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NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

N.C. State student leaders address a Raleigh leader

◆ Raleigh Mayor Charles Meeker visited N.C. State student organizations yesterday to address concerns of students.

Ayren Jackson
News Editor

Charles Meeker has so far spent his first few months as Raleigh's newest mayor studying the city's traffic situation, planning the city's imminent growth and developing his own personal leadership goals.

But yesterday afternoon, Meeker extended his mayoral responsibilities to the N.C. State campus community, sharing his ideas of enhancing the relationship between the city council and NCSU and soliciting ideas of student organizations and student leaders.

Before heading to meet with

NCSU's Political Science Club, Meeker briefly met with members of Student Government.

Meeker and City Council member Benson Kirkman candidly discussed various topics relevant to NCSU with student leaders, which included Darryl Willie, student body president; Natalie Duggins, vice-chair of Student Senate's Tuition and Fees Committee; Michael Anthony, Student Senate president; and other members of Student Government.

Chat-chat style, the two parties — City Council members and Student Government members — discussed the development on Hillsborough Street, possible transportation services to downtown Raleigh and the possibility of students being able to use their AllCampus cards to make purchases at businesses on Hillsborough Street.

Meeker gave the students a brief breakdown of the future plans for

Hillsborough Street. He said the street will become two lanes instead of four, the utility lines will be underground and roundabouts will be constructed.

"But how do you attract businesses?" asked Duggins.

With many of the businesses along Hillsborough Street closing by 9 p.m. or closing their doors for good, many NCSU students find it difficult to enjoy the atmosphere of the area. And many more students are concerned with new businesses coming in.

"The businesses usually come last," said Meeker. Meeker suggested that once Hillsborough Street is completely renovated, attracting businesses should not be a problem.

Meeker and the students agreed that being able to make purchases on Hillsborough Street with the NCSU



Mayor Charles Meeker (left) and City Council member Benson Kirkman discuss campus issues with students in the Student government office.

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Thanking New York's bravest

◆ Visiting a midtown Manhattan firehouse reveals the magnitude of the sacrifice made by firemen on Sept. 11 and the months since.

Amey Bissinger
Special to Technician

[Editor's note: Six months after Sept. 11, eight Technician staff members traveled to New York City to attend a national journalism conference. Though they agree that they learned a lot about the field of journalism and media from the conference, what they learned by just exploring the city and interacting with people will remain with them for a long time to come. This is the story of one of their encounters — a fire station on 51st and Lexington in midtown Manhattan.]

NEW YORK — It's not something you get over or get through. It is something that becomes a part of you, that reaches to the depths of your soul, that colors your viewpoint and changes the way you live. You simply don't forget something like that. You go on, you stay busy. You do what's expected of you, and you keep going. And you don't think.

"I don't see it," Jerry Moore, assistant sports editor, said to Matt Pelland, chief layout editor, as we walked down 51st Street in midtown Manhattan, looking for the firehouse we had been told was near the intersection of Lexington and 51st.

I pointed to the flag hanging down between two red garage doors. "It's right there," I said.

The small group of Technician staffers crossed to the other side of 51st.

We had all been at the College Media Advisers National Conference for the last two days, and as the Copy Desk Chief and the only representative from my department, I had been to many of the sessions offered. Now it was



The wrought-iron fence surrounding St. Paul's Chapel serves as the foundation for the World Trade Center memorial. St. Paul's Chapel is located approximately a block from Ground Zero on Broadway and Fulton St. in downtown Manhattan.

evening, and we were all wandering midtown Manhattan in search of an affordable restaurant.

A banner hung over the sign for Battalion 8, Engine 8, Ladder 2, listing the names of the firefighters lost a little more than six months ago.

A gold ribbon at the top of the banner was inscribed with the words "In the arms of angels," and immediately the Sarah McLachlan song came to mind. The names of the firefighters were listed beneath.

Chief Tom DeAngelis, Battalion 8, Firefighter Tom McGinn, Battalion 8, Firefighter Dan Harlin, Ladder 2, Firefighter Carl Molinaro, Ladder 2,

Firefighter Mike Clark, Ladder 2, Captain Fred III, Jr., Ladder 2, Firefighter Dennis Mulligan, Ladder 2, Firefighter Denis Germain, Ladder 2, Firefighter George DiPasquale, Ladder 2, and Firefighter Rob Parro, Engine 8.

It surprised me that this particular station, in midtown Manhattan, about a 15-minute subway ride from the World Trade Center, had lost so many men. Somehow, I thought that being farther away would have protected them.

I examined the memorial that had been haphazardly placed in front of the sign on the stone wall on the left side of the firehouse. Roses, daisies, tulips, carnations and a half-dozen other varieties

were bunched there, some on the sidewalk, some on the ledges above. Most were still in their plastic sleeves and had been placed in whatever manner of container available to serve as a vase. Large white buckets stood, filled with blooms, next to a Gatorade bottle with a single white rose, nodding its head.

Nestled between clusters of bouquets on the sidewalk was a collection of white pillar candles in glasses, with the Star of David on the sides. Recently lit, the wicks were long and the flames licked the edge of the glasses in the damp breeze blowing that night, leaving the edges sooty and dark.

Cards peeked out from between the flowers, and handwritten notes had grown soggy from being left out in the weather.

None of us were quite sure how to approach the firehouse. We had been told to knock on the door and the firemen would be happy to sell us some T-shirts, with the proceeds going to help the families of the firefighters who had lost their lives.

As if in answer, the large middle door opened, followed by the smaller side door. We heard a siren and saw lights flashing off the sides of the buildings.

A fire engine pulled up alongside the station, and a couple of men in thick brown coats with reflective yellow lettering jumped off the side and came over, motioning us to move over out of the way as the large truck carefully backed into the narrow bay, the driver guided by firemen on either side.

After the truck had been parked in its bay, Matt and Jerry and I, followed by the rest of our group, walked over to a small office just inside the door, in the middle of the two bays.

Matt spoke quietly to the plainclothes fireman inside and then came back to the group, telling us that they'd be with us as soon as they stowed their gear.

As we waited, a tall, slim, dark-haired young man, wearing a suit, approached one of the firemen and asked what time their shift ended. He said he'd like to take them all out to dinner. The fireman's tone suggested that the station had been offered many free dinners lately. But without missing a beat, the fireman told him that tonight wasn't a good night because of the St. Patrick's Day parade the following morning, but perhaps another night would be better. The young man nodded understandingly and walked away.

As one of the firehouse's response vehicles, a Suburban, pulled up and backed into the bay on the other side of the office, I noticed a poster hung on the inner wall of the large doorframe.

See BRAVE Page 2

March 19
6 p.m.-8 p.m.



Hear debates among candidates for the offices of University Student Center president, student body chief justice, student body treasurer, Student Senate president and student body president.

The debates will be broadcast live on WKNC 88.1 on "The Boiler Room."

Students can come join the studio audience in the Student Senate chambers of Witherspoon Student Center or call in (515-2400 or 860-0881).

Faces in the Pack

◆ Out-of-state student Emily Kopelman doesn't take N.C. State for granted.

Brigid Ransome
Staff Reporter

"Always be stronger than you think you can, and if you can smile when things go wrong ... you already have someone to blame."

This is the personal creed of Emily Kopelman, and her life is a definite representation of this philosophy.

Born and raised on the outskirts of West Virginia, this freshman has undoubtedly seen and lived through many life experiences that enhanced her character in a way which she alone knows.

"I've seen the worst of West Virginia, but I was not a part of it because, fortunately, my father has done well financially," said Kopelman.

However, despite the fact that she spent a large portion of her life traveling abroad, she has maintained and

developed a passion for athletics and has brought it to N.C. State.

"I have been a female jock most of my life, and in high school I was a triple all-state athlete," said Kopelman, who was prevented from playing a varsity sport after four serious injuries to her ankle.

Nevertheless, she did not allow her injuries to alter her goals for the future and what she hopes to achieve.

Majoring in sports management with a concentration in sports law, Kopelman plans to attend law school and follow in her father's footsteps. "In about 15 to 20 years, I hope to be running my father's law firm and possibly still doing some of the dare-devilish things I do now," she said.

In fact, this devoted Wolfpacker admits to enjoying a little risk in her life.

"More times than not, I get myself into trouble by pressing the envelope," she said, "but I love to do wild things like bungee jumping, sky diving, scuba



Emily Kopelman, a freshman majoring in sports management, plans to attend law school after graduating from N.C. State.

CONTRIBUTED BY EMILY KOPELMAN

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FACES

Continued from Page 1

diving and just being somewhat rebellious."

On a different note, Kopelman expressed her disappointment with the failure of students to take advantage of benefits and facilities that are openly available to them. "I think, a lot of times, the students at State take NCSU for granted."

She said, continuing, "But living far away, I appreciate and give credit for everything NCSU is and I couldn't imagine going to school anywhere else. It's kind of like an outside view of State that the other students who are from North Carolina don't see."

When asked if she has any pet peeves, Kopelman jokingly responded that, although she is relatively relaxed about most things, she can't stand it when people "go through my stuff, especially when I don't know about it."

BRAVE

Continued from Page 1

Red letters named each of the firefighters who had lost their lives on Sept. 11, and the Virgin Mary looked dolefully down from the center of the poster, the names printed around her — three hundred and forty-three of them.

Three hundred and forty-three people who would never return to duty, never darken the firehouse's door again, never step into the boots, pull up the pants and adjust the suspenders.

One of the fireman, short and stocky and approaching 30, came over and addressed our small group. Until now, we had been largely ignored, and save a few glances, the feeling was a little lenient.

Neither group — the firefighters or the Technician staffers — seemed to know how to approach the other. One wanted to show appreciation and gratitude, knowing that everything they said or did would be only a clumsy effort to comfort and express the multitude of feeling that stretched across such boundaries. The other, having partially emerged from a hell we could only imagine, trying to get by, trying to do their jobs, trying to address yet another group of well-wishers, another group of people who, lacking the words — if there even are any — stood silent in the awkwardness of the moment.

He motioned us over to a black metal locker, which he unlocked. Jerry bought the first shirt and told the fireman, whose dark hair was graying slightly at the temples, to keep the change. I stepped up next and asked for a medium, and he handed me a navy blue, long-sleeved shirt. The front featured a small patch with the now-famous scene of the three firefighters raising Old Glory, with the station's name and company beneath it. The back listed the firefighters under the "Arms of angels" banner, with the silhouette of an angel standing between the twin towers, looking down.

"Midtown's Eastside Heroes" was written across the bottom.

He took my twenty and reached for change, and I shook my head.

"I'm not going to take it, so don't even bring it."

"C'mon you guys..." he said, protesting.

"Nope," I replied, walking back to my group. My donation was absolutely insignificant compared to the sacrifices they had all made that day and the many, many days since. I had given him five dollars; he had given his life a thousand times over.

Correction:

The comic on Monday's Serious 2 page entitled "Mr. Mustard" was actually "Up at Noon" by Antonio Brunson.

MAYOR

Continued from Page 1

AllCampus card would prove beneficial for both students and the business owners.

"I will look more into it," said Meeker as he wrote the idea down on a sheet of paper.

"So, what are some of the other issues on campus?" asked Meeker.

Transportation and parking on campus were among the issues that the students mentioned — issues that Meeker is already concentrating on for the city.

"I think it is great that you [Meeker] are able to be with us today," said Melissa Price, a member of Student Government. "Normally, politicians aren't interested in our campus."

"We don't have anything to fight for like our parents did," continued Price. "I just want to encourage you to help us, to talk to us and get us involved in politics."

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U.S. AIR FORCE

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Great job by Sendek's Pack

REGARDLESS OF ITS SEEMINGLY SOUR ENDING, THIS SEASON WAS A SPECTACULAR ONE FOR COACH HERB SENDEK AND THE N.C. STATE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM.

Right now, Julius Hodge's disputed foul of Caron Butler of U. Connecticut that inevitably made N.C. State's valiant second round NCAA tournament comeback seem merely in vain is foremost in the minds of most fans. Five months ago, whether Coach Herb Sendek would even be here next year and whether the team could live up to its projected seventh place in the ACC were the center of attention.

Since then, everything has changed — for the better, and that is what the Pack should focus on. Last year, when a losing season didn't even allow for the all-too-familiar NIT bid for Sendek's Pack, many of the NCSU faithful were ready to withdraw support and call for Sendek's head.

Amidst all this turmoil and job uncertainty, Sendek made a tough decision — a decision that turned out to be a great one — in not allowing Damien Wilkins to rejoin the team after declaring intentions for the NBA draft. During all this time, Lee Fowler and Sendek's players seemed to be the coach's lone supporters. Technician's opinion was noticeably absent from the fray. We would now, however, like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Coach Sendek and his team of underclassmen led by two seasoned veterans for such a wonderful season.

Sendek, with a little help — OK, a lot of help — from senior leaders Anthony Grundy and Archie Miller, has taken a group of wide-eyed freshmen who know how to do little but play hard, much less win, and produced the best season since 1989 and the first NCAA tournament bid since 1991.

With his revamped offense taking hold and his hard-nosed defense reaching fruition, Sendek has silenced his critics. The man can coach. Miller and Grundy exit the team at the top of their respective games and will no doubt go on to bigger and better things.

Yes, no matter how much we wept Monday for the narrow miss at the Sweet Sixteen, who would have even put money on the Pack to make the tournament at the beginning of the season. Sendek and his players have every reason to rejoice. With a new wave of support and the young talent to sustain it, Sendek's Pack is, once and for all, heading in the right direction.

Calton Tudor, the News and Observer's highly respected columnist, called this year's season "astounding." If Coach Jim Valvano and his astounding 1983 national championship team taught us anything, it is never to doubt. This year's Wolfpack basketball team never doubted, and it paid off. Big time.



The evolution of changing currency



Holly Bezzant
STAFF COLUMNIST

Greenbacks as we know them are constantly being revaluated by the government in their efforts to foil any prospective counterfeiters. There is an ongoing battle against counterfeiting, which is not being supported very well by some businesses.

For example, there are various tactics used by stores and other businesses to determine if a bill, mostly \$10 and above, is counterfeit, but they are not always being used. Many employers do not enforce the check that should be made to every large bill that goes through the registers. There are alternatives to merely redesigning the bill.

In mid- to late-2003, the government will introduce yet another renovated bill. The \$1 and \$2 bills will not be updated, since they are rarely copied. The last redesign took place in 1996 and was the first change since 1926. With the advent of computers, however, the government has had to consider the severity of the situation of counterfeiting because many counterfeit bills are now produced on computers. According to USA Today, 39 percent of the \$47.5 million in counterfeit

money that entered circulation in 2001 was computer-generated, up from only 0.5 percent in 1995. The new design will incorporate different colors to the bills. They will be the same size, and the same faces will appear on them. What colors will be used is not known currently, but there will likely be subtle colors in neutral areas.

As an employee in a store, I am ordered to mark every bill from \$10 and up with a marker that will determine whether the bill is fake. Unfortunately, the rule of marking \$10 bills was just introduced and is not being fully utilized by every employee, even though it is very easy to remember to mark bills \$20 and above.

As an employee of a fast-food chain back home, there is never a check on bills. However, there may be a check that I don't see myself that the managers perform. It's possible that even one of my readers may be a counterfeiter, but I mention this merely for awareness purposes in the hopes that future business leaders will take more notice of these things.

The bills will be redesigned every 7-10 years. This is in order to make it more difficult for counterfeiters to keep mass-producing the same bills for a long period of time. This is a good move on the government's part. Also, old bills are still going to be accepted. Unfortunately, it is very costly to

change the bills. The government has to pay millions of dollars for the public relations campaign that introduces the currency, and vendors have to retrofit their machines. The National Automatic Merchandising Association estimated companies' costs in retrofitting after the last change to be \$350 million.

One alternative that could be suggested is to introduce coins more heavily than what was done with the Sacagawea dollar. Many countries already favor the use of coins instead of bills. Many people think that change is a pain to have to mess with. I personally, don't mind it and don't understand what annoyances people see in it.

It would be extremely difficult to counterfeit coins. You would have to have immense "connections" that could provide you with expensive equipment and the appropriate metals. If coins were to be introduced as the new currency instead of redesigned bills, the same amount of money going into retrofitting machines and the public awareness campaign would be spent, but it would mostly likely be a one-time thing, rather than every 7-10 years.

Holly has a Sacagawea dollar in her coin collection, but maybe she should just buy a drink or trinket with it instead of saving it. E-mail her at paz_rata@yahoo.com.

Being ill-advised



Kate Lingerfelt
STAFF COLUMNIST

Once I got back from spring break and slept off a week's worth of hangovers, I finally decided to check my e-mail. There were the usual e-mails from my hunter, friends and various porn sites, but a good bulk of the mail consisted of pre-registration information. The zoology undergraduate office reminded me to meet with my advisor and pick up my PIN number. Fortunately, I don't have to worry about registering for classes this semester because I am finally graduating.

Many of my fellow students, however, are not so lucky. They are pouring over the TRACS book, trying to make the perfect schedule. Every student wants late classes and extended weekends, but they still have to take all the required classes for graduation. It's very easy to make mistakes and miss some required classes, and, many times, students have to pass up on classes that interest them for classes that they need. Also, so much switching goes on after registration to get a later class, a better teacher or a class with friends. Even with so many factors to consider, there is a way students can double check themselves.

Advisors provide this way. Before a student can obtain his or her PIN number, he or she must see an advisor first to go over the tentative schedule. The advisor looks over the proposed classes and compares the schedule to the required classes the student has left to take. Once the advisor looks over all of this, the PIN number is released. The advisor then talks to the student for a few minutes about previous classes and where the student is headed in his or her future.

Unfortunately, advising rarely works

this way. Many advisors see this part of their job as a nuisance, so they hand over the PIN numbers quickly and barely talk to their students. Heaven forbid if their advising responsibilities got in the way of their busy lecturing and research schedules. Most advisors have no clue how important a role they play and how much help they can offer their advisees. Advisors possess a wide range of knowledge that could greatly influence a student's performance. They should recommend classes to take, instructors to have and actions a student can take to improve their future career plans.

Not only can advisors offer recommendations and double check students' academic progress, but they can also help their advisees in the job market. All classes offered within a student's major are not required, and while some classes are not necessary for graduation, these classes can definitely help in landing a future job. Even though advisors work in the academic rather than the professional side, all advisors know what is needed to succeed in the field. They should pass this knowledge on to their students.

The main problem with advising is the advisors themselves hurt students rather than help them. Advisors need to recognize how much they can give to their advisees and how much the advisees want this help. Undergraduate students are at the bottom of the career ladder, and most of us have no idea how to start out and get ahead. Advisors take time to talk to their advisees, look at their schedules and, most importantly, advise. Students ask questions, get to know your advisor and, if all else fails, find a better advisor. There is a lot riding on preregistration advising, especially the students' future.

Kate would like to thank her advisor for helping her get to graduation. Without his help, she would be making fries at Bojangles' right now. E-mail her at klinger@unity.ncsu.edu.

Time for Bush to turn attention to the neighbors

Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES

11. Maybe that explains why President Bush is focusing on the region of the world he knows best — Latin America — even as the war in Afghanistan winds down, another war in the Middle East rages on and policymakers in Washington debate a new war against Iraq.

Normally, Latin Americans applaud whenever a U.S. president shifts his attention, however briefly, to a region Washington usually relegates to the backwaters of foreign policy. But this time, many are holding back until they see what happens during Bush's visit to Mexico, El Salvador and Peru this week.

That's because Bush raised their expectations prior to last September — talking about an immigration deal with Mexico, a free-trade agreement with Chile and the like — and then didn't deliver. To be sure, Bush had a good reason for suddenly being distracted. But you can't blame the Latin Americans for not wanting to have their hopes raised, then dashed, again.

It's easy to forget, for instance, how much progress the United States and Mexico had made by Sept. 5 — when President Vicente Fox arrived for a state visit — toward a labor agreement that would have legalized 3 million to 4 million Mexicans working in this country illegally. Bush's first stop on his Latin American tour is Monterrey, Mexico, where he should try to jump-

start those labor talks.

Diplomats and other experts from both countries had been meeting for months before last September to flush out a simple and gutsy idea that Bush and Fox had mutually agreed upon: Let Mexicans working in the United States come out of hiding to labor openly, then return to Mexico once their work is done. In exchange, the Mexican government was finally prepared to start cooperating with our long, futile campaign to slow illegal immigration across the U.S.-Mexico border.

Unfortunately, key members of Congress did not share Bush's enthusiasm for closer ties with Mexico and were preparing to nip-tock to death any new migration agreement once it got to Capitol Hill. Using the measured language of diplomacy, Bush warned the Mexicans the going was likely to be slow and hard. Fox responded with an undiplomatic insistence that a deal could be struck by the end of 2001.

That's where things stood on the morning of Sept. 11, so it's as good a place as any to start anew this week. There are hopeful signs that progress is now possible in the Mexican labor talks.

After all, six months ago conventional wisdom had it that conservative GOP leaders in Congress were not ready to give even a Republican president immigration reform that was perceived as rewarding illegal immigrants.

Yet last week the House narrowly approved a long-stalled proposal backed by Bush that would allow several thousand illegal immigrants with

family ties in this country to legalize their status without having to return to their home countries.

Six months ago conventional wisdom also had it that the new Fox government had not convinced U.S. law enforcement that it was really going after the criminal gangs that control the illegal drug trade across the Mexican border.

Yet on March 9, Mexican police finally nabbed one of Mexico's most wanted drug lords, Benjamin Arellano Felix. It was a blow to one of that country's most powerful and violent drug gangs and a symbolic victory in the war against drugs.

And although we need no proof of how hard it is to control the borders of a big, free country, last week it was revealed that the notoriously inefficient U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service had finally issued student visas to two of the terrorists who flew hijacked planes into the World Trade Center. The notices arrived at their old flight school in Florida on the six-month anniversary of Sept. 11.

What better evidence is there that the INS spends way too much time and effort chasing down Mexican busboys and farm workers and not enough finding the truly dangerous foreigners who would do this country harm?

Bush and Fox need to get that Mexican labor-migration deal done, and fast. Their meeting this week is as good a time as any to get the ball rolling again.

TECHNICIAN

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

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An eye-opener

Staff Writer **Carle Windham**

A spring break trip with Habitat for Humanity is helpful but also life-changing.

"Do you like to read?"

Standing 10 feet away, Selvin, a petite eight-year-old boy with mischievous brown eyes, reluctantly nodded.

I patted the ground next to me and motioned for him to sit down. Shielded from the brutal Guatemalan sun by the wall of the house, I began to read.

He didn't say much as he listened attentively, nodding every sentence or so as I stumbled through the children's book written entirely in Spanish.

Trying to hide my embarrassment for the countless mistakes, I asked if he liked it.

He looked first at me and smiled, then, fearing that he'd revealed too much, he looked back at the ground and quietly mumbled, "Yes."

I handed it to him and asked a friend to help me tell him that he could keep it. When he realized what we were telling him, he paused for a minute before tracing his tiny, dirty fingers over the glossy cover. Without a word, he turned his new gift over and over in his hands carefully, drawing the pictures and memorizing the cover.

When he was certain that it was his, he quietly said, "Thank you," and walked away.

A few minutes later when I returned to work, I found that the opening to his house: a bare, one-room shack.

I saw that he was sitting cross-legged on the dirt floor. Using only the beams of light that escaped through the gaping holes in the wall, he was silently running his fingers across the words and reading the book for a second time. It's an image that still burns in my mind a week later.

Selvin's story is just one of the many encountered during an "Alternative Spring Break" trip to Coban, Guatemala, where I spent the vacation volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, Global Village. And I was just one of the people touched by the

journey.

Beginning as strangers for the most part, our 13-member team first met last fall through the Center for Student Leadership, Ethics and Public Service, which organized the trip.

We were together because of a common desire to spend spring break doing service. Individually, different reasons compelled us to go on the trip.

For me, the spring break trip offered a chance to spend time giving back to others. Something that had fallen to the wayside in a life of exams, deadlines and papers. I had never worked with Habitat for Humanity and was eager for the opportunity to spend a week immersed in a different culture and a tropical climate.

I expected to return to school with tan lines, aching muscles and a new appreciation for American life. What I didn't expect, however, was that a week in Guatemala would teach me more about myself, the human spirit and life itself than two semesters in a classroom.

We left America, the free land of modern convenience and privilege, for the loud, dusty streets of Coban, Guatemala. Coban is a town where those who can afford homes live in one-room shacks, and those who cannot, including mothers and young children, sleep shoeless, curled up in the streets. Coban is a town without trendy restaurants or high-rise buildings, where most of the people eat from vendors on the street or tiny grocery stores down the block. There, guards outside the stores carry semi-automatic weapons, and the locals dress in brightly colored woven garments.

At first, it was a shock to adjust to days without time, a car, hot water or luxuries.

After a few days, however, the easiness of American life began to slip from our memories as we adjusted to life in Coban. With that adjustment

came a greater appreciation for the Guatemalan's lack of concern for time, easygoing friendliness and close family ties. While we spend each day enslaved to the clock and our mounting commitments, the people of Coban spend the day with no regards to time or appointments. Most of life is spent with their families, trying to survive rather than striving to succeed.

Seeing life through the dusty streets of Coban helped me realize that life isn't about the latest gadgets, fastest cars or most expensive food; life is instead in the living.

While we are blessed with opportunity, education, freedom and security, the people of Coban are blessed with a freedom that we can't begin to understand. A freedom where superficial things fade from importance and value is instead placed on happiness, love and nature.

My insights spread beyond the busy streets of Coban and into the small village of Zone 1 where we actually performed our construction.

Our group worked on two separate sites starting from the bare ground.

As the steamy days wore on and the labor became more intensive, we each learned our own potential and how to push beyond it.

Through simple conversations with the locals, we learned more about their lives and began to form bonds that broke through the barriers of nationality, race or background.

At the end of the week, in addition to our aching muscles, we gained upon 10 layers of concrete block partitioned into a four-room house. Not entirely finished, but the makings of a beautiful new home for Selvin and his family.

It is a home with block walls and bare floor, but for Selvin's family, it was a beautiful new beginning.

As we finished our work that day, we began to better understand the true

meaning of volunteer work. Coming from lives where we each have so much, we were able to give a little bit of ourselves, through sweat and our conversations, to people who have so little. However, we didn't finish our work with feelings of superiority or by congratulating ourselves for our selflessness.

Instead, somewhere beneath the banana trees of Zone 1, volunteering became less about sacrificing ourselves to serve others and more about experiencing the sacrifices of others and using them to help ourselves.

Even more meaningful were the expressions of thanks from the families we helped. Barely making enough money to survive, the families came together to give us each a gift, or "memory," from Coban. Ranging from hand-carved jewelry boxes to beautifully woven bags, we were each taken aback by the kindness they showed us.

Even more touching, one of the beneficiaries looked at us with gracious eyes and said, "We cannot give anything to you, but God will. He will bless you."

However, although our group did leave Guatemala for the familiar streets of N.C. State, the streets of Guatemala and the lessons they forged will never leave us.

The Alternative Spring Break trip to Guatemala was only one of two trips that the Center for Student Leadership, Ethics and Public Service (CSLEPS) coordinated this spring break.

The other group traveled to the Dominican Republic. In addition to these trips, CSLEPS continually provides a resource for interested students looking for ways to serve. For more information on how you can get involved or explore your interests, contact Mike Giancola, associate director of CSLEPS, or visit their Web site at www.fis.ncsu.edu/sle.

Frozen stiff

Assistant Features Editor **Joel Isaac Frady**

Ice Age

Voiced by **Ray Romano**

John Leguizamo

Directed by **Chris Wedel**

Carlos Saldanha

★½

Before even mentioning the movie under criticism, we're going to play a game of pretend. Let's pretend that we have millions and millions of dollars, but all we really want is something to eat because we haven't eaten in a while. So, with our millions and millions of dollars, do we buy some good, expensive food or a grocery-store brand TV dinner?

The answer is obvious: almost everyone will want the high-quality, expensive food. This was the analogy that came to mind after seeing "Ice Age," the new comedy animated film that may remind you of a frozen, artificially flavored grocery-store brand TV dinner when compared to its recent counterparts "Shrek" and "Monsters, Inc."

When compared to these, it really only has two things in common with the other films. First, the animation

looks incredible. It's more cartoonish than one would expect; the character designs look more like "Looney Tunes" characters than real-life creatures, but this works. The few moments in the movie that are actually funny are homages to the classic cartoons of Bugs Bunny and that silly coyote. The water and weather effects in the movie are also incredibly realistic, but even that only provides seconds of enjoyment.

Secondly, the film was made to make money, but it was made in a much more greedy manner than the others. Money is always an issue, but the other films were made with heart. They were carefully crafted by people who cared about every detail and wanted to make a meaningful, but fun, movie. "Ice Age" is long, tedious and boring. It is merely another movie tossed together over a weekend for several monetary reasons.

The action figures are in stores now! This is a "toy movie," so getting kids to know the characters and making them as kid-friendly as possible is always a high priority. So while a character like Sid the Sloth will annoy everyone ages 10 and over to no end, the \$7 action figure will be little Johnny's favorite Christmas present.

The video game will be coming out soon! Movies like this get transferred straight to boring video games for that second quick buck, so people who liked the movie can control the characters, too! There are a few scenes that even look like video game levels, such as the long sliding scene (you'll know it when you see it), so making the transition probably won't be very hard.

The pillow covers will soon grace your bed! What better way to help you sleep than by laying your head on images from a movie that put you to sleep? From beginning to end, "Ice Age" follows the age-old formula; it doesn't add anything new or original to that idea. Hell, it doesn't even add anything funny. It runs 75 minutes that feel like 105, and you'll stop caring around 30.

Now the companies want the rest of your money and, sorry to say, your soul! Hey, gotta cash it out for every penny it's worth, and movies like this are perfect for the creation of mindless drones that will buy their sheets and eat their artificial meat products.

So, you wonder, what's the point of all this? Above everything, if this is really taken to heart, the point is to inspire everyone to avoid boring, useless messes like "Ice Age" and spend your money on something better.

If that point isn't listened to, however, and you still decide to trek into the depths we call "Ice Age," well, you'll get laughed at later, and I'll say, "I told you so."

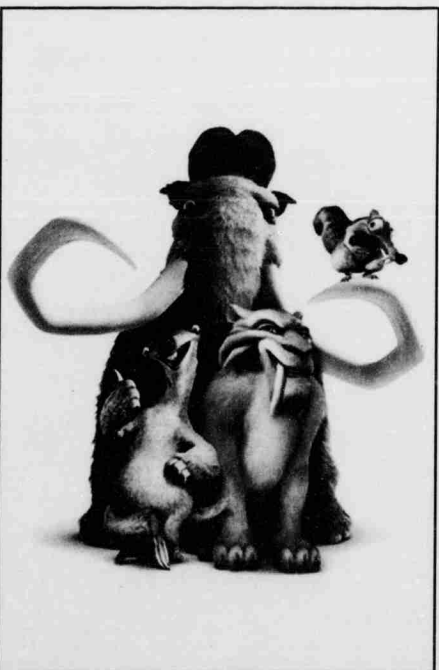


Image from www.iceagemovie.com. ©2002 Fox.

Will sing for a big (or little) break

Senior Staff Writer **Grayson Currin**

The list of songs ringing with love and adoration for rock 'n' roll and the lifestyle that trails closely behind it is, in a word, long. David Essex was "Rock On" comes to mind, as does Joan Jett's standing anthem of rock 'n' roll living, "I Love Rock and Roll." The lifestyle of sex, drugs and good times has been the subject of more songs than even high-roller David Lee Roth can shake a stick at.

Insults regarding the lifestyle of rock and touring pale in comparison to the glory of those '80s anthems that brought crowds to their feet and pumping fists in the air. "Turn the Page" just doesn't have the same sing-along giddiness as the feel-good Jett standard.

Have you ever noticed that you never find young, tired-eyed college bands covering Essex, shouting at high volume "Hey kids! Rock and roll, rock on!" They seldom do.

College bands are an intriguing case study in struggling lifestyles. Practice, writing, scheduling and traveling — all when married to the normal perils of college life — are a large price to pay for a long shot at one day living the rock 'n' roll dream.

Thankfully, a new group of college students sets its feet upon this harsh trail daily. Technician recently talked with local rock band Alabaster Suitcase to discuss their aspirations, anxieties and schedules.

John Stanton: Three years ago on Feb. 15th, Alabaster Suitcase started. We had five guys originally ... That lasted about a year, and then we lost our drummer. That's when [Aaron Chappell, lead singer] strained his vocal chords. We were out of the mix for about eight months ... in the spring of 2000.

Tech: How did you strain your vocal chords?

Aaron Chappell: I was an idiot. I had laryngitis, and we had two shows: Friday and Saturday. We were headlining the Saturday show over in Western North Carolina and we shortened our set on Friday night. I woke up Saturday morning and I couldn't muscle a word out. Then I got up onstage and sang for two hours ... gave it everything I had. I had to go through about eight months of rehab.

JS: That was not fun for the rest of us. Then we lost our drummer. Our former drummer's dad wouldn't let him play clubs ... so we were looking for another one. Chris Whitfield called us in about November of 2000, and we were practicing to nothing — instrumental practices.

AC: I was cleared to sing last February. We had our first professional show last May 5 with Runaway Cab at Firebilly Lounge. The public reaction was phenomenal. They're cool guys. They've helped us a lot. We've come a long way in eight or nine months. The Epic Records showcase ... was our biggest event.

Tech: What is it like to be one of 16 bands trying to excite just one crowd?

JS: I have never been in the presence of so much musical talent. We were chosen out of all the bands in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia to play ... with people like Weekend Excursion and Far Too Jones.

Tech: The breakup of Far Too Jones — what does that bring emotionally to a local band?

JS: It is a reality. It sucks to think about that, but I haven't crossed my mind with all the junk we've been through. We don't even take any money out of this. When we get paid after a show, we don't see any of it. We are still in debt.

AC: Every single one of us knows that we're in it for something much more than money — it's a bond, it's a commitment ... Every band goes through trying times.

JS: Like Weekend Excursion, I think their bass player just left. He said they were going nowhere.

Tech: What does the possibility of a record contract look like?

AC: A record contract! [laughs] It would be nice if we had one. We are still out of the gates ... getting our feet wet. A contract is not really ...

JS: We haven't had any offers. We have a couple of guys booking shows. That's it.

AC: There are so many facets to getting a record contract. When you sign it, you're going to tour it and spend months at a time on the road with these guys. It's quite a change. We need to have some kind of transition period where we start playing every weekend ... booking shows.

Tech: Discuss the album and the decision to cut a shortened EP.

AC: We didn't have the time or the money to cut a full LP with 12 or 15 tracks. Put out six. Push that. Try and get some contracts off that, so that we could then spend a lot of time in a studio.

JS: It's hard to get us all together with the money to do it.

AC: Our drummer is a trucker ... he's only home on the weekends. You call him, and he'll be in Arizona. Now, he's doing regional stuff to ensure that he's home every weekend for the band.

Tech: How can you balance school

see Interview, page 5

Weekend Excursion gets label, releases "Take Me Home"

Staff Writer **Chris Ragone**

Since graduating from college, Weekend Excursion has had many changes in the band's makeup. Violinist Mike Ferry stepped down during the summer of 2001, and bassist Danny Donovan called it quits at the beginning of this year. Yet, throughout all this, they have managed to secure a record label and put out their first full-length album, "Take Me Home."

Weekend Excursion is the first band signed to North Carolina's The Redeye Label. The new label will focus primarily on the Southeast's premier bands and already has Knoxville-based Gran Torino scheduled for a 2002 release. According to front-man Sam Fisher, the addition of The Redeye Label to

Weekend Excursion's team will give the band the time to focus on the future and writing songs, allowing the label work to out the behind-the-scenes details.

Fisher said, "We have always been this self-sufficient band, and it's harder to focus on the future because you are focused on 'right now.' This will give us some breathing room; now we can focus on the future."

The new record includes tracks that have already become crowd favorites during the band's extensive touring schedule. The band also saved some surprises for their fans and will begin to play the new songs after the album's release on March 26. "Compromise in Confidence" is one of these new tracks that gets the album off to a good start. This track introduces the listener to

Fisher's powerful vocals and gives the listener a chance to get acquainted to the band's harmonies and musical talent.

After established concert favorites "Conscience" and "L.A.," the band launches another new track, "I'll Never Fall In Love Again." This upbeat song also features trombonist Dave Wright, saxophonist Tim Smith of Squirrel Nut Zippers and James Lane on trumpet. This addicting track is sure to become a new crowd favorite.

The fifth song on the album is the slow and soulful "Best Friend," a song about a person who still wants to be in a relationship, but the other person just considers them "best friends." This song showcases Fisher's powerful and soulful vocals and lets the listener get a glimpse inside the emotion that was

behind the inspiration to this song.

Next up is "Theory of the Kiss," which happens to be Fisher's second-favorite song on the album.

Fisher says, "There is way too much crap on the radio; this is a good old-fashioned song about a kiss in its purest sense." This song also gives fans a chance to hear Jeff Foxworth's talents on the keyboard.

Following "Theory" is another concert favorite, "Liberty." This song, inspired by Fisher's relationship with his mother, tells of a young person wanting to go his own way and trying to win his parents' approval of his decision. Weekend Excursion has always had a way of writing songs that almost anyone can relate to, and this is another example of this talent.

Following the title track is "Treat Her Like a Lady," a song that retains its Motown roots while clearly sounding like Weekend Excursion. The last song is Fisher's favorite, "Push Me Away."

Fisher likes "the way it affects me. It's powerful to me, the harmony is right. It's written from the perspective of being in a relationship and you feel like the other people don't want to be with you, but they don't tell you. It's

saying 'if you don't like me, tell me.'"

This song features a 20-person chorus and a string arrangement at the end by Jay Clifford of Jump, Little Children. This song is by far the most powerful on the album, and it leaves the listener longing for more.

Of course, no matter how good a Weekend Excursion album is, the stage is still where they shine. Fans can catch the band during a performance to release the album at the Turtle's Records on Capital Boulevard in Raleigh on March 26. This will be followed up by the official CD release party at The Lincoln Theatre on April 26.

When asked if this was a "make-or-break" album for the band, Fisher replied, "Success is growth, and we are already working on a new album and planning a live CD we will release. We are not banking everything on this CD; our only concern is that we keep getting better."

This album is definitely a step in the right direction, as the band is constantly improving and giving fans a reason to keep looking forward to great things to come.

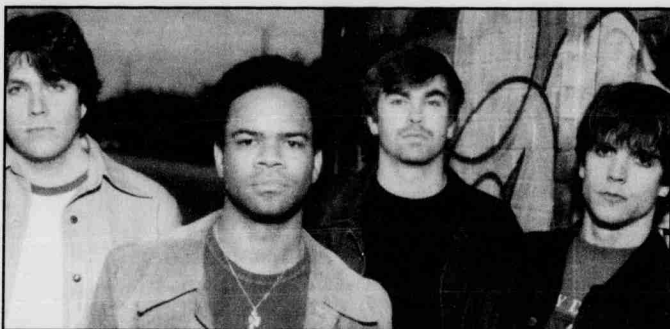


Photo courtesy of Weekend Excursion.

Interview, from page 4

with the commitments of the band?
AC: There is a music conference in Boston called NEMO's. They let about 200 bands showcase. I've already gone to my teachers and asked for those days off ... April 11 to 13. I asked for the chance to make up any test I might miss. They are usually pretty flexible. Even if we don't go, I'm going to go. It's incredible.

TECH: How old are you all?

AC: We're all juniors, except Chris. He's 23.

TECH: So what are the post-graduation plans?

JS: It'd be great to play for a living. Hopefully, by that time we can be at that status. We've played at Wilmington, and Aaron has come back and taken an exam the next day. People don't see behind-the-scenes ... We stop playing at 1 a.m., tear down the equipment by two, get the trailer loaded, and it is four in the morning when we get back if we unload the trailer. Get home about 5:30, and then we wake up about eight for class.

AC: The last time we played in Wilmington, we rolled into town about 6:45 ... I drove straight to school and took an exam for finance. I still smelled like smoke from the night before.

JS: It would be nice to wake up, go down to the studio and record some songs. It's a life of a lot of people don't get to live, and to have the opportunity to even think about it is just kind of ... neat.

TECH: How difficult is it to book decent, worthwhile shows in the area?

AC: It's a dead month for shows. There are three types of shows you can do: club shows, fraternity shows and bar shows. The bar shows use you as background music. Club shows are hard to come by because the market is just so saturated. The big three bands in North Carolina ... Far Too Jones, Athenaeum and Weekend Excursion ... do not really need to book us. It's frustrating. It's hard not being a manager of your own band. You call people, and they ask, "Well, who are you? Of course you say your own band is good." They just don't care. [Being in debt] that quickly becomes a big factor into what we can do.

The hard times of local bands like Alabaster Suitcase were unknowingly proven at the close of the 35-minute conversation as the surly owner of Global Village approached the band. Face flushed and obviously frustrated, he told the band in no uncertain terms that his was a place of business, not a hangout for kids who were tired of their dormitories. He demanded that they order something, unaware that his every word was being taped by the news source of the campus he depended on for revenue.

The boys kindly obliged, ordering drinks and apologizing. Turning back, they shrugged. The furored brow of Chappell seemed to admit that this was just one more obstacle in his band's — his family's — journey.

Alabaster Suitcase does have a future

in that journey. Fighting through the unremitting feedback they found at their gig at the Lincoln Theatre two weeks ago, the band played with energy. They took cover requests from the audience, turning the gangster swagger of "California Love" into a guitar-dominated rock anthem. They made a slight opportunity to succeed their own showcase and spotlight.

Their six-track EP, entitled "Stranger Things Have Happened," follows much of the same pattern as their career. The fine points of making an album mark obvious talent and ambition on the disc. Mediocre production gives the disc a flat quality, hiding the emotion of Chappell's voice and the remarkable rhythm section of John Stanton and Chris "Calypso" Whitfield. Chris Boyette brings impressive guitar playing to the table, but a seasoned producer would be just the cure for his overpowering and domineering style. Once again, the band is close to an overwhelming success; only the details stand in their way.

The annals of being a local band are not simple. They're not graceful and they're not earmarked by an abundance of wealth as a result of the music. They are, however, a showcase of strength and commitment. These are the qualities that make bands wading through anonymity special. With charged melody and ample hooks, Alabaster Suitcase seems to be wading especially well.

Catholic Questions?

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Men's tennis struggles in Vegas

◆ The men's tennis team lost three matches in Las Vegas but beat West Virginia during spring break.

Sports Staff Report

LAS VEGAS — Playing in unusually cold desert conditions, the 75th-ranked Nevada-Las Vegas men's tennis team rallied after losing the doubles point to down N.C. State 5-2 at the Ferritt Tennis Complex Friday.

The Rebels improved to 6-5 overall and 5-0 at home this spring, and the Wolfpack fell to 4-11.

State took two of three doubles matches for one team point and the lead. The Pack's tandems of Reinaldo Valor and Matt Lucas, and R.J. Murray and Bryce McGrory picked up the doubles victories. UNLV's only winners were Romain Tug

and Aviram Salomon at the No. 3 spot.

In singles play, UNLV's 62nd-ranked Thomas Schneider eased by Valor 6-4, 6-3 at the top spot. UNLV also got straight set wins from Tug at No. 2 and Thomas Michaud at No. 4.

With UNLV up 3-2, Andreas Maurer won on the sixth court to clinch the team victory. Salomon then closed the match with a come-from-behind three-set win at No. 3.

The State squad dropped its second match of the West Coast swing Thursday to Southern Mississippi 4-3 at the Ferritt Tennis Complex. Southern Mississippi improved to 3-4 with the victory.

After winning the doubles point on victories by Lucas and Valor at No. 1 and Murray and McGrory at No. 2, the Wolfpack also received wins from Valor at No. 4 (6-1, 2-6, 6-4) and Ryan Boward at No. 5

(6-4, 6-1).

Wednesday, the Pack fell to Ball State 4-0 at the Ferritt Tennis Complex. The match was called after Ball State captured the four necessary points to clinch the match due to inclement weather.

State's only victory came in the No. 3 doubles contest as McGrory and Murray defeated Matt Laramore and Clint Knoble 9-8 (8-3).

State opened Spring Break by slipping past West Virginia 4-3 on March 10 in Morgantown, W.Va., on the strength of Murray's singles victory over Eric Karchanski 6-4, 6-4.

After losing the doubles point, the Pack rallied with four singles victories, led by No. 3 McGrory with a win over Alex Paschalides 6-2, 7-6 (7-5). No. 4 Valor (6-1, 6-2) and No. 5 Michael Carducci (6-4, 6-4) also notched wins on the afternoon.

While the rest of the team builds on the success of this year's team, the two leading seniors will look forward to fond memories as alumni. Grundy will likely pursue a NBA career, and Miller is almost certain to coach somewhere in the upcoming future.

"Looking back, it's been a heck of a time," said Miller. "To play at N.C. State, with the tradition and a lot of passion at the university, you just hope to represent them well. I think we did that all season."

UConn game, Grundy and Miller were the first to put things into perspective.

"I think it's hard to swallow," Grundy said of his career ending on a controversial play. "It's been a great season for us and something we can always remember. It's tough, but that's the way it happens sometimes."

"In the next couple of weeks go by, you're going to be able to think back and start reflecting on a couple of things," said Miller. "It's a little bittersweet right now — we had a good season, but, as a competitor and a player, you don't ever want to lose."

BASEBALL

Continued from Page 8

give the Eagles a 6-4 victory.

"We know little about Davidson," said State head coach Elliott Ament. "They are well coached, and they are a team that usually features pitchers that do a good job at throwing strikes."

"But I look at this game as not only us against them, but us against ourselves because we are still trying to improve aspects of our game so that we will be a better ball club come time for ACC play this weekend."

But Davidson wasn't the only

team to host a series over the weekend. After managing to win only one of its three games against Richmond a week ago, State was also looking to get back to its winning ways.

With strong senior leadership by left fielder Brian Wright the entire weekend, the Pack did just that, winning all three games against St. Joseph's by scores of 15-4, 14-12 and 15-13, respectively.

Wright, who has a batting average of .481, was State's most consistent player against the Hawks. Going 11-of-13 at the plate, Wright managed to scatter hits to different parts of outfield, totaling seven RBIs and scoring eight runs.

"Brian is definitely a different player this year," said Ament.

"I've been saying prior to the season that this was going to be the best year that he's ever had, not just as a hitter, but as a complete player. He's brought leadership on and off the field to this team."

"Brian's having a great year so far for us, and I think a big reason for that also is that he's been able to stay healthy. When you're healthy, you're going to be able to accomplish things that you can't when you are hurt."

Until a 9-7 loss to Richmond two weekends ago, State was on a winning streak of its own. The Pack had strung together 11 victories in a row. Now the team will be looking for its fourth consecutive win in a new streak against Davidson.

TENNIS

Continued from Page 8

played better."

Bawono's first victory of the day came in the No. 2 doubles contest, where she teamed up with Jennifer Jassawalla. They defeated Miller and Jaime Wong 9-3.

"I played good doubles and singles," said Bawono. "I felt really good with Jenn and it carried over to singles."

State's Danielle Stadelmann nearly picked up another point

for the Pack. Tech's Fallon Koon won the first set 6-4, then Stadelmann took the next set 7-5. With all eyes on the third set, Koon got ahead in the count early and finished it off 6-3.

"Danielle has been playing good tennis," said Olsen. "She's at the point where she plays good against a good opponent and loses close. She needs to play good against a good opponent and win."

Most of the Pack's players were much better in the second set of their matches after getting used to the Jackets' style of play, which is based on attack-

ing the net.

"Georgia Tech plays a very decisive game style," said Olsen. "Most of them like to come forward in the court and attack the net, and it caught our girls a bit off balance in the first set. When they kind of settled down and relaxed a little bit more, it was more of a battle."

During spring break, the Pack managed to defeat East Tennessee State 7-0 in Charleston, S.C. but fell earlier in the week to Clemson 6-1.

State competes against Richmond today at 2 p.m. in Richmond, Va.

THOMPSON

Continued from Page 8

were the first ones to point out that such is the nature of college basketball.

And lastly, I thanked them as a fan. It was great to see the Pack return to college basketball prominence this year. The Pack swept North Carolina,

putted four top-10 upsets, reached the ACC Tournament finals and the NCAA Tournament's second round.

I will forever remember this season, and all State fans will remember the contributions Grundy and Miller made.

I was going to write about how unfair the game of college basketball is and how the Pack deserves to still be playing. In the end, however, it was more

fitting to honor those who made this season what it was rather than whine about what could have been.

Thank you, Anthony. Thank you, Archie.

Steve Thompson's columns normally appear on Thursdays. He can be reached at 915-2411 or sthompson@unity.ncsu.edu.

DENVER

Continued from Page 8

Jessica Campbell each scored a 9.75 to tie for sixth, making them the Pack's top finishers. Southard was eighth with a score of 9.725. Brown was

also a top-10 finisher, notching a 9.7 to tie for 10th.

Senior Lauren Palefsky led the Pack on floor, scoring a fourth-place finish with a 9.825. Freshman Cori Goldstein (9.8, fifth) and Dougherty (9.75, eighth) also placed in the top 10 on floor.

Brown was the lone Pack

gymnast to compete in the all-around, scoring a 38.95 to finish second.

State will travel to Towson next weekend in hopes of capturing its third East Atlantic Gymnastics League title in the last four years.

RECYCLE TECHNICIAN

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Tuesday Sports

Baseball vs. Davidson, 3/19, 7
W. Tennis @ Duke, 3/20, 5
M. Tennis vs. Ga. Tech, 3/23, 10 a.m.
Wrestling, NCAAs, 3/21
Gymnastics, EAAGL, 3/21
M. Golf, Chris Schenkel Int., 3/23-24



Baseball turns on lights at Doak

◆ The N.C. State baseball team hosts Davidson today in its first night game of the season.

Justin Sellers
Senior Staff Writer

The N.C. State baseball team will try to build on its recent success when it hosts Davidson in its first night game of the season tonight at 7 at Doak Field.

Unlike the red-hot Wolfpack (16-5), the Wildcats (7-13) are off to another slow start after struggling through the 2001 season with a 19-32 overall record.

Davidson is currently riding a seven-game losing streak, three of which came last weekend in a series with Georgia Southern.

Playing in a doubleheader on Saturday, the Wildcats

WHAT: BASEBALL
VS. DAVIDSON
WHEN: TONIGHT, 7 P.M.
WHERE: DOAK FIELD

couldn't manage any offensive production, losing by scores of 17-5 and 5-2.

Despite the defeats, Davidson kept the game close Sunday with solid defense. The Wildcats jumped out to a quick 4-0 lead in the first inning due in part to a double to right-center by senior James Marino that drove in two runs.

The Eagles would claw back, however, tying the game at 4-4 in the sixth. The score remained knotted until the ninth when Georgia Southern's Matt Hammond knocked in two runs to

See **BASEBALL**, Page 7



The baseball team hosts Davidson tonight after sweeping St. Joseph's over the weekend.

BASKETBALL Two class acts

As the N.C. State media relations staff announced that it was the State's loss to Connecticut, I knew there was something I had to do.

I cut off my tape recorder and shook

Anthony Grundy's hand. On my way out of the locker room, I did the same thing with Archie Miller. I knew they couldn't care less whether some hack student reporter shakes their hands, but it was the least I could do to thank them.



Steve Thompson

As the two senior leaders of this year's team, Grundy and Miller truly epitomized the entire team. Everything this team accomplished originated from these two. Over the span of their years in Raleigh, their talents obviously grew.

Grundy morphed from an inconsistent scorer to an All-ACC performer — as Julius Hodge would say, "the heart and soul of the team." He began State's turnaround with an inspired 26-point performance at Syracuse to put State on the map. During the ACC season, he was arguably the most valuable player to his team in the conference.

Miller could always shoot the 3-point shot, but this year, he emerged as a true leader. Underestimated himself, Miller knew he couldn't dominate certain aspects of the game. What he did was work to make those around him better. When he was on the court, the Wolfpack played its best team ball. That's the mark of a great point guard.

And that's what was most valuable about these two players. Although Grundy's acrobatic shooting and Miller's precision touch certainly provided the spark for State this year, their biggest contribution will be seen in years to come.

These two seniors are the only players in recent State history who can say they graduated with Pack basketball in good shape.

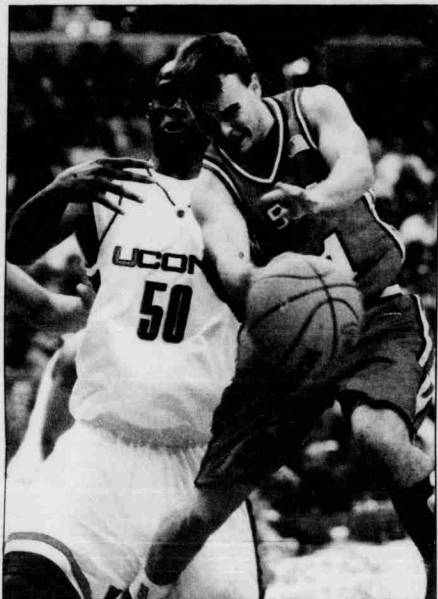
Next year, State has a solid group of returning players, and the Pack should be favored to once again finish in the top half of the ACC and reach the NCAA Tournament. Don't underestimate the influence Miller and Grundy have had on these young players.

And so I thanked the two seniors. I thanked them as a reporter who appreciated their accessibility and candor. While getting a straight answer from Herb Sendek (or any coach, for that matter) can be a difficult task, these two have been incredibly compliant with the media.

When they answer questions, they give informative responses delivered in a well-spoken, articulate manner. A reporter's dream interview.

I thanked them as a student. Grundy and Miller are two class acts that have brought incredibly positive attention to the university. They also are both on track to graduate — truly an accomplishment in modern-day college basketball.

They haven't thrown tantrums on the court or picked up needless technical fouls. Even after losing to UConn under tough conditions, they



Archie Miller leaves N.C. State as one of the most prolific 3-point shooters in school history.



Anthony Grundy was the first player from N.C. State named to the All-ACC first team under head coach Herb Sendek.

◆ Anthony Grundy and Archie Miller made the most of their senior seasons at N.C. State.

Steve Thompson
Assistant Sports Editor

The final buzzer that sounded to end N.C. State's game with Connecticut also put an end to the collegiate careers of Wolfpack seniors Anthony Grundy and Archie Miller.

During their time at the university, the two experienced highs and lows, but they will both leave State on a tremendous high, returning to the university to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1991.

"I'm extremely proud of these two young men," said head coach Herb

Sendek. "They've had not only a great season but wonderful careers. It's been a privilege to coach both of these guys."

Grundy finished his career among

INSIDE
■ **M. Tennis:** Struggles in Vegas

State's leaders in many categories: eighth in career scoring (1641 points), second in steals (239), eighth in assists (364) and sixth in 3-point field goals made (164). He finished his career by scoring in double figures over the last 18 games of the season and was named to the first-team All-ACC team and first-team All-ACC Tournament team.

"I just try to do whatever helps our team," Grundy said before the NCAA opening round game vs.

Michigan State. "I'm blessed that I am able to do a lot of things. It's not that I go out and try to score all the points or get this many rebounds; whatever happens is what comes to me."

Miller was certainly the Pack's floor leader this year. Voted by every player as the team member most likely to become a coach, Miller became a quasi player-coach this year with the influx of young talent.

He also made an impact on the court, becoming one of the most prolific 3-point shooters in State history. He finished his career second in 3-point field goals made (218) and seventh in 3-point percentage (42.8 percent). He was named to the All-ACC Tournament first team this season.

"A lot of seniors around the coun-

try that we've seen didn't make it to the tournament," said Miller. "I'm going to remember my senior year a lot because of the way we did it."

When the season began, few thought the Pack would even reach the NCAA Tournament. The departure of four seniors and two transfers left State with a drastically different team. There were questions about the stability of Sendek's coaching position.

"It's been a special season for us," said Grundy. "A lot of people didn't expect us to be in the position that we were in. The guys on the team just did a good job of collectively pulling together and pouring their hearts out on the court. I'm just glad to go out on a year like we had."

While hindsight shows the new

See **SENIORS**, Page 7

See **THOMPSON**, Page 7

Women's tennis stung by Tech

◆ N.C. State's Myrna Bawono won in singles and doubles action Saturday, but the Jackets took the match 6-1.

Billy Freeman
Staff Writer

The N.C. State women's tennis team ended up on the down side of a 6-1 decision against Georgia Tech Saturday afternoon.

Although State was handed the loss, head coach Hans Olsen was pleased with his team's performance.

"Today, we had the intensity level up from the beginning, and it carried over to singles so that was an improvement," said Olsen.

Tech (11-3, 1-0 ACC), which is ranked 21st in the country by the Omni Hotels Intercollegiate Tennis Association, opened ACC play against the Wolfpack at the Wolfpack Tennis Complex.

Myrna Bawono was a bright spot for the Pack (6-6, 1-2), picking up wins in singles and doubles play. Bawono earned the only point for State by defeating Tech's Mason Miller, who seemed frustrated much of the match, 6-2, 6-3.

"I didn't do much; she was upset at messing up," said Bawono. "I played better in the first set; second set, she

See **TENNIS**, Page 7

Gymnasts take second at Denver

◆ The gymnastics team picked up its highest road score of the season Thursday night at Denver.

Sports Staff Report

DENVER — The No. 25 N.C. State gymnastics team finished second in a three-team meet at Denver Thursday night with a season-high road score of 195.075.

Denver took first in its home meet with a team score of 196.275, and Air Force was third with a total of 192.45.

State scored its highest team total of the day on bars with a 49. Senior Kelli Brown was the Wolfpack's top

finisher with a score of 9.85 and a second-place finish. The duo of senior Aimee Panton and junior Adina Stock tied each other for fifth place with a score of 9.8. Juniors Marilyn Madey and Stephanie Southard each recorded a 9.775 for eighth place.

The Pack also performed well on beam, placing four gymnasts in the top five spots. Junior Cara Dougherty notched a second-place finish with a score of 9.875. Brown and Madey each notched a score of 9.85 and tied for third. Freshman Andrea Petrocchi also performed well with a score of 9.825 to finish fifth.

On vault, Panton and freshman

See **DENVER**, Page 7



Senior Kristen Nicholls goes up high for a return against Georgia Tech.