

TECHNICIAN

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Raleigh, North Carolina

Small fire leads to long evacuation

Residents and staff were forced to leave University Towers when a small fire ignited and generated smoke that spread through all nine floors of the building.

**Ayren Jackson
and Blair Parker**
Staff Reporters

University Towers houses nearly 1,000 students each year, and although the facility is not owned by N.C. State, the nine-story dormitory houses many NCSU undergraduates. Monday afternoon students who occupy the building were alarmed when a fire in a room on the third floor broke out and they were forced to evacuate.

The fire alarm sounded at 1 p.m. when the smoke detectors, located in the halls of the building, went off. According to George Hulbert, assistant general manager at University Towers, the building was completely evacuated in five minutes.

Most students, however, sat undisturbed when the fire alarm rang. According to Meghan Nickolson, a resident and freshman in political science, she

was in the cafeteria located on the ninth floor when she heard the fire alarm, but instead thought it was a regularly scheduled drill, so she remained eating with her friends until warned by the cafeteria staff.

"Once I was in the stairwells I could smell smoke and I thought it was worse than it actually was," said Nickolson.

The cause of the fire, which was contained to room 315, may have started as early as Sunday night. According to Battalion Fire Chief Rusty Stylons, the resident lit a match to light a candle and part of the match landed in a pile of clothing that was sitting on a plastic desk chair. As a result, a small smoldering fire started, which spread after the resident left the room.

Fire Station Number 5 arrived shortly after University Tower management had unsuccessfully attempted to put the fire out with fire extinguishers.

"University Towers staff was very prompt in evacuating students. By the time we arrived most all students were outside, which allowed us to attend to the fire sooner," said Captain Daryl Strayhorn from Station 5.

Firefighters exterminated the fire by

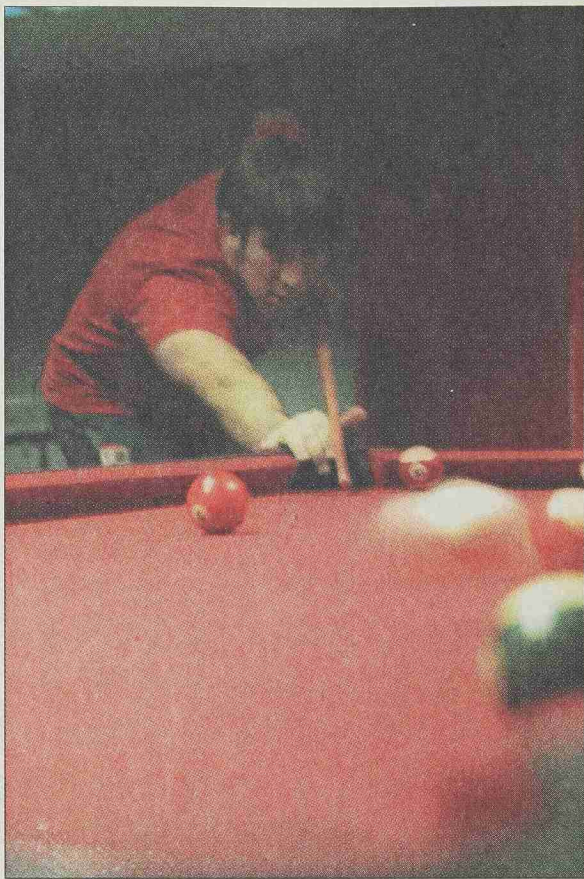
connecting their water hoses to the building's sprinkler system, and while the fire was small and easy to put out, students were not allowed to enter the building until nearly 4 p.m.

"There was a tremendous amount of smoke as a result of this fire that reached as high as the ninth floor. We needed the additional fire crews not for the fire but to help ventilate every floor, which we do by using high-pressure fans, and opening up the stairwells to force the smoke out. This of course takes a great deal of time," said Strayhorn.

According to University Towers' rules and regulations for residents, candles are prohibited in the facility at all times. Hulbert said Monday that so far no disciplinary action had been taken. However the resident responsible for starting the fire will be required to pay for damages.

Both residents in room 315 have been reassigned to another room, and according to Hulbert damages were minor, consisting of a charred desk chair, carpet and personal belongings. There was also minor water damage as a result of the sprinklers.

Pool party



Nick Spindler, a freshman in psychology, aims for the corner pocket while playing pool in the Wolves Den. Staff photo by Carl Hudson

North Carolina's minority college enrollment sees increase

Across the 16 public university campuses, minority enrollment rose an average of 7.2 percent.

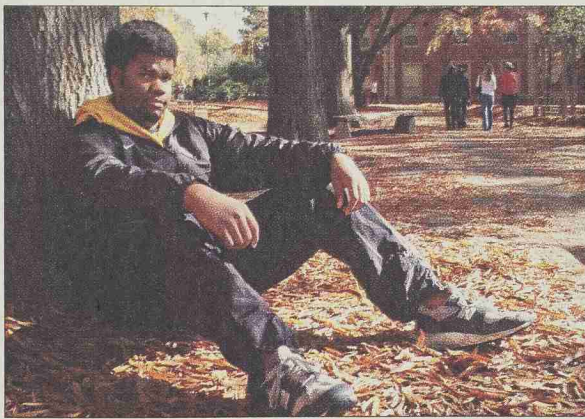
Andrea DeLeo
Staff Reporter

The UNC Board of Governors is working to keep tuition at North Carolina's public colleges and universities low while retaining and recruiting high quality faculty and increasing minority enrollment. The Board acknowledges that the system needs to work a little harder at attracting minority students. And this acknowledgement is becoming evident. Each year, the percentage of minority students in North Carolina's colleges and universities is increasing.

"I can tell minority enrollment has gone up this year. I think this is because of raised taxes that help minority students get a better high school education causing an increase in college enrollment. Colleges have increased their search for successful minority students to increase minority graduation rate," said Steven Hall, a freshman in the College of Management.

Enrollments of minority students increased twice as much as that of white students at North Carolina's public universities this year. Across the 16 campuses, minority enrollment rose an average of 7.2 percent, while whites rose by 2.9 percent. Now, minority students make up 28.2 percent of the university system's total enrollment with whites now making up 69.2 percent of the total.

Molly Broad, president of the UNC system, pointed to the enrollment numbers as proof that North Carolina's public universities are making progress toward their primary mission.



Steven Hall, a freshman in business management, is part of the 7.2 percent minority enrollment increase at North Carolina universities. Staff photo by Robert Bradley

"It is the highest priority of the university to provide access," said Broad. "That's what we're here for. And we have a major commitment to expanding access to people of color."

The biggest rate of enrollment growth this year was at Winston-Salem State University, where 16.8 percent more students enrolled than last year. UNC Charlotte's enrollment increased by 4.9 percent, which was a new high for the university.

During a Board of Governors meeting it was agreed to ask state lawmakers to raise faculty salaries 6 percent next year and another 6 percent the year after that, at a cost of \$71 million in the 2003-2004 year and another \$82 million in the 2004-2005 year. The last time state lawmakers gave faculty a 6 percent raise was in 1990-91. They were part of a proposed operating budget of \$2.1 billion for next year

and \$2.3 billion for the following year that the system board voted to present the legislators. Last year, professors received no raises from the state. However, some schools had a pool of tuition money they could use for raises. The year before, lawmakers boosted professors' salaries by \$625 annually.

Also at the meeting, the board received for review a copy of a proposed new tuition policy. The proposal recommends ensuring that tuition at North Carolina public colleges and universities remain in the bottom 25th percentile of what similar schools across the country charge. The provision is for North Carolina to maintain its constitutional commitment to keep tuition as low as possible. The North Carolina Constitution says that "public institutions of higher education, as far as practicable, be extended to the people of the State free of expense."

NATO meeting to examine future of alliance's military

Bush's itinerary — which includes friendly meetings with leaders in Lithuania, Romania and Russia — reflects the changes since NATO was created 53 years ago.

Diego Ibarguen
Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — When NATO heads of state meet later this week, a key question before them will be how the alliance that was formed to contain the Soviet Union can increase its military capability to handle threats from terrorists and so-called "rogue" states. President Bush, who largely has been silent on the role he sees for NATO, will offer his view of the future of the alliance and Europe.

Bush's itinerary — which includes friendly meetings with leaders in Lithuania, Romania and Russia — reflects the profound changes in Europe since NATO was created 53 years ago. Today the Soviet foe is gone and NATO's goal of a united and free Europe is succeeding. With these changes, NATO must decide whether to stick to its original mission to keep the peace in Europe or transform to meet the central strategic issue of today — the threats posed by terrorists, rogue states and weapons of mass destruction throughout the world. Since the Cold War ended, NATO has made friends with Moscow and expanded its membership

eastward. In 1999 it accepted three former Soviet bloc states — Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic. This year it is expected to invite seven more: Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia and Bulgaria. The expansion, however, does not make NATO better equipped to fight terrorism. The alliance of U.S. and European armed forces was designed to fight 20th-century European land wars. Analysts say these armies generally lack the ability to strike quickly and effectively, and have limited technological capabilities, limited mobility and difficulty working with U.S. forces. What's more, the role of European countries as military partners of the United States is limited because they spend so much less on defense. Yet NATO members face a common threat from terrorists and the countries that sponsor terrorism, said National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice. "These threats require a different kind of military force to defend against, a force that is lighter, more agile, and more flexible," Rice said. NATO is expected to create a rapid response force of about 21,000 soldiers. It could be deployed on short notice and sustain itself for a month. In a major departure for an organization structured to protect Europe, the force could be sent anywhere in the world. It would also be designed to work with U.S. forces. But

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NATO

continued from page 1

even if members commit to the strike force at this week's meeting, it will take years to come to pass. Analysts say the strike force would be only one small step in the much longer-range project of changing NATO to meet 21st-century threats. Part of NATO's military problem, observers say, is that alliance members are concentrating their defense spending on attempts to create full military forces, rather than specializing in specific areas. The United States wants NATO to become a kind of military "toolkit," said James Steinberg of the Brookings Institution, a policy research organization in Washington. By getting members of the alliance to focus their spending on developing skills and material in specific areas, the United States would have at its disposal "essentially a set of capabilities that can be then divorced from the political institutions around NATO and taken to go off and fight elsewhere," Steinberg said.

Some analysts said NATO's willingness to modernize according to American principles would help determine how well the United States and Europe would be able to work together in dealing with terrorism and other modern threats. John Hulsman of the Heritage Foundation, a conservative policy research group in Washington, said the United States is "starting to ask for what we want from NATO, streamlining decision-making in a world where the U.S. and European concerns are not the same." Andrew Kuchins of the Carnegie Endowment for Inter-

national Peace, a research organization in Washington, said the NATO gathering Thursday and Friday could lead to a "forward-reaching plan that more firmly sets up a division of labor in the NATO region and out of area as well." The possibility of war with Iraq will be another key issue at the meetings in Prague, Czech Republic. "I suspect that we will hear from NATO partners what they are prepared to do and what they can do," Rice said. "Iraq is typical [of] the most important example of the kind of threat that NATO will face in the future." Ronald Asmus, who worked on European affairs for the State Department in the Clinton administration, said a war in Iraq would set an important precedent for NATO. Facing the possibility of war, the United States has to ask, "Are we and large parts of Europe in this together?" Asmus said. And, he added, it must examine whether the allies can adapt NATO to fight such outside threats more effectively. With U.S. Air Force jets protecting the skies in Prague, Bush will discuss NATO issues, Iraq, the war on terrorism and other matters with Czech President Vaclav Havel and Czech Prime Minister Vladimir Spidla, President Ahmet Necdet Sezer of Turkey, President Jacques Chirac of France and NATO Secretary-General George Robertson. On Friday, Bush will meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin in St. Petersburg, Russia. Before returning to Washington, Bush will stop in Vilnius, Lithuania, and Bucharest, Romania, on Saturday.

Four young adults missing in Midwest mystery

Tim Jones

Chicago Tribune (KRT)

CHICAGO — Teams of investigators, volunteers, dogs and even the National Guard have been searching the fields and waters of Wisconsin and Minnesota for three male college students and a young woman, each of whom mysteriously disappeared within the last two weeks after a night of partying.

On Thursday, police said that despite intense efforts to find the four individuals, authorities still had no information on their whereabouts. The cases, all involving people in their early 20s, are disturbing because they have occurred in a narrow time frame — the first disappearance was Oct. 30 and the most recent was Nov. 9 — and within a 120-mile radius of Minneapolis.

While the circumstances are similar, police officials said they see no connection linking the incidents. However, they have not ruled out foul play in at least two of the cases. Authorities say they are not close to discovering how or why these individuals are missing.

"There's nothing new," said John Bolduc, chief of police in the central Minnesota community of Brainerd, where Erika Dalquist, 21, was last seen Oct. 30 in a downtown bar. A witness told police Dalquist was seen leaving

with a man, who has not been identified. "I think we can say abduction is one of the possibilities, and the longer this goes on it is a stronger possibility," Bolduc said.

Missing person cases are common. But four of them happening under these circumstances, private investigators say, is highly unusual. In Collegeville, a Minnesota town of 3,500 people west of St. Cloud, this kind of incident "is a first," said Stearns County Sheriff Jim Kostreba. And the passage of time is adding to the anxiety of investigators. Efforts to find 20-year-old St. John's University student Josh Guimond, who had left a party Saturday night to return to his dorm room, drew 100 Minnesota National Guard members, two helicopters, tracking dogs and volunteers who trudged through swampy terrain around Collegeville. They also dragged a nearby lake.

That part of the intensive search for Guimond ended Wednesday night. Kostreba said investigators would continue checking lakes in the area. "There's no indication of foul play, but we haven't ruled it out," he said. Authorities in Eau Claire, Wis., and Minneapolis offer similar stories for two separate disappearances.

Michael Noll, a student at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, had been celebrating his 22nd birthday at a tavern on Nov. 6. He was last seen leaving a house

halfway between the tavern and his residence. Eau Claire Police Chief Pat McNally said search dogs were prowling the area around Noll's residence last week, trying to pick up his scent. Minneapolis police spokeswoman Cyndi Barrington said police have little to work with on the disappearance of Christopher Jenkins, 21, a University of Minnesota student last seen Oct. 31 at a downtown Minneapolis bar.

"It's been two weeks, and no contact has been made, and he's still not home," she said. "We have been working closely with his family, but there are no clear, concrete indicators." Barrington said foul play cannot be ruled out. "We just don't know," she said, "and at this point anything we could say would be speculation."

College students and alcohol sometimes prove to be a deadly mixture. Brian Welzien of Cary, Ill., had been celebrating the new year on Jan. 1, 2000, in a downtown Chicago hotel. Friends said he was drunk when they last saw him. Welzien's body washed up 77 days later on a Gary, Ind., beach. Authorities said he had drowned. The history of accidents and foul play has driven investigators to search in and around water.

"We continue to focus our search on the Chippewa River near his residence," said McNally, the chief in Eau Claire investi-

gating the Noll disappearance. Harold Copus, a former FBI agent who heads a private investigation firm in Atlanta, said intoxicated students are vulnerable and are potential targets in bars. Copus said he would not dismiss the possibility of a link connecting the incidents.

"There are a lot of things that seem coincidental. But in my world there are not a lot of coincidences," said Copus, who recently solved the disappearance of a North Carolina college student who was found alive in Atlanta.

Craig Lawrence, director of investigations for Arlington Heights, Ill.-based Aurico Investigations, said progress in these cases usually comes from "investigating the lifestyle, the environment the person comes from and anybody who is connected to their lives."

CRIME REPORT

The following reports were issued by Campus Police for Sunday.

12:43 p.m. Fire alarm
Alarm activation at Williams Hall. Cause for activation unknown.

2:09 p.m. Medical assist
A student dislocated their shoulder while weightlifting Carmichael Gym. The shoulder popped back into joint before officer's arrived. The student said they didn't need an ambulance.

2:22 p.m. Traffic stop
A non-student was cited for a red light violation on Main Campus Drive.

6:05 p.m. Fire
Grease fire at Carroll Hall. The subject had put the fire out before officer arrival. No damage was reported.

6:42 p.m. Traffic stop
A student was cited for speeding, 41 mph in a 25-mph zone, on Sullivan Drive.

10:29 p.m. Suspicious person
A student reported a subject in Bragaw Hall who followed the student and was asking questions. Officers checked the area with negative results.

1:17 a.m. Traffic stop
A student was cited for speeding, 37 mph in a 20-mph zone, on Dan Allen Drive.

Calls to 5-3000 - 38
Calls to 5-3333 - 75
Escorts - 0
Assist Motorist - 2
False Intrusion/
Panic Alarms - 3
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Key Request - 4

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Increased security hasn't deterred foreign students

Diane Smith

Knight Ridder Newspapers

More foreign students are coming to the United States to learn despite intense government scrutiny since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, according to a report released on Monday. The number of international students attending colleges and universities increased by 6.4 percent, bringing this year's total to a record high of 582,996, according to the Open Doors 2002 report by the Institute of International Education, a global higher-education and professional exchange agency.

The report, funded by the U.S. State Department, tracks trends among international students. International education experts and students say the benefits of getting a degree in the United States

outweigh concerns about new immigration rules and security checks.

There are also so many choices for higher education in the United States, from vocational schools to Ivy League universities, they say. "America is the No. 1 destination of choice for higher education," said Allan Goodman, president and chief executive of the institute. Clement Taylor, a 20-year-old information-systems student from the Bahamas, said he understands why the security checks must be done.

"You don't know who is going to start a conflict or riot," said Taylor, who attends the University of Texas at Arlington, Texas, which has the third-largest number of foreign students in the nation, had the strongest growth in international-student enrollment from 2000-01 to 2001-02, with an increase of 17 percent to 44,197.

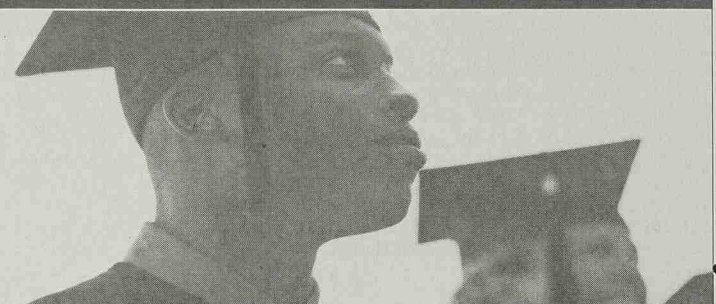
India surpassed China as the leading country of origin for international students in the United States, with 66,836, the report says. The Open Doors 2002 report says international students contribute nearly \$12 billion to the economy by paying for tuition, living expenses and other

costs.

These numbers come in a post-Sept. 11 climate in which the federal government is trying to track all travelers and keep close tabs on foreign students. Colleges and universities have taken a bigger role in keeping up with these students. Institutions are supposed to report those who drop out.

And by Jan. 30, all colleges and universities must be on line with the government student-tracking system, known as SEVIS, or Student and Exchange Visitor Information System. The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service is now requiring some foreign visitors, including students, to register with the INS by Dec. 16. Those who must register are males ages 16 or older from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria, countries that are linked to terrorism. "Up until Sept. 11, the INS didn't pay that much attention to foreign students. They had other priorities to deal with. ... The mood of the country changed literally overnight," said Clifford R. Thompson, an international-student adviser at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

SAT quandary

Every year masses of high school students take a massive test to rank and sort them in the post-high school world. The SAT has been developed to let colleges and universities of higher learning have one more marker to access the abilities of those about to enter their institutions. These tests, however, should not cost high school students money and all the information pertaining to their usefulness should be made readily available.

Last year's test scores for Johnston County were finally higher than the state average. Johnston now has the lowest participation rate for the SAT in the Triangle. Their advice to students: only take the SAT if you have good grades and plan on attending a four-year institution.

As participation has gone down, the scores for the SAT have gone up. This does not bode well, however, for the students of Johnston County. At one school, Smithfield-Selma Senior High, guidance counselor Randy Swann described the initiative. "I see whether they're actually planning on going to a four-year college, or if it's just a possibility, or if they want to go to a community college," Swann said. "If they do [plan to go to a two-year college] it's not necessary for them to spend their time and money taking the SAT."

It costs \$26 per test to take the SAT. Most who take the test take it more than once.

Swann continued, "If you haven't done well in your grades — if you have a 1.5 or a 1.6 [GPA] or whatever — it follows that you're probably not going to do well on the SAT. What good is taking the SAT if you're not going to do well in it?" It is

after this speech that Swann hands normally hands a student the forms to register for the SAT and lets them decide.

One student, Victoria Strickland, heard Swann's speech, and because she planned on going to a two-year school and eventually transferring to another school to get a teaching degree, decided not to take the SAT. Only later that same day, after a friend had mentioned that some community colleges used the SAT as a placement test, possibly allowing her to avoid more remedial classes, did she reconsider her decision not to take the SAT.

With all of the pressures that students already go through in trying to make decisions about going to an institution of higher learning, for counselors to make ready some information and not the rest is unfair and deprives students of everything they need to make educated decisions. Some students may be apathetic and not seek out the counselors for any information. However, if a student has come all the way to the counselor's office, the information should be completely available, and withholding it should not be a way of keeping the school and by extension the county's SAT score average higher.

The SAT fees also, while not expensive, should not come out of the students' pockets. As a standard that students are required to take in order to get into a four-year school, the money should be budgeted, at least for their first testing, by the government. While it is possible for students to apply for SAT scholarships of sorts now, as long as it is a standard and requirement, it should not be taken from the students.

The threats, worldwide, must be taken seriously

Staff
Editorial
Detroit Free Press
Knight Ridder/Tribune

Whether or not Osama bin Laden is alive, the United States must operate on the assumption that his ideas are. There is ample evidence of that, and in an audiotape released Tuesday, a voice believed to be the elusive al-Qaeda terrorist leader promises to deliver more.

It is outrageous that one demented man should have such an impact on the Free World, but other evidence is surfacing that radical Islamic maniacs are pursuing another twisted triumph on the magnitude of Sept. 11.

"Something worrying is going on," Interpol chief Ronald Noble told the Paris newspaper Le Figaro. "All intelligence experts are agreed that al-Qaeda is preparing a major terrorist operation, simultaneous attacks that would not target the United States alone but several countries at the same time.

Fazul Rabi Said-Rahman, a Taliban army corps commander before the United States toppled that Afghan regime, said recently that "there will be some big suicide attacks in the United States. We know it will happen. We have information."

Is al-Qaeda blowing smoke to keep the free world off balance while regrouping from the rout in Afghanistan? The recent nightclub attack in Bali would indicate not. The bin Laden tape promises escalating terrorism if the United States goes to war in Iraq. Given the two-year lead time for the Sept. 11 attacks, it's certainly plausible that murderous new operations are in the ready and would not be stopped by bin Laden's capture or death.

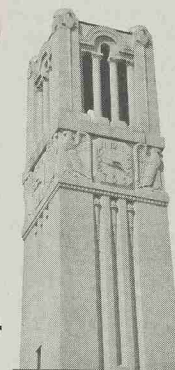
So let the experts study the tape and conclude what they will about its authenticity. Let the world remain vigilant against a threat that is undeniably genuine.

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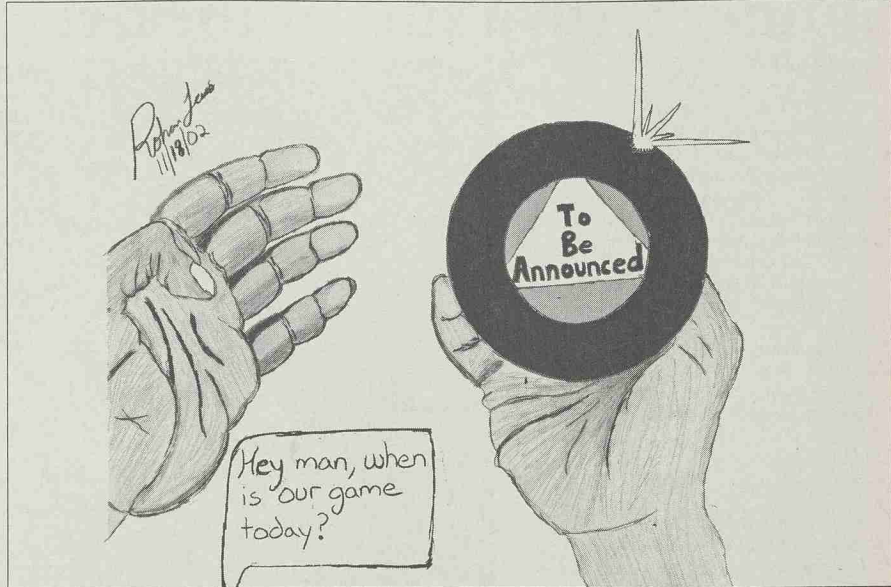
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A scathing commentary

Matt
Campbell
Staff Columnist

The time you wake up depends on the time of the game, so when you see 'TBA' for a

time, you are really thrown for a loop. You and your friends decide on a game plan: when to leave, where to park, what food to get, how to sneak down into better seats ... the list goes on and on. You are finally on your way, sporting your favorite N.C. State shirt that you haven't washed since the Carolina game ... last year. After hours of Bojangles' specials, music and socializing, you and your buddies meet up and head over to the game.

I don't feel I need to lay this scenario out any further as I'm sure you can all figure out where you and your friends would be heading: football or basketball. I can tell you where you wouldn't be heading in this scenario: anywhere else. See, it seems as though the fervor of the Wolfpack faithful stops with a 9-3 football team. Then again, that same fervor may have stopped with a 9-0 football team. Many N.C. State athletic teams, both good and bad, receive similar crowds to that which Louis Farrakhan would receive in Cary.

I guess that's the way things work though, right? I mean, football and basketball are the big-time sports in college and, suddenly, our Wolfpack has stepped into the national spotlight in both. There are other N.C. State teams that receive far less acclaim but do far greater things. Men's and women's cross country are constantly atop the ACC, and women's gymnastics has become one of the top teams in the nation. The men's swimming and diving team is currently 6-0, so I propose a march to the Bell Tower in celebration.

We take the bad with the good here at State. Our women's volleyball team had quite a tough season, as did men's soccer. Women's soccer, despite a huge victory over undefeated, No. 1 UNC-Chapel Hill, faced disappointment in other ACC matches. The only thing I found disappointing about all these sports was the lack of fan support.

Now, not everyone can get excited about every sport, and with busy schedules and that whole school thing, free time is precious. Just like in football and basketball, though, we have to cheer when they are dominating and cheer louder when they need it most because, right now, people seem to not be cheering at all.

Here at State, we try to remedy this problem with a little thing called the Student Wolfpack Club. For those who don't know, members of this club are awarded points for attending nonrevenue sporting events, such as soccer, swimming, and volleyball, and they can use these points to get better seats at football and basketball games. It's a wonderful idea ... but something isn't working. The students who show up for these events are sitting in the stands and are less enthusiastic than Ben Stein.

Instead of watching the game, our fans do homework and chat with their neighbors about how uncomfortable the bleachers are. There is more complaining about the weather at the game than there is about the poor officiating. There are more cheers for the guy who has the football game on his little sports radio than there are for the game right in front of the fans. It's OK though — I'm sure players on the field get pumped hearing murmurs about your love life or how your professor hates you. I'm sure the

athletes would much rather see the back of your school-spirited blue or green shirt instead of a red- and white-painted face. I'm also sure the athletes enjoy giving their all — their blood, sweat and tears so you, 'the fan,' can get some sweet tickets to this week's football game.

I've heard the arguments, too: 'Well, how are we supposed to get into it if they keep losing?' I'll tell you how: just do it. If you want to call yourself a true fan, you should be cheering on everything red and white, and you should be cheering louder for the teams that need it most. A good crowd is what's going to get a team motivated and ready to play. A good crowd is what's going to distract the other team. A good crowd is what's going to attract new recruits. A good crowd is what's going to make the team better.

If I was a prospective Division I athlete, I would much rather attend a school where fans are wild and the pep band comes out for volleyball than a school where the fans leave at half time. One of those aforementioned schools is our favorite home of the Tarheels. Your pure hatred for the Carolina blue should propel you to go crazy at a gymnastics meet or a golf match, just to be better than them. We should all use the few brave souls who wore togas and body paint to this weekend's volleyball Senior Night match as an example of fans who truly bleed red and white because right now most of you are only bleeding red and that's just by default.

Matt wants to dye his skin red to show his allegiance to State. E-mail him at folksdamanishere@aol.com to talk him out of it.

Give peace a chance

Benjamin
Kraudel
Staff Columnist

"Israeli tanks and helicopters fired on a major Palestinian security compound in

Gaza City early Monday ... " It was this or something similar that was the opening line of a story headlined "Israeli Forces Strike at Gaza," which I glanced over when I woke up Monday afternoon.

I raised one eyebrow and began to skim the article, which is rare for me, as I tend to be mostly apathetic to the concerns of Middle Eastern politics. Normally, I go ahead and flip down to Politics, which I quickly get sick of, then I read Oddly Enough and I'm done with the news. I can look forward to reading the comics and moving on. Thanks, Yahoo! News.

However, Monday I found myself reading the story. I always found it difficult to focus on the Israel/Palestine conflict because the names kept changing. I remembered Benjamin Netanyahu because his name made me laugh. I can remember Yassir Arafat because he's been a stable figurehead for a really long time. I guess I don't really have problems with Sharon because I think his name reminds of Sharon Stone. Who I'm sure was in a movie with Kevin Bacon ... but I digress.

It seems, however, after reading the news that more and more handfuls of people are dying. I'm not a political scientist, which I'm sure is not obvious, but I'm bothered by how often I'm reading about the deaths of Israelis and Palestinians. I'm not sure that I have any sort of real proposal for fixing the problems,

but I am more and more certain that something must be done.

It's when I read quotes like Mustafa Mughrabi, a man who lived near the attacked compound, who said he heard "the sound of explosions mixed with the screams of children," that I wonder why we haven't gotten more involved. Most likely the responses I'll get will tell me how naïve I am. How I don't understand what a hornet's nest I'm suggesting we go fix.

I refute this by saying that I do understand how much of a hornet's nest is the Israel/Palestine conflict. I also know that if I have a real hornet's nest in my neighborhood, and the neighbor's kids keep getting stung and going to the hospital, I'm not going to wait for my own kids to get stung before I go deal with the nest. I'm soft-hearted and sensitive, perhaps, but I only have to hear once about the screaming of children while the world around them erupts in fire before I decide that action is necessary.

As a nation, we are so ready to go deal with Iraq. We had reasons to go deal with Afghanistan. Every time I read a paper, there's another country we've decided is worth provoking and poking, inciting a war. It seems like we are far too ready for a war and not nearly ready enough to help provide peace. Perhaps we could spend more time developing our peace-keeping forces in the world and trying to get rid of our war-making forces.

I know that all of this is probably beyond me, but I'm tired of reading over-complicated reasoning and

heavy-handed tactics in the news. While I understand that I've elected people to make peace or war for me, I still think that we should pick the ethical battles first. Too much of where we decide to send forces wearing our flag is decided by political agenda and no longer by what is right.

I know that when I say things like this, there are dozens of things that I'm not taking into account. I'm not thinking of the political ramifications and the ways this will affect my country in the long run. We've made due as a country before; I think we can do it again. The Great Wars weren't our wars. They were the wars of other nations in need. We took a moral stance and that's why they are the Great Wars and the Gulf War is the war we knew we would win. The war on terrorism is the war we'll never win. Another war on Iraq is another war to boost morale. Why can't we just go and have a battle to promote peace?

This country was founded on ideals and not agendas. It may not have taken long to diverge from that course, but I'm suggesting that perhaps every few wars we should return to it and think of peace. I know that there are probably some Israeli and Palestinian children who would really appreciate it.

Ben is more than ready to hear you tell him what you think of this column. Promote war at bkraude@unity.ncsu.edu.

Dinner with a side of theatre

Laura England
Staff Writer

University Theatre presents the 22nd annual "Madrigal Dinner," a celebration of the holiday season complete with singing, juggling, acting and fine food that guests are actually encouraged to eat with their hands.

The dinner has been an annual tradition here at N.C. State, with the exception of last year, when they were not able to find a place to hold it. The event will resume this year in the Talley Student Center Ballroom from Nov. 20-23 at 7 p.m., Nov. 25 at 7 p.m. and Nov. 24 at 5 p.m.

A madrigal is defined as a secular composition for two or more voices. It became popular in early 14th-century Italy, but the style was later brought to England in the latter half of the 16th century by Italian composers who worked in the court of Queen Elizabeth I. The madrigals were often performed for people of the upper class in castles and wealthy homes around the country.

Singing with the madrigals will be N.C. State's Chamber Singers. They will be performing two sets of pieces along with other various songs throughout the course of the evening.

The main event of the evening is the play "A Lady of Love," written by an N.C. State Madrigal Dinner alumni, Jeff Brooks, who graduated eight years ago.

"We are proud to have him come back and write a play for us," said director John McIlwee. "This is a full-length play set in a medieval period. There will be some sword fighting, juggling, singing, dancing and general merriment; and of course, it all ends well."

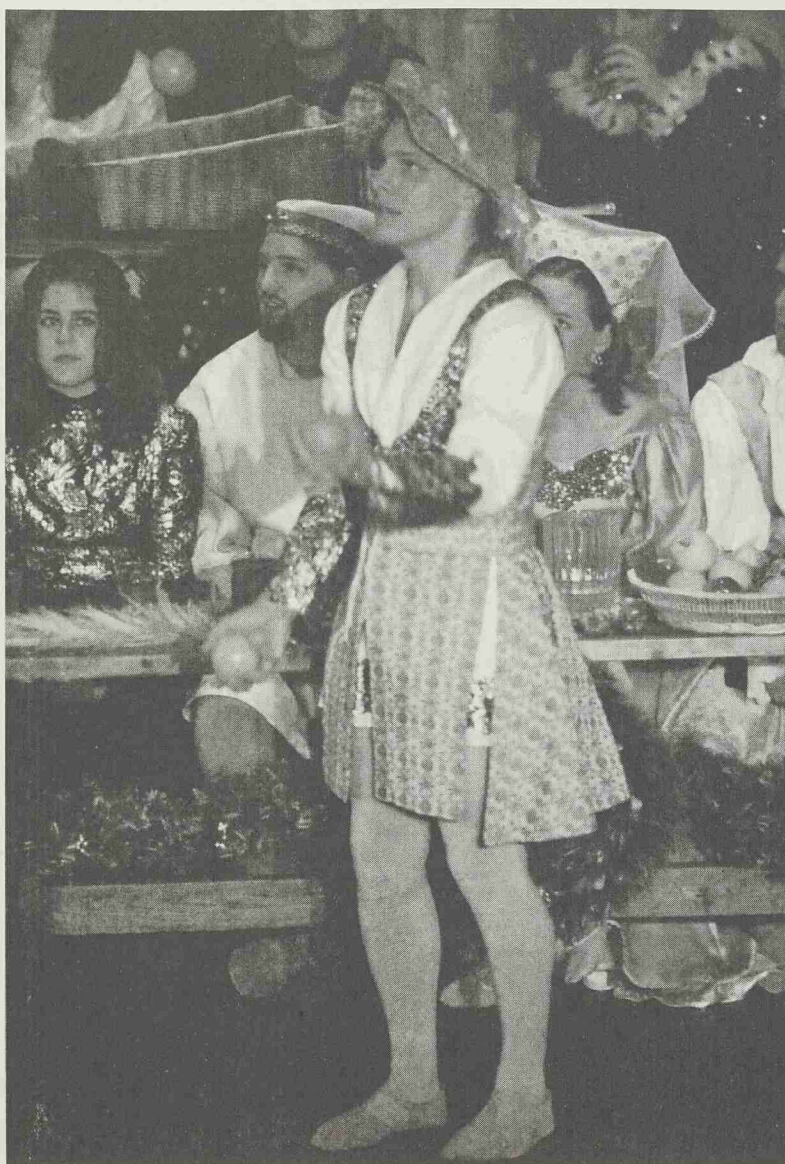
While the singers and actors are entertaining, "serving wenches" and "serving boys" will be bringing around plates of Cornish hens, rosemary potatoes, honey-glazed carrots and fruit. On the tables, along with the candles and other decorations, will be "wreaths" of bread, which the menu identifies as "Madrigal Bysquette Rounds." The rounds are so popular that they are also available for purchase in the lobby after the play, along with "English Sweete Breade," another popular item on the medieval menu.

The menu also states that "the proper manner of eating is with thy fingers and knife."

Bags of salt that must be hand-crushed for use and a stuffed boar with an apple in its mouth add to the authenticity of the dinner.

University Catering will be providing the food.

The Madrigal Dinner play also sets itself apart from other plays in that the audience is part of the play. They are the lords and ladies that would have attended such extravagant functions at decadent castles in medieval times. Throughout the course of the evening it isn't unusual for a juggler to leave the confines of the stage



University Theatre has been putting on the Madrigal Dinner for over 20 years. Photo courtesy University Theatre

Jeff Buckley: once more, with feeling

Ryan Dombal
Daily Northwestern
Northwestern U.

(U-WIRE) EVANSTON, Ill. — It's been more than five years since Jeff Buckley, who experienced stardom following the release of his critically and commercially successful debut album, 1994's "Grace," waded into the Mississippi River near Memphis, Tenn., on May 29, 1997.

On that balmy evening, with his clothes still on, he began to sing Led Zepelin's "Whole Lotta Love" while a friend watched him drift into the river. And then, silence. The singular voice that could dramatically soar eight octaves and, more impressively, touch most of those who heard it, was hushed. Buckley's body was found on June 4. He was just 30 years old.

"He was so profoundly soulful," said Mary Guibert, Buckley's mother. "And that's kind of a naked honesty that everybody can relate to — he really put himself out there in his songs and music. It touches people profoundly, whether they understand why it touches them or not."

Buckley, son of the great '60s folk-rock singer/songwriter Tim Buckley, was at work on his second album when he died. He left behind a wealth of unreleased material, including the incomplete second album.

"The responsibility of maintaining a legacy which pays respect to Jeff and to what he did in his lifetime is a challenge in itself," Guibert said during a recent phone interview. "The pressure is to be sure that if something is released, that it adds to or enhances what currently exists."

Since Buckley's death, Guibert has approved the release of four posthumous albums: 1998's two-disc "Sketches (for My Sweetheart the Drunk)," which contained demos and versions of songs that would likely have appeared on Buckley's sophomore release; "Mystery White Boy," a live compilation drawn from some of Buckley's live performances; "Live At L'Olympia," a complete concert from France's famed venue; and "Songs for No One," 1991-1992, which was released in mid-October.

"Songs," compiled by producer Hal Willner with input from Guibert, features home and studio demos and live tracks that Buckley recorded with guitarist Gary Lucas, a member of Captain Beefheart's final band. When Buckley first moved to New York from the West Coast at the beginning of the '90s, he spent a year collaborating with Lucas and performing in Lucas' Gods and Monsters band. But, as Guibert said, the collaboration "was doomed to be brief" because of Buckley's need to be in total control of his musical endeavors. The album provides a window into the process by which Buckley found his "voice" and the sound that would lead to "Grace."

Guibert said she thought long and hard about whether to release this material, which Buckley never intended for an album.

"We've made a quantitative decision to only do what would be a listenable album," she said. "For things we knew Jeff approved of, like B-sides for promo disks — that's one thing. He was there at the helm and at the soundboard helping those being mixed. But for things like this, it's more of a challenge to keep things up to ['Grace'] standards."

Guibert was involved in the choice of material that appears on "Songs."

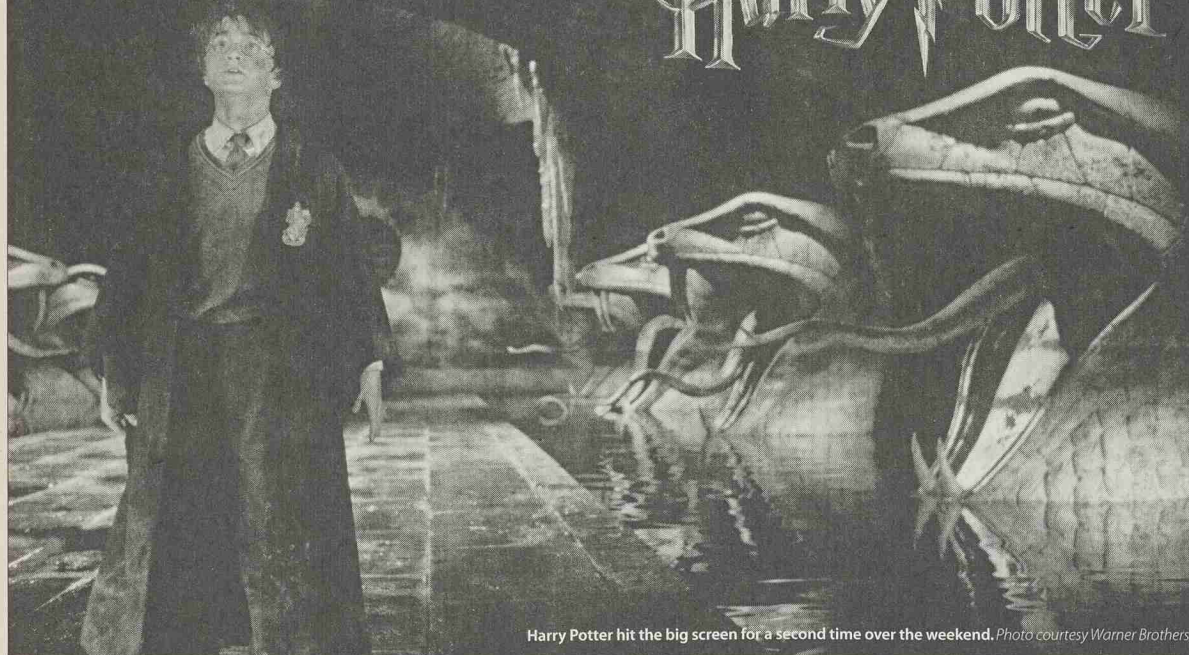
"All I can do is cooperate and guide [Sony's Columbia Records division] in the direction I'd like to see them go," she said. "Whereas Gary [Lucas] would like to see all eight-and-a-half hours of his personal rehearsals and live recordings released commercially, I felt that it was important to really be selective about what would be released."

Because of this selectiveness, the album successfully showcases Buckley's pre-"Grace" efforts. The tracks shed light on Buckley's diverse vocal talents: His voice soars and dips with atmospheric elegance on the 11-minute opener "Hymn L'Amour," his ferocious yelp is in full effect on the punk-rocking "Malign Fiesta (No Soul)" and his bluesy side is heard on the roots-rock classic "Satisfied Mind."

On the latter song, jazz guitarist Bill

See BUCKLEY page 5

Prejudices ignored in Harry Potter



Harry Potter hit the big screen for a second time over the weekend. Photo courtesy Warner Brothers

Joel Isaac Frady
A&E Editor

Right now is a great time to be a fan of film and fantasy. After years and years of little to nothing interesting in the genre, we're able to watch two of the biggest (and best) franchises ever to roar across the screen — "Lord of the Rings" and "Harry Potter."

Last year, only a month apart, audiences were introduced to both with huge success — critics praised them and the business was undeniable. Sequels weren't just something that were being thought about, either — they were either already filmed (in the case of "Rings") or were ready to shoot by the time the film hit theaters ("Potter").

Now, the spirit of adventure is back with "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets," and it's... exactly what everyone expected. This certainly isn't a case where a se-

quel does something greater than its predecessor — in a few ways, it stumbles where "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" didn't, but it improves on much as well.

Then again, does this stuff even matter? As horrible as it is to say this, "Chamber of Secrets" really does land in the area of personal taste: if you liked the first film, you're probably going to like this one as well. If the first one wasn't your thing, it probably isn't a good idea to bother with this one.

There was something different about this one though, a feeling that was creeping along and growing stronger and stronger as the movie went on. It had nothing to do with the incredible effects, the beautifully darker look or the sense of real fun that the film captures with style. No, this feeling wasn't good — there seemed to be something wrong, not anything big, but under the surface...

It first hit with the scenes of Draco Malfoy (Tom Fel-

ton), one of the antagonist of the story. He's from Slytherin, the rival to Potter's Gryffindor, and he's out to get Potter and the other "Mudbloods," or people that aren't from entirely magical families. We also meet his evil father, Lucius (played by Jason Isaacs, who knows how to be evil), which allows us to see where these biased mindsets come from.

It partly plays well with the story — it works with the classic "good triumphs over evil" motif that everybody wants to see in a movie. "Potter" captures and delivers with this motif, but it makes one big sacrifice in the process: the character of Draco Malfoy.

As it stands, he's purely evil. Nowhere in the film are we shown an unbiased, caring bone in his body. He plays dirty, he uses ethnic slurs to belittle others and he doesn't seem to be human in any way. Where's the youth in this character? He hasn't even hit puberty yet!

See POTTER page 5

See MADRIGAL page 5

POTTER

continued from page 4

Must he walk around with an evil, twisted grin permanently molded to his face?

The use of the ethnic slurs, mentioned above, also drew an eyebrow. It wasn't because someone used a vulgar term toward somebody else — kids are cruel, after all — but this brings an entirely new level to the film. It's no longer pure entertainment, it's imitating real-life issues that are very sensitive subjects for some people.

Millions of children are raised with biased views about race, sexuality and a million other things — this is a known fact. We can see that Draco learned all of his hateful views from his evil father, and that his father is proud of him for it.

It's just bothersome that these issues are never confronted. They are used, simply said, to pull emotional strings of an audience that are very easy to pull. It's easy enough to get a viewer to hate a character by portraying him as an evil, twisted and prejudiced person. It's much harder to show a human side of him, to show why he does what he does, and still evoke those emotions from the viewer.

This isn't the only way the plot stoops to meet convention — we find Hermione, the most interesting character in the picture, frozen stiff and nearly dead with only Harry to save her. While the "damsel in distress" idea works, it's strange considering the strong, independent persona that she has. While all of this was in the book (it must be said, sooner or later, that if these are considered problems, author J.K. Rowling is to blame), it's hard to un-



It's those kids that need to avoid ... wait, Technician won't print that name. Photo courtesy Warner Brothers

derstand why the film places so much emphasis on Hermione's danger when there was an entirely different, much more plausible, damsel in distress as well.

Maybe this is looking way too far into something as trivial as "Harry Potter," but millions of children went to see it over the weekend (an estimated \$87.7 million in ticket sales were totaled for the picture). While the prejudices are seen as evil, the idea behind them is ignored. And while children probably won't notice any of this, it's still sinking into their heads

faster than time is passing by.

Don't take this as a bash to "Chamber of Secrets," either, for it's a very enjoyable picture ... but aren't there better ways to introduce and teach a growing generation about these issues than by throwing the ideas at them in the middle of a million-dollar Quidditch match?

If you really disagree with Joel, or think he's looking too much into this, send a few words his way at daJoel@hotmail.com.

MADRIGAL

continued from page 4

and perform right at a table or for singers to serenade individual diners.

This production is almost completely student-run. Students of all majors and backgrounds will be joining together to act, sing and serve. The Italian Renaissance costumes and elaborate set work are also the result of many hours of work put forth by N.C. State's artistic students.

"We have about 75 to 100 students who are participating actively in the Madrigal Dinner," McIlwee said.

McIlwee is very proud of this particular event because it is often the starting point for ambitious actors.

"Many times it is a first experience for many students who are just getting their feet wet in University Theatre," he said. "A lot of the students who start with a small role in [the] Madrigal Dinner are now playing leads in other plays."

McIlwee and University Theatre invite you to come out and see the production.

"It's amazing to see what our students can do," McIlwee said. "The talent that we have on this campus is just amazing."

The annual dinner is always a hit and seats sell fast. Tickets for students and children are \$18, while tickets for adults are \$30.

Get your tickets soon by visiting Ticket Central, on the second floor of Talley Student Center, or by calling 919-515-1100.

BUCKLEY

continued from page 4

Frisell added understated background overdubs. The playful jazz group Sex Mob also added overdubs to the Buckley/Lucas original "She Is Free."

At first, Guibert didn't want any extra music added to the raw recordings.

"Those are direct violations against hard and fast rules that I was making from the beginning," she said.

But after she heard the completed tracks, she accepted the changes.

"There were some notes that we could have tone shifted to correct, and we didn't do that," Guibert said. "But when it came to being able to hear Jeff's voice and suppressing the guitars so it would be more enjoyable to listen to, we did do that. We can't say that what one is listening to on this album is exactly what one would have heard if one was in

the room while these concerts and rehearsals were happening at all. And to that extent, this is as far as I'll ever go to changing recordings to make them commercially viable — that's basically against my better judgment."

Guibert said Willner had his work cut out for him to resuscitate some of the live recordings.

"For the songs that were recorded live the microphone was just out in the audience, so you can imagine what the sound quality was like," she said. "Although it's extremely interesting the first time around, Gary's guitar is way too loud and Jeff is straining to hear himself. It sounds like everyone is playing solos together instead of accompanying Buckley."

"Now in 2002, (thanks to digital music software like Pro Tools), we have the ability to make them listenable and enjoyable," she said. "My criterion is that I don't want to release an album that I can't listen to 10 or 20 times and still want to hear after

the 20th time. I'm not about to release anything that you buy and listen to and say 'S---, there goes another 15 bucks.' I want you to enjoy listening to the darn thing."

This season also marks the release of two other Buckley projects: "Grace" EPs, a boxed set of five hard-to-find EPs, and "Wished for Song: A Portrait of Jeff Buckley," a book featuring 350 color photos of Buckley along with interviews with his closest friends, put together by his personal photographer, Merri Cyr.

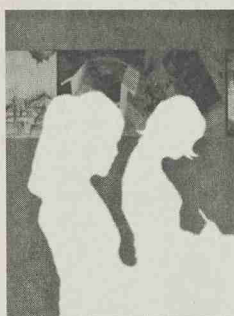
As for additional unreleased material, Guibert said there simply isn't much left.

"There are some live concerts and radio things that the absolute Jeff Buckley fan must have," she said. "For that I'm waiting for the Internet to catch up with my desire to have an affordable, high-quality downloadable function so I can make the best 10 or 15 concerts available through the Web site (www.jeff-buckley.com)."

CORRECTION

Keeping time with the Grains Nov. 14, 2002

In last Thursday's article "Keeping time with the Grains," it was stated that the Packabelles were formerly known as the Ladies in Red. This is not correct, and we're happy to say that The Ladies in Red are still in existence and only taking the semester off to regroup after losing more than half their members last year to graduating seniors. The Packabelles are an entirely different, newly formed group. The Ladies in Red are still the officially sanctioned women's a capella group of N.C. State. Technician apologizes for the error.



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MEN

continued from page 8

top three runners at the ACC finals, sweeping the first three positions, and they were again at districts.

"It was a messy day and a messy

course," said Patterson, the ACC champion two weeks ago. "We didn't run great, but we ran well enough to get the job done, and that's what's important. Coach said it might just be an off day in our cycle, and by the time we get to Terre Haute things will be

clicking again for us."

Swann finished as State's top runner on Saturday, finishing fourth in 30:05. Clemson's Jason Meany won the race, in a tight finish with William and Mary's Ed Moran, in 29:50.

Patterson finished strong, passing several people in the last mile to finish eighth, and Brookshire finished 10th, right behind an old high school rival after falling down around a corner with about 300 meters remaining in the race.

"It was important as the race came to a close to look up and see

what teams were ahead of you — look for Duke, look for William and Mary," said Patterson. "I figured it would be a close finish and we needed every point we could get."

State's runners started off the race running together for the first mile and a half, but their pack fell apart as the race progressed.

"We should have grouped up more during the race. Maybe I went out a little too hard and should have run more with my teammates, but you can't say it's a bad day whenever you qualify."

Senior Dean Bowker, who hasn't finished in State's top five since September, came up big for the Pack as its fourth finisher, crossing the line in 21st place.

"They carried my weight the whole year," Bowker said of his teammates. "It's about time I returned the favor."

Kurtis Marlowe and David Christian were not far behind Bowker, finishing in 28th and 29th place in 30:56 and 30:57.

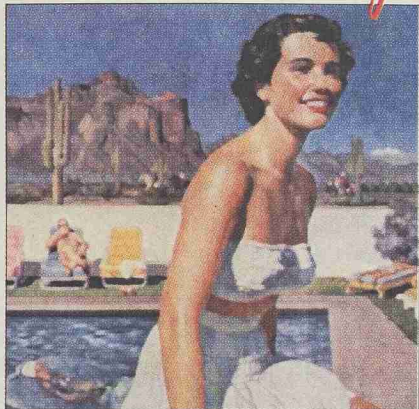
"The guy who saved our rear ends today is Dean Bowker," said Geiger. "Dean was number six or

seven on our team at conference, and he has a sore knee. Sometimes, when you get to be a senior and get banged up, you kind of just throw in the towel and let everyone else carry the load. Dean really came through today for us. That was big."

Bryce Ruiz was State's final runner, finishing in 110th place.

"Overall, I think the race went alright," said Swann. "We got what we need to get done. We qualified, and that's our goal. Now we just need to rest up and get ready for nationals."

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WOMEN

continued from page 8

st three places and three seconds shy of an All-District berth.

Abby Nelkie was State's final scorer, crossing the line in 37th place.

Diana Henderson and Megan Coombs also competed for the

Pack. They finished 47th and 62nd in the 186-runner field. It was just Coombs' second race of the season.

"Janelle and Abby need to [be] closer to Josi and Kris, and I think that will happen on Monday [at nationals]," said Henes. "We just have to get our four and five closer to our two and three."

While a win would have been preferred over the second-place

finish, State's coaches and runners were pleased with their team's finish. The top two teams from each of the nine districts in the nation automatically qualify for the national championships, while 13 at-large teams are selected based on district finishes and earlier performances against top teams.

"One of our goals every season is to automatically qualify for the

national championships," said Lauber. "We did that today, so we can't really complain."

It marks the seventh year in a row State has advanced to the national championship race.

"As a team we did well," said Price. "It would have been nice to beat Wake. It's nice to qualify and go to nationals, but it would have been nice to win."

ANDREW

continued from page 8

iot you know. He also reminds me that fool you see every now and then. All I know is if I played in the NFL, I wouldn't have a problem in deciding who to take out my steroid-induced aggression on. The best thing about Shockey are those ridiculous things he wears around his biceps, as if to hold his muscles to his arms. Too bad the ones he wore around his head broke long ago, thus allowing his brains to slowly seep out.

6. There are even more Duh-mass Fanns at NFL games.

Jim Fassell better watch out for his job. There sure are a lot of ex-

perts in the stands at Giants Stadium.

7. I'm in the wrong industry.

The poncho industry has to be among the most profitable ventures in American business history. Just because I didn't want to get soaked on Sunday like I did on Saturday, I was willing to shell out anything to keep me dry. The poncho people know this. I bought one for 10 bucks. Ten dollars. Forty quarters worth of poncho. Like all ponchos, it was basically a giant garbage bag — without the garbage, of course — and with a hood. But what made it unique was it was striped, a blue and white zebra pattern which was utterly hideous. But the poncho people make it hideous so you'll buy a new one later on. Well, the joke's on them: fat NFL fan guy doesn't care what his poncho looks like. And neither do I.

8. There are many pros/cons to rainy football.

Pros: It makes you feel like you're a "real" fan when you sit in the rain. Hot chocolate somehow tastes better. It's fun to see world-class athletes stumble about like me a dance floor.

Cons: Cheerleaders are all bundled up. Dance team is all bundled up.

9. I'm a redneck.

According to a toll lady in Delaware, I'm a redneck. I think she was judging by the license plate of the car. Or maybe the fact that I had my wife — who is also my cousin and sister — in the

passenger seat. Or the fact that I spat my chew in her booth. None of which, by the way, is as bad as working a tollbooth, in Delaware, on a Sunday night.

10. It's all good.

Win or lose, it doesn't matter. Road trips are bigger than wins and losses. If I had returned home 2-0, it wouldn't have made a difference in the fun factor. We still

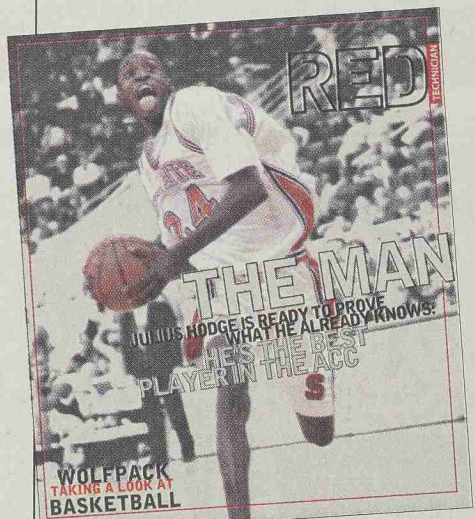
would have filled the car with gas (take that however you may), talked junk incessantly to one another and made fun of "don't mess with my girlfriend" guy at the Virginia game.

Good trip.

Andrew can be reached at 515-2411 or andrew_b_carter@hotmail.com.

RED

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When: Thursday, November 21st from 5 pm – 10 pm

Where: Ruckus Pizza and Bar in Mission Valley (Behind Blockbuster)

Music By: 2nd Hand Flipjack 10 pm – 2 am

- ★ All Pack Meal Plan cardholders get 25% off food and drink! ★
- ★ Win a \$25.00 Pack Meal Plan Card and other prizes! ★

www.packmealplan.com

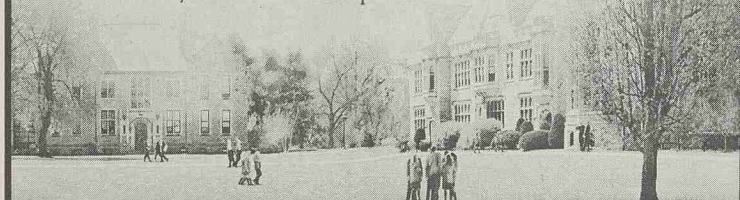
The Pack Meal Plan is not affiliated in any way with NC State University.



KEVIN KLINE

THE EMPEROR'S CLUB

In everyone's life there's that one person who makes all the difference.



UNIVERSAL PICTURES AND DEARON PICTURES PRESENTS A SIDNEY KIMMEL ENTERTAINMENT / LONGFELLOW PICTURES AND LIVEPLANET PRODUCTION A MICHAEL ROZEMAN FILM KEVIN KLINE "THE EMPEROR'S CLUB" STEVEN CUIP EMILY DAVITZ PATRICK DEMPSEY JULIE GREENICH EDWARD HERRMANN EMILE HIRSCH ROB MARSHALL MARKUS TULUN JAMES NEWTON HOWARD UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS A SIDNEY KIMMEL ENTERTAINMENT / LONGFELLOW PICTURES AND LIVEPLANET PRODUCTION A MICHAEL ROZEMAN FILM KEVIN KLINE "THE EMPEROR'S CLUB" STEVEN CUIP EMILY DAVITZ PATRICK DEMPSEY JULIE GREENICH EDWARD HERRMANN EMILE HIRSCH ROB MARSHALL MARKUS TULUN JAMES NEWTON HOWARD UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS A SIDNEY KIMMEL ENTERTAINMENT / LONGFELLOW PICTURES AND LIVEPLANET PRODUCTION A MICHAEL ROZEMAN FILM KEVIN KLINE "THE EMPEROR'S CLUB" STEVEN CUIP EMILY DAVITZ PATRICK DEMPSEY JULIE GREENICH EDWARD HERRMANN EMILE HIRSCH ROB MARSHALL MARKUS TULUN JAMES NEWTON HOWARD UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS A SIDNEY KIMMEL ENTERTAINMENT / LONGFELLOW PICTURES AND LIVEPLANET 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PRODUCTION A MICHAEL ROZEMAN FILM KEVIN KLINE "THE EMPEROR'S CLUB" STEVEN

Tuesday Sports

Schedule

Football vs. Florida State, 11/23, 3:30
M. Basketball vs. Mt. St. Mary's, 11/22, 7:30
W. Basketball vs. UC-Santa Barbara, 11/22, 7
Wrestling @ Navy Invitational, 11/23

Scores

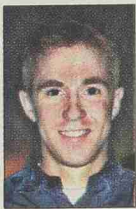
No games scheduled



TECHNICIAN

FOOTBALL

Trippin'



Andrew B. Carter

Eleven thousand miles and two losses later, the home team returned home.

But was I sad to witness both N.C. State and the Washington Redskins suffer losses? Was I regretful to have spent my weekend in conditions that would have been suitable for a goldfish? Was I angry to have been threatened by the Stay Puff Marshmallow Man? No. I was educated.

Here are some lessons I learned along the way to Charlottesville, Va., New Jersey and back:

1. If you think N.C. State's football intro on the big jumbotron is corny and ridiculous, then you haven't seen the football intro on the jumbotron at Virginia's Scott Stadium.

Basically, this is how it went: Wait a minute — I have to get my bearings. I'm still laughing about this. I'm pretty sure that it involved a computer generated "Cavalier" who rode around on a "horse" pillaging towns and beating down a few wolves (not enough to be considered a pack). It might have worked if the graphics hadn't looked like eight-bit Nintendo, or if the skit made sense. It just looked to me like this "Cavalier" liked to sword innocent animals. The "Cavalier" won points, however, when he started to dance victoriously to the jibe of a mean piano solo. It was barely worse than our very own steroid-enraged wolf at Carter-Finley.

2. Fat, aggressive men and small, attractive women do not mix.

It wasn't enough that she had to turn around and glare at us like criminals when we accidentally bumped into her at halftime of the State-UVA game. Nope, we were soon educated by her huge, unnecessary "boyfriend" who calmly instructed us to "stop [messing] around with her, that's my girlfriend." If I wasn't afraid of being eaten like the last guy, I might have asked His Hugeness how much that little number of his was costing him a day. Especially on a rainy day. My guess is he was dropping at least a grand, plus tax, to be seen in public with his "girlfriend."

3. Virginia fans are the best in the ACC. Not once before or after Saturday's defeat did any UVA fan attempt to engage in smack talk. Dressed in State gear and howling like wolves on our way into the stadium, you might have thought that UVA fans would have thrown their liquor bottles at us. Or bragged that Thomas Jefferson went to their school and John Tesh went to ours. Nope, they were too drunk to do that. At least the ones that were there.

4. New Jersey is the worst state in America.

You always hear about this — about how New Jersey is the worst state in America. And you might not think much of it. But it's true. New Jersey is to America as what Matt Doherty is to Carolina basketball. Not only is it illegal to sell beer at a gas station and pump your own gas, but there's also nowhere to eat in the whole crummy state past midnight. Is it any wonder why Lawrence Taylor turned to crack? He just wanted to buy beer one night after a game at the Meadowlands, couldn't, and instead went around the corner and bought some rocks off Ron-Ron. And what's up with the New Jersey Turnpike? Two hundred miles of road and 15 exits? Are you hungry for breakfast? ... No, we'll just stop for dinner at the next exit.

5. Jeremy Shockey is just as stupid in person as he is on TV.

It was a relief to see that Shockey isn't just some made-up personality, created by network executives for laughs. The guy really does exist, and he really is that dumb. Shockey reminds me of that id-

Two with one punch

Women take second place

State's women fell to Wake Forest at the District III Championships but still automatically qualified for the national championships.

Todd Lion

Senior Staff Writer

GREENVILLE — After a close showdown between the top five ACC teams at the conference championships two weeks ago, it would have been foolish to suspect that the Southeast Regional title would be any less difficult to win.

And after tying with No. 4 Wake Forest at the conference championships, the No. 6 N.C. State women's cross country team fell to the Deacons 76-83 on the wet, slick golf course at Lake Kristi near the East Carolina campus.

The Wolfpack still emerged from Saturday's meet with what it came for — an automatic qualifying bid to the national championships next Monday in Terre Haute, Ind.

"Our main goal is just to get to nationals," said assistant coach Laurie Henes. "We need to get to nationals and have everyone intact, and that seems to have happened."

The ACC reaffirmed its status as one of the strongest conferences in the nation by taking the third, fourth and fifth spots at districts. No. 11 Virginia (93), No. 14 Duke (98) and No. 18 North Carolina (114) — along with Wake and State — rounded out the top five.

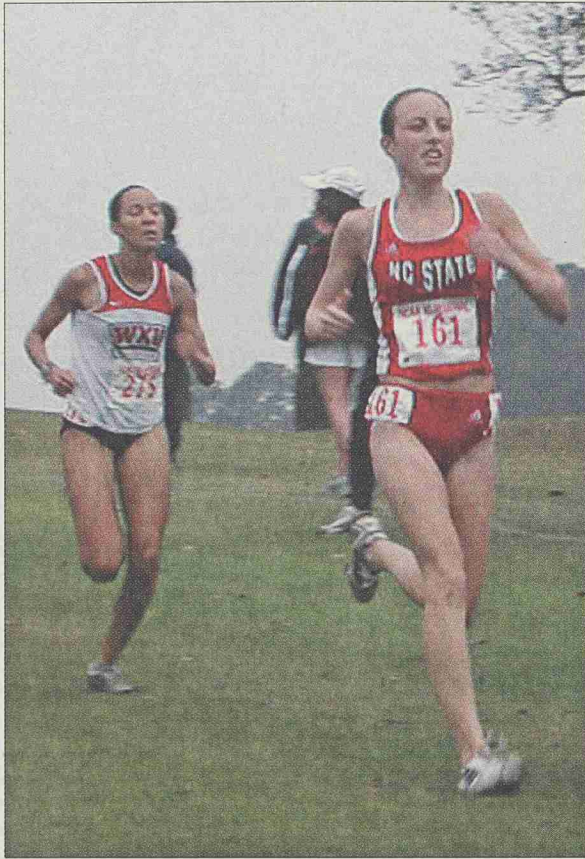
Kristin Price was once again State's top runner, finishing second in 19:46. Three-time regional champion Shalane Flanagan of Carolina took first place.

Two other Wolfpack runners finished in the top 10. Sophomore Josi Lauber and freshman Kris Roth ran together for most of the race and finished seventh and ninth in 20:26 and 20:28 for the 6,000-meter course.

"Our top three ran great," said Henes. "Kris is sick. She didn't run Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, and she only ran 20 minutes on Friday, so her performance is great."

Those three runners, all of whom finished in the top 10 at the conference championships, were State's only runners to claim All-District honors.

"I felt tired from the gun, and I got



(above) Diana Henderson and the Wolfpack women narrowly fell to Wake Forest on Saturday but still earned an automatic berth to nationals. (below) David Patterson (middle) chases teammate David Christian. More importantly, it was the field that chased the State men for most of the afternoon in the Pack's first-place finish. Staff photos by Todd Lion

boxed in at the start," said Lauber. "I pushed out and got up with Kris and Megan [Coombs]. Kris and I ran together pretty much the whole way. It [is] great to run together like that so we can support each other."

Janelle Vadnais was State's fourth finisher despite being tripped near the beginning of the race.

"[Getting tripped and falling] was really intense, but I came back from it pretty well," said Vadnais. "The beginning was packed, and they went out pretty hard. I just tried to keep Josi and Kris in sight the whole race."

See WOMEN page 6

Men win districts

The Wolfpack men's cross country team came away with a close victory at the Southeast Regional Championships on Saturday.

Todd Lion

Senior Staff Writer

GREENVILLE — After dominating the conference championships with a near record 17 points, the N.C. State men's cross country team had significantly more difficulty winning the District III title on Saturday.

No. 29 William and Mary seriously threatened the No. 19 Wolfpack late in the 10,000-meter race, but State came away with the victory, 66-77. Duke (115), Virginia (135) and Clemson (149) rounded out the top five, all well behind State.

"The thing we didn't do well today was group up," said head coach Rolie Geiger. "We had way too much time between our first and fifth runners. We just didn't group well. This was one of those things where we won ugly. That's good, but we need to make some changes."

At the conference championships, only 30 seconds elapsed between State's first and fifth runners. Saturday, that spread increased to 51 seconds, enough time for six William and Mary runners to finish.

"The good news is that we won," said Geiger. "What we need to do before nationals is go back to where we were at earlier with the small time spread between one and five."

Three State runners finished in the top 10 and one more in the top 25 to give the Wolfpack four All-District runners.

Devin Swann, David Patterson and Ricky Brookshire performed as State's

See MEN page 6



Stumbling State focused on 'Noles

Coach Chuck Amato and players refuse to let disappointment linger as they prepare for an important season finale.

Memie Ezike

Staff Writer

The N.C. State football team has lost three straight and dropped out of the top-25 polls, but its season is far from over.

Despite its recent setbacks, the team has remained upbeat and focused. The Wolfpack's regular season finale against Florida State may not hold the significance that was once hoped, but it's still crucial.

"We need to make a statement against Florida State because we are a better team than people perceive us to be," said Wolfpack tight end Sean Berton.

A few weeks ago, the matchup with FSU looked as though it might decide the ACC championship. But three gut-wrenching losses later, State is almost in a must-win position.

"It's always big to play in front of your home crowd, but this game is even bigger because it is against Florida State," linebacker Dantonio Burnette said.

"There is going to be an extra incentive to try and win the game."

All Wolfpack fans know what that extra incentive might be. After beginning the season 9-0, the last three games have not been kind to State. Three straight losses in the ACC have dropped the Pack from a potential BCS berth to fourth place in the conference and uncertainty in the bowl picture. Yet a win on Saturday would do wonders for the Pack's confidence. Pack coach Chuck Amato knows it will be a challenge.

"You are crazy if you think Florida State is on a downer this year," Amato said. "They went 14 years and won 10 games or more and [were] ranked in the top four in all those years. Who will ever do that again?"

Burnette, who has been rock-solid on defense all year for State, knows how big this weekend's game is.

"We need the game bad," he said. "These last three weeks have been hard, losing the games the way we have lost them. If we play as a team, we have a real good shot at getting the job done."

Even with the three losses, the Pack defense has been effective, only allowing 21 points per game. With a potent offense like the one the Pack possesses, the

losses have been winnable. But, as both Amato and Berton said, it's the little things that have hurt the team.

"When things are going along well, and you know that there are little things to correct, that is the easiest time to correct them," said Amato. "But if you don't correct them permanently, those things will come back to bite you. And when you start losing, those things are even harder to correct."

Amato had nothing but praise for Burnette, who will be playing in his last home game, and his role on the defense.

Burnette, known by teammates as "Thunder Dan," stands 18 tackles from setting the school record for tackles with his 452 career stops. Since missing the Texas Tech game with a thumb injury, the senior has tallied 89 tackles, including 10 tackles for losses and six sacks.

"Great, great. Defensively, I don't know what this team would have done without him," said Amato. "You look at his stats. If we were 12-0, there is no doubt in my mind he would be the defensive player of the year."

The defense has provided the offense with many chances, but quarterback Philip Rivers and running back T.A. McLendon have been held in check the

last three games. State is only averaging 87.3 yards per game during the three losses, almost half of what it averaged during the streak. In addition, the Pack's reliability to keep the ball has failed, as the team has lost the turnover battle in its last three games.

The offense's stagnancy against Virginia had Berton puzzled.

"It was one of the disappointing things I felt. To not be able to run the ball against a team that gives up a lot of rushing yards is surprising," said Berton. "I really can't say. It was just little things."

The Seminoles are hot, undefeated in the conference and winning big. Last year, the Pack had to contend with the ACC Rookie of the Year in Chris Rix. Now, it has to deal with another potential rookie of the year in Adrian McPherson. In his last four games, the FSU signal-caller has thrown for 772 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Nevertheless, Burnette knows his strong-willed teammates must put behind the losses and look forward to the battle against the Seminoles.

"If we play as a team, and not to level of our competition, I think we can play with any team in the country," said Burnette.

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