

Thursday
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TECHNICIAN

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

Today	Hi	78
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	Lo	56

Campus acknowledges National Coming Out Day

◆ Events will be held on campus today to raise awareness about homosexual, bisexual and transgender issues.

Rachael Rogers
Staff Reporter

Today is National Coming Out Day, and many students, faculty and organizations will be joining together in the Brickyard from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. to talk with students and promote awareness about homosexual, bisexual and transgender students and faculty at N.C. State.

Lori Messinger, an assistant professor in social work and an open lesbian, will be one participant in today's event. Messinger's personal experience with being a lesbian and her field of study have helped drive her need to be a part of National Coming Out Day on campus.

Messinger came out when she started graduate school at UNC-Chapel Hill about nine years ago.

"Up until that point I had dated men and never felt like it was quite right," said Messinger.

Around the same time, she met and befriended a woman who was openly lesbian.

"She had a lot of lesbian literature, so I read some of it and the pieces started to fit together," Messinger said.

She slowly came to the realization that she was a lesbian. Within a span of two to four weeks, Messinger told everyone that she had ever known about her epiphany.

At first, it was hard for Messinger. "I eliminated my whole support system without having another in place," she said. "People came around eventually."

Messinger remembers having two friends, however, who did not respond positively.

"Two of my friends from my growing-up years did not take it so well," she said. "One hasn't spoken to me since, and the other took it pretty good at first, but has since broken off all contact with me because she believes we have nothing in common."

"Coming out wasn't absolutely terrible but it was challenging."

She has since made friends. Initially, she met people in her graduate program who were lesbian and comfortable with

it; that has helped Messinger immensely. The social work program at NCSU also subscribes to the idea of cultural competence and inclusiveness. The department requires the inclusion of information about gays and lesbians in social work classes.

Because of what the program should embody, "I thought it would be good for social work to have a presence in today's activities," Messinger said.

Along with students from this program and students from the Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians and Allies, Messinger will head a booth in the Brickyard.

The booth will hand out literature about

allying students who are bisexual, gay, lesbian or dealing with transgender issues.

"I am concerned about students who are out there and don't have anyone to talk [to]," said Messinger. "That's why it's important [for] faculty who are gay or lesbian to be out. Students can see that there are adults who have gone through what they are going through and are a great resource to consult."

Supporting openness is also important for Messinger because "college is a time when a lot of people decide to come out because they are away from their families" so students need to feel that they

will be accepted and supported. Messinger is also concerned because, in her research, she has found that gay or lesbian students are more likely to drop out because self-discovery is like adolescence all over again. There are a lot of problems from family and friends; some students cannot take the stress and pressure.

The purpose of today's events, Messinger said, "is to reach everyone on campus and make it a safe place for people to come out and be accepted, to help deal with getting to know gay and les-

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Student's research reduces, reuses, recycles

◆ A N.C. State student has been awarded the prestigious Golden Key award for his extensive research in paper recycling.

Lauren Deere
Staff Reporter

One of N.C. State's own was selected as one of three winners of the Golden Key National Honor Society's 2001 International Convention Scholastic Showcase for undergraduate research.

Erik Wolf, a senior in pulp and paper science and chemical engineering, presented his research at Golden Key's International Convention in Dallas, Texas, on Aug. 9, 2001. Wolf's work, titled "The Chemical Structure of Agglomerating Agents for De-inking," was selected from more than 100 papers of undergraduate research in varying fields.

Wolf said that his research is related to paper recycling. By using chemical additives, he developed a way to remove ink from office waste paper so that it can be recycled.

"I've really enjoyed the work I've done; it has made things [in my majors] come alive," said Wolf.

For accepting the award and presenting his research at the convention, Golden Key awarded Wolf \$1,000.

"Erik is a student that is not just interested in getting a correct answer but understanding why the answer is correct. This is integral to good research," said Richard Venditti, associate professor of wood and paper science and Wolf's faculty adviser.

Wolf was working in a lab under Venditti on campus in the summer of 1999 when Venditti set Wolf on a course to improve paper recycling, which in turn would decrease the amount of paper in landfills.

The convention was interesting to Wolf because the other two winners presented projects that "seemed like softer subjects."

"There were a variety of different subjects. I felt like mine was too hard-core for the audience," said Wolf. "But I still had fun presenting it."

Wolf plans to graduate in May 2002 and is now looking at graduate school.

"Doing this work helped me realize that I would enjoy grad school; this is something I like doing," said Wolf. Though Wolf has worked hard to get to this point, he already sees many benefits.

"All of my experiences, academic research, corporate research and production, are valuable experiences. I couldn't have asked for more," said Wolf.

Wolf compares his research to a part-time job, with freedom as an added bonus.

"This has been good for me educationally. I got a grant from the university for the work I am doing now," said Wolf.

To aid his continued research in paper recycling, Wolf has received two research grants from NCSU. He was given one in 1999, from the department of wood and paper science, and

See RECYCLING, Page 3

Courageous student 'playing with the cards I'm dealt'

◆ N.C. State student Mark Bebehani shares his story of coping with the reality of Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

Cara Froedde
Assistant News Editor

It was around 11 a.m. one morning, Mark Bebehani had just woken up to find that his throat was feeling almost back to normal, "well enough to swallow," he said.

It had been swollen for two weeks from his radiation treatments. The previous night, he had lost his chest hair.

"There are huge bald areas," he said, which didn't surprise him.

Bebehani has grown accustomed to such surprises. What helps him deal with them is tackling many projects.

"I live for knowing how things work," he said.

When he was diagnosed in January with Hodgkin's Lymphoma, it was just like another project: a survival project.

"I am always doing something," he described. "I am always setting goals for myself."

Hodgkin's Lymphoma is a form of cancer that affects the lymph nodes. This semester, Bebehani is taking two

classes in pursuit of his doctorate in engineering and his master's degree in computer science, teaching a class and undergoing radiation treatments.

He just finished his first round of radiation.

"It was just as bad as chemo," he said, "but shorter-lived."

Bebehani finished six months of chemotherapy at the end of July, but it didn't eliminate all of the cancer, which is why he had to undergo radiation as well.

He has two more rounds of radiation before he is supposed to be well. And the next round is scheduled to begin in one week, but Bebehani plans to ask for more time — he is behind in his studies.

"They lie to you," he said in a half chuckle. "They tell you it's not that bad," he explained. "Not that bad compared to death."

He would know. Bebehani thought he was facing death back in January 2001 when he was first diagnosed with cancer.

"I knew something was wrong," he said. "I had been used to the idea of being sick; I had already began asking, 'what if this is fatal?'"

For two years before the diagnosis, Bebehani had been sick on and off, believing his illness was caused by everything from a bug bite to the mold growing in his apartment. In December

2000, however, a family doctor diagnosed his condition as cancer.

"I should have known," he said.

When Bebehani looked in the mirror, the lymph node under one armpit was normal, but the lymph node under the other was a huge network of veins.

Cancer, he noted, has its own artery system.

Before his December diagnosis, Bebehani had been working on obtaining his commercial pilot's license. Though he had been flying planes since 1994, he had been flying search-and-rescue missions since 1998 for the Civil Air Patrol. Two days before Christmas, he was given his diagnosis and the day after Christmas he returned to Raleigh and scheduled an appointment for a biopsy.

Bebehani had two weeks to take the test to get his license; otherwise, he didn't know how long he would have to wait. The medication could have prevented him from flying.

For the following two weeks, he flew for three hours every day learning all the maneuvers and skills on which he would be tested.

One week into his training, his plane had to be serviced for a regular, 100-mile service. He located another, similar plane so he could finish his practicing and finally complete the test. The day before the test, the new plane malfunctioned. Bebehani needed to locate another plane that had the type of equipment required for the test. He found one in Greenville — a Piper Arrow, which flies differently from the 172 RG that Bebehani had been flying.

The day of his test, he woke up at 6 a.m. and drove to the Greenville airport and flew the plane back to Raleigh in one hour — the only practice he had ever had on that type of plane. He then took his test.

"I passed by the skin of my teeth," he said. "Now, I have a plaque on my wall."

But that is not all he has decorated his apartment. Following the first "project," Bebehani needed another "project." But he was too weak to do something like get a pilot's license, so he spent the semester painting constellations on his ceiling.

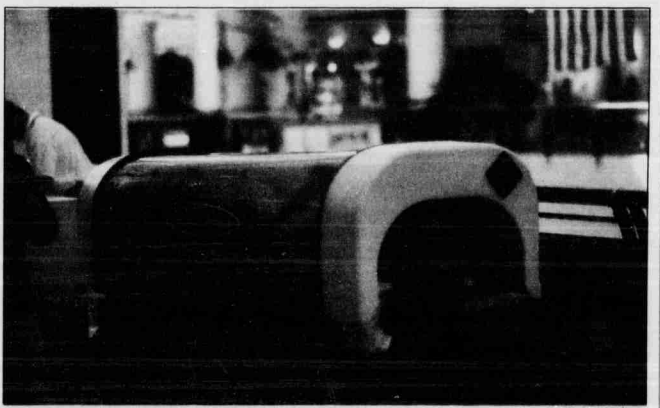
A big astronomy buff, Bebehani has several telescopes in his house.

"I had no idea how hard it was going to be when I started," he said.

But it was all worth it, he said, "because now I look at the stars every night before I go to sleep."

He can point out all the constellations, even the ones that don't appear year-

See BEBEHANI, Page 3



Shannon Sharock enjoys the relaxation provided by a water-run massage tank in Crabtree Mall on Wednesday.

New NCSU Web site aids in the identification of wetland plants

◆ Through photos, detailed descriptions and search options, the Web site seeks to answer questions about the various wetland plants.

Kara Rowland
Staff Reporter

What is the color of male flowers on a Coastal Plain Willow? Which plants belong to the Rosaceae family?

Answers to these questions, and many others, can be found at N.C. State's new wetland plants Web site, which provides keys and descriptions to facilitate the identification of more than 120 plants

found in regions throughout North and South Carolina.

Years of fieldwork went into the site, titled, "Common, Woody, Piedmont and Coastal Plain, Wetland Plants of the Carolinas," which can be found on the Web at <http://ceres.cals.ncsu.edu/wetland>.

The Web site is a result of collaboration between the NCSU Herbarium and the Academic Programs Instructional Technology group in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Established in 1898, the Herbarium is maintained by the botany department and houses about 125,000 plants from North Carolina and the southeastern United States.

Jon Stucky, an associate professor of botany, developed most of the site's content for his wetlands course. The site was exhibited at the NCSU Instructional Technologies Expo in September after being created in part to make the material more widely available.

"Because of its combined textual and graphical nature, we obviously feel the Internet can serve as an important resource for efficient and cost-effective dissemination of botanical information," said Alexander Krings, the site's project manager. "Detailed, labeled images of plant morphology, as presented on our site, are currently unavailable elsewhere."

Visitors have access to several meth-

ods of plant identification, including a gradual classification key or extensive lists of species or families. The site also offers a search engine capable of identifying a plant after simply submitting its characteristics.

"We hope that both identification and learning is facilitated through the diversity in access approaches," said Krings.

Although the site is very useful to biologists and plant enthusiasts, plants can be listed by their common names in addition to their formal scientific identifications to aid non-professionals. The descriptions also mention other plants that may be confused with a certain species.

The wetland plants site features a glos-

sary of plant-related, descriptive terms such as "glaucescous," which means, "swathed with waxy coating." Many of the terms include detailed illustrations.

Labeled photos also help identify many of the plant species. The identifications are so specific that pictures on the Web page use a microscope to emphasize certain parts of a given plant.

Such detail could undoubtedly serve to aid biologists and other professionals in the demarcation of wetlands.

"The more informed we are about our surroundings, the better the management decisions we can make," said Krings, who thinks the site will be a "useful contribution by leading to more informed decision-making."

Opinion

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Croom's run not in vain

N.C. STATE STUDENT THOMAS CROOM'S RUN FOR CITY COUNCIL, WHILE PERHAPS OVERLY OPTIMISTIC, STILL SUCCEEDED IN GIVING STUDENTS REPRESENTATION.

Twenty-six-year-old NCSU student Thomas Croom ran a respectable campaign for a District D city council seat, but he was ultimately unsuccessful in rallying NCSU students against two-time incumbent Benson Kirkman. Monday's race also featured another student, Michael Gardner, who received 572 votes with Croom and Kirkman receiving 996 and 3,501 votes, respectively. Croom faced several factors in the election that proved too significant to overcome. Exceptionally low voter turnout nationwide is being attributed to the September 11 terrorist attacks. District D was not able to escape the national trend. Additionally, Croom faced historically low voter turnout on the part of students. The large NCSU vote that Croom was probably relying on never materialized. It is easy to characterize Monday's election as one of students vs. 'the establishment,' but such a characterization would be too simplistic. Indeed, Croom supporters, especially those who are NCSU students, are quick to point out that Kirkman was instrumental in formulating the Nuisance Party Ordinance (NPO), which effectively stopped the (infamous Brent Road party). However, it is not fair to believe that since Kirkman is pro-NPO, he is also anti-students.

Kirkman is notable for his drive to revitalize Hillsborough Street. Moreover, Kirkman is a frequent visitor on campus, participating in numerous activities held by student groups. Kirkman even holds regular office hours at NCSU (that students choose not to take advantage of them cannot be blamed on Kirkman). While a Croom win would have marked a victory for students, Kirkman's win proves to be just as beneficial, if not more so. Kirkman undoubtedly has contacts and knowledge that would allow him to work in the system better than Croom could have. With two terms under his belt and demonstrable interest in campus issues, Kirkman's election bodes well for students.

Thomas Croom's participation in this year's elections probably ensures this. Croom brought attention to campus issues in this election, attention that was probably not seen in the previous two elections when Kirkman ran unopposed. These issues range from the maintenance of Hillsborough Street to law enforcement surrounding campus. Without a doubt, Thomas Croom's run proved admirable because it focused attention on NCSU, but Croom's hopes of winning were perhaps unrealistic given the obstacles he faced and the generally positive reputation of Kirkman.

Top Ten reasons the Brickyard Preacher says you're going to HELL!!!



1. You don't have a fish on your car
2. You're not humble ...like Gary
3. You're not "morally perfect," ...like Gary
4. You don't love Jesus in the Gary fashion
5. You don't go to a single sex university
6. You drink, like Gary used to
7. You're a hoo-moo-sexual!
8. You live in a fraternity house
9. You're a woman who wears pants
10. You're not Gary

Nothing to complain about

I wish I were there; I'm so much better pointing out what our government is doing wrong instead of what it's doing right, probably because it does so many more wrong things. But this whole "War on terrorism," or whatever your television network of choice calls the current situation, is actually going pretty well ... so far.

desert those poor people. So far it doesn't look like we are. We've begun sending food to the most remote areas of the country, and we're promising to help them develop an infrastructure. All in all, we're off to a pretty good start. We didn't just "drop a nuke" on any country, and for often hot-headed Americans that is a good start. But we went even further than that. We made a conscientious effort to raise awareness and tolerance at home. We also practiced it abroad toward our fellow Arab and Muslim nations. We are even trying to feed the starving Afghans; so, obviously we realize that they don't support what happened and don't deserve any punishment for it — on the contrary, they need just as much protection from the terrorists (who are a lot closer to them than they are to us).

This is a great beginning; however, we need not get too comfortable just yet. We have to keep in mind that the more terrorists we kill and the more camps we take out, the more animosity there will be toward America from them. We need to remember that even though we sent 37,000 food rations to Afghanistan, there are 20 million hungry people who live there, seven million of whom are on the brink of starvation. We must also keep in mind the promise of helping them build an infrastructure for self-sufficiency after we're done with our "military action."

This promise cannot just be a piece of war-promoting propaganda. We must remember that if we leave the Afghans poor and starving, they will be bitter and angry — and starving, fatherless, angry children are the best recipe for terrorists. We must remember not to repeat the cycle. But for now, so far so good. If we can just keep this up, we'll be all right.

Larisa is speaking pro-government and pro-Bush! Find out what she's like on larisavis@hotmail.com.

Opinion's Campus Forum on Wednesdays and Fridays is a reflection of what is submitted. Email oped1@hotmail.com to make a submission to Campus Forum.

And, the world will live as one

Every day I hear increasingly horrid descriptions of the evil that is globalism. Massive poverty and unspeakable working conditions are reported every day, all of which are caused by the undaunted march of the capitalist machine across the earth. I agree; the working and living conditions in the third world are the kind that no human should have to face. However, while it may be easy to point the blame at Nike or Toshiba, the culprit is far more insidious.

The sad fact of the matter is that the labor of Third World workers is worth far less than their western counterparts. It is not worth less because Third World workers are somehow less valuable people. It is worth less because those nations lack the infrastructure, the political stability and educational foundation for industry. If you find it hard to understand why an autoworker in Chile is paid 5 percent the salary of one in Michigan, find a 30-year-old illiterate man from rural Florida and ask him when he was last offered a \$20-an-hour job.

It simply costs companies more to operate a factory in Bangladesh than it does in Long Beach-Compton or Dearborn, Mich. Factories in Long Beach come with phone lines, Internet

capability, information technology supply and service centers, an international airport, a modern seaport, a massive standard gauge railway system, connection to the interstate highway system, police services, fire services, EMS services, sewer and water purification services and an educated work force. In Bangladesh all of that has to be built from scratch, and on top of that, after the goods have been lugged 10,000 miles around the world to the United States, an import tax has to be paid on them.

There is simply no way a company can build all of that infrastructure, transport the goods, pay the tax, give the workers a western-level wage and put products on the shelf for the 20 percent discount that consumers demand. The only hope for these poorer nations is that we take away the tax these companies have to pay, allow them to pay a lower wage and hope they decide to go ahead and foot the bill for the infrastructure those nations so desperately need.

Those poor citizens may have to endure sub-standard working conditions now, but those working conditions are better than the alternative conditions of poverty and starvation. Remember that it was not so long ago in the United States that the workday was 16 hours long, and Henry Ford had

just revolutionized manufacturing by offering the unprecedented salary of five dollars a day. Those times were rough for the American people, but those times were also when Americans built the infrastructure that allows for the standard of living we all now enjoy.

It would be wonderful if we could wave a magic wand, and the third world would suddenly be inundated with technology, transportation, information systems and schools for every child, but this simply is not possible. Someone has to pay for those systems, and so far, the only people willing to do so are the huge multinationals we all love to hate. Growing up is a hard process, for both an individual and a nation. Sometimes it might seem easier to baby our poorer neighbors. It may ease our conscience to send them a handful of grain every year or spend our spring breaks building them a new well. Yet, none of that addresses the root of the issue. Third World countries simply have no infrastructure. If these countries are ever to stand on an equal footing with the United States, we have to let them grow up, as rough as that process may be.

Let Karl know what a greedy, money-loving, capitalist pig he is at kwsmith2@unl1.ncsu.edu.

Grant Jones — public watchdog

Grant Jones STAFF COLUMNIST

[Before I begin this column, I want to clear up something that I feel is very important. Lately my columns have been the subject of some interest on campus, and consequently, I have become a local celebrity/sex symbol. The result is an inability to go anywhere on campus without being recognized. This is fine, and I thank you for your interest. However, rumors have been spreading that I am over my allergy to magnets. This is not true. Please do not bring magnets near me.

Most of my fans get their pictures taken beside me or ask me to sign their autograph book. However, for whatever reason, some of my fans insist on bringing their favorite refrigerator magnet for me to autograph. Subsequently, I have suffered severe physical reactions, including ear bites and the loss of my sense of direction. I welcome all fans to approach me, but please, leave the magnets at home.

Also, please refrain from discussing my large nose and receding hairline as I pass by you and your friends in the halls. I am confident that both will return to their pre-accident state, but I will need positive support for this to happen. Again, thanks for the interest! Sometimes I like to play Good Samaritan. I sometimes have an ear to

the streets, and occasionally I can pass beneficial information your way.

Here are several things for Raleigh residents to keep an eye out: First, I want to warn you about a man who knocked on my apartment door last week. This man called himself Maurice D'Agostino. He entered my apartment, smashed my TV and VCR, hurled my recliner through my screen door, over my fish and hit me several times in the face. When I asked him what he was doing, he said he was collecting for Big Tony's extortion service.

I had never heard of this, so after he left, I looked it up in the phone book. He must have been lying; there are no listings for extortion services in the Raleigh phonebook. So be careful! I cannot stress this enough. This man is dangerous. This applies to everyone who lives in my neighborhood, unless, of course, you do not owe any money to Big Tony. Then you are okay. Otherwise, watch out!

Second, I would like you to notify me if you hear anything about a man who calls himself "a friend of your friend Paul." This man also knocked on my door last week. I answered, and he said he was a friend of my friend Paul. I have a friend named Paul. This man was a criminal. You should keep an eye out for him unless you have a friend

named Paul and can vouch for all his buddies.

The man sat on my couch, ate my Pringles and talked annoyingly about his favorite Dukes of Hazard episodes. He did this for three hours. When I was in the bathroom, he vanished. The next day I noticed over half of the ice in my ice tray was missing; five cubes are still missing.

Thirdly, I want to warn all consumers across America about a new deodorant available in most drug stores and supermarkets. It is a deodorant that comes in a pill form. Do not buy this! It claims to "stop the sweating by stopping the activities that cause sweating." I took two and did not move from the couch for three days. This deodorant is a scam. In fact, I think it is just repackaged Nyquil.

Finally, a bit of news: the police caught the infamous Roland Duggins of Clayton. It took the police a while to figure out what Clayton residents had known for a long time. Mr. Duggins' All-Nite Genital Massage Parlor off Highway 312 was just a thin veneer for the whorehouse he actually ran in the back of the building.

Please notify Grant at grant@therealgrantjones.com about ongoing scams in Raleigh or at NCSU so that we can announce them.

TECHNICIAN

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BEHBEHANI

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round. After post-chemotherapy, test results that Behbehani's cancer was still present, he thought to himself, "there might not be much point to procrastinating any longer."

He had always wanted a motorcycle, so he bought himself a Kawasaki ZX-11, a 150-horsepower bike that can go from zero to 60 miles an hour in 2.5 seconds. And yes, he has tested it out, he said, but he won't say where.

"I'd have the police knocking down my door," he said. "I've never felt anything like that ... it is terrifyingly fast."

Behbehani describes himself as an agnostic. He doesn't believe that God, per se, does everything for a reason. He believes more that things just happen.

"Not for a reason, you just make do," he said. "I'm playing with the cards I'm dealt."

That means doing what he wants because there might not be a tomorrow.

"I finally realized that I shouldn't put things off because there might not be a tomorrow," said Behbehani, who is fairly certain he will make it.

"I have survived everything else. I am playing like everything will be OK," he said.

He spent the summer developing his Web site, www.aphorisms.com, which chronicles his disease. He joined the Sailing Club this fall and is currently trying to get officially certified to sail.

"It was either that or a glider certification," he said.

After that, he wants to climb a real mountain and eventually take a cruise. As far as he's concerned, he's got yet for both.

"It's not over yet. At least I get to live my life over again," he said.

BGLA

Continued from Page 1

bian people and to distribute the readings, which will be good for everyone, gay, lesbian or straight."

For the most part, Messinger has found people to be very welcoming and supportive of her as a faculty member.

"There does not seem to be as big of a gay presence here as there are at other schools, and I think mainly because everyone assumes this is a more conservative campus, so people worry that they won't be accepted," she said.

Messinger doesn't worry, though.

"I just assume that people are going to be OK and then I go from there."

Messinger does believe, however, that there are things that people considering coming out should think about before making any rash decisions, like notifying members of their support sys-

tems.

"People need to make sure that they have one in place," said Messinger.

They need to also seek out information.

"Know [the] answer to the questions that will be asked, and questions will be asked," she said. "Be secure about who you are, but most importantly, know the answers."

It is also important, Messinger commented, for people to realize that "sometimes people are surprised by very positive responses from family and friends. Sometimes they underestimate their family and friends."

For many, National Coming Out Day will be a life-altering event; for others, it will just be an awakening. Today will be a reaffirming to us about being out every day and who we are going to come out to. Coming out is an everyday decision. Today will be a reminder to the world that we're here and a reminder to us to remind the world that we're here. It reminds us that it's OK, and that we're not scary."

RECYCLING

Continued from Page 1

another in 2001, from the department of undergraduate affairs.

In addition to the Golden Key award, Welf has many other achievements. He is a 2001-2002 Morris K. Udall Scholar, because his potential for envi-

ronmental impact. He was also the 2000 NCSU Undergraduate Research Symposium award winner.

"Erik has certainly gotten the flavor of research through his experiences. He found out that the findings and activities in research are not predictable," said Venditti.

While Welf sees his efforts as respectable, he said, "I don't feel like I do a lot."

"I would feel more satisfaction

if people would use it [my research] tomorrow," said Welf. At the moment, Welf is completing research that he will present in November at the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry Conference in Seattle.

"I would like to go into research," said Welf. "When you find something you love, doing it doesn't feel like hard work," he said.

Recycle me.

ATTENTION SENIORS!!!

WANTED:

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October 18, 2001

6pm-8pm

Interview Center
304 Mann Hall

Interview Date:
October 19, 2001



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THIEVES, THE WAY WE LIKE 'EM

Joel Isaac Frady
Assistant Features Editor

Bandits

★★★★

Starring:

Bruce Willis
Billy Bob Thornton
Cate Blanchett

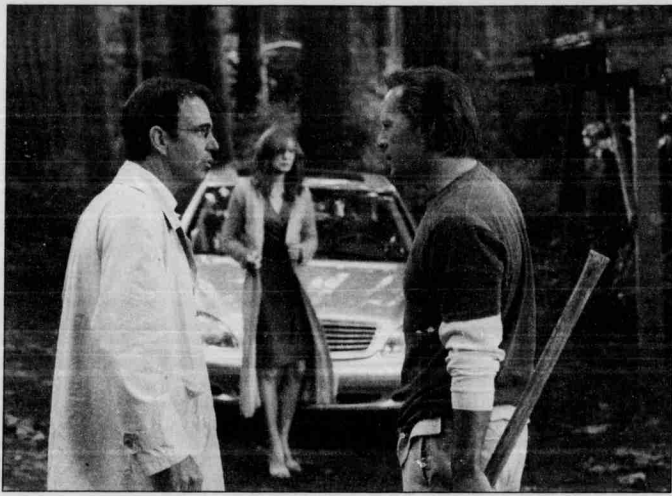
Director:

Barry Levinson

For most people, there's always something tempting about a life of crime. Whether it's the easy money, the infamy that can be gained or the thrill of the chase, it's a life that's led many a moral astray. What it is that attracts people to the criminals (whether it be the woman falling for the man or the strange appeal Thelma and Louise had for most men) is an entirely different question.

The answer can be found in "Bandits," a comedy that has three characters that are strange, energetic and likable past the point that makes a movie good. They're likable to the point that you want to meet them, and screenwriter Harley Peyton has crafted a script that's just as much fun as the characters themselves are.

Bruce Willis and Billy Bob Thornton star as Joe and Terry, respectively, a pair of criminals who seize the moment and make a daring escape from jail, only to find that they have no money, no clothes, and they're in the middle of Oregon. So they proceed to do what any professional criminal would do — make some money the "old-fashioned"



way.

With dreams of owning a nightclub in Mexico and a third gang member (Troy Garity, "Steal This Movie") in hand, they start on their spree of carefully planned bank robberies. Along the way an unplanned distraction runs into them (literally) in the form of Kate Wheeler (Cate Blanchett, "The Gift"), a housewife that hates her boring life and her

self-absorbed husband. She manages to add a new level of emotional tension to their lives, which are already stressful enough with the robberies, and in the process adds a ton of comedy to the film.

"Bandits" is directed by Barry Levinson, who had previously gained much acclaim for such films as "Wag the Dog" and "Rain Man," but has had

a rough last couple of years (his last film, "An Everlasting Piece," was virtually dumped in the U.S., given a release on only six screens). Here he proves once again his mastery of the cinema, piecing together a film that is suspenseful, funny and immensely charming while at the same time flowing so smoothly together it looks easy.

The film for the main part has a very

simple look, which for once adds tone to the film, but it also makes some more impressive scenes stand out. Cinematographer Dante Spinotti ("Wonder Boys") has an eye for meshing dark colors with spots of bright color (for example, the freezer shot in this film used to introduce Kate) that creates an overall enjoyable look.

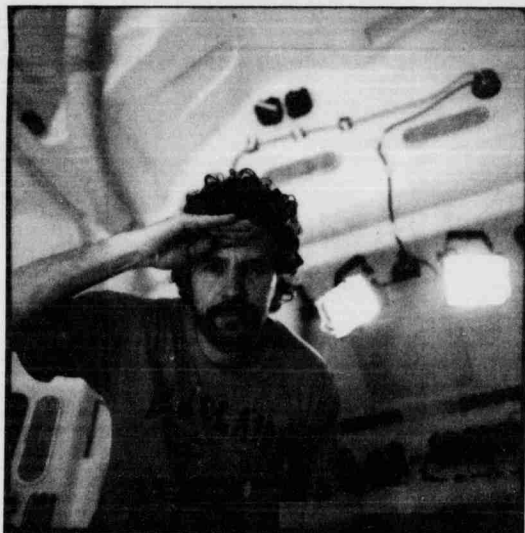
The entire cast gives memorable performances, creating three very distinct characters that are funny, but they seem real. Willis plays it very straight, keeping that tough con character who doesn't lose his cool but has a soft spot for the ladies. This is contrasted with Thornton's character, the paranoid sidekick who struggles between following and making the occasional serious decision of his own.

Blanchett adds the strangest side of them all to the trio, with a character that's far from sane but impossible not to be smitten with. Her performance is charismatic at its least, and the energy she provides to every moment of the film she's in goes off the charts. Combined with Willis and Thornton, they have the best on-screen chemistry in recent years, creating laughs while at the same time making one thing obvious: they're having fun.

This pays off, for the viewer is having just as much fun as they are. In a way it's the perfect mainstream film: it's enjoyable and well made but doesn't have the levels of emotion and meaning that artistic films have. It even almost atones for the last film Willis and Thornton did together (keyword being almost, as it was the example of the most horrible kind of mainstream film). Either way, it'd be a crime to let this one slip by.

IMAGE FROM MGM PICTURES

Set your ears on fire



John Boles
Senior Staff Writer

ARTIST:
Flaming Lips

ALBUM:
Soft Bulletin (Released, 1999)

Installation No. 2 of albums
you should have already
bought

About 20 months ago, people were discussing top lists of all kinds: top 10 moments of the 20th century, the top 10 Presidential scandals of the 1990s, the top 500 recipes involving basil that originated in the 20th century, and the list goes on and on.

One of the most heated debates was over the many lists of the '90s best albums. Most of the entries on the lists were not surprises and cited the work of Nirvana, Radiohead, Pearl Jam, Dr. Dre, Beck and an assortment of other rightly well-known artists. The Flaming Lips' masterpiece, *Soft Bulletin*, wasn't released until 1999, much too short a time to achieve "classic" status.

Most probably don't even know who

the Flaming Lips are, except perhaps the few who remember their marginal oddball hit "She Don't Use Jelly." Since that time, aside from recording *Soft Bulletin*, the Flaming Lips have recorded *Zaireeka*, an album consisting of four CDs to be played simultaneously. They have also starred in a documentary, written the score for the indie film "Okie Noodling," headlined the world's first "Headphones Tour" and are currently working on their eleventh LP and a film.

The Flaming Lips are busy fellows and take their time with recording, tinkering with different sounds and using "trial and error improvisation" to create their unique sound as is very evident in *Soft Bulletin*. The result of their laborious tinkering is one of the most intricate and carefully composed albums to date.

This album is completely with fully orchestrated tracks (surprisingly all synthesized, very well), harmonized vocals a la Pet Sounds, and even an occasional gong for good measure. Surprisingly the Flaming Lips have the uncanny ability to draw a very simple beauty out of this complexity.

Like Mozart or Steve Reich, Wayne Coyne (lead singer and principal songwriter) and the Flaming Lips know how to draw the audience in to hang on every detail of every note. Coyne not only conveys this simplicity instru-

mentally, but his lyrics convey a quirky simple idealism uncharacteristic of a veteran songwriter whom you would expect to be far past jaded on his band's eleventh full-length release.

The Flaming Lips couch such daunting topics as love, war and death with the innocence and candor of a child. Inspired by the death of Coyne's father, "Waiting for a Superman" reflects the hope that we all have that there could be some superhero to save us from all of our problems; unfortunately there are some things that are even "too heavy for Superman to lift."

These straightforward themes are so natural that nearly anyone can associate with them in some way. The music on this album has the unique ability to both rip down songs to their barebones genius (such as the staggeringly elementary guitar solo in "Feeling Yourself Disintegrate") and create a complex world to cushion these tender raw emotions.

The Flaming Lips have tackled their most serious, yet most exuberant material to date with childlike ease. After two years this masterpiece still pleases with every listen, which is much more than can be said for many of the "best of the 1990s."

IMAGE OF STEVE REICH FROM
HTTP://HOMEPAGE.MAC.COM/FARFIELD/

Predictable
(but fun)
Joyride



Joe Partin
Staff Writer

Joy Ride
★★★★

Starring:
Steve Zahn
Paul Walker
Leelee Sobieski

Director:
John Dahl

While "Joyride" doesn't cover any new ground in the vengeful trucker genre, it sure is one hell of a ride. The film is directed with integrity and style, courtesy of John Dahl, ("The Last Seduction," "Rounders") and the pacing is top notch. The only problem is that its premise is standard.

We have all seen films that resemble the plot of "Joyride," namely Steven Spielberg's "Duel" and the Kurt Russell flick "Breakdown," but "Joyride" is still able to deliver the thrills.

The plot centers on two brothers, Fuller and Lewis, Fuller (Steve Zahn) is the black sheep of the family; he has spent a majority of his life in and out of prison for petty crimes. His brother Lewis (played by Paul Walker) is an astute col-

lege student who attends school in California.

Summer break is about to start and Lewis decides to drive home to New Jersey. On his way he picks up long-time friend Venna (Leelee Sobieski) and his brother from a Utah jail. Fuller decides that the best way to pass the time of the trip is to buy a CB radio and talk to the truckers.

Soon things go awry when Fuller and Lewis play a trick on a mysterious trucker named Rusty Nail. Lewis disguises his voice as Cundy Cane (a loner trucker's wife) and has Rusty Nail meet at a motel where the boys are staying.

The brothers send Rusty Nail to a room where Fuller had a run-in with the occupant. The next morning when the man shows up on the side of the road with his bottom jaw missing and near death, the brothers are questioned by the police.

Much mayhem ensues after this, causing Fuller, Lewis and Venna to flee for their lives as Rusty Nail seeks revenge.

Dahl is a master of tension and works well with the predictable script. In the hands of any other director, "Joyride" would be nothing more than a teen-horror flick. The acting by Walker and Sobieski is probably some of their best to date, while Zahn really carries the film as the comic relief.

"Joyride" is a fun, 90-minute movie and surprisingly delivers what it promises: A thrill-packed joyride.

IMAGE FROM 20th CENTURY FOX

HARSH TRAINING



Ryan Hill
Features Editor

Training Day
★★★★^{1/2}

Starring:
Denzel Washington
Ethan Hawke

Directed By:
Antoine Fuqua

heads, all thanks to Washington.

Alonzo Harris (Washington) is a decorated narcotics officer with the LAPD. He takes on Jake Hoyt (Ethan Hawke), a rookie narc officer, to train, and that's where the movie begins.

Immediately, Harris shows that he is a charismatic, powerful man who is the center of everything around him. This is true with Hoyt, as well as the streets. Harris is the king of his world, and anyone that gets in his way will pay dearly for it.

On his first day, Harris gives Hoyt a crash course on how to handle the streets. He is forced, at gunpoint, by Harris to smoke PCP because everyone has to get some dirt on them if they're to make it on the streets. Hoyt also takes part in an illegal raid and is forced to let two rapists go.

The day wears on, and so does Hoyt's patience. After assisting Harris and his "team," which includes Dr. Dre, yes, as a cop, in raiding a dealer and stealing his money, Hoyt tries to break free of Harris, but Harris is too smart for that.

A lot of memorable faces appear in small roles, including Snoop Dogg as a paralyzed drug dealer, Tom Berenger as a high-class lawyer, Scott Glenn as a drug dealer and of course Dr. Dre as a cop.

Antoine Fuqua ("Bait," "The Replacement Killers") has finally directed a good movie. His visual style is perfectly suited for "Training Day," showing L.A.'s gritty side, but in a stylistic manner.

The two most responsible for the success are Washington and screenwriter David Ayer ("U-571"). Ayer has created several fleshed-out characters, and Alonzo is by far the most captivating of them. Washington uses all of his charisma and talent to make a character that will be remembered more than the film itself, which is a tall order on a film this good.

The pace tends to get a little slow and preachy at times, especially concerning Alonzo's conduct, even though anyone who saw the trailer knows a lot of that was cut out. It doesn't really matter; every second of the film is believable, the action is scary and brutal, and you almost find yourself rooting for the bad guy instead of Jake, the one good guy in the entire film.

"Training Day" is a huge stepping stone for everyone involved. Washington is amazing, Hawke finally holds his own in a studio film and Fuqua just makes a good movie. In a lackluster year for movies, "Training Day" injects a welcome burst of energy into movie theaters.

IMAGES FROM WARNER BROTHERS

Watching Denzel Washington in interviews, he comes across the same way every time. A huge smile on his face, always happy, he looks like someone who is a genuinely good guy and couldn't be happier with his life. Since blasting his way into stardom with his Oscar-winning performance in "Glory," Washington has become a kind of Tom Hanks type actor. You can't help but love him.

With that in mind, for most people it's a shock to see him in "Training Day," a visual, blistering film that will turn audiences on their

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ON-CAMPUS EVENTS

On Tuesday, Oct. 25, Center Stage will be presenting the Aquila Theatre Company and their production of William Shakespeare's "The Tempest." The show will take place at 8 p.m. In addition to this show, University Theatre will be presenting "A Raisin in the Sun" on Nov. 1-4 and 7-11 at Thompson Theatre. Tickets for both these shows are available at Ticket Central.

The African American Cultural Center will be having its 13th Annual Heritage Day Celebration, to be held throughout the center on Saturday, Oct. 20. This event will feature crafts, drum and music workshops, performances and the day will be concluded with a keynote address by former NAACP President Ben Chavis Muhammad.

The Music Department will be presenting Grains of Time, N.C. State's male capella group, in their annual fall concert on Saturday, Oct. 27 at 8 p.m. They will be performing selections from a variety of music genres including classical, country, pop and oldies. Tickets for this show are available at Ticket Central.

The Gallery of Art and Design presents "Passionate Collectors," showing 95 contemporary art objects from the collection of

Sonia and Isaac Luski. The exhibit, which features paintings, sculptures, glass art and more, opened on Sept. 20 and will run through Dec. 20.

OFF-CAMPUS EVENTS

This Friday, the annual North Carolina State Fair will begin at the N.C. State Fairgrounds. There will be the usual mix of carnival rides, farm animals, concerts and all the games one could ever hope for. This big event runs through Sunday, Oct. 21.

Opening this Friday is the next show in Raleigh Little Theatre's season, "Over the River and Through the Woods." This comedy, written by Joe DiPietro, was a big off-Broadway hit a couple of years ago and centers around the conflict between a young Italian-American ad man and his grandparents when he plans to move his job from New York to Seattle. The show will run Oct. 12-13, 17-20 and 24-27 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 14, 21 and 28 at 3 p.m. on the Caney Sutton main stage.

In concert news, the Cat's Cradle will present Jump Little Children and Howie Daye this Thursday, Oct. 11 at 9:30 p.m. They will follow this with Yonder Mountain String Band on Friday, and David J will play here on

Saturday.

The Brewery will be presenting the CD-release party for rock band B Sides this Thursday, Oct. 11, along with Known in Part and Vibrant Green. On Friday the Alt. Country bands Robbie Fulks and Brothers Grim will play, followed by Shady Tree and Cecil Moose on Saturday.

The second play in the Best of Broadway series, "Stomper," will be presented at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium from Oct. 16-21. Directed and created by Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas, this musical uses everything but conventional percussion instruments, from trashcans to tea chests, to create the music. It's known for. Tickets are available through TicketMaster.

Several films will be hitting movie theaters this weekend. Starting off the list is "Bandits," a comedy about two bank robbers with Bruce Willis and Billy Bob Thornton. Next is the comedy "Corky Romano" with SNL's Chris Kattan and the action film "Iron Monkey," originally filmed in 1993. On the independent circle is "Jackpot," director Michael Polish's second film in his trilogy that began with 1999's "Twin Falls Idaho." Jackpot is a young singer who travels with her manager across the country searching for gigs and seeking out the perfect audience for their brand of music.

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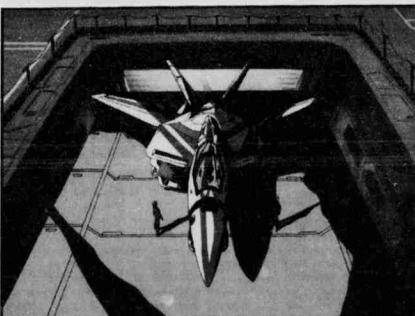
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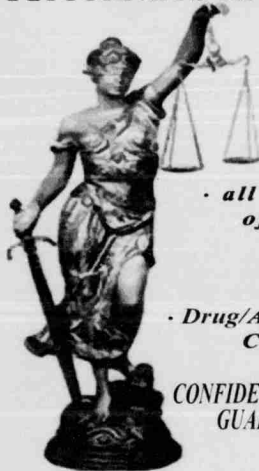


TOP 10
WNCN 88.1 FM

Band	Album	Label
1) Fugazi	The Argument	Dischord
2) Machinehead	Supercharger	Roadrunner
3) Death Cab For Cutie	The Photo Album	Barsuk Records
4) Biohazard	Uncivilization	Sanctuary
5) The Dismemberment Plan	Change	De Soto
6) System of a Down	Toxicity	American
7) The White Octave	Menegry	Initial
8) Milemarker	Anaesthetic	Jade Tree
9) Superchunk	Here's to Shutting Up	Merge
10) From Autumn to Ashes	Too Bad You're Beautiful	Ferret

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57				58			59			

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- 26 Indispensable
 - 28 Tendency
 - 31 Leave out
 - 33 — Moines
 - 35 Garbage
 - 36 Back-fence tidbit
 - 38 Discoverer's cry
 - 40 "Kitchy—"
 - 41 Keep afloat
 - 43 Columnist
 - 45 "Heavens to Betsy!"
 - 47 Crazy
 - 51 "Son of —"
 - 52 Flex
 - 54 Venetian
 - 55 Chart type
 - 56 Sheep shed
 - 57 Wan
 - 58 Round Table address
 - 59 Recognize
- 9 Verse, probably bawdy
 - 10 Potter's need
 - 11 Libretto
 - 16 Shipbuilding material
 - 20 Build another room
 - 23 Anderson's "High —"
 - 24 Grounded Aussie
 - 25 Rush out of Mis-souri?
 - 27 Noy canceller
 - 29 "To Wong —"
 - 30 Company, 'tis said
 - 32 Group of matches
 - 34 Soft, tremulous light
 - 37 Computer memory: abbr.
 - 39 Semite
 - 42 Sharp, shrill cries
 - 44 Writer's type
 - 45 The world according to Arp?
 - 46 Hollywood clasher
 - 48 Inflexible
 - 49 Jam ingredient?
 - 50 Jet forth
 - 53 Mid-afternoon

- ACROSS**
- 1 Restrained
 - 5 Fat farm
 - 8 Coagulate
 - 12 Arab
 - 13 —bigwig
 - 13 Wine cask
 - 14 Not pre-recorded
 - 15 Restrictive
 - 17 NYSE counterpart
 - 18 Shorebird
 - 19 Regret
 - 21 Listening deeply
 - 22 Skunk's defense
 - 23 Aviv



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Classifieds

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National Association of Professionals (NCSU Student Chapter) is having a meeting Thursday, October 11, at 7pm. Meet in the Conger Room of Biltmore Hall on the 2nd floor. Topic: Resume help with Linda Rudd.

WOLFGANG'S FALL CONCERT featuring NCSU's Ladies in Red, WFU's Temporary Reprieve, and Elon's Twisted Measure. October 11th, 8:00pm in Stewart Theatre. \$3/5 students/general admission.

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IM/RecNotes

Carmichael Gymnasium — fall break hours

Friday
Gym 6 a.m.-6 p.m.
Pool 6:15-8:15 a.m.
10:15 a.m.-5:45 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday
Gym 1-5 p.m.
Pool CLOSED
Monday
Gym 6 a.m.-6 p.m.
Pool CLOSED
Tuesday
Gym 6 a.m.-6 p.m.
Pool 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Intramural sports

Registration for Men's Residence bowling will begin Monday and close on Oct. 24. Co-recreation basketball registration will begin on Monday, Oct. 22. All schedules and results are posted in the Intramural-Recreational Sports office and on the Web site at www.ncsu.edu/imrec. For additional information on Intramural-Recreational Sports visit the website or stop by 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium.

Officials

Are you looking for a fun job that offers paid training? Co-recreation basketball officials will begin Monday, Nov. 5. If you are interested in becoming a Co-recreation basketball official, contact the Intramural-Recreational Sports office at 515-3161.

Fitness

New classes are being offered this fall. Drop-in for one of the group fitness classes: Advanced Step, Athletic Conditioning, Awesome Abs, Box-N-Sculpt, Cardioboxing, Get on the Ball, Hi/Lo, Hip Hop, Step 101, Step-N-Sculpt and Water Works. For a schedule of classes, stop by the Intramural-Recreational Sports office in 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium or visit the Web site at www.ncsu.edu/imrec.

If you are interested in participating in fall workshops, registration has already begun for Introduction to Yoga Breathing Practice; Nutrition: Cooking Demonstration, Eating Out and Handling the Holidays; Qi Gong Relaxation Techniques; Massage Techniques; Stress Management; Time Management; and Weight Training Basics. To register, visit the office of Intramural-Recreational Sports in 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium. For more information on upcoming fitness/wellness workshops, visit the Web site at www.ncsu.edu/imrec.

Club sports — upcoming

Members of the Cycling/Mountain Biking Club have posted some impressive numbers this fall in Atlantic Coast Cycling Conference (ACCC) competition, as they head into the ACCC Championships this weekend in Morgantown, W.Va. Christy Scherger has won every race that she has entered and leads the Women's A division

standings. Charlie Pendry has been impressive as well and leads the Men's A division standings. Mark Bray (second), Brannen Cunningham (fourth), and John Bethune (seventh) are in the Top 10 of the Men's B division standings with Mike Seda in ninth place in Men's C.

The Women's Club Rugby team will be resting up over fall break in preparation for its next game against Elon on Oct. 20. The game against the Phoenix will be played in Burlington on Elon's campus.

Club sports — results

The Women's Club Rugby team participated in "Rucooberfest" this weekend in Boone. Even though the team lost its first game of the season, the Wolfpack performed great in posting four shutout wins.

On Saturday, the team played three games and won two. The Pack beat Duke for the second weekend in a row 19-0 and plastered Georgia 24-0. On Sunday, the team recorded two more shutouts against Radford 17-0 and host Appalachian State 5-0. The win over the Mountaineers marked the first time in two years that State has topped Appalachian. Elizabeth Orwell, Nacia Tou, Heather Fernell, Meredith Harris, Jeanelle McCoy, Susan Kennedy (two), and Heather Ball (two) all scored tries.

On Saturday, the Cross Country Club entered the Hagen Stone Cross Country Classic in Greensboro. The weather was very wet, but it didn't keep each of the runners from achieving their season-best times. The women ran a 5k while the men ran in an 8k, and the competition included North Carolina's club team as well as varsity teams from regional universities.

The Softball Club team traveled to College Park, Md., this weekend for a tournament at Maryland. The Wolfpack was impressive with two shutout wins over archrival North Carolina 10-5 and 1-0, as well as another shutout win vs. the host Terrapins 3-0. The team's only loss came at the hands of James Madison 5-0.

The Club Roller Hockey team met Elon for the first time this season on Saturday. The Wolfpack and the Phoenix ended the game in an 8-8 tie. Leading the scoring for the Pack was Chris Hickman with an amazing four goals. Also scoring goals for State were Jake Grima with two and Alan Rowe and Keith Byrne with one each.

The Women's Club Ultimate Frisbee team ("Disc-o") returned home from the Ultimate Player's Association Regionals in Fredericksburg, Va., with a 2-2 record. The team's only losses were to two older and more experienced women's community teams. "Disc-o" beat East Carolina (15-2) and Penn State (8-6). In the ECU game, "Disc-o" only allowed one goal in each half. The Penn State game was more exciting as State came back from a 4-1 deficit, scoring five in a row and gaining another win.

The Club Fencing team traveled to Boone for an intercollegiate tournament at Appalachian State this weekend. The Wolfpack fencers brought home several medals. David Acree took third place in epee, and Ross Magee took second in foil and third in saber. Acree earned his E ranking for the first time, and Magee renewed his E ranking with his accomplishments.

ASHTON

Continued from Page 8

pitcher's overall effectiveness.

NL Cy Young: Randy Johnson, Arizona

Randy Johnson and Curt Schilling gave Arizona the best 1-2 combination in baseball this season and will likely finish in that order in the Cy Young voting. The edge, however, goes to Johnson.

In 249 2/3 innings, Johnson recorded a staggering 372 strikeouts, putting him 11 shy of Nolan Ryan's major-league record. Against Johnson, opponents hit just .203, the second-best mark in the majors. His 2.49 ERA led all starting pitchers this year and was nearly a half-run better than Schilling, who finished a distant second in that category.

AL MVP: Ichiro Suzuki,

CROSS

Continued from Page 8

assistant coach Laurie Henes. "Neither of them have raced their full teams yet this year, but I think they are a little ahead of everyone else. I think it will be great for our girls to run against competition that strong before the post-season."

Leading the Wolfpack into competition this weekend will be All-Americans Katie Sabino and Kristin Price. Price, a sophomore, was State's top finisher in Charlotte three weeks ago, and Sabino was the Wolfpack's top performer at the NCAA Championships last fall.

Backing up these two will be an experienced group of runners in Megan Coombs, Beth Fonner and Beth Kraft. Freshmen Josie Lauber and Janelle Vadnais will round out State's top seven runners.

"Several of the girls running need the experience of a race

Seattle

Jason Giambi, Bret Boone, Juan Gonzalez and Alex Rodriguez all have decent claims to the AL MVP, but no player had a bigger impact on his team—or the game—than Suzuki.

Suzuki was the leadoff hitter for the best team in baseball, a job he did very well. The Japanese sensation had a 381 on-base percentage, scored 127 runs and was a constant disruption to opposing pitchers as a threat to steal.

On a larger scale, Suzuki added to the international flavor of baseball and destroyed the myth that Japanese position players can't hit major-league pitching.

NL MVP: Barry Bonds, San Francisco

In a normal year, Sammy Sosa and Luis Gonzalez would have been contenders for this award, but this wasn't a normal year.

Barry Bonds put together what might go down as the best single-season performance in the rich history of major-league baseball. Aside from breaking Mark McGwire's three-year-old home run record with 73, Bonds slugged .863, walked 177 times and homered once every 6.52 at-bats—all major-league records. He was the first player not named Babe Ruth to have a slugging percentage of more than .800 or an OPS (on-base plus slugging percentage) of more than 1.300, missing Ruth's record in that category by .0006 of a point.

Whoever you like him or not, Bonds easily outshone every player in the game this year.

Jeremy Ashton is going with the *As* over the *Diamondbacks* in seven games in the *World Series*. His columns normally appear on Tuesdays, and he can be reached at 515-2411 or jeremy@techniciansports.com.

like this," Henes said. "We usually don't compete against teams this good at this point in the season, but this year I think the competition will really help out some of our girls."

The Wolfpack men enter this weekend's meet in a tie with Villanova for ninth place in the national coaches' poll. Six of the top 10 teams will be racing this weekend, including the top two seeds, Colorado and Stanford. A total of 18 of the top 25 teams in the nation will be split between the two premier races.

Chad Pearson, Chris Dugan and Chris Seaton were State's top three finishers in Charlotte three weeks ago and will lead the Wolfpack into the race this weekend. All-American last year as a freshman, Andy Smith will also join these three up front.

"One of the things I like to do with this race is get the front runners to race in a group," said head coach Rollie Geiger. "I want the guys to run in packs

this weekend. I want Seaton, Dugan, Pearson and Smith to run in a group through the race with the other three guys in the top seven running in another group, hopefully not too far behind the first one."

Ricky Brookshire, David Christian and Nick Mangum will make up the second group of State runners in this race. These three runners were the Wolfpack's fifth, sixth and seventh runners at the Great American Cross Country Festival.

"I've been saying the whole season that this is one of the most talented fields, nationwide, that I've seen," Geiger said. "There are so many quality teams out there that you can finish fourth or 10th at nationals on any given day. It's a hard call to determine rankings. Do I think we're better than ninth? I think we are, but at nationals there are going to be a lot of teams battling for those spots near the front."



Justin Branch and the Wolfpack recorded their second win of the season, defeating Elon at Method Road Stadium. The Pack returns to action against Duke on Sunday.

SOCCER

Continued from Page 8

After Mejia hit the crossbar in the 57th minute, the Pack found gold again just a minute later. This time, Mejia hit nothing but net. Freshman Brock Trejo set up the score by dribbling down the left side of the field and set up Butler, who could have shot the ball himself. Instead, the senior co-captain quickly passed to his right and Mejia knocked his shot past the Phoenix goalkeeper.

The Pack, who finished with 17 shots, coasted the rest of the way for the win.

"It feels good to win," said Tarantini. "We did a good job of taking advantage of our opportunities, but there is a lot of work we still must do. We play a great team Sunday in Duke, and we've got our work cut out for us."

The match was halted in the 84th minute after Elon's Brent McDowell collapsed on the Phoenix sideline. According to medical personnel, McDowell suffered a concussion after being hit in the head in the first half and then collapsed after being substituted for in the second half. Tarantini and Elon coach Mike Reilly agreed to stop the game when McDowell's condition demanded medical attention.

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Men's soccer burns the Phoenix

BASEBALL MLB award winners



Isreal Mejia scored the Pack's final goal in a 4-0 win over Elon on Wednesday.

◆ The men's soccer team explodes for four goals in a shutout of Elon.

Andrew B. Carter
Staff Writer

The N.C. State men's soccer team needed a match like this.

After weeks of frustration, matches upon matches of just-misses and almosts, the Pack routed Elon Wednesday afternoon 4-0 in a match in which nearly every thing went right for State.

"I think a lot of people in the middle of the field made things easier today," said coach George Tarantini. "We worked hard for this, and we're happy."

Tarantini was pleased to see his team execute its finest offensive showing of the season.

The Wolfpack (2-8), who had not scored more than twice all year,

used goals from four different sources in the victory. The offensive output was the Pack's highest since netting six goals in a win over Georgia Southern on Sept. 27, 2000.

Redshirt junior Michael Karim put the Pack on the board early when he booted a penalty shot past Elon goalkeeper Paul Reuter. That score, which came in the 11th minute, was State's quickest of the year.

The penalty shot was awarded to the Pack when sophomore Isreal Mejia was fouled inside the goal box. Reuter, who dove left when Karim struck the ball, could do nothing as the shot fell into the back right corner of the net. It was Karim's third score of the season.

Unfortunately for Elon, State was just getting started.

Karim again made his presence felt when he streaked down the left side of the field and centered the ball perfectly for Lee Baldwin. The senior took advantage of Karim's pretty pass as he nudged the ball

past the diving Reuter to put State ahead 2-0.

Meanwhile, the Wolfpack defense was getting the job done as usual. Led by goalkeeper Mitchell Watson and marking back Damon Butler, State made sure that the ball was kept in Elon territory for most of the match.

Watson, who finished the afternoon with six saves, gave the Pack its first shutout since a 3-0 win over Gardner-Webb on Nov. 27, 2000.

"Mitchell gives everything he has every time out," said Tarantini of his co-captain. "I'm so happy that we had the shutout for him."

Senior Matt Tabor capped the Wolfpack's first-half scoring when he took a long pass from Baldwin deep in Elon territory. After Reuter attempted to leave the box and clear the ball, Tabor stole a pass and punched his shot through the empty net in the 44th minute.

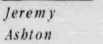
The second half represented more of the same for State.

See **SOCCER**, Page 7

With the major-league baseball playoffs underway, the time has come to reflect on another wild baseball season.

More records were broken this year, and the playoffs are shaping up to be as exciting as ever. With that in mind, here are the individuals who stood out this season:

AL Manager of the Year: Lou Pinella, Seattle



The Mariners traded Randy Johnson to Houston in 1998 because they were afraid they couldn't re-sign him in the off-season. A year later, they shipped Ken Griffey Jr. to my favorite team, the Reds, because of his impending free agency. This off-season, Alex Rodriguez left for the Rangers — and \$252 million.

With their three superstars gone, the Mariners were supposed to flop. Instead, with Lou Pinella at the helm, Seattle played great team baseball and tied the major-league record for wins in a season.

Pinella has long been one of the best managers in baseball, but the job he did with the Mariners this season was simply phenomenal.

NL Manager of the Year: Larry Bowa, Philadelphia

The Phillies didn't quite overtake the Braves in the NL East race, but Larry Bowa deserves credit for turning around a team that has gone nowhere since losing the 1993 World Series.

Philadelphia improved 21 games this season with a young, mostly inexperienced team. Bowa's fiery, competitive attitude was the impetus for much of the improvement, helping the Phillies hang with the veteran Braves down to the end.

NL Rookie of the Year: Ichiro Suzuki, Seattle

Ichiro Suzuki's arrival in Seattle wasn't exactly fair to every other rookie in the American League. After all, Suzuki isn't a typical rookie, since he already won seven batting titles in his native Japan.

Fair or not, Suzuki was the AL's dominant newbie, setting a rookie record for hits with 242. He also led the league in stolen bases with 56 and added another batting title to his resume, hitting .350.

NL Rookie of the Year: Roy Oswalt, Houston

The NL Rookie of the Year race boils down to St. Louis' Albert Pujols and Houston's Roy Oswalt.

Pujols' numbers were extraordinary for a rookie, as he hit .329 with 37 home runs and 130 RBIs. In an era when good pitching is hard to come by, however, Oswalt's accomplishments were even more impressive.

Oswalt stepped into the Astros' rotation early in the season and turned into the team's ace. In 28 appearances, including 20 starts, Oswalt went 14-3 with a 2.73 ERA, giving him a slight edge over Pujols.

AL Cy Young: Mike Mussina, New York

Roger Clemens will win this award because the 20-3 record he put up this year will blind voters. What that record doesn't show is the number of times the Yankees bailed him out of losing situations or the 6.58 runs of support he received every time he took the mound.

At least three pitchers — Mike Mussina, Tim Lincecum and Freddy Garcia — had better years than Clemens, and of that group, Mussina, Clemens' teammate, was the best.

Putting records aside, Mussina beat Clemens in nearly every possible statistical category, posting a lower ERA, a better walks and hits per innings pitched ratio and more quality starts (appearances in which a pitcher goes more than six innings and gives up three earned runs or less). Mussina's 17-11 record doesn't reflect this because the Yankees scored two less runs per start for him than they did for Clemens, further proving that wins and losses are a weak way to determine a

See **ASHTON**, Page 7

Runners head to Pre-Nationals

◆ N.C. State's cross country teams will square off against many of the nation's best this weekend in Furman for the Pre-Nationals meet.

Todd Lion
Staff Writer

Many of the nation's best cross country teams and individuals will converge on the campus of Furman University on Saturday for the annual NCAA

WHAT: Pre-Nationals meet.
CROSS COUNTRY

AT PRE-NATIONALS Among the favorite teams competing will be the N.C. State Wolfpack. The women's team enters this week-end ranked third in the nation, and the men are in a tie for ninth.

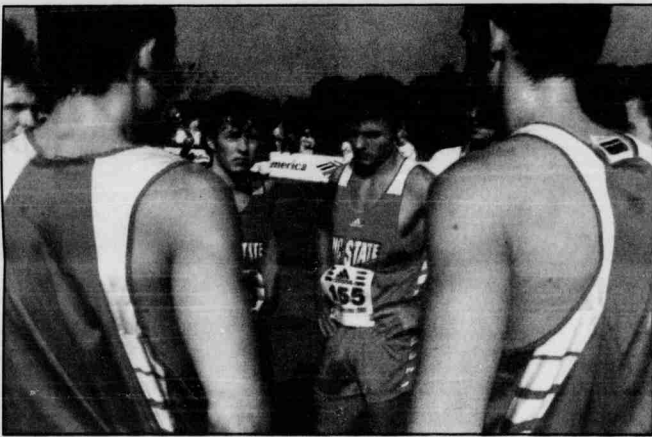
WHEN: SATURDAY
WHERE: GREENVILLE, S.C.

The State teams entered the season ranked lower, but both teams received a significant boost in the rankings after dominating performances against other ranked teams earlier this season at the Great American Cross Country Festival in Charlotte.

The competition at this meet will be the first the Wolfpack teams have faced since their race in Charlotte three weeks ago.

Colorado and Stanford, ranked first and second in both the men's and women's national polls, will be attending the Pre-National meet but will not face off against each other due to the format with which the meet will be run.

Over 5,000 runners are entered to race on



The men's cross country team enters NCAA Pre-Nationals ranked ninth in the country, while the women's team goes in ranked third.

Saturday, a number far greater than the Furman cross country course can accommodate. Because of this, a total of 10 races will be run, with the top teams being split across the two showcase races. This was done to ensure strong competition in both races while providing unranked teams with the opportunity to test themselves against some of the

best teams in the nation.

In the women's race, the top six and eight of the top 10 teams in the nation will be split to compete against 13 more of the top 25 teams.

"We will have either Colorado or Stanford in our race, either of which is major competition," said

See **CROSS**, Page 7

UNC sweeps volleyball

◆ The Wolfpack dropped to 0-4 on its current homestand, falling to the Tar Heels 3-0.

Billy Freeman
Staff Writer

Reynolds Coliseum has not been kind to N.C. State's volleyball team recently. With one match left in a five-match homestand, the Wolfpack is still winless after losing to N.C. State on Carolina Wednesday night.

Volleyball
NCSU 0
UNC 3

The Pack (5-10, 1-7 ACC) played hard, but too many mental errors gave UNC (15-3, 8-0 ACC) the 30-12, 30-20, 30-22 win.

"We have really been beating ourselves in matches," head coach Mary Byrne said. "This match, we came out more as a team and fought a little bit on defense."

After losing the first two games of the match, State's defense allowed it to take the lead midway through the third game. The team used a 10-5 run to tie the game at 15. The tying point came on a crowd-pleasing block by freshman middle

blocker Maya Mapp. The Pack briefly took the lead 16-15 but could not hold on. The Tar Heels took control of the final game with a 5-0 spurt to make the score 23-18 and went on to win 30-22.

"It was important for us in the third game to get back in there and hit the ball and be aggressive at the serving line," Byrne said.

Byrne has been experimenting with lineup changes over the past few matches, searching for chemistry. This being Byrne's first year coaching at State, she has brought a new scheme. This new system definitely contributes to the high amount of unforced errors the Pack had.

"We made a lot of unforced errors, and that's just the way the transition of the game we're trying to play," Byrne said. "They have a lot of information, and we just don't have that experience yet."

The Wolfpack had some bright spots. Freshman Lindi Sheppard led the Pack with a .353 hitting percentage and 17 assists. Seniors Charece Williams and Alison Kreager combined for 17 digs on defense.

UNC had stellar play from Nicole Reis, who slammed down 19 kills for a .533 hitting percentage, and Malaika Underwood, who accumulated 40 assists and nine digs.

"They had two great outside hitters we couldn't stop," Byrne said.

Laura Greene, who had 11 kills, and Reis dominated the play at times, hitting the ball very well.

The Wolfpack played UNC tough, keeping the score close early in games two and three. The Tar Heels used a 7-2 run to go up 12-7 in the second game. State won two long rallies that got the crowd on its feet and into the game. The last one ended on a powerful Williams' spike that ricocheted off a helpless UNC netter, closing the score to 27-20. The Heels took control, however, winning the last three points of the game.

Despite completing a tough first half of the ACC season, the Pack is still motivated for the rest of the year.

"We have a whole new focus and have started over and given it our all in every game we've had," Sheppard said. "It showed tonight, but it wasn't enough, but it was a big improvement for our team."

The Pack closes its homestand Saturday at Reynolds when it takes on Kansas at 7 p.m.



Rebecca Anderson and the Pack couldn't spike their rivals from Chapel Hill on Wednesday night.

See **ASHTON**, Page 7