

TECHNICIAN

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WebAssign fee faces opposition

Students take action against the new WebAssign fees in Senate

Cynthia Marvin
Staff Writer

WebAssign, a program developed at N.C. State by faculty, but more importantly, developed for students at, is implementing a student fee beginning this summer session.

However, students have not been welcoming toward the change in the current system.

"Something must have gone wrong a long time ago," Forrest Hinton, a sophomore in mathematics education and a senator, said. "It's become a money-making scheme, it was developed here; I just don't understand it."

While acknowledging the benefits of WebAssign, Hinton can't fathom this extra charge.

Hinton was so bothered by what he referred to again as a "money-making scheme" he said, "I decided to draft a bill, the WebAssign Zero Charge Act. This will be my main focus until we resolve this."

Many students have been asking why WebAssign doesn't just charge students a flat rate versus charging per course. According to Bill Padgett, director of computing services, WebAssign could charge a flat rate but that is not their chosen business model.

"WebCT Vista is a software product that the University has purchased and we can use state and ETF funding. We evaluate other products similar to WebCT and when the campus makes a decision of the best product for our campus, the price is negotiated," he said. "Often the price will help determine the final product we purchase since value and cost is an important part of the decision."

Padgett went on to note that WebAssign, since its development in PAMS, has built-in scientific language and symbols where products like WebCT does not.

"When creating problems that require scientific nomenclature, you can see the advantage," he said. "WebAssign won't be charging NCSU professors anything like they do to other universities."

Padgett said the decision regarding how much and who to charge was a WebAssign decision.

"But again, the state has said no state funding can be used for WebAssign; so having a department, college or faculty member using departmental or college funds to pay for WebAssign is not an option," he said.

Since WebAssign became a private company three years ago, the University and ETF funding has paid for it. According to Padgett, several years ago, the cost was approximately \$200,000, but it is at an anticipated cost of \$270,000 this year.

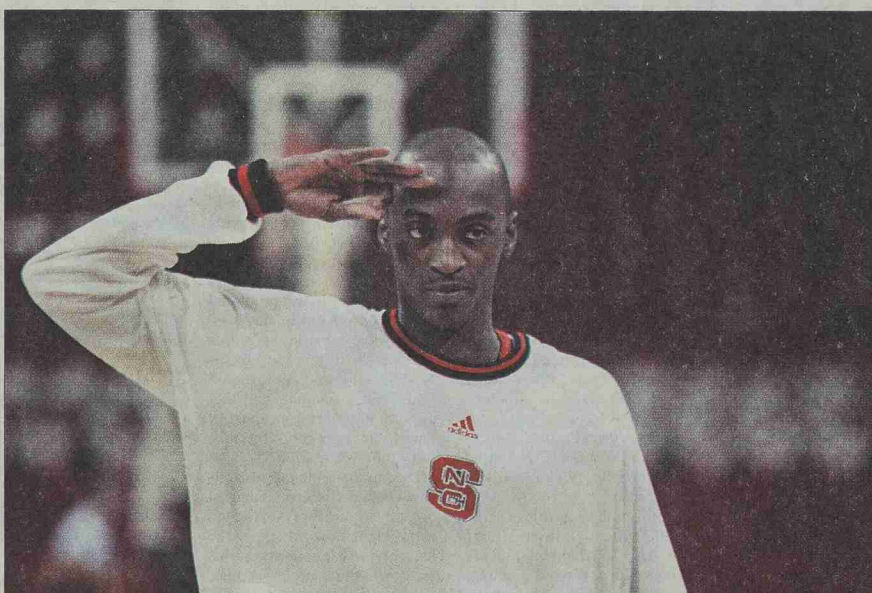
"It is still currently paid by ETF funding. As more faculty decided to use WebAssign, the cost increased," he said.

The business model for WebAssign has no choice but to move to the bookstore model. Padgett said he would expect the faculty would carefully weigh their selection of testing programs — just as they do for the textbooks they chose to use for their classes.

Sam Averitt, the vice provost for information technology, is also involved in the decision to move to this bookstore model for WebAssign.

"Basically we find ourselves in a very difficult situation. On the one hand, WebAssign demonstrably benefits learning outcomes in the areas of physical and mathematical sciences," he said. "Other peer institutions are

WEASSIGN continued page 2



Julius Hodge might be playing his final game at the RBC Center when he takes the court on Sunday against Wake Forest.

Reflecting and expecting greatness

HODGE, WHOSE FOUR-YEAR CAREER PUTS HIM AMONG THE GREATS AT N.C. STATE, MAY BE TAKING THE COURT AT THE RBC CENTER FOR THE LAST TIME ON SUNDAY

STORY BY AUSTIN JOHNSON

For Julius Hodge, life has always revolved around two people — his older brother Steve and his mother, Mary.

Long conversations with his mother and brother ended with a decision to return to N.C. State for his senior year, and today, when the subject of mentors comes up, Hodge immediately points out the two as the biggest influences in his life.

Appropriately, both mom and brother will be at center court when Hodge is honored for what may be his last game at the RBC Center on Sunday night.

"It will be really special," Hodge said. "Just to see the smile on my mom's face."

Steve admits things will get emotional for the Hodge family.

"Of course," Steve said. "You hate

to see it come to an end, but at the same time you realize it's time for him to move on to bigger and better things."

But Hodge said he doesn't believe the emotions will get to him. He claims to be too focused on the game against Wake Forest, a game that may determine State's post-season destination. A loss would probably mean an NIT bid unless the Wolfpack wins the ACC Tournament next week. The NIT gives Hodge at least one more game at the RBC Center, a situation the senior doesn't want to see happen.

"Definitely, this should be my last game in Raleigh," Hodge said.

Hodge's farewell season wasn't supposed to be this difficult, though. The reigning ACC Player of the Year and two-time first-team All-ACC per-

former was to lead a talented squad that came into the season ranked in the top 20 nationally.

But a rash of injuries in late December and poor play for well over a month resulted in the Pack lurching to a 3-7 conference record. Hodge's post-game interview sessions, which were filled up with wide-toothed smiles and jokes last season, became interrogations as to what was going wrong. As the losses piled up, frustration mounted. Junior Ilian Evtimov, who has spent four years with Hodge, saw the struggles his teammate went through.

"This year has been tough for Jules because we haven't won," Evtimov said. "We all hate losing but Julius has been in the gym working out before

HODGE continued page 2

Nightwalk enlightens darker side of campus

Students take nighttime tour of campus to see which areas need more safety precautions

Erin Welch
News Editor

Around every corner someone else chimed in with additional findings or suggestions.

"There's one," Andrea Brooks said, excited to have spotted another one for the list.

"It's kind of like an Easter egg hunt," Garden Freeman, the superintendent of maintenance in the Facilities Division, said.

But Brooks and the eight other students in the group weren't looking for Easter eggs, they were spotting places "where the boogeyman might be," as Freeman said.

Students documented burnt-out and broken light bulbs and general areas that did not feel safe as part of Thursday's nightwalk aiming to point out areas around campus which could be made safer for students beyond daytime hours.

"It's a long standing tradition," Andy Tran, a freshman in chemistry and organizer of the event, said.

The event, according to Tom Stafford, vice chancellor for student affairs, has been conducted for 10 to 15 years. Stafford said when the event was started, the campus needed the extra effort from students to help point out unsafe areas.

"This event is really great...it brings a lot of different constituencies here together. It brings together different groups on campus for a common purpose," Stafford said.

Tran arranged for 11 groups of students to scout out different areas of campus. Each group had a specific region to cover and had a University Facilities employee to lead the walk.

Erich Fabricius, a master's student in economics, said he had been participating in the event for several years. Fabricius said in past years, the event also entailed a "rewalk" where students assembled once again for a short period of time after the initial nightwalk to rewalk the grounds and make sure improvements had been made.

"It was a measure to hold people more accountable," Fabricius said. Overall, he said Facilities was fairly responsive in correcting errors that the students pointed out during the walk.

NIGHT continued page 2

Hookah cafe replaces an old favorite

Jenell Jackson
Staff Writer

Tamari Jeter and a close friend, both over 18, tried out a long water pipe, also known as a hookah, for the first time.

Hookahs are a sophisticated smoke cooling and purification system in a water container. It was originally used in India, Turkey and Egypt. However, its exact origins are a mystery.

Hookahs can reach up to two meters in height, and often use flavored tobacco, instead of regular. Traditionally they were used at social gatherings as a way of bringing people together.

"It was a weird, but exciting experience. I don't smoke, but you have to try everything at least once," Jeter, a sophomore in communication, said.

Marrakesh Cafe opened its doors to N.C. State students 16 days ago, replacing the old Starbucks on Hillsborough Street.

Even though the new cafe will be well known for its hookahs and flavored tobacco, students can still get their daily boost with a cup of coffee.

Anas Maazouzi, manager and owner

of Marrakesh Cafe, knows that on a college campus coffee is very important.

"We have a variety of things here. Even though we specialize in Middle-Eastern food, we also have pastries, sandwiches and of course coffee," Maazouzi said.

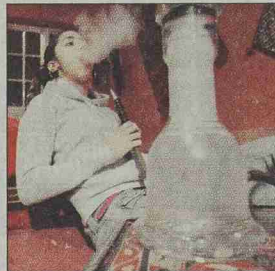
Even with the exciting blend of ethnic food, the hookahs in the cafe are the main attraction. For \$6, two people can share up to 40 minutes of fruit-flavored tobacco in a relaxed Moroccan-inspired atmosphere.

"Smoking from the hookah is a very calming experience, not like a cigarette at all," said Maazouzi.

Having hookahs in the building require special regulations and licenses from the city. Its similarities to devices used to smoke marijuana could be a reason for the strict ordinances.

Gabrielle Moss, a junior in veterinary medicine, said she feels that the new cafe gives another form of diversity to the street.

"We have El Rodeo and China Cafe, I think it's very interesting to see a Moroccan business come to Hillsborough. It gives students a new culture to explore," Moss said. "I am



CHRIS REYNOLDS/TECHNICIAN

Julie Abdelrahman, a sophomore in FYC, smokes apple-flavored tobacco from a hookah at Marrakesh Cafe, the hookah bar which replaced Starbucks on Hillsborough Street.

also excited to try a different type of food."

Hopeful of their success in Raleigh, Maazouzi has plans to open another store on the campus of UNC-Chapel Hill.

"At our store, everything is ready for the customer," Maazouzi said. "We try to give them the best service possible."

insidetechnician



Jussasic poultry?

Julia Clarke found ancestors of current-day chickens, ducks and geese that lived 65 to 100 million years ago — along with the dinosaurs. See page 3.

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WEBASSIGN

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using WebAssign for precisely the same reason we are; there is no equivalent product on the market and improving learning and academic performance is a highly desirable and valuable outcome."

Despite the academic gains of using WebAssign, Hinton said WebAssign was not necessary for learning.

"I agree, [WebAssign] can be very helpful, but honestly I think you learn just as much by doing homework on paper and handing it in to the professor," Hinton said.

Padgett said ITD evaluated the effect the new charges would have on students prior to making the ultimate decision.

"There is an ETF committee that has oversight of how these funds are allocated and there are several representatives from student government on the committee that advise how these funds are allocated," he said. "As with all of our software and services, ITD carefully evaluates the cost and benefit for our students. The competition for ETF funding is rigorous and there are always many excellent opportunities for enhancing student learning than there is funding."

The first reading of Hinton's proposed Senate bill took place Wednesday night.

After spring break, Hinton plans to have John Risley, CEO of WebAssign, Padgett and Averitt together for a meeting. They will form a panel and Hinton encourages all students interested to come to the planned Student Senate question session.

Risley already told Hinton that he would be happy to meet with Student Senate to discuss this matter.

"It is my goal to have all three present at once; this will be a time to get some questions answered and see what is really going on," Hinton said.

HODGE

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practice, after practice. He's been under a lot of pressure. [Fans] want to blame whoever is easiest to blame."

The blame fell hard on Hodge and Coach Herb Sendek. Hodge, in his frustration after a loss to St. John's in late December, said he needed to be more selfish.

Despite the frustration that came from losing, Steve said his younger brother never looked back on his decision to stay and graduate. For his part, Steve always told his brother that whatever didn't kill him was making him stronger. Julius, after all, had a promise to keep.

"He promised my mom he would get his bachelor's degree and he's going to do that," Steve said. "People ask me about if he should have gone and I always tell them that God forbid he has a career-ending injury, he can always fall back on his degree."

Honors, numbers and a legacy

The rafters in the RBC Center are already littered with No. 24.

Tommy Burleson, Tom Gugliotta and John Richter all wore that number during their playing careers at State, and all are honored with jerseys hanging from the ceiling.

But Hodge's choice of number had nothing to do with the history it carries. The number was a product of his

high school days.

"I said, 'Coach, I'm No. 31 like Reggie Miller and No. 1 like Penny,' and he said, 'All right,'" Hodge said. "Then the next day he gave me No. 24 and said, 'Now you're 24 like Julius Hodge.'"

Now the No. 24 that he accepted during his days at St. Raymond's may join the three already in the rafters. But Hodge insists that is not on his mind right now.

"I don't know about that, I just know I want to win Sunday," Hodge said. "If a win Sunday can help a jersey be retired of mine, then that's awesome."

His brother has thought about it, though. His conclusion — put him in the rafters.

"Absolutely, without a doubt," Steve said. "Hopefully sooner than later."

The numbers Hodge has put up over his four-year career may have earned him the honor, if not this year then somewhere down the road. Hodge is only the fourth player in conference history to record at least 1,900 points, 700 rebounds, 400 assists and 150 steals. The others are Danny Ferry, Grant Hill and Bob Sura.

The numbers have also helped lead State to three-straight NCAA Tournament appearances. Those three appearances were also the first under Sendek's reign, who said Hodge will be remembered as one of the best players ever at State.

"When all is said and done and we looked back, he will be among the great players here at N.C. State," Sendek said. "The key to his success [has] been he is so versatile and so unique. There just aren't many guys that play the way he does."

Hodge currently ranks fifth all-

time at State with 1,935 points, and needs just 22 points to pass Sammy Ranzino and Hawkeye Whitney for third all-time. He's also just 65 points shy of 2,000 and has at least three games remaining to hit the mark.

Even rival coaches respect what Hodge has done over his career.

"He's worked on parts of his game every year and he's one of those guys to score 2,000 and not be a great outside shooter, that's a tremendous accomplishment," Maryland coach Gary Williams said. "He earns them on the glass and second shots, he's very tough driving with the ball and forcing players to foul him."

Duke's Mike Krzyzewski echoed those sentiments, saying Hodge has been great by doing more than just scoring points.

"Julius is a scorer and a playmaker. Not only has he scored a lot of points but he has been responsible for a lot of points with his assists and movements in Herb's offense," Krzyzewski said. "When anyone scores that amount of points it means they have been really good throughout a four-year period."

The numbers and the possibility of having his jersey honored are all secondary in Hodge's mind right now. Much of the legacy he will leave rests on this last week, these last few games. Earn another tournament birth, and Hodge's career can be seen as an unquestionable success for both the Harlem native and the program.

"People will just look back at my years here at State and know that I was one of the hardest workers to ever play at N.C. State," Hodge said. "Always giving it my all on the court, and most importantly, I win games."

Technician Staff Writer Matt Middleton has covered more than 40 games during Julius Hodge's four-year career — traveling from New York to Orlando and almost every ACC arena in between. Below, he ranks Hodge's five best performances.

No. 1

Whatever it takes
March 15, 2003

Hodge outguns ACC Player of the Year Josh Howard by scoring a career-high 31 points in the ACC Tournament semifinals. The upset cements State's second straight trip to the NCAA Tournament.

No. 2

Crowd silencer
Feb. 1, 2004

State ends 15 years of frustration at College Park, Md. on Super Bowl Sunday, and the victory starts a five-game ACC winning streak. Hodge's stat line: 28 points, nine rebounds, five assists, 2,241 foul-mouthed taunts.

No. 3

A star is born
March 15, 2002

In the first round of the NCAA Tournament, Hodge scores 14 of his 16 points in the second half to help State erase a 12-point halftime deficit. The sparking effort foreshadows the next three years of hedgy defense and versatile scoring for the then freshman.

No. 4

Rivalry relished
Jan. 26, 2003

Hodge played all but one minute of his team's win over North Carolina, scoring 30 points and grabbing 11 rebounds. State pulled away in the second half to seize its best ACC start — 4-1 — since 1989.

No. 5

Triple-double
Dec. 14, 2002

Playing only 25 minutes against N.C. A&T, Hodge records the first triple-double in school history. As if that feat needed amplification, the game occurred in Reynolds Coliseum and State wore throwback uniforms.

NIGHT

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Sgt. Jon Barnwell, who attended the event from Campus Police, said he was glad to see the student turnout at the event.

"We do value your input," Barnwell said. "We've got to understand exactly what our environment entails."

In addition to pointing out areas that may be unsafe for students after dark, Tran also said the event "showed the productivity of Student Government."

He said it also was a good opportunity to rebuild Greek Life and work together for a good cause.

Among attendees of the event were members of Chi Psi, Lambda Pi Chi, FIJI and Chi Sigma Tau, an Asian fraternity which is starting up and who sponsored the event.

"We're trying to bring something new to N.C. State," Tai Lui, a freshman in computer engineering, said of the Chi Sigma Tau. He said the fraternity had seven members so far and the nightwalk was its first major event to get exposure on campus.

Man wanted for recent car break-ins

News Staff Report

Campus Police released a statement Thursday saying Raul Oscar-Torres is wanted for the recent on-campus break-ins of several vehicles. Two warrants are currently on file for the arrest of the 30-year-old man. Campus Police also said to be on the look out for a four-door white Nissan Altima — possibly a 1994 to 1996 model — with after-market chrome rims. Two males were spotted leaving the scene of two of the car break-ins in an Altima.

Police Blotter

03/01/05
10:17 A.M.

MEDICAL ASSIST

A student was vomiting outside of a room in Harnwell Hall. Fire Protection and EMS responded to the subject, but he refused transport to a medical facility.

3:30 A.M.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON

Report of a male subject in women's restroom on the third floor of Owen Hall. The student was referred to the University and issued a trespass warning from all residence halls. He was intoxicated.

03/02/05

10:07 P.M.

SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT

A student reported that a male subject wearing a ski mask poured milk on the porch of Pi Kappa Alpha. No damage was done to the house. After the subject poured the milk, he left the area.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Impeachments delayed due to technicality

Disciplinary action against senators who stole vouchers held over until next meeting

Ben McNeely
Staff Writer

The Student Senate ruled disciplinary recommendations for five senators out of order Wednesday night. Based on a technicality, three motions for impeachment and two motions for censure were sent back to the Government Operations committee for reconsideration.

The measures were declined because Senate Sergeant-at-Arms, Sarah Thornton, did not inform Sens. Scott Stephenson, Adrián Ortega, Erin Lam and Heath Spivey that they had formal charges pending against them. Thornton, who also has disciplinary action pending against her, did not formally inform herself either.

"Actually, since the sergeant-at-arms did not do her job, the recommendations did not leave the committee," Tracy Hutcherson, chair of the Government Operations committee

said.

The issue came up when Erich Fabricius made a motion to send the recommendation against former ticket administrator Scott Stephenson back to committee because he did not get a second hearing.

"He was under the impression that he would have a preliminary hearing and a formal hearing, and he did not get that," Fabricius said, addressing the Senate as a whole.

Later on, senators discovered that none of those accused had been notified of their formal charges, an expressly-written duty of the sergeant-at-arms. It is unknown if Thornton forgot to notify or deliberately did not carry out her duty.

Will Quick, Student Senate president, immediately ordered Thornton to notify the four senators and herself of the formal charges pending.

Gene Summey, member of Government Operations committee, said the actions will just be delayed until the next meeting.

Jon Chickwak, chair of the subcommittee on Ethics, said

those charged "will have another opportunity to defend themselves."

"I'm very frustrated because we've tried to show the student body that we've been fair," Hutcherson said. "I will make sure those accused will be notified 48 hours in advance and I will personally call them."

In another punitive action Wednesday night, the Senate voted to censure Bonnie Pierson, chair of the Elections Commission, for her job performance during the fall elections. Originally, the resolution called to remove Pierson from her position, but the Senate voted to reduce that to censure because of the upcoming spring elections.

Pierson said the two biggest problems with the fall elections were lack of support for her position and technical problems.

"I felt like I was running the elections single-handedly," she said, addressing the full Senate. "I was unsure about the procedures. I didn't know what I needed to do."

Pierson said the censure would not hinder her work for the upcoming elections.

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CONSTANTINE (R) 12:45 3:15 7:15 9:55
HITCH (PG13) 12:50 3:30 7:10 9:45
★MAN OF THE HOUSE (PG13) 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:35 9:50
★CURSED (PG13) 4:50 10:00
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BECAUSE OF WINN DIXIE (PG) 1:00 3:20 7:05 9:40
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Textiles, 'not just about clothing'

The College of Textiles expands uses of traditional textiles into biomedical engineering

Ginny Schwartzner
Staff Writer

Although most people think of textiles as fabric or upholstery, non-traditional applications are finding a use for more textiles. One such use is in the medical field.

"There is definitely a need for textiles in medicine," Seth McCullen, a graduate student in textile engineering, said.

Manufacturers have long used fabrics such as drapes and protective garments in medical settings, but now fabrics are showing up inside the body. Marian McCord works as an associate professor in the biomedical engineering department in the College of Textiles. She says textiles are a natural accompaniment to biomedical engineering.

"Textiles play a prominent role in biomaterials," McCord said. "Textiles is a very high-tech field. It's not just about clothing anymore."

Some of the uses of textile technology are wound closure sutures, vascular grafts for veins and arteries, replacement tendons and ligaments and some skin grafts. Tissue engineering is a hot topic right now in the medical world.

By treating non-woven fabrics with plasma, cells can be grown for various uses. McCullen explained the challenge is to get the fabric to dissolve at the same rate as cell growth, so eventually only the cells are left and can be put

to use.

Other uses for fabric are in medical devices called bioreactors, which can function as an organ, like a liver or kidney, outside the body.

Megan Christie, a graduate student double majoring in textile engineering and biomedical engineering, has worked with the artificial liver device.

She says a bioreactor operates much like a dialysis machine with a series of fabric tubes and filters that cleanse the blood of toxins.

"There are so many opportunities available to students working in textiles and biomedical engineering," Christie said.

According to McCord, students are showing a great deal of interest in this field and N.C. State is working to accommodate them. Last fall, NCSU started offering courses in medical textiles. Course and curriculum committees are also reviewing plans for a combined biomedical and textile engineering curriculum.

"We are taking a program that most people think of in the traditional sense, and applying knowledge of a traditional textile background to new areas like tissue engineering," McCullen said.

According to McCord, the future of biomaterials is a seamless interaction between living and non-living materials and materials that respond to the environment and interact with growing tissue. This is not the science fiction of the future; it is the technology of today.

Common ancestor of ducks, geese lived among dinosaurs

'VEGAVIS' COEXISTED WITH NON-AVIAN DINOSAURS OVER 65 MILLION YEARS AGO DURING THE CRETACEOUS PERIOD



Julia Clarke discovered that a fossil found in Antarctica showed evidence that relatives of ducks, chicken and geese lived among dinosaurs in the Cretaceous period, which was 65 to 100 million years ago. She now is working on the fossil shown, a 50-million-year-old bird fossil from Wyoming that is encased in shale.

Matt Wilson
Staff Writer

Recent research on a fossil unearthed in Antarctica indicated a relative of ducks, chicken and geese coexisted with dinosaurs during the Cretaceous period, between 65 and 100 million years ago.

The fossil — called Vegavis iaai after Vega Island — revealed to a combined team of researchers that the evolutionary lineage of today's ducks and chickens had its beginnings in the Cretaceous period among dinosaurs.

Julia Clarke, principal author of the findings, said the fossil's potential for data had not been fully realized.

"This fossil had been published and it had been very spottily described," Clarke said.

An assistant professor of marine, earth and atmospheric sciences at N.C. State, Clarke and colleagues from Argentina, Florida State University and the University of Texas re-examined the fossil for more clues.

"I knew it needed additional data mining techniques brought to bear on it. There was more data there that we were trying to get out," Clarke says.

The team applied computed tomography, a technique most commonly known as CT scanning or the CAT scan. The CT scan created a composite image of X-ray bands, which revealed bones of the Vegavis fossil previously hidden by rock.

Clarke also discovered lost latex peels of the fossil. The peels, applied to the surface and removed to create a mold, pro-

vided vital clues about the fossil and its exposed bones.

The researchers had to deal with an extremely fragile fossil specimen. It previously had been damaged when prepared for study.

"It was pretty fragile," Clarke says. "By the time I saw the specimen in 1999, it was not looking too red hot. I don't think anyone realized how fragile the bones were."

The results of the CT scan and the rediscovered latex peels allowed the team to place the Vegavis fossil definitively into the Aves group, from which all living birds radiate.

More specifically, Vegavis is part of the Anseriformes, which include present-day ducks and geese.

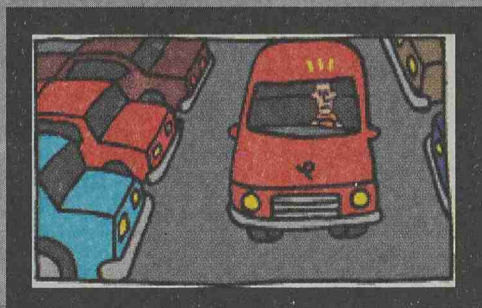
Other than identifying organisms in the tree of life, Clarke said the research has a broader impact in science fields. The Vegavis fossil provides strong evidence that relatives of living birds coexisted alongside dinosaurs, refuting the "big bang" theory that the radiation of all living birds began after the extinction of non-avian dinosaurs.

"It's very highly contested — the birds we have today, when they originated," Clarke said.

She said she will continue to research the evolution of all living birds.

"Right now I'm working on some Chinese fossils that are not part of the diversification of all living birds, but are key to figuring out the evolution of all living birds," she said. "They're sort of like close cousins to the diversity we have today."

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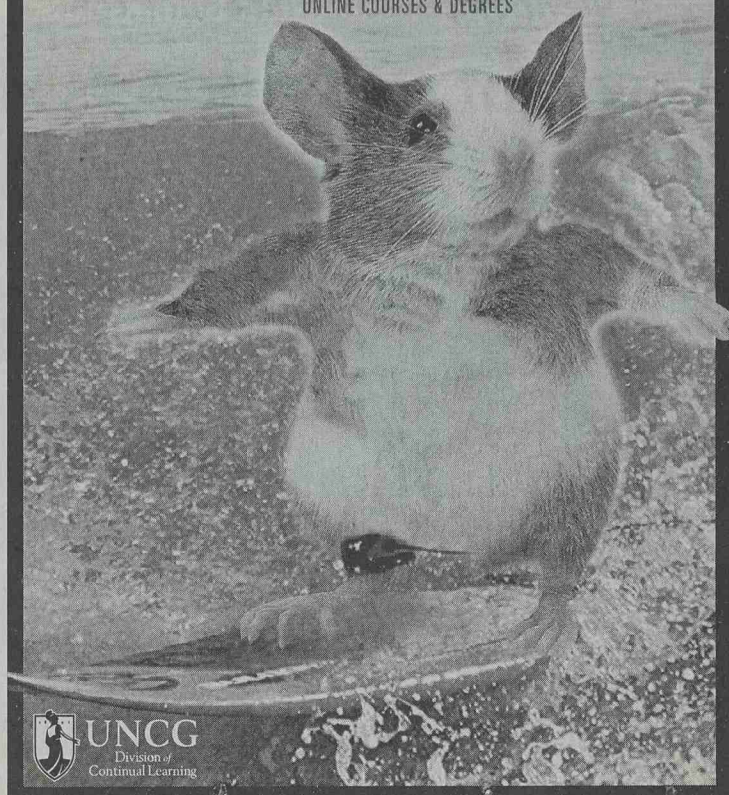
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CAMPUS FORUM

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Luckadoo or Luckadon't?

Those of us in the Greek community who follow the rules and abide by our sanctions believe associate vice chancellor for student affairs, Tim Luckadoo, should make up his mind.

He took two very different positions on instances of hazing that were reported in Technician on the same day (March 1). One involves a chapter who admitted to being guilty of hazing, and the other is under investigation. While he is lifting the sanctions off of Delta Sigma Phi in one article, he is quoted as saying "This situation is very bad," when referring to Tau Kappa Epsilon.

By overturning the decision for one fraternity and seemingly coming down hard on another fraternity, he has made the Department of Greek Life, the Interfraternity Council and the Office of Student Conduct irrelevant. His actions have also led the alumni of Delta Sigma Phi to believe he can teach other fraternities how to get off the hook for future hazing instances.

Furthermore the chapter responsible is now hosting an anti-hazing seminar, which all fraternities are expected to attend. Why not just let Al-Qaeda hold a peace conference, or let Michael Jackson host a parenting seminar?

Arthur Gray
Junior
Criminology

Yet Again, Ag Awareness Week Disappoints

We all remember the images from our childhood: sprawling green pastures and freely roaming farm animals.

Unfortunately, these images are now as extinct as the animal welfare standards they suggest.

Agriculture Awareness Week paints a rosy picture of animal agriculture incongruous with current conditions in the United States. According to the Humane Farming Association, at least 300,000 small farms ceased operations between 1979 and 1998. Over 10 billion farm animals are now killed annually in cost-effective factory farms, up from the nearly seven billion slaughtered several years ago. Consolidation has led to mass production and a decreased concern for animal welfare.

As Students Protecting Animals Responsibly and Compassionately, we encourage Alpha Zeta Fraternity, Inc. to present a more accurate portrayal of animal agriculture.

We agree that the public must be educated about agriculture, but why not present the stark realities rather than the fiction? Perhaps to do so would involve a bit more setup time. Imagine dark, steel buildings on the brickyard, each filled with concrete stalls as far as the eye can see and a stench of ammonia that burns the eyes and lungs.

In each stall stands an animal unable to turn around and in isolation from other species members. Dairy cows are constantly impregnated and given hormones to produce more milk. Lactating sows lie in narrow gestation crates. Battery hens live with several other birds in dark, metal wire crates the size of a sheet of paper.

As animal and agriculture advocates, we share values because we share a love of animals. Let us work together to improve and realistically describe the plight of the creatures we grew up with.

Jared Milrad
Junior
Wildlife Sciences
President, SPARC

Woodall perpetuates divisiveness

This is in response to Meghan Woodall's column, "Liberals, Carolina fans very much alike" and other articles concerning political issues that really have no political purpose but to belittle a person with an opposing viewpoint.

What is the purpose in writing these columns? Granted, Ms. Woodall's column ended on a positive note, but that does not change the fact that the body of it placed liberals in a negative light.

The election ended almost four months ago, and we are still rehearsing the same right versus left arguments. I may or may not have been happy with the election, but nonetheless I do not continue to question the beliefs of those who disagree with me as being right or wrong.

I simply see it for what it really is: a difference of opinion.

At N.C. State we are clearly a microcosm of the rest of the country, a country which has stood firmly divided for quite sometime on many issues. The leaders of the two major parties are strongly emphasizing a unification of the American people, asking us to come together as a whole rather than bicker over our differences.

Unfortunately, articles like Woodall's are printed in Technician on a regular basis, and it just perpetuates this tug of war where there will never be a victor. We are all students here, and we all want to see our university thrive, but we cannot continue to do so if we keep degrading each other. So please, there are other issues which could be addressed in Technician; there is no need to keep beating a horse that has been dead for four months.

Mark Raabe
Junior
Psychology

Woodall column abuses privileges

Meghan Woodhall's column, despite advertising itself as a comedy piece, blatantly attempts to use the pride of N.C. State fans as a means to paint our current political picture in the same simplistic, good-versus-bad, red and blue colors as our storied rivalry.

The holes in her logic are gaping; however, her gleeful gloating over Bush's victory, for example, removes any trace of sanity from her call for liberals to "lose with grace."

Even worse, the potshots she takes at UNC fans are poorly executed. Surely there is something worse to accuse them of than being passionate fans, through victory and loss!

As a proud State fan and student, I was disappointed in both her weak attack upon our rivals and her childish, illogical attempt to flaunt her conservative pride.

Matthew Bruchon
Junior
Electrical Engineering

Woodall column could use some work

I am writing in response to your column comparing liberals and Chapel Hill fans in the March 2 Technician.

I am the only Democrat in my family and I absolutely loved your article. I agree that the election is over, and while I do not support President Bush I am willing to live with the fact that the GOP won and we didn't.

I completely agree that celebrity endorsements are out of hand and are just as ridiculous to me as they are to

Republicans and every single comment made about Carolina is in fact very true. However, I would like to give you some tips the next time you write an article of this nature. Do not warn the audience as to your intentions in the article, it takes away from the flow of reading and it also waters down your point.

You warned me twice about the conservative nature of your beliefs and I wanted to stop reading not because of your beliefs but because you had completely lost all sense of passion the reader would have felt had you just written the article out right.

Also, when bashing liberals (such as myself) you lacked strong adjectives describing our tendencies. This would bring much more emotion to your piece, and make it hard for any liberal that does not appreciate journalism to continue reading.

Anyways, very good column and I hope to see more of the same from you in the future.

Matthew A. Kreisher
Sophomore
Business Management

Candidate expresses disappointment with Senate

I am disappointed that the Senate has chosen to keep Sen. Cleary in his leadership role in the Senate.

I support his right to due process and I am saddened that the Senate did not choose to hear both sides of the issue; moreover, the students of N.C. State need to have faith in their leaders of the legislative body. Sen. Cleary should remain in the Senate until he has his due process, however not in a leadership role.

While it takes due process time to move throughout the Senate, Cleary should continue the work as Senator of the College of Natural Resources, he should not continue as President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

Matt Walton
Freshman
Technology Education
College of Education Senate Candidate

Senator pro tempore avoiding responsibility

"I'm disappointed with this issue when we have more important student advocacy issues we need to discuss tonight." This is a direct quote from student senate president pro tempore Patrick Cleary stating the obvious, he does not want to take responsibility for his actions.

After reading the article it seems to me that student issues were not the top thing on his mind that day.

I cannot speak for him, but the manner in which he replied to the time being spent on his impeachment was just too typical of a politician. Sort of a "Let's get this spotlight off of what I did wrong and on to something else eh?"

I think that with this voucher theft issue still not fully resolved, it should remain an issue to be dealt with, and those responsible should accept their fate (impeachment or whatever else it may be) and be happy that it didn't come out to something worse.

I personally could understand ejection from the school as a suitable punishment, but that's just me.

Hansen Murphy
Senior
Mechanical Engineering

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

THANK YOU

Ten years is a long time — an eternity to some.

And four years sometimes doesn't seem like enough time.

But the past four years have been something spectacular at N.C. State. And they would have been different had it not been for one man — Julius Hodge.

Really, what would life at NCSU have been like had he chosen Syracuse? Would the Wolfpack have gone to three straight Big Dances? Would the NCSU community have thought of NCAA and ACC Championships without laughing immediately before or after the thought? Would the Wolfpack, in 2004, have finished second in the ACC? Would the NCAA Tournament still be a hope and dream?

Probably not.

Because one man from New York said "championship" and didn't blink an eye.

Hodge is more than just a player. He is a name in the house, between families, between friends, between co-workers. Only greats are discussed over dinner. Only great teams can taste the air after victories and smell the agony after defeats. Only the greats can walk away knowing they did everything they possibly could.

The passionate hang their heads after defeats and rip through the air after victories. Only the passionate will play pick-up games in the middle of the night. Only the passionate slam their hands on the floor and not feel it. To them,

such acts are signs of ownership, of power. The only pain the passionate know is the pain of losing.

This University, this basketball team, this conference is different because he came here. And there is nothing but winning in that. Other conference teams, which not so long ago would overlook a game against State, have had to approach the Wolfpack with worries and genuine fears. The team has earned respect.

His accomplishments speak for themselves. The numbers alone — over 1,900 points, 700 rebounds, 400 assists and 150 steals — are enough to earn him a place in the rafters of the RBC Center. His jersey should be honored, joining a cast of Wolfpack greats.

What surrounds a person says a lot about that individual. The things that have surrounded Hodge are tournaments and talent, top rankings and huge upsets, broken records and an ACC Player of the Year honor. The common denominator — Hodge.

Not only that, Hodge did something most young ballplayers in this society don't do. He chose to get his degree and stay another year. With the wave of young hotshots moving into the NBA, Hodge stayed true to himself and his future — another talley under the category of leader.

And for all of this, he is thanked from the bottom of N.C. State's heart — the one that he helped implant.

The unsigned editorial that appears above is the opinion of the members of Technician's editorial board and is the responsibility of the editor in chief.



TECHNICIAN

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A weight our soldiers shouldn't have to bear

Imagine yourself as a U.S. Marine in the insurgent-infested city of Fallujah or in the Sunni triangle. Every muscle in your body is tense and pumping with adrenaline; your eyes dart frantically from one spot to the next, aware that at any moment an insurgent could unload AK-47 rounds at your position. Or a bomb in any nearby object could explode, leaving your wife husbandless and your children fatherless. You depend on two things: your fellow marines and your rifle.



Daniel Underwood
Staff Columnist

As you creep around the corner of a building, do you take advantage of the element of surprise and attack them? Or do you remain in position and wait?

These are the types of questions confronting our soldiers—men without the luxury of calm deliberation.

Over the last year or so, our soldiers have been forced to deal with a new set of questions. Is there a photographer safely positioned at some nearby cove or rooftop ready to snap a photo as soon as I react? Would there be enough tangible evidence to uphold my split-second decision in court?

Recently, 2nd Lt. Ilario Pantano needed to confront his own split-second decision. Pantano and others were raiding houses for weapons. Upon

finding a stash of bomb-making equipment, two Iraqi men tried to flee the scene in an SUV. The marines shot out the tires and detained the men. The troops forced the detainees to search through their SUV. Soon after, the detainees started approaching Pantano, giving the impression they were trying to rush him. After repeatedly telling the men to "stop" in Arabic, Pantano had no choice but to shoot and kill them both.

Weeks later, a complaint was filed and an investigation ensued. Out of fear for how the media might portray the "higher-ups" if they dismissed this incident, the Marine Corps filed two premeditated murder charges against Pantano.

Pantano signed-up to fight for our country. When the heat was on, he made a quick, wise decision. After repeatedly telling two Iraqi detainees who fled the scene of a weapons raid to "stop," in Arabic, he chose to shoot them before they were able to get their hands around his neck.

Soldiers used to count on their home country to send them flowers, cookies, letters and heartwarming crayoned drawings from little kids. Amid the flurry of whizzing bullets and blinding, disorienting flashes of bombs and concussion grenades, soldiers found solace and strength in knowing their compatriots were behind them.

But nowadays, soldiers cannot only look forward to seeing their families when they return home. Many of our soldiers face the possibility of being blown-up by the media hounds and made to look like cold, heartless murderers. If a

marine happens to kill an unarmed insurgent, and the media gets wind of it, the marine may be facing life in prison.

This, of course, makes for an extremely effective recruiting slogan: "Join the army, fight for your country, spend the rest of your life in prison! Be all that you can be!"

This insanity all started with Abu Ghraib. A few marines decorated the heads of Islamic militants with panties and forced them to pose in front of the camera for a bunch of lewd and unnerving photos. Some marines even, allegedly, went so far as to torture them in various unconventional manners.

The American press was dancing a dirge like I have never seen before. For weeks, the front page of the New York Times ran articles on the prison abuse scandal; the editors at NY Times seemed almost giddy, having this opportunity to make the Bush administration appear wrecked and incompetent.

The press demanded heads to roll over this incident. Ironically, the press was not nearly as vociferous when "heads rolled" at the hands of Al-Qaeda members wielding 14-inch saw blades and covered in black from head to toe. But when American soldiers are caught bullying terrorists and homicidal insurgents, watch out!

Apparently, countless Americans sipping martinis atop wanky New York penthouses discovered, for the very first time, war often entails such things as "fighting," "guns" and "death." People like this are the ones largely responsible

for the over-hyped political correctness now pervading every area of our armed forces. They enjoy their freedom but are ignorant of its price.

There are also many like the protesters at N.C. State who hold a "Honk for Peace" meeting in front of the NCSU Bell Tower every Friday afternoon. In addition to looking like a bunch of swarthy individuals who did a tad too much LSD during the '70s, these guys simply do not understand how the world works.

We enjoy so much freedom in this country. Why is that? Because brave men and women gave their lives for our nation's liberty. But the aforementioned protesters stand around chanting "No More War" and "Peace" like a coven of Jim Jones followers ignorant of the fact that peace comes with a hefty price tag. When I hear them yell, "Peace!" I think to myself, "Ah, if it were that easy."

As students, society often feeds us the idea that freedom is free and war is never necessary. Nothing could be farther from the truth. War is never desirable, but when tyranny and oppression are on the march, justice is called to meet in battle.

If we are going to send our troops into battle, we must give them the license they need to make hurried decisions and the assurance that we support them, despite political clout. Next time you pass a soldier or a student in ROTC, shake his hand and tell him, "Thank you."

Contact Daniel your thoughts and responses at viewpoint@technicianonline.com

RAISING THE BAR

Bringing the music, pouring the beers

THE GRUNGY BUT OH-SO-PERFECT POUR HOUSE MUSIC HALL SERVES AS A MELTING POT FOR MUSIC, PEOPLE AND A GREAT PLACE TO GET A BEER

Ashley Hink
Features Editor

Jumping on each others backs and moving in sync to the beat of the music, the Tuesday night crowd filling The Pour House Music Hall acted more like excited high schoolers that snuck out on a school night to see their favorite band than what would expect from a mainly middle-aged group of men in beards and yamakahs.

They are there to see Matisyahu, a Jewish singer who can unexpectedly beat box with the best of them and whose band could jam with the likes of Sublime, the equally unsuspecting crowd in a Bible-belt capital city might, in fact, not be all that surprising after all.

The intimate, two-level music venue and bar hosts a crowd of all colors that flocks downtown to see bands and performers representative of many genres: Alternative Rock, Hip-Hop, Bluegrass, Country and on this night: Hasidic Reggae.

The Pour House just might be Raleigh's best destination for a melting

The Pour House Music Hall
224 S. Blount Street

Atmosphere: Laid-back and intimate music venue

Crowd: Anyone and everyone

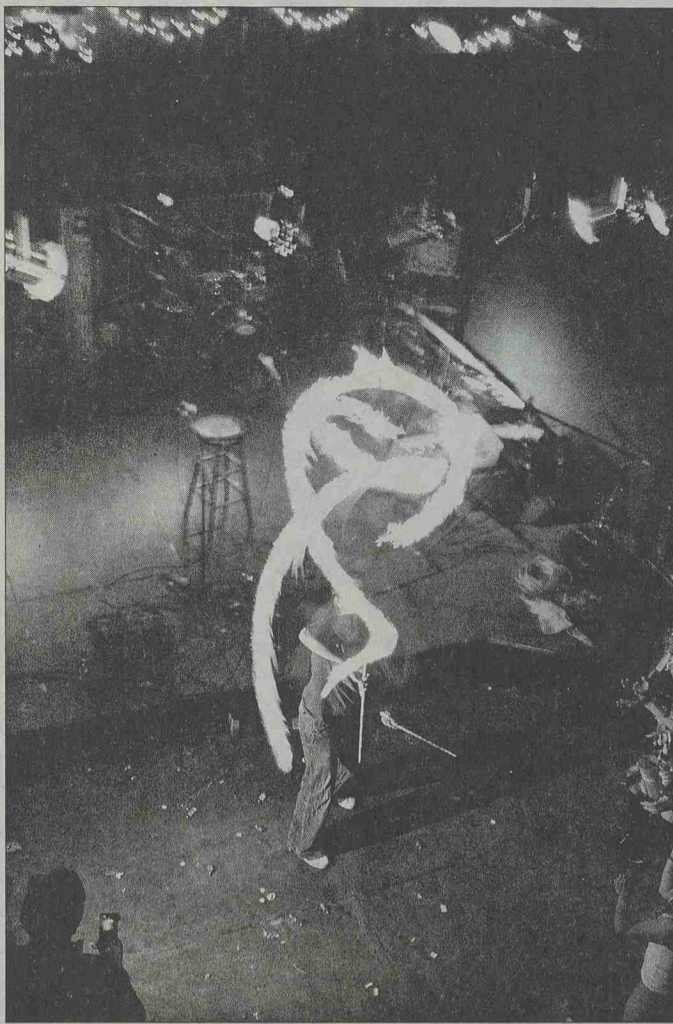
Music: Live acts of all genres

Prices: Good beer specials, covers on most nights

pot of people, music and — as the name implies — beer.

Located at 224 S. Blount St. and caddy-corner to the popular City Market, this low-key, but sizeable venue hides itself well on an otherwise heavily traveled city block. The sidewalk view inside is broken by the maze of posters of bands of the Pour House's past and those to come, and the only way in is through an unlit alley, after shuffling IDs and the occasional cover money for the doorman, of course.

Despite its outside appearance or lack thereof, The Pour House is as welcoming and laid-back as a music venue could be. Surely not going for glamour, the decor is courtesy of even more band



NICK PIRONIO/TECHNICIAN

The Pour House Music Hall in downtown Raleigh offers entertainment nearly every night.

HOUSE continued page 7

MOVIE TICKET

Constantine scores with purity

Miles Snow
Staff Writer

Adapted from the DC Comics series *Hellblazer*, *Constantine* offers a thrill ride of a movie that is anything but a typical effects-laden, popcorn-munching extravaganza.

John Constantine (Keanu Reeves) has no mask, cape or gravity-defying kung-fu powers of any kind. Second, the cynical anti-hero of the title has cancer because he goes through a pack of cigarettes about as fast as Marion Jones jump-starting a 100-yard medley.

Constantine was born with telepathic powers,



Constantine

CAST: Keanu Reeves, Rachel Weisz

DIRECTOR: Francis Lawrence

PLAYING AT: Mission Valley, Crossroads, North Hills

★★★★☆

which enabled him to see all the half-breed demons that inhabit the earth. He saw such a power as a curse rather than a gift and angered God by

MOVIE continued page 7

ALL YOUR BASE

'Metroid Prime 2' echoes the original

Kenneth Price
Correspondent

The holiday season has come and gone and all the massive video game releases have come and gone with it. The PS2 brought *Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas*, the Xbox brought *Halo 2*, and for PC owners, the gaming gods bequeathed the long awaited *Half-life 2*.

This brings up a very important question, "What

Metroid Prime 2: Echoes

Developer: Retro Studios
Distributor: Nintendo of America
Platform: Nintendo GameCube

★★★★☆

was the big GameCube holiday title?"

In lieu of making a classic earth-shattering game for anxious and deprived GameCube owners, Nintendo released a slightly updated version of a groundbreaking game that hit

gaming consoles two years earlier. *Metroid Prime 2: Echoes* is nothing new, nothing groundbreaking and certainly nothing to celebrate in the way the previously mentioned holiday titles were hailed.

It's not that *Metroid Prime* is a bad game, but it's not a great game either. If you played the original *Metroid Prime* a few years ago and enjoyed it, chances are the game wowed you with its design and open exploration. If

METROID continued page 7

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MOVIE

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attempting to kill himself only to be brought back to life again as a demon extractor. Now he hopes that if he can send enough demons back to Hell the good Lord will grant him a ticket to the pearly gates.

The film has Reeves and a detective (Rachel Weisz from *Enemy at the Gates*) investigating the mystery of her murdered twin sister, which leads them to L.A.'s supernatural underworld. Some of its key inhabitants are Bush's lead singer Gavin Rossdale, cashmere-sporting demon Balthazar and voodoo-witchdoctor Papa Midnight (Djimon Hounsou from *Amistad*).

Former music video director Lawrence has an eye for the film noir atmosphere; his dark and gloomy version of L.A. is reminiscent of detective films like *Chinatown* and especially *Blade Runner*, which the movie more closely resembles. And Con-

stantine also boasts a handful of action sequences that mesmerize due to some of the more realistic special effects that I've seen in a while. Unfortunately the restless narrative becomes more muddled as the movie progresses, adding much unwelcome confusion.

Fortunately enough, there are several terrific actors who seem to be having a blast amidst all the imaginative incoherence. Shia Labeouf (*Holes*) adds unexpected heart to the role of Constantine's cabby sidekick, and Tilda Swinton (*Adaptation*) is eerily magnetic as the angel Gabriel who isn't too amused that Constantine is attempting to buy his way into heaven. And Reeves, whose naturally cool reserve suits his world weary detective like a glove, also brings a surprisingly sly humor to a movie that happens to captivate just enough to stay afloat.

All in all, I enjoyed *Constantine* for being the amusingly-innovative theme-park ride of a movie it actually is rather than the self-important novelty that it aspires to be.

METROID

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you didn't enjoy *Metroid Prime* when it was released, you were probably annoyed by the awkward control scheme and lack of any sort of multiplayer component.

The good news is that Nintendo added a multiplayer component to the game. The bad news is it isn't much fun and seems extremely dated.

When playing the multiplayer portion of the game, it feels reminiscent of the good 'ol days of *Goldeneye* on the N64. The problem is Rareware released *Goldeneye* close to eight years ago and games like Bungie's *Halo* series have drastically improved and reinvented the first person shooter genre.

If you loved the original *Metroid Prime*, chances are you'll enjoy playing *Metroid Prime 2*. There are still tons of upgrades, creepy levels to

explore, and interesting and complicated foes.

The game takes over 20 hours to beat the first time through and that is easily doubled if you want to go back and collect everything and find all the scans hidden throughout the massive levels.

Nintendo did a great job of making the game complex and completely immersing. Once you start playing a level, the beautiful surroundings and anticipation of what may lie around the corner sucks you in.

Bottom line: If you're a fan of the *Metroid* series you'll love this updated version of *Metroid Prime*.

If you're a GameCube owner who never played the first *Metroid*, or aren't into this style of exploration FPS, you're probably better off locking yourself in a room and playing *Resident Evil 4* to get you through the remainder of winter.

HOUSE

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posters and an impressive collection of beer signs and mirrors. The maroon walls on the second floor are chipped, every door in the place is covered with stickers, dust hangs from the ceiling rafters and randomly placed tube lights hang from above. Other than the scattered round tables and stools, green and gold velvet couches circa-1972 line the walls on both floors for people looking to lounge.

If anything, The Pour House screams Grungy Rock 'N' Roll, and the atmosphere suits its purpose well.

Known mostly for the music, The Pour House also offers an impressive beer selection and great specials. Proudly lining the wall along the downstairs bar are 30 beer taps including Shiner Bock, John Courage and Young's Double Chocolate Stout. For

the lighter drinkers, there are plenty of watered down favorites, too. On Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights, all pints are \$2.50 and all domestic bottles are \$1.50.

There is, however, a cover on most nights. With live music every night of the week, the admission price is occasionally free and often between \$5 and \$10 for night profile acts.

If listening to a DJ and downing a few beers is more on the agenda than taking in music, the upstairs is the best place to hang. With four pool tables, which are free on certain nights of the week, a well-worn foosball table and scattered video games, there's plenty of opportunity to simply relax and play.

The music, however, is what The Pour House is all about. From hillbilly to Hip-Hop, any sound and any crowd can be found in the unsuspecting, yet nearly perfect, bar and music hall.

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APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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HELP WANTED

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A Federal Gov. contractor in RTP is accepting resumes for the following position: **Stationary Engineer-FT** position, min 2yrs experience w/ large size boilers & chillers (preferably 2500 ton and up) +Universal CFC certification. Two weeks vacation+10 gov. holidays, excellent salary. Please call 919-541-2545 or send resume to NVT Technologies, Inc; PO Box 14248, RTP, NC 27709-4248 for immediate consideration. EOE.

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Internship. Web technician for Cary real estate firm. \$10/hr, 2-5hrs/week, ongoing. Call 303-9800 or email mike @ mikesrealestateam.com

Summer Job Opportunities. Raleigh Racquet Club looking for lifeguards, headguards, and swim coaches. Great environment, good pay, lots of fun. Contact Joseph Androssy 412-6320, jdaw@ggn25@hotmail.com

Ruby Tuesday's Crabtree Valley Mall location is hiring servers. No experience, will train. CASH every shift. Flexible schedules. Apply in person, 420-0109.

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In 1 year you can become involved in cancer detection and diagnosis. Click on the Cytotechnology Program icon at: www.alliedhealth.unc.edu. Classes begin May 17th.

Summer Job Opportunities are Now Available at North Hills Club, in North Raleigh. Contact Adam Getz at adamg@northhillsclub.com for details.

Lonestar Steakhouse & Saloon is looking for new additions to our staff. All positions are accepted. Apply in person, 467-0200 1301 Kildaire Farm Rd.

Summer Day Camp Counselors Needed! Millbrook Exchange Park, a Raleigh Parks and Recreation Community Center, is seeking applicants for its Summer Day Camp programs.

We are looking for applicants that have experience in the following areas: child supervision, arts & crafts, athletics, music, and games. Camp runs from May 31st thru August 19th. Camp hours are from 7:30am-6:00pm. Staff normally work 10-44 hours/week. For more information, please call 872-4156.

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Summer Camp Staff Wanted. No Weekend Work. The City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department is seeking individuals 18 and older that are interested in working with participants ages 6-11 this summer in a recreational setting. Experience working with children or in a summer camp environment is a plus, but not necessary. Pay range is \$8.00 and up an hour. Please call Toni Webb at 831-6684. The City of Raleigh is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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15 Junipero
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18 Melancholy
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20 Rose feature
22 Actress Thurman
23 Travelers' stopovers
24 Business publication
28 One sense
29 Pitch tents
32 Intertwine
35 Chuck
37 Smokable Cuban
38 Light gray
39 RFM part
40 Penod
42 Falsehood
43 Salary increase
45 Staff character
47 Assistance
48 Splendiferous
50 Nina's sister ship
52 New York City waterway
57 Hidden fence
59 Amoral deed
60 World-weary
61 Roundish shape
62 Slammin' Sammy
65 podrida
66 Catch with a lassie
67 Chico's brother
68 Flutter
69 Dumbstruck
70 Ruhr Valley city
71 Alien and Robbins

DOWN
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2 Sluggo Maris
3 Major artery
4 Width (with)
5 NYC arena
6 Silthery fish
7 Feed bins
8 Scant
9 Childbirth innovator
10 Rome airport
11 Jason Gedrick
12 Potential oak
13 Ancient Peruvian
30 Flexible armor
31 Spadework
32 Red planet
33 Jacob's twin
34 Tidy
35 Become permanent
39 Llama land
41 Tear apart
44 Like flowers with calyxes
46 For... (to begin with)
47 Barn storage section
49 Percy Shelley
50 Rust bucket
51 Turner and Holmes
58 Proffess
54 The 4 Seasons singer Frankie
55 Muslim faith transitions
57 Israeli dance
58 Proffess
63 Mimic
64 Pardo or Ho

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older that are interested in working with children ages 6-11 in a recreational setting. Experience working with children is a plus, but not necessary. Hours of availability must be from 1:00-5:00, Monday-Friday. Pay range is \$10.00 an hour. Please call Toni Webb at 831-6684. The City of Raleigh is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Executive Park Learning Center in Cary is looking for part-time help 3-6pm Mon-Fri. Call 469-4114, ask for Monica.

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DO YOU LOVE KIDS? Outgoing, energetic individual wanted for intermediate gymnastics instructor position. Gymnastics background required. If interested, please call 481-6701.

NCSU Men's Lacrosse team seeks team managers and scorekeepers for home and away games. Interest in lacrosse and sports team management preferred. Stipend and paid travel to FL, GA, VA. SC possible based on commitment. Contact Coach Peterson: 515-7876.

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Sports

FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2005

Schedule

Basketball vs. Wake Forest, 3/6, 8
 Women's Basketball in ACC Tourney, 3/5, 8
 Baseball at Miami, 3/4-6
 Wrestling at ACC Championships, 3/5
 Softball at ECU Tournament, 3/4-6
 Gymnastics vs. Georgia, 3/4, 7
 Women's Tennis at UC Santa Barbara, 3/6, 12
 Men's Tennis at Blue/Gray Classic, 3/10-13

Scores

No games scheduled



TECHNICIAN

TIFFANY STANSBURY EARNS SECOND-TEAM ALL-ACC HONORS AFTER TRANSFERRING FROM GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

A JOURNEY completed

STORY BY JOE OVERY



Gulf Coast Community College is very different from the prestige and tradition that is ACC women's basketball. Located 725 miles south of Tobacco Road, GCCC is nestled between beach resorts and white sand in Panama City, Fla., a town better known as a spring break destination than a mecca of college hoops. But it is home to the Lady Commodores, a junior college juggernaut that has lost only four times in the past three seasons and took home the 2003 Junior College Championship trophy.

It's also where N.C. State center Tiffany Stansbury started her college basketball career. Stansbury played for Coach Rooney Scovel at GCCC for two seasons before transferring to State this season — where she has become the focal point in the Pack's inside game.

Before she completed her journey to State, however, Stansbury had work to do.

Like most players who come to GCCC, Stansbury had the natural talent but needed polishing on her skills.

"Our goal is to get kids ready to move on to Division I programs," Lady Commodore assistant coach Grover Hicks said. "We knew she was a big time player. She needed the skills but had the athleticism and the body."

Stansbury put in the work. And, at the time, dreaded it.

"I'm not going to lie, it was tough. They'll stay on you, they'll cuss you out, but in the end it all pays off," Stansbury said. "A lot of yelling. They only push you because they know what you can do."

Stansbury said their persistence made all the difference, however.

"The two people outside of my family that has to do with everything why I'm here now would probably be my junior college coaches," Stansbury said. "They had a lot to do with me being at N.C. State right now."

Hicks said he demands a great deal of discipline and intensity. There were times when Stansbury wanted to quit at practice, Hicks said, but her desire and determination wouldn't let her.

"She got upset and wanted to quit and go home, but she didn't," Hicks said. "She had the desire to excel."

Not that Hicks would have let her quit anyway. Hicks saw a future ACC player in the Philadelphia native and was not going to have that go to waste. All she needed, he said, was discipline and some guidance.

"Our job is to help young ladies learn discipline," Hicks said. "Tiffany is one of those we're most proud of. She had a long way and she has made the journey."

Stansbury's journey from a small Panama City junior college to the ACC culminated in July when she moved to Raleigh and joined the Wolfpack.

She bonded almost instantly with her teammates, especially those who were new to the team, including her roommate, Tiffany McCollins, also a junior college transfer. Stansbury played against McCollins last spring when the Lady Commodores beat Arkansas-Fort Smith in the NJCAA semi-finals.

"I used to talk a lot of trash to her when I first got here, but now that's kind of in the past," Stansbury said. "We're a team now."

Stansbury said she bonded with her teammates

over the summer and now feels like she is part of a family.

"We did meet up quite a few times a week, played pick-up, and lifted weights. We just clicked. We're like a family," Stansbury said.

On Nov. 21, just two games into her Wolfpack career, Stansbury got butterflies. State was playing on national television against then-No. 1 Tennessee and their legendary coach, Pat Summitt.

"At one of our first games, against Tennessee, it hit me that I was playing big-time basketball," Stansbury said. "Normally, I don't get nervous before basketball games, but I was a little bit nervous."

That was until assistant coach Trena Trice-Hill had a pre-game talk with Stansbury and helped soothe her nerves.

"Coach Trice-Hill told me, 'You know, it's OK to have butterflies,'" Stansbury said. "Just when you get on the court, let them fly."

She did just that. Stansbury led the Wolfpack in scoring with 13 points and grabbed 11 rebounds. State wound up losing 64-54, but kept the Vols on their feet the entire game, and led by three at halftime.

Against Duke and North Carolina, Stansbury experienced something she wasn't accustomed to in the two previous years of her college basketball career. Losing.

In her two seasons at GCCC, the Lady Commo-

dores lost two games, including the loss in last year's NJCAA championship game. The 2003 team went undefeated and won the NJCAA championship.

"The few losses that we've had were pretty tough. Personally, I'm not used to losing," Stansbury said. "Loss in the championship — that was a heartbreaker. Losing to North Carolina, losing to Duke — I still had the same reaction."

Fortunately for Stansbury and her teammates, State hasn't had to experience much of that this season. The Pack has won six of the last seven since the loss to Duke at Reynolds Jan. 30. State hopes to carry that momentum into Greensboro this weekend in the ACC tournament. Unlike her jitters before the Tennessee game, Stansbury said she is looking forward to her first ACC tournament.

"I think everybody is going to step their game up. So I'm looking forward to the competitiveness," Stansbury said.

Stansbury reached another milestone of her career Tuesday. She was named to the All-ACC second team. And in a basketball office down in sunny Panama City, her former coach was smiling.

Hicks said that hearing about accomplishments of former players gives him a sense of fulfillment and pride in knowing their program has made an impact.

"I was very, very proud. We were a tool to help her get there," he said.

WRESTLING

A new team perspective

Carter Jordan's first year as wrestling coach has brought some changes to the program, but also a sense of unity

Michael Fox
 Staff Writer

When Carter Jordan became coach of the Wolfpack wrestling team after seven years as an assistant to Bob Guzzo, he knew replacing the man with the second most wins in ACC wrestling history would be hard.

"I don't think I expected so much self-imposed pressure," Jordan — a 1985 N.C. State graduate — said. "You have such great expectations for yourself."

Though he feels his own pressure, Jordan has been able to lead the Pack successfully in his first season. The team finished 8-8 in the regular season and went 4-2 in ACC play. Included in this season's achievements are victories over Duke, Virginia and UNC-Greensboro, and a third place finish at the Navy Classic in November.

Over the course of the season, Jordan has monitored his team's progress. This includes an increase from an average of 17 points per meet in January to nearly 21 in February.

"When I look back and watch film, I ask, 'Were we better in December than we were in November, or better now than we were in January?'" Jordan said. "The answer most of the time to that is, 'Yes.'"

The team has been adjusting to the coaching change, and in many cases it has been easy to do so.

But there have been some significant changes in the team's training. For example, the team has stepped up its practices under Jordan's watch.

"Right after the Duke match [on Feb. 23] we did not take a break, even though we had a week and a half off from competition," sophomore Garrett Cummings said. "We were back in the next day."

During practices the team's routine includes active, motion-based drills and strength training, which many players say is more intense. However, the key part of Jordan's practice sessions is to keep the players active and ready for their upcoming matches.

Jordan also works to bring a stronger sense of unity to the team.

Even though he is the only senior on the team and has worked with Jordan for a longer period, 149-pound team captain Alex Hernandez said he feels Jordan is looking to bring the team together and rally around one other in this time of transition.

"He wants us to work as a team and not as individuals," Hernandez said. "He works hard with us and he wants us to work hard together every day."

Hernandez has a 14-6 record this season, which includes four wins by falls.

One player who has improved this season under Jordan's lead is heavyweight Jaior Palma, who went from an 11-16 record last year to a 16-12 record this season.

"I didn't really feel the transition from Coach Guzzo to Coach Carter," Palma said. "They're similar in the ways they run practice and the way they teach their team philosophy. Jordan has stepped it up a level, and that's the way we feel."

Tomorrow the Pack will compete in the ACC Tournament in Greensboro. Jordan said he hopes to bring confidence to the series.

"If we can wrestle really well, we can win, and I think the three teams who are in that position are Virginia Tech, UNC and N.C. State," he said. "It's going to go down to who makes it or breaks it because you can't back into this thing, you've got to win it."

As the Pack heads into the tournament, Jordan will bring a new perspective of the game with him.

"You understand how important each conference match is and how important holding a team together is," Jordan said. "It's like the difference between being the manager of a business and the owner of a business. You think you know what you're going to do as an assistant and how you will handle things, but you really don't know until you become the head coach."

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