

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## IN THE NEWS

Top stories from the state, nation and world

### Ronald Reagan Announces Alzheimer's Diagnosis

LOS ANGELES — Former President Reagan, in a handwritten letter to "fellow Americans," disclosed Saturday that he has Alzheimer's disease and has now begun "the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life."

Reagan, 83, wrote that he was feeling fine now but that he and wife, Nancy, had chosen to reveal the diagnosis in hopes of promoting greater awareness of the incurable, mind-crippling disease.

**Former President's Announcement Leaves Political Colleagues Shocked**  
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"Unfortunately, as Alzheimer's disease progresses, the family often bears a heavy burden," Reagan wrote. "I only wish there was some way I could spare Nancy from this painful experience. When the time comes, I am confident that with your help she will face it with faith and courage."

The letter, released to The Associated Press by Reagan spokeswoman Catherine Busch, was accompanied by a statement from five of Reagan's doctors.

### High School Cross Country Runner Dies at State Meet

LUMBERTON — A cross country runner from New Hanover High School died Saturday in a state regional competition, possibly from heart failure, officials said.

Gerald Norris, 16, collapsed on the course during the men's race of the Mid-East 4-A Regional cross country meet. Norris was taken to Southeastern General Hospital in Lumberton, where he was pronounced dead. An autopsy to determine the cause of death will be performed, said Lumberton police Lt. Leon Oxendine.

Rafael Perez, a senior from Fayetteville's Terry Sanford High School, said he found Norris lying on his face. Perez sent a teammate to get help, then began administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

### NATO Jets Circle Sarajevo After Continued Fighting

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — NATO warplanes buzzed Sarajevo early Sunday in a show of force after both sides fired heavy weapons around Bosnia's capital to breach the cease-fire.

Lt. Gen. Sir Michael Rose, U.N. commander in Bosnia, asked both the Muslim-led government and Bosnian Serb leaders to join in urgent talks on the deteriorating situation.

Fighting around the capital reignited Saturday when government forces fired four mortar shells from the southern suburb of Hrasnica at Bosnian Serb positions southwest of the capital.

Fifteen artillery shells were fired, in violation of a U.N. ban.

### S. African Murder Incites Fears of Racial Violence

PRETORIA, South Africa — The killing of a white church leader branded a traitor to his race because he condemned apartheid raised fears Sunday that political violence would again flare in South Africa.

Police refused to speculate on why Johan Heys, former head of the Dutch Reformed Church, was killed Saturday night by a single shot to the head.

But others were convinced Heys was killed by extremists who opposed the direction in which he had taken his church.

The 66-year-old Heys, head of the church from 1986 to 1990, had been a controversial figure for his anti-apartheid stances.

### 54 Die Following Flooding in Southern Europe, Africa

MILAN, Italy — The worst flooding in memory turned northern Italy into a disaster area Sunday and killed at least 54 people across southern Europe and North Africa.

With hundreds of people reported missing, the number of dead was expected to rise as rescuers reached isolated villages and searched through the rubble of destroyed homes.

The flooding, the worst in Italy since 1913, swept away bridges and whole sections of highway and cut off hundreds of villages.

Hardest hit was Italy's northern Piedmont region.

At least 27 people were dead or missing.

### Weather

TODAY: Mostly sunny; high mid-60s.  
TUESDAY: Fair; high in 70s.

## Former Parking Director Charged With Embezzlement

BY CHRIS NICHOLS  
CITY EDITOR

The town's former parking services superintendent, Eric Luther, was arrested Friday by the Chapel Hill police and charged with seven felony counts of embezzlement.

But his attorney, Steven Bernholz, doesn't think the state has a case against his client.

"There's nothing about what I understand the evidence might be that would suggest, or that would be sufficient to show anything, let alone Mr. Luther's involvement in any wrongdoing," Bernholz said. "When the state charges someone with a

crime without evidence, no defense is necessary.

"Mr. Luther was an extremely fine, loyal, honest employee for a number of years," Bernholz continued. "Why they charged him with any counts is a better question."

The police met with Orange-Chatham District Attorney Carl Fox on Thursday night and obtained warrants charging Luther with seven felony counts of embezzlement.

Luther, 36, of 6730 Lake View Road in Mebane turned himself in to Chapel Hill police shortly after 8 p.m. Friday and was placed under a \$3,500 secured bond, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

He was taken to Orange County Jail, where he was held until Saturday, when he made bond.

His arrest comes after an internal parking audit and an investigation by the town's finance department and the Chapel Hill police revealed discrepancies in the town's parking receipts.

Consequently, Luther was suspended from his position on Sept. 26, the day the audit uncovered the discrepancies.

The audit, which was ordered by Town Manager Cal Horton's office, was the first one done in a concentrated manner, but the town plans to continue the process, Chapel Hill Assistant Town Manager Sonna Loewenthal said in October.

Parking services was the first department audited because it is a major source of the town's cash transactions, Loewenthal said.

Last month, the investigation discovered that approximately \$35,000 was missing or unaccounted for from the town's off-street parking decks, such as the Rosemary Street deck and Municipal Lot No. 5 at the intersection of Church and Rosemary streets.

The audit revealed that of 410 days of records and receipts that were checked during the audit, 307 days had incomplete reports for one or more lots, town Finance Director Jim Baker said in October.

Then, on Oct. 21, Luther, who had been

a town employee since Sept. 1, 1981, was fired. The Sept. 26 suspension had changed Luther's payroll status from \$36,241 annually to \$0.

Luther is scheduled to appear in district court in Chapel Hill on Tuesday, reports state.

Police department spokeswoman Jane Cousins said Friday that the seven counts were a result of seven separate incidents. Luther was the only parking services employee being sought in the case, Cousins said.

Cousins said she couldn't specify what evidence pointed to Luther, adding that the facts of the investigation could not be released until the case went to court.

## UNC Bests Duke for ACC Soccer Title

Women's Soccer Avenges Its Only Loss in Four Years Against Top-Seeded Devils

BY TODD GRAFF  
STAFF WRITER

From the outset of its game against UNC Sunday, Duke was in way over its head.

For a team that might have lacked inspiration at times this season, the Blue Devils' win three weeks ago gave UNC an extra incentive that no opponent can afford to give an already dominant team like the Tar Heels.

So the ecstasy the Blue Devils (16-4-1) enjoyed following their historic win came crashing down with a 4-2 loss at the hands of the Tar Heels (21-1-1) in the ACC Women's Soccer Tournament final in front of 5,206 at Fetzer Field.

"What I thought would happen happened as far as the onslaught," said Duke head coach Bill Hempen. "When they come out with that kind of fury against a team that's knocked them off, anything can happen."

In fact, the last time the Tar Heels played a team after losing to them, they destroyed Connecticut 7-0. Of the seven teams UNC has played again after a loss, they have defeated them by a combined 26-4.

Duke's win three weeks ago prompted speculation that UNC was only a shade of its former self, so the Tar Heels felt they needed to prove something to themselves and their critics.

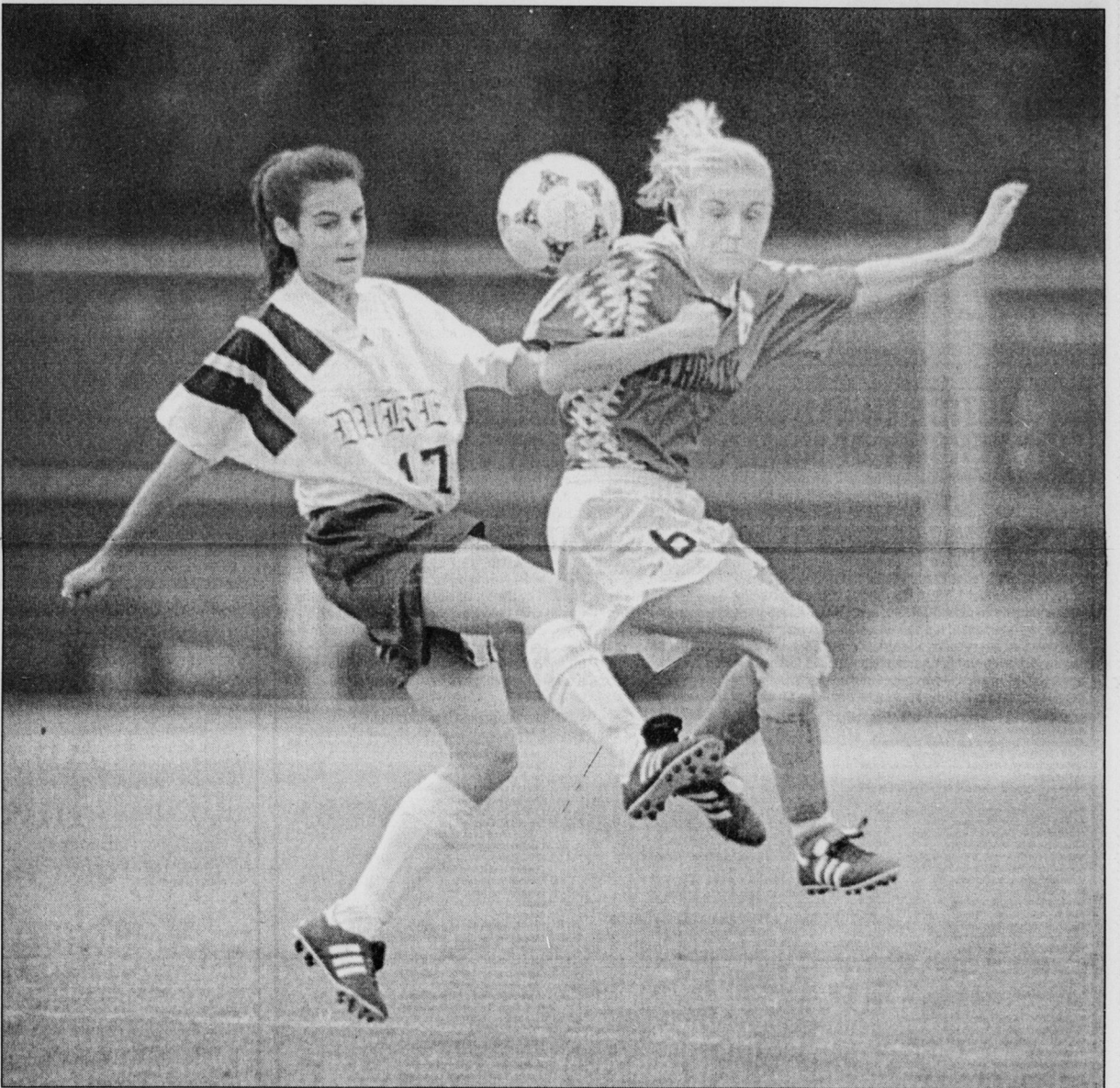
"We were seeded No. 2 coming into the tournament, the underdogs, and this is our home field and our tournament," said tournament MVP Tisha Venturini. "We wanted to come out here today and show people how we can play."

The Tar Heel players played with fire and vigor throughout the match in dismantling the Blue Devils.

The close score was certainly not indicative of UNC's complete and utter domination on both the offensive and defensive ends. Duke managed only five shots, and both its goals were the results of miscommunication between UNC defenders.

"The defensive fury that they had today was like I haven't seen out of them this year," Hempen said. "They were just beat-

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Senior midfielder Angela Kelly (6) battles a Duke defender (17) for a loose ball in Sunday afternoon's ACC championship game. North Carolina beat the Blue Devils 4-2 to take the ACC women's soccer title.

## Commission Overturns Judge's Ruling To Reinstate Former UNC Housekeeper

BY AMY PINIAK  
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

The State Personnel Commission has overturned a judge's decision to reinstate a UNC employee who was fired after threatening to kill his supervisor in April 1993.

Eric Browning, a former UNC housekeeper, received the SPC's decision Saturday in the mail, according to his attorney, Alan McSurely of Chapel Hill. Browning's case was argued before the SPC on Aug. 11.

"I can only say that I disagree with the decision," Browning said Sunday. "Whatever they decide, we can only go forward. It's been very strenuous, but this is just another stumbling block."

Administrative Law Judge Fred Morrison ruled in May that Browning, who was fired May 7, 1993, should be reinstated with a final written warning.

Tom Lawton, an assistant attorney general who represented UNC before the commission, said Sunday that he was not aware of the SPC's decision and declined further comment on Browning's case.

Lawton did say that Browning could appeal the SPC's decision to the N.C. Superior Court.

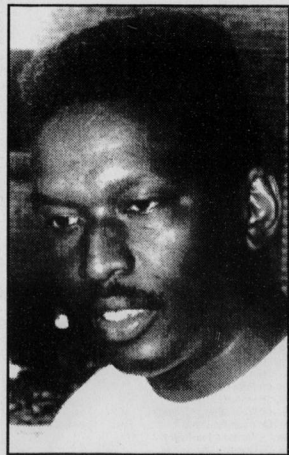
McSurely said he and Browning would take action regarding the SPC decision but declined to comment further.

"Basically, the SPC ruled that the University had just cause to dismiss Eric, which went entirely against Judge Morrison's opinion," McSurely said. "A trained law judge had heard the evidence and ruled that there was no just cause."

The SPC's decision "reflects (that) the State Personnel Commission cannot and does not condone workplace violence or threat of violence as an authoritative or appropriate means of effecting change or redressing employment-related concerns," the review states.

The incident that precipitated Browning's dismissal occurred April 28, 1993. That day, he went to Counseling Services to pick up forms he needed to file a second grievance against the University for denying him a training course request.

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Former housekeeper ERIC BROWNING received the SPC's ruling Saturday.

## Rape Awareness Week to Focus On Prevention, Providing Help To Survivors of Sexual Assault

BY JULIE CORBIN  
STAFF WRITER

Through marches, movies and programs, organizers of Rape Awareness Week, which begins today, hope to prevent rape and provide a service to survivors of sexual assault.

"People don't talk about rape awareness on campus, but women continue to get raped," said Joan Petit, co-chairwoman of the Women's Issues Committee of the executive branch of student government.

"When acquaintance rape happens, a lot of people say it was just miscommunication — rape is not something that should be a result of miscommunication," Petit said.

The Take Back the Night March, the central event of the week's many activities, will begin at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Pit with local speakers on women's issues. After the march, refreshments will be served in Gerrard Hall and local musician Tracy Drach will provide entertainment.

Sibby Anderson-Thompkins, assistant

dean of the office of the vice chancellor for student affairs, will speak about the importance of an ethnically inclusive women's movement. Anderson-Thompkins is concerned with black women's issues and has worked to create a women's center at UNC, said Susan Covington, co-chairwoman of the Women's Issues Network (WIN).

Rhonda Mann, director of the N.C. State University Women's Center, will speak about the importance of women's centers as supportive and safe places for women, Covington said.

Gloria Faley of Carrboro, who was a candidate in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education's selection process this summer to fill Ruth Royster's vacated seat on the school board and who plans to run for the board, will speak.

Ruby Feinrich, a UNC graduate who was active in the campaign for the Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center, will also speak. Feinrich is currently working with the Orange County Women's Center, Petit

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*Winning today, I think, has extended me an opportunity to coach at least another year.*

Anson Dorrance