

Thursday
February 14, 2002

TECHNICIAN

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

Today	
Hi	49
Lo	24
Tomorrow	
Hi	59
Lo	38

Biotechnology research in RTP is focus of one 'Emerging Issues' topic

◆ The two-day, 17th Annual Emerging Issues Forum featured approximately 10 meeting topics and several more acclaimed guest speakers.

Phillip Brenneis
Staff Reporter

On Tuesday, during a gathering of the governor's panel on biotechnology and new economic opportunities for North Carolina, government officials and business leaders outlined various points of concern for the future of the Research Triangle area in biotechnology research and research in general.

The meeting was part of the 17th Annual Emerging Issues Forum held at the Jane S. McKinnon Center on Monday and Tuesday.

The forum, entitled "Biotechnology and Humanity at the Crossroads of a New Era," focused on various issues in biotechnology, including bio-terrorism, stem cell research, cloning, gene therapy and genetically engineered crops, such as recent advancements and the social, ethical and legal ramifications of each.

Moderator for the governor's panel meeting was Gov. Mike Easley. Other speakers at the meeting included James Mullen, president and CEO of Biogen Inc.; Max Wallace, president and CEO of Cogent Neuroscience; Ken Tindall,

senior vice president of North Carolina Biotechnology Center; Jim Fain, North Carolina secretary of commerce; and Larry Mahan, who spoke in place of Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, lieutenant governor of Maryland, who was unable to attend.

Easley set the tone of the meeting with his early remarks, saying, "It's no secret that biotechnology will be a great economic engine of the twenty-first century."

Easley then outlined three basic goals for North Carolina to begin to harvest the energy of this engine.

His first suggestion, met with immediate applause from the audience, was to invest in science and math education, not only at the collegiate level, but at the high school, elementary school and middle school level as well.

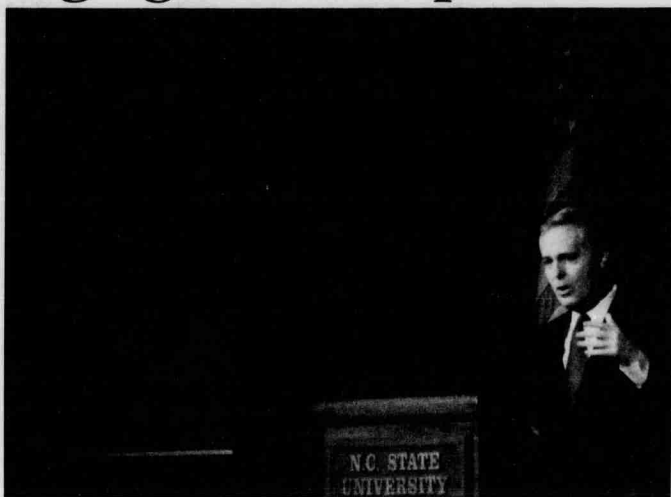
In addition to education, he said the state should invest in both attracting and retaining talented teachers.

Lastly, he said that the state should "work more closely with industry to make sure the schools are turning out the product they need."

This last point was brought up several times by various speakers at the event.

The cooperative attitude between the public and private sector was seen as a great asset to the state, which might help offset some of the area's short

See BIOTECH, Page 3



Gov. Mike Easley spoke at the Emerging Issues Forum Tuesday night.

EVAN BOOTH/STAFF

Sisterhood Dinner celebrates N.C. State women



MATT HUFFMAN/STAFF

Jevonda Greer, a student pursuing a Master's Degree in Liberal Arts, plays the violin at the Sisterhood Dinner on Tuesday night. She played music before the dinner began and also played a few selections during the show.

◆ The theme of this year's dinner was "Moving Forward in the Community of Women."

Lauren Deere
Senior Staff Reporter

In continuing efforts to increase the development of women on campus, the Council on the Status of Women hosted the 21st Annual Sisterhood Dinner in the Talley Student Center Ballroom on Tuesday evening.

The purpose of the dinner was "to celebrate the accomplishment of women at N.C. State," said Tia Marie Doxey, a residence life coordinator for University Housing and co-chair of the dinner. "We don't get the opportunity much to showcase women on campus."

The theme of this year's dinner was "Moving Forward in the Community of Women." Students, staff and faculty of both genders and all races attended the event, which heightened the awareness of female achievements.

"I think it's important for us to come together to recognize women in the university and society in general," said Turqueya Williams, a junior in communications.

"I came last year. I made it a point to come this year," Williams added. "It's a wonderful experience."

The Council on the Status of Women's statement of philosophy is to advocate leadership, opportunity and equity for women and facilitate the means to achieve change for women

and all people at NCSU.

The dinner, formerly known as the Susan B. Anthony Dinner, provided women with this opportunity. The name was changed in order to be inclusive.

"I believe in supporting women, in sticking together," said Nina Allen, a professor of botany. "I've come for a number of years. I've been active in supporting women in academia for a long time. As a scientist, it was hard when I started out."

This year's dinner had a twist, according to Doxey. Instead of usually having just one speaker, they worked to incorporate the theme through music, literature and art.

Becky Stone, a storyteller, was part of the evening's entertainment. Residing in Fairview, N.C., Stone has shared her storytelling in libraries, schools, camps, music festivals and universities across the state.

Noting Stone's flair for the dramatic, Kristina Fowler, mistress of ceremonies and co-chair of the event, said, "I don't think we've ever laughed so hard at a sisterhood dinner!"

In addition to Stone, Ladies in Red performed and Jevonda Greer, a master's student in liberal studies, played the violin.

At the dinner the Council on the Status of Women Student Media Contest recognized the winners. Submissions winning in the literary competition were poetry, and in the design competition a piece of photog-

See SISTERHOOD, Page 3

Valentine's Day

Renee Margonis, a junior in political science, (bottom photo, left) picks out the perfect roses for her roommates. Danielle Lee (bottom photo, right) and Elizabeth Lockamy (top photo), both members of the Biochemistry Club, sold roses in front of the Free Expression Tunnel for Valentine's Day.



ALL PHOTOS BY JASON VESTER/STAFF



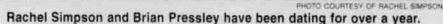
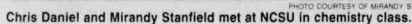
◆ Interviews with students prove that couples sometimes do not share the same Valentine's Day expectations.

Men and women are not always alike, especially when it comes to Valentine's

The following interviews are with N.C. State couples who demonstrate the adversity hidden within love.

She said, "Shemar Moore."

He said, "I am not going to Florida to swim."



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PPD DEVELOPMENT

BIOTECH

Continued from Page 1

fallings when compared to other areas of the country, such as infrastructure.

Biogen CEO James Mullin recommended a "serious benchmarking project to compare North Carolina to other successful regions."

He said the Research Triangle area may be becoming "a victim of its own success" and called for a rebirth of the innovative attitude that started the park in the first place.

"The race to the starting line is over. We have what we need to go off in new and different directions," said Max Wallace of Cogent Neuroscience.

He recommended that leaders identify the experts who could take the area into the future and allow them the leeway to innovate. He said that people must face the fact that such innovators may have untraditional ways of thinking or acting.

Several of the speakers also alluded to the need for North Carolina's universities to think in multidisciplinary terms, melding the areas of information technology, biotechnology and many others.

Another common point was the importance of location. The speakers mentioned that the proximity of a research park to an airport or quality schools may have as much to do with its failure or success as anything else.

Townsend, in her prepared remarks, stated, "Biotechnology came to Maryland in part because that's where the biotechnology assets were. We literally surrounded Washington.

"Today there are 45 federal laboratories in Maryland. The National Institute of Health is in Maryland. So too are the FDA, the USDA Agriculture Research Center and the National Institute of Standards and Technology." Townsend added, "Our proximity to these strategic assets is one reason Maryland receives almost 20 percent of all federal research and development contracts every year."

This meeting was just one of several during a two-day forum. Other meeting topics included the national perspective on biotechnology, the history of the science, DNA, the human genome, genetically modified organisms, gene therapy and cloning, among others.

These issues were explored through a series of speakers and workshops led by people at the forefront of the industry, such as Tommy Thompson, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services; Craig Venter, founder and scientific adviser of Celera Genomics; Arthur Caplan, director of the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania, who will coordinate a United Nations conference on cloning later this month; and Michael Rodemeyer, executive director of the Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology.

SISTERHOOD

Continued from Page 1

raphy won.

Eight of the university's colleges sponsored the evening and invited their own students to go at the cost of the college. Many deans were also among the attendees at the sold-out event.

Daniel Solomon, dean of the College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences, and a number of his colleagues were present at the dinner in the hopes that low numbers of females enrolled in the college of PAMS will change for the better. "We support their principles," said Solomon.

Thirty students attended the 3rd Annual Sisterhood Luncheon, which was also held on Tuesday.

"Many of the female students were able to talk about their concerns about being female at State," said Doxey.

"The lunch was a venue with a range of students, from freshmen to seniors, voicing concerns," said Doxey. "They're feeling faculty is treating them like less. This sent a message to us that students need to be heard."

With the day's events bringing them together, the main goal was met.

"The hard work paid off," said Doxey. "I hope people left with the spirit: I am woman, I am proud."

Bush Says He's Keeping Options Open on Iraq

Alan Sipress

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Bush said Wednesday he remained open to working with other countries in pressing Iraq to drop its pursuit of weapons of mass destruction but added that the United States is willing to take whatever action is required to address the Iraqi threat.

"Make no mistake about it. If we need to, we will take necessary action to defend the American people," Bush said in response to reporters' questions. "And I think that statement was clear enough for Iraq to hear me, and I will reserve whatever options I have. I'll keep them close to my vest. ... (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein needs to understand I'm serious about defending our country."

His comments, made during a news conference with visiting Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf, came at a time when speculation is running high that the Bush administration is stepping up efforts to topple the Iraqi president. Top administration officials have stressed in recent days that they advocate Hussein's ouster but have stopped short of detailing how this would be achieved.

Hitting a theme first struck during his State of the Union address two weeks ago, Bush spoke of the danger posed by the combination of terrorism and anti-American countries bent on developing nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. He has counted not only Iraq but Iran and North Korea in this "axis of evil."

"I think one of the worst things that could happen in the world is terrorist organizations mating up with nations which have had a bad history and nations which develop weapons of mass destruction," he said. "It would be devastating for those of us who fight for freedom. And

therefore, we, the free world ... must make it clear to these nations they've got a choice to make. And I'll keep all options available if they don't make the choice."

One of the leading administration hawks on Iraq, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, appeared on Capitol Hill Wednesday but offered little insight into whether senior officials were moving closer to launching any military strike against Baghdad.

"There's a bit too much loose talk on the subject, and I don't want to add any embellishments of my own," he told the Senate Budget Committee while testifying about the Pentagon's annual spending request.

He sought to dispel the conclusion, which he said has been expressed by some U.S. allies, that Bush has already settled on a policy for addressing Iraq, Iran and North Korea.

"I think it's an opportunity for debate," Wolfowitz said. "I don't think he meant at all that because they share those common characteristics that therefore you have the same policy for all three of them. I don't think he has drawn conclusions on any of them about exactly what to do."

He added, "But I think we would all agree that countries that are hostile to us and that are developing weapons capable of killing hundreds of thousands of people are a serious problem, and that it seemed a bit theoretical before September 11th ... it's not theoretical at all any more, and I think that's the important point."

Secretary of State Colin Powell, making his fourth appearance on Capitol Hill in two weeks to testify about the State Department budget, repeated his recent remarks that U.S. policymakers have long wanted to see Hussein's ouster. Powell also emphasized that the administration continues to seek U.N.



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agreement on new "smart sanctions," meant to ease restrictions on Iraqi imports of civilian goods while tightening up on money and equipment bound for Hussein's military.

Powell, addressing a House Appropriations subcommittee, made clear that Bush's description of an "axis of evil" was not meant to paint entire populations

as enemies of the United States. "He wasn't talking about people who are evil; he was talking about regimes who are evil or do evil things. And I think he spoke with clearheadedness and a realistic point of view. It doesn't mean anybody is declaring a war on these states tomorrow. But we call them the way they are," Powell said.

Recycle me.

The History of Valentine's Day

Senior Staff Writer **Rachael Rogers**

Today is the day that gets two reactions on the opposite ends of the scale: love and hate.



Couples around the world pay homage to this holiday and sometimes tend to overexaggerate the day.

On the other hand, this is the day that singles like to pretend isn't happening as they roll out of bed too late and remind themselves of their deplorable state.

Despite these two reactions, this is a widely popular holiday, especially in the United States. Try walking in a store without being smacked in the face with various shades of red and pink. The whole store is taken over by candies, cards and hearts. But why?

Valentine's Day, despite appearances, is not a holiday created out of thin air for the sole benefit of the commercial-driven world that we live in. It, like other holidays, has its origins, which have become a bit murky and forgotten over the years.

On Valentine's Day, people celebrate love and relationships ... but why?

There are various explanations about the origins of this holiday. Many people attribute the day to the Romans; others hold saints of the early Christian church accountable; and still some believe in the old English belief that birds choose their mates on Feb. 14.

During the third century B.C. there was a pagan tradition that took place in Rome. The Feast of Lupercus was a celebration that was practiced to ensure the safety of the Romans.

Hungry wolves roamed outside of Rome where the shepherds kept their sheep. The god Lupercus kept watch over the shepherds and their flock. On Feb. 15, the Romans celebrated with a feast called Lupercalia in honor of Lupercus.

At this feast the names of young women were put in a box and then the young Roman men would take turns drawing a name. Whomever they drew would be their partner for the next year.

The young women would also allow the men to hit them with strips of animal hide in order to strengthen their fertility.

Long after the wolves tried of Rome, this celebration continued but instead honored the goddess Juno Februata. As Christianity became prevalent in society, priests wanted to replace the pagan traditions. They named the holiday St. Valentine's Day and substituted drawing women's names with drawing the names of saints.

The person would have to try to emulate the life

of the saint that he drew for a whole year. This idea was extremely unpopular, and by the 14th century girls' names were used once again.

Another possible origin of Valentine's Day actually involves a priest named Valentine. There were several men who had this name, and each man was honored with a feast on Feb. 14.

One of these Valentines was a priest under Emperor Claudius. The Roman Empire was beginning to see its downfall, and Claudius attempted to recruit young men as soldiers to fight in wars.

His recruitment was extremely unsuccessful because these men did not want to leave their wives and sweethearts to fight in foreign lands. This problem infuriated Claudius and drove him to ban all marriages.

Valentine did not approve of Claudius's decision and began to secretly marry couples. When Claudius found out, he imprisoned Valentine, who eventually died in jail.

Another story involving Valentine is that while he was jailed, he cured a jailer's daughter from blindness and the two fell in love. Valentine was sentenced to death and shortly before being beheaded, he wrote the jailer's daughter a letter signed "From your Valentine," which has now become a popular phrase in our own culture.

Valentine was beheaded on Feb. 14, 269 A.D. In 496 A.D.

continued on page 5



its opening track. Laid-back acoustic guitar over down-tempo vocals.

8. Dr. Octagon, "Girl Let Me Touch You There." One of hip-hop's most innovative artists still knows how to be a pimp. This track from "Dr. Octagonecology" is the only track that might fall into the vein of sexy tracks, but it does so in good form. What can you say, really? It seems that Octagon (i.e. Kool Keith) will never lose his way with the ladies.

7. Prince, "Kiss." How can we forget Prince, or the artist formerly known as Prince? A Valentine's Day celebration without Prince is like a normal person's Valentine's Day. You know

6. Nine Inch Nails, "Closer." This one goes out to the Goth kids. You know who you are; you're reading this article thinking "Prince ... typical. Where's the Bauhaus and Ozzy?" So if your Valentine's Day consists of sitting in a painted black room lit with red candles, face painted white, eyes black, black leather studded dog collar and a ritualistic sacrifice kit, then it looks like this track is for you.

5. D'Angelo, "Untitled (How Does It Feel?)." This guy has probably had more sex than any body else in the world, including porn stars. If you haven't seen the video, it's practically soft-core porn. A camera zooms in and out of his naked body, coming too close to comfort on some shots. This is definitely a song for the pimp in us all.

4. Barry White, "I'm Gonna Love You Just a Little Bit More, Baby." You've seen "High Fidelity." Remember that scene when John Cusack's character, Rob, pictures his ex-girlfriend getting down with Tim Robbins, in his most shameful role ever? This song is playing in the background. Of course, you can pretty much depend on anything in White's catalog for Valentine's Day, since his baritone voice gives a low rumble that we can all groove to. This guy's voice is why subwoofers were created.

3. Mouse on Mars, "Vulvaland." This is actually an album, but it's pretty much the soundtrack to sex. If the album didn't say enough, the pounding bass beats in the background rocking your bed will convince you. The cover features a sexy silhouette of a girl that probably just got off the set of a James Bond movie. It's almost blasphemous to do anything other than have sex to this album.

continued on page 5

Five Best Last-Minute Valentine's Dinner Options

Staff Writer **Brian Schuch**

Valentine's Day is here again. Do you have your dinner reservations? If not, it's getting a bit late, for most of Raleigh's romantic spots were booked full on Tuesday, if not earlier. A quick glance at Citysearch.com's top 10 list shows that the only one you'd be able to get into at this point would be McDonald's. As romantic as Mickey D's isn't, I've racked my brain to come up with five top no-reservations required, yet romantic, restaurants for all you slackers out there.

Coming in at No. 5 is any chain restaurant. I had to address them and their influence

favorite one. Some of you are thinking how could I put these on my list? It's simple; they've got location going for them. Two Guys and Brothers are within walking distance from campus and Amedeo's is just a skip down Western Boulevard. They've all got decent food and atmosphere.

Their drawback is that they're Two Guys, Brothers and Amedeo's. You can eat there all the time, anytime. Plus your lack of forethought and planning on this special day would glare through like an angry zit on a high-school freshman. Better get her (or him) something really special to go along with dinner at one of these places.

The runner up on my list is Sushi Blues. Located downtown off Glenwood, Sushi Blues is one of the top sushi places I've been to. It has a wide section of sushi and is very reasonably priced. They also serve several other Japanese dishes if you're not a fan of seaweed. The atmosphere is very soothing, as pictures of Blues and Jazz heroes adorn the

walls and their music fills the air. While the blues doesn't scream romance, they don't prevent you from feeling close to your loved one.

Sushi Blues is a wonderful place to take a date. If it weren't for its one drawback it'd be on the top of the list. This drawback is the wait you are sure to experience. In a crunch you're saved, for they don't take reservations, but on the flip side they also tend to develop quite a wait. If you decide on Sushi Blues, remember to get there well before you want to eat, as they tend to be crowded. But then again, you waited this long to decide on a place, I guess you wouldn't mind waiting a little longer. Would you?

The top spot goes to Royal India on Capital Boulevard. If you've never had Indian, you're in for a treat. My Indian friends rate this as one of the best Indian restaurants in Raleigh, and they've got excellent taste. I've never been to an Indian restaurant for dinner and found it to be crowded; they tend to do most of their business during lunch, so you'll almost be guaranteed to get a table.

The atmosphere of Royal India goes perfectly for this holiday. Royal Indian is very red. The carpet and tablecloths are red and are highlighted by red lights. Don't forget the romantic Indian music that will be playing in the background.

Royal India's downfall is the spice level. You can order your food with less spice, but if you can't handle spices well, indigestion or heartburn doesn't make for a romantic evening. Royal India gets my vote for best last-minute romantic restaurant, but only if you can handle the spice.

Love Sonnet

The Mad Sonneteer **Brian Schuch**

Oft to my one and only truest love,
Whose elegance and grace is matched by none.
You are the angel I am dreaming of,
The fairest beauty that's beneath the sun.

I'd weep away all my remaining days,
Were it to be that my beloved dear,
Would be forever hidden from my gaze.
And soon my grief should turn from woe to fear.

For life is lost without my precious
A sparkling splendor, told of ancient lore.
From which all happiness and joy do stem,
From you, the only one whom I adore.
I'd like to say there's none who could be dearer
But I should cease from talking to the mirror



this is more of a starter track. You probably know this guy's voice from the Volkswagen commercials, where they feature his song "Pink Moon." His first album, "Five Leaves Left," is probably one of the greatest albums ever, and it features this song as

this song, "Ain't no particular sign I'm more compatible with, I just want your extra time and your ... [rising guitar with flanger and wah effects] kiss!" So when you sit down to that dinner at home with your other, crank this one right around dessert time.


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* continued from page 4

Pope Gelasius declared the day in honor of St. Valentine. The holiday became a time to exchange love messages, and St. Valentine became the patron saint of love and marriage.

One last story involving this man says that he made friends with many children around Rome; it became known that he was an early Christian and his influence was not welcome.

He was arrested and told to worship the Roman gods, but Valentine refused. He was thrown in jail. The children he had befriended began to miss him and started to throw loving notes between the bars of his cell window.

Not every possible origin for Valentine's Day is attributed to the Romans or to this Valentine character. Early English records of Valentine's Day say that birds chose mates on this day.

Before 1582, people used a different calendar, and Feb. 14 came on what is now Feb. 24. This was the day that birds chose a mate. This old English belief is not only expressed in these records; it is also expressed in literature.

Geoffrey Chaucer mentions this belief in *The Parliament of Fowls*. In this work Chaucer says, "For this was St. Valentine's Day, When every fowl cometh there to choose his mate."

William Shakespeare also makes use of this belief in *"A Midsummer Night's Dream"*.

A character comes across two lovers in the woods and says, "St. Valentine's is past; Begin these wood birds but to couple now?" So, it is possible that Valentine's is celebrated thanks to some birds' mating habits.

These origins are small tales that all probably contain bits and pieces of truth. Now you'll know whom you are grateful to or whom you wish you could have a word or two with.

Valentine's Day is a celebration of love, but it's cool to know why we have chosen to designate a day for such a special reason.

* continued from page 4

2. Beck, "Debra (I Wanna Get With you, and Your Sister)." Possibly the most brilliant song about hooking up that's ever been written, this song accurately portrays how low-income quasi-pimps pick up girls. To quote Beck, "I met you at JC Penney, I think your nametag said 'Jenny.' I cold-step to you, with a fresh pack of gum, somehow I knew you were lookin' for some ... cos when our eyes did meet girl you know I was packin' heat." This plays over a bumping bass line. Enough said.

1. Marvin Gaye, "Let's Get It On." Face it, you knew this was going to be up here. Hell, I knew this was going to be up here before I got the assignment. Why? Because it's classic, that's why. Denying this song from a list of Valentine's Day tracks is like going to the Waffle House at one in the morning and ordering a salad. It just doesn't make sense. So crank this one over and over and over again. In fact, play the whole album, and when that's done, put "What's Going On" into your CD player.

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Some like Valentine's Day, some do not. There is one thing Mother Earth would love for you to do.
 Don't do the planet like Homer Simpson does "Sir Hugs-a-Lot," please recycle this newspaper.

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

"Axis of evil" backfiring

PRESIDENT BUSH'S NAMING OF IRAQ, IRAN, AND NORTH KOREA AS PART OF AN "AXIS OF EVIL" WAS UNNECESSARY AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

In support of President Bush's identification of Iran, Iraq and North Korea as part of an "axis of evil" in his State of the Union Address, Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska said, "I think we are better off as Teddy Roosevelt once said, to speak softly and carry a big stick." Now it seems that political big stick was swung around full circle and is coming back to punish us.

What was meant as soft propaganda to reassure the American people that the U.S. government is doing all it can in the war on terrorism has turned out to be a unifying force against our intended causes. The Bush administration has said that it singled out these countries for their regime's seeking of weapons of mass destruction and possible participation in terrorist activities. The comment was directed toward the extremists in the totalitarian governments of these countries, but it has panned out as a unilateral affront to all people in these nations.

Hundreds of thousands of Iranians rallied in the streets behind a "Death to America" chant Monday as they celebrated the 23rd anniversary of the Islamic Revolution. Bush accused Iran's government of exporting terror "while an unrelenting few repress the Iranian's hope for freedom." However, as the New York Times pointed out, Iranian President Mohammad Khatami, previously fighting for a reformist agenda, has experienced a significant resurgence of respect against reform as the "We hate America" mentality has failed to dominate the public psyche in Iran. "Any time

we face international problems, democracy stops," Ali Reza Haghighi, a political science professor, told the Times.

In Iraq, President Saddam Hussein has said the labeling of Iraq as "evil" proves that the United States sees Muslims and Arabs as evil. This, of course, is ridiculous to us in America, home of the free and freedom of the press, but in these totalitarian regimes we seek to disassemble, these words only fuel the anti-American fire. Even Iran and Iraq, who were at war with each other for most of the 1980s, have voiced support for each other in the event of attacks from the United States.

Although Senate Majority leader Tom Daschle has stood closely by Bush's side on many issues recently, he has voiced his disapproval of Bush's "axis" comment. It is important to note, however, that Daschle's criticism did not surface until recently, along with the rise in anti-American sentiments as a result of Bush's words.

Bush's State of the Union Address was a textbook example of metaphoric and archetypal rhetoric. The comment that was supposed to make Americans feel better — actually has caused our so-called enemies to feel worse initially, and now better, as they are uniting under a common cause — against us.

Hindsight never fails, of course, but realizing that Bush has since stated there are no plans of military action against this "axis of evil," one wonders what the point of this comment was at all.

Tech connections disconnect

Sara Malkin

(U - W I R E) BOSTON — It was at the beginning of this semester that I realized I was addicted. For years, it had just been recreational use — nothing serious. I would sit down in the evenings in high school. By the time I got to college, though, it was in every dorm room all of the time. I couldn't live myself. I started doing it in the morning, in between classes and sometimes all night.

Going home for break after first semester I started experiencing withdrawal symptoms. My hands shook and fidgeted from inadequate use. I even felt the peculiar, but nagging desire to shake my. I started to prevent a screen saver from coming on.

When I came back to school, the first thing I did was turn on my computer, but the Internet wasn't connecting and the Instant Messenger wouldn't work. I anxiously fumbled with all of my computer settings and made sure that all of the cords were attached correctly, but still no luck.

I felt disconnected. As young adults in 2002, we are more electronically connected to one another than we ever have been before, but we really feel any more connected to other people?

In this fast-paced world it is easy to feel left behind. We are seeking out reminders that we matter. We are preoccupied with warding off empty email boxes and the words, "You have no new messages."

Our away messages plead for attention. Some are witty, some quote song lyrics. All have one point: "Leave a message." That's all we want: a list of the names of people who thought of us while we were in class.

So we leave our cell phone numbers, too, "in case you need me." If this person would contact me in an emergency, let's hope that they already know your number. People aren't concerned that they will have an emergency during the hour they're at class. They're concerned that phones will stop ringing.

What it really comes down to is wanting to feel emotionally connected through an electronic connection, like we're never really out of reach or out of our safety net. We are reaching out for someone to be on the other end of the line at every moment.

But it's gotten out of hand. Cell phones are ringing in the middle of class, and as students are dismissed, they are on their cell phones dialing away. People are always saying, "Call me later," whether or not their lives are truly exciting enough to merit giving you an update in a couple of hours.

I went out to lunch with a friend of mine and she interrupted our conversation to answer her cell phone. When she answered the phone she got a beep from another girl, who almost immediately had to go because she, too, had a beep. With all of that beeping, you're not making real connections with another human being. You're not really talking. You're talking up the number of phone calls as a scorecard for your self-esteem.

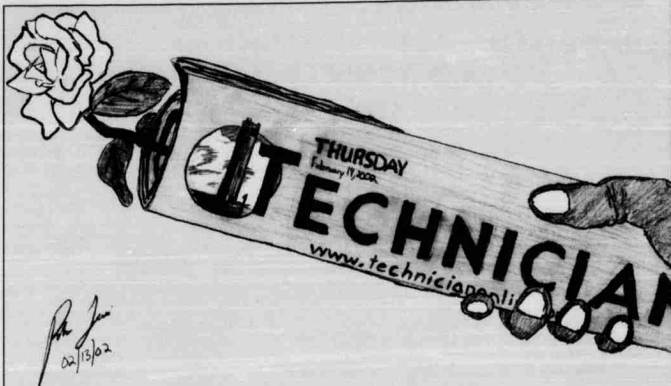
In my middle school, balloons were the thing we had to send from 6th to 8th grade. Girls based their self-esteem on the number of balloons they got on their birthday. A week before their birthday, they would launch a massive public relations campaign to ensure that everyone knew that their birthday was coming and everyone could bring them balloons. Then, like any good politician, the birthday girl promised to return the favor.

Now we don't have balloons to count — we have emails and voicemail messages.

Some people only follow the trends externally. In high school, the trend for guys with baggy, sagging pants was Disemcan. As soon as they got into the halls, they would listen to them for the four minutes in between classes. I always secretly suspected that the tough guys in baggy pants who moved like they were listening to Snoop were secretly listening to Celine Dion, just as I know that those of those students with constantly ringing cell phones are really getting a few calls a day from their mothers.

Maybe we need that. Maybe in this complex society we still need to call from our mothers to feel safe. Maybe our inner 12-year-old needs a ringing cell phone to feel cool on the outside when we're dancing to Celine Dion on the inside.

Unless we are emergency personnel, we don't really need cell phones and pagers. We don't need to be available for contact 24 hours a day. We just want to be.



Give the gift that keeps on giving. Read Technician.

Olympic games

Robert Jallail

STAFF COLUMNIST

politics differentiate the modern Olympics of late from those at the beginning of the century and certainly from the original, ancient Games. Die-hard notions of what the Games mean draw from the ancient reputation, but that romantic reality falls short from such romantic ideals.

The modern revival of the Olympics can largely be credited to Frenchman Baron Pierre de Coubertin. De Coubertin was an exceptional admirer of the ancient Games for the key role they played in the Greek "Golden Age." He described the modern games as "an event at which representatives of all countries and all sports would be invited under the aegis of the same authority, which would impart to them a halo of grandeur and glory, that is the patronage of classical antiquity. To do this was to revive the Olympic Games, the name imposed itself; it was not even possible to find another."

Changing times, though, have caused recent games to garner far less than "the patronage of classical antiquity." In fact, expectations of grandeur and glory have been replaced by the mundane. Many today want appear a bit unreasonable. A significant component and, thus, a significant draw of the ancient games was the celebration of common mythical gods among the peoples of the ancient city-states. Mythology was

also woven into the fabric of the ancient games in that ancient Greeks were quite prone to elevate exceptional athletes to legendary status. Athleticism prompted Homeric poems and the development of a strong Greek culture.

It's fairly obvious that the modern Games have not lasted on the same principles De Coubertin trumpeted. More than anything else, world politics have supported the modern Games through the last century. The modern Games were fostered under Roosevelt-era imperialism, World's Fairs and the roaring twenties. Post-World War I internationalism carried the Games to unprecedented popularity, while the unrivaled politicizing of the 1936 Games in Berlin foreshadowed political divisions that would appear in World War II.

As the Cold War set in, the Games often served as a staging area for a war that never materialized outside of the Games. Boycotts plagued the Games from the end of WWII until the end of the Cold War. During this time countries adopted the view that participation in the Games represented a certain level of cooperation and understanding. Thus, participation was closely tied to political climate. Gamesmanship, athleticism and purity were always ancillary concerns.

The post-Soviet Union Games, though, are far less associated with global political gamesmanship. Nations have simply accepted the idea that it is OK for political rivals to compete in the same Games. However, this also means that the recent Games are lacking in their ability to rally spectators. In addition, technology and globalization have undermined the venerable reputation the Games once experienced.

The recent Games only have heroes that are little more than 15-minute wonders hyped by television networks. Olympic events, while incredibly varied,

are also terribly obscure (luge, bobsled, curling). As a result, most spectators are befuddled by the strange events and treat them as a novelty more than an epic event. Thus, interest in the Olympic Games pales in many senses when compared to championships in basketball, baseball, football, soccer and hockey, where the rules are as well known as the teams and players.

The significance of the Games has also been markedly reduced by the fact that professionally, a win at the Olympics is oftentimes hardly better than one at an annual tournament or world championship. The determining of the best athletes in the world simply does not happen at the Olympics.

The last big plus in favor of the modern conceptualization of the Olympics was that it achieved the extraordinary task of bringing the nations together. The prospect of global interaction and unity isn't so attractive today, as it's fairly trivial to learn about and communicate with people from around the world. Additionally, the new growth of global commerce has already instilled the idea that international interactions are pedestrian.

In essence, one can say that the world has matured beyond the Olympic Games. The ideals the Games used to represent are either not relevant to the modern world or have already been accepted by it. Though demonstrably anachronistic, the Games will most likely continue as long as people revere the myths of the Olympic Games (and as long as governments fund it). In this sense, while the Games will hardly achieve epic standards anymore, they may hold on to something that links them to the ancient Games.

When Robert grows up, he wants to be an Olympian in the skeleton. E-mail him your career aspirations at evilbobNCSU@yahoo.com.

Celebrate today with sex

Larisa Yasinovskaya

STAFF COLUMNIST

offer? Why do we want it? We (girls) have been romanticized into waiting for our prince to come riding on his white horse in his shining armor bearing gifts. It seems like there is nothing wrong with waiting this fairy-tale romance — and there isn't. Our desires are our own and for no one to criticize. However, it is not the fantasy that I want to question, but it's the foundation and the reason for this fantasy. If we were to look a little deeper, we would realize that the girl waiting in the tower to be swept off her feet by a prince is nothing more than a paternalistic socialization technique to keep her passive and at bay. And this is used to keep her from actively pursuing her interests and desires, like her "prince" does. Rather, she is just waiting, and this prince "gets" her and actually sweeps her off her feet — meaning takes her. Now I don't have a problem with fairy-tales, but that this mentality still exists bothers me.

I was watching "Politically Incorrect"

a couple of nights ago, as I often do, and as usual, I got pissed off. Of course the very nature of the show is to piss people off, but I feel like I need to share the cause of my anger this time. The topic, seeing as how it's Valentine's week, centered on birth control. Aside from giving women control over their bodies, their reproduction and, ultimately, their lives, it also helps reduce the risks of ovarian cancers and such. Sounds like a winner to me. Now sex can be enjoyed for fun because it's separate from reproduction. Everyone wins.

However, one of the panelists seemed to disagree. She was the former Miss Wisconsin (or something like that) and a motivational speaker. She disputed the benefits of birth control, arguing that this put the responsibility on women and separated sex from love. Aside from being disgusted at her position, I was more enraged that she was a "motivational" speaker, meaning that she advocated such a view.

Obviously, this is ridiculous. Birth control not only gives women more freedom, it also helps to even the field for us. Before birth control girls couldn't go out late, smoke, drink or play sports because they could "get pregnant." Now that's not really a concern. Of course the real liberation of birth control came from women being able to choose their destiny as opposed to being idle bystanders as their husbands impregnated them. (This is not to say that there was no birth control of sorts before; it was just not as accessible.)

What concerns me about the whole thing is that her attitude was still that of

an idle bystander in the whole mating/sex/impregnation process. But the idea that the responsibility falls solely on the woman and that birth control makes her life more difficult is ridiculous. If anything, it allows her to choose whether or not she wants to be responsible (for a baby) and to choose her sexual lifestyle.

I'm talking about this because I see it all the time: Women waiting for the perfect man and allowing themselves to be picked up and chosen while idly watching their future "happen." What I'm advocating to celebrate today is that women fully recognize their power and sexual prowess for what it is and start taking control not only of their sexuality but also their lives.

So have sex (protected sex!). Why? Because you can! Most may say I'm taking it too lightly, not recognizing it for the pure and powerful connection it is between two people who are in love. On the contrary, I do. But I also recognize that sex can be messy and sticky and just fun (again, as long as it's safe), and that that's okay too. It's okay for women to choose this, because now we have that option.

Remember, it is the females who are the choosing; the male peacock is the one with the beautiful feathers. So take the sexual freedom that is yours and go out and find your prince yourself.

Larisa will be having her usual Valentine's Day orgy at her place. E-mail her at larisa.opinion@hotmail.com if you want to join.

TECHNICIAN

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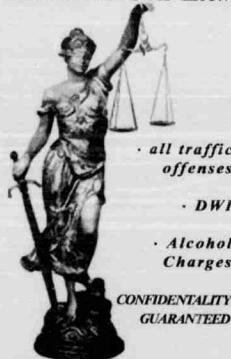
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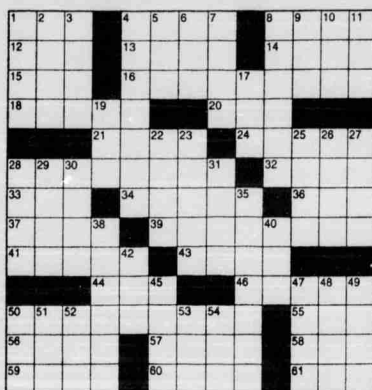


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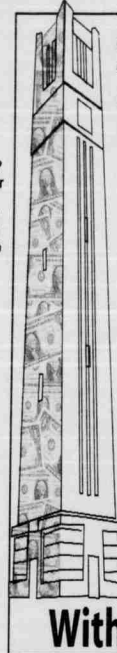
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DOWN
2 Disgrace
3 Teeter-totter quorum
5 Las Etats-
24 Camel's cousin
28 Juries' findings
32 Sch. before jr. high
33 Guidonian high note
34 Calligraphy stroke
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43 Test the waters
44 Approves
46 Bashful or Grumpy
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55 Bear hair
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57 Staffer
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59 Prince, pre-osculation
60 Interpret
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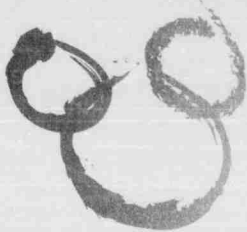
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NC STATE MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

**Happy Valentine's Day
N.C. State**

Women have Valentine's date with Florida State

◆ Florida State visits Reynolds Coliseum tonight in a must-win tilt for the Wolfpack.

Matt Middleton

Senior Staff Writer

When the media who cover ACC women's basketball convened for their annual preseason meeting in late October, discussion centered on, among other things, that N.C. State would have trouble challenging for the league title with its injury problems and that Florida State could be the surprise of the league.

Nearly four months later, that prophecy appears to be only half true. When the Seminoles (13-11, 4-9 ACC) arrive in Raleigh tonight at 7 for a Valentine's Day showdown with the Wolfpack (11-12, 5-7), both teams find themselves in the bottom half of the league and desperate for a league victory.

Coming off a home loss to North Carolina, the Pack is in danger of missing the NCAA Tournament for the first time in seven years.

"Having dropped that game, we really put ourselves in a critical situation," said State head coach Kay Yow.

That critical situation means State must find a way to win three of its remaining four regular season games in order to have a legitimate claim to an at-large NCAA berth.

On paper, the game against the Seminoles appears to be the most winnable of the four remaining contests. FSU hasn't won in Reynolds since 1994, which, coincidentally, was also the last time State missed the NCAA Tournament.

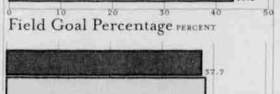
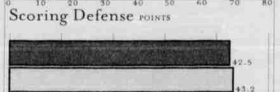
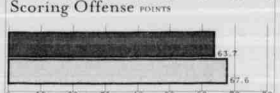
In order to ensure that the home winning streak against FSU continues, the Pack must find a way to pound the ball inside to Kayla Chones and Carisse Moody, as well as improve its ball handling. Aside from a few quality drives and dishes from freshman Rachel Stockdale, the Pack was unable to get Moody and Chones the desired number of touches against the Tar Heels.

"We have to work on having a balanced attack between our inside and our outside [games]; that's something that has been very difficult for us," said Yow.

Yow believes her team has had trouble establishing a consistent chemistry, but, nevertheless, the Pack needs to get soon if it plans on extending its NCAA Tournament streak one more year.

"With people being in and out all year, it's caused us not to be able to find a rhythm or a chemistry that enables us to be consistent," said Yow. "But we're still hopeful we can find it no matter how late in the

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season it is."

A trendy choice in the preseason to once again find their way into the upper half of the league and back in the NCAA Tournament, the Seminoles sunk all the way to the bottom of the conference as recently as a week ago. However, after reeling off two straight ACC wins to improve to 4-9 in the conference, FSU finds itself just two wins out of fourth place and a favorable seed in the upcoming ACC Tournament in Greensboro.

"We're coming off a couple of wins last week, and we're starting to get some more balance back with our basketball team," said Seminoles head coach Sue Semrau.

Lacking a true superstar, the Seminoles have received solid play this year from April Traylor, Tashaika Morris and Shinniki Whiting. Combined, the two averages nearly 60 percent of FSU's points.



AROUND THE ACC

Men's Basketball Standings:

Team	ACC Record	Overall
Duke	10-1	22-1
Maryland	10-1	20-3
N.C. State	7-4	18-6
Wake Forest	7-4	18-7
Virginia	6-5	16-6
Florida State	3-8	10-12
Clemson	3-9	11-14
Georgia Tech	3-9	10-15
North Carolina	2-10	6-16

Individual Statistical leaders:

Points	Player, School	Ppg
1.	Jason Williams, Duke	21.5
2.	Juan Dixon, Maryland	19.4
3.	Roger Mason Jr, Virginia	18.2
4.	Mike Dunleavy, Duke	18.1
5.	Carlos Boozer, Duke	17.7
6.	Darius Songaila, Wake Forest	16.8
7.	Anthony Grundy, N.C. State	16.7
8.	Tony Akins, Georgia Tech	15.9
9.	Lonny Baxter, Maryland	15.2
10.	Josh Howard, Wake Forest	14.9

Rebounds	Player, School	Rpg
1.	Travis Watson, Virginia	10.5
2.	Ray Henderson, Clemson	9.0
3.	Jason Capel, North Carolina	8.9
4.	Carlos Boozer, Duke	8.4
5.	Lonny Baxter, Maryland	8.2
6.	Darius Songaila, Wake Forest	8.1
7.	Josh Howard, Wake Forest	7.8
8.	Chris Wilcox, Maryland	7.5
9.	Mike Dunleavy, Duke	7.0
10.	Ed Nelson, Georgia Tech	6.8

Assists	Player, School	Apq
1.	Steve Blake, Maryland	7.4
2.	Edward Scott, Clemson	7.3
3.	Delvon Arrington, Florida St.	6.5
4.	Chris Duhon, Duke	6.2
5.	Tony Akins, Georgia Tech	5.6
6.	Jason Williams, Duke	5.4
7.	Roger Mason Jr, Virginia	4.5
8.	Anthony Grundy, N.C. State	3.7
9.	Archie Miller, N.C. State	3.3
10.	Brenden Hicks, Wake Forest	3.0

Team Statistical leaders:

Scoring	School	Ppg
1.	Duke	91.1
2.	Maryland	83.5
3.	Wake Forest	81.1
4.	Virginia	81.0
5.	Georgia Tech	76.6
6.	N.C. State	75.0
7.	Clemson	73.7
8.	North Carolina	71.0
9.	Florida St.	71.0

Free Throw Percentage	School	Pct.
1.	N.C. State	.753
2.	Wake Forest	.745
3.	Virginia	.724
4.	Maryland	.687
5.	Georgia Tech	.683
6.	Duke	.682
7.	North Carolina	.674
8.	Florida St.	.647
9.	Clemson	.632

Turnover Margin	School	Margin
1.	Duke	+6.1
2.	N.C. State	+4.1
3.	Maryland	+1.4
4.	Georgia Tech	+0.6
5.	Wake Forest	-0.1
6.	Florida St.	-0.1
7.	Virginia	-0.3
8.	Clemson	-1.8
9.	North Carolina	-3.7

Stats through games played on Feb. 12

DUKE

Continued from Page 10

Devils 86-65.

Since that game the Pack has only won five of 29 matchups with the Devils, a program that has won three national titles while State has struggled nightly.

But all the struggles, the losses, the anguish, all of it seems to be in the past for Herb Sendek and his team. A group led by Grundy and fellow senior Archie Miller and assisted by the instrumental help of three talented freshmen have State playing its best basketball since the 1990-91 season, which was also the last time the Pack made an NCAA Tournament appearance.

Despite its best start since then, the pollsters have just now decided to rank the Pack, but that doesn't concern Sendek. The only thing on his mind is the task ahead — playing the country's best team.

"To be honest, my day doesn't afford me a lot of that opportunity [to pay attention to the polls]," Sendek said. "I come into the office, focus on what's on my desk and our players, and try to get ready for our next game. To some

degree, we're not even aware of what happens outside. We have enough on our plate in terms of preparation to consume all of our energies."

Sendek and his players, coming off a tough 76-67 win at FSU Sunday, have had three days to prepare for a Duke team that seems almost impossible to prepare for.

A month ago, State might have thought it was ready to hang with the Devils when the two teams met at the Entertainment and Sports Arena. For the first 10 minutes, Grundy and Co. played even with Jason Williams, Mike Dunleavy, Carlos Boozer and the rest of Duke before Dunleavy forgot how to miss. The 6-foot-10 junior All-America candidate scored 15 straight on a barrage of 3-pointers to lead a 23-2 Duke run that ended all hopes of a Pack upset.

This time, Sendek at least knows first-hand what the Devils can do when they catch fire.

"It's very difficult when you're defending people as talented as Dunleavy and Williams," the coach said. "It's a little bit like trying to solve a Rubik's Cube; it's not an easy endeavor. You try to take away different parts as best you can, but it's not an easy challenge."

Since that game, Sendek's

team has proven to be a tough challenge as well. Grundy's play has put him in contention for first-team All-ACC honors, and Miller has regained his 3-point shooting accuracy.

"It's so important to have a guy that can stretch the defense like Archie, and he's playing with a lot of confidence right now," Sendek said. "All season long he's given us tremendous leadership on and off the floor, and time and time again he's stepped up at critical points and made big shots for us. But more than that, he's added a calm assurance to our younger guys and a sense of purpose with his look as well as his voice."

Another recent key has been the emergence of sophomore Scooter Sherrill, who is averaging nearly 10 points in ACC play and is coming off two solid performances of 20 and 16 points against UVA and FSU, respectively.

The last game that State participated in when both teams were nationally ranked was Jan. 13, 1990, which marked another key ACC battle. Ninth-ranked Georgia Tech, led by junior Dennis Scott and freshman Kenny Anderson, defeated the 17th-ranked Pack, led by Rodney Monroe and Chris Corchiani, 92-85 in Atlanta.

sprints unless the turns are about as wide as an outdoor track, but you usually don't see tracks built like that."

Times in the 200- and 400-meter dashes will likely suffer on this track, but most other races will see benefits from the Mondo surface.

"The way that the surface is designed really helps out the short sprinters who run only on the straights," said Reese.

Jumpers will also generally see benefits from this surface.

"From what we've seen this season, the runways seem to be pretty quick," said Olson. "The only downside to jumping on Mondo is that it is a pretty hard surface. It seems to be tough on the legs of triple jumpers, but it's pretty good for the other events like long and high jumps and pole vault."

thing else was going to be real tight," said Guzzo. "But all of the matches could have gone either way. Fortunately tonight, we were able to come out on the winning end of it."

With Matt Kenny out due to a broken hand, the Tar Heels opted to go with sophomore Ryan Adams against the likes of senior Ngozi Collins. But unlike his past few matches, Collins was only able to score two points on escapes, while Adams racked up six in his

column to bring Carolina within four with five matches remaining.


"We felt that we had a possibility of doing this if we wrestled well," said Guzzo. "We really felt that we didn't compete the way we really could the last time. Tonight we put it together and showed what we could do. It was an outstanding effort on everybody's part. It was a coach's dream to see these kids put forth that type of effort."

"Katie's chances of winning an ACC title are certainly getting better," said Olson. "She's jumping better than what she is posting in the meets, so she certainly has a shot at winning the title."


Kristen Pace has the second-best high jump mark in the conference and has a good chance to take the title.

Desiree Mittman is not currently ranked in the conference in the triple jump, but Olson sees the possibility of a high finish for her, also.

"One of the problems that Desiree has been having is an astigmatism in one of her eyes," said Olson. "I think that was messing up her depth perception coming to the board, but she has a contact lens now that should help it. She certainly has the athletic ability to be in the top five in the conference."



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INDOOR

Continued from Page 10

indoor tracks in the world.

Carolina's track, unlike that of Arkansas or the Army, is unbanked.

Competition on banked tracks will usually result in faster times, especially for the shorter events, while flat tracks see a time bonus in the NCAA qualifying standards.

"The only real drawback of this track is that it is flat," said State assistant coach Terry Reese. "Because indoor tracks are shorter, the turns are a lot tighter, and that usually slows down sprinters, a whole lot. Most of the time, you won't see really fast times in the

WRESTLING

Continued from Page 10

Pryor, Kawa and senior Jason Gore. With Pryor and Kawa already notching wins, 197-pound Gore entered onto the mat. In a close match, Gore was still able to edge Nick Richmond 10-7, giving State a solid 10-3 lead.

"We felt we had a big edge at 165 and 174 and then every-

TRACK

Continued from Page 10

only the sixth seed in this race."


Price, Beykirch, Fonner, Lauber and Kraft will all take their first runs in the 5,000 this year as well. Sabino will compete in the mile, and Coombs will run the 1,600 leg of the distance medley relay.

Justin Farmer and David Kessler are ranked in the top 10 in the conference in the pole vault, and Eric Hoeverstad is just off the ACC honor roll.

James Rowell, Randy Cass and Ryan Furlough have been consistent performers for State in the weight throw, and all three are in the top 10 in the conference.

Brandon Brown will compete

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Baseball @ The Citadel, 2/15
Gymnastics, Hearts Invit., 2/15, 7
Indoor Track, ACCs, 2/15-16

Devil of a task awaits State

◆ In perhaps its biggest game in a decade, N.C. State, finally ranked in the Top 25, faces the nation's top-ranked team.

Andrew B. Carter
Senior Staff Writer

It was a scene reminiscent of the glory days of N.C. State basketball: two players, sharing in the joy of defeating a highly ranked opponent, grins on their faces from ear to ear as happy fans left their seats to go home.

Heading back to the locker room after the Wolfpack's 15-point win over eighth-ranked Virginia on Feb. 6, Marcus Melvin gave teammate

Anthony Grundy, who had just scored 25 points, a ride on his back as the duo galloped off the floor, giving fans high-fives.

It was ironic in a way that Melvin carried Grundy on his back. After all, it's been Grundy who has carried the Pack on his so many times this season. And tonight at 7 when State (18-6, 7-4 ACC) steps on the floor of Cameron Indoor Stadium, when the Pack tips-off its biggest game in perhaps a decade, it will again be Grundy who is expected to provide his team with that special something that he's given all year.

The Pack will need something special if it hopes to defeat top-ranked Duke (22-1, 10-1), who hasn't lost since being stunned by Florida State

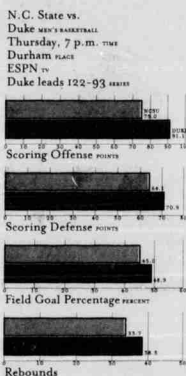
on Jan. 6.

"He's in the elite group," Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski said of Grundy. "Anthony has had a sensational year; he's been one of the most valuable players in the league. He's given them leadership, and he's certainly put up the stats, but I think he's added a new level of toughness that each team that wins needs to have."

"I really admire the kind of year he's had, and how he's being used. You never know exactly where he's going to be."

State will be playing Duke as a ranked team for the first time since Feb. 23, 1989. On that day, State, ranked 17th, lost to the No. 9 Blue

See DUKE, Page 9



ATHLETICS

Sports' exploitation of tragedy

When the traditional "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" was side-lined for "God Bless America" in the wake of Sept. 11, sports seemed to have figured out.

On the college football field, opposing athletes held the same flag during the national anthem. It was touching. It was appropriate.

The nation was reeling, trying to move past the shocking terrorist activities while keeping the people that were lost in mind. Sports had an answer. Sports helped the nation begin the healing process.

In the recent months, however, the sporting world has lost the original meaning of the heightened patriotism. It has taken a good idea and played it out.

The emphasis now is on excess. Let's create a big, loud and flashy tribute as we can. Where has taste, subtlety and class fallen?

Case in point — the Super Bowl's half-time show.

Blown up in the media as "a moving tribute to America and the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks," the event exploited the attacks more in an effort to beat out the Playboy Fear Factor episode in the ratings battle.

Sure, the names of the Sept. 11 victims were scrolled on the background screen, but what was the real motivation here? Money. Ratings. More money. The tribute title was just a means to those ends.

In the end, the thousands of deaths were reduced to being a background (a background!!!!) to some pop star (U2's Bono) singing one of his hit songs. Throw a heart-shaped track for Bono to gallop on and hundreds of pink glow stick-waving fans into the mix it might as well be a raucous concert. But where's the tribute?

The fact is the attacks are now morphing into an excuse for entertainment, and what better forum to entertain than sports games.

During the NBA All-Star Game pregame show, three different singers/singers groups were called out to sing three different patriotic songs: "The Star Spangled Banner," "God Bless America" and "America the Beautiful." Why three songs? Is one not enough? I can't tell whether the emphasis is being placed on the message or the different recording artists (egos) who they have signed.

The recent exploitation of national pride has made me think about the relationship between patriotism and sports in general. Aside from Olympic-type competitions where one country is pitted against another, what is the point? I honestly don't know.

As long as I can remember, the national anthem has been sung before sporting events. According to Irvin Molotsky, author of "The Flag, the Poet, and the Song," the link between the national anthem and sports dates back to the 1918 World Series when America was in the midst of World War I. The tradition stuck.

Now in times of peace, the anthem is still sung before sporting events. Many don't think about it, just stand for a minute or two and sing the perfunctory. Only in times of tragedy do people really think about what they're singing.

Even now after Sept. 11, some athletes (cough, cough... Allen Iverson... cough, cough) are seen swaying and looking indifferent during the singing. Are they getting the link between sports and war? I doubt it. Should the link even exist? I wonder.

If the national anthem continues to be sung before sporting events (as I feel it will and probably should be), the sporting world at least needs to get off this "bigger is better" kick.

I don't want to tune in to next year's Super Bowl to see a late-night show and computer graphics dominating the national anthem. All of that just takes away from the message of the song in the first place.

The introduction that precedes the national anthem's singing before N.C. State basketball games is all that's needed. Let us now rise as one nation and one people as we honor America with the singing of our national anthem.

Simple. Tasteful. Patriotic. Let's just stop there.

Steve Thompson appreciates you reading the entire column and understanding the full message instead of calling him an insensitive commie after just reading a few sentences. He can be reached at 515-2411 or sthompson@unity.ncsu.edu.



Steve Thompson

Track athletes go after ACC titles

◆ The N.C. State track and field team takes on the rest of the ACC in this weekend's indoor championships.

Todd Lion
Senior Staff Writer

This weekend marks the end of the season for most of the athletes on N.C. State's indoor track and field team.

The ACC Championships will be held this Friday and Saturday at North Carolina's indoor track facility in the Eddie Smith Fieldhouse.

"This is the meet that we've been training for all year," said State assistant coach Terry Reese. "Through the season, we run a lot of our athletes in events that will prepare them for their best race, and this is the meet where we put everyone where they need to be to score points for the team."

Senior Tyrone Dozier will lead the men's team in the sprinting events by competing in the 200- and 400-meter dashes, as well as on the 4 x 400 relay team. Dozier currently has the second fastest time in the conference in the 400, despite having run the race only once this year. That time also provisionally qualified him for the NCAA Championships.

"Tyrone is capable of finishing in the top three in both events," said Reese.

"Joseph Brent is also capable of making the finals in his main events, the 60 and 200."

Babatuji Giwa will also compete in these events. Both Brent and Giwa are ranked in the top six in the conference in the 60, and Brent is sixth in the 200.

Derrick High and Monterio Adams will join Dozier in the 400 and the 4 x 400 relay. Troy Graham will not run any open events in order to save his energy for his part on the 4 x 400 relay and for the 400 leg of the distance medley relay.

On the women's side, sophomore Felicia Fant will look to finish near the front in both the 60 and 200.

"I expect Felicia to finish in both of those events," said Reese. "Ebony Foster will focus on the 200 and her leg on the [distance medley relay]. She will also run the 60, but she still needs a little work in the short sprints."

Adrienne Vinson and Krystal Neely will compete in the 60 hurdles. Renae Robinson, despite having run the 800 only once this season, holds

the eighth fastest mark in the conference. She will compete in the 800 and as a member of the 4 x 400 team.

The men's distance team is expected to bring in serious points for the Wolfpack. Six of the twelve entries in the fast section of the 3,000 will be wearing the State uniform.

Chris Dugan, Ryan Woods, Chad Pearson, David Patterson, David Christian and Andy Smith will work to score in this event. Four of the top five times in the conference belong to State runners.

Woods, Pearson, Patterson and Smith will also double back with a run in the 5,000. Pearson, Patterson and Smith hold three of the top four times in the conference, and Pearson currently holds the 17th fastest time in the nation in this event.

Dugan will drop down to the mile for his second event, and Nick Mangum will join him. Mangum and Christian will run the 1,200 and 1,600 legs on the distance medley relay.

The women's distance team entry list looks very similar to that of the men. Kristin Price, Megan Coombs and Amy Beykirch are all ranked in the top 25 nationally in the 3,000. All-American Katie Sabino will join these three in this event, as will Beth Fonner, Josie Lauber and Beth Kraft.

"The conference is incredibly strong in the distance events this year," said assistant coach Laurie Henes. "Megan's time in the 3,000 is an NCAA provisional mark, but she is



N.C. State track athletes have their eyes set on winning ACC titles in Chapel Hill.

in the distance events this year," said assistant coach Laurie Henes. "Megan's time in the 3,000 is an NCAA provisional mark, but she is

See TRACK, Page 9

ACCs set for new Triangle track

◆ The N.C. State track and field team will compete at a new venue with a new surface this weekend in Chapel Hill.

Todd Lion
Senior Staff Writer

After years of traveling to Virginia Tech or East Tennessee State to compete in the ACC Indoor Track Championships, conference teams finally have a track to call home.

North Carolina completed work on its new indoor track last fall and opened it for competition this season. Since then, Carolina has hosted several college and high school track meets, some resulting in some of the fastest times in the nation. This weekend, the Tar Heels will

host the ACC Finals, another meet sure to see some fast times.

"It's great that we can actually go to the ACC Championships and actually be able to call it an ACC meet," said N.C. State track and field assistant coach Gail Olson. "We've had it at Johnson City several years ago, and even though that was nice, there are no ACC fans over there. It's the same thing at Virginia Tech."

Carolina's track is surfaced with the latest Mondo surface, made by a company with plenty of experience in high-end tracks. The track at the Olympic Stadium in Sydney, Australia, has a surface created by Mondo, as well as tracks at the University of Arkansas and the New York Armory, two of the fastest

See INDOOR, Page 9



The indoor track teams will compete in the ACC Championships Friday and Saturday at North Carolina.

Pack pins Tar Heels

◆ The N.C. State wrestling team avenged its earlier season loss to North Carolina with a 22-12 victory at Reynolds Coliseum Wednesday night.

Justin Sellers
Senior Staff Writer

When two rivals collide, a single game or match can quickly turn into an all-out war.

Such was the case Wednesday night at Reynolds Coliseum, where the N.C. State wrestling team battled North Carolina in a stellar bout that saw the Wolfpack prevail 22-12.

With the help of a close 3-2 win by 125-pounder George Cintron, State (7-7) held the Tar Heels in a seven-point deficit. But the cushion would not hold, as UNC (11-4) responded with back-to-back wins to close the lead to a single point.

The Pack would counter its opponent's sudden surge with a 7-4 victory by Jake Giamoni. The win extended State's cushion to four points with only one match left. The final match pitted two freshmen against one another. With no clear advantage on either side after one round, the Pack's Kevin Gabrielson put the exclamation point behind State's win, pinning James O'Conner in 4:47.

"The way it came out in the last two weight classes, with Jake and Kevin, one of those guys had to win for us to win [as a team]," said head coach Bob Guzzo. "I felt that we had chances at both weights, but it was a tough and very competitive match."

"Carolina was tough and we were fortunate that we won both of those. But it was a great collegiate wrestling match as a whole."

The two teams started off at 165

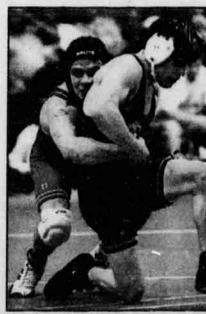
pounds, with the Pack's Pierre Pryor, ranked No. 17 in the nation in his weight class by InterMat Wrestling, squaring off against Chris DiGiuseppe of the Tar Heels. Seeing his first action in two weeks, Pryor took total control of DiGiuseppe early

and cruised to a 19-6 major win. State would continue its winning ways as No. 18 Dustin Kawa defeated Mark Canty at 174 to give the Pack an early 7-0 lead.

But Carolina would come to life in the third match of the night, with Dusty Heist victorious over Jon Godwin, 9-5. State, however, was determined not to let the Tar Heels get on a roll.

In its last match against UNC, the Pack only managed three wins.

See NOTES, Page 9



The wrestling team got a crucial 22-12 victory over North Carolina Wednesday night.