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## Faculty Senate endorses proposal to shorten academic year

◆ Reversing a 1996 mandate for UNC-System universities, the proposal would count exams as class time.

Colin Hickey  
Staff Reporter

The Faculty Senate has recently endorsed a three-year proposal to shorten the calendar for the 2003-2006 academic years.

According to a memorandum addressed to Faculty, Student and Staff Senates from the University Registrar, the proposal, which would allow exams to count as class time, negates a 1996 mandate requiring each of the 16 campuses in the North Carolina public university system to have a total of 75 days of instruction each semester. Other proposed changes to the academic calendar, which would be implemented in the Spring 2003 semester, include beginning the fall semester on a Wednesday to allow more time for students to get situated, moving fall break to a Thursday and Friday and having the Wednesday before Thanksgiving as a holiday. These changes would equalize the number of MWF/TH class days in the fall semester.

In addition, changes suggested for the spring would actually shorten the

semester and keep the MWF/TH days even by beginning the semester a week later, having one day for Martin Luther King Holiday, maintaining a full week of spring break and two days for Easter break.

The proposed calendar is similar to the basic calendar that was used prior to 1996.

Though the fact that faculty, staff and even the Board of Governors are endorsing such a proposal may strike some students as odd, the reasoning is simple, as they benefit from the changes as well.

Under the current requirement, which was established by the Board of Governors in 1996 and took effect the next year, faculty are expected to oversee 150 instructional days, followed by study days and final examination periods.

Currently, this requirement does not address the expectation that faculty with nine-month appointments would continue to have responsibilities for that period of employment, regardless of semester length. In other words, many faculty members work two weeks or more for free under the present calendar.

"The faculty are being asked to work past their contracts," said Susan Blanchard, an associate professor in the department of biological and agricul-

tural engineering, a faculty senator from CALS and the representative for the Registration, Records and Calendar Committee (the group responsible for the proposal to shorten the school year).

The calendar change will not take effect until the Spring 2003 semester because the course schedule for this coming fall is already in place.

"We felt that it would be too risky to mess with it," Blanchard said.

Yashpreet Hanspal, a lifelong education student in pre-med, cited the recent 16.4-percent tuition increases when asked about the proposal to shorten the school year.

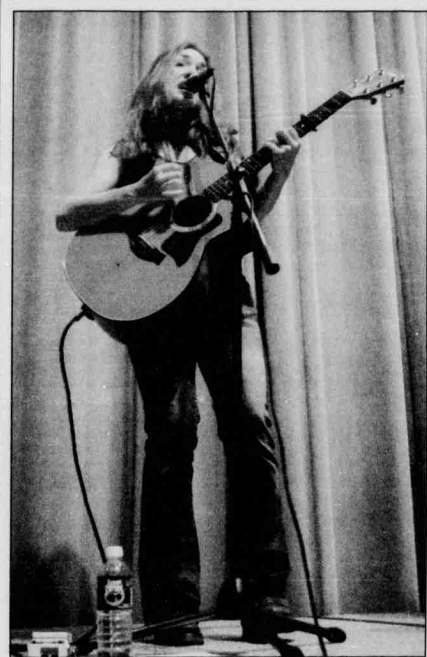
"So they're raising the tuition and shortening the school year," he said. "That's cool, but it doesn't seem to make much sense."

When asked about the effects of a shortened academic year on the material covered in the classroom, Blanchard said, "It's certainly going to reduce [subject material covered in class] somewhat."

Many students expressed skepticism when informed of the proposal.

"There's something fishy about it," said Anna Koehrsberger, a junior in philosophy.

Fishy or fair game, the proposal passed and will now go before the provost for approval.



Kyler England, a NCSU chemistry alumnus plays her guitar at a scholars event in the Campus Cinema. She currently runs her own record label and tours the East Coast.

## Scientists focus on efficient nuclear energy use

◆ N.C. State researchers are working closely with Duke Energy Corporation on nuclear fuel management.

News Staff Report

Nuclear energy is the energy stored in the nucleus of an atom that is released through fission, fusion or radioactivity. In these types of processes, a small amount of mass is converted into energy according to the relationship  $E=mc^2$ , where "E" is energy, "m" is mass and "c" is the speed of light.

Though the possibilities of nuclear energy are abundant, there are still many concerns about nuclear reactor or fuel plant accidents, such as those that occurred in 1979 at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania and in 1999 in Takamirra, Japan. And there is also the potential threat posed by nuclear weapons.

Nevertheless, using nuclear fuel as a means to produce energy could help the present need for creative and efficient fuel options.

Researchers at N.C. State in the Department of Nuclear Engineering are currently working to make nuclear fuel a safe and efficient energy option.

Scientists around the world face the everyday challenge of providing fuel for fuel-driven societies. In addition, the issue of safe disposal of weapons-grade nuclear material poses another challenge.

This fuel management effort involves researchers and experts from not only NCSU, but also involves help from Duke Energy Corporation, Oak Ridge National Laboratories (ORNL) and Russian scientists.

Research scientists in the Department of Nuclear Engineering, Dmitry Y. Anistratov, assistant professor; Paul M. Keller, research associate; Imelda Ariani, research associate; and Qunlei Jiang, graduate student, focus their work on the "disposition of the excess stockpile of weapons-grade plutonium." These researchers work out of the Electric Power Research Center (EPRC) at NCSU.

After NCSU scientists and researchers develop the design analy-

sis capabilities for the project, the industrial partners apply the knowledge to the actual fuel management process.

Working with its partners, Duke Energy Corporation is able to change weapons-grade metal alloy to fuel by converting the alloy to a powder in a chemical plant. Next, the powder is baked into ceramic pellets that can be used as fuel in existing power plants.

"Power plants in Europe have been using fuel that contains plutonium recovered from reprocessed commercial fuel for many years, but using plutonium recovered from weapons has not been done before." Thus, these NCSU scientists are introducing a brand-new process.

Scientists participating in this project say that one of the project's main goals is to efficiently use the nuclear energy source without minimizing the material. According to NCSU scientists, the project will prove beneficial for both weapons disposal and energy production.

## Researchers design better woodcutting tools

◆ N.C. State joins three universities in a program look at utilizing technology to advance the wood processing industry.

News Staff Report

As time passes, more and more technological innovations improve conditions in many different industries. Although high-tech, digital phenomena usually come to mind, a new initiative at N.C. State is working toward advancements in an area that man has been continually improving for centuries — wood.

Because so many everyday products and activities require this natural material, cutting techniques for the wood-processing industry can be of great impact to consumers and producers alike. Effective woodcutting tools are hard to find, as they must be sharper than those used to cut metal while capable of enduring heavy use without immediately deteriorating. To address this issue, several departments at NCSU have united, marking the inception of The Wood Machining and Tooling Research Program.

Researchers from the departments of wood and paper science, mechanical

and aerospace engineering, industrial engineering and materials science and engineering are joined in pursuing advancements in wood utilization and machine efficiency. Although spanning many facets of wood production, designing a better woodcutting tool is a major aspect of the interdisciplinary program.

Experts with different backgrounds of expertise are necessary in the research, as there are many considerations when developing new technologies for industry. Due to the knots and irregularities common in wood, researchers familiar with specific wood qualities are needed, as well as materials scientists who can offer assistance in regards to other components of production.

In addition to NCSU, faculty from Wichita State University, Oregon State University and the University of Rochester are also collaborating in the effort.

Funded by the United States Department of Agriculture, companies throughout the wood-related industries also offer support for research in tool development.

Blades used in woodcutting are especially tough; wood routers send a piece

of wood through cutting templates at a rate approaching 4,000 inches per minute. Although inevitable, erosion is reduced by chemical coatings; one proven to increase carbide-blade longevity is diamond-vapor coating.

NCSU involvement is beneficial for tool development, for it houses facilities capable of applying various chemical-vapor coatings. In fact, Jag Kasichianula, associate professor of materials science and engineering, has already designed composite tool coatings through this new technology. Kasichianula is one of the program's contributors in the area of coatings research.

Of course, despite helpful technological innovations, economic considerations are always a factor in industrial production. Although they improve efficiency, blade improvements are more expensive than those already used.

The choice is thus reduced to a decision between expensive, longer-lasting blades and cheaper, short-term blades. Currently, researchers are developing a diamond-coated carbide tool that performs better than carbide alone and costs less than pure diamond blades.

## Dealing with procrastination

◆ Psychologists suggest that prioritizing and planning ahead are the first steps in combating procrastination.

Bradley Kramer

Daily Kent State (Kent State U.)

(U-WIRE) KENT, Ohio -- Sitting in the yellowish, fluorescent-lighted dim of 24-hour dining, Sara Price, a senior English major at Kent State University, forces out a thick plume of smoke, which curls up immediately after leaving her lips.

She alternates between reading a book, which she has to get through tonight, and chatting with the people around her.

Only a third of the way through it, she is a little bit behind.

Price, who holds a job, an internship and a full load of classes, says procrastination is always a problem for her.

It can cause undue stress. It can account for lower grades by missing a deadline or for slipshod work. It can even cause the premature end to a college career. It is a problem that affects nearly everyone, but for some it is worse than others.

It is a matter of priorities, not abject laziness.

"It's the reason why I'm at Country Kitchen at 1:20 in the morning reading a book for tomorrow I should have read over the weekend," Price says.

She says procrastination hits her worst when she has to write a paper.

"Like when it's 4 in the morning," she says, "and I'm wondering why I didn't do this before." But they always turn out good. I think I work better under pressure."

Tom DiNardo, a staff psychologist at DeWeese Psychological Services, says people who wait until the last minute to do projects may get a high from getting them done because the consequences become so great. That high serves as a kind of reward, which may be why they don't stop procrastinating.

"They say, 'well, I can wait till the last minute,' and do manage to somehow get it done, and it may not be the best thing for them," he says.

Price says she cares about her schoolwork and feels responsible for it. She says she knows she should start it sooner, but she still procrastinates.

"My whole college career has been doing things at the last minute," she says. "I mean I have gotten better over a five-year time."

But she says she is so busy that she

has a hard time organizing and prioritizing her schedule so that school comes first. She often chooses work or friends over schoolwork.

"I feel like I am drowning — that there is so much to do and how am I ever going to get it done," she says.

DiNardo says procrastination is not usually a problem that students call on Psychological Services for help with. It is usually one of many symptoms of larger problems like anxiety, depression, drug and alcohol abuse and relationship problems. Therefore, he or she does not usually try to cure the procrastination first, he says.

"Procrastination seems to work itself out when the larger problem is dealt with," he says. "Someone who is very depressed has to find a way to manage. We usually start with counseling or medication."

But DiNardo does have advice for overcoming procrastination. He says it is a human condition, and prioritizing and planning ahead are the first steps to combat procrastination.

"The key to procrastination is taking things in small chunks," he says. "Doing papers in one night — that's not going to work."

DiNardo says rewarding yourself could help cure procrastination. Since college students don't usually have much money, he suggested low-cost rewards like favorite foods, watching TV or listening to music.

"For some, the idea of rewarding yourself is very foreign, and they won't do it," he says. "So we try to find out what they do instead of their work."

DiNardo says some people find it easier to do things if they work with a friend.

Jason Chamberlain, 23, a third-shift server at Country Kitchen and a former Kent State student, says he sees procrastination as a way of life to be adapted, molded and perfected.

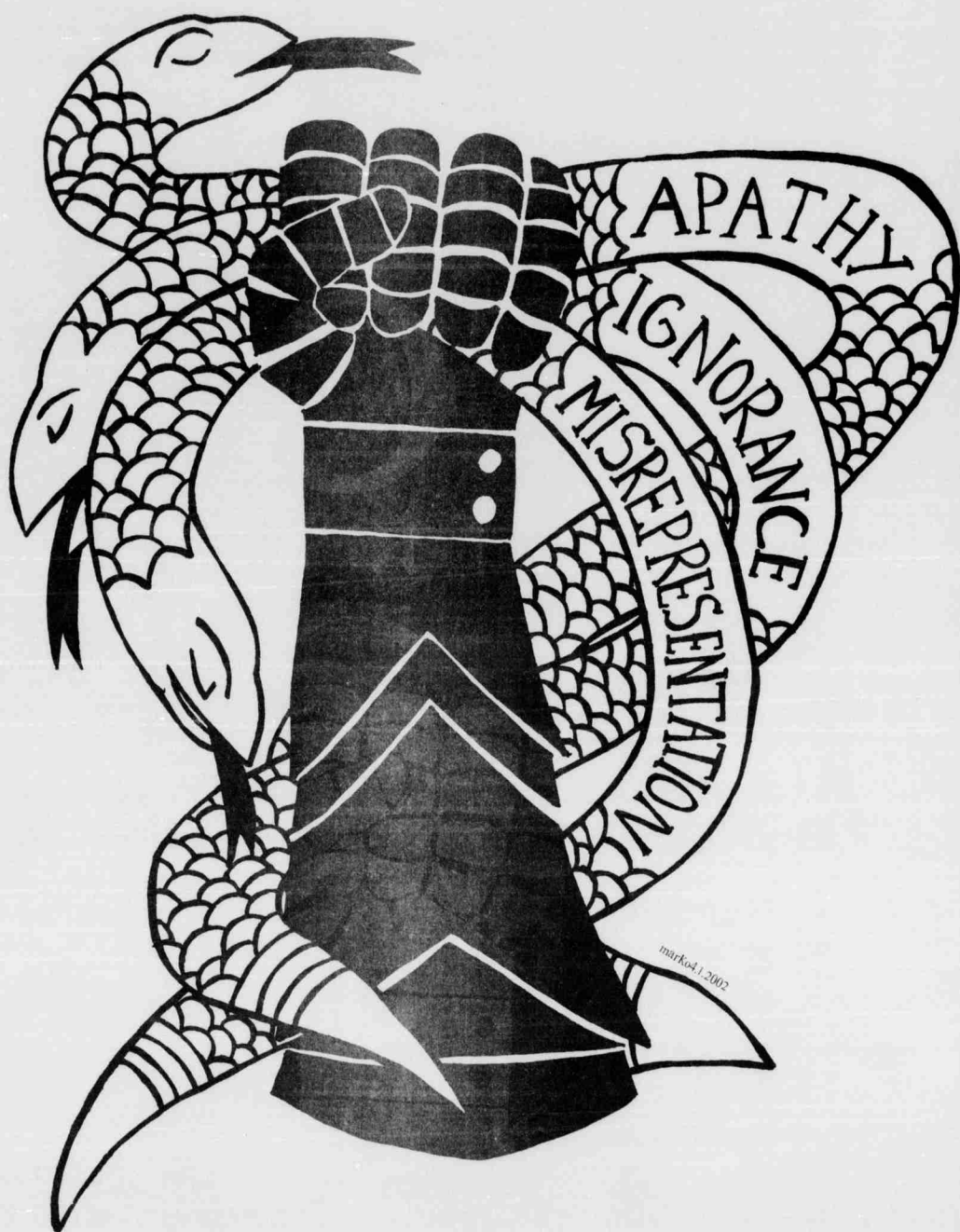
He says he was always a procrastinator, but it wasn't until college that he took it on as a game.

Chamberlain says he would come up with creative excuses because all professors have "a little bit of detective in them" and have heard every excuse. But despite his propensity for lateness, Chamberlain says he always managed to — and still does — get to work on time.

But procrastination has been detrimental to Chamberlain. He says it's the reason why he is not in school anymore. He quit trying to turn in assign-



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## TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

## Revised academic calendar offers improvements

THE 2003-2006 ACADEMIC CALENDAR ADDRESSES CURRENT PROBLEMS AND PROVIDES A MORE STUDENT-FRIENDLY SCHEDULE.

The Faculty Senate's decision to shorten the academic calendar offers several improvements over the current calendar and provides a more feasible schedule for students, yet there are still some areas in need of adjustment. The changes for the 2003-2006 academic year came about when the University of North Carolina System's Board of Governors decided to count exam periods as part of the required 75 days of classes each semester. Following this change, the N.C. State Registration, Records and Calendar Committee proposed six major adjustments to the academic schedule.

Beginning with the fall semester of 2003, the first day of classes will be on a Wednesday. This change will prove most beneficial for freshmen, allowing them two days to move in, adjust to campus, find classes and meet new people before starting the semester. Moving the first day of classes will put N.C. State in line with other area colleges like Meredith College and UNC-Chapel Hill.

Fall break will remain two days, but instead of a Monday and Tuesday, students will have a break on Thursday and Friday. On the surface, this move appears irrelevant, but it helps the transition of the week. It is easier for students to adjust to a weekend starting early than attempting to begin a week late.

One of the most student-friendly amendments to the calendar involves making the Wednesday before Thanksgiving a full day of vacation instead of a half day. This change is very logical; many students skip this

day of classes to travel, and numerous teachers, in turn, decide to cancel classes.

One of the most noticeable changes involves beginning the spring semester a week later than usual. This area of change may need to be more thoroughly examined. As it is, little time remains between the start of the spring semester and Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, pushing the start back a week may only stall the beginning of the semester. If it is necessary to cut the spring semester by a week, it may be better to either start three days later or even end school a week early. UNC-CH begins their spring semester on a Tuesday, only one day after N.C. State's current schedule. Is delaying the beginning of the semester really worth the extended Christmas break?

Due to this extended break, two other holidays will be shortened. The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday will now be only one day, instead of two, and Easter break will be shortened to two days. Many students have come to enjoy these longer vacations, but to cut days off of the schedule, more must be added. Unfortunately, these two breaks represent the most sensible days in which to add school days.

Overall, the 2003-2006 academic calendar offers many beneficial adjustments for students. Members of the Registration, Records and Calendar Committee handled this difficult task well; the committee appears to have considered student input throughout the process, and the resulting schedule offers many improvements.

## Stop the terrorists in the Middle East

The Chronicle

(U-WIRE)  
DURHAM, N.C.

— In the midst of a barrage of terrorist bombings targeting Israeli citizens this past week, Israeli soldiers and tanks stormed most of Ramallah arresting hundreds Friday. As the death tolls mount on both sides, pro-Palestinian terrorist organizations insist that violence against Israelis will continue until Israel recognizes a Palestinian state, among other demands. Unfortunately, the outbreak of violence occurs amid promising peace efforts by Saudi Arabia and U.S. envoy Anthony Zinni.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon may not be the ideal broker for peace — his rivalry with Yasser Arafat and increasingly hawkish rhetoric continue to be problematic — but criticizing Sharon too harshly for protecting Israeli civilians against terrorist attacks is unfair. In order to maintain its legitimacy, a government must protect its population, and Sharon was elected for this purpose. Conciliatory action by Israel under threat of terrorism would only encourage future violence and ignores the apparent hatred that seems to have festered into multiple bombings that killed innocent Israelis during Passover. Giving Palestinians what they demand at this point gives credibility to the terrorists' tactics.

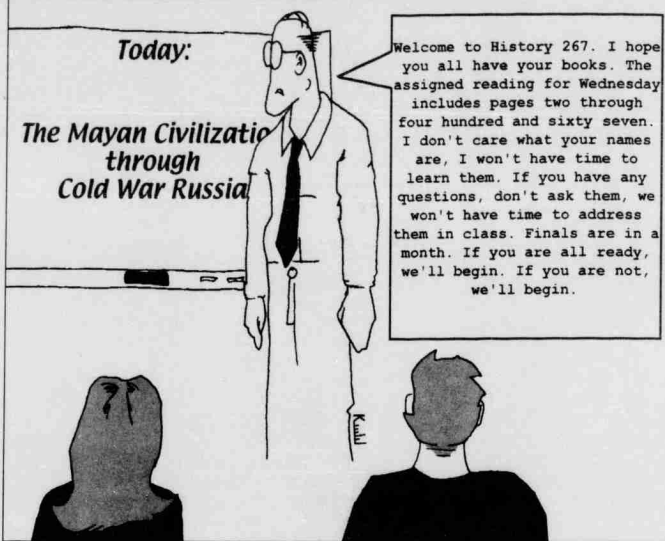
The prime minister should eventually consider withdrawing forces from Ramallah and barring further Israeli housing developments in disputed territories. He also needs to show a willingness for discussion that was so evident during Ehud Barak's administration. However, he has no reason to withdraw if attacks against the Israeli people continue. He is currently in a

position to exert the strength to disavow future hostile action against his country and would be derelict in this duty if he did not.

Arafat bares much of the responsibility for the current situation. His unwillingness to join in terrorist organizations makes peace virtually unreachable. Arafat has a dire responsibility to help tame the crossfire, and, if anything, has deepened the breach, as a group affiliated with him has launched some of the suicide bombings. Furthermore, his connection to confiscated arms shipments from Iran — weapons that could have been used against Israelis — has damaged his credibility as someone truly seeking peace.

When terrorist attacks stop, the Israeli retaliations can stop in turn. Hopefully, amid a background of temporary peace, both sides can resume pursuing a lasting peace. Again, Sharon and Arafat both must be willing to make serious compromise on much-debated issues like the right of return, which would allow Palestinians greater freedom to return to Israeli territory. Palestinian leaders must also realize that Barak offered them virtually all of their demands at the Camp David talks of 2000, and Israel cannot be expected to offer much more without compromising its security.

Without question, the ultimate goal should be the peaceful coexistence of Israel and a recognized Palestinian state — a vision that will not be realized as long as violence continues. The next phase should not be further Palestinian suicide bombings that kill innocent civilians as they go forth with their daily lives, but rather at a negotiating table.



## Gun safety awareness is critical



Holly Beant  
STAFF COLUMNIST

"I'm not a militia," often believed to mean the military, are we allowed to bear arms, but in fact, this applies to all people who want to be able to protect their state. "State" can indicate personal property as well as the country and the state in which the people live.

Nowadays, guns are romanticized in movies, television shows and other forms of entertainment, affecting children's curiosity about them. This is paired with the inefficiency of parents who may not teach their children how

dangerous firearms are and who don't lock guns away. In fact, 75 percent of gun owners store their guns unlocked, loaded or both.

Almost 2,000 gunlocks were recently given out in Winston-Salem by Project Homesafe in the effort to prevent accidents involving guns. This needs to be commended. The gunlocks are attached to guns, requiring the owner to actually use a key to unlock it before he or she is able to shoot the weapon.

The move by Project Homesafe is one that should be mimicked all over the country. The extra effort it will take for the gun owner to use the key to unlock the gun will prevent the owner from shooting the gun spontaneously by reflex. That reflex could result in a tragic accident if an assumed intruder happens to be a family member stopping unexpectedly by or a teen son or daughter sneaking in after curfew.

I have been pondering the possibility of owning a gun in the future. But I have been very anxious about it because I fear that there could be an accident like so many that have

occurred already, like a child dropping a gun, causing it to fire and accidentally kill a sibling. Even though I would practice all safety measures that I have already known, I would still be worried. I feel a little more comfortable with a tool like a gunlock preventing such things from happening.

The only problem with it is where the key is stored. It could be stored on the key chain with all your other keys, but then what if you carry a pistol in the glove compartment of your car and encounter a dangerous criminal? Then you're stuck trying to get the key off the key ring that holds the key that is in the ignition switch so that you can unlock the gun just in case the criminal tries anything.

I support gun ownership if all safety precautions are used. I also believe that age, license issuance and a criminal background check should be qualifying factors when it comes to purchasing firearms.

Let Holly know if you're for or against guns at [put\\_rats@yahoo.com](mailto:put_rats@yahoo.com).

## Dieting and the skinny factor



Kate Lingferl  
STAFF COLUMNIST

"Ugh, would you look at this," the girl in the dressing room says as she pinches her stomach. "I'm so fat. I need to lose some weight before I can even think about wearing this bathing suit out in public." I have met so many girls like this one,

whom I saw trying on clothes a few days ago. Especially with summer on the way, many women are worried about their weight and figure. Unfortunately, some of these people are trying to lose weight in unhealthy ways, and they have a distorted view of themselves.

I am not a nutritionist or a physical trainer. I am, however, a student of science, and in my studies, I have learned ways to maintain a healthy and fit body based on biology and chemistry. There isn't one program, diet or exercise routine that is going to magically solve everyone's body concerns, but there are universal truths that people trying to lose weight need to understand.

Many girls who I have heard complaining about their weight are not fat or in danger of being obese. Some are just deluded into believing they're fat by pictures in magazines or stick-thin celebrities. Then there are some women who don't look overweight, but they aren't skinny either. Now, I'm not saying that I'm above being critical of my body because there are things I would like to change (some of these things I can change, others I have to accept). Through my studies about health, nutrition and chemistry, I have realized one thing: being skinny is not as significant as being healthy.

Many college-age women don't realize how important good health now will affect their future, and there are diseases older women get that could

have been prevented by proper nutrition and exercise earlier in life. For instance, calcium intake now might prevent osteoporosis later. Weight is not an indicator of a healthy lifestyle, and I know many skinny people who treat their bodies like a tent instead of a temple. Right after I lost the ten pounds I put on my freshman year, I started gaining some weight back, even though my workout routine and eating habits never changed. My muscle mass had started to increase, which was adding extra weight.

Everyone by now should know that crash diets don't work, and all those diet fads won't last. Diets only work for the short term because eventually, once the person loses the weight, he or she comes off the diet and eats the same manner as before. Once this happens, the person regains the lost weight. As far as eating is concerned, the best way to stay healthy is to eat a balanced diet and cut down on fast food. Another way to eat better is to consult a nutritionist who will help you plan meals and change your eating habits. The Student Health Center on campus even provides a nutritionist.

Some people who try to lose weight merely drink a few diet smoothies and believe this will be a miracle cure for

their problems. Eating right will not solve everything; exercising is necessary to get in shape. No one can have a flat stomach without doing sit-ups or working out their abdominal muscles, and arm flab won't disappear without doing a few triceps curls. It only takes about a half-hour a day for three or four days a week to show improvements. When starting at a gym, some girls feel intimidated because they are in the minority of the weight room, and they might not be as familiar with the exercise equipment as the guys. The best ways to get comfortable working out is joining a friend at the gym or taking a running, aerobics or weight-training class at school.

Honestly, working out and eating right might not give you exactly the body you have always wanted. However, you will feel better, look better and gain more confidence about your body, and confidence is always attractive. The important thing to remember is to be healthier in the long run instead of going for the quick fix.

Kate will be working off the Easter candy this week. E-mail her your favorite comfort food at [klingger@unify.ncsu.edu](mailto:klingger@unify.ncsu.edu).

Send your beef to Campus Forum:  
[forum@technicianstaff.com](mailto:forum@technicianstaff.com).

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## Santana performs at the ESA

Senior Staff Writer **Grayson Currin**

**Carlos Santana brings the party,** the music and the message that someone, somewhere, at some point in time once told Santana that self-love was a bad thing — a clear sign of egotism that was a sure precursor to hatred and a sad life. Luckily, Carlos Santana did not listen.

The man does love himself; he knows he is special. The true grandeur and magic of that statement is his equal, if not greater, love for everyone else. "We are all divine," the aged musical magician told an attentive audience at the ESA Friday night.

On a day when George Bush sat at his Texas ranch home and tried to develop his first original thought concerning a war on terror and forces in Israel using religion as a political excuse, Santana preached — in English — to a crowd that defined the racial rainbow.

Hispanics, some dressed at the peak of fashion and some dressed in clothes made dingy from endless toil, filled the

arena alongside white suburbia. African-Americans looked comfortable in the audience, as did teenagers in Hendrix and Grateful Dead T-shirts. The crowd's diversity was a direct reflection of those myriad colors on stage.

Karl Perrazo stood perched above his percussion set, alongside a congas and percussion legend, Raul Rekow. Dennis Chambers, a phenomenal pocket drummer, sat behind his massive set — looking like a rhythm-inspired and muscle-maintained Jim Brown. His normally closed eyes occasionally flashed open as he glanced at the Netherlands-born, Hawaii-raised bass journeyman, Benny Rietveld. Across the stage, Chester Thompson, a black man who attacks the ivory with a tangible passion, bled his heart via keyboard, piano and synthesizer. Standing beside Thompson were Bill Ortiz and Jeff Crossman.

These men, one white and one Latino, left behind racial lines to fuse jazz and true atmosphere into tunes such as

"Oye Como Va" by way of trumpet and trombone. Andy Vargas and Tony Lindsay proved to be the vocal chords of the band as they ran from stage left to stage right, mounting monitors and singing the words of others. Beautiful, to say the least.

Santana, Paul Reed Smith guitar in hand, let those characteristically emotive notes fly into the air. A master of mood and tone that somehow fuses technical genius with electric passion, Santana rode D-minors to the fifteenth fret. His young spirit was propelled into the audience, creating a frenzy of understanding.

Opening with "Day of Celebration" and moving into the supernatural banners of "Love of My Life" and "Put Your Lights On," the band proved a cohesive unit of polyrhythm and entirely celebratory anthems. The only problem with the night's show was quickly evident. Vargas and Lindsay were naturally in a very deep hole.

Emulating the vocals of Dave Matthews, Everlast and Rob Thomas



Staff photo by Grayson Currin

— among others — is not easily done. The falsettos were, at times, a bit forced and irritating. The message, however, remained through the pure poetry of the highly thematic lyrics. The band, especially on the vocal end, handled "Maria, Maria" very well before launching into the comical and amazing "Foo Foo."

For "Love to the People" and "Adouma," the three temptresses from the Waiters (who opened) joined in, shaking their hips and making more than one band member drop his mouth in a smiling gape. Jamaica met South America intersecting with the rest of the world in a moment of intense catharsis and escape.

Santana took a few lengthy solos that were sweeping and rapturous. At one point, the lights turned to mellow hues of green and blue, while the giant video screen behind the legend pictured a sleepy island. A soul was dancing as that soul's body released notes from his guitar, letting them fly like the winged doves that dotted his custom fret board. The unselfish bandleader would have denied it, but his genius and craft were apparent. The other 10 members of the band stood back in awe, as they do nightly.

"Make somebody happy," Vargas and Lindsay sang in three-part harmony with a beaming Santana.

Using the art of jam, the band segued seamlessly into "Get it in Your Soul."

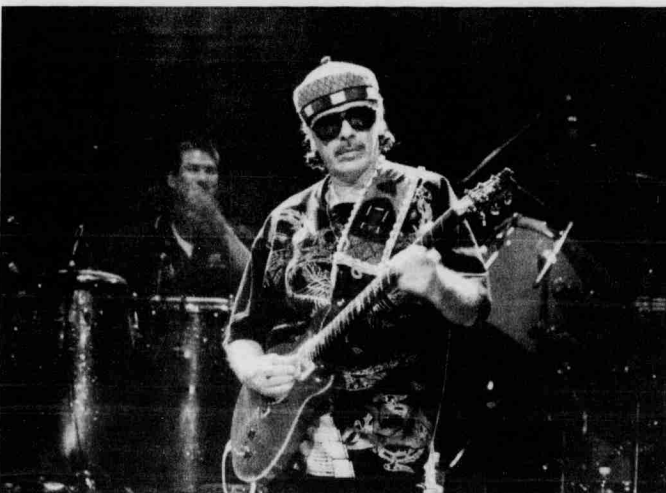
Dennis Chambers provided the song's last beat as the lights crashed down, leaving the husky drummer in front and backlit spotlights.

His shadow reflected into section 328, he dug deep into a 10-minute drum solo. He attacked the snares with audacity and strength, burying his sticks deep into drumheads. His foot pounded the bass pedal, bringing a quick succession of heavy hits that bombarded the arena. It was a moment that will not be forgotten by those in attendance.

Chambers did not thrash out at cymbals in a wild, furious solo. Instead, he played with reserve, patience and feeling — what a daring parallel to Santana's doctrine of love. Throughout the night, Santana vocally appealed to the crowd for unification in the name of love.

He questioned isolated religion, citing the example of a television commercial in which all of society's gods and idols were seen talking in peace and friendship.

The man spoke with sincerity and honesty — perhaps at this moment in time, we should all not fret over the struggling vocals of Santana's singers. Rather, it is time to listen and appreciate the spiritual Santana and the message that he hopes to make his legacy. Music — and Friday's concert — are his means to an end. The means are pretty amazing though.



Staff photo by Grayson Currin

## No need to panic

Assistant Features Editor **Ryan Hill**

### **Panic Room**

Starring **Jodie Foster**

**Forest Whitaker**

Directed by **David Fincher**

★★★½

"**Panic Room**" opens with several beautiful shots of New York City. To this day, I just don't know why. Maybe it's because the rest of the film is set in one place, and director David Fincher is just trying to give the viewer a sense of claustrophobia. Either way, the desired effect is achieved.

The premise of the film borrows heavily from Alfred Hitchcock's "Rear Window." Once you enter the house that Meg (Jodie Foster) and her rebellious daughter Sarah (Kristen Stewart) have just moved into, the camera doesn't leave. It may have shots of the outside of the home, but the camera stays put.

The house is very nice but too big for two people. It's three stories with an elevator, and the master bedroom is equipped with a "panic room," which is like a fort inside your home if someone decides to come and try to rob you. That's great for Meg and Sarah, because their first night there, three men enter the home looking for some goodies.

Thus the stage is set. The robbers, played by a conniving Jared Leto, Forest Whitaker and Dwight Yoakam, wake up Sarah and Meg, who immediately hide in the panic room. Problem

is, what the robbers want is in there.

The rest of the film is classic cat-and-mouse as the robbers do everything they can to get the two women out of the room and then in it. Likewise, Meg does everything she can to get a hold of the cops and keep the robbers out.

"Panic Room" is lots of fun. It's a classic thriller directed with a style that could only be attributed to Fincher. Using long shots that are enhanced with CGI (one shot goes through the handle of a coffee pot), Fincher really gets across just how far away the outside world is from where the action takes place.

All of the performances are pitch-perfect. Yoakam is surprisingly evil as "Raoul," a bus driver who thinks he knows more than he does. Foster is always great in everything she does, so there's no real sense in praising her since people have been doing it for 20 or so years. Rounding out the cast, Leto

and Whitaker are also solid.

The only real problem with "Panic Room" is that it's not as scary as you'd think it to be. Some parts of it are exciting and thrilling, but for the most part, it doesn't quite get to where you'd expect it to be. It sometimes feels like Fincher was so technical in his directing that he forgot to add thrills while he was at it.

Fincher is also well on his way to becoming one of the best directors working today. Ever since he started off with the stylish but crappy "Alien 3," he has made nothing but quality, like "The Game" and "Fight Club," which is about as unforgettable as "Se7en."

Despite a few flaws, the film is definitely worth checking out. The technical mastery that Fincher has developed looks great, and the film is very good, despite one or two minor hang-ups. "Panic Room" is exciting and definitely worth the price of admission.



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## Kill Smoochy!

Features Editor **Joel Isaac Frady**

### **Death to Smoochy**

Starring **Edward Norton**

**Robin Williams**

Directed by **Danny DeVito**

★★

**Movies like "Death to Smoochy"** always beg the same question: "Why did all these talented people decide to make this movie?" It's offbeat, mean-spirited, awkward, foul, too long, more frequently than not, unfunny. Even so, it stars Robin Williams, Edward Norton, Jon Stewart, Catherine Keener and Danny DeVito, who also directed.

The main problem is the script itself. Writer Adam Resnick, who also penned "Cabin Boy" and the dark comedy "Lucky Numbers," starts out with some very funny ideas but makes the mistake of cramming too much into the script. By the midpoint, the movie is juggling too many characters and subplots, but not enough jokes. And of the jokes present, only about half of them are even remotely funny.

To illustrate this point, look at how simple the premise started: a corrupt kid-show host named Rainbow Randolph (Williams) is fired for taking bribes and replaced by a man with upstanding morals (Norton) who dress-

es as a big rhino named Smoochy. Angry about losing his time slot and later his executive-producer girlfriend (Keener), Randolph begins planning revenge on Smoochy.

From there, Resnick adds crime-lords, corrupt kid charities run by crime-lords, assassins that used to be kid-show hosts who are hired by crime-lords and finally television executives, talent agents and Nazis, who are all presented as variations of the crime-lord types.

To make matters worse, there are virtually no likeable characters in this movie. The television executives and crime-lords are obviously heartless. Randolph is mean and crazy and we don't get to see much of the Nazis. Sheldon Mopes (the man inside Smoochy) is the nicest character here, but he's so moral and nice that it makes him boring.

What the movie has going for it, however, are top-notch performances all around. Norton gives another great performance as Mopes, finding ways to turn even the most honest speeches and

well-meaning songs into instant laughs. At one point he sings a song to a group of homeless people about the dangers of doing smack, and whether it's the genuine smile on his face or the rhyming lyrics that Mopes probably put time and heart into, it's tough not to laugh.

Keener and Stewart are also good as the television executives, even though Stewart is underused, and DeVito steals a few scenes as Smoochy's agent. The real surprise is just how much fun it is to see Williams play a character so rotten. His performance is rich and energetic; he knows when to be mad and when to be emotional. The only real problem is that he doesn't have enough screen time. He may get top billing, but he only had about 20 minutes of total screen time, mainly because the film takes up so much time developing the plot and other characters.

Even with Williams and Norton doing all they can to save this picture, it doesn't quite work in the end. There are about 30 enjoyable minutes total, provided almost exclusively by these two

and over an hour of time spent on the mean-spirited plot and the mean, boring crime-lord characters.

So why did all these people make this movie? The best response is also the most boring: They were probably looking for some variety in their careers. Williams has been doing sweet, heart-warming films long enough to make anyone vomit. Keener just needed a movie that people actually see to get her name out (even though she was excellent in "Being John Malkovich"). DeVito has never directed a dark comedy before, and it had been seven years since his last directing effort, "Matilda." As for Norton, he's been stuck in really good movies for far too long now and making something like "Smoochy" just makes his movies like "Fight Club" and "The Score" look that much better.

Unfortunately, those movies (and the other good movies out in theatres right now) make "Death to Smoochy" look that much worse.

## MOON

Continued from Page 8

used to hitting low shots and having them run onto the green."

In his first two years at State, Moon saw sporadic playing time. Last year, he played in four tournaments for the Pack, shooting as low as 72 in competition on route to a 74.9 scoring average.

When the season ended, however, State lost two All-Americans to graduation. Thus, Moon knew his production would have to increase. That meant his score needed to drop.

He hit the summer amateur circuit and quickly started fine tuning his game. By the fall, his game was in full gear.

"My goal this year was to get in the top 25 [nationally]," said Moon. "[During the fall], my

scoring average was around 70.7, which is about two under par. I'd say if I could stay around there, I'd be pretty happy."

With the additional success in the fall and his junior status, high expectations followed Moon into this spring season. He has played at or around the No. 1 position on the team, however, his play of late has struggled.

"This year I have more responsibility on my back where I have to perform," said Moon. "Recently I haven't been playing well, and I get upset when I do not play as well as I should. There's definitely a lot more responsibility."

In late February, Moon finished in a tie for 21st at the Puerto Rico Classic after a final round 75. He fired a 69 in second-round action, which was the fourth-lowest round of the tournament.

In the Pack's last tournament in Statesboro, Ga., Moon

entered the final day of the tournament in 25th place but fell out of the rankings following a final day of 82 — his lowest score of the year. All golfers go through slumps, and Moon is confident that this one will only be a minor bump in the road. He points to a sporadic driving game as his main failing point.

The team has had two weeks off since its last match, however — ample time for Moon to get his game back in gear. Thus, he is prepared get in position to fire at the pins once again this weekend in Augusta, Ga. at the Cleveland Golf/ Augusta Invitational. Play gets under way on Friday.

"Hopefully we can make it to nationals," said Moon. "And hopefully I can get my game together so I can take my role [as the No. 1 player] and play as I'm supposed to."

## BASEBALL

Continued from Page 8

and 3-0 respectively.

"They're a well-coached team," Avent said. "From talking to other coaches that have seen them play already, they [A&T] are a much-improved team from a year ago. We're going to have to be ready to play, but I think we are."

A&T enters the Doak with a team batting average of .271, with five players over .300. Meanwhile, the Pack is averaging .373 as a team, with 14 players at or above .300.

## MATT

Continued from Page 8

State of this year) to advance to at least the Sweet Sixteen.

Kent State, winners of 17 straight heading into this year's tournament, was responsible for some of the most memorable moments of this year's edition of the tournament. From their fans flooding usually blue Rupp Arena dressed in unison with vibrant yellow T-shirts to the emotional ending for severely underdog guard Trevor Huffman, the Golden Flashes left their mark on this year's tournament and were the only reason my bracket was remotely decent.

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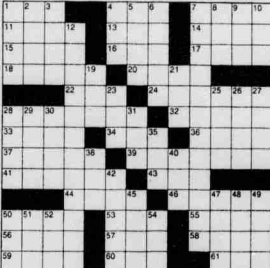
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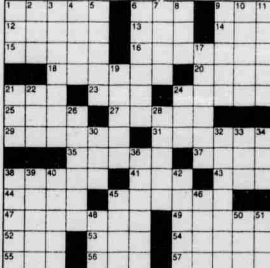
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Pop Warner football and cheerleading volunteer coaches needed to work with kids. Fun, rewarding way to serve your community. Leave message 870-8417

Summer Office Assistant, Western Office Engineering Firm: Answer phones, computer work, filing, and errands. Approx. 25-30hrs/wk flexible with schedule \$7.50/hr. Fax resume to 881-2147 or email jobs@clappsearch.com

The Forest Foundation has a permanent booth at the State Fair Grounds each weekend. We need retail help Saturdays and Sundays 9-5. Please call 957-1500.

Help Wanted, PT hostess 834-3070 ask for Eric

Seeking mature individual with pleasant personality to show rental houses to NC State students. Fun work. 10-40hrs/week. March-August. Excellent salary, office furnished. 833-7142

**TEACHING ASSISTANT** NEEDED. Assist students and instructors at the Sylvan Learning Center in Cary and Garner. PT day-time and evening hours. Mon-Sat. Call Denise at 858-8103

Wanted cheerleading instructor for Elite cheer and Dance, must have resume. Call Nicole 255-6524

Gymnastic instructors needed afternoon hours, 5 miles from State. Call 851-1188

FT & PT Computer/Technical positions excellent knowledge of networking and microsoft Apps. required. Network Certification + plus. http://www.citplus.net email resume to: jobs@cello.net or call 919-852-1238 ext429

Summer Job Soil Ecology/Entomology Lab and Field Research. Assist on interdisciplinary research project examining effects of agricultural practices on soil arthropods, natural enemies and other soil properties. @ 10 fielddays, rest of summer in lab. Must have valid NC driver's license, starting pay \$8.75/hr. Contact Charles Warwick cwarwick@unity.ncsu.edu or call 515-1649 10am-noon.

Raleigh optical office needs energetic persons. PT, 10-15hrs include some Saturdays. Optical skills a must, optical knowledge helpful, fax info. 873-1926

"Catering Works", near NCSU, needs PT delivery staff. Shifts available M-F, 6am-9am, 9am-1pm, or 2pm-6pm. Minimum two shifts per week. \$8.50/hr. Call Jennifer at 828-5932.

Barn Help Needed at private horse stable to feed, clean stalls, groom, and exercise dressage horses. Flexible hours. Pays cash \$6/hr. East of Raleigh, or weekends, 217-2410

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## Notices

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FT & PT Computer/Technical positions excellent knowledge of networking and microsoft Apps. required. Network Certification + plus. http://www.citplus.net email resume to: jobs@cello.net or call 919-852-1238 ext429

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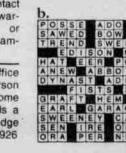
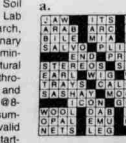
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Lifeguard for early morning shift at 6:15am, flexible hours and great fitness benefit. Contact Kari or Daniel YWCA, 3883. Convenient to NCSU.

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Baseball vs. N.C. A&T, 4/2, 7  
W. Tennis vs. VCU, 4/2, 2  
Track, Duke Invite, 4/5-6  
M. Tennis vs. Duke, 4/3, 2:30  
W. Golf, Bryan National Coll., 4/5  
M. Golf, Augusta Invit., 4/6-7



# Tuesday Sports



## Moon sets goals high and shoots low

◆ Goller Jason Moon looks for success while dealing with the increased demands of being the team's leader.

Steve Thompson  
Sports Editor

For an entire world of golfers, the dream is professional golf — the pinnacle of it being the PGA tour. That dream brings golfers to the United States to fine tune their golf games in the collegiate ranks.

Thus, when Australian native Jason Moon, now an N.C. State junior, was pondering where to take his golf game,

he knew where to look.

"The PGA Tour is seen as the main tour," said Moon. "So everyone wants to get over here and get some experience. To get to the PGA tour, you need to play in America to get used to the conditions and play with the best in America. The best amateurs are in America and most of them go to college unless you're like Ty Tryon."

Moon joins a long list of international players who have come to N.C. State to hone their games. Current senior Garth Mulroy and former Wolfpack star Tim Clark — now in his second year on the pro tour — both hail from South Africa.

The road to N.C. State was an inter-

esting one for Moon.

He first began playing golf when he was 12 years old. His game grew under the tutelage of his uncle, who virtually mastered the game (becoming a scratch golfer) within his first two years of playing golf. While caddyfing for his uncle, he would pick up tips and soon enjoyed golf successes of his own.

He had to file with a recruiting agency in Australia, which then sent his information to schools around America. Although many schools contacted him, State was the first school to call. His interactions with Wolfpack head coach Richard Sykes and the conditions around North Carolina pushed him

toward State.

"Coach Sykes was the first to call me," said Moon. "We got talking, ... and I eventually decided that North Carolina was the best place because of all the golf courses, the weather and also Coach Sykes."

The transition to playing in America has been difficult for Moon, as weather conditions here are vastly different.

"I was used to playing in a lot of wind," said Moon. "When I came here, it was really hard. It's so hot and humid, and there's not much wind."

"Here you have to hit a lot of high shots and land them on the green. I was

See MOON, Page 6

## BASKETBALL

### Bracketology: Not an exact science

Across the nation today in workplaces and offices alike, the respective winners of the annual NCAA tournament office pools claimed bragging rights for one full year.

But is the winner really a skillful basketball guru that knows anything and everything about the sport including what a Sakuk is or why Oklahoma guard Hollis Price conducts interviews with his mouthpiece still in?

More often than not, the winner isn't the resident sports genius who shows off his or her sport's knowledge every week at the water cooler. Rather, it is someone who pays the \$5 entry fee and then proceeds to pick the winners based on the color of their uniforms.

Don't laugh, it's happened before. So why is there no specific formula or set criteria that allows one to pick the winners of each game with relative ease?

The answer is exactly what makes March Madness the best sporting event of the year: Anything can and will happen.

With that in mind, here a few things we can all learn from this year's madness.

#### Finding the No. 1 flaw

All four No. 1 seeds have never advanced to the Final Four. It will probably happen someday, but keeping that initial fact in mind, never pencil in all four top seeds straight to the National Semifinals.

This year, it was simple — kind of. Cincinnati, under head coach Bob Huggins, is notorious for flaming out in the second round. In fact, the Bearcats' No. 1 seed should have instead gone to Oklahoma; hence, the Bearcats were the easy pick to not make it to Atlanta. Adding to the Bearcats' misery was their draw.

No, not their tough first round opponent the Boston University Terriers, but their second round matchup with probably the most talented team west of Durham — UCLA.

The Bruins, based on sheer talent alone, were a preseason top-five team that had underachieved all season. But head coach Steve Lavin's record in the second round was an impressive 5-1, so naturally, the Bruins downed Cincy in the second round in one of the better games of the tournament before flaming out to upstart Missouri, which brings me to my next point.

#### The 5/12 rule

It has happened every year since the tournament expanded to 64 teams. No, not the fact that CBS studio host Greg Gumbel gets more annoying each and every year, but at least one No. 12 seed has knocked off a No. 5 seed.

Despite how much talent a five seed possess (Florida) or how great of a year they've had (Marquette), always pick at least one No. 12 to notch a victory and in many cases pick more than one.

This year, in fact, only one five seed made it out of the first round — Indiana. The victorious 12 seeds were Creighton, Tulsa and Missouri — one of the most interesting stories of the college basketball year.

The Tigers were a preseason top-10 team and climbed as high as No. 2 in the polls at one point this season before going through a funk that lasted nearly the entire year.

But Quinn Snyder's team nearly pulled off an unparalleled Final Four run after sneaking into the tournament as a 12 seed. The Tigers proceeded to destroy fifth-seeded Miami (Fl.), Ohio State and UCLA before falling to Oklahoma.

#### Beware the 10 seed

This year it was Kent State. Last year it was Georgetown, and two years ago it was Gonzaga. The ten seed seemingly makes noise every year by knocking off a Final Four pretender in the second round and in some cases advancing all the way to the Elite Eight.

A wise bracket pick would be selecting a hot 10 seed (see Kent



Matt Middleton

## Struggling Pack looks to bounce back

◆ The N.C. State baseball team will take a break from ACC play when it hosts North Carolina A&T tonight.

Justin Sellers  
Senior Staff Writer

After flying high during the start of the 2002 season, the reality of how tough the Atlantic Coast Conference is has quickly pulled the N.C. State baseball team back down to earth.

The Wolfpack (19-11), which hosts North Carolina A&T Tuesday night at Doak Field, has struggled against two conference foes the last two weeks — losing its last two games to No. 8 Wake Forest and then being swept by No. 12 Georgia Tech this past weekend.

Saturday, State hosted a double-header due to the rainy conditions forecasters predicted for Sunday. Leading 5-4 and heading into the top of the seventh inning, things appeared to be going exactly the Pack's way. Then, like the flip of a switch, the game turned to the advantage of the Yellow Jackets, as they drove in 12 runs on 10 hits, highlighted by Matt Murtone's grand slam.

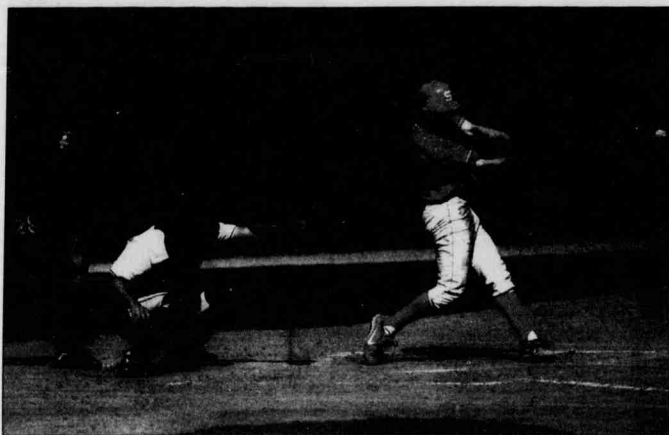
They would continue to eat away at State's pitching staff, as it rolled to a 20-12 win.

"We went up 5-1 early and Mike [Prochaska] did a great job for us," said head coach Elliott Avent. "He was really shutting them down and we felt like we had a chance. But as the game went along, we knew we had to pull Mike out and go to our bullpen."

"Our pitching staff has suffered a lot with the losses of [Ben] Hager, [Mike] Rogers and [Mike] Sollie. There's only so far we can go and Georgia Tech started to build up some hits. From there, it just snowballed."

Game two, however, was a little different, with Pack junior right-hander Daniel Caldwell going the distance on the mound. Although State would fall 3-0, Caldwell gave the Pack a much-needed lift in its pitching game, allowing three runs on nine hits, while walking three and striking out six.

"After game one, our seniors got together and talked about what went wrong," Avent said. "We knew we could play better than we had. Daniel Caldwell pitched a great game for us."



The Pack's bats have been lively this season against nonconference foes like North Carolina A&T.

He basically shut Georgia Tech down. They managed a couple of runs because they are a great team, but we had a better chance to win in the second game."

Since the conference is much improved and considered by many to be the best in the nation, State knows that every game is important, especially those that are against teams not in the ACC.

Looking to snap a four-game losing streak and rinse its mouth of the bitter taste of the series with the Jackets, the Pack is anxiously awaiting its game against the Aggies.

"No game is guaranteed," said Avent. "We've got to keep working hard and keep getting better as a team. Our schedule is a demanding schedule, but we've just got to take one game at a time. I'm sure we're looking forward to getting back out on the field tomorrow night. It'll be good to go out there and get that bad taste from losing out of our mouths."

At 9:25, A&T is on a downward spiral, losing two of a three-game series to Florida A&M over the weekend. The Aggies managed to take an early 3-2 lead over the

Rattlers in the opening game of the series, but A&M would battle back to knot the game at 3 apiece.

The score would remain the same until the 10th inning, where Arthur Davis and Adonis Smith each con-

nected on RBI singles to give A&T a 5-3 victory.

But that would be all the production the Aggies would see, as it proceeded to drop the next two games, 13-6

See BASEBALL, Page 6



N.C. State hopes to snap a four-game losing skid against North Carolina A&T tonight at Doak Field.

## Women's tennis hopes to slay Rams

◆ Virginia Commonwealth will make the trek to North Carolina in hopes of defending its lousy national ranking.

Matt Middleton  
Assistant Sports Editor

After snapping a four-game losing streak with a road victory at the University of Richmond just prior to the Easter weekend, the N.C. State women's tennis team returns to the court today to try and notch a nonconference victory against another team from Richmond — Virginia Commonwealth.

Today's match against the Rams (11-1) will be the third-straight non-ACC match for State (7-9), which is looking to build momentum for the stretch run of ACC competition. The Pack has three league matches remaining before the ACC championships take place in

Raleigh April 18-21.

State's success against the Spiders in its most recent match started at the top, when Katrina Gildemeister was victorious for the second consecutive match at No. 1 singles in a grueling three-set match that finally ended with the State senior taking the super tiebreaker from Jeanette Cluskey, 13-11.

Gildemeister teamed with fellow senior Kristen Nicholls to help State pick up the doubles point in a match for the first time since a 7-0 pounding of East Tennessee State on March 12.

Pack head coach Hans Olsen was excited about his team's victory over what he felt was a solid Richmond team.

"I was proud of the girls' effort," said Olsen. "We really had a good showing at Richmond where we knew we had to play well to pick up a victory."

Taking out the talented Rams will certainly be a formidable challenge for the Pack. The nation's ninth-best team

according to the latest Intercollegiate Tennis Association computer ranking, the Rams venture into Raleigh riding an eight-game winning streak that stretches almost two months.

The Rams also own a win over the nation's best team, Georgia, proving they are among the nation's elite. VCU is a team full of international flavor with all seven netters on the roster hailing from European nations, including four from Slovakia.

"They have a lot of solid players that are capable of beating anyone," said Olsen. "It's certainly going to be a challenge for us, but playing on our home court makes us a dangerous team because of the way we are playing right now."

Today's match will begin at 2 p.m. at the Wolfpack Tennis Complex.



Katrina Gildemeister smacks one across the net.

See MATT, Page 6