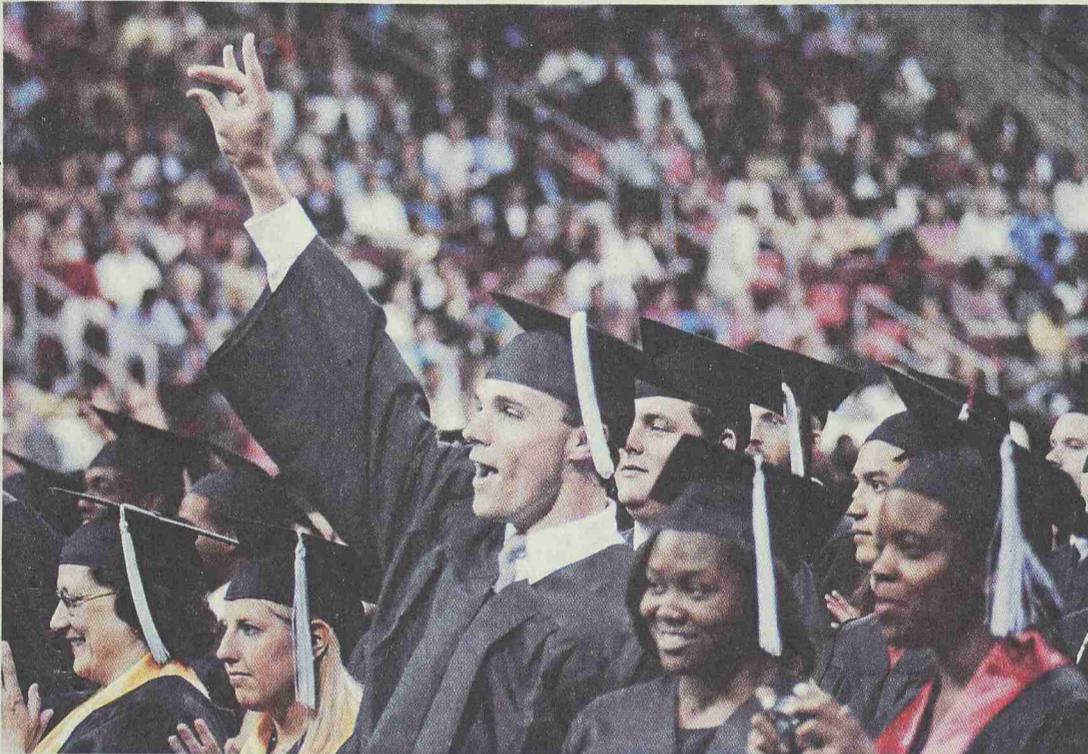


TECHNICIAN

WEDNESDAY
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2003

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Raleigh, North Carolina



To the Class of 2003...

The class of 2003 got more than just their degrees on Saturday after a highly-publicized commencement address by former talk show host Phil Donahue prompted a handful of audience members to leave and tested the patience of those left in the audience.

"I came here looking for friends," Donahue said during the address. "I also came here looking for liberals. I can see that along the way I've made a few enemies."

Donahue's speech, "Take a liberal to lunch," came during the university's spring commencement on Saturday in the RBC Center. Nearly 4,000 students received degrees during the exercises, including 92 associate, 2,623 bachelor's, 970 master's, 202 doctoral and 73 doctor of veterinary medicine degrees.

But in the national spotlight, the focus was



on Donahue's words, much of which centered on getting back to the fundamentals of the Constitution.

"You have to stand next to it," he said. "Protect it. Nourish it... America has to reach out rather than lash out."

But his message also attacked religion in schools and the war on drugs. He commented that only Congress, not a president, can declare war and urged students to renew the fundamentals of the Constitution such as respecting minorities and free speech.

In response, several students and parents left the auditorium. Others yelled and booed the stage. A few simply turned in their seats.

Donahue, for the most part, did not appear to be insulted.

"I am not going to believe that the state should impose my beliefs on you or anyone else," he said during the speech. "There's nothing more fundamental than free speech."

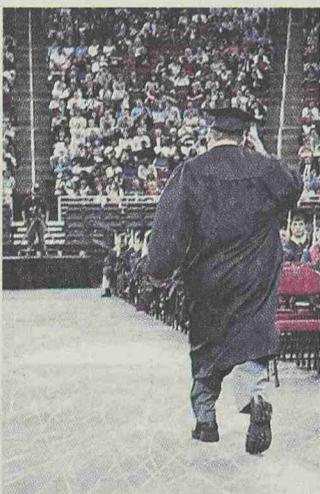
Student speaker Liz Guiterrez had a less politically charged message for her fellow graduates.

"We are afraid to challenge ourselves," she said. "Afraid we might fail."

But she challenged students not to surrender to the "mediocrity of life" and to focus on the beauty of interaction with the world.

"I chose to wake up to actively seek out life," she said. "It's not too late to wake up to the challenges of life."

The university also bestowed honorary degrees on Ken Burns, a documentary film maker; Cyma Rubin, an Emmy and Tony award-winning producer, director and writer; Dr. William G. Hill, prominent geneticist; and E. Carroll Joyner, NCSU alumnus and former vice president for real estate development for the Golden Corral Restaurant chain.



(Clockwise from top) A student howls for the last time as an N.C. State student. Staff photo by Rob Bradley. Disgruntled by Donahue's speech, a student walks out. Rob Bradley (top) The RBC center was 'packed' for the commencement ceremonies. Tim Lytvinenko (bottom) The chancellor gave graduates the okay to call their parents and express their gratitude. Rob Bradley. Students await their diplomas. Rob Bradley. Commencement Speaker Phil Donahue. Rob Bradley.

Noteworthy Grads



Melissa Adams
Wilkesboro, N.C.

If Melissa Adams has any advice for incoming freshmen, it's to get out there.

"Try to get involved and try out new experiences while you are at State," the graduate said. "Don't just go to class, get out there."

She should know.

As an undergraduate pursuing degrees in zoology and multidisciplinary studies, she quickly learned that not all lessons are taught in the classroom. In fact, it was "out there" that Adams found the inspiration and excitement for her studies.

"Ever since I was young, I always loved science and had an inquisitive nature," she said. "Until I came to State, I didn't realize the possibilities within a science degree. Being involved in research was very crucial to the decisions I've

See ADAMS page 4



Michael D. Anthony
Charlotte, NC

When it comes to campus involvement, Michael Anthony is a hard person to beat.

As the only student to hold three major positions within Student Government, the former student body president, student senate president and student body treas-

ure knows a thing or two about the ins and outs of student leadership.

"It meant everything to me," Anthony said of his multiple tenures. "It gave me purpose, and a venue to serve others. It gave me an outlet to express my pride for the university, while at the same time sharpening those skills I would later use in my professional life."

Though he graduated with a degree in business management, he's headed for the graduate program at the University of Louisville to study higher education. He'll also

See ANTHONY page 4



Kelly Mahoney
Elicott City, MD

Kelly Mahoney, who graduated with a degree in meteorology, didn't just spend her undergraduate career chasing her dreams - she went chasing severe weather, as well.

"Aside from the excitement and adrenaline rush that accompanies

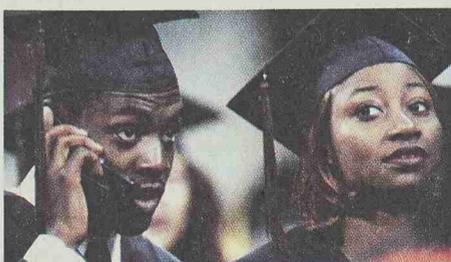
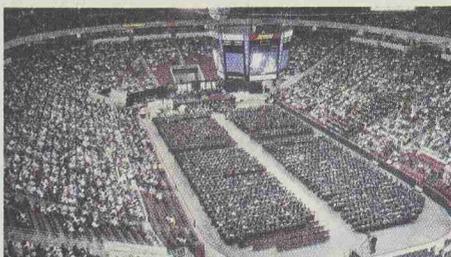
actually 'finding' a funnel cloud or being a little too close to a lightning strike, there is nothing more awe-inspiring to me than to watch a thunderstorm develop and dissipate over the gorgeous Great Plains," said Mahoney, who took a storm chasing trip to the Midwest after her freshman year. "It is truly remarkable to witness, and provided that people and property are not harmed, it is absolutely beautiful."

She's the first to admit she's a "little obsessed" with weather but it's a

See MAHONEY page 4

Hats off

Technician takes a look at the creative ways grads decorated their motorboards.



TODAY

A&E
takes a look at the first wave of summer movies. p. 4

Opinion
wants Donahue to leave the stage. p. 2

Sports
gets suited up for the NCAA baseball tournament. p. 8



Today
Showers
75°/61°

WEATHER



Tomorrow
Thunderstorms
67°/59°

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Some podiums aren't made for politics

If the university was searching for a way to one-up its rivals for the most notorious graduation speaker in 2003, it certainly came close. If it was looking for an inspirational and motivational message for its grads, it failed miserably.

In what sounded like a bad idea from the beginning, N.C. State chose recently fired talk show host Phil Donahue to deliver the commencement address at graduation on Saturday. It was a decision that prompted many students to stay home, a handful to walk out of the ceremony and a number to actually boo during the speech. And it put the NCSU commencement in the national spotlight.

But is anyone surprised? The university chose a speaker known for waving in an era of daytime television shows that focused on the scandalous, the absurd and the controversial. With a recently canceled show and a recent trip on the campaign trail, anyone could have guessed that Donahue's speech would be highly controversial and political.

But the controversy does beg a bigger question: what makes a graduation speaker? The university has hopefully learned that a big name and celebrity certainly aren't enough.

Graduation is a time for congratulations and reflection for the graduates. But more so - and it's the definition of the very word commencement - it's a time for beginnings. As one chapter closes, the ceremony marks the little moments before the next chapter begins. That's why the speaker's words are so powerful. They have the opportunity to inspire and to motivate. Speakers, by tradition, reflect on their own experiences to give advice and motivation to the graduating class. It's not a time to talk politics.

That's not to say that politicians or po-

litical activists should be left out of consideration. In 1999, Sen. John Edwards delivered the commencement address. Though he had just become North Carolina's junior senator, he focused on encouraging graduates to put public service before self-interest. "You have an obligation to make this state, this nation, even this world a more embracing place," he said. "You have an obligation to take a stand against the forces of intolerance."

Future speakers should follow Edwards' example and leave the politics off the podium.

Perhaps the university was simply too caught up in trying to nab the biggest name for commencement. Had they taken the time to look around campus or even within the alumni, they could have certainly found someone more suitable. Perhaps they wouldn't have the name to compete with Bill Cosby but they could have had just the words that our graduates needed.

Instead, students chose not to attend their own graduation ceremony, to walk out, to jeer or even to turn in their seats. While maybe not the best strategy, it was certainly within their rights as students and as graduates to show their disappointment with the university.

Just as Chancellor Marye Anne Fox said, "America truly is a wonderful country. We can be civil even when we profoundly disagree." The tragedy in this year's commencement is the mark it will leave on the university's reputation. The Associated Press and news stations around the nation were quick to jump on the story of a graduation gone bad, especially since it involved a "celebrity" like Donahue.

So if the university was looking for notoriety, they found it. It's just unfortunate that the Class of 2003 had to pay the consequences.



Lies, damned lies and The New York Times



Ben McNeely
Staff Columnist

Almost two weeks ago, The New York Times, the most trusted newspaper in the world, admitted that one of its own, Jayson Blair, had committed the worst breach in journalistic integrity in the history of the newspaper.

Blair, who wrote stories about the war in Iraq and the Washington, D.C. sniper attacks, had made up conversations and quotes in over 30 stories and the Times is finding new errors in his earlier articles. This case of journalistic fraud dealt the profession a huge blow.

If The New York Times, the venerable crown jewel of the Fourth Estate, has major problems with telling the truth, what else is going on elsewhere? Is the press accurately reporting the news or just making things up to sell newspapers or advertising time over the airwaves?

This case brings up some very hard questions that many in the profession, and in the public, would like to see answered. Many in the industry, especially conservatives, heckled the Times because Blair was black. They say that the affirmative action policies of the Times were the root of this travesty. They claim that if the Times had hired Blair on his merits as a reporter, not as an African-American, they would have recognized his deception from the get-go and saved themselves the embarrassment of printing a huge four-page retraction.

This is utter nonsense. Affirmative action has nothing to do with this case. The Times hired Blair under the assumption that he was a proper and ethical journalist. The hiring policies and practices of the Times are irrelevant here. White or black, a jour-

nalist who commits fraud by making up quotes and reporting news from datelines never visited is wrong period and race has nothing to do with it. There have been white reporters who have done the same thing and they have resigned or have been fired.

Perhaps the Times' own employee said it best.

"Then to the affirmative-action angle: See what happens, they taunt, when you treat a minority employee with kid gloves, promoting him when he deserves to be fired? Oh, we know your editors insist that "diversity" had nothing to do with it. But remember what Senator Dale Bumpers said about our impeachment of Clinton: "When you hear somebody say, 'This is not about sex - it's about sex.' This is about diversity backfiring," wrote columnist William Safire.

There is nothing wrong with diversity on a newspaper staff. Even though a newspaper has to report the news with objective eye, a black writer, a white writer, an Asian writer, is still a writer, no matter how many hairs one splits.

The question that Times, and the profession, faces is "What now?"

The editor of the Times, Howell Raines, accepted responsibility for the incident and answered questions from an angry and betrayed staff of reporters. While Haines has no intention of resigning, he should, however, take a tougher stance on accuracy in reporting.

The reporters, known as some of the best in the world, will have to be extra careful in what they write and continue their tradition of producing work that is both fair and accurate.

Unfortunately, the editors will have to look over the shoulder of their reporters more to make sure that the integrity of the paper is sound. This creates a hardship on those reporters that are honest and report the news in the highest journalistic standards.

This incident is an affront to the First Amendment because free speech will be

hindered. Constant monitoring by editors will hurt coverage and develop an atmosphere of mistrust between the reporters and their editors.

But more importantly, this damages the image of the press in the eyes of the public, who already view the media as being biased and unfair. The Times will keep on publishing and newspapers across the globe will still report the news, but it will not be the same.

In a way, this incident is good for the profession. It is humbling, yes, but a little shake-up is good for the soul. In this case, it only reminds those in the profession who are honest to keep on doing what they do best: report the truth no matter what, to the highest standards of reporting.

And to those who are less than ideal in their writing, it sends a message of warning to either shape up or ship out.

At Technician, the writers and editors are committed to reporting campus news accurately and fairly. We may miss an event or may slip up a name here and there, but nobody is perfect. We are constantly endeavoring to improve our content and perfect the art we have chosen to practice. Anything less would be unacceptable.

The New York Times is the best newspaper in the world. It should and will continue to be so. As Safire says: "Self-examination is healthy but self-absorption is not; self-correction is a winner but self-flagellation is a sure loser. Let us slap a metaphoric cold steak over our huge black eye and learn from this dismaying example - so that other journalists in the nation and around the world can continue to learn from ours."

Ben is glad to home after a crazy school year and looks forward to a summer of lazing around and generally doing nothing. Email him at ben@technicianstaff.com to send him activities he can do from the comfort of his couch.

Dimming Futures

Staff Editorial
Independent Florida Alligator (U. Florida)

This should have been a great story. A man quits his job at the Boeing Co. to go follow his dream of photographing the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

After a good deal of hardship, Subhankar Banerjee finally got a book of his photographs published and an invitation from the National Museum of Natural History to host an exhibit of his pictures in its main rotunda.

Many of the images he shot were taken in the same place the Bush administration, oil companies and Alaska's congressional delegation have earmarked as the perfect place to drill for oil.

Those touting the idea of drilling there have called the coastal plains a bleak and

lifeless place where drilling would have little to no effect on any living creatures. Banerjee's photographs have thrown a rather large blanket over those notions.

After one of Banerjee's pictures was shown on the Senate floor, the exhibit was moved from the rotunda in the Smithsonian to a smaller area in a hallway.

Of course, the Smithsonian has dismissed any notions that there may have been political pressure to move the exhibit and shrink its scale.

Fortunately, the story is still not over. There will be a hearing where senators who are against drilling in the refuge will get to question the higher-ups at the Smithsonian.

Maybe there will be a happy ending after all.

TECHNICIAN

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Disgusted by animal show



Heather Cutchin
Staff Columnist

I love to watch Animal Planet or similar shows and watch monkeys playing. I thought it would be so cool to be a trainer and teach these complex creatures how to do sign language or other human-like activities. I always felt sad after these shows

though, because I realized these monkeys belonged in the wild not enclosed in a human world full of harmful things. When I heard that the Reptile and Exotic Animal Show was going to be in Raleigh and that there would probably be monkeys of some sort there, I knew I could not pass up the opportunity to see these creatures that I was so intrigued by. However, I was not prepared for the shock of seeing the thousands of animals there that were treated so poorly.

As I walked in, the first thing I saw were the birds. I passed by in awe at the beautiful macaws, African Grays and other large birds, then I came to the smaller bird section. There were approximately 20 little birds per aquarium, with one perch going across it that they could stand on, and barely enough seed for five birds in their tiny cup.

People walked up and handled the birds freely, without paying attention to the please wash you hands before touching birds sign (which was not even at all of the bird containers). Birds are very

susceptible to diseases (everyone remembers the avian influenza scare from not too long ago) and by going from one container of birds to another the possible diseases can be spread rapidly.

I went into the large arena part next and walked around looking at the reptiles. When most people hear the word snake they think of a creepy slimy ugly thing. The only creepy and slimy things I saw were some of the sellers.

If I am going to pay \$200 for anything I would rather talk to someone professional who knows what they are talking about than someone who cannot deliver an entire sentence without profanity strewn through it.

Also, not many of the sellers seemed interested in talking to me unless I was buying something and even then the gist of the conversation was the cost of the animal and a grunt as a reply to my thank you. There was never any mention of how to take care of any animal after it was bought, what to feed it, the environment it should be kept in or the signs of diseases I should look out for.

When I asked these questions, I was told to go find a book, because other customers were waiting to buy things. It was also disturbing to me that I could never find out exactly where some of these reptiles came from, the answers I got were either I bred it myself or my favorite: I just brought them from the store and sell them, dunno where they came from. I was very excited to see the monkey, until I saw where it was.

The marmoset monkey that I saw was a mere 3 weeks old, being sold for \$2,000

to anyone that wanted her. She had a sign on her cage: Do not put fingers inside of cage or try to touch monkey; however it was heeded about as well as most speed limit signs are.

What concerned me the most was that she was in the very center of the inside arena, which is where all of the reptiles were, and the cage she was in was in the center of a group of reptiles, making it easy for someone to touch a snake and then touch her. Monkeys, being mammals, are highly susceptible to salmonella. The number one carrier of salmonella happens to be reptiles.

The entire show was not completely bad.

There were a few sellers there that seemed very professional and talked in length to me about taking care of any of the animals they were selling. When I asked them why they were so willing to share information when others seemed not, they replied that they were there to find good homes for the animals they raised, they were not going to let it go to just anyone that had the money.

However, the bad outweighed the good by far, and because of the things I saw, I definitely will not be attending the show next year unless more strict rules are implemented about the selling of animals. Even if they are snakes, they are still alive and breathing and should be treated just as fairly as any other animal.

Heather would like to know who else attended the show and felt the same way she did. E-mail her at hrcutchi@unity.ncsu.edu and tell her all the things you saw.

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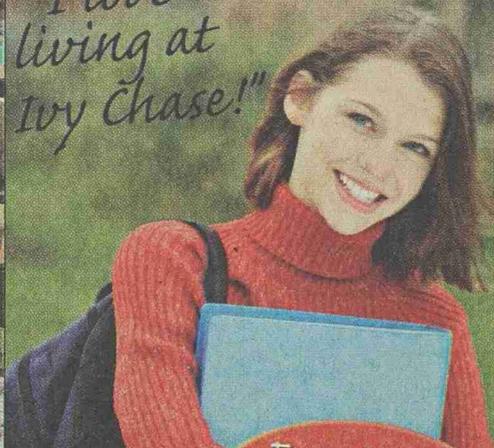
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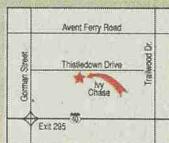
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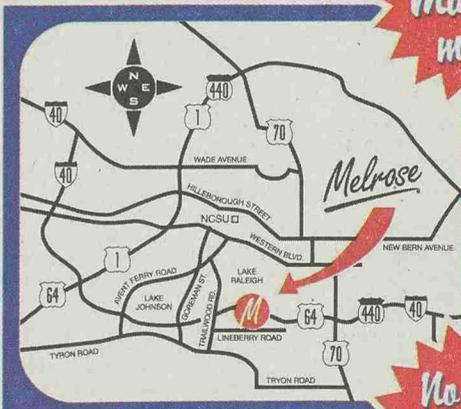
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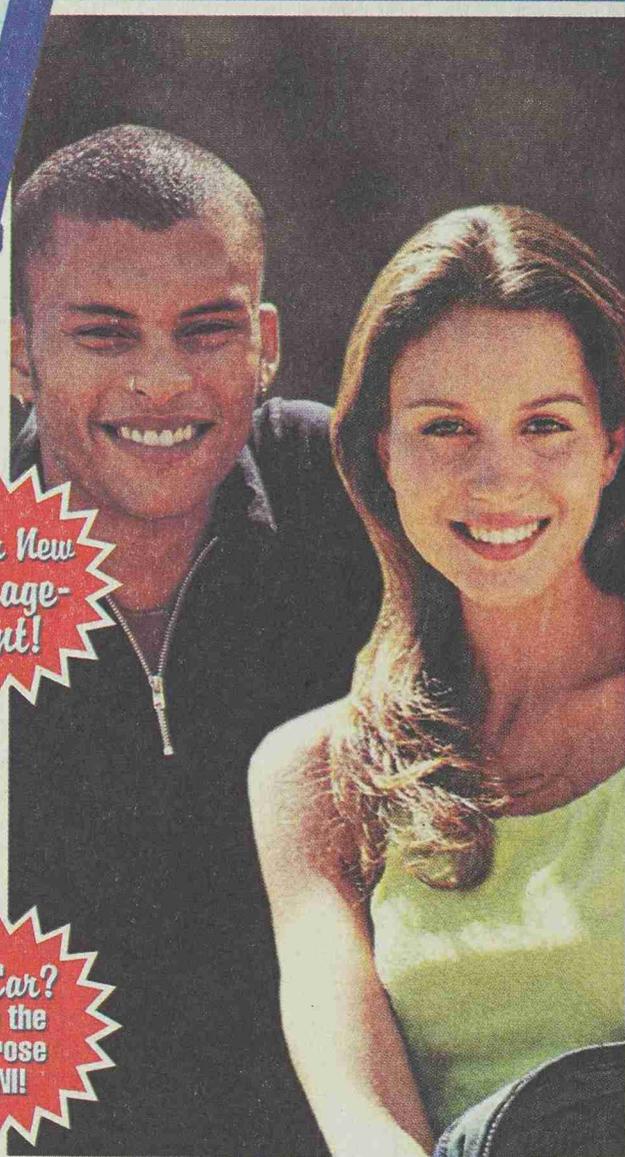
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MOVIES

And the busy summer season begins...

Joel Isaac Frady

A&E Editor

Since we only run once a week over the summer, space is critical. So for those of you who don't like those long, wordy film reviews, I'll be keeping them short and sweet just for you. They'll be listed in order of recommendation, so I'll start each week with the best pick and end with the worst. Here goes...

"Cowboy Bebop: The Movie"

 Director: Shinichiro Watanabe
 ★★★★★

In the middle of a year full of science fiction that revolves around mutants and machine-dominated worlds, "Cowboy Bebop" arrives like a tall glass of lemonade on a hot day. Despite being set in the year 2071, where characters travel in spaceships between different planets, it keeps its focus on its offbeat characters (who work as bounty hunters, or "space cowboys," chasing the biggest bounty ever offered) with a laid-back sense of humor and stylish animation.

It has action sequences that are just as exciting and eye-catching as anything you'll find in "The Matrix" films, but director Shinichiro Watanabe (who also directed two of the "Animatrix" shorts) creates a film that thrives on the eccentricity of its characters. Life-threatening situations can be handled while smoking a cigarette and without losing whatever goofy grin a character is currently wearing. These characters rely on wit instead of emotion, actions instead of fate and jazz instead of a loud rock or techno soundtrack.

Like the series (which has aired for several years on Cartoon Network) it's action-packed, but it's smart too, and that's a combination that's hard to find and rarely this much fun.

"Cowboy Bebop: The Movie" is playing nightly at the Chelsea in Chapel Hill.

"Bruce Almighty"

 Director: Tom Shadyac
 ★★★★★ 1/2

Once "Bruce Almighty" ended, one realization stuck out more than anything else. It had nothing to do with "Bruce"; none of the details of the delightful, fun experience were anywhere to be found. Instead, there was a simple question: Why has Jim Carrey waited so long to make a new comedy? The last one that sticks out is "Me, Myself & Irene" (unless you count "Grinch"), and you have to look all the way back to "Liar Liar" in 1997 to find his last good comedy. Not that his time in between was wasted, for he proved himself to be a true dramatic talent with "The Truman Show" and "Man on the Moon." "Bruce Almighty" is nostalgic in ways, reminding us why we started watching Jim Carrey to begin with.

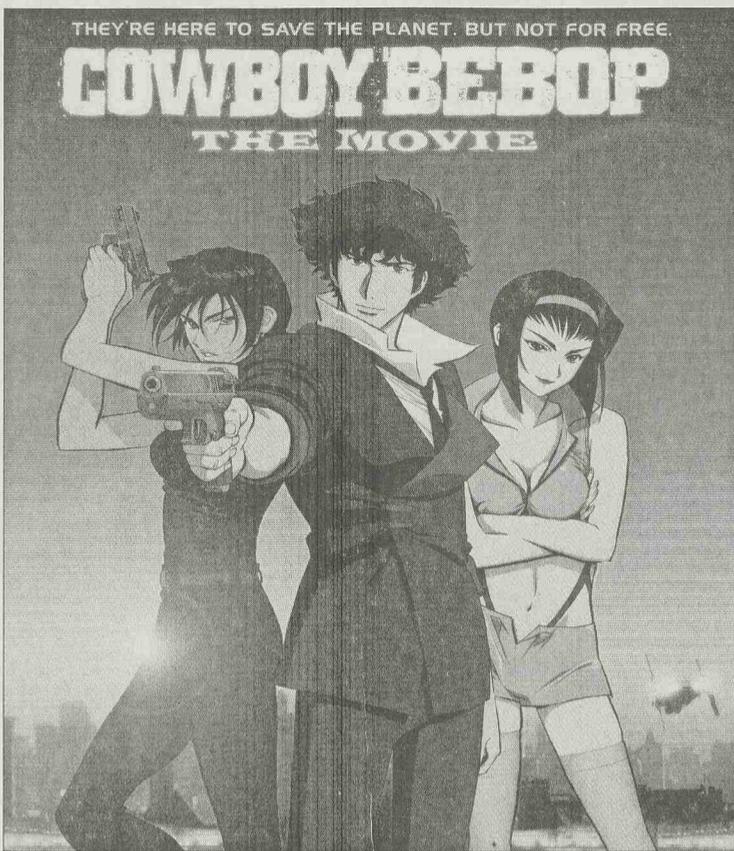


Photo courtesy Sony Classic Pictures

The constant potty jokes are gone (don't worry, some are still around), but "Bruce" shows, in ways, a more mature Carrey. He's still madly energetic, but it's controlled - instead of only hitting the flamboyant points, he nails the little ones, too. Instead of being simply a likable loon or an idiot, he's just a normal, likable guy with lots of energy. "Bruce," too, shows a more mature side, one that has time for the jokes and some dramatic notes. But best of all, it leaves the darker, meaner comedy that appeared occasionally in Carrey's earlier comedies alone, taking that time to give the film a generally warm-hearted, enjoyable feel. It's a good way to get your mind off things and smile for a bit, and that, in theory, is why we go see comedies to begin with.

"X2"

 Director: Bryan Singer
 ★★★★★ 1/2

Even though it was considered by many to be an

appetizer of sorts to help tide audiences over until Neo and company rolled in, "X2" is easily the best "summer movie" to come out so far this year. It's an improvement over the original in almost every aspect, and that's really saying something; when released in 2000, "X-Men" set the bar when it comes to comic book movies. This time the mutants have to team up with Professor X's (Patrick Stewart) arch-villain Magneto (Ian McKellan) to battle Stryker (the wonderful Brian Cox), a human who is bent on using X's power to destroy all mutants.

So the mutants are given the task of finding the top-secret facility Stryker uses so they can save the lives of every living mutant. The special effects are big and the action sequences loud, but director Bryan Singer ("The Usual Suspects") is smart enough to let them take the back-burner, instead shifting the film's focus to the mutants and their struggles, personal and otherwise.

After all is said and done, it should be enough to keep fans happy until "X3" lands in a few years.

"The Matrix Reloaded"

Directors: The Wachowski Brothers

★★★★★

Having seen it twice now, there's still no real verdict on whether "The Matrix Reloaded" is an improvement on "The Matrix," or even as to whether it's all that good at all. Producer Joel Silver warned that it is "half a movie," so it won't really be until "Matrix Revolutions" appears in November that an honest opinion can be delivered.

What can be said about "Reloaded" is this: there are many wowing action scenes, but there's a whole lot of talking in circles, too. Granted, it's refreshing to see a film of this magnitude leave the realm of mindlessness that so many action films fall into, and instead talk lots of crazy sci-fi philosophy. At the same time, though, it requires precise attention and some brain power to interpret all the jive they're talking as fast as they're talking it.

As far as sequels go, though, "Reloaded" has more twists than a bag of Twizzlers and delivers the goods that fans of the original want so badly. It's also accompanied with a multi-platform video game ("Enter the Matrix"), a series of short animated films detailing the history of the Matrix ("The Animatrix") and enough random items (cell phones, action figures, etc.) to keep a small country running.

The mass commercialism that is running rampant with "The Matrix" phenomena aside, "Reloaded" is worth the time and money, if only to give you and friends something to discuss and/or bitch about later.

"Spun"

Director: Jonas Akerlund

★ 1/2

The point of "Spun," so far as I can tell, is to allow a handful of well-known talent fulfill their share of experimental cinema for the next few years. Now, having done it, they can go back to working on the mainstream films without feeling like they've sold out. No matter how dumb the romantic comedies or how loud the sequels of sequels get.

It follows a group of methamphetamine (or "speed") addicts through a three-day period chock full of exploding hotel rooms, crazy sex and police interrogations. Pretty much everyone in the film is addicted to the drug (including the cops), and every three to four minutes someone is putting something in their nose or arm or other place that you wouldn't normally put stuff.

The cast is great, but wasted. For most people the combination of Jason Schwartzman, John Leguizamo, Patrick Fugit, Mena Suvari and Brittany Murphy would be more than enough to warrant seeing a film; sadly, the material they are wandering through has too much style and too little depth. Some plot elements (like a girl who is left handcuffed to a bed for a couple of days) are so bizarre that it's hard to concentrate on the trivial, boring adventures the film focuses on.

MUSIC

Them Bourgeois Blues

Grayson Currin

Senior Staff Writer

Name the noun that describes Bob Dylan. Go ahead, try it.

Surely, the word "genius" pops up quickly enough. After all, Dylan - a Duluth boy with a penchant for Dean turned America's riddling, poetic songwriting revolutionary - has penned some of the musical landmarks of our time. From the caustic tirade "Masters of War" to the swaggering epic "Sad Eyed Lady of the Lowlands," Dylan has led our leaders to doubt, our left to action and our conscience to question, all the while ringing the chimes of freedom with an aching voice steeped in an unsettling amount of honesty and emotion.

But try something less obvious. "Genius" almost underplays Dylan and his guarded, sublimely clouded way of doing things and of spinning tangled narratives. Considering his performance last Tuesday night in Cary at Regency Park, the tag of enigma seems more appropriate.

Shuffling on stage with "His Band" just before 8 p.m., Dylan - showing a bit of flair in a black suit, white tie and black boots beneath a white cowboy hat - headed to an electric piano, leaning on it as the band tuned up and waited for his sign.

Without so much as a second's hesitation, Dylan & Co. charged straight into a pummeling "Maggie's Farm." The band set the tone for the night immediately, shaking with the blues and exploding with a hodgepodge of Muscle Shoals solos and syncopated soul during the first two numbers alone. Guitarists Larry Campbell and Freddie Koella stepped out front instantly, trading smiles and licks in the highest registers. Dylan pounded his way up and down the keyboard, trying his lead hand only briefly before falling back into rhythmic lockstep with the improved, now-thundering drumming of a beaming George Recile.

The menacing guitars and tight rhythm section of Recile and bassist Tony Garnier continued through the second song, 1969's "Tonight I'll Be Staying Here With You." As Dylan lit into his first harmonic solo, the crowd erupted as he manned the keys with his left hand and gripped the harp in his right.

Dylan, who has been experimenting with an acoustic-guitar lead style of his own for a few years and who toured al-

most exclusively behind an acoustic guitar last year, seemed to enjoy the sound behind the keys. Early in the set, he slapped at them for "Tweedle Dee & Tweedle Dum," mixing booming, rhythmic piano work with over-riding, dissonant chords just as he careened into the chorus. Halfway into the two-hour, 16-song set, Dylan jolted his way into "Lovesick," the opening cut from his brilliant 1999 resurrection "Time Out of Mind."

With keys plodding insistently just underneath Campbell's difficult guitar line, the band conjured the sounds of forlorn ghosts like an updated version of Hank Williams as Dylan let his soul bleed in that seething cigarette baritone.

Dylan's spontaneous work on the keys didn't come without its faults, though. He grabbed an acoustic guitar for a sweetly pleading take on "Don't Think Twice, It's Alright," but returned it to a stand just before the band chimed in. After his hesitation, he boomed in on the keys with both hands. Missing the key by at least a few letters, he simply stepped back for a moment, winced and rejoined as Garnier winked from across stage.

With quick nods, he doled most of the night's solos to the powerful tag-team of Campbell and Koella. With "Cold Irons Bound," the band sounded like a second-generation take on the blues-rock of the Allman's. The guitars roared, howling at the moon beneath the weight of a bottleneck slide.

Koella pounded the strings with his fist during a hugely imaginative re-working of "Highway 61 Revisited," Campbell wailing away in Dylan's own searing take on the rock guitar duo. Koella - who also impressed the crowd with his fiddle work during "Floater (Too Much Too Ask)" - stared at Dylan throughout all of his leads, waiting to be reeled back in by the original boss.

Dylan - who has established a reputation for re-inventing his own work annually with mercurial and imaginative new versions - stuck to that reputation Tuesday night. He nearly treated the lesser-known material ("Things Have Changed," "Tonight I'll Be Staying Here With You") with more sincerity and vigor than the requisite hits, and he and the band opted into solos whenever the notion struck.

Australian sisters Vikki and Donna Simpson (their band, The Waifs, had opened with a winning set of folk and sto-

See DYLAN page 7

HUMOR

Graduation 2004

Joel Isaac Frady

A&E Editor

Now that Phil Donahue has come and gone - hopefully to stay gone - many questions have been raised as to what, exactly, makes a good graduation speaker. We know that washed-up television hosts with political agendas will drive students out the door (if they even show up), but who will bring students in, and keep them there? Here's a look at a few options:

Clay Aiken. He may be on the verge of huge success, but he's still just a boy from Raleigh. Wait for the "American Idol" thing to die down a bit, catch him in between a single and a "Survivor" full of old "Idol" contestants. His speech isn't guaranteed to be all that great, but the attendance of every female graduate and every female graduate's sisters is guaranteed to go up. The male attendance will go up, too, but that one has yet to be explained.

Mr. or Ms. Wolf. With the school talking the kinds of budget cuts they've been talking the last couple of years, why even spend the money on a graduation speaker at all, especially when we have cool mascots. Hell, they can both give a speech, and some cheerleaders can hold up a platform so Mr. Wolf can do a push-up for every person graduating.

Andy Griffith. He's a native of North Carolina with a very friendly persona, and let's face it: everyone likes Andy Griffith! Who didn't watch the hell out of that show on Nick at Nite? It was one of three things on T.V. that you could watch with your parents, and there's only so much news you can bear. Plus, he's always been wise, so now he really is old and wise. And when

he walked up to the podium, everyone could whistle his old theme song.

Arlo Guthrie. Any man that can write a nearly 20-minute song about the perils of littering on Thanksgiving could easily write a 10 or 15-minute tune for a group of graduates.

And imagine the college students, who could all walk into their shrink's office and sing a bar from this song. They may think he's really sick and not take 'em, though, but imagine if 50 people went in and sang that same bar. It could start a movement, and how cool would it be to have a movement started at your college graduation? I doubt many other people can claim that.

Jack Nicholson. Okay, so it would probably be about impossible, but imagine how cool it would be if it was possible. He wouldn't even have to talk, really, so much as stand there and grin.

Gary Larson. Every time the Sunday paper came, the first thing that half of the people I knew checked for was "The Far Side." He even stopped drawing them years ago, but the calendars and t-shirts can still be seen everywhere. He knows what's funny, so he probably has some good advice, too. If not, well just rise up and demand more "Far Side."

Bill Clinton. He actually came and spoke at N.C. State when he was still President, so it's in the realm of possibility that he could be persuaded to return to give a speech. Granted, he used to be President, but that doesn't necessarily mean that he'll bring politics into his speech. He'd probably give a great address about taking chances and enjoying life, so long as he was able to make it home in time for "Mister Personality."

ADAMS

continued from page 1

made regarding what I want to do in my life and what really excites me."

Her research carried her to the coast of Australia in the summer following her sophomore year. There, she studied the physiology of sea turtles. The following year, she teamed up with physiologists to study the molt cycle

and growth tendencies of crustaceans in Alaska.

"It was like seeing my studies come to life," Adams said of her work in Australia. "That was a dream come true for me."

Her love for science, coupled with an impressive academic record that included graduating valedictorian, earned Adams the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship for graduate studies. She was one of only two NCSU students that received the award this year.

ANTHONY

continued from page 1

be a resident director and has big plans to be a university administrator one day.

"Largely inspired by my activ-

ity around campus, in and out of Student Government, I fell in love with issues surrounding Higher Education," Anthony said. "I want to be in a position where I can mold and influence those people who will lead our country and world in the future.

She'll use the scholarship to pursue a Ph.D. in environmental toxicology or endocrinology. But first, she has a second degree to finish at NCSU and another trip to Alaska in the spring.

Ten years from now, she'd like to be working for the Environmental Protection Agency or teaching at a university.

"I love the university environment," she said. "It would be awesome to be part of it again."

"Those people are found in the University. They have the potential and the abilities to change the world; they just need to be guided, like I was. I want to give that back to students and to the community."

MAHONEY

continued from page 1

good thing she is. After graduating from the meteorology program, she'll enter N.C. State's graduate program in atmospheric science in the fall.

"This is a science that truly affects everyone," said Mahoney. "Whether you like it or not, the weather impacts - and sometimes determines - your day-to-day life.

And, to me, that is truly powerful." Though she says she's always been fascinated by thunderstorms, her interest in severe weather was intensified after she watched Hurricane Bertha's effects on a family vacation in 1996.

She carried her passion to NCSU where she participated in a case-study research project with Greg Fishel, a meteorologist for WRAL-TV. She tried her hand at broadcast meteorology by an-

choring the weather segment for a student-run television news program and by giving forecasts on WKNC.

With her immediate future taken care of, she's not entirely sure where she is headed. But she's not too concerned.

"In two years, I hope I know," she said. "But I do know that if what I'm doing challenges me and benefits society, then I'll be happy."

DYLAN

continued from page 8

rytelling) joined Dylan onstage for the first time, singing harmony during a melting "Knockin' on Heaven's Door."

In something of a 15-minute songwriter's expose as strong as any, Dylan headed out on a theesong, waltz-laden mini-set of material from his 2001 effort "Love & Theft." He and his band stood front and center, staring at the frenzied crowd with blank expressions. Dylan nodded, and

they were gone.

Some five minutes later, Dylan ambled to his keyboard yet again, band in tow, tackling his two most commonly and famously covered standards - "Like A Rolling Stone" and "All Along The Watchtower" - with a fierce growl spewing from the speakers.

Over the course of two hours, he had prophesied doom, regretted love, mourned heartbreak and evoked a whirlwind of feeling and passion with pinpoint precision and an unspoken control over one of the most-improved, com-

pling units in rock n' roll. He seemed approachable at points, even thanking the audience some dozen songs in and smiling at them much of the night. A bit of the myth and the mystery started to slink away.

But as Dylan headed into the puzzling first verse of "Watchtower" for the second time in a broken, shattered cadence amid a cacophony of pounded keys, The Enigma - showing his genius - presented the vexing question one last time: "Just who is Bob Dylan?"

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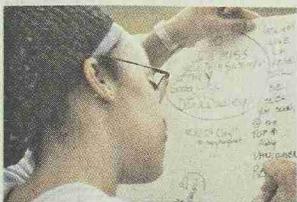
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Clay Hysteria sweeps Raleigh



Taslynn Love Li of Vancouver, who is visiting her mother in Durham, signs a good luck card to Aiken, who is in the finals of "American Idol."

Staff photo by Matt Huffman for The Herald-Sun

Raleigh native Clay Aiken learns the results of the "American Idol" popular vote tonight.

Anna Edens
Staff Writer

"ClayHysteria" is difficult to ignore as it sweeps across the Triangle, contaminating girls' minds with virulence only rivaled by SARS. Even Raleigh Mayor Charles Meeker has been caught in the hype, naming May 16 "Clay Aiken Day" in the city to honor one of Raleigh's own who is now a finalist on the hit-TV show "American Idol."

The RBC Center will even be open at 7 p.m. tonight for a giant viewing party, where live shots of fans at the center will air during the show.

One student who will be at the center is extreme Clay-fan, Beck Shapcott, who graduated last week with a degree in communications.

"After every show my mom and I talk on the phone with our reaction to that nights show," said Shapcott. "I often have my friends come over to watch."

But the hysteria surrounding the 24-year-old graduate of Leesville High School is based on something larger — if Aiken received enough phone call votes from FOX viewers on Tuesday to win the "American Idol" competition over Ruben Studdard, he will receive a recording contract.

That may prove to be difficult, because last week, FOX announcers said the vote separating the two contestants has a difference of less than two percent.

But many N.C. State students are packing the vote for Aiken.

"I vote for Clay all the time. I sit there for two hours dialing his 'Idol' number over and over even if is busy. Even if I only get through one time it makes those two hours of trying to get through worth it," said Shapcott.

Adrian Sutton, a junior in chemistry, tries to watch the show each Tuesday. "It's really cool that Clay is brining a lot of attention to Raleigh," said Sutton, who admits that he would probably vote for Studdard, although he thinks Aiken will win the popular vote.

The only way to learn the final winner of the competition, which started as an open audition to over 70,000 individuals across the country, is to watch the FOX live broadcast tonight at 8:00 p.m.

A few Triangle locals will be able to watch the show directly from the studio in Hollywood, Calif.

Goefrey Graybeal, went to school with Aiken through middle and high-school, so he has personally known Aiken for 12

years.

The 24-year-old reporter for the Durham Herald-Sun, has tickets to tonight's performance. "I'm mainly going to see Clayton, but also to get supplemental information for the paper," said Graybeal.

Graybeal says Aiken has remained in contact during the "Idol" experience with a group of roughly 15 close friends from North Carolina through e-mail lists and weekly updates, but lately Aiken has been difficult to contact due to his busy schedule.

"I think he seems to be handling [the media attention] pretty well through interviews and TV shows. I'm sure he likes the attention, but like many of his friends, he doesn't believe it and he's surreal about being in the final two," he said. "It's hard to image little Clayton Grissom from Raleigh as the American idol."

But while ClayHysteria is building around tonight's announcement, it's nothing new to the Triangle.

It's only been fed by "Clay Aiken Day," a "Clay Day" at the Streets of Southpoint in Durham on Monday and the mass publicity of attention the Durham Bulls baseball team received when Aiken sang the National Anthem and threw out the game's first pitch on May 15.

On campus, attention surrounding Aiken reached its highest at the weekly "American Idol" viewing parties sponsored by AT&T Wireless. The company paid the NCSU chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America to hold the parties in the Bragaw Activity Room and provided food, drinks and promotional items like banners, pens, DVDs and T-shirts.

In addition, Nokia provided the group

with a phone and AT&T gave unlimited text messages and 1500 minutes a month in which party attendants could vote for their favorite idols after the show.

"Attendance was pretty good, considering the end of the semester, but we averaged about 17 at the parties. I was pretty happy with it, and I think everyone there had a pretty good time," said Greg Brainos, next year's PRSSA president.

Students continue to support Aiken, largely because of his combination of local appeal and humble Southern manners.

"It is great that someone with such a great character is representing Raleigh. Clay is truly a gift to the music industry and a gift to all the children he helps at the [A.E. Finley] YMCA and his student teaching," said Shapcott. "I find it remarkable that throughout this sudden rise to fame he still remembers who he is and that his heart is still with disabled children."

Aiken is studying at UNC-Charlotte to work with special needs children, and he has made volunteering at the Raleigh YMCA a priority for the past seven years.

Tim O'Connell, branch director for the A.E. Finley YMCA said, "He's done about every position we have right now on the youth side. He's been a youth counselor, camp counselor and an after-school counselor."

"We have about a thousand kids each day in our program and he's worked just about every single program that's been offered here. He's amazing with the special-needs children, and he's entertaining, funny, just wide-open and very creative," said O'Connell.

The center plans to take a bus of staff members over to the RBC Center to watch Wednesday night's performance.

The RBC Center's doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the two-hour finale begins at 8:00 p.m.

BASEBALL

continued from page 8

game at Georgia Tech, which was our first game after 10 days off for final exams," said Avent. "I thought we played extremely well in all phases of the game on Saturday, and I think that game will get us kick-started for the tournament. This team plays well in the big games, when their backs are to the wall, and your back is pretty much to the wall for five straight days in the ACC Tournament."

Aside from the conference championship, State will enter play in the ACC Tournament hoping to nail down a host site for an NCAA Regional beginning on May 30.

At 39-14, the Wolfpack has earned its first bid to the NCAA Tournament since 1999, but after spending the last six weeks ranked in the national top 10, the Pack now hopes to host a regional at Wilson's Fleming Stadium, which was the site of four of State's regular-season games.

"After the season we had, I believe our players deserve to be a host team in an NCAA regional," said Avent. "We played a difficult schedule with 43 of 53 games away from home, and we won 39 games. We finished third in what many believe is the toughest conference in the country."

"I'd like to believe that we've already done enough to host a regional, but I don't make those decisions. It's out of our hands, so the better we play this week in Salem, the better our chances of hosting next week."

Righthander Michael Rogers (10-3, 2.76) will start for the Pack in the tournament opener. Rogers has made 14 appearances, all of them starts, and has allowed 97 hits, walked 27 and struck out 96 in 104-1/3 innings.

In his last start, May 15 at Georgia Tech, Rogers had the worst start statistically of his career, giving up seven runs on 11 hits in six innings of work. He struck out four and did not issue a walk but took his third loss of the season.

Junior lefthander Nate Cretarolo (4-3, 5.71) and junior righthander Vern Sterry (11-0, 2.71) will almost certainly be the Pack's second and third starters in the tournament, but not necessarily in that order.

Cretarolo has made 15 appearances, including eight starts, and has allowed 78 hits, walked 34 and struck out 56 in 63 innings of work.

Sterry has made 14 appearances, all of them starts, and has allowed 81 hits, walked 30 and fanned 104 in just under 100 innings.

Sterry, who has been the Pack's first or second starter all season, worked seven tough innings May 17 at Georgia Tech and could be held back to give him an extra day of rest before his first ACC Tournament appearance.

MIDDLETON

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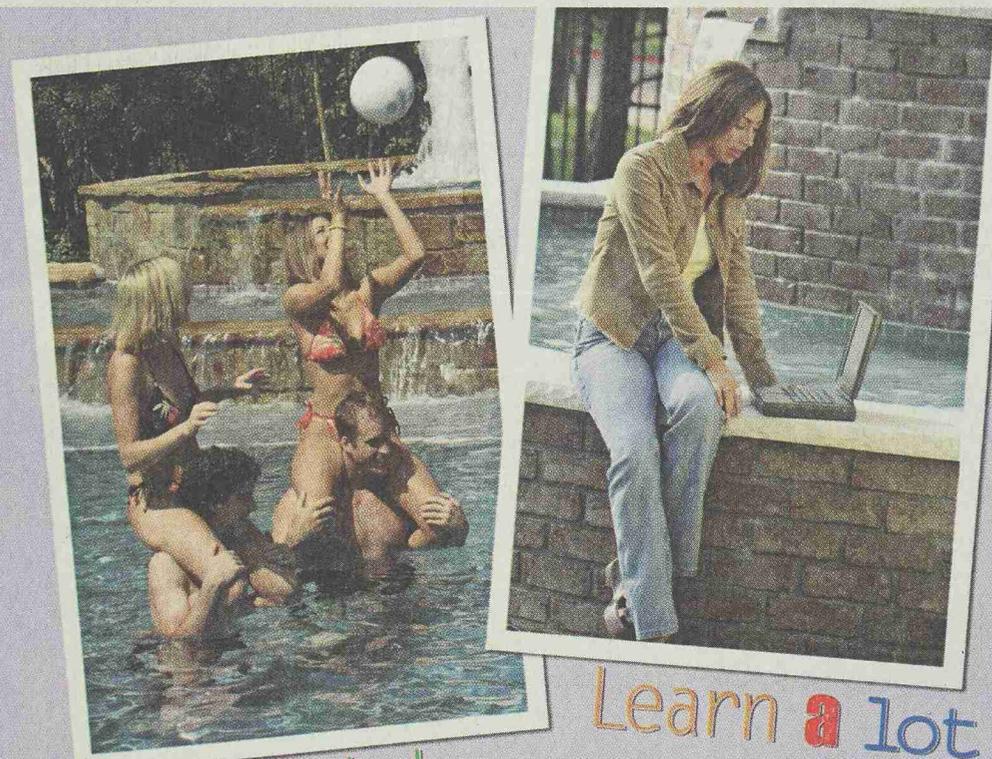
team played each other twice in basketball, forging great rivalries from the top of the league all the way to the bottom.

How would you feel if State was separated from Duke and/or North Carolina in the new conference, and in turn, forced to play the Tar Heels every other year in football and just once annually in basketball?

The point is, for so long the ACC set its hat on being different from the other leagues and doing things its own way. Now, with the threat of expansion looming, the league is turning into exactly what it never wanted to be — the mirror image of a money-hungry super-conference.

Matt can be reached throughout the summer at 515-2411 or matt@technicianstaff.com

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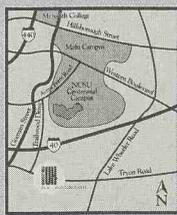
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Once run, an ad can be pulled without refund. Please check the ad the first day it runs. If there is an error, we will gladly adjust it. We will not be held responsible after that. In compliance with state law, we do not run ads promoting envelope stuffing.

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All prices for up to 25 words. Add \$.20 per day for each word over 25. Bold words \$.20 each per day.

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1 day	\$5.00	2 days	\$7.00
3 days	\$10.00	4 days	\$13.00
5 days	\$3.00 /day		

Non-student

1 day	\$8.00	2 days	\$14.00
3 days	\$18.00	4 days	\$22.00
5 days	\$5.00 /day		

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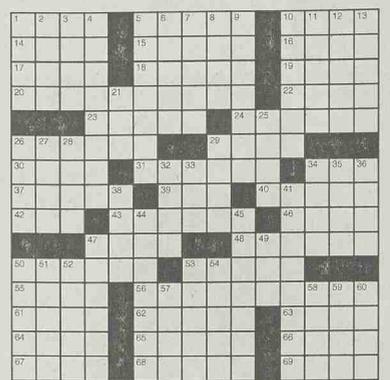
Deadlines

Line ads: 1 issue in advance at noon
Display ads: 2 issues in advance at noon
All line ads must be prepaid - no exceptions.

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Has a little lamb
- 5 Army posts
- 10 Sheep calls
- 14 Tab's target
- 15 Unconcealed
- 16 Caspian Sea feeder
- 17 Evening in Venezia
- 18 Wheel spokes
- 19 Emperor who fiddled around?
- 20 Job for a dentist
- 22 Be sure of
- 23 Attempted
- 24 Collects bit by bit
- 26 Soviet dictator
- 29 "The Owl and the Pussycat" poet
- 30 Pleasure trek
- 31 Actor Depardieu
- 34 Half a dance?
- 37 Slur over
- 39 Periphery
- 40 Apply elbow grease
- 42 Lar
- 43 Sags
- 46 Rivulet
- 47 Poetic pieces
- 48 Bring about
- 50 of the guard
- 53 Old song, "The Sheik of"
- 55 Henry's Boleyn
- 56 Astronomers' instruments
- 61 Shade of blue
- 62 Hersey's bell town
- 63 Claw
- 64 HOMES part
- 65 Make tardy
- 66 Hosiery shade
- 67 Classify
- 68 Mergansers
- 69 Forest denizen



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05/21/03

- 7 Performed again
- 8 Small singing group
- 9 Cocktail choice
- 10 Sand trap
- 11 Where the action is
- 12 Slugger Henry
- 13 Brakes
- 21 Biblical lion
- 25 Young guys
- 26 Lean-to
- 27 Mosaic piece
- 28 Related (to)
- 29 Aladdin's possession
- 32 Love god
- 33 Carnival city
- 34 Baby's bed
- 35 Ship part
- 36 Qualified
- 38 Icelandic literary work
- 41 Colored with wax
- 44 Temporary cars
- 45 Annual cycles
- 47 Egg concoction

Yeah, we missed you too

- 49 Peacock network
- 50 "The Dresser" director Peter
- 51 January in Spain
- 52 Radio studio sign
- 53 Having wings
- 54 Make fresh
- 57 Wax-wrapped cheese
- 58 Walk the floor
- 59 Emerald Isle
- 60 Asperion

Homes For Rent

NEAR NCSU. New 4BD/3BA 1800sq. ft. All new appliances. 4 phone lines. Great area. Available now, \$1275. 3701 Greenleaf. 624-6622.

Available June 1, 4 BR, 2 bath, w/d included, less than 10 minutes from main campus. For pics and more info, visit \$1,550 includes utilities. 522-1462, ask for Brett

NEAR NCSU. Exceptional 3 BR house located on wooded lot in quiet neighborhood off Western Boulevard. All appliances. \$925/month. Call day 833-7142 and evening 783-9410.

NEAR NCSU. Exceptional 3, 4, & 5 BR houses Close to Campus. Available August 1 for upcoming school year. Very attractive / ideal for students. Call day: 833-7142 and evening: 783-9410. Please visit our web site: www.jansen-properties.com

NEAR NCSU. Ideal 5 BR house nestled on wooded lot. Minutes from campus. Available 8/1. Call day: 833-7142 and evening 783-9410.

3 to 4 BR Home for Rent. Cul-de-sac, close to campus. Contact Jonathan Beall 919-280-8887.

3BD house in Cary. \$325/mo + utilities. Call 395-6911.

NEAR NCSU. Spacious 2 BR house with large study/office, close to campus. All appliances. Available 8/1. Call day 833-7142 and evening 783-9410.

NCSU. 3BR/2BA off Brent Rd. Near campus. Off street parking, large deck, walk to Wolfline, spacious living areas. \$350+utilities/bedroom. Need 2 tenants. 919-369-5414.

Fall term 3 blks NCSU. Quiet area for students, profs, & grads. Large private bedroom, full kitchen, W/D & A/C, private parking. \$340/ mo inc utilities. Send for brochure

1913 Topsfield Ct. Raleigh, N.C 27615 or call after 5PM 919-846-0660

Apartments For Rent

Studio apt. available. huge room plus bedroom, bath, kitchen; independent entrance. Completely furnished and equipped, almost 1000 sqft. \$625 includes all. N/S only. Please call Hergeth at 515-6574

1 BD apartments & 2 BD houses; stove, refrigerator, air, carpet \$460-\$700, 271-0879

Summer Ap. 1BD/1BA \$350/mo. includes all utilities Lake Park Condos. Fully Furnished. e-mail Nate or call Jeff 851-1494

Grad students only. 2BD/1BA 1100 Sq.ft. Great room, fireplace, deck, fenced yard, W/D, dishwasher. \$850/mo. Off Wade Ave. Available July 1st. 787-7317

NCSU special. Near NCSU. 2BD/2BA, 1000sq/ft, Kirby St. \$600/mo. 3BD house, 1500sq/ft. Crest Rd. \$800/mo, all appliances, deposit. Joy 389-0874

Apartment for rent. Off Gorman St., on Wolfline. 4BD/4BA, \$325/mo. per person, \$300/mo. in summer. W/D, microwave. Call Jen at 389-2940 or 848-4051.

Roommates Wanted

Close to vet school and main campus. 3BD/2.5BA, fenced yard with huge deck, gardening area, W/D, D/W, wireless internet access, pet ok, M/F. \$450+1/3 utilities. Kelly 919-270-6762.

Roommate wanted for 4BD/4BA co-ed apt. W/D, furnished living/kitchen, on Wolfline. Available June 1. \$300/month+ 1/4 utilities. Call 821-0526.

Roommate Wanted to Share 3BD/3BA Apartment in University Woods with 2 Girls. Available June 1st. \$350/mo + 1/3 utilities. Contact Cheryl at 219-8333 or Greg 669-9699.

Summer Sublease 2-4 spaces 225-425/month + util. 1616 Crest Ave. On WolfLine Contact Sarah (919)-796-0985

Room for Rent

Quiet Room for Rent. 300 yards to D.H.Hill, clean, furnished, kitchen privileges, W/D, flexible lease, no smoking, all male house, utilities paid, \$350/mo, \$350 deposit. 847-4704.

Condos For Rent

Lake Park condo, 4BD/4BA. New carpet, new paint, W/D, high-speed internet, ceiling fans. Available August 1st. \$300/mo. 395-3080.

Lake Park 4BD/4BA, all appliances included. Available Aug. 1st. \$1000 or \$250/room. 676-2598.

Townhomes For Rent

Kaplan, Thea, Jones Franklin areas. 2&3BD townhouses available now through August. 1 year lease, \$600-\$850/mo. All have W/D and fireplace. 870-6871.

Near NC State, 520 Carolina Ave. 3BR/3.5BA, 1 car garage, includes W/D. 1-yr-old. \$1050/mo. Available June and July. Call 412-1718.

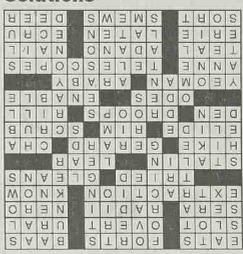
Available in August 2BD/1.5BA on wolfline, close to campus. Townhouse with deck and storage. \$650/mo. 349-5067

Help Wanted

Clothing Wholesaler is seeking to fill part-time warehouse positions immediately. Close to campus, we offer ability to create your own work schedule around classes and regular raises. You must be able to lift 70 lbs. and have dependable transportation. Call 1-800-849-9949 and leave-phone # and time to call.

I know its close

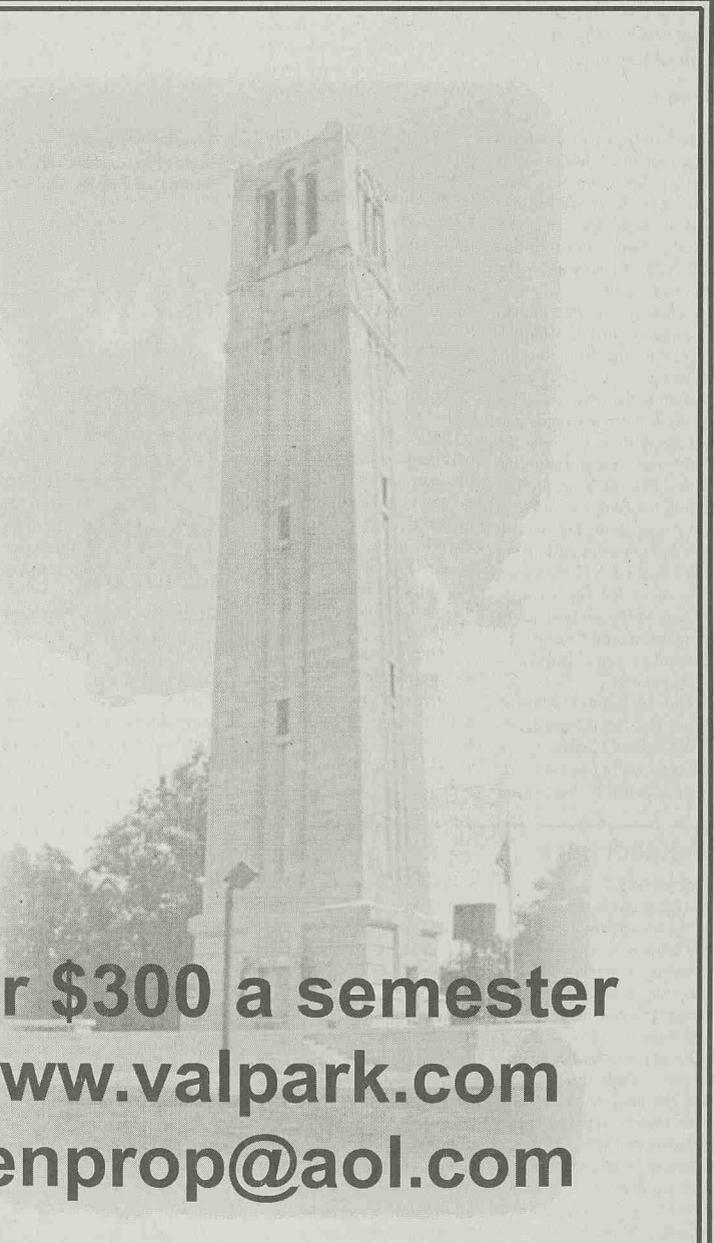
Solutions

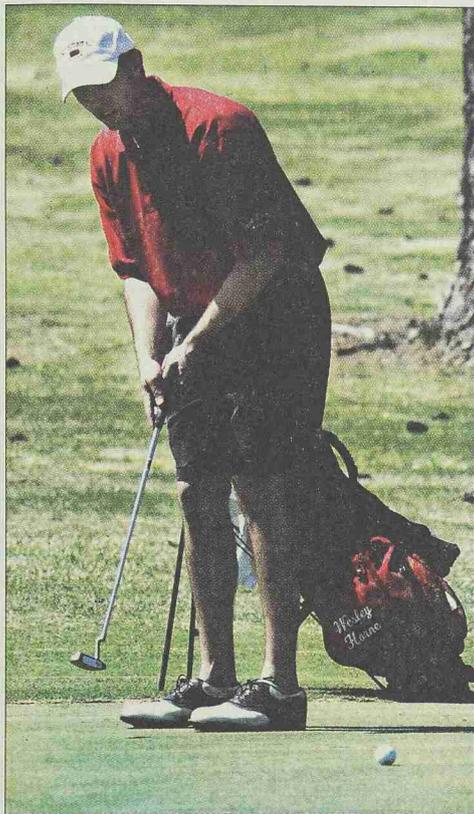


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The N.C. State golf team heads to the NCAA's for the 28th time in school history. File photo by Josh Michel

Men's golf scores trip to Nationals

Jason Moon paced the men's golf team to a third place finish in the NCAA Central Regional.

Sports Staff Report

Thanks in large part to a fifth-place individual finish by senior Jason Moon, the N.C. State men's golf team finished third place at the NCAA Central Regional and will compete for the 2003 NCAA Championship beginning next week.

It will mark the 28th time in school history that the Wolfpack will play for the championship, including 15 of the last 17 years.

Coach Richard Sykes and his players declined to comment to Technician about their play.

With only ten teams advancing from a field of 27 at the Regional, the Pack was never in doubt of receiving the invite to the Championship at Karsten Creek Golf Club in Stillwater, Okla. Moon led the field after the first and second rounds of competition and finished the tournament with a blistering 6-under-par 210.

Junior Fernando Mechereffe closed out the weekend two strokes behind Moon to tie for 11th place with a 70-73-69=212.

Senior Justin Walters - Golf

Weekly's 13th-ranked player in the country and a 2003 Ben Hogan Award semi-finalist and 2003 Byron Nelson Award finalist — shot 3-over-par for the tournament with a 71-72-76=219.

Newcomer Stephen Lewton fired a 77-73-72=222 to earn a share of 67th place, while sophomore Sutton Barbrey stroked a 76-82-79=237, good enough for 139th place.

State's third-place finish marks the fourth time this year that Coach Sykes' squad finished in the top-five against a difficult schedule. Four other times they have finished sixth and three other times they finished seventh.

The Pack played the Championship course in Stillwater once this season in the Ping Preview Invitational. That tournament invited the top 15 teams from the previous season and State finished a disappointing 14th, but with a different lineup than the one that Sykes will tee up on May 28.

While Walters, Moon and Mechereffe participated in the event, Lewton and Barbrey did not begin playing until February in the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate Championship.

Wolfpack week

Track and Field

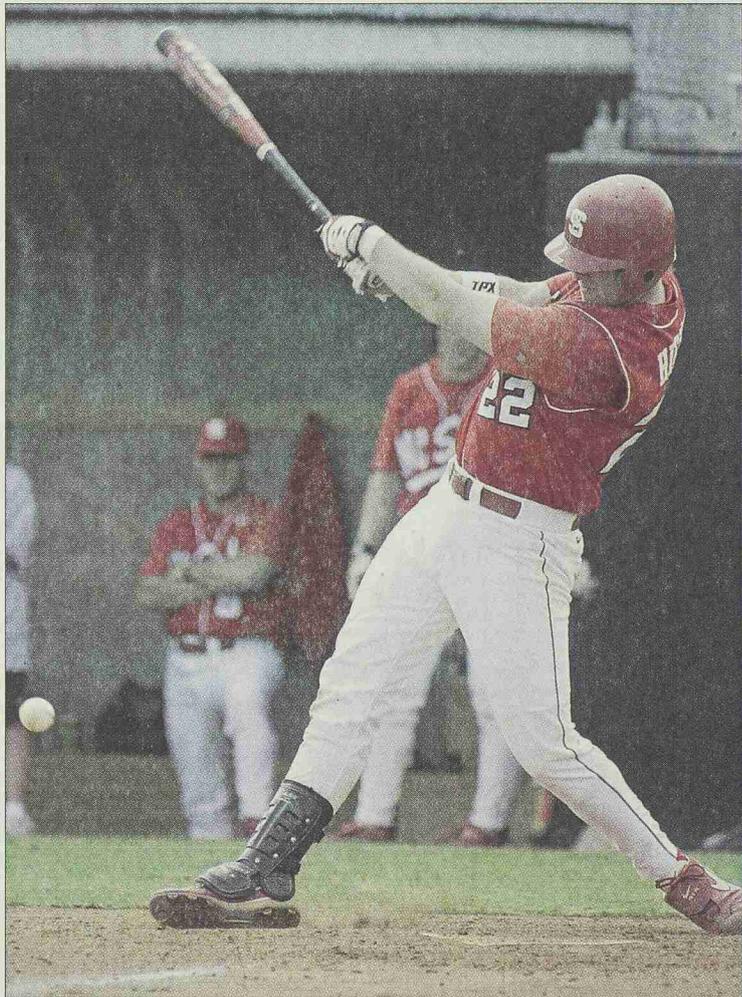
The N.C. State track and field team got one final tune-up before it enters the NCAA Regionals this past weekend at the Georgia Tech Invitational. The Wolfpack distance competitors turned in strong performances. The men's team was strong in the 1,500 meters, placing all six runners in the top 20. Kurtis Marlow was State's highest finisher with his fourth place showing in 3:47.73. Also in the top 10 was Ricky Brookshire, who finished in sixth (3:48.78). On the women's side, Janelle Vadnais was 16th (4:29.90) and Renee Gunning placed 17th (4:29.92) in the 1,500 meters. In the 5,000 meters, Kara Price finished sixth (17:24.44) and Ginger Wheeler in 11th (17:46.06). Felicia Fant turned in a time of 11:72 in the 100 meters for a fourth-place showing.

In the field events, James Rowell took eighth in the discus with a toss of 164-5 feet. Kelly Smoke placed eighth in the discus and ninth in the hammer. The Regionals take place May 29-31.

Women's golf

The Wolfpack women's golf team concluded its season with a 14th-place finish May 10 at the NCAA's East Regional in Winston-Salem. In just its second year of existence, the Pack once again qualified for Regionals and placed in the top 15 with a solid final-day score of 299. Colby Cobb led N.C. State, finishing in 36th place following an even-par round of 71 on the final day of the event. Sarah Bonner and Courtney Pomeranz also finished in the top 50, both placing 44th with a three-day total of 226.

Pack opens ACC Tournament today



David Hicks went 2-4 with one RBI in State's game three win against Georgia Tech this weekend. This win secured a third seed in the ACC Tournament. File photo by Tim Lytvinenko

The Wolfpack baseball team opens play in the ACC Tournament today and hopes to strengthen its bid to host a NCAA Regional.

Sports staff report

The regular season is over, and the championship run begins this week for the N.C. State baseball team at the ACC Tournament in Salem, Va.

The No. 9 Wolfpack (39-14, 15-9 ACC) is seeded third and will open play in the tournament tonight at 8:30 against sixth-seeded Virginia (28-23, 11-12) in the final game of the opening round. The Pack won the season series against the Cavaliers earlier in the year two games to one.

State clinched the third seed with a 7-2 victory over Georgia Tech Saturday at Chandler Stadium in Atlanta, salvaging the final game of a three-game series. The Yellow Jackets won the first two games of the series 8-3 and 9-6. Despite dropping four of its last six conference games, the Wolfpack enters the tournament seeded third for the first time since 1997, head coach Elliott Avent's first season in Raleigh.

Against the Jackets, the Pack was playing its first game in 10 days after taking a break to finish final exams. Not surprisingly, the Pack was slightly rusty in the first two games before getting an easy win in the series' finale. Avent believes that final-game win will go a long way in helping the Pack get ready for the tournament.

"We didn't play well the first

See BASEBALL page 6

Just say no



Matt Middleton

Before everyone gears up for the welcoming party. Before you get ready to throw the confetti or high-five your new neighbors from the Canadian and Cuban borders, at least hear me out.

I don't mean to rain on everyone's parade, but ACC expansion — complete with dollar signs flashing in its eyes — is not the right decision. And when you look at it more closely, expansion not only doesn't make sense, it will help turn the league into the kind of conference it never wanted to be.

Barring an 11th-hour change of heart orchestrated by Big East commissioner Mike Tranghese, the matriculation of Big East schools Miami, Syracuse and Boston College to the ACC appears imminent. The

move would bolster the number of schools in the ACC to a dozen and would break the 50-year-old conference into two divisions of six teams.

The current Big East has seven football-playing schools — eight if you count Rutgers. Likewise, the ACC also has less than 10 members (nine) and along with the Big East is the smallest of the six powerful BCS conferences that garner essentially all of the money (nearly \$100 million) in the four postseason BCS games.

With a 12-team membership, the ACC would group the teams into two separate divisions and set up a conference championship game in football ala the SEC and Big XII. Reportedly, the ACC's version of the championship game would net the conference an extra \$10 million, a payout that would amount to almost an extra million to each school.

Clearly, the proposition is purely a football move to allow the league to have a bigger claim to the cash pile the next time the BCS rights are

negotiated.

"The more I think about it, for football it's great," said N.C. State football coach Chuck Amato of the proposed changes.

But as the old phrase goes, if something isn't broke, why fix it? Presently, the ACC pays each of its schools \$9.7 million from its revenue — the highest of any BCS conference. If money is the central reason for expansion, shame on the ACC for being gluttonously greedy when it's already in fine economic condition.

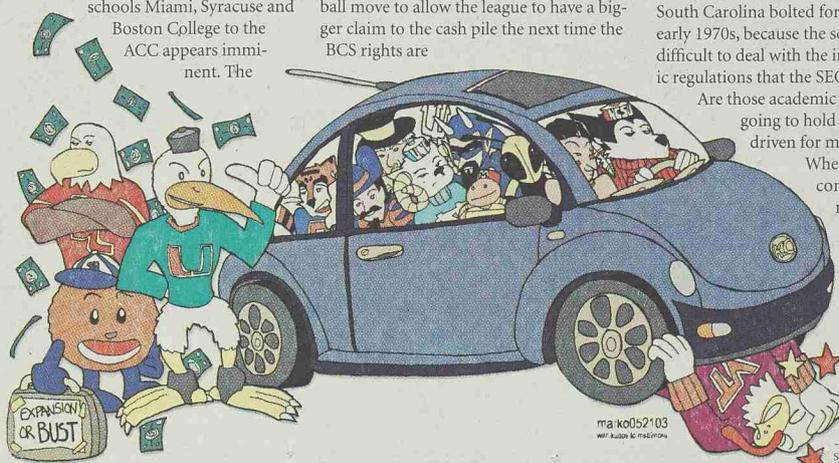
Moreover, when expansion does occur, it would stretch the conference's borders from the Caribbean all the way to upstate New York. Think about the increased costs the non-revenue sports will encounter having to travel even further distances for conference games, not to mention the increased time away from class the student-athletes would be forced to undertake.

But the final straw in the matter is the loss of tradition the league will endure.

Throughout the entirety of that half-century, the ACC has prided itself on withholding its own values and not conforming to what the rest of the college sports world was doing. The ACC held its ground as South Carolina bolted for the SEC in the early 1970s, because the school found it too difficult to deal with the increased academic regulations that the SEC did not have.

Are those academic regulations now going to hold up in a league driven for money?

When the other power conferences formed mega 12-team leagues and boosted membership to over 10 schools, the ACC stood and watched, holding steady at under 10 members. Because of this, every



See MIDDLETON page 6