



Burn Technician
Jailall encourages the students to burn and slash Technician. Find out why in Opinion.



Spring break!
All Maxine wants to do is surf, relax, and watch the sunrise over the ocean waves.



Marching to Atlanta
N.C. State prepares for Duke, Scooter Sherrill is staying and Sports picks the All-ACC teams.

Spring Break
March 9, 2001

TECHNICIAN

www.technicianonline.com

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

Today	Hi 54
	Lo 30
Tomorrow	Hi 57
	Lo 37



MIKE WITTMANN/STAFF

The pep band will be holding their final practice before the tournament in historic Reynolds Coliseum on March 7th from 9:00PM - 11:00PM. All fans are welcome to attend and to take pictures and/or shoot footage. The band will be playing in the 2001 Battle of the Bands tournament on March 9-10 on Georgia Tech's campus at the Student Athletic Complex. Times are TBA. All fans are welcome to attend.

COURTESY OF GOPROK.COM

COM increases trimmed

◆ The UNC System Board of Governors approved slimmed-down versions of a trio of tuition increases for graduate students in the College of Management.

Jimmy Ryals
News Editor

The UNC System Board of Governors Wednesday approved a series of decreased tuition increases for students in N.C. State's masters of accounting and masters of science in management programs.

The approved increases, however,

were smaller than those requested by the NCSU Board of Trustees.

Three weeks ago, the Board of Trustees approved an increase of \$5,000 for full-time students in the masters of science in management program. The increase was to be broken into a pair of \$2,500 increases, one administered in the fall of 2002 and one in fall 2003.

Also facing a \$5,000 increase were students in the masters of accounting program; that increase was to have been made in four \$1,250 increments, allotted in fall 2002, fall 2003, fall 2004 and fall 2005.

Thus, the increase in the masters of

accounting program will only be \$1,250.

The Board of Trustees recommended a \$3,330 increase for evening students in the masters of science management program. That increase would have consisted of two \$1,665 increases, to be levied in fall 2002 and fall 2003.

The BOG Committee on Budget and Finance recommended to the board that increases be approved only through the 2002-2003 academic years. The Board of Governors accepted that recommendation, cutting all three increases considerably.

See COM, Page 3

Spring break: know before you go

◆ Being aware of sunburn, thunderstorms and other travel concerns are keys for a safe break experience.

Mary Bengtson
Medical Director, N.C. State Student Health Services

Spring break means different things to different people.

For many of you, "break" will be spent in Raleigh studying or working. Make time to relax to prevent burnout and to get refreshed for the weeks until the end of the semester, even if you only have time to walk Lake Johnson Park.

If you are "just going home," enjoy and appreciate your friends and family. You may return more rested and with less debt than those who went to exotic vacation places. As you travel, there are ways to stay healthier.

Wash your hands. It is still flu season, and washing hands while out in public at airports, restaurants and other stops can prevent many illnesses.

While packing, remember to take an extra pair of eyewear if you wear glasses or contacts. Remember your prescription medications, insurance card and how to contact your family at work or home should you have an emergency. If you have allergies, know that the allergy seasons in other parts of the country and world may vary from Raleigh.

You may have had a rough week with tests and packing and may be fatigued. Share the driving. Take breaks for stretching, food and fluids. Wear your seatbelt and do not speed.

If flying, get up and walk around every hour to prevent "economy-class syndrome," the development of a blood clot in the leg from being stationary too long. Let someone know your travel route and expected times of arrival. Carry a cell phone should you get stranded.

Know the weather and dress appropriately. While outdoors, have a plan should a thunderstorm threaten. Florida and North Carolina rank among the highest in lightning deaths. Seek shelter in a building or vehicle (not a tent or convertible). Stay away from tall trees, open water, metal boats, fishing poles or golf clubs, and off bicycles, motorcycles or golf carts.

Apply at least SPF 15 sunscreen an hour before going outdoors, even if it is a cloudy day.

Sunburn can also occur on the snowy slopes. Reapply sunscreen after sweating or being in the water. If you become sunburned, a prostaglandin inhibitor taken immediately, such as ibuprofen, may reduce redness, and cool wet washcloths may help. Burning is most likely to occur between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Know and follow any health restrictions for consuming the water and food supply. Traveler's diarrhea, caused by a variety of bacteria and viruses, sometimes occurs when visiting other countries. Symptoms of nausea and vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal cramping and fever may develop two to 10 days after arrival in a new country.

Avoidance of suspect food and water and taking preventative medications, such as Pepto-Bismol, two tablets four times

Administrative offices unite with new position

◆ The Provost's Office has called upon a member of Student Affairs to take on a position in its division as well.

Spaine Stephens
News Editor

The best of both worlds for one N.C. State official may reap universal opportunities for the whole campus community.

Frances Graham, director of the NCSU Women's Center, took on the position of director of gender affairs at the beginning of 2001. Graham is now an advocate for gender affairs; she coordinates programs on campus that will enhance awareness of gender issues.

The original plans for the creation of a division for gender affairs started with communication from former NCSU Provost Kermit Hall and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Tom Stafford. The two discussed the idea at length and

"recognized that we needed someone to spearhead a focus on gender affairs on campus," said Rupert Nacoste, vice provost for diversity and African American affairs.

When Nacoste became vice provost in 2000, he joined the discussions between Hall and Stafford. The administrators put together an agreement under which Graham would be allowed to continue as director of the Women's Center while also making the NCSU community more aware of gender issues on campus. Graham's experimental dual-role will last for one year, after which the position will be evaluated on the basis of demand.

"It's a cooperative arrangement, one that my office and the Provost's office agreed to go into together," said Stafford.

Graham now reports to Nacoste as well as Evelyn Reiman, associate vice chancellor for student affairs, her previous boss as director of the

Women's Center.

"This is a partnership that has benefited all participants," said Reiman.

The consideration to hire a new employee into the position was discussed, but it was decided that Graham would fulfill the duties of director of gender affairs for the experimental stage. Administrators will meet in April to assess the partnership to study whether Graham's energies are being spread too thin and how the program is structured, said Reiman.

"After the year, we'll make a decision on where to move next," said Nacoste.

Graham's appointment as director of gender affairs is one side on the three-sided mission of the university's division of Diversity and African American Affairs.

The fairly new division is still bending and shaping in response to additional needs of the campus community. The

See POSITION, Page 2



DAVE KUDRALL/STAFF

Frances Graham became director of gender affairs at the beginning of 2001.

Graham developing visions for the future

◆ Frances Graham is expanding both the Women's Center and gender affairs issues.

Spaine Stephens
News Editor

For most people, one job is enough. For Frances Graham, having two is a privilege that comes with new challenges.

In January, Graham became N.C. State's director of gender affairs; she still holds her previ-

ous position, director of the Women's Center.

Graham has been challenged by the appointment to the second position. This responsibility has been routine so far due to its newness, said Graham; however, it is about to shift into a higher gear.

As part of gender affairs, she will soon begin meeting frequently with deans and faculty women.

"What we're experimenting with is really trying to figure out how a position like this could be

useful on this campus," said Graham. "We want to figure out where we can make the greatest impact."

Diversity is a relevant issue for incoming students, professors and administrators. The responsibility of overseeing the progress of the campus community falls under both the Provost's Office and Student Affairs.

"This is an excellent opportunity for there to be some significant relationships between the Provost's Office and Student

Affairs," said Graham.

As a reflection of the university's mission to provide a safe environment for interaction and excellence, Graham wants to make diversity visible to everyone.

By the end of the trial year, Graham feels like she and her supervisors will have "a clear picture of where we're going and what our goals should be."

As Director of the Women's Center, Graham maintains strong ties with students, fostering interactions with programs

for students, Greek Life and Union Activities Board.

"I love my Women's Center work so much," she said. "It has blossomed in ways I never imagined."

On the gender affairs side of her duties, Graham will focus on faculty issues and concerns. The Women's Center has worked toward building a relationship with NCSU faculty women.

"Some have reached back,"

See GRAHAM, Page 2

Book challenges natural law

◆ An N.C. State professor offers her feminist view on natural and moral law in a new book.

Robin Worrell
Senior Staff Reporter

When it comes to controversial issues like homosexuality, in vitro fertilization or euthanasia, does a person have the right to choose or does "nature" deem him or her either morally right or wrong?

Christine Pierce presents these two conflicting traditions of Western ethics in her new book, *Immutable Laws, Irresistible Rights*. That of natural law versus that of moral rights.

Pierce, a professor of philosophy at N.C. State, introduced her book (released Feb. 16) with a talk for women in gender studies at NCSU on Feb. 21.

In this compilation of essays, Pierce

explains and disagrees with traditional Greek tradition of natural law, namely Aristotle's "great chain of being," in which rocks, trees, animals and even humans are placed in a hierarchy of rationality.

"I'm about as anti-natural law as you can get," said Pierce.

Pierce argues rather for the "rights tradition" and autonomy, or the idea that, as an individual, a person has some say over how their life goes. They have basic choices such as sexuality and whether to go on living.

According to Pierce, the natural law philosophy does not allow for these choices. Instead, "nature" guides life.

As well as offering a feminist perspective on these philosophical traditions of the West, Pierce brings the natural law tradition up to date, giving examples of where it appears in the present world.

In the 1980s, for instance, Pierce said natural law arguments were used to blame

AIDS on homosexual activity.

In the 1990s, natural law arguments were used to protest gay marriage, questioning whether two individuals were actually married if they were unable to have children together.

"I think we should get rid of the natural law tradition, but it doesn't seem likely," said Pierce of these modern occurrences of the ancient philosophy.

Pierce does not totally dismiss all the Greek philosophers, claiming that Plato, who came before Aristotle, had some good ideas.

"Plato's version of natural law theory that supports equal opportunity for women is the best manifestation of that theory, superior by far to the more influential formulations of Aristotle and Aquinas," said Pierce, although she still says Plato is "at odds with the notion of autonomy."

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JAMES CURLETT/STAFF

Emma Scalise, 2, dips her finger into the Pullen Park fish pond while her brother James and mother Lisa look on.

See BREAK, Page 2

POSITION

Continued from Page 1

naming of a director of gender affairs fits into the evolving division and developing staff, said Nacoste.

The division also focuses on programs that enhance preparation.

"Expanding Your Horizons" is a program that brings 500 young girls to campus to expose them to the opportunities of the university and to increase the number of young women who study science and technology. The division also works to get

middle school students from underrepresented areas involved with the university.

"We advocate for diversity everywhere," said Nacoste.

"The programs are designed in some way to change and enhance the diversity climate," which is one major focus of Graham's newest duty.

An example of Graham's new position in action is involvement with Women In Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Technology (WISMET). The group comes together and works "to improve the climate for women in science and technology," said Nacoste.

Graham serves as a link between the group and higher

university administration, offering and receiving suggestions for improvement. She meets with groups that have similar goals and helps them understand how they can thrive within the walls of the university.

"She is in a unique situation," said Nacoste. "She has a direct feed from campus on gender issues from students and faculty. She can search out what the climate issues are, and bring that to the higher administration."

Reiman said the release time during which Graham works for gender affairs has freed some resources to add staff to the women's center, in turn broadening the scope of that area of focus.

"into diversity and the conflict of ideas and information sharing."

"It's dangerous to try to rate one issue of diversity higher than another," said Graham.

"It's really important that ethnic and gender issues get the same attention."

A lot of pressure comes with the dual jobs. Demand for attention comes from all directions, and of course, resources are an issue. There has to be a balance between time, money, funding and staff, which does not always come easy.

Working out the glitches of a newly created position takes

ten years ago, said Reiman, the women's center operated on a broad mission to recognize issues facing NCSU student, faculty and staff women. The partnership with the Office of Diversity and African American Affairs has enabled Graham to devote more attention to faculty women.

"We are extraordinarily lucky at N.C. State to have an administrator and leader with the talents Graham has," said Reiman.

Reiman added that next year marks the tenth anniversary of the Women's Center, that will be a time of reflection and consideration of what the future holds for the Women's Center in terms of expansion and recognition.

time, however. As for now, so far, so good.

"[Graham] is really the person to do this," said Nacoste, citing her "sensitivity and ability to set priorities and directions."

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Tom Stafford said Graham's involvement in both Student Affairs and Diversity has a great impact on different areas of the university.

"We're glad to share her," he said.

Graham is aware of how students living and working in different circles on campus can have long-term effects. She said part of the reason why NCSU

of new and evolving issues. Reiman said the nature of problems facing the NCSU community like racism, sexism and homophobia "is so complex and so embedded." The real challenge comes down to "how we use a diversity of people and perspectives to try to tackle those problems."

The installation and implementation of new staff and programs is just one way the university is meeting that challenge.

"Having a larger, more diverse staff helps us further those efforts," said Reiman.

She celebrated the fact that men also take an active role in promoting programs on gender graduates are so successful after graduation is that they have a broader understanding of themselves and the concepts of the world from their experiences at NCSU.

This understanding may be hard to come by because of the level of seriousness attached to the diversity issue.

"A lot of people are a little bit nervous about that seriousness," she said. "It will make people think a little differently, and be challenged by themselves and each other. The idea of conflict makes people nervous."

Graham stressed that the university community should

issues for the Women's Center. This, she feels, is proof that attitudes can change and mold to fit the needs of an evolving campus.

"The Women's Center is so inclusive and broad-minded," she said.

The partnership will foster fresh ideas and could help to create the feeling of a global community at NCSU.

"I think it will have a real positive impact both on the Women's Center and gender issues that relate to academic issues and programs," said Stafford.

understand that there are opportunities here for everyone to succeed, but that there should be a level of understanding, acceptance and assistance to accompany that success.

"If you don't understand me as a woman," she pointed out, "you're not going to understand me as an African American woman."

Graham urges everyone to let their voice be heard and not to fear change and conflict.

The struggle will bring reward, she said, and "the conflict will create a balance in the end."

GRAHAM

Continued from Page 1

said Graham.

Still, there are many faculty and staff women the Women's Center has not reached yet. Graham plans to implement programs to "get out and know them."

One such plan is a retreat Graham is working on to bring together the key players about gender issues. She hopes some people who attend will learn of new ideas and opportunities. Graham is worried about pos-

sibly having to choose between the two positions at some point. It will finally come down to "which position offers me the greatest satisfaction," she said.

"I really feel like I have the best of both worlds," she added.

In her second realm, Graham's visions for diversity go hand in hand with those of Rupert Nacoste, vice provost for diversity and African American affairs. Both want to see groundbreaking dialogue generated on diversity and gender issues on campus.

Through the experimental stage of the position, all those involved will see how it fits

already showered and develop a rash, you are not contagious. The blisters do not contain poison ivy. New areas that break out are areas that were exposed, not a sign of the rash spreading.

Remember that ice is appropriate for most fresh trauma, especially injuries to knees, ankles, shoulders and back. If you have a break in the skin, your tetanus booster is good for 10 years, but a booster may be given sooner for dirty and severe wounds.

Be aware of the cleanliness of your lodging. A bacterial skin rash can develop from an improperly maintained hot tub. Scabies, caused by mites, can be contracted from unclean bedding or from contact with people.

Know your limits of alcohol. Remember that food in the stomach slows down alcohol absorption. Designate a driver. Try non-alcoholic alternatives. If you are not of legal age to drink, why risk it? Do not use street drugs at any age.

Spring break is often glamorized as a time to meet people and to have a sexual relationship with a partner you just met that week. If you are not clear about your partner's last name, sexual history and disease background or contraceptive method, are you prepared to accept whatever disease or pregnancy results?

Remember that condoms do not prevent pregnancy or STDs 100 percent. Sexually transmitted diseases, such as gonorrhea and chlamydia, have cures. Some viral infections, such as herpes and HIV, can be treated but not cured. Some STDs are asymptomatic. There is little glamour in catching a permanent disease from a temporary relationship.

For information about Student Health's spring break hours, call 515-2563. For an appointment, call 515-7107. Have a good break and a safe trip back to campus!

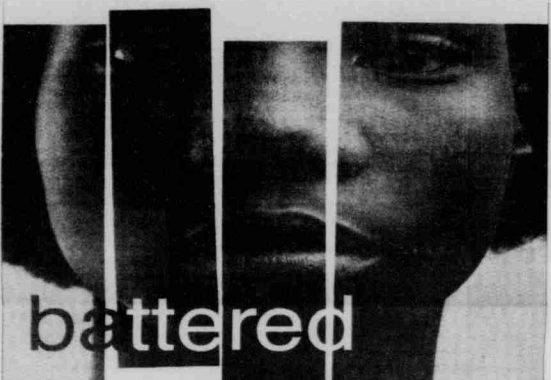
BREAK

Continued from Page 1

per day, may be useful. While symptoms are severe, consume liquids, clear soups, crackers and toast. Continued symptoms may warrant seeing a physician and obtaining prescription medication. For future travel, consider an appointment with Student Health's International Travel Clinic for country-specific immunizations and medications.

While in the woods, know that you can get poison ivy, oak and sumac even after the plants shed their leaves, since the antigen that leads to sensitization and reaction, urushiol, returns to the stem and roots of the plant.

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Continued from Page 1

A surprised Jon Bartley, dean of the College of Management, found the BOG's decision to reduce the increases "very disappointing."

"Not having the [full] increase places us at a severe disadvantage to peer programs, because peer programs are offering stu-

dent services that we had planned to finance with the increase," Bartley said.

BOG Student Representative Andrew Payne is "pleased" with the board's decision to adopt the abbreviated increases.

"I think it's important the board not make any increases beyond two years," Payne said. "There can be changes in the economic climate of the state and in the students' ability to pay."

Payne believes that passing the interested in rights because of global feminist, African-American feminist and lesbian writers.

"The reason for the shift is obvious: those without rights can see how important it is to have rights," said Pierce.

The production of "The Vagina Monologues" at Stewart Theatre Tuesday night, Pierce said, was an excellent example of how some women around the world are still denied even basic rights such as appearing in pub-

extended increases would have set a "dangerous precedent."

Bartley saw the staggered implementation of the increases as a "cushion" for students.

"[This] makes it especially difficult for us to plan ahead for the phase-in of programs we were planning to finance with the increase," Bartley said.

"The case for the increases is very strong and we will certainly need to return with a request in the future," he added.

Pierce also incorporates moral rights and ethics as they pertain to religion and socio-biology in her book.

Her articles on ethics and feminism have appeared in many journals and anthologies.

Pierce is also coeditor of *People, Penguins and Plastic Trees: Basic Issues in Environmental Ethics*, and *AIDS: Ethics and Public Policy*.

LAW

Continued from Page 1

Pierce goes on in the final chapters of her book to address modern feminist philosophy.

In the past two decades, women's rights have been considered selfish and masculine. However, Pierce believes that these ideas are turning around.

More women are becoming

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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Students first

WHY IS TUITION GOING UP AND TIME WITH TEACHERS GOING DOWN?

At a meeting of the University of North Carolina System Board of Governors (BOG) Wednesday, statistics were released citing the fact that fewer undergraduate students in North Carolina's supposedly exemplary higher education system are being taught by tenured professors. More and more students are being taught by part-time workers, such as teaching assistants (TAs) or non-tenured instructors, including retired professors.

According to the BOG's numbers the amount of undergraduate students taught by tenured professors or professors on track to be tenured dropped from 54 percent in 1997 to 48 percent in 2000.

Simultaneously, the BOG approved tuition increases for N.C. State, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Greensboro, N.C. A&T, N.C. Central, UNC-Asheville, UNC-Pembroke and Appalachian State University.

Last year, two of those schools — NCSU and Carolina — received tuition hikes, along with East Carolina, UNC-Wilmington and UNC-Charlotte.

Although tenured and tenure-track professors increased their workload (by a single credit hour) between the 1996-97 school year and the 1999-2000 school year, the portion of teaching positions filled by part-time, retired and non-tenured workers rose from 25 percent to 33 percent in the same timeframe. Their respective workload also increased from 36 percent to 43 percent.

To its credit, NCSU's TAs, usually recruited from graduate school student pools, only carried 6 percent of the workload, as opposed to Carolina grad students, who bore 37 percent of the workload.

Whatever the numbers, the fact remains that students are being asked to give more to their schools and get less in return in terms of quality time with professors. Faculty salaries are booming to help pay for research and various projects, but faculty time with students is withering, being replaced

by what are ultimately sub-par student teachers and teachers who have not demonstrated the effort necessary to secure tenure.

"Tenure" refers to status granted to a professor who has met various qualifications; such professors are guaranteed employment by their university for a varying period of time.

Student fees, including overall tuition, should only be used to pay for student services. While in some grand we-all-benefit-from-research manner of thinking, students do benefit from faculty research, students should not bear the responsibility of funding pet projects of faculty members who consequently become too busy to actually teach those very students.

The BOG needs to recognize the unfortunate truth that universities will always want more money, that professors — just like all workers — always want more money; they will always be able to find a way to spend additional funding, whether it be on research for a book or equipment for a lab or any number of other costs. Money, by its very nature, leaves people discontent with it, forever wanting more.

Furthermore, while it can be granted that universities also double as research institutions and pools for corporate profiteering, the fundamental, essential role of the University as a pure academy should never be overshadowed — never. No excuses.

Student sentiment best summed in the words of Andrew Payne (senior, environmental science), president of the Association of Student Governments and the only student member (also-nonvoting) of the BOG, Payne asks, "Isn't it ironic that students are asked more and more to fund increases in faculty salaries yet the faculty spend more and more time away from students? I think that as the university demands more from the students' pockets, students should demand more out of the faculty."



HAVE A GREAT SPRING BREAK, STATE!

Make a list, check it twice



John Sico
STAFF COLUMNIST

It takes a really rotten day to make you step back for a second and take stock of your life, one of those days where everything from the instant you wake up in the morning and stub your toe on the bedpost to the second you finally fall asleep after tossing and turning for an hour or two. It's funny that everything you could possibly imagine going wrong, short of the catastrophic, tends to cram itself into one 24-hour period. One thing after another just piles up to make the problems even worse than they really would be otherwise. It can be enough to really get you depressed. It's easy to sit down at the end of one of these days and just dwell on how awful it all was.

I was lucky enough to have one of these experiences the other day, and reacted to it just that way. When night finally came, I sat down and felt sorry for myself. But that got me to thinking, "When was the last time I had a day

like that?" It must have been quite a while. I couldn't even remember exactly when it was, much less what made it so terrible.

No matter how bad it was, though, apparently I survived it and managed to put together a nice foothold of good days up until this most recent stumbling block on the way to happiness. In fact, up until this lot in the way of my stride, I was moving along at a pretty fast clip. Maybe this little trip-up wasn't so bad. It gave me a chance to take a break and have a good look at the way I've been going.

When I stood to the side and gazed at the way I paved, I noticed that the bad blocks that stuck out were pretty few and far between. And in between all of those are good things that I wouldn't have even noticed if I hadn't tripped over this bad one.

Wow, so I guess something good did come out of this day I had previously considered so worthless. I didn't even realize the day before my crummy one was a good day until after I had known worse. I just went through it and took for granted that nothing terrible happened. Searching for some consolation in the wake of this disastrous day also made me think of all the little everyday things that make me happy. So I made

myself a list of them, and I was pretty impressed with how long it turned out to be.

I would suggest that anyone having a bad day like the one I just had do the same thing. Just take out a piece of paper and write down as many things as you can think of that make you happy. Do this in class, or whenever else you can just let your mind wander. They can be little things or big things, it doesn't matter, it's your list. You'll probably be surprised how long the list becomes.

If you want to be even more industrious about it, keep the list, and add to it whenever you think of something new. Then you won't even have to make yourself a new list each time; you can just look at the things you've already written down.

The moral of the story, for those of you still with us, is to not look at misfortunes as so horrible, but to instead look at them as ways to better see your luck. I hope this helps. It helped me to write it.

Did you like this column? Add it to your list. Didn't like it? Email John and tell him for attempting to sound deep at riscosone@aol.com.

Families are odd things



Kelly Marks
STAFF COLUMNIST

Think about it. You have this group of people who know how to push your buttons better than anyone in the world, and yet, that's whom you choose to go home to. When things are rough, they're the ones you call. They might embarrass you, frustrate you, fret over you or smother you, and yet you still want to associate with them. You even like them lots.

Or, perhaps I'm being presumptuous. Maybe you don't. Though TV sitcoms and other entertainment venues still tend to deny their existence, there are the anti-Cleavers and anti-Brads in the world. If Jerry Springer and his ilk are to be believed, there's an awful lot of them (and they're all angry and scantly clad, too). There's dysfunction going 'round all over — enough to prove that not all families are loving or supportive or nice to come home to. It's not enough just to be related to someone.

And yet, whether it's there or not, we continue to believe that strong ties exist between family. That's because they do. No matter how bad your relationship is with your relatives, or how much distance separates you, you are thicker than water, but it will stain your clothes more. You might not put your family first, but you will always carry their mark.

Family is like an umbilical cord that you can never quite cut. We all float through our days tethered in some way by our past and to it. And at some point each of us feels a desire somewhere deep inside to have family. For brief moments, especially in times of crisis or stress, we want to return to something prenatal. We all want that big safe womb, where someone else is looking out for our well being and making sure we're safe.

The thing is, despite what differences separate us, whether they're generational, political, philosophical — we are our families. You are the product of two people who are the product of two people, and so on and so on, and you carry pieces of all of them with you. For some, that's the reason home feels like home — it's where there are people like you, who know you, who have that innate familiarity encoded in their chromosomes. For others, that's exactly why they have to leave. Their family is like a mirror, reflecting traits both good and bad. There are some things in others that we don't like to face in ourselves.

Regardless, we all want a little family in our lives. We want people who love us when we screw up. We want people who know who we are. If we don't get it in a conventional family unit, we look for it elsewhere. We go where we find it. If we have to, we leave our real families for what feels like real family. It's that important to us. In fact, sometimes we're so quick to leave, we don't even think about what we're leaving.

Family ties aren't always the ones that bind. But even when they break,

they're like strings hanging from our hearts, twisting in the wind. There's a dangling feeling, like something unattached. Part of this is because when you lose your family, or you let them go, you also lose your closest observer. You learn a lot about how a person acts or thinks by living with them. You learn about who a person is when you've watched them figure that out. Families are more than just shared genes, they're shared time, shared experiences, and the most complete living record of your development as a person. Whether or not these are memories that you want to relive, they are events that people outside your family will never quite understand. A family is like a secret you can never fully share. Like a game of telephone, something gets left out in the translation.

You can throw your family away or leave them behind, but in many cases there's a sentimental element that you'll miss. It's like selling your childhood toy at a yard sale for \$1.50. You wanted the cash now, but years later, you're gonna want it back.

That's why families are odd things. Few other animals group themselves into stable little clans. As far as we know, none of them feel guilt or loss if that group separates. Man is funny in his need for other men. But it's part of what makes us wonderful too.

You can reach Kelly the usual way at kmmarks@unity.ncsu.edu. Want to own a piece of the madness? See <http://www4.ncsu.edu/~kmmarks> for more details.

Campus Forum

Some people's opinions are out of this world...

see page 5

send letters to the editor at oped1@hotmail.com

See how yours fares!

Flash Gordon/Dale Arden image from 1938 Flash Gordon movie serials
design by marko 2001

TECHNICIAN

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

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CAMPUS FORUM RULE OF THUMB

Students 'plebeians,' NCSU Senator 'quite proud' to 'FUC'

I take strong exception to the editorial condemning the resolution calling for "FUC UNC" to be restored to the Brickyard ("Senate struggling," March 8). Should everyone here be walking around in a "Muffy and Buffy" atmosphere with starched-white shirts, careful to avoid anything déclassé? I thought that was one of the negative points about UNC-Chapel Hill in the first place!

So *Technician* objects to "FUC UNC." What's next? Have Public Safety officers at sporting events throwing people out for shouting, "Go to Hell, Carolina?" While we're at it, why not punish *Technician* for its "Daily Tar Hell" spew? In all honesty, does anyone really shout, "Come over the hill, Carolina?"

In many ways, from extraordinarily unreasonable parking regulations to a "public safety" legion more interested in breaking up student gatherings than preserving public safety, the Administration sends the word that students don't matter. It's the Administration's University and they'll do with it what they please; if you plebeian students don't like it, tough. I think the student body should be proud of Senator Ducote for having the wherewithal to stand up and object to the disdain held by the Administration toward the students. I am quite proud to be in his company in Senate as well as the company of others who care about school spirit. It might be controversial, and I may lose re-election because of it, but the Administration must be made to keep its word of "students first."

Also, *Technician's* attack discrediting the Senate was uncalled for and counterproductive. The Senate President appoints Senators to fill vacant seats based on their qualifications and what he feels they can contribute. Some of those appointed Senators, such as Senator Ducote, have done the best work of the Senate, representing the interests of the students and bringing their voice and their opinions to the Administration, the Trustees and the Governors. Perhaps *Technician* would prefer having no student representation at all and merely roll over and accept whatever the Administration says as law. "Thank you, ma'am. May I have another?" I take a different view, and so, I think, do the students here.

In short, *Technician*, lighten the "fuc" up! Feel free not to print that last line if it offends someone's delicate sensibilities.

Chuck Jones
Junior
Political Science
Senator, FYC

'Gross historical exaggeration'

It seems that "controversial author" James Loewen, as reported by Jimmy Ryals ("Controversial author warns scholars," March 6), delivered a thought-provoking lecture Monday to our very own, so-called "university scholars." Some of his lecture's details were described by Ryals, and for the most part he appeared to voice valid concerns. But I would caution that his statements about so-called "hero worship" are doubtless true—I've had elementary and middle-school teachers who have done this. But "hero worship" is not the only error that history teachers commit. I've had several at the college level who espoused views based solely on skepticism towards "traditional" historical views. Thus their historical conclusions (generally "revisionist-histories") were often wrong. Skepticism alone does not ensure correctness. While Loewen's advice to "read source material from the time of the historic event/person in question" is indeed valid, it should be noted that this by no means implies he has exhaustively done the same, or that he has done so objectively, thus arriving at correct conclusions. E.g., his challenge towards the character of Abraham Lincoln was an exaggerated one (unless misquoted by Ryals). For nearly every well-documented person in recent history, there are inevitably both favorable and unfavorable accounts of his/her character. In Lincoln's case, I believe the negativity is often exaggerated. "But," he would surely object, "you need to read the documents about him written in his times!" Well, it just so happens that I do have such documents, and also examinations of them, and I'm not alone. Their authors include but are not limited to: Lincoln himself, Frederick Douglass, Michael F. Holt, J. M. McPherson, Jefferson Davis, J. P. Rhodes, B. Wyatt-Brown; also newspaper articles from the *New York Herald*, *oston Post*, *New Orleans Daily*

Crescent, *Muscogee Herald*, *Richmond Semi-weekly Examiner*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Charleston Mercury*, etc. So then, what of his theory that Lincoln was "embellished into a slave-sympathizer, whilst in reality he had been merely a proponent of Union preservation, caring nothing for slaves?" It's wonderful speculation—nevertheless, one finds scanty, reliable evidence weighing fully in its favor—some very eminent scholars would agree. Lincoln most probably *did*, in fact, have a definite, significant true sympathy for slaves—contra the "revisionists"—and no objective, logical student should rebuff this fully. Gross historical exaggeration happens with both the "hero-worshippers" and the "revisionists" alike.

Daniel Daily
Senior
Computer Science

NCSU violates housing contact

The other day, when I pushed my Metcalf suite door, which should have been propped open by the bottle cap I left only hours before, I noticed not only that the door was locked, but that a new sign had been added to my suite wall. Apparently, it is now university policy that a \$10 fine will be assessed to each resident of my suite if my door is found propped open in any way. This policy is both unreasonable and illogical. At the beginning of this year, I signed a housing contract, which fully explained the rules and regulations of my housing agreement. This contract said nothing about the propping of interior doors. Just as I cannot change the amount of rent I pay, the university cannot change their terms of the contract without my consent. This is a simple violation of contract legality. The housing Web site, which attempts to list all of the housing policies, also says nothing about the propping of interior suite doors. Public safety considers my suite door to be a "fire door," but this issue is irrelevant. If the fire safety measures that are currently in place work properly, all 10 residents of my suite will evacuate the building as required, shutting and locking all doors behind us (also as required). As for building security, the only people who could get to my twelfth floor suite are residents of Metcalf, as all other visitors are required to be escorted at all times. Unless the security at the front desk downstairs fails, no unauthorized persons could even reach my propped suite door. The locked suite doors are also used by the residents of Metcalf (and other similar styled buildings). The rooms in buildings that have traditional halls and not suites are accessible by all floor residents, but my room is only accessible to my suite mates. If someone needs to leave an urgent notice on the board outside my room, it is impossible unless that person has a key to my suite. By propping my suite door and keeping my room locked (in fact, all of the rooms in my suite stay locked when unoccupied) I become more accessible to all residents of Metcalf Hall. In fact, the only downside I can find from propping my suite door is that other hall residents may steal the toilet paper from my unlocked bathroom.

Paul Wapner
Freshman
Computer Science

DMB review lacks insight

I would have no problem with Chandler Carrier's review of the new Dave Matthews Band album, *Everyday*, if it were published in the *Opinion* section. His lack of musical knowledge puts *Technician* and its so-called "Arts & Entertainment" at a bad place in N.C. State literary history. If your wonder boy had any musical insight, he would have maybe thought about what words he was looking up in his handy thesaurus so frequently. Carrier calls the Dave Matthews Band an "'80s glam band playing the part of the Grateful Dead." Hmm. I also found it quite fascinating that the album conjured up "images of bands like Winger and Firehouse" in Carrier's head. I attempted to find a literary comparison for your A&E superstar writer, but unfortunately no other literary publications have allowed such moronic writers on their staff. It's amusing that Carrier's rating of one star, quite differentiated from *Rolling Stone* magazine's renowned Senior Editor, David Fricke, who gave the album three and a half stars, calling *Everyday* a "revolutionary act," stating that "the Dave Matthews Band is getting ready to go big." Hmm. I'm thinking here that Carrier's comparison of the DMB to Peter Gabriel and Firehouse doesn't even make as much sense as his appointment to

Technician's staff. This was not a review, this was a music illiterate *Opinion*. Thanks for coming out.

Parrish McIntyre
Senior
Business Management

'I am a feminist'

This letter is written in response to the March 7 issue of *Technician*, specifically the discussions of vaginas, the Women's Center and even those beautiful lollipops. My overall comment would be "check your facts" before you jump on the bashing bandwagon. First, the Women's Center is an organization and is capitalized. Second, the Molly Hays Glander 24-Hour Rape and Sexual Response Line is just that, a means to respond with resources for persons who are or have been victims of violence, rape and/or sexual assault. Third, the selling of beautiful vaginal lollipops is done as a reminder that we will not be ashamed nor kept in the shadows or hidden because of socialized fear of our anatomy. The pops are designed via the V-Day Foundation and, again, all proceeds go to organizations helping women affected by violence. They are not from any pornographic store or designed with any derogatory thought of women in mind. Had the author attended the Feminist Discussion on Pornography, the distinction would be clear. Also, they were only sold with a permit on the Brickyard, not in the Wolves' Den (check those facts!). As far as informed discussion of body parts being non-virtuous, the real question is, "Why are we so scared?" What is making us better? Why is negative joking feared than positive, empowering, informed love and respect voiced in coalition. Finally, while the positive writings in opinion are wonderful, facts must be considered part of journalism (hint, *Technician*), and Eve Ensler's book is based on 200 interviews, however they are not with stars. Get the book, its great and will really help in terms of understanding. Oh, and I am a feminist, the fear of that word is a whole other article!

Michelle Feijo
Special Projects Coordinator
NCSU Women's Center

NCSU 'sold us for 3.5 percent cut'

I was appalled to find Cingular wireless hawking their phones at its in the Atrium on March 6. The Atrium is a student space where we should be free from those peddlers.

I do not appreciate the people hired to manage student facilities selling us out to the highest bidder. I spoke to Randy Laets, University Dining's business manager, and he was very forthcoming. The Cingular people were first to come out in the Brickyard, then they wanted to be in the Atrium, and then they wanted a network connection. This sounds like the classic camel's nose in the tent conundrum. The retailers will always want more of our space, our time, our private information, etc.

I know Cingular is offering free phones, but — please — so is every other wireless vendor. The advertisement that came in my tuition receipt (!) mentioned 50 percent off N.C. State faceplates. Can we get a lollipop, too? Who's cousin landed this sweet carpet-bagging niche?

Randy Laets tells me NCSU is getting \$25 for every phone. So, if a phone is bought on the lowest plan with the request 24-month commitment, the purchaser is committing \$720 for 325 minutes a month. So NCSU has sold us for a pitiful 3.5 percent cut. And everybody knows 325 minutes ain't a jack. For the 700-minute plan we got "got" for 2 percent! It is outrageous that the people I trust to manage my facilities traded me for a song.

In the professional world, if petty sellers in her own office accosted the boss, she would be asking some questions, too.

Gabe Talton
Senior
History

'Respect is the issue'

Decker Ngongang ("The being born dilemma," March 7) describes an obvious trend involving pricey shoes and young people of low socioeconomic status. "It is the black males," he wrote. Our country's young people surely look to their sports heroes and try to emulate these figures by mimicking them. But respect is the issue. By wearing the expensive shoes, young people feel a sense of self-respect. Their self-esteem depends on this false sense of respect. I fear that this social phenomenon is an unfortunate by-product of blacks' historic subjugation: slavery and segregation. For too long, blacks did not receive the respect afforded whites.

U. Missouri at Kansas City



The school headed a conference called "Education for Democracy: Fighting the Corporate Takeover" on the evils of corporate presence in universities. Refreshments included Coca-Cola. Ahh, Coca-Cola... Coca-Cola Classic is always the one. Wherever there is fun, there's always Coca-Cola.

Franklin Graham



Samaritan's Purse, the Christian ministry of Billy Graham's son, is under investigation by the U.S. Agency for International Development for forcing Roman Catholic quake victims in El Salvador to accept Jesus before being shown how to build houses provided by the U.S. government. What would Jesus do? Exploit? Of course! Why didn't I think of that?

Spring Break



The time away from academia allows students to ponder the deeper issues of whether or not they're in the right major — as well as whether or not sand was poured into the crevices of one's bathing suit while tanning or whether it "just ended up there on its own."

Napster



As the megamusics companies circle overhead, Napster desperately tries to sleep with the enemy. Money? Profits? Why muck up the artistic exchange with concerns about such things? Wasn't it always supposed to be "about the music, man?" Eh. Music, billion of dollars; same difference.

Mexico



Our neighbor to the South has embraced a bold revitalization of democracy in Vincente Fox's administration. Cancun also has some kick-ass hotties.

Charles Scheunemann



The 19-year-old Clarion University student remained at large after robbing a bank for \$10,099. But then he came out of hiding to appear as a background dancer on MTV's "Direct Effect." Hmm. \$10,099 of the most booticious show on television? Admit it: you would have made the same decision.

NCSU Wrestling



The wrestlers won the ACC Tournament. They will now advance on wrestling's much-hyped "Big Dance" in Minneapolis, where they will demonstrate their half-nelsons, full nelsons, nelson rockefellers and nelson muntzes.

St. Joseph's University



Confidential emails reveal administrators called the recent binge-drinking death of a 20-year-old student a "PR crisis" and said the school was "fortuitously" local media outlets didn't dig into the story. The emails were sent during the faculty's Christmas Party, a yearly drunken orgy of drug use, adultery and pornographic use of a photocopier.

Vagina



For opening up the issue of femininity and thrusting it into the campus dialogue, *The Vagina Monologues* gets a thumbs up. Period. No joke.

Metallica



According to a *Playboy* interview, James Hetfield's "vocal range is limited" and Lars Ulrich is "not Drummer of the Year. We all know that." OK, so the quality of music isn't the greatest. But the band fights for copyright protection — that's what *really* matters in the music industry, right?

Now, as our young black population search for their identity in the socially competitive environment of school, they find respect and self-esteem in Nikes. What a shame our country failed to respect the black population for so many years. But now, almost a third of a century after the death of the greatest leader of the civil rights movement, I believe that the overwhelming majority of Americans today respect blacks — with or without Nikes. If Martin Luther King were living today, I believe he would proclaim to the black population and the entire country, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin or the shoes they wear but by the content of their character." We all should take heed now.

Mark Anderson
Senior
Mathematics Education

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classic dougboy every monday new dougboy every friday only in Technician

follow the continuing adventures of Matsujuro, Oskar-Maxine, Gabriel, Chalkydri, Mekabscar, and Zathla...

Matsujuro from dougboy by marko (jpmoo@wvliberty.ncsu.edu)

Opinion

From the foxhole

Editor's Note: As always, the Chancellor answered every question she received.

Q What are some people or events that have affected you spiritually and how have they affected what you believe now?

Jason Redmond
Senior
Interpersonal Communication

A I have strong personal beliefs that were shaped by my parents and nurtured over the years by my family. In addition, a number of significant events occurred in my life. From an early age, I had been intrigued by science because it enabled me to develop a framework to analyze issues and solve complex problems. For example, during my middle school and high school years, the nation was enthusiastically engaged in solving the puzzle of how to reach the moon. President John F. Kennedy had issued a challenge to America's scientists, and researchers across the nation joined in the effort to be the first to walk on the moon. My parents and teachers encouraged my interest in science, and I owe my resolve to their unwavering support. The parental guidance I received made a significant difference in my life, and I have endeavored to provide the same encouragement to my sons. I am tremendously proud of my family and their accomplishments and am grateful for their strong support for my work as a chemist and as Chancellor of N.C. State.

Q What's your opinion about Fraternity Court? I feel like the university plans to boot the fraternities and sororities from the court to use the land for other purposes. Rent has been rising 15 percent a year lately, which is five times inflation. I hear chapters are currently paying about \$75,000 a year. I know the land is prime location for expansion, but the school has a commitment to Greek life and helping students get more from their university education. Greek organizations can't be active with almost \$100,000 in yearly bills. What will you do about this?

Chris Hall
Senior
Electrical Engineering

A I appreciate the opportunity to respond to your questions and explain the University's efforts to ensure the continuation of an attractive, viable Greek Court (formerly called Fraternity Court). The University created Fraternity Court in the early 1960's to provide a home to some of our Greek chapters. Since that time, we have greatly appreciated the many contributions of the Greek chapters to our campus community. We are committed to Greek life on campus and are determined to resolve the current lease issues. We have no plans whatsoever to use the land for any other purpose. It is important to remember that Greek Court was established as a self-supporting operation, meaning that it must operate on the revenue it generates. This is similar to other University operations such as University Transportation, University Dining and University Housing. There are no state monies or other sources of funding available to supplement the cost of Greek Court. Originally devoted for 12 fraternities, the Court is



now home to 11 fraternities and four sororities. The University rents the houses to the chapters, and the chapters rent spaces to their members. In order for a chapter house to be a viable, affordable living option, the house must be kept fully occupied. When the house is full, the students who live there pay rents that are lower than their counterparts in the residence halls, but enjoy benefits such as larger space and 12-month occupancy. With one exception, the houses on the Court were designed to house around 40 persons. Many of our chapter houses are not fully occupied. Thus, with fewer residents to share the financial burden, the result is increased costs to individual members who live in the house. I would like to explain the recent rent increases and comment about how they compare with rental rates for on-campus residence halls. In the past three years, the Greek Court rent increased 8.75 percent in 1998, 8.75 percent in 1999, and 15 percent for 2000. These increases were permitted under the lease to which the chapters had agreed. Please note, however, that there were little or no increases for many earlier years, including zero increases for Greek Court from 1964 to 1977. The total rent increases over the life of the Court have been well below general inflation levels. Decisions to keep rent as low as possible in earlier years, coupled with unforeseen facilities requirements, have created the current financial shortfall on the Court and the need to increase rent to pay for renovations. Yet the proposed rents remain competitive with local apartments and with

on-campus residence halls. The proposed rent increases for the chapters for the next five years are the same percentage as that projected for the residence halls. In fact, under the University's proposal, students who live on Greek Court would continue to pay less than their counterparts in the on-campus residence halls. New lease clauses will give chapters the option to allow non-members to live in unfilled bed spaces, thus giving the chapter the possibility of generating additional revenue. In order to isolate the costs of operating Greek Court, the University has created a new budget structure that ensures that rents paid for Greek Court are devoted only to expenses of that operation. For example, no Court rent proceeds will be used to provide support to off-campus chapters. A Greek Court Operations Board will be established to provide input from students and alumni. Responsibilities of this group will include oversight of Court operations, review of expenditures and consideration of proposed budgets. This group will be involved in decisions regarding building renovations and other important issues on the Court. Although the University has done significant maintenance, the original buildings on the Court are now 37 years old, and the building systems are overdue for replacement. They have been subject to constant wear and tear, and do not meet modern day standards for electrical loads, disability accessibility or fire safety. Independent facilities experts have identified more than \$9 million in needed repairs and renovations. The University is committed

to doing as much as possible to upgrade Greek Court facilities while keeping the rental rates competitive. In the fall of 1999, a proposal was made to the chapters on the Court to adopt a new lease and management model based on the one in place at Virginia Tech, thought to be one of the best Greek housing systems in the country. The price increase reflected the expanded services that would be provided, and it was also designed to bring the cost and services in a chapter house to a level similar to that of the residence halls. But, based on feedback from the chapters, that proposal was withdrawn. We have worked diligently with the Greek organizations for over a year to develop a long-range plan that will improve living conditions so that the students will have safe and attractive homes on the Court. Everyone involved — students, alumni, Trustees, and University administration — wants attractive, well-maintained, affordable Greek houses on campus. The chapter houses should be places that welcome prospective members and instill pride in current members and alumni. It is my sincere hope that we can reach agreement soon, and that Greek Court will continue to be an asset to the chapters and to the University for many years to come.

Q On March 2, the Aerospace Engineering Department at N.C. State received word from Dean Nino Masnari that the Mars Mission Research Center, which is basically the life-blood of the Aerospace Department, will be closed down at the end of this semester. This is a potentially fatal blow to the Aerospace Department at NCSU. The MMRC houses graduate students and their work, as well as undergrads and their projects (such as the Mars Balloon Project and the Microgravity Team). Without the MMRC, we are limited to a few rooms in Broughton that are already overcrowded with Senior Design, Aerodynamics and Propulsion labs, and more grad students. What's more, this comes as a complete surprise. The MMRC is one of only nine centers of its kind in the United States. It is something that this University should point to and be proud of. Instead, it is being closed down with no given reason as to why. Chancellor Fox, I was wondering what your feeling is about this situation and if there is anything you can do to reverse or postpone the decision.

Adam Sloan
Junior
Aerospace Engineering

A The Aerospace Engineering (AE) department program (Bachelors, Masters and Ph.D.) at N.C. State has had excellent track records for many decades. The College of Engineering and NCSU are committed to the continued success and reputation of the programs. In 1988, NASA awarded NCSU, through a competitive review process, research funding to start a Mars Mission Research Center (MMRC) involving faculty in the College of Engineering and other Colleges. Research Centers are formed and approved by the University of North Carolina General Administration to accomplish specific funded research not ordinarily accomplished in a single academic department and to draw in participation from other universities and industry. This was certainly the case with the MMRC because it included many academic

disciplines, such as materials science, textiles, propulsion, structures and aerodynamic flow. In addition, the MMRC initially had important support from industry. The original mission of the MMRC was to focus research on composite materials and fabrication, lightweight structures and controls, and hypersonic aerodynamics and propulsion for a manned mission to Mars. The MMRC was one of nine national centers funded by NASA in 1988 at several million dollars per year. However, in 1994 the NASA centers program was phased out and all related research money was cut off in 1995. Industrial support and/or funding from other agencies focused on the mission of the Center have not come to the MMRC in many years. In particular, there is no current support by NASA or other federal funding agency that provides funds to support a human mission to Mars. The space occupied by the remnants of the original NASA MMRC currently is used by faculty for many disparate projects and not coordinated in a center research activity. These facts were uncovered in a College review of the MMRC program in May 2000 and reviewed by the Head of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, the Associate Dean and Dean of Engineering, and the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies. The review concluded, "the MMRC has not met all the criteria of being a center for many years — almost since the NASA funding was terminated. It lacks a shared focus and collaborative research to accomplish goals that individual faculty members alone cannot. No mechanism exists to promote interaction among the faculty members and students." MMRC was very successful during the years of NASA funding and the University takes great pride in its accomplishments. The proposal to discontinue the Center was reached only after long and careful deliberation and with due consideration to UNC General Administration guidelines. Administrative Memorandum 410 states, "centers experiencing chronic problems in productivity and/or funding should be carefully evaluated by the institution and requests for discontinuation can be made as a part of the reporting process." Even though it is proposed that the formal MMRC be discontinued, we are confident that the Aerospace faculty will continue to be successful in their research endeavors. The closing of the Center will have no impact on the continuation of the aerospace degree programs. The current MMRC space on Centennial Campus will remain with the MAE department for research activities that can include new research centers dedicated to space research. The current Space Grant program administered by AE faculty and other AE research projects will continue to be supported. NASA space projects on campus will continue to flourish as reported in the March 2, 2001 issue of the NCSU *Bulletin*, which described how faculty in the Botany Department participated in a recent space shuttle mission that investigated the growth of plants under low gravity conditions.

Mary Anne Fox
Mary Anne Fox
Chancellor

Media are 'worthless,' burn Technician



Robert J. Jallal
STAFF COLUMNIST

are completely worthless. For even the humble old *Technician* is part of the news media, and it, therefore, inherits all its awfulness from its big brothers in the mainstream media. The family resemblance is quite apparent in a typical article's wondrous ability to be as depthless as a Thursday-night "Ruff Smack Down" subplot (grrrrr, rarf, grrrrr, rarf, grrrr, ad infinitum).

I am majoring in computer science — not journalism — so I am not sure if it is a part of journalistic style guidelines to produce content that is consistently devoid of insight, usefulness and hon-

esty. Perhaps there was a time when the media weren't in this state; the history books seem to portray the media of 18th century America as powerful and revolutionary, just like the times. If the media represents society, what will the history books say about our current time?

Two examples: This week's *Time* cover story asks, "Should SATs Matter?" The article actually is very good — for describing what everyone already knows (or thinks they know) about the SATs anyway. The article never answers its own question, instead only ending with a matter-of-fact response that the SAT is here and students should deal with it. Considering the article's conclusion, one would almost think that the magazine never intended to answer its own question at all. Indeed, the article has fair representation from both sides of the SAT debate, but *Time* never seeks to assess the validity of either side's claims. Thus, *Time* expects the reader to form their own conclusion on the topic (which is reasonable) but doesn't present nearly enough research and

investigation for any right-thinking person to make a conclusion.

On Wednesday, the front-page news on CNN.com featured a list published by the infamous Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) of the 20th Century's top 365 songs. Aside from the fact that the RIAA has fat sacks of cash-money, what makes the RIAA's list different from a list I make? Absolutely nothing! The list is completely arbitrary, dependent on the personal tastes of a few people no one knows. There is no reason people should believe anything the article says about what is "great."

The story ends with the quote: "This [list] demonstrates that the recording industry takes seriously its role as a caretaker of our nation's cultural heritage." The CNN article offers no further explanation of this ridiculous statement and seems not to care. Such an attitude is not surprising when one considers that the front-page story on CNN's Web site has no importance or relevance to what anyone should believe. CNN seems to know that its own story isn't worth explanation.

While the above evidence is anecdotal, it is also characteristic of how the rest of the media behave. Expediency (this may have something to do with meeting a deadline) dictates how journalists work, so the vast majority of the media don't seek to solve anything, or uncover the truth, or even inform — only to distribute something that is passable by the standards of the consumer. It is this goal, satisfying consumers, that emerges as dubious, because it's not at all clear that consumers want to hear the truth of things; in fact, if one looks at the media, it seems that consumers want the media to fuel their escapism fantasies.

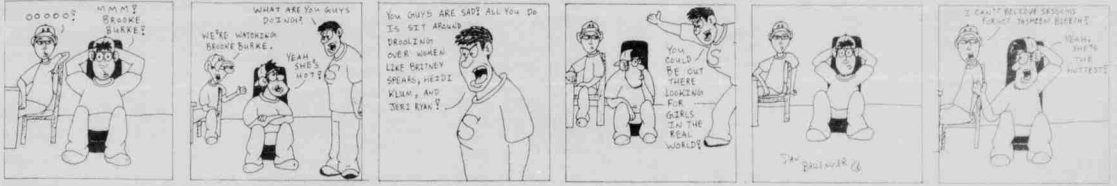
Media that evolve with the wishes of their consumers have no business attaching the term "news." News describes real life. Real life is complex; it is not a trivial task to convey understanding of complex, real-life issues. Perhaps it is the difficulty of finding truth and answers in real life that causes a consumer-driven media to appear vacuous in comparison. The media can only serve trendy catchphrases, trendy stories and shallow interpretations of

them, interpretations that a fourth-grader can understand (really, some news guidelines say to write at a fourth-grade reading level). If one really wants to grasp reality, the media are not the place to look.

For those who want to learn about the world around them, remember that the world and even things as small as this university are hard to capture in an article or news clip that takes only a few hours to compose. Real research, which is neither fun (to most) nor escapism, provides what should really be called "news." More often than not, the consumer's news media are so meaningless that it is hard to tell what they are trying to say. It's important to recognize this and alter one's viewpoints and behavior accordingly.

Robert J. Jallal
Evllob@NCSU@yahoo.com. Gasoline will add to the escapist fantasy of burning Technician.

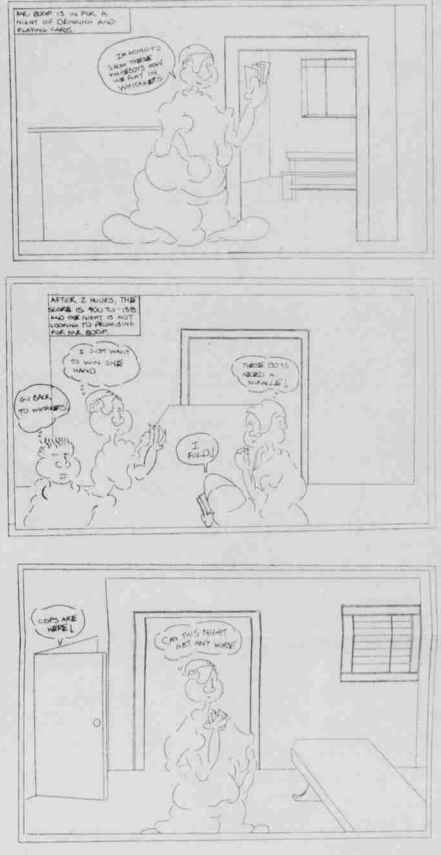
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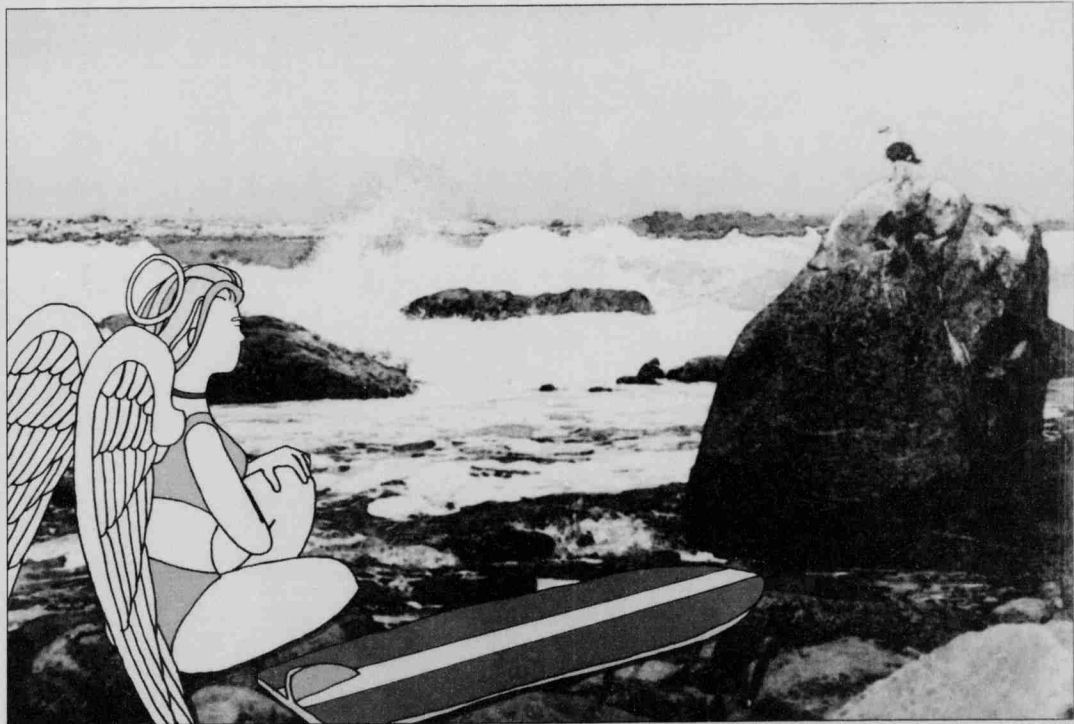
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hoop toons by matt tracey



doughboy maxine's spring break by marko



Sports

Clemson wins play-in game

◆ The Tigers move on to play top-seeded North Carolina today at noon.

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Will Solomon had an off night, but Clemson's leading scorer sank a go-ahead three-pointer with 1:45 left, as the Tigers went on to beat Florida State 66-64 Thursday night in the opening game of the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament.

Solomon, third in the ACC in scoring, was 3-for-14 from the field before his key shot, which advanced the ninth-seeded Tigers (12-18) into Friday's quarterfinals against sixth-ranked North Carolina. Clemson upset the then No. 1-ranked Tar Heels on Feb. 18 — the team's only victory in 13 games prior to its win over the

No. 8-seeded Seminoles (9-21).

Florida State was led by Antwan Dixon, who had a career-high 23 points, including eight in a span of 2:15 that rallied the Seminoles from an eight-point deficit to a 62-61 lead with 2:49 left.

But Solomon sank his three-pointer, then grabbed a rebound on the other end on Florida State's next miss.

The Seminoles still had a chance to tie or take the lead in the final seconds, but Adrian Crawford missed a three-pointer and the ball rolled out of bounds off Dixon, whose previous scoring best was 17 points earlier this season.

Edward Scott, a key player in the second half for the Tigers, sank two free throws with 9.9 seconds left to seal the victory.

The win broke the Tigers' streak of 27 consecutive ACC Tournament losses when seeded

lower than their opponents.

Meanwhile, Florida State ended its season with a school-record 21 losses; the 1951-52 team went 5-20.

Ray Henderson had 15 points and eight rebounds for Clemson.

The Seminoles fell behind by seven early and lost leading scorer Delvon Arrington 4:44 into the game as he picked up three quick fouls.

But Florida State got hot without its point guard, going on a 19-7 run as the Tigers went more than six minutes without a basket and finished the first half shooting 30 percent.

A crowd of 22,193 watched the first ACC Tournament game held in the Georgia Dome. More than 40,000 are expected for Friday's four quarterfinal games.

Miller, State's best shooter, of the 40,000-seat setup. "The rims are real nice; they've got some nice, soft rims. That should make up for it a little bit."

If State's shooters struggle tonight, the Pack may be best served to force the ball down low, especially with Boozer out of the lineup.

"We always want to establish down low," Thornton said.

Even with the absence of Boozer, Duke will probably have a size advantage. Six-foot-11 sophomore Casey Sanders will come in and start at center, while 6-foot-8 Mike Dunleavy and Battier will start at the forward positions. State's second-tallest starter is Kenny Inge at 6-foot-7.

As far as the other action Friday, North Carolina will take on Clemson at noon. Virginia will challenge Georgia Tech at 2:30 p.m., and Wake Forest and Maryland will round out the action at 9:30 p.m.

(12.8 rpg) but will have its hands full with the likes of Baxter and Morris.

"Certainly the one that I'm most concerned with right now is the Maryland team," said Wake Forest head coach Dave Odum. "They came into Joel Coleiseum maybe two or three Saturdays ago and played well early. We were able to come back and take the lead on them. But at that point, Maryland started to play very, very well and they haven't stopped since."

Maryland has won the last four meetings between the two, including an 81-71 victory at College Park, Md., and a 73-56 blowout in Winston-Salem this season.

UNC looking for payback against Tigers

◆ No. 9 Clemson will challenge No. 1 North Carolina after winning the play-in game.

Justin Sellers

Staff Writer

North Carolina enters the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament as the top seed, but the Tar Heels are limping into the tournament.

The Heels were the top-ranked team in the country nearly three weeks ago and seemed to be sailing toward the No. 1 seed in the East Regional of the NCAA Tournament. Then UNC was upset 75-65 by lowly Clemson and have lost three of five since.

UNC will get its shot at revenge today at noon thanks to the Tigers' 66-64 victory over Florida State in the play-in game.

First-Team All-ACC selection

Joseph Forte has led UNC all season. Forte, who is also a candidate for ACC and National Player of the Year honors, was the conference's top scorer, averaging 22 points per game.

In the past, the Heels have senior Brendan Haywood, who made the All-ACC second team and the All-Defensive Team. Haywood's scoring average dipped to 12.1 points per game this year, but his defense more than made up for it, as he topped the ACC in blocked shots with 3.8 a contest.

The Tigers (12-18, 3-14 ACC) didn't have the success that they had hoped for at the beginning of the season, but with the experienced play of Will Solomon and freshmen sensations Chris Hobbs and Tony Stockman, they are more than capable of causing chaos now that it's tournament time.

Solomon, who ended the regular season averaging 19.8 points

a game, was selected to the All-ACC second team. When competing against Top 25 opponents, Solomon handled the pressure quite nicely, averaging 19.7 points per game.

Stepping up big in the absence of senior Adam Allenspach due to injury, Hobbs has made a name for himself in the conference. He's shown signs of future stardom, racking up 7.4 points and 6.5 boards (first among freshmen) a contest.

Stockman, who may very well be the conference's freshman of the year, was the only rookie to average double figures, scoring 12.4 points a game. Stockman is no stranger to the Tar Heels, scoring 16 points, including back-to-back threes towards the end, to put the nails in the coffin of Clemson's upset win earlier in the year.

STATE

Continued from Page 10

finals before losing to a much deeper North Carolina team 64-54.

This season, Duke is coming off a win in Chapel Hill Sunday, a win that clinched the Devils' fifth straight ACC regular-season championship. The Devils are looking to earn a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament, preferably the top slot in the East Regional, which has its first- and second-round games in Greensboro.

"Duke is obviously one of the best teams in the country," Sendek said. "They're one of the teams that's clearly capable of winning the national championship. So we're going to have to play a very well-balanced game in order to be competitive."

While the Devils have plenty of happy thoughts from their

last outing (and their season, for that matter), State is trying to forget its last performance.

Wake Forest came in and slapped the Pack 76-58 on Senior Day at the ESA. State was dreadful from the free-throw line in that contest, missing 16-of-30 free throws.

Thursday, at its open practice at the Georgia Dome, State spent plenty of time shooting foul shots.

"Not only today, but probably just about every day since we started back in August," Sendek said. "Obviously that was a real problem for Sunday, and hopefully, we'll shoot them better [tonight]."

State will have to contend with shooting in a dome for the first time this season. The expansive Georgia Dome can wreak havoc on shooters who are affected by air currents. Depth perception can also be a bit tricky.

"It's an enormous place, and it throws you off a little bit," said

TECH

Continued from Page 10

as tough as we can be."

The Yellow Jackets (16-11, 8-8) will rely on the strong play from senior center Alvin Jones down in the paint and the sharp-shooting ability of Tony Atkins, who is deadly from long range.

Jones, a first-team All-ACC member, is averaging a double-double (13.1 ppg, 10.6 rpg) against conference foes. With 3.4 blocked shots a game, Jones was also named to the All-ACC Defensive Team, once again asserting himself as one of the top shot blockers in the conference.

Atkins, on the other hand, has recently caught on fire, increasing his offensive production to 15.4 points a game during ACC play.

"We'll have to play our best game to win Friday," said Tech head coach Paul Hewitt. "It will be a fast-paced game, very intense. It'll be hard-fought, with a lot of scrapping. But I imagine the offense will be at a higher level."

Tech won both regular-season meetings between the two teams, including a 73-68 win at University Hall, the only loss at home for the Cavs this year.

SHERRILL

Continued from Page 10

"It's unbelievable," Sherrill said. "[Tonight's] going to be even crazier. I can't wait for it."

Regardless of what happens against Duke tonight, Sherrill said he is happy with the way the season has turned out.

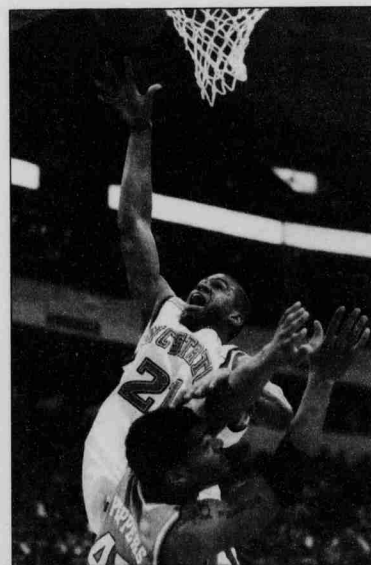
"I'm not mad about anything that's happened this year," he said. "My job was to play a role, and I did that. I'm going to come back as a more complete player next season."

PAINT

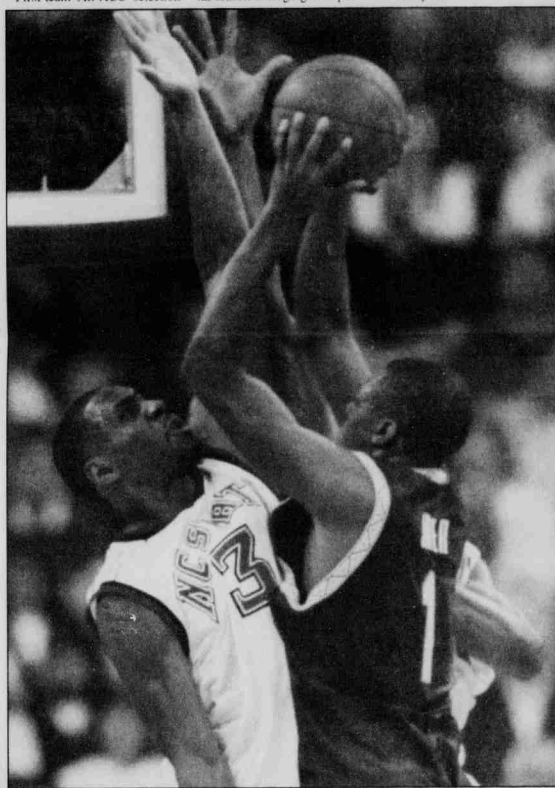
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games, including three in a row on the road, but a win over the Terps would increase their chances of getting an invitation to the NCAA Tournament.

In order for that to happen, Wake will have to ride on the backs of its stars — Robert O'Kelley, Darius Songaila and Josh Howard. O'Kelley's average of 11.6 points a game, as well as his senior leadership, helps orchestrate the Deacs. Howard and Songaila, however, pack a tough one-two punch down around the basket. This duo combines for more than one-third of Wake's scoring (28.5 ppg) and rebounding



Kenny Inge is averaging 12.1 points per game for the Pack.



N.C. State would like to pound the ball inside to players like Damon Thornton against Duke.

WILLIAMS

Continued from Page 10

Best Teammate award from head coach Herb Sendek. He has also been named the team's best screen and cutter.

In short, Williams excels at the things that don't always get noticed by the fans, TV cameras and print journalists.

"I've learned a lot from him," said freshman Marcus Melvin. "He taught me a lot about boxing out, grabbing rebounds. He's a good guy. He doesn't talk very much, but when it's time for him to show some leadership, he opens his mouth."

The senior from Ft. McClellan, Ala., isn't concerned about the lack of attention. Instead he just worries about improving.

"My personal highlight of my career is the way I've seen myself improve over the years, and it's the same for the team," Williams said. "The way we've improved and gotten better every year has been very satisfying."

This year has been a bit frus-

trating for Williams, however.

He came into the preseason in outstanding shape, ready to make a large contribution while saying "Savannah" to State.

Instead, he said "au revoir" to a healthy wrist. Williams broke his wrist during preseason practice and had to sit out the first month of the season.

It wasn't the first time Williams has had to deal with injuries, as he's been hurt every season but his first at State.

"When that [wrist] injury came down, it was a little bit hard because I felt that I was in the best shape of my career physically," Williams said.

"But I realized that this was something that has happened every year, and I would just have to get over it and come back strong. I wanted to be able to get out on the court and show [my improvement], and that set me back a little bit, but I think I've been able to recover and help out."

Williams has started sporadically throughout his senior year. The season highlight came against Syracuse, when Williams scored seven points in 23 minutes of action.

Regardless of whether he's

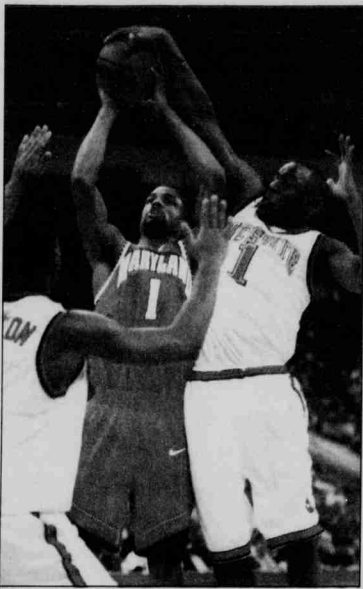
played 23 minutes or one, as he did on Senior Day against Wake Forest, Williams has been able to look in the crowds and see his mom.

Williams is from Alabama, but his family has ties to North Carolina.

"One of the reasons was that my family is up here, and I was born in Goldsboro, about an hour down the road," Williams said. "My mom wanted to retire and be in this area, so I thought it would be a good idea to come to where she was. She comes to most all the games, and she's probably only missed two or three in my time here."

For his part, Williams just hopes he is remembered for something other than the nickname "Corndog."

"I want fans to remember me as someone who came out and did what he was supposed to do and as someone who didn't overstep his bounds," Williams said. "I want them to see me as a player who always played within the team and never looked to do anything other than fill his role during his time here."



Damien Wilkins (right) and N.C. State play Duke today.

State's last fling

◆ **Tonight's contest against Duke in the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament could be the Wolfpack's final game of the year.**

Jack Daly
Sports Editor

ATLANTA — Say what you want about Herb Sendek, but N.C. State's head coach has had success in the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament.

Under Sendek, the Wolfpack has never lost its first game in the tourney and sports an overall mark of 6-4.

Compare that with Sendek's lifetime ACC mark of 26-54 and it's clear that he's had a few tricks up his sleeve for tournament play. "I think it says a lot about our coaches," said State's Damon

Thornton, who has been with Sendek for all of his tournament games. "They do a great job. Our coaches have the chance to put a game plan together, and in the past, they've done that. So we feel pretty confident in our chances coming in this year."

State (13-15, 5-11, ACC) will need an armful of tricks if it hopes to win its first game of the 2001 ACC Tournament. The Pack will take on second-seeded Duke (26-4, 13-3) tonight at 7 p.m. at the Georgia Dome.

Duke might be considered vulnerable, as the Devils will be without the services of starting center Carlos Boozer. But Duke had little trouble disposing of No. 1 North Carolina Sunday at the Dean Dome without Boozer.

"When [Boozer's] not in the game, they're unbelievable," said State's Archie Miller. "At times, they can hit three after three after three. It could put you away in two or three minutes."

"Without him in the lineup, I feel they're more dangerous. No knock on him, he's a great player, but for our matchup against them, it really poses a

problem, matching up continuously in transition."

The ACC Tournament represents the Pack's final shot of redemption for a year gone horribly sour. But State can forget all that with a task so simple, on paper, anyway, that it is almost refreshing — win three games in a row.

"Teams do it every year in March," Miller said. "There's teams that have no business being in the NCAA Tournament. There's teams that have no business winning their conference tournament."

State falls into both those categories. With its disappointing regular season, the Pack has no shot at an NCAA at-large bid. The Pack also cannot make the Tournament no matter what happens in Atlanta, as the NIT requires a team to have a winning record or be at .500 to be eligible. The only way State would finish with a winning record would be if it wins the ACC Tournament.

Such a run would give it the conference's automatic bid. "In order to go into the post-season, we have to win," Sendek said. "We're aware of

that. But I really want to focus our team on playing hard, playing together and playing as well as we possibly can."

Duke won the two matchups between the teams in the regular season. On Jan. 10 at the Entertainment and Sports Arena, Duke's All-ACC first-team teammates, Jason Williams and Shane Battier, both scored 22 points as the Devils won 84-76. State made a spirited run in the second half, but a Chris Duhon three-pointer with four and a half minutes to go wrecked any chances of a Pack win.

On Feb. 11 at Cameron Indoor Stadium, the Devils pulverized the Pack from the opening tip. The gory final was 101-75. For his career, Sendek has a 1-11 record against the Devils, but that one victory did come in the ACC Tournament with similar odds. In 1997, State was the undermanned No. 8 seed when it went against No. 1 Duke in the Greensboro Coliseum.

Using a lineup of six players — none taller than 6-foot-6 — State flabbergasted the Devils 66-60. State made it to the

See STATE, Page 9

Technician's

Hot Shots

- All-ACC Team
- First Team**
Shane Battier, Duke
Jason Williams, Duke
Joseph Forte, North Carolina
Alvin Jones, Georgia Tech
Juan Dixon, Maryland
- Second Team**
Brendan Haywood, Duke
Will Solomon, Clemson
Lonny Baxter, Maryland
Josh Howard, Wake Forest
Travis Watson, Virginia
- Third Team**
Chris Williams, Virginia
Steve Blake, Maryland
Darius Songaila, Wake Forest
Roger Mason, Virginia
Terence Morris, Maryland
- All-Freshman Team
Chris Duhon, Duke
Min Lewis, Georgia Tech
Tony Stockman, Clemson
Mike Jainer, Florida State
Chris Hobbs, Clemson
- Player of the Year**
Jason Williams, Duke (tie)
Shane Battier, Duke (tie)
- Freshman of the Year**
Chris Duhon, Duke
- Coach of the Year**
Paul Hewitt, Georgia Tech
- Game of the Year**
Duke at Maryland
- N.C. State MVP**
Kenny Inge

Sherrill says he'll be back

◆ **Freshman guard Scooter Sherrill is happy at N.C. State and is looking forward to next year.**

Jack Daly
Sports Editor

ATLANTA — Scooter Sherrill is tired of the rumors. Like the one that he is as good as gone from N.C. State after the basketball season. That he is sick of the Wolfpack's offense and his role in it and plans to transfer to one of six schools at season's end.

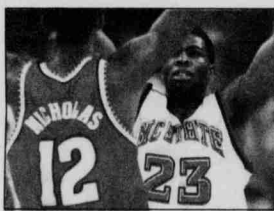
Ridiculous, Sherrill says. "I love it in Raleigh," Sherrill said Thursday. "I love my coaching staff, my teammates, everything about it. I want to be here because it's the perfect place for me. And I'm going to be here next year."

Sherrill was a McDonald's All-American as a high school senior last year. When he signed with State, many expected the gifted 6-foot-3 guard to star immediately, which hasn't happened.

Instead, Sherrill has averaged 4.3 points per game while seeing 13.6 minutes of action per contest.

With those numbers has come plenty of speculation. "All the rumors don't have any effect on me," Sherrill said. "I've heard all the crazy stuff going around about me, but nothing like that is going to happen. I'll be back here next year."

"I'm not going to run away from something just because it's hard.



Scooter Sherrill will return next season.

Those are just rumors." "I know there are going to be a lot of guards next year, but what is going to separate me is my work ethic," Sherrill said. "Not saying that those guys don't work hard, but I'm determined to work harder than them and get a lot of playing time and beat them out next year. I'm going to have that go-get-'em mentality."

Sherrill was all smiles at Thursday's shootaround at the monstrous Georgia Dome. Growing up in North Carolina, Sherrill said he has always dreamed about playing on such a stage.

See SHERRILL, Page 9

Williams prepared for final role

◆ **Senior Cornelius Williams has earned the respect of his teammates by doing all the little things well.**

Jack Daly
Sports Editor

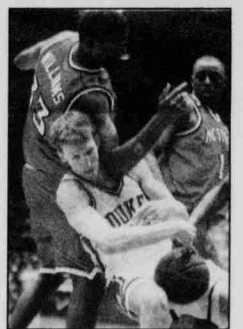
ATLANTA — Cornelius Williams knows his role for N.C. State. Simply, it is to be a role player.

Williams probably won't be the one who leads the Wolfpack past Duke tonight at 7 p.m. in the quarterfinals at the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament, if that happens at all. In fact, Williams has never made the biggest splash numbers wise (his lifetime scoring average is 1.2 points per game).

But there isn't another player that the team respects more than Williams.

"Big C's a very smart player," said senior Damon Thornton. "He doesn't get the opportunity to play maybe as much as he would like to. But every time that he's out there, he's giving it his all. You don't have to worry about Big C when he's over there."

"He always comes in every day, works hard and doesn't complain. I tip my hat



Cornelius Williams is set to rub elbows with Duke again.

to Big C." Thornton's not alone with the doffing of his cap. In 1999, Williams won the

See WILLIAMS, Page 9

Fireworks expected in the paint

◆ **With powerful post players on each team, Maryland and Wake Forest should shine in primetime.**

Justin Sellers
Staff Writer

Look for a physical battle down low when No. 3 Maryland takes on No. 6 Wake Forest in the final game of a jam-packed day at the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament Friday.

The Terrapins (20-9, 10-6 ACC) are one of the hottest teams in the nation right now, winning five straight games to end the regular season.

Three reasons for Maryland's recent success come in the form of All-ACC selections Juan Dixon, Lonny Baxter and Terence Morris.

For the second straight season, Dixon is the ACC's leader in steals with 2.6 a game, while also contributing offensively, with a scoring average of 18.5 points per game.

The 6-foot-8, 260-pound Baxter and Morris offer the Terps a pretty powerful inside-outside game. Baxter is right behind Dixon with 15.6 points and 7.3 boards per game, while Morris chips in with another 12.9 points and 7.8 rebounds a contest.

"We've had a chance to relax a little bit and get after a few things here," said Maryland head coach Gary Williams. "Obviously playing Wake Forest, a very good basketball team, we want to be playing well going into that game."

Meanwhile, the Demon Deacons (19-9, 8-8) have won four of their last six

See PAINT, Page 9

CORNELIUS WILLIAMS

WAS NAMED BEST TEAMMATE AND BEST SCREENER/CUTTER FOLLOWING THE 1999 SEASON...SCORED 7 POINTS IN SEASON-HIGH 23 MINUTES OF ACTION AGAINST SYRACUSE ON FEB. 3...EARNED FIRST CAREER DOUBLE-DOUBLE FEB. 11, 1998 AGAINST MARYLAND WITH 11 POINTS AND 10 REBOUNDS

Tech goes for sweep of Cavs

◆ **Georgia Tech swept the regular-season series with Virginia, but the Cavaliers are more than capable of advancing.**

Justin Sellers
Staff Writer

If the regular season has anything to do with it, the second quarterfinal game of the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament between No. 4 Virginia and No. 5 Georgia Tech could be an exciting one.

The Cavaliers (20-7, 9-7 ACC) have proven they are a dangerous team quality wins over Maryland, Duke and North Carolina during the regular season.

Virginia, which features a fabulous foursome in Donald Hand, Roger Mason Jr., Travis Watson and Chris Williams,

has come on defensively in the latter stages of the season, holding eight of their last 12 ACC opponents to less than 50 percent shooting from the field.

Williams and Mason both rank in the top 10 in the conference in scoring, combining for 30 points a contest. Watson is the ACC's second-leading rebounder, averaging nine per game, while Hand averages 12.7 points and dishes out 6.1 assists each time out.

"We're looking forward to playing in the ACC Tournament against Georgia Tech," said Virginia head coach Pete Gillen. "I think that to play better, we have to have good consistent guard play, not just one guard, but all our guards just take care of the ball and make good decisions. We've got to be a little mentally tougher and physically we've got to be

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