

TECHNICIAN

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2003

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Raleigh, North Carolina

IN THE KNOW

WORLD

Key al-Qaeda terrorist now in U.S. custody

Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, the man who is believed to be the key planner in the 9/11 terrorist attacks and involved in several other al-Qaeda attacks, was captured last week in Pakistan and has been placed in the custody of the United States.

Mohammed, who one week ago was able to escape capture in a raid in the city of Quetta, was one of three suspected terrorists arrested Saturday at a house in Rawalpindi, just outside the Pakistani capital of Islamabad.

Mohammed, who is of Middle Eastern decent and a member of one of Pakistan's largest religious political parties, Jamaat Islami, enrolled at Chowan College in North Carolina in the fall of 1983 and left in January 1984, after one semester. In the summer of 1984, he enrolled at N.C. A&T University in Greensboro.

Iraq scraps four missiles, will destroy more

After crushing four of its missiles on Saturday — and meeting the March 1 United Nations deadline — Iraq continued its destruction of missiles on Sunday. According to reports, under U.N. supervision, Iraqi officials destroyed six Al Samoud 2 missiles and a casting chamber used to make missiles on Sunday.

While U.N. weapons inspectors suggest that Iraq is cooperating with the disarmament efforts, they say that with the country's estimated 100 to 120 missiles, it could take several more weeks for all of the missiles to be destroyed.

NATION

Former president gets tapped for jury duty

While Juror No. 142 never had his name read aloud at a federal court hearing in Manhattan on Friday, former Pres. Bill Clinton was a clear giveaway. In a questionnaire designed to help attorneys select jury members, one of the former president's answers, which were read aloud in the courtroom, stated that Juror No. 142 had answered "president of the United States" under jobs previously held.

While Clinton is, according to reports, willing and ready to serve jury duty in the federal attempted murder case, the prosecutors and defense attorneys for the case are disagreeing on whether to allow him.

Nursing home fire claims 11th victim

On Friday, John Shack became the 11th victim of a Hartford, Conn., fire supposedly stated by a patient who set her bed sheets on fire. Shack had been a resident of the Greenwood Health Center, which caught on fire on Wednesday.

The fire left dozens of residents injured and 10 hospitalized with serious to critical injuries. According to reports, a 23-year-old patient is being accused of starting the fire. Investigators are still looking into whether the fire was set intentionally or not.

STATE

CIAA women's champions struggled for title

The Shaw University women's basketball team overcame several obstacles during the CIAA Tournament weekend, which came to a close on Saturday, to be crowned the tournament champions. On Saturday, the Shaw Bears beat out the Johnson C. Smith women in a 77-54 victory at the RBC Center.

Not only is this the Shaw women's first victory since 1989, but it also marked the ending of a week of controversy that shadowed the team's star forward, Naomi Mobley.

Mobley was ruled ineligible by the CIAA to play in the tournament because she accepted money while trying out for a WNBA team. But, after she donated the same amount to charity, the NCAA overturned the CIAA's ruling and restored Mobley's eligibility. She finished the championship game with 21 points, 18 rebounds and seven assists.

Five killed in plane crash

A family of four and a female friend from Bladen County are said to be the five people killed in a small plane crash in Surry County.

The son of former state Sen. Oscar N. Harris, Oscar N. Harris II, is believed to be one of the five plane crash victims and the owner of the plane.

Surry County emergency services officials said that the dead include one man, two women, an infant and another child. According to reports, while investigators have not tentatively revealed the names of the victims, a family friend stated that Harris, his wife and two young children were involved in the plane crash.

A successful day of PR

N.C. State's chapter of PRSSA held PR Day Friday, attracting numerous students from the Southeast region.

Heidi Collins
Staff Reporter

With graduation looming in a struggling economy, N.C. State's PR Day saw record attendance. Hosted by NCSU's chapter of PRSSA - the Public Relations Student Society of America — on Friday, it was an all-day event at Talley Student Center.

This is the second consecutive year NCSU has held the event, which is one of about a dozen such events held nationwide each year, and last year, NCSU hosted the largest of 13 events in the nation.

Gaining the endorsement of the national PRSSA committee last year and this year provided the event with more exposure, thereby increasing attendance.

"For being such a non-humanities-centered university," said NCSU PRSSA President Megan Rounds, senior in pub-

lic relations and Spanish, "people might find it surprising that we're holding a nationally recognized event."

Open to any discipline, the event was titled "A Vision of Success: Meeting and Exceeding All Expectations." More than 175 people registered to attend, 50 more than last year. Students from 15 different North Carolina schools were present, along with students from Tennessee, South Carolina and Virginia.

Seniors made up 60 to 70 percent of those attending. Co-organizers Mike Laurino and Abbey Hollins agree that the economy is probably the inspiring incentive for the increased attendance.

"Students are more serious about success and their future," said Hollins, a senior in public relations.

But Laurino, chapter vice president and a senior in communications, thought there was another reason too, adding, "I think it's equally due to putting on a great regional event last year — we have a lot of the same chapters attending [and] a lot of people put in a lot of hard work and effort."

Hollins thinks the raffle prizes may

have been an additional incentive for the increased attendance. Prizes were donated by Blockbuster Video, the Carolina Hurricanes, Harris Teeter, Hillsborough Street Textbooks, the NCSU Bookstore and Athletics Department, OfficeMax, the Olive Garden, the Raleigh Convention and Visitor's Bureau and the Vineyard Café.

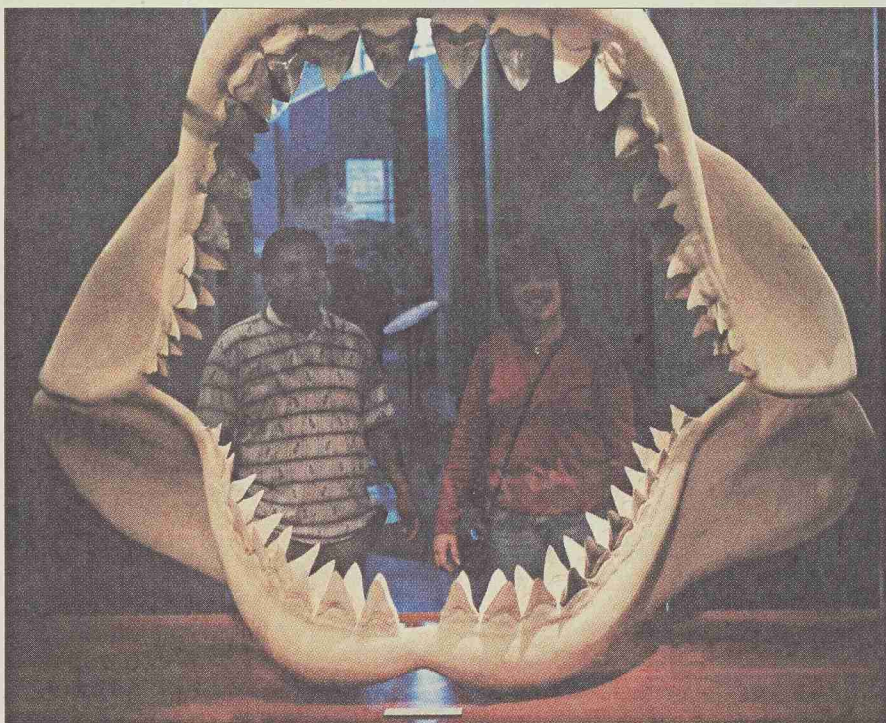
The all-day event was filled with guest speakers, many of whom flew in from around the nation. Lecture topics varied from "Bilingual Public Relations in a Diverse World" to "On the Job: Working In-House vs. Agency PR." During the lunch break, Carol Schroeder, a business manners professional and the intern director at NCSU's Career Center, provided the dos and don'ts of business dining.

There were also panel discussions, new for this year, in which several professionals answered students' questions.

Hank Uzzel, a senior in communication studies, enjoyed the lectures, saying he "got a better perspective of the career

See PR page 2

Consumed by knowledge



Two visitors look through an exhibit of a shark's teeth at the Museum of Natural Science in downtown Raleigh Sunday afternoon. Staff photo by Josh Michel

Students ponder safety at area clubs

Students sound off on how safe they feel in their favorite nightclubs and what could make them feel safer.

Anthony Exum
Staff Reporter

Jenna Utley is a regular patron of Legends nightclub — one of Raleigh's increasingly popular gay and lesbian dance clubs. But, as the news of a tragic Rhode Island nightclub fire swept across the nation, Utley and other area nightclub attendees, particularly students who reg-

ularly seek out nightclub entertainment on the weekends, began to look closer at their favorite entertainment arenas and the safety of them.

"It's ironic for me because weeks before the Rhode Island club disaster, I was in Legends and I thought to myself that with the dim lighting and the massive amount of people, if a fire did break out, a lot of people would be trampled to death," said Utley, a junior in English.

However, not everyone feels that way. An anonymous NCSU junior in engineering stated, "[Legends] tends to be crowded, but I usually prefer to stay in an area that has somewhat fewer people,

and in the proper weather I stay on the outdoor patio, so I am not all that concerned."

In Raleigh, there are about 85 bars and nightclubs that allow attendance to people over the age of 18. With several other universities within the Triangle and with the N.C. State community continuously increasing, the need for entertainment options — restaurants, bars and nightclubs — in the area is great and growing.

But just as college towns and other populated areas continued to grow and

See CLUBS page 2

FIND YOUR PLACE

Events to be held by N.C. State and its organizations this week:

Union Activities Board Films Committee Meeting

Monday, 5 p.m.
Witherspoon Student Center, Room 107

University Scholars Program Event

Khac Chi Ensemble, internationally renowned Vietnamese duo will perform at the USP Forum.
Monday at 2:35 p.m.
Witherspoon Student Center, Campus Cinema

Come Paint the Tunnel tonight with Catholic Campus Ministries

Contact Cathy at crusin@unity with questions.
Monday, 11 p.m.
Free Expression Tunnel

CHASS Events

"Japan and the Two Koreas: History, Culture and the Future"
Events are free and open to the public
Monday through Thursday

Journalism Panel, "From Rich Square to Pyongyang"

Monday, 4 p.m.
2215 Williams Hall

Japanese music, non-drama performance and Japanese tea ceremony

Wednesday, 5 p.m.
Caldwell Lounge

Korean Fan Dance

Thursday, 7 p.m.
Stewart Theater

Nightwalk

Student Government, NCSU facilities divisions and Campus Police will be hosting Nightwalk for student safety on campus
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Talley Student Center

Inter-Residence Council Forum

"What's Your Beef? Voice your opinion on what's wrong with State"
Wednesday, 8-10 p.m.
Turlington Hall basement, IRC conference room

Ticket Distribution

Men's basketball game vs. Wake Forest Saturday
Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Reynolds Coliseum

The Fish Market

Student-run exhibition for College of Design
Friday, 6:30-11 p.m. (Also open every Saturday and Sunday from 1-5 p.m.)
Located in the basement of the Alexander building at the corner of Fayetteville Street and Hargett Street, downtown Raleigh

Student Government candidates

The following individuals are running for Student Government offices.

The books for registering to run close today at 5 p.m. General elections will take place April 7-8.

Student Body President:

Clifford Ray - junior, business management
Dustin Choe - senior, aerospace engineering
Anthony Caravano II - junior, criminology
Amanda Devore - junior, accounting

Student Senate President:

James Pendergrass - junior, biological sciences
Lock Whiteside - freshman, political science
Erich Fabricius - senior, chemical engineering
Allison Watkins - sophomore, accounting

Student Body Treasurer

Cameron Lester - sophomore, computer science and philosophy
Abdullah Tharpe - sophomore, marketing education for teachers

Student Body Chief Justice

Sean Casey - senior, biochemistry

UAB President

Stephanie Kreup - N/A
Abdullah Tharpe - sophomore, marketing education for teachers
Curtis Kirkhoff - N/A
Huntington Guice - junior, English

TODAY

Classifieds

aren't really classified because we'll tell you where they are. p. 3

Opinion

talks the N.C. House, student-athletes and teachers' pets. p. 4

Sports

provides the excruciating details of State's last-second loss. p. 8

WEATHER



Today

Mostly Sunny
High 48, Low 28



Tomorrow

Partly Sunny
High 58, Low 48

INTERVIEWS

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Schools to offer free program on protecting U.S. secrets

Diane Suchetka
Knight Ridder Newspapers

CHARLOTTE, N.C.—You can get a master's degree at UNC Charlotte or N.C. A&T State University in one of the hottest fields around for free—free books, free tuition, free room and board. There's a stipend too: \$1,000 a month. That's on top of a summer internship with benefits and pay. And when you're finished, you're practically guaranteed a job.

This is the Cyber Corps, a federal program that's teaching U.S. citizens computer techniques to protect America's secrets. And it's been getting a lot of attention and more federal funding since Sept. 11.

Sometimes referred to as civilian ROTC, the Cyber Corps is available at only 11 colleges across the country. UNCC has the only program in the Carolinas, although it allows N.C. A&T State University students to attend classes, via television.

Becoming a Cyber Corps school isn't easy. Universities must satisfy 10 criteria, such as establishing campus centers

of information assurance and hiring highly qualified faculty.

"The criteria are tough," says Vic Macconachy of the National Security Agency, which helped create the program that is now funded through the National Science Foundation. They are designed, he says, to select "the most mature programs and institutions" for the Cyber Corps.

Other Cyber Corps schools include Purdue University, Georgia Tech and Carnegie Mellon University.

Called the Federal Cyber Corps Scholarship for Service, the program works like this: You major in cyber security and agree to work for a U.S. agency, the Department of Defense for example, for two years after you graduate. Uncle Sam picks up the tab.

Students must be U.S. citizens, have a 3.0 grade point average to get into the program and, in most cases, they must obtain national security clearance to take a government internship. They take classes

such as Access Control and Security Architecture and Applied Cryptography, learning, among other things, how to scramble information to keep it secret.

After an internship, graduation and two years working for a government agency, graduates can work for private companies, recovering computer data after disasters like Sept. 11, sleuthing for criminal activity in personal computers or improving the security of computerized bank records.

"It only asks for a two-year commitment for a free education, which is a very small price to pay," says Becky Timmons, director

of government relations for the American Council on Education. Even though the UNCC program has gone virtually unadvertised, the school has had inquiries from Kansas, Texas and Alaska.

"We are definitely turning away students qualified students because we don't have the funds," says Bill Chu, a professor in software and information systems

who oversees the UNCC program, which has 14 students.

The idea for a program to train people to protect Internet secrets began during the Clinton administration, motivated, in part, by anxiety over Y2K. Last year, Congress appropriated \$11.5 million and the first students enrolled in fall 2001, including one at UNCC.

This year, lawmakers approved another \$11.5 million and UNCC's allotment jumped from \$150,000 to more than \$2 million.

That money goes for computer labs, professors and course development as well as for scholarships, Chu says. President Bush recently signed the supplemental appropriations act, pumping \$19.3 million into the program. That, Chu says, shows how vulnerable critical information could be these days.

"It was a small program that received marginal attention," Chu said. "But it received a great infusion of funds after Sept. 11."

About \$8 million of the \$19.3 million is expected to pay for expansion of the program to four additional schools. How much of the remainder goes to UNCC, if any, will be decided next month.

Students say the program has other draws besides the financial value which can total \$20,000 a year or more.

"Like a lot of American guys, I've always wanted the drama of working for a military agency," says John Melton, 20, the youngest student in UNCC's program, who admits the work has a James Bond feel to it.

Experts say the demand for information security experts is expected to soar, despite a drop in jobs in the slow economy.

"Everything that is critical to us today is probably run by a computer," says Jack Wiles, a computer security specialist who works in Charlotte. "And if it's controlled by a computer, it's potentially vulnerable."

These days, that includes credit card information, air traffic and water supplies.

The security clearance students get for government internships also make them attractive to private employers, Chu says. But it can make teaching tough.

After one student finished his federal internship, Chu called his supervisor to see how well the student performed. "He did a great job," the supervisor said. "I just can't tell you what he did."

Texas school sees itself in University of Michigan case

Chris Gray
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

AUSTIN, Texas—Marlen Whitley remembers looking around his entering 1998 class at the University of Texas law school with frustration.

Of the 468 first-year students, eight were African American less than 2 percent. And those numbers were double from the year before, when only four blacks enrolled at the state's premier law school.

"It's happening all over again," Whitley told his parents, products of segregated schools in Arkansas. "It was like we had come full circle."

Whitley's experience, as one of the first minority students to enroll after a court threw out affirmative action at Texas universities, may become commonplace on campuses across America. After years of letting lower courts waffle over the legality of racial preferences in college admissions, the Supreme Court is about to weigh in and officials at the University of Texas warn the results could once again dramatically alter the complexion of the student body.

The University of Texas School of Law, once a bastion of white Texan privilege, had been using an admissions grid policy that included race as a factor. This system brought the school's minority enrollment to nearly 20 percent in the early 1990s.

Then in 1996, the U.S. Court of Ap-

peals for the Fifth Circuit, in New Orleans, ended affirmative action at public universities in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi in a case known as Hopwood v. Texas.

"We saw a marked decrease in our minority students," said Monica Ingram, assistant dean of admissions at the law school. If the Supreme Court takes a similar stance, "our situation could become the reality," T

he Hopwood case started when white students, including Cheryl Hopwood, sued the law school in 1992. Because the school considered race in its admissions, minority students with lower grades and test scores were being admitted over their white counterparts, they contended.

To defend itself, the university cited the 1978 Bakke decision, which allowed race to be used in admissions to maintain diverse enrollment or remedy past discrimination. The university felt confident in its argument, particularly because the school had faced repeated court orders to desegregate, said Douglas Laycock, a law professor who helped defend the university in the Hopwood case.

For example, in a landmark 1950 rul-

ing, the Supreme Court forced the University of Texas to admit a black applicant, Heman Sweatt, to the law school. Even into the 1970s, the federal Office of Civil Rights cited the university for failing to increase minority enrollment; affirmative-action programs were put in place in reaction to those events, Laycock said.

"It's one of history's ironies that both (Sweatt and Hopwood) happened here,"

he said. The Fifth Circuit's ruling, throwing out the program to increase minority enrollment, hit the University of Texas hard, both in its undergraduate and graduate schools. Minority applications dropped, as

the school's reputation as an inhospitable place for blacks and Hispanics was resurrected.

In 1997, only 190 black students were in the UT Austin freshman class about 3 percent. Hispanic enrollment also declined slightly, to 13 percent. Numbers at the law school were worse: Only four blacks and 26 Hispanics enrolled. Concerned, the Texas Legislature enacted a law that required state universities to automatically accept all students ranked in the top 10 percent of their high schools, regardless of test scores.

After years of letting lower courts waffle over the legality of racial preferences in college admissions, the Supreme Court is about to weigh in.

CLUBS

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see increases in nightclub start-ups, the nightclub business received a loud and obvious wake-up call on Feb. 20 when a Rhode Island club went up in flames, claiming the lives of nearly 100 people.

At around 11 p.m. Feb. 20, a fire

broke out in the nightclub called The Station in West Warwick, R.I. After hours of fighting the fire, firemen were finally able to douse the blaze. In the end, the fire left 96 people dead and 181 people injured.

The fire was caused by a pyrotechnic display by the band Great White.

In addition to the pyrotechnics,

the club was filled beyond capacity. The maximum capacity for The Station was 300 people, yet there were more than 375 people in the club that night. In a press conference the following day, Rhode Island Gov. Don Carcieri said, "This is unspeakable, this shouldn't have happened—that many people in that building."

Quite a few people share the concerns of Utley who says that her last night at Legends was a sort of wake-up call for her.

Other students have had similar experiences in other clubs.

"In Jillian's there are just too many people," said freshman aerospace engineering major Joshua Abbe. "It was very uncomfortable, looking around

made me nervous just seeing the volume of people. If there was an emergency it wouldn't be pretty, it wouldn't be hard to have an incident like that in Rhode Island with the major amount of people there."

However, there are some students who feel differently about their safety. "[Jillian's] was definitely overcrowded, but I still felt safe there," said Jessica Horton, a freshman majoring in microbiology.

Computer science sophomore Alan Bevier, shared Horton's views.

"I was so distracted that safety was not even an issue," said Bevier.

The feeling of not being safe in

a nightclub is not confined to Raleigh-area clubs.

Mandy Massey, a freshman in math education, is a sporadic patron of the Treehouse, a nightclub in Chapel Hill.

"I only remember seeing one door, the entrance, and with all the people, not too many of the people in there would have gotten out safely if something did happen," she said.

Erin McMahon, a freshman in biological sciences, and Kim Degnan, a freshman in psychology and elementary education, are frequent patrons to Bar Charlotte in their hometown of Charlotte.

"At the time I didn't think about it, but after the fire in Rhode Island, it definitely seems like a safe-

ty hazard waiting to happen," said Degnan. "There was only one door that we saw. The dance floor is like the farthest point from that one entrance, and once you leave the dance floor, there is a really narrow hallway you have to go through to get to that one door."

While many college students continue to attend their favorite nightclubs, they feel that the tragedy in Rhode Island opened their eyes to their own personal safety. For them, the fire could have occurred anywhere. And while it's important for club owners to follow state-regulated safety procedures, many students say that their own knowledge and awareness may prove to be of equal value.

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PR

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field."

And although Andrew Armstrong, a senior in communications, is more interested in sports broadcasting, he found the event useful, saying, "I've enjoyed getting different perspectives from everyone... I could use what I've learned here."

Besides providing a glimpse into the so-called "real world" and the opportunities available in various fields, speakers also offered the chance to network.

"It's a great opportunity for students to network, make contacts with students from different schools and with the guest speakers," said Laurino.

Elon communication juniors Jennifer Sum-

mers and Cameron Turner agreed, saying they found the event advantageous with the variety of speakers.

Turner added, "I can start networking [early], getting names and resumes out there."

Networking is how Hollins, Laurino and Rounds obtained internships. Hollins got an internship with Capital Strategies, a public relations firm, from last year's event, and now she's in the running for another internship in New York City. Laurino is interning with the Carolina Hurricanes, a position he obtained through a PR Day speaker last year. Rounds, a senior in public relations and Spanish, had an internship with ConexiOn Latina, a multi-cultural advertising/public relations company, which she acquired from a speaker who attended one of the regular chapter meetings.

Rounds estimates that nearly 50 percent of

those attending get some kind of contact from the event. Those contacts can lead to internships and even jobs after graduation.

"PR Day is not just an incredible networking experience," Hollins said, "but a great chance to see what's in the industry. The event is geared towards students and all the directions a degree can go in."

Alethea Taylor, a senior in public relations who drove from Tennessee to attend the event, said that this event had more information than one held in her state.

"It's more geared to college students and the different choices and opportunities for students," Taylor said.

When asked if it was worth it to attend, she responded brightly, "Oh, yeah! And it was a good drive, too."

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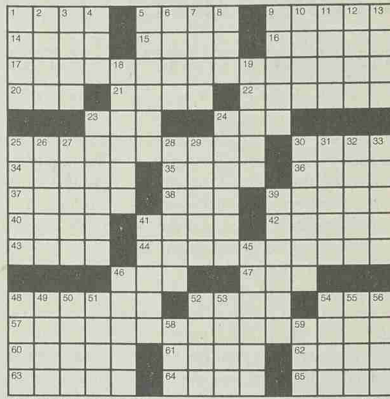
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Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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- 9 Shillong's state
- 14 "Rhyme Pays" rapper
- 15 Fibber
- 16 Brandon de Wilde's cinematic cry
- 17 Bank offering
- 20 Long, long time
- 21 Signs on the dotted line
- 22 Lots and lots
- 23 -fi
- 24 Heavy imbiber
- 25 Carte blanche
- 30 Canadian golfer Dave
- 34 Indian cash
- 35 Cheers for Manolete
- 36 Tony's cousin
- 37 Outer opposite
- 38 "The Delta of Venus" writer
- 39 Loses one's cool
- 40 Max of "The Beverly Hillbillies"
- 41 Play opening
- 42 Roast host
- 43 Historic times
- 44 Charlie of Berlin
- 46 PGA member
- 47 Giant Mel
- 48 Have high hopes
- 52 Italian bell town
- 54 Hoops grp.
- 57 Marble-moving game
- 60 Mongrels
- 61 New York stadium
- 62 Give off
- 63 Cultural values
- 64 Actor Sean
- 65 Exercise discipline



By Randall J. Hartman
Escondido, CA

3/303

Friday's Puzzle Solved

MACKS ACHOO CPO
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 IDA SAOTOME
 HIST EGOS BURN
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 PGA LACEACOURSE
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 EDITRESS ELLAIS

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- 55 Floating hoosgow
- 56 Dog in "The Thin Man"
- 58 Kreskin's forte
- 59 "Largo"

Around Campus

FEMALE ENGINEERS
Alpha Omega Epsilon is giving away it's annual \$500 scholarship. Visit <http://students.engr.ncsu.edu/aoe/> for more information. **SCHOLARSHIP**

Multi-Cultural Festival for Middle Schoolers March 5, 2003 in Lee, Sullivan, and Bragaw from 10-2 p.m.

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For rent or for sale. Free rent for April. Lease May 1st. \$1000/mo Lake Park Condo. Lease until June 1, 2004. 4BR/4BA. Call 854-1230 or 614-2030.

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Notices

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Found

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HOROSCOPE

By Linda C. BlackTibet Media Services

Aries
March 21-April 19
Today is a 5. It's OK to be lost in thought for a while. Your friends will cover for you. You're surrounded by love.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
Today is an 8. You can get a lot done with the right team. Focus on the objective so that you can keep others on track. And keep control of the money. You're the most practical one.

Gemini
May 21-June 21
Today is a 6. Life's more exciting when you're taking a risk. You won't get everything right away, but make your intentions known. You could attract a collaborator.

Cancer
June 22-July 22
Today is an 8. You'd probably like to stay gone for another day or two, but other work demands your attention. Don't quit until you've got next year's income set aside.

Leo
July 23-Aug. 22
Today is a 6. You hate financial hassles. They shouldn't apply to you. You should be able to get whatever you want. And maybe you will, eventually, but you won't get it all today.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Today is a 7. Your partner nearly has everything under control. Don't drift off! You're the navigator, and your well-chosen words will keep everyone on course.

Libra
Sept. 23-Oct. 22
Today is a 7. Try not to get too frustrated if plans go awry. You're better off staying flexible, and you're good at that.

Scorpio
Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Today is an 8. Your resources may not extend quite as far as you'd like. Don't plunge yourself into debt, even for something a loved one wants. It's not worth the cost.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Today is a 6. You're being pressured to tell the truth about a domestic matter. A change may be required, but this is a good time for it.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Today is an 8. You know something needs readjustment, but you may not be quite sure what. The key to discovery is listening. Give it all the time that it takes.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Today is a 6. You've been free to draw castles in the air, but that doesn't work anymore. From now on, gravity had better be included in your calculations. Focus on making a crazy scheme pay.

Pisces
Feb. 19-March 20
Today is an 8. Your faith is based on good reasons, and your reasoning comes from your faith. Consider the opinions of others, too. They may have something good to add.

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

A House divided leaves little hope for a timely budget

After several debates and votes over which party should control the N.C. House, two co-speakers were selected to share power. Co-speakers Jim Black (D-Mecklenburg) and Richard Morgan (R-Moore) must work together to ensure legislative business is accomplished in this session, marked by a 60-60 split between the two parties in the House. However, the likelihood of the parties pulling together has been growing slim, which could equal a budgetary disaster when the House must find a way to pull North Carolina out of a \$2 billion budget shortfall.

An important issue in this budget problem is the place of N.C. State's funding in the UNC System, which doesn't plan to back down on its fight for more money, even when other state agencies face cuts. Without the House members working together, a balanced budget's chances are slim, and this could drastically reduce the funding for N.C. universities.

The latest evidence of a lack of unity in the House came last week when committee and subcommittee assignments were released, revealing a greater number of Democrats than Republicans chairing committees, by a split of 43 to 33. Naturally, Republicans who sought an equal split in chair responsibilities see this as the start to a session full of opportunities where the party will be forced to concede too much.

Rep. John Burst (R-Guilford) voiced concern over the nature of subcommittee chairs, saying, "Things are so watered-down, the chairs don't mean as much as they used to."

And his feelings are echoed throughout the House, because many believe co-speaker Morgan slighted the Republican representatives who did not support him

in the initial votes for speaker.

Sam Ellis (R-Wake) said, "The 1,080,000 people who voted for Republican control of the state House over the 904,000 who voted for Democratic control are seriously disappointed that Representative Morgan has sought to solidify his ambitions over the will of the people."

"Serious disappointment" isn't the right way to kick off a legislative session during which major decisions must be made about the future of North Carolina's economic crisis — currently the worst deficit in nearly two generations. The discontent already present makes some of Morgan comments — "Republicans will work with Democrats in a coalition government on all of these committees," and, "We want to remove the partisan bickering" — utterly laughable.

Agreement is more important than ever when budget time comes, especially for the UNC System. Last year, other state agencies faced cuts of between 10 and 15 percent, but the university system was only cut by 2.9 percent. UNC System officials should not back down on their fight to receive as much funding as possible, but without offering some sort of compromise, the system should be prepared to face much more severe cuts than last year.

Not every agency will get the funding it wants, but this is no excuse for the UNC System to back down on pushing its agenda. Cuts are a harsh reality facing all state agencies and NCSU should be prepared to experience cuts along with everyone else, but at a time when disappointment is growing within members of the House, the harshest reality could come about at the time when the budget should be prepared.

CBS interview: Hussein's side

Staff Editorial
The Oracle
U. South Florida

(U-WIRE) TAMPA, Fla. - Sometimes television can do something newsworthy. While the staggering amount of reality TV shows make it hard to prove that, Dan Rather's interview with Iraqi Pres. Saddam Hussein broadcast Wednesday night was a breakthrough in journalism and a service to the American people.

Facts don't lie. Hussein has committed unbelievable atrocities, but Rather's interview was about getting the other side of the story, which is what worthy journalism should strive to do.

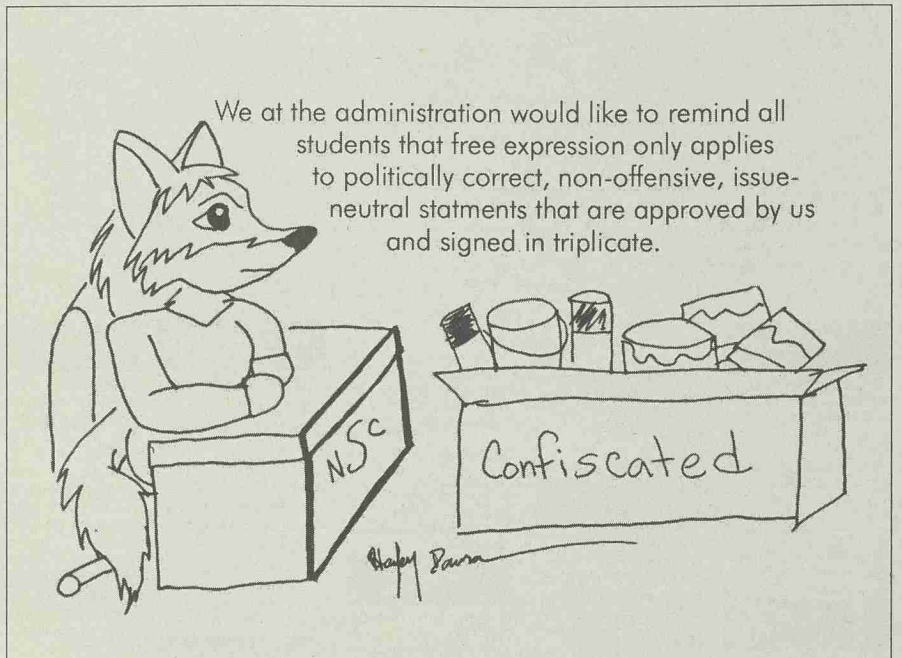
Not to be outdone, the White House is crying foul, claiming it should have been able to have a representative refute Hussein's statements after the interview. Making a fuss about one-upping Hussein is giving more credence to the interview and implies the White House is afraid of what he said. If they were certain Americans were behind them in the imminent war, fussing about Hussein's

comments wouldn't be necessary.

CBS did let Pres. George W. Bush or Vice Pres. Dick Cheney refute Hussein's statements on camera, but the administration wanted Press Secretary Ari Fleischer or Dan Bartlett, the White House's communication chief, to speak instead.

CBS should be congratulated for holding firm against the White House and sticking to its guns. Carefully crafted responses to Hussein's comments do not make good journalism. Honest answers from the men who make decisions are what Americans should be hearing.

CBS and Rather performed the media coup of the century by getting an interview with Hussein, the first one he has done with a Western journalist in 12 years. The network also proved that television doesn't have to be about Joe Millionaire or whom Trista decided to marry. It can be about the stories that really matter and issues that affect everyone. And journalism, like an interview with Hussein, is what the American people should expect from its reporters.



To improve athletes' graduation rates, let them major in their sports



Andrew Payne
Staff Columnist

In the past few weeks there has been tremendous news coverage of the graduation rates of N.C. State's student-athletes, specifically members of the men's basketball and football teams. I believe I have a possible solution to the problem facing universities across the country.

I often wondered why we do not let student-athletes major in their respective sports. For example, instead of majoring in parks, recreation and tourism, NCSU football quarterback Philip Rivers could major in football.

"Ridiculous! That cannot possibly be a credible major, what are you trying to do, ruin the academic image of NCSU?" many of you are saying right now.

But think about this. At UNC-Chapel Hill, if you write for their school newspaper you can also major in journalism as a part of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications and receive credit for your newspaper work. What about Appalachian State University, where, if you play in the marching band, you can major in music as a part of the Hayes School of Music. And if you are really talented in the areas of filmmaking, dance and drama you can major in those disciplines at the North Carolina School of the Arts.

Even at NCSU, if you are involved in theatre you can earn a bachelor of arts in communication (theatre) in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

So a student can receive a degree in ballet but not football or basketball, or any

other sport. It cannot possibly be the time commitment. I doubt that ballet students — though very eager and determined — spend as much time practicing their discipline as many student-athletes do. Then what has prevented institutions of higher education from developing such programs?

One cannot argue that being a professional football, basketball or soccer player is not a viable career. There are many examples of success stories of individuals at NCSU who now are career professionals in their sports — most notably St. Louis Rams wide receiver Torrey Holt.

Perhaps the reason for not creating such programs is that the likelihood of someone actually making it "to the big leagues" is so small that we must prepare students for a life after sports. But consider this, how many ballet performers "make it to the big leagues?" How many film majors land that "role of a lifetime?" And what did the university do to ensure that those students were prepared for "life after campus theatre?"

A curriculum in football could include classes in sports management, health and nutrition and media relations. Students enrolled in a BA program in football science would also get credit for their time practicing and game play. And like every student, they would be required to take a broad range of electives and general education requirements.

Below is the program description for the piano major at the N.C. School of the Arts. What I have simply done is replace a few words to develop NCSU's football major. My additions are in italics.

"The undergraduate football program

includes a broad array of academic courses in addition to a rigorous professional education in football. Students enrolled in the program address a wide range of material designed to develop athletic, technical, practice and performance ability. Daily lessons plus a weekly performance [game] class develop student confidence and skill before an audience [crowd]. The intensive football curriculum also provides comprehensive training in sports literature, pedagogy, business skills and athletic research. Graduation requirements include a minimum of two full seasons of competition."

As you can see, the "programs" differ very little. The only thing holding programs like these

back is the fact that some members of academia are arrogant and conceited. They look down upon a school's athletic programs because athletics draw greater attention than their academic pursuits.

If we want to improve the graduation rates of student-athletes — especially the rates for football and basketball players — we should allow these students to major in the areas where their interests lie and in what they are obviously good at.

If not, we should start forcing piano players to major in astrophysics and start to monitor their graduation performances.

Next week, Andrew will discuss a related topic, NCSU's graduation rates and why the new progress toward degree proposal is flawed. E-mail questions and comments to andrewpayne@wknc.org. "The Andrew Payne Show" airs every Tuesday night at 6 p.m. on WKNC 88.1 FM.

One cannot argue being a professional athlete is not a viable career.

TECHNICIAN Jerry Moore • Matthew Pelland

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THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

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The teacher's pet hides within me



Decker Ngongang
Staff Columnist

"I really wish you would shut up," or "Why does the professor always call on her?" These are just a couple of quotes we save each year for those people in our classes fortunate — and annoying — enough to become what I love to term "teacher's pet." These are the people in classes who take it upon themselves to answer every question, address the teacher by his first name and always have a story or situation that happened to them that somehow relates to class.

As much as we love to hate these people, I have found out I am one of these people. I shied away from this concept and denied it for so long that I became jaded as to my position in this society of academia. I am the teacher's pet.

I have been in the paper for a lot of stuff, and my name is out there for a lot of reasons. It is pretty cool to have people discussing your columns, girls talking about my aerobics class, or some kid

talking about "that Decker kid." This brings a lot of unusual attention. People begin to discuss my columns with their professors and, before I know it, I am known beyond the confines of my socio-academic experience. Most people would love such a position on campus — and trust me I enjoy the benefits of being known that way — but that comes with some unfortunate experiences.

The teacher's pet in me: as the semester begins, I enter a classroom and as the teacher calls my "weird" name, the classroom whispers and soon the teacher asks, "Didn't you write that column ...?"

That is when it all begins. Some professors make comments and then carry on with their conversation, but in others I become a part of the curriculum. My name is then mentioned in every class period, and soon people stare, whisper and comment. Suddenly the class discussion is nothing without a contribution from good ole "Dexter."

This has suddenly gotten out of control.

Soon it is evident that the tide of class has changed, and no longer am I a simple fish swimming downstream with everyone else. I am now that big salmon swimming against the current. I shudder to raise my hand, and I hesitate to speak out in class. I begin rationing my contribution to class, making sure I don't come up anywhere in the conversation, and if I do I make it a point to squash such discussions.

Test time is the worst, because animosity among the rest of the class dis-

appears as they recognize you either know the material a bit more or have an "in" with the professor to find out any information. Suddenly, I have random names calling me

on my cell phone or people e-mailing me saying, "Hey Dexter (it's Decker by the way), you seem to know your stuff pretty well (not really), and I was wondering if you wanted to get together and study for this test."

I don't mind calls or e-mails, as edu-

Being teacher's pet helped me understand how important it is to interact with your professor.

See NGONGANG page 5

Room for improvement in the medical field



Abbie Byrom
Staff Columnist

This may seem like *deja vu*, but I assure you it's not. You may think I am now on my soapbox, since I am writing two columns in a row on my dissatisfaction with the medical profession. Let me reassure you before I am again crucified for what I am about to write.

However, as much as I realize that doctors are also human and mistakes can be made, I have begun to notice negligence is being covered with the word "mistake" in some instances and, in others, medical professionals just do not take responsibility. There are medical malpractice strikes in several states, for example.

I have an elderly grandmother with whom I am very close. Recently, she has been very sick, and in and out of the hospital for

months. When her illness started, like any other granddaughter, I was worried. I listened intently to all the doctors and nurses who came to my grandmother's aid.

Then, after a month of being in and out of the hospital, and spending weeks immobile in her own bed, my family and I learned that she has been misdiagnosed, receiving the wrong medical treatment the whole time.

Not only did thousands of dollars go down the drain, but also my grandmother is

72. You cannot be misdiagnosed when you are that old. When I think about what could have happened, it makes me sick to my stomach.

So we switched hospitals. The new one has nurses who wait on my grandmother hand and foot.

The doctors make sure the family knows everything. The care was impeccable. It was at the second hospital that my grandmother got well, and everyone was happy.

However, not long after we were back home, my grandmother was undergoing her weekly checkups and went in for a chest X-ray. Upon preliminary examination of the X-ray the doctor tells her

she has fluid in her lungs, but he tells her he does not know why. The next day, when he re-ex-

amines her X-ray, he finds she has pneumonia.

Not only does the doctor not inform my grandmother of this finding, he does not even let her primary care physician know. For four days, her pneumonia goes untreated. When I got home on

Friday, I found out.

I am appalled at what I have seen in the medical field lately. For years, newspapers and news shows alike have made public the injustices that go on because of negligence in nursing homes and hospitals. Right now, the news of the doctors' strikes in Florida, West Virginia, Nevada, New Jersey and Mississippi are grazing the covers of magazines and newspapers and other media outlets. I know that, for every negligent physician or nurse out there, there are probably 10 who are the exact opposite. However, no matter what the statistics say, the ones who do not put their all into their profession and patients are far too prevalent.

I also understand that the rising cost of medical malpractice insurance is making it hard for doctors to practice their profession. But where do we draw the line? Maybe there is no line and no resolution in sight. It is not fair for the doctors to deal with the bal-

looning costs of malpractice insurance, and it is not fair for the patients to lay in hospital beds sick while doctors on strike.

Pneumonia has always been a dangerous sickness, whether you are a small child, an adult or an elderly person. What if my grandmother had not found out for a week or more? Four days was enough to be fatal to an elderly woman battling many sicknesses — what if the pneumonia had not been caught?

In my grandmother's case, and I am sure others, the doctor did not take responsibility for the patient he was examining. He then did not follow through and have a conference with her primary physician. Why has this become acceptable nowadays?

I agree strikes are sometimes needed to get action in many fields. Teachers have often relied on them to get deserved raises. Obviously, something needs to be done for these doctors and the rising malpractice insurance

costs.

But when it comes to dealing with patients or money issues first, I say pick the patients. That's what the medical field is all about anyway, right? Helping people and healing people. It's not about telling them to put their illnesses on hold while the doctors sort out money issues, and it's not about neglecting to follow through on anything, especially when you have someone else's life in your hands.

It's not only my grandmother, it's yours, too, or maybe another family member.

Maybe my grandmother's doctor was busy, tired or stressed. Maybe he was considering joining the strikes. But, hey, it comes with the profession, and there are millions of doctors who continue to treat their patients anyway.

Abbie is pretty sure she is going to get a lot of hate mail for this column, so e-mail her your thoughts at pabyrom@unity.ncsu.edu.

CAMPUS FORUM

Setting the record straight about emergency contraception

Emergency contraception — how much do you know about this choice? One of the biggest myths concerning emergency contraception is that it's just another "abortion pill" like RU-486. Also known as the "morning-after pill," emergency contraception is simply a concentrated dose of normal birth-control pills used to stop a pregnancy from occurring.

Emergency contraception cannot stop a pregnancy that's already in progress. What it can do is stop an egg from being fertilized, and it can stop a fertilized egg from implanting into the uterine wall. Emergency contraception is most effective when taken 72 hours after unprotected intercourse. The longer it takes for a woman to obtain emergency contraception, the less effective the medicine will be.

Providing wider access to emergency contraception will help prevent unwanted pregnancies and will also reduce the abortion rate. According to Planned Parenthood's Web site, emergency contraception has been available for 25 years. It could prevent 1.7 million pregnancies and 800,000 abortions in the U.S. every year.

If you are in a sexually active relationship, talk to your doctor about safe sex and emergency contraception. Also, take the opportunity to learn about emergency contraception through your school: visit the WolfpackNOW table on the Brickyard today to get the facts about emergency contraception. Awareness and education are important to your well-being, so get informed about emergency contraception.

Sonia Navarro
Junior
Political Science/English

Keep history and truth in mind before making decisions about Iraq

Recently I've seen at least two references by two different people in Technician to the idea that America has never waged an aggressive war before and that this invasion of Iraq is a first. It is not. In this letter I'd like to touch on the Indochina wars, particularly as regards to Vietnam — a particularly horrendous example surrounded by a great many others.

The basic facts of the situation: the U.S. government was overwhelmingly the main economic and military force keeping the Saigon dictatorship in power. The United States supported the government in its slaughter of tens of thousands of peaceful dissidents. In sum, the government was a puppet of the United States,

especially after the killing of Diem in 1963.

Second of all, it should be noted that up until 1965 there was no serious North Vietnamese activity in South Vietnam. What then was the United States doing there? Well, it was fighting the National Liberation Front, which definitely had more mass-based support there. Also, when the United States authorized the attack on North Vietnam in 1965, it also authorized a bombing of roughly triple the scale on the South: but none of this is well-known, and for good reason.

The end sum in 1975 was: three countries devastated, some 3-4 million people dead, probably more than half civilian, and the Khmer Rouge coming to power in Cambodia. Massive damage persists today. The basic U.S. government myths do, also, shoved down our throats by a very largely corporate-controlled mass media: that it was the "defense" of South Vietnam, the "defense" of democracy, etc.

This is propaganda and I suggest interested people research it a bit. We should be keeping the truth about this in mind when we contemplate invading Iraq.

Alexander Sheppard
Lifelong Education

A response to Chancellor Fox's statement on tolerance

I am worried by the comments contained within Chancellor Fox's statement on tolerance. The fact is, no matter how "highly offensive, hurtful and disrespectful" this particular piece of graffiti was, no good will come of your reprimand and/or your so-called investigation.

I am not condoning either racism or homophobia; I believe them both to be wrong, but also publicity for such stunts does not help anyone. You, Chancellor Fox, have created an even larger realm, although anonymous thus far, of celebrity status for the ignorant graffiti artists, and we should all be aware at this point that groups of people are hated by other groups of people for no good reason.

A lot of the reasons such people continue to be vocal is the attention they receive. As I understand the nature of the graffiti, there was no purpose in the act, apart from getting a rise out of people they knew disagreed with them. In the same sentence after referring to how damaging the graffiti was, you refer to the scene of the "crime" as the *Free Expression Tunnel*. Neglecting all reason, someone has actually exited the realm of free expression.

It seems to me that disrespectful, hurtful and even highly offensive material is included in the

phrase "free expression." Is this in fact a crime and if not, why is there an investigation? Did they indicate that they were going to hurt someone? If so, do you think them knowing that their graffiti is not tolerated is going to change their views or deter them from carrying out a hate crime? I think not.

I would like to add, if there were in fact any violent crimes committed or any sort of physical harassment occurred, it would make perfect sense to enforce the appropriate laws. Offensive, ignorant people do exist. It is up to each individual not to hide their eyes from such expressions, but to react accordingly. Punishment will not change their minds, only successful education.

I am unconvinced there is danger in such trite expression some how creating more racists and/or homophobes. The manner and contents of your statement suggest your motivation is to convey how tolerant you are, but only tolerant of the ideas you deem "tolerable." I am not impressed but more worried about the ever-changing definition of the word "free."

John Hutchens
Senior
Math/Math Education

If you're unhappy with the tunnel, just don't look at it

I think it is just silly that people are making such a huge deal about the paintings in the Free Expression Tunnel on the night of Feb. 24. Yes, it is sad that some people can't express themselves in a more intelligent manner, but why is there so much talk about the offensive material in the tunnel painted on that night and not about the offensive material all of the other time? I have seen things much worse (to me) painted in the tunnel than a few racial slurs, namely some crude drawing and lewd suggestions. But realizing that this is the *Free Expression Tunnel*, I just don't look at it, or I put it out of my mind. I would much rather see some words painted in the tunnel than to see a "towelhead" or "sandn—" being beaten or harassed physically. The main point is, you don't have to look at it.

Jennifer Bentley
Junior
Biological Science

Tunnel no forum for intimidation, exclusion, bigotry

We are writing to voice our concern about how the *Free Expression Tunnel* has become a medium to express homophobic, racist, sexist and ethnocentric remarks. The *Free Expression Tunnel* in its truest form represents

essential university values — the right to free expression and debate, supported in an atmosphere of tolerance of differences. Yet, when this exchange serves to frighten, intimidate and exclude members of our campus community, we are compelled to speak out against this bigotry.

As members of the Wolfpack community, we all have the responsibility to treat others with respect and dignity at all times. This does not imply that we will always agree or get along; in fact, debate and civil discourse are healthy elements of a community.

We challenge every member of our campus community to seek to understand, rather than to degrade, and to strive for civil dialogue, rather than lower ourselves to name-calling and hate-filled messages.

Mike Giancola
Director
NCSU Center for Student
Leadership, Ethics
and Public Service

Frances Graham
Director
NCSU Women's Center

Evelyn Reiman
Associate vice chancellor
for student affairs

Meta Uzzle
Associate director
NCSU Women's Center

NGONGANG

continued from page 4

cation is a cooperative venture, but I can't help but to see the correlation between my seeming teacher's pet status and advances for preparatory collaboration.

There are many pluses to being a teacher's pet. When grading time comes, professors have an understanding of who I am and what I have contributed to class. I have the ability to explain myself better to professors, and I will often go speak with them after class or in their office. It makes for a better working environment for the professors, as they are allowed to catch a glimpse of how the class is going from a subjective opinion.

In my classes, being a teacher's pet has helped me gain understanding of how important it is to interact with your professor, and how lonely it can be for other teacher's pets. Whether you are a "purposeful pet" or a "pet" roped into the ordeal like myself,

you are pretty lonely there. Some days it calls for a day in which you have to get out of the class and just marinate for a little while.

I don't mind being the teacher's pet. I am a senior, I am not going to be here in three months, so why not get in good with the professors if you have the opportunity? With such a large university and huge classes, being that student is almost the equivalent of having a platinum Visa card, in the sense that it is worth nothing until you use it.

I have the opportunity to get a better understanding of material discussed in class, get publicity for almost everything I do, and I get to piss people off without doing anything. It is an interesting existence, and we all know someone like this. Don't hate on every teacher's pet — some just inherited the title.

Send Decker your comments at dtmgonga@unity.ncsu.edu, but he won't be able to read them while he is baking cookies for his English professor.

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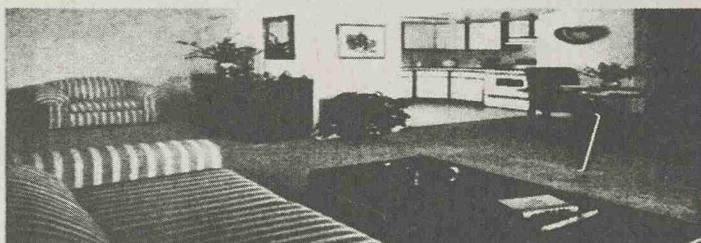


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Cliff Crawford passes out of traffic as three Maryland defenders converge on the ball. Staff photo by Tim Lytvinerko

GYMNASTICS

continued from page 8

The Pack started off strong with an impressive performance on the vault, posting a team score of 48.550. Junior Molly Pennington finished in a second-place tie with a 9.85 and was the Pack's top vaulter. Cheyl Potacco finished fifth with a 9.775, and Sabo posted a strong 9.725 for eighth place.

"Our performance was awesome; we didn't count any falls," Pennington said. "That is one of our biggest goals."

State then moved on to the uneven bars, where it is ranked 12th nationally, and as it has been doing all year long, the Pack dominated the event, posting a season-best 49.250 with all scores being above 9.8. Senior Marlyn Madey won her third straight bars title, posting a 9.925. Sabo scored a 9.875 for second place overall, and senior Adina Stock and fresh-

man Kayla Bachman tied for sixth place with identical scores of 9.825.

Next up for the Pack was the balance beam, which has historically been the team's weakest event. On Friday night, however, the team was far from weak on the beam, posting a season-best 49.225. Sabo again led the way for the Pack, finishing fourth with a 9.9. Junior Kelley Kello was close behind with a 9.875, good for seventh place.

By the time the Pack had begun its last event in the floor, the team had the meet well in hand. Nevertheless, the Pack brought smiles to the 1,000-plus NCSU fans in attendance by posting a team score of 49.075. Sabo finished first again with a 9.9, while her teammate, junior Alison Bundy, notched a season-best 9.825, good for second place overall. Sophomore Cori Goldstein bounced back from a disappointing beam

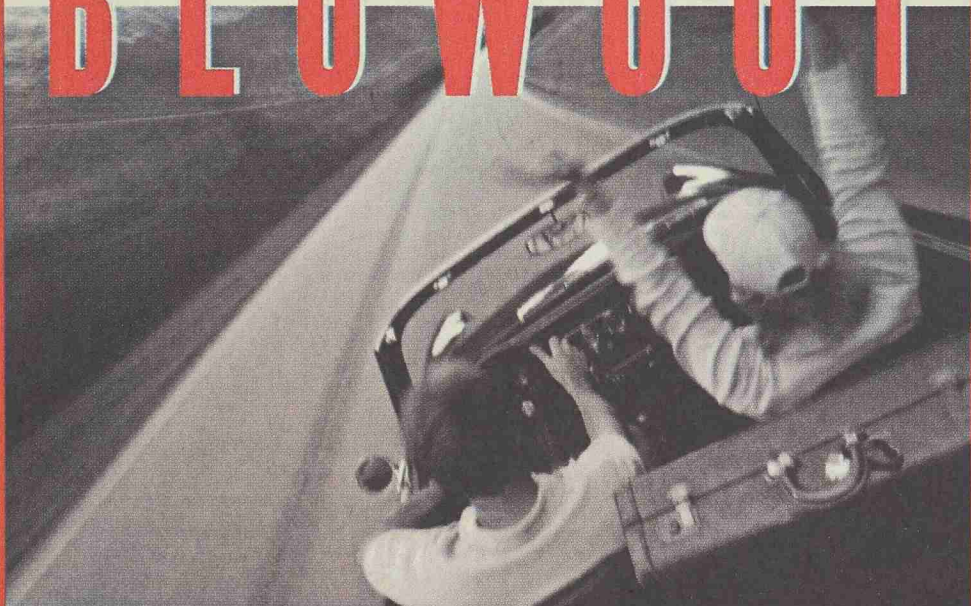
performance to notch a 9.8 to finish in a tie for fourth with Madey.

"I was very let down with beam, because I had been having a hard time with that event," Goldstein said. "But being able to come to the floor and end on a good event and knowing that we won the meet felt great."

The Pack's next meet will be at Reynolds Coliseum against Pittsburgh, William and Mary, and James Madison on Saturday. The Pack ends the season on the road with back-to-back away meets at Utah State and William and Mary, so Stevenson is aware of the importance of success on the road.

"The challenge on the road is trying to walk in with confidence," Stevenson said.

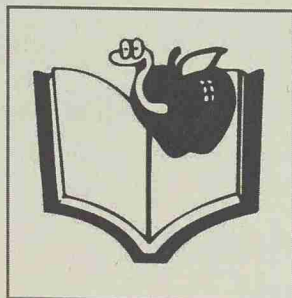
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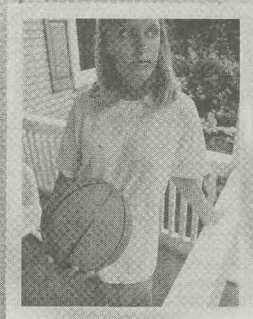
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Swimming couldn't back its way into an ACC championship, but it did finish fifth. File photo by Rob Bradley

Men's swimming takes fifth at ACCs

Five Wolfpack swimmers reached the ACC finals as the Pack held onto fifth place from start to finish at the ACC championships.

Sports Staff Report

CHAPEL HILL — N.C. State maintained its fifth-place status Saturday evening, ending the 50th ACC men's swimming championships with a total score of 368.

Virginia (780) captured its fifth consecutive championship, outscoring its nearest challenger, Florida State (567), by 231 points. Five Wolfpack athletes participated in the night's championship finals: three swimmers and two divers.

The Wolfpack's Pete Pessagno swam in the third heat of the 1,650-yard freestyle and scored in ninth place for the team with a time of 15:32.12. Chris Nixon scored in 11th, while Jack Deal swam in the final heat and finished with a time that placed him in 14th place overall, while Dan Kesler finished 15th.

Sophomore Kevin Barkley placed seventh in the evening's championship final of the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 1:48.63. Freshman Steven Cowling scored in 11th place in the consolation finals, along with junior Cristian Rojas in 16th. Robert Terrell and Andy Bauman finished 18th and 20th respectively.

Freshman Cullen Jones was the top scorer in the 100-yard freestyle for the Wolfpack, taking a first-place finish in the consolation final to score in ninth place with a time of 45.00. John Hudson finished seventh in the heat and 15th overall.

Sophomore Rob Yeager finished seventh in the 200-yard breaststroke for the second consecutive year with a time of 2:01.78. Junior Brian Pursley scored for the Wolfpack with an 11th-place finish.

Freshman Scott Dettloff improved on his preliminary time in the 200-yard butterfly to finish second in the consolation final and score in 10th place for the

Wolfpack, making his final touch in a time of 1:50.04.

Sophomore Jared Bench held onto fourth on the 3-meter board after entering the finals with a preliminary score of 505.55, and put up a stellar performance to finish with a total of 523.85.

Freshman T.J. Ferguson jumped two spots after beginning the finals in eighth, finishing sixth with a total mark of 502.80 after scoring 429.10 in the preliminaries. The Wolfpack 400-yard freestyle relay team finished the evening with a fifth-place time of 3:01.56.

Championship highlights included two trips to the medal stand by members of the Wolfpack squad. Cowling took second in the 100-yard butterfly after posting the fastest time of the day in the preliminaries with a provisional NCAA-qualifying time of 48.64.

The 200-yard medley relay squad also posted a provisional qualifying time of 1:28.45. The Pack team of Cowling, Pursley, Kevin Devine and Jones took sec-

ond behind the group from Florida State by a mere one-hundredth of a second.

Pursley finished eighth in the 100-yard breaststroke; he had posted a provisional qualifying time earlier in the season. Devine was a finalist in the 100-yard fly and took a top-five finish in a time of 48.87.

Jones appeared in Thursday night's championship final of the 50-yard free as a four seed after making his touch in 20.29 and finished sixth overall.

The Wolfpack placed a total of 11 competitors in the championship finals over the course of the event, not including relay participants.

Georgia Tech's Shilo Ayalon was named the meet MVP after smashing the conference, meet and Koury Natatorium records in the 1,650-yard freestyle with an NCAA automatic qualifying time of 14:51.39. Florida State's Louis Gagnet earned the diving MVP honors by successfully defending his 1- and 3-meter crowns.

WOMEN

continued from page 8

remaining in the first half when Duke exploded on a 16-2 run that put State into a hole it never climbed out of. Duke's has won its last eight games by an average margin of 30.4 points.

Duke junior and National Player of the Year candidate Alana Beard sparked the Duke run with several acrobatic driving layups. Beard had 16 first-half points and finished with 22 after sitting out a large portion of the second half. State was down by 20 points, 42-22, by halftime.

Junior center Kaayla Chones struggled in the first half missing 5-of-6 shots. Chones was double and triple teamed every time she caught the ball. Chones usual backup Carisse Moody was unable to play because of an ankle

sprain she suffered in practice.

"Everybody pretty much collapses on me, I'm used to it by now," said Chones. "It was kind of effective in the first half."

Chones came out strong in the second half though, and State played a more respectable game as a team after the break. Chones finished the game with a double-double, grabbing a team high 11 rebounds and scoring 14 points.

Despite better second-half play, State was unable to cut into the Duke lead or make a game out of it. Senior guard Amelia Labador, who was unable to start because of the flu, had a solid game finishing with 13 points.

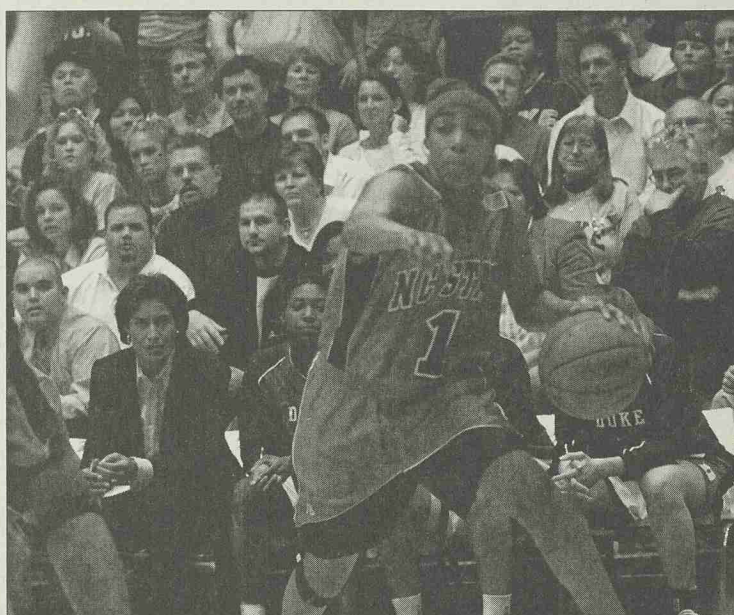
"We had some spurts that we felt good about, but equally we had some spurts that we aren't too proud about," said Yow. "We still have these stretches where we lose it."

Duke got solid games from its two senior on Senior Day at Cameron, with Michele Matyasovsky and Sheana Mosch finishing with 13 and 14 points respectively. The two seniors have seen Duke win three straight ACC tournaments and will be trying to lead Duke to its fourth.

Barring an improbable run in the ACC tournament, State will suffer through its second-straight losing season.

"It's a tough situation," said Yow. "I deal with the situation just as the players are dealing with it, but my philosophy is you go out and you give the best that you have every day."

State will need to make a run in the ACC tournament to salvage the season. The Wolfpack will be the No. 6 seed in the tournament and will play the third-seeded Virginia.



The Wolfpack women now look to drive past Virginia in the ACC tournament. Staff photo by Josh Michel

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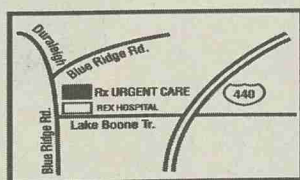
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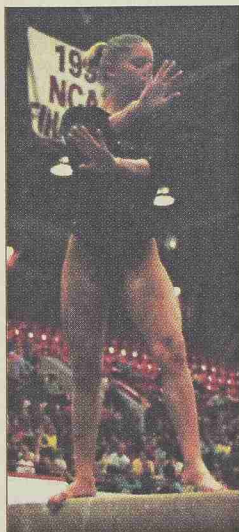
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Monday Sports

Gymnastics wins Wolfpack Invitational



State scored a season-best 49.250 on the beam Friday night. Staff photo by Lindsay McDonald

N.C. State posted its first score of more than 196 to take the Wolfpack Invitational against a loaded field.

Memie Ezike
Staff Writer

Against a field loaded with four nationally ranked teams, the N.C. State gymnastics team turned in its highest score of the year to emerge with the win.

State not only avenged its de-

feat to archival North Carolina a month ago, it also handily defeated Illinois State and the University of Minnesota as well. On its way to the victory, the Pack scored a composite 196.100, its highest score of the year.

North Carolina finished second with a 195.300, Minnesota was third with a 194.650, and Illinois State finished fourth with a 193.475.

For the first time this season, State scored at least a 49.000 in three of four events. Considering five scores are recorded, that averages out to a 9.800 score per gymnast.

Head coach Mark Stevenson and the coaching staff were extremely proud of their team.

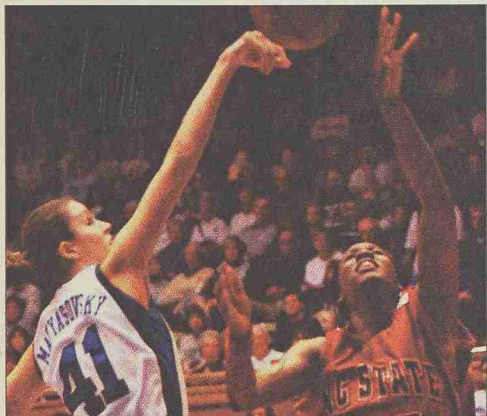
"As a whole, this was by far our best meet of the year," Stevenson said. "We are starting to look better in terms of body position and how we present ourselves. I feel strongly that we are going to continue to get better."

"I can only tell you how proud I am of the team."

State's high score was helped by the strong performance of junior gymnast Leah Sabo. The transfer from Utah was in the zone all night long, taking first in the all-around competition with a 39.400, which included a second-place finish in the bars and a first-place finish on floor.

"I'm honored; it was a tough competition," Sabo said. "It says a lot to go out and finish first."

See GYMNASTICS page 6



N.C. State couldn't find its touch Sunday night against the No. 2 Blue Devils. Staff photo by Josh Michel

Pack blown out by Blue Devils

The Wolfpack women were unable to get into any sort of rhythm as Duke cruised to victory.

Austin Johnson
Staff Writer

The N.C. State women's basketball team was not looking to end its regular season like this, no matter who the opponent was.

No. 2 Duke (27-1, 16-0) ran over State on Sunday night 86-60 in front of a sold out crowd at Cameron Indoor Stadium. State finished the regular season a disappointing 11-16, going 6-10 in the ACC. Duke has now won 40

consecutive conference games, being the first team to go a perfect 16-0 in back-to-back seasons.

State shot just 34 percent in the game and had 18 turnovers to only 11 assists. By contrast, Duke shot 55 percent and had an amazing 30 assists in the game.

"Duke was really clicking on all cylinders on the offensive end," said head coach Kay Yow. "We weren't as effective defensively as we had hoped to be."

Early in the game, State appeared to be keeping up with Duke despite poor play on the offensive end. State was trailing by a 17-10 margin with 10 minutes

See WOMEN page 7

Schedule

M. basketball @ Clemson, 3/5, 9
Baseball vs. Villanova, 3/4, 7
W. tennis vs. Duke, 3/5, 2
M. tennis @ Furman, 3/6, 2:30

Scores

Maryland 68, M. basketball 65
Duke 86, W. basketball 60
W. tennis 6, Boston 1
Gymnastics 196.100, 1st place

TECHNICIAN

Last-second 3-pointer disappoints Wolfpack

Maryland used a 21-7 run including a key shot from Drew Nicholas to push past N.C. State Sunday night at the RBC Center.

Steve Thompson
Sports Editor

With the score tied 65-65 and time running down, Maryland Drew Nicholas came through with a dagger to N.C. State's post-season hopes, a 3-pointer with 1.5 seconds left to lift Maryland to a 68-65 victory.

State (15-10, 8-6 ACC) lost on its homecourt for the first time in ACC play and still remains firmly planted on the NCAA tournament bubble. A win over Maryland (19-7, 11-4) likely would have ended the tournament debate, but now State likely needs at least one more win to qualify.

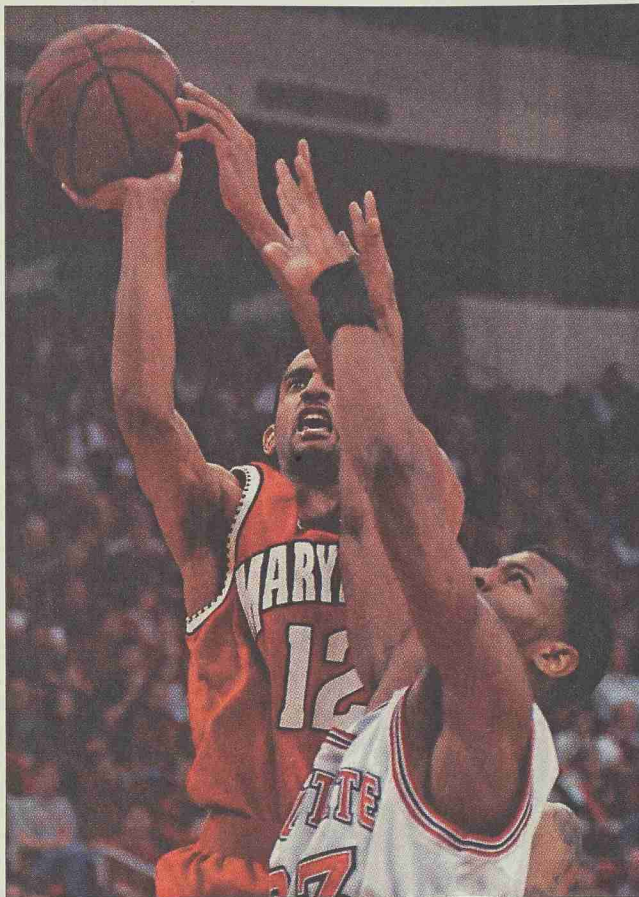
"Herb has done a great job of getting his team ready to play at the NCAA caliber, and they deserve to go," said Maryland head coach Gary Williams. "Our league, winning the last two national championships, deserves to get four teams in the tournament."

Up 58-47, State looked to be well on its way to its first home victory over Maryland since the 1999-2000 season. But Nicholas and Maryland's pressure changed things late in the game.

Nicholas scored five straight points to pull Maryland within six. After a Cameron Bennerman putback extended the Pack's lead to eight, Maryland kept coming. Tajh Holden scored five of Maryland's next seven points to pull the Terps within one at 60-59.

During the run, Josh Powell missed two free throws, and Marcus Melvin would later miss the front end of a one-and-one. After hitting 12 straight free throws in the first half to extend the team's consecutive free throw streak to 34 straight (a school record), the Pack couldn't hit them when they were most needed.

With State clinging to a one-point advantage, Cliff Crawford gave the Pack a bit of a cushion, as he hit a 3-pointer with the shot clock running down to push State's lead to



Drew Nicholas fires his game-winning 3 over Scooter Sherrill. Staff photo by Matt Huffman

four at 63-59 with 4:09 remaining.

Over the next 3:55, however, Maryland scored six straight to go up 65-63. Steve Blake hit his only shot of the game with 2:13 remaining, and then John Gilchrist put back a Jabar Smith miss to give Maryland its first lead since the 9:25 mark in the first half.

State tied the game on a Melvin 15-footer with 14.5 seconds remaining, prompting head coach Herb Sendek to call a timeout

to set up the defense.

"We just wanted to get the defense out there," said Sendek. "I thought that if we could get our defense set, then we could help defend a good look, but Maryland got a great shot off by Nicholas, and he was able to knock it down."

State came out of the timeout pressing the ball, but Blake dribbled to the top of the key and handed the ball off to Nicholas, who drained the 22-foot jumper from the right wing to give Maryland the win. Nicholas scored 13 of his 17 points in the second half.

"He really preformed like a big-time player down the stretch," said Melvin. "He made a big shot, and that comes from maintaining your focus."

On two occasions in the second half, the Pack held a double-digit lead, but Maryland's pressure defense turned the game around. While the Pack had only 12 turnovers for the game — as opposed to the 21 it committed in the teams' first meeting — the Pack committed six key second-half turnovers that led to eight Maryland points.

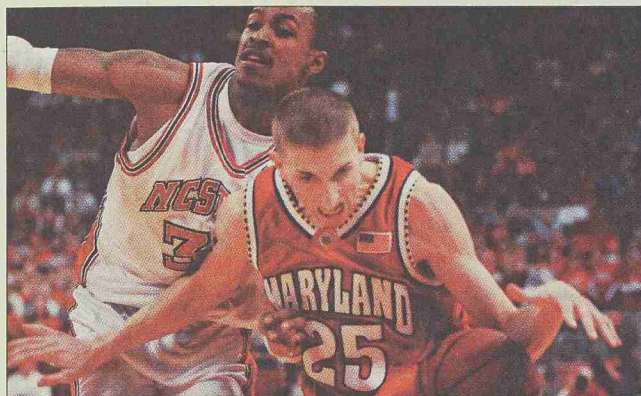
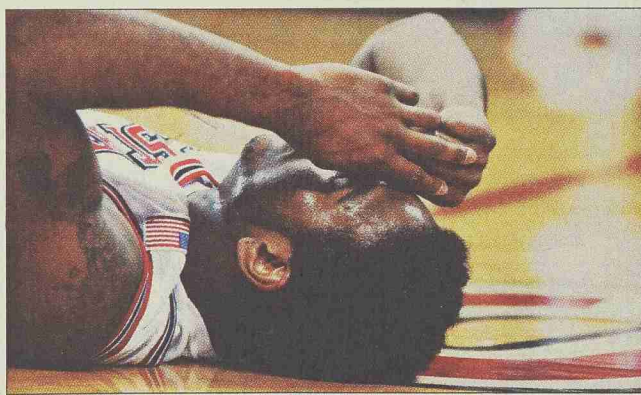
"We handled the press well early on, but late in the game it started working," said Melvin. "They got two or three turnovers off it and converted the plays."

For the third straight year, a Maryland and State game brought out emotions on both sides of the ball. Blake, Nik Caner-Medley and Powell each got called for technical fouls, and Melvin got an intentional foul called on him after retaliating after a Holden elbow with a shot to Holden's face.

"These are two teams that play hard, and their playing hard brings emotions," said Williams, who notched his 500th career win with the game. "Our team has been great this year. They have continuously found a way to stay in the game and win."

After a hard-fought game, the Pack can't mull over what might have been for long. Only two games remain on the ACC regular season ledger — Wednesday at Clemson and Saturday vs. league-leading Wake Forest.

"We've got to keep our head up," said Powell. "We have to put this behind us and prepare for the next game."



(Above) Josh Powell reacts after picking up his second foul early in the game. (Below) Cliff Crawford and Steve Blake fight for possession. Staff photos by Tim Lytvinenko, Matt Huffman

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