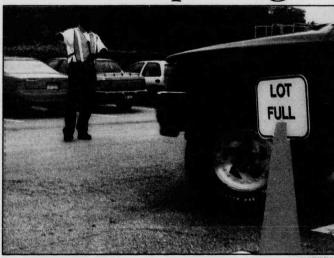


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N.C. State parking to lose 345 spaces



Beginning in September, commuters and residents with vehicles may have to look even harder for a parking space.

'The Vagina Monologues' informs audience on women's issues

♦ The Tuesday and Wednesday night rformances attracted large audiences.

Josianne Lauber

One of the most powerful monologues of the evening drew tears from some members of the audience.

Neeshe Mirchandan had written her own monologue for N.C. State's performance of "The Vagina Memologues" "to tell the story Jabout the treatment of Afghan women], which is really horrific," said Mirchandani, manager of operations at Mirchandani, manager of operations at

ic." said Mirchandani. Mirchandani, manager of operations at the Afghan Women's Misston, an organ-ization that works to rates quarteness and funds for the Revolutionary. Association of Afghan Women (RAWA), silenced the audience when she gave a shocking statistic, "100 percent of Afghan women suffer from severe psychological depres-sulter from severe psychological depres-

"The Vagina Monologues," originally written by Eve Ensler, was performed on Tuesday and Wednesday night as part of the national V-day campaign, a global movement to stop violence against

movement is supervised against women. Ensier's script is based on hundreds of interviews with women, which were conducted by Ensler herself. Ensier created the script from a collection of testimonies by women worldwide. Some of the stories are humorous; some are heart-wrenchings some are just women's thoughts about themselves. The entire cast was very much in tune with why they were participating in the play.

I wanted to help spread the message," said Shawna Jones. Annie Winfield, the coordinator of "The Vagina Monologues," was very pleased with the cast's commitment to spread the message.

"I think the cast did an amazing job," said Winfield. "This is about ending the violence against woman."

The play drew mostly women, but there were a few males in the crowd, Jacob Hooker said he only came because his friend was in it and admitted that he probably wouldn't have come if she weren't. "I think guys she ways because the advertisements are too 'in-your-face," said Hooker. Joe Puckett, a junior in mechanical engineering, also said that he may not have come if his girlfriend wawn't in it. His girlfriend had told him what the play was about, which helped his understanding.

standing,
"I didn't know it was to raise aware-

parking spaces but will also tem-porarily result in a loss of 345 spaces beginning in Sept. 2002.

Carie Windham

Transportation woes are nothing new on the N.C. State campus.

However, a series of proposals are being considered to help ease the burdens of recent construction projects that will eliminate current parking spaces. In the following weeks, construction is set to begin on the Undergraduate Sciences Teaching Labs (USTL) that will result in a loss of 155 °B° parking spaces near Kilgore Hall, Gardner Hall. David Clark Labs and Nelson Hall.

will result in a tose of 125. B parking spaces near Kilgore Hall, Gardner Hall, David Clark Labs and Nelson Hall.
The loss is permanent.
The loss is permanent.
The new 158,000-square-foot building, which will house instructional laboratories and classrooms for the chemistry, horticultural sciences and physics department, will occupy those spaces.
The parking replacement plan requires that all spaces removed for bond projects to replaced, so the Transportation Department is taking many steps to account for the lost spaces.
First, the department chose not to sell or resell any "B" parking permits this year in anticipation of the change and gained 90 permits through attrition.
Attrition, explained Melissa Harden, assistant director of parking, means that as people left, the department chose not to resell their permits.
In addition, the department plans to allocate approximately 75. "C" spaces in the Dan Allen Parking Deck to accommodate for the 155 spaces lost for the USTL, project.
The majority of the replacement parking beck expansion, adding 740 spaces to the existing deck. Construction on the project, however, is not scheduled to begin until August 2002.
The USTL project is not the only bond project that will jeoppardize parking spaces.

spaces. The construction of the aforemen-tioned Coliseum Parking Deck expan-sion that will create 730 spaces will tem-porarily result in a loss of 345 spaces reginning in September 200. Other less significant losses include a

loss of two spaces for library restroom renovations and six spaces for Gardner Hall HVAC renovations.

Not every project will result in permanent losses because many parking spaces are temporarily removed to create 'staging zones' for construction projects.

These zones are created to give contractors a place to deposit materials and equipment. These zones are fenced in for the protection of the materials and pedestrians.

the protection of the materials and pedestrians.
Harden explained that for the USTL project, the contractors have permission to begin putting up fence around the project next week. Construction should follow soon after.
"We don't want a fence up surrounding those parking spaces with no work going on," she said. "As soon as we see the fence go up, we should see work going on inside."

fence go up, we should see work going on inside."

The department used various techniques to ensure affected students, faculty and staff were notified of the change.

"We've visited with the senate and asked them to carry the message to the students." Harden said.

In addition, for the USTL project, the department met with the deans and administrators in the affected areas to find out what their needs were.

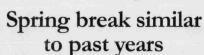
"Anybody in the area, we met with and made sure that they had the information," she said.

Articles were also placed in campus publications such as the Bulletin, and news was submitted to various list-serves.

The main outlet for communication has een through the Transportation Web

site. "We think that the Web site is really a good way of getting everyone the same, consistent information," Harden said, adding that many changes have been made to the site to try and make it user-friendly, complete and frequently updat-

ed. The impact of the bond construction projects and the loss of spaces in the Coliseum Parking Deck have prompted a number of proposals for system changes. These proposals, which have not been approved in full at this point, hope to simplify the existing zone system, maintain flexibility for the temporary changes caused by construction and insure that Transportation can maintain a "revenue neutral" position.



 Spring break plans are sending some students around the world and leaving many at home.

Rachael Rogers

Nearly three months of classes are behind students, and it's time for a little bit of relaxation. In a matter of house, N.C. State students will be spreading themselves across North Carolina, the United States and even the world. But not everyone's idea of a fun are relaxing spring break is the same. Some students want to get far, far away from memories of classes, papers and tests. They want to let loose and be a lit-tle wild.

Solve.

Sophomore Kelly Fowler, a native of
Sophomore Kelly Fowler, a native of
Raleigh, wanted to do something really
fun this spring break, so she decided to
head down to Daytona Beach, Fla., with
some friends.

Engles and her friends have been plan-

some friends.
Fowler and her friends have been planning this trip since January and are anticipating banging out at the beach and just relaxing.
"My friends and I always take a trip for spring break, and it's a nice way to get out of Raleigh since I live here." Fowler decided.

She thinks that spring break is a really

herapeutic thing for her and her friends. It's a means of "get[ting] away in the middle of the semester to relax, have fun and be away from the stress of schoolwork." Fowler commented.

Fowler and her entourage of friends are leaving in a few days to drive down to Daytona and will be staying there for a week.

week.

They all hope to come back ready to refocus on the end of the semester and then start thinking about the summer holidays.

Fowler's only concern right now is the weather. She hopes it will be hot.

Senior Ashley Williford and junior Mike Laurino have similar thoughts. They are leaving on Saturday and taking a week-long trip to Myrtle Beach to just 'hang out at the beach and get away from school,' said Williford.

They both hone that the trip will relieve

from school," said Williford.

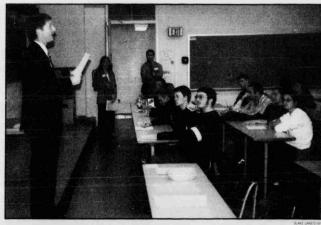
They both hope that the trip will relieve the stress that has mounted up from the last few weeks of continuous papers.

Another student who has decided to pack up the summer gear and head out of North Carolina is sophomore Julia Lobur. "My father surprised me with a five day trip to Orlando," commented Lobur.

Lobur decided it would be a gropportunity to be somewhere else

She's planning on visiting Disney

See BREAK, Page 2



Jerome Lavelle talks with prospective students and parents after a day of campus tours.

'Race has played a factor' in U. Arkansas-Richardson disagreements

 Many Arkansans' reactions the ex-coach's statements about race show race relations in the state still are lacking, said one NAACP chapter

Carrie Coppernoll

(U-WIRE) FAYETTEVILLE, Ark.

After University of Arkansas officials fired former Razorback head basketball coach Nolan Richardson on Friday, students and officials around the state questioned the issue of race just as Richardson had done last week.

"I think race has played a factor in several of the disagreements [Richardson and UA administrators] have had," said Arkansas Rep. Tracy Steele, D-North Little Rock. "Race is a part of our life. There's no way around that. It's a part of

our society. And [Richardson] has allud-ed to it several times:"

Although all fans might not know why, Richardson brought up race for a reason in a Feb. 25 news conference, said Dale Charles, president of the Arkansas chap-ter of the NAACP.

'I think that he said some things that he came back and corrected, but I think that some of the things he said really set off an alert system by the treatment of him

See RACE. Page 4

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PARKING

System-wide changes include limiting the sale of temporary permits in staff zones and parking decks, extending enforcement hours to 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, making all NCSU permits acceptable in all zones after 5 p.m., and designating visitor parking areas for after 5 p.m., and designating visitor parking areas for after 5 p.m., changes for staff parking include the establishment of a "BP" permit to include Hillsborough Square, North Hall, Brooks Lot and the Jeter Drive bays. These permits will be offered to current C1 permit holders and will cost \$300, the same price as a "B" permit. Residential student zones also have changes include extending enforcement hours to midnight in residential zones, providing upperclassman first priority for purchasing "DE" and "DW" permits, moving West Campus storage lots to Varsity Drive and not allowing faculty/staff permits the option to flow into the "DE" and "DW" permits.

West Campus from an "E" zone to a "D" zone at \$204; converting the Varsity Drive Park and Ride Lot to a zone lot for "E" permits, changing the "L" permit to be valid at 1 pm. and increasing the price to \$50; incorporating approximately 75 zone; incorporating lots on Centennial Campus as replacaments for Park and Ride; and designating on-street parking on Centennial Campus equivalent to a "D2" parking zone.

None of the aforementioned proposals have been passed and are at this point still undergoing consideration.

Harden explained that the ongoing process began with approval by the Physical Environment Committee and is now working on gaining endorsement by the senates.

Staff Senate has approved the proposals, but both the Faculty and Student Senates have not yet decided.

decided.
From that point, the proposals will go to various councils before the final word will be decided at the Board of Trustees meeting in April.
For up-to-date information about construction projects and their impact on parking, staff and students, visit the Transportation Web site at www.ncsu.edu/transportation.

VAGINA

for battered women,"

ness for battered women,"
Puckett said.
But after the play was over,
Puckett, Hooker and several
other members of the audience
would have a new understanding
of womanhood.
The cast was very pleased with
their audiences both nights.
Barbette Hunter, an NCSU
graduate, said that "the audience
was really with us." She said she
felt this through their laughter
and their sitence. "Tonight
[Wednesday] was super-outstanding," she added.
The cast said they were pleased
with how the production went.
Director Jenne Herbst, a volunteer at the Women's Center was
especially pleased.
"I love the
"Vagina
Monologues' and its mission,
and I was very appreciative I got
direct it." said Herbst, "It had a

"I love the Monologues' and its mission, and I was very appreciative I got to direct it," said Herbst, "I had a phenomenal cast. They were amazing — they had so much passion and commitment behind

it."
The outstanding cast consisted of students, faculty and staff from NCSU.
The women grew very close over the course of the rehearsals for the play. The cast and crew

had been rehearsing since December, which gave this unique group of women plenty of time to bond. Freshman Lindsey Jones said. Treally enjoyed working around such amazing women that really cared about each other: Arnanda Grannud also expressed her enjownent with the cast. "It was thrilling to meet so many unique vaginas whom I also had so much in common with."

with."

I sincerely hope every human being sees this play at least once in their life," added Granrud. "Better yet, I hope there comes a day when a play about vaginas doesn't need to educate against violence, rather it can focus on what vaginas are really all about."

what vaginas are tearty anabout."
Winfield agreed with Granud.
"This is a campaign that has grown — as more men and people see it, the mystery will be gone," said Granrud. "Maybe one day they mystery of 'The Vagina Monologues' will die, and awareness of violence against women will thrive."
To find more information about "Y-day," visit www.vaginamonologues.com. For more information about "Y-day," visit www.vaginamonologues.com. Com or or the U.S. perspective on Afghanistan, visit www.afghanwomensmission.org.

BREAK

Continued from Page 1
World and Universal Studios and hopefully heading to Cocoa Beach for a few days in the sun to work on getting a good tan. Not everyone has made big plans for spring break though. Some people just want to head home and relax on the couch without having the pain of getting up and going to classes or staying up late to study for midderms.

miderins.

Sophomore Karren Meyer is going to hang around Raleigh and work.

"I really am running low on money, and I just don't feel like really going anywhere right now," Meyer stated.

At first, she was going to head to the beach for a few days, but mow she is going to stick around and just have some decent food and no worries.

and no worries.

"I may go to the beach for two days still, but mostly I want to earn some money while I have a tot of free time," she commented. Still, many other students will find themselves boarding a plane and traveling around the globe for their spring break destinations.

tions.

Jason DeVoe, a sophomore in mechanical engineering, will be participating in the Alternative Spring Break trip sponsored by the Center for Student Leadership and Ethics. The trip, which lasts for a week, will take him to Guatemala where the group will work with Habitat for Humanity building houses.

While it's not the vacation that

most students are taking part in. DeVoe is excited about the expe-

most students are taking part in, DeVoe is excited about the experience.

"Well. I've worked with Habitat for Humanity during spring break each of the last three years, and every time, I feel I gain more from helping build houses than just relaxing on the beach." he said. "You gain a sense of accomplishment and pride knowing that you were able to help someone else, while still having a lot of fur."

The recent terrorist attacks haven't affected his plans either. "If anything, I know that security is much stricter now then it was before Sept. II." he said. "Airplane and international travel have never bothered me, and they still don't."

Mariette Huntley, a junior in business management, will be visiting her boyfriend's family in Switzerland. And though she admits she is a little nervous about flying, she is nevertheless excited about getting a vacation. David Moses, a freshmat majoring in environmental desection of the first spring breaks.

Through his amazon ecology course, which is taught by Bob Bruck, Moses will be traveling to the Amazon of Peru for an eight-day tip.

Moses says that the group of 25

the Amazon of Peru for an eight-day trip.

Moses says that the group of 25 students will be "experiencing the rainforest, traveling on the rivers and learning about the cul-ture of the people in the Amazon" Amazon."

No matter what students' plans

are, one thing is for sure: spring break is here. Many students agree that it's time to have a week away from anything and everything related to school.

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News

RACE

as an African-American coach."
Charles said.
Steele also said he does not
hink Richardson's comments
were random or uncalled for.
"I think when people see someone say some of the things Coach
Richardson has said, knowing
him and knowing his character,
that he wouldn't just get up and
say those things and there not be

said.
"There are still some things that are unsettled, and I'm interested in Coach's perspective. I certainly support him, and I will continue to support him and thank him for all he's done for this state," he said.

said.
Richardson's public comments
about race have raised controversy, but the coach should not be
punished for his statements.
Charles and Steele said.
"Some people choces not for say.

Serious

Discounts

for

Students

council &

ple choose to say something." Steele said. "And any time you choose to evoke your First Amendment rights, it should not be held against you. Sometimes when you talk about race it makes you uncomfortable, but that doesn't mean that you're wrong for talking about it." Razorback fans and the general public do not know all about Richardson's life and his career at the UA, Charles said. Until more details are released, judgment cannot be made about whether race has influenced any actions

by Richardson or the UA administration, he said.

"People] don't know what if:
"lee to walk in [Richardson's]
shoes.." Charles said. "And to
say that he's making all this
money and that [no administrative actions were] racial, we don't
know that."

Many Arkansans' reactions to
Richardson's statements about
race shows race relations in the
state still are lacking. Charles
said.

reach the level of men being judged by their character and not the color of their skin," Charles

said.

The events of the past week will reflect negatively on the UA and Arkansas, Charles said.

If think it's going to have a chilling effect on future. Charles said "This is one reason why we lose a lot of the good players to Florida, Florida State, Alabama... Players just don't want to come to a state that still in some respects lives in the '50s."

Steele also said the circum-Steele also said the circum-

Steele also said the circumstances surrounding Richardson's buyout reflect the university and the state negative-

comes to race relations. Steele said.

Onika Jones, president of the UA NAACP chapter, said she also thinks the firing could be seen negatively.

"If [Richardson is] feeling the was treated unfairly, then there is no need for him to stay here," Jones said. "But him being the only African-American couch, it makes this university look bad because they are losing the only African-American representation they have."

Recruitment also could be affected because Richardson was someone African-American players could identify with, she said.

When Richardson first came to

coach at the UA, he was not well received by some racist fans, but Richardson did not leave the university, Steele said.

Richardson did not leave the university, Steele said.

Richardson dout express the same kind of tolerance, he said.

"I think we asked him to forgive us, and now the shoe is kind of on the other foot," Steele said.

"It him ke we asked him to forgive us, and now the shoe is kind of on the other foot," Steele said.

"He's admitted that he's said some things., I think it should be up to us to forgive him if he said anything to hurt anybody or to offend anybody."

Regardless of race, UA administration did not handle the situation in the best way, Steele and Charles said.

"I think it's best way, Steele and Charles said.

"I think everybody feels that way — that it could have been handled better than it was handled," Charles said.

Steele said he wishes Richardson could have left under better circumstances.

"I think it's an unfortunate situation for one who has given so much to our state and the university does not have the opportunity to leave on his own terms," Steele said.

When UA administrators begin interviews with candidates to replace Richardson, race could be an issue, but Charles said thinks race probably will not be openly discussed during the process.

"Being in a position that race can be a dominant factor, no one would ever know unless they were on the inside," Charles said.
"I don't think the university will go about selecting to out and openly use race as a factor."

Steele said he is unsure how the university will go about selecting on ew coach, but he hopes assistant coach Mike Anderson wall be hirde as head coach.

"It hink it will show a lot of leadership in [filterim head] Coach [Mike] Anderson wall be hirded as head coach.

"It hink it will show a lot of leadership in [filterim head] Coach [Mike] Anderson wall be hirded as head coach.

"It hink it will show a lot of leadership in [filterim head] Coach [Mike] Anderson will be hirded as head coach.

not sure if it should be factor," Steele said.

He has known Richardson for about 14 years, he said. Steele spoke with Richardson last week before the coach's contract was terminated.

"I had the opportunity to talk with him, and he is a man of great character and of great strength," Steele said. "And anyone who can keep a positive attitude when going through what he's gone through says a lot." Steele said Richardson is "a very intense person, a very passionate person about what he believes and a very competitive person."

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Christopher Lawrence
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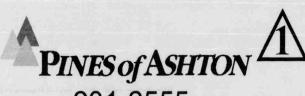


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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Bhutto talk, programs on Islam bode well for N.C. State

CHASS' EXPLORING ISLAM AND THE MUSLIM WORLD FORUM SERIES THIS WEEK SHOWED A DEDICATION TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE.

ACADEMIC EXCELLEN

The N.C. State College of Humanities and Social Sciences often takes a back seat to its more published and well-renowned science and technology counterparts, but this week, with the Exploring Islam and the Muslim World forum series organized by the CHASS International Studies Committee, the college shined as brightly as a beacon, shedding light on what it means to be dedicated to academic excellence and higher education.

The forum series centered around Monday's speech "Terrorism, Islam, Democracy and the West" by former prime minister of Pakistan Benazir Bhutto Bhutto, an internationally sought after and highly controversial speaker, is the kind of figure one might expect to find at the liberal arts school down the road. This is not because Bhutto holds liberal views, but because events like these that spark debate on intellectual issues for all students, regardless of their field of study, is a tener of the traditional liberal arts education.

People of all ages and all backgrounds came to hear Bhutto speak. Robert Kochersberger, an associate professor of English who played a significant role in bringing her to campus, told Technician that a

Dorms close

too early

speech like Bhutto's "really puts us in the major leagues." Kochersberger cited educating the NCSU community on the Middle East as the primary focus of the series.

But the depth of the series did not stop with the Bhutto speech. Other events like "Jihad, Jingoism and Jive," a talk by Askia Muhammed, a key figure in the Nation of Islam, helped clear up popular misconceptions with a modern perspective.

The International Studies Committee, and CHASS as a whole, should be commended for the efforts that went into pulling off this enriching week. Understanding the Middle East has always been important; since Sept. 11, it has become essential.

Parents and other grads alike often recall the speeches they heard an integral part of their college experi-ence. This series and Bhutto's talk is certain to be long remembered, both in the minds of attendees and in aca-

in the minds of attendees and in aca-demia. The goal of programs like his is never to change people's val-ues, only their perspectives. The most educational thing college students can do is to expose them-selves to values different from theirs so as to reaffirm and refine their own.



When will it end?





Just last week, I had to say farewell to one of my closest frends because he was shipped to Afghanistan to help fight the war on terrornsm. I did not want him to go, and he knew it. He reassured me that he would return in a few months and return to normal life, as if he had never left. He and I both understand that this is his job—to keep and maintain peace here in the United States and abroad at whatever cost. However, the question becomes at what cost, and when will it come?

becomes at what cost, and when will in come?

Just look back at the two major wars that plagued America after World War II, beginning with the Vietnam War. That war still lurks over Americans today because of the lives that were lost, and the doubts Americans had about the war that was fought. Most Americans know what the veterans still suffer mentally and physically from being in a different country, fighting another country simply because the Vietnam decided to be a communist country. The United States was split between whether or not to fight the war for nine years. After the American government decided that they were fighting a "No Man's War," troops left Vietnam to resume life over here once

again, as portrayed so many times in history.

Another war that is similar to the war being fought now is the Gulf War. This war, unlike the Vietnamese War, had a direct impact on me, manly because I saw several friends and family members leave to fight in the Gulf. This was true for fellow Americans who had to say goodbye to family members and friends as well. Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, which inevitably had an impact on the United States because of the economic necessity of oil. Well, after the war had ended, Saddam Hussein is still alive, not with Kuwaiti oil though.

Now in the new war of the millennium, the United States is battling Afghanistan. And in all three cases, innocent civilians die, and that mere thought upsets me. I do not want my friend to go and fight a war where his best target will be an innocent bystander who does not have anything to do with the Sept. II attacks. I would love to punish the people who are responsible for the Sept. II attacks. However, those people are dead and trying to find every person who was an accomplice is impossible. If it were possible, the United States would not have to keep sending troops over to Afghanistan and have innocent people killed only to find the accomplices of the crime. I believe the United States is spending too much money on efforts that will ultimately result in outcomes similar to those of the Vietnam and Gulf War. The result was millions of

dollars later, hundreds of innocent victims lost their lives, and the United
States was not as close to solving the
real problem. Americans have to make
the decision whether or not to continue
the war, because the war not only hurts
the people who are responsible for it,
but it hurts the lives of civilians as well.
I would feel betrayed and hopeless if
the United States was invaded by
another country, and I had to witness
my friends' demise because of the
senseless killing, or I would have to see
fighting as I walked to the neighborhood grocery store. I would not like to live in an environment like that, and I
do not think innocent Afghans do
either. I believe the war should stop
because it destroys their lives and ours.
I unfortunately had to watch my
friend's departure as he helps to "stamp
out terrorism" and hope that he comes
back safe. But for some fellow
Americans, that is not a promised
dream. They will have to live this war
over again everyday because it had a
much more devastating impact on their
life.
Therefore, I question when will the

life.

Therefore, I question when will the war end — not only this war, but also all wars. I know I am thinking in terms of a utopian society where war does not exist, but I do not think it is right for the United States to engage in any warfare where several hundred more innocent victims will be killed than the enemy itself. This is what I am against.

The other spring breakers



With spring break and a short burst of freedom just hours away, I thought I would devote a little time to some students who tend to get forgotten in these pre-summer bashes of fun and sun.

these pre-summer bashes of fun and sun.

Smith First, there are the students who will be going home this spring break. For them, there are no topless beaches, no all-night drinking fests, no sex on the beach with a sultry stranger they ran into hours before. No, this spring break will be about mom, dad, little brother and their new cat, Lucile.

To those students. I say, "You are not alone." While thousands of students travel to far-away lands, many more stay close to home. You are not the unluckiest kid a State, and you have two, three, maybe even four or five more years for make your mark on south Florida.

To be honest, you're not missing that

much. Those trips can be wild to say the least, but in a few years, the memories change from, "Hell yeah, I'll never forget that we did that!" or "Damn, I hope no one remembers that I did that." If you get your chance in the sun, enjoy it, but either way, I'm sure your life won't be any less complete. Time with your family can be short lived as well, and those memories are precious too.

well, and those memories are precious too.

Secondly, there is the shy guy — the guy who is hoping that this break will be when he finally meets THE girl. Ohyeah, she's a cross between Cameron Diaz, Denise Richards and Shannon Elizabeth from "American Pie." She is going to pick you out of the crowd and make your every lurid fantasy come true, in high definition picture and DVD quality sound.

To those guys, I hate to say it, but it doesn't quite work that way. Spring break can do wonders to inhibitions, but it doesn't turn chorights into porm queens, and unfortunately, it won't turn queens, and unfortunately, it won't urn. The biggest ladies' men I know were late bloomers — some of them very late bloomers.

When I was an undergrad, I had a fraternity brother who was particularly shy, Now, he wasn't a bad looking guy. Most of the girls seemed to like him. However, in the presence of anything remotely female, he would turn to stone. A girl might ask to meet him, I would then walk her over and introduce them, and this guy couldn't even say his name. One fateful night, a girl tried to give him her phone number, and he was too petrified to accept it. He just walked away.

I tracked down that girl, got the number and they went out. I think that was a watershed because several months later, he was seeing what seemed like ten girls at a time. He finally settled down, and now he's seriously involved with one of the prettiest, smartest women I know.

The point is that your time will come. Just be patient, be yourself and try to find some friends who'll help you out in a pinch. Just about every outgoing guy was shy at one time. They got over it; you can too.

Karl is hoping to get his first kiss this

Karl is hoping to get his first kiss this spring break. Any volunteers can e-mail him at kwsmith@unity.ncsu.edu.

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N.C. State takes harassment concerns seriously

On Feb. 18, Decker Ngongang wrote about his sister's experiences with imappropriate behavior at N.C. State. It is important for students, as well as other members of the campus community, to have information regarding sexual harassment and the other forms of harassment people may experience. This article will provide a brief overview of information about onlawful burstsment.

harassment and the other forms of harassment people may experience. This article will provide a brief overview of information about unlawful harassment.

In terms of sexual harassment, most people probably know what it is — leering looks, suggestive remarks, invasion of personal space or demeaning jokes: basically, any form of unwanted or unwelcome sexual attention that makes a person uncomfortable, nervous or annoyed. This type of behavior happens to both women and men. Sexual harassment is illegal, and it violates both federal law and university policy. People may think this issue isn't serious — until it happens to them. When it does happen, the person can experience a lot of feelings that interfere with their ability to learn or work. The consequences for the person who is exposed to the harassment can be great, and it may impact the person to the point where she or is depressed, angry, fearful or withdrawn. In some cases, subjection to harassing behavior may even lead to the person dropping out of the university or quitting their job.

To learn more about harassment issues, visit the Office for Equal Opportunity's Web site at: http://www.nesue.edu/equal.op/harassment.htm
I. NCSU takes the issue of sexual harassment haven yeriously, as well as the other forms of harassment that violate federal and state law and university policy. Other forms of harassment that are unlawful include harassment based on race, color, national origin, religion. disability, age, veteran status and creed, retaliation for reporting harassment is llegal, too. It is also against university policy to harass anyone based on their sexual orientation. If a harasser

tion for reporting harassitent is lingual, too. It is also against university policy to harass anyone based on their sexual orientation. If a harasser is found to be in violation of university policy, the consequences can result in disciplinary action that may include suspension, expulsion or termination from the job.

If a person experiences harassment, he or she should report it to the Office for Equal

Opportunity. The Coordinator of Harassment Prevention Programs is Dr. Rhonda Sutton, and her office is located in 1 Holladay Hall. The Office for Equal Opportunity provides information on resolution options and assists with the resolution of complaints. Students may also contact Paul Cousins for assistance with harassment concerns. Mr. Cousins is the Coordinator of the Office for Student Conduct, and his office is located in 3114 Falley Student Center. In addition to assisting with complaints, Dr. Sutton is available to provide educational programs and training on unlawful barassment. These programs can be tailored to meet the needs of the audience, and they are free of charge. Call Dr. Sutton at \$13-1234 to schedule a program for your student organization, class of department.

The university is a place where everyone should have the opportunity to learn or work in an environment free from harassment. Every member of the university community has both rights and responsibilities related to harassment; this means that all of us have to abide by the same laws and all of us have to abide by the same laws and all of us have to abide by the same laws and all of us have to abide by the same laws means that all of us have to abide by the same laws and all of us have to abide by the same laws means that all of us have to abide by the same laws. The more a person knows about harassment, the better able she or he will be able to respond to these situations. Opportunity. The Coor

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Rhonda Sutton, Ph.D. Coordinator of Harassment Prevention Programs

Photographer disrupts play

Last night, I had the privilege of seeing "The Vagina Monologues" here on State campus. The letter is not in regards to the controversial topics addressed (which were marvelously performed), but to the Technician/Agromeck photographer that sat in the front row. It is understandable that a campus paper would be interested in getting pictures of school performance, however, it is not understandable that the photographer interferes with the performance itself. Not only were the sounds of the camera's beeps and clicks irritating, but the ten to fifteen pictures taken per scene were bothersome as well. This was especially annoying since there was no action on stage with the exception of speaking and scene changes. Frankly, it was rude. During a poignant scene where the entire audience seemed drawn in by the monologue, the constant clicking of this camera shattered the grave silence. Although I cannot speak for the actors, I'm sure that it must have been as

distracting to the actors as it was for the audience. Please understand that I mean no disrespect to your publication or to the photographers employed by it. I simply request that next time, before sending them out on the job, you ask your photographers to show a little consideration.

Jennifer Lilly Biological Sciences

'There is a place for protectionism'

This week, Technician has run two misguided editorials on tariffs. Thursday's Technician's View, "Steel tariffs better politics than economics" is exactly backwards from the headline. Apparently, Technician considers angering allies and violating international agreements good politics. Technician laments the fact that South Korean steel production is greater on a per-worker basis, and that the domestic industry fails to provide for all of domestic needs. Maybe so, but the inability to compete has a lot to do with low foreign wages and a strong dollar policy. Protecting wages (and in turn, demand for goods) and the dollar are goals inconsistent with the economics of neoliberal trade policy. trade policy.

That aside, the standard economic solution

That aside, the standard economic solution is to move domestic workers into industries that produce more efficiently. Then what American industries are competitive internationally? The United States has two major exports: media/entertainment and pharmaceuticals. Not coincidentally, these two industries enjoy enormous protections from the free market through patent and copyright law. The recording industry is the best example of our day. What eco-

nomic benefit does that industry provide? Evidenced by the war on Napster and DeCSS, the marginal cost of music production is nonexistent, and without copyright law, these industries, too, would fail utterly. Our competitive domestic service jobs are well protected as well. Doctors and lawyers protect themselves from competition through extensive regulation. Nor did South Korea become an economic powerhouse by throwing open its markets to foreign competition — it did so through a carterial system of protections. If the economic wisdom of protective tariffs is still unthinkable, then it's time to abandon copyright and patent protections.

dom of protective targets and patent protections. Another element missed in these editorials concerns the overvaluation of the dollar. As economist Dean Baker observes, "the dollar is now 20-30 percent above its sustainable level effectively subsidizfingl foreign imports by 20-30 percent relative to domestic" production. This is basically what sunk Argentina. By peging the peso to our strong dollar, the peso was unsustainably strong. Domestic industry suffered immensely, and the economy collapsed. Maintaining a strong yen is the primary obstacle to economic recovery in Japan, as well. That is why devaluation is on the table in its fight against deflation. If the economic wisdom of protective tariffs is still unthinkable, then it's time to abandon the strong dollar policy. The fact is, there is a double standard. Some domestic industries are hurt by a strong dollar and low foreign wages, while others are protected through enforcement of monopolies and other protections. There is a place for protectionism, and appeals to economic efficiency are far from sufficient.

David Rosnick NCSU Research Associate

R U L E O F THUMB Iran Barbie



Iran introduced its own, more wholesome, more Muslim doll this week to replace American Barbies, which were out-lawed in 1996. The new dolls have clothes that can't be removed and are guaranteed to be no fun, or your money back.

UNC Board of Govenors

In light of the 8- to 12-percent across-the-board tuit increase approved Wednesday, it seems that the Board Governors is in need of a review of remedial economity Ou can't meet unlimited demands with limited resoure but you also can't keep passing the buck on to students.





The actress and once-partner of Ellen DeGeneres announced this week that she and her husband, Coleman Laffoon, gave birth to a son. And, as if the boy wasn't already going to have enough problems, they named him "Homer."

Amtrak CEO resigns

President George Warrington announced his resignation this week. Warrington reportedly is making a lateral move-ment, leaving his position to become CEO of an undisclosed energy company in its rebuilding stages.



Condit loses primary



Regardless of whether California Rep. Gary Condit did or didn't or just kind of did have something to do with the dis-appearance with intern Chandra Levy, he is a shady charac-ter, and it's good that he's out of politics.

El Niño





U.S. weather officials said Thursday that warming in the Pacific Ocean last month indicates another oncoming El Niño. This means absolutely nothing except that weathermen will have another excuse for why they have no idea what the weather is going to do.

Worldwide Internet



Nielsen/NetRatings announced Thursday that about half a billion people had Internet access in their homes by the end of 2001. Half a billion people worldwide now have no free time because they spend their free time downloading mp3s and bidding on "A-Team" paraphernalia on eBay.

Love suspended

Reggie Love, Duke football and basketball player, was us-pended this week until the end of the ACC tournament. Officially, Love is in trouble for underage drinking and driv-ing. Unofficially, rumors about passing out a 1 NC-Chapel Hill frat party and ensuing antics run rampant.



Mike Myers in "Cat in the Hat"



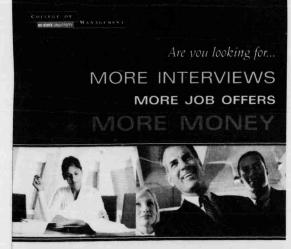
Mike Myers announced a deal to be in a production of Di Seuss' "Cat in the Hat" this week. The Canadian Myers wil give the new character either a hackneyed Scottish or Britisl accent not resembling any of his previous characters in any way, shape or form.

Chicken death

Chi
More than 20,000 chickens starved this week and 180,000
are to be euthanized because a bankrupt farm near Dade
City, Fla., could not afford to feed them. Although the poultry deaths are tragic, rest assured that the workers are rested
and well fed.



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The Academy begins May 27th and finishes June 21st. College seniors and graduate students are eligible

The Academy is held on the NC State's main campus.

Contact Executive Education at 919-515-4445 or ManagementAcademy@ncsu.edu for more info.

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Classifieds

CROSSWORD 1

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CROSSWORD 3



Classifieds

Deadlines

Male roomate want-

Male roomate wanted for spacious
3BD/3BA townhome
off Buck Jones Rd. 5
mins from campus.
N/S preferred.
\$375/mo. +1/3 utils.
plbordea@unity.ncsu
.edu

Roommate wanted for a 3BD house on Brent Rd. \$365/mo. +1/3 utilities. 851-3912

919-673-4189.

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at 834-3809.

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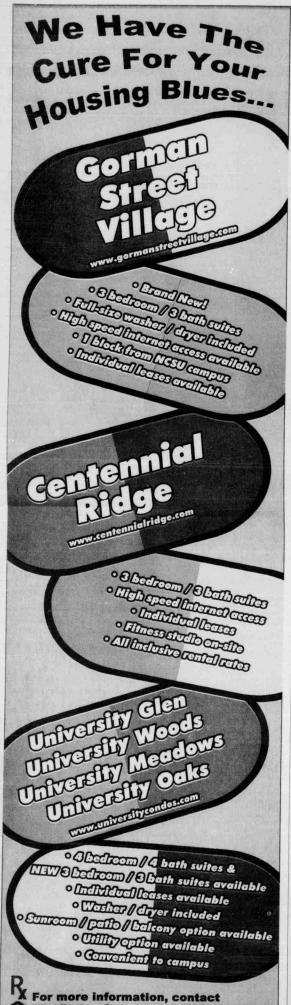
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MY VERY LIFE TODAY
IF I DON'T GET SOME
SHELTER
OH YEAH, I'M GONNA
FADE AWAY

OOH, SEE THE FIRE IS SWEEPIN'

OUR VERY STREET TODAY BURNS LIKE A RED COAL CARPET MAD BULL LOST ITS WAY

WAR, CHILDREN, IT'S IUST A SHOT AWAY IT'S JUST A SHOT AWAY WAR, CHILDREN, IT'S JUST A SHOT AWAY IT'S JUST A SHOT AWAY

RAPE, MURDER! It's JUST A SHOT AWAY It's JUST A SHOT AWAY

RAPE, MURDER!

It's just a shot away It's just a shot away

RAPE, MURDER! It's JUST A SHOT AWAY It'S JUST A SHOT AWAY

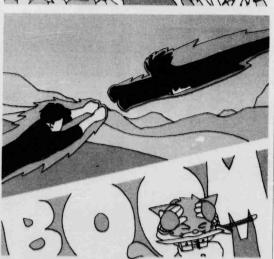
THE FLOODS IN THREAT'NING MY VERY LIFE TODAY GIMME, GIMME SHELTER OR I'M GONNA FADE AWAY

It's just a shot away It's just a shot away It's just a shot away I fell you love, sister, it's just a kiss away Kiss away, kiss away

-MICK JAGGER, GIMME SHELTER

eanwhile, Chalkhydri and MekaOscar have collected the body of the having ar-smoking feline Oskar and are now having a conversation with the shell-shocked young soldier, Zathael, who is a confused and depressed as ever. Seems though, Zathael has lost his shadow, so they hop into their bug-shaped space craft and go looking for it.





Sports



N.C. State freshman Josh Powell explodes to the basket. Powell and the Pack's other interior players will have to deal with Virginia's Travis Watson today at the ACC Tournament in Charlotte.

CAVS

aggressive," Mason said. "Regardless of the talent or anything else, if the other team plays harder than you do, they're going to win."

UVa also missed senior Adam Hall in the second game.

the second game. Hall, who averages 9.8 points per game, sat out 10 games with a sprained right ankle during the meat of UVa's schedule. He was instrumental in the Cavs' upset of Duke, scoring 21 points on 7-of-15 shooting. In addition to his scoring, Hall gives UVa, some of that

today at the ACC Tournament in Cha defensive presence it's missed at times. "He causes a lot of problems," State sophomore Marcus Melvin said, "He goes to the glass hard; he's kind of hard to box out."

While his ankle now appears healthy, Hall can't seem to stay completely injury-free, Gillen said Hall sprained his thumb during practice Thursday morning, but he expects Hall to play today. Although his team struggled in its previous matchups with State, UVa junior Travis Watson flourished. Watson, the ACC's leading rebounder, posted double-doubles in both contests, including a career-high 29 points and 12 boards in the second game.

"They don't really have anyone down there that can bang with me." Watson

about five or six people sticking me tomorrow, so I'm going to try to get my team involved."

With Watson and the 48-28 rebound-ing deficit it faced against Wake in mind, State paid plenty of attention to its inside game in practice this week.

"We put around our lockers that we can't give up points in the paint," Hodge said. "Ljust saw posters everywhere — 'No points allowed in the paint' just all over the locker room.

"That really got us pumped [Wednesday] in practice. We really went hard at each other, and there were no points in the paint."

2002 ACC Men's Basketball Tournament Charlotte, North Carolina March 7-10





Record: 25-3, 15-1 ACC

Key Players: Juan Doon, perhaps the best serior in college baskethall, drives the Tempinson Doon, (175 ppg), invitor center Dorny Boater (15.3 ppg, 8.4 rpg) and jumin point ground Street Black, the ACC, sassts leader, form the core of end of the top seriors in the country.

Key Games Feb. 17, Maryland 87, Duke 73, The Ferps finally had reason to celebrate a win over Duke. Christ Williams had been been game to land its term, and Maryland students let out a year's worth of frustrations in rushing the court of Cole Field House for one last time.

FORCOM: 26-3, 13-3 ACC

Key Players: Pick one of the starting five, and there's a 60-percent chance that you'll get a first team AI-ACC selection with juniors Jason Williams, Mike Dunleavy and Carlos Bozzer, Dube has the best trio in America.

Key Game: Jan. 17, Duke 99, Maryland 78. The first 30 minutes truly lived up to the hype, but Duke shawed what it could do down the stretch in dismantling Maryland in the teams' first meeting.



No. 2 **Wake Forest**



Record: 19-11, 9-7 ACC
Key Players: Danius Songaia, perhaps the best post player in the league, overages 17-7
points and eight rebounds per game. Josh Howard, hurr in the second holf of the year, is the
best blieff Wolke has had since lim Duncon.
Key Games: March 2, Wolke Forest 63, N.C. State 71. A win over State gave the Demon
Denoris The No. 3 aced Songails (2) points and 18 boards led Wolke on Senior Day and
capped a successful first year for coach Skip Prosser.

Record: 20-9, 9-7 ACC Key Players: Soints, atheray Gundy and Archie Miller have paced the Wolfpack all seasons Gundy's activationing all-around game lended him on first seem All-ACC. Miller has been standy at the paint and dwich behind the three-point arc.

Key Game: Feb. 24, N.C. State 98, North Carolina 76. Not much could be sweeter for the Pack than a second-half throshing of its shed from Chapel Hill that gave State 20 was and mine in the ACC for the forth time save 1989.



Virginia



Record: 17-10, 7-9 ACC

Key Players: Roger Moson, Jr. is third in the conference in scoring, dropping nearly 19 a game. Travis Watson comes clase to averaging a double-double, with over 13 points and 9.8

gains. Invest version coins use in developing of a development of the rebounds of cantiles. Key Games Feb. 28, Virginia 87, Dukes 84. Virginia vas getting reody to begin the sale of MI flickties before a stumning rally revived its KCAA foundment hopes. The Gwaliers used a 21-1 run late in the game to bear Duke for the second consecutive year in Charlottesville.

No. 5 Georgia Tech

Record: 15-15, 7-3 MC.

Key Players: A second team All-ACC selection, senior Tony Akins is Georgia Tech's leading sozier and assist mon Feshmen BJ. Elder and Ed Nelson give the Jackets a bright future.

Key Game: Jon. 30, Georgia Isch 77, Florido Stote 46. Until This game, the Yellow Jackets were valies in the ACC and looked to be in for a long year. Divider their most lopsided conference vistory in school history. Tech was eight of its next 10 ACC games.



No. 6

North Carolina



Record: 8-19, 4-12 ACC

Key Players: Senior third-team All-ACC selection Joson Capel is Carolina's top threat, and he's Seen hold talety. Fellow senior fits I can g is a helity post presence, and sophomore Adam Boone had a raise finish to an otherwise disamal varu.

Key Games: Feb. 26, North Carolina 96, Gemson 78. Barning a miracle in the ACC

Countement, the far Helsi won't be going to the NGAks, and they won't win 20 games or finish in the top three in the ACC With all the streeks ending, at least they kept their home-winning streek vs. Clemson allve.



Florida State

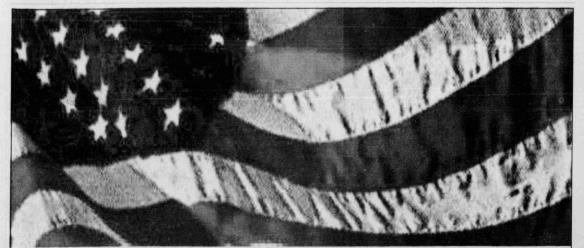


Record: 11-16, 4-12 ACC

Key Players: Senior Monte Cummings averaged 15 points a game for FSU, and fellow senior Delvox Anington ranked among the league leaders in assists. Freshman Anthony

Key Games Jan. 6, FSU 77, Duke 76. In one of the biggest upsets in ACC history, the FSU

rappled perviously molestere Duke, Cummings and Arrigand Lef SUI to the win, but it took a
great team effort and a host of Jason Williams-missed free throws to seel the upset.



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ports



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SCHEDULE



Pack, Cavs put plenty on line

 N.C. State and Virginia meet today in an ACC quarterfinal game with important consequences.

Jeremy Ashton

CHARLOTTE — After 11 years of postseason frustration, N.C. State appears ready to return to the NCAA Tournament.

postseason Trustration, N.C. State appears ready to return to the NCAA Tournament.

The Wolfpack enters the 49th annual ACC Tournament with a 20-9 overall record. It finished the regular season with a 9-7 ■ACC team conference and tied Wake Forest for third place, making this the first time State has placed higher than fifth since 1991.

In the past, numbers like those have been impressive enough to get ACC teams into the NCAAs. State, however, doesn't plan to take any chances, beginning today at 2:30 p.m. with fifth-seeded Virginia.

"We feel we are [in], but we want to go to the NCAA with as many wins as we can," said the Pack's Anthony Grundy, who was named to the All-ACC first team Monday. "We're not going to be content with this last game, so we're just going to hopefully get some more games under our belt and go from there."

For State and UVa, this weekend's

tournament is one last chance to impress the NCAA Selection Committee. Most college baskethall experts are predicting State will make the "Big Dance" for the first time since 1991. After losing three of its last five regular-season games, including an 83-71 loss in the finale at Wake, the Pack could use a win or two this weekend to improve its standing in the NCAAs and assure itself a higher seed.

At the moment, State head coach Herb Sendek isn't concerned with post-season droughts or even UVa.

"We're really focused on ourselves," Sendek said. "We know we're going to have to be at our best to be competitive [today] with such a young team coming into a venue like this, but we're focused on playing hard, and hopefully, we'll have a good showing."

UVa appeared to be a lock for an NCAA berth in January, ascending as high as No. 4 nationally and opening the season 14-2. Since then, the Cavaliers (17-10, 7-9 ACC) have lost eight of their last II and find themselves squarely on the infamous tournament bubble. They did help their case Feb. 28, however, upsetting Duke 87-84.

UVa head coach Pete Gillen is trying to get his team to shut out talk of the post-season and focus on State.

"What I say doesn't mean anything," Gillen said of his team's NCAA chances. "We're just going to do the best we can against N.C. State." Gillen said one of U'A's biggest problems this season has been playing good defense. Each of the Cas' last five opponents his senso been playing good defense. Each of the Cas' last five opponents his shot 50 percent or better from the itoor. Roger Mason Jr., the ACC's third-leading scorer with 18.7 points per game, expects something different today.

"We're definitely going to play harder than we have," Mason said. "Our backs are up against the wall. This is the opportunity for us to make amends for what happened in the regular-season."

The Pack swept the regular-season series with UVa, which was ranked in the top 10 nationally in both meetings, for the first time since 1988. State took the first game in Charlottesville, Va., 81-74 behind freshman Julius Hodge's game-high 21 points. In the remarch at the Entertainment and Sports Arena, the Pack controlled the action from the tiprouting UV a8-6-68.

The difference in both games, according to Mason, was the teams' mentalities.

"They played harder; they were more

"They played harder; they were more

Melvin starting and thriving



Starting six games on the pine in the middle of the season helped refocus

Things weren't going well for Marcus Melvin.

Things weren't going well for Marcus Melvin.

Following a zero-point performance against Duke on Jan. 13. Melvin was moved from the role of a starter to a substitute. Over the next six games, Melvin averaged only 5.3 points in 20.5 minutes per game — a marked decline from his 11.1-point average before the Duke game.

Also down were his field goal, free throw and 3-point percentages. Despite throw and 3-point percentages. Despite throw and 3-point percentages. Despite minutes and falling off the Wolfpack radar. He was even enlisted on the mid-season ACC All-Disappointing team by the News and Observer's Caulton Tutor.

"When my play went down, I just stopped doing the things I had been doing all my life," said Melvin. "I had good success at the beginning of the season. At the beginning of the season, At the beginning of the season, At the Joscased and Working on my shot, but I got away from doing those thing."

Recently, things have turned around.

No. 1 Maryland vs. No. 8 Florida State

ACCs rev up with quarterfinals

Matt Middleton

Maryland's prize for winning its first ACC regular-season title since 1980 is the top seed in the ACC Tournament and the easiest road to the finals—where just about every prognosticator is predicting a Duke vs. Maryland showdown.

However, before the

showdown.

However, before they can begin to think about Duke — or the N.C. State-Virginia winner for that matter — the Terrapins (25-3, 15-1 ACC) must take care of business over the winner of the dreaded play-in game, the Florida State Seminoles (4-12, 11-16).

FSU beat Clemson 91-84 in overtime Thursday night. Delvon Arrington paced the Seminoles with 24 points.

If anyone knows anything about a

Ar yland vs. No. 8 Florida.

No. 1 seed losing in the quarterfinals of the tournament, it's Maryland.

In 1989, Maryland became the first number eight seed to win a tournament game, eliminating top-seeded N.C. State 71-49, Wolfpack head coach Jim Valvano called it "the nightmare on Peachtree Street."

Although the Pack became the first number one seed to lose in the quarterfinals, it returned the favor eight years later when it defeated top-seeded Duke from the eighth spot.

One problem the Terps do face is they didn't know shom they would be playing until late Thursday night. With today's game tipping at noon, this allows for minimal preparation time.

Terps head coach Gary Williams doesn't think much about that scenario; he's just happy to be the top seed in the tournament for the first time during his tenure at Maryland.

"We'll just have the night before to get ready for whoever we play," said Williams. "It's not a big disadvantage for us; it's a new experience because we've never had the number one seed before."

before."

The Seminoles have proven to be a dangerous opponent if overlooked — just ask Duke. But FSU won just one game in the month of February and could be playing for head coach Steve Robinson's job.

Robinson's job.

Williams, who coached his team to the best non-Duke ACC season in 15 years, believes the tournament will help his team prepare for their ultimate goal — another trip to the Final Four. "We want to go into the tournament and play very well," said Williams. "You want to win first of all, but it's also another chance to play some games against some very good teams to prepare yourself for what's ahead."

Steve Thompson

Jay Kohler

Duke vs. North Carolina. The matchup brings to mind so many exciting games that it has been called one of the best rivalires in sports.

As they prepare for their 212th contests, however, something has changed. Carolina (8-19, 4-12 ACC), usually near the top of the ACC is in seventh place and actually possesses the same conference record as the bottom two tongs, Clemson and Florida State.

Duke (26-3, 13-3), who has beaten Carolina handedly twice this season, had a much harder time against the first place team, Maryland, splitting that series. Duke wrapped up the regular

the best team in the ACC.

In their first game this season, Duke defeated the Tar Heels 87-58. The loss was the worst ever for Carolina at the Smith Center. Mike Dunleavy led Duke with 23 points. The Blue Devils forced 25 turnovers and shot .569 from the floor. The Heels forced only six turnovers in the loss.

turnovers in the loss.

The Devils hosted Carolina on Sunday, Duke again dominated the contest, held at Cameron, 93-68. Carolina couldn't stop the bleeding, turning the ball over 25 times again. Jason Williams scored career-high 37 points.

No. 2 Duke vs. No. 7 North Carolina

Jason Capel also scored career-high 28 points, but it wasn't nearly enough Even so. Duck knows that overlooking Carolina in the tournament would be a huge mistake. "If you've lost a preceding game, there is a motivation to win the next one." Kryzveski siad." "And for the team that just won, you have to be carried that you don't assume it's just going to happen. You still have to prepare hard."

hard."
"We know we're going to take every-body's best shot," Dunleavy said.
"We've got to give it our best shot.
That's the focus. There will be no over-confidence on our side."
The game will tip at 7 tonight in Charlotte. The winner will advance to play the winner of the Georgia Tech-Wake Forest game on Saturday.

No. 3 Wake Forest vs. No. 6 Georgia Tech

Memie Ezike

The Wake Forest Demon Deacons and Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets square off for a spot in the semifinals of the ACC Tournament Thursday at 9 p.m. in Charlotte. The two teams split the season series, each winning on its

the season series, each winning on its home floor by 13 points.

Wake (19-11, 9-7 ACC) fell into a late season swoon, losing four straight games at one point. The Deacons defeated N.C. State, however, to sal-vage their season and earn the third seed in the tournament. Wake will look to senior Darius Songaila to carry the team. The senior is averaging 21.7 points and 8.9 rebounds in his last seven games.

Ike Forest vs. No. 6 Geoff
Junior Josh Howard and sharpshooter
Craig Dawson must help Songaila in
the offensive and defensive schemes if
Wake hopes to get past Tech.
Even with the high seed, head coach
Skip Prosser knows that Tech is one of
the more dangerous teams in the field.
"Georgia Tech is probably the hottest
team in the league with the hottest
player in [Tech senior guard] Tony
Akins." Prosser said. "It will be a
tremendous challenge, for they will be
a tough matchup:
Wake was dominated by Tech in
rebounding during the last meeting, so
Prosser will be looking for his players
to be physical on the boards."
Georgia Tech (15-15, 7-9) is one of
the hottest teams in the ACC heading
into the tournament. Tech won its final
five games of the ACC regular season
to gain the No. 6 seed — beating the

Itkes of Virginia, Wake and the Wolfpack.

Akins' leadership on the floor has complemented head coach Paul Hewitt's mastery on the sideline to give Tech a 1-2 leadership punch.

Tech must have production from its youth to be successful in the tournament. Sophomore Marvin Lewis and freshman B.J. Elder must complement Akins' offensive output, while freshmen Ed Nelson and Luke Schenscher must dominate the boards like the pair did against Wake the last meeting.

Hewitt feels his team is confident but must play their best in order to trip up the Deacs.

"One of the hardest things to do is to beat a quality team in a 10-12 day span," Hewitt noted. "Wake is a really good team, and we are going to have to play well to beat them."

been shooting above .500 from the field over that stretch and has emerged as a legitimate threat both inside and outside.

outside.

In fact, Melvin's outside game is vital to State's offense, as it works to extend opposing defenses and free up cutting lanes. He has emerged as State's leading 3-point shooter based on percentage (41.9 percent), and he is usually guarded by a power forward or center.

Melvin, however, must move inside on the defensive end — something he has yet to perfect.

"IDefending in the low post] takes a lot out of you, but you just have to worry about it at the end of the game," said Melvin. "If not, you'll lose your focus and rest a little bit."

For Melvin's season, the turning point came after State's loss at Maryland.

"After the Maryland loss, I just came back to the gym and told myself to refocus because my team needs me." said Melvin. "So that's what I did, and coach gave me a chance against Virginia, and since then my confidence level has been going up."

Virgina, and since them my contidence level has been going up."

His refocused ethic was needed quickly, Mired in a two-game losing streak and facing a daunting schedule, the Pack was reeling. Julius Hodge had been suspended for combative behavior in an altercation with the Terrapins' Steve Blake. Melvin would start in Hodge's place.

His performance then signified that he did not intend to lose the starting position. Nearly flax-less from the floor (5-of-6 shooting), Melvin scored 16 points in Hodge's absence. State cruised to an easy 17-point victory.

Since then, his play has maintained a high level. Melvin scored the Pack's first nine points at Duke en route to another double-digit scoring night. In the last two games, he's scored 18 points twice, He notched a double-double against North Carolina with 18 points and 10 rebounds.

Heading into postseason play, Melvin is playing at the level may bored he

Heading into postseason play, Melvin is playing at the level many hoped he would perform. He just didn't take the conventional route to get there.

"Right now, I think I'm playing with more energy than I have been," said Melvin, "This season, I feel like I've been playing the best baskethall I've [ever] played, and I feel good. When I'm in the game, I feel like I have no worries"

Third Team:

Recently, things have turned around for Melvin. Over the Pack's final seven games, he averaged 13.1 points. He's Technician's 2002 All-ACC Picks

First Team: Second Team:

Joson Williams, Duke Juan Dixon, Maryland Anthony Grundy, N.C. State Mike Dunleavy, Duke Carlos Boazer, Duke Darius Songaila, Wake Forest Travis Watson, Virginia Lonny Baxter, Maryland Roger Mason Jr., Virginia Tony Akins, Georgia Tech

Player of the Year

N.C. State MVP

Rookie of the Year Julius Hodge, N.C. State

Coach of the Year Herb Sendek, N.C. State

Josh Howard, Wake Forest Edward Scott, Clemson Steve Blake, Maryland Chris Wilcox, Maryland Kris Lang, North Carolina

Game of the Year Clemson 118, Wake Forest 115 (201) — Feb. 15