

# TECHNICIAN

THURSDAY  
APRIL  
28  
2005

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Raleigh, North Carolina

## Senate convenes for semester end

The 85th senate met for the last time of the semester to discuss budget cuts, senate chamber revamping

**Tyler Dukes**

News Editor

Looming UNC System budget cuts and the modernization of its meeting room were just two of the topics student senate discussed Wednesday night as the legislative body convened for their last meeting of the 2004-05 academic year.

One of the top items on their agenda was a resolution, originally sponsored by Sens. Patrick Buffkin, Stephanie Griggs, James Hankins and Bo Heath, meant solely to express the senate's opposition toward UNC System budget cut proposals by the General Assembly.

The proposed 4-percent cuts, which translate to a loss of about \$95 million for the UNC System operation budget, may eliminate 136 filled staff and faculty positions along with 27 vacant positions, according to the Office of External Affairs.

As Buffkin pointed out, these cuts have the potential to increase class sizes, decrease

course offerings and lengthen graduation rates.

"This could mean extra time spent at the University," Buffkin said.

After a majority of senate jumped on as co-sponsors, the bill passed by acclamation, a form of consent Student Senate President Forrest Hinton described as "kind of like a heck yeah."

Buffkin stated however, that senators should not stop there with their opposition to the proposals.

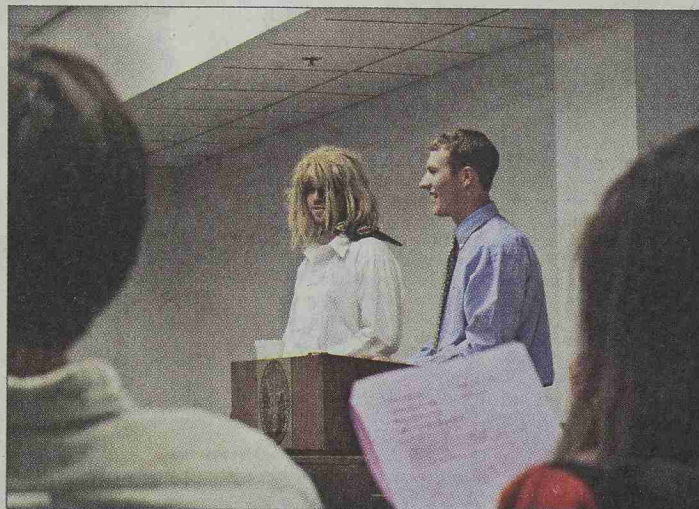
"This is not meant to be a substitute for writing letters to the General Assembly," Buffkin said.

"In the past we have passed these bills and just assumed they were instituted," Buffkin added. "I say we part from the old ways and carry this resolution to the General Assembly and let them know how it will affect us."

Sens. Kasey Phillips and Jonathan Melton also collaborated during the meeting to write a petition to combat the cuts.

"It's a way to let the student body get involved and let them know that the senate is involved," Phillips said.

Melton said they hope the petition will "put names to the



Student Body President Whil Piavis gives his officer report at the second senate meeting of the 85th session dressed as The Pirate Captain. Piavis took his oath of office at the meeting Wednesday night.

people [the General Assembly is] cutting money from."

The pair said they would be on the Brickyard today around lunchtime with other senators to get signatures from students.

Also on the floor of the senate last night was a bill to reallocate

surplus funds to refit and modernize the senate chambers.

The bill, which passed 26 to 10, will take \$8,000 from a surplus to apply towards furniture repairs, electronic voting equipment, a computer and a digital projector.

"We're taking money not being spent and re-appropriating it," Student Body Treasurer Seneca Toms said. "I'm not saying \$8,000 is the correct amount. I'm leaving that up to you."

SENATE continued page 2

## Ruckus unveils summer program

Ruckus offers "Summer Pack" to on-campus students for legal downloading during the summer

**Ingmar Goldson**  
Staff Writer

On-campus Ruckus subscribers can keep downloading music legally for the summer. Ruckus is offering the "Summer Pack" program to subscribers for a fee of \$12.

The program allows current subscribers to keep music downloaded through the Ruckus Network for the summer. Songs normally would lose licenses and would be worthless on the computer without further subscription.

Ruckus is one of four online music vendors available to students who live on campus. Napster, Rhapsody and Cdigix are the other options—all provided free this semester to on-campus students by the UNC system's free music pilot program.

"If students were to leave for the summer, and not have Ruckus, they wouldn't be able to keep their music," Ryan Schradin of Ruckus and RLM Public Relations said. "With subscription music you have to renew your registration for it."

Schradin said the Summer Pack program would benefit the students who are current Ruckus subscribers because it offers profiles, community features and "all the other fun stuff Ruckus offers."

"This is a great program for students who can't wait for their summer break, but can't bear to leave their Ruckus Network behind," Josh Weiner, director of communications at Ruckus, said.

B.J. Attarian, student services supervisor at Communication Technologies, said they sent out an e-mail several times at the beginning of the semester to all on-campus students saying that students could choose one of the four vendors to use for downloading this semester.

Even though all students living on campus were offered a free legal music downloading alternative, most students did not subscribe to any of the four vendors.

According to Attarian, 5,334 students did not choose any of the services.

"They didn't want to be bothered with it," he said.

Over 6,800 students live on campus, and only 1,486 of those on-campus residents chose one of the four vendors.

One possibility for the lack of student subscribers could have been their concern with what would happen after their free subscription ends.

"Once you stop your service, you pretty much lose out," Charles Allen, a senior in horticulture, said.

Subscription rates for the legal music downloading programs were higher at UNC-Chapel Hill where their on-campus students were offered the same choice.

"Chapel Hill has 2,661 students using the services, and we have 1,486," Attarian said.

Though students may have a

RUCKUS continued page 2

## Symposium stresses extension, engagement

Extension and engagement student symposium brought up ideas to implement Chancellor Oblinger's vision for the future

**Cynthia Marvin**

Senior Staff Writer

Prior to an address by Chancellor Oblinger, students and faculty met Wednesday to discuss ways to improve upon and expand the University's obligation to the community.

The third annual Extension and Engagement Symposium: The Engaged Symposium was held in Witherspoon Student Center following the morning student and faculty forums.

The student forum was held from 9 to 11 a.m. to discuss thoughts on Chancellor James Oblinger's view for N.C. State. The faculty and administration group met with discussion facilitators Harry Boyte and Dr. Ellis Cowling.



Chancellor Oblinger speaks to faculty Wednesday during the extension and engagement symposium. Separate student and faculty forums took place earlier in the day.

The community partners group met with Bo Beaulieu and Juanita Pilgrim, and the student group met with facilitators John Saltmarsh and Erin Possiel.

Saltmarsh and Possiel led discussions

with a brief personal introduction and statement of the goal of the meeting. Saltmarsh works with Campus Compact which focuses on the questions of civic engagement and the responsibilities of

higher education.

Possiel works in the Service Learning office and spoke at the afternoon symposium session with a response to the Chancellor's view on behalf of the student discussion.

Saltmarsh and Possiel first addressed the subject of student awareness of NCSU being a land grant institution and what students expect of their institution.

"Coming in as a freshman you don't hear about us being a land grant institution. Through my time here and involvement with different groups, slowly over time the mission of a land grant institution became clearer," Taymour Hammoudi, a senior in biomedical engineering, said. "It is an investment that the state is making in you, and in return we have an obligation to fulfill to the state."

David Anderson, a senior in mechanical engineering, pointed out that some

SYMP continued page 3

### insidetechnician



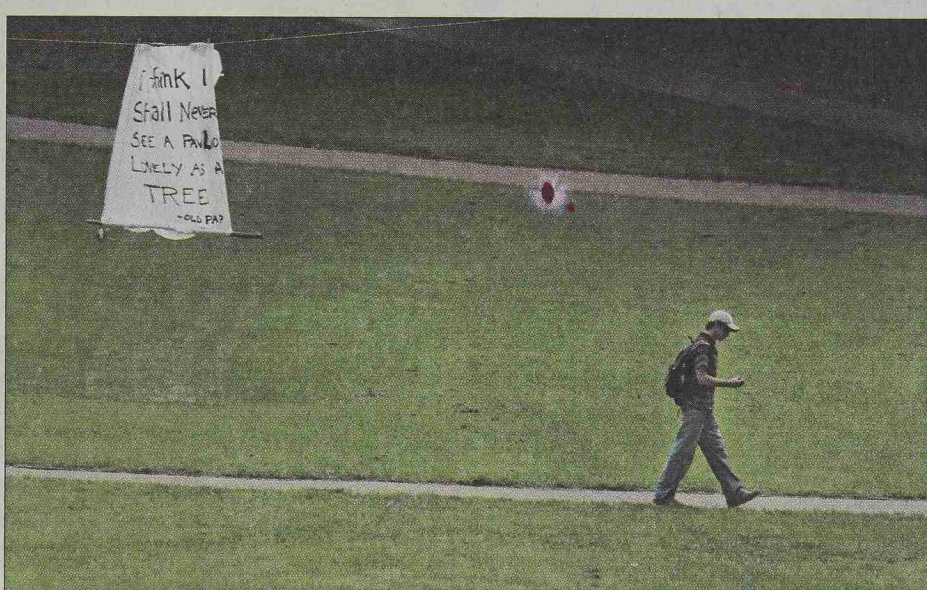
**Leading by example**  
Phillip Davidson leads the pitching staff as its only senior pitcher. See page 8.

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## RUCKUS

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problem with subscription fees, downloading music files that are legal can give students peace of mind.

"I like the fact that it is legal," Allen said. "I don't want to steal artists' music or anything like that."

Allen said he considered using Ruckus but did not like the idea of monthly subscription fees; he

lives off campus and would have to pay for his Ruckus subscription.

"I think once you pay for them you should be able to keep them," Allen said about the downloaded music files. "I'd rather pay to keep everything than continuously pay monthly."

If Ruckus subscribers decide to pay \$12 and keep their Ruckus Network for the summer, they may have to pay another subscription fee after the summer ends.

Attarian said the pilot program ends at the end of this month and there are no plans to extend it or to do anything for the fall.

For on-campus students wanting to keep Ruckus songs working after a move to off campus, Ruckus will provide another service.

"They are going to be doing an off-campus pack also, where students who are off campus can get Ruckus as well," Schradin said.

## SENATE

continued from page 1

The most controversial portion of the bill was the estimated \$2,500 slated for a new electronic voting system, which supporters said would save time in senate meetings during roll call votes.

The system, which is similar to instant feedback equipment used in many technical classes, operates using individual remote controls that send signals to a nearby station to tally, in this case, yes or no votes.

"Once we do this, it will save us a considerable amount of time," Sen. Joe Sevits said. "This is something that could benefit us for several years."

Sen. Zach Adams, who proposed an amendment to cut the voting system from the bill, urged senators to be responsible with the budget surplus.

"This is a very, very selfish bill," Adams said. "What would your constituents say?"

Amendment co-sponsor Sen. Erin Lam pointed out that over the 17 senate meetings, only 21 roll call votes were taken, and argued that the costly system would not save much time.

"That's an average of one [roll call vote] per meeting," Lam said. "We should spend the money on students instead of ourselves."

Proponents for the voting system said that the instant feedback from electronic voting would lead to a greater number of roll call votes and ultimately would increase the senate's accountability on issues.

"One thing I get most frustrated about is when I hear senators not express objections they have," Sen. Andrew Barnes said. "The more roll call votes we have, the more our constituents

can see where we stand."

Checking how senators voted however, is not something many students do on a regular basis, according to Adams.

"The fact is that constituents aren't going to go online and see how we voted," Adams said. "It's not real accountability."

According to Sen. Erich Fabricius, it may not be necessary to spend the entire \$8000 to get the results the senate voted for, as the figure is merely an estimate.

As chair of the Finance Committee, Fabricius pledged "diligent oversight" on the bill, hoping to spend less than \$8,000.

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## SYMP

continued from page 1

people do learn about the land grant mission and hear the words engagement extension thrown around here and there. However, most of this occurs within required honor courses, to which the average NCSU student is not exposed, he said.

"The general feeling I get is that people are more involved in their own academic careers and making things happen for them," he said.

The students came to a consensus that extension and engagement is not promoted in the majority of students' majors, with the exception of CALS.

"Part of the problem is the faculty and students don't feel very enthusiastic about civic engagement. I see the biomedical students I mentor and there are only a few that really apply what we do in class, whereas the others don't get as much out of it," Hammoudi said. "Envisioning how you can extend to the public within your major is tough for students to realize. In order to really make a change I think we need to place as much emphasis, reward and recognition to extension projects as people do with research. We should be able to use our engineering skills for extension and research together."

Cameron Wells, a senior in history education, pointed out that before things can change, the definition of land grant needs to expand in order to broaden peoples' perceptions — everyone agreed that this was originally targeted to agriculture majors due to the fact that North Carolina was a predominately an agriculture society.

Saltmarsh evoked thought by asking students if it was true that extension shifts as society shifts and what engagement means personally to them.

"I really think we're missing what engagement really means. It is how we can help North Carolina and how these North Carolina organizations can help us. It is all about partnership, not just a one-way deal," Brandon Whitney, a senior in biological sciences, said.

"We need to redefine and promote this concept better to people," he said agreeing with Wells.

Anderson brought up the fact that students come into college with a game plan to build their

resume. Students in the meeting described it as "filling in the blanks of the resume to make yourself more marketable."

"You always hear you need to intern and CO-OP to gain experience, and unless you're a student willing to take the risk and not follow the traditional path there is only so much you can do," Hammoudi said.

Hammoudi said extension and engagement should not be the counter-normative idea, but rather, it should be the norm.

"This is what it has to be in

order for us to fulfill our mission," he said.

Students later discussed the meaning of gaining a higher education.

"College has taught me to think beyond my job and look at broader concerns," Hammoudi said. "The last four years have shown me how I can impact other people who weren't so lucky."

Passing up the opportunity for CO-OP and internships, Anderson continued to work for a non-profit organization

during his college summers and was still able to put his training in mechanical engineering to work.

"Education has made me learn what a privilege it is being able to go to college. It makes me think about how fortunate I am — it makes me realize once again, I have an obligation to fulfill," Anderson said. "When it comes down to it, education will be what the person makes it to be through the choices they make."

After about an hour and a half

of discussion, the group collectively seemed to have come the idea that to make this idea become reality it helps to have a strong support system while emerging students in the concept of extension and engagement.

The participants brought up ideas such as including the topic of extension and engagement in freshman orientation or introduction courses in all majors to make more students aware of the issue. Another issue brought up was to incorporate faculty as well as advisers to increase public

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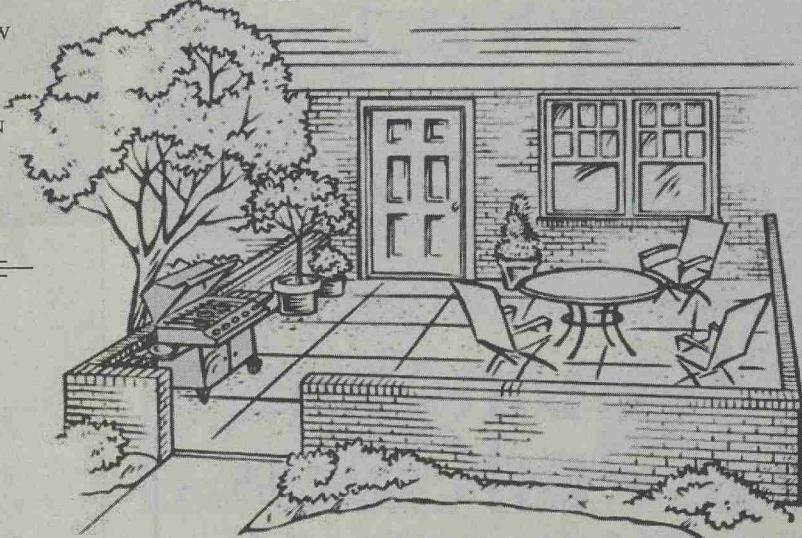
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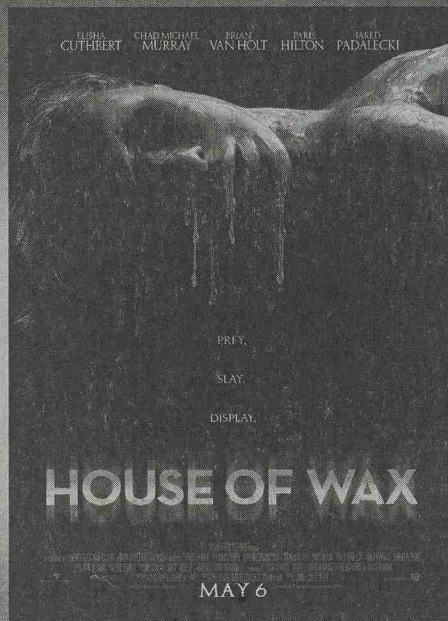


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## Police Blotter

04/25/05

**7:24 A.M. | INFORMATION - POLICE**  
RPD requested assistance in locating a student who had threatened suicide. A BOLO was sent out to officers and classes were checked, but the person was not located.

**1:08 P.M. | LARCENY**

A staff member advised that someone had stolen 50 dollars from her desk drawer in Fountain Dining Hall.

**10:10 P.M. | ALCOHOL VIOLATION/ MOLESTING FIRE EQUIPMENT**

A student was referred to the University for underage possession of alcoholic beverages and for molesting fire equipment at Bragaw Hall.

**12:28 P.M. | LARCENY**

A student reported that her wallet had been stolen from her purse while it was on the sixth floor of DH Hill Library.

**12:40 P.M. | SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT**

A staff member left some old tires on the curb outside Unit 2 Method Road. Some high school students took the tires. They were contacted and advised

that the tires were not trash; they are supposed to be returning them.

**3:44 P.M. | HIT AND RUN**

A student parked her vehicle in Lee Lot, and when she returned to it, there was a small dent on the driver's side.

**6:35 P.M. | TAMPERING WITH EMERGENCY PHONE**

An unknown caller used the blue light phone at ES King Village east of building D, attempting to order food. No one was found at the phone upon officer's arrival.

**8:44 P.M. | FIRE CODE VIOLATION**

An anonymous caller reported a fire behind Caldwell Hall up next to the building. Officers and Fire Prevention found a group grilling without a permit or proper equipment. The grill was extinguished and a warning was given to a non-student.

**9:19 P.M. | HIT AND RUN**

A staff member reported that his blue BMW was hit in Jordan Lot, damaging the left passenger area and left rear quarter panel.

**04/26/05**

**1:17 A.M. | TRAFFIC STOP - SPEEDING**

A student was issued a citation for speeding 40 mph in a 25 mph zone on Sullivan Drive.

**2:13 A.M. | FIRE ALARM/TROUBLE**

An officer responded to Pi Kappa Alpha in reference to fire alarm trouble. The system could not be reset. Electronics responded.

**2:55 A.M. | LARCENY**

A student reported her handbag was stolen from the west wing ground floor computer lab of D.H. Hill Library.

**8:32 A.M. | HIT AND RUN**

A non-student parked his vehicle on the road at Capability Drive and Twin Branches Way. When he returned to his vehicle he noticed it had been damaged.

**1:22 P.M. | SAFETY PROGRAM**

Sgt. Barnwell conducted a safety program at Admin Services II.

**10:05 P.M. | ASSAULT ON FEMALE**

A student reported that a subject pushed them and took their cell phone. The subject left the scene. A trespass order will be sent via U.S. Mail.

**11:09 P.M. | INFORMATION POLICE**

A student made an inquiry concerning

weapons on campus. A copy of the NCSU Policy was provided at Sullivan Hall.

**11:44 P.M. | DRIVER'S LICENSE/REG CHECK POINT**

Officers conducted a Driver's License and registration check point at Sullivan Drive. Two verbal warnings were issued and one citation was issued for the possession of a controlled substance.

**12:46 P.M. LARCENY**

A staff member reported that someone had stolen the "Achievement" Banner from the light pole near Poe Hall.

**2:10 P.M. | B/E VEHICLE**

A student stated he left his vehicle unlocked at Kappa Alpha on Saturday. When he returned to his vehicle he found his wallet and cell phone had been stolen.

**3:43 P.M. | SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT**

A student reported there were about three subjects sitting outside Metcalf smoking a bong. Officers responded and spoke with the subjects. They were smoking out of a bong but it was a legal substance.

**4:02 P.M. | TRESPASS**

Two subjects were trespassed from th

library for misusing the computers and using another persons login ID.

**6:23 P.M. | FIRE ALARM**

Police and Fire Protection responded to a fire alarm pull station activation at E.S. King Village. The activation was caused by a short in the pull station. Electronics was notified.

**04/27/05**

**1:27 A.M. | TRAFFIC STOP/ SPEEDING**

A student was issued a citation for speeding on Dan Allen Drive. 36/20 mph speed zone.

**12:05 A.M. | TRAFFIC STOP/ SIMPLE POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA**

A Student was issued a citation for

simple possession of marijuana and was referred to the University. Two students were also referred to the University for possession of a controlled substance.

**12:12 A.M. | NOISE DISTURBANCE**

A non-student reported that someone was building a structure on the Brickyard. The subject was located and found to be setting up for the Jesus to the Heart ministry. A permit was valid but not until after 7 a.m. He agreed to leave.

**4:56 A.M. | SUSPICIOUS PERSON**

A staff member reported that she saw an unknown white male on the first floor of Student Health. He left the building in a Silver Chevy and was carrying a book bag.

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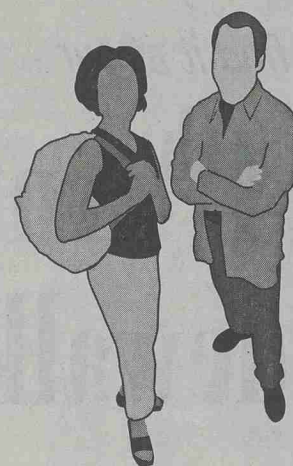
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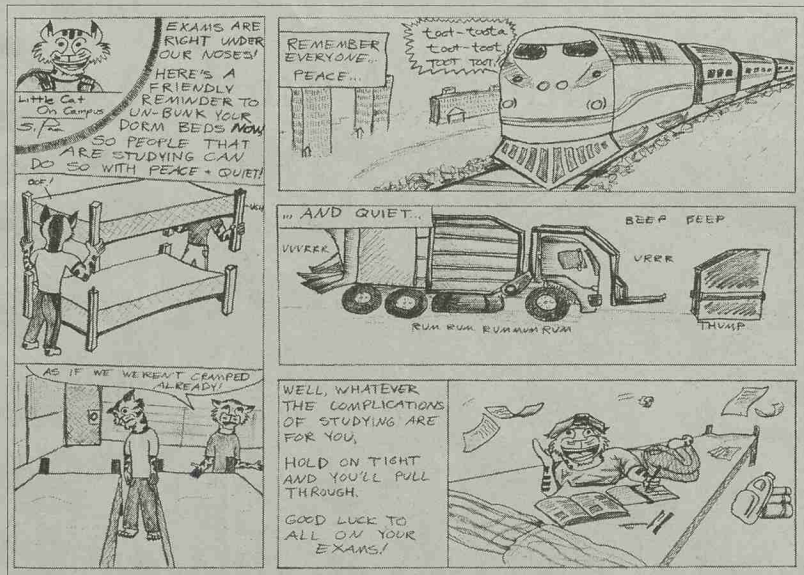


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## GOP engaged in all out attack on judicial branch

This past weekend, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist appeared in part of an hour-long nationwide broadcast entitled "Justice



**Isaac Tripp**  
Staff Columnist

Sunday." The program aired in support of a ban on Democrats' use of the filibuster to block judicial nominees. It characterized Democratic opposition to some of George W. Bush's controversial judicial nominees as an attack on "people of faith." This most recent action by Frist is just one aspect of what seems to be an ongoing assault on the judicial branch. Conservative leaders have described the judiciary as "arrogant and imperious." Recently, the Supreme Court was described as "out of control," an ironic statement considering seven of the nine current justices were selected by Republican presidents.

At the heart of the issue is what many conservative leaders are calling "judicial activism," a term which means judges are "legislating from the bench." These accusations stem from people who believe the powers of the courts are limited to simply the interpretation of the Constitution. However, this idea comes from a rather simple-minded view of the judicial system that shows rampant ignorance of the history of our courts. One famous example of this is the 1954 landmark desegregation case *Brown vs. Board of Education*. In essence, this court case was "judicial activism" that overturned previous "separate but equal" decisions based upon a new interpretation of the Constitution. This "activism" takes place on the parts of both liberals and conservatives. It can sometimes lead to bad decisions that are eventually overturned, but it remains an important part of our court system.

The judicial controversy is

centered around two issues. The first is the aforementioned claim of "judicial activism" by many conservative leaders. At the same time, President Bush and the GOP are attempting to pack the courts with highly conservative judicial nominees. To block the most controversial judicial nominations, Senate Democrats have utilized the legislative measure called a filibuster. A filibuster prevents a simple majority vote to confirm judicial nominees by requiring 60 votes instead of 51.

Republican leaders, headed by Bill Frist, claim use of the filibuster to block judicial nominees is unconstitutional. To win support for a proposed filibuster ban, Frist has stated that the filibuster has never, in the history of the Senate, been used in such a manner. Unfortunately for Frist and the American public, this statement, which has been echoed by the "fair and balanced" Fox News, is an outright lie. Ironically, Frist himself took part in an unsuccessful Republican attempt to filibuster a number of Clinton's judicial nominees. Another falsehood is contained in the statement that the filibuster is unconstitutional. The Constitution simply states that justices are to be selected based upon the "advice and consent" of Senate. The means of that consent is decided by the Senate, whose rules currently allow the use of the filibuster. In truth, it is Bush who has ignored the "advice" portion of the clause by selecting such controversial and extremist nominations to the judiciary.

Since we have established that, contrary to Republican claims, the use of the filibuster to block judicial nominations is neither "unprecedented" nor "unconstitutional," perhaps we should question why the Democrats are filibustering nominees. More importantly, why should they continue to do so? The fact is that over 200 of the President's nominees have been confirmed by the Senate. It is a paltry 10 nominees who have

faced a Senate filibuster. These 10 candidates (representing 5 percent of the nominations) are the most controversial, radical, and extreme of the judicial candidates. The candidates, such as William G. Myers III, are the type of justices who will "legislate from the bench," the exact charge being leveled against the current judiciary. Myers went so far as to criticize the Clean Water Act as a "regulatory excess." Is that really the type of person that we want sitting in the nation's highest court?

But, you may ask, the Republicans hold a majority in the Senate, so is this not an impediment to Democracy? In some ways it may be considered to be so, and the history of the filibuster is certainly not without its darker side. However, the judiciary is the one aspect of our government not governed by strict "democracy." This fact is a crucial aspect of the Checks and Balances system incorporated by the Framers of the Constitution. A lifetime appointment carrying a tremendous salary and even more tremendous responsibility is not something that should be dictated solely by the most recent political whims. Some Senators have even proposed that all nominees be required to gain 60 votes to be appointed.

What this all really comes down to is an attempt by the GOP to erode the sacred separation of powers by packing the courts with right-wing ideologues. There is no attack on "people of faith," nor is there uncontrolled "judicial activism" taking place. There is, simply put, a polarized disagreement about the direction the legislation of our nation should take. The Democrats are not, by any means, always on the right side of that disagreement. However, in this instance, they are preserving the fragile balance of power that keeps things from going to an unhealthy extreme.

Contact Isaac your thoughts at  
[viewpoint@technicianonline.com](mailto:viewpoint@technicianonline.com)

### TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

# NO SAFETY TENT HERE

**OUR OPINION:** THE RECORD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA LOST YESTERDAY WHEN A FEDERAL COURT JUDGE RULED THAT N.C. STATE AND UNC-CHAPEL HILL DO NOT HAVE TO RELEASE THE NAMES OF THE STUDENTS CAUGHT ILLEGALLY DOWNLOADING. SINCE THE UNIVERSITY PROVIDES THE RESOURCES USED IN ILLEGAL DOWNLOADING, THEY SHOULD TAKE ACTION IN PREVENTING IT IN EXCESSIVE AMOUNTS IN THE FUTURE.

College students are too old to have a baby-sitter. Actually, students usually are the baby-sitter, rather than the one being baby-sat.

The debate is whether or not the University should baby-sit the students when it comes to illegal downloading — an old, but still hot topic. Yesterday, on-campus downloaders received additional protection from being caught in an illegal act by the Record Industry Association of America.

In November of 2003, the RIAA filed subpoenas against N.C. State and UNC-Chapel Hill demanding the names of students from each university who were distributing copyrighted songs through the universities' Internet provider systems. Yesterday, a federal judge ruled in favor of the universities, saying NCSU and UNC-CH do not have to release the names of the students involved.

Downloaders have grown to such gargantuan numbers and have such a plethora of programs to choose from that the RIAA is having difficulty charging anyone. So this loss for them is huge.

Thank you NCSU for siding with the students.

However, should the University be responsible for the illegal downloading it provides the resources for?

There is a way to curb illegal

downloading without outlawing it.

The University should not be a safety tent for illegal downloaders. Just like any other law, if a student is caught breaking that law, he or she should have to go through the office of Student Conduct.

For example, if a student is charged with a DUI, not only is he charged by the city of Raleigh, but he may also be reprimanded by the University, even if the crime was committed off-campus.

Illegal downloading is no different — but the University is not the RIAA's watchdog.

Instead of tracking down every student downloading the newest Britney Spears album, the University should simply charge users a fee for exceeding a certain, yet reasonable bandwidth.

In other words, students that use significantly more Internet resources provided by the University should be charged. Initially, the student should be warned.

If an excessive amount of bandwidth continues to be used after that first warning, the user should be required to pay for those resources in an effort to deter illegal downloading.

By helping to prevent excessive downloading and uploading, yet not individually monitoring the content being transferred, the University is not baby-sitting anyone.

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



## TECHNICIAN

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

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# Dead week was intended for a different purpose

With dead week in progress a lot of freshmen are left asking, "Why is it called dead week?" On the one hand you may have already found out what it is, but in case there is still some confusion, it's merely the week before exams.



**Trevor Behar**  
Staff Columnist

The week itself, however, is an important part of students' lives as they prepare for final exams. As many pointed out in Tuesday's Technician, they still have assignments due.

Full work loads still being carried out until two days before exams is absurd and I see no reason why such things exist. True, the system is supposedly being fixed. But will this be just like the many other things the University promises without specifying any time, date or other mission to get things done? Students who are still required to attend a lab during dead week are still learning new material, not reviewing for the next week's finals. Of course having learned something new on a Friday does one really expect to be tested on it as soon as the following Monday? On top of labs, many students still

have tests and papers due as late as Friday, which makes only a little more sense to be wrapping up the semester rather than teaching new material. This teaching of new material only a few days before finals is a major kink in our University's system. Though the system currently states there can be no "pop quizzes" or new assignments during the week, it clearly needs to be more specific in what exactly dead week is here for in the first place.

As you may notice this week, there aren't nearly as many girls laying out on the grass, or guys throwing around footballs and playing volleyball. The true reason for our dead campus during this week is the sheer fact that students aren't just studying for their finals, they are bombarded by final assignments, projects and lab reports. In order to put in any time for studying at all, students use all their spare time trying to study just a little since they know their only days to study without classes are Saturday and Sunday. Even schools like UNC-Wilmington have a week day of break before exam time.

**"...we call this dead week due to the fact it nearly kills you."**

Although there are a few professors making the end of the week classes optional, the rest don't. And though some professors spend time reviewing for finals, many of the others are not.

On top of campus being lacking in any activity at all, we call this dead week due to the fact that it nearly kills you. Just think back a week as you realized all your final projects were due, all your papers and final quizzes. Then realize that right on top of all that work, BAM, final exams, that count anywhere from a small percentage to half your total class grade. While working away on all those projects and papers trying to wrap up the semester's work, that "exam study time" just seemed to be non-existent. Some may claim better time management is the key to doing well on finals, but in some cases it may just be enough to pass. Overhauling students with work has tremendous, negative impacts on their performance on finals.

I guess as we go along into future years the situation will eventually right itself and stu-

dents will begin to have time to study for their exams, instead of the current disaster. As far as being able to have a policy that enforces such a dead week that doesn't actually kill students, can it really be that hard? Obviously we have a large university with many professors and T.A.s, and if the difficulty lies in informing them of a change in dead week policy, it must be assumed equally difficult to inform these faculty of any other policy made at this University. Being "unreachable" is not an option for faculty at this University. Surely they have an office phone or at least a NCSU-issued e-mail address, both of which should be checked at least a few times a week. If you can look me straight in the face and tell me getting the word out to professors about a new dead week policy is difficult, clearly there is a major problem with NCSU's method of communicating to their employees. So send in your complaints, concerns and other comments to the undergrad affairs office, and perhaps when you're only a semester from graduating, dead week will be what it was truly meant to be — the calm, quiet study time before finals.

Tell Trevor what your favorite dead week stories are at [viewpoint@technicianonline.com](mailto:viewpoint@technicianonline.com)



## CINEMAPHILE

## Drop Frame Features set to debut in Witherspoon

The campus film organization, Drop Frame Features, will debut its inaugural film tonight in Witherspoon Cinema.

## Jake Seaton

Arts & Entertainment Editor

"So many people in school are into film and I don't think that's something that shows," Brandon Tweed, a junior in communication, said. "People see N.C. State and they don't think 'film.'"

This desire to expose the campus community to the film program was the catalyst for Drop Frame Features, a campus-based organization that is set to release its first, feature length film tonight in Witherspoon Cinema.

"About September I wanted to start a film group of some sort so I was thinking initially that the only feasible thing for me to do was to get a few people probably into a short film," Tweed said.

"So I put up fliers around campus just asking if anybody wanted to work on an independent film that already had equipment and pretty much we'd just get it together and write a script and get some things shot."

At the group's initial meeting, Tweed estimated about 20 people showed up but since then word has spread, building members, and Drop Frame began formulating ideas for a script.

"We saw we had this diverse group and there was a lot of potential in it; so Rob, Lauren and I stayed up many late nights throwing ideas around," Tweed, who served as the director for the project, said. "We came up with this feature length drama in an episodic structure."

"All of us came up with different story ideas — like one of the story lines is based off a short story that Rob wrote for one of his classes," Lauren Steele, a junior in arts applications and actress

in the film, said.

As casting and filming progressed, no specific time was set for completion until the Campus Cinema came calling and *Matchbook Morning* suddenly had a deadline.

"We didn't really have a set time to finish it until we decided we were going to show it at the campus cinema and they were like, 'OK, April 28.' So all of a sudden, we had this deadline," Rob Odell, a junior in arts applications and actor in the film, said. "We finished shooting about a month ago and put it together in three weeks — we just pretty much finished it yesterday."

Although the project was hurried, Drop Frame made sure only students and independent artists had their hands in the film, even down to the music.

Brandon Matthew Thomas contributed his track "You Always Wanted to Fly" — which sets the dramatic mood in the film's trailer that was shown at the Pinwheel Film Festival on April 16 — from his album *Foreverinmotion*.

"Everything in the film is a product of the students involved. We went out on the line to find a bunch of bands on Pure Volume," Tweed said. "We searched for unsigned bands and we found a lot of unsigned bands that do Indie Acoustic Rock that sound great."

In order to have permission to film in certain areas of the campus, Tweed had to register Drop Frame Features as an organization. Through that, the group garnered a faculty "mentor."

"Devin Orgeron is the sponsor for the group," Tweed said. "The students in the group are who run it; but he is the figurehead, the overseer. We tried to keep him informed on all the film activities — where we're shooting, what we're doing. He's been incredibly supportive."

In fact, the entire film department backed the group in the making of the film.



Rob Odell watches crew mate Brandon Tweed in the distance as they film a scene from *Matchbook Morning* in Stewart Theater.

"The film teachers have been incredibly supportive about the project, really behind us all," Tweed said, "and I know, at least for me, when I'd come to class late because I'd be up late editing, they were understanding."

After marathon shooting and editing the product in three weeks, *Matchbook Morning* is set to be shown tonight in the Campus Cinema in Witherspoon at 7.

But that doesn't mean this is the apex for the film, Tweed said this isn't the final product and he will do some minor touchups before the group sends it off to some regional film festivals.

"People don't realize it costs \$20,000

to send a film to a festival like Sundance," Tweed said.

After taking the film to the festival circuit, Steele said there are plans for a DVD release.

"When the DVD is released for public viewing later next year, there will definitely be behind-the-scenes footage," Steele said. "Hopefully there will be a director's commentary."

"Everything we did on the project, we kept the DVD in mind," Tweed followed. "With every shoot, we had somebody there with a smaller DV cam doing behind-the-scenes footage. We had Courtney Evans doing all our set photography. We got her to do cast stills and

basically all the production stills."

The trailer for *Matchbook Morning* alone has earned high praise from friends, faculty and others who have wandered on to the Drop Frame Features Web site ([www.dropframefeatures.com](http://www.dropframefeatures.com)) or saw it at Pinwheel.

With a stellar beginning, the sky is the limit for the film organization.

"We're going to be doing this again next year. We want to be able to generate interest with this film," Odell said. "Hopefully we'll get funding from the University equal to other groups."

[Editor's note: Rob Odell and Lauren Steele are Technician staff writers.]

## MOVIE TICKET



Nicole Kidman stars as Silvia Broome, an interpreter who specializes in a rare African dialect known as Ku, in *The Interpreter*. The film is the newest thriller from director Sydney Pollack (*The Firm*).

## 'The Interpreter' the latest nail-biting thriller with Penn, Kidman

## Miles Snow

Senior Staff Writer

It is important to note director Sydney Pollack's (*The Firm*) latest nail-biting thriller is the first film ever to be shot at the renowned United Nations building in New York City. The Security Council, hallways, conference rooms and gardens are all exposed here, which provides an eerie political atmosphere that permeates the film from start to finish.

Nicole Kidman stars as Silvia Broome, an interpreter who specializes in a rare dialect known as Ku, spoken in the region of Africa where she grew up. During an evacuation test in the General Assembly, Silvia happens to overhear an assassination plot that concerns a genocidal African leader named Edmund Zuwanie. Soon after, Secret Service agent Tobin Keller (Sean Penn) is sent in to find out the truth of what Silvia did — or didn't — hear.

## The Interpreter

**DIRECTOR:** Sydney Pollack  
**CAST:** Nicole Kidman, Sean Penn  
**PLAYING AT:** Crossroads, Brier Creek, Carmike, Grande, Mission Valley, North Hills, Six Forks



It becomes clear from the start that Keller believes Silvia is lying, especially when he finds that she lost her family to the Zuwanie regime.

The Secret Service begins setting up surveillance across the street from where Silvia lives and makes sure to follow her at all times, which leads the viewer into a provocative world of mystery and intrigue. And it is also safe to say the film's constant twists and turns are anything but predictable.

Pollack has always had a knack for the "powerful somebody is after me" type thriller, and he smartly builds tension gradually, deriving more dread out of what isn't seen rather than what is. It

also doesn't hurt that he was able to acquire two of today's most fascinating film actors.

At first glance, Kidman and Penn might not seem like the most ideal pairing but their different approaches to acting play off each other remarkably well here. Kidman (*The Hours*) continues to impress with another charismatic portrayal. She smartly plays Silvia as an attractive enigma much more difficult to figure out than the assassination plot itself. And who is better than Penn at playing men who attempt to be civil only to become anything but when faced with unreasonable circumstances? As in his Oscar winning turn in *Mystic River*, Penn's volcanic intensity is reminiscent of a young Brando.

Although the ending is less than credible, *The Interpreter* is a triumph of old school filmmaking that proves an effective thriller doesn't condone intelligence.

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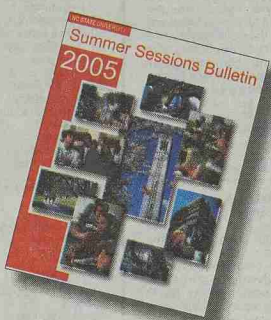
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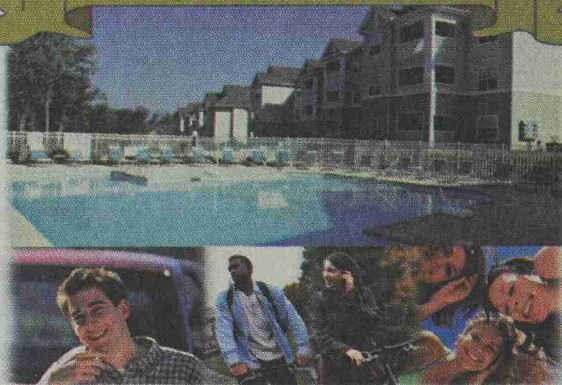
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3718 Marcom Street, house for rent, available June 1, 2005. \$900/month, non-smoking, 3BR/2BA, Central H/A/C, Dishwasher, W/D, Garage, Off-street parking, near Wolfline, ph. 878-0849.

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## APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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1BR Apartment for Summer School at University House - female needed. Shuttle Service, free internet, W/D, pool-view, utilities included. Sublease-rent negotiable. Call 252-442-8761 or 252-904-0096.

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## APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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Sublease available. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment in Dominion. Walnut Creek. Pool, tennis and fitness center. \$717.00 per month. 2 months free rent or \$1800 cash at lease signing. Call (919) 255-0906

4BD/4BA University Commons. Available August 1st. Walk-in closet in every room! Common living room & kitchen, with W/D. On Wolfline. \$1100/mo + deposit. Call Jeff 919-754-7983.

2 room Basement Apartment in exclusive neighborhood near Cary. Wet bar, 1600 sqft. \$500/person includes utilities, room runner, and cable. Call 233-9765 or 801-1051 (Cell).

## ROOMMATES WANTED

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Male Student Seeking Roommate to Share brand new house near campus. 4BD 2.5BA, study/office, 2-car garage, quiet neighborhood. All appliances, W/D included. Party furnished \$350/person. 919-942-1773 or 593-7298

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## ROOM FOR RENT

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## CONDOS FOR RENT

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4BD/4BA Condo University Woods. Top Floor, all appliances, walk-in closets, sunroom, garage-sized lofts. Near NCSU. Brand new condition. Blake at 919-522-4597.

4BD/4BA Condo, University Woods, 2nd floor, All Appliances, Walk-in Closets, T1 Internet Connection, Near NCSU, 3 year old, \$1,100 per month, Ashley @ 919-669-1388.

Lakepark Condo, 2nd floor, 4BR/4BA, available July 1st. \$1200/mo, negotiable. No security deposit, all appliances, volleyball/basketball/pool. Call 971-8846.

Lake Park Condo 4BD/4BA. 1 year lease, available June 1st. \$850/mo. Lease with option to buy, available with great terms. Call 919-614-2030. Diane Gildemeister.

4BD/4BA Lake Park Condo. Ground floor end unit facing Lake Johnson Park! Available August 1st. Picnic area, pool, colors! \$275/person, Aug. rent free. Water paid. Call Cathy at 919-423-7071.

Lake Park Condominiums: 4BD, 4Bath, W/D, Kitchen, LR + Amenities. Volleyball, swimming pool, basketball. Rent \$900.00 - per bd \$250.00. Call 786-1443.

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Park FREE for 2005 Summer Sessions when you book your Fall 2005 parking with Valpark! Lease an assigned, GUARANTEED space for as little as \$275/semester and get summer FREE. [www.VALPARK.com](http://www.VALPARK.com) 821-7444 CONDO FALL PARKING NOW!!

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**Townhouse in Camden Crossing** off Tryon. 3BR/2.5BA, Almost New! 1700 sqft. Amenities: Appliances and Water Included. Ideal for Professional Couple. \$1050. Call 919-233-8624 or 919-272-1706.

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**One responsible, non-smoker female roommate needed for 3-level, 3-bedroom townhouse in great neighborhood close to campus end of May for summer and next school year, if desired. High speed internet, w/d, hardwood floors, exercise room, pool. \$400/mo includes utilities. Call Elizabeth 919-656-3393.**

NCSU on Wolfline near Kaplan & Gorman, several 4-BR townhomes avail. for summer or fall. \$1190-1275. Call Richard

## TOWNHOMES FOR RENT

270-9508

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3BD/2.5BA Townhouse Near N.C. State, Hunter's Club Drive, off Kaplan. On Wolfline. All appliances, loft overlooking living room. Avail. May 1. \$1000/mo. 919-754-9324

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Manager needed for volleyball team. Great benefits, travel compensation, no experience necessary, rising sophomore/junior preferred. Call 515-3774 ask for Fiona.

FULL-TIME RESEARCH ASSISTANT. Duke cancer genomics lab seeks research assistant to start June/July. Duties to include biological experiments, data analysis, and lab management. We seek highly motivated applicants with excellent communication skills and interest or experience in cancer research. BS/BA is preferred. See [www.duke.edu/web/oncogenomics](http://www.duke.edu/web/oncogenomics) for literature and lab description. To apply, send resume and references to [haiyan@duke.edu](mailto:haiyan@duke.edu).

Manager needed for volleyball team. Great benefits, travel, compensation, no experience necessary, rising sophomore/junior preferred. Call 515-3774 ask for Fiona.

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION. Duke cancer genomics lab seeks postdoctoral fellow to start July/August. Lab focus is identifying cancer gene targets and biological functions/clinical implications via novel approaches. Applicants with excellent communication skills and experience in cancer biology and molecular genetics are especially encouraged. See [www.duke.edu/web/oncogenomics](http://www.duke.edu/web/oncogenomics) for literature and lab description. To apply, send CV and references to [haiyan@duke.edu](mailto:haiyan@duke.edu).

Camp Tekoa, A United Methodist Camp. Looking for a summer job? Do you love kids and having fun in the outdoors? Join our summer ministry team! Positions available: Adventure Team, Cabin staff. Located in the North Carolina mountains. Visit us at: [www.camptekoa.org](http://www.camptekoa.org)

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## HELP WANTED

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MacGregor Downs Country Club looking for summer kitchen staff at pool, FT/PT flexible hours, casual attire, company perks. Call Robert: 467-0146 ext. 211.

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Charlotte, NC valet parkers parking solutions has f/t & p/t positions available during the summer. Drive exotic cars. earn \$8-14, wages & tips. Call Matt 704-377-1755

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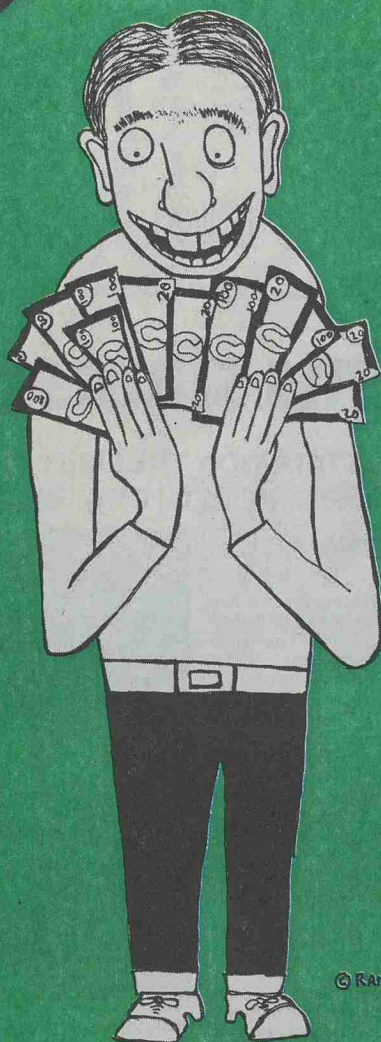
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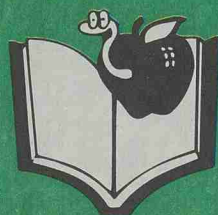
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# Sports

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2005

## COMMENTARY

### Updating the Pack almanac through 2005

In all the experiences that comprise a 19-year life, I've only encountered two sources that spell out complete and total agony for the unlucky combatant.



**Ian Jester**  
Sports Editor

Agony is the most accurate feeling to describe an appointment with Ginger, the mentally-challenged dental assistant, whose hands provide the same level of comfort as an overdosed, banana-raging chimpanzee.

But most people are rarely able to escape the second source of agony — defeat.

Looking back on the sporting events that garnered the efforts of N.C. State athletic teams in 2004-05, there was passion and there was competition.

It was an expanded and dignified ACC level of competition that surely forged this internal passion to visibly influence the efforts of the red-clad competitors.

But passion takes many forms, and it was an off-the-field passion that resulted in the greatest defeat any team or any family should have to endure — death — at the tailgate shootings this fall.

Tears of joy wished to provide a cure, symbolized by one respected woman's victory over cancer and the sweet sensation that restored one tradition-filled program to prominence.

Composed of joy and agony, victory and defeat, here are the top 10 moments that defined the year in State athletics in 2004-05.

#### 10) Senior Day sorrow

Only the gymnastics team stormed into Chapel Hill this year with the intentions of winning — and won.

State stole the Senior Day spotlight from the Tar Heels with a Feb. 27 victory, powered by the all-around score of junior Kyla Bachman and a point-productive freshmen class that coach Mark Stevenson said "was the surprising force that drove our team."

#### 9) Sting-less Yellow Jackets

Losers of four of its past five contests, State desperately needed to defend a 53-51 lead at Georgia Tech with 9.8 seconds left, despite the recent memory of the last-minute 64-62 defeat at home against Virginia.

But Tech guard B.J. Elder's final shot rimmed out, and the Pack could surely believe that it was not condemned to buzzer-beater defeat.

#### 8) Billie goes down

Her cries of pain traveled well beyond the ears of the NCAA first-round spectators in Dallas on March 19, when Billie McDowell's injured knee buckled after a jumper with 11:57 remaining in the first half.

Several minutes later, she hobbled off the court, unable to strengthen the State backcourt.

Middle Tennessee's Patrice Holmes ended State's emotional season with last-second fading jumper to seal a 60-58 Pack loss.

#### 7) Turtle piquant

It was No. 2 Maryland. The Terrapins were undefeated entering SAS Soccer Complex on Sept. 19, but the men's soccer team showed no concern in handing the visitors a 1-1 tie and arranging a miserable bus trip back to College Park, Md.

#### 6) Hurricane Hester

Even the hype of ESPN's College Gameday couldn't fuel the Pack past the Hurricanes, starting with Devin Hester's 100-yard kickoff return for a Miami touchdown just 12 seconds into the game.

It reminded coach Chuck Amato of the extra conference obstacle that would stand in the way of State ending its 25-year conference title drought.

#### 5) The quiet dynasty

Four consecutive ACC titles for the men's cross country team have coach Rollie Geiger looking for empty space on his mantle.

Led by the pace of sophomore Bobby Mack and senior Andy Smith — who needs a trophy rack in his own right to shelve his third consecutive ACC title in the steeplechase — this team quietly exhibits the closest thing to conference perfection.

#### 4) Arms in relief

There's no moment to describe a season that hasn't ended, but the baseball team relies on two main arms in the late innings.

Junior Jason Duncan had 17 consecutive scoreless innings of relief heading into Saturday's game against Clemson, providing the setup performance for star closer Joey Devine, who is closing in on the ACC's saves record.

#### 3) The arrival of pink

Reynolds Coliseum was no longer colored just red and white.

Pink bracelets were the fashion Jan. 14, signifying support for missing coach Kay Yow in her battle with a recurrence of cancer.

Despite the 75-72 loss to then-No. 9 North Carolina, the women's basketball team embodied the character of its coach with memorable play on the court all season.

#### 2) Deaths at Carter-Finley

Suddenly, the sensation was lost.

The sensation following a season of Rivers-to-Cotchery and the excitement attached to a new season were placed on the back burner, due to an event that blackened the reputation of the University.

But the lost sensation could return. The lives taken that afternoon would not.

#### 1) The sweetest sensation

Herb, sleep soundly.

Ian can be reached for the last time at 515-2411 or [ianj@technicianonline.com](mailto:ianj@technicianonline.com) before his Segovian summer sensation begins May 15 when he will enjoy the lovely sangria and sunny beaches.

## Schedule

Softball vs. North Carolina, 4/28, 7  
Baseball vs. North Carolina, 4/29, 7  
Track at Penn Relays, 4/30

## Scores

Softball 4, North Carolina 3 (Game 1)  
North Carolina 3, Softball 0 (Game 2)



## TECHNICIAN

### SOFTBALL

# Sims slams homer in spilt

N.C. STATE WON THE FIRST GAME OF THE DOUBLEHEADER 4-3 ON THE STRENGTH OF A GRAND SLAM BY PITCHER ABBIE SIMS

Josh Harrell

Staff Writer

She didn't need to look at it. As the players rounded the bases, Sims just smirked and looked at the baseline as she made her way around the diamond.

Sims had just hit a grand slam to give N.C. State a 4-3 lead in the bottom of the sixth inning Wednesday night at the Walnut Creek Softball Complex.

Sims finished off North Carolina (36-24, 9-8 ACC) in the next inning as the Wolfpack (39-23, 6-7) took the first game of the doubleheader 4-3, only to lose the nightcap by the score of 3-0.

Sims said she was frustrated early in the game as she gave up three runs in the first three innings, but she blanked the Tar Heels after the third and was able to finally get a hit off of UNC pitcher Crystal Cox — a grand slam.

"Previously, I had been pretty shut down by her, but I stepped off the plate and just let it go," Sims said. "To be honest, I didn't even know what inning it was and was glad when I heard it was the sixth."

Coach Lisa Navas was near speechless in praise of Sims.

"It was huge, I don't know how else to say it," Navas said. "We made some mistakes early, but got better every inning and Abbie was able to come through for us."

In the nightcap, sophomore Shaina Ervin gave up three runs over seven innings in the start,



Freshman infielder Lisa Nentwig (left) gets the putout before UNC's Anna Evans reaches base Wednesday.

the same amount of earned runs as Sims in the first game. But the difference this time was Cox shut the Pack out, allowing only two hits with 12 strikeouts.

Two of the Tar Heels runs came in the top of the seventh. With the bases loaded Jessica Young, who had already tallied two home runs on the day, blooped one over Pack shortstop Shanna Smith to bring the score to 3-0.

This time the Pack was not able to mount a comeback and dropped the second game of the day, making tomorrow night's game the rubber match of the series.

"The first game we fought to

the end and in the second we weren't able to do that," third baseman Jen Chamberlin said. "We just weren't as confident and lacked the intensity we had earlier."

Navas gave credit to Cox as she pitched both games for the Tar Heels, giving up three runs over 14 innings.

"Crystal is a great pitcher and we needed to capitalize when we had the chances," Navas said. "We got hits at key points in the first game, but in the second we didn't and seemed to be waiting for that big hit."

The Pack will face UNC again Thursday at 7 p.m.



Abbie Sims pitched and added a grand slam in the Pack's 4-3 win.

### BASEBALL

# Leading by senior example

Senior Phillip Davidson shares the pitching knowledge that he gathered in part from graduated All-ACC starters Vern Sterry and Michael Rogers

Nicholas Jeffreys

Staff Writer

After spending three years watching his teammates lead the baseball team, Phillip Davidson said he wanted to step into the role of a leader.

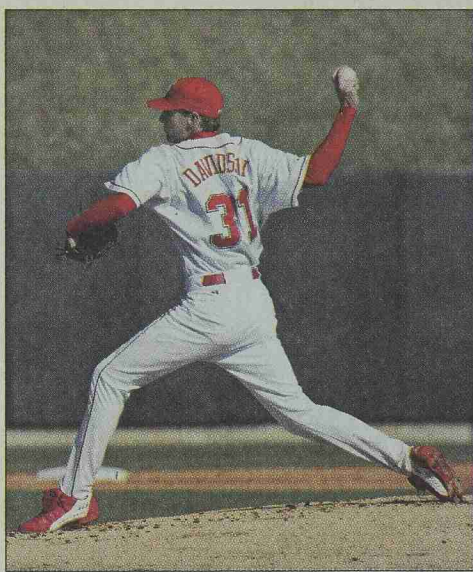
In his senior year of playing for N.C. State, Davidson is the lone senior of the pitching staff. Davidson said he looked up to a few of the pitchers before him and that he learned a lot from them while they were at State.

"I roomed with Michael Rogers when I was a freshman," Davidson said of the All-ACC graduate. "He is still one of my best friends now. I looked up to him when he played here and I still do because of the way he went about his business. He handled things in such a professional manner."

This season Davidson said he believes his maturity and experience have taken him a long way compared to his past years.

While Davidson doesn't help the team by hitting the ball, he joins with junior closer Joey Devine in giving advice to his younger teammates.

"Joey Devine and I try to help out with the pitching staff as much as we can," Davidson said. "We have plenty of guys that help lead the team when it comes to



Phillip Davidson hurls a pitch against San Diego State at Doak Field.

hitting the ball, but Joey and I give our input when it deals with pitching."

One of the pitchers on the receiving end of that advice is sophomore pitcher Gib Hobson. Hobson said he listens to his tenured teammates because he realizes Davidson just wants to see everyone do their best.

"He is always there to help you out and tell you what you are doing wrong," Hobson said. "He wants to see everyone around him perform their best."

Hobson isn't the only one who notices the growing leadership of his teammate. Devine has also picked up on what his teammate is doing. Devine said Davidson sets a role-model example that influences other members of the team. It's an example that Devine said is illustrated with his play on the field and his studies in the classroom.

"Phil has been here for all four years and showed great leadership for all of them," Devine said. "Whether it's through everyday

habits such as in the classroom or on the baseball field, he rubs off on a lot of the guys."

Devine described how he and Davidson like to see if they can be the only two players to pitch in the game, with Davidson starting the game and Devine closing.

"Phil and I always joke about making it a game where it only has to be us two that pitch," Devine said. "He is such a great leader and I have a lot of confidence that if he is on the mound, I will have a chance to be there at the end of the game."

With less than a month until the ACC Tournament, Davidson has compiled a record of 4-3. He said he would like to finish up the season and his career with his team as the last group standing in Omaha, Neb., the site of the College World Series.

"I would like to finish the season up with a win," Davidson said. "There is only one team in the country that gets to finish the season with a win, I hope it's us."

Even though Davidson said he is only concerned with the current season, he would like the opportunity to compete at the next level. His dream is to suit up for the Boston Red Sox and play at Fenway Park.

"I would like to play at the next level," Davidson said. "I grew up 40 minutes south of Fenway Park, but anywhere would be great though."

"Beggars shouldn't be choosers. But right now, I'm just worried about the task at hand, which is this season."

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Almost Everything  
\$2.50

**Pint Night**  
Most Pints \$2  
Mon - Wed

**Sammy's**  
Tap & Grill  
755-3880