



Thursday April 4, 2002 TECHNICIAN

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

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'Racist' incident sparks protest, conflict

◆ Najja Baptist believes he was twice the victim of racism in Philip Munoz's PS 205 class.

Editor's Note: The following is the first in an irregular series of stories on the events taking place in a PS 205 class and their residual effects. Future pieces will focus on the resulting events outside the classroom: a conflict with administrators and the impact on NCSU's overall racial climate.

Jimmy Ryals
Staff Reporter

A series of February incidents in a political science class have touched off a conflict between CHASS administrators and a student who believes he is the victim of "covert racism."

Najja Baptist, a junior in political science, and his advisor, Floyd Hayes, an associate professor in multidisciplinary studies, claim that CHASS and the political science department are attempting to sweep under the rug a pair of incidents that both feel are blatantly racist.

Political Science Department Head Jim Svava disputes their contention that administrators are attempting to ignore the situation. Here is an account of those events, based on interviews with witnesses and principal participants themselves.

The first of the two incidents, both of which occurred in Philip Munoz's Law and Justice class, happened Feb. 19. Baptist writes in the Feb. 28-March 18 "Nubian Message" that he



Protestors prepare for a Feb. 28 stand-in in Philip Munoz's PS 205 classes. Protest organizer Najja Baptist is the second student from the right.

was discussing the struggles of African and Native Americans in America and Abraham Lincoln's view on slavery with another African-American student before class. At that point, Munoz entered the classroom, but class had not started.

Baptist wrote that he began to offer his opinion that, "though being the very first group

discriminated upon by English settlers, [the Native-American experience] was not as severe as the African destruction," at which point the rest of the 80 students in the class became involved in the debate.

Another student, a white female, entered the discussion, "screaming I was wrong," accord-

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2002 STUDENT ELECTION WINNERS

Student Body President:

Runoff to be held
Monday and Tuesday between
Michael Anthony and Larisa Yasinovskaya

Michael D. Anthony	1696 votes	47.07%
Larisa Yasinovskaya	1244 votes	34.53%
Clarence Davis, Jr.	361 votes	10.02%

Student Senate President:

Josh Cox	1997 votes	59.90%
Brad Dixon	1255 votes	37.65%

Student Body Treasurer:

Daniel Gilligan	1639 votes	52.52%
Jabari Bell	1387 votes	44.44%

Student Chief Justice:

Brent Rowe	2265 votes	68.89%
Wortham Boyle	954 votes	29.01%

Student Center President:

James Reed	1481 votes	51.03%
Sam Edwards	1361 votes	48.67%

Senior Class President:

Decker Ngongang	734 votes	54.33%
Amy Rothberg	583 votes	43.15%

Centennial Campus looks to future with hotel construction

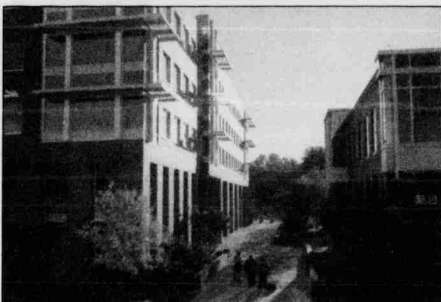


PHOTO COURTESY OF NCSU

Centennial Campus plans to add a conference center and hotel by 2004.

◆ The Centennial Campus Executive Conference Center and Hotel, which will have 250 rooms and 29,000 square feet of meeting space, is slated to open in 2004.

Diane Cordova
Staff Reporter

New facilities will be constructed on N.C. State's Centennial Campus later this year. No exact date has been projected, but officials say possibly in the fall of 2002 a new conference center, hotel and golf course will break ground.

The new facilities are expected to open in 2004.

The project has been part of the Centennial Campus master plan since 1986. This master plan identifies how the community will be planned and designed, and it can be adjusted if necessary.

Because the campus has been a growing development, it has reached the necessary size to support this project.

The Centennial Campus Executive Conference Center and Hotel has been planned "to support the research and academic mission of the university" and "to enhance academic programs," said Bob Geolas, Centennial Campus coordinator.

The educational, nonprofit conference center and the 250-room hotel are estimated to cost \$53 million, while the joint 18-hole championship golf course, which was designed by Arnold Palmer, and its related facilities are expected to cost \$12 million.

According to Geolas, no procreant or tuition money will be used for the construction and operation of the facilities. Instead, the university plans to take out \$80 million in taxable bonds to finance the project.

By combining the elements of executive conferencing and training, the conference center will have the atmosphere of a self-

sufficient and full-service meeting center. A conference center is one facility that NCSU lacks and other major colleges and universities, such as Penn State and Emory, already have.

This conference center will be available to all 12 NCSU colleges. In the past, colleges have expressed the need for a conference center.

It will serve as an "excellent facility for meetings," because Centennial Campus' location is convenient said Jon Bartley, the Dean of the College of Management.

According to Bartley, the College of Management holds large executive educational programs, which can last from one day to one week.

"[For longer programs] we need a facility with a conference center and hotel combined," said Bartley. "I'm looking forward to this sort of arrangement."

The golf course will serve as a significant research and teaching tool for NCSU's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Natural Resources.

For the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the golf course will serve as the main laboratory for its Turfgrass Management program. In anticipation of the completion of the golf course, the new Professional Golf Management program of the College of Natural Resources has recently received official recognition by the Professional Golfers Association.

Ownership of the facilities is through the university, specifically Centennial Campus Partnership Corporation, whereas construction and management are operated by two outside entities, the Hines Corporation and Benchmark Hospitality.

"I think the Centennial Campus Executive Conference Center and Hotel is going to be a tremendous resource for research and academic programs and a valuable magnet for research opportunities," said Geolas. "It will help further development of Centennial Campus."

Putting service in the spotlight

◆ Nominations are currently being accepted for the Deborah S. Moore Service Award.

Carie Windham
Assistant News Editor

For many, volunteerism, in its purest sense, is never motivated by praise or fame. Instead, the reward is the opportunity to give a little of oneself to a cause in an effort to improve humanity and the world.

On April 22, however, an award will give the tireless efforts of the volunteer the attention it deserves.

Revolving around the theme of "Volunteers Help Hold the World Together," the Deborah S. Moore Service Award will be given to one student and one registered student organization that have demonstrated an exemplary commitment to service and volunteerism.

According to Jessica Tolliver, the award chairperson, the award is designed to honor a student with a "selfless attitude."

"They balance their academics with a need to give back to this campus and their community," she said. "They motivate others to get involved through their work, show creativity

and initiative and look for leadership roles."

Organizations, she added, look for groups that go above and beyond the criteria that are required for their members. In addition, their members enjoy participating in service activities and developing a better understanding of service through the organization's work and goals.

Students and faculty members are invited to nominate their choice for the student and organizational award.

"Often times, members or officers will nominate the president/leader of their organization as a surprise, because the nominee is too humble to accept the praise being bestowed upon them," Tolliver said.

In addition, the committee responsible for the award asked faculty such as the heads of the Scholars and Honors programs, service-learning classes and resident directors for their nominations because they see the students "both academically and extracurricularly."

Nominations are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 5, and application forms can be found at the Center for Student Leadership, Ethics and Public Service Web site.

Once nominated, a student panel of 4-6 judges will select the student and organizational winner. This year, according to Tolliver, brief interviews

with each nominee with help the panel gain a well-rounded view of each person.

The award was created in the memory of Deborah S. Moore, a 1976 graduate of N.C. State, by her family, Anthony and Ann Singleton. Moore was the first volunteer coordinator of the NCSU Student Center and at the time of her death, she was teaching English to retired Spanish-speaking people and working with the handicapped and underprivileged.

Last year's recipients of the award were Bryan Profit, a senior who worked with Hope for the Homeless and other successful service projects in Raleigh. Profit is aspiring to do non-profit work after graduation.

Habitat for Humanity received the organization award for their dedication to eliminating substandard housing through their spring break trips, fall break trips and educational fundraisers.

Recipients of the award will receive a plaque and a \$100 cash award during a banquet on April 22 at 7 p.m. in the Walnut Room of Talley Student Center.

For Tolliver and the Center for Student Leadership, Ethics and Public Service, the award is an opportunity to

See SERVICE, Page 4

Advisers offer advice to undeclared students

◆ Students and advisers alike agree that there is pressure to declare a major.

Josianne Lauber
Staff Reporter

Why is it that the undeclared student is constantly getting pressure to just "go ahead and pick a major?"

N.C. State offers bachelor's degrees in approximately 90 fields, which can seem overwhelming to many students. But nevertheless, there is help around the NCSU campus for the undeclared student.

Although some students feel rushed to pick a major, they oftentimes don't understand why.

Monica Leach, assistant dean for Academic Affairs, believes that pressure to pick a major comes from what a university's goal is.

"Our goal is to admit you and graduate you," said Leach. "That's why we are a university; that's what we do." Many academic advisers suggest that choosing a major can help students to

become and remain focused.

"If you don't know where you are going, you won't know how to get there," said Philip Moses, director of the Academic Support Program for Student Athletes. "If [picking a major] gives you a goal and direction," Leach believes that the sooner students declare a major, the better off they'll be.

"There are different ways to be productive and you need a major to do that. We want to engage you within the university," said Leach.

For those students who are undecided, academic counseling and academic advisers are available to help get students on the right track.

Moses looks at choosing a major like a research project.

"It's not a decision you want to rush," said Moses. "You need to research, dig deep." Moses added that students should ask around about different majors and careers before making a decision.

Leach stresses that advisers are there to help, and students should use any of the sources they have available to them.

"Sometimes students can't make up their mind. We are here to guide them and to help them make an informed decision," said Leach. "Don't set yourself up for failure."

One of the biggest advantages an undecided, incoming freshman has at NCSU, is the First Year College (FYC) program, a program designed specifically for first-year students. About 25 percent of incoming freshman start in the FYC program. Students who are in FYC can "experience some majors and then make [an] informed decision about their own major," said John T. Ambrose, the assistant vice provost and the director of FYC.

NCSU was recently recognized in USA Today for not only being a great "State" university but also for its exceptional First Year College program. The article, titled "Freshmen feel secure at North Carolina State," stated that "many big schools have stepped up programs aimed at reducing a student's chances of feeling overwhelmed."

"The First Year College gave me a much-needed opportunity to take a

See MAJOR, Page 4

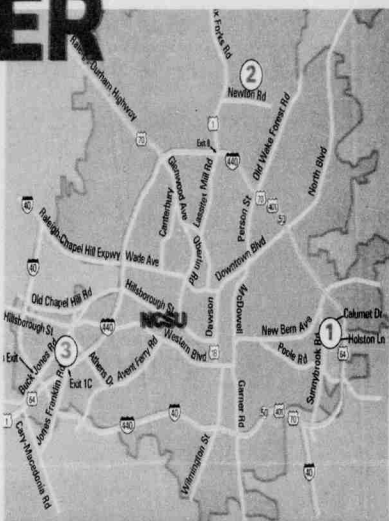
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BAPTIST2

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Leach were present in PS 205 from 10:30-11:05. She was pleased with the class' handling of the protest.

"They were doing, I thought, a terrific job staying on topic, dealing with ethical and moral topics without getting upset."

The effect of the protesters on

the rest of the class is unclear. Aside from the student who left, Baptist said he had not heard of anyone feeling threatened.

According to Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Tom Stafford, however, "some people felt that just their mere presence was possibly inappropriate and even intimidating."

Baptist doesn't see any reason for that. The students dressed in business-like clothes, shirts and ties for the males, skirts for the

females, and did not speak.

"They were there to support me," Baptist said. "They were not there to intimidate anyone."

Wood, for one, appreciated their presence. "I was pleased to see these were State students standing for what they believed in and standing behind other students," Wood said.

Correspondent and *Nathan Messenger* reporter Aledayo Bamwo also contributed to this story.

SERVICE

Continued from Page 1

honor those students who give themselves to others while expecting nothing in return.

MAJOR

Continued from Page 1

breather before making the big decision about a major," said Erin Shiver, a biological sciences major, in a FYC pamphlet. "Not only did FYC provide me with multiple opportunities to learn about what State had to offer, it also allowed me to build a closer relationship with my adviser — a relationship that has lasted throughout the years."

"The efforts of every individual that decides to make a small difference in the life of a child or on campus or helping the community prosper are important to us and [deserve] recognition," said Tolliver. "Each person has a responsibility to

give back as a thank-you for the blessing of life that God has given. There are many NCSU students doing their best to serve unconditionally and wholeheartedly, and we appreciate all they do."

Regardless of what year you are in college, Leach has advice to all of those who are still undecided: 1) combine courses that you like, 2) major in something you'd enjoy, 3) once you have a plan, narrow your options to three, 4) stay focused on what you really want to do.

"You need to go with your heart first," said Leach.

New writing portion of GRE creates new challenge for students

◆ In October the GRE may become even more difficult for both international and domestic students when the analytic portion of the test will be replaced with a writing assessment measure.

By Amy Vanderlyke
Daily Orange (Syracuse, NY)

(U-WIRE) SYRACUSE, N.Y. — When Xuemei Wang decided she wanted to pursue graduate studies in the United States, she knew she'd have to work hard if she wanted to get accepted to a good school.

For Wang, a native of China, this meant studying for about six months for the GRE and taking a three-month class to help

her prepare for the test.

"I studied a long time and I did OK," said Wang, an instructional design, development and evaluation doctoral student at Syracuse University, "but I think the GRE is a really difficult test for international students."

In October the GRE may become even more difficult for both international and domestic students when the analytic portion of the test will be replaced with a writing assessment measure.

Tom Rochon, executive director of the GRE program for Educational Testing Services, said the changes are a result of feedback from university administrators across the country that the analytical section of the test wasn't helpful in determining whether an applicant

should be admitted to graduate school. ETS administers the GRE and other standardized tests, including the Scholastic Assessment Test.

"Many deans and administrators are in celebration that this measure will get us out of the multiple-choice mode and into one in which students are able to perform more intelligent thinking," Rochon said.

In addition to the analytic portion of the test, which tests the ability to understand relationships between concepts, there are also verbal and quantitative sections on the GRE. These sections, which evaluate the test-taker's ability to analyze and evaluate written material and measures math skills will remain a part of the test.

See GRE Page 5

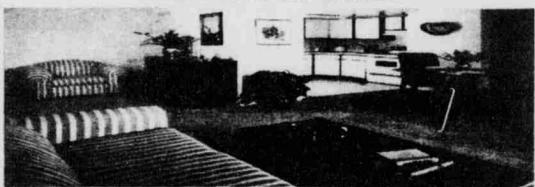
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UC suspends study abroad in Israel as result of conflict

◆ The decision Tuesday to suspend the program was prompted in part by an escalated warning from the U.S. State Department.

Ben Barron

Daily Californian
(U. California-Berkeley)

(U-WIRE) BERKELEY, Calif. — On the same day the U.S. government urged Americans to vacate Jerusalem, University of California decided to pull its Education Abroad Program to Israel.

All students currently studying in the country have been encouraged to come back to the United States immediately.

The decision Tuesday to suspend the program was prompted in part by an escalated warning from the U.S. State Department.

Students have been told they can stay — but at their own risk. Next semester's Education Abroad Program in Israel also has been placed on hold pending a future assessment of the risk the Israeli-Palestinian conflict poses to students.

Six bombings by Palestinian

milants this week have left an estimated 42 Israelis dead since Wednesday's Passover bombing of an Israeli hotel.

Since then, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has declared his nation is at "war against terrorism." Israeli tanks and soldiers have entered numerous West Bank cities and have isolated Palestinian Authority Leader Yasser Arafat in his Ramallah headquarters.

John Marcum, director of UC's Education Abroad Program, had decided earlier in March not to suspend the program "with the hope that U.S. intervention will result in a cease-fire and resumption of the peace process between Israelis and Palestinians."

But the increased unrest in the region prompted the university to reverse last month's decision.

"We regret this inconvenience. It's not something we wanted," UC spokesperson Hanan Eisenman said. "But we feel strongly that it is the prudent decision and the right decision based on the current instability in the Middle East."

UC already has provided students currently studying in Israel with travel arrangements

to return to the United States. Those students who return to UC-Berkeley will be given opportunities for independent study to make up for the units lost because of the program's suspension.

Eisenman said students will not be forced to return to the United States. They have the option of remaining in Israel to continue their studies, although they would be required to arrange the transfer of units from the Israeli university to UC-Berkeley on an individual basis. Normally, through the program, units transfer automatically.

But Eisenman added UC plans to reinstate its program in Israel eventually.

"Under no circumstances would UC abandon the Israel program," he said. "On the contrary, we're going to leave the infrastructure and the staff (in Israel) and they're going to prepare for the eventual return of the students."

UC has suspended programs under similar circumstances in the past. In 1991 the program in Israel was suspended because of Gulf War violence. Recently, UC suspended the programs in

India as a result of the military buildup along the India-Pakistan border.

Other universities that have suspended study abroad programs in Israel include University of Washington, Indiana University and Pennsylvania State University.

Both New York University and Stanford University recently have considered adding Israel to their education abroad programs but have postponed such considerations until the Middle East violence quells.

Nancy Stubbs, director of study abroad programs at University of Colorado-Boulder, said the campus suspended its program in October 2000 after the initial outbreak of violence.

The Boulder study abroad program in Israel is expected to be reinstated once the U.S. State Department lifts its travel warning on Israel.

The travel warning, initially issued last December and reissued Tuesday, directs American citizens to "limit travel to the Old City of Jerusalem to daylight hours, Saturday through Thursday" and to "exercise extreme caution and avoid loca-

tions such as restaurants and cafes."

But it is important to assess the motivation behind State Department travel warnings, Stubbs said.

"It's very difficult to come to any kind of consensus about whether the U.S. government is always accurate," she said. "It could be that the warnings are coming out because of political reasons. What we do is try to err on the side of caution."

Universities can be held legally responsible for any injury suffered by students studying abroad in a country placed under a State Department travel warning, Stubbs said.

"The question would be whether there was negligence or liability on the part of the institution," Stubbs said.

Failing to suspend a study abroad program given sufficient negligence she added.

The State Department also recently issued a public announcement stating terrorist activities could occur in Italy during Easter weekend.

No known terrorist activities occurred in the country during that weekend, but the announce-

ment raised some concerns. UC and other universities are not suspending their programs in Italy yet, however.

John Keller, director of international education programs at Pennsylvania State University, said Penn State will not suspend its program in Italy due to the announcement.

"There's no such thing as a risk-free life or a risk-free study abroad program," Keller said. "If we exercise due caution to make sure our programs are well run and well managed, then we've done our duty."

Not all students are concerned about the potential safety risks of studying abroad.

Will Goldenberg, a second-year UC-Berkeley student who plans to study in Italy through the education abroad program, said he is not concerned about potential terrorist activities in the country.

"If (the State Department) doesn't issue a new warning, I'm going to feel pretty safe," he said. "I certainly wouldn't want to travel to Karachi (Pakistan) right now, but in Western Europe I'll be pretty safe. I'm not going to worry about my own safety."

GRE

Continued from Page 4

Rochon said the changes would allow admissions counselors to see how well potential students can argue a subject and support what they want to say. "Our researcher tells us it's great way to measure analytical and writing skills," he said. "For the first time it gives the test-takers an opportunity to show their reasoning skills."

Peter Englot, director of the Graduate Recruitment Office at the Graduate Enrollment Center, said his office and SU's graduate school is looking forward to the new version of the GRE.

"It's my understanding that the GRE board thinks the analytic part is disposable because most people who use the GRE have had questions about the utility of that portion of the test," Englot said. "They're not been quite sure of what to do with it."

While Englot and Rochon are encouraged by the test's changes, advocates for international students aren't sure the changes will be fair to those who come from other countries.

"My guess is that it will put a burden on international students because their compositional skills are not as fluent as domestic students," said Sidney Greenblatt, assistant director for advising and counseling at SU's Lillian and Emanuel Slutsker Center for International Services.

But Englot said he thinks international students will overcome this new hurdle in the application process.

"I wouldn't sell international students short," Englot said. "In my experience we're dealing with a pool of academically strong students."

Englot said many international students are at the top of their classes in their home countries, and some countries even regulate who can study in a different country than their own.

Wang said in China there are no governmental mandates that determine which students are allowed to study abroad. Children in China, however, begin standardized testing in preschool, Wang said. The schools students attend are based on the results of these frequent tests, and those who perform well attend better schools and receive better teaching.

"Better students go to better schools," Wang said. "It's just the natural way things go."

Because Chinese students are accustomed to standardized testing, they may find it difficult to adapt to the more open-ended writing measure of the GRE.

"With the other parts we know how to handle those kind of questions. We know straight out if it's wrong or if it's right, but with the written it will be more subjective," Wang said.

Englot said the writing assessment might give international students a voice they may not otherwise have in the application process.

"International students don't really have the ability to showcase their writing abilities in any other way," Englot said.

Wang agreed. "I think they may even prefer this writing part because they can use the words they know and don't have to memorize and worry about other words that are unfamiliar to them," he said.

Rochon said to keep the assessment of the writing portion objective, each of the two essays are evaluated by two independent readers who work as faculty at colleges across the United States. Rochon said the

evaluators teach in a variety of fields across the curriculum to ensure there's no subjectivity.

"There's obviously a subjectiveness to the test, but we've done everything we can to reduce the subjectivity and ensure we capture the quality of the responses and reasoning," Rochon said.

He said in preliminary tests of the evaluating system, the essay readers had a 97 percent match rate in assessing the essays.

In addition to causing difficulties for international students, some fear the new test also may prove troublesome for students with engineering-type backgrounds who depend on the logistics of the analytical portion of the GRE.

Rochon said the writing assessment may be more difficult for these students, but because they're not applying for admission to the same programs as students who will excel in the writing assessment, these students should not worry.

"The issue isn't how engineers do against English majors," he said. "The issue is: Are engineers who compete against other engineering students going to fare well against those other engineering students?"

The writing assessment portion of the test will require test-takers to complete two essays dealing with reasoning. The first will require students to state an opinion and argue why that opinion is valid, while the second requires students to critique a given challenge, make a claim and support it.

There are 150 of each type of question that could be placed on the test. The combined 300 questions are all available online for test-takers to prepare before the test, Rochon said.

"In principle one could read and review the questions and know they'll get one of them on the test," he said.

Wang said she doubted international students would study every essay question that could be on the test but said she thinks Chinese students who take the test will succeed anyway.

"It will be harder for international students," Wang said. "But I think once they have the desire to come here they won't let something like this stop them. They'll find a way."

Plastic surgery rises among young people

◆ The number of cosmetic surgery patients between the ages of 19-34 rose significantly between 1996 to 2000.

Shoshana Hurand

Michigan Daily (U. of Michigan)

(U-WIRE) Michigan — An increasing number of teen-agers and young adults are turning to cosmetic procedures to improve their looks. According to the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, patients under the age of 19 made up 4 percent of the total plastic surgery operations for cosmetic purposes in 2000 — up 2 percent since 1996.

The number of cosmetic surgery patients between the ages of 19-34 rose from 188,441 in 1996, to 320,830 in 2000.

ASPS spokeswoman LaSandra Cooper said while the organization does not have a formal position on cosmetic surgery for teens, the decision to move forward with a procedure is influenced by the patient's emotional and physical maturity.

"Without a measure of emotional maturity and an understanding of the limitations of plastic surgery, an unstable teen may not be able to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by a surgical procedure," she said in written statement. "Certain milestones in grown and physical maturity must

be achieved before undergoing plastic surgery."

Potential patients, regardless of age, may hope to gain self-esteem and confidence by altering physical characteristics, which they see as imperfect, she added.

LSA sophomore Melissa Freeman said she believes University students go through with plastic surgery because, "They have this image of what people should look like because of the media."

"It increases your self-esteem," Michelle Persin, an LSA sophomore said. Although she said she has never seriously considered plastic surgery, Persin also said she is not completely against it. "If I thought that I needed something I wouldn't be immediately opposed to it," she added.

But other students disagree with the practice of cosmetic surgery.

"People need to stop listening to the media about what they should look like," LSA junior Judi Kwon said. "Look around at what the real people look like, not what magazines portray."

David Griffenhagen, chief administrative officer of the Michigan-based Center for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, said people undergo cosmetic procedures to improve their appearances while reconstructive surgery can include this purpose as well as medical reasons.

"In terms of cosmetic procedures, the most

popular (among youths) are rhinoplasty, liposuction, breast augmentation and breast reduction. The highest volume of procedures for this group is mole removal, which is a reconstructive procedure," Griffenhagen said.

The costs of plastic surgery can also influence a person's decision to undergo cosmetic operation. Because reconstructive surgery is often done to improve a patient's health, insurance will generally cover the costs. But procedures that are strictly cosmetic are not covered by insurance.

The ASPS reported in 2000 that the average cost of breast augmentation was \$3,116, nose reshaping was \$2,852 and liposuction was \$1,985.

"I think affordability is probably a big aspect," Kwon said. She added that some people are willing to work and save their money for an extended period of time in order to undergo a cosmetic procedure.

Regardless of the costs, the practice of cosmetic surgery on teens does appear to be growing. Abby Slovin, an LSA freshman, said several people at Plainview High School in Long Island underwent these types of procedures. "It's pretty much the same on all of Long Island," Slovin said. She heard many stories of parents giving their children cosmetic surgery for special events such as graduation and birthdays.

"It's kind of trendy," she added.

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Kweller shows talent with "SHA SHA"

Senior Staff Writer Grayson Currin

Ben Kweller SHA SHA ***

This is part one of a two-part series featuring Ben Kweller.

Ben Kweller is a Gemini. Of course, if you have already heard his latest solo project, you knew that.

"SHA SHA," the second full-length solo album from the 20-year-old former front-man of Dallas-based sugar punk and pop trio Radish, reveals a songwriter full of irony and wit, balanced alongside widely disparate influences and the internal contradictions that come with growing up.

Listening to the album is an interesting journey — each step of the way feels like a morning in Kweller's Brooklyn apartment. Across his kitchen table you picture a boy dressed in dirty jeans and a thrift-store T-shirt, with his mangled pool of chestnut brown hair swinging freely. As he pulls his writing pad toward his seat, he pours a mammoth bowl of cereal while sloshing milk all over the table. One can almost see him giving a sheepish grin, although you know he is contemplating that whole "spilled milk" cliché somewhere behind those languid green

eyes. He sits down with a dull pencil in his hand. With the other hand, he alternately eats cereal and cradles his head, which aches from a late-running uptown party the night before. He writes the reflection of his world, hidden in middle and unified by imagery.

Here is a boy raised in Texas and prematurely thrown into the musical limelight as the record industry's answer to Silverchair. Here is a boy that survived to become a man that can still think. Here, where the "Urban Bohemia" of the Dandy Warhols meets the "Country Home" of Neil Young, rock 'n' roll is revisited.

"When I was a movie star/an asteroid hit the earth/and prematurely ended my career," Kweller sings to open the album. His voice crackles with youth, earmarked by irony and wit. It is a naturally intriguing voice standing stark against a piano, until John Kent drops in with a simple snare and hi-hat.

This opening track, "How it should be (SHA SHA)," simultaneously demonstrates both the magic and the failure of this album. Produced, engineered and mixed by Stephen Harris, who is known primarily for his extraordinary engineering work, the album's sound makes remarkable turns. At times, you will tap your speakers to make sure everything is okay. The use of alternate recording modes, a good amount of static and volumes that rise and fall in roller-coaster fashion between verse and chorus all point to Harris' expert engineering skills and freshness as a producer. It seems as though this album was an adventure into some wilderness for both Kweller and Harris. It is a psychedelic trip into pop, punk and folk.

At some points throughout the album, the energy rushing between Harris and Kweller becomes too much. Restraint takes a back seat for self-indulgent distortion and whimsical sounds. In

"Commerce, TX," Kweller's voice gets lost in the mix of blazing guitar and thrashing drums. This seeming void is a bit puzzling, just as it is for the otherwise perfect "No Reason." Perhaps more substantial work with an additional producer or mixer would have saved parts of the album. Then again, Kweller has plenty of time to worry about that.

It's odd, but the free-reins policy between Kweller and Harris does lead to some of the album's finest moments. The amazing piano romp that pushes "In Other Words" upwards of five minutes is all fury and passion, leaving this Ben sounding quite like another Ben called Folds. Kweller's piano, which is the centerpiece of "Falling" as well, is raucous and brave, full of progression and big, full chording.

"Make It Up" basks in its own glow of sleepy-eyed anger and enthusiasm, with a drama and glory that Julian Casablancas could only dream of. Kweller screams, "Make up your mind/Stop dragging it on/They're only words they don't hurt." It is a moment that Harris lets Kweller have, and it works exceptionally well.

The story-telling tradition of Texas hillbilly is all over this album. Kweller sounds like the narrative disciple of Willie Nelson at points ("Lizzy"), while at other times he seems like the progeny of Lou Reed.

With this diversity of sound, Kweller's music works. Look for the next album, though. With perhaps a little more patience in sound and with songs just as appealing as those on "SHA SHA," he could give us the masterpiece of a career.

Ben Kweller will be performing on April 13 at the Ritz with Dashboard Confessional, Seafood and Anniversary. Tickets are on sale now.



Image from www.benkweller.com

Múm proves to be one of Iceland's finest

Senior Staff Writer Jon Morgan

Múm Yesterday Was Dramatic, Today is Okay ****

When I was a kid, I wanted a subscription to National Geographic more than anything else. I didn't care about the magazine, but with the subscription came a box of maps, some of the most beautiful things I had ever seen. From every period, for every speck of land and water, there was a map, and I loved every single one.

I remember distinctly having a copy of the first map of Iceland. A mere speck on other maps, a blue spot in the middle of the ocean, but on its own map it was so much more. There were seven castles, all on an island seemingly no bigger than my fist, which at the time seemed beyond imagination. Multiplying the mystique, it was surrounded by the most vicious sea monsters I had ever seen (being six or seven years old, I was very educated in the area of sea monsters).

I now know that those castles were cities and the monsters were simply something to put between the masses of land, so I forgot about Iceland for a long time.

Sometime during high school I came across The Sugarcubes, an Icelandic band. From The Sugarcubes came Björk, and Iceland went quiet again. Björk was singing in English now, and Iceland seemed to go back to the land of seven cities, surrounded by a sea full of monsters.

The years pass, Iceland comes and goes, and groups materialize out of the ether. One of these groups, Múm, materialized in 2000. All of these Icelandic groups seem to be really good, and Múm is no exception.

"Yesterday Was Dramatic, Today is Okay" is the first of their albums to garner American attention and for good

reason. "Yesterday" starts out with the beautiful "I'm 9 Today," which, like the rest of the album, is a gradually rising wall of sound, stemming from a string of electronic hits and beeps which grows into a beautifully calming piece that could put anybody at rest.

The second track, "Small Memory," starts out as a minimal blip, a string of chirps and drums, before moving into a beautiful cacophony of sound created with what sounds like door chimes. At nearly nine-and-a-half minutes, Múm keeps it interesting for the full duration, which is more than can be said for many of their musical peers (does any-

body really want to sit through a 10-minute Autocore song?)

The rest of the album runs the gamut, from pieces that would lower your heart rate to 30 beats per minute to songs that make you wish there were possibly a way to dance along.

At its end, "Yesterday" brings it down for the penultimate "Sunday Night Just Keeps on Rolling," but the true finale comes with the final track, "Slow Bicycle." It's simple, calming and unifying, like a final track should be. "Slow Bicycle" is Múm's exit music, a final word until they emerge from Iceland again.



Image from www.roughtraderecords.com

Concert Choir plays inspirational show in Stewart

Senior Staff Writer John Boles

The N.C. State Concert Choir performed a concert about "Love, God and Nature" Wednesday night at Stewart Theatre. Spanning over 400 years, this concert featured Baroque, Mendelssohn and folk music and finished off with a trio of African American spirituals.

As is evident by the range of time periods of the pieces, this concert had something for everyone. Split into four distinct sections, this concert displayed the many talents of this group of students as well as the programming creativity of their director, Randall Meder.

The first section focused on the theme of love with pieces dating from the sixteenth century. The choir gives us a very diverse and full expression of love through four beautiful songs. From the love of soldiers in Gastaldi's "Amor Vittorioso" to the more beautiful, romantic renditions of love in Tallis' "If Ye Love Me," in these first two songs two very distinct kinds of love are evident. Henry Purcell's "In these Delightful, Pleasant Groves" shows the merry side of love, while Schutz's German song based on John 3:16, beautifully expressed the love and compassion of

God, who was willing to give up his only Son for the good of mankind.

The following section featured two contrasting nature songs by a young Mendelssohn. The first, "Die Nachtigall," is a lush and vivid song about a nightingale. The second piece focused more on the business of nature and a horse as it rides through the various wildlife. The singers displayed this feeling with multiple, intersecting parts that sounded very busy throughout.

The third (and, in this reviewer's opinion, the most interesting) portion

see Choir, page 7

Calendar of Events

Features Staff Report

On-Campus

The College of Design presents "The Opening of 'Cultural Journeys: The Woven Works'" on Tuesday in Brooks Hall Gallery. The exhibit features the works of Vita Plume and Ramona Sakiestewa.

Chip Killian will entertain in the first floor of Talley Student Center with a vocal performance from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10. The event is part of the Arts/Lunch Series.

Robert Parker, acclaimed author of "A Catskill Eagle" and "The Widening Gyre," speaks next Thursday to the Friends of the Library. The event costs \$15 for students. Call 515-2841 for tickets.

John van Druten's "Bell, Book & Candle" opens next Thursday, April 11, at Thompson Theatre. Call Ticket Central at 515-1110 for tickets. Also happening that day is the Dance Visions Spring Concert in Stewart Theatre at 8 p.m.

Skip lunch and swing by the Gallery of Art & Design, where "N.C. State Students, Staff and Faculty Create" and "Folk and Outsider Art from the Permanent Collection: Recent Gifts" run through late June. They will also have a reception tonight from 6-8 p.m.

The Campus Cinema will bring in "Frantz Fanon: Black Skin, White Mask" on Tuesday as part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. Also this weekend, "Donnie Darko" and "Harry Potter" will play, along with a sneak preview of "National Lampoon's Van Wilder" tonight.

Off-Campus

Break out the retro gear and head over to Cat's Cradle tonight, as WXXC holds an '80s Dance Party. Feel free to "disturb the equilibrium" with Anti-Pop Consortium Friday night at the Cradle. One of Chapel Hill's most promising trip-hopsters, L. in Japanese, opens. Superchump plays Saturday night, followed by blues/rock pioneer John Mayall on Sunday.

Local success returns as Weekend Excursion plays the Cradle on Monday night, with Fighting Gravity opening the 10 p.m. show.

Brooks Wood will play at Southend Brewery Friday night from 9 p.m. to midnight.

Esteemed singer/songwriter Robert Earl Keen continues to tour on his album "Gravitational Forces," as he plays Tuesday at the Cradle. They will be followed on Wednesday by ZOZO, the Ultimate Led Zeppelin Experience. Clutch, Alabama Thunder Pussy, Leadfoot and Dick Delicious all bring the heavy metal of rock to the Lincoln Theatre tonight. Tickets come with a Surgeon General's warning against thrashing and moshing.

South Carolina's finest, the Blue Dogs, play Friday night at the Lincoln Theatre, with Nova Caney (formerly Moonride) opening. Chairmen of the Board will play the venue at a 10 p.m. show Saturday night, and Tanya Donnelly plays there on Tuesday. The Kevin Kinney Band, touring on "Broken Hearts and Auto Parts," plays Wednesday with Rocco's Collar in support.

Roots and bluegrass fans may want to swing by the Pour House on Thursday, as The Larry Keel Experience takes the stage. The Shakedown Shindig is what's shaking at the Pour House Friday and Saturday, as Cosmic Charlie takes the stage. Two-night tickets are \$8 in advance and \$12 at the door. Charlotte-based Bessie Mae's Dream plays the Pour House on Wednesday.

FLOJO plays a free show at Ruckus Pizza at 10 p.m. on Thursday night, and Blake Shelton plays Friday at the Longbranch.

Better Than Ezra and Cowboy Mouth play the Ritz on Tuesday night, and tickets to the show are \$17.

Tara Reid, Ryan Reynolds and Paul Gleason star in "National Lampoon's Van Wilder," which opens in theatres this Friday. "Big Trouble," an adaptation from a Dave Barry novel by the same name, also opens. It starts Rene Russo, Tim Allen, Janeane Garofalo and Omar Epps. Finally, the Ashley Judd and Morgan Freeman thriller "High Crimes" wraps up the movies opening this weekend.

Recycle me.

Choir, from page 6

consisted of folk songs from around the world. The first two pieces of this set were English folk tunes from the turn of the century. The first, "Turtle Dove," featured baritone Mark Hines singing to a love whom he must leave behind. "Yarmouth Fair" was a more joyful piece celebrating a great day as the "birds say good day."

The third piece of this section, "Gamelan" by R. Murray Schafer mimicked what sounded like an African folk song. The singers each only sang five notes the entire time in the form "ding," "dang," "dong," and other similar sounds. Meder introduced this piece emphasizing just how hard this piece was rhythmically

and how difficult it was for the singers to keep their places. He even concluded by saying "Listening to this again I realize just how easy it may sound, but how difficult it really is" and repeating "just how proud he was of the group" for being able to pull this difficult and interesting piece off.

This great piece was followed by another equally intriguing piece of Venezuelan roots. Ed Corey stepped up to the microphone for his solo, which sounded like it was right out of South America, full of the flare that Hispanic music does so well. This was another piece that required the choir to act more as instruments as they acted as Corey's supporting percussion and band.

Bringing it all back home, they closed the concert with three African-American spirituals. The first two songs were arranged by Moses Hogan, who director Meder dubbed the "leading arranger of Spirituals today." "I'm Gonna Sing 'Til The Spirit Moves In My Heart" would make even the most sedate want to jump out of their seat with lively revival-styled arrangement. The second Hogan work "Old Time Religion" was a more beautiful and legato rendition of an old spiritual (reminiscent of some of the spirituals featured in "O Brother Where Art Thou?") with the sublime alto solo work of Megan McNulty.

The group finished off the night with the joyful and exuberant "Ain't a

That Good News," a song expressing the hope and joy of people looking forward to seeing the glory of God and "rolling up into that kingdom."

Upon ending the final performance for the Concert Choir of the season, Meder reflected on what he thought was a good year for the choir in which attendance was up and interest was building for the music department at State. His goal for the coming year is to get "more people to know about the music department at State." Adding, "some people think of State as just the 'cow' school and assume that the only place to go for music is UNC or Duke." Many are pleasantly surprised to find such a healthy music program at school that hasn't been traditionally known for their arts.


Even though N.C. State does not offer a music major, Meder can still do his art to educate his singers and the rest of the community about music. But he knows that music is often "release time or let down from tough engineering, math or other classes for many students" and tries to keep that in mind with his repertoire and demeanor.

Still beaming from the birth of his newborn son, Meder bounced around the stage, obviously having fun with his singers. But this joy must be bittersweet for all, knowing that for many this is their last concert before graduating, while still giving such a stellar performance. The coming year promises great things for this growing group.

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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Cautious approach needed for over-budget resort

THE FUTURE OF A PLANNED RESORT ON CENTENNIAL CAMPUS IS ALREADY MIERED IN BUDGET OVERRUNS BEFORE BUILDING HAS EVEN BEGUN.

N.C. State's plans to build a resort complex on Centennial Campus follow leads from other universities, such as Penn State, that have successfully operated hotels to attract business interests to the university. Even neighboring UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke run smaller hotel operations. Recognizing that NCSU is not venturing into completely uncharted waters, building the resort certainly seems like a move that will raise the profile of the university in the business world. However, news that the project is going to already be 50 percent over budget before work gets started on the facility portends another over-budget, off-schedule NCSU building project.

Plans to build the resort have existed since 1986 in the Centennial Campus master plan. The project calls for a 250-room hotel and an 18-hole, Arnold Palmer-designed golf course to be built overlooking Lake Raleigh on Centennial Campus. The Centennial Campus Executive Conference Center and Hotel, which will feature 29,000 square feet of meeting space, is purported to be a key facility needed to attract businesses that want to move non-trivial parts of their operations to N.C. State.

The cost for the project is projected to be \$65 million, an increase of 50 percent from 1997 figures. Recent hubbub and potential controversy over the project involves the loss of support from private partners, who now do not want to share ownership of the hotel. Thus, N.C. State has taken full ownership for the facility and has set up a subsidiary, non-profit corporation to manage the resort. NCSU will still pay \$650,000 a year for a third party, Benchmark Hospitality, to manage resort operations.

Pinehurst Inc. executive Patrick A. Corso states that the cooling of support for the NCSU project from the private sector signals serious profitability problems for the facility. Industry analysts

note that universities tend to overestimate revenue potential for hotel projects, but a review of the hotel plan by Horwath Horizon Hospitality Advisors asserts that the resort can reach a yearly net income of \$12.8 million by its fifth year.

With regards to the university, concerns over the project stem from an \$80 million, 15-year bond that will be needed to cover extra expenses. Such a bond would double NCSU's bond debt, resulting in annual debt payments of \$5.5 million. Building coordinators assert that no tuition or state appropriations will be used to cover hotel losses.

Plans for the resort certainly evoke a vague feeling that building the facility is a good idea. However, recent memories of the fiasco of building the Entertainment and Sports Arena and problems with current NCSU building projects, such as Clark Dining Hall, should dictate skepticism over the new project. While the resort is meant to attract businesses to Centennial Campus, there is little evidence that the private sector will flock to the location. Indeed, current NCSU private sector recruiting efforts have languished, especially with the departure of Lucent from the campus.

If the university can provide evidence that large businesses are truly interested in moving to Centennial Campus if the resort is built, then much of the profitability concerns that exist now can be assuaged. Additionally, the university must show that it is taking real steps to stop the hotel from becoming another bloated ESA-esque building project. A successful hotel facility on campus that requires no tuition or state fees would be a great advertisement. However, it makes no sense to push the project ahead if there are good indications that the resort will fall short of expectations; ultimately, someone will have to clean up the university's mess.



Media circus provides sensation, not news



Ben Kraudel
STAFF COLUMNIST

I hope and pray, I'm fairly sure the answer is no.

The general problem with news in America is not what the media gives to the nation. Instead, it is what the nation wants from the media. If the public refuses to watch television news until it provides more information and less sensation, then the media will have no choice but to begin to spout information like Dennis Miller on ABC. Instead, shows receive far higher ratings when news is put aside and anchors spout quasi-news into the viewers' faces as it is the three rings of Barnum and Bailey.

As much as I hate to relate anything I write to the recent tragedies that the world has seen, the way news is handled in this country is now ridiculous. Walter Cronkite is rolling in his grave

...and I think he's still alive. I wouldn't know though, the news doesn't handle that sort of thing. In an age where aesthetics is valued over information, the news has no problem making conversion. The entire tragedy of September turned into one giant two Jima-esque memorial, and no matter how many people said they were tired of the media sensationalism, the fire-works display continued because the country still watched.

Suddenly, as quickly as you can slap a magnetic flag onto a foreign-made car, the country was running around beating each other up in Wal-Mart to get their hands on as many American flags as possible. Well, as fine as that is, I already had mine — why didn't they? I wonder if the stores in Palestine are running low on Palestinian flags that can be aesthetically placed at the entrance of the pile of rubble where one dwells.

Separately, Ted Koppel is afraid of losing his job. That proves how much the networks that run these shows really care about information, even though "Nightline" has also been in the line of fire for several years. He is now a leftover from years gone by — a time when there were hostages in Iran and the American people didn't want to hear Ted ramble on about patriotism, but instead, just find out how the boys were. Ted was never the

sort to pander to the wants and emotions of the public; he instead issued forth the news and left the sway of emotion somewhere in between.

Another fine example is the presidential election from two years ago. Dan Rather must surely not decide to start using backwoods euphemisms on his own. I can picture some aide running on the side of the stage with a memo telling Dan that America needed someone to live things up during the dull parts of the broadcast, and could he do that with phrases like "this election is tighter than the lug bolts on a '57 Chevy." Yes, surely this will unite the country behind the election once more.

I could never work for a news department. I enjoy my opinions too much. I can ask that those who do choose to work in the news field enjoy less flare and flamboyance while putting forth effort in displaying the facts and informing the masses. America is incredibly uninformed about the state of the world. If we were informed, we wouldn't have been as surprised about the attacks on our country. Unfortunately, as always, we were too busy watching the circus.

Ben can't wait to hear what you think of his first article. Take it out on him gently at bkraudel@unir.ncsu.edu.

Hurray for hidden tuition hikes



Robert Jallail
STAFF COLUMNIST

The Faculty Senate's recently endorsed 2003-2004 academic schedule serves two purposes: it reorganizes vacation days to be more sensible and reduces instruction days through a bit of vocabulary change. While the proposed schedule can be construed to be beneficial to students (as it was in Tuesday's Technician's View), the plan decidedly favors faculty interests at the expense of student interests (as is often the case with faculty vs. student issues).

The proposal's attention to student concerns is admirable. Indeed, it would be nice to have a buffer between moving in and the start of school. The adjustment of fall break days and establishment of a full break day before Thanksgiving are also welcome nods to student interests. However, the benefits from this rearranging are hardly astounding and are insignificant in the face of bigger drawbacks.

Those bigger drawbacks stem primarily from the fact that the new schedule makes students pay more for less service. The Board of Governors will now count the exam days at the end of each semester as part of the 150 state-mandated instructional days. The benefits for the faculty are obvious. They will

get to teach fewer classes without incurring any salary losses and easily resolve a contract issue with nine-month instructors who currently work an extra two weeks.

Reduced instruction holds no such benefits for students, though. A week less of instruction could possibly clip a whole chapter or a significant amount out of course material. If one were talking about a later chapter may mean the difference in being able to say a sentence in the short, negative, past tense or not. (For example, "I am not the one who stole the money.") Such knowledge may prove useful in a study abroad trip.

Covering less material plainly reduces the quality of a course, and hence, the quality of a degree at N.C. State. Moreover, reduced knowledge of major material could have less measurable consequences down the road, such as making an NCSU graduate less competitive in the job market.

Of course, professors are not compelled to reduce course material; they can cover the same material, just faster. It's not hard to understand the qualms students might have with such a scenario. Here, professors can then make exams easier or curves greater to account for the poorer instruction, or they can give students lower grades. Either encounters the same problem as cutting material out — making an NCSU degree less valuable and making NCSU graduates less competitive.

The immediate, literal costs are also staggering. For a full-time undergradu-

ate who is a resident of North Carolina, the cost per instructional day of an NCSU education is about \$22 (\$3302/150 days). Thus, any loss of an instructional day costs \$22. For example, if six instructional days were taken out of the school year, students would pay \$132 extra in tuition. This point is important: any loss of instructional days without a corresponding reduction of tuition amounts to a hidden tuition increase.

The above calculation does not even take into account a \$300 plus eight percent (12 percent for out-of-state students) tuition increase authorized this year by the Board of Governors. (As an aside, our leaders in student government want to take credit for "reducing" the tuition from a flat \$400 fee to the \$300 plus eight percent scheme. My magnificent middle school mathematics tells me that eight percent of \$3302 is more than \$100. Hurray for Student Government.)

Paying for tuition increases handed down by the Board of Governors is an inevitable, unpleasant truism. Added hidden tuition increase via a shortened schedule is just a kick in the teeth. Faculty and even some students will probably be asked to bear yet another increase this year. The hopelessness in this situation is saddening, and the fact remains that students must accept some expensive days off from school.

Alliteration up in the hizzhouse. E-mail Robert at eviltobmcsm@mac.com.

Three strikes law ineffective, severe

Daily Bruin

(U-Wire) LOS ANGELES — Stealing a set of golf clubs hardly seems worthy of 25 years in prison, but according to current three strikes laws, two California petty thieves will be put in behind bars for a quarter century before they see green again — unless the Supreme Court says otherwise. The court will soon decide if the three strikes' lengthy sentences for petty crimes violates the constitutional provision against cruel and unusual punishment.

In theory, the three strikes legislation's attempt to curtail repeat offenses is good. But in practice the law is flawed; it contributes to more overcrowding in jails by people who are non-violent. This is a national epidemic: at least 49 percent of jailed people in the U.S. did not commit a violent crime. Last September, the Washington-based Sentencing Project reported three strikes laws have no impact on crime

rates — this indicates the law is not working as a deterrent. Not only are these people being punished beyond the scope of their offenses, it means taking taxes from social programs and education.

The fact that a "three strikes" law even exists only confirms that prison sentences are not rehabilitating offenders. If people are committing second and third crimes, it is a sign their time in prison has not prepared them to function in society again. What is needed is some carefully planned "first strike" programs that focus on rehabilitation. Perhaps then the number of people who are victims of crime will decrease, as will the number of non-violent offenders in jail.

The court must recognize the flaws of the three-strikes law and give back sentencing to judges — especially in non-violent crimes where discretion is particularly necessary. Somewhat stealing 25 years of someone's life seems worse than stealing a bag of golf clubs.

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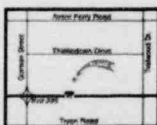
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STEVE

Continued from Page 12

baseball team will still lose 60 games in a season. Yawn.

4. Fan attendance

The Rangers epitomize all that is wrong with baseball. First, they sign Alex Rodriguez to a 10-year, \$250 million contract — setting a horribly high new standard of paying players. Now, they've become MLB's version of the Bad News Bears. First, they signed disruptive Carl Everett and even more disruptive John Rocker. Now they've signed a thief in Ruben Rivera.

5. Texas Rangers franchise

The Rangers epitomize all that is wrong with baseball. First, they sign Alex Rodriguez to a 10-year, \$250 million contract — setting a horribly high new standard of paying players. Now, they've become MLB's version of the Bad News Bears. First, they signed disruptive Carl Everett and even more disruptive John Rocker. Now they've signed a thief in Ruben Rivera.

Oh well, there's nothing else to say except, "Play ball!"

Steve Thompson's columns run regularly on Thursdays. You can reach him at 515-2411 or sthompson@unity.ncsu.edu.

MENS

Continued from Page 12

matches in a row because no one believes they can beat them, and we were in a position to win that match. It does no good if I'm the only one who believes they can win — my team has to believe."

Down just two points and with the momentum on its side, the Pack controlled two of the final three singles matches that would determine the winner of the ACC match.

In the No. 2 singles match, State senior Ryan Boward was giving national No. 58 Michael Yani all he could handle in the second set. Yani won the first set with relative ease, but found himself in a battle the second go-round, tied at 4 games apiece.

The lanky serve-and-volleyer eventually pulled away from Boward to take the last two games of the match, giving Duke its fourth and clinching point.

There was still, however, two

WOMENS

Continued from Page 12

over Christina Maliki. Worsley found success in the six-spot and defeated Sierpinski 7-5, 6-2.

The Pack will conclude its season at home in Raleigh, beginning with a four-match homestand before the ACC tournament, which is also in Raleigh. The Wolfpack face their toughest challenge of the season this weekend when Wake Forest comes to town for an ACC match.

The Demon Deacons are currently ranked No. 3 in the nation according to the Omni Hotels Intercollegiate Tennis Association Poll. Wake Forest's roster includes three nationally ranked singles players, including No. 1 Bea Blielik.

The match is scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. at the Wolfpack Tennis Complex.

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TRACK

Continued from Page 12

holder in the 400-meter dash, will wait until next week to race an open 400.

"Tyronne won't open up with a 400 until the week before conference," said Reese. "That's because he's the caliber of athlete that will be running late into the year. I want him to be ready to go by conference, but he also needs to be able to continue on until nationals."

Adams, Derrick High and Troy Graham will race in the open 400. High, Graham, Dozier and Brent will compete in the 4x400-meter relay.

"Derrick is running really well right now," said Reese. "He had the fastest split on the relay last week, and I expect him to be a big surprise in the conference."

Most of State's distance runners will be competing in the 1,500-meter run, even though they plan to run longer races at the conference finals.

"Most of these athletes are doing this in preparation for their longer races at ACCs," said Geiger. "There may be a chance we will run one or two of them in the 1,500 at conference, but 90 percent of our distance runners are racing the shorter race in preparation."

Kristin Price, an All-American in the 5,000 and 3,000-meter runs, will be running in the 1,500

matches remaining.

At No. 6 singles, Jon Davis was seemingly cruising to a victory over Duke junior Alex Bose, ahead 6-2, 4-6, 4-1. Bose, a crafty shotmaker who entered the season ranked just outside the national top-100, used an unorthodox-looking backhand to help him forge a comeback victory, 2-6, 6-4, 7-5.

On the adjacent court, State senior Bryce McGrory was in the midst of a spirited comeback at No. 4 singles against Joel Spicher.

After dropping the first set 6-2, McGrory went ahead in the second 6-5 with Spicher serving to send the set into a tiebreaker. But McGrory would have none of that, gaining control of the game and winning the set after Spicher double faulted at 30-40. Spicher then vented his frustrations by smacking a ball completely out of the tennis complex and was assessed a point penalty for his actions.

Despite starting the final set in a hole, Spicher rebounded emphatically to take the match 6-2, 5-7, 6-1 and set the final score of the match at 6-1.

"I'm proud of the way a

majority of the team played by putting themselves in position to win," said Hayes.

Duke began the contest by sweeping the three doubles matches, despite a valiant effort from the Pack duo of Matt Lucas and R.J. Murray. Murray and Lucas fell in a tiebreaker (9-7) to the Devil tandem of Yani and Yorke Allen.

Murray provided the Pack with its only point of the day, a surprisingly easy straight set victory over nationally ranked Devil Jason Zimmerman.

Murray negated Zimmerman's powerful serve and one-handed backhand with a variety of cagey spin shots that forced the freshman into numerous mistakes.

"You just got to step up there without worrying about making a mistake and swing away," said Murray, describing his strategy on returning Zimmerman's huge serve.

In other matches, the 11th-ranked singles player in the country, Duke's Philip King, rolled to a 6-2, 6-1 victory over Lucas, and Devil freshman triple shutouts defeated Shane Sealy 6-3, 6-1 at No. 5 singles.

James Rowell, Randy Cass and Ryan Furlough will compete in the throwing events for the Wolfpack.

Jason Vieria will compete in the triple jump, and Kelly Smoke will compete in the discus and hammer throws and the shot put.

David Kessler, Eric Hovestadt, Justin Farmer and Justin Struble will all compete in the pole vault for the men's team.

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GYMNASTICS

Continued from Page 12

top 18 are guaranteed spots in Regionals, and the Southeast only had two teams ranked that high at the end of the season, meaning only the third-, fourth- and fifth-place teams in the region could compete in post-season.

The Pack, which sat third in the Southeast before EAGL, placed fourth at the league championship meet March 23 with a score of 194.725. As a result, State finished sixth in the Southeast with an RQS fractions of a point behind George Washington and was left out of Regionals — despite having a higher RQS than some teams that will be competing in other locations this weekend.

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"I will still go to bat and say this is probably the best team I've ever had," Stevenson said. "We just struggled on one event particularly and on a couple of events occasionally to be sold all year."

"Maybe the gymnastics we were doing was too difficult. I don't know, but I do know that we had a good team, probably the best one on a gymnastics level we've ever had, and yet we're staying home and other people are going on."

Despite losing Brown and Jazab, the Pack will return plenty of experienced gymnasts next season, including Pantom, who missed two full seasons to injury. For Stevenson, that's an encouraging sign of things to come.

"We've got a lot of talent; now, it's just a question of whether we can do our job in the

competitions that we go to," Stevenson said. "We've got good meets scheduled for next year. We'll see good teams."

"We've got some really good kids. Now, it's just a question of filling gaps and stepping up routines."

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SCORES

W. Tennis 6, East Carolina 1
Duke 6, M. Tennis 1



Thursday Sports



SCHEDULE

Baseball @ Clemson 4/5
W. Tennis vs. Wake Forest, 4/6, 11
Track, Duke Invite, 4/5-6
M. Tennis @ Virginia, 4/6
W. Golf, Bryan National Coll., 4/5
M. Golf, Augusta Invit., 4/6-7

Track ventures to Durham

◆ N.C. State's track teams look to use this weekend's Duke Invitational to prepare for the ACC Championships.

Todd Lion

Senior Staff Writer

Only two weeks remain until the ACC outdoor track and field championships, and N.C. State's teams are entering their final stage of preparation for this meet.

This weekend's Duke Invitational is one of the last meets the teams will see before heading to Charlottesville, Va., for the conference finals.

"Everything we're doing now is in preparation for the ACC Championships," said head coach Rolfie Geiger. "We have to take advantage of each weekend. We did some good things last weekend, so hopefully we will do some good things this weekend."

One of State's biggest surprises last weekend at the Raleigh Relays was the school record run in the 100-meter hurdles by freshman Ebony Foster in her first attempt ever at that race. She will run

the 100 hurdles again this weekend.

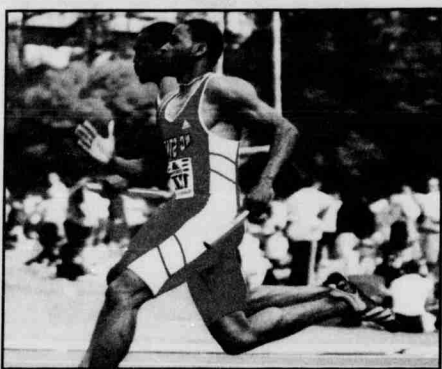
Foster is also a part of the 4x100-meter relay team that has set two school records in as many weeks.

"I'm looking forward to seeing Ebony race the hurdles again," said assistant coach Terry Reese. "I'm pretty sure she will break 14 seconds this weekend."

Leigh Neely and Adrienne Vinson will also race in the 100 hurdles. Neely, Vinson, Felicia Fant and Adrienne Adams will all compete in the 100-meter dash, while Fant will double back with the 200-meter dash.

Joseph Brent, T.J. Giwa and Aahmese King will lead the men's sprinting team in the 100.

Tyrone Dozier and Monterio Adams will join Brent and Giwa in the 200-meter dash. Dozier, State's school record



A runner from the N.C. State track team runs in the Raleigh Relays. The Pack is preparing for a visit to the Duke Invitational in Durham.

See TRACK, Page 11

BASEBALL

Top Five, Bottom Five

Although Ralph Wiley of ESPN Page 2 may disagree, the real baseball season is over.

Sure, the NBA has about two months of action remaining, but even Michael Jordan isn't fun to watch anymore. Thus, once college basketball crowns a national champion, I am forced to look for new sources of sports entertainment.

With the beginning of the Major League Baseball regular season, a viable (although certainly an inferior) alternative to college basketball is now around. So, in traditional Technician style, here is Top Five, Bottom Five — baseball edition.



Steve Thompson

Top Five

1. Opening day

There really is nothing like first day of the baseball season. In my opinion, it's the official beginning of the spring. Even the most atrocious team is able to harbor playoff hopes on opening day. In fact, on opening day this year, Orioles fans were even treated to a win over the Yankees and a day in first place.

2. Boston Red Sox/Chicago Cubs

Unless you're a fan of rival teams, I don't think anyone can pull against these two franchises. Two of the most storied franchises in baseball history have been plagued by an incredible stretch of bad luck.

This year, however, they both have a relatively good shot at winning their divisions. I, for one, would love to see a Cubs vs. Red Sox World Series.

3. Oakland A's pitching staff

The A's have the best pitching staff in the last 10 years. In Mark Mulder, Tim Lincecum and Barry Zito, Oakland has three legitimate No. 1 starters. Add in a solid Cory Lidle in the fourth spot and Billy Koch out of the bullpen, and the A's could be dangerous.

4. Randy Johnson and Barry Bonds

These two players seem to get better with age. One year after Bonds set the single-season home run record and Johnson won the Cy Young Award, they are at it again early this year. In his first start of the season, Johnson pitched a shutout, while Bonds knocked two home runs in his first outing.

5. Game speed-up procedures

The main knock I've had on baseball in the last few years is the fact that I simply don't have the time to watch a four-hour game. In the offseason, baseball made a few changes in order to shorten games — including limiting a new pitcher's warm up time. Although I don't expect drastic changes, it's at least good that the baseball higher-ups recognize the problem.

Bottom Five

1. Impending player strike

Just as baseball is about to regain the disenchanted fans from the strike of 1996, they are about to lose them all over again. Will professional sports ever learn? Owners — people aren't going to come to the park if you keep raising ticket prices. Players — being offered a \$10 million contract for one year is not insulting. Eventually this extravagance in professional sports has to end.

2. AL East

If Pedro Martinez ends up being as ineffective as he was in his first start, the AL East might as well just not even go through the motions. A Pedro-less Red Sox would almost certainly guarantee the inevitable — another Yankees title.

I really hate the Yankees — too much talent on one team. It's good for Yankees fans, horrible for the rest of baseball.

3. 162-game schedule

I can completely miss about two months of the baseball season, and likely nothing overly important would have happened. Along with the long game, baseball's long season turns out a number of casual fans. While the Rams playing the 49ers in week six of the NFL schedule is a very important game, the Braves facing the Yankees in mid-May isn't overly crucial. A great

Trio on its own for Regionals



Aimee Pantan is one of the Pack gymnasts headed to the NCAAs.

◆ Three N.C. State gymnasts will compete as individuals at Saturday's NCAA Southeast Regional.

Jeremy Ashton

Senior Staff Writer

Kelli Brown, Aimee Pantan and Laura Jazab will find themselves in an unfamiliar position at a familiar event this weekend. The trio of N.C. State gymnasts will compete at the NCAA Southeast Regional in Morgantown, W.Va., Saturday. The three seniors have become accustomed to making this trip every year following the East Atlantic Gymnastics League Championship meet, but they'll make that journey this year without the rest of their teammates.

For the first time since 1991, the Wolfpack did not qualify as a team for Regionals. State will have presence at the meet, however, with Brown, Pantan and Jazab competing.

Brown, a three-time EAGL Gymnast of the Week this season, is one of five gymnasts who will compete unattached in the all-around. She is the EAGL champion on the uneven bars and was named to the All-EAGL team in three events and the all-around.

Pantan, who missed all of last

season with a broken arm, will be the event specialist on vault and bars after recording the highest regional qualifying score in those events of any gymnast not already competing at Regionals on a team or in the all-around. She was a first-team All-EAGL selection on bars.

Jazab is the alternate for the competition on balance beam and will only participate if Maryland's Sarah Hoenig is sick or injured.

The top two all-around competitors not on the first or second-place teams will advance to Nationals, as will the top event winner not on one of those teams.

State head coach Mark Stevenson said Brown and Pantan have a reasonable shot at advancing.

"I think both of them have as a good chance as anybody else at the competition of going on to the next level," Stevenson said.

The dynamics of competing as an individual are different from being in a team setting. Stevenson said individuals rotate with teams at

Regionals. As a result, warm-up times are shorter, and single competitors have to anchor the team they are accompanying. An issue of familiarity and team support also exists.

"It's a lot different because you don't really know the people that you're with," Stevenson said.

Six teams are invited to each of the six regionals, but the top 36 teams in the country do not necessarily get to go. Only the



Kelli Brown has been the Pack's top performer this season.

See GYMNASTICS, Page 11

Devils overpower Pack 6-1 State tops Pirates

◆ Freshman R.J. Murray picked up the lone win for the N.C. State men's tennis team against No. 13 Duke.

Matt Middleton

Assistant Sports Editor

The match was there for the taking; the Wolfpack just couldn't muster enough strength to win a victory over ACC tennis juggernaut No. 13 Duke.

That was the story Wednesday afternoon at the Wolfpack Tennis Complex in another frustrating loss for the Pack (4-14, 0-4 ACC).

Trailing 3-1 with three highly contested singles matches still outstanding, the Pack had an opportunity not too many teams have against the Blue Devils (10-9, 4-0), who are undefeated in the ACC for the last five seasons. It had an opportunity to pick up its first ACC win of the season against the unlikelyst of opponents.

But just as quickly as the April sun was swallowed by the dark storm clouds moving in from the west, Duke extinguished any chance at an upset by winning the three matches — two of them in three sets.

"Duke started getting tight at the end; they always do when people play them tight," said State head coach Eric Hayes. "Duke has won so many ACC



Both the men's and women's tennis teams saw action Wednesday afternoon.

◆ N.C. State now holds a 12-0 advantage over the Pirates in the series.

Sports Staff Report

GREENVILLE - N.C. State downed in-state foe East Carolina on the road in women's tennis action Wednesday afternoon with a score of 6-1.

The Pack (8-10) improved its series record to 12-0 versus the Pirates (8-8), a rivalry that began in State's inaugural women's tennis season, 1977. Jennifer Jassawalla won her third straight for the Wolfpack and becomes the first squad member to reach 10 wins this spring.

State grabbed the doubles point with wins in the No. 1 and No. 3 matches. Katrina Gildemeister and Kristen Nicholls downed the Pirate pair of Emily Kohl and Meredith Spears, while partners Loni Worsley and Danielle Stadelmann dropped ECU's Roluca Biau and Christina Malik.

Jassawalla teamed up with Junior Landis Strader for the first time this year, but fell to the Pirate's No. 2 tandem of Lyndall Jordan and Paulina Sierpinski.

The Wolfpack took five of the six singles matches in straight sets to secure the victory, with the only loss coming in the No. 1 match. Bawono allowed Kohl only one point in each set to tab a 6-1, 6-1 win at the No. 2 singles spot, while Nicholls defeated Jordan 6-2, 6-2 in the three-spot.

Jassawalla had continued success in the No. 4 match and picked up a win over Spears, Danielle Stadelmann won her third in four tries to improve to .500 on the season with a victory

See WOMEN, Page 11

See MENS, Page 11

See STEVE, Page 11