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# TECHNICIAN

Thursday  
February 10, 2000

Today Hi 66  
Lo 49  
Tomorrow Hi 69  
Lo 47

North Carolina State University's Student Newspaper Since 1920

## In the NEWS

### Gift Creates 'Strolling Professor' Chemistry Scholarship

Raleigh businessman J. Phillips L. Johnston has donated stock valued at \$100,000 to endow a N.C. State University scholarship in honor of his father, a long-time chemistry professor at NCSU.

The William R. Johnston "Strolling Professor" Scholarship will be awarded to undergraduate chemistry majors based on merit. Johnston, who taught chemistry for 25 years at NCSU, was immortalized as the model for the university's lifelike "Strolling Professor" statue, which is located in a small garden next to the Burlington Engineering Labs.

The younger Johnston is the president and CEO of ID Technologies Corp., a high-tech start-up company headquartered on NCSU's Centennial Campus. He has headed 10 successful venture-backed companies, including as founding CEO of Research Triangle Park-based Digital Recorders. In 1997, he was named Entrepreneur of the Year by the Council for Entrepreneurial Development.

### N.C. State University Founders' Day Celebration on March 7

N.C. State will celebrate the 113th anniversary of its founding at the 2000 Founders' Day Dinner planned for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh.

During the Founders' Day program, Chancellor Marjorie Anne Fox and NCSU Faculty Chair Fred Corbin will present the prestigious Watauga Medal, the highest nonacademic award bestowed by the university, to three individuals.

This year's recipients are Dr. Terrence M. Curtin of Fuquay-Varina, founding dean of NCSU's College of Veterinary Medicine; Jack P. Jordan of Mr. Gililand, executive vice president of Jordan Lumber & Supply Inc. of Mt. Gilead and president of Anson Wood Products Inc. of Wadesboro; and philanthropist Blanton J. Whitmore of Kirkwood, Mo., co-founder and retired president and CEO of Whitmore Research Laboratories Inc. of St. Louis, Mo.

The program is open to the public. It begins with a 6:30 p.m. reception, followed by a 7 p.m. dinner and a dessert reception. The cost is \$15 per person. Reservations can be made by calling (919) 515-7190.

### Presbyterian Campus Ministry To Hold Forum

The N.C. State Presbyterian Campus Ministry is sponsoring a Peace Lunch Forum on Thursday, Feb. 17 from 12:40 to 1:40 p.m. in the Walnut Room, on the fourth floor of Talley Student Center.

The topic of the forum will be "Clinton 2000: Forging a Foreign Policy Legacy." William Boettcher, political science professor at NCSU will be the speaker.

Soda and coffee will be provided. Bring a bag lunch. For more information, call 834-5184.

### Debra Stewart to Receive Award for Contributions to Grad Education

Debra W. Stewart, vice chancellor and dean of the Graduate School at N.C. State, has received the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools' (CSGS) 2000 Award for Outstanding Contributions to Graduate Education.

She will be recognized at the CSGS annual meeting, being held Feb. 19-21 in Nashville, Tenn. The CSGS established the award in 1980 to acknowledge and honor a person whose contributions have significantly benefited graduate education in the Southern region.

Stewart was cited in her nomination for her visionary leadership of the Graduate School at NCSU for more than a decade and for her extraordinary contributions to graduate education at the regional and national levels.



Sou Moua, a senior in forest management, gives 110 percent during his weight training class.

## State of physical fitness

◆ Although North Carolina residents as a whole lack sufficient physical fitness in their lives, N.C. State students find many ways to get their daily dose of exercise.

Month	Number of People Using Carmichael Gym
January	71,418
February	75,435
March	69,742
April	85,733
May	85,866
June	85,866
July	86,833
August	75,171
September	78,095
October	69,646
November	66,577
December	25,933
January	60,416
Feb.	25,967

DANIELLE STONFIELD  
News Editor

North Carolinians are out of shape. At least that's what the Center for Disease Control and Prevention revealed when their latest study ranked North Carolina 38th when it comes to physical fitness.

The new millennium resolutions of many N.C. State students will prove that ranking to be incorrect. According to physical education leaders on campus, NCSU's community as a whole is very health conscious.

### Carmichael goes

Being labeled as a lazy state may challenge those who made a New Year's resolution to stay fit and go to the gym. Statistics on just how loyal students stick with their resolution to go to the gym speaks for themselves.

Typically, more people are using the gym at the beginning of a year, a semester and right before Spring Break between 5 and 8 p.m. according to Doug Ewing, Carmichael facility director. Ewing also said there has been a higher influx of students using the track, mini gyms and weight rooms this month because of the

weather.

"It's been really cold for North Carolina lately and people want to be indoors to work out. We'd like to see more people over here," said Ewing. "Going to the gym is a great stress reducer, it increases your health and it is a great way to meet people."

In order to bring more people to Carmichael, Ewing said the facility is changing for the better.

Last summer, the basketball courts 9, 10 and 11 were repaved and the older side of Carmichael was repainted

with NCSU's colors. During the Christmas break, the mini gym was also repainted and windows were opened up to improve the ventilation, said Ewing. The new, fresh towels available to wipe down equipment in the mini gyms are now available because of one student's suggestion, said Ewing.

Although the Ewing said he plans to get more equipment and more facility space, he is willing to entertain other suggestions or comments from students. Comments can be dropped off in writing to any Carmichael entrance.

### Physical Education classes

Based on enrollment information from Registration and Records and physical education classes, almost 50 percent of the student population take PE classes.

Judy Peel, head of the PE department, said there are four reasons besides meeting general requirements that students take PE classes.

### Students tell why they work-out at Carmichael gym:



"To destress."  
Meghan Huntington  
Senior, Industrial Engineering



"To maintain my girlish figure for graduation."  
Nate Butler  
Senior, History



"Relaxation, personal fitness and to look better."  
Josh Berkowitz  
Junior, Environmental Engineering



"For my personal health, class and because I need to."  
Syreeta Williams  
Sophomore, Biology

See FITNESS Page 11

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS ENROLLMENTS

1996-97	14,485
1997-98	11,451
1998-99	11,649

## Board decides tuition increase deadline

ANDREW BUCHERT  
Senior Staff Writer

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors will make their final decision on the proposed system-wide tuition increases at a 9 a.m. meeting Friday to be held at the Carolina Inn in Chapel Hill. Prior to Friday's final presentation, members of the Board will meet in several workshops with the purpose of deciding upon their recommendations to UNC President Molly Broad's ticket proposal.

Broad's proposal calls for a \$100 across-

the-board capital fee increase at all North Carolina universities for facilities maintenance and improvement. On top of that, N.C. State and UNC-Chapel Hill, the two Research I universities in the UNC system, will also sustain a \$200 increase that will be used for faculty pay raises.

Although few students are fond of any tuition increase, UNC and NCSU students are particularly upset about the \$200 increase to raise faculty salaries.

"We are willing to support a pay raise, but don't turn to the students," said NCSU student body president Raj Mirchandani. "It's going to be a struggle between faculty saying that students don't appreciate them and stu-

dents saying that they don't have to listen to their professor because they pay their salaries," he said.

The original tuition plan proposed by NCSU Chancellor Marjorie Anne Fox did not call for faculty pay raises to come from student tuition increases. "We argued that any tuition increase should maintain accessibility for students through such programs as financial aid, and it should provide support for student services, in which we are lacking compared to our peers," she said.

However, although Fox agrees that funding for faculty salary raises is needed in order for

the N.C. State Faculty Senate commended Women's Head Basketball Coach Kay Yow Tuesday for her twenty-five years of service. The senators also received remarks from the Senior Vice Provost, as well as the Director of Information Technology.

While presenting Head Coach Kay Yow with the Faculty Senate's formal commendation, Secretary Philip Carter characterized Coach Yow as someone who always believed in others. Carter also thanked and recognized Yow for her work in raising awareness of, and funding for, breast cancer prevention. Coach Yow then spoke to the senate and offered her gratitude.

"I really appreciate that this group would recognize me, for I am a teacher at heart," Yow commented while explaining that she has a degree in English as well as a minor in Library Science. "It is my pleasure to do what I do at N.C. State."

Coach Yow went on to describe her attitude of leadership. "I have a vision for those that I lead. I am at the

## Naming of arena soon

◆ Though no plan has been made official, it appears that the Entertainment and Sports Arena will receive a corporate name.

ZACK MAZER  
News Editor

Gale Force Holdings, the Centennial Authority, city and county officials and NCSU are close to approving a deal that would allow for a corporate buyer of the building's name, according to a statement released by Chancellor Fox through NCSU news services.

Details are hazy at this point, but it appears the deal could net NCSU nearly \$20 million over the next 20 years. According to a story that appeared on WRAL-TV's web site, Gale Force Holdings, the parent company of the Carolina Hurricanes, will pay NCSU \$10 million for the next 10 years worth of naming rights plus a percentage of the sale price for the 10 years after that. It was also reported that the City of Raleigh and Wake County will receive 38 percent of the proceeds.

Estimates have put the price of the building's name in the range of \$80-100 million dollars for a 15-20 year term.

"This arena has great visibility, both regionally and nationally, and we think it will be appropriate to have something in the range of \$80 million to \$100 million over a 15- to 20-year term," Jim Cain, president of Gale Force Holdings, told WRAL-TV. "I don't think we will sell for anything less than that."

"We are pleased that N.C. State and Gale Force [Holdings] have made significant progress in establishing the principles that underlie a 20 year plan for distributing potential income from a corporate naming opportunity to all of the partners who have contributed to the arena's realization," Fox said in her Tuesday statement. "We are very grateful to the Centennial Authority for their outstanding leadership in realizing this win-win proposal for all of our partners."

According to WRAL-TV, three or four companies have expressed interest in purchasing the name to the ESA, but until now have not been able to discuss any deals with Gale Force Holdings.

Fox also said in her statement that she plans to present the details of the deal to the Board of Trustees for approval at their meeting next week.

## Easter break shortened

◆ Kay Yow received the Faculty Senate's official commendation Tuesday and dispelled myths that she has considered retiring after this season. Also, Frank Abrams announced that two days have been taken from Easter break to compensate for the snow-induced week off.

ASHLEY B. PERRY  
Senior Staff Writer

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See SENATE Page 2

## Ticket Distribution for the Duke Game

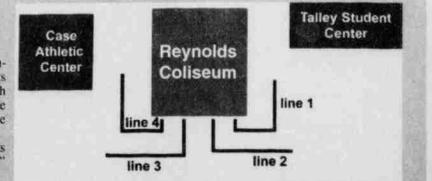
Ticket distribution for the N.C. State vs. Duke game will begin at noon on Saturday, Feb. 12. Students may begin lining up at 10 a.m. for the tickets, which will be distributed on a random basis.

Distribution at the ticket windows will be as follows: The line for Ticket Window 1 will go around Reynolds Coliseum, the line for Ticket Window 2 will go towards the left parking lot, the line for Ticket Window 3 will follow the sidewalk that leads up to the coliseum, and the line for Ticket Window 4 will bend around

the other side of the coliseum.

The Athletics department has hired staff to keep control in the area during ticket distribution. Students should not attempt to camp out. Failure to comply with this policy by assembling at the area earlier than the designated times could result in a campus appearance ticket.

"Public Safety will be in the area, informing students attempting to camp out that they need to move along," said Tom Stafford, vice chancellor of student affairs.



## Virginity

Morgan tackles the stigma attached to those who know not the ways of the woman (or man). See Opinion.



## Serious...

Hey kids, check out your favorite comics from Technician superstars like Marke and LeBoeuf in today's Serious page.

## UNC beats State

Ed Cota does it to the Pack again. Check out Sports for more.

## SENATE

Continued from Page 1

bottom of that vision, with my student-athletes on top. I want to produce winners as people. Real leadership begins on the inside ... as character."

Calling on each of the members of the Senate, Yow urged the faculty to keep students in mind and to provide them with the best college experience possible so they all might pro-

duce "raving fans" of the university. Continuing her acceptance in a manner that seemed reminiscent of her pep talks to her team, Yow told the group, "You cannot wallow in pity ... but you can squish your feet a little and move on. We have to have goals to give us hope. Always keep your eyes on the goal."

Before concluding, Yow fended off rumors that she has been considering a separation from NCSU.

"I haven't even thought about retiring. I have student-athletes who are depending on me," said Coach Yow.

Earlier in the meeting, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Frank Abrams, informed the Senate that because the university was closed for three days as a result of the snow, NCSU has decided to recapture two of those days by shortening Easter break. Formerly part of the holiday, April 19 and 20 will now be school days.

"We considered Saturday classes, or possibly using time from spring break, but decided that this was a better option since it is farthest from today. We think this will give faculty time to readjust their class sched-

ules and perhaps reschedule any special course work that may have been postponed by the snow," Abrams elaborated.

Abrams also explained that the provost's office, in conjunction with Student Senate, is looking for greater emphasis on academic integrity. He then implored the faculty to think of ways they might help the university achieve greater integrity.

The senate later heard remarks from Samuel Averitt, Director of Information Technology. Averitt described IT as pervasive and immersive and suggested open

source as a key to problem solving.

Senator Gail Wilkerson argued to Averitt that one key concern to her department is the availability of computers running software that reflects the teaching tools used in her college's courses.

"Our software runs primarily on Macs. Our Mac Lab has very limited hours. Why can't our software be made more accessible to students in their dorm labs which are open all night?"

"Two years from now, open source will be seen as a solution which is solving the problems that we have today. Open source is not limited to

Linux. It can, and should, be applied to all platforms." Averitt commented. He then went on to say that in the future he expects operating systems to be less cumbersome and software-limiting, but rather a choice of taste much like a person's preference of web browsers.

During Averitt's presentation to the Senate, he told the members that his office hopes to position NCSU as a technology leader without crippling productivity, and to create new opportunities without requiring users to become computer experts.

### volunteers needed:

We are conducting an eight month research study of an investigational drug for the possible prevention of genital herpes transmission. Participants must be monogamous, heterosexual couples at least 18 years of age, in general good health; where one person has genital herpes and the other does not. Upon completion of the study, the person with genital herpes may be eligible to participate in the second phase of the research study and receive one year of medication for suppressive therapy.

For more information about this research study, call 888 842 4721

Or locally you can call:  
UNC Clinical Research  
Wake County Public Hlth Ctr.  
(919) 250-1035

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1-800-2council

## FITNESS

Continued from Page 1

1. "They are interested in their own health and fitness."

2. "If it's a scheduled class, busy students are sure to get to workout."

3. "It helps them in stress reduction."

4. "Students take classes like rock climbing for skill acquisition."

"It's a great opportunity to get top notch instruction at a reasonable cost," she said.

Peel added that there has been a dra-

matic decrease in racquet sports like racquetball and tennis. "We don't have the enrollment now like we did back in the 70s and 80s," Peel said. "In the 90s, individual fitness has been the big thing."

Activities that appeal to the mind body and soul like Yoga seem to be the craze this millennium, said Peel.



Number of Individual Participants in Intramural-Recreational Sports

	1998-99	1997-98	1996-97	1995-96	1994-95
Number of Women	3,610	3,734	3,183	3,018	3,231
Number of Men	6,355	6,060	6,055	6,025	6,169
<b>Total number of participants</b>	<b>9,965</b>	<b>9,794</b>	<b>9,238</b>	<b>9,043</b>	<b>9,400</b>
<b>Number of Participants by Division</b>					
Intramurals	4,958	5,025	5,198	5,253	5,539
Co-Recreational Officials	984	1,037	1,011	1,086	1,176
	146	182	150	175	212
Club Sports	2,255	2,138	1,786	1,829	1,874
Informal Recreation	525	342	368	438	522
Fitness	2,195	1,921	1,956	1,712	2,002
Outdoor Adventures	1,051	1,204	924	878	519

## TUITION

Continued from Page 1

NCSU to remain competitive with its peers, particularly other Research I institutions, she would prefer to put the majority of students' money towards student programs. "Our top faculty need to have salaries that keep them with us," she said, "but if they [the Board of Governor's] do pass [Broad's proposal], we would hope for campus flexibility in terms of deciding how to use the money," she said.

If allowed such flexibility, Fox would use the funding for such programs as freshman seminars to help students adjust to university life, personnel to assist students in locating and applying nontraditional sources of financial aid, support for undergraduate research, more honors classes, and a stronger emphasis on service learning.

"We requested a tuition increase in order to provide an under girding for students," said Fox.

Last week, Mirchandani and Nick Henke, student body president of UNC-Chapel Hill, met with Broad to discuss their concerns regarding her tuition increase proposal.

Besides bringing to the forefront the issue of their disagreement with the \$200 tuition increase for faculty pay raises, Mirchandani and Henke also raised concerns about the consequences of a potential tuition gap between the two Research I institutions and the other universities in the UNC system.

"A price gap will cause students to price shop and use that as a deciding factor, rather than the programs of a particular university," said Mirchandani. "We want to keep the price differences as minimal as possible," he said.

Mirchandani and Henke also discussed their disagreement with the capital fee increase. "We wholeheartedly oppose that [the capital fee increase]," he said, "because that is the government's job. The government has been responsible for capital improvements since the university's beginning," he said.

Fox, however, is in support of the capital fee increase. "We have to make a major investment in our facilities," said Fox. "Although I prefer that the legislature provide the support for capital improvements, part of that support can be started by those who use the capital," she said.

"Unfortunately, the outcome of our meeting [with Broad] was not what we expected," said Mirchandani. "We thought a one-on-one would be a great opportunity for us to gain some ground, but she felt that it was in the best interest of the university system to get the ball rolling with the capital fee increase and start capital improvements as soon as possible, and she felt she needed to address the issue of faculty salaries because she was not willing to lose any more faculty to peer institutions," he said.

Friday's meeting of the Board of Governor's is open to the public.

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# Opinion

## TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

### Payments due

It's a topic that's been the focus of more discussion on this campus and the other 15 in the UNC System than sports or perhaps even beer.

But it appears that discussion today and tomorrow will finally resolve the tuition increase.

The UNC System Board of Governors meets today and tomorrow in Chapel Hill to consider the

increased financial aid package worth \$37 million.

Broad's proposal seems to fulfill the greatest student concern by earmarking more money for financial aid.

The increase, however, is unnecessary, excessive, backward... basically everything that every concerned student has been saying for the three months that the increase has been on the table.

The UNC System Board of Governors will hold meetings over the next two days to decide the fate of the tuition increase issue.

following increase options: a 2.1 percent across-the-board increase and a \$100 capital fee, a fee set to expand to \$275 by the 2002-2003 school year, a fee that will pass the BOG only if it's likely that the N.C. General Assembly will match the student's payment; additional individual tuition increases for UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Charlotte, UNC-Wilmington, East Carolina and N.C. State; and additional tuition increases for professional and graduate students.

The 2.1 percent increase, proposed by UNC President Molly Broad, would work out to \$322 for undergraduates and \$388 for graduates here at NCSU.

Of that amount, \$200 will go to finance an increase in professor salaries. The rest is earmarked for an

the bottom line is this: a chancellor who pledged long ago that students would not be forced to bear the brunt of faculty salary increases will be brought along on this increase, whether she likes it or not.

A fee will be instituted for building academic buildings, a fee the N.C. General Assembly has traditionally financed on its own to the G.A. members: don't mention it guys. We'll pick up the tab on the next few libraries or classroom buildings).

Consider this a final frustrated hand raised in objection to the tuition increase. As you read this editorial, picture our editorial staff, blue in the face, exhausted from the constant efforts to hold back the increase that will not die.

Or, if you don't care to exercise your imagination, simply look in the mirror. We all share the face of the failed tuition resistance.

FEB. 4, 2000; LOYAL NCSU STUDENTS CAMPED OUT IN THE FREEZING COLD. ALTHOUGH MANY FAILED TO RECEIVE TICKETS, MOST HAD FUN. THIS IS THE STORY OF DAN & CODY'S ALP J.J. AND KEVIN & A FEW OF THESE BRAVE STUDENTS.

MANY J.J.'S IT'S FREEZING! YEAH, THIS SUCKS.

HEY, WHERE IS EVERYONE? CODY'S GETTING STUFF TO BURN.

HEY, GUYS! I BROUGHT ALL OF OUR RED SHIRTS SINCE NCSU'S NEW COLOR IS BLACK. WELL, THROW THEM ON THE FIRE!

BOOOOOOM

HEY, LOOK WHAT I CAUGHT IN THE EXPLOSION! J.J.'S DO YOU HATE DAN? YEP.

Packers

Dan Ballenger

## CAMPUS FORUM

All letters sent to *Campus Forum* (techforum-L@ncsu.edu) are the property of *Technician*. The *Technician* editorial staff reserves the right to edit all *Campus Forum* letters for content and space. There is a limit of 250 words on *Campus Forum* letters.

### Campout action, Public Safety inaction disappoints.

I was shocked and appalled by the lack of respect shown for public and private property by N.C. State students during the campout this previous weekend. For police and firefighters to have been called at that time while trying to prevent destruction and maintain order is ludicrous. While I left the campsite for a brief amount of time, I returned to find my car bumperless. I immediately found the campus police, who informed me they informed me that I needed to move my car. I asked for their assistance and they refused to help me move my car or even ride with me. I respect and appreciate the police and how they assist the public; however, Sunday night I was offered no assistance by the officers at the scene. I am incredibly disappointed in the actions of the campout participants and the lack of ability to maintain order. The amount of destruction was incredibly disturbing; not only my bumper, but the chairs, *Technician* boxes and lamps—spots just to name a few. The out-

rageous acts, which occurred this past weekend, should have never taken place. People should learn to keep self-control and maintain respect for other people's property. I know many people are outraged at the fact that they did not obtain tickets for the big game; however, the outrage should truly be over the actions of the handful of rowdy students who were bent on destruction. I would just like to thank these people for ruining the campout for the rest of us and crushing the chances of having a campout in the future.

Catherine Odum  
Freshman  
FVCH

### "Big Event" part 2? Not quite.

I understand that Student Government and UAB showed the UNC Chapel Hill N.C. State basketball game on the big-screen TV in Reynolds. I applaud them for doing this, as many students were unable to view the game live. Thanks to both of

See FORUM Page 4

### RICHARD MORGAN

I am not a virgin, but I wish that I were. In this time of Valentine madness, when bouquets of roses and boxes of chocolates are billed as passports into a world of erotica run rampant, I thought it was important that someone say (or write) something in praise of those of us who can still call themselves virgin.

Too often, virginity is spun as a stigma, a shame. No sex! Too bad! What a waste of a great body! All that jazz.

Virgins are cast as Amish nerds who vent their sexual frustrations by "churning butter"—so to speak—or writing bitter diary entries.

No. Virgins are more than that. Virgins are better than that.

So, I'm gonna try for the sake of nostalgia to get that of time ranting and tackle a subject I've put off for a couple of years. It just can't be avoided anymore.

At the request of some friends who wanted me to address this issue at least once before they graduate, I now turn my attention to... the N.C. State Dance. Please let me state that I

have tremendous respect for every one of those bubbly gals who help cheer our team on to victory with their lusty gyrations. And if that doesn't sound sincere, well, let me try a little harder. I recognize the amount of time they put into what they do and the amount of skill it takes. I hold nothing against them as individuals or as a group. They do far more than some people on this campus to support their team.

I guess the only time I have a problem with them is just about every time they take the floor. And what really twists my knickers in a bunch isn't them so much—no matter how strong my feelings are against synchronized dance steps a la the Britney Spears model. My problem is with the reaction they get from the fans.

I have been to enough games in my life to know that when it's dance squad time, it's testosterone time. As each pert little ponytail bounces its way to center court, every boy in the place rises (I mean to his feet, rises to his feet...). His eyes glaze over and he stares with rapt attention, the likes of which is only other-

wise observed in conjunction with fishing shows and ESPN's SportsCenter.

For this brief moment in time, lasting approximately as long as the opening strains of the dance mix favor of the week, I and every other girl in the arena become painfully aware of our place. All we can do is look on in silence. Feigning disgust, pouting, trying to understand—all of these are futile in the face of so many bare midriffs.

Now, I can usually bear this personal affront to my self-esteem. I know that I'll question my true merit as a woman, what with this glistening, tan ideal pulsating before me some time during the second half of the game.

I brace myself for it, going into games ready for that instance in the evening when I'm not going to like myself quite as much as when I walked through the door. But I was not prepared for what I witnessed about a week and a half ago.

As those sassy sentences of school spirit sashayed across the floor, there was one more in their number. Bringing up the rear was none other

than Ms. Wuf herself. My friends and I watched, mouths agape, as our beloved school mascot, representative of every girl on campus, shed her wholesome image and went over to the dark side. She shook. She shimmied. At one point, she was even doing her thing on the floor.

Alas, with her non-threatening red-and-white jumper and Betty Crocker good cheer, Ms. Wuf had been our last little lifeline, the only thing keeping us from losing our way in one long and winding abyssal flesh market. "How could she?" one of my comrades lamented, the hurt and betrayal apparent in her eyes.

I tried to point out the bright side, the fact that she had at least dressed conservatively for the part. Her little black dress extended well to the knees; she had the presence of mind not to expose her little fuzzy navel and she still sported the same crinoline underneath (and nothing says sexy like... well, anything other than crinoline). Yet, the truth was: still there. Ms. Wuf was grinding. And

See SEX Page 4

## Marks' reflections on the dance team

### KELLY MARKS

I've been little ditties for a couple of years now and it's been brought to my attention that,

of late, I just don't seem to write with the same sort of embittered dwarf cynicism I used to employ.

In my attempts to wax philosophical, I've let down some of my favorite readers by trying to be all lofty, and my tirades, if not lackluster—well, they just ain't what they used to be.

So, I'm gonna try for the sake of nostalgia to get that of time ranting and tackle a subject I've put off for a couple of years. It just can't be avoided anymore.

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I guess the only time I have a problem with them is just about every time they take the floor. And what really twists my knickers in a bunch isn't them so much—no matter how strong my feelings are against synchronized dance steps a la the Britney Spears model. My problem is with the reaction they get from the fans.

I have been to enough games in my life to know that when it's dance squad time, it's testosterone time. As each pert little ponytail bounces its way to center court, every boy in the place rises (I mean to his feet, rises to his feet...). His eyes glaze over and he stares with rapt attention, the likes of which is only other-

wise observed in conjunction with fishing shows and ESPN's SportsCenter.

For this brief moment in time, lasting approximately as long as the opening strains of the dance mix favor of the week, I and every other girl in the arena become painfully aware of our place. All we can do is look on in silence. Feigning disgust, pouting, trying to understand—all of these are futile in the face of so many bare midriffs.

Now, I can usually bear this personal affront to my self-esteem. I know that I'll question my true merit as a woman, what with this glistening, tan ideal pulsating before me some time during the second half of the game.

I brace myself for it, going into games ready for that instance in the evening when I'm not going to like myself quite as much as when I walked through the door. But I was not prepared for what I witnessed about a week and a half ago.

As those sassy sentences of school spirit sashayed across the floor, there was one more in their number. Bringing up the rear was none other

than Ms. Wuf herself. My friends and I watched, mouths agape, as our beloved school mascot, representative of every girl on campus, shed her wholesome image and went over to the dark side. She shook. She shimmied. At one point, she was even doing her thing on the floor.

Alas, with her non-threatening red-and-white jumper and Betty Crocker good cheer, Ms. Wuf had been our last little lifeline, the only thing keeping us from losing our way in one long and winding abyssal flesh market. "How could she?" one of my comrades lamented, the hurt and betrayal apparent in her eyes.

I tried to point out the bright side, the fact that she had at least dressed conservatively for the part. Her little black dress extended well to the knees; she had the presence of mind not to expose her little fuzzy navel and she still sported the same crinoline underneath (and nothing says sexy like... well, anything other than crinoline). Yet, the truth was: still there. Ms. Wuf was grinding. And

See DANCE Page 4

## Reactions of the human soul

### RACHAEL QUERCASA

The development of the human soul is a mystery unto itself. It is something that cannot be explained; it is something that is intangible; it is something that cannot be taught; it is something that has to be experienced.

Every day in our lives we interact with people, problems, and situations that add to the development of our soul. We are constantly reevaluating our decisions and our choices. There are many things that add to the

development of our soul. Some of those include friendship, pain, hate and love.

As Valentine's Day is rapidly approaching, I have begun to examine love and the role it plays in people's lives. I watch as all those people "in love" are frantically running around trying to figure out the perfect Valentine's Day. As I sit idle, I ask the question: what is love?

What will you do for love? That is an interesting question, one that is constantly asked by millions of people every day. Love will make you do crazy things, but to what extent should you allow love to control your life?

Being in love is amazing. It is one of those experiences that is indescribable by language and can only be felt by a single. Love is a natural high. However, as with all highs, you have to eventually fall a little. Yet, how far do you allow yourself to fall?

A couple of things that I have learned about love are to:

1. Never compromise yourself; never change your self for someone else.
2. Never try to change the soul of your loved one; you should instead try to stimulate and help develop their soul.
3. Keep humor in the relation-

ship; be light hearted.

4. Work on being friends first, then things will fall into place.

5. Do not be afraid to take that "step off a cliff" and try something scary; you will not forget it. I promise.

6. Know when there is a need to change the direction of the relationship.

7. Keep focus on your personal dreams and do not let them become clouded.

As I continue my observations on love, I often see couples that are

See SOUL Page 4

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## SEX

Continued from Page 3

makes life-making possible. The pure bliss of that experience awaits all husbands and wives—regardless of their histories.

To close, I'd just like to challenge both virgins and non-virgins alike to recognize that the upcoming 14th of February is a dangerous time, a time when items as childish as candy carry messages as adult as "I love you." I invite you to recognize that relationships are not the roller-coaster toys they've been made out to be. People are not playthings.

Relationships do not exist so that we may find ourselves or lose ourselves; they exist so that we may build ourselves with the company of one who knows that love is a battle in which "V" stands for "victory."

Comments? Send them to [ncsu\\_writer@yahoo.com](mailto:ncsu_writer@yahoo.com).

## DANCE

Continued from Page 3

what's worse, she liked it.

Oh, the humanity!

Now, you can call me jealous. In some ways, you wouldn't be wrong. I've got neither the courage nor the nerve to readily embrace garments made from lycra/pandex fabrics. I and all of my sisters, whether we admit it openly or not, we all secretly harbor at least the tiniest desire to be one of those girls on the Jumbotron.

We all see them—it is blatantly obvious that the cameramen have a thing for girls with long hair, little red lips and fashionable red sweater, black clubbing pants ensembles.

Oh, how we dream of the day when we, too, can see ourselves onscreen, giggle, coyly avert our eyes and say to our friends, "Ohmigod, I can't be on screen. I look absolutely terrible."

You could call me a feminist. I'm not sure I'd agree with you. In my opinion, what the dance team does

isn't necessarily wrong. I don't accuse them of selling their bodies or existing for the sole pleasure of men or whatever other crime against their sex that some might convict them for. If they want to shake it baby, shake it. I say more power to 'em. Too often, women criticize other women for merely doing what they want to do.

So, what am I? Well, I think I'm offended, but I get over that easily. I think I'm disappointed that, every time I walk into the Entertainment and Sports Arena, I'm reminded of the fact that appearance matters and that girls are still seen as entertainment for men and put upon pedestals.

And I want to stress that this isn't so much a reflection on the dance team as it is on the element of society that hoos and hollers every time a girl kicks her leg in the air and shakes her butt.

I'd love to see the day when a bunch of scantily clad men take the floor at halftime at a women's game and break it down to Backstreet Boys.

Actually, on second thought, I'm not sure I'm ready for that....

*Kelly secretly harbors yearnings to bear her midriff, too. If you'd like to stop this insanity before it starts, e-mail [kmmarks@unity.ncsu.edu](mailto:kmmarks@unity.ncsu.edu). And to my 1,208 sisters, this was for you, darlings.*

## FORUM

Continued from Page 3

the organizations for doing this.

I have seen some forum letters refer to this as another "Big Event."

I would like to point out, however, that this showing of the game was not part of the Big Event, a recent campus tradition sponsored by the ACTION Committee, which highlights the theme of responsible decision-making.

Chris Austin  
Doctoral Student ACE  
ACTION Committee Chair

## Preparation is key

I have never witnessed such unorganized chaos as last weekend's campout for basketball tickets. Besides the fact that 2,000 of the students who camped out did not receive tickets to the game, every other aspect of the campout was completely unorganized. I have never been so disappointed in my school. For the past four years, I have camped out, and it has never been so upsetting as this past weekend's campout.

It all started with Technician (Feb. 2) printing the times that campout could be called on WKNC. The times printed were completely different from the times that WKNC was announcing.

The times also included Friday night, which has never been considered before for any campout.

I have no problem with this, because I understand the demand for tickets were higher this season; however, Student Government (or whoever decides when campout can be held) should have had the sense to let the student body know a little more than two days in advance.

But, on the other hand, that wouldn't have mattered either because each and every camper who had a friend on Student Government knew when they were going to call campout anyway and when each line check would take place.

Instead, they waited until 10 a.m. Saturday to call it, meaning every student trying to follow the rules and be prepared waited a Friday night listening to WKNC.

Once campout started, they realized exactly how many students could get up at 10 a.m. on a Saturday to go get tickets and they claimed they had 4,000 tickets to give. So, the campout started. My group had to move our tent three times because of the unprepared Student Government "directors."

First, we were told to set up on the side of the street across from Reynolds Coliseum in the bushes. Then, we were told to move back down beside Reynolds (on the same side of the street), only to be told to move back to our original location where other campers (with friends on Student

Government, I'm sure) had taken our spot in line.

Then, after spending two nights out in 26 degree weather with two other tents practically on top of ours and one right at the door to our tent, Student Government officials let one group back in line that hadn't been out to the campsite since Saturday at 2 p.m. The group claimed they had "accidentally" set up their tent in the wrong spot and missed every line check because of it.

I know for a fact that SG also let groups change the number of student tickets and guest tickets from the original numbers that they signed up to receive.

Now, we wait to see if our school is turning into Carolina and taking money for tickets, over providing 10 percent of the student body seats to the biggest game of the season.

Moral of the story: be prepared.

Courtney Miller  
Senior  
Business Management  
Campout Line 1, Group 64  
I would like to clarify some misin-

## Student letter corrected

formation that appeared in one of the "Campus Forum" submissions regarding the UNC-Chapel Hill game campout in the Feb. 8 edition of Technician.

Ticket Central sells tickets for Arts N.C. State performances and other events taking place in Stewart and Thompson Theatres, the Campus Cinema and the Talley Student Center only. We are not involved with the sale or distribution of tickets for any athletic event.

Cheri Palmer  
Manager, NC State Ticket Central



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**SOUL**

Continued from Page 3

stuck in a stagnant cycle. Now, I know that not every day in a relationship can be a "honeymoon." However, I get frustrated with couples who are unable to identify a stagnant cycle in their relationship. My frustration with this stems from the fact that I do not believe you should allow love to control your life. I think, in relationships, decisions should be made based on what is best for you at a particular time. Yet, too many times, those people do not see this at all. They are instead content in remaining in a stagnant relationship and do not feel a need to change anything. Knowing when a relationship needs a change is healthy.

My question to those people; what is holding you back from jumping off that edge and trying something new that you never saw yourself

doing?

Do not let your partner's advice dictate your actions. Make a decision based on what is correct for you and only you. Whatever decision you make, do not regret it, because you did not make a bad one. You made the correct one for that situation and time.

Now, on a more positive note about love: Love can be summed up in my mind with the quote that "life is short and we have never too much time for gladdening the hearts of those who are traveling the dark journey with us. Oh be swift to love, make haste to be kind." Remember that we are not young forever and take advantage of this time. Explore you inner self and I guarantee you will discover something. Love is a wonderful thing, but it can only fully be felt when it is fully appreciated and developed.

Please send any comments or questions to Rachael at [rtoverca@unity.csu.edu](mailto:rtoverca@unity.csu.edu)

**Opinion**

**Disillusionment and the purpose of voting**

**JOSH COWEN**

Michigan Daily (U. Michigan)

I am often asked, as a result of the work I do, why I believe young people do not vote, or participate in any large numbers with the civic events around us. I have given many answers, since many are true. I am likewise asked why they should vote, or participate at all. And the answer here is close to my heart. The following thoughts attempt to answer both. Welcome to my column.

Writing as the Federalist, No. 10, James Madison described the imperfect nature of his new government: "Complaints are everywhere heard from our most considerate and virtuous citizens ... that the public good is disregarded in the conflicts of rival parties, and that measures are too often decided, not according to the rules of justice and the rights of the minor party, but by the superior force of an interested and overbearing majority."

Madison might well have been commenting on the current political scene. Two vehicles of public manipulation, political opportunism and media influence, have distorted the democratic process in the pursuit of their respective interests: Victory and audience. Of the various social groups divided along traditional lines-ethnic, gender, age-young people are most injured by this. The state of public affairs is, after all, a direct link to the future. When our government fails to address the concerns of its people today, it attenuates this link by creating uncertainty and disillusionment. The young, scarred by this betrayal, will feel its sting in the years to come. It will inflict itself upon every decision they make, every problem they attempt to solve, every goal they dare to establish.

The young know of the multitude of opinions, concerns, ideas and

necessities this diverse country holds. If ours were simply not addressed, it would be possible to cling to an ideology. We would convince ourselves that our representative, and those attempting to represent us, had so many interests to attend to, that our own were factored in to the common good; not solved, perhaps, in the manner we might choose, but addressed in the least. If we managed to convince ourselves as such, we might even participate. We might even vote. But we do not, in large numbers, do either. And we do not because we are betrayed. And we are betrayed not simply because we are unheard, but because we are not even asked. This is why we do not vote.

The young see voting as a payment. To us it is our charge to those who might govern. We expect something in return: consideration, gratitude in the form of attention. We have our particular concerns: salaries, education, in recent years gender and race equality, AIDS and the environment. These are important to us because they will each affect our daily lives when today's leaders live no longer. Our government has specialists, task forces, even whole departments dedicated to these issues because they overlap with the concerns of an average citizen. Their importance to young people is incidental. Since we see voting as a payment, and since we do not feel compensated, we feel robbed. Our issues have been stolen to finance electoral victory. We tell ourselves to live and learn, and we lock our doors. We feel like victims assigned random numbers, statistics-incidental.

If our disillusionment is the result of a theft, today's media are those assigned to bring justice. Reporters, commentators, analysts, affiliates and corporations have not only failed in this task, but have conspired in the cover-up. Good stories bring good money, and good money brings

power. Americans are told, in the form of news updates and analysis, who is politically in vogue, and which issues are important. To the young, this only adds the ignorance of those who purport our representation. We see good men and women - our men and women - battered and destroyed by an information giant. Furthermore, real ideas and real solutions are abandoned because they do not fit into a news segment or a sound bite. No, real hopes swell and multiply. They cannot be confined to a television set or a hard drive. They burst bandwidth of all diameters, and satellites cannot transmit them. The information highway was built for today's young: a path to a great future. We do not want it.

And so we do not vote, and it is a shame. For voting, while the first course of change abandoned by the cynic, is also the last stronghold for what we crave. Voting is not a charge or a payment, it is not a favor or a donation. It is not always the means of accomplishment, but it is always an act of pure participation. Oliver Wendell Holmes said "it is required of a man that he should share the action and passion of his time at peril of being judged not to have lived."

This, in the end, is what we want: To participate in something real; to take part in a great event large and infinite. We want to change the world but we want others to want it too. A vote expresses this. A vote says that the problems we face are ours as they are yours, that success is a banquet to nourish us all, and that we will never cease to progress-as individuals and as peoples-no matter how abandoned we are today. A vote hopes, dreams, believes, and expects. A vote does not cure disease, end hunger, bring races together, or end war. But it promises that someday humanity will.

So vote.

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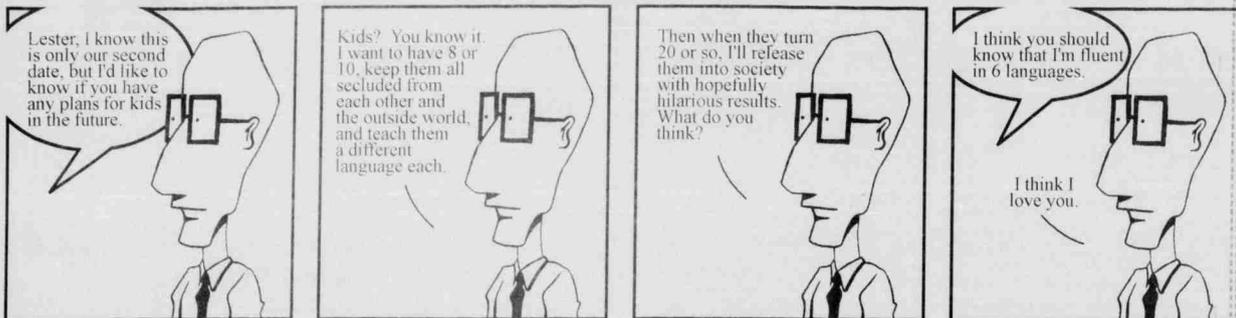
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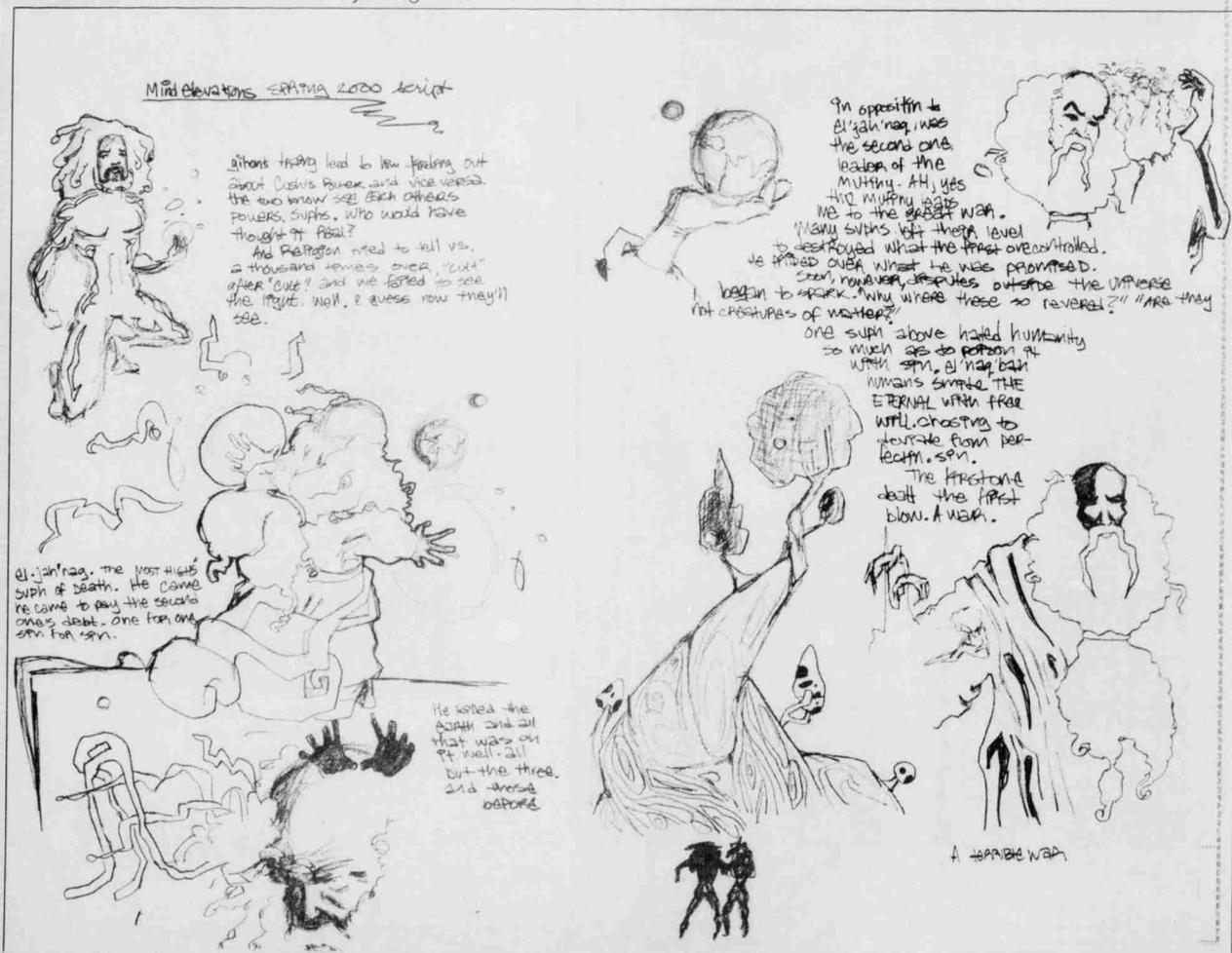
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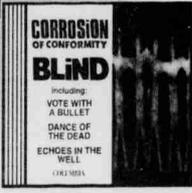


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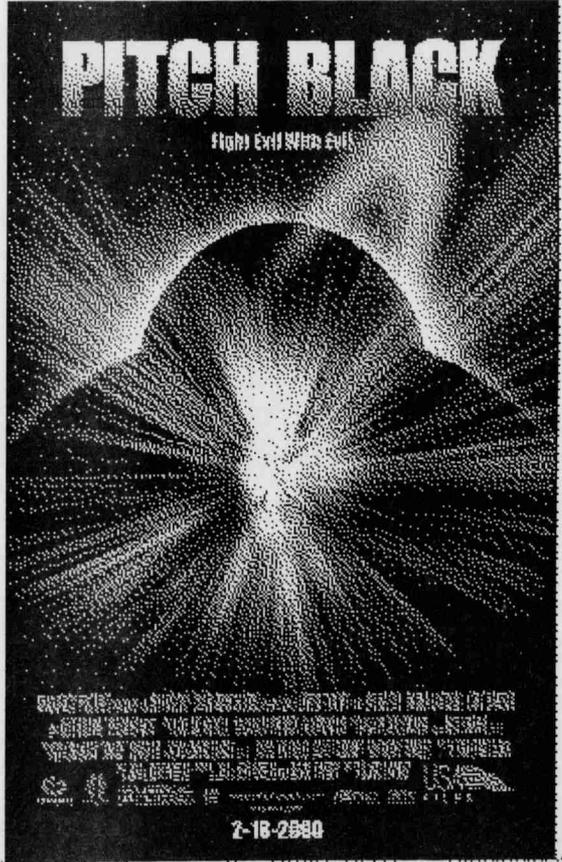
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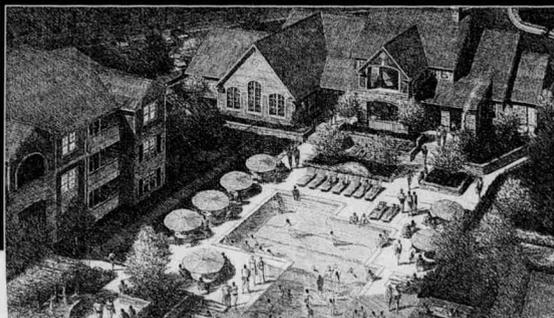


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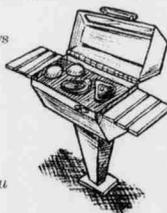
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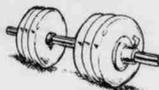
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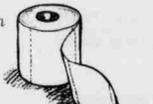
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HEART

Gymnastics League rival, 12th-ranked West Virginia... The Pack ended West Virginia's three-year reign as ECAC champions last year...

WD

Continued from Page 8... powered by Combs as 38 fell victim to strikout. In the final game of the Winn-Dixie Shootout...

DALY

Continued from Page 8... Worse for State, for the first time this season, there is a cloud covering the team's NCAA chances.

Of those games, State can only count on beating Clemson. The team always struggles in Charlottesville, and it has never won in Tallahassee.

the point that Damon got his second foul with about 10 minutes to go in the [first] half." Sendek said. In the second half, the Pack couldn't seem to get back into the offensive rhythm it had in the first.

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# N.C. State's women head to College Park

◆ The ACC-leading Wolfpack women's basketball team travels to Maryland tonight.

**ROB GODFREY**  
Staff Writer

N.C. State's women's basketball team heads up to Maryland today to face the Terrapins, a team the Wolfpack defeated 71-52 a month ago in Reynolds Coliseum.

For the second game in a row, the Pack (14-4, 9-2 ACC) will be without center Summer Erb, an All-American candidate and reigning Atlantic Coast Conference Player of

the Year, as she nurses a season-threatening foot injury.

For the Terrapins, Erb's absence could work favorably. The last time the two teams met, the Pack dominated the boards. A 52-26 advantage in rebounds translated into second-chance points for State and denied Maryland second-chance points on its end. Erb led her team with nine rebounds.

Defensively, State, particularly Erb, was superb.

"Our bread and butter was defense," head coach Kay Yow said. State forced 20 turnovers off 10 steals, three from Erb, in the first meeting. And the Pack was able to counter its own poor shooting in the first half (34 percent) by forcing Maryland to shoot worse (28 percent).

Offensively, Erb led all scorers with 19 points — another reason the Pack will lament her injury while the Terps try to thrive in her absence.

For State, Tynesha Lewis and Kaayla Chones will have to establish an inside-outside punch while

bench productivity needs to be maximized as it was in the first meeting between the ACC opponents. Ivy Gardner and Amy Simpson contributed 12 points each off the bench against Maryland in Reynolds.

A late 20-6 run by the Pack sealed the victory, which came into question when Maryland hit six second-half three-pointers.

Over the weekend, State prevailed over Florida State 72-62. The win, and an overtime loss Virginia suffered at the hands of North Carolina, deadlocked the race for the ACC regular season championship. Duke, who is playing without senior Peppi Browne, slipped in the standings to second at 7-3 while State and

Virginia are tied for first with records of 9-2.

The Pack returns home Sunday to take on Clemson in Reynolds. The game will be part of the weekend-long celebration surrounding Yow's 25th anniversary as head coach at N.C. State, which includes a reception for former players Friday and a banquet Saturday night.

Special ceremonies are scheduled to take place following the game. Several former N.C. State greats will have their numbers retired at that time. They will be the Pack's first group of retirees.

Tip-off for Sunday's game is set for 2 p.m.



The women's basketball team will be in Maryland tonight.

## 62 S N.C. STATE VS. UNC 70

# State falls

◆ UNC's Ed Cota hits a key three late to hand the Wolfpack its first loss in the Entertainment and Sports Arena.

**JEREMY RSHON**  
Assistant Sports Editor

N.C. State's winning streak in the Entertainment and Sports Arena finally came to an end Wednesday night, and North Carolina's Ed Cota was responsible for it coming to an end.

Cota knocked down a three-pointer with just 57 seconds left on the clock to put a dagger in the Wolfpack's heart and seal a 70-62 victory for the Tar Heels. Cota had been silent from the floor most of the night but controlled the pace of the game for the Tar Heels, handing out 11 assists and committing just one turnover.

"The one thing right now standing out in my mind is the play of Ed Cota; he was just dominant," said N.C. State head coach Herb Sendek. "We didn't have an answer for his penetration. We tried to trap him as much as we could to get the ball out of his hands, but he just really makes everything go for them, and he controls the game."

The loss dropped the Pack (15-6, 5-5 ACC) to 14-1 in its new home and, more importantly, left the team a game behind UNC (15-9, 6-4) in the ACC standings.

"Any time you lose, period, it's a little sting but especially losing here with the way our fans supported us tonight," said Damon Thornton, N.C. State's leading scorer with 18 points.

The Pack simply could not handle UNC's Brendan Haywood in the post. Haywood matched career highs in field goals attempted and field goals made with his 9-of-12 shooting performance.

Possibly playing in his final game of this rivalry, the Pack's Justin Gainey scored 15 points and dished out six assists. Gainey did a good defensive job on Cota for most of the game, holding him to 2-of-9 shooting from the floor, but was helpless on Cota's game-clinching shot.

"The shot clock was winding down, but I didn't think it was enough for him to shoot the J," said Gainey. "I thought that he would drive, so I gave him a little more room than what I'd been doing all night. And he stepped up and made a big shot."

The Pack learned moments before the game that it would not have freshman Marshall Williams coming off the bench. Williams underwent arthroscopic surgery on his left knee Wednesday afternoon and will miss the next 2-3 weeks.

Without Williams, Sendek was forced to rely more heavily on his starters. Tim Wells, Cornelius Williams and Archie Miller all got significant playing time in the first half, but

Miller was the only bench player who played more than a minute of the second half.

"Right now, we are who we are, and we need to collectively make up for Marshall and Ron [Kelley] absences," said Sendek.

N.C. State came out of the gate smoking. UNC's Joseph Forte hit the first shot of the game, but the Pack went on a 14-2 run immediately after that capped by a Miller jumper, his first field goal of the year from inside three-point range.

But UNC weathered the storm and slowly



Kenny Inge in the post.

crept back into the game. The Heels got four consecutive dunks, three from Haywood, midway through the first half to bring the game back within four. Moments later, a three from Jason Capel cut the lead down to one.

With 1:34 left in the half, Haywood tied the game at 26 on a layup assisted by Cota. Forte then hit two free throws with 58.9 seconds to go in the half to give the Heels a 28-26 halftime lead, their first since the score was 2-0.

The Pack started the second half the same way it started the first. Anthony Grundy hit back-to-back threes with a Haywood dunk sandwiched in between to put the Pack up 32-30.

The score went to 34-31 on a Thornton jumper, but that was the last time N.C. State would hold the lead. Kris Lang got open inside for another dunk and Forte hit a three the next time down the floor to start a 9-0 run that gave the Heels their first significant lead.

NCSU immediately pulled back within two led by a thunderous dunk from Thornton. Max Owens had the answer, however, drilling a pair of threes to put UNC up 46-38 at the 10:16 mark.

You could just tell when he left the floor they were going in," said Sendek.

The Heels pushed the lead as high as 10, but the Pack refused to quit.

Grundy hit another three followed by a Thornton jumper to pull NCSU back within six. Thornton was sent to the line by Capel on the Pack's next possession and hit one of two free throws to cut the deficit to 63-58 with 1:32 left. But Cota's three destroyed any hopes the Pack had left.

COMMENTARY

### ABC: Anybody but Cota

**JACK DALY**

For N.C. State fans, Ed Cota can't graduate soon enough.

The Tar Heels senior point guard was far and away the best player on the court Wednesday night and elevated North Carolina to a surprisingly easy win over the Wolfpack, 70-62 at the Entertainment and Sports Arena.



BASKETBALL

It always seems to be that way with Cota and State.

In his freshman season in a close game in Reynolds Coliseum, Cota hit a short floater with four seconds left to give the Tar Heels a 45-44 victory. Since then, Cota has been State's nemesis. This year, he capped off quite a career against the Pack by scoring a career-high 23 points in Chapel Hill and dishing out 11 assists against one turnover in Raleigh. Not coincidentally, UNC won both games.

"Ed Cota was sensational," UNC coach Bill Guthridge said after the game Wednesday. "That means Ed was just being Ed."

In the game, which was the Pack's first loss at the ESA, Cota ensured that the Pack wouldn't come back at the end, pulling up and hitting a 22-footer as the shot clock expired with one minute to go. UNC had a 66-58 lead with 57 seconds left.

Game over.

"That was one of the moments that you love to be in that type of situation," Cota said. "There was seven seconds on the shot clock, I freed myself up and got the basketball. I was thinking about penetrating but [Gainey] backed up and that's like my most comfortable shot."

When Cota wasn't hitting the shot that crushed State's comeback chances, he was passing the ball to Brendan Haywood. Haywood, who only seems to come up big against the Pack, had nine baskets, eight of them dunks or layups. Five of those eight baskets came courtesy of assists from Cota.

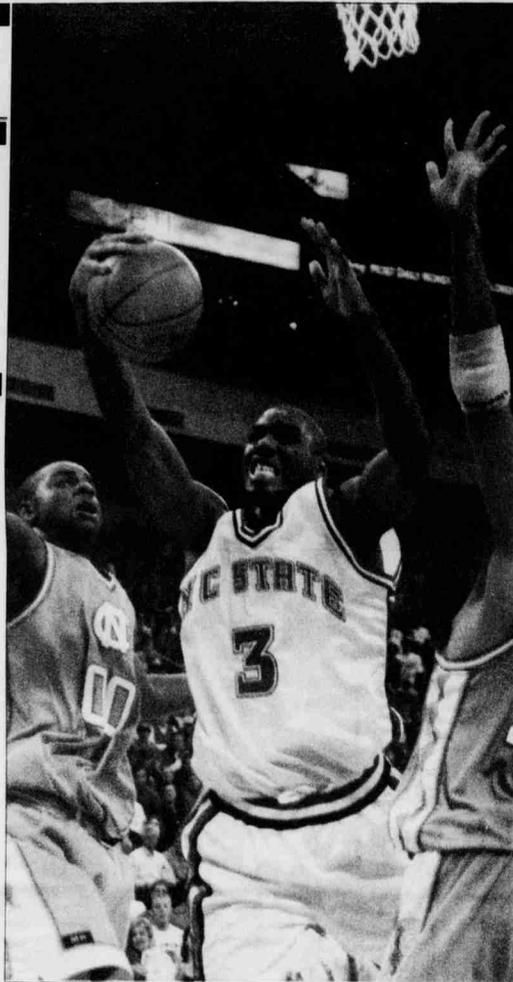
"He did a great job of getting in the post position," Cota said. "He kept his poise. They were double-teaming him. I think he only threw it away once. I think he did a hell of a job."

If there was a main storyline to the game, it was how many easy baskets Carolina had

they had 17 dunks or layups for the 27 field goals they made — and how State couldn't respond with easy baskets of their own.

Earlier in the season, State coach Herb Sendek said that 12 three-point attempts per game was the perfect number for his team.

Wednesday night, the Pack had 17 in the second-half and 24 for the entire game. Even when State players had wide-open looks, the shots seemed to miss.



UNC was too much for Damon Thornton and the rest of the Pack Wednesday night.

See DALY, Page 9

## Just in time for Valentine's Day: Hearts Invite

◆ The Wolfpack gymnastics team plans to change gears at the Hearts Invitational.

**JEREMY RSHON**  
Assistant Sports Editor

The N.C. State gymnastics team returns to Reynolds Coliseum for the first time in a month when it hosts the Hearts Invitational on Friday.

According to head coach Mark Stevenson, the Hearts Invitational marks a turning point in the season for the Wolfpack. This is the stage of the year when the team starts to add more skills to its routines and focuses on consistently hitting every event.

"This weekend, we want to be looking at a solid 194 or higher every single meet the rest of the year," said

Stevenson. "And if we don't do that, then we're not going to put ourselves in a position to be where we want to be."

NCSU enters the Hearts Invitational after a busy weekend in which the team competed in two meets in three days. The Pack took a third-place finish in the Governor's Cup at Towson State on Friday and fell to No. 2 Georgia in the Entertainment and Sports Arena on Sunday.

The Pack had some problems at both meets on beam, which is normally one of the team's stronger events. Four out

of six gymnasts had falls on that apparatus against Georgia.

"It's a good event for us; we're just mentally fighting with it right now," said Stevenson.

Otherwise, Stevenson felt his team performed well against the two-time defending national champions. NCSU finished bars even the Gym Dogs, the No. 3 team in the country on that event, and was within 3 points of them on floor.

"On a normal beam day, they'd have beaten us by one point," said Stevenson. "Four years ago, they beat us by nine points. That's like getting beat by 30 in basketball."

The weekend left the Pack at 2-4 for the year, but Stevenson is not concerned about the team's record at this point. The Pack has already faced some of the toughest teams in the country this year, such as Georgia,

Maryland and Ohio State.

Stevenson is more concerned with the fact that NCSU has already picked up a score, a 194.075 the team earned at Ohio State, that will count toward the team's regional qualifying score. This is the earliest that any Wolfpack team has ever earned a mark that high.

"We always try to peak late, and this is early," said Stevenson. "So, we'll be in good shape. I really feel comfortable with where we are."

The Hearts Invitational is a meet that the Pack holds annually on the weekend before Valentine's Day. Five teams will be involved in this year's edition of the meet, including West Virginia, Radford, Rhode Island and William and Mary.

N.C. State's biggest competition on Friday will be its East Atlantic

◆ After having its season opener snowed out, the Wolfpack baseball team finally begins the 2000 season at the Winn-Dixie Shootout.

**JONATHAN HONEYCUTT**  
Staff Writer

The 2000 N.C. State baseball season begins this weekend in Charleston, S.C. when the Wolfpack joins the Citadel, East Carolina, Old Dominion and Virginia in the Winn-Dixie Shootout.

The Pack will send sophomore sensation Dan D'Amato to the mound to face off against rival East Carolina on 10 a.m. on Friday. D'Amato, considered by head coach Elliott Avent to be this year's ace, had an impressive season as a freshman, compiling a 7-2



XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

record with a 5.11 ERA while striking out 52 batters.

Saturday's game pits the Pack against the Citadel at 1:30 p.m. Ryan Combs, who played high school baseball in Raleigh at Broughton High School, will be the starting pitcher. Combs, also a sophomore, went 3-0 last season with a 5.53 ERA. In 53.2 innings, opposing hitters were over-

See WD, Page 9

See HEART, Page 9