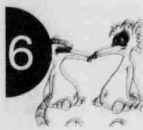




**Americans**  
Baseball, too much television, religious opinion and the lottery.



**Blackwater surprise**  
60 seconds, Elliott Smith, and the WKNC Top10X.



**Meece's!**  
Those crazy rats take on the Backstreet Boys, Dick Vitale and girls in general.



**Yowzer!**  
Get a football sneak preview in this week's Sports.



Wednesday  
June 14, 2000

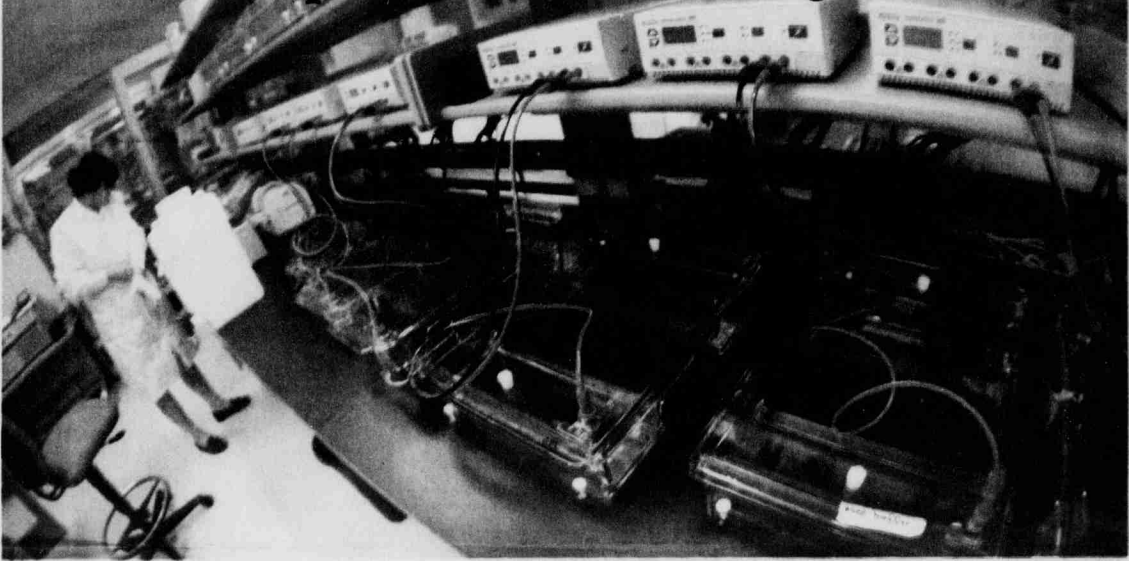
# TECHNICIAN

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## N.C. State opens state-of-the-art genomics lab



Limei He, a lab technician, works at Centennial Campus' Partner Genome Research Lab. The lab just recently opened to further NCSU's genetic engineering research and capabilities.

◆ **The Genome Research Laboratory on NCSU's Centennial Campus is opening the door for more advanced agricultural research.**

Stella Litsas  
Staff Writer

Although N.C. State does not have a medical program, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences has designed and opened a brand new facility on campus where researchers can study genomics and the

sequence of DNA. "This facility is one of the finest university facilities in the world, and it's the only completely user-based facility in the United States at a land-grant institution," said Charles Opperman, faculty co-director of the facility, the Genome Research Laboratory (GRL), in a press release.

Located at the Partners II building on Centennial Campus, this 4000 square-foot lab is equipped with the latest state-of-the-art tools and research systems that will help make significant advances in agriculture.

"At biotech there are always ways to genetically modify crops," said GRL Director Bryon Sosinski.

At a \$3 million investment so far, the GRL provides advanced equipment such as robotics, automated DNA sequencers, and a complete system for preparing and analyzing gene samples. According to university officials, such advanced proficiency in a facility will help pick up the pace of genomic studies in North Carolina.

As far as crop modifications, researchers at the GRL will focus on enhancing agricultural

production by using equipment to classify various crops and then test those crops' reactions to insects or pathogens so they can ensure the quality and quantity of food.

"The important thing is yield," said Sosinski. "You want to make sure you get more and more out of the same number of acreage." Currently, researchers at the GRL are working on a variety of projects, including studying things that contaminate food such as various fungal and food pathogens.

Today's technology, regarding genomics, is "automation and

string-lining of the process to get samples [of DNA] through," says Sosinski. In other words, instead of researchers working with one or two samples of DNA, they will be working with hundreds, and it will be mainly important for lab workers to do parts of the project that require extensive thought and problem-solving abilities rather than just hands-on experience with pipettes and test tubes.

Faculty at the GRL are involved with other pharmaceutical companies as well. BASE, a biotech company in North Carolina, is starting a

new program and will be working with the GRL.

Researchers at Nevadis, Paradigm Genetics, and some other biotech/crop improvements companies will also be collaborating with the GRL. A training period in the genomics degree program will be offered to students interested in biotechnology and agricultural sciences. Stephanie Curtis is active head of the degree program, and Professor Ross Whetton will teach a biotech course this summer.

## Patent exhibit celebrates faculty accomplishments

◆ **An exhibit in D.H. Hill Library honors the inventions of many NCSU faculty members.**

Mica Parker  
Staff Writer

Considering that N.C. State is ranked fourth in the nation for patents by faculty members, it makes sense to create something to honor the hard work that goes into getting a patent. Throughout the month of June, an exhibit entitled "Inventions! Patents at N.C. State" is on display in the main lobby of D. H. Hill Library. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

The exhibit features the work of faculty members who have developed new and exciting inventions, such as the three-dimensional weaving system created by Mansour Mohamed. This is invaluable because it produces fabrics that are lightweight but incredibly durable.

The exhibit also showcases over 100 inventions created in the electrical engineering department, including a variation of the defibrillator,



Easy Eggs is just one of the hundreds of patents owned by N.C. State employees and faculty on display in D.H. Hill Library.

which is an important medical tool. In all, the exhibit features approximately 30 faculty members and their inventions. However, a complete list of every patent ever obtained by a faculty member at NCSU is posted at the exhibit.

It is no big secret that getting an invention patented is not an easy feat

to accomplish. After an incredible amount of paperwork is complete, the inventor must submit numerous drawings and several pages of information describing why the invention is worthy of a patent. There is also a mind-numbing set of legal issues to

See PATENTS, Page 3

## NCSU bird study yields valuable results

◆ **Some NCSU scientists found that bird species in Great Smoky Mountains National Park were more abundant in unharmed forests than in woodlands once used for logging.**

Spaine Stephens  
News Editor

Dramatic changes in landscaping can have far-reaching effects on the wildlife that inhabit the land, according to a study conducted by several N.C. State scientists.

Ted Simons, associate professor of zoology and assistant unit leader in the N.C. Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at NCSU, worked with students over a span of eight years to compare undisturbed forest sites, in the 500,000-acre Great Smoky Mountains National Park, with controlled industrial logging sites to see how the bird community recovered from the deforestation.

The study, which was conducted for the National Park Service, concluded that more birds were living in "old-growth" areas of the park, which had never been deforested. The areas of the

park where logging had occurred 60 to 100 years ago also had bird communities, but on a slightly smaller scale.

Teams of 15 people worked together to census the birds during breeding seasons over the last four years. The data collected at 4,000 census points were compared to data collected at carefully paired points of past industrial logging.

With this information, researchers can now sort out what kinds of processes affect population, and develop habitat models to compare to other sites in the eastern U.S. to see if habitats and populations are steadily changing.

The research was done because of a steady decline of breeding songbirds that live in the park for two or three months before returning to the tropics each year. These birds have experienced a population decrease over the last 30 years, and the research will "help figure out what's driving the decline," said Simons.

Over the years, the study has helped scientists understand more about the changes in habitats that have occurred because of deforestation, and put the processes that contribute to the bird population decline into perspective, such as competition with other species introduced into the habitat over time.

See BIRDS, Page 3

# Opinion

## TECHNICIAN

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## TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

During the summer session, Technician will attempt to voice its opinion on various issues regarding current campus events and world affairs, rather than limit itself to a one-topic editorial per week. Technician's regular editorial format will resume at the start of the fall session.

To the City of Raleigh for failing to have all of the Raleigh Police Department's patrol cars inspected before the stickers expired. It's rather hypocritical for an institution that is supposed to enforce the law to routinely violate it. Maybe a few tickets from the State Highway Patrol would open the city's eyes; the irony of one agency ticketing another might drive home the point that no one is above the law, not even the city's police force.

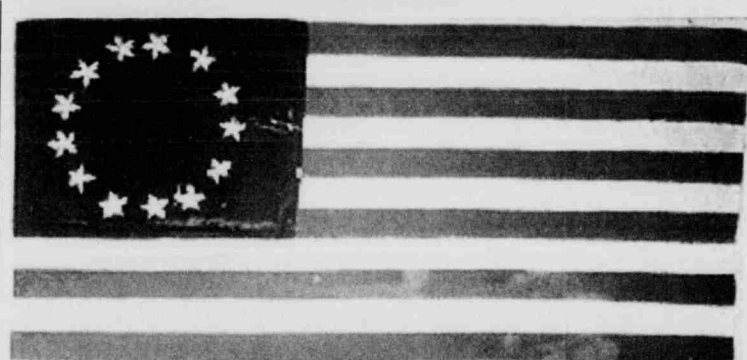
To MCiWorldCom and AT&T, the two largest long distance carriers in the U.S., for using their monopolistic tendencies to put a financial stranglehold on American consumers. Under fire by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for illegally switching customers' long distance service without their knowledge, WorldCom made a "voluntary" donation of three-and-a-half million dollars to the U.S. Treasury in hopes of making amends. AT&T also came under intense scrutiny by the FCC for quietly raising long distance rates by as much as seventeen cents per minute while benefiting from a federal plan that eliminated more than three billion in access charges that were paid by the nation's long distance companies. AT&T has since decided to put a temporary freeze on rate hikes. These token actions are more of a public relations spectacle than a true penance -- and insult the consumer's intelligence.

To Presidential Candidate Al Gore for supporting legislation that will make the sale of a Social Security number a federal crime. In 1999, the Social Security Administration received more than thirty thousand reports of number misuse. Although such legislation alone will not put an end to the crime of identity theft or to the fraudulent charges that are often racked up illegally in the victim's name, such a law will serve as a step in the right direction in the ongoing battle to keep private information private.

To Justice Thomas Penfield Jackson and the U.S. Justice Department for insisting that the Microsoft anti-trust case be "reflagged" past the appellate courts and be reviewed directly by the Supreme Court. Penfield's position echoes that of the open source community in reference to the sense of urgency behind a Supreme Court ruling. If the case is mired in the appeals process for several years, it's believed that Microsoft will use that time to further integrate itself into the PC market via illegal business practices and make any schism or dissolution of the company a logistical impossibility.

To U.S. Rep. Charles Taylor, of Breward, North Carolina, for first refusing to pay more than three thousand dollars in outstanding property taxes owed to the state, and then for demanding a refund. Already receiving the reduced rate set aside for property owners whose land is under active forest management, Taylor, through his lawyer, claimed that the payment of those taxes was not to be viewed as an admission that he owed them. Taylor should be ashamed of his actions, as they are a direct slap in the face to his constituents and to honest taxpayers across the state.

As one of the few remaining states in the country without a lottery, the state of North Carolina is sure to see the issue pushed into the spotlight by the gubernatorial candidates during this year's campaign. On the surface, a state lottery seems like a good idea; rhetoric in favor of the lottery paints an idealistic tale of good fortune for everyone, with a fairy-tale ending for all parties involved. However, when one inspects beyond the carefully crafted façade of pro-lottery



## The United States Flag is the third oldest of the National Standards of the world;

### older than the Union Jack of Britain or the Tricolor of France.

The flag was first authorized by Congress June 14, 1777. This date is now observed as Flag Day throughout America.

3, 1777. It was first under fire for three days later in the Battle of Brandywine, August 6, 1777. It was first decreed that there should be a star and a stripe for each state, making thirteen of both; for the states at that time had just been erected from the original thirteen colonies. The colors of the Flag may be thus explained: The red is for valor, zeal and fervency; the white for hope, purity, clearness of life, and rectitude of conduct; the blue, the color of heaven; for reverence to God; loyalty, sincerity, justice and truth. The star (an ancient symbol of

India, Persia and Egypt) symbolized dominion and sovereignty, as well as lofty aspirations. The constellation of the stars within the union, one star for each state, is emblematic of our Federal Constitution, which reserves to the States their individual sovereignty except as to rights delegated by them to the Federal Government. The symbolism of the Flag was thus interpreted by Washington: "We take the stars from Heaven, the red from our mother country, separating it by white stripes, thus showing that we have separated from her, and the white stripes shall

go down to posterity representing Liberty." Planted from lofty pinnacle of American Idealism; it is a beacon of enduring hope, like the famous Bartholdi Statue of Liberty enlightening the World to the oppression of all kinds. It floats over a wondrous assemblage of people from every racial stock on the earth whose united hearts constitute an indivisible and invincible force for the defense and success of the downtrodden.

-from History of the American Flag  
<http://www.usaflag.com/usa/09/c03/glnk/usa/history.html>

## point/counterpoint: "Freedom from fear"

Staff Columnist **Sadie Shearon**  
*Editor's Note: In the spirit of supporting intellectual discourse and providing a forum for the student body to air their views, Technician has chosen to devote from the standard column format in order to present the following debate between columnist Sadie Shearon and student Robert Wray Johnson in reference to "Freedom from fear", a column that ran on June 7, 2008.*

Each week it is my intention to provide readers with the truth. I use rhetoric, sarcasm and frankness to prove my point. And each week, I get feedback from readers. I enjoy all of the well-grounded feedback that I receive, whether it is in agreement with my opinions or not. This week, one reader in particular deserves attention. Robert Johnson is a prime example of how someone could miss my point. Below, you will find portions of his letter, and my responses.

"Freedom from fear". I understand her frustration with excessive government. However, some of these laws the radicals are necessary, and her conclusion that the Second Amendment protects us from being "held hostage" by the government is curious, to say the least. For example, Ms. Shearon rails against the law that requires her to vaccinate her cats. She asks, "What if [she] can't afford... vaccinations?" How about: Don't own a cat if you can't take care of it. Feline leukemia and Feline AIDS are fatal viruses

## No relief from this pitcher

Staff Columnist **Justin Parisi**  
Where have you gone Joe DiMaggio?

The days of Joltin' Joe's soft humility have long passed and have been replaced with the brash arrogance of players like the Atlanta Braves' relief pitcher, John Rocker. It wasn't enough that Major League Baseball suspended and fined him, nor was it enough that his teammates denounced him for the racial comments that he made in a magazine interview earlier this year. The simple fact of the matter is, Rocker doesn't know when to shut up. Recently, Ol' John-boy had a confrontation with the Sports Illustrated reporter who "tricked" him into making all of those racist, bigoted remarks. Rocker confronted the reporter, Jeff Pearlman, and allegedly threatened him, asking, "Do you know what I could do to you?" and saying, "This isn't over between us." Pearlman was understandably scared. I mean, really — who would win in a fight between a strong, bone-headed baseball player and a pencil-pushing writer-geek?

Shortly after the confrontation, Rocker was demoted to the Braves' minor league affiliate in Richmond. The demotion could result in Rocker's losing millions of dollars. Rocker, who is making \$290,000 this year, was on track to become eligible for salary arbitration next winter. If he stays in the minors for a very long time, he could get \$3 million or more in arbitration instead of the \$300,000 to \$400,000 he would receive if the Braves have the power to unilaterally determine his salary.

It's very likely that Rocker could see himself stuck in the minors for a very long time. The Braves' organization is one that prides itself on class and evidently no one, not even someone with a 100-mile-per-hour fastball, can change that. The Braves maintain that Rocker's demotion was based solely on his performance. He had walked 25 batters in 18 1/3 innings. However, one cannot ignore the timing of the move, nor the fact that one of Rocker's own teammates

## Powerball poverty

Opinion Editor **Cindy Spurlock**  
As one of the few remaining states in the country without a lottery, the state of North Carolina is sure to see the issue pushed into the spotlight by the gubernatorial candidates during this year's campaign. On the surface, a state lottery seems like a good idea; rhetoric in favor of the lottery paints an idealistic tale of good fortune for everyone, with a fairy-tale ending for all parties involved. However, when one inspects beyond the carefully crafted façade of pro-lottery

propaganda, the ugly truth is in plain view: Lotteries significantly contribute to the deterioration of society as a whole and take unfair advantage of those on its margins. A recent trip to the small town of Altavista, nestled two-and-a-half hours to the north in the Virginia countryside, provided a glimpse into what the future could hold for similar towns across North Carolina. Altavistians earn their living through manual labor, service jobs and light industrial work; this town of nearly four thousand shows no sign of being touched by the magic wand of economic prosperity. Nevertheless, a visit to several

country stores provided a shocking revelation: the Virginians that can least afford to be spending substantial portions of their income on lottery tickets. The money that changes hands in Altavista was earned through hard work and personal sacrifice. Instead of being saved, invested or used to increase one's quality of life, it is funneled into the lottery system in hopes of striking it rich. Players see the lottery as a symbolic wishing well; by devoutly tossing their pennies into the well, they yearn for its magic to touch their lives, for the well to

## Media manipulation responsible for mass mindlessness

Staff Columnist **Mike Pittman**  
If someone were to ask you if they could take a measly six hours of your day, each and every day, and inundate you with mind-numbing propaganda for those six hours, would you do it? What if they told you that in addition to giving those hours up, you would also be the one footing the bill for it? I'm going to put myself out on a limb here, and guess you wouldn't. Show of hands now (dramatic pause for effect). Hey, I was right, y'all said no! Well, most Americans are giving up their lives to television each and every day after work. They don't exactly become totally mindless, but dumb

enough to decrease the amount of productive work that they get done. Think about the time after work that you (or your friends) spend watching TV, or surfing the Internet. I'm for it. For one, feel that TV is the evil bastion of laziness in our society. So, I get online and write e-mail and chat because you know that's so much better. Please note my sarcasm. We each sit down and surf or watch for our entertainment. These great big media companies out there in media land exist for one purpose: to entertain us. Why else would they exist? To make money, you say? Oh yeah, the power of the greenback, the frogskin, the five-spot. Yes, my TV watching friends, it's all about the money. (Please excuse the bad song reference.) We get sucked into watching

TV and surfing the Net, and pay for the "privilege". Then, after we pay, we are inundated with advertisements that try to sell us the latest, greatest, most wonderful products on the market. And what do we do? We run out to the store to buy them. Take your average five year old. As soon as he sees that new "Joltin' Joe Rhino Robot" on TV, it's only a matter of seconds before he jumps up screaming, "Mommy! Mommy, I want a Joltin' Joe Rhino Robot! Please!" Or, take the same kid 30 years later and show him a "Big Boss Grass Mangling Mower" and you'll get the same effect (just replace "Mommy" with "Hunny" though). It's the power of corporate America: the level of "entertainment" in a show determines how many people will watch it and how often. The more peo-

ple who watch, the more who see the commercials; the more who see the commercials, the more who will buy the products. The more products bought, the more ad get sold. More ads, better shows, more people, more purchases, and on and on into financial oblivion. It's the driving force behind American media. The sad thing is that it's been that way ever since some smart guy way back when boxes talked thought, "Hey, I can sell stuff on here!" So in an effort to outdo their competitors, stations are forced to make their products better than those of the competition. Basically, the system forces each station to attempt to one-up their competitors. Case in point: ABC versus CBS — "Millionaire" vs. "Survivor". It's the match of the millennium (so far anyway) and we all have

front row seats. After all, we are the ones who are paying for it in the end. CBS' newest show, "Survivor," ran over ABC's newest flagship show, "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?," last Wednesday night. You know this means war. CBS and ABC will be vying for our attention from here on out, especially on Wednesday night. I wouldn't be surprised to see "Millionaire" start doing something new, such as killing the losers, or voting at the end to see if the winner should really win the money. That first guy who won, you know the guy, who called his dad to brag that he'd just won "one meeleon dollars"? He'd be gone. I can hear Regis now, "America, is thatcha final anta?"

## FEAR

Continued from Page 2

common among feral cat populations, and are passed through casual contact. Disregard for disease control under the guise of taxpayer-rights is misguided at best, while appealing to a deity and invoking some vague notion of Christianity is irrelevant and only exacerbates the problem.

**Sadie:** People should take care of their pets because people are human beings and a higher order of animal. Humans are not merely animals with advanced language abilities. We were created in the image of G.d. and we are commanded by Him to be stewards of the earth, animals, and our fellow brothers and sisters. So rather than having another useless federal rule, people should just obey the rules they have already been given by G.d. Controlling the pet population is like a doctor treating symptoms instead of treating the illness. The higher principle, which was the point of my article, is that if people adhered to the guidelines provided to them by G.d., then there would be no need for federal government regulations.

**Robert:** How do you suppose that the right to keep and bear arms will protect you from an

overly zealous central government? Perhaps it was true in the 18th century, where 1 million people were scattered along the eastern seaboard in an agrarian economy. Our 21st century America, however, with almost 300 million in highly urbanized demographics is a vastly different situation. But do consider this one word: fire-power. Rhetoric is nice and Wal-Mart supplies \$200 shorty arms, but try facing down fully armed - and armored - divisions of federal agents. I need only to point to Ruby Ridge and Waco as prime examples of the absurdity of that logic.

**Sadie:** You don't have to look back to the 18th Century for a reason to defend gun-owners' rights. In case you are not aware, Nazi Germany required that the guns of Jewish residents be registered before the Gestapo went to citizens' homes and collected those guns. Once the Jewish people were disarmed and unable to defend themselves, all hell broke loose. Maybe your family was not affected by the genocide of WWII; mine was. If you are calling me enough or blind enough to think that another holocaust is too far-fetched in the chic "21st-century America, pushing 300 million with highly urbanized demographics," then you are sadly mistaken. One need only to look at Chechnya or Afghanistan to see how well a

citizenry armed with small weapons (hand guns and rifles, semi-automatic and automatic, mortars, etc.) can not only be attacked by a zealous central government but can defend their freedom with the very weapons you advocate our government should take from the American public. My faith had been persecuted for the last 2000 years, and in the faith of G.d.'s chosen for thousands of years before that, and I dare not trust any governmental power that does not acknowledge and enforce the supremacy of G.d.'s Holy Law.

**Robert:** These issues are certainly complex, but don't do your side a disservice by employing emotional, faith-based arguments or logical fallacies in place of critical reasoning. There are enough propagandists out there already, shouting about jackbooted federal thugs and how we should be stocking up on Bibles, beans and bullets. Complex issues are rarely so black and white.

**Sadie:** Every argument is a faith-based argument. My faith is in G.d. (Elohim), yours is in government (man).

Questions or comments? Email Sadie at [sadieshearon@mindspring.com](mailto:sadieshearon@mindspring.com) and Robert at [rjohns2@unir.ncsu.edu](mailto:rjohns2@unir.ncsu.edu).

## MINDLESS

Continued from Page 2

And in the end, it is we who have spoken. We want more thrilling entertainment. What could be better than a bunch of people "stranded" on a desert island for 39 days? You have old people, young people, gay people (person right now, it's Richard by the way), straight people (those who aren't gay), and all in between... and they have to rely on each other to survive. And you thought Road Rules was bad.

So tonight, when you settle down to watch either "Millionaire" or "Survivor" and remote, ask yourself this question: "Is it really worth losing an hour of my life to watch this, or should I be more productive?" I know what I'll answer, do you?

Mike Pittman doesn't watch TV, does surf the Net, and can be found at a computer from 7:30am until midnight. Next Wednesday night, he'll watch "Survivor" because it's "never and better." You can write him at [mike\\_pittman@ncsu.edu](mailto:mike_pittman@ncsu.edu) if you want to watch it with him.

## POWERBALL

Continued from Page 2

grant their wishes. By paying homage to the deities known as Instant Win and Powerball, they hope that the gods of good fortune will smile upon them and reward them with a large payout.

Diane Delville, co-owner of Anna's Lottery Shop in Jackson Square, Ontario, commented on the despair surrounding the situation.

"They keep hoping they can get a quick way out of debt. People are so sad. They all have dreams - paying off the mortgage, buying a new car, helping family - and that's nice to see," she said.

People on the margins of society, those that need to make the most of every dollar, are often unaware of the statistical improbability of winning the lottery and getting out of their situations. Money that may be spent on the most basic human needs, such as food, shelter and clothing, is instead spent on the lottery in hopes that a small investment now will yield a windfall in the immediate future.

McMaster University mathematics and statistics professor Fred Hoppe has proven empirically that the odds of being struck by lightning are better than winning the jackpot. Hoppe, as quoted in *The Hamilton Spectator*, claims that someone spending twenty five dollars a week over twenty years, with a typical jackpot of 2.2 million, can expect to win a ten dollar, fifth place prize 459 times, and that it would take more than two thousand years to capture the second place prize of one hundred thirty-one thousand dollars.

According to the Virginia Lottery, approximately thirty five percent of lottery proceeds are returned to the state and are currently being channeled directly into the public school systems.

With rural stores posting proceeds of nearly four thousand dollars apiece for the previous fiscal year, the correlating statistics paint a depressing picture of life in a small town: with

higher rates of unemployment and lower levels of income, how can such towns afford the social consequences of the lottery system?

Sure, when the final numbers are tallied, the surplus that is given to Virginia school systems seems like a blessing in disguise, but at what price? Instead of manipulating the dreams of the lower classes via a statistical improbability such as a lottery, the surplus should be gained from those that can most afford it via luxury or privilege taxes.

Lotteries prey on those that can least defend themselves from its allure: the uneducated and the underpaid. Advertisements promoting the lottery deliberately play into the get-rich-quick fantasy, further encouraging the abandonment of logical thought and the embrace of reckless flights of fancy. By presenting the lottery as a knight in shining armor, those in need of being "rescued" look to it, eyes wide with hope, as a way, if not the only way, to live happily ever after. Such advertising leads the viewer to believe in the futility of hard work, and thereby encourages irrational spending of money on lottery tickets. Frankly, the state of Virginia should be ashamed of itself for encouraging compulsive gambling as a means of escaping from one's life.

The last thing that North Carolina needs is a lottery. Believing that the state will somehow escape the negative effects that lotteries have encouraged and perpetuated in other locales is delusional at best.

If the state needs to raise capital for spending on education or other social programs, it needs to take a serious look at its soft position on big business. It's time for those that benefit most from the state by taking advantage of its corporate tax breaks and by underpaying and overworking its populace to pay their dues.

Questions or comments? Email Cindy at [csprlock@nc.rr.com](mailto:csprlock@nc.rr.com).

## ROCKER

Continued from Page 2

called him "a cancer." The recent actions of the Braves are long overdue. Measures should have been taken when the comments first surfaced to demonstrate that there is freedom of speech in this country, but when it violates human rights, it should come at a price. The Braves should have demoted or fired Rocker immediately.

I'm all for freedom of speech, in all forms, even when we're talking about Rocker and his penchant for spewing hate. Apparently, so is Rocker, especially when it involves his own agenda. But I guess *Sports*

Illustrated reporters aren't allowed the same freedoms as Rocker feels entitled to, considering that Rocker wanted to hurt Pearlman for consequences that Rocker brought upon himself.

The difference is, Pearlman wasn't telling America that he hated people with purple hair and AIDS who rode the subways in New York — he was just reporting that there was someone who did, someone who just so happened to be named John Rocker. Pearlman was just doing his job. If Rocker was just doing his job, he'd be striking out the side in a World Series game, not ranting about how much he hated New Yorkers.

Rocker has been banished to the realm of Bill Durnham baseball, where there are no charter jets or limousines. Instead of

having to ride the subway, Rocker will have to ride on a Greyhound. It will be a lesson in humility, one that would make baseball's icons of the past smile.

John Joe would smile. How many lessons will it take for Rocker to learn that being a professional athlete requires him to be professional, not just an athlete?

The last time Rocker was punished for his actions, he swore he would tone down his antics and concentrate on baseball. Yet, in the weeks following his suspension and subsequent reinstatement, he continued to spar with media and heckling fans, climaxing recently with his barrage of verbal threats toward Pearlman.

I hope that, for the sake of the game of baseball, as well as for

the good of humanity, Rocker learn a valuable lesson and starts acting like he's 25 years old rather than 15. I hope that a stint with the worst team in semi-professional baseball, the Richmond Braves (they've lost 47 of their last 53), will help Rocker learn the invaluable lesson of humility. I hope that he will serve as an example for professional athletes everywhere in reminding them that they are far from untouchable.

Rocker is getting what he deserves. And maybe for once, a professional athlete will be treated like any other idiot who decides to open his mouth before his mind.

Questions or comments? Email Justin at [jmparis@unir.ncsu.edu](mailto:jmparis@unir.ncsu.edu).

## BIRDS

Continued from Page 1

Simons and his team found that the bird communities are residing on the land that was logged, and that it has "for the most part, essentially recovered" from the deforestation, said Simons. "Some differences [in the untouched and deforested lands] persist, but on the whole, the land has substantially recovered."

The recovery of the land has given the bird population a chance to replenish itself, too. "There was a good source of trees and birds from adjacent forests to repopulate [the logging area]," said Simons.

Simons said the study presented a unique chance to observe bird communities on undisturbed land, which could serve as a midpoint for bird species that migrate to public and private lands outside the park.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is home to a

diverse group of migratory bird species, making it ideal for the study. It also houses the largest unbroken area of forest in the eastern United States, 20 percent of which has never been altered or cleared.

The results of the study stress the importance of undisturbed forest land to bird populations, and are an example of how altering land can affect the wildlife that inhabit that land for years thereafter.

## PATENTS

Continued from Page 1

consider. Consisting of a set of enormous boards, "Inventions! Patents at N.C. State" was just as difficult to put together. According to Mary Jo George, a library assistant who worked on putting the exhibit together, it was a long and tedious process. "We had to go directly to each

of the faculty members to get most of our materials, but we also went to some of the departments on campus to get examples," said George.

"Inventions! Patents at N.C. State" is not only about faculty inventions. "We also wanted to promote the library's special collections department and the things that go on there," said George. In addition, D.H. Hill contains an extensive amount of materials relating to inventors and patents, which are also part of the exhibit.

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6	rock	rock	rock	rock
8	rock	rock	rock	rock
10	higher ground	alternative, college rock, punk, hard rock, electronic, rock/hip-hop fusion	roots jam bands	blugrass
12pm	latin show		smash hits local	hippie hour
2	rez rock			backtrax 80's
4	all things a capella			shut the punk up
6	strictly reggae sunday			out of step
8	eclectic	afterhours trance, house, ambient, trip-hop, drum and bass	friday night request	underground
10	eclectic	underground hip-hop and R&B	chainsaw rock	underground
12am	sounds from beyond			

WKNC 88.1 FM is a student run, non-commercial, educational radio station located on the campus of North Carolina State University that broadcasts at 3000 watts.

WKNC prides itself in offering forms of music that cannot be heard anywhere else on the dial. That is why we play what we do. It's also why we DO NOT play country, pop, classical, or oldies...these forms of music are already offered by other local stations. We use Block Programming for the week, and offer several specialty shows and all request shows on the weekends. Our primary formats are Alternative, Electronic, and Hip-Hop. Our specialty shows include a Grateful Dead show, 80's show, Local Music, Jazz, International Music, and Reggae.

design by marko

## "60 Seconds"



~ a  
**real car  
wreck**

**Zack  
Smith**  
Senior Staff Writer

**Gone in 60  
Seconds**

★  
**Director:**  
*Dominic Sena*  
**Starring:**  
*Nicolas Cage*  
*Angelina Jolie*  
*Giovanni Ribisi*  
*Robert Duvall*

As a film critic, I try to keep my reviews smart. I study the best: Roger Ebert, Pauline Kael, John Simon, David Denby, Harlan Ellison, James Agee, the like. When I see a film, I try to find a way to evaluate it in a way that is both intelligent, entertaining and witty.

Which is why it is so depressing for me that the best I can come up with for the new Nicholas Cage movie, "Gone in 60 Seconds," is this: the film just plain sucks.

The film is a remake of an old 1974 B-movie by H.B. Halicki, notable mostly for its astonishingly small budget and climactic 40-minute car chase, one of the best ever captured on film. It's a cult classic, and it's easy to see why material like that would have appeal to producer Jerry Bruckheimer, lord of the summer blockbuster. Bruckheimer's films (and those produced with his late partner, Don Simpson) are literally what Shakespeare was talking about when he spoke of "a tale full of sound and fury, told by an idiot, signifying nothing."

That's the point of a good Jerry Bruckheimer film. Films like, say, "The Rock" or "Con Air" or his masterpiece "Armageddon" are not the kind of films where you walk out of the theater discussing shot composition and narrative meaning. They're the kinds of films where you buy the largest popcorn and soda the theater offers, charge into the theater and charge out two hours later, wired and feeling like you've gotten your money's worth. They're films with great actors slumming it for a paycheck and knowing it, scripts rewritten by massive committees of award-winning screenwriters whose contributions mostly consist of pretensions, deliberately over-the-top, character development scenes (animal crackers, anyone?) and directed by former music-video auteurs who obey Eisenstein's rule about three-second edits for literally every scene. They are, in short, the most fun you can have at the movies when they are done right.

"Gone in 60 Seconds" is not done right. The premise is seemingly fool-proof: Retired car thief Memphis Raines (Cage) has to come out of retirement to steal 50 cars in one night or else his kid brother Kip (Giovanni Ribisi) gets killed. This, of course, results in a large amount of chaos, also involving a car thief guru (Robert Duvall), a policeman tracking Raines down (Detroi Lindo) and Raines's ex-girlfriend (Angelina Jolie, with a bizarre hairstyle resembling



"Hey baby, I'm gonna blow somethin' up." Nicolas Cage (left) and Angelina Jolie in "60 Seconds."

See **SECONDS**, Page 5



Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise; (from left) Tim Diaz, organs; Jeff Fowles, drums; Michael Nehra, guitar; Robert Bradley vocals; and Andrew Nehr, bass

**Sarah E. Miano**  
Managing Editor

**Blues, rock and soul fans brace yourselves: from Detroit comes a R&B sensation called Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise (RBBS) with its sophomore release Time to Discover.** Lead singer Robert Bradley, whose smoky vocals (somewhat like a revival tent preacher) are gritty, soulful and amazingly reminiscent of Marvin Gaye or Ray Charles, is backed up by a sound that is sometimes seventies funk, sometimes blues and sometimes edgy rock. Oddly enough, such a combination

of their Detroit backgrounds and unique styles to create a super funky duet complete with wah-wah-laced guitar. Kid Rock also sings backup, not in his tra-

**Robert Bradley's  
Blackwater Surprise  
Time to Discover**

★★★★

ditional style, on the single "Tramp," which he produced.

The powerful, though not too heavy or overwhelming, guitar riffs by Michael and Andrew Nehra are blended with fat-back drum playing by Jeff Fowles in every song, most notably in

"Baby" is definitely one of them. At first listen, soul lovers will be hooked. In "You and Me," Bradley sings, "We're gonna rise up like ashes from the fire/We're gonna live forever, beyond the day we die." "Ultimate Sacrifice" is tearful, as Bradley croons, "Some folks say there's a reason why the sun shines in the sky/Some folks say there's a reason why we all've got to cry...Hold on..." In the album's title song, "Time to Discover," Bradley laments that there's "madness" all around as he's trying to "make it right."

Bradley, born in Alabama, traveled extensively across the U.S. for fifteen years (via a Greyhound bus) play-

## Emerging from the blackwaters

really works. There are several songs that have amazing potential to become major hits, but not because they are too refined, rather they have the barroom feel and a whole lot of guts.

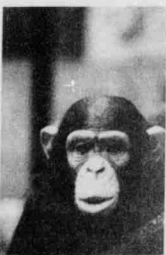
The CD's first single "Higher" features Kid Rock, and initially might scare some off, but both boys

"Ride," "Gambler" and "Uncle John." Organist Tim Diaz shines through in such songs as "Take Love and Receive It" and "Mr. Tony." Bradley delivers gritty, heart-rending ballads, and the album's first single

ing his songs on street corners, at bus depots, and in parks to anyone who would listen. RBBS got its start when the Nehra brothers, former members of the

See **BLACKWATER**, Page 5

### UNDERGROUND



- 1 Eminem "The Real Slim Shady" Aftermath
- 2 Jay-Z "Reasonable Doubt" Roc-A-Fella
- 3 Jurassic 5 "Quality Control" interscope
- 4 Common "The Six Sense" MCA
- 5 Kurupt "Ride With Us" Antenna
- 6 Three 6 Mafia "When the Smoke Clears" No Limit
- 7 Caribou "Mo-nificent" Universal
- 8 Dilated Peoples "The Platform Song" Jive/Capitol
- 9 Sauce Money "For My Hustlers" Priority
- 10 Black Rob "Whoo" Bert Boy

### ROCK



- 1 A Perfect Circle Judith Virgin
- 2 Disturbed The Sickness Giant
- 3 P.O.D. Fundamental Elements of Soultown Boyz
- 4 Project 86 Project 86 Atlantic
- 5 Boy Sets Fire After the Eulogy Victory
- 6 Defones Change Mavencx
- 7 Phish Farmhouse Elektra
- 8 Apartment26 Basic Breakdown Hollywood
- 9 Papa Roach Infest Dreamworks
- 10 Cypress Hill Rock Superstar Sony

### AFTERHOURS

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- 2 LTU Bukem Journey Inwards Kinetic records
- 3 MoniB Stripped 45 Music
- 4 BT Dreaming Network
- 5 via Plastic Compilation 3 Network
- 6 via At Home with the Groovebox Grant Royal
- 7 Aziza Da Bass Dooms Night Remixes Edel
- 8 Faze Action Moving Cities nuphonic
- 9 via Keoki moonshine
- 10 Console 14 Zero Zero Matador



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# Give Elliott a Spin

**Dawn Mecklenburg**  
Music Maven

**Elliott Smith: "Figure 8"**  
★★★★

You might not recognize the name, but the soft sweet voice is unforgettable.

Elliott Smith, former member of the Portland, Oregon, band Headmiser, recently released his new album, *Figure 8*. Smith's solo career gained national attention following his 1998 Academy Award nomination for "Miss Misery," which appeared along with four other Smith songs on the soundtrack to *Good Will Hunting*.

With a melodic voice and 60s style folk/pop sound eerily reminiscent of early Paul Simon, Smith music often reveals the disappointing realities of life with all its addictions, delusions, heartbreaks and losses. However, Smith has the amazing ability to tell the most tragic story with such a beautiful combination of harmonies that it re-enforces the ironic nature of life.

*Figure 8*, released last April, keeps with Smith's tradition of traversing the emotional gamut from apathy to obsession with songs such as "Everything Means Nothing to Me" and "Everything Reminds Me of Her." The first song on the album, "Son of Sam," is just about as good as it gets with its melodious instrumentation and Beatle-esque piano sound.

His masterful lyrics often contradict the mood of his flighty melodies, making a sad and lonely struggle seem serene.

Should you find yourself, one of these beautiful summer afternoons, longing for a reprisal of *The Graduate* or simply in a relaxed and groovy mood, *Figure 8* will definitely fill that void.



PHOTO BY ALTIMA DEWILDE

With a melodic voice and 60s style folk/pop sound eerily reminiscent of early Paul Simon, Smith music often reveals the disappointing realities of life with all its addictions, delusions, heartbreaks and losses.

## BLACKWATER SECONDS

Continued from Page 4

Continued from Page 4

Detroit alternative rock band Second Self, were working on demos for a new record deal in 1992. They encountered Bradley, a 40-something blind street singer, a few blocks from their studio. The young musicians were instantly struck by the man's raspy, booming voice that they invited him into the studio to record. Although at first reluctant, Bradley eventually agreed to enter the studio, though not sacrificing his street-corner sound.

The resultant band, formed in 1994, not only totes the man's name but is also ruled by his soulful singing and songwriting. The band's video for "Once Upon A Time," from its first release, was chosen by MTV's judges on "Twelve Angry Viewers" as one of their favorites. The album earned acclaim through other songs like "California," a number one video on MTV, and "Trouble Brother," featured in the film *The Devil's Own*.

RBBS's ballads and hard-driving funk tunes are bound to take the R&B world by force.

the aliens from "Battlefield Earth").

So here is a premise that promises lots of heists, bang-ups and gunshots. The problem is, Bruckheimer, director Dominic Sena and writer Scott Rosenberg seem afraid of their premise. Instead of scenes taking us inside the car thieves' world, we get an extraneous subplot about laser-cut Mercedes keys. Instead of a tension-packed race against time, we get a large number of scenes with Memphis recruiting other thieves to help him (actually, Memphis has three days to get the cars, but does it all at the last minute by choice, for plot purposes). Instead of letting Jolie exercise her wonderfully wry, sexy, dangerous talents, we get a grand total of about three scenes with her in the entire picture. Instead of a series of exciting chases, we get one ten-minute chase near the end involving a stunt so ridiculously impossible, you could hear the audience at the matinee I attended audibly groan. Instead of an exciting, fun action movie, you get...well, this. The character development is even thinner than usual; there's no reason to believe that Memphis is really a skilled car thief, or that the bad guy (Christopher Eccleston) is really a threat, or even that Memphis would try to save the life of someone as greasy and unlikely as Kip.

There will be other Bruckheimer movies, and soon (there were previews for his "Remember the Titans" and "Coyote Ugly," showing he has gone back into "Dangerous Minds" and "Flashdance" territory, respectively with this one). Hopefully, they will give you reason to purchase that extra popcorn and soda. "Gone in 60 Seconds," however, is barely worth a pack of Raisinettes.

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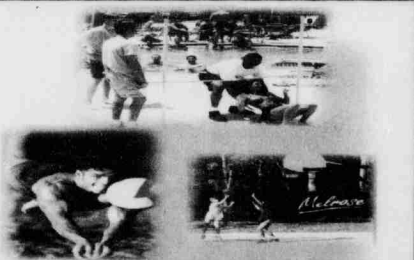
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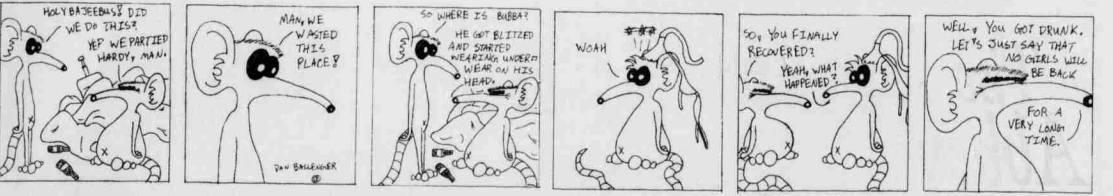
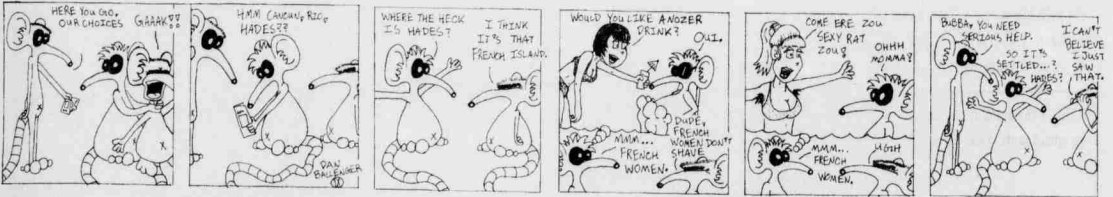
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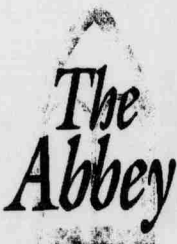
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## BASEBALL

Continued from Page 8

up a salary cap so that large-market teams can't monopolize all the talent. But the NBA and NFL have proven that there are always ways to get around a salary cap.

The real solution for baseball is to begin a policy of a revenue sharing, where the profits made by every team are distributed evenly among

all 30 teams. The NFL has worked under this system for several years, which has allowed small-market teams like the Green Bay Packers to be successful.

Small-market teams currently have problems getting money because they can't draw fans to games or get lucrative local TV deals. Fans won't come or watch unless the team has a winner, and the only way to build a winner is to have a victory.

It's a vicious cycle that freezes

out small-market teams. Revenue sharing would give them the money they need to start building winners and bringing fans to the ballpark again, which in the end will only benefit Major League Baseball as a whole.

Until then, baseball is going to be dominated by a handful of elite teams that can afford to win.

Jeremy Ashton can be reached at 515-2411 or [jdashton@unir.ncsu.edu](mailto:jdashton@unir.ncsu.edu).

# Classifieds

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Web author, Full- or Part-time, HTML, Photoshop expertise required. Graphic design experience preferred. Coastal Federal Credit Union, [www.coastalfcu.org](http://www.coastalfcu.org) Contact Patricia Pate at 420-8261 or [ppate@coastalfcu.org](mailto:ppate@coastalfcu.org)

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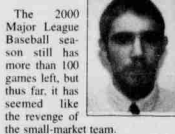


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## Share the wealth

JEREMY ASHTON



The 2000 Major League Baseball season still has more than 100 games left, but thus far, it has seemed like the revenge of the small-market team.

Through Sunday's games, there were several surprises near the top of the standings. The Chicago White Sox held the best record in

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the American League and were two games in front of Cleveland in the Central division, despite the fact that the Indians' payroll (\$75.8 million, eighth in the majors) is more than twice as big as the White Sox's (\$31.1 million, 25th). The Oakland Athletics (\$31.9 million, 25th) stood a half game in front of the rest of the pack in the hotly contested AL West, while the Toronto Blue Jays (\$46.2 million, 22nd) were right in the thick of the AL East race, where the other four teams in the division rank in the top 10 in payroll.

Meanwhile in the National League, the Cincinnati Reds (\$46.8 million, 21st) sat just a game and a half behind the St. Louis Cardinals (\$61.4 million, 11th) in the Central. And the Montreal Expos (\$34.8 million, 24th) were just two games back of the Colorado Rockies (\$61.1 million, 12th) for the wild card spot.

Supporters of the current economic system in Major League Baseball can point to these teams as proof that money isn't everything in the pursuit of a World Series ring. The economic situation is that the teams with the deepest pockets are still running the show.

The New York Yankees (\$92.5 million, first) and the Los Angeles Dodgers (\$84.5 million, second) are world champions, continue to lead the AL East. The Atlanta Braves (\$84.5 million, third) are the best record in the majors at 99-22 and show no signs of slowing down after close to a decade of dominating the NL. As of Sunday, four out of six division leaders and both front-runners for the wild card spots have payrolls in excess of \$60 million.

Big spending isn't a guarantee for success. For instance, Tampa Bay (\$62.7 million, 10th) threw around money in the off-season like it was going out of style, and the Devil Rays still have the AL's worst record at 23-38. Yet, there is no denying that the teams with the highest payrolls have an advantage.

As recently as the early 1990s, small-market teams were still able to run with the big boys. The Athletics built a near-dynasty in the late '80s led by players such as Dennis Eckersley, Jose Canseco and a young Mark McGwire. The Reds went wire to wire in 1990 and won the World Series over those A's.

The Minnesota Twins brought a world title home in 1991 by defeating the budding powerhouse in Atlanta with guys like Kirby Puckett and Kent Hrbek. Even as late as 1994, the Expos were in first place in the NL East with a team that included Pedro Martinez and Larry Walker when the season was halted due to the player's strike.

Small-market teams can still build up their organizations with young, talented players by making trades and drafting wisely. The problem is keeping those players and not losing them to free agency. Salaries have spiraled out of control in the last few years to the point where small-market teams just can't afford to compete for big-name free agents. The Twins aren't going to be competitive when their entire roster (\$16.5 million, 30th) barely makes more in one year than Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Kevin Brown (\$15.7 million).

Something has got to be done to give small-market teams a reasonable chance at turning free agents. Major League Baseball tried implementing a luxury tax following the 1994 strike. Under that system, teams that were in the top five in payroll had to contribute a certain percentage of their payroll to a general fund that was distributed evenly among the rest of the league. In theory, this was a good idea, but the money that was put up by the big spenders was more like pocket change and didn't help the small-market teams very much. Another popular proposal is to set



◆ N.C. State head coach Kay Yow officially joined the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame on Saturday.

Jeremy Ashton  
Sports Editor

One of the greatest coaches in the history of women's basketball took her place among the elite this weekend. Kay Yow, N.C. State's head coach for the last quarter of a century, was officially inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tenn., on Saturday. Yow and 23 others were a part of the second class in the history of the Hall, which opened last year.

**"It's certainly not something I started out striving to achieve," Yow said Wednesday before making the journey to Knoxville. "It's something that happened, and I'm really humbled by it."**

Yow has been one of the most respected and successful coaches in women's basketball for a long time. Her 589 career wins at the collegiate level puts her fifth on the all-time list, and she is a near lock to become the fifth coach in Division I history to hit 600 wins next year. She has guided the Wolfpack to four Atlantic Coast Conference tournament titles, five regular season titles and 15 NCAA Tournament appearances in the 19 years that it has been in existence. And she coached the 1988 U.S. Olympic Team to a gold medal.

The numbers are a nice way to quantify Yow's accomplishments, but Yow said that she would like her career to be remembered for more than statistics. "I'm much more on the area of personal things than numbers, but a hall of fame seems to be based more on numbers and accomplishments," Yow said. "I would like most of all for our program to be respected across the country as a program that develops basketball players that are sound fundamentally and that play together as a team. A program that cares about the person and the personal development of each player." Yow, as always, was modest about her latest achievement. She was quick to thank her players and staff, saying that the trip to the Hall is "something to be shared."

"It would only be fair to give them a piece of the recognition because it still amazes me how some things are done and how things happen," Yow said. "I know that I'm part of something that's a really neat experience, and I'm honored to be a part of it. But I know that I would never be if it hadn't been for a lot of great people that I work with and people who played for me." Yow's enshrinement into the Hall of Fame was another high in what has been a roller coaster year for the Pack's head coach. "This has been another year in my life with great highs and great lows," Yow said. "I think it all washes out in a balance. This is another indication to me to keep things in perspective."

In February, Yow was honored with a weekend full of festivities for her 25th anniversary at State. Several former players arrived on campus to pay homage to the legendary coach, and Raleigh Mayor Paul Coble even declared Feb. 13 "Kay Yow Day."

Following the season, Yow was named *Sports Illustrated* for Women's Coach of the Year for her work with the 1999-2000 Pack squad. She also received the John and Nellie Wooden Award as Division I Coach of the Year, an award that Yow considers her "most special award."

"John Wooden is my role model," Yow said. "I have always admired him as a coach but also greatly as a person for his values and for what he stood for and the way he interacted with his players."

On the court, Yow's team appeared headed for a banner year when it went into January ranked No. 3 in the country. But the Pack's young players slumped late in the season, and the team bowed out in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

"The thing that we did is the thing that helped us in the beginning and hurt us in the end, particularly without Summer [Erb], is that we practiced so hard, so long, because we felt we had so much to learn and we had to depend on young players," Yow said.

Yow said that Erb's foot injury, which she suffered against North Carolina on Feb. 3, was also difficult to swallow. The player and coach developed a special bond during Erb's time at State, which made it painful for Yow to watch as Erb sat out the last few games of her senior season.

"It was a low for me because of her and everything that she missed out on because of it," Yow said.

Despite all that she has achieved, Yow still feels that there are challenges out there for her as the head coach at State. The Pack consistently wins every year, but a national championship is still missing from Yow's resume. Yow said that she is still striving toward that goal, yet she thinks her career will not be incomplete if it never happens.

"It's a great gift I would love to give to all the fans that have supported our team for so long and all the former players that have been a part [of this program]," Yow said.

## Baseball adds new face to coaching staff

Sports Staff Report

Scott Lawler, an all-conference performer as an N.C. State player, has been hired as an assistant baseball coach with the Wolfpack. Head coach Elliott Avent announced on June 12, Lawler replaces Mark Fuller, who left State following the 2000 season to take a similar position at Auburn.

Lawler brings a wide range of experience to the job. He joined the State program as a true freshman in the fall of 1992, played for the Wolfpack from 1993-97, and has served as a volunteer coach and an administrative assistant with the program since ending a one-season professional career in the fall of 1997.

"I'm very excited about having Scott Lawler join our coaching staff," Avent said. "Scott is very intelligent, has a tremendous understanding of the game of baseball and loves the game very much, and he works extremely hard."

Even more important, though, Scott has been with our program for eight years. As much as anyone, he knows what has made N.C. State baseball a great program. He knows our traditions. He knows the tremendous dedication that our players have made over the years to make this program successful. He knows what it will take to keep N.C. State baseball among the top programs in the country. Scott Lawler is the per-

fect fit for our program." Lawler, who battled injuries for much of his player career, played 11 games in 1993 before breaking his wrist and earning a medical hardship from the NCAA. He continued to fight injuries as a redshirt freshman in 1994 and as a sophomore in 1995, but finally saw some regular action as a junior in 1996, starting 31 games and batting .299.

Lawler blossomed as a senior in 1997 while playing for Avent, then in his first year as head coach. Lawler started 47 games that season and batted .308 with nine home runs and 43 RBIs. He was voted second team All-Atlantic Coast Conference at designated hitter, and went on to play minor league baseball that summer with the Houston Astros' short-season Class A affiliate at Auburn of the New York-Penn League.

A shoulder injury suffered late in his senior season at State derailed Lawler's professional career, but he joined the Wolfpack coaching staff that fall as a volunteer assistant coach and served in that capacity for the 1998 and 1999 seasons. This past school year, he was the program's director of baseball operations, working in an administrative capacity in the baseball office.

A native of Norristown, Pa., Lawler earned his bachelor-of-arts degree in business from State in 1997. The 26-year-old Lawler is single.

### 2000 NC STATE Football Schedule

9-2	Arkansas State
9-9	at Indiana
9-16	SMU
9-21	Georgia Tech
10-7	at Clemson
10-14	at UNC
10-28	Florida State
11-4	at Maryland
11-11	Duke (Homecoming)
11-18	at Virginia
11-25	Wake Forest