

# TECHNICIAN

THURSDAY  
JANUARY  
29  
2004

Raleigh, North Carolina



Aeronautics professor Fred DeJarnette displays the Mars Airplane, with the Mars Tumbleweed behind him. Both were designed by N.C. State engineering students in partnership with NASA.

## GIANT LEAP

MANKIND'S NEXT GIANT LEAP WILL TAKE ITS FIRST FOOTSTEPS AT N.C. STATE.

STORY BY THUSHAN AMARASIRIWARDENA | PHOTOS BY TIM LYTVINENKO

As most students were making their plans for the weekend last Friday afternoon, a small group of aerospace engineering students gathered in Riddick Hall to make their plans for, well, a little more ambitious goal: Mars.

With President George W. Bush's recent directive to "take the next steps of space exploration: human missions to Mars and to worlds beyond," aeronautics professor, Fred DeJarnette said that N.C. State will become an increasingly important player in that effort.

And with that, NCSU students themselves will have a major role in the mission.

### THE TUMBLEWEED

The six students gathered in Riddick Hall will continue work on a novel type of exploration vehicle with NASA's Langley Research Center that may eventually land on the red soils of Mars.

William Engler, a senior in aeronautics, and part of the team, snapped at the "chance to be a pioneer."



P.J. Aspesi, a senior in biological sciences, works with Arabidopsis plants, for micro-gravity experiments from a grant funded by NASA.

Engler and fellow classmates will take off where last year's class left off, further developing the Mars Tumbleweed rover, built on a seemingly obvious concept: why power a rover with wheels and motors when one can harness the winds of Mars to blow a vehicle across

the surface?

The Mars Tumbleweed, designed on a similar premise as the plant of its namesake, is a spherical lattice with large internal sails that capture the wind to propel it and its payload

MARS see page 3



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#### PACK GETS COOKED

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#### weather

today

tomorrow



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## Island hopper digs history

Professor Scott Fitzpatrick splits his time between the classroom and the islands, always focused on archeology.

LaWanda Ray  
Staff Reporter

On the third floor of the 1911 Building, assistant professor of island archeology Scott Fitzpatrick, sits at his computer facing different cultural reminders of his island experiences.

Fitzpatrick studies the ancient past from artifacts that he finds mostly in the Pacific and Caribbean Islands.

Despite the rugged, older, "Indiana Jones" image that most people hold about archeologists, Fitzpatrick is a young man who could easily pass for a student.

In contrast to another widely held myth, archeologists are not searching for gold or bones. According to Fitzpatrick, archeologists are generally looking for "anything that people would have left behind, such as food or pottery." These items give an insight into the culture of the people who once roamed the areas.

Fitzpatrick is noted for his research on "stone money," which are large stones carved from limestone by the Yapese and used for numerous transactions. He conducted this research on the island of Palau.

Stone money, or Rai, varies in size and height, however, the values of these stones are based on different things, such as their history. The

Yapese carried their stone money by canoe and raft.

Fitzpatrick said his most fascinating find is early burial grounds in Palau dating back 300 years, where he found more than 25 buried.

So far, Palau is Fitzpatrick's favorite island due to its "unique language, population, food and their continuity of culture."

Shockingly, Fitzpatrick said he does not like to travel, because of the "difficulty in hauling equipment and supplies."

He is more of a "rustic traveler," and does not want to be bothered with tourists that can find things without knowing. However, he said tourists generate the revenue that make it possible to preserve sites that have historical significance.

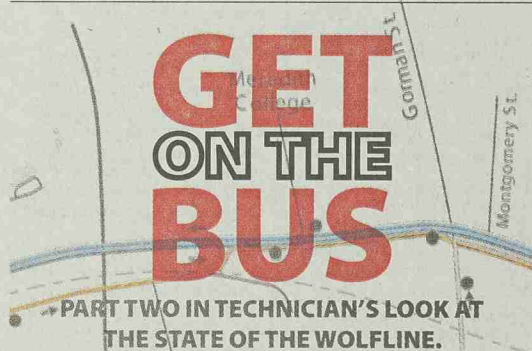
Fitzpatrick gives students real life experience each year by taking a group of 20-22 students to Carriacou to study abroad.

This is a four-week program where students learn the skills required to conduct surveys and excavations.

Fitzpatrick said that this experience "gives students a view of what archeologists do and a greater appreciation of how people lived."

While in the field, Fitzpatrick said he is usually in old army pants, and he never forgets his Brunton compass.

He hopes to still be island hopping 40 years from now, and sees archeology becoming more specialized with new techniques, with archeologists working more closely with the public.



Thushan Amarasiriwardena  
Staff Reporter

The Wolfline has been a source of complaints from students and frustration for transportation staff. Often marred by long waits and overcrowding, both students and transportation employees would like to see improvements to one of the busiest bus systems in the state.

As more and more students live off campus, many wish to get in on the luxury of Wolfline and would rather not drive to campus.

"We would love to service those

students, but they are rightly served by the municipal [bus system]," University Transportation Planner Claire Kane said.

The system is charged with providing transportation for those on campus, to the outlying Centennial and Veterinarian campuses, official campus housing and park-and-ride locations. To begin serving particular apartment regions would be an unfair use of student fees, Kane said.

A number of developers of college housing south of campus have approached Kane to request

BUS see page 2



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THE WORLD, NATION & STATE

## WORLD

ISRAEL BEGINS PRISONER SWAP  
WITH HEZBOLLAH GUERRILLAS

Israel set in motion an emotional prisoner swap Wednesday with the Lebanese guerrilla group Hezbollah in hopes of bringing home a kidnapped businessman and the remains of three soldiers.

The deal boosts Hezbollah's standing in the region because of its success in freeing Palestinian prisoners, while Israel also wins its first pledge of concrete information about an airman captured in 1986 in Lebanon.

An Israeli forensic team, including Israel's chief pathologist, medics and rabbis, flew to Germany on Wednesday. In the evening, a busload of Arab prisoners and one German left a northern Israeli prison for Israel's international airport after saying goodbye to cellmates.

-Wire Reports

BLAIR CLEARED IN DEATH OF  
WEAPONS EXPERT; BBC CHAIRMAN  
RESIGNS

A judge cleared Prime Minister Tony Blair's administration of any direct involvement in the suicide of a government expert on Iraqi weapons Wednesday, but the BBC came under fire for its reporting of the scandal, prompting its chairman to resign.

The British Broadcasting Corporation's Board of Governors said it accepted Gavin Davies' resignation "with great reluctance and regret."

Blair's administration was cleared in a report issued by appeals judge Lord Hutton, who was appointed by Blair to investigate the death of weapons expert David Kelly.

-Wire Reports

## NATION

FEDS BUST MULTIMILLION DOLLAR  
CIGARETTE-SMUGGLING OPERATION

In the largest crackdown of its kind, federal officials said they had broken up a cigarette-smuggling operation in five states Wednesday.

Officials with Immigration and Customs Enforcement said 10 people have been arrested in Texas, New Mexico, New York, Florida and California. Portions of a 92-count indictment detailing the alleged scheme were unsealed in El Paso, Texas.

Federal agents have spent more than three years investigating the smuggling operation, which they said sought to bring 5 million packs of bootleg cigarettes into the country. Authorities seized about 2.5 million packs, said to be worth about \$20 million.

-Wire Reports

## STATE

## LOBBYIST BACKED BY PANEL

Mayor Charles Meeker was outvoted again Tuesday when a City Council committee endorsed sticking with the current firm that lobbies for the city in Washington.

The council's budget and economic development committee voted 3-1 to stay with Capitol Link, a Leesburg, Va.-based firm, for at least another year. Meeker had proposed switching to Ball Janik LLP.

City staffers and the budget committee recommended in 2002 that the council hire Ball Janik. Instead, council members chose Capitol Link, which includes former state GOP Chairman Bill Cobey, who is running for governor.

-News &amp; Observer

PILOT FOR ANOTHER TEEN DRAMA  
FILMED IN WILMINGTON

More teen angst is headed for the television screen, direct from Wilmington. Touchstone Television will begin filming "Doing It," an hour-long teen drama, the first week of March in Wilmington, said Johnny Griffin, director of the Wilmington Regional Film Commission. Filming for the pilot will continue for about two weeks. -Wire Reports

## BUS

continued from page 1

extension of service to their complexes, but she asks, what would students north of campus not served by the new service feel about their fees subsidizing a service they won't use?

However if students were to mount support for such an idea, additional routes could be added if the Student Senate voted for the additional fees to fund those routes. A new route would cost an additional \$140,000 a year according to Kane, amounting to about \$2 a semester per student.

Late night service, the Werewolf, which follows two routes that service the same area that daytime buses serve, though at a greatly reduced frequency, is an example of students requesting a service and the Wolfline providing it, Kane said.

The Wolfline and the municipal Capitol Area Transport (CAT) in an effort to both provide transportation alternatives and reduce traffic on city and university streets started the UPass system last year to allow riders to cross travel between systems.

The pass, which allows N.C. State students ride CAT busses free with their student ID has

increasingly become a major means for students to get around Raleigh. A year after the introduction of the UPass, nearly 10 percent of riders on the CAT are NCSU students according to figures from the Raleigh Transit Authority (RTA).

RTA, the municipal board that manages the CAT system, figures also suggest that ridership among NCSU students has increased a time and a half, rising from a little more than 19,000 in September 2002, to nearly 30,000 a year later.

Todd Allen, transit planner for Raleigh's Department of Transportation, said that with the UPass, "students have local transport through the Wolfline, municipal via CAT and through the TTA system, regional transit alternatives."

With four bus routes and a variety of on-demand services that travel through the NCSU community, the CAT can fill gaps and areas for students that the Wolfline does not service, Allen said.

In the future, Kane believes that there will be further partnerships with the CAT system like UPass, with the eventual goal of consolidating the services to eliminate overlaps in routes while allowing the system to expand out. Hinting at what is to come, Kane said that a potential collaboration "would allow us to begin collect-

## THREE BUSES TO CHOOSE FROM



With the U-Pass, students with their university ID can ride any of the Triangle's bus systems, the municipal CAT, the regional TTA and the university Wolfline. (Graphic by Taylor Templeton)

ing state [public transportation] funds. Suddenly you would only need 20 percent of the funding to come from students." With that potential, additional services and frequency could be added with ease and add little additional burden on the students, Kane said. Negotiating a means of continuing the same amount of route flexibility and autonomy are the only roadblocks for such a plan to go forth.

With continued construction on Centennial Campus and the eventual move of the engineering departments to that campus, travel between that and main campus will increasingly become a major problem as more students have classes spread across the two sites. Pat Mitchell, the university transit manager, said

that the system will be able to handle the increased load and will grow if necessary. "Currently, the two buses that serve Centennial are under-utilized and can take a great deal more passengers," Mitchell said.

And for the monorail to link the two campuses together often heard on the drafting board? Kane says that it is indeed on the university master plan, however it will be the university community to decide if that is indeed what it wants as Centennial Campus becomes an increasing presence.

Regardless of the long-term plans such as the monorail, Kane and others in her department such as Slade McCalip, the assistant director of transportation, are pushing short-term

goals of reducing numbers of drivers on campus, "getting people out of single user vehicles and into mass transit [such as the Wolfline]," McCalip said.

Mitchell cites some figures that show that by keeping users on Wolfline buses as opposed to their own vehicles the system travels a little more than 1,200 miles to the 18,100 that would be used by drivers in personal vehicles cutting fuel consumption on campus by 50 percent.

Further usage of the system would cut down on increasing traffic issues on campus said Kane, "it has the potential to cut a lot of campus problems, but it requires a change in mindset for people having their own private vehicles."

Iraq's residents become experts in  
grim science of identifying booms

Stephen Franklin

Chicago Tribune

**BAGHDAD** - The first slivers of sunrise were crawling across the peaceful-seeming, palm tree horizon when a bone-rattling boom roared.

It seemed close. Everyone was out in the street in minutes.

Not all booms are alike in Baghdad, however, so you have to know the differences. There are booms that just rattle the windows and mean nothing because they were probably just bombs meant to terrorize.

There are booms that are so strong they almost throw you out of bed and send you staring breathlessly out of the window, looking for smoke in the sky and listening for terrifying howls of the injured and dazed. These booms you worry about, because they mean death and destruction.

Then there are booms that seem far, far off, but still you cannot miss them. Like earthquakes, they resonate through you. You worry about these booms, too, because of their power. Some Iraqis say they can block out the gunfire and the explosions, either because they've become used to them or they feel totally helpless about them.

"I get up in the morning and

people ask me about the shooting, and I say I don't hear the gunfire anymore. It's remarkable. I've become inured to this," said Feisal al Istrabadi, a Chicago lawyer who is now a legal adviser to a key member of the Iraqi Governing Council, the U.S.-selected interim Iraqi leadership.

Others react not to the booms themselves, but to the noises associated with them.

"I hate the sirens," wrote one Iraqi on Christmas in an online diary. "I can stand the explosions, the rattling windows, the slamming doors, the planes, the helicopters...but I feel like my heart is wailing when I hear the sirens."

Every so often, the U.S. military tests its tanks' firing abilities in fields far off from the center of Baghdad. They do it late at night, and the booms from the tanks firing into empty fields come quickly, so to the trained ear it is clear what is happening. It's a mere military exercise; you don't have to think what to do, or react at all to that sound.

But if there's a boom and a sudden wail, and you see the flashing red lights of police cars headed in your direction, you need to wait before moving. You don't run to where you think the boom came from.

Bombers like to plant multiples so they can hit the onlookers, as well as the American soldiers and the Iraqi police, with second and third rounds of bombs.

Here's another deadly sound: the precursor to a boom. If you are walking in a narrow street, and you hear the tinny rattle of metal bouncing on cement, that could be a hand grenade.

One of the most popular ways to strike for those Iraqis who are fighting the U.S.-led forces is to trail the soldiers on rooftops, heave grenades over the top and then escape in the cloaked haven of a wounded city with little electricity.

You listen for a precursor when you are stuck in traffic, which is normal lately because

of the influx of cars into Iraq and the lack of traffic police, and just up ahead is a trapped convoy of U.S. soldiers - nervous young GIs perched on top of their Humvees, clutching their machine guns and scanning the stranded mass around you. You listen closely. You hope nothing goes wrong for them, for you, for everyone.

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# MARS

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along the terrain of Mars.

DeJarnette, along with Nham Lam, a former NCSU student and current research associate, will lead the class in designing a deployment system and solar panels to power instruments on the tumbleweed this semester.

Lam, who worked on earlier development of the Mars Tumbleweed, described last year's two-semester project. Designed from scratch, the nine-member team spent its first two weeks whittling away four major concepts to one that could efficiently harness Mars' winds.

"Believe it or not - we took a couple ideas from a sixth grade class," Lam said. "Their imaginations are crazy," he said with a laugh.

DeJarnette said that the sixth graders helped come up with concepts that, well, adults might not think of. "They're very inquisitive and ask questions that we would not think of looking into," he said.

Upending classroom tables on their sides in a row, with a fan at its end, the class constructed a wind tunnel where they would test concept ideas.

Within weeks the team had centered in on a design, much like a box kite, and began to work on the finer details in the aerospace department's own wind tunnel.

By the end of the year the team had constructed a model, nicknamed TED (Tumbleweed Earth Demonstrator).

Because Earth's atmosphere is denser than Mars', the group developed a smaller scale model that would react to winds here. TED, designed out of a Kevlar frame and Nylon sails, stands two meters tall, little more than your average person.

A Mars Tumbleweed, Lam said, would have to be about three

times larger, at about two stories tall. While TED was a rigid, fully formed tumbleweed, a Mars version would be compressed and inflated on Mars according to design specs.

There on the surface, it would move across the surface at 10-35 miles an hour depending on wind speeds.

At the core of the tumbleweed DeJarnette said, would be a payload containing devices such as a video camera, GPS system (which would require the construction of such a system over the planet) and atmospheric measurement instruments.

"[The engineers at Langley] were impressed at how far we were with construction," Lam said, because the team had constructed and tested TED in the span of two semesters.

While the tumbleweed would not be able to analyze rocks and would have to follow the wind's whim, DeJarnette and Lam harked on the cost effectiveness of the project.

"NASA will spend millions on simple things like wind tunnel models, we spent thousands - on everything. Students with low resources are a bit more prudent with them," Lam said with a grin discussing the development costs of the project.

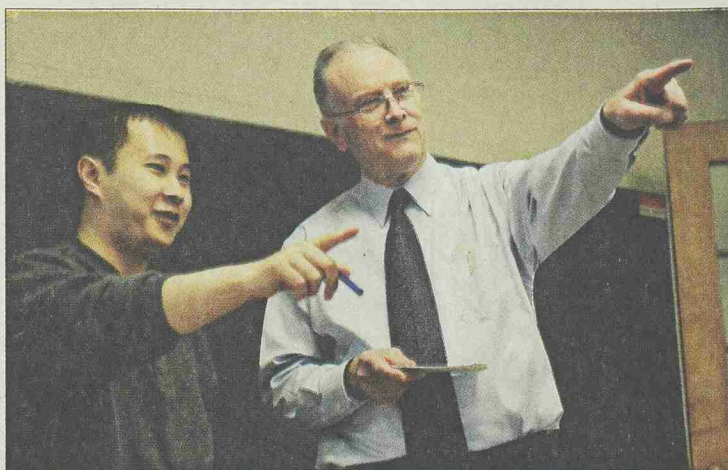
DeJarnette expounded on estimates that by piggy-backing on a major mission, Mars Tumbleweed, because of its low space and weight requirements, would cost only around \$50 million, far lower than the twin Spirit and Opportunity missions that are currently underway on the red planet.

Complementing robotic missions, a dozen or so tumbleweeds could be deployed across the planet to roam, covering great distances and gathering a lot of science at a very low cost.

But will it fly?

"It better," Lam said.

DeJarnette said that deploy-



Nham Lam, a research associate, and Fred DeJarnette plan out part of their design class which will refine the design of the Mars Tumbleweed rover.

ment talks are 5-10 years down the road.

Until that time, freshmen such as Katya Casper will be able to work on the project, and as she said, "get a chance to do something that's related to my course work [and gets used]."

Lam's work at NCSU opened doors for him to co-op at NASA.

Others such as Jordan Schwarz, a senior in aerospace engineering, joined the project for altruistic reasons, the opportunity "to work on a project that benefits mankind and the community," was too good to pass up.

**MARS MISSION RESEARCH CENTER**  
In a large three-story bay on Centennial Campus, TED hangs from the ceiling. There, other projects from N.C. State's long-standing partnership with NASA are kept. The bay is part of the Mars Mission Research Center (MMRC), created in 1989 to lead efforts to land on Mars.

With a pilot grant of \$5 million, the center stretched it out over

seven years. As national "priorities for going to Mars started dropping [in the '90s] so did the funding," DeJarnette said. Since then, funding has continued through smaller grants.

"We're very anxious to make proposals to NASA [for further funding] for the center," DeJarnette said in reference to the president's new directive where an additional \$1 billion will be infused into NASA.

At its peak, 40 graduate students and 15 faculty members were under the project, working on projects such as the Mars airplane.

As NASA revs up for the return to the Moon as early as 2015 and from there, leapfrog to Mars, the agency has been directed to build a new crew exploration vehicle to replace the aging space shuttle by the end of the decade. DeJarnette said that NCSU will most likely participate in the development of such craft.

Such projects are "going to add to the quality of students and the

visibility of the university as a whole," DeJarnette said.

With his hands in the currents of America's newest crop of aerospace engineers, DeJarnette said that students are already excited about the country's new direction in space. "A lot of them are ready to go."

## AGRONAUTS

Going to Mars isn't your average day trip.

Not only will astronauts making the trip need to carry enough fuel to get there and back, they'll need enough water, food and supplies for the six-month trip, and enough to live on the planet.

With each pound costing upward of \$10,000 to launch into space, missions will grow costly.

Thus the idea of space farming, growing food in space, has been introduced, and farming on Mars becomes an increasingly viable idea.

Those heading to Mars will have to play a dual role as astronaut and agronomist.

N.C. State's botany labs are

"looking into how plants respond to environmental stresses in particular gravities," said Chris Brown, director of the NASA Specialized Center for Research and Training in Gravitational Biology (NSCORT).

The study of gravitropism, the biological drive by gravity that makes shoots grow up and roots to grow down, is of particular interest for space biologists because in space, gravity is not a factor.

Using devices such as a clinostat and others like those of gyroscopic rides found at malls, scientists are able to simulate micro-gravity here on Earth by disorienting plants.

Brown said plants will be able to remove CO<sub>2</sub> from the air, clean water and produce food.

On a NASA grant, P.J. Aspesi, a senior in biological sciences, is working with the fully genetically sequenced Arabidopsis plant, using it as a control plant for micro-gravity experiments.

Aspesi is conducting his experiments in the Phytotron, an extensive series of computer climate controlled greenhouses. "If humans ever want to leave Earth, we will need to know what the parameters will be [to grow a sustainable life]," he said. Experiments such as his will answer those questions.

His advisor, senior researcher Imara Perara, said that changes in the Arabidopsis genome have been measured as early as two minutes after being subjected to micro-gravity.

NCSU's strong engineering and botany programs will make it a strong candidate for continued research in the new space initiative, Brown said. "With our long track record with mechanical and aerospace engineering coupled with our research in basic biology, genomics and how it relates to space, N.C. State has a lot to offer in the human exploration initiative."

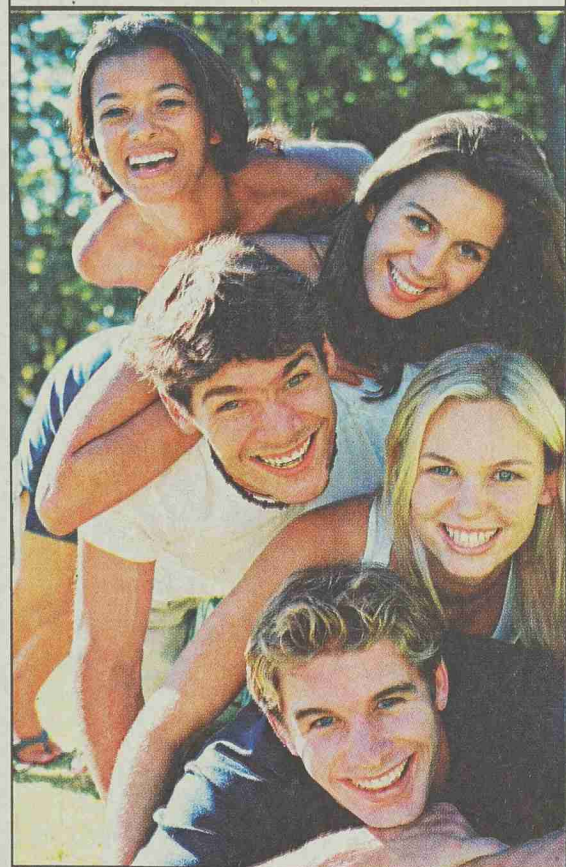


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# Boys really do cry!

It was incredibly cold, especially for an October night, when I attended an advance screening of first-time writer/



**Mr. Joel Frady, Esq.**  
Staff Writer

months, and 99 percent of the films I had seen at that point in life were run-of-the-mill action and adventure.

To make matters worse, I didn't bother to find out what "Boys Don't Cry" was before I saw it. However, I did see the poster, which featured a well-dressed character walking down a deserted highway, very reminiscent of the poster work for Robert Rodriguez's classic "El Mariachi." I'm embarrassed to say that in the back of my head, I actually expected something along those same lines.

Two hours after walking in, I was still in my seat trying to fill out the comment card the Fox Searchlight rep had handed me on the way in. I was trying to write in pen, but the tears streaming off my face just blurred the words together.

By the time I turned the card in, barely a word was still legible, but I believe the card said more than words ever could. "Boys Don't Cry" is the only film that's ever broken my heart. In this re-imagining of the last few weeks of Brandon Teena, Peirce crafts the story with sweeping camera work, a haunting soundtrack and the kind of brutal honesty that biopics so rarely have the courage to run with.

By "brutal honesty," I mean two different things. First and foremost, Peirce tells the story of two violent, ruthless crimes without ever trying to make a martyr out of Brandon Teena, a girl who moved to a small Nebraska town and started living

as a man.

Peirce doesn't hide any of the stupid, selfish things that Brandon does from the audience; instead, she lets the viewer see every stupid decision and every lie that Brandon tells to cover it.

She gives the viewer more than enough reasons to dislike the character but captures a character that's confused and depressed, who simply yearns for love and acceptance for who he really is. In Brandon Teena, Peirce captures not only the pain of being misunderstood, but of the human condition itself.

Secondly, she never pulls any cheap emotional strings the way other biopics do. I saw "The Hurricane" a few months later, and noted that it failed for the same reasons "Boys" works. It's never honest with its protagonist and its antagonist was far too evil. It was impossible to relate to either character, and I left the film unfazed.

Whether it's Peirce's screenplay or the phenomenal performances of Peter Sarsgaard and Brendan Sexton III as killers John Lotter and Tom Nissen, the viewer understands, even likes, these two men. They're not the cold-hearted monsters like the perpetrators of a majority of cinema's hate crimes.

They're caring people who have no idea how to respond when the truth is so far different from everything they've believed about a person. Watch-



PHOTOS COURTESY 20TH CENTURY FOX  
Lana (Chloe Sevigny, left) learns the truth about Brandon Teena (Hilary Swank, right) before the truth comes out.



ing them make their horrifying decisions is just as painful as seeing the effects.

You might have noticed that I've yet to mention the film's most notable factor: Hilary Swank's Oscar-winning performance.

And yes, she gives the kind of performance that all actresses dream of giving, but so few succeed in doing. She dives head first into the character and every second of her hard work is evident.

Her Brandon Teena has a passion for life that's enviable, just not the common sense to back it up. Her performance demands not only the attention, but the heart of the viewer. If you can watch "Boys Don't Cry" without caring for Brandon Teena, check your pulse.

There's also the underrated performance of Chloe Sevigny as Lana, the girl that Brandon Teena falls in love with. Lana falls in love with Brandon, too, though Peirce makes it obvious that Lana figures out the truth about Teena before that truth comes out. Sevigny's performance might be the film's best, for she never truly lets

the audience know what Lana's thinking.

She also captures the spirit of American dating for women like her - even after she figures out that Brandon's not Brandon, she still loves the person that treats her the way that she likes, a way that so many men have neglected to.

As you can tell, I've just begun to delve into the reasons I love this film. What I've neglected to mention, however, is that "Boys Don't Cry" is one of the most important films ever made.

It has an understanding for the mechanics behind hate crimes that will open a viewer's eyes, in the same ways that "Chasing Amy" pointed out the flaws in the Western mindset towards dating.

You don't have to take my word on this, though, for the Campus Cinema will be showing the film on Sunday, Feb. 1 and Friday, Feb. 6. Opportunities to see films this great the way they were meant to be seen don't come around very often. And when they do, they're rarely free.

This is an opportunity you'd be a fool to miss.

## SHH...IT'S ABOUT SEX:

# One size does not fit all

"Size does not matter. What matters is how you use it. It is not the size of the ship, but the motion of the ocean." Whoever created these redundant phrases only had one size their entire life. And it was perfect. It was not too big; it was not too small. And most of all, it was not fair for the rest of us.

There are some hookups when a girl cannot even feel what is going on down there. What a distressing and deplorable position to be placed in! The female then has a decision to make: Bring the entire event to a standstill and leave the situation or take into consideration the emotions of the man and pretend that he is actually doing her some good.

Some guys complain that women fake orgasms without regret or regard for their feelings, but what would they rather have: a night of what they may think is intense pleasure with what they might assume was a falsified orgasm or a night that when they finish off and their partner says, "Why didn't you put it in?" Ouch. Never is there a good opportunity to let your sexual acquaintance know that their size is not up to par.

On one side, a girl can have a completely disappointing night with a miniature. There really is no clear way to tell if a guy is decently sized; there is no certain body type that accurately defines the breadth, so the whole situation is built up to a complete chagrin. On the other end of the spectrum, we are unable to handle size XXX-L. I mean the kind so big they need signs hung around them that say, "In order to ride, must be 48 inches or taller!"

When guys are checking out their prospects for the night, week or whatever, body type is out in the open! There is no "Gee, I wonder if her breasts are big." Everything is visible enough in order to determine size! Guys have it easy. Ladies are unable to scan through the crowd and naturally select the

biggest and strongest. Survival of the fittest has no position in this little game. Things could be so much easier if there was some sort of code that we could follow, like those little plastic, colored bracelets in the news recently that the authorities at nearby middle schools thought were sexual innuendos. Well, maybe they should be!

The newest fad - advertise your size! Dark blue for smaller guys, hunter green for medium sized and red hot for those more largely endowed. If you see a guy with a gold bracelet on, that means that he is in prime condition. Not too small, not too big. Slightly different from medium. This new fashion statement will thoroughly aid in the subtle hints that girls should get.

Another idea that I plan to suggest to God someday is flavors for boys. Not only will we be able to determine our favorite size by their pretty bracelets, but we'll be rewarded with fantastic tastes. Strawberries and cream, hot dogs and ketchup, mocha and espresso, steak and cheese fondue, chicken fingers and honey mustard, vanilla ice cream and caramel syrup! Yum!

Men would never feel the need to ask for what they want because we would love the flavor so much. Kneepads would come out as a necessary accessory and the gag reflex would be taught in master classes. Of course, we could enforce brown bracelets worn on the bad flavors. Like zucchini and horseradish. Or meatloaf and butterscotch! Ew!

I believe that someday, in regards to the inevitability of the golden threads of fate, each and every person will have the opportunity to find their perfect fit, donning a shimmering gold bracelet and tasting of pretzels and chocolate (mmm, salty and sweet). Unfortunately, there are no easy ways to recognize bracelets in order to seek out our soul mate. A wise woman once gave me a pair of adorable earrings in a silver box with a crown embedded on the top. Engraved at the bottom is the phrase, "You have to kiss a lot of toads to find your prince."

Liesl is selling gold bracelets. To purchase, contact: [lsclouse@unity.ncsu.edu](mailto:lsclouse@unity.ncsu.edu)

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## RESEARCH GRANTS BENEFIT ALL

**OUR OPINION:** A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY BENEFITS ALL: N.C. STATE GETS RESEARCH MONEY TO FUND ONGOING PROJECTS AND THE NATION BENEFITS FROM THE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED.

Formed in the aftermath of Sept. 11, 2001, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) consolidates the intelligence-gathering and law enforcement agencies of the U.S. government under one centralized command. Part of its mission is to develop and utilize new technologies for the protection of the country.

The DHS Science and Technology division handles grants to universities and establishes partnerships with research institutions in academia. It is not a surprise that N.C. State has partnered with DHS and received the first grant given by the department for the development of better protective garments for rescue workers. The College of Textiles Center

for Research on Textile Protection and Comfort works on improving protective garments, such as fire-resistant jackets for fire fighters and protection against chemical and biological hazards. The center received an 18-month, \$830,000 grant to continue research in this field. In addition to this grant, Chancellor Marye Anne Fox is co-chairing a national-level workshop on homeland security.

NCSC needs all the grant money it can get. With all these connections with the U.S. government, it has an indispensable source of income to pay for research projects, pay assistants and buy state-of-the-art equipment, even in a state financial bind.

The university brings in around \$175 million in research grants a year and that continues to grow every year. Often, the professors are already researching problems that the federal government have recently deemed "critical." For example, the College of Textiles has

been working on better protective clothing for at least 10 years. Through the partnership, that research can go on for another 10 years.

All benefit from this partnership. The nation's first responders need better equipment to respond to the threat of emergencies, like biological and chemical weapons. Professors and students can make a difference by contributing to programs that explore the problems faced by a new world threat and invent new technologies that can better the lives of all Americans.

Many lament the fact that universities have to sell themselves out to private corporations for research grants and other monies just to get through the fiscal year. Unfortunately, that is a fact these days. But the government has always collaborated with academia on national security technology in the development of new weapons.

Now we can help create technology that benefits humanity, not destroy it.

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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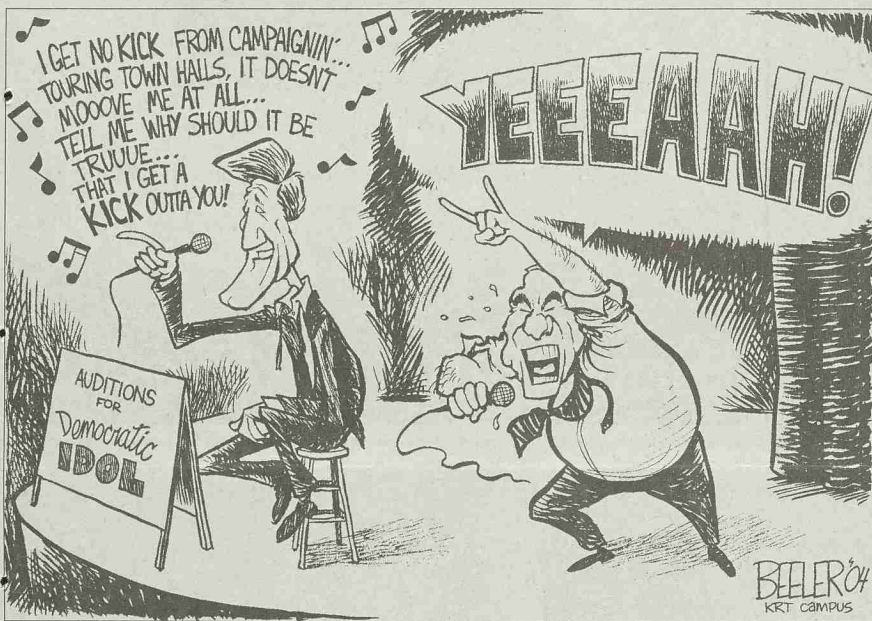
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## The Message from groceries

Going in for a few things yields the lesson of a lifetime for Jason Eder.

"I'm hungry," I think to myself. I duck as I open my fridge, that stale smell of rotting tomatoes and old beer can be quite overwhelming. I



**Jason Eder**  
 Staff Columnist

pick up the milk carton to check the expiration date. "You've got to be kidding," it says in the blocky dark blue print. I remember back to the last time I went grocery shopping, four years ago. My three friends and I needed party hats, so we took a shortcut down the wine aisle. We had two carts, so naturally we were racing with someone in each cart (I simply love the food-fueled air blowing through my hair). I stuck my hand out to stop myself from hitting the towering woman at the end of the aisle, who bore a striking resemblance to my mother, and made Food Lion smell of a brewery for a good three months. Needless to say, I haven't been allowed back. But I must put the past behind me and move on. I pull into the parking lot excited and anxious to shop again! I creep past the rows anticipating a car to start backing up so I can immediately dart into the new open spot. I slam on the brakes. Stupid people not watching where they are walking, that old lady has great-grandchildren! She should be more aware. I waved her through (not like it would have made a difference anyway), and I see a station wagon pulling out right on the front. I practically wet myself hoping this elder would put at least eight inches between her steps. I won't have this! In a screech of rubber and a smell of bland fire, I peel my Mo-ped around the woman and cut off a soccer mom for my spot. It is my spot. She flips me the bird as I

begin walking and I gently blow her a kiss. I quietly thank God for blessing someone to invent such agile machines.

I grab the last cart with the baby seat and Coke holder in it (the bread can NOT be squished). I look back as I enter and the soccer mom holding her baby and she once again gives me the finger. Some people have such nerve.

I was keeping to myself, testing each one of the nuts when I felt a demanding tap on my shoulder. I quickly turn around and, "Jesus Christ! How the hell are ya?"

Jesus replies, "Got a little crick in the neck, other than that, feeling pretty rejuvenated."

I say, "Yea I bet. Hey, I've been meaning to thank you, for the thing, at the drink, I haven't had a place in 13 days. And that crucifixion thing, I'm sorry about that. I heard it was pretty gruesome."

"Yea, I had to do what I had to do. You always listen when your Father tells you to do something." We walk over to the cooking aisle. After a few silent moments I ask, "Can I ask you a personal question?"

"Sure," He utters while staring at the Teriyaki sauce. "OK, the last time you lived, how did you keep your disciples so close to you. From the stories, you seem like you were a pretty busy man. How do you maintain healthy relationships?" Still reading the ingredients of the Teriyaki sauce He says, "Do you have any idea how much sodium this stuff has? No wonder my pager goes off with hospital numbers all the time."

"But to answer your question, you already have the answer." I stare blankly, "Is that code for 'read The Bible'?"

He chuckles, "No, no. You could spend your life reading that thing and never find the answer you're looking for." He puts down the sauce and picks up a bag of rice. "Now this is more like it."

After a few more awkward moments He stops and looks at me and says, "Look at the last hour of your life. You return to the store that exiled you, you try to capitalize off of others' departure, you almost give the lady that works at the Food Bank a heart attack and the mother of five has her cold baby in the wire hand basket while she buys dinner for her family. How many people do you know want to be around that kind of person?"

He heads for the frozen section while I meekly follow. "I'm sorry," I mutter. "I know you are," He replies. "But forgiveness is not change. The Golden Rule didn't

come from Dr. Seuss ya know. Those you do not know are just as important as those you care for. Each one is special, and your relationship with them is the awareness of that." He opens the freezer door to look at the ice cream. "I was never too busy for those that love me, I will never be. That's the only difference between your life and Mine. That, and I was born to a virgin." He continued, "Look, it's easy to focus on the negative. Try and see the positive things you share with people." You do have a lot going for you. I wish more people would be more like you."

I smiled childishly, "Really?" "Yea, just look at the freezer door." And with that, He was gone. I turn and look at the door and in the fog it read: Gullible.

E-mail Jason at [viewpoint@technicianstaff.com](mailto:viewpoint@technicianstaff.com).

## 'Absenator' Edwards

Sen. John Edwards is looking toward greener pastures, but what happened to the pasture North Carolinians elected him to represent? Brian Onorio examines Edwards' record as a U.S. senator.

Will the real John Edwards please stand up? I'm confused and I'm sure you are too, even though you don't know it yet. Edwards ran for senator as a moderate, was elected as a moderate and still claims to be a moderate. But voting records don't lie. Edwards has voted with radical liberal



**Brian Onorio**  
 Staff Columnist

Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) more than 90 percent of the time. I'm here to expose exactly who John Edwards really is.

### Taxes

Edwards' record on taxes is less than stellar. And I'm being modest. In 1999, he voted against a \$792 billion tax relief package over 10 years (\$1492). In 2000, Edwards voted against limiting discretionary spending and voted against a temporary suspension of the gas tax. In the same year, he voted against reducing the marriage penalty. In 2001, Edwards voted against reducing the capital gains tax and against President Bush's tax relief package. 2002 wasn't much better, as Edwards voted against permanently removing the death tax.

### Social Security

This issue should be a top issue for young and college-aged people. At the current rate of Social Security, those of us who will have paid into the system our entire lives will not receive the benefit when we turn 65. What does Edwards say about Social Security? He's opposed to privatizing the system and even opposed the famous Al Gore "lockbox" on Social Security. Some, like Edwards, believe that privatization of Social Security is risky.

I say that keeping the current system in the hands of federal thieves is even riskier. Don't believe me? Look at the facts. The Dow Jones has risen 400 percent over the past 10 years. It would be hard to say the same thing of individual dollars in the current Social Security system.

### School choice

Edwards' voting record indicates that he is not a friend to school choice. Edwards voted against an amendment that would establish a tax-free educational savings account of up to \$2,000 per child per year to fund either public or private school tuition. He also voted no on a school voucher program that would give poor, inner city children a way to get out of a public school system that is failing.

Edwards would rather keep those children in failing schools and solve the problem by spending more money on an already failing school. He voted yes to a \$2.4 billion educational program and yes again to a \$200 million initiative to fund standardized testing in lieu of private tutoring.

### National security

Edwards voted yes to the Use of Force

bill, giving the president authority and congressional backing to attack Iraq in 2002. Ironically enough, Edwards voted no to \$1689 that would appropriate \$86.5 billion to our military efforts in Afghanistan and Iraq. How a senator can come to the conclusion to give authorization for war and not properly take care of the service men and women who are in the middle of hostilities is foreign to me.

As a matter of fact, only 12 senators voted no and all 12 were Democrats, including Ted Kennedy, Bob Byrd and Bob Graham. Yes, Edwards is indeed a moderate. Look at his company. At least Ted Kennedy is consistent and voted no to the war authorization as well.

### Tort reform

Hah. Does this subject even need to be touched? Given Edwards' prosperous career as a trial attorney, it is no surprise that he has voted to halt tort reform nearly every time he's had the chance to vote. He voted no to limit frivolous lawsuits on computer firms that would arise from the potential Y2K crisis; he even voted no to a bill that would limit lawsuits after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Edwards is, not surprisingly, against caps on malpractice suits. If this is surprising to you, maybe you should find out where Edwards is getting his political donations. More than 80 percent of Edwards' donors to his political action committee (PAC) are from trial attorneys; lawyers have donated more than \$2.25 million to his campaign. His next biggest donor base is the National Association of Retired Federal Employees who gave a whopping \$230,000.

If Edwards is the moderate he claims to be, he doesn't act like it when he's in Washington and away from his constituency. Edwards votes with the most radical members of the senate, meanwhile disguising himself to be a moderate and the "little guy." Edwards is a self-made millionaire and there's nothing wrong with that. But disguising yourself as the "working man's" man is dishonest.

He should do the honest thing and step down, especially since he fails to show up for work. Since the August recess, Edwards has been to four roll call votes. That's four out of 42; he managed to miss 38. Edwards has announced that he will not seek congressional re-election in North Carolina, and it seems like he's treating us with an "out-of-sight, out-of-mind" mentality.

At a salary nearing \$5,000 per vote, it seems that the senator should be doing his job. I won't ask what would happen to me if I failed to show up to work more than 90 percent of the time.

So where is John Edwards? What makes us think that he will represent us anymore as president than he does as senator? It seems he's made us a nice stepping stone for his political career, and I don't appreciate it.

E-mail Brian at [viewpoint@technicianstaff.com](mailto:viewpoint@technicianstaff.com).



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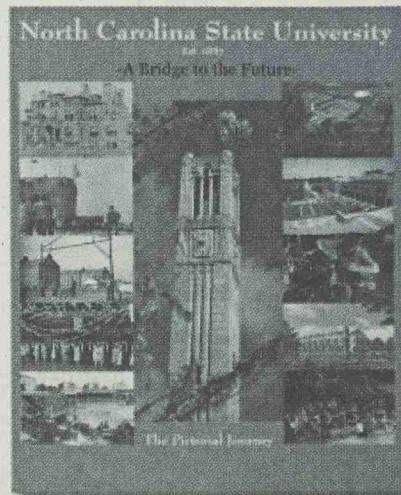
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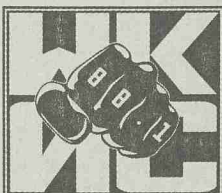
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ACROSS  
1 Charged particles  
5 Ham it up  
10 Impulsive  
14 Pummel  
15 Brown pigment  
16 Agatha's contemporary  
17 Past due  
18 Legal arguments  
19 Judge  
20 November event  
22 Musical chords  
24 Sharp  
25 Adult ugly  
26 Duckling  
28 Cimbred  
29 Richard Petty vehicle  
33 Felt concern  
34 Quivered  
35 "Flat like a butterfly" boxer  
36 Batters' stats  
37 Clutter  
38 Risked a ticket  
39 Pub order  
40 Writer Jules  
41 In what place?  
42 Answering-machine backlog  
44 Robberies  
45 Broadcasts  
46 Ukraine capital  
47 Woman grad  
50 Led  
54 Llama land  
55 Snore  
57 Unit cost  
58 Wise guy  
59 Elton John's instrument  
60 Nights before  
61 Autobahn auto  
62 Monica of tennis  
63 Aswan and Hoover  
9 "Unforgiven" star  
10 Debt, in business lingo  
11 Location  
12 Winter coaster  
13 Skirt edges  
21 Set up for a drive  
23 Set of antlers  
25 Sharon of "Basic Instinct"  
26 Varnish  
27 TV line  
28 Zodiac sign  
29 Deliberately avoids  
30 Canaveral and Hatteras  
31 Heads-up  
32 Commutes  
34 Painful places  
37 Gets hold of again  
38 Reacted to cold, perhaps  
40 "You're So..." (Simon song)

DOWN  
1 At rest  
2 Spoken  
3 Post-it jutting  
4 Foliage spots  
5 Saw  
6 Honeydew or casaba  
7 Candid  
8 Acapulco aunt

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offense]," Melvin said. "It wasn't really about their defense. They left us some wide open shots, but we didn't make the catch, or we turned the ball over."

Atsur hit another 3 with 1.8 seconds left, but it was only for show.

The loss spoiled State's solid first half, which saw the Pack jump to a 38-34 lead after the game's first 20 minutes. After getting down six early, State led by as much as five as both teams enjoyed mini-runs and spurts.

After Sherrill opened the second half with a fast break steal and lay-in, the Tar Heels pressured State in every way with an array of traps, zones and presses.

Despite the turnovers, the Pack had a shot until the final buzzer.

"[Our team] played with a lot

of heart and a lot of determination, especially since we fell behind in the second half by double digits," said State coach Herb Sendek. "... We battled like hell out there."

And it might have been pressure as hot as Hades that melted State's hopes.

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## COOKED

continued from page 8

ball over six times while misfiring all three of his 3-point attempts.

"I get sick of working hard all summer, continuing working on my game, and for me to shoot an open 3-pointer and for it to go in the rim and come out... I'm just tired of that," Hodge said. "I know no one's going to feel sorry for me. If I'm not making shots, coach might tell me not to shoot."

Though Hodge said he "made no big plays," he did hit two jumpers that brought the Pack within five late. After the second one, freshman Engin Atsur buried a 3 from the left wing to bring State within 65-63 with only 1:07 remaining.

The Pack couldn't get a stop, though, as Rashad McCants scored two of his 13 points on UNC's ensuing possession with just 33 seconds left.

Down four, the best shot State could muster was an off-balance attempt from Watkins that clanked off the iron. Just one of many awkward shots the Pack attempted against a pressuring Carolina defense.

"We just didn't make the plays we're accustomed to play [on

As he continues to pile up wins for State, Teal and the other coaches believe Jones could eventually become not only one of the best swimmers in the ACC, but one the best in the country.

"He's got a great opportunity for scoring in the NCAAAs - we haven't done that in three years - and it's also a special year being an Olympic year. We think he's got an opportunity to be at the trials and be competing for a spot on the Olympic team," Teal said.

Next month, Jones will swim in the Senior Nationals, and if he earns a qualifying time, he will swim in the Olympic Trials this summer. He would then compete for one of the top two spots in the 50-free, or top six spots in the 100-free to make the Olympic team.

Jones is modest about his swimming accomplishments though, and credits his coaches with helping him improve his stroke.

"[Assistant coach] Chad Onken pretty much molded me into a technique swimmer, just making me swim in the most aerodynamic way possible. I didn't really start concentrating on that seriously until I got to N.C. State," Jones said.

The next home meet is this Saturday at noon against Clemson and Alabama.

## JONES

continued from page 8

his first meet at Florida State, Jones shined, with wins in both the 50- and 100-yard freestyle events with times of 20.42 and 45.40, respectively.

"It was right after a training trip, we were really drained," Jones said. "I went into it just trying to make points, just tried to get up there and slam it."

Both times were the best turned in this season by any State swimmer in those events and rank in the top 10 of best ACC times. His performance against FSU also earned him the CollegeSwimming.com Performer of the Week honor for the week of Jan. 10.

Jones has continued his dominance since the FSU meet, winning five of the seven individual events he has competed in this year. In the team's last meet against Duke, he won the 50-yard free and swam the butterfly leg of the winning 400-yard relay team.

"We're very happy to have him back with the team," head coach Brooks Teal said. "We know we can count on him for a win in individual events, and we know we've got a great opportunity to be competitive with him in any relay event."





## State's road could have been bluer

CHAPEL HILL - Awash in a sea of Carolina blue, N.C. State walked off the Dean Smith Center floor Wednesday night losers for the



**Matt Middleton**  
Sports Editor

fifth time in six road games. An avalanche of turnovers, twenty of them to be exact, buried the team in a 10-point hole it would never recover from. After the game, the scene was familiar. Julius Hodge was blaming the loss on himself, saying he can't have six turnovers if he wants to be the leader of the team.

Marcus Melvin couldn't find the words to accurately voice the frustration of losing his last game in Chapel Hill.

But there was something different about this game. Something atypical for a Wolfpack team on the road. Boston College or South Carolina it wasn't.

There was State playing good basketball — the first half of the game easily the team's best on the road to date.

The shots were falling. The defense was active. The deflections created 18 turnovers from the No. 12 team in the nation, including four from all-everything point guard Raymond Felton, whose penetration was far from effective all night.

Ultimately, sloppy ball-handling and lazy passes by the Pack made a below-average defensive team look too good and gave the Heels a double-digit lead with eight minutes remaining in the contest.

Instead of folding, though, State rallied back, eventually cutting the lead to a single bucket, only to have UNC's Rashad McCants make an extremely difficult running bank shot to seal the game.

For State, only three points have separated it from a pair of wins in the last two contests away from the RBC Center.

"Every time we lose on the road, it's always a close game," forward Ilian Evtimov said. "It's always like 'Man, this is the one we should have gotten.' It's getting old now. We lost to Boston College by a point, we lose to Chapel Hill by two, and it's getting annoying."

Asked if the team could take any solace in the loss, Evtimov wholeheartedly said no.

But that's one way of looking at it. Pardon me, but I'll take the other.

At 4-2 in the ACC, State is looking at a worst-case scenario of being at .500 in the country's best league by next week — and that would include the first home loss of the season to a team, Wake Forest, that's currently in the middle of a tailspin.

With nearly half of the State's road games left coming against the league's two worst teams — Clemson and Virginia — the Pack is certainly on pace to have a winning conference record, which would without a doubt place the team back in the NCAA Tournament for the third time in as many years. Non-conference losses be damned.

"Our mentality is you don't want to see our team after a loss," Hodge said.

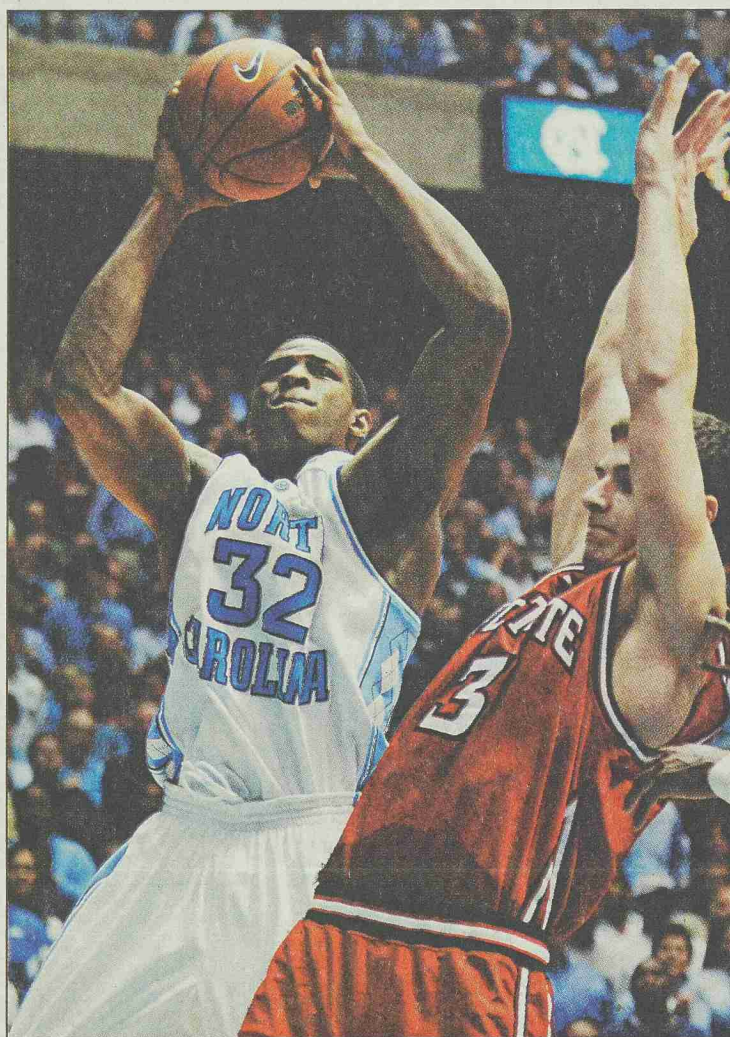
So far, he's been right. State hasn't lost back-to-back games all year, but it also hasn't played two straight on the road.

One thing's for sure, something has to give Sunday at Maryland.

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

UNC 68 | N.C. STATE 66

# Pressure cooked



Rashad McCants scored 13 points, including this bank shot that sealed the Tar Heels 68-66 victory in the final minute of the game.

## By the numbers

N.C. STATE	38	28	—	66
NORTH CAROLINA	34	34	—	68

### LEADERS:

N.C. State	North Carolina
Marcus Melvin 15	Raymond Felton 14
Marcus Melvin 9	Sean May 10
Julius Hodge 4	Raymond Felton 5
Marcus Melvin 4	

**STORYLINE:** N.C. State's recipe for a close road loss this time around was 20 turnovers and a scoreless second-half streak that nearly stretched seven minutes.

North Carolina turns up the heat in the second half, forcing 13 second-half State turnovers as the Pack digs too deep a hole.

**Andrew B. Carter**  
Deputy Sports Editor

CHAPEL HILL — Another road loss, another drought, another "almost."

This one seemed to sting N.C. State a little harder than the others this season, as several players hung heads, spoke soft and talked of missed opportunity just after walking off the court. Just moments earlier, those players saw a lead and a chance at victory slip away amid a pressure-packed opposing arena. Again.

It might have hurt more because or a little less than 34 minutes, the Wolfpack played its best road basketball of the season.

It was the other six-plus minutes — a dastardly stretch in the middle of the second half — that doomed State (11-5, 4-2 ACC) to a 68-66 loss to No. 12 North Carolina (13-4, 3-3) at the Smith Center Wednesday night.

The Pack entered six minutes of doomsday after a 3-pointer from Levi Watkins tied the game at 47 with 13:36 to play and didn't leave until two Ilian Evtimov free throws with just over seven minutes remaining. In between, the Tar Heels reeled off a 10-0 run, taking advantage of a parade of Wolfpack misses, miscues and turnovers.

The cold stretch, which has followed State in almost every road game, didn't stop the visitors from shooting better than 50 percent for the game or from staging a late rally that made the

final moments tense. But almost seven minutes without a field goal makes winning ACC road games comparable to scaling Everest.

"Playing against a pressure defense, I felt we were really clicking," said senior Marcus Melvin, who led State with 15 points.

It wouldn't last.

With every miss and turnover against a frantic, trapping Carolina defense, State dug itself a grave it wouldn't escape. The Pack turned the ball over 13 times in the second half, nearly twice as many as it gave away in the first half. The miscues led to easy Carolina baskets and a noisy, raucous dome.

"Second half — I don't know what it was," said Scooter Sherrill, who was limited to 10 minutes in the second half with a twisted ankle. "We just went in a drought. We turned the ball over, we were missing shots."

State did show heart.

After Evtimov's free throws cut the Heels' lead to eight, Julius Hodge hit a tough left-handed lay-up and Melvin followed that with a 3 to cut it to 57-54 with six minutes to play. Carolina would twice extend its lead to seven over the next four minutes only to see State rally again.

"Guys were really playing well," Hodge said. "We knew this wasn't going to be a game where a team scores 100 points, we knew it was going to be a grind-it-out type game. A lot of guys kept their poise and it's sad to say I wasn't one of them."

Hodge, disappointed in his play the two previous games, was upset with himself once again on this night. The junior had 12 points, but did turn the

**COOKED** see page 7



Sean May pulls down one of his 10 rebounds over Cameron Bennerman.

## No keeping up with this Jones

*Sophomore swimmer Cullen Jones has left opponents in his wake since his return earlier this month.*

**Robin Segreti**  
Staff Writer

There's no great story behind how Cullen Jones started swimming. No watching the Olympics, meeting a celebrity or following a family legacy.

"I started when I was about eight," Jones said. "I just had a friend I ran track with, and she swam, so I started

swimming with her and just crossed over."

He didn't become serious until he got to high school though, when he realized he might have a future with the sport. After competing for St. Benedict's High School, as well as in the Junior Olympics, the Irvington, N.J., native picked N.C. State over several other schools because of its sprinter program and coaching staff.

"I could really see myself fitting in with the family here," Jones said.

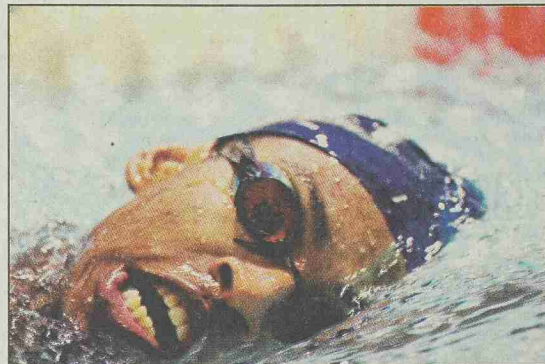
Jones entered State in the spring of 2003, three months after the swimming

season had begun, but quickly became a star. He led the team with a time of 20.29 in the 50-yard freestyle, and was a co-winner of the Don Easterling Chime Award for anchoring the 200-yard medley relay that finished second in the ACC championship.

Jones also competed in the 2003 ACC championship in the 50-yard free and was the only freshman to make the final.

After sitting out this fall for academic reasons, Jones wasted no time upon his return. Although the Pack lost

**JONES** see page 7



Cullen Jones will compete in the Senior Nationals next month.