By BOB YOUNG

"Ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the beautiful N.C. State cross country course in Raleigh. This is the main event of the evening for the ACC women's cross country title.

"In this corner, from Edison, N.J., wearing the red and white of the N.C. State Wolfpack, sophomore Janet Smith!

"And in this corner, from Denmark, wearing the orange and white of the Clemson Tigers, senior Tina Krebs!

"And in this corner, from Norristown, Pa., wearing the blue and white of the UNC Tar Heels, senior Holly Murray!

"Ladies - start your engines." . ." The scene may not be that dramatic, only because it is very familiar. This year's version of the ACC championships on Saturday will be another in a long line of tri-battles among the top three women in the ACC. Take a look at last year's races:

Tar Heel Invitational: Smith (2), Krebs (4), Murray (6).

ACC Championships: Smith (1), Krebs (2), Murray (3).

District III Championships: Smith (2), Krebs (3), Murray (4).

NCAA Championships: Krebs (5), Smith (8), Murray (10). Murray is the only one that has yet

to win over the other two, and is already down a race to Krebs, who won this year's Tar Heel meet. Can she take the ACCs?

"I think she has a very good chance," says UNC head coach Dennis Craddock. "Holly's confidence has really grown this year. She's a much tougher runner now and she's not afraid to take a race out hard."

Another Tar Heel who has a shot at an individual title is senior George Nicholas, but he is quite a bit less knowledgable about his competition. The North Carolina men have not faced a top conference team this season, but Nicholas has done very well against

some of the top runners in the nation. His main competition should also come from Clemson and N.C. State runners. Clemson's Rob DeBrouwer is defending champion and State's Pat Piper won the ACC 10,000m title over DeBrouwer in the spring.

"George is just a great runner and he's had great races so far this fall," Craddock says. "I think he has to be considered one of the favorites."

The team competition, as you can probably deduce, will be fought out between N.C. State, Clemson and UNC in both the men's and the women's

In the women's race, nothing short of an outbreak of the plaguein Raleigh will keep N.C. State from winning the title. They are already ranked first in the nation and should have no trouble holding off the fifth-rated Tigers and the Tar Heels.

For the men, State returns everyone from a team that finished ninth in the NCAAs last year and are rated 12th this year. Clemson's men are ranked 18th, the Tar Heels have beaten some teams ranked in the top 20 this year, and Maryland has experience and talent - the makings of a tight team race.

"We're not expecting anything more than third in both races," Craddock says. "To get anything more would take some extra-good luck on our part. But things might just fall our way. It's not impossible — just ask the Kansas City Royals."

ACC runoff Saturday Volleyball team blisters Tigers in straight games

By PHYLLIS A. FAIR

The UNC women's volleyball team defeated the Clemson Tigers by a score of 15-4, 15-7 and 15-12 in a conference match Thursday night at Carmichael Auditorium.

UNC went into the Halloween matchup with only eight healthy players, due to injuries to two of its starters. But that only served to solidify the team, according to UNC volleyball coach Peggy Doppes.

UNC began the Clemson match playing a strong offense and defense. The Tar Heels scored almost every time they got the ball and allowed

the Tigers few chances to score. The only time Clemson did pose a threat to the Tar Heels was in the third game, when they came within three points of winning the game.

In that game the Tigers started the match by scoring the first three points of the game, something that they had not been able to do all night.

After a block which turned the ball over to UNC they came back and scored three straight points. The game seesawed back and forth, but the Tar Heels finally prevailed 15-12 to assure a sweep of the match.

Soccer wins on forfeit

N.C. State Athletic Director Willis Casey announced Thursday that the Wolfpack soccer team would forfeit last Saturday's match against North Carolina. State won the game 2-1.

The misunderstanding centered around Wolfpack goalie Kris Peat, who had been red-carded in State's previous match with Clemson. A red card carries with it a one game suspension, but Wolfpack soccer coach Larry Gross had been assured by an official of the North

Carolina Intercollegiate Officials Association, that Peat would be eligible to play against North Carolina. The official had worked the Clemson-N.C. State game. The ACC Commissioner's Office ruled that the offical had no jurisdiction in allowing Peat to play in the North Carolina game. Officials at N.C. State felt that it would be in the best interests of both schools to forfeit the match.

The Tar Heels are now 11-7-1 on the season, 2-2 in the ACC.

football picks of the week

Perfection is an elusive thing. Except for a last-second Tennessee field goal that tied Georgia Tech 6-6 last Saturday, Tim "My Mother the Bookie" Crothers, would have reached perfection. Still, 9-0-1, is close of enough to have Tim nominated for prognostication sainthood.

Scott "Scoots" Fowler's mammoth head couldn't fit through your average door after last week's mild success. But Scott does not take losing quite so gracefully. Upon hearing the USC-ECU final last week, "Scoots" drove to Greenville to cuss out some of the Pirate defensive linemen for their lack of pressure on the USC quarterback. He

has not been heard from since. RIP mon Lee "Tanya" Roberts has picked the

Tar Heels every week this season. But Lee has harbored some wicked doubts about this week's Maryland game, so in order to reaffirm his hometown loyalty, early Thursday morning he immersed himself in a tub of Carolina blue jello, climbed to the spire of the Bell Tower and after kissing an 8 x 10 glossy of Dick Crum he jumped screaming, "I'd rather die than pick against my Tar Heels." Lee was saved when he landed on a soft stack of "Carolina Blue" newspapers.

Teams	Lee Roberts	Tim Crothers	Scott
	49-29-2	47-31-2	53-25-2
	.629	.603	.679
UNC at Maryland	Md.	Md.	UNC
Wake Forest at Clemson	Clem.	Clem.	Clem.
Georgia Tech at Duke	GT	GT	GT
N.C. State at South Carolina	USC	USC	USC
West Virginia at Virginia	WVU	UVa.	WVU
Iowa at Ohio State	lowa	lowa	lowa
Miami (Fla.) at Florida State	Mia.	FSU	FSU
Michigan at Illinois	UM	UM	UM
SMU at Texas A&M	SMU	A&M	SMU
Florida at Auburn	Fla.	Aub.	Aub.

Field hockey into ACC tourney

By MIKE BERARDINO

Heavy rains may have wiped out Wednesday's scheduled women's field hockey clash between North Carolina and Appalachian State, but they haven't prevented coach Karen Shelton's fourth-ranked Tar Heels from gearing up for this weekend's ACC tournament.

With her team seated in a diner somewhere between Chapel Hill and Boone, Shelton phoned the ASU coach Wednesday morning and learned that the game was cancelled due to the unplayable state of the Mountaineers' grass field. The Tar Heels proceeded to reverse their field, literally, and played a game-length intrasquad scrimmage on Astroturf Field that same afternoon.

"We got a better workout here in Chapel Hill than we would have gotten at Appalachian State," Shelton bluntly remarked. "Our second string is better

than many other teams around." The well-rested Tar Heels (they last played on October 23) carry a 10-2 record and top-seed status into this weekend's tournament. Scheduled for Duke's grass-surfaced Soccer Stadium, the games may be moved to UNC's Astroturf Field if the rains persist. A decision will be made sometime Friday

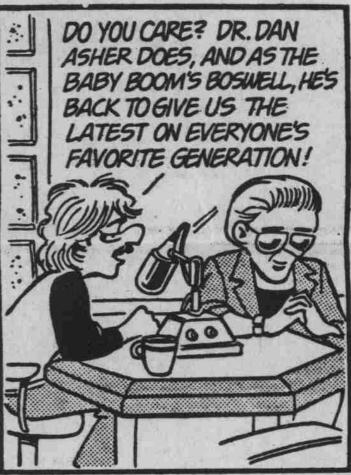
Led by the goal-scoring trio of Louise Hines (11 goals), Judith Jonckheer (10 goals) and Maryellen Falcone with eight; the Tar Heels will meet the winner of today's Duke-Wake Forest matchup on Saturday at 4 p.m.. UNC disposed of the Blue Devils 10 days ago 4-0 and the Deacons refuse to play North Carolina in the regular season.

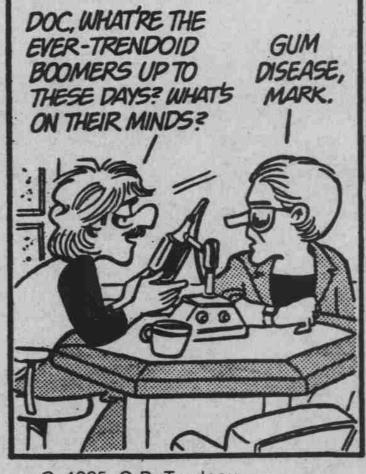
Sunday's 2 p.m. championship game figures to match the Tar Heels against the winner of Saturday's Maryland-Virginia battle. The eighth-ranked Terrapins handed UNC its last loss Oct. 12 in College Park and have a 12-5-1 record. The 13th-rated Cavaliers sport a 9-4 mark and can hearken back to Oct. 8, when they scared UNC before bowing 3-2, for inspiration.

Doonesbury

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