

Tennis Anyone? See how the Men and Women should fare down in Florida...



Thursday April 19, 2001

# NICIA

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## Travel agency leaves NCSU students strapped for cash

♦ At least one group of N.C. State students says that a Maryland travel agency left them with a raw deal.

Susanna Smith

Cautionary tales of products that do not work as advertised fill the nightly news shows and Consumer Reports, Perhaps there should be a segment on travel companies that do not produce the trips they promise.

According to N.C. State junior Lyndsie Muirhead and her friend Steve Walther, one of those companies is Endless Summer Tours based in Elliot City, Maryland.

The company, wharyland, a graduate of the University of Maryland. The company was unavailable for comment on the accusations and did not return calls.

Muirhead and Walther, along with a group of 13 other friends, decided to use the "expertise" of a travel company to organize their spring break trip to Jamaica this year. Starting their research early in the fall, the group checked pricing and accommodations, searching for the best buy.

Endless Summer Tours advertises as "recog-

research early in the fall, the group checkee pricing and accommodations, searching for the best buy.

Endless Summer Tours advertises as "recognized among our peer companies as outstanding in honesty, integrity and customer service."

As advertised on the Endless Summer Tours Web site, the package the group purchased included "roundtrip airfare, roundtrip airport and hotel transfers, seven nights hotel accommodations and all hotel taxes and service charges, as well as a free party package and FedEx ticket delivery."

The group also purchased the optional meal plan and optional side excursions.
"The total price for the entire package was \$750," said Walther.

The free party package, which is outlined as a daily schedule on the Web page, begins with an "Endless Summer Tours and Red Stripe Welcome Parry," including thirty hours of free drinks, said Muirhead.

The trouble started before the group left the States, when they, did not receive their plane tickets until three days before they were sched-

See TRAVEL, Page 3

## Re-create State holding 'color explosion'

♦ The campus beautification volunteer service organization is sponsoring a morning of planting flowers.

Students are urged to take part in a campus beau-tification project this Saturday, April 21, that will make the colors of spring more noticeable on cam-

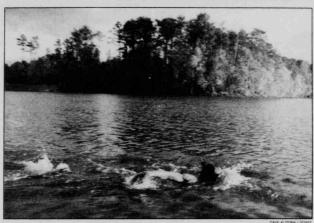
make the colors of spring more noticeable on campus.

Re-create State is sponsoring its annual "Spring Color Explosion" Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Students are invited to meet at the Bell Tower to plant flowers all over eampus, which will stay in bloom through the summer and into the fall. Breakfast will be served and lunch will be provided from Papa John's Pizza. Free of charge.

"It would be great to see Re-create State become as hig or bigger than Service Raleigh, considering we're helping out our campus," said event organizer Henry Newell. "We want Re-create State to become a tradition here at State."

Newell said the project will be finished by noon. Last semester, around 150 people volunteered for the campus beautification project. Pl Kappa Alpha Fraternity and the University Scholars Program were the largest groups to take part in the event.

event. "It's really great to walk around and see a bed of flowers that you planted and think to yourself," I did that; I helped make my campus better," said Newell.
Individuals and organizations that would like to participate can contact Newell at honewell@unity.ncsu.edu.



Richard Lawrence, a junior in Electrical and Computer Engineering, unofficially became the first person to swim in Lake Raleigh despite temperatures as low as the mid-40's.

## Lake Raleigh to add new dimension to Centennial Campus

♦ NCSU planners expect Lake Raleigh to be at the center of future residential and retail development on Centennial Campus.

**Trey Godwin** 

Residential units, an executive conference center and a future town center are three future projects that will increase the development around Lake Raleigh on N.C. State's Centennial Campus. Four and a half years ago, Hurricane Fran unleashed its wrath throughout the Triangle region. Not only were trees toppled and neighborhoods flooded, but the Lake Raleigh dam was destroyed. Federal law mandated that NCSU repair the dam in order to meet current engineering codes. As a result, the lake was recreated.

was recreated.
According to figures provided by
Charles Leffler, associate vice chancellor for facilities at NCSU, the
renewal of the lake cost approxi-

cost, he said.

"We felt an obligation to repair it because it was an amenity to campus," said Bob Geolas, interim coordinator of Centennial Campus. Geolas, like other university leaders, realized the potential the lake had for the burgeoning 1,192-acre Centennial Campus. Lake Raleigh is a potential hotspot for waterfront development. Several other lakes in Raleigh, including Lake Johnson and Lake Crabtree, are a recreational fanatic's dream. But Lake Raleigh will add another dimension. Shops, restaurants and other retail stores will sit adjacent to the lake in the near future and will provide Triangle residents and visitors with a unique atmosphere, said Geolas. And recreational aenthusiasts need not fear. "We will continue to work on all recreational aspects the lake presents for us," said Geolas.

"There are currently biking and

"There are currently biking and running trails, but we will look to

To maintain the habitat for wildlife, the university decided not to dredge the west end of the lake because it is shallow and wetlands

because it is shallow and wetlands are emerging.
When Hurricane Fran demolished the dam, it also created problems for the lake's ecology. Because the lake was full of debris, the leftover sediment particles settled in the lake. Therefore, water weeds were able to gain a foothold in the shallow water, which translated into a tasteless environment.

which thansace environment.

In March, the university closed the rebuilt dam after dredging 140,000 cubic yards of sediment from the lake. The average depth of the lake is now 4.5 feet, compared to 2.5 feet before the dredging.

Leffler said it took approximately 7 months to complete the dredging. The Federal Emergency Management Agency paid roughly 90 percent of the total cost.

Just as the lake is being refur-

See LAKE, Page 3

## **NCSU** student and employee to participate in AIDSRide

♦ The event will raise money for AIDS charities around the country this summer.

Diane Cordova

Staff Reporter

This summer, from June 21-24, 1,700 cyclists will ride 330 miles in an AIDSRide from Raleigh's Entertainment and Sports Arena (ESA) to the national mall in Washington, D.C. Of these 1,700 cyclists, Bill Walker, an N.C. State employee and Lifelong Education student, will be included.

For the event, each AIDSRider agrees to raise a certain amount of money. For the Washington, D.C. AIDSRide, each rider raised a minimum of \$2,400 in Delegas, \$11,5 million has been raised so far, said Walker.

How much of the money goes to the cause "depends on how much money you raise. The more [money] that goes to the cause," said Walker.

How much of the money goes to the cause, "said Walker. "Half of your contributions go to the Alliance of AIDS services."

Services such as AIDS courseling and the availability of quality health care are improved upon or made possible through the money raised by the AIDSRides.

The official beneficiaries of the D.C. AIDSRide are the

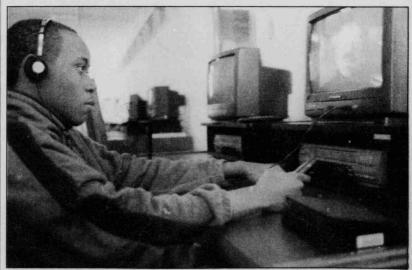
AIDSRides.
The official beneficiaries of the D.C. AIDSRide are the Whitman-Walker Clinic, which is a volunteer, community-based organization, and Food and Friends, which is an organization that works to fight the hunger and malnutrition of individuals and families afflicted with HIV/AIDS.
Walker found out about about

with HIV/AIDS.

Walker found out about AIDSRide through word of mouth from his friends.

"Through [my friends] I got the information all together," he said.

See AIDSRIDE, Page 3



Gabriel Modeh, a freshman in Computer Science, takes advantage of the media center in D.H. Hill Library

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

## Prisons' nasty secrets

AMERICANS CAN NO LONGER JOKINGLY DISMISS INMATE RAPE IN OUR PRISON SYSTEM.

For years, Americans have turned their heads to the existence of male rape and sexual assault in our prisons, except per-haps to make an off-color joke. Most like-ly, the closest most of us have come to prison rape is in movies, like Shawshank Redemption, which aren't real after all,

recurring to the control read and are they?

Reuters reported that, in response to continuous research revealing widespread male rape in our prison system, religious groups (Christian and Jewish Organizations) and prisoner-rights advocates (Stop Prisoner Rape, Inc. and others) are currently proposing legislation to Congress calling for prison officials to be held accountable for the rape going on in their prisons. This is a significant step toward dealing with a problem we have ignored, perhaps even embraced, in the post. There is no doubt administrative beads would roll if a prison that a particularly high immale homicule rate. We must treat inmale rape the same way.

The legislation would require the com-

treat initiate rape the same way.

The legislation would require the compilation of annual reports on rape in prison populations, with federal money possibly being denied prisons showing particularly poor results. Prison rape has been shown to lead to the spread of HIV and other venereal diseases and the creation of more rapists out of former victims. Discouraged by constant public apartly toward prison rape, Tom Cabill of Stop Prisoner Rape, Inc. cited the practicality of reducing rape in prisons by noting the great cost to U.S. taxpayers annually in increased violence, recidivism.

increasingly unsuccessful lawsuits and health care."

Increasingly unsuccessful havasins and health care."

Sadly, due to the structure of prison, there is only so much prison administrators can do to prevent rage, but acknowledging the nasty problem, instead of looking away, is a big step. The U.S. Justice Department is planning to offer prison administrators resources for procedures, screening and personnel training to improve the currently rape-friendly prison environments. However, destructive behavior is bound to occur when hundreds of men are penned up in overcrowded buildings for extended periods of time with few productive outlets, Separating violent and non-violent crimals in prison even more extensively than they already are would alleviate some haumful tension.

Human rights groups supporting this

harmful tension. Human rights groups supporting this movement deem prison rape and sexual slavery to be eruel and unusual punishment. It is definitely cruel, less unusual than we would like to think, but not officially part of sentencing nor officially implemented by the prison system. With tait in mind, all people, even larcenists, drug dealers and tax-evaders, have the right to sleep, eet and exist without the fear of rape or sexual slavery. This legislation, if made into law, could make significant headway into dealing with the surreptitious epidemic of inmate rape in our prisons, but the public must take action as well, no longer making the violent rape of one human being by another a laughing matter.

## Where have all the poets gone?



When I wrote last fall that "I believe there is more poetry in one syllable of Shelley, than all our modern writers combined," I felt I was right, not just because I understand that a poem has to meet certain criteria. but because true poets

Nothon
Lintner

as common knowledge that anyone can be a poet. Indeed modern poetry's only requirement seems to be that the "poem" contains either emotion or creativity or both, Yet by that definition weeping is poetry, as is clapping, suicide, masturbation, love, sex, etc. However, as anyone who has extempted to write a poem with any structure to it, such as meter or rhyme, will tell you, poetry is hard, and only certain people can do it well. Just as we aren't all engineers, doctors or musicians, so too we aren't all poets. When a person writes in a dairyor pens something creative to or she engineers, doctors or musicians, so too we aren't all poets. When a person writes in a diaryor pens something creative he or she has not necessarily created a poem and is certainly not automatically a poet. Yet that's what's curious about modern poets; minety-mine percent of them are self-pro-claimed. (I can call myself Fesus all day, but that doesn't make me the Son of Gold.) The point is this: a fractured prose piece devoid of meaning and poorly crafted may

contain meaning or creativity, but is it a poem?

I assert that by creating an audience that not only supports but revels in its mean-inglessness, modern poetry and its cre-ators have denstically diminished the greatness and rivialized the magnificence of actual poets and honest poetra. Some will ask, "Just what is an actual poet or honest poetry." It is a good ques-tion and one that has been debated by respectable literary figures without a definitive answer. Yet instead of asking "What is poetry." It us ask the more direct question, "What constitutes a poem?"

A poem is distinguished from a passage.

direct question, "What constitutes a poem?"

A poem is distinguished from a passage of prose in that it does not adhere to the same rules of design or formula. Poems usually contain rhyme, but not always, or have some sort of meter that dictates the quantity and quality of words that each line will contain. Prose, no matter how it is presented to the reader, cannot be a poem. For instance, the following lines are not a poem, but rather a fractured and meanigless run-on sentence: "Every morning I get up and long to run to See the sun As it rises in the cast where Death will make me live. Again. I see The. End."

live, Again, I see The, End."

I wrote these lines and I have no idea what they mean. I didn't conform to any style or restrict my writing with a metric or rhythmic requirement. The only thing that distinguishes the above lines from prose is that they are too strange to make a meaningful sentence and too fractured to appear as one.

as one. Modern poet or art apologists usually assert that rules such as those of the sonnet are limiting, inartistic or old fashioned. That is the main problem with all of modern art. Rules don't detract from the artistic expression of something; in fact they add to it. It's very easy to scribble something insignificant or random on a sheet of paper. Attempting to write a real poem or create a work of art within an established guideline is a challenge from which most prople seem to show away.

guideline is a challenge from which most people seem to shy away. For example, imagine if I had written this column with no structure, that every sentence was random and unrelated to the one preceding, what then would the read-er call me, a writer or a nonsensical joke?

## Unarmed and certainly not dangerous: Dudley's boys do no wrong Here's the stumper of the week: Would you steal your own car? Take a few moments to ponder that ... OK.



der that ... OK. Let me make it easier. Let's say easier. Let's say you drove a beat-up, 1988 Ford Taurus with 200,000 miles on

the gauge. Now, would you steal

Parisi
the gauge. Now, would you steal your own car?
Apparently, my answer to that question is yes. At least that's what N.C. State Public Safety (the kiddle cops) wants me to believe. It seems that on the Wednesday night before Easter, I was an alleged felon, on the lam, driving a beat-up 1988 Ford Taurus. Needless to say, it was not a high-speed chase when I saw the blue light lashing in my rear-view.
I know you're laughing now. But, come on — what kind of car can you expect a guy in college to have when neither he nor his parents make \$100.000 a year? That's what makes the part of the

That didn't seem to matter to Cpl. Dudley and his boys (yes, his name was Dudley). I could tell of 'Dudley was excited, the way his eyes gleamed as he started putting the pieces of evidence together, proving me guilt before innocent. There was no registration (my sister failed to leave that in the car when my parents gave the car

car, which was broken down in my driveway at home (my bad). The steering column was dissembled from a few weeks prior, when I had to repair beize of junk I call "my transportation" (yeah, Dudley, I hotwired it.). The key was a copy - you should always have a copy of your keys in case you lose the originals (which I had done). The vehicle identification number was 'hidden," which, in real-people terms, means it was dark outside and the number rests under the tint on the windshield. Regular Peter Falk, I tell ya. I could see where the night was headed when he told me to put my hands on the steering wheel while he "investigated" the steering column. Or when he told my date to put her hands on the dash as they asked me to step outside of the car. Or when Dudley said, "Looks pretty suspicious, don't it?"

When I think of someone who has stolen a car, I envision a jittery, nervous type, particularly when pulled over and interrogated. However, I knew I had done nothing wrong besides let my tags go. So I was pretty calm. Seems to me, a car thief would be not nearly as calm unless highly trained and experienced. Then again, such a car thief could be considered a professional. I seriously doubt a professional (let alone an amateur) car thief would even look at my car, much less take the time and energy to steal it.

So, after the mess was cleared up by

and energy to steal it.

So, after the mess was cleared up by the base; and the officers found out that my car was really my sister's on loan, they weren't done with me. Oh no. I had ruined their evening, torn up their winning lottery ticket. I would have to pay. As reimbursement for my heinous crime of "ficitious tags" (fictitious? but they exist), I have to go to court. Oh yeah, and I also got to spend an hour or so in the K-Mart parking lot, since my car was "illegal to drive," even if only for a mile back to my dorm. No ride was offered by Dudley, either, even though I had been pretty darn nice considering the circumstances. He was apparently on his way stances. stances. He was apparently on his way back to base, which is located in

We eventually made it back home, thanks to a friend. But something tells me that being pulled over by Public Safe-tee, on the outskirts of campus (read: their jurisdiction) is a bit wrong. I understand there was reasonable suspicion, as at first glance, I guess the car could appear stolen. But that does not change the fact that the car was not change the fact that the car was not change the fact that the car was not solen, and that as a result. I was treated in a rude and unfriendly manner. I guess I may be embellishing a little, but we, as students, do pay for the Public Safety force, thus we reserve the right to complain when our service is less than amitable.

the right to Comphan with on the Service is less than amitable. Honestly, I'm not so angry about being pulled over, accosted and ticketed for essentially nothing. I can handle all of that because, when it's boiled down to the last possible iota. I was in the wrong and took care of the tags the very next day. However, I don't think it was necessary to waste money and man-hours, as well as risk the safety of the other residents on campus because of my incident. I understand the concept of "calling for back-up," but those police were not summoned until after it could have been deduced that I was not a dangerous criminal and that I merely had the wrong plates on my vehicle.

wehicle.

Well, you know what? There's plenty to do in that situation. Set up speed traps for all those bastards who fly down campus streets at night, with no regard for pedestrians. Have officers partol the dark and unlit areas of campus, as there are quite a few, Crack down on the shady characters who trespass onto our campus at all hours, and who sometimes rob, rape and batter. Or better yet, in a phrase, do your job and let Dudley do his.

ieu Justin your horror stories involving Public Safety or any other authoritative figure. Email him at imparisi@unity.ncsu.edu.

# Stage fright



I don't consider myself a theater critic. I don't hang out with actors or get the latest gossip from Thespian Weekly and certainly wouldn't be caught dead watching a play on my own behalf — a least not without a least not without a

Miller least not without a land to least not without a landhed TV with land to least not without a handhed TV with land to least not without a earphones.

So I surprised even myself when I enrolled introduction to Theatre class this semester. I had no idea the things I would learn about theatries at this university. More honestly and embarrassingly, I had no idea theater existed on campus. Shame on me. I began this semester by attending class every Monday, Wednesday and occasional Friday with open ears, eyes and mind.

When the syllabus was handed.

occasional Friday with open ears, eyes and mind. When the syllabus was handed out on the first day, I paid close attention to one section in particular Dr. Russell was requiring us (foria handsome portion our grade) to expit 20 hours of physical labor behind the scenes to help produce the handful of plays Thompson Theatre would put on during the semester. The other option was to initiate, produce and present an independent project to tecles. So technical work it was close a class. So technical work it was close and felt it unnecessary to my learning of theater. I spent my required hours paining, sawing, installing, unscrewing, hanging, sewing and cleaning for an hour or two at a time during a span of almost five weeks on the other side of the curtain. I kept wondering how this was going to improve my acting skills. But soon I began to understand the tiring effort that must be put into providing a good performance. It's not just acting that makes a play exceptional, it's also the countless backstage efforts of production, lighting, costuming and make-up. In retrospect, the

technical work was a blessing in disguise. The course also requires students to attend several plays throughout the semester in both theater houses on campus. The course was quickly becoming more of an effort than I was prepared to put forth. However, after attending my first campus play, Brighton Beach Memoirs, my stigna toward university theater had changed. The play was magnificent. The set at Talley Student Center was elaborate, the actors were imprecable and the script was more than enjoyable. I had to keep reminding myself that it in fact was a play, and that I wasn't peeping into the lives of a Bronx, family on hard times in the 1940s. I, Miller Jones, actually had ap pleasant expenence at the theater. Someone please pinch me.
However, the other two performances I caught toward the end of this semester were far from the level of perfection I had witnessed earlier. The Boys in the Boud, more of a burden than a benefit, ran in the middle of March in the studio at Thompson Theatre. It was highly distasterul and offensive, and those were just the refreshments served at intermission! The play dragged on for hours with no point or moral in sight. The set was unimaginative and very lackluster, the acting overacted, the seass hard and the studio damp. Helt with a cold—a cold hard feeling toward University Theatre. The sigma was back.
Romeo and Julier in early April furthered my repugnance for thespianism. The set section to be only halfway finished with its protunding iron bars and minimal extra props. I'm not a fan of Shakespeare to begin with, but the gang of actors on Thompson Theatre's man stage was unimpressive at best. The final product seemed unprofessional. I was notedowined I had gotten my money's worth. Again, overacting and unnecessary longevity were symptoms of the play's sickness.

notably lies in funding. Very little money enters through the doors of the playhouses at N.C. State.

Costume makers are beginning to scrimp and save old wom-out materials. Backstage technicians use old wood from previous sets to produce the newer ones. The only money available to keep theater alive on campus comes via the billfolds and purses of playgoest throughout the semester. Just down the road, students at UNC Chapel Hill and Duke University can catch several wonderful, lavish and waard-winning feats of drama, comedy and tragedy throughout the year. Why not us? If our university were in the position to receive a larger allowance for theatrical enrovations, we would have the opportunity to put on better shows and compete with other nearby universities' performing arts programs.

For a century, our university has carried the streetype of being a school that caters only toward the sciences of textiles, engineering, agriculture and animal research and development. However, unbeknowns to many, several other parts of our learning institution have grown by leaps and bounds. The Colleges of Humanities and Social Sciences and Management have reported record growth rates as of late. Our school is becoming more diverse and I say we should also regize the diversity already in

should welcome it!

Those who fund this great university should also realize the diversity already in action and establish more appropriate measures toward meeting the needs of all facets of the school's campus. Taxpayers should be responsible for pouring more money into ailing programs on campus such as our theater houses, but more importantly, everyone should open their eyes to the changing culture here at N.C. State.

Miller, Miller. Wherefore art thou Miller? Email him at: MillerWrotelt@aol.com

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**Approximately** 

homeless women and children in the United States are en the streets because of violence in their homes.

#### LAKE

bished, the development of Centennial Campus is in full stride.

Geolas said, "We hope to have 300 privately owned and oper-ated apartinent-style units, as well as a 250-guest room hotel combined with 30.000 square feet of conference center space, and of course, the town center,"

There might even be a taste of true city life. Geolas said it's possible that some of the living quarters might sit directly above the retail shops.

Lake Raleigh is located on Walnut Creek, which drains 12 square miles of southwest Raleigh. In 1900, the Raleigh Water Company built a water treatment plant that operated until the creation of Centennial Campus in 1986.

The Lake Raleigh dam wasn't the only dam on NCSU property destroyed when Hurricane Fran plowed through North Carolina. Yates Mill Pond, south of Raleigh, was drained when its 250-year-old stone dam burst. That dam has been repaired and will become the centerpiece of a Wake County park dedicated to historical preservation and ecological teaching and research.

#### **AIDSRIDE**

Walker's friends' discussion about the AIDSRide is what sparked his interest. They are also participating in the Washington, D.C. AIDSRide. The other AIDSRides include the Heartland AIDSRide, which will start from Minneapolis and end in Chicago: the Northeast AIDSRide, which will start from Minneapolis and Bear Mountain, N.Y. and end in Boston; and the California AIDSRide, which will start in San Francisco and finish in Los Angeles.
Not all of the AIDSRide cyclists are athletes. Local AIDSRide offices organize training rides for those who register for the rides but are not quite physically prepared for them.
"Experienced riders in Raleish"

"Experienced riders in Raleigh ad training rides," said

lead training rides," said Walker.

He added that they practice on roadways and bike trails, and they ride anywhere from 15 to 50 miles during each training ride, which take place two times a week.

nde, wincrisace para a alcoholic bever-age company, is the AIDSRide's premier sponsor, said Walker. Once a person has registered for an AIDSRide, he or she will be mailed a Ride Guide, which is an information booklet, an official AIDSRide T-shirt and pledge form. The rider will be assigned a rider representative who will be there to answer any questions and to help coach the rider through the fundraising and training process.

rider through the fundraising and training process.
AIDSRide began in 1994, and the first AIDSRide took place in California. Since then the AIDSRides have raised \$84 million for AIDS charities around the nation.

More information about AIDSRide is available on the organization's Web site, www.aidsride.org, and by calling 1-800-825-1000.

#### TRAVEL

uled to leave.

When she called to check on the plane tickets, Muirhead said she was told, "We can't access that account; we can'give you any information."

Once in Jamaica, the hotel accommodations worked out, which seemed to be a good sten.

Then, said Muirhead, "when we got there, no one knew any-thing about Endless Summer Tours. There was no welcome

party."

The group was confused and Muirhead called home; her father called the company, According to Muirhead, the company did not know why she and her friends were placed in Montego Bay, Jamaica, as opposed to Negril, Jamaica, which are about two hours anart.

opposed to Negril, Jamaica, which are about two hours apart.

"The trip was set up for Montege Bay, but when we got there we found out that [the trip package] is only done in Negril," said Walther.

The group received orange wrist bands for the meal vouchers, which did nothing, said Murthead. She said the company told her the ineal plan worked in Negril.

"The meal vouchers were no good in Negril, so we had to pay for all of our food," said Walther. "The meal vouched with the said that the company told the group to pay for what they had to and then apply to the company for reimbursement.

"We were told [by the travel]

apply to the company s-bursement.

"We were told [by the travel company] that all of the food was included in the cost of the trip," said Walther. "We had to pay for food in Montego Bay because the meal vouchers did not work."

"We had to pay all meals and drinks out of pocket. We paid about \$520 per person above:

and beyond [expected expenses]," said Muirhead, "Endless Summer Tours was supposed to take care of these things with the restaurants,"

On the company Web page, Montego Bay is listed as a destination, so the company's confusion seems strange.

Muirhead said, "We asked if we could switch to Negril and they could switch to Negril and Walther said that the trouble didn't end with the meal vouchers. "Our travel was also messed up getting back to the arport [at the end of the trip]," he said.

"Our driver that was provided

he said. "Our driver that was provided by the company didn't show, so we had to pay for a taxi to take us to the airport." Mairhead said they were not the only group of spring breakers working with Endless Summer Tours that got a raw deal.

Summer Tours that got a raw deal.

"We ran into a group of people from Carolina staying down the road who didn't even have flights worked out, and another group without hotel accommodations," Muirhead explained.

Walther explained that Naidu was "really unhelpful."

"He told us how great the package was before we went on the trip, but we have not been able to get a hold of him after the trip to complain," he said.

The NCSU group is currently working with Student Legal Services to try to recover some of the money they spent, but Muirhead said, "The outlook is not hopeful."

Overall Muirhead said. "We Overall Muirhead said," "We Overall Muirhead said."

Murrhead said, "The outlook is not hopeful."

Overall, Muirhead said, "We had a good time. But if we had known we would have incurred all these expenses we would have used another company or stayed in the States."

'I thought I did a lot of background work, but my suggestion would be go with a local and reputable company," she added. "If you go local, they have a reputation to uphold. It might cost more but it is worth it."

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	Must be 18 - 45 years of age. Healthy, non-smoking males.  Must be 18 - 45 years of age. Healthy, non-smoking males and females (non-pregnant).  Must be 18 - 50 years of age. Healthy, non-smoking males and	Must be 18 - 45 years of age. Healthy, non-smoking males.  Must be 18 - 45 years of age. Healthy, non-smoking males and females (non-pregnant).  Call for dates  Call for dates

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## ZACK SMITH

#### NEW RELEASES

New RELEASES

This looks like a pretty thin weekend for new movies: there are only two major new releases coming out. The first is Tom Green in "Freddy Got Fingered," a fale of a 28-year-old man who moves back in with his parents, then refuses to leave. If the reports are any indication, this may be the most disgusting and tasteless of all the recent gross-out comedies. And if the box office receipts of those gross-out comedies are any indication, this may also bethe end of Tom Green's career. We can only hope. The only other major new release is "Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles," the long-awaited third installment of Paul Hogan's epic saga of one man's stringels between the restrictive

the long-awated third installment of Paul Hogan's epic saga of one man's struggle between the restrictive nature of modern civilization and the love he feels for a woman inexorally bound to that civilization While it has been over thirteen years since the last installment. "Crocodile Dundee II." the relentless, relentless demand for new adventures of the character has carried over into the present and will doubtlessly result in recordinate the property of the present and will doubtlessly result in recordinate the new film from that guy in those car and Outback Steakhouse commercials.

## OUTSMARTING THE BLAIR WITCH

Steven Speilberg's upcoming summer release "A.L" is based on an unproduced treatment by the late writer-director Stanley Kubrick, and like most of treatment director State and like me

Kubrick's films, the prerelease information is beingshrouded in secreey. The
new ad campaign for the
film is being purposely
vague about the film's plot,
but there are now some
sneaky hints about the world
of the film. A recent article
at the Web site Ain't It Cool
nearly two dozen Web sites
set in the universe of "AL".
a campaign that makes "The
Blair Witch Project" seen
pury by comparison: A
complete list of the sites is
available online at
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hate site) and www.inourimage.org (a robot activism
site).

There are also clues allegedly available on the flipside of one-sheet posters sent out to theaters, where certain letters on the posters' credits either have circles or squares drawn around them. The letters respectively form the messages, "Evan Chan was murdered," and "Jeanie was the key." Whether these messages pertain to the plot of the film or if they be just part of some sort of missinformation campaign is still unknown. Movieline magazine recently revealed some of the plot in their "Summer Movies." Preview "issue Apparently, the film deals with an artificial child named David (Haley Joel Osmeth Who is adopted by a couple (Frances O Connor and Sam Robards) whose

own child is in a coma. The couple proves unable to compete proves unable to motivate and a competency of the provesting the property of the provesting the property of the provesting the

#### New to DVD

DVDs are also thin this week, but there are still several interesting releases. Probably the best is "Billy Billiot." last year's undersated crowd-pleaser about a young British buy (Jamie Bell) with a knack for ballet. The film's a lot smarter and fuminer than most films of this top ean deserves a second life on video. Also out is 1988's big hit. "Working Girl." starring Melanie Griffith. Harrison Ford. Sigourney Weaver and Joan Cusack in a comedy about an ambitious secretary (Griffith) who gets a chance to pose as an executive and Griffith) who gets a chance to pose as an executive and broker a big deal when her double-dealing boss (Weaver) is rendered out of commission by a broken leg. Director Mike Nichols brings a level of intelligence and realism to this moderned y for the "80s, anyway) Cinderella story that briefly made Melanie Griffith a superstair. Then there were films like "Born Vesterday," "Milk Money" and more recently "Crazy in Alabama," but that's another story.

#### REST IN PEACE JOEY RAMONE

The ringleader for the immortal band. The Ramones, Joey Ramone, died Sunday of cancer. Ramone had been battling cancer since 1995. The Ramones got their start in 1974, with Ramone originally as the drummer. In 1975 the group became the first punk-rock act to sign a record deal. Although they never had a top 40 hit in the U.S., they re-energized rock and was the inspiration for other punk acts like the Sex Pistols. During their existence The Ramones played over 2,200 shows.

#### EMINEM SEEKS ANOTHER PLEA DEAL

After pleading guilty to pistol-whipping a man he saw kirsing his wife. Kimberly Mathers. Eminem now hopes to again avoid jail-time for brandishing a concealed weapon during an argument with rappers the Insane Clown Posse. If Eminem does indeed plead guilty, prosecutors won't push for jail time and instead will just give him more probation or top of his two-year probation sentence from an earlier case.

#### LOCAL CONCERTS

This weekend the Brewery has Da Funk Da Brotherhood and Cabarrus Street Allstars Friday, April 20. Bloodkin on Saturday, April 21, and Half Cooked, Ubangi Storm and GI Jesus on Sunday, April 22.

# COUNTING DOWN TO



#### CHANDLER CARRIKER

f there's one word The Countdown Quarter's Dave Wright wants you associating with his band, it would have to be "FUN". When asked how the songwriting comes about in the jazz, nock and R&B band, Wright quickly offers, "The song just has to be fun." When asked what he hopes folks take away from the Quarter's live shows, the quick response was. "Fun. I want them to just forget all their troubles and have a fun time." Even the band's bio hypes up, "the fun this group sparks at clubs," and, "the fun spun of literil new dise, "Pary Winh". Starting to see a pattern here? There's no navel gazing and no "near in my beer" with this group. "There is no navel gazing and no "near in my beer" with this group. Fused with spiraling hom nifis and pounding drums. The Countdown Quartet aims to be your cure for any kind of blues you've got and not burden you with some of their own. "We don't do any brooding songs," says Wright, who founded the bands like Six String Drag and the Tonebenders. "We don't talk about issues or our childhood," continued Wright, "instead we sing about the stuff old school nockers used to sing about cars, fun, girls and school."

Listening to The Quarter's latest release, Parry With The Countdown Quartet, images of Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee Lewis and the days before an school disk got hold of rock in "Glocme to mind. Songs like "Babe I Dig." "Brow Farre and my from power ballads and music with a message as you can get. That's not to say that is just a stale rehash of the classics. "We're using the trombone as a lead instrument," says Wright,

"and no one else is really doing that." Instead of trying to renvent the rock 'n roll wheel, though, the guys in The Countdown Quartet have just pumped it up a couple of notches.

pumped it up a couple of notches.

Members of the Countdown, Ouartet have come from every corner of the Triangle's musical map, with members having played in bands as diverse as Whiskeytown to the Junpstarts. The Squirrel Nat Zippers' from man, Jumbo Mathus, is even in the crowd, adding guitar and vocals to the mix. But heading out to a Countdown Quartet show, don't go expecting anything you'd hear from any of those bands. While not out of discrepancy of the dear from any of the server espect for what they be made in the area are doing. Wright combesses that it has no impact on what they do, "We're completely influenced by the old stuff," he adds. adds

influenced by the old suiff." he adds.

The fun the band has on stage is just as evident on record with the yelled-out call and response chorus of "All Night" and Everybody Ready" and the non-sensical verses of "Crispy Like A Free Toe. "The best expression of the Quartet's hedonistic pursuits their live show, which is just as much at home in a dark smoky club as it is at a weeding party. The experience of their live show was best be expressed by Dave Wright's story of one of their strangest stage experiences. "We were playing a show down at Sadlack's," says Wright, "and this worman got up and just started beating herself." It below the belt]. "Not quite a Pentecostal revival, the Countdown Quartet's shows are nothing more than unapologetic fun, which when you think about it is the very meaning of rock n' roll.

The Countdown Quartet plays at the Humble Pie in Raleigh this

The Countdown Quartet plays at the Humble Pie in Raleigh this Friday, April 20,

IMAGE FROM ERAT

#### UNDERGROUND



A Tailb Kweli & Hi-tel Reflection Eternal Rawku Wlu-Tang Clan The W Lou 3 Outkast Stankonia Anst 4 Beatnuts No Escapin' This Lou 5 Deltron 3030 Deltron 3030 75 ari Deltron 3030 75 and 6 Jay-Z The Dynasty Roc la Familla Roc a Folia 7 Black Eyes Peas Bridging the Gap Interscope 8 via Lyricist Lounge Vol.2 Rawkus

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## A HEARTWARMING NIGHT

with a

#### STAGGERING GENIUS

OST BOOK READ-INGS don't involve the author picking sides in a battle of rhino vs. bear (rhino, by the way, hands down). Most readings don't include the author bringing an astrophysicist from the audience on stage to answer questions of space and time. Most authors don't stop when they read and ask, "Is this working so far?" or declare. 'This is my bearded man voice."

But Dave Eggers, author of "A Hearthreaking Work of Staggering Genius" (AHWOSG) and editor of Timothy McSweeney's Quarterly Concern, is not like most writers. "He thinks, 'Let's not do the expected thing; let's play with it.' And then he does it.' said Tom Campbell, manager of Durham's Regulator Bookstore, which sponsored the reading/signing

fundraiser for Triangle Hospice.

Despite high expectations from some 500 fans meeting in the Durham Armory Wednesday night and an introductory tall tale

Durham Armory Wednesday night and an introductory tall tale biography from fellow McSweeney's editor Paul Maliszewski, Eggers himself was amazingly human.

Chewing gum, offhandedly scratching the (inflamous nest of drak cuirfs that rests upon his head and swaying his foot, toes-to-the-floor, with the awkward slyness of a sixth-grader courting a first date, Eggers started the evening with a very illiterati "Hi. Where are y'all from!" followed by the autobiographer's half-frustrated admission that "everything in my life in the last eight years, you guys know, I remember reading that." The hour and a half that followed was nothing short of an act of Ringling Bros. proportions. It was utterly enthralling, the pure Vaudeville of it: him strutting an



with the exhibitantion of performance.

The book wasn't the center-piece. The author wasn't the cen-terpiece, The flocus instead was the actual dialogue that exists between reader and write. It was the ideas themselves that were beautiful—overhead projections of sadistic flary tales, gliner and paint thrown with Jackson Pollock whimsy onto his book's largely blank opening pages,

NORTH AMERICA RAIL PASS

to put it down.

"I came here tonight because I wanted to see if [Eggers] was normal, because he sounded a lot like me."

Charles Nichols, 19, is living in Raleigh while he takes time off from college to hike the Appalachian Trail.

"The book was very — I think subconsciously like the Appalachian Trail.

"The book was very — I think subconsciously like that, and it's mice to see writers who do that so well." he agreed. "I expected him to be entertaining. I kinda thought he'd come from the celling I settably checked for that."

Such hopes for iconoclasm were not anomalous. Marcel Molina, 19, is a Rice University student who drove 20 hours from Houston to see Eggers.

"This is the closest [Eggers] reading to Houston besides St. Louis," he explained. "I thought the event] was important in that I'm 19 and I'm in the age group for the next literary movement. [Eggers is] important for upcoming writers."

Eggers made the effort to come to Durham because of McIsweeney's relationship with Regulator. I how the book, It's something new.a great combisioners and just great positive things and just great positive

energy and creativity."

When, during booksigning, Nichols asked Eggers why he wrote the book, Eggers wrote, "I wrote it because I couldn't get past it — for better or worse."

more treatment of the property of the property

audience.

Perhaps it's possible that an author's greatest hope isn't getting on the New York Times besteller's list or winning awards and accolades and the hearts of dozens, but instead that the simple inth and beauty of experience itself provides the reader or the audience with that essential something they may use when they finally "get it." Eggers may not be the most successful author to have done that. But, then again, he might.

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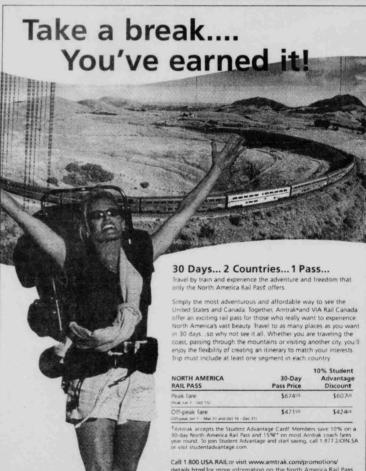




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# Sports

#### **PITCH**

ligament over a month and a half ago, but closed out the ninth without allowing a hit. Each recorded two strikeouts and held off any chance of a late Monarch rally. "It's stiff, but once you get going, it's all right," said Stephenson. "This guy [Miller] is the one that had the real injury."

The Pack has won nine of its last 12 games. Before Wednesday's victory, State had lost six in a row against ODL, dating back to March 3, 1998.

"We needed this one after they

"We needed this one after they have whooped us the past couple years," said Esposito.

Next up for the Pack is a three game weekend series at Wake Forest, which will be the first meetings between the teams this season.



The Pack got past Old Dominion, and it wasn't even close

#### **TENNIS**

above No. 50. Wake (14-7, 7-1), which has been ACC runner-up to Duke for the last six seasons, is again

the second seed. The Deacons' only conference loss of the year came against Duke — a 7-0 thrashing on April 11.

Against the stifling competition, six of the Pack's seven conference losses have come by 6-1 or 7-0 counts.

We're waiting for the second of the pack of the

"We're waiting for that one match of the year when every-

body steps out on the court and everybody up to the level everybody up to the level they're capable of," Louthian said.

Today could be the Pack's last chance of the season to pull it off. The winner of State's match with Clemson will take on Wake Friday at noon.



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# ACC Spring

## Women's tennis undertakes

tough ACC challenge

♦ The N.C. State women's tennis team kicks off the ACC Springfest festivities in Orlanda against Clamson

Jerry Moore

In the land of Mickey Mouse, the N.C. State women's tennis might need wiz-ards' hats and broomsticks to conjure up any magic against some of the toughest

the doubles point. Kristin Lam also picked up an important win at No. 1 singles with a close 7-5, 7-5 win over Clemson's Anna Savitskaya. Kristen Nicholis and Myrma Bawono were other singles winners.

Since the win over Clemson, however, State has lost seven consecutive ACC matches and 10 of 13 overall.

After State's last win, a non-conference victory over East Carolina on April 9, head coach Kay Louthian didn't sound much like a coach.

"We need to quit playing so much as a team and start playing more as individuals," she said.

"Everybody is sort of looking around waiting for somebody else to win, and we have a loss of concentration."

Louthian's team failed to

and we have a loss of con-centration."

Louthian's team failed to get on track, however, dropping its last three matches. The Pack's regu-lar season ended last weekend with a pair of conference road losses.

A 4-3 defeat at Maryland (6-12, 1-7) on Saturday was especially disappoin-ing because it was the Terrapins' first ACC win of the season. Against Virginia (10-9, 3-5) a day later, the Pack failed to win a set in a 7-0 setback. For most of the season, Lam and Katrina Gildemister, have slowed win a set in a 2-4 sections. For most of the season, Lam and Katrina Gildemeister have played in the No. 1 spot for the Pack. Nicholls and Jackle Leskovar have anchored the middle of State's line-up, and Jennifer Jassawalla, Loni Worsley and Bawono have been regulars in the bottom half of the slate.

In ACC action, State players have won only seven of 48 singles matches and six of 24 doubles contests.

The Pack and the rest of

The Pack and the rest of

contests.

The Pack and the rest of the ACC will be trying to overthrow a Blue Devil dynasty, but knocking off Duke might be as difficult as supplanting Mickey Mouse as Disney's mascot.

The Blue Devils have won the last 13 ACC Championships and are the favorites to take the crown again. Duke (21-1, 8-0) is No. 2 in the nation and hasn't lost in 16 matches. Freshman Ansley Cargill is ranked second nationally with a 20-2 overall record.

Even beyond Duke, the ACC boasts some of the strongest squads in the nation. Wake Forest and North Carolina (15-5, 6-2) are ranked in the top 20. Florida State (13-9, 5-3) and Georgia

## Men's tennis looks to make a splash in Orlando

♦ The Wolfpack enters the ACC Championship as the No. 8 seed and will tangle with the Tigers.

Steve Thompson

With the cold weather that has sudden-ly hit Raleigh, the N.C. State men's ten-nis team is happy to be traveling to sunny Orlando, Fla., for the Atlantic Coast Conference Championship. A daunting challenge awaits the Pack (6-18, 1-7 ACC), who has struggled throughout the season in pulling out close matches. If it is to advance in the tournament, this trend will most likely have to change.

have to change.

In ACC play, the No. I doubles tandem of Eric Jackson and Reinaldo Valor is the only place where State has a wining record (5-3). No. 3 doubles has had a \_500 record this year as well, although three different teams have played the position.

In singles play, Jackson has had an off

position.

In singles play, Jackson has had an off year. His ACC record of 3-5, however, is still the best on the team. Playing at No. 1, Jackson has dropped a few three-set matches during his senior campaign. Jackson hopes to return to his 2000 All-ACC form in the championship.

No. 2 Matt Lucas (0-4) has struggled through injuries during the ACC season and is questionable for the tournament. The No. 2 slot has been a problem area for the team this year, as both players behind Lucas are freshmen who lack the experience of playing so high in the rotation.

Either Valor (2-6) or Michael Company of the players on high in the littler Valor (2-6) or Michael Company of the players on high in the Either Valor (2-6) or Michael Company of the Players of the Players of high in the Either Valor (2-6) or Michael Company of the Players of the Pla

rotation.

Either Valor (2-6) or Michael Carducci
(1-6) will go in the second spot for State
if Lucas is unable to compete. If Lucas
plays at No. 2, they will likely occupy
the third and fourth slots.

The Pack has had success in the bottom of the rotation with the trio of Brad

ck has had success in the bot-e rotation with the trio of Brad Bryce McGrory and Ryan going a combined 6-10 playing

at No. 5 and No. 6. These low seeds may be the key to State's advancing in the tournament.

the tournament.

Because of the Pack's eighth-place conference finish, it has been relegated to a play-in game vs. No. 7 Clemson. The winner of that match will face No. 2 North Carolina.

2 North Carolina.
Last week, State faced off against the Tigers in a Good Friday match, with Clemson emerging with a 6-1 victory.
Boward was the only Pack player to win, picking up a 6-0, 6-3 decision at the No. 5 spot.
Despite the final score, the match was not as lopsided as it seemed. State lost two singles matches in the third set. If the Pack can covert those and win the doubles point, it will advance to face the Tar Heels.

Iff State does advance, the draw looks favorable. By beating No. 9 Maryland carlier in the season, State avoided an early-round matchup with perennial ACC power Duke. The Devils have steamfolled ACC competition this year and are the clear favorites to win the tournament.

tournament.

Although the Heels have the second seed, they are not regarded as being untouchable. Earlier this season in Chapel Hill, the Pack was unlucky not to emerge victorious, dropping the match 4-3.

match 4-3.

In other first round action, No. 3
Georgia Tech will take on No. 6
Virginia. Despite its low team rank,
Virginia boasts the nation's No. 12 player, Brian Vahaly, Vahaly has not lost an
ACC match this year.

No. 4 Wake Forest and No. 5 Florida State will also face off, most likely for the right to play Duke in the second round.

State's match kicks off the tourna-ment, as the Pack will hit the courts at 10 a.m. on Thursday morning at the Lake Cane Tennis Center.



Daly

the Stanley Daly
Cup playoffs at the Entertainment and
Sports Arena. Two periods earlire he had leveled Canes captain
Ron Francis, leaving Francis
dazed with a concussion.
As Stevens skated toward the
penalty box, the ESA chanted in
unison "Stevens sucks" and the
frustrated crowd threw cups, ice
and even a hockey helmet his
way.

frustrated crowd threw cups, see and even a hockey helmet his way.

In effect, Canes fans were demonstrating the emotion that signals the utmost respect to an opponent: hatred.

Canes fans hated Stevens because he had knocked out Prancis and rookie Shane Willis with concussions. But mostly they hated him because he was good. And Carolina had absolutely no answer for him.

Most Carolina fans, however, would jump at the opportunity to have Stevens or a player like him on the Canes.

Just like Wolfpack fans would have loved to have Duke's Shane Battier in Raleigh, wrinkled head and all, Instead of complaining about his propensity to take the charge or the media canonizing him. AC. State boosters would have marveled about the propersity of take the charge or the media canonizing him. AC. State boosters would have marveled about the propersity to take the charge or the media canonizing because they leed threatened. Of they are jealous. Or because they were sick of their team losing to the opponent.

Think of your least favorite

because they feel threatened. or they are jealous. Or because they are sick of their team losing to the opponent.

Think of your least favorite buke player of all time. It's probably one of these three: Christian Leuture, Bobby Hurley or Battier. They were all outstanding basketball players. (To combat this, I focus on despising Chris Collins ... he only hit one big shot in his career, unfortunately against, of course, State.)

Think of your least favorite North Carolina player of all time. Actually, this example doesn't work. Jeff McInnis or Maktar McInnis or Maktar and the state of the state of

Atlantic Coast Concerns
say.

There isn't really another
moment in sports that so clearly
says you've arrived as when you
realize that you're hated by
everyone aside from your own
fans.

It means people are tired of
seeing you win. It means that
fans are tired of seeing their team
play well and still get humiliated.
Or seeing their best rookie
demolished in a clean, open-ice
check.

Jack Daly figures N.C. State isn't hated by too many people right now. His columns appear every Thursday, at least for a couple more weeks. He can be reached a jrdaly@unity.ncsu.edu or 515.



## Pitchers, Esposito lead Pack to win



The Pack and the rest of the ACC will be trying to dethrone champion Duke this weekend.

competition in the nation.

The seventh-seeded Wolfpack (8-13, 1-7 Atlantic Coast Conference) opens the ACC Championship in Orlando, Fla., against eighth-seeded Clemson (8-13, 1-7) today at 10 a.m.

This year's championship is part of this weekend's ACC Springfest, which will be held at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex. The tennis action will take place at Lake Cane-Marsha Park and Tennis Center in Orlando.

The Pack's Ione ACC victory came against the Tigers on March 11. State's 4-3 triumph was its first conference win since 1998.

rey Mattison allowed only one hit

Curtis Breese

N.C. State's offense provided some early fireworks, and the pitching staff, led by Corey Mattison, stifled Old Dominion on the way to an 9-1 victory Wednesday night at Doak Field.

Mattison (1-2) picked up his first win of the season, allowing only one hit and one walk over five intings while striking out six. He retired the last 12 batters he faced and combined with reliever Dan D'Amato to deny 17 straight ODU hitters.

hitters. For the game, the Monarchs (18-24) totaled only four hits, and Wolfpack pitchers cut down 12 with strikeouts. State (23-18) got a lift from timely hitting by catcher Sam Esposito, who went 3-for-4. He doubled his hit output for the season; before Wednesday night's game,

"Hadn't gotten that many at-bats this year, but whenever coach [Elliott Avent] gives me some. I like to get some hits." said Esposito. "It feels good." Hone runs by Brain Wright and Justin Riley in the bottom of the first inning helped the Pack grab an early 3-1 lead. Wright's shot to dead center field was his sixth homer of the season. Riley's gold bomb, his fifth homer un of the year, easily cleared the left field wall.

\*\*ROSU\*\* 9

\*\*ODU\*\* 1 The homer runs give Wright and Riley 41 and 15 RBIs, respectively. Wright also picked up his 42nd in the bottom of the eighth on a single that scored Esposito. In the bottom of the seend, Esposito got his first hit, a double. He later scored as I serren you thus assifice fly, making the score 4-1.

\*\*A fourth-inning burrage of hits and an error by ODU's catcher increased the Pack's lead to 8-1. Singles by Matt

the score 4-1.

A fourth-inning barrage of hits and an error by ODU's catcher increased the Pack's lead to 8-1. Singles by Matt

Butler and Sean Walsh started the action. Esposito's second double of the game scored Butler. A triple by Adam Miller followed, bringing in two more

Miller followed, bringing in two internals.

Dutton then bunted, and ODU pitcher Ryam Williams picked up the ball and threw it to catcher John Cohler, who mishandled it. Miller scored on the play. The Pack's defense was also solid. With Monarchs on first and third in the top of the seventh, State's Eric Mosely made a sensational diving stop on a sharp grounder off the bat of Travis Silver. In the ninth, Seam Walsh followed with a another spectacular catch on a line drive that was smoked down the line.

line. A pair of injured State pitchers made returns in Wednesday's game. Both Kyle Stephenson and Josh Miller got some work on the mound in relief roles. Stephenson last pitched at Virginia nearly a month ago before injuring his left knee. Miller tore his anterior cruciate