

# TECHNICIAN

FRIDAY

MARCH

5

2004

Raleigh, North Carolina



Stan Goff addresses students on Thursday.

## Expert weighs in on Haiti

Presbyterian Campus Ministry hosted speaker who discussed situation in Haiti.

Brigid Ransome  
Staff Reporter

The recent strife in Haiti was on the minds of students who gathered at Talley Student Center yesterday to hear speaker Stan Goff discuss the fragile socio-economic infrastructure of the poor nation.

The event, sponsored by the Presbyterian Campus Ministry, drew a little more than a dozen students as Goff delved into the topic of "The Destabilization of Haiti."

Goff is a retired Master Sergeant in the US Army Special Forces. He also wrote the books "Hideous

Dreams: A soldier's memoir of the US invasion in Haiti" and "Full Spectrum Disorder: The Military in the New American Century."

Goff has adopted an interactive approach in portraying the ills of Haitian politics and US foreign policy. However, before he launched into the focus of his address he provided strong background information about Haiti, which allowed the audience to better understand the current social and political unrest in that Caribbean region.

According to Goff, after many unsuccessful political regimes, Haiti was thirsty for a manageable democracy.

"Aristide had the ability to mobilize people, motivate them to fight for a better future," Goff said.

HAITI see page 3



Potter Julie Olsen (left) assists Sally Council in adopting her own set of "Triplets" in the Craft Center on Thursday evening. Olsen, an advanced pottery teacher at the Craft Center, has been there since 1986.

## Pots go up for adoption

Rachael Rogers  
Senior Staff Reporter

Interested in adoption? No, not babies. Pots.

The Crafts Center hosted a fund-raiser last night by offering pots for adoption. All of the proceeds went to the newly created Brita M. Tate Endowment, which is the first endowment solely created for the Crafts Center, an Arts N.C. State member.

"In the long run, organizations in the arts need endowments to support their endeavors," Christy

Newell, associate director of the Crafts Center, said. "This endowment will support whatever we need. Now we are directing all of our fund-raising efforts to that fund."

This adoption was an idea conceived by Julie Olson, a potter and an instructor at the center.

"This fund-raiser is my way of giving back to my community which is the craftsman. All the proceeds go to the fund for craftsmen," Olson

CRAFTS see page 3

## Debate introduces candidates

Students came out to listen to Student Government candidates present their platforms at the first election debate.

Michele DeCamp  
News Editor

"I encourage all of you to 'lock' the vote," Lock Whiteside III, a sophomore in political science, said as he presented his platform to African American Student Advisory Council, Society of African American Culture members and interested students at the "Candidate Debate '04" on Thursday night.

Whiteside was not the only candidate with a slogan. For Tony Caravano, a senior in criminology; Mital M. Patel, a senior in computer science; and Will Quick, a freshman in biomedical engineering and political science; the key term was "communication." Caravano, running for reelection

for student body president, Patel, a student body treasurer candidate and Quick, a candidate for student senate president, announced they would be running on a ticket together.

"[Patel and Quick] are the people who have been with me all year and working with me on our toughest issues," Caravano said as he announced their plans. "I think a lot of what can be done next year rests in good communication, and that's why I decided to run on a ticket."

The debate, which was partly intended to give AASAC members a chance to determine which candidates their organizations will endorse during the elections, allowed each candidate for the top Student Government positions to

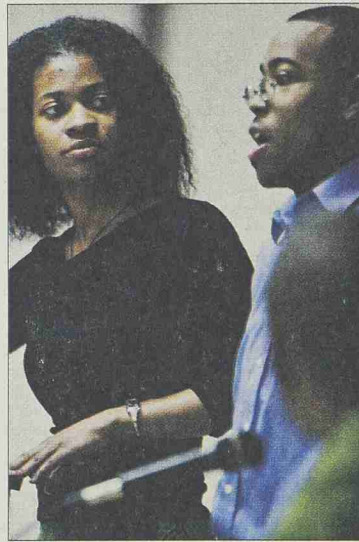
explain their platform to the audience, answer prepared questions from Curtis Hill, a junior in political science, and Birnettiah Killens, and field questions from the audience.

"I think the students had a good chance to express their issues and concerns," Lance Mangum, a senior in political science. "I think the [AASAC endorsement] is a statement of legitimacy."

While Scott Dworkin, a junior in political science, was not able to attend the debate because he is spending time at the Foundation for Economic Education in New York to work on his campaign, he sent his campaign manager, Jivan Moaddab, a senior in CALS, to read his position paper.

"People do not believe that the Student Government actually represents the student body," Dworkin wrote in his

AASAC see page 3



Curtis Hill, AASAC chair, introduces the debate.

## Honoring Jenny



Jenny Chang (fourth from left) participates in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the student health center in 1998.

*The former student body president got a little help in her fight against cancer from the organization she used to lead.*

Carie Windham  
Staff Reporter

It came up — unlike many things on the Student Senate floor — with little debate.

FB 127, the "Jenny Chang Support Act."

Student Senate Treasurer Seth Lester wanted to move \$500 from a line item in the Student Government budget to a fund that would assist a former student body president with her medical bills. The story sounded compelling — a 24-year-old woman on the political fast track finds out she has cancer. Two years later, she's still fighting.

Beyond that and being moved by, as Lester put it, the chance to "rise up and help one of its own," few of the junior senators who consented to FB 127 had ever even heard the name "Jenny Chang" before their meeting on Feb. 24.

For Student Government outsiders, the legislation barely raised an eyebrow.

After all, \$500, stretched across the student fees that paid for it, equates to just a few pennies to the average student.

Chang, perhaps, would have argued differently.

During her term as student body president from 1998-1999, Chang championed the "small things." Student fees, returning e-mails, honest opinions, showing up to meetings.

And two years after she left N.C. State, it was a seemingly "small thing" that would give her the battle of her life.

### A DIFFERENT KIND OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT

There was just something different about the Student Government office the year Jenny Chang — a chatty junior from the outskirts of the Student Government elite — toppled Andrew Payne for the top student office. Newspapers dubbed it the "Year of the Wolfpack Woman," as Alexis Mei and Jamie Brown, student senate president and student chief justice, rounded out the top leadership positions for the first time in at least 10 years.

But the power triumvirate equated the changed atmosphere in Student Government less to estrogen

CHANG see page 2

## Faculty Senate seeks input

*Senate says budget advice from many sources will boost university morale.*

Tyler Dukes  
Staff Reporter

A new Faculty Senate resolution may have a drastic impact on the formulation of the university's fiscal budget.

Since the 2000-2001 fiscal year, the university has seen an approximate loss of \$78 million in state funding, and with budget cut scenarios presently on the desks of the administration, more cuts could be on the way.

The Resolution to Form a Faculty Budget Advisory Committee, adopted by the Faculty Senate in early February, is an attempt to add faculty recommendations to the current administrative process of formulating the budget of the university.

According to associate professor in the English department and Faculty Senate member Catherine Warren, formulating the budget in times of state cuts can be an

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### insidetechician



### Tournament?

Scotter Sherrill will likely be out for the upcoming game against Maryland. But will he make it back for the ACC Tournament? See page 8

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weather today tomorrow

80°/65° 74°/42°

technicianonline.com

## Students, faculty fault weather policy

Kate Renner  
Staff Reporter

Though sunnier days and warmer temperatures have pulled T-shirts and short skirts from the closet, it was only one week ago that students enjoyed a day off thanks to winter's wrath.

The inconsistency of the weather — snowing one day and temperatures topping 70 degrees the next — has made operating the

university a tricky deal. The way administrators have handled this year's unexpected snowfall, has pulled out critics of the adverse weather policy.

"From a students' point of view, I like it when classes are cancelled, I just wish they'd post it earlier, so I could start slacking on my work the night before," Teresa Rouse, a freshman, said. Although many students may agree, some faculty feel that the

adverse weather policy is used too liberally on days with any chance of precipitation.

"Don't get me wrong, I'm not complaining, but I think that N.C. State has gone a little overboard with the adverse weather policy," says sophomore Brett Hall. On Feb. 16, the university delayed classes until 11 a.m., but UNC-Chapel Hill students went to class on time.

"Chapel Hill received a lot of

grief for that," said Lucas. "It is important to operate the university, but personal safety has to be top concern, it is better so air on the side of safety."

Decisions to implement the adverse weather policy are made by Provost James Oblinger in consultation with Vice Chancellor for Finance and Business George Worsley as delegated the authority by Chancellor Marye Anne Fox. Weather conditions

must be determined as hazardous to the health, safety and welfare of the campus community.

Many factors are taken into account when making decisions for the weather policy. Oblinger considers where faculty, staff, and students are coming from by driving the roads, checking weather conditions and forecasts

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IN THE  
KNOWNEWS BRIEFS FROM AROUND  
THE WORLD, NATION & STATEWORLD  
Gays seek marriage rights world-  
wide

Three years after Amsterdam's mayor officiated at the Netherlands' first gay wedding, the gay marriage rate is falling, the first divorces are being registered and the issue has disappeared from the political agenda.

While the United States is engaged in debate on a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage, Canadians are discussing a federal law to legalize it and many European countries are adopting civil unions for gay couples.

But in the Netherlands, nobody talks about the issue anymore.

"It's really become less of something that you need to explain," says Anne-Marie Thus, who in 2001 married Helene Faasen. "We're totally ordinary. We take our children to preschool every day. People know they don't have to be afraid of us."

-Wire Reports

U.S. backs off plan to screen visiting  
Mexicans

The Bush administration backed off plans to require that millions of visa-carrying Mexicans who make short visits to America and stay close to the border be fingerprinted and photographed to get into the country.

Asa Hutchinson, the Homeland Security department's undersecretary for border and transportation, was to publicly announce the policy change at a Capitol Hill hearing Thursday, a congressional official who was briefed on the plan told The Associated Press.

The move, a concession to Mexican President Vicente Fox, comes on the eve of his visit to President Bush's ranch in Crawford, Texas.

The Homeland Security Department's announcement "represents a friendly and positive gesture toward Mexico," said Agustín Gutiérrez Canet, a spokesman for Fox.

-Wire Reports

## NATION

Bush, Kerry neck and neck in early  
poll

In the first poll since John Kerry locked up the Democratic nomination, Kerry and President Bush are tied while independent Ralph Nader has captured enough support to affect the outcome, validating Democrats' fears.

The Republican incumbent had the backing of 46 percent, Kerry 45 percent and Nader, the 2000 Green Party candidate who entered the race last month, was at 6 percent in the survey conducted for The Associated Press by Ipsos-Public Affairs.

Bush and the four-term Massachusetts senator, who emerged as the nominee Tuesday after a string of primary race wins over several rivals, have been running close or Kerry has been ahead in most recent polls that did not include Nader.

-Wire Reports

Former Massachusetts bishop faces  
sex-abuse charges

A prosecutor said Thursday he will pursue sex-abuse charges against retired Springfield Bishop Thomas Dupre, who is accused of playing two altar boys with alcohol and molesting them while he was a parish priest in the 1970s.

If a grand jury indicts him, Dupre would become the first bishop charged in the sex scandal that engulfed the Roman Catholic Church two years ago.

There have been at least a dozen grand jury investigations involving how bishops dealt with abuse claims, and four bishops have resigned after accused of sexual misconduct.

-Wire Reports

## STATE

Supreme Court justice Orr announces  
resignation

Supreme Court Justice Robert F. Orr, a member of the state's highest court since 1995, announced Thursday he will resign from the court to take a job leading a private institute.

Orr plans to leave his job this summer to become executive director of the newly formed North Carolina Institute for Constitutional Law.

"I have had a strong interest in state constitutional law and the important role it has played in many of the major cases decided by the Supreme Court," Orr said in a prepared statement. "The opportunity to have a role in developing and implementing the institute's mission in support of the principles and authority of the North Carolina Constitution was something I simply could not turn down."

Orr, a Republican, served 8 1/2 years on the state Court of Appeals before joining the Supreme Court. He practiced law in Asheville for 11 years.

-Wire Reports

## Gardner-Webb gets probation

Gardner-Webb University was placed on three years probation Thursday by the NCAA for a grade-tampering scandal that cost school president Christopher White his job.

The men's basketball team will be ineligible for postseason play this year and the men's and women's basketball teams will each lose a scholarship in the next two academic years. Both programs also will be limited in their recruiting activities.

The NCAA's committee on infractions found that former president Christopher White provided former basketball star Carlos Webb with an "extra benefit" and "violated the principles of institutional control."

White resigned in October 2002, weeks after admitting that in 2000 he ordered an F to be left out in calculating the grade point average of Carlos Webb, a star on the basketball team.

-Wire Reports

## CHANG

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than an open door.

The women kept office hours for any student to plop down in their chairs. They answered e-mails personally, with long messages and invitations to come in and talk. It wasn't rare to see Chang's Labrador retriever, "Lady," watching the office on a lazy summer day. And it was nothing new to hear Chang baiting the Student Government adviser, Cira Mervin, to answer her calls with a "What?" so she could toss back, "Chicken butt!"

The relaxed atmosphere drew in students that had never considered Student Government before.

"We treated everybody with respect. By getting more people involved and making them feel that what they were doing was important, we created a really open and inviting atmosphere," Mei says.

Natalie Duggins, who wrote for Technician during Chang's tenure, was one of those students "welcomed" in to the office.

Known for her scathing criticism of Student Government, Mei and Chang eventually sat her down in the office to ask for her advice.

"We took people who criticized us and we tried to bring them on board," Chang says.

As a result, Duggins eventually left Student Media for Student Government, and Chang brought her under her wing.

Now, Duggins mentors other newcomers to Student Government.

"[Chang] was absolutely instrumental in my decision to cross over," Duggins says. Chang was patient, she remembers, carefully outlining how Student Government worked and why the issues mattered.

"That was just our attitude," Chang says. "It didn't matter who you were. If you were passionate, we wanted you on board."

## FIGHTING FOR STUDENTS

If things were laid back in the office, they were fierce around the board room table.

Chang, a no-nonsense Raleigh native, didn't take office to be a figurehead.

"I remember thinking, I'm the only person here that's going to speak for the students so I'm going to make sure that I'm heard," she says. "And I promise, they're going to listen to what I have to say."

What she said, more often than not, was that students needed a voice in their own affairs, specifically tuition and fee increases. Tuition hikes were easy to ignite passions but few students could get riled about fee increases.

Part of the problem was that students had very little to say in the matter. Fee increases were decided amongst the groups themselves, then presented to Student Senate. But that just

"I remember thinking, I'm the only person here that's going to speak for the students so I'm going to make sure that I'm heard. And I promise, they're going to listen to what I have to say."

Jenny Chang

didn't satisfy Chang.

"I made it a real big issue that we needed to be kept in the loop. You can't think of an increase and then ask for students about it," she says. "We were like an afterthought."

Not only that, she came to realize that students weren't having their opinions respected in any matters on campus, a feeling forged by years of poor attendance at committee meetings. Fellow students doubted why the meetings — or the student voice really mattered, she says. If the university was going to make the decision anyway, what was the point in causing a scene?

That's where they were wrong, Chang believed.

"If they're going to do it in the face of students, they're going to know that they're going to piss them off," Chang says. "I think that was the big difference."

## THE FAST TRACK

Chang walked into N.C. State a biochemistry major, heading to med school.

She walked out convinced politics would her avenue to serve others.

"[Student Government] really taught me why I'm interested in government because I honestly believe you can help people that way. You can speak out for people that don't have a voice," she says.

She won the Truman Scholarship during her junior year, the highest honor given to undergraduates interested in graduate work in public service. She spent part of her senior year getting her feet wet in the political process by working for the David Price, D-N.C., campaign.

In May 2000, Chang left Raleigh, diploma in hand, for Capitol Hill. Like many political enthusiasts waiting for a foot in the door, she had been thanked for her campaign work with an entry-level job in Price's Washington, D.C., offices.

By day she worked in the nation's capitol, learning the ropes of Capitol Hill. She planned to stay for two years, then take advantage of the Truman to study law at Yale, Harvard or Columbia.

Even better, she'd fallen in love. On a random trek around her office building to find a working fan, she found Dom. Weeks later, he asked her on their first date. And the girl who used to joke she'd never get married — "If you talked to anyone who knew me at N.C. State, they'd tell you I was

always single," she says — had fallen hard.

Jenny Chang, it seemed, was on the road to success she'd been groomed for all those years ago in Witherspoon.

## WOMEN THIS YOUNG

The woman who had fought so hard for small things, however, was about to learn how even small things can throw life off course.

It was a small thing that caught Chang's attention on a stormy April night in 2002 when a clap of thunder woke her from her sleep.

While brushing away the covers, a bump — barely more than a mosquito bite — caught her attention.

After a close inspection, she tossed it aside. Nothing major, she thought, it will be gone in a few days.

Dom, however, urged her to get it checked out.

In no particular hurry and with little fear, Chang scheduled an appointment with her regular doctor a few weeks later to have the small bump on her left breast inspected.

She was sure it was nothing. Women this young, after all, don't get breast cancer.

She kept that in mind when the ultrasound and the mammogram came back inconclusive. Even a biopsy a few days later didn't scare her.

Women this young don't get breast cancer, she reminded herself.

Tragically, they do. Chang was diagnosed in May 2002. She fielded the call from her seat in David Price's office.

The doctor told her frankly, "It's invasive intraductal carcinoma."

Chang didn't understand. "Can you spell it?" she asked. "You have breast cancer."

She was 24.

## A NEW FIGHT

If Chang's story had stopped in David Price's office in May 2002, she would have been a medical anomaly.

Breast cancer, with no family history, is almost impossible to fathom in a young, twenty-something woman. But Chang's story would push the medical limits even further.

After undergoing a lumpectomy in June 2002 and finishing three months of chemotherapy and a month of radiation, Chang was convinced her cancer had been beat. She took off for California to celebrate remission.

When she returned, she had

a routine mammogram. Much like her first mammogram months before, she expected to be healthy. Instead, she learned the cancer had returned.

This time, she opted for a double mastectomy with reconstruction in March 2003, trying to be certain the cancerous tissue was removed. The recovery was long and hard but by November, when Chang went through another routine checkup, she was fairly certain she had been cleared.

Tragically, she shocked the medical profession again. In November, Chang learned the cancer has spread to her lungs. Now, once a week, she undergoes chemotherapy to fight — once again — to be healthy.

Just two years ago, people told her she was too young to worry about cancer.

## LESSONS LEARNED

The hardest part, Chang says, is not having any answers.

"When I was first diagnosed, I was like, 'Why in the hell is this happening to me? What did I do to deserve this? Or what didn't I do?'" she says. "I still don't have an answer."

It would be easy to be bitter, she says. This year will mark her third in Washington, D.C., where she still works on Capitol Hill. She should be in law school.

But, "You don't plan for cancer," she says.

Her story, she hopes, will show others that no one is immune. "Time is of the essence," she says, pointing out that cancer is best treated early.

Women with a family history should have a mammogram routinely. Every woman should do self breast exams.

"Just take care of yourself," she tells other women. "We need to take care of ourselves. We need to take time out for ourselves. We ought to be doing our best to be healthy. Eat your vegetables."

Besides the essence of time, cancer has taught change the things that are "really important" in life, like friends, love and health. And the things that are less important. "A job is just a job," she says.

And she's learned that many people — especially at her alma mater — genuinely care about her recovery.

"The support that friends have given me has been amazing," she says. She has three, three-inch notebooks filled with cards and letters that people have sent.

Others have heard about her battle and sent donations to help pay her bills, much like Student Government.

"I'm always humbled by how much people care about me or are interested in what's going on. I'm flattered," she says of the donation. "I'm sincerely grateful."

**Friends of Jenny Chang will be running the Raleigh "Race for the Cure" in April under the team name, "The Chang Gang." Interested friends or supporters are encouraged to participate.**

## BUDGET

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extremely difficult process.

"I think that the more input that can come from a number of sources the better," Warren said. "The administration is going to have to make difficult choices on what to cut and what not to cut and I believe the faculty has a unique perspective."

It is that perspective that may help administration more efficiently handle the effects of budget cuts, which affect each college differently.

In the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, for example, where 98 percent of funding goes to personnel, cuts usually end up in lay offs. Faculty morale is also a big issue behind the formation of the Faculty Budget Advisory Committee.

"This will help university morale in general, because I think that faculty aren't always fully educated on exactly what is going on," Warren said. "Having faculty involved on a higher level will also help quell rumors [about budget cuts] that are exaggerated or untrue."

Although the committee will create a more "transparent" budget and will aid in the visibility of possible cuts to university staff, the resolution is more than just a morale booster. The primary motivation behind the resolution is the serious implications it may have for future budgets.

According to Warren, the administration has already expressed a willingness to work with such a committee.

"If it [the committee] takes its charge seriously and does the hard work, then I think the administration is going to have to listen and have a conversation," Warren said.

"It's a two part process and if either side doesn't fulfill its obligations then the committee will be irrelevant."

Under the current process, the Faculty Senate will select the members of the advisory committee at their next meeting on March 23; they will choose up to five members by nomination. Faculty Senate will consult Provost James Oblinger concerning possible names to round out the committee, such as department heads and deans.

According to Warren, the committee must be small to be effective and will most likely consist of less than eleven people.

Although this limited number does not represent every college within the university, Warren perceives no problems with the balance within the committee.

"There will have to be a good mix of committed people," Warren said. "If that committee is listening to people and doing its homework, then it shouldn't be a problem."

The current plans for the resolution do not include student input, although this may be a possibility in the future.

Many students said they believe the decision of the university should utilize the input of the student body.

"I think students should say something about it," Jay Hann, a freshman in computer engineering, said. "This should really be a quantitative decision."

Communications junior Michael Bessard agreed with this view. "I think everybody needs to be somewhat involved," Bessard said. "Everyone has some idea of what to do."

Although times are hard in the realm of the North Carolina higher education budget, many members of the university community agree that state legislators are doing all that they can.

This is even easier to see in comparison with budget cuts of other states, such as California, which are levying cuts up to 30 percent on higher education.

Despite this fact, Warren recognizes that it doesn't make decisions on smaller cuts any easier.

"I think that obviously when times are tough and tough choices have to be made, it really is incumbent upon everybody to figure out ways to do it and become involved in it."

Through rain,  
sleet and snow

LaWanda Ray

Staff Reporter

On Feb. 27, while students and some faculty awoke to find classes cancelled, Margaret Toon, a housekeeper in Watauga Hall, was taking a CAT bus to work.

"When the road conditions are bad, the CAT buses put chains around the tires," Toon said. "That's how I am able to get here."

However, not everyone is able to take the CAT bus and must venture onto the highways. Gib Hobson, a First Year College student, did not see the fairness in this.

"If it is too dangerous for everyone else to drive, then it should be too dangerous for them too," Hobson said. According to the Adverse Weather Policy, "Only employees in positions designated as 'critical' are expected to report to work."

Toon said, "Since students are on campus and require

services, housekeepers and cafeteria workers must work as regularly scheduled."

If an employee in a "critical" position is unable to come to work due to the weather, Toon stated these employees must use "vacation time" to make up for time lost. These employees do not receive overtime pay to work during bad weather conditions. Although some students did not understand why housekeepers had to report to work, many students agreed with Hobson, who said, "Cafeteria workers should have to report to work, because food is important." However, winter weather alters the duties of the housekeepers.

"We have to sprinkle the walkways and steps to make sure that students don't fall," Toon said.

Even though she said she would rather be at home during bad weather, "We have to make sure you students have what you need."

## POLICY

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for NCSU as well as surrounding counties.

"I live within walking distance of campus, but walking to class is hard when it's icy," said junior Jared Bissinger. "The sidewalks aren't well maintained when there is snow or ice."

Professor Steve Wiley put part of the blame on North Carolina's inexperience with winter weather.

"This is not a culture that understands snow and what to do about the weather and how to use our equipment properly," he said. "I saw a snow plow driving and the plow wasn't even touching the ground."

There are different levels for the adverse weather policy; the university may be closed completely, classes may be cancelled, classes may be delayed, or classes are optional left for students to determine their own safety. Closing the university completely is for highly unlikely storms such as Hurricane Fran.

"This year we've had around five or six days under the adverse weather policy. This is an

unusually snowy winter for us," says Director of News Services Tim Lucas. On average for the past decade, the university has been under the adverse weather policy one or two times per year.

Closing the university is no easy endeavor.

NCSU is a 24-hour operation that is open seven days a week. The university must provide housing, food and health and security services to students.

In addition, research projects require round-the-clock support to ensure laboratory animals and experiments must receive adequate care and to prevent loss of long-term experimental data. When the university is closed, only employees in positions designated as "critical" are expected to report to work.

All employees who lose work time due to university closings must make up the time or take vacation leave.

"The policy that staff must make up missed time is based on the idea of people being in the office to work," Wiley said. "People can work at home, and there is no need for staff to make up time as long as the work gets done."



## CRAFT

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said. Brita M. Tate, a former potter and assistant director of Talley Student Center, was a long-time participant at the Crafts Center and well known in the Raleigh arts scene. She was a founding member of the Triangle Potters' Guild. Tate's children created this endowment upon her death, which is the first to benefit this Arts N.C. State Program.

The hope is that the endowment will give the Crafts Center the ability to continue its many programs as well as add new ones to create an environment for students.

"She created one of the richest and most varied programs of international cultural activities in the state," Newell said. "These international nights attracted not only N.C. State students and faculty but also brought thousands of visitors to the campus from across the Triangle."

As part of the fund-raiser, Olson created 25 sets of triplets offered for adoption. Each set of triplets costs \$80.

Those who adopt the triplets will also receive instructions.

"These triplets like to play follow the leader. They don't like cats or dog tails, but they aren't afraid of heights," Newell said jokingly.

Adoptive parents received a photo of Olson, the "birth mother," along with adoption papers and a care and feeding guide.

"These are things that go on at the Crafts Center that are right under the noses of students and they don't even know. They can use this as a resource to release frustrations, build up creative skills and learn about creative skills they never had," Newell said. "They also have the opportunity to work with artists the caliber of Julie Olson."

According to Olson, it's important for students to have the opportunity to create and the classes offered at the Crafts Center provide this type of outlet.

"There is an art to everything you do. There is the art that you are and then there is the art that you create because of who you are," Olson said.

Olson believes that people often turn away from creating art because they do not think they can.

"It's all technique, like learning

to drive a car or ride a bike. And there's so many things going on here to allow students to build that technique," Olson said.

Newell and Olson both reflected on students who have come through the Crafts Center. Some want to continue artistic talents they already had and focus on one specific area.

Other students simply stumble across the Crafts Center and begin taking classes or maybe even find a niche.

"The neat thing is to see these students come in thinking they cannot do anything and then watch them blossom," Newell said.

Sally Council, a patron of the Crafts Center, found out about the fundraiser on a local news channel.

"I do pottery out here," Council said. "I hadn't been able to do it since 1999 and I just started back."

Overall, the coordinators deemed the event a success and hope the pots go to happy homes.

"It would be nice if they [pots] all went to nice homes," Olson said. "Not to mention if we could make a generous contribution to the Tate Endowment."

sees involvement in economic regards and with domestic policy it is a question of the upcoming presidential elections...Kerry realizes the importance of diplomacy first," Goff said.

When asked how long the social and political upheaval will last and if there will be any other unlikely escalations, Goff said, "it remains to be seen, this coup has been in the works for the past four years and Haiti is in the early stages of developing a civil war. But the fact is the U.S. is still ill-prepared for uprising consequences in Haiti."

Despite the fact that the discussion was prematurely concluded by a fire alarm in Talley Student Center, Goff led an active question and answer session.

## AASAC

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statement. "You decide, you make the choices, you can vote and keep things the same or vote for me." Dworkin believes that Student Government hasn't been getting involved in the community enough or getting to know the student body.

He hopes, by speaking with students, to find out what they want from their Student Government.

In a telephone interview after the debates, Dworkin said he regretted not being able to attend, but he received the invitation through e-mail 24 hours before it was scheduled to begin so it was impossible for him to make arrangements to attend.

"By no means am I a mediocre candidate," Dworkin said. "The students will vote because I will give them a reason to vote. I'm not running to make a statement, I'm running to win and I'm running to be student body president."

Caravano touched on why he is running for reelection during his opening statement and the strengths and weaknesses of his nearly completed year as student body president.

"You get through the entire year, when you're in an elected office like this, and by January you figure out what you're doing," Caravano said. He feels that he is in a position where he has built relationships with the community that will help him be even more effective next year as the chief executive officer in Student Government.

He believes that his work with tuition and traditions have yielded results, and he hopes that he can foster more communication in the executive branch next year.

When asked by the AASAC representatives about his commitment to diversity, Caravano said that he felt his cabinet reflected the makeup of the student body

and if reelected he does hope to target more students, especially incoming freshmen over the summer, to work with Student Government.

"A lot of diversity in a university setting is a diversity of experiences," Caravano said in regards to his own definition of the concept.

For the student senate president candidates, their focus was on fostering a connection between the students and their senate representatives.

"My vision of the senate would be a body that represents the students," Whiteside said. He also reminded the audience that this was not his first time on the ballot. "I ran for this office last year, and I'm back again," Whiteside said.

He also hopes to make running for the senate more competitive and help foster retention since the senate has lost several students this past year. Whiteside has not been in the senate this year, but he has worked in the executive branch on recruitment.

For Quick, cleaning up the senate's reputation in students' eyes is a priority.

"The best way to measure your success is to have students come up to you and tell you that they are glad you passed a certain piece of legislation," Quick said.

The student body treasurer debate added some laughter to the proceedings. While Patel talked about falling in love with the appropriations process last year, his opponent Will Langley, a freshman in political science, waved his check book around and thanked his grandmother and father for attending the event.

However, Langley had a purpose for the presence of his check book and his family members.

"My tuition, my fees, my meal plan and my gas come out of this check book," Langley said as he lifted it up. His family was there to support his cause and demonstrate his background with money. His grandmother retired in the 80s from N.C. State's Finance Department and

his father has also worked in finance. "Finance is truly in my blood," Langley said.

Patel also believes that he is capable of overseeing Student Government's appropriations process and their dealings with fee increases.

"The treasurer has to be responsible for educating the student body about tuition and fee increases," Patel said.

Besides working with appropriations for student groups, Patel has also worked closely with the Personal Stories Book that showcased student stories focusing on their struggles affording college.

"I think we need to make the administration realize that there are many students at this university who make it just barely," Patel said. "Putting a face to those stories was really important."

While AASAC will not decide who to endorse for each position until after spring break, the students in attendance learned a few things about the candidates.

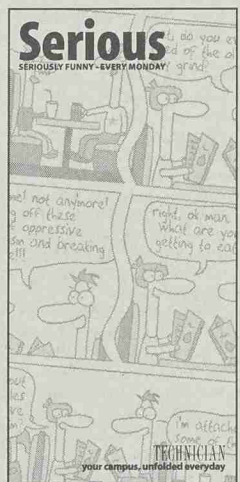
"I thought the candidates coming out are very strong," Abdullah Tharpe said. Thorpe is a junior in business management and marketing education and a special assistant for council affairs with the executive branch. "I think some of the questions that some of the students asked were very relevant to some of my past experiences with student government."

One student loved to see the debate.

"I came tonight because I like to see the candidates under intense pressure because it shows their true character and will give lead to what changes they'll make next year," Forrest Hinton, a freshman in mathematics education, said.

AASAC member Nicole Lee, who is majoring in sociology, found that not all the candidates finished the night on equal footing.

"I thought some candidates were better than others," Lee said. "But I think it gave them a fair chance to get their platforms out there and we got a chance to get to know them."



## HAITI

continued from page 1

vate the masses" he said.

Notwithstanding a fragile history, Goff commented that poverty, erosion of a national currency and the emergence of organized and petty crime as a means of survival for the underprivileged, all contributed to the current Haitian unrest.

"It is not so much the direct antagonism between urban and rural communities but just the general crisis that makes it difficult to live," he said.

In terms of U.S. involvement and the nature of foreign policy, Goff had much to say.

"The current government functions under the ideals of imperialism... with foreign policy the U.S.

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## RULE OF THUMB



## WIFE KNOCKS OUT HUSBAND

A Jordanian man began crying and then blacked out after his wife hit him with a tear gas canister. Police are investigating the source of the canister. "So far all we know," said the senior investigator, "is that it was made in China just like everything else."

## REPRESENTATIVE ARRESTED FOR DUI

Republican Joe Thompson of New Mexico was arrested for drunk driving on Thursday, hours after attending a bill-signing ceremony celebrating the state's new, tougher laws on repeat DWI offenders. It was later officially announced that this was the most exciting thing to happen in New Mexico... ever.



## WOMAN GIVES BIRTH TO OWN GRANDKIDS

A 52-year-old Texas woman serving as a surrogate mother for her son and daughter-in-law gave birth on Thursday to twin girls — her own grandchildren. The general consensus from people outside of Texas was, "WTF, mate?"



## TEACHER ACCUSED OF DUCT-TAPING STUDENTS

Robert Martin, a 25-year-old teacher from Ohio, has been arrested for binding the hands of three female students and covering their mouths with duct tape. Apparently Martin mistook "May I please go to the bathroom" for "Tie me and cover my mouth, Master."



## WOOL PLACED IN BANK VAULT

The world's finest wool has been produced by two sheep farmers in Australia and a bale of the wool valued at \$752,000 is now in a vault in the National Australia Bank. "It... highlights the amount of research... put in by Australian farmers," said one man. "After all, we all know Australians loooove sheep. Wink, wink."



## FILMMAKER PUTS McDONALD'S TO THE TEST

A filmmaker decided to test McDonald's claim that its food was healthy by making a documentary in which he ate all his meals at McDonald's for a month. As a result he gained 25 pounds and had higher cholesterol. For his next documentary he plans to find out if Virginia really is for lovers.



## BOBBY BROWN JAILED

Bobby Brown received a sentence of 60 days in a Georgia jail for violating his probation. Wow. He's still alive? Seriously? I thought he fell off the face of the earth years ago.



## GODZILLA RETIRING AFTER THIS YEAR

Toho Co., the Japanese company that owns the rights to Godzilla is shelving the famous monster after this year. Over the last 50 years Godzilla has appeared in 28 films. He's the Japanese version of James Bond — only uglier and with less naked chicks.



## WOMAN CONVICTED OF KILLING HUSBAND

A Houston woman was convicted of murder after stabbing her husband 193 times in what she claimed was self-defense. Unfortunately, the limit on self-defense in Texas is 190 stabbings. "I just lost count around 130," said the woman.



## SMOKING CAN CAUSE BLINDNESS

A new study in the British Medical Journal claims that smoking may increase the risk of Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD), a disease that can lead to blindness later in life. The news doesn't worry most smokers who plan to be dead from lung cancer long before blindness sets in.



## TRIANGLE ROCKS

## On the Brink of a Breakthrough

The four-member folk-band SpencerAcuff of Chapel Hill gets ready to show the world what they have to offer.

Lindsay Biggers  
Staff Writer

Step aside John Mayer. Watch out Coldplay. Wolfpack students get ready. There are some fresh new kids on your block and you may want to check them out before Hollywood gets hold of them. SpencerAcuff, the four-member band out of Chapel Hill, is quickly sweeping through venues and local bars attempting to get off their feet and into the real world of music.

Opening for such groups as Weekend Excursion, Better Than Ezra, Wilco and Virginia Coalition, SpencerAcuff is already starting to receive recognition. During the summer of 2001, lead vocalists David Spencer of UNC-Chapel Hill, and Will Acuff (a N.C. State alumnus) started the acoustic band of SpencerAcuff with guitars, great voices and dreams of one day seeing their own albums beside great artists such as Bruce Springsteen and Counting Crows.

Today, SpencerAcuff consists of four band members. In October 2002, Spencer and Acuff added Tommy Perkinson on percussion and Jeff Crawford on bass, vocals and piano. "It was the natural progression of what was going on since the beginning. We always wanted to have a full band. I am glad we did it the way we did — it allowed Dave and I to figure out a working relationship," Acuff said.

Immediately, when the two joined the dynamic duo, Acuff said the music took off, becoming full of energy. "It's a sketch versus a painting — there's much more depth," Acuff said.

Although Spencer and Acuff attended rival schools, their talents were too extraordinary to keep the two apart. With the beginning phases of the band, Spencer and Acuff decided to place aside their Tar Heel and Wolfpack differences to bring together their powerful voices and talents, therefore creating "SpencerAcuff."

"Our personalities meshed well together, I had finally met someone with my desire in music, something that had been lacking in my previous experience," Acuff said.

Spencer and Acuff quickly went on to write their own songs, which proved later to be a great collaboration of both serious and fun lyrics. After writing a set of songs, SpencerAcuff started playing acoustic shows throughout the Chapel Hill/Raleigh area in hopes of gaining local attention.

Originally, their songs captured "a combination of Will's heart-wrenchers and my fun pop songs," Acuff said. "Songs written from different places speaking to the same problems," is the main basis for their performances.

Their first album entitled "Moment Golden" was an album carefully designed and perfected, just what the band expected. "I knew I wanted to make a record, but I knew I wanted



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPENCERACUFF

SpencerAcuff, the four-member band from Chapel Hill, will be performing at Ham's Brassfield in Greensboro

to make a professional record, we wanted our first album out of the gate to be an impressive one," explained Spencer. SpencerAcuff got nothing less. With artist/producer Mark Williams and John Plymale (Squirrel Nut Zippers, Athenaeum, Jump Little Children) at Overdub Lane Studios, SpencerAcuff immediately started working on their first major masterpiece.

"Once we started working with (Plymale), we did not have to worry about telling him what we wanted, we just stayed out of his way and let him do his thing while we did ours," Spencer said.

In order to complete the band, moving away from the previous acoustic-style they were used to, the band pulled in bassist Matt Newkirk and drummer Dale Baker (Sixpence none the Richer) to assist on the album. This was before the additions of Perkinson and Crawford who later took Newkirk and Baker's place in the studio.

With lyrics such as "Driving down the road watching all I know pass by/ Driving down the road the mirror leaves it all behind/ But in front I'll just enjoy the drive," from the song "Driving" written by Spencer, the soothing John Mayer-like style attracts audiences of all ages to the group.

SpencerAcuff is quickly beginning to form a posse that follows them wherever they go, have their lyrics memorized and refer to the band members by first name. And if their success continues to grow as expected, their fan club will only be expanding.

Their manager Perry Harell of Williamston along with their two publicists from UNC-CH Becky Jones, of Nashville, Tenn. and Lauren Biggers of Concord work extremely hard to keep SpencerAcuff on the road and in sales.

"We work really hard to make sure as many people as possible find out about the band. We believe in them, and we feel like once someone hears them play, whether on an album or live, they will too," Biggers said.

"In our experience, people who hear SpencerAcuff for the first time become people who come back to hear them for the second and third. By publicizing through local papers and radio stations, we hope to make someone hear them for the first time. After that, the music sells itself," Jones said.

The band hopes one day they will see themselves on the same shelves with major musicians and isn't far from getting there. "Each member of the band strives to be an excellent musician at their own particular instrument, but at the same time the foremost thing is the quality of the song. It's easy to love the guitar too much and sacrifice the song," Acuff said.

Not only do Spencer and Acuff write their own songs, but they both attempt to connect to their fans with both their lyrics and their concerts. "When we're finished with a concert we want to be able to walk offstage and relate with people," Spencer said.

On Nov. 1, 2003, SpencerAcuff received the opportunity to showcase a revolutionary breakthrough in sound systems with the Bose Corporation. Due to such tremendous success of release of their album "Moment Golden," Bose chose SpencerAcuff along with only 25 other bands nationwide to demonstrate the new sound system in concert.

The sound system was the result of a 10-year research initiative, which featured Cylindrical Radiator speakers. This allowed the band to hear and control their own sound while making both the music and musician clearer than with previous systems.

This was the first time Bose used this sound system, and SpencerAcuff was one of the lucky bands to host the Bose Corporation's new technology. The corporation kept the sound system a secret until Nov. 1, which was the national revealing day.

SpencerAcuff will be displaying their folk-rock musical talent over Spring Break on March 6 at Ham's Brassfield in Greensboro.

## COUCH COMMANDO

## Schedule your appointment

## Significant Others

CHANNEL: Bravo  
PREMIERES: March 9, 9pm

★★★★★

I've never thought couple's therapy was worth more than the cheap sunset paintings in the shrink's office lobby. After all, what could 60 minutes on a couch with a stranger solve that 15 minutes of frank conversation together couldn't?

Then again, I hadn't met the four couples that star in Bravo's new series "Significant Others," premiering Tuesday at 9 p.m.

I stand corrected. Never before have

eight people needed a week in a therapist's chair so badly.

The six-episode series, directed by Robert Roy Thomas, follows four married couples dealing with the jolts, surprises and hardships of marital bliss. Unexpected pregnancies, job losses, a growing adolescent and a husband with a tendency to dance rebellious in the front yard are just a few of the problems life has thrown their way. And for each — thrown them into the pay-by-the-hour realm of couple's therapy.

The show follows their lives both in and out of therapy but its highlights are the fast-paced segments where each pair sits down in front of the doctor. Hilarity ensues as secrets are revealed, claws unleashed and blame tossed from side to side.

On paper, the show's format sounds mundane. Short segments follow the couples in their homes or out on the town before and after therapy. While in session, the camera flashes between the couples at lightning speed, rarely resting on any two for more than twenty seconds as they discuss their "problems" and more often than not, the faults of their partner.

It would be hard to follow and even a drag to sit through if the couples weren't so well cast, each quirky enough to make you laugh aloud and unique enough that its easy to follow.

In the first episode, three couples — and their hilarious differences — are introduced.

James (Brian Palermo) and Chelsea (Andrea Savage) are the married on the fly power couple. He's a serious financial analyst, she's the woman who's out to live life to the fullest. And they find out, quite unexpectedly, that perhaps a longer courtship — and

a few more questions — would have smoothed some differences down the road.

Eleanor (Faith Salie) and Ethan (Hershel Bleefeld) couldn't be farther apart. She's serious and studious. He's barely outgrown farting jokes. But a baby on the way means someone has to grow up quick.

The final couple are Bill (Fred Goss) and Constance (Jane Edith Wilson). He's just lost his job and a great deal of his personal hygiene. She's just lost all patience and the desire to speak. Then, there's the whole issue of him masturbating with the door wide open... the front door.

Their antics, banter and the explosions they cause are enough to send anyone running from "I do."

But just when you're starting to wonder whether a joint-checking account and hyphenated last name are really worth all this grief, someone cracks a smile or gives an inch and the walls tumble down. For 20 seconds of good feeling romance, someone remembers "this" is why they were married.

Seconds later, of course, someone prances — robeless — in the front yard, yells the total number of your sexual partners to a crowd at an art gallery opening or sings a song about your vagina, and reality sinks in again.

Marriage isn't easy they say, but it's damn funny for these couples.

It's refreshing to see a comedy that relies less on outlandish circumstances than dialogue. The speed and grace with which they deliver verbal blows is reminiscent of the good days of Will and Grace (You know, the first ones) and the fast editing and shifting frames keeps the banter going

and the laughs rolling.

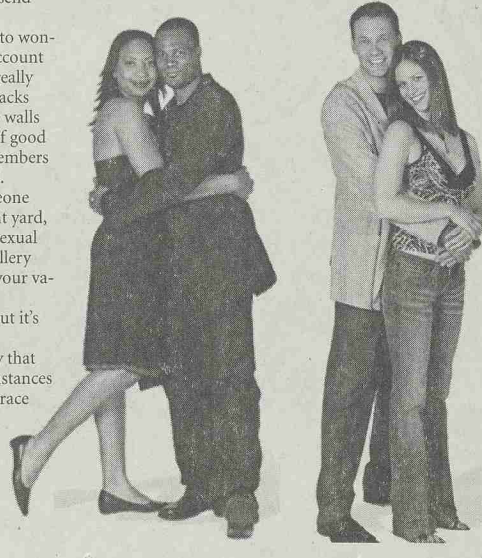
The retorts are so well-timed, the toss backs so witty, it would only be gracious to credit the writers.

But that's just it — there aren't any.

The six-episode series is entirely unscripted, leaving the dialogue to the whim of improvisational actors. But if you didn't know that — and honestly, I didn't the first time I sat down to watch — it wouldn't matter. The conversation flows like it's been rehearsed for weeks and the secondary players jump in with equal wit.

I wouldn't pay 50 cents for my own therapy session, but I'd gladly fork over an hour each week to sit in on theirs.

— Carrie Windham





## HOUSE OF MOUSE NOT SO OPEN

**OUR OPINION:** WALT DISNEY COMPANY, ONE OF THE LARGEST COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY IN THE WORLD, HURTS THEIR CREDIBILITY BY RESCINDING PRESS CREDENTIALS TO AN INDEPENDENT REPORTER ATTENDING THE STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

At the Walt Disney Company annual shareholders meeting yesterday, an independent member of the press, Jim Hill, was denied access to the event. Jim Hill operates a Web site called Jim Hill Media that covers media news. Hill writes extensively about the Walt Disney Company and wrote a guest piece that ran in The Wall Street Journal on Monday.

Some of the construed comments made in the piece favored Roy Disney, who is working against Disney chairman, Michael Eisner.

Before he went to the conference in Philadelphia, Hill confirmed with Disney Corporate Communications office

that he had the proper press credentials that would give him access to the stockholders' meeting.

When he arrived at the convention center, Disney public relation officers pulled Hill out of the press line and revoked his credentials.

This was a bad move by Disney and only results in bad press for them.

It is one thing to deny press credentials from a writer accused of biased opinions, but Jim Hill is an independent media reporter, with no ties to Disney, who wrote an article that was construed to be biased against Michael Eisner. This small act paints the Disney Corporation, which owns ABC and ESPN, as censoring the press when it feels threatened by bad publicity.

Mickey Mouse shot himself in the foot with this story.

This brings up a larger issue: in an age of growing corporate-owned media outlets, there are fewer and fewer locally owned and operated local media out-

lets. The Internet provides an outlet for people like Jim Hill to report specific beats, but if Hill and others like him are denied their rightful access to the beats they are constitutionally allowed to cover, something is wrong.

The First Amendment provides for freedom of the press and Disney, the owner of two major news outlets, should know this and make the spirit of free speech part of their core corporate values. Instead of censoring, they should be as open as possible, especially when their chairman is under fire for his management style.

The free press is constantly under fire from the public, and with good reason too.

With corporate controlled news picking and choosing what to report, we need more independent reporters like Jim Hill who provide objective, accurate stories as media conglomerates merge and get too big for their, and the public's, own good.

## End ROTC programs at State

Alexander Sheppard makes the case for ending ROTC programs at N.C. State that provide officers to the American Military.

Recently there was an article in Newsweek, among what appears to be a standard array of disgraceful articles, called "American Terminator." It says that America is "an empire in all but name," going on to bemoan several problems that are hindering our imperial power. The article identifies three "deficits" that we face in furthering our dominance.

The first is an "economic deficit," which has been caused by growing economic weaknesses over the last quarter century or so. The second is a "manpower deficit," caused by a shortage of troops to occupy other countries. The third one is the most serious, an "attention deficit...reluctance on the part of voters to tolerate prolonged commitments...in hostile territory." I strongly recommend everyone view this article; it is unusually frank.

In particular it seems to me that if we consider ourselves at all responsible or moral, then we should do what we can to try to increase as much as possible the second and third "deficits" that are hindering imperialism like those advocated by Newsweek. I would like to talk about what can be done to try to remove NCSU, as a university, from participation. The most obvious thing that comes to mind is to end university support for the ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) programs. Such courses as military science and naval science should be discontinued. Any NCSU facilities that are currently used by ROTC should be transferred to other fields. This is not a long-term plan. It should be done as soon as possible. Every semester that we continue to support these programs is another semester contributing to ongoing crimes abroad. I would like to see NCSU start its fall semester without ROTC on campus.

There are a number of concerns people may have about ending our support for military recruitment on campus. As a society, we are very saturated in militarist propaganda, which is used to get the public to support crimes abroad. For example, many people believe that the current wars, such as the one in Iraq, are protecting American security, defending America. In fact, they are a disaster for our security. There can hardly be a more provocative action to organizations like al-Qaeda than an unprovoked invasion into the heart of the Middle East. The tens of thousands of people who have been killed in this invasion, the deterioration of living standards that has followed, this will be remembered for a long time to come. World opinion was almost unanimously opposed to such an invasion; in fact, the only countries with majorities in support were the United States and Israel. It was, as is quite typical, a brazen

violation of international law.

What about the war in Afghanistan? The war in Afghanistan was not unprovoked, but it is nevertheless a great crime, for reasons that seem rather obvious when one considers the facts. According to studies by Marc Herold and others, the number of civilians killed by the United States and United Kingdom attacks in Afghanistan is probably around the number killed from Sept. 11, 2001 in the United States - although that surely understates the toll, because it doesn't include indirect deaths caused by wartime chaos in a very poor country. If this was at all reported, if anybody knew about it, I have no doubt there would be great pressure to find a less bloody course of action, but luckily for those in power, the public doesn't know. Sept. 11, 2001 of course received total news coverage; in the case of those in Afghanistan, their deaths received almost zero.

It is likely, too, that if not for militarism abroad, the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks would never have occurred in the first place. Osama bin Laden has said why he supported such attacks; he specifically mentions United States support for Israel, which has included roughly \$3 billion per year in military and other aid for the last several decades.

The United States is hardly a neutral observer in overseeing Israel's occupation, a gross violation of international law and numerous U.N. resolutions, the brutal reality of which is kept carefully from the United States public.

A second reason bin Laden cited is the stationing of U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia and the Muslim holy lands. There are also the sanctions on Iraq, which resulted in probably more than a million excess deaths in that country, with the United States as their main supporter. They were called "genocidal" by the former head of the U.N. humanitarian program there, who resigned in protest.

Clearly then, it is in our best interest, and in the best interests of our fellow humans elsewhere, to desist from military domination abroad. If we are to stop supporting this at NCSU, then ceasing to support recruitment efforts - increasing the second "deficit" - is crucial. It also appears obvious that ceasing such support will have a positive effect on campus culture, making it a safer, more secure place to be.

To name an example, as long as we host ROTC, we cannot have a campus free of discrimination based on sexual orientation. All our policy statements on the matter, if you read them, have exceptions written into them - we won't discriminate against you if you're homosexual, except in military and ROTC matters. Then we'll discriminate.

That's pretty terrible, in my opinion, and we should stop supporting it immediately.

Alex Sheppard can be reached at [viewpoint@technicianstaff.com](mailto:viewpoint@technicianstaff.com).

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## CAMPUS FORUM

To submit letters to Campus Forum, send your thoughts to [viewpoint@technicianstaff.com](mailto:viewpoint@technicianstaff.com). Please limit responses to 400 words. Technician reserves the right to edit for grammar, style and size.

### In support of Andrew Carter's column on the S-T-D chant at the Carolina game

I know this is probably the thousandth e-mail that you have received on this subject, but don't stop what you are doing. We need more people to be honest like you were today. I understand what you were trying to say about our crowd in your article, and it is very true. The chant was unnecessary and had no class. Becoming followers instead of leaders in the national scene would be the worst thing for N.C. State to do. Just because other schools make immature and inappropriate chants doesn't mean we should too.

We are, academically, one of the top schools in the nation, and we should be able to make chants that are intelligent, funny and effective enough to psych out the other team without being vulgar. An even more effective approach would be to simply be the loudest crowd in the nation. When the RBC center is so loud that you can feel the vibrations in your whole body, you know the other players are going to be rattled.

So instead of giving a steady S-T-D chant, why can't we just shake the house and intimidate the other players instead of chanting things that make them laugh. Some NCSU students took your article too literally and weren't able to recognize your sarcasm. The only thing that I can see wrong with the article that you wrote is that the tone is a little aggressive and attacking. I think that is why the student body as a whole has had such a negative reaction. An informative and subtle article might have been appropriate in this situation. Anyway, good luck with getting everyone off your back and keep writing the way you write.

Kyle Blakely  
Freshman  
First Year College

### Great fans don't stoop so low

I've read in several places this week that Technician Deputy Sports Editor Andrew Carter betrayed his school. Apparently, his crime was criticizing N.C. State students in this newspaper and on national radio for chanting S-T-D at a UNC player on Sunday. One thing seems to have been lost in all this outrage - he was right.

I was sitting in the back row of the RBC Center when the chant started, and I could clearly understand the chant. I was embarrassed at the time. I was even more embarrassed the next day when I had to explain to my friends who aren't State fans what the Student Wolfpack Club was

chanting. I tell anyone who will listen how passionate State fans are about their sports. I can't think of too many schools whose fans can create the rabid atmosphere of Carter-Finley Stadium or the RBC Center. But there are ways to create that atmosphere without crossing the line between supporting a team and being completely classless.

I've never had a huge problem with telling a player, "You suck," or chanting words that rhyme with "pull hit" at referees when they make bad calls. The chant at Sunday's game, however, went over the line. It wasn't clever, and no one will ever convince me that chanting something like S-T-D shows school spirit, no matter what uniform the opposing player is wearing.

Some students have pointed fingers at Duke and Maryland and said their fans have done much worse. That may be true, but the people chanting on Sunday go to N.C. State. And I know N.C. State's fans are better than Duke's, better than Maryland's and better than anyone else in the ACC.

I've seen the Student Wolfpack Club get into opponents' heads plenty of times without stooping that low.

In fact, I thought the students did a great job of annoying Nik Caner-Medley during Wednesday's Maryland game, and they didn't chant a word at him. They made the environment hostile to Maryland without bringing up something like the past drug problems of D.J. Strawberry's famous father.

The real question the Student Wolfpack Club should ask itself is this: Do you want the rest of the country to recognize you for the passionate fans you really are, or do you want them to consistently talk about you with the same disdain they show for Maryland fans?

It's an important question that a good sports columnist shouldn't have needed to raise in the first place.

Jeremy Ashton  
NCSU Alumni  
Class of 2002

### Why force students to graduate in four years?

In response to Tuesday's front page Technician report on the new task force to encourage students to finish in four years, a plan called Progress Toward Degree (PTD), a lot can be said.

Reasons: We are told that the university must improve its standing among other universities by graduating a larger percentage of students in four years. We are told that enrollment projections envision more students squeezing into the same facilities

in future years, so room must be made for them. We are told that students have not been planning their academic work efficiently enough.

Whose interests: Clearly, from the above, the plan serves the interests of those who treat the university like a business, as an enterprise to be made more efficient and cost-effective, which means scrimping on everything else to maximize output (graduates) and use of existing facilities with a minimum of new input. What about the quality and variety of education at NC State? In this plan, that is a secondary consideration.

Consequences: Tuesday's article states, "If students do not follow PTD requirements, the task force will not permit the student to enroll in any further undergraduate classes, unless he or she reapplies to their college for admission or enters the Life Long Education program."

Actually, that sounds harsher than the plan will actually operate in practice. Each student's adviser will be permitted to judge whether the advisee should suffer such consequences.

It is reasonable to give the advisers wide discretion, but because advisers understand the many good reasons why a student's graduation might be delayed, they will frequently use their discretion to excuse students from the ultimate sanction. Given that, how effective can the plan be in achieving a higher four-year graduation rate? And if it's not effective, why implement it?

Costs: This questionable plan will necessitate additional paperwork and anxiety for students, advisers and administrators. With advisers already overwhelmed by the amount of rules, regulations and paperwork in this university, do we need another set of rules, especially as they probably will not achieve their stated aim?

Why, again? Vice Provost Conway's claim that the plan will clarify students' goals and assist the advising process is not borne out of actual advising experience. In fact, there is widespread opposition to the plan across the campus from advisers and faculty, and the great majority of students is either unaware of the plan or ignoring it.

The PTD appears to be a purely administration-driven plan implemented for purely administrative reasons, without due regard for academic values, realistic knowledge of the advising process, or even a clear understanding of the relationship of means to ends.

Gerald Surh  
Professor and Adviser  
Department of History



# Small-town Sims big-time help

Freshman Abbie Sims is already becoming one of the softball team's top pitchers.

Stephen Federowicz  
Staff Writer

Youths all over the nation who grow up in small towns are often-times faced with the same agonizing question: What is there to do in this place on a Friday night? That's why there are sports. Just ask the Watersmeet Nimrods, of recent ESPN fame.

Artesia, N.M. is one such town.

"[In Artesia], you can either watch the grass grow or play sports," said N.C. State freshman pitcher Abbie Sims.

Fortunately for the freshman softball program at N.C. State, she chose the latter and Sims is one of four pitchers to appear in the early season for the Pack.

A multi-sport athlete at Artesia High School, Sims excelled as a member of the volleyball, basket-

ball and softball squads.

"Softball has always been my favorite, my true love," Sims said.

Her love for the game started the same way many kids with older siblings seek to emulate their brethren.

"My older sister was a pitcher and going to all of her games growing up really got me in to the sport," Sims said.

Abbie's career in softball began at the tender age of 5 when she first swung a bat in a local tee-ball league. With several more years of experience and a New Mexico 4-A state championship under her belt, Sims now finds herself in the midst of the Wolfpack's pitching rotation.

Ending her high school pitching career with a .60 ERA, Sims made it obvious to the nation's

collegiate coaches that she could retire a lot of batters.

"The great thing about Abbie is that she has so much natural ability," coach Lisa Navas said. "Bringing her on to the team, she can really get a lot of formal training and I can build a program around her. She really puts us in good positions to win."

On the mound so far this season with the Wolfpack, Sims is 2-3 with 34 strikeouts and 25 hits allowed in 34 innings of work.

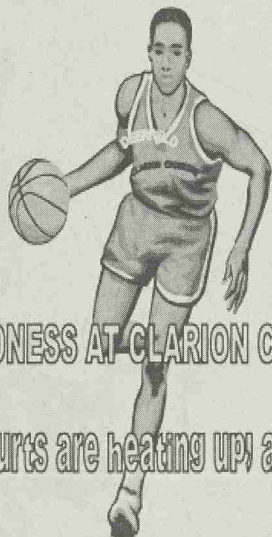
"Being a college softball player has not been what I have expected," Sims admitted. "It's very busy. Balancing academics with practices and games is not easy."

Abbie's warm personality and lively smile helps her through the rigors of college sports, say her teammates.

"She always has a positive attitude and genuinely cares about everyone else and their success both on and off the field," said teammate and freshman Allison Cuculich.



Abbie Sims



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## Apartments For Rent

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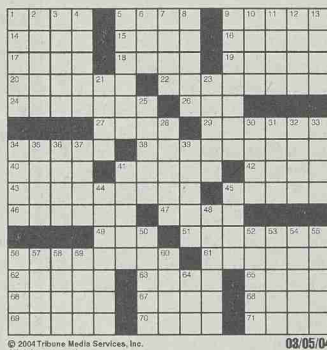
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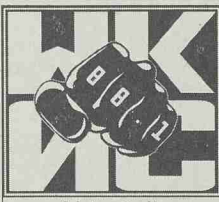
## Crossword

ACROSS  
1 Not quite shut  
5 Wedding exchanges  
9 Rabbit pen  
14 Delhi princess  
15 Dilemma  
16 Smell  
17 No ifs, or buts  
18 Dollar fraction  
19 Church code of laws  
20 Deprived (of)  
22 Future mallard  
24 Adrenal hormone  
26 Bluddy  
27 12/25  
29 Reprimand  
34 Manage  
36 Larger than standard  
40 Skater's jump  
41 Outdoor dining area  
42 Considerate  
43 Diverse group  
45 Piquant  
46 Swimmer  
Williams



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02/05/04



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## SHERRILL

continued from page 8

out there for the last time," Sherrill said. "Doing everything for the last time is tough."

Sherrill conceded it was "sad and disappointing" that he sat helpless while Maryland ruined Senior Night in a game in which he as a senior didn't even tear off his red warm-up pants. After the game he remembers cleaning out his locker, a physical reminder that his Wolfpack career was nearing culmination. His fellow seniors remember not being able to give him the win they thought he deserved.

"I wanted to win this game not only for myself, but for Scooter and Will [Roach], two guys who didn't play as much tonight ... Scoot didn't play," Melvin said. "It's really kind of heartbreaking that I couldn't win this game for them."

He'll have another chance tomorrow, while Sherrill sits and waits for his. "I don't want my last game to be against Carolina," he said.

Andrew Carter contributed to this story.

## KAWA

continued from page 8

may seem like another potential clash of personalities between Kawa and Foley, a repeat of their last match isn't very likely.

"You move on," Jordan said. "At this level, if prior matches begin to affect the way you compete you're going to have problems. Win, lose or draw you're only as good as your next match."

For Kawa, the next match is his final ACC Tournament and a chance at retribution for his senior night nightmare.

## CHONES

continued from page 8

dreaded bubble.

Senior Kaayla Chones understand the importance of the weekend to the team's postseason hopes.

"I've been hearing it will be good if we win a game in the tournament," she said. "But we don't want to go in there and just try to win one game and lose. We want to try to get to the final and then give whoever we play there a run."

On Wednesday, Chones was selected first-team All-ACC. The senior center was fourth in the league by scoring nearly 15 points a game, third in rebounding and fifth in field-goal percentage.

It is the third time she has been on an All-ACC team, having made the second team her junior and sophomore years.

The last time a State player garnered first-team honors was in 2000, when center Summer Erb grabbed the honor.

Also named to the All-Defensive team was senior Nanna Rivers.

"It's a pretty big accomplishment, I'm glad we had that turnaround because I never would have gotten this honor without it," Chones said.

That turnaround was the one that pulled State out of the ACC cellar and back into the tournament hunt.

On Jan. 15, the Wolfpack was dead last in the conference with a 0-5 record. Yow placed all the blame for the team struggles on herself, and there were even whispers that she might be los-

ing touch with today's players.

But then something clicked for State, and the team caught fire for the next nine games. It won eight of nine to rocket itself from last place to third place in the conference.

In the process, the Pack won a bona fide statement game at North Carolina, where talk of the team being NCAA tournament-caliber really picked up.

"I feel that we are one of the 64 best teams," Yow said. "I think that finishing third in the ACC, we deserve to be in."

Working against the Pack is its overall record of just 16-13, 8-8 in the ACC.

State played a brutal non-conference schedule, which included games against Texas and Connecticut.

Overall, State played the 24th toughest schedule in the country, something that selection committee members will take into consideration.

"Our schedule hurt us from the standpoint of overall wins and losses," Yow said, "but [the experience] helped us win games in the second half."

For now, the Pack isn't worried about strength of schedule or those non-conference losses so long ago.

Its focus is on beating Clemson and giving people one less reason to doubt their NCAA resume.

To Chones, winning means sticking to the two things that turned their season around to begin with: rebounding and defense.

"Rebounding and defense is our bread and butter," Chones said. "That's what we have to do if we want to win."

## KATZ

continued from page 8

"The story that my mom tells me is that I tried to imitate what they were doing on the sidelines," Katz said. "You are not supposed to compete until you are 2-years-old, but the coach came over and let me go ahead and sign up."

One wonders how at 18 months a student can do gymnastics.

"You can do little forward rolls, walk on the beam, stuff like that," Katz said with a smile. "Not the hard things, of course."

From that day, Katz has stuck with gymnastics, in which she began competing at 6-years-old. Today, she competes on vault and uneven bars for the Pack and works on the floor routine as well.

"Rachel has done a tremendous job for us and has been very successful in bars and vault for us," coach Mark Stevenson said. "She has also been working on the floor event, and will compete for us [today against UNC in the Wolfpack Invitational]."

Already, Katz has set goals for herself and for her team for the 2003-2004 season: Be successful and make the championships.

"I just want to be successful and now that I am in college, I want to help this team be as much as I can," Katz said. "Hopefully we can make the NCAA Championships and show everybody what we can do." As with a lot of athletes, Katz's biggest influence comes from within her family. In addition to her athletic siblings, Katz's mom also provided much encouragement.

"She was always telling me to stick with it," Katz said. "She was

never one of those people who forced me to do gymnastics."

Katz sent her recruitment tape to many schools. When the Bloomington, Ind. native participated in a meet in Charlotte, the state of North Carolina impressed her the most.

"I sent out tapes to different schools, starting out in my junior year. I chose between five schools and had official visits to them," Katz said. "N.C. State was my first choice, and since I loved the state, it was really convenient that State wanted me just as much as I wanted to come here."

Outside the sport, Katz is a big food fan. She has a place in her heart for cooking, and she is obviously very skilled at it, having taken cooking classes all four years in high school. Other than that, Katz's life revolves around school and gymnastics.

"I haven't really gotten into anything yet. My main focus is school and gymnastics," Katz said. "Cooking has always been one of my hobbies; I love to make pastries."

With spring break her and 19th birthday upcoming, Katz already has exciting plans scheduled for next week that has many students flocking to destinations such as Florida.

"Stay in Raleigh and train," she says. "I have never had a spring break or the opportunity to go on vacation. It's a price you have to pay."

Stevenson is glad Katz is willing to pay that price every day in practice and at the meets.

"We count heavily on Rachel," Stevenson says. "She is one of our strongest vaulters. If she sticks her landings, she is capable of pulling off a perfect 10."

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# Sports

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2004

## Senior day payback

Senior wrestler Dustin Kawa hopes for a rematch with UVA's Tim Foley.

**Brian Grossman**  
Staff Writer

It's Senior Night.

Your parents are in the crowd. They've supported you throughout your career, and now they're there to witness the last home match of your collegiate career.

With a victory, this match will be the culmination of a successful run at N.C. State and propel you into the ACC Tournament toward another conference title.

But something happens during the match. You're called for an illegal hold, an illegal head butt and an illegal slap to the head.

You are disqualified.

For senior wrestler Dustin Kawa, such a nightmare scenario turned into an unfortunate reality. During his match against then-No. 14 Tim Foley of Virginia, Kawa surrendered three match points for the illegal maneuvers, giving the Cavaliers six team points.

"It was a big match," Kawa said. "It was a conference match. He also happened to be ranked around the top 10 in the country."

While the one match may not have cost the Wolfpack the victory that day against Virginia, it is hard to overlook the six points because the Pack lost 22-21. It's also no secret that the Pack considers its senior trio of Kawa, Scott Garren and Jake Giamoni to be virtual locks for wins.

"You can't print what was going through my head [during Kawa's match]," associate head coach Carter Jordan said. "There were a lot of emotions. I was frustrated, I was disappointed, but we've talked about it. He knows what he did was incorrect and improper, and he doesn't need to do that. [I was thinking, 'You're blowing the match. Just wrestle!']"

Kawa became more interested in intimidation than victory, according to Garren.

"Anybody that knows him knows he has a temper," Garren said. "It definitely got to the point where he wasn't concerned with wrestling the kid; he was concerned with putting fear in his eyes."

In the 700 matches Kawa has wrestled throughout his career, he has never disqualified despite his aggressive style on the mat. It was, quite simply, a mental meltdown.

"He's a quality wrestler, but he's kind of a sissy in a sense," Kawa said. "My aggressive style butt heads with him being a sissy. I just lost my cool, and it hurt me in the end. I should have used him being a sissy in a positive way for myself, but I didn't."

With the ACC tournament this weekend in Charlottesville, Va., Kawa doesn't expect this blemish on his season to derail his pursuit of a third consecutive ACC title.

"The hype around the ACC is that he's clearly a better wrestler, but in my eyes, there really isn't a difference," he said. "How good everyone else thinks I am isn't really a good measurement of how good I think I am. I'm not concerned with what everybody else thinks; I can put on a show out there."

"Since he beat me I'll be seeded second, which hasn't been the case since my freshman year. We'll definitely meet in the ACC finals, and I have a pretty good feeling I'd put it to him."

While Jordan warns of looking straight to the finals, he thinks Kawa has better than average chances in the tournament.

"He's got a match to win before [the finals] that he's got to worry about against a pretty good kid," the Wolfpack coach said. "But in all likelihood, he's going to wrestle [Foley] again. I like our chances."

Kawa is eagerly anticipating the rematch as a chance to show that he is the better wrestler. And although he feels he needs to prove that, Garren thinks that may already be obvious.

"If I was the other kid, I don't know if I'd necessarily want to wrestle [Kawa] again," he said.

Although an impending rematch

KAWA see page 7

### Schedule

M. basketball at Wake Forest, 3/6  
Baseball at San Diego State, 3/5-7  
W. basketball vs. Clemson (ACC tourney), 3/6  
Wrestling in ACCs, 3/6  
Gymnastics in Wolfpack Invite, 3/5, 7:30  
M. tennis at Old Dominion, 3/6  
W. tennis at Clemson, 3/6  
Softball vs. Charleston Southern, 3/6, 1

### Scores

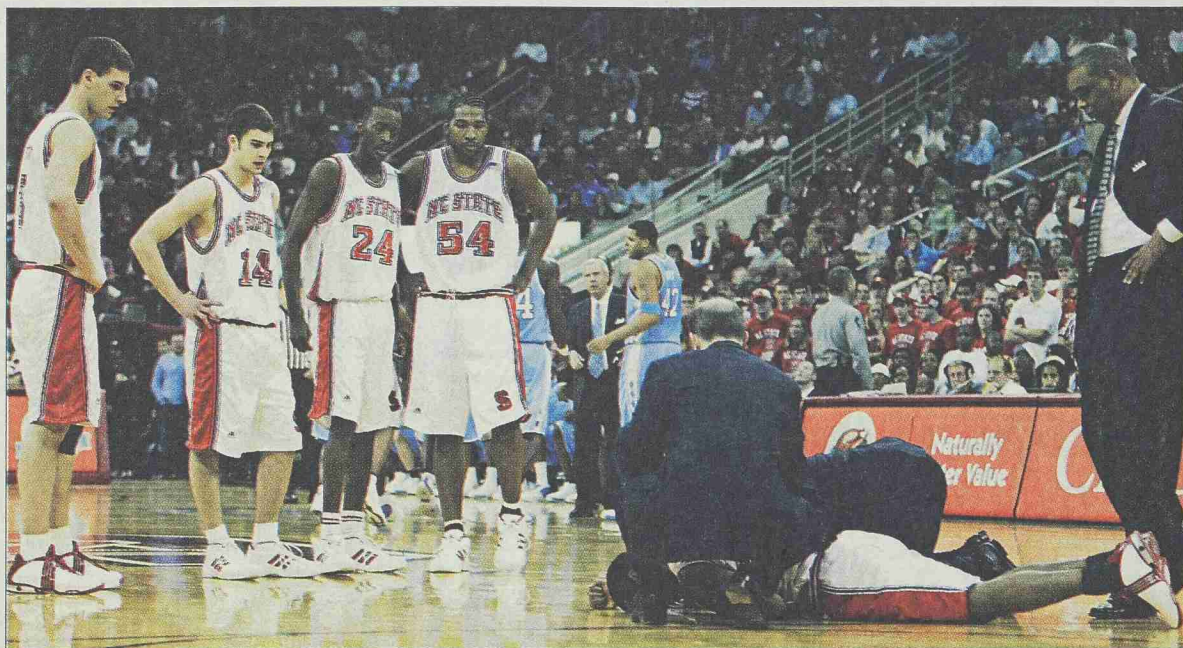
No games scheduled

Log onto  
[www.technicianonline.com](http://www.technicianonline.com)  
during spring break to follow all the  
Wolfpack's ACC Tournament action  
beginning Friday March 12.



## TECHNICIAN

# ACC Tournament return?



TIM LYTVINENKO/TECHNICIAN

Wolfpack teammates (l-r) Ilian Evtimov, Engin Atsur, Julius Hodge and Marcus Melvin watch a fallen Scooter Sherrill with concern. Sherrill suffered a grade two ankle sprain last Sunday against North Carolina and will probably miss State's game tomorrow against Wake Forest.

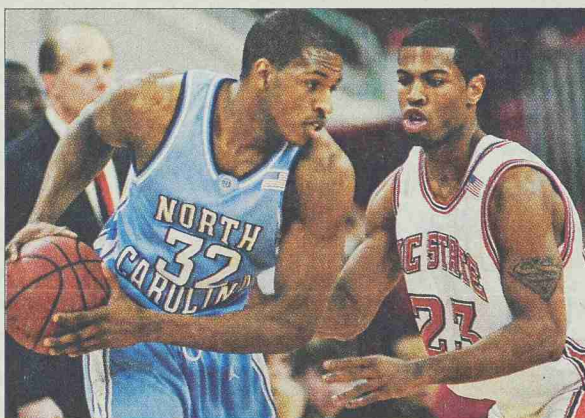
The senior will still probably miss tomorrow's game at Wake Forest but hopes to be back for the ACC Tournament beginning March 12.

**Matt Middleton**  
Sports Editor

Wearing a red sleeveless shirt, black sweatpants and a multi-colored throw-back hat, Scooter Sherrill sat in Reynolds Coliseum on a balmy Thursday afternoon with his left leg propped up talking about two things that have suddenly become one in the same: basketball and his left ankle injury.

The latter forced him to miss his last home game at the RBC Center — a one-point loss to Maryland Wednesday — and will in all likelihood sideline him for the team's final regular-season game tomorrow at Wake Forest.

Sherrill does, however, hope to be back for the ACC Tournament, which begins a week from today for the Wolfpack, who will be either the No. 2 or No. 3 seed, depending on the outcome of tomorrow's tilt.



RAY BLACK III/TECHNICIAN

Scooter Sherrill (right), playing defense on UNC's Rashad McCants, hopes to be back for the Wolfpack's ACC Tournament campaign, which begins March 12.

"[Associate athletic director for sports medicine] Charlie [Rozanski]'s saying that our goal is the ACC Tournament," Sherrill said. "We're not going to rush anything, but hopefully I'll be ready for

the tournament."

In the meantime, Sherrill, who suffered a grade two ankle sprain against North Carolina last Sunday, will continue his treatment regimen that includes four or

five one-hour-long sessions a day. During that hour, he alternates an electrical stimulation procedure with the application of ice.

Searching for a positive in the entanglement of disappointment and anger, Sherrill smiles and mentions the luxury of being dropped off right in front of his classes. That and one other on-campus amenity.

"I can sit here and say that I hate being in this situation right now, but at the same time there's a lot of girls coming up to you," Sherrill said. "Lots of females, lots of females; it makes you feel good."

"I wish I could change it, though, I wish it wasn't like this. But I am getting a lot of sympathy."

Including the support he was shown before the team's loss to Maryland. Along with fellow four-year players Marcus Melvin and Will Roach, Sherrill went through the pregame motions at the RBC Center for the last time.

"It was very emotional for me, the whole day's events from eating pregame meal with the fellas [and] just walking

SHERRILL see page 7



MICHAEL PITTMAN/TECHNICIAN

Senior Kaayla Chones, named first-team All-ACC this week, stands with her family during senior ceremonies.

## The turning point

**Austin Johnson**  
Staff Writer

Glancing into Kay Yow's office, it looks as though the N.C. State women's basketball coach might spend her free time on a PlayStation.

A controller lies across the floor, stretching out to a small conference table.

The other end of the cord leads to an entertainment center with a television.

But it's game footage, not video games, that concerns Yow.

It's designed so that the head coach and her staff can break down game film from the conference table, not square off in the latest version of Madden.

This week the group focused on Clemson, who will tip-off against State in the opening round of the ACC Tournament Saturday night in Greensboro.

"We were on a mission to move up [in the ACC]," Yow said of her

team's last regular-season meeting with the Tigers. "And Clemson came out flat. But they have always come out ready to play in the tournament."

The Wolfpack has more on the line than just staying alive in the ACC Tournament against Clemson (17-10, 7-9) though.

A win will all but guarantee State an NCAA bid, while a loss will put them squarely on the

CHONES see page 7

## Katz an early starter



RAY BLACK III/TECHNICIAN

Freshman Rachel Katz competes on the uneven bars during a Wolfpack home meet.

The freshman brings a fresh new face to N.C. State gymnastics after beginning the sport at a very young age.

**Memie Ezike**  
Staff Writer

Not many people can say they were involved in sports at 18-months-old. At 18 months, most children are concerned with living a typical 18-month-old life. But for a certain atypical girl, the 18th month of her life began a career that continues today.

In that 18th month, she watched her older sister and brother practice gymnastics. A certain interest caught her attention, and she began to imitate them.

Eighteen years later, Rachel Katz continues to imitate the same moves, but as a competitor for the N.C. State gymnastics team. The moves may be more difficult, the competition more fierce, but Katz always recalls the 18th month.

KATZ see page 7