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In retrospect: a semester like no other

◆ The fall 2001 semester brought a different feel to campus and made the community think outside the smaller circles.

Spaine Stephens

News Editor

Looking back on a semester marred by tragic world events, many wonder how they were able to even concentrate on school and the everyday pattern of their lives. Emotions were tested, the interests of a diverse campus challenged — but in the end, we were educated outside the classroom, and we were made better for it.

Through the trial of tragedy, students, faculty and staff mourned and then stepped up to take action. With relief efforts and educational panels, N.C. State students learned about cultures and religions they did not previously understand and helped soften the blows of those most affected with money and relief supplies. Over the months after the attacks, the attitudes on campus brought both senses of loss and unity to the community. Student Body President Darryl Willie saw changes on campus immediately after the Sept. 11 attacks.

"Everybody seemed more like a cohesive unit," said Willie. "From that day, we knew we had to get out there and make sure students felt safe."

Students involved in Student Government got together to give blood and organize relief efforts, and they took advantage of opportunities to meet students, find out about their personal impact from the attacks and ensure that students of all backgrounds and religions could consider NCSU a safe haven, said Willie.

"The attacks put a stop to schedules and events all over campus. Because of the situation, the Student Government retreat was canceled and the group was put behind schedule. "We learned a lot more, though, through the events of the tragedy than we would have on our retreat time," said Willie.

Possibly more than any other semester, students had the chance to learn serious lessons outside the classroom. Many professors, though, chose to incorporate themes relating to terrorism and the effects the Sept. 11 for the remainder of the semester.

One of Willie's textiles projects focused on the differences in trade before and after the attacks.

"There's definitely been a shift," he said.

Senior Sarah Lucero said some of her classes changed direction to provide education on terrorism.

"My PS 361 teacher did change the class," she said. "The class is about political theory, so he changed some of the material we were reading to focus on terrorism."

Lucero thought the offering of more courses related to such subjects would "help educate the student population."

Before the education though, times were rough for many Muslim students on campus.

"I realized that people are really shallow-minded and ignorant," said Maria Morales, who said she was spit upon on the day of the attacks.

Morales said she is increasingly cautious for fear of being singled out for her religion by those who "hate the sight of what I represent with my scarf." Changes this semester for her have included a consciousness to be more careful and on guard when on campus.

However, many members of the student population found comfort in learning more about the Islam religion they had heard about continuously in the days and weeks following the attacks. Panels and forums educating the community about Islam gave students, faculty and staff the opportunities to ask questions and dispel myths they had heard about the religion.

While learning about other religions, Amber Lunn nursed her desire to travel overseas as a Christian missionary. The current world events, however, put an increased guard on her plans. "I really can't lie and say that

in some physical way I am not nervous," said Lunn, "but from God's perspective, I am invincible until it's my time to go."

Lunn said her draw to mission work overseas had not been deterred and that she had also learned a lot about Islam.

"My religion class did talk about the events to some extent," she said, "as we were talking about Islam at the time. But our teacher's real focus seemed just to make everyone not hate Islam while studying it."

She also had the chance to hear more about it at Campus Crusade for Christ.

"A Muslim student came and spoke to Campus Crusade one night," she said. "He wanted to explain to the people at the Crusade meeting how the God that he knew was not a God of hate or violence."

Students learned about topics other than religion as well after the attacks.

"The sustained engagement is that I see students engaged in conversations about foreign relations and events that occurred around the world that day," said senior Brian Cowman. "I think that Sept. 11 has really educated our generation and has made us look outside the comfortable environment we are used to."

Cowman noted a list of firsts that occurred this semester. "For the first time in our lives we actually feel vulnerable, and for the first time we feel a strong connection to each other just because we are Americans."

Every member of the diverse population at NCSU rode an emotional roller coaster this semester. Lunn verbally retraced the ride.

"Right when it all happened I felt as though everyone was very connected," she said. "We all had a common bond of patriotism as our indignation grew. As the new war on terrorism began, our emotions began to wane, until we are now at the point of regular life again."



RACHEL MARTINEZ/STAFF

Toward the end of the semester, many conversations on campus turned from world events to final assignments and upcoming exams.

Raleigh man involved in shoot-out also charged with assault at NCSU

◆ Quang Thanh Luu was charged yesterday with simple assault for an incident on campus.

Ayren Jackson

Assistant News Editor

As Jeff Dalton, 35, watched the WTVB-11 news Tuesday evening, a mugshot of a man flashed on the screen. Though the man's name was unfamiliar, Dalton said he recognized the man's face "without a shadow of doubt."

The man was 23-year-old Quang Thanh Luu and he was being featured on the news broadcast after being arrested for his alleged involvement in a Sunday afternoon shootout with police in East Raleigh.

According to a News & Observer report, police first saw Luu on Sunday after they responded to anonymous report of possible drug activity. When police arrived on the scene, two men who were gathered around Luu's Ford Taurus ran away as Luu drove off. Luu later pulled over, got out of his vehicle, fired

several shots into each of the police officer's cars that were following him, and he ran away. According to the N&O report, the officers then chased Luu in their cars to an apartment complex, where more shots were fired.

In this incident, Luu, who received gunshot wounds to his hip and leg, was charged with two counts each of assault with a deadly weapon, assault on a law enforcement officer with a deadly weapon and discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle.

And now, according to N.C. State Chief Investigator Martin Moody, Luu was charged yesterday with simple assault against Dalton on N.C. State's campus. Dalton, who served in the Army and who also spent time as a corrections officer, said that when he saw Luu's face flash on the TV screen, he knew something had to be done and according to him, this was his chance.

In August of this year, just when the semester was getting back into full swing, Dalton had come to the NCSU campus to drop of some money for his girlfriend, a biochemistry employee who wishes to remain anonymous, at her job at

Polk Hall. According to Public Safety's incident report, when Dalton's girlfriend approached the car, several men were staring at her and harassing her verbally. "I heard one of the men say, 'she's all woman,'" said Dalton. "And she got in the car pretty freaked out and scared."

When his girlfriend got into the car, one of the men, who has now been identified as Luu, "approached the vehicle, shielded his eyes, looked inside the vehicle and stared at his girlfriend," reads the incident report.

Dalton said he then got out of his car to ask Luu if there was a problem. According to the report, Luu began to get hostile and yell profanities. He then clutched his fist and went to hit Dalton, who tried to protect himself by grabbing Luu and pulling him to the ground. The report states that Luu got up and tried to hit Dalton again. Dalton then hit Luu in the face and stepped back. When the other men began surrounding Dalton, he moved around to the driver's side of his car for protection.

See CRIME, Page 2

Putting war in perspective

◆ A peace rally held Wednesday helped illuminate the "human costs of war."

Carie Windham

Assistant News Editor

"The key word today is peace." As these powerful words spoken by Aaron Jacobson echoed through the air, students rushing to and from class Wednesday afternoon slowed their pace for a moment to absorb the rally that was taking place outside of the Free Expression Tunnel in support of alternatives to the war in Afghanistan.

Called "The Human Cost of War," the rally took over the area between Tucker Beach and the Free Expression Tunnel with hopes of engaging more students to become involved in the movement for peace and disarmament.

"Part of the idea behind this was that people walking by would hear this and realize that there are people, many people, worldwide that are calling for an end to war and for peace," he explained.

Worldwide, indeed, as universities across the world, including those in Germany, the Czech Republic, Brazil and France, joined N.C. State and other American universities by holding similar rallies on the same day.

Sponsored by Amnesty International, the Muslim Student Association, the International Activities Council, Campus Greens, the American

Friends Service Committee, the Student Peace Action Network and the N.C. State Progressive Community Network, the demonstration at NCSU included information tables representing each group, a blanket drive and a variety of speakers.

At the information tables, students could read pamphlets explaining everything from the religion of Islam to nuclear abolition. In addition, students could speak to representatives from each group on how to get involved. Flyers were handed out to passing students with facts about Afghanistan, the Taliban, Osama bin Ladin and the current humanitarian crisis plaguing the nation.

Dante Strobino, a sophomore in electrical engineering, stood by the table for the Student Peace Action Network and felt the rally was a chance to spread their message.

"People, at least now, are paying more attention to us," he said. While he finds the renewed interest promising, he feels that people should be involved all the time.

"We definitely came out to get people involved, to understand what's going on and stop being comfortable in their houses when across the sea all this is going on," he explained. "Little do we know how much this is going to come back around and hit us. Especially if we keep binding ourselves."

Vision was also provided by a host of speakers, including Gail Phares of Witness for Peace; the founder of the Catholic Worker House, Patrick O'Neill;

Caroline Weaver; Reverend Ray Buchanan of Stop Hunger Now; a student from the Muslim Student Association; an Afghan-American student; and Mersi Mersi, a member of the National Board of Peace Action and contributor to the book, "Iraq Under Siege."

Each speaker used their background and experience to bring different aspects of the current situation to life.

A speech delivered by Gail Phares shed light on the history of relations with Afghanistan, as well as the rest of the world, based on her own journeys and experiences. She urged students to visit Third World countries to see the effects of U.S. foreign policy for themselves. She also emphasized awareness about worldwide issues and nonviolence.

"We need to rededicate ourselves to the values of humanity, compassion and justice for all if we are to live in a world without violence, hatred and war," she said.

Patrick O'Neill, a well-known freelance journalist and political activist, focused on the faith perspective of war and retaliation.

He urged students to remember the message of peace in Christianity and to find a role model in Jesus.

"Jesus promised us that love can conquer hate, and the most important thing we can do to affect change is to pray," he said.

Caroline Weaver delivered a

See PEACE, Page 2



RACHEL MARTINEZ/STAFF

Campout will be back next semester for distribution of tickets to the Duke and UNC-CH games.

Campout to make a comeback

◆ Campout will be an option for students who want basketball tickets to the games against Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill.

News Staff Report

Students can use both the voucher pick-up system and a campout option for acquiring tickets to N.C. State basketball games against Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill, according to Josh Cox, student on the ticket distribution task force.

The voucher system will continue as it has this semester on Thursday, Jan. 10, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the Duke game.

During the same time period, students can drop off prepared packets containing registration for a campout spot.

To qualify, students should get together in groups of no more than 10 students. All the names and student ID numbers of the group members should be saved on a disk in Microsoft Excel, and turned in in a manila envelope with a hard copy of the information. All IDs will be scanned to disqualify campout participants from the voucher drawing.

The envelopes will be taken and numbered, and a computer system in Athletics will randomly choose the numbers. Only those groups whose numbers are chosen will be allowed

to camp out. Thursday night, the winning vouchers and campout numbers will be announced.

At 5 p.m. on Jan. 11, set-up for campout will begin, and the first line check will be at 6 p.m. No alcohol, glass bottles or fires will be allowed. Also prohibited will be gas-powered heaters and generators. Public Safety officers will be on hand.

At 8 a.m. on Saturday morning, the campout participants will be lined up for tickets, and at 9 a.m. the voucher winners can pick up tickets.

At noon on Saturday, other students can line up at the third ticket window for the chance to get the leftover tickets.

PEACE

Continued from page 1

powerful message from the Revolutionary Association of Women in Afghanistan. She urged students to examine the different news sources and to form their own opinions before reading the plea from the women.

The women urged Americans to "pay urgent heed before it is too late" to the current situation in Afghanistan.

The effects of war on the people of Afghanistan were further illuminated by Rev. Ray Buchanan, founder of Stop Hunger Now. Recently returned from the war-torn country, Rev. Buchanan described a nation crippled by a bitter climate, inaccessibility and a staggering humanitarian crisis. He urged an "immediate response from all faiths," including the collection of blankets, medication, winter clothing and food.

The focus was then shifted from the battlefields of Afghanistan to the NCSU campus, as two students spoke about racial relations on campus.

A representative of the Muslim Student Association reminded students that the meaning of the word Islam is submission and should not be confused with terrorism or hatred. A silent crowd listened as she relayed painful accounts of racial hatred on campus and at her mosque.

An Afghan-American student confronted negative images of Afghanistan by describing the beauty of the nation before Russian control and the history of U.S. foreign policy in Afghanistan.

Bewildered onlookers shook their head in disbelief as he explained parts of Afghan-American relations that are not revealed in the news. He

urged people not to jump to conclusions.

The last speaker of the day was well-known orator Ramon Masri, a member of the National Board of Peace Action and NCSU alum.

While she touched on many of the topics addressed earlier, she especially urged disarmament and a reevaluation of our own internal U.S. policy. She cited instances of the CIA conducting surveillance on activist organizations, the loss of personal property by search and seizure and racial profiling. She urged students to speak out against these acts that would result in loss of American liberties.

"Benjamin Franklin once said that 'If you sacrifice freedom for security, you will lose them both,'" she said.

While most of the responses to the rally were positive, three students stood in the crowd silently holding an American and Israeli flag in peaceful protest of the rally.

"We represent the majority of American people in opposition to [alternatives to the war]," said Darren O'Conner after the rally.

Jacobsen, however, was optimistic and pleased with the results. "I'd like for people to consider and think about what these people who are calling for voices and calling for reason are saying," he said. "And hopefully, now they'll do that and come to some change of mind. I think what we're doing has definitely got some momentum going, and I'm definitely confident and optimistic about the future."

He encouraged students who would like to become involved to attend meetings of the organizations, ask questions, do research and get involved in pro-peace activities. He recommended the Campus Source Web page for a list of organizations.

"This is a good beginning, and from here we're going to keep moving forward."

CRIME

Continued from page 1

tion, where Luu threatened Dalton with a brick.

"I thought he would try to strike my car with my girlfriend sitting in it-I told him to put the brick down," said Dalton.

According to the report, Dalton told Luu he would come after him if he hit the car with the brick. The report then says that all three of the men walked away to their vehicle.

Dalton said that he then drove around to the back of Polk to drop his girlfriend off inside the building.

Dalton then reported the incident to Public Safety.

Dalton, who is currently a part-time student at Wake Tech Community College, said that though he was glad to see Luu had been arrested, when he saw Luu on TV he realized that Luu could have had the gun during the incident on-campus and he could have been the target.

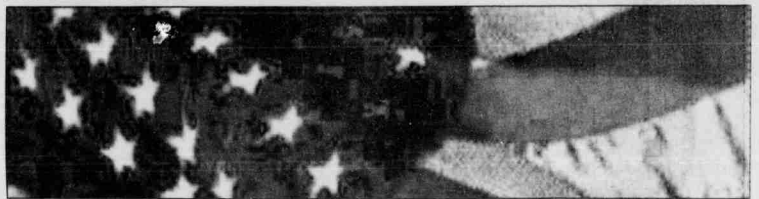
"It's important that people understand that not everyone on campus is your friend," said Dalton. "It is especially important for people who are new to the campus to be aware of all of their surroundings."



Potential customers peruse the selection of rings at a table on the Brickyard Thursday.

ANDREW KNIPP/STAFF

recycle me



It's a Boy!

"And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

(Isaiah 9:6)

Approximately 2,000 years ago, God became one of us in the person of Jesus Christ. If you have any questions about this incredible event or about its implications for your life, please ask one of us.

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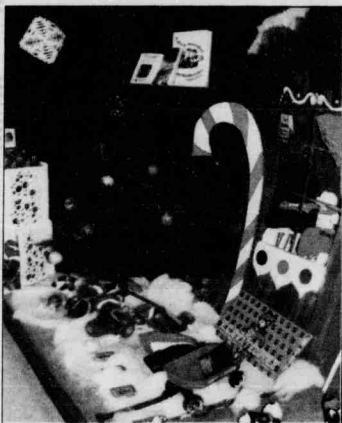
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Jim Yow - Computer Science
Jason Adam Young - College of Engineering

Christmas On Campus



Wishes of Merry Christmas to those eating on campus overhang Lil Dino's in the Talley Food Court.



A display at the bookstore shows off N.C. State decorations and possible gift ideas.



An angelic Santa ornament hangs on the tree at the Wesley Foundation's Christmas party.



A tree and fireplace were added to the decor of Taco Bell in high hopes that someone soon would be there.



Despite the unseasonably warm weather, snowflakes adorn an N.C. State logo in Talley.

All Photos by: Andrew Knopp

At the dawn of exams, it is easy to get too focused and overly stressed. Many students and staff on campus are looking past that to the holidays coming up. They have decorated their living and work spaces to express their holiday cheer.

**doughboy
by marko**

"AND THERE WERE IN THE SAME COUNTRY SHEPHERDS, ABIDING IN THE FIELD, KEEPING WATCH OVER THEIR FLOCK BY NIGHT. AND, LO, THE ANGEL OF THE LORD CAME UPON THEM, AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD SHONE ROUND ABOUT THEM! AND THEY WERE SORE AFRAID... AND THE ANGEL SAID UNTO THEM, "FEAR NOT! FOR, BEHOLD, I BRING YOU TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY, WHICH SHALL BE TO ALL MY PEOPLE. FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID A SAVIOUR, WHICH IS CHRIST, THE LORD."

"AND THIS SHALL BE A SIGN UNTO YOU: YE SHALL FIND THE BABE WRAPPED IN SWADDLING CLOTHES, LYING IN A MANGER." AND SUDDENLY, THERE WAS WITH THE ANGEL A MULTITUDE OF THE HEAVENLY HOST PRAISING GOD, AND SAYING, "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE, AND GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN."

"THAT'S WHAT CHRISTMAS IS ALL ABOUT, CHARLIE BROWN."

-- LINUS VAN PELT,
A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

Maxine and the samurai cat **Matajuro** have left the safe quarters of **Mount Futara**, where the feline's master **Banzo** resides, always perfecting his meditations.

The two venture some 300 miles southwest to the impact zone of the once-bustling futuristic metropolis of **Achillia**.

They search for survivors of the city, as a doomsday comet has lain waste to the urban district.

They soon discover a group of chalky-white skeleton men worshipping a straggle familiar figure. The pair hide behind a rock in hopes of remaining undiscovered.

But, alas, they are spotted and the horrible spirit the skeleton men have conjured seems hell-bent in destroying Maxine. The spectre aglow sends Maxine hurtling into a canyon wall. Hurt and defiant, she is not deterred.

With furious strength Maxine lifts the malicious shadow-dæmon over her head and prepares to drive him into the stoney earth, as a spear into a watery stream.

But as she holds him over her head she feels him stop kicking...and she ponders reasoning with the evil ghost...but Maxine isn't the sweetest thing herself.

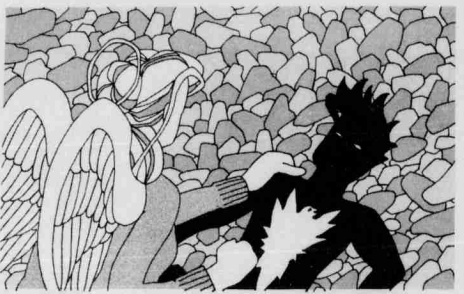
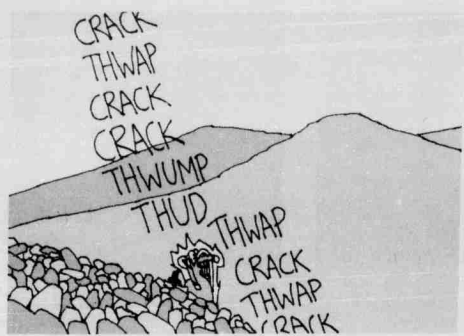
But what has become of her compatriot, **Matajuro**? The feline eyes the skeleton-men with nerves of steel 'till a strange transformation occurs before his furry self. Lo! The strange conjurers merge into a giant skeleton titan, smashing wildy at the pussy cat, who leaps to avoid the thrashing blows. Though it looks like it may be the end for our fuzzy hero when the monster claps his gargantuan hands, the entity is surprised to find the samurai atop his head.

Reacting quickly, **Matajuro** plunges his sword into the head of the monster and watches as the beast dissolve back into the seven conjurers it was previously.

Maxine slammed the shadow into the ground. She punched him a thousand times square in the face. He brused none. And he bled nothing at all.

He merely stared at her with his lifeless pupils. There was nothing looking back except...

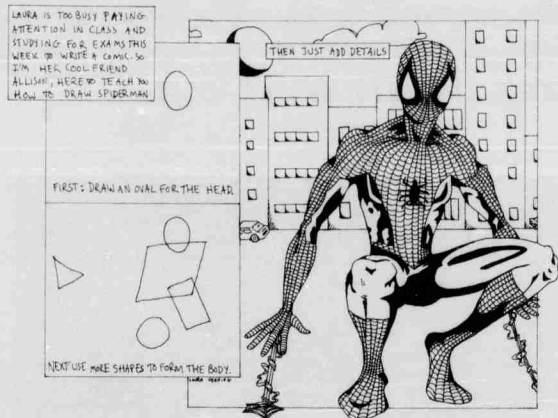
Emotion.
Not happy or sad, but pure feeling. Empty yet filled with feeling. It stared at her not crying or weeping.
But the shadow just looked at her as a mirror does..gazing back...as if she looked at herself, a complete stranger.
Her own face cracked a million times...
And with this, he shared her thoughts and his memories...the rest he kept for himself.



es muy bien by jackson brown



i.q. prerequisite by *laura venning*



doughboy christmas classics by *marko*



es muy bien christmas classics by *jackson brown*



doughboy christmas classics by *marko*

COLD WIND BLOWS ON THE SOLES OF MY FEET. HEAVEN KNOWS NOTHING OF ME. I'M LOST, NOWHERE TO GO.

THOUGHT YOU BURNED, NOT FROZE FOR YOUR SINS. I'M SO TIRED AND COLD. OH, WHEN I WAS A KID...OH, HOW MAGIC IT SEEMED.

OH, PLEASE LET ME SLEEP, IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME.

OH, PLEASE LET ME DREAM, IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME.

FLOWERED WINDS WAS WHERE I LIVED.

- E. VEDDER, *LET ME SLEEP (IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME)*



Come by Technician, 323 Witherspoon Student Center, to receive complimentary tickets to an advance screening. First come, first served. No purchase necessary.

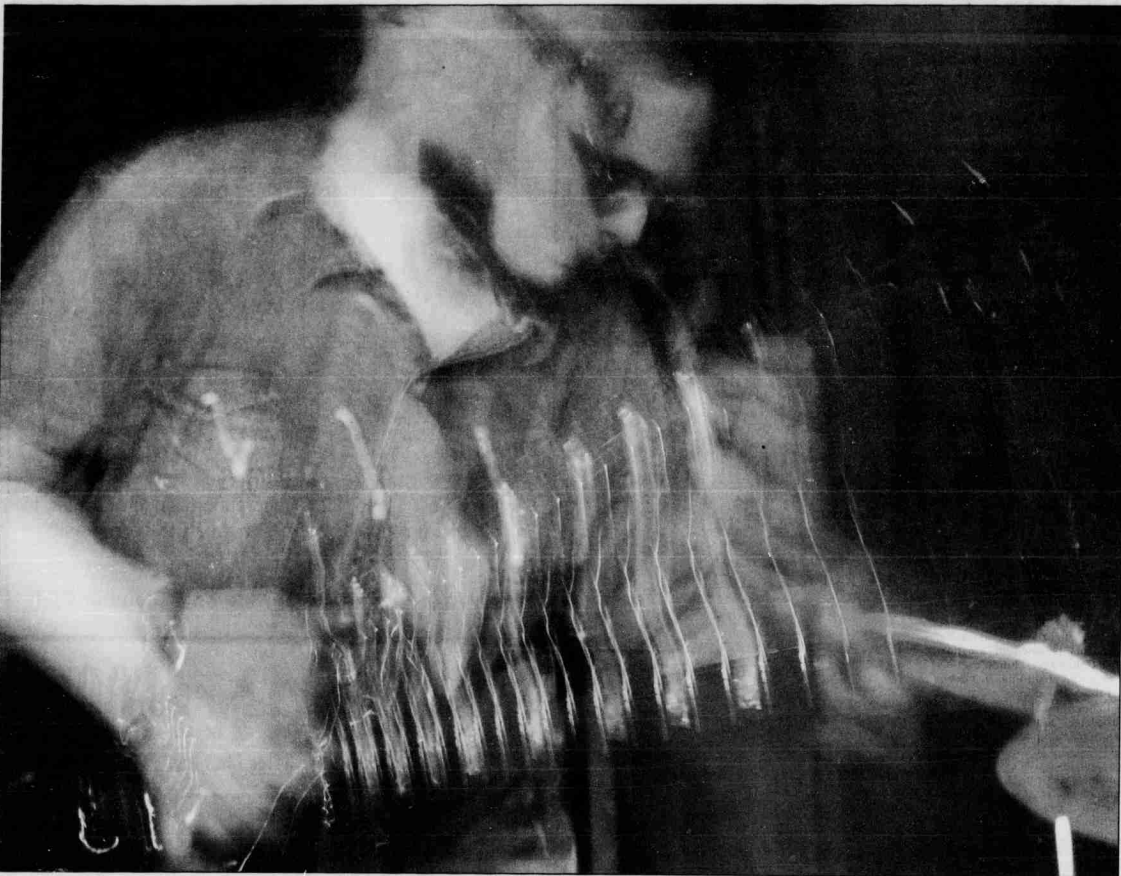
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The Southern gospel: Sitting down with the North Mississippi Allstars



Grayson Currin
Staff Writer

Note: This is the second in a two-part series about the North Mississippi Allstars.

A racially integrated band, a musical powerhouse that constructs a strong combination of Southern rock and blues; a band unlike any other. Over the past few years, all of these phrases have been used to describe the North Mississippi Allstars.

Sunday night at the Brewery, Technician sat down with its members and found the rhyme and reason behind their sound and its rise to fame. Luther and Cody Dickinson, sitting on an oversized couch, seem like a funny pair of siblings. The quick-witted Cody, who laughs at everyone's jokes, seems to watch everything with an irrefragable energy. His brother and musical confidant, Luther, leans back comfortably, relaxing behind shaded prescription glasses.

Tech: What are some really noticeable distinctions between "Shake Hands with Shorty" and "51 Phantom"?

LD: "Shake Hands with Shorty" - that was songs that we'd been playing for a couple of years because, you know, we'd been doing shows and touring for a couple of years before we even had a CD. We knew exactly what we wanted to do on "Phantom 51." We had a bunch of songs (some weren't even finished), and they were originals, you know. We tried to write in the same kind of hill-country style. We knew that we were going to push them in different directions because you don't try to be traditional. We would just put them together and create them in the studio... We were trying to do a creative studio-type record.

Tech: The band is such a tight unit. Do you approach songwriting together or is it more of a solitary thing?

LD: Most of the songs we wrote all together at soundcheck. "Sugaratown"

we wrote together in San Francisco one day, and "Ship" we came up with down in our trailer one day - Chris and I. "Phantom 51" is a song we'd been working on forever. Some of 'em are brand new - like "Circle the Sky."

CD: Why don't you tell him you just wrote your ass off? [laughs]

LD: [laughing] The way I look at it, Chris wrote his bass part for every tune, and Cody wrote his drum part for every tune. You know what I'm saying: I don't really take a Robby Robertson stance on songwriting. You know, "This is my song. I'm going to make all the money. You wanna play it?"

Tech: For "Phantom 51," your dad went with his customary production style of giving an album a live feel by using a lot of first takes. How did that work for the Allstars?

LD: Dad likes to cut live. We know that's how he wants to work, but when we went in the studio, he never said that. That's just the way it worked out.

CD: Superstar style.

LD: What we'd do, we'd play a song for like five minutes and he'd say "Alright, that sounds good." Then we'd edit it out. Like "Storm" - we played that once and then edited it down.

CD: He said he loves the way a drummer's first impression of a song is. That's the only thing Dad said to me [about the process] directly.

LD: Yeah, like, "Circle the Sky" - we'd never played that. We just kind of put it together in the studio.

Tech: For the band, how would the opposite approach of someone who preferred layered tracks and mostly ProTools editing go along with the music?

LD: We've done it like that. Some of the stuff on "Shake Hands with Shorty" was done like that.

CD: On our third CD, we're looking to do both... live and layered tracks. We're going to produce it. We're going to get [Dad] to sing and stuff, he'll participate more musically.

Tech: In the production notes for "Phantom 51," Jim said, "Between Cody and Luther, there is a big differ-

ence and getting 'em to merge the visions isn't easy for them or anybody else. They would have beaten the crap out of any other producer who tried. Cody likes pop music and Luther's taste is more esoteric, but that's what makes gumbo, putting together things that don't entirely fit." How do you play together?

LD: We never tell each other what to play. We play whatever we want.

CD: I apply modern ideas, really, to the North Mississippi Allstars, who essentially started by playing only roots music. I apply my pop-sensibility mostly through my drumming. I've been listening to a lot of Slipknot lately, and that drummer is sick. He is just bad-ass, and I got a lot of ideas from that... That is modern sensibility within this band, I think. When we were recording "The Word," I was listening to Limp Bizkit the whole time. A lot of those drum beats just kind of slip in our songs.

LD: In the last couple of years, I got back into Oasis. It's most of ideas of modern music, I like using modern techniques on earlier music.

Tech: How did the whole concept of "The Word" between you, John Medeski and Robert Randolph happen?

LD: In 1998, we did a tour with MMW, and we were both listening to the first Sacred Steel record. We all got hip to it. We just talked to Medeski about doing a project one day. Chris would put a Robert Randolph track on in our tour bus before we would play sometimes. We were able to get Robert to play a show with us in New York. The project with Medeski and him just kind of came together after that.

CD: Chris Chew brought the world Robert Randolph.

Tech: How did Chris really come together with the two of you to form the Allstars?

LD: We started the band with Paul Taylor, and he didn't dig it. He quit.

CD: As soon as Chris joined the band, it started to take off. I can pinpoint that moment as when we started to experience success at a local level...

He brings that walking-gospel bass style. Rather than doing some authentic blues thing, I played some kind of Chad Sexton beat. Chris does that bass blues thing, and that's the sound of the Allstars.

LD: I'd say it's a combination of hill-country blues, gospel, traditional rock, psychedelic rock and whatever modern influences may creep in.

Chris Chew is a giant in more than one way. His monstrous bass playing is a strikingly consistent parallel with his height and his frame. He also has an undeniably good ear for music, as Luther and Cody Dickinson indicate when they praise his discovery of steel champion Robert Randolph. He epitomizes expression as he talks, engaging the listener with spread arms or telling faces. His laugh is like a tumultuous boom that fills the room after he beats DuWayne Burnside in a friendly game of craps. "Throw down your credentials," shouts Chris. When he humbly speaks of his own musical past and credentials, it is a wonderful experience.

Tech: Describe your relationship with the Dickinsons' before the band began.

CD: It was just Cody, Luther, Paul Taylor and some rappers from just around the neighborhood. They lived in the rural part... there was nothing out there. We'd play hours at the time and really just jam and feel around each other. It was great.

Tech: How did the Allstars get going from there?

CD: They were playing punk rock and stuff, and Luther and Cody decided they wanted to play the blues. Paul is a great player, but his attention span is real short; he didn't dig it. So Luther called me and said "Paul quit." I wanted to know when I joined - just a five minute conversation on the telephone.

He came to my house, and we practiced one time in four years. That's how it came about. It's great being with these guys.

Tech: It's obvious that you're a religious man. How do you tap into your

Christianity when you're doing the whole rock 'n' roll thing?

CC: Church has been a great part of my life. You can drink your coke and it gets empty, and you've got to get another one. That's how church is to me. Weeks at a time on the road - I kind of get lost. Sundays are - not really my sad days - but my "Chris Chew to himself" days. It's like recuperating. I read my Bible and I pray a lot. My preacher gave me a great pick-me-up one time when I was on the road. I almost quit last year because I couldn't take not being home and missing church. "Music is music," he said, "and if it is an E in church then it is an E in the club." It all depends on where your heart is. People can see church through Chris Chew.

Tech: "The Word" is such a balance between rock and religion. What was that like for you?

CC: It was a great experience to be able to cut a live gospel record. The elements really fell in together, and now it's nominated for a Grammy. Robert Randolph is a great player, and we all bonded together.

Tech: Now that the band is doing mostly original work on records, how do you go about songwriting?

CC: We'll learn a riff today, and then maybe Luther and I will write some lyrics tomorrow. Then next week we'll collaborate on it all until it comes into a song... If you write a song in 30 minutes, you've done something. Cody already has some great songs for the next record, and it will definitely be different for the third record. It will be out there.

Tech: How can you get on stage, night in and night out, and give a performance that is so very different from any other performance the band has given?

CC: We never use a set-list, and we never really practice. Jim [Dickinson] always told us, "A practicing band is not really a band." If you get up there and do what we do every night, it's bound to be different.

Fugazi plays a mean 'Instrument'

Fugazi 'Instrument' DVD

Staff Writer **Ghassan Hamra**

So, you heard me sing the praise of Fugazi earlier this semester concerning the album "The Argument." Luckily for all of us, the discord boys have released another gem in the form of the DVD, "Instrument." Yes, "Instrument" came out a good while ago on VHS along with a soundtrack album. But this is different; it's DVD, which means better quality and bonus features!

It should be noted that one should not expect a major film production when watching this. This is a documentary by an independent filmmaker that happened over a number of years, not by someone with a Hollywood budget and corporate sponsorship.

Sound quality varies, depending on how it was recorded. Oftentimes a line out from the soundboard was used. So don't be disappointed when you don't get fancy interviews and shiny lights. This documentary is as real as it gets.

With that said, this DVD is a documentary of Fugazi, as put together by filmmaker Jem Cohen. Cohen recorded most of the footage on a Super 8 camera, which is rarely seen in the film industry due to its lackluster ability to capture huge explosions and car chases.

The interesting thing is the purpose of recording Fugazi was not for a film at first. This is noted in the liner notes, as Cohen says, "I didn't set out to make a film about Fugazi. I documented the band because I document things that are important to me."

It wasn't decided until the early '90s that it would end up being a film.

After years of recording concert footage and several hours of editing, we now have a documentary of independent music's greatest success story, and it comes out as nothing less than brilliant.

One downfall of most films and documentaries is that the viewer may feel like those involved are on some kind of pedestal. There's something

about Carson Daly interviewing Paul McCartney on a sailboat that just doesn't sit right. That's where this DVD shines above other documentaries; you will feel as if you "were there," so to speak, watching the concerts, interviewing the band and waiting in line for tickets.

The footage included is great. For those who have never seen Fugazi, it gives you a good feel of what going to one of their shows might be like. A more personal environment with the fans is reflected on this film, which is about the arena setting of most other bands, who couldn't care less about most of their listeners.

The viewer also gets an idea about the band's ethics. One scene documents Lu MacKaye (singer, guitarist) removing one of the listeners at a show for spitting on him. Another point shows the band refusing to play as a reaction toward the violence in the audience. It's nice to know that you can go to a Fugazi show and not have to worry about getting your ass kicked for no reason by people who think it's cool to mosh.

On top of this, fans in the audience are shown giving their opinions of the band. Even those who are disappointed in the changes that the band has gone through over the years are allowed their say. From recording footage, concert footage, interviews and more, the viewer is granted a glimpse into the lives of one of the best bands around today.

What puts the DVD a step above the rest is the bonus footage at the end: a concert clip of everyone's favorite Fugazi song, "Waiting Room," is added on top of two more songs and two short films by Cohen. Going into detail about the short films by Cohen may give too much away. So let's just say it's definitely worth checking out as it makes a good point about issues that not many people would think to tackle.

The holiday is just around the corner, so it would be a good idea to put this on your wish list. If your parents don't know where to find it, you can tell them to order it direct at <http://www.dischord.com>.

Not very dy-no-mite

JJ72

"JJ72"

1/2 star

Senior Staff Writer **John Boles**

The past month has been very bleak for good, new music. Slurping through release-date schedules, nothing more could be found than compilations and Christmas albums to look forward to. Regardless, I must search through and find some diamonds in the rough. So, I went to my local record shop and looked around for a while.

After about 20 minutes of not seeing anything new that piqued my interest, I asked one of the sales clerks for any suggestions for new music. He was stumped; the few things that he suggested I had already heard. Then he started going toward the back of the store and shuffled through some of the CDs and handed me JJ72's self-titled debut. He said that it had been out for a little while but that it was still good.

May I say if this album is the best this guy could come up with out of the countless number of albums released recently, these certainly are bad times for music. To start off, the Irish JJ72 is comprised of vocalist/guitarist Mark Grealy, who can be compared to the likes of Muse front man Matthew Bellamy. He sings his lyrics very high, almost girlishly. Since most of the tracks are pretty generic, the work of bassist Hilary Woods and drummer Fergal Matthews are wasted.

As a whole the album sounds inspired, but Mark Grealy doesn't quite know how to express his sentiment without sounding generic and sappy. Lyrics like "Escaping contamination is a difficult operation/ I need

some hibernation to hide me from the evil" are almost laughable in their stupidity. Not only are the lyrics bad in most of the songs, they even fall into many instrumental stereotypes of mainstream mediocre pop.

By the third track, "Oxygen," it's almost as if the band realized that they hadn't used a string section yet, so they just shoved it into the song. Other tracks feature such gems of awfulness like a very poorly done (and very characteristically European) drum machine and offbeat clapping throughout most of one track.

Luckily, there are a few glimmers of hope in this album. Both "Angel" and "Not Like You" feature catchy, spacey and genuinely interesting instrumentals. Unfortunately, these songs are far outweighed by the other 10 tracks, especially the huge duds of "Improv" and "Broken Down."

According to said clerk (who had seen JJ72 at Lincoln Theatre last month), their live show was very raw and interesting. Unfortunately, this side of the band rarely came across on the album.

Bits of "Snow" showed that Grealy was more than a girly "Pablo Honey" era Thom Yorke wannabe, but these moments are far too little and far too late to save this album. This is the type of band that could very well become a good band in the future (see: Radiohead and "Pablo Honey" or Beck and "Golden Feelings").

Many reviewers had said this about JJ72, but I just don't see it. This album hasn't suffered from a small budget or lack of production time, but a lack of expression. Hopefully after the Christmas season ends, there will be more albums to come out that will let me forget that I actually spent my hard-earned money on this awful album.

Assistant Features Editor **Joel Isaac Frady**

Almost 30 years ago, an unknown high school student started writing articles on rock bands for Rolling Stone. Some 10 years after that, his first screenplay, "Fast Times at Ridgemont High," made it to the screen. Since then, Cameron Crowe has proven himself to be one of the best filmmakers of the last decade, through films like "Say Anything...," "Jerry Maguire" and "Almost Famous."

At a recent press conference, Technician got a chance to speak with Crowe and Tom Cruise about their upcoming movie, "Vanilla Sky," a film that represents a change of pace for both of them.

When asked about the choices of movies he makes, Crowe says, "To me it's just stories around a campfire. I think of it as a bunch of people sitting around a campfire, and one guy says 'a kid is a young journalist and his mother won't let him listen to rock 'n' roll.' That's one story. Then the next guy goes, 'a guy has a nightmare: He's alone in Times Square.' It's different ways of telling a story."

About his choice of "Vanilla Sky," he adds, "It's not like I was looking for a more serious thing. This movie just came along, and it was the one that we couldn't stop talking about."

It may also be the mindset of Crowe that makes all of his pictures individual, even when remaking someone else's film ("Sky" is a remake of the 1997 Spanish film "Open Your Eyes"). "The great thing about that picture [is that] it's a story that asks a lot of interesting questions," Cruise says. "It's a story that was open-ended, and I loved Cameron's approach to it. He said look, I'm gonna get my band together, and we're gonna cover this song. It's a

Crowe 'covers' his new song

story that allows an artist such as Cameron to come in and ask his own questions and come to his own conclusions."

About making "Sky" with Crowe, Cruise says, "His writing is so extraordinary for an actor to be able to have those words to say and these characters to play."

Cameron was excited about this picture, "and when Cameron gets excited about something we do it over, and over, and over. You can't help it; you get kind of lost in it, you're on the Crowe ride ... you want to play it over and over again."

What excited Crowe about "Open Your Eyes" was the way it features a guy with an affliction but doesn't get stuck on it.

"I'm just not a fan of movies where something happens physically and the whole movie is about the affliction," Crowe said, noting that this movie is about "a guy whose journey includes the effects of an accident. As you know people in real life who have been through something like that, they work very hard to show you who they are inside, and sometimes it only happens when they're forced to show you what's inside. You start to go right past whatever physical affliction is present and you see what's going on in the person. That's a great thing, and that's why I made this movie."

Above all, however, music plays the biggest part in any Cameron Crowe film.

"What's funny about music, not just rock, is [that it's] usually so much more eloquent ... it's often the better movie than most movies because it plays in your head, I've seen the greatest movies driving, and it's so dangerous," Crowe says. "The challenge is always to come up with the right images to go with music that I love, and you can't

always do it. But music and film make such a great marriage when it works."

Crowe was very enthusiastic about working with Cruise, noting that "with Tom, you get everything. You get all the benefits of a character and all the benefits of a person that can represent love. It was a joy."

It was also pointed out that he might be taking "a big risk" by scarring and putting a mask on one of the best-known actors working today, and to this Crowe says, "Well I'm working my way up the list — and I'm starting at the top."

Cruise shared the compliment, making the point that "this is our second movie together, and I really hope it won't be our last."

Another aspect of Crowe's films that has gathered a lot of attention is his ability to craft strong, realistic female characters.

"I remember after 'Fast Times,' I felt strongest writing guy characters," he said, "so I started to study how great women characters had been written. What I found that it came down to was letting every character, not just the women characters, have their own private moment where you could just be with them and see how they react to the world."

Whether covering "songs" or doing his own, Cameron Crowe has a unique way of looking at the world around him.

About movies in general, he says that his favorite movies are the ones "that remind you that everything counts, for people watch everything and see so much more than you'd ever dream."

Let's just hope to see a lot more from him.

"Vanilla Sky" opens nationwide on Dec. 14, and stars Tom Cruise, Penelope Cruz, Cameron Diaz, and Jason Lee.

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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Naughty or Nice?

TECHNICIAN DECIDES WHO'S GETTING CANDY AND WHO'S GETTING COAL FOR THE YEAR 2001.

The following are our takes on who's been naughty and/or nice this year and is all fun and games (for the most part). If we left you out, you need to either be better or worse for us to take notice. Better luck next year.

Nice: John Cerqueria:
This N.C. State '01 alum was awarded the Order of the Longleaf Pine for making his alma mater proud by helping to carry a handicapped victim down smoke-filled stairs in the World Trade Center on Sept. 11.

Naughty: Gerald Wilkins
Mr. Wilkins helped to screw things up for his son and for N.C. State when he finally stuck his nose all the way into his son's business last spring. Thanks to Gerald, Damien will now miserably at another school.

Nice: Student Government
NCSU Student Government should be congratulated for pulling off one of the best Homecoming weeks in years. Way to go guys. Keep up the good work.

Naughty: Student Government
How dare you guys cheat to pull off an upset win in the first annual Technician vs. Student Government hardwood classic.

Nice: New NCSU administrators:
Technician welcomes Provost Stuart Cooper and Vice-Chancellor Steven Jones to the Wolfpack family. Help us to make NCSU an even better place.

Naughty: Wolf statue thieves
A super big, fat lump of coal goes to

whomever has been stealing our new wolves around campus. Thanks for leaving the ugly one out in front of Witherspoon Student Center though.

Nice: Chancellor Mary Anne Fox
Thank you Chancellor Fox for not leaving us to go to Washington. Oh, and we must compliment your dancing at Crossroads with Student Body President Darryl Willie.

Naughty: Chancellor Mary Anne Fox
Please warn us before you wear the spicy, red leather jacket from the Maryland game to another school event. Such a dichotomy of fashion and sex appeal is too much for the average person to handle.

Nice: Herb Sendek
It's too early to tell what the basketball version of the cardiac Pack is going to do this year, but we figure that good ol' Herb doesn't get enough support. Good luck this year guys!

Naughty: Budget cuts and tuition increases
The double whammy of budget cuts and tuition increases for this school year has made it even tougher on us hard working, cash-strapped college students. Shame on you economy. We'd give you all the coal if we weren't using it in our stove to warm our bones in our drafty homes.

Congratulations to the graduates of the Fall 2001 semester. Have a productive exam period and safe holiday break. See you in 2002.

CAMPUS FORUM

Human cost of war

The United States is a dangerous place. Cliché after cliché is heard on the national media and from citizens that we are living in an altered and perhaps perilous new century. Nothing could be closer to the truth and nothing could be truer for Americans coming of age in the 21st century. However, the media and citizens in our great country, unfortunately, will not discard their blinders that block their view of the true circumstances that exist. We hear that in the new century, specific people wish to curb our freedoms, and on these grounds we are afraid. While the world is treacherous, it is far different set of reasons. Through the haze of smoke clouds over Afghanistan come the news that the People's Republic of China has joined the World Trade Organization (WTO). Soon, a form of NAFTA will cover North America, pulling more countries into a trade agreement where parts and people will be moved and traded. The United States has conquered the Taliban government and will most likely move onward with rifles raised in the air toward Iraq, Sudan and Somalia, if not further. We continue to side with certain countries, making enemies of others. We persist in training Osama bin Laden-like operatives and sell weapons to rogue countries, only to have to fight them a few years down the road. The world is becoming smaller and precarious. Poverty is growing. The foreign trade agreements that are established enrich only a small segment of a country. The rest of the country is left with a higher level of paucity and near-death conditions. The trading of weapons with nations increases the level of war that occurs and the amount of casualties. When we side with one nation, we have one more enemy to watch over our shoulders. The training of operatives by the CIA creates even greater enemies, but now with lethal knowledge and abilities. Our current policies are to blame for the current state of the Union, and the only way that it will change is through a rethinking of our ideals. The "HUMAN COST OF WAR" rally held on Wednesday stressed the need for the world to come

together in peace and the need for our great country to rethink why we are in war now, lest our policies come back to haunt us again.

Jonathan Perry
Senior
Business Management and Spanish

Treason talk dangerously vague

I was surprised to see Technician — and, by extension, the NCSU community — call for the trial of James Walker Linda, a.k.a. Suleyman Al-Lindh, on the grounds of treason. The language of the U.S. Code's description of treason and the language of the press' rhetoric about this particular case are dangerously ambiguous. Law and justice should not casually throw around catchphrases and feel-good buzzwords like "allegiance" or "duty" or "patriot" without clearly defining what qualifies someone as dutiful or patriotic. My God, the American army has missiles called "patriots." To try this "traitor" would make a much larger mistake, however, namely, validating the so-called "War on Terror." Terror cannot be destroyed. The Founding Fathers never used the Revolution to declare a War on Dissent and Abraham Lincoln never pretended the Emancipation Proclamation was part of a War on Hatred. FDR, administering the power of fear, was never foolish enough to suggest it could be scrubbed clean from the earth. The more that Americans dig their heels into self-serving jingoism, the more foolish they'll feel (and look to the world) 15 years from now when they're fighting the Northern Alliance (which is called the "United Islamic Front" everywhere else in the world) and defending the misguided policy of blurring steadfast morals with capricious foreign policy. And as far as allegiance, do students "because they're students here?"

Richard Morgan
Alum
Class of 2001

Technician Wish List

- NCAA Tournament bid
- Dignified name for the ESA
- Monorail (What's that, you say?)
- ~~More~~ bricks, more grass, trees
- Fewer parking tickets
- No tuition increase
- Clark Dining Hall completion
- Hillsborough renovations (no more pizza, please!)



Snickers from the boardroom



Thomas Bakane

STAFF COLUMNIST

I never really pay attention to what other people do. Everyday, I see thousands of people all over campus who I don't know or ever talk to, and I pay them no mind. I think of people that I don't know as extras in the movie of my life who play no major role. But occasionally, something — a random extra — does catches my interest and gets my thinking.

The other day, I was in the C-store for my morning soda, and I noticed someone staring intensely at a candy bar pinched between his fingers and thumb. He was crouched down, level with the bottom shelf, with the candy bar held up at eye level like a child inspecting a seashell. By the look on his face, I can only speculate that he was facing the pain of actually making a decision on what type of candy bar to eat for breakfast. What a great country we live in.

So like everything else in the known universe, that really made me think. I thought about how much effort goes into designing the packaging for food,

candy and especially candy bars. I imagine that, somewhere in the world, there is a team of trained marketing geniuses sitting around a table coming up with the ideas on our grocery store shelves that we take for granted. I can see them running tests on what colors and patterns are conducive to eating and what makes the consumer really want to buy a Butterfinger over a Mars bar. In truth, we all know what each of these bars tastes like, and the packaging makes little impact on our taste.

So the hype and advertising of candy is pointless — or is it? Could it be that all the effort spent on labeling and money spent on materials for shiny wrappers is all in vain? Of course not; there is no way a corporation would let that happen. The big companies know that there is an extra twist to the way consumers make decisions, and they want the candy bar to be pleasing in every possible sense — most importantly, the way it looks. They know that there will be some guy in some C-store in some city who just can't decide what he wants until he stares at the wrapper for a good long while.

Maybe on Monday, the random guy feels bold and wants to buy something shiny; he then picks up a silver Three Musketeers. Is a Three Musketeers so spectacular that you should see your reflection in it? There's not even a trace

of caramel or a single almond in it. Let's suppose that on Wednesday he just got dumped by his girlfriend and buys a Zero. Good for him. It's good to identify with your food before you eat it. Then on Friday he feels kind of funky and goes with a Whatchamacallit. The groovy wrapper parallels his mood, and he is content — excellent choice.

It might sound kind of far-fetched, but it happens more often than you think. Strange, subconscious thoughts rule our brains, and everyday, life-altering decisions are tilted one way or another by these thoughts. Think about your favorite brand of beer. Does it have a cool name or interesting label? Would you drink something that had pictures of little pink ponies on the label, even if it was the best you have ever tasted? Of course you wouldn't! You have an image to maintain. No one wants to look like an idiot. But when we are faced with a serious dilemma, such as what candy bar to buy, thank goodness we have someone else to manipulate our subconscious thoughts and decide for us.

Tommy encourages you to see the metaphor inside the metaphor inside the creamy nougat center. Tell him what your favorite candy bar is at tabokane@hotmail.com.

Have yourself a Merry Christmas



Holly Bezant

STAFF COLUMNIST

A very common topic that many opinion writers have used for their columns is the commercialism of Christmas. It has been a very nice breath of fresh air to not have read anything of that sort (yet). Don't worry, that is not what I am writing about.

Decker Ngongang wrote a column earlier this week about Dead Week not being dead. He is so right. I'm half asleep as I write this. Either that or I'm about to pass out from heat exhaustion (I'm only halfway kidding about that). This is from our unusually warm December weather and from running around, trying to get all the loose ends tied up before going home for the break.

Unfortunately, many folks, myself included, will just be going home to face a short winter job. Many folks also look forward to finishing the semester. I

am also one of these people.

Don't get me wrong, I learned a lot of interesting things over the semester. However, there is added stress to final exams, not only because they are what determine your final grade for the course, but also because some people calculate the exact grade they need to make on their finals in order to make a B+ or an A- (guilty again).

Many people get their Christmas shopping done, or at least started, right after Thanksgiving. I wasn't able to take advantage of the multitude of sales occurring then, so now I am stuck doing my way through another week until payday so that I can go shopping with a week left before Christmas.

What am I doing? I'm complaining. Not a good example of the Christmas spirit, am I? The thing is, I have had to hear about people complaining about how it doesn't feel like Christmas because it's nice outside. Weather doesn't make Christmas the holiday it is, and we wouldn't be getting snow down here anyway. I haven't had a white Christmas since I left New York way back in the good 'ol days of '89 (when I didn't have to worry about how silly I

looked in bright-pink, high-water corduroys).

I'm also a bit tired of hearing people who don't like Christmas music on the radio. It's never too early to play Christmas music! I was playing it two months ago. It wasn't in anticipation of the season. It was because I like it. When my dad was a deejay at an oldies station, he played some Christmas music in the middle of the summer.

I can feel Christmas in the air, and I have never had a year with so much negativity toward it. I hope that people will see through the warm weather and what they might think is corny music and just focus on the holiday and what they're going to do with it — whether it's going to see family, staying home or vacationing in the Bahamas. Plus, we can never forget the most important and the truest reason that we even have the holiday — Jesus Christ.

Holly is having trouble finding people who are in her denomination. If you are a Seventh-Day Adventist, or if you have comments about/against SDA, e-mail her at paz_rata@yahoo.com.

TECHNICIAN

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An appreciation



Jimmy Ryals
STAFF COLUMNIST

It's been some two years since my last attributed appearance as an opinion columnist, so I hope the reader will forgive any rustiness. My experience as a columnist left me with a lasting lesson: readers do not want to read about me.

So, I'm going to tell you about three women you should want to read about. They are three women without whom this newspaper may not have succeeded this year, and this issue marks the last time any of the three will see their names in our masthead.

You probably know Spaine Stephens' name and you may even have encountered her writing, but it's unlikely that, unless you've met her, you know much about her. And that's just about the highest compliment a journalist can be paid. In her four years writing for Technician, she has covered extensively N.C. State administrative issues, Student Government and this year's budget problems. The work she has done has been complicated by the difficulties inherent in balancing competing interests and presenting the truth, and she effectively handled those complications.

Those things the discerning reader could have figured out from scanning Stephens' clips; what that reader probably wouldn't have known is that she's an outstanding writer in her own right, free from journalistic structures. She will,

hopefully, make a greater name for herself down the road as a novelist. For now, we commend her to a cushy new position at the bottom of the totem pole for some newspaper somewhere, because that's what journalists dream of just out of school.

When the Student Media Authority finished crunching its annual budget numbers in July, Technician had a \$16,000 deficit and a backlog of nearly \$70,000 in outstanding debt from advertisers; Technician was, as of last week, \$42,000 in the black. Technician's financial solvency is thanks largely to the efforts of display ads manager Bisa Meek and her staff.

Meek took over from former manager Will Plummer in April of this year and has pushed ad revenue beyond any expectations, given the way this fiscal year started. She will still be a student at NCSU but has chosen to pursue other opportunities. We wish her luck and better earnings potential than Technician could ever offer.

Finally, Technician is saying goodbye to a classified manager who helped that department become, if you'll pardon the blatant capitalist sentiment, a relative cash cow. Under Becky Clingerman, our classified department exceeded revenue projections last year and has performed similarly this year. Clingerman has been an effective and organized leader; the fact that I can offer little about her personal life or future plans is a tribute to her efficiency and focus in the office.

As they leave, Technician offers best of luck and, likely, a paltry nest egg to Spaine Stephens, Bisa Meek and Becky Clingerman.

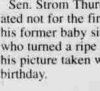
RULE OF THUMB

M&M's



In keeping with other color changes for holidays, the makers of the chocolate morsel with the thin candy shell announced they will be selling red, white and blue versions of the candies. All proceeds will go directly to Sept. 11 relief. All calories will go directly to the behinds of Americans.

Thurmond's baby sitter dies



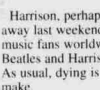
Sen. Strom Thurmond and the word "death" were associated not for the first time or the last time this week when his former baby sitter passed away at 109. The senator, who turned a ripe 99 Wednesday, asked if he could have his picture taken with President Jefferson Davis to mark his birthday.

Army recruiting up



The Associated Press reported yesterday that the war has been good for Army special forces recruiting, with news coverage acting like "free advertising for special warfare." Thank goodness this damn war is good for something other than boosting the sales of red, white and blue campaign hats and U.S. flag tablecloths.

George Harrison's passing



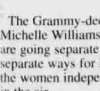
Harrison, perhaps the most underrated Beatle, passed away last weekend, ushering in an era of mourning for music fans worldwide. On the bright side though, is that Beatles and Harrison record sales have skyrocketed since. As usual, dying is the best publicity move an artist can make.

Young politicians



When most everyone is all in a tiffy about some "war," the fifth graders at a Wayne County school know what really matters: asking Gov. Easley to veto the bill — a bill that would make the scuppernon grape the official state fruit over their favorite, strawberry.

Destiny's Child's split



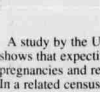
The Grammy-decorated diva trio of Beyonce Knowles, Michelle Williams and Kelly Rowland announced that they are going separate ways to pursue solo careers. Well, going separate ways for Beyonce to pursue her solo career. All the women independent (and cocky), throw your hands up in the air.

Board of Governors to be studied



The Board of Governors for the UNC System are going to be studied for their structure and effectiveness. It's about time for the body in control of the 16 UNC campuses to be evaluated by themselves. If only they were being forced to take exams.

Pregnant labor



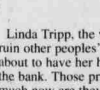
A study by the U.S. Census Bureau released this week shows that expecting mothers are working later into their pregnancies and returning to work sooner than ever before. In a related census study, today's children have been shown to be more bratty and annoying than ever before.

Federal holiday



President Bush's administration announced yesterday that all federal government activities will be shut down on Christmas Eve, giving federal workers a four-day holiday weekend. President Bush plans to spend his extra time off reading children's books ... to children, that is.

Tripp to be ousted



Linda Tripp, the woman famous only for attempting to ruin other peoples' lives but, in turn, only ruining hers, is about to have her home foreclosed for a \$116,098 debt to the bank. Those priceless Lewinsky tapes aren't worth much now are they?

Ashcroft's patriotism threatens U.S.



Robert Jaill
STAFF COLUMNIST

If there is any justice in the retelling of history, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft will be remembered in a Joseph McCarthy kind of light. In what is perhaps his most ridiculous statement since the Sept. 11 attacks, Ashcroft said, "[critics] tactics only aid terrorists; for they erode our national unity and diminish our resolve." In essence, Ashcroft is saying that patriotism is necessary in the fight against terrorism.

Ashcroft's assertion is one of the many expressed by the administration that unabashedly embraces logical fallacy ("Either you are with us or you are with the terrorists," for instance). Patriotism is generally defined as support and love for one's country. It is more of an attitude or a trend in thought rather than any specific act (hence the "ism"). The idea that the government's war on terrorism somehow hinges on a general atmosphere of support reveals the kind of weak framework Ashcroft and company are not reluctant to use in implementing their un-American policies.

The actual implication of Ashcroft's McCarthy-esque condemnation of critics is that he needs Americans to look the other way as the administration allocates itself unprecedented, unrestricted power to do whatever it can get away with to supposedly fight terrorism. Ashcroft's invoking of the phrase "national unity" serves to paint a picture that critics who do not conform to national unity somehow undermine the

safety and integrity of the government and its people. Such moves are not quite unlike Joseph McCarthy's moves to cast American communists as a threat to Americans.

Patriotism, the brand that Ashcroft pushes, eschews notions of liberal, democratic government in favor of freedom and ideal-trampling expediency. Ashcroft's unofficial support for such patriotism is the smoking gun that implicates his official policy for infringing on American rights. If anti-terrorism initiatives coming out of Ashcroft's office require that citizens line up under some national dogma, then there is something about those policies that should raise serious questions among Americans. If Ashcroft's policies do not require such conformity, then criticism should not prove fundamentally incompatible with Ashcroft's policies.

Ashcroft-style patriotism works by de-emphasizing several key American ideals. People are persuaded to accept more and more closed-door government operations in the name of security. Not only do these operations disregard constitutional rights granted to literally all men (not just citizens), but there are also no effective limits and clear definitions of what the government cannot do. The things that openness has stymied over the long history of the United States — injustice and corruption — now remain free to run rampant. The only assurance Americans have to their rights is trust that the government will do the right thing.

Additionally, openness, perhaps more than anything else, has made the American system better than other democratic systems around the world. The average U.S. citizen has relatively more rights than their European or

Japanese counterparts to inquire about and influence the inner workings of government. The deprecation of openness in Ashcroft's patriotism threatens to tarnish America's status of having an exemplary democracy.

Criticism is another quality of American civil society that Ashcroft has condemned in name. Criticism in political and social spheres serves the same purpose as competition in the economic sphere. That is, criticism and competition drive the system whereby the average person picks what is better for them; the aggregate consequence of such choosing is a better overall product. Subscribing unquestioningly to the Bush party line results in a dangerous stagnation of ideas. Instead of just ending up with a crappy toaster, one ends up with fewer freedoms and less constitutional rights.

The general idea of patriotism lies on the fallacy: "Because the government is an agent for one thing that is good, it is an agent of all things that are good." Patriotism removes the need for the average citizen to exercise true thought. When citizens no longer have to think, they go along with some prepackaged things — inquiries, expansionist conquests and genocide. Some may balk at the thought of America succumbing to such treacheries, however, if such gross rights violations ever did occur, who would be there to let anyone know? Ashcroft's longed-for "national unity" doesn't allow for anyone to know or question what the government is doing, assuming that it is even possible for them to have a contradictory thought from the start.

Robert appreciates insightful, non-patriotism-inspired thoughts. E-mail him at evibobNCSU@yahoo.com.

Lessons learned



Justin Greene
STAFF COLUMNIST

As I near my graduation date, I've started to look back upon my long college career and think about the things that I've really learned while being in school. Most of my friends have graduated and gone, and it's curious to me that not many of them speak of how much they learned in an actual classroom setting. Most of their reflections are on the good times, the long lost friends and the ever-important life lessons taught during the college years.

With that said, I thought I would pass along a few of the lessons I've learned along the way and some observations about life at N.C. State in general. Granted, some of the lessons have taken longer for me to learn, but they're all important to know, especially for freshmen.

Engineers, take time to appreciate the liberal arts. Few things do my heart 2000-like sitting in a political science or religion seminar and seeing electrical engineers, chemists or agricultural majors in there stretching their brains to grapple with Aristotle, Albert Schweitzer or the rise and fall of Adolph Hitler. Beyond the humanities requirements, technical-degree students who pursue philosophy or politics out of a love for learning give you the feeling that they'll get the big picture later on in life.

Liberal arts majors, pay attention to your math and science. I confess that I've failed at times on this one, but I

regret that I didn't absorb as much science as I could while I had the chance. We never know what we're going to end up doing after school, so it's important to be a well-rounded person capable of adapting in the computer age. Religion, philosophy and poetry can give your life more substance and happiness, but it rarely pays the bills. Plus, you answer more questions on Jeopardy.

Attend class! I thought being able to skip class from time to time was a great novelty my freshman year, but the novelty soon collides with reality. You (or your parents) are paying thousands of dollars for your classes, and even if you can squeeze by without going to class, you'd better have some knowledge to back up that piece of paper after four (or five) years. I confess hypocrisy on this note, but take it from one who knows; skipping class never pays off and will leave you with regrets.

Liberals and conservatives, stand up for yourselves, but know why. There's nothing that makes a class more interesting than knowledgeable people who can debate topics unemotionally and back up their points with relevant facts. Conversely, there's little that can make a class more worthless than people arguing who have no idea why they even believe what they believe, or they're merely relying on hearsay or assumption. Don't come to college and abandon all that you hold, but research it and find out why (or why not) it makes sense.

Don't wait till you graduate to make a difference. We often think that we'll start solving real problems when we graduate. If you see a need in your community, start working on it now. Don't assume that someone else is taking care of it. Find a child to mentor or

be a counselor at a summer camp. Get involved in a local church and help those around you. One of the greatest assets in life is initiative and leadership. You can practice that without a degree.

Everything you're working for will be gone one day. Prepare yourself early on for the fact that money is elusive and doesn't bring happiness, jobs are won and lost, and the latest fads will soon be out of style. Strengthen your relationships with God and with your family and friends; one day it might be all you have left.

Never think that Carolina students are smarter! True, the average SAT score might be higher, but I spent my freshman year there and learned that while UNC might be harder to get into, NCSU is harder to graduate from. While they're learning how to be diverse and tolerant, NCSU students exercise diversity and tolerance while learning how to change the world with new technologies. We'll be changing the world while they talk about it!

Finally, always pull for the Pack. I remember when N.C. State went to the Tournament on a regular basis, and believe we can get back to that point. I've come to the point that I don't know what we can hope for in our team, but we've got to keep hoping. Don't be like the Carolina fans that have already started selling their season tickets!

Anyway, thanks to all of you who read Technician and share your thoughts. May the entire Wolfpack family have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

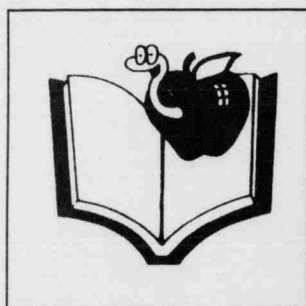
Justin will take comments from anyone, but Carolina fans at jngreen-justin@hotmail.com.

Campus Forum on Wednesdays and Fridays is a reflection of what is submitted by the readers.

Email oped1@hotmail.com to make a submission to campus Forum.

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BOWL

Continued from Page 14

Clemson and Georgia Tech.

Despite the early season struggles, State has rebounded. Over the past five games, the Pack has shut out Virginia, thrashed winless Duke, lost a squeaker to Maryland and cruised to a closing victory over Ohio. But the high-water mark for State this year was certainly its 34-28 win at Florida State — the first home loss — the Seminoles have suffered in ACC competition.

"When we were 3-3, I called our seniors in on that Monday. We chatted, talked about being leaders, stepping up to plate and [I said] you have to play the best football of your careers for us to have a great year," said Amato. "The team responded."

BRYANT

Continued from Page 14

ceded to trounce the most unlikely of opponents, Virginia Tech, by going back to the pro-style offense that gave them so much success in 2000.

Pittsburgh would not lose a game the remainder of the season and enters the Tangerine Bowl riding a five-game winning streak. During that winning streak,

Leading the way for State's second half has been its defense. Fisher has continued his solid play at linebacker, creating a lethal combination with Brian Jamison. State has gotten solid up-front play from Terrance Chapman, Shawn Price and Corey Smith. Add in first-team All-ACC Terrence Holt and a State team that was vulnerable to the run early in the season can now stop it.

In the secondary, State is still young. Aside from senior Brian Williams, the Pack features freshmen and a sophomore at the cornerback position. Despite being young, however, the secondary has survived its biggest challenge of the season by performing well against the Seminoles.

A key matchup for State will be how its secondary will handle the vaunted Pittsburgh passing attack. The Panthers feature All-American wideout Antonio

Bryant. R.J. English combined with Bryant for 83 receptions this year, the No. 1 receiving duo in the Big East.

Offensively, the Pack hopes Rivers will be back to full strength for the Bowl. Rivers suffered a chipped bone in his toe in State's final game vs. Ohio.

"The doctors told me that in two weeks, he could do everything," said Amato. "We've already had a week, theoretically from what they said, come [tomorrow], he can do everything."

If Rivers is able to play, he will have to go against a Pitt defense ranked No. 6 nationally in pass defense. Because the Panther pass defense is so good, State may need a big game out of tailback Ray Robinson.

Robinson ran for 100 yards in three straight games this year, and has been a major part of State's second-half success. Other

lights out the last five games."

Two members of the defense, linebacker Gerald Hayes and safety Ramon Walker, joined Bryant on the All-Big East first team.

Bryant, the 2000 winner of the Biletnikoff Award, which is given to the best wide receiver in the nation, sprained his ankle in Pittsburgh's final home game, a 24-6 victory over Alabama-Birmingham, and his immediate status for the Tangerine Bowl was uncer-

rushing options for the Pack are fullback Cotra Jackson and backup quarterback Olin Hannum, who was State's leading rusher against Ohio.

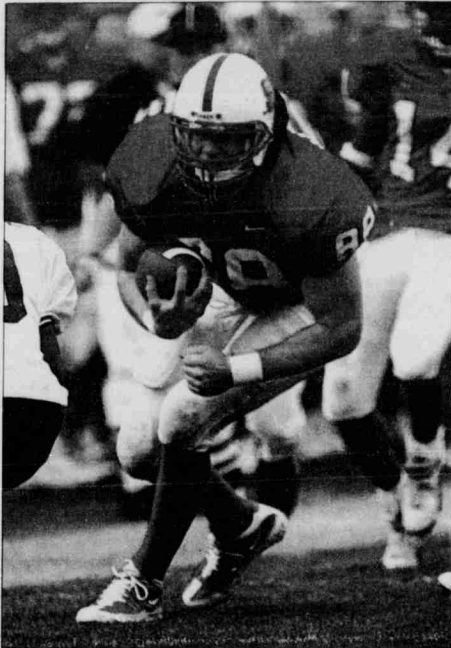
As State prepares for the Tangerine Bowl, Amato is quick to point out the importance of bowls for both this Wolfpack team and the State football program.

"The biggest thing [when going to a bowl] is that you win," said Amato. "If we can win this and finish the season right, ...we could maybe end up in top 25, which would be big — very big."

"Success breeds success. We've had some success here in last two years, and these young men have been reward with bowls. The more consecutive bowls we can go to, that's the foundation for a program. That's how programs start."

With a season that surely had its share of ups and downs, Harris couldn't be happier taking his team to the Tangerine Bowl to challenge N.C. State.

"We're very excited about the opportunity to play Coach Amato and the North Carolina State football team," said Harris. "It should be a good contest. I have a lot of respect for the job that Chuck and his staff have done in the short time he's been there."



The Tangerine Bowl will be the final game for Andy Vanderveer and the rest of the Wolfpack seniors.



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Friday Sports



Football vs. Pittsburgh, 12/20, 7:30
M. Basketball @ Syracuse, 12/8, 7:30
W. Basketball @ Wisconsin, 12/8
Wrestling, State Duals, 12/8, 11 a.m.

Wolfpack goes Badger hunting in Wisconsin

◆ The N.C. State women's basketball team will try to bounce back from its first loss of the season.

Jerry Moore
Assistant Sports Editor

The parade of top-25 opponents marches on for the N.C. State women's basketball team Saturday at No. 19 Wisconsin.

The Badgers (6-1) will be the fourth-ranked foe that the No. 10 Wolfpack (6-1) faces in the first eight games of the season. State beat Old Dominion and George Washington, but Kay Yow's team couldn't hang with No. 2 Tennessee, falling 93-56 on Sunday. The Pack hasn't played since suffer-

ing the loss to the Volunteers in Orlando. Carrisse Moody posted 18 points against the Vols, but State shot a season-low 32 percent from the floor and scored its second-lowest total of the season.

For the most part, the Pack has played well on the offensive end this season, shooting at least 50 percent in four of its seven games.

The team's usually sturdy defense also faltered in the second half against Tennessee, surrendering 57 points in the second half alone. The Pack hadn't given up more than 61 points in an entire game before facing the Vols.

State has had a full week of practice to regroup and prepare for the Badgers, who, while not the caliber of Tennessee, will provide a tough test on the road.

"We had great practice [this week]," said freshman Rachel Stockdale. "We worked a lot on getting around screens. I think if we execute offensively, that's the big thing for us right now."

"We're getting better defensively. We're clicking more as a team. If we can execute more offensively and find the open person, look inside and go inside out. All of that will help us get better."

Moody leads the Pack in scoring (14.7 points per game), rebounding (7.0) and steals (2.1). No other State player averages double figures in scoring, but nine are putting up at least four points per game.

Yow's rotation has shifted from day to day, but it has given every member of the team a substantial amount of time on the court. Remarkably, 11

players average 10 or more minutes per outing.

"I think we will improve each day, and eventually we'll reach our goals," Stockdale said. "If you're on the bench, you're going to cheer and lift your teammates. If you're on the floor, you're going to do your part and help the team."

The Badgers are coming off a one-point win over Marquette. They trailed by as many as 17 in the second half but scored 17 of the game's final 19 points to squeak out the victory. Senior shooting guard Kyle Black scored all of her team-high 19 points in the second half, including the game-winning layup in the final moments.

Wisconsin has been in the national

See WOMEN, Page 11



State looks to shoot its way to victories over the nationally ranked Wisconsin Badgers.

CATS & DOGS

The Wolfpack and Panthers face off in the Tangerine Bowl

◆ The Wolfpack seeks to conclude a solid second half of the 2001 football season with a win over Pittsburgh in the Tangerine Bowl.

Steve Thompson
Assistant Sports Editor

The first two seasons under head coach Chuck Amato look awfully similar on paper: a 7-4 regular season, fourth-place ACC finish and a trip to Florida for a bowl game.

While N.C. State may have caught a few teams off guard last year, this year the Wolfpack (7-4) has had the full attention of every team it's faced. As a result, State enters its Tangerine Bowl game against Pittsburgh (6-5) as a much more

complete team than the 2000 Pack. But 2001 Wolfpack still lacks something last year's team has — a bowl victory.

Last year, the Pack won the Micron P.C. Bowl, which was discontinued for this season. In its place, the Tangerine Bowl was resurrected and the race for the bowl was an intense one, featuring back-and-forth lobbying attempts from State and Clemson for the ACC's spot in the bowl.

"Everybody did an outstanding job of getting us to where we could get into this bowl," said Amato. "It means a lot to the program to be able to go to a bowl back to back."

The Tangerine Bowl Committee opted for an intriguing matchup, featuring two of the hottest teams in America. State has won four of its last five games and playing perhaps its best football of the Chuck Amato era. Following a 1-5 start, the

Panthers have won five in a row, including an upset win at Virginia Tech.

"In the last five [games], we're 4-1. How about that? Pretty impressive, huh?" said Amato. "Well they're 5-0, with a win against Virginia Tech at Virginia Tech — that trumps our FSU win. They're a hot football team."

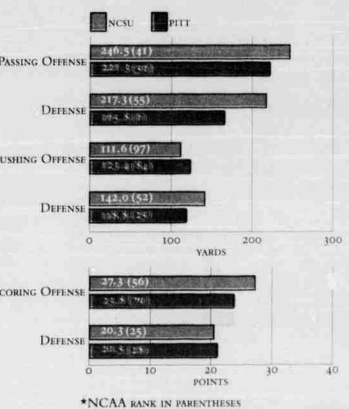
"I know that in the preseason they were predicted as a team that could vie for the Big East championship."

The season began with high hopes for State as well, as the Pack returned a strong core of players — including All-American Levar Fisher and 2000 ACC Freshman of the Year Philip Rivers. The Wolfpack was picked fourth preseason in the polls, but caught some early season snags with losses to North Carolina,

See BOWL, Page 12

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Bryant leads resurgent Panthers

◆ Roller-coaster year for the Panthers will end with a matchup against N.C. State.

Matt Middleton
Staff Writer

Success on the football field has always been commonplace in the city of Pittsburgh. Both professionally and collegially, Pittsburgh's football teams boast great football traditions that are rivaled by few cities.

The Pittsburgh Steelers are winners of four Super Bowls, while legends of the gridiron Tony Dorsett, Mike Ditka and Dan Marino all played collegially at Pittsburgh, which also won a National Championship in 1976.

Expectations were again high for the 2001 Pittsburgh Panthers, who returned the bulk of its starters from a team that appeared in the 2000 Insight.com Bowl, including All-American wide

receiver Antonio Bryant. Head coach Walt Harris also began the season by installing a variation of the spread offense, which was a departure from the team's traditional two-wide receiver set.

But those high expectations soon disappeared when

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problems, and the Panthers opened the season with a 1-5 record. The low point of that six-game stretch was a 35-26 home loss to South Florida, a school that has fielded a football team for exactly five seasons.

The Panthers (6-5, 4-3 Big East) broke the five-game losing streak with a 33-7 drubbing of Big East doormat Temple and then pro-

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Levar Fisher and Terrence Holt were two of the top defenders in the ACC this year, as evidenced by their selection to the first-team All-ACC team.

Anthony Grundy helped the Wolfpack jump to an early lead against Wofford, scoring eight quick points.



State looks to continue strong shooting at Syracuse

◆ N.C. State will try to build on its success against Wofford when it travels to ninth-ranked Syracuse on Saturday.

Ryan Baucom
Staff Writer

N.C. State hopes to stay on the winning track in nonconference games when it meets Syracuse on the road Saturday.

The Wolfpack (6-2) is in for a tough battle as it travels to the Carrier Dome to take on the ninth-ranked Orangemen this weekend. It will be a rematch of last year's game at the Entertainment and Sports Arena, where the Orangemen came back from 11 behind to win.

After its first road game of the year at Ohio State, the young State team thinks it's now better prepared to play on the road.

"We just have to stay focused and not get out of sync on offense," said senior guard Anthony Grundy. "The young guys found out that it's tough to play on the road, but I think they learned from it."

The Pack got back its shooting touch Wednesday night in an 80-42 win over Wofford, shooting 53 percent. Poor shooting was a leading factor in previous losses to Ohio State and Massachusetts.

Good play by State's big men has been a major part of the team being successful in its six wins this year. The frontcourt tandem of Marcus Melvin and Josh Powell combined for

38 points against Wofford, which opened up the offense.

The much-needed win over the Terriers gave the Pack some momentum as it heads into Syracuse.

"It was good for the team," State head coach Herb Sendek said. "We were able to play a lot of people and get some of the guys additional experience."

The younger guys will have to show that experience for the Pack to come out of Syracuse with a win.

The Orangemen (9-0) won the Preseason NIT earlier this season and are trying to remain undefeated. They are led by senior forward

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