

G day mate. Oh shut up, aussie. I'm glad Stars and Stripes won the America's Cup back so we don't have to hear any more about kookaburras or kangaroos. Weekend weather calls for partly cloudy skies with temps in the 50s. Say goodbye to g day!

Senate says: open meetings

Resolution calls for open Athletics Council meetings

By Suzanne Perez
Senior Staff Writer

The N.C. State Student Senate deliberated on the controversial Athletics Council issue Wednesday night before unanimously passing a resolution that "requests that all Athletics Council meetings be open except for matters in which an individual staff member's or athlete's personal situation is discussed."

Senate Athletics Committee Chairman Perry Woods told Senate members that the resolution is a necessary response to events concerning the issue.

"Students simply want to be treated up-front and with respect," Woods said. "N.C. State as an institution and the Athletics Council itself have the responsibility to be not only beyond guilt, but above suspicion as well."

Woods emphasized that attempts had already been made to discuss the Open Meetings Policy with Poulton. "Poulton removed the

entire issue from the agenda at the Chancellor's Liaison Committee meeting."

Some senators voiced concerns about the effects of such a resolution.

Senator Chuck Henkel said student government is "already on bad relations with the chancellor" and thinks "that this statement would simply be rubbing salt in that wound." Senator Mark Gallifianakis agreed, and made a motion to send the resolution back to committee.

"I feel that we need to wait until things have cooled off and our officers have had the chance to meet with Chancellor Poulton privately," he said.

The motion to table failed, as several senators argued the resolution's time had come. Senator Jeff Cherry thinks time is on the administration's side.

"Time itself is this administration's number one weapon," he said. See SENATE, page 7



Staff photo by Scott Rivenbark

Perry Woods, athletics committee chairman, authored a resolution that calls for the Athletics Council to open its meetings. After a motion to send the bill back to the committee failed, the resolution passed.

NCSU discusses joint venture with city

By Madelyn Rosenberg
Assistant News Editor

Chancellor Bruce Poulton and athletics director and N.C. State basketball coach Jim Valvano met with Mayor Avery Upchurch and the Raleigh City Council members Wednesday to discuss a possible joint venture for a basketball coliseum.

"This was an idea I brought forth when I became mayor," Upchurch said. "As to the relationship of the city with the university, it is very important that this is coming about."

Upchurch said the university and city need to be interwoven to allow the arena to be used to its fullest

capacity. However, no decisions have been made on the roll the university will play in the financial and planning aspects of the coliseum.

Upchurch said the meeting served to squelch rumors of NCSU constructing its own coliseum. The mayor said there was no hidden agenda in the coliseum discussions because there had been no formal contact with the university about the project.

"They said they would be interested in working together, but that's it," Upchurch said. "The next round of talks will be the university's requirements and finances. The mechanics need to be worked out."

City Councilman Perry Safron said he understands and hopes "for the university's promise to be an active user of the coliseum."

Safron said he is depending on the university to use the coliseum and on the revenue the basketball games would bring with it. He said he did not think the university could be counted on for operational dollars.

"The chancellor's response was appropriate," Safron said. "He said he will be behind the coliseum spiritually. I think the consensus of the council is that it's okay."

Safron said the costs of a 19,000-seat coliseum with parking facilities would be about \$59 million with its "most exotic arrangement." The councilman said he had been looking for the university's response for about six months and was pleased with the outcome.

"It looks good to me," he said. "I'm happy with the chancellor's response."

Charlie Bryant, executive director of the Wolfpack Club, said his position would be determined by the university's decision. However, he said the city should assume financial responsibility for the project.

Bryant said he was bothered by the potential "dual" responsibilities between the city and the university. He also said he did not like the idea of the university raising funds for the project.

"I have some reservations about (monetary) contributions to the city," he said. "On the surface I'm opposed to the fundraising, but that doesn't mean I won't bust my rear if we decide to do it."

"We've got a lot of things in front of the coliseum in fundraising to worry about," Bryant added. Poulton and Valvano were unavailable for comment.

UNC bounces back, trounces Pack by 20

By Katrina Waugh
Assistant Sports Editor

The North Carolina basketball team staggered out of the hospital and onto the court at Reynolds Coliseum last night to defeat State, 96-79.

Senior point guard Kenny Smith made a record-breaking speedy recovery from arthroscopic surgery Saturday to chip in 21 points, five assists and five rebounds in 30 minutes of play. This from a man who practiced only 10 minutes this entire week.

Joe Wolf, who missed practice with the Heels both Tuesday and Wednesday because of flu, tied Smith's team-leading 21 points as well as his five rebounds and assists.

In fact, freshman J.R. Reid was the only Carolina starter who wasn't either sick or injured this week.

But that didn't stop the Tar Heels. It didn't even slow them down.

"Three of my players are going to have arthroscopic surgery tomorrow," Wolfpack coach Jim Val-

vano said. "If we can get arthroscopic surgery and catch the flu like they did - wow. We're all checking into Rex Hospital tomorrow."

Carolina improves its record to 19-2 and 8-0 in the conference, while the Pack drops to 12-9 and 4-4 in the ACC.

"I'm very disappointed for our kids - it's been tough. It's been hard," Valvano said.

The Heels shot 65 percent from the field, well above their 54.1 percent average, and scored 96 points, just over their 92.9 average.

The Pack can take heart in shooting 46.9 percent from the field, much higher than the Pack has been shooting recently and equalling the average of Tar Heel opponents for the year.

"I think it's the best Carolina team we've faced since I've been here," Valvano said. "They're a great team."

Carolina led the game from the opening jump, but State pulled within seven points on a 16-footer from Vinnie Del Negro with 6:11

See WOUNDED, page 3



Staff photo by Scott Rivenbark

Senior Bennie Bolton dribbles past UNC's Curtis Hunter, but the Pack couldn't get past the Tar Heels last night.

Personality, attitude key to Dancevisions

By Kirk Jones
Staff Writer

Good ideas spread, or that seems to be the message to NCSU's dance company, Dancevisions. Established by three young black women, Inga Brandon, Rhonda Bennett and Pamela Graham in 1977, the organization has grown to 15 members.

They perform all kinds of routines, mainly focusing on jazz dance and modern dance. The main focus, according to Dancevisions President Tara Reid is "to give students a chance to express themselves through body movement."

Dancevisions holds auditions each fall and tryouts are open to all individuals. Dance skill is not the only qualification for joining the company.

"We look at personality, attitude and showmanship as well as dance talent," Reid said.

Dancevision members see the dance as a way to relieve tension. Reid said through Dancevisions, she has developed leadership skills and learned to communicate with

people, but, most importantly, she has made lifetime friends. Members discussed the family feeling within the company.

"We go home for the holidays and are tired," Ingrid Britton said. "But we miss each other, and are excited about being with each other again after the holidays."

The group has traveled to New York City and Washington D.C. to study professional choreography and to see Broadway performances. These trips helped Dancevisions learn to give quality performances on campus and in the community.

One problem dancers mentioned was the misconception that Dancevisions is all black. "At the university there is a tendency to see groups as black and white, and not just student groups," Reid said.

"Concerning publicity, Rondi Pannell has said, 'If we're not oriented as a black group, we're not mentioned at all.'"

In the future, Dancevisions will practice in the new Carmichael Gym dance studio and prepare for recitals given each spring. The company hopes that more people will attend this year's recital.

Student says racism still present

By Brian Nixon
Staff Writer

Greta Johnson, a junior business management major, said blacks are headed in a positive direction at N.C. State University.

"Blacks are united and striving for a common goal instead of undermining one another," Johnson said.

Blacks are becoming higher achievers, Johnson said, not because blacks haven't achieved, but because previously their achievements went unrecognized and are now in the forefront.

Johnson said racism exists because of a lack of understanding and knowledge.

"Racism is here and present," Johnson said. "Under different circumstances, what may appear to be racism isn't racism as much as it is a lack of knowledge, understanding, initiative and lack of direction."

She added that this is why young blacks, especially freshmen, need a knowledge of how the administration works and the ins and outs of campus politics.

"With a working knowledge of campus

politics, black students can prostitute their talents in certain situations to get what they want," she said.

Johnson said she chose to attend NCSU because she was greatly impressed with the minority visitation day and the tutorial services offered at NCSU. She said that she sought the challenge of other highly intelligent students and also wanted to experience life away from home in a predominantly white environment where she can learn, adapt and adjust properly to the ways of the real world.

Johnson feels NCSU's administration is working to advance blacks. She said the university is sincere in accepting more blacks who have the qualifications to succeed at NCSU. However, she said she feels as much emphasis should be put on graduating blacks as there is on admitting them.

Johnson said black enrollment is down for several reasons. Many black freshmen who enroll eventually drop out because the idiots for the younger students just aren't as visible as they were in high school.

For this reason, Johnson is a strong supporter of the Peer Mentor Program. Johnson em-

phasizes the fact that the Peer Mentor Program's existence hinges on the importance of a good, visible and accessible mentor who can shed light on certain situations or give freshmen the proper advice by sharing similar past experiences. The main objectives of the mentors are to help freshmen through difficult adjustment periods and to serve as new role models for freshmen.

Johnson is active in many organizations on campus:

- president of Greeks United
- member of the Kappa Omicron Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority
- teen leader during the Teen Mentor Process
- member of the Chancellor's Liaison Committee
- member of the student Afro-American Society Committee
- member of BSB and SAAC

Certain qualifications are essential for individuals to become leaders, Johnson said.

"They must lead by example and must know how to distinguish the times when they must speak and the times when they must listen," Johnson said. "Leaders must be aware of all resources at their disposal."

CLARIFICATION

The headline for Wednesday's story on N.C. State athletes and Proposition 48 was incorrect. Students who do not meet Proposition 48's requirements may attend NCSU, but may not participate in an intercollegiate sport during their Freshman year. The two unknown NCSU athletes who did not meet Proposition 48's requirements must have played during their Freshman year in order to have been in violation.

CORRECTION

Wednesday's lead editorial stated Vice-Chancellor Thomas Stafford asked Student Body President Gary Mauney to remove Student Senator Perry Woods from last week's Chancellor's Liaison Committee meeting. Stafford said he did not ask that Woods be removed.

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Sports

North Carolina deals in hype as much as hoops

It wasn't even the biggest game in town. Not the 96-79 North Carolina win over the struggling Wolfpack last night in Reynolds Coliseum. The real game of the week was the mind game that went on beforehand.

We heard all week about poor Kenny Smith and his hurt knee. Arthroscopic surgery, etc., etc. Didn't Dave Popson have a hurt leg or something? Or so they said. And this flu bug that swept through like the plague. Boy, I hope it isn't catching.

A local newspaper made it sound as if the Tar Heels were struggling to field a team, listing seven players — four starters as injured or ill. When Carolina's starting team was introduced, it was the same five who had been starting all year. Speedy recovery.

Smith sure didn't look like Bill Buckner when he ran. Nor did he let anything roll between his legs. As a matter of fact, about the only thing that went through for Smith was the ball in the hoop as he scored 21 points for the third-ranked Tar Heels in 30 agonizing minutes of play.

TIM PEELER

Sports Editor

Agonizing maybe for Wolfpack fans. Smith looked like he was enjoying himself.

"Kenny Smith was great from the opening three-pointer to the final buzzer," Wolfpack coach Jim Valvano said. "I'm going to have three of my players have arthroscopic surgery tomorrow. The others I'm going to check in Rex Hospital for the flu. They are going to stay there until game time."

State next plays at defending national champion Louisville, Saturday at 3 p.m. on national television.

Maybe the Wolfpack can catch what Joe Wolf had. The 6-11 senior center, obviously weakened by the terrible, terrible flu, hit all nine of his field goals — including two three-pointers — and his only free throw for a perfect night of 21 points.

Get well cards are not appropriate.

Once again, Wolfpack players said there are some internal problems within the team that affect play on the court. Sophomore Charles Shackelford said it was because there is no clear cut team leader.

"I really don't think we have the consistency a team should have," he said after the game. "I don't really think we have the type of leadership we need to win in this kind of schedule. Somebody has got to step forward and take control."

"We've got to start playing together like a team."

Shackelford thinks he knows where the leader should come from.

"I think that the person who brings the ball up should take control of the team," he said. "It seems like we're just out there playing and not looking for a win."

"We need to be a complete team. One person can't do it. It has to be the whole team. And we ain't playing like a team right now. We can't win shooting the type of shots were shooting."

Valvano said it was because there were no players with tenure.

"You need veteran type players, and we only have (senior) Bennie Bolton," Valvano said. "The other guys haven't been here before."

Bolton, who has been looked to as a team leader all year, said: "I just try to go out there and play as hard as I can. Other people are the ones who put that leadership role on me. We have got people who are capable of being leaders."

"We are going through a bad string. We just ain't shooting well."

"But we're not panicking yet."

Tar Heel players seemed to be amused by the little joke Technician played on them Thursday morning.

"I thought it was clever," said Dave Popson, who appeared coming out of the closet, sans clothes. "It was all done in good fun. It's not what they were trying to hurt anyone."

The others agreed.

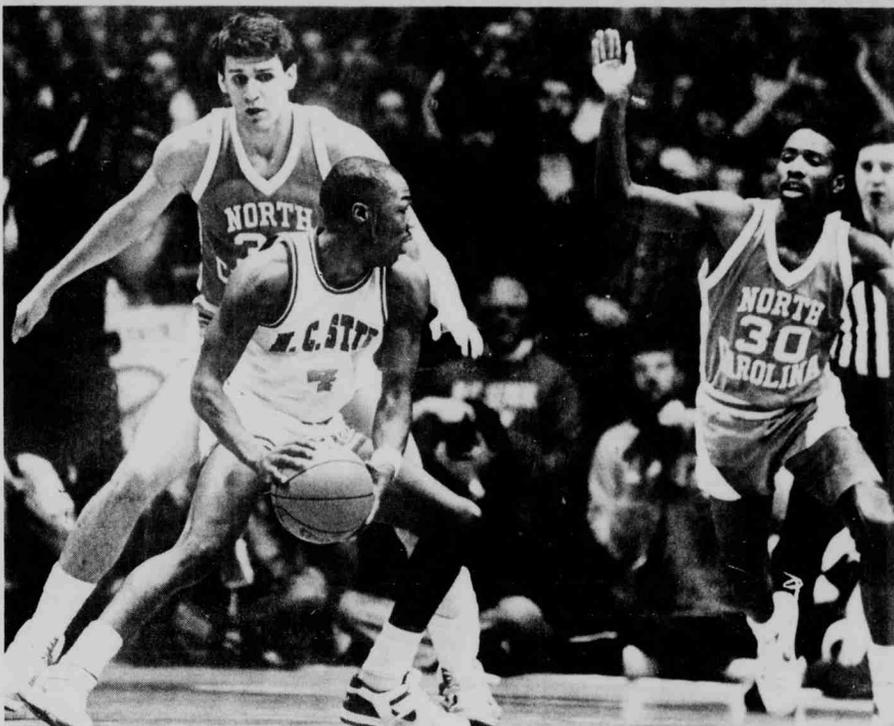
But coach Dean Smith did take objection to the center spread, which he said contained racially connotative remarks.

The spread featured a Kenny Smith likeness sprawled naked on a sofa. "It's all in good fun, I understand that," Dean Smith said. "But there were racial remarks in there and I was disappointed in that. Kenny Smith was recruited by Harvard and every Ivy League school I know, plus Duke and others."



Jeff Lebo protects the ball from Kenny Drummond in last night's game.

Staff photo by Scott Rivenbark



Staff photo by Scott Rivenbark

State's Kenny Drummond is defended by Carolina's Kenny Smith (30) and Dave Popson. Smith, coming off knee surgery, scored 21 points against the Wolfpack. Drummond scored 11, in defeat, for the Wolfpack.

Wounded North Carolina plagues struggling Wolfpack

Continued from page 1

left in the first half. Then with 2:27 remaining in the half, the Wolfpack pulled within six on a pair of Chucky Brown free throws, following a UNC lane violation.

Those free throws were Brown's only points of the game. Del Negro scored all of his six points in the first period.

Jeff Lebo, who ended the game with 13 points and four assists, scored the last three points of the half on a free throw and a baseline jumper. Lebo, another flu victim, missed his first free throw in 34 consecutive tries early in the game and ended up 2-4 from the line.

The Tar Heels took a 46-38 lead into the locker room at the half.

Carolina opened the second half with two more unanswered buckets to boost their lead back to ten.

The Heels steadily increased their lead to 28 points with 7:11 left in the game, building on State's inability to capitalize on scoring opportunities. There was no run or key stretch in the second half — Carolina shot 65.6 percent and State made only half of its shots.

"Frankly, they're a better basketball team, and they played very well tonight," Valvano said. "We played better than we did last time, but they played better, too."

Charles Shackelford had a career high 26 points. His previous high was the 24 points he picked up at Oklahoma.

Senior Bennie Bolton had 14 points, 10 in the first period, and three assists.

The only other State player in double figures was Kenny Drummond, who scored seven of his 11

points in the second period. Drummond went down late in the game with an ankle injury. His condition is uncertain.

The loss extended State's losing streak to five with defending national champion Louisville next on the schedule.

"Things seem worse than they really are," Valvano said. "We're still 4-1 in the conference. The last two weeks have taken so much out of us in terms of confidence. We use our bench and then you get no rhythm. You need your starting lineup to play well so your substitutes can come in and do what they're supposed to do."

"We really hit a tough spot."

The Pack is facing its last game in a string of eight consecutive games against national powers. State has so far defeated only Duke in this series.

"I feel like Santa Claus this year — everyone we play goes on a

streak," Valvano said. "After each game I hear somebody say 'that was one of the best games we've played.' Everyone has their best game against us."

North Carolina (96)

Reed 8-11 0-0 16, Popson 4-4 0-2 8, Wolf 9-9 1-1 21, Lebo 5-9 2-4 7, K. Smith 3-13 2-2 21, Hunter 2-4 4-8 8, R. Smith 2-5 0-0 7, Hensley 0-1 0-0 0, Williams 0-1 1-2 3, Bucknall 0-2 1-2 1, Norwood 0-0 0-0 0, Conroy 0-0 0-0 0
Totals 39-60 11-36

State (79)

Bolton 5-12 4-5 16, Gault 18-0-1 2, Shackelford 11-12 4-4 26, Drummond 5-9 0-0 11, Del Negro 3-4 2-2 8, Wiggins 7-8 0-0 4, Brown 0-1 2-2 2, Lankford 0-1 0-0 0, Lester 1-3 1-4 5, Batts 1-1 0-0 2, Kennedy 2-6 1-2 7, Jackson 0-0 0-0 0, Howard 0-0 0-0 0, Tolan 0-0 0-0 0
Carolina 46-51 36
State 38-41 29
Rebounds — State 21 (Lester 4, Shackelford 4, UNC 25 (Reed 5, Wolf 5, K. Smith 3, Keston 3, State 13 (Drummond 4, Bolton 3, UNC 25 (Bucknall 4, K. Smith 5, Wolf 5, Reed 5, Turnovers — State 18, UNC 20. Fouls out — none
4-12-80
Records — State 4-4 ACC, 12-9 overall, UNC 8-0, 19-2

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Women face ACC- leader Virginia

By Trent McCranie
Staff Writer

The 13th ranked Wolfpack women have arrived at a crucial point in their schedule. Saturday afternoon at 2. Atlantic Coast Conference leader Virginia will be a guest at Reynolds Coliseum to do battle with the recently sluggish Wolfpack.

The Cavaliers flaunt an impressive 19-1 overall record while piling up nine conference wins without a single loss. UVa's only defeat came on the road as the Scarlet Knights of Rutgers pummeled the Cavaliers 81-58. It was the lowest output by Virginia this year.

N.C. State University's women are in the midst of a two-game skid which has cut the momentum of the previous six straight victories. The Pack is 15-5 overall and 7-2 in the ACC, a mark that still has them comfortably in second place. The closest team down the line is North Carolina at 5-4.

The Wolfpack, coming off losses to Old Dominion and Duke, will be

Pack tries for ACC attendance record

The women's basketball contest between N.C. State University and North Carolina Tuesday, Feb. 10, could be your chance to be part of a state and Atlantic Coast Conference record-breaking effort.

The Wolfpack women, ranked 13th in the nation, are trying to break a conference and state women's basketball attendance record.

To grab your attention and lure your participation — not that the exciting action isn't

enough — fans in attendance will have a chance to win a new car at halftime.

The 1987 Special Edition Pontiac Grand Am is only the beginning. Among the other activities are senior prizes, including men's ACC Tournament tickets, a fraternity or sorority pizza party from Domino's and an offer from McDonald's for everyone attending the game.

There will also be a residence hall contest to test the support

of certain fans. Each residence hall (in some cases, groups of residence halls) will be assigned a section of Reynolds Coliseum. Signs will direct you as to where your hall will sit during the game. The dorm section with the most screaming fans will win a free ice cream party.

NCSU's women's basketball program is looking for and encouraging fans to participate and help make the night and the game a success. Come on out to the ball game.

who grabs six per game.

NCSU is anchored by Trice inside. The 6-foot-3 pivot player leads the team with 18.7 points per game. Forward Ann Marie Treadway averages 17.8 per game and Angela Daye contributes 10.8 points per contest for the Pack, which has considerable depth.

NCSU brings key bench players to each game who, although freshmen, provide valuable depth. Krista Kilburn, Sandee Smith and Kerri Hobbs are all worthy of playing time and have been important to the starters' rest and provide a fresh attack to throw at opponents, according to Coach Jay Yow.

"Those freshmen that we bring in (for Trice, Treadway and guard Debbie Bertrand) are the bright spot of this team," Yow said.

Virginia, the ACC's defending regular season champions, were ranked sixth by The Associated Press at the end of the year.

State holds an advantage in the overall series with Virginia, but the Cavaliers have won the last three battles.

ACC Women's Basketball Standings

Virginia.....	9-0	19-1
State.....	7-1	15-4
North Carolina.....	5-4	13-7
Maryland.....	4-4	11-8
Duke.....	4-5	13-6
Georgia Tech.....	3-5	11-8
Wake Forest.....	2-7	11-9
Clemson.....	0-8	4-15

Tuesday's results
Duke 76.....State 69

Wednesday's results
Georgia Tech 85.....WCU 47
James Madison 68.....Wake 61

Saturday's games
Virginia at State
Maryland at Clemson
Duke at Georgia Tech
North Carolina at Wake

hoping to end its slide. NCSU fell to Virginia in the first meeting in Charlottesville's University Hall earlier this year by a score of 75-57. In that game, the Cavaliers 5-foot-5 point guard Donna Holt blasted the Pack for 25 points while center Laurie Carter had eight points and yanked down 10 rebounds. Senior

center Trena Trice nearly stood alone for NCSU, piling up 18 points and a game-high 11 rebounds.

The foundation for Virginia's attack is balance. Senior forward Nancy Mayer leads the team in scoring with a 14-point average, while guards Holt and junior Daphne Hawkins supply 13 points

each per game. Carter, averaging about 10 points, and reserve guard Tonya Cardoza, averaging about nine points per contest, round out the Virginia arsenal. The Cavaliers also sport a balanced rebounding attack as three players average at least five boards a game, led by sophomore center Dawn Bryant.

Virginia Tech, Elon visit matmen

By Tim Peeler
Sports Editor

When heavyweight wrestler Lennie Schultz takes to the mats Sunday afternoon against Virginia Tech's Randy Cunningham, Schultz will be looking for a little revenge.

The Wolfpack faces the Hokies at 1 p.m. in Reynolds, then squares off against Elon after the completion of the Virginia Tech match. Afterwards, Virginia Tech will face Elon.

Schultz, also a starter on the football team that lost to the Hokies in the Peach Bowl, has already gotten revenge on other Wolfpack football rivals, pinning heavyweights from North Carolina and Virginia. The football Cavs beat the Wolfpack and ousted State's ACC title hopes.

Schultz, who got a chance to start when regular Mike Lomardo was injured, has gotten all three of his wins by pinning his opponents,

and he has lost only one match. A critical pin against Virginia last week gave State a 19-17 win over the Cavs.

Now, Schultz is looking forward to facing the Hokies.

"He's really pumped up," Wolfpack coach Bob Guzzo said. "He's really looking forward to the match against Tech."

The Wolfpack, once ranked as high as 11th in the nation, now owns an 8-6 record after a string of injuries hampered the team.

"We're just getting started to get our injured guys back," Guzzo said.

Mike Lantz, at 167 pounds, a steadily improving freshman who had a 6-6-1 slate before getting hurt, will return against Virginia Tech and Elon.

Steve Cesari, who is also been injured, garnered an important tie against Virginia last weekend in the 150 eight class and will be looking to improve his 3-1-1 record.

His brother, Joe Cesari, is nationally ranked with an 18-3-1 mark at 142.

Another key Wolfpack wrestler is nationally fourth-ranked senior Marc Sodano at 126, who is fresh from competing in the East/West All Classic in Edinboro, Pa. Sodano lost to Iowa State's Bill Kelley, 11-2, who is ranked second in the country.

State will not have the services of senior Scott Turner, who will miss the rest of the season because of a knee injury. Turner, ranked as high as second in the country at 150, will undergo surgery this weekend, Guzzo said.

Turner will probably be red-shirted and will resume wrestling next year.

Virginia Tech enters the contest with a 4-4 dual meet record, led by 142-pounder Ed Odenofor, who is 9-6. He finished third in the NCAA eastern regionals last year.



Lenny Schultz

The Hokies also have Jon Taylor at 167, who is 9-6, and 126-pounder Steve Cuipepper, who has the team's best record at 10-6.

Virginia Tech always has a good team," Guzzo said. "Elon I don't think is going to be that strong, definitely not as strong as the teams we've been facing."

What's Up...

Swimming — The men's and women's swimming and diving teams will host Auburn Saturday. The women open the meet at 11:00 a.m. and the men will start competition at 3:00 p.m.

Fencing — The fencing teams will travel to Columbus, Ohio to compete in the Ohio State Nine-Way Meet. The men will compete on Saturday and the women on Sunday.

Wrestling — The wrestling team will host Virginia Tech and Elon Sunday at 1:00 in Reynold's Coliseum.

Track — The indoor track team will compete in the George Mason Invitational meet Saturday in Fairfax, Va.

Women's Basketball — The 11th-ranked women's team host third-ranked Virginia in a game of major significance in the ACC standings.

Men's Basketball — The men's basketball team will travel to Kentucky to take on Louisville Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

Men, women swimmers host War Eagles

By Scott Deuel
Staff Writer

Southeastern Conference power Auburn will be invading Raleigh Saturday, as the N.C. State men's and women's swimming teams try to end four meet losing streaks with a couple of victories over the War Eagles.

Match times for the event are 11 a.m. for the women and 3 p.m. for the men. Both meets will take place in the Carmichael Natatorium.

Auburn's men's team is 2-4 this season, and the women are 1-3. Both the men's and women's teams suffered losses to rival Alabama

last weekend. The men's squad was nationally ranked before that loss.

The Wolfpack men encounter a difficult task in competing with Auburn, which NCSU coach Don Easterling refers to as, "the best men's team we've faced this year, by far."

Auburn's men are led by co-captains Rod Bowman and Steven Bauman.

Easterling feels that Auburn's main strength lies in its distance swimming. Easterling feels Auburn's only weakness is the sprint team.

For the first time this year, NCSU will face an all-America

diver, an athlete Easterling terms as possessing "awesome diving capability, favored to be a finalist in the Olympics."

The women should match up more competitively with the War Eagles than the men, but this Auburn women's team will present a stiff challenge for the Wolfpack. Leading the way for Auburn is Gayle Perry, who Easterling calls, "an awesome freestyler."

Auburn's women are led by co-captains Mary Beth Eckerlein and Katie Heyburn.

Both NCSU's men's and women's swimming teams are sore from tapering, swimming less yardage than usual, in preparation for the

Atlantic Coast Conference Championships. The women have cut down in the weight room, and the men's team has begun to rest more for the championship meet in Chapel Hill Feb. 26-28.

Easterling emphasizes that the Pack's biggest problem is a lack of mental toughness.

"We certainly do not have much fight, although I'd say our women have much more fight in them than our men do."

On Feb. 10, North Carolina's women's team will face the Wolfpack in Carmichael Natatorium at 7 p.m. The Carolina men's team will visit Carmichael the following week, on Feb. 17, also at 7 p.m.

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WINDHOVER

The Windhover, NCSU's art and literary magazine, is accepting poetry, prose, plays, and art from students, professors, employees and alumni.

DEADLINE: Friday, Feb. 13, 5 p.m.

POETRY: limit 5 per person, one per page
PROSE: limit 12 double spaced typed (or neatly printed) pages
ART: limit 5 entries (well protected)

Submissions should include your name, address and media (for artwork), and may be brought to the Windhover office 3122 Student Center or dropped in the Windhover boxes located in the library, school of design, and Link Building.

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Mon. 10-11, 12-1, 3-4
Wed. 2:30-3:30
Fri. 8:30-9:30

Artwork submitted last semester can be picked up during our office hours

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News

NCSU requires all foreign students to carry medical insurance; defaults often hard to collect, adviser says

Certain insurance policies difficult to monitor, not available to foreign students

By Kelly Hastings
Staff Writer

Foreign N.C. State students on temporary visas are required to purchase medical insurance, while American students are not, according to international student adviser Don Roberts.

country when burdened by a huge medical bill, therefore leaving NCSU with the financial burden," Roberts said. "That's the primary concern for requiring foreign students to purchase the insurance."

But the policy's underlying reasons has made some foreign students bitter.

"Why don't Americans have to buy an insurance policy?" Korean student Gil Lee said. "We were given a reason, but the reason we received was the same as saying that because one American writes a bad check, checks shouldn't be used by anyone."

Roberts responded that an

American student would be easier to locate should he default on payments. NCSU would have little legal authority if it tried to get a foreign student to pay up while he was in his home country.

Chinese Student Association member Yuan Fay "Ted" Shyre said he believes foreign students

should at least "have a choice as to which company and policy we want to use."

However, Roberts said each foreign student can choose another insurance policy as long as it is comparable to the policy offered by NCSU through Blue Cross and Blue Shield. University administrators

must also be able to monitor policy payments.

"There has to be a monitorability aspect involved," Roberts said. "We have to deal with insurance companies that will agree to report each policy cancellation, otherwise we would have a number of foreign students cancel their policies after being admitted to the university."

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Job Opportunities

American Society for Personnel Administration (ASPA) (International meeting. All students who are interested in a career in Human Resources are encouraged to attend on Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 2:00 pm in M-110. ASPA representatives from the Wake/Raleigh Chapter and Meredith Student Chapter will be present.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION - AMERICAN AIRLINES will be on campus to interview business majors for summer jobs to positions on Wed. Feb. 11, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Interested students should contact the coop. office, M.S. Link, at 237-7100 to schedule an apt.

For adult students and alumni. Promoting One's Self During the Job Search And Beyond. Primarily a discussion group focusing on verbal and non-verbal communication, building poise, and keeping a positive self image. Sponsored by the Placement Office. Advance registration is required. Call 737-2396. \$5.00 materials fee. February 7, 9:30-1:30, 28 Dabney.

The Academic Job Search For Ph.D.s and M.A.s. This seminar is for individuals with advanced degrees who wish to obtain academic positions commensurate with their education, abilities and interests. It will focus on the processes of designing academic vitae and professional resumes, preparing for effective cover letters, preparing for and successfully interviewing with search committees. February 10, 10:30 am. Green Room. No sign-up is necessary.

The Career Planning and Placement Center is offering a 4-part, 6-hour Job Hunters Group for graduating seniors who have a career objective. Learn how to develop a prospective employer list, improve your interview skills and develop a personal referral network. Learn how to market yourself in business and industry. Registration is necessary. Call 737-2396 or come in to 28 Dabney with your \$5.00 registration fee. Meets twice this semester. February 7, 9:30-11:30 and March 10, 12:15-1:30. 8:30-10:30.

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PAINT WARS. NCSU's own survival game. Organized games with equipment provided. "K" opposing teams with paint pellets and capture their flag. Other variations. Call 831.1640, 859.3008, 737.5070, after 3 pm.

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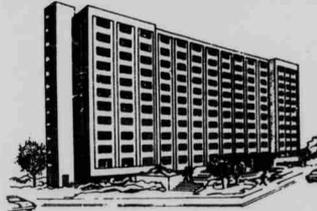
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Opinion

A journal that is entirely the product of the student body, becomes the official organ through which the thoughts, the acts, and in fact the very life of the campus are registered. It is the marketplace through which the students themselves talk. College life each on its journal to blank

Show concern: attend Trustees meeting

Recent weeks have been marked by what seems to be a university administration effort to keep students out of N.C. State policy: the Athletics Council continues to hold closed meetings; Bruce Poulton patronizes student leaders during a Chancellor's Liaison Committee meeting; several NCSU officials refuse to speak to Technician reporters.

But students will have a direct voice on important issues when the Board of Trustees meets this weekend. Among the board's 13 members is Student Body President Gary Mauney, the only member of the university community — student, faculty or administration — to have a vote on the board. Chancellor Bruce Poulton does not have a vote.

Since the board is the ultimate policy-making body for the university, Mauney can use his position to the students' advantage. During the last meeting, he asked the board to look into totally divesting NCSU's South African holdings. Mauney and former student body presidents have also used their reports to the board as a time to voice concern about administration proposals and actions, and this time is no different.

Mauney recently said he will tell trustees tomorrow that NCSU officials aren't coming clean with the students and that more student input is needed in the administrative process. Students aren't asking to be a part of every decision on this campus; they ask only that their comments and concerns be

taken seriously by university officials when their decisions directly affect students.

What has become painfully obvious is that some administrators think that this is their university; students are an accessory, something that comes with the package. One high-ranking official even suggested recently that there shouldn't be a student representative to the Board of Trustees.

This university was built as an institution of higher education, to mold and teach the future leaders of North Carolina. This is our place — belonging to the students, faculty and administrators — and we should try to work together to ensure that policies are as fair to all parties as possible.

We think it's important that the trustees, Poulton and other NCSU administrators know that other students are concerned about what goes on here. The meetings are open to the public, but unfortunately, apathy is not unknown on this campus and only a few students have shown up in the past.

Trustees, who (believe it or not) were once students here, are often receptive to student concerns. There would be an impact even if 20 students went to tomorrow's meeting, and progress would be made if a few of them personally spoke to trustees before or after the meeting.

The full board meets at 10:45 a.m. tomorrow in Room 10 at the McKimmon Center. We strongly urge anyone who cares about our university to attend this meeting.

Consider divestiture

To the University Endowment Board:

As you well know, the issue of divestiture will be discussed at your meeting today. Since the problem is so complex, we assume that you have studied it with the information available to you. For us to repeat the facts and figures of both sides to you in this editorial would be redundant.

We sincerely hope that you, the ruling members of the endowment board, consider the position our student representatives have taken with the utmost respect. Although you may question the stance of the entire student body on divestiture, please keep in mind that the elected student representatives have united on divestment.

Therefore, we ask you not to question their authority of representing students; they are the voice of the student body.

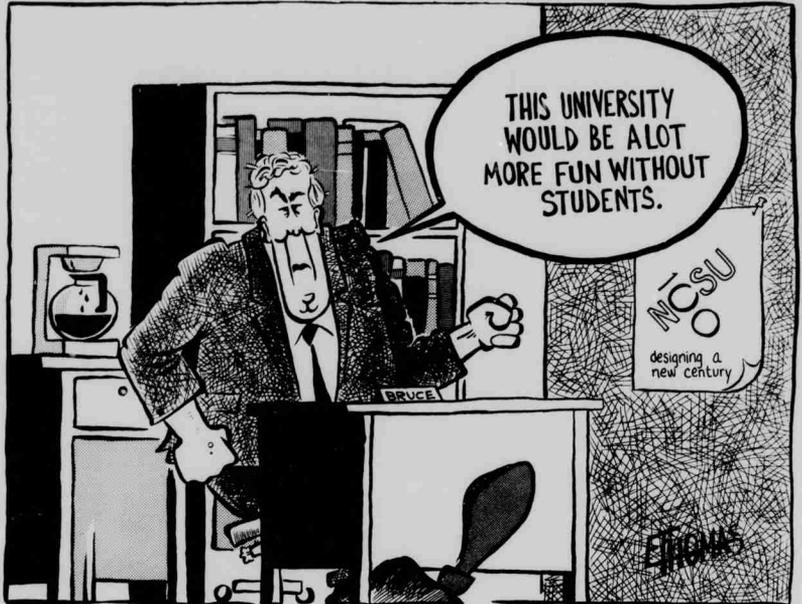
Not only do the student govern-

ment officials represent the student body, but they have also studied extensively the issue of divestiture. Researched the position of Rev. Sullivan and other authorities on South Africa, the student leaders have concluded that divestment would not only present NCSU as a leader in human rights, but divestment could also prove to be financially beneficial.

Again, we don't want to get into facts and figures; they have already been provided to you. We simply stress that you consider the students' concern with sincerity and respect.

From the information that we have, divestment is the only answer. Possibly, you have information that proves otherwise. If you do, we ask that you share that information with us. We'd like to know.

Whatever the case, we have just one more request. Let us know where you stand. We'd like to know that, too.



Saturday morning funnies aren't

LEE CREIGHTON
Opinion Columnist

What has happened to Saturday mornings? The changes defy all understanding. Anyone who grew up on this planet can remember looking forward to getting up early Saturday mornings just to watch TV. Things have changed.

The memories consist of seeing cartoons and movies that were anticipated all week — those that were good and wholesome, unlike those that are around today.

Today, people can't watch anything animated without the overwhelming presence of death, destruction and generally bad ideas that our society is pumping into young people.

Thinking back, the most violent thing that happened in "Tom and Jerry" was a pie in the face or Tom getting pulled through a pipe with his hair going the wrong way. Although containing a certain amount of violence, it is much different from today's violence. One recent cartoon asked, "Will Dr. Death overcome the evil forces of the Megalopolis Empire and still divert the total annihilation of the planet Earth?" Just a bit too direct.

However, violence has constantly been present in the things that young people hear throughout their pre-teen years. Look at the folk tales that all little kids hear. First there is the story of two little kids who go to a house uninvited, find an old lady, throw her in the oven and cook her Yum, yum.

Or how about the story of that princess, "Little Red Riding Hood"? A wolf dresses up as a human, eats a grandmother and scares the stuffing out of a little girl. Maybe there is an underlying moral to these stories, but there has to be a better way of getting it across.

Take, for example, the fables of Aesop. He had the ability to teach that patience is a virtue, and that the slow and steady pace beats the quick and dirty pace every time. He did this by relating a simple story about a rabbit and a turtle. Not much death there.

Nobody, of course, is opposed to a good fairy tale or cartoon. They are the sustenance of many people's youthful years; for there is nothing better than getting up early and seeing all the horror sci-fi movies at 5 a.m. on Saturdays. Nothing makes a day more complete than seeing a couple of astronauts on an escapade with a ferocious space monster. But contemporary cartoons are just not the same.

Cartoons today are too artificial and contrived. On every cartoon a viewer can see the effects of different social groups, each putting their respective "helpful" restrictions on them.

The NAACP does not want an unequal representation from each ethnic group on the screen. Anytime there are humans on the screen (which is indeed rare), there are obviously exact proportions of blacks, whites, Indians and Orientals. It does not matter what race the people are, as long as they produce laughter. This business of making everything "equal" is for the birds.

Look again at these cartoons that are supposed to be entertaining. Children are not supposed to be able to imitate what they see on them. The most exciting thing in today's cartoons is to see the Thunderdogs shoot down planes from the Grim Reaper's vicious forces. Of course, all the people miraculously survive these hits by opening their parachutes in the nick of time. Very few children have access to fighter planes, so they won't be doing any dogfighting at home.

All of the cartoons now have super-mechanized-all-purpose-in-

destructible chameleon-type robots that defend the forces of good against the notorious death wishers of the evil empire. These robots outnumber the human characters two-to-one, and that is not right.

None of these "people" ever do anything original, either. When Wile E. Coyote ordered one of his gadgets from Acme Products, Inc., it was funny to see him get squashed under a two-ton rock. Violent, but original. Or how about his famous fall from the two hundred foot cliff? Talk about humor.

Even though there was violence back then, it was not the same kind of violence — not as direct and many more times entertaining.

Conversely, a frequent occurrence in the cartoons of days gone by was the ever-popular pie in the face. Many students remember the delight of seeing Scooby Doo take one in the kisser and licking his entire face with an extremely long tongue. Or how about Sylvester the cat getting carried around by the giant mouse-kangaroo?

But some civil-minded group decided that all of this was not healthy to our children. If the child could mimic what he saw on television, it should not be shown. Therefore all that is seen now is the android-dribble that children cannot ape and use to aggravate their parents. A semi-violent Bugs Bunny cartoon will do less harm to the psyche of a young person than the laser-like battles of the Voltron clan.

Cartoons are definitely not what they used to be. They used to be so simple, so delightful and so very entertaining and laughable. The best that can be done is to see mindless actions done by a bunch of wheeled warriors. No thanks. A television can be tuned to something a little more entertaining, like a station that will not come in.

Lee Creighton is a junior in MED.

Forum

Valvano supports us, so let's support him

I would like to share my opinion with the N.C. State student body about several of the controversies surrounding our infamous athletics director and men's basketball coach, Jim Valvano. It would appear that many students, faculty, fans and peers are highly discontented with Valvano's policies, actions, free enterprisings, etc. and maybe even his well-earned success. I would like to express that there are many of us students who are sensitive and supportive of Valvano's effort to help our university improve as a whole.

Last spring Valvano added to his job as men's head basketball coach the title and responsibility of being NCSU's athletics director. Both by any standards are full-time positions for almost any person. Though combining the two positions would seem like an incredible task to accomplish, Valvano obviously felt that if given the opportunity he could do a job well for the university. Otherwise, he would not have taken the additional challenging position at all. Because of all the national and local attention given to our celebrated, hard-working and dedicated athletics director-coach, people tend to put him high on a pedestal and forget that the man is human, has limitations and is capable of making mistakes. This is the first time Valvano has tried such an adverse load, and the demands, pressures and expectations must be an incredible amount. Right now, it probably must be a difficult time adjusting for him. It would be nice for everyone affiliated with NCSU to be supportive of Valvano in these dire times and give him some appreciation, respect and most of all, a fair chance.

Whether or not people realize it, Valvano has displayed a highly positive and respectable

image locally and nationally. This influential person has demonstrated consistently over the years good character off the basketball court, as well as on. Valvano's class, and I cannot think of a better word to describe his efforts, reflects this university and gives us, as a whole, added prestige and pride. So, as a whole, let's show some class of our own and be appreciative that we have such a vigorously hard-working man helping this university and give him a fair and duty opportunity. I would like to think that Valvano has given us a lot, so why don't we return it with some support of our own?

D. Miller SRIE

Allow Valvano to do what he does best

It is amazing what four straight losses by our basketball team will do to normally reasonable people. According to the editorial in Monday's Technician, we have "an unstable basketball program."

Are we talking about the same basketball program that won the NAAs in 1983 and has been to the Final Eight for the past two years? That's not my idea of unstable. Sounds more like "successful" to me.

Athletes come and go for many reasons on all teams, not just ours. Jim Valvano has recruited some of the most talented athletes in the country, but it is ridiculous to expect every player to stay in a program just as it would be impossible to expect every freshman at State to stay in the same curriculum they chose when they first came here.

Jim Valvano has put N.C. State University on the map. He is vivacious and entertaining; but most importantly, he is sincere in his feelings and efforts for NCSU. NCSU students

must realize that the visibility and publicity he is giving to our school is worth far more than having him attend a meeting in the Student Center. His very capable assistants can handle that.

Let's let Valvano do what he does best: coach and tell the public about NCSU.

Charles Cochran JR/CH

Bonner's comments don't fool residents

I sincerely hope Cynthia Bonner doesn't actually believe herself when she says that the new residence hall policies have nothing to do with vacancies in the halls.

I lived in Owen Residence Hall for three years and truly enjoyed most of my stay there. I consider the friends and good times of those years priceless. However, I now live in an off-campus apartment. I learned from Housing and Residence Life that the difference between residence hall and apartment rent is the price of student freedom at N.C. State University.

Mine is not an isolated incident. On my hall alone, more than three-quarters of the residents moved out with the introduction of Housing's new visitation and wooden structure policies.

Bonner must have a low opinion of the intelligence of NCSU's students if she expects her comment to be believed.

Bill Hopper Sr./SCS

Quote of the Day

I drink to make other people interesting.

—George Jean Nathan

TECHNICIAN

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First lady of university: a full-time job for Betty Poulton



Photo courtesy of Information Services

Betty Poulton with former Chancellor John Caldwell and her husband Bruce at the dedication of the Court of North Carolina in September. Being married to the Chancellor of a major university means that Mrs. Poulton has to take on the role of official hostess as well as that of wife and mother.

By Cirelia Thaxton
Staff Writer

Take it from one who knows: A good marriage needs more than love.

"To like someone after you have spent a number of years with them is extremely important," says Betty Poulton. "As it turns out in most marriages, the mate also is best friend."

In Mrs. Poulton's marriage, as it turns out, her best friend is Bruce Poulton, chancellor at N.C. State University. It has been that way for 36 years.

The Poultons met at a fall mixer in their freshman year at Rutgers University, allowing their love to develop into a friendship over six years of courting.

The two strive to make their home and professional lives a success by working together. "Mutual support is the necessary ingredient in a good marriage," Poulton said.

Over brunch she expressed with grace and poise her views on the various roles of women in society.

"So you want to know what hats I wear," she said, referring to her contrasting roles as a wife, mother and a career woman. The para-

mount role, she said, is that of companion and wife to the chancellor.

Although she worked outside the home during their early years of marriage, she said she could not neglect the needs of her husband and children. Even while teaching health at the University of Maine, she dedicated most of her time to the family. And as a result of that kind of devotion, the Poultons are a close-knit family with four children who have grown up to be prosperous adults.

Their eldest sons, Randy and Jeffrey, are engineers. Pete, the youngest, is a student at UNC-Wilmington, and their only daughter Cynthia is a practicing attorney in Boston.

Not only did Mrs. Poulton inspire her children, she also influenced others' sons and daughters in her work with Girl and Boy Scouts. Remembering that experience, she declared, "Young people are the future of civilization, and those who work with them are very fortunate."

She feels that pay for this work is irrelevant. "Volunteerism is a very important part of the fabric of America," she said. "People do not always get paid for what they do."

The compensation comes when the activities are performed."

Her husband's position requires her to wear yet another hat — that of official hostess and role model for many of State's women students. Mrs. Poulton's system for setting priorities within her demanding schedule is simple: "I face each day with the thought I want to do as much with that day as I can."

Considering the fact that there are hundreds of puzzled women on campus searching for an answer to the age-old question, "To marry or not to marry," Mrs. Poulton suggests that love should not be the only deciding factor.

"I feel very strong on women being educated and having a career, because when you have a fall-back career it gives you confidence in yourself."

Also, she said that once married, a woman should appreciate and help her husband's career as well as her own. "I have a partnership with the chancellor. You must accept the lifestyle thrust upon you and your husband's position. If not, you will be unhappy."

Her advice to college students is to be aware of how limited time is.

Senate passes resolution backing freedom of student publications

Continued from page 1

said, "I'm sure that they're thinking if we can dilly-dally on this one until April, maybe they'll all go home for the summer and forget about it."

The resolution said the "Student Senate strongly urges that all faculty and student representatives (to the Athletics Council) be nominated by the chief representative bodies of each respective constituency."

As of now, the nominations are sent to the chancellor's office, and Poulton chooses the representatives.

The Senate then passed another resolution concerning recent actions by the administration that some senators feel amounts to interference with the student publications.

The resolution states that "the Student Senate will not condone any attempts at regulating the publications of N.C. State in order to assure they meet administrative standards of quality."

Senator Scott Carpenter, author of the resolution, said the resolution was inspired by a memo from Poulton to the Publications Board saying NCSU "should consider establishing a separate body to

provide general guidance over the quality of those publications."

"The whole situation stinks of censorship," Carpenter said. "We need to make it perfectly clear that we, as students, will not stand for such an infringement on our freedoms of speech and the press."

The resolution passed by acclamation.

In other business, the Senate allocated funds totaling \$3,922 to the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, the NCSU Greek Leadership Workshop, the Agricultural Institute Club, and the NCSU Delegation of the North Carolina Student Legislature.



Staff photo by Marc Kawanagh

If you're driving a car on Friday afternoon on Dan Allen, this is what you'll see

PACK THE HOUSE

Join the Women's Basketball Team and the Senior Class Program in breaking the all time attendance record for an ACC Women's Basketball game when we play UNC on February 10th at 7:30pm. The record we are shooting for is currently held by Virginia with just over 11,000 people at their womens game against UNC last year. Surely WOLFPACKERS can do better!

GET EXCITED

- ★ Monday February 9, 7:15 to 7:45pm there will be a pep rally on the Student Center Plaza.
- ★ A large board for everyone attending to sign as a permanent record.
- ★ IFC is sponsoring a banner contest - prize...A Dominos Pizza Party.
- ★ Everyone attending receives a McDonald's coupon good for a double cheeseburger, large fries, large drink for the price of the final scores of the game added together.
- ★ Several fans at halftime will win special doorprizes.
- ★ Three lucky fans will have a chance at halftime to win a 1987 Pontiac Grand Am in a shooting contest.
- ★ One lucky Senior will win a pair of Mens ACC Tournament Tickets in a halftime drawing.
- ★ Other special doorprize drawings for seniors only include Centennial plates, NCSU Pictorial History books, and Senior sweatshirts.

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Both individual offers are good Feb. 8th and 9th only.

Watch for Fred's Spread in this paper for every game this season!

Entertainment

Platoon captures brutality of Vietnam

By Jeff Lundrigan
Staff writer

If you're ever in Washington, D.C., take some time to visit the Vietnam Memorial. A black gash in the ground, in a city that has more monuments, memorials and statues per city block than any other in the country, stands out as a triumph of understatement.

But understanding what the war was like for the men who fought there is better captured by a smaller statue on the same site, an afterthought put there to

what really stirred my emotions. These are the expressions of men who have seen and done things men should never have to. These are men who live with the absolute certainty that they will go through it again and face that certainty with a dogged determination to survive.

Oliver Stone's *Platoon* and the Vietnam Memorial are a kind of sort of. At one time or another in the film, every character will share the same expression found on those statues. The experience is no less sobering for being up on the screen.

Platoon follows the experiences of Chris, played by Charlie Sheen, who dropped out of college and volunteered for combat duty in Vietnam in 1967. Chris is hoping to find meaning and direction in his life in the same way his father and grandfather did done in the two World Wars. What he discovers about himself and about life is more than he ever wanted to know.

In "the Nam" Chris serves under two sergeants, Barnes and Elias, who represent the two extremes. Sgt. Barnes, played by Tom Berenger, is as darkly obsessed and cruel as the war itself. A ruthless killer, he murders innocent civilians in his rage over ambushed comrades. But one cannot blame him entirely, even after all he does. Wounded seven times, he is what the war has made him, and the horrid scars that twist his face and body run deep.

Sgt. Elias, played by Willem Dafoe, is smooth and unarmored. Although an excellent soldier

Charlie Sheen stars in *Platoon* as a young soldier who enlists to fight in Vietnam looking for meaning in life.

Photo courtesy of Orion Pictures

MOVIE REVIEW

try and offset the overwhelming cynicism of the main monument and appease some of the critical voices. It is a statue meant to honor the survivors.

Three man-sized soldiers, cast in brass and bronze, help each other along, staring forever down the hill at the mute obsidian tablets bearing the names of those less fortunate than they. The wall is swelled with numerous names like Leroy, Jose and Tyrone.

It was a miserable night when I saw them, cold and with a thin, drizzling rain that clung to their metal bodies and dripped off like sweat, like tears, like rain. Their fatigue pants and flak jackets offered scant protection against the chill and wind.

But the look on their faces is

capable of ambushing an enemy patrol singlehandedly, he more importantly knows when to stop killing. His secret is to slough off the horror when he can and ignore the war, even if the end of a pipe is the only place he can do it. Sharing his dope with Chris through the barrel of a rifle he asks, "Feeling good?" Chris coughs an affirmative answer. Elias smiles, "Well, that's good enough."

Chris will tread lightly on the thin line of insanity that separates Elias and Barnes. In his own words, they fight for control of his soul. Over the four patrols that the film encompasses, he will develop from a green soldier who

faints at his first wound to a screaming, incoherent killing machine on a night when all hell breaks loose. Barnes may not win out over Chris, but neither does Elias. Both leave indelible marks that he will never be rid of.

The film's leads are uniformly good. Berenger does not have an easy job as Barnes; such cold personalities are difficult to instill with depth. With such heavy scarring, it's always easy to let the makeup do your acting for you. But Berenger excels, his bright eyes blazing with icy hatred.

As Elias, Dafoe also stands out, which is a nice surprise. His two previous screen roles were both the sort of "ultimate bad guy" parts typecast for a man with Dafoe's satanic good looks. *Platoon* gives him a real character to work with and he handles it quite well, giving the noble Elias enough humanness that it never slips into melodrama.

But the film's real star never

appears onscreen. A combat veteran of Vietnam himself, writer-director Oliver Stone has created in *Platoon* an extremely personal statement, drawn chiefly from his own experiences.

Other films about Vietnam, *Apocalypse Now* and *The Deer Hunter*, for instance, were excellent films, were overproduced and so big that everything was kept at a distance. Drek like *Rambo* and *Missing in Action* don't even count.

This is not just empty praise. Stone's skill as a film maker is stunning. *Platoon* is by no means perfect. It relies rather heavily on clichés and relegates its black characters to a few speeches, with little development as real people, but compared to the other films, it is smaller, more intimate and more subtle.

Firefighting scenes are suitably confusing without sacrificing co-

herence. These scenes are finished before you realize they have started and understandable only after the fact. Sound and light underscore every scene, transforming enemies into silhouettes, fighter-bombers into avenging banshees and making the gunshots seem real and close.

But perhaps the real testament to Stone's ability is his total deglamorization of combat. Nobody has a good death in this film, but there are no standard shots of gore. Carnage is easy to depict. But with one exception at the film's end, Stone has eschewed scenes of blood and piled bodies and has instead captured the brutality of war. *Platoon* is not an easy film to watch; it is devastating. I would not go see it alone.

Platoon is playing at Mission Valley Cinemas and students can purchase discount tickets at the Student Center box office for \$2.75.

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