

RED

TECHNICIAN

THE FINAL EDIT: YEAR IN REVIEW | 2005.04.28

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Calm yourself reynolds

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Ryan....

Posted at 6:36pm January 24th, 2005.
Patrick Clarke writes "can't we all just get along??"

respond :: message :: view

Kevin Reynolds wrote at 1:27pm



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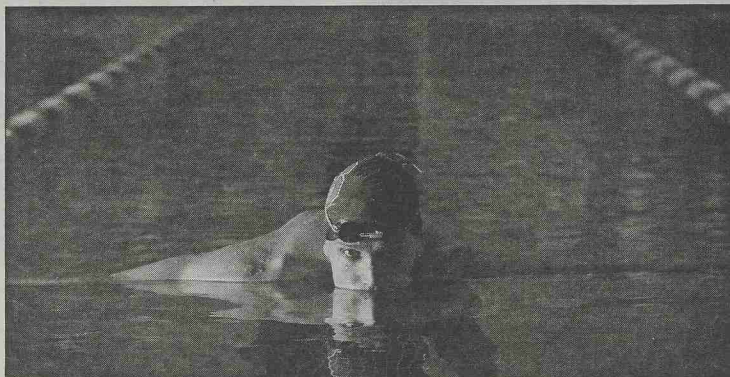


[my year in review]

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• The Penis Mightier Than the Sword.
(11 people)



Senior Rob Yeager took up swimming after a dirt bike accident required reconstructive surgery on his hip. At N.C. State, he qualified for the 2003 National Championship in the 200-yard breaststroke.

PHOTO BY ANDY DELISLE



Student Senate President Will Quick attempts to manage the crowd at the student senate meeting last night. Students from many African-American organizations attended the meeting to voice their complaints about appropriations.

PHOTO BY TAYLOR TEMPLETON

TECHNICIAN STAFF PHOTOS OF THE YEAR



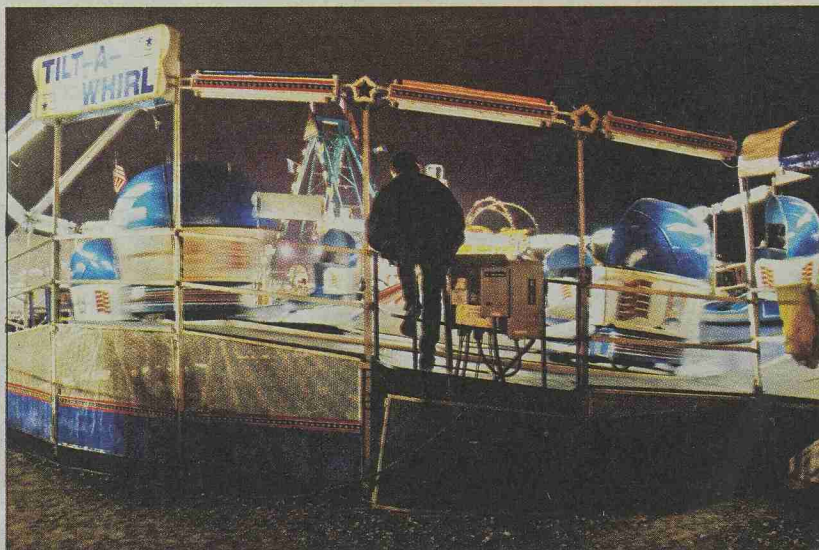
Katy Bridger helps paint the town red at Addam's Bookstore during Homecoming Week.

PHOTO BY JEFF REEVES



James Flanegin, a freshman in business management, did not have a choice. After losing his bet with a friend on the AFC Play-off game between the Colts and the Patriots, James Flanegin was forced to go out in the cold in his boxers and run around Tucker Residence Hall.

PHOTO BY TIM LYTVINENKO



Terry Lyons spends most of his 16 hour work day sitting and watching the Tilt-A-Whirl as it sends fair patrons on a fun ride. The North Carolina State Fair was open from 9 a.m. till midnight, 15 hours, while most of the other fairs Lyons works open at 3 p.m.

PHOTO BY TIM LYTVINENKO

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Erskine for UNC president?

NOVEMBER 9, 2004

Word on the street is that University of North Carolina system President Molly Corbett Broad is nearing retirement, with a possible announcement at this week's UNC Board of Governors meeting. There are some indications that this may be true.



Andrew Payne
Senior Staff Columnist

Recently, Broad accepted a faculty appointment at UNC-Chapel Hill's School of Government. In newspaper reports, Broad repeatedly denied that this was a signal of her leaving her post – it was merely a fulfillment of a promise made during her hiring.

Who will replace Broad as UNC President – Erskine Bowles? Rumors are abound that the two-time loser in U.S. Senate elections will lead the 16-campus university system. Bowles apparently has a number of prominent and influential figures backing his cause, like former N.C. Governor Jim Hunt.

Why would Hunt support Bowles in this endeavor? Well, Hunt is currently practicing law in Raleigh and is chairman of the James B. Hunt, Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy. The institute, originally envisioned for N.C. State's Centennial Campus, was established in 2001 "to work with current and emerging political, business and education leaders on a national level to improve public education."

The think tank is part of the UNC system, not an in-

dividual campus, so the UNC president determines its budget. Let's connect the dots – Hunt supports Bowles for UNC president; Bowles becomes president; Bowles increases the Hunt Institute's budget by millions.

There are other signs. In a letter to his campaign supporters Bowles indicated that a future in public service was still likely, "I will not run again for elective office. But I'm not finished serving our state and our country," he wrote.

Can Bowles get elected? The 32-member UNC Board of Governors elects the UNC president. All the members are appointed by the General Assembly. Even though he failed twice to reach the U.S. Senate, Bowles should easily win the approval of the BOG. Many BOG members are Bowles allies. Jim W. Phillips, a member of the BOG, worked for the Bowles campaign as lead debate negotiator. Phillips is also chair of the board's powerful finance committee.

A quick examination of campaign finance reports shows that many of the BOG members are friends of Bowles. Many board members gave Bowles thousands in campaign contributions in both Senate elections.

Something did strike me as rather odd though. Board of Governors Chairman Brad Wilson and his wife contributed \$3,000 to the Bowles campaign in the 2002 election (Elizabeth Dole vs. Bowles). In this year's election, the Wilsons gave Bowles nothing. Any opposition to Bowles from Wilson might be trumped by Hunt. Wilson was Hunt's general counsel.

Bowles might face some opposition from Republican members of the BOG. But every two years, the General Assembly elects 16 new members to the BOG. One of the first agenda items for next year's legislature will be the

BOG election. Don't look for the Democratic majority to re-elect many Republicans to the ultra-political BOG. If the Republicans are real desperate in blocking a Bowles appointment, they might try running some negative TV commercials.

Is Bowles qualified for the position? Bowles is accustomed to running large complex organizations as White House Chief of Staff and director of the Small Business Administration. He could view the chancellors like cabinet secretaries.

Bowles also knows the issues. In a statement to college students during his campaign, Bowles said, "The two most important issues facing higher education in North Carolina include accessibility for all students who seek a college education and ensuring that our institutions of higher learning have the resources they need in order to thrive in the 21st century."

Bowles would not be the first wealthy investor from Charlotte to run the system. Charlotte billionaire C.D. Spangler succeeded William Friday as UNC president in 1986 and served for 11 years until the election of Broad. Also, Bowles would not be the first UNC president to dabble in politics. UNC President Frank Porter Graham (1939-1950) ran unsuccessfully for U.S. Senate after filling the expired term of Sen. J. Melville Broughton.

In his bid for the Senate, Bowles lost to Rep. Richard Burr by more than 200,000 votes. How ironic that there are almost 200,000 students in the UNC system. If the rumors are true, Molly Broad is retiring and Erskine Bowles will succeed her – there will definitely be more to talk about in the future.

Don't blame Hodge

FEBRUARY 2, 2005

When times get bad, the finger-pointing is relentless.

Times couldn't be much worse for the N.C. State basketball team, which lost at home to the worst team in the ACC on Saturday. Any scenario that has State making the NCAA



Austin Johnson
Sports Editor Emeritus

Tournament is more pipe dream than anything based on logic.

With realism sinking in, Wolfpack fans are looking for someone to blame. After all, history has to have its scapegoats.

Blame Lee Fowler? Fine, he oversees all athletic programs. Blame Herb Sendek? Fine, he's the head coach of a vastly underachieving team and gets paid a lot of money to win basketball games.

But blame Julius Hodge? Not fine.

Hodge is made up of three things: skin, bones and heart. Every time he steps onto the court, he puts the third ingredient on the line. Each important basket produces a

smile from ear to ear, and every mistake produces the downtrodden, staring-at-the-ground look. He loves winning and hates losing.

But like everyone else, Hodge is fallible. He makes mistakes; he has off nights. But his season has not been a failure.

There are those saying "he should have gone to the NBA after last year." Congratulations, you're insulting a kid who wanted to stay in college and finish his degree. His decision to stay was worthy of praise in April, and it remains so today.

You can't blame Hodge for the losses. He has led them the same way he led them last season. His averages – 18.3 points, 7.6 rebounds and 4.4 assists – are as good as anyone in the conference once again. Yes, he's had bad games, but there are 11 other players on the roster who have to contribute as well.

Before blaming Hodge, stop and think about where this program would be without him. When he walked onto campus his first year and declared he was here to win a national championship, people laughed. When he said it again as a senior, people listened.

In the last three years, State would have gone to the NCAA Tournament exactly zero times without Hodge. As a freshman, it was Hodge who sank a 3-pointer with the shot clock winding down to upset No. 1 seed Maryland in the semifinals of the ACC Tournament. The win catapulted the team into the tourney. The following two years, it was Hodge who led the team in successive trips to March Madness. He picked up two well-earned, first-team All-ACC honors and one ACC Player of the Year honor for his performance on the court.

In his career, Hodge ranks fifth all-time in points at State and has a good shot at moving up to third. He will likely rank in the top-15 in rebounding despite playing as a guard, and he already ranks in the top-10 in steals.

Hodge is one of the five greatest players ever to put on a State jersey. In a few years, his jersey will rightfully hang in the rafters.

The Wolfpack could lose every game from here on out, and Hodge would still deserve the loudest ovation ever given to a player in the RBC Center as he walks off the court the final time.

So please, point your finger somewhere else.

Everyone should be welcome here

OCTOBER 18, 2004

I look forward to the time when I open the newspaper on Sunday morning and see Robert Warner and Steve Smith announce their upcoming wedding. I look forward to the day when bridal magazines alter their articles to include the dos and don'ts for same-sex marriage ceremonies.



Michele DeCamp
Senior Staff Columnist

I support same-sex marriages just as I support opposite-sex ones. I will never stand in the way of a loving couple making the ultimate commitment and obtaining equal rights. I am a woman, and I fell in love with a man. Being heterosexual does not give me the right to tell anyone that they can't get married too. End of story.

Nature obviously intended for some diversity to exist in our physical and emotional relationships because millions of gay people would not be walking the earth right now if they weren't part of the greater plan too.

Last week's "Everyone is Welcome Here" events show just how strong our bisexual, gay, lesbian and transsexual community is at N.C. State.

I'm sure several of the students who participated in those panel discussions will, if they haven't already, find someone they want to marry. I am their peer, their classmate

and in some cases their close friend — why would I ever restrict them from making any decision, including the choice to get married? This issue of same-sex marriage isn't just something for President Bush and John Kerry to bat around in a debate — it's an issue for the students on this campus.

I find it disconcerting that so many politicians, including Democrats, are speaking out against gay marriage. Apparently 61 percent of N.C. voters support a constitutional amendment defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman, and 64 percent of North Carolinians oppose extending to gay couples the legal benefits and protections allocated to married heterosexual couples.

I just want to tell the majority of North Carolinians who are opposed to gay marriage that they need to take a long, hard look in the mirror. I know a few of the people who help comprise that 61 percent, and I hope their third marriage works out. I really believe they'll make those vows stick this time down the aisle. I also hope the children from their previous marriages are dealing with the loss of one of their parents since those every other weekend visits don't really cut it. With the divorce rate over 50 percent and domestic abuse still an issue, I don't think marriage has been handled with the level of seriousness that heterosexuals opposed to same-sex marriages are now applying to it in light of this recent debate.

I also want one person who doesn't want to give same-sex couples legal benefits to imagine what it's like to have

no rights in regards to his/her partner. What would this voter do when he/she wasn't allowed in intensive care to see his/her dying loved one?

What scares me is that most of the N.C. candidates running for various offices are opposed to gay marriage. Perhaps they are just trying to win the votes of the majority of their constituents or maybe they really believe gay marriage is somehow wrong.

For those of you who argue biology on this issue — the "Adam and Eve" standard is no longer the only norm in the 21st century. Also, marriage isn't about just sex — it's about love (or should be). For those of you who argue that "it's just plain weird" — you're living in a hole and you need to dig yourself out of it. For those of you who argue our country will be lowering the bar if other states decide to allow gay marriages — we'll be raising it because those loving gay couples may actually serve as the catalyst for a renewed lease on happy marriages.

The fact is, my marriage won't change if my friends decide to marry the same sex, and neither will the marriages of the 64 percent of voters who so adamantly desire to limit others' rights. We will get to continue to enjoy the thousand and more benefits that come with being married in this country, and we'll be able to welcome some new couples to the fold.

And we'll send the message to the world, just as Canada is doing right now, that everyone is welcome to get married here.

Don't be happy with the status quo

FEBRUARY 22, 2005

Four years on this campus have shown me a lot of things: destroyed traditions, rising tuition and fees, ineffective professors and a corrupt student government system.

Somehow, I still hold a love for N.C. State I will cherish forever. I don't think it is rash of me to believe many people feel the same way. Yet amidst all of the whining and complaining about these issues, there has been little done to change them. One can only wonder why this is the case.



Matt Campbell
Staff Columnist

We can start by looking at Student Government. Our representation is currently led by a strong advocate for his peers, the students. In general, the student body president is powerful in the sense of his or her seat on the Board of Trustees. Aside from that, Student Government serves as political playtime for a select few. Some may say the student senate is a way for the students to have a large unified voice.

Unfortunately, that voice is a loud whining over late-hour debates on internal policy. Sure they dole out thousands of dollars in appropriations every year, but in general, they do nothing. Some may say the senate handles ticket distribution. I say they do a horrible job of it. An important aspect of student life is handled by a subcommittee of a group

elected by a small percentage of students. Athletic tickets should be something moved to the power of the student body president, where he or she can then delegate that task to an appointed committee. That leaves the Senate with very little, which is still more than they have given us.

Student senate gives wannabe future politicians a place to call their own. It is empowering to the mindless souls that venture into "the chambers." This is no secret to the student body, which is why students don't vote in campus elections, are disillusioned by the purpose of Student Government and let out a little snicker as news of resignations and impeachment comes from the student voucher scandal.

Students drift further out of touch with the system during tuition hike discussions, city council elections, and, in general, a community that doesn't show much love to the student body. This separation is understandable as the University is stuck between the needs of 30,000 students and the needs of millions of dollars in top-notch research. Many professors sway their vote toward the research while the decision is not as easy for the administration.

Through the mess of robbed and dismantled traditions, it is hard for students to see the passion that Chancellor James Oblinger and other administration such as Tom Stafford have for the Student Body. Oblinger speaks highly of professors and the research that comes out of this institution, but speaks higher of the student accomplishments. Stafford won't stop gloating about his continued support of Campout, even through rough times that have changed it into what it is today. Students have to just sit and watch

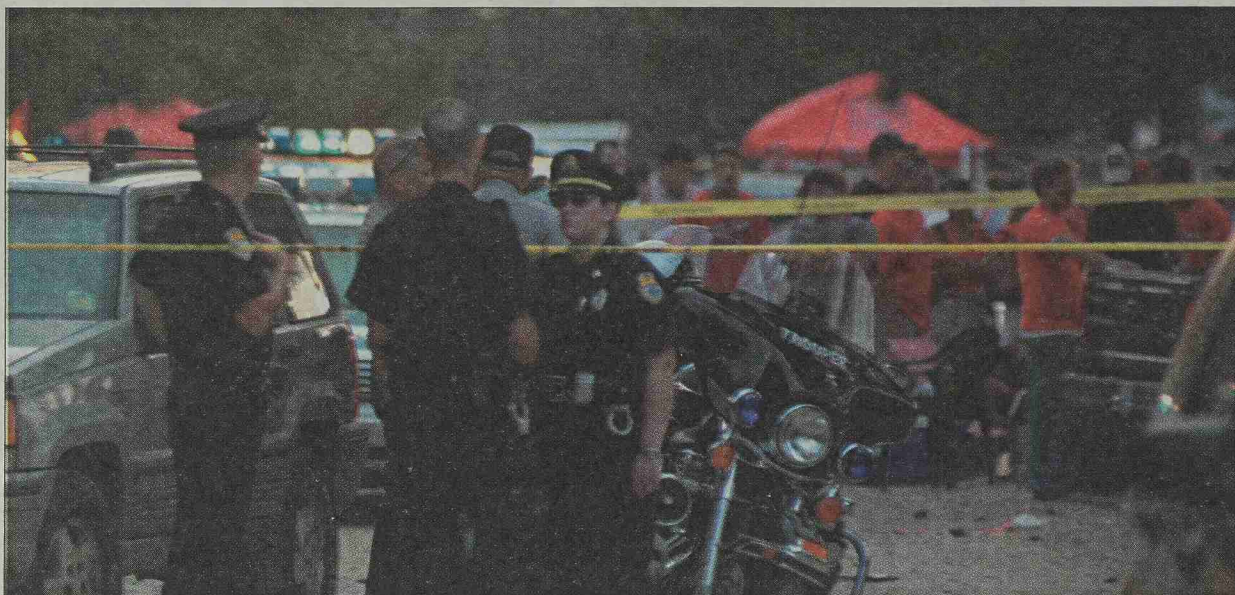
as the city of Raleigh stomps all over them. Threats of a housing ordinance and the Nuisance Party Ordinance have students wondering why they are the target. Yet 30,000 students cannot raise enough of a voice to incite change.

After all this is said, it may just boil down to student apathy. Sure, you can attribute that to the feeling of helplessness but any shouts for change have turned into lazy moans of concession. No traditions can be started here in part because of the foolish acts of some but also to the lack of action from everyone else. Tailgate was restricted and virtually ruined. Why do we feel it's ruined? Because how can one person finish a keg in three hours?

Dance Marathon has raised tens of thousands of dollars for the N.C. Children's Hospital. However, similar events at UNC-Chapel Hill and Penn State raise hundreds of thousands, if not millions of dollars every year. This is no insult to the organizers of the event here; it is an insult to the students who don't choose to attend. Lack of participation is probably because you can't drink at these events. See the trend?

As students, let's overhaul Student Government, namely the senate, let's demand more respect from professors and the community on the whole.

Also, let's get behind some of the exciting events going on in and around campus, hoping that they can turn into the newest traditions at NCSU. Complaining about what we put up with on campus is one thing; let's take that next step as a unified group of students. It is hard to ignore 30,000 of anything, especially students who want a change.



Police officers stand watch over a taped off area of the Trinity Road Fairgrounds tailgating lot after two men were killed in an alleged fight before the first football game of the year on Sept. 4.
PHOTO BY GREG MULHOLAND

Double homicide shocks campus

Two fans are fatally shot in the State Fairgrounds parking lot during the season-opening football game against Richmond; student and brother charged with double homicide.

Ben McNeely and Matt Middleton
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2004

The start to the 2004 football season turned sour when two tailgaters were murdered shortly after kickoff Saturday evening, leaving a junior psychology major and his younger brother charged with two counts of first-degree murder.

While the cheers from a sold-out crowd of 55,600 echoed loudly in the background, a horde of police officials hurried to the upper State Fairgrounds lot across the street from the stadium shortly after 6 p.m. There, they found Kevin M. McCann, 23, of Chicago and Marine 2nd Lt. Brett Johnson Harman, 23, of Park Ridge, Ill. victims to gunshot wounds at the popular tailgating location.

McCann died on the scene and Harman died later that night at the hospital, according to Wake County Sheriff Donnie Harrison. Neither was a student at the university, he added.

The Wake County Sheriff's Office later arrested brothers Timothy Wayne Johnson, 22, and Tony Harrell Johnson, 20. Both Timothy Johnson, a junior in psychology, and his brother have been charged with two counts of first-degree murder after the two came into police custody late

Saturday night.

No bail amount was posted, according to a released document from the Sheriff's Department.

The shooting happened around 6:20 p.m., and one victim was shot in the face, while the other was shot in the neck, Harrison said. Harrison led a large group of law enforcement personnel that included Raleigh Police, Campus Police, fairgrounds authorities and officers from the Sheriff's Department.

Wake County Courts were closed yesterday due to the Labor Day holiday, meaning the earliest the Johnson brothers could face a hearing is today. North Carolina law states that one count of first-degree murder is punishable by death unless the jury recommends the punishment shall be life imprisonment.

Witnesses: Fight preceded death

Eyewitnesses say they saw one of the alleged shooters earlier in the day, driving a green-type car. He was driving erratically, hitting other cars and narrowly missing tailgating fans, they said.

"I felt a car touch my leg. I saw the driver's face and yelled 'Slow down!'" Leighann Liverance, a lifelong student in

criminology, said.

The driver still continued, she said, seemingly oblivious to his actions.

"He sped on down and two guys beat on the hood of his car," Liz Groff, a junior in public relations, said.

She also added that she saw two men beat up the driver.

"They pulled him out of the car and were talking [expletive] to him. One guy was choking him [the driver] for about 15 seconds, then he was on the ground," Groff said. "Then he [the attacker] stood on top of him, like he had conquered him."

The driver got back into his car and left the scene, Groff added.

A Wolfpack fan in the parking lot that refused to be identified said he later saw the assaulted driver come back with another man and a pistol. The man said the driver asked him where his two attackers were, and he pointed them out, he said.

The shooter then approached two men and fired two shots, hitting them in the face and neck before getting back in the car and fleeing the scene, the witness said.

Tailgaters scrambled from the scene and law enforcement

responded shortly after.

Tailgater Jason Seaton, 32, was standing 20 feet away with nothing blocking his view when the homicide unfolded.

"It looked like the two came up like they knew them. Then I heard a 'Pop!' I saw someone across the way and then I heard three more pops," Seaton said.

"It didn't sound like gunshots," he continued. "It sounded more like firecrackers going off, or a starter gun. I thought it was a prank, that they threw a firecracker in their faces.

"The smoke was thick and white and right in one of the guys' face."

Seaton saw them jog off, but they didn't turn around. Then he saw the two victims on the ground.

"I didn't get a good look at them, all I saw were red shirts and jeans," he said.

"I rushed over there and was trying to do what I can," he said. "I can't do CPR. I did what I knew I could do: I covered up the wounds with my T-shirt and got some ice on the wounds."

Seaton said he knew McCann wouldn't make it.

"I saw blood coming from his mouth, saw one last breath and then he died," Seaton said.

He also knew Harman was in trouble because the color of his body was pale.

"The color of his body was that shade of yellow and I knew he was in trouble," Seaton said.

Seconds later, the police showed up on foot. By then, other tailgaters had come over to try and help the victims.

"I walked up, and the kid was saying: 'Squeeze my hand,'" witness Jason Rapuano, a senior in business and sociology, said.

"Nobody paid attention to it [the shots] because it didn't sound like a gunshot," Rapuano said.

Seaton, a frequent tailgater, said the incident was disgusting.

"It tears me up inside that the boys died, and I don't even know them," he said. "And I feel for the families because they didn't choose this stupid thing they did."

Mother says sons were family-devoted

Ann Johnson remembers not too long ago when her son, Tim, drove all the way home to Tarboro on Mother's Day this past May to go to church with the family and bring her flowers.

"He was a good boy," Ann Johnson said in a phone interview yesterday.

She added that Tim and brother Tony enjoyed participating in all of their family-type things.

"We went camping, went to the lake, to the beach...we were real close," she said.

That's why it came as such a shock when she heard news of the shooting incident Saturday night during the Wolfpack's football game. She was checking the score of the game when they interrupted the telecast with news of the incident.

"It was a terrible, terrible shock that anything like this could get out of hand," she said.

Ann Johnson said her son should have been on pace to graduate in May and wanted to pursue further education.

"He wanted more," she said.

First for NCSU event

Inside the third floor of the Murphy Center, Interim Chancellor Robert Barnhardt hosted a reception of university officials as a precursor to Saturday's game.

As the rout ensued, many lingered around the reception area, socializing and dining on the catered appetizers, the



Many people in attendance at the football game returned to their vehicles during halftime only to be blocked by police tape. Jennifer Batts, a senior in graphic communication, said she didn't know what to think of the tragic crime.

PHOTO BY GREG MULHOLAND

game a distant afterthought.

Soon, it was pushed even further from their minds.

Upon hearing the news of the deadly altercation, Barnhardt huddled around Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Tom Stafford and Vice Chancellor for Finance and Business Charles Leffler, speechless, the trio trying to deduce what could have been the catalyst for the shooting.

Stafford later said this is a first for an NCSU athletic event.

"We've never had anyone attending a university event get involved with someone who ends up shooting and killing anybody," Stafford said. "We make every possible effort to surveillance the parking lots.

It is too early to tell if tailgating will be restricted for next week's game against Ohio State, he noted.

Barnhardt released a statement to the community via the university's Web site Sunday afternoon.

"We deeply regret the incident that occurred Saturday in the off-campus fairground parking lot during the football game," the statement read. "We are disappointed and saddened by this incident, and our sympathies go out to the families and friends of these two young men. It's unfortunate that despite all the crowd control and security coordination with numerous law enforcement and emergency agencies, an incident like this can take place.

"It is not possible to control the actions of every single fan who comes to our games. However, N.C. State is committed to reviewing security in our own controlled-access lots. Although there are limits to what the university can do in an off-campus location like the fairground lot, we will work with state fairground officials and others to seek ways to enhance safety in these external lots."

Tyler Dukes and Greg Mulholand contributed to this report

[Description]

Two fans were gunned down at the first football game of the 2004 season against the Richmond Spiders. Two brothers, Timothy and Tony Johnson, were arrested and charged with the crime. They await trial. The aftermath of the shooting saw restrictions on tailgating and an increase in alcohol enforcement officers patrolling the parking lots outside Carter-Finley Stadium.

[Recent discussion]

The Johnson brothers are awaiting trial. The Wake County district attorney is pursuing the death penalty against both young men. The tailgating restrictions — parking lots open five hours before the game for permitted fans only — will remain in effect for the upcoming season.

[Account information]

Leighann Liverance

Year: Freshman

Concentration:

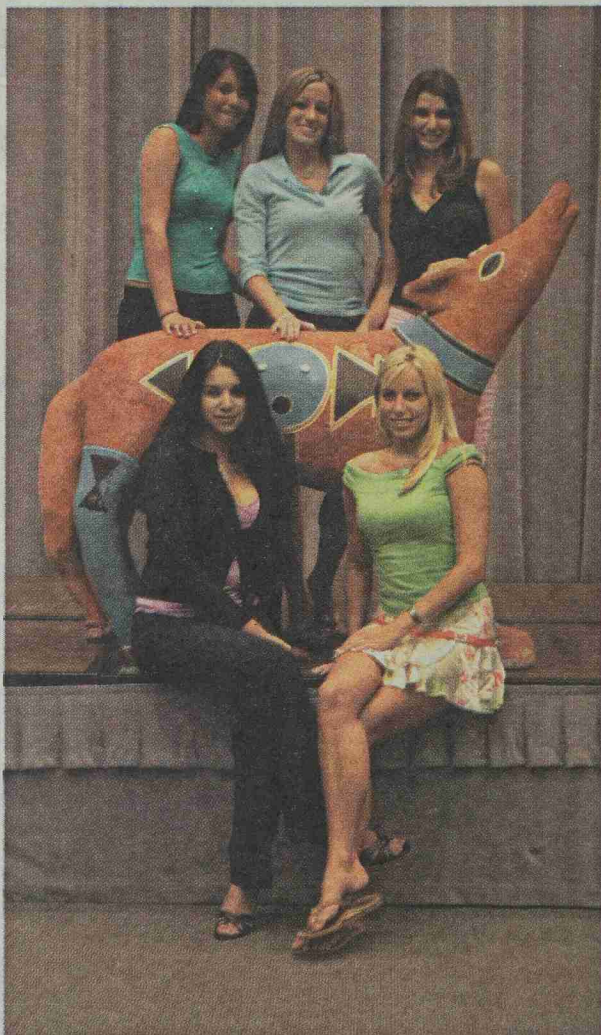
Pre-med/pre-dental

About Me: Witnessed the fight before the shootings and was almost hit with the car the Johnsons were allegedly driving

Quote: "It made me think twice about the football games knowing that two people got killed at one. That really isn't what supposed to happen at a football game. It just really made me think."

?

An American institution, a campus tradition



Students (clockwise from bottom left), Corissa Eaton, Ronnie Danielle, Jenna Fitzgerald, Shannon Younan and Erika Hinsdale posed for Playboy's "Girls of the ACC" issue in September.

PHOTO BY RAY BLACK III

Tim Coffield

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2004

Corissa Eaton talks about her appearance in Playboy magazine's new "Girls of the ACC" edition with the same tone someone getting a first tattoo or going skydiving might use.

"Years from now, when we're all old and wrinkly, it's going to be the most awesome thing to look back and remember this time in our lives," she says.

An outgoing, dark-featured girl of Japanese-American descent, Eaton is one of five N.C. State students featured in the venerable magazine's newest addition. For those who've seen their hot-tubbed group photo, she's the one in the middle or, as one male student with a fresh copy in his hands remarked, "The boob girl."

Listening to the girls speak about their experience, one gets a strong sense that for them this Playboy opportunity served a higher purpose than feeding the appetites of the magazine's voracious "readership." It was, rather, the chance to preserve for the ages that austere kind of beauty unique to women their age, a quality they are all aware is painfully brief.

Or, as Eaton, a junior biology major, prefers to put it, "I want to be able to show people how I looked before 20 years of gravity has done its thing. To tell our grandkids, 'Grandma was *hot* back in the day.'"

The five girls — Shannon Younan, Ericka Hinsdale, Ronnie Danielle, Eaton and Jenna Fitzgerald — appear in various levels of semi-dress in a steaming Jacuzzi in Wolfpack red and black.

All are smiling broadly; there's not even a trace of the sexual grimaces found on the other pages.

When viewed in the context of the other ACC schools' representatives (Check out the Florida State belles, whose motto seems to be: "We shall leave no knots tied and nothing, at all, to the imagination."), they come across as the least audacious and most playful chicks in the conference. Which, it seems, is a far more enduring symbol for collegiate femininity than, say, the open-mouthed snarls on the Maryland girl or the spread-eagle postures of the Seminoles.

But still, they are mostly naked. Mostly naked representing NCSU.

Simply put: Why?

The big question, then, is obvious: Why in the world did you — and thousands of other girls, every year, all over the country — volunteer to share yourself with the world in this way?

"I mean, it's Playboy, you know?" says Danielle, a senior biology major.

She's the one in the foreground with the white tank top, grinning from behind a soaking wet head of shiny black hair.

"To be put in Playboy is to show that you're beautiful, and that [the magazine] wants the world to see you, it's such an honor. It's any girl's dream," she says.

Fitzgerald, a senior in psychology, agrees.

"I just thought it was the opportunity of a lifetime," she says. "It's a really classy magazine. The whole process was so much fun. I'd do it again in a heartbeat."

These girls, all of them, say they take pride in joining the list of edgy movie starlets and female icons that have: Monroe, Faucett, Derek, Crawford, MacPherson, Burke, dozens more.

After all, as Danielle points out, "it's not like Hustler or anything like that. It's *classy*."

Though it would be a mistake to interpret all motives as this abstract, says Younan, a senior in chemistry.

Sometimes, girls just like feeling pretty, she said.

"Who *wouldn't* want to be in a magazine and get their hair done and get their makeup done and get airbrushed — and just look beautiful?" Younan asks.

Family ties

Alright, so they wanted to be in Playboy. They went through the nerve-racking audition process ("I threw up," Fitzgerald admits.) And they were selected. What next? Call Dad with the big news?

"Hell no," says Younan. "Haven't told him."

The other girls were generally more open with their parents. Fitzgerald actually got their permission before she even auditioned.

Danielle, whose sister appeared in the same magazine back when Playboy came to NCSU in 1998, called it "a family tradition."

She called her mom when she got the news she'd been selected, but admits that her dad, however, "hasn't quite got that phone call yet."

Hinsdale, a senior in zoology, had the guts to tell her father.

"He was quiet at first, but then he told me, 'It's every father's dream to have a girl beautiful enough to be in Playboy,'" she remembers. "So he was supportive."

Eaton's dad — a supervisor at Cherry Point, a military base full of 18-25 males for whom Playboy is a much-treasured diversion — responded with "the longest fifteen minutes of silence" when he got the news from Eaton's mom last week.

She hasn't spoken to him since.

The real factor

College Girls is a wildly popular series — Playboy's best-selling edition, according to the magazine.

The appeal is simplistic, say the girls.

"It's real," Danielle says. "Guys like thinking, 'Wow, she might be in my class.' It's exciting."

Hinsdale says that College Girls "come off as more attainable."

Eaton puts an additional spin on it.

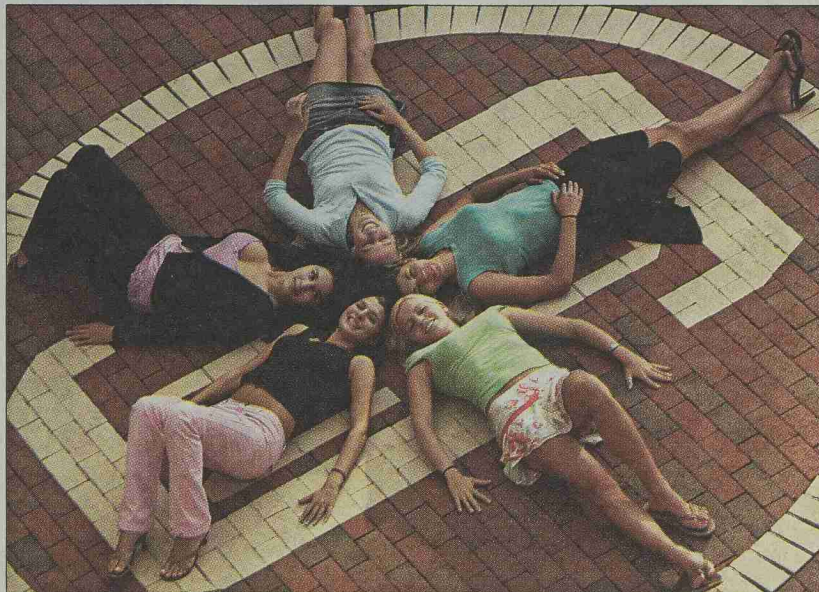
"The ACC edition is really cool," she says. "Because it's showing there are beautiful woman who have brains, and that's something a lot of people think isn't really possible. [To be chosen for] having brains and beauty at the same time, it's such a great honor."

Campus reaction

For their part, the NCSU administration shies away from taking a stance. Interim Chancellor Robert Barnhardt, for example, declined to share his personal feelings on this matter.

The faculty, however, is more open.

"Presumably," observes the Philosophy Department's Doug Jesseph, that is because "this type of project doesn't



The five students were part of Playboy magazine's best-selling issue of the year.

PHOTO BY RAY BLACK III

exactly portray the type of image the administration likes to project. But who knows, if the [magazine's] poses include naked women solving partial differential equations or debugging computer code, maybe the administration would work the images into brochures promoting NCSU and its educational excellence."

Ethics professor Katie McShane sums up the debate in a more serious sense.

"The main issue is one of respect," she says. "Some people think that the way Playboy represents women is incompatible with respect for women. Others worry that by representing women in these ways, Playboy offers encouragement to those who are already inclined not to think of or treat women with respect."

She concludes that most ethicists would agree, however, that this country had far more important things to worry about than a girl's personal decision to pose nude.

For every girl who admires Playboy for its historically honorable role in preserving raw beauty, there's another who feels that it is degrading, not only to the models, but to the nation's female populous in general.

"It just reinforces the idea that woman are sexual commodities, pieces of meat for men to drool at," commented one female student. "It's not very respectful."

She admitted she hadn't seen the issue.

The girls, meanwhile, shake off the criticism like tiny dandruff flakes.

"Everyone's entitled to their own opinion," Fitzgerald says. "But it wasn't degrading in any way. It made us look beautiful."

But it was Hinsdale who perhaps put it best.

"In life, people are always going to judge you," she says. "To me, it doesn't even make sense for someone to judge me for being in 'Playboy.' But you can never make everyone happy. All that matters is you're happy with your own choices."

"And I am."

[Description]

Heaps of controversy were stirred when five N.C. State women decided to strip down — or come close to it — for Playboy's 2004 edition of "Girls of the ACC." The issue, which came out in September, one of the highest selling college editions to date.

[Recent discussion]

Jenna Fitzgerald was named a Coed of the Week in December while Playboy gave the title to Corrissa Eaton in March. Shannon Younan was featured in March's "College Girls" supplemental.

[Account information]

Shannon Younan

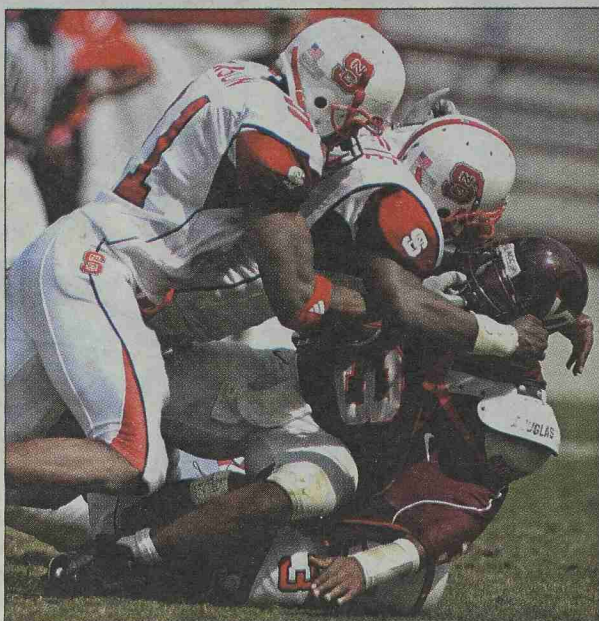
Year: Junior

Concentration: biochemistry

About Me: I still haven't told my parents I was in Playboy, although my dad found my pay stub with the little bunny on the corner.

Quote: "I know I said before I wouldn't do it again, but I would. I'd do it the same way — I'd still not show anymore than I did, but I'd totally do it again. Since being in the magazine I've had random people recognize and contact me. Most the people who have were people I knew in the past — they came out of the wood works. There was actually one guy I saw sitting in the brickyard who I saw mouth to his friend, 'That's one of the girls from Playboy.' I kind of like that I'm recognized."





The N.C. State defense registered 10 sacks in a September win over ACC champion Virginia Tech.
PHOTO BY TAYLOR TEMPLETON

Ryan Reynolds
27 SEPTEMBER 2004

BLACKSBURG, Va.—Chuck Amato finally knows what it feels like.

After being on the losing end of several wide-right field goal attempts against Miami as an assistant head coach at Florida State, he experienced the thrill of winning a game by another team's missed opportunity.

With three seconds left to play and Virginia Tech trailing 17-16, kicker Brandon Pace missed a 43-yard game-winning field goal attempt wide right by mere feet to secure a conference road victory for the Wolfpack.

"I watched the kick and when it missed, I was so excited. I jumped on top of [John McCargo]," Marcus Hudson said. "[He] wasn't looking at what was going on. It was great."

Before the loss could sink into the Hokies players and 65,115 fans at Lane Stadium, State players rushed onto the field and celebrated for several minutes before walking into the locker room amidst cheers from Pack fans who attended the game.

State (2-1, 1-0 ACC) saw the game as a redemption from last week's dismal play against Ohio State, and the performance handed Virginia Tech (2-2, 1-1 ACC) its first ever loss in the ACC.

The output by the Pack offense wasn't much different from last week's game, though. It was the play of the No. 1-ranked defense in the country that made the difference.

The defense dominated the line of scrimmage the entire game and constantly pressured Randall en route to tallying 10 sacks, including three by defensive end Manny Lawson. When the defense didn't sack Randall, it was making him force throws and flushing him from the pocket.

By the end of the third quarter, the Hokies had accumulated 65 yards of offense, including 30 passing yards. Virginia Tech finished the game with 192 total offensive

yards, but 70 of those came on the final drive before the missed field goal.

"That's two weeks in a row now that we've been taking folks to the woodshed, and it takes a physical team to do that," State defensive coordinator Reggie Herring said.

The Pack offense performed sporadically all game, but relied on running back T.A. McLendon in the second half to escape Blacksburg with the narrow victory.

McLendon picked his spots, rushing for 93 yards and a score against a Hokie team that had only allowed one rushing touchdown before Saturday.

"Virginia Tech had a tremendous and strong, fast defensive line, but I can't say enough about our offensive line," McLendon said. "They really got off the ball and they really just did a good job of hanging on the blocks."

Jay Davis started the game at quarterback for State, but Marcus Stone took the snaps on the Pack's third offensive possession. The two alternated for the rest of the game until Stone took over in the fourth quarter.

Stone was the only State quarterback to record a touchdown in the game. After the Pack defense stopped Virginia Tech deep in its own territory midway through the third quarter, the ensuing hike to Hokies punter Vinnie Burns was muffed before State tackled him and took over on downs at the Virginia Tech 5-yard line.

Three plays later, Stone had a 1-yard quarterback sneak into the end zone to give State a 17-10 lead it would not relinquish.

"When they called the sneak I just knew right away it was going to be a touchdown," Stone said.

State won the special-teams war against a team that usually excels in that facet. Fittingly, it was a special teams miss by Virginia Tech that ensured the Pack would escape Blacksburg with its first conference victory.

"I'm going to call Coach Bowden and tell him what it feels like to win on a wide-right," Amato said.

Pack takes down Hokies

The N.C. State defense stifled Virginia Tech, tallying 10 sacks in a difficult conference road victory against the Hokies.

[Description]

It was the year of the identity crisis for the football team. No Philip Rivers. No season enveloped with heart-stopping thrills and last-second triumphs. The absence of the reveled side-arm hurler led to a sub-.500 season and no postseason trip for the first time in Chuck Amato's five seasons. The Pack's year peaked early with a galvanizing September win at eventual ACC champion Virginia Tech.

[Recent discussion]

A majority of the team returns intact next year for the first 12-team ACC season, and the defensive line should be the best in the nation led by No. 1-NFL-draft-pick-in-waiting Mario Williams. The recent spring game previewed a new offense under the command of Marc Trestman, who replaced the beleaguered Noel Mazzone.

[Account information]

Keith Everett

Year: Junior

Concentration: Landscape architecture

About Me: Attended all 11 football games this year

Quote: "I sat with some friends in the Virginia Tech student section in the second half. After the kick, I sort of made a run for it. I thought with that win, we would have another great season...I saw another Gator Bowl appearance. With the new conference look next year, hopefully we can go in and prove ourselves."



Best of the Police Blotter

The most shocking and humorous snippets from the Technician staple.

08/26/04 10:39 PM

SUSPICIOUS PERSON TRESPASS

A student reported a homeless lady climbed into the back of his truck while it was parked in Pullen Lot. Officer identified the non-student; all files were checked and came back negative. She was escorted off campus by a friend.

09/24/04 1:26 PM

INFORMATION - POLICE

A staff member reported he was crossing Hillsborough Street from Horne to access Lampe Drive while driving on his scooter. He was almost struck by an unidentified Wolfline bus that ran the stop sign at Founders Drive.

09/30/04 2:45 PM

SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT

A student reported receiving a phone call; the caller was attempting to have phone sex with her. The student stated she thought it was her boyfriend and went along with the conversation until she realized it was not. The student has no idea who made the call.

10/05/04 11:04 PM

MEDICAL ASSIST

A student reported that they had swallowed a tack while trying to hang a poster on their wall. The student was transported to WakeMed.

10/15/04 9:35 PM

SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT

An officer met with a Turlington Hall staff member at a bulletin board located on the first floor. The board had information on it concerning health and STDs. There was also a cut-out of a male and female on it. An unknown person drew a male sexual organ on the male cut-out and wrote a name on it. The female cut-out also had something written over her head. Turlington staff removed items from the bulletin board. The officer attempted to locate an R.A. whose name matched the one on the male cut-out, but he was not in at this time. Staff members said they had no idea who may have done this.

01/05/05 9:34 PM

CHECK PERSON

A student called to report a male subject who had been sitting in a Jeep Cherokee in the Wolf Village parking lot for a few hours. Officers located the subject, who had been drinking and stopped there to sleep. Warrant checks came back negative. The subject's wife was contacted and came to the scene to pick him up. His vehicle will be picked up in the morning.

01/11/05 9:17 PM

COMMUNICATING THREATS

Police responded to Tucker Hall in reference to a dispute between roommates. One of the roommates stated he began arguing with the other about leaving a bag of cookies open; the cookies got hard. The two began wres-

[Description]

The police blotter, a favorite section of Technician, comes from the daily police logs reported on the Campus Police Web site. It contains a list of all police action — from traffic stops, medical emergencies, arrests and safety lectures — done on campus on a given day. Missing in action for a while, the police blotter returned to the news pages by popular demand.

[Recent discussion]

The latest changes to the police force is the addition of Officer Jackson, a horse, who patrols Main and Centennial Campus.

[Account information]

Jon Barnwell

Rank: Sergeant

Positions: head of crime prevention, media relations officer

Quote: "The most interesting call this year we've answered is arresting some UNC students who were using fertilizer to try and burn 'UNC' in the grass near the Bell tower. We also referred some of our students to the University for messing with the Old Well at Chapel Hill. Every year, we get calls of two students — consenting adults — in cars at various locations on campus 'having a conversation' or 'looking at the stars.'"



tling around the room. One of the roommates told the other he was going to kill him. Both subjects refused to prosecute for the fight, and the roommate did not want to pursue criminal charges for communicating threats. Both were referred to the University for disorderly conduct and violation of University policy. One of them was referred to the university for communicating threats. NCSU arranged for one to move to another room.

01/23/05 12:17 PM

MEDICAL ASSIST

EMS requested a check in reference to a subject at Centennial Parkway and Achievement Drive. The subject had been smoking crack and thought someone was chasing him. When EMS found him, he was slumped over in his truck. He was transported to Wake Med.

02/07/05 8:40 AM

DRUG VIOLATION

A staff member reported that one of her workers may have been smoking marijuana in a car in Schaub Lot. Officers located the vehicle and detected the odor coming from vehicle, but no one inside. The worker was located in Fountain Dining Hall. The subject consented

to a search of her vehicle. Inside the vehicle, marijuana, paraphernalia, fireworks, and stolen kitchen knives were found. She was arrested and transported to jail. She was also trespassed from campus.

03/15/05 12:29 PM

LARCENY

A staff member reported that someone broke into the desk in her office in Biltmore and stole a dollar.

03/19/05 4:11 AM

SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT

An R.A. in Tucker Hall reported that three males asked him if he wanted to buy some rock (drugs). Officers located three male subjects, who stated they were were joking when they picked up some gravel and asked the R.A. One subject was a student. The subjects stated it was a prank. By consent, no drugs were found on the subjects.

03/22/05 10:45 PM

SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE

A student reported a suspicious vehicle using the road to Observatory. Officers were unable to locate any vehicle. The patrol vehicle became stuck in the mud and had to be towed; no damage was done.

04/03/05 3:17 PM

SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT

RPD received a call that a hiker in Schenck Forest had discovered what were believed to be human bones. Officers responded and investigated. A doctor from the Vet School consulted with NCSU Police and advised that the bones were animal remains.

04/05/05 5:19 PM

ASSAULT LEO/ RDO/ KIDNAPPING/ DTP

A student was arguing with her boyfriend, non-student, in Wolf Village. Officers arrived on scene and separated the parties. The non-student decided to try jumping out the window. Officers wrestled him back into the room, where he continued to resist and was pepper sprayed. He was arrested and transported to jail on several counts, and was also trespassed.

04/19/05 2:22 PM

SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT

A student reported that they had been receiving e-mails from a barrister in England about an inheritance but the e-mails were addressed to someone else. They were concerned that someone had used their e-mail account to correspond with the person.

04/18/05 4:19 PM

TRAFFIC ACCIDENT

A student was riding a bike on the sidewalk at Schaub Lot when he ran into a parked fork lift. He suffered minor injuries and refused EMS.

Compiled by Lauren Sundberg



New chancellor Jim Oblinger, flanked by Board of Trustees Chair Peaches Gunter Blank and search committee head Bob Jordan, speaks to the campus community at the announcement ceremony in October.

PHOTO BY RAY BLACK III

LUCKY THIRTEEN

Provost James Oblinger named
N.C. State's 13th chancellor after
a five-month search.

Ben McNeely
MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2004

There is a new leader of the pack in Holladay Hall. James L. Oblinger, provost and executive vice chancellor for academic affairs, was named N.C. State's 13th chancellor Friday.

From a slate of three candidates by the university's chancellor search committee, UNC System President Molly Corbett Broad made a recommendation to the UNC Board of Governors before making a unanimous vote to appoint Oblinger in Chapel Hill.

"I am deeply honored to have been chosen as the 13th chancellor of N.C. State University," Oblinger said to a packed crowd in the Atrium at the College of

Textiles on Centennial Campus in Friday's ceremony.

He will begin his new job as chancellor on Jan. 1, 2005, with an annual salary of \$274,797.

Right away, Oblinger established himself as the successor to Marjorie Anne Fox, who left for the University of California at San Diego this July.

"Since Marjorie Anne Fox announced her departure, one of the most often asked questions has been, 'Can we maintain our momentum?' I'm here to tell you that the answer is an unequivocal 'yes,'" Oblinger said.

He praised Interim Chancellor Robert Barnhardt for his service to the university.

"First as interim provost, and now as interim chancellor, he has not simply maintained what was entrusted to his care, he has truly moved us forward," Oblinger said of his colleague and former dean of the College of Textiles.

In his speech, Oblinger outlined four themes that will mark his administration — scholarship to meet society's needs in the 21st century; a culture of innovation; diversity of people and programs; and operational capability and organizational effectiveness.

"These four themes are not just elements of a vision; they are commitments... Vision without execution is an illusion," Oblinger said.

Oblinger also put great weight on making and maintaining relationships within the campus community and with government and business leaders.

"One of the things I hope you know about me is that I believe that relationships are very important ... I'll be listening to you for how we can make those relationships even stronger," he said.

Broad praised Oblinger for his 18 years of service to NCSU and his belief that he would serve the university well as chancellor.

"It is an honor when individuals who have been your colleagues for many years, who know your strong suits, who know where all the freckles are and instill enthusiastic support and elevate you as their campus leader," Broad said. "This is what distinguishes Jim Oblinger from anyone else."

Search committee Chair Robert Jordan said the choice was easy.

"With all the votes we had, it was a unanimous decision," Jordan said of the 13-member committee, which narrowed down the candidates and forwarded three names to Broad in just five months.

"This is the best committee I've worked with in all my years in politics," said Jordan, a former N.C. lieutenant governor.

'Mr. Chancellor'

A food microbiologist by trade, Oblinger started out at the University of Florida, concentrating on red meats and poultry, decontamination techniques and food borne pathogens.

Oblinger's service to NCSU began in 1986, when he was appointed associate dean and director of academic services in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

"I count myself fortunate," Oblinger said. "I was able to come to N.C. State 18 years ago. Once [his wife] Diana and I arrived, we knew that this was home. Although much of that desire had to do with N.C. State, it also had to do with the people of this state and the importance they assign to education."

He served as associate dean until 1997, when he was promoted to dean of CALS.

During his tenure as dean, Oblinger oversaw 22 departments, with 400 tenured faculty and 4,300 undergraduate and graduate students. Once passed over for the provost position, Marjorie Anne Fox appointed Oblinger as provost

in 2003, after Stuart Cooper resigned when Fox fired two vice provosts. Oblinger, in partnership with Fox, worked to bridge the gaps between the administration and the faculty that resulted from the firings.

"The most important lesson I learned from Chancellor Fox ... I would say to listen carefully to what people are saying. To absolutely try and build relationships for the university and beyond the university," Oblinger said.

When Fox announced her departure and Bob Barnhardt was appointed interim chancellor, Oblinger, Barnhardt and Tom Stafford, vice chancellor for student affairs, formed an instant "troika," highly visible on campus to show that NCSU's momentum was not slowing. During move-in day, the three took a golf cart out on campus and visited with students and their families, moving into the dorms and the newly opened Wolf Village.

"I knew Jim Oblinger more as a dean because we served together as deans," Barnhardt said, in an earlier interview. "When I became interim chancellor, he came across the hall and helped me and shared encouraging words and what was the normal way to handle this and that."

"I am especially pleased about his [Oblinger's] ability to relate to our students and his support for a strong student life program that enhances the total education and development of our students," Stafford said.

'We are N.C. State'

During his speech, Oblinger repeated the sentiment, "This is not about me; this is about us. We are N.C. State."

Oblinger said he is committed to a balance of programs, both academic and athletic. During a press conference after the Board of Governors meeting Friday, Oblinger was quick to say that NCSU would beat UNC by 23 points. The Tar Heels proved him wrong a day later, downing the Wolfpack by six points.

Later, he stressed that athletics are a "fundamental part" of university life and that "they deserve, and will receive, my support."

He also said that providing a national championship in football is not in the chancellor's job description, alluding to Fox's promise to bring NCSU a national championship in football. Football coach Chuck Amato and basketball coach Herb Sendek were both present at Friday's ceremony. Oblinger made a further commitment to interdisciplinary work between departments and colleges. He mentioned the humanities and social sciences were at the forefront of that.

"Many of the proposed majors before the Board of Governors now are coming from the humanities and social sciences," Oblinger said.

When Fox left for San Diego — and a much higher salary — the salary debate was sparked again. But Broad, and the search committee, made it clear they were going into the search and provide competitive compensation. Along with the six-figure salary, Oblinger will move into the Chancellor's Residence at 1903 Hillsborough St., pending renovations, have a membership to Prestonwood Country Club along with use of the Buick Park Avenue, provided by the N.C. State Foundation.

When asked about specific or immediate changes he would make, Oblinger shrugged it off and said it was "premature" to do so.

"We're doing fine right now," he said.

He'll continue his work as provost until he moves into the red-carpeted office in 1A Holladay Hall.

"We know Jim Oblinger and the things he is talking about doing and things he's already doing. The good news is Jim Oblinger was in the search, the other news is we put him up against the best, all across the nation," Jordan said.



Mr. Wuf presents Chancellor-elect Oblinger and his wife, Diana, with a gift of roses after his induction speech.

PHOTO BY RAY BLACK III

[Description]

The search for a new chancellor lasted only five months. The 13-member committee vetted hundreds of candidates before unanimously choosing James L. Oblinger as the next chancellor of N.C. State. On Oct. 8, UNC President Molly Broad announced Oblinger as the 13th chancellor.

[Recent discussion]

Jim Oblinger was installed as chancellor on April 20, at an open ceremony that drew state dignitaries. In his first five months in office, he has crossed the state, meeting with alumni and business leaders, touting N.C. State's work as "Innovation in Action."

[Account information]

Tony Caravano

Year: graduate student

Concentration: international affairs

About me: two-term student

body president, chancellor search committee member, University trustee, legislative aide to N.C. Senate president pro tempore

Quote: "Serving on the chancellor search committee impacted me personally in a professional manner. I saw what it meant to interview for one's dream job and better understand how to prepare myself for my future. It gave me the chance to learn extensively about N.C. State and about our past. It was my most challenging and largest responsibility. N.C. State has a great leader with a clear vision that will unite past, present, and future with innovative ideas and new action!"



One Nation under God, Divisible

Thushan Amarasiwardena
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2004

It isn't just a mere division of color.

A quick glance at the Electoral College map gives a severely fractured take on the nation. Pooled in the Northeast, the Great Lakes region and Pacific coast, is blue. From the South, through the nation's heartland to the West, is red.

Red states have long called their blue kin, the city-dwelling progressives, as out of touch with the core values of the rest of the nation. With "value voters" giving President George W. Bush the pivotal edge to win the election, that notion may have grown credence.

From the North Carolina GOP's headquarters vandalism last weekend and messages like "Osama, sorry your guy didn't win," spray painted on campus, acts like this are occurring nationwide, the division is seemingly carrying over after the election.

But when it comes down to it, the division may not be all that it is purported to be.

"Any vote divides us," political science professor Michael Cobb said. "But we're not divided in the sense that red states are any different than blue states."

VALUE VOTERS

"I feel as if the tone of this country has looked away from religions," Matt Walton, a freshman in technology education said. "Religion needs to more apparent in society today."

It's sentiments like these that analysts and partisans say gave Bush his victory over Sen John Kerry.

Rooted in America's puritan past, religion has always played a major, though oft-forgotten role in the nation's collective psyche. But with talk over same-sex marriage, stem-cell research and abortion swelling along the campaign trail, that once-quiet behemoth arose from dormancy.

"Religion is a big part of the nation's cultural identity and it caught a lot of people off guard – it blindsided them," sociology professor Eric Woodrum said. "Academics, intellectuals and Democratic Party leaders tended not to give priority to what is seen as moral issues by the public."

With Bush's commitments for a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage, restrictive views on abortion and stem cell research, "there was a perception that Bush was more unambiguously articulate in tradition and religious priorities. From what I hear from major commentators, the Kerry/Edwards ticket was not successful in distinguishing themselves enough," he said.

Instead, Kerry's hawing over same-sex marriages; against a constitutional amendment but also against same-sex marriages, while not showing outwardness of faith left value voters questioning if Kerry was one of them.

"On a raft of issues he was perceived by members of the public as ambiguous [over religious issues]," Woodrum said.

[Description]

The 2004 elections piqued the interest of many students involved in the campus groups College Republicans and College Democrats. In the months preceding the elections, vice-presidential candidate John Edwards visited campus, so did N.C. gubernatorial candidate Patrick Ballantine. Republicans won two of the major seats — president and N.C. senator — the groups lobbied voters for.

[Recent discussion]

Both College Republicans and College Democrats experienced change in their leadership since the elections.

[Account information]

Drexel Heard

Year: Freshman

Concentration: Communication, political science

About Me: Involved in Student Government, College Republicans

Quote: "As a conservative Republican it was not only a time to examine my values, but also a time to embrace the values and opinions of others. This had a great impact on my first college experience, allowing me to interact with different minds as we worked to build a stronger America."



Ambiguity on Kerry's part played well into Republican hands, according to Cobb.

"The Republicans worked hard to help Bush with the religious right using messages that Democrats were going to force gay marriage and ban the Bible. Basically by scaring them — and it worked," he said.

Though issues over religious morality are headlining post-election banter, Democrats are saying that their morality has a different thrust.

"People are talking about their values now. Let me tell you about my values. Sending kids to school without breakfast and making them learn without eating — that's immoral. Forcing kids to come home to an empty house is immoral. Making someone wait until their cold becomes so bad that they have to go to the emergency room is immoral," College Democrat president Matt Spence said.

Democrats have morals, but what Democrats failed to do was to get their version of morals across, according to Cobb and Spence.

"On most issues of morality, there is little disagreement among Americans. What it really comes down to is how it's being framed. Democrats generally don't know how to talk about these issues on the campaign trail," Cobb said.

Republicans, on the other hand, played well to the heart

A week after the elections, pundits are calling the nation severely divided; but is it really?

strings. "Republicans succeeded in making [religious values] emotional issues. People act on rational thought, but they act quicker and with more passion when it's an issue from the heart," Spence, a senior in political science said.

A MANDATE?

In his first post-election press conference, having handily won the election by 3.5 million votes — not the mere electoral college victory from 2000, Bush hawked the voter's support in him.

Saying he will pickup a second-term agenda with major changes to Social Security, the tax-code and medical malpractice law reform, Bush is claiming that people are behind him.

"When you win, there is a feeling that the people have spoken and embraced your point of view, and that's what I intend to tell Congress," he said.

But with an endorsement for another four years stemming from moral issues and little talk of his outlined docket on the campaign trail, this mandate is being questioned.

Does he have a mandate? "Nope — not says I," according to Cobb.

"Even by their own admission, if it's the morality issue that got him over the top, then that's where his mandate is," he said.

On those issues, with 11 states jumping on the same-sex marriage ban, stem cell research legislation in place and faith based initiatives on the books, there is little additional movement that Bush could do for that voting block, short of an abortion ban.

"There's nothing that he can do that he hasn't done," Cobb said. "People didn't vote for him to reform Social Security."

The biggest fight will probably come in the Supreme Court nominations which tends to be on the forefront of deciding moral issues, according to political science professor Vincent Munoz.

"If he wants to push a traditional moral agenda, it will probably come through his nominations," he said.

And it's not only moral issues where Bush may be kept in check.

HEALING

"Do you think Ann Coulter is going to change things?" Lusk asked fellow Republicans at a College Republicans meeting after Election Day. Lusk suggested fellow partisans to extend to others thoughtful and founded debate. "You have to understand where they come from and make thoughtful reasoned arguments," he said.

Recovering from their worst political hangover, Democrats, though rattled are saying that division lays only within politics and not between the citizens.

"Our country is not divided on the issues when it comes to specific issues when you take partisanship out," Spence said.

"We are a partisan country — we're not divided."

Volunteers blamed in voucher theft

Eight unnamed student government officials implicated in 'theft of opportunity'

Tyler Dukes
25 JANUARY 2005

Student Senate will convene tonight to kick-start formal investigations into the theft of about 100 student vouchers issued for the N.C. State-Duke game Jan. 13.

Eight Student Government members who volunteered for ticket distribution on Jan. 11 allegedly stole the tickets. Student Government will not release the names of those implicated until formal charges have been filed, according to SG officials.

Student Body President Tony Caravano said an unnamed SG member discovered that the vouchers were missing later that night and immediately informed Caravano of the situation.

Although several SG members pointed out that a few vouchers have been taken by volunteers in the past, Ticket Administrator Scott Stephenson said that the theft of vouchers has never been this large.

"There have been discrepancies, but they were so small that it didn't matter," Stephenson said. "The margin of error was so low, it hadn't been worth looking into."

Volunteers are normally awarded two free tickets as payment for their time spent at voucher and ticket distribution sites at Reynolds Coliseum.

Stephenson stated that this policy is informal and was not made clear to volunteers in their training to work the booths, often leading to the theft of one or two extra vouchers.

"I didn't encourage it and I didn't discourage it," Stephenson said. "We put people in the window and trusted their judgment."

After being notified of the incident, Caravano, along with Student Senate President Will Quick, compiled a list of names indicating those involved.

The list was gathered, according to Caravano, by directly contacting volunteers for voucher distribution.

Quick declined to comment on the issue until after the senate meeting tonight. Eight SG members admitted to taking part in the theft. Their extra vouchers were then collected, destroyed and entered back into the system for other students to receive for the game.

"They were honest and admitted it, and now we're trying to correct the problem," Caravano said.

Although Caravano and Quick promptly notified Athletics of the incident, both parties made the decision for the senate to solve the problem themselves.

"The senate has been very proactive," Director of Ticket Operations Dick Christy said. "They have kept us in the

loop about what's happening."

The Campus Community Committee, which is in charge of the ticket distribution policy, met last Tuesday and set several guidelines concerning the investigation.

It first enforced a zero-tolerance policy for volunteers taking tickets for all future games. Also, the committee determined that only those volunteers who took six or more vouchers would be investigated.

This approach, according to Stephenson, will allow the senate to separate those who were unclear on the policy from those who were deliberately abusing the system.

One of the individuals, Stephenson pointed out, was responsible for the theft of 70 vouchers alone.

"For the people that took a large number of vouchers, there is no way they could justify that," Stephenson said. "There was no misinterpretation on their part. They knew what they were doing was wrong."

The meeting tonight will place the investigation in the hands of the Government Operations Committee, whose four-member Subcommittee on Ethics will begin to hold hearings for those accused in the coming weeks.

These hearings will take place in executive meetings, which cannot be attended by the public.

According to Government Operations Committee Chair Tracy Hutcherson, this process is being used not to hide the issue from the public, but to protect the identities of those involved until formal charges have been made.

"By no means is this thing going to be quieted. We want to make it clear to everyone that Student Government will hold Student Government accountable," Hutcherson said. "The best way to do that is to make sure that every 'I' is dotted, every 't' is crossed and everyone's privacy is guarded to make sure no one's reputation is besmirched."

The Subcommittee on Ethics is primarily responsible for drafting formal charges against those implicated in the event, and will pass these findings to Government Operations.

Government Operations will then determine whether or not a resolution needs to be drafted for the impeachment or censure of the individual.

The resolution for impeachment or censure then needs to be approved by the full senate to take effect.

"This will be more than just pointing fingers at people," Hutcherson said. "It will be interesting to see how this thing progresses."

Although the vouchers technically belong to Athletics, the incident is not currently being treated as a breach of student conduct because the voucher has no actual value,

[Description]

Student ticket distribution came under scrutiny as the Student Senate investigated the theft of 70 vouchers during the Duke basketball game. While the investigation took most of the spring semester, the Athletics Department worked to implement an on-line ticket distribution system that would ensure the fair disbursement of tickets to the student body.

[Recent discussion]

The senate censured two senators and impeached two others. Scott Stephenson, the student ticket administrator, resigned as a senator before he was removed. Stephenson was re-elected as a lifelong senator after he ran in the spring elections under the name, "Eric Stephenson." The online distribution system will be up and running for the 2005 football season.

[Account information]

Carla Babb
Year: Senior

Concentration: Communication, political science

About Me: Senior class president, president of Alpha Delta Pi, worked with Athletics to implement online system

Quote: "In the past, I can see there were errors with the distribution system that were not corrected. Looking to the future, the online system will make things a whole lot easier for students and the Athletic department. It will fill the stand with students and make football and basketball more cherished to the University."



Christy said.

"The price is not the issue," Christy said. "We don't care about the paper, we just want Student Government to make sure this doesn't happen again."

This classification allows Student Government to deal with the incident — and its subsequent investigation — internally.

"The theft of a voucher does not hold the same value as a ticket," Hutcherson said. "We're treating this as a theft of opportunity."



Women's basketball coach Kay Yow celebrates her 600th win at NCSU. Yow later battled a recurrence of breast cancer and still lead her team to a 10-4 ACC record and a No. 5 seed in the NCAA Tournament. PHOTO BY MELIH ONVURAL

Yow inspires, maintains winning ways

In her 30th season at N.C. State, Kay Yow missed games on the sidelines, but her team, playing in her name, made sure it didn't miss a beat.

Matt Middleton
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2005

Two months into a diet overhaul and almost one week before her team opened postseason NCAA Tournament play, Kay Yow experienced tangible proof for a perpetual desire.

While shopping for organic foods — all she can eat since adapting a special nutritional program in the wake of a recurrence of her breast cancer — at a Raleigh-area Whole Foods, Yow met a man with diabetes who she soon learned was a viable testament to her wish.

He brushed aside his food, came up to her and told how inspired he was after reading about her recent tribulations with breast cancer, which caused Yow to miss her first game in 30 years coaching the women's basketball team.

"That was uplifting to know that somebody else had been touched in a positive way because of my own battle," Yow said. "I feel sort of selfish in a way. There's so many people battling cancer, and I want them to know there's a lot of people out there that care. And I was hoping that in some small way, I might could give a lift to other people."

And in a not-so-small way, Yow's averse feelings for all things selfish have produced a Hall-of-Fame coaching career and created a loyal, basketball-related family that swells with new members every year. In her 30th year on the bench, Yow has led the Wolfpack to its most regular-season wins since 1998. In all, she missed three games — two while leaving the state to learn a diet modification that came on the heels of the 62-year-old having a tumor removed from her right side, a recurrence of breast cancer that first appeared in 1987.

So with its longtime coach ill and missing games for the first time ever, the Wolfpack had one obvious choice, players said.

"We look at it as a motivator," leading scorer Billie McDowell said. "We play extra hard because we knew she would want us to play hard without her there."

Some of the preseason goals the team set were to win 20 games and win 10 conference games — lofty goals, Yow said, for a team picked to finish seventh in its own league. Instead of falling in line, the Pack, in Yow's words, "steadied the course and maintained a real stick-to-it-ness" on its way to a 21-win, 10-4 ACC season.

A whole new way to eat

There were times this season when the team, in the midst of its best run in more than five years, would tire. With heavy arms and weighted legs, their exhaustion led to the same inevitable task.

"Anytime we were tired, felt like we couldn't do something, we'd look down at our right shoelace," senior point guard Kendra Bell said.

There, each team member wore a pink shoelace, a small, stark clash to its red-and-white shoes that first appeared in a Jan. 14 game against UNC, the team's first without Yow.

Two months later, the laces still haven't come out.

Yow found out on the team's first day in the Virgin Islands — its destination for a holiday tournament in late November — that her biopsy was positive; the cancer, which was later successfully removed, was there. She waited until the team returned from the trip to inform them. Then, on a trip to Vanderbilt in early January, she decided to leave the team after its next road game at Clemson to enter the nutritional program.

The University made the recurrence public on Jan. 10, coinciding with the announcement that Yow would miss the team's next two games.

"Frequently, a person will take a recurrence of cancer as a catalyst to act on something that may have interested them," Yow's oncologist, Dr. Mark Graham, said that month.

In the past year, Graham said, Yow also had minor skin cancers and a pre-melanoma lesion removed from her body. Combined with the recurrence, Yow discussed with Graham the concept that the "temple needed remodeling."

The overhaul began two months ago in the form of a meatless, dairy-less, sugarless diet that must be 100-percent organic. Yow displaced her affinity for chocolate and Southern cooking with fruits and vegetables. Also gone are the 10 to 12 cups of coffee she used to down on a daily basis. She now only drinks water that has undergone a reverse osmosis purification process.

Her typical daily intake starts with certified organic fruits like blackberries, grapes and bananas. For lunch, she might consume a raw vegetable salad. Dinner is the only meal that can be cooked. Yow prepares all the meals herself, a process that includes soaking the food in a water-filled sink with a cup of hydrogen peroxide for 20 minutes.

"For a person that used to eat every meal out...that's the really, really tough part," Yow said.

When the team gathered to watch the NCAA Tournament Selection Show Sunday at Amedeo's, waiters bustled past the memorabilia-laced walls with sloshing pitchers of sweet tea and baskets of steaming bread. Everyone feasted on the Italian meal, except Yow, who sat against the far wall drinking water from a clear Dasani bottle.

Yow says she has the timeframe of one year in mind for the diet. But for now, she salivates about the seemingly vanilla promise of eating broiled fish or drinking a cup

[Description]

The Wolfpack Women ran off 21 wins and a 10-4 ACC record while battling adversity throughout the season. Coach Kay Yow had a recurrence of her breast cancer, and her entire team rallied around her cause — and the color pink.

[Recent discussion]

In a characterizing moment indicative of the season, the coaches named their entire team MVPs. With a new diet, Yow continues to battle her recurrence.

[Account information]

Kendra Bell

Year: Senior

Concentration: Accounting

About Me: Team's starting point guard. Will replace Jason Gipe as graduate assistant coach for the Wolfpack Women next year.

Quote: "It's been a great four years. I don't want it to end...so I'll be back as a graduate assistant. But I'll miss being out there on the court."



of decaffeinated coffee.

'Like blood sisters'

Win or lose, an N.C. State women's basketball game begins and ends in essentially the same fashion.

Beforehand, players and team personnel show a united form of affection during the national anthem, forming a yardstick-straight line and resting their left hand on the left shoulder of the teammate in front of them. Afterward, in a similar showing of camaraderie, the team links arms and sways gently while the pep band plays the alma mater.

Bring this up to Yow, and her green eyes shine as she points out how it's great that not only her team does this, but the cheerleaders, dance team and pep band all participate.

"They're all very special parts of our program," Yow said. "Sometimes, we don't say thank you enough."

Yow voices her feelings of gratitude after every game, when she takes the microphone and publicly thanks the crowd. The speech is directed at everyone — players, spirit squad members and fans, an eclectic mix of long-time program supporters and eccentric, elementary-aged girls whose biggest thrill seems to be shrieking during an opposing team's free-throw attempt.

Season-ticket holder Mike Ward, 66, falls into the former category. Ward and his self-described lucky red beret are as much of a fixture in the Old Barn as the popcorn smell and outdated acoustics.

What Yow gave him — and his family — is what brings him back. He remembers the year: 1987. Yow herself was battling breast cancer, but she took the time to look out for the happiness of Ward's daughter, Brooke.

Yow let Brooke, stricken with leukemia, sit just behind the team's bench, becoming an extension of her own team. She also granted another wish and introduced her to a vivacious coach by the name of Jim Valvano.

Two years later, Brooke died. Ward hasn't forgotten and says of Yow's team, "Her girls are my girls now."

In 1975, NCSU Athletics Director Willis Casey interviewed and hired Yow to coach his young women's program. Some 30 years later, his subsequent replacements haven't had to negotiate with another, making Yow the

longest tenured female coach at the University. Active in cancer-related charities like the Race for the Cure, the Jimmy V Foundation and the American Cancer Society, she's also just one of 18 women to be enshrined in the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame.

Those years have generated an array of awards and honors that reside like a personal Hall of Fame in the women's basketball office in Case Athletic Center. But what Yow seems to cherish more is her role as a motherly figure to her players. One by one, they come and go, but they all attach themselves and extol the family environment.

"I'm an only child, so I would call my teammates my sisters," said Talisha Scates, who played for Yow from 1999-2002 and graduated in December 2002 in accounting. "We're all close-knit, even people I never played with."

"We treat each other like blood sisters — even the coaches, everyone," McDowell said.

Alarmed with the news that their leader had a recurrence of her cancer, the team responded to give Yow her 600th win at the school in early December against Seton Hall. She coached 10 more games before taking a two-game leave, along the way never showing negative repercussions from her illness.

"She had known for a while, and we couldn't tell anything was wrong; we still can't," Bell said.

Yow's reasoning for that is pragmatically simple.

"If you want to give yourself the best chance for healing, then you need to stay positive," Yow said.

When Yow returned to the sidelines Jan. 20 against Miami, the Pack ended the regular season by winning eight of 10 ACC contests thanks to teamwork — no one on the team averages more than 11.5 points per game — and a common unification.

"What's gotten us this far is the closeness of our team," Bell said.

No end in sight for this 'mother'

Sitting at a round table in her spacious third-floor office, Yow takes a sip from that omnipresent Dasani bottle before reiterating that the year's tribulations have had no impact on the length of her coaching career.

"I said that when the time comes, I'm going to know it," she said. "You really have to have a passion and your health. Mine still runs really strong and deep."

Outside her doorway, memoirs from the United States international teams she led to a 21-1 record are enclosed in a well-maintained display case. But for all the gold medals and memories from abroad, her eyes become glossy and she has to discreetly wipe away a tear when she talks about one thing: the Final Four.

"It was above and beyond my expectations," Yow repeats twice, describing her only trip to the event, in 1998. Players say what they want so desperately is to win Yow that championship feather that would perfectly cap their coach's career.

"That's the only thing she's missing and I can speak for all the players, former and current, that you want to give it to her so bad," Scates said.

Being nostalgic and selfless — probably two of the utmost Yow idiosyncrasies — the coach reminisces once more before underscoring the notion of what it would mean to go back to the Final Four — for her players.

"I just want the players to experience that," Yow said.

And for the 30 years worth of those players — for fans in local supermarkets — the sentiments that Yow has given them have only mirrored the perseverance of her own trials.

"It's almost like a mother with a family — I have to be strong," Yow said. "Life is going on. Time is still ticking. If I'm going to coach, then I've got to give it my best."

How sweet it is

State reaches the Sweet 16 for the first time
in 16 years with a win over defending
national champion Connecticut

Austin Johnson
MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2005

WORCESTER, Mass. — The white board in the N.C. State locker room at the DCU Center had just two words on it: Sweet 16.

That was all anyone on the team needed to say following State's 65-62 win over Connecticut on Sunday afternoon in the second round of the NCAA Tournament. For the first time since 1989, State is sticking around for the tournament's second weekend.

"It feels good," senior Julius Hodge said. "A great feeling, even better because the guys on the team and the coaching staff were the only people that believed."

Hodge, who has been denied a Sweet 16 birth in his three previous seasons, scored the winning basket with four seconds remaining on a drive to the basket. His shot over Huskie forward Ed Nelson was good, and the senior forward drew a foul and sank his free throw to give State the three-point win.

"Julius needed a shot like that for his resume," sophomore guard Engin Atsur said. "That was a big-time player, making a big time play in a big moment." When the final horn sounded, Hodge walked to the camera at half-court and brushed his shoulder off with his hand. For a player who has seen heartbreak in the tournament his first three years, the signal was clear.

"That might have been a monkey," Hodge said. "We are in the Sweet 16. I had to get that monkey off our backs."

On Friday, Huskie forward Denham Brown had said that State was "used to losing" — a comment that Hodge said the team used as even more motivation going into the game.

"Oh, man — that was crazy," Hodge said. "There is really no need to even say anything about us. But that's for them to do. We just play the game the way it's supposed to be played — class acts and get big wins."

The big win was something junior forward Ilian Evtimov was also glad to get. The usually glib junior had trouble describing the moment.

"I'm so happy. I have no words to describe it," Evtimov said. "We feel like finally all the hard work we put in all year long is paying off."

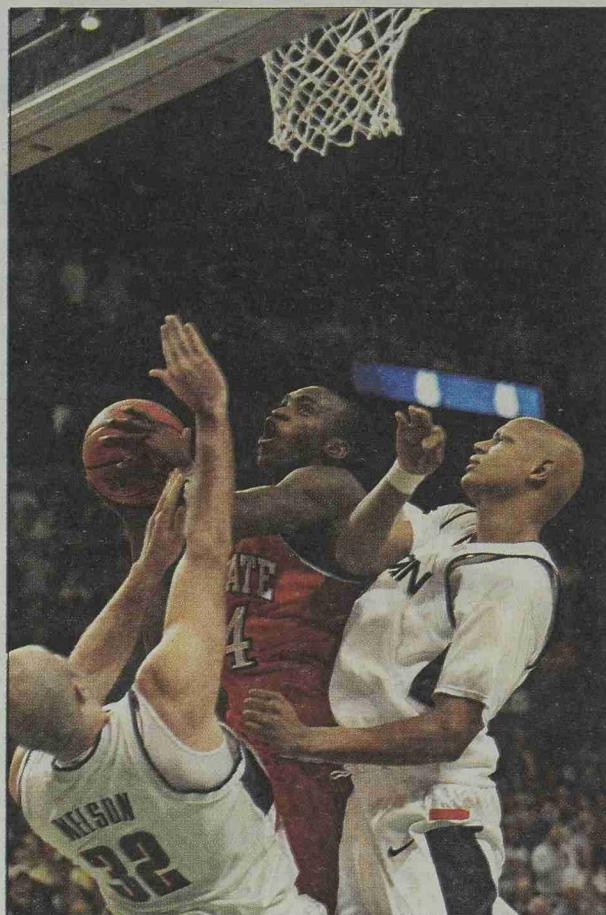
Getting to this point has been anything but easy for the Pack. Illness and injury contributed to a stretch of poor play in January and February, and State had to go on a run late in the season and in the ACC Tournament just to get invited to the Big Dance.

The trip to the Sweet 16 is the first in the tenure of coach Herb Sendek, who has led the team to four straight NCAA appearances. Sendek was an assistant coach with Providence the last time the Wolfpack was in the Sweet 16.

"I'm fortunate to be around such a great group of young men, this is very special for them to win this game," Sendek said. "We're going to share this with everyone — family, friends. This is a shared special moment."

Junior Cameron Bennerman had a simpler way of describing the situation.

"Every day that we get to play in the tournament is a good day," Bennerman said.



Julius Hodge scores the game-winning basket against UConn, sending State to the Sweet 16.

PHOTO BY TAYLOR TEMPLETON

Second-half blizzard ends season

Wisconsin scored 44 points after halftime to down the Pack in Syracuse Regional

Matt Middleton
28 MARCH 2005

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — N.C. State's season ended Friday night amid poignant wintry reminders of a time when things were anything but rosy.

Piles of snow dotted Syracuse's sloping campus, while a chilling March wind swirled and delivered the constant feel of dreary mid-winter, a since-forgotten time when this year's Wolfpack sat in the bottom 1/4 of the ACC and seemed ready to punch its ticket to the NIT.

Instead, the season lasted longer than most people expected. A team once 3-7 in the ACC became one of the last 12 teams playing in the great spectacle of March.

But on Friday night in the Carrier Dome, the same traits that got the Pack this far — resolve, moxie, rallying determinedness — were mirrored by its opponent.

Clock officially struck midnight for State's Cinderella story shortly before 9:30 local time when the scoreboard read 65-56 Badgers, and Wolfpack players followed departing star Julius Hodge into their cramped, orange locker room. The loss marked the first time since 1980 that the Pack (21-14) lost an NCAA Tournament game it led at the half — a streak that spanned 32 games, four coaches, one national title and countless heartbreaks.

"I felt like we were going to win this game, but it feels incomplete, like a story that doesn't really have an ending," junior Cameron Bennerman said.

Then, the swingman who finished with 10 points on 4-of-6 shooting, then quipped what seemed to be on repeat throughout the postgame locker room.

"It was one of those games where they wanted it more than we did," Bennerman said.

Those sentiments were echoed by at least three other players, surprising considering grit and fortitude — coach Herb Sendek's favorite word — had been State's late-season calling card, evident even in losses like the March 6 setback against Wake Forest.

"Today, we felt like we let up when we shouldn't and we should have just kept pressing and kept pressing and won the game," freshman Gavin Grant said.

It took State almost 12 minutes to score 10 points after the break, following a first half in which it converted six 3-pointers. By that time, Wisconsin had run off 28 points of its own, fueled at one point by a eight straight points from Tucker.

Wisconsin, air-balling 3's and committing 11 turnovers in a putrid 21-point first half, came out of the break firing from behind the arc, opening with a couple of bonus-sphere conversions from former walk-on Clayton Hanson. With the Pack forced to respect the perimeter, Tucker soon used his muscle to convert five layups in less than four minutes.

"He caused us a real matchup problem and just took over in that run," guard Engin Astur (team-high 16 points) said.



Illian Evtimov, Will Roach and Cedric Simmons head to the locker room after Wisconsin ended the Wolfpack's season 65-56.
PHOTO BY TAYLOR TEMPLETON

Down double digits, Sendek tried anything to steal the momentum, even inserting injured point guard Tony Bethel for the first time in five games. He played two pedestrian minutes and couldn't spark the team or mask the glaring problems — hitting from the outside and stopping easy Tucker buckets.

"Before you knew it, we were running out of time," Bennerman said.

The clocked counted down to less than 1:30 when the Pack cut the lead to five points. With the State crowd on its feet trying to exhort one final rally, Atsur misfired on a quick, deep 3 in the subsequent possession.

In his final game in a State jersey, Hodge scampered around the court trying to coax one final charge, just one final piece of magic. In the end, he briefly shook hands, wiped his face with his slender right hand and exited face down through the tunnel.

"We played until our jerseys were soaked, legs were sore and we were exhausted," Hodge said.

Usually plodding Wisconsin's 44 second-half points were the most State has allowed since surrendering 48 to high-octane Wake Forest on Feb. 10. That game, played in the dead of winter, was the final setback in a stretch that saw the Pack win just three of 12.

Sitting in a folding chair with crossed arms and sloping shoulders, Bennerman mentioned that point in his characterization of the season.

"We started 10-0, then St. John's...probably the worst game in N.C. State history, then we hit another rock bottom and picked ourselves back up," Bennerman said. "It's just been a constant roller-coaster. We're proud now, but we felt like we had something and lost it."

[Description]

For the first time in 16 years, the men's basketball team tasted sweetness with a trip to the NCAA Tournament's Sweet 16 in March. Led by reigning ACC Player of the Year Julius Hodge, State overcame midseason doldrums to experience its best postseason since the Jim Valvano era.

[Recent discussion]

Hodge will be the only consistent starter not returning. With recent defections among other ACC teams, State should contend for an upper-third league finish.

[Account information]

Emily May

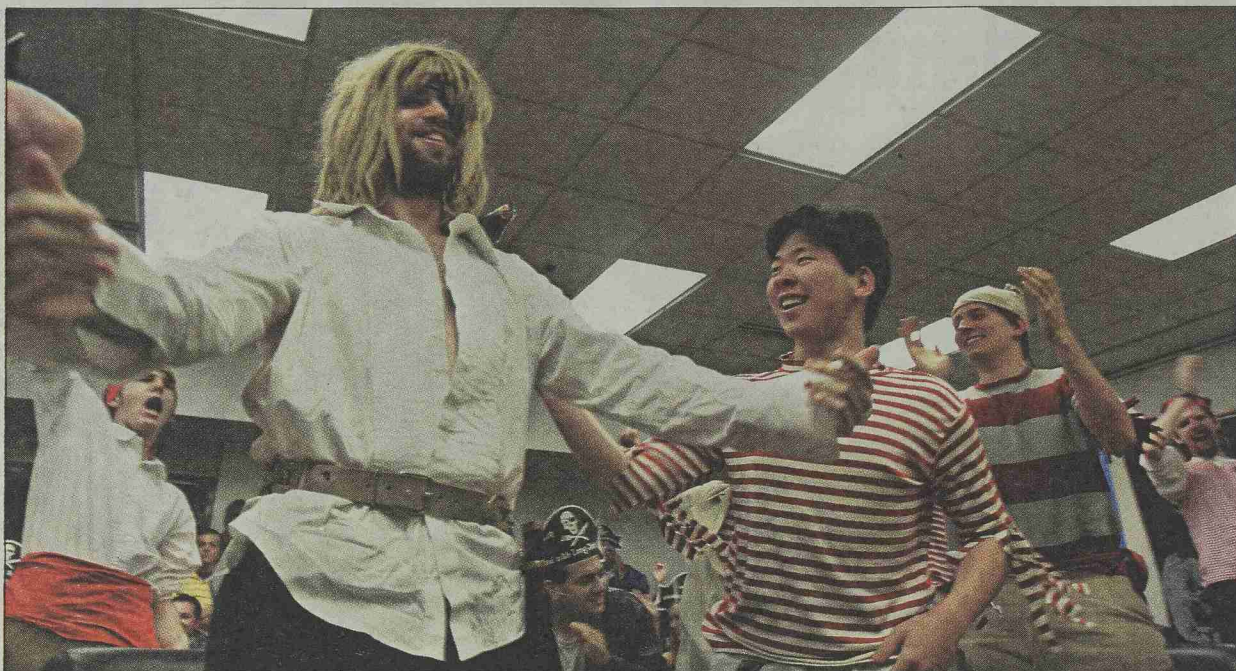
Year: Senior

Concentration: Management

About Me: Huge Wolfpack basketball fan, traveled to Syracuse for Sweet 16 in March

Quote: "It was one of the most exciting yet heartbreaking moments of my college career. I remember watching Julius give the fans high fives as he came onto the court. At the end of the game, when it was all over, he walked off the court and was too upset to accept the high fives. I had never gotten choked up at a basketball game before that night."





Whil "The Pirate Captain" Piavis celebrates with his scurvy crew in the Senate Chambers after it was announced that he defeated Will Quick in a runoff for student body president in mid-April.

PHOTO BY JEFF REEVES

Year of the Pirate

Whil "The Pirate Captain" Piavis defeats Will Quick in SBP runoff

Tyler Dukes
14 APRIL 2005

The Senate Chambers in Witherspoon Student Center were overrun Wednesday night with the ever-expanding ranks of scurvy dogs and scallaws as Elections Commission Chair Bonnie Pierson revealed the results of the remaining offices of the 2005 Spring General Election.

Although candidate Will Quick almost doubled his votes from last week's election, Whil "The Pirate Captain" Piavis clinched victory in the runoff for the position of student body president.

Student Senate President candidate Forrest Hinton was also elected, along with Senior Class President candidate Carla Babb, who triumphed over Hisham Salama by a mere 32 votes.

Quick's small show of supporters, consisting largely of Student Government members, were confined to the corners of the chambers by the large crowd of pirate enthusiasts, who chanted and cheered to Pierson's announcement.

During a short speech to dissenters and supporters alike, Piavis revealed his real name and declared that during "The Year of the Pirate," his main focus would be getting the students involved with Student Government.

"We're quickly goin' to bae getting our plank started, get

the simple things out of the way," Piavis said. "Then we'll bae working on getting the Senate out to the students and out to the college councils."

Although many of his opponents claim that he is making a mockery of Student Government's highest position, Piavis asserts he is serious about his role.

"This simply bae a way to get people to pay attention and get involved," Piavis said. "We're not a group that bae full of ourselves. We bae out here for the students."

Piavis faces staunch opposition from members of Student Government, who according to Quick, "weren't looking forward to working with The Pirate Captain." Quick said this has the potential to harm Piavis' work throughout his term.

"[Student Government's] overall goal is to get as much accomplished as we can," Quick said. "I hope that the perception I got from the beginning is somewhat changed."

Piavis said, however, that he wasn't worried about winning their favor, pointing out that many new senators will be entering Student Government over the course of next semester.

"We're liking the fact that most of the Senate are new scrogs," the Captain said. "Me hopes the rest bae coming around. [Our crew] not bae a bad lot."

Despite Piavis' popularity on campus as the Captain, Quick did mention concern for the perception of the

University on a larger scale.

"Outside of campus, I don't know what this will do to our reputation and our effectiveness as Student Government," Quick said. "I'll be tuned in as closely as anyone else."

According to Hinton, who defeated Tommy Ozbolt 59 to 41 percent, Piavis has already achieved one of his goals. An astounding 25.7 percent of the student body visited the polls during the runoffs, a number which exceeded even Pierson's expectations.

"We owe it to The Pirate Captain for getting students involved," Hinton said. "What I really want is that same 25 percent to stay involved all year."

Ozbolt said he was thrilled that Piavis won, citing him as "the last chance Student Government had for change."

"If they would have elected the 'Tony [Caravano] Ticket,' it would have been the same old crap with a bunch of elitists walking around in suits," Ozbolt said. "He's the radical reform we've been pushing for."

Hinton said he would be willing to work with Piavis the same as any other candidate and said he looked forward to doing extensive work with the Senate.

As for the dissenting view of Piavis in the eyes of many senators, Hinton said he would have none of it. According to Hinton, "The Pirate Captain won fair and square."

"I support the decision of the students," Hinton said. "They watched and made an educated decision."

But maybe with some tamer dreams...

Before kindergarten, my brother and I spent a lot of time lying on our backs on the floor in the kitchen, tracking the blades on the ceiling fan while Mom scrubbed vegetables and stared at the window. Dad worked elsewhere. When it was dark outside, he'd come home. Then we'd sit up.

He sometimes encouraged us verbally. After peeling off his loafers, he'd crouch down to our level and examine us, the pint-sized fruits of his loins, with genuine terror in his eyes. He had ferocious blue eyes. Then he'd ask us if we knew just how special we were.

Yes, we'd say.

He'd nod and launch into the old Dream Thesis: You boys, he'd say, are sharp kids. Do you have dreams? You need to go after big ones – they'll never happen if you don't.

At the time, this idea did not seem absurd. But three years later, when the elementary school scan-tronned everyone to filter out the Gifted and Talented kids from the lay children, we began to have our doubts.

Dad got our scores in the mail. Soon, the Dream Thesis was revised.

You're hard-working kids, he'd ask us. Right?

Right, we'd say.

Work harder, he'd say.

Back at school, a man in a blue suit and silver sunglasses came by once per week to collect the Gifteds and sweep them away to a secret Gifteds classroom, where they erected majestic replicas of legendary buildings using balsa wood, while the rest of us stayed behind, staining cotton balls with non-toxic paints and slowly taping them to discarded shoe boxes.

Dad still spoke of dreams, but it was less often.

Then, in sixth grade, when we were weeded out of pre-algebra, Dad scrapped his dreams talk completely and told us boys to grow some fangs, dammit.

He confiscated our Sega Genesis. He had our medications upgraded.

This world is like a bleeding slab of meat, he said. If you want a piece of it, you gotta use your teeth like everyone else. Aggression is a virtue. Nothing good comes without incredible pain – not to kids like you.

Dreams are only for special people, boys. And to be perfectly honest, I can't say I've ever met a special person.

He had a good point, Wolfpackers, a relevant point. Thousands of you will soon graduate. Of this group, statistics show that as many as four of you will prove special enough to a) actually have dreams and b) beat out thousands of other people that have the same dream.

As for the rest of you: there's way too much competition for the good dreams to waste your time chasing them. Think about all the folks out there that are smarter, luckier and more aggressive than us! Millions, at least. The closest we'll ever come to the good dreams is buying pictures of the remarkable people who live them,

then swallowing sleep aids.

Trust me, people. I learned this lesson early on, and it's helped me anticipate my failures so efficiently that I no longer even notice them.

That's not to say we shouldn't have dreams. We should have dreams.

Otherwise, you start thinking about your past and your present and similar things that will only drag you down. This is where dreams can help. The key is trading your old ones in for more attainable things.

There's no use dreaming about paving the course of history, for instance, when a nice hamburger will make you every bit as happy. Don't dream about starting things, or changing things, or stopping things. Do not dream of revolutions. They rarely succeed.

Aspire for things you can have.

Like a short nap, or a green sweatshirt, or a free refill. Dream of a new telephone, or another ring for the one you have.

Dream of a spouse with teeth that are straighter than yours. Dream about a faster car, a cold beer, your own chrome handgun. A pull-through parking space. Aspire for children that don't burn churches and a job that pays enough to keep them thoroughly medicated. Dream of three cold beers, a speedy divorce, another cigarette, a witty bumper sticker.

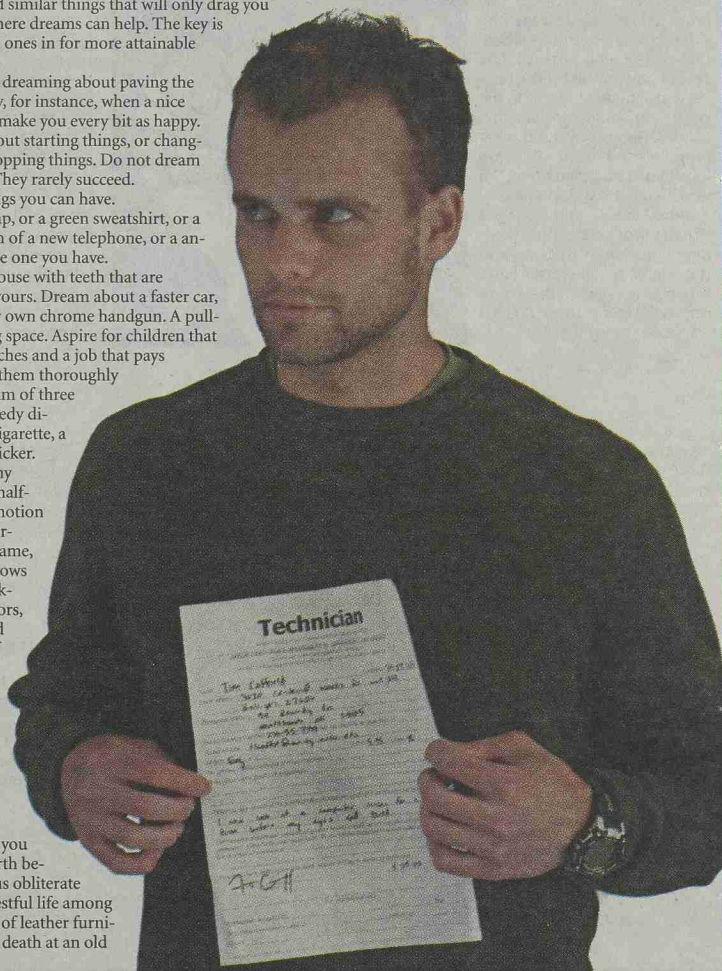
Dream of funny commercials at half-time and slow-motion replays, and interviews after the game, of thinner eyebrows and fat-free cookies, of better colors, smaller sizes and bigger bottles of pills. Dream about your next bowel movement. Dream about the Pope.

The world is waiting, Wolfpackers! Dream of reaping what you can from the earth before the rest of us obliterate it. Dream of a restful life among gorgeous pieces of leather furniture and a quiet death at an old

age in a bed beneath machines.

And dream of lying in that bed, knowing that you didn't break many things in life and never made or ruined or fixed or destroyed or tried to correct much of anything or embarrassed yourself at all.

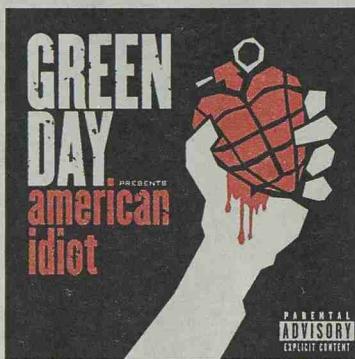
Contact tlcoffie@ncsu.edu



Technician's top albums and movies of the year

[1] GREEN DAY - AMERICAN IDIOT (SEPT. 21, 2004)

Eleven years ago, Green Day broke onto the music scene with the critically acclaimed album *Dookie*. The album is a middle school boy on the brink of puberty, just finding a niche in the confusing world of friendship cliques. Green Day sung what prepubescent boys felt, from loneliness to masturbation. Ten years later, the group released a more mature and engaged album full of political and theological questions that linger in the minds of college students. Green Day is what the youth can look to and think, "Yeah, I was about to say that."



[2] BECK - GUERO (MARCH 29, 2005)

After the dark opus that was *Sea Change*, Beck has returned to the sound he found successful in *Odelay* and *Mellow Gold*. With two turntables and a microphone, this loser brings back the production masterminds that are the Dust Brothers to conjure another helping of catchy, yet mumbled, chorus and toe-tapping beats.

[3] U2 - HOW TO DISMANTLE AN ATOMIC BOMB (NOV. 23, 2004)

How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb relieved thoughts of a complete U2 collapse after *All That You Can't Leave Behind*. Initially, the first single, "Vertigo," was a bit frightening as it introduced an album that could pose to be an experimental Rock album, but that could not have been any further from the truth.

[4] THE MARS VOLTA - FRANCES THE MUTE (MARCH 1, 2005)

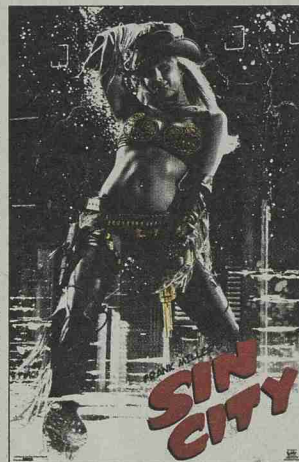
With such a heavy-hitting debut as *De-Loused in the Comatorium*, The Mars Volta had a large bat to swing at a small ball. Whether or not it could match the mastery of the debut was hazed until *Frances the Mute* debuted and showed audiences The Mars Volta could release a mastermind sophomore opus.

[5] CITIZEN COPE - THE CLARENCE GREENWOOD RECORDS (SEPT. 14, 2004)

The raw, melodic moods that permeate the album are a perfect companion for a cup of coffee and a cigarette while watching the leaves fall from the trees. Pseudo Hip-Hop, Reggae to Jazz — the subtly different moods and styles on each song give the album the ability to captivate a Starbucks crowd or energize a packed venue.

[1] SIN CITY (APRIL 1, 2005)

With author Frank Miller at the helm, along with Robert Rodriguez (*From Dusk Till Dawn*, *Desperado*) and Quentin Tarantino — who directed one of the films many sequences — justice is served for a series of graphic novels that has become a bible for underground, youth culture. Made in the noir style of highly stylized and exaggerated sets found in 50s-style pulp magazines and detective/gangster films, *Sin City* remains mainly black and white with piercing accents of red, green and yellow — the color of Yellow Bastard is so jolting it is almost nauseating. Through significantly different story lines and even more contrasting characters, the film stays on track through the interlaced plots.



[2] SIDEWAYS (OCT. 12, 2004)

Director Alexander Payne, who helmed the smart and sassy *Election* and more subtle and somber *About Schmidt*, has scored his biggest triumph yet with the American character study, *Sideways*. It may be difficult to classify this film as a character study alone, because it is also a road movie or even buddy comedy.

[3] RAY (OCT. 14, 2004)

Taylor Hackford, who is no stranger to the musical biopic, captures the soul essence of the rough-and-tumble Ray Charles and the lives of the women who loved him. The performance Foxx gives is a tour de force of technical mimicry alone. More importantly, amidst all the Rhythm, he is able to capture the Blues.

[4] MILLION DOLLAR BABY (DEC. 15, 2004)

Eastwood crafted a genuine crowd pleaser here. Even though the "underdog going to the top" formula has been done to death, it still works. The final third of this film proves Eastwood did not make a good but familiar movie; he made a great one that no one saw coming.

[5] CLOSER (DEC. 3, 2004)

This is one of the toughest films of the year directed by the great Mike Nichols, who has created a "carnal knowledge" for the young generations. Two couples that fall in and out of each other's lives play out a scorching tale of love, abandonment and beds as to remind us, at the very least, how fragile a word "trust" can be.

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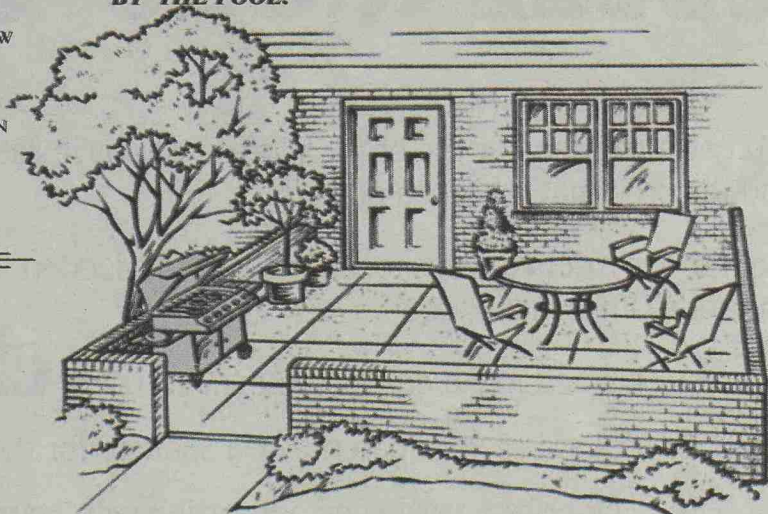
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