

Wednesday
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TECHNICIAN

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

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Student initiates racial climate survey



Brandon Buskey, a 2001 Harry S. Truman National Scholarship recipient, is one proponent of a racial climate survey.

◆ A new survey, if initiated, will examine how students, faculty and the administration view the racial climate at N.C. State.

Ayren Jackson
News Editor

At a time when affirmative action and multiculturalism are being challenged and debated on college campuses nationwide, many institutions and their administrators are feeling the need to get a better grasp on the issue of diversity and how it directly relates to their students, faculty and staff.

Last year, a group of N.C. State students, aided by faculty and staff members, began meeting to determine in what ways they could positively affect racial diversity issues at NCSU. They decided that the best way to go about this would be to obtain a baseline of sorts about the racial climate on campus.

But rather than rely on limited anecdotal information, such as one student's

experiences, they decided that a survey would be the best way to determine where the major problems were.

Through its recently established Office of Multicultural Affairs and Vice Provost for Diversity and African American Affairs position, held by Rupert Nacoste, NCSU already prides itself in its diversity efforts.

"[But] you cannot fight what you cannot see," said Brandon Buskey, a senior majoring in psychology and one of the proponents of the "racial climate survey." "I don't believe our university can honestly say that it prides itself on being a diverse community until it systematically seeks to understand the racial climate on campus. How will we know if we are doing a good job if we never ask this question of the people we are here to serve?"

Racial climate reports have already surfaced at many other universities across the country, including Loyola Marymount College, the University of Washington, Indiana State University and Brown University.

But, if successful, this will be the first survey of its kind at NCSU.

According to Buskey, the survey will essentially be a "qualitative or quantitative attempt to examine how students, faculty and administrators perceive the institutional climate for racial and ethnic diversity, their experiences with campus diversity and their own attitudes and interactions with different racial and ethnic groups."

The survey will be administered by the university to a large, representative sample of students, faculty and staff at NCSU, he explained.

Essentially, the benefits of this type of survey, according to Buskey, include letting it serve as a preventative measure that will allow the university to identify major racial tensions on campus before they escalate. In addition, information from the survey can be used to "formulate meaningful, effective policies and programs aimed at improving racial diversity areas that need attention," said Buskey.

And if successful, Buskey said that a survey of this kind should increase dialogue on this campus about issues of racial diversity so that the stigma often attached to race dialogue is eventually

removed.

Currently, Buskey is working closely with Student Government, IRC and other individuals around campus to conduct a smaller version of the survey to be completed by the end of the year. Buskey hopes that the university can begin the full-scale survey next year.

Tom Stafford, vice chancellor for student affairs and a supporter of the survey, says that the survey will be beneficial to the university if it is successful. But to be successful, Stafford says that the survey must be administered in an efficient and systematic manner, thus to get the most accurate results.

According to Buskey, many individuals and organizations have already backed the survey and agreed to help with following through.

The NCSU Student Senate, InterResidence Council, Student Center Board of Directors, African American Advisory Council and Provost's Office have all voiced their consent for the survey. In addition, Stuart Cooper, provost and vice chan-

See SURVEY, Page 2

Good credit poses challenge for college students



Seventy-eight percent of college students own at least one credit card.

◆ A loan officer offers college students some vital information on the pros and cons of credit card use.

Rahee Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Little beads of sweat are accumulating on your brow as you sit anxiously in front of a bank loan officer. That American dream of home ownership is one step closer with every keystroke.

Meanwhile, the loan officer is hammering away at the keyboard with a disturbing look on her face. After the longest and sweetest minutes of your life have passed, the loan officer's disturbing look is now paired with a disturbing news. Due to your failure to pay past and present bills on time, or not at all, your homeowner dream has been reduced to a trailer park nightmare.

As unrealistic as this scenario may seem to some, more and more college students are facing the repercussions of credit mistakes made during their college years in the years past graduation.

In fact, according to a credit-card usage analysis conducted by Nellie Mae in December of 2000, 78 percent of college students own credit cards. Of that 78 percent, 32 percent own four or more cards, and the average number of cards is three.

In addition, according to their analysis, the average credit card debt for undergraduate students is \$2,748, with 13 percent of students having a credit debt between \$3,000 and \$7,000.

And this debt does not vanish when the student graduates.

Instead, a bad credit history can be pulled by employers, loan officers or other credit companies and can drastically reduce the chances for future loans and purchases.

To avoid the pitfalls of bad credit, experts suggest getting an early start on establishing a good credit history.

A good credit history conveys a powerful message to the creditors who judge your past credit history to determine whether your chances of repayment are sufficient.

To get on the road to good credit, Naz Kamal, a financial representative for Southtrust Bank, had a few suggestions.

Setting up a checking and savings account at a bank of your choice is recommended. Kamal says that "maintaining a good standing with your bank" is a good start to creating a good credit history. Maintaining that good standing "shows responsibility," says Kamal, in addition to letting other lenders know that you have the ability to pay off your debt in a timely fashion. It also helps to establish a good reputation with your banking institution. Opening multiple accounts at the same institution exhibits customer loyalty, thus increasing your eligibility for loans.

Establishing a good credit history is impossible without applying for a credit card in your own name. They can range from major credit cards, such as Visa or MasterCard, to major department store credit cards such as Hechts or Hudson Belk. Most college students are approved easily.

Applying for, and receiving, a credit card is the easy part, but using it responsibly is where a number of people fall short. According to Kamal, maintaining a "\$500 minimum balance for a year and paying the bill on time" will create an impressive credit history. To add, use the card every month to make small purchases, then before the due date, pay off the entire balance.

Or if you find yourself using it frequently, plan a budget like you would your checking account. Only spend what you can afford to pay at the end of the month, saving some room for emergency purchases.

Amnesty calls for an end to capital punishment

◆ Amnesty International will be present at Wednesday's Student Senate meeting and will hold a forum discussing capital punishment.

Aniesha Felton
Staff Reporter

"Can you support a judicial system that inherently discriminates on race and class?" asked Aaron Jacobson, a senior in Spanish.

This, along with other questions, will be addressed this week as the N.C. State chapter of Amnesty International participates in Student Week of Action.

As part of the week, Amnesty will hold a forum: "Abolition of Capital Punishment: From Legal Lynchings to a Moral Revolution in American Society." A "Front Porch Chat" on Thursday in Caldwell Lounge at 4:30 p.m. In addition, they will be present in the Student Senate meeting Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in hopes of passing a moratorium on executions in North Carolina.

The front porch chat will focus on the discussion about the place of the institution of capital punishment within society's broader structure, the history and its evolution.

Some questions that will be addressed are: Would the abolition of capital punishment affect the "moral revolution," in American society that the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke of? Would an end to the death penalty likewise require this revolution in societal values? If capital punishment was abolished, and nothing else, would the abolishment of it only be effective until

the next reactionary government was elected?

In essence, according to Jacobson, the discussion will be focused on "revolutions in daily lifestyles ... to really effect lasting change."

"We [Amnesty] are only fighting alongside other progressive and community empowerment groups; at the most basic level, we are all working for the same end: to improve the landscape of daily life in the country," he said.

Jacobson went on to say that if capital punishment was abolished, it could just as easily be repealed. For this reason, Amnesty's goal is not only to abolish the death penalty but to have the results be effective and long-lasting.

"The only way it will be effective if we work towards a movement in societal values—a more just and non-violent society, more peaceful and less strife, oppression of minorities and hunger. If we had these kinds of values, then people's mentality dealing with the death penalty will be altered and uplifted," Jacobson said.

"This event will discuss the struggle against the death penalty," says President Andy Wingo, a senior in nuclear engineering. "The death penalty is a monster in itself, but then it is implied unfairly by having race and class biases; this makes it even worse."

Amnesty International (AI), a human rights organization, was founded in 1961 by Peter Benenson. AI seeks to inform the public about violations of human rights, especially abridgments of freedom of speech and religion and the imprisonment and torture of political dissidents. AI openly disapproves of the death penalty and has used the

death penalty this year as its focus for the Student Week of Action.

"Amnesty is positioned against the death penalty completely. We thought that maybe we could contribute to the theme this year and have another forum," Wingo said.

"The forum, to me, is about human rights struggles; the forum will bring out linkages between the death penalty and other tools. Hopefully, the forum will be the glue between groups like us, who are fighting against the death penalty and another group, who is fighting against racism and another against hunger. I want people to know we are fighting for the same thing; the abolishment of one thing can lead to something else, and before you know it, we have a snowball effect," Wingo said.

Jacobson, the one who proposed the forum, said that the reason why capital punishment is wrong is self-explanatory. Expounding upon that further, he said that the taking away of life is brutal, and that no one should ever be so powerful and privileged that they can take away something so valuable and important as life.

"The idea is that there are bad people in the world, so let's kill them; it's not that easy," said Wingo. "The death penalty has become a quick fix. Murder people in order to solve our problems? If we take away this placebo [death penalty], we will be forced to look at the fundamental principles and the social factors, and then have to fix the problem instead of covering it up." Wingo hopes that the forum will not only provoke thought about the issue, but will educate and unite the participants as well.

The forum will include two panelists: Chris Fitzsimon, executive director for a political think-tank in Raleigh, and Margaret Tolman, chairman of Coalition for Moratorium; they will facilitate the discussion and answer questions that pertain to the focus of the chat.

The forum has a special meaning in that it is being held on the 34th anniversary of Martin Luther King's assassination. King was a strong opponent of the death penalty.

"In a small part, we want to give homage to Martin Luther King, Jr., who was the perfect being for displaying nonviolence," Jacobson said. "The upheld values of nonviolence and spoke about the 'moral revolution,' something that will only enhance the betterment of the country."

"Hopefully, the abolishment of capital punishment will cultivate and encourage a movement towards this 'revolution' in societal values. Maybe the abolishment could move us closer to a just and equality based country."

While hoping for the "moral revolution" to befall is a stepping-stone for future success, Amnesty realizes that they must help the process. Tonight at 7:30, Amnesty will propose a moratorium on executions to the NCSU

See AMNESTY, Page 2



Two members of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity break it down in the Brickyard on Tuesday afternoon for the student voting initiative. The Brickyard was one of the polling sites for the 2002 student elections.

SURVEY

Continued from Page 1

cellor for academic affairs, has said that he wants to do a racial climate survey in the very near future and has charged Vice Provost Rupert Nacoste with drafting a proposal to this effect. "Most people [have asked] 'why aren't we already doing

this,' rather than 'why should we do this,'" said Buskey. Buskey hopes that the survey will not only be successful but will also become a university initiative.

"I believe the administration of this university sincerely wish to improve its diversity atmosphere, from trying to recruit students from diverse backgrounds to putting systems in place that will aid their development once

they arrive on campus," said Buskey. "However, we as a campus still do not know how to talk about diversity issues. This is not just a problem at N.C. State, but that should not deter us from trying to find ways to create a real sense of community on campus that divorces us from the segregated, disjointed diversity environment we now face."

AMNESTY

Continued from Page 1

Student Government Association (SGA).

"I know this is a small step, but we are putting this on another small step; soon these little steps will become larger, more noticeable, and then it will become something that can't be ignored," Wingo said.

"All the large cities except Raleigh have a moratorium on executions. Hopefully, the SGA will pass it, and then it can proceed to the city council."

Wingo quoted, "It's just what Thurgood Marshall said: 'It's not a question of whether they will support the moratorium, but once they are educated about it, will they?'"

"Once people are educated, most people won't like it [capital punishment]. After students see how it is implied, with all its fatal flaws, then maybe they will shift mental positions and want to confront the executive board on it. And once this is the will of the people [to have a moratorium], and we have seen

how the system has gone wrong, then we will have the power to say 'we saw how you messed up, now fix it,'" he said.

The resolution states that 95 percent of death row inmates could not afford to hire their own lawyers, thus resulting in their conviction. The Common Sense Foundation found that defendants convicted of killing a white person are 3.5 times more likely to receive a "life sentence than those convicted of killing a black person. Ninety-nine people have been released from death row due to evidence that proved their innocence. And in North Carolina, an inmate, in 1999, died in prison awaiting a new trial for a crime to which another man confessed.

Amnesty will be asking that the SGA impose a moratorium on executions, at least until there are policies that ensure the death penalty is used fairly and impartially, minimize the risk of an innocent person being executed and for the prohibition of minors.

Amnesty has many hopes for the front porch chat.

According to Jacobson, the forum will be lively and infor-

mal, but experts will be available to offer detailed answers. He hopes that people will leave the forum with a new perspective and that the forum will encourage them to fight for what they believe is right.

"The forum will allow us to learn from each other. It seems as if the death penalty is disjoint[ed] from other struggles. I hope after the forum, people realize it's not," Wingo said.

In addition, he has hopes that the forum will broaden people's minds and leave them with a better understanding of how all the elements are connected.

"This discussion will allow us to think about the broader struggle for human rights. People are working on different sections, yet we are still working on the same thing ... a world founded on justice," says Jacobson. "In order to make the death penalty abolished forever, we need to change our moral thinking. Capital punishment cannot prolong its stay where there is no bias on class and race."

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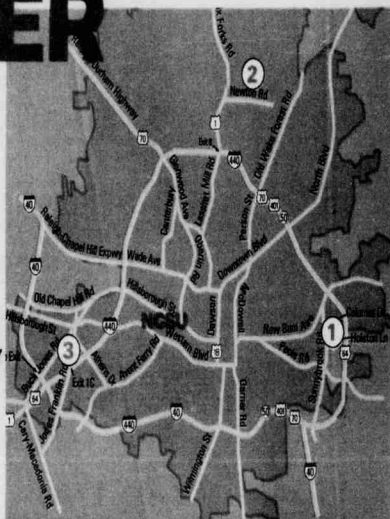
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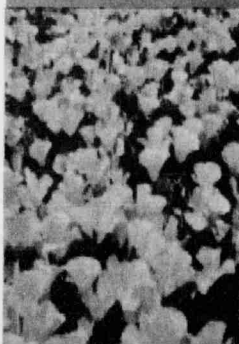
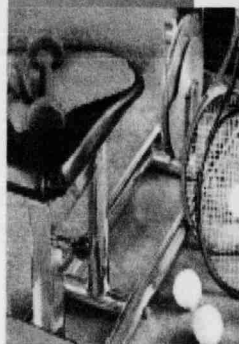
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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Immigrant tuition proposal hopelessly optimistic

SOME NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATORS' PROPOSAL TO OFFER IN-STATE TUITION TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TOO IDEALISTIC AND POORLY TIMED

In a perfect world, all would be entitled to the basic freedoms Americans enjoy. In a perfect world, higher education would be free and open to all. In this real and economically stagnant world, the plan proposed by some North Carolina legislators to offer in-state tuition to illegal residents living in North Carolina is absurd.

The News and Observer reported yesterday that a group of legislators and UNC officials suggest North Carolina follow in the footsteps of California and Texas by allowing illegal immigrants access to in-state tuition rates. The rationale is that by giving immigrants better opportunities at higher education, they are more likely to become more productive members of society.

Who can argue with this logic taken alone? However, when considering thousands of North Carolina's college students and their families are struggling to pay ever-increasing tuition in the face of a nationwide economic slowdown, this idea seems less and less a good one.

Less than two months ago, the UNC Board of Governors approved an eight-percent increase in tuition across the board for all 16 campuses of the UNC System. The average debt of N.C. State students is \$15,971. With a recent history of several tuition hikes and a lag-

ging economy, all signs point only to a worsening situation. North Carolina legislators should be looking at reducing (or at least not increasing) tuition for legal residents before they even consider fighting a similar battle for illegal residents.

Furthermore, there is a fundamental flaw in the argument of supporters of in-state tuition for illegal residents: Sure, having a college diploma prepares one a much better shot at good job opportunities than for those without one. But is doubtful that illegal residents will even be able to be employed at jobs requiring a college education.

They may get a diploma but still wouldn't have that critical Social Security card all reputable employers require. Thus, the argument about extending citizens' privileges to illegal immigrants comes full circle once again. By federal law, governments cannot extend better privileges to illegal residents than legal residents but also cannot refuse illegal residents primary public education.

After this debate, the only thing that really matters with illegal residents is their status as non-citizens. All these well-intentioned efforts are, at best, misguided, unless accompanied by plans to convert hard-working, well-deserving illegal residents to U.S. citizens in the long run.

Celebrate the heritage of the idiot

Greg Volk
STAFF COLUMNIST

It would seem that the sleepy southern town of Suffolk, Va., has come a long way since the days of the Mason-Dixon Line. Citizens sit on their porches and take long drinks from tall glasses of lemonade in the sweltering summer sun. Even Mayor Curtis Milteer himself embodies what the Civil Rights Movement stood for — equal opportunities for minorities. In fact, the African-American mayor and great-grandson of a slave is so dedicated to equality that he has proposed April be declared "Confederate History Month."

I hope you weren't eating (especially a pretzel) when you read that last sentence, for fear of choking. I'll reassure you that what you just read is true. "We have rendered proclamations for other groups. It's a matter of recognizing and respecting everyone's heritage, even if it is not the same as our own," Milteer told the Associated Press last week. Well, Mr. Milteer, while your attempt at including the excluded is admirable, it's slightly off base (and I use "slightly" in the "very much so" sense of the word.) But there is a reason we have refrained from celebrating certain groups' heritages. In the case of Confederate heritage, it can be summed up in two words: slavery.

I realize that this is an incredibly complex and an incredibly touchy issue; therefore, without sounding overzealous, I am going to attempt to solve one and for all the vestiges-of-slavery-in-modern-culture problems with the following sentence: Slavery was wrong. Being from the North didn't mean you were anti-slavery. Being from the South didn't guarantee you were pro-slavery. (Note: henceforth, "Yankies" will be called people from the North and "Rebs" people from the South.) And, yes, the Civil War wasn't just about slavery, but mainstream America can't be expected to support a culture that was deeply rooted in slav-

ery. Now, let's all shake hands and sing campfire songs.

What we were is just that — in the past. We are all Americans now. All histories should be known but only some should be celebrated with their own month. Sure, the North absolutely, positively screwed up Reconstruction, but this doesn't justify a damned thing. Yes, someone's great-great-grandpappy may have gone from being filthy rich (or even just economically solvent) to dirt poor as a result of the Civil War (and the end of slavery). I'm sorry. Really. Next time you talk to him, tell him I said so. But the reason he was rich was because he had slaves, plain and simple.

Furthermore, I am white. Neither side of my family was in America during the Civil War. I cannot be held responsible for slavery. Nor can I be held responsible for the way the post-war South was treated by the North. This is sounding a little too much like an argument against reparations. It's not. It's an argument against stupid, childish grudges we like to hold against each other.

Milteer is right — we do need to know more about the heritage of different American groups. I can't wait for "Trail of Tears" day when they'll organize a walk-a-thon across the southeastern states. Or what about Japanese Concentration Camp Week, where we have an exciting "lock-in."

If critics accuse Colin Powell of not being true to his roots, then I can only imagine what they will say about Mayor Milteer. Milteer and his "Confederate History Month" are already being met by opposition from the NAACP. After being told of Milteer's celebratory branch, local NAACP Chapter president said, "This raises a red flag." It most certainly does. One with blue diagonals dotted with spiky, white thistles on them.

In honor of Mr. Milteer's noble attempt at recognizing the heritage of the Confederacy, I propose we, in turn, recognize the heritage of Mr. Milteer — the heritage of the idiot.

Greg will be whistling Dixie until you e-mail your response to diehus@hotmail.com.

When the students start to vote, then things will change.



What the candidates say:

When the candidates change things, then I'll start to vote.



What the students say:

But that's what the Senate is for

Sometimes my page-a-day calendar holds little nuggets of wisdom.

Alan Simpson, the former U.S. Senator from Wyoming, was featured recently. "There are a lot of things that we do that are irrelevant, but that's what the Senate is for."

Chris Hickling
STAFF COLUMNIST

Perhaps it goes without saying, but my page-a-day calendar is "The 365 stupidest things ever said."

Perhaps this particular quotation made the top 365 because it is ludicrous. While Congress may seem irrelevant at times, its power to create change in areas from education to the environment cannot be denied. Sen. Simpson might be referring to his days way back when he was a senator in college.

Schools all around the country are electing their student leaders for the upcoming term, and the excitement is, well, nonexistent. How can that be? Young people constantly complain that their vote doesn't count, but it is in this type of election where their vote counts enormously. Take the election last year: Our current student body president won with a whopping total vote count of 892. If we have 28,000 students here — that works out to roughly three percent of the student body. There are student senators who got the job with

votes in the single digits. You can point the finger at apathy, but even that can't explain 97 percent of students choosing not to vote.

Why don't students vote? Because student government has no power. As much as being in the legislative arm of Student Government might connote, they simply have no string to pull. Resolutions read much like a passive parent trying to tame her wild child. This session, the senate has fervently opposed tuition, strongly urged transportation to be nicer and declared its emphatic support of the library. They can't make the Wolfline do a thing, but they are "strongly in favor" of a bus stop. When \$4,000 goes to a senate retreat and another \$1,000 goes to a banquet, we, as the students they represent, should expect a bit more than emphatic support. We want to see emphatic action.

I can neither blame our student reps nor say that it is found solely on our campus. Certainly it is not their fault, and more certainly, we are not the only example of a powerless student body. Even though we pay thousands upon thousands of dollars each year to our school, there is nothing that we can do to enact change. Five thousand students can march to the state capital (that's three thousand more students than the total votes that year in student elections), but it does not do good. The Board of Governors holds the veto, and students have no recourse to override that veto. What we have is one person representing 170,000 students. Regardless of his opinion, he can do nothing to

equal the power of the other members on the board. He should hold the trump card, and instead he has the joker.

Equality is the grease that makes the wheels of government turn. Congress must listen to the president because he has veto power and the bully pulpit to address the nation. The president must listen to Congress because they can override his veto and pull the purse strings. By many accounts, the president is more powerful, but Congress is not powerless.

For the relationship to work, the students need to feel like they can control their time here. Let there be party on the Board of Governors. Give us a power of referendum. If we approve tuition increases (after administration gives us compelling reasons to do so), then it shall be so. If we oppose tuition increases, let us be responsible for the ramifications, whatever they may be. Let the senate create change, not simply encourage it. When the people are given the power that they are due, we will finally be a unified university.

For the administration to do this, they need some sign that the students want control of their university. If we stay at the status quo (three percent), then the suits will have no reason to change either.

Chris admires student leaders. If isn't your fault they have no power, Chris zealously invites you to e-mail him at chwickli@unity.ncsu.edu.

The truth about college

Shawn Barnes
STAFF COLUMNIST

My friend and I had an important conversation last night. We discussed how we're graduating in May and have no jobs. But I don't want to be misleading — of course we have jobs, the dead-end, part-time jobs we have now because large chunks of our day are taken away by class time.

I'm currently working at two part-time jobs. One sucks job in retail, and the other is a job that, during my interview, my manager said was so simple that (and I quote) "a trained monkey could do it." I'm a month and a half away from a degree from one of the best universities in North Carolina, and I'm doing the work of a trained monkey.

Where did I go wrong? My thought was that I would go to college, put in my time and come out making decent money at a job that at least partially suited my interest. College was supposed to make me the ideal candidate for a challenging job at X, Inc., where my human reasoning skills were utilized on a daily basis.

College has educated me. It has taught me that a B.S. is just that — "BS." Who doesn't have a bachelor's degree? The people with experience — the people that for whatever the reason didn't go to school or quit school, got a job and began working their way up the ladder. Not only are these people with

five years of practical experience favored before me, but, with the layoffs, there are zillions of people out there polluting the job market with experience and degrees.

If I could do it all over again, knowing then what I know now, would I go to college after high school, or would I get an entry-level job and work my way up, letting my company pay for any necessary formal education that would carry the even further in my career? Or would I go to college, read long, boring books and write long, boring essays that have nothing to do with any career I could possibly want?

Call me crazy, but I would still go to college — nothing beats the experiences I've had during my college career. But college hasn't done what I was led to believe it would do for me. I know lots of people who didn't go to college, who chose to have kids or

jump right into the workforce, and I really can't say that I envy them for it. (Of course, I can't say they envy me either.)

That just isn't for me. I have the rest of my life to go to work for 40 hours a week with no three-week Christmas vacation and no spring break, only to come home and hear, "Mama, I'm hungry." But let's be for real, after a certain age, it's no longer time for partying from Friday night until Sunday morning with no break in between. Cafeteria food, cramped dorm rooms, long nights studying — that's college. I would recommend it to anyone. Guaranteed dream jobs, well, let's just say nothing in life is guaranteed.

Questions? Comments? Even a well-trained monkey can e-mail Shawn at shawn_barnes@hotmail.com.

Send your beef to Campus Forum:
forum@technicianstaff.com.

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CAMPUS FORUM

Cell phones a nuisance
at D.H. Hill

I just spent 25 minutes at D.H. Hill Library and then left after asking two people to take the cell phone conversations elsewhere. I was in the area by the reference desk that has the large signs posted, "No Food, Drinking or Talking." There are very few places in the library one can be assured of silence, and I thought this was one of them. Both people obliged my request, the second one only did so after explaining he'd been coming there for four years and conducting himself in the same fashion as today. Either after four years he still cannot read, still has not learned any manners, or this room really is meant for social studies and the sign is erroneous. It used to be that quiet was the norm in a library. Now you have to search for a quiet place and hope that a phone conversation does not infringe on your study solitude. With so many places available in the library for group discussion and studying, I am at a loss as to why people light in this "quiet area" only to engage in conversation.

Leslie Kingsley
Graduate Program
N.C. State

O'Connor's support for
Reaganomics off base

Once again, there is precious little space to debunk Darren O'Connor's horribly misleading column. Let us cover a few of the major flaws.

First of all, the Reagan-era economic policies were terrible for the poor. Yes, they made minor gains under Reagan (1.1 percent real annually, compared to 2.4 percent under Clinton, and positive, not negative, 0.9 percent when Bush is included.) The only way to count a significant loss for "Ford/Carter" would be to compare 1981 to 1974 (a 1.9 percent drop), but this is entirely attributable to the years considered. From 1975 to 1980, the 20th percentile saw real income grow by 5.4 percent. On the other hand, the 99th percentile actually grew faster under Reagan than any other period since 1974. Not only did household incomes become more unequal, but wage earners found themselves working longer hours (accounting for much of those prized gains in productivity) and more workers per household as women entered the workforce. Households may have made small gains in total income, but they worked many more hours to make those gains. Reagan's tax policy made the situation worse — payroll taxes went up by 50 percent between 1980 and 1989, which more than made up for the income tax cut seen by the poorest quintile. The reason for the increased tax burden on the rich was not a lower tax rate for the poor, but the fact that nominal income of the 99th percentile rose by 63 percent in that time (so their total taxes went up by more than a third.) If that wasn't enough, Reagan's loose fiscal policy fought the Federal Reserve's contractionary monetary policy. It was the Federal Reserve's policy that stopped inflation. By raising interest rates to previously laughable, illegal (and, according to the Catholic

church, immoral) levels, the Federal Reserve ground the economy to a halt. But why? Certainly not for the mortgage-holding middle class who found themselves paying negative real interest rates. Even with nearly stagnant wages, they found themselves paying a lesser share of their income toward interest. Rather, it was for the wealthy bondholders that saw their unearned incomes eroded. Sounds positively peachy, doesn't it?

David Rosnick
Research Associate
N.C. State

Technician underrated as
a good newspaper

After having worked at Technician (note to all those reading, not *The Technician*), I completely understand where you are coming from in your column, "Say goodbye to the opinion guy." This school is not newspaper friendly; you can't even major in journalism for goodness sakes. Most people say, "Go to Chapel Hill if you want to do that." But for those of us who do read the paper and use it to help form opinions, stay up to date on events and as a reference for good sport's knowledge, you must understand that you, personally, have done a terrific job. I believe wholeheartedly that you have made a well-referenced, valiant effort to make the opinion page better. Minus some of your writers, the page is good. (You have to take what you are given, right? Writers at this school are scarce.) Since my days of copy editing at the paper, I've shied away from Technician. It takes a lot to work there: crappy pay, long hours and an attempt to put your heart and soul into something that comes out only to be left in a seat in Winston 113 everyday is hard. Those that you wanted to reach with your column probably didn't read it. There seems to be nothing you could highlight or no headline brave enough to pull in the people who skip over the opinion page; however, for those students and professors alike, I must say they are missing out on something that borders on SPECIAL. You have done a great job of diversifying the page, and I can see your blood, sweat and tears in each edition. Have no fear, the paper is only getting better. From Austin Adams' column, with Jimmy Ryals editing back in '98 to your present page, the paper as a whole, not just opinion, has come a long way. This paper is one of the best in the nation, and for those kids who don't like it or feel the need to unfairly criticize it, I ask them to take a tour of 323 Witherspoon one night around 11 p.m., where kids who are not getting class credit and only being paid about \$4.25 an hour are busy putting the finishing touches on tomorrow's paper. Also, to the naysayers, if you do not like what's being written, join the staff — diversity is always welcome. Thanks for a wonderful year. Hopefully your replacement will work as hard as you have to represent the opinions and needs of this university.

April Hawkins
English, senior
N.C. State

The added cost of air travel



Abby
Byrom
STAFF COLUMNIST

Since Sept. 11, many things in our country have changed. Most of the changes I have not minded. The extra security at the airports can be a bit of a hassle, but overall I know it is for my own good. However, over Easter break I had the pleasure of flying across the country to visit family. To pass time in the airport, I stared at my plane ticket for as long as possible — hoping it would get more interesting.

This did not really bother me, until all of a sudden the plane ticket did get interesting. As I was scanning the receipt on the front of my little booklet, I noticed a new development in fees.

Normally, there are the standard fees that apply to all passengers: your service fare, passenger facility charges (you are really paying for the use of the bathroom, the bag of pretzels and the little drink), and sometimes there might be a baggage charge on your ticket.

Now, if you look at your plane tickets, you will see that there is a Sept. 11 security fee that accounts for \$10 of your total airline bill. There is a max of \$5 fee per round trip to be levied on all tickets to support the Federal Aviation Security Administration, but what about the other \$5? Maybe the overall fee is larger if you are flying to Afghanistan, but since I was only going to Mississippi, I only had to pay \$10 to be safe.

On Sept. 11, I was extremely upset and even

appalled when a friend of mine did not seem to be that angry or sad about the events. He explained to me that, yes, he was sad about what had happened, but he felt that the media had sensationalized everything. Then, I did not agree, but now, I can see where he was coming from.

When I noticed the fees from Sept. 11, I wondered what they could really be for. I know the National Guard is all over the place at airports now, and I know that it takes money to pay for the new security measures. As far as I can tell though, there are no guards on any of the planes I have flown on: the only change I have noticed at the airports are military men with guns and a longer line to go through security.

Since Sept. 11, I have flown four times, and all four times I have gotten to the airport two hours ahead of time, as suggested, only to find out that it has only taken me 15 minutes to get through all the security. So when I think about this extra \$10 fee I am paying, it makes me wonder where it is going.

Is this another way to get money out of our nation, when the government, should be paying to protect us? Or is this the airline using a historical tragic event to up profits and balance debits that occurred as a result of the tragedy? You tell me.

I know it takes money to fix problems. I understand that. Honestly, I do not really have a problem with an extra \$10 to help keep my family or me safe. I was just surprised to see it on my plane ticket, since I have not really noticed some big security change that needs to be paid for.

I just wonder what exactly the money goes to. I feel that, since Sept. 11, there are a lot of everyday activities that cost more, are supposed to mean more and are highlighted in the media more often. It is sad that it took an attack on our country to make our nation realize how important family and values and being nice to someone is. Which also makes me think, if we are paying \$10 extra now, and we are not seeing some huge change in security, then why were we not paying \$10 before Sept. 11?

Send \$10 to Abby. Or you could just e-mail her at pahyrom@unity.ncsu.edu.

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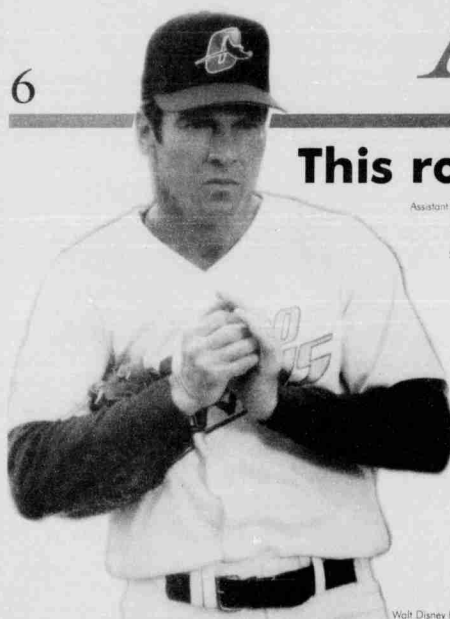
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This rookie hits, scores

Assistant Features Editor **Ryan Hill**

The Rookie

Starring **Dennis Quaid**,
Rachel Griffiths
Directed by **John Lee Hancock**
★★★

With the return of summer comes the return of baseball to the big screen. This time, Disney takes a stab with "The Rookie," based on the true story of Jim Morris, a 35-year-old with a 98-mph fastball who makes it to the big leagues.

Born into a Navy family, Jim moves constantly from place to place before finally settling down in Big Lake, Texas. His father (Brian Cox) doesn't care for Jim's "love of the game," which works out because Big Lake doesn't have a baseball team anyway.

Flash forward, and Jim is now 35. He is the coach of the Big Lake high school baseball team, one he probably started, but this is never mentioned in the film. His team has won one game in three years, and they look just like the "Bad News Bears," all the way down to a kid with gross hair. Jim has also got a wife (Rachel Griffiths) and three kids.

Trying to motivate his team, Jim decides to pitch to them. After seeing that he still has what it takes, his kids decide that if they win the district championship, Jim will try out for professional baseball. With the help of the ADD kid from "The Fast and the Furious" and Jay Hernandez of "Crazy/Beautiful," they do it, so Jim goes to try out.

From there, it's a veritable who's who of baseball films, including one part where Jim plays with the Durham Bulls and befriends a young hot

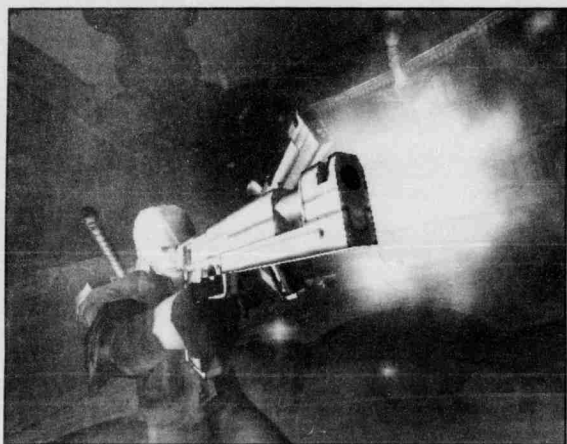
shot, aka "Bull Durham." Of course, anyone who knows the story knows Jim makes it (plus you knew it was coming, because it was a Disney film), and he plays with — low and behold — the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, meaning that Jim has entered the real-life version of "Major League."

I could go on and on about how many different baseball films "The Rookie" invokes, but you get the idea. It's the cliché, cheesy Disney stuff, but damn if it isn't fun. John Lee Hancock's direction keeps things moving along, and even decides to blot out the murky details of the story, like the first game Jim pitches in (where the Devil Rays get rocked). Hancock also leaves out the fact that Tampa Bay was born into last place, and that when Morris pitched, he wasn't particularly great.

But none of that really matters in the end. "The Rookie" is about a man doing what nobody thought he could, "overcoming all obstacles" to achieve his dream of playing big-league ball. It's a sweet story that may have been done millions of times before, but the film is just too much fun to dismiss.

Definitely worth checking out, "The Rookie" won't disappoint. Even with its G-rating, it doesn't get too family oriented. Instead, it just focuses on telling a good story, something more movies need to do.

This devil may cry, but you'll have a blast



Staff Writer **Antonio Brunson**

Devil May Cry

(PS2)

★★★1/2

At last year's E3 exposition, the most common word associated with "Devil May Cry" was "cool." And believe me, it is. In fact, it's not just cool — this game is an awesome tour-de-force. "Cry" delivers no-holds-barred action, the likes of which hasn't been seen since the glory days of the "Contra" series.

In "Devil May Cry," you play as Dante, the son of a famous demon knight who defeated a vicious underworld demon years ago. You meet Trish, who informs you that the demon is back after 2000 years and threatens humanity once again. Trish then leads you to a mysterious castle to battle through to defeat the evil being.

Frankly, the story and dialogue in "Cry" is cliché at best and laughably bad at worst, but it doesn't really matter. You'll be having too much fun hacking stuff to death to notice.

Controlling Dante takes some getting used to but quickly becomes intuitive. The half-demon/half-human brandishes a sword and fires guns to battle enemies. You'll have a lot of fun mixing up the different sword-slashing techniques and following up with a hail of gunfire at enemies.

One of the trademark abilities in the game is slashing an enemy up into the air and juggling him with Dante's twin pistols. You'll take on groups of five or six enemies at once, hacking them and unleashing a barrage of bullets mercilessly until Dante's the only person in the room.

The whole package is extremely satisfying and never gets old. Fairly early in the game, you'll acquire the "Devil Trigger" ability, which can temporarily boost Dante's abilities as he disposes

of demonic adversaries. As you progress through the game you can purchase new abilities with orbs you earn defeating enemies. Instead of just making your character more powerful, these abilities actually expand your repertoire for punneling enemies and enhance combat.

"Cry's" visuals are astoundingly polished and smooth. Dante and his enemies animate fluidly, and the environments are crisp and detailed. Every locale Dante explores is filled with convincing details that really draw you into the game. Loads of special effects can be occurring simultaneously on-screen and the game never slows down for a second. The only downside is that the game occasionally changes camera angles suddenly, which can be disorienting, but these instances are minor annoyances at most.

The sound is also pretty impressive. Ambient sounds play whenever you're simply exploring different areas, but as soon as you encounter enemies, the game chimes in with a guitar-riff theme that fits the action well, even though the battle theme gets old after a while. Fortunately, it changes about halfway through the game to a cool techno track.

Sound effects for the guns and sword slashes are appropriately done without being over-the-top. The voice actors for the characters are pretty bad, but it's hard to blame them with the pathetically written script they've been handed.

"Cry" is a tough game to finish, something rare among games these days. If you have too much trouble, the game offers an "easy mode" that makes beating the game an almost effortless feat. But you'll want to play through "Cry" multiple times to uncover all the secret missions hidden in the game, as well as the tougher difficulty levels that open up once you beat the game on normal.

If you've been itching for a hardcore action game, look no further than "Devil May Cry." The game is an instantly satisfying experience that challenges your reflexes with intense combat and dazzles your eyes and ears with its audio and visual prowess. If you look past its crappy story and dialogue, you'll enjoy one of the best action games to come along in awhile.

Tech it to the limit: oogly googly

Senior Staff Writer **Jon Morgan**

Oh, Internet, you vast, untapped

resource of news, pornography and whiny adolescents — is there anything you can't do? The only problem is that you have to go look for Web pages. In a truly ideal world, Web pages would just be fed to you whilst lounging in a recliner. Nevertheless, until we reach that perfect day where the Internet becomes as mindless as television, we must search. And search we shall, thanks to sites like Google.

Google, and search engines like it, is second only to e-mail in time spent on the Web. Think about that. More time is spent searching the Internet than looking at WWF pornography, reading Pokémon fan fiction or posting petty complaints to LiveJournal. The magnitude of this is truly great.

If we're going to spend almost all of our time on this effort, we ought to do it in the most efficient way possible. For the past several years, the unanimous answer to this question was "Google," which is but a single fish in the vast sea of Web sites, but it is by far the most used search engine. Why? Because it is the best.

The problem with search engines is that they return so many results. There's a lot of stuff out there, so a search as focused as "dorks that dress up like anime characters" may yield thousands of results. This is where ranking comes into play. And while ranking systems used to be a standard issue, generally based on the title of the page, smart engines like Google have other methods.

First and foremost in Google's process comes the concept of a page's "importance." The more

linked a page is to other sites, the more important it becomes. If an important site links to another site, the second site must be important as well. This gives the Web a huge democratic network of importance, which is what Google uses to sort its results.

Before you sort the results, however, you have to search for keywords. Let's say you search for the phrase "best newspaper ever." Most search engines would then go through keywords provided by the sites themselves for the words "best newspaper ever" and that's it. Google, however, goes a step further. If somebody calls a site "the best newspaper ever," then it's probably true. On top of that, if an important site says something is the best newspaper ever, that carries a lot of weight.

Now, if you search Google for "best newspaper ever," Technician is nowhere to be found. This is a travesty, because we obviously are, in fact, the best. Since Google trusts other Web pages to decide what search results to bring up, however, one could change this with a concerted effort.

Let's say that everybody who works at Technician has a personal Web site, and that all of these sites link to one another (increasing their "importance"). If everybody puts a link to Technician, calling it the "best newspaper ever," then Google will assume that Technician is the best newspaper ever. It takes a lot of work, but things like this can be done. It's called "Google bombing."

Although this slight flaw allows Google's searches to be manipulated, Google is still the best. Teoma, a new contender whose new search engine is to be unveiled this week, may provide competition, but as of now, Google remains on top. Coming from the best newspaper ever, that has to be true.

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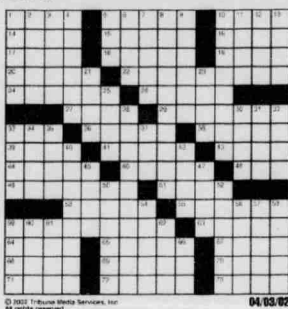


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Crossword

ACROSS
1 Hardy heroine
5 Standing
10 Silt
14 Not a weather
15 Pacific island group
16 Composer
17 Fox of "Santitas"
18 Media segment
19 Fastening
20 Ryan or
21 Shaquille
22 Formerly
24 Clan pattern
25 "Manner"
27 Tied up
29 Odorous
30 Mysterious aunt
36 Battery terminal
38 Insect stage
39 As far as
41 Civil Rights pioneer
43 Takes to court
44 Master
46 White poplar
48 Double bend
49 Body of lemons
51 Immense
53 Antler and
54 Linds
55 War or rumor
56 ending
59 Natural spring
63 Figure out
64 Part of Q.E.D.
65 Pilot
67 Diving bird
68 Pond sound
69 Crowlet
70 Geneva or
71 Province
72 The Divine
73 Bernhardt
74 Broad
DOWN
1 Seer's deck
2 Barcolata tune
3 "Mars"
4 Passover feast
4a Tranzilize
5 Pharaoh's gift
6 Very unusual



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Solutions

ACROSS
1 Hardy heroine: Helen
5 Standing: Upright
10 Silt: Sediment
14 Not a weather: Gale
15 Pacific island group: Samoa
16 Composer: Beethoven
17 Fox of "Santitas": Vixen
18 Media segment: Soundbite
19 Fastening: Buckle
20 Ryan or Shaquille: Shaquille
21 Formerly: Once
24 Clan pattern: Tartan
25 "Manner": Demeanor
27 Tied up: Tied
29 Odorous: Foul
30 Mysterious aunt: Auntie
36 Battery terminal: Cell
38 Insect stage: Larva
39 As far as: As far as
41 Civil Rights pioneer: Martin Luther King
43 Takes to court: Sues
44 Master: Lord
46 White poplar: Populus
48 Double bend: S-curve
49 Body of lemons: Lemonade
51 Immense: Vast
53 Antler and Linds: Antelope
54 War or rumor ending: War
59 Natural spring: Geyser
63 Figure out: Solve
64 Part of Q.E.D.: Q.E.D.
65 Pilot: Aviator
67 Diving bird: Osprey
68 Pond sound: Lill
69 Crowlet: Crow
70 Geneva or Province: Canton
71 Province: Canton
72 The Divine: Divine
73 Bernhardt: Bernhardt
74 Broad: Broad
DOWN
1 Seer's deck: Tarot
2 Barcolata tune: Barcolata
3 "Mars": Mars
4 Passover feast: Seder
4a Tranzilize: Tranzilize
5 Pharaoh's gift: Scarab
6 Very unusual: Unusual

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RECPACK

Are you looking for a new fun and exciting challenge? RECPACK, which is the Intramural-Recreational Sports student staff, is looking for some new members for the summer and fall. Join us on April 3, in the Walnut Room of Talley Student Center at 6 p.m. or 7 p.m. to learn more about how you can be a part of RECPACK. Jobs are offered in all areas of Intramural-Recreational Sports. If you are interested, meet with us in the Walnut Room or stop by 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium.

Run for Respect

The 2nd annual Run for Respect will be held on Saturday, April 20 at N.C. State's Centennial Campus, beginning at 10 a.m., Run for Respect is a 5K run/walk benefiting State's Women to Women/The Men's Program and Interact of Raleigh. Runners may participate either competitively or recreationally; walking is recreational only. On-site registration and packet pickup will be held from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m., with an aerobic warm up and stretch prior to the race. Pick up your registration form in 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium or call 515-9355 for more information.

Survival of the Fittest

Survival of the Fittest is an outdoor triathlon consisting of a trail run, mountain bike and a canoe. It will be held at Lake Johnson on Sunday, April 14 at 9 a.m. You can register in the singles or doubles divisions. Registration forms will be available in 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium or at Lake Johnson. For more information contact IM/Rec Sports at 515-3161 or Lake Johnson at 233-2121.

Intramural sports

Registration for Men's and Women's Open Golf will end April 3. Registration for the Track and Field Meet for Men's and Women's Open, Women's Residence and Sorority, Men's Residence and Fraternity began this week. All intramural schedules and schedules for the spring semester are posted in the IM/Rec Sports office and on the Web site at www.ncsu.edu/imrec. For additional information on IM/Rec Sports visit our Web site or stop by 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium.

Club Sports — Results

The Triathlon Club kicked off their season with an outstanding showing at the American

Express sprint distance triathlon in Charlotte. State recorded three top 25 places in the 500-member field. Anne Basso took 1st place in the ladies 16-19 age group (1:07.38), while Bo Slott won the men's 16-19 group (0:58.57). Aaron Kiefer took 2nd in the men's 20-24 division (0:56.42), while Ned Barry placed 5th in the 25-29 category (1:00.22). Kiefer, Slott and Barry placed 11th, 24th, and 39th overall while Basso took 14th in the ladies division.

The Equestrian Club's Hunt Seat team finished out their regular season strong this past week at Wake Forest and Virginia Intermont College. The Wolfpack placed 5th out of ten teams at each horse show. At Wake Forest, top honors went to Lissa Canaday in her intermediate fences class, Erin Pendleton in her intermediate flat class, Lindsay McCann in her intermediate flat class and Michelle Gardner in her advanced walk trot center class. With the 5th place finishes, the team was able to place 5th overall for the regular season as well.

The Men's Club Ultimate team competed in the 17th Annual Ultimix tournament in Greenville this weekend and finished the tournament as Co-Champions with University of California-San Diego. After going 2-1 in pool play in beating ECU and Wake Forest on Saturday, the team came out strong Sunday morning, beating UNC-Wilmington and Brown University to set up the rematch with USC in the finals. The final game was cancelled before half due to torrential rain, and the teams shared the tournament title.

Club Sports — Upcoming

The Table Tennis Club will travel to Baltimore, MD this weekend for the 2002 National Championships. As winners of the Carolinas Division, the Wolfpack will compete against other regional winners for the title.

The Cycling Club is hosting its annual bike race this weekend. Over 100 participants are expected to attend, representing schools such as North Carolina, Appalachian State, the Naval Academy, Maryland and many others. This year's race has been expanded to feature two full days of exciting technical criterion style racing. The Saturday race will close down Dan Allen Dr. between Sullivan Dr. and Western Blvd. and use part of the West Parking Lot to make an 0.8-mile loop. Racing begins at 11 a.m., with the final event (Men's A class-40 miles) to begin at 2 p.m. The Sunday race is located on Centennial Campus, with the start/finish line in front of the Textiles building. Sunday racing kicks off at 10 a.m., with the final race

at 12:30 p.m. (Men's A class-25 miles). For more race info, see www.ncstatecycling.org, or contact Mike Stahala at mstahala@eos.ncsu.edu or 919-854-1587.

"Dancing with Wolves," the Social Ballroom Dance Club, along with the University of North Carolina's Ballroom Dance Club, is co-sponsoring the 4th Annual Triangle Involitional Dancesport Weekend Extravaganza, including social dancing, competitions and workshops the weekend of April 5-7 in Chapel Hill. The competition will include dancers from Carolina, Duke, UNC-Charlotte, Clemson, Maryland and Georgetown University. To find out details, visit the T12002 Web site at http://www.ncsu.edu/stud_org/soc_dance/t12002/.

The Equestrian Club's Hunt Seat team will be sending a group of qualified representatives to regional competition Thursday, April 4 at St. Andrews College in Laurinburg. Riders representing the Wolfpack will be: Jennifer Barry, Lissa Canaday, Audrey Kath and Denise Hammock. As always, a group of loyal supporters and coach Elizabeth Leake will be attending Regionals as well. Meanwhile, the Dressage team will ride in their final competition of the regular season on Saturday, April 6 at Virginia Intermont College.

The Women's Club Lacrosse team will play a home game at Miller Field versus Catawba College on April 6th at 2:30 p.m.

The Men's Club Ultimate team will travel to University Park, Pa. this weekend to participate in the 8th Annual Spring Phling hosted by Penn State. The tournament draws teams from all over the East Coast including ranked teams Cornell, Carnegie Mellon and the University of Richmond. The Wolfpack enters this tournament ranked No. 1 in the latest Ultimate Player's Association collegiate rankings and looks for its first outright tournament championship of the season.

Members of the Triathlon Club will be competing at the Azalea Festival Sprint Distance Triathlon in Wilmington on Sunday, April 7th.

The Crew team will travel to Occoquan, Va. this weekend for Occoquan Sprints hosted by George Mason University. Rowers will participate for the Wolfpack versus 17 other club and varsity rowing programs including powerhouses the University of Pennsylvania and Pittsburgh University.

The Women's Club Soccer team will play two games this weekend. On Saturday, the Wolfpack will host the Duke Blue Devils at 2 p.m. on upper Miller Field. On Sunday, the Pack plays at Meredith College at 1 p.m.

Best Cinderella: Kent State

Every year, without fail, a team will enter the tournament with little fanfare and make a run that no one expected.

In the past, teams like Gonzaga, Valparaiso and even N.C. State have worn the proverbial glass slipper. This season, the distinction went to Mid-American Conference champion Kent State, the 10th seed in the South. Riding an 18-game winning streak into the NCAA Tournament, the Golden Flashes upset No. 7 Oklahoma State, No. 2 Alabama and No. 3 Pittsburgh to get to the regional finals. Kent State's run finally ended with an 81-69 loss to Indiana, but not before the Flashes added their names to NCAA Tournament lore.

Jeremy Ashton enjoyed his trip to Atlanta for Saturday's semifinals games. He hopes that some day he will be a Monday Night Immortal. Until then, he can be reached at 515-2411 or jeremy@techniciansports.com.

gone, and No. 5 Indiana was playing No. 10 Kent State for the right to go to the Final Four, a proposition few predicted.

Best Clutch Shooting: Terrell Taylor, Creighton

The NCAA Tournament has become famous for last-second shots, but they were few and far between this year. Terrell Taylor made up for the lack of buzzer beaters by providing enough threats in No. 12 Creighton's double-overtime win over No. 5 Florida to last the entire tournament.

Taylor, who went 0-for-5 from 3-point range in the first half, hit a pair of shots from behind the arc in the final 1:55 of regulation to force overtime. In the first extra session, he missed a baseline jumper with two seconds left that would have given the Bluejays the win. With 0.2 seconds left in the second overtime, Taylor drilled a 3-pointer from the top of the key to put Creighton ahead for good 83-82.

JEREMY

Continued from Page 10

the Sweet Sixteen with the best performance of the tournament.

Prince scored a career-high 41 points in the Wildcats 87-82 victory over Tulsa in the second round. Kentucky's lone senior hit 14-of-21 shots from the floor, including 6-of-8 from 3-point range. He had no turnovers in 37 minutes on the court and missed a double-double by one rebound.

Region Most Likely to Ruin an Office Pool: South

The West and South both had their share of major upsets. That was somewhat expected in the former, which was widely considered the most difficult region this year, but came as more of a shock in the latter.

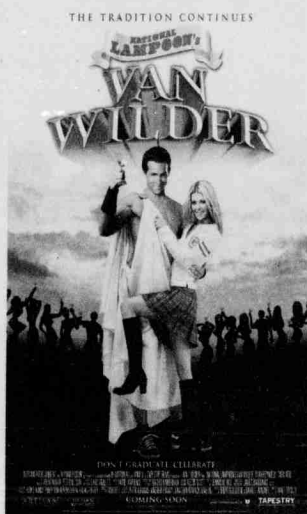
The South looked like a cake-walk for the top seeds — Duke, Alabama, Pittsburgh and USC. When the regional final came around in Lexington, Ky., however, those four teams were long

Sports

9

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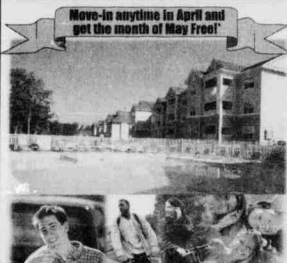
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Wednesday Sports



SCHEDULE

Baseball @ Clemson 4/5
W. Tennis @ ECU 4/3
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

State halts losing streak at four

◆ A four-run fifth inning led N.C. State to a key 8-1 victory over North Carolina A&T.

Steve Thompson
Sports Editor

Luckily for the N.C. State baseball team, streaks don't last forever.

The Wolfpack snapped its four-game skid with an 8-1 victory over North Carolina A&T Tuesday night at Dook Field. With the win, State moves to 18-7 at home.

"I think streaks are very important in baseball," said head coach Elliot Aveni, "because you play so many games that you can go on a losing streak and it seems that every game becomes bigger and every play becomes bigger."

After four innings of scoreless baseball, both teams cracked the scoreboard in the fifth.

The Aggies (9-30) scored first, when Adonis Smith scored from third base on a misplayed fly ball to right field. Smith had reached on a one-out single that was followed with a single by Austin Love.

INSIDE A&T looked to cause more damage in the inning, however, an attempted suicide squeeze on the ensuing possession was botched and the Pack (20-11) was able to emerge relatively unscathed.

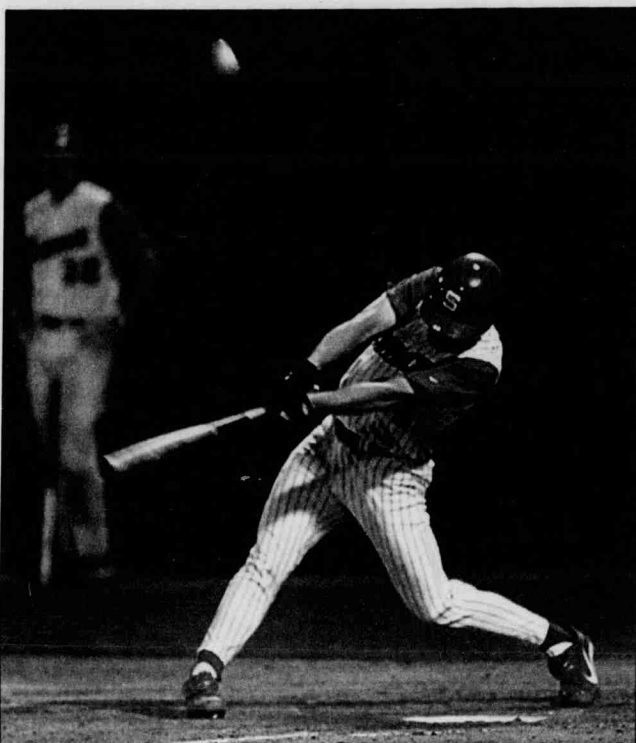
In the bottom half of the fifth inning, State's bats finally awoke. Matt Butler and Sammy Esposito led off the inning with back-to-back singles. A sacrifice bunt moved them into scoring position, where shortstop Chad Orvella promptly brought them home with a lined single to left field.

"Orvella's hit was huge tonight," said Aveni. "He was 0-2 [in the count] and battled back to 3-2 and got the big hit. That was huge."

Following the Orvella single, junior Brian Wright provided the exclamation point on the inning with a home run to right field. The shot was Wright's fifth homer of the season, moving him one behind Colt Morton for the team lead.

After the Pack established its 4-1 lead, it was able to cruise through the closing innings of the game against an out-matched Aggie team.

"These guys played pretty well," said Orvella. "Their record I don't think really speaks for their play. They played good defense and their pitchers kept it in the zone. But it is a little harder to get



Redshirt sophomore Mike Prochaska puts the ball in play in Tuesday's showdown with North Carolina A&T. Prochaska and N.C. State defeated the Aggies 8-1.

up for these [midweek] games."

In the sixth inning, Butler and Esposito again got into the act. A Butler double moved Mike Prochaska from first to third base. Esposito then brought in the run with a deep sacrifice fly to left field. Butler wound up scoring when Wright was walked with the bases loaded.

State loaded the bases again in the seventh inning, but a double play killed the dreams of a big inning for State. The Pack was able to add two additional runs in the eighth inning to provide the

final tally.

"It was kind of hard after a tough weekend to come out here ready to play," said Orvella. "It took us a few innings to get things together, but once we did we were able to get things going."

State used an interesting pitching strategy for the game, using five pitchers with none pitching over two innings. Daryl Minugh (3-0) was credited with the win. Toby Middleton (3-5) took the loss for the Aggies.

Orvella, who batted 3-3 on the day and added two runs, two RBIs and two

stolen bases, led State's offense. Wright added three RBIs for the Pack. Former State walk-on Smith led the Aggies, going 3-4.

State will get a few days rest before traveling to South Carolina to take on the No. 1 Clemson Tigers this weekend in a three-game series.

"Hopefully the win will catapult us, because at Clemson we're going to see some great pitching," said Aveni. "Obviously, they're the No. 1 team in the country, and that's for a reason. It's going to be a huge challenge for us."

BASKETBALL

The best and worst of March

A new team was added to the fraternity of NCAA champions Monday night in Atlanta.

Maryland became the first ACC team outside of North Carolina to win the national title. The title was the crowning achievement for Maryland's Gary Williams, who has built his alma mater into a national powerhouse. It also provided a fitting end to the careers of Juan Dixon and Leroy Baxter, two players who were given little chance to succeed at the Division I level.



Jeremy Ashton

Once again, March provided college basketball fans with many memorable moments like that one. These are a few of the best (and worst) that stood out.

Worst Pod Placement: Texas

Most of the controversy surrounding the NCAA Selection Committee usually centers on who was left out of the tournament.

With the possible exceptions of Memphis' and Butler's omissions, the major gripes with the committee this year were reserved for how it placed teams in the new pod system. The pods were meant to keep top seeds close to home but put a couple of them at a disadvantage.

The most egregious misplacement was putting sixth-seeded Texas in Dallas. The Longhorns essentially got a home game in the second round against No. 3 Mississippi State, the SEC Tournament champion. In front of a partisan crowd, Texas pulled the 68-64 upset.

Biggest Upset: Indiana vs. Duke

No game changed the complexion of this year's NCAA Tournament more than Indiana's 74-73 win over Duke in the Sweet Sixteen.

The Blue Devils, the defending national champions, were expected to romp through Indiana and the rest of the South, which they appeared well on their way to doing after building a 17-point lead on the Hoosiers. Indiana gradually chipped away at the deficit and, with a little more than a minute left, seized the lead for the first time on a Tom Coverdale jumper.

Trailblazing four with time winding down, Duke almost got a miracle when a missed shot ended up in the hands of Jason Williams, who hit an off-balance 3-pointer and was fouled by Dane Fife. Williams missed the potential game-winning free throw, however, and Carlos Boozer's put-back attempt would not fall either, allowing the Hoosiers to advance.

Biggest First-Round Upset: UNCW vs. USC

Before the tournament began, many bracketologists remembered fourth-seeded Southern Cal's loss to Duke in last year's tournament, saw a potential Sweet Sixteen matchup between the two and thought the Trojans could end the Devils' reign. USC got snowed under before it could make the show-down.

Behind 18 points from Brett Blizdard, No. 13 UNC-Wilmington built a 19-point lead on the favored Trojans. USC came back to force overtime, but the Seahawks regrouped in the extra session to take a 93-89 win, the first NCAA Tournament victory in school history.

Biggest Disappointment: Gonzaga

Many, including me, howled very loudly when Gonzaga, ranked sixth in the national polls, was deemed the sixth-best team in the West.

On Selection Sunday, the Bulldogs appeared incredibly insulted at the notion of being seeded that low. The experts wondered aloud how the darlings of the last three NCAA Tournaments, a team with talented players and a star in Dan Dickau, could be treated so rudely.

Gonzaga then justified all that complaining by losing in the first round to Wyoming — one of the last at-large teams invited.

Best Game by a Player: Tayshaun Prince, Kentucky

Tayshaun Prince willed Kentucky into

Pack, Devils to battle

◆ The Wolfpack looks for its first ACC win today at home.

Jay Kohler
Staff Writer

Today at 2:30 p.m., the N.C. State men's tennis team will be playing host to 16th-ranked Duke in the Wolfpack's

WHAT: M. TENNIS VS. DUKE

WHEN: TODAY, 2:30 P.M.

WHERE: WOLFPACK TENNIS COMPLEX

the match went well, while the Wolfpack (4-14) struggled mightily against the Canes. The Blue Devils are coming off a 7-0 sweep of 38th-ranked Miami. State's last match was also against the Hurricanes, which defeated the Pack by a score of 5-2. The Devils dominated Miami, losing only two sets. No. 14 Phillip King upset No. 12 Todd Widom at the number one singles spot; 6-7, 6-4, 6-1. No. 58 Michael Tami and No. 103 Jason Zimmermann swept their matches in the two and three spots.

Against Miami, Bryce McGroarty, R.J. Murray and Matt Lucas led the Pack. McGroarty defeated Andrew Golub 6-4, 6-3. Murray won his singles match against Joel Berman 6-1, 6-2 and

also recorded a doubles victory with Lucas, defeating Golub and Tarik El Bassoumi 8-4.

State's tennis team has had a difficult season so far, having lost 6-1 three times, including a loss to Georgia Tech and having been swept five times, including losses to North Carolina and Florida State. The match with the Devils marks the beginning of heavy ACC action for the Wolfpack. Virginia and Maryland are up next for State, and after a non-conference match against ECU, the regular season will be wrapped up against Clemson and Wake Forest.

The Blue Devils have gone through the ACC with relative ease so far. Duke is 4-0 against ACC teams, winning 4-3 against Georgia Tech, 5-2 against Maryland, 7-0 against Virginia and 6-1 against Wake Forest. After its match against State, Duke will also have only five games remaining, with matches against Clemson, UNC, and Florida State.

Michael Carducci and Murray have been leading the Pack in recent matches. Carducci performed well for State against Georgia Tech, garnering the team's only point in three sets. Murray's double duty against Miami also helped to prevent a sweep. Murray has been playing well for the Pack in recent matches, which is one bright spot in what has been a rough season.

"It's all about confidence," Murray said. "Hopefully, our team will show up and get a big win this season."

VCU too much for women's tennis

◆ N.C. State falls at home to No. 9 Virginia Commonwealth.

Sports Staff Report

The N.C. State women's tennis team fell at home to the ninth-ranked Virginia Commonwealth Rams.

Women's Tennis
NCSU 1
VCU 6

Tuesday afternoon on the courts of the Wolfpack Tennis Complex, the loss drops the Wolfpack to 7-10, while VCU improves to 12-1.

NC State Sophomore Jennifer Jassawalla tabbed the only point for the Wolfpack by defeating VCU's Cristina Gago. Jassawalla took the first set of the No. 4 match, but Gago fought back in the second set to force a decisive third. Jassawalla rallied to down Gago in a 10-point tiebreaker, finishing with a line of 6-4, 4-6, 10-2. Jassawalla leads the Wolfpack with a team high nine wins on the season, three of which have come recently since being moved up to the four spot in the singles line-up.

Junior Lori Worsley put forth a solid effort against the Rams' Jana Carroll in the No. 6 match. Worsley kept the first set close, and won the second. Carroll finished strong in the tiebreaker to down Worsley 7-5, 4-6, 10-1.

In doubles action, the Rams had little trouble in sweeping the Pack, as Virginia Commonwealth won with three consecutive 8-3 victories.

NC State will battle the East Carolina Pirates tomorrow afternoon at 2:00 p.m. in Greenville. ECU garnishes a record of 8-7.



Bryce McGroarty rockets a shot back to the other side of the net. Today, the Wolfpack plays host to a tough Duke squad.