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# TECHNICIAN

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

Today	Hi 44	Lo 25
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## Town hall discusses tuition increase proposal

THE FIRST OF TWO TUITION TOWN HALL MEETINGS WAS HELD YESTERDAY IN STEWART THEATRE.

Ayren Jackson  
News Editor

A small, mostly subdued crowd turned out to air views on a proposed \$400 campus initiated tuition increase at a town hall meeting Monday evening.

The meeting was a chance for the N.C. State community to engage in public debate before the campus-based tuition increase proposal goes to the Board of Governors for approval.

Chancellor Mary Anne Fox and Provost Stuart Cooper laid out their positions on the tuition increase for a crowd of about 60 students, faculty and staff.

Increasing financial aid, adding additional faculty and creating competitive faculty salaries were the highlighted initiatives of the proposed campus-based tuition increase.

The average indebtedness of graduated students at NCSU is \$15,971. But according to Cooper, the tuition increase would decrease loan burden and increase need based financial aid.

Fox added that of the \$400 tuition increase for all students, approximately 30-40 percent of it would be set aside for financial aid.

In addition to increasing financial aid, Cooper and Fox said that they would like to add more faculty members.

"Attracting and retaining full time faculty members only adds to the forward momentum of the university," said Cooper.

According to Cooper, only 33 percent of classes at NCSU have 20 students or less. And NCSU is in the bottom 40 percentile nationwide for faculty salaries.

"We have too much turn over," said Cooper. "Education really is a very competitive field."

Cooper added that approximately 40 percent of NCSU's freshman and sophomore classes are full or over-enrolled and nearly one-third of the junior



A tuition town hall meeting was held for the N.C. State community to voice their concerns in Talley Student Center Wednesday.

and senior classes are either full or over-enrolled. This he also adds to the decreased number of faculty members.

Fox suggested that the N.C. Legislature has been generous to NCSU, noting that tuition and fees are below the average of the peer institutions.

But NCSU is unique in that though the tuition and fees per head count is below average the total per head count costs is above average in relationship to the peer institutions.

According to Fox, with the state budget deficit projected to reach \$900 million by June 30, 2002, it's effects on NCSU are significant.

With a \$9.5 million permanent cut in state appropriation this year, a \$9.4 million one-time cut this year and a \$10.2 million renovation and repair funds on hold by State Budget Office, NCSU is nearly \$30 million below budget this year.

According to Fox, the amount required to move NCSU faculty salaries to 80 percent of peers would be \$925. This amount would need to be paid by each

full time student at the university.

But this calculation does not include instructional costs.

Fox said that in order to get the amount required to fully fund all instructional costs plus move salaries to 80 percent, each student would need to pay an extra \$2,495.

"But never in our wildest dreams would we ask students to pay this much," said Fox.

And so, the proposal of \$400 will be brought forth to the Board of Trustees and then to the Board of Governors.

"We are doing something that is very painful," said Fox. "But we believe it is required in order to offer the quality education."

But many of the concerns raised by NCSU students are focused on the fact that this increase, if passed, will be on top of the tuition increase from last year and the year before that.

Natalie Duggins, a graduating senior and member of Student Government, asked "Why do we keep turning to campus based tuition increases for revenue?"

### STUDENT GOVERNMENT Survey on Student Opinion on Tuition Increase



enue?"

Fox answered, "There hasn't been an alternative."

"It's a very different time now in our university," said Student Body President Darryl Willie. "And much of what we are seeing is based on what our peers are doing."

The town hall meeting is one of two meetings to allow students and other members of the campus community to ask questions and provide input about the tuition increase.

The second town meeting will be held today at 10:15 a.m. in Stewart Theatre.

For additional information on the campus-based tuition increase visit [www.ncsu.edu/tuition](http://www.ncsu.edu/tuition).

## N.C. State students abroad recall terrorist attacks

◆ Students share their experiences of being in a different country on Sept. 11.

Carie Windham  
Assistant News Editor

When the first plane struck the World Trade Center, it felt as though the world had stopped for a moment in time.

But while most Americans put work and the daily responsibilities of life aside for a day to absorb the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the world did not actually stop spinning for American students abroad forced to face a national tragedy while living with strangers.

Now nearly six months later, N.C. State students who studied abroad last semester speak out about their experiences on Sept. 11 and the changed nation they saw when they returned.

Tony Williamson, a senior in landscape horticulture, remembers the day vividly. Studying abroad in Perth, Western Australia, where there is a 12-hour time difference, he was at a casino swing dancing when the disaster struck.

Several Americans in a different lounge saw the live news coverage and went to find Williamson, who arrived just as the towers began collapsing.

After watching the towers collapse on a TV in the lounge, he and fellow Americans hurriedly caught cabs to return to the residential college where they lived with other Americans.

Williamson immediately began calling family and friends.

"Even though I knew my family was untouched, I just had to talk to them," he said. "I needed to make a connection."

Afterwards, he joined other Americans to watch the news coverage together until 4 a.m. that morning. Together, the students comforted those with family members who were involved or whom they had not heard from yet.

"That night, I think we all just wanted to be with other Americans; in some way, it comforted us to be together," he said.

Family and friends were on the mind of Julia Smyth, a senior in chemistry, who was in Santander, Spain at the time.

"It was a hard time to be away from my family and friends," she said. "I had kids in my group who wanted to go back home, and some kids' parents who wanted them back home."

Nichole Stewart, a senior in computer science, was still in the United States during the attacks but was scheduled to leave for Northern Ireland soon after.

She felt both a deep sadness for the tragedy and fear that her flight would not be permitted to leave, since many flights out of the United States had been canceled.

Once she arrived, however, she found comfort and condolences extended across the borders of the United States.

"The locals there were very interested in expressing their sympathy and asking what I thought of what happened on Sept. 11, what I thought of Bush's actions, and whether I had lost anyone in the Twin Towers," she said.

Williamson had similar experiences.

"That day in class I had several professors stop me just outside of class to ask if I was OK and offer condolences," he said. The support didn't end there. The head of the residential dormitory he stayed in also approached the American students and offered his condolences. American students also received e-mails from the college, study abroad offices and the university offering assistance and support.

The entire city of Perth had a memorial service in a Catholic

Church downtown, and many of the state and city officials were in attendance.

Smyth was given the same support in Spain. "Locals were very sympathetic; strangers on the street offered their condolences," she said.

However, once the bombing campaigns began in Afghanistan, the atmosphere changed. Soon, flyers began appearing on campus announcing anti-war rallies.

"It was a little intimidating," she said.

She also acknowledged that "we were all a little wary of the implications of being American abroad during a time of war."

Deborah Kull, a junior in environmental sciences, was studying in Ghana, West Africa at the time. She observed that many of the locals were "extraordinarily supportive about the attacks and offered condolences."

However, she also observed that "Ghanaians have a very interesting sense of humor."

Numerous times they would shout out phrases such as, "Osama bin Laden," "Afghanistan" or "Taliban" at passing Americans. However, these outbursts were not to be taken as malicious or intimidating.

"It was considered a joke among friends who knew about things going on outside Ghana," she said. "On the whole, Ghanaians laugh at almost anything; they are a good and light-hearted people."

For Kull, the distance between herself and the United States was not a negative experience.

"I was glad to be away from America," she said. She noted while she began watching CNN and the news all the time following the attacks, she soon became sick of the "biased news reporting" and the "refusal to cover stories other than anything dealing with the attacks."

She felt that being abroad meant she was "not subjected to the mass media tools and overly patriotic wave encompassing the country."

Participating in Study Abroad during such a tumultuous time in our country, she believes, strengthened the overall experience.

"They allowed me to see that as Americans, we are in fact a diverse population and have many different beliefs about foreign policy," she said. "It allowed me to see that 'loved ones' live all over the world, including Afghanistan, and that we should be messengers of peace after the attacks, not bringers of war."

Williamson agreed. "I don't think I would have learned half of what I did about how the world views America and me as an American or what it means to be an American if the attacks had not occurred while I was away."

Smyth recalled that the attacks made her appreciate many of the things she had taken for granted.

"It made me realize the fleeting nature of life, and it definitely made me appreciate my family and friends," she said. "It definitely gave me a new perspective on how America is viewed in other countries and made me realize how centered most Americans are on our culture and what goes on in our country."

For students studying abroad, their arrival back in the United States months after the attacks signaled many changes in the nation.

"I noticed American flags everywhere. Many, many more than before I left," Williamson said.

"It was also interesting to come back and have it be on the news so much and in conversation so much," he added. "In Australia, it had more or less died except when a major devel-

## N.C. State television magazine to highlight campus news and events

◆ "Focus: N.C. State" will be broadcast on local cable and hosted by CHASS associate dean.

News Report

Premiering tonight at 6, "Focus: N.C. State" will detail news, happenings and other information pertaining to the people of N.C. State University. The new cable TV magazine will air on Raleigh's Time Warner Cable Channel 18 and last 30 minutes. Reaching 160,000 homes in the Wake County area, the show is produced by NCSU's Creative Services and News Services staff.

See TV, Page 2



David Terry, a freshman in biological sciences (left) and Justin Young, a freshman in physics work on their Chemistry 102 lab entitled "Seeing the Light".

Winning voucher numbers for the men's basketball game against Virginia are:

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Pick-up is today at Reynolds from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

At 3 p.m. anyone who wants a ticket can get one at Reynolds as long as there are tickets available.

See ABROAD, Page 2

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# News

## ABROAD

Continued from Page 1

oment occurred." He also noticed a change in American mentality. There seemed to be an "uneasiness" in the people and a fear of future events.

Smyth noticed many of the same changes. "The whole American flag thing is weird to me," she said. "It almost seems like a trend. Like the yellow ribbons during the Gulf War."

Stewart sensed some different changes, like a renewed interest in military spending and a fear of flying.

"I think that it has made more people hesitant about not only flying but about going to other countries to visit."

Those students who traveled abroad do not share this hesitation.

Williamson said that the U.S. Consul sent out warnings not to go to countries with heavy Muslim populations, like Indonesia, but travel to other countries should not be discouraged.

"As far as traveling in the rest of the world, I think it is probably safer than it was before," he said. He noted that airport security has gotten much stronger

and more intense.

Kull agreed. "We think and live as Americans inside our own little bubble," she said. "The attacks significantly changed the world but not to the extent that we might wish to believe. I think Study Abroad was just as safe as it ever was."

In fact, all agreed that compared to the experiences that are gained by Study Abroad, safety should not discourage future participants.

"If people become scared to study abroad, they will never get the opportunity to experience another culture and see a different viewpoint of American culture," Smyth said. "I learned so much, not just about another culture and language, but about myself as well."

The students agreed that it was an experience every student should indulge in if their schedule allows.

They noted that the study abroad experience gives students the opportunity to gain cultural immersion, learn the customs and language of another land, reflect on American ideals and biases and learn about themselves.

"It broadens your horizons," Smyth said. "Everyone needs to live out of their comfort zone. It made me more independent, self-reliant and motivated."

Kull believes that the experience offers a break from the "drudgery of mundane life and classes and commitments" and a chance to gain "great memories and friends that they will cherish for a lifetime."

"I would say that it bestows wisdom on the student, which in general cannot be garnered from any other experience," Kull said. "It gives students time to think about the direction they want to head in life and what their priorities really are."

In addition, "it gives students the chance to understand a new culture and by doing so gives the students a greater understanding of human nature and beliefs," she said.

"On a lighter side," she added, "you get to bring home lots of cool stuff, awesome stories, and in Ghana, a tan during the winter!"

Students interested in spending a semester, summer or year abroad should contact the Study Abroad office for more information at 2118 Pullen Hall, or visit their Web site at [www.ncsu.edu/studyabroad](http://www.ncsu.edu/studyabroad).

## TV

Continued from Page 1

"Focus" will be hosted by Ed Funkhouser, associate dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, who will also be responsible for interviewing guests. Former local journalist and News Services information officer Greg Thomas will report from various areas on campus.

The first episode of the show will include a closer look at the biotechnology program at NCSU and its impact on everyday living, an interview with General High Shelton about his new leadership initiative and a spotlight on the ROTC program and how cadets have been affected by the terrorist attacks.

All interviews, stories and information from segments will be available on the "Focus" Web site at [www.ncsu.edu/focus](http://www.ncsu.edu/focus). Scripts, streaming audio and video from each show will also appear on the site. Viewers will be able to ask questions and offer story ideas and comments through feedback forms.

"Focus" will air at 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and 3 p.m. on Sundays.

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## TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

**'Let's roll' debate unraveling into sad mess**

A HEROIC CRY IS BECOMING THE TOPIC OF A DEPLORABLE BATTLE OVER THE RIGHTS TO USE IT.

"Let's roll." The last words of a brave passenger on a hijacked airplane on Sept. 11. Comforting rhetoric for an ailing nation. Part of an emotionally-driven State of the Union address. The center of a shameful copyright dispute.

That's right. In this time of renewed patriotism, some Americans are holding most steadfastly to the loyalty to the dollar. According to the Associated Press, Jack L. Williams, a contractor from Grosse Pointe Park, Mich., applied for a trademark on the phrase "Let's roll" on Sept. 24. Two days later, members of the Todd M. Beamer Foundation (named after the Sept. 11 hero who proclaimed "let's roll" on an airplane phone shortly before he and other passengers attempted to overtake terrorists on their flight) applied for the same trademark.

The Beamer Foundation seeks rights for the phrase so that proceeds from merchandise sold with the rights can be given to victims of Sept. 11. Williams has a very different and, to say the least, less admirable intention; he wants to make a buck — and make bucks he will.

Layers from the Beamer Foundation have contacted Williams in hopes that he will concede; Williams has ignored these efforts, saying that he will not

give up his rights to the phrase he intends to use on T-shirts and sweat-shirts to name a few things.

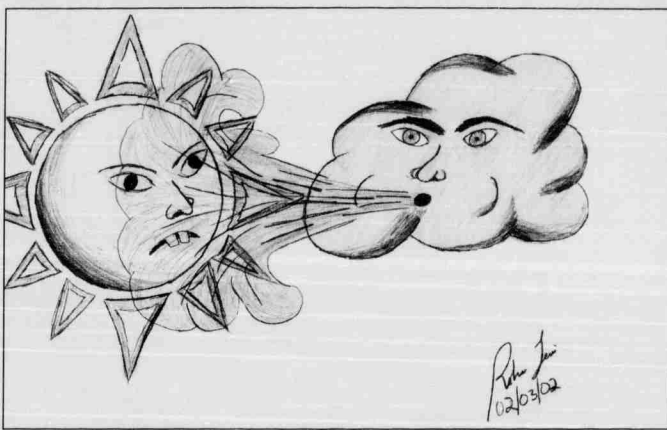
From a legal standpoint, Williams is completely in the right. His application was submitted first. He should be granted the rights; however, his attitude is despicable. Williams wants to get rich off the phrase while the Beamer Foundation wants to spread the wealth. In fact, the foundation says it would support the use of "let's roll" by other organizations as long as the proceeds were going to charity.

"I don't care what your name is, it's first in, first swim," said Williams. "It's all about good old American capitalism."

Well, Mr. Williams, you're right. It is all about good old American capitalism — most of the time. There are some things, however, that should be held sacred above the desire for wealth. Sept. 11 charity is one of those things.

Also at stake is the issue of whether commonplace phrases like "let's roll" can really be copyrighted. We would hope they could in the Beamer Foundation's case, but not in Williams'.

This sad debate goes to show that in the soul of some Americans, even our deepest tragedies fail to move the philanthropist more than the entrepreneur.

**We need to talk?**

**Kate Lingerfelt**  
STAFF COLUMNIST

Ugh. Those dreaded four words. I have been on the giving and receiving end of that phrase, and neither side is pleasant, let me tell you.

Normally, this phrase means bad news will shortly follow, and someone will eventually wind up with hurt feelings. In significant

other relationships, it usually precedes a painful breakup. Why do four words carry so much weight?

In relationships involving boyfriends or girlfriends, there is a lot of effort and work that has to be done in order to keep them working properly. There are, however, times when nothing seems to be going right and the relationship is brought to an end. What do many people blame as the cause of the break up?

A lack of communication. That's why "we need to talk" is a scary saying — for many couples, it's the first time they have really sat down to communicate what is going wrong. Of course, communication is never the sole reason for breaking up, nor does it apply to all couples, but for a vast majority of relationships, the lack of communication is the beginning of the end.

Although I like to think of the sexes being equal, males and females are extremely different from one another.

They handle problems differently, view themselves differently and communicate differently. Some of you might say, "Well, I'm unique. I handle situations better than the typical girl/guy." News flash: you are wrong. Sure, there may be times when you don't play the stereotypical role that people associate with your sex, but there are many occasions when you fall into that trap and act on your given hormone levels. This isn't wrong, because your sex is your identity — it's a part of you who you are. Even though you can't escape nature, there are ways to overcome the stereotypes.

So, what are the typical male and the typical female ways of communicating? First of all, women pay more attention to details than men do, and women tend to be more detailed and descriptive when they are talking. Also, men tend to use more imperatives when they speak, which makes them sound more demanding, while women are more likely to confront someone and bring up personal topics. Women have a tendency to ask questions in order to move a conversation, but men tend to interrupt conversation more, which gives them control over where the conversation is going. In fact, men are seen as experts that provide information, while women are viewed as inferior since they are the takers of information.

Communication is not limited to everyday conversations, and it plays a big role in sex. There are many couples who have sex, but they never really talk

about it or voice their opinions on what happens in bed. Most guys want to hear how good they are at sex and how much they please their partners physically, but girls would rather hear that they are beautiful and loved. Now, these generalizations are not true for everyone because there are always exceptions to the rule. This is just to provide some information on typical male and female communication.

How can couples improve communication, and what can be done to overcome the sex gap? Many guys complain that girls don't have an opinion or that girls never share what they are really thinking. For girls who do this, be direct. It's okay to have an opinion and share it, and if you are really mad about something that happened, tell the guy so it doesn't fester until you explode over a minor incident. For guys, pay attention when the girl talks, and don't try to dominate the conversation.

Many times, communicating isn't about who is right or wrong; it is about solving a problem. Also, when you are wrong, don't be afraid to admit it. Now, the final thought: communication may prevent problems or resolve fights, but it can't fix everything all the time. When a relationship is really over, recognize that fact and move on before it gets worse.

Information provided by N.C. State Student Health Center. E-mail: Kate at [klinger@unity.ncsu.edu](mailto:klinger@unity.ncsu.edu).

**Ending the tyranny of taxes**

**Scott Michael**  
DAILY NEWS/STAFF COLUMNIST

EVERYBODY IN THE UNITED STATES should know this, but just in case you don't, here are a few examples:

In Vermont, citizens paid \$18 million for a commuter train that includes only 12 miles of track. The train holds 180 passengers, but only 20 people use it at any given time. Vermont could have bought everyone their own car with that kind of money.

Also, in the Department of Justice, there is the famous statue, "The Spirit of Justice," which is essentially a topless woman. Attorney General John Ashcroft wants to spend \$8,000 to put a blue curtain that will cover the breasts of this statue when it is "appropriate" to do so. Has our fear of pornography really caused us to regress this far?

Then there are times when your tax dollars are being used to fund projects you don't want funded, such as the federal government's plan to use taxpayer dollars to build a church-based senior center for gays and lesbians. Most people who believe homosexuality is wrong, especially conservative Christians, don't want their money being used to fund this.

Unfortunately, we taxpayers don't know how our taxes will be spent until after April 15, and our IRS check is already in the mail.

But what if you knew your tax dollars were going to be wasted or spent on projects you don't agree with before you filled out your tax forms? What if you wanted to give that money to a homeless man instead? What would happen?

A group of large, angry men with uniforms and guns would visit you at your home, place you in handcuffs and send you away to prison. Remember, the federal government forces you to pay taxes, and I mean physically forces you.

So you're left with a choice: have your taxes misused or spend the rest of your days wearing bright orange jumpsuits.

Now don't despair and give up thinking you have no say in how your taxes are being spent. If you hear about a project being proposed that you disagree with, just tell your representative, tell your congressman or tell President George W. Bush himself.

Then increase the pressure and get your friends to tell him, too.

I don't want to hear anyone useless whining about how the government's too big and everyday citizens can't make a difference. You were given the freedom to associate for a reason — don't let it sit unused.

Furthermore, vote.

As the last presidential election proved, individuals make a difference at the ballot box. If you think your taxes are being wasted, vote for someone new who you think will be more financially responsible.

Even then, are taxes really necessary? Certainly we need them to fund the military, but do we really need more than that?

If we propose an alternative. Some have argued radical, but government services could be paid for by the people who actually use the service. For example, the people in Vermont who actually use the train to avoid rush hour traffic could have helped pay for it to begin with, instead of forcing those who will never use the train to foot the bill.

Besides, by implementing such a policy, controversial topics like the Florida senior center could be avoided. There are an estimated two million gay and lesbian seniors in the United States, definitely enough people who could pool their own resources to build a center on their own without help from the government.

But I understand because of circumstances beyond anybody's control, some people do not have the money necessary to take care of themselves or their children. But we don't need to force taxpayers to give money to the poor and destitute when this can be taken care of more efficiently through charity.

It's simple economics — by not paying money to the government for welfare programs, people have more money to spend and give away as they see fit. If the same amount of money were sent to a non-profit charity instead of for-profit politicians, more of that money would actually reach the people who need it.

Besides, large corporations have and can donate massive amounts of money to the needy. For instance, Bill Gates has created a \$24 billion fund to help improve health standards in third world countries. This is enough money to buy some of these nations outright, but he chose to donate it instead.

Some have criticized Gates for doing this as a marketing ploy simply to improve Microsoft's image, thereby making it more consumer friendly.

My response is, so what?

If more corporations donated such large sums to compete for consumer dollars, more money would be given to the needy if only for the sake of enlarging the CEO's wallet. In this case, everybody wins.

If not, we can always continue running around placing curtains on stone breasts.

**Affirmative action is racist**

**Darren O'Connor**  
STAFF COLUMNIST

Last Thursday night, the African American Student Advisory Council (AASAC) released a report giving N.C. State failing grades in black student enrollment and the number of black faculty. They also gave the university a "D" in black graduation rates.

I'm sure many of you were as surprised by this as I was.

You may remember that the Center for Equal Opportunity recently produced a detailed study of Affirmative action in higher education ("Pervasive Preferences: Racial and Ethnic Discrimination in Undergraduate Admissions Across the Nation") and found that of the schools they studied, NCSU had the highest odds ratio of blacks to whites regarding acceptance to the school. The actual odds were 177 to 1 in favor of black applicants. How can anyone possibly claim that NCSU doesn't do enough to help blacks?

Actually, I would submit that affirmative action and any kind of racial preferences harm blacks, whites, and everyone who thought they were coming to college for an education. In fact, I'll go a step further and say that affirmative action is racist. Any system that favors one race over another (including slavery, Jim Crow laws and now affirmative action) is racist and is not in keeping with the American ideals of equality of opportunity.

Some say that affirmative action is necessary to make up for the discrimination formerly suffered by blacks and to create a "level playing field." Now I'm sure that I'm not the only one whose mother always used to say that two wrongs don't make a right. Well, the same goes for this situation. White kids applying to college today did nothing to harm or disadvantage the black kids who are applying along with them. Why should some of them lose what would be their spot based on merit to someone less qualified because of skin color?

Such policies do not solve any problems. They only serve to perpetuate racial tension in our nation. The result of employing racial preferences in admitting a student is one angry kid and one kid who's not as prepared as he should be and thus less likely to graduate.

The AASAC complains about black graduation rates of all things. Is it the university's responsibility to make sure students graduate? I think not. Whatever happened to personal responsibility? Besides, undoubtedly one of the reasons the black graduation rate is so low is because of the significant percentage of black admittees who are underqualified but were accepted because of racial preferences. Is this making sense yet?

The old civil rights advocates should be astounded of what groups like the AASAC are doing to the movement. In earlier times, people understood that in order to achieve a nation free from racism, we must all strive for a colorblind society. Why should there even be a race or ethnicity question on forms that we fill out?

If "the content of our character" is what's important, then we should call for an end to the racist and divisive practice of focusing (and in the case of some people, I know) obsessing over skin color. We must question such politically correct goals as "diversity" and "multicultural education" that insist on separating people by color.

Black thinkers like Ward Connerly, Walter Williams and Thomas Sowell have been fighting affirmative action and the race-conscious nature of our society for years, only to be labeled "Uncle Toms" by many black activists.

These men, however, are the true defenders of independence, equal opportunity and self-respect. They have tried to challenge the decades-old "victim mentality" of the supporters of racial preferences.

The Republican Party (a.k.a. the "party of Lincoln") has long been vilified by the black community as being "racist" and "oppressive." But it is the Democratic Party that has been working to keep poor blacks dependent on the massive government entitlement programs and fostering in them the idea that they are victims.

They try to convince blacks that if they will just vote for their good friend the democrat, they'll be doing their part to fight these evil republicans who want to oppress black people and steal their money. I call on blacks everywhere to see through this patronizing garbage and stop focusing on race. This is America, and you're only a victim as long as you allow yourself to be one.

Darren is not a racist, but for those of you who want to catch him, send your thoughts to [djconno@unity.ncsu.edu](mailto:djconno@unity.ncsu.edu).

**Email questions for Chancellor Fox to**  
**oped1@hotmail.com.**

TECHNICIAN			
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# God save the Band!



Staff Writer Grayson Currier

The cover of *Spin's* February edition has something that can only be described as a bold cover: the story title reads "The 50 Greatest Bands Of All Time." Inside, the magazine—in a section of less than 20 full pages of gloss and photos—marches through what they consider the best bands of all time.

Brave, controversial assertions are made. While the Rolling Stones drop to nine, the Ramones find themselves at number two. Led Zeppelin takes a back seat to Joey and the boys, putting a temporary hiatus on the Beatles/Zeppelin argument. Pavement, Blondie and Lynyrd Skynyrd all made the list, while Pink Floyd—a band that has perpetually been punished for being ahead of the times—is relegated to 49th. Neil Young and Crazy Horse are omitted, as are countless

other bands that stake just as strong a claim as Korn and Kraftwerk.

But it is perhaps that troubling, often misplaced, word in the title that is of the most significant interest here. What exactly is a band? Does any group of people that aims at making music automatically qualify for the title? Is one of Lou Pearlman's inventions a valid band?

During the past few years, finding an actual band that carries market influence and has the ability to sell itself to a general and representative audience is a daunting task. Granted, there have been a few bands that brought something original, something that took music to a higher level. Sadly, a handful is only a handful.

The lack of expansive musical acts on the popular level strikes a glowing dichotomy with the '60s and '70s. Those were the days when the Beatles were the band. They weren't some

British group of fascinating musicians with an intensely underground following (in other words, an aged Radiohead). They glued Americans to television sets. It was the time when Southern rock did just that—it rocked. The Who were redefining rock 'n' roll with keyboards and throbbing bass lines, while Jimmy Page took the electric guitar to places that had not previously existed.

Now, however, popular music is lost in the doldrums, stuck somewhere in the eye of a hurricane. As musicians across the world improve their music in a whirlwind of artistic fury, American popular music seems stuck at a daunting hiatus.

Lou Pearlman announced last week that he plans to form bands in the image of the cartoon rock stars Josie and The Pussycats. The development of the band will serve as a type of maladroitness, twisted follow-up to what is

described in Pearlman's biography as "the ABC primetime hit series 'Making the Band.'" Pearlman formed the Backstreet Boys and then moved on to create their natural-born nemesis, "N Sync."

For years now, mounting strife between the two has been a public spectacle. Unequal record contracts from the same company, verbal assaults on one band stemming from the other and seemingly perpetual vacillations in popularity have served only to sell more records by creating strife and, ultimately, exposure. Publicity means record sales, and record sales means money—money for guys like Lou Pearlman.

Pearlman is one of a special breed that you have to pity. Instead of seeing music as the splendid vehicle for self-expression and self-realization that it is, Pearlman and gang see their watered-down, sadly adulterated mimicry of melodic music as an impetus for increased bottom lines. For them, it is not an expression. It is an investment and a return.

We call groups like the Backstreet Boys "boy bands." By using the word "band," we perpetuate the damage these clean-cut, sugar-coated ensembles can do to our culture and our music. Strip these groups of the title; take away the myth.

Songwriting and instrument mastery are incumbent for a band. Feeling and emotion, intrinsic and personal to the musicians, are essential for a band to exist. Bands are not magically created by a guy in a suit with a mammoth checkbook and vaulting ambition. A band is born with hour upon hour of composing in cramped garages and rehearsal rooms and through shaping a sound on the unfamiliar stages of smoky bars. Bands go out and preach, selling themselves not on looks or backing but instead with content and talent.

Commercialized ensembles such as 98 Degrees often find themselves performing for the first time in a sanitary, stale office building for record executives. The audience is more interested in the haircuts and dance moves of each individual as opposed to their spoon-fed and altogether trite sound.

With each album sold and with each mention of entities like O-Town or the Backstreet Boys as a band, we perpetuate the lie that they are artists in the slightest sense of the word. They are not artists... but they are magnificent gobs of puppets as "N Sync" so deftly demonstrated with the cover of "No Strings Attached."

The band conundrum extends further than sugarcoted pop, however.

Consider modern rock. The true follow-up to Creed's "My Own Prison" was not their next effort of "Human Clay"; instead, it was a blitz by record companies everywhere to discover bands with the same monotone vocals, melodramatic lyrics and mediocre guitar.

The examples are numerous. Switch the dial on your tuner to a modern rock radio station, and the results invade your eardrums. One song imitates the other, following the same progression and observing only inane lyrical changes and varied production. The heyday of Korn and Limp Bizkit, juxtaposed with the resurgence of Rage Against the Machine (all circa Woodstock '99), brought a similar wave of adaptation and shifting by nearly every record company in America. Groups that had been largely dismissed as the fusion black sheep in an industry devoted to more serious songwriters became the darlings of the industry.

These record contracts and piqued interests came at a cost for the bands involved; for an initial investment, companies tinkered with bands. The bands were, in a sense, stripped of their sense of being a band. Suits began to demand a certain type of song from them, a song that could find itself on the heavy rotation lists of popular radio. Out of garages and into air-conditioned skyscrapers went the musicians, leaving their true creativity and ingenuity at the door. This led to the grim of record executives everywhere, but it led to the ultimate chagrin of music fans.

In today's economy, music and big business are inevitably tied. This is not a doomsday statement. Commercialism, many times, exposes the masses to good music. The music is to make the business. If the business makes the music, all is lost. Music ceases to be an outlet for the angst-ridden or even for those high on love. A band breaks up due to some fission of ideals or some separation of direction. A true band does not meet its end upon the whimsical notions of a man writing the checks, who one day decides that the money is elsewhere.

Music must be allowed to take care of itself, not by those who only want the lemonade, but instead by those who are willing to deal with the acerbity of a dozen lemons for only a glass of lemonade. If record companies allow bands to find themselves and to make their own way, good (i.e. original) popular music will return. Lou Pearlman is not the savior of modern music, but—given two horns—he would make a fairly cute Antichrist.

## This "Devil" delivers thrills and chills

Assistant Features Editor Joel Isaac Frady

### El Espinazo del Diablo (The Devil's Backbone) ★★★★★

Directed by Guillermo del Toro



Image from sonyclassics.com

After seeing "The Devil's Backbone," most will not be surprised to find that director Guillermo del Toro has published a book entitled "Alfred Hitchcock," based on his critical research of the director's films. He must have found something in this research that every other suspense and horror director in the last fifteen years has missed. For "Backbone" is the kind of atmospheric, creepy, suspenseful film that the starving genre of suspense/horror films has been hoping for.

Set in Spain at the end of a civil war, we meet Carlos (Fernando Tielve), a young boy who finds himself placed in a Catholic orphanage when his tutor can no longer watch after him. Once inside, he finds a small world in turmoil: the children are confused by the recent disappearance of the boy Santi, the leaders are too caught up in the war, and the school's janitor, Jacinto (Eduardo Noriega, "Abra Los Ojos"), is creepy enough to keep everyone on their feet.

The orphanage itself has the feel of a prison, with a courtyard surrounded by tall, stone walls. In the middle of the courtyard a large, unexploded bomb stands in the ground like a monster—it landed the same night Santi disappeared. Once outside of the building, there are fields as far as the eye can see. We're told it's a day's walk to the nearest town.

The plot and wonderful scenery are only a small part of what makes this film as creepy as it is: the real suspense and scares come from the superb quality of the filmmaking. Unlike other recent films in the genre, which rely on loud noise and intense gore to achieve thrills, this one goes about it in a much more subtle fashion. Instead of trying to shock the audience, "Backbone" slowly builds suspense until it can no longer be contained.

Toro has an eye for what makes a creepy, brooding atmosphere as well as a scene that can be seen through the camerawork

and music of this film. Along with cinematographer Guillermo Navarro ("Spy Kids," "The Long Kiss Goodnight") they create a standard for popular shooting suspense films in color. They allow only enough light to be able to see the way around, the way the eyes normally see at night... but that's all. With only enough light to see your way from one place to the next, it's darkness that fills in the gaps. When you're 12, or 34 for that matter, there is still nothing scarier than what could be around the corner under a night sky... or beside you ready to whisper into your ear.

The musical score is one to compare with the work of Bernard Herrmann ("Psycho") or early John Carpenter ("Halloween"). Using a lot of string instruments and very low notes, he adds the right amount of sound. It's not too quiet, except when it needs to be, but the music is never so loud or fast that it distracts from the feel.

To top all of this off, what we really have here is a Spanish ghost story, and it's the characters and places themselves that add that final layer. Among these we have a woman with a wooden leg, a man who has jars of rum-preserved human fetuses, a small pool with yellow/rust-colored water in a basement, a few gold bricks and the ghost, with scary (but not disgusting) make-up effects and a very unique camera-trick that accompanies him.

It's crazy to think that this is the first true horror film to come along in a while. As easy as it is to scare someone, whether by jumping out or sneaking up behind them, why is it that films haven't been able to do it with a 30-foot tall screen?

There's no real answer to this question, but it's reassuring that someone's finally gotten it right again.

"The Devil's Backbone" shows nightly at 9:30 at the Mission Valley theater.

## Rating the Super Bowl commercials

Features Editor Ryan Hill

It seems as though if the Super Bowl is a blowout, the best thing about it is the commercials. When the game is close, the commercials are usually wretched. Such was the case with Super Bowl XXXVI, a burner of a game that saw the underdog New England Patriots edge the St. Louis Rams 20-17, but also featured awful commercials.

The first commercial was by far the best. A Bud Light commercial that spoofed the Comedy Central "Battle Bots" show with a bot as a fridge containing only a Bud Light inside. The other bot takes the beer, only to be slaughtered with a hidden hammer in the fridge. Classic.

Bud Light had two other ads that were great, including one with Cedric the Entertainer playing Cyrano de Bergerac for his friend at a bar. When Cedric says something to the bartender, his friend mistakes it for something he's supposed to say, resulting in him getting slugged by the girl.

The other Bud Light commercial was about a woman trying to get her husband to come upstairs so they can make love. She's in lingerie and has silk sheets on the bed, but he is downstairs watching TV. That is, until she says she has Bud Light upstairs. The man rushes upstairs, jumps on the bed, slides off the silk and out the window.

Quizzo's also scored a hit with their commercials about whether or not people prefer toasted beans, which is their claim to fame. One person, when presented with this choice, chooses toasted, then gets shot with a tranquilizer dart. Funny stuff.

The Super Bowl commercial time is usually a haven for big blockbusters coming out, but not so much this year.

The Rock's new film, "The Scorpion King," looks like a cheap "Conan the Barbarian" rip-off, and the Josh Hartnett film "Forty Days and Forty Nights" was unimpressive.

What was impressive was the new Vin Diesel movie "XXX," in which he plays an extremely secret agent. The film also stars Samuel L. Jackson, and the commercial showed Diesel standing on top of a car flying off a bridge. Good thing for him he's also attached to a bungee cord, so he goes flying back up as the car falls to its destruction. Diesel is riding high after "The Fast and the Furious," and "XXX" looks to catapult him even higher up the Hollywood food chain.

The bad commercials, and there were lots of them, had to be topped off by E\*Trade. Their commercials were so stupid that they even admitted it in their first ad. They tried to push the fact that they sponsored the halftime show, but watching men dressed up as cheerleaders just isn't that entertaining.

Pepsi's were pretty rotten, too. One featured Britney Spears in one decade from the '50s to today; it was long, dull and stupid. As nice as it is watching her on TV, they really took a step back after their solid campaign for their new Twist products. How about having Spears do something besides sing and dance, like act? Oh yeah, that's right—she can't.

As much as we may long for the days when Bud Bowl reigned supreme, those days are long gone. Instead we get mostly uninspired garbage for the most-watched sports event each year. Maybe one day commercials during the Super Bowl will on the whole be good, but for now we must toil in the dregs of a commercial recession.

## Wolfpack/ACCNotes

### Greathouse decides to leave State

N.C. State has announced that freshman Kelly Greathouse has decided to leave the number 3 basketball team and has been granted a release.

The 6-3 forward has suffered with a recurring knee injury throughout the season. She plans to return to her hometown of Ventura, Calif., to fully recover from her injury.

Greathouse played in just nine games for the Wolfpack this season. She averaged 3.3 points and 1.8 rebounds per game.

### Associated Press Top 25 Men's Basketball Poll

The Associated Press Top 25 college basketball poll, with number of first-place votes and record in parentheses, total points and previous ranking: (Records through February 3, 2002)

Team	PTS	PVS
1. Duke (71)	(20-1) 1,775	1
2. Kansas	(19-2) 1,702	2
3. Maryland	(18-3) 1,632	3
4. Oklahoma	(17-3) 1,513	6
5. Alabama	(19-3) 1,449	7
6. Cincinnati	(20-2) 1,407	4
7. Kentucky	(15-5) 1,331	10
8. Florida	(16-4) 1,297	5
9. Gonzaga	(20-3) 1,136	11
10. Virginia	(14-5) 917	8
11. Arizona	(15-6) 875	19
12. Miami, Fla.	(19-3) 736	15
13. Oregon	(17-5) 728	NR
14. Oklahoma State	(17-5) 709	9
15. UCLA	(15-6) 635	13
16. Ohio State	(17-3) 564	25
17. Georgia	(17-5) 557	16
18. Marquette	(19-3) 490	NR
19. Wake Forest	(16-6) 474	24
20. Stanford	(13-6) 436	18
21. Illinois	(15-7) 416	12
22. Missouri	(16-6) 364	22
23. Syracuse	(17-6) 305	14
24. Texas Tech	(16-4) 281	20
25. USC	(16-5) 272	23

Others Receiving Votes: Pittsburgh 264, Memphis 188, Connecticut 185, Indiana 125, Utah 102, Xavier 75, Hawaii 38, Western Kentucky 31, Mississippi 16, Butler 14, Pepperdine 13, N.C. State 8, California 4, Minnesota 4, Notre Dame 3, Southern Illinois 2, Kent State 1, Tulsa 1

### Dixon named ACC Player of the Week

Maryland senior Juan Dixon earned ACC Player of the Week honors Monday.

Dixon, a 6-3, 164-pound senior from Baltimore, scored 43 points last week in leading Maryland to a pair of wins and an 8-1 mark in the ACC, its best nine-game mark since 1980.

In the Terps' 91-87 win at eighth-ranked Virginia Thursday, Dixon netted 16 points with four assists. He had one 3-pointer and was 5-for-5 at the line, but perhaps his most important bucket was a running

juniper with 31 seconds left to lift the Terps to a one-point lead after facing a nine-point deficit.

Three days later, Dixon scored a game-high 27 points in Maryland's 89-73 win over State to go with four steals and three assists. He scored 16 in the second half as the Terps pulled away from the Wolfpack.

Dixon needs just 57 points to become the first player in NCAA Division I history with 2,000 points, 300 steals and 200 3-point field goals.

### Associated Press Top 25 Women's Basketball Poll

The Associated Press Top 25 college basketball poll, with number of first-place votes and record in parentheses, total points and previous ranking: (Records through February 3, 2002)

Team	PTS	PVS
1. Connecticut (44)	(22-0) 1,100	1
2. Tennessee	(17-1) 1,056	2
3. Stanford	(20-1) 1,005	3
4. Oklahoma	(16-2) 961	4
5. Duke	(17-3) 921	5
6. Louisiana Tech	(14-3) 842	8
7. Purdue	(16-3) 825	10
8. Vanderbilt	(19-4) 781	6
9. Kansas State	(19-2) 754	11
10. Baylor	(16-3) 642	15
11. South Carolina	(17-3) 603	7
12. Florida	(15-5) 601	18
13. Texas Tech	(12-6) 559	12
14. Texas	(14-4) 535	13
15. Wisconsin	(16-4) 476	9
16. Iowa State	(15-5) 413	14
17. Colorado	(16-6) 397	20
18. Colorado State	(16-3) 374	19
19. Georgia	(15-5) 309	17
20. Boston College	(15-4) 193	24
21. Old Dominion	(13-5) 180	25
22. Minnesota	(15-4) 161	23
23. Virginia Tech	(15-4) 126	16
24. North Carolina	(15-6) 78	21
25. Auburn	(14-6) 76	22

Others Receiving Votes: LSU 63, Arizona State 45, UNLV 38, Illinois 28, Mississippi State 28, Iowa 26, Penn State 18, TCU 17, Notre Dame 16, DePaul 12, Georgia Tech 7, Drake 5, George Washington 5, St. Joseph's 5, Hawaii 4, USC 4, Pepperdine 3, Cincinnati 2, New Mexico 2, Santa Clara 2, Florida International 1, Tulane 1

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University Towers, NC State's privately owned residence hall, is currently hiring Resident Assistants for Fall 2002. Applications are available Monday, February 4 through Friday, February 15, at the University Towers' Front Desk. All applications must be returned by 5:00pm, Friday, February 15, 2002 at 111 Friendly Dr., Raleigh, NC 27607 (919)327-3800 (EOE)

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Afternoon Mother's Helper(s) wanted 1-3 afternoons/week MWTh. Responsible non-smoker(s) w/own car needed to transport and care for children ages 9,14,15, run errands, fold laundry, and do limited food preparation. Durham 2-6-30 MWTh. References required 489-1989.

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## SCORES

Gymnastics, 2nd, 194.825  
South Carolina 7, M. Tennis 0



# Tuesday Sports



## SCHEDULE

M. Basketball vs. Virginia, 2/6, 7:30  
W. Basketball @ Georgia Tech, 2/7, 7  
M. Tennis vs. UNCA, 2/9, 9 a.m.  
Wrestling vs. Navy, 2/9, 7:30  
Gymnastics @ Rhode Island, 2/10  
Baseball vs. Gardner-Webb, 2/12, 3

## Dugan, Pearson earn provisional marks

◆ The indoor track team had strong showings at Arkansas and George Mason this weekend.

Sports Staff Report

FAIRFAX, Va. — The majority of the N.C. State track and field team competed at the George Mason Invitational this weekend, while five Wolfpack men's distance runners traveled to Arkansas and competed in the Tyson Invitational.

Senior Chris Dugan was one of five Pack runners to travel to Arkansas, and he came away with an NCAA provisional time in the seeded 3,000-meter run. Dugan ran an 8:01.65 to finish seventh and missed an NCAA automatic time by just 15 seconds. Teammate Ryan Woods placed 14th in that same race and missed an NCAA provisional time by fewer than four seconds. David Christian ran in the unseeded 3,000 and placed fourth with a time of 8:16.98.

Chad Pearson also earned an NCAA provisional time by running the 5,000 in 14:08.37 to win the race. Andy Smith was fourth in that same race, running a 14:41.48.

The rest of the State squad traveled to the George Mason Invitational.

In the sprints, Joseph Brent took fifth in the 60, running a 6.99 in the finals after running a 6.96 in the prelims. Babatunji Giwa had two high finishes, placing seventh in the 60 (7.08) and fifth in the 200 (22.78). Derrick High was the Pack's top runner in the 200, placing fourth with a time of 22.77. The 4 x 400 relay team was also fourth (3:16.06).

The Pack had the top three finishers in the weight throw, with James Rowell winning with a throw of 17.17 meters. Randy Cass placed second (16.84), and Ryan Furlough (16.42) was third. All three placed high in the shot put, with Cass second, followed by Furlough in fourth and Rowell in fifth. State also did well in the pole vault, with Justin Farmer taking second while David Kessler and Eric Hovestad were second and third.

On the women's side, sophomore Felicia Fant continued her strong season in the sprints. Fant placed second in the 60 with a time of 7.68 in the finals. Freshman Ebony Foster ran well in both her races, taking second in the 200 (25.37) and fifth in



The indoor track team split up this weekend, sending some athletes to George Mason while others journeyed to Arkansas.

the 60 (7.85).

Senior Katie Bolac won her first pole vault title of the season, clearing a height of 3.58 meters. Freshman Teresa Reed was third (3.28). In the throws, Kelly Smoke had a strong day with a second-place finish in the

weight throw and a third-place showing in the shot put.

State will compete in one more meet before the ACC Championships, traveling to Virginia Tech next weekend.

## FOOTBALL The Bengals: 2003 Champs

The New England Patriots' upset win over the St. Louis Rams in this year's Super Bowl filled me with a renewed sense of confidence in the notion that anything can happen.

Sunday's game in New Orleans was supposed to be a coronation ceremony for the Rams. St. Louis had every conceivable advantage: arguably the greatest offense ever, a pretty good defense to match, two players who

Jeremy Ashton

own the last three MVP awards and Super Bowl experience. Yet as time expired Sunday, Adam Vinatieri, who kicked two of the most memorable field goals in NFL history in a span of two years, booted a 48-yarder to give the Pats their first Lombardi Trophy.

The New York Jets' victory over the Baltimore Colts in 1969 is still the Super Bowl's biggest upset, but New England, which entered the game as a 14-point underdog, may go down as the unluckiest champion the big game has ever seen.

The Pats finished the 2000 season in dead last in the AFC East with a 5-11 record. Their \$100 million quarterback, Drew Bledsoe, was knocked out of the second game of the season and replaced with Tom Brady, a second-year pro who had thrown a total of three passes in the NFL. They began the season 1-3 and had no superstars.

When New England started winning and Bledsoe became healthy enough to play again, head coach Bill Belichick had a quarterback controversy on his hands that resurfaced in the week before the Super Bowl. The Pats even had history working against them, losing their two previous Super Bowl appearances, which were both in New Orleans.

The Pats seemingly came out of no where to claim football's greatest prize, but their sudden rise isn't unprecedented. Prior to the 2000 season, several experts considered the Baltimore Ravens a potential playoff team. Practically no one, however, picked them to win the Super Bowl, which they did in convincing fashion over the New York Giants.

Before becoming "The Greatest Show on Turf," the Rams were, in the words of San Francisco's Dana Stubblefield, "the same old, sorry-ass Rams." St. Louis was one of the worst franchises in the NFL for most of the 1990s. In 1999, everything suddenly turned around, and the Rams went on to beat the Tennessee Titans 23-16 when Mike Jones tackled Kevin Dyson at the 1-yard line as time ran out for the Super Bowl's best finish ever.

The last three Super Bowl champs have been teams that were ignored before the season started. Assuming that trend continues, I think I've got an early favorite for Super Bowl XXXVII — the Cincinnati Bengals.

Now I'm sure you're thinking, "This guy has lost his mind; the Bengals are the worst franchise in the league." Maybe I have. Or maybe I'm just blinded by all those years of suffering I've had to endure since watching Joe Montana rip my heart out in the closing seconds of the Super Bowl in 1989. Then again, would there be a better team to continue the run of fairy-tale champs than Cincy?

Like the 1999 Rams, the Bengals have built a reputation as an absolutely horrible team. Like the 2000 Ravens, Cincy doesn't exactly have a great quarterback. Like the 2001 Patriots, the Bengals have already been to two Super Bowls and lost both of them.

The Bengals have some good players in place already. Even though few people outside of Ohio know who he is, Corey Dillon is a Pro Bowl running back, and the NFL record holder for most rushing yards in a single game. Takeo Spikes is quickly emerging as one of the best line-backers in the league. And by now, Cincy has used enough early first-round draft picks that one or two of them have got to start panning out.

Even though they finished 6-10 in 2001, the Bengals beat some pretty good teams. In Week 1, they knocked off this year's champs, the Pats. In Week 2, they beat last year's champs, the Ravens. And in Week 16, they defeated the best team in the AFC during the regular season, the Pittsburgh Steelers.

So if you're looking for an early dark-horse for next year's Super Bowl, there is no one better than the Bengals.

Jeremy Ashton's columns appear on Tuesdays. He can be reached at 515-2411 or jeremy@techniciansports.com.

## Gymnasts take second at Governor's Cup

◆ N.C. State finished second in the team standings, but the state of North Carolina won the Governor's Cup.

Sports Staff Report

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — The N.C. State gymnastics team placed second with a score of 194.825 at the annual Governor's Cup Saturday.



The host, No. 15 Maryland Terrapins, placed first with a team score of 195.3, followed by State, North Carolina (194.675) and Towson (190.575). The state of North Carolina (389.5) prevailed over the state of Maryland (385.875) in this unique meet to win the Governor's Cup.

Senior Laura Jazab turned in another strong performance on beam for the second straight meet. After winning her first career title last time out, Jazab finished in a tie for second at the Governor's Cup with a score of 9.875. Freshman Cori Goldstein and junior Marlyn Madey tied for fifth on beam, each scoring a 9.85.

The Pack finished with its top team score on bars, notching a 49. Senior Aimee Panton posted State's top score, finishing fifth with a 9.875. Junior Stephanie Southard and senior Amy Langendorf also earned top-10 finishes, as Southard placed eighth with a score of 9.825 and Langendorf finished 10th with a 9.8. Jazab was close behind with a 9.775 score, good for 12th.

The Pack had another strong showing on vault, also placing three in the top 10. Senior Kelli Brown recorded a third-place finish with her score of 9.825. Brown was followed by Panton in seventh (9.725) and freshman Andrea Petrocelli in 10th (9.7), in her first career meet.

On floor, Goldstein held the top position for the Pack with a score of 9.825 for a 10th-place showing. Sophomore Alison Bundy and Panton each recorded a 9.8 to tie for 11th place.

Brown was the Pack's lone representative in the all-around competition. She finished sixth at the meet, recording an overall score of 38.575.

With its showing this weekend, State moved up to 24th in the national rankings, which were released Monday.



Aimee Panton finished in the top 10 in two events at the Governor's Cup.

released Monday.

The Pack will be on the road again Sunday when it takes on Rhode Island. This will be State's final meet before debuting at Reynolds Coliseum Feb. 15 in the Hearts Invitational.

## Men's tennis loses at USC

◆ The men's tennis squad has also rescheduled several matches in the coming weeks.

Sports Staff Report

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The N.C. State men's tennis squad fell to the No. 31 South Carolina Gamecocks at the Sam Daniel Tennis Center on Saturday afternoon in the Gamecock's season opener. With the loss, the Wolfpack falls to 1-2 overall for the season.

Freshman R.J. Murray was the only State player to win a set on the day, as he took the first set from USC's Ben Atkinson 7-5 at the No. 6 slot. Atkinson went on to win the match 5-7, 6-1, 6-2.

In other singles play, Seth Rose topped Matt Lucas 6-4, 6-3 at the No. 1 position. Angelo Niculescu recorded a victory in the No. 2 slot 6-1, 6-3 over Reinaldo Valor. At the No. 3 position, David Nelson knocked off Michael Carducci 7-6, 6-1 to earn a victory.

Marcus Westman continued the Cocks' streak in the No. 4 spot with a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Bryce McGrory. Rodrigo Pacheco rounded out singles

play on a positive note for the Cocks with a 6-4, 6-1 win out of the No. 5 slot over Ryan Boward.

Earlier in the day, USC's three doubles pairings swept the Pack to take the doubles point. Niculescu and Westman defeated Lucas and Valor 8-4 in the No. 1 doubles match. At No. 2, Atkinson and Nelson beat Carducci and John Davis 8-3. The Cocks' No. 3 duo of Pacheco and Rose finished out the point, defeating Boward and Murray 8-4.

The Pack's matches that were scheduled Saturday against UNC-Asheville and UNC-Wilmington will be rescheduled at a later date. The home match Sunday against West Virginia will be played at 10 a.m. at the Wolfpack Tennis Complex, unless there is inclement weather, in which case the match will be played at Barber Park in Greensboro at 8:30 p.m.

The men's home match against Virginia Tech that was scheduled for Feb. 13 will now be played in Blacksburg, Va., due to the fact that the Pack has no available indoor facility.



John Davis and the men's tennis team dropped to 1-2 this season.

Men's Tennis	
NCSU	0
USC	7