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# TECHNICIAN

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

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## Unfunded TAs get money

◆ The electrical and computer engineering department laid off 34 TAs for this semester; Vice Chancellor Charles Moreland has pledged to pay stipends to those who have not found other funding.

Jimmy Ryals  
Staff Reporter

For Joe Wagovich, it came as a shock. It was during a Dec. 2 Washington Redskins-Dallas Cowboys football game that Wagovich, a master's student in computer engineering, read a letter saying his position as a teaching assistant had been terminated at mid-year.

"My biggest concern was that, if you know six months beforehand, you could really beat the bushes and find a research assistantship," Wagovich said.

Prabhu Sinha, also a master's student in computer engineering, had some warning of the elimination of his TA funding, having heard in November that the electrical and computer engineering department was cutting a number of TA positions for the spring semester. But, warning or no, the realization that set in afterward was no less disconcerting.

For Sinha, a native of India studying at N.C. State, a semester without an assistantship and the stipend, insurance and tuition remission it brought would have been disastrous.

"They wouldn't have sent me back," Sinha said, "but I would have had no other choice but to go home."

Wagovich and Sinha are two of 34 graduate students in the electrical and computer engineering (ECE) department who learned in late November or early December that their positions as teaching and research assistants would be eliminated in January. Sinha and Wagovich have secured funding for this semester; others have not been so fortunate.

To help those still without funding, Graduate School Dean Robert Sowell announced to the University Graduate Student Association at its meeting Monday that Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies Charles Moreland has committed to pay \$3,000 stipends to students unable to find funding.

The \$3,000 figure makes the students eligible for graduate student health insurance and tuition and fees remission — available to out-of-state students — through the Graduate Student Support Plan.

The reason for the elimination of positions was a miscalculation on the part of the ECE department administration. The department extended funding to 111 teaching assistants for fall 2001, 34 more

than it could afford.

The miscalculation was the result of a mixture of factors, among them the state budget deficit, an unusually high assistantship acceptance rate and the popularity of the computer networking program.

"We make decisions for how many assistantships to offer in advance," John Gilligan, College of Engineering assistant dean for research and graduate studies, said at the occasionally contentious meeting. "You don't know what the budget's going to be. It's a dire financial situation this university has found itself in."

Gilligan called the TA layoffs a "heart-wrenching" situation. "We're also probably guilty of being a little optimistic and hoping, if we go a little over budget, that the dean could bail us out," Professor Winsor Alexander said at the meeting. "This year, the dean didn't bail us out."

Gilligan also said that the rate of offered assistantships in computer networking will drop to preclude a future miscalculation there.

All of the TAs who lost funding had completed one-year assistantships; for graduate students, only the first year of funding as an RA or TA is guaranteed. Any work beyond that year results from, essentially, a verbal agreement. The lack of a written commitment made the continuing TAs the first ones considered when layoffs became necessary.

"It wasn't that we broke an obligation," said Professor Winsor Alexander. "We didn't have an obligation and that's why we were able to make the terminations."

Wagovich was one of a group of meeting attendees who believe the layoffs should have been merit-based.

"I would have rather heard 'We didn't think you did a good job and we have to let you go,'" he said.

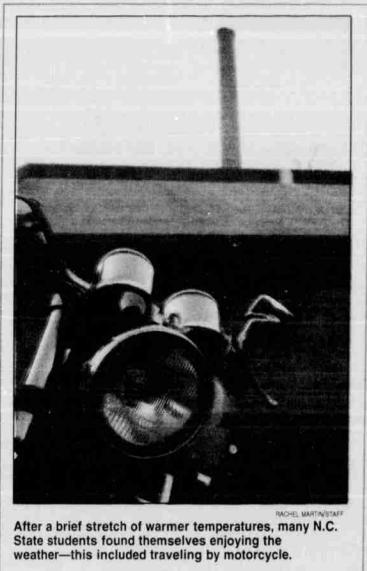
ECE still has more TAs than it can support, having committed to 17 new ones for this semester. The current number of ECE TAs is around 100; Alexander said it needs to be closer to 80.

Alexander also said that no criteria has been established for determining which students to release, should more layoffs be necessary next semester. He did say that students let go this semester would not receive priority in such a situation.

At the meeting, the UGSA passed a resolution strongly urging all graduate departments to give letters outlining the terms and conditions of the TA agreement. Among other things, the letters would make clear to renewed TAs that they could be terminated at any time, with two weeks' notice.

Currently, students receive such a letter when they accept their assistantships for the first year.

According to Sowell, the Graduate School has recommended that all



After a brief stretch of warmer temperatures, many N.C. State students found themselves enjoying the weather—this included traveling by motorcycle.

graduate departments circulate a terms and conditions letter at the moment, all but about 10 of them do.

UGSA President Esther Wilcox said she and the other UGSA officers were "incredibly grateful" for Moreland's decision to fund stipends for unfunded TAs.

Sinha and Wagovich also were pleased.

"I have no words to compare their actions," Sinha said.

## California House keeps low interest rates for students

◆ Though interest rates are at an all-time low, based on reports from the White House's Office of Management and Budget, rates are expected to rise as the economy improves.

Amanda Fletcher

Daily Brain (U. California - Los Angeles)

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES - While the current economic slump has caused the University of California Regents to consider raising student fees, the federal government took an important step in ensuring higher education remains affordable for future students.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill Thursday that aims to keep interest rates low on federally granted student loans. The bill, which was passed unanimously by the Senate in December, extends the current formula for calculating interest rates on all federal student loans to 2006.

Today the interest rate stands at 5.9 percent — the lowest in history. But in 2006, the new bill will fix rates at 6.8 percent until 2012.

It now awaits President Bush's signature.

"It was very hard to get the bill through," said Bob Cochran, press secretary for Representative Bill McKeon, R-Calif., one of the bill's authors. "We got unanimous support at the end of the day, but a lot occurred. (There were) negotiations with student groups, the lending community and higher education groups in general, like financial aid administrators."

According to Elynnne Bannon, CALPIRG's national advocate for higher education, who helped write the bill, a typical student will save more than \$600 over the life of their loan.

"This legislation is an important step in making college more affordable for millions of Americans," she said.

The bill amends the 1998 Higher Education Reauthorization compro-

mise, which set the current formula for interest rates on student loans.

Though interest rates are at an all-time low, based on reports from the White House's Office of Management and Budget, rates are expected to rise as the economy improves.

"Now it's a fairly good time to be getting loans," said Merriah Fairchild, a CALPIRG advocate for higher education in California. "It's an unusual atmosphere to have interest so low, and we know it won't last."

An interest rate of 6.8 percent would be a good deal in 2006, Bannon said.

Having the fixed interest rate held off until 2006 will allow students to take advantage of the current economic situation.

But if interest rates remain too low, lenders wouldn't make enough money to continue in the program, Cochran said.

"Lenders are in there to make money," he said. "There is limited profit, but they're still there to make money."

"There was concern at the time that if you had lenders dropping out of the program, then just the cream-of-the-crop kids — those at Stanford, UCLA and MIT — would get loans," Cochran said. "We wanted to keep them in there to be able to serve all students."

"It will allow the underserved kids to continue to receive student aid."

According to the UCLA Financial Aid Office, 42 percent of all students at UCLA received federal loans last year.

In a typical financial aid package, loans account for almost 24 percent of the money received. The average debt for UCLA students after four years of school is more than \$16,000.

"It's not easy in the beginning, when you get your first job in the world, so you want to keep all costs down," said Suzanne Blessington, senior administration analyst for the UCLA Financial Aid Office. "Nobody likes to pay interest."

## N.C. State cooperates with tobacco companies

◆ Unlike other universities who refused requests, NCSU provided research to Philip Morris and other defendants in a federal case.

Kara Rowland

Assistant News Editor

N.C. State was the only one of 10 universities across the country to comply with requests from tobacco companies for research to use in their defense against the Department of Justice in a federal lawsuit.

Philip Morris and R.J. Reynolds are among the defendants who subpoenaed over 50 years of documents and other information related to tobacco and smoking. The records would include personal files, letters and even appointment books to be turned over to the companies so they can evaluate federally financed research.

Initially seeking compensation for government funds spent to treat alleged tobacco-related illnesses, the Department of Justice filed its complaint against the tobacco industry under instruction from President Clinton in late 1999.

According to NCSU attorney David Drooz, representatives from the tobacco companies came to NCSU a few weeks ago to review information, mostly consisting of crop science and agricultural studies dating back to the 1960s.

After speaking with the state attorney general, it was reasoned that if NCSU could comply "without putting in too many hours and jeopardizing any confidentiality," it made more sense to spend time fighting it.

Offering insight as to why other universities resisted the subpoena, Drooz pointed out that, unlike medical studies requested from other schools, agricultural studies are not very controversial because there are no human subjects and thus no issues of privacy.

Because the school itself is not a party in the lawsuit, Drooz said the ramifications of the research are not of much concern to NCSU, though the faculty members supplying the information speculated that "there would be absolutely nothing of use" to the defense's case.

However, the other colleges subpoenaed — Johns Hopkins University, Harvard, New York University School

of Medicine, the University of Arizona, the University of Kentucky and four campuses in the University of California system — are refusing to cooperate with the defendants' requests for reasons that include privacy and convenience.

"In one sentence, [the request] is overly broad," said a spokesperson for the University of Kentucky, who filed an objection to the subpoena in December. As for what will happen next, "the ball is not in our court."

"Issues of intellectual property aside, we would have to spend countless hours trying to locate these documents," added the spokesperson, emphasizing the fact that the research is not only health-related but also overlaps into other academic areas as diverse as agriculture and psychology.

"These are routine matters that take place in virtually any complex civil lawsuit," said a litigation spokesman for Philip Morris. The company is attempting to obtain any "documentary evidence relevant to the case."

In September 2000, U.S. District Judge Gladys Kessler rejected a large portion of the government's case, dis-

See TOBACCO, Page 2

## International Weekend to be held this weekend

◆ An International Fashion Show and International Dance Party will be part of the festivities at this weekend-long event.

News Staff Report

According to the Office of International Scholar and Student Services, there are more than 2,000 international students at N.C. State University.

With this in mind, NCSU has prided itself in making an honest effort to represent the many different countries and cultures that are present on the university campus.

In hopes of contributing to this effort, the International Activities Council (IAC) of the Union Activities Board

(UAB) will be hosting the International Weekend on Feb. 2-3.

The weekend will consist of an International Fashion Show and an International Dance Party on Saturday, Feb. 2 from 8:30 p.m. until midnight. The fashion show will be presented by different international organizations on campus and will feature different costumes, dresses and fashions from all over the world.

After the fashion show, the dance party will be held in the Tally Student Center ballroom and will feature a DJ who will be mixing dance, hip-hop, reggae and techno music from South America, Africa, Europe, India, China and other regions.

Tickets for this portion of the event are available at the gate and are \$2 for NCSU students and \$4 for others.

In addition, on Sunday, Feb. 3 from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m., in Stewart Theatre, there will be an International Night with dance and music performances by performers from different cultures and countries.

Tickets for this portion of the event are available at Ticket Central and are \$1 for NCSU students and \$2 for others.

Other organizations that participated in organizing the International Weekend include KWU, ASA, Arab Club, EKTAA, Persian Students Association, Turkish Students Association, SHPE, MAITRI, Spanish Club, Chinese Scholars and Students Association, MSA, KSA, OISSS, Women's Center and the Egyptian Students Association.



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## TOBACCO

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missing claims made to recover federal medical funds. The remaining allegations accuse the defendants of fraud and conspiracy under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act.

"[The government is] alleging that the companies have done various things to deceive the public about smoking," said the Philip Morris spokesman. In its case, the government must not only establish any illegal conduct but must also prove that it "continues to today."

According to the spokesman, the company is not currently aware of any reasons why some universities chose not to comply with the subpoenas, as it was added that, to his knowledge, none of the schools have even

been heard from yet. However, in response to potential refusals to comply, he said that "normally what happens is you call the lawyer the request came from and you just work it out."

After being asked if the company anticipates reaching an agreement with the universities about handling over the research, he responded, "If we hear from them, you bet." He added that if any of the subpoena recipients believe that the requests are too broad, "any of our counsel would be happy" to discuss the matter.

The trial date is set for the middle of next year, and although the government has not specified the amount it is seeking, the company is sure that it will be "substantial."

"We absolutely believe we should prevail in the lawsuit," said the spokesman. "The law and its facts are on our side."

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# Two art exhibits open in Talley

Staff Writer **Rachael Rogers**

**For those people with a taste for the finer things in life,** the Gallery of Art and Design in Talley Student Center provides a venue to check out various exhibits throughout the year. These exhibitions are representative of regional, national and even international talents.

Currently, the gallery has two exhibitions running: "North Carolina Clay: Past and Present" and "Early American Moderns." The two exhibitions opened Jan. 24 and will run through March 10. Charlotte Brown, director of the gallery, believes that this is "a really strong show. We had a good time."

Brown, along with Andrew Glasgow, selected the art that would be displayed in this show from slides that the artists sent in.

The main part of the exhibition is the pottery show. The pottery in this exhibit is extremely old, most of it coming



Jason Ivester/Staff

from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. These works of art illustrate the changing pottery industry in North Carolina and also help show how pottery has become a powerful art form in North Carolina.

The pottery in this show is displayed daily at the North Carolina Pottery Center in Seagrave. In addition to running its own operation, the center has designed this traveling exhibition so others can enjoy the pottery around our state.

Previously on display in Charlotte, the show came to the gallery from the pottery center and will move on to Wilmington after its time at the Gallery of Art and Design is over.

John Dyess, a senior in mechanical engineering, heard about the show just from studying upstairs in Talley.

"The doors were open, so I decided to check it out," Dyess stated. Dyess walked around the exhibit and found a

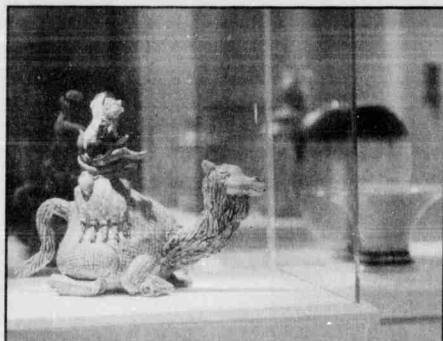
new appreciation for the works on display.

"Usually pottery is just there and if you've never done it, you can't appreciate it," he commented.

His favorite part of the show was the pottery, though he enjoyed the "Early American Moderns" show as well. The modern art displayed in this group attacks traditional views and values associated with creating artwork.

This exhibition previously could be seen at the Witherspoon Art Gallery at UNC-Greensboro and is a part of their permanent collection.

*These two exhibitions will be on display until mid-March. The gallery is open Wednesday to Friday from 12 p.m. until 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday it is open from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., and it is closed on Monday and Tuesday. It is free and open to the public.*



Jason Ivester/Staff

# Stayin' up with "Insomniac" Dave Attell

Assistant Features Editor **Joel Isaac Frady**



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**From midgets to monkeys, bar hopping to nude karaoke,** we have come to expect a lot from stand-up comedian Dave Attell. In a recent interview with Technician, Attell spoke about the second season of his hit Comedy Central show, "Insomniac," now on the air, his upcoming stand-up tour and the horrors of watching his own show.

"Insomniac" premiered last fall and, despite its late time slot, was one of the biggest hits that Comedy Central had that season. For its second season, it's in a much better time slot, airing Wednesdays at 10:30 p.m. after "South Park" (the network's biggest show), and features more diverse subject matter.

"It's the only reality-based show that the network has," Attell said, "and originally I was interested in just showing what comedians do when they're not on the stage ... but I have to admit that the inspiration for it was the show 'Wild on It.' It has beautiful models in beautiful places that talk to beautiful people and eat meals you can't afford. I wanted to do a show like that with regular people, real jobs."

These "regular people" seemed to clash with "drunk people" last season, and the main activity on the show was bar-hopping. This season there's a lot

more diversity, as Attell does things like paint-ball in Atlanta, nude karaoke in Arizona and (brace yourself!) artificially inseminating a cow in Boise, Idaho.

With all of these happenings, it's sometimes hard to believe that the entire show is improvisational. "We have people that call ahead to places and get permission to shoot," he noted, "but everything else just happens. It's really slow sometimes ... we even show when I mess up so other people have to suffer like I did."

The show can also be happy being where it is because it can be seen the way it's meant to be seen (after some slight censoring). By slight censoring, we mean a lot of bleeping over words, but that's no big deal because "you can still hear the word behind the bleep."

In addition to "Insomniac," Attell is also one of the nation's top stand-up performers, performing at clubs all across the country, including a three-night run at Charlie Goshnight's starting on Feb. 28.

About stand-up Attell says, "It's the only thing I've ever been good at. Doing 'Insomniac' I haven't been able to make up good jokes recently, but midgets, dick jokes, monkeys ... that's my thing."

With material like this, it can be hard

to get laughs without sending someone out yelling, and that seems to be the one down part for Attell.

"I'm not into offending people; I'm often just performing for the wrong crowd," he says, joking that "if you're offended by the show, don't show up. It's that easy."

He also has one film credit to his name, having appeared in the comedy "Pootie Tang." When asked about what interested him in the project and what he thought about it, his responses were slightly unexpected.

"My friend Louis C.K. was the director, and he told me to audition," Attell starts. "They liked it so I did the movie, but I never saw it. I don't even like watching my stand-up routines or 'Insomniac.' If I'm at a party and people start watching it, I'll go into the other room."

Audiences, however, are staying in the room with some die-hard fans even going so far as to not change channels at a commercial break. Then again, if you're actually watching this during those "Insomniac" hours, it's about the only thing on worth watching.

*"Insomniac" airs every Wednesday night at 10:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m. on Comedy Central.*

# Insane Interview goes commercial

Staff Writer **Chad Butterworth**

**We can expect to see the very best in television advertising** this Sunday during the Super Bowl. To get you hyped up for the commercials, Technician talked to Emre Usumen, a sophomore in economics; Amy Jackson, a sophomore in textile management; and Jon Farrell, a junior in mechanical engineering.

**Tech:** So, this week's interview is going to be about advertising.

**EU:** Is that why you have an "Enjoy Coca-Cola" shirt on?

**Tech:** Actually, I'm wearing it just because I enjoy Coca-Cola.

**AJ:** That could affect the answers. Did you never take statistics?

**EU:** Take your shirt off before the interview.

**Tech:** Are there any TV commercials you like?

**JF:** On ESPN, where the old guy is doing the head fake, that's pretty funny.

**EU:** I typically don't watch TV. I don't particularly get that excited about commercials.

**Tech:** Are there any commercials that you particularly hate?

**JF:** Chevrolet commercials, all that "Like a Rock" crap.

**EU:** Yeah, those "own a car" commercials. This guy comes on the TV and starts yelling. He says "bad credit, bankruptcy, whatever, we'll give you a car!" and then they throw cake on the guy's face. It's really ghetto and really sketchy.

**AJ:** That shrimp one — the one with the shrimps — and they're deep fried. It's like, "Why would you deep-fry shrimp?" It's an ad for some eat-all-you-can restaurant. It's very irritating.

**Tech:** Has a commercial ever convinced you to buy a product?

**JF:** Yeah, Sprite, obey my thirst.

**AJ:** Probably Coca-Cola, because it was cold.

**EU:** I don't like Coke. I like Sprite though.

**Tech:** I was always wowed by the Pantene commercials because they show a close-up of someone's hair, and it's all broken and brittle, and then it scares me for a second and I think,

"Gee, my hair's all broken."

**AJ:** Why do men care though?

**Tech:** Well, I thought about it and realized I don't care.

**AJ:** Your hair's less than two months old; nothing happens to it. I don't give a f--- about my hair; why should you give a f--- about yours? I haven't even brushed mine since this morning.

**EU:** I don't watch TV at all. The last thing I watched was probably the "Ren and Stimpy Show."

**AJ:** I watched it in England.

**EU:** We're both foreigners, so this is going to be harder for you.

**Tech:** Are there any things you consistently spend your money on, even if you shouldn't?

**JF:** My collection of hand-blown glass, artsy stuff like that.

**EU:** I didn't pay tuition. I took my tuition money out to buy turntables. I paid a little more than half of my tuition, but the rest got spent on turntables. Whenever I have money, it goes to records, vinyls, always. I even cut back on eating one meal a day so I could buy more records.

**AJ:** I spend money on traveling while I'm here, because I never know when I'll come back to the country.

**Tech:** Have you ever bought something because the salesperson was attractive?

**EU:** No, but I walked into the store and talked to her. I do that a lot actually. I just look and ask questions, but I don't buy.

**JF:** Yeah, I'll go into any store and ask for their help and have them bring stuff out, but I won't buy it.

**Tech:** I was tricked into buying a pair of shoes once, but I digress ... most people consider commercials a good time to go to the bathroom. What are some other good times to go to the bathroom?

**EU:** When you need to use the bathroom. When you have diarrhea, you might want to live in the bathroom for a little while.

**AJ:** Any time during the day, in the middle of a crap lecture. In grade school, me and my friends would agree to go out to class and meet up at the loo at about 10 o'clock.

**JF:** After about the 3rd beer [and] time-outs during basketball games.

# Tech it to the limit The console war concludes

Staff Writer **Jon Morgan**

**In the third and final installment of our console roundup,** we take a look at Sony's Playstation 2. It's been out for about a year, but it still remains a solid contender in the no-holds-barred cage match of death that is console manufacturing.

The old man in the competition, Sony's black box, can't measure up to the competition in the hardware department. They say computing power doubles every 18 months, and my mathematical brain tells me that in a year, new hardware can literally kill them and then eat older hardware. If you were to place numbers on all the parts inside a PS2, perhaps with Post-It Notes, they would look rather small in comparison to the numbers on an X-Box or GameCube.

And now, for something completely different (yet integral to my point): Emulation is great. Every self-respecting gamer has a library of hundreds of video games for the original Nintendo, the Sega Genesis, the Neo Geo ... you name it, geeks have it. With the help of wonderful programs, people who grew up on "Super Mario Brothers" and "Sonic the Hedgehog" can play their old favorites again, in all of their eight-bit glory.

Personal confession: In the winter of 2001, I spent more time playing "Bart vs. the Space Mutants" for the Nintendo Entertainment System than I spent playing any other video game. I own a Dreamcast, a Playstation 2 and a Nintendo 64, yet I chose to fight the mutants.

The point of all this tangential craziness? It doesn't matter how a game looks, it matters how it plays. Old games like "Metroid," "The Legend of Zelda" and "Contra" look like they were drawn by a five-year-old with a learning disability. Does anybody care? No. The games are great, and it doesn't matter what they look like. Now, obviously, there are some limits — you can't port "Resident Evil" to the NES. Nevertheless, as long as a game's graphics don't actively hinder the game-play, they don't really matter.

So, despite the hardware issues, software is where the Playstation 2 can really shine. Although slow to start, the PS2 now has over a year's worth of games to choose from (on top of the hundreds of Playstation games previously available).

A friend of mine over the course of the past few months has played and completed "Devil May Cry" and "Metal Gear Solid 2." Now, he doesn't actually own these games. And he's not a computer gamer, so it's not like you can get them for free. In fact, he doesn't even own a PS2. So how does he do it? Well, he knows somebody (that somebody being myself) that owns one. These games are so good in fact that he is not concerned with the fact that fish and geeks smell after three days (of shooting Russians). They're just that good.

If you've ever played a fighting game (and if you've gotten this far into the article, you have), you know all about the Old Man. Every game has one. A wrinkled face all but obscured by a two-foot beard, a slight limp in his walk, perhaps a floppy hat — they're all the same. What the casual observer might not realize, however, is that in every game, the Old Man kicks ass. He'll hobble up to you young whippersnappers and poke you with his cane until you're begging for death. Or something like that.

The point is, the Old Man always wins and the Playstation 2 is the Old Man. Sure, he limps every now and then, and he might not support HDTV, but he's still got everybody beat. In the battle of the consoles, the Playstation 2 is hands down the best choice. Go buy one. Now.

# Magic Eight Ball

The Mad Soneiteer **Brian Schuch**

My Magic Eight Ball is my friend it alone can I depend on it doesn't cheat, lie or steal it won't feed balloons to a baby seal

It will never spit me because it's so great it won't leave me bawling because it's my mate

Why is it trying to bite me? What are you talking about? Why is my skin crawling? Ack! There's no need to shout!

Whoa! The sun. It's melting Copper yellow fish love smelting The Magic Eight Ball is an evil dread On God, why'd I drink its fluid?

## TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

## World, state come to call on NCSU

A UGSA MEETING OFFERED A FLEETING GLIMPSE OF HOW STATE- AND INTERNATIONAL-LEVEL EVENTS MINGLE WITH NCSU HAPPENINGS.

Some things are rarely seen by an individual on the N.C. State campus. One is quick, effective action by a student advocacy group in the face of potential crisis. Another is the direct effect of higher-level politics on people walking around this campus.

Such rarity is what made Monday's meeting of the University Graduate Student Association so remarkable. With 34 grad students in electrical and computer engineering lacking assistantships for the spring because of a miscalculation in the ECE administration, the UGSA leadership arranged a meeting with three administrators: Graduate School Dean Robert Sowell, Engineering Associate Dean John Gilligan and ECE Professor Wilsen Alexander - that provided an occasionally contentious forum for grad students to directly question those who were either responsible for the miscalculation or in a position to do something about it.

It's impossible to know whether UGSA efforts impacted Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies Charles Moreland's decision to fund stipends for still-unfunded TAS cut because of the miscalculation. But the body's efforts to inform its constituents and to provide a forum unhindered by order or pomposity is commendable.

More fascinatingly, though, Monday's meeting offered a rare

opportunity to witness the marriage between broad political events and day-to-day life. To wit: according to Gilligan and Alexander, the miscalculations were largely a product of the budget crisis North Carolina is facing and the fact that there was no state budget until last November, giving the university little time to consider its allocation. That's state politics directly affecting 34 students. Not particularly spectacular - anyone who paid tuition this year was directly affected by the budget crisis.

But, consider this: Gilligan said at the meeting that one consistent problem ECE has is the appearance of international students on campus who, because they've been issued F-1 non-immigrant student visas, should have sufficient funding to pay for school but who, in reality, don't. That leaves ECE, which has roughly 670 grad students and supports about 200 of them, and the students themselves to seek money.

Combine that with the paranoiac-drenched, post-Sept. 11, post-USA Patriot Act America in which, right or wrong, those with student visas but no classes risk being suspected of possible terrorism, and the marriage of international and NCSU affairs becomes clearer, particularly given that the layoffs left 20 international students possibly without funding until Moreland commendably stepped in.

International politics, state crises and NCSU students. Fascinating.

## Make it hot, please



Shawn Barnes  
STAFF COLUMNIST

From time to time I ask my family and friends for column topics. Oftentimes, their ideas don't inspire a sentence towards the several paragraphs required for a column. However, this week my sister related to me a story I've heard before, and I felt like it warranted a column.

The story my sister told me is a little sketchy, so I'm just going to try and get the gist of the story across. My sister and niece went to their local McDonald's. I don't know what everyone ordered, but for some reason the employee asked my oldest sister if she wanted her "caliente."

The conversation preceded something like this:

Employee: Blah, blah, blah caliente? My oldest sister: What?

Employee: Caliente. My oldest sister: What?

Employee: Caliente.

And this frustrating dialogue continued with my younger sister and niece giggling in the background.

My oldest sister took French in school while everyone else took Spanish, so I assume that caliente isn't a French word. My sister's stance on the issue is that she shouldn't have to know Spanish to place an order at McDonald's.

No, being bilingual shouldn't be

required when ordering French fries just as English isn't required to do anything in America. But how should situations like this one be avoided? Who should take on the responsibility of understanding at least a little bit of the languages commonly spoken in others' country of residence?

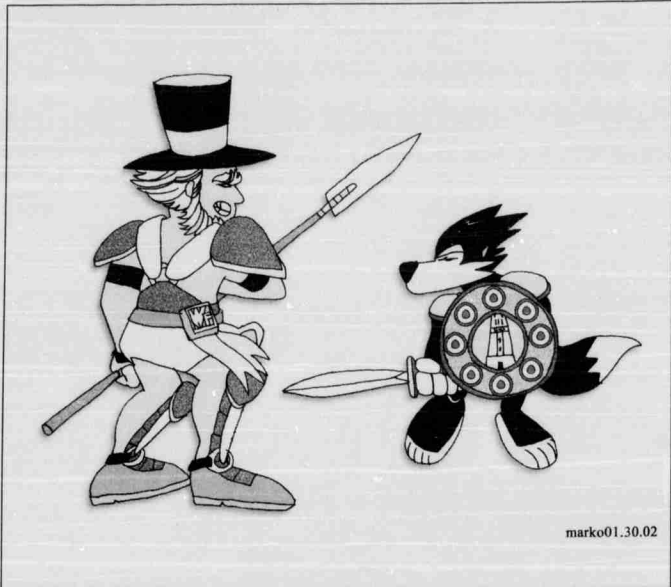
In this ever-changing global society, who should feel bad when the lack of communication causes a breakdown in the system? I remember once some lady saying that she was at a new mall asking a non-American native employee for directions. She felt so bad for the employee when the employee couldn't speak enough English to tell her where the bathroom was.

Americans shouldn't feel bad for foreign employees who come to America and work hard in pursuit of the American dream. Those new Americans are gaining, learning and, in time, will know their first language plus English. Whereas people who "feel bad" for non-English speakers tend to only know English and feel as if English is the only language they need to know.

If we, as Americans, need to have a couple of foreign phrases under our belts to order a number three with a Dr. Pepper, then so be it. If we are requesting information, then obviously we are the ones in need. And we are the ones missing out on important things when there is a breakdown in communication.

Do you want your food served hot?

Email Shawn at [shawn\\_barnes@hotmail.com](mailto:shawn_barnes@hotmail.com)



marko01.30.02

## Kmart bankruptcy hits home



Greg Volk  
STAFF COLUMNIST

By now, most of you know that Kmart has gone bankrupt. The discount retailer filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection last week when it conceded a lengthy battle to financial struggles and lagging sales. At first glance, I didn't seem to care that much; Kmart sucks and everybody knows it. That's why they went bankrupt. But after thinking about it for a while, the bankruptcy of our country's third largest chain does kind of bring a tear to my eye.

Kmart's bankruptcy does not mean they will be closing down all of their stores. Filing for bankruptcy protection does not mean you can't continue to operate. It means simply that the corporation is guaranteed protection from its creditors while it struggles to get out of financial trouble. The end result is that Kmart's less profitable stores will likely be closing very soon.

This is where I start to care. We already talked about how Kmart sucks, but there is rarely a Target or a Wal-Mart to be found within ten minutes of campus. The Kmart on Western has been N.C. State students' solution for academic, domestic and entertainment needs for decades, and now it will probably be closed.

Next time I want some posterboard

or spray starch, I'll have to venture all the way to Cary. I never really liked the Kmart on Western, but I will definitely miss it. It was a kind of necessary evil, the neighbor we always borrow things from but don't want to associate with on the weekends. The clientele loitering out front always kind of scared me, and, inevitably, they never had exactly what it was I was looking for but did always have something close.

The store just doesn't look sharp. The cracking pavement in the parking lot signifies what has been going on inside of that particular store and the chain as a whole for years - little to no upgrade or progress in appearance or service. If carpet were as practical as those laminate tiles in all the stores, Kmart would have olive green shag throughout.

Kmart's biggest problem was that they never found a modern day niche. Their two strongest competitors changed with the times and adjusted their marketing strategy accordingly while Kmart relied on the Little Caesar's pizzerias in their stores to boost sales. Target has moved more towards upscale merchandising as Wal-Mart remains the cheapest place to buy anything and has everything.

Wal-Mart could practically give away their merchandise and still make money. That place is crowded even at 2:30 a.m. on a Tuesday morning. (Why have I been at Wal-Mart at 2:30 a.m. on a Tuesday? Well, that's a completely different story involving whipped cream and the Special

Olympics.) Wal-Mart must pay people to keep their cars parked their 'round the clock to give the impression that they're always thriving.

Conversely, when was the last time you saw the parking lot of Kmart on Western even a third of the way full? If Kmart is to survive, it will take a complete overhaul of every aspect of their business. Their revved blue light specials failed. They even tried giving away stuff to people (see the kitchen knife episode in a previous column), but that didn't work either.

They must revamp their naming classifications of "Kmart," "Big Kmart" and "Super Kmart." All "Kmart" and "Big Kmart" should be either closed or upgraded to "Super Kmart." Who wants to shop at something normal or just big when they can have a "Super" shopping experience? This was a mistake from the get-go.

Finally, Kmart's troubles strike sentimental chord deep inside of me. For years, when I would go visit my grandmother in a suburb of Philadelphia on Thanksgiving and Easter, I would pass the time by perusing the Kmart down the street. My grandmother now lives in an assisted-living facility, but if I were to venture back to her old house, I'm sure I couldn't handle it if my Kmart had been closed.

Greg's got a special on emails to his account: unlimited and free! Take advantage of this limited-time offer by emailing to [dieshus@hotmail.com](mailto:dieshus@hotmail.com).

## Time to make farming viable again

Steve Skutnik (U - W I R E)

AMES, Iowa - America's farm policy is broken beyond repair - there's no better way to put it. Our system of crop subsidies and counter-cyclical payments have failed to make farming an economically viable profession for individuals. In fact, it's achieved just the opposite.

According to the Department of Agriculture, 47 percent of commodity payments go to commercial operations with household incomes over \$135,000. This hardly represents the populist picture of "American Gothic" invoked by proponents of our current system - in fact, such farms represent only 8 percent of our nation's 2.2 million farms.

What makes matters worse is that 60 percent of American farms receive absolutely nothing in subsidies, yet these farmers still must contend with the effects of overproduction and price depression largely created by subsidized entities. Ultimately, one is looking at a vicious circle of dependence - farm subsidies directly encourage large farms to violate the laws of supply and demand by maintaining high production even when supply is plentiful, driving down prices and creating losses for farmers. This in turn causes more farms to become dependent on counter-cyclical payments (payments which occur during years in which prices drop below set levels), thus keeping the supply high and the price low.

Remember, rather, repeat and you have a recipe for disaster. Some proponents of our current

socialist schema of payments and subsidies as necessary given the vast systems of crop subsidies that depress prices for exports from the European Union. Yet, a tit-for-tat contest of subsidies and trade barriers is no solution to the enduring problem of unprofitable crop prices - rather, it simply escalates the problems inherent in an unsustainable system of price subsidies - after all, if farming becomes absolutely unprofitable, who will farm? The government? State-owned farms are more reminiscent of Soviet Russia, not America.

A better solution in this case is abolition - subsidies represent an unfair trade practice that clearly undermines the premises of free trade. Much like the European Union sued the United States in the World Trade Organization recently over tax breaks given to exporters as a closet subsidy, the United States should take the European Union to task on its vast system of subsidies that encourage even more overproduction and depress prices even more.

Perhaps most galling in this whole debacle, however, is the silence of both supposedly "free-market" conservatives, as well as the denizens of the corporate-raiding Naderites of the "uber-left." Even President Bush, who in his presidential campaign criticized our current farm system, was cowed into signing a reversal of the market-oriented 1996 Freedom to Farm Act. After all, the largest portion of farm subsidies went to the very same states in the South and Midwest Bush claimed in the 2000 election.

But perhaps more shameful is the

silence of the "crusaders of corporate welfare" on the issue of farm subsidies, one of America's most prominent pork projects. Seeing as the majority of farm payments go to corporate operations to begin with, one would think that a strange alliance of free-market Libertarians and Greens would suddenly materialize.

Don't hold your breath. The only rumbling that came from the Green Party during the 2000 election on farm subsidies mainly centered on grain subsidies - i.e., the conservative) Midwest. Absent from their diatribes were the smattering of dairy and fruit compacts that dominate agriculture in the more liberal East - perhaps because just like the president, they're cowed under the pressure to garner votes.

Our currently broken system does not wait for votes. Every year one more is a "bad year" for agriculture and subsidies keep going up. According to the Congressional Budget Office, Congress is expected to spend almost \$410 billion on farm subsidies through the 2002-2011 period. Obviously, the problem isn't getting any better.

Rather than pumping money into a system which self-perpetuates its own destruction, Congress should end our socialist subsidies to large farms and allow market forces to control supply, thereby allowing farming to once again become a viable profession. After all, no nation has ever taxed itself into prosperity - or subsidized itself into prosperity, for that matter.

Email Campus Forum at [oped1@hotmail.com](mailto:oped1@hotmail.com)

## TECHNICIAN

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

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# COACH

Continued from Page 6

wants it just as much as we do." Olsen has already proven that his system can work. In his most recent role, he guided both the men's and women's teams at Charleston Southern and was named the Big South Coach of the Year four times since 1996. Olsen led the men's squad to four consecutive conference championships and three NCAA Tournament appearances. His women's teams finished second in the league three times, and he coached 31 All-Big South players.

# TENNIS

Continued from Page 6

helped the players be more focused both physically and mentally. Up to this point, Olsen has focused on meeting the goals of the training season. "We set a lot of goals for the training period," Olsen said. "We've been knocking out that week by week, and I feel like the team is getting stronger every day we come out. Some of the goals are fitness-oriented, some have to do with consistency of practice and consistency of results. We also have goals of team unity and communication."

Senior leadership will be key to the Pack's season. Katrina

Olsen makes it clear what he expects from the members of his team, but he knows that he must set a good example to be effective.

"I expect a full effort from my players physically and mentally," Olsen said. "I try my best to do the same, so when my players look at me, they think 'He's definitely giving his full effort. He's doing all he can do.'"

"When all 10 players and all of the coaches are giving it everything, that's the best environment you can have."

A graduate of Georgia Southern, Olsen began his coaching career at Coastal Carolina. He moved to Charleston Southern in 1999 and assumed the head-coaching

weekend'll be the first time I'll get to see them play in real match situations. It can be different from practice to matches, so it could take a while to figure out what works well with this group of players."

State's players have set lofty standards for themselves and believe they can achieve their ultimate goal of making the NCAA Tournament. The players have also developed unique personalities as they have improved individually.

"The players are taking steps in the right direction," Olsen said. "Each one does it in a way that's unique. They bring personality to the court, and that's the kind of thing that if I was a tennis fan, I would enjoy watching."

role a year later.

Tennis has been a large part of Olsen's life. In addition to his coaching duties, he is a USTA Certified Professional Tennis Instructor and a USTA Certified Referee. He has also served as a country club tennis director and has directed tournaments and team leagues.

Olsen has enjoyed his time at State thus far, but he, like the players, is eager for the season to begin.

"The people have been very good to me, and I have gotten to know the team very well by now," Olsen said. "But most of that has been on the practice courts, so we're looking forward to the first matches."

The following fitness classes are currently offered: Advanced Step, Athletic Conditioning, Awesome Abs, Box-N-Sculpt, Cardioboxing, Get on the Ball, HiLo, Hip Hop, Step 101, Step-N-Sculpt and Water Works.

A schedule of classes, supported by the office in 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium or visit the Web site at [www.ncsu.edu/imrec](http://www.ncsu.edu/imrec).

For additional information on Intramural-Recreational Sports visit the Web site or stop by 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium.

# IM/Rec Notes

## Intramural sports

Registration began last week for Men's Open squash and Men's and Women's Open table tennis. This week registration began for Women's Residence Sorority and Men's Residence Fraternity table tennis.

Basketball play began last week, and all intramural sports schedules for the spring semester are posted in the Intramural-Recreational Sports office and on the Web site at [www.ncsu.edu/imrec](http://www.ncsu.edu/imrec).

For additional information on Intramural-Recreational Sports visit the Web site or stop by 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium.

## Fitness

The following fitness classes are currently offered: Advanced Step, Athletic Conditioning, Awesome Abs, Box-N-Sculpt, Cardioboxing, Get on the Ball, HiLo, Hip Hop, Step 101, Step-N-Sculpt and Water Works.

A schedule of classes, supported by the office in 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium or visit the Web site at [www.ncsu.edu/imrec](http://www.ncsu.edu/imrec).

This spring, a Monday through Thursday, 6:15 a.m. group fitness class will be offered. Check the Web site for a class schedule.

Registration for yoga begins

## Club sports upcoming

Feb. 4, New sessions of progressive yoga classes (sessions three and four) are beginning March 18 and March 20. The cost will be \$45 for each session, and each session will last eight weeks. For more information or to register, contact the Intramural-Recreational Sports office at 515-3161.

## Outdoor adventures

Registration began this week for the Historic Charleston Tour, which will be Feb. 22-24. There is a \$20 registration fee, which will be applied toward the trip.

For more information, check out the Web site, or to register, come by 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium.

## Club sports results

The Men's Club Ultimate team traveled across the country this weekend to compete in one of the country's premier collegiate tournaments, the Santa Barbara Invitational.

The Wolfpack, with only 11 players, held their own against the highly ranked field, defeating UCLA and 2001 Fall Collegiate Champions Ohio State. Play was suspended on Sunday due to inclement weather.

The Women's Club Rugby team will travel to Greenville this weekend to take on East Carolina. The Pack defeated the Pirates 53-0 in the fall.

The Equestrian Club's Hunt Seat team will travel to Chapel Hill on Sunday for the first horse show of the spring season. The field includes all of the top regional competition including Duke, Wake Forest, UNC, Virginia Intermont, St. Andrew's, Elon and UNC-Greensboro. The show starts at 11 a.m. For directions, call Ern at 858-5388.

general attitude and horrible NFL performance, this one isn't close. Advantage: Brady

History Never mind that Brady has never taken a snap in a Super Bowl. At least he hasn't thrown an interception on the world's biggest stage.

Blodese threw four interceptions in the 1997 Super Bowl, which the Pats lost to Green Bay. In two Super Bowls and one AFL championship game in New England's history, the Pats have been outscored by a combined 13-41.

The Rams opened this week as

## Club sports upcoming

The Women's and Men's Club Ultimate teams will travel to Charlotte Feb. 2 and 3 for the Queen City Tune-Up III. The tournament features 32 of the best teams in collegiate ultimate including traditional rivals North Carolina, Duke, Wake Forest, Georgia and UNC-Wilmington.

The Club Ice Hockey team will ride to its first weekend but will return to action on Friday and Saturday vs. Indiana University of Pennsylvania at the ReZone in Raleigh. Friday night's game time is at 9 and Saturday's is at 4:15 p.m. For more info and directions to the ReZone, visit [www.ncstatehockey.org](http://www.ncstatehockey.org).

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14 1/2-point favorites and based on the Pats' experience in title games, trying something new couldn't hurt.

Advantage: Brady

So with a final score of 4-1-1, expect Belichick to settle on Brady. With looks, basketball prowess, college connections and a lack of history on his side, he is the obvious choice.

Jerry Moore would like to thank Amy Heitl and the copy-editing staff for fixing all the mistakes he makes in stories and columns. Jerry can be reached at 515-2411 or [jerry@technicsports.com](mailto:jerry@technicsports.com).

# WAKE

Continued from Page 6

ing defense and lots of freedom on the offensive end. Fortunately for Prosser, he inherited one of the most veteran teams in the league and an excellent player in Howard, who had 20 points, nine

rebounds, seven steals and five assists Saturday against Georgia Tech.

"We like to push the basketball, and he's certainly a terrific open-court player," said Prosser.

Thus far, Prosser's style of play has had mixed results. The Deacs came into the game ranked No. 19 in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll, yet have lost to every team in the upper echelon of the

league.

"Wake Forest is coming in as a highly ranked team," said State senior Archie Miller. "They've had a great start to their season, and I'm sure they're coming in here expecting to win the game."

Tipoff will be at 7:30 p.m. at the ESA, and the game will be broadcast by ESPN2.

# Classified

## Deadlines

### For Sale

Diamond Engagement Ring 14 carat Gold, 1/7 Carat. Diamond, never worn. Retail price \$400. Asking \$250. Great for Valentine's. Call Michael Monday through Friday 512-1759

### Homes For Sale

Condo near NCSU. You or your parents can own for the price of rent! 2 bedrooms, 1.5 bathrooms. Near Duraledge/Blue Ridge. \$68,800. Call Carter 919-264-3611. C5GAMM@AOL.COM

### Homes For Rent

2BD Duplex kitchen with W/D, refrigerator, and stove. Pets allowed. \$900/mo. Call 789-8451.

Save gas, save time. 4BD/3BA on edge of campus. W/D, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher and disposal, ready. \$950/mo. 851-6681, 787-4434. 623-4185

Like new 3BD/2BA spacious home. Deck, W/D. 15 mins from campus. Only \$900/mo. Call 919-779-9863.

Furnished Townhome. Short-term lease. Lake Boone Trail area. 3BD/2BA utilities included. \$1595/mo. \$495/week. Great for relocating families or visiting professors. Pool/tennis courts. Call 691-4488.

Cary/Raleigh Attractive 2BD/2BA spacious townhome with fireplace, vaulted ceilings, deck, storage room. Only \$885/mo. Convenient to NCSU. Call 919-395-6599.

HOUSES FOR RENT. NEAR NCSU. 4 BED-ROOM/4 BATH. AVAIL. NOW. \$1,600/MONTH. CALL 469-6072

### Apartments For Rent

West Raleigh duplex. 2BR/2BA W/D included. \$1,535/mo. 5136 Wayne St. No Pets. 675-870-6871

Brand new 4BD/4BA townhome available immediately. \$360/mo. [www.universytysuites.net](http://www.universytysuites.net) 828-6278

We have a variety of apartments for rent. NCSU. Ranging in price from \$300-700/mo. Call Schrader Properties. 872-5676.

1BD/1BA duplex with W/D, fenced in back yard. Mordecai Area. 845-1331

2BD/2BA furnished apartment near NCSU at Melrose. Great deal with a flexible sublease agreement. Call 919-623-3079 or email [luann@hotmail.com](mailto:luann@hotmail.com) for more information.

4BR/4BA condo off Avant Ferry 12, 9, or 6 month lease available. Pool, basketball, volleyball, badminton, and microwave. Call 233-7432 for more details.

### Space For Rent

Parking spaces for rent. Spaces now available on Friendly Dr. near University Towers in a paved lot \$250 for spring semester. Call 327-3800

### Roommates Wanted

NEED A ROOMIE? A friend that has too much to offer. FREE to Rent or Place your ad! C details/licensing 100s listing @ WWW.WE.EASYROOMMATE.COM

FEMALE ROOMMATE NEEDED. Great 5BD house near NCSU. Huge bedroom, private bathroom, 2 closets, home and bedroom COM-PLETELY furnished. 919-834-6521

College student to share townhome with three other students. Own bed/bath, share common areas, five minutes from NCSU. \$265/mo. PLEASANTLY furnished. \$250 deposit. Call 854-9379

Female share 2BD/2BA, common area furnished, 15 min. from campus. \$200/mo deposit, \$550 total. Call 306-0664

Female roommate wanted @ University Commons. 4BR/4BA, shared kitchen and den. Security system. \$375/mo; utilities included. Call Kelly at 831-1994.

Roommate needed for townhouse off Kaplan Private BDBA, huge living area, great roommate. \$290/mo + 1/4 utilities. Call 851-9562

Roommate wanted to share North Raleigh fully furnished house. Great neighborhood, 15 mins from campus, quiet. \$380 rent + 1/3 utilities. Call 878-8784.

Master Bedroom with private bath for 3BD house. \$380/mo. water included. 1600 sqft. 15-20 mins from campus. Call 781-8703

\$200 OFF FEBRUARY RENT! Near NCSU at Melrose Apts., Female roommate needed ASAP. Pets included. W/D, Cable/Internet included, 1/4 util. \$399/mo. Please call 919-524-5362

Near NCSU on woffine, private room, share kitchen/bathroom with one roommate. \$315/mo + 1/2 utilities. W/D avail immediately. expires in June. Call 233-1769

Female roommate wanted to take over lease @ University Woods. Brand new apts. \$311/mo. Lease runs until July. Private bedroom, deposit negotiable. Call Danielle @ 688-9778

Female roommate needed for 3BR house. \$275/mo + utilities. Within walking distance of campus. Call 824-7545, Bob

Room for rent in spacious 3BD apt on Woffine W/D \$265/mo + utilities. Call 854-9196

Sublease 1BD/1BA at University Commons \$325/mo + 1/4 utilities. W/D, all kitchen appliances. Available February 1. Call 413-0592

Room for rent in spacious 3BD apt on Woffine W/D \$265/mo + utilities. Call 854-9196

Child care for 1 yr old in N. Raleigh. Experience and transportation required. Non-smoker. References requested. Flexible scheduling. Afternoons. \$8/hr. 847-3732

Room for rent. 2BD/2BA apartment located off Hillsborough St. \$325/mo. utilities. Available immediately. Call Brian at 828-6663

ROOMS FOR RENT, Near NCSU, UTILITIES PAID, PRIVATE BATH, AVAIL. NOW! 400/MONTH, CALL 949-2499/606-7667

### Condos For Rent

1BD/1BA Lake Park Condo. W/D, \$375/mo; utilities included. 1 Free month. Call Brian 812-4001.

FOR RENT-FEB-MAY LEASE ONLY. GREAT CAY LOCATION. GREAT FOR SENIORS. TERM RENTERS. 2BD/2 1/2BA. W/D, P.O.LI/TENNIS FACILITIES INCLUDED. \$725/MO 462-3413/417-0770, 787-9375

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No games scheduled.



# Wednesday Sports



M. Basketball vs. Wake, 1:30, 7:30  
 W. Basketball vs. Wake, 1:31, 7  
 Swimming @ North Carolina, 2:1, 5  
 Wrestling vs. James Madison, 2:2, 2  
 Baseball vs. Delaware St., 2:3, 12:30  
 W. Tennis @ UNCG, 2:1

## Showdown on Tobacco Road

◆ N.C. State will try to extend its four-game winning streak against Wake Forest.

**Matt Middleton**  
 Senior Staff Writer

Whatever the outcome may be in tonight's game between No. 24 Wake Forest and N.C. State, the game promises to be vastly different from the last time the two Big Four rivals stepped on the hardwood of the Entertainment and Sports Arena.

Last March, Wake (14-6, 4-3 ACC) made the roughly 100-mile trip down I-40 and had its way against an uninspired Wolfpack team on Senior Day before more than 4,000 empty seats at the ESA.

This time around, the ESA figures to be sold out and rocking when the Pack (16-4, 5-2) rounds out the first half of ACC play by entertaining its oldest rival in a battle for third place in the ACC.

At the beginning of the season, State head coach Herb Sendek told Pack fans that "in short order, you're going to fall in love with this team."

Twenty games into the season, few would argue with that statement, as the Pack is off to its best 20-game start since 1976.

Sendek believes that what the fans admire most about his squad is its work

ethic and cohesiveness.

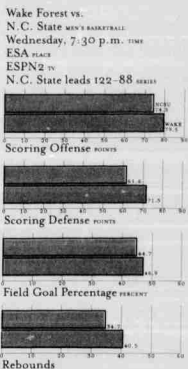
"Win, lose or draw, the one thing that we've been able to do is consistently give a very good effort," said Sendek. "I think we've played together fairly well, and our fans appreciate those qualities of our basketball team."

Although it's tough to pinpoint one particular element that has led to State's somewhat surprising success, the all-around play of senior Anthony Grundy has been outstanding. In addition to becoming the Pack's best on-the-ball defender since Ishua Benjamin, Grundy has taken his offensive game to the next plateau, scoring at least 20 points in the last four games, all State victories.

"I'm just happy to be a part of it," said Grundy, who was recently named ACC Player of the Week. "We've had our tough times, and the season's not over. It can be real special for us as long as we keep working hard and maintain the consistency at the level we're at right now and just get better."

While the Pack sports a lineup in which four new faces log significant minutes, little has changed in Winston-Salem from last season, personnel-wise. The Demon Deacons' best player is still Josh Howard, Darius Songalia is still the most foul-prone big man in the ACC and Wake still lacks a true play-making point guard.

How the players play the game of basketball, however, has changed almost 180 degrees from last season.



Former Wake head coach Dave Odom was a grizzled veteran in the ACC coaching fraternity, having been involved with the league for almost 20 years, 12 as a head coach at Wake. It's easy to understand why many were surprised when Odom deserted the league he had grown up loving to coach the so-called outcast of the league, South



Anthony Grundy received ACC Player of the Week honors after putting up 21 and 20 points in Wolfpack victories over North Carolina and Temple, respectively.

Carolina, which left the ACC in 1971 after being a charter member in 1953. As much as Odom preaches tough, hard-nosed defense and conservative offensive principles, his successor Skip Prosser is an advocate of a quick, press-

See WAKE, Page 5

## FOOTBALL Which 'B' will it be?

One if by Brady. Two if by Bledsoe. Appropriately enough, the Patriots have to make the call.

Bill Belichick's New England team continued its improbable run by beating Pittsburgh on Sunday and earned a trip to the Super Bowl to face St. Louis. In the process, Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, who has started every game since September, went down with a sprained ankle.

Drew Bledsoe entered the game late in the first half and led the Pats over the Steelers in his first action in four months. Bledsoe, a three-time Pro Bowler, suffered a serious chest injury the second week of the year and watched the rest of the regular season from the bench as Brady became a Pro Bowler himself.

Now Belichick, the third "B" in this football love triangle, must choose which quarterback will start in the biggest single-day sporting event in the world.

At one point during Monday's Super Bowl media day, members of the press asked Belichick eight consecutive questions about his quarterback situation, but he refused to hint at what decision he would make. He did promise to announce his choice today.

Belichick claims he doesn't know who will start because he isn't sure of the extent of Brady's ankle injury. Some people speculate that he's just trying to make it more difficult for the Rams to prepare for the game.

I think he's sorting through all of those "intangibles" that coaches always talk about. I don't mean he's ignoring Brady's injury and factors like experience, arm strength and foot speed. But I do think Belichick is contemplating other critical differences that separate Brady and Bledsoe — those things that shouldn't make the difference between winning or losing but often do.

Here are some of the criteria I'm sure Belichick is considering as he is faced with this crucial decision:

**Hometown**  
 Brady hails from San Mateo, Calif., which is home to the San Francisco International Airport and, more importantly, the Sea Bowl Entertainment Center. This complex offers lanes with a beautiful view of the Pacific Ocean. It's unknown how many bowling balls annually end up swimming with the fishes.

Bledsoe is from Ellensburg, Wash., home of the world-famous Chimpanzee and Human Communication Institute. The facility offers weekly "Chimpsums" and live video feeds of the animals on its Web site.

Rolling for seaside strikes vs. watching monkeys on the Web? Give me the cyber-space primates any day.

**Advantage: Bledsoe**

**Attractiveness**  
 Because I'm a guy and really have no clue about what women find attractive, I enlisted the help of some female co-workers. I presented them with photos of both players and asked their opinions. Although this was an unscientific survey, Brady was unanimously chosen as the "hottie." Apparently Bledsoe's forehead is too big. Maybe Brady is so cute that the St. Louis linebackers won't want to hit him.

**Advantage: Brady**

**Chunky Soup**  
 Neither Brady nor Bledsoe appear in those hokey advertisements with their moms. I like Kurt Warner, but for chicken noodles' sake, please don't make me watch him crying under the sheets again. Both Pats quarterbacks get points for avoiding these spots because they are "M! M! M! Bad."

**Advantage: Tie**

**Baseball skills**  
 You just never know when a baseball game could break out at the Super Bowl. You think I'm kidding, but we already have 30-minute rock concerts in the middle of the game. If the Pats do need to pick up the bats and gloves, Brady is their man. He was drafted by the Montreal Expos as a catcher in the 18th round of the 1995 draft.

Bledsoe played basketball in college but can't claim any hardball experience on his resume unless he's been hanging

See JERRY, Page 5

## Tennis set for fresh start

◆ The N.C. State women's tennis team is looking forward to the season with a revamped attitude.

**Memie Ezike**  
 Staff Writer

It has been a long off-season for the N.C. State women's tennis team.

The squad did not fare well last year, going 8-13 overall and 1-7 in W. TENNIS AT UNCG.

**WHAT:** The spring season dawned, however, the Wolfpack is optimistic.

**WHEN:** The Pack has gone through some major changes since the last time it took the court.

**WHERE:** Kay Louthain, State's coach since 1999, resigned in August.

To replace her, Director of Athletics Lee Fowler tabbed Hans Olsen as the team's new coach.

**INSIDE**  
 Olsen has brought enthusiasm and excitement to the program.

**■IM/Rec Notes #5**  
 "Having a new coach is obviously the biggest difference," junior Loni Worsley said. "We've been working very hard and

practicing a lot of hours. We're excited about the season starting."

In addition to the arrival of Olsen, the players have a renewed commitment and are dedicated to improving their fitness. So far, the team has had no injuries, and the players have bonded to create a sense of unity not seen in recent seasons.

"We're going to be very fit," sophomore Jennifer Jassawalla said. "We have good team unity, and I think it will help because we can pump each other up."

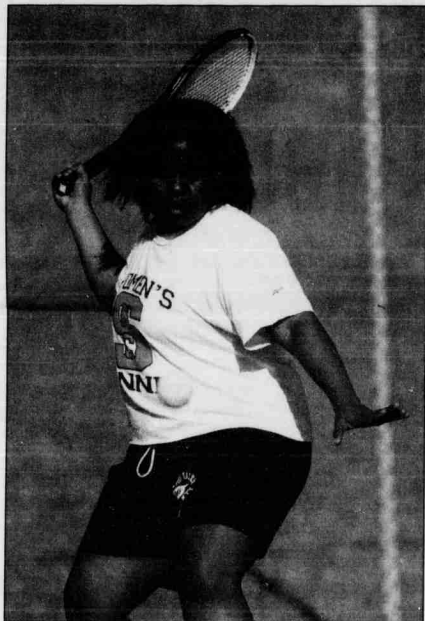
The team is looking to avenge the myriad of losses it suffered last season. A new attitude, which includes an intense desire to succeed, is at the forefront of the players' minds.

"All of us want to win, and we're willing to stay out there [on the court] as long as we have to," Jassawalla said.

The ACC is one of the toughest women's tennis conferences in the nation. For State to be successful, it must compete with teams such as Duke, Maryland, Georgia Tech, Florida State and North Carolina. Each of these teams placed at least one player on last year's All-ACC team.

In his first few months at State, Olsen has instilled a new attitude in his team. His goal-oriented style has

See TENNIS, Page 5



Loni Worsley played in the feature match of the USTA/Capitol Association Pro Circuit event this fall.

## New coach goes 'mental'

◆ Incoming women's tennis coach Hans Olsen brings a focus on the mind to his new position at N.C. State.

**Jerry Moore**  
 Assistant Sports Editor

Hans Olsen didn't write the book on the mental aspects of tennis. He wrote the video.

Olsen, the new head coach of the N.C. State women's tennis team, co-authored an instructional video entitled "The Mental Game." Its purpose is to give tennis instructors information to help their players gain a psychological edge on the court.

The Atlanta native, whose parents grew up in Denmark and Canada, has always had an interest in the mental aspects of sport.

"It started when I was working with some young players, and I wanted to be able to improve their mental toughness," Olsen said. "I worked with a woman on developing some specific techniques for mental skills

— things like setting goals, imagery, relaxation."

Now, Olsen is bringing his expertise to the Wolfpack Tennis Complex with hopes of turning around a program that has won only one conference match in the last three seasons. He intends to use some of his techniques to generate tangible improvement.

"I think a lot of our players are used to giving a full effort physically, but they need some information to understand what that means mentally," Olsen said.

Former coach Kay Louthain resigned in August after a disappointing spring season, leaving the Wolfpack without a coach.

State's athletics department conducted a nationwide search for a replacement, finally settling on Olsen. He was officially introduced as the ninth coach in the program's 26-year history on Oct. 24.

"We are very excited about having Hans Olsen join the Wolfpack family," said State Athletics Director Lee Fowler when he made the announce-

ment. "He brings experience, enthusiasm and excitement to the position. With his NCAA experience and his many contacts in the tennis community, we feel that he will be a tremendous asset to our program."

Although the team's spring season doesn't begin until this weekend, some players say they already notice a significant difference in the program's overall attitude under Olsen.

"I can't say anything but good things about him," sophomore Jennifer Jassawalla said. "It's a very big change. He's brought a lot of positive energy to the team. That changes the whole dynamic of the team. It makes it a lot more fun to be out here and makes it seem like you're really getting something out of practice."

"He has been stressing a positive attitude, not showing your opponent that you're mad. Negativity has been a problem on this team in the past, but I can really see a difference."

With their new coach's emphasis on the mental part of tennis, it's not surprising that the players cite attitude as



Hans Olsen begins his first season as head coach of the women's tennis team.

the thing that has changed the most from previous seasons.

"He's gotten all of us motivated to want to work hard, play hard and actually want to win," junior Loni Worsley said. "You can tell that he

See COACH, Page 5