

Iraqi elections draw varying opinions

Post-election violence on the rise

Much of Thursday's violence in Iraq targeted Iraq's security forces, part of an apparent insurgent campaign to undermine public confidence.



An unidentified Kurdish supporter waves a Kurdish flag as he runs through the streets celebrating the election results.

Bush administration's impact seen

MICHAEL HARRINGTON
SENIOR WRITER

The first elections of Iraq were held, drawing millions of citizens to cast their votes for the National Assembly. For some, these elections lend credibility to the Bush administration's policies on global terrorism while others view the situation much differently. Fred Gedrich, former U.S. Department of State and Defense official, said the recent elections may well go down in history

as being a crucial blow toward global terrorism. "I think these elections are very important," said Gedrich. "It may be a situation where the civilized world ... looks back and says it is a turning point in the war on terror." The U.S. began the military invasion of Iraq in spring of 2003 and elections were held less than two years later, a fact Gedrich said reflects well on the Bush administration. "I think we should all put things in perspective - on what was accomplished," Gedrich said. Gedrich said the reconstruction efforts in Japan and Germany took longer than the current one

being carried out in Iraq. Richard Kilroy, visiting assistant professor in the department of political science, said he is optimistic for the Iraqi people and the prospects of democracy in the region, but there is no certainty that the country will embrace these new principles. "We hope it means a new start for them ... that they will

embrace the democratic principles that we have," said Kilroy. "The question is whether that will happen or not." Kilroy said the administration hopes that change in Iraq will in turn bring change in the Middle East. "They feel that Iraq is an important country that might cause change," Kilroy said.

"I think that when the Bush administration looks at their role today, they see themselves at an important point in history ... that they have to be the ones to take a stand against global terrorism." Kilroy said a problem with the administration's policies is they are not coming across well internationally, where in many countries the U.S. effort in Iraq

is viewed negatively by majorities of the respective populations. "I think one of the concerns I have to the administration's viewpoint is they have not effectively communicated it to the whole world," Kilroy said. "I think that's a disappointment."

see **ELECTION** page A3

BSU hosts informative week on diversity

Events geared to promote cultural awareness

LINDSAY WINTHROP
STAFF WRITER

As part of Black History Month, the Black Student Union is hosting events this week geared toward educating students on different diversity issues. The BSU is an organization open to all ECU students who are interested in promoting cultural awareness. All the events sponsored by BSU are directed at different parts of African American history that are often overlooked. "Our history doesn't start with Rosa Parks, it goes back way further than that," said Tamika Walker, senior music education major and president of BSU. "I hope people learn more about the African American culture ... people have to step outside of their comfort zone and take a look at the world." She said there could be more efforts on campus to make the ECU community aware of diversity issues. While progress is being made, more work needs to be done. "There is still more ground to be covered," Walker said. One activity people in every culture participate in is art. The symbolism and inventiveness of art allows insight into the culture that produced it. Paintings of African American Warrior markings were painted on people's faces Tuesday. African arts and crafts were made Tuesday evening on the lawn, allowing students to see the displays of the visual history of Africa. BSU plans to recruit members this Wednesday to give all students the opportunity to join an organization working toward enhancing the campus community. They will be passing out information to let students know about their organization in the Wright Plaza.

see **STUDENT** page A3

Holland asks Head Coach Bill Herrion to step down



Photo by Kyle Fisher

Head Men's Basketball Coach Bill Herrion, shown in this Jan. 15 file photo, will relinquish his position at the end of this season. Athletic Director Terry Holland and Senior Associate AD Nick Floyd met with Herrion Tuesday morning to discuss the matter. While Herrion will no longer be coaching ECU basketball, he will stay in the athletics department. According to Holland, Herrion will step down in order to "work with a major fundraising initiative for ECU athletics."

Easley appoints two new deans

Horns, Johnson will use expertise to examine health issues

MICHAEL HARRINGTON
SENIOR WRITER

Two deans from ECU were appointed to the North Carolina Institute of Medicine by Governor Mike Easley. Dr. Phyllis Horns, dean of the school of nursing, and Dr. Cynda Johnson, dean of the Brody School of Medicine, were both selected to serve five-year terms with the NC IOM. "It's an honor, I feel very happy to have been selected," said Horns. "I'm very pleased to be serving with Dr. Johnson." Before her appointment to the NC IOM, Horns had served on a task force convened by the institute. Horns said these task forces are the primary way the



JOHNSON

institute accomplishes its work. "The task forces study issues and send out published reports for state government and other interested parties," Horns said. The task forces generally are made up of anywhere between 30 to 60 individuals who can provide expert and non-political advice on the issue at hand. Horns said some of the issues



HORNS

worked out by the institute include a study of the nursing workforce and dental care. A task force is currently being formed to address the problems of the uninsured in North Carolina. Horns said the task forces are normally a mixture of institute members and people with exper-

see **DEANS** page A3

'Nuclear watchdog' surveying Iran



Mohammed ElBaradei, director-general of the IAEA, left, is pictured with Kamal Kharrazi, Iran's minister of foreign affairs.

U.S. skeptical of ElBaradei, focuses on nuclear concerns

KRISTIN DAY
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

U.S. officials have recently criticized the International Atomic Energy Agency and the director-general's work concerning Iran while Intelligence Minister Ali Yunesi reported American spy drones flying over Iranian nuclear sites. The IAEA is the only world organization that keeps control of nuclear issues with a couple thousand employees whose main job is to promote the safe use of nuclear energy and control weapons through the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. Daniel Sprau, consultant for the IAEA and associate professor for the environmental health sciences and safety program, said inspectors go to nuclear facilities to make sure countries are doing everything they say they are and that they're allowed to do it. Their inspectors went into Iraq in search of weapons. Iran has said they are using nuclear power to find another resource for energy, but the IAEA is worried they will use it for other measures, such as to fuel reactors for weapons. "It's not always clear what direction they're going in," said Sprau. "There are a lot of politics that go with it."

Sprau said politics are taken to an entirely different and higher level in international organizations. This, along with cultural obstacles, makes achieving goals much more difficult and time consuming. It may be better for the United States to keep an eye on Iran because America is more advanced, but they are not allowed there. Foreign countries will only allow U.N. organizations to inspect their plants. Officials told The Associated Press last week the U.S. is currently trying to oust IAEA head Mohammed ElBaradei for being "too soft" when dealing with Iran. However, the chief of the IAEA said there is no proof Iran is developing nuclear weapons. Last week, The Associated Press reported Iran's Intelligence Minister, Ali Yunesi, saying the U.S. has been flying spy drones over their nuclear sites and their air force was ordered to shoot down any unknown flying object in their airspace. Richard Kilroy, visiting assistant professor in the department of political science, said these drones are remotely piloted vehicles usually used in peaceful situations. The U.S. is always collecting data on potential threats through covert collections. Russia announced last week they would cooperate with Iran in their nuclear development. "I think Russia's clearly raising the stakes in the Middle East," said Kilroy. He said economics are begin-

see **NUCLEAR** page A3

Student from page A1

Students are encouraged to join as early as possible in their college years.

"I had meant to join freshman year, but I didn't commit until this year," said Maurice Griffin, sophomore communication major and treasurer for BSU.

"It feels good to be part of an organization."

Students of all cultures and backgrounds are encouraged to attend BSU meetings. A fee of \$5 is required to be a member of BSU for the year.

BSU members at Wright Plaza and around campus on Friday will promote the Heritage Fest, sponsored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from 4 - 7 p.m. at Thomas Foreman Park on Fifth Street.

On Saturday, Hendrix Theatre will resonate with rhythm while a middle school and high

school step show will take place at 2 p.m., ending Black Student Union Week. These events are for students to socialize, learn and interact with all the sub-communities that exist in the ECU community.

"ECU has a lot of work to do," Walker said.

"People need to be reeducated on what diversity truly is. The world isn't just black and white."

Members of BSU plan to attend every activity, but the important part is for the non-members to come out and see what BSU is all about. The goal of the BSU is to make a difference in the ECU community - every new face that shows up at an event will bring them one step closer to making that difference.

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

Deans from page A1

tise on the issue being worked out, estimating about a third of the task force is composed of institute members.

During her previous experience on a task force, Horns said they convened about once monthly and at times more frequently, while also staying in touch through e-mail communication.

Dr. Johnson was unable to be contacted for this article, but sent comment through executive assistant to the dean's office, Jo Ellen Reel.

"She was very excited to be appointed by the governor and assist in this endeavor," said Reel. "She is looking forward to working with this group."

Brian Briley, sophomore architectural design major, said the appointment of two deans to the NC IOM could only be a positive thing for ECU.

"We have a great medical school and to have two deans selected ... can only reflect positively on the university,"

said Briley. The mission of the NC IOM is to seek solutions to statewide health issues and serve as an advisory group to help form policy on issues concerning health care for the people of North Carolina.

The institute achieves these goals through coordinating and sponsoring research efforts, collecting information on issues, analyzing viable opinions and developing a consensus with the membership on solutions that best serve the public.

The NC IOM was chartered by the NC General Assembly in 1983 and draws its members from a wide variety of places including education, the health and legal professions and the volunteer sector. This membership policy tries to ensure that the public's interests are represented objectively.

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Nuclear from page A1

ning to manipulate countries' actions more than anything else, and this is what is driving Russia.

North Korea has also been a topic for discussion concerning nuclear development. The IAEA keeps potentially dangerous situations under control by inspecting nuclear facilities, but Sprau said he does not think North Korea is part of the nuclear non-proliferation agreement, so the IAEA cannot do much.

The IAEA was kicked out of North Korea two years ago when they were investigating their nuclear development.

However, just because a country is working with nuclear material does not mean they will become a threat.

Sprau said when people think of nuclear development, they immediately think of weapons. However, using nuclear power as an energy source may be an

ideal concept. It would cost less than current power sources and as long as the plant is of good standard of design, the communities would be safe.

"We take something that could be a benefit ... and we associate it with nuclear weapons," Sprau said.

He said if they would be willing to take the small risk, economic status and public health would increase.

Sprau worked with finding and controlling radiation sources in Kazakhstan for IAEA last semester. He said there is also a threat with terrorists obtaining these kinds of materials to make conventional bombs, which would spread radiation.

IAEA also sponsors Atoms for Peace, which uses harmful material for positive projects.

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Election from page A1

Kilroy said the U.S. should attempt to reach out to the next generation in these foreign countries, suggesting the use of the classroom as a means of familiarizing our cultures.

Jessica Flynn, first-year medical student, said the elections are a step in the right direction.

"I consider it an accomplishment that we even got them to happen," said Flynn.

As for the Bush administration's role in Iraq, Flynn said the overall project was a positive but she had some negative feelings toward the way it was handled.

"I don't particularly like the way it went about ... no one likes to be deceived, but I think it was a good thing," Flynn said.

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Bublé from page A5

renowned trumpeter Chris Botti aids Bublé for one of the highlights of the album. The song automatically captures a certain aura that immediately draws your attention and liking. Definitely a song for that special someone, the combination of Botti's trumpet and Bublé's unique voice makes for a special package in this song. The track "Quando quando quando," introduces a slow Latin jazz beat, as Nelly Furtado and Michael Bublé's voices blend beautifully. The saxophone gets into the mix, taking off with the feel of an intimate setting, as the instrument has a smooth melodic solo. Another highlight of the album, this song fits perfectly into a smoky jazz bar room setting.

"If you're going to do a cover of a song that has a great melody, don't change the melody, for Christ's sake," said Ozzy Osbourne

recently in *Esquire* magazine. Apparently the prince of darkness hasn't heard this new album. Bublé combines elements of blues and jazz with his cover of the Marvin Gaye classic "How Sweet It Is." The opening guitar riffs sound like something The Allman Brothers would be proud of. The guitar and harmonica remain prevalent, along with the accompaniment of the jazzy trumpets in this up tempo number. Bublé also covers a classic of the Fab Four with their early song "Can't Buy Me Love."

The hallmark of the album comes in the package of a little song called "Home." The one song of the album written by its vocalist is the most heartfelt. The slow melody is soothing, straying from the others in style, with a more familiar pop arrangement. This song is the one that will catch your attention most out of

any on the album. Any college student can relate to his emotion when he proclaims, "May be surrounded by a million people, I still feel all alone, I just wanna go home. Oh I miss you, you know."

The time has come as the title of his album indicates, for a wider audience to undergo the Michael Bublé experience. His music is reminiscent of past genres, yet applicable and valid in the modern music scene. He is a refreshing voice to the common pattern that dominates popular music these days. And for Michael Bublé, how sweet it is. Learn more about him on his Web site, MichaelBublé.com, or perhaps you might find it's time to pick up his album, out in stores now.

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Trio from page A5

Trio. "The album is a very positive and upbeat offering and showcases a variety of musical styles and genres," said Harjit Bains of fmsound.net.

If it's a new and interesting sound you're looking for, the John Butler Trio may be just what you're looking for. Having already taken Australia by storm, the band is looking for a fan base in the United States. With its catchy tracks and sensational sound, it might just be the next big thing.

This CD would be a good one to listen to with a group of friends.

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Ray from page A5

play in a dive and joins the real world. The film expresses the journey that Charles takes as a blind African American man during the 1950s and 1960s and his eventual rise to fame. It highlights what he goes through as he plays for audiences. Either his manager or friends constantly take advantage of him in the financial department. His drug addiction and the affairs he had behind his wife's back also take a toll on his life.

For people who don't know a lot about Charles' life, this film is one to see. There may be shocking moments about his life because he has been considered a genius hero when it comes to music, but his personal life also plays a big role in this film.

"The movie would be worth seeing simply for the sound of the music and the sight of performing it. That it looks deeper and gives us a sense of the man himself is what makes it special," said Roger Ebert.

The great cast of characters make the movie even more real. Jamie Foxx does an excellent job of the physical movement and characteristics of Ray Charles.

Taylor Hackford directed this Universal Pictures Release with the screenplay by James L. White. This 155-minute film is rated PG-13 for depiction of drug addiction, sexuality and some thematic elements.

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

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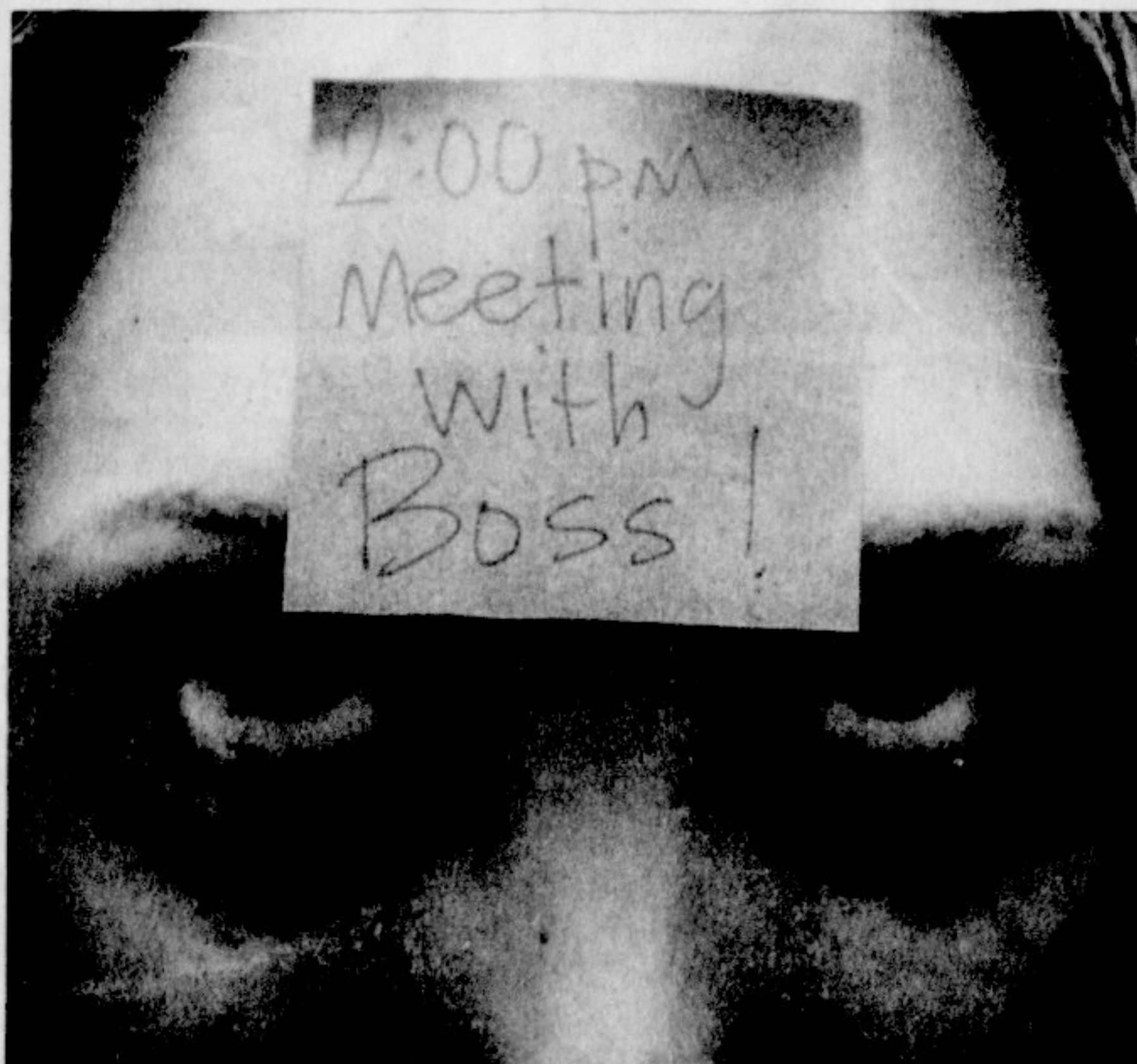
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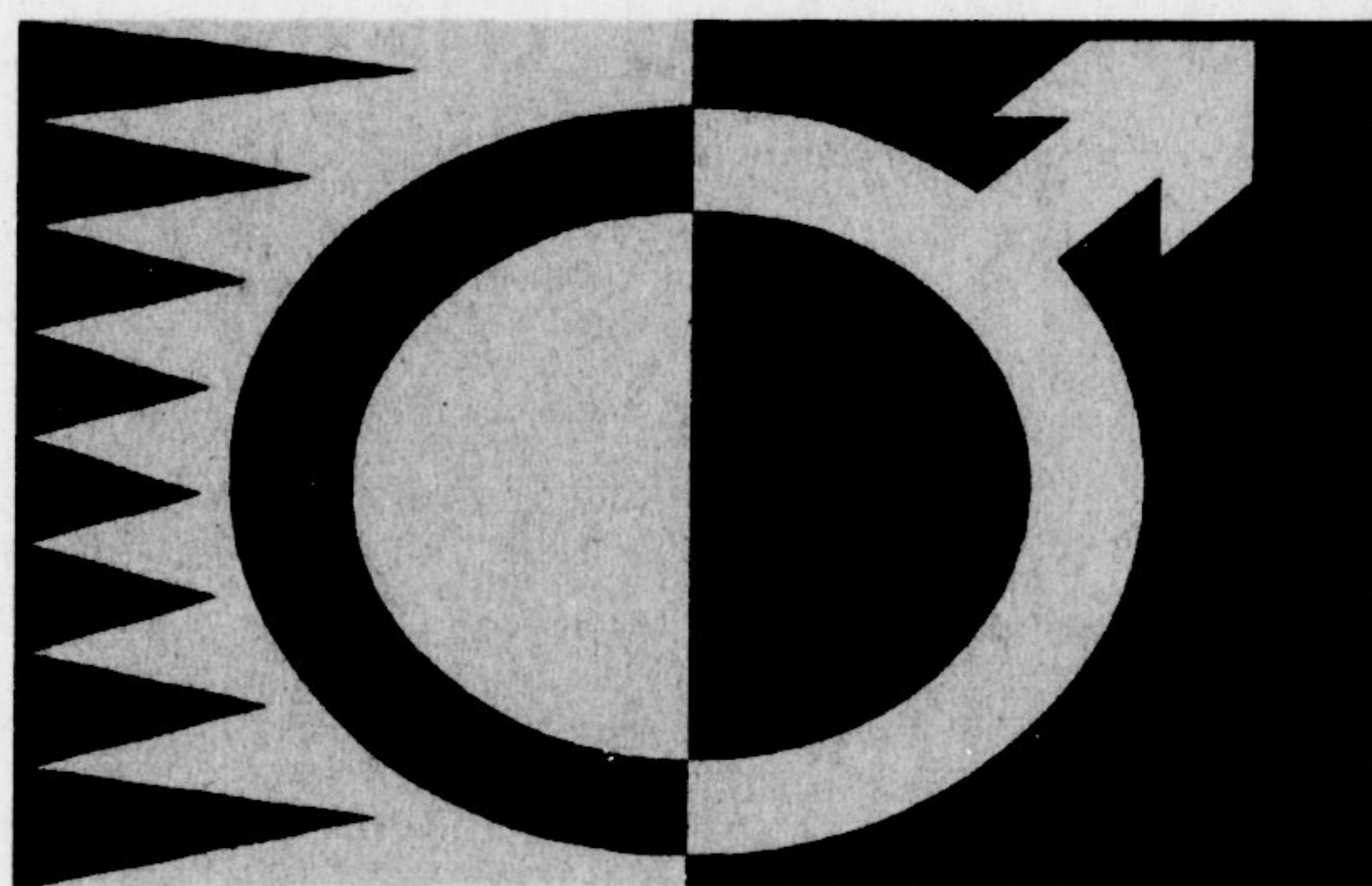
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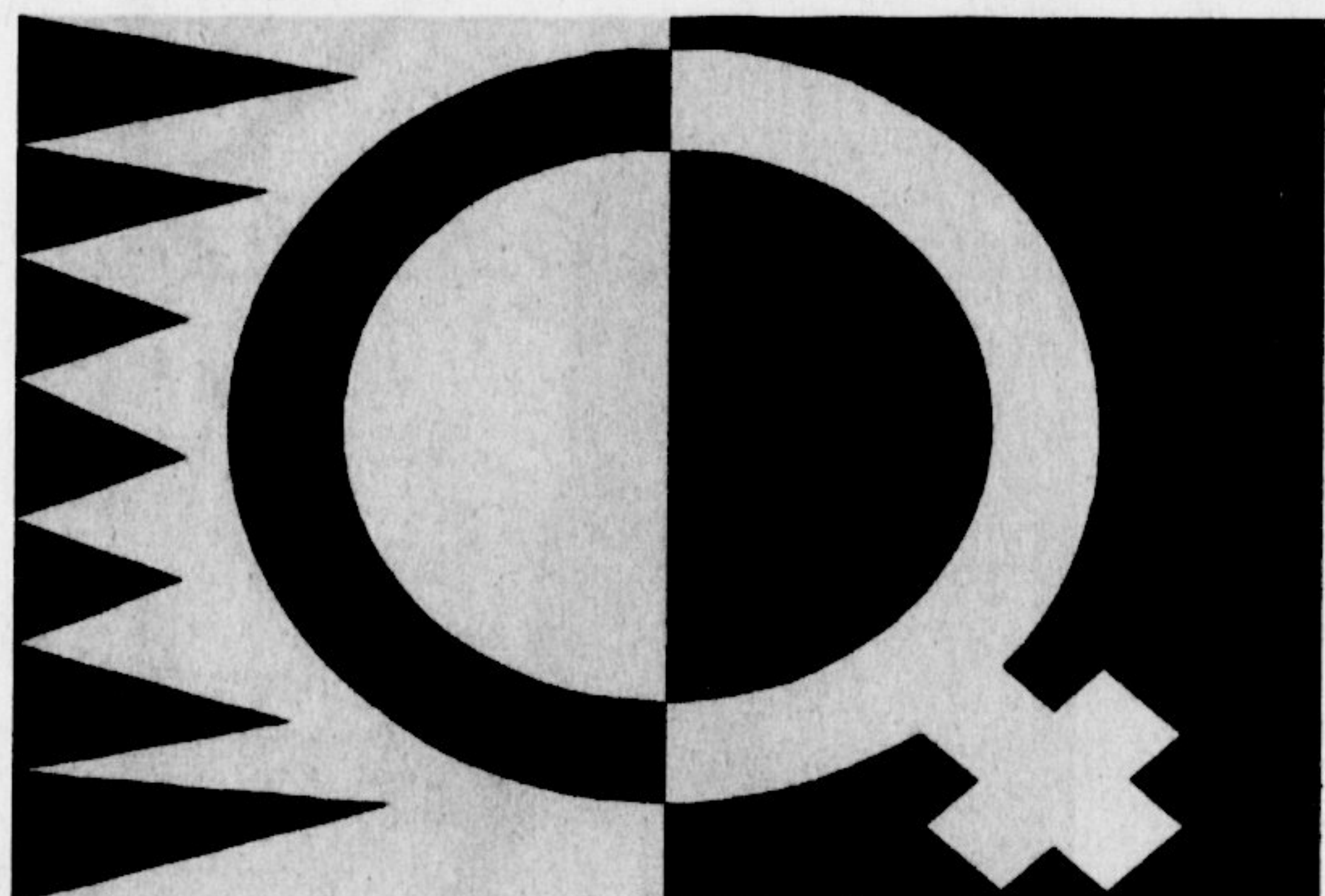
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Sports Briefs



Parker named to All-Decade team

ECU senior Diane Parker has been named to the Conference USA Women's Swimming and Diving All-Decade team announced league officials Tuesday. C-USA is celebrating its 10th anniversary during the 2004-05 season. In conjunction, the league is naming a Team of the Decade for each of the conference's 19 sports. Parker (Snellville, Ga.) is a two-time C-USA Female Swimmer of the Year recipient (2003, 2004). She has also received C-USA Swimmer of the Meet honors in 2002-03 and in 2003-04. Parker led the Pirates to the C-USA title in the 2002-2003 season and was named conference Swimmer of the Week seven times throughout her career. As a freshman, Parker garnered C-USA Rookie of the Year honors in 2001-02. She has been named ECU's Most Outstanding Swimmer for three consecutive years (2001-04). During her collegiate career, Parker has captured six individual conference championships, holds six ECU varsity swimming records (200 free, 100 and 200 breast, 100 and 200 fly and the 200 IM) and two C-USA records in the 100 breast and the 200 IM. In addition to individual records she also holds ECU varsity records as a member of four relay teams, in the 400 free, 800 free, 200 medley and the 400 medley.

Seahawks poised to tag Alexander

Faced with the challenge of two high-profile players on the verge of free agency, the Seattle Seahawks appeared to solve part of the equation, agreeing to a long-term deal with quarterback Matt Hasselbeck, the *Seattle Times* reported Tuesday. The deal, agreed to Monday night but not yet official, would allow the Seahawks to place the franchise tag on running back Shaun Alexander. The newspaper, citing sources close to negotiations, reported the team will hold a press conference Tuesday to announce the signing. Hasselbeck, a Pro Bowler in 2003, reportedly was seeking a deal similar to Chad Pennington's. The Jets' quarterback signed a seven-year extension for \$64 million. The deal included combined bonus money of \$23 million, all guaranteed. With an 83.1 rating last season, Hasselbeck was the league's 17th-rated passer. He completed 58.9 percent of his passes for 3,382 yards, with 22 touchdowns and 15 interceptions. He is also the highest-rated passer in team history, ahead of Dave Krieg. In an earlier report on Monday, the Tacoma, Wash., *News Tribune's* Web site reported the Seahawks had informed Hasselbeck of their decision to designate him as their franchise player if the sides couldn't reach a contract agreement by the 4 p.m. ET Tuesday deadline. Naming Hasselbeck the franchise player would have meant a one-year contract worth \$8.078 million, the average of the five highest quarterback salaries for 2004. A deal that size would wipe out roughly one-third of Seattle's existing salary cap space - which in turn is about twice what a long-term deal might wipe out in 2005, an incentive for the Seahawks to get a deal done - according to the *News Tribune*. With Hasselbeck apparently signed, the Seahawks can tag Alexander, giving him a one-year, \$6.3 million deal. Seattle could also trade the running back, who's flirted with the idea of playing elsewhere.

Merritt deserves celebrity billing

Freshman serves as outstanding ambassador for the university

ERIC GILMORE
SENIOR WRITER

If you see LaShawn Merritt on campus, roll out the red carpet. Hand him free shoes. Give him your food. Do his homework for him. Do whatever it takes to make him happy.

Heck, in a couple of years, there will be a bronze statue at a newly funded track complex of him. Not too many freshmen can boast that.

Track coach Bill Carson has coached at ECU for 37 years and he's seen nothing like it. Carson has coached the likes of Julien Dunkley, Charles Miles and Lee Vernon McNeill. That's pretty good company for Merritt to squash in a matter of weeks.

If you don't know who LaShawn Merritt is, you need to come out of your hermit hole. Just two weekends ago, he ran the third fastest indoor 400-meter time ever. Yes, ever. Merritt was clocked at 44.93 seconds at the Powered by Tyson Invitational Feb. 11.

The only person in the world to beat Merritt's indoor time was this guy named Michael Johnson. Johnson owns the world record of 44.63, set in 1995, and Johnson's 1996 time of 44.66 are the only two performances that are faster.

Try to fathom this. That's the equivalent of ECU point guard Mike Cook dribbling circles around Allen Iverson or Kobe Bryant. Johnson was a professional, sponsored by Nike, and training year round. Merritt, a complete amateur, is on his footsteps still having to take English 1100.

The scary part is that Merritt still has a chance to get better. He's only been competing in indoor track for two years. Carson thinks that with the proper training Merritt could break the 44-second barrier. That's absolutely unheard of.

Think what Michael Vick did for Virginia Tech football. Although he did visit ECU, he ended up elevating Virginia Tech to a national championship game. That national championship game had a trickle down effect to Virginia Tech becoming a football powerhouse while still propelling them into the ACC.

What about Johnny Dawkins and Jay Bilas for Duke basketball? Coach K got a recruiting class that struggled at first, but eventually rose to Final Four status. Duke now reloads in basketball year in and year out.

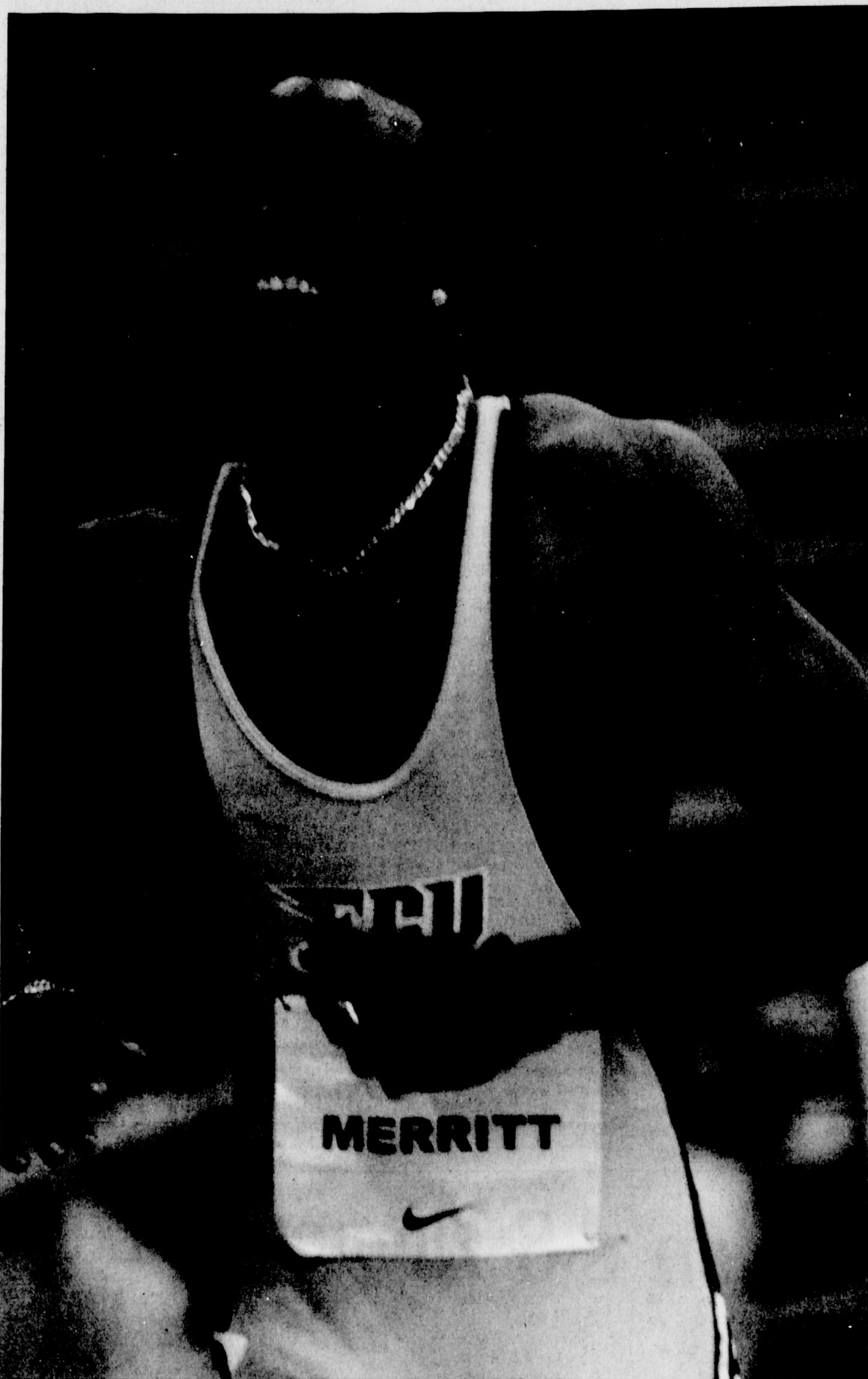
LaShawn Merritt is that certain type of special athlete who could propel ECU track and field to a consistent national power. Not to take away from Carson's efforts because ECU already has been a consistently strong squad, but now, we're talking powerhouse.

Merritt has already gained exposure for ECU on ESPN 2 in the Powered by Tyson Invitational tournament. Watching Merritt run in the purple and gold should exude pride throughout the Pirate Nation.

Merritt has handled everything via the media with grace. He appears to be confident, yet humbled in his effort to win the Conference USA 400 meter race this weekend and the 2005 NCAA Indoor Championship March 11 - 12.

Oh yeah, get his autograph too. It will be something to show the kids in front of that statue.

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

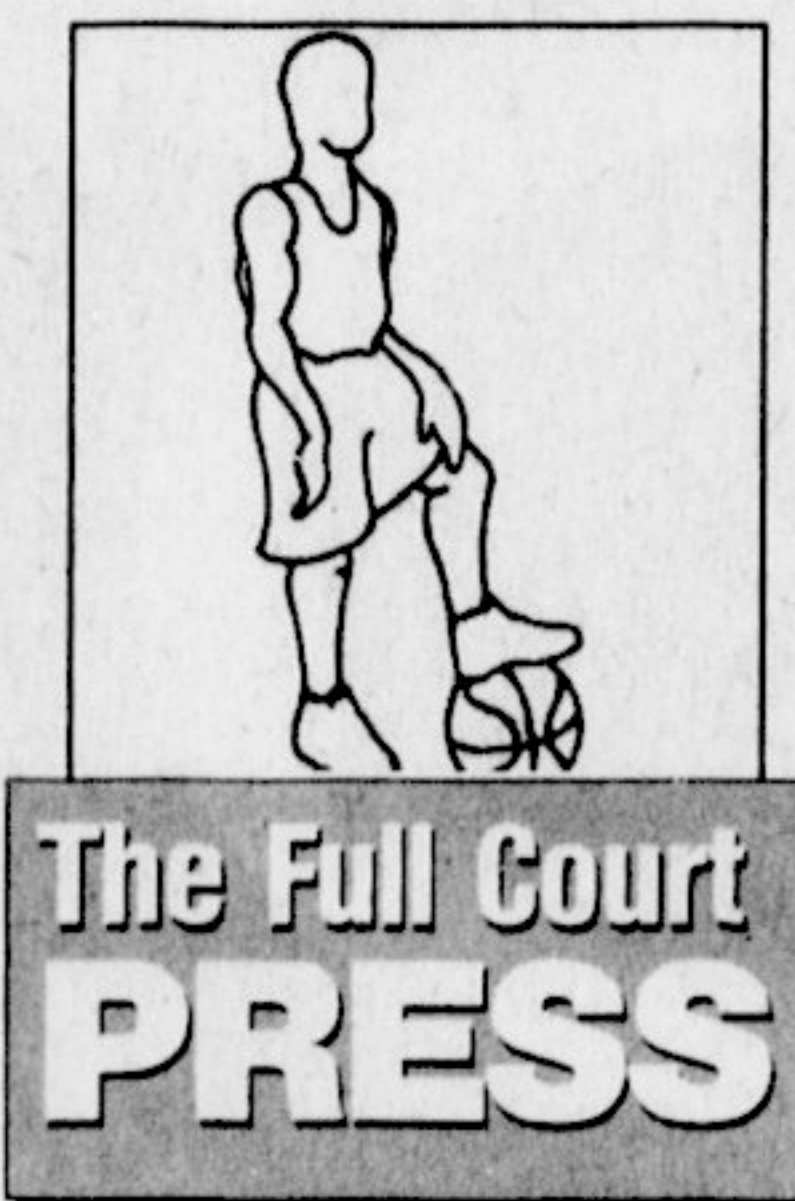


Merritt celebrates after his record-shattering performance in the 400-meter at the Tyson Indoor meet.

Pirates do the unthinkable on road at UAB



McNeil hit two game-sealing free throws against UAB last week.



ROBERT LEONARD
SENIOR WRITER

I was sitting at my computer last Wednesday night just relaxing. I knew ECU was playing at UAB at the time, but as I said last week, we really didn't have a chance to pull this game out.

About 8:45 p.m., fellow writer Brent Wynne sent me an instant message.

"Are you listening to this? We are up two with three minutes left."

You have to be kidding me. I'm a big fan of this program, but come on. If there are two things this team isn't known for it's winning close games and winning on the road, and Brent was trying to tell me we were doing both.

I stood up and went over to my radio. Were we beating UAB on the road? I excitedly turned on the radio and twisted the dial until I finally found Pirate Radio 1250, hoping to hear the familiar voice of Jeff Charles giving me the good news. Instead of hearing Jeff Charles, all I got was a commercial.

I went back to my desk and just started thinking how

awesome this would be if it were true. People who don't follow college basketball may think UAB is an average team just because of their name. I mean, how many teams with hyphenated names do you know are good? But in all honesty, nothing could be further from the truth. Let's not forget this is a team that went to the Sweet 16 last year after beating Kentucky, who many college basketball writers, including myself, had picked to advance to the Final Four.

Finally, Jeff Charles came over the airways with the truth. We were beating UAB.

The next few minutes seemed like an eternity. With not much time left on the clock, we got a big stop and JaPhet McNeil was put on the line with two free throws and a chance to go up three points.

For me, that wasn't good news. On the free throw line, where ECU has struggled, the Pirates had a chance to force a team to hit a three pointer to send the game to overtime.

This team really amazes me. Sometimes in this situation, like last season against Charlotte, we miss those free throws. Sometimes in this situation, like this season against Charlotte, we make those free throws. Either way I knew it was all or nothing once McNeil got to the line, he was hitting both or missing both.

As soon as he hit the first one, I knew the second one was good. With hardly any time left on the clock, UAB needed a miracle.

I sat at my desk and thought about what Bill Herriion must have been screaming at his five players that moment. I imagined him screaming,

"Don't foul."

If he was, JaPhet didn't hear him. I really don't remember much about what Jeff Charles said, but I do remember him saying, "UAB now has a chance to tie the game with no time left at the free throw line. Why would you foul there?"

Why am I not surprised?

Jeff Charles, like good broadcasters do, made things rather simple. "If he misses any of these, the Pirates are going to win this game. (Pause) And he misses the first. The Pirates have won this game."

In my opinion, this is the biggest win in the Bill Herriion era. He has had some very big wins in his career here, but none compare with this one. Beating Louisville for our first conference win ever was big. Beating Dwayne Wade and Marquette twice in back-to-back seasons was huge. Beating Charlotte this season was another memorable win for Herriion. But the latest notch on Herriion's belt has one thing not in common with the rest - this one came on the road.

It's actually pretty funny. Last Wednesday in this column, I said we had no chance to win this game and yet, we won it. Earlier in the season I bashed the team for not showing effort and then they came out 110 percent against Cincinnati. Maybe I should just write negative things about them every week.

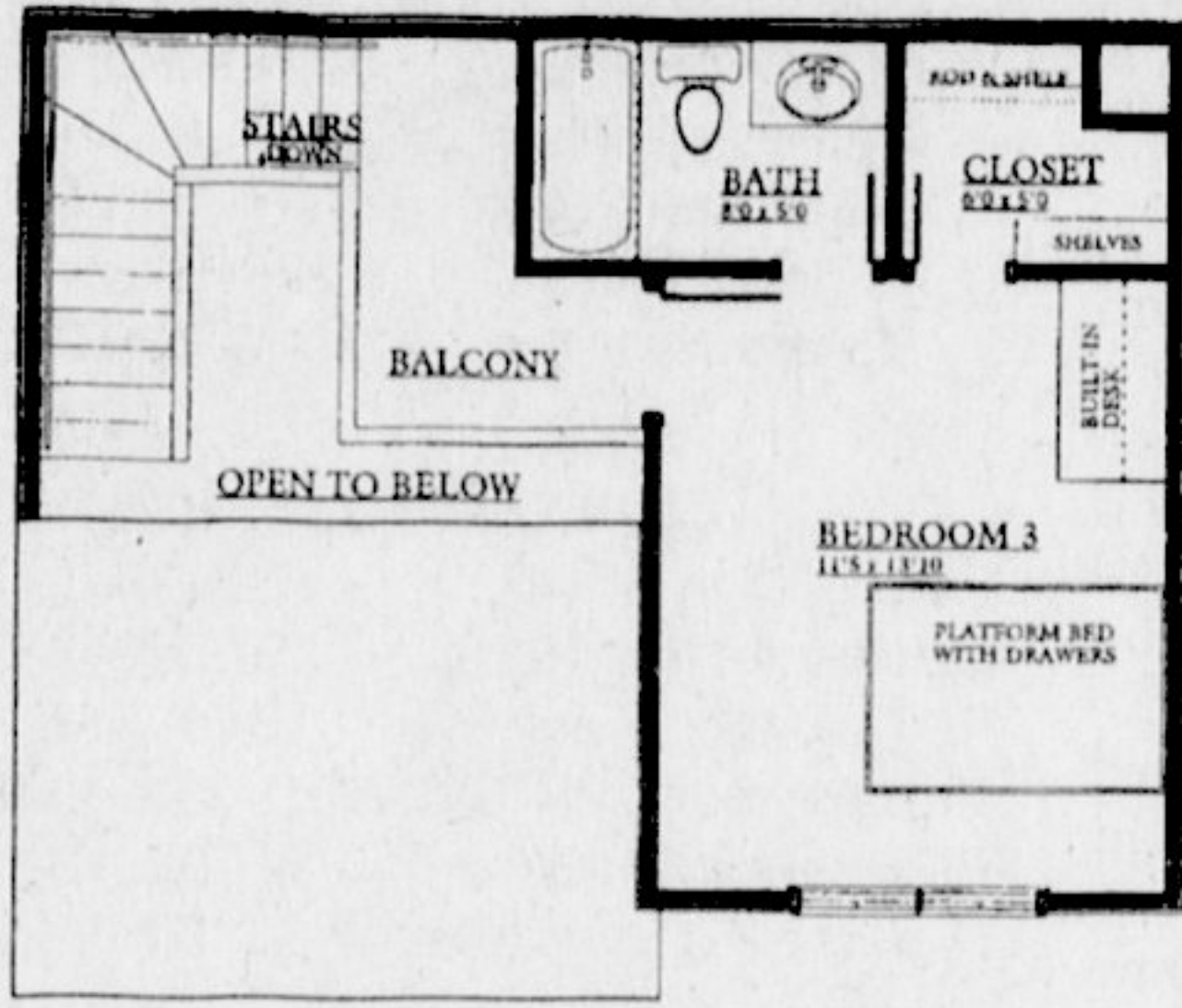
With that in mind, we play Southern Mississippi at home tonight and Houston in Minges Saturday. I don't think we have a chance against either team.

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

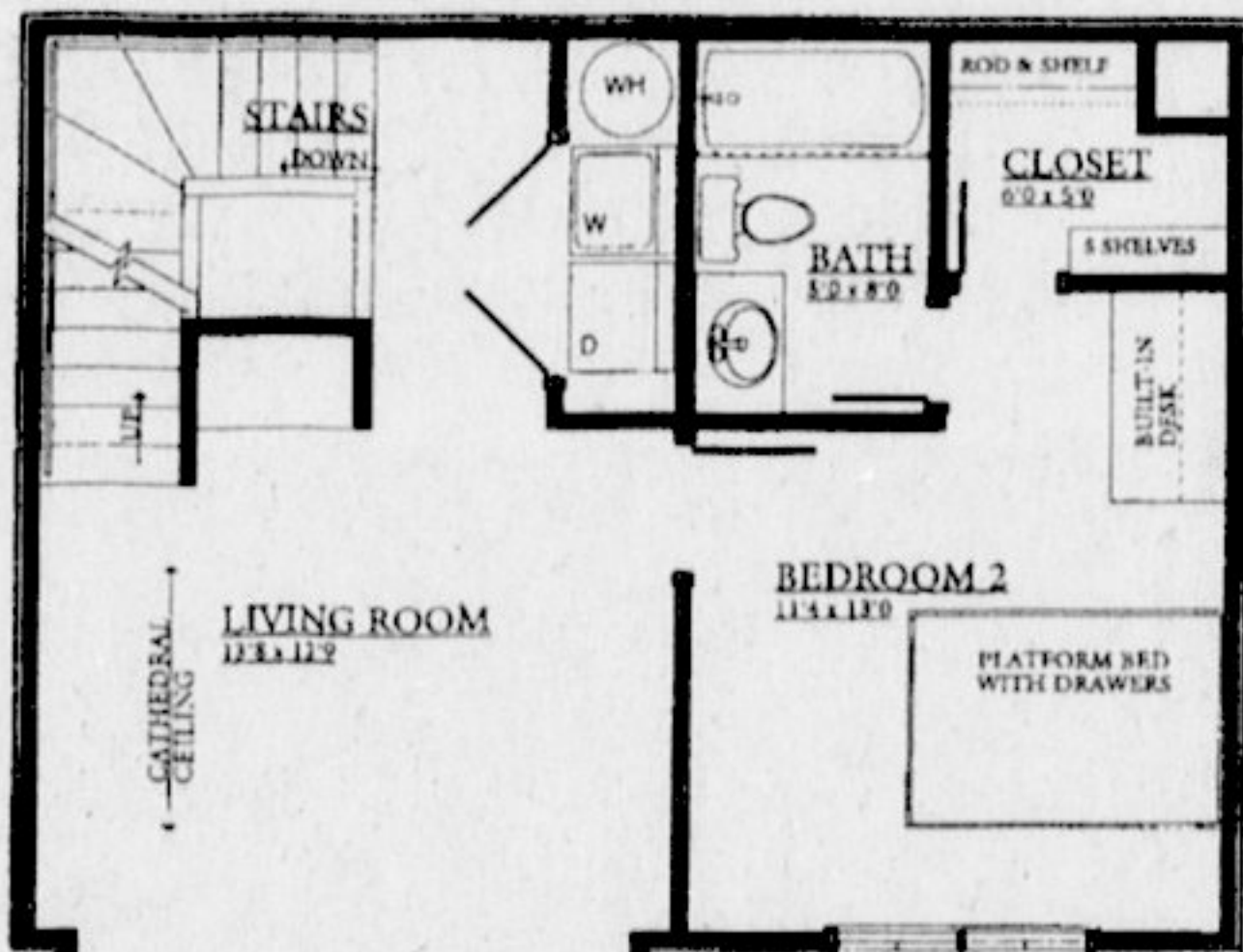
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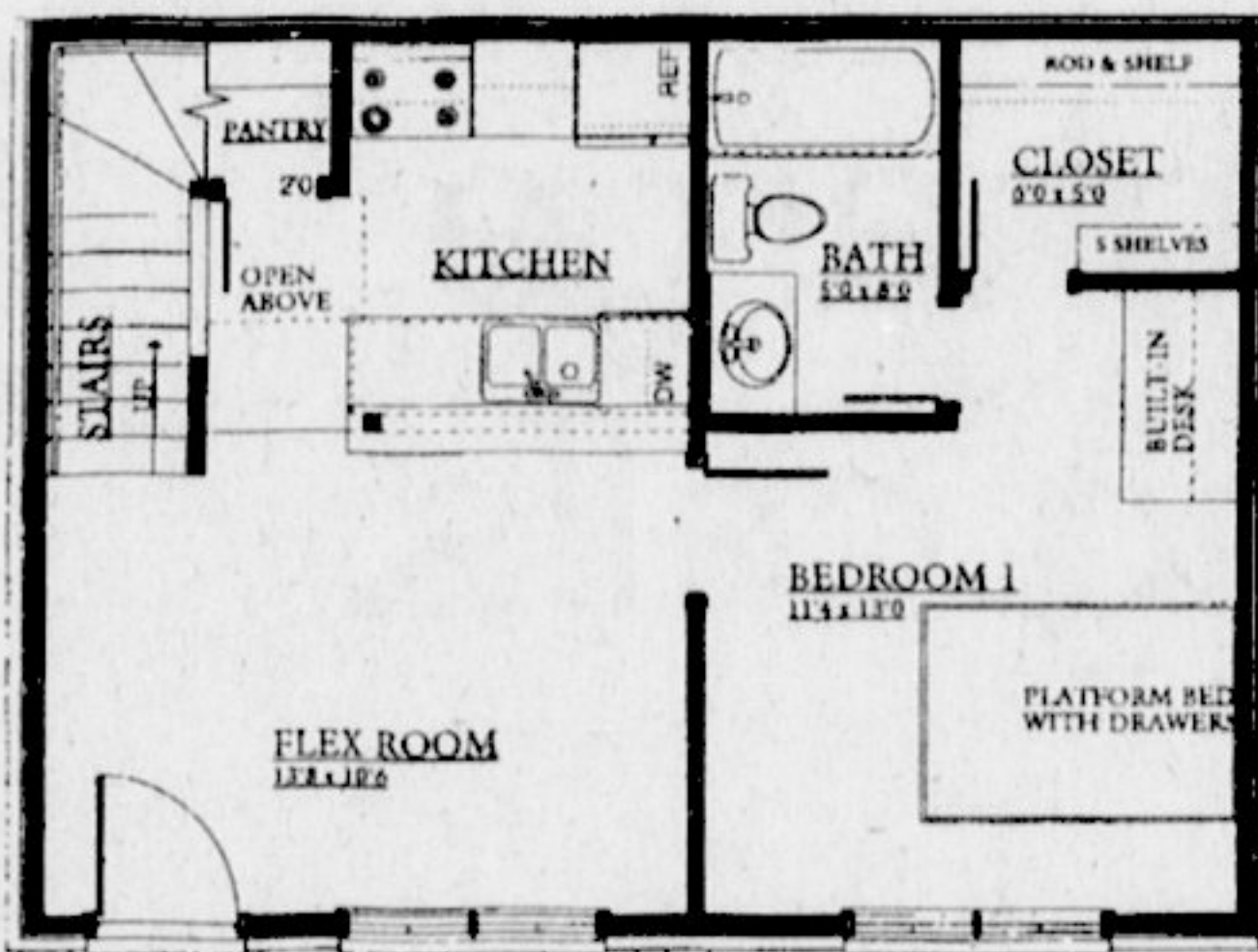
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Third Floor



Second Floor

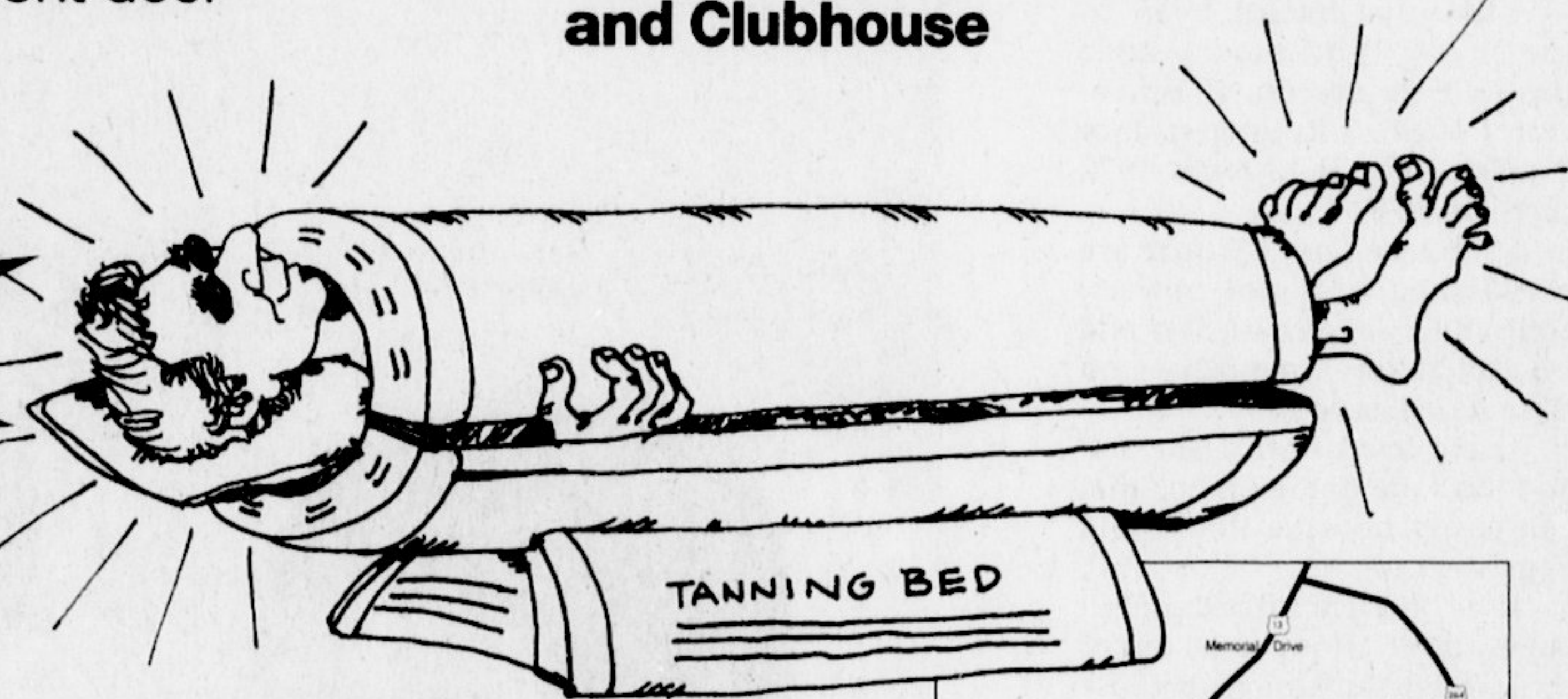


First Floor

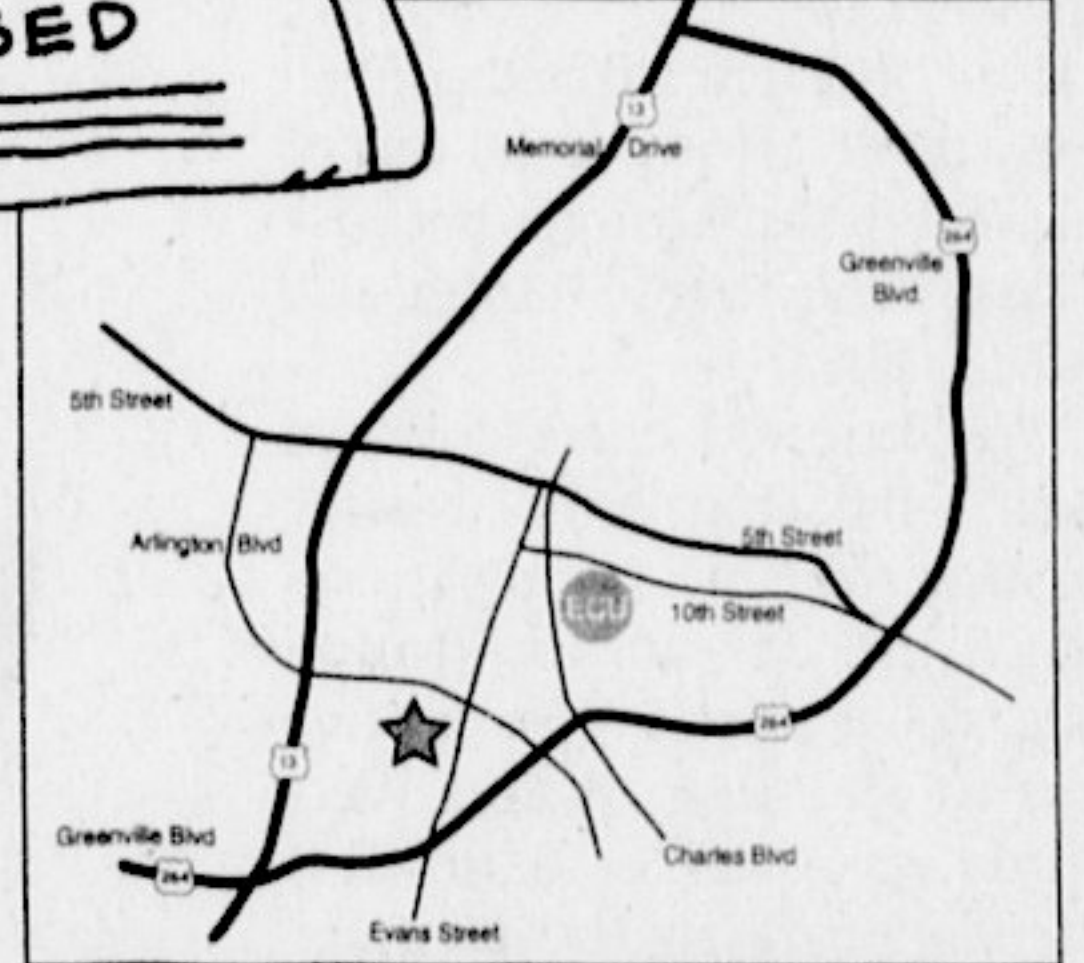
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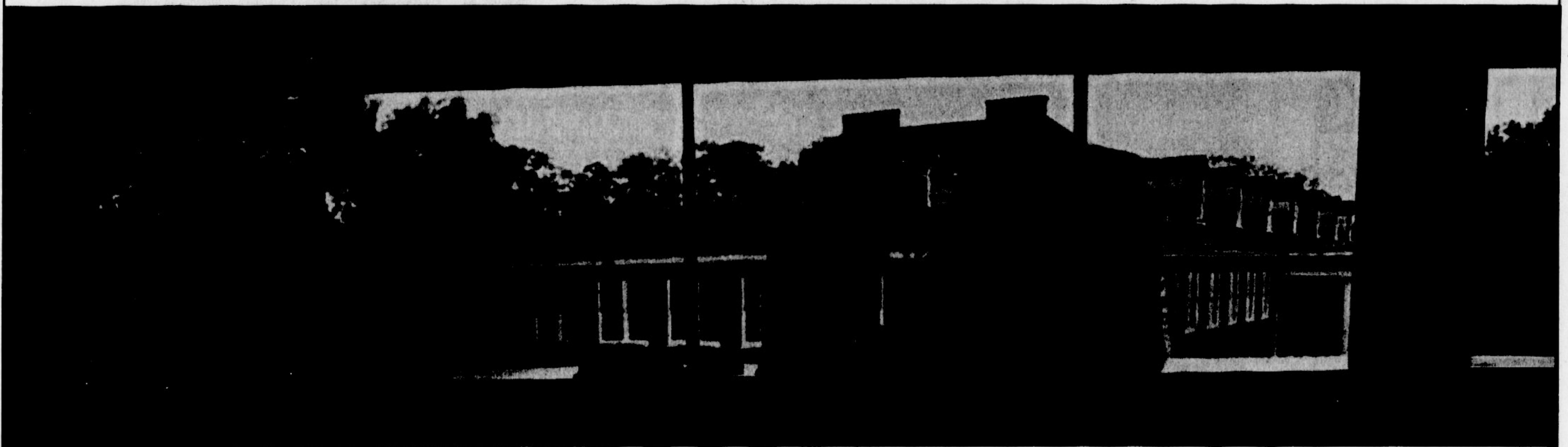
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Cats back on radar

(KRT) — Timing can be everything, and quite frankly, fourth-year Villanova coach Jay Wright has picked the perfect time to get his Wildcats back on the national scene.

It's not fair to say that this season would have been 'Nova's last chance to re-establish itself as a perennial NCAA Tournament program, the kind that top recruits would again put on their consideration list. But considering what's coming next in the Big East Conference, this was probably going to be its best.

Despite all the talk about the power of the Atlantic Coast Conference, the last two NCAA champions, Connecticut and Syracuse, are Big East teams.

And while, the Big East lost Miami and Virginia Tech to the ACC and will lose Boston College to it next season, the teams joining the conference next year, Cincinnati, DePaul, Louisville, Marquette and South Florida, will more than compensate.

The bottom line is the Big East has always been a league that's been tough to get up in once you've fallen down, and now it's going to be even tougher.

Villanova hasn't been in the NCAA Tournament since the 1998-99 season. The five-year drought is its longest since it missed the field from 1972 through 1978.

Syracuse and UConn are established national powers. Louisville, Cincinnati, Pitt and De Paul are big time players on the national scene.

Georgetown, Notre Dame and St. John's are name brands that can easily become household names again.

In a conference like that, Villanova can't afford to be out of the spotlight any longer because it's just going to get harder and harder to find.

"You know, I can't concern myself with that, but I realize that what you are saying is correct. Think about how tough this league is now. We've got five teams in the Top 25 and West Virginia was undefeated until it started playing in the league," Wright said after the 25th-ranked Wildcats came up with a huge 80-72 victory over No. 17 Pittsburgh Sunday at the Pavilion. A taste of the NCAA Tournament this year would do wonders for next season and beyond.

"My commitment is to these kids," Wright said.

"I have faith in them, and I just believe that if we can get them to be the best they can be, that other stuff, which is very important, will take care of itself.

"Now the next step is that they have to actually take themselves as far as they can go. And then they teach the younger guys, and that's how you get a program going."

It looks as if Villanova has turned the corner. It couldn't have happened at a better time.



Lind led the women, finishing seventh overall.

Lady Pirates claim second place in Papa John's Collegiate tournament

(SID) — The ECU women's golf team fired the second lowest team total (294) of the tournament Tuesday afternoon to claim second place honors at the Papa John's Collegiate. The tournament was being held at the par-72, 6,190-yard Don Shula Golf Club.

The Pirates (62-28-1) placed four golfers in the top-23, with freshman Emelie Lind finishing in seventh place after a 54-hole total of 222. Senior Adrienne Millican claimed her fifth top-10 finish of the season with a tie for eighth place after carding a 224.

Sophomore Michelle Williams recorded her first ever top-10 placement at ECU after posting a tournament score of 225 finishing in a tie for tenth, while Heidi Helliesen finished tied for 23rd (77-79-75=231). Host school Miami (Fla.) took

home the team title with a 54-hole score of 883, followed by ECU (902), No. 39 Virginia (907), USF (909) and No. 28 Mississippi State (911).

In the individual portion of the event, Miami's Josie Shinn claimed first place honors with a score of 213 (73-73-67), followed by Mississippi State's Beth Irwin (220). Four golfers finished tied for third at 222 and ECU's Lind came in seventh (224).

"We came out and played well today," said Head Coach Kevin Williams.

"We were able to get some good quality wins this week and our team showed that we can stay calm and play from behind."

The Lady Pirates will be back on the course March 6-8 when they participate in the Pinehurst Challenge in Pinehurst, N.C.

Top Pirate Finishes

7. Emelie Lind	70-78-74=222
8. Adrienne Millican	74-78-72=224
T10. Michelle Williams	75-77-73=225
23. Heidi Helliesen	77-79-75=231
T45. Jessica Hauser	80-80-79=239

Top Individual Finishes

1. Josie Shinn (Miami)	73-73-67=213
2. Beth Irwin (Miss. State)	75-70-75=220
T3. Tina Miller (Miami)	75-76-70=221
T3. Becky Berzonski (UNCW)	73-75-73=221
T3. Leah Wigger (UVA)	77-72-72=221
T3. Michelle Jarman (UNCW)	73-73-75=221

Top Team Finishes

1. University of Miami (Fla.)	296-299-288=883
2. ECU	296-312-294=902
3. University of Virginia	301-301-305=907
4. University of South Florida	304-309-296=909
5. Mississippi State University	313-294-304=911

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