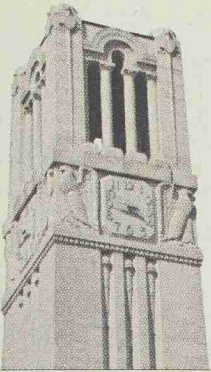


TECHNICIAN

THURSDAY
MARCH
6
2003



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Raleigh, North Carolina

IN THE KNOW

WORLD

Videotapes likely al Qaeda scouting tapes

According to reports, Spanish police officials recently obtained several home videos that could indicate al Qaeda operatives scouted out their terrorist attack locations years in advance.

Among the several tapes found, one was recorded in August 1997 and included extensive footage of shots inside and outside of the twin towers. The tapes were confiscated last year from a suspected terrorist's apartment in Spain.

According to reports, one individual, after shooting several buildings, turned the camera on himself and commented that he would "knock them all down."

Suicide bomber kills 16 in Israel

On Wednesday, a suicide bomber blew himself up on a crowded bus filled with students, killing at least 16 and injuring 55. The bus was travelling through the city of Haifa, Israel.

Twenty-year-old Mahmoud Hamdan Kawasme was identified as the bomber by police officials. According to reports, while it is unknown if he is affiliated with al Qaeda or another terrorist group, Kawasme was carrying a letter supporting the terrorists involved in the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

The bombing follows an Israeli government pledge to beef up its military strikes against militant strongholds in the Gaza Strip who are responsible for many Palestinian deaths.

NATION

U.S. Secretary of State still not convinced

On Wednesday, in a speech to the Center for Strategic and International Studies, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said that there are broader reasons the United States should consider invading Iraq.

In his debate for war against Iraq, Powell presented the organization with two additional details. First, he said that national intelligence has indicated that Iraq is hiding chemical and biological weapons in lower-class Iraqi neighborhoods. Powell said that even though Iraq is currently destroying many of its Al Samoud 2 missiles, they have hidden equipment that would make it possible for them to continue making the weapons — even as they destroy them.

Amnesty International opposes U.S. interrogation techniques

Now that Khalid Shaikh Mohammed the Sept. 11, 2001 organizer, has been detained in the United States, Amnesty International, a human rights organization, stated on Wednesday that the interrogation techniques used in the United States and on Mohammed are unethical and amount to torture.

While U.S. officials disregard all of these claims, Amnesty International has said that the interrogation techniques in the country include "sensory deprivation," "prolonged physical restraint," and psychological torture, said reports.

U.S. officials are saying that Mohammed is at an undisclosed location and that the interrogators are taking "appropriate" measures.

STATE

Senate panel backs stricter child-care penalties

On Wednesday, a state Senate panel pushed legislation that would call for more stringent penalties for child-care providers who dispense medicine without a parent's permission. The legislation comes on the heels of a recent incident in which a 5-month-old died after being given sleeping medicine without a parent's knowledge.

Currently, North Carolina day-care regulations provide for specific written instructions from parents before any kind of medicine is administered to children. The new bill would make it a criminal felony to violate these regulations.

N.C. put on malpractice liability list

The American Medical Association (AMA) added North Carolina to its list of states that it says are undergoing a medical malpractice liability crisis, promoting increased debate in the state and across the nation. Five other states were also recently added to the list.

On the same day that the list grew, President Bush and his administration declared that its call for national limits on jury awards for injured patients' pain and suffering has become an urgent call.

WAR IN FOCUS

DEALING WITH DEPARTURE

When family gets involved, war becomes a more personal issue for students.

Shannon Holder
Staff Reporter

With the deployment of more than 200,000 U.S. troops to the Middle East region, many students at N.C. State are dealing with loved ones going overseas.

Mark McLawhorn, a senior in art design, found out two weeks ago that his younger brother, Philip, is possibly going to Turkey. Philip has been in the Air Force for about four years. Though McLawhorn is not daily affected by his brother's deployment, his mother is having a difficult time.

"The biggest impact of him leaving was on my mother ... just because whenever someone's children [are] in the military, there's a threat that they may never make it back to American soil," McLawhorn said.

His mother seems to be dealing with Philip's departure fairly well, but she steers clear of movies such as "Saving Private Ryan."

McLawhorn feels that his brother is "saving lives of other people" rather than "fighting against an enemy" but would rather not disclose what his brother's duty is other than "running detail."

But he is unsure of whether his brother is in danger because "nothing has happened yet."

"Maybe if this was day one and we were trying to drive down the streets of Baghdad, then that would be something, but there is no notion of what is going to happen," he added. "Something is going to happen, there's too much politics and bravado wrapped up in it now, regardless of how many missiles Hussein destroys or claims

to destroy."

McLawhorn is undecided on the future of a war with Iraq, commenting, "I don't think I'll ever see it as a clear-cut fight against good versus evil, like a World War II scenario where you had a Hitler, because it's more broad. Right now, it's about Saddam Hussein, but next year, it could be about North Korea or some new thing we haven't heard of."

Even though he is not sure of the Iraq situation, he still feels American pride. "It still is the greatest country on the earth at the moment. There are things that you are able to do here that you can't do anywhere else. The peo-

ple out in the street protesting the war wouldn't be able to do that if it weren't for the people in the military guarding our borders," McLawhorn said.

Joshua Smith, a graduate student in physics, has a brother-in-law stationed in the Persian Gulf. Smith's brother-in-law, Mark, has been in the Navy for about seven years and has been in the Middle East since July.

"I don't think he's in danger, like if he was a pilot. He works on an aircraft carrier, and he isn't a combat person; he's a support person. If the aircraft carrier that he was on

See FAMILIES page 2

EDUCATION, INTERRUPTED

As troops amass across the Middle East, NCSU students will join their ranks.

Stella Listas
Staff Reporter

As American troops increase in the Middle East, a number of N.C. State students have gotten active: distributing flyers, voicing their beliefs or holding open forums. But, there are numerous students who have gotten active in another way — deployment.

"The students who we have that are deployed or activated are freshmen and sophomores who have achieved a certain level of training within the that allow them to be deployed," said Major William J. Medley, assistant professor of military history.

But Medley also pointed out that there are differences between deployment and being part of an or-

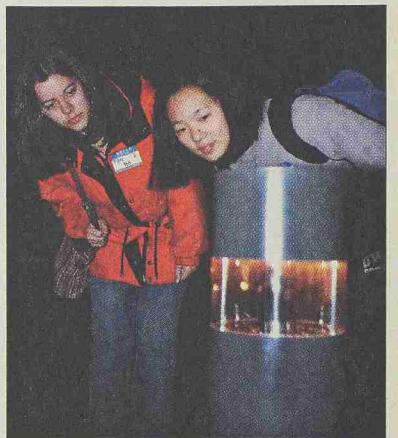
ganization that gets activated and goes out into a field of operation.

Out of the students who've entered in the ROTC program, only about four or five have been activated. In the Army, there is the active duty force, the National Guard, the reserves and the Department of Civilians, but because of congressional budget limitations, they can only expand to a certain extent. In order for the active duty force to get bigger, the president will have to mobilize the National Guard and reserve units.

There are different functions in the National Guard and reserve units within the Army. "Units may be activated to perform a function for the that doesn't necessarily mean they're leaving the local area or the state," explained Medley.

The ROTC has about four or five NCSU students who've been ac-

See STUDENTS page 2



Tyler Pool and Jennifer Knorr question the safety of a dim, flickering light outside the Free Expression Tunnel behind Williams Hall while making their rounds Tuesday night. Staff photo by Rob Bradley

Students patrol for safety

Students and staff patrolled campus on Tuesday to point out areas of safety concern on campus.

Aniesha Felton
Staff Reporter

Walking alone from a late class might not be as frightening due to an annual event called Night Walk.

Approximately 50 N.C. State students and staff members gathered Tuesday night to patrol the campus and take notes on what needs to be done in order for students to feel a little safer.

"We invited many organizations to patrol one of 11 zones on campus," said Cameron Wells, chair of the event. "We want the participants to go around their specific zone and critically view their surroundings and report dim lights, overgrown shrubs and anything else that could be improved to make it safer to walk alone."

After an hour of patrolling, participants come back to refreshments and turned in their list of "problems" from their zone. The 11 combined lists will go to NCSU's Facilities Operations Department, the department in charge of maintaining the physical campus, and when it gets its funds, staff members can look at the list and disperse the money according to what needs to be done.

"It tells me what's wrong," says Garland Lee, a planter's scheduler. "We help the students point out things that are wrong, and they point out things to us that they see that

could possibly be improved on."

Jack Colby, director of the facilities department, said that the student-compiled lists are very helpful.

"These lists determine our work orders. It also lets us know which crews we should contact for certain jobs. This is not only helpful for students; it is very helpful to us," he said. To start the night off, Chancellor Mary Anne Fox appeared and stressed the importance of safety for NCSU students.

"Safety is always a great concern at State. It makes great sense that [students and administration] should come together and improve this great campus," she said. "Giving this week, amidst all the midterms, is truly giving. I truly appreciate each and every one of you who are trying to make this campus the safest it can be and making [the campus] the best it can be."

While the facilities department staff were out to drive and point out safety hazards, students came out because they felt it was a great opportunity to have a direct impact on the campus.

"I came out to support Student Government," said Matthew Flanery, a senior in chemical engineering. "I also came out because this event is a very effective one. It takes a short time, but you accomplish a whole lot."

"This event helps improve safety and security of the campus as well as improving the feeling of safety for students; this may be far-fetched, but this event may also deter

See PATROL page 2

Fire claims house



According to Capt. Willis of the Raleigh Fire Department, a blaze broke out at a house on Greenleaf Road early Wednesday morning. The house was inhabited by three NCSU students. Emergency workers transported one injured person to the Chapel Hill Burn Center. When the fire department arrived, people were still trapped inside, and workers had to search the burning house. According to neighbors, the people inside the house were having a party and three objects, including alcohol bottles and a computer printer, out of a window. The cause of the fire is unknown. Staff photo by Josh Michel

TODAY

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Opinion
supports hotel construction on Centennial Campus. p. 4

Sports
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WEATHER

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AM T-Storms
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Righteous babe, dig it?

Ani DiFranco

Evolve
★★★

Jake Seaton
Staff Writer

Let us all breathe a sigh of relief. Ani has finally returned with an album featuring all-new, original material. After the longest absence since her 1990 debut "Ani DiFranco," she has returned after a two-year void of new material and an abundance of live releases.

Just as the title of her latest offering suggests, DiFranco has once again continued the evolution of her music. Having started her career as a neo-hippie folkie boasting lyrics of political awareness, sexual freedom and openness, DiFranco has drastically changed her style — displacing longtime fans and garnering new ones — with each album released.

This freedom of evolution comes from the lack of restraint that her record label provides. Quite possibly — and that is a loosely used phrase — it could be because her record label is the one she began on her own at the age of 20, Righteous Babe Records.

DiFranco is the epitome of the "indie" musician. She began her own label and has grown to the success of playing sold-out shows at venues such as Carnegie Hall without the help of any outside support. She has developed a strong base in her hometown of Buffalo, N.Y., and spread her message across the globe.

"Evolve" is the culmination of her 13-year career. It reflects the old DiFranco that we all had grown to love and the harmony-drenched DiFranco of new. Every song offers a different side that has been presented in her previous releases, as well as a few tracks that ring as a new sound for DiFranco.

The next stage in her growth is a colorful medley of funk, folk and jazz. Her aesthetics represent a small part of what rural-town America views in regards to the dynamics of our national culture, musically and lyrically. She has, and continues to use, her art as a billboard to present the world through her eyes and spark a generation to help change the way that she perceives America to be degrading.

Lyrical composition has always been a strong attribute in DiFranco's musical career. Each track is eloquently versed as poems from the heart that strike key notes — pardon the pun — in mental stimulation. Listeners often find themselves deliberating the philosophical stature of the figurative, and usually explicit,

language by which she communicates.

With this new LP, DiFranco has enlisted the help of her touring band to record the instrumental layers of the album. By adding a strong brass section and various other instruments, she has produced a delicate sound reminiscent of a Dave Matthews Band album, which appeals more to the college student than the post-college fan base that she's become accustomed to.

Each track presents its own case on the subjects of life, love, politics and sexuality. Some contrast each other, while others are a reinforcement of an ideal presented from a different position toward the matter.

"In the Way" is a track which tackles the struggles of love and loss, while its doppelganger, "O My My," embraces the beauty of the human condition and celebrates the joys of love and the body.

Although she does cover the standard issues that are addressed in each album, DiFranco has focused most of her attention and energy on the topic of love, rather than the usual political and sexual matters. As stated before, "In the Way" recounts an incident of the pain of love while "O My My" is delicate toward the subject. "Icarus" is another song that makes a statement regarding humankind's affliction with the problems of love. The last track to address the language of love is "Shrug." It also delivers a pain of love that is thought about by many but stated by few.

Most definitely the most impressive and strongest track on the album, "Serpentine," is a spoken-word poem which spans more than a 10-minute interval. The opus is recited over a quiet strumming on an acoustic guitar, as if it was intended to be a highlighted performance in a beat-poetry café. The song is a negative statement about the government, corporation

and politics in general. Each verse is obviously well thought-out and rehearsed, for the track never loses its momentum or thought provocation.

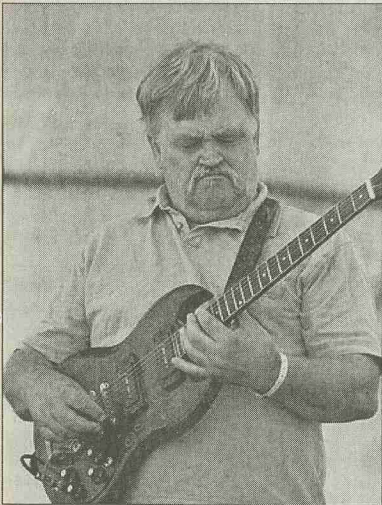
DiFranco has come a long way from her heydays of playing in bars in Buffalo, N.Y. Each of her albums has been a window into her growth and a reflection of the growth of her fans as individuals. "Evolve" is no deterrence from this trend. She has

proven to us, once and for all, that she is a force to be reckoned with; she could quite possibly be the female response to Bob Dylan.



Photo courtesy KRT

The Colonel's secret recipe



Col. Bruce Hampton, an influence to today's hottest jam acts, gets crispy. Photo courtesy Erik Johnson

Thomas Baucom
Staff Writer

It was not the kind of meeting I had envisioned. Escaping the bitter cold through the doors of the Lincoln Theatre and shivering my way towards the bar, I encountered what at first glance appeared to be a normal, middle-aged man dressed in two layers of worn wool, an old tee shirt and a haphazard hair style. Moving closer to him, I heard a faint voice-tarnished by years of tobacco use and decades of blues-belted-mutter a brief acknowledgment. After the usual introductions, I began a journey into the mind of one of the true musical gurus of our time as he delved into music, life and philosophy.

Col. Bruce Hampton and his two man band, the Codetalkers, refuse to be labeled as anything more than "pure music."

"We will play anything with an emotional core. Music should be listened to with more than your ears, and less than your mind," Hampton said.

Hampton concluded that music was much more than record sales and groupies. He is a musician that plays music for the love of music and nothing more. Technician recently sat down with the elder sage and discussed the state of music and zodiac symbols.

Tech: Derek Trucks and Oteil Burbridge always talk about you being their personal music guru. Do you feel the influence of what you recommend to them in their music?

BH: Anything pure. From blues to Indian music, as long as the emotional core of folk music or blues is there—actually going back to Son House...and early Bill Monroe. I just told them to listen to the origin of the earliest music we can get our hands on. Miles Davis and John Coltrane absolutely extended the art form and gave it lasting power. I really find it an honor that such masters as Derek and Oteil respect my opinion. (Laughs)

Tech: I know Derek Trucks took a ride with you when he was 11 or 12 and you played "Giant Steps" by Coltrane. Do you remember that?

BH: Very well. The funny thing Derek said was, "Man, that music sounds good after you hear it." Music should be approached that way. Derek was the same then as he is now. He was already a master. He was just as good at 11 or 12 as he is now or ever will be. One of the reasons is he has time, tone and space. What angers me is that name players wouldn't give him the time of day because he was 11. I remember going to a sound-check with Oteil and crying the whole way through it. We had never heard anything quite like it. To this day, I have never heard anyone on any instrument with intonation better than him. Derek is illegal and will be around a hundred years from now.

Certain people listen to music with their eyes and get an image.

Tech: Talk to me a little bit about your movie career. I know you just did a film with Billy Bob Thornton. How did that come about?

BH: I've been doing movies since the early 70s. I have done about fifteen with speaking parts, but most I would rather not reveal. They are really bad. I also did a flick with Mike Gordon from Phish. That was kind of a crazy one too. Phish just brings such chemistry to the table. We used to trade gigs. When we played in the south, no one had ever heard of them, but when we went north, all the women were singing their songs. That's the sign of a band about to make it big: when women sing your songs.

Tech: Do women ever sing your songs?

BH: (laughs) I don't know, I've never thought of it that way. Maybe one or two. (laughs)

Tech: You have been playing music for decades. What are your musical ambitions today?

BH: I never have had ambitions. I have aspirations, and I want to be good every night. I am not in the music business. I play music and enjoy it. The music business is not for me. There are ways to make a living. I was talking to a famous record producer about six months ago and he said "You are the only person I know that has made a living in the music. You have wigged the middle perfectly". Most people make it big or they quit. I just want to make a living. I don't want to deal with the madness of "big" and I don't think I am commercial enough to do that. You can play the game but the whole music business is marketing. You can

market anything and people will buy it!

Tech: What is your take on the Grammys?

BH: The good thing about popular music is that it isn't popular long. 15 percent of the stuff is good, and the rest is stuff I just don't understand. Especially this year, look at Norah Jones. She is great at what she does and a couple other people are great at what they do. It's not for me, but they are great. She will be around forever. She is Ravi Shankar's daughter, my God! She has the gene! There is just too much ego in making it big in the music business. If it happened under my own terms, I'd let it happen.

Tech: You have never been "big" as you put it. What would your biggest musical accomplishments be in your own eyes?

BH: I've had a great time and lived a very blessed life. I've played with the greatest musicians in the world and met the best people in the world. I am just a very lucky guy.

Tech: Are musicians good people?

BH: Are 2nd basemen good people? There is a good and a bad in everything. You know, we are just lucky that the universe takes over and creates a flow. You can put yourself in it. I think Michael Jordan—as great as he is, as humble as he is and as arrogant as he is all at the same time—knows that the gift is not all his. He was put here to do it, and he does it perfectly. It just has a lot to do with the universal flow. You take the universe away and you are left with the human being. That just isn't much.

Tech: I noticed that the Late Bronze Age [Hampton's band of the early 80's] albums got re-released. Where did those albums come from?

BH: (Laughs) That's a good question! (Laughs) It's about twenty-five years old, I think. I didn't put it out though. The company did it. I haven't heard it in 15 years, but I know it's a wild, crazy record.

Tech: Tell me a little about your band, the Codetalkers. What do they bring to the table musically?

BH: Well, there are not many of them up there. We are down to two people. A drummer and the other one plays bass, guitar, banjo and organ all at the same time.

Tech: So he just loops everything?

BH: No. I have no idea how he does it and he won't tell anybody. I don't ask questions. There are only two and a half of us up there. (Pause) So...are you a Taurus or an Aries?

Tech: (Long pause) Neither. I'm a Capricorn.

BH: Nifty. So is Richard Nixon.

After another thirty minutes of cosmic discussion and musical gripes, I said goodnight to one of the most eccentric, yet sincere people I have ever met. In fact, if music was viewed as the art form it is instead of the financial smorgasbord accountants would like it to be, we would have a lot more "pure music" around today. And I am sure the Colonel would approve.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THURSDAY

Godspeed You Black Emperor! will rock Cat's Cradle in Carrboro with the incredible Black Dice. This show is sold-out. 40 Ounces brings the heat to The Brewery.

Parmalee pulls into Lincoln Theatre with Sedona opening.

Park Life rocks it with local boys Marat at Go!

Tenpenny Opera brings their soul folk to The Six String Café in Cary.

The Jason Crosby Band jams the night away at The Pour House.

FRIDAY

Bifocal Media and Kings Barcade host their first "Night of Rock" with local favorites Goner, The Kick Ass, Des Ark and Fin Fang Foom.

Grunge tribute diehards Seattle play Lincoln Theatre with throwbacks Lost Anthem and Rainy Day Felons.

Burnt Tasters play The Six String Café. Stuckshot, Seven, Far Less and Piece by Piece will all send The Brewery into a frenzy.

Gogol Bordello plays the Cradle with former Chapel Hill homeboy MC Paul Barman and Palomar.

Eleki Bass, 63 Crayons and Charles Douglas all play Go!

Five Gallon Pale parties at The Pour House. Jamgrass act Old Habit opens.

SATURDAY

Pidgeon English and Kings Barcade host their second "Night of Rock" with more local favorites Moonlight, The Weather, Greatest Hits, The Loners and The Cherry Valence.

Barefoot Manner brings their jam to The Pour House in advance of their Colorado Tour Kickoff.

Confessor brings the heat to the Lincoln Theatre with acts Slugnut and Bone Shelter.

Local sultry crooner Tift Merritt returns to the Cradle with The Carlines. Brown Mountain Lights will open. Cyril Lance will also play an acoustic set.

Alternative-country mastermind Clem Snide plays a set at Go! Cub Country will be playing in support.

Famous pulls into The Brewery for a gig with Revelation Darling.

Jeffery Hyde Thompson returns to The Six String Café with fantastic opener Dana Cooper.

SUNDAY

Idlewild will kick it with the French Kicks at Cat's Cradle.

None the Wiser performs at The Pour House. Free show.

Tim McGraw & The Dancehall Doctors play RBC Center.

MONDAY

Indie-rock visionaries Yo La Tengo play with The Glands at the Cradle.

The Jake Johnson Band rocks The Pour House. Free show.

TUESDAY

Judah Bauer from Jon Spencer Blues Explosion plays with his 20 Miles project at Kings. Mr. Airplane Man opens.

Rainer Maria pulls into the Cradle in support of its fine new record. Mates of State and Sorry About Dresden play in support.

The Zone Rangers perform at the Pour House. Free show.

WEDNESDAY

Blue Bamboozie brings the 'grass to The Six String Café.

Will Hoge brings his guitar-edged pop to Lincoln Theatre. Echo House will get things started.

The Bellrays play Go!

Scrappy Hamilton gets dirty at The Pour House.

Rock n' Roll Summer at Kings.

THURSDAY

The Exies play a free show sponsored by 96.1 at the Lincoln Theatre with Von-Ray and Chris Grace.

Mason Jennings, a sweet-voiced Bob Dylan, plays Go! Eleni Mandell (think Norah Jones in a basement) opens.

ONGOING

The N.C. State University Dance Program hosts the Mid-Atlantic College Dance Festival from March 12 until March 16. For tickets, contact Ticket Central.

The Gallery of Art and Design presents The Jewelry of Robert Ebendorf: A Retrospective of Forty Years until March 9.

The Gallery of Art and Design presents Common Ground: Cultural Diversities from the Permanent Collection until March 9.

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Hotel plan a plus

After joining forces with a private sector partner, the proposed resort hotel complex on N.C. State's Centennial Campus has become more of a benefit than a burden to the university. Plans for this complex began in 1986 while Centennial Campus itself was still in its infancy. Since then the plan has transformed, expanded and contracted, but the current proposal includes a 250-room hotel with conference center facilities and an 18-hole golf course with a price tag of \$71 million.

At a meeting of the Council of State last fall, Gov. Mike Easley told Chancellor Marye Anne Fox that he would not — nor did he think the General Assembly would — support plans for the complex without a private sector partner to minimize the financial risk of the university and, consequently, the state of North Carolina.

A proposal before the NCSU Board of Trustees would pair NCSU with Hines Interests of Houston, the company the university has already contracted to perform architectural, design and land-planning work. The News and Observer reported this week that under the plan, Hines would repay NCSU the \$3.4 million it has received for preliminary work in exchange for owning the facility.

The fundamental principle behind such a complex is that, by building a quality resort/conference center on Centennial Campus, the relationship between the university and research and industry sectors will be strengthened. Only through partnering with a private partner, like Hines, would this proposal work.

This plan minimizes NCSU's risk but does eliminate it completely. NCSU would be responsible for an undetermined number of years for guaranteeing \$4.5 million in revenue each year, mon-

ey the university would have to cough up if the complex was not operating in the black.

Ultimately, this plan is one that should work. The university must engage in some sort of risk-taking in order to reap substantial dividends. This plan has the proper balance between risk and benefit. But Chancellor Fox and the Board of Trustees must never lose sight of the fact that this, first and foremost, is a place of education. Proponents of the plan speak of its appeal to the golf community at NCSU — both those on NCSU's golf team and those in the university's golf management curriculum that the Professional Golf Association recently accredited. They also say that the golf course would provide a much-needed learning facility for NCSU's turf management program — one of the top in the nation, despite not having a golf course.

Therefore, to keep the project in focus, we'd like to see a guarantee from the university that this facility can and will be used as a learning tool, much like the College of Veterinary Medicine's facilities. The Centennial project would be more university friendly than the other large-scale partnered project — the RBC Center, which, when it's not in use for men's basketball games, provides little or no benefit to the university community.

The closest complexes comparable to what is proposed on Centennial are in Research Triangle Park. The Centennial facility will not compete with local hotels because it will be seeking a different clientele. The complex will infuse new life into the area around campus and, by extension, nearby downtown Raleigh. We'd like to see this project get off the ground but without losing sight of the reason the project exists in the first place — the university.

Moving away from the middle



Andrew Dugan
Staff Columnist

I'll admit, when President Bush announced last Wednesday that invading Iraq would not only yield world security but might even spread a final and absolute peace between ever-warring Palestine and Israel, I found it somewhat unconvincing. But then again, it is true that in the various attempts to mediate this perennial conflict, the bold but digressing thought of invading a country that has had — at best — a marginal role in this bloody play has gone unmentioned.

Maybe Bush is on to something, but the evidence hasn't been cemented just yet. In the past few days, as the world community puts all its eggs in the Iraqi basket, the new government of Israel has celebrated its nascent coalition by unleashing troops into the one area Palestinians enjoy even nominal control in: the Gaza Strip. The hope of this action was to catch Hamas terrorists hiding within the refugee camps and the residential areas, but the main result was the predictable bloodshed of unaffiliated Palestinians. "The Economist" reports casualties including a 33-year-old pregnant woman and a 14-year-old boy, struck by falling debris from a dynamited house. Twenty-four hours prior to that, a nine-year-old boy was killed attending a funeral for others who had been killed in an earlier battle with Israeli forces.

But for all this, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon can only show one suspected Hamas terrorist, Mohammed Taha, and his five sons — the terrorist being in his late 60s, as noted by the Baltimore Sun. Abdel Aziz Rantisi, one of the co-founders of the militant Hamas

movement, further satirized the Israeli army's less than stellar arrest, "(Taha) is now an old man out of activity ... He is just doing social activities in the camp." Maybe so, but Taha's advanced age doesn't grant him immunity for past transgressions. It's a shame his capture led to further deaths.

Meanwhile, Sharon has finally stitched together his new right-wing government, consisting of the National Religious Party, the National Union Party, the secular Shinui and Sharon's Likud. The charter produced by this fragile coalition is hardly foreshadowing of peace because the government requires that the Palestinian Authority and Palestine meet a number of specific demands in general before holding even low-level peace talks. Even if the rigorous standards are met, Sharon must hold an emergency cabinet meeting before any sort of negotiations. And as Associated Press notes, 14 of the new 24 cabinet ministers will more than likely deny the possibility of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Further augmenting the difficulties facing the Israeli-Palestinian peace process is the unequivocal demand from Sharon and President Bush that longtime Palestinian Authority leader, Yasir Arafat, step down or at least appoint a prime minister who will exceed Arafat in power. Curious, this demand is. It stands to reason that pressuring a democratically elected leader to abdicate the leadership position in order to allow the inhabitants who elected this removed leader to establish an official democracy is not reasonable at all. It's ludicrous.

But, whom is it worse for is now the real question. Now that Arafat has been

confined to his Ramallah headquarters for some time, his Fatah movement has been significantly weakened. Should Arafat appoint a prime minister, it is doubtful the man will be popular with his peers or that the very particular Sharon will even accept the new prime minister as a legitimate politician.

But while Fatah shrinks, the truly dangerous but politically efficient Hamas militia is quickly taking over the show. The group has been involved in providing food and other necessities to Palestinians suffering from a repulsive economy and actively recruits young men to join its murderous ranks.

For all the blame Sharon assigned to Arafat for the recurring bombings in Israel, even he must know that Hamas is many times more lethal than Arafat's Fatah. But, it is Hamas that now owns a commanding percentage of popularity with the Palestinians. Once Hamas is the major political player in Palestinian territories, there will never be two Israeli and Palestinian states peacefully coexisting. Hamas, unlike Fatah, calls for the destruction of Israel within its charter, sort of like the Likud-led charter fails to call for the establishment of a Palestinian state.

The world should be careful. Militarism is growing within these populations and it will only get worse in the years to come. And, I am afraid to admit, I doubt invading Iraq will abolish this frightening trend. It might even complicate things all the more.

If you have questions or comments, contact Andrew at abdugan@unity.ncsu.edu or leave a post at www.technicianonline.com.

Once Hamas is the major political player, there will never be two Israeli and Palestinian states peacefully coexisting.

UAE takes a stance against Saddam Hussein

Staff (U-WIRE)
Editorial COLUMBUS,
The Lantern Ohio — Last
Ohio State U. week, one of the
smallest and most

peaceful countries in the region took the initiative to do something about the pressing problem in Iraq. The United Arab Emirates called into the League of Arab States, giving Saddam Hussein two weeks to step down into exile.

The Iraqi conflict in the Middle East has been like a lion's den, which most of the Middle Eastern countries want to keep under control. Leaders such as President Housni Mubarak of Egypt want Saddam out of the picture.

They know Saddam is a threat to the Middle Eastern region, and as long as the Iraqi president stays in power, more damage will be done. However, none of the countries have had enough courage to step up and do something, until the

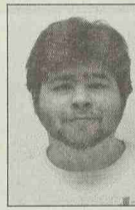
UAE showed the initiative. The UAE is usually considered to be among the weakest countries in the Middle East. Although the country is rich with oil, and most of the citizens are able to live nice, luxurious and comfortable lives, the UAE doesn't have much say in Middle Eastern politics.

In fact, whenever important decisions need to be made in such leagues as the League of Arab States, like other gulf countries such as Bahrain and Kuwait, UAE just follows Saudi Arabia in how to vote. Saudi Arabia is the parent country in the Middle Eastern Gulf, and the surrounding, smaller countries are considered to be its children.

Both Egypt and Saudi Arabia and other Middle Eastern countries do not want to go against another Middle Eastern leader. They want to portray a united

See UAE page 5

World full of strange stories



Ben Kruedel
Staff Columnist

know someone's life is stranger than mine.

Thursday, a Romanian man alerted the media that he plans to complain to consumer authorities in reference to the poor quality of a rope that did not allow him to successfully hang himself.

Victor Dodoi, 45, said, "You can't even die in this country." The newspaper reports that Dodoi's relatives found him hanging from a tree in his garden and somehow (I personally find this unfathomable.) were able to cut the rope with a knife. Victor was then taken by horsecart and eventually by ambulance to a hospital in the northern town of Botosani, Romania.

He has said he will file a complaint with the Consumer Protection Authority as soon as he is released from the hospital. His complaint, of course, is that the rope was too easily cut.

So, it's finally happened. The world has finally gotten so caught up in who it can sue and where it can complain that when a man's loved ones in Romania (in Ro-

mania!) cut him down as he swings back and forth — from a fir or a spruce or whatever sort of hardwoods grow in Romania — the first thing he thinks to do is complain the rope wasn't more difficult to cut.

I don't know, honestly, how bad life in Romania has gotten. There could be an epidemic of suicide, but if you're hanging yourself on the old elm and you know the family picnic is in half an hour, maybe now would be a good time to realize you're crying for help. Honestly, I read the headline (punch line, headline ... so similar) and thought that surely the rope had snapped and not supported his weight. At least, then, I could imagine having something to complain about, but even high-test climbing rope isn't made to deflect sharpened steel.

There is an epidemic of complaint in the world. This man's family saved his life. The first thing he can think to do when he wakes up in the hospital is to look around him at his loved ones and say, "You mean you could actually cut through that rope?"

In another weird news story of the week, an inmate at a Siberian penal colony was returned to prison this week after setting a record for the digging the longest tunnel ever dug to escape a Russian prison. Yevgeny Pechenkin (easy enough) and two cellmates dug a 370-foot escape tunnel over the course of four months, equipping it with beams, elec-

tricity and a ventilation system. Pechenkin then ditched out on his two friends and escaped on his own in December of 2000, not to be discovered until October of 2002. Aside from the jokes I desperately want to make, I have to admire this man's determination to be free (If you can equip a tunnel with electricity and ventilation, then it's probably better than the Siberian prison you're staying in ... "Hogan's Heroes" anyone?).

Two stories — one a man so bitter that when he can't die, he complains about the quality of his noose; the other a man so determined to be free and alive that he spent four months underground, digging himself to freedom. I'm almost tempted to say we should just switch the two people around. Let the man stuck in prison who understands the joy of life come to a loving Romanian family and put the cynical, suicidal Romanian in the Siberian prison — I'm sure there's plenty to complain about there.

It's a world full of weird, of this I'm convinced, but I've decided to be one of the people who loves it and enjoys what is around me. There are too many people who only look forward to complaining if the branch breaks or if someone cuts the rope.

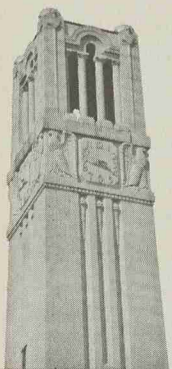
If you have any know about anything unusual (i.e., two-headed chickens or someone liking this column), e-mail Ben at bpkraude@unity.ncsu.edu.

There is an epidemic of complaint in the world.

TECHNICIAN

Jerry Moore • Matthew Pelland
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CAMPUS FORUM

Pledge favors monotheism, endorses class of religions

The reprinted staff editorial published Wednesday "One God, Indivisible," from Rutgers University contains several flaws. The editorial claims the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance is fine because the word "God" is just a general term and can be interpreted any way one wishes. Excuse me for finding that disingenuous. One imagines being in Saudi Arabia and being told by school officials, "Look, Allah is just a general term..."

The editorial says the pledge does not favor any one religion. No, it doesn't, but it implicitly favors monotheism and favoring a class of religions should be no

more admissible than favoring a specific religion. Either way, the neutrality of government toward religion has been violated.

It should not be very difficult to see that a government that requires teachers to state every day to the kids "America is a nation under god" is endorsing religion. Perhaps the most infuriatingly uninformed part was when the writer says, "Reciting the pledge is a long-standing American tradition" and to change it would be unpatriotic. Absolutely, it is a long-standing tradition. 111 years old, to be precise. Beginning in 1892, the pledge was recited. 49 years ago, in 1954, Congress added the words "under God."

So if you want to talk about respecting long-standing tradition, you should be in favor of reciting the unaltered version and deleting the divisive and comparatively recent modification. But I'll meet you halfway: The change in 1954 was unpatriotic. Finally, the editorial asks, "If the courts do decide to change this, where will it end?" With any luck, it will end with the return of our original motto, "E Pluribus Unum." Don't count on it.

Steve Story
Physics
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Holly Bezant
Staff Columnist

I am not too offended by Michele DeCamp's satirical column on Republicans in Friday's Technician. I would be pretty upset myself if liberals bashed conservatives in best-selling books. However, people have a right to print whatever they please, and as long as they don't enforce racist or hate ideals I basically say to each his or her own. I am going to take this opportunity to express my views on issues, including Iraq, as a conservative.

I am as conservative as you can get. For one thing, I am most definitely Christian. I believe homosexuality and abortion are sins. However, I also believe sins are to be forgiven; everybody sins. I don't mean that I am above homosexuals and women who choose to get abortions. Not only is forgiving and accepting people as they are the correct, Christian thing to do, but it is the path to living a better life.

But, as a conservative, I do feel the need to discourage abortion. I just want to say, "Duh, of course we have a choice!" Because we obviously do. It's really a matter of whether you let the child live or die. You either are able to kill a child merely because you weren't careful during intercourse, or you

want to allow that child to live regardless of how he or she was conceived.

Let's see — where do we come from? Oh yeah! We come from an egg and a sperm! So why is it alright to abort a child at that stage and not in the last trimester? Abortion should not be committed unless either the baby or the mother is in danger of dying upon giving birth.

I support the right to bear arms. The reason children and others get killed accidentally from guns

kept in the home is irresponsibility. You don't leave the car keys sitting around for a 10-year-old to grab and try driving a car. So, it's not logical to leave a gun or a gun cabinet key lying around for a kid to snatch up either.

I support the death penalty. As it has hit much closer to home this past year, I support it more so than I did before. Of course, I believe the evidence should be thorough before the person is placed on death row. However, injustice also occurs when, say, a murderer gets by on a mere weapons charge when it is bla-

tantly obvious he killed someone with that weapon. The justice system should be infallible, but we all have faults, unfortunately.

As with anyone in any political affiliation, I do believe certain things are generally characterized as "liberal" viewpoints. I am extremely environmentally minded. I love nature and animals, and I hate to see anything interrupt ecosystems. However, I do accept that humans were also made to inhabit the world and to coexist with nature.

As such, it is only reasonable that we need places to live, ways to provide for ourselves and things to eat. Just as a wolf will find a den to live in and hunt for its food, we need places to live in, and we need to earn and forage for food. It is a natural life process to hunt.

Now, the ever-present situation with Iraq: I do not believe there are strong enough links to tie Iraq to the terrorist groups that attacked us. However, I do believe Saddam Hussein should be removed from power, and as no one else seems to be making that move, we should go ahead and try. I do not

believe this is about oil so much as about removing his regime.

The sanctions that are causing hundreds of thousands of Iraqi citizens to starve to death should be removed, as they are killing more than a war probably would.

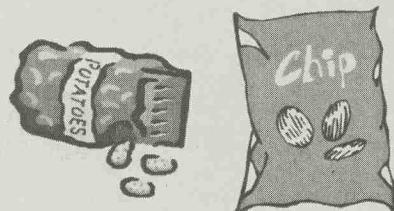
As I believe most people feel, war seems inevitable. Or maybe you prefer to lighten the term with the phrase "military action." Either way, while I would not want anyone to get killed in this ordeal, it seems there is not much else we can do. Empty threats would not work because Hussein would disregard them once he found out we weren't serious. In fact, it seems like he has been doing so up until recently.

I believe people are making too much fuss about the Iraq ordeal. I'm pretty sure Hussein, like he did during Clinton's reign, will back down and comply once we do start taking action. He needs to be exiled either way. Not a lot will come of military action, and if I am wrong, it'll be alright, because I have a place to go to if I die that is a heck of a lot better than this place.

Holly believes we need more focus on North Korea as a threat. Let her know what you think at paz_rata@yahoo.com.

I am going to take this opportunity to express my views on issues as a conservative.

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UAE

continued from page 4

Arab front to the rest of the world. If they go against Saddam, they will be going against an Arab country and leader.

Some may be ecstatic the UAE has made such a bold move. They may believe Saddam will become more cautious in the worldwide chess game he is playing.

Though it's great to see the UAE break its traditional mold by coming out and displaying its opposition against Saddam while other stronger countries like Egypt and Saudi Arabia have been hiding under their bed covers, the UAE really has no power over Saddam. The UAE government can't force Saddam out of power, because the country does not have any defense of its own, and have little military strength.

Other Middle Eastern countries need to rally behind the UAE. Intimidating countries need to show they have no support for the Iraqi president, and that they want him to step down from his seat. Forcing Saddam into exile could save the Middle East from enduring another war.

*Congratulations
Thushan and Carie
2003-2004 Technician
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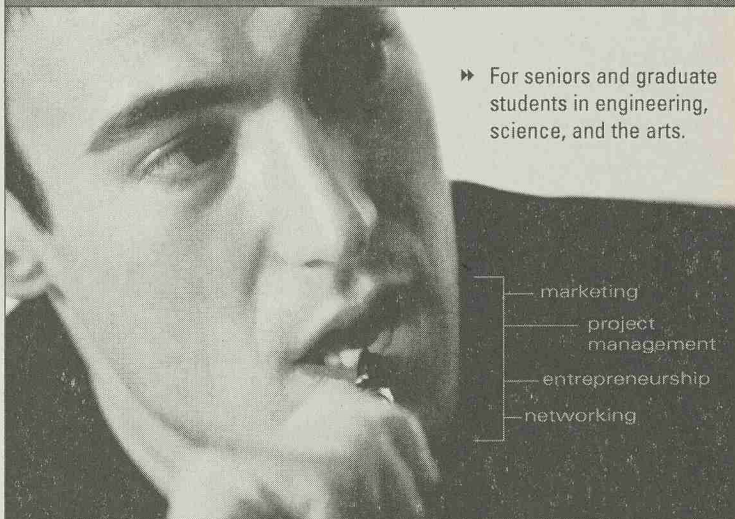
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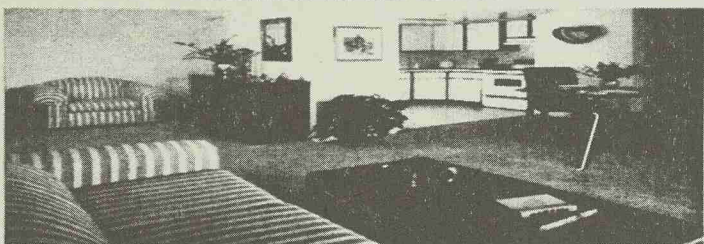
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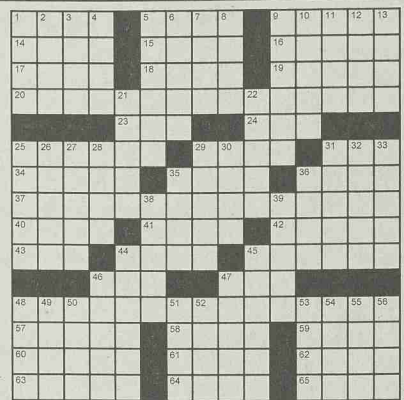
The Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- Place to hang a shingle
- Country in the Andes
- Put up with
- Sax for Bird
- Claim on income
- Shrewd
- Pocketed bread?
- Timeworn
- Midwest airport
- Indescribable
- Bottom-line profit
- Grand Opry
- Brief bursts
- Gallivants
- Jimmy
- Asian capital
- Traffic diverter
- Vamoose!
- Just chatter
- Contract in wrinkles
- While away
- Market passage
- 8th sense
- Show up
- Coercion
- Varnish ingredient
- Swindle
- Beyond expressing
- Of birds
- Bit of a frolic
- Diamond
- Head's island
- Spicy sauce
- Mickey and Minnie
- "The King and I" setting
- Log some dream time
- Venetian blind part
- Exile island

DOWN

- Enthralled
- Hodgepodge
- Italian eight
- Froth
- Comes in second
- Word before ball or bells
- Atoll barrier
- Reversal command
- Nasty looks
- Lake by Reno
- Lab gel
- Geek
- Uses aniline
- Prior to
- Cowboy contest
- Seal an agreement
- Dupes
- Not with it
- Carrot or beet
- Barnyard fowl
- Formicary residents
- Aspect
- Rosters



By Diane C. Baldwin
Columbia, MD

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

C	P	A	S		J	A	B	O	T	T	A	H	A	B	
R	A	N	T		A	G	A	N	A		N	A	V	E	
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N	O	H	O		L	D	S	B	A	R	R	E	D		
E	L	O	P	E		L	E	A		W	I	G			
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BASKETBALL

continued from page 8

out three, wins against UNC and Clemson, isn't too shabby. But as big as Crawford's final play was for State, so too was Sherrill throughout the contest. The junior knocked five 3s, finished with 24 points, and was the offense for much of the first half, in which the Pack built a 32-21 lead by halftime.

The performance was reminiscent of Sherrill's outburst at Clemson last season, in which he also hit five 3s, including one in the final seconds, to lead State to a much-needed win.

"Scooter is one of those guys that if he is hot, we keep feeding

him the ball," said State's Julius Hodge, who finished win a modest eight points.

Sherrill got off to a hot start for the Pack, nailing four 3s in the game's first 16 minutes to put State up big. The Pack had trailed early 12-10, but went on a 22-9 run to seize momentum before the break.

On a night when sixth-man Levi Watkins wasn't available due to injury, Hodge wasn't at his best and second-leading scorer Marcus Melvin was held scoreless, others had to step up. Sherrill did; as did Josh Powell — who scored 14 grabbed eight rebounds, and had the highlight play of the night when he threw down nasty two-handed jam off

a fast break. But it was State's perseverance down the stretch that earned it the win.

State coach Herb Sendek was impressed with his team's ability to bounce back after such a tough setback on Sunday.

"I told our guys after the game that they have shown more grit and guts than any team I've ever faced around," he said. "They have faced adversity this season through injuries and tough losses, and they've found ways to comeback."

"They have had tremendous resilience," State's resilience will be put to the test Saturday, when the Pack faces league-leading Wake Forest at the RBC Center at 4 p.m.

GYMNASTICS

continued from page 8

regionals increase dramatically.

"It's really important," said Stevenson about State scoring well this weekend. "Right now we're at the end of the season and we've got four conference meets that we can use to qualify for the national championships."

"We've got a 196.1 that we're throwing out because you throw out your high score and average the next five. If we can get one score a little higher than that would pull us up to just a little bit and that would help us a lot."

If the Pack should finish in the top-18 nationally, it will earn an automatic berth in the NCAA

regionals. Currently, State is tied for 29th place with the University of New Hampshire, a fellow EAGL (Eastern Atlantic Gymnastics League) rival.

"We need to go away obviously for a couple meets and have really good competitions, and if we do we'll feel pretty strongly we'll jump into the top 18 in the country," said Stevenson. "The top 18 in the country for the first round of our tournament are seeded nationally. So if we're in the top 18, number one, number 12, and number 18 all go to the same region. If we're not in the top 18 then we'll automatically go to Georgia."

State's performance this year has garnered the team a second-place standing in the EAGL

standings. Pittsburgh, one of the competitors in Saturday's meet, is a close fourth place. All three of State's opponents are ranked in the top 100 in the GymInfo Rankings and are looking to gain an automatic berth to the regionals as well.

Junior Leah Sabo has been coming on strong for the Pack the last two meets. She was recently named co-winner of the EAGL Gymnast of the Week with her all-around victory at the Wolfpack Invitational last week.

"We're still upgrading some routines which is a good thing," said Stevenson. "We're adding new skills to routines. We're going to continue to get a little better as we finish out the season and that's a positive thing for us."

HOROSCOPE

By Linda C. Black/Tribune Media Services

To get the advantage, check the day's rating:

10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

March 6. You should be able to express yourself pretty well this year. Words aren't your only form of communication, either. Music, film, color and form are all mediums you can use. And you might even find a way to draw a fat paycheck for your efforts.

Aries

March 21-April 19

Today is a 7. What you lack in financial resources, you more than make up for in good looks and charm. You might get the financial resources, too, but not if you goof off on the job.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Today is a 6. Shortages only make the game more interesting. You can get by on less than most people. Congratulate yourself as you do it again.

Gemini

May 21-June 21

Today is a 7. You don't have to figure everything out by yourself. It's OK to ask for an expert's help. And let your team cover for you on a tough job. Save your energy for later.

Cancer

June 22-July 22

Today is a 5. A demanding older person may be getting you down, but odds are good you don't let it show. You're earning your keep. It'll get easier soon.

Leo

July 23-Aug. 22

Today is a 9. You're pretty gung-ho

TENNIS

continued from page 8

struggled all day against a superior Duke team. The doubles point was taken easily, winning all three matches. Amanda Johnson and Julie DeRoos defeating senior Myrna Bawono and sophomore Carmen Torres 8-3 in the No. 1 match. In the second match McCain and Hillary Adams beat Worsley and sophomore Danielle Stadelmann 8-3. In the final doubles match junior Jennifer Jassawalla and senior Landis Strader were swept 8-0 by Katie Granson and Julia Smith. The three doubles teams State faced were ranked nationally — 2nd, 16th and 21st respectively.

Singles play was no better for the Wolfpack. Myrna lost to McCain 6-2, 6-0 in the #1 slot. Stadelmann failed to win a point in the No. 2 match, falling to Johnson 6-0, 6-0. Jassawalla rallied in the second set before falling to DeRoos 6-0, 6-4 in the No. 4 match. Torres was beaten 6-3, 6-1 in the No. 5 slot and Strader fell to Prim Siripipat 6-0, 6-2.

Sophomore Kristin Lam did not play on Wednesday because of continued problems with her knee. Lam owns State's best singles record so far this season, going 3-1.

"[Her knee] did well on Sunday, but we pulled back on her today because she had a lot of trouble with it after Sunday," said Olsen. "She wanted to give it a try but we weren't really sure about it so we're going to wait a couple days."

State will continue their conference play on Friday, hosting No. 22 Clemson. The match will begin at 2 p.m. at the Cary Tennis Center.

Tricycle Technician.

WRESTLING

continued from page 8

"We're obviously going to need help from everyone else because of all the injuries. It's going to be a key that the other guys come through. They're wrestling very well for us right now."

Either State or North Carolina has won the ACC championship each year since 1977, a streak that Guzzo says could continue this year.

"Virginia has a pretty strong chance this year, I think. So it's probably going to be between Virginia, Carolina and us. It depends on how some teams pair up against other teams," Guzzo said. "Right now it looks to be a three-team race and we'll be right in

the mix of it. And of course a lot of it is going to depend on how effective Gabrielson and Cintron are.

"You go into these tournaments and there are going to be other teams with problems like ours, so you just don't know how effective anybody is going to be," said Guzzo. "It's kind of like a new season. Everyone has a fresh start."

Despite the injuries that have weighed down his team throughout the season, Guzzo State's chances are good.

"We feel very confident that we could win again this weekend going for a third straight title," Guzzo said. "So we'll see if we can go do that."

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Thursday Sports

Schedule

M. basketball vs. Wake Forest, 3/8, 4
Wrestling @ ACC tournament 3/8
W. tennis vs. Clemson, 3/7, 2
M. tennis @ Furman, 3/6, 2:30

Scores

M. basketball 63, Clemson 60
Duke 6, W. tennis 1

TECHNICIAN



BASKETBALL

ACC basketball awards



Steve Thompson

When Wake Forest head coach Skip Prosser spoke at ACC basketball media day, he didn't sound too optimistic.

The Demon Deacons had lost five seniors off its third-place ACC team from last year. Additionally,

Wake Forest's best returning player, Josh Howard, was questionable for the season, suffering from recurrent shin problems.

The media's preseason predictions reflected his pessimism. Wake was selected as the No. 6 team in the league. Howard, despite finishing third in the preseason ACC Player of the Year voting, was left off many All-ACC first teams due to injury concerns.

Four months later, Wake Forest is on the verge of winning its first outright ACC regular season championship since 1962. Howard is a shoe-in for ACC Player of the Year. Prosser's being anointed ACC Coach of the Year is almost as certain.

That's the way this crazy ACC season has gone. In addition to Wake, Duke and Maryland have remained dominant, but the rest of the league has been inconsistent to say the least.

As the last week of the season winds down, it's time to try and put it in perspective. Why not hand out awards?

All ACC

First-team
Howard, Wake Forest
Steve Blake, Maryland
Drew Nicholas, Maryland
Julius Hodge, N.C. State
Dahntay Jones, Duke

Second-team

Edward Scott, Clemson
Travis Watson, Virginia
Tim Pickett, Florida State
Chris Bosh, Georgia Tech
Raymond Felton, North Carolina

Player of the Year — Howard

There's no explanation needed for Howard's selection. He's the ACC's best leader, best scorer, and one of the ACC's top rebounders and defenders.

Blake, Hodge and Jones join him as pretty easy first-team choices. Nicholas gets the slight edge over Scott because, while he is not his team's best player, he has been Maryland's go-to scorer down the stretch.

All Rookie team

Bosh, Georgia Tech
Felton, North Carolina
Justin Gray, Wake Forest
Eric Williams, Wake Forest
J.J. Redick, Duke

Rookie of the Year — Bosh

Bosh gets the slight nod over Felton for Rookie of the Year. Any freshman who can average almost a double-double deserves such an award, although Felton is almost as deserving.

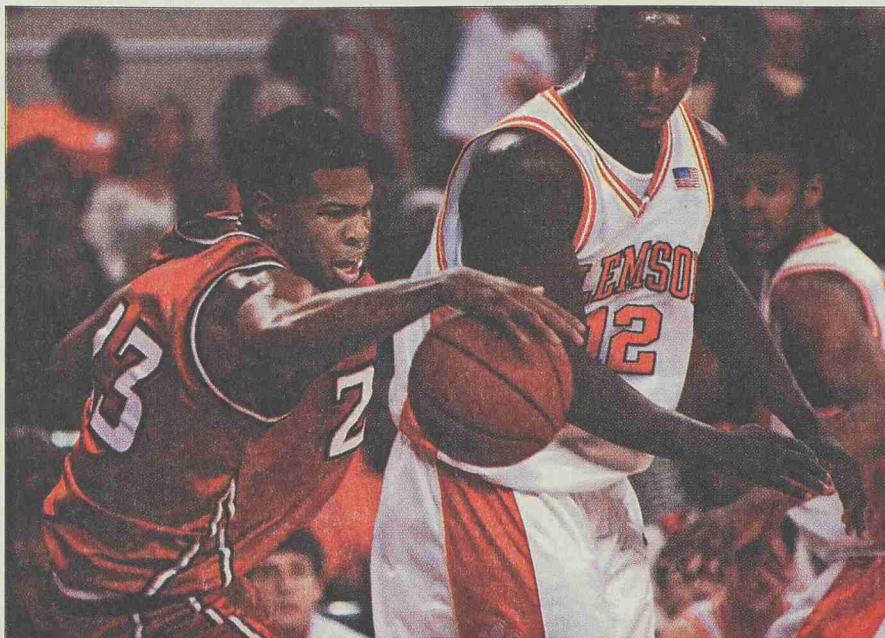
Gray has come on strong of late, and Williams is a force inside. Redick's performance tailed off as the season went on, but he's still a great shooter.

Coach of the Year — Prosser

If the whole "taking the preseason sixth place team to win the ACC championship" thing didn't convince you that Prosser was the league's top coach, perhaps the fact that he's done so with a large contingent of freshmen should.

Sure, Howard's been the main story. But Gray and Williams have matured a lot over the season. Over the last few years, Prosser has shown that he can recruit well. This year, he's showing the ACC he can coach the guys he recruits.

Steve is still a little unsure how a Student Government basketball team squeaked by Technician 42-39. He can be reached at sbthomps@unity.ncsu.edu or 515-2411.



Scooter Sherrill scored a career-high 24 points to lead N.C. State past Clemson. Staff photo by Tim Lytvinenko

State packs suspense once again

N.C. State was able to hold off Clemson and strengthen its résumé for an NCAA berth.

Andrew B. Carter

Assistant Sports Editor

CLEMSON, S.C. — Everything was the same except the uniforms and the opponent for N.C. State. Substitute all the Clemson orange in the crowd for red, and the setting almost would have been identical to State's heartbreaking loss at Maryland on Sunday. And like that game, the Wolfpack had held the lead for much of the game over a dogged opponent. And like Sunday, a large second-half advantage had all but evaporated.

State, solid on the free-throw line all game, had again missed one of its most clutch opportunities.

But this time, there'd be no last-second 3-pointer to doom the Wolfpack.

N.C. State (16-10, 9-6 ACC) beat Clemson (15-11, 5-10) Wednesday night at Littlejohn Coliseum, but its 63-60 escape from Clemson was more than just

a three-point win. Once again, the Pack was put to the test, and — with its season possibly on the line this time — it responded.

Must win game? You better believe it. "Oh, very much so," said State's senior leader and point guard Clifford Crawford, who came up huge on the game's final play. "Every time we go out, it's a must win. It's a road win in a tough environment. We did a good job tonight, coming out and getting the victory."

With 6.5 seconds left, victory seemed floating out of reach, and with it, a possible spot in the NCAA tournament. Up as much as 12 early in the second half, the Wolfpack lead now stood at two, and the fans stood screaming, jumping, doing anything to distract State's Scooter Sherrill, who stood at the free-throw line with a chance to put the game out of reach.

The first bounced off the rim. Suddenly, Crawford and Julius Hodge, who had stood in the backcourt with smiles on their faces just seconds earlier, turned stern. Sherrill swished the second, putting State up 63-60 and giving the Tigers one last chance to tie game.

"It was scary," said Sherrill. "Last time, we had Maryland on the ropes and lost that game. But we found a way to get it done tonight."

Rather, Crawford found a way to get it done in the most clutch of spots. Pained with a sore right hip and listed as questionable before the game, Crawford was able to get a hand in on Edward Scott's last-grasp drive and knock-away any hopes of a Clemson tie. Scott, in fitting fashion for his senior day, had scorched the Pack for 21 points. But he was denied where it mattered most in the game's final seconds.

"Scott, I give him all the credit, playing his heart out on senior night for his team," said Crawford. "That last possession, I just wasn't going to let him get a shot out. I tried to make him go left, he crossed over left, and I got my hand in and knocked the ball. From there, we got the steal."

Stealing victory from the jaws of the defeat has been something State's been accustomed to its past three games. And two

See BASKETBALL page 6

Wrestling heads to ACC tournament

The Wolfpack guns for a third straight team title.

Brian Grossman

Staff Writer

The N.C. State wrestling team will head to Boone this weekend for the ACC tournament. The team will be looking for its third consecutive ACC championship.

State (8-10, 2-3 ACC) looks to end a tumultuous, injury-plagued season on a high note.

"Unfortunately we've been hit by very serious injuries throughout the year that caused us to struggle for most of the season," said head coach Bob Guzzo. "Throughout the year we've had times where sometimes there were three, four or five starters missing out of the lineup, which kind of turned our season around a little bit."

"It wasn't as successful as far as wins and losses. We weren't where we anticipated being in that respect. However you have to deal with what you have."

And State has plenty of injuries to overcome.

George Cintron, who was voted the outstanding wrestler of our conference last year, just had knee surgery and is questionable for the tournament. Kevin Gabrielson, who has a strong opportunity to win at 174 pounds, recently had surgery on his thumb. The coaches are currently trying to find some sort of cast that will allow him to wrestle.

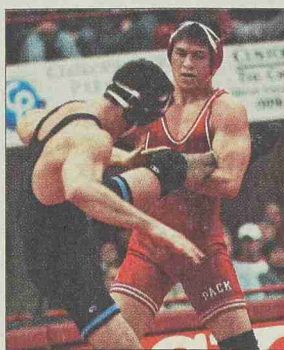
Additionally, Scott Garren and Dustin Kawa are suffering from minor injuries, although Guzzo expects both of them to be able to compete.

"Scott Garren has a banged-up knee. I think he's going to be OK. Dustin Kawa has a back injury, but we think he's going to be OK," said Coach Guzzo. "So the two key factors for us are George Cintron and Kevin Gabrielson as far as injuries, but we won't know their status until Saturday."

Pushing the Pack in its quest are defending ACC champions Cintron (125 pounds), Jake Giamoni (149 pounds) and Kawa, who won at 174 pounds last year, but has since moved down to the 165 pound weight class. Garren won the 157-pound championship in 2001, but was sidelined all last season with a knee injury.

"We have four conference champions returning, which gives you a strong chance to win the thing," said Guzzo.

See WRESTLING page 7



Dustin Kawa and the Pack aim to make up for a disappointing regular season at the ACCs. Staff photo by Rob Bradley

Gymnastics readies for final home meet

N.C. State welcomes Pittsburgh, William and Mary and James Madison after its big victory last Friday.

Memie Ezike and Ryan Reynolds

Staff Writers

Last Friday, the N.C. State gymnastics team left Reynolds on a high note after posting a 196.100 and defeating North Carolina at the Wolfpack Invitational. Now this Saturday evening, State hosts its final meet of the season when Pittsburgh, William and Mary and James Madison come to Reynolds Coliseum.

State's final home meet of the season will have special meaning for the seniors, as this meet will be the last time they will compete in front of the always-enthusiastic Wolfpack fan base.

"Our bottom line is we try not to pay attention to other teams on the floor and try to focus on ourselves and make sure that we do our job," said head coach Mark Stevenson. "If we hit every routine that we do, there's not that many teams out there in the country that can beat us, and we keep proving that because this last weekend we didn't miss any routines and we won and that's what it takes to be that successful."

Even with the emotion, the seniors and the rest of the team will have to perform well. Currently, N.C. State has an average Regional Qualifying Score (RQS) of 194.728. The Pack knows that in its next three meets, it must score very high to reach the goal of achieving a RQS average of 195 for the season. Being at home

Women's tennis drops ACC opener

Despite winning a point against Duke for the first time in five years, State falls 6-1.

Austin Johnson

Staff Writer

The N.C. State women's tennis team dropped its first conference match of the season to No. 6 Duke 6-1 Wednesday afternoon at the Cary Tennis Center. Duke has been ranked as high as No. 1 earlier in the season before being upset at Illinois. Seven of Duke's singles players are ranked nationally, including the No. 1 ranked Kelly McCain.

Despite being beat, head coach Hans Olsen felt his players did a good job of raising their level of play for the conference season.

"We wanted to take our intensity up for our first conference match," said Olsen. "I felt the girls did a good job with that today."

State can take small consolation in the fact that it won its first point against Duke since 1997, when State lost 1-8.

Senior Loni Worsley toppled Saras Arasu, 6-4, 4-6, 10-3. Worsley took a grueling back and forth first set 6-4 and was in control during the second set before Arasu rallied to win 4-6. Worsley was noticeably fatigued during the ladder stages of the second set, and the match going to tiebreaker format instead of a third set may have helped her take the point.

"I got a little tired towards the end," said Worsley. "But when you know you just have 10 points left to win, you forget about the tired and just play."

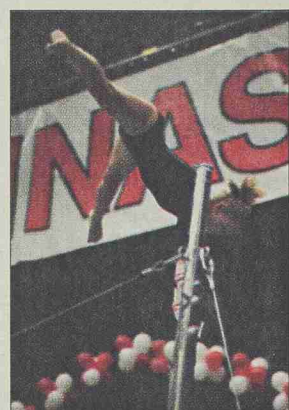
Arasu is ranked 37th nationally this week. The match went to a tiebreaker instead of a third set because Duke's win had already been decided.

"We need our girls to believe that if you work hard and fight for every point, its going to work," said Olsen. "Loni did that."

"The rest of the team sees that and their like, 'If I get out there and work for every point I'm gonna have an opportunity to win.'"

Other than Worsley's victory, State

See TENNIS page 7



Gymnastics is coming off its highest score of the season at the Wolfpack Invitational. Staff photo by Matt Huffman

will give the Pack the obvious advantage over the other teams.

"You have to go on the road, you have to be at home," said Stevenson. "Whatever it is and you have to do the job every single time and that's what our focus is on."

State will have to perform its best in order to win Saturday's meet. Most importantly, the Pack needs to post a great score — possibly above 196 — to keep its RQS average high and in competition for a spot in the NCAA regionals. If State can raise its average RQS in this meet and the following two away meets at Utah State and William and Mary, its chances of earning a berth for the NCAA

See GYMNASTICS page 6