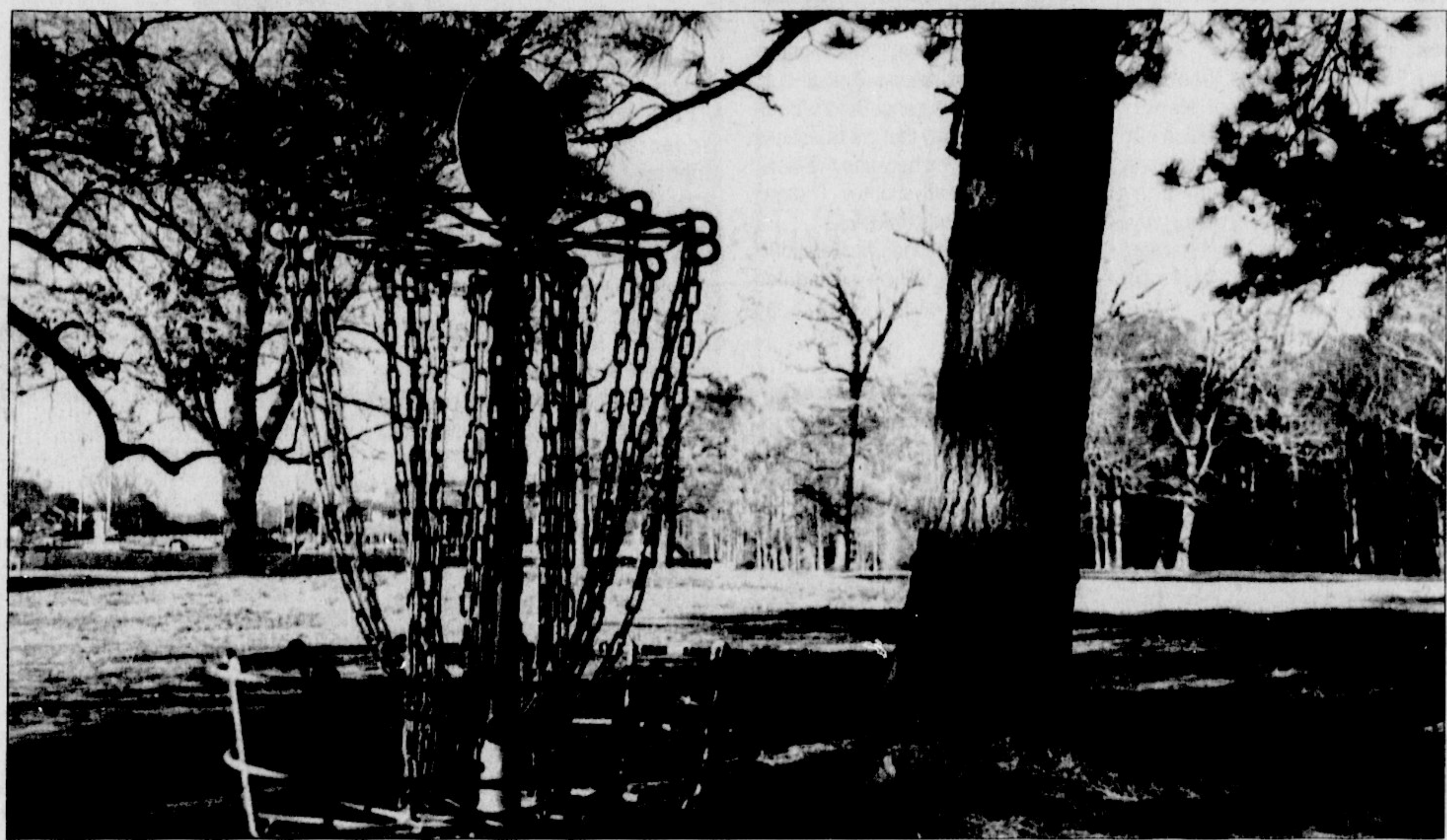


Tailgating, frisbee golf field considered for parking space



The frisbee golf course on Charles Boulevard is the proposed site for a new commuter parking for the ECU community.

Extra spaces would accommodate ECU expansion

MICHAEL HARRINGTON
SENIOR WRITER

With the steady year-to-year growth of students and faculty, ECU is looking for possible locations for parking spaces to accommodate this growth. The tailgating and frisbee golf field has been proposed as a possible location for

a commuter parking lot to accommodate the planned growth.

The field, located on the corner of Charles Boulevard and Greenville Boulevard, is used as a tailgating location for students on football game days and composes a significant area of the frisbee golf field.

ECU Campus Operations has proposed the conversion of the field into a parking area and the plan will be discussed during the next board of trustees meeting April 1.

"We plan on developing the

area next to the ladies' softball field ultimately into about 1,000 parking spaces, primarily for commuter students," said George Harrell, senior associate vice chancellor for campus operations.

The proposed plan is intended to be another step toward expanding ECU and its facilities to meet the rising number of students.

Harrell said the commuter parking lot currently provides sufficient parking for students, but this will not be the case in the future.

"You can't wait until there's

no place to park before you start," Harrell said.

"We have to build to grow. The university has been growing at about 1,000 students a year."

The potential cost is estimated around \$2 million, which would be generated through revenue from ECU's Parking and Transportation Services.

If the proposal gains board approval, the first phase will be planned to lessen the impact on the frisbee golf field.

"We're planning the initial phase at 850 spaces so we can

preserve as much of the woods where the frisbee golf course is located, until recreation boards develops the new frisbee golf field," Harrell said.

The new frisbee golf course will be located in the new recreation facility ECU is building near the intersection of Highway 264 and Greenville Boulevard.

Harrell said if the plan is passed, they would probably rearrange the holes on the current course so people can still play until the new recreation facility is completed.

The planned conversion of the student tailgating field into a commuter lot, Harrell said, is in its infant stages.

"We don't even have a design yet," Harrell said.

If the plan meets board approval in the April meeting, the project is expected to be completed over the next few years.

Harrell said the field is one of the few locations near ECU where an additional commuter lot could be placed.

"It's one of the largest open areas not already earmarked," Harrell said.

Kim Sedgwick, freshman child life major, said the distance of the location from ECU did not make sense to her.

"It's so far away," said Sedgwick.

Haley Watson, freshman special education major, said she was disappointed to hear the traditional student tailgating location might be paved over.

"It's a part of school, everyone goes up there and tailgates," said Watson.

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



Montaperto lectured on Chinese politics.

Visiting professor speaks on China

Montaperto speaks at third 'Great Decisions'

CHRIS MUNIER
STAFF WRITER

The speaker for the third Great Decisions lecture gave an expert testimony on Chinese political development Saturday morning in Rivers Auditorium.

Ronald Montaperto, visiting professor of political science, said China likely represents the only challenge to U.S. supremacy over global politics. A country with more than one billion people is something worthy of attention.

"China is the country we need to focus on," said Montaperto.

The lecture centered on the theme "The Challenge of China," saying China is determined to become a superpower and is looking to set the agenda for the rest of East Asia.

Montaperto said one of the biggest questions is if China's development is indeed development or just growth without progress. He said China is expanding in population size and economic size, but it is not certain if this is making it a stronger country.

Montaperto said most of China's economy has moved away from communism, but there are still some state-owned socialist industries. There are high savings rates in China, but banks are having a hard time because steel and energy enterprises are sucking up subsidies. It is difficult to fix this problem because of government corruption as well as the fact that these "dinosaur" companies are the safety net for the economy.

During the years of communism under Mao Zedong, there was at least a certain institution of morality in China. The same cannot be said about China's current brand of capitalism.

"The Chinese have the worst of capitalism," Montaperto said.

Along with corruption, there are problems with crime, drugs and AIDS in China. Furthermore, Chinese leaders are reluctant to allow freedom of speech, even 16 years after the Tiananmen Square Massacre.

"There is a complete lack of governmental effectiveness," Montaperto said.

Montaperto said some of the problems with China's authoritarian leaders stem from a fear of instability and chaos. China has a history of instability and embarrassment.

Despite some oppression, there has been a major movement toward free speech and discourse. Intellectuals who would have been jailed years ago are now able to say what they want more often.

Montaperto described a problem with unemployment in China as the "floating population." On the countryside there is a huge emphasis on farming and little else. Most people farm, but those who do not go to the cities and float around looking for job opportunities. He said this is related to the urban-rural gap that exists in every Chinese province.

The U.S. and China have great interests in Taiwan according to Montaperto. There is a constant suspicion of whether or not China wants to become imperial and invade Taiwan to become a superpower against the U.S. wishes. Montaperto said America has a moral and geopolitical obligation to Taiwan.

see PROFESSOR page A2



The new meal plan would allow commuter students to eat in campus dining areas without a great expense.

Interstate Meal Plan helps commuting students

Plan meets needs of off-campus students

LAUREN DONOVAN
STAFF WRITER

ECU dining services has offered a new meal plan called the Interstate Meal Plan, catering to off-campus students who struggle to find time to eat between their classes and time on campus.

The Interstate Meal Plan went into effect last fall and gives commuting students a meal plan to fit the way they live.

Allison Metcalf, marketing program director for campus dining, discovered a desire from many commuting students to have a meal plan formulated for students who live off campus.

"We conducted focus groups and spoke with students about what they needed in a meal plan and what we could offer to best suit those needs," said Metcalf.

The plan allows students to choose from three different options, ranging from 40 to 95 meals per semester. It also gives students the option of adding extra meals in the middle of the semester.

The plan differs from the on-campus meal plan because it will allow the student to use as many meals as needed at any given time. There are no restrictions on where the meals can be purchased or for whom, as long as it is on campus.

So far, the Interstate Meal Plan has received much interest.

Meal Plan

To purchase an Interstate Meal Plan, visit meal plan Dining Services in Todd Dining Hall or contact 328-4286.

The I-95 - \$600/semester
Offers any 95 meals per semester, with an additional \$50 in Pirate Bucks.

The I-64 - \$500/semester
Offers any 64 meals per semester, with an additional \$115 in Pirate Bucks.

The I-40 - \$400/semester
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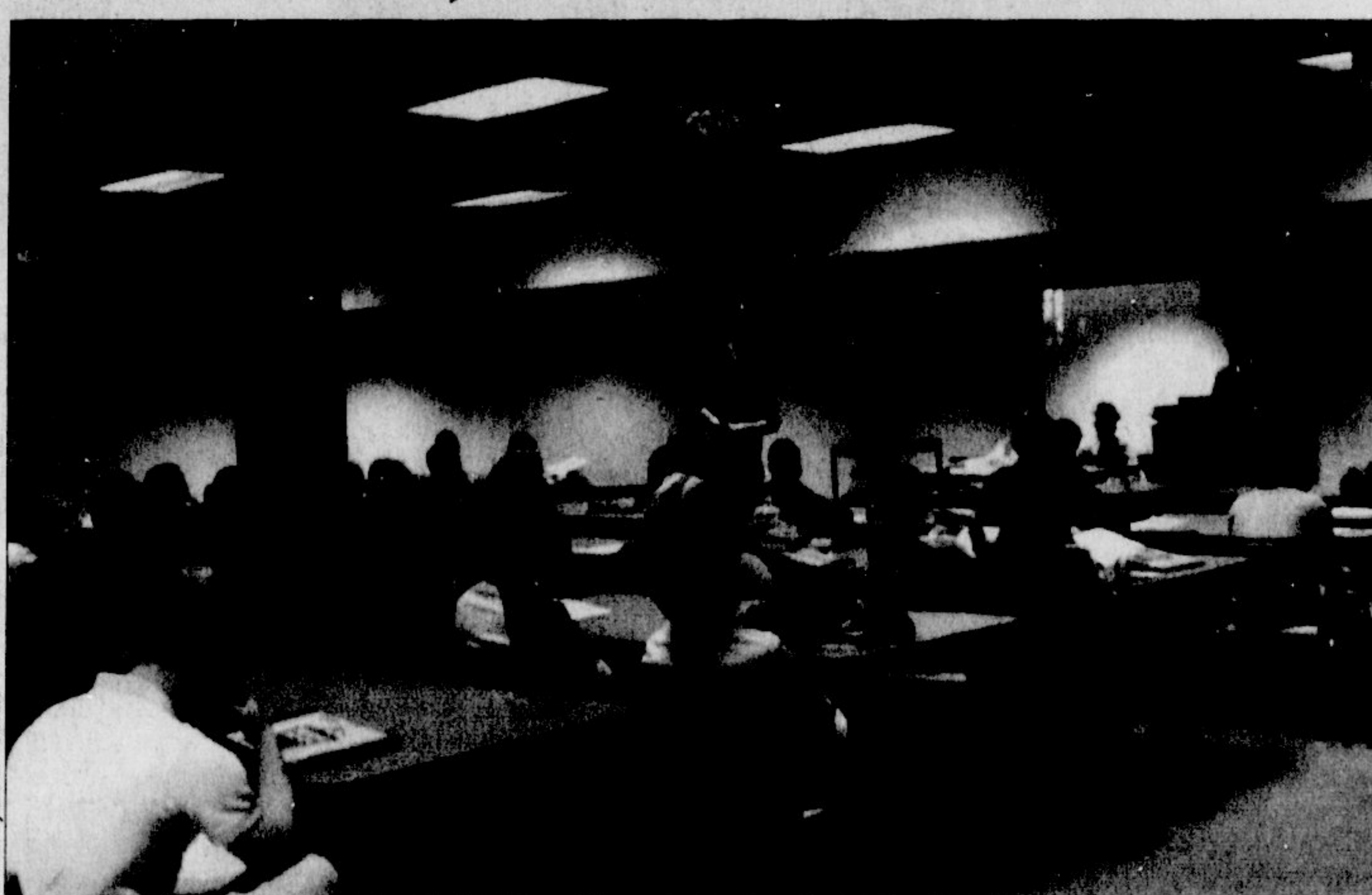
Extra Miles - \$57.50/10 meals
Running low? Recharge by purchasing additional blocks of 10 meals. Extra miles may only be purchased after the purchase of one of the previous plans within the same semester.

"We're just trying to get the word out this is being offered. It is still a new concept and we are trying to obtain as much feedback from students as possible," Metcalf said.

One of the main things students have commented on is the idea of a payment plan.

see MEAL PLAN page A3

SGA addresses current concerns, issues discussed



Michael Frist discussed increasing security measures on campus with the senators.

Safety, student fees main topics

AJ WALTON
STAFF WRITER

ECU's Student Government Association met Monday night and discussed new safety measures for campus and the executive goals for spring 2005.

Senator Michael Frist, student welfare chairman, introduced a resolution in support of increasing safety around ECU's campus. The resolution calls for an increase in lighting throughout campus, including places from West Campus all the way to College Hill.

Frist's resolution also calls for adding two ECU police bicycle patrolmen to patrol at night in an effort to prevent crime and to allow patrolmen to respond to emergencies in a more effective manner.

"I feel that ECU's policemen's presence isn't what it should be around campus," said Frist.

Shannon O'Donnell, student body president, spoke before the senate floor to discuss what

Ticket 1, O'Donnell's ticket during last year's SGA elections, has accomplished since the start of the year.

O'Donnell said out of 20 items that her ticket originally proposed, 12 have been accomplished or will be accomplished within the next month. O'Donnell also said due to various reasons, three of the original items were removed completely.

Since O'Donnell has taken office, the executive branch of SGA has played an intricate part in downtown development, voter registration drives and the Mendenhall development.

Ticket 1 has also helped create Shipmates, a freshman leadership group that focuses on the retention and understanding of SGA and Pick-A-Prof, an online program similar to ratemyprofessor.com that tells the different teaching styles of professors and the grade distribution for their class. Pick-A-Prof is a sophomore class project that will be in full effect by fall 2005.

O'Donnell also said either at the end of March or early April, SGA will have a safety week.

"We're looking forward to addressing these issues on a specific level, not just adding more lighting or policemen," said O'Donnell.

The allocation of student fees was a major topic that was brought up at the meeting. The SGA is evaluating how to most efficiently spend its provided fees. O'Donnell, along with members of the executive and judicial branches, questioned SGA social events that have taken place downtown, in particular the popular hang-out Ham's, where alcohol is served. O'Donnell said funds given to SGA should not be used at establishments that serve alcohol.

O'Donnell said it doesn't represent SGA positively.

Several senate members opposed O'Donnell's stand, citing they don't see the harm in having SGA social events at establishments that serve alcohol.

"I think student fees should be held to a higher standard," O'Donnell said.

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

Campus News

NAACP Founders Week
Feb. 7 - 12 is NAACP Founders Week. Various nightly activities include ethnic food tasting, open-mic social, "Legacies Nearly Forgotten" and volunteering with local service agencies.

Spaghetti Dinner
Five Brody medical students are holding a spaghetti dinner Feb. 9 at 7 p.m., in 2 West 40 at the Brody School of Medicine to raise money for an upcoming trip to work in Kenyan clinics. The event is open to the public and costs \$5 for students and \$7 for non-students. The students will serve spaghetti with marinara or meat sauce, bread and dessert buffet-style.

Learn About Career Fairs
Jim McAtee from Student Professional Development will be presenting "How do CFAC Students Make the Most out of Career Fairs" Feb. 9 from 2 - 3 p.m. and 4 - 5 p.m. in 201 Joyner East. The presentation will address topics such as networking, power greetings and career fair preparation.

Black History Month Speaker
A public lecture will be held in honor of Black History Month at the Willis Building Auditorium Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. The event is sponsored by ECU's GeoClub, Department of Geology and Ledonia Wright Cultural Center. The featured speaker is Jonathan Tilove, a race and immigration reporter with the Newhouse News Service, a two-time National Headliner Award winner and author of the 2003 Random House book *Along Martin Luther King: Travels on Black America's Main Streets*. For more information, call Derek Alderman at 328-4013.

HOSA Meeting
Health Occupations Students of America will hold an interest meeting Thursday, Feb. 10 in 221 Mendenhall at 4 p.m. HOSA is open to all health related majors.

The Vagina Monologues
The annual production of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" will be Feb. 11 - 12 at 8 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. This year, the ECU V-Day/Vagina Monologues event is being co-sponsored by the women's studies department, the student organization V.O.I.C.E. and the Student Involvement Team. Tickets are \$8 in advance for students, \$10 for students at the door, \$12 for the general public in advance and \$15 for the general public at the door. You can purchase tickets by calling 1-800-ECU-ARTS or online at ecuarths.com. The proceeds will benefit local charities that help abused women.

Contra Dance
The ECU Folk and Country Dancers are sponsoring a contra dance Saturday, Feb. 12 at the Willis Building. A potluck supper will begin at 6 p.m., a concert starts at 7 p.m., beginners lesson at 7:30 p.m. and the contra dance from 8 - 10:30 p.m. Live, old-time and Celtic music by a string band will be performed. The cost is \$3 for students, \$5 for members and \$8 for the general public. Call 752-7350 for details.

Human Relations Council
The City of Greenville is accepting applications from students of an institution of higher learning to serve as volunteers on the Human Relations Council. This commission is responsible for organizing and implementing programs dealing with problems of human relations and promoting understanding, respect, good will and equality of opportunity for all citizens. Two student representatives would be appointed for one-year terms. The Human Relations Commission meets the first Wednesday of each month, excluding July and August, at 7 p.m. If you live inside the city limits of Greenville and would like to serve on this commission, please call the City Clerk's Office, 329-4423 to obtain an application. You can also access a talent bank at greenvillenc.gov.

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

News Briefs

Local
NC-based Guard unit member demoted after mud-wrestling in Iraq
RALEIGH, NC - A female member of a National Guard military police unit was demoted for indecent exposure after a mud-wrestling party at the Army-run Camp Bucca detention center in Iraq, a military spokesman said Sunday.
The party occurred Oct. 30, as the 160th Military Police Battalion, an Army Reserve Unit from Tallahassee, Fla., prepared to turn over its duties to the Asheville-based 105th Military Police Battalion, said Lt. Col. Barry Johnson, spokesman for detainee operations at Camp Bucca.
In the course of the transfer of duties, "some individuals in their exuberance decided to put together a mud-wrestling thing," Johnson said Sunday by telephone. "There were females involved and some members of the 105th also became involved, one female soldier in particular."
Following an inquiry, that soldier was demoted and placed on restriction for participating in the event, specifically for indecent exposure, he said.
Four or five other members of the 105th who were spectators received counseling, Johnson said.
Johnson did not release the name of the demoted soldier. However, she was identified by the Daily News as Deanna Allen, 19, and the New York newspaper's identification was confirmed by her mother, Ladyna Waldrop of Black Mountain.

Episcopal churches approve resolution on gays
WILMINGTON, NC - Laymembers and clergy from 75 Episcopal parishes in southeastern NC have voted to endorse a report that, in part, calls on the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada to enact a moratorium on same-sex blessings. The resolution, which also calls on the two churches not to ordain sexually active gay clergy as bishops, was approved at the 122nd annual Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina held at St. James Parish on

Thursday through Saturday. St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Edenton offered the resolution.
At issue was the ordination of New Hampshire Bishop Gene Robinson, the first openly gay bishop in the Episcopal Church, in 2003, and the subsequent divisions over homosexuality in the Episcopalian priesthood that have occurred in churches across America and the world since.
The Edenton church's resolution hinges on The Windsor Report, which focuses on reconciliation and "asks for all parties to the controversy [surrounding Bishop Robinson's ordination] to express regret for ways in which their actions have harmed others," according to the Episcopal News Service.
The report, issued in October, calls on the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada to put the moratorium into effect while asking conservative bishops to stop going into other dioceses to assist congregations with disassociating themselves from the Episcopal Church.

National
Media seek information about potential Jackson jurors
SANTA MARIA, Calif. - Jury selection in the Michael Jackson molestation case has been delayed, but media efforts to learn more about who might eventually sit in judgment of the entertainer are moving ahead.
Attorneys for news organizations were to ask Santa Barbara County Superior Court Judge Rodney S. Melville on Monday to allow reporters to view completed questionnaires filled out last week by 250 prospective jurors.
"It's really vital for the public to be able to have access to the questionnaires while the selection process is occurring ... to serve as a check on the process," said media lawyer Theodore Boutsous, who represents The Associated Press and other news organizations.

Defense attorneys have argued that jurors would be less candid if they knew their answers would be made public.
"The release of the completed jury questionnaires does not serve any purpose other than to add to the sensationalist coverage of this case," Jackson's attorneys said in a motion last week.
Prosecutors and Jackson's attorneys had been scheduled to begin questioning potential jurors Monday to root out any biases that should keep them off the panel. But the court announced Friday that the questions would be delayed because the sister of Jackson's lead attorney, Thomas Mesereau, Jr., was gravely ill.
After Monday's hearing, no additional court sessions will be scheduled until Thursday at the earliest, the court said.

President sending Congress \$2.5 trillion spending plan
WASHINGTON - President Bush is sending Congress a \$2.5 trillion spending plan, constrained by war and record deficits, that seeks to slash spending in a number of popular programs from farm subsidies to poor people's health care.
While calling it the tightest budget of Bush's presidency, Vice President Dick Cheney defended the spending blueprint against Democratic complaints that its austerity falls hardest on the poor.
"It's not something that we've done with a meat ax, nor are we suddenly turning our backs on the most needy people in our society," Cheney said on "Fox News Sunday."
The budget's arrival Monday on Capitol Hill sets off months of contentious debate, with lawmakers from both parties expected to fight to protect favorite programs.
Bush has targeted 150 programs for either outright elimination or severe cutbacks as part of an effort to meet his campaign pledge to cut the deficit in half by 2009, the year he leaves office.
For the 2006 budget year that begins next Oct. 1, he proposes

spending \$2.5 trillion as he seeks to put the government on a path of declining deficits. That would occur, however, only after the government has recorded three straight years of record deficits, in dollar terms, including a projected \$427 billion in red ink this year.

International
Case begins against accused members of Dutch terror network
ROTTERDAM, Netherlands - Prosecutors opened their case Monday against 12 men accused of belonging to a terror network suspected in the murder of filmmaker Theo Van Gogh and plots to attack prominent Dutch politicians.
The defendants, mostly young Muslims of North African ancestry, were arrested within days of Van Gogh's death on Nov. 2 - a killing that shocked the nation and triggered retaliatory attacks on Islamic sites.
Van Gogh, a distant relative of painter Vincent Van Gogh, was shot and stabbed on a busy Amsterdam street. The killer cut his throat and, in a note pinned to the filmmaker's chest with a knife, threatened other attacks in the name of radical Islam.
"We're facing an extremely radical group in the Netherlands," prosecutor Koos Plooy said in an opening statement at the pretrial hearing. "The prosecution is convinced that their arrest prevented one or more very serious attacks."
He said several suspects remain at large, including the network's alleged spiritual leader.
The 12 are charged with conspiracy to commit murder in a terrorist attack, impeding democracy, threatening the lives of politicians, arson and illegal possession of firearms. They could face life in prison if convicted.

Assailants seize Spanish consulate in Swiss capital
BERN, Switzerland - Three unidentified assailants took over the Spanish consulate in the Swiss

capital on Monday, injuring a security guard and holding two staff members hostage, authorities said. There were differing reports about whether the standoff had ended.
Swiss police said it was still unclear if the hostage takers were still in the consulate building and that authorities were trying to contact them.
"According to our latest information, the hostage situation still isn't over," said Juerg Mosimann, spokesman for Bern police.
But Spain's Foreign Ministry said the crisis ended after three hours and that it was an apparent robbery attempt, according to the Spanish news agency Efe.
Foreign Ministry spokesman Angel Vazquez, speaking on Spanish National Radio, said two consulate staffers were taken hostage but they were unhurt.
"Apparently, judging from the information we have received, from the outset the three assailants wanted to get at the safe," Vazquez said. "This makes one think their goal was money, but this is just speculation. It will take some time for us to establish with certainty the exact nature of this act."
The three unidentified assailants - believed to be armed with knives and a handgun - stormed the consulate shortly before 8 a.m., Swiss police said.
Bern City Police spokeswoman Franziska Frey told The Associated Press that officers sealed off part of the Kirchenfeld neighborhood after they were alerted several minutes later. There have been a handful of previous security crises at foreign embassies and consulates in Switzerland, notably in 1999.
In February that year, members of Switzerland's Kurdish community staged a daylong, peaceful occupation of the Greek embassy in Bern, as well as the Greek consulate in Zurich and United Nations offices in Geneva. They were protesting Greece's help in the capture of Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan and his handover to Turkey.

Insurgent attacks kill at least 30



U.S. Army 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment Maj. Mark Bieger patrols in his Stryker combat vehicle in Mosul. His convoy was attacked by insurgents, but there were no casualties.

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Insurgents struck at Iraqi police forces with a suicide bomb, a car bomb and mortars in the cities of Mosul and Baqouba on Monday, killing at least 30 people as they pressed their campaign to undermine the nation's fledgling security forces.
The deadliest attack came in Baqouba, where a car bomb exploded outside the gates of a provincial police headquarters, killing 15 people and wounding 17, police Col. Mudhahar al-Jubouri said. Many of the victims were there to seek jobs as policemen, al-Jubouri said.
In the northern city of Mosul, a suicide bomber blew himself up inside the compound of Jumhuri Teaching Hospital, killing 12 policemen guarding the site and injuring four others, hospital officials said.
The bomb went off outside the hospital building, hospital Director Tahseen Ali Mahmoud al-Obeidi said. Witnesses said the bomber called the police officers

over to him and then blew up among the crowd.
"I heard an explosion. When I went to check, I saw bodies everywhere," al-Obeidi said.
The ground was soaked with blood. Nurses collected body parts, putting them in bags.
In a posting on a Web site, the al-Qaida in Iraq group, led by Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, said "a lion from the Martyrs Brigade" wearing an explosives belt managed to get inside a police post at the Mosul hospital. The claim could not be verified.
There was no claim for the Baqouba attack.
Also Monday, insurgents shelled a police station in Mosul with more than a dozen mortar rounds, killing three civilians, a police official said.
The city of Mosul, Iraq's third largest, has seen daily insurgent attacks and rebel clashes with U.S. troops and Iraqi security forces.
The attacks were the latest sign that insurgents are stepping

up attacks against Iraq's security forces, which the United States hopes can assume a greater role in fighting the rebels once a newly elected government takes office.
The violence and kidnappings raise new concerns about security following a brief downturn in violence after the Jan. 30 elections, when Iraqis chose a new National Assembly in the first nationwide balloting since the fall of Saddam Hussein in April 2003.
A final tally was expected by Thursday, but initial returns point to a landslide by Shiite Muslim candidates endorsed by their clerics. Shiites are believed to comprise about 60 percent of Iraq's 26 million people.
On the other hand, many Sunni Arabs, estimated at 20 percent of the population and the core of the insurgency, are believed to have stayed home, either out of fear of rebel reprisal or because of a boycott call by Sunni clerics.

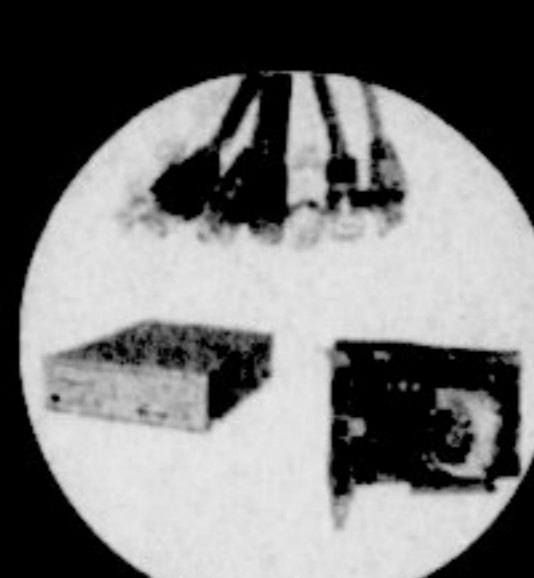
Professor from page A1

He said he is optimistic about China, but not about U.S.-Chinese relations.
Montaperto's expertise on China is largely derived from his experience in the U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Intelligence Agency, as well as the time he has spent in Asia.
The Great Decisions series has

events planned for the next five Saturdays.
Issues such as global poverty, outsourcing jobs, Sudanese politics, United States intelligence reform and global water issues are on the Great Decisions agenda.

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

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ECU professor selected to serve on commission

Manner looks to make teacher improvements

SALMA KHAN
STAFF WRITER

An ECU professor with the college of education was chosen to participate on the Teacher Educator Standards Commission by the Association of Teacher Educators.

The Teacher Educator Standards Cohort is a project of the Commission on the Assessment of Teacher Educator Standards. The project is designed to support teacher educators representing a cross-section of the profession, including university-based and school-based personnel, in the development of their own professional portfolios using the Association of Teacher Educators' standards.

Jane Manner, associate professor from the college of education, said she thinks she was chosen for the commission due to her past efforts.

"I believe I was chosen because my interest and experience closely aligned with the published criteria for participation in TESC," said Manner.

"These criteria included functioning as a teacher educator for a number of years, having a history of commitment to professional development and being willing to participate in cohort development for two

consecutive years."

Manner has been involved in professional service in many ways over the course of her career. In addition, she has been an educator in many roles and at many levels. Her past work

has helped build a foundation that will bring innovative ideas to the commission. "I think this provides a broad foundation for understanding the needs of teacher education and the need to promote reflective practice at all levels of the profession," Manner said.

"My experience with technology gives another dimension to my readiness and excitement about serving in this capacity."

Manner said she is delighted to have been selected from the pool of applicants who sought this opportunity. She realizes the growing interest in the TESC and is excited about being able to participate with ATE on furthering this cause.

"I hope to bring an enthusiasm for standards-based professional practice for Teacher Educators as well as my passion for technology infusion in teacher preparation,"

Jane Manner
College of Education

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

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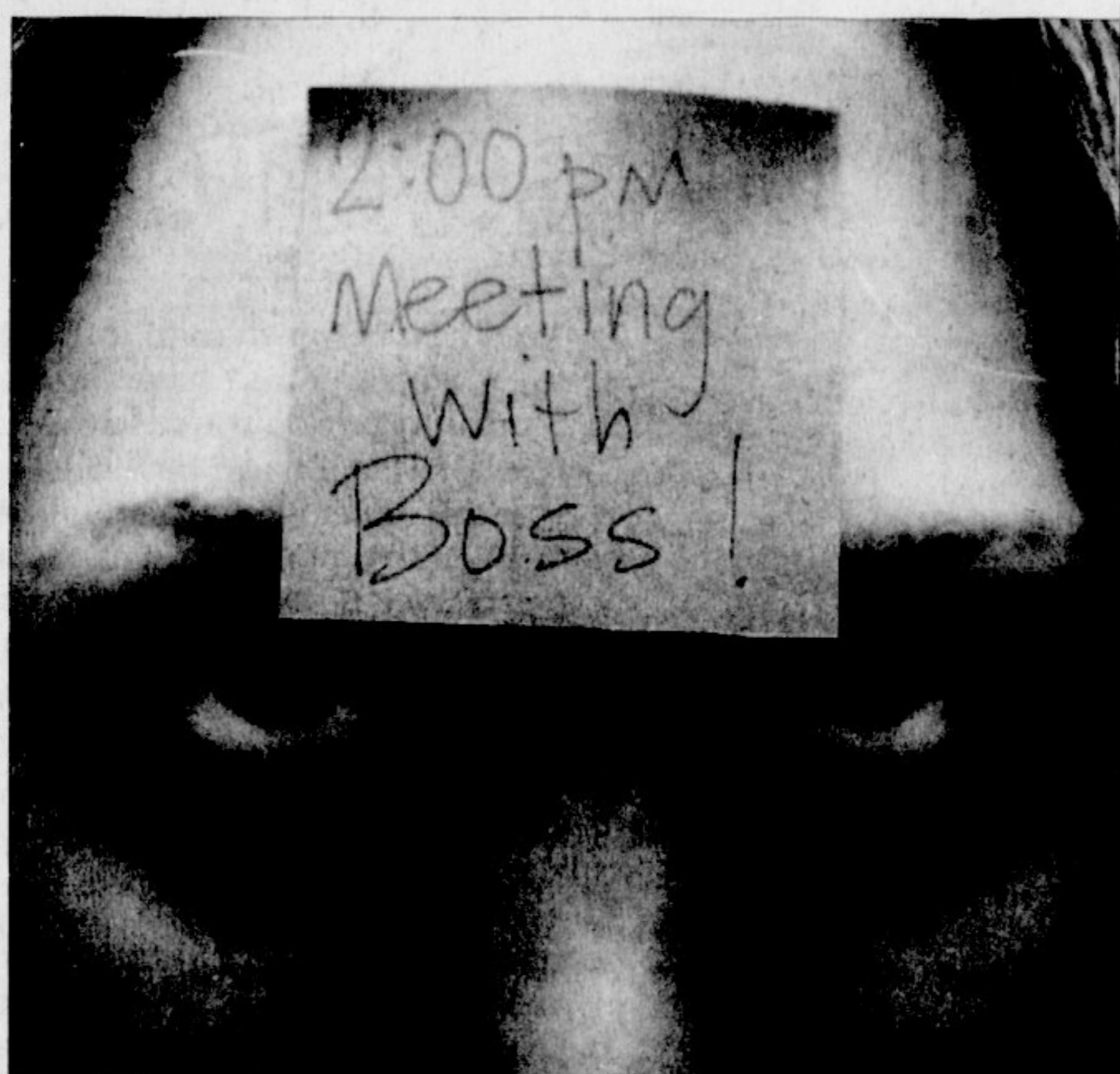
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Meal Plan from page A1

The budget of many college students is tight and they do not have the cash up-front to afford a meal plan. Metcalf said a payment plan is being taken into consideration and to keep the possibility open for coming semesters.

The meal plan can be used to grab a quick coffee between classes, pick up a little snack or sit down to a relaxing lunch with some friends. Many students said they did not even know it was available, but after they were informed, felt it was a good option for the commuting

student who is constantly on the go.

Jeremy Hogue, senior finance major, said he likes the idea.

"On my busy days when I don't have time to run home and grab lunch, it would be great to just stop by Mendenhall and have some time to sit down and eat between classes," said Hogue.

Most students like the meal plan for reasons of easy access and time constraints, but there are some students who have certain concerns about purchasing a meal plan.

Courtney McLean, senior merchandising major, said she did not know if the plan would be right for her.

"The only thing I would be afraid of is not using enough of my meals. It is so expensive and I would probably only use around two per week," said McLean.

Though the Interstate Meal Plan may not be for everyone, it is a new concept that could make the lives of commuting students a bit less hectic.

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

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Campus News

NAACP Founders Week
Feb. 7 - 12 is NAACP Founders Week. Various nightly activities include ethnic food tasting, open-mic social, "Legacies Nearly Forgotten" and volunteering with local service agencies.

Spaghetti Dinner
Five Brody medical students are holding a spaghetti dinner Feb. 9 at 7 p.m., in 2 West 40 at the Brody School of Medicine to raise money for an upcoming trip to work in Kenyan clinics. The event is open to the public and costs \$5 for students and \$7 for non-students. The students will serve spaghetti with marinara or meat sauce, bread and dessert buffet-style.

Learn About Career Fairs
Jim McAtee from Student Professional Development will be presenting "How do CFAC Students Make the Most out of Career Fairs" Feb. 9 from 2 - 3 p.m. and 4 - 5 p.m. in 201 Joyner East. The presentation will address topics such as networking, power greetings and career fair preparation.

Black History Month Speaker
A public lecture will be held in honor of Black History Month at the Willis Building Auditorium Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. The event is sponsored by ECU's GeoClub, Department of Geology and Ledonia Wright Cultural Center. The featured speaker is Jonathan Tilove, a race and immigration reporter with the Newhouse News Service, a two-time National Headliner Award winner and author of the 2003 Random House book *Along Martin Luther King: Travels on Black America's Main Streets*. For more information, call Derek Alderman at 328-4013.

HOSA Meeting
Health Occupations Students of America will hold an interest meeting Thursday, Feb. 10 in 221 Mendenhall at 4 p.m. HOSA is open to all health related majors.

The Vagina Monologues
The annual production of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" will be Feb. 11 - 12 at 8 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. This year, the ECU V-Day/Vagina Monologues event is being co-sponsored by the women's studies department, the student organization V.O.I.C.E. and the Student Involvement Team. Tickets are \$8 in advance for students, \$10 for students at the door, \$12 for the general public in advance and \$15 for the general public at the door. You can purchase tickets by calling 1-800-ECU-ARTS or online at ecuarts.com. The proceeds will benefit local charities that help abused women.

Contra Dance
The ECU Folk and Country Dancers are sponsoring a contra dance Saturday, Feb. 12 at the Willis Building. A potluck supper will begin at 6 p.m., a concert starts at 7 p.m., beginners lesson at 7:30 p.m. and the contra dance from 8 - 10:30 p.m. Live, old-time and Celtic music by a string band will be performed. The cost is \$3 for students, \$5 for members and \$8 for the general public. Call 752-7350 for details.

Human Relations Council
The City of Greenville is accepting applications from students of an institution of higher learning to serve as volunteers on the Human Relations Council. This commission is responsible for organizing and implementing programs dealing with problems of human relations and promoting understanding, respect, good will and equality of opportunity for all citizens. Two student representatives would be appointed for one-year terms. The Human Relations Commission meets the first Wednesday of each month, excluding July and August, at 7 p.m. If you live inside the city limits of Greenville and would like to serve on this commission, please call the City Clerk's Office, 329-4423 to obtain an application. You can also access a talent bank at greenvillenc.gov.

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

News Briefs

Local
NC-based Guard unit member demoted after mud-wrestling in Iraq
RALEIGH, NC - A female member of a National Guard military police unit was demoted for indecent exposure after a mud-wrestling party at the Army-run Camp Bucca detention center in Iraq, a military spokesman said Sunday.
The party occurred Oct. 30, as the 160th Military Police Battalion, an Army Reserve Unit from Tallahassee, Fla., prepared to turn over its duties to the Asheville-based 105th Military Police Battalion, said Lt. Col. Barry Johnson, spokesman for detainee operations at Camp Bucca.
In the course of the transfer of duties, "some individuals in their exuberance decided to put together a mud-wrestling thing," Johnson said Sunday by telephone. "There were females involved and some members of the 105th also became involved, one female soldier in particular."
Following an inquiry, that soldier was demoted and placed on restriction for participating in the event, specifically for indecent exposure, he said.
Four or five other members of the 105th who were spectators received counseling, Johnson said.
Johnson did not release the name of the demoted soldier. However, she was identified by the Daily News as Deanna Allen, 19, and the New York newspaper's identification was confirmed by her mother, Ladyna Waldrop of Black Mountain.

Episcopal churches approve resolution on gays
WILMINGTON, NC - Lay members and clergy from 75 Episcopal parishes in southeastern NC have voted to endorse a report that, in part, calls on the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada to enact a moratorium on same-sex blessings. The resolution, which also calls on the two churches not to ordain sexually active gay clergy as bishops, was approved at the 122nd annual Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina held at St. James Parish on

Thursday through Saturday. St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Edenton offered the resolution.
At issue was the ordination of New Hampshire Bishop Gene Robinson, the first openly gay bishop in the Episcopal Church, in 2003, and the subsequent divisions over homosexuality in the Episcopalian priesthood that have occurred in churches across America and the world since.
The Edenton church's resolution hinges on The Windsor Report, which focuses on reconciliation and "asks for all parties to the controversy [surrounding Bishop Robinson's ordination] to express regret for ways in which their actions have harmed others," according to the Episcopal News Service.
The report, issued in October, calls on the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada to put the moratorium into effect while asking conservative bishops to stop going into other dioceses to assist congregations with disassociating themselves from the Episcopal Church.

National
Media seek information about potential Jackson jurors
SANTA MARIA, Calif. - Jury selection in the Michael Jackson molestation case has been delayed, but media efforts to learn more about who might eventually sit in judgment of the entertainer are moving ahead.
Attorneys for news organizations were to ask Santa Barbara County Superior Court Judge Rodney S. Melville on Monday to allow reporters to view completed questionnaires filled out last week by 250 prospective jurors.
"It's really vital for the public to be able to have access to the questionnaires while the selection process is occurring ... to serve as a check on the process," said media lawyer Theodore Boutros, who represents The Associated Press and other news organizations.

Defense attorneys have argued that jurors would be less candid if they knew their answers would be made public.
"The release of the completed jury questionnaires does not serve any purpose other than to add to the sensationalist coverage of this case," Jackson's attorneys said in a motion last week.
Prosecutors and Jackson's attorneys had been scheduled to begin questioning potential jurors Monday to root out any biases that should keep them off the panel. But the court announced Friday that the questions would be delayed because the sister of Jackson's lead attorney, Thomas Mesereau, Jr., was gravely ill.
After Monday's hearing, no additional court sessions will be scheduled until Thursday at the earliest, the court said.

President sending Congress \$2.5 trillion spending plan
WASHINGTON - President Bush is sending Congress a \$2.5 trillion spending plan, constrained by war and record deficits, that seeks to slash spending in a number of popular programs from farm subsidies to poor people's health care.
While calling it the tightest budget of Bush's presidency, Vice President Dick Cheney defended the spending blueprint against Democratic complaints that its austerity falls hardest on the poor.
"It's not something that we've done with a meat ax, nor are we suddenly turning our backs on the most needy people in our society," Cheney said on "Fox News Sunday."
The budget's arrival Monday on Capitol Hill sets off months of contentious debate, with lawmakers from both parties expected to fight to protect favorite programs.
Bush has targeted 150 programs for either outright elimination or severe cutbacks as part of an effort to meet his campaign pledge to cut the deficit in half by 2009, the year he leaves office.
For the 2006 budget year that begins next Oct. 1, he proposes

spending \$2.5 trillion as he seeks to put the government on a path of declining deficits. That would occur, however, only after the government has recorded three straight years of record deficits, in dollar terms, including a projected \$427 billion in red ink this year.

International
Case begins against accused members of Dutch terror network
ROTTERDAM, Netherlands - Prosecutors opened their case Monday against 12 men accused of belonging to a terror network suspected in the murder of filmmaker Theo Van Gogh and plots to attack prominent Dutch politicians.
The defendants, mostly young Muslims of North African ancestry, were arrested within days of Van Gogh's death on Nov. 2 - a killing that shocked the nation and triggered retaliatory attacks on Islamic sites.
Van Gogh, a distant relative of painter Vincent Van Gogh, was shot and stabbed on a busy Amsterdam street. The killer cut his throat and, in a note pinned to the filmmaker's chest with a knife, threatened other attacks in the name of radical Islam.
"We're facing an extremely radical group in the Netherlands," prosecutor Koos Plooy said in an opening statement at the pretrial hearing. "The prosecution is convinced that their arrest prevented one or more very serious attacks."
He said several suspects remain at large, including the network's alleged spiritual leader.
The 12 are charged with conspiracy to commit murder in a terrorist attack, impeding democracy, threatening the lives of politicians, arson and illegal possession of firearms. They could face life in prison if convicted.

Assailants seize Spanish consulate in Swiss capital
BERN, Switzerland - Three unidentified assailants took over the Spanish consulate in the Swiss

capital on Monday, injuring a security guard and holding two staff members hostage, authorities said. There were differing reports about whether the standoff had ended.
Swiss police said it was still unclear if the hostage takers were still in the consulate building and that authorities were trying to contact them.
"According to our latest information, the hostage situation still isn't over," said Juerg Mosimann, spokesman for Bern police.
But Spain's Foreign Ministry said the crisis ended after three hours and that it was an apparent robbery attempt, according to the Spanish news agency Efe.
Foreign Ministry spokesman Angel Vazquez, speaking on Spanish National Radio, said two consulate staffers were taken hostage but they were unhurt.
"Apparently, judging from the information we have received, from the outset the three assailants wanted to get at the safe," Vazquez said. "This makes one think their goal was money, but this is just speculation. It will take some time for us to establish with certainty the exact nature of this act."
The three unidentified assailants - believed to be armed with knives and a handgun - stormed the consulate shortly before 8 a.m., Swiss police said.
Bern City Police spokeswoman Franziska Frey told The Associated Press that officers sealed off part of the Kirchenfeld neighborhood after they were alerted several minutes later. There have been a handful of previous security crises at foreign embassies and consulates in Switzerland, notably in 1999.
In February that year, members of Switzerland's Kurdish community staged a daylong, peaceful occupation of the Greek embassy in Bern, as well as the Greek consulate in Zurich and United Nations offices in Geneva. They were protesting Greece's help in the capture of Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan and his handover to Turkey.

Insurgent attacks kill at least 30



U.S. Army 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment Maj. Mark Bieger patrols in his Stryker combat vehicle in Mosul. His convoy was attacked by insurgents, but there were no casualties.

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Insurgents struck at Iraqi police forces with a suicide bomb, a car bomb and mortars in the cities of Mosul and Baqouba on Monday, killing at least 30 people as they pressed their campaign to undermine the nation's fledgling security forces.
The deadliest attack came in Baqouba, where a car bomb exploded outside the gates of a provincial police headquarters, killing 15 people and wounding 17, police Col. Mudhahar al-Jubouri said. Many of the victims were there to seek jobs as policemen, al-Jubouri said.
In the northern city of Mosul, a suicide bomber blew himself up inside the compound of Jumhuri Teaching Hospital, killing 12 policemen guarding the site and injuring four others, hospital officials said.
The bomb went off outside the hospital building, hospital Director Tahseen Ali Mahmoud al-Obeidi said. Witnesses said the bomber called the police officers

over to him and then blew up among the crowd.
"I heard an explosion. When I went to check, I saw bodies everywhere," al-Obeidi said.
The ground was soaked with blood. Nurses collected body parts, putting them in bags.
In a posting on a Web site, the al-Qaida in Iraq group, led by Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, said "a lion from the Martyrs Brigade" wearing an explosives belt managed to get inside a police post at the Mosul hospital. The claim could not be verified.
There was no claim for the Baqouba attack.
Also Monday, insurgents shelled a police station in Mosul with more than a dozen mortar rounds, killing three civilians, a police official said.
The city of Mosul, Iraq's third largest, has seen daily insurgent attacks and rebel clashes with U.S. troops and Iraqi security forces.
The attacks were the latest sign that insurgents are stepping

up attacks against Iraq's security forces, which the United States hopes can assume a greater role in fighting the rebels once a newly elected government takes office.
The violence and kidnappings raise new concerns about security following a brief downturn in violence after the Jan. 30 elections, when Iraqis chose a new National Assembly in the first nationwide balloting since the fall of Saddam Hussein in April 2003.
A final tally was expected by Thursday, but initial returns point to a landslide by Shiite Muslim candidates endorsed by their clerics. Shiites are believed to comprise about 60 percent of Iraq's 26 million people.
On the other hand, many Sunni Arabs, estimated at 20 percent of the population and the core of the insurgency, are believed to have stayed home, either out of fear of rebel reprisal or because of a boycott call by Sunni clerics.

Professor from page A1

He said he is optimistic about China, but not about U.S.-Chinese relations.
Montaperto's expertise on China is largely derived from his experience in the U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Intelligence Agency, as well as the time he has spent in Asia.
The Great Decisions series has

events planned for the next five Saturdays.
Issues such as global poverty, outsourcing jobs, Sudanese politics, United States intelligence reform and global water issues are on the Great Decisions agenda.

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

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ECU professor selected to serve on commission

Manner looks to make teacher improvements

SALMA KHAN
STAFF WRITER

An ECU professor with the college of education was chosen to participate on the Teacher Educator Standards Commission by the Association of Teacher Educators.

The Teacher Educator Standards Cohort is a project of the Commission on the Assessment of Teacher Educator Standards. The project is designed to support teacher educators representing a cross-section of the profession, including university-based and school-based personnel, in the development of their own professional portfolios using the Association of Teacher Educators' standards.

Jane Manner, associate professor from the college of education, said she thinks she was chosen for the commission due to her past efforts.

"I believe I was chosen because my interest and experience closely aligned with the published criteria for participation in TESC," said Manner.

"These criteria included functioning as a teacher educator for a number of years, having a history of commitment to professional development and being willing to participate in cohort development for two

consecutive years."

Manner has been involved in professional service in many ways over the course of her career. In addition, she has been an educator in many roles and at many levels. Her past work

experience has helped build a foundation that will bring innovative ideas to the commission.

"I think this provides a broad foundation for understanding the needs of teacher education and the need to promote reflective practice at all levels of the profession," Manner said.

"My experience with technology gives another dimension to my readiness and excitement about serving in this capacity."

Manner said she is delighted to have been selected from the pool of applicants who sought this opportunity. She realizes the growing interest in the TESC and is excited about being able to participate with ATE on furthering this cause.

"I hope to bring an enthu-

siasm for standards-based professional practice for Teacher Educators as well as my passion for technology infusion in teacher preparation," Manner said.

"I hope to bring an enthusiasm ... as well as my passion for technology infusion in teacher preparation,"

Jane Manner
College of Education

TESC is made possible through the support of National Evaluation Systems, TaskStream and the Association of Teacher Educators.

Participants will interact around the standards and the development of their electronic portfolios. During the portfolio development phase, participants will have the opportunity to learn together and com-

municate at the ATE annual meetings and via the Internet to reflect on practice and facilitate further development of the ATE Standards. The experiences of the cohort will inform the work of the National ATE Commission 2003-2006 to refine the ATE Teacher Educator Standards.

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

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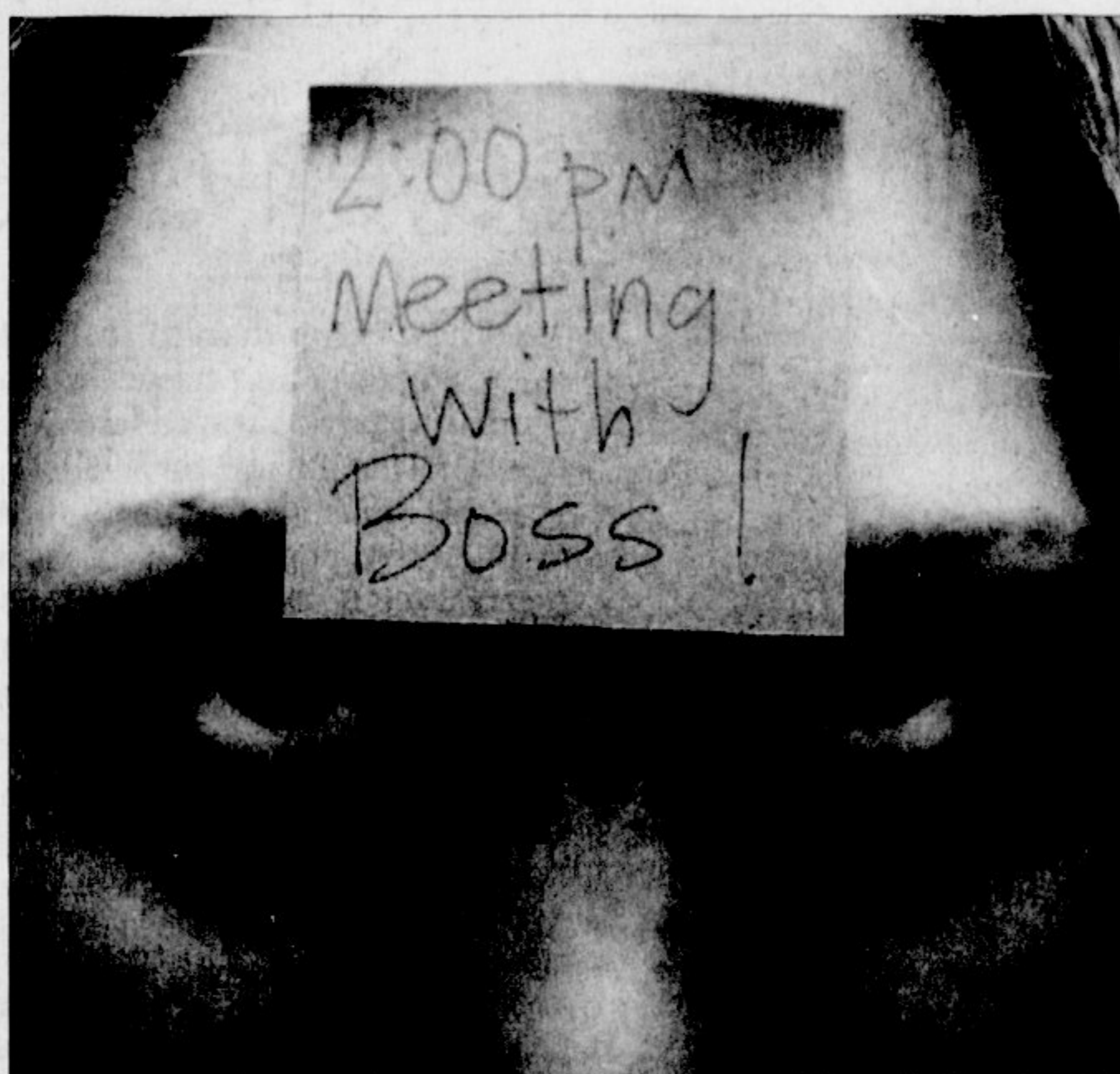
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Meal Plan from page A1

The budget of many college students is tight and they do not have the cash up-front to afford a meal plan. Metcalf said a payment plan is being taken into consideration and to keep the possibility open for coming semesters.

The meal plan can be used to grab a quick coffee between classes, pick up a little snack or sit down to a relaxing lunch with some friends. Many students said they did not even know it was available, but after they were informed, felt it was a good option for the commuting

student who is constantly on the go.

Jeremy Hogue, senior finance major, said he likes the idea.

"On my busy days when I don't have time to run home and grab lunch, it would be great to just stop by Mendenhall and have some time to sit down and eat between classes," said Hogue.

Most students like the meal plan for reasons of easy access and time constraints, but there are some students who have certain concerns about purchasing a meal plan.

Courtney McLean, senior merchandising major, said she did not know if the plan would be right for her.

"The only thing I would be afraid of is not using enough of my meals. It is so expensive and I would probably only use around two per week," said McLean.

Though the Interstate Meal Plan may not be for everyone, it is a new concept that could make the lives of commuting students a bit less hectic.

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

The Late Night Players

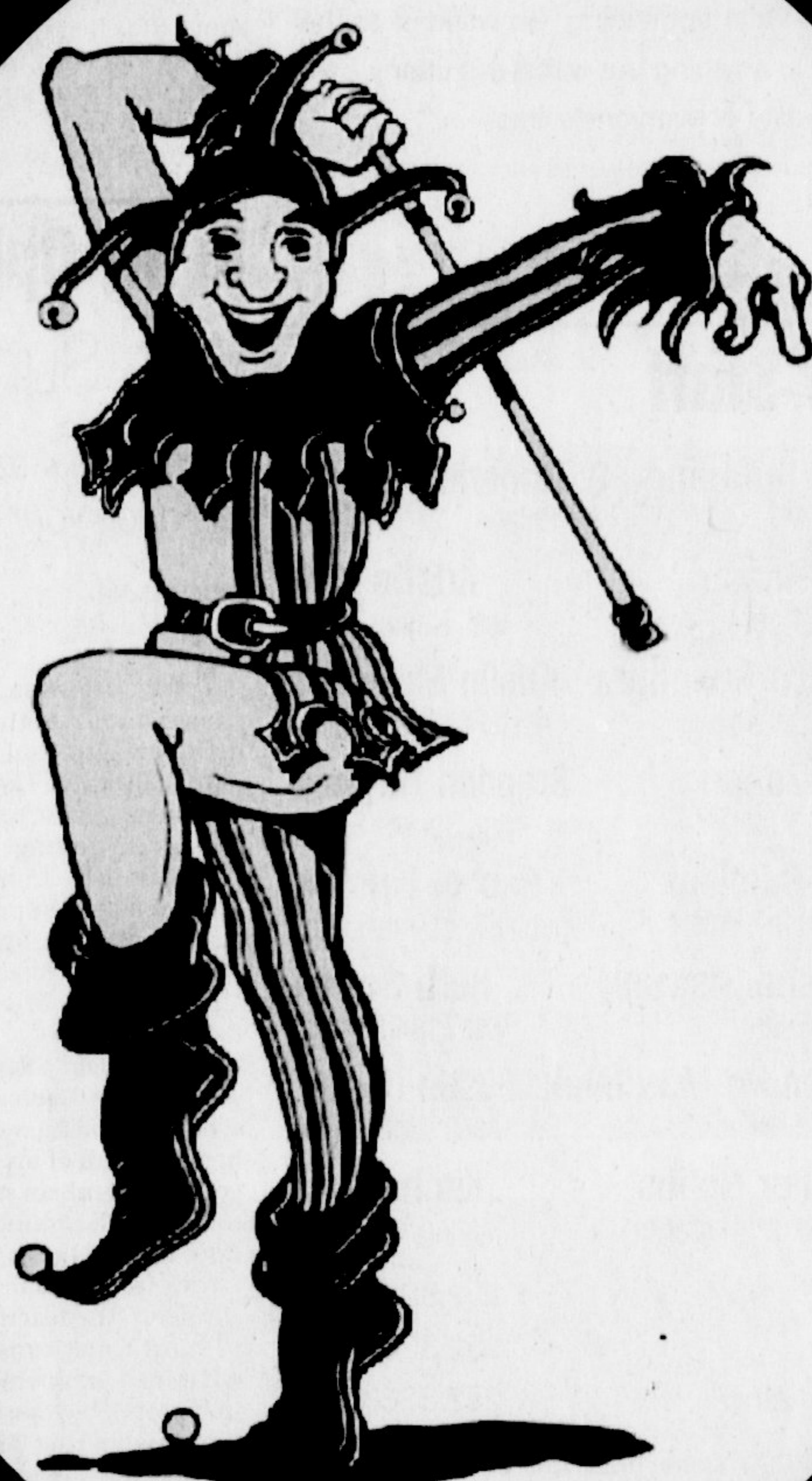
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Our View

TV shows are beginning to deem what's important in our lives

During the Super Bowl, we couldn't help but become annoyed at the latest commercial for "American Idol." Near the tail end of the ad, the voiceover says, "It's the most important 'American Idol' yet."

There is a serious flaw in that statement.

There is absolutely no way this show is important. Entertaining? Maybe to some. But this show is in no way critical to American society, or at least, we hope it isn't. Can someone tell us why on Earth "American Idol" is important? Will "American Idol" play a part in solving world hunger? Will this superficial, pop music-driven farce get our troops out of Iraq? Erase our trillion-dollar plus budget? Fight crime?

And "American Idol" isn't the only show that advertisers and the media are deeming important or something the viewing public "must watch."

Several hundred people are currently auditioning for a spot to replace lead singer Michael Hutchence of the band INXS. Apparently the concept of getting people to embarrass themselves on national TV is one that TV industry bigwigs can't get enough of.

As if becoming the lead singer of a washed-up band wasn't bad enough, TV executives recently sunk lower, giving convict Martha Stewart her own "Apprentice" spin-off. Stewart is expected to be paid \$100,000 an episode - episodes that she will shoot while still on house arrest.

TEC encourages the students of ECU - the leaders of tomorrow - to refrain from partaking in this mindless dribble. Aren't there better things to do with your time than obsess over a bunch of 20-somethings who are trying to become the next pop-star burnout or who are brown nosing a convicted criminal?

Read a book. Study a little bit. Rent a good movie. Write something. Go workout at the gym. Do anything but watch this utterly useless waste of everyone's time.

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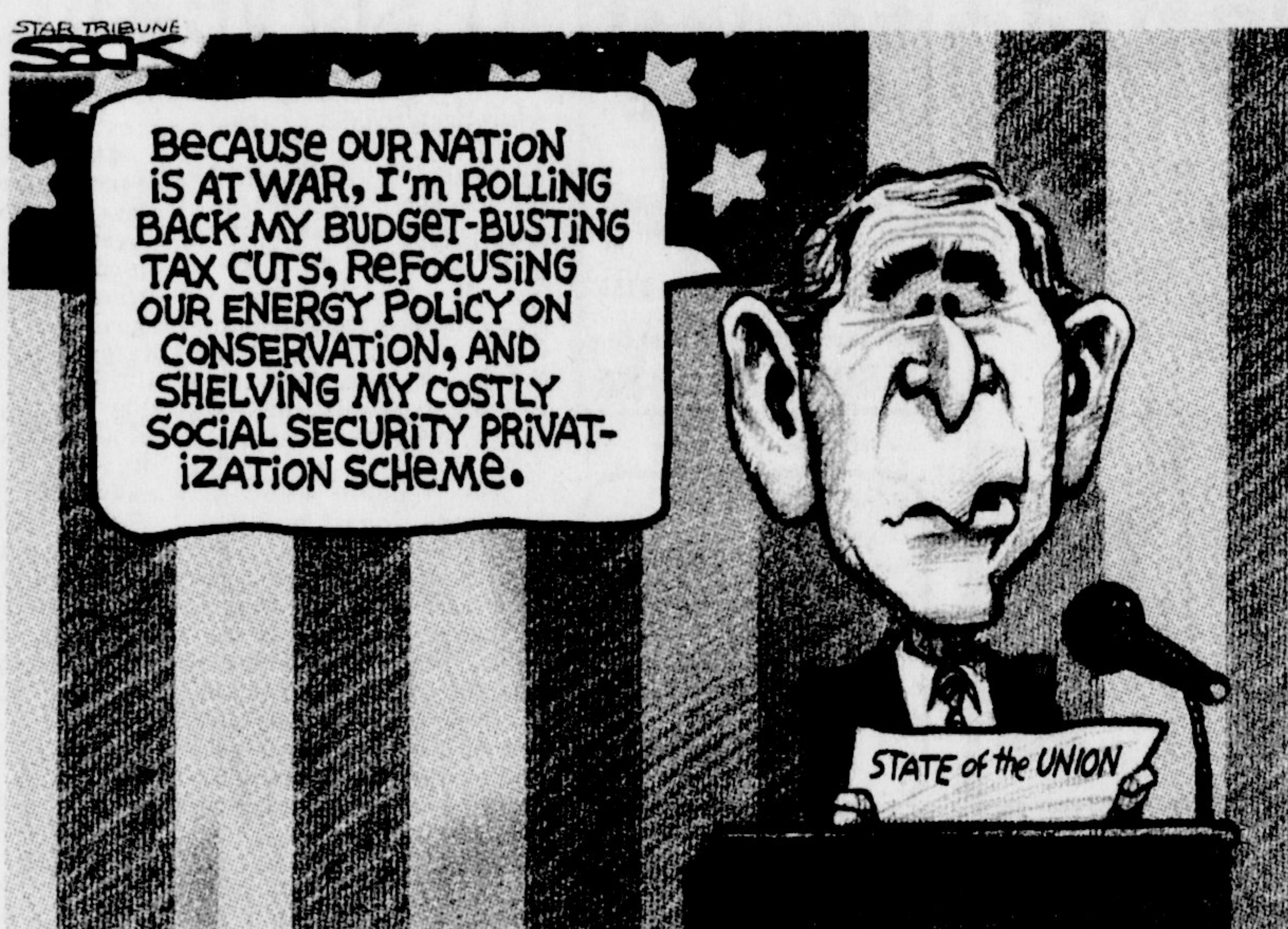
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President Bush opens with a joke....

Opinion Columnist

Finding a 'soulmate' in only seven days

Results vary according to individual

RACHEL LANDEN
STAFF WRITER

Several days ago, while cleaning out the junk mail folder in my e-mail account, one of the subjects caught my eye. In between subject lines promoting diet pills "as seen on television" was an e-mail telling me to find my soul mate in seven days.

I thought it very timely, considering that Valentine's Day is now less than a week away. In fact, had I subscribed to the advertised online service, I should be well on my way to locating my true love (criminal background check included).

But, as anyone who knows me should be able to guess, I didn't subscribe. I opened the e-mail, for my entertainment purposes only, and then promptly deleted it along with the others promising weight loss and hair regrowth.

It isn't that the cynic in me doesn't believe in the possibility of true love or connubial bliss. I just have my doubts about the effectiveness of a quick fix. As we've all been told before, if something sounds too good to be true, then it probably is.

This is not to say that plenty of



people haven't found love on the Internet, through a chat room or a singles search. In this current era of computers and connections, technology has broken down barriers between man and science and even (dare I say it?) man and woman.

Yet if finding your soul mate is as quick and easy as this Web site would have you believe, then it seems everyone should be coupling. More than two million singles have already joined. In a week, shouldn't there be something like a modern day version of Noah's Ark?

But if you or any (or all) of your friends is single, then you know from experience that pairing off isn't always this simple, straightforward or standard. You have to ask yourself, though, if anything ever is.

We know better than to think that if we eat whatever and however much we want as we laze on the couch, we can then swallow a pill and have the body of a fitness buff. If we spend all day scanning the computer for a handsome or pretty face belonging to someone who shares our interests, we may stumble upon a new friend in cyberspace - however, we might miss out on meeting someone in what remains the real world, beyond our computer and outside our door.

There are no cure-all pills, no magic beans and no genie in a bottle that can give us what we want or need. If it were that easy, everyone would be thin, have a gorgeous head of hair and be in love with someone with an equally great body and mane.

Maybe that seems disappointing, exhausting or time-consuming - a week to discover your soul mate or get Britney's body doesn't seem so bad - but I can't help but remind myself that anything worth having is worth working for. In fact, part of the joy in having something is often the acquisition. Remember those Christmas mornings when the anticipation and unwrapping of the gifts was almost better than what was inside the packages? Getting there is simply sometimes better than being there, and once you arrive with your hard work and patience having paid off, the reward is that much greater.

In My Opinion

Was Super Bowl 2004 incident really controversial?

International travels will open your eyes

NICK HENNE
NEWS EDITOR

Well, after watching the halftime show Sunday night, I can say I am definitely glad Paul McCartney's shirt didn't fall down. That had to have been about the lamest halftime show I can ever recall viewing.

Anyway ... I am more glad there was not a whole uproar of controversy that occurred in light of the halftime show that attracted the attention of all of America or even the world for that matter.

At last year's Super Bowl, my head was actually down as I was biting into a chicken wing when the incident happened, as all of my friends around me yelled suddenly in surprise. I looked up to see people around me rolling on the floor in disbelief as to what happened.

My initial reaction was I'm sure very similar to the reaction of the majority of most Americans, being I thought what had happened was absolutely inappropriately absurd and absolutely inexcusable that something like that was aired on national television. Especially during the most watched time of the year when there were people of all age groups watching. Just like everyone, I was afterward subject to the bombardment of all of the news coverage that basically dissected and analyzed what had happened from as many angles as possible. The incident questioned American television and questioned whether our escalating display of sexuality had finally stepped over the line. Thousands of angry parents called the television networks complaining their young children were exposed to such obscene sights

they weren't mature enough to view. I basically sat back and took in all the coverage of the incident as we beat the issue to death examining it from every angle possible. In the midst of all this media coverage, I was glad to see it was displayed as a controversial issue and there were people asking "what's the big deal?" along with all the reports indicating MTV would probably not be asked to run another half time show ever again.

After everything had quieted down and it became yesterday's news and I began to move on as did most Americans, I was left wondering if the little mishap was really worthy of all the attention America chose to give it.

Then ... in May of last year I had a wake up to reality when I took a trip to Europe. I visited my brother who was on an exchange program in Cadiz, Spain. Cadiz is a historic city that is virtually an island at the southernmost point in the country and is surrounded by ocean. The beach is a very popular place to visit among people of all ages and my brother and I took many trips there.

When we first arrived at the beach, I was hit with a sudden wave of culture shock as there were numerous girls walking around and laying sun bathing fully topless. I smacked my brother on the shoulder and pointed at the scene to feel him smack me even harder back as he said, "Nick ... don't make a big deal about it, they'll know you're a stupid American."

I heeded his advice and did my best to walk around casually trying to not make notice of it all.

After that day, we ended up making trips to the beach frequently throughout my visit. By the end of my trip, I found myself casually walking past and having casual conversations with various topless girls and taking virtu-

ally no notice of them as they bathed in a shower located in plain sight out on the beach.

Awakened in this whole new culture and common way of life, I couldn't help but to think about the 2004 Super Bowl halftime incident that America will probably never forget, and just why we had this notion that it was such a huge deal.

I then arranged interviews with families of my brother's friends in Cadiz and questioned them about their reactions to the incident. In doing this I learned that Americans were basically the laughing stock of the entire European culture as we were hung up over such a simple little mishap.

Maria Gomez Alvarez, mother of three children who was very aware of the Superbowl halftime incident, said she couldn't believe our reaction. She also found it rather unnecessary for Janet Jackson to make the public apology that she did on television.

According to Gomez Alvarez, there was nothing at all sexual about what had happened, and she would not have minded at all if her 15-year-old son saw it.

She added pornography was harmful, and should not be viewed by younger children, but something such as the "wardrobe malfunction" that turned the heads of America was in no way sexual and could not possibly do any harm to anyone.

The only reason why it was such an enormous deal is because we, Americans, chose to make it such an enormous deal and we had to let it get the best of us.

I am glad in some respect that my visit overseas has given me this whole new way of looking at the world. I also do have some regret - a wet t-shirt contest over Spring Break will just never be the same again.

Pirate Rant

Why is it when a girl finds a guy that is all around a true "nice guy," he has baggage? I met this great guy, but the ex is still in the picture (from over a year ago). Can someone please tell him to take a step back and to see what's in front of him and give one of the "nice girls" at ECU a chance? I hope I didn't open my heart to the wrong "nice guy."

How about you stop talking about yourself, how good you are and how guys always compliment you? I'm tired of your "me stories."

If you want to oppose Bush, that's fine, but at least make a valid argument. To call him a fascist is ignorant and makes you, and your party, look desperate.

I wish that everyone on campus would be a little nicer. When I try to talk to someone and be nice I get the cold shoulder. I know I came here to learn, but I thought I could make a few friends while I was here.

I wanted to agree with a rant I saw last week about seat stealers. You know who you are, and you know it makes me mad, but you continue to do it. I have sat in that seat all semester, and one day you decide to join the class that you have missed everyday almost and take my seat. It affects my learning and I wish you would sit somewhere else. I know there aren't assigned seats, but there is such a thing as being rude.

It has become a big hassle keeping my ECU e-mail account under the size limit when I am constantly receiving e-mails from the school about things or events that I am not even a part of. I already receive about 5 - 10 e-mails a day from my professors.

Oh, I long for the nice warm days coming soon. April and May are the best months to be a Pirate.

I would just like to thank all of the females at ECU, because you all make my walk to class so enjoyable. ECU has the most attractive females of any college in North Carolina. Class is always more enjoyable when you have a nice, attractive female to converse with.

I think everyone should shut up about the gym being so packed because they think people are making New Year's resolutions that won't last. Get over yourself. We have just as much right to be there. Some of us actually are committed to getting healthy and it's people like you who bring everybody else down. All we are trying to accomplish is to get in shape, so shut up already.

Obviously someone cares enough to put a North vs. South article in the paper. Maybe other people want to know the differences between the North and the South. Just because you don't care, doesn't mean everyone else doesn't. How about you come up with some suggestions about what should be in the next paper?

I am from the North, and all of my fellow Northerners may not completely agree with me on this, but don't call us Yankees. Yes there are many people who like this term because of it's relationship with the famous baseball team. But, in general, coming from a Southerner it's prejudice and annoying.

Facebook sucks. Party ECU is a much better site.

To the person ranting about someone taking his or her seat in class: Grow up. You're in college now, quit complaining.

In response to the rantier that said "the true difference between the North and the South is that an article like this would never be published in the North." My opinion is that it's not a big deal to you guys because you don't have Southerners coming up their to live and telling you that our way of living is better than yours (or that our newspaper articles are better, however you want to put it).

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.

Announcements

Literacy

On Friday, Feb. 11, the ECU Arts Conference will feature a panel discussion from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The panel is sponsored by the Department of Education and Instruction of Education. For more information, visit www.ecu.edu/mls/mariolm. O'Beirne at 328-6366.

DANCE

Dance 2005 will feature a performance by Colleen Thorne in McGinnis Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 8. The event will feature a variety of dance styles and tap dancing. Tickets are \$5. For more information, call 1-800-444-4444.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Civil rights activists will speak at a panel discussion on Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. in Building Auditorium. The panel will feature a variety of speakers, including Martin Luther King Jr. and Black American leaders. Tickets are \$5. For more information, call 1-800-444-4444.

Vagina

The Vagina Monologues will be performed on Friday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. The play raises awareness about violence against women and the importance of women's health. Tickets are \$5. For more information, call 1-800-444-4444.

Names In

Charles

Ray Charles is a legendary figure in the world of music. He was born in 1918 and became blind at the age of two. Despite his physical challenges, he became one of the most successful and influential musicians of the 20th century. His music has inspired generations of people and his legacy continues to this day.

Bond

Don't get your hopes up for a tizzy, but there's some movement in the saga known as Bond flick. The movie "The World Is Not Enough" is the latest in the series. It stars Pierce Brosnan as James Bond. The movie is a mix of action, suspense, and romance. It's a great way to spend a weekend.

Blues

Eric Clapton is a legendary blues guitarist. He has been playing the guitar since he was a child. His music has inspired millions of people and he is considered one of the greatest guitarists of all time. His legacy continues to this day.

Announcements:

Literacy Conference

On Friday, Feb. 11, The Mary Lois Staton Reading/Language Arts Conference will be held from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Greenville Hilton. This conference is sponsored annually by the Department of Curriculum & Instruction, ECU's College of Education and features presentations by national, regional and local speakers. For more information about the event, visit coe.ecu.edu/reading/mls/marylouis.htm or call Susan O'Beirne at 328-5558.

DANCE 2005

Dance 2005 with guest artist Colleen Thomas will be held in McGinnis Theatre at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8. This dance event will feature ballet, modern, jazz and tap dance styles all together for an exciting and eclectic dance concert. Tickets are \$8 - 12. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 1-800-ECU-ARTS.

Civil Rights Author

Civil rights author Jonathan Tilove will speak at ECU on Thursday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. in the Willis Building Auditorium. Jonathan Tilove, a race and immigration reporter and author of *Along Martin Luther King: Travels on Black America's Main Streets*, will speak about the slain Civil Rights hero. The event is free and open to the public. This event is sponsored by ECU's GeoClub, department of geography and the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center. For more information, call Derek Alderman at 328-4013.

Vagina Monologues

The Vagina Monologues will take place Friday, Feb. 11 - 12 at 8 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. This event raises awareness about domestic violence and its prevention. ECU Women's Studies Program, VOICE and the ECU Student Involvement Team will present this collection of monologues aiming to educate audiences about the realities of domestic abuse. The tone of the play is entertaining, shocking, funny and overall educational.

Names in the News:

Charles' Son Arrested

Ray Charles Robinson, 45, son of late singer Ray Charles, was arrested Thursday for alleged drug possession and being under the influence of cocaine. Robinson, who was released on \$10,000 bail, was arrested at Los Angeles' Dunes Wilshire Hotel after cops received a tip. Authorities did not reveal any details, except to say Robinson has a previous arrest for possession of a controlled substance. Robinson's father, who changed his name from Ray Charles Robinson to avoid confusion with "Sugar" Ray Robinson, is the subject of the Oscar-nominated biopic "Ray." Robinson is one of a dozen children by the soul legend, who overcame a 20-year heroin addiction.

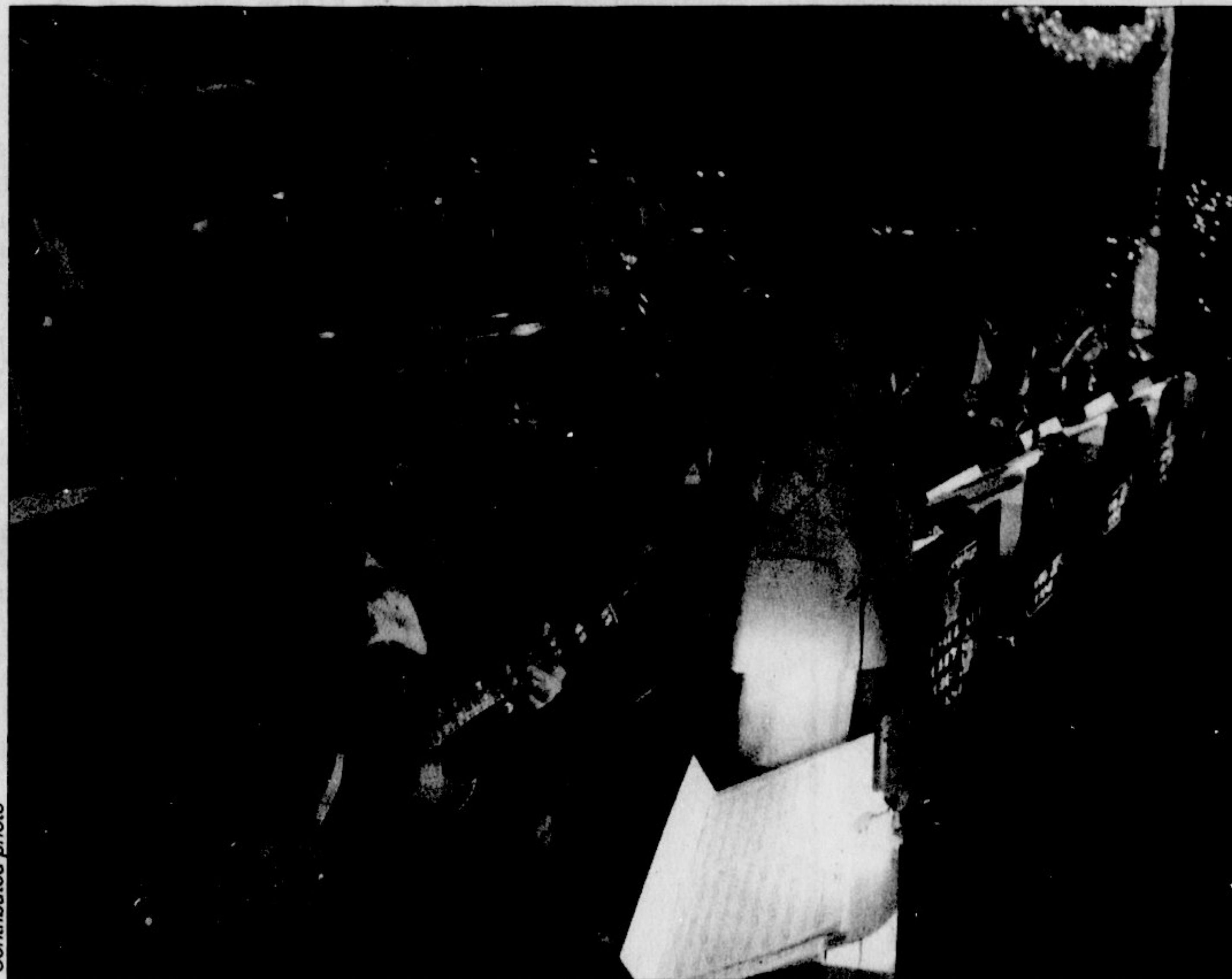
Bond Gets a Director

Don't get yourself into too much of a tizzy, but there's actually been some movement forward in the saga known as the 21st James Bond flick. First, the film has gotten itself a name. Well, actually, it has borrowed one: According to the Hollywood Reporter, it'll be called *Casino Royale*, which was the title of Ian Fleming's first Bond novel, published in 1953 - as well as the name of a 1954 TV show - and last, in a bit of cosmic irony, it's also the name of a 1967 Bond spoof starring Peter Sellers, Woody Allen and David Niven. The same brainiacs who pilfered the title from history have also hired Martin Campbell of *Vertical Limit* infamy to direct the flick. Fans will recall that Campbell directed the passable 1995 Bond flick, *GoldenEye*, which was Pierce Brosnan's first foray as 007. There's still no word on who will play the movie's leading man.

Blues Stork Report

Eric Clapton is a dad at age 59. The guitar deity's wife, Melia McEnery, 29, gave birth to the couple's third child. The girl, who has yet to be named, joins Julie Rose Clapton and Ella Mae Clapton. The singer's only son, Conor, died in 1991 and is the subject of Clapton's song "Tears in Heaven."

Dancing, culinary delights combined



Last year's Valentine's Dinner and Dance featured a live band and singer to add romance.

Sixth annual Cultural Outreach Valentine's dinner, dance

AMANDA WINAR
STAFF WRITER

Trying to figure out something fun to do with your sweetheart on Valentine's Day? Are you single and interested in meeting some new people in a nice and fun environment? Most of you will end up either staying at home, or attempting reservations at an insanely-packed restaurant before waiting three hours for hurriedly thrown-together food and half-full water glasses due to lack of servers.

Well, what if you had the option of going to a fancy event that didn't require waiting in line or holding on to a box that flashes when your table is ready? What if you could relax and enjoy some cocktails before being served delectable sounding things such as "roasted beef tenderloin topped with shiitake mushrooms, tomatoes and Madeira wine sauce, garlic and herb-crusted salmon and pasta primavera with creamy Alfredo sauce and grated parmesan cheese?"

Instead of making what should be a wonderful evening into a hassle, opt for a guaranteed good time at the Sixth Annual Valentine's Dinner Dance. Backed by the FRIENDS of the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series, the dinner dance acts as an annual fundraiser to raise money

for the arts.

Cultural Advisor for the Performing Arts Series Carol Woodruff explained that FRIENDS is an organization made up of 20-plus people who are interested in keeping the arts coming to Greenville.

"We are trying to raise money for an endowment of a \$1 million someday. Currently we are struggling because it is expensive to produce the arts, especially since we bring in the same acts that perform in New York and California," said Woodruff.

The S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series has been able to bring some amazing acts to Greenville, however, "we can't charge what a metropolitan city would charge, so a show people in Greenville get to see for \$20 would have cost others three times as much," Woodruff said.

FRIENDS began this Valentine's Dinner Dance six years ago as just a fun event. When they received donations and actually made money, they decided to turn it into an annual fundraising event. Last year, the Valentine's Dinner Dance was able to raise between nine and \$10,000. Woodruff said the money raised goes into producing the series' newsletters and other advertisements that would otherwise be obsolete.

One of the ways money is raised during the event is the auction hosted by Mike Weeks, general manager of WITN-TV. The top item up for grabs this year is a seven-day Princess Line cruise to the eastern Caribbean. The event will also include a raffle for things like a Lenox gift certificate, Out of

the Box of Chocowinity designer handbag, one month pass to Curves and Paradise Tanning and a satin-finished five diamond pendant necklace and matching earrings from Johnson's Jewelers, just to name a few.

The main focus however, is to provide guests with a fun Valentine's Day worth remembering. Live swing and jazz music will be provided by the popular Emerald City Big Band. Woodruff attended the event last year and said it was a great time.

"People love to dance. It's an opportunity to get dressed up and fancy - to strut your stuff," Woodruff said.

The Dinner Dance will begin with cocktails at 6:30 p.m. at an open bar, followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. at the Rock Springs Center Feb. 14. Not forgetting dessert titled "Love Reunited," everyone will celebrate the close of Valentine's Day with a "Godiva" white chocolate mousse in a wine glass with a long stemmed strawberry and chocolate hazelnut cookie, not to mention the complimentary champagne.

Guests may reserve tables for up to 10 people, and even have the option to be seated at a table for singles. Tickets are \$62.50 per person, proceeds going to support the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series. For tickets or additional information, stop by the Central Ticket Office located in Mendenhall, or call 1-800-ECU-ARTS or 328-4788.

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

Equestrian club struts their stuff

A stride in the right direction

TIFFANY CURRY
STAFF WRITER

Not too many people know about ECU's Equestrian Club, in fact many students don't even know what an equestrian team does. The team, started approximately five semesters ago by Sarah Willson, is a club sport at ECU. This club caters to students who are interested in horseback riding, whether they have years of experience or they have never touched a horse in their life.

The team competes on a Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Circuit, which is exclusively for college students. There are eight to 10 shows a year, each lasting 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. each day. Eleven colleges in the region from all over North Carolina and parts of Virginia host the competitions. The next IHSA competition in which the ECU Equestrian Team will compete is at NC State Feb. 14.

"Students in the club are invited to participate in showing on the team but are not required to do so," said Ellen Willson, the team coach.

"The club has other activities such as fundraisers and socials."

The club meets and practices at Sanctuary Farm, located about 15 minutes from campus off Route 121 in Farmville. The farm is owned and operated by



Equestrian team practices for their IHSA show at St. Andrews.

the Willson family. The farm also offers horse boarding and private riding lessons for others who are either interested in keeping their horse there or learning one on one. Willson has been riding for 20 years and has been the coach of the ECU team since it started.

Anyone who is interested can become a member, experience is not necessary. After joining the club, new members will be taught everything they need to know in order to gain the skills necessary to participate in competitions. Riders will be taught everything from horse grooming and track application to how to be on the correct diagonal while trotting.

"We have people who have been riding their whole lives and people who really had never ridden before they joined the

club. If you don't want to join the team and just want to take lessons with our coach Ellen Willson you can do that," said Katie Scandura, a member of the team since its initial year at ECU.

Full-time students are welcome to join the team, but graduate students are not eligible to compete in any competitions according to IHSA guidelines.

For students who have always wanted to learn to ride a horse but don't want to join the team, they can sign up to take lessons with coach Willson. For more information about joining the equestrian club, contact Courtney Quinn at cdq0525@mail.ecu.edu.

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



Relaxed clothing and enthusiasm necessary to participate

Discover your inner peace

Dances of Universal Peace

DANIELLE WIGGINS
STAFF WRITER

ECU students are curious to know what the Dances of Universal Peace are. This form of art promotes peace and cultural awareness to all that are interested in expanding and opening up to different experiences. It gives students a chance to travel without even leaving the building - through mind, body and spirit with dance and music from all over the world. This is not a dance anyone would typically see everyday, but exercises put together from various cultures.

"I feel the dances benefit the students at ECU by introducing them to non-religious spirituality from many different world traditions. Unlike traditional religions, the dances are inclusive, not exclusive. The energy that emanates from the dances being held on campus connects us to each other, even if we can't see it - we can feel it long after the dances have ended," said Lynn Caverly, Mendenhall student activities coordinator.

Those interested in cardiovascular exercise and physical endurance should take advantage of this particular activity available on campus.

"Sufi Dancing" is also a healthy way to temporarily release stress and fear. Not only do you walk out with a new found confidence, but a little knowledge of various cultures and languages. Participating in this group experience creates new friendships and a bond with complete strangers.

"Learning unfamiliar words has a bonding affect on the group," is how the dances of universal peace Web site describes the events.

Samuel L. Lewis, founded the Sufi Dance and the tradition has been carried on years after his death. With a background of Christianity, Hinduism and Judaism, Lewis had a vision to bring peace to the people through sacred dance and song. Now the sacred teachings have spread throughout the world. Not only does this event occur in schools, but in therapy groups, hospice houses and rehabilitation centers, as well as many other public facilities. The dances are directly from cultures of his background: Islam, Native American, Celtic, Native African and Native Middle Eastern.

"The Dances of Universal Peace have evolved and expanded in practical application to meet the deep felt needs today for rediscovering reverence, creativity and a body-based connection to the natural world," states the Web site when discussing how and why these dances are relevant to all people, especially students.

This free event is available to the public and no previous dance experience is required. Students and staff are encouraged to come in with an open mind and comfortable clothing. Sufi dancing is a way for people to develop an unforgettable awareness of cultures around the world, from dances and chants that are taught.

"The dances take place twice a semester. The next one will be held on Sunday, April 10. The dances will also be a featured part of the Southeast Women's Studies Association conference which is being hosted by ECU Women's Studies Department, held in Greenville, April 7 - 9," Caverly said.

For more information about this exciting form of dance, visit their Web site at dancesofuniversalpeace.org.

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

Mardi Gras



Mendenhall rotunda was jam-packed Mardi Gras 2005.



Performances by drag queens were an evening highlight.

NBS active, open for networking, leadership



This broadcasting studio gives students hands-on experience with the techniques of editing.

The National Broadcasting Society is back

CARMIN BLACK
STAFF WRITER

It seems, in our high-paced technological society, it would be safe to assume meeting employers, spending entire summers doing internships and going out of your way to get to know your bosses would be a great way to work your way up the business ladder. All business professionals now seem to be in agreement that "networking" is the number one way to succeed in today's corporate arena.

Networking is still the favored way employers "discover" their future hires.

This presents the problem that most college students don't know many people who already work in their desired fields, so it becomes difficult for them to do networking of any kind. It seems students need ideas of ways to meet certain people who will notice their talents, or even just take the time to talk about certain career opportunities and how to even gain a start.

If broadcasting or any communication field is the network you desire to penetrate, then National Broadcasting Society is exactly what you are looking for. This club offers numerous events that provide prime networking opportunities.

NBS is a nation-wide organization of students, faculty and professionals interested in broadcasting. This club includes several thousand members and

celebrates its 61st anniversary in 2005.

Carey Martin, an associate professor for the ECU School of Communication, is the faculty advisor for the ECU chapter of NBS. Martin was interviewed about this club and asked what he believed in regards to the benefits students can receive from being involved, which seemed more than impressive.

"The first benefit students can receive from being in NBS is added experience for their career fields. This club does video and television projects that reach beyond what can be gained in a classroom. A second benefit is an opportunity to attend both regional and national conventions which bring students together who are all majoring in similar fields," said Martin.

Each regional convention is held at a host university in the southeast, but this year the national convention is taking place in Los Angeles.

The conventions feature many activities and workshops students are sure to benefit from. Students are encouraged to enter their own videos and on screen or radio work into various competitions for a chance to be heard by or critiqued by an industry professional.

Students also get the chance to attend seminars taught by major names in the broadcasting arena. Bob Costas, the famous Olympic sportscaster and Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America are just a few of the credible names who have spoken and given their expert advice based

on personal knowledge.

To gain hands-on experience, workshops such as special effects classes, getting into film school seminars and production for music video classes are just a few of the examples of classes taught to provide students with beneficial knowledge they can take home and actually use in their own projects.

"This year in L.A. there will be several trips to the tapings of current sitcoms and various shows and you can bring your résumé and demo reel, the pro's will actually look over your stuff, which is a great chance to have your résumé professionally reviewed," Martin said.

In order to attend such exciting events students must get involved. One way to do so is to attend bi-weekly meetings and participate in fundraisers to raise money to keep the club in operation.

Some ideas students have suggested in order to raise money to fund certain trips, such as the national and regional conventions, are doing video grams for various holidays, like Valentine's which will be played on a local cable station or taping graduation ceremonies and selling the tapes to the newest members of the ECU Alumni Association.

"NBS is student driven we do as much as the students want to do, really it's up to the one's who are involved," Martin said.

This club is open to all majors, the only requirement is an interest in broadcasting and having fun.

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

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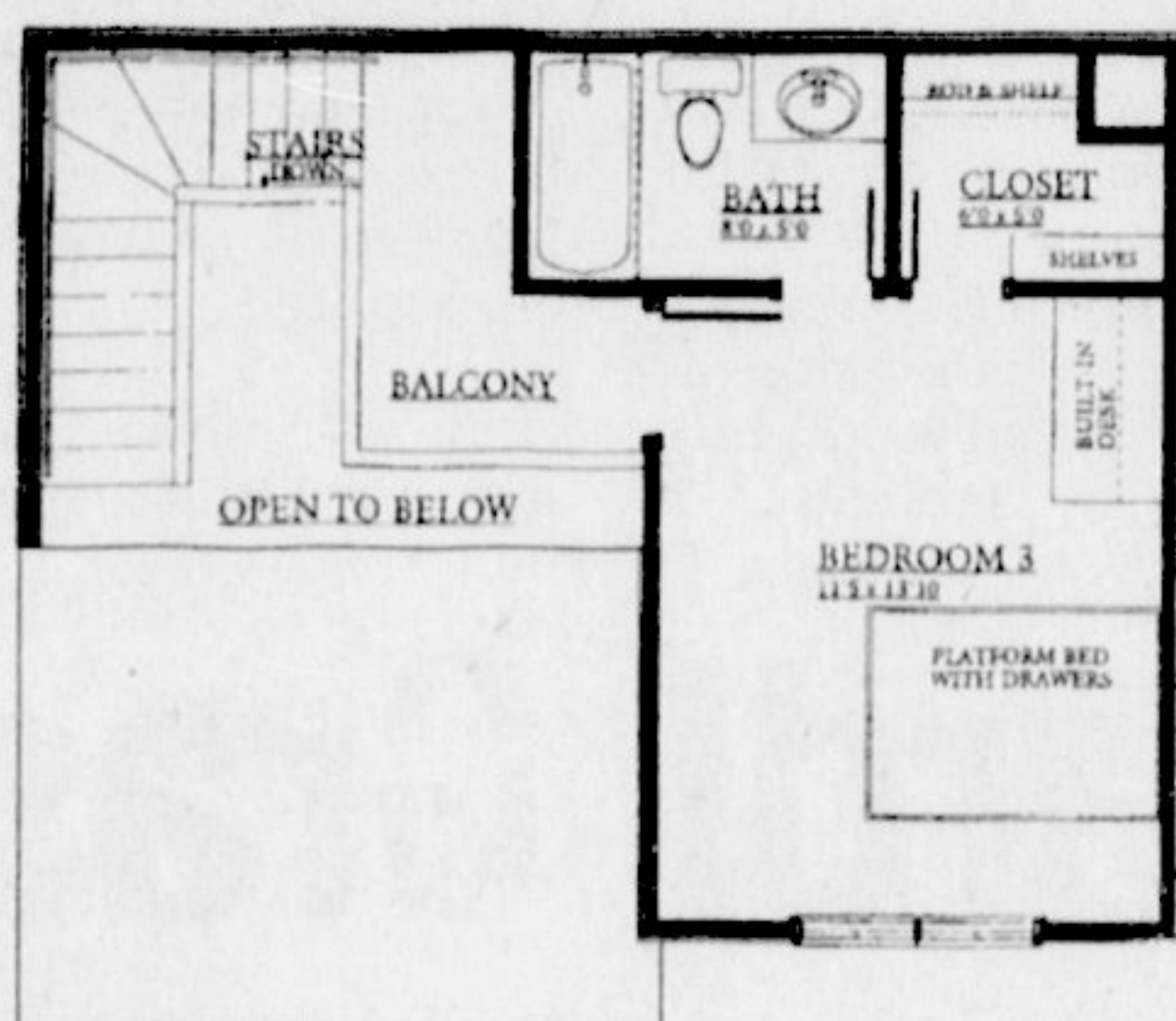
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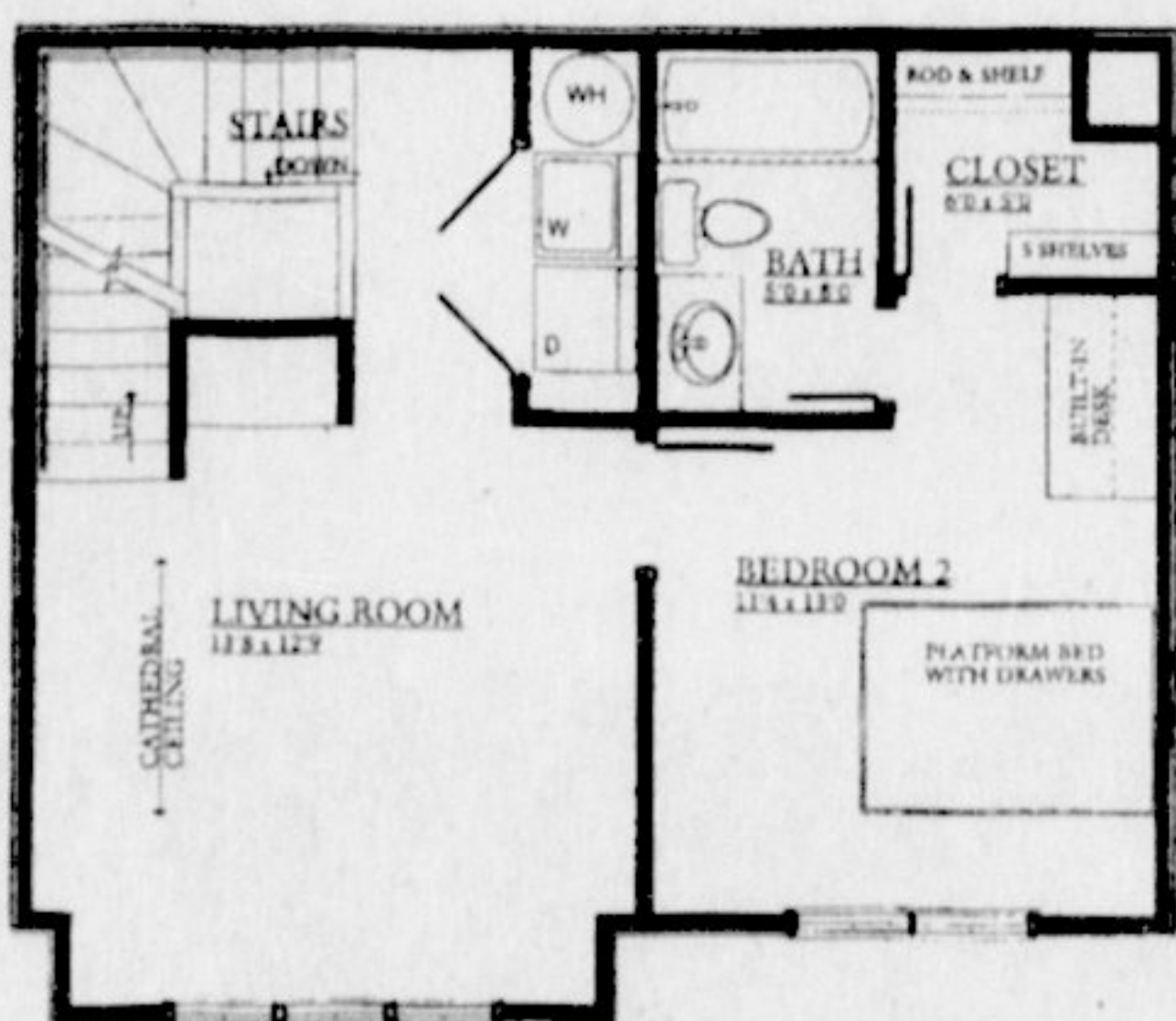
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Remember to send us your Pirate Rants!

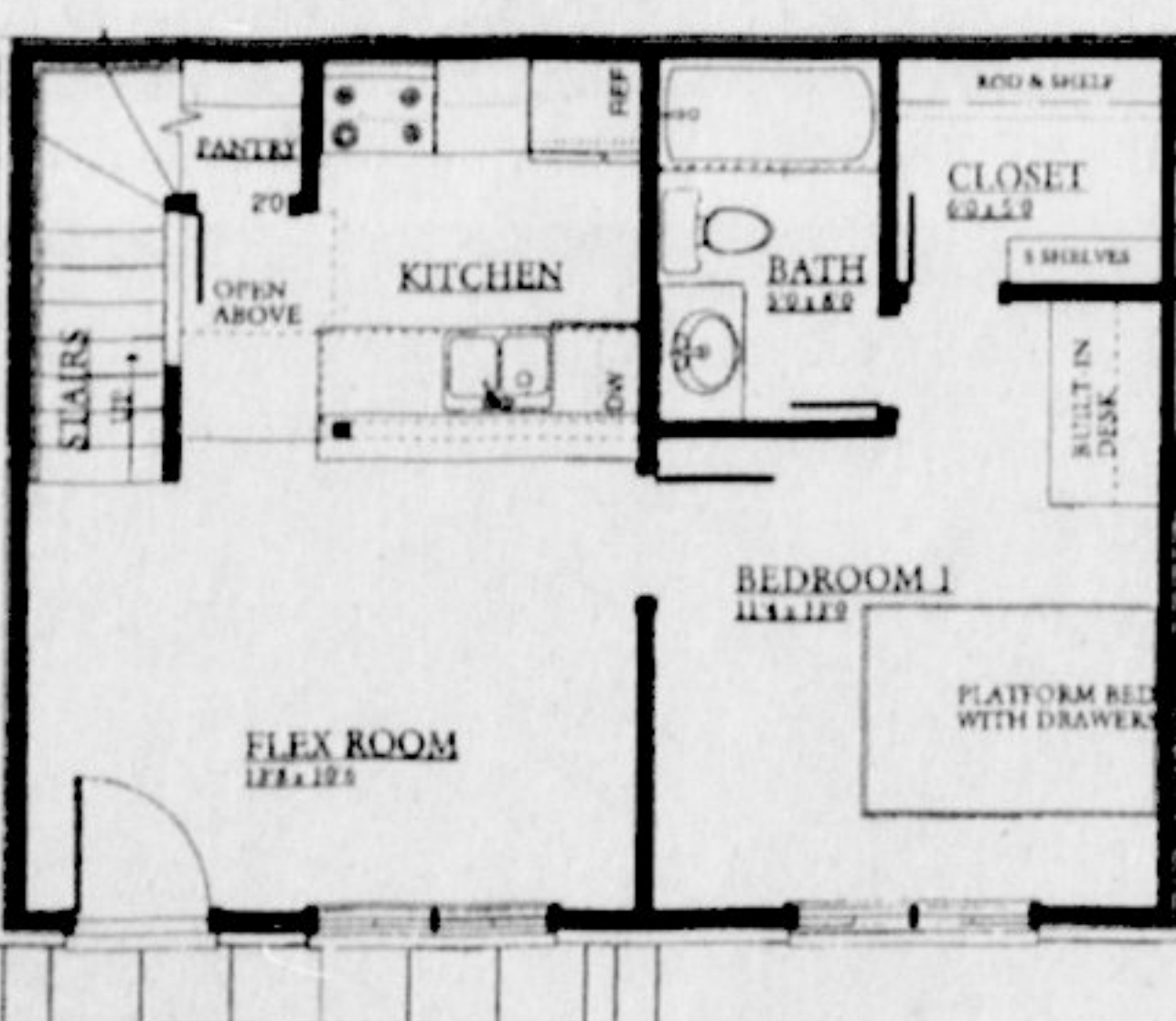
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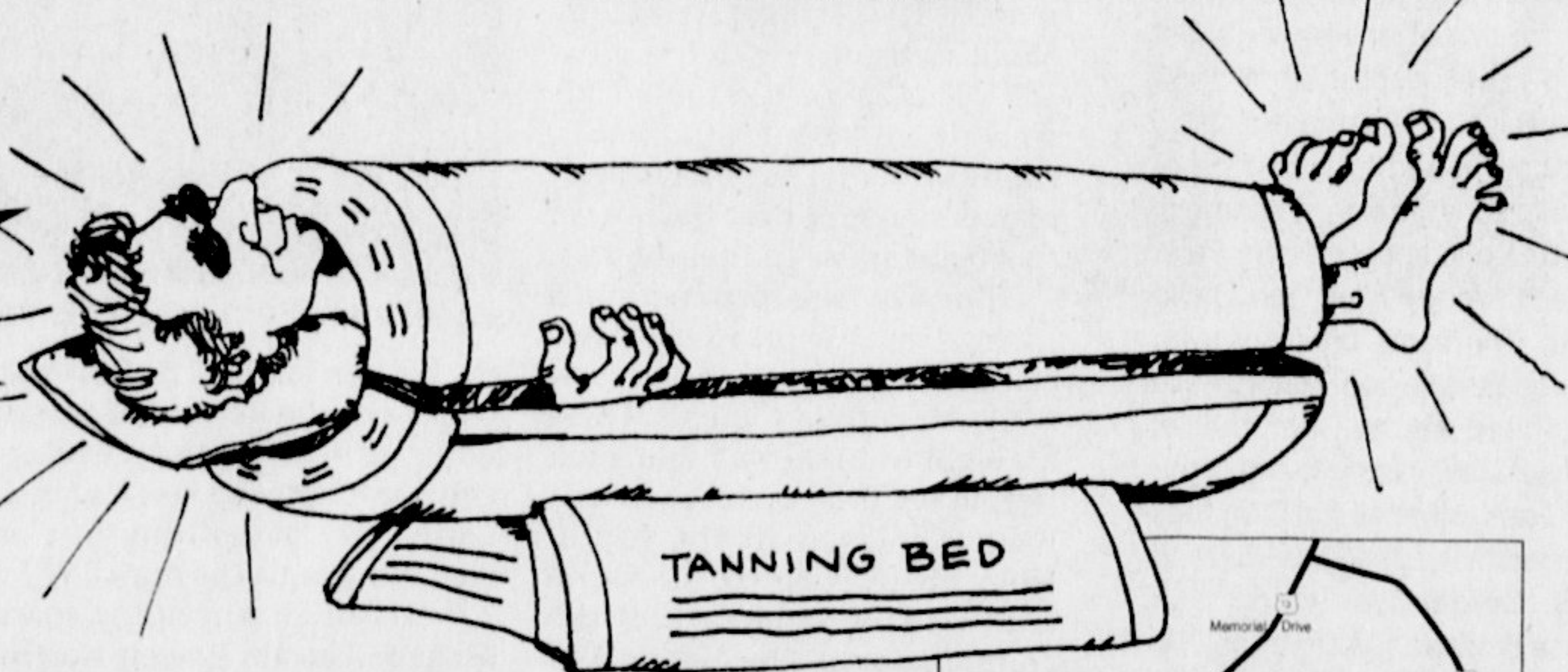
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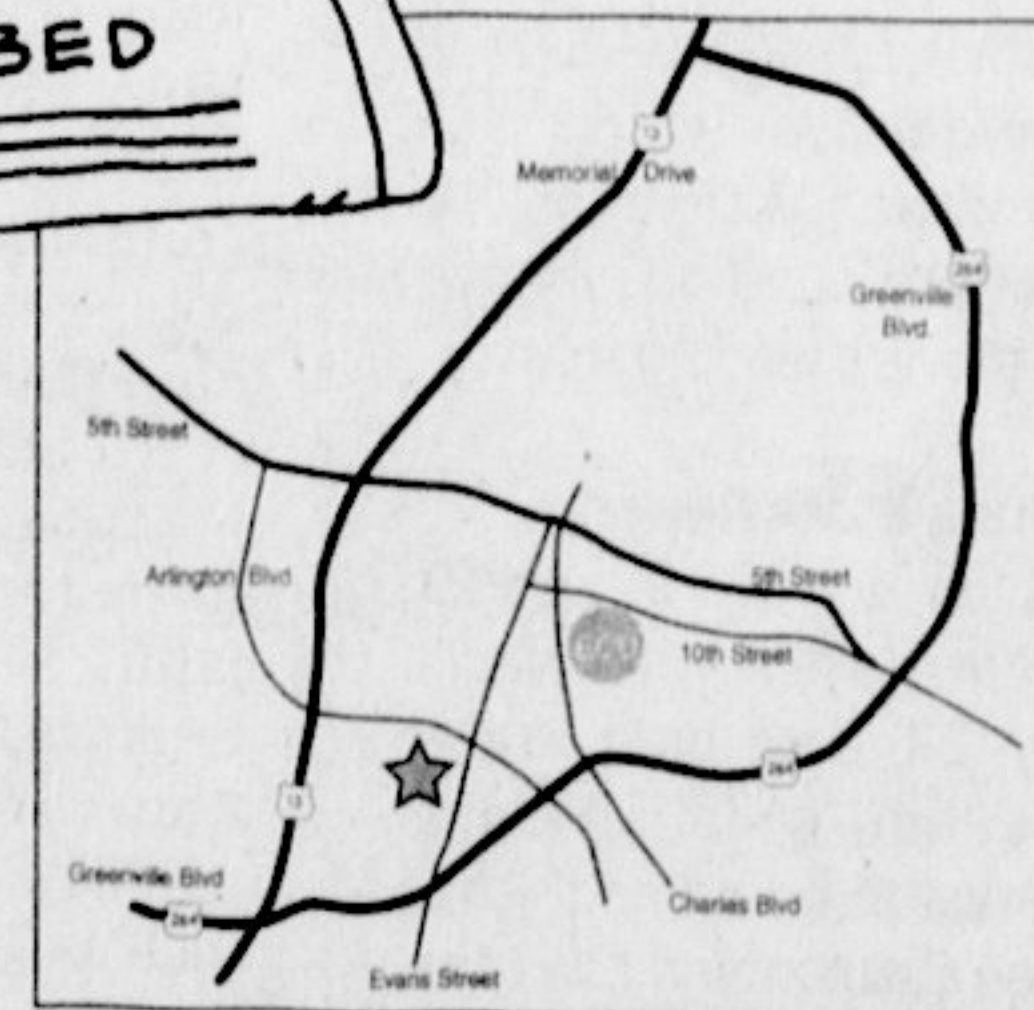
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SPORTS

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TONY ZOPPO Sports Editor BRANDON HUGHES Assistant Sports Editor

TUESDAY February 8, 2005

Eagles flounder in fourth quarter

Branch takes MVP,
Owens puts on show,
McNabb buckles

OPINION

TONY ZOPPO
SPORTS EDITOR

Blowing it late

Five minutes and 40 seconds.

That's how much time was left in the fourth quarter Sunday night when Philadelphia got the ball back after New England kicked a field goal to build a 10-point lead, 24-14.

Any person with half a brain and a resemblance of a football IQ says you run the two-minute offense in this situation. Even if you were down by seven, you need to run the "hurry-up" offense with almost six minutes remaining.

The Eagles though, did everything but hurry up.

I'd like to know exactly what was going through Andy Reid and Donovan McNabb's minds when the Philadelphia Eagles got the ball back.

I have never seen anything like it. Philadelphia just invented and ran the first "six-minute offense." It was unreal. Incredible. Absurd. In a word or two — utterly stupefying.

I've seen inanimate objects move faster. I've seen a 75-year-old man with arthritis in both knees, head to the bathroom move with more urgency. I think a seven and eight year old Pop Warner flag football team riddled with ADHD could have been more organized and focused on moving the ball down the field on the Eagles' second to last drive this past Sunday.

Let's recap.

The first play of the drive is a pass across the middle to L.J. Smith for four yards. Huddle. Next — pass to Greg Lewis for four yards. Huddle. Pass to Terrell Owens for five yards. Huddle.

Pass for two yards, incomplete pass, completion for 10 yards, another incomplete pass, a run for no gain, 11 yard-completion to Freddie Mitchell, incomplete

pass, completion to Brian Westbrook for 13 yards, incomplete pass, and then finally the 30-yard touchdown pass to Lewis with 1:48 to go.

The degree to which Philly mismanaged that drive is simply stunning. And I don't just mean how they mismanaged the clock. They completely missed the fact that the Patriots' secondary was thinner than Mary Kate Olson for the entire fourth quarter, let alone the last six minutes.

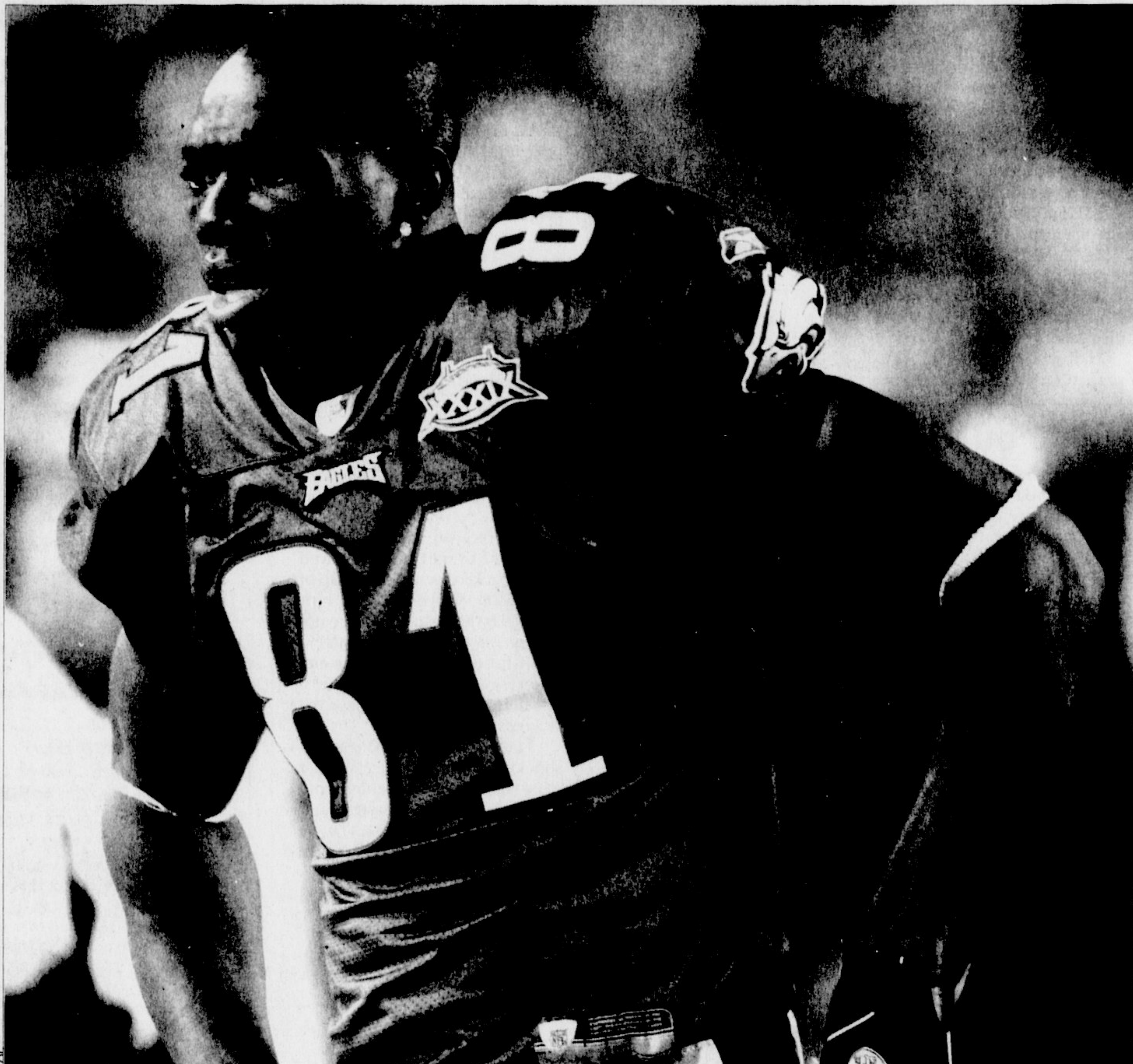
The Pats have been thin in the secondary the entire season without Ty Law and a couple of other key DB's but have managed very well with youngsters Randall Gay and Asante Samuel. But a major blow was dealt when Eugene Wilson went down with a broken wrist after attempting to make a tackle on Westbrook. Dexter Reid replaced Wilson. He's a rookie out of North Carolina who didn't even play in five games during the regular season and has probably been on the field less than Tim Couch. Philly should have been salivating over the opportunity to attack New England down the field. They had an entire half to do it.

Donovan McNabb

Donovan McNabb was inconsistent, plain and simple. He threw three great touchdown passes and three costly interceptions, four if you count the duck Samuel picked off but was eliminated because of an illegal contact penalty 20 yards away from the ball.

He had spurts of brilliance where he was unflappable in the pocket, hitting receivers in stride, distributing the ball and marching his team down the field. More often than not though, he looked uncomfortable in the pocket, continually threw balls high and flat, and shares the blame with Reid for the Eagles' late-game woes. He may have had one of the worst 350-plus yard performances in Super Bowl history.

And he really didn't do all that bad but turnovers and a completion percentage less than 60 in a quarterback-friendly offense isn't going to have a prayer in beating the best team since the Dallas Cowboys of the



Owens' facial expression here in the fourth quarter must have represented how much of the Eagle nation felt as Reid and McNabb mangled the two-minute offense with less than six minutes remaining in the game.

early 1990s. McNabb is to Philly like Brett Favre is to the Packers — they will live and die by him.

McNabb is perhaps the league's most careful quarterback with the ball, particularly this past year. When McNabb is accurate, makes smart decisions, plays within himself and the offense, and allows his athletic ability to make great plays, Philadelphia will win.

But, when he does make mistakes, he makes them in bunches. When he forces it, gets pressured and starts making poor decisions with the ball, Philadelphia is doomed. It showed Sunday night.

Owens is a medical marvel

What more can you say about this guy? I don't care if you don't like his trash-talking, his touchdown celebrations or his

off-the-field antics — what this guy did on Feb. 6 was nothing less than remarkable. I said last week that he wouldn't be 100 percent. He wasn't. I said he wouldn't be ready to play. He was.

Owens led Philadelphia with nine receptions for 122 yards. Let that sink in a moment. Nine catches, over a hundred yards, and it's been less than two

months since he broke his leg and tore a crucial ligament in his right ankle. Criticize him off the field all you want, but like I said last week — this guy gives it his all day in and day out on the turf.

I tip my hat to you Terrell. That was one of the most incredible and awe-inspiring things I've

see SUPER BOWL page A8

Road woes continue



A second half run by Memphis last week and stifling defense by TCU this past Saturday handed the men's basketball team two straight losses just a week after the Pirates earned their first two Conference USA wins. Mike Cook led the team in scoring in both contests with 12 points against the Tigers and 17 against the Horned Frogs. ECU drops to 2-8 in C-USA action on the year and will play host to Marquette in their next game this Saturday at 7 p.m. in Williams Arena.

Black Widow to spin her web in Greenville at 7 p.m. tonight



Lee is not only the top women's billiards player, she is also No. 3 on ESPN's list of the World's Sexiest Female Athletes.

Jeanette Lee to display skills at TieBreakers

ERIC GILMORE
SENIOR WRITER

The most famous women's billiard player in the world will be making an appearance in Greenville at TieBreakers Sports Bar & Billiards on Tuesday from 7 to 10 p.m. Jeanette Lee, famously known as the Black Widow, will be awing the crowd with trick shots and her exotic beauty.

Lee will be doing various trick shots, teaching basic pool fundamentals, challenging people in the audience, signing autographs and taking part in some giveaways, according to TieBreakers owner Brayom Anderson.

Lee is currently ranked No.

3 on the Women's Professional Billiard Association Tour. Ironically enough, Lee shares that same number, No. 3, on another prestigious list. She was recently named No. 3 behind Anna Kournikova and Marion Jones for ESPN's World's Sexiest Female Athlete, which aired on Jan. 27.

Aside from her good looks, the Black Widow earned her nickname on the table, through her ability to seemingly devour opponents and her tendency to wear only black during competition. One of the few household names for billiards, Lee had to earn every bit of it.

Born a first generation Korean American in Brooklyn, NY, Lee lived in a bilingual home. Lee thrived academically and socially until she was diagnosed with scoliosis at age 13. Lee had to have a

steel rod implanted in her spine, which she still has to this day. Lee has overcome her circumstances to now serve as the National Spokesperson for the Scoliosis Association, Inc.

Lee first picked up billiards in 1989 and the game hasn't been the same. After only playing pool for three and a half years, Lee turned pro in 1993. Less than two years later, both *Billiards Digest* and *Pool & Billiard Magazine* named Lee 1994 WPBA Player of the Year.

Since then, Lee has become one of the world's best pool players consistently among the top-ranked. The Black Widow earned the WPBA Sportsman of the Year Award in 1998 after missing out on nominations in 1995 and 1997.

Her billiards successes and beauty have led to many different endorsement deals. Lee's corporate partners include Escalade Sports, Mosconi Billiards and The Plaza Hotel and Casino. Lee also serves on the board of trustees for the Women's Sport Foundation.

Her newest endorsement is being the National Spokesman for The Spider, a device that uses patented laser technology and illumination to help players see the geometry of a shot, including the correct cue-ball path and aiming point on a shot.

The Spider was shown on ESPN 2's Cold Pizza on Oct. 19, 2004. PrimeQuest Inc., a company based out of Rocky Mount developed and will market The Spider. Lee will be shooting a commercial at TieBreakers during the afternoon, which is set to air on ESPN.

Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$15 while VIP seating costs \$30. VIP seating will be directly around the featured pool table. A crowd in excess of 250 people is expected. TieBreakers is located at 1920 Smythwyck Drive.

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

Merritt continues to torch competition

(SID) — Freshman LaShawn Merritt turned in the fastest 400-meter dash time in the world so far this season while also guiding the ECU 4x400 relay squad to NCAA provisional qualification at the Gator Invitational at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center Sunday.

In addition to shattering a 14-year-old school record in the event with a time of 45.94, Merritt also earned NCAA automatic qualification status to the Division I Championships in Fayetteville, Ark., March 11-12. The performance came during Merritt's second-ever collegiate 400m event after logging a provisional qualifying time of 47.23 at the Clemson Invitational Jan. 21. He topped ECU's long-time standard of 46.19 set by Brian Irving in 1991 while also establishing a new World Indoor Junior record (18-and-under).

Other top men's performances include a fifth-



MERRITT

place standing by Reginald Williams in the 55-meter dash (6.43) and a pair of fourth-place finishes by Henderson in the

400 meters (47.95) and by Hector Cotto in the 55-meter hurdles with a time of a 7.39 — good enough for ICAAAA qualification. Matt Dennish logged a personal-best 4:10.96 clip in the one mile run, missing the all-time school mark by less than two seconds.

In the women's competition, Terri Davenport established a new career-best with a 24.94 time in the 200 meters while Aisha Bilal-Mack also set a new personal standard with a 58.48 time in the 400-meter dash. Jessica Collins turned in a fourth-place finish in the mile run (career-best 5:08.15) and Tara DeBrielle added a runner-up standing in the 800 meters after being clocked for a season-best 2:12.13.

The Pirates will utilize a split squad next week with participation at the Tyson Indoor Meet and the Virginia Tech Challenge. The ECU's women's team will solely compete at the Blacksburg, Va., event Feb. 11 - 12.

Super Bowl from page A7

ever seen an athlete do.

The Patriots Dynasty

All the great teams have been complete teams. The Steelers of the 1970s, 49ers of the 1980s, Cowboys of the 1990s and now the Patriots in the 21st century. Tom Brady remained undefeated in the playoffs, Belichick passed Vince Lombardi for most postseason wins ever by a head coach and Deion Branch might have made a coming out party for himself in the years to come after tying a Super Bowl record with 11 receptions.

Though they were sloppy throughout much of the first half and bits and pieces of the second half, New England did whatever it took to get back in the game. They spotted Philly a 7-0 lead and then marched down the field before halftime to tie it

up. They opened the second half with a drive almost four minutes long, capped off by a two-yard touchdown reception by who else — Mike Vrabel. When the Eagles came back to tie it up with about three and a half minutes remaining in the third quarter, the Patriots responded on their very next drive in nine plays, punctuated by a two-yard Corey Dillon touchdown run.

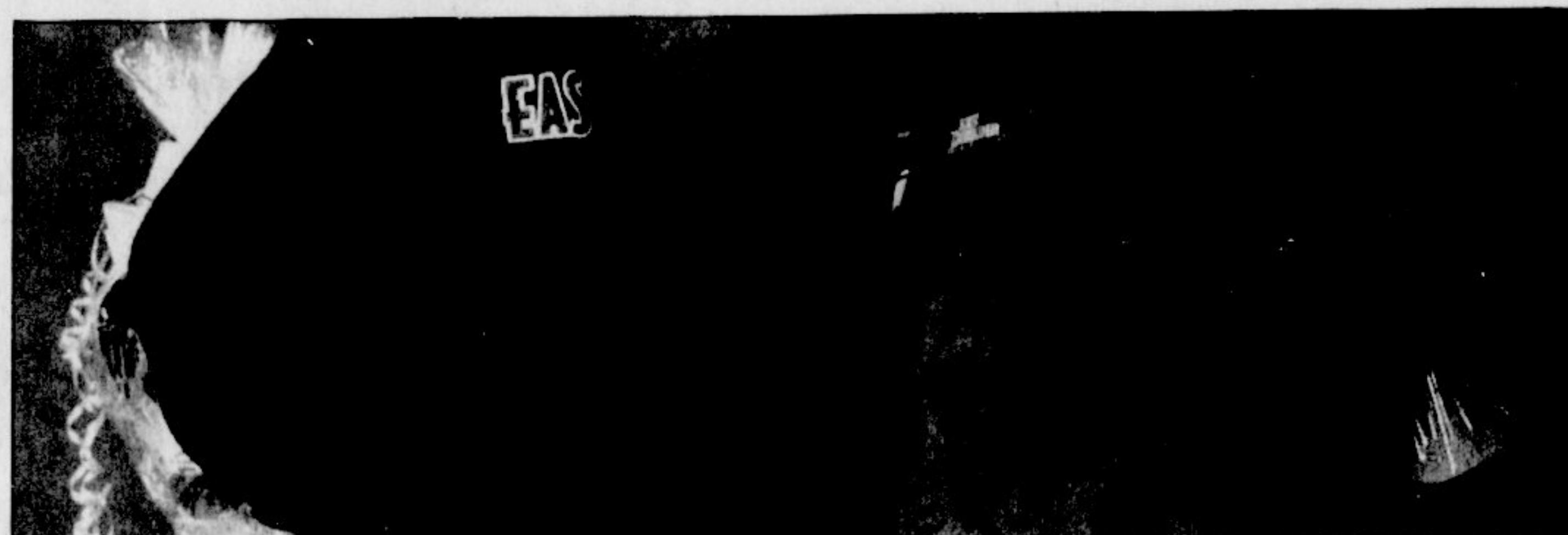
This team and their three championships (so far) will go down in NFL history as one of the greatest teams to ever be assembled. They don't have a ton of star power. They're not flamboyant. They're not overconfident. They just win. Period.

What may sum up the Patriots best in these past four years is this: In his offensive career with New England, Vrabel has

five catches for five touchdowns, two coming in Super Bowls. Troy Brown is the Patriots' all-time leading receiver in the playoffs and third overall but he played cornerback for better than half of the season. A former 199th draft pick leads the team behind center and has two Super Bowl MVP's. Their head coach looks like any other New Englander with a Pats' sweatshirt on and is perhaps the league's best coach.

Everybody for New England is shockingly normal yet excellent at what they do — both mentally and physically. They're versatile and flexible. They can adjust. They're extraordinarily ordinary. But they do everything together, as one. They're a team.

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



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Valentine's sale and specials valid Feb. 7-14, 2005. Discounted "gifts" includes all ECU logo imprinted merchandise, not including apparel, except as listed. Prior purchases excluded. No other discounts apply.



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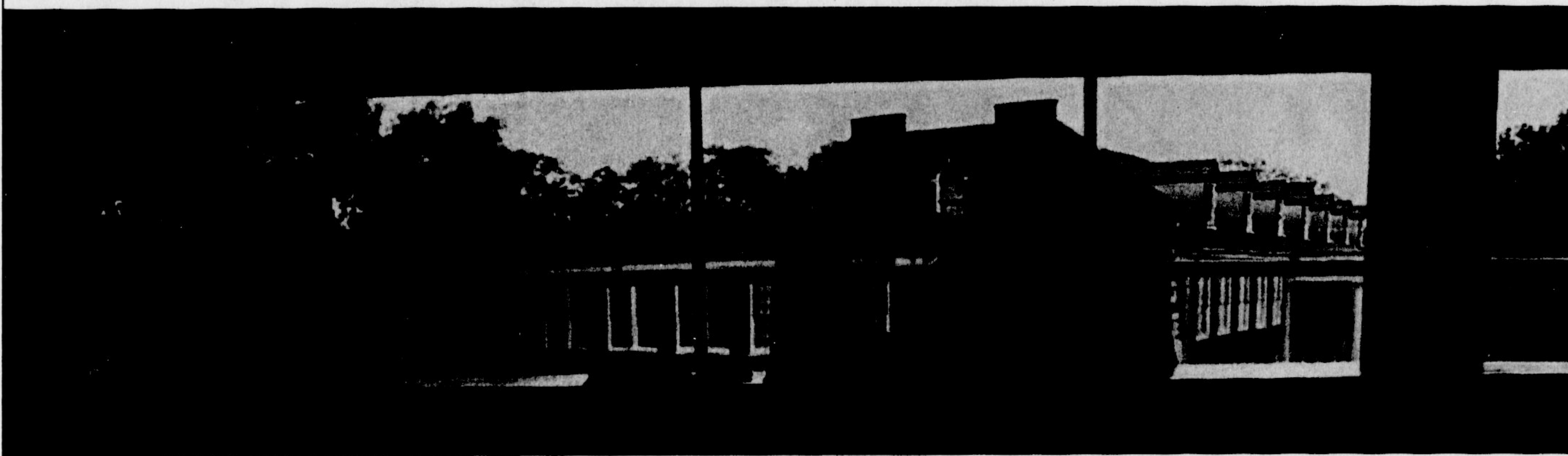
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Summer School 2005

CLASSIFIEDS

Page A10

TUESDAY February 8, 2005

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

Thursday at 4 p.m. for the TUESDAY edition
Friday at 4 p.m. for the WEDNESDAY edition
Monday at 4 p.m. for the THURSDAY edition
Ad must be received in person. We are located on the second floor of the Old Cafeteria Complex.

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Students (w/valid I.D.) UP to 25 words...\$2
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for employees for summer jobs at the beach. We need cashiers, cooks, and expeditors. Housing is available. Call Linda at 757-576-9655 or by email shellfish_to_go@msn.com

Hey Graduates! Hot 103.7 and Eagle 94 is looking for account executives to market advertising in Greenville and surrounding areas. Great benefits, unlimited income. Call Tori Gray at 252-672-5900 Ext. 203 to set up interview.

Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting part-time youth soccer coaches for the indoor soccer program. Applicants must possess a good knowledge of soccer skills and have the ability and patience to work with youth. Applicants must be able to coach young people ages 3-18 in soccer fundamentals. Hours are from 3:30 pm to 9 pm, Monday-Friday with some weekend coaching. Flexible hours according to class schedules. This program will run from March 7 to mid May. Salaries start at \$6.25 per hour. Apply at the City of Greenville, Human Resources Department, 201 Martin L. King Jr. Dr., Greenville NC 27834. For more information, please contact the Athletic Office at 329-4550, Monday through Friday, 10 am until 7 pm.

Do you need a good job? The ECU Telefund is hiring students to contact alumni and parents for the ECU Annual Fund. \$6.25/hour plus cash bonuses. Make your own schedule. If interested, visit our website at www.ecu.edu/telefund and click on JOBS.

GREEK PERSONALS

Congratulations to Laura Brewer and April Cole for being Kappa Delta's sisters of the week!

Congrats to Alpha Phi sister Laura Midkiff on her

engagement to Josh Oakes. We love you! Also, congrats to her bridesmaids Lindsay Breissenger, Melissa Gayle Kennerly, Holly Harris, & Claire Wilson - This will be the wedding of the year!

Delta Alpha - Celebrating 45 fabulous years of sisterhood on Feb. 6th! "Alpha Phi is the one to be!"

Who's your Alpha Phi Heart Throb? Vote for your favorite Valentine's hunk at the Heart Throb booth on Feb. 8-Feb. 10 in front of the Wright Place. All money will be donated to the Alpha Phi Foundation, which supports Cardiac Care!

Alpha Phi will be hosting a blood drive on Feb. 9 from 12-6 in the parking lot, located at the bottom of College Hill. Come give the gift of life!

Alpha Phi would like to wish our sister sorority, Sigma Sigma Sigma, good luck with their Recruitment & their semester. Lets get together soon!

OTHER

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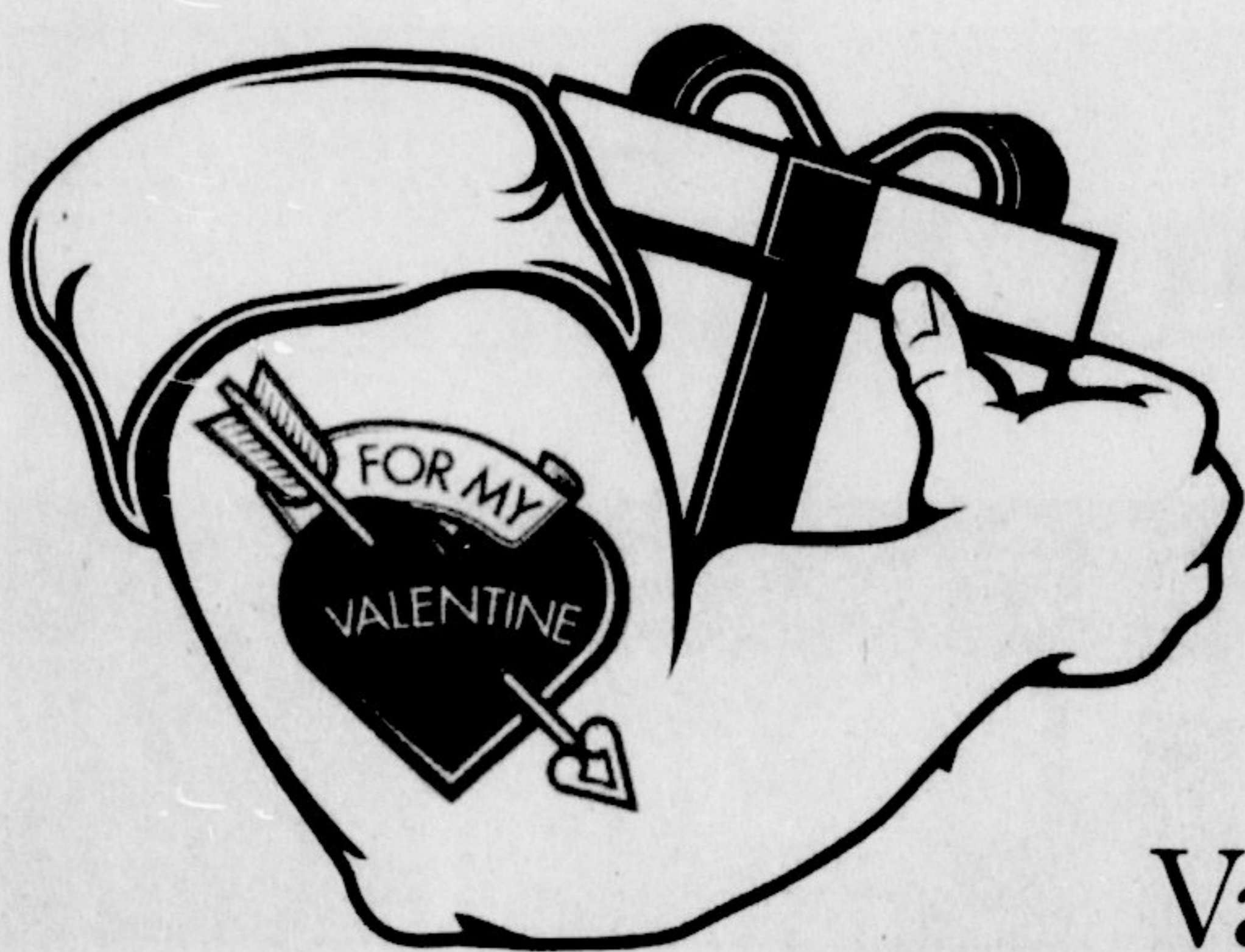
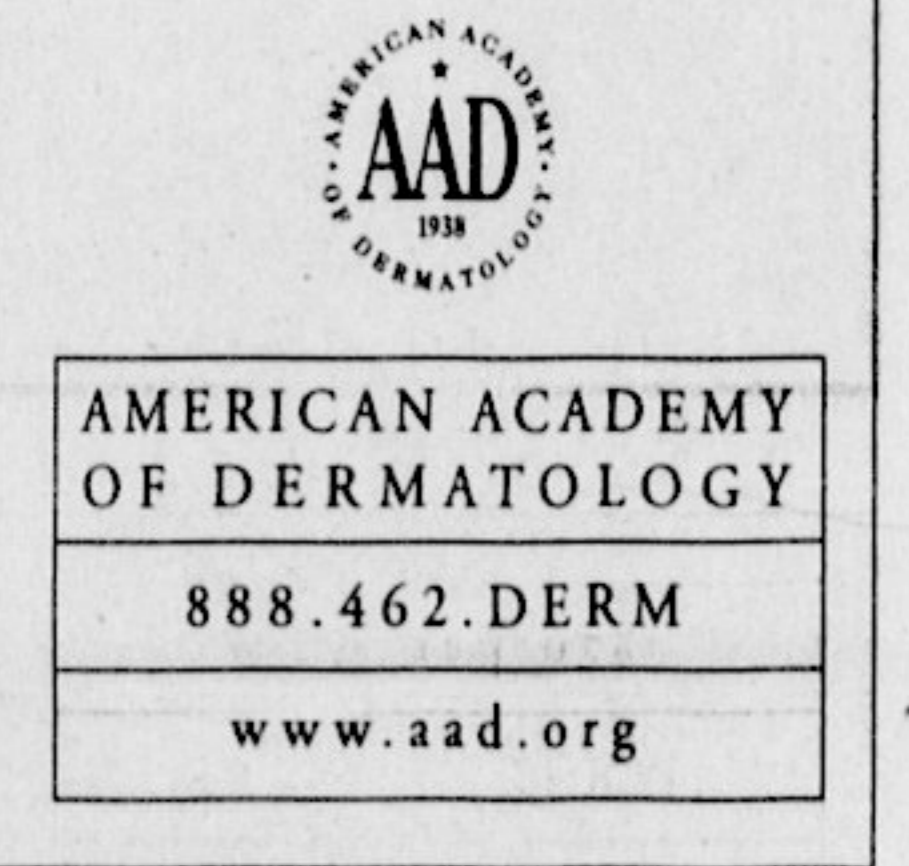
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