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## Muhammad taps into racial awareness

◆ Minister Benjamin Chavis Muhammad speaks to students on the importance of diversity and racial awareness.

Aniesha Felton  
Staff Reporter

"If you want to heal, all you N.C. State students, black, white, Hispanic, Latinos, Native Americans and Asians, need to study together, work together, struggle together, stand together, and then you'll win together, and when you win, that's when you will be heard."

Ninety-seven students and supporters of Minister Benjamin Chavis Muhammad heard this evocative quote on Tuesday night in Stewart Theater. This event, which was organized by the Union Activities Board, focused on "The Racial Climate on College Campuses."

"A year ago a couple of student leaders decided we wanted to improve and record the diversity on the N.C. State campus," said event coordinator Brandon Buskey, a senior in psychology.

"We [Racial Awareness Project — RAP] decided to do a survey because, if N.C. State values diversity like it says it does, we needed an objective standard to see if, one, our diverse minority population is feeling welcomed and being heard, and two, to serve as a benchmark of our advancement."

The speaker, Muhammad, a graduate of UNC-Charlotte and Duke University, served as the director for both the Million Man and Million Family Marches, director for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from 1993-1994, and is a member of the nation of Islam.

Tuesday night he addressed the NCSU survey and report card that was recently issued by the African American Student Advisory Council in order to inform the administration of concerns that many African American students have.

"All institutions should be surveyed; to suggest that N.C. State doesn't need to look at itself means that it doesn't have any problems — you all know that this is not true. Racial injustice is

everywhere," said Muhammad.

"As for the report card, if black attendance is down, then somebody needs to look at that. There was a time when black students couldn't attend N.C. State, and now that we can, attendance is low. What's sad is that this isn't the biggest problem; the problem is not admittance, but graduating. I am very disappointed that people deny these problems."

Being part of the Wilmington 10, a group of nine males and one female who fought for equal education for black students and were put into jail with a combined sentence of 282 years, Muhammad encouraged students to appreciate their education.

"Getting an education is not only about getting a degree; an education is like a key. Once you have the key, you can unlock the door of life and prosperity, and once the door is opened wide, you can allow up-and-comers to walk through more easily than you," he said.

Muhammad recognized the importance of Black History Month.

"It is a time not only to see how blacks contributed to the world, but also to see how they will contribute to the future. It serves to remind us of sacrifices, but also of victories; we can do more today — we have more will, faith and resolves," he said.

"It's discouraging to see all of N.C. State pull together for February, and when March 1 comes, nobody gives a damn about unity," said Muhammad. "We are no real university if all students can't work together but for one month."

Muhammad also works with Russell Simmons, P. Diddy, Nas and Jay-Z and other hip-hop artists on a campaign to promote education and reading.

"It is a pleasure to work with these artists," said Muhammad. "They are truly role models for everybody; you listen to their lyrics and their language and wonder how they can be a positive influence on anybody — well, the language will change when our situations change. The message in Belly [a movie starring hip-hop artists DMX and Nas] was not one of violence, but of rising up out of elements that are self-destructive and helping raise the standard of life."

See CHAVIS, Page 2



The Campus Police are working with students and general public to reduce accidents on campus.

## Campus Police remain vigilant of traffic

◆ As the student population continues to grow, vehicle traffic becomes increasingly important for Campus Police.

Diane Cordova  
Staff Reporter

A female student was struck by a vehicle while crossing Cates Avenue from Carmichael Gymnasium to the Talley Student Center on Feb. 18.

The accident is an example of how, despite the hard work and vigilance of Campus Police in overseeing the traffic conditions on campus, unfortunate accidents still do occur.

According to eyewitness testimony, the sport utility vehicle was traveling west on Cates Avenue at approximately 10-15 miles per hour. The SUV was being driven by Laurel Foster Adams.

According to officials, Adams' vehicle slowed down at the speed bump, but soon after it struck the student. The injured student was taken to Rex Hospital.

Adams, who is not a student, was charged with "failure to yield at a pedestrian crosswalk" under general

statute 20-1738, said Jon Barnwell, a crime prevention officer with Campus Police.

In general, the large volume of traffic at NCSU is a contributing factor in the occurrence of accidents like the aforementioned.

According to Barnwell, NCSU receives a lot of pedestrian and vehicle traffic from both affiliated and non-affiliated people.

Many of those not affiliated with NCSU use the streets on campus as thoroughfares — NCSU is at a prime location in Raleigh — between two major streets: Hillsborough Street and Western Boulevard.

In general, during traffic stops, Campus Police encounter many people who are DWI (Driving While Intoxicated), have revoked licenses or have warrants.

Furthermore, from Feb. 1 to Feb. 26, there were a total of 213 traffic stops. Out of those 213 stops, 122 were citations, 60 were verbal warnings and 31 were warning tickets.

Vehicles are stopped on campus for reasons such as speeding or improper equipment, such as the headlights being out.

For the last full week of February,

there were a total of 59 traffic stops, including 39 citations, 10 verbal warnings and 10 written warnings.

During this past week, many of the traffic stops took place on Dan Allen Drive, Sullivan Drive and Western Boulevard.

Traffic at NCSU is considered a concern because of the large concentration of pedestrian traffic, said Barnwell. However, Campus Police work closely with the public to help ease traffic woes.

Because "the university prides itself on being pedestrian friendly," said Barnwell, the university asks Campus Police to strictly enforce regulations across campus, such as the speed limits, in order to limit the amount of people being injured.

There are "a lot of collateral effects that are positive that have come from increased traffic," said Barnwell.

At the same time, however, due to the quantity of NCSU's pedestrian population and its vehicle traffic, certain vehicle and pedestrian accidents are unfortunately going to occur, said Barnwell.

In spite of this, Campus Police has to "work together" with the general public to keep the amount of accidents to a minimum, said Barnwell.

## A model vehicle is designed to further enhance the research of Mars

◆ A course offered last spring brought N.C. State design and engineering students together to model a vehicle that would better serve scientists' needs.

Carlton Newsome  
Staff Reporter

Space explorers have been searching for signs of life on the planet Mars for a long time. However, the tools that researchers have had at their disposal have hindered that search.

Satellite images are great for a bird's-eye view of the planet's surface, and land rovers are fine for examining the composition of the terrain, but to really get into the areas they want to explore, they need a vehicle that can peer into the sides of canyons.

In addition, the vehicle also needs to be able to take measurements of the atmosphere from varying distances from the planet's surface.

A course offered last spring brought N.C. State design and engineering students together to tackle this problem by creating a model vehicle to fit the scientists' needs.

"Design of an Airship for Mars" was part of a research project sponsored by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, Calif., and included one on one work with NASA scientists and engineers. The created models were then sent via the Internet to scientists in the JPL.

Nine students from the College of Design and 10 students from the Aerospace Engineering department

were involved.

The course was co-taught by Jay Tomlinson and Bryan Lafitte, professors in the College of Design, and Fred Delarquette, professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering.

Delarquette worked at NASA as an employee in the early '60s on Apollo and has worked on many grants from NASA with NCSU. One of the projects was the space shuttle thermal protection system that led to the tiles that are used on the space shuttles today.

An intriguing aspect of the course was the fact that NASA is also currently working on this type of problem.

The goal of the class was a challenging one for undergraduate students to be tackling. The goal, according to Delarquette, was for the students to "design an airship that could search for liquid water and signs of prior life on Mars."

Representatives were on hand via video conference to comment on the students' projects during the close of the course, called the Mars Airship critical design review.

Ted Sweetser, a senior engineer with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, said, "several of the design concepts were interesting."

"When a design was settled on, the design could be launched from a base station and landed on Mars," he said.

Sweetser also commented that he and his colleagues were very impressed with the creativity of the students.

With the success of this program, Delarquette stated that more classes will be offered in the future similar to this one.

"Just recently it was announced by

NASA that curriculums should be structured to encourage the application of non-traditional disciplines in problem solving," he said.

The NCSU students involved proved that this was possible.

The students were given literature about what NASA was looking for, and it was the design students' job to develop concepts.

From that point, it was the job of the engineering students to check the concepts and determine the feasibility of them.

Delarquette said that one problem with the class was that the semester was too short for the engineering students to finish doing the entire test that they would have liked to have done on the designs.

At the end of the course, the designs were put into a booklet including all of the sketches. The designs varied widely from designs that resembled blimps, to hot air balloons, to lawn darts.

"The collaboration between NASA and the university is great because it helps keep the creative juices flowing," said Sweetser.

The relationship between NASA and NCSU has a long history.

NCSU is home to the Mars Mission Research Center, which is one of nine NASA backed centers that search for engineering solutions for space exploration.

Delarquette said that the aerospace and mechanical engineering school plans to offer a senior space design sequence next year with participation by students from several disciplines.



With the help of their car, "Red," Luke Lambert (center), a freshman in mechanical engineering, and Maria Kruse (right), a senior in mechanical engineering, are holding a raffle for the Legends Race Team in the Brickyard.

## CHAVIS

Continued from Page 1

He added that there is a tremendous revival of the hip-hop community.

"People think of hip-hop as hard core, but the hip-hop community donated the most money to the September 11 tragedy," he said. "And while I'm on 9-11, I constantly get asked, 'How did it impact the black community?' All I could answer was that it was tragic for all people, even us [blacks], but we've been having problems before September 11; we're used to tragedy and terrorism — the tragedy of poverty and the terrorism of injustice."

Muhammad, in conclusion of his speech, encouraged students to speak up.

"There is nothing wrong with waking people up. If we are

going to discuss the racial climate, we cannot do it in isolation," he said.

"The climate we live in is being conditioned to think that protesting is wrong, but I command you to continue to speak for justice and equality, for diversity and better relations. I encourage you not to get discouraged so quickly — don't let anything retard your development. God has given us talents to uplift our people and him. Never lose sight of them, especially of God, for as much as God has allowed us to endure, we should be the most faithful people."

With these words, freshman Giovanni Seawood and senior Stephen Pace were inspired.

"I was pleased with Minister Chavis' push for issues of diversity, not leaving out non-blacks," said Seawood. "If we can't all work together, then progression toward equality will cease in the future; it is only by

unification that we will get anywhere in the 21st century," she added.

Pace appreciated that Muhammad didn't attack other groups. Pace is reminded of a forum he attended last week that proclaimed they were smarter and better than everybody; "I'm very contented that he did not use reverse discrimination."

"Minister Chavis definitely made me more aware of hip-hop's contributions. Knowing the positive strength that the hip-hop industry possesses has motivated me with a much better outlook of this field of entertainment," said Seawood.

"Don't let winds blow you off course," said Muhammad. "As a society we need to do what is right in the sight of God: change the racial climate, protest inequality, fight any and everything that impedes diversity and unity, and lastly, hold fast to your God."

## Drug cocktail treatment for AIDS in Third World works well

By David Brown  
The Washington Post

SEATTLE — Triple combination drug treatment for AIDS patients in Third World countries works well, is used properly by doctors, and is eagerly embraced by patients if the price is right, researchers reported Wednesday.

The experience of AIDS patients in Kenya, Senegal and India being treated in both private and public clinics differs little from that of their counterparts in the developed world, according to several studies presented at the 9th Annual Retroviral Conference. Antiretroviral drugs extend life; it's difficult to get them to work optimally for long periods, and side effects, while a problem, do not force most patients to abandon treatment.

"It's comparable to what's going on in the U.S.," said Paul Weidle, an epidemiologist and pharmacologist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who studied the course of treatment in five private medical practices in Nairobi, Kenya.

The findings of the various studies weaken one of the barriers to wider use of up-to-date AIDS therapy in poor countries — namely, the argument that the complicated therapies are too difficult to implement and will do more harm than good.

More than 40 million people worldwide are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), about 90 percent in developing countries.

Rising demands to bring optimal AIDS treatment to the world's poor have led to major new initiatives in the last two

years. These include steep cuts in antiretroviral drug prices for poor countries; creation of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, which opened for business last month with \$2 billion to be spent on treatment; and numerous pilot projects.

In the Nairobi study, CDC researchers and Kenyan collaborators looked at the experience of 217 patients who could afford to pay for AIDS drugs themselves. They began triple drug therapy at an advanced stage.

In the first six months of treatment, 60 percent of patients had no detectable virus in their blood. In the second six months, 47 percent were still achieving that goal. Those figures are very close to what's been reported by a large medical school-based AIDS clinic in Baltimore, Weidle said. By two years, however, the fraction of patients achieving that goal had fallen to 32 percent, for reasons that aren't entirely clear.

One thing that's certain, however, is that drug prices are extremely important determinants of how widely antiretroviral treatment is used in Africa. Some observers have argued that other things, such as physician knowledge, patient acceptance, or medical infrastructure were the major impediments.

In January 2001, the combination of D4T, 3TC and nevirapine on the Kenyan market was about \$450 a month. By October of the same year, it had fallen to \$80, as drug manufacturers agreed to sell their products at cost. (A month's supply of D4T, made by Bristol-Myers Squibb, now

sells for \$6, as cheap as many generic drugs.) As a consequence, the number of people signing up for antiretroviral therapy in the five Nairobi practices now appears to be doubling every six months.

"If you lower the price of the drugs, the patients want it and the doctors know what to use," Weidle said.

Unlike drugs, however, the tests necessary to monitor patients remain undiscounted. A test that measures HIV concentration in blood costs about \$100, and a test that gauges immune system health costs about \$25.

The report of an AIDS-treatment initiative in the government of Senegal described success similar to that seen in Kenya. Fifty-eight people, most with advanced infection, were treated by several clinics. After 18 months, a patient's chance of being alive and having no serious AIDS complication was 80 percent, and nearly 60 percent of the group had no virus detectable in their blood.

A study from India showed that antiretroviral treatment had a large effect on survival among 300 people being treated at a university clinic in the city of Chennai.

Kevin De Cock, a CDC AIDS researcher in Kenya, said that for AIDS treatment to be scaled up massively in the developing world, "we will have to have a very standardized approach" outlining what drug combinations to use first, how often to monitor a patient's progress with lab tests, and when to declare treatment a failure and switch to a new combination. Such protocols exist for treatment of tuberculosis.

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## TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

### Put private college money on the chopping block too

**NORTH CAROLINA'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR EDUCATION IS, FIRST AND FOREMOST, TO ITS PUBLIC COLLEGES.**

The North Carolina Constitution states that the General Assembly "shall provide that the benefits of The University of North Carolina and other public institutions of higher education, as far as practicable, be extended to the people of the State free of expense." Three key words: public, practicable and free. These have been at the center of debate on campus and off as the N.C. State Board of Trustees recently approved a \$400 tuition hike in addition to a possible 4.8 percent increase that may come from the General Assembly. But perhaps one of these words, public, deserves further attention in these tough economic times for higher education in North Carolina.

The News & Observer reported yesterday that some N.C. legislators, including Sen. Walter Dalton, are suggesting that we turn our budget-slashing examinations toward state funds given to private schools in North Carolina. Now, more than ever, this is essential.

The 30-year-old N.C. Legislative Tuition Grant program provides \$1,800 to every North Carolina resident attending a private college in North Carolina. The State Contractual Scholarship Fund provides private colleges with \$1,100 in need-based aid to be given to each full-time state resident enrolled at their institution. If public education is to take such a beating, it is only right that these programs need to pass under the microscope as well.

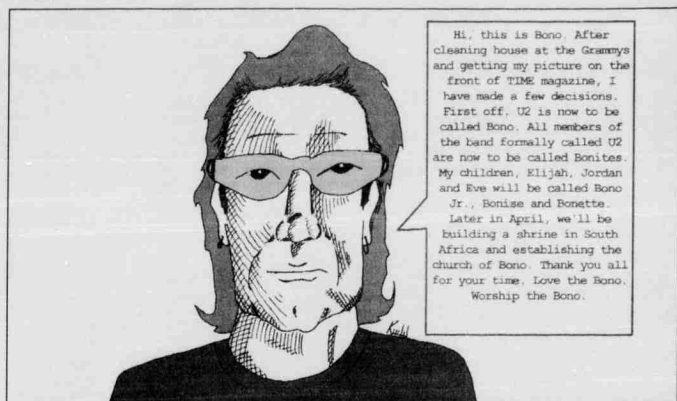
Although some of this money is no doubt needed to support students at private colleges whose tuition is astronomical in comparison to North Carolina universities, as our state constitution states, our government's primary responsibility is to N.C. residents attending N.C.'s public colleges.

Students and universities alike are crying bloody murder as the General Assembly is tightening its budget each year. Because of this, it would be wrong to suggest that any of this aid already promised to N.C. residents to be used for attending a N.C. private school would be reduced or given away, but cutting back in the future should be given strong consideration.

As any tuition increase, a strong possibility to help ease the strain is to "grandfather" in the tuition that students pay. Similarly, if this money for attending private schools is cut — and it certainly should be — if public schools are suffering, it should occur in the future.

Rep. Verla Insk (D-Chapel Hill) summed it up best: "Our public campuses took a cut. Should we not also apply that same percentage cut to the private schools? We've asked that from everyone else."

When times get tough, no one wants to cut education. Nevertheless, public education has been cut and certainly so should state support for private education.



Hi, this is Bono. After cleaning house at the Grammys and getting my picture on the front of TIME magazine, I have made a few decisions. First off, U2 is now to be called Bono. All members of the band formerly called U2 are now to be called Bonites. My children, Elijah, Jordan and Eve will be called Bono Jr., Bonise and Bonette. Later in April, we'll be building a shrine in South Africa and establishing the church of Bono. Thank you all for your time. Love the Bono. Worship the Bono.

## A political discussion



**Robert Jallal**  
STAFF COLUMNIST

Those fat cats in Washington have done it again. Their most recent proposed bill is nothing less than an affront to democracy and spells doom for civilized people. I, for one, am both appalled and dismayed: I do not even think I can find the words to feign indignation any better.

Unsurprisingly, this part of the column provides the background information relevant to the topic. It turns out that this is not the first time that lawmakers in Washington have done something that can be viewed negatively by Americans. Similar legislation was passed in 1978, 1923 and 1894, all under the administrations of really goofy-looking presidents (Carter, Coolidge and Cleveland). Hark, for there was a time before these liberal administrations when traditional, wholesome values prevented lawmakers from making such intrusions on freedom.

Indeed, the proposed type of legislation has been shown to historically have disastrous effects. Off-cited but little-known (accused biased media) research done by Charles Lavin and Mary Snack substantiates my point. Lavin and Snack work for Liberal Freedom Hut, an organization that is

not at all a client group for an ideological think tank. To summarize their work, it completely supports the view of the political party I support and refutes all the views of the opposing party. Additionally, the legislation, mainly pushed by the opposing party, carries the bonus consequence of playing a role in the endangerment of the fanshell mussel (*Cyprogenia stegaria*). You should care about the recent legislation because your tax dollars are at stake. "Your tax dollars" is an important phrase, you see, because this is a plain-folks appeal that spurs the audience's interests, as the topic of discussion seems to have newfound relevance. I include this point because the plain-folks appeal is an effective debate tactic. My English 111 book says so.

Americans should also be concerned over Washington's recent moves because of the potential undermining of constitutional rights. The "Idiot's Guide to Armchair Constitutional Interpretation" says, nine out of 10 times, laws somehow violate First Amendment rights — First Amendment rights more than anything else. Therefore, it is a safe bet that the current proposed legislation is unconstitutional. The guide also says, "Citing case history and Supreme Court opinions is not necessary because no one but a robotic lawyer can understand those things." I gracefully defer to the guide's wisdom.

It is not sufficient, though, to show that the opposing party is wrong on the current issue. Verily, a ranting polemic is needed to demonstrate that the other side will always be wrong. The opposing party's fundamental deviance stems from poor cuisine selection at party events. While opposing party members languish in reality distortion fields emitted by three-foot high stacks of

Twinkie bars, members of my own party are busy formulating hard-hitting policy solutions. Additionally, my party's ability to spell hard words like "Mississippi" signals its superior law-making abilities. My party's spelling ability is the penultimate reason for its excellence, surpassed only by its exceeding love (or hate) for Jesus.

The recent Sept. 11 attacks also shed light on new arguments that show supporting the other side is tantamount to supporting terrorism. A registered member of the opposing party in the 23rd district of Ohio, Mohamed bin Said, has the same first name as some of the Sept. 11 hijackers and a last name that is similar to "bin Laden." Speaking of whom, one must not forget that Bill Clinton himself is, in fact, Osama bin Laden in disguise. This would account for his policy decisions as well as his underhanded, take-em-as-you-can-get-'em taste in women.

One can no longer rely on the anecdotal provided by the legislative process because the Washington bigwigs all seem alarmingly distracted, hiding hot tubs with Ken Lay. If the veracity of my argument is not clear by now, the following list of words should erase all doubt: freedom, democracy, capitalism, apple pie, Sammy Sosa, "It takes a village," death and taxes, military-industrial complex, King George, mindless proletarian labor, middle management, doom, depression.

That's all I have space for this week. Next week, I will try something a bit more light-hearted and write a contentless, dubiously humorous parody of political writers.

Sweet, sweet T of 9 can get her politics right here:  
evilhobNCSU@yahoo.com.

## like the bricks



**Larisa Yasinovskaya**  
STAFF COLUMNIST

In light of so much negativity about N.C. State, I would like, just once, to talk about some of our positive points, or at least not things I like. This is not me saying there is nothing wrong with State — most would agree that there is room for improvement.

I just want to point out what's right. I'm not the only one who will admit this. I like the bricks. It seems like this is the only brick to be saying there is too much brick; we need more trees. And hey, I have nothing against trees — I love trees. But instead of bitching about how there are not enough of them, I like to enjoy the ones we have. There are many cozy nooks and crannies on campus that are really beautiful, plus Pullen Park is right next door. I think the brick is great. It's classic, it's classy, it's sophisticated, it's down. Imagine the Brickyard after a snow-pour — it would be a mud pit! (Although, I imagine not everyone would mind.) We couldn't have all the cool stuff we have there, like inflatable rock climbing walls and Pontiac cars on display. I think it also gives our school a characteristic look.

As for all the people complaining, didn't they visit the school before they came here? Didn't they notice the brick before they chose to attend State? It's not like a few months ago it was a nice wooded campus and all of a sudden it's all brick. "But what about the Court of the Carolinas?" some may ask. I know, a lot of people didn't like the change. But I think it looks great, and I'm really excited about the projected changes to it as well. I know we can't slide down the hill when it snows anymore, but I think it's worth it because of how freaking cool it's gonna look when it will be done.

Another one is campus food. I must

admit, I was one of the people who hated it — until I understood a bit about how University Dining works. Some of the food is unsalted and doesn't have much flavor. But that's because Dining has to cater to everyone who eats there, not just people who like salt.

Think of it this way: You can put salt into your mashed potatoes if there is not enough, but you can't get it out if there is too much. In addition, Dining has to take people who are sensitive and allergic to certain foods into account. So overall, the all-you-can-eat buffet at Fountain Dining Hall is a pretty good deal.

Another complaint is that C-stores are more expensive than Food Lion. Well, first consider that everything is more expensive than Food Lion, but after that, realize that C-stores are convenience stores, not grocery stores. And convenience stores are more expensive than grocery stores because, well, you're paying for the convenience of it being close, hence the name.

Not to say that dining is perfect, the Atrium could use some attention among other things, but come on — we're getting a coffee shop in the library. I think that's just awesome. And do you remember the Christmas dinner? We have to admit the ice sculptures were cool.

So I'm not saying that our school is perfect. I just wanted to point out some positive points in a sea of criticism and negativity. Not to say that we shouldn't criticize problem areas, because we all know the problems. Parking has become a joke, course sections are becoming increasingly difficult to get into, and the gym is often overcrowded — just to name a few.

But I think it's important to think of the good things once in a while and remember why we chose to come here in the first place.

Larisa's favorite color is red. Tell her where to find the coolest trees on campus at larisa.opinion@hotmail.com.

## CNN trades in hard news for showbiz

**James R. Smith**  
Smith is an associate professor of communication and media at the State University of New York.

Just a few months back, many television viewers were comfortable with their stiff dose of caffeine and CNN's hard news in the morning. But the continuing cable network news war primarily between CNN and Fox News Channel has resulted in more show business and less hard news.

CNN's recent hiring of Connie Chung for a reported \$2 million a year is just the latest checkbox shot across the opponent's bow. What is CNN willing to do to win the news ratings war?

CNN's "American Morning" with Paula Zahn, fidgety Jack Cafferty and Anderson Cooper, former host of "The Mole," is beginning to look more like ABC's "Good Morning America" or your local Fox affiliate's morning program. Does the ample anchor cross talk include considerable speculation? Segment titles such as "The Big Question" and "Morning Buzz" have a decidedly colloquial ring. Studio-based talking heads have replaced at least some field correspondent reports. Darryl Kagan's headline summaries are very brief and generally focus on only the top four or five international stories, which are also rebashed by the anchors. State and regional news reports are rarely seen.

Viewer opinions, submitted by e-mail, are often summarized. Then, too, there is the ever-present couch. We may not see cooking clips, but are certain elements, dressed like hard news, really opinion pieces loaded with empty informational calories?

It's not just the morning show. CNN leans heavily on its corporate siblings

throughout the day. Media managers savor capitalizing on synergism and cross-platform promotion, but at CNN it's approaching overload. Notice the number of AOL Time Warner magazine staffers doing segments on defense, health, money, law and politics.

It doesn't take sophisticated research to reveal that recaps, studio interviews with in-house experts, news analysis, anchor cross-talk and loosely identified opinion units have pushed out some hard news. In moderation, these elements are defensible. Their increased presence and frequency traces to management, not on-air talent decision-making.

Anchors, like actors, follow the script, and the high-profile ones are paid exceedingly well to do so. CNN's script is being written by Hollywood-hardened executives.

Shortly after the AOL-Time Warner merger, then-WB network head Jamie Kellner became the new Turner Broadcasting and CNN overseer with a mandate for change. Above Kellner is former MTV, now AOL, wunderkind Bob Pittman. Both Kellner and Pittman know entertainment and the 12-34 demographic. Unfortunately, the lower half of that demographic doesn't watch much news. Surely important decisions cross at least Kellner's desk, if not Pittman's, too, so the telecasts we see must resemble management policy. CNN also displayed a flourish of showbiz logic. Not long ago, it issued some 400 employees pink slips, with possibly more coming, in a cost-cutting move. It then spent more than it saved on contracts for three people: Connie Chung, Larry King and Paula Zahn. There's also the bill for "American Morning" — the new street-level set. Kellner chalks it all up to the cost of

doing business in a competitive environment, reminding us that CNN is a "very profitable" franchise and that news coverage won't suffer. The same team that is carving a leaner organization with one hand is spending big packaging bucks with the other.

Fox has taken plenty of heat for airing what's perceived as news with attitude. Has CNN been lucky enough, thus far, to fly above the Fox flak? Rupert Murdoch's tabloid tendencies make his media platforms, such as Fox, easy targets for the critics, but he is a savvy, tenacious, market-driven competitor and, particularly since the Clinton-Lewinsky affair, those qualities have played pretty well in Peoria. MSNBC seems to be waiting for the dust to settle and CNN has usually claimed the high journalistic ground. But that may be truer of the old CNN, a media brand that founder Ted Turner nurtured at no small expense.

Some promotional techniques, such as calling Zahn "sexy," and production devices, such as audio whooshes ushering in transition graphics across the screen, seem to scream show business. If you are taking the "high road," such tactics are not appropriate in a formal journalistic context — a context that supposedly fosters credibility, stability, trust, professionalism, high ethical standards and spurs Hollywood traplings.

There's no malice behind CNN executives' lifting some hard news. It's like the coffee business. At one time, coffee cans contained a pound of coffee. Now the container that looks like it holds a pound of coffee has only 11 or 12 ounces. It's the same brand; there is just less of it inside. Let's hope what emerges from CNN's packaging-spa regimen is more hard news muscle and less flab.

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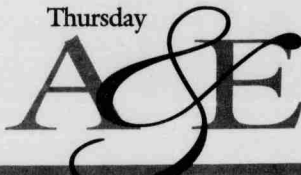
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## 40 women in 40 minutes?

Features Editor **Ryan Hill**  
**40 Days and 40 Nights**  
 Starring **Josh Hartnett**  
**Shannyn Sossamon**  
 Directed by **Michael Lehmann**  
 ★★★

**Some women think Josh Hartnett is dead sexy.** Personally, I don't see it. Ever since he burst onto the scene as Miramax's golden boy in "Halloween: H20" and "The Faculty," I've just wanted to hit him in the head and set his two front teeth straight. All these women drooling over some fruit who has a massive cowl; it just wasn't right.

After a few years of imagining how nice it would be to pop him in the face, Hartnett finally lost that cowl with

the much-maligned "Pearl Harbor." Finally, he gained a speck of credibility. He was still annoying, but he's lost that cowl (and got popped in the face by Ben Affleck onscreen, fulfilling a small dream of mine). With the new film "40 Days and 40 Nights," Hartnett gains a little bit more street-cred in my book.

Hartnett takes the plunge 99.9 percent of men could never take in real life: no sexual contact whatsoever with celebrate Lent. After getting downed by his girl, played by Vinessa Shaw, Hartnett's Matt is in a tailspin, so to speak. He goes out and sleeps with a different, gorgeous woman each night. Doesn't really sound that bad, but he's trying to kill the pain inside.

Matt even visits with his preacher-in-training brother to try and get help, but his brother can't help him. His roommate Ryan, played by Paulo Costanzo of "Road Trip" fame, just wants to get

him laid. Finally, Matt comes upon the ultimate sacrifice to kill his woes: no sexual contact of any kind for the duration of Lent.

Nobody thinks he can do it, especially his co-workers, who set up a betting ring to pick the day Matt will break his vow. Needless to say, chaos ensues as Matt tries to keep his vow, especially after meeting Erica, played by Shannyn Sossamon, the "girl of his dreams." It's a blast watching Matt suffer. Shaking, sweating, painting model cars to pass the time, this is one of those rare occasions when you get to see some guy that women love but men hate suffer. For men, it's just great. For women, I guess they just wanted to help him out. So it's the best of both worlds in that manner.

Credit Hartnett for having the guts to go all out with his character. Not many actors would have the guts to make themselves look like such a fool, but he

does. So, I'll give him some credit for doing that. He's still not my favorite, but he takes some big strides.

The supporting cast is lots of fun, too. The Bagel Guy (Kia Lymox, or big Pete from the classic "The Adventures of Pete and Pete") is awesome; he's one of those guys that knows everything and everyone. Matt's parents are also pretty funny and give new meaning to the term "too much information." Costanzo, still kind of riding that "Road Trip" wave, is much like he was in that, except not a stoner.

Believe it or not, Josh Hartnett was in a good movie. It was funny, entertaining and fun. The film is a bit on the sex-love front entitled "Exploring Islam and the Muslim World," the film "A Time for Drunken Horses" will be shown at 3 p.m. Saturday. "Behind Enemy Lines" will also play on Friday and Saturday.

## Calendar of Events

Features Staff Report

### On Campus

**Anthony Grooms** will read from his acclaimed novel "Bombingham" about the civil rights movement in Birmingham, Ala., during the Vietnam War. The reading is on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the African-American Cultural Center.

"The Color of Paradise," part of the Passport International Film Festival, plays tonight and Sunday at the Campus Cinema. As part of the week-long effort entitled "Exploring Islam and the Muslim World," the film "A Time for Drunken Horses" will be shown at 3 p.m. Saturday. "Behind Enemy Lines" will also play on Friday and Saturday.

San Jose Taiko, featuring Taiko drumming while incorporating a plethora of world rhythms, plays Saturday in Stewart Theatre.

### Off Campus

**Local rock band Revelation** Darling will play at the Berkeley Café on Thursday. Also on Thursday, the Peacemakers will play the Pot House. Stickboy will play at the Brewery and Only Midget of Chapel Hill will play at Cat's Cafe.

Jump, Little Children will bring their energetic show to the Lincoln Theatre on Friday along with Red Wanting Blue of Athens, Ohio. Cigar Store Indians play at Humble Pie. Moe plays Friday and Saturday at The Ritz and Supples will play King's Barcade.

Squeezebox, Plan B and Platform Dixon will play at Lincoln Theatre Saturday night.

Sunday, 34 Satellite plays at King's Barcade. The Samples, Fighting Gravity and Juniper Lane play a 9 p.m. show at Cat's Cafe, while...And You Will Know Us by the Trail of the Dead will play the venue Wednesday.

"40 Days and 40 Nights" features Josh Hartnett as a young man who gives up sex for Lent. After the expected plot twist of Hartnett meeting the girl of his dreams (Shannyn Sossamon), he tries to convince her to wait for his returned affection.

Barging in with the support of wide critical acclaim, Mel Gibson plays Lt. Col. Hal Moore in "We Were Soldiers," a Vietnam epic also starring Greg Kinnear, Sam Elliott and Chris Klein.

Stand-up comedian and "Insomniac" star Dave Attell will be performing at Charlie Goodnight's from Thursday to Saturday this weekend.

Tuesday, Billy Bragg is set to release "England Half English," while albums from Fleetwood Mac, Brandy, Natalie Imbruglia and Local H hit stores. The Judas Priest collection will also hit stores (red tail sold separately), along with the new EP from Clem Snide and the debut album from Ben Kweller. Holding it down on the rap front are new releases from Lil Toot and Lone Star Kidz, while—in unrelated news—a score of Johnny Cash and Waylon Jennings releases go to market Tuesday.

## Tech it to the limit I want my HDTV

Senior Staff Writer **Jon Morgan**

**Television is great. Where else can you see inbred Hicks get into paternity battles.** Jamaican psychics predict jail time in the future or video after video from those nice young boys in "N Sync." Yeah, TV. It's great, but, as any geek will tell you, the quality of a television's picture is ridiculously poor. The standard television picture is 640 pixels across and 480 pixels tall, which is really very poor quality considering how long many of us sit in front of it.

Is there a solution? Well, yes and no. There is an alternative, and it's called High Definition Television (HDTV). At a resolution of 1920 by 1080, the HDTV signal has nearly seven times the information of a standard television picture. Unfortunately, nobody uses it. Let's take an imaginary journey. It's 300 years in the future. Hover-cars are all over the place. Making love to fine athletic women is commonplace. The infamous animatronic space pirate known only as Automaton owns the skies. There are now a record five

see HDTV, page 5

## This 'Queen' is a bloody mess

Assistant Features Editor **Joel Isaac Frady**

### Queen of the Damned

Starring **Stuart Townsend**  
**Aaliyah**  
 Directed by **Michael Rymer**  
 ★½

**The biggest problem** that "Queen of the Damned" suffers from is not knowing what kind of movie it is. It has an absurdly ridiculous plot, tons of fake gore and bad vampire accents, all traits that make up some of the best "B" movies. "Damned" makes the mistake of posing as something better, and instead of being a really good "B" movie, it becomes a terrible "A" movie.

The plot follows Lestat (Stuart Townsend) who, after hundreds of years of slumber, awakens to become a rock star, and his music awakens Akasha (Aaliyah), the queen of all

vampires. The plot thickens (sort of) when Jesse, who is part of an underground paranormal research group, becomes obsessed with Lestat and begins to follow his every move.

Early on, the movie hits its highest, stupidest note during a press conference that rock star Lestat is having with the press. They ask him questions about Vampirism, but instead of making fun of him with the questions, they are completely serious about it the entire time. Even when a member of his band states that the music is about (no joke) "sex, blood and rock 'n' roll," the filmmakers fail to have any fun with it.

They also fail to have any fun with the "sex" part which is half the reason people watch vampire movies to begin with. Vampires are normally dark, mysterious and very sensual creatures. We look forward to vampire movies for this reason. "Damned" not only isn't sexy, it seems to be scared of being sexy. In an early scene Lestat brings two girls in, both of them are very

attractive and dressed like cheap whores, but instead of being sensual and showing off the charm of the vampire, the scene turns into a bloodbath and shows the a\*\*hole at work.

Townsend, who was great in "Wonderland" and "All About Adam," makes every mistake that he can in "Damned," creating a Lestat that isn't likable and is impossible to sympathize with. He's not even the cool anti-hero he should be, he's just an ego-maniac; toward the end you'll just want to see him die, leave or just stop existing in the movie.

Then again, not many people even care about Townsend; they want to see (and read a review) about the big story here — this is the final film with the late Aaliyah. The movie has been promoted with her, she's on the poster, she seems to be the biggest part of everything.

Everything except the movie, that is, for she has about 15 minutes of screen time total and most of it consists of her doing little booty dances and setting

people on fire. Her character's role is a lot like Inish's in "The Mummy," for the movie is about the people that awaken her from the dead and then try to stop her from taking over the world. In the end, people will just remember that she was good in "Romeo Must Die" and forget about this one.

One thing that can be said about Aaliyah is that she seems to be the only person that was having any fun making this movie. Everyone else takes it too seriously, trying to make it scary and Oscar quality. Someone must have told them this was going to be as good as "Interview with the Vampire" and "Bram Stoker's Dracula."

But it's not, and comparisons to those movies make it look very, very stupid. A better film to compare it to, for those people that watch it, would be "Bordello of Blood," the 1996 Dennis Miller comedy that embodies what "Damned" could have been: stupid, gory, poorly acted and really fun.

## The Blue Blur stumbles

Staff Writer **Antonio Brunson**

### Sonic Adventure 2 (DC, GC) ★★½

**With Sega publishing on every platform now,** you'd think that the last Sonic game for a Sega system would send it out with a bang. However, as much fun as the game is, "Sonic Adventure 2" (or "Sonic Adventure 2 Battle" on the GameCube) is marred by some glaring gameplay issues that keep it from becoming an instant classic like its predecessors.

"Adventure 2" features a unique structure that tells the story from both the heroes' and the villains' points of view. Players choose which storyline they play through each time they start up the game and must complete both of them to get the true ending to the game. The storylines are cleverly intertwined, and it's interesting to see the same situations play out from different angles.

On the hero side, you play as Sonic, Tails or Knuckles; on the dark side you play as Shadow, Robotnik or Rouge.

Shadow and Rouge are new characters; Shadow is an evil hedgehog with powers comparable to Sonic's, and Rouge is a female bat that we'll hopefully never see again. As you might have guessed, each character on each side has an equivalent character on the other side. Sonic's and Shadow's stages are comprised of intense, high-speed run-and-jump action. Tails and Robotnik fight in mech robots and shoot at enemies in their levels while Knuckles and Rouge glide through their levels searching for Chaos Emeralds.

Variety is usually a plus in video games, but it works extensively against "Sonic Adventure 2." Don't be mistaken — the Sonic and Shadow stages are among some of the best levels to ever appear in a Sonic game. If the game was nothing but them, it could be the best Sonic game ever released. The Tails and Robotnik levels are fairly entertaining but pretty monotonous as you lock on to enemies and shoot at them while traveling to the goal.

The Knuckles and Rouge stages, on the other hand, are an extreme exercise in frustration. Each level has you searching through huge environments

for Chaos Emeralds using an annoying, beeping radar. Even if you use the hints the game gives you, it'll take fifteen minutes or more to complete some levels.

The inexcusably bad camera further accentuates these annoyances. There aren't many sequels that feature a worse camera than their predecessors, but somehow "Adventure 2" pulls it off. You'll be itching to get back to the Sonic and Shadow stages, but sometimes the game will force you to play through three or four of the levels before "rewarding" you with a Sonic stage.

Visually, "Adventure 2" is pretty impressive despite being almost a year old. When the game was released for the Dreamcast, it managed to show up most PlayStation 2 games at the time. The GameCube version features slightly enhanced graphics but doesn't take advantage of the hardware. Still, it's a nice-looking game on both systems.

The sound is a mixed bag. Some tracks feature catchy guitar riffs or cool techno beats. However, others are ruined by cheesy lyrics or are flat-out bad. Someone at Sega apparently has

n't figured out that the '80s are gone and won't be missed. Whereas the music is uneven, the voice acting is pathetic and horribly written. The voices for Sonic, Shadow and Robotnik fit their characters pretty well, but the other characters sound flat or unnatural.

"Adventure 2" has a two-player versus mode, but since the Sonic and Shadow stages are the only fun ones, you'll probably only play their levels. The GameCube version features more stages than the Dreamcast one, making matches much more diverse and exciting. There's also a kart racing mode, but it really isn't much fun, although you can download new kart stages off the Internet in the Dreamcast game.

Overall, "Sonic Adventure 2" falls short of the expectations fans of the series have. The atrocious camera adds to the frustration of the treasure hunting and shooting levels. Sega didn't add much to the GameCube version and didn't bother to fix the problems of the Dreamcast original. Even if you're a hardcore fan, rent before you buy this title.

## Army of one?

Staff Writer **Antonio Brunson**

### Pikmin (GC) ★★½

**A few games released every year** defy the normal conventions that video games have fallen into and also manage to create a unique experience for players. "Pikmin" is definitely one of those games. This title melds real-time strategy with action to produce a groundbreaking adventure that you'd expect from the creators of Mario and Zelda. In "Pikmin," you play as Captain Olimar, an astronaut whose spaceship has crashed-landed on a strange planet. After awakening from the crash, Olimar realizes that 30 of his ship parts are scattered throughout the general area and he must recover those pieces in 30 days before his life support gives out. Shortly after he awakens to the search, he encounters strange plant-like creatures, which seem to follow him and obey his every command. He dubs the creatures "Pikmin" and they assist him

in his quest.

Gameplay in "Pikmin" is intriguing and thought provoking, albeit slow paced. Time passes one day-by-day basis. You begin each day by landing your spaceship in a certain area along with the flying "onions" that the Pikmin ride in. You then take the Pikmin out to search for parts of your ship. As you do so, you use the Pikmin to attack enemies, move objects, blow up walls and carry pieces back to the ship. Up to 100 of the little buggers can move around at once, making each expedition feel like an epic adventure.

Multi-tasking is critical to making the most of each day. While some Pikmin build bridges, others may be fighting or you might be growing some more. Watching the Pikmin pummel an enemy to death is particularly satisfying (and disturbing), although you have to be careful or risk losing too many of them. You must watch your Pikmin closely as they aren't particularly intelligent and will die fearlessly in battle or drown in water without supervision. As the sun sets, you must gather up your

Pikmin and place them back in their "onions" before night falls and dangerous animals appear. All in all, each day is distinctive and different from the one before it.

Controlling Olimar and his slaves...err, Pikmin, is surprisingly simple. The left analog stick moves Olimar, while the right one moves the Pikmin. The A button performs a variety of actions depending on the situation, such as throwing Pikmin and attacking enemies. The B button summons Pikmin who have broken away back to Olimar.

All the other buttons handle auxiliary tasks such as Olimar's radar and the game's camera. The game does an excellent job of easing gamers into play, introducing each concept to the player as he progresses. Controlling the bomb-carrying Pikmin can be frustrating, but it's not too difficult to overcome. You'll be exploring the areas like a pro in a matter of minutes.

"Pikmin" boasts some fairly impressive graphics. The terrain and creatures are textured with lots of detail, although at close range the textures are

a little blurry. However, the frame rate never stutters, even when Olimar has 100 Pikmin following him with the camera zoomed out to maximum range. The music provides a fitting ambience to the game's relaxed, laid-back tone, and it changes appropriately as you traverse each level. Pikmin let out little yelps as they sprout, fight and die, either endearing them to you or causing you to mute the television.

Besides the aforementioned control issue, the game's only real fault is that it runs a little short. It only takes 10-12 hours to put the ship back together. The game ends on a high note with a fiendishly clever puzzle that leaves you wanting more. Even so, you'll want to play it again to try to beat the game more quickly. There's also a Challenge mode where you try to grow as many Pikmin as possible in one day, but it's a minor distraction at best. Some people will be turned off by Olimar and the Pikmin's cutesy design, but those who give "Pikmin" a chance will find an entertaining game unlike any other on the market.

**HDTV** from page 4

shows available in HDTV.

And back we go to the present. After nearly a decade of battles over standards, formats and copy protection, HDTV finally became a reality. So why doesn't anyone use it?

It's a complicated situation, and it's just going to get worse. There are two major hurdles to HDTV: the high cost for the consumers and the hard work for the providers.

To begin with the consumer end, HDTV sets are incredibly expensive. If you were to go in to Best Buy today, you would end up spending around \$2,000 if you picked up a set. Now, that's a hell of a lot better than it was a year ago, but the fact remains that, for most people, \$2,000 is a lot of money. For \$2,000 you could buy 40 video games, 150 CDs or 1,000 cookout milkshakes. That's a lot of shakes! In the end, most people aren't devoted enough to HDTV to fork over their cash. It might be worth it, but there aren't any HD shows to watch!

The program providers are in a similar predicament. High Definition shows don't just grow on trees, you know. The program providers have to shoot them with special cameras, set up the infrastructure for broadcast, and then devote a huge portion of their signal to individual shows. It might be worth it, but nobody owns the sets!

So, like many standards before it, HDTV is stuck in a catch-22. People won't get the sets because there aren't any shows, and there aren't any shows because people won't get the sets. It's a fine mess we've gotten ourselves into, and it seems like nobody can get us out. What's the solution? Forget about it.

The best thing people can possibly do is to not worry about things and hope they get better. Early adopters are just going to get the shaft, so just sit back and wait for HDTV to come to you. We are dealing with television, after all, so just sit on your ass and everything is going to be OK.

**WKNC Top 10****Daytime**

- 1 **Elbow** *Asleep in the Back*
- 2 **Tub Ring** *Drunk Equation*
- 3 **Notwist** *Neon Golden*
- 4 **Desaparecidos** *Read Music, Speak English*
- 5 **The Hives** *Main Offender*
- 6 **Burnt by the Sun** *Soundtrack to the Personal Revolution*
- 7 **Poison the Well** *Tear from the Red*
- 8 **Aerogramme** *A Story in White*
- 9 **The Applesseed Cast** *Low Level Owls*
- 10 **Various** *Plug Independent*

**Underground**

- 1 **Major** *Concrete Nuts*
- 2 **NAS** *Willie's*
- 3 **X-Ecutioners** *Built From Scratch*
- 4 **State Property Soundtrack** *D&D All Stars How it sounds*
- 5 **Alchemist** *More Like Us*
- 6 **Heather B** *Live Mic*
- 7 **Beatnuts** *Classic Nuts Vol. 1*
- 8 **Geda K** *Respect Carter*
- 9 **Mobb Deep** *Infamy*

**Afterhours**

- 1 **Parks and Wilson** *Painting on Silence*
- 2 **Deepsly** *In Silico*
- 3 **Freestylers** *Pressure Point*
- 4 **Kosheen** *Resist*
- 5 **Freddy Fresh** *Music For Swingers*
- 6 **PFM** *Producer 02*
- 7 **Boards of Canada** *Geogaddi*
- 8 **Dimitri From Paris** *After the Playboy Mansion*
- 9 **Zero 7** *Simple Things*
- 10 **Noiseshaper** *The Only Redeemer*

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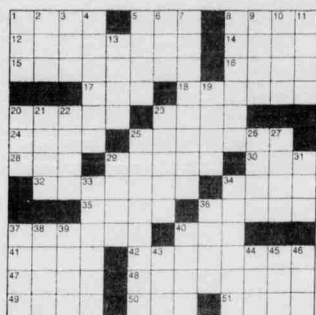
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15 Photographer's concern  
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23 Cotton quantity

24 Praiseful pieces  
25 Purplish red  
28 — relief  
29 Zoo structures  
30 False hood?  
32 Boss  
34 Hawaiian resort area  
35 Autumnal birthstone  
36 Runs the show  
37 Labor leader  
38 Cesar  
40 Blue  
41 Fisher- man's need  
42 Not spelled out

17 Professional occupant  
48 Kid sibling, often  
49 Off-stolen items?  
50 Superlative ending  
51 Dangling locale  
DOWN  
1 Rushmore  
2 Topping for  
3 Lither  
4 Some are  
5 Blue hue  
6 Cat coat  
7 Adolescent

8 Take place  
9 Uncontrollable  
10 — me  
11 "East of Eden" character  
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21 Comedian Sandler  
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## GYMNASTICS

Continued from Page 8

ed, and since the Wolfpack hosted the competition, what better name than the Wolfpack Invitational?

Now a staple in State's gymnastics season, the Pack is excited for this year's edition of the Invitational, set for tomorrow night at 7 in Reynolds Coliseum. The Pack will be joined in the six-team meet by the North Carolina, Central Michigan, William and Mary, James Madison and George Washington.

The Wolfpack Invitational begins a critical stretch for State, which only has two more meets after tomorrow before the EAGL Championships take place later in the month. As with every competition, State is viewing the Wolfpack Invitational as another steppingstone to where it hopes to be by the time postseason competition begins.

The team is certainly improving, as it posted its highest score of the season in last Sunday's meet vs. Towson, but coach Mark Stevenson believes there is still a lot to be done.

"The bottom line is we had a decent meet again," said Stevenson. "But we still missed some things we need to make in order for us to be as good as we can be. A 194.9 was our high score of the year, which is good; we're moving in the right direction. But we've still got a point and a half worth of things that we can fix."

Some of those things Stevenson speaks of — such as smoothing out beam routines or perfecting vault landings — are technical aspects that, when done incorrectly, can add up to bring an overall score down. While the Pack might be a team capable of a 196, technical errors sometimes keep it from reaching that high of a score.

At this point in the season, it is a matter of putting all the pieces together and executing to perfection. This week in practice, many of the gymnasts have performed landing drills to polish their skills and make sure that once it counts, they'll be ready.

State certainly got a lift in its last meet from three talented freshmen, Jessica Campbell, Cori Goldstein and Andrea Petrocelli all contributed to the Pack's highest score of the season, an important sign if the Pack is going to reach its potential. The contributions of younger gymnasts is even more critical given the fact that senior Amy Langendorf is injured for the second consecutive year, again with a torn ACL.

Though losing Langendorf is heartbreaking, the performance of senior Kelli Brown has been equally as uplifting for State. Brown was named EAGL Gymnast of the Week for the second time this season, finishing first in bars and vault and tied for fourth on beam and floor in the Towson meet.

But it hasn't been just Brown. The Pack, deep and dangerous, has enjoyed contributions from many.

"We've got good kids, and they're all doing well," Stevenson said. "We've got some upperclassmen that have been doing great for us: Cara Dougherty, Marlyn Madey, Aimee Pantan, Alison Bundy... We feel really good [about the future]."

The Wolfpack Invitational will be the second time this year that the Pack has seen UNC, which took third place in the Governor's Cup on Feb. 3. At that meet, State finished second but has since improved.

Although the Pack has gotten solid showings from many this year, the team has yet to put its whole arsenal together at one time. It seems that if one gymnast is on her game, then one is off. Stevenson believes that the team must learn to put together its total package.

"What we have to do is get the whole team together to be consistently as good as they can be on given days," he explained. "Hopefully that will start happening because we're doing it in practice. Now we have to do it in meets."

Stevenson added that he would also like to see more fans in attendance. Last Sunday's meet drew 2,500, a good crowd, according to the coach, but one that could be better.

## BASEBALL

Continued from Page 8

"The key is we were really staying focused," Avent said. "We tried to get into good counts, and everyone did their job. I think we have confidence up and down the line. And Philip pitched outstanding."

While State's offense was creating a workable cushion, Davidson went to work.

## TENNIS

Continued from Page 8

Boward, the Wolfpack comes into this weekend with a 5-5 record. Following Sunday's match, Hayes noted that other players, such as sophomores Michael Carducci, John Davis and Reinaldo Valor, must learn

The tall right-hander allowed just one hit and struck out three in the third, fourth and fifth innings before surrendering two unearned runs in the sixth, both coming off another Johnson home run. For the game, Davidson finished with six strikeouts over seven innings while handing out two walks and only giving up six hits and one earned run. He earned his second win of his early career.

Ryan Combs pitched a scoreless eighth inning, and Brian

from their inconsistent play and play at a level they have not played at so far this season.

State must remain that consistency quickly if it plans to compete with the two schools it faces this weekend. Both teams were NCAA Tournament participants last year and know how to win.

Rice, coming in with a 6-2 record this year, has one win over No. 14 Texas A&M and

Ross got out of a jam in the ninth to end the game.

With Davidson as dominant as he was, Appalachian's pitching staff had very little room for error. Unfortunately for the Mountaineers, however, State exploited their pitching staff, as they sent man after man to the mound with little or no success.

In the sixth and seventh innings, the Pack put the game out of reach, as it scored eight runs on eight hits and two errors. Remarkably, all eight of

two over No. 23 Abilene Christian University.

Head coach Ron Smarr knows how to win, having 30 winning seasons in his 31 years of coaching. A graduate of Appalachian State and a longtime tennis player, he led the Owls to their first NCAA Tournament appearance last year.

Rice boasts a formidable roster, including junior Matthias Mattheas and senior Prakash

those runs were scored on nothing more than singles, walks and Mountaineer miscues.

The Pack batted around in the sixth, putting up five runs. Coffield, a freshman who was named ACC Co-Player of the Week after having a brilliant series vs. Coppin State last weekend, drove in two in the inning with a double. He finished 3-for-4 on the day with four RBIs, which gave him 21 on the year.

Hargrave also had a big day

Venkataraman. Sophomore Richard Barker is Rice's top player and is currently ranked No. 54 in the nation.

William and Mary has amazingly risen to No. 51 in the nation with an active roster full of freshmen. The Tribe comes into this weekend's match with a 12-3 record, posting quality wins over No. 54 Virginia Tech and No. 66 Virginia.

Head coach Peter Daub is also

for the Pack, as he ended the game 5-for-5 with three runs and two RBIs.

The offense was enough to keep the diehards somewhat warm on an otherwise bone-chilling day. It was also enough to make Davidson happy.

"It's a lot easier to pitch when they're putting up runs for you," said Davidson. "Pitching with 11 runs is a lot easier than pitching with just one or two, [and] when we got ahead, there was a little bit more margin for error."

noted for his winning ways, leading the Tribe to the NCAA Tournament in 1999. He has coached professionally in the Australian Open and Wimbledon.

Freshman Jeff Kader has been one of the Tribe's leaders in singles play with an 11-3 record. Fellow freshman Alexander Fish has been perfect thus far, compiling a 13-0 mark.

## IM-RecNotes

## Intramural sports

Registration for Ultimate will end Wednesday, March 6. All intramural schedules and schedules for the spring semester are posted in the Intramural-Recreational Sports office and on the Web site at [www.ncsu.edu/imrec](http://www.ncsu.edu/imrec). For additional information on IM-Rec Sports, visit our Web site or stop by 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium.

## Fitness

Drop in for one of our group fitness classes: Advanced Step, Athletic Conditioning, Awesome Abs, Box-N-Sculpt, Cardioboxing, Get on the Ball, Hi/Lo, Hip Hop, Step 101, Step-N-Sculpt and Water Works. For a schedule of classes, stop by our office in 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium or visit our Web site.

This spring we will be offering a Monday-through-Thursday, 6:15 a.m. group fitness class. Check out our Web site for a class schedule along with our new classes being offered this spring.

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

## HALEY

Continued from Page 8

the quality of the practices hasn't always been what Haley would want. He has been able to swim consistently in competition.

"He's a very cerebral swimmer, and he really knows how to handle ups and downs," said Teal. "He's been through a lot during his career so I have every confidence that he's ready to step up and have a great meet [at the ACC Championships]."

Haley started swimming competitively at the age of 6 in Indianapolis, a traditional swimming hotbed.

During a spectacular high school career, Haley played a prominent part in bringing three state championships to Carmel High School in his native Indiana. When it came time to choose a college, he picked State over Indiana.

The choice came down to

## Club sports — results

The Club Roller Hockey team took on Elon this past weekend in a fast and furious matchup. Brian Moore got the first goal of the game for N.C. State. After that, the Wolfpack never lost the lead. State defeated Phoenix by a score of 6-4. Scoring goals for the team were Moore, Alex Pingel and Rob Lackey.

The Women's Club Volleyball team placed fourth this past weekend in the Women's Atlantic Coast Volleyball Association Tournament held at the University of Richmond. In pool play, the team defeated William and Mary but lost to Virginia Tech in a three-game bracket. The loss to the Hokies forced the team into the consolation bracket. The Wolfpack won the consolation bracket, defeating Richmond and East Carolina to claim fourth overall.

The Racquetball Club participated in a regional tournament this past weekend at North Carolina. The Wolfpack, lacking depth and experience after the graduation of several key players, entered the tournament as two-time defending champions. The club rallied behind clutch play from Danny Hurdle and a victory in his seeding by Mike Hammock to claim third place.

The Women's Club Lacrosse team easily defeated Wake Forest 15-2 on Saturday on lower Miller Field.

Haley's need to see places other than Indiana.

"It came down to here and Indiana," said Haley. "I really wanted to get away and see what else was out there. It's been really awesome."

With his collegiate swimming career coming to a close, Haley expects to find a job and get out of swimming. But don't be surprised if that doesn't last long.

"I think I'll try something a little different for a while, and if it's meant to be, I'll come back," Haley said.

Not so fast, however, because Haley has one more accomplishment he'd like to add to his impressive resume while he's still swimming for the Pack — make the NCAA Championships.

"For him, the ultimate is making the NAAs," said Teal.

Teal's the main unfinished business in his career. He's made the Olympic Trials. He's broken school records. Making the NAAs is kind of the last major goal.

Even though it would be great for Haley to go out with an

The Women's Club Rugby team got back on track this past weekend with a victory over Camp Lejeune. The Wolfpack won 27-5. Anna Garwood led the way with three tries, while Leigh Morris and Jennifer Wood added a try each. Caroline Duckworth scored conversion points for State.

## Club sports — upcoming

The Club Roller Hockey team will travel to Columbia, S.C., on Saturday to take on South Carolina in a league match.

The Men's Club Lacrosse team will host Virginia Tech on lower Miller Field this Saturday. The Pack hopes to pull out a victory and upset the Hokies, who are ranked seventh in the country. The game will start at noon.

The Squash Club will play in its third match of the spring season this Saturday at Fetzer Gym on Carolina's campus. The Wolfpack will face teams from across North Carolina as well as a team from the University of Virginia. The Wolfpack is currently 1-5 for the season and is hoping to add a second victory this weekend.

The Women's Club Lacrosse team will host Carolina this Saturday at 3 p.m. on lower Miller Field in what promises to be a hard-fought contest between the two rivals.

NCAA appearance, Teal makes it clear that his career will not be based solely upon that.

"It's not a make or break thing in my mind," Teal said. "He can still close out and have a great career and not make it."

Either way, Haley will be remembered as a hard worker and a person who took his job as a captain seriously.

"He's a great worker, one of the hardest workers I've coached," said Teal. "I really have to see these next days and weeks of his career winding down. But it's exciting for him. I think he'll accomplish great things."

With all that said, Haley has one more thing he'd like to say about his time with the Pack.

"It's been a great year, everyone at N.C. State is incredible: the staff and the professors," Haley said. "It's been a wonderful experience. Thanks."

## Run with the Wolfpack!



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# Thursday Sports



M. Basketball @ Wake Forest, 3/2, 2  
W. Basketball vs. Clemson, 3/2, 7  
Baseball vs. George Mason, 3/1, 3  
Gymnastics, Wolfpack Invit., 3/1, 7  
M. Tennis vs. Rice, 3/2, 2  
M. Swimming, ACCs, 2/28-3/2

## Cold day, warm bats for State

◆ The baseball team collected 22 hits and scored 15 runs in defeating Appalachian State Wednesday.

Andrew B. Carter

Senior Staff Writer

The American flag that flew over Doak Field's center-field fence flew swiftly on Wednesday afternoon, the wind fiercely blowing directly out of the ballpark.

Baseball	
NCSU	15
ASU	6

Fans in the stands came battling the cold, sporting scarves, parkas and toboggans. About the only thing that wasn't frigid, or blown away for that matter, was the N.C. State baseball team's bats, which played a leading role in a 15-6 shellacking of Appalachian State.

Led by freshman pitcher Phillip Davidson and a potent all-around

offensive assault, the Wolfpack (8-3) pounded 22 hits, scored 15 runs and shut down Appalachian State (2-5) for much of the day in a dominating win at blustery Doak.

"We played hard, and we did it from the outset today," said State coach Elliott Avent. "Sometimes it seems as if it takes us a while to get going, but I thought that, even though we got down early, we came to play from the beginning."

With such a lopsided final, it was hard to believe that at one point the Pack actually trailed the visiting Mountaineers. But with a little help from the wind, that was the case in the second inning. After Davidson retired the first two batters he faced in the second, Appalachian's Tim Johnson stepped to plate and hit a pop fly that hung in the air for an eternity before settling behind the right-center-field fence.

"I tried to keep the ball down," Davidson said. "I left two balls up, and

they both went over the wall."

What would have been an easy out on a normal day gave the Mountaineers the early lead.

It wouldn't last long.

In the third inning, State lit a fire that Appalachian would have a hard time extinguishing. Senior Brian Wright led off the inning innocently enough with a single to right, but two pitches later, the Pack had a 2-1 lead. Freshman Tim Coffield gave the Pack that advantage when he sent a 1-0 pitch from the Mountaineers' Brian Chapman over the right-center-field wall.

After Chapman retired State's David Hicks, catcher Colt Morton blasted a



The baseball team continued its winning streak with a 15-6 win over Appalachian State on Wednesday.

full-count pitch over the screening in left field. Adam Hargrave and Joe Gaetti would also score in the inning, and the Pack suddenly had a 5-1 lead after three.

See BASEBALL, Page 7

## BASKETBALL

### Mid-major madness

College basketball fans normally pay attention to two polls: The Associated Press Top 25 and the ESPN/USA Today coaches poll. These two polls never fail to stir up endless amounts of controversy. Who should have been No. 1 after Maryland beat Duke two weekends ago? Why was Virginia Tech Temple receiving votes in the coaches poll earlier in the season when it was six games under .500? How did Virginia keep getting a free pass every week when the Cavaliers couldn't beat anyone, much less anyone good?

There's another poll floating around that receives none of the fanfare accompanying the other two. Duke, Maryland and Kansas won't appear in this poll. But for any college basketball fan looking for a first-round upset for his NCAA Tournament poll (not that anyone actually competes in those), it's an essential tool.

Each Sunday, CollegeInsider.com enlists the help of 31 coaches to create its Mid-Major Top 25. This is where the Valparaisos, Hampton and Weber States lay dormant for months. Then March comes around, a few of these teams float off some teams from power conferences and, occasionally, one or two make the Sweet 16 or Elite Eight.

Mid-major teams rarely make much noise during the regular season. Usually, someone has to check out something like the Mid-Major Top 25 to find out anything about them. Every once in a while, however, one pops into the national spotlight.

UNLV assembled a spectacular collection of talent in the not-so-spectacular Big West and won a national title in 1990. After years of playing the role of tournament spoiler, Fresno State enjoyed a long stay in the top 25 during the 1997-1998 season and went into the NAAs as a fifth seed. The year before, the College of Charleston spent most of the season ranked, won the Trans America Athletic Conference tournament and entered March with the nation's longest winning streak. For some mysterious reason, the Cougars got rewarded with a No. 12 seed and proceeded to take apart Maryland in the opening round.

Normally, it's rare to find more than one mid-major team hanging out with the big boys in the major polls. Yet this has seemed to be the year of the mid-major.

At some point this season, Western Kentucky, Ball State and Butler have occurred spots in the AP Top 25. Pepperdine has never cracked the rankings but owns four wins over teams rated in the RPI's top 50. Utah State boasts victories over BYU and Utah, its more famous counterparts in that state. And of course, Hampton and Davidson won at North Carolina, which really hasn't been a great feat this season.

Then there's Gonzaga. Everyone knows the Bulldogs from their NCAA success over the last three years. The Zags burst onto the scene in 1999, making the Elite Eight. They've made seven trips to the Sweet 16 in the two years after that.

This season, Gonzaga has made a meteoric rise up the rankings to the No. 7 spot in both polls. Some people have questioned why a mid-major team is ranked this high. The Zags probably aren't the seventh-best team in the country, but they're definitely top 25 material.

The main argument against Gonzaga and other mid-major teams is that they don't play anyone from power conferences like the ACC, SEC and Big Ten. Most people point to the Bulldogs' low strength of schedule, but much of that is a function of playing in the West Coast Conference. Gonzaga beat Texas (No. 22 in the RPI) and St. John's (No. 36) at the Great Alaska Shootout and lost to a mid-major Marquette, which are both top 25 teams.

With the parity that exists in college basketball today, plenty of good mid-major teams are out there. Very few of them, however, get to show what they're capable of until March because power-conference teams don't want to play them, especially not on the road. Unfortunately, losing to a mid-major team, even a good one, still carries a stigma.

So when the NCAA Tournament comes around in a couple of weeks, don't be surprised when a mid-major beats some overrated 18-12 team from the Big East.

Jeremy Ashton didn't have a column last week due to a crushing loss in a game of Paper, Rock, Scissors. He can be reached at 515-2411 or jeremy@techniciansports.com.

Jeremy Ashton

## Men to apply lessons at ACCs

◆ Head coach Brooks Teal hopes last week's performance at ACCs by the women's swimming team is a sign of things to come for the men.

Ryan Baucom

Staff Writer

WHAT:

M. SWIMMING

— ACCS

WHEN:

THURSDAY-

SATURDAY

WHERE:

COLLEGE

PARK, MD.

The N.C. State men's swimming and diving team is hoping its season-long objective of improving will finally be fulfilled as it travels to College Park, Md., this weekend.

The Wolfpack (3-5, 2-4 ACC) will

compete over three days, beginning Thursday at the 24th annual ACC Championships hosted by Maryland. State finished with a sixth-place finish in the eight-team meet last year.

"Since the end of August, they've been working very hard," said head coach Brooks Teal of the team. "That continued through and hit its peak when we went to Phoenix for our training trip over the Christmas holidays."

After returning in January, Teal emphasized hard-fast swimming in the team's workouts. The last few weeks, the swimmers have been "tapering," or cutting back on weightlifting and quantity of practice laps.

Teal believes the team looks sharp and that it'll be ready to go. The fast performances by the women's swimming team at the ACCs last week has him confident that the practice schedule has paid off.

The women showed that "what we're doing works, because we swam fast up there," said Teal about the women's effort.

"I told the men to gain confidence from that and that the meet was not perfect," Teal said. "We

made a few mistakes, and we're trying to learn from those, so we can improve on the women's performance through the women's experience."

The favorite to win the ACCs this year is Virginia, the returning champion. For UVA to repeat, it will have to overcome the other top-tier teams like Florida State and Clemson.

Teal knows that his swimmers can't worry about the competition; they just have to focus on their own performances.

"What we need to stay focused on is what's happening in our lane with our team and being the best we can be," said Teal. "Then, we can just let the points take care of themselves."

Senior Tim Haley is the "definite leader" on the men's team and was on the bubble for making the cut for NAAs last year. Teal believes that Haley has done what he's had to this year to make the cut. Other than him, Teal will rely on "a nice, solid group of six to eight other guys with a shot of getting in (to the NAAs)" to set the pace for the Pack.

Freshmen Jack Deal and Rob Yeager have had impressive rookie years. Deal has the top times for the Pack in the 100-, 200- and 500-yard freestyle this year. His 500 free time of 4:31.03 is eighth best in the conference this year, while Yeager holds the best times this year in the breaststroke events for State.

Another swimmer to look out for in the ACCs is sophomore Cristian Rojas, who has excelled in the individual medley this year. His time of 1:53.21 in the 200 IM was best for the Pack and in the top 10 for the conference.

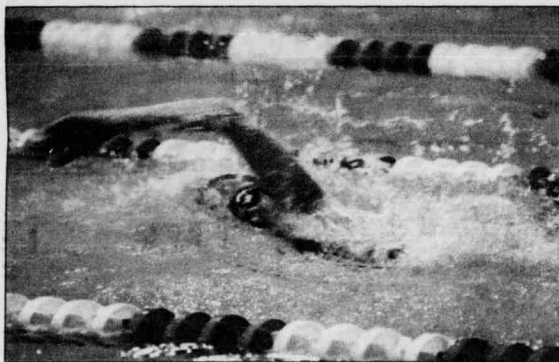
Diving coach John Candler will only be bringing two freshmen, Jared Bench and Steven House, to the ACCs.

"They've prepared well, and they feel very confident," said Candler.

Candler has been impressed with their consistency of late but knows that the ACCs can be imposing for freshmen. Bench will lead the Pack diving team, as his score of 309.83 on the 3-meter board this year was fourth best in the conference.

A lot of the women swam lifetime bests at the ACCs last week. Teal hopes that the men can perform at that same level because "when you're doing that, you can't walk away unhappy."

See HALEY, Page 7



The men's swimming team will travel to College Park, Md., this weekend for the ACCs.

## Haley prepares for last swim

◆ Senior swimmer Tim Haley concludes an excellent career with the ACC Championships.

Billy Freeman

Staff Writer

Tim Haley doesn't remember how he got into swimming; he just knows it's been a part of his life for as long as he can recall.

This weekend at the ACC Championships, Haley will cap off his N.C. State career.

Throughout his time with the Wolfpack, Haley has had his share of ups and downs. One high moment came when he broke the oldest record at State, the 200-yard butterfly, which was once held by 1976 Olympic silver medalist Steve Greg.

One tough thing that Haley has had to deal with this year are persistent

injuries.

"It's been a challenging year for him," said head swimming coach Brooks Teal. "He's had some physical problems as early as October, and then he had a muscle strain two or three weeks ago that he's still working through."

Despite the setbacks, Haley has continued to train vigorously. Although

See HALEY, Page 7

## Gymnasts ready for Friday night invite

◆ The gymnastics team hosts the eighth annual Wolfpack Invitational Friday night.

Andrew B. Carter

Senior Staff Writer

There was once a time when the Wolfpack Invitational went by a different name, one that symbolized the times for the N.C. State gymnastics program.

Back then, in 1995, what is now known as the Wolfpack Invitational was called the Bubble Invitational, as many of the teams that competed in the event were on the bubble for gaining an invite to the NCAA Regional Tournament.

Times have changed. Since the inaugural Bubble Invitational, the State gymnastics team,



The gymnastics team will host the Wolfpack Invitational on Friday.

like many of its Eastern Atlantic Gymnastics League rivals, has found itself to be a routine visitor to Regionals. Thus, a new title was needed.

See GYMNASTICS, Page 7

## Men's netters heading into tough weekend

◆ The men's tennis team takes on top-75 schools Rice and William and Mary this weekend.

Memie Ezike

Staff Writer

After a narrow defeat at the hands of Georgia State last weekend, the N.C. State men's tennis team must reload for showdowns with two ranked teams.

State returns to the court to face No. 43 Rice Saturday at 2 p.m. and No. 51

William and Mary Sunday at 9 a.m. Both matches will be played at the Wolfpack Tennis Complex.

The match with GSU went down to the wire. Tied 3-3, Matt Lucas took his opponent to three sets before going down 4-6, 6-1, 4-6.

Head coach Eric Hayes was



The men's tennis team will face Rice on Saturday and William and Mary on Sunday.

proud of his players' effort but was disappointed in the consistent lack of play he observed.

Led by seniors Matt Lucas and Ryan

See TENNIS, Page 7