

2.



AOK with DWI?
Would Damon Thornton still have a scholarship if he weren't a basketball player? Find out in Opinion, page 2.

4.

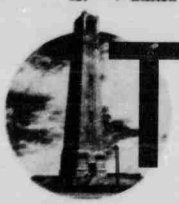


Comic guru
Zack returns with more comics you should read, plus "Best in Show" and "Red Planet."

8.



Walking the plank
Sports has the results of the volleyball team's season finale against ECU.



Tuesday
November 14, 2000

TECHNICIAN

www.technicianonline.com

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

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Students get chance to study gender issues

◆Meredith College Professor Clyde Frazier is inviting N.C. State students to take his gender issues in law and politics course.

Tim Clark
Senior Staff Reporter

N.C. State students now have the opportunity to take a gender issues class at Meredith College, a course that's met with some controversy in the past. While the primary reason for opening the course to NCSU students is to include men in the class, NCSU women are welcome to register. Men have taken the class pre-

viously, the last time being three years ago. The inclusion of males in the course proved beneficial all around, according to the instructor, Clyde Frazier. "At that time, two guys participated ... I think the Meredith students appreciated it and that they got a lot out of it," said Frazier.

The class focuses on the topics in modern society that fall under the blanket of gender issues, issues such as sexual harassment and abortion.

Taught in the classic Socratic manner, the course provides students with questions rather than answers. This is evident in the course's attempt at unbiased source material. The course tries to explore both sides of each

issue by presenting the stance of both the masculine and feminist camps.

"The readings are as balanced as I can find and give various perspectives," said Frazier.

The course goes so far as to further divide the two groups, as with the subject of pornography, where both feminist views of free expression and anti-pornography are discussed.

A mild controversy arose surrounding the class last semester when Frazier circulated the preliminary notes for a book that he had begun work on. The book, with a working title of "Is Masculinity Obsolete?," focused on the decline of masculinity in modern society. Some Meredith students took

offense to the work's masculine perspective, feeling that it opposed many modern feminist ideals. The campus newspaper, the "Meredith Herald," became the forum for students to voice their displeasure.

"The opinions brought forth in the book proposal are demeaning to women and contradict Meredith College's goal of 'Educating Women to Excel,'" read a letter written to the paper by nine students.

Frazier responded with a letter defending his position.

"I know that some will disagree with what I have written, but I am confident they will not find it offensive," Frazier wrote.

Leslie Maxwell, "Meredith Herald" editor-in-chief, was

pleased with the dialogue opened by the issue.

"One thing about the controversy was that it made Meredith students and faculty think about their own opinions regarding [gender] roles," Maxwell said.

While the book controversy did occur when the gender issues course was being evaluated, the two issues are separate. "The two got balled up together," said Frazier. "The book and the course are really very different issues."

Even though Frazier never received complaints from students who had taken the course previously, enrollment seems to be down for next semester, possibly due to the conflict surrounding his book. Usually fill-

ing up quickly, the course still had several spots open after one week's registration.

Meredith's undergraduate registration continues through Nov. 22.

The course has been taught five times previously, offered last in 1998. The spring 2001 semester will mark the first time the course has not been offered on a provisional basis. The class was added to the Meredith catalog as a permanent part of the curriculum last semester.

Gender issues in law and politics is listed as Politics 310 in the Meredith catalog. NCSU students interested in applying should contact the Inter-Institutional Office in Hanes Hall.

Campus group raises awareness

◆Hope for the Homeless is sponsoring on-campus activities in honor and recognition of people who experience hunger and homelessness.

Robin Worrell
Senior Staff Reporter

This week, Nov. 12-18, is Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, and N.C. State's Hope for the Homeless organization will sponsor activities throughout the week for students to learn about and participate in efforts to help those in need.

"Hope for the Homeless sponsors an event every day during the week to help raise awareness for the issues surrounding hunger and homelessness locally, nationally and globally," said NCSU sophomore and Hope for the Homeless President Angela Traug.

The list of events is as follows:
Monday — Homeless Awareness — There was a table set up in the brickyard from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. with information and demonstrations dealing with homelessness.

Three containers of candy were on display at the table; the amount in one container represented the number of homeless people in Raleigh; the second, the number of homeless children in Raleigh; and the third, the number of people who were unemployed.

Students could write down their guesses for how much candy was in each container, along with their name, phone number and email address. The person who comes closest to guessing the actual amount will win the candy.

Tuesday — Hunger Awareness — There is a table set up in the Brickyard from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. today with information about hunger.

There will also be people making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to take to the local homeless shelter. Students are encouraged to help.

"Many students will also be fasting all day in honor of those who are experiencing hunger around the world," said Traug.

Wednesday — a film, "Taylor's Campaign," will be shown from 7:30-9 p.m. in the Bragaw Activity Room.

Thursday — Oxfam Hunger Banquet from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Bragaw Activity Room.

Friday — Sleep Out — Participants sleep outside in downtown Raleigh under the Municipal Building on the corner of Dawson and Hargett streets from 7 p.m.-7 a.m.

"It is open to all students and community members as well as the homeless people of Raleigh," said Traug. "We provide clothing and blankets for the homeless and food and fun for everyone."

See HUNGER, Page 3

Buildings made safer

◆N.C. State is playing a role in American-Japanese research to make buildings earthquake-resistant.

Cara Froedge
Assistant News Editor

For most N.C. State students, it is difficult to imagine being in an earthquake. The closest most have ever been to one is seeing the destruction broadcast on the news.

Now, thanks to a 10-year, multi-university study that includes NCSU research, viewing earthquake damage may become more difficult.

NCSU professor Mohammad Noori, head of the department of mechanical and aerospace engineering, is working on ways to develop earthquake-resistant building structures.

Along with two other professors, Tadaooshi Furukawa, an associate professor from Osaka University and Dr. Arata Masuta, a mechanical engineer at the Kyoto Institute of Technology, he is searching for ways to utilize Shape Memory Materials (SMAs) that can aid in this endeavor.

Noori said these materials are more commonly called "smart materials," because they actually memorize their original shape."

If these materials are deformed, they can actually regain their original shape simply by being heated.

They are also energy-absorbant, Noori said. Noori is the first person at NCSU to study these materials for such a purpose.

He has been studying them since last November, when he came to the university.

The rationale behind this research is that, by using these smart materials in buildings that could be damaged by earthquakes, energy will be absorbed and the building will withstand the vibrations much better than buildings made with conventional materials like steel.

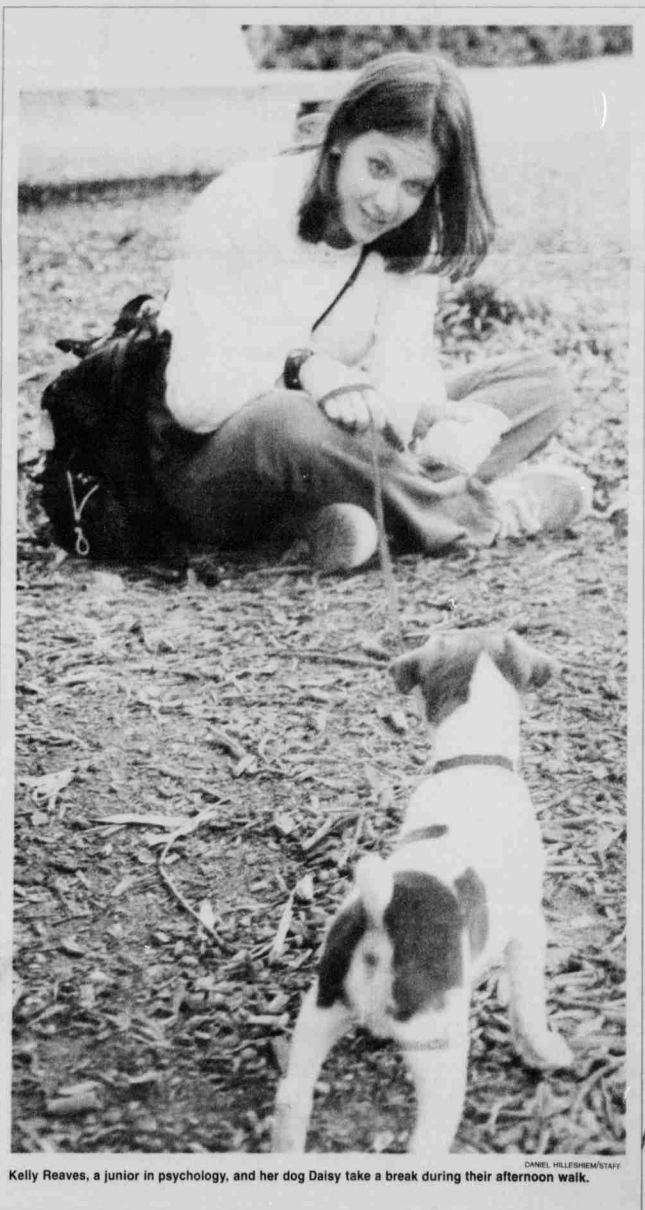
Thus far, the only experimentation has been done in a laboratory, according to Noori.

"We are in the early stages," he said. Before these SMAs are used in larger structures, researchers want to "understand fully the nature behind the materials," said Noori.

These materials have been around since the 1960s, when "they were way ahead of their time," said Noori. It wasn't until decades later that researchers were able to use them scientifically.

For example, said Noori, four or five years ago, biomedical engineers began using them. Also, now, a person can walk into Home Depot and buy a show-

See QUAKE, Page 3



Kelly Reaves, a junior in psychology, and her dog Daisy take a break during their afternoon walk.

DANIEL HELEFIDHEM/STAFF

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

AOK with DWI?

DAMON THORNTON HAS HAD THREE RUN-INS WITH THE LAW AND STILL HAS A SCHOLARSHIP FROM THE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT. IS THAT RIGHT?

Since his arrival at N.C. State, Damon Thornton, 23, a senior forward and three-year starter for NCSU's men's basketball team, has been guilty to injury to personal property, trespassing, disorderly conduct, resisting and obstructing arrest, driving while intoxicated (with a blood-alcohol content of .14), leaving the scene of an accident, unsafe movement in a vehicle and failure to stop for a blue light and siren.

He still has a scholarship from the Athletics Department.

How many Parks Scholars or Merit Awards recipients could get away with that?

Sure, he's suffering under strict punishment for his most recent scuffle with the law, but nothing too serious. Even after his second incident on New Year's Eve, 1998, he was handed only a 30-day suspended sentence and 12 months of unsupervised probation; basketball coach Herb Sendek's "indefinite" suspension at the time lasted for all of one game.

NCSU's Code of Student Conduct states in its preamble that "the University has expectations about how its students will behave." Obviously, the Athletics Department's scholarships don't think that things like DWI violate any of those behavioral expectations. If they did, Thornton wouldn't have a scholarship right now.

The fact that Thornton does still have that scholarship demonstrates not that athletes — whether revenue-producing or not — are held to a higher standard than our common students, but rather that athletes are held to a lower standard.

By allowing for a certain degree of criminality to exist, the Athletics Department is implicitly saying that they expect such behavior from student-athletes. Obviously, athletes need a buffer zone built into their scholarships to protect them from the fringe criminal acts that they're just bound to commit eventually. Four years, after all, is a long time to go without giving in to violent, abusive urges at least once... or twice... or, in Thornton's case, three times.

Last week, an NCSU student died in an accident related to DWI. And what message has the University as a whole sent out in regards to its view of students and DWI? It's tragic and illegal, of course, but for an athlete, we can work around it.

The fact that Thornton still has his scholarship with the Athletics Department means that they deem his rebound more important than his rehab; his defense is a higher priority than his detox.

The Athletics Department — indeed, no department — should permit students of any background or function in the NCSU community to be able to receive a scholarship benefits despite a minor, repeated criminal offense including DWI.

If Athletics Director Lee Fowler really wants to do what's right for his team in the Thornton case, he should remove Thornton's scholarship. Integrity should be the only influence driving any athlete.

What we can do about the election



Justin Greene
STAFF COLUMNIST

After spending a long stressful week watching hours of newscasts and press conferences on the 2000 Presidential Election, I have decided to sweat the whole thing off. I don't mean that I'm not to be interested in any new developments or that I don't have a strong opinion on the issue. I have simply come to the somewhat humbling realization that I can do absolutely nothing to change the outcome.

Unlike last Tuesday, when I stepped into the voting booth to do my part in the functioning of America's democratic machine, there is simply nothing that you or I can do right now that will affect the outcome of the election. All of the votes have been cast, and, contrary to wishful thinking by some, there will not be a re-vote anywhere in this country. It is useless to lose any sleep over the issue or parade around with signs or blast vessels getting into shouting matches with the other party. The troubles of this election lie not in any "butterfly ballot," the Electoral College system or "disenfranchisement" of select groups. The troubles of this election can be found in much more basic and fixable problems of the system.

The first of these problems is the problem of voter identification. All states should pass a law requiring voters to present either a driver's license or a voter registration card at the polls. I have never had to produce any type of identification since I started voting in 1996. In fact, the first time I registered, I flipped down my voter registration

card and driver's license and was told that they were not necessary. A girl in one of my classes went to vote with her dad and, when she gave them her last name and address, they gave her her father's ballot sticker. They decided to test the system and she proceeded to vote for her Dad (who was with her) and then get bad in line and vote again for herself. The polling officials never caught on. Imagine who could look through the phone books and find out enough about you to vote for you. Several Republican voters reported going to the polls last Tuesday only to be told that they had already voted. There is absolutely no excuse for this in America today.

Another major problem is the idiotic time allowances for mail-in and absentee ballots. In Oregon, where they arbitrarily decided to hold the country hostage with a mandatory mail-in election, the ballots didn't even have to be postmarked until November 7th! If people are going to insist on being able to use mail-in or absentee ballots, they should have to be postmarked a week before the election. Are the candidates really going to say anything in those seven days that cannot be heard in the previous six months or so? Probably not. Even if they do, there has to be a trade-off for those who use absentee ballots for the good of the country.

These two basic problems are easy to fix and could have alleviated a lot of the conflict in the recent election. I encourage you to give your Representative and Senator a call and ask them to push legislation on these issues. I think everyone can agree about that.

You cannot refer to Justin's column because someone has already done so on your behalf. But if you would like to try again, email jgreene@ncsu.edu or hot-mail.com.

TECHNICIAN

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CHIEF EDITOR JEFFREY J. DAILY

Jack Daly
CHIEF EDITOR GRAPHICS
Mark McLawhorn
GENERAL MANAGER
Kelly Magee

EDITORS: 516-2411
ADMINISTRATIVE: 516-2029
FAX: 516-5133

322 Witherspoon Student Center
Box 8608, NCSU Campus
Raleigh, NC 27695-8608

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http://www.technicianonline.com
CAMPUS FORUM
news@ncsu.edu

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Jimmy Ryals
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John Carr
Matthew Pelland
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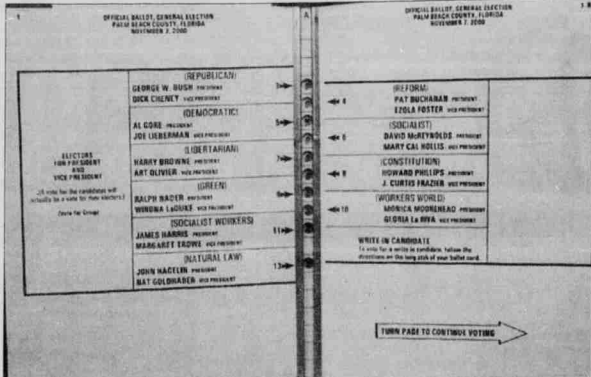


Image from cnn.com

"rocket science" Stupid people are everywhere — and voting



Patricia Crane
STAFF COLUMNIST

Stupid people drive me nuts. I'm talking about the profoundly, unabashedly stupid people who are not ashamed to stand up on national television, if given the opportunity, and proclaim their idiocy. I don't like these people. I don't respect them. They exist merely to irritate.

But there's a difference between being stupid and just doing stupid things. Take me for instance: Last week, I joined the ranks of journalists who've touted the victory of a candidate who may or may not have won an election. I once hit a parked car in the lot at Kristy Kremer. I fought "The Sign" by the of Base. I'm not stupid, I just do stupid things sometimes.

I want to say right up front that by "stupid people," I don't mean "people of below-average intelligence." It's not the same thing. And there are plenty of smart stupid people. Take for example the case of a 54-year-old man interviewed on NBC's "Dateline" this week. He claimed that he was the valedictorian of his college class, that he has an IQ in the 160s and that he doesn't know who he voted for in the presidential election. A great example of a smart stupid person.

This amazes me. First, I've seen the butterfly ballots and, while they're not

They all have kids. They're breeding. Folks, I admit it: I'm an intellectual snob. Stupid people piss me off, and it seems they are attracted to me. This mess in Florida has just made me think about it more, and the more I think about it the more irritated I get. Thousands of voters figured it out; why couldn't these other people manage to figure it out?

There's nothing wrong with being stupid, but I'm not required to like stupid people. There are no lobbies to fight for stupid people's rights. That's because being stupid or smart isn't a matter of how much you have in the way of brains; it's about how you use the brains you have.

Read the ballot carefully. Ask for help if you don't get it. Don't bring small children to art museums. Don't open your mouth if you don't know in what city your favorite American landmark is located. Use the roads like a normal person. Forrest Gump may not have been a smart man, but he wasn't stupid, and I can definitely respect that.

An old proverb says that it's better to be thought a fool than to open your mouth and remove all doubt. Think, people, think. And don't sit in front of me at the movies.

Patricia is of the opinion that those who stick up for stupid people as a group do so because they fear they are part of that group. Email her and prove (or disprove) that at pcrane@smr.ncsu.edu

On dirty dishes and body hair



Rhett McLaughlin
STAFF COLUMNIST

The dynamics of roommate relationships affect nearly all students. Some of us have chosen to cohabitate with these people, while others have been forced into an either fortunate or not-so-fortunate union by the powers that be. I live with four other guys. The group is essentially a handful of leftover upperclassmen that needed a place to stay. We agreed late last year that we would share a living space during the 2000-01 school year.

Incidentally, home sweet home was to be my newly purchased apartment. I had gone into debt in the acquisition of this piece of property, but I was banking on it being a good investment. Thus, it was my desire to see my home remain in at least respectable condition during this time that it would serve as a refuge camp.

I took the hint from a group of six friends that lived in a 3-bedroom apartment last year and compiled a "chores list." It had worked for them, and it appeared that some sort of accountability would be absolutely necessary when you're dealing with six males' trash, dishes and hair (more on hair later). The list consisted of several duties that were to be performed each

week. One person had one duty per week, and every five weeks you got a "bye."

The underlying principle was simple: everybody does a little and a whole lot gets done. Keep in mind, though, that if anyone ignores the chore list, a whole lot of nothing gets done. Currently, my apartment looks like one of the residents is hiding something from the FBI. It seems that they come in every couple of days and search my roommates' rooms by taking all the clothes out of their dressers and all the school supplies from their desks and scattering them throughout the apartment.

In addition, I have stumbled upon quite a collection of hair in the bathroom. There is more hair on the floor of the bathroom than there is on the bodies of all us living in the apartment. Maybe we should capitalize on this. I'm convinced that I could knit several sweaters using the many hairs that have settled into little balls on the bathroom floor.

What amazes me most is the quickness with which my roommates will offer any responsibility for the state of our apartment. Several times I have returned home in the evening to discover a sink full with dirty dishes. I ask all four if any of the dishes belong to them. Of course, no one in my apartment knows anything. "None of those are mine." "Yeah, none of those are mine, too." Not one of them has any knowledge of how the dirty dishes have come to rest in the sink. There is

only one possibility: The federal agents are dining in our apartment during their searches.

I mustn't fail to mention the infamous surprise that was left in the guest bathroom toilet. Actually, it happened twice. Someone did all of their business and left it to saturate the water (and the air) for half a day.

First of all, how does this happen? Only small children forget to flush their dirty dishes. Just like in the case of the dishes, I asked all my roommates. No takers. It's those feds again.

I know there are others of you out there enduring similar circumstances.

You desire to live in an unsolved environment. I have a couple of ideas that I have yet to implement in my attempts to harness my untidy roommates, but maybe they will work for you. If you find someone repeatedly dirtying the sink with their dishes, place them in a bag and put them in their bed.

If you realize that you're the only one that is willing to clean the bathroom, wait until those hairs build up (doesn't take long), make some sort of craft out of them, and place that on the guilty party's pillow. Be creative. You have the right to a clean place to live. Don't let sanitarially challenged roommates get in the way.

Would you like a sweater made from Rhett's roommates' body hair? Email him at rjmc@eos.ncsu.edu

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QUAKE

Continued from Page 1

erhead that uses SMAs to shut off the water flow if it senses it is too hot.

Now, said Noori, since researchers know the material's capabilities, "why not use them on a larger scale to save human lives?"

The Japanese have shown the most support for this research and are also the primary source of funding. Noori has received money from other sources like the National Sea Grant, however.

In addition to NCSU, 12 other American universities are also participating.

These include Stanford University, the California Institute of Technology, the University of California-Berkeley, the University of Southern California, the University of California-Irvine, Texas A&M University, the University of

Nevada-Reno, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Purdue University, Notre Dame University, Clarkson University and California State University.

"If we succeed, then NCSU will be a pioneer in developing these devices," said Noori.

HUNGER

Continued from Page 1

Hope for the Homeless was started at NCSU by two students who were inspired by the increasing homelessness problem in Raleigh, said Kelly Mahoney, also a sophomore.

"Last year, I attended the first meeting and was instantly attracted to helping such a wonderful cause and working with such an amazing group of people," said Mahoney.

Last year, she served as the program committee chair and this year she is the downtown run leader and the vice president.

"The experiences were amazing. They have taught me so much about myself, human nature, our government and the world around me," she said.

Hope for the Homeless is a

nonprofit organization. When funding is needed, they do their own fundraising, often working with other service groups on campus.

In the brickyard, students can pick up flyers listing the week's events and quick facts about hunger and homelessness.

Mahoney encouraged other students to get involved in Hope for the Homeless.

"We have something for everyone. No matter your interest level, time availability or service preferences, we can match you with a committee that can benefit from your help," she said.

"Whether it's delivering leftover food from the dining hall, going downtown on nightly runs or tutoring Raleigh's homeless children, Hope's roots are spread just about everywhere. Besides that, it's a great group of people and we have a lot of fun whatever we do."

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Amazing Stories



Zack Smith
Comics guru

"The Authority" (DC/Wildstorm, \$2.50) is a superhero comic by way of a summer blockbuster on acid. A team of powerful, near-godlike superhumans protects the world from a variety of dangerous threats ... in ways nearly as horrific as the threats themselves. This is the kind of comic where the heroes drop fifty-mile-high spaceships on foreign countries, knock parallel earths off their axes and brag about how their superpowered immune systems let them beat AIDS in six weeks. Told in a style that's equal parts slam-bang action and black satire by writer Warren Ellis and artist Bryan Hitch (later Mark Millar and Frank Quitely), "The Authority" aims to be the last word on superhero comics and usually succeeds. Two trade paperbacks of the series are currently available, "Relentless" and "Under New Management" (both \$17.95). Four trade paperbacks collecting "Stormwatch," the series that introduced many of the characters in "The Authority," are available at \$14.95 ("Lightning Strikes," "Force of Nature," "Change or Die" and "A Finer World"), along with the spin-off mini-series "Jenny Sparks: The Secret History of the Authority" (\$2.95). In addition, the art team on the first twelve issues (penciller Bryan Hitch, inker Paul Neary and colorist Laura Depuy) has recently taken over DC's popular team book "JLA," starting with the large-format graphic novel "Heaven's Ladder" (\$9.95). **"Lone Wolf and Cub"** (Dark Horse, \$9.95) has long been one of the mainstays of Japanese comics or "manga," and previous efforts to collect it left the series unfinished. Now, Dark Horse comics has taken on the task of reprinting all 4,000-plus pages of the series in a newly-translated collection of pocket-sized trade paperbacks, each running several hundred pages. The story of a disgraced samurai forced to act as an assassin to survive has influenced an entire generation of artists with its moody, action-packed tales of death and honor. The writing of Kazuo Koike is an interesting blend of philosophy and swordplay, while the artwork of Goseki Kojima effortlessly conveys the

menace and power of the title character. It's a book no fan of manga or anime can miss.

In the 1980s, **"Swamp Thing"** helped to raise the bar for mainstream comics, proving that tales of adult horror could work as a monthly comic. Now the series is back from DC/Vertigo (\$2.50), but the horror has changed. No longer is the series about the green-skinned plant man, but rather his human daughter Tefe, a girl who is equal parts human and plant, and not particularly at ease in either world. On a mysterious voyage of self-discovery, Tefe brushes with the worst aspects of human nature ... and deals with them in horrific means. "Swamp Thing" is a different kind of horror than demons and bog monsters; rather, it deals with morality and responsibility in ways that will make most readers squirm without spilling a drop of blood being showed. Credit writer Brian K. Vaughan for revitalizing one of the most cliched concepts in comics, and artist Roger Peterson for his clean, cold artwork that perfectly complements the dark stories.

"Rumble Girls: Silky Warrior Tansie" (Image, \$3.50) is an unusual book: it's an attempt at American manga, a Japanese-style action book by Texan Lea Hernandez. It's a tale of futuristic wrestling, where wrestlers or "Rumble Girls," pilots of cybersuits called "HardSkins," play out scripted matches for the public's enjoyment. A girl named Raven Tansania Ransom finds herself cast in the role of "Silky Warrior Tansie" for the corporation EntEco as an opponent for their character Crimson August, whose popularity is on the decline. And then things get complicated. Hernandez manages to combine action, satire and even a bit of poignancy in a fun, intelligent package. Also recommended are Hernandez's graphic novels "Cathedral Child" and "Clockwork Angels" (Image, \$10.95 each), which you can preview along with "Rumble Girls" at Hernandez's Web site at www.divalrea.com.

Remember, the books listed here can be found at Hillsborough Street Stores Foundation's Edge and Capital Comics, or online at [bookstores like amazon.com](http://bookstores.like.amazon.com).

SWAMP THING IMAGES FROM DC COMICS



DOGGONE CRAZY

Joel Isaac Frady
Staff Writer

Throughout time, people have had a strange fascination with dogs.

Claimed by many to be the best friend a man can have, these crotch-sniffing animals have been treated as kings in almost every country in the world (the exception being some Asian countries, where they are eaten). Sometimes the love and fascination that people have for their dogs goes a little too far, which might explain where the idea for dog shows came from. At these shows, people would bring their animals to be examined and run back and forth so a "dog specialist" could decide which animal was the best.

The thrill (and lunacy) of one of these events has been caught with "Best in Show," another mockumentary from "Saturday Night Live" veteran

Christopher Guest. With the film, he follows many unique, strange people (with their unique, strange doggies) as they travel to compete in the annual Mayflower Kennel Club dog show. When this many strange people gather, we find that many strange things happen as well, but it all starts with their crotch-sniffing pets.

Someone once told me that every dog develops some of the same characteristics as it's owner, and the dogs in this film are no exception. If they had introduced the canines and their human counterparts separately, one would still know who owned the bloodhound, the poodle and so on.

We are first introduced to the Swans, Meg and Hamilton (Parker Posey and Michael Hitchcock), and their dog Beatrice in a psychiatric office. It turns out that Beatrice walked in on some "Kama Sutra" and they think it has the dog emo-



Best in Show

★★★★

Director:

Christopher Guest

tionally confused; they never stop to wonder if their constant arguing

twenties people have braces.

Next come the Flecks, Cookie and Gerry (Catherine O'Hara and Eugene Levy). These are the most likable of all the characters, and the ones who seem to have the most realistic look at what their dog really is (food in China).

Cookie also keeps running into former lover's throughout the film, a quality that drives Gerry and his two left feet crazy ("people think I'm joking, but I'm not. I was born with two left feet").

Scott Dolan (John Michael Higgins) and Stefan Vanderhoof (Michael McKean) are the gay couple with what is quite possibly the biggest furball one ever called a dog, Miss Agnes. These two make sure that they're fully prepared for the two day trip to the Dog Show, tearing their house apart and bringing their entire wardrobe to create a real home-like stay.

The only loner in the group is Harlan Pepper (played by

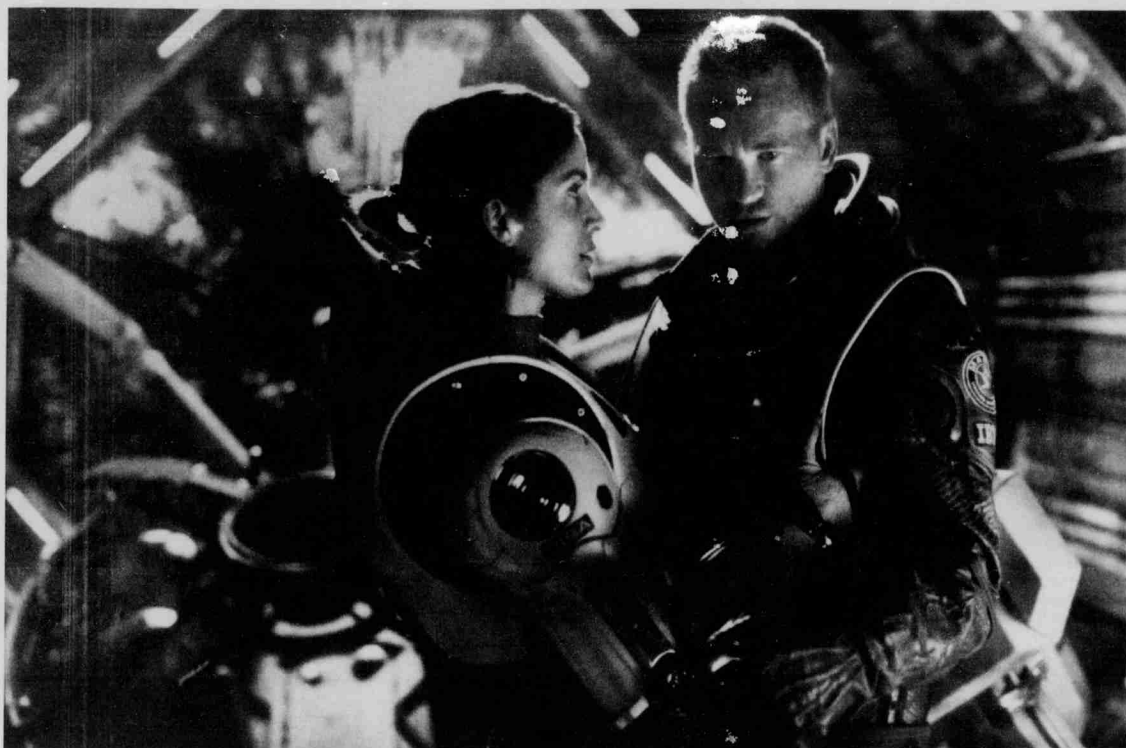
Guest), who comes to the festival with his bloodhound Hubert. Owner of a fishing shop, he brings his bloodhound to the show because "They're just aren't any dogs better than a bloodhound."

Using the documentary style, Guest & Co. take this quirky group and put them together, generating some hilarious results. There isn't really any given person that steals the show, save the announcer at the show (played by Fred Willard), who seems to be the only person to realize that the entire idea of a dog show is ridiculous. He's also quite random for a television announcer ("This may be a little off the topic, but how much do you think I can bench press?"), and really has a grasp on comic timing.

The rest of the human race may never fully realize what possesses these people to travel hundreds of miles to show their dog off. They will, however, remember this satire on the strange exhibits of the dumb animals that take place every year and Guest hitting yet another home run with this hilarious film.

IMAGE FROM YWOO.COM

The Red Planet Blues



Joel Isaac Frady
Staff Writer

Mars is having a rough year. In early March, we went on a "Mission to Mars," which turned out to be one of the year's worst movies. Now we have visited "Red Planet," which is even worse than the first trip to the planet, again not using the full potential that it could. Don't they ever stop to realize that this is Mars! There are almost limitless possibilities that can happen here, so why do they insist on falling into genre formulas?

"Red Planet" begins with a long narration from the commander (Carrie-Anne Moss, a.k.a. Trinity from "The Matrix") telling that the earth has overpopulated itself and they are now looking for other places that humans can live, and of course Mars is the first choice. They send algae up to the Planet and then go up after it to see if the environment is able to sustain life. Of course nothing goes that way, the ship crashes and the robot that they

Red Planet



Director:

Antony Carter

Starring:

Val Kilmer

Carrie-Anne Moss

just happen to have goes into military mode and starts killing off the crew.

This plot goes absolutely nowhere.

They start with six characters, but the Moss character doesn't even make it to Mars (she just sits in the ship the entire movie). The ship got damaged while entering the Mars atmosphere, so they are also on a deadline of 11 hours to get back up to the ship to get home. To complicate things even more, the smaller ship they came to Mars on crashed, creating a half escape movie and half monster movie.

They stay on their halves too; the monster takes 20-minute breaks from the action, only returning to easily attack someone in an unhelpful sequence while reminding people that it's still in the movie.

The other half remains a dull escape film, as they run through dull plot twists and bad acting to pull a Columbo to get off of the island, err, planet.

The characters are all boring people, each another stereotype thrown into the mix. The best of the characters is Chantillas, played by Terrance Stamp, but he only graces the first 10 minutes of the film and those scenes don't make much sense. The lead character is Gallagher (Val Kilmer, who may get another Razzie nomination for this one), who is a very teenage character in a 30-year-old body. The other important characters are Burchenal (Tom Sizemore, "Bringing out the Dead") and Pettengill (Simon Baker, "L.A. Confidential"), who both have their flaws as the film goes on.

There is also a very annoying motif that happens about four times throughout the

film, and it involves a character telling the others to go on without him. Except in other films they would be denied, being told that they won't be left behind, this is how a conversation here goes; "Go on, I can't make it." "Okay." More characters are lost this way than are lost to AMEE (the robot that goes a little crazy).

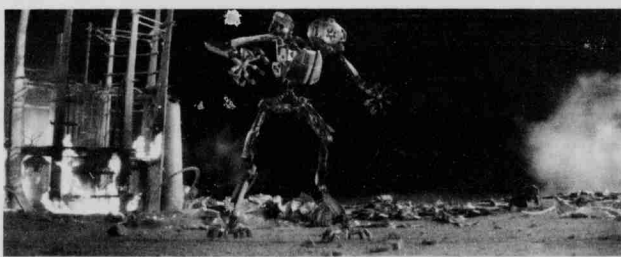
No film is complete without a love story, and this film is no exception, but in other films there is an explanation to where

it comes from. Not so in this one. The Kilmer and Moss characters don't show many signs of interest until suddenly the Moss character spends more time sweet-talking Gallagher than she is figuring out a way to get her men back up to the ship. No building up to this point, it just happens.

"Red Planet" is just a film that gets killed by itself; instead of choosing to be something, it is comfortable not being anything. It's closest to an escape film

("Escape from Mars" would have been a more appropriate title) but also plays with being a horror film and a philosophical film (like "Mission to Mars"). It doesn't pay off on any of these levels; instead, it keeps adding ridiculous plot elements despite not using the ones it already has. You'll be better off skipping this and renting "Mars Attacks" if you really want to check out the stupid planet.

IMAGES FROM CHESTNUT



A WAY OF LIFE

Nikhil Kriplani

Staff Writer

You could tell the difference,
Between the hostile and the kind,
You could tell the difference,
Between the truth and the lie,
You would know how it feels,
To be loved and still be crying,
You'd love the breeze in your face,
Feel the cold in your spine,
It's these things you know,
It's the way of life.

You'd buy her a diamond ring,
To bring the smile to her face,
You'd make him feel secure,
To feel secure in your place,
You will try so hard sometimes,
To be right and good and true,
But every once in a while,
When things don't quite work for you,
You bend the rules a little,
And your dreams you realize,
It's those things you do,
It's the way of life.

You'd wake up in the morning,
Wishing you could get more sleep,
You hope that all the things you don't really need,
You could as well keep,
How you want that all the things you pay for,
Would be free,
And how those images in your head,
To be loved and still be see,
On how your job could be better,
And how you would earn a bigger slice,
It's these things you wish for,
It's the way of life.

There's never greener grass,
There's always a better way,
And people will always tell you,
That it's going to get worse someday,
There's never an escape,
From the grind, the race,
And though you try really hard,
You can't keep up the pace,
But you never really stop trying,
That would never be right,
Cuz you just wouldn't fit in,
Because that's the way of life.



Classifieds

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CROSSWORD

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- ACROSS**
- Scottish cap
 - Oral
 - County in Florida
 - Southern state (abbr)
 - Against
 - In the middle
 - Give n
 - Vigor
 - Egyptian sun god
 - Boy
 - Interior
 - Edge of cloth
 - Always
 - Create current of breeze
 - Leave
 - Small rug
 - Heat source
 - Courtesy title for woman
 - Exist
 - Sand build-up on shore
 - 4th musical scale note
 - Law
 - Skis
 - Tap gently
 - Actual weight (abbr)
 - Morning breakfast item
 - Cut
 - Fall behind
 - Permitting to (suf)
 - Small, temporary bed
 - 47 lam (cont.)
 - Employ
 - Not awake
 - Easton
 - S.E. Asia bird
 - Recent form (pref)
 - Great lake
 - Months
 - Three (pref)
 - Built to transport bricks
 - Sand forth
 - Holds flowers
 - Good time
 - Fish
 - 28 Sit (p.t.)
 - Bad (pref)
 - From a distance
 - Spouse
 - Repair with thread
 - Large
 - Pestler, annoy
 - Inventor's sole right
 - Foe
 - Poland (abbr)
 - Living organism
 - Love
 - Exist
 - Former Russian emperor (var)
 - American Indians
 - Collect
 - Ever (poetic)
 - Hawaiian food
 - New England state (abbr)
 - Yogurt
- DOWN**
- Backstop
 - Beer
 - Wooden hammer
 - Grit
 - Picnic pest
 - Indefinite pronoun
 - Couch
 - Water barrier
 - Be
 - Disasters
 - Chinese
 - Listening organ
 - Division of the psyche
 - Wound cover

ANSWERS

ANSWERS

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Classifieds

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SPRING BREAK 2001

Back the Pack

AMATO

Continued from Page 8

the march by scrambling in for a 7-yard touchdown with 32 seconds remaining.

Rivers' teammates trusted their quarterback's ability to pull out the win.

"He's a freshman, but he's a leader of this team," Roberts said of Rivers. "At the end of the game, we knew we could go down there and score. He led us down the field."

Rivers passed for a career-high 413 yards to go along with three passing scores and the last-second touchdown scamper. Amato was impressed with his signal caller's poise and determination, especially in the waning minutes.

"He found a way to win," Amato said. "He's so under control. It amazes all of us."

Rivers completed 32-of-50 passes to eight different receivers. After struggling against Florida State and Maryland, Koren Robinson regained his early-season form. He caught seven passes for 156 yards and two touchdowns.

Against Duke, the Pack continued its habit of playing close games. Six of the Pack's nine games this season have been decided by seven points or less. State is 4-2 in such situations.

Roberts credits Amato for guiding the team to victory in tight contests.

"I think he's instilled a different type of attitude," he said. "The way we finish and the way we pull out these close games, that's all coach Amato."

When asked if the team has surpassed its preseason goals,

Roberts was vague. He made it clear that victories against Virginia and Wake Forest have become the most pressing task.

"We set lofty goals for ourselves," he said. "But the season will be that much greater for us if we can win these next two games and finish 8-3."

State takes on UVa Saturday at 2:30 p.m. at Scott Stadium in the first of two conference matchups that will play a huge role in conference standings and bowl invitations. The Pack faces Wake Forest on Nov. 25 to close out the regular season.

The win over Duke gives State six victories for the season, the minimum needed to qualify for postseason play. The Pack had been stuck on five wins since Oct. 14 as a result of a bye week and losses to North Carolina and Maryland.

"It seemed like it took forever to get to six wins and become eligible," Roberts said. "We thought it would come much sooner than this."

The Cavs, who are a half game ahead of State in the ACC standings, enter the game in search of their sixth victory. UVA is coming off a 35-0 loss to Georgia Tech. It was the first time in more than 16 years the team has been shut out.

State leads the all-time series with UVa 30-18-1, but the Cavaliers have won the past two seasons. It is also senior day in Charlottesville, Va.

"Virginia has always been a hostile place to play," Roberts said. "They'll be excited because they're playing at home, and their seniors will certainly be ready to play."



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ASHTON

Continued from Page 8

said. "We can tell young men that we're recruiting that we were on television seven times last year."

Even if UVa didn't sell the game out, media exposure is just too valuable to pass up. Maryland only brought in 28,410 for its game against State two weekends ago but didn't decline ABC's offer to broadcast the game. The Terrapins ended up earning one of their biggest wins in years and may reap recruiting benefits from it since the game was on TV.

In the end, the biggest losers are the Wolfpack's fans, who will only be able to see the game if they make the journey to Charlottesville, Va. At least UVA was nice enough to push kickoff back to 2:30 p.m. for any of the State faithful that want to attend.

Jeremy Ashton's columns appear on Tuesdays. He can be reached at 515-2411 or jdashton@univn.ncsu.edu.

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ECU

Continued from Page 8

kind of a buffer. It gave us a real good physical and mental breather to build off of."

The Pack will have a few days to prepare itself before going to Winston-Salem for the first round of the ACC Tournament, in which it will match up against top-seeded Georgia Tech.

"The shear fact is that we may be playing Georgia Tech, who is the No. 1 seed, but when we play Georgia Tech, it's always a good match," said Williams. "We definitely come up to their level. We have some areas we have to improve on. One, we can reduce our errors so that we can hold on to the ball more often. In order to do well in the tournament, we have to play at a higher level."

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Amato wants to fix mental mistakes

◆ **The Duke-N.C. State game was a hot topic of conversation at Chuck Amato's weekly press conference.**

Jerry Moore
Staff Writer

Forty-eight hours after N.C. State scratched out a 35-31 victory over winless Duke, head coach Chuck Amato talked about his team's mental mistakes and this weekend's pivotal matchup

with Virginia. In his weekly press conference Monday, Amato explained why the Wolfpack struggled against the Blue Devils. He cited several blown coverage assignments and missed tackles. "It was all mental mistakes," Amato said. "It goes back to one simple word — discipline. That was the whole crux of my speech at halftime. Do what you're supposed to do."

Despite the errors, the Pack prevailed over the

Devils for the seventh consecutive year. Five of those games have been decided by less than a touchdown.

Senior fullback Derek Roberts was well aware of the recent history between the Tobacco Road foes. He attempted to relay this to the rest of the team.

"It's a rivalry, so it was going to be close, and it was going to be a shootout," he said. "I've been here five years, and I tried to tell the other guys how it would be."

Amato said the Devils charged into the game at Carter-Finley Stadium with reckless abandon. He gave them credit for pushing his squad to the brink.

"Duke came over on a kamikaze mission," he said. "I really tip my hat to them."

The outlook for a Pack victory appeared bleak after Duke's Brent Garber kicked a 38-yard field goal with 8:42 left to give the Devils a 31-28 lead. Following a fumble by Andy VanDerVeer on

State's next drive, Duke took over with a chance to pick up first downs and run out the clock for its first win of the year.

But the Pack defense held and forced a punt, which gave State the ball with 3:47 left to go.

Philip Rivers, playing with a slightly separated shoulder, engineered a game-winning, 80-yard drive. He completed seven passes in the possession, and the Devils aided the effort with penalties. Rivers capped



See AMATO, Page 7
State tackles Uva Saturday.

football TV or not TV

Jefferson-Pilot Sports, the association that regionally broadcasts Atlantic Coast Conference football games, was given a choice between two games this weekend.

The first has plenty of post-season drama, pitting a team with a 6-3 record against one that is 5-4.

The other is a rivalry game, which involves one team that hasn't won all season and another that could slide into bowl eligibility with a win.



Jeremy Ashton

The folks at Jefferson-Pilot wanted to show the former, N.C. State's game at Virginia. They are stuck, instead, with televising the latter, North Carolina's annual meeting with Duke.

I realize that the Blue Devils almost ended their season-long losing streak against State last weekend. Given the choice, however, I would tend to think that most football fans with no attachment to any of these four teams would have a greater interest in the State-UVA game.

The blame for the lack of a TV presence at the game rests squarely on the shoulders of the Cavaliers' athletics department. If UVA had agreed to let Jefferson-Pilot show the game, then kickoff would have been scheduled for noon. But based on the fact that their noon game against UNC on Oct. 28 drew a "disappointing" 56,692, which is about 2,000 shy of a record crowd for State's Carter-Finley Stadium, the Cavs declined the opportunity.

"It's very difficult for our fans, and particularly our students for some reason, to get to a noon game." UVA athletics director Terry Holland told *The News and Observer* last week. "That is asking a lot of them."

Now let me see if I've got this straight. Unlike State, UVA plays in an on-campus stadium. Holland even said in his interview with *The News and Observer* that "all [the students] have to do is get out of bed and roll down the hill." But asking them to show up at noon on a Saturday and support a football team that has a reasonable shot of qualifying for a bowl is too much?

UVA just added 15,000 seats to Scott Stadium this season to bring the capacity up to 61,500. That move was designed to let in more people who wanted to come to games like this one.

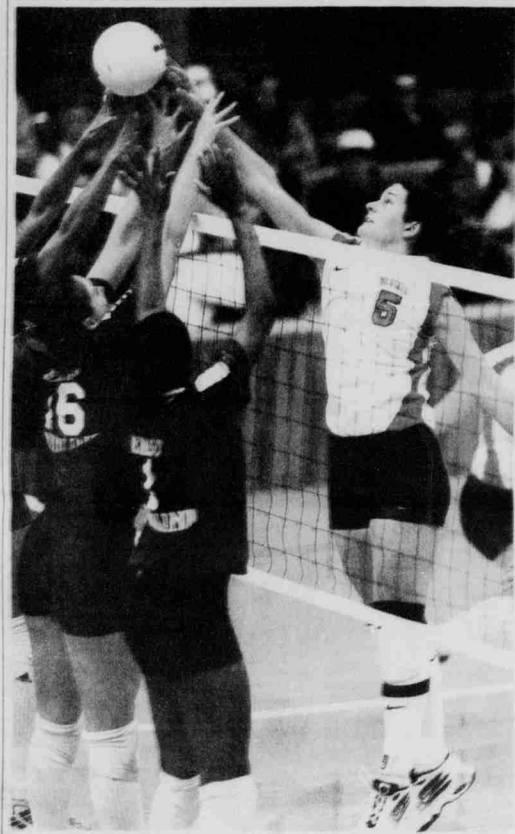
Attendance for UVA's home games this season hasn't exactly been horrible. The smallest crowd of the season consisted of 50,285 for a meeting with Division I-AA Richmond. Yet student turnout has not met the athletics department's expectations.

UVA is accustomed to success on the football field. The Cavs were the first team to beat Florida State and are one of only four Division I-A programs with seven or more wins in each of the last 13 seasons.

With No. 7 Virginia Tech on the horizon, that streak is in very real jeopardy if UVA can't beat State. As a result, students with only a passing interest in football are likely to start focusing on the Cavs' chances in basketball. The low student turnout is probably pretty embarrassing for a program used to being in the ACC's upper echelon.

The Cavs' decision to not let Jefferson-Pilot carry this game is still puzzling to say the least. Most programs relish the chance to play televised games because they are recruiting tools. State head coach Chuck Amato certainly wanted the game on TV.

"It gives us exposure," Amato



Alison Kreager draws the attention of three ECU blockers in N.C. State's 3-0 win.

Volleyball sweeps ECU

◆ **The Wolfpack finished the regular season with a 3-0 win.**

Justin Sellers
Staff Writer

The regular season ended with a convincing win for the N.C. State volleyball team Monday night against cross-state rival East Carolina.

Volleyball		
NCSU	3	1-15 Atlantic Coast Conference, who suffered another conference loss at Clemson on
ECU	0	

Friday, came into Reynolds Coliseum for its final home match of the season needing to get back on the right track heading into the ACC Tournament on Thursday. The Pack did just that, sweeping the Pirates (17-12) 3-0 for the win. Junior outside hitter Charcee Williams made her presence felt throughout the match, tallying a match-high 15 kills to lead State.

"It was a pretty convincing win out here tonight," said Williams. "This win definitely helps the team's morale, but we still see that we can improve ourselves."

State showed positive signs right off the bat. Led by a strong effort by seniors Meredith Price and Stephanie Stambaugh, the Pack quickly won game one 15-6.

Price came up big defensively for the Pack, tying Williams with a match-high 14 digs. Meanwhile, Stambaugh finished with a hitting percentage of .320 and added 11 kills.

"That was the key," said head coach Kim Hall. "I think they wanted to win and play well because that is their last memory

and their last opportunity to play at home."

ECU showed signs of life in game two, tying the Pack 4-4 and forcing Hall to call one of three timeouts. The game went back and forth with each team exchanging points until the Pirates took control with a short run, giving them the lead at 14-12. After another timeout for State, the Wolfpack battled back to tie the game at 14-14. Shortly after that, the Pack celebrated its second game win in a row with the score 16-14.

"Coach [Hall] pointed out that the other team wasn't beating us," said Williams. "Instead, we were beating ourselves and we as a team realized that. It was like a smack in the face. Like 'wake up,' we can play good volleyball. With that motivation, we decided we had to play. We had to pick up our defense, our hitting, our blocking, all those skills we couldn't capitalize earlier on in the game."

The Wolfpack came out of the intermission, quickly jumping to an 8-2 lead in game three. The Pirates, led by some key plays from Lucinda Mason, who had 13 kills and 10 digs, fought back to close within three points of the Pack, but that would be as close as it would get.

State, with the leadership of freshman setter Crystal Shannon, never once looked back, going on to win game three 15-10. Shannon led both teams with 44 assists and tacked on 12 digs defensively.

"The effort tonight was good," said coach Hall. "To be honest, I think physically we are a little tired, as well as mentally. I think this win took our minds off of the end of the regular season a little bit.

ACCs up next for State volleyball

◆ **The Wolfpack heads to the ACC Tournament this weekend in Winston-Salem.**

David Hobgood
Staff Writer

The Wolfpack is heading into the 21st Annual Atlantic Coast Conference Volleyball Championship on a positive note after a dominating 15-6, 16-14, 15-10 victory over East Carolina. The ACC Tourney will begin for the Pack on Thursday evening at 7:30 in Winston-Salem against the top-seeded Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets.

Even though the Pack didn't improve in the standings this season, it is heading for Winston-Salem with lots of confidence.

"Our goal this year was to have an opportunity to win every ACC match we played," head coach Kim Hall said. "And although we didn't win but one conference match, we had the opportunity to win nearly all of them. We had so many matches that went to five games this year that we just weren't able to win."

And heading into a first-round showdown with the high-octane Yellow Jackets, the Pack has every reason to be confident in its abilities.

"We won more total games than the next two teams ahead of us," Hall said. "We also went to five games with the top two teams [Georgia Tech and North Carolina] in the conference. I

mean, it's no doubt in our minds that we can play."

The Pack will have its work cut out for it in the opening round against the Jackets, who defeated the Pack in both of their matches this season.

"Tech is really, really good," Hall said. "But, we played them really well both times. They have seven foreign players who have lots of experience playing for each of their respective national teams. They also never get rattled no matter how adverse the situation is."

When comparing her team's strengths with the Jackets, Hall feels that each team has an edge on the other in various aspects of the game.

"I feel like our defense is better than theirs," Hall said. "However, I feel like their offense is better than ours. So in preparation for them, we need to work on our offensive firepower in order to strengthen our chances to win."

With the conference tourney only two days away, the Pack has received outstanding play from quite a few players down the stretch.

"Our freshman setter [Crystal Shannon] has shown quite a bit of maturation as the season has progressed," Hall said. "Stephanie [Stambaugh] and Alison [Kreager] have been really good for us in the middle. And, although she faces two blockers every match, Charcee [Williams] has been outstanding for us as an outside hitter."



Caroline Frede goes on the floor to keep the ball in play.