

4.



Ms. Marks...
Wherever you go,
whatever you do,
read Opinion.

6.

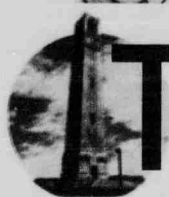


No Direction
You think Kelly Marks
has been here forever...
Will marko ever
graduate?

10.



Sunshine State
Gymnastics team heads
to Florida to compete
this weekend.



Friday
April 6, 2001

TECHNICIAN

www.technicianonline.com

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

Today	
Hi	75
Lo	62
Tomorrow	
Hi	81
Lo	59

Morgan concedes Senate President race



Conen Morgan gets support from student senators after he addressed the group Wednesday night. Morgan conceded Thursday night.

◆ **Conen Morgan, run-off candidate for Student Senate President, decided yesterday not to take part in a run-off election.**

Spaine Stephens

News Editor

Current Student Senate President and candidate for re-election Conen Morgan conceded yesterday to Michael Anthony. The two were to have had a run-off election for Student Senate President next Monday and Tuesday.

Morgan said he decided not to participate in a run-off because he "just felt it was the right thing to do. I'm at peace with myself for this decision. But I apologize to people who don't understand this."

Morgan is confident that the Student Senate will be in good hands with Anthony, current Student Body Treasurer, presiding. He said the Senate runs itself after a while, and that the Senate President is there to "start the wheels turning; it's an engine that keeps it going."

Morgan explained to the Student Senate Wednesday

night that his recent diagnosis with manic depressive disorder had been keeping him from getting well. During the speech, however, he made no mention of concession.

Morgan announced his decision to withdraw from the run-off election during last night's run-off candidate debate on "The Andrew Payne Show" on WKNC.

"I'm healthy now," he said after he spoke on the show. "I don't need to get any worse."

Morgan remains optimistic about his role in Student Government, even though he is unsure where he will go from here. He said he wants to stay in a position to work toward goals of the students, possibly in Student Government, and that he accomplished what he set out to do.

"I wanted to run, and did run," he said. "The bottom line is, I actually won the election."

Morgan said giving up the chance for re-election was not discouraging. He said it is a sacrifice he was willing to make at this time, and that it would open other doors for him to be active in different roles.

"In doing this, I'll receive more blessings and opportunities," he said. "I just have to be patient and wait my turn."

Candidates for run-offs hold debate

◆ **Candidates for Student Body positions took part in a debate last night on "The Andrew Payne Show."**

James Gorman

Staff Reporter

Members of the Elections Board and the candidates for next week's Student Body Treasurer and Student Body President run-off elections appeared on-air last night on a special "runoff edition" of WKNC's "The Andrew Payne Show."

Election Board members Tony Caravano and Amanda Devore were on-hand to explain the need for run-off elections. Caravano explained that candidates need 50 percent of the votes to claim victory.

Wednesday's results showed that none of the candidates for Student Body President, Student Senate President or Student Body Treasurer received the necessary majority vote in the first election.

The race for Student Senate President, where there were only two candidates, is a special situation, Caravano explained. There were over 55 write-in votes, which took percentage points away from candidates Michael Anthony and Conen Morgan. Since neither candidate received more than 50 percent of the votes, a run-off election was required.

After Caravano's speech, Morgan came on the air to extend his concession to Anthony.

The rest of the program was divided into

two roughly half-hour discussions - one focused on Student Body Treasurer candidates Roberta Hansman and Shaunis Mercer, the other between Student Body President candidates Harold B. Pettigrew and Darryl Willie.

At host Andrew Payne's prompting, each of the candidates reintroduced themselves, restated their platforms and engaged each other in an open dialogue to share questions and concerns regarding each other's policies.

Pettigrew and Willie discussed a wide array of topics in the area of potential policy orientation - first and foremost, policies regarding the future of campus and ticket distribution.

"I'd like to encourage students who feel strongly about the issue to speak out more," Willie said. "If we're in [the administration's] face, they'll have to move for changes in ticket distribution."

Willie also reaffirmed his commitment to creating an open dialogue between students and student government. He wants to encourage students to come and personally talk to him about their concerns and ideas for the future of NC State.

Pettigrew responded to critics who say student government has suffered from a "lack of vision" during his tenure in office as Student Body President.

"I want to focus on the future," Pettigrew said. "I'm determined to give student government a new 'face'."

Pettigrew also promised to actively review the tenure process for professors at NC State.

"A lot of students complain about times they feel they've had a bad teacher ... and without any kind of checks, the tenure system is open to abuse," he said. "I want to increase the weight of student evaluations."

Both candidates agreed on the need to sit down with all of this year's Student Body President candidates and share ideas on the future direction of Student Government.

The dialogue between Hansman and Mercer was dominated by discussion of financial allocation - the process by which various campus organizations receive funding - and student fees.

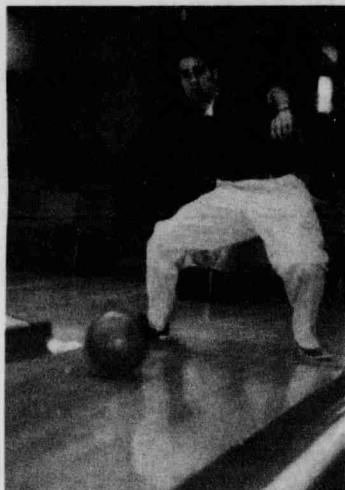
Mercer continued to advocate her "roundtable policy," in which she proposes to get student organization heads together to let them know how they can receive funding outside of Student Government.

"There are many ways groups can receive funding," Mercer said. "Groups can try things like fundraising and grant application - I want to help them see the other options."

Hansman questioned the practicality of bringing such a large group of people together to discuss funding.

"It's hard enough to get ten people to talk about money, let alone 60," Hansman said. "People get very territorial when it comes to money."

When asked what the general criteria are for proposing increases in student fees, both candidates agreed that fee increases should be seen as a last resort measure.



Like the pins at the end of First Year College freshman Jay Whitlow's bowling lane, it is anyone's guess where the pins of the Student Body run-off elections may fall next Monday and Tuesday.

Committee seeks fountain in Brickyard

◆ **A university committee seeks to beautify the Brickyard with art.**

Dominique Donato

Staff Reporter

The current state of the Brickyard is a subject much debated by members of the N.C. State community.

Now, a university committee is seeking to change the look of the Brickyard by placing a fountain near the flagpole.

"The design students actually study how aesthetically poor our brickyard is," said N.C. State senior Kent Dezendorf.

Other committee members include Beau Trincia, Kristen Madsen, Henry Newell, Virginia Hebert and Angela Kibbs. The committee was created through Alex Miller and the Scholars Council. Miller asked Charlotte Brown, head of Gallery of Arts, to advise the project.

"I think [Miller] felt they might benefit from my experience. I got involved because if art is to be placed on the campus, which the fountain is, it seemed logical to involve the gallery in their deliberations. There are a lot of steps and I know some of them. I could act as an advocate," said Brown.

Her advice has been of great help, considering the trouble the committee has had in getting the

project off the ground.

Dedication, not money, has kept this committee going. The vision, enthusiasm and hard work are all there - just not sponsorship.

Dezendorf started off with a simple vision: "When I first came to NC State, I came to orientation in July. It was so hot, nasty and sticky. I was thinking it would be good to have a spurt of water coming out of the ground somewhere to cool down."

Unfortunately, putting his plan into motion has been much more difficult. The planned look of the fountain has evolved beyond a spurt of water coming out of the ground.

J.T. Caldwell had previously envisioned a fountain in the exact same area of the brickyard years ago. But like the present committee, the money was hard to come by. That committee gave up, but it is doubtful that this committee will follow in their footsteps.

"What I've enjoyed so much about working with them is that they're so relentless. They just will not give up," Brown gushed. "I would be amazed if they give up now. If they don't give up, they'll do it. I just wish someone would front them the money."

Estimates for the project range from \$150,000 to \$200,000. There are, however, ways to cut the cost a bit.

"If we can avoid a pump-house altogether, it would be great. A pump-house itself is about \$60-

80,000. Right now, we're calculating for a pump-house because we don't want to short-change ourselves," Dezendorf said.

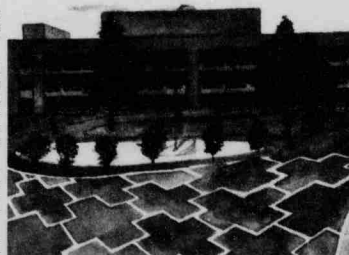
One might expect that there would be some university funding for just such a project - some kind of a fund for artistic improvement of the campus. According to Brown, there used to be exactly such a program in place.

"For a while NC had a percent program in architecture - 1/2 percent of the budget would go to architectural improvement. Then it got abolished."

Three projects were being considered during the age of the percent for architecture program. When bids came in, they were all over budget. As a result, the university applied to be exempt from the percent program.

As a result, Dezendorf and Trincia have been looking at other resources for the money to build the fountain. Trincia mentioned that the group was hoping to get money from IRC, Student Government and the Senior Class Gift. "One year of the class gift would almost pay for it," Trincia said.

Brown had also mentioned that if every student at the university offered \$3 to the cause, the proj-



An artist's rendition of a fountain scene in the Brickyard.

ect could be well under way. In order to get good funding, good preliminary drawings are the key. The committee has met with the University Architect to plan out the entire project.

However, with a project this big, the committee had to get help from outside of the university, adding to the costs of the project. "Under the pro-

SEEKS

Continued from Page 1

tools on campus, once you have a project that large, a professional firm is required," Charlotte Brown explained. In accordance with this, the committee has been looking for an architectural firm and getting their bids. They have also been making good preliminary drawings, using the university master plan as their guide.

If they are successful, the fountain could do wonders for the brickyard, which Dezendorf likes to call the "sea of bricks." The aesthetics of this campus would be much improved. On speaking about the fountain's artistic qualities, Dezendorf mentioned that "we're looking at the fountain to fuse together the round lines and straight lines in one unifying theme."

Trincia echoed his remarks. The fountain could really "activate the space." There is no formal entrance to the university, but seeing the fountain from Hillsborough St. would invite visitors into the brickyard. The fountain would also serve as meeting place for students, a definite place where they can find each other. The design acts as a timepiece, indicating the hour of the day by the way the light hits the stream of water.

This is not the finished design, however. "We still want to have the design open to the input of students. By no means do I want to put in a fountain that students had no input in," Dezendorf said. One of his ideas for the fountain was a pack of wolves exploding out of the bricks while streams of water gushed forth with them. No matter what the final design, the fountain would be a symbol of pride in the university. "It's something Carolina doesn't have," Dezendorf remarked.

If the committee can raise the money, the project should be smooth sailing from there. Apparently the spot they have chosen in the brickyard is the absolute best spot they could have wished for. "There are no power, Ethernet or water lines running out there," Dezendorf said.

"If we can get the start-up money this semester and beginning of next semester and get an architect officially hired, the hall starts rolling as far as the university is concerned in getting us funding." The fountain could be started in the summer of 2002 and finished that same summer if the money would be raised during these next two semesters.

Comments, ideas, and questions are welcome. Please e-mail kpdezendorf@eos.ncsu.edu.

Survey targets seniors

◆Senior class president-elect Rachael Overcash launched a survey offering seniors a forum.

Jimmy Ryals
Staff Reporter

The results for some positions in the April 2 and 3 student body elections may be in doubt, but one poll, sponsored by senior class President-elect Rachael Overcash, designed to gain from N.C. State seniors their perspectives about university life.

The senior survey, part of Overcash's campaign for the senior class presidency, will become a recurring part of her administration.

"We're going to seniors to see what the students want,"

Overcash said.

Overcash hopes for the survey to also serve as a vehicle for seniors to offer advice to underclassmen regarding what the best professors in a given area are and which social, academic and campus-related activities are rewarding.

Overcash is not discouraged by the low number of responses to the first senior survey.

"This is a very busy time of the semester, so the low turnout doesn't really concern me," she said.

"It did hit a wide range of people," Overcash said.

On the first survey, whose results were collected April 3, Overcash received roughly 30 responses from a pool of approximately 2,500 seniors she reached through notifying heads

of various departments and administrators of listservs throughout the university.

Among the groups Overcash contacted were students in all the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences departments; the chemical engineering, computer science and marine, earth and atmospheric sciences departments; members of the University Scholars Program; and Benjamin Franklin scholars.

The questions on the senior survey will change each month, with the next set of questions coming out in the fall. Future survey results could be used in determining a commencement speaker for next fall.

"The questions [on the first survey] are not related, but they are focused on the fact that these seniors

are a month away from graduating," Overcash said.

Surveys were sent as attachments to emails, the form by which most respondents responded to the survey. The survey is also located at www4.ncsu.edu/~roverca.

Among the questions on the first senior survey were queries about who respondents' favorite professors are, what their most memorable social and academic experiences at NCSU have been and what one thing they would change about their NCSU experiences.

Overcash also plans to include on each survey a question asking respondents for suggestions for future questions.

Questions about the survey can be directed to Overcash at roverca@unity.ncsu.edu.

Taste of N.C. State this Saturday

◆The festival will highlight music, food and entertainment from various cultures.

News Staff Report

The area between the free expression tunnel and Alexander and Turlington Halls will take on the atmosphere of a street festival on Saturday, April

7.

"Taste of N.C. State," an event organized by members of Student Government, will boast a variety of food, clothing and arts from around the community. Members of the Campus Life division of Student Government modeled the festival after similar events in cities around the country. The emphasis is on diversity and the celebration of

the coming together of different cultures.

Different booths will be set up around the area, some of which will be set up by different N.C. State student organizations for fundraising and publicizing. The festival will also recognize different kinds of music and dancing. There will be a deejay, as well as reggae and hip hop bands. The NCSU clogging

team is also set to perform.

The event is focused on the interests of students; it is affordable and will offer diverse attractions to a diverse campus. It will also aim to include the surrounding community in an effort to reach out beyond campus.

Any questions can be addressed at Taste_State@hotmail.com.

Recycle Me.



Feeling hollow this Easter?

You can never feel empty again.

Meet the One who gave us back our life through His death. Billions of people around the earth celebrate Easter as God's answer to our emptiness. Blaise Pascal, the great mathematician and inventor, said, "There is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of each man, which cannot be satisfied by any created thing but only by God, the Creator, made known through Jesus Christ." If you have any questions about Jesus Christ and His relevance for your life, ask one of us or see Tell Me More (www.leaderu.com/TellMeMore).

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Teresa Aguilera - Operations
Dr. R. Ayendez Alder - Foreign Lang. & Lit.
Dennis Allen - Agr. and Resource Econ.
Dr. Silvia Alonso - Foreign Languages & Lit.
Bobbie Baird - IEAR
Carolyn Baker - Textiles
Pamela Banks-Lee - Textiles
Dr. Jerry Baker - Dir., Student Health Services
Dr. Lenzie Barton - Textiles
John Bass - Centennial Networking Labs
Dr. John Baugh - Civil Engineering
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John F. Cudd, Jr. - Adult Crd. Prog. & Sum. Ser.
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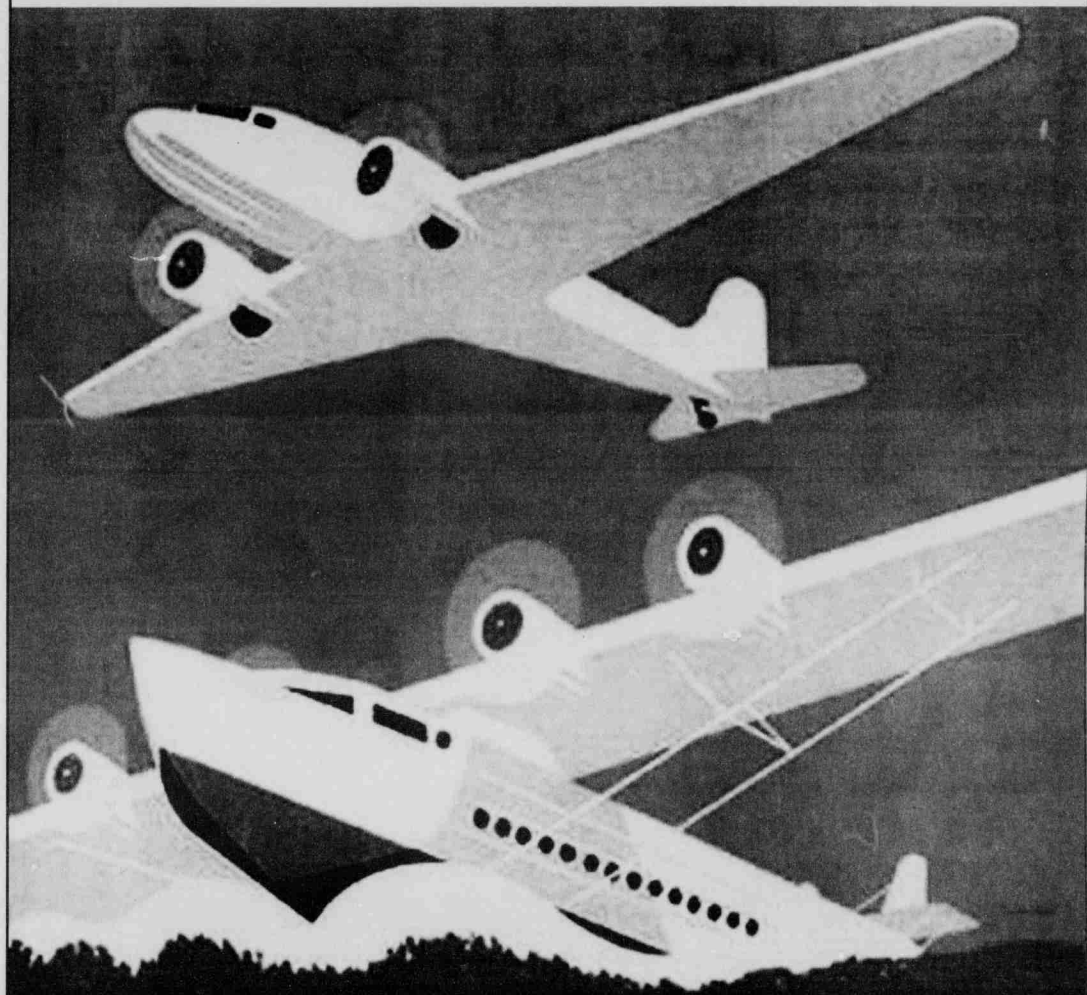
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minority and international students in addition to being one of the largest employers in the Raleigh area.

Tapping into this lucrative market translates into increased revenue for the advertiser. Disposable income in Technician's market exceeds \$120 million annually, which funnels back into the Triangle economy as rent, food, enter-

tainment, transportation, clothing and personal purchases.

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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Open to doubt

IS MIT POSTING COURSE MATERIALS
FREELY ON THE WEB A GOOD THING?

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology announced Wednesday it will begin a one-year program, OpenCourseWare (OCW), which has as an end-goal of making nearly all course material for all classes - including lecture notes and problem sets - freely available over the Internet.

Claiming a stance against the "privatization of knowledge," MIT heralded the plan, which would essentially choose the university's ability "to share our knowledge" over standard profiteering practices of online university courses.

At the end of the 10 years, MIT's entire 2000-course curriculum would be available without any cost.

So what, then, is the use of paying \$33,000 for it? That number is the cost of the 2001-2002 tuition, room and board at MIT.

In order to understand the true motive at play here, one need only focus on that pivotal word "almost." The one thing the university will not distribute freely is solutions to problem sets.

In doing so, MIT makes a noble but hollow gesture. Offering coursework, syllabi and test questions without answers gives Internet users the equivalent of a new computer but no power outlet.

It's not the questions alone that are being "privatized" in higher education or in information elitism in general. Rather, it's the answers to those questions. Education in any form is never a monologue - never purely lecture, it is always caught up in the gestalt process of dialogue.

Therefore, all MIT truly achieves in its OCW program is the ability to taunt the world via the World Wide Web in a juvenile, irresponsible, reprehensible game of "I know something you don't know."

Coca-Cola is required by law to print its ingredients on the side of every can or bottle it sells. Still, the Coca-Cola formula is secret. Genuine educational efforts are not about providing eager minds with information. Information alone is not powerful; it gains power through its medium. Online MIT class material won't help students learn physics any more than online foreign newspapers help Americans learn foreign languages.

Teachers, faculty, educational administrators must pursue students - not merely "post" to them.

MIT's aspirations will not result in anything free. Instead, there will be a great cost to those who have questions without answers, that cost being a very painful awareness of naivete.



The end of Marxism

This is my last column. My editor referred to it as "the end of an era." Sometimes, I get the feeling he's mocking me.

But, it's OK. I've been here a long time. Five years, six different editors, well over 100 different opportunities to inflict my opinions and anecdotes upon the campus - and now it's all drawing to a close. While I wouldn't call it an era, it does feel a little like something is ending.

Graduation is so close, I feel like I'm about to step on the hem of someone's gown. It's like I'm shuffling forward and if I don't pay attention, I'm going to bump smack into the whole procession. It sounds odd, but I keep forgetting that I leave soon. And that once they give you a diploma, you can't really come back. I mean, it's alright for games or anything you're contributing your alumni dollars toward, but just hanging around the place is usually frowned upon.

I stand here ready, though maybe not quite prepared, to move into the next stage of my life. I'm not sure if it is who I thought I would be when I was a freshman making plans. I think she'd have a better idea of where to go next. She probably thought other things, too, like she'd have lost those five pounds instead of gaining five more, that she'd have gotten more things accomplished, that she never would have lapsed into senioritis of the motivation-killing kind.

But I think there's also some things she never counted on. I know she wasn't thinking she'd have been here for five years. I know she didn't think that she'd have ties to Raleigh that could be strong enough to make her stay. And I think that she thought when she left here, she'd leave alone.

Well, while I still might walk across the stage by myself, I won't be alone. There's so many different people and things I'll be taking with me, and I'm better for them all. Sometimes it's a

good thing when your plans don't quite turn out. Sometimes it's a good thing to not really have plans at all. At least, that's what I'm hoping.

If there's one thing I've learned, it's that change is good. If I earned, it's realizing this in advance and not just after the fact. I'd be lying if I said I wasn't afraid of what comes next. I wish I could be more like those people who lunge forward into the unknown with gusto and vigor. I was always one to wade around in the baby pool instead. But I'm figuring out that change is like cold water. If you just jump in all at once, you'll get used to it quicker.

And I've learned other things as well. I've learned that friends come and go, but they go a lot faster when you let them. When you're lazy, when you're too busy, or you're just too busy thinking about someone else, they slip right out the back door. It's easy to blame different paths or changing interests, because staying in someone's life gets a lot harder when both of your lives are elsewhere. But the thing is, friends mean more than that and deserve more than that. At N.C. State I've been blessed with some that prove it to me every day. I'm really hoping I don't let you guys go. And, that you don't let me.

I've also learned about love. For those that have read my columns throughout the years, you're probably thinking, "well, it's about time." The thing is, it's hard to figure out just what it is I've learned about it. I think I've figured out that it has to do with trust, that slower is better, that it doesn't always have to have a name. I've learned that I have great patience and absolutely no patience at all, and that paradoxes like this are at the very heart of being in a relationship. That you can feel both your best and your worst with someone, that you're both right and you're both wrong, and that listening isn't always the same thing as

hearing or even understanding, but just listening at all helps.

I've learned about what scares me most. I'm afraid of change, but I'm more afraid of regret. Of the nagging feeling that you could have done something if only you'd have tried. It's the what-if-I-was-wrong and the if-onlys that seem to have plagued me up until now, and I'm really working now to have to listen to them after this. I don't want to pass something or someone up, and I especially don't want to do it because I was scared. It's a whole lot easier to learn from your mistakes than to have to live with them.

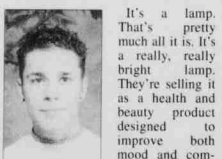
Finally, I've learned that even the littlest things can mean a lot when you've done them for five years running. There's all sorts of small things I'll miss that in their daily repetition have taken on significance. It's the nice ladies in the Visitor's Information booth that tell me good morning every day and the c-store clerks, especially the one that calls me honey. It's the grilled chicken sandwich every week, the Free Expression Tunnel, the way it feels to lay out in the sun on the Court of Carolinas.

If I haven't always loved everything about this school, I have loved my time here, from all the people who've filtered in and out of my classes to the sights and sounds that flavor my memories. And I'm grateful to have been able to write about this time and share it with everyone, whether they wanted me to or not. I hope that everyone is lucky enough to feel like they learned something when they leave here.

Kelly doesn't know what to write here. If you can believe it, she's at a loss for words. Help her out and send her some: kmmarks@unity.ncsu.edu. Copies of her book are still available, see www4.ncsu.edu/~kmmarks for more details. Oh, and Spooner. See? I got your name in here.

MARK2001 after photograph by T. Russell - thanks to wortham - apologies to Kelly

A bright idea



John Sico
STAFF COLUMNIST

to give it a shot.

Next, I'm really nice out, take note of how much more friendly people are. They're quicker to hold doors, more willing to give a smile instead of a dirty look. Everyone is in a generally better disposition. Instead of having to throw one's car into the lane in order to make a left turn, someone might actually let you in on a nice day. If the sun's shining, your professor might be more inclined to let class go early. People use any excuse they can find to get out into the precious sunlight. They even go as far as to sprawl themselves out on the few square feet of non-brick surface around our campus in order to better soak up the rays.

So I guess the sun really does have something to say for itself. It's not all burning redness and melanoma. Maybe those people who spend their time and money lying in tanning beds during the winter months know something I don't. I had always assumed that it was just out of vanity that the beds were employed, but I am now privy to the deeper meaning. It was actually to keep one's humor in check that those countless hours were logged under the lights.

While it's in the best interest of your disposition to get any sunlight possible, not all sun is created equal. No, in some areas, the sunlight is much more valuable, presumably for its properties of frame-of-mind alteration. This would explain why so many of us flock to the coasts every chance we get. The much

more potent coast-sun, while more difficult to access, is quicker to enhance the mood of an otherwise melancholy person.

I'm convinced, I realize now that the sun can help. What can I do to get more of this prized natural resource, besides getting bigger? Well, the way I figure it, I've got a few options: I could carry around one of those big shiny things that you always see people using by the pools in movies. The only problem with the face-foil is that I don't think they really exist; I've only seen them in the windshields of cars outside of the big screen. My next choice would be to wear fewer clothes than the normal American during the summer months. This leaves with me just going outside more as my final alternative. If I spend more time outside, I can get more sunlight, and thus should be in a better mood. That seems simple enough.

Going outside: A simple solution to the seemingly difficult problem of depression. When the sun is out, go enjoy it. Go throw a Frisbee, or take a walk. There are tons of things you could do. It'll be worth it, I promise.

John has decided that the best possible way to get sun is to move directly to the source. There are a few seats still available on the spaceship. Interested? Email John at riscaone@aol.com.

Attack on China
lacks logic

Nearly everyone knows about the aerial collision in South China Sea, a tragedy. A tragedy happened; however, it is potentially going to expand. This is a straight feeling we got from Justin Greene's "Conflict in the air" (April 3). It is telling the truth? OK, let's see what kind of logic it is based on.

Greene says China caused the accident because the United States was on a routine mission. We imagine Greene has a feeling when a fly buzzing around his head. So suppose another country's spy plane with electronic surveillance missions go critically close to U.S. territorial airspace around and around. Isn't that annoying? Or aggressive? There is a more straight logic from Greene that China is lying because it is frustrated by U.S. arms sales to Taiwan. So can we say the United States is frustrated by the unreturned courtesies? Is the United States lying? With a nice quote from U.S. military officials, China's fighter was once within 20 feet to the U.S. spy plane (who was closing to whom?). Greene believed this time the Chinese pilot lost his commences again (evidence?). According to his logic, we just wonder what quote from the U.S. Navy submarine, which hit into a Japanese ship with so many deaths, and say that United States' spy pilot again lost his mind, or was veering? A much more funny logic comes to my mind. Greene says China's statement is worth zero since the United States has not established what truly happened. Wow, so, truth is not established yet? How comes Greene's blaming China? Is he telling the truth or his version of it? China is soaked in sadness by the loss of its pilot, not capable to even blame the other. However, the United States issued orders and demands, acting angry and furiously, sending the spy plane close to China's territory. We can understand American anxiety, but how should we answer Greene's question: who is in the Cold-War style? I don't think we've ever questioned himself for that before making his words? If you run through Greene's article, I believe as an educated person as you are, you will find the education does give you an insight into how to judge things.

Lu Wei
Graduate Student
Nuclear Engineering

Chinese attack
'blind,' full of
'warped facts'

In the April 3 Technician, a column written by Justin Greene insulted all the Chinese. There are full of warped facts in this column, "Conflict in the air." The author tended to hide the facts and assumed a blind sense of superiority, scolding and insulting Chinese waywardly based on the imagination and distorted facts. Now, Justin, keep quiet and let me clarify your imagination by fact. This past Sunday, an American spy airplane invaded the South China Sea and tried to spy on Chinese lands shamelessly and

habitually. To avoid any unpleasantness, two Chinese fighter jets were dispatched to drive the spy away. The spy plane, however, without regard to the warning of Chinese fighters, attempted to bully them and managed to collide against one of the fighters by its left side. Imagine a big truck collides against a small car in the highway. With 60 tons of weight, the spy unexpectedly made the 18-ton fighter crash. The spy also got two of its engines damaged and thus it has to land immediately in the nearest airport to save itself. Please note at that time, the other fighter had the ability to send the spy to Hell immediately. But he chose not to do that. In the aftermath of this debacle, already strained Sino-American relations have been exacerbated by the preponderance of the lies and rumors issued by U.S. government. While it is common sense that the United States is trying to impede the development of Chinese economy for years, it made an error attempt to violate the relations. The South China Sea is considered part of China. The police man has tried to arrest and invade this area for a long time. Just imagine the similar case if there are some spies flying near San Francisco or New York; do you feel safe when there are a lot of airplanes flying over your head? Don't make any silly attempts to split South China Sea, Tibet or Taiwan, whatever, away from China. All these will be really make China angry. The United States is again clearly showing a double standard of human rights. While the detained spy crew members were taken to Hainan island for further sound, the missing pilot is still not found, who is probably dead already. In any of the U.S. media, no one cares about the death of the Chinese pilot. All the media are focusing on the detained spies. These spies are safe, because Chinese don't abuse captives. They will be, at the most, mercifully sentenced to four years in jail for spying. Well, aren't men created to be equal? While the American life is precious, the Chinese life is not worth anything? Now, Justin, let me tell you two historical stories in case you don't know. First, in 1962, an U.S. U-2 spy plane flew into the Soviet Union and was shot down immediately. The pilot was caught and sentenced to two years in jail. In the second case, in the seventies, a Soviet airplane flew to Japan. The airplane was dismantled by the Americans and then sent back to Soviet Union.

Now the detained spy crewmembers are permitted to talk with their diplomats and their family members to update their conditions. Chinese are really kind to captives even though these are spies. I really cannot understand some rude and arrogant remarks in the last paragraph of Justin's article, for example, "middle-finger attitude." If there is anyone who has that "middle-finger attitude," it is Justin himself, not Chinese. If one cannot maintain fairness in publicizing the attitude in Technician, he is not qualified as a staff columnist any more. And last but not the least, I am shocked that some Americans don't feel shame on their spy behaviors on another country tens of thousands of miles away, but recriminate the victims from a robber's view. Ridiculous!

Wenhao Zhu
Doctoral Student
Industrial Engineering

See FORUM Page 5

TECHNICIAN

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SG 'abuses'

The always-1-for-m at a live Technician reported this week that first-day voter turnout for this year's student government (SG) elections increased from last year's whopping 10 percent. This means that SG made a lot of suckers out of N.C. State students this week. As is tradition among most student governments and even real governments, NCSU's SG mostly abuses the group of people it represents by squandering their tuition money, doing nothing, and, the most, achieving mediocrity—all the while participating in shameless self-aggrandizement, culminating at its yearly election.

This year's purported increase in voter turnout represents a dubious achievement, as any increased response probably happened because of the more accessible electronic voting, not because of genuine interest in what SG does. In fact, most students most likely know the same about SG as they did in previous years, which is effectively nothing. Thus, their votes cast in SG's face of an election are based on ignorance, yet SG arrogantly interprets these votes as a mandate to perform the same pitiful job it has been doing for years.

Perhaps the most important thing to judge SG's value against is the cost it takes to run the organization. SG's budget totals \$226,204 with almost all coming from an \$8.85 fee that is taken from every student's tuition. Showing its close resemblance to real government, more than half of SG's budget goes to operational costs. SG's operational costs include \$16,854 for office costs, \$62,600 in administrative

support, \$14,400 for internal SG activities, and \$22,700 for officer stipends (yes, officers get paid for their positions). The student body president receives \$3600 a year, while other executive officers get \$3300, executive staffers share \$3600, and other officers split \$5600. All of SG's operational costs total \$115,954, a staggering 51 percent of its total budget.

To be charitable to SG, the other \$110,250 of its budget more or less reaches the student body via funding to various groups around campus and "helpful" events SG holds for the student body (of course, there is always the question of whether the funding of groups and events that are limited in appeal really constitutes helping the student body. I don't see any personal benefit in giving \$750 to the Conservative Leadership Institute, but I digress).

The 51 percent that SG takes from the tuition fee hardly seems like a worthwhile investment. The few bills that SG actually passes into "law" fall into three categories: helpful to students, intangible and virus-like, with most of the passed bills falling in the latter two categories. Of the 44 bills SG passed this year, only six can be considered directly beneficial to students. Even these six bills, though, are underwhelming; they include small scholarships and a small honors convocation at December graduation.

The second class of bills, wonderfully symbolic of SG as a whole, have no tangible consequences. Many of these bills come in the form of resolutions and proclamations, such as the SG proclamation that 4-H does have a positive impact on the student body. Undoubtedly, 4-H appreciates the recognition of a largely powerless organization. SG's powerlessness surfaces in the resolutions it aims to make, which merely amount to pleas to other universities' organizations growing its influence. "North Carolina State University Student Senate [requests] that

University Dining investigate University C-Stores and restaurants acceptance of Board Blue Boxes without verifying identification." Other useless SG bills state the obvious, such as the "Better Elevator Act" that simply repeats what is painfully clear to anyone who has seemingly plummeted to the ground floor in a Sullivan elevator. The remaining 23 bills that SG has passed this year only concern SG. In other words, most of SG's work (laws passed) has been to perpetuate itself, like a virus. Most of these bills involve senate rule and procedure changes, things that have absolutely no relevance or importance to the average student. To give SG the benefit of the doubt, its virus-like behavior may simply be resultant from a larger virus that says every organization ever has to have a bureaucratic governing body divided into branches and controlled by the cumbersome Robert's Rules of Order.

SG's credo, its final attempt to legitimize itself, says that it represents the voice of the student body to the administration. The notion that SG, considering the mediocrity of its job it does, represents the student body to the administration becomes quite undesirable. The misguided retort says that if one is unsatisfied with the current representation, then vote for different candidates. However, the "choice" of candidates is not the problem; it's the inability to choose whether to have student government at all. A lethargic, wasteful, black box of an organization can never adequately represent the voice of the student body. \$8.85 spent on a small pizza would benefit the average student far more than the collective hours of "work" SG performs.

Don't be a sucker; don't participate in the elections of an organization that is largely inconsequential.

I'm not lying this time. Get the facts from <http://students.ncsu.edu>. Email Robert at evill@ncsu.edu.

Chinese attack guilty of 'prejudice'

Chinese students are the second largest international student group in N.C. State. I hope to have a chance to meet some of them. This article is written as a response to Justin Greene's "Conflict in the Air" published on April 3. Justin said in his article, "While American officials have not established what truly happened, the likelihood of that explanation [China's explanation] is next to nothing." I have a question about this point: Justin says, "I trust" (trust?) "that the American officials have not declared which side should be responsible for this accident." This reminds me of the recent case of the blame of "preponderance of lies issued by the Chinese government" come from? Obviously, such words are just Greene's subjectivity and prejudice. Justin says, "From that sentence, we can conclude that no matter what the opinions of any other nations are, only the U.S. officials will tell the truth. This reminds me of the words: 'epivoltal paragon' and 'impertinence.' There is a Chinese idiom: a frog that stays in the bottom of a well can only see a small part of the sky. It is ignorant of what happens outside. Poor frog!" It is time for somebody to leave his house. According to the opinion of the author, since a Navy EP-3 is about the size of a Boeing 737, it is not nubile; thus, this accident must be caused by the pilot of the comparatively smaller fighter. That is so absurd. Let me give a counter example: suppose there is a huge truck and a sedan on the highway. The driver of the huge truck changes a lane without warning the driver of a sedan, who is driving on the next lane beside the truck. Unintended lane-changing leads to an accident. The sedan is damaged and the driver is hurt. With common sense, we know that the driver of the truck should be responsible for the accident. However, the truck is not as nimble as a sedan. In the end of the article, the author said America seeks to defend the rights of U.S. men and women in uniform and protect the investments of military. Well, please face the fact: U.S. men and women in uniform are alive; the safe and the life were not in any unfair treatment. Meanwhile, one of our Chinese pilots is missing and our fighter plane is totally damaged, when the young, handsome Chinese pilot's beautiful and nice wife is weeping for her husband, when the pilot's old parents are grieving over their son, here Justin told us to protect the military investments, a Chinese life not so valuable as an American? I have heard about arrogant and peremptory attitude of the United States a long time ago. This time I experience it so deeply.

Yeli Li
Graduate Student
Industrial Engineering

Lights out for Central Campus

The only disruption of silence on a calm, Monday evening was the squeak of my chair as I leaned back from my monitor to admire the soft copy of a complete and brilliant paper. Smug with my accomplishment, I enjoyed the tranquility, kicked my feet up and began to read my masterpiece. BOOM! The lights went out in Metcalf, and the life went out of my computer. Someone yells, "Hey, you all right?" and then I hear a few construction workers laughing their asses off. Did they laugh because my wife was wearing a sweat and blood for, was erased forever? No! They laughed at the guy who nearly choked himself after severing a high-voltage cable, which cut off electricity to 400 or more students in Metcalf Hall—then about 1,200 students when all of the towers were shut down. The Talley Center,

Bookstore, TOTA, the Tri-Towers, Carmichael Gym—all of Central Campus was without power. Of course, the Tri-Towers would suffer through the night. Save the premature demise of my paper, it wasn't a horrible inconvenience. The smart people jumped in the showers and got the last drops of hot water, while others flocked away from blank TV screens and dead computers to roam around campus. There was no immediate threat. As the sun sank, however, we began to experience the dreadful effects of having no electricity. No microwave. No refrigerator. No hot water. No portable phone. No instant messenger. No elevators. No lights. It was *Apocalypse Now*, again, except without that whole space mission thing. Though illegal in the towers, candles mysteriously started to glow in the hallways, which caused a growing concern about Metcalf's infamous fire alarm (yes, it was still active). Outside, a heavy darkness sprawled over central campus. Rats crept out of the corners and from behind dumpsters. Monsters lurked in the shadows. We were all on end. Some camped out at the library, but were thought to be homeless, so public services shuffled them off. Some stayed with friends. Some just roamed around campus all night like they do on weekends. For those who wandered back to their rooms, they found them black; however, the halls were lit by a back-up generator. Astute residents camped around the elevator shaft so they could do homework, and others began to worry about alarm clocks. If we couldn't get up for class in the morning, then would that be excused? Later, after I returned from Sullivan, where I tried to re-type a terrible paper by memory, I stumbled around my room to look with hands and feet. I kicked over a chair, smashed my knee in a dresser and by luck, found my bed. I lay down, where with every second I expected a stentorian foghorn-like fire alarm to blast me back up. What a thank for all that! Certainly not the university for hiring an incompetent contractor to carelessly dig right by Metcalf's main power source, but perhaps it was just an accident. They happen, right? Despite its possible negligence, the university was quick to retrieve temporary generators, which gave us back our much-needed electricity. The next morning, yellow tape all around the back of Metcalf, rumors bricked piled up around a big hole, a loud gas powered generator adding yet another couple thousand pounds of exhaust to the air, endless clanking noises, more grossly delayed construction—things went on as usual. The night the lights went out in Metcalf doesn't reflect NCSU's endless failure to repair its campus efficiently, does it?

Jonathan Smith
Freshman
English

Environmentalism is 'based on faith'

This letter is in regard to opinion pieces by Josh Humphrey and Richard Morgan in Wednesday's *Technician*. Both articles criticized President Bush for agreeing to a promise to cut carbon dioxide emissions as per the Kyoto Protocol. First of all, the United States signed the Kyoto Protocol but it has not been ratified by the Senate and has little chance of that because of strong opposition on both sides of the aisle by people who know that it would hurt our economy. So we are not committed to anything. Second, the debate on global warming is just that: a debate, not a consensus. The jury is still out on whether global warming is occurring, whether it's a result of human activity, and whether the consequences would even be good or bad. Blind acceptance of the environmental dogma (environmentalism is basically a religion, based on faith, not facts) excreted by the media has led many to hold opinions similar to those

of Humphrey and Morgan. Third, the Kyoto Protocol is well-known, even to those who signed it, to be completely useless. According to a climate model of the National Center for Atmospheric Research featured in *Science*, the Kyoto requirements would only reduce average planetary warming by 0.19 degree Celsius over the next 50 years. As if that's not pathetic enough, the cost to the average American could be in the hundreds or even thousands of dollars per year in increased energy bills. Fourth, incurred costs on our generation supposedly for the benefit of future generations, who will be vastly wealthier and thus better able to solve any problems than we are, is just another form of redistribution of wealth. It has as little moral justification as our current graduated income tax laws. In fact, it has significantly less when you consider how much richer everyone in future generations will be. President Bush should be praised for his honesty on this issue when many other politicians give him the pressure from people who were "morally outraged" by certain environmental policies. It is important for everyone to constantly question what they read in newspapers or see on television. Just because the news anchor is repeating something that was supposedly said by a supposed respected scientist, doesn't make it true. We must always keep in mind that the media's job is to get people to watch and read their product; and it seems the best way to do that in this country is to scare everyone to death over issues like global warming. Stay alert.

Darren O'Connor
Senior
Physics, Political Science

Alumni thanks

Thanks for making *Technician* available online. I graduated in 1976 and it is nice to be able to check in every now and then and to see the changes that are taking place on campus. Thanks.

Tom Cornher
Alumni
Class of '76

'Vagina Monologues' is 'filth'

As a North Carolina taxpayer, I am distressed that N.C. State sponsors outright filth as entertainment. I happened to find a typical 8.5"x11" litter paper in the street several days ago listing the titles of the program. I read one-half of it before it found speedily deposit in the trash bin. Female body parts referenced as subjects for serious discussion, display or entertainment falls far short of community standards North Raleigh citizens support. By the way "Romance and Juliet" is playing this weekend at Thompson Theater. Check it out!

Gerly Coleman
Raleigh, NC

Women's Center 'alienates' men, women

In the April 3 *Technician* news article about the Women's Center's sale of chocolate vaginas, a number of points were brought up that deserve further attention. The Women's Center should be designed to serve as a resource center for men and women to take advantage of bias-neutral services. Self-defense workshops, 24-hour crisis lines and pregnancy information are all justified operations for the Women's

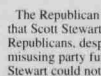
RULE OF THUMB

Minorities



In the first year after University of California adopted its Four Percent Plan, Hispanic and black student populations rose. However, under its complementary Ninety-Six Percent Plan, the majority of the student population is still white.

College Republicans



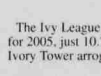
The Republican National Committee decided Wednesday that Scott Stewart, chairman of the national College Republicans, despite his committing sexual harassment and misusing party funds. The job pays \$50,000 a year. Scott Stewart could not be reached for comment. But Stuart Scott said of the incident, "boo-yaw."

Brown University



Researchers studying fruit flies found out that common hormone-based mechanisms are responsible for controlling the aging process. Oh, and also time. Time contributes some, as well.

Harvard University



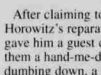
The Ivy League flagship accepted the fewest people ever for 2005, just 10.7 percent. In a related story, Harvard's Ivory Tower arrogance rose 89.3 percent.

SG election run-offs



The extremely low voter turnout suggests students don't really care about Student Government, so anything that can postpone the candidates from actually taking office is much appreciated. Way to go, non-voters!

UNC-Chapel Hill

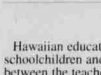


After claiming to be above the fray over David Horowitz's reparations ad last week, the *Daily Tar Heel* gave him a guest column this week, moving us to give them a hand-me-down, "thumbs down," a smackdown, a dumbing down, a foot-down and a copy of the Michael Cangelosi *How to Kill a Deadman* when the bers make one

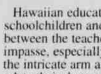
Spy technology



After days of inspecting the sensitive, highly classified technology in a U.S. spy plane downed in China, Chinese military officials discovered the technology was "Made in China," thus ending the standoff and making both sides happy. The end.



University of Hawaii

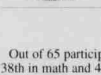


Hawaiian educators may go on strike, affecting 180,000 schoolchildren and 42,000 college students. Dealings between the teachers and the state government are at an impasse, especially because the legislators don't understand the intricate arm and hip gestures teachers are using to relate their demands.

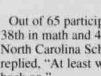
Adventure



Lt. Jeff Wilbur, 23, told the Associated Press that being stationed in Kosovo was "an adventure." In other news, Billy Jenkins, 14, told Universal Studios Florida that the theme park was "just like Kosovo."



North Carolina



Out of 65 participants, North Carolina schools ranked 38th in math and 40th in science. The freshly shamed North Carolina School of Science and Math in Durham replied, "At least we have a great athletics program to fall back on."

Women's Center becomes an activist group, rather than a resource center.

Controversial plays such as "The Vagina Monologues" or the sale of anatomically correct chocolate vaginas only alienates men and women with less radical feminist philosophies. It would be a shame if fewer students took advantage of the Women Center's resources because they felt as if the center no longer represented their interests. Unless the Women's Center changes their approach, I'm afraid the "may become the case." Let's encourage the Women's Center to reach out to represent the mainstream students on campus by apologizing if they were offended. At the very least, I'd hope that the Women's Center host more mainstream programs in the future to advance intellectual diversity.

Jason Cotter
Senior
Biochemistry

'Coming Out' column made 'errors'

After reading L. Jeanette Banks guest column, "Coming Out of the Comfort Zones," I felt the need to correct several errors made by the writer. First, her "modest" estimation about homosexuals making up 10 percent of the population is clearly exaggerated. In actuality, homosexuals make up about four to five percent of the population. The 10 percent number came from the infamous Kinsey study which suffered from flawed sampling (25 percent were incarcerated prisoners, four percent were male prostitutes) and legitimacy problems (many homosexual activists took part since it was voluntary). Three other studies were published by the Indiana University Press, the Journal of Psychology and Theology and the Playboy Press and they all found that homosexuals made up about four percent. Regardless of stats, since when did num-

right? Would pedophilia be okay if "10 percent" of the population engaged in it? The next problem was her statement that homosexuality is not a sin but "just another way of being." If we are supposed to swallow that, then why say anything about anything? Murder, theft, pedophilia, spousal abuse, rape and slavery are just "other ways of being." In actuality, they are really "bad" ways of being. I find it ironic that she would use such a relativist stance since she is just as critical of the "gay basher" way of being as they are of hers. Who is (dare I say it) right? The biggest problem I had with her article was that homosexuality is genetic. She offered no proof at all... just that "it is." Science and genetics haven't been kind to the gay cause. Studies have been done at the University of Queensland in Australia involving identical twins and homosexuality. For those who don't know, identical twins are exact copies of one another. If a gene and one is gay, the other will be also. This only happened in about 38 percent of the twins. Mutation could be the answer but if mutation happened in one, it would have happened in the other. Also, if there is a homosexual gene, the gay community should be shrinking, not growing. Gene's are only passed through procreation with the opposite sex. Also, there are many ex-homosexuals who attributed their lifestyle to a choice. I think it's time that the homosexual community take a step back to examine many of the notions it holds. There are many, serious questions that need answering if we are to legitimize such a lifestyle. If none can be found, then maybe they need to reconsider their own stance. For those of you who wish to respond with the typical "homophobe bigger" motto jumbo... grow up. Name-calling went out of style back in the eighth grade.

Michael Coutouzis
Senior
English LWE

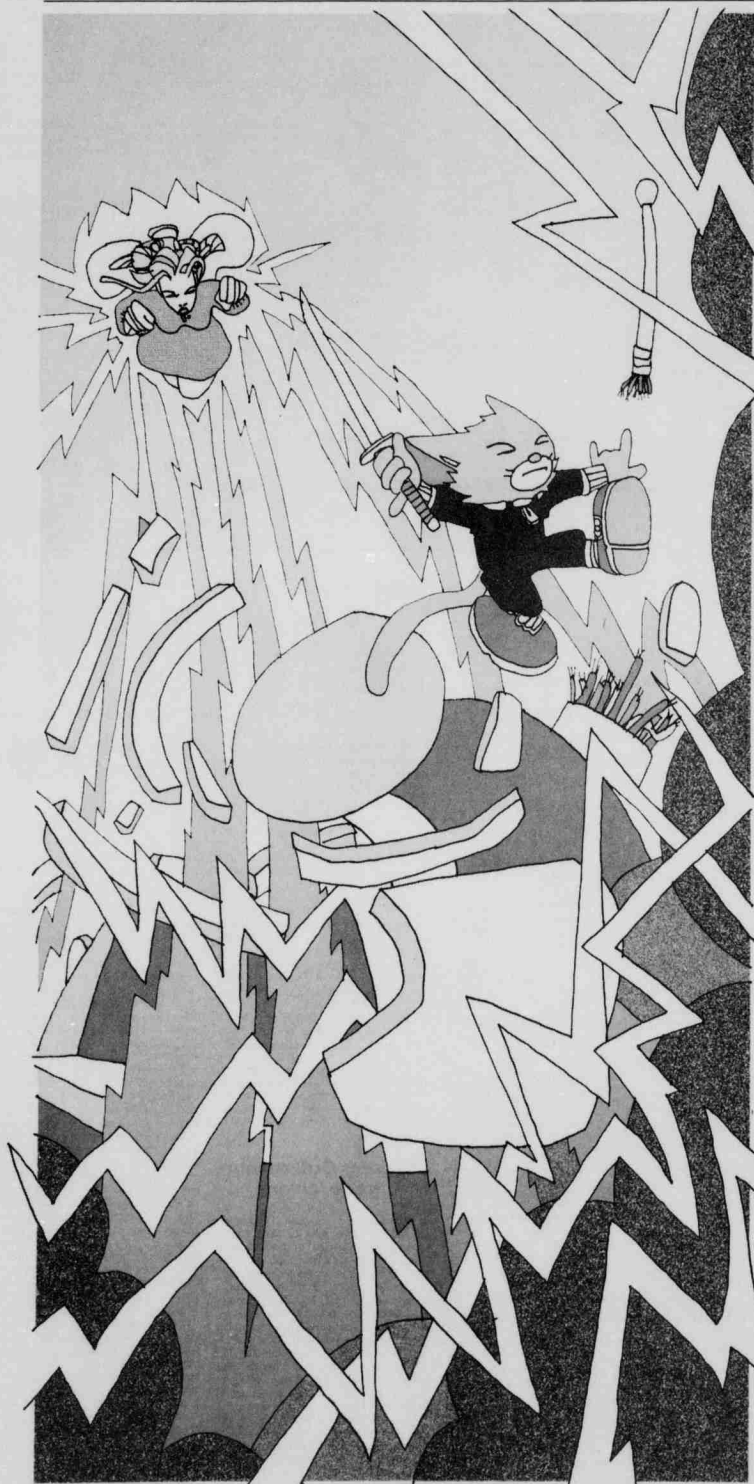
doughboy by marko

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 FROM THE FIREFLY, A RED ORANGE GLOW ...SEE THE FACE OF FEAR RUNNING SCARED IN THE VALLEY BELOW...

-BONO, BULLET IN THE BLUE SKY

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THE FELINE MATAJURO SWIFTLY AMPUTATED SEVERAL OF THE
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 THUNDERBOLTS OF GREAT FORCE IS THE CONTRAPTION DESTROYED!
 YEA! WILL MATAJURO HAVE A SOFT LANDING ON ALL FOURS
 AS A GOOD KITTY SHOULD?



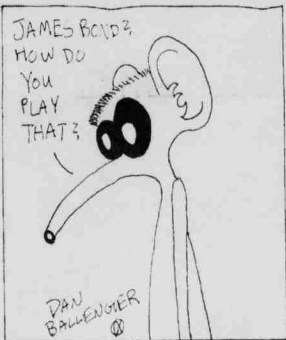
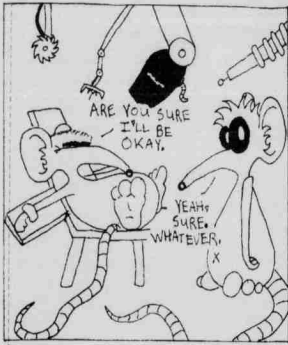
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Serious

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Sports

BUSY

Continued from Page 10

Right fielder Jamey Shearin is the current man of the moment for State. Shearin is riding a 10-game hitting streak and has a batting average of .286 and a slugging percentage of .459 on the season.

He had one of his better games against the Charlotte 49ers on Wednesday. With the Pack down by the score of 1-0, Shearin got his first crack at bat. Wasting no time at all, Shearin knocked the ball clear over the leftfield wall (one of three hits on the night), giving him his second home run of the year and State a tied ball game.

Also looking good for the Wolfpack is the freshman duo of catcher Colt Morton and first baseman David Hicks.

Morton, whose .322 batting average is second best on the team, behind Brian Wright, has proven early on that he is a powerful hitter. So far this season, he has 33 RBIs and 10 homers. Meanwhile, Hicks is right on the heels of Morton with the team's third best batting average, (.304), off of 31 hits in 27 games played. More recently, Hicks went 2-for-3 at the plate against the 49ers, scoring two runs and adding two RBIs to his season total, which now

stands at 17.

"Hicks and Colt have played outstanding," said Avent. "For freshmen to be able to play in the ACC and with a schedule they are forced to play, as far as the level of competition and number of games is concerned, it's a big adjustment not only academically, for a freshman to come to college, but as well as athletically. Colt and Hicks play outstanding and we're proud of both of them, as well as the rest of our

players."

As for the pitching rotation, right-hander Daniel Caldwell gets the start against UNCG Friday night, followed by right-hander Derek McKee against High Point and then lefty, Dan D'Amato, in the rematch between the Pack and the Spartans.

NOTES

Continued from Page 10

with the European Tour for the first time, after closing with a 3-under-par 67 for a 12-under 268 total.

Cabrera started the final round even with Petterson but it was the 23-year-old Swede who struck first, making a birdie on the opening hole. Two holes later the lead was reversed when Petterson over clubbed and could do no better than a bogey 4, while Cabrera birdied. It was a lead that Cabrera was never to relinquish as he picked up two more birdies without a dropped shot.

Petterson trailed by three with four holes to play but put some pressure on the leader with a birdie on the 15th and then another on the 16th, holing from 25 feet. But Cabrera kept in front with his own birdie on the 16th from 15 feet to set up his victory on home soil.



DiMarco leads The Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Tiger Woods' run at history began with a bogey. The guys with smaller galleries and lesser-known names were left to master Augusta National on Thursday.

Chris DiMarco, who played the course for the first time three days before, shot a 7-under 65 for the first-round lead in The Masters.

"I don't think anybody expects me to win," he said, "except me."

Just about everyone expects Woods to win. He started out with a 70 — a bit of a letdown for the world's greatest player, considering the greens were moist and the wind barely blowing.

DiMarco was followed by Steve Stricker and Angel Cabrera, both at 66, with Phil Mickelson, John Huston and Lee Janzen at 67. Then there was James Driscoll, a 23-year-old amateur and recent graduate of the University of Virginia.

He shot 68 to surprisingly find himself among the leaders.

"I'm trying not to think too much," Driscoll said. "That's what I did today. No expectations. Just line up and hit the shot."

No one faced more expectations than Woods, trying to become the first player to hold all four major professional titles at the same time.

Woods' second shot landed in a bunker, and he wound up two-putting from about 8 feet. He bounced back with three birdies on the front nine, but there was another bogey on No. 10 when his 3-foot putt did a 180-degree spin around the edge of the cup.

Mickelson, expected to be one of Woods' leading challengers, took advantage of the prime scoring conditions with four straight birdies on the back nine. "I waited till I felt good with my swing before I attacked the hole," Mickelson said. "Today was the day to score low if you were going to score low. I'm sure it's going to get progressively more difficult as the week goes on."

Outside N.C. State

Stricker made a run for the lead with an eagle at No. 13, knocking a 5-iron to 15 feet and making the putt. He followed with two straight birdies.

"I really didn't expect to come in here and shoot 6-under," said Stricker, who posted his best score in 13 rounds at Augusta.

Driscoll made the turn with a 32, equaling the lowest nine-hole score for an amateur in tournament history. He got back to 4-under by chipping in from the bunker at 16.

Chris Perry also finished at 68, as did Miguel Angel Jimenez and Kirk Triplett.

Vijay Singh, trying to become only the third player to win back-to-back Masters, was in contention with a 69.

DiMarco, 32, was brilliant with his irons, sinking all eight of his birdie putts from 15 feet in for a memorable Masters debut — the best by a rookie in 11 years.

At No. 5, DiMarco put his drive in the trees but recovered with a 6-iron that landed 12 feet away. He rolled in the putt, beginning a stretch of four birdies in five holes.

"Experience is obviously very big," DiMarco said. "I would love to have three or four years behind me Sunday afternoon, or even tomorrow afternoon. But I don't, so I can't harp on the fact."

DiMarco made a couple of nice saves from the sand. At No. 17, he blasted out of the right bunker — barely clearing the lip — to 2 feet of the cup. While he sank the putt, many in the gallery muttered, "Who is that guy?"

—The Associated Press

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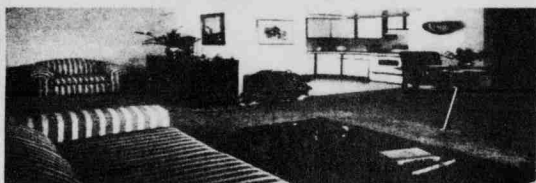
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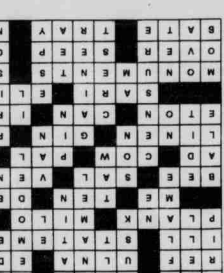
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Gymnasts get new life in Florida

◆ The gymnastics team squeaked into Regionals, but it's ready to prove that it belongs. The top two teams this weekend qualify for Nationals in Athens, Ga.

Jeremy Ashton
Sports Editor

Second chances can be invigorating, lending people a new sense of hope.

In some ways, a second chance is exactly what the N.C. State gymnastics team is getting Saturday at the NCAA Southeast Regional Championships in Gainesville, Fla.

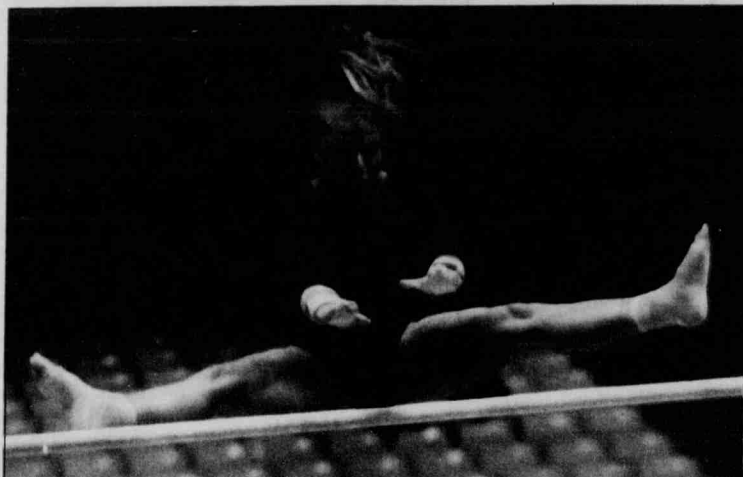
WHAT: In a normal year, reaching this point wouldn't have been an issue for the Wolfpack. It wasn't expected to be a problem in 2001 either, as State entered the year with perhaps its most talented squad ever.

REGIONALS Injuries, however, robbed State of some of its more valuable performers, putting that virtually automatic bid to Regionals in jeopardy.

WHEN: Yet the Pack scored just high enough in the last meet of the season, the East Atlantic Gymnastics League Championship, to edge Towson's regional qualifying score by .02 points for the final spot in the Southeast.

SATURDAY "With all the injuries and stuff we've dealt with this year, for this team to qualify for the NCAA Regional Championships is a huge thing," head coach Mark Stevenson said. "They worked overly hard and excelled above and beyond their ability in order just to get to that point."

WHERE: For the Pack gymnasts, the injuries have been a burden. But advancing to Regionals gave the team renewed confidence. The team adopted the slogan "Whatever it takes together" before it began its preparations for this weekend. To that end, assistant coach



BOTH PHOTOS BY JAMES CULBERTSON

N.C. State's gymnastics has been decimated by injuries this season. Saturday's Regional Championships represent an opportunity for the Pack to make amends.

Colleen Johnson said that a squad that has already dealt with so much together has become even closer. "I think having the anticipation of not knowing and then finding out that we made it was almost inspiring for us to say, 'Wow, we're fortunate that we squeaked in there by that, and we deserve to be there,'" Johnson said. "But now, it's our turn to prove that we should have been in there by a greater margin than that."

The Pack has spent the two weeks since EAGL preparing for Regionals by doing team events in practice. Usually, the gymnasts split up during practice so they can each work on one of the four apparatuses. But when they are doing team events, the six gymnasts who will compete and the alternate perform their routines while everyone else cheers them on as if it was an actual meet.

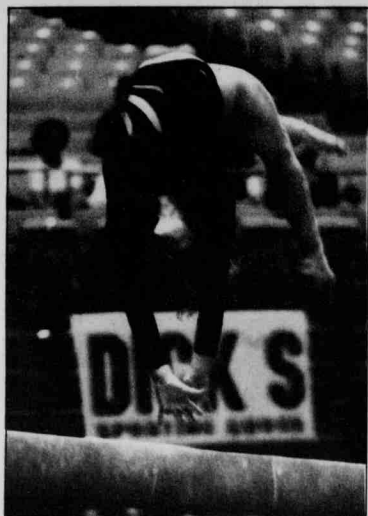
"I think it helps out a lot, especially on floor," Johnson said. "We've had the girls all go out and do all of their skills alone."

"Very often in practice, they go at their own time, at their own pace, and they pick a spot. And it is always different in a meet when you go out there, and you're doing your routines one after another, and you're doing your skills alone."

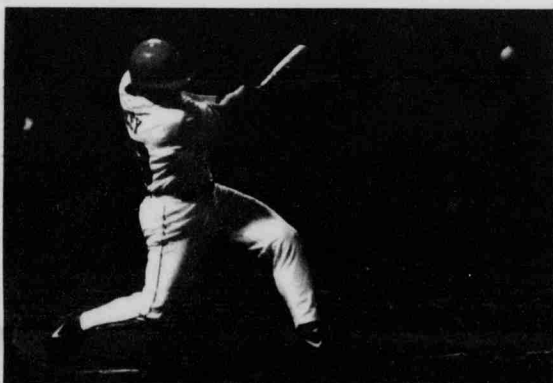
State will be joined by host Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Maryland and George Washington. The top two finishers in Gainesville will advance to the NCAA Championship meet, which will be held in Athens, Ga.

The Pack has already faced each of its opponents at least once this season, but Stevenson said that familiarity won't affect the Pack one way or another.

"It doesn't do anything in our sport to know what the level of their activity is," Stevenson said. "Our job is to go hit 24 routines. If we do that and other people make mistakes or just have an average meet, then we've got as good a chance as anybody of finishing second, third or fourth."



Busy schedule continues for Pack



JAMES CULBERTSON

Justin Riley and the Pack have won two in a row, one over UNCW, the other over Charlotte.

◆ After four games earlier this week, the N.C. State baseball team will play three more this weekend.

Justin Sellers
Staff Writer

N.C. State's baseball team has good reason to be tired, if they are.

The Wolfpack has played four games already this week. But instead of a weekend off, State has three games against in-state competition.

First up for the Pack (16-15) is UNC-Greensboro at Doak Field Friday night. Then on Saturday, State hits the road to High Point University to take on the Panthers at 1 p.m., followed by a rematch with the Spartans in Greensboro later that night.

"Obviously, the past two games, I think, they have handled the pressure extremely well," said head coach Elliott Avent of his team. "Those two games were, I think, our best of the year. We've had a big number of games this week and I'm sure our guys are tired and banged up. We're taking a day off and so hopefully we can get some bumps and bruises handled and continue our success this weekend."

The two games Avent refers to are State's mid-week wins over non-conference opponents. Tuesday, State downed UNC-Wilmington 4-3 while Wednesday the Pack defeated Charlotte 6-2.

Greensboro (17-13) will look to bounce back from an 11-9 loss to Wake Forest when it travels to Raleigh. The Spartans feature some quality hitters among its roster, but more importantly is what's on the mound.

Chad Hayes and Shane Schumaker are their

team's leaders when it comes to hitting. Separated by a narrow margin, Hayes currently has the right to be known as UNC's stronger hitter, with a batting average of .348 and 15 RBIs. But, closing in behind him is Schumaker, who has a batting average of .346 and 23 RBIs, as well as four home runs.

While Hayes and Schumaker can cause trouble at the plate, the true nightmare for Spartan opponents waits on the mound, in senior Ted Toler. Toler, whose current ERA stands at 3.06, is a very strong relief pitcher. Totalling 107 appearances in his career, Toler (4-1) recently got his first career start against Virginia. Although the Spartans lost to the Cavaliers, head coach Mike Gaski has plenty of confidence in Toler, whom he calls a proven winner.

As for High Point (12-15), the Panthers are recently coming off of a loss of its own. HPU fell to the Seahawks of UNCW Wednesday 5-1.

Although the Panthers don't sport a roster full of talent, junior second baseman Michael Lowman has proven he is more than capable of being a dangerous opponent to any team. Lowman, who leads his team with a batting average of .393, has 15 RBIs and one homer on the season. Against the Seahawks, Lowman went 2-for-4 and scored HPU's only run of the game.

On the mound, the arm of its number one starting pitcher, Kevin Burch, leads the Panthers. Burch, who has an ERA of 4.76, is 6-3 so far this season.

The Pack, however, hope to counter High Point with contributions from up and down the lineup.

See BUSY, Page 8



JAMES CULBERTSON

David Hicks looks to tag UNC Friday night.

WolfpackNotes

Red and White game set for Saturday

The N.C. State football squad will culminate spring workouts with the annual Red & White spring game on Saturday.

Kickoff is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. at Carter-Finley Stadium and admission is free. The situational scrimmage will feature the Wolfpack offense competing against the Wolfpack defense.

In addition to the action on the field, the Wolfpack band and cheerleaders will also be in attendance. Gatorade water bottles, 2001 Wolfpack posters and schedule cards will be given away while supplies last. The State ticket office will be set up inside the stadium to process ticket orders for next season.

All fan seating will be in the west side of the stadium (closest to Trinity Road). Parking will also be available on the west side and fans should enter the stadium complex through Gate C.

Men's golf ninth, Sanchez fourth

After finishing second at the Augusta State Invitational, N.C. State men's golf team is ranked ninth in the recent MasterCard Golf Rankings. The Wolfpack is also ranked 10th in the Golfweek/Sagarin Rankings.

The Pack is the third highest ranked team in the ACC by MasterCard as Clemson is No. 2 and Georgia Tech is No. 3.

Individually, David Sanchez is ranked as the fourth top golfer in the nation and the third-best in the ACC. In the Sagarin Rankings, Sanchez ranks 23rd overall with a 70.77 power ranking.

The Wolfpack returns to action on April 15 at the Intercollegiate in Chapel Hill, N.C.

Pettersson finishes second on European Tour

Former N.C. State All-American Carl Pettersson finished second at the Open de Argentina, two strokes behind Angel Cabrera.

Cabrera won his national title, co-sanctioned

See NOTES, Page 8