

Bush speaks to the nation, world in his second inaugural address

President seeks to improve foreign, domestic issues

A.J. WALTON
STAFF WRITER

President George W. Bush assured democracy and liberty throughout the nation and world in his second inaugural speech Thursday.

The first wartime inauguration in 30 years, Bush spoke to a nation deeply divided on everything from domestic and international issues to his job approval rating.

Bush, keenly aware of a national divide, noted the separation must be mended.

"We have known divisions, which must be healed to move forward in great purposes - and I will strive in good faith to heal them," said Bush.

With Iraq's first election only days away, President Bush used the address to reaffirm the need for U.S. presence in the war-torn country, without directly referring to the nation.

"The survival of liberty in our land increasingly depends on the success of liberty in other lands," Bush said.

"The best hope for peace in our world is the expansion of freedom in the entire world."

During the address, Bush spoke unapologetically about his belief that "the calling of our time" is to rid the world of tyranny, decreeing that human dignity will guide American policies. He promised to stand beside those who stand for liberty and warned those who



President Bush and first lady Laura Bush walk during the inauguration parade in front of the White House Thursday.



Bush is sworn in on Capitol Hill.



Bush and Cheney greet the crowd.



A protestor holds a mosaic of Bush.

prevent it. "Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves - and under the rule of a just God, cannot long retain it," Bush said.

Without mentioning the deaths of thousands of soldiers, Bush honored them by calling their efforts "the idealistic work

of helping up free governments ... the dangerous and necessary work of fighting our enemies."

"Some have shown their devotion to our country in deaths that honored their whole lives," Bush said.

"We will always honor their names and their sacrifice." President Bush called upon

young Americans to "believe the evidence of your eyes" and to "serve in a cause larger than your wants, larger than yourself - and in your days you will add not just to the wealth of our country, but to its character."

Kenneth Rountree, sophomore information technology major, said he isn't exactly opti-

mistic about Bush's next four years.

"I didn't vote for Bush in the Presidential Election for the reason ... I'm a little worried that the situation in Iraq won't be resolved in the near future and contrary to what his speech promised, I don't believe he's seri-

see **INAUGURAL** page A2

What Issue do you hope President Bush will address in his second term?



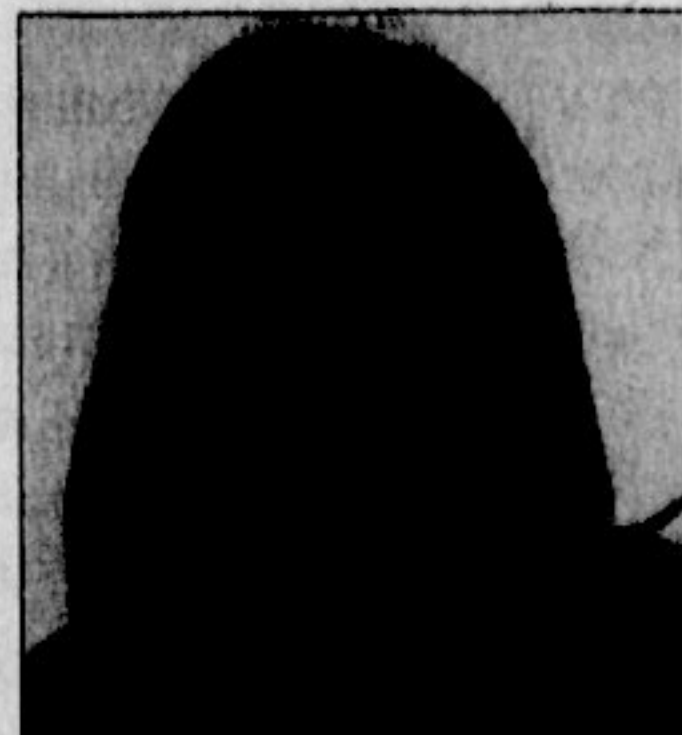
MEGAN BROWN
FRESHMAN NURSING

The education policy. I think it is important that every child gets an education.



JASON GORE
FRESHMAN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Foreign Policy. Just how we need to communicate with other countries on war conflicts.



DAVINA SHARPE
JUNIOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE

He should try to make the economy better so people can get jobs.

ECU hosts charity concert to benefit mentoring programs



Blue County will perform at the event.

Blue County will be featured artists

SALMA KHAN
STAFF WRITER

ECU is hosting an open charity concert presented by country radio station 95.1 FM WRNS and news channel WITN TV 17 in the Wright Auditorium Jan. 27 at 8 p.m.

Arron Benwar and Scott Reeves of the country duo Blue County, known for their hit song "Good Little Girls," are performing at the event. Blue County recently received honors at the Country Music Awards for Vocal Duo of the Year.

Benwar has released five albums as a Christian artist while Reeves played television character, Ryan McNeil for 10 years on "The Young and the Restless."

The event benefits the Power of One mentoring program in Pitt County and Pamlico Pals

mentoring program in Beaufort County. These programs, part of the governor's One on One statewide program in eastern North Carolina, work toward giving children one-on-one time with an adult to lead the kids in a positive direction and provide a "big brother" figure for the children in need.

Blue County is well known throughout the country and often performs to benefit charity causes.

"These guys are probably one of the hottest new groups in Nashville ... [They] are high energy and have a lot of fun on stage," said Wayne Carlyle, program director for WRNS.

"Any time you can help our youth in any way ... it's good."

He said it is especially important to help considering all the negative influences that are placed upon our youth.

Carlyle said he encourages people to attend the event. He said it is a good way for people to have fun while benefiting a good cause.

"Get ready to have a great time, go and enjoy yourselves knowing that you're helping the kids of eastern and coastal North Carolina," Carlyle said.

Many mentoring programs rely on the government and United Way for funding, but local fundraising and donations are often major resources.

Lack of funding becomes a major problem for these organizations when fundraisers and government assistance is unavail-

able. This problem has left only 57 mentoring programs in North Carolina after 10 were closed.

Each year \$52,000 is spent on reform schools, whereas \$27,000 goes into one mentoring program for a year.

Dale Thomas, senior political science major, said he supports the event and feels mentoring programs are a worthy cause to benefit.

"Kids are our future and people need to invest more money and time into their well-being," said Thomas.

"[We need to] show that we are there to guide them and show them a better and more prosperous path."

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

Concert Information

Tickets are on sale now for \$12 and available to the public at the Wright Auditorium Ticket Office or by calling 1-800-ECU-ARTS.

The event is Thursday night at 8 p.m. in the Wright Auditorium.

Sponsors for the charity concert include PCS Phosphate, University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina and NextMedia Group along with radio stations Bob 93.3 FM, WANG 105.1 FM, WRNS 960 AM and WDLX 930 AM.



Richard Ericson spoke to those in attendance about Russian politics and foreign relations.

Ericson discusses Russia at first of eight 'Great Decisions'

Foreign relations with country reviewed

CHRIS MUNIER
STAFF WRITER

The first of eight scheduled forums entitled "Great Decisions" gave its attendees an in-depth look on current Russian politics Saturday.

Richard Ericson, chairman of the department of economics, lectured faculty, students and community members on the topic. He is well-versed in the economic history of Russia, from its Soviet years to Gorbachev's Perestroika, Yeltsin's anti-communism and Vladimir Putin's current plans for reform.

Ericson focused his presentation on the collapse of the Russian economy in post-Soviet years and how it is being reformed

today. He also discussed Russia's stance on foreign policy issues, like the War on Terror.

Ericson said problems arose in Russia when former President Boris Yeltsin tried to radically instill a market economy and destroy all remnants of communism.

"Boris Yeltsin decided he was going to jump to a modern market economy," said Ericson.

"He got a bunch of young economic theorists who had never managed anything larger than their household budget. They developed a program that came to be called 'shock therapy.'"

Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has been left with the task of trying to remedy the Russian Gross Domestic Product and make Russia a major player in the world again.

Putin has adapted one of the least intrusive tax policies of any

country in the world with a flat tax of 13 percent. He has also deregulated parts of the economy and made the labor code more market-based.

However, Putin's lack of legitimate opposition has led him to become very authoritarian with some policies.

Ericson said Putin wants a "dictatorship of law," where rules and regulations apply to everyone except for the head of the state. There are no dissenting voices

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Great Decision

Seven forums remain in the Great Decisions program, which will be held at ECU until March 12. Next Saturday's presentation pertains to the Middle East.

ECU's Walker Center receives \$10,000 grant from SpeechEasy International

How money will be spent still undecided

MICHAEL HARRINGTON
SENIOR WRITER

A \$10,000 grant was given to ECU's Walker Center by SpeechEasy International to cover future expenses and projects of the center.

Glen Gilbert, dean of the college of health and human performance, said the decision

on how to use the grant will be made at a later date.

"It's undesignated. We're putting it into our account and we'll see what we do with it later," said Gilbert.

SpeechEasy International, a division of Janus, has shared a history with ECU as they marketed the anti-stuttering technology developed by campus researchers and had ties with ECU through a wheelchair treadmill device.

Gilbert said ECU officials were not expecting the grant

but were surprised when it was announced.

The Walker Center became a part of the college of health and human performance after it was transitioned from a private center to a division of the university more than a year ago, a move that placed it under the control of Gilbert.

Changes have been made to the center, which Gilbert said had gone dormant for a period of time. It now has a different organization and board of directors with a new set of goals.

"There are a lot of efficiencies in moving it here," Gilbert said.

"We can make the budget go much further and we have."

Gilbert said Walker has a strong reverence for fair play and believes the Olympics and athletic competitions should all be played on a level field without one team having an overwhelming training advantage.

Along with a sense of fairness, Walker was involved in the Paralympics, helping disadvantaged individuals compete in sporting events.

This reverence for fair play and desire to help the disabled led to the creation of the Walker Center in order to help athletes who lack advanced training technology and adequate funding in their home countries and allow individuals with disabilities to take part in athletics.

The center has helped trained athletes from a number of nations such as Ghana, Burundi and Mongolia.

David Loy, assistant professor for the department of recreation

and leisure studies, works with the Walker Center Adapted Sports Program, the arm of the center that offers sports and training opportunities to people with disabilities.

"A lot of individuals with disabilities do not have the financial means to participate in sports and recreation ... we try to provide those opportunities to people in the Pitt County area," said Loy.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

Campus News

Uptown Greenville Winter Social

The City of Greenville will be holding a social at the grand opening of the renovated Historic McLellan's Building at 409 Evans St. tonight at 5:30 p.m. Come to enjoy food and entertainment and find out about Uptown Greenville's current plans and projects for the city. City Manager Wayne Bowers will discuss the importance of revitalizing Greenville's downtown area.

Speech and hearing screenings

Speech and hearing screenings for the spring semester will be held until Jan. 26 from 5 - 6 p.m. at the clinic in Belk Annex 1, near the intersection of Charles Boulevard and the 264 bypass. Sign-in begins at 4:45 p.m. at the west entrance of the clinic and ends at 5:45 p.m. Screenings are done at a first-come first-serve basis and no calls are accepted. Make-up sessions are held each Friday morning and there is a \$20 fee. For a make-up session appointment, call 328-4405.

True Colors

True Colors is a two-hour workshop that is a fun, informative communication system. Based on the Meyers-Briggs Type Indicator and the work of David Keirsey, True Colors is a research-based approach to understanding human behavior and motivation. There is no charge, but only the first 50 people to sign up will be admitted. The event will be offered Jan. 25 from 2 - 4 p.m. and Jan. 26 from 10 a.m. - noon. To sign up, contact Paula Kennedy-Dudley by Friday, Jan. 21 at 328-6824.

AA Meetings

Alcohol Anonymous meetings will be open to the public Wednesdays at noon in Mendenhall 14 to discuss alcohol-related issues. For more information on these meetings, please call 760-500-8918.

Annual member celebration/All That Jazz

The Pitt-Greenville Chamber of Commerce will host this musical event at the Hilton in Greenville at 7 p.m. Jan. 28. The ECU Jazz Combo, directed by Carroll V. Dashiell, Jr., will perform and the Citizen of the Year award will be presented. For more information, call 752-4101.

The Delfonics and Harold Melvin's Blue Notes

C+C Entertainment and Oldies 104.9 will host this performance of blues music at the Greenville Convention Center Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the Greenville Convention Center. V.I.P. seats are \$39 and general admission costs \$25. Call 321-7671 for details.

Jazz at Night

The school of music will host this jazz event Jan. 28 at 8 p.m. in the Mendenhall Great Room. For more information call 328-6851.

Rickey Smiley Comedy Show

Sponsored by M and M Promotions, Smiley along with comedians Ronnie Jordan and CED Delaney will perform at the Greenville Convention Center Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. For further information, call 902-6114 or 902-9116.

Advance care planning

Interested people can learn how to plan for end-of-life care and make their wishes about living wills, advance directives and other decisions official during and following the Sunday service at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation in Greenville on Jan. 30. The service begins at 10:30 a.m. and counselors will be available for additional information to help complete a living will or health care power of attorney. This event is sponsored by the End of Life Care Coalition of Eastern Carolina and is open to the public. The Unitarian-Universalist Congregation is located at 131 Oakmont Drive. For more information, please call 847-0868.

Want your event printed in TEC? Please send your announcement along with the date, time, location and contact information to

Local

Boot, shoe exhibit honors fallen in Iraq war

GREENSBORO, NC - Lined up in a military-like formation, 1,374 combat boots are part of an exhibit, each pair representing the life of a soldier. Some were bought at military surplus stores. Others were worn by soldiers and Marines killed in Iraq, donated by the families left behind. They are part of Eyes Wide Open, Beyond Fear - Toward Hope, a multimedia exhibit representing each member of the armed forces who has been killed in Iraq.

Greensboro's Depot is the only appearance the exhibit is making in NC during a nationwide tour of more than 50 cities. It opened Sunday and runs through Tuesday. The exhibit was created by the American Friends Service Committee a year ago. Ten area churches and agencies co-sponsored the exhibit's stay in Greensboro.

Wilmington drug firm to build expansive HQ

WILMINGTON, NC - A pharmaceutical company has pledged to employ 2,000 people in its downtown corporate headquarters in return for a multimillion-dollar economic aid package proposed by the city and New Hanover County. The arrangement would require PPD Inc. to bring about 150 jobs a year to

downtown for seven years, in addition to the 1,000 employees it plans to move to the riverfront from its present locations around the area.

In return, the city and county would spend millions of dollars over several years to help PPD build its \$80 million corporate headquarters at Front and Harnett streets, which is slated to open at the end of 2006.

The agreement was announced Friday, and city and county governments are expected to approve the deals at meetings early next month.

National

Three firefighters die in separate blazes

NEW YORK - Three city firefighters were killed while responding to two separate apartment blazes - the deadliest day for New York firefighters since the 2001 terror attacks.

Two of the victims, Lt. Curtis Meyran and John Bellew, were forced to jump from a fourth-floor window of a Bronx apartment building early Sunday as flames trapped them and four other crew members. The four other men were severely injured.

"When the fire from the third floor broke through to the fourth, they were faced with a horrifying choice," said Mayor Michael Bloomberg. "They jumped out of a fourth-floor window, knowing that they would be critically injured." In a separate incident, another firefighter was severely injured while

searching for the origin of a fire at a Brooklyn home. Richard Sclafani, 37, was taken to a hospital where he later died, officials said.

The three deaths were the most recent tragedy for the fire department, which lost 343 members in the World Trade Center attack in 2001.

"Today is an immensely sad day in the history of the department," Uniformed Firefighters Association president Steve Cassidy said in a statement. "Sadly, these dual tragedies serve as a reminder to New York of the extreme dangers firefighters face."

Military may face shortage of reserves

WASHINGTON - The strain of fighting a longer, bloodier war in Iraq than U.S. commanders originally foresaw brings forth a question that most would have dismissed only a year ago. Is the military in danger of running out of reserve troops?

At first glance the answer would appear to be a clear no. There are nearly 1.2 million men and women on the reserve rolls, and only about 70,000 are now in Iraq to supplement the regulars.

But a deeper look inside the Army National Guard, Army Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve suggests a grimmer picture. At the current pace and size of American troop deployments to Iraq, the availability of suitable reserve combat troops

could become a problem as early as next year.

The National Guard says it has about 86,000 citizen soldiers available for future deployments to Iraq, fewer than it has sent there over the past two years. And it has used up virtually all of its most readily deployable combat brigades.

Similarly, the Army Reserve has about 37,500 deployable soldiers left - about 18 percent of its total troop strength. The Marine Corps Reserve appears to be in a comparable position, because most of its 40,000 troops have been mobilized at least once already. Officials said they have no figures available on how many are available for future deployments to Iraq.

International

United Nations says tsunami survivors leaving relief camps

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia - Tsunami survivors in Indonesia's shattered Aceh province have left relief camps by the tens of thousands in recent days to move in with relatives, a U.N. official said Monday, as the government and separatist rebels tried to turn the disaster into a chance for peace.

Elsewhere in Indonesia, a powerful earthquake sent thousands of people scrambling for higher ground, fearful it would trigger a tsunami like the one that killed at least 157,000 in the Indian Ocean region last month, most

in Aceh. Officials said there was no danger of killer waves.

Joel Boutroue, the head of the U.N. relief effort in Sumatra Island's Aceh province, said the number of relief camps has dropped by about 75 percent in the past week, from 385 to less than 100. The number of people in any one camp ranges from a few hundred to about 2,000.

The "dramatic decrease" is good news because relief settlements can make survivors too dependent on outside help, keeping them from rebuilding their lives, Boutroue said.

Japan to dissolve fund for former sex slaves

TOKYO - A private fund used to compensate Asian women forced into World War II brothels run by the Japanese army will be dissolved in March 2007, officials said Monday.

Tomiichi Murayama, the president of the Asian Women's Fund and former prime minister, said the fund would finish its ongoing projects by then.

"By March 2007, all our compensation projects will be completed and we will dissolve the fund as of March 31 of that year," he said in a statement.

The fund - created by the government but independently operated with private donations - has provided a way for Japan to extend aid to former sex slaves without the money coming in the form of official government compensation.

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on television stations, he wants journalists to be state employees and he is trying to get election laws reformed in order to remain prime minister longer.

Ericson called this a "patrimonial state."

"He is in a position to decide when and how he wants to leave," Ericson said.

According to Ericson, the United States has plenty of reasons to pay attention to Russia. Like America, Russia has been a victim of terrorism and has been particularly adamant about the anti-terror campaign since the attack in Beslan, Russia by Chechen rebels. Both the United States and Russia are interested in stabilizing Eurasia and non-proliferation.

Russia's desire to regain its status as a world superpower may be problematic. Ericson said Russia does not particularly like the United States' new world order and often supports the European Union on initiatives.

"Russia is not satisfied with its status as a junior partner in the War on Terror," Ericson said.

Ericson said the United States is also concerned about Putin's methods of centralizing energy plants in Russia. Part of Putin's "taming of the oligarchs" is

to compound all private oil companies into a state owned monopoly (Gazprom) so Putin has control of everything. He is very confident in the supremacy of Russian energy resources and wants to make Russia paramount in this area over all others. Putin put Yukos oil tycoon, Mikhail Khodorkovsky, in prison on questionable charges that stem from his lack of cooperation with Putin.

Ericson said some of Putin's policies have yielded economic growth. GDP has increased from negative 5.3 percent in 1998 to 6.4 percent in 1999 and 10 percent in 2000. It has been steadily growing at around 5 percent since. This is in part due to the poor economical state in which Yeltsin left the country.

Following Ericson's lecture, the audience was given a chance to ask questions and vote on certain policies regarding U.S./Russian relations. Every "Great Decision" program being held across the United States collects the votes of each person who attends and submits them to the Secretary of State for consideration.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

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ous about uniting the country."

Charles Cassely, junior exercise and sports science major, said he thinks the president will make good on his promises.

"I believe things are going to get better," said Cassely.

"Hopefully the national morale will get better ... hopefully he will be able to accomplish this."

As for a domestic agenda, the president steered clear of specific details, but made mention of extending a vision of liberty by "reforming great institutions," presumably Social Security, an issue Bush has promised to tackle during his second term.

"In America's ideal of freedom, citizens find the dignity and security of economic independence, instead of laboring on the edge of subsistence."

"We will widen the ownership of homes and businesses, retirement and savings and health insurance - preparing our people for the challenges of life in a free society," Bush said.

The inauguration didn't go without protest and opposition.

Thousands of anti-Bush demonstrators lined Pennsylvania Avenue to speak out against the war in Iraq, waving signs that said "Warmongers," "Bombs Kill Kids" and "Worst President Ever." Some areas along the parade route were actually designated for protestors.

An unprecedented number of safety measures were planned for the inauguration. More than 6,000 police officers from across the country and more than 7,000 military troops provided ground safety. Aircrafts circled the skies of Washington to ensure air security.

Attendees included Chief Justice William Rehnquist, who swore in the president in spite of recent cancer treatment, former Presidents Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton and former presidential candidate, Senator John Kerry.

Trent Lott, R-Lou., said he's eager to begin working with the president during the second term.

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Our View

Tsunami disaster is perfect time to serve

NBC's all-star benefit to raise money for the American Red Cross to send to tsunami victims was a huge success and raised more than \$18 million. This money will help support the Red Cross in its efforts to provide clean food and water, supplies, health care and disease prevention, counseling and future disaster preparedness.

It is commendable of the many anonymous donors to give their financial resources to help those who have lost so much in such a tragic situation. But such generosity is not just a national news item for us to witness on television.

We at TEC are proud that this kindness and compassion is being demonstrated on the campus of ECU and in the city of Greenville. Citizens and students in our own community are taking action to help strangers half a world away.

Nursing students, under the leadership of senior Michael Raper, have formed an organization with a goal of raising \$50,000 this semester. They have already collected \$1,000, partly by passing buckets around classrooms and they are planning larger fundraisers to help them reach their goal.

Similarly, ECU's Student Government Association has set a target of \$21,658 in representation of \$1 for each student this semester. SGA will be collecting donations at all home basketball games through the end of January.

The Red Cross of Pitt County is also accepting monetary contributions as part of the national effort. They have already held a fundraiser at Pizza Inn and there are plans for other collections, including a campus coin drive.

Because of the leadership of these organizations and ECU students, there is a way we can all put that spare change or those extra dollars to work for a worthy cause. We hope that you'll look into your heart and reach into your wallet to aid those in East Africa and Southeast Asia.

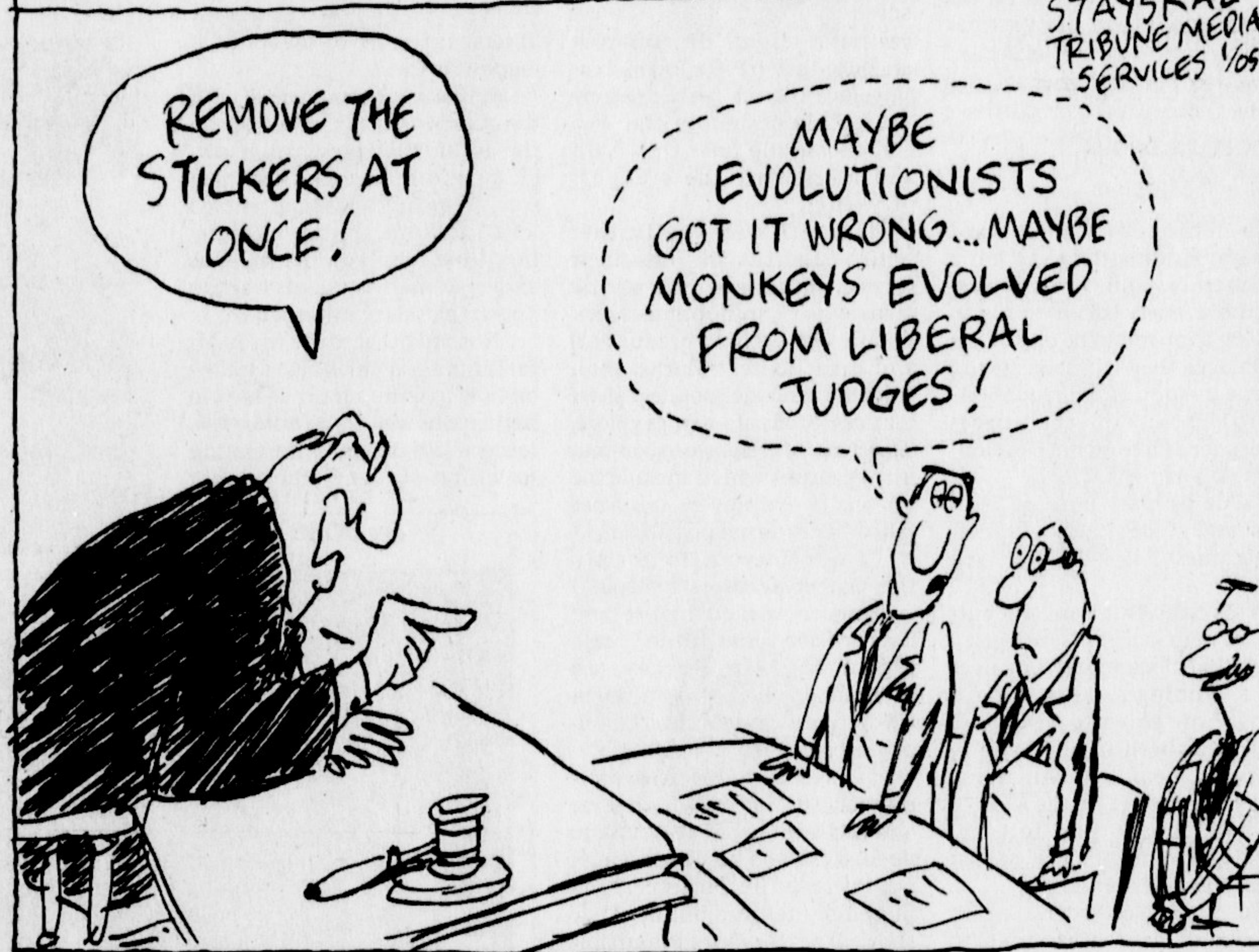
Remember, the motto of ECU is "Serve," which means "to serve." Providing assistance to the victims of this horrible disaster is one very important way that you can do that now.

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JUDGE RULES SCHOOL DISTRICT'S TEXTBOOK STICKERS SAYING EVOLUTION IS A 'THEORY, NOT A FACT' ARE UNCONSTITUTIONAL



Opinion Columnist

Moore shows more signs of hypocrisy

Government continues to meddle in our lives

TONY MCKEE
STAFF WRITER

Have you heard the latest? Michael Moore is a hypocritical racist.

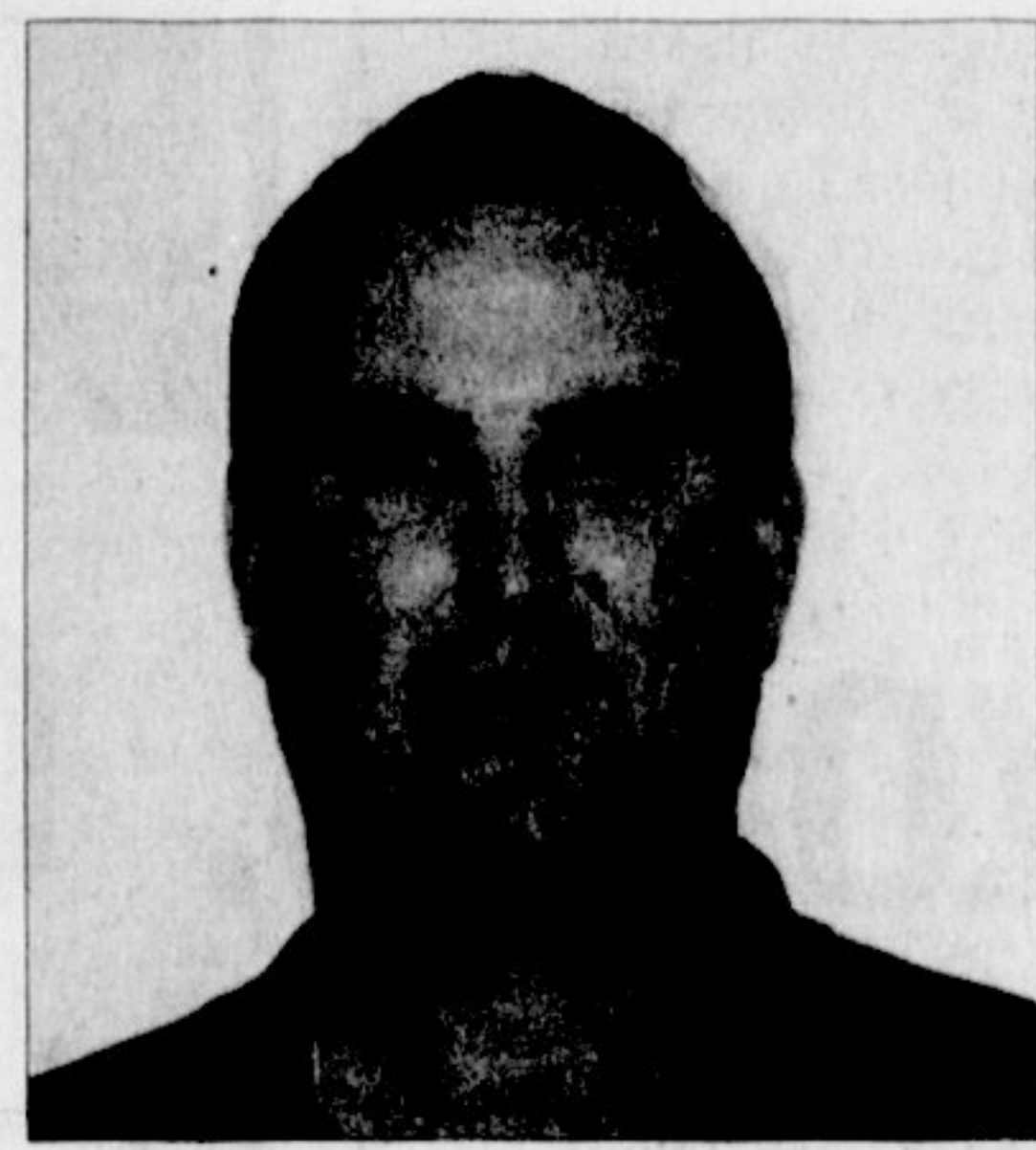
One of the bodyguards that Michael Moore has used in the past for personal protection and who reportedly accompanied Moore to New York earlier this month, was arrested at JFK airport for carrying an unlicensed handgun in his luggage. While he was licensed to carry a weapon in some other states, he was not in New York. So what's the deal?

Let's see, how about the fact that Michael Moore, famous (or infamous) for films such as *Bowling for Columbine*, *Fahrenheit 9/11* and other equally distorted depictions of "reality" has for years been decrying the "culture of fear" in America and our obsession with guns. Or that he has stated that he thinks "all whites are instantly afraid when they see a black person" and buy guns because they're afraid of blacks or any of the many other public utterances that he has made against Americans owning guns?

So what do we have here? One of America's most outspoken "gun control" advocates willingly lets himself be guarded by a gun-wielding bodyguard. That sure looks like hypocrisy of the highest order to any right thinking person. And since Moore believes white gun owners are racist, does that make him a "racist by proxy" for allowing guns in his presence? Sounds like it.

Just like Rosie O'Donnell and many others before him, Michael Moore is just one more example of the "holier-than-thou/do as I say not as I do" attitude that oozes through the whacko fringe of the Democratic party.

I know this little tidbit didn't get much press. Seems it wasn't "news-



worthy." The only major media outlet I found that has run the story (at press time) was the *Washington Post*. The rest of the mainstream media has ignored it. I wonder why?

To give credit where it is due, there is another recent story that has been reported in the mainstream media. Reported with a serious slant, to be sure, but reported nonetheless.

Remember the exit polls that "showed" John Kerry with a substantial lead in certain states on Election Day and the cries of "foul" and outrage that continue to this day when President Bush (doesn't that just sound so good) won? These polls have been used as "proof" by liberal whackos that the election was stolen from Kerry. Once again, however, the truth comes out.

In a recently released report, the company that conducted the exit polls admitted that those exit polls were so grossly skewed in Kerry's favor as to make them the most unreliable poll in at least the last five elections. Can you say, "Whoops?"

Of course, the report was quick to point out that the errors occurred because more Kerry voters agreed to participate in the polls than did Bush voters. Shame on them.

Wait a minute, maybe the kooks are right. It was all a "vast right-wing con-

spiracy" aimed at breaking the liberal spirit and enriching the psychologists who are now treating all the P.E.S.T.ers that were created as a result.

You know about P.E.S.T. don't you? Post Election Selection Trauma. That's what people have who can't deal with the reality of President Bush's re-election.

All seriousness aside for a moment, I have a question: why can't politicians leave us alone?

In my last column I mentioned that thanks to our state political leaders, it is now going to cost most of us \$30 instead of \$9.25 to get our car inspected. I included it as an example of how government interferes with our lives, creating inconvenience and costing us money. I have another example this week.

It seems that Fairfax, Va. is considering a law that will make it illegal for teenagers, and only teenagers, to talk on a cell phone. It will not matter if it is a hands-free unit or not. Not 20? No talky.

Now, all you true liberals out there should instantly be up in arms about this. This law targets only a small portion of the population. Discrimination. Where's the outrage? Actually, where is the basis in fact?

Study after study has repeatedly shown that cell phones are not the biggest distraction for drivers, young or old. The biggest distraction is other people in the car. Cell phones rank third or fourth on the list. So why the law and why target only teenagers? Why not ban other people from talking, listening to/changing stations on the radio or eating in vehicles? Those are more distracting.

All you teenagers from Virginia, what do you think?

I bring this up only because if this law passes it probably won't be long before Virginia as a whole adopts it, as well as other states. More government meddling in our lives.

Until next week, ciao.

Pirate Rant

Walking outside lately makes me feel right at home with this 30 degree, Ithaca, NY weather. The only problem is, I don't want to feel right at home.

Sit back and relax... we have another four years of fascism coming up.

I will never understand why professors assign an entire book for reading that has to be completed over the weekend. Last time I heard, most students on campus had at least four other classes and jobs on weekends.

I know it's January and that's why it's cold, but that doesn't mean I can't complain about it all I want to every person I run in to.

What's with all the tables of crap in the Wright Place getting in my way everyday?

Good job, TEC. That North/South stuff in Thursday's paper was hot. Do more of that.

Staying up late and blaring music keeps up everyone living around you. Some of us have class tomorrow and goals in life.

For all you guys, and even some girls, who think it's cool to wear your hunting gear to class, you look silly. Correct me if I'm wrong, but I don't think there's much hunting to be done on ECU's campus.

Why do trains sit on the tracks in Greenville during rush hour traffic? Since when does a train sit on a track and not move?

The North vs. South articles in Thursday's Features section were great.

To that hot girl who I held the door open for in Wright Plaza: You were hot until you totally ignored me when I was polite to you.

To the person complaining about getting a ticket because they failed to move over to the left lane when a cop had someone pulled on the right shoulder: If you had watched any local news over the past few months you would have known about this law. It's a safety thing. A lot of cops were hit and some killed last year by cars failing to move over into the vacant lane. It's a not a big deal, just move over. Watch the local news more and you'll be aware of any new upcoming laws.

Why is it that those who have not slacked off and gotten out of shape during the first semester are the ones who do not have access to machines at the gym because of those who decided to make lofty New Year's resolutions that will probably fizzle out by February?

What is it with the ugly diaper bag looking things that girls are carrying to class these days?

There is a reason why a crosswalk is provided at the stop light at Christenbury - so you don't get hit by a bus. Learn to use it (and that goes for faculty, too). Bus drivers can't always see you when you are crossing the road.

Why is it when it snows everyone and their brother buys foods that will go bad? The milk, eggs and meat will go bad when your fridge stops working because of the snow.

So we went to war under the notion that Iraq was loaded with weapons of mass destruction, and now the search for them have conveniently ended just a couple months after the election. So if there are no weapons, then why did we go to war? At least my conscious is clear about whom I voted for president.

Where is the snow?

Why must guys use girls as a pillow? For goodness sakes, lay on the couch, not me.

Editor's Note: The Pirate Rant is an anonymous way for students and staff in the ECU community to voice their opinions. Submissions can be submitted anonymously online at www.theeastcarolinian.com, or e-mailed to editor@theeastcarolinian.com. The editor reserves the right to edit opinions for content and brevity.

In My Opinion

Department of Health offers 'simple' way to get fit

(KRT) — Those of us who are concerned about our weight got some great news from the federal government this week. Apparently, the folks at the Department of Health and Human Services have looked into the problem of obesity and have (much to our collective relief) discovered a simple solution.

Department Secretary Tommy Thompson broke the good news to a grateful nation this week:

"You lower your calorie intake, you lower your fats, your carbs. You eat more fruits and vegetables, more whole grains and you exercise. That's as simple as it can be. It is not too hard."

Wow, thanks Tommy! That does sound easy. If only we'd known it was this simple, we'd all have been enjoying our ideal body weight years ago. It's nice to know that Don Rumsfeld isn't the only smart-as-a-whip, gifted orator that the president has in his Cabinet.

Let's look at some of the details of this laughably simple-to-follow plan a little more closely.

The new federal dietary guidelines recommend that you eat lots of fruits

and vegetables (four or more cups a day) and at least three cups a day of low-fat or fat-free milk products. You should also get three 1-ounce servings of whole grain products every day. Food that is high in sugar and saturated fat (also known as food that tastes good) should be limited to a very small portion of your daily diet.

Simple, right? Oh yeah, one more thing. You should exercise every day for 30 to 90 minutes. Not three times a week, mind you, but every single day. I'm sure that comes as welcome news for many of us, as we've been wondering what we should do with all that spare time we have to kill every day.

Who lives like this? No one that I know could pull this off. Mr. Thompson, you might as well tell us to sprout wings and fly. We aren't that disciplined, and we never will be.

The only way to get Americans to follow a strict health regimen like this would be to force it on them. You'd have to strictly regulate what food is sold in stores and what restaurants are allowed to serve. You'd also have to send an armed representative from

Health and Human Services into the home of every American family, every day, and order them off the couch and onto the treadmill.

People tend to be disciplined only when circumstances force them to be, and the circumstances of an unhealthy lifestyle are just too slow-developing to impact our everyday actions.

When your average American is driving home after a long day at the office, do you think he's more likely to choose going through the drive-thru at McDonalds for a delicious Big Mac, or stopping at the grocery store and carefully picking out an array of healthy produce that he will have to then go home and prepare? And after dinner, do you think he's going to choose to hit the stair-master for an hour and a half or sit down on his couch and watch the latest episode of "CSI?"

Let's get real here. Most of us aren't going to eat like Buddhist monks and workout like Olympic athletes in training. We need more manageable, reality-based goals if we're going to take anything Thompson and his friends at HHS seriously.

Announcements:

Celtic Music

Live, old-time and Celtic music by a string band playing Jan. 28 - 29. Friday night from 7:30 - 8 p.m. there will be contra instruction. From 8 - 10:30 p.m. the contra dance will take place. On Saturday there will be a folk dance, contra and waltz workshop from 1 - 5 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$10 - 20. For more information call 752-7350.

Chinese Opera

On Saturday, Jan. 29 at 2 p.m., Qi Shu Fang will introduce you to . Their tales are told through a combination of martial arts, acrobatics, music, dance and mime. Tickets are \$6 - 9.

Holy Spirit Seminar

Pastor Max Flynn invites you to a Holy Spirit Anointing Seminar with author Albert Gengenbach at Radiant Life Church in Greenville. Times are Friday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 29 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 29 at 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. For more information call 355-2888.

Equestrian Club

Anyone interested in the Equestrian Club, contact Courtney Quinn at cdq0525@mail.ecu.edu. This club utilizes Hunt Seat Horseback Riding, all levels are welcome to join.

Names in the news:

Anchor Change?

Katie Couric as anchor of "CBS Evening News?" No way, says NBC honcho Jeff Zucker. "I'm very confident she'll be with NBC for many years to come," Zucker told TV critics gathered in L.A. Friday. NBC is in discussions with the popular "Today" star about extending her contract, which expires in May 2006. There's some buzz that Couric will replace Dan Rather after he steps down March 9. As a warning shot to his rival, CBS chairman Leslie Moonves, Zucker said: "If CBS goes after Katie Couric, we're going after Julie Chen." On the Martha Stewart front, Zucker said that he "wouldn't be opposed" to the jailed domestic diva's "having a presence" on Donald Trump's "The Apprentice," but that an "Apprentice"-like reality show of her own "could work."

Sponge Bob

Hide the kids and take cover. A "gay alert" has been sounded by conservative groups over a children's video starring that ubiquitous and incorrigible baggy-pants-wearing imp, SpongeBob SquarePants. The music video, which shows Bob singing the cloying 1979 hit "We Are Family" with a host of other cartoon characters, is to be sent to 61,000 U.S. schools in March and is being touted as a way to encourage acceptance and diversity. Christian groups aren't offended by the lameness of the song. They say the video's makers, the We Are Family Foundation, has a pro-gay message on its Web site, which "is not only unnecessary but ... crosses a moral line," according to James Dobson, founder of Focus on the Family.

CBS Sitcoms

Fans of rotund actor John Goodman will be relieved to learn that his ill-fitting stinker of a sitcom, "Center of the Universe" costarring that other comic great, Ed Asner has been put out of its misery by CBS. The network will air reruns of "The King of Queens" in the Wednesday 9:30 p.m. time slot for now, and will permanently replace it with lackluster veteran "Yes, Dear" starting Feb. 16.

Desperate on ABC

ABC's daytime woman-powered talkfest, "The View," will be exploring the growing epidemic of housewives whose existential despair leads them to have affairs when Teri Hatcher, Eva Longoria, Nicollette Sheridan, Felicity Huffman and Marcia Cross, the hottie stars of ABC's drama "Desperate Housewives" take turns co-hosting the show during the week of Feb. 7. Not saucy enough? Maybe one of the "DH" stars will get into a drag-out showdown with self-loving "View" host Star Jones Reynolds.

Students receive career advice

Learn how to search for jobs effectively

JOANNA WALDHOUR
STAFF WRITER

Searching for a job is hard enough. Finding the right job a person truly wants is even harder. For the average college student, finding a job might be one of the challenges they will face during college or soon after graduation.

To help with this challenge is the Student Professional Development department at ECU.

"Our primary purpose is to assist and guide students in their career quest," said the SPD Web site.

This basically means students receive help in finding, not just a job, but also searching for career paths, finding a major, internships, how to write a résumé, how to do well in any type of interview, helping international students residing in the U.S. or even helping to find international employment for those that desire to work overseas.

A career coordinator at the department is assigned to students that enter the Student Career Services seeking help in their job search and in knowing what to do. The first thing the student needs to do is register with Career Services. A registration form is filled out, allowing the career coordinator to know what the student's interests are and how to help them.

Once the student has been registered, they are able to have access to the Career Service online database of internships, listings and jobs. Also, students

can put a résumé on this Web site once they have a logon. Employers can search for the résumé the student posted on the Web site, choose the ones they want and meet with the students they select.

The SPD Web site further states, "students who use their services spend less time getting focused on an appropriate career, obtain jobs before graduation and earn higher salaries than students who do not use their services. Students can "explore, experience and engage in community resources which include the university, employers, agencies and other external populations."

"I was nervous to go into the Career Services because I had never worked before and had no clue what to do," said senior Melissa Harkey, an information technology major in the business career and technology department.

"I spoke with the career coordinator. She sat down with me and asked me what I wanted to do for a job and asked me what I was interested in. I registered and posted my résumé online. They showed me the Web site and how easy it is to find people looking for jobs," Harkey said.

Going to the SPD Web site can be of great help as well. Many students have a combination of interests and different career paths they are looking into, the Web site links to a variety of questionnaires students can fill out, which can prove to be beneficial in their decision-making.

Most of the questionnaires are developed in a way to help students discover or broaden their search for jobs or careers based largely on their person-

alities, interests or location of employment.

Students are impressed with the questionnaires simply because the information presented is very clear, informative and explanatory. It includes a list of related jobs, locations, contact information, links to specific instructions and what many students want to know, the salary information.

Not only that, there are helpful hints and guidelines to follow on how to write a résumé, how to participate well in an interview, forms to fill out and information in which students can gather

see JOBS page A5

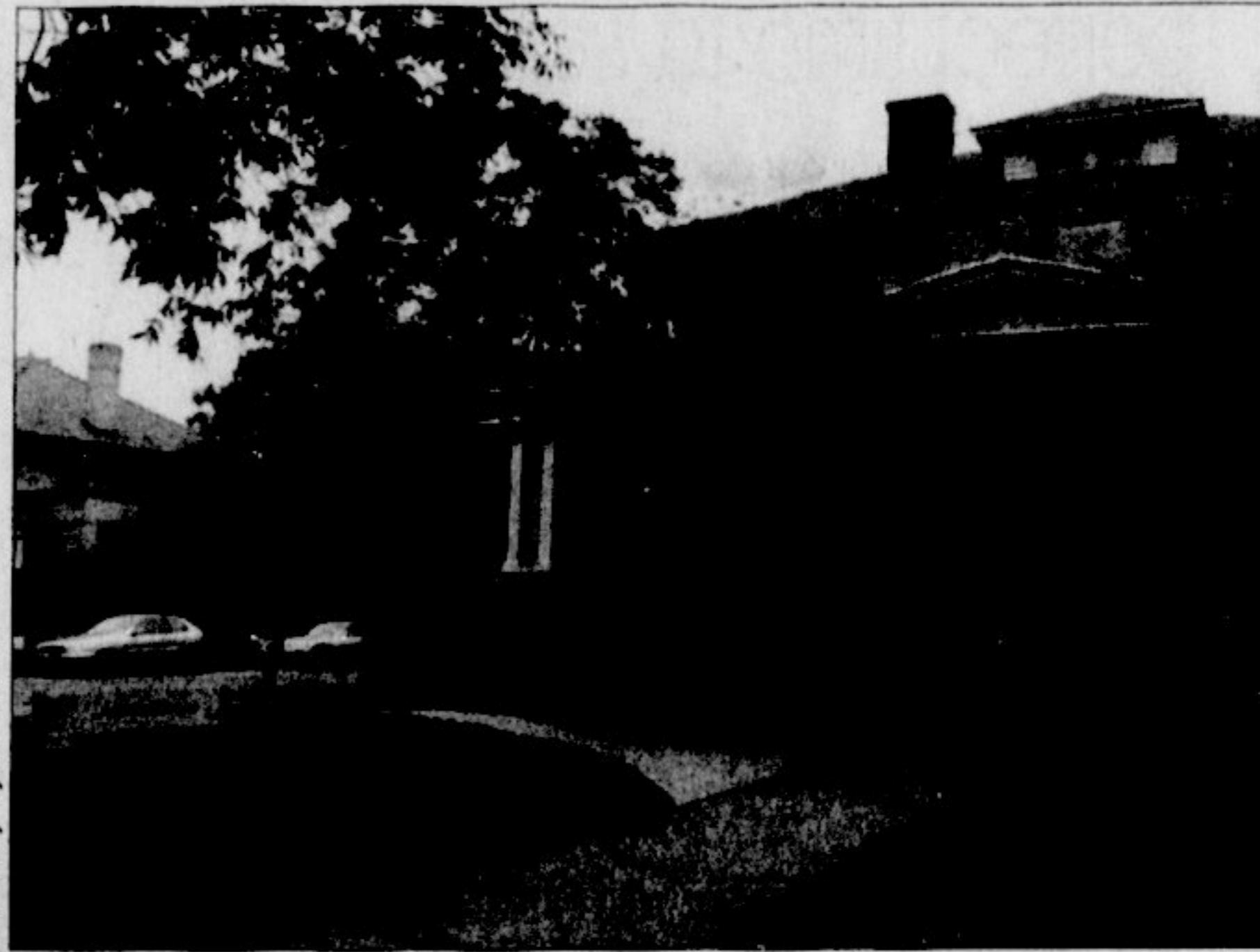


Photo by Kyle Fisher



Photo by Herb Sneed

Career Services

This student resource is open to any student who wishes to make serious advances in the areas of:

- Interviewing
- Résumé formatting
- Job search skills
- Alumni contacts
- Online résumé posting
- Professional behavior

Wellington B. Gray Art Gallery



Visiting artist and judge of the Fourth Photography Image Biennial Exhibition Maggie Taylor stands in front of several black and white prints by Carl Boone. Boone is an artist showcased in the exhibit at the Wellington B. Gray Art Gallery this month.

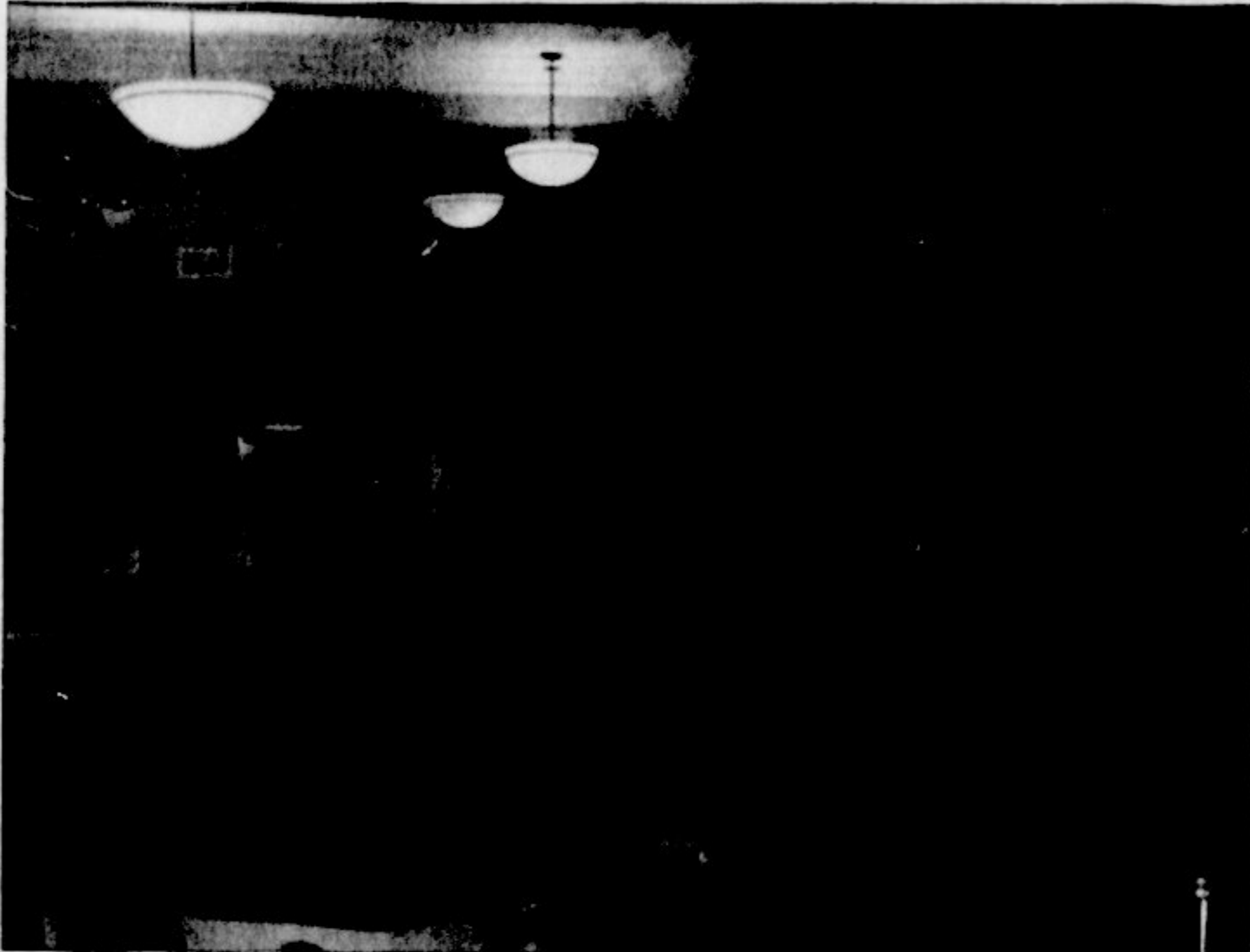
The Fourth Photography Image Biennial

The Fourth Photography Image Biennial will be continuing to be exhibited at the Gray Art Gallery from now until Feb. 20. On Jan. 21 in Speight Auditorium, the exhibition juror, Maggie Taylor, presented a lecture on her work. After the presentation, there was a gala reception honoring the artists who have work displayed in the show.

This exhibition drew 709 entries from 37 states. There are 80 works on display in the exhibition including three-dimensional works, digitally manipulated and traditional photography.

To view these wonderful pieces of art, visit the Wellington B. Gray Art Gallery, which is on the corner of Fifth and Jarvis Streets, in the Jenkins Fine Arts Center. The gallery is open Monday - Friday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Uptown Greenville presents Grand Opening celebration



Via Cappuccino offers quiet and tranquil place for work and studying

New businesses in McLellan's Dimestone Building offer students more options

JESSICA CRESON
SENIOR WRITER

A grand opening party will be held at the McLellan's Dimestone Building, located on 409 Evans St. downtown, on Tuesday, Jan. 25 at 5:30 p.m. by Uptown Greenville. This will be a party celebrating the opening of five new businesses in this one building. The festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. and go until they end. There will be live entertainment, food, wine and beer for anyone who is interested in coming. It is open to the public and Wayne Bowers, the city manager, will be speaking on the significance of the rejuvenation of downtown Greenville. Bowers will also go over new plans, projects for downtown and how to help and get involved.

Via Cappuccino and Just Yoga are two that opened since last semester and many probably have heard about by now. The other three businesses continue the variety in this building with The Tippy Teapot,

Parker-Kennybrook Books and Uptown 409 Art Studios.

"Revitalize, revitalize, revitalize. I believe we have a real opportunity to create not only a successful business district, but also a thriving cultural center appealing to all Greenville residents," said Vail Rumley of Just Yoga.

This building is just one of the new additions coming to Greenville's downtown area and the Uptown Greenville organization is very excited to begin the "revitalization."

"There needs to be a balance," said John Fatheree, the owner of Via Cappuccino, on what is offered downtown.

There are students and members of the community that are tired of only going downtown at night for dollar drafts. Coffee shops, art, books and meditation will bring some much needed college culture to ECU students who feel they have missed out, as well as the community who do not find many things bringing them downtown anymore.

"When I went to ECU, there was nothing to do downtown but eat or drink. Slowly, we're changing that - shopping, galleries and places to hang out and have a cup of coffee with friends. We want to give everyone the big city accommodations,

and yet keep the old small-town southern charm of downtown," Rumley said.

Via Cappuccino is a coffee house that welcomes those who need different scenery from the library or an apartment to read, do homework or take a time out with friends. Wireless Internet is provided as well. The mood is comfortable, warm and relaxing.

There are plenty of scheduled events in Via Cappuccino ranging from poetry readings, open mic nights and music.

The Tippy Teapot and Parker-Kennybrook Books offer something a little different. They are working together in the same space, so customers will be able to get some lunch or a cup of tea and pick out a good book to read at the same place. Lunch and light dinners will be available as well as various teas and desserts.

Via Cappuccino and The Tippy Teapot have joining doors that will allow movement from both places, which will help out with large crowds during special events.

Parker-Kennybrook Books will carry about 80,000 books with about 80 percent of those being used. A wide range of books will be offered, with an especially large children's section.

see CELEBRATION page A5

TEC is now hiring staff writers. Apply at our office located on the 2nd floor of the Student Publications Building.

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PRE-MED WEEK

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TUESDAY / JANUARY 25

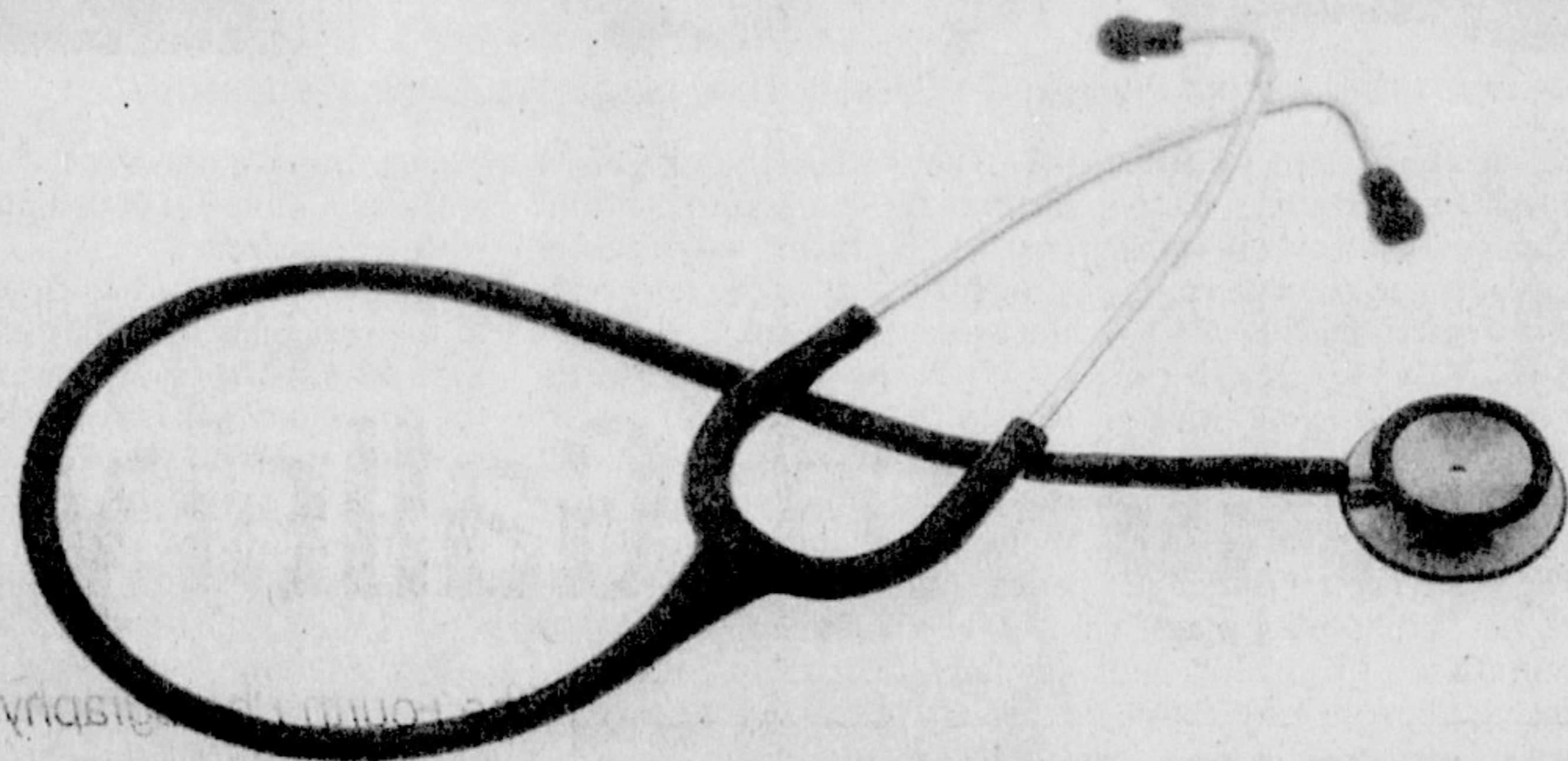
3:00-4:30PM, MENDENHALL MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
-Come hear from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill as they share about both Medical and Dental schools as well as their admissions process

4:30-5:30PM, MENDENHALL MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
-The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill School of Nursing will share about their Medical School as well as the admissions process

WEDNESDAY / JANUARY 26

3:00-4:30PM, MENDENHALL, GREAT ROOM #3
-The Uniformed Services University will be here to share about their Medical school as well as the admissions process

4:30-5:30, MENDENHALL, GREAT ROOM #3
-Come learn about medical school scholarships offered through the U.S. Military. Sgt. 1st Class Arthur Sweeney will be here to share more about these opportunities.



Celebration from page A4

Just Yoga is devoted to the art of yoga offering a nice studio and a class for any level of yoga experience. The different classes offered are: Gentle Yoga, Basic Vinyasa, Vinyasa Basic Ashtanga and Ashtanga yoga. It is located above Via Cappuccino, so customers must walk through Via Cappuccino in order to get to the yoga studios.

"Yoga is unique in that it absolutely requires you to be present at all times. You can't just tune out, turn on your iPod, as you can with most other exercise. A part of yoga is

focusing so much on what you are doing that everything else (your bad day, your next history test, etc.) simply falls away. That's why yoga is called a moving meditation," Rumley said.

A community basic class is offered for people who are not yet sure about yoga and just want to try it out. Student discounts are also available.

Uptown 409 Art Studios is a visual art studio and gives artists a place to create and develop their art. It is located above The Tippy Teapot and there is a door between Via Cappuccino and

The Tippy Teapot that takes you to stairs and then the art studio.

Uptown Greenville is a nonprofit organization that has taken the job of revamping businesses of Greenville. This organization is responsible for the restoration of the McLellan Building, which now looks like a new, yet historic part of the downtown look and the follow through of the new businesses.

"Please come [to the party] and bring a friend," Fathere said.

This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.

Jobs from page A4

about different subjects are also included on this Web site.

Students interested in talking one-on-one with a career coordinator should schedule an appointment to meet at the SPD department.

There will be several career fairs throughout this semester for specific majors or subject interests. There is the College of Technology and Computer Science Career Fair coming up on Feb. 16. It will be located at the Science and Technology Building from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. College of Business Career Fair will be held on Feb. 23. The location will be at Bate Building from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. The College of Education Career Fair will be on Feb. 25. It will be located at the Murphy Center by Dowdy Ficklen-Station from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. For further information about other career fairs, visit the SPD Web site at ecu.edu/e3careers.

"The career services [center] helped me very much because it was very informative," said Harkey.

"It was good to sit and talk with someone who knew what they were talking about and it is a lot easier going to them than trying to find a job yourself. I felt better after I talked with the career coordinator because I felt like I knew what to do.

"I would strongly recommend students to go to the career services. It may help them like it did with me."

This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.

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THE STRAIGHT 8S

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25, 2005

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Sports Briefs



Woods breaks drought

The soupy fog clung to the cliffs, like something out of an old mystery movie. When the Buick Invitational ended in fading sunlight, the strangest sight of all might have been Tiger Woods holding the trophy. He started his 31-hole marathon Sunday with three consecutive bogeys. He finished it by hitting a 2-iron so bad that it actually turned out good. Woods ended the suspense with an 18-foot putt that he hit too hard, only to see it dive into the cup for a birdie that gave him his first stroke-play title on the PGA Tour in 16 months. Ending his longest stroke-play drought of his tour career, Woods let everyone else collapse around him in a series of errors and bad breaks, closing with a 4-under 68 for a three-shot victory that was a nail-biter. Charles Howell III hit a sand wedge from 95 yards that was so perfect that it landed in the cup, and bounced out just as quickly into the pond as he watched in disbelief. An eagle turned into a bogey, he shot 72 and wound up three shots behind, along with Ryder Cup captain Tom Lehman and Luke Donald.

Lewis will not return

Former world heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis denied a published report that said he'll end his retirement to fight Vitali Klitschko in November. The London tabloid and the Sunday Mirror quoted Lewis as saying, "I'm making a comeback later this year. The money is up to 21 million pounds (\$39.3 million) right now and I simply can't turn that much cash down. I need the money just like everyone else and it's just too good to turn down." But later Sunday, Lewis released a statement saying he was not making a comeback. Lewis, 39, retired Feb. 6 with a 41-2-1 record. Klitschko assumed the title April 24 when he beat Corrie Sanders. Lewis and Klitschko last fought in June 2003. Lewis was behind on points when the fight was stopped in the sixth round because Klitschko was cut. That was Lewis' last fight and he was booed out of the ring after a poor performance. The WBC mandated a rematch, but Lewis retired instead.



Rangers, Mets out of Delgado sweepstakes

The Texas Rangers abruptly withdrew Sunday night from the competition to sign Carlos Delgado and the free-agent first baseman failed to respond to the New York Mets by their deadline, perhaps leaving Florida and Baltimore as the remaining contenders to sign him. Texas announced its withdrawal in a statement Sunday. Delgado's agent, David Sloane, said in a telephone interview that the Mets pulled out during a telephone call he had with chief operating officer Jeff Wilpon and general manager Omar Minaya. The Mets said they were unsure where they stood with Delgado. The 32-year-old Delgado would be counted on to fortify the lineup of whichever team he selects. He hit 269 last season for Toronto with 32 homers and 99 RBI. Delgado and outfielder Magglio Ordonez, who is coming off an injury-shortened season with the Chicago White Sox, are the last elite free agents who remain unsigned.

Pirates drop sixth straight Conference USA match-up

ECU blows early lead in 21-point loss to DePaul

TRENT WYNNE
STAFF WRITER

DePaul's fantastic trio of Quemont Greer, Drake Diener and Sammy Mejia outscored the Pirates' entire squad, as ECU's road and Conference USA troubles continued, losing to the Blue Demons by the final count of 77-56, their sixth straight conference defeat.

Greer, C-USA's leading scorer, poured in a game high 21 points while Diener and Mejia each had 19 respectively.

"Quemont Greer, we had no answers for," said ECU Head Coach Bill Herrion.

"But what really hurt us was that we just couldn't score around the basket. We had so many opportunities around the bucket, but physically we just couldn't score around the basket."

Moussa Badiane, Corey Rouse and Mike Castro had a disappointing night, combining on just eight field goals in 21 attempts.

Other than the lack of scoring inside, the Pirates' biggest concern may still be the inability to play the entire game, which was on perfect display against the Blue Demons as ECU built an early nine point lead 26-17.

Mike Cook, who did not start, keyed the Pirates' 9-0 run when the game was knotted at 17, by scoring seven straight points during the run.

"I thought in the first half we were in good shape, had a nice little run going, had some good rotations going and I thought the kids were playing hard," Herrion said.

DePaul closed the opening half on a 13-4 run and had things



ECU is the only team in the conference who is still without a win in C-USA play. They play St. Louis this Wednesday.

all tied up heading into the intermission.

"We told our kids at halftime that I'm sure Dave (Leitao) was challenging his kids at halftime to play harder and step up the defensive intensity," Herrion said.

The Blue Demons did just that as they held ECU to a dismal 20.7 shooting percentage in the second half and began with a 10-1 run in the first few minutes.

The Pirates would never get

any closer than eight points, which last occurred after a Badiane jumper with just over 10 minutes remaining in regulation.

DePaul stretched the lead to as big as 77-51 before ECU got baskets from Tom Hammonds and Badiane, making it the final of 77-56.

"I thought that we got the ball where we needed to get it, but we just didn't make plays," Herrion said.

"But you have to keep fight-

ing. That's when the toughness factor really comes into play and that's something we're really struggling with right now with this basketball team."

With the loss, the Pirates remain the only team in conference play without a win. ECU will welcome in Saint Louis tomorrow night to Williams Arena, Minges Coliseum at 7 p.m.

The Billikens struggled throughout their non-conference schedule, only tallying two wins

but has found success in C-USA, as the sit a game out of first place with a 3-2 record.

The Pirates have had trouble in the past against the Billikens, especially on the road. However, the Pirates are desperate for their first win and with that ECU will defeat Saint Louis and get back into the hunt for the C-USA tournament.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Brady, Patriots prove again why they're No. 1

OPINION

TONY ZOPPO
SPORTS EDITOR

"They're just not as good as they were last year."

"Their secondary is too weak right now."

"They won't be able to handle the Colts offense."

New England 20, Indianapolis 3.

"OK, they had a good game, but they played at home and the weather was horrible."

"They won't be able to do that in Pittsburgh, no way, no how."

"Bettis and Staley are going to tear the Patriots' defense apart."

New England 41, Pittsburgh 27. Noticing a trend?

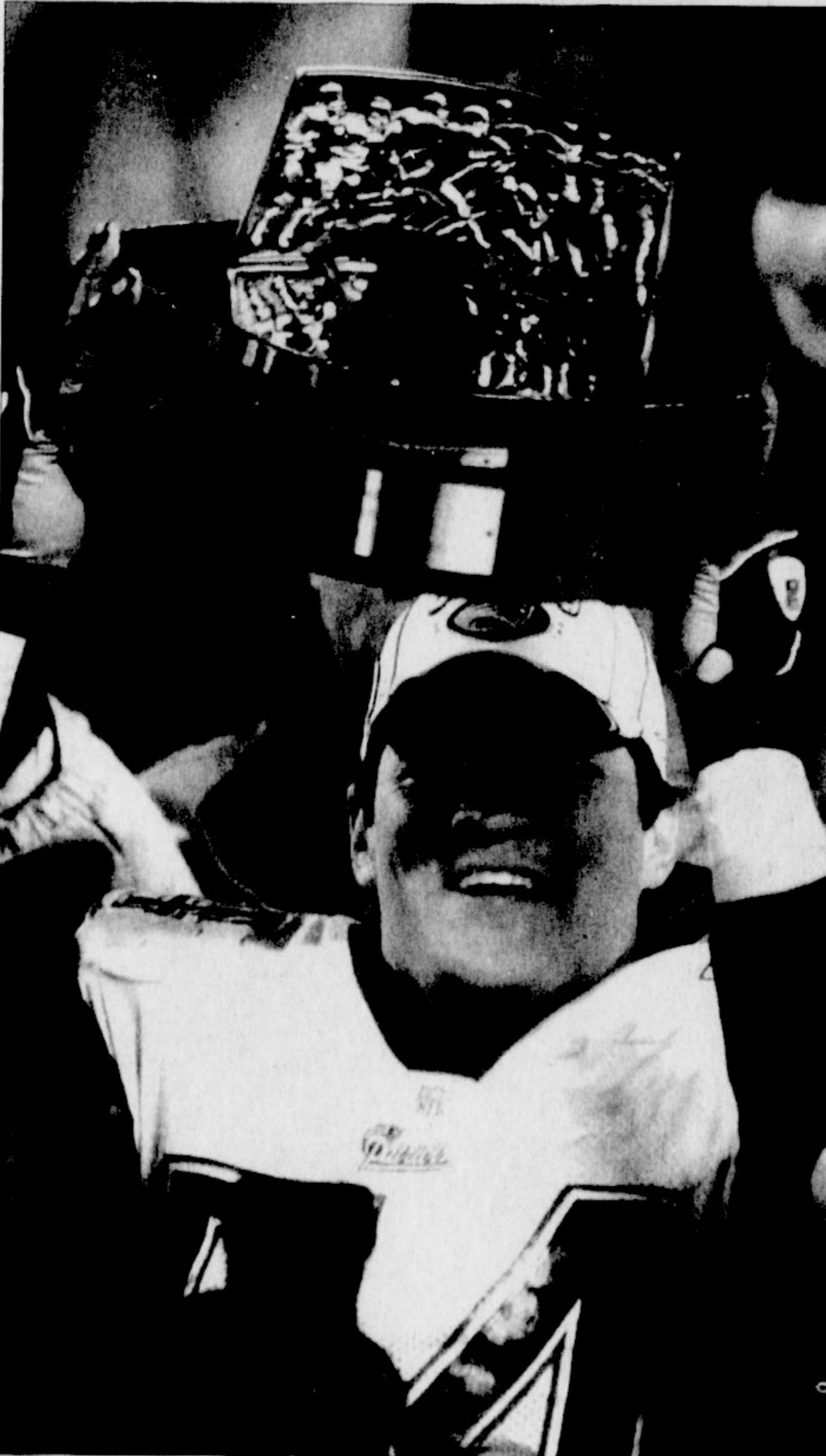
There's a school of thought in sports that goes something like this: Don't pick against the champs. This implies there should be a manner of respect shown to champions. So tell me this - why the hell is it that the New England Patriots don't receive any?

I confess. Before the Colts-Patriots game two weeks ago, I was questioning whether the Pats could weather the storm of Peyton Manning and the most potent offense in the league. About an hour before game time, I started knocking some sense into myself by running through several, but not all, the reasons why the Patriots may soon be labeled a modern day dynasty.

The Patriots have won two of the last three Super Bowls and they did it with a running game about as impressive as Bill Belichick's game day wardrobe. Now they have Corey Dillon, one of the best running backs in the league for the last seven years.

"Yes, but he'll cause problems, he was a cancer with Cincinnati," they tell me.

Are you serious? Would you be Mr. Sunshine if you spent seven years on one of the worst teams in professional sports? And we're



Tedy Bruschi holds the AFC Championship trophy Sunday.

not talking just bad on the field; Cincinnati was rotten to the core - administration and all. Not to mention the fact that the team's success depended completely upon Dillon.

However, rather than being cast into the limelight every week, now he's just another Patriot, doing whatever it takes to help the team win... and he couldn't be happier. He rushed for over 1600 yards this season and has scored 12 touchdowns (excluding the playoffs).

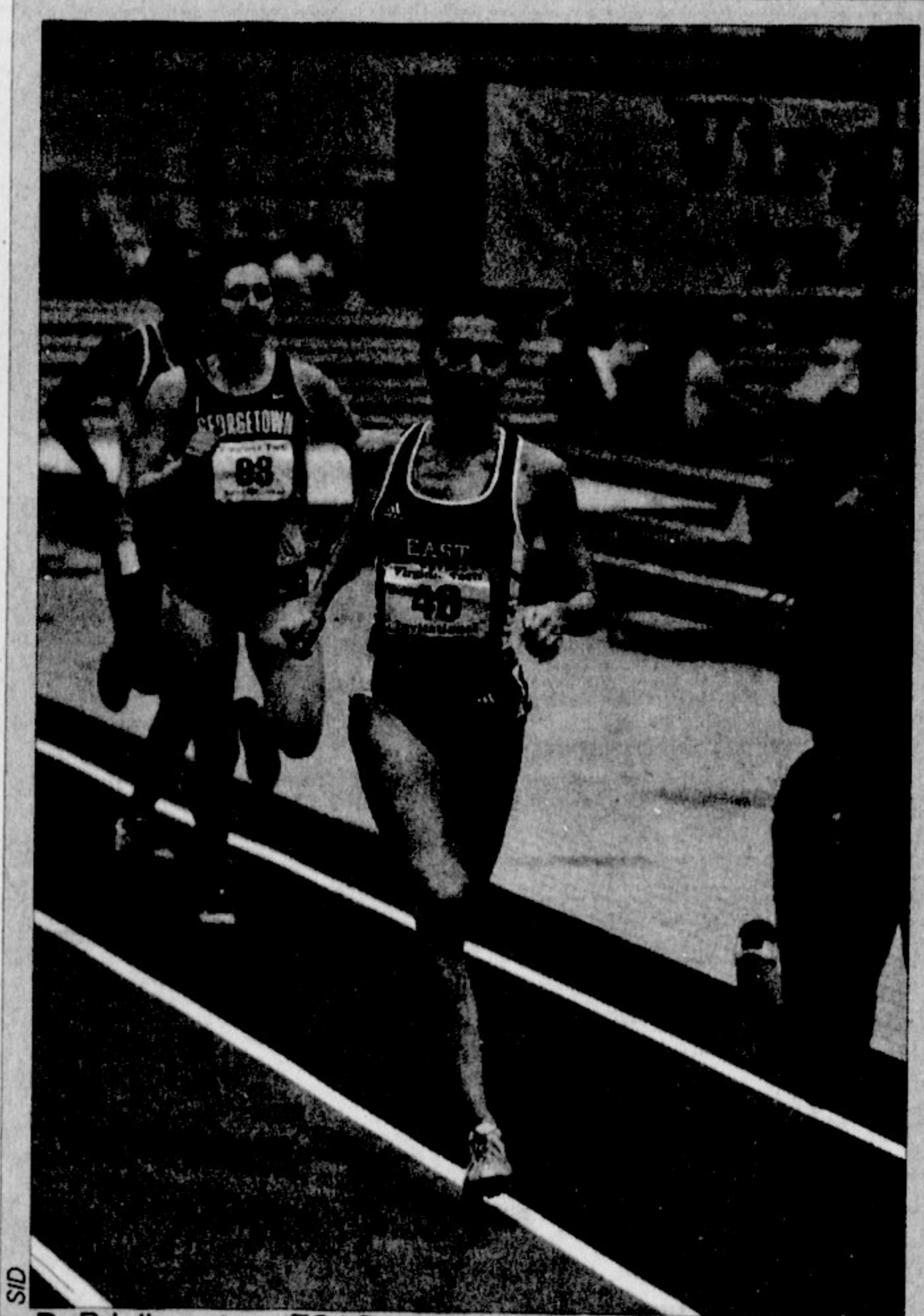
Oh, and unlike Cincinnati, Dillon's teammates, coaches and fans love him.

"[He was] our missing piece," said safety Rodney Harrison during an ESPN *The Magazine* interview about Dillon.

"Every play, he goes 100 mph. After all that punishment in Cincinnati, he's looked 23 - Like a rookie making 100 grand. Never complained once. Classy dude. Been our MVP."

Damn that guy, what a cancer. The Patriots also have one

see PATRIOTS page A7



DeBrielle set an ECAC record in the 800-meter event.

Merritt, DeBrielle lead ECU at Clemson Invitational

(SID) - Clemson, SC - Freshman LaShawn Merritt and senior Tara DeBrielle established new records, while freshman Matt Dennish recorded a first-place standing in the one mile run to lead the ECU men's and women's indoor track teams to strong finishes at the Clemson Invitational over the weekend.

Merritt, who set a school record with a 20.92 performance in the 200-meter dash last week during his collegiate debut at the Virginia Tech Invitational, established a new Clemson Indoor Record with a 47.23 time in the 400 meters. His first-place finish and time also served as a NCAA Provisional Qualifying mark in the event.

Dennish captured the one mile run competition with a time of 4:19.14, edging teammate Kyle MacKenzie who

clocked in at 4:19.36. The Pirates' tandem finished ahead of six Southeastern and Atlantic Coast Conference participants who represented Auburn (three), Clemson (one) and South Carolina (two).

DeBrielle finished second in the women's 800-meter race but set a new East Coast Athletic Conference (ECAC) mark with a time of 2:12.96.

ECU's men's squad stood fifth with 76 points, 29.5 ahead of sixth-place Virginia Tech and 47.5 more than seventh-place NC State. The Lady Pirates finished eighth overall, but also defeated the Hokies and Wolfpack in the team standings.

Other top 10 Pirates' finishers include Chris Johnson (5th in the 60-meter dash/6.91), Thomas Lewis (8th/60m7.00), DeAndre Hyma

see TRACK page A7

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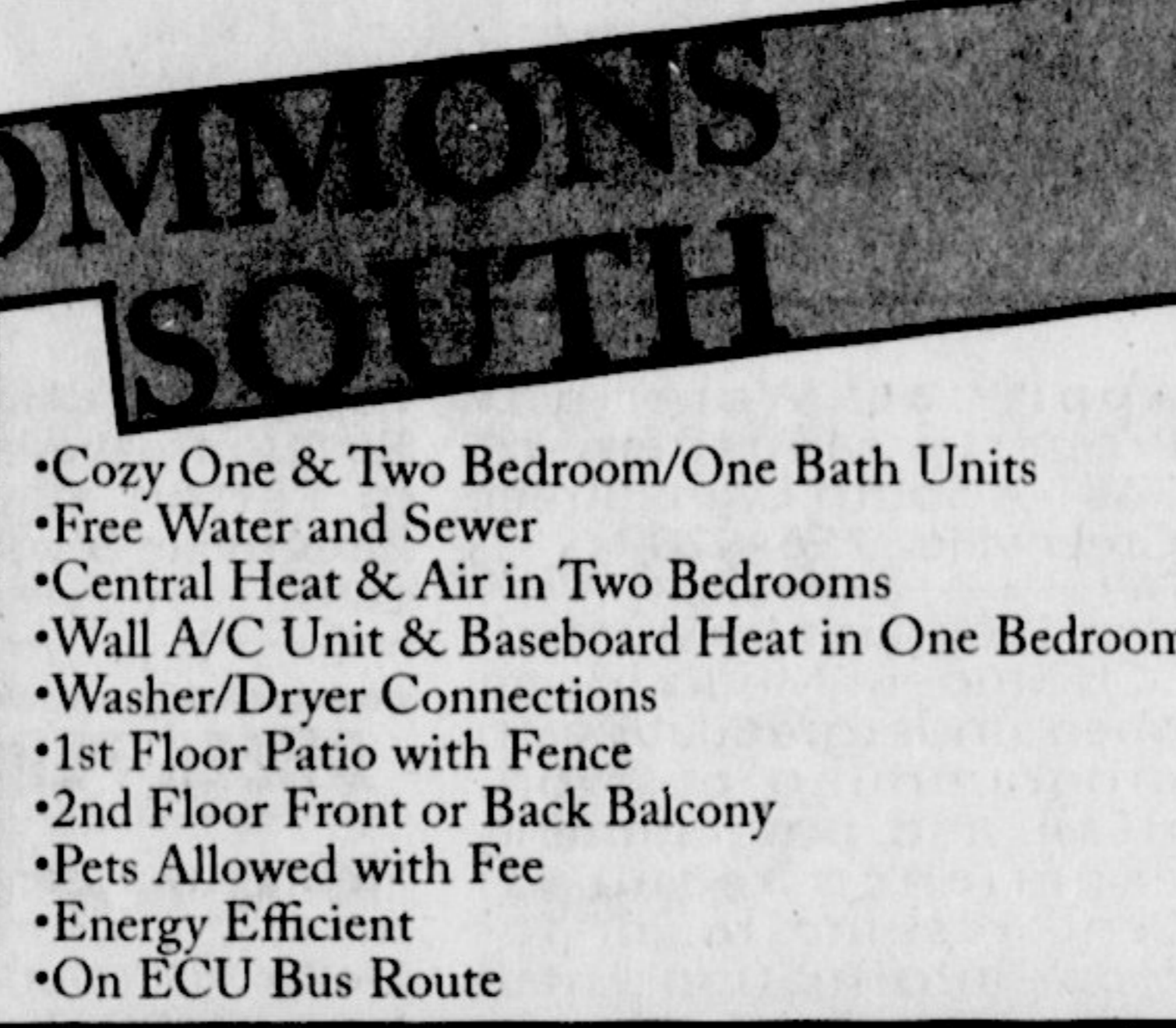
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Patriots from page A6

of the best defenses in the NFL, including four of the most underrated linebackers in the league in Mike Vrabel, Roosevelt Colvin, Tedy Bruschi and Roman Phifer. All of those guys bring it harder than any other linebacker corps in the NFL. New England also has some guy named Willie McGinest - he's pretty decent too.

Coach Belichick, Charlie Weiss and Romeo Crenell are geniuses. Belichick is now 9-1 in the playoffs as a head coach.

Oh yea, they also have Tom Brady.

Brady is the consummate Patriot. He's confident but not overconfident. He can outplay you physically and mentally. He's not flashy. He plays within the team concept.

But the main aspect that makes Brady a true Patriot?

He wins. People always want to argue Peyton Manning is a better quarterback than Brady - "Just look at his statistics since 2001" they tell me.

OK, I will. One billion yards passing (29,442), 1,897 touchdowns (216), 120 percent completion rate (63.5). But I'm forgetting something ... Ah, three

playoff wins, zero NFL titles, no parentheses.

Brady on the other hand is now an NFL record 8-0 in the playoffs and has collected 56 wins and just 14 losses since taking the reigns in 2001.

I've realized that this is simply what the Patriots do. They win.

They go into the playoffs with only two losses and hear people talking up Indianapolis and Pittsburgh. They hear the terms "unstoppable offense" and "depleted secondary" at least 70 times each day. They hear about Manning, Wayne, Harrison, Bettis, Staley and Roethlisberger.

And they couldn't care less. They just step on the field Sunday, smack teams in the mouth, plant their collective cleats on the opposition's throat and never let up.

Maybe after a third Super Bowl title since 2001 people will start to give New England some respect. Whether they do or not doesn't matter much to the Pats though - they'll just keep ripping off 'W's' and proving people wrong.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

Track from page A6

(5th/200m/22.16), Reginald Williams (10th/200m/22.70), B.J. Henderson (3rd/400m/47.79), Vance Stephenson (6th/800m/1:58.80), Kyle Yunaska (9th/800m/2:00.94), Hector Cotto (4th/60m hurdles/8.04) and Eric Frasure (10th/shot put/14.74m). The ECU 4x400-meter relay team, composed of Merritt, Henderson, Dominick Richmond and Jeffery Walls, finished second with a time of 3:14.95.

"We certainly held our own against some of the toughest competition in the nation," said ECU head men's track coach Bill Carson. "I was pleased with the way our kids competed against the SEC and ACC."

For the Lady Pirates, Johanna Allen (7th/mile run/5:11.35), Jessica Collins (5th/3000m/10:21.63), Lindsey Rosales (8th/pole vault/3.40m) and Tammie Mentzel (9th/pole vault/3.35m) all earned top 10 standings. The ECU also enjoyed a pair of top performances in the 4x400-meter relay as the team of Portia Baker, Aisha Bilal-Mack, DeBrielle and Terri Davenport stood fifth with a time of 3:50.99 while the quartet of Simone Baptiste, Erica Montgomery, Chante Sessoms and Jenee Moore finished seventh (3:56.44).

"I thought we competed very well against some of the best in the USA," said women's coach Matt Munson. "It was a terrific experience, one which will help us progress well as we go further into the season."

The ECU men's squad will return to action Jan. 28-29 at the North Carolina Invitational while the women's team will compete in the Patriot Games at Fairfax, Va., Saturday, Jan. 29.



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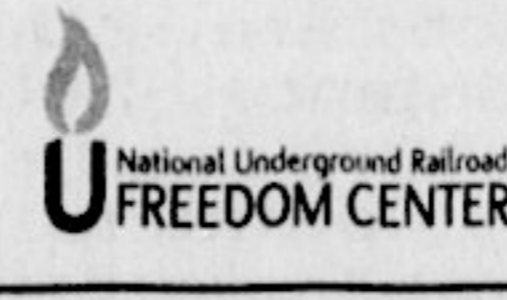
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CLASSIFIEDS

Page A8

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GREEK PERSONALS

Heart to Heart, come & meet the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi! Wed., Jan 26th from 4:00-7:00 call for rides 758-5447

Alpha Phi would like to wish Payton Davenport good luck as the 2005 Panhellenic President. We are so proud of you & know this will be a fun year - you're a great sister!

The Sisters of Alpha Phi would like to wish Chi Phi good luck on their 2005 Spring Rush - We're so happy to have you at our house!

Rachel Matthews & Payton Davenport, you are the best little sisters & I'm proud that you are both on Panhellenic this year. Make me proud! Love always, the Panhellenic Mom, AKA your big sister!

Pi Kappa Phi & Chi Phi, thanks so much for the socials last week - we had a great time & hope to do it again soon! Love, the Sisters of Alpha Phi.

The Sisters of Alpha Phi will be hosting an open house on Jan 24th & 25th from 6-8:30 pm. All ECU women are welcome! For Rides, call 758-1880. The Phis look forward to meeting you!

Sigma Sigma Sigma would like to thank all the ladies who came to our spring recruitment premiere. It was a great time for everyone. Sigma also wishes happy birthdays to all our January girls - thanks Cabanas for helping us celebrate, ya'll rock!

Zeta Tau Alpha would like to welcome all the great new guys to ECU's Greek Life!

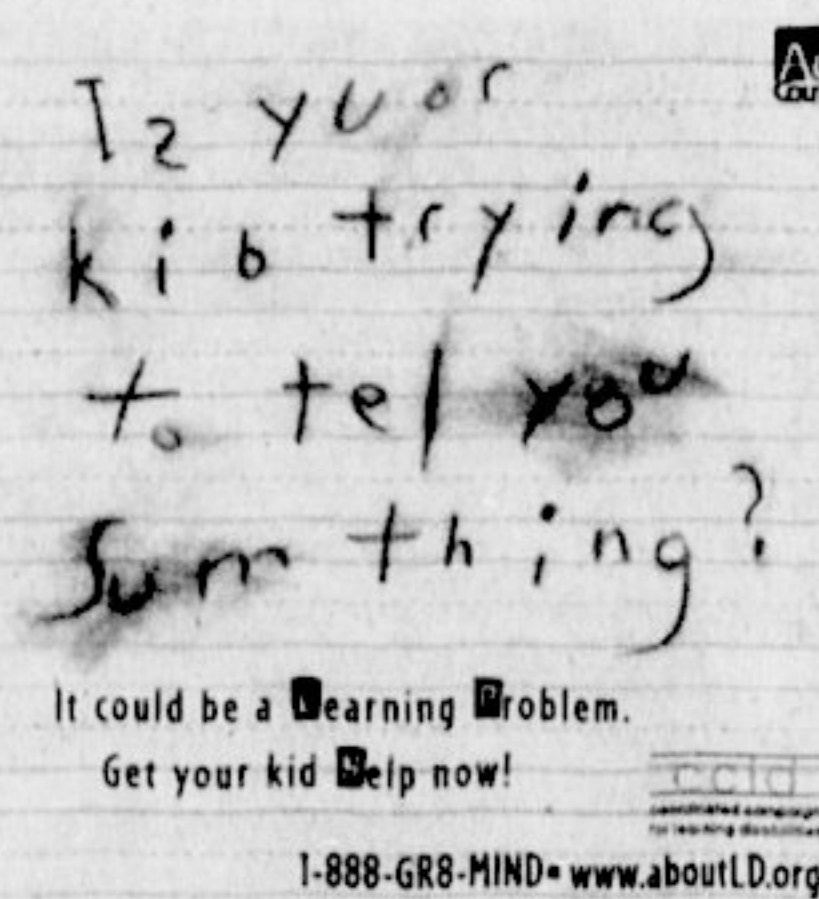
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