

A look at football

A break-down on the new bowl championship system. Sports, page 8.



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What I did this summer

Staff writer talks about adventures in the big city. Pg. 3

School anxiety

Kelly Marks talks about her fears and hopes in the upcoming school year. Pg. 5

Safety officer named in suit

◆ A student who claims she was sexually assaulted by a Public Safety officer recently filed a lawsuit against two officers and the university.

PHILLIP REESE
Staff Writer

A former N.C. State student who claims a Public Safety officer sexually assaulted her has filed a lawsuit against Public Safety Chief R. Harper, the university and the officer, former Public Safety Lt. P. Debnam.

In the meantime, Debnam, who has been charged with second degree sexual assault, is scheduled to appear before a Wake County judge next month to answer to the charges.

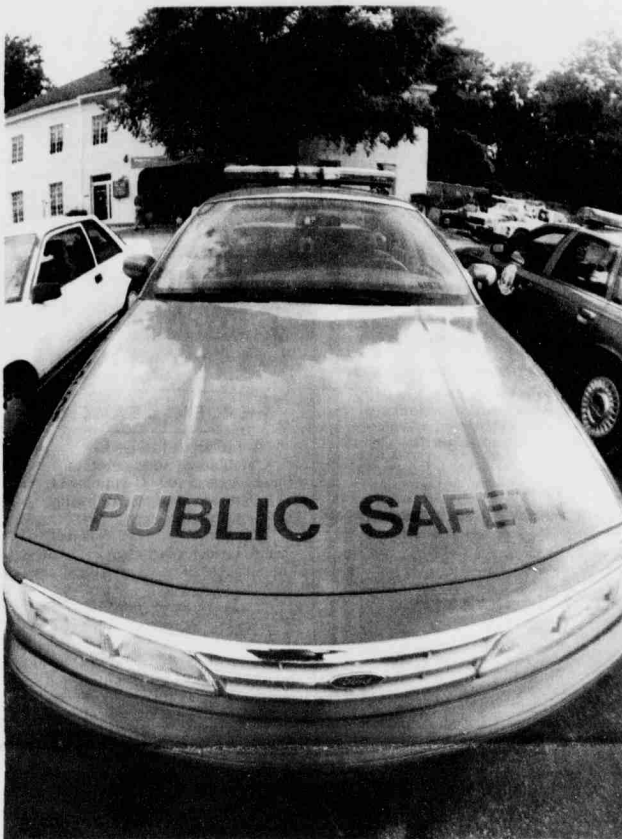
Debnam no longer works for Public Safety.

The lawsuit and criminal charges stem from an incident that allegedly took place Aug. 3, 1997. At that time, the lawsuit claims, Debnam pulled the student over on Gorman Street and asked her to step out of her vehicle so he could do some "tests."

The student complied, and Debnam told her to go to the back of the truck and urinate "because he wanted her to feel comfortable enough to pass the tests," the lawsuit asserts. The student hesitantly acquiesced, at which time Debnam reportedly went to the back of the vehicle and shined his flashlight on the student.

Upon completion, the student pulled her clothes up and approached Debnam. But, according to the lawsuit, "Debnam... was not satisfied and instructed the plaintiff to try again. When the plaintiff protested, Debnam told her she was not cooperating."

The student tried to urinate again, but was unable. Debnam, according to the lawsuit, then asked the student to pull her underwear down further so he could search for



Public Safety may catch heat for the actions of a former officer.

drugs and weapons. The student hesitantly complied.

"Debnam then told the plaintiff he thought he saw drugs in her cavities," the lawsuit states, "...and made her insert her fingers into her vagina and anus, all while he was shining his flashlight upon her. Debnam then made the plaintiff repeat these acts a second time."

Debnam then reportedly told the plaintiff she was free to leave, but warned her that if she ever told anyone about

the incident he would find her and arrest her.

According to Danny Bradford, a lawyer for the alleged victim, the incident left the student emotionally scarred. "She has had some emotional and physical damages," he said. "She had 32 or 33 hours left. She has not been able to come back."

See Assault, Page 2

Stewart set to move up ladder

◆ Chancellor Fox recommends that Debra Stewart be elevated from vice provost to vice chancellor.

TIM CRONE
Staff Writer

On her very first day at work, Chancellor Marye Anne Fox demonstrated her love for N.C. State's graduate school.

One of Fox's first actions upon entering office was to recommend that the dean of the Graduate School, Debra Stewart, be appointed as a vice chancellor.

Currently Stewart is a vice provost, which means she reports to Provost Philip Stiles. Stiles, however, is a vice chancellor, and so any concern expressed by Stewart had to go through two levels to reach the chancellor.

Fox found this unacceptable and inefficient, and so she recommended that Stewart be appointed to a new vice chancellor's position, where she could express the concerns of graduate students directly to the chancellor.

Currently, the deans of undergraduate studies and of graduate studies are in vice provost positions, while the vice chancellors are more general, academic affairs, student affairs, university advancement, athletics and the like. Stewart, should the promotion be approved, would oversee graduate academic affairs and international and interdisciplinary studies.

The appointment of Stewart to a vice chancellorship is dependent on the approval of the NCSU Board of Trustees, the UNC system Board of Governors and UNC president Molly Bradd. Should all levels of government approve the nomination, Stewart will find herself in a better position to speak for graduate students' concerns.

"Through her service on many national boards and advisory panels and as dean of N.C. State's Graduate School, Debra Stewart has become a respected and influential leader in graduate education and research. ... Her expertise, vision and experience will prove invaluable as N.C. State increases its emphasis on interdisciplinary scholarship and continues to grow and evolve in years ahead," said Fox recently.

Stewart was NCSU's first female dean; she rose from an assistant professorship in 1975, became an associate dean in 1983, was appointed a full professor in 1984 and served as interim dean of the graduate school from 1986 until 1988. She was appointed dean in 1988 and went on to serve as interim chancellor at UNC-Greensboro in late 1994. She was appointed to a vice provost position in 1995.

Health center nears completion

◆ The new Student Health Center is going up right on schedule.

LER DELICIO
News Editor

Come January of 1999, students can look forward to an on-schedule opening of the new Student Health Center.

This is according to Floyd Williams, the project's construction manager. Williams said the building is on schedule, with over 90 percent of construction now complete.

The new building, which sits at the corner of Dan Allen Drive and Cates Avenue, just had its air conditioning system completed one month ago. With "the air inside the

building now being conditioned," workers may now start on interior finishing, according to Williams. Interior finishing includes things like painting the walls and completing the floors.

The air conditioning system runs from the now-extended steam plant next door to the building, which also provides chilled water for air conditioning to buildings like Carmichael Gymnasium and Tri-towers.

Williams hopes by the end of the month workers will be hanging doors as well.

He was happy to report that just before students arrived on Friday, the lot next to the new building, the Cates Steam Plant lot, was "turned over," making it completely accessible for student parking.

The lot formerly known as Harris lot,

which will now be known as the Student Health Center lot, was also two-thirds "turned over," Williams said. This lot will be made into a pay lot like the one located at the bottom of the coliseum parking deck. By Nov. 28, all construction on the new building itself is scheduled to be completed.

"The move-in will take place in December," Williams said.

Williams had few problems to report. Some windows are scheduled to be replaced because they were made of a type of glass Williams described as "painted glass," which was nontransparent. Planners and designers were not happy

See Health, Page 2



The exterior shows progress on the new Student Health Center.

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NCSU designs high performance vehicle

◆ NCSU students create a real winner in a recent race.

ALLISON BALLARD
Senior Staff Writer

It really performs, and it looks good, too — a mini-Baha racing car, built and designed by a team of N.C. State students.

The car, an off-roader built for one, took second place in overall vehicle performance and first place in aesthetics at a national competition held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in May.

"N.C. State teams have competed in this event for at least 15 years, but we've never been a serious contender

until this past year," said Julian Lamb, a senior in mechanical engineering and co-leader of the team.

More than 90 teams competed in the event, sponsored by Society of Automotive Engineers. The cars were judged in 13 categories, including braking, ride and handling and a tractor pull. Teams also took part in a motorcross-style endurance race that lasted 2-3 hours.

The NCSU team finished 25th in the race after being temporarily knocked out of the competition following a crash.

"We were coming over a jump and another car hit us from behind," Lamb said. "The car flipped over — we blew a tire, broke a chain..."

Making the necessary repairs cost

the team 30 minutes, or 6 laps.

The red, gray and black car is now retired from the competition. The new mini-Baha team will have to start fresh with new specifications for next year's race.

"This car is now on the show circuit to help with the fund-raising," said Jeremy Weitzel, a junior in mechanical engineering.

In fact, the purpose of the competition is not just to design and race the car. Participants must also submit a complete design report, raise their own money and design the car as a prototype for the consumer market.

"This is the more practical side of the project," Lamb said. The mini-Baha car cost \$3500 to build, not including the many hours

of labor that team members contributed to designing and building the car.

To help with the many facets of the project the team has tried "to include many departments, such as involving design and business students in the project," Weitzel said.

Considering the accomplishments of this year's mini-Baha car, team members are looking forward to the 1999 competition.

"We are very excited about what we can do with next year's design," Weitzel said.

Funding was provided in part by the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, the N.C. State Engineer's Council and the N.C. State Student Senate.

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Assault

Continued from Page 1

The lawsuit also asserts that Debnam had a history of sexual misconduct, claiming that he had repeatedly used his position of authority to sexually harass women. NCSU and Chief Harper were aware of this prior misconduct, but hired Debnam anyway, the lawsuit claims.

"At this point, we believe the evidence will show that Debnam had a history of misconduct," Bradford said. "We're very confident about the case."

Public Safety Assistant Director T. Wright said his office "would have absolutely no comment on this matter." An official from the University Counsel's office also declined to comment.

Debnam's lawyer, George Ligon, could not be reached for comment.

Hearings in the criminal trial against Debnam are set for Sept. 14 at 10 a.m. No date has been set for hearings in the civil matter.

Health

Continued from Page 1

with windows that people could not see out of.

"It was an architectural decision that we did not like," Williams said.

Williams commended the individual contractors who had been hired to work on the building. The contractors were allowed several "rain days," days on which it had rained and they were unable to do work, to extend their contract. The contractors opted not to use these extensions and to instead continue on schedule, Williams said.

"They have held to their original schedule," Williams said. "They realize the importance of getting the facility up and running by January."

When the building opens in January, it will house all medical services formerly housed in Clark hall, including and along with, laboratory, radiology, pharmacy and physical therapy, health education, the Counseling Center and Disability Services for Students.

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Wednesday in the Brickyard: Theta Chi will host a Dunk-a-Thon to benefit Duke Children's Hospital, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Your chance to dunk celebrities!

To be able to be caught up in the world of thought — that is educated.

Edith Hamilton,

Saturday Evening Post, Sept. 27, 1958

In a New York minute

BETHANY NORRIS
Staff Writer

When I think about New York City, I go back to my childhood. I used to daydream in class about playing in Central Park, going to the top of the Empire State Building and crossing the Hudson River to see the Statue of Liberty for the first time. I never thought I'd make it, but this summer I did, for an internship at Goldman Sachs, an investment bank. I made the most of my trip.

I arrived at La Guardia Airport, with my life packed in two suitcases, star struck, ready for adventure and scared stiff. Not only had I never even visited the city before, I wasn't too enthused about being there alone. But I was also determined not to be an obvious tourist, so I grabbed a cab, told the driver the street and cross street — like I had done it a thousand times before — and finally

arrived at Columbia University. It was like my first year in college all over again.

Then, the next day, not only did I have to figure out what people wear on Wall Street but also how to navigate the subway to get there!

After I settled into work and my residence hall, I was ready to take on Manhattan and everything it had to offer.

I started off at the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, trying to imagine what it was like when my grandfather came over from Poland as a small child. What it was like when he finally saw the Statue of Liberty's crown break the horizon after all those months in the bowels of a ship. When he knew he had finally made it to the place he had dreamed about — America.

Since I never had the opportunity to ask him what it was like, visiting the Statue of Liberty and going through the museum at Ellis Island helped me learn a bit about my family history. When I saw my



Norris poses for a picture with her fellow interns.

grandfather's name, as well as names of other families who had gone through Ellis Island, I realized that is what New York is all about.

After that, I did the "fun" stuff New York has to offer. At work, we joked about how we all felt like we were at summer camp. All C's had come to this unfamiliar place for a 10-week stint. The other interns and I became the best of summer friends and went on adventures together. We went to Broadway shows and Shakespeare in the Park (which, strangely enough, wasn't playing any Shakespeare). We watched old men play chess in Washington Square and listened to Mozart by moonlight.

The interns were from all over the world — Russia, Bulgaria, Pakistan, Ireland and the Virgin Islands, to name a few. All of us learned about new cultures (as well as a few things about computers, but that was only work) and the lives other people lead.

That was the New York I found, and it will always be with me.

On my last day, I said goodbye to the city at the top of the Empire State Building. It was a glorious day, and I half-expected to see some re-enactment of "An Affair to Remember." It was on that day that I thought back on my whole trip, this whole experience and what I brought back to North Carolina with me (besides a love for deli food). I realized that I saw the melding of societies and cultures in action, and that is what gives New York the pizzazz and intrigue that I came to know and love so much.



The Rotunda at Columbia University, a favorite spot for visitors to New York.

Open nominations for YWCA Academy of Women

Special to Technician

The YWCA of Wake County announces the opening of the nomination process for its 16th Annual Academy of Women — one of the area's largest events honoring women's achievements.

The Academy of Women recognizes women of exceptional achievement in the following categories: arts, business/industry professions, education, government,

human services, physical fitness/recreation, science and technology, teen woman and volunteerism. The awards are made possible through company and individual financial contributions, public support and volunteers. This year's Academy of Women will be held on Thursday, Nov. 12 at the North Raleigh Hilton.

The YWCA of Wake County established the Academy of Women in 1982 to honor the outstanding and diverse achievements of Wake

County women. Women are nominated annually by their colleagues, employers, families and friends for the honor of induction into the academy.

"Women who strive to improve their community deserve to be recognized, and it is the goal of the YWCA to honor the achievements of outstanding women," said Sherry C. Worth, Steering Committee Chairperson and 1995 Volunteer Award inductee. "Academy of

Women inductees encourage us to strengthen our community and remind us of the potential every individual has to make a difference in the lives of others."

To receive a nomination form, contact the YWCA of Wake County at 828-3205. Nominations are due Mon., Sept. 14.



Notes from world of the weird

ROY RIJENBURG
Los Angeles Times

Shocking Furniture Department: Tired of staring at the television from a Barcalounger or La-Z-Boy? Then strap yourself into a home version of Florida's electric chair! For just \$995, you can now own a full-sized replica of the contraption that fried serial killer Ted Bundy, complete with realistic copper skullcap, white oak frame, leather restraints and a loud, vibrating buzzer to stimulate electrocution.

The novelty death seat is available from Ole Sparky Inc., which is headquartered in North Carolina. Company founder John Pauley, a former vacuum cleaner salesman who is now a font of death penalty trivia (such as the final temperature of inmates who take a ride on Sparky, 138 degrees), says his customers include a judge, a sheriff and business executives who ordered the

chair for their offices. Pauley also sells \$17 T-shirts that say, "Only Sissies Do the Injection." To order, call (800) 380-3076.

Whither Diana? As the first anniversary of Princess Diana's death nears, a debate ensues on the whereabouts of her soul. Representing the damnation side is journalist Philip Noble, who argues in Britain's Prospect magazine that "Hell looms as the most plausible spot for her soul... Diana's last thoughts are unknown, but if they did not include sincere sorrow for [the mortal sin of sex outside marriage] with Dodi Fayed, even purgatory is a long shot."

On the other hand, Pope John Paul II wrote a letter to Queen Elizabeth stating that he had "offered prayers summoning [Diana] to our Heavenly Father's eternal love," which implies a less fiery eternity.

Noble admits he can't explain the pope's "apparent blessing of the world's most famous offender

against the Sixth Commandment... People who meet their maker en route to an illicit rendezvous do not generally receive benedictions from Vatican City."

But Noble still favors holding Diana's fate to the fire. "The idea of the princess in hell seems cruel and repellent in human terms, but [Christ said], 'The gate is narrow, and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.'"

Then again, heaven might not be all it's cracked up to be. According to Dallas Theological Seminary professor Robert Lightner's "Last Days Handbook" (Thomas Nelson), the Bible verse that says heaven's streets are paved with gold "probably [shouldn't be taken] literally, because gold tarnishes. But the streets are no doubt composed of a costly and enduring metal."

Hmm. Sounds like a euphemism for "lowest bidder" to us.

The President Trap: We can't stand suspense, so we sent our Thursday

elting journalist, who is still aboard the California Institute of Technology's experimental time machine, a few days into the future to find out what President Clinton will say in his grand jury testimony. Here's the report: "In a stunning legal maneuver made after consulting with Disney screenwriters, Bill Clinton now blames the Monica Lewinsky affair on an identical twin from whom he was separated at birth."

Clinton testified that his twin, who was raised in England and was unknown to the president until they met at Camp David summer camp, not only had sex with Lewinsky but also inhaled pot at Cambridge and murdered Vince Foster. "I didn't say anything before 'cause I wanted to protect him," Clinton said.

Best Supermarket Tabloid Headline: "Bizarre Mental Disease Makes Girl Think Goose Is Her Mother!" (Weekly World News).

Technobabble

♦ Chatting it up on the Internet.

CHARLES MANGIN
Staff Geek

For most people, the Internet consists of two things: pornography and chat rooms. This being a student publication, I won't go into any detail about the former.

Chat on the Internet, like pornography, is more popular now than ever before. This is probably due to the fact that most chat options are accessible to almost anyone with a net connection and a pulse. The simplest of interactions over the Net, chatting consists of sending — usually a line at a time — plain text from one computer to another. Since this is the Internet we're talking about, the two computers could be in opposite hemispheres, and it wouldn't make any difference.

The godmother of the chat "rooms" that you may be familiar with is IRC. "IRC" stands for Internet Relay Chat, which is the shortest way possible to say "A bunch of people typing into computers at the same time." Instead of simple one-on-one connections like a telephone call, think of IRC as a party line — a whole bunch of different people talking all at once, usually carrying on several conversational threads that overlap one another. All you need to do to contribute is be able to type, though it helps to be a speed-reader, too.

The beauty and allure of IRC should be plain to see. Not only are there few if any restrictions to one's freedom of expression, but there are few other ways to so cheaply speak with so many people all over the world. Twenty-four hours a day, there are conversations going on in English, French, German and a host of other languages — all made possible by the Internet. In fact, it's hard to find a topic of conversation not being discussed somewhere. From Nietzsche's philosophy to Pamela Anderson, you're bound to find something to interest you. If you're not careful, you're also bound to find something to offend your delicate sensibilities.

In addition to IRC, which is one of the older varieties of online chat systems, there are three others I'd like to touch on briefly. My personal favorite is the MUD, which, like most anything on the Internet today, comes in a variety of flavors. If you've followed Technobabble, you've read my rambling about MUDs before. If you've ever played the old text adventures, like Zork or Enchanter, you've interacted in a text-based virtual world already. With rooms and objects for users to interact with, as well as a number of proprietary programming languages to build onto the environment, MUDs go a good step beyond simple chatting.

Then there are chat "rooms," as they exist on America OnLine and uncounted Web sites. Each room is like a single channel on IRC — usually dedicated to a particular topic or group of users. Sometimes, these are private conversations; other times, open forums with guest speakers and their own brand of celebrity. Some chat rooms go so far as to have parties that regular chatters attend — gasp — in real life.

The third is the latest development in the ongoing search for the perfect way to chat over the Net — the Instant Messenger and its kin. As part of the AOL package, users have access to the AIM (AOL instant messenger), which sends messages to other connected users in real time — sort of like a speedy e-mail system.

In the last few years, a number of similar programs have made their way to our desktops, and AOL has released AIM for non-AOL users. In my next Technobabble installment, I'll give you my take on ICQ (the leading contender) and AIM. Like e-mail, some of these offer the ability to send files and images in addition to simply chatting back and forth.

Each of the different online systems has its advantages and drawbacks, and some are not recommended for the Internet novice.

What I would recommend for most people is the AIM-type program. If you use AOL, you already have the Instant Messenger installed. If you're not on AOL,

you can chat with anyone on AOL for free with the AIM standalone program, available from www.aol.com. If you're like me and tend to shy away from anything connected with AOL, then there's a slew of other options, the most popular of which is ICQ (which, I'm told, is shorthand for "I Seek You") available from www.mirabilis.com.

Either way, you'll only be able to have one-on-one conversations, each in a separate window, which can be nice if you're not up for sitting through screens full of other people's babbling to see if someone replied to your last comment.

IRC has a lot of disadvantages, as far as usability goes, compared to these simple programs, and even I tend to shy away from it because of its ability to lose me in spam. Like the previous type of chat system, you need a special program to use IRC, but, since it's been around for so long, there's a zillion different programs, for all types of platforms.

As with most Internet software, your best bet is to look on www.tucows.com if you're using Windows or Mac. And as with most things on the Net these days, people using Unix have it easy: the "irc" command is built in to most distributions these days and should be accessible from a unity or eos prompt.

The main problem with IRC is that, at best, it's confusing to newcomers. At their worst, IRC channels can be a nightmare, especially to the uninitiated. IRC was founded with the metaphor of a text-based citizens-band radio in mind. As with CB, there are different channels one can tune in to, each for a different topic. Also, like CB, IRC users tend to speak their own language.

Instead of 10-codes and obscure trucker jargon, IRC is filled with smileys ("emoticons"), abbreviations and acronyms and a lot of profanity. Don't get me wrong — there are channels specifically aimed at children or K-12 educators or whomever, and each channel is hosted by a moderator that decides what is allowed and what is not. People bending the rules set by their host are unceremoniously booted from the conversation.

If you like the idea of doing more than chatting and think you want a little glimpse into virtual reality, then MUDs are the way to go. These, too, have been around awhile, and there are several flavors of MUD around, with themes ranging from swords and sorcery to Star Trek to free-for-all chat MUDs. Here, the room metaphor is given more solidity, with people and objects all existing in virtual worlds built by their inhabitants, though everything still exists only as text on a computer screen.

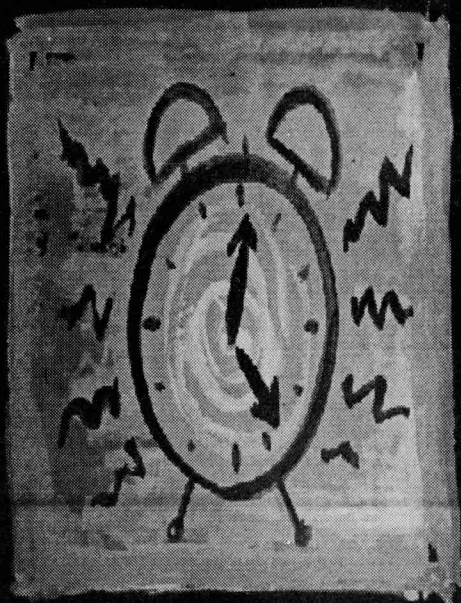
MUDs also don't take much special training or programs on which to get started. All you need is a telnet program, built into Unix and Windows 95/NT and available on every other platform for download off the Web. For more information and a long list of available MUDs to try out, have a look at www.godlike.com/muds/.

Lately, there has been a number of reports of online harassment, exploitation and obscenity as related to online chatting, most notably in connection with children. While the Internet is a wonderful world in which to get lost from time to time, IRC and its cousins are hardly the place for an unsupervised child. The same can be said of the World Wide Web or anything else on the Net for that matter, so what makes chatting different? I'll get into that, the chat-room confessor and more in the next installment of Technobabble.

A note from der uber geek: Personally, my preferred method of wasting tremendous chunks of my time is MUD, but that's probably because I've been doing it since I was first introduced to the Internet. If you have a question about this or any technology-related topic, email technobabble@mindspring.com or visit option8.home.mindspring.com

Features (Extra) and Arts & Entertainment (Spotlight) Staff meeting this Thursday at 5 p.m. in Technician offices, 3rd floor of the Witherspoon Student Center. Interested in writing, but never have before for a newspaper? Join us at 6 p.m. - same place

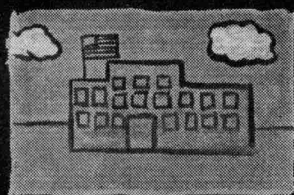
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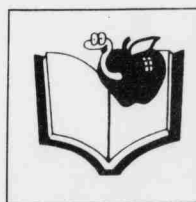
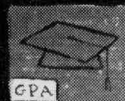
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Editorials

Viva Debra Stewart!

As N.C. State makes preparations to advance into the 21st century, it is essential that all its component colleges are up to speed. This can be done not only through all-important new technologies, but also by streamlining communication within the university.

Chancellor Mary Anne Fox's recommendation to elevate Graduate School Dean Debra Stewart to a vice chancellor position is an excellent way to accomplish just this. Stewart, a vice provost and dean of the Graduate School, must currently go through two levels to reach the chancellor with Graduate School concerns. Not only does this create the potential for miscommunication, it also hinders the speed and ability with which problems can be handled and changes can be made. By making Stewart a vice chancellor, the Graduate School will have a stronger — and more influential — voice in the university. Such a move can function to help the Graduate School improve upon its already substantial offerings and reputation. This will serve to further both the Graduate School and NCSU's reputation as a leader among large universities.

As a vice chancellor, Stewart would oversee graduate academic affairs and international and interdisciplinary studies, areas with which she is already well-acquainted. Stewart's history with NCSU — which has ranged from her beginnings as an assistant professor to her current dean and vice provost status — has given her the strong background she would need to serve in a vice chancellor position. In addition, Stewart has received accolades for the numerous national boards and advisory panels on which she has served. Who could better directly advise the chancellor on Graduate School concerns and issues than the person most familiar with them?

Fox's recommendation depends on approval from a number of other sources: the NCSU Board of Trustees, the UNC Board of Governors and UNC president, Molly Broad. The Graduate School can only benefit from such an elevation of its dean. Let's hope the rest of the system is as wise as Chancellor Fox when it comes to the future of NCSU.

That's right boys and girls, 8 feet off the ground. (Pay attention. This is a detail that will figure prominently in my little diatribe later on.)



Fears and hopes

Kelly Marks
Staff Columnist

A new year — is that what I'm staring in the face? It seems that only yesterday I was sitting in the air-conditioned comfort of my home, enjoying the finer things in life — those things one doesn't miss until they're missing, things like television reception and a thermostat and a bed that's not eight feet off the ground.

That's right boys and girls, 8 feet off the ground. (Pay attention. This is a detail that will figure prominently in my little diatribe later on.)

A new year is underway, and it's a bit daunting. All summer long I've been looking forward to being back on campus — yes, yes, sick, I know. I've just been missing so many facets of campus life — the people mostly, but also the little things, like cash points and the beep-beep-beep of my phone indicating I have voice mail (I love voice mail). Yet, now that I'm here, I'm a bit afraid.

Things have changed. Three months is a long time — my room has changed, my roommate has changed, my classes have changed, and I'm willing to bet that more than one of the people I've known and loved for the past two years has changed as well. Call it first day jitters. Here I am at the ripe old age of 20, and I admit it freely — I'm nervous about school starting. All of the same old kindergarten anxieties are welling up in the pit of my stomach. Will I like my classes? Will I like my teachers? Will I like the people? But most importantly, will they like me?

Now, granted, for the most part, these are the same teachers and classes and people that I've eaten, slept and breathed with for my entire college career. But then again, there's a part of me that feels it's left behind the routine of years past, walked out of my personal comfort zone and over this imaginary line with a sign in the ground beside it.

That says, "New stuff starts here." I'm feeling a bit like a little kid whose mommy has taken away her security blanket to wash it, and she's not sure if she's ever going to get it back.

Things are different, and whenever I find myself in a new situation, I automatically go into analyzing overdrive. It's as if, since I'm not sure of what's going to happen, I overcompensate by trying desperately to predict the outcome. I look for anything I can take as a sign of what's to come.

So that's what I've been doing lately. Looking for signs from this higher power to prove that yes-this-year-will-be-a-good-one. And so far, the way things are going, I'm not entirely sure.

Sign #1. I moved in early and was all by my lonesome self, so I called a friend to come and keep me entertained. She got there, and we went out to my car only to find the back tire was flat. Immediately I turned it into an indication of what lies in the months ahead — oh great, another year filled with annoying little mishaps, pointless errands and the constant strain of trying to fix things that seem to keep breaking. I'm heading for a year of letdowns, deflated dreams and hopes that all of the air has slowly leaked out of. A year, more or less, that will leave me feeling fairly flat and run-down myself.

Of course, the eternal optimist that I am, the tire could have had its positive implications as well. I could be heading for a year of new insight and knowledge — I mean, I now know how to wrench off my lug nuts with this nifty stopping motion (I send a special thanks out to the kindly Coke vendor who taught me this little trick).

Sign #2. I was making my bed (yeah, that one that's eight feet off the ground). It seems I had failed to properly secure the ladder, and, silly me, I thought I could stand on it. The next thing I know, I'm falling in slow motion toward a nice hard

linoleum floor. I caught myself and managed to avoid dashing my head open on the side of the loft, but I only landed on top of the ladder, but through it as well, in a push-up position of sorts.

Lying on the floor, entwined with the ladder, I could see the year before me all too clearly. If the fall was any indication, it seems that there's a day coming when I'll be minding my business, being productive and WHOMP! I'm going to get hurt. Bruised, actually. In several places, most notably, my right arm and upper thigh.

Then again, at least I'm not going to dash my head open. I mean, I could be looking at this all wrong — if I saw my fall from the ladder as a metaphor for the upcoming year, well then it's going to be nothing short of spectacular.

Sign #3. Friday, being the kindly soul I am, I was helping a new student move into her room. I was buoyed by my triumph over the three flights of stairs that had made my own moving in seem like nothing short of scaling Everest. I was cocky and I now see the error of my ways. I took more than I should have carried. And I took the five flights of stairs to her room. And I was wearing flip-flops. And I am a major klutz. Major klutzes in flip-flops on stairs should never be handed breakable objects.

As I reached the third flight I fell and dropped the bag of breakable objects I had been entrusted with. A hideous crashing sound marked the fall. In short, I broke another person's piggy bank. I know the bad luck penalty for breaking a mirror is seven years, but I don't even want to try to calculate what a piggy bank is worth in years' time. It looks like I'm going to spend this coming year hurting others, breaking the things that are near and dear to them. Or at the very least, I'm going to have trouble holding onto money. Especially on stairs in flip-flops.

See Marks, Page 6

Partners in a charade

The following editorial appeared in Saturday's Washington Post.

WASHINGTON — From the start last February there was reason to fear that U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan's deal with Saddam Hussein was nothing but a charade. Saddam Hussein would pretend to let U.N. inspectors do their jobs, and U.N. inspectors would go through their motions. Shackled by cumbersome new rules, and without the benefit of military pressure, they would find nothing. This arrangement would allow the United States to disassemble its armada in the Persian Gulf without embarrassment. It would also allow Saddam Hussein to maintain his capability to field biological, chemical and nuclear weapons.

But likewise from the very start, the Clinton administration roundly dismissed such suspicions. Insisting instead that U.N. inspectors would not be better placed than ever to do their work. So it is doubly shocking to learn, six months later, that the Clinton administration may have been not only an accomplice in the creation of a charade but, offstage, a leading player — in a role that, given its duplicity, would make the United States more culpable in some ways than those countries, such as China and Russia, that have overtly undermined the U.N. inspection regime.

We are referring here to news, reported sketchily in the Times of London and in alarming and well-documented detail by Barton Gellman of The Post, that the Clinton administration secretly intervened for months to dissuade U.N. inspectors from carrying out

surprise visits to suspicious sites. As long as the inspectors were providing ample warning to Iraq and were carrying out their mission unencumbered by large entourage of diplomats and Iraqi officials — as long as they had no chance of success, in other words — the administration had no complaints. But when the U.N. team proposed taking action that might actually uncover evidence of Saddam Hussein's illicit weapons programs, the administration urged it to desist. And all the while the administration presented itself publicly as the most fervent champion of aggressive inspections.

What could account for such deceit? Maybe the administration truly believed the inspectors would be more successful if they remained, for a longer time, more circumspect. Maybe, less charitably, the administration just didn't want to face the consequences of an active U.N. search; maybe if more evidence of nuclear, biological or chemical weapons were found, the requisite response would be just too difficult — politically, diplomatically and militarily. We can only speculate; administration officials so far have provided nothing but unhelpful non-denial denials, acknowledging "consultations" with U.N. inspectors but saying they never issued explicit orders. Well, no one has alleged that they did; given the inspectors' political need for U.S. support, none would have been necessary. If ever a foreign policy matter called for congressional inquiry, it is this alleged practice of deceitful diplomacy.

Technician

CAMPUS FORUM

Students should avoid panhandlers

As returning students remember and new students will soon discover, walking down the north side of Hillsborough Street often means encountering beggars panhandling for spare change. The number of such beggars near campus suggests that their efforts are successful. Do they deserve our spare

change? My answer is no. It appears that none of the panhandlers suffer from any disability other than what one would expect from chronic alcohol abuse. Unemployment in Raleigh is low; even unskilled workers are in demand. Thus, able-bodied beggars choose to beg rather than work. After all, most jobs require that one be sober for part of the day. (If

See Students, Page 6

BRENDA SANTAMARIA
Baltimore Star

Moving from Buenos Aires to Baltimore last summer, I expected many differences between college life in Argentina and in the United States.

But I wasn't prepared for the drinking scene.

The first Friday of school, the lobby of the Winwood Towers student residence at Loyola College had a parade of staggering students. Some students were lying on the floor and sprawled over the couches. Empty cans, spilled beer and vomit littered elevators and corridors.

I had always thought that "Animal House" was a Hollywood fantasy, but that night I was in the middle of

it. And the movie ran all year long. Going out to bars and partying seemed to be the favorite leisure activity of most students. So I thought, "If everybody does it, it can't be that bad." And there I was, ready for an "American college" night. My friends and I took one of the cabs that wait in front of Winwood Towers. We named a popular watering hole in Gwynns. The driver knew exactly where to go.

The bar was crowded when we got there. Most of the people were Loyola students, and most of them were underage. The bar checks identification, but another part of the college drinking culture is that everybody has fake IDs.

There seemed to be one thing to do: Drink. Drink a lot. There's not

much conversation because the music's too loud. After a couple of hours, we left. I tried to have fun in the American-college-student way, but it didn't work. I had a horrible night.

It isn't just drinking that takes place, it's binge drinking.

Sometimes the consequences are fatal. Scott Krueger, an 18-year-old student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and 20-year-old Benjamin Wynne at Louisiana State University died from binge drinking last year. These incidents reinforced my concerns about binge drinking, not only for the incidents themselves but also for the reaction of my fellow students. None of them thought that something like that could happen to them.

TECHNICIAN

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Drinking is part of college

But those students who died in alcohol-related situations were no different from Loyola students or their parents when they went to college. They were just trying to have fun and drinking was their way.

There is not a particular day for student drinking. Six-packs of beer and wine coolers are brought to the dorms at any time of the day. Underage students are not supposed to have the alcohol, but they easily hide cans or bottles in their school backpacks.

Once the students get the alcohol in their rooms, no one will bother them so long as they keep quiet and keep the door closed.

One night, a freshman student drank half a bottle of vodka alone in

See Drinking, Page 6

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Marks

Continued from Page 5

But perhaps I have it all wrong. A few unhappy incidents don't mean that this year is going to be bad. It's not something that can be determined by ladders and lofts and a lack of air conditioning — it's something that has more to do with the people and places I find myself in, and how I act and feel once I'm there. It's about broadening my horizons and going for the gusto and making new friends and all of that other "first day" kinda stuff.

I don't have to be a fatalist here. Just because Mom took my blanket away doesn't mean it's not coming back. Chances are, it will be better than before, sweet and clean and smelling of fabric softener. That's the best thing about a new year (and a clean blanket) — we only get so

many chances in our lives to make a fresh start. We only have so many times to shed our same old routines and live like we're new people all over again.

This will be what I tell myself when I go to bed tonight and am struggling to sleep because of the butterflies and caffeine dancing in my stomach. Who needs signs? I'll find out soon enough what the year holds in store. And chances are that it will have very little to do with me falling down. I mean, I'm sure I'll fall down some more — some things never change — but I'll try not to let it determine my life's outcome.

Kelly is ready to begin yet another year of whiny, complainy, pseudo-opinion columns for Technician. If you want to stop her now, before the madness continues, email her at kmmarks@unity.ncsu.edu or just start a petitioning campaign.

Students

Continued from Page 5

some have a disability, they would qualify for public assistance.)

Most of the beggars on Hillsborough Street show signs that imply that the money they collect will go for cheap alcohol at the earliest opportunity. In my view, it is immoral to assist a person in self-destructive behavior. Also, helping a drunk get a bottle risks harm to others, by either accident or violence.

Their sad tales, if they bother, are transparent lies. No, it is not to buy gasoline, use the phone or buy food. An offer to buy food will not be as well-received as a quarter. A truly

hungry person will not be so choosy about what food he will eat. A drunk will consider what goes well with alcohol.

We each have a choice regarding these beggars. It is somewhat like our choice regarding littering. If we give them change, we contribute to their self-destruction, and we encourage them to continue panhandling near campus. Even a small amount of change contributes to the problem of unpleasant streets, in the same way that every bit of litter hurts. We can, instead, not give money. One can ignore them or encourage them to go to the Rescue Mission. I claim that not giving money is the better choice, for them and for the community.

Andy Smith
Graduate Student, Computer Science

Drinking

Continued from Page 5

his room. He just sat there drinking. When he stood up and tried to walk in the hallway to reach the bathroom, he tripped and hit his head on the wall. Fortunately, the student didn't have to be taken to the hospital. But his roommate had to take care of him and clean the room that was sprinkled with vomit.

According to a Harvard University study conducted in 1994, Loyola students are not an exception in American colleges.

Getting drunk is the main reason more than 60 percent of U.S. college students consume alcohol.

The Core Institute, a federally funded program at the University of Southern Illinois at Carbondale, IL, revealed that more than 40 percent of the students in a sample of almost 90,000 had engaged in binge drinking at least once during the two weeks prior to the survey. Binge drinking for women is defined as four drinks in one sitting, five drinks for men.

More than half of the students who reported drinking admitted that they had experienced hangovers, and almost 50 percent said they became nauseous or vomited as a consequence of the drinking.

"This is a problem for all colleges that have students living on campus," said Jan Williams, director of the Alcohol and Drug Education and Support Services at Loyola College.

However, Loyola students seem to drink more than the national average. The 1994 Harvard study found that 19.5 percent of the total sample binged three or more times in the two weeks before the survey. At Loyola, the Harvard study of 140 colleges and universities found that the number jumped to 41 percent. Williams said Loyola tries to make

students aware of the risks of irresponsible drinking. The center provides mandatory counseling sessions for students caught illegally drinking on campus. During next summer's freshman orientation, the president of the college, the Rev. Harold "Hap" Ridley Jr., will talk to the students about drinking.

The shock I felt about the drinking was not the result of coming from a country where nobody drinks. The opposite is true. But drinking in my country is a part of a celebration, not the celebration itself. Friends, music, dancing, conversation, food and alcohol are all together for the components of a good night for us.

Besides living with our parents, most of us work and study at the same time. We go to classes for four or five hours a day and work for another six hours. We are also involved in different sporting, social or artistic activities.

By the time we get home, we still have to do some reading or homework and get ready to start the next day. There is not much time for drinking in our weekday schedules.

Another difference in the drinking habits of Argentinians and other Latin American countries has to do with when and how teenagers start drinking. In Argentina, adolescents have their first drinks with their parents during dinner or special occasions, although the legal age is 18. This everyday contact with alcohol diminishes the desire to get at some forbidden fruit.

Most Americans seem to start college thinking they've suddenly been given a license to drink, and a fake ID helps them along.

They are convinced that getting drunk is the best way to have a great night, or the only way to have a great night.

They seem to be missing so much. Distributed by the Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service

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Roberto Bracone is one of two Wolfpack men's tennis players to win the ACC No. 1 singles flight.

SPORTS

Got a problem?

We are young? Heartache to heartache? We stand? No promises or demands? Love is a battlefield?

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Tuesday, August 18, 1998

Vol. 79, No. 2

Cross Country hits the trail

Pack picks up speed in '98

◆ ACC beware, the Pack is back and stronger than ever.

K. GREFFNEY
Sports Editor

They are to men's cross country in the Atlantic Coast Conference what Florida State is to football, what UNC-Chapel Hill is to women's soccer and what their counterparts on the women's team are to their opponents in the ACC.

To look at the roster and the list of accolades that accompany every single runner's name, the only surprise at this year's ACC men's cross country championships will be if N.C. State doesn't win in a blow out.

While that could be a bit exaggerated with any other team, and 17-year Head Coach Rolfie Geiger would surely be quick to note all of the tough competition that the Wolfpack will face, the numbers speak for themselves.

In the past three ACC championship meets, all of which the Pack has won, State's point total hasn't been higher than 30 points, and the Pack has had no less than four of the top-10 finishers, including six of the top 10 in 1995 and 1997.

The ACC meet has been nothing more than a warm-up for the Pack for the past three seasons, and that is not likely to change this season.

As of right now, all sights are set on Kansas and the NCAA Championship in November.

Leading the Wolfpack returners are a trio of roommates who finished second, third and fourth at the conference championship meet last season. For twins Chan and Corby Pons, it was their second consecutive year finishing second and third at the conference meet. Brendan Rodgers finished fourth, earning All-ACC honors for the first time.

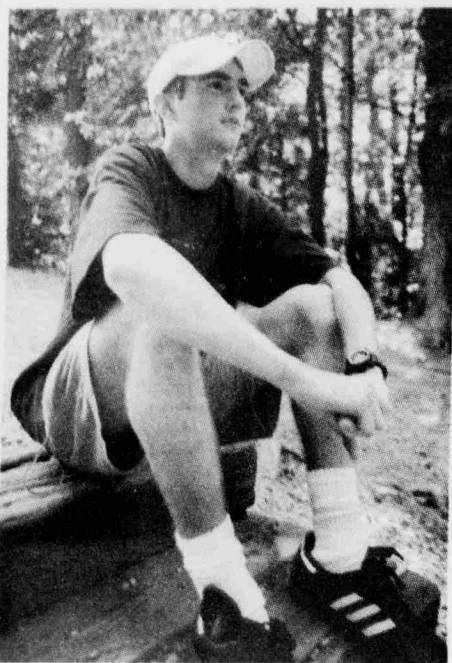
Rodgers and Chan Pons went on to earn All-American honors at the NCAA meet in Greenville, S.C., where the Wolfpack finished sixth overall, posting the school's second best team finish ever.

For Pons, who finished 24th individually, it was his second such honor, after finishing 31st the year before.

Also running for the Pack in the 1997 Championship meet was two-time All-ACC honoree Abdul Alzindani, who returns for his junior year with the Pack.

Also returning are conference-

See Pack, Page 7



Chris Dugan in a rare stationary moment.

A formal introduction

◆ Say hello to Chris Dugan, N.C. State's newest distance star.

JOHNNY NOEL
Staff Writer

It's easy to blend in when you run for the N.C. State cross-country team.

Even after the loss of senior Pat Joyce, the Wolfpack boasts two returning All-Americans in Chan Pons and Brendan Rodgers who will be looking for even greater things in 1998. Add to that list All-ACC performers Robbie Howell, Corby Pons and Abdul Alzindani — a former Foot Locker National Champion, as well — and it's next to impossible to ever get your name in the paper.

So basically, if you want to get noticed around here, you better do something.

Which is exactly what Pack sophomore Chris Dugan did this summer.

The flashing lights began at the end of last year's track season at the Tennessee Twilight meet, where Dugan qualified for NCAA's meet with the country's sixth fastest qualifi-

ing time of the year in the 3000-meter steeplechase.

But when NCAA's rolled around, Dugan took it on the chin, running a terrible race and finishing last in his heat, not even qualifying for the finals.

However, Dugan's qualifying time of 8:40.90 had been enough to qualify him for junior nationals, where he needed a first- or second-place finish to head onto the Junior World Meet.

Ranked number one going into nationals, Dugan delivered as expected with a win at nationals, earning him a two-week trip with the national team to France.

"Track's a big deal over there, and you get a lot of people coming out to the races," Dugan said. "The stadium held about 20,000 people, and it was pretty much packed."

The meet is a showcase of the world's best young talent, 19 and under, and has been the starting ground for such stars as Kenyan Daniel Komen and Ethiopian Haile Gebrselassie, who have regularly shattered

See Dugan, Page 7

New system provides champion

◆ This season, there WILL be a College Football Championship game, hopefully.

K. GREFFNEY
Sports Editor

By the night of Jan. 4, 1999, there will be an undisputed National Champion in football.

Maybe.

In June the Bowl Championship Series announced a new plan for determining an NCAA Champion in college football, including setting this year's championship game as the January 4th Fiesta Bowl.

The plan is the end result of six months of work by Southeastern Conference Commissioner and BCS Chairman Roy Kramer and combines some of the aspects of the old college championship plan, along with a few new twists.

The plan comes on the heels of the 1997 Championship which was shared by Michigan and Nebraska. The Wolverines finished No. 1 in the Associated Press media poll after a win at the Rose Bowl, and the Corn Huskers were tops in the USA Today-ESPN coaches poll after a victory in the Orange Bowl.

This year, for the first time, the Pac-10 and Big Ten conference champions, along with the Rose Bowl, will be part of the BCS, formerly the Bowl Alliance.

In the past, the Bowl Alliance has used the Associated Press media poll and the USA Today-ESPN coaches poll to determine the top teams. With the Rose Bowl having an exclusive agreement with the Pac-10 and Big Ten Champions, No. 1 vs. No. 2 matchups were few and far between. Under the old system, No. 1 and No. 2 only faced each other in a bowl game twice in six seasons.

Both polls are used in consideration of the match-up under the new system, along with computer rankings by The New York Times and Seattle Times and ratings compiled by Jeff Sagarin. The ratings will take into consideration strength of schedule, strength of opponent's schedule as well as wins and losses.

Eight teams will be selected to compete in the four-bowl series, one of which will be considered the National Title game. The teams will be the Champions of the Big Ten, the Pac-10, the SEC, the Atlantic Coast Conference, the Big East and the Big 12, as well as two at-large bids.

The four-bowl series includes the Fiesta, Rose, Orange and Sugar bowls.

The ratings formula will place the conference champions into games and will also select the two at-large bids, which could potentially mean that three teams from one

See Football, Page 7



The defensive line will try to corral runners of Rahshon Spikes' caliber.

The defensive front

◆ The Pack's defensive line is ready to stand tall.

Sports Staff Report

Sacks. Goal-line stands. Interceptions. Wolfpack fans are hoping to see a lot of those this season.

As long as they come from the likes of Bobbie Cotten, Andre Wray and the rest of their counterparts on the Wolfpack's defensive line.

Wray and Cotten are the only two returning starters from the 1997 squad.

The Pack suffered key losses in the defensive end and tackle positions, with Brad Collins and George Williams, both starters, along with reserves Kyle Blalock and Tom Loughlin finishing out their four years with the Wolfpack after the 1997 season.

Cotten started 10 of the 11 games that the Wolfpack played last season. He led the team with three fumble recoveries and helped lead the Pack to its season-opening 32-31 victory over Syracuse with a goal-line fumble recovery at the end of regulation, to send the game into overtime.

He also finished second on the 1997 squad with sacks, collecting five for a combined loss of 28 yards.

Cotten has been a force on the Wolfpack's line since his freshman campaign in 1995, when he started six of the 10 games he played. Wray, a transfer from Garden City (Kansas) Community College, played in every contest for the Pack in 1997, starting eight.

He finished the year third on the team with four sacks and made 17 tackles, 10 of which were solo tackles.

With Cotten as one of the two defensive ends and Wray as one of the Pack's two defensive tackles, that leaves 11 players, including five lettermen, fighting for the final two spots on the line.

Darius Bryant, a defensive tackle out of Suffolk, Va., who redshirted his freshman season in 1997, was at the top of the depth chart during the 1998 spring practices.

Defensive end Clint Johnson played in nine games for the Pack in 1997 and leads the running for the open position opposite Cotten. Johnson recorded 13 tackles last season, with four games in which he recorded multiple tackles.

Wray and Cotten are the only two returning starters from the 1997 squad.

Atlantic Coast Conference notebook

◆ Big 10, ACC to meet in Sunshine Classic...Chusairiporn advances to Sweet 16 of U.S. Amateur...UVA closes University Hall.

Sports Staff Report

Big 10, ACC to meet in football post-season

This year will see the first postseason football meeting between Atlantic Coast Conference and Big 10 schools on Dec. 29. The No. 4 selection from the ACC and the No. 6 selection from the Big 10 will meet at this year's Sunshine Classic, formerly known as the Carquest Bowl, to be played at Pro Player Stadium in Miami, Fla. Former Miami Dolphins All-Pro selection Dwight Stevenson will serve as the 1998 game chairman.

Clemson: West signs four-year contract

Tommy West will be at the helm of his Clemson Tigers' football team into the next millennium. West signed a four-year contract in July that will keep the Tigers' head coach in Greenville, S.C. through the year 2001. Included in the deal was a

\$5,000 base salary increase. West has taken Clemson to bowl games in each of the past three seasons and is just the second coach in school history to do so.

Duke: Chusairiporn falls in championship

Senior golfer Jenny Chusairiporn advanced to the championship round of the U.S. Women's Amateur, but fell to 19-year-old Grace Park of Arizona State. Park easily defeated the 21-year-old Chusairiporn 7 and 6 in the 36-hole final. Chusairiporn was coming off of a late-ending 21-hole semifinal victory against Brandi Miller heading into Sunday's championship round. Despite the loss, the Duke senior was selected to the 1998 U.S. Women's World Amateur Team, along with Brenda Corrie kuehn of Fletcher, N.C.

FSU: Volleyball team ranked in Top 25 With all six starters returning, the Florida State women's volleyball team has been ranked 24th nationally in the USA Today/AVCA Div. I Coaches Poll. The Seminoles finished last season with a 25-9 record and made it into the NCAA Tournament. They were voted unanimously to win this year's ACC

Championship. Four of FSU's opponents are ranked in the preseason poll, as well. Georgia Tech: Four Yellow Jackets will compete at U.S. Amateur

Incoming freshman Matt Weibring will join three other Yellow Jackets at this year's U.S. Amateur. Weibring qualified for the tournament by shooting a 137 over 36 holes at the Eastern Hills Country Club earlier this month. He joins Wes Latimer, Bryce Molder and Troy Matteson as the Georgia Tech representatives at the 98th Men's Championship. Matt Kuchar, defending 1997 U.S. Amateur champion, may also return to defend his title, bringing the total number of Tech players to five.

Maryland: Karl Smesko named assistant coach

Karl Smesko has been named an assistant coach for Maryland's women's basketball team. The 1997-98 NAIA Div. II National Coach of the Year joins Christy Winters and Jeanette Armentano as assistants under Chris Weller. Smesko guided his Walsh University team to an impressive 29-5 finish and the NAIA Div. II National Championship last season after a projected sixth-place finish out of nine

teams in their conference. UNC: Torbush to hold Football Women's Clinic

University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill football Coach Carl Torbush will conduct a three-hour football clinic for women on Wed. Aug. 26, at the George Watts Hall Alumni Center. Admission is free and begins at 6:30 p.m.

UVA: University Hall closed

A structural inspection at University Hall at the University of Virginia revealed that support wires holding up the domed roof were broken, causing school officials to close the building until further notice. The building houses the 8,500-seat basketball arena, along with locker rooms and support offices for coaches and other personnel.

Wake Forest: Moses on Butkus award checklist

Wake Forest senior linebacker Kelvin Moses has been named to the preseason checklist for the nation's top linebacker. Named for Hall of Fame linebacker Dick Butkus of the Chicago Bears, the award nomination is the first ever to be received by a Demon Deacon.