

Off to Atlanta

Volleyball takes on Georgia Tech in ACC action tonight. See page 10.



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Games bring cultural chances

◆ For the 1999 Special Olympics, language delegates will be a hot commodity.

Danielle Starfield
Assistant News Editor

Instead of going abroad to immerse oneself in a different culture, students will have an opportunity this summer to learn another way of life without leaving N.C. State.

With the 1999 Summer World Special Olympic Games coming to the Research Triangle, translators are in great need. Susan Navey-Davis, assistant to the commissioner for language with the Special Olympics, said over 2,500 volunteers are needed to be language delegates for 40 different languages.

"It's comparable to a model United Nations," she said. "It's an opportunity right here at our door step."

The position is open to NCSU faculty, staff, students and the surrounding community who are comfortable with interpreting everyday situations like, "The bathroom is on the right," Navey-Davis said. Students in 200 level or above foreign language classes are strongly encouraged to fill out an application, she said. She added that the opportunity is especially applicable to those who have ties to a certain country.

Volunteers must be willing to live on campus for the three-week long event and serve as an athlete's personal language liaison. Meals and on-campus housing are provided for free to volunteers for the duration of the games, June 26 to July 4.

"We're looking for people who can give at least three six-hour shifts," Navey-Davis said.

Those interested are advised to fill out a language skill survey. By filling out the survey, Navey-Davis said volunteers are not making a commitment but just starting the first step to being identified as a potential language liaison. "This is the database that we're working from," she said.

The surveys are then reviewed, and those identified with a competent level of lingual skills are chosen, Navey-Davis said. Once chosen, volunteers will receive training from the Special Olympics to familiarize them with the games and place volunteers with comparable athletes.

Appropriate vocabulary and sports knowledge is a few things the training will cover, she said. Even though volunteers will be dealing with athletes, they need not be experts in sports or those with the disabled.

Because this is Navey-Davis' first time working with Special Olympics, she said everyone involved will be new and unfamiliar with the event. "We're all learning as we go along," she said. "It's very, very challenging."

According to Navey-Davis, the last games, held in Connecticut, did not deal with communication problems effectively.

"We want to do a great job but leave a legacy," she said. "If we're going to put a lot of time into it, we want to be successful."

Navey-Davis said the database for language liaisons has already begun and is growing. Those already chosen are being used to recruit others. "It's an opportunity to get started with things pretty early," she said.

Those interested in the language liaison position are encouraged to fill out a survey off the Web at www.99games.com and attend an informational meeting Oct. 15 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 218 in Poe Hall.

For more information, call Susan Navey-Davis at 515-9288 or email her at navey@social.chass.ncsu.edu.



NCSU hopes to one day have a train station on campus to alleviate parking problems. However, before getting your hopes up, officials said that any potential rail system would not be completed until 2004.

NCSU considers railroad

◆ Possibilities of a train station on campus could mean great things for N.C. State motorists and commuters.

Tonya Johnson
Staff Writer

N.C. State students, faculty and administrators may soon have a safer and faster means of transportation that will relieve traffic problems on campus.

"If the campus wants to grow, we have to find a way to accommodate," said Anson Goch, assistant director of Facilities and Planning for the Transportation Department.

Thanks to the Triangle Transit Authority, the university will possibly be one of several sites in the area with a railroad station. Other future sites may include Chapel Hill, the Research Triangle Park and Cary.

Even though the railroad stations would not be completed until 2004, the university and the Triangle Transit Authority are busy making plans. They are still in the beginning stage in which the university and other groups are participating in the Evolution Impact Stage. During this stage, the university, the city council, local county officials, officials from the fair grounds and environmental groups are looking at the impact of what a railroad station would do to the university. The different groups will be conducting data and discussing

topics such as noise and pollution. According to Cathy Reeve, director of transportation, the railroad site would be targeted between north and south campuses. TTA and the university are looking at running the railroad between points near the Talley Student Center and Mann Hall.

Reeve commented that the site would help ease traffic congestion and be "very unique." "It also takes pressure off the Wolfline," she said. "Plus, students can use it to make connections to the airport—especially during the holiday season—and to go places such as downtown or to North Raleigh."

But, the railroad site does come with problems. If TTA does add the system, it would con-

sider adding additional rails to the railroad. The consequence is that the university would lose parking spaces, especially on north campus near Riddick Engineering Labs and Yarbrough Drive. It is proposed that the station would expand 100 feet from either side of the middle of the railroad track.

The TTA can do this because the university does not own the property 100 feet on either side of the railroad; therefore, TTA can expand if necessary without any problems.

While the details are still sketchy on the possible railroad site here, many agree that it would be another option which is faster and easier for students and faculty to get to the university, versus being stuck in traffic jams or prone to accidents.

Georges unleashes fury across Gulf Coast

◆ The Gulf Coast is stricken with power outages, downed trees and flooding.

John W. Fountain
The Washington Post

OCEAN SPRING, Miss. — Hurricane Georges unleashed its fury across the Gulf Coast Monday, toppling power lines, ripping roofs off buildings and dumping rain at a ruinous pace of an inch an hour before weakening to just above hurricane strength and settling in place for what could be a long stay.

Georges, the most devastating hurricane this season, dropped in sustained wind strength from a high of 110 mph to just over 75 mph. But that was little comfort to the thousands of residents huddled in shelters listening to forecasts that up to 30 more inches of rain could fall before the storm moves out in the middle of the week.

The hurricane's eye jogged slightly to the east after making landfall in this beach town about 4 a.m., sparing New Orleans as it wobbled slowly in a northwesterly direction, turned north and then curved toward the northeast.

Expecting the worst, the Crescent City had evacuated hundreds of thousands of people in low-lying areas and put tens of thousands more in emergency shelters. With an average elevation of six feet below sea level and surrounded by marshes, tidal lakes and the Mississippi River, New Orleans officials feared that storm surges in Lake Pontchartrain and the river would force over levees and swamp the city.

Hurricane-related deaths rose to four, including a man and a woman who died in fires started by candles during power outages in Louisiana

and Florida, a man who fell from a boat he had dry docked as the storm bore down on Key West and an 86-year-old woman who died of an apparent heart attack while being evacuated in Louisiana.

Georges caused an estimated \$200 million of insured losses in Florida, Florida Insurance Commissioner Bill Nelson reported Monday. Federal Emergency Management Agency officials said it is too early to estimate losses in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Power outages affected more than 380,000 customers along the northern Gulf Coast as howling winds tore down power lines, ripped palm trees out of the ground, tore roofs off houses and clipped off parts of fishing piers. Coastal highways and residential streets were awash from storm surge waves rising 10 to 12 feet above normal tides, and even Interstate 10, the major east-west highway that runs well inland along the Gulf Coast, was washed out near the Alabama line.

In some areas, there was water to the rooftops of houses as flash floods sent muddy rivers of storm water roaring down streets. "I've never seen anything like it in 50 years," said George Touart, county administrator in Jackson County, Mississippi, after touring the coastal town of Pascagoula.

The force of the rain and wind hurled debris and shucked the branches from pine trees as if they were feathers in Ocean Spring, just east of Biloxi.

Most people stayed indoors, anxiously trying to ride out the storm. By 9 a.m. there were massive power outages and by late morning many were without running water and authorities were advising those with a water source not to drink it without boiling it.

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Brickyard escape



Representatives from IBM were in the Brickyard Monday to let people know about career opportunities with IBM and the career fair to be held Oct. 1 in Reynolds Coliseum. The booth will be up today and Wednesday.

Schroeder ousts Kohl in Germany

◆ The leader of the Social Democratic Party in Germany defeats Helmut Kohl and brings the chancellor's reign to an end after 16 years.

William Drozdzik
The Washington Post

BERLIN — In an election that will transform the leadership of Europe's most pivotal nation, Social Democratic challenger Gerhard Schroeder ousted Chancellor Helmut Kohl and brought the left back to power in Germany for the

first time in 16 years. It was the first time in modern Germany's history that a sitting chancellor was voted out of office. Kohl's defeat reflected discontent with his failure to cope with record unemployment and a clear desire to dump Europe's longest-serving statesman in favor of ushering a new generation into government.

"After 16 years, the Kohl era has come to an end," Schroeder declared Sunday to a cheering crowd of supporters at party headquarters in Bonn. He said his most important goal would be to wage a vigorous fight against "the plague of joblessness," which hovers at around 4 mil-

lion people—close to 11 percent of the work force.

"The new center has triumphed, and the Social Democrats have won it back," Schroeder, 54, said. "It will be our task to modernize our country completely and to unblock the backlog of reform."

Early results showed the Social Democrats taking about 41 percent of the votes, which would give them the largest bloc of seats in the Bundestag—the lower house of Parliament—though not enough for an outright majority. Kohl's Christian Democrats took less than 35 percent—their worst showing in

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Georges

Continued from Page 1

Still, there was a sense of camaraderie among the residents who took cover at shelters and hotels.

"There's a lot of people pulling together, a lot of people that are trying to help each other," said Roger Brewer, who hunkered down with his family at the Super 8 Motel in Ocean Spring and ran a generator in its second-floor room.

Brewer, who had the only room with electricity, made coffee for other hotel guests. Throughout the day, people went in and out the room for coffee and news about damage to their neighborhoods from television reports.

In Biloxi, powerful winds ripped shingles off some houses and the entire roofs off others. In some instances, roofs that hung over front porches were toppled. Streets were filled with water, making many roads impassable. Flash flood warnings were issued throughout the area.

Downtown Biloxi looked like a ghost town, the remains of pine trees littering roads. Street signs lay on the road and working traffic lights seemed non-existent. Streets were deserted for the most part and boarded-up casino riverboats bobbed in tormented waters.

Statewide declarations of emergency were issued by the governors of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, and Florida received a

federal emergency declaration allowing federal funding for emergency protective measures.

FEMA said that 1,200 federal personnel had been deployed to Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia to handle the aftermath of Georges.

Meanwhile, Florida health authorities attempted to recover bags of ice that were shipped to the Florida Keys and distributed Monday because, officials said, some may be contaminated.

Pam Potter, a spokeswoman for the Florida Health Department, said tests on two 20-pound bags of ice that were on a pallet that fell and broke at the Reddy Ice Co. in Jacksonville showed positive for a strain of fecal coliform that is not life threatening but which can cause nausea and diarrhea. Potter said the Army Corps of Engineers distributed an unknown number of bags to hurricane victims before a warning was issued.

More than 400 people who spent the night in an emergency shelter in the coastal town of Gautier, Miss., had to be relocated after wind ripped off part of the shelter's roof, and another 90 people who took shelter in a school in nearby Pascagoula, about 10 miles from the Alabama border, were also relocated because of roof damage. In addition, a Pascagoula hospital suffered roof damage and was flooded by torrential rains.

Wary and shaken New Orleans area residents awoke Monday morning to find they had escaped a direct hit by only 55 miles.

The worst case scenario predicted

by officials — a city of 750,000 people submerged under 20 feet of water — had been averted, but New Orleans did not escape unscathed.

Gusts up to 50 mph toppled street lights, power poles and trees making some roads impassable. More than 100,000 people were left without power and Lake Pontchartrain lapped over its banks in the western part of New Orleans, flooding restaurants and clubs. However, water did not top the 15-foot hurricane protection levees that circle the lake.

Still, New Orleans officials were not letting their guard down. Police continued to enforce a citywide curfew and state troopers kept major highways closed. Mayor Marc Morial urged the 1.4 million people who had fled the area to stay put, and assured them they could return "as soon as it's safe."

As Georges moved inland from here, the unusual cluster of hurricanes hovering in the Atlantic-Gulf region began to run out of steam, lessening the chance of back-to-back disasters with two months remaining in the hurricane season.

In a rare meteorological event not seen since 1893, four hurricanes — Georges, Jeanne, Ivan and Karl — appeared headed for the U.S. mainland over the weekend, but Ivan and Karl weakened to the point that they were downgraded to tropical storm status.

The National Hurricane Center in Miami reported Monday that Jeanne, with sustained winds of about 85 mph, was centered about 400 miles southwest of the Azores Islands in the mid-Atlantic.

Germany

Continued from Page 1

four decades.

Turnout was 81.5 percent of 60.5 million voters, up from 79 percent in 1994.

Schroeder, the governor of Lower Saxony state, said it was too early to judge whether he would turn toward the environmentalist Greens party to form a governing alliance or pursue a "grand coalition" with the Christian Democrats. He said he would see how the final results affected allocation of seats in the Bundestag before launching negotiations with prospective partners.

"I want a government with a stable majority," Schroeder said. "But we'll decide all that in peace and quiet over the next few days. Tonight we will celebrate. We have waited 16 years for this."

Early returns showed the most likely partner, the Greens, getting about 6.5 percent of the vote. But Schroeder, who has moved his party to the center on economic and foreign policy issues, might decide it would be easier to enact major economic reforms in a coalition with the Christian Democrats.

The Free Democrats, who have played kingmaker for much of the postwar era and served as junior partner in Kohl's center-right ruling coalition, won about 6 percent of the votes but declared they would go into opposition rather than present themselves as an alternative governing partner.

The former Communists, known as the Party of Democratic Socialism, won three districts in Berlin and thus earned the right to stay in Parliament. Many analysts say their presence will make it more difficult for Schroeder — who has vowed not to bring the ex-Communists into his government — to form a working majority with the

Greens and will encourage him to seek a large and safe majority with the Christian Democrats.

For Kohl, it was a bitter rejection by an electorate that had sustained him in office for four successive terms, largely because he embodied their desire for stability without painful change.

Kohl, 68, was greeted by prolonged applause from disappointed supporters as he arrived at his party headquarters an hour after the polls closed to concede the election. He acknowledged that the Social Democrats had run a more effective campaign and then signaled his retirement from politics by announcing he would not run for reelection as his party's president.

In a nostalgic farewell, Kohl expressed his gratitude to those who supported his causes, both at home and abroad. "It was a great time. We achieved a lot," he said. "But, as democrats, we accept the decision of the voters. Life goes on." Schroeder said Kohl deserves acclaim for achieving German reunification after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and for working toward a more united Europe. He emphasized he does not seek radical change but, rather, will maintain continuity in many German foreign policies, especially a strong partnership with the United States and friendly ties with Germany's nine neighboring countries.

Nonetheless, Schroeder's victory culminates a dramatic transformation in Europe's political landscape that could bring significant policy changes in the coming years now that left-of-center parties govern Europe's four largest countries. Only three years ago, conservative parties were firmly in power in Britain, France, Italy and Germany.

Schroeder has pledged that principles of "social justice" will determine the thrust of his economic policies. The Social Democrats have vowed to restore some of the cuts in pensions and sick pay that Kohl's

government made as the first modest steps toward reforming the nation's generous social welfare programs. Critics charge the programs are handicapping German competitiveness in the global economy.

That could signal bad news for Germany's business sector, which has been pleading for greater tax relief and a loosening of the country's rigid labor laws, which have made production costs in Germany among the highest in the world.

In contrast to Kohl, Schroeder supports creating a political counterweight to the newly created European Central Bank. He has backed a proposal to create an EU advisory council that could lobby for lower interest rates — even at the risk of higher inflation — in order to promote faster economic growth and new jobs.

The Social Democrats have promised to revise Germany's immigration policy to make it easier for many of the country's 7 million foreigners to become German citizens. They also want the EU to develop a common policy to accommodate a growing influx to the EU of refugees from the Balkans and other trouble spots, more than half of whom wind up in Germany.

Despite promises of continuity in foreign policy, Schroeder has already signaled he would proceed more cautiously with the expansion of the European Union into central Europe, fearing that an influx of Polish workers could destabilize Germany's economy.

Schroeder has been distinctly cool toward Russian President Boris Yeltsin and said Kohl made a serious mistake by investing too much in his friendship with the ailing Russian leader. He also might cultivate closer relations with Britain and de-emphasize the primary status that Kohl accorded France in his desire to have a powerful Bonn-Paris axis at the center of EU policy.

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She's a real wild woman

◆ Lions and tigers and other endangered species, oh my!

CARL KERCHMAR
Staff writer

Zoology major and Florida native Allison Plean is an N.C. State student. But what is she doing outside the daily grind of classes?

She's playing a major role at the Carnivore Preservation Trust (CPT) in Pittsboro, where she cares for endangered species whose natural habitat is the rain forest. Her office is a 60-acre nature preserve filled with big cats consisting of tigers, jaguars, leopards and small cats including caracals, ocelots, servals and grisons.

Other smaller rain forest species also under her care are binturongs, civets and tayras, which play a big part in pollinating and seed dispersing in the rain forest.

Volunteering many hours of her time in the past two years, Plean has reached the tiger program. She is actually part of training and caring for one of the most powerful species in the world. A slender 5'7", she does not hesitate to step into the habitat of a tiger, which can weigh up to a thousand pounds and eat a chicken in two — maybe three — bites.

The tigers were much more social than I anticipated. When Plean took me on a tour of the compound, I was surprised to discover that the tigers sensed us approaching and were eagerly waiting to greet us with a "chuff" (that's the way tigers say "hi"). They affectionately rubbed back and forth on the fence and licked my hand.

I have to admit they're not all

sweeties, though. One tiger named Moose made my heart skip beats when he charged the fence with a roar. "The personality of the animals is part of what makes the job so rewarding," explained Plean.

"The fact that you can have personal relations with wild animals is amazing! The animals actually recognize me. It's rewarding to help them out because they're much more difficult to reach than humans. When tigers are friendly to me and greet me it's fulfilling."

How do you feel about the current status of the rain forest ecosystems?

It's going so fast! And people don't realize the impact that will be created. CPT has a branch in Laos and places extreme emphasis on educating the locals not to eat endangered species.

What about breeding?

The CPT is breeding to keep a viable genetic stock to eventually release back into the wild but as we grow we need more space, so we developed a loan program. When we loan babies to other zoos they get the space they need and CPT still has a legal right to the animal to ensure proper treatment.

Where did the babies go?

We sent two ocelots to Japan and one to the Bahamas.

Are you expecting any new animals?

We're getting a male lion soon, a rescue from an owner who is keeping it in too small a cage. But we still need to raise \$10,000.

Before you got involved with CPT you traveled extensively, 26 countries and went cross country. Are you still happy with America?

America has endless opportunities, you can always get a job, there's

desert, mountains, ocean, it's so big and beautiful; except some of the stupid laws."

What kind of advice can you give to someone who wants to be involved with the ecosystem?

This sounds cheesy, but you can get what you want if you work hard after you realize what you want to do. Get involved.

The CPT is a grassroots, volunteer organization with a simple yet powerful mission: the revitalization of threatened ecosystems. Volunteers and donations from community businesses keep the organization moving and are the heart and hands of the trust. Since its creation in 1991, the CPT has gained international recognition and coordinates efforts in Laos and the San Diego Zoo, plus experience with groups in Ecuador and the Philippines. CPT offers an amazing opportunity for students interested in zoology and veterinary medicine to get hands-on experience with species indigenous to rain forests. Internships are available and in need right now. The organization also provides the opportunity for adoption, CPT society membership and tours every



Allison Plean with some of the binturongs at the Carnivore Preservation Trust. Binturongs are seed dispersing animals from South East Asia.

Sunday. For more information on how you can get involved check out our web site at www.cptigers.org or call 542-4684.

Technobabble

◆ This is it in a nutshell: How the Internet works, explained by a geek for non-geeks. Part 3: Image Compression

CHARLES MANGIN
Staff Geek

The way to make the so-called Information Superhighway run faster is not to make the lanes wider, but to make the cars smaller. I've said it before, and I'll continue to say it. Not just because I think it's such a cool thing to say, but because it's true. This time I'll explain it, though.

What I'm talking about this week is file compression. There are several ways to compress files on a computer, whether they are images, sounds, text or a mixture of these. Some of these preserve all the original information, in what is called a "lossless" manner. How, then, do they manage to make files smaller, if they don't remove any information? What these methods all have in common is that they read in the raw data and rewrite the existing data in a more efficient manner. Since most people are familiar with the World Wide Web, and the part of the Web that needs compression is mostly images, I'll concentrate on image compression.

Let's look at the U.S. flag as if it were an image file on your computer. Images on a computer typically are made up of tiny picture elements, or pixels (why not pixels? I have no idea) that translate directly into the pixels on your computer screen. Each pixel is represented in the image file as a set of numbers (computers love numbers) that translate into each pixel's location and color information.

To understand this topic, it helps to understand a little about binary notation. I know binary numbers are something they tried teaching you in tenth grade, but you probably never had to use in real life, so try to keep up with me.

In its most raw state, the Stars & Stripes image would be made up of red, white and blue pixels, each encoded with the exact color information needed to represent red, white or blue. A color is usually encoded as the specific combination of red, green and blue light that makes that color when shown on screen. Each pixel could take up as much as 32 bits of information (eight bits each for all the 256 possible levels of red, green and blue) just for the color.

A more efficient way of encoding this information would be to determine that there are really only three unique colors in the flag and that all the pixels are really only one of these three colors. That reduces the file's size immensely by taking the three colors, putting them in a small place in the file called a color look-up table and then recoding all the pixels with only two bits of information for color, instead of the original 32. Two bits gives us four possible colors in our look-up table, so we've actually got some space for another color that isn't being used. Still, we've compressed the file to about 1/16 of its original size.

Another way to look at the flag is to read it like a page of text. Starting at the top line, leftmost pixel, we pore over the pixels one at a time until the end of that line, then start back at the beginning of the second line, reading left to right, and so forth. Looking at the flag this way, we see there are patterns of pixels all the same color (blue) for a while, then another pattern, or run, of red pixels and so on. Instead of encoding each individual pixel with its own color information, even just the two bits we used before, let's encode based on these "runs" of pixels. This method is, of course, called "Run Length Encoding," or RLE and is another way of compressing images.

A "run" consists of a few bits of color information (this method works best in one bit color — black and white images), then a number for how many pixels long the run is. Each line of pixels, instead of a long stream of information, is made up of only a few "runs," or in the case of the stripes at the bottom of the flag, one "run." Very efficient, compared to the original raw data — file sizes 1/100 of the raw data are not unlikely.

The second method I described, RLE, is basically how a fax machine is able to scan in and send whole pages of data in a few seconds. One of the limitations of GIF, JPEG and most other compression methods is that they deal with pixels, limiting them to screen-based images that are a fixed resolution — usually about 72 pixels per inch. For scalable, resolution-independent files, we need to look at math — vectors and fractals.

Using our flag example again, let's say that instead of encoding each individual pixel, as most image formats do, we figured out how to draw its parts mathematically. The stripes and blue field are simple rectangles, and each star can be drawn with a few simple vectors, joined at their ends. Best of all, the star needs only to be drawn once, then copied 50 times. If the flag had curves or more complex shapes, they could be built up from the curves' equations. While these aren't exactly vectors, the files are still called vector graphics. Go figure.

Anyhow, with the stack of equations and a simple color palette, the flag file is tiny compared to the original raw data. Better than that, the new vector file can be scaled up or down infinitely without changing the equations, so Old Glory can be reproduced at any size. Another method of mathematically representing image data involves fractals. Useful for more than psychobabble, color cycling screen savers, fractals actually are quite complex. In fractal equation, levels of information infinitely deep and detailed can be represented by a relatively small algorithm.

The way fractals work is a topic of mathematical discourse, requiring a little more space than this column. Suffice it to say that translating photographic information into fractals makes what would normally be a fixed resolution, pixelated image into an infinitely scalable one without any loss of data or added file size. In fact, this method actually adds image data that wasn't there before, which can be magnified any amount. Of course, the more an image is magnified in this manner, the less accurate the interpolation becomes, but still, it's more information than was there in the first place.

Encoding information mathematically works for all kinds of data, not just images. Sounds, for one, benefit immensely from waveform equations used for compression. Sound encoding is a little more complex than I have space to go into this time, but next week I'll talk about how sound works on the Internet.

Regional Planning for All

◆ A new online computer program that might help with work on some of those projects.

CHRISTINE OLOHAM
Extra Editor

The National Weather Service, the City of Raleigh and the N.C. Forest Service are all interested in just one thing — an online, regional planning system. As the state grows, important questions about where people will live, where they will work, where they will get their drinking water and where their cars and houses will go all need answering.

"At first we thought, 'build it and they will come, but people were looking for this before it even got done. The need is there, and we expect to be inundated,'" said Hugh Devine, the director of the project, a professor of parks, recreation and tourism and the associate director of the Geographic Information Systems program in the Center for Earth Observation.

The idea for the prototype began evolving a year ago, when then-Chancellor Larry Monteith visited different regions of North Carolina to identify where N.C. State could be of help in regional development. A group of people were then pulled together by Provost Phillip Stiles to work on the problem, using the Upper Neuse area as a starting point. They decided to use Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

To build a regional planning database, GIS brings together different maps and information such as socioeconomic and environmental data, natural resources

and even aerial photographs, putting it into a format that's useful to everyone. "It's a lot easier to use the information when it's in a consistent format and there's no special computer program to learn," said Carolyn Argenti, head of the Natural Resources Library and a project coordinator.

Previously, a complex computer program for those familiar with the GIS was needed. Now, anyone can access this information using a Web browser. The prototype is also very important because of the way it lets you manipulate information. "You can attach one piece of information to any other piece of information," said Perver Korca, the research associate for the project.

Korca demonstrated this effect by bringing up a Web browser. An obscure piece of data like the population of the Upper Neuse area in 1989 can be shown

on a graph. Then the population of 1994 can be placed over it in a different color to demonstrate the rate of growth. For example, "if you're moving to Raleigh, you can pull this up and see where the schools are, where everything is," said Devine. It's also important for people already living in areas and to see where new growth is coming in. "If there's a new subdivi-

proper tool to make those plans — they will never get to the right spot, which many hope is N.C. Overall, "This provides better, faster information," said Devine. "The biggest challenge was mobilizing to meet real need in a timely manner and making different systems compatible. We all focused on delivering a useful product quickly."

The Web site is user-friendly, featuring small descriptions of the data to help people find exactly what they're looking for. The images download quickly and allow users to almost paint by number — putting one component here, one there, until there's a picture of a region. The address of the Web site is <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/stacks/gis/regio>. Users can select maps by subject and data layer, perform queries and then print the resulting map displays. Once funding is obtained, information will be available for the whole state.



tion being built, you can go to the Web site as a citizen and see the watershed area and the population, where the jobs are and where the roads will be affected — this is all available to you. Before, if you wanted to do that, all you could do was get information at zoning hearings and you wouldn't have any time to respond. Now, it's all on your desktop," said Devine.

Beyond its importance to the average citizen, when the entire system is in place covering the state of North Carolina, it

will help the National Weather Service track storms and hurricanes better and see exactly where people are and if they need to leave their homes. For the City of Raleigh and other cities, this gives them accuracy in planning regional development, which has to be done very carefully as population increases.

"We've already used the prototype to help North Carolina put together a bid for the Pan-Am games, which aren't even played until 2007," said Devine. But without the proper planning — and the

You don't need no dreads

◆ Impressions of the Reggae Fest.

IVARE OMBORU
Staff Writer

Red, yellow and green covered the grass of Harris Field. Young and old came together to partake in a beautiful once a year event held at N.C. State. Praises and preaching were all part of one wonderful driving force: reggae music.

On Sept. 19, 1998, the sixth annual Reggae Fest commenced at 1:30 p.m. This makes my third appearance at the annual reggae event and each year it seems to get better and better, and I become more and more attached to the power and glory of reggae music. The Reggae Fest is a time for JAH's children to come as one and "lively up" themselves. You don't even need dreads!

There were many there that were well dreads, many that were bald-headed. Rastas and hippies, conservatives and liberals — a diverse range of people were present. There was a lot of dancing, a lot of vibing and I can't forget about the good, good local roots bands that played: African Children, Donnovan and the Posse, Majestic Lions and (pardon my bias) the most unique of all, the Reggae Cowboys.

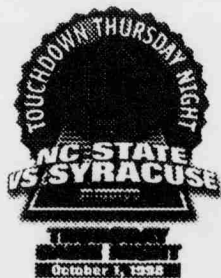
Think about this: how often can we as a community come together as one (black, white, gray, brown, yellow, red) to give thanks and praises to the most high, to socialize, to eat Jamaican food and to listen to reggae all at once? Once a year, my friends.

Reggae music is not all about dreadlocks and ganja. Reggae music is good vibes, something heavy to meditate on — a bible of sorts for the technological era. The Reggae Fest is indeed a festive event. It is one of the most beautiful (yet less publicized) social events our campus has to offer the community.



Are those real dreads? A performer at the Reggae Fest entertains the crowd.

I thank all the beautiful people of the Triangle area and beyond for showing up and hope that next year the whole of N.C. State campus shows up.



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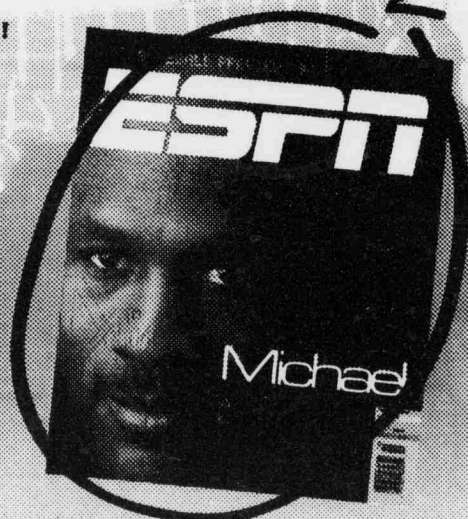
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Technician's view Regulate exchange

For now, the high-risk private investment fund of Long-Term Capital Management is intact, thanks to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, which helped bring together 16 banks and brokerages that ponied up \$3.5 billion desperately needed to shore up the hedge fund. The bailout involved no public funds, but the Fed's controversial role as a facilitator in the rescue amounted to a tacit acknowledgment of the risks posed to world financial markets by the potential unraveling of Long-Term Capital.

The problems of Long-Term Capital reveal the arcane and secret world of hedge funds, which operate with little regulatory oversight. Close scrutiny in the future might prevent threats to financial markets from troubled hedge funds and the need for Fed-orchestrated rescues. Why are these huge investment funds — 5,500 of them controlled an astounding \$295 billion in investments in 1997 — beyond the purview of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Federal Reserve? What risks do they pose to other investments and the financial system?

Hedge funds have a wide range of investing styles and interests that include currencies, stocks, bonds and complex financial products that have no ready market. The funds typically are closely held investment vehicles for very wealthy individuals and institutions and often are sidelines of speculators who push risks to the limit because they have access to vast networks of easy credit.

A market economy demands that these funds bear the full brunt of any soured investments. They should be required to disclose their risks and borrowing. Banks, in

turn, should be more judicious in extending them loans.

The House Banking Committee is scheduled to hold a hearing to look into the matter before Congress adjourns. In these tempestuous times in financial markets, the potential risk that hedge funds pose to investors of every kind needs to be clarified. Among the Long-Term Capital investors, each of whom reportedly had to contribute at least \$10 million to join the fund, were two Nobel laureates and well-known Wall Street trader John Meriwether. The extent of the portfolio and risks was reportedly known to only a few within the firm, which is based in a Connecticut suburb.

Long-Term Capital made massive bets on market trends by using money from investors and leveraging that by borrowing huge amounts from banks and brokerages. As long as the fund made the right bet, it made big money. A bad bet meant huge losses for its investors — and potentially for their lenders.

Long-Term Capital, believed to have assets of more than \$80 billion, mostly acquired on credit, got caught on the wrong side of its bets in August when problems in Russia and Latin America rolled the markets. It had to either unload assets to repay loans — an action that could have further destabilized markets — or get additional credit.

Long-Term Capital was unusual among hedge funds in the extent of its leveraging. But without some regulatory oversight there is no way of knowing the status and impact of hedge funds in general. This situation should be remedied.

Distributed by the Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service.

Technician

CAMPUS FORUM

Seek (free) legal advice

Our office wanted to remind students at N.C. State that their student fees provide a law office on campus especially for them. We bring this up in light of your recent articles and editorials on credit cards and Brent Road. Our office is seeing an increasing number of students having credit and debt problems. In addition, the amount of debt the students have on these credit cards has also increased dramatically. It is not unusual for us to see students who, on the average, have \$5,000 to \$10,000 in credit card debt. This is above and beyond the student loans they will also have to be paying back when they graduate.

We encourage any students that are finding themselves in over their heads concerning credit cards and debt to please come by our office. We work very hard to help the students work with their creditors and avoid court judgments and bankruptcy court. Please also come by our office if you have experienced fraud or some other type of problem with your credit or credit cards.

In addition, we are strongly encouraging those who have received Brent Road or any other alcohol citations to come by our office to discuss the ramifications of those tickets. Some of the students we have already seen are indicating that they have been told to just pay off those tickets, which will, unfortunately, result in criminal records in most instances. The majority of the students who have come by our office with Brent Road tickets are over 21, which means that they were charged with possession of alcohol on a public street or sidewalk, which is a misdemeanor. Because there is no charge to use our services, please

do not rely on what someone else tells you concerning the law.

Our office tries to help make your time here at NCSU an educational experience instead of a stressful one dealing with collections, court and bankruptcy.

Pamarah Gerace Attorney at Law University Student Legal Services

Unnecessary fees

I am writing on behalf of the column, "Concave with fees," published on Sept. 14. I have never put much thought into where the money my parents send to N.C. State for my schooling actually goes. Until now, I really haven't cared. But since I have had to manage money on my own, I now realize the importance of what my money goes to. I do not feel my parents should have to pay all these extra fees, such as the Wolfline and the new health center, considering I never use them. My parents already have to pay for two kids in college, and, in the future, they will be paying for three. I think it is absurd that they are spending so much money on things I do not use.

I think NCSU needs to find a way to charge only the people who use these services instead of the entire student population. Some suggestions for this could be charging a small fee when these services are in use, or, at beginning of the year, students could fill out a form indicating what they will use during the school year. But as of now, the financial status of my parents by students is disappointing and unappreciated.

Virginia Fletcher Womble Freshman, FYC

D.H. Hill 1975
After moving to its current location in 1954, D.H. Hill's volume capacity was rapidly filled. To compensate, a new eleven-story bookstack was added in 1971. Soon, the book population exploded again and the bookstack was expanded. Construction on the current stack tower began in 1985 and was finished in 1989. Go and see if you can find the seams. Trust us, they're there...
photo by Ralph Mills special thanks to Caroline Weaver at NCSU Special Collections mark09.28.98



Changing relations

NATLIE DUGGINS Staff Columnist

I never really know what to write my columns about. Sure, there's this crisis or that problem, but aren't we all tired of the same old stuff? I know I am. I thought that today I'd devote my column to the astute observations I've made about other people and their relationships.

Remember back in grammar school when telling if a boy (or a girl) liked you was as easy as reading the little notes he or she passed you during class? "I like you. Do you like me? Check yes or no." You'd sit in your desk and read it a couple of times. Sure, you knew exactly what it said, but it was a bit of an ego boost to read it over and over to yourself. Meanwhile, that poor sap who had sent you the note would try and stand up without being noticed by the teacher, just to catch a glimpse of which box you had checked.

There wasn't much pressure back then — somehow you knew who

you liked and who you didn't (my preference was always based on the kind of Big Wheel they rode — the guys who had the Big Wheel with a brake on the side were a definite check in the "yes" box), so you checked whichever box and passed the letter back. Even if you checked the "no" box, the boy never seemed crushed for too long, and by recess he was talking about some other girl. Oh, those were the days. As if I had to remind anyone, things aren't that simple anymore.

It seems almost backward in a way. Back during our imaginative youth, where boxes were somehow transformed into a clubhouse, we relied strictly on checking yes or no, but now, during our cynical old age, we manage to come up with this imaginative (or so we'd like to think) way of telling someone else how we feel. Though it provides for interesting gossip, these imaginative ways are growing somewhat stale.

Allow me to share an event from this past weekend. I got a phone call on Friday from one of my friends (let's call her Jane). So anyway, Jane

asks what my plans are for the night and I mention that I'm supposed to go see a show in Carrboro. I had an extra ticket, so I invited her along. Then I listened to her talk for the next 30 minutes about one of my other friends (let's call him Bob). Blah, blah, blah. "Bob's so cute. I wish that he would ask me out. He's always going out with these other girls. I don't know why he's not interested in me" ... you all know the drill, I'm sure. You think I'd committed blasphemy when I asked, "Well, if you like him why don't you ask him out?" because she started some incoherent spiel about how that just wouldn't work.

So after a little more talk about Bob, we ended our conversation. Then the phone rings again. Reluctantly, I pick it up. This time it's Bob. Blah, blah, blah. "I really like Jane, but I don't think she likes me. She's always ignoring me." After a deep sigh, I asked, "Well, why'd you go out with what's-her-name if you like Jane?"

See Duggins, Page 6

Planned babies equal happier kids

AMANDA GUTHRIE Staff Columnist

In response to the forum letter submitted the other day about how bad the opinion columnists published in Technician are, I thought I would write about a moral and politically charged issue that would get my readers thinking. The proposal I am about to introduce is an extreme one, but I think it is somewhat possible and important to each of us and our society as a whole.

I propose, and would completely support, a program under the control of our federal government to mandate birth control for both the men and women of this country. The pur-

pose of this program would be plain and simple: to control which citizens in our society are allowed to reproduce. The best ways to facilitate this program would probably be through medications in our tap water or shots given to the population as a whole. (Not foolproof, but the best thought so far.) Couples or individuals who desire offspring would go before a board of their fellow citizens or elected officials and present an argument and documents supporting their capability to care for and sustain a child's life. The qualifications for approval would include physical, economic and psychological stability and possibly proof of the completion of a parenting course. (These would be the

only requirements; this system is not designed to create more class divisions or new prejudices, only better lives for children.) Upon success at this level, the potential parents would be given reversal medication and allowed to begin reproducing. The entire process is designed to make people think before they have children. There is a lot of responsibility and planning associated with having children, and these procedures would force couples to think these things through before it becomes too late for a decision to be made.

One of the obvious benefits of this system would be the significantly

See Guthrie, Page 6

NCSU student columnist defends students' manners

CHAO MESSER Staff Columnist

This column might be a little unorthodox, but I wanted to defend the N.C. State students that were definitely offended by the letter on Thursday. It's just equal time. I want to show that you can't just write the student newspaper, say the students suck and not have some sort of student response.

Let me start off today's column by saying that it isn't usually the policy of Technician columnists to, in effect, respond to letters to the editor, but I feel justified, as an NCSU student, in responding to a letter that was addressed to the student body as a whole.

In the Thursday, Sept. 17 issue of Technician, there was a letter in Campus Forum affirming my posi-

tion that the fates were put on this Earth just to make me mad. This letter was entitled "Follow the Rules."

It was written by a research technician in the plant pathology department, who shall remain nameless, though her name does rhyme with "fouse." This person stated her opinion, and now I am going to express mine.

In the letter, this researcher beremoans and complains up a blue streak about how we "precious people," i.e. pedestrian students at NCSU, have no manners, evidently dart amongst moving traffic like Ritalin-deficient squirrels and (horrors) dare to use designated crosswalks to cross the street! This person, in her first paragraph, says that "Someone, somewhere, thinks that you are educable; therefore, I consider it my duty to educate you on

several shocking facts of life of which you seem oblivious."

Well, isn't she special. I guess that I can respond by saying that someone, somewhere, thought that she needed to be a part of our university family, therefore, I feel that it would be my duty as the very angry and shrill voice of NCSU students to tell this person to "ease up," but that would be just plain wrong, so I will refrain.

The three points to which we are all oblivious are that 1) People drive cars around campus. 2) People have stuff to do outside of school and 3) Professors don't give care about their students. Well, thank you, ma'am, for enlightening us. So what you are saying is that some self-important professors go home in their cars. It may take some time, but I think that all my loyal readers

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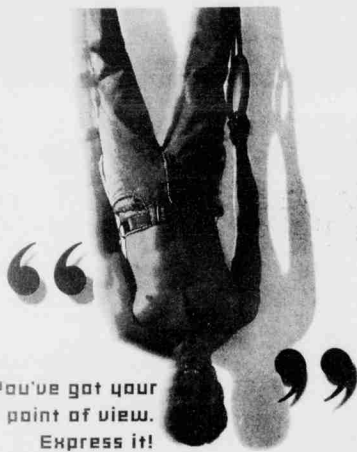
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See Messer, Page 6



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Guthrie

Continued from Page 5

reduced number of cases of unwanted pregnancies. I think many people, especially at our age, would be happy to take governmentally regulated birth control. It would allow them to do what they want to do anyway; have more sex with fewer consequences. This would also reduce the number of babies being put up for adoption or being exterminated through abortion.

Another benefit would be the reduction in the number of cases of dads who are paying for kids they didn't want or questioning if the child is even their own. There would be less custody battles and child support cases.

The most important incentive of this program would be the increased quality of children's lives. Virtually all children would be born and raised in homes in where the parents truly desire their existence and love them. This assumption leads me to believe that we as a society would have children who are more likely to be loved and cared for and less likely to become detrimental members

of our society. Fewer children would suffer from lives full of poverty and abuse because their parents would be all screened for such pre-existing conditions prior to their birth.

Granted, this system is not fool-proof. I realize that there would be parents who would slip through the cracks, go bankrupt or fall psychologically ill after children are born, and the government would not stop supporting those that need it, but the main idea is that a great deal of children would live healthier lives.

Now, it seems as though this program may compromise one of our most basic rights, but I would have

to disagree. If it's true that it takes a village to raise a child, then we are all involved in and responsible for the lives of the children in our society and their actions. Since our tax dollars presently fund the education and support of many families, I wouldn't mind my tax dollars going to support such a program if I knew that a large number of children would live lives free from crime, abuse and hardship, and that our society as a whole would benefit.

I'm not ignorant enough to believe that this would be a solution to all of our societal problems, but I'd be willing to bet that Jerry Springer would have a lot less.

Messer

Continued from Page 5

our world does not revolve around you." I think that the plant pathologist is mistaken here, because it seems like she is the one who is on a high horse. If you are so much more important than the rest of us, then why doesn't God himself escort you wherever you need to go on a gossamer cloud, as you seem to expect? Maybe you should just put a little red light on your car so that you can speed around to class, not caring about such annoying things as inter-

sections and the pesky fact that in the state of North Carolina, pedestrians have the right of way at all times.

And one more point on #3 — we feel exactly the same about you. Students always have more than one professor, yet most professors seem to feel otherwise. (Except for mine — you kick butt, and you know who you are.) You are not the center of our universe, either, and our world does not revolve around you. 99.9 percent of students would prefer a cold beer — even a warm, watery beer — to class.

Now boys and girls, mean it! Mr. Messer doesn't mean to be unduly harsh, but for someone who accuses

the students of this fine institution of having no manners, this nameless plant pathologist sure seems to be a dim bulb in the marquee of life.

Manners is knowing when and where not to say the wrong thing, such as insulting students on the Opinion page of a student newspaper. You failed that test. Manners is defending the honor of the finest student body in the South, and you failed that one, too. Luckily for you, I was here to clean up that mess and enlighten you on the facts of life.

I wish you luck in the plant pathology field, and "godspeed" the next time you cross the street, because you never know when we "precious people" will stop minding our man-

ners while we drive.

Now repeat after me, Mrs. Plant Pathologist: Student newspapers — student readers. "Whiny Plant Pathologist Weekly" — readers like you. And 30,000 students pay the salary of 7,000 NCSU employees, so your world, while not revolving around us, would be a poor and homeless one without our tuition and fees paying you to study plant pathology and other such mess.

See, things always work out when you use good manners.

Care to give Chad some traffic stories? E-mail the "Southern Gentleman" at cmesser@unity.ncsu.edu.

Duggins

Continued from Page 5

"Well, Jane doesn't seem interested," he begins. "Plus, I mean, James (Bob's macho and dateless friend) says that she'll like me more if I play hard to get."

So what can we all learn from Bob and Jane? First, let's get rid of friends like James who don't really have the slightest clue as to what they're talking about. (Of course, neither do I, but that's why I don't offer much advice to my friends on relationships.) People like James always seem to complicate a rela-

tively simple situation. Now the Bobs of the world should just go ahead and ask Jane out. What's the worse that she could say, besides "no"? It's not that bad in the grand scope of things. There are thousands of guys and girls out there, just waiting to check the "yes" box.

One more aspect of relationships that I want to touch on — it's either happened to you or someone you know. A guy and his girlfriend are arguing and the girl says, "Go — I don't care." And what happens? The guy usually leaves. No, don't leave — whatever you do, don't leave — because as soon as you walk out of that door, the girl says, "I can't believe he left." I can hear all my guy friends saying, "Well, how was I supposed to know?" or "If she

wanted me to stay, why didn't she just say so?" Please, don't be ridiculous. Say what you mean — what kind of warped logic is that? It's part of being a woman. You're taught from birth how to be didactic and how to avoid saying what you mean at all costs.

Let's look at a few examples. If your girlfriend happens to say, "Well, I wanted to go eat here, but if that's what you want, we can do that," she really wants you to change your mind and agree to go eat where she wants. Or, if you want to cancel plans with your girlfriend to go hang out with your friends and she says, "Go and have a wonderful time," she really hopes you're miserable the whole time you're apart (usually while she's out having a blast with

the girls). It's called double-speak, a language known to women all over the world. But be careful, don't be too quick to acknowledge everything as the opposite of what it actually means — "stay" means stay under certain conditions and "go" means go under others. It's just a matter of figuring out which is which.

Relationships are too complicated nowadays. I'd much rather go back to the days of Big Wheels, bikes with streamers on the sides, jelly shoes, recess and "yes or no" boxes. Those were the days.

Natalie is available for relationship commentary through e-mail. TeknikStaf@aol.com.

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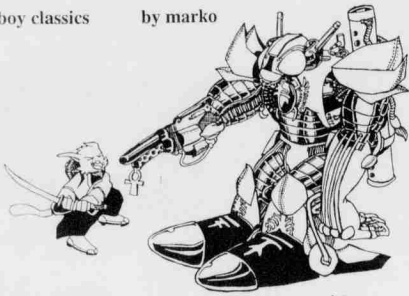
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ACC

Continued from Page 10

Mark Teixeira of Severna Park, Md., and pitchers Brad Busbin of Orlando, Fla., and Rheet Parrott of Dalton, Ga., Georgia Tech's incoming recruiting class in baseball will be ranked No. 1 in the nation in the upcoming issue of Collegiate Baseball magazine.

Also returning to school for his senior year is pitcher Chuck Crowder of Mantua, Ohio, who was taken in the eighth round by Pittsburgh. Crowder, a first-time all-ACC performer, posted a 12-4 record with a 3.03 ERA last season.

Scott hired as asst. director for UM Sports Marketing

COLLEGE PARK, MD - The University of Maryland has announced the hiring of Katrina Scott as assistant director for Sports Marketing. Scott joins the athletic department after serving as a marketing assistant at Florida State

University. In her new position, she will aid in the sales of football packages and assist the director of marketing in all aspects of sports marketing.

UNC-CH loses to Tech at home for first time since 1945

CHAPEL HILL, NC - The Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets dominated both sides of the line of scrimmage on the way to an easy 43-21 win over the North Carolina Tar Heels Saturday night at Kenan Stadium.

Tech's 43 points are the most scored against UNC-CH since Virginia topped the Heels 50-17 in 1959.

The win was Georgia Tech's first in Chapel Hill since 1945.

UVa passes halfway mark to funding stadium expansion

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA - A year after launching a fund-raising campaign to support the expansion of its football stadium, the University of Virginia has reached a significant milestone in the effort.

With \$11 million in commitments from the fund, the university has passed

the halfway mark toward its \$20 million goal for the Scott Stadium expansion. The funds, combined with other athletics revenues, will match a \$23 million challenge gift made last year by Carl Smith, a businessman and former Virginia football player. These gifts will represent the core funding for the \$70 million project, which will increase the stadium's capacity from 44,000 to 60,000 spectators.

Wake women's golf finishes eighth

CHAPEL HILL, NC - The Wake Forest women's golf team finished play at the Lady T. Heel Invitational in eighth place on Sunday. The 54-hole event was on the course at the 6,075-yard, par-72 Chapel Hill Country Club in Chapel Hill.

The Demon Deacons shot a round of 305 over the final 18 holes to finish with a team total of 924, well off the blistering pace set by team champion Duke which finished with a ten-under-par total of 854. The Blue Devils' Candy Hanemann took home the individual title with a four-under-par total of 212.

Notes

Continued from Page 10

Swimming hires new assistant

N.C. State Head Swimming Coach Steve Hammond announced last week the hiring of Allison Lloyd as the Wolfpack's newest assistant coach.

Lloyd comes from the High Point swim club, where she has been the USS Program's head coach for four years after three years as an assistant with the University of Iowa.

Lloyd is a graduate of the Hawkeye's program, where she captained the team in her final two years and also held the 100m butterfly record.

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Settling down

◆ After transferring from Auburn, Lindsey Rogers is finding success and happiness in one of N.C. State's most competitive programs.

K. GRIFFNEY
Sports Editor

N.C. State women's cross country expects to win. Maybe that's why Lindsey Rogers fits in so well.

After a year of success meshed with turmoil at Auburn University, Rogers is immediately making an impact on N.C. State's program.

A decorated runner out of high school, Rogers was recruited by both, but chose Auburn over N.C. State initially.

Rogers was successful in the Auburn program, winning the 5K at the Southeastern Conference indoor track championships and setting a freshman record in the same event.

In cross country, she won two meets in the regular season and then finished 10th at the conference meet earning ALL-SEC honors. Her 19th-place finish at the National District IX meet earned her All-District honors.

But situations in the Auburn program coupled with changes in the Auburn coaching staff made it clear to Rogers after her first season that it was time to leave. And when the time came to transfer there was no doubt in her mind where she wanted to run come this fall.

"I knew right off, it wasn't even a choice as to where I wanted to transfer to. I called my parents and told them that I had to leave and I wanted to go to N.C. State," Rogers recalled in a recent interview.

Rogers contacted N.C. State's coaches, and then waited. "There were a lot of things going on (at Auburn) that I wasn't aware of, and I was really worried that I wasn't going to get the release, but everything ended up working out finally," Rogers said.

"We're happy to have her here, and she's happy here," Henes said of Rogers. "People make their initial decision for whatever reason, but we just feel fortunate to have her here now."

For Rogers, the biggest change in the 1998 season over her first collegiate season is that she actually looks forward to practice day-in and day-out.

"The best part is that we have a big group of girls, and we all train together, so I always have someone to run with," Rogers said. "I actually like going to practice everyday, and I really like the team, it is really like a family."

The State team is so notorious for its family atmosphere that a recent birthday celebration for 17-year Coach Rollie Geiger drew over 100 former Wolfpack runners back to Raleigh. Rogers likes it that way, and is apparently striving in her new-found role as one of the family's most recent additions.

The 5-foot-6-inch sophomore from South Carolina was N.C. State's top finisher at the Wolfpack Invitational held two weeks ago at the University's Centennial Campus.

Her time of 17:53 was 12 seconds off of the winning pace and led the seven Wolfpack runners that finished in the top 10. Like Rogers, for two other of those seven runners, it was their first time running in a red and white uniform.

"Everything is falling into place so well, that it has really let me know that this is what I am supposed to do," Rogers said.

For Rogers, like most of the Pack, season goals include the National Championship meet. But also like most of the Pack, Rogers realizes that the toughest competition State faces leading up until the NCAA meet, held in November in Kansas, will be from other runners running in red and white uniforms. The depth and talent of the squad means that helping the Pack qualify for the National meet at districts doesn't necessarily mean running in that fateful and final meet of the season.

But Rogers can handle that, too. "I just want the team to do well," Rogers said. "Anything that I do can only be made better by the team doing well. There is a legacy at N.C. State, just even being here is a big thing for me, racing well is just a plus."



Shon Isham/Staff

Lindsey Rogers is already making an impact at State after transferring from Auburn.

Netters look to avoid Sting

◆ Volleyball looks for its first conference win against Georgia Tech.

K. GRIFFNEY
Sports Editor

After failing to Clemson this past weekend, N.C. State's volleyball team is looking to get back on track with a win over Georgia Tech on Tuesday.

In an hour-and-a-half match against Clemson, the Pack battled hard, using defense to lengthen the match and try to throw the defending ACC champions off of their game plan.

"We wanted to control the game; we really knew what our game plan was," N.C. State Coach Kim Hall said. "But they were the better team mentally and were able to sustain through some long spurts, while we had a few drop-offs."

State also had three freshmen playing for a majority of the game, according to Hall. While two of those freshmen have already been honored by the Atlantic Coast Conference for early-season play, pitting a team composed by three veterans and three rookies against a Tiger team that returns nine letter-winners from last year's ACC Championship team is a hard scenario to expect victory from.

But lessons were learned, according to Hall, and the team will move on, specifically to Atlanta on Tuesday to face the Yellow Jackets.

Tech comes into Tuesday's match after a weekend split with UNC-Chapel Hill and Florida State. The Jackets' win over FSU on Sunday was the Seminoles second loss in as many days, after dropping Saturday's match to Clemson.

The Seminoles returned six starters to the lineup this season and were ranked No. 1 in the conference in the preseason. But the Seminoles might be experiencing the after effects of some early hard-fought losses to other nationally ranked opponents. The No. 21-ranked Seminoles are also hampered by an injury to team leader Alisha Thorton, which has left her sidelined for a few games in recent matches.

Tech jumped to a 2-0 lead in the match before dropping the third game, 8-15. The win was Georgia Tech's first over a nationally ranked opponent since beating Notre Dame in 1995.

State will have the advantage of being rested and having a full squad for the first match this season. After State's match with Clemson on Friday night, the Pack took Saturday off and only practiced on Sunday, while most teams in the conference piled two or three games into the opening weekend.

Sophomore Lisa Liberi also returns to the Pack lineup. After missing all of the first part of this season with a stomach injury, Liberi has been cleared to play.

Against the Yellow Jackets, the Wolfpack will also have to battle a notoriously large and vocal crowd.

"We like to play in those situations," said Hall, taking on Tech in front of a hostile crowd. "Any time you can play in front of 800 people, whether they are rooting for you or against you, it is great."



N.C. State's volleyball team, off to one of its best starts ever, is looking for its first ACC win on the road at Georgia Tech tonight.

Wolfpack notes

◆ Braccone makes a run at Clay Courts, N.C. State announces hiring, Cutts selected to represent Pack.

Sports Staff Report

Braccone makes run at National Championships. N.C. State senior Roberto Braccone, a two-time defending ACC flight champion, advanced all the way to the quarter-final round of the T. Rowe Price ITA National Clay Court Championships before he was ousted by Guillaume Letat of South Carolina.

Braccone advanced one of the final eight spots in the tournament with three straight set wins. In opening rounds, Braccone defeated Cary Franklin of Illinois, 6-6, 6-3, and Matthew Bailey of Mississippi State, 6-3, 6-3.

In the third round, Braccone, ranked No. 28 in the nation by the International Tennis Association, defeated Baylor University's Johan Jost, 6-1, 6-2.

Letat defeated Braccone, 6-2, 6-2. The tournament was held in Baltimore, Md.

After losing the quarterfinal match, Braccone joined the rest of the Wolfpack team, which was competing in the William & Mary tribe Invitational in Virginia.

Cobb hired as associate AD for marketing. Former Pack Football standout Charlie Cobb has been named N.C. State's associate director of Athletics for Marketing.

Cobb's main responsibility with the Wolfpack will be to oversee all aspects of the athletic department's marketing efforts.

Cobb comes to the Pack after serving as the Associate Executive Director of the Chick-Fil-A Peach Bowl and the Atlanta Sports Council for over a year.

Cobb graduated from State in 1990 with a B.A. in administration, and then received his master's in sports administration from Ohio University in 1992.

Cutts selected to represent Pack. Wolfpack Diver Kevin Cutts, the ACC three-meter champion in 1997, has been selected to represent N.C. State on the inaugural ACC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).

A senior from Charlotte, N.C., Cutts is majoring in industrial engineering. The SAAC will reportedly provide student-athletes' input to the conference on NCAA proposed legislation, policies and procedures, as well as policies and procedures on the conference level.

Gymnastics teams earn academic honors. After an NCAA Championship appearance last season, the Wolfpack gymnasts found more good news last week. N.C. State's squad has earned Academic All-America honors from the sports' coaches association after compiling the nation's 13th highest GPA.

State's team GPA totaled 3.35 last year, while seven individuals also received honors.

Freshman Jacquelin Clark tied for the highest GPA in the country, with a 4.0 in her freshman campaign. Also receiving honors were Kara Charles, Sarah Boisvert, Emily Bradsher, Stephanie Flanagan, Stephanie Wall and Ashleigh

ACC notes

◆ News and notes from each team around the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Sports Staff Report

Clemson announces Hall of Fame inductees. CLEMSON, S.C. - The University of Clemson announced six new inductees to the Clemson Hall of Fame last week. The list includes legendary Clemson

stars such as Obed Arari, who played football and soccer from 1976-80; Chip Clark, who lettered in four sports in the early '40s; Eddie Freeman, who played football, basketball and golf from 1943-46; Kim Graham, a track and field star from 1989-93; Dillard Pruitt, who starred in golf from 1981-84 and Bill Spiers, who was a football and baseball star from 1985-87 were also inducted in the 1998 class.

Duke soccer ranked No. 1, Heaps earns Player of the Week.

DURHAM, N.C. — The 1998 Duke men's soccer team earned the No. 1 ranking in both the Soccer America and Soccer News polls last week. The Blue Devils were ranked No. 2 in the NSCAA poll as well.

Duke started the season with a perfect 8-0 record, including six shutout victories, for the best start since 1988, before losing 3-2 in overtime to Maryland on Sunday.

Senior All-America Jay Heaps has also earned ACC Player of the Week honors for the second time this season. Heaps either scored or assisted on all of Duke's goals in two victories last week.

Former FSU star Charlie Ward founds reading program.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Former Heisman-winning quarterback and current NBA point guard Charlie Ward has initiated a program in his hometown of Thomasville, Ga., the past two years to encourage youths ages 8-12 to read. Ward rewards those who can certify to read 10 or more books a year: a trip to go see him play in an NBA game. Last year 60 youths who achieved the reading mark and their chaperones were treated to a Knicks - Hawks game in Atlanta at Ward's expense.

This year, the program allowed 85 well-read Thomasville children to travel to Orlando the week before last.

Ga. Tech baseball has No. 1 recruiting class. ATLANTA, GA - Led by infielders Victor Menocal of Gainesville, Ga., and

ACC STANDINGS	
Virginia	10
Georgia Tech	10
NCSU	10
Wake Forest	10
Florida State	10
Maryland	10
North Carolina	10
Duke	10
Clemson	10