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THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Volume 80 Number 46 WEDNESDAY January 26, 2005

www.theeastcarolinian.com

Medical student receives Nickens scholarship



HUANG

Long list of past achievements win her award

KRISTIN DAY
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Angela Chia-Mei Huang became the first ECU student to receive the Herbert W. Nickens Medical Student Scholarship, a \$5,000 award from the Association of American Medical Colleges offered to medical students.

Huang, a third-year student at the Brody School of Medicine, said it's hard to identify one project that won her the scholarship, but she thinks it might be due to the consistency of all her past projects.

"I have always tried to consider how to understand and improve the lives of vulnerable and marginalized populations,"

said Huang. "I think it shows in the activities that I am interested in."

Huang began showing interest in the medical profession at an early age. In high school, she was active in her school's chapter of the Red Cross Youth serving as president of the organization during her senior year. While studying at Duke University, Huang created the Duke Red Cross, which she is still active in at the university, because she said she missed working with the Red Cross Youth.

Huang received a Bachelor of Science in biology and a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Duke and then earned her master's in public health in maternal and child health at UNC-Chapel Hill. Between college and the master's program, Huang worked in Washington, D.C. first as an intern at Families USA, a non-profit health care consumer advocacy group and then as a performance improvement analyst at the Hospital for Sick Children.

These early experiences working in the nation's capital taught her there were educated people in the United States, not in political office, who advocated on behalf of all Americans.

"It proved to me that you can dedicate your life to helping others and make a difference," Huang said.

Her work with the hospital also quickly proved to be educational to her personal preferences, where she learned she would rather work directly with

see HUANG page A2

Winter social, grand opening McLellan Building draws crowd

Bowers shares his vision for downtown

KRISTIN DAY
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Uptown Greenville's winter social and grand opening of the renovated Historic McLellan's Building last night was complete with free food, drinks, harp music and promising prospects for the city.

Greenville residents struggled through crowds that packed each new business of the building including Via Cappuccino, the Topsy Teapot, Just Yoga and the Uptown 409 Visual Arts Studio.

Eric Clark, president of Uptown Greenville, said in the last two years many businesses have opened or began renovation which contributes to improvement of the area including the Pirate Radio building, Evolve and Wavelength.

He said the Proctor Hotel is also making a successful transition and Jefferson's is moving into the Blount Harvey building. City Hall is still under expansion and renovation, and Senator Elizabeth Dole is opening an office on downtown Evans Street.

City Manager Wayne Bowers said he's had a lot of experience working in other uptown areas and thinks Greenville will be successful in completing renovation projects.

He said in many cities across



City Manager Wayne Bowers talked about the importance of renovating downtown Greenville.

the country, the focus of the community was downtown in the mid 1900s, but after people could afford to buy cars and move, they left the inner city area.

Bowers said the good news for Greenville is the people have realized the need to build the uptown area back to what it once was.

"People remember the great downtowns," said Bowers.

"The heart of the city is downtown. If you have a defective heart it's going to affect all the other parts."

Another reason Bowers said the area is important is that it will improve the tax base.

Bowers said the key to a successful transition is patience and a partnership between the government and private sector. He said Mayor Don Parrott, the city council and uptown Greenville are committed to the plan.

Tony Breuer leased the space for the visual arts studio and shared an interest in all the new businesses working together. He said the event was a celebration of

the coming together of these four places, what he called "a micro community."

The goal of his studio is to create an environment where artists will be able to come and work together.

"When artists work together they learn and they grow," said Breuer. Breuer said members of the community would be able to go into the studio while the artists work.

Vail Rumley of Just Yoga came

see MCLELLAN page A2

Tuition increase in line with other UNC institutions

Increases would benefit faculty, students

JONATHAN CROCKER
STAFF WRITER

ECU's proposed tuition increase, geared toward improving faculty retention and competitiveness, financial aid and other student services is in line with increases with universities throughout the UNC system and nation.

"Tuition is increasing across the country," said Chuck Hawkins, interim vice chancellor of administration and finance.

"All UNC schools are proposing a tuition increase of 10 - 15 percent."

Hawkins said even with the increase, ECU is still a bargain for both in-state and out-of-state students.

Hawkins said the increase would allow ECU to improve faculty retention and recruitment with the largest part of the increase going toward increasing

faculty salaries.

The proposed tuition increase is \$300 for the next academic year and would generate \$5.7 million. Thirty percent would go toward student financial aid. Academic advising is another program that would receive funding.

"This increase will not allow more scholarships, however, it will go toward need-based financial aid," Hawkins said.

Hawkins said it is necessary to raise the tuition to provide competitive wages for teachers. Other institutions are able to pay their professors better wages and with the increase, ECU will be able to match those school systems.

If ECU does not undergo a tuition increase, then it would be limited as to how far it would be able to excel.

"Without the proposed increase, some programs already scheduled to take place will have to be cancelled," Hawkins said.

With other UNC school systems also proposing tuition increases, our proposal will likely

not affect students from attending ECU.

Aside from private donations, tuition is a major part of how universities are funded.

Hawkins said these increases would benefit the school in helping it to provide excellent services to its students and the community. With competitive wages for teachers and more financial aid available, ECU will be more accessible to those who may not have otherwise been able to attend college.

Chad Hicks, senior accounting major, said he's glad this is his last year at ECU.

"It seems like tuition is going up every semester and before you know it, school will simply be unaffordable to those who do not receive scholarships or financial aid," said Hicks.

Hicks said he feels the increase may benefit the school and its students and could be an overall success.

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

'Dear American Soldiers' to thank our troops

College students encouraged to support troops

GINGER VEREEN
STAFF WRITER

A campaign has begun to spread throughout college campuses across the United States entitled "Dear American Soldier," geared to allow college students to thank American soldiers fighting overseas.

"Dear American Soldier," which began Christmas morning, strives to get every American to send one e-mail to an American soldier. The campaign also encourages students to write letters of appreciation to families of fallen soldiers.

The idea for this campaign was sparked when independent filmmaker Aaron Mighty, producer of the "Dear American Soldier" film, began the idea as a documentary which quickly led to the idea of the letter writing campaign that has just

recently begun to spread to the college scene.

Alex Dougal, organizer of media relations, agreed to work with Mighty. On Christmas Eve, Dougal sent press releases to countless national newspapers. These press releases encouraged Americans to take a few minutes on Christmas morning to write a simple thank you to a soldier.

The original goal was to collect 1,000 e-mails in a month's time. On Christmas morning they received more than 500 e-mails surpassing their expectations. The new goal has been raised to top 5,000 in a two month time period.

"We feel that college students have really stepped up to take time out of their day to thank these soldiers. Their simple letters are and will continue to be greatly appreciated," said Dougal.

The e-mails will be collected over the course of the next two months. Once received to the "Dear American Soldier" database, letters will take five to seven days to reach the hands of soldiers overseas.

Dougal has collected more

Dear Soldiers

To get involved visit:
dearamericansoldiers.com

than 300 names and addresses of soldiers overseas from national newspapers. Dougal and Mighty plan to collaborate with many other letter-writing organizations from all over the country.

"Every letter that is sent is greatly appreciated. We have to let the troops know that the whole country is behind them," Dougal said.

With the upcoming elections in Iraq thousands of troops are being sent overseas. They will be there for at least six months or longer.

"These men and women are away from their families, and away from their friends. If one e-mail can make a difference I think America owes it to them," Dougal said.

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

Project ACT Plus to ensure increased qualified teachers

New program launched to attract math, science teachers

AMBER PAYNE
STAFF WRITER

ECU's College of Education changed the route of entry to a program with greater requirements designed to put better-educated teachers into math and science classrooms.

Formerly, programs such as NC Teach and Project ACT designated requirements for teachers, but members of ECU's faculty felt these requirements did not demand enough from prospective educational instructors.

ParmaLee Hawk, former director of teacher education, was on the committee that started Project ACT.

"We need better quality teachers in our school system," said Hawk.

Ann Bullock with the college of education came up with an idea on how to ensure quality teachers within the school system with a program titled Project ACT Plus.

The program, geared toward math and science teachers, entails the same requirements as Project ACT, but teachers must have certified training in their course of teaching.

"There is a critical shortage in math and science teachers," said Bullock.

Bullock said not only do they want to place more teachers in the schools, but also "to place more qualified teachers."

Programs have been set up in Johnston and Onslow counties and at ECU for lateral teachers to gain experience in teaching, but the coursework can be completed online. The program involves teachers from all over the state including Raleigh, Durham and surrounding cities. Each teacher

will need 18 - 24 hours of math and science coursework and the cost ranges between \$2,500 and \$3,000.

Bullock has funded Project ACT Plus through financial assistance. The Karen and Christopher Payne Foundation is a non-profit organization that gives money for educational purposes. They granted Bullock \$10,000 to start the program. Progress Energy is another large contributor.

"It is important for each child to have a good teacher," Bullock said.

"Project ACT Plus will help provide more quality teachers in areas of math and science."

NC Teach was the original program that recruits, prepares and supports mid-career professionals as they enter the teaching profession. English, science, social studies and mathematics are the subject areas NC Teach provides within the high schools.

see ACT page A2

Campus News

PR Raffle

PRSSA will be at the Wright Place holding a raffle for an upcoming charity event Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Give blood

The ECU Staff Senate will be hosting a blood drive Wednesday in Mendenhall from noon - 6 p.m.

Bingo

The Student Union spectrum committee is holding a game of Bingo Wednesday at 9:30 p.m. in the Mendenhall Cafeteria. The game is free and winners receive cash prizes.

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 on 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.

Benefit concert

Blue County will be performing at the Wright Auditorium Jan. 27 at 8 p.m. for a benefit concert sponsored by 95.1 WRNS and WITN TV 17. Tickets are on sale for \$12 at the Wright Auditorium ticket office or by calling 1-800-ECU-ARTS.

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.

Greenville Contrathon 2005

The Folk Arts Society of Greenville and ECU Folk and Country Dancers will host this event Jan. 28 - 29 at the Willis Building on First and Reade streets. The program will be held from 1 - 5 p.m. and 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. Jan. 28 and from 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. Jan. 29. The FootLoose Band will provide musical entertainment. Call 752-7350 for more information.

Rickey Smiley Comedy Show

Sponsored by M&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 more 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 news@theeastcarolinian.com.

News Briefs Local

Principal admits selling equipment to pay for cocaine

HILLSBOROUGH, NC - A former middle school principal acknowledged Monday that he stole electronic equipment from the school so that he could sell them for money to fuel his cocaine habit. Grant O. Norfleet, 34, of Greensboro, had been charged with embezzlement for failing to return the equipment he checked out from Guy B. Phillips Middle School in the Chapel Hill-Carboro school system. He pleaded guilty in Orange County District Court to misdemeanor larceny, a lesser charge.

He received a 30-day suspended sentence and was placed on one year of unsupervised probation. He also was ordered to perform 72 hours of community service, to pay restitution to the Chapel Hill-Carboro school district and to stay off school property for one year.

Norfleet was principal of Phillips Middle School for about three years before resigning abruptly in May. Norfleet said he left Phillips to participate in a 28-day treatment program for cocaine addiction. The embezzlement charge arose when a district employee found receipts in Norfleet's old desk that showed he had pawned a laptop computer, a television and a VCR in Greensboro. According to police, the items were valued at \$1,550.

Norfleet's final paycheck with the district was docked to cover part of the cost of the stolen items, said Kim Hoke, school spokeswoman.

Norfleet was apologetic in court Monday and said he valued his career with the school district.

"I had 14 really good years in education and one really bad year," he said. "I succumbed to a lot of the stresses that administrators face on a daily basis."

Mother reports

3-year-old assaulted at day care

CHAPEL HILL, NC - Police have found evidence that a 3-year-old girl was sexually assaulted and juvenile petitions have been filed against three young boys, authorities said. The mother of the girl reported to Chapel Hill police Jan. 5 that she thought her child had been sexually assaulted while at the Wilson Day Care Center, an in-home child-care center.

The girl was examined at UNC Hospitals, and police found evidence she had been assaulted, said Jane Cousins, police spokeswoman.

Juvenile petitions for attempted first-degree rape were issued against three boys, two 11-year-olds and a 12-year-old. The operator of the day-care center, Etta Doris Wilson, 67, was charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Wilson is scheduled to appear Feb. 7 in Orange County District Court. Wilson's license to operate a day care was suspended Jan. 14 pending an investigation, according to the state Division of Child Development.

Wilson, who has been running her day care for about 15 years, said none of the children involved in the incident were enrolled in her day care. She said she was watching the 3-year-old for a family friend. The two 11-year-old boys are relatives of hers and the 12-year-old is their friend, she said.

National

Agents question

suspected illegal immigrants

SAN ANTONIO - A group of suspected illegal immigrants were questioned early Tuesday after federal officials forced their single-engine plane to land in San Antonio.

The Cessna carried at least four suspected illegal immigrants who

were detained along with the craft's pilot by homeland security officials in connection with a possible smuggling operation, according to newspaper and broadcast reports.

A police dispatcher said federal authorities forced the craft to land just before 10 p.m. Monday at Stinson Municipal Airport, a few miles south of downtown San Antonio.

"They brought a plane down. They are holding it," a San Antonio Police Department dispatcher, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told The Associated Press. "They asked us to assist them. The FBI is handling it now."

Representatives of the Homeland Security Department, FBI and Federal Aviation Administration did not return telephone calls early Tuesday from the AP.

Online records of the Federal Aviation Administration show the 20-year-old plane is co-owned by Afzal Hameed of Dover, Del. The other co-owner is listed as Alyce S. Taylor, but no address is given for her.

The FAA records state that the plane's last three-year registration was filed in 1999, and

Mass hanging attempted at Guantanamo

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico - The U.S. military said 23 Guantanamo Bay terror suspects carried out a coordinated effort to hang or strangle themselves in 2003 during a week-long protest in the secretive camp in Cuba.

The military, which had not previously reported the protest, called the actions "self-injurious behavior" aimed at getting attention rather than serious suicide attempts.

The coordinated attempts were among 350 "self-harm" incidents that year, including 120 so-called "hanging gestures," Lt. Col. Leon Sumpter, a spokesman for the detention mission, said Monday.

In the Aug. 18 - 26, 2003 protest, nearly two dozen prisoners tried to hang or strangle themselves with clothing and other items in their cells, demonstrating "self-injurious behavior," the U.S. Southern Command in Miami said in a statement. Ten detainees made a mass attempt on Aug. 22 alone.

Last year, there were 110 self-harm incidents, Sumpter said.

The 23 prisoners were in steel mesh cells and they can talk to neighbors. It would not have been possible to pass notes, and they are allowed to exercise only one at a time.

Only two of the 23 were considered suicide attempts - requiring hospitalization and psychiatric treatment. Officials said they differentiated between a suicide attempt in which a detainee could have died without intervention, and a "gesture" aimed at getting attention.

International

Videotape shows

American hostage seized in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq - A videotape monitored Tuesday shows an American abducted last November by gunmen in Baghdad pleading for his life and appealing to Arab rulers, including Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, to intercede to spare his life.

Roy Hallums, 56, was seized Nov. 1 along with Robert Tarongoy of the Philippines during an armed assault on their compound in Baghdad's Mansour district. The two were working for a Saudi company that does catering for the Iraqi army. Both are missing.

On the tape, Hallums, with a rifle pointed at his head, stated his name and said, "I have worked with American forces."

"I am please asking for help because my life is in danger because it's been

proved I worked for American forces," he said. "I'm not asking for any help from President Bush because I know of his selfishness and unconcern for those who've been pushed into this hellhole."

Hallums, speaking slowly, said he was asking for help from "Arab rulers especially President Moammar Gadhafi because he's known for helping those who are suffering."

"I also ask that Arab leaders help me in this situation so I can be released as quickly as possible from this definite end," he added. "I would remember this favor for the rest of my life should my life remain and I ask my family to help because my health is in a very bad situation."

Stampede of people

at Hindu procession kills 150

BOMBAY, India - Thousands of Hindus panicked during a religious procession in western India on Tuesday, triggering a stampede that killed at least 150 people, a local official said. Many more people were injured. Accounts differed as to what caused the stampede, which happened near the village of Wai, some 150 miles south of Bombay, in Satara district. Sharad Jadhav, Satara's second-highest official, said overcrowding caused the stampede, but police said it was triggered by a fire.

"A fire caused by a short circuit in a makeshift shop near the temple created panic among the pilgrims. Some tried to flee the area, starting the stampede," said K.K. Pathak, the inspector-general of police in the region. The situation grew worse when a narrow path leading to the temple became jammed with pilgrims.

Jadhav said he'd been told by officials at the scene that 150 people were killed. More than 300,000 people are reported to have gathered for the Hindu festival, said A.D. Ingole, deputy superintendent of police in the area.

Crime Scene

1/23/05

3:50 p.m.

Criminal damage to property, communicating threats
A person damaged another's IBM Windows XP laptop and communicated threats at Clement Residence Hall.

1/24/05

10:30 p.m.

Larceny, fraud

An unknown person took another person's credit card and then tried to use it without permission at the Java City in the Wright Place.

2:59 a.m.

Trespassing

A subject was arrested after he entered and remained in Mendenhall after being banned.

Weekly Crime Tip

Larceny is the number one crime on campus and it can take less than five seconds to occur. Never leave your personal items unattended for any period of time. Do not carry credit cards in your wallet or purse and only carry as many as you need. Also, consider not endorsing your credit cards. If there is no signature or "See ID" written in it's place, stores are more likely to request identification. If you think or know your credit card has been stolen, notify the company and the police department as soon as possible. You can also put something in your books that identifies them as yours. This will help stores recognize it's a stolen book when someone tries to sell it to them.

ACT from page A1

Project ACT was set up in 1992 and is different from NC Teach in that it is also offered in middle schools, meaning Project ACT applies to K-12 licensure.

Teachers who apply to these programs are lateral entry teachers, meaning they have not taught before or lack the minimum amount of teaching hours. To be accepted in the Project ACT programs, instructors must have a bachelor's degree and have obtained a 2.5 grade point average in a relevant subject to the area of proposed teaching.

NC Teach and Project ACT are used across the state and 10 - 12 universities within the school system are involved.

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

Program helps students



True colors, a communication system provides keys of success by identifying a person's distinct perspectives and personalities. Attendants learned about their strengths and causes of stress. The next event is Wednesday from 10 a.m. - noon in 221 Mendenhall.

McLellan from page A1

here from New York City and said although Greenville is very different she was excited about the opening.

The Tippy Teapot and Via Cappuccino are both on the

ground floor of the McLellan Building and complete with a variety of books and beverages.

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

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Our View

Experts say having a degree is not enough

It seems that many of us have been told at some point, "you need to go to college so you can get a good job."

While college graduates do have more of an advantage in the job market than those without (people with undergraduate degrees make almost twice as much as those with only high school degrees), many experts conclude that this is simply not enough.

Upon graduation, many undergraduates are faced with what authors Alexandra Robbins and Abby Wilner call a "quarterlife crisis" in their book, *Quarterlife Crisis: the Unique Challenges of Life in Your Twenties*.

Symptoms of the quarterlife crisis are not being able to find a job in your desired field, stress due to increased finances (i.e. student loans) and even moving back in with mom and dad (more than 60 percent of college graduates end up living at home for at least a year).

Bill Coplin, author of *Ten Things Employers Want You to Learn in College*, notes in a recent *Knight Ridder Newspapers* column that "the key to career success is to have a strong work ethic and the skills employers want: oral and written communication, people, research, computer application, number crunching, analytical and problem-solving skills."

Coplin adds that universities don't adequately prepare students for the real world and it is up to the students themselves to obtain these necessary skills.

TEC agrees with Coplin that it is never too early to start preparing for your future. Start gaining valuable life experiences by getting a part-time job or spending a semester overseas. Talk with your adviser or department secretary about what internships and independent studies may be offered in the upcoming semester.

There are also many campus organizations like Student Government Association, Student Union, etc. that need volunteers and can give you the opportunity to gain leadership experience.

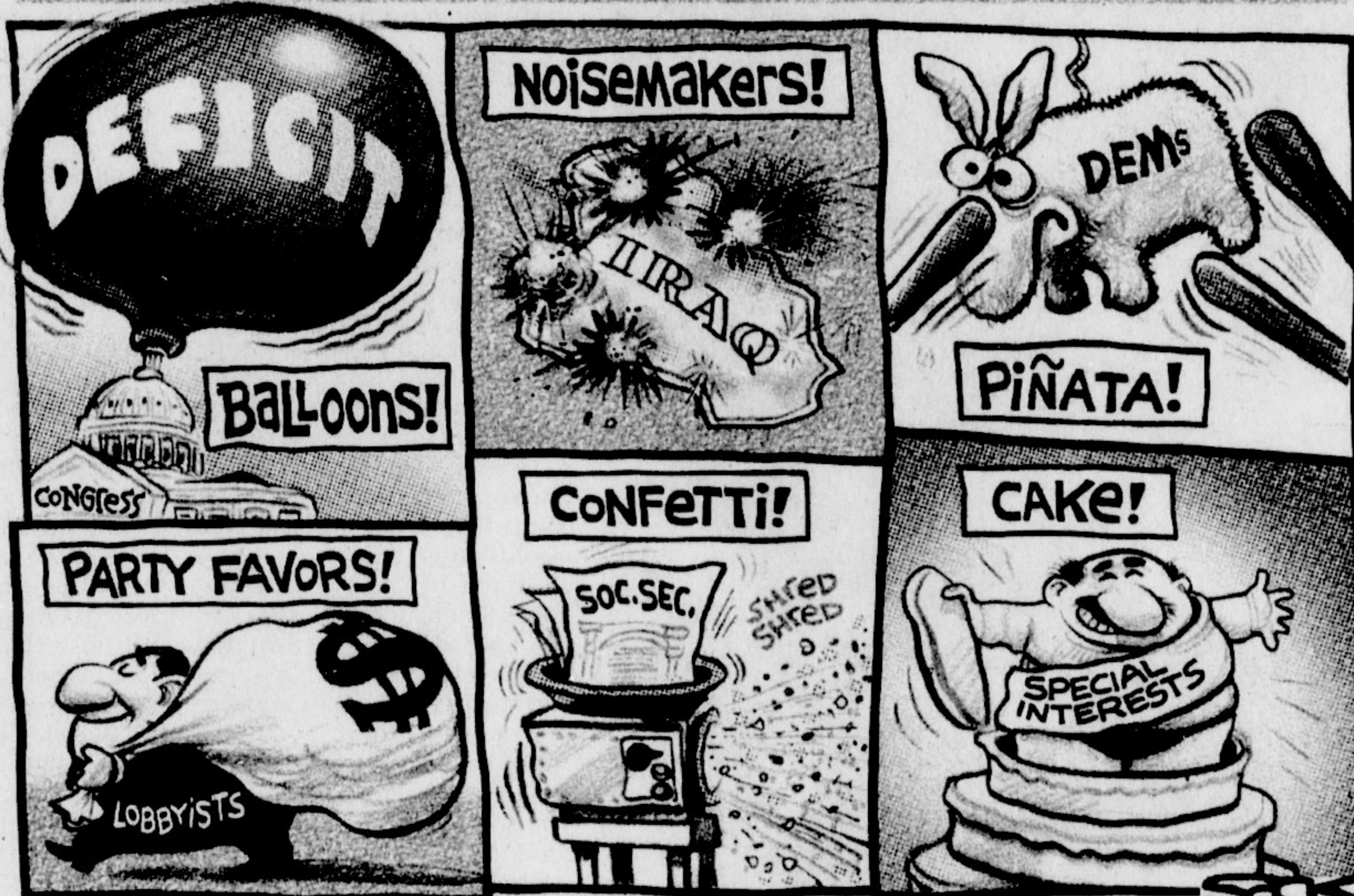
TEC wants all ECU graduates to have successful careers, but this can only be done with planning and hard work on the individual level.

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INAUGURATION PARTY SUPPLIES



Opinion Columnist

You have to be careful what you ask for

Responding to readers at my own risk

RACHEL LANDEN
STAFF WRITER

As I prepare to write these words, I am already feeling a pang of remorse. I can hear my dad's voice echoing in my head, telling me never to argue with idiots - they drag you down to their level, then beat you with experience.

Still, I am choosing to lay it on the line and say, at my own risk, what I am thinking and feeling. I'm sure I will be lambasted by some for what is to follow but I know for a fact that if I write another column in my typical style, I will definitely be attacked by some angry and bitter critics.

It is these same people who insist that I have no opinion and fail to write about anything of importance. The funny thing is, week after week, I thought I was doing the exact opposite of what they accuse me.

By writing about family, friends, the collegiate experience and daily positive affirmations, I felt that I was focusing on themes that resound with all of us. Not everyone is interested in or informed enough about politics, religion, social issues and the like to understand or appreciate discussion on these topics. There is certainly a need for such dialogue and I'm glad that TEC encourages it by printing the thoughtful opinions of Tony McKee and Peter Kalajian.

However, writing in that manner is not what I was asked to do. In fact, I was requested to avoid tackling similar issues in a manner akin to theirs. Instead, my job is to write something more lighthearted and entertaining, so maybe labeling it as an opinion is something of a misnomer. Perhaps my column should be moved to the page



with the crossword puzzle and the comic strips. I wouldn't be offended by this change, just as long as my words continue to appear in the newspaper. After all, for better or for worse, they do have a place in our student publication.

Even so, I am not nearly arrogant or egotistical enough to believe that other students at ECU could not do a better job than I at writing a weekly column. It is not a matter of whether or not they could offer something better - the fact is that no one is offering. Maybe the critics shouldn't be passing judgment on me, but instead, should be going after the students who can do but simply choose not to.

In my opinion, it is a far worse crime to be idle and waste your expert talents and skills than it is to present your own small contribution with what humble resources you might have.

Consider this: The school of communication at ECU continues to rapidly grow in numbers but I have yet to witness its effect on TEC. As editor of special sections - those pages and inserts that are published periodically - I have a difficult time recruiting writers to author several articles during a semester.

Just this week, the features editor

informed me that she would do her best to help me recruit some staff members to write each one of the eight articles that I need to assign. She warned me, however, that this would not be an easy task as she often struggles to fill just her section each week.

Where are the communication majors when we need them? Most of them aren't at the newspaper and I can't understand why. Music majors practice their instruments, theater majors rehearse their lines and chemistry majors perform labs. Doesn't it stand to reason that many communication majors, especially those concentrating in print journalism, should be writing or editing?

The academic part of college isn't just about attending classes. Gaining experience and practice in your area of interest seems just as essential. That's what I'm trying to do, while simultaneously providing an outlet for my thoughts on a page that I hope other students will read and relate to.

If there are others out there who wish to do the same, then I encourage them to do so. I don't write these columns because of some illusions of grandeur that cause me to believe that I'm the most talented writer at ECU. I just know I enjoy this, and because I have made the effort, I deserve the chance to find my successes, even amidst my failures.

Sir Thomas Foxwell Buxton said "with ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance, all things are attainable."

I'd like to believe this is true but I don't actually know if one can even win over her critics. Maybe no amount of talent or perseverance could achieve such a result but perhaps I can spark a little bit of understanding. If not, then oh well. I tried. And that's more than I can say for some.

Pirate Rant

I would really like it if TEC would only run classified ads from local businesses and students. I'm already bombarded enough with ads for car insurance, bartending and spring break vacations.

Do you know many other states will not accept a North Carolina driver's license as a form of valid identification?

We need a Chinese food place on campus. I'm so tired of pizza and burgers.

Don't you love it when somebody is given fancy new equipment just because he broke his, while people who take care of things get jack?

Why can't professors stick to testing us on materials presented in class? Why should we even bother to go to class when all the professor is going to talk about is his family problems?

Yesterday I was so bored I signed up for Pirate Singles - 10 spams, zero girls.

It's hilarious how a half-inch to an inch of snow cripples this area, when kids up north are used to going to school in a foot of snow.

I'm about to strangle the local meteorologists. How about at least getting the forecast somewhat close? Don't tell me it's going to be 47 degrees and sunny when it's really 31 and cloudy.

Although Ben Roethlisberger went how ever many games without a loss, at the end, he is still a rookie.

How come the forks at the Wright Place don't have a plastic covering on them anymore?

Why is it called Spring Break when it is scheduled for March 13 - 20, which is the last week of winter?

Why is it that those friends that don't have a car assume that you don't have anything else to do but drive them around? And then they don't ever give you gas money for your assistance.

Weathermen are so useless. On a day with 20 percent chance of snow, we get an inch. On a day with 100 percent chance, we get none.

Just like last semester, I buy all my required books and I have yet to use a single one.

If you hate your major so much, why not change it? No one wants to listen to you whine and complain about how hard it is when they are working their butt off and enjoying it.

When I read the Pirate Rant and responses to opinion articles, I believe that most of the people submitting these comments have a concern of the world around them. But it's the clueless masses of ECU that are totally oblivious to our criticizing observations and grievances.

I would just like to give tremendous props to Tony McKee for his article on Michael Moore's hypocrisy. It was great and I agree completely. Rock on, Republicans.

Hey, Tony McKee - The only thing you're raving about is die-hard Republicanism. To listen to you, the Democrats should be fired from the Congress and Senate, and Bush ought to be His Eminence, the Holy Father of Americans. Does that sound logical to you? Or have you no thoughts of your own on this matter? And I'm a Republican.

I think the article on the South in Thursday's features section was horrible. Yeah, people in the South are real friendly - that is, only if you are from the South.

Last time I checked, we are in the South and some hunting seasons are still in. Camouflage is very much part of most Southerners' wardrobe, so I am guessing whoever made the comment about "wearing hunting gear to class" is not from around here.

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.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to an article published Jan. 20 entitled "Southern Living," written by Trevor Worden. I sincerely hope that Mr. Worden is not a history major, as that would cause me to question the integrity of what I believe to be an exceptional department at this university.

What immediately caught my eye about Mr. Worden's piece was the fourth sentence in the article: "Despite ... the invasion of so many unwanted Northerners, a lot of the South has still been able to maintain its small-town simple living vibe." This is a very curious remark, for two sentences before, Mr. Worden states that "[Southern] people are friendlier" than Northern people. Obviously, he means that Southern people are "friendlier" only to other Southern people.

As for Mr. Worden's shockingly erroneous recount of the Civil War, Southern people were by no means being told what they could or could not do. A nation decided - a nation includes every geographical segment, including the North and South - to forbid something that never should have plagued it to begin with: slavery. Frankly, I am dismayed and disappointed at the way Mr. Worden breezily testifies that Southerners "bought others" for labor purposes and that the laws prohibiting such actions were "unfounded and impossible." No person should be permitted to "buy" any other person, regardless of the reason.

The Civil War was certainly not fought exclusively in the South as Mr. Worden claims. What about the battle of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania? Or

Harper's Ferry in Northeastern West Virginia? Or Antietam in Maryland (I'm sure Mr. Worden knows that this is referred to as the Battle of Sharpsburg in the South. The South named its battles after cities or towns, the North after the nearest river or creek)? The citizens and the land of those communities suffered equally as much as those in the South. This still is no justification for the War.

In all of the history courses that I have taken, including an excellent American history course here at ECU, never was I taught about "how cruel the Yankees treated the poor Southerners." The "poor Southerners"? What about the slaves? In all of Mr. Worden's "research," he refuses to acknowledge that slaves may have been mistreated. To the contrary, Mr. Worden's writing suggests that slavery is and was not only acceptable, but humane.

In Mr. Worden's view, I am an "unwanted Northerner," along with thousands of other ECU students. According to Mr. Worden, I "push prices higher" and make unemployment go "through the roof." But what would happen if each of us "unwanted northerners" removed our "unwanted" selves from the South? We and our families pay four times as much tuition, we buy food, clothing and pay taxes. And, by doing so, we help local businesses and merchants stay in business. Finally, we bring diversity to ECU and Greenville. I'm sure Mr. Worden would like to eliminate all of this.

Like it or not, Mr. Worden, Greenville isn't a city made of people who belong here (according to you, people born in the South) and people who don't

(people born in the North). Greenville, and the South as a whole, is a wonderful blend of many different people. The United States is precisely that - united. The segregation between the North and South that you apparently long for is what the Civil War sought to end. So cringe away at my "nasal accent" and look at me through your myopic and judgmental eyes. Just because I wasn't raised to eat collard greens - as you weren't raised to drive in the snow - does not mean that you and I don't share a common purpose for ECU, our country and the world today.

The simple facts are these - No human being, Mr. Worden included, would enjoy being bought or sold. "Northerners" and "Southerners" should be terms used to identify places of origin, not to breed intolerance and contempt. Urban development has occurred in every corner of the country, and the development of the South occurred because of Southern people, Northern people, Canadians, Mexicans, Europeans, Asians and well, the world. For some reason, however, Southern people seem to have held on to (or created, I am not sure which) a resentment and anger toward Northern people simply for the sake of resentment. The Civil War and slavery (as it existed then) ended long ago, but resentment should end as well.

I offer a hand of friendship to Mr. Worden. Let's make ECU a better place for everyone, regardless of where we come from or where we call home.

Carrie Macala
Junior, Apparel Merchandising
Major

Announcements:

Mendenhall Movies:
The Grudge
 Wednesday 9:30 p.m.
 Thursday 7 p.m.
 Friday 9:30 p.m.
 Saturday 7 p.m. and Midnight
 Sunday 3 p.m.

I Heart Huckabee
 Wednesday 7 p.m.
 Thursday 9:30 p.m.
 Friday 7 p.m.
 Saturday 9:30 p.m.
 Sunday 7 p.m.

Top 5s:

Top 5 Movies
 1. *Coach Carter*
 2. *Meet the Fockers*
 3. *Racing Stripes*
 4. *In Good Company*
 5. *Elektra*

Top 5 DVDs
 1. *Troy*
 2. *Anchorman*
 3. *Open Water*
 4. *Collateral*
 5. *The Manchurian Candidate*

Top 5 TV Shows
 1. "CSI"
 2. "NFL Football"
 3. "Desperate Housewives"
 4. "Without a Trace"
 5. "Lost"

Top 5 CDs
 1. *Green Day*
 2. *Eminem*
 3. *Shania Twain*
 4. *John Legend*
 5. *Lil Jon and the Eastside Boyz*

Top 5 Books
 1. *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*
 2. *The Da Vinci Code*
 3. *Chainfire*
 4. *State of Fear*
 5. *The Da Vinci Code: Special Illustrated Edition*

Horoscopes:

Aries: Meetings should go well, and it should be relatively easy to reach consensus. Everybody's in the mood to decide, so they can get to work.

Taurus: Add the finishing touches to make your home just the way you want it. Get ready to entertain, so you can do it spontaneously.

Gemini: If you can only learn the language before you go over there, you'll be amazed at how many doors will open. And, yes, you can.

Cancer: Collect as much as you can when the opportunity presents. Work quickly and be assertive, and gather up the prize.

Leo: Follow through on the innovations you've recently instigated. You'll get to the part where the money comes in pretty soon, don't worry about that.

Virgo: Follow through on all those promises you made, one way or another. If you can't pay the debt in full, at least make an installment on it.

Libra: A friend can teach you a couple of things that you'll find very useful. You'll be more efficient when you have more technical expertise.

Scorpio: Collect up all the little jewels that have been scattered around. Resist the urge to be wasteful. Although there's plenty now, this may have to last you a while.

Sagittarius: You may get the chance to be the voice of objectivity. A couple of people you know are having trouble finding a compromise. Lend your wisdom to those who need some.

Capricorn: Keep looking for bargains in all the likely places, including sales at the better stores and catalogs, and even in your own closets. It's not cheating to mend something old.

Aquarius: Somebody else may be able to get through where you've been turned aside. This doesn't need to be a problem. Delegate, and then get on to other things.

Pisces: Concentrate on providing the very best service you can, and do it proudly. You're developing a reputation that's worth more than its weight in gold.

'American Idol' is back: Full Throttle



"American Idol" season three competitors celebrate the victory of Fantasia Barrino at the end of last season with tears and confetti. Season four is rumored to bring heavy competition.

Popular reality show hopes to capitalize on success

KYLE BILLINGS
STAFF WRITER

Simon Cowell, Paula Abdul and Randy Jackson are back and one of the most popular shows on television attempts to make it four times the charm. The trio is back for more on the reality show where their opinions decide the fate of thousands who are competing to win the coveted record contract they have always dreamed of. Kelly Clarkson, Ruben Studdard and Fantasia Barrino have adorned the crown that is "American Idol" Champion, and the journey begins anew to find out who is next.

With continued success, changes to engage seem needed. The show corrects flaws in the process to limit potential lack of interest. An older population now has the chance to shine with the age limit being extended from 24 to 28. Out of the finalists that make it to Hollywood, this time 24 get to move on instead of the previous 32 standard. Maybe the most creative changes needed would be newer insults Simon could use on the numerous contestants who will try

out lacking the star quality of past contestants.

Celebrity judges are common within the mainframe of the show, and this year's lineup aims to impress. This past week you may have seen Mark McGrath sitting alongside the trio that is Cowell, Abdul and Jackson. The special guest roster includes names like Kenny Loggins, Gene Simmons and LL Cool J.

While many consider this reality show one of many, its influence on the music industry is undeniable, wielding singers like Kelly Clarkson (anyone heard the song "Breakaway"?), Clay Aiken and William Hung. All of the winners were awarded record contracts, as well as many of those that faired well. The lone exception is William Hung, a civil engineering student at UC Berkeley, who failed to "make it to Hollywood," yet still managed to score his own record deal for his inspirational interpretation of Ricky Martin's hit, "She Bangs." Kelly Clarkson's album *Breakaway* is now sixth on the Billboard 200 album charts, as last year's winner Fantasia Barrino's debut album *Free Yourself* is 26th and has already gained certified platinum status.

People from North Carolina might hold the "American Idol" competition in a more valued

light, since they might actually know the next big contestant personally. Clay Aiken wowed the audiences in the second "American Idol" season, creating a legion of "Clay Maniacs," which he can attribute to his Raleigh upbringing. Fantasia Barrino of High Point, NC, won last year's contest with her soulful voice and charismatic personality. In fact, North Carolina is home to the only university that offers classes on "American Idol." UNC-Charlotte now offers three credits for the class "Examining American Idol through Musical Critique." "American Idol" has won its way into the hearts of North Carolinians right up there with sweet tea and barbecue.

The show hopes to capitalize and expand on the 25 million people on average who tuned in to see last year's weekly Idol programs. ECU students are not excluded from that fan base. Exercise physiology major Zak Shelton said, "I like hearing people sing, and I can't deny that I enjoy watching Simon tear people apart."

Tune in every Tuesday and Wednesday at 8 p.m. to see the next William Hung bang and the next Kelly Clarkson breakaway.

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

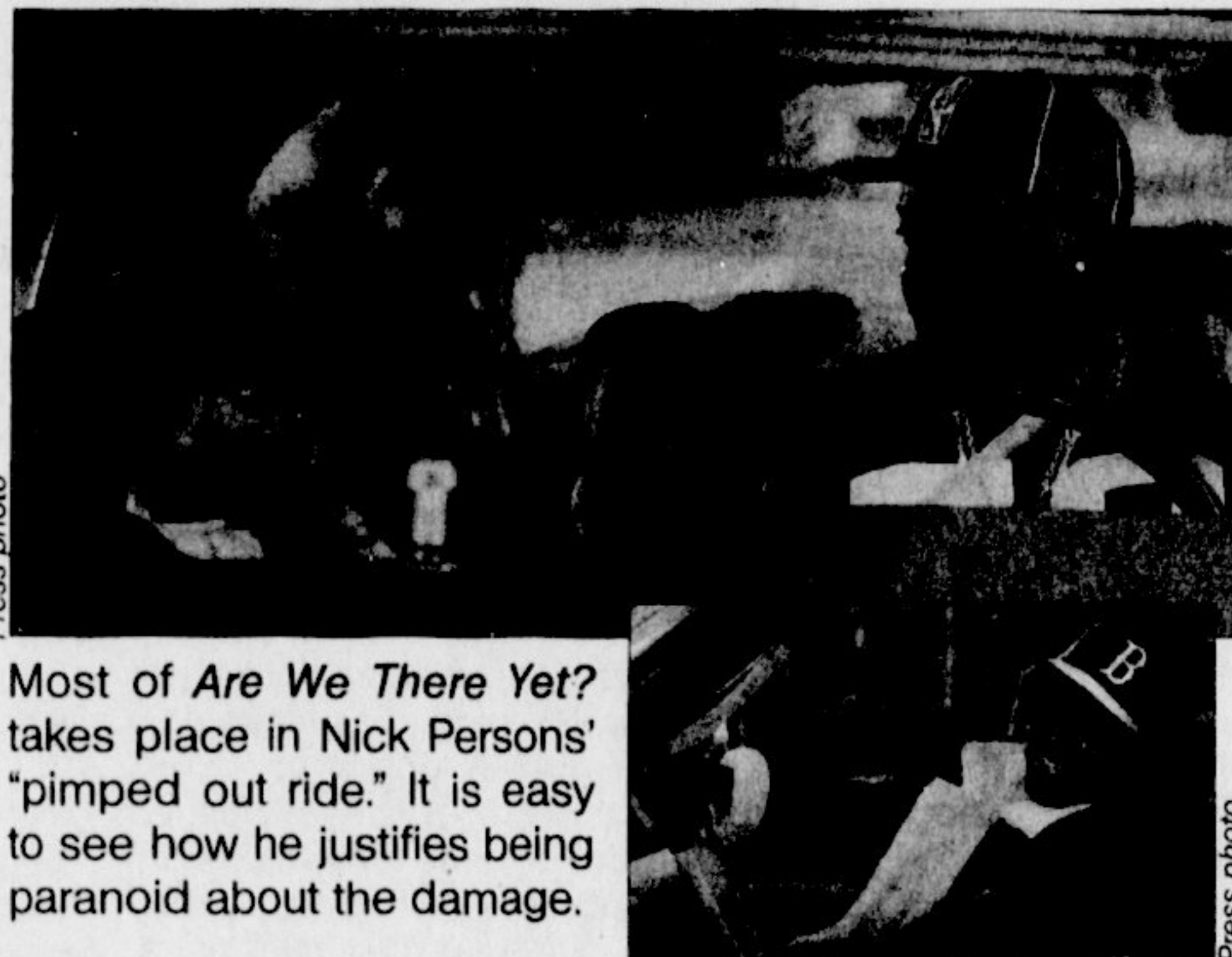
Ice Cube reveals softer side

In family comedy 'Are We There Yet?'

DANIELLE WIGGINS
STAFF WRITER

Aside from previous films geared for matured audiences like *The Players Club*, *Friday* and the *Barbershop* sequels, Cube Vision presents a fresh, family comedy to the movie screens. *Are We There Yet?* is new, different and appropriate for the whole family to see. This film was released Friday, Jan. 21, so go check it out.

Cube plays Nick Persons, a bachelor who takes desperate measures to impress a young mother of two. All that is stopping Cube from moving his way into Suzanne's heart is her two clever children who run Nick through painful obstacles. Aleisha Allen from *School of Rock*, plays 11-year-old Lindsey Kingston, Philip Daniel Bolden from *Johnson's Family Vacation*, plays 7-year-old Kevin Kingston and Nia Long whom we should all know from the movie *Alfie* is Suzanne Kingston who plays a sort of "damsel in distress" role. Together the two spunky children work to make Nick's life a living nightmare. All of a sudden Suzanne Kingston



Most of *Are We There Yet?* takes place in Nick Persons' "pimped out ride." It is easy to see how he justifies being paranoid about the damage.

must work in Vancouver, 300 miles away from her children back home in Portland. Nick makes it his own responsibility to bring a family together and possibly gain interest from Suzanne. He decides to drive the children to visit their mother. The children completely ruin his Lincoln Navigator, which is the object receiving the most pain from falling down cliffs to screeching off the guardrails. In the end, Nick's whole perspective on children change and he unexpectedly grows closer to her children and of course, Nick and Suzanne's relationship furthers into a prosperous romance.

This movie stars recording artist, writer, producer and actor Ice Cube, co-star of *Alfie* and *Big Momma's House*, Long, Jay Mohr who plays Marty, M. C. Gainey as Al, Aleisha Allen who is Lindsey Kingston and Philip Daniel Bolden as Kevin Kingston.

The film was produced by

the makers of: *The Animal*, *XXX*, *Anger Management*, *State of the Union*, *Daddy Day Care* and *Darkness Falls*.

Ice Cube gives people a reason to check out this film with guaranteed humor and entertainment. A reputation that is consistent with all Ice Cube films. With a familiar likeable cast and well thought out plot, critics give the movie a rating of C, but people that have seen the movie share different opinions of the film giving it straight As across the board.

"It's another shtick-laden gag fest, but it's lively, watchable and a nice showcase for a pleasant cast," said Michael Wilmington from the *Chicago Tribune*.

Hopefully, we can expect future comedy films from Cube Productions with a well-chosen cast much like this film.

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

Pop legend creates album

Debut album 'Get Lifted' tops billboard charts

DANIELLE WIGGINS
STAFF WRITER

Behind the scenes songwriter and breakout recording artist has advanced to number four on the Billboard charts with debut album *Get Lifted*. The music industry is not a foreign art to this legend. He has played piano for Lauryn Hill's "Everything is Everything" and teamed up to co-write two songs off of Kanye West's album, *College Dropout*. Big names in Hollywood including Jay-Z, Janet Jackson, Britney Spears and Alicia Keys were eager to include Legend on their Grammy winning albums. With his soulful, gospel background, Legend has rapidly become one of the hottest sought out artists in the music business. Fans went insane for his debut single "Used to Love You" produced by Kanye West. "Used to Love You" bumped up to popular top 10 music charts. Currently, his second single, "Ordinary People," has persuaded those who have not already purchased the album to do so.

"As proven by first-week sales of almost 118,000 copies of his major label debut, *Get Lifted*, the hype seeped from industry



This behind the scenes master of hot music uses his unique sense of style in new album.

heads to the streets of the TRL crowd," said Ernest Hardy from *LA Weekly*.

Who knew this Ohio native would live up to his name? He has indeed come a long way from selling bootleg albums of his work off the streets to hitting the top of almost every music video chart. Legend has a unique, classic sound which we all will watch and anticipate whether this artist will really follow music legends such as Smokey Robinson, Stevie Wonder and Aretha Franklin. We can compare this artist to Anthony Hamilton or even a male Alicia Keys, but no one can quite reach his sophisticated sound and music style.

The classic flow of Legend's album leads us through a tale of a rocky relationship possibly his own, evolving into

see LEGEND page A5

Motley Crue: Red, White & Crue Tour explodes

Sex, drugs, rock and roll coming to a town near you

GARY MCCABE
STAFF WRITER

If you were to ask an average college student who Motley Crue was, odds are that you would hear about fistfights, arrests, reality shows and sex tapes before you would hear about the band's actual music. If you ask somebody who came of age in the 1980s though, you'd hear a completely different answer, probably a very positive one with a lot of curse words and enthusiasm.

In the 1980s, people liked their metal loud and their hair big. And no band was louder or had bigger hair than Motley Crue. Motley Crue was formed in 1981 by Nikki Sixx, who recruited members from other bands based in the Los Angeles area.

The original lineup consisted of Sixx playing bass, Mick Mars playing lead guitar with Tommy Lee on drums and Vince Neil as the lead singer. When the ensemble was complete, a friend keenly observed, "What a motley looking crue." With this, Motley

Crue was born.

The band released their first album *Too Fast For Love* in November of 1981 on their own Leathur Records label. The album began a musical movement in Los Angeles which would later lead to the creation of bands like Bon Jovi and Guns N' Roses. The sound of the band at the time was best described by VH1.com, saying the band "... had a knack for creating fists-in-the-air anthems that didn't require a high IQ on the part of the listener, although they did know how to play loud and dumb."

After signing to Elektra Records in 1982, the band released a string of hit albums with *Shout At The Devil* in 1983, *Theatre of Pain* in 1985 and *Girls, Girls, Girls* in 1987. While on their way to selling 40 million records worldwide, the band also set new standards for rock and roll excess.

The band indulged in the usual rock star fare - hard drugs, alcohol and women. It's a wonder that the members of the band are alive to tell their story, which they did in their 2001 autobiography *The Dirt*, although it's through pure luck that they are.

In 1985 Neil was involved in a horrific car accident, which killed a passenger in his car,



This legendary rock band has stood the test of time and embarks on the 2005 tour.

Hanoi Rocks drummer, Razzle. Three years later, Sixx overdosed on heroin and physically died but was brought back by an adrenaline shot to the heart. Following that, members of the band hit rehab and came out with *Dr. Feelgood*, their first chart-topping album.

However, their success would come crashing down. With the advent of Nirvana and grunge music, "hair metal" was no longer hip and in 1992, Neil was kicked out of the band. Although Neil would return to the band in 1996, their work in the 1990s was overshadowed by their lives offstage and the band never again reached their level of success

from the 1980s.

Tommy Lee became a lightning rod in the press after his 'bathing suit only' wedding to "Baywatch" beauty Pamela Anderson. The public's curiosity turned into a feeding frenzy after a honeymoon sex tape surfaced, which the couple unsuccessfully tried to block. The video can now easily be found on the Internet. Lee was arrested in 1998 on charges of spousal abuse, child abuse and a firearms violation.

Vince Neil has also managed to stay in the news in one way or the other. A sex tape of Neil and porno-star Janine surfaced shortly after Lee's. Recently Neil has been in the spotlight following appearances on two reality television shows: "The Surreal Life" and "Remaking Vince Neil." The latter shows Neil undergoing a series of reconstructive surgery while working with a personal trainer to 'remake Vince Neil' into the Vince Neil of old. Recently, he was married for a fourth time, with M.C. Hammer, whom he met on "The Surreal Life," performing the service.

It's been more than six years since a fistfight between Neil and Lee broke out and the band hasn't performed together since.

Motley Tour:

- Motley Crue's "Red, White & Crue Tour 2005 ... Better Live Than Dead"
- Presented by VH1 and VH1 Classic
- April 21 at Greensboro Coliseum in Greensboro, NC
- Reserved seats went on sale Saturday, Jan. 8 at 10 a.m. at the Coliseum Box Office, select area Lowe's Foods, online at tickets.com or charge by phone 888-397-3100.
- More information at motley.com.

Until now. Due to overwhelming demand from fans, the group has decided to put aside their differences and play together again. In late 2004, the group was holed up in a recording studio doing a handful of new songs for an anthology album *Red, White and Crue*, one of which they performed on the "Tonight Show" on New Years Eve.

Despite tense sessions in the studio, where Sixx had to keep Lee and Neil away from each other, they've also agreed to embark on a world tour, "Red, White & Crue Tour 2005 ... Better Live Than Dead" which will kick

see MOTLEY page A5

y 26, 2005

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The first great album of 2005

Unwritten Law is more than a one-hit wonder

TREVOR KIRKINDALL
STAFF WRITER

Southern California's pop-punk outfit Unwritten Law has gained a bit of attention over the past few years. Their success grew into the mainstream in 2002 with their hit song "Seein' Red" from the album, *Elva*. This was their breakthrough album with Lava Records which sold more than 400,000 albums. The follow up was *From Music in High Places*, an album comprised of mostly acoustic tracks, which was released in 2003.

They have seen fame rise up right in front of their faces over the past few years. They performed on the Warped Tour for a short jaunt before being kicked off when front man Scott Russo started a fistfight after throwing a mattress out a four-story window. Russo seems to be filling the shoes of yesterday's bad boy rock stars like GG Allin, Johnny Rotten and Axl Rose.



Unwritten Law's single "Save Me" is now playin on local rock stations.

Finally, after their recent success, Unwritten Law will return to the mainstream on Feb. 1, with their new album *Here's to the Mourning*. Having never even heard of this band before, I was able to listen to the cuts from this album with an unbiased opinion. The five cuts from this album that I was able to listen to were a pleasant surprise.

Unwritten Law enlisted the help of some very well respected individuals in the music world. *Here's to the Mourning* was produced by Sean Beavan, who has previously worked with Nine Inch Nails and Marilyn Manson. Beavan's sound is not very characteristic to the style that most punk bands strive to model themselves after. This is a very bold move for the band to take. They also brought Josh Abraham onboard for some additional producing. Abraham's credits include Velvet Revolver and Staind.

Beavan's signature sound is present throughout the songs included on this album. The intro to the song "Get Up" has Nine Inch Nails written all over it. This track, my favorite track among the samples I heard, starts with a Nine Inch Nails style intro that moves into a sound I have not heard any other pop/punk outfit try before. Russo's voice contains the defining characteristics of a pop/punk group, but at times he starts to sound a little like John Bush from Anthrax.

Underneath Russo, we can hear the rest of the band grinding out a pulsating beat that sounds more like a hard rock band than



Expect Unwritten Law to come rolling through North Carolina on their next tour.

a punk band. Is this really a punk band or is Unwritten Law changing their style away from the SoCal skating scene to conform more to the likes of Velvet Revolver?

The lead off track from this album is "Save Me." It first hit radio stations on Dec. 7, 2004 and has quickly climbed the modern rock charts since its release. The band enlisted the writing talents of tunesmith Linda Perry. The lyrics in this song show off the band's dark side. Yet another powerfully driven track which was wonderfully written, and brilliantly produced.

Having never listened to this band before, it is difficult to know what to expect from Unwritten Law. It is easy to be completely blown away by the power that is evident on this album. That is, the presence of mastermind Sean Beavan at work. The songs from the new album are quite simple,

but they move seamlessly from beginning to end. Listeners are found wanting more, but alas, all must wait until Feb. 1.

There are some older songs from Unwritten Law before they were signed to a major label, floating around. There is a clear difference between the songs found on the albums of the late 1990s and the ones found on *Here's to the Mourning*. Let's hope that Unwritten Law is not the next band to fall into the trap that destroyed some of the great bands of the past where the creative process was overrun by the producer (remember Yoko and The Beatles?). For now, we have a great album in *Here's to the Mourning*, and we shouldn't let nightmarish thoughts like that ruin the fact that this album does, indeed, rock.

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

Legend from page A4

one optimistic, healthy romance. It is something everyone can relate to because there is a little bit for everyone. "She Don't Have to Know" is about pure infatuation and lust in which some relationships stumble upon. Number seven, "I Can Change," would be a favorite among Snoop Dogg fans. Legend is willing to lose his "pimp status" and change his ways in order to keep his girlfriend. Number eight, "Ordinary People," is a favorite among many, bringing the album to a slow and steady pace. Number 11, titled "So High," is beautiful in a sense that it gives the listener soft sounds of poetic lyrics. Track 13, "It Don't Have to Change,"

featuring the Stephens family, is different among all tracks in which he includes his family in his album and showcases their talents. In this he reminisces the good ole days and gives the recognition to those who made him the artist that he is. "Live it Up" is the last track which sums up everything giving us a quick view of his status as of now, which is basically living his dreams, making a living his way and enjoying his life while he still can. To check out more tracks on *Get Lifted* go to your local Target or Best Buy and see what this album is all about.

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

Motley from page A4

off on Feb. 14 in San Juan, Puerto Rico and will work their way to Greensboro, NC on April 21. For the average college student, this is an ample opportunity to see what your older cousin is talking about or at the very least, put a face to the songs you hear in the strip club every Friday night. Most importantly though, if you're tired of today's pop and rap oriented music scene, the Crue might just provide a nice alternative. Who knows, maybe Tommy Lee and Vince Neil will get into another fistfight, which would be worth the price of admission alone.

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

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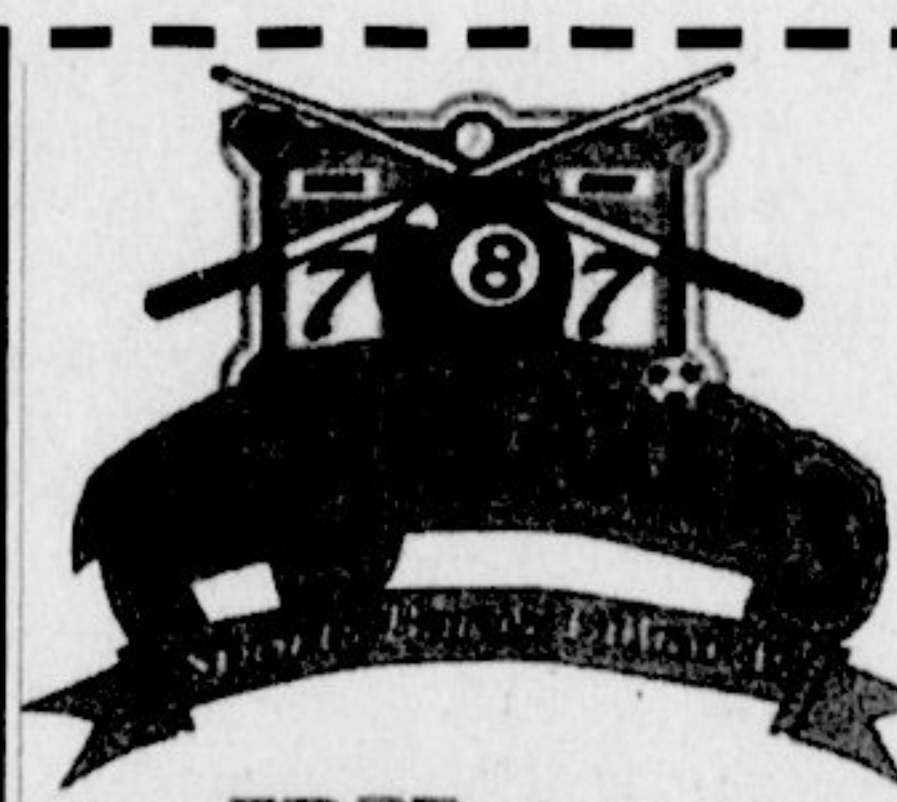
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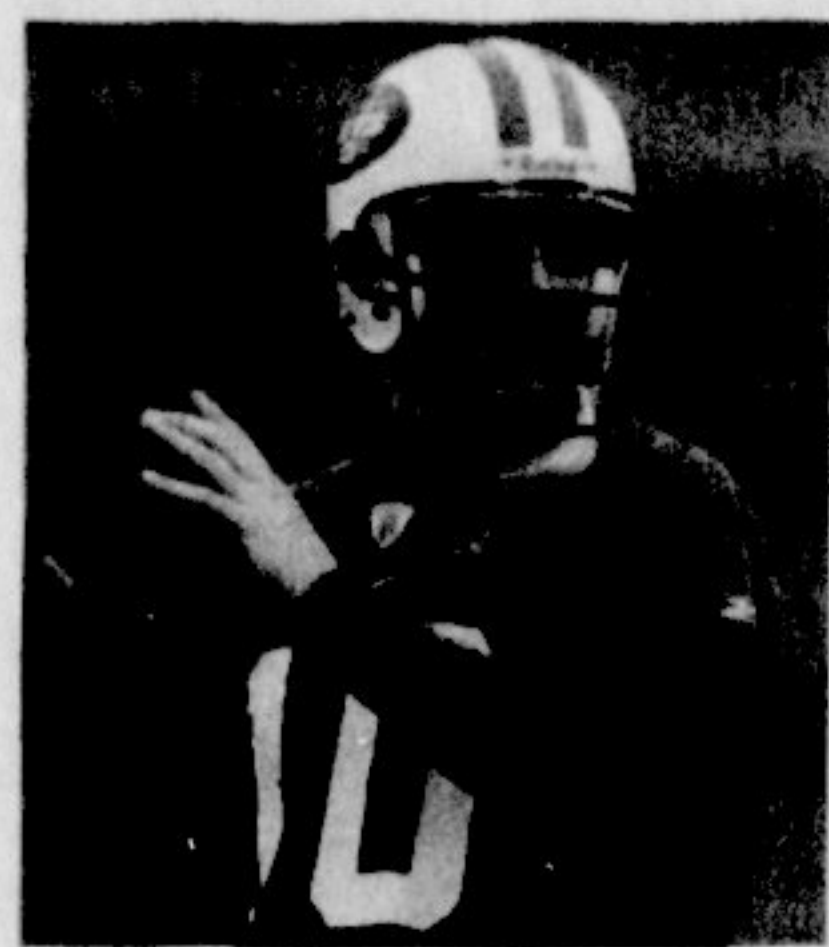
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Sports Briefs



Pennington played with torn rotator cuff

Jets quarterback Chad Pennington has a torn right rotator cuff, an injury he played with for the final six games of the season. Pennington was hurt Nov. 7 against Buffalo after he was hit hard following a scramble. An initial MRI exam showed the tear, but the team announced Pennington had a strain. After sitting out three weeks, Pennington returned to play. Team doctor Elliot Pellman revealed the extent of the injury Tuesday. Pellman said the team is hopeful Pennington will be ready for the start of training camp in July but made no promises. He said Pennington came back because there was a minimal risk to damaging the shoulder further. But it appeared Pennington lost velocity on his passes once he did return, and coach Herman Edwards said the franchise quarterback was playing through pain. A second MRI following their 20-17 overtime loss to Pittsburgh in the second round of the playoffs showed there was no additional damage. Pennington will have surgery shortly after the Super Bowl on Feb. 6. Renowned specialist James Andrews will perform the surgery. The severity of the injury is disconcerting, because rotator cuff tears are uncommon for quarterbacks. Pitchers are the most likely athletes to sustain the injury, and many take up to a year to fully recover. But quarterbacks do not throw the ball as hard and have fewer motions, so the recovery time could take as few as six months. In addition, the Jets gave Pennington a \$64 million, seven-year contract extension before the season started, banking their future on him. The Jets also are in the market for a backup QB, since Quincy Carter is a free agent and expected to look for a starting job elsewhere.

Eagles sign Thomason for Super Bowl

Tight end Jeff Thomason is going to the Super Bowl with the Philadelphia Eagles after being out of the NFL the last two seasons. Thomason signed with the Eagles on Tuesday to replace tight end Chad Lewis, who scored two touchdowns but also injured his foot in Philadelphia's 27-10 victory over Atlanta in the NFC Championship Game. Lewis was put on injured reserve to make roster space. Thomason spent three seasons with the Eagles but hasn't played since 2002. Seven of his 25 catches with Philadelphia were touchdowns. L.J. Smith will take Lewis' starting spot against the New England Patriots in the Super Bowl on Feb. 6. Seldom-used Mike Bartrum is the Eagles' other tight end. Thomason began his career with Cincinnati in 1992 and played five seasons in Green Bay, before coming to Philadelphia in 2000. He has 67 receptions for 650 yards and 10 TDs in 10 seasons.

Crouch gets another shot in NFL

Former Heisman winner Eric Crouch signed with the Kansas City Chiefs in another attempt to make the NFL as a defensive back. The Chiefs will look at Crouch as a safety and plan to send him to NFL Europe this spring. Crouch, who won the Heisman in 2001 at Nebraska, is committed to defense. Chiefs coach Dick Vermeil said. In 2002 Crouch was a third-round draft choice of the St. Louis Rams, who wanted to use him as a receiver, but he left the team in training camp when he wasn't given a chance at quarterback. He later had a couple of trials with the Green Bay Packers, once as a quarterback and then as a safety, but he was released before training camp last season.

ECU's recipe for success

Conference USA could be answer for Pirates

ERIC GILMORE
STAFF WRITER

Don't jump. Not yet, at least. I know for any fan or athlete that every basketball loss feels like a kick in the face after what transpired during football season. But why abandon ship now (or the Greene Street Bridge)?

The Rowdy Dowdy's, Minges Maniacs and Jungelites can't lose their resiliency because athletic director Terry Holland just may be up to something. The funny part is that he might not even know it.

Likening it to an old family recipe, only a couple of athletic directors have figured it out. Are you ready to know how to be successful in Division I-A? Promise you won't tell? Shhh. The secret recipe for success is (drum roll): win Conference USA.

Sure, it's been the goal of every athletic team since officially joining the conference in 1997. But who's actually done it? Baseball has been the exception, but where is ECU baseball now? They are consistently successful in the national spotlight and on the verge of opening a new \$11 million dollar stadium.

Yeah, I said win C-USA, not the Big East. Settle down. Before you go Jim Mora crazy, think about it. Doesn't it make sense to dominate a predominately weaker conference than to be mediocre in a major conference?

Ask Boise State, Utah and Louisville how they would have done this past season in football had they been in a BCS conference? They would have done well (eight wins or so), but they

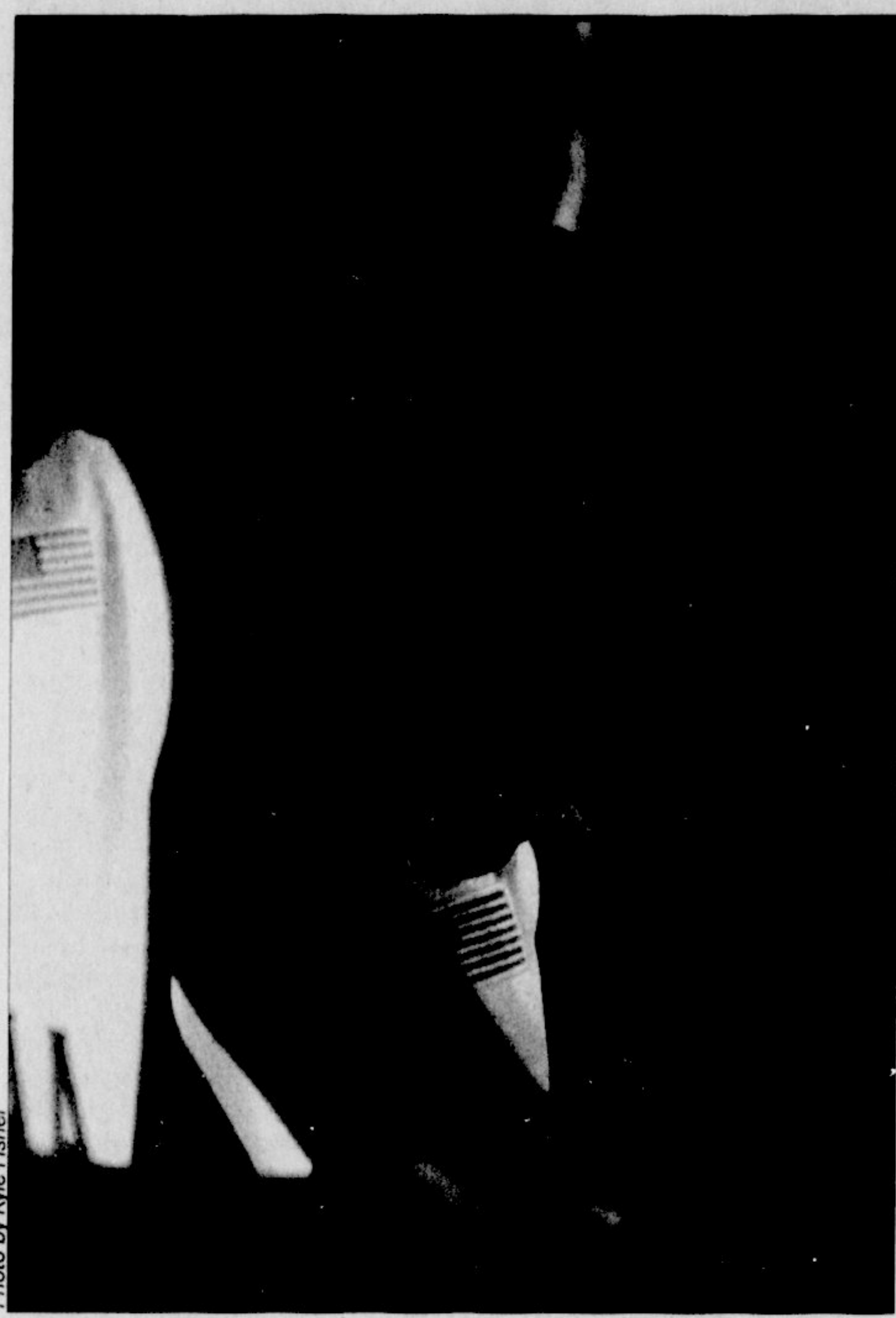


Photo by Kyle Fisher

ECU has to start winning games and making postseason appearances in many athletic programs before leaving C-USA.

wouldn't be among the top 13 programs in the nation.

Florida State, Miami and Virginia Tech did it for years in football. Before the expansion of the ACC, Florida State only had to win their non-conference schedule to all but assure themselves a shot at the national championship game. Michael Vick's Virginia Tech had to beat Miami

and vice versa when both teams were in the Big East. If the goal is to win, any fan would want their team to play Rutgers and Temple over Clemson and Georgia Tech week in and week out.

Look at the college basketball landscape. If Gonzaga was in the Pacific 10, would they be in the top 25? Southern Illinois and Creighton are household

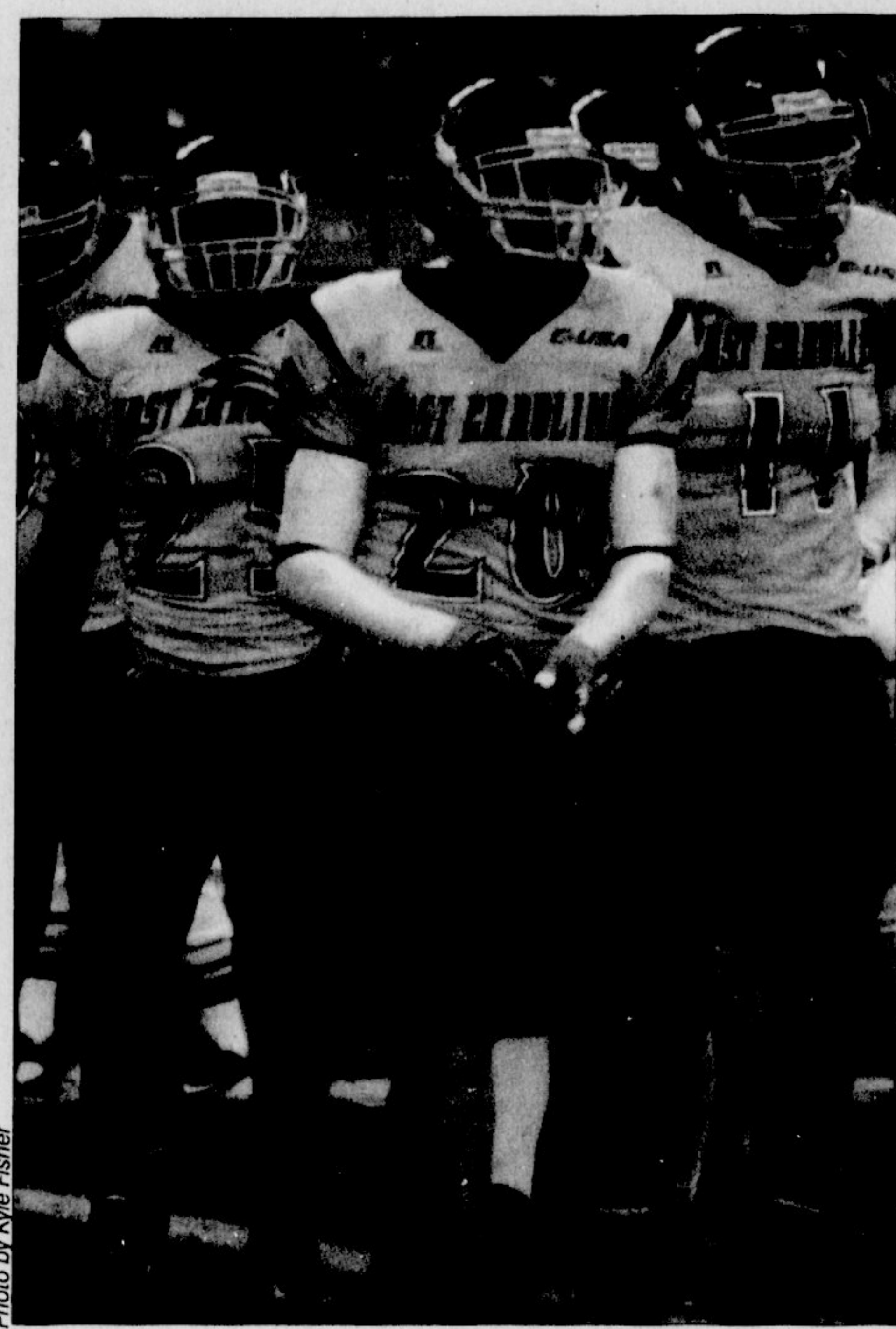


Photo by Kyle Fisher

names now because they dominate their weaker leagues. No one knows where they are but folks know these schools win consistently.

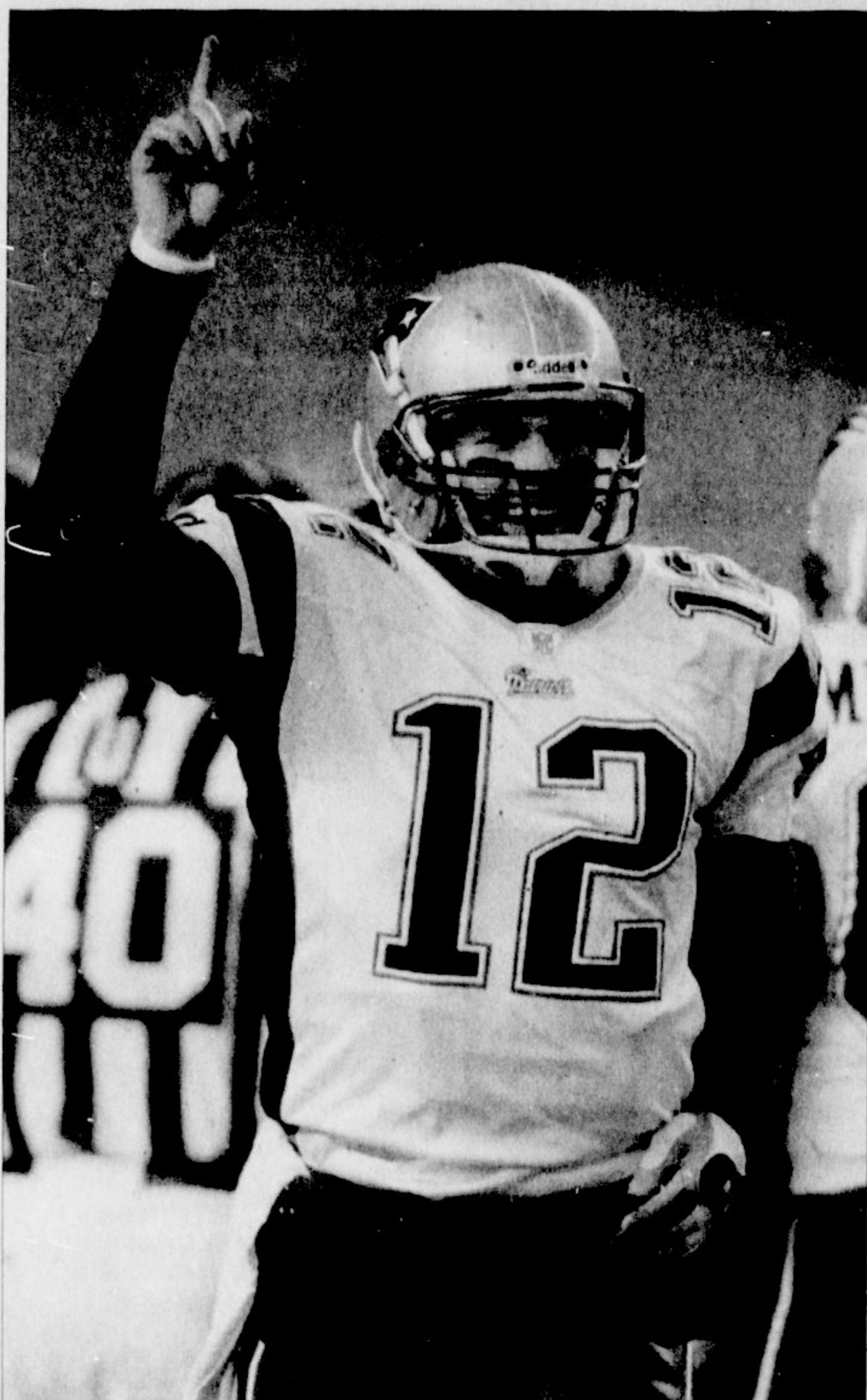
C-USA has elevated teams to new levels of status because they won. South Florida is moving to the Big East because they won in football their brief years in C-USA. UAB just went to a bowl

game for the first time and a trip to the Sweet 16. Marquette simply doesn't go to a Final Four had they competed in the Big East.

Louisville has a chance to win that football national championship next year in a watered down Big East. Before the cre-

see **RECIPE** page A7

Brady will enter Super Bowl with spotlight on McNabb



Brady is now an NFL record 8-0 in postseason play.

Brady, meanwhile, has been the best player on New England's team for four years. With another MVP performance in the Super Bowl on Feb. 6, he'll take his place among the game's all-time greats, including his boyhood hero, Joe Montana, and other multi-championship quarterbacks such as Terry Bradshaw, Troy Aikman and Bart Starr.

Brady, just 27 years old, has won 31 of his last 33 starts. He is 8-0 in the postseason, and a Super Bowl win would tie him with Starr for the most consecutive playoff wins at the start of a career.

In two playoff wins this season, he completed an efficient 32 of 48 passes for 351 yards and three touchdowns with no interceptions. In eight career postseason games, Brady has completed 167 of 271 passes (62 percent) for 1,715 yards, nine touchdowns and just three interceptions.

His postseason interception rate of just 1.1 percent of his passes is better than anybody who has played the game.

"There's no other quarterback I'd rather have," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said after Sunday night's victory over Pittsburgh. "He's smart and tough ... and sees things well on the field. I don't think the magnitude of the game or the crowd or noise or the situation bothers him."

"He does everything we ask him to do, and that goes from the first day of the offseason program to the last day of the regular season. Meetings, practice, walkthrough, games, film sessions, you name it. He is right there at the top of every (category). I don't think you can ask any more of a person than that."

Brady tugged at his light brown beard when asked to explain his ability to play his best in the biggest games.

"I prepare many weeks the same way," Brady said. "When it gets to the playoffs, you take your preparation to another level. I watched every game Pittsburgh played this year. I went over the call sheet five or six times with my coach. That's the type of attention to detail you need."

"When you get in these games, you better know where you're looking at. I made one stupid read. As I walked off the field, I said we talked about that three times but it still went to the wrong

see **BRADY** page A7



ROBERT LEONARD
SENIOR WRITER

All in favor of making college basketball games 20 minutes instead of 40 minutes long please raise your hand. Every student's hand should be in the air right now. I know Bill Herrion's is.

If games only lasted 20 minutes, his Pirates would boast a better record than their 5-13 mark. This has been the main problem for the Pirates this season - playing 40 minutes of basketball. We have seen great things from this team this season. Must we all forget the opening game where ECU dominated Peppdine?

Or how about wins against Toledo and Oregon State?

But it's not the wins that draw attention to a program - it's the losses. Some losses have been bad (Gardner Webb 90 ECU 60).

Some losses have been ugly (Louisville 92 ECU 41).

Some have just come at the hands of better teams (Cincinnati 84 ECU 78).

However, it's the most recent losses that must drive Bill Herrion crazy. Tied 30-30 at the half with DePaul in Chicago, the Pirates lost 77-56 in a game where ECU was outscored 47 to 26 in the second half. The Pirates did very well in the first half though, going into the break with a seven-point lead. It seems this team started out this season with the trend of starting each game flat and then warming up as the game went out. Now they come out of the gates well but can't finish games. Just like in any sport, if you can't finish, you can't win.

It's really easy to start giving up on this team at this point in the season - we all know by the empty seats in Minges Coliseum that some people already have. But I say the season is just now starting and there is no reason this team can't make the Conference USA tournament.

Looking at the stretch the Pirates have gone through in their first six C-USA games, who really can complain about their winless start in conference play? They battled but lost to a good and underrated NSF team. Then came the run of NCAA tournament teams from last year. Charlotte, Cincinnati, UAB,

Louisville and DePaul. Looking at the schedule pre-season, the best anyone could hope for realistically was 2-4 in this stretch and that was with a win against NSF and pulling off one upset out of the next five games.

With those games out of the way, the Pirates must look ahead and forget everything that has happened this season.

This same scenario happened last year. The Pirates played the stronger teams in the conference at the beginning of the season and everyone got down on them.

Then ECU played some weaker teams and they finally started winning games. The pirates went on to make the conference tournament as they finished 11th in the conference.

The way I see it, there are seven teams battling for the last five spots in the conference tournament: ECU, NSF, Houston, Tulane, Southern Miss, TCU and the Pirates next opponent, St. Louis.

It will take four wins to get into the tournament. It must start tonight with St. Louis. The Billikens already have three wins, so holding a tiebreaker over them would be huge if the Pirates needed it.

The next stretch of games are a little more difficult.

Charlotte at home, at Memphis, at TCU, back here for Marquette, then TCU on the road for UAB and TCU. If ECU can win just one of these games, it would be hopefully their second win.

With that win, the Pirates are at home with two must win games. Southern Miss and Houston before finishing the season at Tulane. Win two of those games and you have four wins on the season.

So how will the Pirates do this? They still need to shoot better. JaPhet McNeil is doing a good job at the point driving and kicking out to open teammates. When he does this, whoever gets the ball has got to knock down that jump shot. Moussa needs to get aggressive and get to the foul line. He is a decent free throw shooter. Corey Rouse needs to be the dominant Corey Rouse that we have seen at times this season. And most importantly, Mike Cook needs to score, take smart shots and take control of the ball game.

If all the above things happen for 40 minutes over the next stretch, pack your bags for the conference tournament.

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

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Recipe from page A6

ation of C-USA, Louisville had won at least nine football games only four times since the program started in 1912. Comparatively, ECU won nine games or more nine times. ECU obviously has a richer tradition of winning yet Louisville is poised to be among the national elite because they will be in a weak conference.

Looking at the Pirates, it was a matter of lost opportunity. The football program is equivalent to the kid who dominates the recreation league at six years old, but simply can't play in middle school because his peers are more athletic. Other schools won C-USA and got more athletic. The good news is that ECU can now assert itself more than ever as a new power in the revamped

alignment.

The basketball program is hitting turbulence because it tried to take off too quickly. The hardwood Pirates have only been to the NCAA tournament once, in 1993, and they didn't even have a winning season that year. Unlike football, there is no tradition of winning in basketball. Not in the Southern Conference, not in the Colonial Athletic Association or now in C-USA. Look in the rafters at Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum lately. See anything? Anybody? Didn't think so.

Since coming to Greenville, Bill Herrion's task has been an immense one. It's like his team is trying to learn the fourth level of a foreign language, but haven't been taught the simple grammar.

Herrion can teach his team how to win next year when the conference loses its top five current standings.

Maybe Holland understands what athletic directors at schools like Boston College, Mississippi and N.C. State can't figure out. In competition, there is a winner and a loser, no matter what conference you play in. And when it boils down to it, winning will consistently produce positives in every aspect for your athletic programs than being mediocre and in an elite conference will.

The best way to win is to find competition you know you can beat.

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

Brady from page A6

place. Sometimes under pressure you get flustered. You better make the good plays, but you better not make the mistakes, and that's what we've done in the postseason."

Brady also still plays with the chip on his shoulder that comes from being a sixth-round pick, the 199th player taken, in the 2000 draft after a career at Michigan where he had to battle for playing time

and thought about transferring.

"That is a big part of it," he said.

"A lot of times I think, as a player, when no one else believes in you and no one else thinks you are capable, you really have to believe in yourself. Because of that, you are trying to prove things to yourself as a competitor and as an athlete.

"From my standpoint, I am

always trying to prove to myself that I am capable of leading a team to a win, and capable of doing everything the team asks of me, and in this case, to beat the best team in football on the road in the most important game of the year. So I am trying to prove that stuff to myself, too. It is not like you win and then you say, 'OK, well, I've done it.'

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Page A8

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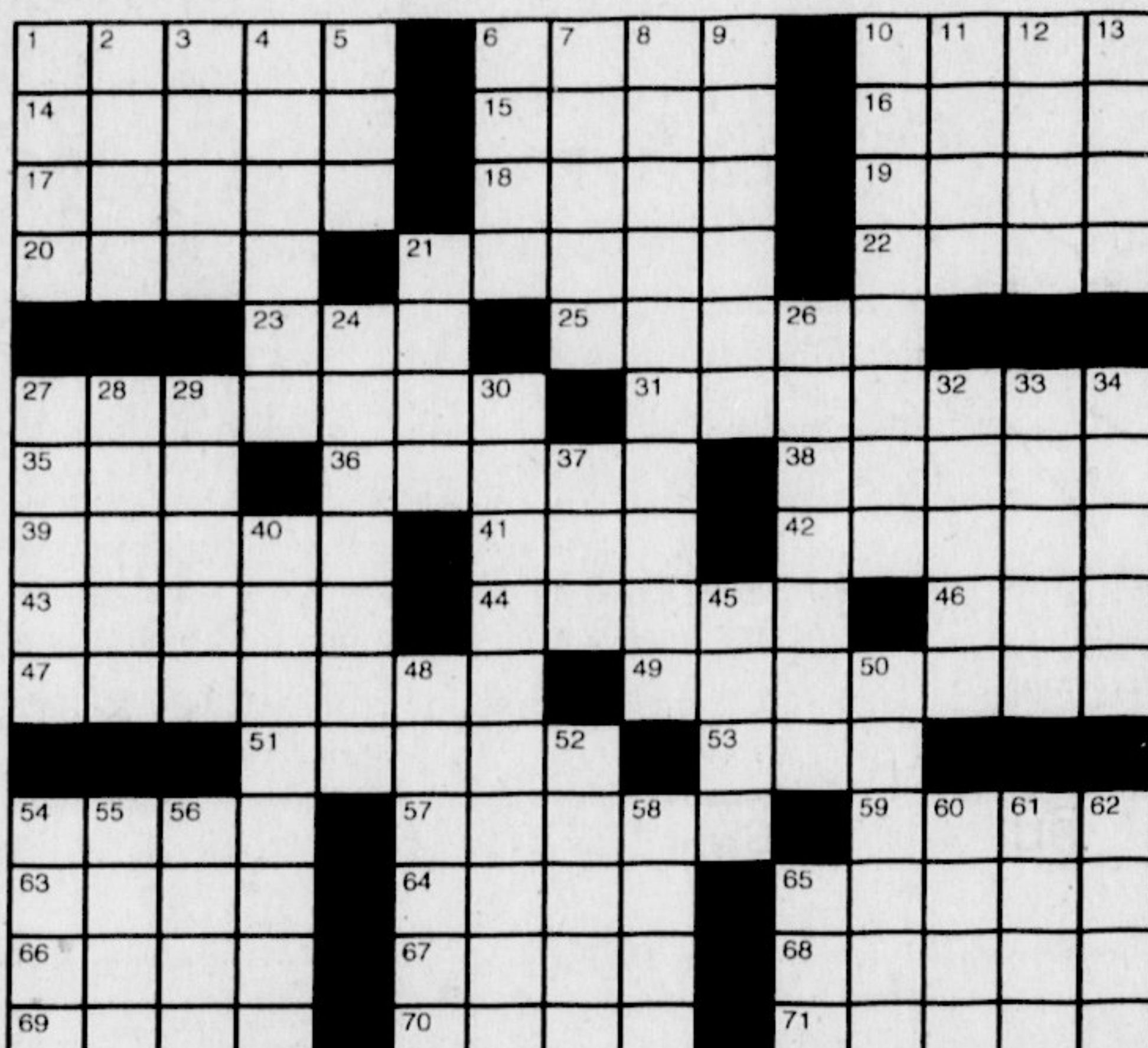
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22 Summon
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25 Cut off
27 Like utilities
31 Vengeful foes
35 Marie Saint
36 Utopias
38 "Gay"
39 Fine sprays
41 Average grade
42 Unfamiliar with
43 Two quartets combined
44 Sculled
46 Somme summer
47 Astral
49 Went tobogganing
51 Kind of eagle?
53 Words of commitment
54 Remaining
57 Components of everything
59 Brad or spike
63 Self-defense, e.g.
64 Make weary
65 Desert Storm target
66 Chutzpah
67 Gardener's tools
68 Top story
69 Feed the kitty
70 Dancer Pavlova
71 Make fun of

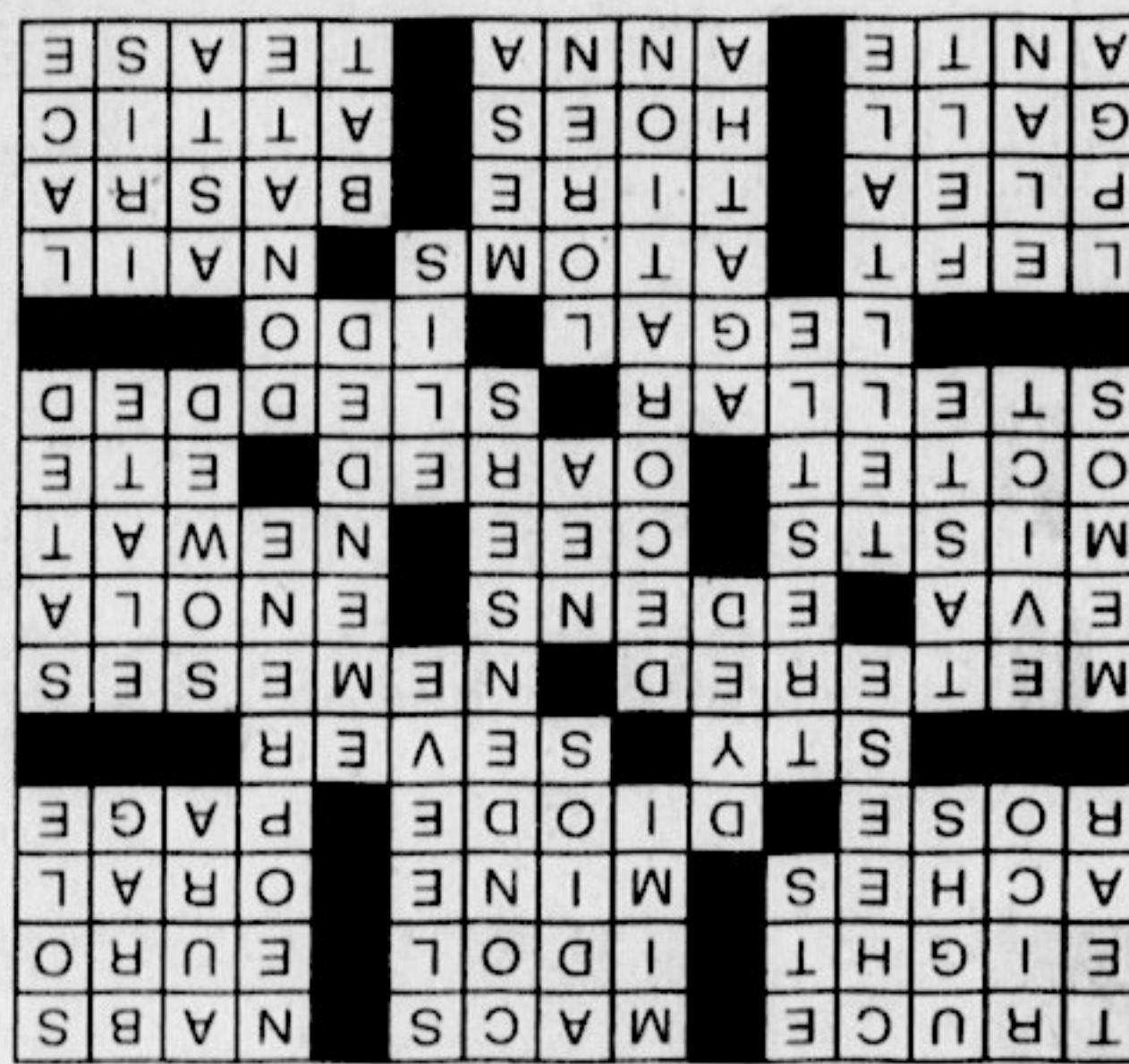
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5 UFO crew
6 Actress Rogers
7 Gaucho's goodbye
8 Capacitors
9 Pipe fitting
10 Synthetic rubber
11 Nimbus
12 Blow one's own horn
13 Fish choice
21 Soaked in woad
24 Sawhorse
26 Improved by editing
27 Written reminders
28 Dislodge
29 Esthetic judgment
30 Emblem of honor
32 Spread seeds
33 Lift the spirits of
34 Cloyed
37 Learning org.
40 "The Heart"
45 Yale alumni



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01/26/05

Solutions

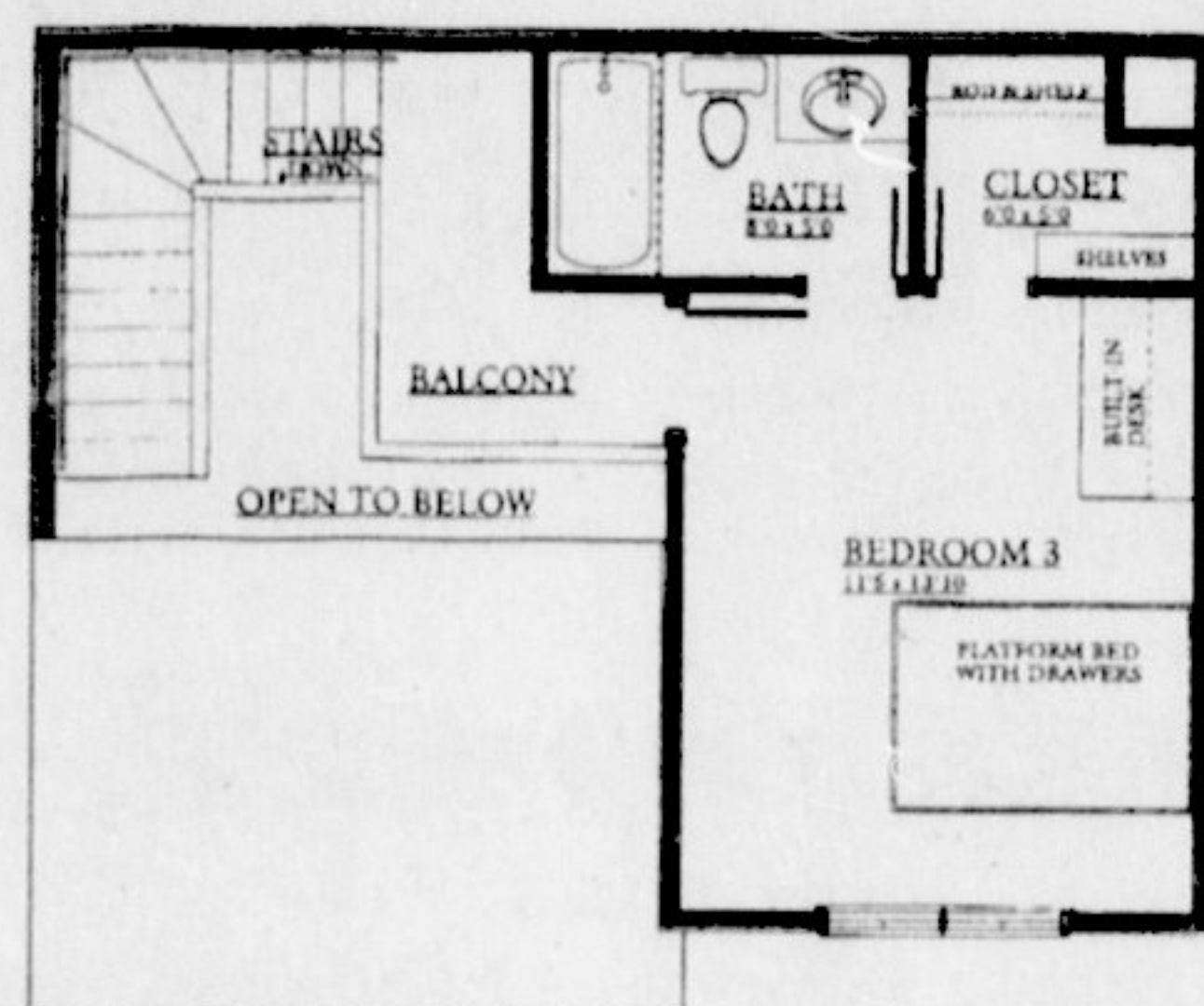


48 Writer Christie
50 Give
52 Actress Sophia
54 Org. of Webb and Sorenstam
55 Spirited self-assurance
56 Sensed
58 Tableland
60 Dog star
61 Eye part
62 Tatted material
65 Winged mammal

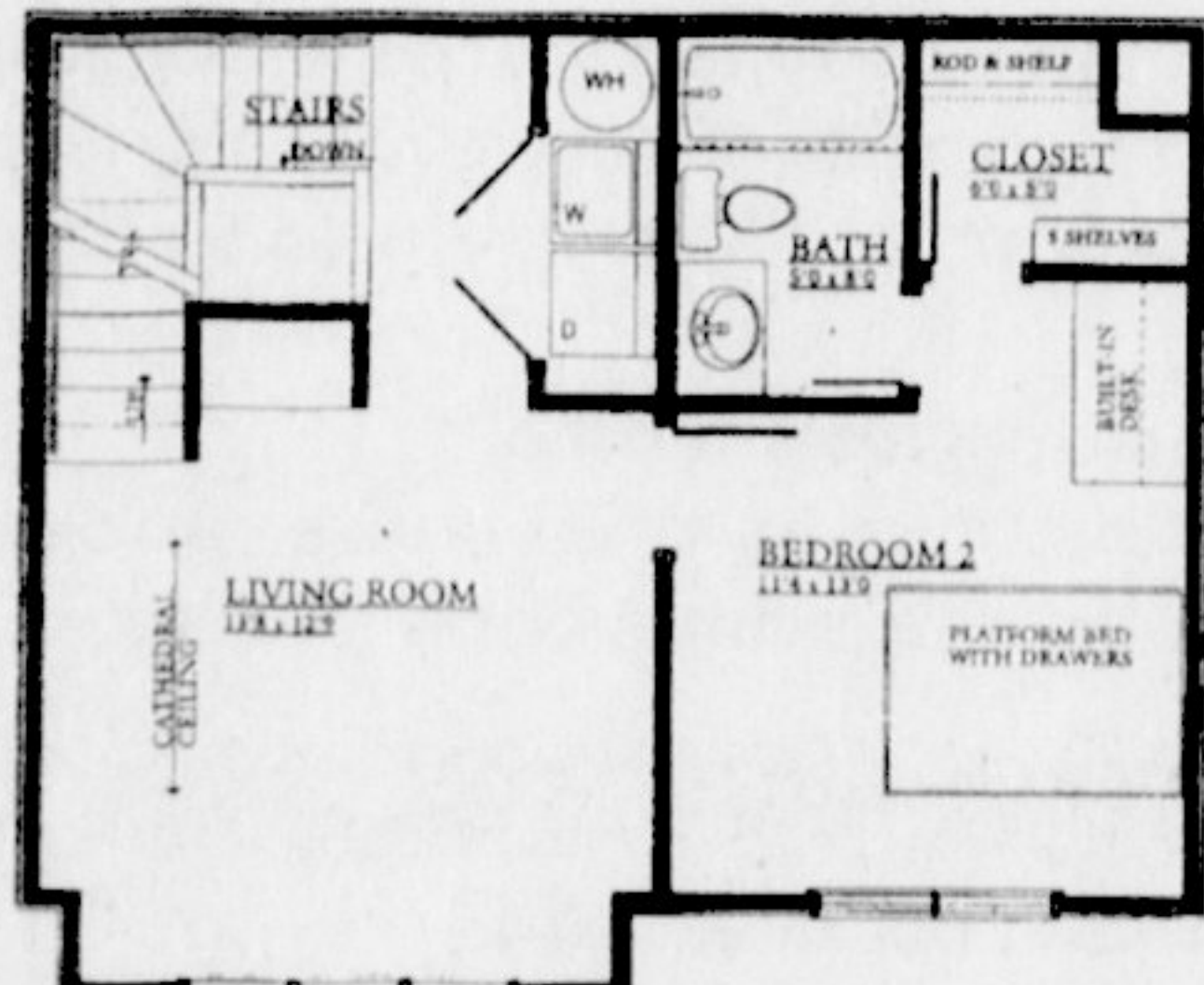
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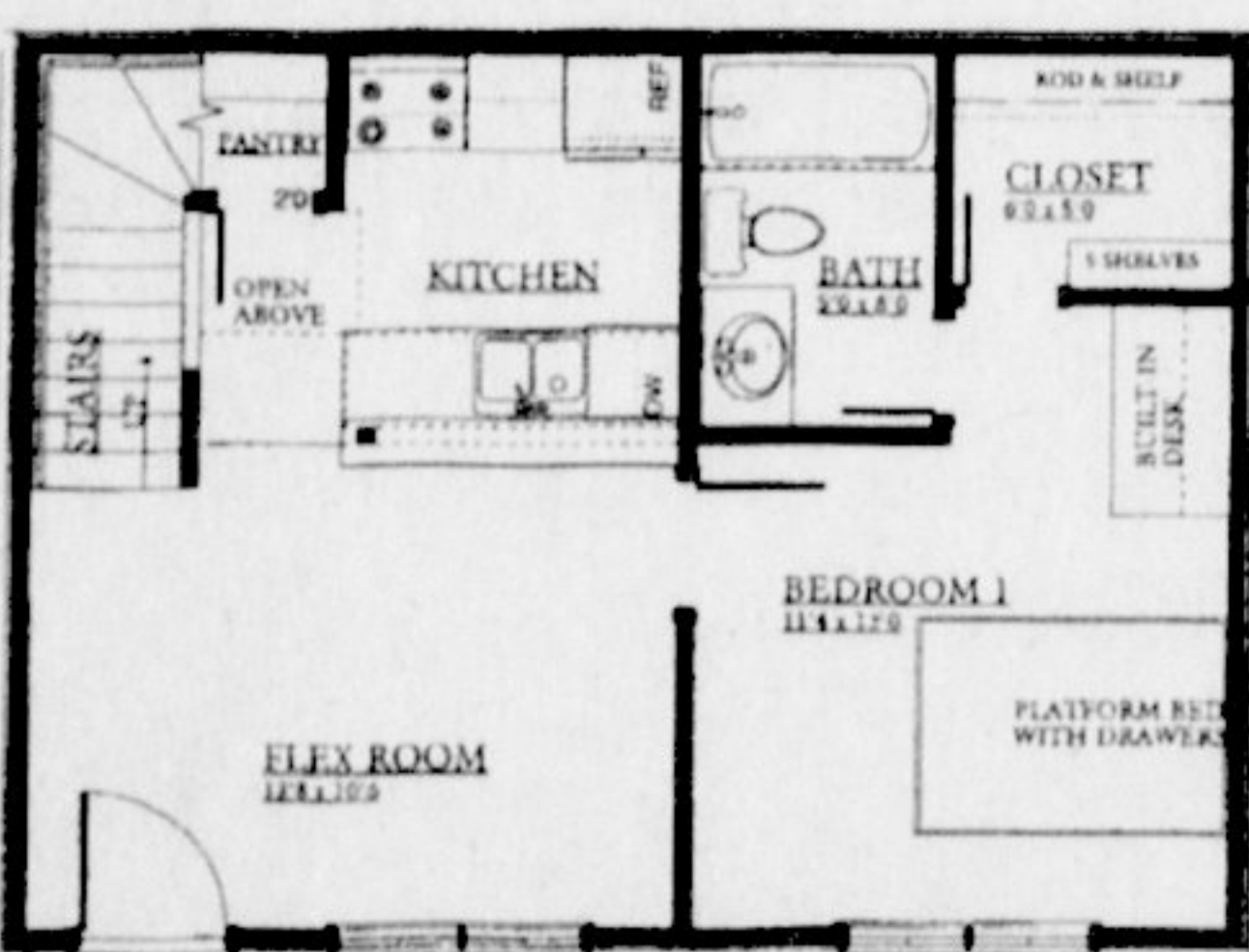
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Now leasing for May and August 2005!



Third Floor



Second Floor

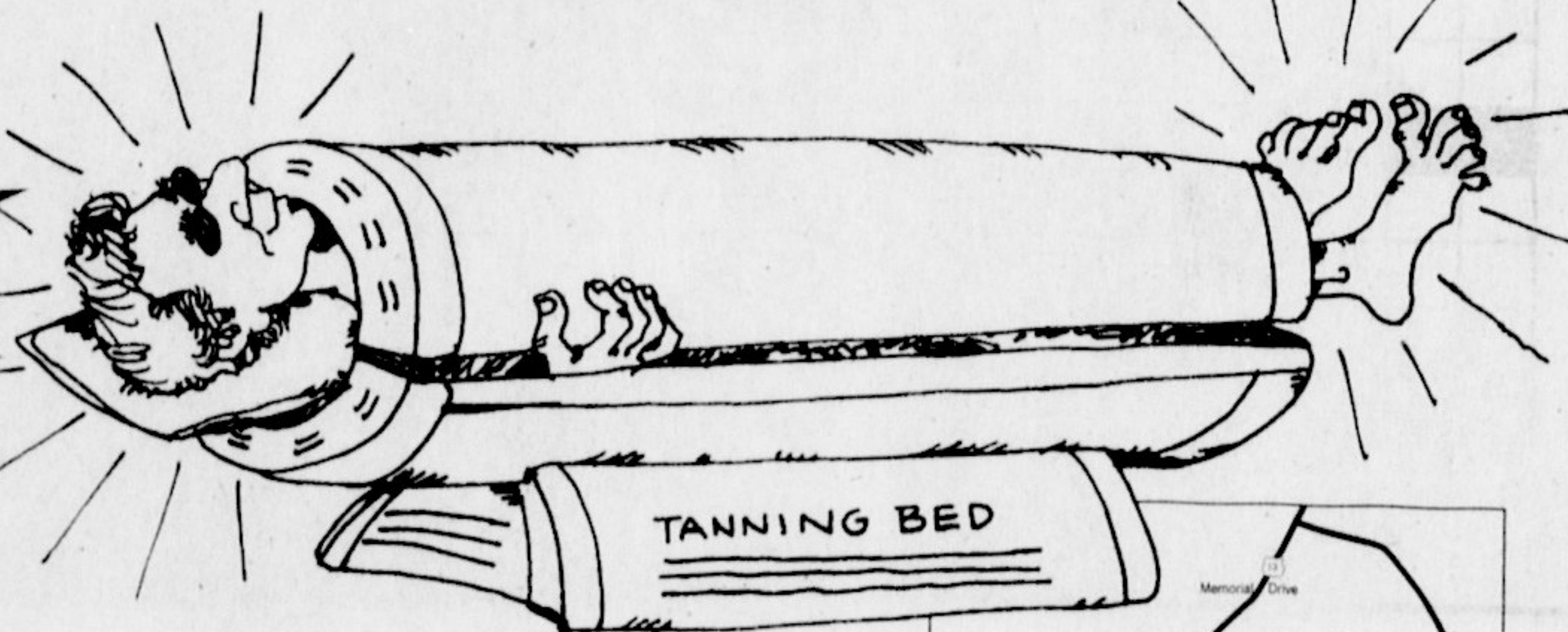


First Floor

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- 3 bedroom/3 bath
- **Maximum Privacy- Only one bedroom per floor!**
- Parking at your front door

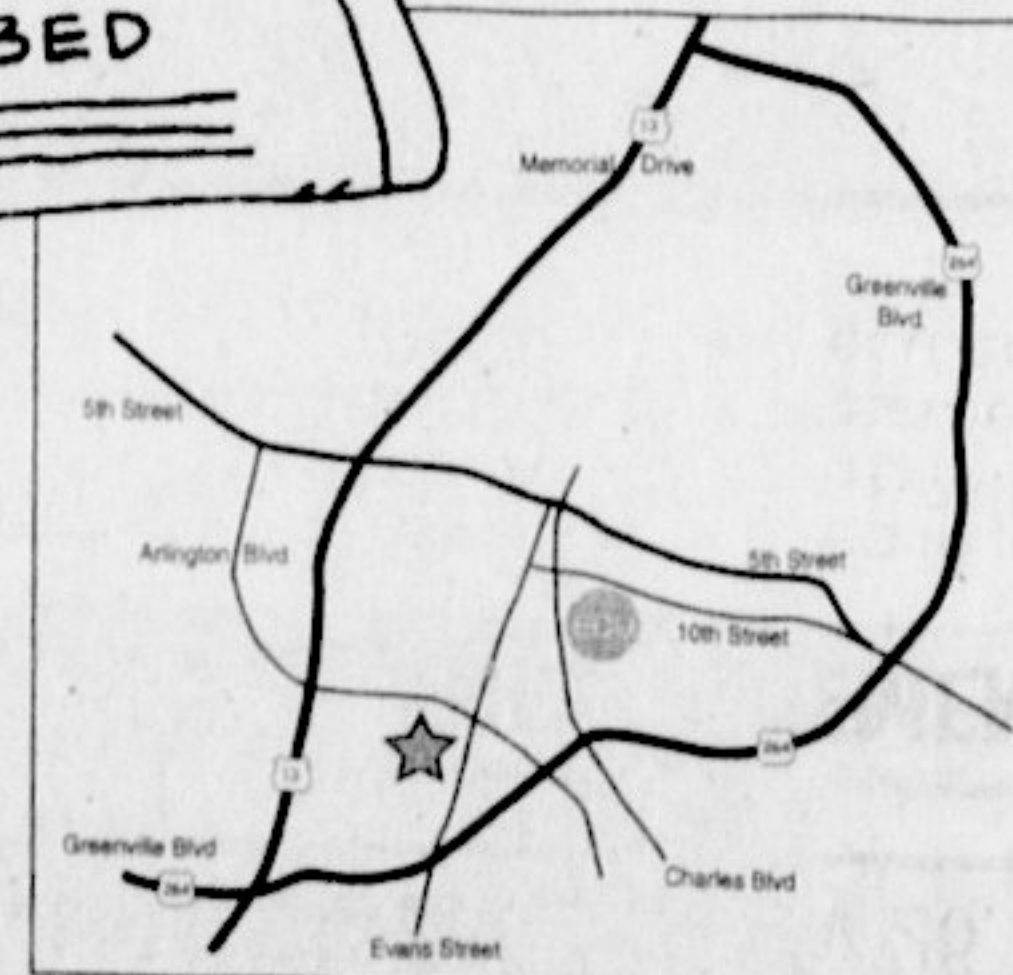
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- Private Bus Service
- Close to campus & Near Shopping
- Unlike anything else!
- **FREE Tanning, Fitness, Pool and Clubhouse**

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