

# 'Hello Again' exits with stilted acting, uninteresting plot

Starting off with great potential, the new movie "Hello Again," starring Shelley Long, sings a quick exit.

Long plays suburban New York housewife Lucy Chadman who chokes to death on an Oriental appetizer and finds, after she is brought back to life by her eccentric, mystical sister one year after her death, that her formerly uneventful life has been changed drastically.

Unfortunately, the plot is slow-moving and fragmented, precluding any hope of strong development of the characters or even the story. And the stilted acting only adds to the movie's superficial treatment of the story.

Producer and director Frank Perry, whose credits also include such movies as "Compromising Positions" and "David and Lisa" (which was nominated for an Academy Award), has created a movie which skips about from scene to unrelated scene and in which the characters are never given a chance to develop themselves.

Long, best known for her role in the television series "Cheers," is never quite able to pull off the clutzy Chadman. Concentrating primarily on physical comedy for the effect, she relies too much on trite jokes to bring out her character verbally. In fact, most of the time Long's acting is very boring, too affected and dead.

Starring opposite Long as her husband is another television star, Corbin Bernsen of the series "L.A. Law." It has been said that comedy is the hardest form of drama; perhaps Bernsen should stick with his television show, because he never adds any humor to the supposed comedy. He, like the others in the movie, sounds more like he is just reading his lines rather than actually acting as his character.

The best performance in "Hello Again" is that of stage and film

**Julie Olson**  
Cinema

veteran Judith Ivey. A two-time recipient of the Tony and Drama Desk awards, Ivey contributes most of the little humor that the film has.

Playing the part of a bizarre psychic, Ivey adds a sense of energy to the movie. Though the generalizations of the supposedly typical kooky spiritualist are a little old, Ivey is at least one of the few believable characters in the film.

Obviously any story involving the resurrection of the dead is going to have to be a little unrealistic. Amazingly though, the movie practically takes the supernatural aspects for granted, rather than using them to add to the comedy.

For example, seeing one's mother alive one year after her death would cause most people to be somewhat skeptical. In fact, it could almost be the beginnings of a great comedy! But Chadman's son (Thor Fields) instead gives her a big hug, a kiss and a "Hi, Mom!" Nothing more said.

One would think that people would be a little interested in her life-after-death experience. One would think that the medical profession would have been a little interested in the sorcery that brought Lucy Chadman back to life. Wow! It almost sounds like the makings of a great comedy!

But the movie ends up being nothing more than a series of missed comedy chances. What could have been a decent movie is instead dragged down by the inconsistencies of the story itself, the sporadic directing and the boring acting. "Hello Again" starts off with a lot in its favor, but never brings it all together in an entertaining fashion.

## Sports

# Reliving soccer's magical ACC win

## Chris Spencer Down the Line

First things first... It's official. The UNC men's soccer team will go to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1968. But the ACC champion Tar Heels didn't get the top seed in the region. Instead, they must return to Duke Soccer Stadium and play the defending national champion Blue Devils at 1 p.m. Sunday.

If they can down the Blue Devils, the Tar Heels would play the winner of the N.C. State-South Carolina match in the finals of the South regional.

It would seem that by getting thumped by N.C. State, 3-0, in the first round of the tournament, the Blue Devils would have forfeited their right to a home-field advantage for the first round of the NAAs. But the selection committee must have realized that Duke, as defending national champion, carries tremendous drawing power. Almost 6,000 people showed up for Sunday's double-overtime final between UNC and the Wolfpack.

However, the Tar Heels deserved the home-field advantage after their strong play last weekend, certainly more so than Duke. Just another example in a long line of strange NCAA actions.

Rarely are UNC athletic teams associated with comebacks. But Sunday's win is destined to go down as one of the most exciting college soccer matches ever played, and certainly the biggest win for the UNC program since coach Anson Dorrance took over the helm in 1977.

After N.C. State went up 3-1 early in the second half, the Wolfpack seemed content to snuff out their offensive attack and play defense. All-ACC forward Tab Ramos got the ball at midfield on several occasions and

just fired it into the Tar Heel half of the field without setting up any type of play.

But the Tar Heels felt as if they couldn't lose, and often when you play that way, you don't.

"We just kept pushing forward to get one goal at a time," an exhausted David Smyth said after the match. "When we were down 3-1, we didn't lose our heads and start kicking the ball all over the field. We're just playing great soccer right now. We're fighting and playing well."

When Nick Efthimiou got hurt, Dorrance substituted junior transfer Jim Gourlay for him. A few minutes later, Gourlay leaped in the air and headed Dino Megaloudis' corner kick into the top right corner of the Wolfpack net. Could the Tar Heels come back?

Most of the press went down to the field level with three or four minutes left. The intensity was incredible, the fans were screaming with every move. The Tar Heels took the ball into the Wolfpack's half of the field, but either shot over the goal or were stopped by defenders.

John Cocking picked up the ball on the right sideline, right in front of the Wolfpack bench. The scrappy forward, who was at his best Sunday when the match was on the line in the second half and in overtime, moved down the side and sent the ball into the goal area.

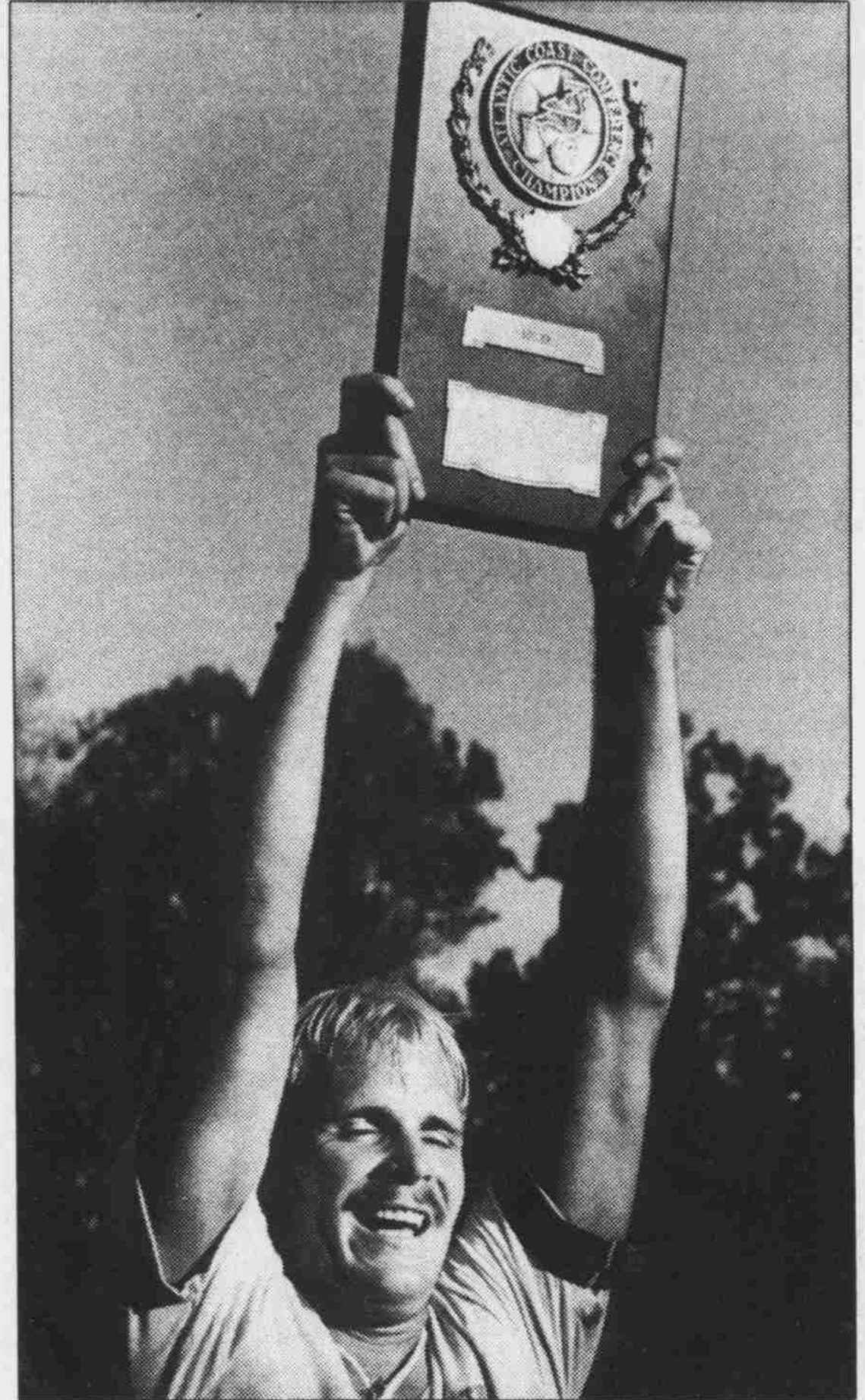
Five or six players filled the space right in front of the goal area like a forest of trees. But the white-clad Smyth passed by them and picked up the ball. Suddenly, it was in the net, and the Tar Heels had equalized.

"John Cocking made a great run, and we made eye contact about 45 yards away," Smyth said. "Their goalie was telling them to clear the ball, but the defender let it go past him, and there was no way I was not going to let it go out."

"I was going to run it into the net if I had to."

With the Tar Heel bench erupting, the press ran back up to the press box for the 20-minute overtime period. But it wouldn't take that long for the Tar Heels to complete their storybook win.

Derek Missimo came off the field about five minutes into the first stanza after his nose was bloodied inadvertently by Wade Whitney. The Tar Heels played one man down for two minutes, when Missimo, the eventual tournament MVP, came back in. Senior back Steve Dragasics went down the left sideline and sent a pass from the outside left corner of the Wolfpack penalty box into the



UNC captain David Smyth holds ACC trophy aloft after Sunday's final

DTH/David Minton

## UNC captain David Smyth holds ACC trophy aloft after Sunday's final

goal area.

Smyth was standing there, facing Dragasics. With a defender on him, he pushed the ball behind him, where Missimo was waiting three yards from the goal. Wolfpack goalkeeper Kris Peat had no chance on the point-blank shot, and the Tar Heels were champions.

"Smyth was there and created the whole thing," Missimo, a freshman forward, said after the match. "I was there and just put it in the hole. I got open for a split second."

The Wolfpack had an excellent chance to equalize in the second overtime. A pass floated over to the right post, where Ramos was waiting. But Tar Heel goalkeeper Darren Royer rose up to the occasion, and Ramos' five-yarder was blocked out.

"It was kind of a strange play," Royer said. "It just skidded over to him. I got there, and he got there at the same time. It was just a reaction. I knew I couldn't give up a goal in the overtime, or it would have been over."

In addition to Missimo, Smyth, Megaloudis and Marc Buffin, a defender who put in two goals in the tournament and played great overall, made the all-tournament team.

After it was over, Dorrance called the win, "the most satisfying comeback of my life. Our players are fighters from beginning to end. It's the personality of this UNC team."

Cocking is usually a quiet person, but he talked at length about the comeback.

"It really took a lot of guts," he said. "The first five minutes, we were kicking their butts, but then we let them back in the match. We just had the comeback mentality. We knew we wouldn't lose."

And in the process, the Tar Heels created a great highlight film for the first-ever ACC Men's Soccer Tournament.

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