

February 17, 1999

Arch-Rivals

Men's basketball looks for revenge against UNC-Chapel Hill tonight at 9. See page 10.



TECHNICIAN

North Carolina State University's Student Newspaper Since 1920 www.technicianonline.com

The COLORS!!!

Holy Cow! I must be tripping out! See page 7.

Outside

Weather forecast table for Today and Tomorrow, including high and low temperatures and moon phases.

What's in a grade?

◆ Technician ranks NCSU's "hardest" classes based on grade distribution reports.

CATHY WILFONG AND PHILLIP REESE Staff Writers

When students prepare to register for classes, many use grade distribution reports to select particular courses or professors. Under this mode of thinking, the lower the grades are, the harder the class appears.

But a recent examination of the Fall 1998 grade distribution reports yielded some surprising findings.

The Top "Hardest" Classes with Five or More Sections

By equating "difficulty" with "grades," the standard for a hard class could be considered the percentage of students who received a grade of C or below in the class. Based on this criteria, the top two hardest classes at N.C. State, with five or more sections offered, were Physics 205 and Physics 208, with 70 percent and 60 percent of students receiving a C or below, respectively.

"You're talking about a grade distribution that probably hasn't changed in 20 or 30 years," said C.R. Gould, head of the physics department. "These are courses that have always been perceived as difficult."

Gould went on to say that members of the physics department feel a grade of C in PY 205 or PY 208 is satisfactory and an indication that the student is ready to proceed to the next level.

"It is a perfectly acceptable grade," he said. "An A or B has really special meaning."

Although this logic may seem reasonable to professors, many students still feel that these two classes have proven to be very difficult.

"Physics 205 was a very hard class," said Rujnaja Singh, a former student of the class. "A lot of people did poorly."

Juri Groenland, a junior in textiles management, agreed. "Everyone dreads it," he said. Groenland is currently taking PY208 via the Internet.

And while few would argue that these two physics classes are a struggle for many students, grade distribution reports may also be somewhat misleading.

For example, the third- and fourth-ranked classes in this category were MA 107 and MA 101, both entry-level algebra classes, with 59 percent and 56 students receiving a C or below, respectively.

"I guess I'm a little surprised," said Denise Rowell, a graduate student who is the coordinator for MA 101. "We tend to encourage people to take this course for credit only."

Rowell noted that the purpose of MA 101 is "to bring up people's algebra skills. It doesn't count toward any major."

"A lot of students have the mindset that 'I'm going to do what it takes to get out,'" Rowell said of the low grades. "I would assume it is the same way for MA

"There are students taking these courses who really shouldn't be there."

Rich Cooper, who teaches CS 021, cited the open admissions policy as a contributing factor in the problem with the course.

"It catches some of our students by surprise," he said. "They simply are not

NCSU'S "HARDEST" CLASSES

Top Five Hardest Classes (with Five or more sections) Percentage of students with C or below in class

- 1. PY 205 70%
2. PY 208 60%
3. MA 107 59%
4. MA 101 56%
5. ENG 261 54%

Top Ten Hardest Classes (overall) Percentage of students with C or below in class

- 1. (tie) CS 201; ARE 063 83%
2. AGI 012 78%
3. ARE 012 76%
4. CS 051 73%
5. CS 053 71%
6. PY 205 70%
7. ANS 340 69%
8. (tie) PS 202; CS 052; ARE 012 68%
9. (tie) PS 306; PS 311; ANS 215 67%
10. (tie) PY 401; SSC 461; ECE 301; ARE 311 66%

Source: Fall 1998 Grade Distribution Reports

107."

"Hardest" Classes Overall

This same problem with ambiguous statistics also applies to the top 10 overall classes (regardless of number of sections offered) in which students received a grade of C or below.

Leading the pack with 83 percent of students falling into this category are CS 021, Intro to Turf Management, and ARE 063, Management Personnel, both of which are part of the Agricultural Institute, a two-year program with very few admissions requirements. The Agricultural Institute had several other classes in the top 10 in terms of grade distribution, including AGI 012 at number two, with 78 percent of students receiving a C or below in Fall 1998, and CS 051 (Forage Production) and CS 053 (Turf, Grass and Ornamental Weed Control) at numbers four and five, respectively.

"The students admitted to this program don't have to take the SAT," said Bob Patterson, undergraduate teaching coordinator for the crop science department.

aware of how much work it takes to do well in college."

Patterson, who expressed surprise and concern over the number of low grades in these courses, felt that many of the students in these classes do not take their studies very seriously.

"These courses can be mastered with effort," he said. "If the students would just come in and ask for help...we offer help sessions. But we never see them in the office."

Patterson felt, however, that the students might be of a different opinion.

"The typical student would say that this course is very demanding," he said, adding that the problem is a two-way street, stemming from both the professors and the students.

Other disciplines with high percentages of students receiving a C or below, according to Fall 1998 grade distribution reports, were animal science, with ANS 340 in the number six position, and ANS 215 in a tie with two political science classes (PS 306 and PS 311) for number eight.

NCSU VS PAR 3 peer institutions

◆ NCSU ranks 10th in corporate funding but lags behind in other categories.

PHILLIP REESE Staff Writer

Long regarded as a prominent research university, N.C. State continues to hold its own against other federal institutions.

According to Russ Lea, associate vice chancellor for research, NCSU ranks 10th in the nation in corporate funding for research. He said the university ranks 19th among the nation's land grant institutions in federal funding.

Still, NCSU falls a little behind in total research expenditures and total federal funding. In 1997, the school ranked 69th in the nation in federally funded research expenditures. It ranked 30th in total research expenditures.

Lea said NCSU's mediocre ranking in the above two areas is partially due to the fact that NCSU does not have a medical school.

"Medical schools drive those numbers," he said. "If we had a medical school, we would be in the top 15 easy."

Lea credits NCSU's success in gaining industry funding to prolonged efforts to reach out to the corporate community.

"Way back in the early '80s, we made a commitment that we had to be connected with the economy of the state," he said. "We call ourselves the people's university. We ought to be able to connect with the kind of industries that use our knowledge."

Lea said many schools are envious of NCSU's success in attracting corporate funding.

"We have five Industry University Cooperative Research Centers," he said. "If you get one of them on campus, people are tap-dancing. We have five."

Lea said gaining corporate funding often

Table titled 'Total Research Expenditures: Fiscal Year 1996' comparing NCSU to other institutions like Texas A&M, University of Wisconsin, etc.

leads to increased federal funding. He cited an instance in which an investment made by an agricultural corporation attracted a large USDA lab onto campus.

"We got industry sponsorship. Then the feds came running with another program," he said. "[The industry] has government people over there who are setting the policy right next to the center. It's a beautiful marriage."

According to John O'Neil, assistant vice chancellor for research development, the key to gaining funding for research is faculty involvement. He outlined a simple formula: The more proposals the faculty makes, the more funding the university receives.

"The faculty is the big engine on this campus that gets us the big dollars," he said. "They write the proposals; they develop the protocol."

According to Lea, NCSU's reputation as a research-friendly institution also garners funding for research projects.

"I think people recognize that this is a quality institution," he said. "With the Centennial Campus, we are absolutely unique in the research world."

Come and get your cookies!



Eight-year-old Elizabeth Swaffield and 9-year-old Elizabeth McClellam sell Girl Scout cookies in the Brickyard Tuesday.

The Big Event is the next best thing

◆ The NCSU-UNC game will be aired in Reynolds Coliseum tonight.

APRIL MORRIS Staff Writer

Are you ready for the Big Event?

For those students who cannot make it to the game between N.C. State and UNC-CH, the Big Event is the closest thing to being there. The game will be shown in Reynolds Coliseum on Wednesday night on a 16 by 20 foot projection screen.

The coliseum opens at 8:15 p.m. with a program at 8:30 p.m. and tip-off at 9:00 p.m.

In addition to watching the game, students will have the opportunity to win prizes and get snacks from the concession stand.

"Attendees will be treated to a 'game-like atmosphere' featuring door prizes, the N.C. State Pep Band, the cheerleaders and the Dance Team," said Matt Smith, director of N.C. State Clubs.

Two Midway Airlines tickets, apparel from the athletic department, restaurant

gift certificates, a University Towers dining card and Carolina Hurricane hockey tickets are just a few of the prizes to be given away.

This is the second annual Big Event to be held in Reynolds.

"Last year it worked out great, so we're doing it again this year," Smith said. "I think it is a super event that is going to be great for all of the students."

Approximately 2,000 fans attended last year and Smith hopes for even more than that this year.

See Event, Page 2

N.C. State's graduate school plans news series to better prepare students

◆ The first of a three-part colloquia program is to be held today.

EMILY TOWNLEY Senior Staff Writer

N.C. State's graduate school is hosting "Career Catalyst: A Colloquia Series," an annual event developed to aid graduate students preparing to enter the work force, on Feb. 17, April 8 and April 21.

"This series has been developed to give a holistic approach to careers outside the world of acad-

emia," said Charles Davis, director of development and outreach for the graduate school. "We have worked to plug in friends and alumni who have done extraordinary things as our guest speakers."

Davis said he hopes the series will bring favorable attention to the graduate school.

"The benefit of the series is twofold. It is a great way for students to look at individuals who have experienced what they are now going through as well as a good way to involve alumni and folks from the community in the graduate school," he said.

The Colloquia series is based on "Crosstalk," a series the graduate school has hosted each fall since 1993.

According to Amy Short, director of graduate student teaching and programming, the "Crosstalk" series focused on achieving success in graduate school. The "Career Catalyst" series was devised to provide practical, real-life examples of the options that exist for graduate students after graduation.

"More and more graduate students are now going into non-academic careers. We intend to pro-

vide information for these students in a creative way," said Short. "We have received really good feedback from many people on campus and had a great response from an entrepreneurial organization in the College of Management."

Short and Davis began planning the event last fall. They have worked to plan the theme, invite guest speakers and publicize the series. They expect each event to draw 50 to 200 people.

"Graduate schools across the nation are beginning to recognize that the needs of graduate students

are changing. Students are leaving the world of academia and doing other things, including entering the workforce in entrepreneurial capacities," Davis said.

The graduate school decided to host this series in response to a survey taken at "Crosstalk" last year. The survey highlighted the public's need and interest in a forum that would emphasize the achievements and career choices of NCSU alumni, according to Davis.

The three components of the series include programs led by Brand Fortner, Peter Lehrer and

John Mayo and will be incorporate such topics as entrepreneurship, ethics in the workplace and job hunting.

"Dr. Brand Fortner will be leading our series," Davis said. "He is not actually an N.C. State graduate, but he has led a fascinating life and will describe exactly how he made the move from a student at the University of Illinois to chief executive officer of two highly successful software companies."

Fortner will speak today in Room 3118 of the Talley Student Center from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Event

Continued from Page 1

ACTION, Advocating Choices Through Increased Options Now, encourage students to make good choices about alcohol, drug use and sex," Smith said.

A brief program dealing with these issues will be put on by the group at around 8:30 p.m. ACTION is a campus committee that was formed about two years ago.

"This year we are not going to have much of a program at all. We will have a speaker for a few minutes — a very, very brief program," Smith said.

Other organizations sponsoring the event include The Class of 1999, the N.C. State Alumni Association, Campus Dining, Student Health Services, the Athletic Department and the Wake County ABC Board.

The Class of 1999 will have a booth set up in the coliseum. Donations will be taken to fund the class gift, a bronze wolf statue for Carter-Finley Stadium, according to Zach Myers, senior class president.

The Alumni Association is also a contributor to the Big Event. "The Alumni Association is really working hard to establish traditional events for students and faculty at N.C. State," Smith said. "The whole campus spirit issue is a concern for us, but it is going to take support from the student body to make it go."

Fans are encouraged to arrive early for the Big Event in anticipation of a large crowd.

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◆ Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey invade Dorton Arena.

NATLIE DUGGINS
Spotlight Editor

Ezekial "Zeke" Williams clutches tightly at his blanket ... the lights have been dimmed inside Dorton Arena, and he has no idea what is about to happen. A first-time circus goer, the 2-year-old boy is puzzled by the sights, sounds and smells. He soon turns to seek comfort in the sleeves of his grandfather's jacket.

"Come on, Zeke," his grandfather says, directing the younger Williams back to the center arena.

Suddenly, the ringmaster, clad in a turquoise suit with golden sequined



P.T. Barnum once said that clowns are the pegs on which the circus is hung - any break in the performance at the Ringling Bros. show brought out a parade of clowns.

stripes announces, "Welcome to the greatest show on earth."

The words usher in the 129th edition of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus, which comes to Dorton Arena annually. It has been four months since the N.C. State Fair filled the fairgrounds with enthusiasm and fun and the scents of popcorn, cotton candy and candy apples permeated the air. Last Wednesday, the circus began its six-day stint to revitalize that ambience.

Following the ringmaster's announcement, a parade of animals, clowns and performers commenced and captured the attention of Zeke Williams and the rest of the audience.

Events of the evening elicited several "oohs" and "ahhs" from the watchful crowd. Mark Gebel impressed crowds with his spectacular showing, as he stood alone in a cage confronting 10 Bengal tigers. He shouted out instructions in German, as the tigers thrilled onlookers with their abilities.

"Hey mommy look ... the tigers roll over and sit up," Zeke called to his mother.

Gebel, whose father was circus legend Gunther Gebel-Williams, led the "performing puchyderms," a presentation featuring a dozen elephants displaying their balancing and maneuvering skills.

"My favorite part was] the elephants," Zeke said after the show, waving around his multi-colored light saber that stood taller than he did.

"I've waited for 20 years to have a grandchild to take to the circus," the elder Williams added, "Part of the joy for me is being able to see his reaction to seeing the circus for the first time."

The acts of the aerial daredevils didn't go unnoticed by the crowd, either. "Daddy," Sara Morgan, 5, of Raleigh cried out as the quartet of tightrope walkers evaded the net-less floor, "he's gonna fall."

"Mommy, don't that hurt?" Tonya Johnson, 4, of Durham asked, as she watched "The Women of the Rainbow" swing high in the air, seemingly attached by the locks of their hair. As the three women were slowly pulled upward, capes of multi-colored silk billowed out behind them, creating a stunning sight. At the end of their performance, they juggled balls of fire before gently being lowered to the ground.

Infused into the fun and enthusiasm of the circus are lessons in culture and diversity. Mixed with many of the acrobatic aerials and performances were music from other regions of the globe, including Spain and Russia. One of the featured performances included a percussion and dancing display by a tribe from Ghana in their native garb.

Immediately following the cultural exhibition, five riders galloped from the gallews, performing handstands, flips and other acrobatic acts on their horses. The culmination of the night's events came in the grand finale as, for the "first time ever," a double-barrel cannon shot sent two daredevils soaring across the arena floor. It appeared as if the man and woman would be shot into the ceiling of Dorton Arena, but after a poof of smoke and a bang, they landed safely in a net.

But, of course, no circus would be complete without fantastic costumes, of which there was no shortage at Ringling Bros. — every article of clothing was glittering, sequined and brightly colored. Instead of just men on stilts, there appeared to be giant aliens walking about. And the procession of circus performers at the beginning and end of the circus prompted one audience member to say, "This is like an acid trip."

The 1999 edition of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus continues to entice people to recapture part of their youth and has truly become an event for children of all ages.



Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus performed at Dorton Arena last week. Kahn, the tallest man in the world, towers over the munchkins.

The Legends of Pirates

◆ The legends of pirates help add to North Carolina's rich and fascinating history.

CHIP SMALL
Staff Writer

If we were living in the British Colony of North Carolina 300 years ago, we would have been dependent on the shipping trade for nearly everything we used daily. Just about all manufactured goods, from cloth to metal, were brought from Europe on merchant sailing vessels. Besides our dangerous coastline and deadly storms, the biggest threat to merchant shipping in the early 1700s was posed by piracy.

These pirates, now legendary, once struck terror into the hearts of merchant captains. Imagine the fear they must have felt while being pursued by a 40-gun sloop flying the dreaded Jolly Roger.

In March 1997, the North Carolina Division of Archives and History made a startling announcement. A shipwreck was found near Beaufort Inlet on the North Carolina coast that fits the description of the Queen Anne's Revenge, the flagship of the celebrated pirate Blackbeard. While this discovery does not contain buried treasure, it is rich in history. As North Carolinians, we should appreciate this latest addition to our state's cultural heritage.

The Queen Anne's Revenge has a fascinating history. The ship, then named the Concord, was launched in Great Britain in 1710. It was armed with 20 cannons and could carry 300 tons. This was in the midst of Queen Anne's War. Later that year, French privateers captured the Concord as a war prize. It served as an armed transport for the remainder of the war, taking part in the siege of Rio de Janeiro.

At the war's end, the Concord was refitted to serve as an armed merchant ship. On its first voyage in November of 1717, the ship left Nantes and sailed to the West African coast, where it picked up 500 slaves, in addition to its cargo of gold dust, silver and jewels. The Concord then set sail for the Caribbean island of Martinique. En route, near the island of St. Vincent,



two pirate ships attacked the heavily laden Concord. One was commanded by Benjamin Hornigold, the other by his former apprentice, Edward Teach, also known as Blackbeard.

They seized the ship and its treasure and left the Frenchmen with one of their smaller own ships. Hornigold soon accepted the English government's offer of amnesty in return for his retirement from piracy. Blackbeard, of course, refused this offer and inherited the Concord, which he renamed Queen Anne's Revenge and increased the number of cannons to 40. During the winter of 1717 to 1718, Blackbeard and another notable pirate, Stede Bonnet, sailed throughout the Caribbean and captured at least 45 vessels. When he sailed up the North American coast the next spring, Blackbeard commanded a navy of four ships and over 300 pirates.

The climax of Blackbeard's reign of terror was his week-long blockade of the port of Charles Town, S.C., in May of 1718. Charles Town was one of the largest colonial cities at the time. Blackbeard ransomed the ships. He captured a chest of medicine, and he kidnapped a local doctor to attend to his crew. One week later, the brigade of pirates was in Beaufort, N.C. Leaving Beaufort Inlet, Blackbeard decided to run the Queen Anne's Revenge and another ship aground to break up the large group of pirates and escape in a smaller ship with his treasure and a hand-picked crew of pirates. This marked the end of the Queen Anne's Revenge; Blackbeard met his own end six months later in a bloody battle off Ocracoke Inlet.

The legend of Blackbeard has lived on through the years, but the Queen Anne's Revenge has rested in peace. That is, until March 1997, when the North Carolina Department of Archives and History reported that a private company had located what appeared to be the ship's remains. The wreck rests in state waters, so the artifacts are the property of North Carolina.

The North Carolina Underwater Archaeology Unit carried out a four-week excavation in October of 1997 and another in the fall of 1998 to verify the ship's identity. All evidence so far indicates that the wreck is the Queen Anne's Revenge. It is in the approximate location that historians expected. All of the artifacts fit the time period, including the ship's bell with an inscribed date of 1709. At least 12 cannons have been located on the wreck so far. Only a pirate ship would carry that many guns, and the Queen Anne's Revenge was the only pirate ship of its size reported to visit Beaufort.

Geologists at Appalachian State University and UNC-Asheville are analyzing ballast stone recovered from the wreck (carried for stability when sailing). The scientists are looking for stones of European origin, which would further support the ship's identity. Divers have recovered three cannons, four cannonballs, a pewter platter and dinner plate and medical and scientific instruments presumably belonging to the kidnapped doctor. Archaeologists found a few

flecks of gold, but they don't expect to find a significant treasure, since Blackbeard had plenty of time to remove valuables from the ship.

Archaeologists hope the continuing excavations will provide new information into piracy, the African slave trade and the society of the 1700s. The world will be watching the North Carolina coast as the Queen Anne's Revenge provides answers to these questions and more.



Blackbeard is one of the most well known pirates to sail the seas off of North Carolina.

Technician's View

Practice condom sense

◆ In light of National Condom Week, manufacturers should reevaluate how they market contraceptives to the public.

This week is National Condom Week. In light of the holiday, students should consider the importance of safe sex in order to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS and pregnancy. More importantly, the condom industry might want to reevaluate the availability of their products to the public.

According to the American Civil Liberties Union, 85 percent of male teenagers and 76 percent of female teenagers in the United States have had sexual intercourse by the age of 19. The percentage of sexually active students increases dramatically with each year of age. These statistics prove that there is a growing need for contraceptives as well as an increasing market for them. Yet, why do stores that sell condoms behind counters make buying them an embarrassing experience?

A recent survey by the Center for Population Options in Washington D.C. indicated that only 13 percent of stores sold condoms, and, in another survey, 33 percent of con-

doms were kept behind the counter. The survey also found that teenage females, 40 percent of the time, faced resistance or condemnation from store clerks when they requested condoms. Perhaps the industry should reorganize where they display their products in order to make it more convenient for people, especially teenagers, and less embarrassing to buy condoms.

When using a condom properly during intercourse, about three out of every 100 women are expected to get pregnant. Not only that, but latex condoms act as a barrier to a wide variety of viruses, bacteria and other infectious particles.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in the United States, someone is infected with HIV every 13 minutes. CDC estimates that 65 percent of these AIDS cases can be attributed to sexual contact. If anything, such statistics provide all the more reason why the industry should seriously restructure the way in which condoms are sold. Condom businesses should re-market their products so that they are easily accessible and sold with little to no embarrassment. This would make improvements in the battle against AIDS, teen pregnancy and the transmission of STDs.

CAMPUS FORUM

NCSU should not value diversity

I was reviewing the option of relocating to Raleigh. The job I was considering is adjacent to the campus, so I decided to investigate the possibility of taking classes at State. I stopped off at the Chancellor's page on the Internet and began reviewing speeches delivered by Dr. Fox. Her underlying rant in all the speeches were variations on political correctness.

The "D" word (diversity) appears to have been elevated to religious level on your campus by Dr. Fox. Everyone knows when academics say they want more "diversity," it really means fewer white men are welcome and academic standards will be lowered so more [African-Americans] can be enrolled. Also, Dr. Fox intentionally thumbs her left-wing liberal nose at prevailing local religious values, threatening your campus community with "severe prosecution" for anyone who does not embrace homosexuals as equal members of the University community.

I am sickened by Dr. Fox's unapologetic worship at the PC altar. She makes N.C. State sound more like a proletariat-run re-education camp than a university funded by North Carolinians. Many men from my generation fought long and hard to kick the communists out of countries in Europe and Asia so the citizens there could be free to speak their minds. It appears we should have kept a closer eye on the leftists back home. How can you stand it?

J. Tyler Ballance
Norfolk, VA
Potential student

Students steal NCSU power

I guess everyone will be thrilled to see what is sure to be one of the many requisite letters from students whining about various aspects of this weekend's campout. My purpose is not to decry Student Government or Public Safety, but to recount some of the ridiculous and funny things that can be done. Don't misunderstand me, though; I had fun at the campout and think that most others did, too.

Several of my fellow campers were resourceful enough to bring

some of the longest extension cords I have ever seen and find neat little outdoor outlets to make use of. This was all fine and dandy until somebody got tired of listening to soft rock in his Public Safety cruiser. When approached by an officer and questioned about his power supply, one of my concerned neighbors asked if there was a fire hazard or anything and was assured that there was not. According to the officer, the issue was that he was "stealing" power from the university. I'm not going to get into the debate about students actually paying to live here and use university facilities, because I think we all see the point.

So, if I can in my dorm room watching that same TV, would I still be "stealing" power from the university? One of my other neighbors was told to go unplug his cord because the drain of his power demand threatened to blackout the University Student Center. If the power required to run two 13-inch TVs will blackout the Student Center, then NCSU is teetering on the edge of a meltdown anyway, and we have bigger fish to fry. But I guess it is important to have all the lights on in the Student Center when it is locked up tight (except for the C-Stor). Extension cords can, however, be easily and quickly rerouted.

One would expect to witness a little bit of controlled anarchy at these events. This time it was a bonfire consisting of a couch, a mattress, some pallets and a few other random combustibles. We all enjoyed the spectacle and the thrill of the fire and waited for the RFD to show up. The fire got doused and everybody returned to their respective campsites pretty satisfied.

Then came the power move, no doubt orchestrated by the strategic wizards in Riddick Field House, that would surely make the unruly students respect the "authority" (insert your best Eric Cartman impersonation here) of NCSU's finest. The RFD was told to douse our barrel fires, but the firemen seemed like they would rather be driving back to the station to go back to bed. They didn't get them all now did they do it in any methodical manner, but under the directives of the aforementioned force, we weren't really surprised.

So, after the fire truck pulled away, the fires were restarted. The effect was kind of like taunting a grizzly bear with a pointy stick, or college kids who have harnessed the power of fire and know what kind of objects will burn. I'm not saying there wouldn't have been the second fire in the road if our barrels were

ralph and oscar



by G West

Debnam trial — public safety's lesson

ANDREW PAYNE
Staff Columnist



"Just because this is a university and not some glorified para-military team gives no one the right to hire sub-standard individuals or people with past criminal records."

Andrew Payne
Staff Columnist
SPEAKING IN THE DEBNAM CASE

It seems that Lt. Pierre Debnam, a former Public Safety officer, is going to be retried for the third time. Is this necessary? Do we have an Assistant District Attorney seeking revenge because he has failed to convict Debnam two previous times because of a hung jury? I hope not, and because of the nature of the alleged crime, both parties involved must be going through a tremendous amount of emotional discomfort.

This bizarre case brings about a lot of questions. If the allegations are not true, then why would this young lady and former student subject herself to such circumstances? What are the hiring practices of N.C. State's Public Safety, and why would they hire an individual with a possible past of sexual misconduct? Can a person sue the university for the actions of its employees, especially police officers?

Debnam's defense case revolves around one issue: that the former student is making up the whole incident and has had a past of lying to gain attention. It would be tragic if such a case were to occur, but if it were not true, why would she come forward? Not knowing all the facts and not being a jury member, I will not be the first to judge guilt or innocence. However, I think that this is the difficulty with cases involving sexual assault. It's one person's word versus another. Victims want to come forward, but fear being called a liar and having their reputations stained. It is also difficult for the accused, because even if the allegations are not true, people still hold prejudices toward

them.

Too many times I have heard that Public Safety hires officers that were turned down from more prestigious positions like North Carolina State Troopers or Raleigh PD. Situations like the Debnam case don't help this perception. Is Public Safety so desperate that they must hire individuals that don't come up to par or have criminal pasts? If true, then all involved with Public Safety need to be fired and criminally prosecuted. Just because this is a university and not some glorified para-military team gives no one the right to hire sub-standard individuals or people with past criminal records. The students, faculty and staff at NCSU have the same right to receive the same protection as someone does in Raleigh or Fuquay Varina.

When the case first came to light, there was uproar over the civil suit sought against Public Safety, the university and the state because those parties felt that they could not be held responsible for the actions of their employees. On the other

hand, the lawyers of the young lady claim that because Public Safety knew about Debnam's past and the fact that he had been known not to report stopping individuals, they were liable because of not taking corrective action. This is a tricky situation. On one hand you have the state acting as the prosecution in the criminal case, proclaiming that Debnam is guilty. On the other hand the state, acting as the defendant in the civil case, does not want to fork over any money. My advice to the university: if Debnam is found guilty, pay up, because if you don't, you will receive even more ridicule and disgust from critics.

I hope this case can be resolved quickly and the appropriate outcome occurs. Also, I would say to Public Safety: continue to conduct stringent background checks on potential officers and break out of the stereotype that you are only glorified security guards. Your presence on this campus is very important, especially as crime seems to be increasing.

Fight for the right to privacy

MIKE HALBERT
Staff Columnist

How many of you have heard of the Buckley Amendment? I suspect not too many. Ok, well how many of you would like for your parents to be notified when you were a bad boy or girl? Sound like elementary school? Any of you out there remember the terrible feeling of getting home from school after a call from the principal? Well, let me tell you about it and how our university may soon be able to bring that feeling back.

The Buckley Amendment, also called the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, was passed in order to keep student records private and confidential. The basic intent was that any university student (18 years of age or older) is independent from his or her parents and other third par-

ties and therefore that student has total responsibility for his or herself. The amendment applies to universities and colleges that receive federal support (which most do), and basically what it says is that the university must adhere to strict guidelines concerning all student's records. If your school wants to disclose information to any outside party (parents, corporations, hospitals, the CIA or KGB, etc.), they would have to have direct permission from the student. Sounds great, right? Well it was great, until recently.

The Buckley Amendment was amended to allow institutions to release information about the students' conduct to their parent(s) or guardian(s). What does that mean for you? Well, how many times have you been in this situation? Let's say that you go out to a party off campus this weekend. Let's

say you drink a few beers. Let's say you are, oh, not 21 and all of a sudden you see flashlights and hear someone asking you for ID. Well, reluctantly, you pull out your ID to show to the pleasant officer and he decides to write you a ticket. Ok, "no big deal," you think, "I had one of these things before and I just paid the fine and didn't have to worry about it anymore." Well, think again, buckaroo, the rules may have changed.

If the university wants to, it can call your mommy and daddy to tell them how bad of a little kid you were in school that day. Think of that feeling from elementary school coming back to haunt you the next time you eat dinner at home. It's not a good thing. Personally, my mom would have just laughed it off, but I know many parents are not that way. Now, I know some of you out there are thinking that this is real-

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EPA

Forum

Continued from Page 3

not put out, but the willingness of the students to do it was certainly bolstered. Well, that about wraps up my pointless submission to Campus Forum. I just hope we all can appreciate these events for their conduct value and recognize the strategy and planning involved in keeping a bunch of rowdy, wild college kids at bay.

Jon Busick
Senior, Chemical Engineering

Pack women are the best

I wanted to congratulate our Wolfpack Women on an outstanding win Sunday in Chapel Hill. For those fans who traveled west to visit our rivals, you witnessed a fine display by everyone on the team. Carmichael Auditorium was our house on Sunday. We had the louder fans, better coaching and much better execution.

The typical "wine and cheese" crowd was never more apparent to me than it was on Sunday. Granted, the Heels did have a men's game at

3:30, but the men's fans didn't arrive until 30 minutes after the game had started anyway, so this is no excuse. We had a small contingent of loyal and, most of all, loud fans.

From the bottom of my heart, I want to wish the whole team best of luck in the rest of the season heading into post-season play. Make us proud again this year as you bring home the ACC tournament championship and another trip to the Final Four!! Go State!

Brian Price
Senior, Textile Chemistry
bprice@unity.ncsu.edu

Halbert

Continued from Page 3

because you want to be independent, right? You feel like an adult who can handle your own business fairly well, right? Well then, speak out. Find out more about this intrusion into your privacy. Look it up on the Internet, do some research and then speak out to your administration.

They still have not made the policy of how N.C. State will use the Buckley Amendment, so there is still time. Stop talking about how you are not being heard and Speak Out! Make your voice heard, all of you, and keep one more of our student's rights from being violated!

Comments? Questions?
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North Carolina State University
Cooperative Education Program

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Students interested in improving skills in resume writing and interviewing are encouraged to attend one of the following sessions:

Tuesday, February 9	129 Winston
Wednesday, March 3	129 Winston
Thursday, March 25	129 Winston

All workshops will be held: 4:00 - 5:00pm

ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

Students who would like information about NCSU's Co-op Program are asked to attend one of the orientation meetings listed below. Those who would like to co-op beginning the 1999 Summer session or Fall semester are urged to attend an orientation as soon as possible.

DATE	TIME	ROOM
JANUARY		
12 Tuesday	5:00pm	129 WINSTON
20 Wednesday	4:00pm	129 WINSTON
26 Tuesday	5:00pm	129 WINSTON
FEBRUARY		
2 Tuesday	4:00pm	129 WINSTON
4 Thursday	5:00pm	129 WINSTON
11 Thursday	4:00pm	129 WINSTON
17 Wednesday	5:00pm	129 WINSTON
23 Tuesday	4:00pm	129 WINSTON
MARCH		
2 Tuesday	5:00pm	129 WINSTON
17 Wednesday	4:00pm	129 WINSTON
23 Tuesday	5:00pm	129 WINSTON
25 Thursday	4:00pm	129 WINSTON
APRIL		
1 Thursday	5:00pm	129 WINSTON
6 Tuesday	4:00pm	129 WINSTON
14 Wednesday	5:00pm	129 WINSTON
20 Tuesday	4:00pm	129 WINSTON
29 Thursday	5:00pm	129 WINSTON
MAY		
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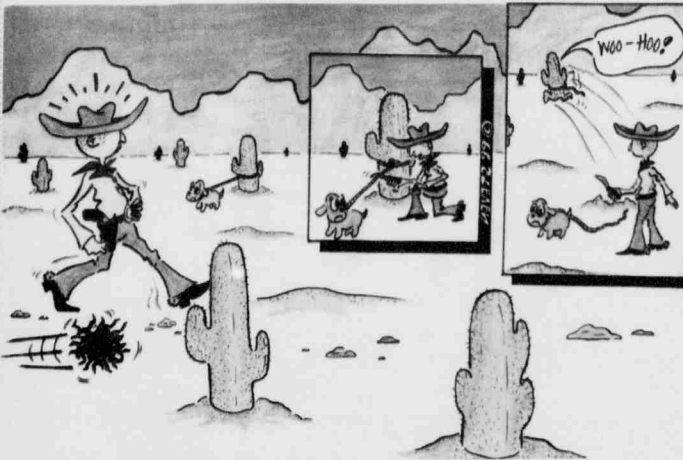
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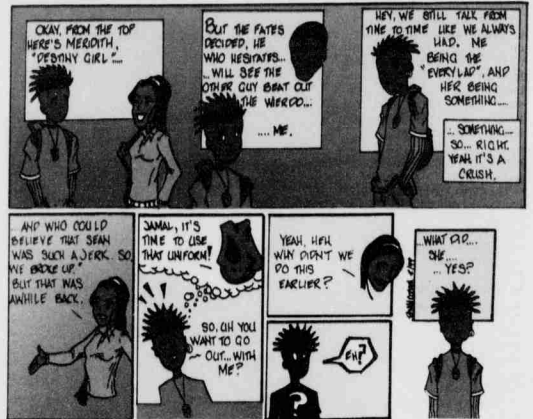
Wednesday, February 17, 1999

Vol. 79 No.85

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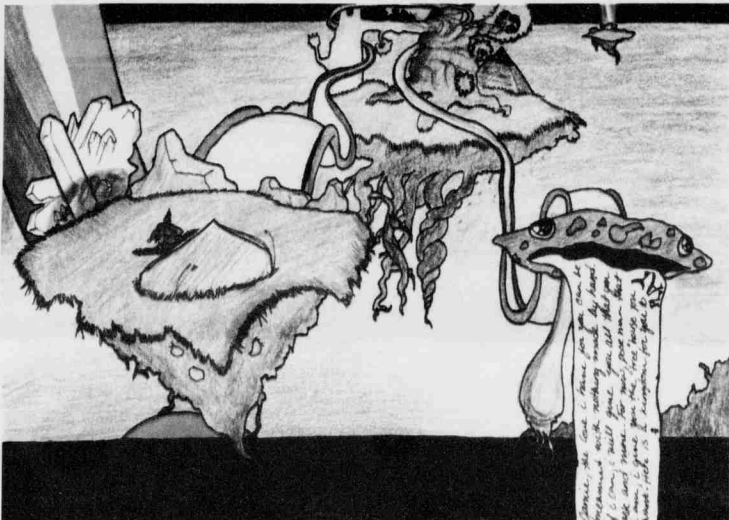
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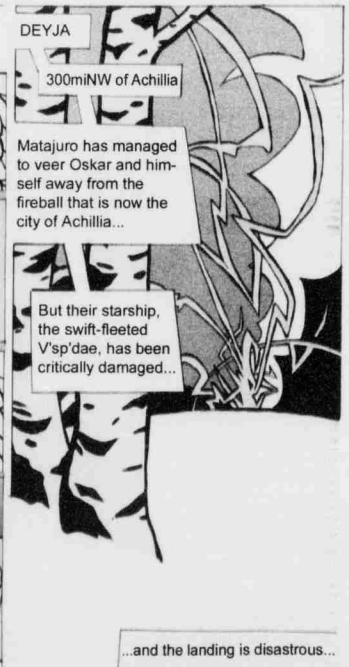
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State Stat:

The Wolfpack women have lost three straight meetings with the Duke Blue Devils.

TECHNICIAN Sports

Got a problem?

Who decides what music they play at baseball practice? Call us at 515-2411 or e-mail us at sports@sma.sca.ncsu.edu.

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Wednesday, February 17, 1999

Vol. 79 No. 85

Round 2: Time to play

◆ N.C. State faces arch-rival UNC-Chapel Hill in the Dean Smith Center tonight in a crucial game for both teams.

TIM HUNTER
Assistant Sports Editor

When playing against UNC-Chapel Hill, the N.C. State men's basketball team doesn't need any extra motivation. However, when the Wolfpack and Tar Heels face off tonight at 9:00 in Chapel Hill, even more will be on the line than usual.

"It always seems like when we play them it's at a crucial time in the season," junior point guard Justin Gainey said Tuesday. "Right now we need all the wins we can get. We want to win the rest of our games."

State is fighting for its post season life, and, while UNC-CH is probably a lock for the NCAA Tournament, the Tar Heels are striving for seeding positions in both the Atlantic Coast Conference and NCAA Tournaments.

"Every game seems bigger than life," Wolfpack Head Coach Herb Sendek said. "Every game takes on epic proportions when you are striving to make a climb to improve to get to the NCAA Tournament."

A win against the Heels would certainly improve State's waning chances of making the NCAA for the first time since 1991. The Wolfpack enters the game with a 15-10 record overall, with a 5-8 conference mark.

"It's impossible to forecast what you

need to do and how many games you need to win," said Sendek of the team's chances of post season play. "It's obviously to your teams' advantage to win as many as you possibly can."

In the teams' last meeting in Raleigh,

The Wolfpack struggled against UNC-CH's inside game on Jan. 16, which features 6-foot-9-inch Ademola Okulaja, 6-10 Kris Lang and 7-0 Brendan Haywood. The three combined for 31 points in the teams' earlier match up.

"I think it is a significant challenge for us," Sendek said of handling the UNC-CH front court. "Haywood had a tremendous game against us in Raleigh. Kris Lang continues to get better. But that challenge is duplicated with their perimeter play."

Part of that perimeter play may be missing for UNC. The Heels may be without sophomore guard Max Owens, who has seen his role increase lately. Owens, who has started the last seven games and is averaging seven points per game for the Tar Heels, strained a muscle in practice on Monday and is listed as doubtful.

Both teams are coming off tough losses. The Wolfpack lost in overtime at Virginia Sunday, while UNC-CH was whipped by No. 7 Maryland in College Park Saturday.

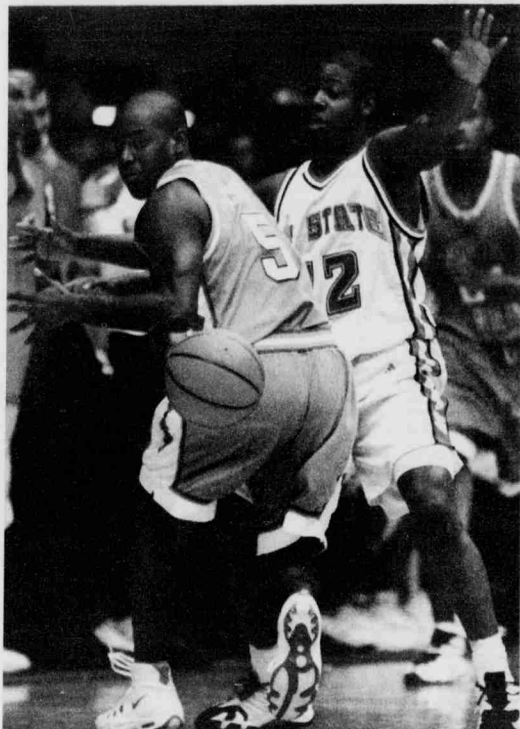
"The men on our team are more resilient and have the ability to move on better than we sometimes do," Sendek said. "I think the state of our team is fine. We had a good practice this afternoon."

"We're going to try to put the Virginia game behind us," said junior Tim Wells, who has been inserted in the starting lineup as of late. "We're going to come out and play the best we can. If we execute our game plan and play good defense, hopefully we can win."



State vs. UNC-CH: game time 9 p.m.

the Heels pulled out a 59-56 victory despite a barrage of three pointers toward the end by State freshman Adam Harrington.



Justin Gainey and Ed Cota will go head-to-head again on Wednesday.



Wolfpack baseball looks to bounce back from its lone loss of the season with a mid-week contest against William and Mary on Wednesday.

W&M a mid-week test

◆ Pack looks to find offensive answers against a high-scoring W&M team.

K. GREENE
Sports Editor

The Wolfpack baseball team kicks off a five-game homestand this afternoon, taking on William & Mary at Doak Field.

N.C. State is coming off its first and only loss of the 1999 season. The Wolfpack was hitless against East Carolina on Sunday afternoon.

State was 2-1 for the weekend, playing in a three-game tournament at Charleston Southern, improving the Pack's overall record to 3-1.

"In each of our four games, we have made good defensive decisions that have helped us win," said Wolfpack Head Coach Elliot Avent during Tuesday's practice.

"Particularly against VCU [on Friday] in a game we won 2-1 in 12 innings, we made four good decisions where they could have scored anywhere from one to four runs, and they didn't score any."

State's pitching was also solid. Dustin Baker and Grant Dorn gave strong performances from the starting slot, while a handful of relievers came in to put games away. Dan D'Amato pitched three hitless innings on Saturday for the first save of his career.

"We had a lot of guys do well in Charleston," said Avent. "We have a lot of work to do, fortunately for us, our pitching looks like it has a chance, and that is encouraging."

With pitching and defensive play seemingly in good place at the start of the season, question marks still lurk around the batting order.

"We just aren't the offensive team that we were last year," said Avent. "Losing 19

home runs from Brad Piery and a guy like Jake Weber, you aren't going to be as good as you were, and we are offensively not prepared."

Avent says that there will be some adjustments in the Wolfpack line-up, substituting guys who are "ready to play at this point," rather than continue his strategy from over the past few years of playing a number of different guys in the early season.

While senior Brian Ward has come through at the plate for N.C. State, the Pack batting order lacks the depth found in the bullpen.

Ward is leading the Pack with five hits and six RBIs in State's three wins.

But the rest of the line-up has struggled. "People point to the ECU game for three reasons: first, we lost; second, we got no hit; third, it was our first loss of the year," said Avent. "We haven't swung the bat

See Baseball, Page 9

Taking it to the next level

◆ Torry Holt prepares for the National Football League draft, beginning with this Saturday's combine.

TIM HUNTER
Assistant Sports Editor

The time has come.

After an illustrious career as a wide receiver at N.C. State, Torry Holt prepares to take his game to the next level, the National Football League.

Experts say the Gibsonville, N.C., native will be taken among the top 10, perhaps top five, selections in the NFL's April 17 draft and is doing everything he can to solidify his status.

"Nothing is guaranteed," Holt said in a press conference Tuesday. "I'm just going to continue to work hard like I have all year long, and, hopefully, it will pay off for me."

This Saturday, Holt will take part in the NFL's combine workouts in Indianapolis, something the pro scouts weigh heavily in their evaluations. However, because of a right knee injury Holt sustained while catching a pass from Syracuse's Donovan McNabb during practice for the 1999 Senior Bowl, he will not take part in the physical workouts.

"I'm not going to try anything [physical]. I'm just going to go up there, maybe catch some balls and do a lot of interviewing," Holt said of Saturday's combine. "I'm pretty sure I can interview about every team up there."

Holt, who recently had his jersey retired not only by N.C. State but also by his high school, Eastern Guilford, is recovering well from the injury and will hold his own private workouts for NFL scouts at N.C. State on March 24 and possibly on Mar. 31. "Right now it's probably 85-90 percent. There is

See Holt, Page 9



Holt reports to NFL combine Sat.

Pack women dive into ACC

◆ Six seniors and a strong underclassmen squad look for good things in Maryland.

CHRIS BOSKEN
Sports Staff Writer

Last year the Wolfpack women sent one senior to the ACC tournament and finished fifth overall.

Last year the team captured one ACC Championship with Marica McKeel taking the title on the one meter diving board.

That was last year — this year the women are more talented, more experienced and looking to do some damage at the ACC tournament in Maryland Thursday and Friday.

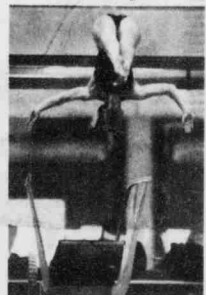
The women are coming off a long roadtrip with losses at the hands of Clemson and North Carolina. With a 2-4 record in the conference, the Wolfpack swimmers face an uphill battle for respect entering the tournament.

"It's a two-tiered meet, you've got Virginia, North Carolina and Clemson, then Florida State, Maryland and us followed by Duke. Going into the meet we'd be picked to get sixth. I'd like to think we're better than that," remarked head coach Scott Hammond.

With three Wolfpack swimmers entering the tournament as former ACC champions and several more with top five finishes in the championship meet, the team definitely has the ability to turn some heads Thursday and Friday.

"We have a lot more talent and depth this year — we can't take our entire team, which means we have a lot more diversity that we've never had," says junior Co-

See Swim, Page 9



Diver Marica McKeel picked up the lone Championship last year.

RECIPIENT CLUB NOTES

Sports Staff Report

Club Results

The women's club volleyball team defeated No. 9 ranked Richmond this past weekend, improving to third in their league.

State also scrimmaged Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill, picking up a 15-2, 15-8, 15-4 win over the Blue Devils and wins over both Chapel Hill's blue and white teams.

The women's club soccer team defeated UNC-Chapel Hill "B", 3-0. Carolina Duckworth, Kristi Ghiloni and Ashley Gerrow scored, while Natalie Montali added an assist.

Intramurals

Registration for co-recreation volleyball is open and will continue until Wednesday, Feb. 24, while badminton registration opens Monday, Feb. 22. Sign-ups for both are in room

1000 Carmichael Gymnasium.

Club Schedule

Saturday will be a busy day for NCSU's club sports. The men's rugby team takes on UNC-Wilmington at noon on the lower Miller fields. Women's soccer will also face off against the Seahawks at 1 p.m. on Upper Miller field.

Ice hockey will take on the University of Virginia at 5:30 p.m. at the Ice House in Cary.

Informal Recreation/Fitness

Informal recreation racquetball will be held on Saturday, Feb. 20 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. on courts W12-15 in Carmichael Gymnasium. Participants should sign in with the supervisor at court W12.

3-on-3 basketball will also be held on Saturday, from 1:00-3:30 p.m. on courts 4 and 6. There will be a supervisor on the court for participants to sign in with.

Anyone interested in learning basic massage techniques should check out the Massage Workshop on Thursday, Feb. 25th from 7-9 p.m. in room 1211, Carmichael Gymnasium.

There will also be a beginning Yoga Workshop on Thursday, Feb. 25 from 5:15-6:30 in room 1211. Registration is in room 1000.

Outdoor Adventures

Learn basic rockclimbing techniques at the rockclimbing workshop, Friday, Feb. 19, 5-8 p.m. at the rock wall in Carmichael Gymnasium. Registration is in 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium.

Officials

There will be a volleyball officials' clinic on Monday, Feb. 22 from 5-7 p.m. in room 127, Carmichael Gymnasium. Men and women are needed and no experience is necessary.