

Campus Elections 2002

Campus elections will be held on Monday and Tuesday. Here are platform statements for the candidates for Student Body President, Student Senate President, Student Body Chief Justice and Student Body Treasurer.

Student Body President Candidates

Larisa Yasinovskaya



MAJOR: Political Science
CLASSIFICATION: Sophomore
YEARS AT N.C. STATE: 2

"The theme of my campaign is 'A Whole New State.' What this means is that as a student

body president, I intend to change the experience of being an NCSU student in ways that you can see and experience every day. There are large-scale battles that must be fought. However, we cannot lose sight of the smaller things that Student Government can do to make each student's life better.

"I intend to work with University Dining to cut down the lines at the Atrium with an outdoor, quick-service stand. I want to work with the Transportation to make the parking system easier to understand and use. I want to bring back concerts like the Lawn Party and fight for a bonfire during campus.

"I want to work with Student Health Services to have a men's health specialist and to make sure that women get the free support they need after sexual assault.

"I want to make sure that the Greek system at this university is not neglected and that they have supporters when dealing with the administration.

"I want to work with Mayor Meeker and others to revitalize Hillsborough Street. I want to work with City Councilman Benson Kirkman to move the Homecoming Parade there and make it bigger and more inclusive.

"I want to make Student Government more inclusive overall and give students who have made mistakes in the past the right to serve in an elected position. Most of all, however, I want to reach out to student organizations and individual students to find out how Student Government can help them.

"Student Government does not have to be centered solely around a few high-profile issues. I believe there are hundreds of neglected issues on this campus that Student Government has yet to discover. We can make a tangible difference by seeking out those issues. Student Government can make a difference not only at the governor's mansion, but club-by-club and person-by-person, and that is my goal."

Michael D. Anthony



MAJOR: Business Management
CLASS: Senior
YEARS AT N.C. STATE: 4

"My term in office would be different than others because of the knowledge and experience I bring to the table. I

have been fortunate enough to hold so many leadership roles and be in a position to closely examine the office of student body president. I want to fuse together everything that I have done and all of the people I have interacted with, making next year the best ever.

"I liken my future presidency to a Sankofa. A Sankofa is an African bird that can fly forward while looking back at the same time. I want to keep this amazing ability in mind when planning ideas for a potential term as student body president. I want to take my past experiences and apply them to the future of NCSU. I know the issues, and when new issues arise, I am the person who knows best how to deal with them.

"I will specifically be tackling several issues next year: tuition increases — Student Government and the office of the student body president will not stand for any more tuition increases. As early as June, we'll be moving against any future increases and helping to develop the university's five-year tuition plan. Diversity — Student Government will take an active role in pushing the diversity initiatives set out by the university and various student organizations. Education — the student body will be

informed on issues pertaining to local and state governments that affect us here on campus. We will register and produce more voters from the NCSU area and send a message to our local politicians. Off-campus students — There will be an organized group to handle the issues and concerns of our off-campus population. From transportation to landlord and tenant matters, Student Government will be there to aid in our students' cause."

Clarence Davis



MAJOR: Political Science
CLASS: Junior
YEARS AT N.C. STATE: 3

"This is a year of change. Whether we look toward the tuition increases or the upgrading of our athletic facilities or the better salaries being provided to teachers or the rising importance of our beautiful Centennial Campus, we must look for the positives in each and every thing that our school has to offer. We all must set out to look toward the new changes and take them in stride and let them benefit us. NCSU is a family — whether you're black, white, Asian, mid-eastern or mid-western, you're welcome here. We must come together as a family and reach out a helping hand, academically and socially, to our classmates and schoolmates. Whether you support our ever-improving athletic programs, top-ranked academic programs or our numerous student organizations, we must learn to assist one another in our goals of merit. We are like a football team, and the goal of our team is to make NCSU the best university in America. My goal is to bring the Student Government, student body, academic programs and athletic programs all together to form one strong family. We can no longer live separately; we must work together to create the leaders of the future right here at NCSU. Each and every person on this campus has a duty, to himself, his family, his friends, his school, his nation and his world. Make us proud. We should all sometimes take the long road less traveled, which can lead to awesome discoveries beneficial to a variety of people. I hope to be that leader who leads us down that road to victory and success. Let's enjoy every minute of our college years. These are the times that are never forgotten, where lifelong friends are always made. So, if you were to take anything away from me, take this: DUTY, PRIDE and HONOR. 'Some people see things as they are and say, 'Why?' I dream things that never were and say, 'What not?'" — John F. Kennedy

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Andrew Payne



MAJOR: Environmental Engineering
CLASSIFICATION: Senior
YEARS AT N.C. STATE: 6

"My name is Andrew Payne, and I am president of the 16-campus Association of Student Governments. I currently represent 170,000 students throughout North Carolina.

"I was flattered to learn that someone submitted an intent-to-run form on my behalf. I know many of you are wondering why I kept my name in the race for student body president. The answer is simple — I want to help the student body choose its next batch of leaders. I was outraged when none of the student body president candidates except myself attended the tuition protest rally in Chapel Hill in the beginning of March. This effort yielded a \$100 to \$200 savings to students on next year's tuition bill. I was further outraged when one candidate called the student's effort to protest tuition increases as 'stupid' and 'idiotic.' Next year will be a crucial year for students at NCSU.

"The university will be developing a five-year tuition plan. We need strong leaders to advocate for low tuition. I see this as the biggest issue facing the student body next year, and we cannot afford a leader who is mediocre."

"I hope that by remaining in the race, I have 'lit a fire' underneath the other candidates. I have dedicated my tenure at NCSU to serving and advocating for students. I hope the student body will not accept mediocrity and choose a leader who will lead by example and advocate tirelessly for students."

Student Senate President Candidates

Josh Cox



MAJOR: Textile Engineering
CLASS: Junior
YEARS AT N.C. STATE: 3

"I have served two years in Student Senate, and I have seen many things that need to be done. I want to use the white board [in the senate hall] to keep track of debate rounds and where we are on the agenda. I want to explain every motion before it is voted on, so that everyone will know what he or she is voting on. I will do easy things, like improving the senate. The committee structure has never been at its best; I will use the committees to improve the senate."

"Efficiency: Use committees to improve the senate's efficiency; spend more time discussing bills in committee, thus, when the bill hits the floor, it is easily voted on; and if the job can be done without writing legislation, don't write anything."

"Diversity: Use a floating diversity committee. I want to have an array of committee members attending every [other] committee meeting, along with attending the diversity committee."

"Follow-Up: Passing a bill does nothing if no one reads it. I want the authors of the bill to schedule time to discuss it with the senate. Once the true intent of the bill is known, we'll know that the issue has been addressed and any actions that need to be taken."

"Proactive: Have better relations with student organizations and university administration. By improving our relations with every student organization and the university, we can find out the issues that they're facing and help them."

"It's just that easy."

"www.votejoshcox.com"

Brad Dixon



MAJOR: Microbiology
CLASS: Sophomore
YEARS AT N.C. STATE: 2

From Dixon's personal statement on the Student Government Website:

"Establish greater accountability in student fees."

"The Senate possesses great authority over one aspect of the cost of higher education — student fees. Rather than hearing from fee-requesting agencies only when they are requesting increases, bring all these agencies before the tuition and fees committee to justify their current fee amount as well."

"Build a Student Government 'lobbying corps'."

"Create a permanent arm of Student Government devoted to presenting the students' position on major issues as determined by the Senate. Link campus groups through this agency to effectively organize them for advocacy on pressing issues."

"Goals and committee effectiveness."

"Make the most effective use of committees by having the entire senate set policy goals for the year at the SG retreat and assign the various committees their responsibilities and a timetable for fulfilling them."

Student Chief Justice Candidates

Brent Rowe



MAJORS: Electrical Engineering and Economics
CLASS: Senior
YEARS AT N.C. STATE: 4

"How many students come to school at NCSU and really understand what the Code of Student Conduct is, what the office of Student Conduct does and why the Judicial Board exists? I would say, not many. This is something which needs to change on our campus, and I believe that more education on the judicial process and on integrity in general would be of great benefit to our campus community."

"The reason that I am running for student chief justice of NCSU is that I have

both the ability to work well with students and administrators and the desire to help move the board towards being a proactive group, which seeks not only to administer fair decisions but also to inform students and faculty about the judicial process and the Code of Student Conduct, which governs NCSU students' actions."

"There is a need on this campus for more information to be given and received about issues of misconduct, particularly issues of academic integrity. If elected, I plan to expand the activities of NCSU's Judicial Board to help in better educating our university community on integrity and on the structure of our judicial system."

"With my past experience and my plans for the future, I believe that I should be the next student chief justice of NCSU."

Worham Boyle



MAJOR: Multidisciplinary Studies
CLASS: Senior
YEARS AT N.C. STATE: 3

"Why are you running for student chief justice? It's really quite simple."

"I want the best candidate in office, and I feel I am that candidate. In the least, I want the position to be challenged and continue to be challenged. The position has not been contested for six years and I think a lot of people have quelled their passion for the Judicial Board so as not to spoil an image of 'unity.' I assure you, the board is more unified than ever. Without a challenge, a candidate will not be pushed to bring change. He or she will be just another suit in the administration."

"How am I different from the other candidate? I've been asked this time and time again. We really aren't that different when it comes down to our duties. We do not challenge any of our duties; we both want to see more proactivity. The difference comes in our view of the position and our leadership style in the position. I feel that the person in the position of student chief justice should not be one that jumps into deliberation without the statement, 'That guy seemed pretty glib, what do you guys think?'"

"As it has in past cases. The chief justice's job is to facilitate the hearing and to ensure that all sides are represented in deliberation, making personal opinion known only in the necessity of a tie-breaking vote. In the past, this has not been the case. We need a chief justice who is willing to play more than a reactive role. We need a chief justice who will listen to student concerns and represent them to the administration. I listen, and I care. You can call me any time at 601-7834, or e-mail me at wboyle@unity.ncsu.edu."

"Reactive roles and proactive roles are what both I and the other candidate have been pushing. What sets us apart is that I want to add a third dimension: an active role."

"I wish I had more than 400 words to tell you all the issues that I care about. Since I do not, I have taken the liberty to put my thoughts on the Web at vote.worham.com. The chief justice should be an activist for students, utilizing their position[s] on the Chancellor's Roundtable, NCSU Police Committee and University Legal Affairs Committee. The chief justice needs to be willing to work with the other branches to push the issues that students care about. I am willing to do that and have demonstrated my willingness to do that. I'm not another suit."

"The ground running once in office. Furthermore, experience will allow me to quickly identify and address potential friction points within our student leadership so that we can be as effective a group as is possible. With experience comes leadership potential. Since my year-day in Student Government, it is clear to me that our student body officers were true leaders, and I look to continue that. The position of student body treasurer is so important because it has the power to get projects off the ground with money. In my platform, I illustrate very specific goals and projects for next year-day in which will give solid structure to my time in office. I propose to open lines of communication between Student Government and fellow campus groups, specifically IRC and UAB/Student Centers. I want to help key Student Government involvement with the tuition task force and work closely with ASG as an ally in this fight to ensure all an equal opportunity for education. Beyond that, I want to continue sound fee review and find new avenues for financial aid. We want to revitalize the campus community. I am committed to getting a OneCard system for use at off-campus merchants. I want to increase diversity efforts and work specifically with cultural groups to help improve the diversity climate here on campus. My office will have plans for a credit card education program so that students don't fall into the financial problems that credit cards can lead to. I

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came to give Student Government a try by the end of my next year. I saw Student Government as a place to put my energy and my dedication towards service. To me, the appropriations process is one of the most real ways that Student Government has an impact on campus, so when I was elected to Student Senate, I chose to be on the finance committee.

"Now I want to take that commitment to service to the next level and serve as Student Body Treasurer. As a candidate, I have focused on three major ideas that will have a real impact on students. Two are traditional issues for the student body treasurer: simplifying the appropriations process of Student Government to include other groups and developing new resources for student groups. The most important issue to me, however, is affordability. This year, I committed myself to fighting the tuition increase, and I plan to continue that next year. I am committed to assembling and leading a coalition of students, inside and outside Student Government, to be a sustainable force to fight tuition increases on a campus level. A leader, though, knows when to be a follower, so while my focus will be on this campus and its students, I also plan to work with the Association of Student Governments and its leaders to assist them in their fight against tuition increases system-wide. One of the most common criticisms of Student Government candidates is that they are playing politician, that they are just saying whatever it takes to get elected. I have a detailed plan of how I intend to accomplish my platform, and my track record is one of dedication to these issues and delivering on my commitments."

"I'm not just looking for something to put on a resume; I'm not just someone playing dress-up and blowing hot air. If that was the case, I'd stick by being vague by design."

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Christian groups unite for field day and prayer march

◆ Several on-campus Christian organizations gathered to promote unity at N.C. State.

Aniesha Felton
Staff Reporter

Some N.C. State students want people to remember the Christians.

"So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another" (Romans 12:5).

This scripture served as a motto for Christian organizations Inter-Varsity (IV), One Nation Under God and United Student Fellowship (USF) this Saturday and Sunday as they assembled for a field day and prayer march in order to encourage unity among Christians.

"There's a lot of [Christians] in the world, but we're all one in Christ," said Lorenzo Watson, organizer and president of USF. Quoting Romans 12:10, "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another," Watson described the weekend as one designed to promote unity among Christians and the N.C. State

community.

"I wanted all the Christian ministries to know and interact with each other. We are all doing a good work [for the Lord], but it would be a greater work if we all came together," he said.

While Watson's main goal was unity, the goals of IV's president, Erica Kloefkorn, and IV's "point man" for this event, Andrew Pappas, were to build relationships. "I pray that personal relationships will prosper from this weekend," said Kloefkorn. "We're all God's people — and yes, there might be different styles of worshiping, but hopefully we'll embrace it and become friends in hopes to fight the good fight together," she said.

"Relationships," added Pappas. "I want relationships to be built and to continue to build after today; not only Christian groups, but between people also," he said.

Activities began at 9 a.m. on Saturday with a game of basketball. Flag football and kick ball were also set on the agenda, though basketball appeared to dominate.

"The field day event came about from me just thinking

about field day in middle school; it was on everybody's mind on the very first day of school. I thought that maybe we could reinvent field day in college. I emailed all the Christian groups and asked for them to reply," said Watson.

"It's not about the games; it's a great opportunity for us to gather together and fellowship on and for the campus. The campus needs prayer, and this field day will allow God's people to come together, have fun and intercede for the campus," said Watson.

Activities ended at noon, and participants met again at 1:30 p.m. in Withers to watch the movie "Remember the Titans," which was then followed by a discussion on racial issues and relations.

"It was very truthful; there were a lot of issues that needed to be covered that was addressed today," said senior C.J. Johnson, a member of USF. "It was very enriching. It made me examine myself concerning racial issues."

One topic of discussion was a scene in which the coach of the team playing against the Titans in the regional competition said, "We will knock the

chocolate out of them."

"I thought they meant knocking the crap out of someone," said Eban Bean, a member of IV. "I now feel appalled by the ignorance of it."

Responding to a person's wondering of what other people were thinking when watching the movie, Reggie Lindsay, president of One Nation, shared his views.

"I know what most of the black people were thinking; we're used to ignorant remarks like those," said Lindsay. "I talk to my white friends, and they can't believe that racism still exists; if they only knew."

"The football team coming together, with all their different races, affected the whole community," said Watson. "We Christians can become like that football team, with our different races and religious backgrounds, and affect the campus, too," he added.

"God has shown lots of grace and has honored ministries who are trying to diversify themselves," said Todd Waldo, IV staff member and advisor for USF. "True ethnic reconciliation can only happen in God; it is a process he is putting us through — today, seeing racial

issues from every angle, not only black and white, was a start. We're definitely on our way," he added.

"Race relations is very close to God's heart," said Pappas. "If Christians of different races can't get together and show unity, then how can we make anyone believe that the gospel we believe in is as powerful as we say it is?"

Pappas also shared his support for the prayer march held on Sunday at 7 p.m. "What we did yesterday will fade away without prayer. Prayer is the glue that will make everything stick. Anyone can do what we did yesterday; having prayer means we are serious about this — this isn't for show," he added.

The prayer march, which started at Witherspoon, made its way to the Bell Tower, where the marchers prayed, and then to the Brickyard for another prayer. Subsequently, they sang and prayed while walking down Hillsborough Street and ended at Witherspoon, where they had a final prayer and sang "Couldn't Keep It to Myself."

"This weekend allowed me to be more knowledgeable about

other Christian groups," said Lindsay. "Hopefully, this experience — not only for me but for others as well — will broaden our horizons of different, yet the same, people and Christian organizations on campus; it was a success in my book," he said.

"God just wanted to see his children work together, live together and, above all, pray together," said Waldo. "It will happen; we're on the right path."

"No matter what we look like or where we come from, we're all sisters and brothers. If one body of Christ is suffering, I am suffering too," added Watson. "I guess the only word that expresses what I want and has thankfully received this weekend was unity among all people. We united, interceded for the campus — friends, classmates and nonbelievers, and pleased God; I can't ask for anything else this weekend," he said.

Kloefkorn agreed. "This was a beautiful picture of the fuller body of Christ. It was a great way of displaying love and peace, all of which God stands for. Amen," she said.

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Write
to eliminate
prejudice

◆ This is the third consecutive year that Phi Lambda Phi has held their Elimination of Prejudice Essay Contest.

News Staff Report

N.C. State's chapter of Phi Lambda Phi, a fraternity established at Yale University in 1895 "as a protest and living example against the tendency of fraternities to discriminate against students for religious and racial reasons," is holding its third annual Elimination of Prejudice Essay Contest.

Phi Lambda Phi is currently looking for students to submit an essay focusing on the steps which can be taken to eliminate prejudice. The goal of the essay contest is to create public awareness of the societal problems with prejudice.

All applicants are encouraged to use their own personal experiences to "describe the problems of prejudice, or how they have helped to eliminate prejudice."

The contest winner will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.

Any student or incoming freshman who will be taking classes at NCSU next year is eligible to participate in this contest.

Applications and information on Phi Lambda Phi are available online at www.pilambdaphi.net. Essays and applications must be submitted by April 10 and can be mailed to: Phi Lambda Phi — Essay Contest, 12 Maiden Lane, Raleigh, N.C. 27607.

The contest winner will be announced on April 17 during a banquet in the Alumni Building. The keynote speaker at the banquet will be Rupert Nacoste, vice provost for diversity.

According to the Phi Lambda Phi Web site, during the time of the fraternity's creation, "discrimination had been growing in colleges and the result was the formation of sectarian fraternities by members of the minority groups who were being discriminated against."

In addition, Phi Lambda Phi was founded on the basis of eliminating all prejudice and sectarianism, as the three founders of the fraternity were of different religions.

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Hillsborough Street gears up for revitalization

♦ Vendors, students and developers look to the future of Hillsborough Street.

Amy Bissinger
Staff Reporter

Hillsborough Street has seen its share of people come and go. Some of them come and set up shop, others pass by on their way elsewhere.

Lately, though, it's been more of the latter.

Hillsborough Street's decline has been gradual, with a business closing here and there, sometimes to be replaced, sometimes not.

Homeless people filtered in to replace the prostitutes who worked the corner where Darryl's now stands, giving the atmosphere a decidedly down-trodden air.

Complaints from neighborhoods bordering the street also started to filter in. The street was too noisy, there were too many drunken students celebrating after games, there's too much litter was left lying around, the students were taking all the parking.

Residents concerned about the street's condition and future prospects started meeting, and the Hillsborough Street Partnership was formed, headed by Nina Szlosberg. Plans were drafted, and things seemed to be looking up.

Or at least, that was the thought, but nagging doubts and suspicions remain.

The Plan
Kimley Horn and Associates, the transportation planners who drafted the plans for the Hillsborough Street redevelopment, have included a number of controversial changes, the biggest one being the creation of roundabouts.

Seven are slated for the area: the intersection of Pullen Road and Stinson Drive; the intersection of Hillsborough Street,

Oberlin Road and Pullen Road; the intersection of Hillsborough Street, Rosemary Street and Sheppard Drive; the section of Hillsborough Street from Brooks Avenue to Dixie Trail; the section from Enterprise Street to Brooks Avenue and Clark Avenue from Horne Street to Enterprise; the Clark Avenue/Oberlin Road intersection; and the section of Hillsborough from Sheppard Drive to Gorman Street.

Roundabouts and a median, or pedestrian refuge island, will eliminate left turns and stop-and-go traffic, which should improve the overall flow of traffic on the street. Still, the goal is to move through-traffic to either Wade Avenue or Western Boulevard, which are both designed to handle a much higher volume of traffic.

Parking woes will be addressed by the addition of 88 parallel parking spaces and the opening of several N.C. State parking lots for after-hours parking. The time allotment for the meters on Hillsborough Street will also be changed to encourage patrons to stay longer than the current hour allowed. Proponents of the plan also hope to see a parking deck added in the future.

Pedestrians, once relegated to dashing across the busy street during breaks in traffic, will be assisted by bulb-outs and a median, allowing them to better see across the street. Wider sidewalks and better lights along the street will also help to improve the atmosphere.

Beautification plans for the Hillsborough Street area include landscaping along the sides of the street, in the median and also in the center of the roundabouts. Street lights will be the traditional lamps that are still seen along some sec-

tions of the side bordering campus. Utilities, consolidated to one side of the street at first, will be eventually buried to improve the streetscape's appearance.

What People Think
The goal for Hillsborough Street is to turn it into a more pedestrian-friendly area with a diverse selection of stores and restaurants for a variety of people, including the students, whose current business makes up a large portion of Hillsborough Street merchants' profits.

The addition of the European traffic circles has caused some consternation among locals, especially those who travel the street regularly.

"I think everything will help except the roundabouts," said Jess Barlin, a sophomore in industrial engineering who frequents the Global Village coffee shop. "There were tons of roundabouts in Nigeria, where I used to live, and they just made things one big mess. Plus, college kids in general drive pretty poor, so I can't imagine how crazy it would get with roundabouts."

Hillsborough Street has long been a means of getting from downtown out to I-440, albeit rarely swiftly. Its stores and businesses tend to cater to the college crowd, with an abundance of cheap eateries, bars and plenty of pizza places. It handles approximately 26,000 cars a day, and three major transportation systems include Hillsborough Street in their routes.

With all this traffic, getting people to Hillsborough Street shouldn't be a problem, and it isn't. It's keeping them there that's proving difficult. Parking is one of the main complaints from all sides. The general consensus is that there's just not enough to go around.

Neighborhoods complain

that students take up parking spots on back streets to avoid parking on campus, and businesses claim that students are attempting to do the same with the parking meant for their patrons. Everyone seems to be unhappy with the towing and parking enforcement by Raleigh Capital City Parking, which has been termed "aggressive," and even supporters of the plans to redevelop the street admit that what they propose will likely not alleviate the problem.

The plan calls for the addition of 88 parallel parking spaces to be created out of the current outer travel lanes, but the problem there is keeping those spaces open for patrons of Hillsborough Street businesses and encouraging students to use the Wofline transit system instead.

Nina Szlosberg, head of the Hillsborough Street Partnership, identified a number of things that the city and university could do to help the parking situation; some of the more feasible ones are being

implemented. "We need to reorganize the parking," said Szlosberg. "There are three locations on Hillsborough Street that present opportunities for parking decks ... that is definitely part of the Partnership's vision."

Meanwhile, Hillsborough Street businesses are feeling the pinch. "We appreciate student customers, but we need the public as well — families — and impeding the traffic discourages business," said Phyllis Goetze, who has worked at Western Lanes for 15 years. "The lack of parking and the homeless are some [of the biggest problems with the street]."

Goetze points to the negative publicity generated by students' drinking, and the neighborhood residents' subsequent desire to keep students from parking near their homes. "There's a lot of discrimination against students because of the drinking," said Goetze. She is skeptical of the plan but says that if the parking situation is remedied, that will go a

long way toward improving the situation for businesses on Hillsborough Street.

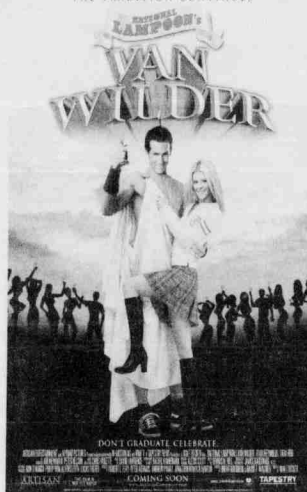
Another concern is the homeless people who have taken up residence in front of old abandoned storefronts. Some are not too kind to passersby, and both Goetze and Susan Lewis, a sophomore in animal science, think that it's a problem that can't be taken lightly. "Homeless people are too aggressive," said Lewis, who believes that they contribute in large part to the run-down appearance of the street. "There are too many old buildings that are either abandoned or run-down, and the sidewalks are small too," she said.

The redevelopment of Hillsborough Street has a long way to go before it gains wholehearted support, although most people think that the plans in place are a good start. The beautification is especially favorable, and Lewis commented that "it should help the atmosphere ... boost the tone of the whole area."

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Jennings finds beauty in music

Senior Staff Writer **Grayson Currin**

Century Spring Mason Jennings ★★☆☆

With "Ballad for My One True Love" from his 2000 album "Birds Flying Away," Mason Jennings begged for a sweetheart and the perfect melody that would connect their hearts. He sang in that characteristically interesting voice, "And all the while I'm dreaming of the ballad for my one true love/Searching for the perfect way to say I love you, sweetheart."

Today, with the release of "Century Spring," this young Minnesotan finally delivers on his love, offering the strongest effort of his still-burgeoning career. Though love may work in mysterious ways, it is no mystery what it has done

for Jennings and the aim of his art. "Birds Flying Away" was a sociopolitical statement of brilliance, a revelation of insight taken to the streets by way of roots eclecticism, powerful guitar and Cat Stevens meets Bob Marley power. The amorous overtones and radiant themes of "Spring" are a decided diversion, invoking a passionate view of life, friends and lovers. Rightfully so, "I've fallen in love for once. I'm getting married, and I feel a lot better this year," a gleeful Jennings told Technician.

The love Jennings has found emanates through every twist and turn of "Spring's" arrangement. The title track opens with Jennings sharply strumming an acoustic guitar, singing, "Through our love there runs a Century Spring/What we've got is all we'll ever need... Sing about how good it feels to love you."

Passion is no stranger to the rest of the disc, as Jennings uses it to spin more somber subjects. In something of a bedside murmuring song that moves with emotion bordering on slow torture, Jennings sings in a beautiful siletto, "Don't fear death, my Adrian." His somber voice is magnificent, backed by a simply picked guitar. The track is a revelation of a mature songwriter examining death for one of the first times. It's a poignant moment.

Escaping the landlocked gaze of his native Minnesota for a year while touring alongside the perpetually free spirit of Jack Johnson, Jennings was introduced to the carefree structure of surfing communities — a society of friends that underplayed the role of possessions in exchange for kinship. These observations have fueled Jennings' songwriting, allowing him to infuse an album of love with wit and biting analysis.

His morals are not too direct or overpowering. For Jennings, these are the textbook lessons of Cole Porter and Rufus Wainwright. At once, he has found an avenue by which to lasso an audience and express himself — a rare gift, indeed.

The disc's opener, "Living in the Moment," finds Jennings revealing fascination for the

sunny-day living that he learned from Johnson in the friendliest tone that has ever been used to question religion. That Jennings' zeal is there, as is that appeal and directness.

"Bullet," the single that should be the darling of college radio, is the best hybrid of folk/rock instrumentals and white rap that the Barenaked Ladies could only hope to write. The number is flamboyant and brave, full of imagery that invokes the true pain of lost love. It is a brief vignette in both genius writing and production, as Jennings admits that the song was consciously mellowed so that it would fit the album.

"Our old drummer was playing it a lot more fiercely [on tour]," Jennings said. "When we brought the new drummer into the studio, he laid back on it. So, we loosened it to get a better feel for it on the album."

This album is an audiovisual work of art, something that authors like William Faulkner or John Steinbeck and musicians like Woody Guthrie or even Paul McCartney would have great respect for. Whereas it took Neil Young half a lifetime to find the emotive power that could be achieved using imagery, Jennings has discovered it with this album. In fact, "Spring" plays out much like Young's own "Harvest or Silver & Gold," carving characters and ideas out of life while avoiding trite songwriting in a moment of musical catharsis. The theatrics of the mind of this young talent are intriguing.

With this brave new album, the genius of Mason Jennings is no longer a secret. Forming his own label, Architect Records, and still contemplating a larger contract with a larger company, Jennings is more concerned with delivering his music to people than bickering over a dollar. But with over two thousand pre-sale units of "Century Spring" arriving in mailboxes nationwide today, Mason probably won't need to worry about a dollar anytime soon.



Image from brightside.com

"Blade" is back with a bang!

Assistant Features Editor **Joel Isaac Frady**

Blade 2

Starring **Wesley Snipes,**

Kris Kristofferson

Directed by **Guillermo del Toro**

★★★½

As a general rule, there's one good vampire movie released for every two bad ones. This has a lot of people disappointed with the genre, which recently has provided us with IQ-suckers like "Queen of the Damned" and "Dracula 2000." The main problem with these and other recent disappointments was their ability to succumb to every formula in the books. They looked the way they were supposed to, were gore-ridden for the sake of being gore-ridden and were both ridiculous and bland.

With that stated, "Blade 2" is nothing less than a breath of clean, fresh air. Much like the original "Blade," it sticks to its comic-book roots and works more like an action picture than a horror, mixing together the dark cinematography and feel of a horror with intense gun battles and swordplay. The biggest problem that "Blade" had was its ability to be good but not great. The fight scenes were good, everything worked out and it had a great villain, but in the end, it felt like your average Hollywood sock-em action show.

There's nothing average about "Blade 2," a sequel that doesn't just stop at being as good as its predecessor; it dusts "Blade" with a wicked stab to the heart. Director Guillermo del Toro, who helmed the terrific ghost story "The Devil's Backbone," creates a film that is action packed and fun, but also one that is intense, imaginative and incredibly good-looking.

Again we meet Blade (Wesley Snipes), a vampire hunter who is himself half-vampire (an idea this writer still doesn't understand; it seems like you'd either be a pure vampire or not one at all). He's searching for Whistler (Kris Kristofferson), the man who mentored him before being bitten by and taken away by vampires. But times are changing and to Blade's dismay, the vampire world offers him a truce.

This truce is offered because they want to work together with Blade to stop a new kind of evil, a breed of vampires called Reapers. These monsters feed on both humans and vampires, and their disease also infects anyone that is bitten, so each victim is turned into a Reaper himself.

Incredible visual and makeup effects accompany these Reapers. The monsters look a lot like F.W. Murnau's vampire in "Nosferatu," walking around hunched over with pale, bald heads. The effects

don't end here, however, for they have a hidden weapon to add onto the terror, a weapon that has more in common with the monster from "Predator" than any vampire.

There are also some incredible effects when the vampires are being slaughtered, and they do find quite a few different ways to kill vampires. They get sliced, diced, eaten, lopped in half and burned alive — and that's just the appetizer! In addition to all this, once the vampires start to die, their bodies burn, crack and even explode when necessary.

Even with all the incredible special effects, it's the film's simpler filmmaking aspects that push it above the average good film it could have easily been. The story and the acting are good, but not great, and they do their job of keeping the film running along smoothly. What makes the difference is the set design, cinematography, editing, lighting and everything else that works to create the suspense and atmosphere that powers a film like "Blade 2."

The film succeeds at all of this largely due to the vision of director del Toro, a man who is quickly making his name known. Less than two months ago, his Spanish-language film, "The Devil's Backbone," played in Raleigh, and I commented that del Toro "creates a standard for people shooting suspense films in color." Statements like that are hard to make — they can easily come back to haunt you, but something tells me that this one won't. It's one thing for filmmakers to lose some quality points when doing big-budget Hollywood movies, especially sequels, but del Toro easily avoids the pitfalls of both.

He uses less light and grainer photography than one might expect, creating the dark, creepy world. Many times there's just enough light to see what's important with much of the screen remaining dark, and the film is so generally dark that when a lot of light is used, it really creates the needed dramatic effect. The editing is also dead-on, creating suspense with fast cuts but also knowing when to stick with the longer shots.

"Blade 2" also has one of the most suspenseful action sequences I've seen in a while. It involves a sewer system, some internal strife and about 30 Reapers to every "good guy," a scene that has much more in common with the classic "Aliens" (another great sequel) than "Blade."

This film never stoops to being ordinary, even at the end, going for the unexpected instead of the cheap and usual, and this alone is reason to see it. Instead of a typical action movie, we've been graced with a stylish, incredibly well made and immensely entertaining one.

Could you really ask for much more?

Eels go for the bare minimum

Senior Staff Writer **Jon Morgan**

Souljacker

Eels

★★½

From the middle of December until the end of January, it invariably happens. Every year, critics, fans and basically anybody with some sort of writing instrument make up their list of the top records of the year. Most of the entries from a reliable source bring up the common "that was a great album," the occasional "what are they thinking?" and the rare "since when do Eels have a new album?" The year that the third reaction took place was 2001, when "Souljacker" graced many critics' top-10 lists.

I rushed to the Internet to see what the deal was. "Souljacker," it turned out, had been released in Europe, Asia and on the Moon in September 2001, but it wasn't out in the States yet. How could such a travesty ever take place? The world may never know, but it's probably because of that day, which I will not name since everybody should be sick and tired of hearing it by now, and the downtown youth of America turn to Technician's record reviews for, if anything, a brief reprieve from having to see that date.

Regardless, the album is out now. Was it worth the wait? Well, it depends on what you were waiting for. Hint: Low expectations can be a good thing if you don't like disappointment.

Let's take an overview of "Souljacker." There are 12 songs in all, which add up to a whopping 40 minutes of pure sonic action, which is a phrase to be used in the loosest sense possible because it's not particularly true. Gone are the days of the 80-minute opus, true, but does every other album really need to go for the bare minimum? I guess if Eels are okay with doing the bare minimum, then that's what they can do.



Image from dreamworkrecords.com

The songs on "Souljacker" fall primarily into two categories: rock and pansy. The songs that rock, they tend to rock nicely. "That's Not Really Funny" brings to mind movies about Las Vegas, perhaps featuring some sort of heist. The last track, "What Is This Note," is a great closer that moves along at a frenzied pace. "Souljacker Part I" will, in fact, rock your ass off.

And now for the pansy songs. "Pansy" should not be taken as an inherently bad thing; it is simply an adjective — its job is to describe things. "Pansy" knows not good or bad, just the qualities that it denotes. "Friendly Ghost" falls into this category, and it's pretty good.

So, there you have it. Those are the good songs from the album. The more astute among you might notice that I have mentioned four songs, and that there are 12 songs on the album.

"But Jon," you say, "what about the other eight?" Well, let's take a look at some of the choice remainders.

Do you remember Fastball? If you're

lucky, you don't, but most people aren't so lucky. "Bus Stop Boxer" sounds like a Fastball song. It is perhaps the most generic song to ever exist. It could be on any Eels album. It could be on a lot of bands' albums. This album puts Eels at high risk for something called "Acute Everclear Syndrome," the sad condition where a band releases albums with the same basic songs for years and years.

"Woman Driving, Man Sleeping" could have been more appropriately called "Album Playing, Man Sleeping." A later track, "Teenage Whisker," tries for a harder sound. It tries, and it fails. This album shouldn't be called "Souljacker"; it should be called "Hit and Miss."

In the end, "Souljacker" leaves us with about 13 minutes or so of good music. That pans out to around a dollar per minute. If that's what the Eels are worth to you, go out and buy it. But they're probably not, so most people should steer clear.

Just Sawin' My Head

Brian Schuch

The Mad Sombrero

Watcha doin'?
 Sawin' my head
 Watcha doin'?
 Just sawin' my head

I'm giving myself a lobotomy,
 Because you're so annoying
 So, please, stop following me
 Don't come where I am going!

Watcha doin'?
 Didn't I just say?
 Watcha doin'?
 ARGH! Go away!

I am removing my brain
 So I don't have to hear you
 Because it's a mental drain
 Just to be anywhere near you

Watcha doin'?
 Wishing you dead
 Watcha doin'?
 Just sawin' my head!

I'm cutting off my frontal lobe
 For there's no greater a fool
 Than I know on this entire globe
 Than *POW!* *POP* *THUNK!* drool...

Watcha doin'?
 Watcha doin'?
 Watcha doin'?
 Watcha doin'?

A strong dosage of Mudvayne

Mr. Metallurgy **Brent Upton**

Live Dosage 50 DVD

Starring **Mudvayne** ★★★

One of the heaviest and most insane metal bands to break onto the scene during the year of 2001, Mudvayne has come out with a DVD to showcase just how nuts they really are. The majority of the 90 minutes of insanity is from one of the band's concerts in their hometown of Peoria, Ill. Like any DVD, there are extra features, but they are limited on "Live Dosage 50."

The disc kicks off with the band getting out of their convertible as we follow them around downtown Peoria. The entire disc has interludes between songs of the concert that follow the band around town and show them without their trademark face paint applied. Next comes the first song of the concert, "I," a song that will catch you off guard because it starts out so slow, but

like every other Mudvayne song, it heats up just as you pull out the cigarette lighters. Once the concert starts, you see the band at its best while receiving superb Dolby Digital 5.1 surround-sound quality, but the picture is sub-par for a DVD. Every song off the band's album "L.D. 50" is played in the concert, with the only exception being "Everything and Nothing."

The band puts on a blistering set and couldn't be better, but the lack of bonus material pulls the rating down. The extra features on the disc include the director's cut version for the video "Death Blooms," behind-the-scenes footage, a biography and a photo gallery.

The "Death Blooms" video is a great addition to the concert and is a must-see for any Mudvayne fan. The behind-the-scenes footage is fun to watch, but the photo gallery is not much of a gallery, containing only a few small pictures. The biography, however, is very informative; the band explains the title of their album "L.D.

50" and tells how Stanley Kubrick's "2001: A Space Odyssey" was a heavy influence on them. Also, it relays the story of how the four members came together to form Mudvayne four years ago.

Mudvayne is not your average heavy metal band and is one of the most original bands to come out in a long time.

The music is very unique, with hard guitar licks from guitarist Gurge, but the band shines with its drummer, sPaG, and its bass player, Ryknow, laying down some of the best bass playing ever heard in a metal band. Lead singer Kud also can deliver a soothing vocal followed up in a split second with a fierce roar. And as original as the band is musically, they are visually as well, with their individual sets of face paint and attire.

So if you are looking for a new DVD to buy or watch, and if you are into heavy music, check out "Live Dosage 50." Otherwise, you may want to stay away, due to its intensity. For any fan of Mudvayne already, this is a must-have.



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Museum of History opens new exhibit

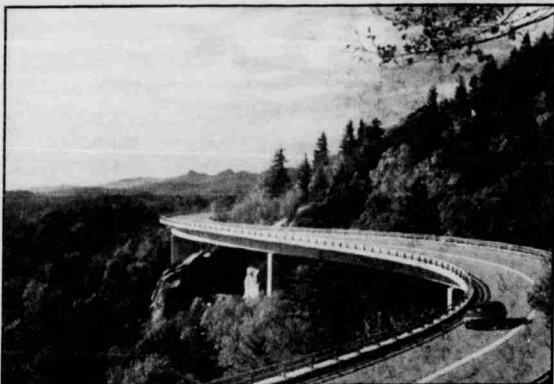


image from ncmuseumofhistory.org

Rachael Rogers
Senior Staff Writer

If you're an aspiring engineer or you're simply an ex-Legos fanatic, then the North Carolina Museum of History, only minutes down the street, has just the exhibit for you.

The exhibit *Man-Made Marvels* opened March 2 and will run until June 29, 2013, so there is no rush to skip class and see it tomorrow, but the exhibit is definitely worth viewing.

Man-Made Marvels is part of a national celebration in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and is co-sponsored by the North Carolina chapter of the ASCE and the museum.

The exhibit demonstrates the various roles that civil engineers play in North Carolina. To

explore these roles, the exhibit features four historic creations and North Carolina landmarks: Fontana Dam, Linn Cove Viaduct, Dorton Arena and the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse relocation.

The exhibit is great for all ages. There are historical blurbs for those who don't mind taking the time to read them, so as to understand the history behind all of these unique creations, and then there are numerous activities for smaller, school-age children.

The exhibit is colorful and features cartoon characters, in particular Hard-Hat Harry, to explain what civil engineers do and how it affects our daily lives.

It also has interactive activities, such as allowing the viewer to wear a headband representing a roof, to demonstrate how a roof is held up. There is also a

video showing how the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse relocation was handled.

For those who don't enjoy getting too involved with an exhibit, there are old black and white photos cataloging the building of these landmarks, coupled with blurbs that tell how they were built and other tidbits of information.

The exhibit is really interesting and definitely doesn't take more than 30 to 45 minutes to view, even if you take your time to look over all the information. Admission is free, and once you're done looking at this exhibit, there are numerous other exhibits that the museum offers for anyone who is curious about North Carolina history, plus a neat gift shop.

The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

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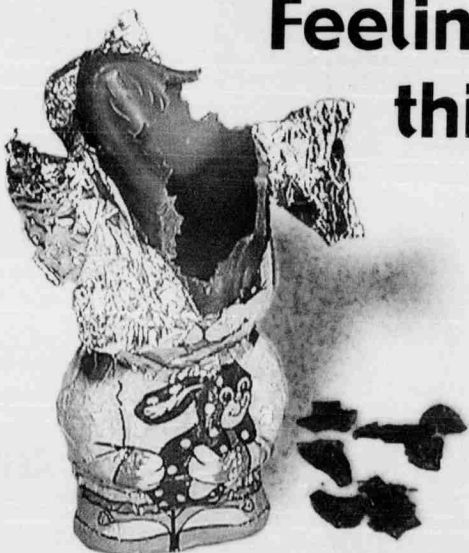
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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Leaders of the Pack?

THE CANDIDATES THIS YEAR MAY SOUND MUCH LIKE THOSE IN PAST YEARS, BUT AT LEAST ONE THING REALLY IS DIFFERENT IN THIS YEAR'S ELECTIONS: TECHNICIAN IS LEAVING YOU TO YOUR OWN DEVICES.

This time of year at N.C. State, everything is new and everything is changing in Student Government. There's better communication coming, more accessibility to SG for you and better, you-oriented programs from UAB.

NCSU's current career politicians are working for their annual job changes and NCSU's future career politicians are trying to get their feet into the door of 307 Witherspoon. There can be no doubt that it's election season, once again.

One thing that actually is different, however, is that, by a vote of 8-3, Technician's editorial board has decided not to endorse any candidates this year.

For curious readers, that board is made up of the two co-editors in chief, the heads of the four journalism departments (news, sports, features and opinion), the photo editor, the copy desk chief, the graphics editor and the design editor. This year, co-Editor-in-Chief-Elect Jerry Moore (current assistant sports editor) also voted on the matter. Moore's co-editor-elect, Matthew Pelland, already had a vote, as he is the current design editor.

The reasoning behind the board's decision broke down into three major categories, in descending order of prominence:

The desire to inform without influencing

Virtually everyone who voted against endorsing candidates cited a desire not to muddy the news-gathering and editorializing processes. The general feeling was that reporting on an election without bias and then playing favorites corrupts the ideal of objectivity.

Furthermore, there was concern that an endorsement of an eventual loser would create for readers the image in future news coverage that Technician is slanted against the winner. And vice versa.

It's important to stress here that, ideally, readers would see past an endorsement and realize that Technician's news coverage strives to be unbiased. But, the appearance of a conflict, even the slightest one, is as good as an actual conflict in a business as public as journalism.

Bad feeling about past endorsements

Some Technician editors expressed concern that past endorsements have failed to give an accurate reflection of the editorial board's true opinion. They simply did not want to run the risk of the same thing happening again.

A further effect of such endorsements

is that the endorsements would have been written under the leadership of one pair of editors and published with two new names in the big spot on the masthead.

Technician staffers are running for two key elected positions and, hence, would be eligible for our endorsements

Technician has two staff members, Larissa Yasnovskaya and Northman Boyle (opinion and photo, respectively), running in races historically endorsed in these pages. Yasnovskaya and Boyle are running for student body president and student chief justice.

This was a minor concern, although there was no doubt among editorial board members that those associations could be put aside during a possible endorsement. But, again, the appearance of conflict is often just as damning as the presence of it. And the general feeling of the board was that the appearance need not be a possibility.

Traditionally, endorsements are the result of the belief that the news media, whose job is to report on the candidates in an election, has better access to information about candidates and can offer an informed decision to the voters. Another reason for them is the prevalence of media outlets with their own agendas and ideologies, pushing candidates who will best benefit them.

Frankly, the information age has largely rendered moot the former point. That Technician desires to link with Student Government (aside from the roughly 4 percent of Technician's budget made up by student fees) and wants no benefit from the election of any candidate nullifies the latter.

In the opinion of the current editorial board, there were simply too many reasons not to endorse and not enough to endorse. In place of the traditional endorsement, Technician will print on April 1 an elections guide composed of verbatim interviews with the 12 candidates for the five major student body positions: student body president, Student Senate president, student chief justice, student body treasurer and student center president. The interviews are an effort to cut through the bull-hockey that generally results in the candidates' homemade statements on their campaigns.

Your feedback on the endorsement decision is welcome at oped1@hotmail.com; if this is something you like, let us know. If it's not, tell us why. Who knows, your comments may be the ripple that leads to a sea change back toward endorsements next year.



Kate Lingerfelt
STAFF COLUMNIST

MTV's Spring Break in Cancun, Mexico.

For those of you completely out of the loop, I'll try and sum up the MTV experience: booze, hot guys, hot girls and gross-out contests. If a person went to any of the popular spring break destinations, he or she would have probably seen some sort of mixture of the four. My spring break consisted of everything but the fear factor contests.

Now, don't get me wrong, I had a blast on my spring break in Key West, Fla., with many memories (some of which I will not write about here) that my friends and I will remember for a long time. Overall, the week off from school was wonderful with all the sun, beach and relaxation I had hoped for. Yet, when I watched some of MTV's spring break, I began to remember the many things about spring break that pissed me off. So here, ladies and gentlemen, is my top five list of things that annoy me about spring break:

One, girls who squeal. Why do they do this? Is it not enough just to flash your chest or hug your friends without emitting high-pitched noises that will attract every dog within a 10-mile radius? Every night on the shuttle to downtown Key West, girls were yelling "Woosoo!" out the windows. Perhaps they don't feel they get enough attention with their booty pants and breast-enhancing shirts, so they start screaming to attract more guys. Also, when you see your friends, hug them or say "Hi" because the greet-and-squel is worse on the ears than a heavy metal concert.

Two, two-hot guys. You know the type. These guys walk around showing off their new tats (and sporting raccoon eyes due to their Oakley sunglasses), wearing their Abercrombie beanie and trying to hook up with as many girls as possible. The saddest part is that the two-hot guys honestly believe every girl wants them. A tip for guys attempting to hit on a girl: "Show me your tats" is probably not the best opening line. Also, to the guys at the clothing optional bar, dancing in boxers with lesbians will not get you action.

Three, I'm not saying I have a problem with precreation, but when I am trying to have a fun night out and people are practically begging for sex, it puts a damper on the whole evening.

Do not ask for sex. If you have to ask, you won't get it, and everyone will know you are a loser. Many people go on spring break hoping to hook up with an attractive member of the oppo-

site sex, but remember that you can still have fun without doing the horizontal mambo with a complete stranger.

Four, hangovers. Yes, spring break means alcohol and lots of it. My birthday also happened to be over spring break, and I celebrated every night with Jell-O shots, daquiris and beer, but drinking too much at the beach can lead to some heavy-duty hangovers. Remember to bring aspirin and plenty of water and wear sunglasses to ward off the sun's glare. It is well-known that Bojangles' sweet tea and biscuits are good hangover cures. However, there are none to be found past South Carolina, so plan accordingly. I also don't recommend drinking heavily the night before you go snorkeling, because you might spend all day feeding the fishes.

Five, and lastly, bad memories. You will get drunk and do or say some stupid things over the course of a week, and your friends will remember it all, no matter how much they drink. Perhaps you did a wet T-shirt contest, ran naked down the street or licked whip cream off someone's stomach, but as long as you have a sense of humor, these memories won't seem so terrible. After all the alcohol you had, you won't remember these embarrassing moments anyway.

Kate is praying that no one will spot her on a "Girls Gone Wild" tape. E-mail her your embarrassing spring break moments at klinger@unity.ncsu.edu.

ROTC — who we are

Heather C. Sample
STAFF COLUMNIST

Who exactly are those men and women you see walking around campus in their khaki uniforms during the week, who rise before the sun many early mornings or who stand in formation in the Brickyard Tuesday afternoons? Those men and women are members of the N.C. State Naval ROTC. Upon receiving our degrees from NCSU, we will serve as officers in the United States Navy or Marine Corps.

NCSU, Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill comprise the North Carolina Piedmont Region. NROTC Unit NCSU's NROTC Battalion has approximately 150 Navy midshipmen, Marine Corps option midshipmen, officer candidates (Navy-enlisted personnel enrolled in the program) and members of the Marine Enlisted Commissioning Educational Program (MECEP).

With guidance from several active-duty Navy and Marine Corps officers, each midshipman, officer candidate and Marine has the support he or she needs to complete the required curriculum to graduate and become a commissioned officer.

The programs for the midshipmen, officer candidates and Marines differ slightly. Midshipmen go through training to learn the basic leadership skills, customs and courtesies of the Navy and Marine Corps. During the week before school begins in the fall, all freshmen are sent for a week-long indoctrination into the military that takes place in Norfolk, Virginia. During this non-stop week of activity, all midshipmen are issued uniforms and are instructed in their care and proper appearance, take part in drills to learn marching and teamwork and to learn "General Military Knowledge," consisting of useful basic information about such things as military rank structure. The week includes a variety of day trips to learn about different aspects of the Navy, such as surface warfare, submarines and naval aviation.

There is also plenty of physical training. While many midshipmen will admit that the week is fast-paced and provides few opportunities for sleep, they typically will also admit that the course provides them with a foundation for what lies ahead and makes the path easier. Officer candidates and the Marine Enlisted Commissioning Program students are not required to participate in this initial training, as they arrive from active-duty positions and have already completed their basic

military training.

Once the academic year begins, a typical week does not vary much from individual to individual as far as the demands placed on them by their membership in NROTC. Each semester, all midshipmen are required to enroll in their appropriate naval science, calculus, physics, history and/or computer science classes.

In addition, on Tuesdays, all members of the unit must wear their uniforms and attend the Naval Science Lab. The subject matter of the lab varies from week to week, from guest speakers on leadership, current events and military career paths to drill practices or inter-battalion physical fitness competitions.

Responsibilities within the battalion are numerous and offer opportunities to practice leadership and managerial skills. As an individual increases in rank, his or her responsibilities also increase.

Along with academics, drill practice and physical training make up a large portion of what we do in NROTC. Freshmen are required to participate in platoon drill. Throughout the fall and the beginning of the spring semester, practices for the platoon drill team, color guard and exhibition drill team are held every Thursday in preparation for the Tulane Drill Competition. This national competition takes place in New Orleans during Mardi Gras — a great opportunity to perform in a military competition (and to be present at a great party, too). Needless to say, this event is a highlight for the midshipmen and a great experience.

Many ROTC units, not just NROTC, come from across the nation to participate in this event. This year, after intense competition, NCSU's ROTC

Drill team placed fourth out of all attending ROTC units.

Physical training for the battalion is conducted Wednesday mornings. While the training is early and challenging, the exercises prepare each person for the Physical Readiness Test held at the end of every semester. For Navy individuals, a 1.5-mile run, sit-ups and push-ups must be completed based upon the parameters outlined within physical training instructions. Certain standards must be met and maintained to become a commissioned officer. Marine Corps Option Midshipmen and MECEP students complete a three-mile run, sit-ups and pull-ups.

Most battalion members will agree that NROTC is demanding and requires dedication and hard work, but there are also many enjoyable aspects to membership. The Fall Ball is a formal event held in November with all three schools present to honor the birthdays of the Navy and the Marine Corps. At the end of the spring semester, an awards day is held, also with all three schools present, to honor those exceptional midshipmen, officer candidates and marines who have excelled in a variety of categories during the past school year.

While some days and weeks are tougher than others within the battalion, its members strive to maintain a consistent and professional attitude. We are all honored and proud knowing that we will become officers of the United States Navy and Marine Corps, defending our great nation.

Heather is the public relations officer and 2nd Class Midshipman of the NCSU Navy ROTC.

Oscar strikes again



Holly Bezant
STAFF COLUMNIST

"Shrek" and "Monsters, Inc." I have not seen the other movies that were nominated, so I can't say how ground-breaking they were.

My viewing pleasure was abruptly shattered with the arrival of a couple of friends. They were just in time to find out who won best director and to give their input on the most memorable moment of the awards, the winner of best actress. Halle Berry opened the door for black actresses when she won the Oscar for her role in "Monster's Ball." I personally had been dying to see the film ever since its debut, and from the various clips I have seen of it, her performance was very good.

My friends immediately started commenting on how racist it was that there were so many black actors nominated, that Berry didn't deserve to win it, that Nicole Kidman should have won it, that it was just a ploy by the Academy to acknowledge black actors to give the awards to them, etc. Needless to say, their tirades pissed me off.

Then came the crowning factor in my friends' diatribes. Denzel Washington won best actor for his role in "Training Day." I have not seen this movie, either. I wasn't interested because of its violent nature. It didn't seem like the type of movie that would have two actors nominated for their roles (Ethan Hawke was nominated for best supporting actor). This caused the most stir, and my friends concluded that the night was for black people and started connecting all of the black participants, including Sidney Poitier, who won an honorary Oscar for his career achievements, one of which was his breakthrough as the first black actor to win an Oscar in 1963 for "Lilies of the Field."

According to my friends, Whoopi Goldberg was host because she was black, and, of course, they believed Berry and Washington were given their awards because they were black. Also, black actors are only being recognized now because they've only played roles that aren't serious. They "joked" that "Boyz n the Hood" should be up for the best picture award.

My viewing experience was ruined after the first comment. I couldn't understand their anger at black actors winning awards. I didn't really agree with the best actor award going to Washington, but I also hadn't seen any of the movies from which the best actor nominees came. I do know that Washington played a role that wasn't normal for him. Usually, he's playing the hero or the inspirational leader, and this time, he was playing a convicting,

basically evil, character.

There weren't many outstanding actor roles to emerge from 2001, so it was anybody's game. I couldn't help myself at the end of the awards to tell the two perpetrators that, next time, maybe they should not say so many negative things to ruin other peoples' viewing experiences and should get over it.

I attempted to defend the award recipients and host, but with such things, it would take more than that to change the discriminatory and downright racist

views that they portrayed. I have never known anyone like them. Nobody should care if black actors swept the best actor and actress awards and hosted the gala. Whoopi Goldberg hosted last year, and it has nothing to do with the fact she is black. Neither friend had watched the roles Berry and Washington had won awards for.

Unfortunately, they would not change their views if black citizens initiated an awareness campaign or anything like that. The only way they would change

is if they made more black friends and saw more black folks who didn't fit the stereotypes that they think are true. They need to get out into the world with a more open mind instead of moping around thinking that the black population is out to get them and make them minorities or whatever insane thoughts they have.

Any opinions? Contact Holly at paz_rata@yahoo.com.

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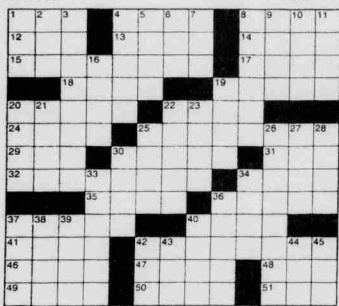
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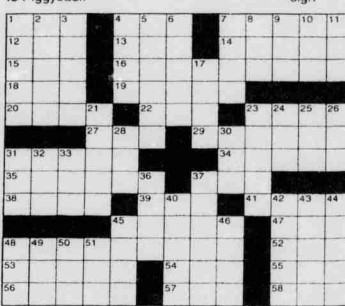


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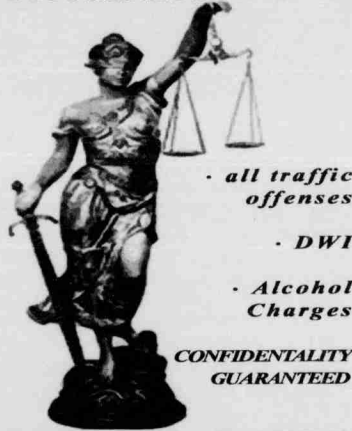
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WolfpackNotes

Wrestlers compete at NCAA Championships

After rolling to the ACC Championship two weeks ago, the N.C. State wrestling team finished 65th at the NCAA Championships held March 21-23 in Albany, N.Y.

The Wolfpack qualified five wrestlers for the national tournament. All five lost in the first round, though senior 165-pounder Pierre Pryor came within one match of making All-America after winning three straight matches in the wrestling brackets. Pryor lost 3-2 to Josh Henson of Pennsylvania.

Elsewhere, sophomore 149-pounder Jake Giamoni and sophomore 174-pounder Dustin Kawa both won once in the wrestle-back bracket before being eliminated. George Cintron and Jason Gore also represented State at the tournament.

Track and field competes at UNC Classic

The N.C. State track and field team returned to outdoor action this weekend, competing at the UNC Classic hosted by North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

The women's sprinters had an impressive day for the Wolfpack. Freshman Ebony Foster won the 100 meters with a time of 12.15 seconds for her first career win. Sophomore Felicia Fant was close behind in fourth, running a 12.39.

For the second straight week, senior Renee Robinson brought home a second-place finish in the 400, this weekend running a 56.44. In the 100, it was Adrienne Vinson in sixth (15.30) and Leigh Neely in ninth (15.95). The 4 x 100-meter relay team also finished first (46.30).

In the field events, senior Katie Bolac led the way with a second-place finish in the pole vault by clearing 12-0. Also in the pole vault, Teresa Reed was seventh (10-6), and Megan Kearney placed eighth (10-0).

Kelly Smoke was busy on the day, taking second in the discus (44.6) and fourth in the hammer (49.5). Patricia Watson placed 10th in the hammer with a heave of 40.6.

The men's sprinters also did well at the UNC Classic, especially in the 100. Senior Joseph Brent finished second in the race with a time of 10.8. Close behind in third was T.J. Giwa with a time of 10.89.

Competing in the 400, Adam McGugan took seventh with a time of 50.75, followed closely by Jonathan Willis in eighth place (50.8). The men's 4 x 100-meter relay squad captured first place with a 41.11.

Jason Vieira won his first triple jump title, recording a mark of 14.16. Brandon Brown was third in the high jump, clearing 2.0. In the pole vault, David Kessler took third (4.85), and Eric Hovestad was seventh (4.55).

James Rowell finished third in the discus (52.14) and fourth in the hammer (52.03). Randy Cass also competed in both those events, taking sixth in the discus (45.16) and seventh in the hammer (45.53).

State will host the annual Raleigh Relays this Friday and Saturday.

ROAD

Continued from Page 10

work harder on some things that led to our two losses this weekend," said Wright.

State's pitching staff, which head coach Elliot Avent has called "somewhat thin," was reduced by one starter on Saturday when freshman Michael Rogers was struck in the leg with a line drive off the bat of Wake shortstop Ben Ingold. Rogers was the team's leader in ERA and will be out indefinitely with a fractured right fibula.

"I thought it hit the bottom of his spike, but it didn't," said Wright about his view from left field of the injury. "We've had a little bit of bad luck, but there's nothing we can do about things like that."

What the Pack can do is build some momentum for the important ACC series with Georgia Tech by going out and taking care of business against a pair of nonconference foes.

UNC-Greensboro was most recently edged in a three-game series with a former State opponent, Davidson. The Pack twice defeated the Spartans (12-8, 5-3 Southern

Conference) last season, including once in Greensboro.

State will have revenge on its minds when it travels to Norfolk to challenge the Monarchs of Old Dominion. The last time the Pack visited ODU, the Monarchs handed it a 7-1 defeat.

The Pack will be the first opponent ODU (11-10) has seen in a week since having a game rained out against East Carolina.

Tuesday's game with UNC-Greensboro begins at 6 p.m., and Wednesday's first pitch against ODU will be at 7 p.m.

TENNIS

Continued from Page 10

ishing it with that one more shot," said Olsen. "[Radel] wasn't doing anything, just waiting hopefully for Kristen to give it to her or win the point. Kristen was having a little trouble concentrating on

finishing all the way through the point."

Jennifer Jassawalla extended her match with Karie Schlukbir to a grueling tiebreaker in the third set. Schlukbir took the first set 7-6, but Jassawalla took over in the second winning 6-1. The final set ended with Schlukbir winning 10-8 and thus giving the Hoosiers their fifth point

of the day.

The Pack also got excellent play from Stadelmann. She dominated the court early and finished Dominika Walterova off easily 6-1, 6-3 to pick up her second win of the day.

State gears up for a match this week against nonconference foe Georgia State Friday at 11 a.m. at the Wolfpack Tennis Complex.

JEREMY

Continued from Page 10

Everything will soon return to normal.

Ashton: How do you propose to do that? State had a good season, and Matt Doherty doesn't seem to have much to work with.

Swofford: Doherty is just a puppet who couldn't coach his way out of a paper bag. In another year or two, we're

going to launch our top-secret plan.

Ashton: Which is?

Swofford: You promise not to tell?

Ashton: Yeah.

Swofford: Would you pinky swear to it?

Ashton: Are you serious?

Swofford: You seem like an honest kid, so I'll tell you anyway. We're going to transplant Dean Smith's brain into Michael Jordan's body to form a super coach. No kid in the country will be able to resist

the recruiting pitch.

Ashton: That will really work?

Swofford: Oh, sure. What do you think they do all day at that hospital at UNC? Everything is focused on building a superior Carolina basketball team and destroying the hopes and dreams of State fans.

Jeremy Ashton's columns appear on Tuesdays. He can be reached at 515-2411 or jeremy@techniciansports.com

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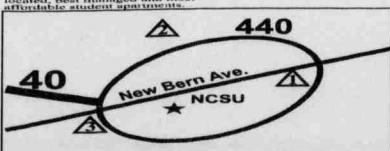
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W. Tennis vs. Ga. State, 3/29, 11 a.m.
Track, Raleigh Relays, 3/29-30
M. Tennis @ FSU, 3/27
W. Golf, Bryan National Coll., 4/5
M. Golf, Augusta Invit., 4/6-7

Baseball takes to the road

◆ N.C. State steps outside the ACC for two road games before entertaining conference rival Georgia Tech this weekend.

Matt Middleton

Senior Staff Writer

The friendly confines of Doak Field have been kind to the N.C. State baseball team this season. The Wolfpack has dropped just four games at home the entire season while winning 17 for a gaudy .809 winning percentage.

But while many students head home for the long Easter vacation, the Pack (18-7, 1-2 ACC) will experience life on the road for the first time in 19 games, traveling to UNC-Greensboro and Old Dominion beginning today.

"We like playing at home, but we're definitely looking forward to the change of scenery," said outfielder Brian Wright.

Wright, a first team all-ACC selection for the past two seasons, is once again leading the team in batting average with a mark of .474. Including Wright, five State regulars are hitting better than .400.

The potent Pack offense that entered this past weekend's series with Wake Forest ranked first in the ACC in multiple offensive categories cooled off mildly to the tune of some tough pitching by the Demon Deacons.

State entered the Wake series averaging 12.8 runs per game but scored only 18 runs in the three games combined.

"We just need to continue to improve and

See ROAD, Page 9



Jeremy Dutton (10) and the rest of the baseball team will be away from home for the first time in 19 games.

ATHLETICS

The great conspiracy

The Kennedy assassination. Roswell. Watergate.

Over the years, conspiracy theories have abounded in American culture.

But one in particular has captured the attention of dedicated N.C. State fans on the Internet: The Great State Conspiracy.

Recently, I (imagined that I) sat down with A C C Commissioner Ashton.

John Swofford, a North Carolina alum, to discuss a variety of topics. The subject of this chilling conspiracy came up during the interview. Here's what Swofford (would have) said (if we had ever talked).

Ashton: Is there a conspiracy against N.C. State?

Swofford: Excuse me?! What do you mean? Define conspiracy. I am not a crook.

Ashton: You know, a conscious effort to hold N.C. State down, to keep the university from achieving anything in athletics.

Swofford: Where did you hear that? Ashton: Lots of places, especially online message boards like StateFans.com. Many Wolfpack fans on those boards seem to think you're at the heart of this.

Swofford: Son, can I tell you something — as long as it stays between you, me and that tape recorder?

Ashton: Uh-huh, sure.

Swofford: It's all true.

Ashton: Really? All of it?

Swofford: Absolutely. This thing has been going on for decades. Tar Heels like myself have infiltrated the inner workings of collegiate athletics — the ACC, the NCAA, the media, Rick Majerus' coaching staff — just so we can hold N.C. State down and watch its fans squirm.

Ashton: And the refs are in on this, too?

Swofford: Absolutely. The best part is we don't have to pay them anything extra to slant games. They just do it because they think it's funny.

Ashton: If that's true, how do you account for the fact that Carolina was called for more fouls in both of its games with State this year?

Swofford: Every once in a while, we have to take measures to throw off conspiracy theorists such as yourself, so we'll have the refs actually call a game straight down the middle. When you're an evil genius, you have to think of these things.

Ashton: I don't know that the plan worked. A lot of State fans were complaining on the boards about the officiating after both of those games.

Swofford: Like I said, it worked perfectly. Ashton: Right. I'm still a little confused. There's a widely held belief that Duke gets several calls each game, but this seems to be a Carolina conspiracy. I thought Duke and Carolina are rivals.

Swofford: We'd like you to think that, but in reality, it's two campuses of the same institution. Mike Krzyzewski and I are actually close friends. We really have a common goal — to frustrate N.C. State.

Ashton: You said the conspiracy extends to the media. I understand how you could control Carolina grads, but what about reporters who graduate from N.C. State?

Swofford: Well, let me answer your question with a question. Do you want a job in the journalism industry?

Ashton: Yeah.

Swofford: You'll find out about that control in about five years.

Ashton: Are you trying to intimidate me?

Swofford: I refuse to answer that question.

Ashton: I see. So how do you explain Carolina's down year and State's triumphant return trip to the NCAA Tournament?

Swofford: As I've told you before, we have to throw people off the scent sometimes. Those damned Internet folks were getting too close.

Track sprints home for Relays



The women's track team is preparing for the annual Raleigh Relays, which will take place Friday and Saturday.

◆ The N.C. State track and field team will host the Raleigh Relays this weekend.

Todd Lion

Senior Staff Writer

N.C. State's track and field teams will face their first big test of the season this Friday and Saturday at the 2002 Adidas Raleigh Relays at State's Paul Derr Track.

INSIDE

Wolfpack Notes #9

Wolfpack head coach Rottlie Geiger and company are hosting one of the largest crowds ever for this meet. Upwards of 3,000 athletes are expected to compete this weekend.

"The meet is huge; it might be the biggest we've ever held," said Geiger. "Of course, along with large numbers usually comes better competition."

In the two meets that State has competed in so far this season, two school records have already been broken, and the athletes want to perform better at their home track.

Katie Bolac broke her school record in the pole vault, earning a national provisional qualifying mark as well. Her vault of 15-5 1/2 picks up right where she left off in the indoor season.

"I hit the cutoff mark for provisional, but that won't hold up at the end of the season," said Bolac, who is competing in her final year for the Pack. "If I jump what I do in practice, then I should get into nationals — it's just a matter of actually doing it. I won here last year, and I want to win it again during my senior season."

Six women who have already earned provisional marks in the pole vault this season will be competing at the Raleigh Relays, including the current national leader.

The women's 4 x 100-meter relay team broke the State school record last weekend with a time of 46.3 seconds, handily outdistancing the old record of 46.48.

"The women can still improve on that time," said assistant coach Gail Olson. "We'd like to see them drop below 46 seconds for that race."

Felicia Fant, Adrienne Vinson and Ebony Foster will again compete on the 4 x 100 relay team, as well as running as individuals in the short sprints. Renae Robinson, primarily a 400-meter dash runner, was also a part of that team.

Sophomore Kristen Pace was named an All-American in the high jump during the indoor season and will compete in the high jump again this weekend.

Many runners from the women's

distance team will be running in their first race of the season this weekend in the 5,000 and 10,000. Kristin Price, Katie Sabino, Megan Coombs and Amy Beykirch will compete for the top honors in the 5,000.

"We have a lot of fast people in this race," said Sabino. "I'm not too worried about my time or place because I know that if we run as a team, we will get some good finishes in."

Josi Lauber and Beth Fomer will compete in the 10,000 for a national qualifying mark.

"I feel that Josi and Beth are capable of running a qualifying mark for nationals," said assistant coach Laurie Hines. "Hopefully, they can run marks that will get them into the NCAA Championships."

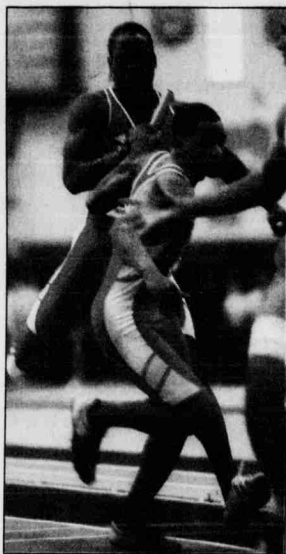
Most members of the men's distance team will also be making their season debut this weekend.

"Raleigh Relays is usually one of the first collegiate races for a lot of our younger guys," said senior All-American Chris Dugan. "They are all used to the mile and two mile in high school, so now they are going to get their first chance at a 5,000 on the track. We'll have a lot of guys running unattached, as well as in uniform for this race."

Ryan Woods, David Patterson and David Christian will join Dugan in the 5,000.

"I know a lot of our guys are looking to run really fast in this race," Dugan said. "Just from how workouts have been looking the last few weeks, I think we're going to see a lot of N.C. State guys up front. It's been a couple of years since I've run a really hard 5,000, so this race is a great opportunity to get a fast time in."

Tyrone Dozier will open up with his first 400 of the season after narrowly missing the cutoff for the indoor national championships.



Raleigh Relays will be the first big test of the outdoor season for the men's track team.

Loss drops women's tennis to 6-9

◆ The women's tennis team came out strong but couldn't get the job done against Indiana.

Billy Freeman

Staff Writer

Many opportunities abounded for the N.C. State women's tennis team Monday when it took on Indiana.

While the Wolfpack played strong, the Hoosiers, ranked 35th in the country, are taking a 5-2 victory back to Bloomington, Ind.

"Today was a day where two teams played well," head coach Hans Olsen said. "They won a few of the big points and that was the deciding factor."

State (6-9, 0-5 ACC) jumped out of the gates strong, posting large leads in two of the three doubles matches. Those leads dwindled to ties and eventually turned into losses, giving the doubles point to Indiana.

The No. 3 doubles team of Loni Worsley and Danielle Stadelmann, however, provided excitement for State on a hot, sunny day at the Wolfpack

Tennis Complex. Down 3-0 early to Amanda Field and Jessica Levin, the Pack duo reeled off a 2-1 run to get within a game. Indiana (12-5) looked like it would cruise to the win while sitting at 7-4, but with Worsley's net play and Stadelmann placing the ball well, they stopped Field and Levin cold for a 9-8 win.

No. 1 singles player Kartrina Gildemeister took advantage of playing her opponent, Field, previously. In that match, a fall tournament a couple years ago, Gildemeister took the loss. Her plan was to mix it up, coming to the net hitting high balls and slices. The strategy worked to near perfection as Gildemeister had the upper hand the entire match winning 6-3, 6-2.

Senior Kristen Nicholls took the loss at No. 3 against Inga Radel 6-2, 6-1. Nicholls seemed to control the match. Setting up her opponent with hard shots back in the court then popping the ball just over the net. Although, Nicholls strategy cost her points as she was unable to finish that last shot.

"She was setting up the points good but just not fin-

See TENNIS, Page 9

See JEREMY, Page 9



Jennifer Jassawalla went to a third-set tiebreaker in her singles match Monday.