

TECHNICIAN

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Raleigh, North Carolina

IN THE KNOW
WORLD

Turkey opens airspace to United States

The Turkish Parliament voted in favor of allowing U.S. and coalition aircraft to use its airspace en route to Iraq. However, the vote does not allow U.S. forces to use bases in Turkey for an attack on Iraq, said the office of Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The United States has sought the use of Turkish bases for about 62,000 troops in order to move against Iraq from the north.

Serbia public prosecutor linked to assassination

According to reports, Serbia's deputy public prosecutor Izet Sarajlic has been taken into custody for questioning about his involvement with a crime gang that has been accused of organizing the assassination of Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic.

While over 750 people have been taken into custody since last Wednesday's shooting of Djindjic, police officials are now searching the office and home of Sarajlic.

The government has identified two of the three alleged snipers who carried out last week's killing.

NATION

War protests increase as strikes continue

Across the nation, the United States has witnessed an increase in anti-war protests recently. In reaction to U.S. military strikes against Iraq, anti-war protesters blocked traffic in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco and protested outside the White House Thursday morning.

Additional protests were staged in New York, Boston, Utah, Chicago, Minneapolis, Ohio, Delaware, Maryland, Detroit, Wisconsin, Arkansas and Nevada.

Pentagon will handle rape and sexual assault charges from Air Force

Officials announced on Tuesday that the Pentagon's Defense Department would soon head an investigation into allegations of rape and sexual assault of female cadets at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Sen. Wayne Allard, R-Colorado and member of the Armed Forces Committee, has received 39 complaints of sexual assault from the academy. 13 of the complaints have come from cadets, and one has come from a civilian employee.

These 39 complaints are in addition to the 56 that have already been filed by the academy.

STATE

North Carolina colleges expect drop in diversity if race ruled out of admission criteria

This summer the U.S. Supreme Court could order colleges and universities across the country to stop using race when deciding admission. However, the court could also maintain current law and allow colleges and universities to use race as a factor in making admission decisions. The court could also decide something between the two rulings.

Committee approves of drop of North Carolina sterilization law

On Tuesday, a House committee recommended the approval of a bill that would ultimately get rid of a long-standing law that was once used to involuntarily sterilize thousands of people in the state.

While the law hasn't been used since 1974, it once permitted the Eugenics Board of North Carolina to sterilize people.

For more than five decades that the law was utilized, only California and Virginia performed more sterilizations. The sterilizations were believed to be used to eliminate retardation and other social problems. However as the program continued, it began to target minority women and young girls.

'Emergency' demonstration draws advocates on both sides of war

Thursday's rainy conditions did not stop groups of students to congregate at the Brick to demonstrate.

Aniesha Felton

Staff Reporter

"Draft the rich and not the poor. Say 'hell no' to Bush's war," could have been heard yesterday on the Brickyard in the pouring rain by N.C. State student protesters.

Students from Students Allied for Freedom and Equality (SAFE), Hip Hop Against Racist War and other student protesters met at 11 a.m. to walk to the

state capitol where they would protest the war in hopes to finally be heard.

"I will keep on protesting the war until we are heard," said Heather Griswold, a junior in communications and political science. "We have been duped by President Bush and his administration. I am just one voice of many. I am trying to make people question this war. Why are we really fighting?"

According to Imran Aukhil, a freshman in biology, it is not to get rid of Saddam Hussein.

"This war is not about getting rid of a tyrant; it is a war of dominance, oil and being a superpower," said Aukhil. "This

war is just a symbol of America trying to be dominant. The American public is silly to believe everything they hear—it's not about Saddam—it's about economics and power." While protesters chanted anti-war slogans, there was one who shouted, "Shut up and go to class," to the protesters.

This student, who preferred to be anonymous, commented that he was tired of the rally's leaders opening their "fat mouths" and talking badly about the United States.

"If you don't like it here, why don't you stay in your own country?" he asked. "There is a tyrant that kills his own people,



Bryan Proffitt, a graduate student, participated in Thursday's event in the Brickyard. "The best way to support our troops is to bring them back to the United States," he said. Photo by Tim Lytvinenko

and we are the bad ones?"

The student further commented that the reason the world hates America is not be-

cause they are big bullies but because America has freedom.

In response, Dina Badawy, a

See RALLY page 2



Be informed about date rape drugs

Knowing about date rape drugs is becoming increasingly important as reported incidents around N.C. State are on the rise.

Diane Cordova
Assistant News Editor

Heading out to the bar on a Friday night may be the ideal way to meet people, but as the presence of date rape drugs becomes a more prominent threat, it could be a dangerous way as well.

Date rape drugs, named for their ability to leave victims unconscious and easily susceptible to sexual assault, include the mixing of alcohol and other drugs like Rohypnol, GHB and Ketamine. Alcohol is the main substance most commonly linked with date rape.

Its sedating effect can leave one at risk for sexual assault. The other named drugs pose other dangers to their victims because they are odorless, tasteless, colorless, fairly easy to use and can greatly affect the

Photo illustration by Tim Lytvinenko

See DATE RAPE page 2

Campus Police stress zero tolerance for hate crimes

Despite the increased tensions between cultures around the world, N.C. State has remained free of the hate crimes sometimes associated with such tension.

Bess Futrell

Staff Reporter

With the official start of the war with Iraq and the recent debates over what some have called "offensive" writing in N.C. State's Free Expression Tunnel, Campus Police has had to increase its concern for the possibility of hate crimes on campus.

Nearly two weeks before spring break, war supporters painted what many considered derogatory comments, which were directed toward the Muslim and Jewish communities, on the walls of the Free Expression Tunnel. This incident, as well as the war with Iraq, has increased Campus Police's concern for international students from the Middle East, who could possibly be the targets of future hate crimes.

"We want to encourage them to report any inappropriate behavior toward them," said Jon Barnwell, a crime prevention officer with Campus Police.

Because the Free Expression Tunnel is a place reserved for the practice of free speech, offensive comments written in it cannot be considered a hate crime, said Barnwell.

But Allison Harrell, a junior majoring in English, disagrees.

"The Free Expression Tunnel is a physical manifestation of the thin line between freedom of expression and hate crime."

However, Barnwell says that the Campus Police take such behavior very seriously, and they strive to address it before it develops into physical violence.

According to Barnwell, the university has been fortunate enough to have no incidents of hate crime on campus this year. Three hate crimes occurred on campus in 2000, one relating to sexual preference and the other two to racial differences. In 2001, there was only one incident of a hate crime, which was also a result of racial differences.

"We have zero tolerance for hate-based

See HATE CRIMES page 2

General Assembly threatens to cut university funds

Students do not agree with the General Assembly's thoughts of education budget cuts in response to the highly publicized actions of top university administrators.

Anthony Exum

Staff Reporter

What do the following three things have in common: Chancellor Fox's controversial firings, UNC-Chapel Hill's \$360,000 severance package given to one of its outgoing officials and UNC-CH's now infamous summer reading program? According to reports, these are all possible reasons that legislators in North Carolina's General Assembly are considering discontinuing their previous support of the idea of no more budget cuts to North Carolina's two largest universities.

But NCSU Chancellor Marye Anne Fox disagrees with these reports.

"The North Carolina legislators hold

both N.C. State and UNC-Chapel Hill in high regard as research institutions and they would not let things of that nature endanger the quality of education at the universities," said Fox. "We are only in preliminary talks, so it is impossible to know how much will be cut. Right now, the projection and guesses are around 3.5 percent. I, the other chancellors and President Molly Broad will be working together on it once it has been finalized, but all that we can do for now is just wait for the legislators' decision."

NCSU and UNC-CH, in addition to being the largest, are the only two research schools in the 16-school UNC System. However, this year, due to an almost \$2 billion budget shortfall and those previously stated factors, legislators may be inclined to cut university funding by more than 2.9 percent, which was last year's cut. The funding reduction may be closer to the 10-15 percent that all other state agencies were cut by last year.

Students at both NCSU and UNC-CH

rely heavily on the funds received by the state. If the General Assembly severely cuts funding to the university, there might be a backlash among the students. And many students may be inclined to blame Chancellor Fox.

"I think that she needs to learn a lesson. Fox has to understand that there are a lot of people who do not support her," said Andrew Farr, a senior in business. "Personally, I feel that inside she is a loathsome woman who has done loathsome things to this university and its students."

But student reaction to the possible situation is mixed.

"Legislators often get elected mistakenly because the public and especially us students believe that they will support education," said Matt Jordan, a junior in engineering. "Based on the recent actions, especially the possible cuts in funding to the schools, of those elected to govern us, it appears that the mistake was that we voted for them; and this is a

See ASSEMBLY page 2

TODAY

Serious debuts two brand-spanking new comics. p. 3

Opinion

says agriculture week is about awareness, not animal abuse. p. 4

Sports

provides the agonizing details of the end of the Pack's season. p. 8

WEATHER



Today
Isolated T-Storms
76°/53°



Tomorrow
Mostly Sunny
71°/50°

RALLY

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junior in microbiology, stated what most Iraqis in attendance felt.

"We are simply anti-war; we are also simply pro-America. America is a great place. We are not against the [United States]; we are just anti-bullying of innocent people," said Badawy. "I am here to provide truth. This war is not about getting rid of a dictator; it's all about economics. I just want people to realize that."

For Griswold, there are only two realizations she wants to be expressed.

"For one, Bush had plans to go to war with Iraq before he was even elected. Number two, the people planning the war are basing it on what Hitler and the Nazis did in World War II," she said. "I am ashamed of President Bush and of our country. We have blood on our hands, and it is from an unnecessary war."

While some protesters made it verbally known that they are against the war, there was one protester who was a little quieter about his protest.

"I'm not going to scream anti-war chants, but that by far does not mean I am for the war," said the anonymous student. "I came from a hippie, peace-loving family, so it's almost natural for me to be against the war," he said. The "quiet" anonymous person also commented that even though he doesn't support the war, he does support the Army.

"They are one of our own, so of course I am supporting them. I understand the military is not trying to be arrogant; I believe they are trying to do what is best for America. Yes, the cause might be wrong, but I believe in supporting the troops anyway," he said.

While the purpose of the "emergency" rally was to voice a concern and spread what participants believe is the truth, there

was one who investigated this truth and was converted from an anti-war stance to a pro-war position.

"When I was told to look for the truth, instead of me moving more towards the anti-war side, I jumped over to the pro-war position," said Jeremy Stall, a sophomore in aerospace engineering.

"I realized that this war is long overdue," he said. "The claims that these and other protesters maintain are ridiculous. If we are in it for oil, why don't we just raise the sanctions? I'm sure Hussein wouldn't mind that. And when they attack Bush's character, it's disgusting. Comparing him to Hitler is unfair and unjustified. Let's not forget that Hussein trains terrorists so that they can attack America. We want to keep someone like that around?"

With signs in one hand and umbrellas in another, the protesters left the brickyard at 11:30 a.m. as a representation of students who are against the war.

"There are only 36 countries who support the war," said Aukhil. "We are marching for the rest of the world — which is the majority [and which doesn't] support this unnecessary catastrophe and [which] won't take it lying down."

HATE CRIMES

continued from page 1

crimes," said Barnwell. "We strive for the university community to be a fully inclusive environment, and we will prosecute hate-based crimes to the fullest."

Harrell compares the university's "fully inclusive community" to the idea of a melting pot.

"Everyone here is different," she said. "We are going to have to practice open-mindedness and tolerance, especially during the duration of the war, in order to promote a community atmosphere and prevent hate crimes."

"A lot of racism and hate-based crimes are based on ignorance," said Barnwell.

DATE RAPE

continued from page 1

victim's memory by producing amnesia.

But other drugs are starting to become more prevalent as well, said Marianne Turnbull, coordinator of health promotion at N.C. State. She pointed out that 85 percent of rapes and sexual assaults involve alcohol and/or other date rape drugs.

Meta Uzzle, assistant director of the Women's Center at NCSU who works with the Molly Hays Glander Hotline, a 24-hour rape and sexual assault hotline center, echoed Turnbull's observation.

"In the last two years, I have heard from students increasingly about date rape situations," said Uzzle.

"You need to know that [date rape drugs] are out there," said Turnbull.

In the last few months, the NCSU Student Health Center has witnessed an increase in reports of date rape drug incidents. The center is located in the Student Health Center.

According to Turnbull, there have been reports that date rape drugs have been used in different local bars on Hillsborough Street. In some cases, perpetrators have been known to pay bartenders to slip these drugs into the drink of an unsuspecting victim.

Betsy Kimrey, a psychologist and counselor at the NCSU Counseling Center, has worked

with date rape victims.

"Most date rape situations that I have worked with involved alcohol," said Kimrey, who notes that in some recent cases that came to the Counseling Center, it sounded like Rohypnol was also involved.

It is important to note that men can be victims of date rape drugs as well. Just like women, they can be drugged and subsequently assaulted or robbed.

According to Kimrey, the counseling center has been receiving reports of these date rape situations from both men and women. A misconception of date rape drugs is that they are only planted in alcoholic drinks, but one can place them in anything: "Coffee, tea and even water," said Turnbull.

A common pattern that Turnbull has observed among victims is that they will attend a party, have a few drinks and then abruptly become unaware of their surroundings.

Victims tend to be uninformed about date rape drugs, warns Turnbull.

"It's definitely a concern," said Uzzle. "I think many people don't realize and are not aware that date rape drugs are on campus, around us and in our community."

The main problem is that victims do not come in early enough to get tested, said Turnbull. The tendency of victims, according to Turnbull, is to wait a couple of days before reporting the incident.

According to Uzzle, many vic-

tims do not report because of "self-blame" or "they suspect but wait."

Once an individual reports a date rape situation, staff members of the health center can draw blood and send it for testing to Rex Hospital — but only if the incident is really recent. Rex Hospital takes care of complicated testing for the health center.

Wake Hospital has a Safe Center that victims can attend.

Turnbull says "the sooner the better" when concerning the report of a date rape incident. In addition, Turnbull encourages victims to get both HIV and STD tests done as well.

Both Turnbull and Uzzle offer tips to keep students safe.

Turnbull says to practice vigilance: "The thing with these [date rape] drugs is [they] cause behavioral changes [in people]." She encourages practicing safe dating and safe clubbing practices and avoid punch bowls, which can be easily spiked.

Uzzle always encourages people to not leave their drinks unattended and to go out with friends and look out for one another.

Ultimately, no one is immune to date rape and date rape drugs.

During the fall 2003 semester, a "Women-to-Women" class is being offered on Wednesdays from 3:40 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The 3-credit class teaches women how to reduce the risk of rape and sexual assault and build positive relationships. For more details, call Marianne Turnbull at 513-3293.

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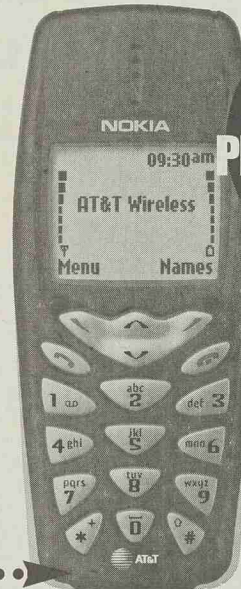
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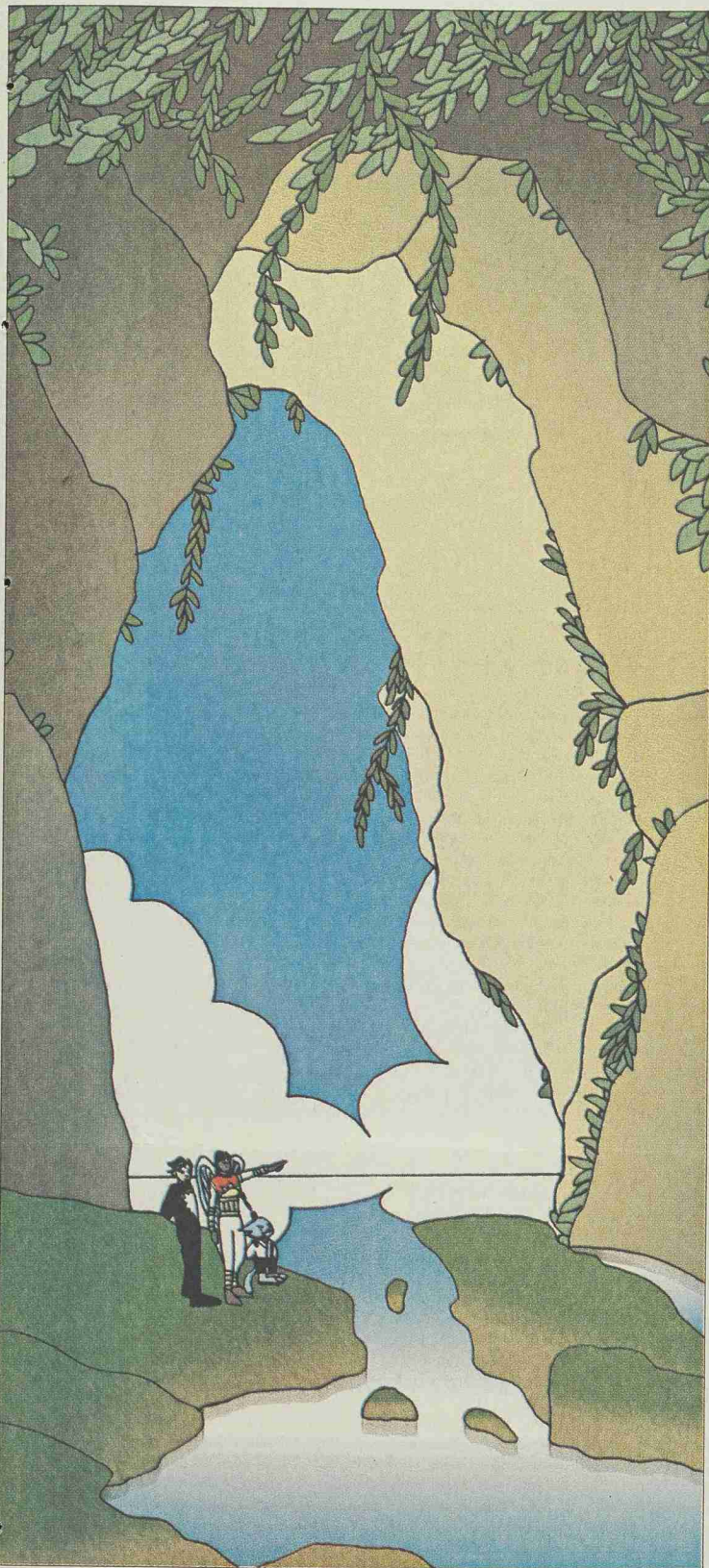
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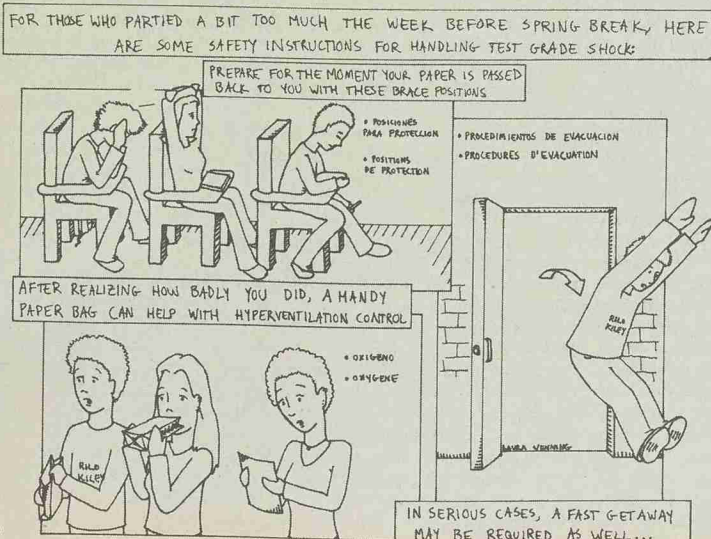


Zathael, Matajuro and Gestalt arrive in the land of Operose. Staff illustration by Mark McLawhorn

Violet by M. Grey



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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Agriculture Week: awareness, not abuse

Tractors, see-saws, flower sales and tables of information — the Alpha Zeta agricultural fraternity spent the past two days on the Brickyard promoting various aspects of agriculture awareness. The event is critical to keep N.C. State in touch with our agricultural history, but unfortunately, some students have been questioning the group's actions toward the live animals they brought to the Brickyard. Through the use of online message boards and even direct comments to members of Alpha Zeta, some students challenge the treatment of the cows, pigs and goats on hand at Agricultural Awareness Week.

While animal cruelty should never be tolerated, the actions taken by Alpha Zeta in no way resemble abuse or mistreatment. In fact, members of the fraternity have taken extremely cautious care of the animals, especially during yesterday's dreary weather, and have provided a great service for the NCSU community in their efforts to educate students.

Melissa Smith, a senior double majoring in animal and poultry science, served as the head of the Agriculture Alliance Week Commission. She says people have stopped her in the Brickyard, questioning the ear-notches and scratches on the pigs, (wondering if the scratches were the result of research) and the what effect the halter has on the nose and ears of cows being milked. On The Wolf Web, an online discussion site for Raleigh students, individuals openly expressed concern about "animal cruelty" due to the "straps" around the cow's necks and small pens. Smith explains the pigs' ear-notches, saying it is "just like us getting our ears pierced in the cartilage portion

of the ear;" they're used for identification purposes. The scratches on the pigs are a result of the "natural pecking order" the animals establish among themselves and the fact that the younger pigs are playful and wrestle. Head gates are used for cows while they are milked in order to protect people during the process. Smith assuredly stated that the cows take only two to three minutes to milk by machine, two times a day. If the cow is lactating and not milked, it will cause the cow to become uncomfortable.

Animals were watched, fed and watered throughout the night and were given shelter from the wind and rain.

Claims of animal abuse are extremely important and should not be directed at a group lightly. While people have a right to question the treatment of the animals in the Brickyard, students must understand the facts behind the treatment and that it does not constitute abuse.

We congratulate Alpha Zeta for sponsoring such an important event. As a land-grant university, NCSU was founded with a mission to educate men entering fields of agriculture and life sciences. Our mission has grown through our 115-year history, but agricultural awareness has remained one of the foundations of NCSU.

Educating students about livestock who may have never stepped foot on a farm — or even on our own veterinary school campus — can best be achieved through actually bringing the livestock here to campus. While some may not like seeing animals behind fences, it does not indicate any form of abuse or improper treatment.

Here's to a safe return of our troops

Staff
Editorial
Daily Staff
Texas Christian U.

(U-WIRE) FORT WORTH, Texas — Protest is not unpatriotic. If it were not for

protest (think Boston Tea Party), the United States would probably be non-existent and hot tea and scones would be the snack of choice.

Yet in classrooms all across campus, student debates are addressing the issue of whether someone opposing President Bush's plan to wage war on Iraq is not patriotic.

Not supporting the decision to attack another nation is a legitimate standpoint. Very few wars in history have been championed unanimously.

With so many differing opinions on why we are actually going to war, it is natural that there are people who do not agree and who will be vocal about it. Fortunately, they live in a country where free speech is not only guaranteed, but en-

couraged.

Just because people do not support the war does not mean they do not love their country or wish for the safety of troops while they are at home or abroad.

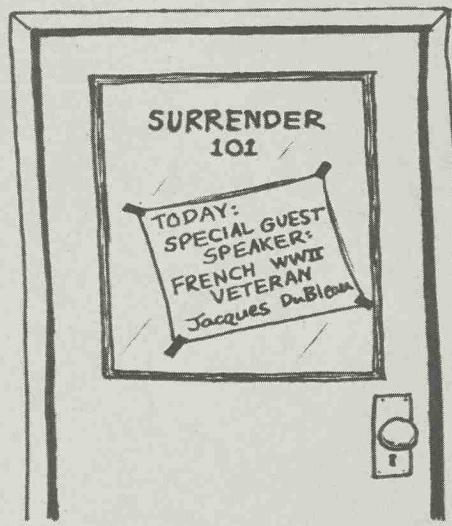
Quite the contrary actually.

The men and women of the armed forces are under the command of the president, and as such, they are required to follow the orders of their commander in chief. They did not choose to go to war; they were ordered to go.

Being a member of the armed forces is not only a calling, but also a job, whether it is career military personnel or members of the reserves. They are making a living and we admire them for choosing a career path that provides protection for their fellow citizens while placing themselves in the line of fire.

We send our hopes and best wishes that they will return safely — and soon.

MEANWHILE, AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BAGHDAD...



Freedom to believe



Michele DeCamp
Staff Columnist

When I was in elementary school, I recited the Pledge of Allegiance every morning. I would stand there in my late 1980s garb and recite those infamous lines before my math lesson. I never thought about what I was saying

when I said the pledge because I was never taught the meaning of those words. I just said it on autopilot, and I believe I was not the only one oblivious to what the pledge meant.

This past summer a father in California decided to sue the United States, Congress, California and two school districts in his area for making his daughter recite the Pledge of Allegiance. He felt the phrase "under God" was advocating monotheism, which conflicted with his atheist beliefs. A federal appeals court ruled the pledge does endorse a particular form of faith, which directly conflicts with our First Amendment rights.

The court's decision will undoubtedly be appealed many times before the 9th district will officially have to stop saying the Pledge of Allegiance on public school grounds. But this ruling suggests we are still trying to figure out where we draw the line on the separation of church and state. I happen to believe in God, but I also feel it is wrong for schools to promote a pledge, no matter how much history is involved, that suggests our country believes in one god.

The United States Supreme Court has also faced cases regarding the separation

of church and state. In June of 2000 they ruled schools are not allowed to broadcast student-led prayer at high school football games. In 1992, the high court decided a rabbi could not lead a prayer in a public middle school. The biggest court decision came in 1962, when the court decided prayer in public schools violated students' First Amendment Rights. They also decreed in 1963 teachers could not recite biblical passages during class. The Supreme Court, despite a few judges' misgivings, has made it clear public institutions should not endorse prayer and other components of religion.

I agree with how the courts have handled both of these situations, but our schools are getting so scared of impinging upon a student's First Amendment rights that they are overcompensating by outlawing all forms of religious sentiment on their grounds. Seven high school students in Massachusetts were suspended in December for handing out candy canes with religious messages tied to them. The principal at the school involved had told the students they could not pass out the candy canes, but the students decided to do it anyway. They were suspended for violating a school rule that bans printed materials from being passed around without prior permission.

Six of the students filed a complaint, and a federal court judge decided on Wednesday that the students could not be suspended for passing out the candy canes because the decision violated their First Amendments rights. This case is in-

teresting because it is the opposite situation of most of the court cases regarding religion in schools that have occurred in the past 40 years. The judge obviously felt that the students had a right to practice their faith by sharing religious sentiments and candy with their peers.

It is wrong to force students to refrain from talking or promoting their religious beliefs in school. I would have probably said no to a candy cane if they had offered one to me, just as I politely say no to the women that walk Crabtree Valley Mall with their Christian pamphlets.

Students should be allowed to express their feelings while in public buildings.

However, I am not going to tell them they do not have a right to talk about religion in school.

If a public school promotes religion through prayer, pledges to God or instruction, then it is forcing its students to listen to beliefs that may not mirror their own. However, the government does not fund students, so they should be allowed to express their feelings while in public buildings — as long as they do not force anyone to believe the same things.

Nobody has to eat a candy cane, but I had to say the Pledge of Allegiance when I was a kid. There is a definite difference in those two situations, which I hope the schools will understand. We don't need to eliminate religion in our public schools; we just have to make sure that the schools are not the ones endorsing it.

Michele doesn't want any candy canes, but she would love to have some Girl Scout cookies. If you have any hook-ups then let her know at mlhagama@unity.ncsu.edu.

Students constitute major part of Raleigh



Zack Medford
Staff Columnist

The Raleigh City Government can't stand us. They can't stand the way we live, they can't stand the way we act and most of all, they can't stand the way we waltz into their town and think we deserve respect. It's been happening for years — actually for decades. It's not fair, and it's hard to make sense of really.

The main reason why they have such a problem with students is because we're only here for a handful of years. The way they see it, we're guests in their city. We come for about four or five years, go to class, party and then pack up and head elsewhere once we're ready to settle down. They figure that since a majority of college students change residence each year, they don't really have any respect for neighbors, property or neighborhoods. They expect us to treat our houses like a rock star's hotel room, with them picking up the tab. Of course, this is

ridiculous.

Students do tend to live in a different place from year to year. From dorm rooms to apartments, from apartments to houses, we don't stay put very much. That doesn't mean we don't respect the places where we stay. Sure, there are a handful of students who do enjoy living in their own filth. Brent Road has some houses that always seem to smell like beer and are filled with trash. Some apartment renters will never move the old kegs away from their front door or clean up the vomit stains on the doormat. But

is this sort of thing really happening in every student residences? Do 30,000 people really never pick up their trash and party 24-7? Of course not.

How many times have you walked in to a party and said, "Hey, I've been here before!" It happens all the time, and there's nothing wrong with it. I have a hard time living in filth. After the first week here, my roommates and I got tired of the threat of being eaten alive by rats in the middle

of the night. We started cleaning up the place.

Some places are meant to be party venues, and their owners are satisfied with that. But these are few and far between. The problem of students "not taking proper care of their property" is not so widespread that we deserve to be discriminated against by an entire city.

The government pretends to be trying to work with the students. When the Raleigh City Council tried to pass the Housing Ordinance law, it "grandfathered" the clause, so that it supposedly

We do not deserve to be discriminated against by an entire city.

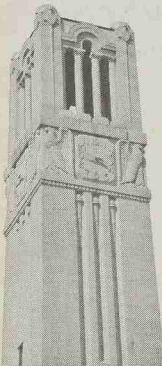
wouldn't affect any current students. Perhaps council members weren't discriminating against this generation of N.C. State students, but what about the next? They won't even have a say in the matter. NCSU students were amazing — we spoke up this year. We made things happen and changed policy. The city is going to have to realize that Raleigh is, in part, a college town. Like it or not, students are here to stay.

See MEDFORD page 5

TECHNICIAN

Jerry Moore • Matthew Pelland
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THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY



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Lose yourself in the music



Holly Bezant
Staff Columnist

I ask myself if I should be writing something about Iraq and the attacks on it. I don't think that what I write in regards to it will really affect many opinions on it at this point, so I won't. My sister is in training to become a military police officer, and if and when she is called to duty, I may be compelled to further my musings on this whole ordeal. For now, I am just going to stock up on supplies and focus on my normal life.

Today I talk about happiness. Before skipping over my column and moving on to the next one, I want to assure you that this is not going to be some trite, quote-in-the-making masterpiece.

I feel fortunate to have the genes — or upbringing or whatever — that allow me to spring back from a hard hit. And this spring break, I experienced an unfortunate setback. Yet, while most people were groggily trudging to classes Mon-

day after a long rousing spring break, I was happy and energetic. At first, I had no idea why.

As several of you know, I work at the C-Stores on campus. On Monday, I work at the Emporium in Talley Student Center, which involves eight or more hours of work, including scooping ice cream. (And boy, did we scoop plenty that night.) Let me tell you, when there are only two people working, scooping ice cream will really make your neurons scream for sanity.

However, I was ecstatic. Usually, Mondays for me at work are like Mondays in general for Garfield the cat — I can not stand doing anything.

Then, Wednesday, I worked again. This was after a fairly rough week in which I had immediately worked on Sunday and Monday, gave a presentation on Tuesday and had an exam before work on Wednesday. But, I was miraculously happy!

I'm sure many of you want to just hurt me because I write this in giddiness while you may be just slugging your way through the day — as I often am. I myself of-

ten can't fathom how some people have so much energy all the time. However, I can pinpoint the cause of the happiness. It was music.

As my shift was ending, I threw my mp3 player headphones around my neck, turning the volume up high enough so that I could hear the music but still pay attention to customers. I started absorbing the music and getting into it, and I realized that I had mostly happy songs on that player.

I had songs by Red Hot Chili Peppers, The Monkees, Bond and from the soundtrack of "The Music Man," when Marion the librarian realizes she has fallen in love with "Professor" Harold Hill. (If you have no idea what I am talking about, rent the movie — it's a great one! But beware, it is a 1961 musical.)

Music will conform to any of your moods. If you are angry, rock out to some Queens of the

Stone Age, Rob Zombie or Rage Against the Machine. If you are happy, listen to some Jimmy Buffett, Dave Matthews or Red Hot Chili Peppers. Of course, these bands and singers do not always play angry or happy songs, but you know what I'm talking about.

As with math, music transcends all nationalities, all languages. It

affects your mood and your outlook on life. It influences your actions. Allow it to flow

Allow music to flow through you and float with it.

through you, and float with it while you are studying, working or exercising. Not only will it relax you or pump you up, it will help the time go by quicker, and before you know it, your shift is over. So, like Eminem says, "Lose yourself in the music, and don't ever let it go."

Holly was listening to Supertramp as she finished this column. Tell her what you're listening to at paz_rata@yahoo.com.

RULE OF THUMB



Bill of Rights copy found

Gov. Easley was pleased with the finding of North Carolina's original copy of the Bill of Rights this week. Easley was especially pleased to discover its lost 11th amendment: "The people are entitled to a regressive tax in the form of a lottery that might kind of help education."

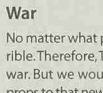
California Golden Bears

The Golden Bears of California somehow stole a 76-74 heart-breaker from Coach Herb Sendek and the Pack yesterday. Following tradition, the Golden Bears gave their coach a celebratory golden shower after the game.



Monica Lewinsky TV Show

The infamous former White House intern is scheduled to host a dating reality TV show for Fox. That's all well and good Monica, but America still wants to know how good the sex you didn't have with President Clinton was.



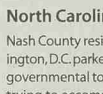
War

No matter what political views people hold, war is always horrible. Therefore, Technician doesn't want to make light of the war. But we would like to take this opportunity to give mad props to that new 50 Cent joint. And what a humble young man too. For our money, he's worth the whole dollar.



Freedom of speech

War protesters crowded streets chanting "no blood for oil," thus, firmly putting a kink in the Bush Administration's planned "Yes, to blood for oil" PR campaign. "We'll have to come up with something else now, but it won't be nearly as catchy," Bush spokesman Ari Fleischer said.



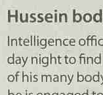
North Carolina tractor man

Nash County resident Dwight Watson spent 48 hours in Washington, D.C. parked in his tractor on the National Mall to protest governmental tobacco policy. Watson is not sure what he was trying to accomplish with his protest but is pretty sure that, whatever his goal was, he accomplished it.



TV war coverage

Since the passing of President Bush's deadline for Iraqi compliance, and even before it, any and every news station has been providing nothing short of spectacular round-the-clock war coverage, meticulously reporting what hasn't happened. We like it how they use the night vision cam even when it's daylight.



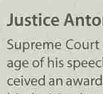
Hussein body doubles

Intelligence officials are examining a tape broadcast Wednesday night to find out if the man on it is Saddam Hussein or one of his many body doubles. They are also looking into whether he is engaged to J-Lo, as unidentified sources close to the evil dictator have been rumored to say.



TV war ratings

Networks are enjoying the extremely high ratings they're getting on their war coverage. In fact, Fox is considering parlaying its coverage success into a new reality TV series in which viewers would get to pick what Iraqi leaders we go after first.



Justice Antonin Scalia

Supreme Court Justice Scalia refused to allow news coverage of his speech Wednesday at an appearance when he received an award for supporting free speech. Scalia defended his decision by saying that free speech has its limitations, for instance, when he decides he doesn't want to observe it.



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CAMPUS FORUM

Radio station upgrade holdup not result of finances

I felt the need to correct a few of the glaring errors that appeared in Wednesday's article about WKNC and "Baseline Wednesdays." Although keeping current in broadcasting does involve equipment upgrades and new technologies that can be very expensive, WKNC certainly does not "suffer by not being able to keep up such technology." In fact, we have an all-digital, professional-quality (in some cases, nicer than what the pros have) setup from our studios up to our tower.

We aren't working on a shoe string budget, but we don't have room to be frivolous, either. We have always budgeted money for our equipment and new technology, and our upgrade is the biggest project of this decade and has been planned out for years. Although NC State as a whole is in a budget crisis, WKNC's finances are not the holdup in our upgrade process.

In 1996, WKNC applied for a power upgrade from 3,000 to 25,000 watts. Another radio station was applying to move to frequency 88.1FM, and if we both

were given approval, we would have blown their signal out of the water. Finally, the Federal Communications Commission granted WKNC permission to increase our power in March 2002.

This has been and will be an expensive endeavor, but WKNC is not begging students in order to pay our equipment bills. "Baseline Wednesdays" is a promotional event that will benefit the station financially, but the goal of KNC's involvement is foremost to promote the station and the music.

It is not true that we "don't have the money to accomplish [the power upgrade] without the help of the students." WKNC will accomplish our power upgrade, and although extra income and donations will help the station accomplish other goals, the delay is from the government and the complicated design necessary for our antenna.

Arielle Menges
Senior
English and Psychology
General Manager WKNC
88.1FM

MEDFORD

continued from page 4

Students are as much a part of Raleigh as Snoopy's hotdogs or that big goofy acorn downtown. The city loves the money we bring in, they love the high-powered companies attracted by our many brilliant graduates. They don't consider the fact that our alumni often choose to stay around this, their alma mater. They don't care that we love Raleigh and deserve their respect.

Vote. In the municipal elections two years ago, around 1,100 students voted. That means one out of 30 people voted. That's pathetic. Raleigh is not going to stop treating us like a red-headed stepchild until we make it clear that we are a force to be reckoned with.

The elections are coming up, and we need to make a difference for once. If you're not registered to vote in this district, you need to be. Sure, you have to fill out a form, but it takes about 5 minutes — and it's worth it. Here's my challenge to every single student

at state: register to vote before the end of the semester. If we can get just 4,000 more students registered, we are in business. If you haven't done so already, come to the Student Government office on the top floor of Witherpoon Student Center (near Bragaw) and pick up a registration form. It's that simple.

Zack Medford will be voting next year. E-mail him at zack@zack.com to remind him to wear pants though. They won't let him vote otherwise.

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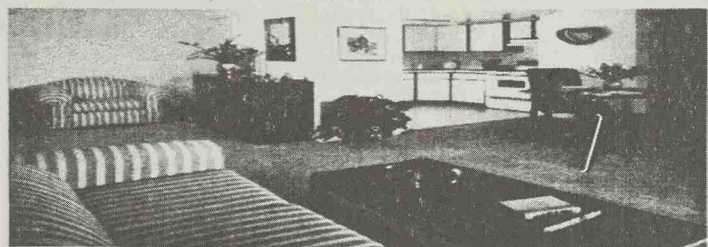
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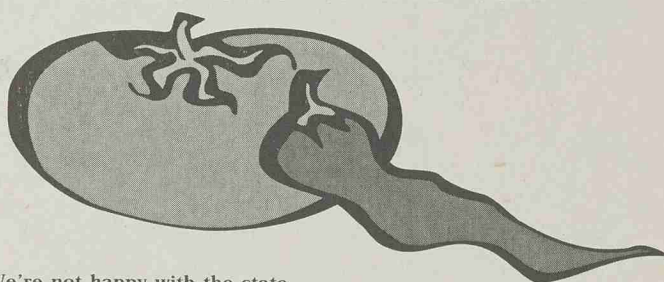


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TAYLOR

continued from page 8

end (see Julius Hodge's jumper against UNC) and the lowest of lows when one has to watch other teams in a pile at mid-court and other fans cheer jubilantly.

But there's always tomorrow, there's always next year. Fans convince themselves that in the great karma of the universe they will one day be rewarded with a win for the losses they suffer.

This time of the year the NCAA captivates our attention and people across the nation are glued to their television screens waiting

for the next Cinderella story, the next buzzer-beating backbreaker. They hold their breath and watch intently for the next Lorenzo Charles, Christian Laettner, Tyus Edney, or Bryce Drew. Why do they pay attention to the games if they don't care what team wins (disregarding the importance of each game in the office pool)? People watch even if their team's not playing because they understand. Everyone knows what it's like to be in that position and can appreciate what those players and fans are going through. Fans know that the journey is more important than

the destination.

The allure of sports isn't in the win. It's in the emotion - the highs and the lows, the joy and the pain. It's in the knowledge that there's always tomorrow and holding onto hope in the most hopeless of situations. That's why sports are beautiful and that's why fans everywhere keep coming back.

If you think Taylor is an idiot and sports isn't so much about the game as about crushing your opponent into submission, he can be reached at etfranci@unity.ncsu.edu.

NCAA

continued from page 8

Bears' last possession. But in fitting fashion, the Wolfpack didn't make a defensive play when it needed one the most. By overtime, the Pack had to be used to the familiar scenario of failing to make a stop.

"We gave them too many second-chance opportunities," said Sendek.

The only notable stop State made came in the final seconds of regulation, when Sherrill raced across the left side of the court to swat away Midgley's last-second attempt to win it in regulation.

Other than that, State literally played catch-up the entire game. Cal (22-8) got off to a 7-0 lead and led throughout the first half, including 39-36 at halftime. Each time State would make a key shot to cut the lead to one or two, it seemed as though Cal would come down the other end of the court and nail a 3 to put itself up by four or five.

"They were making some plays," said State's Julius Hodge, "but our defense was real bad tonight. We let them score way too many easy points."

The Pack hurt itself with poor decisions late in the game, too. On State's last offensive possession of regulation, Sendek called two timeouts in the game's final 30 seconds to set up a last-second play. That play wound up being a horrible-looking 3 from Hodge on the left wing, which missed badly.

Hodge questioned his team's last possession.

"I don't know what that play was," he said. "We only had 12 seconds left on the clock... I don't know."

Later, with 34 seconds left in overtime, Clifford Crawford was set to throw the ball inbound with State trailing 72-71. But with a five-second call looming, Crawford panicked and attempted to a call a timeout. The senior, who ended his career with a nine-point, seven-assist effort, walked toward the official, and it was an easy traveling call.

"That was a gutsy call," said Crawford, perhaps questioning the referee's decision.

State was forced to foul Cal's Brian Wethers, who was held below his average and scored just 11. Wethers made only one of two, which set the stage for Sherrill on State's next possession.

Melvin and Powell lead the Wolfpack, each finishing with 17 points. Sherrill had 15, and Hodge dropped a quiet 14 but did give State its first lead on a thunderous one-handed dunk with 1:58 left in regulation. For Cal, Shipp lived up to his All-PAC-10 billing, as he overcame a tough shooting performance to finish with 24. No matter who was guarding the burly senior — whether it was Crawford, Hodge or Sherrill — Shipp seemed to make plays and get his team clutch points.

The loss came in familiar fashion for State: tough, bitter and in the final seconds. Its last three losses ended the same way. And though the Pack led for a total of just 58 seconds out of the 45 minutes played, the Wolfpack could taste victory. But once again, the Pack didn't hit the shots and didn't get the stops. And once again, State was heartbroken in the end.

"I thought it was going in," said Hodge of the shot. "But then it missed, and the buzzer sounded and we lost first-round. No one is just going to lay down and just give us a win because we haven't won that many big games. You have to go out, and you have to earn it. Cal earned it."

Gymnastics posts road win

N.C. State posted its first road win of the year despite an inspired performance by William and Mary.

Sports Staff Report

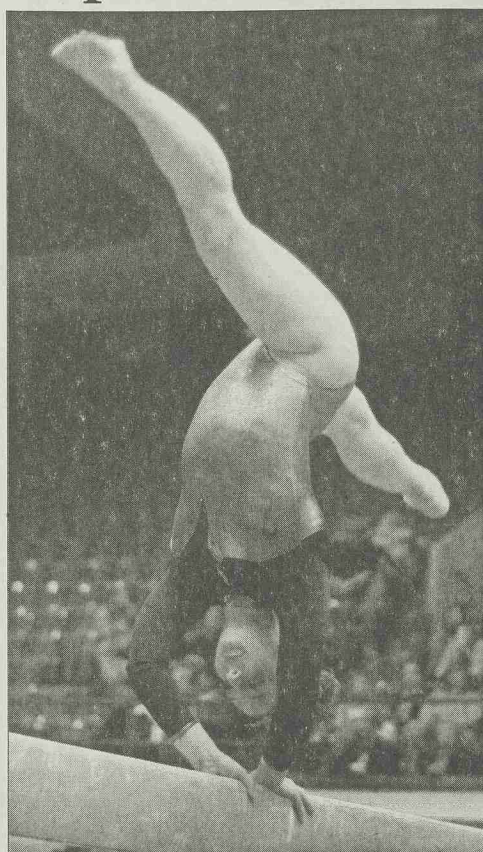
WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — William and Mary's gymnastics team posted its highest score in school history, but it wasn't enough to beat N.C. State.

The Pack scored a 195.900 to edge William and Mary, which posted a 195.450. The Wolfpack's Leah Sabo won the all-around competition with a 39.300 over the four events.

The Pack had the first-place finisher in each of the events. Sabo won the floor exercise with a 9.875. She also tied with Marilyn Madey for the uneven bars win by scoring a 9.850. Kelly Kello scored a 9.925 to win the balance beam. Molly Pennington's 9.900 won the vault competition.

Despite falling, the Tribe continued its improvement as of late. In addition to scoring a school-record overall, two individuals tied school-records on Senior Night at William and Mary Hall. William and Mary has now posted three of its top four performances ever in its last three meets.

The Wolfpack looks poised for a run at the NCAA regionals. State can cement its position in the tournament with a win at the EAGL championships next weekend.



Gymnastics concluded its regular season with a road win over William and Mary. Staff photo by Jason Ivester

BASEBALL

continued from page 8

highest on the team. Batting in FSU's meaty middle of the lineup, Martinez-Estevé also sports a .596 slugging percentage and has tallied eight doubles, five homers and a team-best 29 RBIs.

But probably more impressive than its batting leaders are the arms of its deep pitching staff. Amazingly enough, the Seminoles' top eight pitchers have combined over 177 innings of duty on the mound — totaling all but three of the team's victories and none of its losses. Even more impressive is the average ERA for the group of hurlers, a very low 1.27.

"Florida State is a very talented and very good baseball team," said

Avent. "The thing with a team like FSU is that you need to get their batters out one, two, three every inning or they'll hurt you. They won't give us the same opportunities that other teams we've played so far have, so we're going to have to look to capitalize off any opportunities we get."

And opportunities are exactly what the Pack will look to create with solid play of its own.

State has done well offensively lately; hitting .308 as a team during the streak, while featuring the talent of Justin Riley and Adam Hargrave of late. Riley has an average of .355 over the last 10 games, while Hargrave sports a .417 average, and the two have combined for nine doubles and 15 RBIs during the same period.

But it has been the state of the Pack's pitchers that has been the

most noteworthy. Despite the lack of depth on the mound, State's starters have proven themselves to be worthy competitors lately. During the last 14 games, the Pack's starters on the mound have gone at least five innings in each game. The starters have combined for a perfect 13-0 record and a low 2.06 ERA, while allowing only 78 hits and striking out 104 opposing batters.

"I think because the depth of our pitching staff has been depleted with some injuries to guys like Daniel Caldwell and Derek McKee, it has created a situation where our starters have had to step up," said Avent. "They've certainly done that. We've been able to swing the bats some which helps, but certainly, our starters have done real well for us lately."

BASKETBALL

continued from page 8

star made the most of it when he nailed a short jumper in the lane to put his team up 72-71 with 50 seconds left.

Just 20 seconds later, another critical error wounded the Pack, this one coming when Clifford Crawford was called for traveling along the baseline as he looked to inbound the ball. Instead of having an opportunity to take the lead, the Pack, down one at the time, was forced to turn the ball over and foul Cal.

It's the little things.

"We showed signs, but we didn't put it together for 40 minutes as a team," said Marcus Melvin, who went 5-for-17 but hit four 3s and finished with 17 points. "Some individuals put it together, but in order for us to win games, we have to put it together all at once."

When State watches the game film, it will notice the numerous times it missed layups, let loose balls slip away and failed to box out. It will notice the endless chances it had and see how close it was to advancing to the second round.

"We played like we wanted it, but you have to do a little extra to win games like this," said Pack sophomore Julius Hodge, who scored 14 points but took only nine shots.

After the game, deep under the Ford Center in State's locker room, Hodge openly questioned

the strategy of the Wolfpack's coaches, particularly in regards to the team's final possession of regulation, which resulted in a misguided, jumbled 3-point attempt from Hodge.

"Every game, I'm told to get my teammates involved, make the extra pass," Hodge said. "And then, when it comes to the end of the shot clock, the end of the game, then I have to make the big play."

"It didn't work that way today. It worked last week vs. Wake Forest, and today, I wasn't getting myself involved in the game earlier. It hurt us."

Hodge wasn't finished.

"They had a very good player in Joe Shipp who was out there, and the first couple of minutes, he was just throwing up shots," he said. "And we saying, 'Who would shoot those shots?' But his coach tells him, because he's a scorer, to shoot the ball and shoot the ball. And eventually he started making shots."

"[His coach] wasn't telling him to get everyone else involved. He knew that [Shipp] was a key player on that team and that if you got him involved, he was going to lead them."

Hodge didn't seem to understand either, why State didn't go to Powell, its hottest player coming into the tournament. What would the sophomore from Harlem like to have seen?

"Dumping it inside to Josh Powell down low," he said. "And they have to double-team him because he's been playing so well

lately. And if he kicks it out, we have an open shot. It may seem simple, but every time we did that, it worked."

Mostly, though, Hodge was plain flustered at how the Pack handled itself in certain situations, especially late in the game.

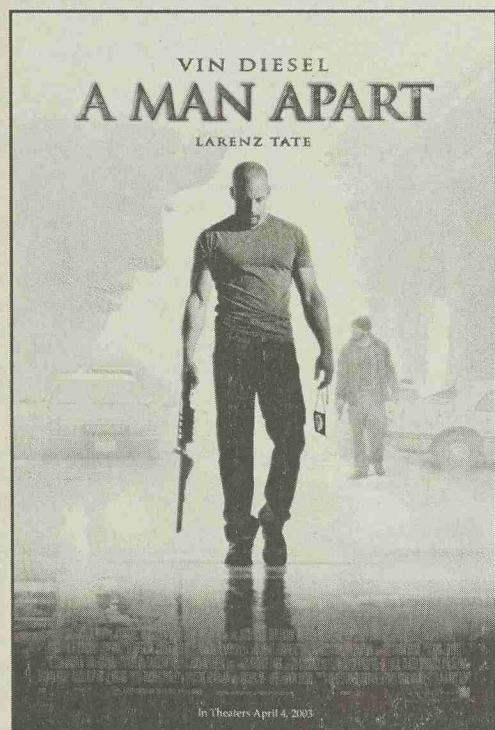
"It's just real frustrating," he said. "We come out of the timeout, and we're out there, and we're out there on the court — the players — and we know what's working. And then you have to do something else, and [Cal] is switching on screens; you're not going to get a shot off like that. It's real frustrating right now. You got a one-on-one break and a couple seconds left, and we call timeout. Cliff Crawford had the layup. He could take the guy or get fouled. It's so many factors. [We] were out there playing hard, and we had so many opportunities. It's like, we're out there on the court, and we have to do something else, and it's not working."

"We're out there playing, and we're not coaches. We have to do what they say, because that's what works. But we're out there on the court. We know what works. It's still, 'Run this, or run that.' But we're out there on the court — know what's working."

Hodge did say, ultimately, it was the players' responsibility to get it done. And on this day, Hodge and company just didn't get it done themselves.

Maybe that's the reason for all the frustration.

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- 11 Lethal letters
- 14 Type of rug or code
- 15 Zimbabwe's capital
- 16 Weeder's tool
- 17 TV classic about a half dozen beach bums?
- 19 Long time
- 20 Trousers measurement
- 21 Turf
- 22 Furthermore
- 23 Blows a gasket
- 25 Having more chutzpah
- 27 Worn down
- 29 Any day now
- 30 Moral misdeed
- 33 More rational
- 35 Reside
- 38 Temporary funds
- 40 Fathered
- 42 Sheep fat
- 43 Canadian territory
- 45 Doles (out)
- 47 Seed vessel
- 48 Gabor and Peron
- 50 DeeJay Casey
- 52 Soft drink
- 55 Change tags
- 59 Head Stone?
- 60 Vegas
- 62 Do some cobbling
- 63 Lilly or Whitney
- 64 TV classic about team tennis?
- 66 Do-over serve
- 67 On the go
- 68 Biblical preposition
- 69 Attempt
- 70 Built a home
- 71 Idyllic spot

By Bill Swain

New Port Richey, FL

Thursdays Puzzle Solved

3/21/03

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Friday Sports

Schedule

M. tennis @ East Carolina, 3/21
W. tennis vs. App. State, 3/21, 3
Baseball vs. Florida State, 3/21
M. golf @ Chris Schenkel Invitational, 3/22

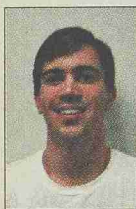
Scores

California 76, M. basketball 74

TECHNICIAN

BASKETBALL

Not all about the 'W'



Taylor Francis

Football coaching legend Vince Lombardi once said, "Winning isn't everything, but wanting to win is." Since he uttered those words, they have been misconstrued into a more famous sports cliché — "Winning isn't

everything. It's the only thing."

Children in the United States today are raised with this adage ringing in their ears. It's preached to them from day one until it's so much a part of them, they can't remember when having fun was more important than winning. "Second place is the first loser." "Win at all costs." These are the rules that govern sports in the United States.

Winning defines Americans to the point that losing a game, whether playing in it or merely watching, can throw a person into a rage or ruin a whole day, weekend, or even a year if the loss is to an arch rival.

No, this column isn't a rant about the role that sports plays in American society or the loss of innocence in the world of sports. The point being made is that obsession with victory causes an individual to lose sight of the fact that a big part of the allure of sports is the loss — especially the heartbreaking, last second losses.

Don't misunderstand. Obviously, it's natural for anyone to always want his or her team to win. But if there were no losses, no suspense, then the beauty of sports would be tarnished.

N.C. State's basketball team lost two of its last three regular season games. The first was to Maryland on a last second three-pointer by Drew Nicholas. Did that deter a raucous crowd from filling up the RBC Center for State's next home game against Wake Forest? Not at all. The Pack lost that game, too, when Josh Howard sank six free throws with 1.7 seconds left. And still the fans showed up to cheer for the Pack during the ACC tournament.

Last Sunday, the Wolfpack watched a 15-point lead disappear and lost the ACC Championship to Duke in the final minutes. Yet, I guarantee, a good portion of N.C. State's student body could not be found in a classroom between 12:20PM and 3PM on March 20.

Finally, just yesterday, State suffered a gut-wrenching loss to California in the first round of the NCAA tournament on a last second three-pointer in overtime. That loss ended the season for coach Sendek and the Pack.

The anguish of the players told the whole story. Marcus Melvin pulled his jersey over his head and Julius Hodge buried his head in his hands after suffering their second consecutive heartbreaking loss in the NCAA tournament. Last year it was Connecticut, 77-74. This year it was California, 76-74.

It's a guarantee that there's not a single N.C. State fan that wanted to lose those games. But the beauty of sports is in the not knowing; it's in the nervousness, the anguish, the knotted stomachs, the screams of joy, and curses of rage.

For every N.C. State fan that roared in jubilation and jumped off of their sofa when Lorenzo Charles dunked that basketball in 1983, there was another Houston fan sinking into their couch praying to God that he was dreaming. For every student, parent, and alumnus that tried to will Scooter Sherrill's last-ditch effort into the basket and then tried to wake up from their collective nightmare when time expired, there was a Cal fan that was cheering and hugging everyone in sight.

It's part of sports. It's one of the highest highs when one is on the winning

Heartbreak in Oklahoma

For the second straight year, N.C. State is ousted from the NCAA tournament when a last-second 3-pointer just misses.

Andrew B. Carter
Assistant Sports Editor

OKLAHOMA CITY — Scooter Sherrill thought it was in. The N.C. State bench did, too, as Wolfpack players rose to their feet ready to celebrate what would have been another one of those classic NCAA tournament moments.

The junior guard, who had played so big in the final moments of State's first-round game with California on Thursday afternoon, seemed destined to make history. He had already hit one 3-pointer with 12.8 seconds left in overtime to give his team a 74-73 lead. Before that, at the end of regulation, Sherrill swatted away a last-second layup attempt the Golden Bears' Richard Midgley to preserve the tie.

And this time, it looked as though Sherrill would come through again. After Midgley nailed a 3 from the top of the key to put Cal up 76-74 with 3.9 seconds left, Marcus Melvin heaved a long pass down court to Josh Powell, who stood on the right wing wide open. Powell, with the defense swarming in, flipped it to Sherrill, who had raced upcourt.

But Sherrill's shot, a leaner from 25 feet near the top of the key, clanked off the back iron. Suddenly, it was over: State's tournament hopes, State's season.

It ended 76-74, Cal. Another Wolfpack heartbreaker.

"I had a good look at the end," said a somber Sherrill in a quiet Wolfpack locker room in the moments after the loss. "It was a little right, but I thought it still had a chance. I had a good look — should have knocked it down."

The miss ended a sequence of play in the last 13 seconds that defined March Madness brilliantly. With the Pack down two and 22 seconds remaining, State, which finished its season at 18-13, drew up a play for its best long-range shooter.

"Coach drew up a good play for me with 20 seconds left," said Sherrill. "I was open, and I hit it."

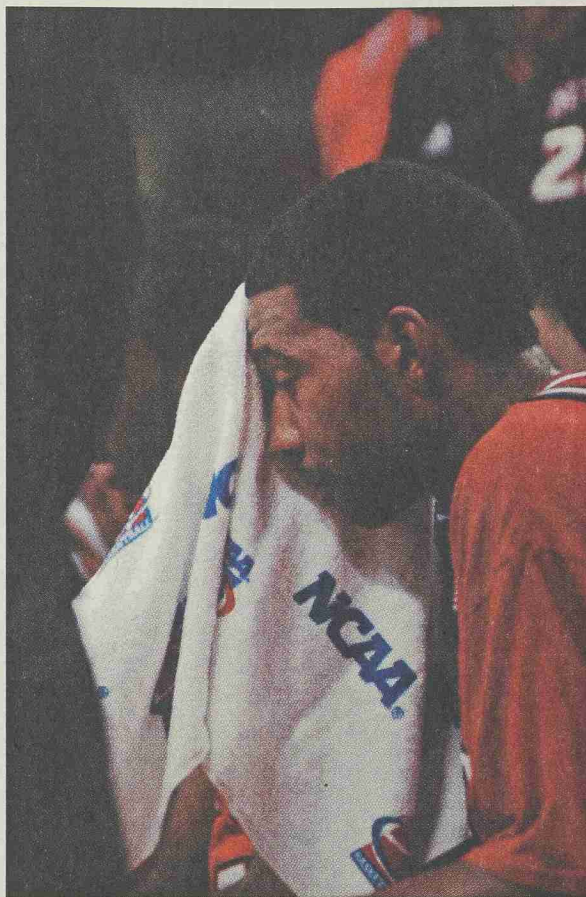
The shot, a laserbeam 3 from the right wing, gave State a 74-73 lead with 12.8 seconds showing on the game clock.

"It was just excitement," said Sherrill. "We thought we had the game won."

But Cal's Joe Shipp, who played like a senior who wasn't ready to end his collegiate career, took the inbound pass and bolted up the left side of the court. Facing a double team, Shipp dished it off to Midgley, who couldn't have been more open.

"When they came down, we double-teamed Shipp," said Sherrill. "We left a guy wide open. I saw it when it left his hand, and it just looked good."

With the noise at the Ford Center reaching a maddening volume, time still remained for what could have been one of the most dramatic endings in tournament history. But Sherrill, who said



Marcus Melvin and the Wolfpack's season ended with a tough overtime loss to California Thursday afternoon. Staff photo by Matt Huffman

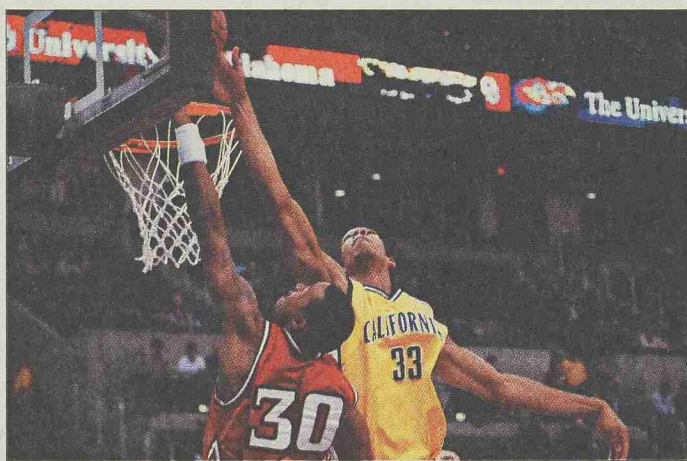
he felt a combination of pressure with a closing defense and running clock, just missed. It was the shot State wanted, though.

"We executed perfectly in getting Scooter his last-second shot," said Wolf-

pack coach Herb Sendek. "We could not be more proud of how well we executed on that possession."

In a perfect world for State, it would have gotten the final stop on the Golden

See NCAA page 6



Gabriel Hughes (33) had a career day against State to deny senior Cliff Crawford another college basketball game. Staff photo by Matt Huffman

State's season comes to 'frustrating' end

N.C. State let opportunities slip away, and afterward Julius Hodge criticized the Wolfpack's strategy.

Andrew B. Carter
Assistant Sports Editor

OKLAHOMA CITY — If one play symbolized N.C. State's heart attack-inducing loss to California on Thursday in the first round of the NCAA tournament, this was it. With less than a minute to play in overtime and the Wolfpack clinging to a 71-70 lead, Golden Bears' 6-10 forward Amit

Tamir let loose a deep 3-pointer that was doomed from the release.

It was just what the Pack needed, a bad shot by a tall player, one that wouldn't possibly be in position to rebound. State big man Josh Powell claimed the perfect rebounding spot and was ready to get the Pack on the move with the lead and only 55 seconds left.

Problem was, the ball slipped away from Powell, somehow squirting out of his hands. Cal's Joe Shipp was the benefactor of Powell's blunder, and the Bears'

See BASKETBALL page 6

Baseball faces tough test against No. 2 Florida State

N.C. State begins ACC play this weekend at Kingston's Grainger Stadium against the Seminoles.

Justin Sellers
Senior Staff Writer

The N.C. State baseball team has experienced a rather unique 2003 season so far — playing its home games away from Raleigh due to Doak Field being renovated and having three games cancelled due to inclement weather.

But while many would think such setbacks could throw off a team's composure, the Wolfpack (19-4, 0-0 ACC) has done just the opposite — turning up the heat on opposing pitchers with its bats, while also receiving some much needed strength from its pitching staff. Such as-

sets have allowed this year's team to roll onto a 14-game winning streak that helped the Pack earn a No. 25 ranking in the latest Collegiate Baseball poll. Furthermore, with its recent success, State has now matched the second longest winning streak in school history, which was last accomplished in 1999.

Tuesday, the Pack was looking to extend its streak by one more game with a win over Davidson, but bad weather the night before had left the field at Kingston's Grainger Stadium in unplayable conditions and forced the contest with the Wildcats to be cancelled. Now, State will look to continue its streak against a powerful squad in second-ranked Florida State in a three-game series that begins Friday afternoon in Kingston.

But while the Pack has fed well off non-conference opponents,

it will surely get its first true test this weekend.

"This weekend is going to be a good one," said head coach Elliott Avent. "We've got to play solid defense against Florida State because they are a dangerous ball club. Offensively, we've got to swing the bats better than we have been. I think it's going to be a good series."

The Seminoles (24-2, 3-0) also had the week off from action and are on a five-game streak of its own after sweeping ACC foe Virginia at home over the weekend. Thus far, FSU has managed to be an offensive juggernaut, outscoring its opponents 243-84.

Its offensive success has been the result to a team batting average of .308 with a total of nine batters swinging above .300 on the season. Senior infielder Chris Hart and catcher Tony



N.C. State's 14-game winning streak will be put to a test against the No. 2 team in the nation. Staff photo by Rachel Martin

Richie have led the way for the Seminoles, combining for 45 of FSU's runs scored, while driving in 42 RBIs together.

Another key weapon for the Noles is freshman third baseman Eddy Martinez-Esteve. Ranking among the top-30 prep

players nationally by Baseball America as a senior in high school, Martinez-Esteve has made the transition to the college game look rather easy, starting all 26 games, while posting a .343 average — the fourth

See BASEBALL page 6

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