

SPORTS

Cross country runner Bill Will is running away from anonymity

By **BOB YOUNG**
Staff Writer

"Hey Lee, I gotta feature for ya."
"Great! Who's it on?"
"Bill Will."
"Who?"
"Bill Will."
"Okay, fine . . . is he a runner?"
Anonymity. It follows Bill Will around like his shadow. He didn't come from one of the state's top track programs. He hasn't made any All-America teams or set any school records. And he has a name that sounds like it came from Dr. Seuss.

But just when he seemed destined to a life as an "also ran," Bill Will, a senior from Dallas, N.C., started coming out of the shadows.

The transition started at the ACC outdoor track championships in Raleigh last spring. Will finished fourth in a hotly-contested 10,000 meters. His time of 30:33 made him the fifth-fastest Tar Heel ever at that distance.

The metamorphosis is continuing into cross country, as Will placed fourth in UNC's tri-meet with Duke and Northwestern Sept. 7. Only George Nicholas was faster for North Carolina. "I've grown more confident in myself over the past year," Will said. "(Former UNC runners) Dave Herion and Jack Morgan have really brought me along. They've really helped me to gain insight into my competition.

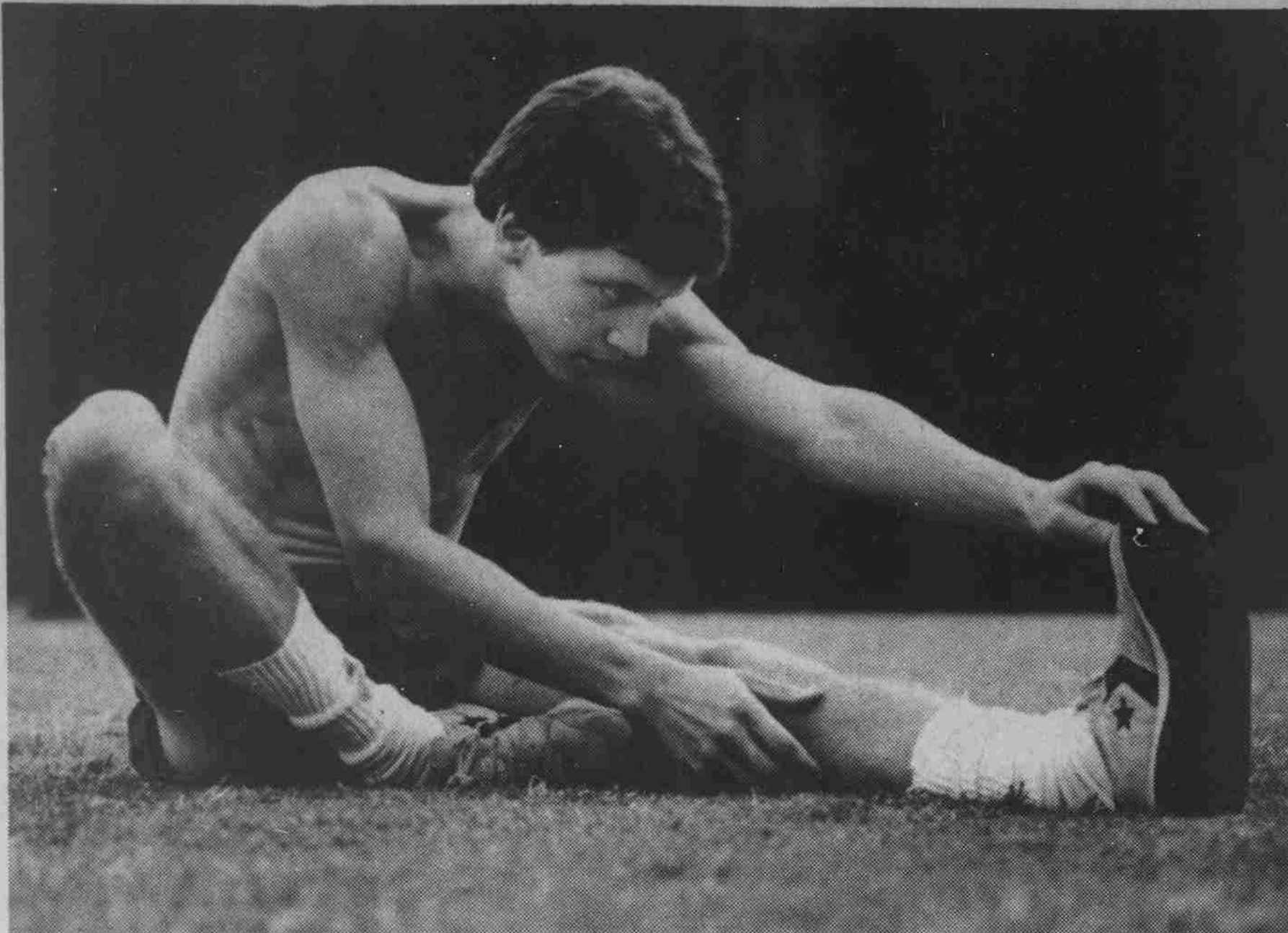
"Also, I feel a lot stronger than in past years. And I think that's due to the new coaching staff — I'm very happy with the way they've been handling our training."

And the feeling is mutual, according to head track coach Dennis Craddock. "This year, with a new coaching system coming in, Bill is a very important part of the team," Craddock said. "He's a good leader and leads by example. That's important when there's a change in the coaching staff.

"He's also a consistent runner, which is better for a team than someone who has a great meet one week and a lousy one another week."
And consistency is Will's main goal for this season — the first fall campaign which he enters with experience on his side.

"I was injured my sophomore year and couldn't run cross country," he said. "So last year I spent most of the fall just getting used to racing cross country on a collegiate level. Now that I have that year under my belt, I think I can be more of a steadying influence on the team."

Coach Craddock agrees. "Bill just has a tremendous amount of talent and we feel he's just now coming into his own as a runner. We just have to help him keep his confidence up and he'll have a great year." Then, maybe people will remember his name.



Cross-country runner Bill Will, seen here stretching out DTH/Larry Childress

I'm so unhappy with you, Mary Lou

By **TIM CROTHERS**
Assistant Sports Editor

I'm usually not one for bitching. I leave the fire and brimstone sermons on everything from the DH to dominoes to a more excitable member of our staff. But something is really pissing me off, and this week I've been humbled by the common cold, failed three tests and received a \$10 gift certificate on my windshield from my pals at the UNC Traffic Office. So heck, I'm in the mood to bitch.

All these everyday annoyances aside, my only real gripe in this otherwise utopian society is the existence of Mary Lou Retton. I don't know about you, but I think Mary Lou is a media whore.

Don't get me wrong, I was as patriotic as the next guy when darling Mary Lou vaulted into America's heart during the LA Olympics. But now every time I turn on the boob tube there's Mary Lou's mug trying to sell me something.

Madison Avenue is partly to blame. They seem to have Mary Lou convinced that she is the cutest little fad since the cabbage patch kid. Do a cartwheel, Mary Lou, smile big and we'll sell a million batteries, that kind of thing. The powers that be in the advertising world have proven once again that "overkill" is not part of their vocabulary.

But there is something especially abominable about Mary Lou. I can't decide what bothers me most about her. Is it her bubble bath personality? Is it her forced impish grin that allows us to spot cavities in her wisdom teeth? Or is it

that she's a millionaire at an age when this writer was stumping for a 50¢ a week raise in his allowance?

No, none of these. What bothers me the most about Mary Lou is a modern version of the Jim Thorpe complex. Legend has it that Thorpe was the first amateur ever to accept money, and he got busted. I haven't seen the checks, but I bet Mary Lou makes more than a pretty penny for torturing all of us who worship our Zeniths, and nobody's ripping her medals off her pretty little neck.

In fairness to Mary Lou, she is not the first athlete to sacrifice the love of sport for the candy of capitalism. Beer commercials have made celebrities out of plenty of washed-up "athletes." But that's just it. Mary Lou is still a gifted gymnast and she has admitted that her long hours in advertising studios and lecture halls (who would go here her speak? I want names), have forced her to sacrifice valuable time in the gym. As a sports traditionalist, this makes my stomach turn.

Maybe Mary Lou can juggle two stars, but if her athletic star burns out, the media will drop her like a worn-out shoe. Remember Cathy Rigby?

I long for those bygone days when I could watch *Monday Night Football* in peace, without the fear that Mary Lou might be vaulting into my living room at any moment, smiling and giggling and selling me a box of cereal. Give me a break, Mary Lou. I feel much better now.

Steve says revenge bad

By **STEVE AUSTIN**
Syndicated Columnist

Dear Steven: I'm really worried about my boyfriend. He got fired from his job a couple of weeks ago, and instead of making every effort to find a new one he sits home planning his revenge on his ex-boss. He bought this book which lists different ways to get back at those who hurt you. Most of the schemes are against the law. I can easily understand his harsh feelings for the man, but don't you think he'd be better off using his energies to do something a bit more positive? How can I convince him to give up the funny business?

— Puzzled Pal

Dear PP: There's an old English saying which goes, "Forgetting of a wrong is the best revenge." I strongly

straight up

suggest telling your boyfriend that anything he does, however innocent it may seem, probably will backfire and put him in a situation he'll highly regret. If he simply cannot resist the urge to tell this man what he thinks of him, he can wait until he lines up another job and then send a note to the guy announcing his new position. It's a harmless (childish, too) way of saying, "Just because you didn't want me doesn't mean everyone feels the same way." Get rid of the book.

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scoreboard

Volleyball

UNC d. N.C. State 15-8, 15-6, 15-10

Tennis

Big Four Tournament at Duke

Flight One - Elizabeth Alexander(UNC) d. Jackie Van Wijk(WFU) 6-4, 6-2.
Flight Two - Spencer Barnes(UNC) d. Petra Wessels(UNC) 6-0, 6-2.

Field Hockey Poll

1. ODU
2. Northwestern
3. Iowa
4. Massachusetts
5. North Carolina
6. New Hampshire
7. Ursinus
8. Temple
9. Rutgers
10. Lock Haven State

Parents' Day is this weekend

Saturday, when North Carolina plays the Virginia Military Institute, will be Parents' Day.

Immediately after the game, parents and students are invited to attend the ceremonies at the Bell Tower. Tents will

be set up, and refreshments will be served.

Present will be faculty members, student leaders and Carolina Athletic Association cabinet members. The purpose of Parents' Day is for parents to meet and ask questions of the people who influence student's lives on campus.

Parents' Day is sponsored by the Carolina Parent's Association and the CAA.

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COMFORT AND JOY
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Carolina Classic GIGI
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Creator
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