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Student Patrol ready to increase campus security

♦SPOs are available to provide escorts to members of the campus community and check security all over NCSU.

Spaine Stephens
News Editor

A group of students may be N.C. State's best-kept secret, one they'd like to be told.

Student Patrol, co-sponsored by University Housing and Public Safety, is made up of students who serve as campus safety escorts from different locations on campus and extra "eyes and ears" for Public Safety officers to detect vandalism, criminal activity or suspicious persons.

"We provide escorts for faculty, students and guests of students from any point on campus to any ending point on campus," said Frank Brinkley, director of Student Patrol. "We're usually able to respond to a request within five minutes."

Wary after an evening of studying, many students may find security en route to their vehicles or dorms by calling 513-3000. Most of the escorts are provided to and from residence halls and D.H. Hill Library, but they are available all over campus.

The Student Patrol Officers (SPOs) rove various zones on campus: East Campus, Central Campus and West Campus. They check for unsafe conditions, such as open doors that should be secure, crime and suspicious persons that could contribute to problems on campus. They also evaluate the blue-light towers on campus weekly to make sure they function properly in case of an emergency.

Even with the supplemental assistance SPOs provide for Public Safety officers, Brinkley is afraid that the campus community does not take advantage of their services because they are unaware of the group's existence.

Brinkley said in past years, as many as 20 escorts were requested on one night. Now, SPOs respond to about 30 calls per week.

"I think the main reason for that is the



Frank Brinkley, director of Student Patrol, checks the Coliseum Deck as one of the rounds on his shift.

lack of public knowledge of our existence," said Brinkley.

Jon Barnwell, crime prevention officer with Public Safety, attributed the decline to an overall decrease of crime on campus. He said people feel safer walking alone, but they should know the service is available should they deem it necessary.

"In a relatively safe environment, we might take the chance of walking by ourselves," said Barnwell. "We can't make you not to participate in it because you don't know about it."

Barnwell said the joint venture between University Housing, which provides funding for the service, and Public Safety, which makes equipment available, is another step toward a safe, interactive environment.

"We want to be proactive," he said. "We don't want any one in a situation to become a potential victim."

He also said the SPOs have been extremely beneficial on such a large campus on which it is not always easy for officers to get from one point to another quickly.

"They have helped us catch a lot of people," he said.

With serious responsibilities, the

SPOs take their duties just as seriously. They apply for their positions, undergo training and take an exam to qualify for the job. They often work late and into the early-morning hours.

With the dedication and enthusiasm comes more opportunity. Public Safety is working with Student Government to assess the need for Student Patrol and how the service can be improved, said Barnwell, and Brinkley said Public Safety is looking for more ways to integrate the SPOs into the campus safety cause and increase the students' visibility. SPOs are on-hand for many campus events, including the recent Take Back

the Night march.

With the service they provide, SPOs are also aware that some wariness is directed toward them. On their nightly shifts, they are not always welcomed by other students.

"We don't want other students to be afraid of us," said Brinkley. "We're not out to get you; we're out to provide security to students who don't feel safe."

Knowing the positive and negative features that come with the territory, some of the SPOs even consider a career in law enforcement after their Student Patrol experiences.

"When I originally applied, I had no interest in pursuing law enforcement, but now I'm considering it," said Brinkley. "But not everyone changes their mind about a career choice."

Public Safety Officer David English used to be an SPO and enjoyed the experience so much that he wanted to pursue a career in law enforcement, even at NCSU.

"It got into my blood," said English. "I guess once I started doing it, I wanted to try and take it to the next level."

The transition from SPO to Public Safety officer was not difficult for English because he knew campus well. He said the biggest change was going from an observer to taking the step to being more active.

English's step-by-step experiences provide him with a unique view of keeping the community safe.

"I've seen it from a student perspective, an SPO's perspective and now from an officer's view," he said.

"I think SPOs are very under-appreciated," he said. "They're out there in all sorts of weather, checking things for safety and doing escorts. And nine times out of 10, they're the first ones on the scene of an incident."

English said Public Safety is able to better serve the community because of SPOs.

"They're ready to help, any way they can help out," he said. "By giving us a heads up. They're the eyes and ears we need."

New discovery: peptide antibiotics found and isolated in mast cells

♦The peptide antibiotics found by two NCSU researchers in a fish hybrid could lead to new treatments for certain human diseases.

Carlton Newsome
Staff Reporter

Recent research efforts have led scientists Edward J. Noga and Umaporn Silphaduang, from the Department of Clinical Sciences at N.C. State's College of Veterinary Medicine, to be able to isolate a previously undiscovered family of naturally occurring peptide antibiotics. The research was carried out at the Vet School's Aquatic Laboratory. This family of peptide antibiotics was found in the Hybrid Striped Bass fish.

The study was funded by North Carolina Sea Grant, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Binational Israel-U.S. Agricultural Research and Development Fund.

Noga says that this research is significant because it could lead to many new drug discoveries and treatments, and the research also encourages broader research into the possibilities of naturally occurring antibiotics. The *in vitro* activity against pathogens that the peptides are capable of could lead to medicinal uses in humans. But this facet of the study still requires more research.

Some of the possible reasons for the presence of antibiotic peptides in these fish are that they perhaps protect the fish from disease or they may act as markers to stress, says Noga.

Resistance to disease in lower forms of vertebrates relies heavily upon nonspecific immunity. The most common cell type defense is the mast cell, which is the major tissue granulocyte of vertebrates. Mast cells are present in all vertebrates. It is not yet known whether the fish mast cells have the same lineage as mammalian mast cells. This is the first time mast cells have been isolated from any animal, including mammals.

Noga said that through the research, they detected very strong antibacterial activity in extracts that were taken from the skin, gills and gastrointestinal tract of the Hybrid Striped Bass. The measurements that they took from the extracts allowed them to isolate the antibacterial peptides.

The name given to the peptides is Piscidins, which is derived from "Pescis," meaning fish. Peptides are very small proteins, or short

chains of amino acids linked together. Peptide antibiotics are known to occur naturally in many microorganisms and plants, as well as in invertebrates and vertebrates. In addition, peptides can either kill or inhibit the growth of bacteria and other pathogens, said Noga.

The mast cells of the Hybrid Striped Bass are immunoreactive for Piscidins, mast cells in the gills, skin, stomach, intestine and pyloric caeca are positive, said Noga. He added that it has not yet been determined whether the piscidins are released into the extracellular environment or whether they function on an intracellular level.

"There is some evidence that mast cells play a role in immunity as an innate defense. This means that their response is not only directed at a specific disease, but multiple diseases," said Noga. He also said that the isolation indicates that peptide antibiotics are involved in more than orchestrating the attack, as was originally thought. They may play a direct role in killing pathogens, which will require more investigation to be definitive.

Noga said that peptide antibiotics that have been discovered are potent enough that they can kill both fish and human bacterial pathogens, including multi-drug-resistant strains.

Peptide antibiotics may occur in mast cells of other vertebrates such as reptiles, birds and amphibians since they already occur in fish, said Noga.

There are many implications that this find will have an impact on human health, said Noga and Silphaduang.

If human mast cells produce antibiotics and if there is some kind of deficiency in them, then that could be a lead to positive discoveries for some types of diseases. If human mast cells make antibiotics and they could be isolated, they could be useful as therapeutics for treating many diseases, said Noga and Silphaduang.

NCSU has applied for two patents on these discoveries. The newly discovered compounds will likely be used as blueprints or templates to design new drugs that could be used for treating various types of diseases.

An article has also been published giving specific details on Noga and Silphaduang's research. This article can be found in the Nov. 15 issue of the journal *Nature*. In addition, a description of the methods used for isolation is available at www.info.med.yale.edu/wmkeck.

Solar source of global warming identified

♦An N.C. State researcher sheds new light on the role of solar forces and greenhouse gases on global climate changes.

Dominique M. Donato
Senior Staff Reporter

Bill Showers, associate professor in the Department of Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, compares himself and his colleagues to "weathermen on WRAL." But these "weathermen" have become increasingly concerned with long-term weather patterns — 10, 15, and 1,000 years from now.

Showers and some of his colleagues may have found a consistent pattern in global climate change, a cycle that was once considered chaotic. Their discovery — small solar forces can have a dramatic effect on climate change.

"If a weak forcing function like the solar variation can have such a force on climate modes, it gives us concern about other factors like CO₂ and other greenhouse gases," he said.

Showers and others went on a cruise to Iceland in 1998, where

they collected cores along the North Atlantic. He used a new technique of coring, called "multi-core," which allowed him to examine the Holocene layer — the layer associated with the last 12,000 years. With most coring techniques, this layer of sediments is blown off and lost.

What he found from these cores was a pattern in particles within the ice called ice rafted debris (IRD). Using these IRDs, Showers was able to trace the flow of carbonates and beryllium 10 in the most recent geological time period.

"It's like dye in the sea; it traces the currents in the North Atlantic," he said.

The climatic beat or interglacial cycle is estimated at 1,500 years. "When we look at our IRD record and our beat record, they're in synchrony," said Showers, supporting that they have truly found the source of these climate fluctuations.

According to Showers, the fact that greenhouse gases cause global warming is not under debate because that has already been proven. Rather, what is in question is just how large an effect it can

have on the human civilization.

October was the warmest in the climate record, said Showers. Though the earth is currently in the warm spectrum of its climate beat, Showers' data suggests that if a weak force like the solar function can cause such a significant difference, the addition of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere can significantly alter or accelerate those climate changes.

"My daughter wouldn't mind if the climate here was like in Miami," joked Showers, who admits that a warmer climate might sound nice to many people. However, a drastic warming of the globe could lead to droughts and desertification.

Though there may be many methods in preventing such a disaster, for Showers, global climate change is a black box whose mechanisms he is trying to unwrap so that they can better be understood and predicted.

For more information on this research, the article, "Persistent Solar Influence on North Atlantic Climate During the Holocene," will be available in the journal *Science* on Dec. 7.



Robby Borka, a junior, hands out complimentary cups of Ramen Noodles with Christina Messing on back for Campus Crusade in the Brickyard.

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Murderer's custody shows flaws in policy

A WOMAN CONVICTED OF MURDERING ONE SON WAS RECENTLY AWARDED CUSTODY OF ANOTHER

The Associated Press reported Monday that Illinois resident Sheryl Hardy, who was sent to prison in Florida for the murder of her 2-year-old son, was awarded custody of her 9-month-old son. According to the AP, the murder of Hardy's son was "so shocking it prompted an overhaul of the state's child-protection laws." Again, Hardy has single-handedly pointed out a need for a revision in child-protection laws. The revision is that there must be some crimes — especially ones as heinous as Hardy's — that exclude the convict from ever gaining custody of children, regardless of prolonged rehabilitation.

"This may be one of those rare cases where a parent has been able to progress from a point of total inability to parent and protect a child to a point of confidence," Judge Thomas Russell, who awarded Hardy custody, wrote. This is preposterous and dangerous at the same time.

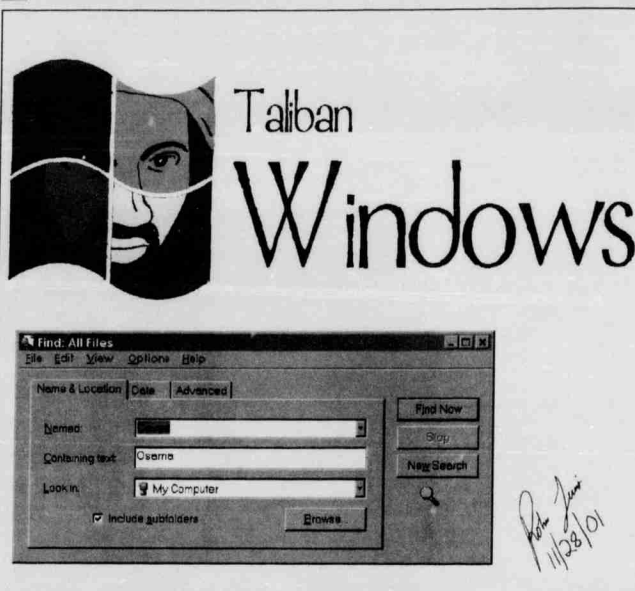
A woman who confessed to standing by and smoking a cigarette while her husband flushed their son's head into a toilet and then assisting him while he beat the child with pillows (the child

died the next day of head injuries) can never be deserving (or capable) of parenting again.

One may say that enough is enough and that people deserve a second chance. They do, but people convicted of murdering their children, and in such a horrible way, should not be allowed the chance to make the same or similar mistake twice.

Hardy, having served her nine-year sentence for the murder should, however, have a right to see her other child but certainly not be the custodian. This is where changes in child-protection laws are needed. Although this case has occurred in Illinois, it should alert our local politicians to these dangerous discrepancies.

There should be a list of laws, including violent murder near the very top, for which some of the punishment levied on the convict is foregoing the right to custody of their children. A petty thief who stole to support his child deserves a second chance. Sheryl Hardy does not. Judge Thomas Russell and the Illinois courts have made a grave mistake. Let us hope we can take steps to prevent similar ones in the future.



I am in love



Grant Jones
STAFF COLUMNIST

Dear Readers, I am in love! Sweet, magnificent love! It's like the birds chirp for me alone, the flowers are more beautiful than ever before, and the skies cease to rain (despite farmers' prayers for an end to drought). All because I am in love! If only the parking tickets would pay themselves.

The name of my Love is Heather. I was walking down Franklin Street one hot day this summer when I ducked into the Yogurt Pump, a frozen yogurt store, despite my better judgement. (My doctor advises me to go light on the desserts as I am extremely hypoglycemic — too much sugar, and I get faint and pass out.) As soon as I entered, I saw her standing behind the counter like some siren from ancient mythology. Immediately, I was mesmerized.

The store was full of heat-exhausted customers seeking relief. I stood with my jaw hanging as she served the customers in front of me. She was beautiful — petite with long brown hair, pearly skin and a sweet smile that exposed a lover's gap in her teeth. She looked so good. I broke out in a sweat. When it was my turn, the woman behind me in line had to push me to the counter. "Hi. Can I get you something, sir?" I remember her asking.

"I, uh, I ugh, ugh, zeddablaeeesh, abu du owferenghindeleaaaah!" I replied and ran out of the store screaming like a frightened schoolgirl. I was so embarrassed that I did not go back to the store until I had grown a full goatee and dyed my hair. This time I was

able to give my order, but I still stood stiff as a statue as she pumped out my yogurt into a flawless waffle cone that she had made that morning. She did it so gracefully, vanilla and chocolate balanced in a perfect swirl.

When she handed me the cone her thumb accidentally brushed up against my pinky. I dropped my cone onto her cash register. I was so embarrassed I started to cry. She reassured me that it was quite all right, and in an act that proved to me that her inner beauty was as pure as her outer, she gave me a free cone.

I came back later that day to get another cone and sit in the corner pretending to read the newspaper while I stared at her over the pages. I came back again three times the next day and 36 times over the following week.

One night, after the Yogurt Pump had closed, I was sitting at home watching the news and writing a haiku for Heather to show her when I got up enough courage. Suddenly, my eyes shrank to the size of raisins, and I began to cough through my nose. I had suffered a severe hypoglycemic reaction to all the sugar I had been consuming.

I called my doctor when I woke up three days later, and he told me that I could not continue to eat all that yogurt or something terrible would happen: Either my heart would stop beating or it would explode. I told him that I was in love, and not he or an enemy army would stop me from seeing Heather. He told me to stay off and sent an invoice for the advice.

I continued to frequent the Yogurt Pump at least every hour on the hour. The one visit, as I was paying, I hid the haiku I had written for Heather between the dollar bills. Before she could discover my present, I was out the door.

I would only know it had worked when I was to come back the next day after my

dentist appointment. But I never went back that day. I lay in the dentist chair from eight that morning to six that night. The dentist said I had 29 cavities, the most he had ever seen.

I decided that if for nothing other than health reasons, I needed to ask Heather out immediately. The next day I went straight to the Yogurt Pump. I had two dozen roses in my hand when I walked up to the counter. She was blushing. I was opening my mouth to confess my affection and to invite her to dinner when the sound of my tooth hitting the counter interrupted me.

I dropped the roses and started to run out the door screaming when I felt her hand on my arm. "Don't go," she said. "Stick around for another half-hour until I get off."

"Uhkaay," I said. It was a slow day for business, and we spent the half-hour chatting and looking for the tooth that had first fallen out and the three other teeth that had fallen out in the course of our conversation.

"Where do you want to eat? How about pizza or ...?" I asked as we stepped out onto the street, cutting my question short at the sound of another tooth hitting the sidewalk.

"How about soup," she replied, taking me by the hand and leading me to a soup and sandwich shop nearby.

Inside, over a bowl of chicken broth, is where I read her haiku I had written. She says that poem is what captured her heart. Your yogurt is sweet And it can come with toppings But you are sweeter

Grant would be happy to field your questions about the best way to get rid of yard-squirrels. E-mail him at grant@therealgrantjones.com.

Cocaine



Karl Smith
STAFF COLUMNIST

If you support the prohibition of cocaine in the United States, then there is little to nothing you can ever do to make up for the death, destruction and pain you have caused.

Now we can play games and say it's not our fault. It's the fault of the gangsters, the corrupt police officers, the media or perhaps even the CIA. However, the guilt of one actor in no way diminishes the culpability of the others, and the fact remains that the illegalization of cocaine has created a socio-economic paradigm whose inevitable equilibrium is the destruction of millions of lives.

Now without a doubt, every cocaine dealer is responsible for the addicts he has created and for the people he has killed defending his turf. Yet, the responsibility does not stop there. It extends to the system that created him. There exists a market for cocaine, and that market will be supplied. There exist distribution contracts, alliances and conventions. Those contracts will be enforced, if not inside of the law, then outside of it. We know this. The prohibition of cocaine, particularly in its crystalline form, led as predictably to the rise of violent crime in the '80s and early '90s as the prohibition of alcohol did in the '20s.

Yet, the responsibility does not stop there. The politicians, judges and law enforcement officials who force the drug trade into the back alleys and basements of America do not operate inside of a vacuum. They are simply doing the job they were hired to do. They are fulfilling the campaign promises they were forced to make. Just as certainly as the economic environment of drug violence is created by legal and political forces, those legal forces are created by the will of the people.

Cocaine is bad, we say, and so it becomes banned. It is taken out of the soft drinks and put on the street corner. Its distribution becomes criminalized, and so now only criminals distribute it.

Those criminals become wealthy, and that wealth leads to a struggle. A struggle that becomes increasingly violent as the stakes are raised by stiffer and stiffer legal penalties.

It is not as if any of this is a surprise or a mystery. Every move Pablo Escobar made could have been taken right out of Meyer Lansky's playbook. The economics of controlled substances is nothing new. Yet, we still choose to destroy the lives of millions of Americans. Why?

Many people would blame racism. They would say that through some complex anti-black, anti-Latino conspiracy, gang violence has been confined primarily to minorities. Yet there need be no conspiracy. It is not "minorities" who are the primary victims of drug culture but the urban poor. It is the children who grow up with little access to education and traditional economic resources, but wonderful access to a large clientele of potential users who are sucked in by the lure of dealing.

No, the root of drug-related violence in America is quite simply intellectual sloth. It is that it is easier to label drugs as bad and throw simple-minded and shortsighted laws at their abuse than to attempt to understand why that abuse takes place and to tackle the problem effectively. It is this laziness that has directly contributed to the death and imprisonment of hundreds of thousands of Americans and left thousands more parentless.

I wish to be perfectly clear. I am not merely saying that the illegalization of some drugs is a mistake and should be reevaluated. I am saying that the prohibition of cocaine is evil and that those who support it are evil as well. I am saying that the American populace as a whole is directly responsible for each and every drug-related murder. I am saying that I am responsible for not insisting earlier that this issue be addressed properly.

This issue can no longer be left to fester as some erudite cocktail-party debate where the intellectuals lament the ridiculousness of pop conscience. We must feel personally accountable. Responsibility must be taken, and guilt must be felt by all of us.

Questions? Comments? E-mail Karl at kwsmith2@unity.ncsu.edu.

TECHNICIAN

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

- Mark McLawhorn
- Mark McLawhorn
- Spaine Stephens
- Jeremy Ashton
- Greg Volk
- Ryan Hill
- Greg Volk
- Jason Ivester
- Adrian Gonzalez
- John Carr
- Matthew Pelland
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Women's 'liberation' vs. real self-actualization



Larisa Yasinovskaya
STAFF COLUMNIST

I am a woman. I read Cosmo for the fashion advice. Glamour for the beauty tips. Stuff and Maxxim for the humor and gadget news, and Playboy for the articles. I watch CNN for the news and TLC and Discovery for the scientific breakthroughs. I watch Animal Planet for "America's Funniest Animals," and "Will and Grace" is my favorite sitcom (yes, I said sitcom). "Dangerous Beauty" and "Snatch" are two of my favorite movies. In spite of all these apparent contradictions, I am a happy and self-actualized woman.

Did I just upset someone's reality? Lately I have observed a trend of expectations for women to behave a certain way to fit some sort of a mold. I'm not just talking about high school, for we all know about the "cookie cutter" phenomenon, and we all know that we can and should be independent. I'm talking about a different mold — the new progressive "If you want to be a tough new age woman who is liberated" mold. You

don't wear makeup or short skirts because you don't have to cater to a man's preference in a man's world. The you-don't-watch-"chick flicks" and-you-change-your-own-ol image. And you want a channel for you and your tough femme posse that doesn't carry predictable "chick flicks" but rather has hard-hitting news and politics for women on your very own network(s). It means being who you are, a woman, and proud of it. (It may also mean changing the channel.) No, you don't have to wear makeup or shave your legs, but you can if you want to. It means you can change your oil, but you don't have to if you don't want to.

Frankly, I'm quite fed up with all these modern definitions of female liberation that strip women of their womanhood. I'll wear my short skirts and makeup and will do my hair and will have my oil

changed by a mechanic, but I will still take over the world doing it. I am utterly disgusted by the school of thought that says that women who make themselves up are doing it to attract men alone. However, the more perplexing question is if they are trying to impress men. Why that is wrong? Women becoming self-actualized and empowered does not mean getting rid of men or being able to do without them. What are we trying to say? It's not like men can do without us. I think all we really have to do is what we want to do and be who we want to be. Like I said, I am a woman, and I look and dress like one, but my character and entertainment preferences (magazines, movies, etc.) have been confused for a man's. So what? Believe me, I'm doing just fine in a "man's world." True liberation is more freedom to do what we want. However, more constraints put upon us by other women under the guise of feminism actually limit our freedom.

So girls, if you really want to be progressive and liberated, you need to promote unity and toleration for and among your gender, not impose more restrictions on what it means to be a "liberal, progressive woman."

E-mail Larisa if you want to change her oil or give her makeup and fashion advice. larisa_opinion@hotmail.com

Pete Yorn is your musicforthemorningafter

Staff Writer **Grayson Currin**

Pete Yorn sits in a dimly lit booth of the Lincoln Theatre, his face slightly flustered. He seems both irritated and preoccupied, torn between two different facets of the profession that seems to require so many things of him. While he wades through the questions of someone who wants to know him and his music, he is distracted by a crew of his own hiring less than 300 yards away. They bang raucously on a drum kit and pump chords and riffs through his guitar.

He wants to be there, playing and making music. Yorn listens to what they are doing onstage, making mental notes to himself of what is wrong with a mic level or instrument tuning. At the same time, he is engulfed by the interview going on as he attempts to explain himself as a musician. Warily, he leans into the microphone of a handheld recorder, making sure that what he says counts. He does the same with his music. His debut album, "musicforthemorningafter," has won him acclaim as a new beacon of rock music, as one of its best new artists and as someone who truly comprehends the alchemy of music.

In his own eyes, however, he is a self-conscious musician attempting to make something that he finds "honest and entertaining." In an era where so many

talented acts seem to dole out the parts of drummer, bassist and producer to others instead of devoting and enveloping themselves in their own work by playing several roles, Yorn writes and plays his own songs, "musicforthemorningafter" reveals Yorn as an excellent guitarist, bassist, pianist, vocalist and percussionist. The album is a revelation of sorts, a delicate fusion of British pop and American rock. The song structures are hybrids that reveal Yorn as a singer/songwriter who is not afraid to break trends and innovate.

Only a few hours before he and his band rocked the Lincoln Theatre on Wednesday, Nov. 21, Technician crowded into the same booth as Pete Yorn, seeking clues as to how a young man of New Jersey came to launch his musical career that shines bright and pulsates with original ideas.

Tech: How did you first experience music?

Yorn: I always gravitated towards music from a very young age. I had the fuel from my brothers. One was six years older than me, and one was nine years older than me. They were into some bands that there were in back in high school, and my parents were cool enough to let them play in our basement. I grew up kind of watching them play, and from there I was just really into it, always gravitating towards it. I was the drummer in some bands for awhile, and I had a couple of bands in high school for fun. My junior or senior year—that's when I started playing guitar in bands. That's when I started singing in a band—up front.

Tech: How many instruments can you play?

Yorn: A bunch. The drums are my main instrument, then there's the bass, piano and harmonica, and a few guitars.

Tech: Does knowledge of all those instruments have an effect on your songwriting?

Yorn: Definitely. Just being a drummer in general affects the way I play guitar. I play very percussively. Coming from a whole drumming background, I think it affects the whole way I think about writing and putting a full song together.

Tech: You've said quite often that a majority of your songs aren't personal and aren't biographical. What are they?

Yorn: They're all coming through me. They're all being filtered through me, but not everything is not about me or a specific person. I might write a love song, but it's not necessarily about my relationship. I kind of make things right that weren't right in reality when I write a song. It's my take on it. Writers write about things every day, but it's not necessarily a biography... they're writing about things in the world.

Tech: You produced "musicforthemorningafter" by yourself for the most part. How advantageous was that for you?

Yorn: I think it could be a good thing or a bad thing depending on the artist. For me, I really had a focused vision of what I wanted this record to be. I think

I knew how to get it. I also knew that too much of myself wouldn't be a good thing, and that's why I worked with Walt Vincent and Brad Wood. They balanced me out. They had cool ideas when I didn't. I was focused on what I wanted this thing to sound like.

Tech: Are you writing for the next album yet?

Yorn: I'm always writing songs. I'm already recording for [the next album]. I've recorded seven songs, but I've written tons for it. I'm ready to finish it.

Tech: Describe the concept of the new live EP that just went to market.

Yorn: It's fun for the fans to be able to hear the difference between the live and the record. There are a couple of different covers on there that aren't on the record. A rock concert is a rock concert. It's loud, it's in your face, and when we play a song live, we kind of "just blow it up." There is a certain energy that you can only get at a live show.

Tech: Where does the title "musicforthemorningafter" come from?

Yorn: The title came from a couple of places. One, I was reading about these kids in England who were into the whole ecstasy-club, rave lifestyle. Those kids would go out and party, do drugs and everything else. The next morning they would have to go back to work and back to normalcy. I was like, "What do you listen to that next day?" ... when you're going back to that mentality, "musicforthemorningafter" just popped into my head. In general, it suggests just moving on with your life.

Tech: Name a few people that influence your music.

Yorn: I guess Lou Reed and now Walt Vincent. Walt Vincent worked on the record with me.

Tech: Your melodies are almost magnetic, and they all seem well crafted. What were some of your primary influences with respect to melody?

Yorn: Melodically, bands like The Kinks, Stone Roses, The Smiths, and Springsteen. Later, Graham Parsons. The Beach Boys blew me away with melody. They were really all over the place.

Ironically, the show began with Andie Summers of G105 introducing Yorn to an anxious crowd. Whereas G105 caters to the whimsical public, pleasing them with tunes not to be intellectualized but instead consumed like sugar, Yorn is a true musician. He knows that to truly delight audiences and move the progressive epic of music along, he must please himself with his music. This was clear in his set of 15 songs that ran nearly two hours.

His soul, as well as his fingers, found each string for the driving guitar of "Strange Condition." His vocals for those thoughtful, slower numbers such as "On Your Side" and "June" revealed an artist truly connected with his work, an artist who has a vision that has earned him "Best New Artist of 2001" recognition and seems to have him headed in the direction of a long stream of success and accolades.

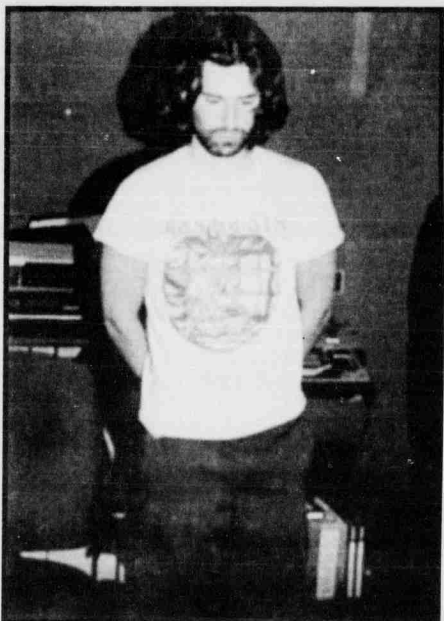


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Calendar

On-Campus events

University Theatre and Alpha Psi Omega will be presenting the student-directed "Picasso at the Lapin Agile." Directed by senior Laura Bassett, the show opened on Nov. 28 and will run through Dec. 2 in the Studio Theatre (at Thompson Theatre).

N.C. State's New Horizons Choir will perform its fall concert this Sunday, Dec. 2 at 4 p.m. in Stewart Theater. The performances will include various Black gospels and African-American spirituals.

NCSU's Department of Music will present its traditional holiday concerts next Friday and Saturday, Dec. 7 and 8, at 8 p.m. in Stewart Theater. Each night features a slightly different program however, with the Varsity Men's Glee Club, Concert Choir and Concert Band playing only Friday and the NCSU Women's Choir, University Singers and Jazz Ensemble playing only Saturday. However, the Chamber Singers, New Horizons Choir and the NCSU Pipes & Drums will play both nights.

The N.C. State Jazz Ensemble will perform its fall concert this Thursday, Nov. 29 at 8 p.m. in Stewart Theater. Performances include "Tonawanda Fats" by Stan Menza, "Stolen Moments" by Oliver Nelson, "Cottontail" by Duke Ellington and "Woodchoppers Ball" by Woody Herman.

The Gallery of Art & Design presents "Passionate Collectors," showing 95 contemporary art objects from the collection of Sonia and Isaac Luski. The exhibit, which features paintings, sculptures and glass art, will run through Dec. 20.

Off-Campus events

The Brewery will be presenting *Ali* with an 1 this Thursday, Nov. 29 along with *Kid Icarus* on Friday. *Souldog* and *The Band* will visit the venue, followed by *Sherman* on Saturday and the *North Mississippi All Stars* on Sunday.

The Lincoln Theatre will be bringing in *Squeezetoy* and *Reignmen* this Thursday, Nov. 29. They will follow this show with *Nantucket* and *Catch 5* on Friday with *Parmalee* and *Uptown Sinclair* playing the venue on Saturday. The Broadway Series South will be presenting "Kiss Me, Kate" at the BTL Center for the Performing Arts. The show will open on Tuesday, Nov. 27 and play through Sunday, Dec. 2.

The weekend is scarce for people looking for new releases in the film market, for the studios are getting ready for the busy Christmas film season. There are two new releases, however, the first being the Owen Wilson, Gene Wilder action picture "Behind Enemy Lines." The second is the long-delayed (and we mean long) western "Texas Rangers," starring James Van Der Beek, Ashton Kutcher and Usher Raymond.

Like Earthlink commercials, only less orange

Assistant Features Editor **Joel Isaac Frady**

Waking Life

★★★★

Written & Directed by **Richard Linklater**

Richard Linklater's animated

"Waking Life" is a film so vivid, original and haunting that after seeing it, people aren't able to move at first. Playing as a dream, not as a movie, it uses a unique blend of monologues, animation techniques and edits to create a feel that is seldom, if ever, able to be caught anywhere, much less on film. What emerges as it moves along is nothing less than a moving, talking piece of art that can make you question the way you think about everything.

Before anything else, it's important that one point be made clear: This is

not the most entertaining of movies. Above all else it is a work of art... it just happens to be in a cinematic form. It is full of monologues about life, dreams, love and hate, and there isn't exactly a linear plot to follow.

It plays like a dream, with no rules to follow about how things must work. The animation says this more than anything else can, for it is constantly changing as the dreams progress. At some points the characters are cartoon-like, others very ruggedly drawn, and some were actually filmed in live-action then animated over.

Like the characters, the backgrounds and places they find themselves in are also constantly moving, changing tones and colors when necessary. One violinist has fingernails that change color with every stroke of the violin, almost as if different notes bring out the different colors. One man gets angrier and angrier, and we see his face go from normal to blue to red. The colors play like the senses and emotions are all linked somehow, each one affecting the other.

The different characters that are seen as the film goes on are mainly met by the main character, Wiley Wiggins, even though it occasionally veers off and will feature a random scene with a random character or group of characters. There are over 20 different scenes, some of them dialogues between two characters, like one between the animated versions of Ethan Hawke and



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Julie Delpy from Linklater's "Before Sunrise." Several characters deliver monologues to Wiggins, while others actually hold conversations with him. Despite the vaguely similar subject matter of all these conversations, it's crazy how much the feel of one can differ from the next. One will seem wordy and boring, the next flashy and comical, and some just seem like two friends talking.

The feel that the viewer gets as the film progresses is the strangest part of it all; it can best be described as an emotional quicksand. At first you fight it, for it seems strange and different, and you're sure you're going to dislike every minute of it. As it slowly pulls

you in, you grow more and more open to it, wanting to see more, and by the time it's going through the final motions, you can't keep your eyes off the screen. You don't want to blink.

That is of course if you allow yourself to be drawn into the movie, and lots of people will refuse. The lack of narrative, the amount of dialogue or the animation style will annoy them. There's a good possibility that one of every two people who see it will absolutely hate it.

If you're able to open yourself to these kinds of films, the ones that challenge you with new thoughts and ideas that are portrayed in a totally new way, this isn't a film you'll want to miss.



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RIFLE

Continued from Page 6

team, a group of 13 talented, diligent men and women. Though few know the intricacies of the rifle team at State, the sport is nothing new to this campus.

In fact, rifle teams at State were competing as early as the 1920s, and rifle has been a varsity sport since the late '60s. Rifle gained an NCAA sponsorship in 1979, and the Wolfpack has competed all along.

This year's edition of shooters, headed by coach Keith Miller, is making strides and building on a rich tradition of rifle history at State. The team just completed the fall portion of its schedule by finishing first at the Southeast Air Rifle Conference 2 competition hosted by State on Nov. 17. In other matches this season, State earned third place at the SEARC 1 and defeated Clemson and The Citadel in its first competition this year.

Instead of competing in the ACC, which doesn't sponsor rifle, the SEARC serves as N.C. State's rifle conference. Other schools in the SEARC include North Georgia State, Clemson, The Citadel, Wofford, Mercer and Georgia Tech.

For Miller, the Pack's dedicated leader, rifle at State is a way of life.

"N.C. State used to have an on-campus range, so I actually started out with the junior club that existed at the time when I was 9 years old, shooting at N.C. State," Miller said. "I pretty much grew up with N.C. State rifle. I knew the whole time I was in school that I was going to go to State; I majored in electrical engineering and shot on the rifle team, and I wanted to do that since I was 14. For me, there's a lot of history there."

Rifle can almost be described as a motionless ballet, as each shooter's technique is carefully choreographed to avoid even the slightest physical movement. The rifle athlete must have a still body, an eagle eye and the dedication to practice, practice and practice some more.

Wolfpack rifle captain Joe Upton, one of the team's top shooters, is living proof that the hard work pays. Upton, a junior majoring in biochemistry, started to shoot competitively when he was 14. Since his beginnings, Upton has won back-to-back national collegiate championships in high-power rifle competition.

Though NCAA competition is different from Upton's background in high-power riflery, the same principles and work ethics apply to both.

"It takes a lot of practice, just like with anything," Upton said while practicing.

And when he says a lot of practice, Upton means it. The team holds practices on most afternoons, all of them in the basement of Reynolds. There, the team practices with air rifles, their targets 10 meters away.

It's not just the firing of the guns that is perfected, either. Team members work on conditioning their minds and bodies and spend a great deal of time on concentration exercises.

The targets at which they shoot are minuscule, and the bull's-eye is roughly the size of the period at the end of this sentence. One can see why practice is critical.

Joining Upton as team leaders are two other juniors, Jason Rice and Trey Ragsdale, and one freshman, John Maroglio.

At State's last match, Maroglio was the top individual. The freshman shot a season-high 377 out of a possible

400, the best performance a Wolfpack shooter has had in years.

Though Upton's greatest achievements have come with high-power rifles, competition in NCAA rifle is limited to .22-caliber rifles and .177-caliber precision air rifles. In 22-caliber competition, targets are placed 50 feet away and fired upon in three positions: prone, kneeling and standing. Everything remains the same for the precision air rifles with the exception of target distance, which is 10 meters; also, shooters fire from the standing position only.

A unique aspect of NCAA rifle is that it's the only varsity sport in which men and women compete together as one.

"It's been nice to have a mixture, and it's been good for the men on the team, and it's been good for the women on the team," said Miller. "It's almost like a small fraternity or sorority where you have a group of people working together."

While the fall season is over, team members are still preparing for the remainder of the schedule, which resumes in January and runs through March. The long-term goal for the program is to increase in prominence and numbers.

Miller, who coaches the team while also working full-time in the semi-conductor industry and raising three young children, hopes that the program will grow.

"We're going to work on bringing in more experienced shooters," he said. "Starting this year, we're getting scholarship money for the first time."

"Basically, we haven't been able to go out and recruit anybody. One of the things that's neat about N.C. State is that it's one of the few schools that has a solid rifle program and is a strong academic school all the way around, and that will help us."

Future goals also include constructing a rifle range in the basement of Reynolds, which would make it possible for State to host NCAA competitions and championships eventually. Miller is anticipating the day when the rifle program is on par with other Wolfpack athletics programs, like golf or tennis.

"There were people who volunteered as a coach when I was on the team and put a lot of effort into it so I could have the opportunity to shoot on the team," said Miller. "The rifle team was a very good opportunity for me, and it broadened a lot of my horizons and was very rewarding for me. In the years since then, I've been working to give that opportunity back to others and, at the same time, improve the program so that it doesn't have to be such a labor of love for someone to do it."

Still, the fruits of that labor are slowly blossoming. With the progress of several team members, it may not be long before State sends an individual to the NCAA Championships. Miller would also like State to qualify for the team NCAA's too, quite an accomplishment given that only eight teams qualify. Miller believes that goal is at least two or three years away.

As for the present, the team is looking forward to being a factor in its conference. If it shoots to its potential, Miller believes his team can win.

"We think we have a pretty good chance of winning the SEARC conference," said Miller. "If we shoot up to our capabilities this year, we can win the conference, and that's been one of our goals since the very beginning of the year."

Campus Spotlight



Roller hockey wins ACRHA title

The Club Roller Hockey team completed its first regional tournament of the year Nov. 17-18.

After getting off to a slow start on Saturday morning with a tie against Duke, N.C. State played a well-matched game against Elon, winning 4-2. The Wolfpack ended the first day with a 6-2 win against Clemson.

Entering the tourney as the No. 1 seed in its division, State was almost upset by North Carolina on Sunday but managed to win in overtime.

In the semifinals, State played Charlotte. Although Charlotte had a lot of skill on its bench, it was never able to take the lead



away from State. The Wolfpack walked away with a 3-2 victory and a place in the finals.

The final match-up was a classic, pitting State against long-time rival East Carolina. At the start of the third period, ECU was up 3-1. It looked like the Pirates were going to retain their title as regional champs, but with two goals from Chris Hickman and one from Jake Genna in the final minutes of the game, the Pack took the lead. Jerome Miller put in an empty-net goal to seal State's victory and its first-ever Atlantic Coast Roller Hockey Association division title.

State finished in first place with a record of 11-1-3. Playing in the last game of his collegiate career was Chris Whitley, the president and one of the original members of the club.

B-BALL

Continued from Page 6

pushing it. All of that stuff really helps us."

Leading by 15 at the half, State came out playing much like an untamable animal in the second half. As a team, the Pack shot an unheard-of 80.8 percent from the field, the best ever shooting percentage accomplished by State in one half of basketball. Furthermore, the team improved its three-point shooting from 16.7 percent in the first half to 71.4 percent in the second.

"When the opposing team shoots 80 percent from the field, you're really in trouble," said CSU head coach Stephanie Yelton. "And there's a reason why N.C. State is the [No. 8] team in the country right now. It's because they have great players on their team, good depth; they've got some of their star players back who earlier in the year had been injured."

Due to a 30-point cushion with six minutes left in the game, all of the Pack's freshmen got to see playing time.

The odd thing, though, was that the lead never fell. Instead, all four freshmen — Stockdale, Kelly Greathouse, Liz Bailey and Kendra Bell — along with sophomore Adeola Olarunju, boosted State's lead to a final 54 points. Greathouse, whose play was critical to the Pack's win over Indiana, finished with seven points and three rebounds. Bailey scored six, while Bell dished out five assists. Olarunju fell one point short of a career high, scoring 15.

"I want, when we have the opportunity, to get everybody as much experience under the belt as we can," said Yow. "I believe that we will face games this year that Rachel, Kendra or Kelly, even Liz, will be called on to come in and be the reason that we won. We need them to have playing experience because we need them; they're going to play. So, we need them to really get the feel of the way it's going to be. It's happening."

After its outstanding second half, State turns its focus to No. 2 Tennessee on Sunday in the Honda Elite Classic held in Orlando, Fla.

ClubNotes

Club sports — results

The Women's Club Lacrosse team rallied to upset North Carolina in an incredible comeback behind 10-8 victory in Chapel Hill on Nov. 17. The team ended its fall season with a 4-1 record after a year's hiatus from competition.

The Club Field Hockey team continued its dominant play by beating Duke 9-0 on Nov. 18 in Durham. The game was the last of the fall season for the Wolfpack.

The Club Ice Hockey B team hosted a doubleheader on Nov. 17 and 18 against Appalachian State at the brand-new Garner Ice

House. The Pack picked up its first win of the season, a 5-2 victory in the first game on Friday night, with team captain Brian Stanfield netting two goals for the Pack.

Freshman Jason Goleniewski scored on a rebound, freshman defenseman Nick Brown scored from the blue line, and junior forward Mike Riehl notched a goal with a beautiful deflection from defenseman Mark Caron's slapshot.

The second game on Saturday was a very close contest, with the Pack suffering a heart-breaking 3-2 loss despite numerous goal-scoring chances in the closing minutes. Freshman goalie Justin

Sellers made many outstanding saves over the weekend and helped keep the Pack's B team in contention in both games.

Club sports — upcoming

The Women's Club Soccer team will look to end its fall season on a positive note and extend its four-game winning streak on Saturday. The Wolfpack hosts William & Mary at Lee Field at 2 p.m.

The Men's Club Ultimate team will travel to Greenville this weekend for the annual Ultimax Tournament hosted by East

Carolina. The tournament features 16 collegiate and collegiate "reunion" teams in four, four-team pools. The Wolfpack's pool includes the N.C. State "reunion" team that features members of the 1999 National Championship team.

The Club Ice Hockey A team will look to rebound from a tough loss by traveling to Charlottesville, Va., for two games against Virginia on Saturday and Sunday. The club's B team will travel to Winston-Salem in search of its second victory of the season on Sunday at Wake Forest.

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Thursday Sports



Trey Ragsdale, a junior on the rifle team, lines up for a shot during practice in Reynolds Coliseum.

On the mark

◆ The N.C. State rifle team targets success, growth and the development of its program.

Andrew B. Carter
Staff Writer

Walk through historic Reynolds Coliseum on a given fall afternoon, and there's a chance of being engulfed by the memories of the past. The nostalgia of years ago and legacies built by names like Case, Thompson and Valvano seem to float around the venerable building like old dust in an abandoned warehouse. Roaming through the Old Barn, the

memories and sounds swirl around like a rolling fog, creating an atmosphere that is mythic, right down to its dark, cozy basement.

It is from this basement, nestled in the very depths of Reynolds, that another N.C. State athletic program hauls, working diligently toward its goals amid almost total obscurity. Not many are even likely to know the team exists, but it's there, working, training and targeting. Listen carefully, and one might be able to hear them — a shot fired here, one fired there, the sound of a target being swiftly hit directly in its tiny bull's-eye.

Such is a scene of the State rifle

See RIFLE, Page 5

FOOTBALL BCS bewilders

Before Thanksgiving, just about everyone predicted that Miami would face the winner of Nebraska-Oklahoma (who would meet for the Big 12 championship in the Rose Bowl for the national title).

But last weekend threw the college football world a curveball. With Colorado's 62-36 thrashing of the Cornhuskers and the Sooners' loss at Oklahoma State, neither of those schools will even have a chance at the Big 12 championship — much less go to Pasadena.



Steve Thompson

So now the Bowl Championship Series says that Miami will face Florida in the Rose Bowl. Don't believe the BCS, however, because this race is far from over.

Basically, there are six teams with no or one defeat still very much in the hunt for the title: Miami, Florida, Texas, Oregon, Tennessee and Nebraska. (Nebraska is very much like the stereotypical "scary" movie villain — even though it seemingly gets killed near the end, you have to watch out because it's probably not dead yet.)

Brigham Young, Maryland and Illinois — despite having good enough records — are all but mathematically eliminated from national title hopes based on the BCS standings.

The race between the six teams will boil down to five games. Miami and Florida are clearly the front-runners, and they will meet if they win out. If one or both of them lose, however, things get interesting.

Here are the five big games to watch and how the BCS will shake out with different outcomes.

1. Miami vs. Virginia Tech, Dec. 1, 1 p.m.

Miami has a chance to punch its ticket to Pasadena with a win in its final game of the season. The Hokies have won five out of the last six games in the series, however, and the game is in Blacksburg, Va.

2. Florida vs. Tennessee, Dec. 1, 4:30 p.m.

If Florida can win, it will remain the front-runner for a Rose Bowl berth. A Tennessee win throws the Gators out of the national championship mix and moves the Volunteers into national title contention. Tennessee hasn't beaten Florida since 1998, when a 20-17 overtime win over the Gators propelled Tennessee to a national title. That year, however, the game wasn't in Gainesville, Fla.

3. Oregon vs. Oregon State, Dec. 1, 4:30 p.m.

Oregon must beat Oregon State to keep any national title hopes alive. The Beavers have beaten the Ducks in two of their last three meetings. Last year's Oregon State win kept the Ducks out of a BCS bowl. This year, Oregon is guaranteed a BCS berth, but the Beavers would like nothing more than to push the Ducks out of national title contention.

4. Texas vs. Colorado, Dec. 1, 7 p.m.

A win over Colorado, coupled with a loss by either Miami or Florida, will likely send the Longhorns to the Rose Bowl. After falling to the Sooners earlier in the year, Texas was removed from the national spotlight, but last weekend's action pushed the Longhorns back in the thick of things. Colorado cannot be overlooked, though — just ask Nebraska.

5. SEC Championship game, Dec. 8, 8 p.m.

If Florida wins the SEC championship, they are Pasadena-bound. If Tennessee gets here and then proceeds to win, however, the Volunteers will still need a lot of help to get to the Rose Bowl.

So those are the games. Still confused? Here's how it basically boils down. To get to the title game:

Miami or Florida must win out. Texas must win out and have either Miami or Florida lose. Nebraska has to have two losses between the threesome of Miami, Florida and Texas. (See, I told you they don't go away.)

Oregon and Tennessee remain the long shots. Tennessee must win out and have Miami, Florida and Texas all lose. Oregon needs to win out, have all the front-runners lose and have Tennessee fall as well.

And if all the games end in favored-team losses, then we're back to Miami vs. Nebraska. Isn't the BCS fun?

Steve Thompson's columns run on Thursdays. He can be reached at 515-2411 or sthomp@unity.ncsu.edu.

Pack bucks Buccaneers

A HOT SECOND HALF PROPELLED THE N.C. STATE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM TO A 99-45 WIN OVER CHARLESTON SOUTHERN WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

Justin Sellers
Staff Writer

After a quiet performance against No. 17 Old Dominion Monday night, Carisse Moody got back into the swing of things Wednesday night, fueling the No. 8 N.C. State women's basketball team to a 99-45 win over Charleston Southern at Reynolds Coliseum.

With the game close early, Moody began to step into the spotlight at both ends of the floor. Offensively, she found herself double- and sometimes triple-teamed, but that didn't seem to bother her. Instead, she moved around the court, freeing herself for a wide range of shots. In the first half alone, Moody tallied 11 points, three more than she had for the whole game against the Lady Monarchs.

But Moody's strong play didn't end there, with her also stepping up defensively for the Wolfpack (6-0). She easily resembled a human windshield wiper, cleaning the glass for a wide range of shots. In the first half alone, Moody tallied 11 points, three more than she had for the whole game against the Lady Monarchs.

"I think, in the ODU game and in a number of games, they really keyed on Carisse," said head coach Kay Yow. "They were determined, first of all in ODU, not to let her touch the ball, and then, when we did get it to her, they had two or three people on her. I was happy to see her come out [tonight], ready to go and taking charge out there on the inside once again."

Moody, however, wasn't the only one to show an improved effort for State. Freshman Rachel Stockdale, who had started out scoring in double figures in exhibition play, slowly grew quiet in the team's more recent games, including a scoreless effort against ODU.

Against the Buccaneers, however, Stockdale poured it on as soon as she entered off the bench. Her seven-point first half quickly grew to a team- and career-high 18 points for the game. In fact, she was nearly perfect on the night, shooting 5-of-6 from the field.



2-of-3 from behind the three-point arc and an impressive 5-of-5 at the charity stripe.

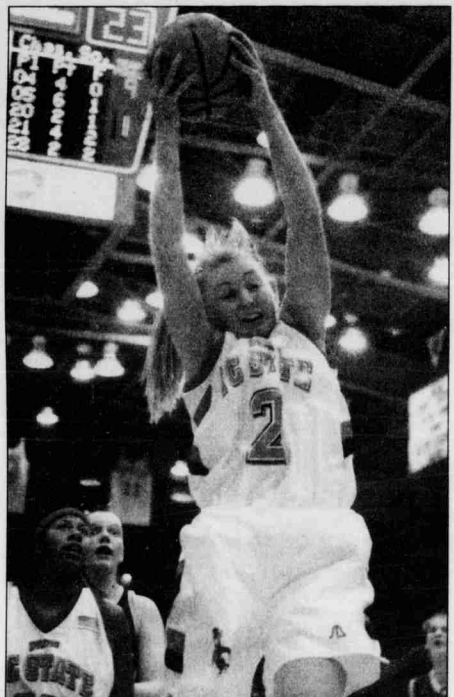
"The coaches have told me that I'm a scorer," said Stockdale. "Recently, I haven't been really looking for my shot that much and haven't been doing much offensively. Tonight, I came out with this scoring mentality, and I wanted to get to the basket and I wanted to get to the free-throw line and take my outside shots when I was open."

"That's one of the things I'm proud about is the 6-for-6 from the free-throw line." Yow said of Stockdale. "I think when that's happening with the perimeter players, it's telling you that they aren't just standing out there just taking that shot, out they are doing more and we need them to do more. That was great to see tonight because we had a great blend. And she got on the boards and started the break by

when I was open."

"That's one of the things I'm proud about is the 6-for-6 from the free-throw line." Yow said of Stockdale. "I think when that's happening with the perimeter players, it's telling you that they aren't just standing out there just taking that shot, out they are doing more and we need them to do more. That was great to see tonight because we had a great blend. And she got on the boards and started the break by

when I was open."



(top left) Carisse Moody finished the game with 15 points, nine rebounds and two assists. (top right) Freshman Rachel Stockdale (2) led all scorers with 18 points as the Wolfpack defeated Charleston Southern 99-45. Stockdale also recorded seven rebounds and shot a perfect 6-for-6 from the line.

Women's Basketball	
NCSU	99
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INSIDE
■ Club Notes #5

See B-BALL, Page 5

Bench worth the risk on diving board

◆ Freshman Jared Bench has started his diving career at N.C. State with a bang.

Billy Freeman
Staff Writer

Irony works in many ways.

It's only fitting that N.C. State freshman Jared Bench's favorite dive, a reverse one and a half with three and a half twists, is his most difficult.

Bench fell in love with diving at the age of 11, after seeing competitions on television. There was only one problem — the closest diving coach lived an hour and a half away in a different state. Bench's high school in New York didn't even have a pool, so that meant three or four weekly trips south to a YMCA in New Jersey. More time was spent on the road than in practice.

Just getting into diving has been difficult for Bench, but he has prevailed in the sport.

Bench qualified for the YMCA national championships every year since he was 13, winning the 1-meter and 3-meter in 1999 and the 3-meter in 2000.

Bench has many goals he hopes to accomplish at State. He's already put himself in good position to accomplish one, earning a spot in the NCAA Zone "B" Championships on both the 1-meter and 3-meter heights.

He not only wants to do well in diving but also to excel in academics.

"I want to try and make the NAAs," said Bench. "I want to see if I can do it this season; that would be awesome. Definitely for the next four years I want to make it, try to make finals, and do really well and see if I can get Academic All-American."

Over Christmas break, Bench will get a taste of what it's like to go up against Zone "B" caliber competition. On Jan. 3-5, the diving team will be competing at the Georgia Diving Invitational, which will play host to diving powers such as Miami, Florida, Tennessee, Auburn and Kentucky.

"All the top teams in our zone will be at that meet," Candler said. "It will give Jared and my other divers a great opportunity of seeing where they are, how much they've got to work between

Jan. 4 and the ACC Championships, for example, and the NCAA zones."

Another aspect of the sport that Bench likes is the risk involved. The riskier the better for Bench, who lists the 3-meter as his favorite height. A few simple mistakes translate into a painful smack against the water.

"I definitely like 3-meter diving better," Bench said. "It's higher; you can do a lot harder dives with the time you have. It's just more fun. Like 1-meter, there isn't really a risk of smacking, but you can. There's more of a risk up there."

Bench has improved steadily during his short time at State. He already has three world-class dives among his repertoire, with a fourth in the works.

"He's accelerating much faster than I had anticipated," Candler said. "He's doing at least three and a fourth one on the burner of world class, which get above the 3.0 degree of difficulty. He's got three already well on the way to being mastered and another one waiting to go."