

Briefs

Around the State

CLINTON, N.C. (AP) — A 250,000-gallon waste spill at a cattle farm owned by U.S. Sen. Lauch Faircloth is being blamed for a fish kill on the Black River.

Dead fish have been reported from below where the unnamed tributary and Great Coharie Creek intersect down to the origin of the Black River. More than 1,000 fish have died from the spill that started over the weekend.

CHARLOTTE (AP) — The sanctuary of the Matthews Murkland Presbyterian Church is gone and police have charged a 13-year-old white girl with burning it down last Thursday night.

Law enforcement officials announced Monday that the Charlotte teen had been arrested and charged as a juvenile in the church burning. They said they found no evidence that the suspect was part of a conspiracy involving about 30 other recent fires at black churches across the South.

Around the Country

NEW YORK (AP) — Eighteen reputed leaders of the nation's strongest Mafia family have been arrested on charges that include gambling and the murder of a mentally ill wiseguy who spilled family secrets, authorities said today.

The arrests resulted from a 2-year-old investigation of the Genovese mob, which solidified itself as the nation's most powerful family after Gambino family boss John Gotti was imprisoned in 1992.

DETROIT (AP) — Less than a month after his latest court victory, Dr. Jack Kevorkian attended the death of a New Jersey woman.

Ruth Neuman, 69, who died of carbon monoxide poisoning, was the 29th person to die in Kevorkian's presence since 1990.

Mrs. Neuman had "been incapacitated many years" after a series of strokes, the last of which left her partially paralyzed on her left side. She also had uterine cancer and diabetes, he said.

Around the World

TOULON, France (AP) — Four young devotees of the 16th century astrologer Nostradamus confessed Tuesday to desecrating the grave and corpse of an elderly woman in this French Riviera city.

The body of the 77-year-old woman, buried in 1976, was discovered Sunday dumped out of its coffin, an upside-down cross hammered into its chest and a religious plaque smashed across its face.

TOKYO (AP) — The 12th of last year's nerve gas attack on Tokyo's subway system, 52-year-old Mitsuo Okada died Tuesday.

The leader of the Aum Shinri Kyo doomsday cult, Shoko Asahara, and several cult followers are being tried on murder charges in connection with the attack, involving the nerve gas sarin.

Governor's proposal ignored

UNC system gains nothing, loses \$6 million

Amy L. Royster
Staff Writer

Officials and students excited by Governor Hunt's proposed \$100 million for the University of North Carolina (UNC) system were disappointed when the N. C. House decided on a budget that ignores the governor's proposal, cuts an additional \$6 million from the current budget and leaves a \$396 million surplus in savings.

"I am surprised and concerned for students at ECU as well as for students across the UNC system," Angela Nix, Student Government Association president said.

Hunt's proposal, prompted by requests from the board of govern-

nors, included seven percent faculty raises, tuition remission and health insurance for graduate students, funding for new technologies and money for research.

Representative Gene Rogers (NC-D) from the sixth district said that in his 10 years as a representative, this is the first budget he voted against.

"The House just didn't pass any of the governor's plan," Rogers said. "We included no money for technology. We included no money for a lot of things."

According to Rogers, the House decided on a three percent pay raise for faculty and staff which he said is not sufficient.

"We are going to lag behind other universities in the country and in the southeast," Rogers said.

Nix is also concerned that faculty's salaries are not competitive.

"The House's attitude toward pay increases could encourage pro-

fessors to leave for positions at other universities," Nix said. "These professors would take their research with them."

ECU will also be strongly affected by the lack of funding passed for libraries. According to *The Daily Reflector*, Chancellor Eakin said that without funding for library resources, the university is having to ask departments to limit their number of subscriptions to various journals and periodicals.

Tuition remissions allowing out-of-state graduate students to attend N. C. schools without paying out-of-state tuition were not a part of the House budget. Nix said that with-

out benefits for graduate students, ECU will be less enticing.

Nix said that she is especially surprised by the House budget con-

sidering the successes of the system. Nix said that UNC institutions account for more than 80 percent of the nursing, engineering and education degrees in the state. Over half of the medical degrees come from UNC schools as well.

"The UNC system has been

nationally recognized as providing a quality education at a reasonable price," Nix said. "We have proven ourselves to be an investment to the state."

Nix said that with the House's budget yet to be revised by the Senate, there is time for concerned people within the university community to voice their opinions.

"It's important for members of the UNC system to speak out," Nix said. "Call or write to your representatives and senators."

Nix said that she has written 96 letters to various government officials about the budget. Last week, she met with SGA officials in Chapel Hill to share information.

Rogers said he believes that the Senate will be more supportive of universities than the House. However, he said that he does not think the Senate will pass all of the governor's proposals either.

"When the Senate adds support, it will return to the House, where they will probably take it back out," Rogers said.

Representatives can be reached by calling (919) 733-4111.

"I am surprised and concerned for students at ECU as well as for students across the UNC system."

—Angela Nix, SGA president

Medical School clerk indicted

Kelly Sullivan
Staff Writer

A former ECU School of Medicine accounting clerk has been indicted by a Pitt County grand jury on 29 counts of obtaining property by false pretenses.

Sylvia C. Coward, a 14-year employee of East Carolina University, allegedly embezzled \$65,000 from the department of microbiology and immunology.

Coward's arraignment date is set for June 24.

"I don't know if this is the largest sum ever allegedly embezzled from the university," University Attorney Ben Irons II said. "but this is obviously a substantial amount of money. It is obviously a matter of great concern for us."

"Since this is a criminal matter, the case has been turned over to the district attorney's office and was referred to a grand jury," Irons said. "Although the district attorney will try the case and handle all matters relating to the case, East Carolina University will be working with the district attorney to seek restitution for all

funds that belong to the university."

A preliminary review conducted by ECU last year indicated that \$65,000 may have been "improperly dispersed" in misappropriated funds from the medical school department over a period of at least two years.

Coward was suspended from her position last year pending the completion of an internal auditing investigation of the department of microbiology and immunology. She later resigned and the matter was turned over to the state board of investigation.

The internal audit involved a ten-year-old international exchange program within the department of microbiology and immunology. The program, formed in cooperation with a Bristol, England technical school, permits six to eight international students to study in the medical school department. The account pays subsistence stipends for the students, such as room and board and other expenses.

Associate Dean for the School of Medicine Dennis Sinar was unavailable for comment on the program's future.

Students trip for safety

Jacqueline D. Kellum
News Writer

Recently graduate students in the Masters of Science and Industrial Technology Program got the opportunity to see industrial safety standards close up during an upcoming trip.

These students, in the Occupational Safety concentration, set off on their trip June 8. They travelled through California, Arizona, and went south of the border into Mexico before coming home.

The Occupational Safety concentration is relatively new to ECU. Dr. Mark Friend is the head of the program.

"The program's only three years old," Friend said.

Friend said that there are about 50 students in the program currently, most of them nontraditional. Classes for this program are held at night to accommodate these students who have gone out into the work force and returned to school.

The undergraduate majors of these students include industrial technology, business, nursing, and environmental health.

See SAFETY page 4

Conversation series raises community awareness

Various groups discuss the future of America

Marguerite Benjamin
News Editor

Tonight the Ledonia Wright African-American Cultural Center will host a meeting of concerned area high school students who will discuss the future of our country. This meeting will mark the end of one segment of a series of group conversations designed to discuss the theme "What Does America Mean to Me?"

The series began in May after the North Carolina Humanities Council (NCHC) awarded a \$9,118 grant to PeopleAct, a community-oriented organization which formed a partnership with ECU and several other Pitt County community organizations in order to address timely community issues.

The NCHC makes grants to non-profit organizations for humanistic programs that deal with history, literature and languages to examine the cultural issues of American society.

"Our overall goal is to bring in a diverse range of participants who will open up about their lives and how they were [in the past]," PeopleAct's Managing Director Janice Periquet told *TEC* before the series began. "I think this series is appropriate for Pitt County because the area has changed so much and has become so diverse."

Periquet said the plan included three groups of ten individuals who would meet three times in each month to answer questions generated from assigned readings.

"The texts chosen for the discussion include the works of immigrant and Chicano writers such as Angila Yezierska and influential African-American writers like Langston Hughes," Periquet said, adding that some of the questions were real conversation starters like "Do you still believe in the American Dream?"

"After the initial conversations have concluded, we will produce a play which will be a collage of the videotaped conversations," Periquet said. The project's directors would pick the best stories to provide material for a ninety-minute play, produced by

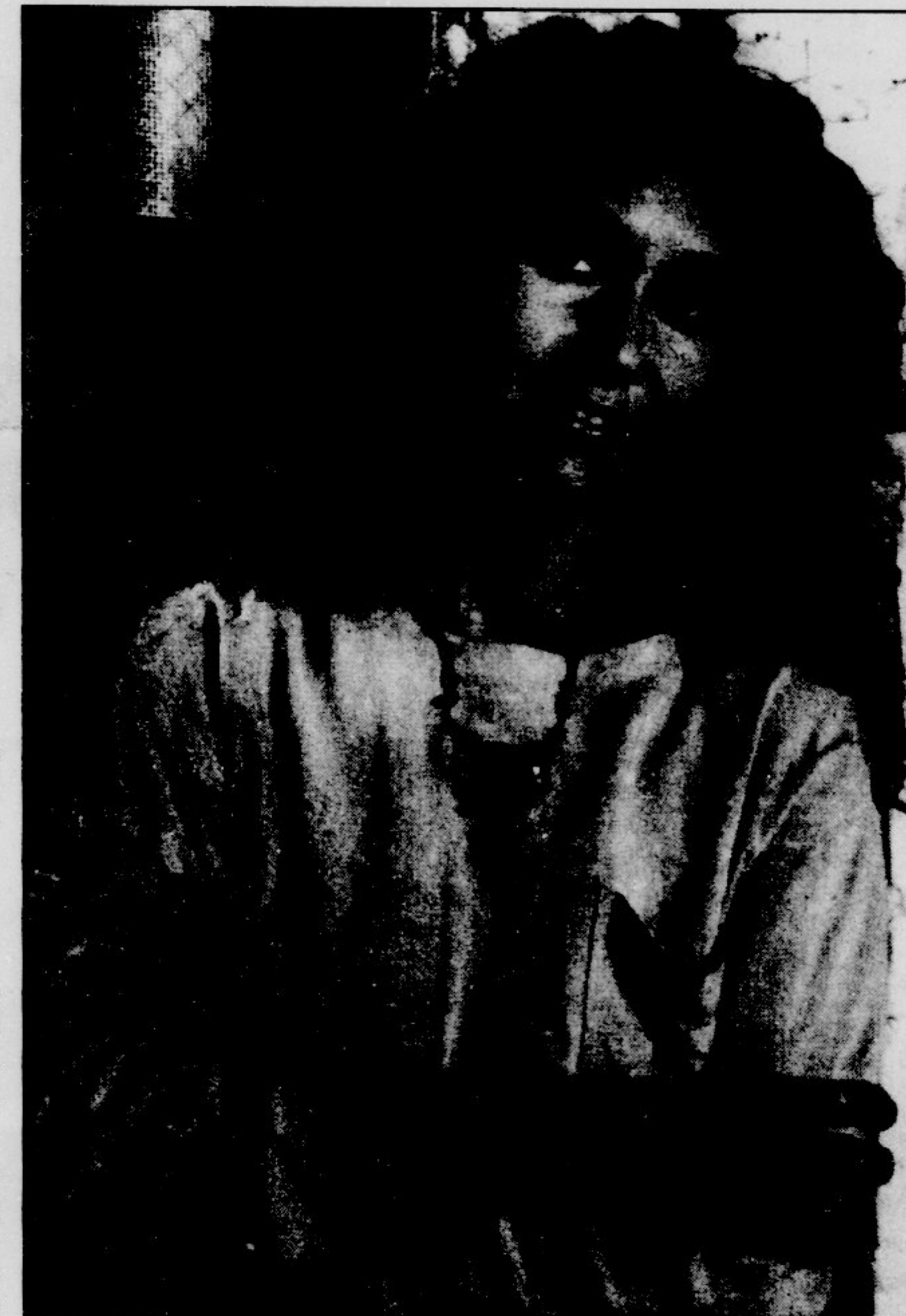


Photo Courtesy of Gay Wilentz

Published author and English instructor Gay Wilentz is a co-director of the conversational program addressing the theme "What America Means to Me."

Debbie Morrison, which would be presented in a tour throughout eastern North Carolina.

One of the project's directors, Gay Wilentz of ECU's English department, said the participants of the group conversations were given the opportunity of "instant fame."

"Coming to the meetings and sharing stories really could make you famous if you think about it," Wilentz said. "When the play goes on tour, people from different areas of the state will be hearing your story and probably will be talking about it for years to come."

Periquet said the nature of the conversations would be totally candid.

adding that hearing honest stories was the main objective.

"We want to hear what's real, not the politically correct thing or what one thinks people want to hear," Periquet said. "We want what's real."

Both Periquet and Wilentz said the plan should be effective, especially since there would be follow-up discussion groups with the audiences attending the play.

"We expect the conversations to build on themselves and start a chain reaction of concern and discussion which will motivate communities to get involved with cultural issues and

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LIFE Connery pulls double duty on silver screen.....page 6 OPINION N.C. legislature strikes blow for ignorance.....page 5 SPORTS ECU pitcher named All-American.....page 9	Inside Wednesday Partly Cloudy High 90 Low 70	Forecast Thursday Partly Sunny High 88 Low 70	How to reach us Phone (newsroom) 328 - 6366 (advertising) 328 - 2000 Fax 328 - 6558 E-Mail UUTEC@ECUVM.CIS.ECU.EDU The East Carolinian Student Publication Bldg. 2nd floor Greenville, NC 27858 Student Pubs Building; across from Joyner
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CRIME SCENE

June 4

Larceny - A staff member reported that two fire extinguishers were stolen from Garrett Hall.

June 5

Larceny - A student reported the larceny of his bicycle from the bike rack west of Flanagan.

Larceny - A student reported the larceny of computer components from a computer in Speight.

June 6

Assist/Rescue - A student was transported to Pitt County Memorial Hospital by Greenville Rescue after he fainted in Messick.

Larceny - A student reported the larceny of his bicycle from the bike rack at Flanagan.

June 7

Unauthorized Use Of Fire Extinguisher - A person(s) unknown used a fire extinguisher and sprayed its contents in Fleming Hall.

June 8

Possession Of Stolen Property - Four juveniles were taken into custody for possessing stolen property and vandalism of the Sports Medicine building.

June 9

Driving With A Revoked License - A non-student was arrested for driving outside of the provisions of his limited driving privilege on Founders Drive.

June 10

Motor Vehicle Accident - A minor motor vehicle accident occurred in the Harrington Field lot.

Motor Vehicle Accident - A minor motor vehicle accident occurred on College Hill Drive.

Simple Possession Of Marijuana - A student was issued a state citation for possessing traces of marijuana during a traffic stop west of Umstead.

Compiled by Amy L. Royster. Taken from official ECU police reports.

University officials fight net porn

Violators break university codes, federal laws

Vicki Armstrong
Staff Writer

ECU and other universities around the nation are facing serious concerns regarding offensive materials and students' access to the Internet and to school equipment. A few universities, such as Oklahoma University and Carnegie Mellon have even begun to restrict student access to the Internet.

ECU administrators have begun looking into ways to deal with possible problems in the future.

According to Ernest Marshburn, associate director of Computing and Information Systems at ECU, many of the incidents which have been brought to public attention were not prosecuted by universities as violations of pornography laws.

"From the other universities that I have spoken with," Marshburn

said, "in many cases when students were taken off-line the issue that was dealt with was not the issue of pornography, but that the images that were placed on-line and made visible by the public were scanned, or made electronic, out of a magazine, which constitutes a violation of copyright laws."

Marshburn said the issue of pornography on the Internet was clearly visible and those who violated university guidelines had broken other federal laws in the process.

"There have been a few students who, as a result of their activities and actions, were either placed on probation with respect to their accounts, not their status as a student, just their approval to use computing resources on campus, up to a point of actually suspending their accounts," Marshburn said

in response to the question whether any such incidents had been reported at ECU.

Marshburn said that accounts could be suspended for up to one year.

"We've been in the process of developing, along with other university administrators, a policy statement with respect to offensive or pornographic material on the Internet."

Marshburn said the best way he can describe the situation is that, in many respects, what the university is trying to do is to uphold existing policies rather than creating new ones.

Marshburn added that there are federal laws that deal with issues such as copyright and distribution of offensive literature.

There are university policies that deal with harassment, and potentially the distribution, viewing, showing of pornographic information could be construed by some people as a form of harassment, Marshburn said.

"I suppose that the first thing to understand is that the Internet is a large unregulated network of information and there isn't a way, that we know of, of universally restricting selected portions of the Internet."

"If you are walking down a street there are potentially some shops that you would want to enter and browse around in, and there are other stores that, because of their name, or the advertisement that was on the window, you would deem inappropriate to go walking into."

In the end Marshburn concluded that the final solution to the problem of Internet pornography in the university is simple self-governing.

"It is that same sort of analogy on the Internet in that there are places that you don't want to go and it's almost a buyer beware, in that it's up to you to decide which places you want to go and which are inappropriate."

"I suppose that the first thing to understand is that the Internet is a large unregulated network of information."

—Ernest Marshburn,
associate director of CIS

Workshops provide valuable experience

Program stresses science and math

Amena Hassan
Staff Writer

This summer, the East Carolina University Science and Mathematics Education Center will be offering "Science in the Wild": a series of workshops for teachers of all subjects who will be teaching any grade level.

"Although we're stressing science and math, there are still activi-

ties in the workshop in such areas as art and English," said Karen Dawkins, assistant director of the center. "These are valuable and wonderful opportunities to go on field trips with park personnel, and the workshops provide excellent curriculum materials to incorporate in a classroom setting," Dawkins said.

The "Science in the Wild" workshops series will be held in the state parks of Pettigrew, Merchants Millpond, Goose Creek and Jockey's Ridge during June and July for teachers who want to obtain license renewal credits.

"The workshops will work

around the specific environment of each park," Dawkins said. "Pettigrew State Park, for instance, will expose teachers to methods used by archaeologists who work as scientists, and simulations of archaeological digs."

Other workshops being offered in the series are the "CBL/TI-82 Workshop," where high school math and science teachers explore the technology of data collection and analysis using lab probes and calculators and "Scope, Sequence and Coordination of Middle Grades Science" which enables teachers to merge areas of science with other

course work.

"The workshops are all outdoors and all in the northeast area of the state," Dawkins said. "They are specific to the kinds of fields the teachers plan to study."

Dawkins said when the teachers plan their own field trips, they can utilize the information provided in the workshops and present it to classrooms using their own individual creativity.

For more information about the workshop series and other programs, call the ECU Science and Mathematics Education Center at 1-800-238-9868 or 328-6885.

good times, good food, great friends

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"Last year I had an opportunity to live on campus and be a winner. But instead I chose to live off campus...what a mistake. I got stuck with utility, phone and cable bills. The security deposit I had to pay for the apartment really cut me short on money. I had to eat my own cooking and then wash all the messy dishes. I even had to clean my own bathroom...Yuck! I didn't have time to meet new friends because I had to spend so much time cleaning my apartment--not to mention shopping for groceries. I had an 8:00 class, and searching for a commuter parking space was a big headache. If I had lived on campus, I could have just walked to class. Boy, did I learn from my mistakes. Now I'm back on campus with my friends!"



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Two University of Tennessee graduates destined for space

Two University of Tennessee Space Institute degree candidates were named to NASA's astronaut class of 1996, NASA recently announced.

Marine Corps Capt. Charles O. Hobough and Navy Lt. Scott J. Kelly, who are both currently assigned to the Naval Air Station test pilot school at Patuxent River, Md., were among 35 candidates chosen from more than 2,400 applicants.

In August, Hobough and Kelly will begin space shuttle pilot training at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. Their intensive training program will be for one year, which will prepare the men for their first mission in space.

Hobough and Kelly went through a military type selection process before they were sent to NASA for screening.

Student dies in fall from dormitory at the University of South Florida

Mathew Richards, left a close family with six brothers and sisters to live in a dorm with hundreds of people he had never met at the University of South Florida.

Richards mother was worried about Mathew being lonely and feeling isolated. He often told her how insecure he felt about the future.

Clutching a Bible, Richards jumped off the 12th floor of Fontana Hall, one late May morning. No note was found.

A maintenance worker at Fontana Hall who rode in the elevator with Richards said that he appeared despondent. The maintenance worker got off one floor after Richards, and along with another employee, found his body lying on the concrete.

Richards, 22, was a political science major who planned to graduate in December.

Compiled by Amy L. Royster. Taken from various college newspapers and CPS.

News writers meeting Thursday 12 p.m.



Gas prices on the decline

AP — Gasoline prices finally appear to be falling, just as the nation heads into peak driving season, but the profits oil companies are earning on refining may keep anger welling up in consumers.

Some motorists are changing vacation plans to use less gas and some are complaining the prices won't come down as fast as they went up.

At Don Davis' Unocal station on Pacific Coast Highway, halfway between Los Angeles and San Diego, Bob Palmer pumped regular unleaded into his pickup truck at \$1.579 a gallon Monday.

The truck was carrying cabinets from the San Diego company Palmer works for, and he handed over a corporate credit card to pay; no problem there. But ask him about gas prices

and his plans to drive his family to Alabama for an August vacation and the story is different.

"I was going to borrow a motor home to drive across country, but now we're taking a small car instead," Palmer said. "It's just way too expensive — it would be astronomical."

The national Lundberg survey found pump prices fell last week for the first time since November 1995, to an average \$1.369 cents per gallon for all grades. That was down 1.21 cents from the previous week. The drop was attributed to lower crude oil prices and the end of a supply shortage.

As the summer smog season strikes California, oil companies here also are recovering the costs of re-engineering refineries to produce a

cleaner formula gas required under new state rules. That contributed to prices soaring nearly 40 cents a gallon from February to their peak in May.

Unocal Corp. Chairman Roger C. Beach told shareholders last week that, largely due to refining profits, Unocal will earn as much in the first six months this year as it did all last year.

"I think that's inexcusable, really," Palmer said. And he predicted any price decline will be far less swift than the run-up.

"They'll never go back down as far as they were," he said. "They'll take advantage of the situation, even if they lower them some."

Edwin Rothschild, director of energy policy at the Citizen Action consumer group in Washington, said Palmer has it right, and predicted refining profits would swell the bottom lines of big oil companies nationally. "There is a significant drag or lag effect on the way down (in prices)," he said. "And the primary reason for that is the lack of competition in many markets," especially California, where independent refiners and retailers have been driven out of business.

Nine oil companies were sued

Friday in San Diego state court for allegedly artificially inflating the price of the cleaner-burning gas in California; the conspiracy suit seeks triple damages on antitrust grounds. Oil companies have acknowledged supply shortages but deny any wrongdoing. Unocal spokesman Barry Lane said his company's profits follow a tough time for refining operations. Unocal lost \$7 million on refining during the first quarter, and it wasn't until mid-April that the company raised prices enough to offset higher crude oil and cleaner gasoline costs, he said.

The Dana Point filling station, leased by operator Davis, has had only an average year after poor profits throughout the '90s, Davis said. He recalls trying to explain to an irate customer that she was yelling at the wrong person about higher gas prices.

"I just told her to check Unocal's quarterly profit to see who's making the money," Davis said.

Some customers had no complaints: Jochem Sprethe of Germany was delighted by the prices; German gas costs twice as much. "Wonderful!" he said before whizzing away in a rented red convertible on a 1,500-mile U.S. vacation.



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Study shows increase in minority enrollment

AP — Students from minority backgrounds are enrolling at American colleges and universities in greater numbers, but their proportion on campus still trails that of whites, a higher education group reported today.

Minority student enrollment rose 5 percent in 1994 — nearly double the increase of the previous year, said the American Council on Education, an association of colleges and universities.

Between 1990 and 1994, the number of minority students enrolled in colleges and universities rose by 26 percent, the group said in its 14th annual report.

Still, while an estimated 23 percent of the nation's high school graduates are black, Hispanic or American Indian, they make up only 16 percent of the enrollment at four-year institutions.

Edward Foote II, president of the

University of Miami, where minorities make up 49 percent of the enrollment, said he thinks economics rather than widespread discrimination is to blame for lagging minority enrollments.

"At this stage in American history, I do not think it reflects outright discrimination," Foote said. "I think it reflects the economic reality that minority students tend to be less well off."

Foote said affirmative actions programs should be defended against court challenges and universities need to recognize and embrace the needs and limited resources of increasing numbers of minority prospective students.

Ayanna Kelley, a sophomore at the University of Houston-Downtown, said if more black students were confident that

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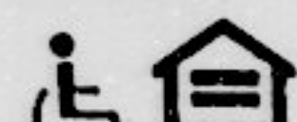


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STUDENTS from page 3

they could earn a college degree, more would enroll. There is a stigma that black people cannot do anything well, or on time, and that mentality is instilled in young blacks, she said.

"It has a big effect. I talk to a lot of young people. They've been put down so much. They think they can only go to

junior college or beauty school or truck driving school," said Ms. Kelley.

According to the report, minority students have made steady advancements in college enrollment since the mid-1980s. Between 1993 and 1994, they achieved small to moderate gains in college enrollment.

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The curriculum includes classes in research, management, ergonomics, and health law, among others. Communication skills and working with people are also important in this career, and Friend said that the curriculum tries to address this.

"In every class, we try to do projects that gets them in plants working with people," Friend said.

The program also requires an internship for anyone who has not worked in some area of industrial safety before, and the students often give presentations in class and work in teams.

Once the students are ready for graduation, they can find a variety of options waiting for them.

"They can start work as soon as they graduate. They would typically go to work in manufacturing companies, as supervisors," Friend said.

"However, typically does not mean always," and Friend said that there were many options to choose from.

"There's such a wide variety of occupational locations, and every one of them needs a safety supervisor. I've had graduates go to work at Disney World," Friend said.

There are also opportunities to travel with an Occupational Safety degree.

CULTURAL from page 1

strive for improvement," Wilentz said.

Periquet said the tour destinations were chosen according to the demographics of the population in eastern cities.

"For example, Pembroke would be an ideal tour stop because of the large Native American population," Periquet said. "Elizabeth City might also be a good place to stop because of its large number of African-Americans."

Wilentz said she sees the conversations as a way of trying to connect different people in the community and linking the university and the community to examine what means to be American.

"We're looking at all different groups of people, different ethnic backgrounds and cultural orientations with these discussions," Wilentz said. "Usually when you ask questions that deal with Americans, you get answers that only cover black-white issues. We're trying to hear all of the voices of our community not just a select few."

Now that the conversations have been underway for a while and the segment conducted with high school students is coming to a close, Wilentz said she is pleased with the outcome of the project.

"Basically the groups have been better than we expected," the project co-director said.

According to Wilentz, the texts chosen for the group discussions have worked well.

"I think when we hear the personal stories of others, such as writer Langston Hughes, we are more willing to tell our own stories. It is amaz-

ing that we were able to get people to actually talk about the issues that matter to our community."

"I've been working with the high school students, and they really are thoughtful about what their world is going to be like. In this last meeting with these students, we will discuss our future—where do we go from here and what steps we have to take to get there."

Tonight's meeting will be held at the Cultural Center from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Some details:

—For the fourth consecutive year, blacks' enrollment gain of 2.5 percent in 1994 was the smallest of the four ethnic groups surveyed. But since 1990, the number of blacks enrolled in colleges and universities increased by 16 percent.

—Asian-American enrollment in 1994 rose by nearly 7 percent. Since 1990, these students have posted an enrollment gain of 35 percent. The number of Asian-Americans at colleges and universities nearly doubled since 1984 from 390,000 to 774,000.

—American Indians and Alaska natives posted a 5 percent gain in enrollment. Since 1990, the number of Indians in higher education has risen by 24 percent.

—Hispanics posted a 7 percent increase in enrollment—the largest gain of the four ethnic groups. Since 1990, the number of Hispanics enrolled in higher education has increased by 35 percent.

"What are the barriers? My parents came over to this country and they didn't have much money," said Lino Cameras, a student at Miami-Dade Community College in Florida.

Patricia Burgh, assistant provost for enrollment management at Seton Hall University in South Orange, N.J., says finances are a special problem for minority students, who sometimes never inquire about college because they're convinced they could never afford it.

But minority students also often come from poorer-quality schools that lack the right books or computers, making them ill-prepared for college work, she said.

Minority students recorded an 8.6 percent increase in the number of associate degrees earned in 1993—the most recent data available. They earned 9.3 percent more bachelor's degrees, 10.4 percent more master's degrees and 13.9 percent more first-professional degrees in areas such as dentistry and medicine.

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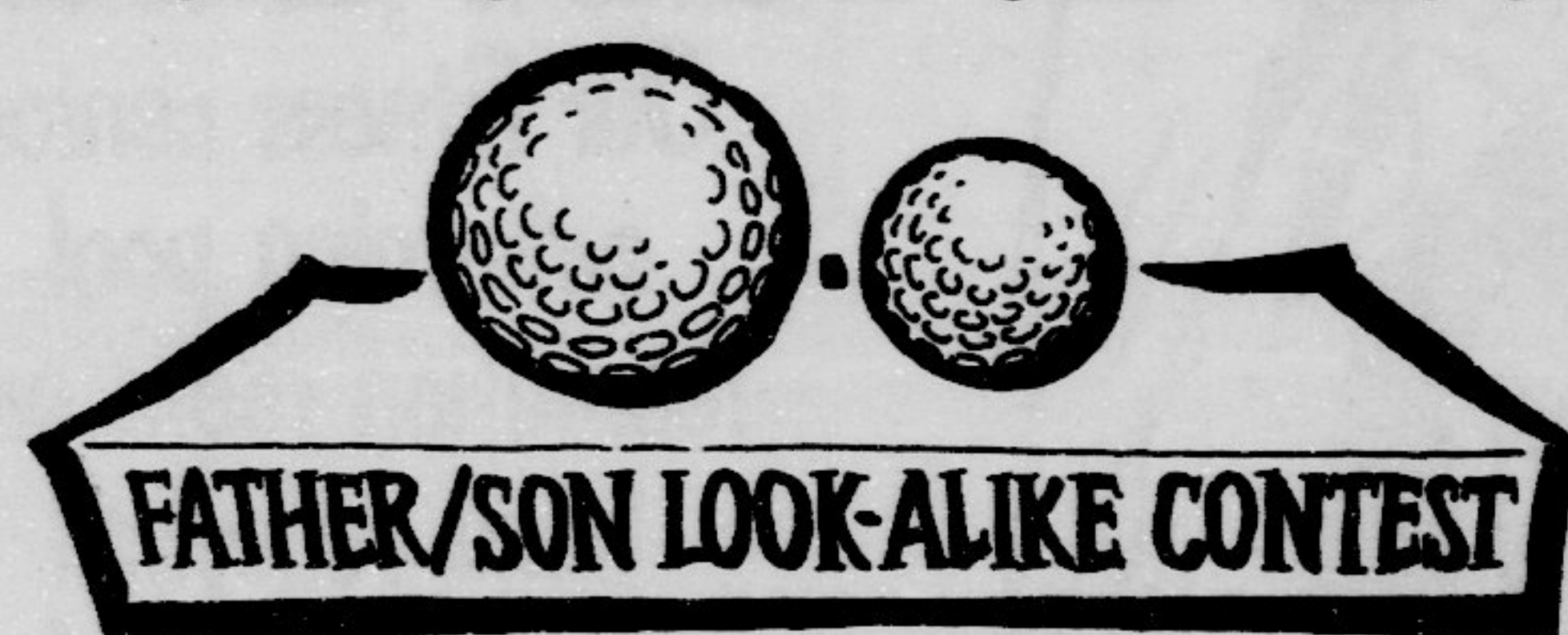
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OPINION

wednesday

Our View

So, the state House has opted to cut \$6.3 million from the UNC system budget and strike a blow for ignorance in North Carolina.

What are they thinking? In a time when America can barely compete in the world market because our educational system is a joke, they decide to slash funding. With an almost \$400 million excess in the state budget, they decide that they can no longer afford to subsidize one of the better state university systems in the nation.

It's not that the amount they're cutting is crippling. Spread out over the whole university system, \$6.3 million will only cause a few ripples here and there in the individual schools. Of course, anybody who's ever worked for the university will tell you that things are pretty lean as it is. But we'll squeak by.

The real insult here is that these cuts come in the face of Gov. Hunt's proposed \$100 million increase in the university system budget. That extra money was going to go to stuff like salary hikes for faculty and staff, health insurance for teaching assistants, new equipment and library materials, research grants and financial aid.

While these are things the universities certainly need to keep up with other schools around the country, we could get by without them. Granted, with that extra \$400 million floating around, you'd think they could cough up a little more dough for their schools. But to cut more on top of that ...

In part, this is an attempt by the House to force the UNC system to raise its tuition rates to match those of other schools around the country. On the surface, that doesn't sound like an unreasonable request.

But you have to realize that North Carolina has low tuition because some smart cookie in our state's history realized that the vast majority of our population is poorer than dirt. With higher tuition rates, a lot of North Carolina citizens would never make it to college. They'd never leave the farm, or the ghetto, and we'd be every bit as ass-backwards as the rest of the country seems to think we are.

But low tuition reaps the state other benefits, too. Students flock to North Carolina from all over the country because they can go to school cheaper here than at home. More students equals more people, and more people equals more money. More money equals good business, and a stronger state economy.

Raising tuition could be disastrous for North Carolina, but the money to keep the schools running has to come from somewhere.

Let's face it, the UNC system has become the victim of petty political squabbling in the state capitol. Hunt faces a lot of opposition in the Congress, and their refusal of his university budget is just a way for them to strike out at him. Somebody needs to remind these jokers that education is not a political football they need to be kicking around. Not with what's at stake.

Luckily, the House is still kept in check by the Senate. If the Senate budget is more favorable to the university system, we may not see the cuts voted on by the House.

Let's hope the Senate is a little less petty, and a lot more realistic.

Gov. Hunt's budget proposal for UNC system was trashed by the House. But the \$6.3 million in additional cuts is a slap in the face to education in North Carolina.

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Serving the ECU community since 1925, The East Carolinian publishes 12,000 copies every Tuesday and Thursday. The lead editorial in each edition is the opinion of the Editorial Board. The East Carolinian welcomes letters to the editor, limited to 250 words, which may be edited for decency or brevity. The East Carolinian reserves the right to edit or reject letters for publication. All letters must be signed. Letters should be addressed to Opinion Editor, The East Carolinian, Publications Building, ECU, Greenville, NC 27858-4353. For information, call (919) 328-6366.



Don't be a Potato Head

The difference between your best friend and a head of cabbage is in the memory.

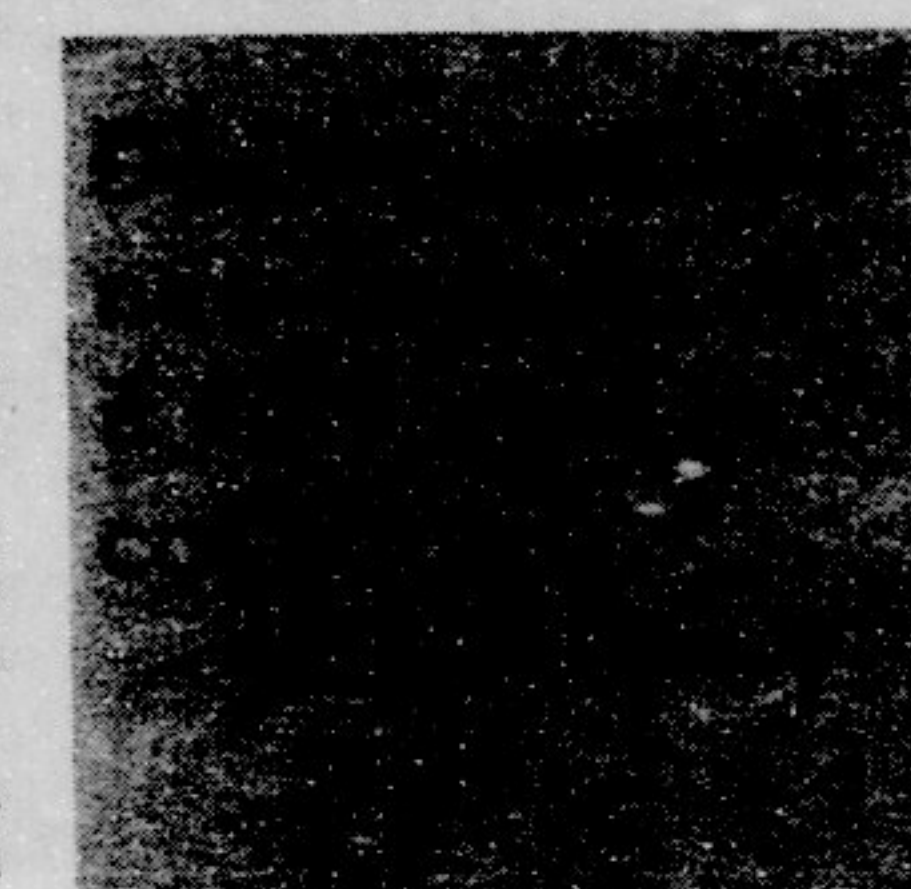
"Can somebody tell me where the Mendenhall Student Center is?" Billy asked, as he quickly walked up to the first person that he saw. The person rattled off a series of directions that included landmarks that he had not even heard of before. Billy shook his head and moved to the next person hoping that they would take him to where he was supposed to be.

Billy was from a small town in North Carolina and had only heard of Greenville. East Carolina had a reputation for being a party school but only because his older brother's girlfriend had visited and come back with a new boyfriend. From then on, Billy just accepted everything that he heard about ECU.

His first time away from home had been an eventful one. On the way to Greenville, his car had found its way into another town and he was very lost. After a few directions and a lot of asking, he had arrived too late to make his tour and too early to check into his dorm. Billy was in Wonderland without Toto or the Cheshire Cat.

When I was a kid, my Mom used to let me help her cook dinner. Sometimes she would let me snap the beans and sometimes she would let me stir the bowl of whatever it was that she was making. I always found great joy in being productive. I also found joy, for whatever reason, in finding friends in strange places.

Patrick Ware
Opinion Columnist



Don't tell me that all of you out there did not have imaginary friends, you did. I just made them out of things.

One of my friends was a head of cabbage.

Billy finally made it to the student center where he was to get in an eternally long line in order to have his ID made. He was, of course, the last one in line. His hands were so full of information sheets that he was forced to wad important pieces of paper up into a ball and stuff it into his pocket because nobody told him that he would need his backpack.

This head of cabbage that I had lived in our fridge. I had painted a face on it and had animated it with the parts from a Mr. Potato Head that had lost most of its pieces long before. His name was Marvin and if anyone dared cook him they would surely rue the day that they ever considered doing it.

After he finished standing in the lines for IDs and dining cards he was shuffled up to the room where all of the campus groups were recruiting for their clubs and activities. Filing through, he was pummeled with a barrage of flyers and pitches from perfectly nice individuals who meant well, but were scary to Billy because he didn't know what to expect.

One day I lost my cabbage and I lost my best friend. They were the same and when I rode home from school on the bus he was not on my mind and I had forgotten him. My Mom reminded me years later that I cried for days, over a cabbage that I called Marvin.

After Billy made it home that weekend from his orientation, he was overwhelmed. He was to move to school in a couple of months and he was now more confused than he had ever been. He was still excited to be a freshman at ECU, he simply wondered what in the world college would be like.

Don't forget what it was like to be new on a campus and become just another Potato Head. Treat the new students with extra courtesy. The difference between a head of cabbage and your best friend is in the memory. If you remember that head of cabbage as only a head of cabbage then the friend becomes less real to you. Don't treat these new students as if they were cabbage, only cabbage and as if they will always be cabbage. Just remember how you felt and then extend a hand and all of those other cheesy sayings. Okay.....Okay.

Letters to the Editor

Jobs scarce for ECU graduates

To the editor:

Back in January of this year, I decided I wanted to do a summer internship to gain some valuable work experience. Well, I've been out of school for almost four weeks and still I can't find any type of internship. I'm a senior in the school of business and I've held several executive positions with numerous clubs and student organizations, but of the 114 resumes I have sent to companies in the eastern North Carolina area since January, not one company has offered me any type of internship.

The letters that I received back stated that my qualifications were

well demonstrated, but they also stated that due to massive layoffs and company restructuring there was no positions available for interns. Finally, about a week ago, I was offered an internship with a company in Myrtle Beach, SC, but due to high living expenses in the area, my search again has come to a stand still.

While I am on this subject of our economy, let me bring out some political factors that contribute. I have lived in eastern North Carolina all of my life, and I have never seen the economy in this area any worse than it is now. Just over the past six months, I have seen family

members lose jobs, I have seen the city of Greenville lose factories and the city of Tarboro lose over 2,000 jobs.

And when these elected politicians, which represent our state, run their political ads trying to get your vote to become re-elected base their platform on the stable economy and secure job base that they have created for our state, ask yourself and the guy who can't find a job or just lost a job, "What have they done for eastern North Carolina?"

Robert Lewis
Senior
Marketing

"In an imperfect state of the human mind, the interests of the truth require a diversity of opinions.."

— John Stuart Mill, English philosopher, 1859



LIFEstyle

Ride the Carousel

Angel Whitley
Staff Writer

The East Carolina Summer Theatre would like to invite you to take a ride with them as, for the first time ever, they will proudly present the classic musical *Carousel*.

Carousel, by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, has never before been presented at McGinnis Theatre. In fact, due to a "forthcoming national tour that has tied up the piece across the country, we were extremely fortunate to obtain producing rights," said John Shearin, Summer Theatre producer and director of *Carousel*.

Carousel is a story of "impulsive passion, and the forgiving and redeeming qualities of fidelity and love," said Shearin. Its themes of sexual compulsion, spousal abuse,

alcoholism, and suicide are easily accessible to today's audiences, Shearin added. He was quick to note, however, that *Carousel* addresses these issues in a way that is "sensitive and sympathetic ... a beacon of hope and forgiveness that is very powerful."

Carousel was chosen for production because of that power and beauty. "It is one of the most deeply moving pieces ever written," Shearin said. So moving, in fact, that its production at the Lincoln Center in 1994 snagged several Tony Awards.

Shearin expects equally good results here at East Carolina. He credits his cast as "one of the finest across the board...very, very strong." He also said he expects the dancework to be extraordinary due to the choreography of David Wanstreet. Shearin pointed out that the set design is also excellent.

It is not traditional for the play; instead, it was designed to suggest the "vastness of fate and destiny under which all humans labor."

Other members of the production staff besides Shearin and Wanstreet are Mort Stine, music director, and Scott Carter, conductor.

The principal cast members are Christine Boger (Julie), Denise Wilbanks (Carrie), Janice Schreiber (Mrs. Mullin), Nat Chandler (Billie), Ileana Gudel (Nettie), Kilty Reidy (Enoch), and David Berberian (Jigger).

Carousel will run from June 18-22. Show times are Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., with matinees scheduled on Wednesday and Saturday in McGinnis Theatre. For ticket information, please contact the East Carolina Summer Theatre at either 328-6829 or 328-1726 or stop by the Box Office in the McGinnis Theatre lobby.

Cruise under an open sky



Photo by Carlton Turnage

On College Hill last week, students enjoyed an outdoor showing of *Top Gun*, the movie that made the career of Tom Cruise, courtesy of ECU Rec Services.

Movie Review

Check out the Connery summer

Veteran actor stars in two films simultaneously

Dale Williamson
Senior Writer

Pierce Brosnan may have reinvented the James Bond role, but that hasn't slowed down the original Mr. Bond. Sean Connery has been a busy man, and this summer Connery fans can enjoy the man not once but twice with the releases of *Dragonheart* and *The Rock*.

While a film dealing with a dragon and a film focusing on a ter-

rorist threat on Alcatraz may seem to be diametrically opposed concepts, these two films have more in common than simply Connery. Both films share problems with pacing, both films feel disjointed at many points, both films play heavily off other films, and despite all these problems, both films ultimately are irresistibly fun.

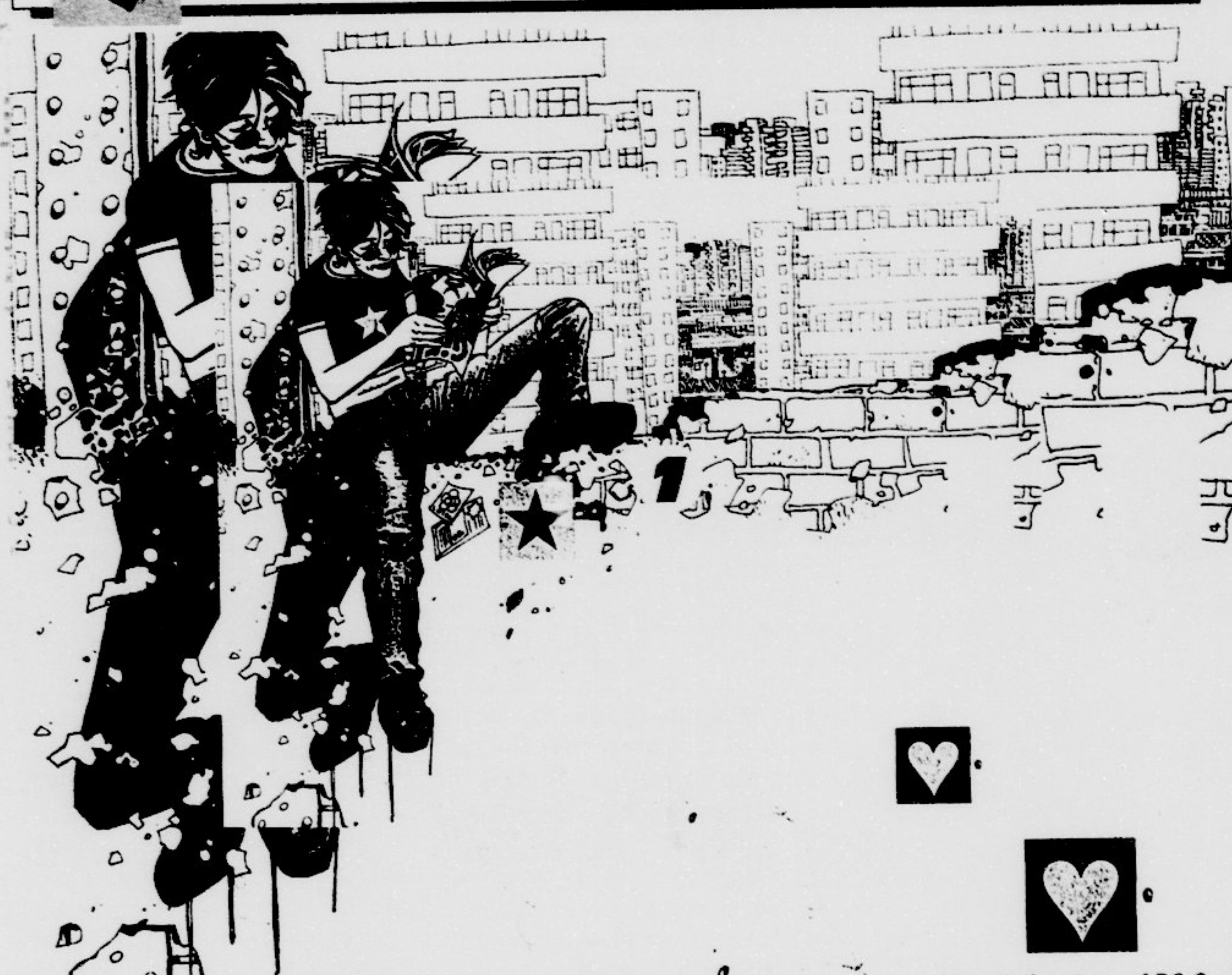
Dragonheart does not feature Connery in the flesh, but instead in the voice. Here, Connery is the voice of Draco, the last of the dragons (brought to glorious cinematic life through the wonders of computer technology). The film's concept is intriguing and it uses mythic qualities effectively. The main problem with the film, and the main reason why

many may be disappointed by it, is the simple fact that *Dragonheart* is two films in one. It is at once a children's film filled with goofy antics and also a more adult film filled with dark violence.

The basic story (written by Patrick Read Johnson and Charles Edward Pogue) is worthy of any children's book. When a young prince is mortally wounded, the Queen takes him to Draco hoping he can heal her son. Draco agrees to help on the condition that the prince will rule his land with love, compassion and kindness. Unfortunately, the prince breaks his promise and rules his land with a deadly,

See CONNERY page 8

Book Review



Artwork Courtesy of DC Comics

Double exposure: Simone Cundy, star of the new comic book *Girl*, enjoys her life story while reclining on a decaying wall in her native Bollockstown in this artwork from the first issue.

Enjoy a bizarre slice of life in *Girl*

Mark Brett
Lifestyle Editor

"My name's Simone Cundy. I am 15 years old. I don't believe in God, but I believe in the Holy Trinity: my head, my heart and my hymen. All three remain unbroken, and I intend them to remain so."

With these words, readers are introduced to the lead character of *Girl*, a comic book mini-series by writer Peter Milligan and artist Duncan Fegredo.

Well, okay. That's not entirely accurate. Actually, we first meet Simone as she prepares to blow up the lottery ticket factory at the heart of the city of Bollockstown. But I, like the story, am getting ahead of myself.

Simone is, in some ways, what people refer to as a mixed-up kid. She's unsure of her place in the world, and she's angry about a lot of things (like pop stars and tampons and people in general). But she's also the most sane person in this story. Okay, so she tries to kill herself with rat poison in

See GIRL page 7

CD Reviews



Fuego del Alma
Dicho & Hecho



The Make-Up
Destination: Love
Live! At Cold Rice



Derek T. Hall
Staff Writer

Jay Myers
Assistant Lifestyle Editor

After hearing a few members of Fuego del Alma in the alternative band Sex, Love & Money, I thought my ears were deceiving me when I heard the first tune on *Dicho & Hecho*. Recorded in Greenville with a little help from family and friends, this album brings about a brand new array of songs that will mesmerize you from dusk until dawn. So that you are not confused, Fuego del Alma is not simply a Sex, Love & Money side project but instead a new Spanish band with enough potential to make it wherever they may roam.

The album starts with a song called "Palito." It doesn't say too much or not enough, it's just the right groove to get you into the swing of things. Next on the agenda is "La Casa," a song that entails fast guitar runs and African drums. Where are these guys going? They're all over the place. Yet, whatever place they visit they make themselves right at home.

The members of the band are John Bateman (lead guitar), Eric Manning-Tano (rhythm guitar), Chuck Manning (bass), John Sutton (hand drums and percussion), and John Chambliss (drum set and percussion). By simply looking at the instruments they play in their lineup, you can tell just how rhythmic the band is.

As the disc rolls on you'll find a tune called "Jaquemate." This tune is certainly different than the rest. Not only do Chambliss and Sutton combine drum tracks to give you an instant boost of energy, the entire track is jazzed up. It won't let you go, trust me. Following "Jaquemate" is a showcase piece for the band's exotic skills, a song called "Brisas del Canino." This tune clues you in on just how much of a drive there is in this quintet. Their ability to piece things together into a composite style is amazing. It's one challenging experience after another for this band.

The last two tunes on this al-

See FUEGO page 7

This album is like an old Marvel Comic. Remember the stories where they posed questions like "What if Peter Parker had never been bitten by a radioactive spider" and then proceeded to show you how different the world would be because Spiderman never existed? You know, sort of like the perennial Christmas film favorite *It's A Wonderful Life* starring Jimmy Stewart, or the "Mirror, Mirror" episode of *Star Trek* where the crew enters an alternate universe and Spock has a goatee.

What the hell am I talking about, you ask?

(Best Rod Serling voice) Imagine if you will, a time before Prince ever entered the pop music scene. What if the paisley one instead started a punk band that played a unique style of music called "Gospel Yeh-Yeh?" What if he was really a white guy named Ian (instead of TAFNAP or squiggle or hieroglyph or whatever it is he's calling himself these days)? The answers to all of the questions can be found in *The Make-Up* zone.

Originally members of a punk band called Nation of Ulysses, James Canty (guitar), Steve Gamboa (drums), and Ian Svenonius (vocals) have now created *The Make-Up* with the help of Michelle Mae (bass, vocals), formerly a member of the Frumpies. *The Make-Up* combines punk with funk and soul, all led by the charismatic Svenonius who is the closest a white guy can get to Prince, complete with shrieks, stage moves, and pseudo-androgyny (which even extends to the name of his self-owned label, Black Gemini Records). This is a big change for Svenonius and co., since Nation of Ulysses was an intensely political punk outfit.

The record, *Destination: Love, Live! At Cold Rice*, is an

See MAKE-UP page 8

A Drop in the Bucket

"A Drop in the Bucket" is just what it claims to be: a very tiny drop in the great screaming bucket of American media opinion. Take it as you will.

Mark Brett
Lifestyle Editor

I've found more proof that MTV is the center of all evil in the universe. Previously, I've discussed how MTV latches onto any somewhat popular idea and swiftly sucks the life and creativity out of it with all the unrelenting precision of a predatory jungle cat. The prime example of this is the way they reduced alternative rock down to Monkees-style formulaic crap in less than two years. Expect them to have done the same to whatever tiny shred of originality powered roots rock by the end of the year (if they haven't already).

I've also talked about MTV's role as Big Brother, the way they create, rather than reflect, trends and popular music styles. Think about it. How many people would have bought Debbie Gibson albums if MTV hadn't crammed her down our throats? Hootie and the Blowfish (Debbie Gibson for the '90s) are a product of the same system.

But more frightening is how MTV affects the way we think. The frantic quickcuts of music videos have reduced the American attention span down to something under 30 seconds. I hadn't realized how much affect it had on me until recently.

Over the last year, I've steadily reduced the amount of time I've spent watching MTV. I'm not sure why; I guess I just got tired of the stuff I had been tuning in for (*120 Minutes*, *The Maxx*, etc.). But anyway, I've noticed recently that my attention span has actually expanded. After an initial laziness, my brain kicks in and I can focus on things for much longer than I could even just last year. This is a good thing, I think, even though it sometimes leaves me poring over a book or the writing of this column longer than I should. But hey, at least I'm not wasting my time on MTV anymore.

On those rare occasions when I do tune in, however, I notice something else. MTV, for all its posturing to the contrary, is sexist as hell.

This sexism is subtle, and is actually a symptom of the network's rampant shallowness. MTV has always been about image over substance, going all the way back to that first broadcast of "Video Killed the Radio Star."

You only have to look as far as the image-crazed dating philosophy in control on the odious *Singled Out* to see that same cult of the shallow going strong on MTV today. Lord knows it shouldn't be hard to find,

See DROP page 8

GIRL from page 6

the second chapter. We all make mistakes. Or am I getting ahead of myself again?

Maybe I should start with the basics. *Girl* is social satire, let's get that straight right away. The world Simone

lives in is populated by the ignorant, the boring and the violent. Life in Bollockstown is endlessly dull and cheap, ruled by the muddy passions of its muddy citizens and their hopes of striking it rich in the lottery.

Now that I think of it, the satire here really doesn't fall very far from reality, does it? How depressing.

At any rate, Simone is smart and self-reliant, qualities that speak well of her but don't score her any points in the mental cesspool of Bollockstown. The odds are against her to become anything more than an abused spouse like her mother, and her aspirations for a better life garner only resentment from the rest of the world.

So, in the very best tradition of teen angst rebellion, Simone becomes a moody outsider, angry at the world and everything in it. Like I said, she's mixed up. But no more so than her life demands.

Especially not if her family is half as bad as they seem in an outrageous dream sequence in which Simone fantasizes about what her funeral will be like. The coffin is laid out in the living room, with Simone's family on display around it. After speculation that she might have been a lesbian, the family turns on the TV and wins the lottery as Simone's gray corpse explodes in a shower of blood and intestine.

Waking from this dream, Simone decides to live just to spite them. Can't say I blame her.

Girl is peppered with that kind of dark humor, a trademark of writer Peter Milligan. Here his satirical blade is sharp as he examines the intricacies of middle-class rebellion. Though Simone is clearly the "hero" of the story, she is as much the butt of the joke as the society she hates. While her hatred of Bollockstown may be justified, she isn't exactly perfect either.

Milligan is particularly good at writing schisms like that, and the meaty work of artist Duncan Fegredo lends the story a grotesque weight that's hard to forget. *Girl* looks like it will be a funny and no doubt uncomfortable ride.

It's set to run three issues, but only the first is available now. Normally, I would wait to review a limited run series like *Girl* until after all three issues had been published and I had the full story to work with. But there's always a danger that this book will disappear

from the racks without ever picking up the readership it deserves.

Girl comes from DC Comics, publishers of Superman and Batman, and it's always nice to see them trying something new. This is good post-modern fiction, with none of the fantasy trappings the public normally associates with comic books. If you've never read comics because of those trappings, *Girl* might be the book for you.

On a scale of one to ten, the first issue of Peter Milligan and Duncan Fegredo's *Girl* rates a darkly funny nine.

FUEGO from page 6

bum are probably the most impressive. The first, "Huracan Negro," is a flamenco piece that shows how diverse their influences are, and it's Iberian at that. The second is an upbeat dance groove called "Capera" that probably drives people crazy at Fuego's live shows.

Getting a chance to see this band live would be an even bigger treat. They jam. And everybody knows that bands that jam are normally restrained on record. They usually can't jam out everything that they would do live; however, this band seems to have put together one of the most impressive debuts I have seen in a long time. Check out Fuego del Alma's *Dicho & Hecho* on their own label, Pueblo Records.

Coming Attractions

Coming soon for your edification and amusement:

Wednesday, June 12

Comedy Zone with Artie Wiggery and Flossie at the Attic

El Vez (The Mexican Elvis) at The Berkeley Café in Raleigh

Jump Little Children and The Emma Gibbs Band at The Brewery in Raleigh

Love and Rockets and James Hall at Newbar in Raleigh

Karate and Raymond Brake at the Cat's Cradle in Carrboro

Thursday, June 13

ECU Faculty Jazz Ensemble at Staccato Café and Grille

Nameless and Band Madness at the Attic

John Thursday at Peasant's Café

Agents of Good Roots and Running from Anna at The Brewery in Raleigh

Friday, June 14

Breakfast Club at the Attic

Hypnotic Clambake at Peasant's Café

Bus Stop and Sticky at The Brewery in Raleigh

Screaming Trees and Salt at Cat's Cradle in Carrboro

Saturday, June 15

Disco Inferno at the Attic

Psychomotoat at Peasant's Café

Biohazard, Meatbox and Beefhead at The Brewery in Raleigh

Polvo at Cat's Cradle in Carrboro

Tuesday, June 18

Carousel at the ECU Playhouse, McGinnis Theatre (See story, page 6)

ye! at Peasant's Café



Artwork courtesy DC Comics



Mondays: 9 Oz. Prime Rib
includes choice of starch and salad only \$9.99
Domestic Drafts only \$1.00

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Pick Up! **91.3 FM** East Carolina University

DROP from page 6

considering the near-constant broadcasting it gets.

But *Singled Out* is also a good example of MTV's sexism at work. Just look at the hosts. The male half of this duo is, to put it kindly, no Tom Cruise. In fact, I doubt he'd make the first cut in the show's cruel dating cattle call. He dresses well, and he's not unattractive, but he'll never get his own pin-up in *Tiger Beat*, either.

His female counterpart, however, is a former *Playboy* centerfold. Tanned and toned to within an inch of her life, she stalks the stage in tight pants and a variety of revealing tops that best showcase her expensive torso. I don't think I've ever seen her in a bikini, but that may only be because I avoid this show like social Ebola virus it is.

Of course, *Singled Out* is just the tip of the sexist iceberg. The same dichotomy exists between the male and female veejays. The women of MTV tend to be voluptuous babes well-suited to display the cleavage-and-belly-button fashions their employer hawks 24 hours a day. Why did they fire Martha Quinn for a second time? She didn't look good in a halter top.

And MTV's endless run of advertisements? Pure sex. Though artistically filmed in post-modern video style, many of these ads amount to little more than soft-core porn. *Playboy* ads show less skin.

Now, don't get me wrong, I'm not

knocking sex, or beautiful women. I just think we should have equal opportunity titillation. Women may be less visually-stimulated than men, but I know plenty of them who'd love to see a little more beefcake on TV. And until MTV delivers the pungent aroma of sexism will linger around their free-thinking hallways.

It's all a part of the Hollywood beauty image that MTV pushes so hard, though, so I doubt it'll happen anytime soon. Comedian Jenneane Garafalo, after being complimented on her recent weight loss, said simply that she "sold out." The fact of the matter for women in the entertainment industry is that if you don't show signs of anorexia, you don't get exposure.

MTV is no different. Natalie Merchant enjoyed underground success with 10,000 Maniacs for years. She was a famous artist by the time her latest solo effort came out. But MTV wouldn't give her the time of day until she dropped the granny dresses (and about ten pounds) and started wearing a great deal of makeup.

Even the grunge-crunchy likes of Alanis Morissette and Joan Osborne are glamour queens for MTV.

And all the while John Popper of Blues Traveler goes on his merry way.

But you must have known all that. The new proof I've found that MTV is the center of all evil in the universe is really this: George Michael still has a career.

Think on this, and tremble.

MAKE-UP from page 6

experiment in style, from its groove and punch to its "live" setting. Cold Rice is a studio, and although the performance sounds in every way as though it were recorded at a small club appearance, in reality all of it was done at Cold Rice. All of the applause, ambient crowd noise, addresses to the audience, and breaks in the "set" were created in-studio.

And it works, too. Listening to this album you can almost smell the cigarette smoke and feel the heat of a crowd of bodies pressed together. If you have the ability to get down and get funky, you will definitely sweat to this record.

The Make-Up's sound is so addictive that it is impossible to listen to it just one time. I was hanging out

with a friend of mine when I first heard the album. He threw on the newly purchased disc as background noise while we talked. It was so good that we stopped our conversation and listened to the record three times through. Each time we heard something new. If only Prince had continued to be this catchy.

Svenonius apparently isn't hiding his admiration for that Minneapolis artist, either, with song titles that seem as though they're lost Prince demos like "You + I Vs. The World," "How Pretty Can U Get," "R U A Believer Pt. II," and "So... Chocolatey / Destination: Love." Of course, The Make-Up's lyrics are about as deep as Prince too: "When I was in prison / U brought me cigarettes every day

CONNERY from page 6

tyrannical fist. Believing the prince to be poisoned by the dragon, the prince's guardian, a noble knight played by Dennis Quaid, vows to destroy Draco and every other living dragon.

The first 15 minutes set up this mythical idea with a very serious, adult-oriented tone. When we finally see Draco, though, the tone shifts to cartoonish antics where the knight and the dragon trade blows with each other in comical fashion. The dragon even yells out "Yikes!" at one point during a battle with the knight. This shift either makes the film or destroys it altogether.

Admittedly, if one can accept *Dragonheart* as more of a children's film, then the movie's off-beat nature is easier to swallow. I have to admire any buddy movie where the pals are a knight and a dragon.

But *Dragonheart* has other admirable qualities. David Thewlis is priceless as the heartless King Einon. Director Rob Cohen choreographs his action sequences in the exciting tradition of other fantasy films, such as the *Sinbad* series. And the script does an admirable job of capturing the loyalty and nobility of the classic knight, far better than last summer's *First Knight*.

So, as disjointed as *Dragonheart* may be, it still proves to be a nice bit of escapism for the young and old.

When I busted out of that place / U gave me somewhere to stay / When I lost all faith / U showed me how to pray / And When I was locked out of the Gates of Hope / Yeh, U made a copy of the key / How pretty can U get."

The Make-Up have spent the last year touring with such bands as Sonic Youth and Fugazi. After a short European tour, they'll be back for another run through the U.S. later this summer. I highly recommend catching them if you can. However, if you can't then this new album is available and it's dirt cheap. Do yourself a funky favor and snatch it up.

So until Prince wears a Minor Threat T-shirt, MAKE MINE MAKE-UP!

Connery's other current film, *The Rock*, doesn't carry the same child-like innocence. Centering on a government attempt to deflate a terrorist group's takeover of Alcatraz, *The Rock* is a violent ride following the tradition of such standard action films as *Die Hard*.

Like *Dragonheart*, *The Rock* is also disjointed. The first hour or so just sets up the situation so we can get to Alcatraz, where all the action takes place. We are introduced to Frances Hummel (Ed Harris), an American war hero claims Alcatraz as his fort in an effort to force the American government to wake up and start treating America's veterans with more respect and compensation. We also meet Stanley Goodspeed (Nicolas Cage), an FBI chemical expert who is thrown into the situation against his will.

And finally, we are introduced to John Patrick Mason (our man Connery), the only man who has escaped Alcatraz and lived to remember it. I won't go into the details of Connery's character, who is brought onto the scene because he knows the inner workings of Alcatraz better than anyone. Suffice it to say that he has a tainted history and the government wants him to be kept locked up.

The exposition for the film would not be so bad if only scriptwriters David Weisberg, Douglas S. Cook and Mark Rosner, along with director Michael Bay, didn't resort to some needless, mindless scenes. A chase sequence through the streets of San Francisco is not only clichéd and senseless, but also a waste of valuable time.

Once we reach Alcatraz, however, the action flows on a more realistic level and serves to progress the overall plot. Admittedly, many of the action sequences are derivative of other action films (there are hints of not only *Die Hard* here, but also *Indiana Jones* and *The Temple of Doom* and *Thunderball*). Still, the action on the Rock is thrilling.

There is a level of respectabil-

ity in this film, mostly resulting from the incredible cast. Everyone is more than suitable for their roles, and watching these actors play off one another is pure joy. A scene where Ed Harris and the always underrated Michael Biehn face each other down is one of this summer's best cinematic moments.

Another factor that makes this action flick stand out is the fact that characters are each given distinctive motives for winning. As Hummel, Harris does what he does not simply for financial gain but also for American pride. Also, Hummel is not a standard movie villain. Harris and the scriptwriters layer the character with struggling human elements.

As the film's protagonists, Connery and Cage work well together. Cage acts as the brain, working with lethal chemicals, and Connery serves as the brawn, killing one terrorist after another. With the likes of Steven Seagal draining the action genre of its energizing potential, it's relieving the see Connery flexing his regal muscles.

Connery is, and has always been, a man of action. While his latest two entries may not nearly be his best work, both *Dragonheart* and *The Rock* do deliver on the fun and the action.

On a scale of one to ten, both *Dragonheart* and *The Rock* rate a seven.

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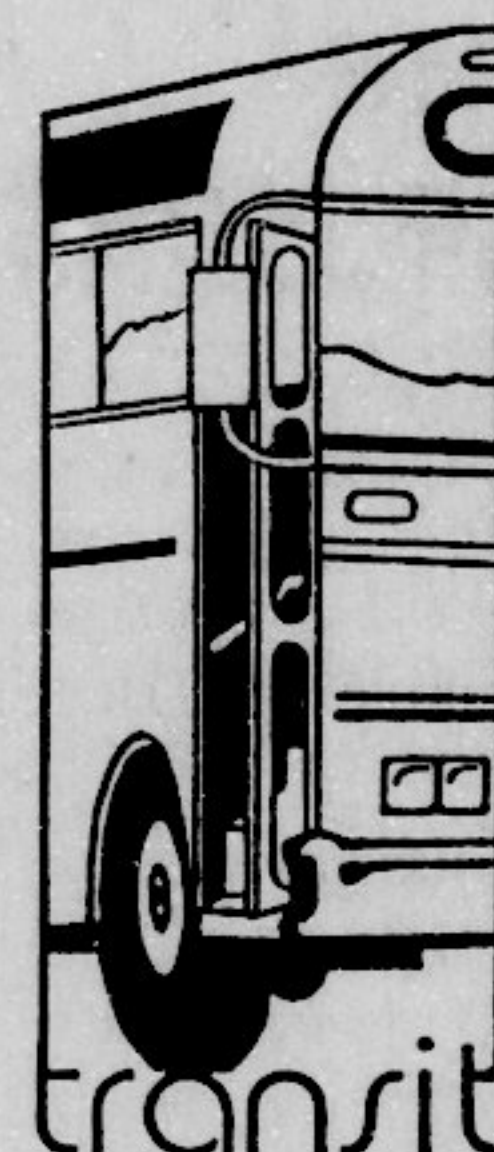
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SPORTS

Pitcher earns numerous awards

Ross Whitfield
Staff Writer

ECU softball pitcher, Tracie Podratsky, was named to the 1995-96 GTE Academic All-American Softball First Team last week. The team is selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America and consists of ten other women from schools across the nation.

According to the ECU sports information department, criteria for selection is based on superior performance on the field as well as in the classroom.

The announcement came shortly after Podratsky was named to the 1996 GTE Academic All-American Softball Team for District III and the winner of the 1996 Sports Information Director's Nike Scholar Athlete Award in the Big South Conference.

When contacted via telephone about the national honor, Podratsky, who was unaware of her selection, was speechless.

"I usually have a lot to say about everything," Podratsky said. "I have a big cheesy grin on my face. It is great."

Podratsky knew she was being considered for the team, but thought she would fall short of being selected.

"After seeing the other girls' GPAs, I kind of thought I fell around the middle," Podratsky said.

Podratsky, an Elementary Education major with a cumulative grade point average of 3.46, is proud of her recognition.

"It is good to know that people can get rewarded for their hard work in the classroom," Podratsky said.

Being a superior student in the classroom is not easy for any student. Podratsky credits the softball team for helping with her academic achievement.

"Playing softball made me keep my grades up because it forced me to budget my time," Podratsky said.

Along with her academic achievement, Podratsky served as president of the ECU Student-Athlete Advisory

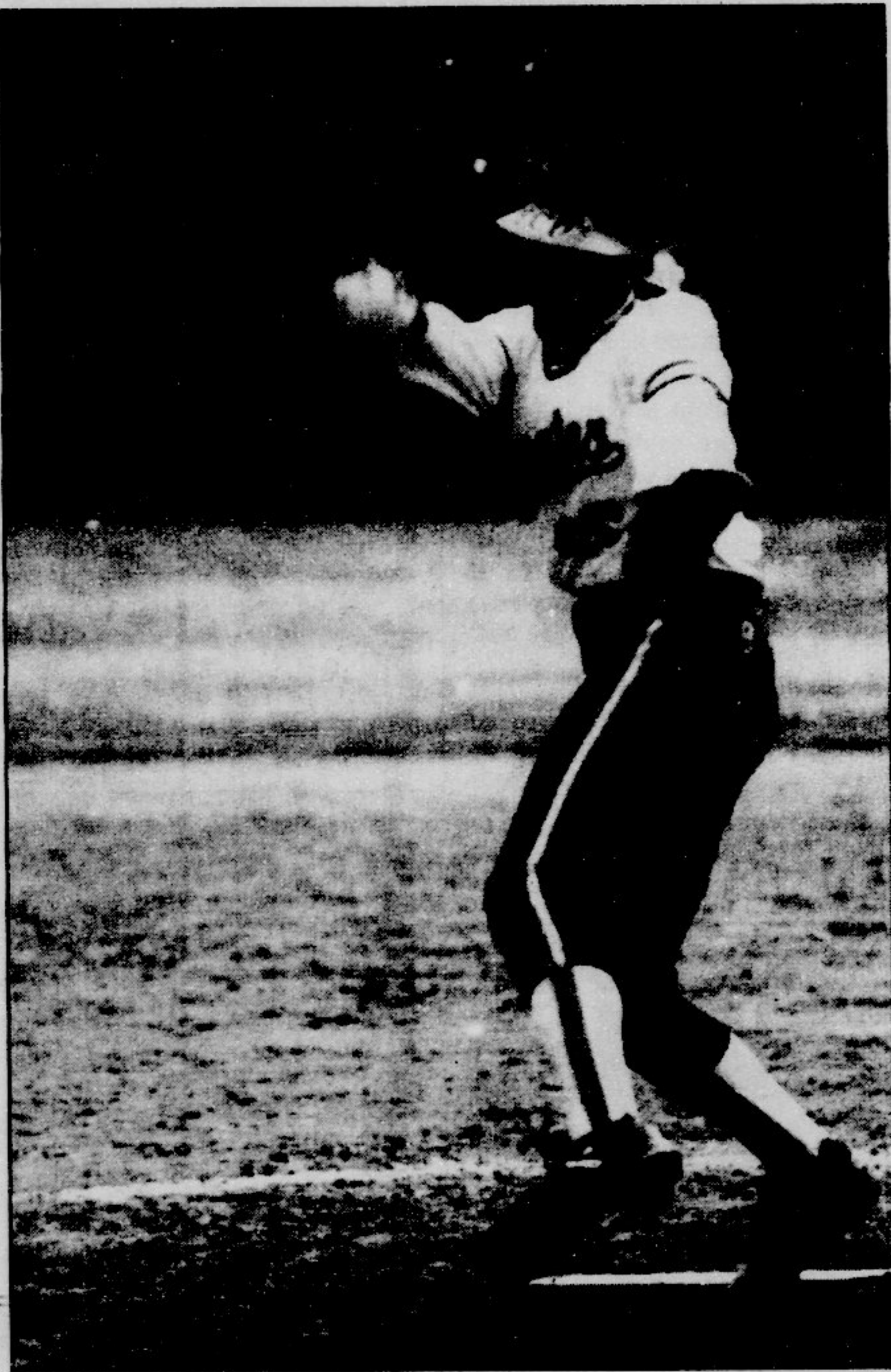


Photo Courtesy of ECU SID

Tracie Podratsky winds up during a softball game this season. Podratsky won many awards on and off the field.

Council, was a member of the NCAA Athletic Certification Committee and was a member of ECU's Athletics for Education Speakers Bureau. She is also a member of several honor societies and volunteers numerous hours to local organizations.

Podratsky finishes her senior season at ECU with a 16-5 record producing a .762 winning percentage. Podratsky started 21 of 25 games pitch-

ing for 127 innings. She leads the pitching staff with a 1.43 ERA, 50 strikeouts and nine shutouts.

Her performance helped ECU place second overall in the Big South Conference and she was named to the Big South Conference First Team for her on-field achievements.

The Centreville, Va. native is looking forward to making her home in North Carolina after graduation this fall.

"Run Forrest, run!!!"

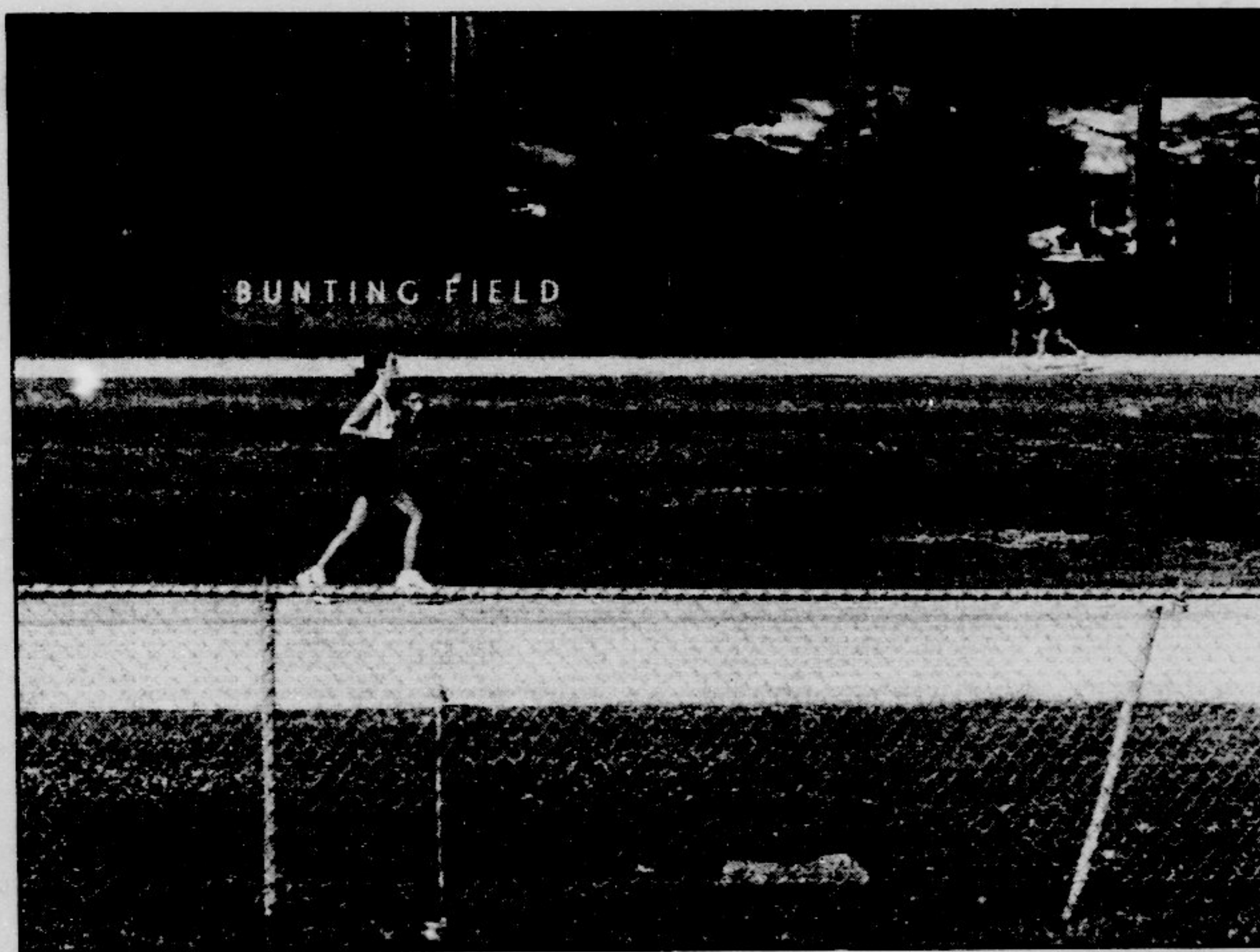


Photo by CHRIS GAYDOS

Runners take time out on a Sunday afternoon to run or walk around the track behind ECU's baseball diamond, Harrington Field. Anyone is welcome to use the track.

Rec Services

Playoffs underway

David Gaskins
Rec Services

As the first summer session nears a close and exam time is close at hand, playoff action is heating up in several intramural sports activities.

Basketball wrapped up the regular season last week and post-season play began last night. Results of the first-round games were not available at press time, but the quest for championships in both divisions appears to be wide open.

In Men's Gold, "Return of the O.D.B.'s" made a powerful statement in their attempt to defend the summer title by getting two quality wins to finish the regular season at 3-1. In the final contest against "Yo Guts", Sean Moore's driving layup in the final minute provided the go-ahead basket in a big 50-46 win.

In the early going, the "O.D.B.'s" full-court press and relentless speed game was working at its finest as Chris Pressley, David Campbell and Derrick Harris tallied easy hoops. However, "Yo Guts", which made

late-season roster additions with Morris Foreman, Brian Delaney, Brian Johnson and E.J. Gunthrope used hard traps and a patient press break to work their way back into the contest.

The "Elite Squad" also finished at 3-1 but suffered a big loss to the "O.D.B.'s" and will have to solve their press if they meet in the finals.

The "Elite Squad" also finished at 3-1 but suffered a big loss to the "O.D.B.'s" and will have to solve their press if they meet in the finals.

In their final regular season game, a 60-49 win over "Flossin", they unveiled a new secret weapon in Donald Yohn, who used his stunning slowness and 2" vertical jump to outmaneuver his quicker opponents for several easy baskets at the

outset of the game.

As the game wore on, Brad Simmons began to control the inside and score on a variety of short jumpers to complement the outside shooting of Brian Whitfield and the slashing drives of Anthony "Ant" Barnett.

Garland Heggie demanded some press coverage with a superb all-around game and Mike Davis, a self-

See REC page 11

Torch proceeds down South

Olympic flame makes its way towards Atlanta

(AP) — Nancy Ross was never an athlete and doesn't profess to be one as an Olympic torchbearer. She knows the difference between Jerry Lewis and Carl Lewis but, admittedly, not much else.

So when the torch was passed to her yesterday as it traveled across western New York, Ross covered six-tenths of a mile for the son she lost 10 years ago and the people, like her, who volunteer their time to help others.

"I don't feel like I do that much," she said. "I see other people out there sweating for the community. I'm carrying the torch for 10,000 people, not really for myself."

The Olympic torch entered New York state yesterday as part of its 84-day journey to Atlanta and the opening of the Summer Games. The torch was to go from Erie, Pa., to Niagara Falls, 115 miles of its 15,000-mile journey through the United States.

Carried on a bicycle, the torch crossed the state line from Pennsylvania at Ripley, N.Y.

Ross, from the Buffalo suburb of Williamsville, was chosen to carry the torch because of her volunteer work. Her son, 17-year-old Jonathan Burke Ross, died in a fire-works accident in 1986 and Ross needed help overcoming her son's death. She turned out helping others conquer their grief by becoming a speaker for the Life Transition Center.

As her turn approached to carry the torch in a tiny community along Lake Erie, Ross was more than a little nervous.

"You know how the Olympics has an official everything?" Ross asked. "I'm going to be the official disgrace as I'm lying in a mud puddle with microphones in my face asking me how I put the torch out. The magnitude is sinking in. It's awesome and frightening at the same time."

The torch reached Ross after going through the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation unscathed since Dennis Bowen, president of the Seneca Nation of Indians, called off plans to have it extinguished.

Bowen initially was angry that the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games did not ask permission to have the torch pass through

See SOUTH page 10

Dill's Deal

Dill Dillard
Senior Writer

Sports fans, I had a dream last night. I dreamed I was back in the days of fat shoe laces, parachute pants, and the Houston Rockets, lead by the "Twin Towers" Hakeem Olajuwon and Ralph Sampson, forcing overtimes with the Boston Celtics in the NBA finals on CBS.

Yes, all you youngsters CBS did cover sports once upon a time. Not to mention the seven game war in the Stanley Cup finals between the Boston Bruins and the Edmonton Oilers lead by the heroics of some guy who's now playing for the Blues... what's his name?

You're probably wondering what I'm getting at taking you back to the days of yesteryear. Well, I'm here to ask all you die-hard sports fans, don't you miss the days of a professional championship series that lasts more than four games. That's right, are you tired of clicking on the tube and hearing that a team is trying to force a game five in a best of seven series?

Well, if you're sick of it, listen up. I'm here to tell you, don't blame the Bulls, the Braves or any of these power houses. Oh no, it isn't their fault that these hyped-up series last less than a business week. They're just doing their job, winning games. If you want to hear who to blame, turn your heads to the ones who have put themselves in this situation.

As everybody knows, the almost-in-human Chicago Bulls are about to hand the ole broom to the disappointing Seattle Sonics. Now friends, this is an unbelievable basketball team when you speak of this Chicago Bulls squad, but let's look at the Sonics team here for a second.

First of all head, coach George Karl's cupboard is everything but bare. They start off with a front court of the ever-creative Shawn Kemp, the hard-working Detlef Schrempf, as well as the ever smooth Sam Perkins. Hmmm, that sounds like they're pretty able bodied in the paint don't you think?

Yes, I fully admit the Bulls have more strong sides than weak sides, but with a front court like that, along with Gary Payton (NBA's Defensive Player of the Year) and help from a commendable bench, I fully believe they could squeak out one ball game in the biggest series of this franchise's life.

I believe it's a matter of pride. Let's face it, the Western Conference Champs need to take a lesson from the Utah Jazz whom they beat to get to this

See DEAL page 11

Gotta make it!

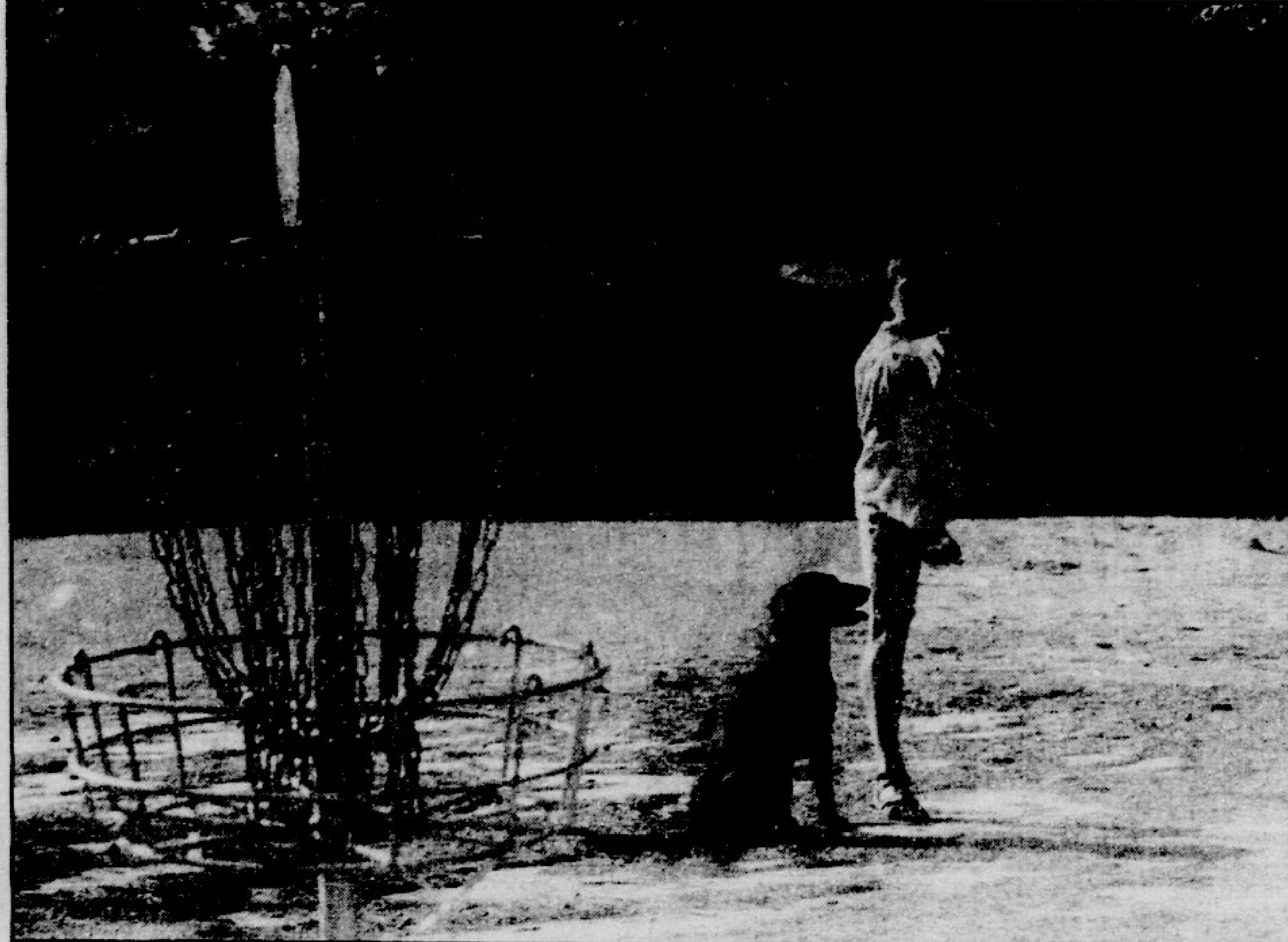


Photo by CHRIS GAYDOS

Senior Chris Demello and friend play at ECU's frisbee golf course. The field extends from the softball diamond, through the woods and around the tailgating area.



Staff Notes

Decision day came and went on Monday for the ECU football team and staff, in their hopes of being admitted to Conference USA. Talk of ECU entering the conference has been buzzing in people's ears for quite some time now.

However, ECU is not the only candidate to want to enter CUSA in football. Alabama-Birmingham who is already a member of the conference in everything but football would like to join when they begin playing at the F-A level next year. Army has also surfaced as a possible football only candidate in the past couple of months.

The Board of Directors for C-USA announced that the conference would finalize its expansion plans within 10 days of their original meeting.

Avalanche ice Panthers in finals

(AP) — They're two marvelous goalies who couldn't be beat.

Patrick Roy and John Vanbiesbrouck played on and on, well past midnight, stopping every shot from every angle in one of the biggest games of their long careers.

Then, after 118 shots, the seemingly impossible happened.

The 119th — low and hard through a screen in front of Vanbiesbrouck — finally got through and Colorado won its Stanley Cup. Florida lost no respect.

The Avalanche became champions on Uwe Krupp's goal 4:31 into the third overtime early Tuesday morning, the longest 1-0 game in finals history, and swept the Panthers in the best-of-7 series 4-0.

"You cannot look at the scoreboard or what the other guy does on the other side," Roy said. "If he's tough to beat, you've got to make yourself also tough to beat."

Roy stopped all 63 shots he faced, grabbing powerful blasts with his glove, stopping sliding pucks with outstretched pads and even knocking one out of midair with his stick.

Vanbiesbrouck was equally spectacular in turning aside 55. And there was little he could do on the 56th, Krupp's winner.

"He teed it up and it seemed to come through a pair of legs or close to them," Vanbiesbrouck said. "I got the tip of my pad on it and it went in. What can you say?"

The fans filling Miami Arena knew what to say. First, they threw plastic rats on the ice, their ritual whenever the Panthers scored.

Then they chanted, "Beezer, Beezer, Beezer" as the goalie's teammates surrounded him for more than a minute in his crease. He then skated to Roy and they talked briefly, two warriors with mutual admiration.

"He was pretty anxious to grab the Cup. I was kind of anxious to get out of there," Vanbiesbrouck said. "Basically, all I could say was congratulations, you deserved it."

Roy's 2.78 regular-season goals against average was only 12th best in the NHL, but he has always been an excellent playoff goalie.

He won two other Stanley Cups with Montreal in 1986 and

1993 and was named playoff MVP both times. He has won eight straight finals games, two shy of the record of Ken Dryden, another former Montreal goalie.

The Canadiens traded Roy on Dec. 6, four days after he was left in for nine goals in an 11-1 loss to Detroit and told team president Ronald Corey he wouldn't play for Montreal again. Roy doubted he would have been traded if his new team hadn't moved from Quebec after last season.

"I don't want to jab anybody in Montreal," he said. "It's all over." Vanbiesbrouck was in eight playoffs for the New York Rangers and was the first player taken by Florida in the 1993 expansion draft. His 2.68 goals against average was only the eighth best this season.

In this year's playoffs, Roy played all but one minute of the 22 games, allowing just 51 goals with three shutouts. He was a key as Colorado eliminated Vancouver and Chicago then upset Detroit, which had set a league record with 62 wins.

Vanbiesbrouck missed just 60

minutes of his 22 games and had only one lapse in the finals when he allowed four goals in the first period of an 8-1 rout in Game 2.

He played well in the opening 3-1 loss and a 3-2 setback in Game 3. He, and Roy, were at their best in the deciding game, a classic confrontation worthy of a championship series.

"It's the first time I've ever been through anything like that," Florida coach Doug MacLean said.

"I never thought anybody was ever going to score," said Joe Sakic, who was named playoff MVP for his 18 goals, one shy of the single-season record. He had a hand in the winning goal, winning a faceoff and getting the puck to Krupp.

Krupp, a low-scoring defenseman, was told he wouldn't play again this season after tearing up his knee in the opener Oct. 6. He returned for the last five regular-season games.

"It was more or less relief rather than exhilaration or excitement" when his shot ended the marathon game, he said. "You're so tired and so happy at the same

"You cannot look at the scoreboard or what the other guy does on the other side."

— Patrick Roy



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DEAL from page 9

disastrous series. The Jazz was down 3-1 with their backs against the wall and they fought back only to lose in game seven.

What I'm trying to say is, if you're going to go down, don't go down without a fight. I feel that the Sonics were good enough to get there and post the second best record in the NBA, they should at least be able to keep the point-spread under 20 at home.

This isn't the first time this has happened. The Orlando Magic, who

was claimed as one of the few teams talented enough to beat Chicago, was embarrassed in four games. So, fellow sports buffs, what should we do about this situation?

Tell the Sonics to give their salaries back to the good folks who camped outside of Key Arena for play-off tickets? No. Tell them to donate money made from the season to the "Find Big Foot Foundation?" No.

I have an idea. Tell this team that had given up hope after game two to take a lesson from the Houston

Rockets of the past few years. A team given no chance of beating the Knicks or the Magic in the championship in which they were "lucky" to get to. Despite all of the jokes made, the Rockets won back-to-back championships and history is chock full of stories similar to theirs.

Yes, I do sympathize with the Sonics and their formidable task, but I sympathize more with the Sonics fans whose team has given up while their fans have not.

So here's to the fabled Celtic/Laker series, the "Twoston Rock-ets", and the Detroit Pistons of the late 80's. To even the swept Panthers of Florida that fought the whole way despite coming up short, or the Pittsburgh Steelers for giving the Cowboys a fight they never expected to get. I'm sure I speak for many sports fans when I say "thank you" for not giving up. Thank you for making sports fun to watch.

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REC from page 9

proclaimed All-Star, performed a workmanlike effort on the boards while also providing inside scoring.

However, the most memorable highlight of the contest was Tabari Wallace's weak dunk attempt in the closing moments that clanged harmlessly off the rim.

In Men's Purple, the "TPK's" closed the regular season undefeated at 4-0 with a 49-39 win over previously undefeated "Alpha Sigma Phi". The "TPK's" were lead by the fouling of Kevin "Body Block" Avery, the inside play of Brian "Human Traveling Violation" Manning, and the defensive ball hawking of Jason Willoughby.

"Alpha Sigma Phi" stayed close throughout with the playmaking and three point shooting of Brian Jones and Jake Forbes.

Other teams in the playoff hunt in this division include the "Culture Club", who have yet to bring all their top players together and will ride the powerful inside play of J.J. McQueen and the all-around skills of Corey Robertson and Terrence Barnhill.

The "Old Timers" with Sam Morrison and Marcus Young and Chris Brantley's "Mighty Possums" will also challenge for the title.

Men's Softball play has also provided a wide open field as each of the top teams enters the playoffs with at least one loss. The "Ten Greatest Hits" appear to be the favorite if they can get all their players to the game.

Matt Bricker, Kevin Stone and Rodney Murray were the offensive stars last week as the "Hits" won two of three. However, the "Cavemen", after getting bombed by the "Gamecocks", made several line-up changes and roster additions to upset the frontrunning "Hits".

Mike "Captain Cavemen" Norwood, playing third base for the first time, fielded flawlessly and looked like Major League Gold Clover Ken Caminiti in throwing out one runner from his knees.

Tony Piercy and Scott Freeman lead the offense while new addition Bobby Rose provided a solid defensive effort at second base.

The "Gamecocks" played hot and cold in pounding the "Cavemen" but losing twice to "Hits". Ken Lewis and Brian Culbreth lead the "Gamecocks" attack on offense.

In Co-Rec, the "Purple People Eaters" were the only unbeaten team at press time behind the timely hitting of Scott Batchelor and Rusty Risher and the fielding expertise of Ginny Doyle.

However, several other teams are expected to challenge in the playoffs. The "Economics Society" is always tough and will be even more so if they can get all their players to the ballpark.

Kelly Farr, Lester Zeiger and Diane Mahoney had big games with the bat last week. "Poisons" boasts the largest roster in the league with 21 names so it is difficult to tell which team will show up.

They have consistently been lead by the all-around play of Chip Flynn, the hitting of Charlie DeBlasio, and the on-base percentage of Trish "I'll take a Walk" Roche.

"Extenuating Circumstances" flew in Allison Kemp, one of their leaders from the Spring Gold runner-up team, in an attempt to strengthen the team, but fell in a close battle with the "Purple People Eaters".

They are lead offensively by Bill Roberts and defensively by Kerri "Don't make me throw it" Sperring. The "Outlaws" with Carey Denning handling the shortstop duties and the hitting of Chad Phillips and "Little Big League" with D'Ann Eastridge and Kyle Willis fueling the offense round out the playoff field.

The first session Frisbee Golf Singles tournament was held last week at the Frisbee Golf Course adjacent to Harrington Field. Tim Weeks and Jaime Desamero took first and second places respectively among the men while Andrea Thomas and Ann Bryant were the top two women's finishers.

A Singles tournament will also be held in the second summer session.

Other upcoming activities in the second session include Softball and 3-on-3 Basketball. The registration meetings for these two activities will be held on Tuesday, June 25 at 4 p.m. (Softball) and 4:30 p.m. (3-on-3) in Biology Building, Room 103.

For further information regarding the Intramural Sports program, please contact David Gaskins, Paulette Evans or Melissa Dawson at Recreational Services at 328-6387.






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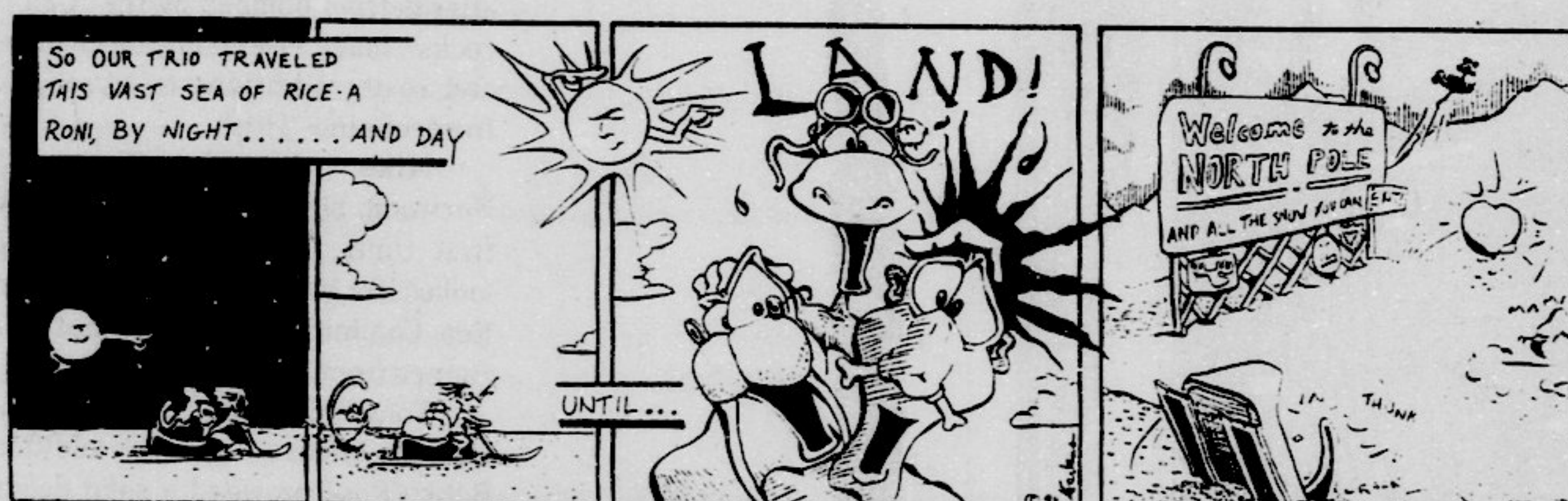
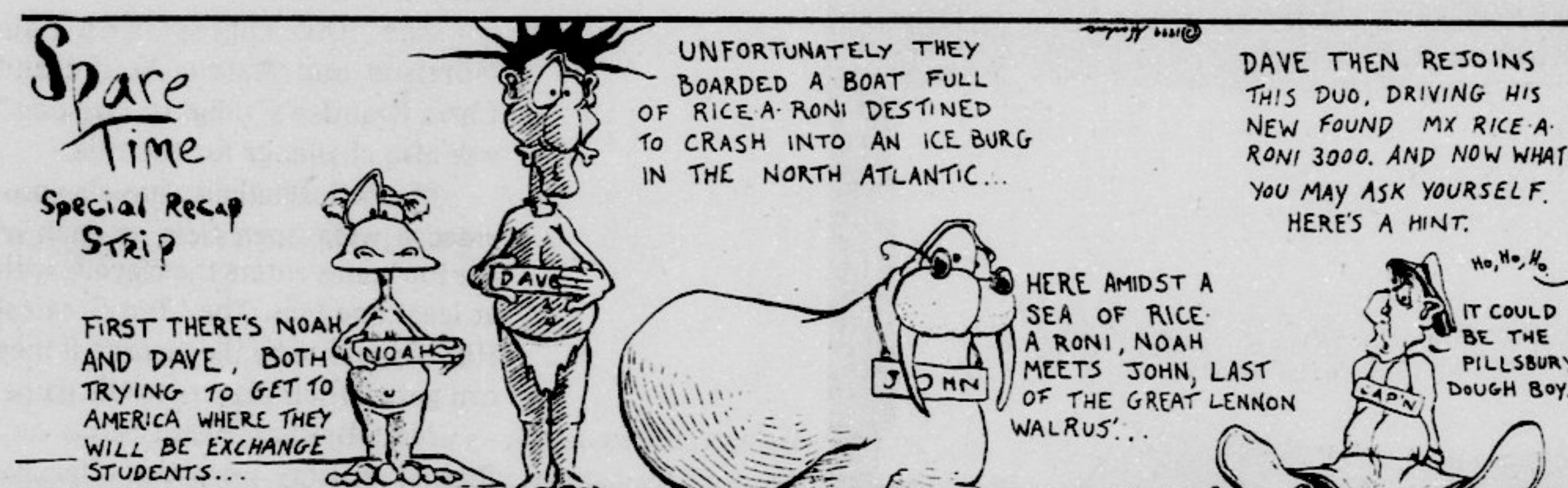
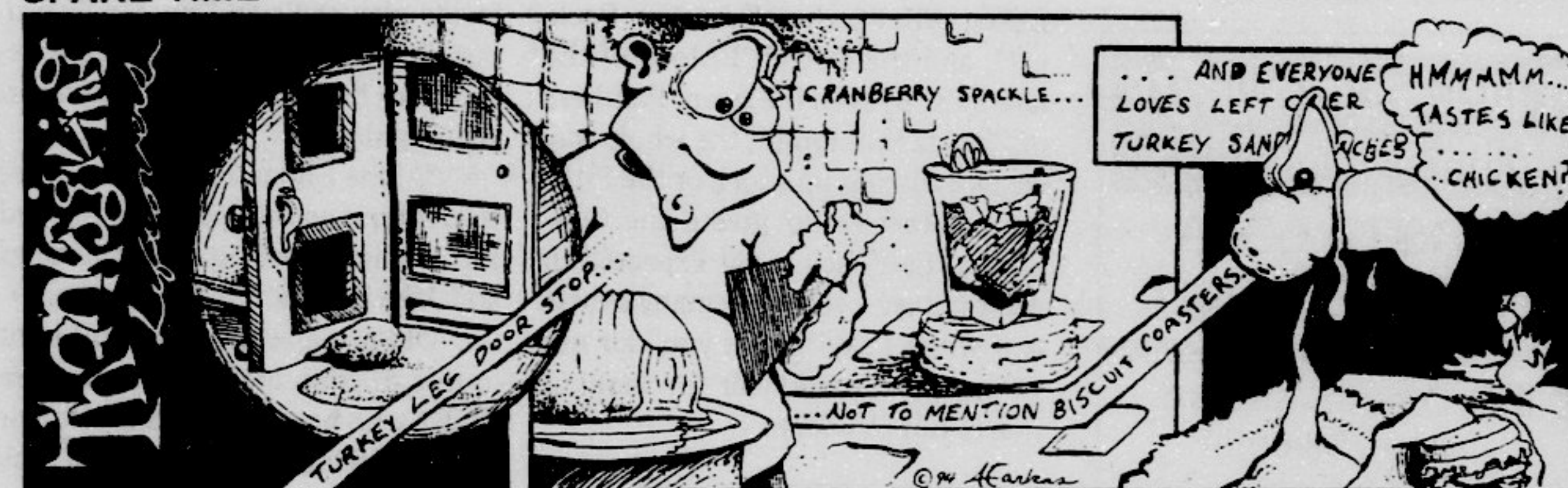
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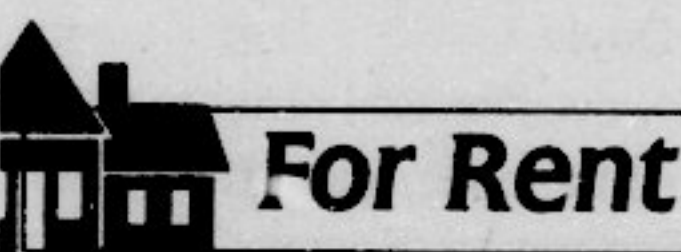
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