

TECHNICIAN

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Raleigh, North Carolina

Willie comes back to teach

Darryl Willie visits N.C. State to educate students about how he has benefited from Teach for America.

Charles Duncan
Staff Reporter

Darryl Willie left N.C. State in the spring of 2002 with a degree in textile and apparel management and a year as student body president under his belt. Leaving college, Willie had a plan. He decided to donate two years of his life to teach elementary school in one of the poorest regions of the country with Teach for America (TFA), a division of AmeriCorps.

Willie is currently teaching sixth grade science and math at Beech Crest Elementary School in Helena, Ark., on the Northern Mississippi Delta. This is his second year teaching in Helena, last year he taught second graders.

Willie's teaching career began with an intense five-week program in Dallas, which is sponsored annually by TFA, and what Willie referred to as "teacher's boot camp." The five-week program taught him classroom

management, lesson planning and discipline through taking classes and teaching at a local summer school. TFA volunteers who don't already have a teacher's certificate, like Willie, take evening classes for their certification while teaching classes during the day.

TFA volunteers are employees of the school district in which they are placed; they receive a regular salary and TFA assistance with housing.

When Willie moved to his new home in Helena, he said he wasn't sure how he would be accepted in the small community of 8,000, but was pleasantly surprised because "They know you're a teacher, they know what you're about and they love it."

Willie spent his first year teaching second grade. He said he was nervous before he started, but "on that first day, that was it, I was hooked."

Willie discussed how anything a person enjoys could be translated into a teaching tool, and his example was his love of singing and dancing. Willie invented a song to teach his class the animal kingdom, singing "species-family-phylum-class," to help with memorization. He said everyone in his class got an 'A' on that test.

With his sixth grade class, Willie said he had a whole new set of challenges. "Those sixth graders, they think they're little adults," he said. Willie said he felt he was a window to the world for his students, because "these kids live in small towns and don't get much exposure--you are their exposure."

One opportunity many of



TIM LYTVINENKO/TECHNICIAN

the students miss while growing up in these low-income areas, Willie said with pointed concern, is that "in these areas not everybody goes to college, half their parents didn't go to college. Nobody ever told them 'you can go to college.'" Willie, in a TFA information session, gave the statistic that students from low-income areas are seven times less likely to go to college. Willie said that college exposure could be a problem in most of the areas where TFA operates. To address this problem, Willie said he and other TFA volunteers in the region are organizing a college fair for their students.

Going into a TFA position, Willie acknowledges that volunteers go into places where funding is an important issue. TFA's literature says that they address "educational inequity" and the work of their volunteers is to help eliminate the inequity. Willie said, "you are going

into areas where they don't have enough text books, they don't even have enough pens or pencils."

Willie took special time to discuss the support structure for new TFA teachers. He said, "the one thing Teach for America does is make sure all teachers are prepared and have support." The support structure includes other TFA volunteers in the area, mentor teachers in some states, a TFA district director and the full support of the faculty and administration at that particular school. Willie added "they help you all the way from beginning to end."

Along with a support structure, TFA also has opportunities in place for volunteers to continue their education. Most areas offer free teacher education classes and some areas even offer free masters classes at local universities. When finishing service with TFA, volunteers become part of the alumni network and keep in touch with what is going on with TFA. Willie said alumni have gone on to become legislatures, business people and almost anything else, "but their experience with Teach for America always sticks with them and affects the rest of their life."

Willie is currently in the last

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Campus addresses DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Several programs will be held on campus to inform students about domestic violence.

Kristen Healey
Staff Reporter

Every 15 seconds one woman is hit, every minute four women are abused, every year 2 to 4 million women are battered, according to Marianne Turnbull, coordinator of Health Promotions. N.C. State recognizes these numbers as an issue and has developed programs that spread the word about domestic violence.

The Women's Center and Health Center are working closely together this October to promote Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic Violence Awareness Month not only takes place on the NCSU campus but exists as a nationwide campaign highlighting the facts about domestic violence.

Determined to make Domestic Violence Awareness Month a success, several important programs to help educate the student body about domestic violence will take

place. Throughout the month, Wolfbytes, the NCSU campus channel, will be hosting movies dealing with domestic violence issues. This is channel 85 for on-campus residents.

In addition, on Oct. 15 other events about domestic violence will be held in the Brickyard from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for students to attend, such as the national Clothesline Project. The Clothesline Project is a visual display that bears witness to the violence against women and children.

T-shirts are donated and decorated in memory of those who have lost loved ones due to domestic violence, to educate about domestic violence and to provide support for a nationwide community. Each shirt is a different color to represent different meanings. For example, a yellow shirt symbolizes all the women and children who have been battered or assaulted. Students will have the opportunity on this day to create a shirt in memory of someone who has been involved with domestic violence.

Meta Uzzle, the assistant director of the Women's Center, said, "It's moving to see the number of T-shirts on the clotheslines and realize how many lives are affected by domestic violence right here in our own community."

A cell phone drive to help Interact, a community organization, will also be held Oct. 15 in the Brickyard. Interact is a non-profit Wake County agency committed to serving victims and survivors of domestic violence and rape/sexual assault. Their support services include 24-hour crisis line counseling, face-to-face counseling, support groups,

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PETE ELLIS
TECHNICIAN

Career fair open to all students

Companies at the career fair stress that when looking for a job, it's important to get your name out there.

Jodi Swicegood
Staff Reporter

The second half of the Minority Career Fair (MCF) will take place today in Reynolds Coliseum from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., but many students have already taken advantage of what the fair has to offer. The event is playing host to over 100 companies presenting potential hiring information and job descriptions to interested students.

For college students across the United States, who enter the job market daily, there is always the lingering question of what is next after graduation. Campus careers fairs, like the MCF, aim to give

students more insight into what they can do before and after they receive their degree.

The fair was originally designed as an opportunity for minority students, but the MCF has widened its parameters to include all students working on their career path.

During the event, students can acquire information about internships, full-time jobs and co-op positions. The MCF provides student-company interaction, but it also aims to equip students with information they may need to contact the right people and dive into the job market as quickly and prepared as possible.

As of Aug. 2003, North Carolina's unemployment rate had reached 6.5 percent. At the same time, the United States unemployment rate also was recorded as 6.5 percent. Even though this



RAY BLACK III/TECHNICIAN

Sha Zhang, a graduate student in mechanical engineering, speaks with a recruiter from Shell Oil about career opportunities on Monday at the Minority Career Fair.

statistic is a decrease from the 6.6 percent and 6.7 percent unemployment rates of June and July 2003, when compared with the 3.5 percent rate of Aug. 1998, the unemployment rates have almost doubled.

Nathaniel X. Marshall, a senior human resource specialist from BMX Technologies, stated on behalf of his employer, that their main incentive for com-

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Mayoral, city council candidates to face off

A debate for Raleigh mayoral and city council candidates will take place on Wednesday at the Campus Cinema.

Anna Edens
Senior Staff Reporter

Candidates seeking election on Oct. 7, 2003 as Raleigh mayor or city council district D representatives will debate on Wednes-

day at the Campus Cinema in Witherspoon Student Center.

Mayor Charles Meeker will face John Odum, a deputy mayor and five-term city council member, from 4:30-5 p.m.

The debate between four candidates for city council district D is scheduled for 5-6 p.m. Participants for the debate are Jack Alphin, Thomas Crowder, Benson Kirkman and Zack Medford.

Adeyayo Banwo, an N.C. State 2002 graduate currently attending Duke University Law School,

will moderate the events.

Matt Latrick, associate director of government relations for NCSU Student Government and a sophomore in political science and business, organized the event.

"This will be a great opportunity for students on campus to meet candidates, see where they stand on the issues and become an informed voter," Latrick said.

Mayoral candidates will be asked three questions, then each

candidate can pose two questions for his competitor.

The city council debate is similarly structured, with five questions directed to each candidate, and each candidate will be allowed to pose one question for one other candidate.

The event is sponsored by NCSU Student Government and will be broadcasted live on WKNC 88.1. It will also be videotaped and replayed on campus housing's channel 85.

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University Theatre wants students to just 'come to the Cabaret'



"Cabaret" opens Wednesday in Stewart Theater at Talley Student Center.

Joel Mikkelsen
Staff Writer

The house lights were extinguished, but the cast and crew of "Cabaret" filled the theater with a radiance and electricity of their own.

"A student cast always has a very special energy," Director John McIlwee said. "They show more heart than a professional cast because they act for the love of acting, not for a paycheck."

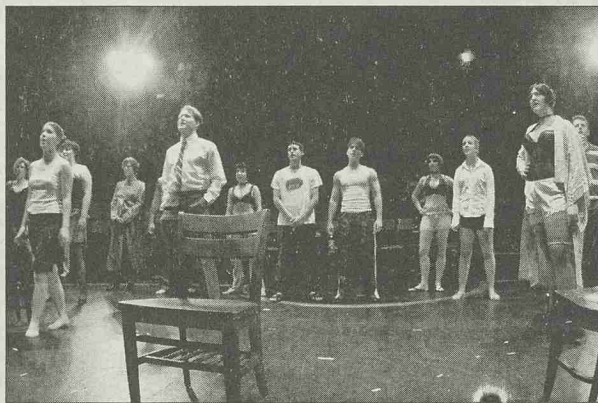
Dan Seda, the Emcee of the Kit Kat Club, sets the intensity and tempo of the play from the first seconds of the performance, singing and strutting across the stage with a swagger and sensuality that make Mick Jagger look like a Teletubbie in comparison.

"He's the most interesting character I've ever played; he's very complex," Seda said. "He does the things that people feel they can't or shouldn't or would never do."

Though not the main character, the Emcee is the thematic center of the musical, and Seda's performance deftly illustrates both the bawdiness and the unlikely innocence of the "Cabaret."

While the meaning of the play follows the Emcee, the plot focuses on the improbable relationship between Cliff Bradshaw (Will Sanders), the struggling American author, and Sally Bowles (Katie Flaherty), the British star of the Kit Kat Club. The development of these two characters throughout the play is powerful, as they deal with issues of poverty, love, abortion and politics. Sanders and Flaherty both demonstrate maturity and poise as they act and react to each other, engrossing the audience in the twists and turns of their characters' lives.

Fred Gorelick and Sara Schrock are fantastic as Herr Schultz and Fraulein Schneider, two adults afraid to confess



The cast of "Cabaret" warms up at Monday night's rehearsal.

their mutual attraction. The awkwardness and insecurity of their characters are simultaneously endearing and hilarious. Their comedic performances are intelligent and well-timed, making something as mundane as a pineapple a source of laughter. Although they're frequently funny, these two are certainly more than lighthearted comic relief. They struggle with their feelings for each other, their feelings of inadequacy and the impending terror of Nazism in Berlin.

"We've got a very talented cast" McIlwee said. While the lead actors tend to get most of the attention, a strong supporting cast is essential for a performance to be successful. "Cabaret" is replete with talented actors and actresses contributing to the play's success. From the night club patrons to the cabaret dancers, everyone contributes to the vi-

ality and success of the play.

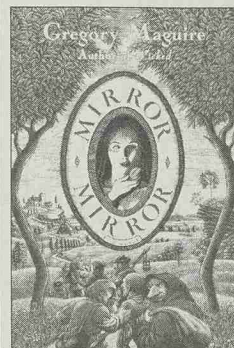
"They have an excellent sense of community. They really draw on each other's energy to make the show come together," said Remi Loiseau, assistant stage manager.

"Cabaret is both entertaining and thought provoking," McIlwee said. "I think that has contributed to its longevity; it is popular entertainment and a work of art at the same time...A university theater ought to try to shake things up. 'Cabaret' does this; its serious themes add an extra dimension other than the lilacs and romps in the pastore associated with many musicals."

In short, the University Theater production of "Cabaret" is an intelligent, well-executed play that's well worth the time to see. Perhaps Sally Bowles says it best: "Life is a cabaret old chum, come to the cabaret."

THE BOOKSHELF

Snow White with an apple twist



"Mirror, Mirror" By Gregory Maguire

Benjamin Kraudel
Staff Reader

This is the first of Gregory Maguire's modified story-tale novels that I've read. I sat down with it, at first concerned that it would be very difficult to make a story that I grew up with interesting enough to read as a novel adaptation. Especially when that novel adaptation clocks in at nearly 300 pages.

Still, Maguire's first two fairy tales were well received. His debut novel, "Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West," told the public a side of the story left out of L. Frank Baum's classic. Next came "Confessions of an Ugly Step-sister," which sounds more like what Maguire produced with "Mirror, Mirror."

And the story begins: It's early in the 16th century and we find a young girl named Bianca living in Tuscany. She's motherless, and her father Vicente de Nevada owns the home that is the only world she knows. When her father is sent on a holy quest by the politically minded warrior Cesare Borgia, Borgia's sister, Lucrezia, takes it upon herself to watch over Bianca in Vicente's absence. The novel follows the ancient story mostly to the letter, but it's the extras that really make the book worth reading.

There are eight dwarves,

but one of them spends much of the book in captivity with Bianca's father. They aren't the dwarves from Disney, but rather midsize, kindly monsters made of rock whose lives work mostly within the boundaries of what surrounds them. They are surrounded, it seems, by whatever the people near them want. The dwarves are by far the best part of the novel, new and exciting perspectives on the seven simple adjectives that sang "Whistle While You Work."

Maguire uses real figures from history, the Borgia being the foremost on that list. His children's book past is both obvious and refreshing. If nothing else, the man is a storyteller, and the book is read as quickly as a reader's eyes can hear the words on the page. The images are all the same, but in macro focus, no longer is the enchanted apple a two-dimensional cartoon; now it contains all the anger, jealousy and hate that could make a young woman sleep forever. Finally, Maguire's Lucrezia delivers that dark emotion in something that seems human and in need of understanding, instead of the caricature of a villain known from youth.

Maguire delivers a solid storytelling experience, inviting adults to remember what was so enchanting and frightening about the stories of the past that have made them last this long. He has created a beautiful world with just enough magic and just enough faith. The story is over as soon as it begins, just as it was when we wore toe pajamas and sat curled under the blanket with a flashlight and a thin book with a golden spine. What's magical is that reading a story with no surprises and no unexpected plot twists can be this enjoyable of an experience.

Maguire reminds us why we want to hear the stories we all know by heart. Why we want to hear the voice of the storyteller. Why we look for the slight differences in each telling.

"Mirror, Mirror" will be available from Regan Books in October for \$24.95.

WILLIE

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year of his commitment with TFA, but said he plans to stay on for a third year before going on to graduate school. Willie said he hopes to go into school administration or higher education. This year, he is currently acting as the induction coordinator for the Mississippi Delta, meaning he goes out to talk to new volunteers preparing to enter TFA, as well as recruit new seniors for

the program.

While Willie has been on campus today and Monday, his students got the day off Monday for a professional development day and had a substitute for today. However, Willie will be back in his class on Wednesday.

TRIANGLE TRANSIT AUTHORITY

The Triangle Transit Authority (TTA) will hold a series of community meetings in the area so residents can discuss their upcoming plans for regional transit stations in Raleigh. A meeting geared toward the N.C. State community will take place Oct. 1 at the McKimmon Center. Technician will run a preview of the event on Wednesday and full coverage of the event on Thursday. For more information, contact Sandy Ogburn at 485-7419.

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court advocacy, information and referral. In this cell phone drive, students are asked to drop off old cell phones, batteries and chargers to be delivered to the Interact program furthering help to domestic violence victims. Drop-off points will be held throughout October including the Health

Promotions part of the Health Center, the Women's Center and on Oct. 15 in the Brickyard.

"We have a long relationship with Interact. They refer students to us and we refer students to them," Turnbull said.

Lauren Hilton, associate director of community education and training of communications for Interact, said, "Interact also provides training for Women's Center advocates and the Student Health Center women's and men's

programs. They have partnered in coordinating several on-campus awareness events and seminars on the Brickyard, the Health Center and classrooms."

The third big event for October is the Silent Witness exhibit. It will be held Oct. 15 at 5 p.m. in the Walnut Room of Talley Student Center. The exhibit was created to give communities a chance to remember the lives of women in central Minnesota who were victims of domestic

violence. The exhibit travels throughout the United States to spread awareness about the dangers of domestic violence and how to get help for it.

These events will provide guidance to students who are themselves involved in a domestic violence relationship. On college campuses, one out of every five students will have a direct personal experience with relationship violence, according to Turnbull.

CAREER

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ing to the MCF was to look for qualified minorities eligible for job positions that needed to be filled as well as establish a presence among young career seekers. When asked for advice to give students interested in attending the career fair, Marshall emphasized that it is not only what you know but also, more importantly, who you know.

Aparna Ravichander, a freshman in chemical engineering, who came to N.C. State from Madras, India, asked Marshall what exactly his company looks for when hiring potential engineers. Marshall expounded on the importance of good communication and social skills because of the high level of interaction between employees.

When asked to recapitulate on Marshall's advice, Ravichander said, "Apart from good grades and a good resume I have real-

ized the importance of building connections and being articulate when job seeking."

Students from several ethnicities and many backgrounds took advantage of the first day of the fair. Nandini Kappiah, an attendee at this year's fair, gained her undergraduate degree in computer science from India and recently came to NCSU to earn her master degree in computer science as well. Kappiah is here on an F-1 Student Visa and was disappointed by some of the

companies' lack of interest in hiring non-permanent residents.

David Sizemore, a senior in computer and electrical engineering, noticed the decrease in the number of companies present. Sizemore says he has been coming to the MCF since he was a freshman, and when asked what his goal was in attending the fair, he commented that his main objective was to get his name out among companies and basically get his foot in the door.

Vice President of the Union

Activities Board John Hugo said, "The MCF provides a great opportunity for students because it brings a large number of companies to one spot, [rather than] making students do all the groundwork." Hugo also emphasized the importance of an event like the MCF to reassure students that jobs are needed even in times of an economic decline.

For more information on this event call Kimberly Har-rill at 515-5918 or visit http://uab.ncsu.edu/careerfair.

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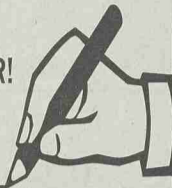
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Applications are available in the Parents & Families Services Office, 3114 Talley Student Center, and on-line at www.ncsu.edu/for_parents.

Applications are due Friday, October 10th.

For more information about the award, contact Parents & Families Services, 515-2441.

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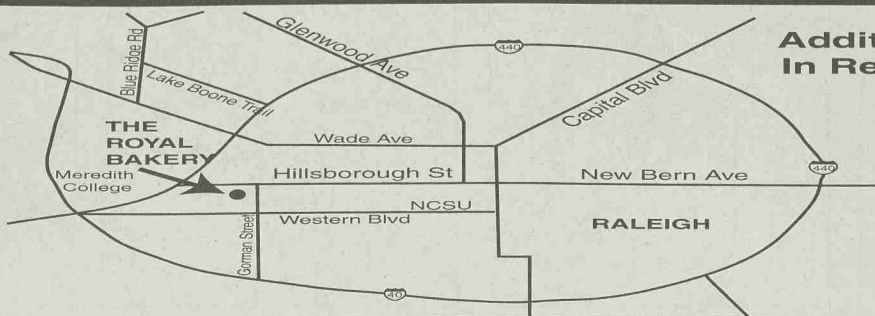
Playmaker's \$0.35 Wings
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Small Sub, Chips, 22oz Drink
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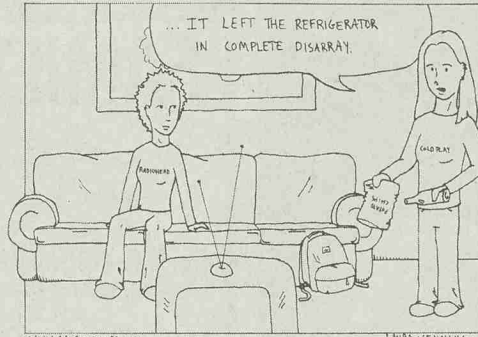
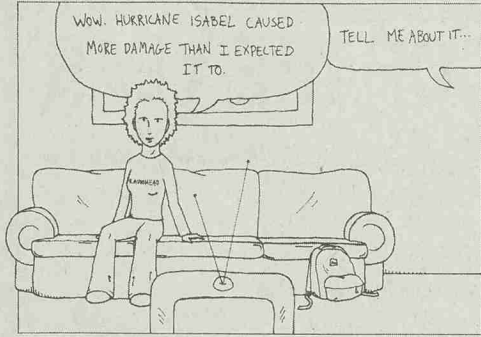
Raleigh Creative Costume 20% off Halloween Rental



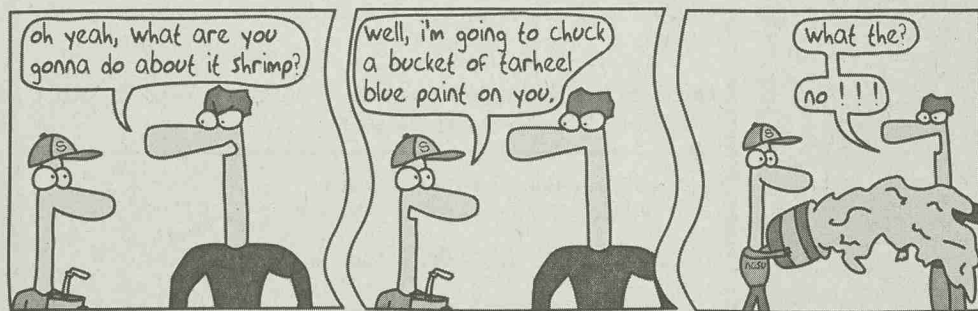
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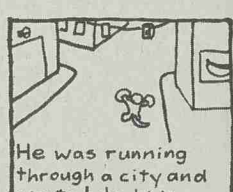
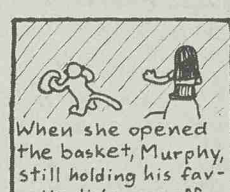
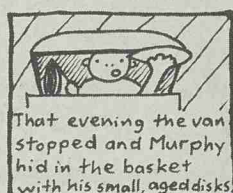
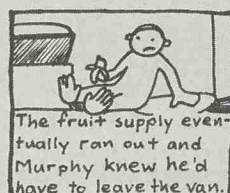
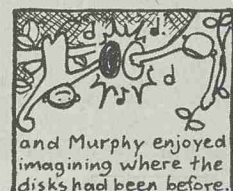
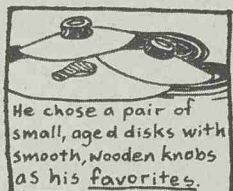
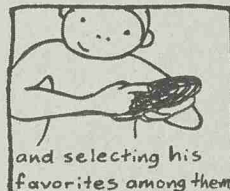
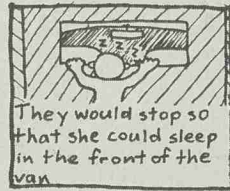
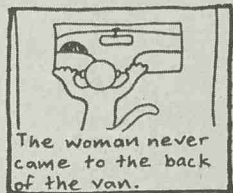
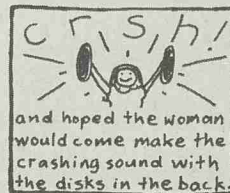
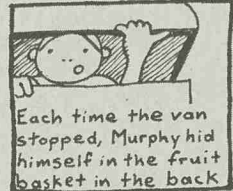


Violet by M. Grey



BAM by Sarah the Squirrel

THE STORY of MURPHY'S LIFE part 2 by Laurel Jamies age 12



TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

CHANGE CAREER FAIR NAME

OUR OPINION: THE TITLE FOR THE LARGEST CAREER FAIR ON CAMPUS - "MINORITY CAREER FAIR" - SOUNDS EXCLUSIVE AND NEEDS A NAME CHANGE.

The Minority Career Fair, going on now in Reynolds Coliseum, is the largest career fair held at N.C. State, with more than 100 companies being represented. The career fair draws students from all majors to walk through and gather information and get the upper hand in finding a job once they graduate and move on into the job market.

The annual event attracts such big names as the Central Intelligence Agency, GlaxoSmithKline, John Deere, Lowe's Companies, Inc., Northrop Grumman, SAS Institute Inc., Wachovia among others. It is without a doubt the premiere job hunters event held on campus.

The career fair is for all students, no matter the ethnic background or major, but calling it the Minority Career Fair implies that only minority students can

attend the fair. The advertisements all over campus say that everyone is welcome, but right over that invitation are the words MINORITY CAREER FAIR. Despite the advertisements, the name of the career fair should be changed in the name of fairness and diversity.

According to the career fair's Web site, organizers suggest that "in an effort to present role models for a specific target market of students at N.C. State, companies are encouraged to send minority recruiters to the Minority Career Fair." While that may be an admirable goal, such a plan is exclusive and misses the point of a career fair.

The idea of a career fair is to expose students to the companies that are in their particular field and possibly be able to make contacts that could lead to an interview and a job. But the name handicaps the event from the beginning. By implication, it invites only minority students. And it is the largest career fair held on campus.

Those new to campus - freshmen in

particular - not in tune with the nuances of campus life will immediately write the event as off limits. This is a valuable experience for everyone and certainly should not be missed.

To resort to a stock statement often made on issues regarding diversity, fair organizers would undoubtedly never think of singling out whites for a "White Career Fair." Following the same logic, singling out other groups is counterproductive as the real goal of the event is to give students an opportunity to meet recruiters and find potential jobs.

Especially in this economic climate it is important for all students to have an equal chance and opportunities to interact and converse with recruiters. Likewise for employers under tight finances, they should be given the opportunity to see all that N.C. State has to offer. With a name like the current one, it can be perceived that minorities are welcome and have the chance to meet top employers. Change the fair's name to be inclusive to all.

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To tell God you love him, dial 1.

In this age of high speed information technology, religions are turning to these forms of communication to spread the Good Word. But Heather Cutchin argues it also takes away from the spirituality of the faith.

In this day of technological advancement, the various ways people will get around doing something constantly surprise me. Instead of actually writing a letter out by hand and sending it through the mail, e-mail is used. Online shopping has replaced trips to stores, and the once dreaded act of checkbook balancing is easily done with a computer program. Any type of food can be bought

precooked and ready to eat. Even doing homework has changed; at one time, I actually did my work on paper, now I can turn it in and have it automatically graded in a matter of seconds. If only there could be a way to make diapers self-changing, the world would be set.

Some of these advances really catch me off guard. I noticed in the news that Israeli Jews are sending text messages to Old City's Western Wall, where a rabbi then tears the message from a printer and puts it up on the wall, for a price, of course (five shekels, or a buck twenty, is not all that much pay for your prayer request). This service is great for the Jews that are too busy with everyday life to really worry about God, but still have enough concern for their afterlife that they want to show Him their care. This display of religion upset me. At one time, I did attend church and have a belief in God, a belief based on a spiritual aspect, not one that any piece of technology could replace. When I prayed, it was from me to God, not from me to a rabbi to a wall that God was supposed to read.

Troubled as I was by this, I wanted to find out what others thought. I sent out an e-mail to various campus groups that were religiously affiliated, and ac-

tually got back quite a few responses. Most people that replied had the same general thought on technology and its impact on religion. It can be used for good or bad. Expressing one's love for God through music has been done for ages, but now it can be done and recorded on CD, with not only the words of the song but great music to accompany. Having a Power Point presentation in church to help the congregation understand the point the preacher is trying to make can be useful. However, these things can also be looked at as harmful to religion. People sometimes get so caught up in the music part that they lose sight of the important aspect, the worship of God, or worse, they can mistakenly worship something that they do not believe in, or say words that they do not understand, simply because the tune is catchy.

Is it wrong to bring in technology? Not if it is used only when needed.

The idea of sending a prayer through a cell phone seems wrong to me. A prayer should be something from the heart, and personal. When sent to another person who will then post it on a wall, it seems a little less sincere.

It is like watching a church service on television and believing that because you are watching it, you will be a little closer to God.

While I think the televised services are great because they help many homebound people learn more about their religion, they can also be misleading. Programs that claim they know it all and have special links to God should be taken with a huge grain of salt. It should be what you believe in that dictates your day-to-day actions, not some person that you probably will never meet.

Heather cautions anyone who is sending text messages to God: Remember, he does not pay your phone bill! E-mail her at viewpoint@technicianstaff.com



Heather Cutchin
Staff Columnist

CAMPUS FORUM

A response to Brian Onorio's column, "Defining Diversity"

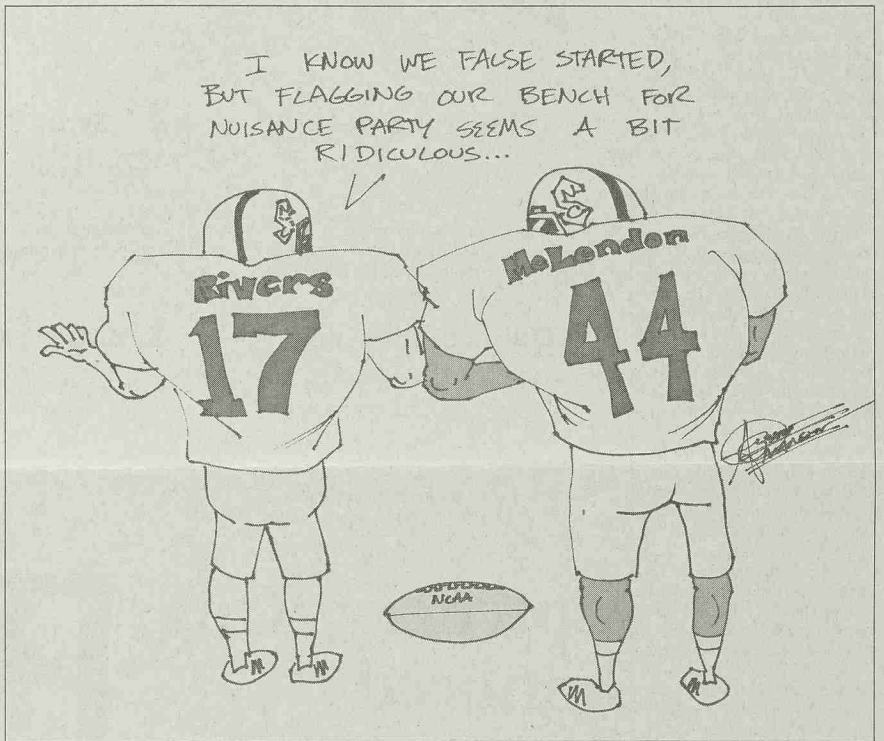
I am really shocked that a student who considers Europeans to be suppressed would have ever even thought himself eligible to enter a Diversity contest. I am not going to give you a history lesson because obviously you did not listen well the first 10 years when you were taught and schooled about white history in the USA.

To think that you would even want glorification for the European colonialists is intensely frightening. If you are proposing a more homogeneous culture, where there is no diversity then this is also a very frightening idea. When white males like you take time to show your ass in a public space it really makes me cringe. It is even scarier to realize that you are so blinded by your privilege that you cannot even put into perspective what

happens everyday to people because of their race.

Just to white wash all race away and have all histories and all daily struggles erased is galloping in ignorance and also completely self-centered. How do Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton and Louis Farrakhan "cash in" on problems surrounding race? These are the very things that they have spent there whole lives to bring attention to and to alleviate and the last time I checked these men are not absentee fathers...are you? Last time I checked they were not holding down any working class people and "cashing in" from their misfortune...are you? If it was not for morons like you they would not need to be on pulpits everyday in the first place.

Dante Strobino
Junior Electrical Engineering



You're so vain

Some people are worried more about themselves than with others. Jason Eder calls out the spoiled ones.

You don't care. You don't care that the Hillsborough violinist pays money to see each of N.C. State's concerts. And you don't care that the host at the Olive Garden is a multimillionaire cancer victim who doctors say should have been dead nine years ago. You don't care that there are people who put in 30-40 hours a week in jobs just to go to school.



Jason Eder
Staff Columnist

You don't care that I could find 10 people for every one of you that would kill to be given the opportunity you have. You don't care that not everyone gets an allowance that rivals Bill Gates' salary.

You can put on puppy dog eyes, ask daddy for a \$40,000 BMW and it will appear on your front lawn with a bow around it within the week, complete with Vegas dancers, a fountain and a sunroof. And the peasants rejoice.

The NCSU population has a seemingly overwhelming amount of indifference. A lot of words float around, ideas of change and spoken opinion. There are a motivated few who are willing to go against the grain and act on them, but the rest of us just keep idealizing, well, ideas.

Why don't you care? Because it has nothing to do with you. These things are not a part of your routine. You look away when a stranger makes eye contact with you. You feel like someone is always watching you. Out of formality, you ask for information

that'll serve as toilet paper in a few hours. You deflect conversations to future meetings, which you consciously avoid. You have the little world around you, your seemingly diverse and well represented group of friends, and, well, that's pretty much it.

I should give you a little credit though. You care enough to send me a two-page paper of why Coke is better than Pepsi. At least we have our priorities straight.

As time wears on, I see more and more people become desensitized to humanity and reality. Life has become a series of obligations between parties. You always wait for someone else to make the first move. You, in essence, don't care about what you say, let alone believe in. What is the point of a belief if you don't guide your life by it, to the point of standing up for it?

Your inconsistency keeps me guessing. It keeps me on my toes. I have no idea what the people around me are going through. Most of us walk around with expressions that are worse than the extras in "Night of the Living Dead." It's depressing really. Motionless puppets strung to our schedules. Heaven forbid someone care enough to speak to you without being guilty of only looking for a one-night stand. Your inconsistency is what keeps people inconsistent. It's like wildfire. Your assumptions cause a chain reaction of assumptions that yield things like the deterioration of the ozone. Maybe not that drastic, but you get the picture.

I was sitting near a girl in the Brickyard and I just happened to be within earshot of her. An apparent friend of hers approached, whom she greeted delightfully. They had a short, pleas-

ant conversation, with smiles and laughter, lighthearted and free. And the peasants rejoice.

Another apparent friend approached a few moments later and my neighbor spoke with them in the same tone as the previous person. It was déjà vu all over again. My neighbor's phone rings, so her friend leaves, and the first thing she says to the person on the other end is, "That same dumb blonde from yesterday came up and talked to me like I'm her friend." She was blonde. The plot thickens.

I looked at her for a moment wondering if the stuff she was on was the same thing that made my cat get ticks. From that point on, I felt like eyeing every individual around me, hoping to intimidate them to the point of bowing down to me with their wallets above their heads. I felt pissed off the rest of the day, I can only imagine what her conscious was doing to her. I felt violated and dirty.

Call me oversensitive, call me oblivious, call me a hypocrite. Everyone has stress to deal with; everyone gets overwhelmed at some point or another. It's human nature. But, for God's sake, smile once in a while, laugh at something stupid, laugh at yourself. That's human nature too.

I think maybe I find light in the dark hopes that you'll live AND learn, come to understand that you'll never know everything, and finally realize that Pepsi is better than Coke.

And the peasants? They will look around with a look of confusion and uncertainty, shrug and then nod. And then they will rejoice.

E-mail Jason at viewpoint@technicianstaff.com.

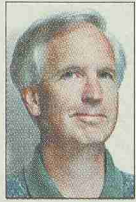
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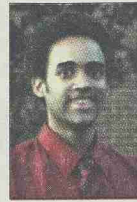
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Record 35-15
Place 4th
Last week 7-3
N.C. State 47, North Carolina 34
Florida State 56, Duke 7
Georgia Tech 24, Vanderbilt 7
Maryland 37, Eastern Michigan 13
Virginia 27, Wake Forest 24
Pittsburgh 37, Texas A&M 26
Purdue 23, Notre Dame 10
Arkansas 34, Alabama 31
LSU 41, Miss. St. 6
Syracuse 34, Toledo 7

N.C. State
Florida State
Georgia Tech
Maryland
Virginia
Texas A&M
Notre Dame
Arkansas
LSU
Toledo

N.C. State
Florida State
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Alabama
LSU
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N.C. State
Florida State
Georgia Tech
Maryland
Virginia
Pittsburgh
Notre Dame
Arkansas
LSU
Toledo

DEFENSE

continued from page 8

but the linebacker has been impressed with the team's run defense, which has come far since allowing 202 yards on the ground to Wake Forest.

"I wouldn't say there's a problem [defensively]," Thomas said. "We've given up a lot of points on passing plays. I think we need some work in terms of our defensive backs. We need to work harder and prepare a little better when it comes to the pass, but we haven't given up a lot of yards rushing."

That's always important to Amato, a coach set on stopping the run and playing fundamental, sound defense. But stopping the run, which the Pack has done the last three weeks, has led to the opposition finding success in the passing game. Coming into the season, the Pack's secondary looked as solid as any in the conference. But now?

"Our good players aren't doing like they should," Amato said. "Our experienced players aren't playing dominant football. And our experienced players are the back seven."

Amato expected more in terms of leadership, too. With four starting juniors, the Pack's secondary is the eldest part of a defense otherwise greener than dollar bill. But Maddox, Troy Graham, Lamont Reid and Greg Golden haven't been able to fill the leadership void created by a Terrence Holt or a Dantonio Burnette.

"I'm disappointed nobody stepped in to just jump at it," Amato said.

It's a contrast to the offense, in which seniors Philip Rivers and Jericho Cotchery lead a disciplined unit.

"Offensively, there's no question who the leaders are," Amato said. "But you know what helps leadership? Performance. Sometimes, that's not the only key to leadership but performance can certainly help."

"There's just not there where somebody's grabbing somebody, and being a cheerleader, or being confident and saying, 'We're fine, that one's behind us, let's go... And takes a special [person].'"

A special person like...Burnette? The former Wolfpack linebacker, an All-ACC performer last season, has spent time at Wolfpack practices and even graced the State sideline during Saturday's win.

"A lot of times, I would be on the sidelines and he would give me a couple words of inspiration," Thomas said. "He gives us great tips...him being around, it's just a great thing to have, especially with the intensity he brings to the defense."

Thomas, a player who has spent the past two years around guys like Burnette, Holt and Levar Fisher, believes the Pack need not sweat too much. All the great Pack field generals of the past might have even rubbed off on the soft-spoken Thomas.

"We've got a lot of qualified leaders," Thomas said. "We've been stepping forward, and I don't think we've got anything to worry about."



Stat of the week

81

The combined total points scored in Saturday's Carolina versus N.C. State game. It was a record high for the series, as were the 1,265 yards of total offense.

Quote of the week

"Everyone battled hard. We're just not smart sometimes"

-North Carolina coach John Bunting, summarizing his team's play against State.

	Conf.	Overall
Florida State	4-0	5-0
Clemson	1-0	3-1
Virginia	2-0	3-1
Wake Forest	1-1	3-2
N.C. State	1-1	3-2
Maryland	0-1	3-2
Duke	0-2	2-3
Georgia Tech	0-2	2-3
North Carolina	0-2	0-4

Score Box

Saturday, Sept. 27
N.C. State 47, North Carolina 34
Virginia 27, Wake Forest 24
Maryland 37, Eastern Michigan 13
Florida State 56, Duke 7
Georgia Tech 24, Vanderbilt 17 (OT)

Saturday's Games

N.C. State at Georgia Tech, noon
Virginia at North Carolina 1:30 p.m.
Clemson at Maryland 3:30 p.m.

Cotchery, King honored

Jericho Cotchery and Aaron King named ACC players of week for performances over weekend.

Sports Staff Report

The ACC honored two N.C. State athletes Monday, naming a career-high in receiving yards in State's 47-34 victory over North Carolina Saturday. He caught nine passes for 217 yards, including an 80-yard touchdown to begin the second half. That play sparked a Wolfpack rally

that produced 20 third quarter points.

Cotchery's previous career-high had been a 174-yard effort at Duke last season. The All-ACC player also had 173 yards receiving in State's loss at Wake Forest earlier in the season.

King, meanwhile, helped the men's soccer team to its third straight win and second straight over top-25 ACC competition. The sophomore forward scored two game-winning goals in Wolfpack victories over Campbell and Virginia. During the week, King totaled three goals to push his league-leading total to seven.

The Denver native has been a key factor in the resurgence of the men's soccer team, which before this season hadn't won an ACC match since 1999.

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THUMBS

James Butler

The Georgia Tech free safety blocked a 44-yard field goal attempt at the end of regulation against Vanderbilt to force overtime. During overtime, he intercepted a Jay Cutler pass to end the game and give Georgia Tech the victory.



Florida State

Talk about consistency. Florida State scored exactly 14 points in all four quarters against Duke in its 56-7 win. The Seminoles scored two passing touchdowns, four rushing touchdowns, a fumble return for a touchdown and an interception return for a touchdown.

Duke's special teams

Trailing only 7-0 at the time, Duke pinned Florida State deep in its own territory and forced a punt. Unfortunately, Duke roughed punter Jesse Stein giving Florida State a first down. Eighty-two yards and seven points later, the rout was on.

Cory Randolph

With the score tied and only 43 seconds remaining, Wake Forest had a third and ten from its own 46. Randolph bought some time by scrambling, but threw an ill-advised pass that was intercepted and returned to Wake's 33-yard line, setting up the game-winning field goal. Wake Forest coach Jim Grobe called the play a "rookie mistake."



Schedule

Football at Georgia Tech, 10/4, 12
Men's soccer vs. Howard, 10/1, 2
Women's soccer at Clemson, 10/3
Volleyball vs. North Carolina, 10/3, 7
Cross country at Pre-Nats, 10/18



TECHNICIAN

The Fall of '99

When you're a New York Mets fan, and you're approaching the playoffs, 95 percent of the time you're either looking to the future or remembering the past.



Andrew B. Carter
Deputy Sports Editor

The other 5 percent, you're wondering how in the name of Darryl Strawberry the team ever made the playoffs, what with their inherent drug problems, a stadium uglier than the neighborhood in which it lies and the obvious

New York bias toward the Yankees. Forever the ugly stepchild of New York, being a Mets fan isn't easy. Just ask John Rocker. Since his time as a Mets fan -- he became one not long after finding his way out of baseball -- he's had to endure all the hardships: riding to Shea Stadium on the No. 7 train, tolerating all the single mothers and purple-headed freaks and even the minorities. They even let people of color inside Shea Stadium, which drive some Rocker-types bonkers. What makes it all worse is this fact: the Mets stink worse than a refrigerator in a frat house. Much to the chagrin of Detroiters, the Mets will forever own the record of most losses in a season -- 120 -- a record that came one Detroit Tigers loss away from being tied last week. But, if the Mets are good at something, anything, it's futility. They are to baseball as Jimmy Kimmel is to late night television: bad, sometimes brilliant, but usually just bad. Yet, you can't turn away because every now and then they remind you of why you were a fan to begin with.

So, just as it is in a typical year, I reflect on some of my favorite baseball playoff memories, which happened in back-to-back seasons. I begin with the first:

Glorious it was the fall of 1999. A young ramble-rouser was I, full of pep, spark and the youthful energy of a newborn puppy, always sniffing around looking for bacon and young pup-ettes (like puppets, but not).

It was my freshman year of college, and I still had hair and a flat stomach. Years of binge drinking and beef jerky consumption hadn't yet spoiled my stomach, and my complexion still shined bright, not yet scathed and abused by the hideous rash of acne that would soon develop and inhabit my skin.

Life smelled sweet, like the aroma of a fresh bouquet of flowers in the spring, and what made it all even sweeter were the New York Mets and their magical run to the wild card, a sacred spot reserved for the American and National League's fourth best teams.

The Mets played with heart back then, not yet spoiled by the likes of Roberto Alomar and Jeremy Burnitz, not yet lumbered down with the likes of Mo Vaughn and his fat salary and even larger body. The Mets won hope that year not because of the free agents they had signed that winter, such as the catastrophic Tom Glavine signing this past winter, but instead for the merits of their players. They had a healthy Mike Piazza; Edgardo Alfonzo, when he was good; Robin Ventura, right before he grew old; a Roger Cedeno, who could still play and a pitching staff just as good as the hated Atlanta Braves.

And they didn't embarrass themselves, the city or their fans: a Mets rarity. In fact, from early July to mid-August, the team went on a tear, winning roughly 75 percent of its games and setting the scene for one of the most dramatic postseasons in history.

It started in early October, and I sat in the dorm room with microwave popcorn, a piece of paper and a clipboard for every...single...inning. I kept score of every game, and still have the scraps of loose leaf marked in pencil buried in a desk drawer somewhere. It began in Arizona, a best of five series with the Diamondbacks and Game 1 featured Randy Johnson -- taller and uglier than ever before -- on the



Pat Thomas (52) and Alan Halloway celebrate a play in State's win over Carolina. The two upperclassmen are expected to provide leadership to a young defense.

Defense concerns Amato.

The Wolfpack, who have allowed 1,231 yards of total offense its past two games, seeks leadership.

Andrew B. Carter
Deputy Sports Editor

After his team beat Texas Tech two weeks ago, N.C. State coach Chuck Amato downplayed the 681 yards of total offense the Wolfpack allowed to an explosive Red Raider offense.

State won that game by three touchdowns, and afterward, many players cited a classic Amatoism: "statistics are for losers."

The Pack won again Saturday; a 47-34 victory over rival North Carolina, but this time Amato didn't sugarcoat his team's defensive woes. State's defense, which improved on paper from the week before, still allowed Carolina to compile 550 yards of total offense, including several big plays that kept the Tar Heels in the game.

"We've got to cut down on penalties and cut down on missed assignments," Amato said Monday. "And we've got to tackle better."

Amato seemed especially upset at two plays in the second quarter that gave Carolina momentum. The first awarded UNC with its first touchdown of the day, a screen pass that Jacque Lewis turned into a 64-yard score, and the second, a Darian Durant 33-yard pass to Jarwarski Pollock, helped bring Carolina to within three just before halftime.

On both of those, State missed tackles and assignments, allowing for the huge yardage gains.

"Thirty-five times, we allowed no yards or negative yards," Amato said. "We've got to eliminate plays where we give up 64 yards [at once]."

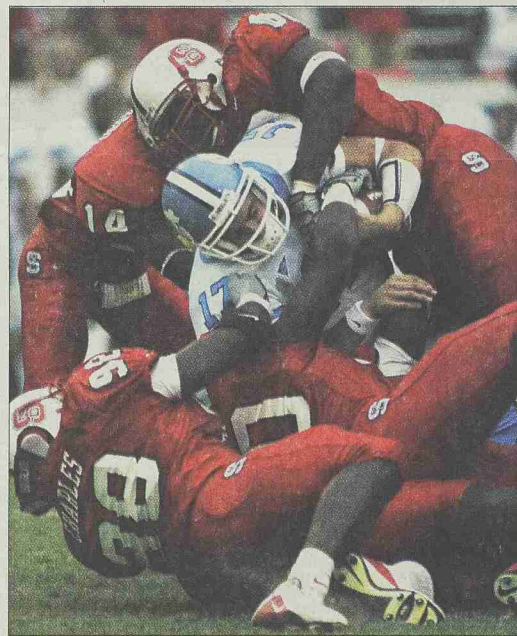
After the Texas Tech game, in which it gave up 586 yards passing, the Wolfpack spent much of last week practicing how to stop

the big play. And for the first and third quarters, the Pack did just that. In the second and fourth quarters, though, Carolina outscored the Pack 31-6. Perhaps a lack of concentration after acquiring a big lead?

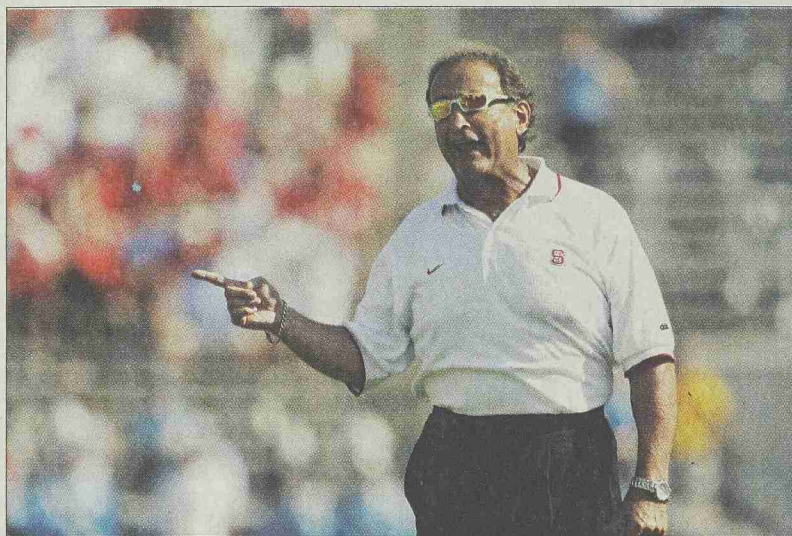
"I wouldn't say it's a lack of concentration," said Wolfpack linebacker Pat Thomas, whose 44 tackles are second on the team to Andre Maddox. "The teams we've faced, they just make great plays against us. Every team we play, it seems like they come to bring their 'A' game. And we just have to step up to their level of competition."

Thomas admitted the Pack's secondary needs to improve,

DEFENSE see page 6



Pack defenders gang up on UNC quarterback Matt Baker in the fourth quarter.



Always intense on the sideline, Chuck Amato has pointed to his defensive players and asked them to step up.

ANDREW see page 7

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