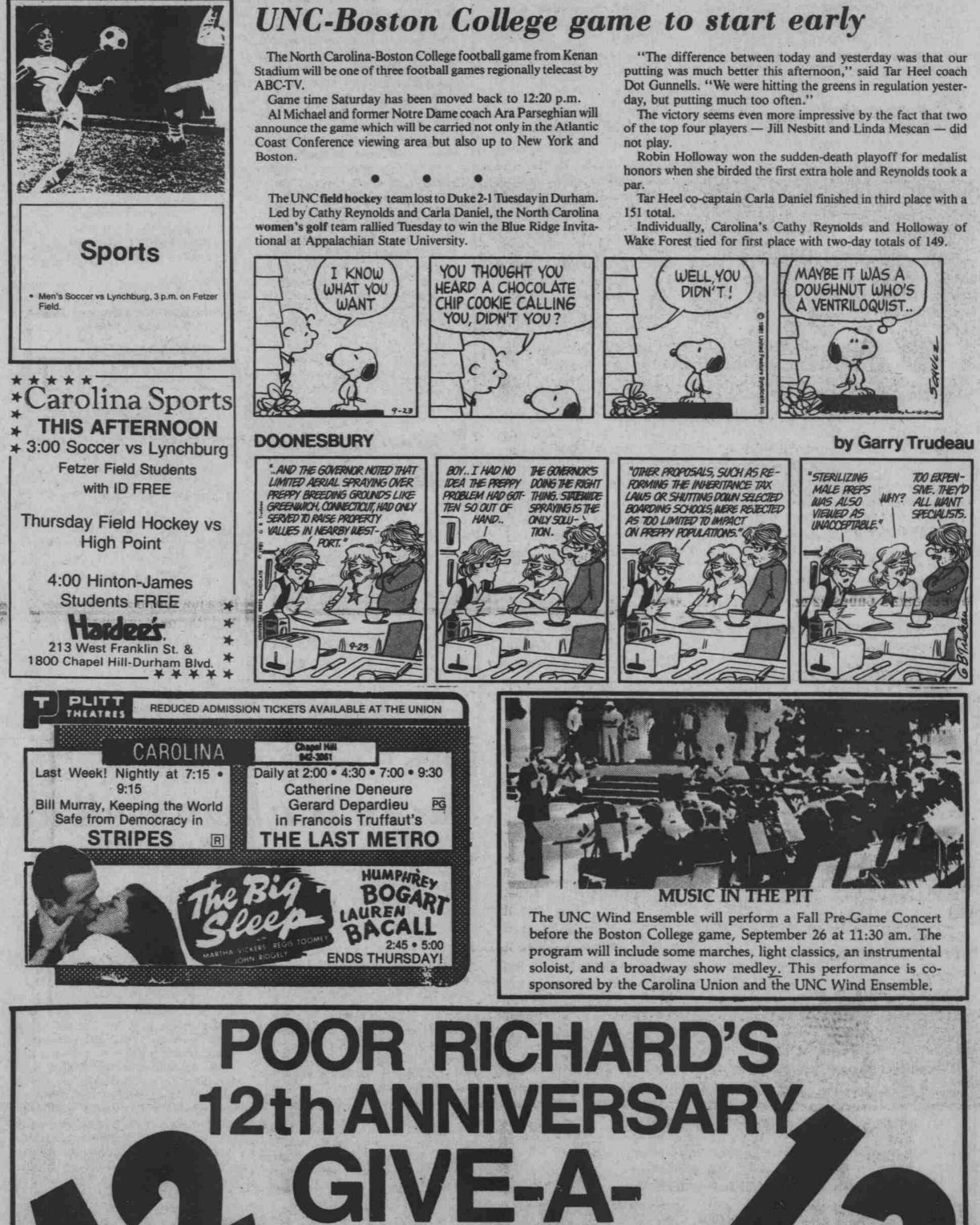
"We've been working on punt and

than at cornerback. Last year I got frustrated if people ran away from me. At free safety you get a greater reign of freedom."

As might be expected from a Carolina safety, Black said he admired Steve Streater. "Before I was recruited I saw he had a winning attitude," he said. "After I got to know him I realized he was a winner. We have different talents, but as far as him going out to win, I've tried to do that."

At his weekly press conference Tuesday, North' Carolina Coach Dick Crum said the Tar Heels' lopsided margin of victory was the result of the play in every aspect of the game.

"The first two games could have been







field goal blocks," Black said. "It's one of our goals to block a kick. You've got to want to work that play. It's kind of daring. It's not too bad after a while. I was scared at first, but now I'm used to it." Opposing receivers also are recipients of Black's disrespect. The secondary has lost its big hitter with the graduation of Steve Streater, but Black said it was still ohysical.

"We're a little quieter than last year," Black said. "We concentrate on keeping an even level of intensity, but we still try to punish the receiver. We make sure he knows he's not supposed to catch the ball. We're just trying to play good heads up pall."

Black saw some action last year as a eserve cornerback, but was moved to safety before spring practice. "When the coaches looked at the depth charts they wanted Darryl Lucas to move to cornerback," he said. "He's bigger than I am and they wanted the corners to be stronger. I played safety in high school and I feel comfortable there."

The change to safety has helped Black with his defense against the rush. "So far tot too many people have come back my vay," he said. "I like to come up and offer upport. I have more freedom at safety

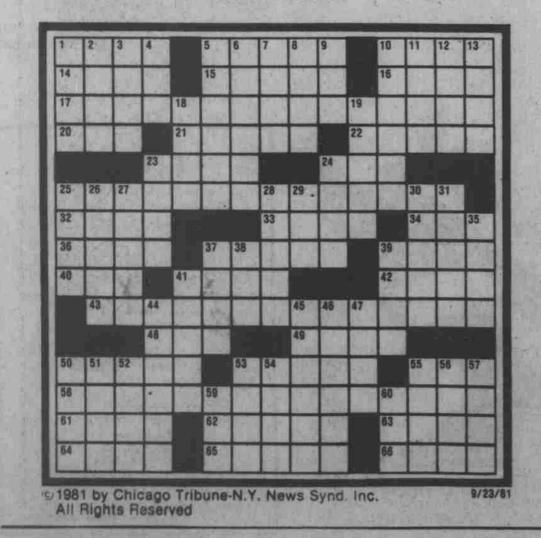
games that we scored 28 or 35 points had we not played so completely on offense, defense and the kicking game," Crum said. "Our kicking game was as good against Miami as any time I've been around. That certainly takes a burden off our defense. That's the difference between scoring a lot of points and scoring 28 or 35 points." Hayes' punting against Miami justified Crum's decision to take him off field goal duties. "Jeff had some trouble with field goals on the right hash mark," Crum said. We knew he would probably be punting and he would be more comfortable concentrating on punting. He'll kick extremely long field goals."

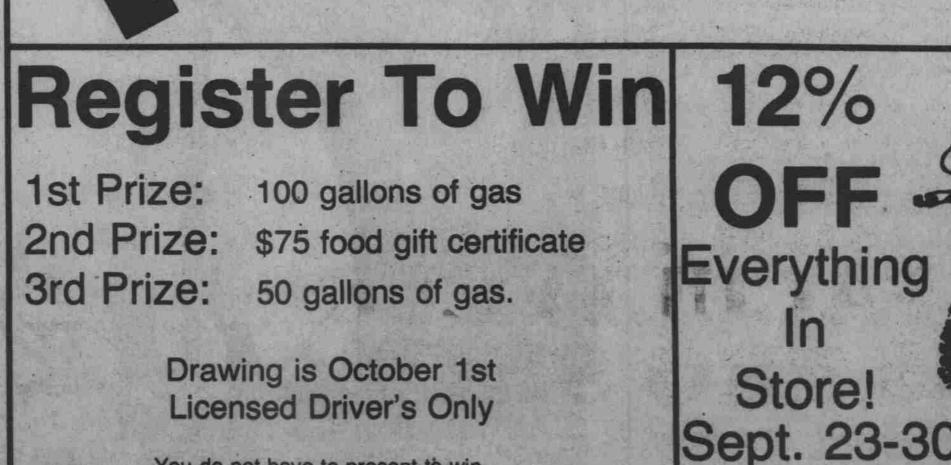
Crum has been hounded by questions asking for comparisons between this year's team and last year's 11-1 Atlantic Coast Conference championship team. Hesaid any comparison would be irrelevant.

"To say we're better than we were last year, I'm not prepared to say that," he said. The youngsters on the team are not prepared to say it either."

Crum said that offensive tackle, Mike Marr, who suffered a sprained knee against Miami, probably would not start against Boston College Saturday. He said he would not rule out starting Marr, but that he expected to start Steve Lancaster."

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