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Rehearsal location, seating call Marching Band to action



MELIH ONVURAL/TECHNICIAN

The sousaphone section stands quietly at attention while the N.C. State Marching Band practices the pre-game show. The lack of seating is especially hard for their section because of their large instruments.

Throughout the season, the marching band's normal schedule has been interrupted due to issues with rehearsal location and stadium seating.

Tyler Dukes
Staff Reporter

To the N.C. State Power Sound of the South marching band, last month's football game against Texas Tech brought more than just Homecoming events and our second season win. The game served to bring many problems the band has been having all year to the foreground and prompted

several students to express their growing discontent in e-mails addressed to Chancellor Marye Anne Fox.

In response to these e-mails, Charlie Cobb, associate athletic director, met with Band Director John Fuller and his staff to discuss the problems that have hounded the band all year. These problems include rehearsal location and stadium seating.

"It was a very constructive meeting," Fuller said. "We were really interested in working with athletics to fulfill the band's needs."

One of the biggest problems the band has faced this season is locating a field for rehearsals. For the past several semesters, the Power Sound of the South rehearsed on a field

located at Centennial Middle School. This semester however, school officials denied the band's application to rehearse here.

"I'm not really sure why they [Centennial Middle School] told us no," Fuller said. "I believe they had some other school functions which conflicted with our schedule."

For the first few rehearsals, band members had to deal with switching fields as they became available. They are now rehearsing primarily at the facility on Method Road. Although the travel distance is lessened, the conditions at this field are often much worse.

"The lines are normally crooked," senior band member Matt Gross

said. "It's hard to perfect the field show when you can't find your spot on the field."

Getting to the practice facility was also proved to be a problem. The 222-member band normally hauls its equipment to home games using six motor pool buses and a large equipment truck. For rehearsals, only three buses are provided. The band depends on its members to carpool the remaining equipment and members to the practice field.

"We shouldn't be expected to go out and buy a pickup truck just to get to practice," Gross said.

In response to this problem, band

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Sexual orientation picked as diversity theme

Attempting to raise awareness of various lifestyles, Student Affairs embraces its annual theme.

Rachael Rogers
Senior Staff Reporter

Each year, the Division of Student Affairs chooses a diversity theme to rally behind in the hopes of promoting this theme and educating the campus about issues concerning diversity. This year, Student Affairs has chosen sexual orientation as its theme.

The Division of Student Affairs has been working to make N.C. State a place where diversity is embraced and valued.

"Division of Student Affairs has for a long time been committed to diversity issues and to making this campus a place that welcomes and supports any student that comes here regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation or any disability that they may have," said Tom Stafford, assistant vice chancellor of Student Affairs.

NCSU was historically a white male campus that did not see a significant number of women until the 1960s and a significant number of African-Americans until the 1970s.

"This university has gone through a dramatic change in terms of its diversity, in the student body particularly," Stafford said. "Diversity is an important part of education and people who come here need to learn how to live and work with diverse people."

To help emphasize these diversity issues, Student Affairs decided a few years ago to pick one particular theme for each year. Last year, the theme was gender equity, one year it was race and ethnicity, and this year that theme will be sexual orientation.

"Although we have recently been choosing these themes, I have been emphasizing the overall issue of diversity ever since I have been vice chancellor, which has been 20 years," Stafford said.

Stafford believes sexual orientation is of key importance because one cannot guess a person's sexual orientation by simply looking at them. "The gay, lesbian and bi-sexual students are often an invisible community in a sense because historically there has been so much harassment and hatred directed at these people that many of the members of that community are reluctant or afraid to come out," Stafford said.

Robin Siska, a senior in psychology and president of NCSU's Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians

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Helicopter program takes students up, up and away

The Marine Corps Orientation Program gives students the ride of their life during the two day opportunity.

Michele DeCamp
News Editor

"Guess what? I'm going on a helicopter," Crystal Kelly, a sophomore in environmental science, said into her cell phone as the Dodge Caravan drove her across campus to the Army Reserves parking lot on Western Blvd. Her friend, Mikia Horsey, a sophomore in criminology, was on her cell phone as well. She was calling her Mom. Just in case.

These two girls, along with their friend Jon Vandever, a sophomore in business, were about to walk up to a Bell Turbo Jet Ranger helicopter, known as a TH-57 to those in the know, and take a 15-minute ride through campus and Southeast Raleigh.

"I thought it would be interesting. I haven't flown in a helicopter in a while," Vandever said, who is also in the Army ROTC and the Army Reserves.

For those with less experience, the ride was a little out of the ordinary. Kelly and Horsey clutched each other's arms as they walked up to the blue and white machine. The fiberglass blades cut through the air with a deafening beat, and once they were strapped in, they still retained sharp looks of fear on their faces as Captain Marigliano, the pilot, flew the helicopter off the blacktop and into the air.

While Kelly and Horsey are interested in flying, they will probably not be entering in the military anytime soon. But for some students, this event is more than just a fun thing to add to their list of N.C. State experiences. For some, it is just a small but significant



PETE ELLIS/TECHNICIAN

Mikia Horsey, Crystal Kelly and Jon VanDeveer are assisted into a helicopter by Capt. Burns, USMC on Thursday.

glimpse into what they will be doing after graduation.

The Marine Corps Orientation Program is held once in the fall and spring. There are six pilots in the country that take the helicopters to different schools and cities to generate interest in Marine flight programs. Capt. Marigliano covers the central eastern part of the country. He takes the TH-53 as far east as Kentucky, as far south as North Carolina and as far north as Ann Arbor, Mich.

"My favorites are the southern stations. I love Roanoke [Virginia Tech] and Raleigh [NCSU] because I have the ability to land on campus," Marigliano said. By

3 p.m. he had seen a wide range of students and reservists, and so far, he hadn't had anyone get too scared. By the end of the day, he would see 55 passengers.

"So far there has been good positive feedback from everybody," Marigliano said. Gunnery Sergeant Danny Arnold agreed that everyone was having a good time.

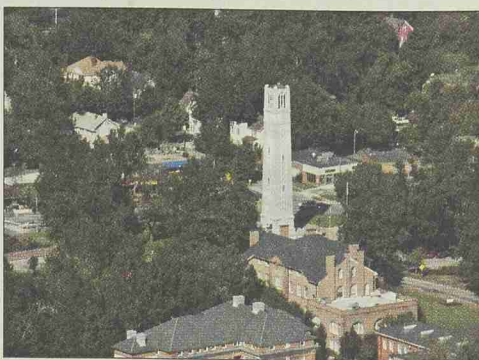
"I think it has been outstanding. It's basically for anybody that wants to come out," Arnold said.

The Marine Corps offers students and recruits different opportunities to become more involved in their flight programs. Besides this orientation program,

they also have an Aviation Guarantee program that gives college students the chance to go to flight school if they pass all the necessary exams and classes that come with an aviation contract. This program does not have any school year obligations, so students like Jonathan Thompson, a junior in industrial design, can work on their flight training during the summer and concentrate solely on their academic classes during the school year.

Thompson became an aviation applicant at the beginning of the semester, and he has a lot more flying to look forward to in his

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PETE ELLIS/TECHNICIAN

The NCSU Belltower and Holladay Hall, as visible from a helicopter.

Sanding time away



BEN AUSTIN/TECHNICIAN

Kevin Robledo, a senior in environmental design in architecture, sands a chair he is making from black walnut. Kevin works as a TA in the materials lab, and works on this piece in between helping students with projects of their own.

CHOPPER

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future.

"It was awesome. I've never been in a helicopter before. It's completely different from being in an airplane," Thompson said.

Thompson also wouldn't mind flying one himself one day.

"I'm thinking about fighter jets, but if I couldn't get one of those then I'd love a helicopter," Thompson said.

Once Thompson graduates he will receive more training in the Marine Corps. His preparation will culminate with two years in flight school.

Thompson is looking forward to his future job in the flight program.

"I've got a career for at least the

next 10 years," Thompson said. "At first I wasn't interested. But I became interested after meeting these guys."

Thompson is ready for his life with the Marine Corps, and the organizers of the flight orientation program hope that other students will also catch on to the idea. The helicopter ride itself is more than just a trip around NCSU grounds. Students, who came from NCSU, UNC-Chapel Hill, Elon University, Wake Forest University and Appalachian State University to participate, will also learn the finer points of helicopter flight.

With Carter-Finley Stadium looking minuscule on the ground below, Marigliano showed riders how helicopters can turn on a dime. He also went into the other aspects of helicopter flight that make it very unique.

"We don't need forward air speed, so we can hover and land in parking lots," he explained.

When Marigliano turns the helicopter on its side, he said some riders "give a good little shout." But it could be worse. Captain Thomas Walker, an Officer Selection Officer on site at the orientation, described a technique known as "yanking and banking." The term refers to when a helicopter pilot takes the control stick and yanks it back and forth. The orientation participants will, thankfully, only have a smooth ride.

Marigliano flew the helicopter back to Raleigh-Durham International Airport for the night, but he will be back this morning at the same location, taking students and a few "devil dogs," an affectionate term for marines, up into the air where NCSU's

Investigation into leak could extend beyond White House

Shannon McCaffrey and
William Douglas

Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON - The criminal probe into the leak of a CIA officer's name could go beyond the White House, as the Justice Department was preparing Thursday to tell officials in other federal agencies to preserve relevant documents and records.

Officials at federal agencies said they were expecting letters from the Justice Department urging them to save e-mail, correspondence and other documents that could pertain to the investigation. The White House and CIA already have gotten similar instructions.

At the State Department, a spokesman said the agency had yet to receive a letter but "it would not be unexpected."

"And if we do, we'll cooperate fully," the spokesman said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Word of the widening probe came amid growing questions about the close relationship between top political appointees at the Justice Department and the White House. Democrats have been calling for Ashcroft to appoint a special counsel, saying his relationship with President Bush and Bush's top political adviser, Karl Rove, taint the prospects for an impartial investigation.

Investigators hope to identify who leaked to reporters the name of an undercover CIA officer who's married to former Ambassador Joseph Wilson, after Wilson debunked a claim in Bush's State of the Union address that Iraq had tried to buy uranium from Niger.

Disclosing the name of a CIA undercover operative is a felony.

In interviews, Wilson has said he thinks Rove is the source of the leak or had authorized it in retaliation for the criticism.

At a news conference Thursday on Capitol Hill, Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., called for Ashcroft to recuse himself from the process.

Although the case is being handled by seasoned career lawyers in the Justice Department's counterespionage section, Schumer said federal regulations required Ashcroft to sign off on any subpoenas issued to members of the media for telephone records, a very real prospect in this probe because of its focus on news leaks.

"This situation cries out for Attorney General Ashcroft to be as far away as possible," Schumer said.

But he said possible conflicts went deeper than Ashcroft and Rove, who was hired as a political consultant for three of Ashcroft's political campaigns in Missouri, two for governor and one for U.S. senator.

Acting Deputy Attorney General Robert McCallum was inducted into the secret Skull and Bones club at Yale University with Bush, David Israelite, the Justice

Department deputy chief of staff, was political director of the Republican National Committee in 1999 and 2000. Solicitor General Ted Olson was the lead counsel for Bush during the Florida election recount in 2000.

White House officials dismissed Schumer's charges and reiterated their faith in Ashcroft and Justice Department staffers to conduct a fair investigation.

"I would remind you that the career Justice Department officials are the ones leading this investigation," White House Press Secretary Scott McClellan said. "These are the individuals with (vast) experience and are in the best position to get to the bottom of this."

Schumer's complaint Thursday was just one in an escalating series of attacks on the White House by congressional Democrats and Democratic presidential candidates.

Three female Democratic senators introduced gender politics to the brewing scandal, portraying the leak as an assault on working women and families.

"The fact that someone's wife would be threatened and put in great jeopardy, and potentially her career eliminated as a result of this, has outraged many, many women," said Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich.

Stabenow and Sens. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., and Mary Landrieu, D-La., in calling for an independent investigation of the leaks, said the issue would resonate especially with women, a majority of whom tend to vote Democratic.

At the White House, McClellan dismissed the Democratic broadsides as typical Washington politics.

"Unfortunately, there are some that are looking through the lens of political opportunism," he said. "There are some that are seeking partisan political advantage. I don't need to go into names. We all know who they are."

SEX

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and Allies (BGLA) organization, agrees.

"The themes Student Affairs choose seem to be less visible issues on campus. By having the programs devoted to the themes each year, it puts a spotlight on the particular issue and allows people to become more educated. It's quite possible that without these focuses on various diversity themes that some students might not ever become as exposed to them in depth and have the opportunity to understand them."

The goal for choosing these themes is that the campus climate will become one where no one will be afraid to come out because they will be welcomed. In turn, they will be able to be full participants of the campus community.

"We are committed to enhancing our own understanding of the issues and concerns, as we are dedicated to supporting the success of all students. We simply must do more to create a climate of support for our gay, lesbian,

bisexual and transgendered students," said Evelyn Reiman, associate vice chancellor of Student Affairs.

With these themes, everyone involved in Student Affairs around campus is asked to think about programs or any other way they can support that theme for the year.

"Once we have selected a theme, I announce it and promote it to all the units within Student Affairs to have them promote the theme and help create a campus environment where gay, lesbian and bi-sexual students feel safe and supported," Stafford said.

For example, the Center for Student Leadership, Ethics and Public Service has invited Judy Shepherd to speak at the Role Model Leader's Forum in February.

Judy Shepherd was the mother of Matthew Shepherd, a homosexual man in Wyoming who was targeted because of his sexual orientation and was subsequently beaten to death. These events sparked a response all across the country and led his mother to visit various college campuses advocating for diversity issues, in particular issues dealing with sexual orientation.

"The Role Model Leader's Forum provides an educational opportunity to learn about diverse people. We select our speakers based on the annual theme to talk about the ethical issues they face. It is important in a college setting that we are learning as much as possible about different people and diversity," said Michael Giancola, director of the Center for Student Leadership, Ethics and Public Service.

Others around campus are also helping promote issues of sexual orientation. Justine Hollingshead initiated Project Safe not long ago on campus. Project Safe consists of workshops designed to educate the campus community on issues that relate to sexual orientation.

BGLA also plans to have programming situated throughout the campus to help highlight the issue. "We plan to have tables on the Brickyard in coming months as well as more tunnel painting with facts about sexual orientation issues. Also, more and more RAs are asking for speakers for the residence halls to help educate the residents. So, there will be more programming in lots of different departments on campus," Siska said.

"For example, people refer to it

as sexual preference but the correct term is sexual orientation," Stafford said. With educational programs in place such as the Role Model Leader's Forum and Project Safe, the hopes are that the campus will become educated on issues of sexual orientation.

Student Affairs will also do their part in promoting the issue amongst its division.

"Each year I appoint a professional growth committee made up of staff in Student Affairs who are responsible for developing programs that will promote this theme for our staff," Stafford said.

Student Affairs also holds its traditional end of the year program where it celebrates another successful year. At this event, Stafford presents an award to the person who best exemplifies Student Affairs' commitment to its diversity theme.

"This reward reinforces the importance of this theme and recognizes someone who has really done an extraordinary job to support the theme. It provides an incentive for people to work really hard in that particular area," Stafford said.

us," wrote one student in an e-mail to Chancellor Fox.

Cobb asserts that this is just not the case.

"I think a lot of these issues were a misunderstanding," said Cobb. "We've gotten complaints in the past from fans saying they couldn't hear the band. We decided to move them there so we could make them as visible as possible."

There was also a problem with the number of seats available to the band. In most cases, college bands are allotted two seats per person, due to the size of instruments and the space required to play. The NCSU marching band also normally receives 100 extra tickets to sell to friends and family. For the Texas Tech game, athletics gave 450 tickets to the marching band and allowed them to conduct the ticket sales. However, it wasn't until the band arrived at the game that they real-

ized that the 100 tickets they sold were part of the tickets allotted for the band.

"The band had to freeze ticket sales for the rest of the games," Gross said. "Now only the seniors are allowed to buy parent tickets."

The band's new position in relation to the stadium's goal post presented a problem as well. The net to catch field goal kicks was previously located behind the band. Discussion at last week's meeting prompted athletics staff to move the net in front of the bleachers before the UNC-NCSU showdown last Friday.

Opinions about the band's situation vary from student to student.

"I know there are quite a few students that are not too happy," drummer Josh Ball said. "Most of us are just going with the flow."

"It's frustrating, but it's better than it was," Gross said. "It's good

to know that they [band staff] are stepping up and fighting hard for us."

Dr. Fuller attributes many of the band's issues with its recent rapid growth.

"These are happy problems," Fuller said. "When you have a band program that is getting bigger like this, you're going to have growing pains."

Last year the band consisted of 137 members. That number has grown to 222 this year. According to Cobb, the athletics department is happy to accommodate the growing band and is doing everything they can to meet the needs of the expanding program.

"We tried to turn these situations around pretty quick," Cobb said. "There's no group more excited about the growth of the band than athletics."

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BAND

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staff has submitted a proposal for a permanent practice facility effective for fall 2004. The facility would be located close to the Price Center.

"I have a strong feeling we're going to make that work," Fuller said.

Among the students, seating at the football games was a big issue as well. During past seasons, band members played from regular stadium sections. This year, however, the marching band plays in newly built bleachers located in the front of the field house.

Several students voiced concern that these bleachers were a result of a lack of seating in Carter-Finley stadium.

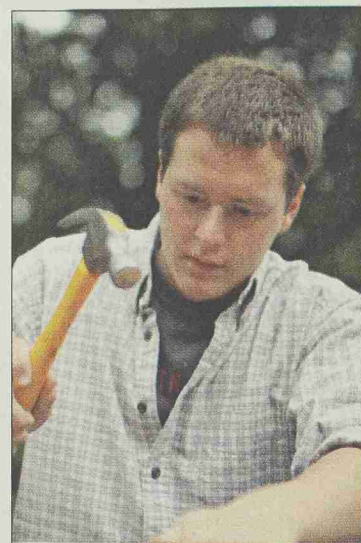
"The university is selling our own seats right out from under



RAY BLACK III/TECHNICIAN
Austin Duncan, a junior in environmental sciences, tries to draw attention to the University Scholars Program shack at Shack-A-Thon on Wednesday.



Tim Lytvinenko/TECHNICIAN
All is quiet at Shack-A-Thon at 5:30 a.m.



RAY BLACK III/TECHNICIAN
Josh Law, a sophomore in material science, works Wednesday on one of the many pieces of furniture the Campus Christian Fellowship assembled.

Life in Shack Village

Sixteen shacks took over the Brickyard this week for Habitat for Humanity's Shack-a-thon fundraiser.

Thushan Amarasiriwardena
Staff Writer

With the cool weather comes the hammers, the nails...and the shacks.

For the fifth year, the campus chapter of Habitat for Humanity held its annual fundraiser and awareness program - Shack-a-thon - a 24/7 event for five days that briefly converts the Brickyard into "Shack Village" as Shawn Rosenquist likes to call it.

Rosenquist, a senior in mechanical engineering and the president of the campus Habitat chapter said that the weeklong event "is one of the [group's] major events and makes an overwhelming amount of our fundraising, and was part of the reason we were able to co-sponsor a house this year."

The chapter, one of campus' largest organizations with regular meeting attendance and upwards of 125 members, brings a crew of 25-30 nearly every weekend to a Habitat site in southeast Raleigh, according to Rosenquist.

Julie David, a senior in biological sciences and Habitat co-chair for fundraising, said that the event annually brings in around \$6,000 of the \$8,000 that the group raises each year.

With a laugh, she makes note that regardless of whether Shack-a-thon is

going on, "we'll always take donations," David said.

Shack-a-thon, which started on Monday morning and will end later today, has 16 shacks for the 21 groups that requested a space in the event. Each shack is required to have someone reside in it at all times while raising funds by getting sponsorships or requesting donations from passers-by, David said.

While raising money is one of the goals of the event, David said that the chapter also wished to "raise awareness about substandard housing."

Between classes, David, Rosenquist and others participating in Shack-a-thon stop by their shacks.

"I've missed some classes," David said with a grin.

One passerby asks - "Do you just live here?" They spend a lot of time there. Rosenquist has slept a number of nights in his group's shack.

"It's been a bit chilly. But I'm completely sold on Habitat - I try to infect more people on it. Habitat is a really good way to meet some great people," Rosenquist said.

Each shack in Shack Village mirrored the nuances of the group behind it. An architectural club built a contemporary shack out of plastic sheathing and a thin wooden frame. Others took on traditional models and decorated their exteriors with phrases describing their organization.

The Park Scholar shack, towering some 17 feet high and casting shadows around the shacks surrounding it, took about seven hours over two days to build, according to Deborah Wang.

Wang a sophomore in bio-medical engineering was spotted studying yesterday on one of the shack's large couches.

"I just come to hang out - it's just too cold to sleep out here," Wang said.

At the Campus Crusade shack, its occupants decided to fill their time by building a playground, fully equipped with a seesaw, merry-go-round and tire swing.

Freshman Margaret Rode explained that

the group's organizer wanted a tire swing because she never had one as a child. After that, the group added other play equipment as the Shack-a-thon continued.

To bid time Rode said that many in her group would "hang out and play on the playground. We unfortunately have to do homework as well." A little quietly, she adds "I've only skipped two classes."

Along with occupying their playground and shack, Rode said the group would "beg for money" for Habitat.

"We encourage them to donate," Kelley Pierce, a senior in social work, corrects Rode with a laugh.

Near 3 p.m., the group began counting their donations for collection. Rode said that the group has been averaging in the mid \$100 range each day.

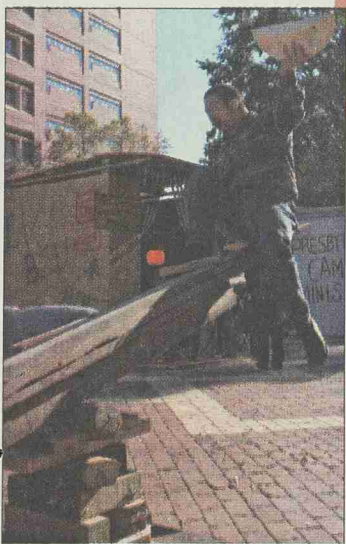
At a shack comprised of a number of groups including Student Peace Action Network, Campus Greens, Amnesty International and the campus ACLU chapter, a three-foot wide solar cell powered a small radio. Rosalie Haughton, a junior in physics, said that members of the shack "were pondering getting a blender to make smoothies, but that has not transpired."

Each year, her group attempts to try something different - this year it was the solar cell.

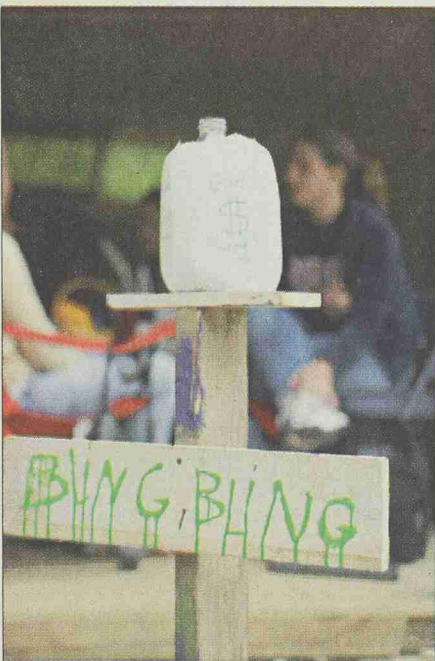
Student Body President Tony Caravano, walks through Shack Village everyday to talk to participants. This year he did not sleep in the Brickyard because his freshman year he got sick from the cold.

Glancing over the mini skyline of Shack Village, he talked about Shack-a-thon. "It brings a bunch of random groups together for one goal - and that's really positive," Caravano said.

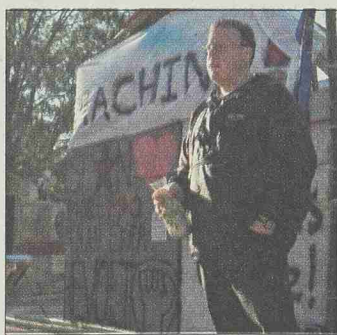
The event ends later today with Shack-a-thon's finale - "Whack-a-thon."



TAYLOR TEMPLETON/TECHNICIAN
At the Campus Crusade shack, Justin "Squeaks" Lane rides a see-saw that students built.



RAY BLACK III/TECHNICIAN
Phi Sigma Pi's collection bin being manned by Paige Fisher, a senior in psychology.



TAYLOR TEMPLETON/TECHNICIAN
Brad Goodnight waits for passersby to come so he can ask for donations.



RAY BLACK III/TECHNICIAN
Shack-A-Thon, as seen Thursday from the top of D.H. Hill library.



TIM LYTVINENKO/TECHNICIAN
Ethan Boehm snacks on some free breakfast provided by Habitat.

Rule of Thumb

**North Korea building nukes**

North Korea announced that it is using plutonium extracted from spent nuclear fuel rods to make atomic weapons. President Bush immediately issued a statement, "Look, I understand that you all are hell bent on being attacked. I get it. And once I get done with Iraq, we'll start blowing your stuff up, I promise."

FBI looks into leak

The FBI has developed a task force to look into a leak that disclosed the name of a CIA officer. The first point on the task force's agenda is to get that CIA officer to stop introducing herself as "Valerie Plame, Covert CIA Officer."

**Football players haze teammates**

Three high school football players are accused of hazing and sexually abusing younger teammates at a preseason football camp. One prosecuting attorney said, almost gleefully, "We hope to send these boys to prison for some reform. When they get back from prison they'll have surely forgotten about sexual abuse and hazing."

**Halle Berry separates**

Actress Halle Berry said on Wednesday she and her husband of nearly three years, Eric Benet, are separating. In other news, every single man in Hollywood showed up at Halle Berry's house Wednesday night.

**Stewart billboard gets funding**

More than \$3,000 has been contributed by fans of Martha Stewart to mount a billboard in Times Square to support her defense against insider trading charges. Unfortunately, Stewart took the \$3,000 and used it towards her "money I'll spend on my last night of freedom" fund.

**Killer whale reunites with family**

A lone killer whale off the Pacific coast of Canada will be relocated back to U.S. waters in hopes that it might reunite with its family, said Canadian officials. Sadly, once the whale meets up with its family, it will discover that its parents are stiling and remember why it left in the first place.

**Iran capitol dangerous place**

An Iranian earthquake expert told Reuters on Wednesday that Iran's capital is in a very dangerous place and should be moved. The expert then paused and said, "...I meant because of earthquakes. Not because of the war and civil unrest. I mean, we can't move the whole middle east."

**DNA testing expanded**

U.S. lawmakers announced a bipartisan accord on legislation to expand DNA testing in criminal justice. O.J. Simpson went on the record with the comment, "This is one of the best things that could have happened to the criminal justice system ... as long as it happened after my trial."

**Scientists say caged carnivores sad**

On Wednesday, Scientists said that captive carnivores such as lions, tigers and polar bears have difficulty adapting to zoos because they miss the wide ranges they roamed. Scientists added, "All those other animals absolutely love being caged and broken of their freedom, though. Oh yeah, they love it."

**Toyota says hybrids cheap**

Toyota Motor Corporation brought journalists into its production site for gasoline-electric cars on Thursday and explained that the cars did not have to be expensive to make. Directly after that statement, Toyota's CEO said, "Imagine how much profit we'll make by charging the same price for a cheaper car!"



FACES IN THE PACK

West Coast to West Campus

This California native found leadership and a passion for service at N.C. State.

LaWanda Ray
Staff Writer

Biological life sciences senior Benjamin Ruddick traveled from one coast to the other just to attend college. If he could be summed up in one word, it would be "focused."

Ruddick's passion for helping others has taken him to many places, but his most memorable was a Good Samaritan Medical Mission to Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Ruddick referred to this trip as "the best experience of my life," as he spoke of directly assisting with patients and gaining hands-on examination experiences.

Currently his primary focus is on getting into medical school, and most of his free time is spent filling out medical school applications. Ruddick is applying to 16 medical schools but George Washington University in D.C. is his first choice. He spends about five

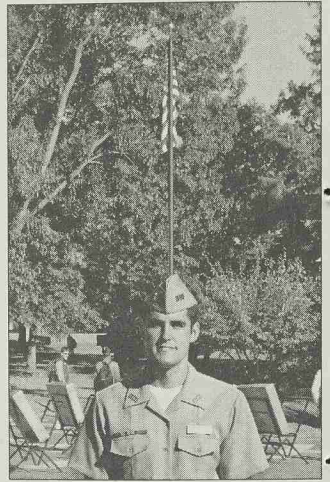
hours a day studying, on average, and not only does he have a 3.76 GPA, but Ruddick has been on the Dean's List every semester since he came to NCSU as a freshman.

If this is not a testament to Ruddick's studiousness, he was also one of 13 in the country to be awarded the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship.

"I have wanted to be a doctor since the eighth grade," Ruddick said. "I like science and people."

Ruddick is also the fall 2003 Naval ROTC Battalion Commander with 154 cadets under him. Johnathan Willis, a fellow NROTC cadet and CHASS senior, said, "Mr. Ruddick takes care of his people, makes sure that things gets done and does not let the power go to his head."

Ruddick is not all work and no play. He said he loves the beach and was at one time on the water polo team. Ruddick is not a big surfer but enjoys boogie boarding. Yet, his favorite pastime is simply hanging out with friends. Roommate and close friend Zachery Lail described Ruddick as caring "more about others than himself" and the type of person



MELIH ONURAL/TECHNICIAN
Benjamin Ruddick is the Fall 2003 Naval ROTC Battalion Commander.

that "will go out of his way to make a new friend."

Ruddick is also a big fan of traveling and has been to Alaska, Israel, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and up and down the east coast. He would like to spend time in England and Spain.

The Reel Review



"Duplex"
Director: Danny DeVito
Starring: Ben Stiller, Drew Barrymore
★

When you're greeted right away with a cheesy animated title-sequence and background information provided by an unseen narrator, everything screams mid-'90s sitcom. As with situation comedies, "Duplex" is episodic and predictable.

"Duplex" is a dark comedy, a genre that creates a filmic environment that thrives upon schadenfreude: the audience is expected to find humor in the many misfortunes of the characters. The lack of realistic repercussions enables murder plots to be morally acceptable and death defying falls to be laughable.

Danny DeVito directs "Duplex," telling a similar moral as his "Throw Momma From the Train," in aggravated frustration, good people will do bad things.

This style relies heavily upon crudeness and slapstick pranks, which are hit

or miss with audiences. DeVito fails to provide solid humor throughout, and many of the gags are just plain stupid.

Ben Stiller has become a very type-cast actor. He plays the same character type in "Duplex" as in "Royal Tenenbaums" and "Meet the Parents:" the middle-class, 30-something with good intentions that's always managing to screw things up. Stiller plays Alex Rose, a "medium level" writer with a lack of assertiveness that is easily exploited by an unwanted elderly tenant, Mrs. Connelly (Eileen Essel).

Alex moves into the Bronx duplex with Nancy (Drew Barrymore), a graphic designer for a magazine. The strange situation is that the elderly Mrs. Connelly cannot be legally evicted without reason, even when Alex and Nancy purchase the whole building.

Almost all of the film occurs within the house, showing control on DeVito's part. While, yes, it is the title of the film, it is good to see the majority of the scenes set in a relatively confined space. This space that the audience and the characters cohabitate reinforces the inescapable conflict: an unwanted third roommate.

Even die-hard Stiller fans will be disappointed with this film. DeVito may have been optimistic with "Duplex," but he ends up solely relying upon forced humor to propel the narrative, thereby falling short (pun intended) of anything glorious.

-Andrew Nicholas

The PULSE

What's going on in Raleigh this weekend.

Friday

"Caberet" performs in Stewart Theatre at 8 p.m.
"School of Rock," "Out of Time," Buffalo Soldiers" and "Masked and Anonymous" open in theaters.
Billy Joe Shaver performs at the Brewery.
The Motet and Ulu play the Lincoln Theatre.
Blatant Disarray and Frexon Zo play the Berkeley Cafe.
Southern Culture on the Skids plays the Cat's Cradle.
1964 ... A tribute (to the Beatles) will perform at Memorial Auditorium.
Super Grit Cowboy Band plays at 42nd Street Oyster bar.

Saturday

"Caberet" performs in Stewart Theatre at 8 p.m.
Purple School Bus plays the Pour House.
The Clarks, Ingram Hill and Pseudopod play the Brewery.
Perpetual Groove and Lotus play the Lincoln Theatre.
Nova Nancy plays the Berkeley Cafe.
Jonathan Richman performs at Kings.
The Cat's Cradle hosts the Hieroglyphics Tour with Del, Souls of Mischief, Casual and Little Brother.
Audubon Park and Holy Roman Empire play the Local 506.

Sunday

"Caberet" performs in Stewart Theatre at 3 p.m.
The Raleigh Civic Chamber Orchestra performs in Talley Student Center's Ballroom at 8 p.m.
The Pour House will host "Bluegrass on the Square" to benefit N.C. Special Olympics. Steep Canyon Rangers is but one of many acts to perform.
One Man Army will play the Brewery with The Eyeliners.
Battle of the Bands at the Lincoln Theatre.
Moe will perform at Disco Rodeo.
Drunk Stuntmen will play at Sadlack's.
Bow Street Runners will perform at Fat Daddy's.

Sunday

The Wind Ensemble will perform in Stewart Theatre at 7 p.m.

* Italicized events will be held on campus.

NOTES FROM ABROAD

After the storm, the adventure finally begins

In the week preceding my flight, my mother and I evacuated to Fayetteville for Hurricane Isabel, and sat helpless to watch images of the devastation of my hometown, Cape Hatteras,

John Willis
Correspondent in
England

on the television and Internet. Fortunately our house, family and friends were alright, but Hatteras Village sustained major damage, and a new inlet severed the highway several miles north of our home. Two weeks ago on Monday we returned to drive down a single lane road which had been dug from the over-washed sand; we parked our cars at my uncle's house on a more northern part of the island and caught a boat to the now separate village of Hat-

teras. Then on Wednesday we packed our bags yet again, and headed back to Raleigh. I had mixed feelings about the trip at this time; I was anxious to get on my way, but it was hard to leave so many friends and family that I did not get to say goodbye to.

At 1:30 in the afternoon on Friday, my mother and I parted company at the airport; this is when I felt my journey was actually beginning, because I was alone for the first time. My first flight was rather normal I suppose, except that we were delayed for little over an hour due to bad weather in Chicago where I would catch a connecting flight to Manchester, England. I'll have to admit my palms were sweaty as the plain took off and landed; there is

something uncomfortable about sitting in a large metal object filled with jet fuel and traveling at 500 miles per hour several thousand feet in the air. As my luck would have it, the flight was delayed just long enough for me to miss my next flight, and I was finally arranged to catch another later plane to London, and then another connecting flight to Manchester. After seemingly endless hours of sitting on different airplanes, sprinting to catch flights, trying to figure out where I was and where I needed to be and not sleeping, I arrived in Manchester. My luggage had somehow been placed on the wrong plane and was to be delivered at the university, so I hopped a train and then caught a bus, finally getting to Lancaster with only

the clothing I was wearing and what little things I had in my carry-on bag.

Here at the university I am jet lagged and overwhelmed by all of the new scenery and stimulations, but I will try my best to give you an "at-a-glance view" of the school based on my limited exposure. The university itself seems fortress-like, in that it stands alone in the countryside and the buildings are tightly arranged so that from within you cannot see outside easily. On our first rainy day, I noticed that you could walk virtually anywhere on campus without getting wet because all the pathways and parts of every outside area were under a sort of cover. This only confirmed the fact that it rains quite often in England. The architecture of

the town seems quaint; everything has an old rural English look with lots of stone, which is quite a contrast to the red brick abyss of State's campus.

The people of the United Kingdom seem in most respects much like Americans, aside from the many English accents, which are apparently unique to the different regions of the country. I live in the College of Lonsdale which is like a cross between an American dorm and co-ed fraternity house, and I share a kitchen with around 10 other students whom are from the United Kingdom and the United States. The most surprising thing I've noticed so far is the influence of alcohol on the campus. With a drinking age of 18 in England, there are bars in every residence, and

their equivalent of our C-Store has an entire aisle devoted to beer, wine and liquor. If this didn't get the point across, the principal of our college went on a 10 minute tangent in one of our orientation sessions about liver damage. He told us it was wise to alternate alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks in a night out to keep from becoming completely obliterated. I could go on and on about this, but I am limited to 800 words and I must wrap things up. I feel a little bit stressed this week, but things look like they will be pretty enjoyable. The people here are polite and eager to help out, and the food isn't quite as bad as everyone believes. On that note I shall end things, and as they say in England, Cheers!



TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

PULL BOB AND MADISON FOR GOOD

OUR OPINION: THE G105 DUO TOOK IT TOO FAR WHEN THEY ENCOURAGED LISTENERS TO TOSS BOTTLES AT BIKERS.

Last Monday and Tuesday Bob Dumas, of the Bob and Madison Showgram on the G105 radio station, made comments about bicyclists and how he hates them. He complained that cyclists should not be allowed to share the road with cars - they should ride on the sidewalk. He made light of bikers that incur injuries while riding on the road. He took his biker angst a step further by saying drivers should throw empty soda bottles and other trash at bikers while they are riding on the road.

This angered Triangle bikers and they let G105 and their parent company, Clear Channel Communications, know it. Some biker groups staged a protest outside of the G105 offices. Two other groups went to G105's sponsors, including Applebee's, Capitol Ford and Crossroads Ford, and threatened to boycott these and other sponsors if they

did not pull their advertisements from the airwaves. Capitol Ford even went so far as to terminate their relationship with G105. Other sponsors are looking into the matter, but the boycott threat worked. As of this morning, G105 has suspended Bob Dumas and Madison Lane.

This is not necessarily a bad thing. The dishonorable duo has been suspended before and brought back because of a public outpour of support. But on-air pranks and gimmicks are one thing. To invoke people to do harm to others on the highway, whether directly or indirectly, is totally irresponsible and inexcusable.

However, this is standard activity for these on-air personalities. In an interview with Philip Rivers three years ago, they asked questions that delved into his personal sex life. Rivers was totally unprepared and uncomfortable with answering questions of that type. After the Ohio State game, they bashed him on the air for his performance. As a

result, no N.C. State athlete is going on the show ever again.

As bad as Rivers-bashing is, everyone is entitled to their own opinion. However, the biker issue is important to NCSU students, faculty and staff. There are many people who ride bikes to campus and ride for recreation. So if someone goes on the radio and calls on people to harass bikers and injure them, possibly fatally, it is an issue that must be addressed. After this episode, Bob and Madison should not be allowed on the air again. If they are so irresponsible as to endanger others' lives and laugh at the serious misfortune of a specific group of people, they are not fit to be on the air.

It is one thing to go into businesses and play harmless pranks on them, as Bob and Madison and their sidekicks used to do. But this incident is outrageous and totally inappropriate. Pull the plug on Bob and Madison and get some DJs that will actually do the Triangle radio audience some good.

The unsigned editorial that appears above are the opinion of the members of the Technician's editorial board except for news editors and are the responsibility of the editors in chief.

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'Ideal image' doesn't fly for me

Administrators and the media are jumping all over Duke's Women's Initiative study. But Abbie Byrom isn't buying it at N.C. State.

So, Duke University's Women's Initiative study has made a big splash in all the papers, news shows and college campuses alike. All of a sudden, we females were thrown into a pit of fire, when girls started complaining that

they feel like they have to look cute all day and are incapable of showing their intelligence if they want to get a guy.



Abbie Byrom
Senior Columnist

Could we females look more pathetic? My first complaint, is that either the study is inconclusive or the publicity it is receiving is incomplete.

Doing my own little study on friends in classes and girls I hang out with - we don't feel this way! Never have I felt the need to compromise my intelligence in order to get a date, and none of us believe in casual sex, rather than a relationship, as the study suggests. We don't feel the need to have eating disorders and try a different diet every week to feel perfect. Most of us like the way look when we look in the mirror because we have learned that no matter what, at least we think we are beautiful.

The study was on Duke females (students, teachers, faculty), but they want it to apply to all universities - or at least shed light on similar situations at all universities. There were some good parts to the study that showed that women were

"...you would be hard pressed to find a guy willing to turn down free sex."

seriously under represented in faculty positions, and the difficulties women in leadership at Duke face if they have a family at home. Duke University's President Nan Keohane has decided to put in place a number of million dollar initiatives to rectify these problems. She has proposed mentoring programs, leadership development and child care. She also wants to institute ways to get back to "traditional dating."

Give me a break! If female students are having a hard time having real, meaningful relationships, rather than casual hook-ups on the weekend with guys they barely know, maybe they should be looking somewhere else.

Not to point fingers, but the only people those women can blame is themselves. If they are that easily persuaded to hop from one bed to the next in pursuit of a few hours of relations rather than a decent guy with morals who would respect a woman enough to not expect those things of her.

Of course, if these female students are going to offer it, I am sure you would be hard pressed to find a guy willing to turn down free sex.

Unfortunately, the study spent a large amount of time focusing on social influences of fraternities on campus. The

female students look like powerless, sexual victims that are in a pressure cooker of perfection. Apparently, the females feel as if they must look perfect, be skinny, be smart - but not too smart - and fight for men in female-dominated universities. According to some Carolina students, they too feel as if they must live up to the saying printed on many a t-shirt "Carolina girls, best in the world."

In the '60s we saw bra-burning women all over the nation complaining about the same issues. It would seem as if we would be past those by now, especially at respectable universities like Duke, UNC-Chapel Hill, and N.C. State.

No, State did not skate by on this one. In fact, in Sunday's News and Observer, sophomore Amber Slaven was quoted saying "When I do dress cute, I have a long day and I want to be cute all day." If anything, this whole gender bias has been self inflicted in many cases, at all universities.

No one has requested of me or even implied in the three years I have been at NCSU that maybe I should dress up to impress a guy in class. Or that a guy may be smarter than I am in my major, so I should debate with him, study with him but always let him have the upper hand and feel smarter.

Never have I felt the need to go on a diet or stop eating completely, as a point of pride like some women quoted in the N&O's article.

My social life with males is not oppressive, and as far as I know, neither are my roommates' or our girlfriends'. We have guy friends, we wear make-up sometimes, and most times we don't. We dress up when we go somewhere special.

When we go to a party, we wear jeans and t-shirts. The

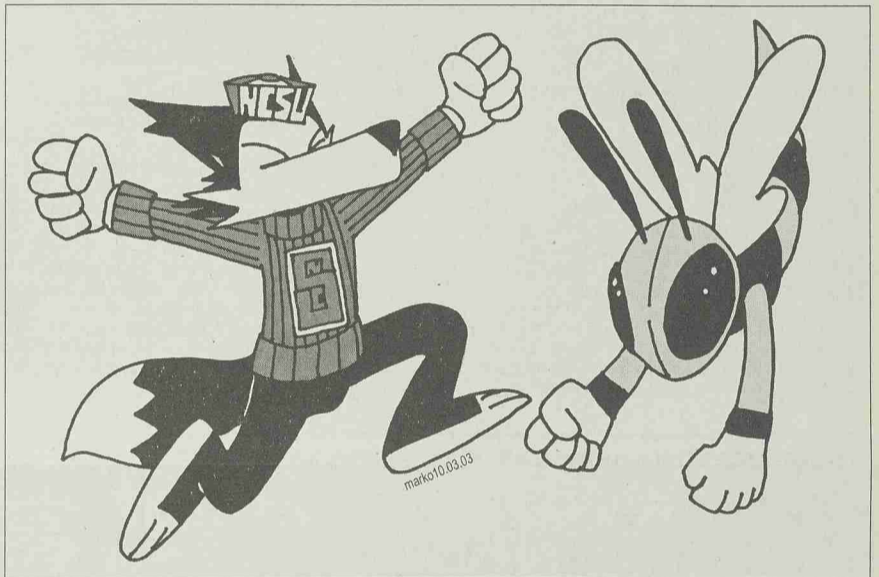
male counterparts we hang out with are respectful, and treat us equally. I am tired of hearing about the Duke study on gender, simply because it paints a bad picture of all females, and as though all of us are shallow enough to let appearance and relationships get in the way of making friends, enjoying school, learning and being able to relate to men. My only thought is ...

Eleanor Roosevelt once said something along the lines of: No one can make you feel inferior unless you let them.

Well ladies, if you are feeling these social pressures, I think the only person you can place blame on is yourself. We are in a new day and age where we have rights, we can speak up and we can make waves if need be.

I would rather not be lumped in with the women huddling in the corner because they feel as if they aren't good enough, and maybe you shouldn't want to be there either.

E-mail Abbie your comments at viewpoint@technicianstaff.com



City council excitement

I'm in a news writing class. This week we're learning how to write stories about meetings. So, that is how I ended up going on Wednesday night to listen to the Raleigh mayoral and city council candidates debate.



Ben Kraudel
Senior Columnist

I had paid minimal attention to the city council race. It was one of those stories that I was already tired of hearing about. I wasn't sure yet if I was going to vote, I was fairly apathetic and I do not normally decide until a few days before any given election.

So, instead, because of a news writing class, I was sitting in the Witherspoon cinema and waiting to listen to the candidates debate a week before the election. I was ready to cringe and roll my eyes throughout the debate. I can even put a name to my apathy: Zack Medford.

Medford, who I had met at a few office parties for Technician, Medford, who always seemed glib and perhaps not completely informed. Medford, who several months ago declared that he was going to run for city council.

All I had heard for months was that there was this big uproar over this 20-year-old who had challenged the system. And I didn't really care.

I've been here long enough to understand that most of the time, when N.C. State students get involved in city or state politics, it's half done and not well thought out. We make a big deal, get ourselves extremely worked up over something that we only sort of understand. I expected no better from Medford.

And for those first couple of months, my expectations were set in just about the right place. The news picked up a few stories because of the way the rules had been modified to allow Medford to run. They also picked

it up when the Web site Medford had been running got attention for being racy and very, well, much like something a college guy would make.

And this is where I realized the dilemma. Twenty-year-olds don't run for office because they don't really understand how to play the game. Medford never gave a second thought to a Web site with a few dumb jokes in poor taste. So, I read in the paper that he was getting flack for this site and I said, "Well, there it goes. Too bad more didn't come out of it."

Then I'm sitting in Witherspoon and the debate is beginning. Three other candidates all look very much like local politicians. Medford looks like a college student on his way to church. I expected to be unimpressed. Not the case. I was amazed. Despite their best attempts to dismiss Medford and talk about their own plans, the other three men on stage could not make him sound like just a kid.

Sadly, he did it to himself a few times. Political debates never really need to start with the fourth candidate saying, "How are you guys doing tonight?" and repeating it until he gets a loud enough response. It's cute, and that's not necessarily a good thing.

But, he is a student, so let him open his part of the debate like a stand-up act if he wants. Because then he did get to issues. And I was amazed. Medford has a platform. He wants to initiate a tenants' bill of rights, he wants to crack down on landlords. He wants to make Hillsborough Street into what we keep hearing it should be. I was floored.

And then I actually felt myself rooting for him a little bit. Two hours before I was apathetic, and now I was starting to feel pride that one of our own, a student, had decided he was going to play with the bigger boys for a bit.

Then I found myself feeling defensive of him, not yet my candidate, but still someone who deserved to be listened to. So far in the debates, the other candidates had addressed each other formally, speaking politely, like

peers. That stood true until Benson Kirkman took to address Medford. Speaking about the transportation issues around Raleigh and Hillsborough Street, Kirman looked to Medford and said, "Zack, you're on the right track."

And then I understood. It's a joke. The candidates think Medford is a joke. It seems like it's a great idea to be condescending and cute and let little Zackey have his minute pretending to be a grown-up. But Medford just nodded. He didn't flinch, he didn't rebuke. A bigger man perhaps than they think.

It continued for the rest of the debate. Medford held his own, possibly he did better than others. He discussed issues and he made his points well. He explained why students are unfairly targeted by nuisance ordinances and he made a case for a tenants' bill of rights.

There was only one small slip of the tongue that he later corrected on the radio. While discussing the Nuisance Party Ordinance, Medford complained that many inebriated students were being put into cars and being told to drive home. "That's the biggest problem we face, as drunk drivers." Medford later explained he did not mean to include himself in the example.

The debate ended with Medford telling the students in attendance to vote, even if it wasn't for him. After getting more than 2,000 students registered by his own means, Medford informed the crowd that 7,000 students at N.C. State are registered.

I sat back in my chair and smiled at the stage. I was impressed. It isn't every day that I feel like students have actually been heard on a larger stage, but Medford did it on Wednesday. If nothing else, there are three men running for city council who saw a stronger student voice than they were used to.

Ben Kraudel can be reached for comment at viewpoint@technicianstaff.com

A Mapp to success

Junior Maya Mapp strives to improve her skills as she enters her third year playing N.C. State volleyball.

Memie Ezike
Staff Writer

Junior Maya Mapp is no stranger to hard work and improvement. From the moment she graduated from Wilson High School in Washington, D.C. to playing as a middle blocker for the Wolfpack, Mapp has always made improvement and consistency her first priority.

"It takes a lot of hard work to become successful and to improve your natural abilities," Mapp said. "I push myself all the time in order to gain more confidence in myself."

Coach Mary Byrne has nothing but praise for the improvement and diligence Mapp has dedicated to her game, and she will be in action along with the rest of the team tonight against North Carolina in Reynolds Coliseum at 7 p.m.

"She has really improved on her consistency in her third year here at State," Byrne said. "She is learning how to take over matches offensively and be the difference-maker that she can be."

It is this confidence that Byrne has in her middle blocker that has helped Mapp to become a leader by example on the volleyball team. Having a leadership role also requires composure and focus on the court.

"Maya is a great athlete and one of our most effective attackers," Byrne said. "She can do anything on the court if she sets her mind to it."

Even for the most gifted players setting goals can be mentally taxing.

"Sometimes, I get frustrated a lot, as it is hard to mentally prepare for the game as compared to practice," Mapp said. "So when I play, I put a poker face on, so the opposite team won't have

the advantage of intimidating me."

So far in her brief career, Mapp has not shown any signs of backing down from her game. In 2002, she led the team in kills and hitting percentage and also reached double figures in kills 18 times. She has not slowed her pace this year, continuing to contribute to the Pack attack in any way possible. Still, a hard-working player like Mapp knows she has many facets of her game to improve, specifically back-row defense, which is crucial to sustaining games and scoring.

"I had no clue on how to play back-row defense in high school, or how to take the initiative to dive for balls," Mapp said. "Here at State, though, I have had to fine-tune my hitting and gain the mental toughness I need to get through tough situations. In addition, I am playing more back-row defense and getting better at it."

Mapp knows all too well about the struggles of her team in conference play. After a winless conference season last year, a 0-3 start to open conference play this season is not a very comforting thought. Yet Mapp and her teammates have learned to put the past behind them and look forward to future matches.

"You have to put the past games behind you and look forward," Mapp said. "You look at your mistakes you made in the last game and look ahead to correcting those mistakes in the next game. If you don't stay optimistic, you've already quit."

Mapp feels her team has one weakness - finishing games.

"That is where our weakness is," Mapp said. "We need to work on gaining the mental toughness to finish a match and to not be cautious. We need to be tough in match play like we do in practice and improve our execution."

Mapp and her teammates have a chance to redeem themselves Friday night against the Tar Heels. To say that this game is huge would be an



Maya Mapp prepares for action in a recent volleyball match. Mapp and the team host North Carolina tonight.

understatement, Mapp said.

"Playing UNC is always huge, for it's such a big rivalry," she said. "The fans are always supportive and we play our hearts out for them."

Wise words coming from a student-athlete who desires to utilize her communication degree to become a sports anchor for SportsCenter or the Best Damn Sports Show. In between her anchoring job she also desires to become a volleyball coach.

"I would like to be working on SportsCenter one day, and I believe that my experiences in college athletics will help me to get ahead in the world of commentating," Mapp said.

And coaching?
"I feel wonderful when I have to opportunity to teach children what you have been taught over the years," Mapp said. "I would like to go back to my community in D.C. and coach a club team or a high school team."

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3 Kournikova of tennis
4 Hopi home
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37 New
40 Located
42 Banter
45 Sunday night NFL outlet
47 Valentine word
50 Engraved
52 Artful maneuver
54 Chicago tub
56 Small restaurant
57 Comply
58 Mum
59 Black, poetically
61 Tex-Mex snack
62 Yoked pair
63 Stand
66 Dog tags, briefly

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Recycle Me

Wolfpack Weekend

Men's soccer
Winners of the its past four games all via shutout, their men's soccer team will continue ACC play with a road match against Wake Forest Saturday in Winston-Salem.
Goalkeeper Jorge Gonzalez has not allowed a goal since Sept. 17 and has registered shutouts against ACC foes Clemson and Virginia in the process.
The Demon Deacons have lost two games in a row and have yet to win a game in the ACC, having already registered losses to Maryland and Virginia.

Women's soccer
The women's soccer team travels to Clemson today for 7 p.m. matchup at Clemson, the second game of its ACC. The Wolfpack enters the match with a 6-3-1 (0-1 ACC) overall record, while the Tigers own a 6-2-1 record and will open their ACC season tonight.
The Pack has gone back to the drawing board since being

walloped at home by No. 7 Virginia in its first ACC game. Since that game, State won 4-0 at High Point.
The Tigers ended State's season last year with a 5-2 win in the ACC tournament.

Softball
Coach Lisa Navas will lead her softball team in the Elon Fall Tournament this weekend to kick off the team's fall slate. The tournament games will be the first played by the softball team, as the program is entering its inaugural year of competition. The Wolfpack will take on Louisburg Saturday 11 a.m., before a 1 p.m. meeting with Averett.
"The fall games give us the opportunity to see the players in action," said Navas. "We use the games to evaluate where we are and what we need to work on the rest of the semester. The players are also getting a taste of what the daily schedule will be like in the spring."

BLOCK

continued from page 8

and arms out-stretched. And, if everything is executed to perfection, the ball should be rolling about the ground somewhere with a heap of 250-pounders chasing after it.

"Technique is most important," Lawson said. "You can have all the speed and strength in the world, but if you come up straight off the ball, you're not going to make it. You have to come in there at an angle, make yourself narrow."

Lawson has become State's resident expert in the field, a guy who could get rich off writing books and selling audio tapes revealing his secrets. The sophomore has four career blocks and he's not yet halfway through this second season. He says he learned it all from his mentors, specifically special teams coaches Joe Pate and Dick Portee, and from Terrence Holt, who left State with an ACC-record 12 blocks.

"Coach Portee and coach Pate have coached me up on everything I've needed to learn," Lawson said. "And I had Terrence Holt show me his techniques. And just the will to do so. That's what makes a great punt blocker anywhere."

Already a quarter of the way there, the 6-foot-6-inch Lawson is threatening Holt's record early.

"When he breaks Terrence's record, I'll tell you he's better," said State coach Chuck Amato. "It's going to be very tough to break that record. Manny's ath-

leticism is amazing. It's want-to. And he's shown that he can, and there's a thing called want-to in blocking kicks."

Pate, in his 11th year on State's coaching staff, is responsible for building the system that's in place. It's a system defined by marquee players on special teams, making plays. It's a system that breeds itself, too, in that freshmen want to emulate the seniors they see starring on the punt team. That system, Pate says, is predicated on finding athletes who are not only good enough to block kicks, but are willing, too.

"The strange thing is, there's some players that are really good football players that won't block a punt, they just won't do it," Pate said. "And so we spend a lot of time in drills identifying the people that will block punts and kicks and the people that won't. A kid may have a great knack for getting back to the punter, but he just won't block it."

Finding the proper athletes, though, is only one ingredient. Preparation is another. The unit spends hours in front of film, looking for tendencies and weaknesses in the opposition. Players learn when the center blinks, whether the up-man has a nervous tick and how fast the punter gets the ball in the air. Everything is a science, each detail measured and studied.

"Maybe they've got a guy on their punt team that is what we call sort of a sleepy guy that sort of goes to sleep every now and then," Pate said. "Sometimes the center will do something right before he snaps the ball to help

get a jump. Sometimes the full-back might do something right before the ball is snapped."

The Pack also spends time getting to know its opponents. In the seconds before the play starts, when the ball rests with the center, State has already begun executing. The team talks when the offense breaks the huddle and doesn't stop. The topics range from cars to blocking techniques to speed. It gets comical on the field, say some players. But if it were all a movie, it might be given an R rating, maybe even NC-17.

"It's gruesome," said State safety Troy Graham, a senior that's blocked one punt in his career. "It gets gruesome at times. Trash-talking is just a part of it - it lets the other team know that you're here to play, that you're ready to play."

It can also rattle an opponent. "I told a guy, 'You're 6'5", 230 pounds, and you're slow and you always like to block to your left, and you don't have a right hand,'" Lawson said. "And he was just arguing back with me."

"Some of them play it cool, others will look at you out the corner of their face mask and be like, 'What'd you say, how'd you know all that?'"

No one is immune, either. Lawson and company would talk junk to the water boy if that meant a greater chance for a block.

"We talk to the punter, everybody," Lawson said. "Everybody's a victim...[we] just talk to them, see if we can make them get out of their game or make a mistake. Just call out their name, just say

stupid stuff. Just to get their attention."

Lawson has gotten that. His three punt blocks last season tied him for the national lead, and now, every opposing special teams coach State faces knows to stop - or at least try to stop - No. 91.

"Manny's so long, and he can turn his pads and get in there with good low technique and then lay that big body out," Amato said. "He takes three steps

up the middle and lays out - he covers a lot. He's a long drink of water."

And when the long Lawson comes up big, well, that's big for State.

"It can turn around a game so fast," Amato said. "The momentum, just that quick, it changes, just that quick."

KBL 110:

Intro to kick blocking

The N.C. State method:

Learn the opposition - If there's a flaw in the opposition's kick coverage, N.C. State will expose it. The Pack knows all the tendencies of opposing linemen and punters and uses that information to its advantage. When asked about the most important aspect of punt-blocking, Manny Lawson spits out the answer as fast as he runs. "Studying the person who's blocking you."

Get moving - Once the ball has been snapped, it's too late. State's kick-block unit is always anticipating, and is moving pre-snap. "Get set and get off the ball," said Pack safety Troy Graham. "You've got to get a great jump." The Pack has less than two seconds to make a play.

Have no fear - The Pack has the utmost confidence in its system. Knowing that a roughing penalty means 15 yards and an automatic first down, some teams do play afraid, however. "Some people are like, 'Don't go, don't go, we're going to rough the kicker,'" said Pack coach Chuck Amato. "But we're not afraid to do it, and the kids have a lot of confidence in it." The confidence and precise drills have led to 44 blocked kicks since 1998.

Solutions

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S	H	O	V	E	R	E	G	A	T	O	S

Friday Sports

Schedule

Football at Georgia Tech, 10/4, 12
Men's soccer at Wake Forest, 10/4
Women's soccer at Clemson, 10/3
Volleyball vs. North Carolina, 10/3, 7
Cross country at Pre-nats, 10/18

Scores

No games scheduled



TECHNICIAN

Jackets look to test Pack 'D'

With a freshman quarterback at the helm and the third leading rusher in the ACC at tailback, Georgia Tech will look to continue its success against N.C. State in Atlanta.

Justin Sellers
Senior Staff Writer

Stunned. That one word described the mood among both the N.C. State faithful and, even more, the players last year when Georgia Tech came into Carter-Finley Stadium and not only snapped the Wolfpack's winning streak of nine games, but more importantly, eliminated any possibility that State would play for the national title.

"That was our first loss," tailback Josh Brown said. "They ruined our plans. We had big plans to go undefeated, and that was our first loss, so it really hurt."

Now, the Pack (3-2, 1-1 ACC) will look to get its revenge this weekend when it makes the trip to Atlanta for a date with the Yellow Jackets (2-3, 0-2).

Thus far in 2003, the Jackets are only averaging 14 points and 271 yards a game. Considering State's offense is ranked third in the nation in scoring with an average of 43.4 points per game and fifth in total offense with 486 yards a contest, one might expect a lopsided affair.

But while State has featured a solid defense the past couple of years that is no longer the case.

In just two weeks, the boys in red have given up more than 1,200 yards in total offense and heads into Saturday's game ranked 101 out of 117 schools in total defense.

It is exactly that statistic that Georgia Tech will look to take advantage of on the legs of tailback P.J. Daniels. Daniels, a former walk-on, stands third in the conference in rushing after averaging 69.8 rushing yards a game. He also ran for a career-high 113 yards against then-No. 10 Florida State.

The Yellow Jackets also present a problem at the quarterback position in freshman Reggie Ball.

Ball, behind an experienced offensive line that features four returning starters, has completed nearly 50 percent of his passes thus far for 768 yards and two touchdowns.

"We're going up against a very good and experienced offensive line in Georgia Tech," coach Chuck Amato said. "Everything they do is about 50-50, run and pass. Play action and things of that sort. We're going to have to get ourselves into a frenzy, and watch it and learn it, and learn how to watch film."

Perhaps even more dangerous is that when forced out of the pocket, Ball isn't afraid of tucking the ball, as he has racked up 157 yards and a score on the ground and is Tech's No. 2 rusher.

"I watched Reggie Ball in a couple of games and he's just a great athlete," Pat Thomas said. "He reminds me a lot of Michael Vick. When you play guys like



AUSTIN DOWD/TECHNICIAN

Manny Lawson dives to block a punt in the Texas Tech game. Richard Washington recovered the blocked kick — the fourth of Lawson's career — for a touchdown.

Manny's BLOCK party

Linebacker Manny Lawson shines on special teams and continues a strong N.C. State tradition of kick-blocking.

Andrew B. Carter
Deputy Sports Editor

Fourth-and-a-par 5, a hostile crowd roaring and the sultry sun blazing, N.C. State's punt block team — a collection of football Green Berets built with size, speed and smarts — saunters onto the field, always cocky, always prepared.

Carter-Finley Stadium shakes as the Wolfpack's special teams arrive, and fans yell, cheer and scream for a blocked kick. They know the Pack is the Mozart of kick-blocking. That State blocked 10 kicks in 2002, but at this point in the season — an important non-conference meeting with Texas Tech — the team has none.

That hasn't damaged the confidence, though. State, dressed in bright red and blinding white, is as bold as its uniforms: players bob their heads and wave their arms and run their mouths. They tell the punter, a small guy about 12 yards away, that he's nothing. They inform a lineman that he's slow, and can't block to his right.

The ball is snapped, and someone, anyone, has less than three seconds to

twist through a hole and lay his body in front of the kick. This time, it's Manny Lawson. A blur, he squirts through an opening, stays low to the ground, gets a few steps and explodes toward the punter.

The ball slams off Lawson and falls into the end zone, where teammate Richard Washington pounces on it for a touchdown.

The crowd erupts, players pile on one another in celebration. Coaches pump their fists and clap. It's the Wolfpack's first blocked kick of the year, its 11th since the beginning of the 2002 season and its 42nd since 1998. In the next week against rival North Carolina, Pat Thomas crashes through and almost beats the ball to the punter. Lawson is the one with the ball in his hands this time, and now he feels the weight of teammates as they pin the linebacker under a body of jubilation.

"Once you block a kick," Lawson said, "you don't worry about recovering it, but after you recover one, that's a great feeling. Whichever one comes my way, [I'm happy]."

For Lawson and 10 other members of an attack team designed to create mayhem, kick-blocking begins with technique and ends with a sprawled-out body perpendicular to the ground

N.C. State at Georgia Tech

Bobby Dodd Stadium
12 p.m. kickoff

Series record Georgia Tech leads the overall series 14-8 and has won the last two meetings. State hasn't won a game in Atlanta since 1988 and has only won two tilts ever on the road against the Yellow Jackets.

Last time out State's offense rolled up 615 yards in a 47-34 win over North Carolina. Georgia Tech needed overtime to beat lowly Vanderbilt 24-17.

Match-up to watch Georgia Tech true freshman quarterback Reggie Ball is much more of a run threat than a passing one. He is last among ACC starters in passing efficiency. The Pack plans to use a "spy" linebacker to shadow Ball most of the game, something Pat Thomas is looking forward to. "That's my job. That's what they have me on scholarship for. If he breaks containment, hopefully I'll

be there," Thomas said.

Did you know? The last two defenses coached by Tech defensive coordinator John Tenuta (UNC 2001, Tech 2002) have held State to nine and 17 points, respectively, the lowest and second-lowest team point totals of those seasons.

Worth noting Wideout Richard Washington will be available for this week's game after being suspended from the North Carolina contest. The sophomore has 17 catches on the season...Philip Rivers needs just 173 yards to pass Alex Van Pelt and move into the NCAA career top 10 for passing yards...A State victory Saturday would be the program's 500th win...Perpetually injured Chris Colmer (doubtful) and T.A. McLendon (questionable) could potentially miss the game, although McLendon appeared to be moving around significantly better this week in practice compared to a week ago.

BLOCK see page 7

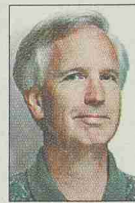
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T-5th

34-16
T-5th

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2nd

36-14
3rd

30-20
8th

34-16
T-5th

41-9
1st

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Virginia at North Carolina
Clemson at Maryland
Michigan at Iowa
Texas A&M at Texas Tech
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Tennessee at Auburn
Alabama at Georgia
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