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N.C State submits potential budget cuts to governor

What would a budget cut do to N.C. State?

Annual budget: \$773 million

4 percent cut: \$73.3 million from personnel budget; \$3.6 billion non-personnel

Layoffs: 97 employees

Vacant jobs eliminated: 52

Instruction: Cut 10 members of the faculty and a number of teaching assistants. End support for 54 graduate students. Selected classes and lab sections canceled.

Library: Eliminate security guards. Rehire Saturday and overnight hours by one-third.

Facilities: Reduce utility bills by reducing temperatures, decreasing water use, cutting off lights and closing buildings during breaks. Reduce maintenance and housekeeping staff.

Other services: Reduce research operations, clerical employees, cost-pool specialists, security guards, accountants and police officers.

◆ Cuts could range from 1 to 4 percent and could have serious effects on the quality of education at N.C. State.

Blair Parker

Assistant News Editor

N.C. State is bracing itself for possible budget cuts that could make for a significant change in the way the university operates.

The university could possibly lose 97 employees due to layoffs as well as 10 faculty members and be forced to enlarge class sizes and reduce library hours if their state funding is cut as much as 4 percent.

Earlier this month, NCSU officials

submitted a proposed budget cut to UNC System President Molly Broad that ranged from 1 to 4 percent in cuts. Gov. Mike Easley had asked the UNC System to identify potential cuts that would not harm instruction. According to NCSU Provost Stuart Cooper, budget-cut scenarios from 1 to 3 percent keep instruction intact. But a 4-percent cut would cause NCSU to suffer severe consequences in instruction.

"The potential is there to have large class sizes, and we have been working very hard to get that under control," said Cooper in a News and Observer article.

Although Easley has made it clear that his goal is to protect classrooms at

all levels of education, the General Assembly is looking to cut \$70.6 million from universities and community colleges across the state. This cut would require the elimination of 781 positions, including more than 200 faculty members within the UNC System.

"I do not think the students will feel it," said Broad earlier this month. "They may not be able to get some of the courses they expect to take in a semester. I think that's inevitable."

Cooper said that it is too early in the process to determine what the negative outcome would be for NCSU. But there might be other things NCSU can

See BUDGET, Page 2

Work study offers students financial aid, experience



Carmichael Gymnasium offers work study opportunities to students who participate in the Federal Work Study Program.

◆ Although the priority filing date has passed for students interested in the Federal Work Study program, there is still time left to apply.

Angelena Thomas

Staff Reporter

The cost of tuition is steadily on the rise, thus creating a greater need for many students to find a way to attend or stay in college. One option that many students are going to undertake is the Federal Work Study Program.

The Federal Work Study Program is an employment program subsidized by the federal government that allows eligible students to work part-time in approved employment positions.

Nell Summerlin, assistant director of financial aid and work-study coordinator, said, "Work study is a way for students to help pay their college costs. Students can earn money and reduce their student loan debt."

The typical work-study assignment occurs on-campus throughout various departments. After students are awarded Federal Work Study for the academic year, they can use the work-study Web site, provided by the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid, to select from over 100 departments and several work-study positions. Once students have found a job of interest, they call that location and set up an appointment for an interview with the employer.

Work-study assignments are not only on-campus placements — students can work in approved, nonprofit, community service organizations as community center assistants or in local schools serving as reading or math tutors and recreation workers. To encourage a sense of community, these positions have a higher-than-average rate of pay.

"In addition," Summerlin continued, "through community service, students have an opportunity to help

children and adults in need."

Sophomore Meghan Corcoran served for two years as a 4-H camp counselor where she worked from Friday through Sunday, four times per semester, in Columbia, N.C., and Swansboro, N.C.

"It's been the best job I have ever had," said Corcoran. "It's been really rewarding."

Corcoran, a textile apparel management major, taught at-risk children reading and writing skills, as well as other camp activities like swimming and canoeing.

"Students can gain valuable work experience and get to know their employers and others in a position to serve as references for future employment," said Summerlin.

In fact, Cathy Smith, an official from the poultry science department, offered a personal experience in which a former work-study student used her as a job reference and was offered the job the next day. When asked about the role of the work-study students within her department, Smith said, "They serve a valuable purpose."

Moreover, Smith added, "We stress the importance that school comes first for our students, and we willingly work around their school schedule. The work-study program helps lay good groundwork for future employment and work references."

"The program is available to undergraduate and graduate students who are accepted into degree programs. Students must be enrolled at least part-time, which is six hours per semester for undergraduates and three hours per semester for graduate students. Also, distance education students who are enrolled in a degree program may qualify if they are able to work in an eligible position.

See WORK, Page 2

CHASS hosts forum on Ebonics

◆ N.C. State linguist shares the background and cultural history of Ebonics, which he refers to as 'AAVE.'

Aniesha Felton

Staff Reporter

It's not 'James be coming to school right now'; the correct way is 'James always be coming to school.' Why? The latter statement is habitual, of course.

Last Thursday, CHASS-MAS (College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Multicultural Association for Students) hosted "Where in the World Did Ebonics Come From?" The event, which was held in Caldwell Lounge at 6 p.m., focused on the origins and the linguist's view of this dialect.

"As a linguist, I have a great respect for all languages," said Walt Wolfram, professor and linguist.

"African American Vernacular English, AAVE (Wolfram's preferred name for Ebonics) is a language; it is a dialect in its own right — it has its own history and complexity," he said.

Wolfram explained that the reason he prefers referring to Ebonics as AAVE is because Ebonics will give rise to new racist joking.

"Many people associate Ebonics with African Americans and, because of the misinterpretation of the language by the media, it has received negative connotations," said Wolfram. "People socialize things all the time; things are black and white in society, and this new dialect is seen as a 'black people' thing, a race thing and not a cultural thing or as a legitimate language."

"Because it is not standard but new and different, society will debate it and make unfounded and ignorant comments and jokes," he said.

Wolfram maintains that AAVE is a language because it has a history and

it demonstrates some organization, rules and has a system.

Wolfram briefly showed a tape of fourth-grade African American boys dealing with the verb "be." When instructed to select the correct phrases from either "They usually be tired when they come home" or "They be tired right now," "When we play basketball, she be on my team" or "The girl in the picture be my sister," and "My ankle be broken from the fall" or "Sometimes my ears be itching," the fourth graders correctly chose the proper phrase and explained that there are rules that apply to this language.

"Everybody who speaks has rules; those kids know when to use Ebonics," said Wolfram. "The kids weren't taught this, they just automatically knew how to use the language — AAVE has its own structure and system," he said.

According to Wolfram, Ebonics has historically had three major positions.

One, the Traditional Anglicist position, states that African Americans spoke exactly how their masters spoke. The second position, Creolist, says that blacks that were in West Africa, the Caribbean Islands and Jamaica spoke a differently grammatically structured dialect that was a mixture between the New World and Great Britain English. The third position, Neo-Anglicist, maintained that African-American English today is the product of 20th century Englishmen's vernacular.

"All in all, features characterizing contemporary AAVE may be attributed to the retention of structural traits derived from the early African-English contact situation," said Wolfram.

Even though Wolfram emphasized that AAVE is a real language, he does advocate standard English.

"You have to learn standard English — those are the expectations of main-

See CHASS, Page 2

The myths of Dead Week

◆ Swamped with projects, papers and busy work, students and faculty reflect on what Dead Week means to them.

Heidi J. Collins

Staff Reporter

Echoing in the hallways of buildings throughout the N.C. State campus are the loud, almost obnoxious complaints of many students. Some students drag themselves around almost blind from lack of sleep and too many cups of triple vanilla lattes, while others frantically dash around as if they could beat time.

Whether students are ready or not, Dead Week is here — hated by most and yet desired because it represents the ending of one more semester.

Given the name, many people unfamiliar with the term would dub the week as one or more of the following: a week of review, an extra week of no classes for studying or a week of no papers, homework or projects. Not quite.

While most people would think that it was a stress-free week before school ends, the reality is that many students and faculty members find Dead Week the most stressful week of all.

According to the NCSU academic policy Web site, "Dead Week" actually means that, in consideration of busy students, faculty members "shall not give any tests or quizzes or assign any additional papers or projects during the final week of classes." In addition, no assignment can be due during the final exam week unless it is part of the final exam; however, department heads and deans can approve exceptions to this policy in advance.

On paper, this looks good. The university is stepping in and helping out the overworked students during an extremely stressful and busy time.

The reality, of course, is much different. Papers and projects can still be due during Dead Week; professors just can't assign any more during that

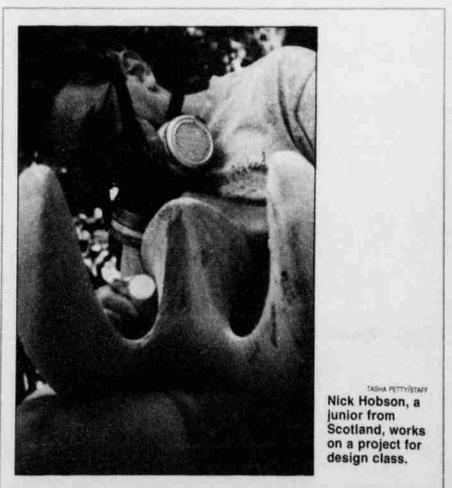
week. Students who take the standard 15 hours of class are likely to have at least three final projects and papers due about the same time.

For many, this calls for extra money spent on extra-cafinated espresso drinks and Jolt, pulling all-nighters several times in a row and whining to everyone else about how much work has to be done in so little time.

Kim Grau, a senior majoring in both history and construction engineering and management, goes through this vicious cycle every semester. "Dead Week is supposed to allow students to study for exams without pressing assignments looming over their heads," said Grau, "but I think it's just another week of school — during which I just don't get any sleep."

"When I was a freshman, I thought it was a break from regular school ... so I could get studying done," said Meng Liang, a senior double-majoring in physics and applied mathematics, when reflecting on her first year

See MYTH, Page 2



NICK HOBSON, a junior from Scotland, works on a project for design class.

MYTH

Continued from Page 1

at NCSU. She soon found out that she was wrong. "I thought the point of Dead Week," she said, "is to study for exams. How can we do that if we're working like crazy to finish everything else up?"

Matt Quigg, a senior in construction and management, agreed, saying, "[Dead Week] is meaningless. Professors either find a way around [the rules] or make everything due the week before so that you're actually dead for Dead Week." He wishes that he could have at least one review in each class and not have a lot due the last two weeks so that he could better prepare for finals.

Even freshmen aren't so naive after already experiencing one semester here at NCSU.

"It's when everything is due," said Carrie Windham, a freshman in political science. "It's their [the professors'] last shot at stressing you out. It's not only a problem for the students, but also for the teachers. When students have everything due in that last week, professors also have to have everything graded and turned in the following week.

which is stressful for them too. Dead Week should be an opportunity for teachers to grade everything and for students to study. That'd be a win-win situation."

Some of the faculty find that Dead Week is usually hard on them as well.

Although David Austin, a philosophy professor, doesn't find the end of this year stressful, it's due to the lack of department funds, which force him to teach without the benefit of teacher assistants. However, in past years, Austin admits that Dead Week "nearly killed me."

Austin explains, "I graded 200 papers in seven to 10 days [last year]." This year, with no TA to help him, Austin is giving one online quiz during Dead Week and an optional final.

Ken Zugacki, a lecturer in the communications department, finds this time of year very stressful, even commenting that "it's a nightmare." He thinks that nearly every faculty member finds the last week of class stressful because of last-minute grading, reading final papers and getting his or her own research done before the summer begins.

Contrary to most other lecturers, Diane Adler, a French teacher and program coordi-

nator for the French language courses, finds that at the end of the year, things are winding down. "If planned right," she comments, "the course finishes itself up. Responsibility is now on the students — it's their job to prepare the review."

Though most of the students and faculty at NCSU are feeling the stress and are frantically counting the number of things still left to do, there are those who just relax.

"It's party time," said freshman Charles Graeb, who is majoring in business. "I don't feel like studying, and I'm ready for summer. I will cram for exams just like everyone else." However, Graeb doesn't ignore his schoolwork. He usually uses Dead Week to prepare and organize his notes. He just wishes that professors would review during Dead Week instead of presenting new material.

Jenny Bain, a graduating senior in business, concurs with Graeb's assessment. "I don't do anything [during Dead Week] because I kick my butt studying for exams [during exam week]. I just take the week off."

BUDGET

Continued from Page 1

do to avoid hurting the classroom.

According to reports, NCSU could save money by delaying computer purchases, reducing utility bills and reducing maintenance and housekeeping staff.

Other services could also be rendered if a more than 3-percent budget cut is established. These services would include reducing research operations, clerical employees, computer specialists, security guards, accountants and police officers.

"We are trying to minimize destruction while at the same time maintaining quality. Our core mission is instruction," said Cooper.

But students are worried about increased class size and shortened library hours.

Ashley Love, a freshman in

engineering, said if class size were enlarged it would hurt her learning capacity because "with a smaller class size it makes it easier to focus on the material. I would be less so I didn't know when I needed help."

With a 4-percent budget cut, the D.H. Hill Library would have to eliminate security guards and reduce Saturday and overnight hours by 33 percent.

Jason Evert, a junior in business management, said he is unable to get to the library until late at night. "After class all day, I work until sometimes midnight, so when I need to use the library, it's often very late at night. Cutting the hours would definitely be an inconvenience."

However, Broad said she wanted to assure prospective UNC System students that the campuses would do their best to promote quality education.

"[These budget-cuts] are doable," Broad said earlier this month. "This is a time in the life of American higher education when it is more important than ever that we keep our aspirations high. Sooner or later, we're going to grow out of this recession."

Andrew Payne, president of the UNC Association of Student Governments, has a different opinion.

"As a result of the budget cuts, students will take longer to graduate or not even have the chance to graduate because their program is either eliminated or their financial aid is cut," he said.

NCSU faced budget cuts in the area of 7 percent, or \$125 million. Last year, this year the university could face cuts as high as 10 percent.

"Our highest priority is not to have disruption towards graduation," said Cooper.

WORK

Continued from Page 1

Derice Harris, a freshmen education major, works in the College of Education and Psychology.

"I've worked both semesters and have really enjoyed the program," said Harris, who added that she would like to return next semester. "The

people are great."

To apply for the program, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), indicate they want a work-study award and list NCSU as the institution they plan to attend.

Federal Work Study is a need-based program. It is only offered and awarded to students who demonstrate need as determined by a federal formula based on the govern-

ment's FAFSA and family information supplied by the student. Students have to be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens (such as permanent residents) and making satisfactory academic progress.

Although the priority filing date has passed, there is still time for students to apply for the Federal Work Study Program.

CHASS

Continued from Page 1

stream society, but that doesn't mean you have to reject your heritage," said Wolfram.

"If AAVE is seen as a bad language, then the ignorant people who believe this are prejudice — it's dehumanizing if someone says that what you are speaking is not a real language. That means you are not a real person, and only a person who is prejudice would say that," said Wolfram.

Wolfram says that it was never about teaching Ebonics in schools but more about allowing people, especially teachers, to understand the language in hopes of helping those who speak Ebonics transition

into standard English. "Understanding the language served only as a bridge," he said.

"AAVE is important to me because first I am a linguist, but also because the history is fascinating, and the language has a mystery about it; I want to figure it out," said Wolfram. "I want people to celebrate the cultural language and not be ashamed whether it is proper or not. There is no correct and incorrect language, no rich, poor, black or white — there is no such thing," he added.

Sophomore Lance Mangum, a political science major, believes he has grasped what Wolfram was trying to convey.

"I definitely have a better appreciation for the language. I thought Ebonics was just slang, but knowing the origin and cul-

tural background was, first, quite interesting, and second, informative and at moments very deep." Mangum adds that he came into the event thinking Ebonics started in the '90s but left concluding Ebonics was not a speech impediment, but rather something unique.

"I want to let everybody know that there are many African Americans who don't speak this way, but because it is about culture and not race, all negative associations with the word and racist jokes can be kept under wraps," said Wolfram. "Give Ebonics a chance. Understand it without rejecting it first; appreciate its culture and history; know that language is a gift to the human species; and lastly, dispel the notion that if it ain't proper English, it ain't right."

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Around Campus

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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Supreme Court rules on seniority

THE SUPREME COURT UPHELD A COMPANY'S RIGHT TO IMPLEMENT SENIORITY POLICIES, DESPITE CLAIMS OF VIOLATING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.

The Supreme Court's Monday ruling that the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) did not usurp company seniority plans rightly clarifies somewhat ambiguous interpretation of the law. U.S. Airways worker Robert Barnett sued the company over a position he had taken working in a mailroom after an accident at his previous position of cargo handler. U.S. Airways, which extensively employs seniority in company policies, sought to replace Barnett in his mailroom after two more senior workers requested the position. Barnett asserts that his disability (stemming from his work as a cargo-handler) gave him priority in keeping the mailroom position.

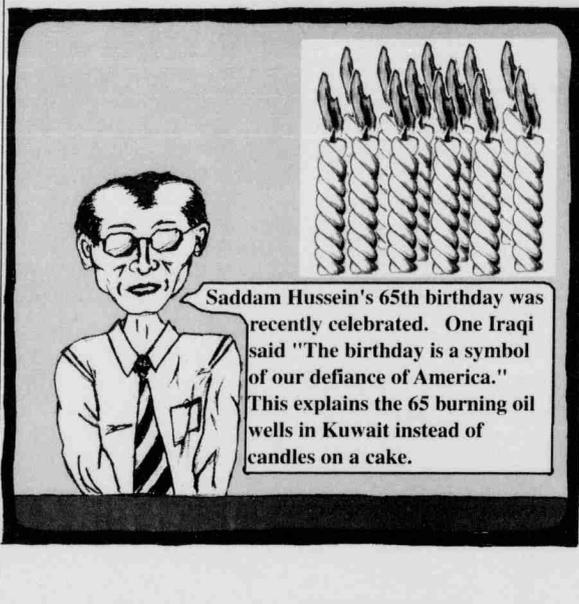
The ADA states that employers cannot discriminate against individuals with disabilities when, with "reasonable accommodation," a disabled worker can perform the essential functions of the job. Barnett argued that a "reasonable accommodation" for U.S. Airways would have been to let Barnett keep the mailroom position in spite of company policy that would allow more senior workers to take over the job. In its ruling, the Supreme Court rejected this argument, stating that Barnett's circumstances and the language in the ADA do not override contractual seniority policies.

Indeed, the principle the Court upheld

was a company's right to employ a seniority policy. In the majority opinion, the court states that a seniority policy is a justified means of providing job stability, predictability and a system of advancement. Companies are within their rights to preserve such a system, thereby limiting the power of the ADA. The latest ruling marks one in a trend of rulings where the Supreme Court has limited the reach of the ADA.

Instituting limited reach of the ADA is important because contractual obligations that a worker makes when taking a position should be respected unilaterally, as to impart fairness in company policies. While Mr. Barnett's situation is unfortunate, it is similarly unfortunate to suspend long-standing company policy, which, in turn, blocks the advancement of qualified, entitled workers.

As the court notes in its opinion, Congress's vague wording of the ADA led to the court's ruling. Thus, in passing anti-discriminatory laws, lawmakers should expound on the circumstances to which a law applies. Here, the Supreme Court was correct in leaving a line at fair seniority systems. Future laws should similarly protect a company's right to fairly implement company policy. Decisions made on such a principle allow government intrusion to be kept at a minimum.



Four years of college in 700 words or less

Barbie's creator was a genius



Holly Bezart
STAFF COLUMNIST

Ruth Handler created the Barbie doll and co-founded Mattel. Handler passed away on Saturday, leaving a great legacy behind her.

Handler created Barbie in 1959 and named it after her daughter, Barbara. It was a time of baby dolls, but she noticed that her daughter was playing with paper cutouts of teenagers and career women. During its first year, 351,000 Barbies dolls were sold at \$3 each. Since then, more than one billion have been sold in 150 countries.

Barbie is impossibly well-endowed; her measurements, if real, would be 39-18-33, and as my roommate stated, she would not have enough room for her internal organs.

Barbie's boyfriend, Ken, was named after Handler's son. Outfits, accessories, Skipper and friends Midge and Christie followed. Later, dolls were named after Handler's grandchildren.

Handler is a genius not only because of the Barbie doll empire, but also because, in 1970, she had a masticomy due to breast cancer. Unable to find a decent prosthetic breast, she created her own. It was called Nearly For Me, and Handler formed a marketing company to promote and sell it. When introduced in 1991, the company got more than \$1 million in sales.

Many people might not understand the hype that comes with Barbie. Many feminists hate the doll, and many artists have been inspired by it. Barbie intrigues academics around the world

and was placed in the official "America's Time Capsule" that was buried in 1976.

I've had several years of play with Barbie. I know it's not wise to get so addicted to a material object, but I love the dolls. (Though I'm not a fanatic collector.) I do have a couple of collector's edition Barbie dolls, but it is killing me to take them out of their boxes and play with them. Probably, the one biggest factor preventing me from doing so is that no one will play with me. So, I'm a big kid.

I don't know what year it was when I received my first Barbie doll, but it was about when I was eight or nine years old. My sister was 10 or 11. From that point until probably my junior year in high school, we played with the dolls all the time. My collection included Barbie, Skipper, Jazzie, Stacie and Ken. I sometimes regret not keeping Jazzie in good condition because she'd probably be worth a lot now. She was issued for only four years (1989-1993). She was one of my favorites, and you can tell from the wear and tear.

My sister and I would make malls and grocery stores. The dolls would go on picnics and travel to other places. My best friend always wanted to hold fashion shows with them. I preferred the storelines.

There were also the other 11.5-inch dolls that were not made by Mattel. My sister got Maxie, and I got Ariel (the Little Mermaid from Disney) and Cheryl Teigs (a model). Playing with Barbies provided me some of the best times of my life. That may sound sad to some people, but it was great. I'm thankful that Ruth Handler created them and am saddened to hear that she has left.

Let Holly know if you still play with your dolls at paz_rata@yahoo.com.



Kate Lingelfelt
STAFF COLUMNIST

I have two weeks of college left, and to be honest, graduation is kind of a letdown. Maybe I would be looking forward to commencement more if I had a job waiting for me, but instead of feeling excited or scared, I just feel tired. After 18 years of going to school nonstop, I am exhausted. My brain is packed to the brim, and I want to move on and try something new.

Graduate school is on hold for a while until I determine exactly what it is I want to do. Unfortunately, my plan was to become rich by winning the lottery, which obviously didn't happen. Since coming to college, I have narrowed my career specifications from everything to something science related, but after four years, I am still not ready to commit to a definite career path. So, instead of sharing my future with you, I want to share my past.

My main goal in coming to N.C. State was to meet new people and go to a university out of state. (I'm from Georgia.) While I accomplished that goal, it wasn't easy. The hardest lesson I had to learn was that not everyone is my friend. There were people I hung out with a lot who seemed to change as

our friendships evolved, and they were no longer the people I thought they were. In high school, I knew most of my friends for years, but at college, my friends were people I had known for only a few weeks. The downside to making friends so quickly is that it takes awhile to find out who people really are, and not everyone is as nice as they first appear to be.

I also learned that life is not a set path. When I came to NCSU, I had thought my life was headed in one direction, but I ended up somewhere completely different. College is supposed to be new and different, and this will happen if you let it. I never understood why some people wanted to go home or visit their significant other every weekend. Spend some time at college and enjoy it.

Now, I know that college would bring new guys into my life, but I never thought some of the relationships would turn out to be as serious as they were. I had never been in love with anyone in high school, and I never figured that I would meet anyone here. Love is great and wonderful (blah, blah, blah), but it can also really suck. Hopefully, the goods will outweigh the bads. Falling in love once is lucky, but having it happen twice is a miracle. (Is that cheesy enough for you?)

Another sad lesson I learned is that stupid people exist everywhere. Whether you are in Atlanta or in Raleigh, there will be morons, and their numbers are rapidly increasing. The

only way to deal with these individuals is through sarcasm and a good sense of humor. If you happen to be an idiot, do the world a favor and get yourself fixed.

Unfortunately, college is not all friends and boys. Education has to fit in there somewhere, and sometimes you have to make time for it. Now that I am in the midst of a competitive workforce, I wish I had done better in some of my classes. At the time, beer and frat parties sounded like fun, but I probably should have studied for that test. While it might be tempting to blow off a night of homework for your friends, you might regret it later.

I'm running short on room so I'll make this last paragraph quick. Get involved with the NCSU community. Hang out with people different from you. Have at least one wild and crazy spring break. (Watch out for the video cameras.) Study. Find a job that matches your major. Get to know your teachers. Boyfriends will care all hangovers. Make time for friends because they are your family away from home. Find connections early so you will have a job later. Do what you want for a living, not what makes the most money. Enjoy college, it's the best four (or five or six) years of your life.

After graduation, Kate will be eating chips and watching soap operas. E-mail her a job offer at klingler@univ-ncsu.edu.

Abstinence schmagbstinence, bring on the fornication!



Zack Medford
STAFF COLUMNIST

Remember that day back in fifth grade when our teacher got up, closed the door and turned a little red? "Today, we begin our segment on sexual education, children. You need to be adult about this." Aside from that sentence, the only other thing I remember from the class was giggling when our teacher said the words "penis" or "wet dream." We didn't learn a thing about having sex, but we sure learned a whole lot about the plumbing down there.

Since fifth grade, I have heard absolutely nothing about sex from my teachers. If the topic comes up in North Carolina classrooms, teachers are not only urged but actually required to teach abstinence and abstinence alone. If a girl approaches a teacher to ask about birth control, by law, all a teacher can say is, "You don't need it because you do not need to be having sex." North Carolina's current view is clear: No one is having sex, or at least, no one is supposed to.

Amazingly, despite this decree, over two-thirds of graduating high school seniors admit to having had sex before. For some reason, even though the education

system tried its very hardest to not mention sex in any way, shape or form, these crazy teen-agers got it in their head that having sex was a choice worth making.

In North Carolina, there is currently an initiative to cut the funding to these abstinence-only programs, which have cost the state over half a billion dollars a year and have been proven to do absolutely nothing close to stopping kids from having sex. In fact, these programs seem to be almost encouraging kids to have sex, maybe we should try something. Now, who would have thought that teen-agers had sexual urges, even if we told them not to?

Don't get me wrong. I agree that having sex at an early age is more than just risky, and the longer a person can wait before they take up the practice, the better. If we all saved ourselves for marriage, society would have fewer problems (aside from the increase in violence based on sexual repression), but it's simply not feasible. The absolute truth of the matter is that kids are going to have sex, whether we like it or not. Perhaps, instead of ignoring the issue, maybe we should try something unheard of in this "information age" — talking about it. Having an open discussion has proven to be one of the strongest forms of influence adults can have over teen-agers and people in general. Consider how effective statistics support groups have proven to be, not to mention groups like Alcoholics Anonymous or even Overeaters

Anonymous.

Yet, once we start telling kids that if they are going to have sex, at least to do it safely, the conservatives believe that kids will see that as a carte blanche to have all the crazy sex they want. Special squads of sex police will have to be created to stop the wild orgies in the middle of recess at elementary school! Well, maybe that's a little rash, but what if some kids as young as 12 start having sex all over the place? Complete sexual education is evil!

Wait, they already do, and no, it's not.

It is simply ridiculous to assume that teaching about sex will automatically influence kids to have it. We educate about drugs and alcohol, but no one seems to worry that that's going to persuade them to start hitting the bong and pounding the whiskey. Encourage abstinence, but don't pretend that you really think everyone's going to practice what you're preaching. Educate about the risks of pregnancy, STDs and the emotional trauma, but also educate about precautions kids need to take if they decide to risk it. It is truly time for North Carolina and the rest of America to stop being naive and time to simply do something about the problem.

Want to learn more about complete sexual education? E-mail Zack at zmedford@univ-ncsu.edu and ask your most embarrassing question.

Write to Campus Forum forum@technicianstaff.com

Submissions must be less than 400 words and are subject to editing.

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Jenin 'massacre' a product of propaganda

Mike Marchard (U - WIRE) SOUTH BEND, Ind. — As Israel continues to arrange the end of its incursion into Palestinian territory, a new echo has arisen about a "massacre" in a refugee camp in the city of Jenin. It would be a serious charge if it wasn't overinflated propaganda. All of it.

First off, there hasn't been an official, impartial investigation of anything that happened at Jenin. That hasn't stopped people from asserting that Israel is guilty of mass civilian murder. Hosni Mubarak, the president of Egypt, said Israel's soldiers committed "despicable crimes." A correspondent for London's Independent said a "monstrous war crime" took place.

The more rational people insist on having an official inquiry but have already drawn their own conclusions. Amnesty International wants an investigation into "the killings of hundreds of Palestinians." And Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat has demanded an "immediate investigation" of the "massacre" at Jenin.

Even without an investigation, wild estimates of the number of deaths are idly tossed around. The settled death

toll number that the Palestinians use is 500 civilians. In reality, the number of dead was less than 100, most of whom were armed fighters. Twenty-three Israeli soldiers were also killed.

From the accusations, one might get the idea that Israel simply stormed the town with tanks and leveled it to the ground. But they didn't. The damage done to Jenin was confined to an area of about two city blocks.

Reporters from The New York Times and Washington Post conducted interviews, and neither found any evidence of any sort of significant or systematic killing of Palestinian civilians by Israeli troops.

In fact, the Israelis took great care to minimize collateral damage. Jenin was a notorious hideout for terrorists from Hamas and Islamic Jihad — more than 20 suicide bombers came from there. Those fanatics used civilian housing structures to shield themselves from attack while they constructed bombs and stashed rocket launchers and other weapons. But the Israelis started their raid on Jenin by going house to house, street by street. Had they used their superior firepower and weaponry, they could have simply liquidated the entire refugee camp in a matter of hours. But

they chose to go through it with more surgical precision to limit the number of Palestinian deaths.

Unfortunately, this placed their soldiers at great risk. Many of the terrorists' dens were booby-trapped. It's believed that 13 Israeli soldiers were wiped out in one fell swoop in one building. It was only after losing soldiers to rigged explosions that the Israelis simply knocked those buildings down rather than continue to send their soldiers into houses wired to explode. But even then, they paused before every structure and announced over loudspeaker that they intended to destroy the buildings. Civilians were given ample warning to leave.

Moreover, how hypocritical is it for Palestinians, whose main weapon is random suicide bombings of civilians, to be leveling charges toward the Israelis of targeting and executing innocents? Some international officials are claiming that Israel violated the Fourth Geneva Convention, which protects civilians in armed combat. It's an outrageous allegation. It is Palestinian terrorist groups who are intentionally targeting Israeli civilians for the express purpose of killing as many of them as possible. Even when

the Israelis found terrorists in Jenin — like Thabet Mardawi of Islamic Jihad, who sent nine suicide bombers from Jenin who killed 20 Israelis — the soldiers arrested him; they didn't execute him.

Undoubtedly some innocent Palestinians were killed in the fighting. And although even one innocent death is too many, it's also important to note Israel's caution, even to the risk of their own soldiers' lives. They, not the Palestinian terrorist groups, sacrifice their military advantage out of respect for civilian life. They, and not Hamas, give warning before blowing something up. But yet they and not the Palestinians, are the object of the rest of the world's scrutiny and scorn.

There were atrocities and war crimes committed at Jenin. But they were committed by the Palestinians, who were too cowardly to adhere to international regulations, while at the same time accusing the Israelis of flagrantly violating those same rules. And there was no massacre.



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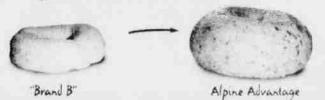
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Roots of grass

Senior Staff Writer **Grayson Currin**

The clouds never loomed overhead with such delight. Watting past in a sky cut by gentle and worn mountains, the gray, overcast skies that threatened Wilkes Community College last weekend seemed to dance to the music that was being played with such ruddy dexterity beneath them.

In a sense, what could be more fitting? After all, that wonderful bluegrass beneath was born out of a life spent underneath a great big sky — upon the land — pondering the ways of the world. These clouds, however, only wanted a seat from which they may look down at those roots. Though threatening with ominous color and the occasional boom of thunder in the distance, those clouds let 81,753 listeners share that seat at this weekend's 15th annual Merlefest.

As Sam Bush took to the Watson Stage on Friday night, the cold winds had people slipping into jeans and thick jackets, drinking coffee in place of the soft drinks from the afternoon.

Bush was quick to light a fire. With a persona and stage presence that suggests more of mandolin-playing rock star than the stereotyped "Deliverance" disciple, Bush chopped at the mandolin like a madman, his shoulder-length hair flying high as he jammed beneath the moonlight. Byron House, one of the funkier bassists in all of music, put down solid grooves for a crowd of dancers and smokers. Amazingly, things were just getting started.

To the right of the mammoth Watson stage stands one of the most remarkable stages in America — The Cabin. With minimal lighting and an honest acoustic setup, The Cabin is a nod to

the primordial days of bluegrass. With smoke moving in from the barbecue cookers and hamburger vendors at the festival, it only takes a little imagination for one to move back through time. As Pete and Joan Wernerick look the stage, the trip through time was made easier. Man and wife, moving through that sound of Americana with zeal and passion, continued the night of magic. People gathered as close as possible, straining to hear every note of heart-break or joy.

As the Wernericks reached the close of their set, stage managers atop the Watson Stage gave thumbs up to their crew, signaling that the stage was ready for that good-timbin', cowboy-boot-wearin' country rebel of reggae, Peter Rowan. Rowan walked onto the stage — alongside his Crucial Reggae outfit — with a bright smile and a six-string guitar.

A prototype of musical and racial integration, Rowan danced and sang in a steaming Jamaican falsetto as his band of two blacks and two whites played. Aston Barrett would have been proud of Bryn Bright's bass work, just as Marley himself would have enjoyed Rowan's cover of "No Woman, No Cry." Rowan held the guitar vertically for a good part of the set, picking like a madman. Bush and others joined the set, setting up a string of roots fusion jams that kept the crowd moving and cheering well past midnight.

When the music at Merlefest's 14 stages ended each night, the unquenchable spirit of the festival made its grand entrance. At any of the numerous right camps, that line roadways and dot scattered fields for miles of Wilkesboro, people return to their campsites in the mood to play music — a natural cause of the hours of great music they've just left behind. A neighbor hears the picking and casually joins in with another guitar or perhaps an upright bass pulled from the rear cavern of an SUV. Fiddle, dobro, banjo and a string of guitars follow, giving rise to a jam of alternating players, watchers and sleepers that persists until the break of dawn. That is the Watson family spirit of collaboration that seamlessly permeates the entire festival devoted to the memory of Doc Watson's late son, Merle.

The professional musicians of the festival are no strangers to that essence of intermingling musical thought that seems to lurk behind every corner. Backstage, guitar mastermind Tony Rice giddily discussed collaborating on another upcoming project with a songwriter. Ten minutes later, Rice hit the stage with Bright, Rowan and Bush — all smiles, all intensity. After a set that

ran just under an hour, Bush made a quick exit toward the Watson stage.

On Saturday afternoon, some of the best musicians in the world did the same. Stepping onto the stage around 6:15 p.m., Watson sat at center stage in front of a horde of people gazing up at him with wonder. For the next two hours, he called on his friends from the music industry to delight his 80,000 or so best friends in the crowd. Earl Scruggs sat in, picking his banjo and smiling all the while. Rice, Bush, John Cowan, Jerry Douglas and a list of names as prestigious as it is long all joined. Sean Watkins of Nickel Creek stood beside the gentle patriarch, playing his Martin in step with Watson.

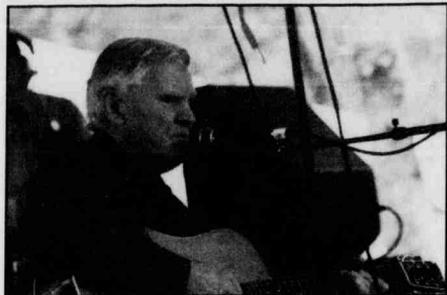
Watkin's handmate Chris Thile was given perhaps the ultimate compliment as Watson told the audience, "I'm going to ask Chris Thile to come out and help me on this one. It's a song that everyone should know for years and years. It's called 'Amazing Grace'."

Watson's voice strained with humility and respect — for song, for subject and for audience. Selflessly, he said to Thile, "Play that thing, boy." Thile's solo rang with the control and tone that defines his mandolin playing, and the duo brought the entire crowd to its feet, moving much of them to tears.

Gillian Welch and David Rawlings followed the Watson Jam on the cabin stage, as her beautifully bucolic voice ran in front of her strummed guitar and Rawling's complimenting backup vocals. Rawlings cut out lead guitar parts with pure intensity, rising on his toes and hunching over to reach the right notes. The same sweetness that the Wernericks had evoked on the same stage the night before soon again, the solitary spotlight illuminating two people with a naturally intimate connection. As Welch and Rawlings played "I'll Fly Away," Welch's counterpart for her "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" cover of the song, Alison Krauss readied the Watson Stage for her set.

Taking the station to a thunderous ovation, Alison Krauss and Union Station — including Jerry Douglas, Dan Tyminski, Barry Bales, Ron Block and drummer Larry Attanaiuk — launched into a huge two-hour set. Krauss' voice is one that seems fitting for an angel, her tone is tremendous and her range extends with ease from a low, sultry groan into a high pitch that cuts like a knife.

The band itself is perhaps the most complete in all of bluegrass. Douglas, according to Krauss, is "the best dobro player ever." Krauss herself is an extraordinary fiddle player, and the guitar styling of Tyminski is drenched by the heavy hand of Americana pick-



Doc Watson performs at Merlefest.

Staff photo by Grayson Currin.

ing and strumming. Krauss delighted the audience with radio hits such as "When You Say Nothing At All" before turning Tyminski loose on "Man of Constant Sorrow." Douglas previewed a handful of tunes from his upcoming solo effort, "Lookout for Hope," much to the delight of the audience.

As the full band closed their set, fiddler Darol Anger joined Rice and Bush for a 30-minute run at The Cabin stage. Complete electricity coursed through the acoustic instruments, as Rice picked like a man possessed. The climax of the festival was given during that set, as Jerry Douglas stepped onto The Cabin porch to play with the tremendous trio on a cover of The Stanley Brothers' "Ralph's Banjo Special."

Nickel Creek closed festivities for Saturday with a set that found the new direction of bluegrass and roots music. Sara Watkins, with Chris Thile and brother Sean Watkins, reigned as the darlings of the festival this year — and for good reason. Their youthful outlook on age-old musical genre is rooted in a keen sense of melody that lends to the song's an almost magnetic attraction. The braggadocio of these three as players is, in a word, astounding. Saturday night's set saw them cover Nirvana and head off in solo forays. There is new life in this old school.

With the festival entering into its fourth and final day, expectations ran wild. Forecasts of rain once again gave way to a day of music under the bright sunlight. Gospel services set to stage began at 9 a.m. at the Creekside Stage, and the theme ran through each set in that area. The culmination of this was Doc Watson's traditional "Merlefest

Gospel Gathering." George Hamilton IV hit the stage at 12:30 to mellow a crowd that ran high with anticipation of Watson's arrival. Launching into standards for George Beverly Shea and Bob Dylan, Hamilton's voice moved with something of a Deep South religion. At 12:45, Watson, led by longtime friend David Deal, shuffled toward the stage.

Watson took his seat, picked up his guitar and fished in his pocket for a pick. Applause reverberated from the hillside, as Watson nodded and smiled before performing a few gospel numbers by himself. His touch on the guitar was as light as a feather, and the sheer emotive power of his strumming was something that one cannot find in a chord progression alone. After a few numbers, the Nashville Bluegrass Band joined in, at one point singing like a barbershop bunch as Watson smiled and clapped in rhythm. For an hour and a half, religion met music, and through his smile and anecdotal accounts, Watson reminded everyone how to overcome and how to love.

The remainder of the day saw gigantic performances from The Kruger Brothers, Patty Loveless, the Larry Keel Experience, Leahy, Jorma Kaukonen and the Yonder Mountain String. The festival saw its close on Sunday night, with everyone still in attendance already making plans for next year.

"It's a good time, and it's a beautiful thing really for everyone involved. I love the way everything is being preserved for everyone... I really do love it." Larry Keel told Technician Sunday. This music is not only being preserved. It is being retold, reconstructed and expanded. It is alive and breathing in the hills of Wilkesboro.



Peter Rowan and the Nashville Bluegrass Band

The rise of Ben Whofleck

Assistant Features Editor **Ryan Hill**

The Sum of All Fears

Starring **Ben Affleck**

Morgan Freeman

Directed by **Phil Alden Robinson**

★★★½

Almost every franchise that has ever made it to a fourth film falls flat on its face with No. 4. "Alien: Resurrection," "Lethal Weapon 4," "The Phantom Menace" — the list can just keep going. I'd mention how much I hate "Rocky IV," but there are those out there who hold that movie close to their hearts, so I don't want to ruffle too many feathers.

The fourth entry in the hugely successful Jack Ryan series is "The Sum of All Fears." It's been almost eight years since we last saw Jack in "Clear and Present Danger." With that one, Harrison Ford played Ryan, a move that infuriated author Tom Clancy because of Ford's age. This time, Ben Affleck takes over the reins as a younger and single Jack Ryan. It's a move that pleased Clancy so much that his latest novel, "Red Rabbit," features a young Jack Ryan.

The gist of the movie is like a lot of others: Stop the bad guys from blowing stuff up. In the way in which it's told in "Fear" is what sets it apart. Ryan, a CIA analyst, is asked by Bill Cabot (Morgan Freeman) to assist him in reporting to a committee about the newly appointed Russian president. This period of change is taken advantage of by a rich Austrian neo-Nazi (Alan Bates). With the help of his cronies, he sets things in motion in hope of starting World War III, which will effectively end the world and make

it easier for him to take over and rule Hitler-style.

That's the plot, and it's up to Ryan, Cabot and a young Mr. Clark (Liev Schreiber), who appeared in "Danger" and was played by Willem Dafoe, to save the day. The film borrows a lot of elements from "The Hunt for Red October" in that Ryan tries to prove that he's right when everyone thinks he's wrong.

The print of the film that was screened wasn't finished. Some shots needed to be finalized, some last-minute editing touches needed to be made and most of the music for the film came from "Crimson Tide," another film about the possible end of the world. It doesn't matter, though. The print shown was more than enough to show that "Fear" is a top-notch thriller that knocks it out of the park Barry Bonds-style.

Affleck, fresh out of alcohol rehab, has made 2002 his year. He's already appeared in the hit "Changing Lanes" with Samuel L. Jackson, and "Fear" is

sure to make a butt-load of bank, and after which Affleck may even be bigger than his boy Matt Damon.

The film hits every note just right, from the top-notch direction of Phil Alden Robinson ("Field of Dreams") to the script, which was adapted by Paul Attanasio ("Donnie Brasco") and Daniel Pyne ("Doc Hollywood"). Let's not forget Morgan Freeman, who kicks ass in everything he does, whether it's "Hard Rain" or "Se7en." Freeman is just one of those smooth operators who gets it done without breaking a sweat.

Set for release on May 31, Paramount Pictures was hoping to generate lots of word-of-mouth for "The Sum of All Fears" by screening it a month and a half before its release. They don't need to worry; fans of the other three Jack Ryan thrillers won't be disappointed, and the same goes for everyone else because this movie is better than a sunny day out by the University Towers swimming pool.

About a Badly Drawn Boy's soundtrack

Staff Writer **Ghassan Hamra**

Singers and songwriters doing movie soundtracks can either be really good or just plain awful. Elliott Smith's soundtrack for "Good Will Hunting" and Aimee Mann's soundtrack for "Magnolia" were both pretty impressive, but for every one of those, there's something like Jeff Tweedy's soundtrack for "Chelsea's Walls," which isn't what one would find accessible. The results rarely fall between, until now.

Badly Drawn Boy presents us with an enjoyable soundtrack for what looks to be an average movie, namely "About a Boy."

Badly Drawn Boy, i.e. Damon Gough, first gained a great deal of

notoriety for his 2000 release, entitled "The Hour of Bewilderbeast." Gough received the Technics Mercury Music Prize in England, which is a great honor in Europe. Though the album may not merit an award so great, it shot Gough directly into the spotlight, where he has been since.

In addition, Gough won favor from many celebrities, including Meg Ryan, Bono and the directors of "About a Boy," Paul and Chris Weitz. After hearing "The Hour of Bewilderbeast," the Weitz brothers asked Gough to write four songs for their new film, which quickly turned into Gough writing 70 minutes of music, which are now presented with as the full soundtrack.

When listening to this, one has to keep in mind that it is a soundtrack, and

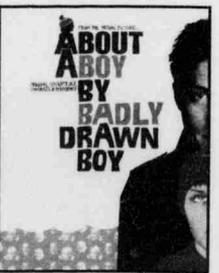
like all soundtracks, it has instrumental interludes, tracks that are short and seem pointless, and other quirky elements that we find in the actual film. Although these elements exist, they do not take up as much of the soundtrack as one might see in something like Jeff Tweedy's music for "Chelsea's Walls." This soundtrack is most similar to that of Aimee Mann's "Magnolia" soundtrack, in that it is mostly structured songs that one would find on a regular full-length album.

As for the music, Badly Drawn Boy quickly draws comparisons to Elliott Smith, that is, if Smith habitually used Prozac. Gough takes advantage of the financial assistance he must have received for recording and incorporates instruments ranging from the standard

guitar and pianos to trumpets, violins and flutes, among other things. The layering of different instruments puts the album a step up from where it would have been otherwise and exhibits Gough's knowledge of music.

Hugh Grant is the main character in the film, playing a single man that starts attending meetings of single parents in order to meet a companion. Through one of his companions, he is introduced to Marcus, an eccentric 12-year-old who teaches him a thing or two about adulthood while at the same time learns a good bit about being cool from Grant.

The movie is due out May 17, and judging by the description, it looks as if Badly Drawn Boy's music will complement the film nicely.



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IMREC

Continued from Page 6

Nonetheless, five of the six team members recorded best overall times. The men's team posted 16th place out of 35 teams, while State's lone female competitor Ann Basso placed 30th out of 176 (2:26.02).

The men's race featured 325 competitors. Kiefer placed 37th (2:04.01), followed by Ned Barry in

60th place (2:09.24) and Bo Slott in 152nd (2:20.11).

Josh Davis, competing in his first international distance race, finished 305th (3:03.20). The State men's team appeared to be headed toward a top-10 finish, but the team's most experienced triathlete, Adam Barb, was disqualified for missing a route marker and running off course.

The future of intercollegiate triathlon looks very bright, as the inaugural National Championships was an overwhelming success. After a taste of success in 2002, the Wolfpack will surely come back hungry for more in 2003.

Club Sports Standings

Bowling

Placed seventh out of 64 teams
Association of College Unions International
National Tournament in Omaha, Neb.

Australian Rules Football

N.C. State 95, North Carolina 50
Last Saturday at Miller Field

Cross Country/Track

N.C. State defeated North Carolina
Fourth Annual Carolina Club Track Open

Baseball

N.C. State 14
Patrick Henry Community College 3
Last Thursday at Optimist Park in Raleigh

Men's Lacrosse

All Conference selections:
George Rallis — Third team
Daryl Fothergill — Third team
Jon Downie — Honorable mention

Carmichael Gymnasium Final Week Hours

Gym

Mon - Fri, May 6-10
6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sat - Sun, May 11-12
1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Mon - Tues, May 13-14
6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Pool

Mon - Fri, May 6-10
6:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
4 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Sat - Sun, May 11-12
1:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Mon - Tues, May 13-14
6:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
4 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.



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Look Down

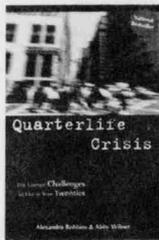
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Look Up

No games scheduled



Tuesday Sports



Baseball @ UNC-Wilmington, 4:30
Track, Carolina Classic, 5/11

Women's golf to Regionals

◆ In only its second year since being reinstated, the women's golf team has received an postseason invitation.

Sports Staff Report

N.C. State women's golf head coach Page Marsh and team earned a bid to the 2002 NCAA East Regional to be held in Baton Rouge, La. The regional is hosted by LSU and runs May 9-11.

State, which finished third at this year's ACC Championship, lowered its stroke average by over four strokes from the fall of 2001 to the spring of 2002. The women's golf team will make its first trip to a NCAA regional in only its second year back in competition.

In the fall of 2001, the Wolfpack finished second to last in the first three tour-

naments before a fourth-place finish at the Hatter Fall Classic and a sixth-place standing at the Pine Needles Invitational. The team owned a collective 79.98 stroke average and a combined 447 strokes-over-par with an average finish of 9.2 in the five fall tournaments.

Building off of the late fall success, Marsh's team reeled off three straight tournament wins in March at the Lady Mox Classic, Peggy Kirk Bell Invitational and the Lady Seahawk Invitational. The only other team tournament title in school history came in 1981 at the Seahawk Fall Invitational. The Wolfpack closed out the spring with an eighth-place finish at the Bryan National Collegiate before finishing third in the ACC Championships.

For the spring, the Wolfpack lowered its stroke average by four strokes to 75.89 and was 218 strokes-over-par — 229

strokes below the fall total. The Pack's average team finish in the spring was an outstanding 2.3.

The excellent team performances were solidified by strong individual efforts all spring. Freshman Sarah Bonner's season stroke average of 77.3 currently stands first in Wolfpack history, while fellow freshman Colby Cobb is second with a 77.4 stroke average. Sophomore Malin Claassen fired a 70 at the Lady Mox Classic to set the school record for lowest scoring round. She fired a 71 in the Peggy Kirk Bell Invitational, tied for second in school history.

In 2000-01, the squad's first season back in competition, State placed no higher than 10th in any tournament and finished seventh in the ACC Championships. The Pack had finished last in its four ACC Championships prior to this season.



Erica Wien and the women's golf team travel to Louisiana for Regionals.

ATHLETICS

Onward to summer

With this being my last column of the semester and with an entire summer ahead of us, I figure I might as well fore-



Steve Thompson

cast what you should expect to see happen over the next three months in the world of sports. With no further delay ...

Baseball
Expect to see the Red Sox fall out of first place. Boston had a soft April schedule and simply doesn't have the firepower to take the Yankees over a 162-game season. I'd like to see it happen more than anyone else, but I'm not optimistic.

Here's what it would take for the Red Sox to beat New York: 1) Pedro Martinez must stay healthy and pitch as the Pedro of 2000. 2) Manny Ramirez will have to produce all the way through September, which hasn't happened in recent history. 3) Derek Lowe must throw at least two more no-hitters. 4) A bolt of lightning must hit Derek Jeter.

Get the picture? The curse continues for at least one more year.

World Cup
The United States will not come close to advancing to the second round.

Let's look at the facts: The United States only has one legitimate scoring threat — Clint Mathis. No one else has proven he can score in international competition. The midfield is shaky at best. Claudio Reyna peaked two years ago, yet he remains the Americans' best playmaker by far.

Two former Tar Heels, Eddie Pope and Gregg Berhalter, anchor the defense. Enough said. Casey Keller and Brad Friedel are solid keepers but no longer spectacular.

The United States got a favorable draw by being grouped with Portugal, Poland and South Korea. Portugal is by far the class of the group, but Poland and co-host South Korea are not going to be pushovers. I would not expect more than one win from Bruce Arena's squad.

NHL Playoffs
I'm going to go out on a limb and say the Hurricanes will win one more playoff series.

After beating the Devils, the Hurricanes are now pulling for the Canadians to upset Boston — setting up a Montreal vs. Carolina second-round tussle. Eventually, the Canes' luck will run out, however. Goalie Kevin Weekes had his 15 minutes, but neither he or Irlbe will last for much longer.

Carolina will fall to the Maple Leafs in the Eastern Conference finals. Detroit will then bring home Lord Stanley's Cup after dismantling Toronto in five games.

NBA Playoffs
My heart tells me the Mavericks will top the Lakers. My mind says the Lakers cannot be stopped. Let's hope my heart is right on this one.

What's there not to like about the Mavs? Steve Nash, Dirk Nowitzki and Michael Finley are incredibly likeable, exciting players. The Lakers have Shaq and Kobe. Exciting? Sometimes. Likeable? Never. Hopefully, Dallas will prevail.

What's that? Is someone telling me not to overlook the Eastern Conference? ... I didn't think so. The Celtics will upset New Jersey to win the consolation bracket, before getting swept by Dallas or Los Angeles.

Tennis
Andy Roddick will win his first major championship. Someone's overbearing father will make news at Wimbledon. Pete Sampras will continue to struggle, as will Martina Hingis. Venus Williams will become someone of being racist. The Davis Cup will happen. No one will really care about any of what I just predicted.

Golf
Tiger Woods' new girlfriend, Elin Nordegren, will get more airtime than Ernie Els — prompting already high TV ratings to soar through the roof. Woods will win another major, while Phil Mickelson will continue to choke.

In the college golf world, N.C. State will use a second-place ACC finish as a springboard for NCAA Regionals and Nationals. The Pack will finish top 10 nationally.

NASCAR
Jeff Gordon will ... Wait, what an I talking about? NASCAR isn't a sport!

Steve couldn't let a chance pass to take a cheap shot at NASCAR. Send your hate mail to shthomms@unity.ncsu.edu or call 515-2411.

Pack hits the road again

◆ The N.C. State baseball team will look to rebound against UNC-Wilmington Tuesday night.

Justin Sellers
Senior Staff Writer

While students at N.C. State are focused on the end of the semester, the baseball team has a little more

than just final exams on its mind.

After a long weekend at No. 5 Florida State, the Wolfpack (26-20) doesn't get much time to rest and prepare before it starts things off again with a trip to the coast for a Tuesday night game against UNC-Wilmington.

After dropping the first two games against the Seminoles, State looked primed to take the final game of the

series, as the Pack was up 9-4 heading into the seventh inning. Florida State responded with a seven-run seventh inning to take the lead. The Noles went on to win and sweep the series.

"It surely is a rough week for our team," said head coach Elliott Avent. "We had a rough weekend down at Florida State, and now we have to turn around and hit the road again. We had a much improved effort Sunday against a really good team, but now we've got to focus on this week."

Quite the opposite, the Seahawks (33-11) are soaring high, winning eight of its last 10 games including seven in a row.

In most recent action, UNC-W took on Colonial Athletic Association foe Towson. Although the Tigers offered pretty good competition, it wasn't enough to win, as the Seahawks grabbed an 8-7 win Sunday and with it the series sweep.

"Wilmington is always a good team and have played us close in the past," Avent said. "They are on a roll right now and have got some real talent all around. We were fortunate to win up here a while back, but now it will be a whole new ball game. We've just got to give the same effort we did at Florida State, and hopefully we can grab another win."

But State will surely be a different opponent for UNC-W, since one of its few second-half losses came at the hands of the Pack.

During the first meeting between the two in Raleigh, senior right-hander Ryan Combs — who set the school record for most number of appearances Friday night against the



As a team, N.C. State is batting .347 heading into Tuesday's game.

Seminoles — tossed five scoreless innings. With the effort Combs was giving, State's offense just had to catch fire, which it did last time due in part to catcher Colt Morton.

With two men on base in the bottom of the sixth, Morton awaited his chance at the plate and when the pitch was offered, he slaughtered it over the 380-foot sign in left center field to give the Pack a three-run lead. The Pack went on to win 8-2.

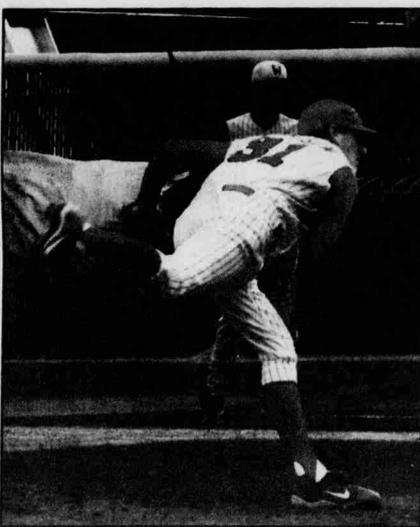
While the Pack hasn't been getting many wins of late, it continues to hit well.

With a team batting average of .344, State is led by senior leftfielder Brian Wright. Sporting a .407 average, Wright also wrote his name in the record books as he surpassed Brian Bark for the school record for most career doubles.

Meanwhile, Jeremy Dutton has come on lately and is currently batting .338. Against FSU on Sunday, Dutton went 3-of-4, while racking up three RBIs.

Getting a win against the Seahawks, however, will require a complete game — not just timely hitting.

Although it only managed two runs against the Pack in the first meeting, UNC-W has only gotten better and will look to spoil State's hopes come Tuesday night.



Phillip Davidson and the Wolfpack pitching staff will look to rebound after getting shelled at Florida State.

Fonner runs to NCAAs

◆ N.C. State runner Beth Fonner ran an NCAA qualifying mark at this weekend's Penn Relays.

Sports Staff Report

The N.C. State track and field squads competed at both the Penn Relays and the Tennessee Invitational this past weekend.

The Pack came away with a NCAA automatic time in the women's 10,000 meters and a NCAA provisional time in the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase.

At the Penn Relays, Beth Fonner ran the second NCAA automatic time in the 10,000 for the Wolfpack this season. Fonner finished third in the 10,000 with a time of 33:39.63 — a season-best for the Pack. Also in that race, Josianne Lauber missed a NCAA Provisional time by less than 10 seconds, placing 13th with a time of 35:23.88. In the 5,000 meters, Beth Kraft placed 21st with a time of 17:09.06. Also at the Penn Relays, Katie Bolac was second in the pole vault, with a 12-0 jump.

On the men's side at the Penn Relays, Andy Smith ran a NCAA provisional time in the 3,000 steeplechase when he finished fifth with a time of 8:49.86. Also in that race, Chris Dugan was ninth, running an 8:55.53. In the pole vault, David Kessler captured sixth place with a jump of 15-3 1/4.

The pole-vaulters also competed at the Tennessee Invite on Sunday. Kessler led teammate Eric Hovestad for sixth place in the pole vault, each clearing 15-11 1/4. Bolac also doubled up this weekend in the pole vault, taking third at



Katie Bolac cleared 12 feet at both the Penn Relays and the Tennessee Invitational over the weekend.

Tennessee with a mark of 12-1 1/2. Teammate Teresa Reed also posted a mark of 12-1 1/2 in the pole vault — a personal best.

Also at Tennessee, Ebony Foster won the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 13.67. Kristen Pace finished fourth in the high jump with a season-best mark of 5-6.

Triathlon gains top-20 finish

◆ Members of the Triathlon Club competed in the inaugural Collegiate National Championship.

IM/Rec Report

Members of the N.C. State Triathlon Club had the privilege of competing in the first National Collegiate Triathlon Championships on April 20.

The six-member team traveled to scenic Shelby Farms Park in Memphis, Tenn., to take a tough international-distance course against 500 of the top college triathletes from across the country.

The Wolfpack contingent left Raleigh Thursday afternoon and headed west in the three-car caravan needed to tote all the gear. The team arrived at the event hotel in Memphis on Friday along with teams from Florida, Wisconsin, California and many other states.

On Saturday in the cool morning air, the team scurried about filling water bottles, setting up bikes and pulling on sweatsuits. After warming up, team members crossed the murky water to the swim start line at the far bank and made small talk with hundreds of other nervous athletes.

The race was divided into heats of 120, arranged in alphabetical order by last name.

After 500 meters of the swim portion of heat No. 2, the Wolfpack's Aaron Kiefer found himself near the front of the race between two University of Colorado students. The threesome climbed from the lake together and headed onto the bike course.

The hot, sunny run course proved difficult for all.

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