

2.



Fruits of thought
Is there really a need for green ketchup in today's overbloaded consumer market?

4.



Science!
All you'll ever need to know about local museums and their stellar exhibits.

8.



Feeling the heat
The freshmen got their first taste of football practice Tuesday afternoon.



Wednesday
August 8, 2001

TECHNICIAN

www.technicianonline.com

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

Today	
Hi	94
Lo	72
Tomorrow	
Hi	91
Lo	72

Power plant substation explodes

A Progress Energies power substation exploded downtown Tuesday evening. Tens of thousands lost power; no one was injured.

News Staff Report

Downtown Raleigh's East Street substation exploded Tuesday night, starting a blaze that yielded a massive plume of smoke visible for miles around and leaving thousands without power late into the night.

The Progress Energies substation, located at the intersection of Martin Luther King Boulevard and East Street, burst into flames just after 8 p.m. Tuesday. Raleigh firefighters controlled the blaze by 9 p.m.; lost power from the blaze affected 21,000 customers at one point, although officials with Progress Energies projected that all outages would be corrected by 3 a.m. Wednesday.

"We have a crew working to restore power as quickly as possible," Progress Energies representative Tara Waters said.

Although Progress Energies officials said the cause of the explosion was not known, Raleigh Fire Chief Earl Fowler said on WNCN-17's 11 p.m. news Tuesday that "several thousand" gallons of mineral fuel had ignited a pair of trans-



Raleigh Police blocked off streets for up to four blocks surrounding the scene of a power substation explosion in downtown Raleigh Tuesday night. The explosion left thousands of customers without power until early this morning.

formers at the substation, touching off the fire. Fowler characterized the blaze as a "contained fire," one that looked bigger than it was. Raleigh police closed roads over two blocks surrounding the substation and evacuated surrounding neighborhoods. Those who chose to leave their homes were taken to an evacuation site at the



Chavis Heights Parks and Recreation Center. For those who remained, a mini-substation returned power to most of the affected customers. The explosion and resulting power outages caused 37 automobile accidents on surrounding roads, none of them injury-causing. On-campus, the explosion caused a small tremor



and power flashed in Witherspoon Student Center, knocking WKNC 88.1 FM off the air briefly. WKNC was back on the air by approximately 8:10 p.m.

Staff reporters Spaine Stephens, Jeremy Ashton and Jimmy Ryals contributed to this report.

Students react to budget situation

◆ The complication of the state budget is leaving some students wondering what's next.

Spaine Stephens
News Editor

With the state budget crisis stretching further still, frustrations are not limited to the legislators who make the decisions on what state agencies will feel budget cuts. As the summer has dragged on, some students have grown exasperated with the handling of the situation by the General Assembly, possible cuts to N.C. State and the future of education.

"I think it is really sad to see a school like ours with some of the greatest minds in certain fields have to cut back on things that will affect their learning," said Catherine Hunter, a sophomore in psychology. "I am also skeptical of

what will get cut."

Hunter has been in summer school, and she is afraid that she may already be seeing affects of budget cuts on campus.

"All I am aware of is that they may cut back the library hours," she said.

Marc Hendricksen, a senior in mechanical engineering, is an out-of-state student from New Jersey. Unlike many students, he is not dismayed by possible tuition increases because of the budget crisis.

"To be honest, I wasn't all that upset because when I first heard about it, it didn't seem like it was going to be all that bad," he said.

Another reason Hendricksen does not necessarily oppose a tuition increase is because "out-of-state down here was comparable to in-state in New Jersey, and I think they have been trying to increase in-state tuition up there, so it may still

be pretty close."

Hendricksen is in a unique situation compared with many other students, who strongly oppose tuition increases. He is one of very few that would not be hard hit by a tuition increase.

"While some out-of-state students may think that the increase is too much, it probably still wouldn't make a difference to me if I was looking to start in the upcoming years," he said.

Brian Cowman, a senior in business management, has followed the state budget situation "moderately."

"I feel strongly that budget cuts in education should be a last resort," he said.

Cowman is particularly frustrated by the prospect of losing faculty.

"I think that educational institutions should always strive for a better faculty to student ratio, and these cuts would hurt that

ratio for NCSU."

He is also worried about the future of the UNC System.

"I am very concerned about this problem, because the UNC System is in a very strong position with the resources that we have available in this state," he said. "I feel that budget cuts would be like shooting ourselves in the foot, after how fine the UNC System has become."

Cowman said legislators were most likely receptive to student efforts to ease the severity of the budget cuts, and that the student voice from last May's march did not fall on deaf ears.

"They're obviously just people trying to do the best job they can for the state as a whole," he said. "I think the legislature would consider the fact that what they may do could upset a large amount of people."

See CUTS, Page 3

Organization's volunteers serve as designated drivers

◆ New options for safer transportation are available through a new organization.

Diane Cordova
Staff Reporter

Options are expanding for people who choose to drink to excess, thanks to groups determined to keep them off the roads.

A safe choice is turning to a volunteer from the National Designated Drivers Association (NDDA). This non-profit 501(c)(3) organization works with colleges and community patrons by providing people a free ride home if they feel that they might harm themselves or others as a result of impaired driving.

As an added plus, the NDDA's volunteers can drive the impaired person or persons in their own vehicle, so they do not have to be concerned about leaving their vehicle anywhere overnight.

Melissa Carter, who is a sales coordinator for Exhibit Resources, Inc. and a recent college graduate, read about the NDDA in a Reader's Digest issue.

Carter, who knows some people who drink and drive, said the program was "a good idea. People can be pretty irresponsible, and a lot of people in college choose to drink and drive."

However, according to their Web site (www.designated-drivers.org), the NDDA "only serves individuals who have

See DRIVE, Page 3



FIFTH ANNUAL G105 BIG SHINDIG

ALL PHOTOS BY JASON IVESTER/STAFF

(left) Trickdiss was one of several bands from all over North America who took the stage Saturday at Alltel Pavilion for the Fifth Annual G-105 Big Shindig. The New York band played several songs from their new CD, including their single, "Under You."

(center) Michelle Branch

(right) Due to the excessive heat, fans were provided with a "mist machine" to cool off.

For the complete story see A&E, page 5

CUTS

Continued from Page 1

Hunter, on the other hand, was concerned that some legislators were angered "when people tried to get the government's attention" and changed their minds in favor of heavier cuts for the UNC System.

Other students continue to follow their daily schedules of class and work and have not been following the budget situation.

In the meantime, concerned students wait and wonder how the state's education system will be in years to come.

"I plan to go back to school after working for a couple of years, and I would like to get the highest quality education from one of our state's schools that I can get," said Cowman. "Quite frankly, though, I think that with cuts, the better professors may go to other schools out of the state, which would lower our quality of education."

DRIVE

Continued from Page 1

driven themselves in a vehicle before becoming impaired."

According to the NDDA's Web site, The NDDA volunteers consist of three types of people: "those who want to make a difference in their community and help save lives, those who volunteer their services for the benefit of another non-profit organization, and those referred to the NDDA by the courts for community service, or the Department of Social Services to fulfill their requirement to receive welfare benefits."

The NDDA volunteers are protected under the Good Samaritan laws and the Volunteer Protection Act, which was signed into law in July 1997.

The DMV, ABC and law enforcement officials support the NDDA. It is funded

by restaurant and club owners, as well as corporate and personal donations. Some corporate sponsors include Circuit City stores, The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Darryl's

Restaurant, Marriott Hotel, TGI Friday's Restaurant and Theta Chi Fraternity.

The NDDA was officially established in 1994 because people persist in driving home while intoxicated.

The organization's founder is Jim Congable, a former limousine driver, who used to voluntarily drive people home because they were intoxicated and therefore could not drive responsibly.

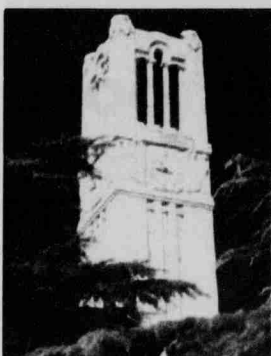
Congable witnessed the benefits of his charitable act; he helped make the streets safer by preventing intoxicated individuals from getting behind the wheel.

If colleges decide they want this service, they can establish chapters.

For those who are interested in starting a chapter or interested in more information, the organization can be contacted through the following: NDDA Inc., P.O. Box 36770 Richmond, VA 23235, or call the organization at 804-379-7832, or email them at ndda.com.



ALL PHOTOS BY JASON WESTERN STAFF
Matt Scannell of Vertical Horizon is obscured (top), Steven Page of Barenaked Ladies is in the spotlight (bottom). Both appeared at Raleigh's AllTell Pavillion as part of G105's Big Shindig.



Technician will resume the normal five day a week printing schedule on August 20.



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All about the MUSEUM OF LIFE A . N . D SCIENCE IN DURHAM



Telescopic Visions

Rachael Rogers
Senior Staff Writer

Our only view of what is in the great yonder lies in photographs or news clips because, unfortunately, American Airlines and other airlines lack flights to space. However, astronauts and the like explore what is beyond Earth on a daily basis, leading to discoveries far beyond the mind's imagination.

The good news is that up until September 3rd you won't have to scramble around trying to figure out a way to work for NASA; you can just head down to the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences and check out the Hubble exhibit.

The Hubble exhibit is interesting, well put together and even educational. What better way to get yourself in the mood for school than checking out this exhibit? The Hubble Telescope has made such recent discoveries as identifying the farthest stellar explosion caused by an erupted supernova over ten million years ago, and it also captured the image of a galaxy that shows how formation of new stars are spawned from colliding galaxies.

Through this exhibit you'll explore what is beyond our solar system by learning about exploding stars, black holes, and the most ancient of ancient galaxies. The exhibit answers some of our most pressing questions, such as the age of the universe and how big it is. It'll also explain where the planets, stars and galaxies came into being and, perhaps the most interesting question of all, what the fate of our universe is.

You'll also gain a knowledge of how the telescope is used by astronomers to chart unknown areas and how the telescope is serviced.

Now how, you might be asking, does an exhibit in a museum teach one such interesting and valuable information? The exhibit really is pretty cool. It isn't a bunch of reading or just staring at some completely foreign object while attempting to figure out what exactly it is that you're staring at.

This exhibit allows the viewer to take part in the learning process with hands-on learning. Interactive areas are set up all around that allow one to simulate an astronaut's training experiences, which we all know are pretty grueling. One activity allows you to see what it's like to have a space glove on by letting you try picking up a dime.

Of course, the central point of the exhibit is a scale model of the telescope, so there will be some time to just stand around and look at the model before or after checking out the interactive areas.

So, now that you're all excited and ready to run right over to check this out, you'll need to know the 411 on the times and costs, because such things do factor in. You can see this particular exhibit Monday - Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sundays from 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. But don't show up at 4:45 hoping to just get a glimpse; the last tickets are sold each day at 4:30 p.m.

Costs won't break your bank. General admission is only five dollars and three for any grandparents over 60 who might want to tag along. Children (6 to 11) are free, and if you're a Friend of the Museum, you will also be admitted free of charge. And you buy tickets right at the museum the day that you plan on seeing the exhibit. There are no advanced tickets sales.

So, now you know just a bit of the exhibit. It really is pretty cool and a worthwhile activity. So go check it out, and once you're there, you might want to peruse the rest of the museum because it is a great facility.

HUBBLE IMAGES FROM <http://hubble.spacelink.edu>

Features Staff Report

The Museum of Life and Science in Durham is a regional science-technology center dedicated to furthering education in the natural and physical sciences for people of all ages. Summer hours (through Sept. 3) are 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and Noon - 6 p.m. Sunday. General admission is \$8 for adults, \$5.50 for children age 3-12, \$7 for seniors 65 and over, and free to children two and younger; Durham County residents free on Monday after 1 p.m.; AAA discount also available. General admission includes the Magic Wings butterfly house and all other indoor and outdoor activities except the train (\$1.50 per ride). The Museum is located at 433 Murray Avenue in Durham. The Museum's telephone number is 919-220-5429. The Museum's Web site is www.ncmls.citysearch.com.

CURRENT SPECIAL EXHIBITS

PLANETARY LANDSCAPES: SCULPTING THE SOLAR SYSTEM, ON EXHIBIT THROUGH AUGUST 31

Featuring 12 interactive sculptures and free-standing photomurals by internationally acclaimed artist Ned Kahn. Produced by the new Chabot Space & Science Center in California, with funding from the National Science Foundation. Free with museum admission.

CAROLINA BUTTERFLY PAVILION

Open through October 1 at Magic Wings Butterfly House. Seasonal annex to the Magic Wings butterfly house featuring species native to Southeastern U.S. in outdoor garden. Free with museum admission.

ONGOING EVENTS

MAGIC WINGS BUTTERFLY HOUSE

All free with museum admission.

Butterfly Releases - Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., and Sunday, 3 p.m. Exotic butterflies take flight in the tropical conservatory.

Ladybug Release - Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m. Ladybugs by the hundreds soar in the tropical conservatory.

Giant Orb Weaver Spider Feedings - Daily, 2:30 p.m. Watch these gigantic spiders as they devour a meal of crickets.

ANIMAL FEEDINGS

All free with museum admission.

Alligators & Snakes - Thursday, 4 p.m. at Carolina Wildlife. Meet an animal keeper and learn more about reptiles.

Farmyard Up Close - Chickens, a donkey, goats, a goose, a pig, rabbits, sheep, a steer and a turkey. Monday through Wednesday, 4:30 p.m.; Friday through Sunday, 5:30 p.m. Help the animal keepers close the Farmyard for the evening while learning about the animals' care and feeding.

Bear Feedings - Friday through Sunday, 5 p.m. Visit with an animal keeper while the bears eat apples, oranges, sweet potatoes and other fruits and veggies provided by Triangle Produce.

TRAIN RIDES

\$1.50 per person. Train runs every half hour daily except Friday

through Sunday, when last departure is 4:30 p.m.

DAILY SUPER SCIENCE SHOWS

All free with museum admission.

Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m., and Sundays, 1:30 p.m. Call for specific shows (919-220-5429).

Amazing Air - It's all around us, yet you can't see, taste, touch or smell it! In our show you'll see and hear our science demonstrations of how invisible air affects our daily lives.

Birds of a Feather - What are the characteristics of birds? What are the best ways to go about observing these fascinating animals in their natural habitats? Discover how birds are grouped together and how to identify different kinds.

Body Quiz - Did you know that a sneeze can travel up to 100 miles per hour? How many bones are in your body? Learn more about the human body than you ever thought possible when you join our host, Clavicle C. Pelvis, and our Body Quiz contestants: Mary Marrow, Dr. Larry Ligament, and Barry Smart as they compete to see who's the most knowledgeable when it comes to funny facts about humans!

Crazy Chemistry - Our explosive show is the noisiest and smelliest, and it's all about chemistry. Besides booms and bangs, you'll see "apple juice" turned into "grape juice" and back again, but it's no miracle - just super science.

Creatures of the Deep - What has eight legs and walks on water? What creatures are lurking in the neighborhood pond? Explore answers to these and other questions.

Creepy Crawlies on the Go - How do you walk when you have eight legs you can trip over? Come march like a millipede and scuttle like a crab. Find out how different creepy crawlies move.

Cricket Talk & Lightning Bugs - Why do fireflies flash? How do crickets chirp? What are those strange noises coming from the thorns? Find the answers to these and other questions.

Insect Insights - See the world through insect eyes. Look through special devices to see like an insect. Get an up-close view of live tarantulas, scorpions and giant millipedes to discover how they're different from insects.

It's Electric! - For our electrified audience we make "lightning" and illuminate light bulbs without an electric cord. Check out our high-voltage show - sure to be a hair-raising experience.

Marvelous Mammals - See what makes a mammal and encounter some native and foreign mammals up-close in this hands-on presentation.

Meet the Donkey - Visit the Farmyard where you are formally introduced to Lightning, one of our newest Farmyard animals.

The Nature of Math - What's the connection between a pineapple and a seashell? Is Fibonacci a type of pasta? Our educators use natural forms and phenomena to illustrate how math connects to living things.

Remarkable Reptiles - How close do you want to get to a real live alligator? In safe, controlled conditions, you can feel the scales of our alligator, snake and iguana and discover characteristics of reptiles.

Skeletons in Motion - Leaping lemurs and flipping birds! Join us in an animal parade and learn how to walk, swim and fly like different animals. Find out why what kind of skeleton you have matters.

The Sky is Falling! Is it a bird? A plane? No-it's an asteroid! - Come explore how and why asteroids and other rocks crash into planets at this new show.

Star Lab - Listen to legends about constellations as you sit under the glittering night sky of our portable planetarium. Learn about the Big Dipper and Orion as well as stars like Rigel, Betelgeuse, and Vega.

Stats All Folks - Explore the fascinating world of statistics. Swing a bat, flip a coin, compete in a lottery and discover what it takes to be one in a million. You may even end up being a "Museum Superstar" for the day! Stats all folks!

Story Time - Science comes alive as we journey into magical tales through the pages of children's books, accompanied by fun activities. For ages 2-5.

The Truth About Caterpillars and Frogs - Art and science come together in this play about how caterpillars become butterflies. Learn about the life cycle of butterflies, including the process of metamorphosis.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

GRANDPARENTS DAY

Sunday, September 9, 2001

MONGOOSE LEMURS

Mid-September, 2001 through mid-winter, 2002

BIODIVERSITY 911: SAVING LIFE ON EARTH

October-December, 2001

RED WOLF AWARENESS WEEK

October 14-20, 2001

SPOOKY SATURDAY

Saturday, October 27, 2001

FALL MYSTERY FESTIVAL

November, 2001

SANTA TRAIN

December 7-23, 2001

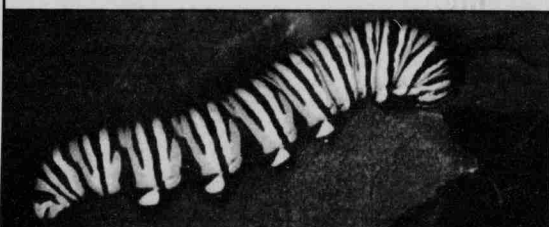
BODIES IN MOTION

February-April, 2002

MOSTLY MUSIC

May-August, 2002

Butterfly images from Iowa State University Entomology Department at <http://www.ent.iastate.edu/>



Diggin' on the Shindig

Chris Ragone
Staff Writer

If you were looking for an opportunity to see some of the biggest bands in the country alongside some local favorites, then the G105 Big Shindig at Walnut Creek on Saturday was your chance.

Headliner Barenaked Ladies was joined by Vertical Horizon, Nelly Furtado, Evan and Jaron and Michelle Branch. These bands also shared the stage with local bands such as Runaway Cab and Weekend Excursion.

The best performance of the day came from the Barenaked Ladies, whom most fans came to see. BNL opened with "Never Do Anything," off their newest release "Maroon."

After playing "It's All Been Done" off of "Stunt," the guys entertained the crowd with their first hit single, "The Old Apartment."

The band really got going with amazing renditions of "Falling For The First Time" and "Pinch Me," off of "Maroon."

The band then broke into some of their patented improvisation, singing "Pants Off On The Lawn" to entertain the fans on the festival lawn.

After the improv, the band played "Get In Line" and "Alcohol." During "Alcohol," a crazed fan ran across the stage, but security personnel



quickly subdued him. This, however, did provide fodder for some funny jokes by lead singer Steven Page and guitarist Ed Robertson.

Popular songs "Break Your Heart," "One Week" and "Shoebox" were punctuated by an impromptu rendition of "The Chicken Dance" while 15,000 fans followed right along with the band. The last song of their main set was "If I Had \$1,000,000," during which the fans near the stage dutifully threw macaroni on

stage, as they always do at Barenaked Ladies concerts.

The first encore was special, as BNL teamed up with fellow Canadian Furtado to sing Wham!'s hit "Careless Whisper." Furtado and Page played off each other amazingly, and this song was perhaps the most powerful of the night. After this, BNL played "Too Little Too Late" before leaving the stage for a second time.

For their last song, the band played "Brian Wilson" and left the crowd longing for more as the house lights came on, and the band left the stage for the final time.

Despite the heat of the day and the length of the concert (more than nine hours), the amphitheater filled quickly at the beginning of the day as fans tried to get a good seat to see their favorite bands. Chapel Hill's Runaway Cab opened things up on the main stage at 1:45 p.m. As a local band, they had a good following and entertained fans with songs like their hit, "Moneybags."

After Revelation Darling got the side stage going, Cary-based Weekend Excursion played their brand of rock on the main stage. WE started off with new songs "Liberty" and "Slice of Life" before settling into some of their old favorites along with a cover of Chuck Berry's "Johnny B. Goode." Even though this was the largest venue Weekend Excursion has ever played, they displayed a stage presence that made the audience believe they had been there before.

Next on the side stage was Trickside from New York. The guys wowed the crowds that had gathered with new songs such as "Superstar" and "Freak." After a 35-minute set, they played their hit single "Under You," much to the

doughboy sketchbook Maxine in Arachx'nthian armor by marko

IN YOUR CHARIOT YOKED WITH SWIFT LOVELY
SPARROWS BRINGING YOU OVER THE DARK EARTH
THICK-FEATHERED WINGS SWIRLING DOWN
FROM THE SKY THROUGH MID-AIR

~Sappho, On the throne of many hues
Immortal Aphrodite, verse 3
~Translated by Diane Rayor



enjoyment of their fans.

The first main act to play on the main stage was Furtado, who came on just as the sun set. She played an entertaining mix of songs, including a remix of Missy Elliott's "Get Ur Freak On," and her own hits "I'm Like a Bird," "Turn Off the Lights" and "S— on the Radio."

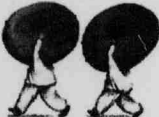
As Furtado left the stage, the anticipation built as the fans got ready for the next act, Vertical Horizon. Vertical Horizon put on a great show, playing hits like "You're A God," "Everything You Want" and their new single "Best I Ever Had."

After Vertical Horizon, Barenaked Ladies took the stage and gave the fans what they had asked for — a great performance. All in all, the Big Shindig was a great show with great bands. From Runaway Cab to Barenaked Ladies, all the performers played with intensity and enthusiasm and provided fans with memories of a great show that will last forever.

(TOP RIGHT) ED ROBERTSON OF
BARENAKED LADIES
(BOTTOM LEFT) NELLY FURTADO
ALL PHOTOS BY JASON HYSTER/STAFF

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NEWS

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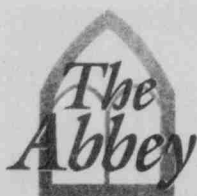
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FRESH

Continued from Page 8

go out and jeopardize something if you've got a facility we can put them inside and get a quality practice?"

Meanwhile, Amato announced that one player has been moved from defense to bolster the offensive line. Sophomore Ricky Fowler, who played in all 11 games for State at defensive tackle last year and started two, will make the switch. Amato warned that more moves could be on the way to compensate for the Pack's lack of depth at certain positions.

"[The players] know, and I'm going to tell them this on Friday when I get a chance to talk to the whole squad, they may move, and we may have to make more for the good of the team," Amato said.

The already thin offensive line recently took another hit when the team found out that starter Reggie Poole would not qualify academically. A pair of linemen, Kooistra and Keegan Weir, are also coming off of injury-plagued seasons. To keep them healthy, Amato plans to ease them back into the practice routine.

"Maybe in two-a-days, they only go one a day because we need them," Amato said.

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Yard Sales

Caroline's Hurricane Sale Sat. August 18 7AM-12PM ESA South end lawn. Items include Hurricanes Memorabilia, housewares, furniture, lawn equipment, and clothes. All proceeds to benefit the Kids N'Community Foundation

Child Care

Responsible student to watch 3 year old girl, flexible hours. Call Suzanne or Rich at 212-2478

Responsible, caring babysitter, needed for our two year-old on a couple days and/or evenings a week. Will work around your schedule. References please. Call Jana Gelm at 387-1786

AFTER SCHOOL CARE: N. Raleigh Mom seeks responsible student afternoons for 12-yr. old daughter; some evenings req'd, homework help; must drive; non-smoker. Approx. 15 hours/wk. Please call Donna Cohen (h) 676-9543 or (w) 783-9900

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Back the Pack



Louthian resigns as women's tennis coach



Kay Louthian put together a 23-41 overall record in three seasons as the head coach of the women's tennis team.

◆ Kay Louthian left the Wolfpack after three years as head coach.

Sports Staff Report

N.C. State women's tennis coach Kay Louthian has announced that she will resign her position to pursue other career opportunities. Louthian spent three seasons with the Wolfpack program. Louthian, a standout player at the collegiate and professional levels, compiled a 23-41 record with the Wolfpack. "I've enjoyed my time at N.C. State but have decided that I want to do other things at this time," said Louthian. "I have great confidence that the women's tennis program is

heading in the right direction. "[Director of athletics] Lee Fowler is planning to enhance the tennis facilities and continue to make N.C. State a great place to play tennis. I will greatly miss my players and wish them all success." Louthian followed up an undefeated high school career by signing to play at the University of California-Berkeley. After two seasons, she transferred to Florida where she compiled a 35-7 singles and a 22-6 doubles record. She earned All-Academic Honors at both schools and then joined the professional ranks. A knee injury ended Louthian's playing career in 1994, but not before she won two doubles titles and achieved a world ranking in both singles

and doubles on the WTA tour. Louthian began her collegiate coaching career in 1996 as an assistant at Vanderbilt. She helped guide the Commodores to two national top 15 rankings in her two seasons with the team. The ITA named her the Regional Assistant Tennis Coach of the Year in 1998. Louthian was named the seventh head coach in State history on Aug. 27, 1998. The Pack finished 10-12 in 1999, 5-15 in 2000 and 8-13 last spring. State's conference record in three seasons under Louthian was 1-23. Eric Hayes, the coach of State's men's tennis team, will serve as interim coach as the athletics department conducts a nationwide search for Louthian's replacement.

football A sobering reminder

In this sports-crazed world of ours, we often treat athletic events as life-or-death situations. Fans will hang on every play of a game, cheering wildly when their team wins and remaining in a funk for days when it loses. We go to sporting events because it's an escape from the everyday world, a chance to see our super-heroes in action. Then something comes along that makes us realize even athletes are subject to the same natural rules we are.



Jeremy Ashton

The Minnesota Vikings began training camp Monday during an unusual heat wave in the upper Midwest. The weather got to several players, especially offensive tackle Korey Stringer, who had to leave practice early after vomiting. Embarrassed by the previous day's incident, Stringer went to practice the next day determined to tough out the heat. Despite feeling the effects of the weather again, Stringer participated in the whole practice, refusing to call on a trainer.

According to published reports, Stringer passed out following practice. He was taken to a local hospital, where he was treated for heatstroke with a temperature of 108.8. Early Wednesday morning, he was pronounced dead from organ failure.

Stringer's death shook the entire football community. He wasn't some rookie who was trying to earn a roster spot in training camp. This was a man who was an All-Pro, one of the top players at his position in the NFL. He was a leader in the locker room and the community, by all accounts, touching everyone he met.

As if the loss of Stringer wasn't bad enough, Northwestern safety Rashidi Wheeler died days later after an asthma attack forced him out of a conditioning drill. Wheeler's death came a week after Florida freshman Eraste Autin collapsed from heatstroke and passed away.

Conditioning is important for any athlete, particularly football players. They have to be able to withstand brutal conditions, so they push their bodies to get in the best shape possible. But players have to know their limitations.

In Stringer's case, the Vikings seemed to have every safeguard in place. Trainers were ready to go on site, and water was available for him to put fluids back in his body. That might be what makes his death even more tragic: in the end, he worked himself to death doing what he loved.

The Vikings obviously canceled practice the day after Stringer passed away and held a press conference so that some of his teammates could share their feelings about him. I watched portions of those interviews on TV later in the day, and I saw something that still brings tears to my eyes every time I think about it. I saw Minnesota wide receiver Randy Moss, probably the cockiest, most flamboyant player in the NFL, stop in mid-sentence and break down crying. Here was a guy, who has been termed selfish by some, openly weeping over a lost teammate for the entire world to see.

The image of Moss, an almost larger-than-life figure, hunched over that podium sobbing will always remain etched in my mind. It's a sobering reminder that even our greatest heroes are still human.

Jeremy Ashton's columns will appear on Tuesdays during the school year. He can be reached at jeremy@techniciansports.com or 513-2411.

Freshman orientation

N.C. State's newcomers got their first taste of college football Tuesday afternoon.

Jeremy Ashton
Sports Editor

N.C. State quarterback Philip Rivers was at the football team's practice field at Derr Track on Tuesday afternoon, but he wasn't there to work on his passing.

Wide receiver Bryan Peterson was there, too, but aside from racing up and down some stairs, he wasn't very active either. Other Wolfpack upperclassmen, like Brian Williams, Scott Kooistra and Terrence Holt, also congregated at the track, yet none of them had their pads strapped on.

The veteran State players went out to Derr to catch a glimpse of the freshmen and junior college transfers they'll be playing with this year as fall practice officially opened. They came to see quarterback Jay Davis throw to speedy young wide receivers Doveonte Edwards and Chris Murray, and they got a good look at junior college defensive ends Terrance Chapman and Shawn Price, who could start immediately. And they even came to do a little coaching, as Rivers did with Davis and walk-on Chris Young.

The upperclassmen had already observed some of the newcomers over the summer in informal seven-on-seven drills. For head coach Chuck Amato, his first opportunity to check out the new recruiting class came Tuesday.

"We saw a lot of 18- and 19-year-olds that are pretty skilled, but we can't lose sight of the fact that they are 18- and 19-year-olds," Amato said.

The first practice of the year opened with stretching exercises led by strength and conditioning coach Todd Stroud. For the rest of the portion of practice open to the media, the rookies

split off into their position groups with their coaches and conducted drills. The work that the newcomers put in during the summer months seemed to pay off, leaving Amato pleased with the progress they have made.

"We're pleased with what they've done this summer," Amato said. "They've conditioned themselves well, and a lot of them are going to help us."

"We saw a lot of 18- and 19-year-olds that are pretty skilled, but we can't lose sight of the fact that they are 18- and 19-year-olds."

-N.C. State head coach Chuck Amato

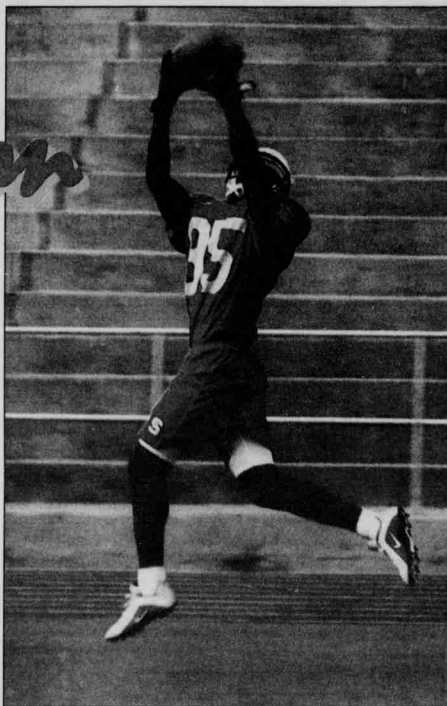
surrounded the field, and the team took regular breaks to keep everyone as fresh as possible. The off-season conditioning with the upperclassmen didn't hurt, either.

"We'll have as many of these water breaks as we need," Amato said. "And when we give them a water break, we want them to go sit down and get in front of that fan and take their helmets off and just relax."

Amato said the Pack's practice schedule is designed to get the players on the field during the cooler portions of the day. When the full varsity team begins two-a-days, the team will go from 8:30 to 11 in the morning and won't come back out until 6:20 in the evening.

The August heat is just another reason that Amato can't wait for the new indoor football facility to be completed at Carter-Finley Stadium.

"An indoor facility isn't just for when it rains; it's for when it's real cold or when it's real hot," Amato said. "Why



(top) Freshman Sterling Hicks will be one of several players competing for playing time at wide receiver this fall. (bottom) As the N.C. State freshmen took the field Tuesday at Derr Track for their first official practice, the record heat in Raleigh became an issue. Plenty of water was available for the players to help keep them cool.



Wolfpack/NCAA Notes

Football game times announced

Game times for N.C. State's first three football games this season are now official, including back-to-back Thursday night games at home against Indiana and Ohio.

The Sept. 6 opener vs. the Hoosiers at Carter-Finley Stadium will begin at 7:38 p.m. The contest will be televised nationally by ESPN.

On Thursday, Sept. 13, the Pack will host Ohio at 7:30 p.m.

The Wolfpack will hit the road for the first time when it battles SMU in Dallas on Saturday, Sept. 22. Kick-off for that contest has been set for 6 p.m. local time, or 7 p.m. in the eastern time zone.

Northwestern safety dies

Northwestern safety Rashidi Wheeler died Friday night after participating in running drills with teammates in Evanston, Ill. A preliminary report from

the coroner ruled that Wheeler died of bronchial asthma.

Wheeler's death occurred two days after Korey Stringer, a Minnesota Vikings offensive lineman, died of heatstroke after a team practice. A week earlier, Florida freshman Eraste Autin also died after collapsing of heatstroke.

Wheeler started all 12 games last season at strong safety for the Wildcats. He suffered from chronic asthma and had suffered more than 30 asthma attacks in his three years at Northwestern, according to

head athletic trainer Tory Agalar.

Although Wheeler had an inhaler with him at practice, he was unable to catch his breath. He didn't respond to CPR from the coaching staff or paramedics. He died about an hour later at Evanston Hospital.

State to relaunch athletics Web site

On Thursday, the N.C. State department of athletics will relaunch its official athletics

Web site, gopack.com.

The site, which is hosted by FansOnly, will boast a new design, new format and new features. The site will be more user-friendly, with pull-down menus that provide space for more features.

A "Broadcast Booth" will give visitors access to real audio broadcasts of Wolfpack sports. A new sportsticker will show the most up-to-date scores and results for all State sports, while tickets and Pack merchandise will also be available for purchase over the site.