

STUDENT GOVERNMENT



Students from several UNC campuses gather to voice their opinions about proposed tuition increases yesterday. After a short rally outside the legislative building, students met with legislators face-to-face to discuss various issues

UNCASG students rally for causes at **N.C. Legislature**

focusing on several differ-ent government topics, all of which affect students in the UNC system.

Some of the issues ASG are lobbying for this year include a salary increase for university professors and staff members

and allowing a student vote on the Board of Governors. Amanda Devore, master's student in accounting and president of ASG explained the

value of these increases, which can bring quality teachers otherwise drawn to campuses that can afford to pay them more

There is always the possibil-ity that raises will be deducted

from tuition fees, which will inevitably increase tuition, ac-

cording to Devore. But there is a solution, she said. "We ask that the General As-

sembly fund raise for money to increase salaries for university employees. Therefore these raises will not have to come out of tuition," Devore said.

Tuition issues are most im-

experience them personally." Events such as this one help to exhibit student support for state leaders and inform these

Although the event lasted a day, the ASG will continue to

work hard to ensure that their

proposals are kept fresh in the

minds of legislators by visiting

them every week ASG members are not the

leaders of student matters.

money.

Students tout

representation, faculty and staff salary increases as their top concerns

Jenell Jackson

Around 11 a.m. on Wednes-day, about 300 students from across the 16-campus UNC system filled the lawn of the

State Legislative Building. They anxiously waited for North Carolina's state legisla-tors to take the stage for the Third Annual Students' Day at the Capitol.

The day started with a rally in which N.C. legislators ad-dressed students and concern

for their issues. The event, hosted by the UNC Association of Student Government, allowed students from all over N.C. to meet with legislators from their distric and speak to them directly about student issues.

The representatives, prior to Wednesday's event, received a list of priorities drafted by ASG chairmen naming the particular topics the ASG wants addressed in Congress this year.

Jamen Miller, vice-president of the ASG, emphasized the importance of student participation in events such as this one.

"Most of the legislators are disconnected from the needs of students," Miller said. "It is important to get the student voice heard, so that [students] can have a say on issues that



focused Greeks have come under fire with the recent action against three fraternities on campus. Read how they changing their image. See page 3



STATE OF THE UNION

Bush addresses domestic, international issues

Rebecca Heslin

Among the familiar faces of the joint session of Congress gathered in the House of Repre-sentatives' chambers Wednesday night, one woman stood to show her appreciation to the nation. Shortly after President Bush told the story of Safia Taleb al-

Suhail's first voting experience, the young woman from Baghdad turned and hugged the parents of a Marine Corps sergeant killed during the assault on Falluja.

"Thank you to the American people who paid the cost...but most of all to the soldiers," Bush said quoting al-Suhail.

Bush used his State of the Union address to press the major issues facing the nation both domestically and internationally. "Two weeks ago, I stood on the

Union declared 'confident and strong'

"I wo weeks ago, I stood on the steps of this Capitol and renewed the commitment of our nation to the guiding ideal of liberty for all," Bush said. "This evening I will set forth policies to advance, that ideal at home and around the world."

On the home front, Bush spoke strongly about the modernization process that must take place in the Social Security system in order for younger generations to reap any benefits. "I agree with Bush's emphasis

on the need for Social Security reform and at least partial privatization of retirement funds," Rachel Collins, president of the College Republicans and a sophomore in political science, said. "This would allow for personal choice in the issue of retirement and social security as well as the

and social security as well as the ability of the citizen to make more money in private invest-ments than in the government Social Security system." However, Jessie Mendez, vice president of College Democrats and a junior in political science, said she encourages Republicans to scrutinize the privatization of Social Security.

Social Security. The government can't, won't and has never taken away an investment made in it by it's people," she said. "The market however, can, has and will take away investments made in it by

ne people." Aside from outlining his plans

for the future of Social Security, Bush also touched on issues dealing with education in the nation, his plan to "propose an amendment to protect the sacred institution" of marriage, the justice system, healthcare, environmental issues and homeland

security. "Bush did a great job of outlinbush did a great job of outlin-ing his intentions for governing his next term," Ben Rush, vice chairman of College Republicans and a junior in political science, said.

Bush concluded his hour-long address, which included 66 interruptions for applause and 44 standing ovations, by saying that the future of this nation "is uneven and unpredictable --- yet we know where it leads: It leads to freedom.'

REBECCA ARNOLD/TECHNICIAN Newcomers to "Dancing with Wolves" learn about the group's activities and practice times before hitting the dance floor for a rhumba.

Dances with Wolves offers lessons, competitions and teaching opportunities.

Erin Welch

With countless University and intramural sports teams, one team remains fairly unnoticed, tucked quietly inside the indoor track in Carmichael Gymnasium.

A club and a team, Dancing with Wolves consists of highly competitive dance couples who practice relentlessly and travel along the East Coast to "Ballroom dancing competitively is really athletic," Angelo Cristobal said. "It makes you really tired but at the same time you have to get all dressed up and look all good for the judges -– iť s

a strange thing for a guy." Cristobal, a senior in aerospace engineering, said he was in Carmichael Gym when he first saw Dancing with Wolves his freshman year, in the fall of 2001.

"At first I went just to meet girls like every guy does," Cristobal said. "After doing it for a few months, I found my girl and I just stayed because I liked it." Cristobal and Kayla Ewing, a senior in biochemistry, have

been dancing together for two and a half years. Ewing said she initially joined because she thought "it would be really formute or " really funny to go." "Once I actually got there and

saw there were young people there, I thought it'd actually be cool and I just stuck with it," she said.

Graham Staples, a junior in computer engineering, said he initially went to a Wednesday night dance lesson because he wanted to learn to tango. Staples learned swing his first night rather than the tango he'd

Want to dance?

Dancing with Wolves hosts free beginner lessons every Wednesday night at 8:30 p.m. in 2307 Carmichael

Want to watch? The club will be hosting the 2005 Triangle Open, the Seventh annual amateur DanceSport competition, on Feb, 26 in Carmichael Gym.

hoped to learn.

"I wanted to learn tango and they weren't teaching tango," Staples said. "I was a little bit disappointed but when I got out there, I was all about it, having a great time," he said.

DANCES continued page 2

BLACK LEADERS ON CAMPUS | FOURTH IN A WEEKLONG SERIES Professor seeks to educate on AIDS

Ashley Hink

James Kiwanuka-Tondo had no intention of ever living in the United States.

'I had no aspirations in the S.," Kiwanuka-Tondo said in his rich accent, courtesy of his home country of Uganda. Then he burst out into laughter.

While lacking any desire to work an ocean away and humored by that fact, the assistant professor of communication keeps his home country close to heart and a focus of his research at N.C. State.

Leaving behind a country and continent devastated by AIDS, Kiwanuka-Tondo's research and pas-

wanuka-Tondo's research and pas-sion is studying the effectiveness of Uganda's AIDS campaign. "AIDS is a global problem, every-body should do what they can to

bring down this process," Kiwanu-ka-Tondo said. "In some countries AIDS campaigns have failed. The Uganda AIDS campaign is working. I want to understand why it's work ing and my hope is that Uganda will be a model for other countries.

Aside from his research, Kiwanuka-Tondo teaches communication es at NCSU. In honor of Black History Month, Kiwanuka-Tondo is taking the time in his classes to talk about the month's importance and re-emphasize issues of diver-sity and equality made by his most influential black leader, Martin Luther King Jr.

Receiving his Bachelors degree at Makerere University in Uganda and his Masters degree in mass communication at the University of Leister in the United Kingdom, Kiwanuka-Tondo became the of the School of Journalism at the

Uganda Management Institute. During his time there, the school received a grant from a Denmark agency for nearly 500,000 to "up-lift the standards of the School of Journalism.

He then was honored with the prestigious Fullbright Scholar-ship and did something he never thought he would - live in the U.S. Before settling in Raleigh to teach and pursue his research interests, he received his Ph. D in 1999 from the University of Connecticut and served as a visiting lecturer there.

Now claiming to "love North Carolina," it's in the classrooms where Kiwanuka-Tondo finds one of the best rewards of his work "One of the greatest things about

work is seeing my students excel," he said.



James Kiwanuka-Tondo, a professor in communication, lectures his COM 486 class Wednesday about diversity.



Club team offers students more than just moves

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TECHNICIAN

TONDO nued from page 1

This month, his goal to see his students excel go beyond the scope of the curriculum and realize the importance of issues that have otherwise gone quiet.

Emphasizing the importance of Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech, he said, "This is a very important speech; it's an education for everybody - particularly for America because of its diversity. Equality is very important."

Talking about diversity and black history is about making people mindful," Kiwanuka-Tondo said. "The whole debate about diversity has disappeared. It's time to get back to this is-

Addressing issues of diversity, and more importantly, the complacency of people's feelings about the once lively topic in the classroom, isn't where his advocacy for blacks, if not everyone, ends, he said.

"Seeing my work contribute to the wellness of society is another great part of my work," Kiwanuka-Tondo said. "I don't want to do research that's put on

the shelf." AIDS has plagued Africa's countries - infecting millions, leaving children parentless and destroying social structures of entire communities. While recognizing Africa's despera-tion and focusing on Uganda in his records Kingendus Tendo his research, Kiwanuka-Tondo doesn't want AIDS to be seen as merely Africa's issue

"AIDS is the single most ning, not an end."

James Kiwanuka-Tondo

EDUCATION: Bachelors degrees Makerere University in Uganda; Masters degree in mass com munication: University of Leister United Kingdom; Ph. D.:

University of Connecticut HOW HE CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH: Emphasizes importance of Martin Luther King's teachings; continues to-educate area that AIDS epedemic is not just a problem in Africa

important problem of this

century," he said. Leaning up on his desk chair and suddenly becoming animated with passion about the issue, Kiwanuka-Tondo exposes the NCSU basketball player bobble head on his windowsill that seems to

be nodding in agreement. "People are not aware that AIDS is a problem here. Forty-six percent of new AIDS cases are in the Bible Belt, and people aren't aware of it - that's a problem," he said. "[We] need to be aware."

Kiwanuka-Tondo's re-search, however, isn't about finding a solution to the AIDS problem or a cure; it's about stopping the devastation of the disease for good. "It's a Western ideal to put emphasis on medical care.

AIDS will not wait for us to make a cure. Prevention is the

key," he said. When talking about debates of diversity and the need for them to continue, Kiwanuka-Tondo said, "This is a begin-

DANCES

Staples said ballroom dancing has numerous advantages. "I really like the release that dancing provides," Staples said. "It's a totally different world, not

a lot of people do it." "You get a lot of attention be-cause of it and it's a whole lot of fun," Staples added.

As a couple off the dance floor, Cristobal and Ewing both said one of the biggest challenges they face deals with being partners and dating simult nearshi face deals with oction and dating simultaneously.

Although Dancing with Wolves may bring some couples together, such as Cristobal and Ewing, he said dating and being partners can be difficult.

[The hardest thing for me is] trying to balance — being part-ners and boyfriend and girlfriend is pretty tough," he said.

Ewing said dancers have to keep a professional relationship on the dance floor, even though it is easy to get angry at one another on the floor when partners are dating. "It makes it hard because you

have to differentiate between your relationship on the floor and off the floor," Ewing said. "It's really hard to understand the barrier between [being] on the dance floor and off."

Cristobal said two of the cou-ples from the newcomer group he joined his freshman year are engaged and one couple is married.

"Most of them [the competitors] aren't couples, but if they dance together long enough, a lot of times they end up going out," Cristobal said. "I'm not saying that's a rule, but that's how it worked out for us."

You try to find someone at you're compatible with that and someone that has the same goals when you're dancing," Cristobal said. "Sometimes you get lucky

Cristobal said competitive club members must practice at least two hours a week, but most serious competitors practice around 10 hours a week

"If you want to go really overboard like Kayla and I do, we practice 20 hours a week," he said.

Hours and hours of practice doesn't calm competition jit-ters, though.

"We still get nervous," Cris-tobal said, "but it's not nearly as bad as it was when we first started."

Despite his experience danc-ing, Cristobal said North Carolina did not offer as many competitions as northern states. He said some competitors in the North compete every weekend, and because NCSU dancers do not get as much experience as these couples, nerves still exist. Ewing said that she and Cris-tobal have been in various competitions along the East Coast, including Georgia, Maryland

and a recent competition in Manhattan, N.Y. Traveling to various locations and competitions gives the team a chance to get to know each

other better. "Being with people, they just kind of become your family,"

Ewing said. Staples said he and partner Season Hughes had a hard time fighting off their anxiety dur-ing their first competition in Maryland.

"We were really nervous, that being our first time dancing in front of people we didn't know in a huge ballroom," Staples said. "The floor was outlined by the

crowd, you were dancing right in people's face

Although Cristobal said the club had approximately 100 competitive members and grows every semester, Staples said members have no obligation to compete.

'You can just come to learn the dances and be a part of the team," he said. "You're totally on your own for wanting to compete."

Staples said one of the ad-vantages of going to competi-tions is visiting various cities and locations outside of North Carolina.

You get to go to awesome places and see awesome dancers and have some time to yourself to tour around," Staples said.

David Black, a senior in electrical engineering, joined Danc-ing with Wolves after taking the 200-level ballroom dancing course. Black and his partner, Samantha Newton, a junior in psychology, do not compete, but dance for their own enjoyment. Although Black and Newton

are not competitive dancers, he said they practice about 4 hours

a week. Competing would eliminate the part of dancing which al-lowed him to relax, he said.

"[The competition] is not re-ally what I'm in it for," Black said. 'It's different from everything else you do here," he said. of us are engineering [majors], especially the guys, it's com pletely different [for us]."

Black said dancing required the science thinkers to utilize a completely different part of their brain, a side of thinking they don't experience in calcuclasses

Newton began going to the newcomer lessons with Black when she transferred to NCSU and the couple moved up to the Bronze team last fall.

"It's cool to learn the types of dances," Newton said. "You

do that [learn dances] now. Newton also said the club of-fered dance lessons at a cheap rate compared to personally

rate compared to personally hiring an instructor. "It's a good way to be active and have some fun," Newton said. Black and Newton, also couples off the dance floor, have found the same struggles that Cristobal

The same struggies that Cristobal and Ewing noted. "It makes certain things easier and certain things harder," Black said of dating his dancing part-ner. Dating made coordinating schedules much easier, but dat-ing also made it easier to get an-ory at each other while dancing gry at each other while dancing, he said.

The club has various levels for dancers including a newcomers, bronze, silver and advanced member levels.

member levels. "Moving up would be because of knowledge of your syllabus and a points-type system based on your wins in competitions and your performance and placements," Staples said. Advanced dancers are also given the opportunity to teach

given the opportunity to teach the social lessons on Wednesday nights.

Ewing says that teaching comes easy to her.

"It's pretty easy for us to teach. It basically becomes another subject in school — it's like teaching or TA-ing a class," she said refer-ring to the moves and terminology that must be taught.

But for some, teaching is quite a different story from dancing. "It's hard to teach, you have to

hink about every precise move you're making rather than just duplicate it," Staples said. "You have 60 faces staring back at you, some of them blankly."

According to Staples, moving through the levels of ballroom dancing and participating competitively is mostly a motivation factor

Really everything about the club is self-motivation," Staples said. "You take it as far as you want to take it.

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COMMENTARY

2 programs, 2 directions

Not so long ago, things were very different for the baby blue and vibrant red.

ing a run through the NIT before Georgetown ended its hopes of winning an honor that no one cares about. N.C. State

was making a run in a



Austin Johnson

different tournament, coming up one British sharpshooter short of advancing in the NCAAs.

After the season, dissent among the Tar Heels became so great that they ran coach and former player Matt Doherty out of town and began another search for a coach. Doherty had improved a team that lost 20 games the previous season, but Rashad McCants realized he was "BORN 2 BE HATED" and complained enough in his goth-like, self-loathing-yet-ar-rogant writing to get him fired. The Wolfpack was on the rise. The Heels were in disar-

ray. But, hey, what a difference a

Roy Williams makes Yes, the same man that had uttered possibly the greatest phrase ever heard on live tele-vision — you'll have to look that up if you don't remember — took over the reigns of the

Heels after that season. Carolina advanced to the sec ond round of the NCAA Tournament in his first year before losing to third-seeded Texas. Now, the Tar Heels are the No. 2 team in the nation and have shown the ability to literally

shown the ability to literally run away from opponents. "They are playing as well as anyone in the country right now," State Coach Herb Sendek said. "They are a great basketball team

Early in the conference sea-son, the Heels tore apart teams at home. They beat Maryland by 34 points, then beat Georgia Tech by 21. Most recently, the team has taken its act on the road, dismantling Virginia by 34 points in a game that was nowhere near that close

Prognosticators have already penciled in North Carolina for an April visit to St. Louis, an assumption that isn't far-fetched. The team has speed, a competent big man, a go-to scorer, a heady point guard and solid role players. Meanwhile, State is floun-dering in its ninth year under

Sendek. Despite another step forward last year - a second-place conference finish - State again came up short of reach-ing the Sweet 16. With two championship banners in the rafters, just making it to the rafters, just making it to the dance isn't enough for fans.

This year, the team has taken a large step back. In January, it actually took a tremendous step backward by losing to teams like Florida State, Virginia Tech and Miami. These are teams that the elite might lose to once in a season, but certainly not three times

In two years, Roy Williams has done what Sendek has not been able to accomplish in nine - build his program into a national power. The comparison unfair based on what each coach inherited, but it is a comparison that has been and will continue to be made because of the similarities between these two programs. Both have more than 10 ACC titles. Both are part of the elite club of schools that own multiple national championships.

This season was Sendek's chance to show consistent greatness, with the team





Freshman Gavin Grant raises his arms high in the shape of an X after big plays, representing his time in the Bronx. Grant moved there from Jamaica when he was 10.

The X Factor

When Gavin Grant arrived in Raleigh, he was known more for his ties to Julius Hodge than his play on the court, but the freshman has quickly shown he can be a difference maker.

Ryan Reynolds Deputy Sports Editor

Something is hidden in Gavin Grant's

It has been covered up with several speech classes and eight years of living amongst peers that enunciate each word with a thick Northern accent. But it doesn't hide the fact that Grant, a freshman forward that has seen his

playing time skyrocket during ACC play, spent his childhood there.

There is Jamaica — Kingston, spe-cifically — where Grant spent the first 10 years of his life. He lived with his grandmother in the island nation's capital city. "There's a touristy part of Jamaica

where everyone who visits goes to stay," Grant said. "That's not where I'm from. Where I grew up it was really, really rough.

Playing with a ball became Grant's way of coping with the difficult life of the Jamaican inner-city, but it wasn't a leather one he covets so much now. Bas-ketball almost doesn't exist in Jamaica. Grant can't think of any courts close to

UNC keys to the game

On Saturday, it was the Pack's inabil-ity to rebound that allowed Clemson to claw back into the game despite State's red-hot shooting. If Carolina can dominate the boards, State is in for a long night.

When Julius Hodge is allowed to get into the flow of the game, he can beat a team in a multitude of ways. But Duke's Daniel Ewing showed what can happen if you frustrate him on offense — tum-overs and hone chots

lian Evtimov and Engin Atsur will shoot from well beyond the 3-point line. Carolina shouldn't give the two shooters any cushion on the perim-eter, because the Pack can beat teams

overs and poor shots

from that deep

his old home. Instead, he played soccer. All the

"We would play pretty much every-where," Grant said. "We played on the streets and soccer fields. Sometimes we didn't wear shoes. It didn't matter.

Representing the Bronx

Grant walked toward half court with his arms high above his head in the shape of an X. The RBC Center crowd cheered as loud as it had all season, but Grant kept a blank stare and held his arms high. Moments earlier, he delivered a thun

derous dunk and was fouled on an alley-oop pass from teammate Cameron Bennerman during the first half against

Duke in an early January loss. It seemed like the perfect opportunity for Grant to break out the X. 'Everybody wants to know what that stands for," Grant said. "It represents the Bronx."

Grant moved to the New York City borough at 10 years old. His mom had moved from Jamaica to the Bronx five vears earlier and asked if he wanted to move to New York and live with her. Grant took the opportunity and left his home country behind. Two years passed before Grant would

get interested in basketball. After all, there weren't many people in the city that played soccer. Height wasn't a problem because he

was taller than most kids his age. But initially, the sport didn't come naturally for the Jamaican native.

"My whole family calls me Shane, so when people asked my name at the courts I told them Shane," Grant said. "They gave me the nickname 'S****y Shane' because I was so bad."

The crass nickname motivated Grant to improve his game — and he did. The summer before his seventh grade year, Grant attended a St. Raymond's basketball camp, His play caugh the attention of former junior varsity coach and cur-rent St. Raymond's Athletics Director Ronald Patnosh, who wanted Grant to

Jay organized basketball. The next year Grant played with the eighth grade team at St. Raymond's. "During my first real game I played terrible," Grant said. "I traveled like 10

No. 11 Gavin Grant

VITALS: 6-7, 190

YEAR: Freshman

BIRTHDAY: March 12, 1985 HOMETOWN: Bronx, N.Y.

CAREER HIGH: 14 points against

Mighta fect NOTEs: Went to the same high school as current NCSU teammate Julius Hodge...Nickname Shane given to him by aunt...Born in Jamacia, he moved to New York at age 10...Make's trademark X with both arms crossed after a big play — the sign is a testament to the Bronx...Enrolled in First Year College

times and was all over the court. It was But Grant kept improving and had a

solid season. During his ninth grade year, he played for the St. Raymond's junior varsity team and averaged 25 points per game,

catching the attention of varsity Coach Oliver Antigua. "Gavin, as a freshman, had a lot of talent and potential, but he wasn't maximizing all of that with his play,"

GRANT continued page 2A

No 2. North Carolina Tar Heels (17-2, 6-1) VS.

N.C. State Wolfpack (13-7, 3-4)

Top storylines

CAN CAROLINA'S POTENT OFFENSE BE STOPPED?

The Tar Heels have broken the century mark six times already this year, while State has hit 100 points just once (against East Carolina). The Pack's style of play usually results in an uglier, slower game for opponents.

But Carolina's lowest output of the year is 70 points, and it's also the only time they've failed to score less than 80. State cannot expect to be able to hold this offense to 70 again, which means its going to have to be hitting 3-pointers to have a shot. If the outside game goes cold for State, the game could turn ugly.

The Wolfpack hasn't had a winning streak since December, when it beat BYU and Columbia before starting a month-long downward spiral. The team has gone 3-6 since that time, falling from the top 15 and out of the NCAA picture. But with a win tonight, the Pack would move back to

an even .500 in the league at 4-4. The road ahead won't be any easier, as State has games at Wake Forest and Georgia Tech just around the corner. But walking out of the Smith Center with a win is the first step on the team's road back to respectability.

NCSU keys to the game

Carolina loves to run, and State has to find a way to keep the Heels from do-ing it. The Wolfpack offense may help some, but State has to avoid turnovers and get back on defense even after made shots.

HIT THE 3'S

The Wolfpack's already difficult task of knocking off the Tar Heels in Chapel Hill will become near impossible if State can't hit from behind the arc. Another 65 percent effort tonight would be a huge lift.

NEUTRALIZE MAY

When Carolina gets into the halfcourt, Sean May becomes its most danger-ous weapon. State has to find a way to deny him the ball so the Pack is not forced to double-team and leave shorters one ooters open

CAN STATE TURN ITS FORTUNE AROUND?

OVERHEARD,

Predict the final score of tonight's N.C. State vs. UNC basketball game.



"I'm not sure, I'm just pretty sure we're not going to win." Chatty Daniels nan, CHASS





"72-70, NC State, overtime Gerard Miller Freshman, art application , art applications



TECHNICIAN

"Carolina by 8" John Hunt Freshman, First Year college

GRANT inued from page 1A

Antigua said.

But potential helped Grant land a spot on the varsity squad his sophomore year, an impres-sive feat considering former St. Raymond's star Julius Hodge didn't even play varsity until he was a junior.

Grant didn't see much playing time that season, though.

"Not playing much his sopho-more year really woke Gavin up," Antigua said. "He dedicated himself to shooting jump shots, arithblicend biniseth excited dribbling and hitting the weight room. Then, Gavin really started to come into his own."

Being the best

St. Raymond's is the type of high school that always has a agreat basketball program. The all-boys school has won four out of the last five prestigious New York City Catholic League titles.

"We always have a bulls-eye on our back," Antigua said. "When we go against teams, they try to play their best to knock us off." That type of program produces great players, which attracts the attention of major college programs

Grant became the next star at the school that produced Hodge, Villanova guard Allan Ray and former Virginia guard Majestic

Mapp. He averaged 12 points and seven rebounds per game his junior season. His skill and ver-satility at 6-foot-7 caught the attention of N.C. State Coach

Aftention of N.C. State Coach Herb Sendek. "I just really loved his versatil-ity, the fact that he could do so many different things," Sendek said

Grant turned even more heads with standout play his senior

season "Gavin's got a lot of upside to him," Antigua said. "When he was a senior, he would be on the court and doing brilliant things."

the court and doing brilliant things." By the time his senior year had finished, Grant had led St. Raymond's to a city champion-ship and was first-team All-city, first-team All-State and the New York Daily News Bronx MVD. The recompilion excited MVP. The recognition sparked an interest from several college Grant hard, and Georgia Tech made a late push to land the coveted player. Instead, he chose the school that showed interest all along: N.C. State. "Coach Sendek recruited me

"Coach Sendek recruited me from the beginning," Grant said. "I wanted to be loyal to him. Also, Julius Hodge was down here and playing well, and I knew him and thought it could be a good opportunity." Grant considered coming to Raleigh last summer to work out with Hodge and get a head

out with Hodge and get a head

Instead, he opted to stay in New York and train with for-mer Connecticut guard and current Chicago Bulls rookie starter Ben Gordon. According to Grant, the practice improved all facets of his game, making him that much more ready for the college level.

Carolina

as well.

playing time early in the season, Grant now finds himself in the starting lineup and a go-to player for the Wolfpack. Two weeks ago he put on a show against Georgia Tech, scoring 13 points on 4-of-6 shooting from the field. After Grant hit one of

his two 3-pointers near the visi-

Athleticism yields 'Unlimited potential' When Grant wants food in the Bronx, he walks across the street. It's not so easy for him to satisfy his hunger in North Carolina, especially since he doesn't have a car "Here I have to call one of my

friends and have to can one of my me up and drive me somewhere," said

But he doesn't have any com-plaints about the people in North

Around the ACC ()



tor's bench, Georgia Tech coach "People here are so nice. Strangers will come up and talk to you," Grant said. "That would Paul Hewitt watched Grant as he hustled back on defense and simply said, "Wow."

simply said, "Wow." "He's improved seemingly ev-ery day. He has really emerged as a terrific young player for us," Sendek said. "We are relying a his recent play on the court has not only gained the attention of fans but opposing teams great deal on Gavin's productivity right now. After not receiving much playing time early in the season,

The transition from high school to college wasn't smooth at first, though. Grant watched most of the ear-

ly season games from the bench, occasionally playing a minute or two each half. He didn't antici-

pate this kind of start. "It got real frustrating because I wasn't out there playing," Grant

said. "But coach Sendek kept talking to me about things, tell-ing me if I worked hard then I

would get to play." Grant finally got his chance. Ironically, it happened during the Pack's worst game of the sea-son, a 63-45 loss to St. John's at Madison Square Garden in New York City. He registered 15 minutes that game in front of family and friends.

Despite his New York roots, playing a game at Madison Square Garden didn't mean as much to him as it did Hodge, who spent his whole life in Harlem

'It didn't have a special mean ing to me," Grant said. "Hope

Individual League Leaders Through Jan. 31

Scoring J.J. Redick, Duke 22.0 Guillermo Diaz, Miami 18.5 Julius Hodge, NCSU 18.3 **Rebounds** Shelden Williams, Duke 11.8 Elton Brown, UVa 9.6 Sean May, UNC 9.2

Assists Raymond Felton, UNC 7.2 Chris Paul, WFU 6.6 John Gilchrist, Md. 5.6

FG percentage Eric Williams, WFU .653 Jawad Williams, UNC .625 Shelden Williams, Duke .608

FT percentage J.J. Redick, Duke .932 Chris McCray, Md. .923 Jarrett Jack, GT .880 -AUSTIN JOHNSON

CAROLINA TEAM STATS hrough Wednesday

Scoring offense - 92.7 PPG Scoring defense - 69.8 PPG Field-Goal shooting - 51.6 9 3-Point shooting - 42.8 %

Points Rashad McCants — 16.6 Jawad Williams — 16.1 Sean May — 15.1

Rebounds Sean May — 9.2 Marvin Williams — 6.7 Jawad Williams — 4.2

Assists Raymond Felton — 7.2 Rashad McCants — 2.7 Sean May - 2.1

Steals Raymond Felton — 1.9 Rashad McCants — 1.7 Jackie Manuel — 1.4

Sean May — 1.0 SOURCE: NCSU, UNC MEDIA RELATIONS fully, I'll get to play there in the future, when I'm in the NBA." Such a goal doesn't seem so distant now. Grant has been a starter since the Virginia Tech

game and is becoming a focal point of the N.C. State offense with his driving ability and 3with his driving ability and 3-point shooting. But there's still something hiding within Grant beside his Jamaican roots. Something that can only be described by the person who saw his basketball skills develop fort head

first-hand. 'He does things on the court

that surprise himself," Antigua said. "He really has unlimited potential with his athleticism."

By the Numbers

3.63

Engin Atsur's assist-to-turnover ratio in ACC games, which tops the

5

Average margin of defeat in State's four

35

games Julius Hodge has scored in doubl

figures, which is best in the ACC

44

AUSTIN

ranked in the top 15 to begin the season and the possibility of making a fourth-straight

of making a fourth-straight tournament. But it seems like everything has gone wrong with State since it visited Madison Square Garden in late December. Now the Pack is out of the NCAA tournament talk and has a losing record in the and has a losing record in the last month.

"It does seem uncanny. One of our greatest challenges this year has been trying to estabyear has been trying to estab-lish some kind of continuity in practice," Sendek said. "We went to New York, and since that point, our team has yet to be whole again." The Pack still has a chance to turn the season around It

to turn the season around. It starts tonight at Carolina, a win that would erase a lot of the bad taste from the January losses. It doesn't end there, as the Pack would need to be as hot in February as it was cold in January to get a bid. Just like State could turn it

around, Carolina could still collapse. Any team with Mc-Cants on it is one "I am the most criticized athlete ever"

tantrum away from turmoil. Their man in the middle, Sean May, listens to Michael Jackson, Nickelback and Vanes sa Carlton before games. If that besn't scream soft, nothing does d. There is a 50 percent chance of having another sea son-ending injury based on his music choices alone.

The magnificent thing about college basketball is that you have plenty of chances. An ACC Tournament rally sends you right back to the tournament, where anything can happen. If you don't believe me, just ask Lorenzo Charles or Dereck Whittenburg.

Austin can be reached at austin@technicianonline.com



"I've never lost like that in my life, not even in a video game." - Virginia forward Gary Forbes or his team's 110-76 loss to Carolina Thumbs up Engin Atsur: The Wolfpack sophomore seems to enjoy playing ACC road games. In his last two, he's scored a combined 38 points and hit 10 3-pointers. Two of those were back-breakers to the opposition, leading State to two road wins.

Thumbs down

Quote of the week

Jo UWIN Inconsistent officiating: When Maryland beat Duke last week, the officials were going by the tried and true 'no blood, no foul' policy. A few days later, offi-cials went with a 'look, don't touch policy that grave the Blue Devils 49 free-throw attempts and a blow-out win over Virginia Tech

STATE TEAM STATS

The Fine Print

51.6 %

INDIVIDUAL STAT LEADERS

3-point percentage for NCSU in ACC games. league

204

two schools have squared off. State has played just two te — Duke and Wake Forest — more.

Kebounds Julius Hodge — 7.6 Andrew Brackman — 4.5 Ilian Evtimov - 3.6 Assists Julius Hodge — 4.4 Engin Atsur — 2.8 Tony Bethel — 2.7 4.4

> Steals Engin Atsur — 1.7 Julius Hodge — 1.4 Tony Bethel — 1.4

Blocks Andrew Brackman — 1.4 Jordan Collins - 1.1

Through Wednesday

Scoring offense - 67.0 PPG Scoring defense - 65.4 PPG Field - Goal shooting - 46.3 % 3 - Point shooting - 33.6 %

INDIVIDUAL STAT LEADERS

Julius Hodge — 18.3 Cameron Bennerman — 10.3 Engin Atsur — 8.8

TECHNICIAN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2005 · PAGE 3A



John Vance Sophomore, religious studies





"99 to 71, UNC wins" Kristin Stepneski



"96 to 75, Cai Kunal Shah e, biological sciences



"Carolina 91, State 70 Stanley Hassinger Senior, bioci emistry





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ocused

Fraternity membership has declined since the 1990s, which has left Greeks scrambling to figure out what is wrong

REVAMPINGTF GREEK AGE

STORY BY BEN MCNEELY

Esse quam videri.

Translated from Latin, it means "to be, rather than to seem." The state motto serves as a reminder to all to be mindful of identity. Right now, fraternities in America are go-

Right now, fraternities in America are go-ing through an identity crisis. Last semester, three NCSU fraternities — Sigma Phi Epsilon, Delta Sigma Phi and Sigma Alpha Epsilon — lost University rec-ognition due to hazing incidents. Sigma Phi Epsilon moved out of its house on Fraternity. Court, pulled out by its national organization for failing standards. They will re-colonize in the fall. Since then, the Office of Greek Life and

the Interfraternity Council have been in the middle of a national debate about the image of fraternities.

According to Greek Life, membership in fraternities has declined at N.C. State over the past 10 years. But Greek Life and the fraternities themselves are taking steps to make the chapters on campus live up to their stated standards.

But is it working? Chris Mangieri, vice president for public relations of the Interfraternity Council and

a brother of Phi Gamma Delta, or FIJI, said he media portray fraternity brothers as drunken buffoons" and perpetuate negative stereotypes. "That is a perfect reason to live up to the

toughest expectations, to live up to the creed," Mangieri said.

The creed is a value statement a brother should ideally live up to. Principles like brotherhood, friendship, knowledge, service and excellence are supposed to be at the heart of the Creed culture. of the Greek culture.

But the stereotypes paint a different picture

The stereotypical view of the fraternity living is riddled with empty whiskey bottles and demolished couches in front of a trash-ridden house, much like in the popular 1978 ridden house, much like in the popular 1978 film "Animal House." Rituals where initia-tions usually involve acts of hazing are still in the back of the mind. In fact, according to Paul Cousins, director of the Office of Student Conduct, pledges rush a fraternity expecting some level of hazing. Fraternities haven't been getting good press either.

A Duke fraternity party was broken up re-cently. They had inflatable pools filled with baby oil. Bikini-clad women were wrestling

in them, recreating a scene from the hit

Andrew

Schmidt

movie "Old School."

At Colorado State University, student Sa-At Colorado State University, student Sa-mantha Spady was found dead at a frater-nity house last September. As a result, CSU and the University of Colorado are placing stricter standards on Greek organizations, such as delaying when potential members can rush a fraternity or sorority. In fact, universities all over the country are taking a more acting role in their Greek

are taking a more active role in their Greek communities. In 2004, a report entitled "A Call for Value Congruence^{*} was released by a consortium of university presidents. The report stated that universities must look at their Greek communities and get them t meet their own standards or be kicked off campus. "Some universities were shutting out

Greeks because they were too big a liability,' Mangieri said. "It's sad, but it's true."

Fraternity national headquarters had to et their chapters to "clean up their act," Mangieri said.

Getting past stereotypes

Greek Life and the Interfraternity Council have been working together to create a list of standards that all fraternities at NCSU

GREEKS continued page 4

Standards are set to help the on-campus chapters



Mountz

Recent incidents involving three fraternities brought intense public scrutiny to the N.C. State Greek community and engendered discussion about the intrinsic value of these organizations on our campus. Many have offered broad criticisms of

fraternities and sororities, saying that re-cent incidents of hazing are the norm in all fraternities and that these groups got what they deserved.

Others have opined that the actions of a few have overshadowed the positive contributions of the other 40 Greek-letter chapters.

Several have pointedly criticized the Department of Greek Life for trying to get rid of fraternities on our campus through our recent actions. Quite the contrary, we hope to ensure the long-term future of these

groups on our campus. At their core, fraternities are values-based MOUNTZ continued page 4

Building a model chapter often takes some sacrifice

In recent years, the department of Greek Life, as well as many national Greek orga-nizations, has begun to establish standards programs for chapters in hopes of increas-ing the quality of Greek life and the general

image of Greeks on campus. These programs include specific levels of chapter participation in campus events, the establishment of chapter goals by officers and increased community service requirements. Although these programs are very helpful in maintaining a certain level of quality within a Greek organization, what really makes a model chapter is the mem-bers' efforts to hold on to the philosophies and practices set forth by their founding fathers

The Phi Delta Theta fraternity was origi-nally founded by six men at the University of Miami in Oxford, Ohio in 1848. They came together with a common goal to es-

SCHMIDT continued page 4

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW TWO STEPS FORWARD, NO STEPS BACK

OUR OPINION: GREEK LIFE'S PUSH TO HOLD FRATERNITIES TO THEIR OWN HIGH STANDARDS IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. WHILE IT WILL TAKE A LOT OF EFFORT, GREEKS NEED TO BE MINDFUL OF THEIR IMAGE ON CAMPUS AND WORK TOWARD POSITIVE CHANGE AND INVOLVEMENT WITHIN THE WOLFBACK FAMILY WITHIN THE WOLFPACK FAMILY

It was all over the news

Three N.C. State fraternities lose University recognition because of hazing. One chapter left campus to reorganize later in the fall. This past September, fraternity brothers found a female student dead in their house after a party at the Colorado State University. As a result, CSU delayed when pledges can rush fraternities and sororities Clearly, this has not been the year to be Greek

With all the negative press, the fraternity system in the United States, which is trying desperately to change its image, is fighting against stereotype-fulfilling situations that overshadow the good work that fraternities are doing on their respective campuses.

A few can really spoil the fun for the rest. Thirty years ago, it was common to see hazing in public. But now, to mention the word is to draw suspicion from the University and hushed conversations among brothers and sisters. It seems every time a fraternity takes a step forward, something happens and all progress made is destroyed. But Greek Life must carry on.

The standards set forth last semester are a step in the right direction ging the image of G at NCSU is not as strong as other Southern universities. Out of 28,000 undergraduates, only 1,701 are members of a Greek organization. Just on that alone, restructuring and retooling the image of fraternities and sororities should be a top priority. By creating an internal judicial board to handle minor infractions

and to be a resource for struggling chapters, the Interfraternity Council and member chapters have said they are willing to take responsibility for all fraternities in Greek Life. Through the standards program and through peer pressure, they will see to it that the negative image of

through peer pressure, they will see to it that the negative image of boozing and frivolous hazing of brothers will stop. In its place will be a fine example of what a fraternity should be about: brotherhood, service, honor and excellence all around. Fraternity brothers are held — and should be held — to a higher standard. They have taken an oath to live their lives by a strict code of ethics and conduct.

It is time for all Greeks to practice what they preach and re-earn the respect of the campus community.



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tocused

GREEKS nued from page 3

must meet in order to remain

Interimeter for the formation of campus. Jeff Skalka, president of the Interfraternity Council and a brother of Tau Kappa Epsilon, said the Greek community is coming together to police themselves through a 12-mem-her indicia board

themselves through a 12-mem-ber judicial board. "What we see the judicial board being is a resource to help struggling chapters, not to punish them," Skalka said. The judicial board has only been in existence for a semester, and they have alcoady heard

and they have already heard cases about rush violations.

"A recent case involved Sigma Pi, whose numbers have dropped It is the theorem in the second secon lon brother, said. Skalka said the consensus of

IFC is when a chapter breaks the rules, there is disappointment among the members. "One chapter can overshadow

a semester of good work," he saic

Thirty years ago, it was com-mon to see acts of hazing in public.

"The idea was if you had come to college, you had money, you'd join a fraternity," Mangieri said. "These days, students are working-class and come to college for one reason: to study and get

a degree." "Hazing is a fading part of fraternity life. Some chapters raternity file. Some chapters are moving faster than others getting rid of it," Turnau said. "The IFC makes sure that all the chapters know it is not cool."

Turnau said that when one fraternity slips up, they receive the ire of the rest of the community.

"There is nothing they can do. Their reputation is directly tied to IFC's reputation and the Greek community. There is tension between the chapters,"

MOUNTZ tinued from page 3

organizations founded to bring like-minded students together in the pursuit of common interests. Each organization has its statement of founding principles and all members pledge to uphold these principles as an

obligation of membership. For example, my organization requires me to "...be a good and loyal citizen ... " and to "...discharge the obligation to others which arises from the fact that I am a fraternity man." Other fraternities use dif-

ferent terms to outline their organizational values, but all organizational values, but all of the rich language can be dis-tilled into five broad concepts: brotherhood, scholarship, lead-ership, service and sisterhood. In 2001, we adopted these five concepts as the Pillars of Greek Life to provide a philosophical road map for our chapters. Subsequently, student lead-ers expanded upon the Pillars

ers expanded upon the Pillars by developing the Standards Program for NCSU fraterni-ties and sororities. These 10 shared principles and their accompanying requirements provide clear objectives for our organizations. Just as faculty members set objectives in the classroom, we have set objectives in the tives for our fraternities and sororities The unique aspect of our

Standards Program is that it asks chapters to meet their own

Every national fraternity and sorority expects its local chap-ters to encourage community service among its members. So

Every organization requires its chapters to promote scholarship among its members. So do we. Every group wants its members to be involved in other campus organizations. So do we.

We ask that our chapters live up to their own stated purposes in all of their actions. I believe strongly in the fuTurnau said.

The problem with hazing is that much of it is rooted in tradition within the fraternity. "It's hard to knock out tradi-

tion," Skalka said. But there are traditions — such as learning the history of the fra-ternity, the creed, the signs and symbols of the chapter—that pledges must learn in order to be a full brother.

"Some might misconstrue this as hazing, but it's not. It's instill-ing the values of the group into the new member," Mangieri said.

"You can't hide hazing. Some-one will find out about it. If you don't haze, you have nothing to worry about," he added.

'Being who we say we are' University presidents, national fraternity and sorority leaders and student affairs administrators came together in 2004 to confer on a document stressing the importance of univer-sity involvement in their Greek communities. The document, "A Call for Values Congruence" listed several actions university presidents should take in order to ensure Greek organizations are performing up to their own standards — including reaffirm-ing the importance of academic excellence in Greek organizations, spelling out acceptable and unacceptable behavior and external review of Greek life

"If a brother is living the ritual [the chapter's standards] and if the pledges are taught to live the ritual, then it is easy," Mangieri said.

said. Some national organizations, in implementing new standards for their local chapters, have eliminated pledging. When Sigma Phi Epsilon returns to NCSU, they will be a "Balanced Man" charter where those who Man" chapter, where those who rush automatically become brothers

But Skalka disagrees with that.

"The pledges are what frater-nities are built on," Skalka said.

ture of fraternities and so-rorities at NCSU. Many other NCSU students, staff, faculty and alumni share that belief We will continue to support our organizations as they pursue activities that directly support their organizational values and our community standards.

We cannot, however, sup port activities or behaviors that violate the law or the Code of Student Conduct. Nor can we support activities that are wholly inconsistent with our shared fraternal values.

When groups do not act in concert with these values we attempt to intervene and get them back on track. This happens regularly through our interactions with student leaders, chapter advisors and

national representatives. There are times, like this past semester, when the nec-essary interventions bring serious repercussions. These cases represented

some of the most serious situations in recent history, but I remain confident that the organizations involved will eventually return to our community stronger and more committed to their fraternal values. We have some outstanding

we have some outstanding fraternities and sororities at NCSU. Others are striving to become better. We will con-tinue to provide professional advising to our chapters and to challenge them to meet our standards.

We will continue our efforts to expand our com-munity and strengthen our individual chapters. We will continue our renovation of the Greek Court facilities. One thing that will not change is our commitment to helping Greek organizations and their members succeed in their worthwhile endeav

John Mountz is the director of Greek Life. E-mail him at forum@technicianonline.com



come to college, you had money, you'd join a fraternity. These days, students are working and come to college for one reason: to study to get a degree."

-Chris Mangieri, vice president for public relations of the Interfraternity Council

"It's like a corporation, where the brothers are figureheads and the pledges are the workers. The workers solidify a strong base. Later on, they will make the executive decisions.

The standards must be taught to the pledges by the brothers, though, Mangieri said.

though, Mangieri said. "If done right, pledging can be a beautiful process," Mangi-eri said. "It instills values and is very spiritual." With the new standards in place, it is "survival of the strongest" — which chapter can best fulfill the Greek ideals, said Skalka. According to Mangieri, the biggest mistake fraternities are making is not advertising

are making is not advertising themselves enough.

"Chapters have not done a good job at getting folks out to

SCHMIDT ontinued from page 3

tablish a group of men who could share a certain set of moral values, live by an established code and hold each other accountable to be, "bet-

ter than average." Since then, every new mem-ber of a Phi Delt chapter has signed their name and agreed to the standards set forth by our founding fathers. I would be lying if I said I believed that every chapter has stuck to this code, but it is the chapters who make a conscious effort to abide by these rules that consistently win awards and gain respect both on campus and within the community.

Most fraternities at N.C. State have similar roots. They were all founded on solid principles by a group of men who wanted to be different from the rest. What I think has been lost over the years is the sense of basic human decency and respect for others. It is my firm belief that our

founding fathers did not hope and expect for hazing, exces-sive drinking and low grades to become a part of their mas-ter plan. Unfortunately, somewhere along the way, these flaws became synonymous

with fraternity life. The "Animal House" view of Greek organizations has not only produced a cloud of negativity around fraterni-ties, but it has also attracted individuals to the O munity who agree with these practices, further lowering the quality of chapters. Although it seems like a different chapter is being accused of unlaw-ful acts every day, there are still good chapters at NCSU and throughout the nation that stand firm for the ideals their members have agreed to.

While standards programs can help foster positive changes, a truly great chapter is formed when the members work together to accomplish a task because they are proud of



to improve, fraternities have on the hot seat to live by their own rituals.

for academics, athletics and brotherhood. We have done so by sticking to the roots of our organization.

In addition, all of us under-stand that while we all joined to make friends and boost our social life, we must also take the time to put forth the effort and maintain our own core standards. In doing so, I have personally experienced the benefits gained when compared to the typical college career. As with most good things, this is only achieved through certain

sacrifices. Undoubtedly, the most controversial time in our chapter's existence was when we switched to an alcohol-free house in 1997. The new standard divided our chapter. However, it was a sacrifice we However, it was a sacrifice we made to not only increase the standard for excellence, but also re-establish our belief in the moral guidelines we have all agreed to. And that is what I believe makes a model chapter. It's a group of men devoted to each other, to those that came before them, and most importantly, the standard which unites them all.

The members must under-stand that while they are only in college for a short time, their actions reflect on every member past, present and future. That is why in Phi Delt, we follow one of our original mottos to "transmit the fraternity, not only not less, but greater than it was transmitted to me."

Andrew Schmidt is the president of Phi Delta Theta. E-mail him at forum@technicianonline.com

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Schedule

Men's basketball @ UNC, 2/3, 7 Women's basketball vs. Virginia, 2/3, 7 Baseball vs. Delaware State, 2/4, 3 Wrestling @ Old Dominion, 2/6, 4:30 Gymnastics in Governor's Cup, 2/5, 7 Women's Tennis @ Louisville, 2/5, 2 Men's Tennis @ Yale, 2/4, 2:30 M. Swimming & Diving vs Carolina, 2/4, 5



Inside: Technician Gameday We've got tonight's rivalry game wit UNC covered. See four-page insert.

-TECHNICIAN

Scores

No games scheduled.

SOFTBALL Desert transfers lead youthful Pack in encore

Ian Jester Senior Staff Write

The inaugural season of N.C. State softball lingers as one of several memories in 2004, when coach Lisa Navas signed 18 hope-ful spirits, all bearing thoughts to build a novel legacy foreign to the history of Wolfpack athletics.

Sports THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2005

Those 18 players cultivated a 32-27 overall record with three ACC wins, but only 17 of them harbored an active status for the season-ending ACC tour-nament loss to Maryland, the resulting effect of the events of March 26.

It was the date that pitcher and outfielder Lee Hasper tore her ACL, just a month after breaking a bone in hand, and confined to the dugout she could only cheer on her teammates continuing to create their softball heritage.

"It was a rough year but it helped me strive for next season," Harper said. "Being there for the players was enough for me, and now it's time for me to show what I can do in my last year.

Now Hasper returns as the lone senior and team captain on a 2005 squad loaded with youth and potential. A transfer from Glendale Community College in Arizona, Hasper earned the title of captain despite a lack of play-

of captain despite a lack of play-ing time, according to Navas. "I don't want to say it's just her age, but that has a lot to do with it," Navas said. "She works well with us as a coaching staff and she's always been the older one that the kids have turned to. It was an easy transition to make.

Navas returns 13 players from 2004 and adds seven newcomers to a team looking for a breakout encore year. Of the seven, junior Glendale transfer Tess Corona Glendale transfer fess Corolla will hold down second base for the Pack, after falling in love with the East Coast like Hasper. "When I came to visit I just felt at home," Corona said. "Navas is a lot like coach [Laura] Do-drill that Lee and Lauraf for at

drill that Lee and I played for at

FOOTBALL



Glendale. And since I got along so well with coach 'D' I knew playing for Navas would be spe-cial as well." Navas owns a more than spe-

cial past with Dodrill. "Their head coach was some

"Their head coach was some-one that I played against in high school," Navas said. "I've known coach Dodrill for a long time, and when I needed to put together a program I called ev-eryone I knew. She told about there and Lwart out to Arizona them and I went out to Arizona and watched Lee play last year, and Tess was someone we didn't see until late but she brings us a big stability in the infield."

The sophomore class presides over the roster with 11 second-year players, returning the top two freshmen pitchers in the ACC from a year ago in Abbie Sims and Shaina Ervin. Twenty-Sims and Shaiha Ervin. I wenty-game winner Sims torched op-posing batters with an average of 9.1 strikeouts per seven innings, while Ervin collected back-to-

back no-hitters. "Last season a lot of things were unknown, playing in uncharted territory, but this season we feel more confident and maybe just not as nervous," Sims said. "Last year I had the element of surprise in that no one had seen me, so

I'm just going to have to be more consistent and hit my spots on a regular basis." Adding to the pitching rota-tion will be freshman Brooke Isley and Megan Dalthorp, both of whom Navas said performed superbly during the fall season.

We have two more pitchers that will take the pressure off Ab-bie and Shaina, so that we don't have to rely on them every game like last year," Navas said. The infield returns third base-man Jennifer Chamberlain, last

year's No. 2 home run hitter in the ACC, as well as fellow sophomore Heather Galbard, who led

the team in hits, batting average

the team in hits, batting average and doubles last season. "In the infield we have a lot of good kids in lots of different positions," Navas said. "Heather Galbard had to make a big change for us last year moving from third to second base, and we've brought in another second baseman and a shortstop and baseman and a shortstop and that helps us with depth."

Although she has the talent she wants, Navas said the building process will still take another two or three years to reach her goals for the program.

"This is a good group of kids that enjoy being around each

Returning leaders

- Jennifer Chamberlain
- .305 BA, 12 HR, 29 RBI Heather Gelbard .315 BA, 13 Doubles, 20 RBI
- Miranda Ervin .315 BA, 6 HR, 25 RBI
- Pitching Abbie Sims
- 20-11, 1.90 ERA, 248 Ks Shaina Ervin

10-13, 2.16 ERA, 188 Ks other, and they work hard to-gether," Navas said. "They still have a youthful attitude and they

want to be good."

Running backs, linemen highlight 2005 recruiting class



Andre Brown was the North Carolina AP player of the year in 2003.

Joe Overby enior Staff Writer

There was no Harley-Davidson motorcycle entrance to coach Chuck Amato's signing day press conference Wednesday; nor was there any last-minute serenading from Amato, wooing recruits to N.C. State.

N.C. State. Nonetheless, Amato said he is excited about the 24 new-est members of the Wolfpack football team, which includes Parade All-American running back Toney Baker. "We just had one of the best

we just had one of the best recruiting classes that you could have," Amato said. "Our needs were met. I'm tickled pink." Baker, who is North Carolina's

all-time leading rusher and third all-time nationally, highlights the class. The Jamestown na-tive ran for 10,220 yards for his career, including 3,030 and 38 touchdowns his senior season. He is regarded in many circles as one of the top-five running backs in the nation. Joining Baker in the Wolfpack backfield will be Andre Brown, who played at Hargrave Military Academy last season after being named North Carolina AP player of the year in 2003.

"You got two running backs who were Parade All-Americans

to add the two we had last year. People like that come in and are ready to fight for a starting posi-tion," Amato said.

Baker and Brown combine

outstanding speed, size and receiving ability, which Amato said will pay dividends. "Im excited. [Running backs]

coach Portee is smiling more now, he's 15 years younger knowing that he got those people," Amato said. "They're physical backs – they both can run north-south. They both can run away from you. Toney Baker run away from you. Toney Baker has such great vision, it's hard to get a shot on him. Andre's the same thing, he's just 10 pounds bigger. They both can catch the football."

Another skill-position player signed was quarterback Mike Greco, who is known for his quickness and rushing abil-ity more so than his passing attack

'He ran a tremendou the combine down in Miami," Amato said. "He and that kid Smith were the two fastest kids clocked in the camp. All of our coaches were sold on what he did

and how he did it it." During the U.S. Army All-American Bowl in January, Baker announced his intention to sign with State, and encouraged the

lineman Amato was recruiting at the time to join him. Amato said it was important to solidify the Wolfpack's presence in the trenches.

"Tony said 'All you big linemen come and block for me," Amato said. "Our objective was to sign linemen and we got them. That's

Among the top offensive line-men signed were 6-6, 320-pound Curtis Couch and 6-5, 313-pound Brandon Jeffries. Couch was one of the top recruits to come out of North Carolina and Jeffries is a transfer after playing "Jeffries is kind of like a JUCO

but he's gone through two years of a structured program like Tennessee," Amato said. Amato said he is excited about

the size Couch and Jeffries bring to the line.

to the line. "He's [Couch] big. He's got an awful lot," Amato said. "They combine for 700 pounds. I'll have fun with them."

Eight of Amato's signees are 280 pounds or heavier, and 13 are over 6-foot-44. "We signed a lot of height. A

lot of the players we signed are 280 [pounds] or better," Amato said. "We've got a chance to give Winn-Dixie and Baby Beefa run for their money.

Amato emphasized the importance of continuing to sign North Carolina natives and not letting top prospects venture to other states. The Wolfpack signed 10 players from North Carolina. You have to put a fence around

North Carolina," Amato said. "We've got to convince kids in this state that they don't need to leave. The grass is not greener." Amato said perhaps his biggest

Amato sato pernaps his olggest recruit wasn't even a player at all. Friday, former NFL assistant Marc Trestman was hired to be the offensive coordinator.

"Probably the guy we had to fight the hardest to get was Marc Trestman," Amato said. "And that was the biggest fish we got the binger we got, the biggest recruit we got. But every kid we got, it was a fight.'

Amato credits the diligence of his coaching staff for the success in recruiting, especially considering the challenges faced this year due to no bowl appearance and shifts on the coaching staff. Amato said more effort was focused on telephoning and visiting recruits.

'Recruiting is not a one-man game. It's a team effort. I can't say enough of the coaching staff," Amato said. "Those coaches busted their fannies."

