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TECHNICIAN

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

Today	Hi	59
	Lo	33
Tomorrow	Hi	63
	Lo	48

Emerging Issues Forum sees changes

◆ This year's forum will feature nationally acclaimed scientists, politicians and entrepreneurs.

Carie Windham
Assistant News Editor

On Monday and Tuesday, N.C. State will host a gathering of some of North Carolina's and the nation's top scientists, ethicists, entrepreneurs and public officials at the 2002 Emerging Issues Forum in the Jane S. McKimmon Center.

As the dates draw near, coordinators of the event have announced a few changes and additions to the agenda.

To begin with, the most notable change will be a speech delivered by U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson that will focus on the national perspective on biotechnology. Originally scheduled for a Monday luncheon, the speech by the former governor of Wisconsin will now be delivered Monday at 9 a.m.

In his place, Robert Ingram, chief operating officer and president of pharmaceutical operations for GlaxoSmithKline will speak at the Monday luncheon.

As a consequence, registration will begin at 8 a.m., one hour earlier so that the opening session of the day can be moved up to 9 a.m.

Despite the change, the second morning session, which includes Sen. John Edwards and N.C. Biotechnology Center President and Chief Executive Officer Charles Hamner, will still take place at 10 a.m.

Other changes include the addition of

NCSC Chancellor Marye Anne Fox as the moderator for the Tuesday morning session. Participants include Rep. Bob Etheridge, Meg Scott Phipps, N.C. agricultural commissioner, and Michael Rodermyer, executive director of the Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology. Chancellor Fox was already on the schedule to deliver a welcome.

"Making Genomics Investments Pay Off Through Chemistry" is a workshop sponsored by the NCSU College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences and will be offered at 3:15 p.m. on Tuesday.

Bruce Eaton, professor of chemistry at NCSU, who will discuss evolutionary chemistry, is the workshop's chair. The president of Myriad Pharmaceuticals and division vice presidents from Hoffman-LaRoche and GSK will join him in this workshop.

The discussion group, "Next Steps in Biotech Policy," will focus on how chemists use genomic advances to produce new pharmaceuticals and will offer an opportunity for participants to discuss issues raised during the forum in an informal setting with policy leaders.

The Emerging Issues Forum has occurred annually since 1999. The forum is a public service program that attempts to bring areas of public policy debate to the people of North Carolina. Through a series of symposia, conferences, speakers and discussion groups, forum participants have discussed areas such as education, the global economy and the environment.

The theme of this year's forum will be "Biotechnology and Humanity at the Crossroads of a New Era."

According to event coordinator Brandi Creaman, each year the forum has one topic whose controversy spans political, scientific and educational borders.

The final decision is made by former Gov. James B. Hunt, who felt that this year the topic of biotechnology could not be ignored.

"[Biotechnology] has the potential to affect almost every facet of our existence; from our health, to our food, to our environment and the vitality of our economy," he said.

Creaman reinforced this idea. "For citizens of all types," she said, "they need to learn all they can [about biotechnology] and understand both the pros and the cons."

These pros and cons include both the benefits of the research and the contro-

versy surrounding it.

In addition, Creaman said, "people need to be able to make informed decisions at the polls." By attending the forum, participants will get a first-hand look at how local politicians feel about the issues surrounding this area of research.

When participants walk away from the forum, Creaman hopes they will, "have a better understanding that there are a lot of controversial issues out there."

To help discuss these issues, the forum has a host of notable speakers on hand.

Local politicians participating include: Edwards, Hunt, Gov. Mike Easley, U.S. Reps. Bob Etheridge (D-2), Rep. David Price (D-14), Carmen Hooker Odum and Meg Scott Phipps, secretary of the N.C. Department of Agriculture and

Consumer Services.

Speakers from the N.C. Biotechnology Center include Charles Hamner and Steven Burke.

The speakers are not only from North Carolina. The agenda boasts speakers such as Arthur Caplan, director of the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania and Robert Nussbaum, senior investigator at the National Human Genome Research Institute.

According to Creaman, ticket sales have indicated that more than 700 students, scholars and community members will be in attendance.

The cost of the event is \$150 for regular admission and \$50 for students, which includes two meals and a reception. Tickets can be purchased up until the day of the event on site.

Bush makes decision on detainees

◆ Bush will grant the protections of the Geneva Convention to fighters for Afghanistan's Taliban but not to members of al-Qaida.

Mike Allen and John Mintz
The Washington Post

Following protests from allies around the world, President Bush announced Thursday that the United States will grant the protections of the Geneva Convention to detainees who fought for Afghanistan's Taliban but will continue to deny them to members of the al-Qaida terrorist network.

Until now, the administration had denied that the 158 captives at the U.S. Naval Station at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, were covered by the Geneva Conventions, which ensure treatment of wartime captives is humane and subject to international law.

International lawyers said it could be argued that Bush's decision will curtail some tactics being used in interrogating Taliban fighters at the detention center, nicknamed Camp X-Ray. The lawyers said the decision strengthens the argument that the Taliban captives should be repatriated when hostilities cease.

White House press secretary Ari Fleischer, announcing the decision at a hastily scheduled afternoon briefing, said the decision about the detainees "will not change their material life on a day-to-day basis." The United States said it already was providing food and medical treatment and allowing the captives to practice their religion, which are other issues covered by the convention.

Fleischer said the administration is making the distinction in status of defenders of the Taliban regime, which controlled Afghanistan, and al-Qaida because Afghanistan is a party to the Geneva Convention.

"Although the United States does not recognize the Taliban as the legitimate Afghan government, the president determined that the Taliban members are covered under the treaty because Afghanistan is a party to the convention," Fleischer said. "Al-Qaida is an international terrorist group and cannot be considered a state party to the Geneva Convention."

Even supporters of the Taliban remain in something of a legal limbo, since the United States said they still will not be considered prisoners of war. But specialists in international law said the decision made it more likely that the Taliban detainees would receive

individual hearings about whether they are POWs. "No distinction will be made in the good treatment given to the al-Qaida or the Taliban," Fleischer said.

With his decision, Bush acknowledged the concerns of Pentagon and State Department officials, who feared that denying the protections to detainees from Afghanistan could result in mistreatment of captured American soldiers at some future point in the war on terrorism.

Protests poured in from humanitarian groups around the world after the Defense Department released a photo that showed the Guantanamo detainees shackled, hooded and on their knees. Pentagon officials said the detainees were only in that position for safety just after being moved.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld said at a combative briefing Jan. 22 that no detainee had been harmed. "When people are moved, they are restrained," Rumsfeld said. "That is true in prisons across the globe. It is not anything new."

In a rare open airing of a disagreement within the Bush administration, officials confirmed that Secretary of State Colin Powell had asked Bush to re-examine his Jan. 18 decision to deny Geneva protections to the detainees. White House officials said Powell was responding in part to complaints from U.S. allies in Europe and elsewhere.

Fleischer said Bush "arrived at a just, principled and practical solution to a difficult issue."

"The president did so because, as Americans, the way we treat people is a reflection of America's values," Fleischer said. "The military operates under a code of conduct and upholds these values based on the dignity of every individual. The American people can take great pride in the way our military is treating these dangerous detainees."

Fleischer said the United States does not believe Taliban fighters are entitled to the status of prisoners of war because the conventions say that in order to be considered POWs, irregular forces must wear uniforms, report to a military hierarchy and abide by the codes of war.

"The Taliban have not effectively distinguished themselves from the civilian population of Afghanistan," Fleischer said. "Moreover, they have not conducted their operations in accordance with the laws and customs of war. Instead, they have knowingly adopted and provided support to the unlawful terrorist objectives of the al-Qaida."



Students notice one of the new ways Public Safety has changed its image to become Campus Police.

Rebuilding a country

◆ The first step toward creation of an Afghan government begins amid formidable obstacles.

Doug Struck
The Washington Post

KABUL, Afghanistan — Hamid Karzai on Thursday launched the process designed to steer this fractious country through its first wobbly steps toward democracy, Afghan-style, even as calls came for more international help to keep Afghanistan from splitting apart.

"Our people want freedom — freedom from outside influence, freedom inside Afghanistan, and freedom to have the right to choose their own government," said Karzai, leader of Afghanistan's interim government. He officially inaugurated a blue-ribbon commission that will set the form and rules for a *loya jirga*, or great council, to shape a broad-based government that would replace his administration after

its six-month mandate runs out in June.

But the ceremony took place among uncertainties that the nation's tribal fissures can be overcome. Concerns that regional militia leaders will balk at control by the central government prompted the top U.N. envoy to Afghanistan to urge a nationwide mission for the international peacekeeping force, whose operations are now restricted to Kabul.

Echoing Karzai's recent appeals, envoy Lakhdar Brahimi told the Security Council on Wednesday that there are fears in the country "that peace will not last" without an international force operating throughout Afghanistan.

Despite the international rush to offer financial and humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan after a U.S.-led military campaign toppled the ruling Taliban, the push for an expanded peacekeeping role is being treated warily by countries loath to be drawn into the quagmire of rivalries that have long marked the country's politics.

Britain now heads the 15-nation

peacekeeping force, but Prime Minister Tony Blair and his defense minister, Geoff Hoon, who visited here this week, both firmly denied requests to expand the force.

The United States, which has not contributed peacekeeping troops, has said the request "needs a lot of thought." Germany has been more positive. And all are uncertain what will happen in April if Turkey takes over as head of the force as expected.

"It's very much an open question right now," a Western diplomat in Kabul said. "But if there is seen to be significant disagreement in the international community, it can make the situation here worse."

Karzai and some of his top aides have been pushing hard for expansion of the force because of factional fighting in Gander, south of Kabul, and fears that recent skirmishing in the northern city of Mazar-e Sharif could escalate into a similar power struggle.

About 3,200 foreign peacekeeping

See **AFGHAN**, Page 2

Ex-CEO of Enron denies knowing of problems

◆ Former Enron CEO Skilling testifies before a congressional committee.

Susan Schmidt
The Washington Post

Jeffrey Skilling, the former chief executive of the bankrupt Enron Corp., appeared before a congressional committee Thursday and denied that he had any indication that there were problems with the company's accounting practices.

Skilling, who left the corporation last summer, said he believed that Enron's financial condition was good at the time.

"Contrary to the refrain in the press," Skilling told the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee on oversight and investigations, "while I was at Enron, I was not aware of any financing arrangements designed to conceal liabilities or inflate profitability."

He added, "It is my belief that Enron's failure was due to a classic run on the bank, a liquidity crisis spurred

by a lack of confidence in the company."

Skilling is the most senior Enron executive to be questioned about his role in the nation's largest corporate bankruptcy, which cost shareholders and employees billions of dollars. Former chairman Kenneth L. Lay refused to testify before a Senate committee earlier this week.

He faced a skeptical audience. Several members of the subcommittee asked Skilling about his reputation as a "control freak" and how that jibed with his assertions that he did not know many of the details about partnerships that Enron set up, which helped hide Enron's debts.

Rep. James Greenwood (R-Pa), the chairman of the subcommittee, asked incredulously, "Mr. Skilling, a massive earthquake struck Enron right after your departure. People in far inferior positions to you could see cracks in the walls, feel the tremors, feel the windows rattling. And you want us to believe that you sat there in your office and had no clue that this place was

about to collapse?"

"I did not believe the company was in any financial peril," he responded.

A report released Saturday by a special committee of the Enron board of directors found that Skilling likely knew of and probably approved the various suspect partnerships.

Skilling's comments came after Andrew S. Fastow, who was Enron's chief financial officer, refused to answer questions on the partnerships, which he headed.

Fastow was joined by three other Enron executives who also invoked their Fifth Amendment rights against self incrimination when appearing before the subcommittee. They are Michael Kopper, a former employee of Enron Global Finance; Richard Causey, executive vice president and chief accounting officer; and Richard Bui, another executive vice president and chief risk officer.

Fastow has refused to cooperate with investigators. He told the House sub-

See **ENRON**, Page 2

Duke physics faculty, students cite sexual harassment

◆Despite the formation of a standing committee to address sexual harassment, students and faculty feel the problem has not been eliminated.

Kevin Lees

The Chronicle (Duke-U)

(U-WIRE) DURHAM, N.C. - Although Duke University established a standing committee designed to address sexual harassment in the physics department, many professors and students say a climate of discomfort still exists for women.

The Bryant Committee was created by Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences William Chafe in the summer of 2000 in response to several complaints of sexual harassment, both verbal and physical.

Since then, the Office of Institutional Equity has conducted a workshop with members of the department, distributed a brochure on gender discrimination and tried to foster a better atmosphere. But some professors and students say not enough has changed.

"We certainly did find there were problems," said Professor of Mathematics Robert Bryant, former chair of the Bryant Committee. "Some of those problems [might have been] simply because people weren't aware of what had been done or how things had been dealt with."

Bryant declined to specify the problems the committee found

initially but said the group filed a confidential report with Chafe. In a Nov. 28, 2000, letter to the department, Chafe specified that the committee heard accounts from several people who suggested past instances of sexual harassment.

"These included inappropriate contact between staff or instructors and graduate students, use of language or display of pictures in public environments that were offensive to women and inappropriate requests that women perform tasks that seemed based upon their gender alone, such as cleaning up coffee spills," Chafe's letter read. "The committee found some basis for the assertion that the culture or climate of the department is sometimes perceived as unfriendly to women."

Springer, associate professor of physics, said the committee has been helpful, but that the climate remains largely the same. "Not very long after I arrived [in 1992], the first of many female students came to see me about what they could do about discriminatory comments from professors," she said, adding that one student complained of being berated after objecting to a professor who handed out Playboy posters to students at Christmas.

Springer pointed to the establishment of a new e-mail address, harassment@phy.duke.edu, where students can confidentially report any incidents, but noted that administrators had not made undergraduates aware of the address. Some physics

students reported receiving an e-mail from Chafe on Wednesday notifying them of the address.

"I think we've done a fair amount," Chafe said. "We've sent two letters to the physics community trying to be proactive. I don't think one can say we've not been proactive." He cautioned that the report was just a list of reported incidents and did not make findings of fact.

Dan Gauthier, associate professor of physics added that the committee studied incidents that were reported 10 to 20 years ago and that he did not think anything substantial enough had been found to inform the rest of the University.

Acting committee chair Linda McGown, professor of chemistry, said the group will soon distribute a survey to students to get a better grip on the current situation.

Several students and professors said they remain doubtful about the department's handling of incidents in the past as evidence.

For example, Springer said she filed a case with the Office of Institutional Equity against Sergei Matinyan, a visiting professor who has since left the University.

"His first interactions toward me could have been interpreted as grandfatherly," she said. "He then became much more aggressive. He would start to poke me or grab me in what I consider a particularly violent way. ... I didn't want to be touched by him."

OIE found that the complaint did not conclusively demonstrate a violation of the Duke harassment policy, according to an August 2001 letter to Matinyan from Sally Dickson, vice president for institutional equity. Matinyan said he did not harass anyone, but referred all other questions to OIE. Dickson was out of town and could not be reached for comment.

Springer said many faculty members told her not to report the incident. "They think it's a question of loyalty," Springer said. "They say, 'Let this generation die.' I don't just see this generation dying. They have a lot of influence on junior faculty."

The incident was not the first involving Matinyan: A former graduate student, Robyn Yost, alleged a similar incident four years ago. Yost said sometimes Matinyan would visit her office, share a kind word or give her a hug. One night, she said, he crossed the line.

"[He] gave me a quite intimate kiss," she wrote in a letter. "I was completely shocked and turned my head away from him. When I turned towards him, looking for an explanation, he again kissed me. I turned away from him a second time, and he left the room."

AFGHAN

Continued from Page 1

troops are patrolling Kabul, and the force is expected to grow to its authorized limit of 5,000 by mid-month. They operate separately from the U.S. forces in the country, which haven't publicly taken on any involvement in trying to resolve factional disputes since the Taliban's fall in early December.

Karl Fischer, acting head of the U.N. Special Mission to Afghanistan, said Thursday in Kabul that "it would be useful having international forces deployed to various areas" but added that "it will require a fresh resolution from the Security Council. That has not happened so far."

Karzai flew to the western city of Herat on Wednesday to try to enlist the support of the governor there, Ismail Khan, whose loyalty to the central government has been questioned. Karzai told the new commission Thursday that "the way we were received in Herat by the governor of Herat and the people was something that I cannot describe. It was simply unbelievable. Thousands of people, thousands and thousands of people."

The new commission's task is to tackle the thorny issues of

Yost said department officials told her to write the letter, which was placed in his file. She said Matinyan never approached her again. Yost said she found that officials took a "bury our heads in the sand and maybe it will go away" attitude.

Springer and other members of the faculty say this mindset is most damaging. "The general attitude when this issue is raised is, 'Why do we deal with this? Let's just ignore it,'" said Ronen Plesser, an associate physics professor. "The department instinct was to circle the wagons, and the perception was we were being attacked and that we had to hang together."

OIE's response, he said, was equally awkward, and Springer said the office had handled her case clumsily.

President Nan Keohane said decisions about discrimination almost always leave someone dissatisfied. "Such issues are inherently complex and look different from different perspectives, and they need to be handled sensitively and with some degree of expertise," she wrote in an e-mail. "OIE is the place at Duke that is best equipped to deal with this kind of issue."

Physics chair Robert Behringer said he remains committed to ensuring the climate

size, composition and representation of the loyal jirga, which is to meet before the end of June.

The loyal jirga, a traditional body that will number in the hundreds or even thousands, is supposed to be drawn from all segments of society. When it meets, it is to decide the new head of government and set the form of the next government.

Another loyal jirga is to meet in two years to draft a constitution. The commission was U.N.-appointed and is heavy on academics and intellectuals chosen in an attempt to make a commission nonpartisan. The com-

mission chairman and its members vowed Thursday to remain independent.

"We will work impartially," said chairman Ismail Qassimiy, a lawyer and expert in constitutional law. "All the people will be considered, from Afghan immigrants in Pakistan to nomads to refugees in Iran and Pakistan."

The group also vowed to significantly increase the participation in the loyal jirga of women, who traditionally have been shut out of the politics and government here.

criticism at the silent reform, executives sitting in the first row accusing them of greed, fraud and thievery.

"Was it worth it?" asked Rep. Bobby Rush (D-Ill.). "Was selling of your moral worth it? Was selling of your soul worth it? I suspect some of you may answer yes."

The subcommittee also heard from Jeffrey McMahon, who was named president and chief operating officer of Enron last week. He said that he had complained to his superiors about some of the partnerships and had been rebuffed. Jordan Mintz, a former Enron attorney, also testified about his earlier concerns about the business affairs. He said when he tried to bring the matter to the attention of company executives, he found that the close relationships between the executives kept any of them from looking into the matter.

Reuters contributed to this story.

ENRON

Continued from Page 1

committee Thursday that "I would like to answer the committee's questions, but on the advice of my counsel, I respectfully decline."

Fastow and Kopper, who collected more than \$40 million from the off-the-books partnerships, were accused of enriching themselves at the company's expense in a report released Saturday by a special committee of the Enron board of directors. Enron's collapse was triggered by losses attributed to the partnerships they ran.

As the committee hearing convened Fastow and Kopper were in the front row of seats, separated by their attorneys. However, they did not speak to each other.

Member after member of the subcommittee — on both sides of the aisle — leveled withering



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Science	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Technical	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Business Related	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Accounting/Finance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Humanities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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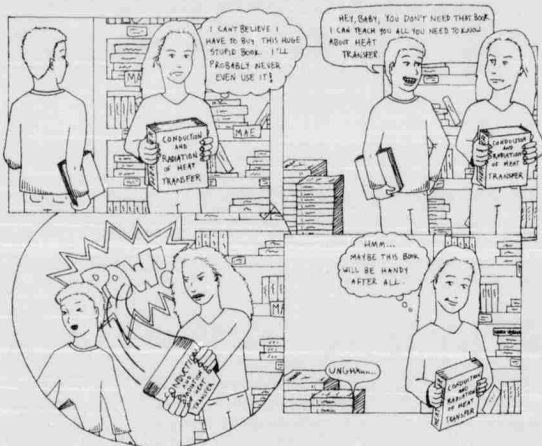
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Maxine and the samurai cat **Matajuro** have dealt a blow to their enemies in the wasteland of the once proud city of **Achillia**. Maxine has decided to read the mind of the evil demon spirit who she has now defeated. Matajuro looks on as she practices her handwork on the conquered soul.

Meanwhile, **Chalkhydry** and **MekaOscar** have collected the body of the cigar-smoking feline **Oskar** and are now having a conversation with the shell-shocked young soldier, **Zathael**, who is as confused and depressed as ever. Seems though, Zathael has lost his shadow.



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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Foreign financial aid bill useless

A MERITLESS RECENT FLORIDA BILL AIMS TO DENY FINANCIAL AID TO SOME FOREIGN STUDENTS.

Shortly after the Sept. 11 attacks, Rep. Dick Kravitz (R-19) of the Florida legislature proposed a bill that would deny financial aid to foreign students from countries identified by the U.S. State Department as supporters of terrorism. Having passed out of committee by an 8-5 vote, the bill has been introduced into the legislative process and has the possibility of becoming law.

The State Department's list of terrorist countries includes Iran, Iraq, Syria, Cuba, North Korea and the Sudan, but excludes Saudi Arabia, where most of Sept. 11 terrorists originated. Currently in Florida, only 450 foreign students come from countries Kravitz cited, with only \$203,871 in financial aid going to an unknown number of them.

Rep. Kravitz wants to send a message: "Listen, folks, if you want the good people of Florida to support you, [...] get your country off the list or go work like my kid. I'm not going to pay for you."

Whether Rep. Kravitz really means his statements or not, the "small potatoes" nature of the legislation and dubious value of the bill suggest that other motives are at work, such as leveraging newfound patriotism for reelection.

The bill itself, which some say would mark a Floridian foray into foreign policy, hardly seems promising in terms of fighting terrorism, a purpose to which Rep. Kravitz and other supporters have often alluded. In addition to the simple fact that those being cut off from funding

aren't necessarily terrorists, there is also the fact that countries that have proven to be the origin of terrorists, like Saudi Arabia, and countries that are suspected of harboring potential terrorists, like Pakistan or Somalia, aren't targeted by the bill.

Though Kravitz said the bill is not intended to keep foreign students out, the representative's words thinly veil the reality that cutting off funding effectively keeps foreign students out. In light of this, the bill seems a particularly weak, untargeted attempt to police terrorism at home. Those who are affected aren't terrorists, but more than likely they are seeking to escape oppression and are distinct from the supposed terrorists that live in their home countries.

The biggest backlash against Rep. Kravitz's bill comes with the realization that terrorist-friendly governments are more likely to be toppled or reformed if their citizens receive any education, especially a Western education. Common-sense foreign policy thinking holds that widespread lack of education contributes to the lawlessness and fundamentalism that fosters terrorism abroad.

Kravitz's bill, which forsakes this common sense along with the long-held wisdom that laws should do what they are purported to do (here, to fight terrorism). The Florida bill should be taken for many things, but helping to fight of terrorism or addressing any real problem should not be among the perceived purposes.



Karl Smith
STAFF COLUMNIST

Proponents and opponents of Affirmative Action have argued back and forth in the media, on message boards and in classrooms about the relative merits of race-based selection. The crux of both sides' positions tends to lie in the notion of fairness. Proponents of Affirmative Action tend to argue that American society is stacked against minorities and women and measures need to be taken to level the playing field. Opponents tend to argue that such a leveling has already occurred and that Affirmative Action advocates really wish not to level the field but the final score. Both of these positions are utterly wrong.

First and foremost, life is inherently unfair. It is cliché because it is true. The complaint that one may not be admitted to the university of one's choice is marginally moving at best in the face of the obstacles that many disabled Americans face. Nor is the academic handicap of having to go to Appalachian State rather than N.C. State much in comparison to children who face physical and emotional abuse every day when they come home from school.

This is not meant to invalidate the efforts of members of minority or majority ethnic groups. It is merely meant to illustrate that unequal access to higher education is not going to suddenly topple an "unbalanced" scale of fairness that may exist in today's society. There are many far more pressing battles to take up if one truly wishes to fight a campaign for fairness.

Affirmative Action: both sides wrong

Secondly, the issue of racial, ethnic and gender-based discrimination always comes up. There is no doubt that such discrimination is wrong. There is equally no doubt that it still occurs, particularly against African- and Hispanic-Americans. However, such discrimination pales in comparison to that faced by ugly or stupid Americans.

There are no groups in this country that face worse discrimination than the ugly or stupid. Those very terms are synonymous with negativity and failure. Certainly, less-than-attractive or below-average people are often successful, and there has never been *de jure* discrimination against them.

However, the day-to-day prejudice which truly hinders or impedes people face comes such success a remarkable feat. Are they less deserving? Are they somehow less human because their genetic code is not quite as "perfect" as beautiful or brilliant people? Yet, most people would argue that it is completely fair and nondiscriminatory to hire the smarter, more accomplished applicant. Again, more of this is meant to deny the discrimination faced by other people in America but simply to point out that if one wishes to root out discrimination, there are much deeper spots in which to dig.

On the other side of the issue, you will hear people demand that the position go to the most qualified. Why should that be? Again, there is nothing fair or inherently just about judging people by their intelligence. However, even further, why should it matter that they have more experience or other qualifications? To paraphrase a great motivator, America is not about guarantees; it's about opportunity. Just because someone has more experience or is more "qualified" doesn't mean that this country owes him a job.

Now, very often, it benefits an employer to hire someone if he has

more experience or other qualifications, but sometimes it may not. Perhaps the owners value diversity or want to feel good about themselves by hiring someone with a particular hardship. Those are no less valid motives than striving to make the most profit. In some cases, it may even benefit the bottom line to have a more diverse if less experienced staff, especially if one is entering new markets.

Government-mandated preference is a different animal, however. If the government wishes to impose Affirmative Action, then it needs to be able to show somehow that by hiring more minorities, the nation as a whole benefits. This, not kindergarten appeals to fairness, merit or discrimination, is the criterion by which Affirmative Action should be judged.

As is sometimes the case, the mature decision is more difficult than the childish one. On the one hand, preferential treatment has a tendency to tear people apart. Perhaps they should be bigger than that. Perhaps they should look at the whole picture. In the real world, however, they don't and, unfortunately, we must live in the real world.

Yet, at the same time, there are minority children who grow up believing that they might as well not try. They believe the world doesn't cut minorities a break. If they don't try, they will never succeed, and if those children don't succeed, future generations will never be inspired to try. The entire nation suffers when we lose potentially productive citizens to this vicious cycle. Creating more minority leaders has helped and could continue to help eliminate that feeling of hopelessness.

Karl's not giving you any answers, just a new way of thinking about it. E-mail him your conclusions at kwsmith2@unity.ncsu.edu.

Equality is too sensitive an issue

that killed millions, and they fled to America to escape ongoing religious persecution.

Italians immigrated in multitudes in the early 1900s and were subject to a lot of discrimination and racial prejudice. They struggled to make it in America also.

Hispanics have come to America to escape poor living conditions in Cuba and elsewhere.

Middle Easterners in America have been discriminated against, especially since Sept. 11.

Basically, I believe that, for things to become equal, no ethnicity should be placed on a pedestal by either its members or others. Speaking as a white American, it is somewhat difficult to understand every aspect of what different races went through, but I have experienced several instances of discrimination.

In elementary school, I was shy and glib, so many students made fun of me. They could even make fun of me by my face, and I would not recognize it. All I knew was that, throughout elementary school, I only had a couple of close friends. After all is said and done, though, those are the friends that really matter.

In middle school, I was discriminated against because I started eighth grade with holes in my sneakers. I wasn't self-conscious. One girl called me a tramp and took it upon herself to make the rest of my eighth grade experience hell.

In high school, I made more friends but was style-conscious until my junior year. So, I was ostracized by the "in" crowd. I made more friends than I

did in middle school, still not many, but they were close, dependable friends. I also found a group of people who accepted all people, regardless of race, gender or popularity. They were the groups you always saw playing hacky sack in the courtyard and who wore multiple necklaces or chains, baggy jeans and band T-shirts.

Many people make fun of this certain group of people. I don't dress that way anymore—I stopped around the end of my freshman year of college. I still have the same mentality and defend the hacky sack-playing group whenever someone says something, but I do not glorify it and praise its members or my struggles with a week or month designated to them.

All races and genders have certain weaknesses and strengths. It is what a person makes of those things that makes a difference. If a certain ethnic group is discriminated against, I would think it would make that group more tolerant of others. You are a better person than the one discriminating against you as long as you do not do the same. This goes with thinking you are better than another and glorifying the group to which you are affiliated. To achieve total equality, there should be no women's week, no Black History Month—nothing like that. Instead, everyone should honor their heritage and gender all the time through their actions and others.

Holly still pulls out her wide-leg jeans now and then for reminiscing. E-mail her with any comments you have about equality at puz_rata@yahoo.com.

CAMPUS FORUM

On power and common sense

It seems that for all the "good learnin'" folks are doing in the classroom, apparently very simple life lessons on topics such as common sense and power are failing to creep into the curriculum. In response to Darren O'Connor's critique on Affirmative Action (among the many damaging cultural critiques that he throws in this column for good measure), he is clearly making a common-sense-free argument. If the admissions odds are so imbalanced towards college applicants of color, then doesn't it follow that campuses would have increasingly more, not increasingly less, black and brown faces? There is a step that is missing between raw facts and their usefulness, and what actually holds true in the "real world." Pointedly, there is no discussion on power and how it is still concentrated in the same hands that it has always been on the institutional level. Culturally, doesn't O'Connor know that he is coming from a position of power if he can make the bold statement that many students of color on this campus do not belong here, and face no challenge? Imagine if a black Technician columnist were to state that graduation rates for white students are low because white students shouldn't have been admitted in the first place. Do you think there would be repercussions?

Secondly, and perhaps more frightening to me, is the lack of common sense and recognition of power on the part of the ENTIRE student body. Don't you all know that they are about to raise your tuition another \$400? Don't you understand that the endless budget crisis we are entering will permanently shift the burden of paying for college onto the students while the state builds as many prisons as its little heart desires? Finally, don't you get it, the Board of Trustees (who make these decisions) is made up of 13 folks, while

you are more than 27,000? Have you been listening to the chap who when she tells you that these folks have your best interests, and not power and politics, in mind? This is not about being radical. It is about knowing that you can't afford the tuition increase, knowing how many of you there are and actually doing something about it. Power is the ability to get done what you feel needs to get done. You don't want this tuition increase, and you don't have to take it. Make yourselves proud and fight the chancellor and the Board of Trustees at every step of this decision. The alumni will be proud of N.C. State right along with you.

Bryan Proffitt
Raleigh
Class of 2001

Merit should be cornerstone of our world

I'd like to commend Darren O'Connor on his Feb. 5 column, "Affirmative Action is racist." Darren hit the nail on the head by pointing out the need for a colorblind society rather than one that prefers race over merit. The man decided to stir the hornet's nest and write on an extremely tough issue. Sometimes I wonder if I, a white male, am being victimized by the system. Am I? Certainly I am not being pulled over by the cops or being scrutinized by security when I walk into a building, but what if in the future I am overlooked for a job I deserve for someone who is female or of color? This is potentially what could happen under Affirmative Action. Affirmative Action has created a victimized state where everything advantageous to white males is fundamentally racist, and anything for people of color or females is necessary for a balance of power. Is Affirmative Action implying that white males are better, and therefore, a handicap must be provided to



Holly Bezant
STAFF COLUMNIST

resource availability and recruitment. This is odd because wherever I go there is an international festival of some sort or a speaker of an ethnicity other than white American. If you look at the NCSU Web site, there is a link to student affairs and to the African-American student affairs.

To me, a student is a student no matter what race he or she is, and I don't believe that one should be favored more than another.

This is mostly because black Americans have had a rough history, one that is known by everyone, and if it is not, it will be by the time they exit high school. Black Americans have been through a lot and accomplished many things, and they should not have to keep putting on awareness programs or separating themselves from other Americans. Their accomplishments are forever acknowledged in the form of respect from others, friendships and in personal success.

Other ethnic groups have gone through a lot to be where they are now. Irish immigrants suffered the potato

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Rap videos do not equal success



Shelley Lee
STAFF COLUMNIST

I was watching BET in my friend's room the other day. I must say I love R&B and hip-hop music, especially Master P. I think the style he adds to hip-hop and the "Dirty South" rhymes he accents his work with produce a unique genre of music.

However, the video to the song "I Got the Hook Up" provided an epiphany about how my generation depicts itself. In reality, most hip-hop and R&B videos in this era have a certain type of style. The videos misuse a woman's figure as a sexual object. The videos show women half-naked and dancing in ways that are more exotic and vulgar than ever before. Unfortunately, I have a problem with this, and I think that most Americans, especially black Americans, should have a problem with it as well.

I despise the thought that these videos treat women in this manner. Most rap stars have wives and children, and the last thing I see on these videos is either one of their family members behaving in such an obscene way.

Actually, if any of their fans take a look at their lives while off tour, they are dramatically different from what their videos depict. Their wives are the typical mothers to their children who

make sure that the kids are nurtured. The rap stars treat their wives with the utmost respect. They do not call them vulgar names and throw champagne on them, as they act out in videos. So, why have a video displaying an alternate attitude?

Personally, I think that depicting women in this manner not only corrupts the mind but also does not show a good example of how women should be treated by men in real life. Most importantly, it does not give an example of how women should portray themselves.

Most young men see these videos as a representation of a rapper's high status in their societies. Young males are highly manipulated into thinking that this is a real society in which they should become involved.

Nowadays, I see the same outfits that are usually acceptable in those videos or in a club being worn by everyone in the street, going to class and basically everywhere. I see teenage girls thinking that is the only way to have a male notice them in public. The only males that are noticing them are the ones who have one thing on their minds and I am not talking about a chemistry lesson either.

The young generation of females sees the females in the videos as illustrious role models. The only consequence to emulating them is that if they do not behave in the manner that the females behave in videos, then they are not acceptable in society and especially in males' eyes.

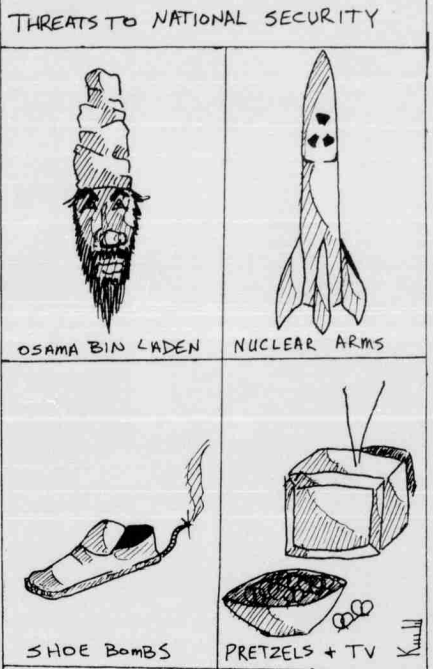
To make matters worse, most women do not have high self-images, and depicting women like this in videos everywhere does not help the issue.

After seeing that video, I was so appalled by the way women were depicted and rappers' definition of becoming successful and description of what they would do with their overflow of income that I thought I would share my arguments here in Technician. I love what the hip-hop genre has transformed into in terms of lyrics and musical beats that have been invented by Timberland, Master P and P. Diddy.

However, one thing that I hate about this era of hip-hop is the way women are portrayed. To me, a woman's body should be viewed as a sacred idol, not to be abused like it is. I believe that the whole generation of hip-hop artists should really make an evaluation of how they are corrupting the minds of today's youth into believing that what is shown on the videos is how they should strive to live. In most cases, success does not include hundreds of women ready to defile their bodies for a man, nor does it include having Bentleys and throwing around cash like it is not an object.

Success, for most people, is being able to live a comfortable lifestyle and knowing that music videos like these are from people who are not very well-acquainted with success.

Have any suggestions or comments? E-mail them to Shelley at sllee@unity.ncsu.edu.



CAMPUS FORUM CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

the females and people of color to level the field? White males are not always better than the rest of the world. When people realize this, they will stop being victims and become like those who have realized that their own success is not the government's responsibility. I am also considering joining an engineering society, one with many members. The one I found has over 10,000 members and is the largest student-managed organization in the country. Would I be able to join the National Society of Black Engineers? I don't know. I have yet to submit my application. Suppose I am not accepted? Is it because I am not qualified, or because I am not black? Being an engineering student, I should be qualified, but I am not because I am not black, that's just racist. If it is not racist, then what would the National Society of White Engineers be called, or is that for all other engineering societies? (Editors Note: The National Society of Black Engineers does not discriminate in recruiting or accepting new members.) Affirmative Action is now obsolete. It was useful to allow certain groups to gain a foothold in the mountain of opportunity, but now qualifications and merit need to be the cornerstones of our world, not sex or race.

Jack Armstrong
Junior
Computer Engineering

AASAC addresses valid black concerns

Because of the information presented, the word limit has been waived for this letter.

On Jan. 29 the Office of African-American Student Affairs recognized 215 African-American, Hispanic and Native-American students for excellent academic achievement. All of these students, roughly 40 percent of minority freshmen, received a GPA of 3.0 or above, an increase from last year. However, somewhere between freshman and senior year, under-qualification sets in and students that were once academic scholars fail to graduate at phenomenally increasing rates. Why is that? I find it hard to believe that one would indirectly tell the entire African-American student population that most of them were not qualified to be here — that had it not been for skin color that wouldn't be here. Is this making sense yet? NO. Why is this?

AASAC has addressed some issues that are pertinent to the advancement of our fine academic institution. Mind you, at no point was Affirmative Action mentioned during this presentation. We were presented with facts and figures that the university had collected. Provost (Stuart) Cooper pointed out that we really are leaders of the pack with higher enrollment and retention rates than most of our peer institutions. However, who better to compare a leader to than to the past performance of said leader?

First, we must realize that we live in a world that is not racially blind. To disregard the disadvantages and advantages associated with being of one race or another is irrational. We live in a country that is deeply rooted in slavery and class-related division. Racial,

which has come to be known to some as an unfortunate social program, was a peculiar institution that dislocated millions of people for the social and economic elevation of a few hundred. Is it so difficult to believe that an institution that prevailed for 400 years still victimizes a people that lives daily with indirect effects?

Victimization is not a conscious decision. Would you tell a rape victim to just get over it? Would you tell her to discontinue teaching her children to fight for their rights? For the majority of this campus, the daily reality of life has nothing to do with being a particular. Privilege is not seen or felt unless it is also lacked. AASAC leadership and many other African-American students on this campus are following in the rich tradition of civil rights leadership that fought for decades that we might have a right to attend such a university.

Now that we are here it is our responsibility to seek comfort. Yes, it is the university's responsibility to provide for its students. This doesn't just apply to African-American students but to all students. If white males were paying for a quality education and not receiving one, they too should speak out. I find it appalling that most students haven't responded. We should be tired of the immediate assumption that racial consideration means lacking merit. Preparation knows no color. We must recognize the playing field will not level itself and we must start somewhere.

Rose McMillan, Natalie Scurry, Marsheda Barnett, Sunmolu Hamilton
NCSU Students

RULE OF THUMB

Bush calls for faith



President Bush asked Americans of all faiths Thursday to pray in this post-Sept. 11 "time of testing." Praying, you say? Is that where we ask God to bring us more useless material possessions? Yeah, we think we can swing that.

Enron execs take Fifth



Two key figures in the Enron investigation took the Fifth Amendment Tuesday, refusing to testify before Congress. Shortly thereafter, the individuals were heard to have been heard saying "Pew!" while applying another kind of fifth to their lips.

"Overrated"



Cheers and jeers could be heard from the crowd as the Pack embarrassed Virginia in men's basketball at the ESA Wednesday night. Forced to sit out, Julius Hodge had zero points, zero assists and zero rebounds (but also zero punches).

Deputy Sheriff Gabriel Bruno



The Providence County (Ill.) sheriff's deputy faces felony charges for obstructing the penal system with just a practical joke. Bruno allegedly placed fake poop in judges' chambers on two occasions and now he faces a trial. What kind of crap is that?

Mr. Potato Head's turns golden



One of the most popular toys of all time turned 50 this week. Mr. Potato Head was the first toy advertised on network TV. If only altering one's physical appearance in real life were as easy as mixing and matching a plastic car, eyebrow and hat.

Racial profiling



In a speech given last weekend, Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating voiced criticism for the government not using more racial profiling to prevent terrorism. Keating also made mention of his intention to start a movement to reintroduce the Three-fifths Compromise to Congress.

Generation X



A study released this week showed that Generation Xers are turning out to be better parents than baby boomers. Although their parenting skills appear superior, thanks mostly to Creed and its imitators, Gen-Xers' music does not hold the same status.

Charlton Heston



The actor-turned-NRA bully urged stars this week to lose their bodyguards and just carry guns. Heston went so far as to call some celebrities "whimps" and even suggested that Lo would not have left P. Diddy if he had followed Heston's advice.

New DMV technology



The N.C. Department of Motor Vehicles is asking for \$3 million for face recognition software that would make it virtually impossible to make a fraudulent license. Little brothers statewide are scrambling for new sources for fake IDs.

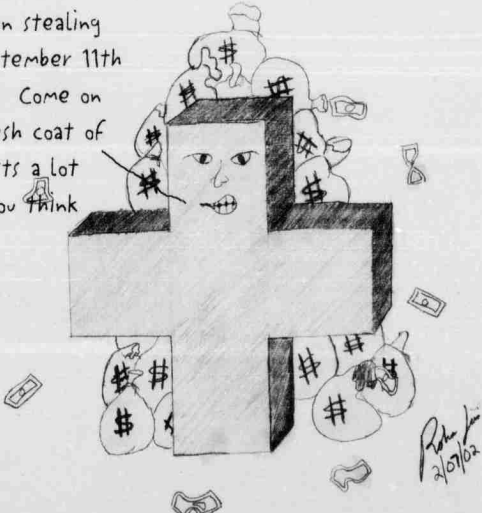
Austin "tit-in"



A women's group in Austin, Texas, is planning a "tit-in" to protest the planned ticketing of women who expose their breasts at this year's Mardi Gras celebration at 6th Street. It seems these women have a somewhat peculiar understanding of the women's lib movement.

Recycle me.

Ok, so its been said
that I've been stealing
from the September 11th
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TRACK

Continued from Page 8

Laubert will also be competing in the 3,000.

"To get into the fast section at ACCs this year will almost take a provisional mark, because our conference is so tough," said assistant coach Laurie Henes. "I don't think it's that big of a deal to race out of the unseeded section, but the fast section is a lot less crowded, so I'd like to see some fast times out of our girls this weekend to get them into the fast heat at ACCs."

Many of State's sprinters will travel to Tech as well. Felicia Fant and Ebony Foster will lead the team in the 60 and 200.

"Felicia has been hovering around her personal best for a few races now, but I haven't been training her to dip much beneath it," said assistant coach Terry Reese. "Now that conference is just a week away, I've started adjusting my runners to

peak next weekend, so I hope to see some good times out of her, as well as the rest of my runners."

Renee Robinson will open up at Tech with her first race of the year in the 800 after spending all of her season so far in the 400.

The biggest race for the men's team this weekend will be the 400. Tyrone Dozier will be racing his first open 400 of the season and is looking for a qualifying time.

"I am really looking forward to seeing how Tyrone will do," said Reese. "I hope he can get a good time in and qualify this weekend because he won't be able to run as fast at conference on UNC's track."

Monterio Adams will join Dozier in the 400.

Joseph Brent set a personal best in the 60 two weekends ago with a time that places him on the ACC honor roll with the best runners in the conference. He will be racing the 60 and 200 this weekend.

On the women's side, All-American high jumper Kristen Pace was sick last weekend and missed the meet at George Mason, but she will return for this weekend's meet at Carolina.

Katie Bolac, the school record holder in the pole vault, will also compete on the conference track.

"I think a key for Katie is getting more attempts at the higher heights," said assistant coach Gail Olson. "As she competes at the higher bar more, she is starting to see those heights as something she can jump instead of something out of her league."

The male pole vaulters have a strong group in David Kessler, Eric Hoverstad and Justin Farmer, who all jumped well last weekend even after a hard week of practice.

Jason Vieira has one of the farthest leaps in the triple jump in the ACC and will compete in his signature event this weekend.

TENNIS

Continued from Page 8

with the players so far.

"I have been impressed with the team's work ethic," Hayes said. "We have been practicing and preparing very efficiently. However, we need to be able to play with the intensity and fearlessness for the entire match. We have to keep believing in ourselves and outscrap opponents, and so far, I have not seen that from my players yet."

In the earlier losses to Tulsa and South Carolina, State was further hampered by injuries.

"For the Tulsa match, we were short one of our players at the No. 3 singles," Michael Carducci," Hayes said. "And the flu caught two of our players for the USC match, though I don't consider that as an excuse."

Three matches into the season, the Pack is 1-2 with a 6-1 win at Oral Roberts in a dominant

showing. State will need to have a similar performance in order to overcome the Mountaineers.

The men's tennis program at West Virginia was only recently reinstated after NCAA-imposed sanctions scrapped the program. Just seven to eight years ago, West Virginia was a perennial top-20 team and a regular participant in the NCAA Tournament.

West Virginia did not have a great 2000-2001 season, going 2-10 with its only wins coming at St. John's and Maryland-Baltimore County. Despite the Mountaineers' record, Hayes knows from experience never to take an opponent lightly.

"West Virginia is a markedly improved team from last year," Hayes said. "There is a renewed interest in the program up at West Virginia, and they will come into Raleigh believing they can win. I am looking forward to seeing how my team will come out and respond against the Mountaineers."

WRESTLE

Continued from Page 8

heavyweight.

"Pryor isn't going to wrestle again this week," said Guzzo. "We're trying to get Adam Cox in there. Adam still is suffering from a knee injury; he's rehabilitating. We might try to shift him in there around [33]. Right now, we have a couple of guys who have flu symptoms, but I'm sure they'll recover by the weekend. So we'll be OK. We still have a few problems, but we're looking to be competitive."

The Pack is hoping for a victory against Navy in order to gain some momentum heading into next week's match against its rival, North Carolina.

Guzzo hopes that the Pack faithful will come out for these big home matches.

"We had a lot of support last weekend I thought, and we certainly hope people come out and support our team," Guzzo said. "We're relatively young, so we're making some freshmen mistakes, and that's what's costing us a lot. But as these kids mature and hang in there, and they hang in there together, we're going to be very, very good."

FSU

Continued from Page 8

and six of their last eight games, including a 77-62 defeat at the hands of the Pack. The latest setback came at Duke Thursday night, as the Devils exacted revenge for their earlier loss with an 80-49 win.

Despite its downward slide, FSU still isn't a pushover. Led by the duo of Monte Cummings and Delvon Arrington, the Seminoles can be dangerous. The two were averaging a combined 26.5 points and eight rebounds a contest through last weekend's games.

Former Raleigh Leesville Road High star Anthony Richardson has proven himself as a true freshman, averaging 8.8 points a game.

Jeremy Ashton contributed to this story.

WOMEN

Continued from Page 8

25 heading into the locker room.

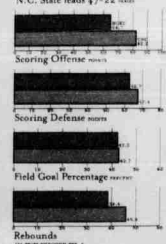
The Pack quickly knotted the score at 29 in the second half, and the two teams proceeded to swap points through the first 10 minutes of the half.

With 5:22 to go, Chomes hit a free throw to complete a three-point play, giving State a 54-53 edge. Martinez converted a three-point play of her own just seconds later, putting Tech up 56-54. The Jackets would pull away down the stretch, sinking 7-of-10 free throws in the closing moments to clinch in win.

The Jackets controlled the game on the boards, holding a 46-27 advantage in rebounding. The Pack grabbed just nine rebounds in the second half.

The Pack returns to Reynolds Coliseum Sunday to take on rival North Carolina at 2 p.m. State won the first meeting in Chapel Hill 66-63.

North Carolina vs. N.C. State www.sportspress.com
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IN THEATRES FEBRUARY 8



Friday Sports



M. Basketball @ Florida State, 2/10, 1
W. Basketball vs. UNC, 2/10, 2
M. Tennis vs. W. Va., 2/10, 10 a.m.
Wrestling vs. Navy, 2/9, 7:30
Gymnastics @ Rhode Island, 2/10
Baseball vs. Gardner-Webb, 2/12, 3

Midshipmen arrive to take on Pack

◆ The N.C. State wrestlers host Navy Saturday in Reynolds Coliseum.

Jay Kohler
Staff Writer

After finishing fourth, one spot behind the host, at the Navy Classic on Nov. 17, the N.C. State wrestling team now has a chance to take on the Midshipmen on its home mat. State (6-6) faces Navy (7-5) Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Reynolds Coliseum. The match is the second of a five-match homestand for the Wolfpack. Last week, State defeated James Madison 34-13. Navy, however, poses an

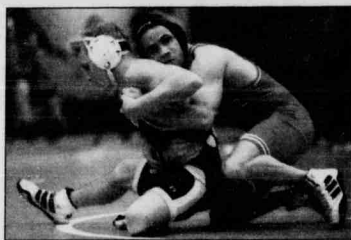
entirely different challenge for the defending ACC champions.

"We're coming off a nice win for us, and we're kind of improving," said coach Bob Guzzo. "We're still having trouble getting the exact lineup we want in there due to sickness and injury and so forth."

WHAT: WRESTLING
VS. NAVY
WHEN: SATURDAY, 7:30 P.M.
WHERE: REYNOLDS COLISEUM

this week. Navy is a strong team; they're always very strong, so we're looking for a strong effort from our kids." Mark Conley, a Navy senior, has a 32-2 record and is ranked third nationally in the 141-pound weight class. At heavy-weight, junior Steve Kovach is 26-5, but he is coming off a narrow 2-1 loss to Kevin Hoy of Air Force.

"It's going to be real competitive, the whole thing," said Guzzo. "We looked over the weight classes; they have a nationally ranked kid at 141, Conley, but they're always a very strong team. They always have a lot of depth; being at the Academy, they have a lot of people on their team. They're always formidable



The wrestling team is coming off a 34-13 win over JMU.

through their whole lineup. We just have to compete hard." State will again be without the services of Pierre Pryor, who is sitting out with an

injury. Leading the team into this match will be Dustin Kawa (14-6) at 174 pounds and Ngozi Collins (13-6) at

See WRESTLE, Page 7

Tech downs State

◆ N.C. State lost to Georgia Tech 69-57 and will host North Carolina Sunday at 2 p.m.

Sports Staff Report

ATLANTA — Georgia Tech closed its game against N.C. State Thursday night with a 16-3 run to pick up a 69-57 win at Alexander Memorial Coliseum.

The Wolfpack had won three in a row against the Yellow Jackets, who placed four players in double figures. State (11-11, 5-6 ACC) has now lost five of its last seven games.

Sophomore Kaayla Chones topped the Pack in scoring with 13 points and grabbed eight rebounds. Sophomore Nanna Rivers was the only other State player to reach double figures, adding 10 points on 5-of-9 shooting.

Milli Martinez picked up a double-double for the Jackets, scoring 16 points and hauling in 10 rebounds. Martinez got most of her points at the free-throw line, knocking down 12-of-17 shots from the charity stripe.

"Milli really stepped up tonight," said Tech head coach Agnus Berenato. "You always need your seniors to come up big for you, and I think Milli did that tonight."

Sonja Mallory matched Martinez's point total with 16 points of her own.

The Yellow Jackets (14-8, 7-5 ACC) led most of the first half, building the lead as high as 26-17 with 3:16 before the break. A jumper by State's Amelia Labador, however, cut the lead to 29-

See WOMEN, Page 7

	1	2	Final
N.C. State	25	32	57
Georgia Tech	29	40	69

Statistical Leaders

N.C. State		
Points	Chones	13
Rebounds	Chones	8
Assists	Rivers/Bell	4

Georgia Tech		
Points	Mallory/Martinez	16
Rebounds	Martinez	10
Assists	Martinez	5

Player of the Game

Milli Martinez sank 12-of-17 free throws and posted a double-double for Georgia Tech.



The women's basketball team hosts rival UNC Sunday at 2 p.m.

Pack rolls into FSU

◆ The N.C. State men's basketball team tries to get closer to an NCAA bid against Florida State.

Justin Sellers
Senior Staff Writer

N.C. State's postseason aspirations haven't looked this good in a while.

At the beginning of the season, the Wolfpack's ability to contend was in doubt, as it placed seventh in the pre-season conference poll. Despite the low expectations, State currently sits in sole possession of fourth place in the ACC with only one loss more than third-place Wake Forest.

The Pack (17-6, 6-4 ACC) will try to keep its push toward the upper tier of the conference going Sunday at 1 p.m. in Tallahassee, Fla., when it takes on Florida State.

"I wish we were number one, but we're just going to keep playing and working hard every day and continue doing what we're doing," said sophomore Scooter Sherrill.

On Wednesday night, the Pack

faced No. 10 Virginia at the Entertainment and Sports Arena without Julius Hodge, who was serving an ACC-mandated suspension.

Even without its top freshman, State dismantled the Cavaliers 85-68. With the win, the Pack made it a clean sweep of the Virginia for the first time since 1988.

The Pack got another big performance from senior Anthony Grundy, who finished the night with 25 points. Grundy has now scored 20 or more points in six of the last seven games.

Sherrill and sophomore Marcus Melvin also picked up their production in Hodge's absence. Sherrill scored almost at will, pouring in a career-high 20 points in just 21 minutes on the court.

Meanwhile, Melvin, who was getting his first start since Jan. 13, had one of his most productive games in weeks with a perfect 4-for-4 shooting from behind the arc, scoring 16 points.

"They did a great job," said Grundy. "Those guys do a great job of working hard in practice and just



Anthony Grundy (2) scored a team-high 25 points against Virginia.

staying at it. We've been missing Marcus for a while and it was great to see him play like that again and hopefully he can keep it up. We need those guys to play like that when Julius is here."

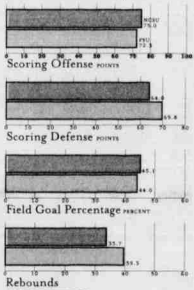
With Hodge returning to the lineup Sunday, State is hoping to get continued production out of Sherrill and Melvin.

"With him coming back, we just need to maintain the level of consistency," said Grundy. "We're glad to have Julius back, and we're going to go on from there."

The Seminoles (10-10, 3-6), a team that has also shown much improvement over last year, have their own claim to fame. Managing to contain No. 1 Duke's shooters while staying hot itself, FSU slayed the Blue Devils 77-76 back on Jan. 6, giving Duke its only loss this season.

Since then, however, the Seminoles have struggled, losing four in a row

N.C. State vs. Florida State men's basketball Sunday, 1 p.m. **TV** FSU Tallahassee, Fla. **PLACE** Jefferson Pilot vs. N.C. State leads 16-14, 1st half.



See FSU, Page 7



Josh Powell (33) and the Pack go for the season sweep against FSU.

Track splits for weekend

◆ The indoor track teams head to Virginia Tech and North Carolina in preparation for the ACCs.

Todd Lion
Senior Staff Writer

With only one meet remaining until the ACC Championships, the N.C. State indoor track and field teams are starting to wrap up their season. This weekend, the Wolfpack will split its athletes between meets at Virginia Tech and North Carolina with each athlete competing at the most beneficial location for his or her needs.

State's jumpers and throwers will remain in North Carolina to get a better feel for the runways and throwing surfaces at Carolina's track, where the ACC finals will be held; the sprinters and distance runners will be traveling to Tech to hopefully run faster times.

Chris Dugan, who received ACC Performer of the Week accolades last week for his NCAA provisional qualifying time in the 3,000-meter run, will be staying at home along with the rest of the men's distance squad.

WHAT: INDOOR TRACK AT UNC
WHEN: THIS WEEKEND
WHERE: CHAPEL HILL; BLACKSBURG, VA.

The women's distance team will be sending several runners to Tech in an attempt to run some provisional times in the 3,000. Katie Sabino, Kristin Price, Megan Coombs and Amy Beykrich will be shooting for a time of at least 9:37.2 in that race.

Beth Fonner, Beth Kraft and Josiane

See TRACK, Page 7

Pack hosts West Virginia

◆ The men's tennis team hopes the homecourt advantage will help it prevail vs. West Virginia.

Memie Ezike
Staff Writer

For the second consecutive match, the N.C. State men's tennis team will serve as the first opponent for another team this season. The West Virginia Mountaineers are scheduled to begin their season against the Wolfpack at 10 a.m. on Sunday at the Wolfpack Tennis Complex. If the weather is bad, the match will be played at UNC-Greensboro's indoor courts.

In the Pack's last match Saturday, the 31st-ranked South Carolina Gamecocks started their season by sweeping State 7-0. Freshman R.J. Murray was the only member of the

Pack to win a set, taking the first set from USC's Ben Atkinson 7-5 at the No. 6 singles spot. Atkinson went on to win the match 5-7, 6-1, 6-2.

WHAT: M. TENNIS VS. W. VIRGINIA
WHEN: SUNDAY, 10 A.M.
WHERE: TENNIS COMPLEX

"I was impressed with the improvement I saw in the team against South Carolina," Hayes said. "We had five to six matches that we could have won but fell short."

Hayes, however, is still not satisfied with his team's total performance this year. He sees some good and bad traits

See TENNIS, Page 7



The indoor track team tunes up for ACCs this weekend.