



SGA candidates host debate



Members of the ECU community present questions to the SGA candidates as the running candidates discussed their views of what they thought would be best for ECU. Topics ranged from safety concerns on campus to concerns about increasing tuition costs.



SGA President candidates collaborate among ECU students in Wright Plaza taking questions and hearing student concerns.

Candidates answer student questions

EDEN SPENCER
STAFF WRITER

Numerous students and staff members attended Monday night's Student Government Association debate as they listened to the running candidates answer various pre-prepared and random questions from audience members.

The forum began by asking questions to each presidential candidate, focusing on their goals and plans on carrying out their goals.

M. Cole Jones, presidential candidate running independently for ticket two said he plans to enhance the total student experience. He said he felt the SGA cabinet simply needs enforcement and he plans to allocate time to show students what their SGA is accomplishing.

Daniel Spuller, presidential candidate for ticket three said his ticket has 25 reality based key points set aside ranging from campus safety to fighting the

tuition increases. Spuller said he plans to accomplish these goals by working with the ECU Crime Stoppers to better secure on-campus areas, as well as off-campus areas having a student attend Greenville City Council meetings.

Terry Gore, presidential candidate for ticket four said he has eight realistic goals that he would like to focus on including campus safety, parking and textbook use. He said he plans to fulfill these goals by working with administrators he has met during his time as president of the student senate. Gore said he plans to work to get police officers patrolling ECU's campus on foot and bicycle more visible to students. He said he also plans to conduct a survey at the end of each semester, for each course, to evaluate the textbook required for the class.

During the random questioning segment of the debate, Spuller was asked in what way he would provide a college friendly tuition increase.

"Cutting jobs and hiking tuition is just not the way to go," said Spuller.

Spuller said his ticket plans to let students know they have a

voice by creating a voter education program. He said the voter education program will teach students that officials in the state legislature will continue to vote for tuition increases if they are continuously voted into office.

Jones was asked how he planned to get students involved with SGA. He said he planned to be a president who is visible to the student body. He said he plans to conduct activities to uplift and motivate students to get involved with student government.

Gore was asked how he would strive to improve himself if elected into office – he said he feels he can be overbearing and would continue to work on this issue within himself.

"I've learned that there are times when I need to stop giving advice and start asking questions," said Gore.

During the audience-questioning segment of the forum each presidential candidate said they would work to become more accessible to the student body if elected.

Students who attended showed positive reactions to the

debate and hope to see some changes implemented next year within the SGA.

Charles Owens, freshman political science major said he thought the most important issue discussed was the visibility of the SGA to the students. While he said he thought the past SGA made efforts in this area, he said there is still room for improvement.

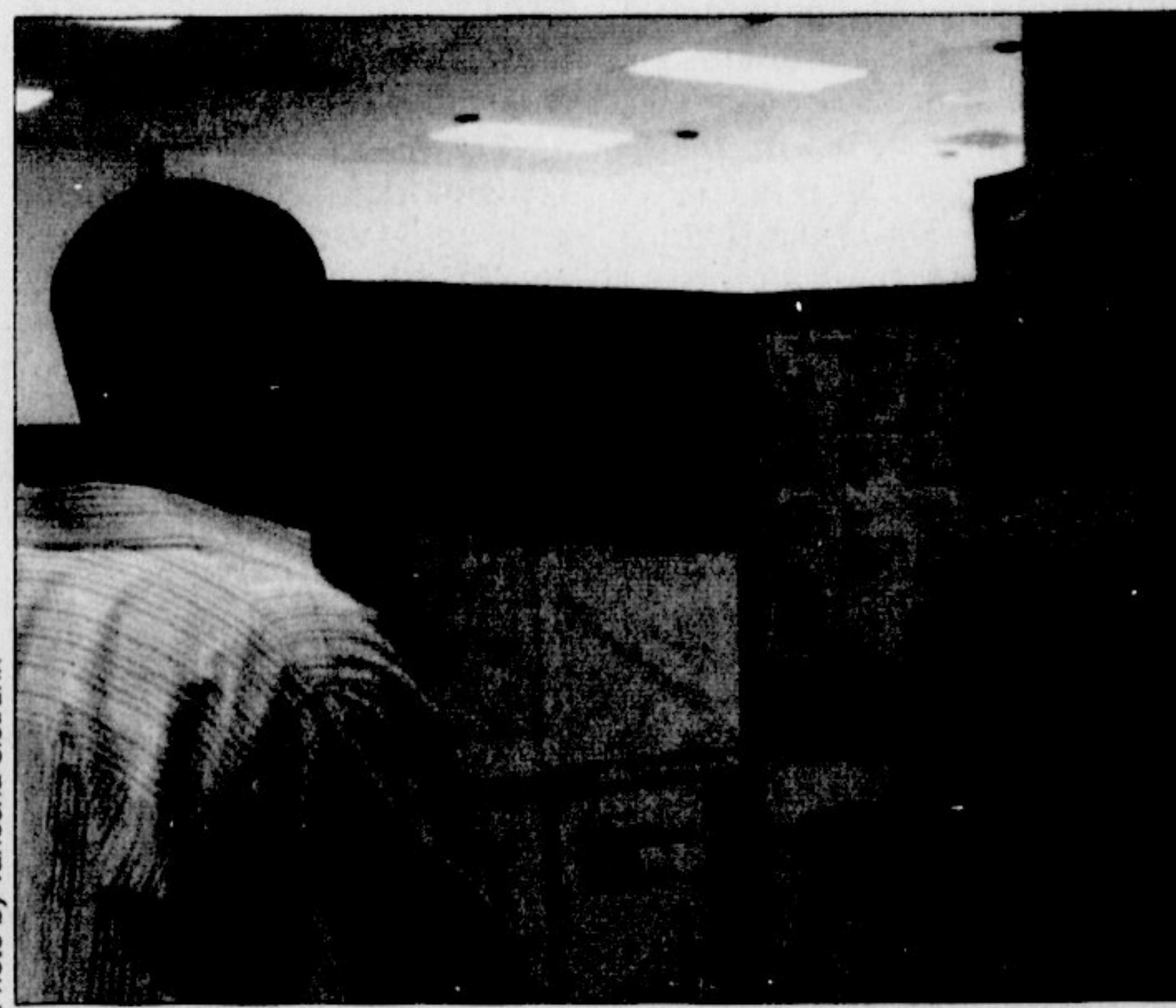
Tiffany Mangum, junior health services management major agreed that SGA accessibility was the main issue of importance. She said it is necessary for ECU students to know the SGA is there and how to turn to them if they have a concern they would like to see addressed.

Students and SGA members agreed the debate was a success.

"It went very well. We had a large turn out," said April Paul, elections chair.

Paul said she is excited to see so many people interested in the issues taking place within SGA and hopes each student will cast a vote this week.

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



Tyler Rankins shows his exhibit called "The Evolution of Rap" to competition judges. Rankins advanced to the state competition.

ECU department sponsors National History Day

Local students battle for state competition

KRISTIN DAY
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

ECU's History Department sponsored this year's National History Day competition for education district one last Friday.

The day included the junior competition for grades six through eight and the senior competition for high school students from local public and private schools. This year's theme was "Communication in History: The Key to Understanding." To illustrate this theme, students held exhibits covering various topics from the telephone and music to war propaganda and the media.

Claire Pittman, lecturer with the history department, said the competition at ECU was the biggest competition in the state with 204 students participating in exhibits, performances, documentaries and historical papers. The different categories allowed each student to choose which area they felt they would be most successful in, including whether they excel in individual or group work.

Harrison Horne, sixth grade student from C.M. Eppes Middle School, competed with an individual exhibit that compared propaganda from WWI and WWII. He was a little nervous about speaking with the judges and said he learned about the topic from past experiences, movies and by reading a lot of books.

Rebecca Stephenson, also a

First Place Winners:

Junior competition –
Alyssa Torres
Rebecca Stephenson
Sarah Lewis Peel
Courtney Canosa
Becca Morris
Danille Hennessey
Parker Murphy
Tory Whitson
Ian Whitson
Phillip Barefoot
Abbe Brooks
Allie Rawl

Senior competition –
Sid Aneja
Zach Sprau
A'Tolani Akinkuot
Mark Tafoya
Eric Warren
Michiko Theurer
Sr. Group Documentary:
Andrew Brown
Sharada Persaud
Lizzi Blaney
Chelsea Westbrook
Ginger Gooch
Alisha Saad

sixth grade student from C.M. Eppes, participated in the junior individual performance category. She performed a broadcast as she thought Tokyo Rose, a female Japanese broadcaster during WWII who was said to have taunted Allied forces, would have done.

Judges looked at historical quality of the projects, relation to theme, clarity of presentation and com-

see HISTORY page A3

Cardinals fail to elect new pope



Black smoke billows from the chimney of the Sistine Chapel.

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Black smoke poured from the Sistine Chapel's chimney Monday evening, signaling that the cardinals sequestered inside for the first papal conclave of the new millennium failed to elect a new pope.

The black smoke emanating shortly after 8 p.m. (2 p.m. EDT) meant the 115 voting cardinal "princes" of the church would retire for the night and return to the chapel Tuesday morning for more balloting in their search for a successor to Pope John Paul II.

If two morning ballots fail to produce a pope, the cardinals could hold two more votes Tuesday afternoon.

Some 40,000 people who packed St. Peter's Square to stare

at the stovepipe jutting from the chapel roof shouted, "It's black! It's black!" and snapped photos with their cell phones.

White smoke will tell the world that the church's 265th pontiff has been chosen to succeed John Paul, who died April 2 at age 84.

The cardinals, from six continents and representing 52 countries, began their secret deliberations late in the afternoon after the ceremonial closing of the massive doors of the chapel, which is decorated with frescoes by Michelangelo and wired with electronic jamming devices to thwart eavesdropping.

The excitement built as darkness set in and pilgrims watched close-ups of the chimney on giant video screens in the square.

As the smoke began pouring from the chimney, shouts of "e bianco, e bianco." – "It's white. It's white." – rippled through the crowd. But the cries quickly gave way to sighs of disappointment as the smoke blackened.

"At first it seemed that we had a new pope, so I had a lot of emotions. But of course we didn't really expect to have a pope on the first day," said Alessia Di Caro, a 23-year-old university student.

There was initial confusion when a Vatican Radio commentator said, "It seems white," as the first puffs emerged from the

chimney. But as thick, darker smoke followed, the station proclaimed it black.

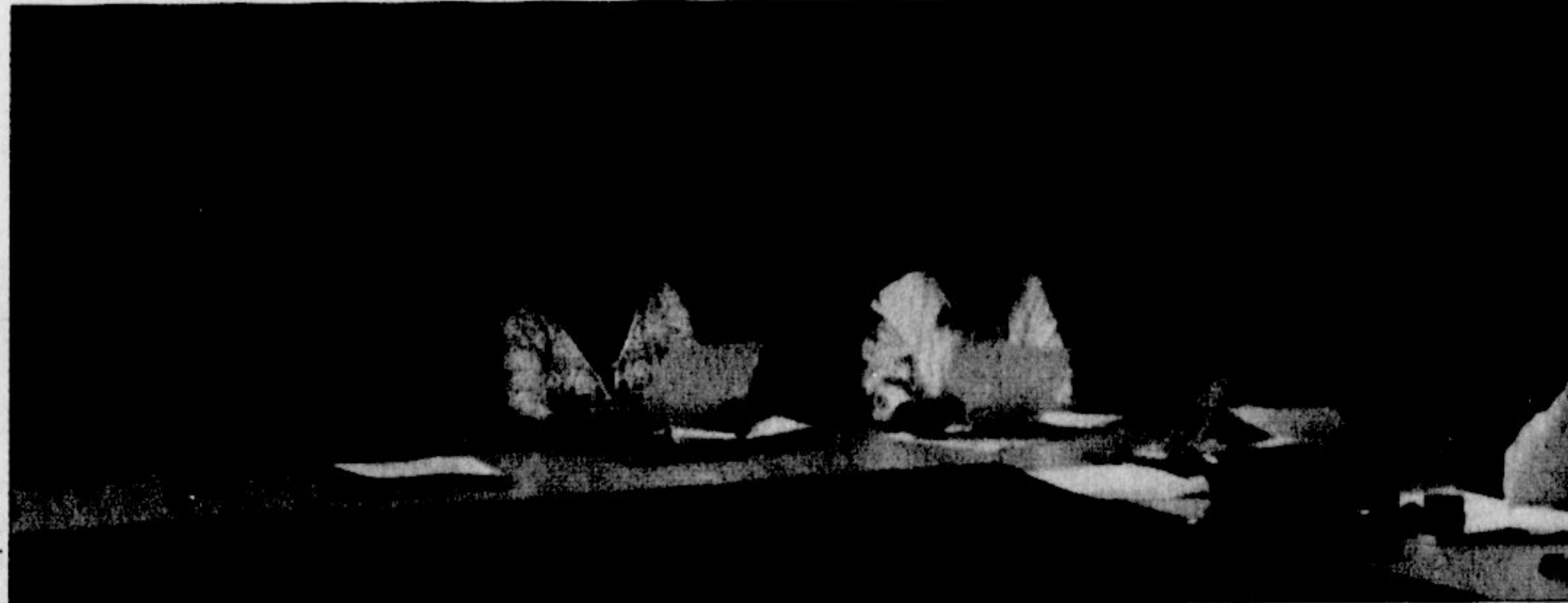
"It looks like the stove wasn't working well at first," an announcer joked a few minutes later.

Before shutting themselves inside, German Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger led his fellow cardinals in reading aloud an oath of secrecy.

One by one, they then filed up to a Book of the Gospels, placed their right hands on it and pronounced a second oath to keep their sessions secret.

Ratzinger's admonition read, in part: "In a particular way, we promise and swear to observe with the greatest fidelity and with all persons, clerical or lay, secrecy regarding everything that in any way relates to the election of the Roman Pontiff and regarding what occurs in the place of the election, directly or indirectly related to the results of the voting; we promise and swear not to break this secret in any way."

Ratzinger – a powerful Vatican official often mentioned as a leading candidate for pope – began by reciting a prayer at the palace. The cardinals chanted the Litany of the Saints as they made the short walk to the chapel, led by altar servers carrying two long, lit white candles and a metal crucifix.



The steering committee discusses issues related to improving retention rates during their meeting.

Steering committee to improve retention, graduation rates

Members evaluate how to make improvements

NICK HENNE
NEWS EDITOR

A new steering committee at ECU, striving to make improvements on retention and graduation rates is in the process of looking at different factors that affect those issues.

ECU loses approximately 22 – 24 percent of its students in transition from their first to second year. The committee is in the process of finding the primary reasons for this loss and ways to make improvements.

"To some degree, all first year students are at risk," said Todd Johnson, associate vice chancellor of student life.

Johnson said many first year students have not developed main important life skill sets that are important for making it through college. Factors Johnson cited that play a part in this included use of time, excessive partying, when to say "no" and general knowledge of safety.

The committee has been working on addressing retention rates based upon issues ranging from the financial need of the family, projected grade average to race and the transition from

community colleges.

According to Tom Powell, director of admissions, students living in eastern North Carolina have traditionally had higher retention rates than students living elsewhere. Studies have further indicated that in-state students not living in the eastern part of the state have had slightly higher retention rates than out-of-state students. Out-of-state students tend to come from families who have higher incomes than students in North Carolina.

Don Joyner, associate vice chancellor for academic services,

see STEERING page A2

Announcements

Correction

The photo accompanying the story "State mandates Greenville bridge to undergo replacement" that ran in the April 14 issue of *TEC* is of the wrong bridge. The bridge that will be under construction is located on 14th Street near the intersection with Charles Boulevard.

NAMI Meetings

The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill chapter at ECU welcomes all who have friends or family who suffer from a mental illness or those who have an illness themselves to their monthly meetings for support and to work toward erasing the stigma associated with mental illnesses. NAMI ECU meets the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center, including during semester breaks. For more information, please call Erick at 355-5217 or Olivia at 758-1294.

Percussion Players

The school of music is holding this concert April 20 at A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall at 8 p.m. Call 328-4788 for more information.

AA Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings will be held every Wednesday at noon in 242 Mendenhall Student Center and Thursday at 11:30 a.m. in 14 MSC. For more information, call 760-500-8918.

Advance Care Planning Clinic

The Health Ministries of the Memorial Baptist Church and the End of Life Care Coalition of Eastern Carolina are offering a free advanced care planning clinic Wednesday, April 20 from 6:30 p.m. in the church at 1510 SE Greenville Blvd. An educational session will be provided until 7 p.m. and trained advanced care planning will also be on site until 8 p.m. to assist those who have additional questions. Please call 847-0868 if you have any further questions.

Summer Work Study

ECU students who are not taking summer classes and can work 40 hours each week can participate in the work-study program this summer. First go to Student Financial Aid in 250 Flanagan and pick up a "Hiring Authorization Form." Then attend a brief information session at Student Professional Development on the corner of Fifth and Jarvis Streets. Sessions will be held April 20 from 2-2:30 p.m., April 21 from 10-10:30 a.m., April 22 from 10-10:30 a.m. and April 25 from 11-11:30 a.m.

Barefoot on the Mall

ECU's annual Barefoot on the Mall event will be April 21. Come out and enjoy food, music and fun.

Business After Hours

Join Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce and members for an evening of networking April 21 from 5:30-7 p.m. in Bailey's Fine Jewelry. Spend your time with other business professionals as you enjoy great food and exchange ideas. For more information, call 752-4101.

Contra Dance

The ECU Folk and Country Dancers are sponsoring a contra dance Friday, April 25 at the Willis Building at First and Reade Streets. The beginners' lesson begins at 7:30 p.m. and the contra dance will be from 8-10:30 p.m. Live, old-time and Celtic music will be provided by a string band. Price of admission is \$3 for students, \$5 for FASG members and \$8 for the general public. This will be the last contra dance of the school year. For more information, please call 752-7350.

News Briefs

Local

Skateboarder killed in accident, officer dies while responding

BELMONT, NC — A teenage skateboarder died this weekend after being struck by a car and an officer responding to the call suffered a fatal heart attack, authorities said.

Police said they don't intend to charge the driver whose car struck Trevor McKinzie Gray, 13, about 6:30 p.m. Saturday. The driver wasn't exceeding the 25-mph speed limit, Belmont Police Chief David James said. He declined to name the driver.

Family members were mourning the sudden death of Trevor.

"He was looking forward to his first prom. He went out and bought a suit," said Trevor's grandmother, Cindy Mullis. "He had a nice suit, he wanted to impress his girlfriend. He had a beautiful smile and a heart of gold."

Belmont Police Capt. Byron D. Carpenter, 45, was responding to the call to help Gray when he slumped over the wheel from an apparent heart attack, James said.

Carpenter was pronounced dead at Gaston Memorial Hospital, James said.

"Byron loved his job, his family and he loved serving Belmont," James said. "This is the way he would have wanted to go — serving others. He had a real calling for his job. He was the kind of officer that could handle anything you gave him."

Carpenter is survived by his wife, Kelly Carpenter, and their two children, Ben, 11, and Katie, 13.

Carpenter was the only captain on the force.

NC judge to rule on photos from camera phones

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH, NC — A Superior Court judge must decide whether law enforcement officers overstepped when they downloaded images from the cell phone of a man accused of sexual offense and secret peeping.

Wrightsville Beach police charged Christopher R. Snow,

26, in July with second-degree sexual offense and secret peeping-photographic image.

The charges against Snow say he attended a party with a female co-worker, and they ended up on the beach, where the woman lost consciousness.

At that point, police said Snow began improperly touching the woman and taking photographs with the camera phone. He was arrested after passers-by called police.

Snow maintains his innocence, lawyer Neil Weber said Friday. Superior Court Judge W. Allen Cobb Jr. could rule this week on the motion to suppress evidence, Assistant District Attorney Todd Fennell said.

"In this case, the pictures are one piece of evidence," Fennell said. "The pictures showed what we contend is a sexual assault."

Police received some images from Snow's carrier, Sprint, after obtaining a search warrant, Fennell said. The camera phone is still being held as evidence.

Fennell said investigators researched the issue but didn't find any legal precedent.

"There's no case law pertaining to getting information off a cell phone," he said.

The question of illegal search and seizure as it pertains to camera phones is one the judge will have to decide, Weber said.

"I think it's just a case where the law has to catch up with the technology," he said.

Snow remains free on \$10,000 bail.

National

Sex offender charged in death of 13-year-old Florida girl

TAMPA, Fla. — A convicted sex offender accused of murdering a 13-year-old girl was ordered held without bond Monday, and a prosecutor said no decision had been made on whether to seek the death penalty.

David Onstott, 36, was charged with first-degree murder Sunday, a day after investigators

discovered Sarah Lunde's partially clothed remains in a fishpond. She had vanished a week earlier from her home in Ruskin. Authorities said Onstott confessed to killing her after an argument.

"You are talking about a person who would murder a child. Who knows what's in his mind?" said Hillsborough County Sheriff David Gee, adding that Onstott "went to great effort to keep her body from being discovered." He declined to offer details of the confession.

Onstott didn't speak during his first court appearance on the murder charge Monday, when he was ordered held without bond. Prosecutor Mark Ober said there was no decision yet on the death penalty.

Onstott, who spent 5 1/2 years in prison after being convicted in 1995 of raping an adult acquaintance, has been held without bail since Tuesday on unrelated charges. His attorney, Pat Courtney, declined to comment Sunday.

It was not immediately clear when an autopsy was planned.

Sarah's relatives and members of the First Apostolic Church showed up in droves Sunday to mourn the teenager's death. Her young friends dropped to their knees and wept, and church leaders recalled how families would make sure she had a ride to the services each week.

Adobe to acquire Macromedia in \$3.4 billion deal

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Adobe Systems Inc., one of the world's largest providers of document-design software, will acquire Macromedia in an all-stock transaction valued at approximately \$3.4 billion, the companies announced Monday.

Under terms of the deal, approved by the companies' boards of directors, Macromedia stockholders will receive 0.69 shares of Adobe common stock for every share of their Macromedia common stock. That will result in Macromedia stockhold-

ers owning about 18 percent of the combined company when the deal closes.

The transaction, contingent upon the approval of both companies' stockholders, is expected to be complete by the fall. It also requires the approval of federal regulators.

San Jose-based Adobe's software includes the popular Acrobat and Photoshop programs. San Francisco-based Macromedia makes the Dreamweaver and Flash web-design software.

Combining the two businesses, the companies said, will allow them to create more powerful software programs that can be used across multiple operating systems, which should pave the way for expansion into new markets.

International

Security forces find no hostages in Iraqi town

MADAIN, Iraq — Iraqi security forces, backed by U.S. military, swept into a town south of Baghdad at dawn Monday but found no hostages despite reports that Sunni militants had kidnapped as many as 100 Shiites there.

Residents and Sunni clerics said the reports had been grossly exaggerated by government officials bent on re-establishing control in the lawless region the U.S. military has called the "Triangle of Death" because it has become a stronghold of the Sunni insurgency.

Meanwhile, Iraq's most powerful Shiite bloc wants former leader Saddam Hussein put to death if he is convicted of war crimes by a special tribunal, and if the interim president won't sign the execution order, he should resign, an alliance spokesman told The Associated Press on Monday.

"We feel he is a criminal. He is the No. 1 criminal in the world. He is a murderer," said Ali al-Dabagh, a lawmaker from the Shiite clergy-led United Iraq Alliance. "He deserves a trial,

and he should be subjected to the law and the court. Whatever the decision, everyone should follow it, even if the president says he cannot sign it."

Iraqi President Jalal Talabani told the British Broadcasting Corp. on Monday that he likely would abstain from signing an execution order because of his opposition to the death penalty.

Sharon considers delaying Gaza withdrawal

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is considering delaying Israel's Gaza pullout by three weeks at the recommendation of the plan's administrator, who said settlers shouldn't be moved during a Jewish mourning period that marks the destruction of the biblical temples, an official said.

Israeli officials cited religious sensitivities in the possible delay, which would push back the evacuation from late July to mid-August.

But the government appears to be unprepared for the operation, which involves uprooting 9,000 Jewish settlers from their homes.

The pullout plan has been beset by legislative delays, security forces have yet to begin training, and settlers who are ready to leave are complaining about red tape.

The withdrawal from Gaza and four northern West Bank settlements is currently scheduled to begin on July 25 and last four weeks.

Yonatan Bassi, who heads the administration responsible for compensating and relocating settlers slated for evacuation, recommended the delay at Sunday's Cabinet meeting, said Bassi's spokesman, Haim Altman.

Bassi raised the issue after "an internal struggle and talking to rabbis," Altman said. Bassi, an observant Jew, explained that Jews are not allowed to move to a new home during the Tisha B'Av mourning period.

Greenville holds annual festival



A group of women belly-danced during a performance at the International Festival held in Greenville over the weekend. Members of the community came to the festival to try new foods, buy merchandise common in different cultures and have their palms read.

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History from page A1

pliance with all the rules, such as size requirements. They also looked at visual impact and creativity of the displays. Judges included members of ECU's History Department, the theatre department, Pitt Community College, the state department of archives and history, Joyner Library, the school of education and some retired professors.

"It's just a wonderful program for young people who are interested in history at an early age and we hope many of them will come to ECU and major in history," said Pittman.

Pittman said the goal of the competition is for students to get excited about history.

"[The goal is also] to give them an opportunity to develop research skills and to exercise their creativity," Pittman said.

Winners of this competition will go to the state competition April 30 at the Raleigh North Carolina Museum of History. The top three in each category get to go to state. However, the top five in exhibits will go because there are so many students competing in that category.

Nationals will be held in June at the University of Maryland. Pittman said students from the area have come close to winning at nationals before and they're proud of that.

"It's highly competitive," Pittman said.

Carl Swanson with the department of history was a judge during the competitions. Before John A. Tilley, also with the department of history, gave out the awards, Swanson commended the students for their work.

"It looks to me that every year the entries get better," said Swanson.

"We'd like to thank you for making our jobs harder," Stephenson won first place for her junior individual performance and Horne received third place for junior individual exhibit.

The Pitt County Historical Society also gave plaques to the schools with first place winners.

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

NASA in culture shock as first flight in two years nears



Dr. Jon Clark, husband of space shuttle Columbia astronaut Laurel Clark, poses near a sign honoring the seven astronauts killed.

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — In the years leading up to the Columbia tragedy, the habit of NASA managers was to hammer employees into agreement at meetings or get them so exasperated they walked out, creating a last-stand consensus.

It was just as brutal during Columbia's doomed flight: Man-

agers dismissed engineers' concerns about the now infamous piece of foam insulation that flew off and knocked a hole in the shuttle's wing; they down played the problem at meetings and, from beginning to grisly end, insisted nothing could be done.

What about after Columbia? Has NASA's safety culture

changed since the spacecraft and seven astronauts crashed over Texas?

It depends on whom you ask.

"Everything is about return to flight and nothing is about return to right ... return to the right culture," says Dr. Jon Clark, a NASA neurologist who lost his astronaut-wife aboard Columbia.

"NASA is making solid progress," notes the behavioral science company hired to improve the space agency's culture.

"We haven't really changed the way we're doing business and making decisions, so we're headed down the same road we've been on," says former space shuttle commander James Wetherbee, who quit NASA out of frustration in January.

"We've made great strides. Now, it is one of those things that you never reach perfection and you've got to continue to work on every day," says deputy shuttle program manager Wayne Hale, who perhaps more than anybody at NASA has confronted its long-lived, deep-rooted culture.

Ask the seven astronauts who will ride Discovery into orbit next month, and the answers are

just as diverse.

Given all the polarizing voices, one thing seems sure: NASA remains in conflict over cultural change as the first space shuttle flight in more than two years draws near.

Changing the space agency's culture is no small matter.

When Columbia shattered on its way home on Feb. 1, 2003, a broken safety culture was found to be as much to blame as the gaping hole in the left wing, caused by a chunk of flyaway fuel-tank foam at liftoff.

Accident investigators chastised NASA for reverting to the same type of flawed management that contributed to the Challenger launch explosion 17 years earlier.

For Columbia, that meant ignoring engineers' worries about the potential damage from the foam strike, fostering an atmosphere in which these same engineers were afraid to speak up, and creating intense schedule pressure for shuttle flights to complete work on the international space station.

NASA's "mea culpa" following the report by the Columbia Accident Investigation Board in August 2003 was tepid in some quarters — and still is — even

though Behavioral Science Technology Inc. of Ojai, Calif., is working to improve the space agency's culture.

Clark, who was married to Columbia astronaut Laurel Clark, bristles when he hears culture gurus and NASA leaders constantly pointing out that change takes time.

"Well, guess what? It never changed after Challenger, so the idea that you can't see these changes quickly — therefore, don't worry if you don't see them — that's the wrong answer," Clark says.

Behavioral Science began its transformation work at Johnson Space Center, home to Mission Control and the place where most of the management mistakes were made during Columbia's final voyage.

It's just now tackling cultural issues at Kennedy Space Center in Florida, where the shuttles launch and land. Employees wanted to put off the cultural intervention until shuttle flights resumed, saying they did not want to be distracted or overloaded during this critical time. But center director James Kennedy warned, "We can't afford not to do this."

Cruise ship back in New York Harbor after struck by wave



The Norwegian Dawn is docked at Pier 88 in New York Monday, April 18. The ship was damaged by a seven-story wave.

NEW YORK (AP) — Passengers disembarked Monday from a cruise ship that was struck by a freak seven-story-high wave said the stormy weather that smashed windows and sent furniture flying reminded them of the Titanic.

The Norwegian Dawn arrived with more than 2,000 passengers still on board after some 300

others decided to leave the ship early in Charleston, S.C., and fly or drive home. It docked on Manhattan's West Side, near the floating Intrepid Sea Air Space Museum.

The 965-foot white ocean liner was sailing back to New York from the Bahamas on Saturday when a storm pounded the vessel with heavy seas, including a rogue 70-foot wave.

The wave sent furniture sailing through the air and knocked hot tubs overboard. Some passengers slept in hallways in life jackets.

Passenger Robert Clark said he was trying not to be angry about the cruise but had one question: "Why would you go through a storm?"

Clark, a New Yorker who disembarked with his wife, Estelita Villafane, and their 7-year-old daughter, Myah, said the storm "woke me up. ... We were going back and forth, up and down. And then 'boom.'"

He said he ran into the corridor and found passengers from flooded cabins who were wearing life preservers.

"It looked like the Titanic," Clark said. "That was what was going through my head."

Norwegian Cruise Line said the freak wave broke windows in two different cabins.

It said 62 cabins were flooded and four passengers had cuts and bruises. The wave reached as high as deck 10, company spokeswoman Susan Robison said Sunday.

The Norwegian Dawn docked at Charleston for repairs and a Coast Guard inspection before continuing its voyage to New York early Sunday.

Bill and Ellen Tesauro of Wayne, N.J., said they went to the ship's casino when the storm started slamming the vessel.

"We figured it would take our minds off this (and) that's when the captain announced that drinks are free all night," Bill Tesauro told the Daily News of New York. "But then there was another horrendous slap on the water."

The panicked couple returned to their suite.

"A desk went flying across the room," Ellen Tesauro said. "And a glass table toppled down, with

glasses and food on it."

Stacy Maryland of Hamilton, N.J., woke up to find shoes and magazines floating in a foot of water.

"I thought I heard water sloshing around, and then I woke up and saw it, and it was surreal," she told the newspaper.

The cruise line said passengers whose cabins were flooded were flown home from Charleston and the safety of the ship "was in no way compromised by this incident."

Each passenger got a refund of half the trip's cost and a voucher for half the price of a future cruise, Robison said.

The ship left New York on April 10 with 2,500 passengers aboard. Robison said about 300 passengers decided not to return by ship from Charleston. About 100 were flown back to New York and the rest made their own arrangements, Robison said.

Bush visits S.C. Statehouse, discusses Social Security



President Bush delivers a speech on Social Security reform at the State House in Columbia, S.C.

COLUMBIA, SC (AP) — President Bush knew he could count on a friendly audience at the Statehouse when he stepped into Republican-rich South Carolina on Monday to rally support for his plan for Social Security.

It was an unusual stop on his 60-city, cross-country tour to talk about the future of the federal retirement system.

Bush, who has watched his approval ratings drop during the blitz, has been the center of huge crowds in campaign-style surroundings along his tour. But in Columbia, he chose to speak about 30 minutes to legislators, Gov. Mark Sanford and U.S. Sens. Lindsey Graham and Jim DeMint, who for years have pushed the private Social Security accounts Bush wants.

Bush said it was the first time he had addressed a state legislature since he was governor of Texas.

The government is making promises it can't keep to future generations, he said.

"There is a hole in the safety net for younger Americans," Bush said. "There is no vault holding your cash waiting for you to retire."

Why Bush chose the State-

house "would rank as somewhat of a mystery," said Francis Marion University political scientist Neal Thigpen. On the Social Security stump, Bush's pattern has been to campaign in swing states where Republicans need to be brought on board or Democrats need to feel heat on the issue, Thigpen said.

Bush had been expected to make an announcement about a possible appointment for House Speaker David Wilkins, R-Greenville. But no mention was made during his speech.

Bush is facing an uphill battle in his effort to persuade the public that Social Security change is needed and that private retirement accounts should be part of the solution.

Democrats argue that the administration is proposing to drastically alter the system when more modest changes would ensure the system's future solvency.

"If we don't do something to fix this system now, the students graduating this spring from the University of South Carolina or, in deference to the Speaker, Clemson (University) will spend their entire careers paying Social Security taxes only to see the

system go bankrupt a few years before they retire," Bush said.

Bush mingled with legislators, who clamored to get autographs on their House calendars, and spent time shaking hands with House Democrats.

As he passed, Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter, D-Orangeburg, said she told Bush she didn't agree with his approach to fixing Social Security.

Cobb-Hunter said Bush talks about fiscal discipline, but that doesn't mesh with what he's done in Washington, "not when he's run up the kind of deficit he has."

Bush later came back and kissed her on the cheek, bringing a load of ribbing from her legislative Black Caucus colleagues.

Republicans hailed Bush's remarks. "I think he showed great leadership," Wilkins said. "The president is a great leader, I think he exhibited it today."

Blake Sanford, the governor's six-year-old son, got the ride of his young life as he accompanied his dad and mom in Bush's limousine from Columbia Metropolitan Airport to the Statehouse. The governor said he and the president spent time talking about Social Security, fitness and farms.

Heading home for the break?

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Our View

Was Doherty ever a potential candidate?

Former North Carolina coach Matt Doherty recently accepted a head-coaching job at Florida Atlantic. Florida Atlantic plays in the Atlantic Sun conference with teams like Gardner Webb, Stetson, Campbell, Central Florida and others. In the last three years, FAU has won 26 games. They finished the 2004-2005 year 10-17 and ninth in an 11-team conference.

We feel this begs the question, "If Doherty was willing to accept a job at FAU, why on Earth did we not hear more about him for the ECU job?"

Was Doherty ever really pursued by Terry Holland and ECU's athletic department? We heard rumors during the coaching search, ranging from Doherty buying a house in Greenville to he wasn't a candidate for the job at all. The funny thing is, the second rumor would be the most ridiculous.

Doherty is a former national coach of the year who has succeeded wherever he's been. He led Notre Dame to a 22-15 year in 1999. Though many Doherty-haters or avid Heels fans who weren't supportive of him remember his 8-20 season with UNC in 2001-2002, they forget the 26-7 season and No. 1 ranking he took the team to just a year before that infamous mark. He also turned that 8-20 team into a 19-16 squad just a year later, fighting through a plethora of reports that Doherty and his players weren't getting along, Rashad McCants' selfishness and Sean May's soft play inside.

Not to mention his recruiting ability is outstanding. Let's not forget the UNC team who won the championship this past year, particularly the starting five and key bench players David Noel, Jawad Williams and Melvin Scott, were all Doherty recruits.

However, instead of pursuing a proven winner and an emotional guy who fans in Greenville could grow to love, ECU takes an unproven assistant who played under Holland back at Virginia. We don't discredit Ricky Stokes, he has excellent character, is a great recruiter and is an extremely hard worker. But this recent FAU hire should make the Pirate Nation question whether Holland ever truly took a good look at available candidates rather than going with his own home recipe.

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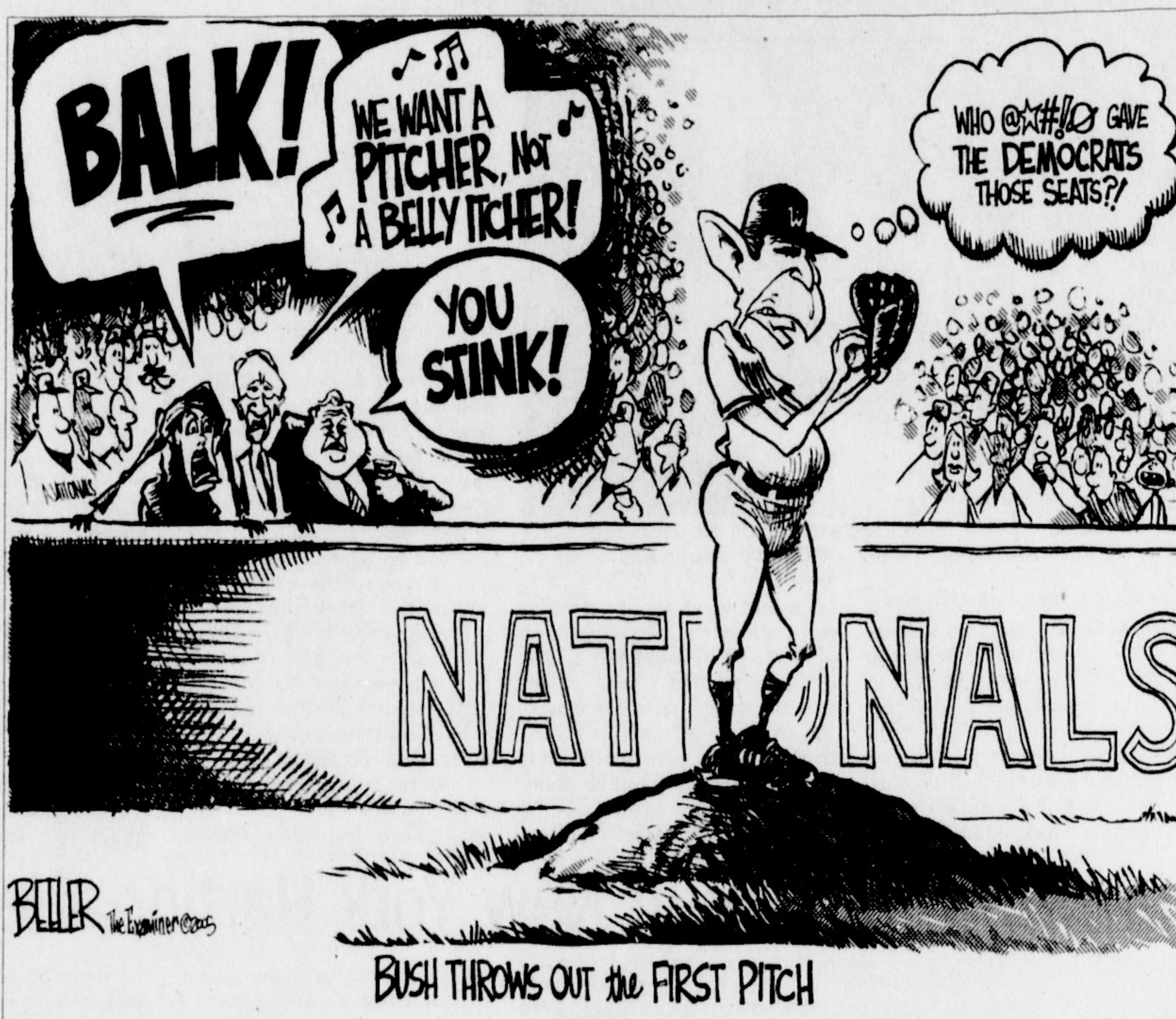
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Serving ECU since 1925, *TEC* prints 9,000 copies every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during the regular academic year and 5,000 on Wednesdays during the summer. "Our View" is the opinion of the editorial board and is written by editorial board members. *TEC* welcomes letters to the editor which are limited to 250 words (which may be edited for decency or brevity). We reserve the right to edit or reject letters and all letters must be signed and include a telephone number. Letters may be sent via e-mail to editor@theeastcarolinian.com or to The East Carolinian, Student Publications Building, Greenville, NC 27858-4353. Call 252-328-6366 for more information. One copy of *TEC* is free, each additional copy is \$1.



Opinion Columnist

Recapping recent news hypocrisies

Parents 'seeing red' over red pens

TONY MCKEE
CONSERVATIVE CORNER

Well, it's that time of year again. Spring is upon us. The weather is warmer, the shorts are shorter, stress levels are rapidly increasing the closer we get to finals and this is *TEC*'s last week of publishing for the semester.

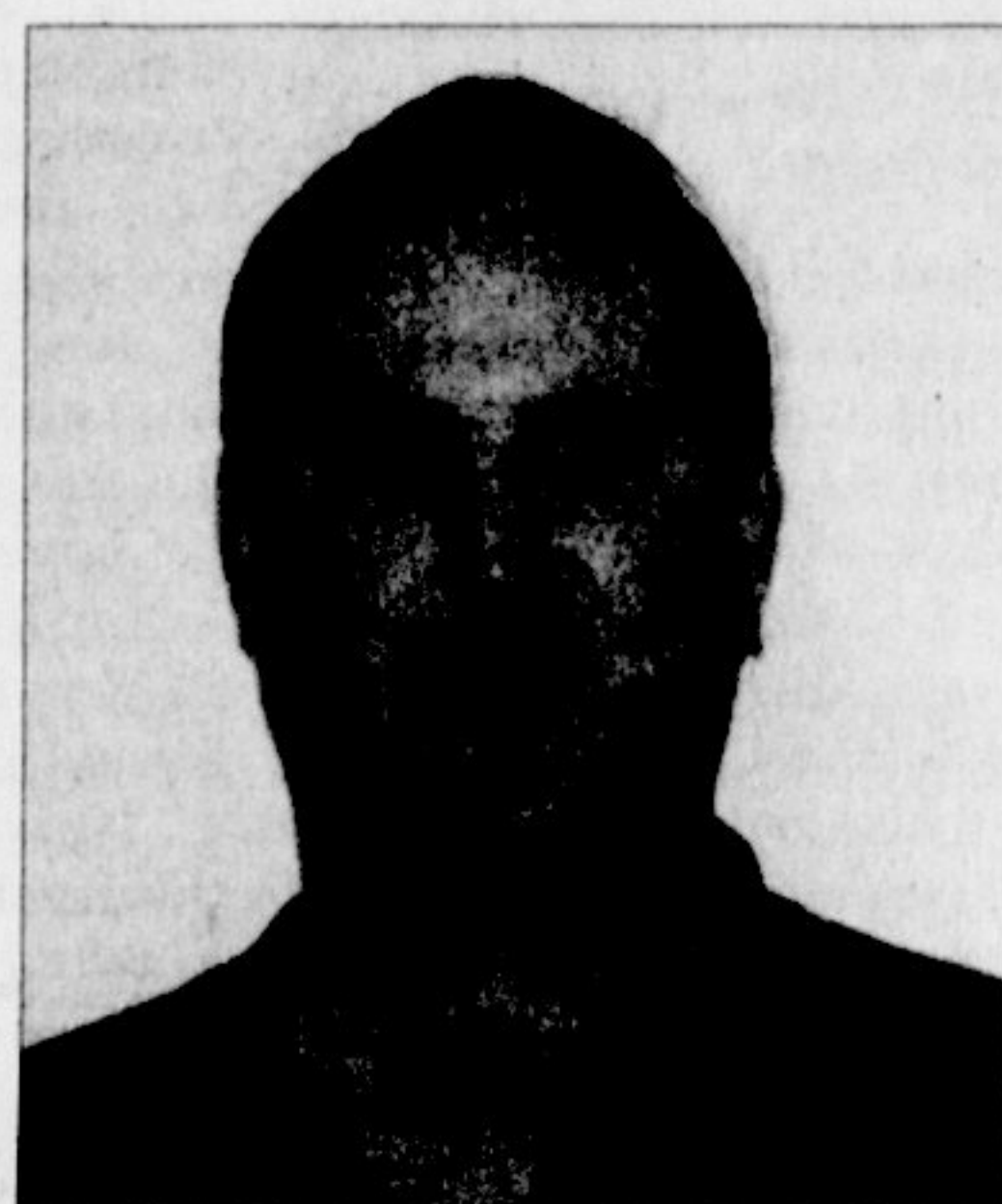
And what would that week be without one more rant from your favorite Conservi-Nazi?

I shall not disappoint. Did you know that the color red is slowly being "banned" from the teacher's inventory? This nonsense started, or at least gained attention, in a Connecticut elementary school recently. It seems some parents started seeing red because of all the red marks on their little darling's papers. They told the school principal that it is too stressful for the kiddies when the big, bad, meanie teacher points out their errors in red. The poor little things are being psychologically scarred.

How is that for common sense reasoning? Instead of concentrating on important matters, like helping their children learn from their mistakes and therefore reduce the amount of red on their papers, these parents whine that red ink is damaging to the ego. God help us.

To be fair, this issue just came to national attention in this school. The assault on the color red apparently began long ago. Purple has now become the color of choice, so much so that the top three pen makers have increased production of purple pens to meet the demands of politically correct educators nationwide.

According to Leatrice Eiseman, a color specialist (with a background in psychology) quoted by AP, teachers may be favoring purple because of the "element of the danger aspect," since they know that purple is just



blue and red mixed together. So all you future, and current, indoctrinators of youth who really want to scribble in red, go ahead and stock up on purple. The parents will never know the difference.

Now that this assault on red has gone public, how long do you think it will be before someone claims this is just the systems' way of further discriminating against American Indians? Probably not long.

Next on today's agenda is an adjunct to the Terri Schiavo episode. This is a classic example of liberal hypocrisy and contempt.

Early in March, in Key Largo, Florida, while it was being decided if Schiavo would live or be starved to death, a group of 50 - 70 dolphins beached themselves. We all know what happened to Schiavo. Let's find out what happened to the dolphins.

Of the initial group that beached, only 11 or so are still around. The rest have passed from this mortal plane and have gone to find Nemo in that big ocean in the sky. This did not happen because there was no lack of sympathy or assistance though, at least according to a recent CNN report on the matter.

That report lauded the efforts of the hundreds of volunteers who have rushed to aid the dolphins, providing

around the clock care in tanks to keep them from drowning, hand feeding them and yes, even tube feeding them.

That's right, people are shoving tubes into these creatures to feed them and the people at CNN applaud their efforts. This is the same CNN whose reporters called Schiavo's supporters, and other protesters, "fanatics" and "zealots" because they knew it was murder to remove her feeding tube. Dolphins get more sympathy than a human being.

Do you know what is odd about this dolphin episode? Nobody asked the dolphins why they beached themselves. By all standards, these are intelligent creatures, capable of some high level thinking. Some people have even imbued them with human characteristics. So why has nobody considered that this group of dolphins could have entered into a suicide pact, like Jim Jones and his group in Guyana did?

What if the timing wasn't coincidental? What if they deliberately chose that time to beach themselves because they simply wanted to "die with dignity" like so many people advocated for Schiavo and were just trying to show their solidarity? Shouldn't we allow them the same dignified death by starvation that Schiavo experienced?

Think about that. Those people could be torturing those poor animals by force feeding them and refusing to honor their wishes to die. Their efforts are honored while the efforts of people to save a fellow human being are vilified.

Welcome to Liberalism, American style.

To end on a lighter note, for those who believe there is no intelligent life on this planet, you can now have messages beamed throughout the galaxy. A new company, talkToAliens.com, is taking orders to record messages for \$3.99 per minute and shoot them out to space via a large dish in Connecticut. "Beam me up Scotty."

Pirate Rant

I hate to lump smokers and conservative together but they always manage to come up with the dumbest rants humanly possible.

Why is every book I need at Joyner Library checked out two weeks before my paper is due?

First off, you ask questions to kiss the teachers butt and if you are asking questions to annoy me that is sad. See you in class.

Could all sunbathers please take their activity to another location? It is just too much for my virgin eyes to handle.

The year 1985 called: Can they have their flipped-up collars back?

In my experience, when a girl says she is looking for a nice guy she really means: "I want to fume about my last boyfriend for a while, then hook back up with a guy who's just like him."

Things to look for in a man: 1) Look for a man who will worship you, 2) look for a man who can make you laugh, 3) look for a man who has a stable income and 4) make sure none of these three guys ever meet each other.

There once was a girl named Sue. She was born to embarrass you. Sue had to dress up for her 8 a.m. class. Someone should definitely push her in the grass. Overachievers make me look bad, so when they all die I will be glad.

To all the boys who stare at me when I strength train at the Student Rec: I have a boyfriend and he's bigger than you.

You get your "ole" changed. I'll get my oil changed.

Things I Hate #1: People who suffer from the inability to coherently explain something. When they realize their communicative inferiority, they don't admit it. Instead, they try to make you look like the mental defective. They say something such as "you wouldn't understand" or "just forget it."

If you are not watching "Arrested Development," you ought to be ashamed. And of course, you'll all tune in when Fox replaces it with "The World's Sexiest Paralegic Dogs with Eating Disorders."

I don't know what everyone's problem with the Patriot Act is. Has it hurt you in any way? I don't think so. I know it hasn't hurt me, so shut up about something that you know nothing about.

To the person who said they could do a better job as president than President Bush: He's doing a great job, and if you actually do a better job than him, I'll buy you a soda.

I'd like to see the guys outside sun bathing. It'd give us girls something to stare at.

So the average GPA is a 3.3 at ECU? That's not a good thing. According to the Princeton Review it's also a third tier school. When people make fun of me for going to "Easy-U" I hate to admit that they're right and people are running around here that easily got in with a 900 on their SAT's (and that's not just the athletes).

Congratulations to the Women's Rugby team on winning the 39th National Cherry Blossom Tournament in Washington, D.C. I'm glad that there is a conference and tournament winning team at ECU. Maybe the rugby ladies should teach the football team how to tackle.

So as a Northerner down here in the South, I've noticed a few things throughout my first year here at ECU. Girls with accents rule my world, sweet tea is the bomb but beer in gas stations is just weird.

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

In My Opinion

New trend gaining popularity: Lobster Liberation

(KRT) — A crowd of well-wishers recently gathered at Manomet Point in Plymouth, Mass., to see off a new friend as he journeyed back home. The traveler was a 15-pound lobster named Donovan, on the final leg of a nearly 1,000-mile trek. After spending weeks in a tank in a Potomac, Md., seafood store, Donovan, estimated to be between 35 and 40 years old, was being returned to the Atlantic Ocean, courtesy of a sympathetic customer who shelled out \$150 for his release and an additional \$100 to send him home.

This is just the beginning. The trend in lobster liberation will continue — and it will expand to other sea animals. Fish freedom is coming. All it takes is for one person to say she's leaving fish in their ocean homes and off the barbecue grill — and for others to stop and really think about her decision.

Donovan is not the first sea animal to escape becoming someone's dinner. In March, newspapers across the country reported on Bubba, a 22-pound lobster who was saved from a fish market and shipped to the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium (where, sadly, he died

in quarantine). Last year, schoolchildren in Port Angeles, Wash., rescued 14-pound Hercules from a supermarket tank and sent the lucky lobster to Maine for release.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals hears from so many concerned shoppers who want to help after seeing lobsters languishing in grocery store tanks, we've set up a Web site with tips on successful crustacean liberations.

Can crab crusaders be far behind? I don't think so. As we learn more about sea animals and how similar they are to us in so many ways more and more people are having trouble with the idea of putting them on the table.

In March, newspaper science pages were filled with stories about octopuses playing charades in order to avoid harm. Two little species of Indian Ocean octopuses, one no bigger than a walnut, were videotaped disguising themselves as coconuts or clumps of floating algae with six of their arms, while walking away from danger, backwards, using the other two-discrediting the theory that walking requires hard bones and skeletal muscle.

Researchers are also debunking

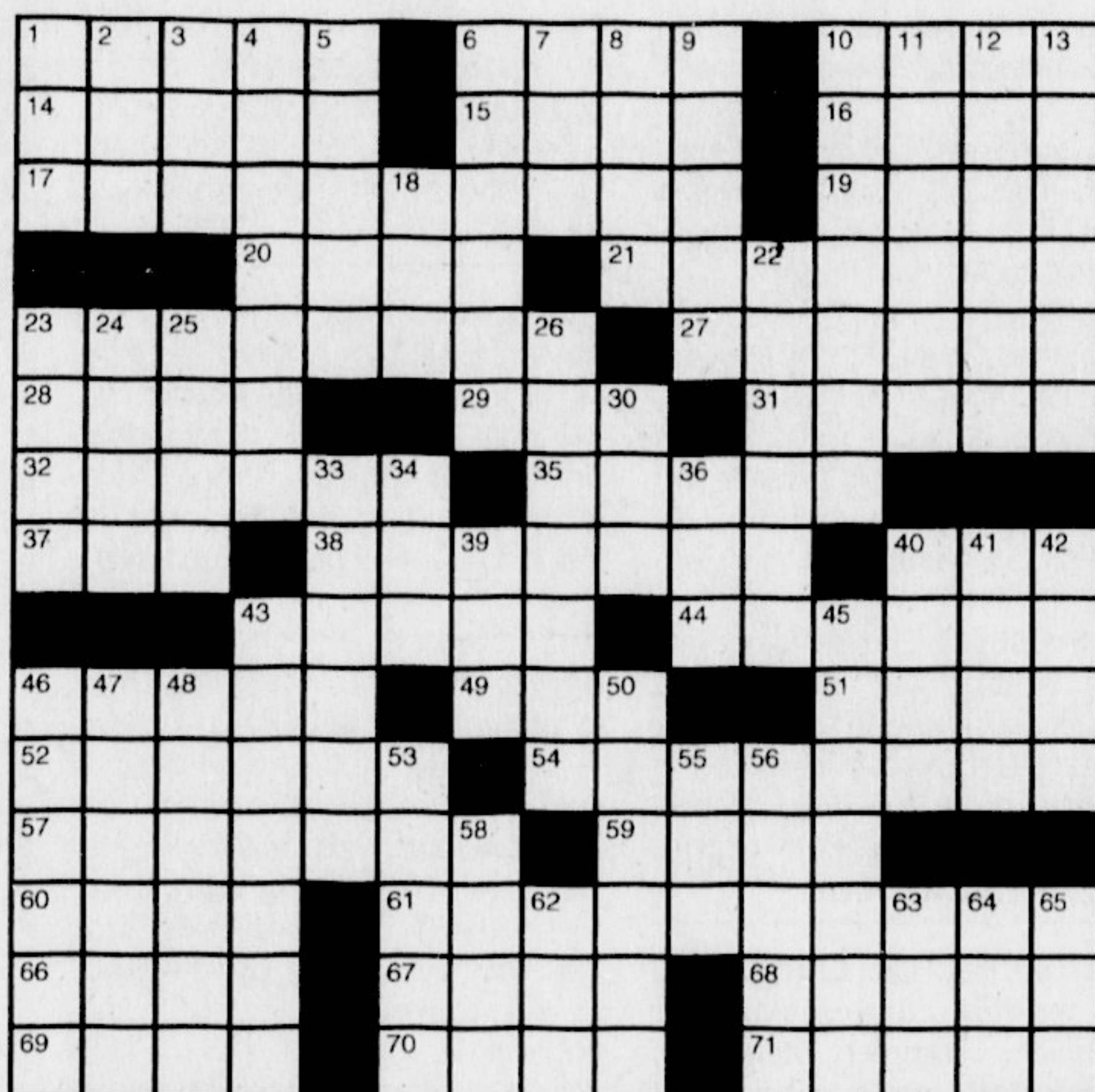
some old fish stories about fish. We now know that fish are smart. They feel pain. They have complex social structures and can recognize individual "shoal" mates. Some fish gather information by eavesdropping on others and some use tools, such as the South African fish who lay their eggs on leaves and then carry them to safety. Fish even like to play: Oscar fish will toss and push ping pong balls floating on the surface of their water.

A recent issue of the journal *Fish and Fisheries* cited more than 500 research papers proving that fish are clever, have impressive long-term memories and sophisticated social structures and can use tools. The introductory chapter said fish are "steeped in social intelligence, pursuing Machiavellian strategies of manipulation, punishment and reconciliation." Sound like anyone you know?

If you find the idea of eating Flipper (or Fido) hard to swallow, then flounders should be off your plate, too. Liberating old lobsters like Donovan is a good first step, but let's extend our compassion to all sentient beings. The best way to start is to stop eating them.

Crossword

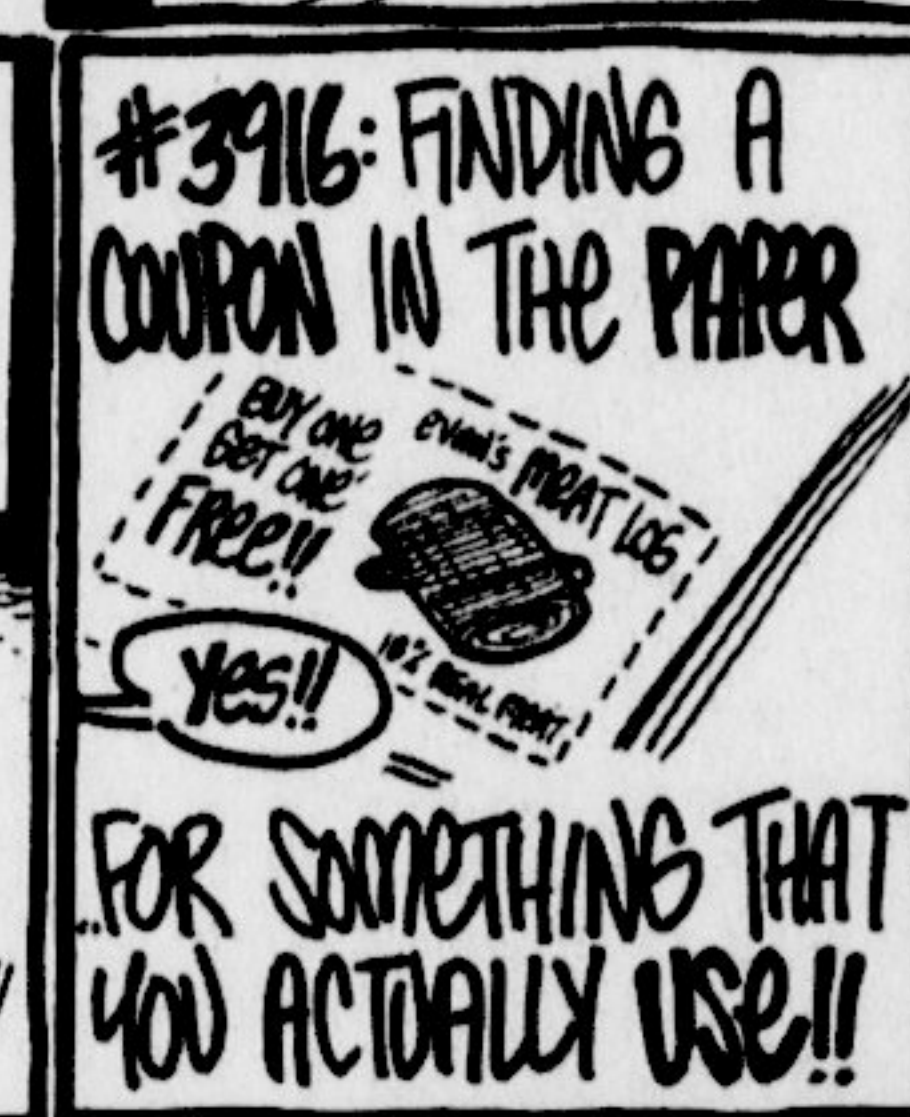
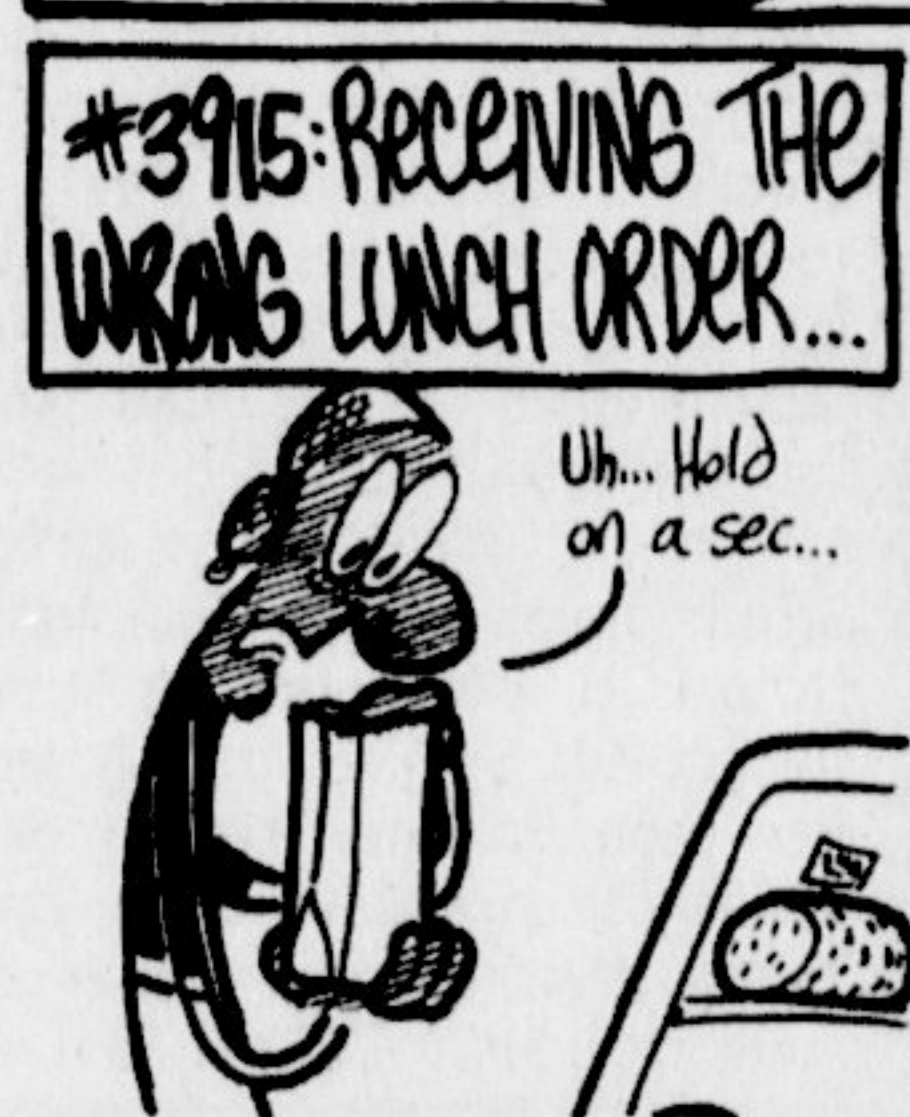
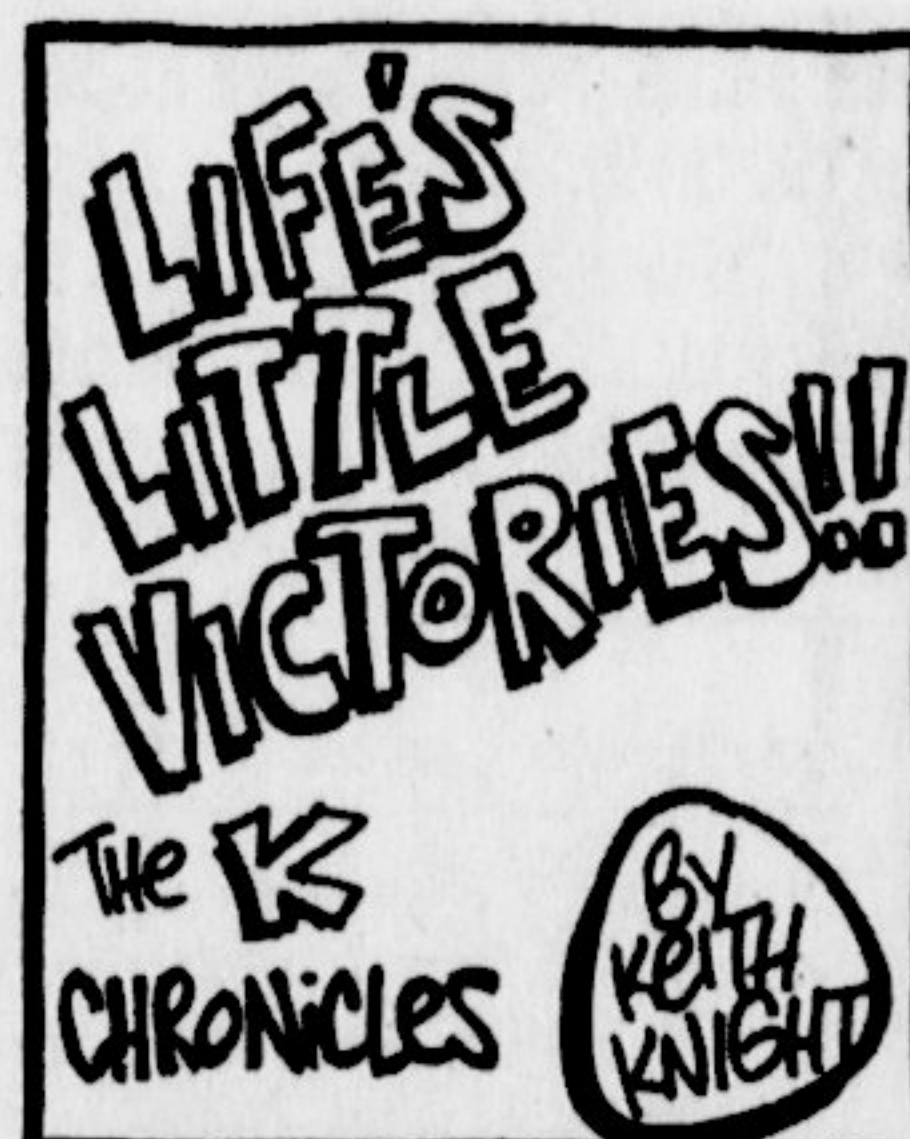
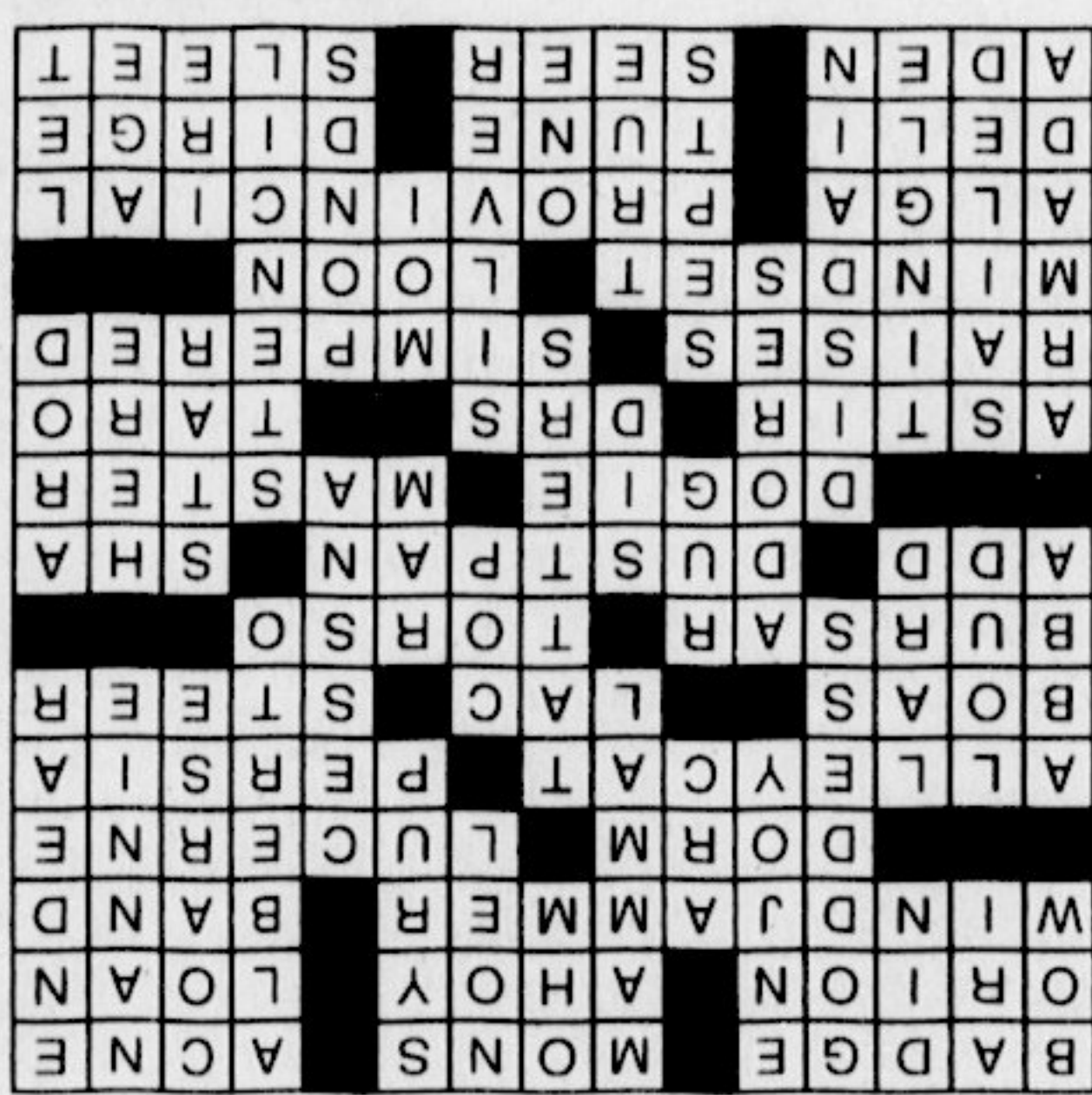
- ACROSS
- 1 Cop's ID
 - 6 Belgian border city
 - 10 Complexion woe
 - 14 Hunter of stars
 - 15 Sailor's hello
 - 16 Bank deal
 - 17 Large sailing ship
 - 19 Musical group
 - 20 Coll. residence
 - 21 Swiss canton
 - 23 Homeless feline
 - 27 Cyrus II's empire
 - 28 Feathery scarves
 - 29 Fond du __, WI
 - 31 Longhorn
 - 32 University treasurer
 - 35 Trunk
 - 37 Annex
 - 38 Sweeper's accessory
 - 40 __ Na Na
 - 43 Wandering calf
 - 44 Original copy
 - 46 Up and about
 - 49 AMA members
 - 51 Poi source
 - 52 Brings up
 - 54 Smiled coyly
 - 57 Fixed attitude
 - 59 Short-tailed, diving bird
 - 60 Pond growth
 - 61 Limited in perspective
 - 66 Knish store
 - 67 Melody
 - 68 Funeral song
 - 69 Yemeni port
 - 70 Crystal gazer
 - 71 Icy rain
- DOWN
- 1 Ship's forward section
 - 2 Jackie's second
 - 3 Noisy clamor
 - 4 Isis or Minerva
 - 5 Relish
 - 6 Man or mandrill, e.g.
 - 7 Resistance unit
 - 8 Coward of note
 - 9 Maple product
 - 10 Writer Moravia
 - 11 Lacking refinement
 - 12 Nursemaid
 - 13 Make beloved
 - 18 Circle segment
 - 22 Big name in small planes
 - 23 Swedish pop group
 - 24 Excessively showy
 - 25 Rendered fat
 - 26 Ragged clothing
 - 30 Fuzz person
 - 33 Workshops
 - 34 Obvious toupee
 - 36 Ewe's mate
 - 39 Comic Caesar
 - 40 Texaco trademark
 - 41 Present!
 - 42 SS Alex Rodriguez
 - 43 Aloof contempt
 - 45 Lettering device
 - 46 Fleet of warships
 - 47 Put out to sea
 - 48 Prickling sensation
 - 50 Stevenson's Long John
 - 53 Clan divisions
 - 55 Me, in Paris
 - 56 Wannabe lakes
 - 58 Verifiable
 - 62 Small bill
 - 63 Anger
 - 64 Ripen
 - 65 Do-over tennis service



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CLASSIFIEDS

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Work Hard, Play Hard, Change Lives! Girls resident camp looking for counselors, wranglers, lifeguards, boating staff, crafts, nature, unit leaders, business managers, and health supervisor. \$200-340/week! May 28-Aug 7. Free Housing! www.keyauwee.com Contact (336) 861-1198 or keyauwee@aol.com

We are currently accepting applications for student office assistant in the radio station at ECU. This position is for the first summer session only. Interested students should be good in math and attention to detail. Come by the office in the basement of Mendenhall Student Center for an application. Deadline is April 20, 2005.

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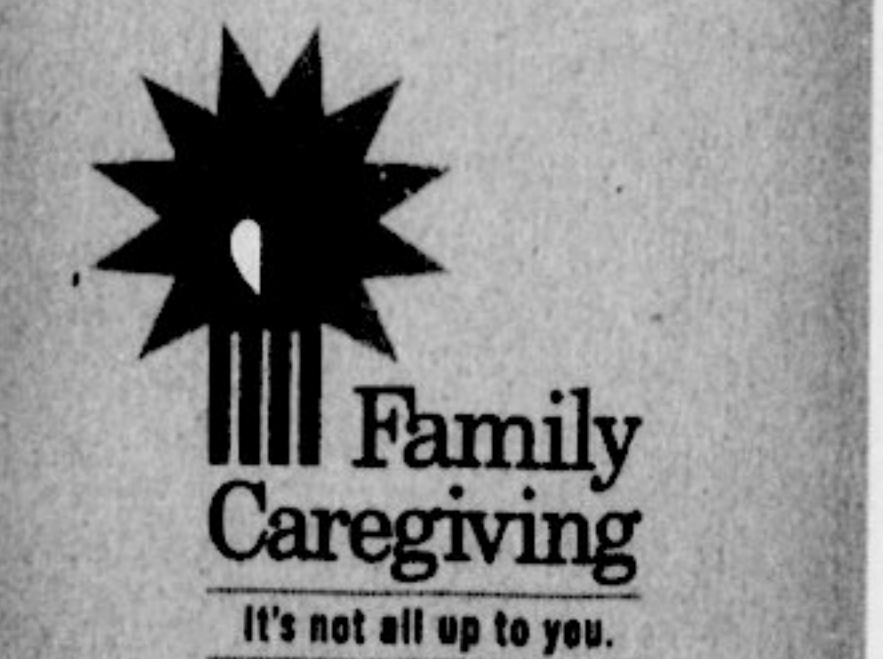
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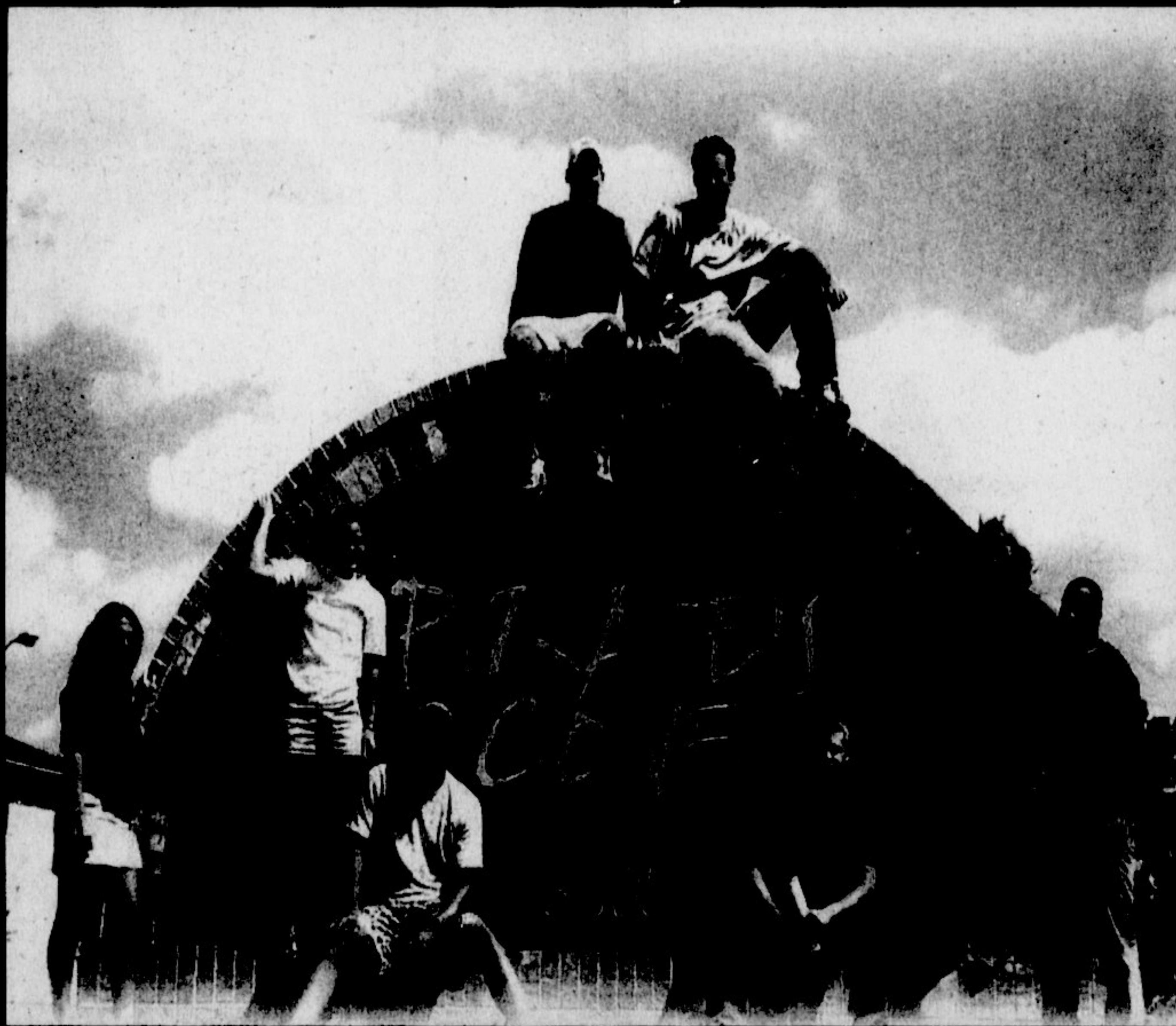
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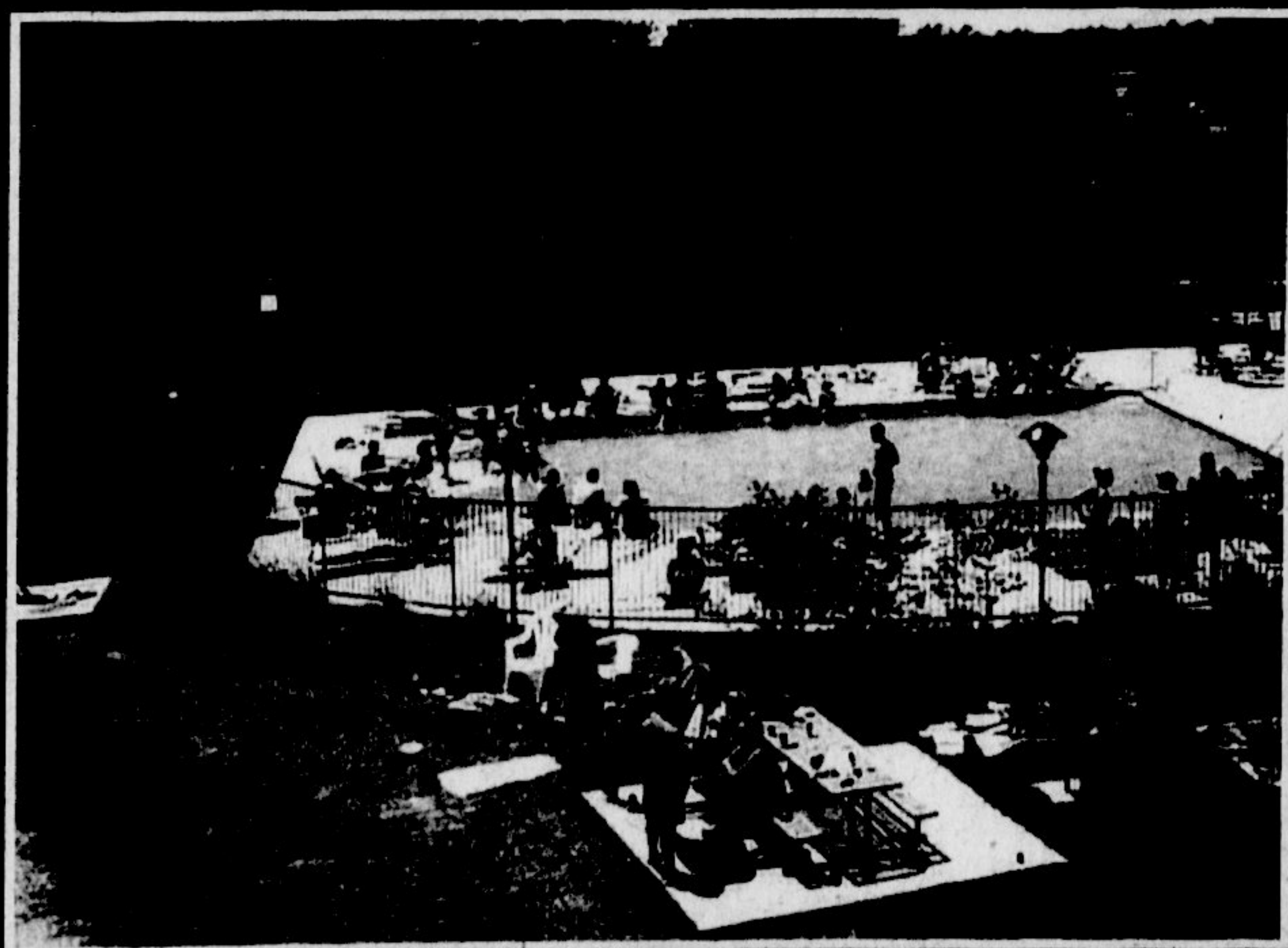
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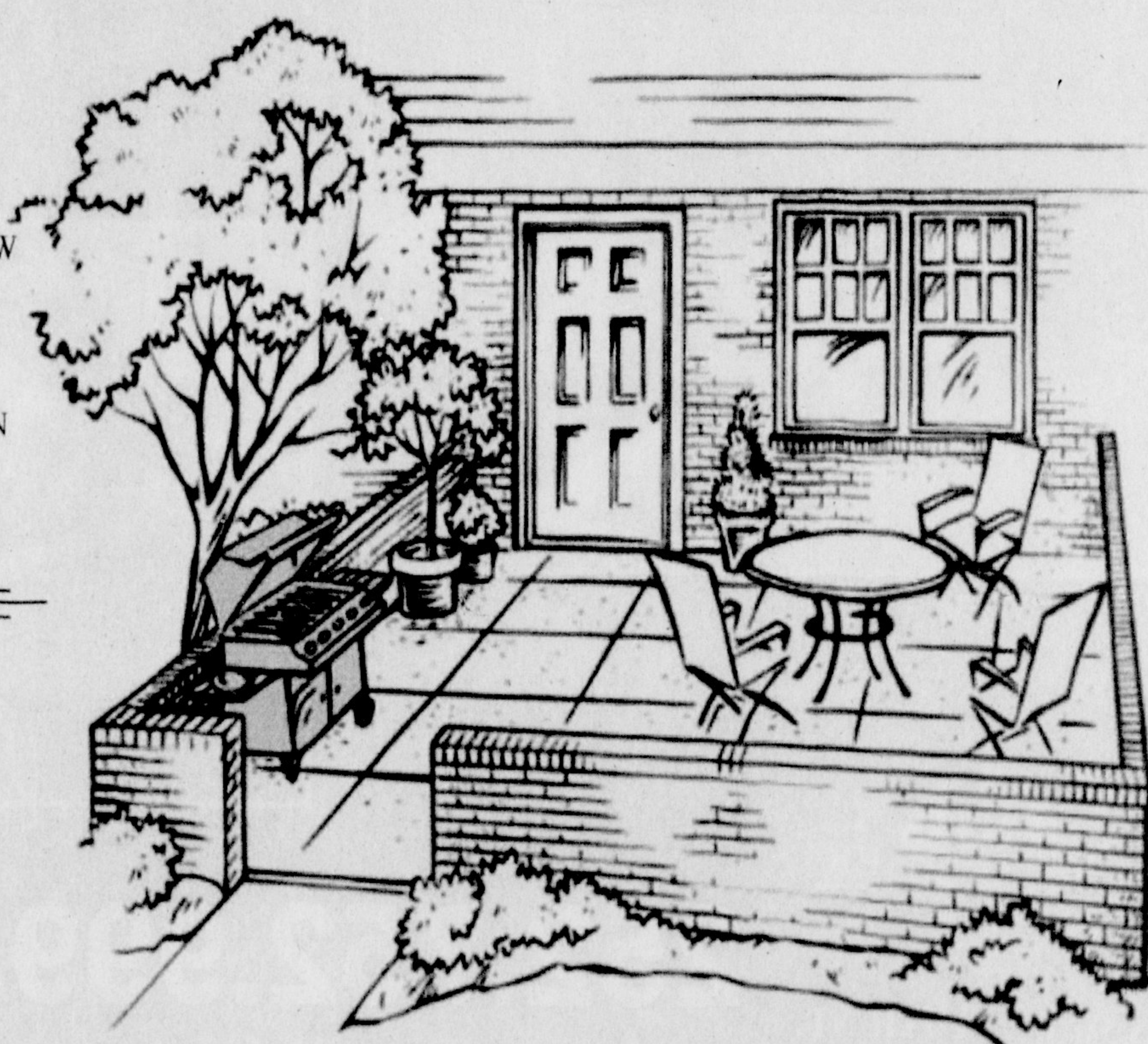
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Announcements:

American Red Cross
Some of the best gifts in life have no price tags, give the gift of life. Donate blood Tuesday, April 19 at 700 Cromwell Drive. Call 758-1140. Sponsored by Team Blue.

Barefoot on the Mall
Barefoot on mall will be held Thursday, April 21 from 12 - 6 p.m. Clubs and student organizations join forces to make their causes known and have fun with inflatable games, music and dancing.

Minority Student Ball
The fourth Annual Minority Student Ball will take place in the Murphy Center April 23 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for singles and \$15 for couples. Contact Bridgette Joye at bjj0123@mail.ecu.edu for more information.

Indie Concert
Indie band Mae will be performing at the Mendenhall Brickyard, Sunday, April 24 at 2 p.m.

ODB Listening Session
There will be a listening session for ODB's first album since his death April 26 at 5 p.m. in Mendenhall. This event will honor ODB in the respectful manner that is deserved.

Names in the news:

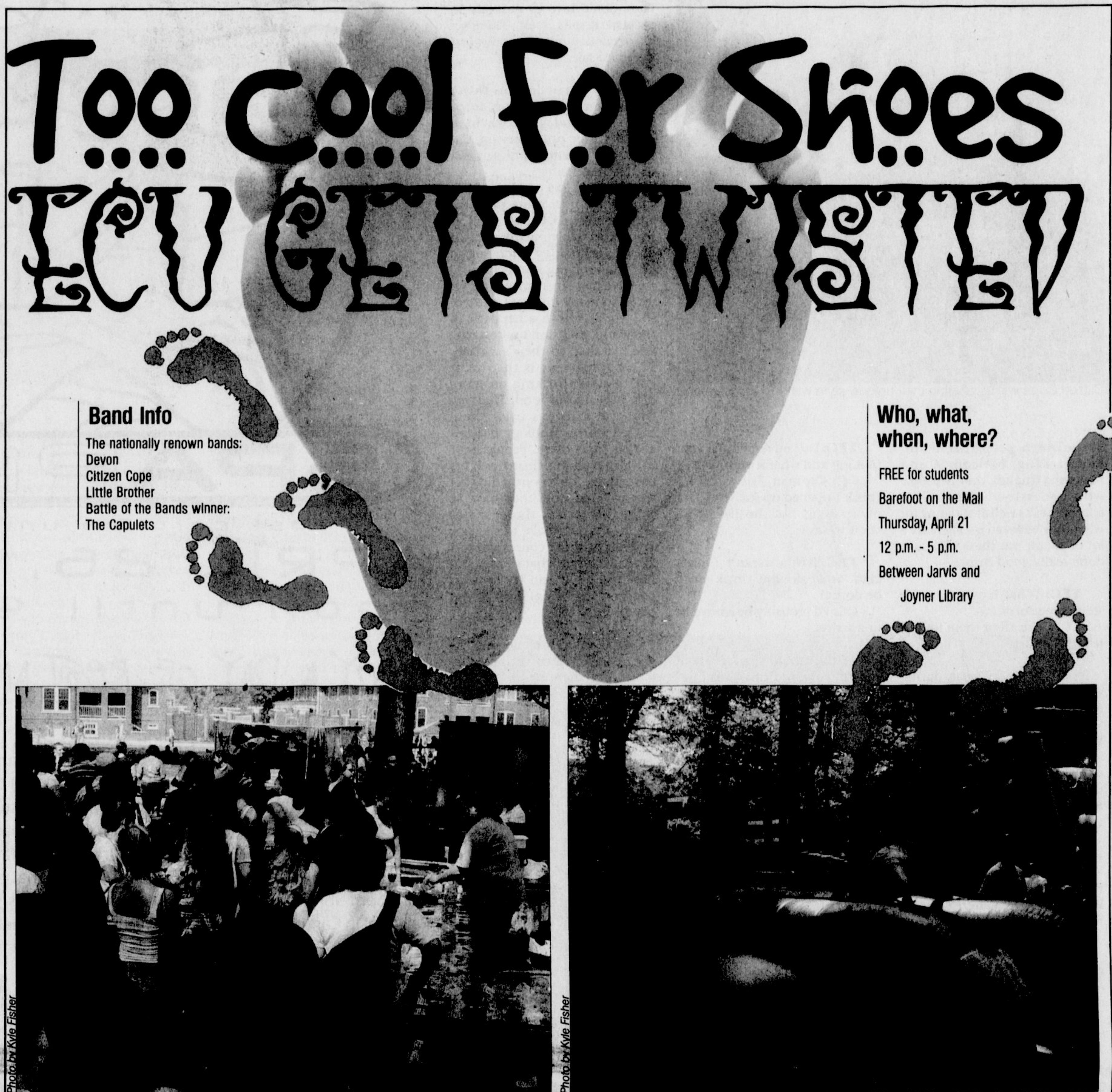
Eminem's Court Win
A Michigan state appeals court threw out a lawsuit by a former schoolmate of Eminem who accused the Detroit rapper of portraying him in a false light in the song "Brain Damage" Friday. DeAngelo Bailey, a sanitation worker, admits he picked on Marshall Mathers III who got all grew up as Eminem in school. But, he says the most he did to that very slim and quite shady cat was to shove him and give him a little bump, and that he most definitely did not bang Marshall's head on a urinal or choke him, as the colorful, if baroque, "Brain Damage" claims. The court upheld a Macomb County judge's 2003 decision to dismiss the suit, saying Em's lyrics, which have him singing that his "whole brain fell out," were not intended to be taken literally.

'Star Wars': The Ticket
George Lucas' much-anticipated mega-blockbuster-to-be, "Star Wars: Episode III Revenge of the Sith," won't open until May 19, but you can buy tickets now. The AMC Theatres chain is offering advance sales for show times as early as the very first one at 12:01 a.m. Thursday morning, May 19. Tickets can be bought at box offices or online at moviewatcher.com/starwars.

Porn Star's Squirmish
Porn star Jenna Jameson, who's been making inroads into mainstream culture with her best-selling bio, "How to Make Love Like a Porn Star," is suing her publisher, Regan Media, run by trendsetting power editor Judith Regan. The quarrel is over profits from a planned reality show by the A&E cable channel about Jameson's day-to-day life. Jameson says Regan has no right to profit from the A&E deal since the TV negotiations happened before her book contract. Regan is countering, claiming that Jameson's contract gives Regan media exclusive rights to negotiate any TV deals. Reps from Regan and Jameson did not reply to calls from the Associated Press seeking comment.

Gotti to the Stage
That elegant and talented lady who heads the classic "nukelar" household on A&E's reality show "Growing Up Gotti" is making the jump from reality to stage and for a musical, no less. Victoria Gotti is set to make her theatrical debut in the Off-Broadway "We're Still Hot" at the theater at St. Luke's in New York. Gotti, a 41-year-old mother of three, shared a poignant memory with the Associated Press: "I remember when I was in the fifth or sixth grade, doing the school play and trying out for the talent show," she said. "It was upsetting to me, because I was always an introverted kid, and I got up there and always bombed." The show, in which Gotti plays one of four 50ish women reunited for their 35th high school reunion, opens April 30.

No Truer Love
Guess Ellen DeGeneres really has found the right gal. Former "Ally McBeal" star Portia De Rossi has removed a tattoo on her ring finger with the initials of her ex-girlfriend that used to be Ringo Starr's stepdaughter, Francesca Gregorini to show her true devotion to DeGeneres. De Rossi said: "I'm not saying it's anything I regret doing, because I don't, but it just doesn't make any sense now."



Band Info

The nationally renowned bands:
Devon
Citizen Cope
Little Brother
Battle of the Bands winner:
The Capulets

Who, what, when, where?

FREE for students
Barefoot on the Mall
Thursday, April 21
12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Between Jarvis and
Joyner Library

Crowds are offered many exciting games at various student organization booths. Students participate in one of the many inflatable activities that Barefoot offers.

Barefoot 2005

SCOTTY WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

Thursday, April 21, four days before the last official day of classes, ECU students will put down the books and pull out the picnic blankets. Pants will be rolled up and the grass mall area of campus will be filled up with ECU students who just want to relax and have a little fun and the Student Union will give it to them. Barefoot on the Mall will return for the 26th time from noon - 6 p.m. Thursday in front of the central campus dorms.

The theme this year is "ECU Gets Twisted" and as usual the event will bring an array of musical acts and fun novelties. Inflatable games and novelty amusements like vertical bungee and boxing will be back from previous years. Thirty student organizations will be involved in the event, from all over campus. The event is all about having fun before exams and students will be able to play games, win prizes and get some food in a laid back atmosphere.

The fun at the event is larger than life, literally. Huge blow-up novelties dot the landscape, and there are games all over the place for people to enjoy. It's another opportunity for many little-known student organizations to get noticed and give away stuff. Often student organizations are popular at Barefoot if they're giving

away something especially good.

The performers at Barefoot aren't your typical crooners, either. Big-name bands such as Jason Mraz, John Mayer, Widespread Panic, Edwin McCain (with a band at the time) and Weekend Excursion have taken the stage at Barefoot before hitting it big, so the event promises to showcase what's hot in music. This year will be no exception, as a host of up-and-coming groups are set to take the stage.

The opening act at noon will be The Capulets, winners of this year's Battle of the Bands. Devon Sproule, a folk singer/songwriter, will follow at 12:30 p.m. Devon has been a national performer since the age of 16 and has toured with bands like Guster, David Gray and the Dave Matthews Band. The mid-lining group is Little Brother, a North Carolina based hip-hop trio. Citizen Cope, an urban blues songwriter whose album "The Clarence Greenwood Recording" was chosen as one of the best of 2004 by NPR, will be the headliner act. Between acts, Wellness Education will sponsor a side stage where spoken word competitions and step shows will fill the breaks between performances with a theme of HIV/AIDS awareness.

If you're a freshman or have never experienced Barefoot on the Mall before, you are in for a very special treat.

"Come out, bring a blanket and some friends, and just relax," said Katie Daniel, a senior theater major.

Daniel has been involved with Barefoot for three years, this year serving as the Barefoot committee chair. Daniel's major advice to students is to get in line early for giveaways because lines get very long by the middle of the afternoon, and you can get in line more than once if you don't win the first time around.

"Bring a blanket to sit on and some water to drink, walk around and get free giveaways and have a photo keychain picture taken. Bring your dog if you have one, but put him on a leash. Everyone always has a good time."

If you have a class during the day Thursday, don't fret. The event is six hours long to give everyone time to get out and enjoy the day, or stay all day if you're in the mood to kick back.

One of the greatest things about Barefoot is the overall theme. With the end of classes and the crunch of final exams just around the corner, the event lets everyone take a few hours off and enjoy the spring and enjoy a free afternoon of quality music. There's always a lot to take home, too.

Whether you go to blow off some steam, listen to some good music, hang out with friends or take home some freebies, throw your books on the floor and go enjoy an ECU tradition that promises to rock your socks off.

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

Citizen Cope plays ECU's Barefoot on the Mall

Hear what he has to say
KRISTIN MURNANE
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Artists have been mixing musical genres for decades and rap and rock have certainly crossed paths before, but Citizen Cope brings a breath of fresh air to this particular field. Cope, a.k.a. Clarence Greenwood, mixes of rap, rock, blues and funk is all perfectly blended in his 2004 release *The Clarence Greenwood Recordings*. The first single off the album, "Bullet and a Target" has been in regular rotation on rock stations across the country, and his new single, "Son's Gonna Rise," is featured in a commercial for Pontiac. This Washington D.C. native is coming to ECU this week to play for our annual Barefoot on the Mall event. I was fortunate

enough to interview Cope, and we talked about everything from politics to underwear.

TEC: Where do you get your inspirations? What inspires you to write music?

Citizen Cope: I guess life and the people I meet and the situations I've been in and the music I've heard.

TEC: I know you've worked with Carlos Santana, how did it feel working with such a legend?

CC: Oh it was great. Carlos is a real ambassador for peace and love, and so anytime you get a chance to work with somebody like that it's a great opportunity.

TEC: The second song on your latest CD, "Pablo Picasso," to my understanding, is about a man who

falls in love with a woman in a mural. Is that autobiographical? Where did the idea for that song come from?

CC: Well, I made the music for it and just got into one of those zones. Music is weird like that. Sometimes it just happens within the context of being in the mode of writing the song. But yeah, that's what it turned out to be about. Any song you write as a certain aspect of yourself into it. In retrospect, I guess it's just dealing with the idea of delusion in a lot of ways.

TEC: What is the biggest misconception that people have about you and your music?

CC: I don't think there's a widespread misconception really. I think that people who don't get it, just don't get it.

TEC: You're like a one-man band, playing guitar, keyboard and drums, in addition to providing vocals. What is your favorite instrument to



Clarence Greenwood puts his personal style into all of his music.

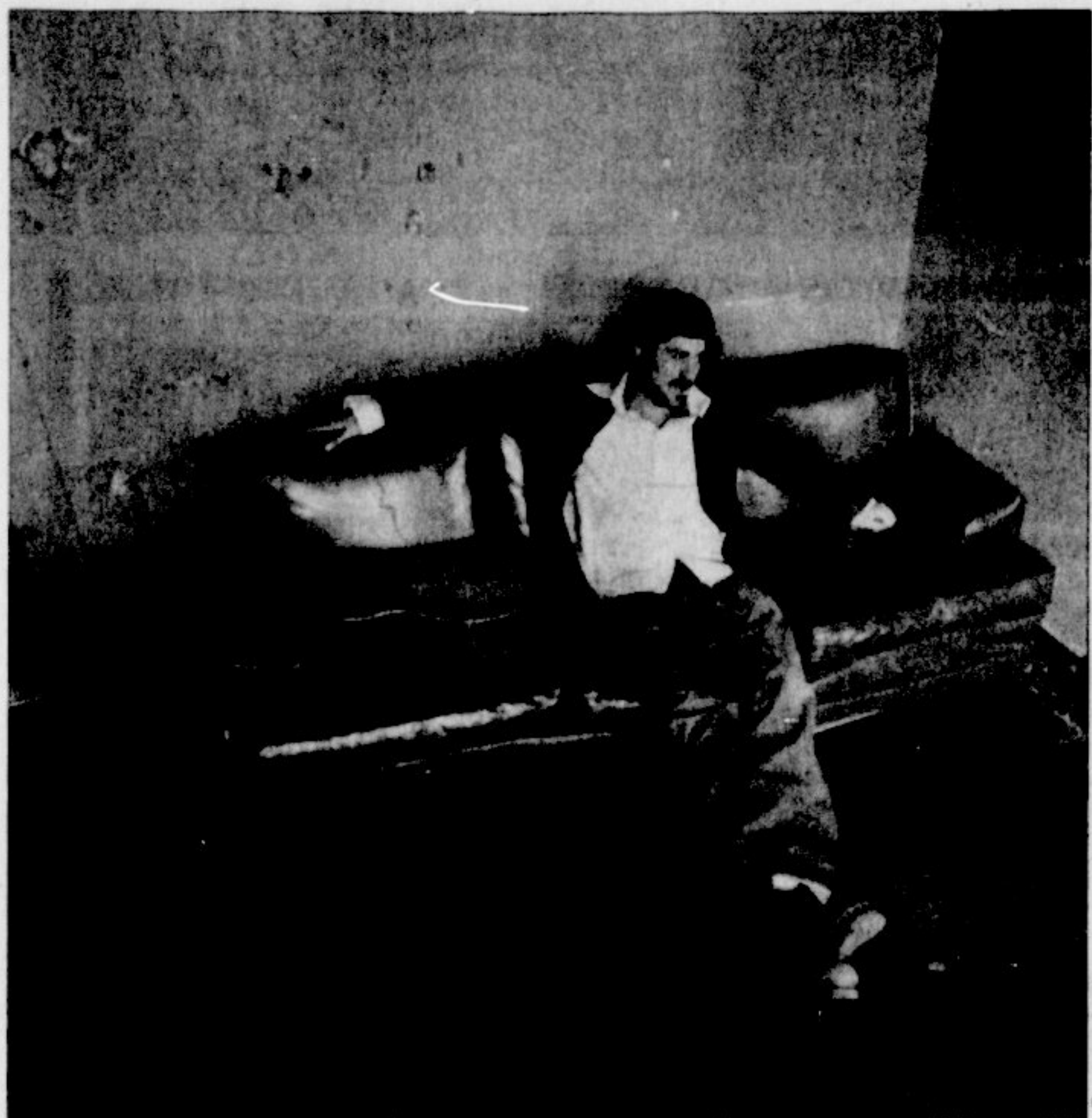
TEC: You're like a one-man band, playing guitar, keyboard and drums, in addition to providing vocals. What is your favorite instrument to play?

CC: The guitar. I use the instrument as a tool for writing. I'm not, by any means, a prodigy and I'm not fluent in any particular instrument. People like Carlos [Santana] and Coltrane, now they can play. I'm more of a writer who tools around with the rhythm of it.

TEC: Who are your heroes?

CC: I don't know if I have any heroes. I've been inspired

see **COPE** page B2

Cope from page B1

Citizen Cope will be sharing their unique style with ECU at Barefoot.

by the lives of people like Martin Luther King, Malcom X and Mahatma Ghandi, they're people who understood non-violent approaches as well as standing for what they believed in. There are a lot of people out there who have done really good things.

TEC: What is your favorite song to perform?

CC: I like all of them for different reasons.

TEC: What do you do during your downtime? How do you relax?

CC: I just usually kick back. When you're on tour there's not a lot of downtime, but when I'm off tour I just kick back, have some good company and a good meal.

TEC: What other CD's are you listening to right now?

CC: I was listening to some Prince the other day, some old Prince records. There's just a whole bunch of stuff I listen to.

TEC: Are there any underground bands that we might not have heard of that you'd recommend?

CC: I like that group Elephant.

TEC: Do you remember your first gig and what it was like?

CC: Oh man. It was cool. I think I opened up for Tricky for my first gig, back in like 1996 I want to say.

TEC: If you weren't a musician, what do you think you'd be doing?

CC: I'd probably be a novelist or a writer.

TEC: How do you feel about file sharing and downloading? Do you think it hurts music or do you think it can help to promote bands?

CC: It has an effect on both, it does both things. It's called sharing you know. I wish I could get in a cab and get out and not pay and say, "Thanks for sharing." I love the aspect that it gets music out there. I've always felt like just getting the music out there is the most important thing and if it's good, people are going to hear it. It's better for the record companies to have more music out there. Their crisis is dealing with the fact that they haven't been able to develop certain artists and that radio has become so powerful, that they've let it become more powerful than them. So I don't think their problem lies with downloading and things

like that. I mean Dark Side of the Moon probably still sells like half a million records a year, and there's no cost in that for them. They don't have to promote it, because it sells itself. There's a lot of money out there not just in record sales.

TEC: What do you think about everything going down in the world today? Do you have any distinct opinions on the war, government, politics or just society in general?

CC: I feel like until mankind can evolve into more peaceful approaches that it puts itself at risk of inevitably putting itself at doom. Technology is moving so fast and evolving so quickly and we have these infrastructures set up in so many different parts of the world. And in other parts of the world, they don't necessarily live like that, so there's a clash. So what happens is that we've got to start thinking on more of a humankind level. They say that war's always been there but all this technology has not always been there. People have to start evolving their thoughts more than, "oh a person did that wrong," and now they have to right that wrong through violence. You just have to sit back and not fight the course and just kind of observe what you see and how you see it and try to be as good on a personal level as you can possibly be.

TEC: One last question for you, and I'm sure all the other ladies out there want to know this, but do you wear boxers or briefs?

CC: Boxers definitely.

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



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Note: For those on the meal plan, enjoy a free meal at the MIDNIGHT BREAKFAST sponsored by Campus Dining at Todd and West End Dining Halls from 10pm-1am.

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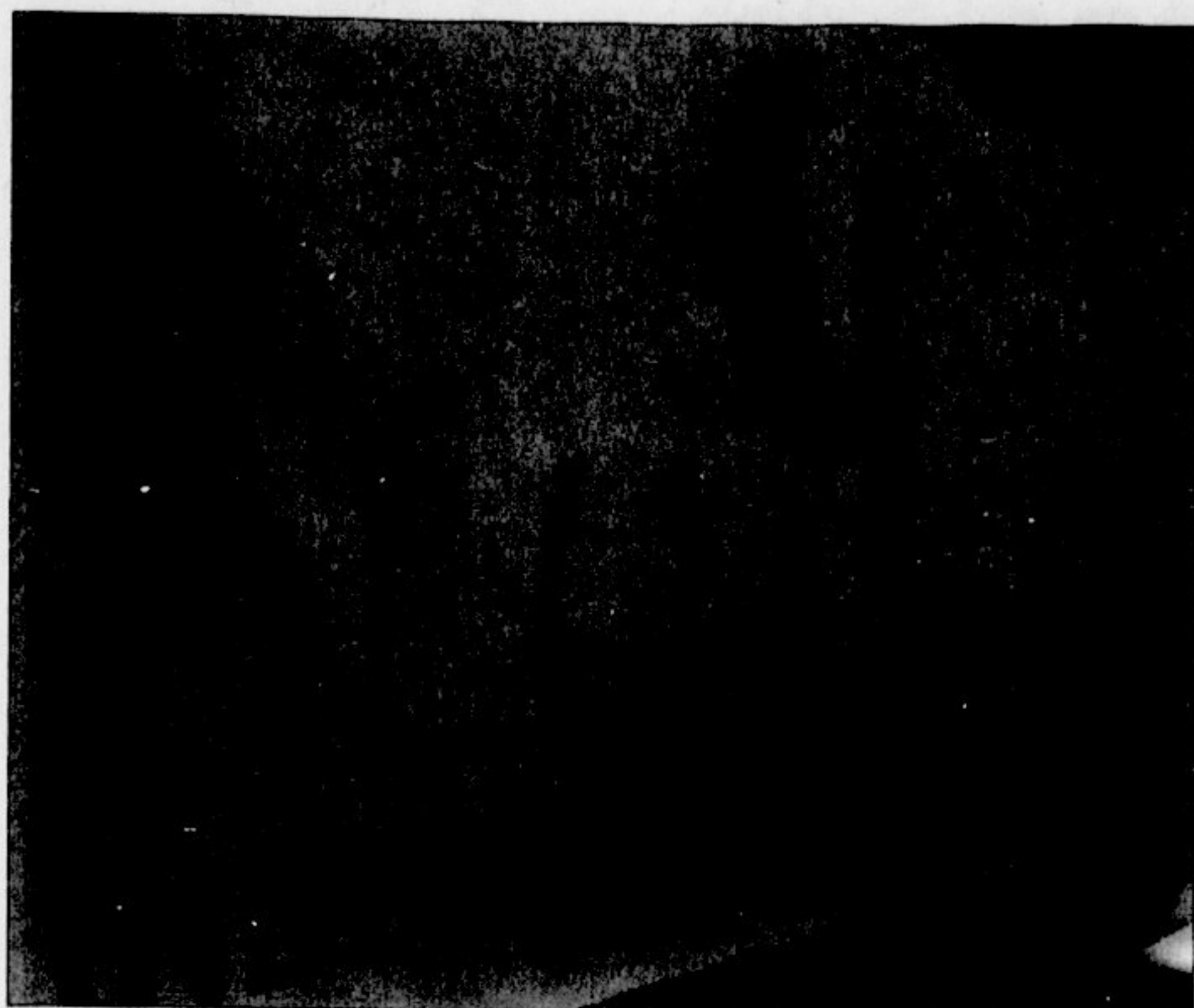
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	Wednesday & Thursday, April 27 & 28	9:00a.m. to 7:00p.m.
	Friday, April 29 (Arbor Day, plant a tree!)	9:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.
	Saturday, April 30	10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.
	Monday - Wednesday, May 2 - 4	9:00a.m. to 7:00p.m.

Creativity through Blu Moon Film Festival



that sent in a film was Georg Koszulinski. He directed *Future X*, which was the second film shown of the night. It was one of the more serious films of the evening that spoke about death and schizophrenia. Koszulinski had a very unique style of presenting his scenes throughout the film. He used editing effects to show the emotions that the character was going through.

Two of the other music videos that were shown in this year's festival were both for Train. ECU students directed them. One of the music videos was for "Wilmington" by Travis Meany. The other Train video was for the song "Mississippi" by Benji Waters.

"I was nervous when it came time for my film," said Benji Waters, a senior communication major. Waters was nervous because it was the first time his work would be shown for an actual audience.

"At the same time, I was excited because it's probably the only time I'll ever see any of my work on the big screen," said Waters.

Waters also worked on one of the documentaries in the festival along with Katie Graham and Michelle Jelinek. *Live Music in Small Town America* was especially interesting to people involved in Greenville's local music scene. Their film showed local bands playing at Peasants, one of the clubs downtown.

Another film that was familiar for students was *Black Elvis* directed by ECU student, Josiah Owen. It followed the man that has been deemed Black Elvis. He is often seen carrying a beat up guitar walking around downtown.

There were two rather controversial films that were shown at the festival that were sent in from outside of the university. *Lincoln vs. Bush*, a film showing the standpoints of Lincoln and Bush if they had ran against each other for office in the last election was directed by Pat Battistini.

The other more discordant film was *Outtakes of the Christ* directed by Andrew Goldenburg. This film was meant to be fun and showed the outtakes of the movie, *Passion of the Christ*.

Other films shown that were not from ECU included *Six Ft. Six* directed by Graham Ball, who put together conversations from three payphones. *The Secret Life of Clowns* was by William Mullins and Jennifer Goodman. This film was about clowns becoming less popular and not being able to get jobs. *Sir Josh* by Chris Hite was a humorous film about a boy and his bond with his grandparents' car. *Lume* by Jeff Zuehlke followed the band, Lume. The last film to be shown was *Touching*, a provocative short film directed by Jim McQuaid.

As for the other ECU entries that were shown at the festival, there was one entitled *East Carolina PSA*. This was the first piece shown and it was directed by Amanda Johnson. Scott Taube directed *No Trade Refused*, which was a short comedy about trading in children as if they were used cars. *The Destino Film* by Sean Hunter had fantastic production skills behind it. Last year's Blu Moon director, Ashley Mangum, directed *8mg*. R.J. Spaulding directed *Of Suits, Ties and Errant Limbs* which was about a zombie at a job interview. *The Marley Fund* was about feline leukemia directed by Jessica Garrett.

There was also an after party

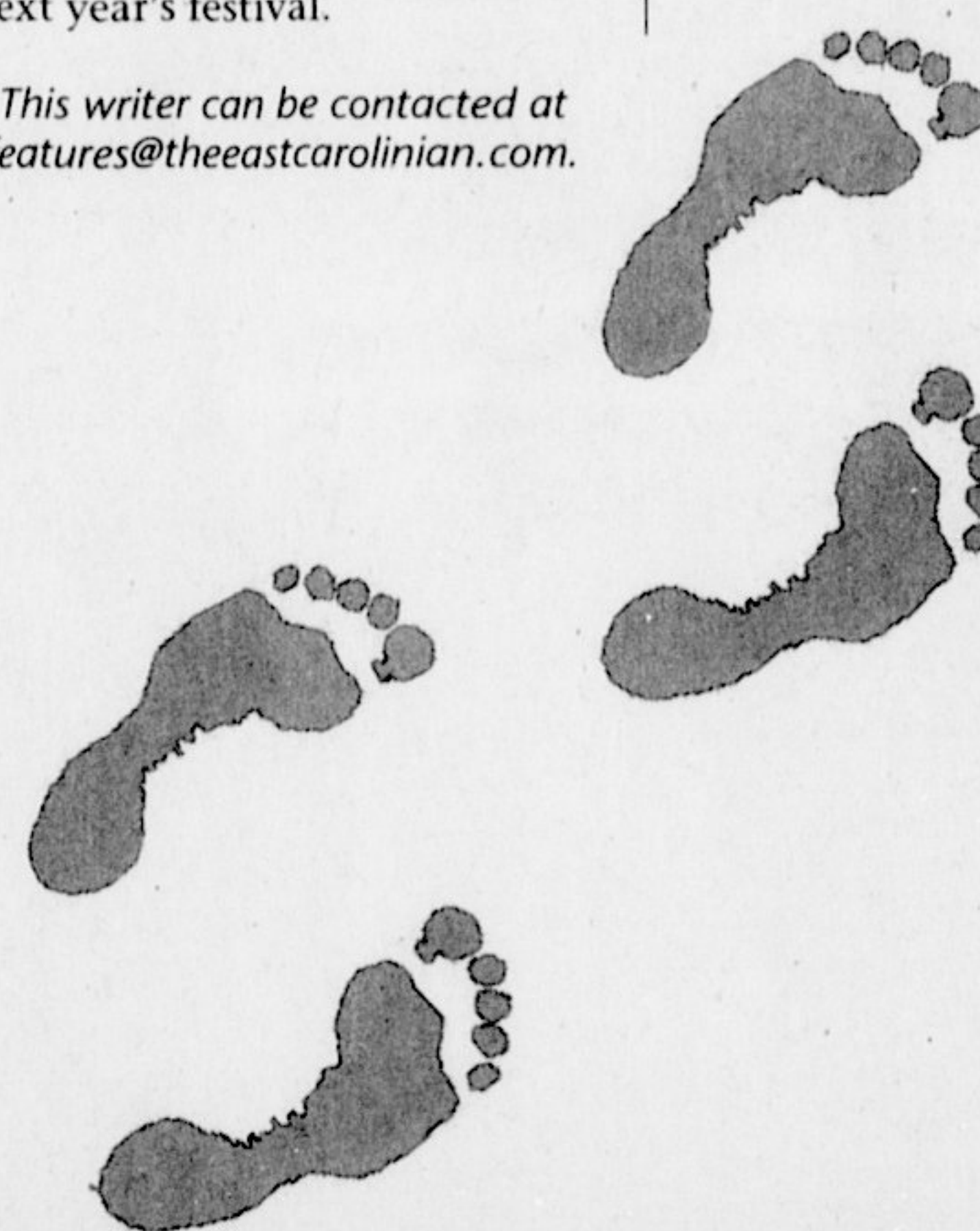
held for the Blu Moon Film Festival in the Pirate Underground. Narallis from Rocky Mount played first. The Capulets, the winner of this year's Battle of the Bands, also performed.

Look out for the names of the directors from this year's Blu Moon. They could be great directors one day. It's not too soon to be getting your ideas ready for next year's festival.

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

Annual Blu Moon Film Festival

On April 16, 5 p.m. this independent film festival showcased students with a love of film. Students from across the state participated. 22 films were shown.



Independent films on campus

KACY THOMPSON
STAFF WRITER

The third annual Blu Moon Independent Film Festival was held at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 16, in the Hendrix Theater. There were 22 films shown – half of which were by ECU students or alumni, and the other half were films accepted from directors outside the university.

"The quality of the films were really good," said Jamie Mauldin, a senior communication major.

Mauldin, who helped organize this year's festival, also said they received more entries this year than they have in the past.

"We had a wide variety of films sent in this year," said Faith Dover, this year's Blu Moon director.

Dover, a senior communication major, was pleased with how many ECU students sent in films to participate in the festival. Dover was also one of the directors. Her provocative short film was titled *Unfortunate Affairs*.

The Blu Moon committee members were satisfied with the turnout of this year's festival.

The genres ranged from comedy, drama, suspense, political and religious topics. The types of films varied, as well. There were music videos, commercials

and documentaries.

A few of the more unusual films shown at the festival were *Hide and Seek* by Christopher Romano and *Sandamation* by San Sica. *Hide and Seek* was an animation about robots, and *Sandamation* showed incredible sand art being made. However, neither of these films was from ECU students.

"Even though it was from out of state, I really liked *Sandamation*," said senior communication major Ilene Schwartz. She also commented on how the audience was bigger than they had expected.

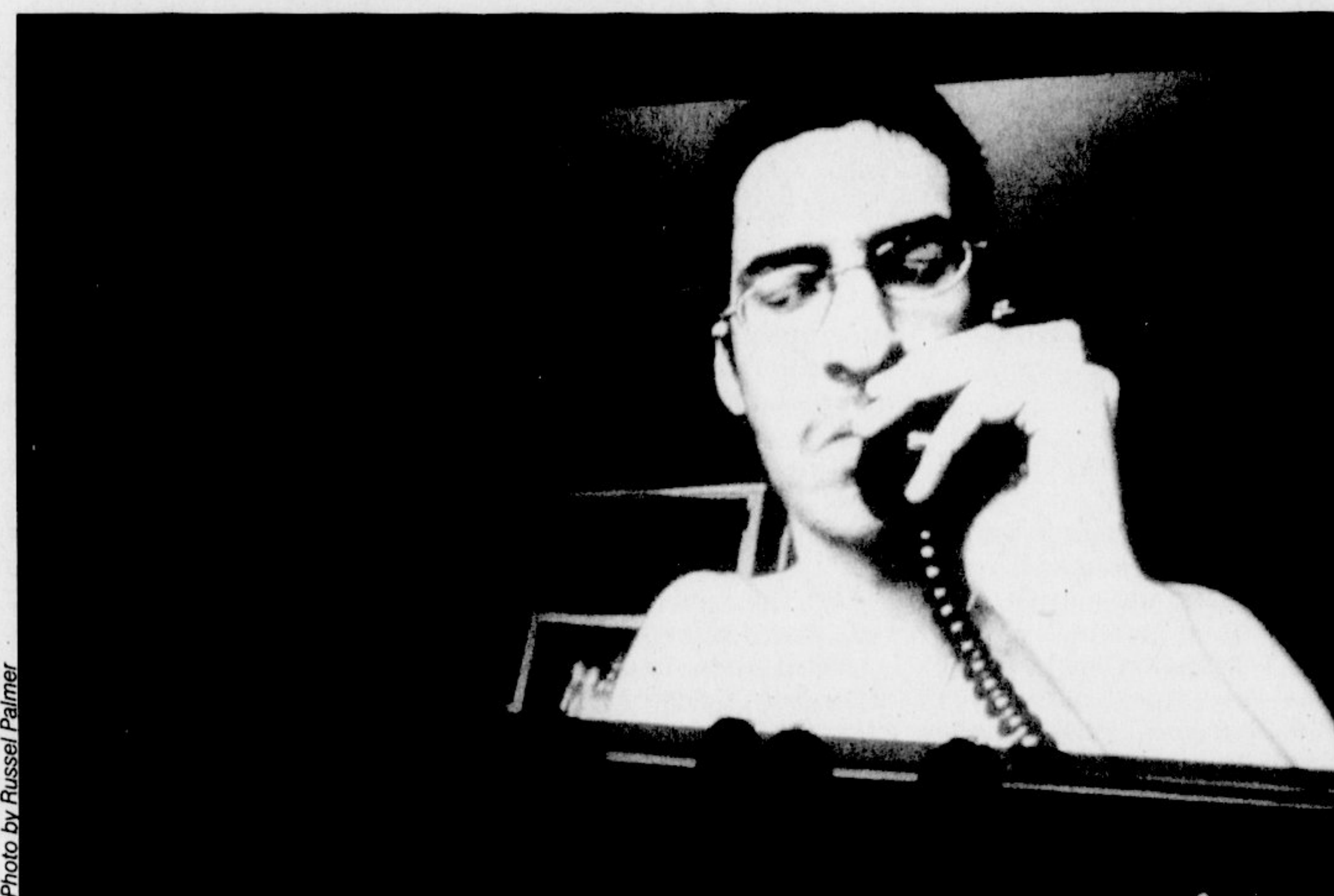
"There was an awesome turnout this year," said Christina Guerry, a senior communication major. Guerry is a member of the Blu Moon committee, and also one of the directors that submitted a film. She directed a music video for the song "Where is My Mind" by The Pixies. Many people after the festival were talking about how this was one of their favorite films at the event.

"The music video for 'Where is My Mind' was my favorite," said Shawn Lamons, a senior communication major.

Lamons was another one of the organizers for Blu Moon.

"I liked the story idea that went along with the song and it was edited really well," Lamons said.

Another out of state director



Independent films from students were showcased at the annual event in Hendrix Theatre, April 16.

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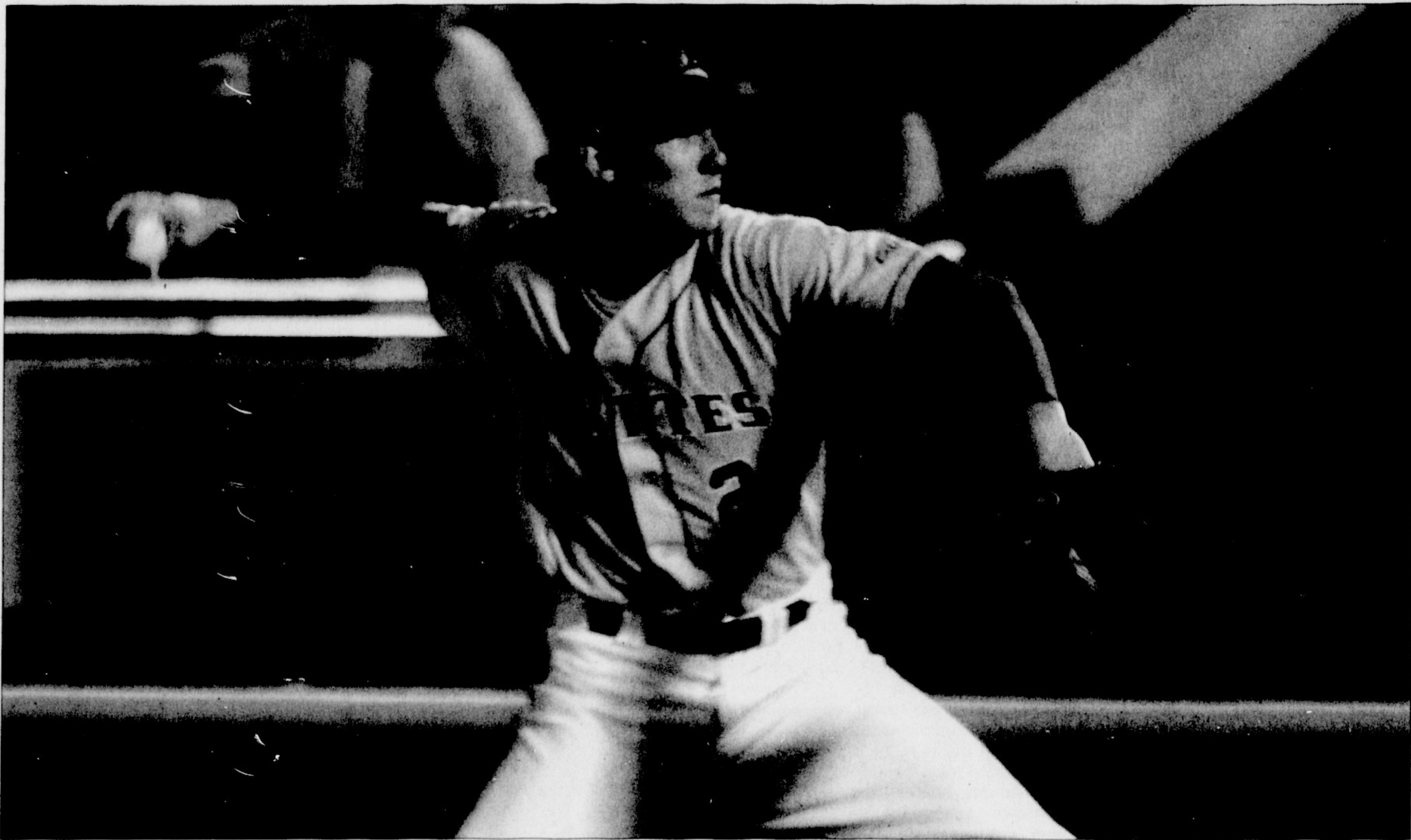
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Pirates pick up first sweep of season



Ricky Brooks started the Pirates' series with Louisville on the right foot with his left arm, tossing a complete game and allowing just one run on nine hits with nine strikeouts.

ECU picks up crucial victories in Louisville

BRENT WYNNE
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Behind a brilliant game, one pitching performance from Ricky Brooks and an offensive explosion in games two and three, ECU baseball swept a three game series from Louisville in front of record crowds, as the Cardinals opened their brand new Jim Patterson Stadium.

The Pirates took the three contests 4-1, 9-8 and 11-6 respectively.

Cardinals' fans poured in by the thousands Friday to watch game one under the lights. Their previous season high for attendance was against bitter in-state rival Kentucky, when they drew just over a 1,000 people. The announced attendance of 3,213 for game one between ECU and Louisville set a record for the largest crowd to ever watch a Cardinals game.

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With one out in the ECU half of the fourth, Adam Witter drew a walk. Jake Smith then singled to short, bringing up Costanzo, who then drove in Witter with a single to centerfield. Freshman Ryan Peisel singled to right field to load the bases, which were quickly cleared when Brett Lindgren stroked the gap in center to give the Pirates a 4-0 lead.

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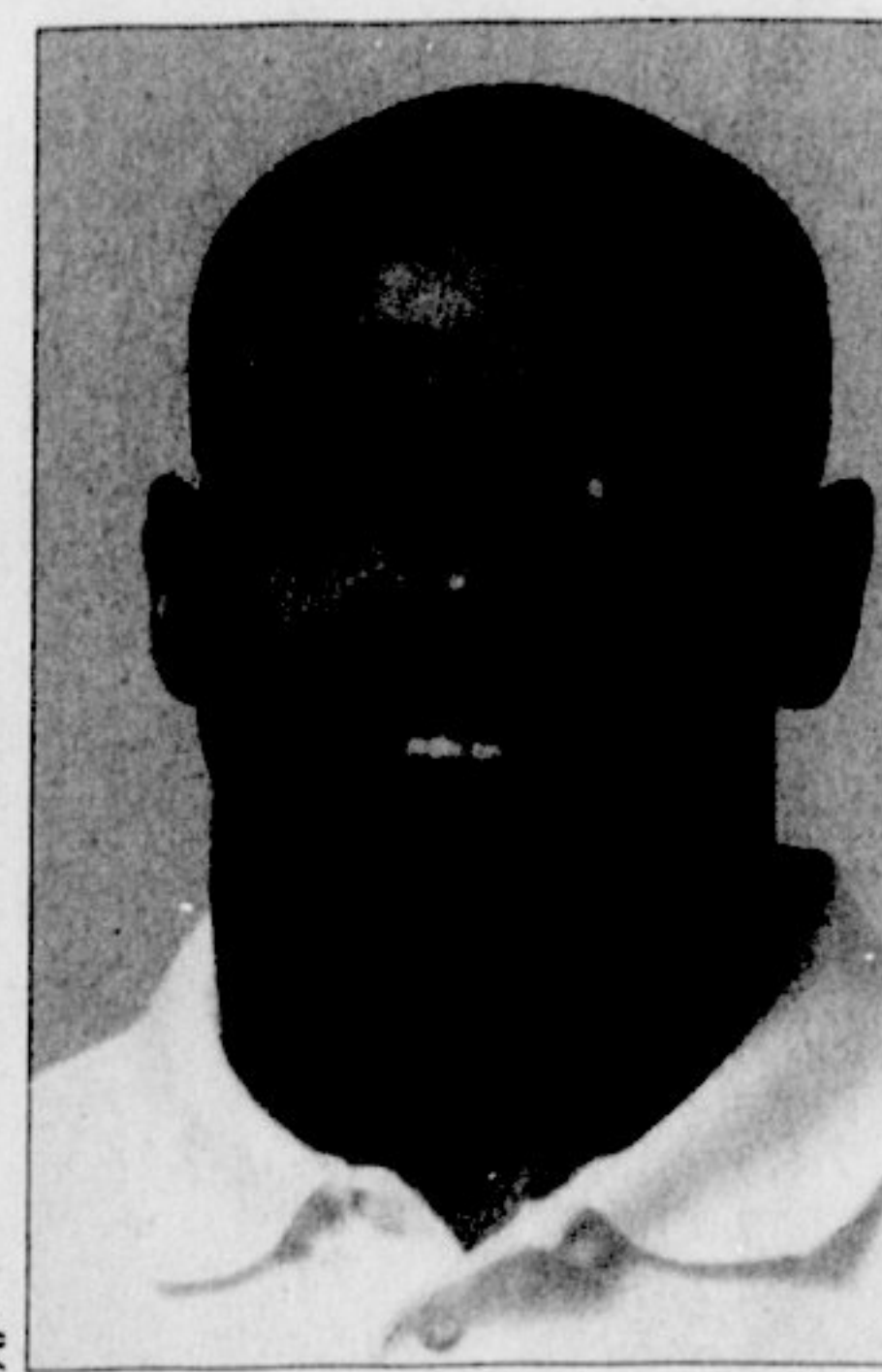
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see **BASEBALL** page B5



Mills

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There is a statue of him outside Bank of America Stadium and he is the only player in the team's Hall of Honor. Mike McCormack, Carolina's first team president, is the only other inductee in the Hall.

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Open letter from Terry Holland

SID — Possibly the greatest barrier to success facing ECU athletics right now is our own self-image. New coaches always speak to the difficulty of changing a "losing culture" among the athletes of a particular team. However, many schools are finding that the "losing culture" phenomenon can spread like a wildfire through the whole fan base due to the Internet and other media coverage of rumors and half-truths.

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Our competition for students, recruits, media coverage, etc., will always be the SEC, ACC and Big East schools within our geographic area. The lowest athletic budgets at those schools are already at \$30 million-plus. Since our budget is \$18 million, the Pirate Nation has no choice but to become a better TEAM than our competitors. We simply do not have the luxury of believing that we can not win against these odds or that ANY of our teammates are not doing their very best to win and build our programs.

Becoming a TEAM is hard work and requires a great deal of old-fashioned "faith" that what the mind can conceive, the body can achieve. Given the intense competitive environment in athletics today, we simply can not afford to believe

that we can "talk" our way into the BCS picture by joining another conference or whatever. Anything that happens to us will have to be EARNED by becoming a more effective team than our competitors. That will require the support of every single member of the Pirate Nation working toward a common goal.

Eighteen million dollar budgets can not compete effectively against \$30 million budgets as long as any percentage of our work day has to be spent tracking down and dispelling rumors or half-truths. The following e-mail is an example of how easily panicked we, the Pirate Nation, have become. However, it is not the e-mail itself that is the problem - we must all first acknowledge that every single one of us has participated to one degree or another in such speculation and secondly, that if we persist in doing so, we are dooming our own program to mediocrity at best.

Gentlemen,
I attended the Spring Game this past Saturday with a few former football letter winners. Among them were Brian Rimpf, Leonard Henry, David Garrard, etc. I thought the turnout, the festivities, etc. were great. I was however "very" disappointed to learn that there were many football recruits there, yet they never got to mingle with any of the NFL alumni that we have here at ECU. I feel very strongly that there should have been a time that David, Leonard, etc., should have been put in the area of these recruits,

see **LETTER** page B8

Lady Pirates hit mark with sweep of Louisville

ECU rises to second in C-USA with 50th win

DAVID WASKIEWICZ
SENIOR WRITER

Last season the ECU softball team was outscored away at Louisville 20-2 in part of a three-game sweep inflicted on the Lady Pirates. This season the outcome turned out to be much different as ECU went on to face their No. 1 ranked Conference USA rival.

Offense was key for ECU in game one of the three-game series with the Lady Cardinals. Senior Kate Manuse started off the scoring in the bottom of the second with a solo shot. ECU was then able to extend the lead to 4-0 in the bottom of the next inning off the bats of seniors Mandi Nichols and Manuse. Louisville managed to score two runs in the top of the fourth and fifth, but it was not enough as ECU won 6-2.

The win knocked Louisville out of first place in the C-USA standings and pulled ECU closer to second place.

In the second game of the afternoon, sophomore pitcher Keli Harrell took the mound for the Lady Pirates and performed well, allowing only four hits in the complete game shutout, 1-0.

The only run of the game came off the bat of freshman Beth Nolan, who hit a home run in the bottom of the second.

The win gave Harrell her 23rd of the year.

"I was executing, hitting spots and finding a way to let my defense work for me and my defense was great," said Harrell.

Now that two games were already won, the Lady Pirates were tied for second place in C-USA with Louisville. They were also only one win away from their 50th win of the season and the 1,000th win in school history heading into their third and final game against the Lady Cardinals



Mandi Nichols was one of two Lady Pirates with a hit against UL on Saturday as ECU won 1-0.

the following day.

Harrell once again took the mound for ECU for the third game collecting her 28th complete game of the season and striking out 10 as ECU completed the sweep with a 4-1 victory.

Manuse drove in two runs in the win including her 13th home run of the season in the bottom of the first.

Pirates' coach Tracey Kee was very pleased with her team's performance during the series and picking up the milestone victories.

"This win was extremely special, the 50th, the 1,000th,

the fact that it was a sweep in the conference," said Kee.

"We knew as a team what we wanted to accomplish. I just reminded the kids, a lot of great ball players have come through here and laid the foundation for them and they are doing a great job carrying the torch."

With solo possession of second place ECU now looks forward to their next goal, taking out the first place C-USA team, DePaul. The Lady Pirates are scheduled to face DePaul away next weekend.

Although the team is having great success, Kee insists they must keep modest in order to reach their goal at the end of the season, the C-USA Tournament.

"We can't change, we have to keep being that team that is fighting to get to that conference tournament," Kee said.

"Obviously we have a lot of confidence right now, but we are going to approach every game like it's the last game of the season."

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

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Baseball from page B4

2-for-4 with four RBIs and two runs scored. But it was Peisel who stole the show at the plate, reaching base in all five appearances, including a career high four hits, the biggest being a home run in ninth to seal the deal for the Bucs. The freshman finished with two RBIs and three runs scored.

The Pirates have now won five straight conference games and are just three games back for third in the Conference USA standings. Questions about the likelihood of postseason play have now turned into questions about ECU's chances to host a NCAA regional for the second straight year.

The Bucs will begin to answer those questions Tuesday, when they make up a game that was rained out a week ago

against No. 7 North Carolina. ECU will then play the second of their eight-game home stand Wednesday, when they take on NC State for the third time this season.

Two conference series are approaching in the next couple of weekends, with Memphis coming in this weekend and Cincinnati the next. The Pirates will have a great opportunity to run their conference win streak to 11 games, which will likely propel them into the third spot in the conference standings.

This team is getting hot at the right time, and with the timely return of some key players, ECU will be a force to be reckoned with come postseason time.

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

Mills from page B4

League. He finished his career with 1,319 tackles while starting 173 of 181 games.

He joined the Panthers' coaching staff upon his retirement. Mills was an undersized linebacker out of Montclair (N.J.) State who tried and failed several times to catch on with NFL and Canadian Football League teams. He gave professional football one last shot when the USFL debuted in 1983.

Every day, Stars coach Jim Mora asked his assistants who the best player on the field was. Every day, they told him "Sam Mills."

"I don't need a 5-9 linebacker," Mora kept saying. Mills ended up as one of Mora's favorite players and when Mora went to the Saints after the USFL's demise, he brought Mills with him.

A day in the life of an official

A side of sports few acknowledge

DAVID WASKIEWICZ
SENIOR WRITER

Sport officials. At times people love them, at times people hate them. It is this love-hate relationship that keeps fans involved in sports, whether it be to boo at a close call or cheer for a call in favor of their team. Without officials, games would lack a certain spark to capture fan's attention. I mean how fun would a game be without anyone to enforce the rules?

It is part of this aspect of an official's job that first caught hold of my interest. I always recognized the importance of an official's job. Who else would grant the timeouts, determine whose foot the ball went out of bounds on or stand as a mediator between athletes as tempers are flaring?

I always knew ECU had an official's program through the Student Recreation Center for intramural sports, but I was always hesitant to go to the official clinics. Not until the beginning of my junior year when I was short on cash and looking for a job, did I finally decide to try a clinic out. I figured if I did not like the clinic, I would not return for any others.

The day finally came in early September for the official's flag football clinics. I headed to the meeting room on the second floor of the SRC and opened the door to what seemed to be at least 50 potential officials sitting around a table waiting for the meeting to begin.

Brian Weingartz, coordinator of intramural Sports, introduced himself to the crowd to begin the clinic. Weingartz welcomed everyone to the clinic, the returning veteran officials and the potential rookies. He then touched on a point that I was reminded of at every clinic I went to throughout the year.

"If you are in it for the money, this might not be the best job for you," said Weingartz.

He explained how rookie officials would only get paid \$5.35 an hour. I could tell from the beginning this was unattractive to a group of the people in the room.

Todd Riddick, assistant director of intramural Sports, stepped up to talk next about some of the expectations of officials and some of the rules. Both Riddick and Weingartz seemed somewhat laid back and easy to work with. This was one reason I decided to come back to the next clinic the following day, despite being told of the low pay. I figured low pay was better than no pay at all.

In the second clinic, the number of potential officials seemed to dwindle down by 10. Perhaps it was the low pay that scared the students off, or maybe they just realized officiating was not for them. Either way I was ready to get into the rules of flag football as all officials were placed into groups and moved from station to station on the back two basketball courts reviewing different rules and aspects at each station. This was the format for all of the clinics I went to during the year.

At the third and final clinic I was expecting some sort of written test to evaluate what we had learned in the last three days, but to my surprise there was none. After rotating stations we signed up for a preview game the following week, picked up a rulebook and our uniform. Instead of taking a test it was decided the best way for us to learn how to officiate was to get on the field and actually perform.

A preview game was more like a preseason game for both officials and intramural teams as they get ready for the season. Though nervous, I was ready to step on to the field and see what I could do.

David Gaskins, associate director of programs at the SRC,

see OFFICIAL page B6

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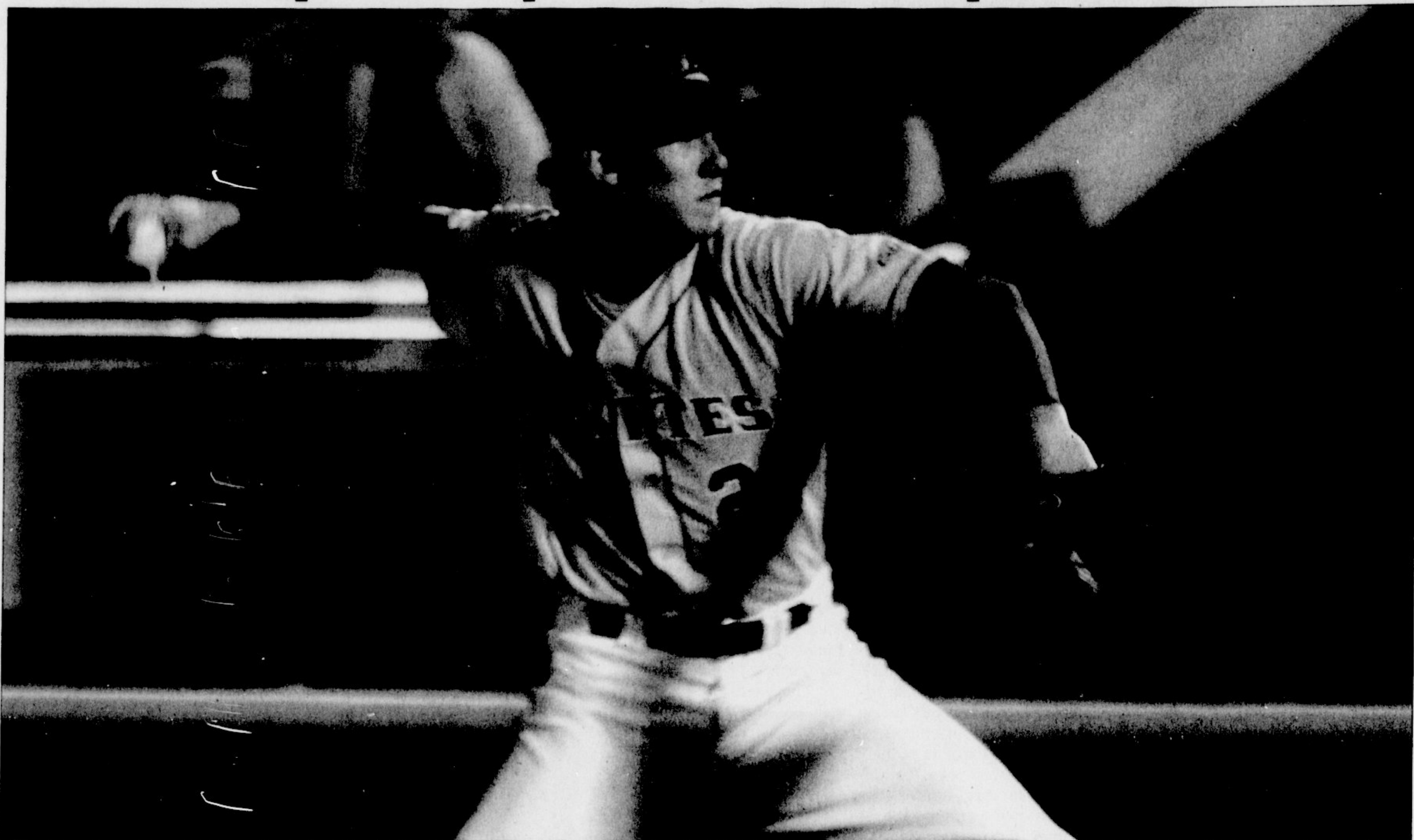
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Pirates pick up first sweep of season



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BRENT WYNNE
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see **BASEBALL** page B5



Mills

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Lady Pirates hit mark with sweep of Louisville

ECU rises to second in C-USA with 50th win

DAVID WASKIEWICZ
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In the second game of the afternoon, sophomore pitcher Keli Harrell took the mound for the Lady Pirates and performed well, allowing only four hits in the complete game shutout, 1-0.

The only run of the game came off the bat of freshman Beth Nolan, who hit a home run in the bottom of the second.

The win gave Harrell her 23rd of the year.

"I was executing, hitting spots and finding a way to let my defense work for me and my defense was great," said Harrell. Now that two games were already won, the Lady Pirates were tied for second place in C-USA with Louisville. They were also only one win away from their 50th win of the season and the 1,000th win in school history heading into their third and final game against the Lady Cardinals



Mandi Nichols was one of two Lady Pirates with a hit against UL on Saturday as ECU won 1-0.

the following day.

Harrell once again took the mound for ECU for the third game collecting her 28th complete game of the season and striking out 10 as ECU completed the sweep with a 4-1 victory.

Manuse drove in two runs in the win including her 13th home run of the season in the bottom of the first.

Pirates' coach Tracey Kee was very pleased with her team's performance during the series and picking up the milestone victories.

"This win was extremely special, the 50th, the 1,000th,

the fact that it was a sweep in the conference," said Kee.

"We knew as a team what we wanted to accomplish. I just reminded the kids, a lot of great ball players have come through here and laid the foundation for them and they are doing a great job carrying the torch."

With solo possession of second place ECU now looks forward to their next goal, taking out the first place C-USA team, DePaul. The Lady Pirates are scheduled to face DePaul away next weekend.

Although the team is having great success, Kee insists they must keep modest in order to reach their goal at the end of the season, the C-USA Tournament.

"We can't change, we have to keep being that team that is fighting to get to that conference tournament," Kee said.

"Obviously we have a lot of confidence right now, but we are going to approach every game like it's the last game of the season."

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

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Baseball from page B4

2-for-4 with four RBIs and two runs scored. But it was Peisel who stole the show at the plate, reaching base in all five appearances, including a career high four hits, the biggest being a home run in ninth to seal the deal for the Bucs. The freshman finished with two RBIs and three runs scored.

The Pirates have now won five straight conference games and are just three games back for third in the Conference USA standings. Questions about the likelihood of postseason play have now turned into questions about ECU's chances to host a NCAA regional for the second straight year.

The Bucs will begin to answer those questions Tuesday, when they make up a game that was rained out a week ago

against No. 7 North Carolina. ECU will then play the second of their eight-game home stand Wednesday, when they take on NC State for the third time this season.

Two conference series are approaching in the next couple of weekends, with Memphis coming in this weekend and Cincinnati the next. The Pirates will have a great opportunity to run their conference win streak to 11 games, which will likely propel them into the third spot in the conference standings.

This team is getting hot at the right time, and with the timely return of some key players, ECU will be a force to be reckoned with come postseason time.

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

Mills from page B4

League. He finished his career with 1,319 tackles while starting 173 of 181 games.

He joined the Panthers' coaching staff upon his retirement.

Mills was an undersized linebacker out of Montclair (N.J.) State who tried and failed several times to catch on with NFL and Canadian Football League teams. He gave professional football one last shot when the USFL debuted in 1983.

Every day, Stars coach Jim Mora asked his assistants who the best player on the field was. Every day, they told him "Sam Mills."

"I don't need a 5-9 linebacker," Mora kept saying.

Mills ended up as one of Mora's favorite players and when Mora went to the Saints after the USFL's demise, he brought Mills with him.

A day in the life of an official

A side of sports few acknowledge

DAVID WASKIEWICZ
SENIOR WRITER

Sport officials. At times people love them, at times people hate them. It is this love-hate relationship that keeps fans involved in sports, whether it be to boo at a close call or cheer for a call in favor of their team. Without officials, games would lack a certain spark to capture fan's attention. I mean how fun would a game be without anyone to enforce the rules?

It is part of this aspect of an official's job that first caught hold of my interest. I always recognized the importance of an official's job. Who else would grant the timeouts, determine whose foot the ball went out of bounds on or stand as a mediator between athletes as tempers are flaring?

I always knew ECU had an official's program through the Student Recreation Center for intramural sports, but I was always hesitant to go to the official clinics. Not until the beginning of my junior year when I was short on cash and looking for a job, did I finally decide to try a clinic out. I figured if I did not like the clinic, I would not return for any others.

The day finally came in early September for the official's flag football clinics. I headed to the meeting room on the second floor of the SRC and opened the door to what seemed to be at least 50 potential officials sitting around a table waiting for the meeting to begin.

Brian Weingartz, coordinator of intramural sports, introduced himself to the crowd to begin the clinic. Weingartz welcomed everyone to the clinic, the returning veteran officials and the potential rookies. He then touched on a point that I was reminded of at every clinic I went to throughout the year.

"If you are in it for the money, this might not be the best job for you," said Weingartz.

He explained how rookie officials would only get paid \$5.35 an hour. I could tell from the beginning this was unattractive to a group of the people in the room.

Todd Riddick, assistant director of intramural sports, stepped up to talk next about some of the expectations of officials and some of the rules. Both Riddick and Weingartz seemed somewhat laid back and easy to work with. This was one reason I decided to come back to the next clinic the following day, despite being told of the low pay. I figured low pay was better than no pay at all.

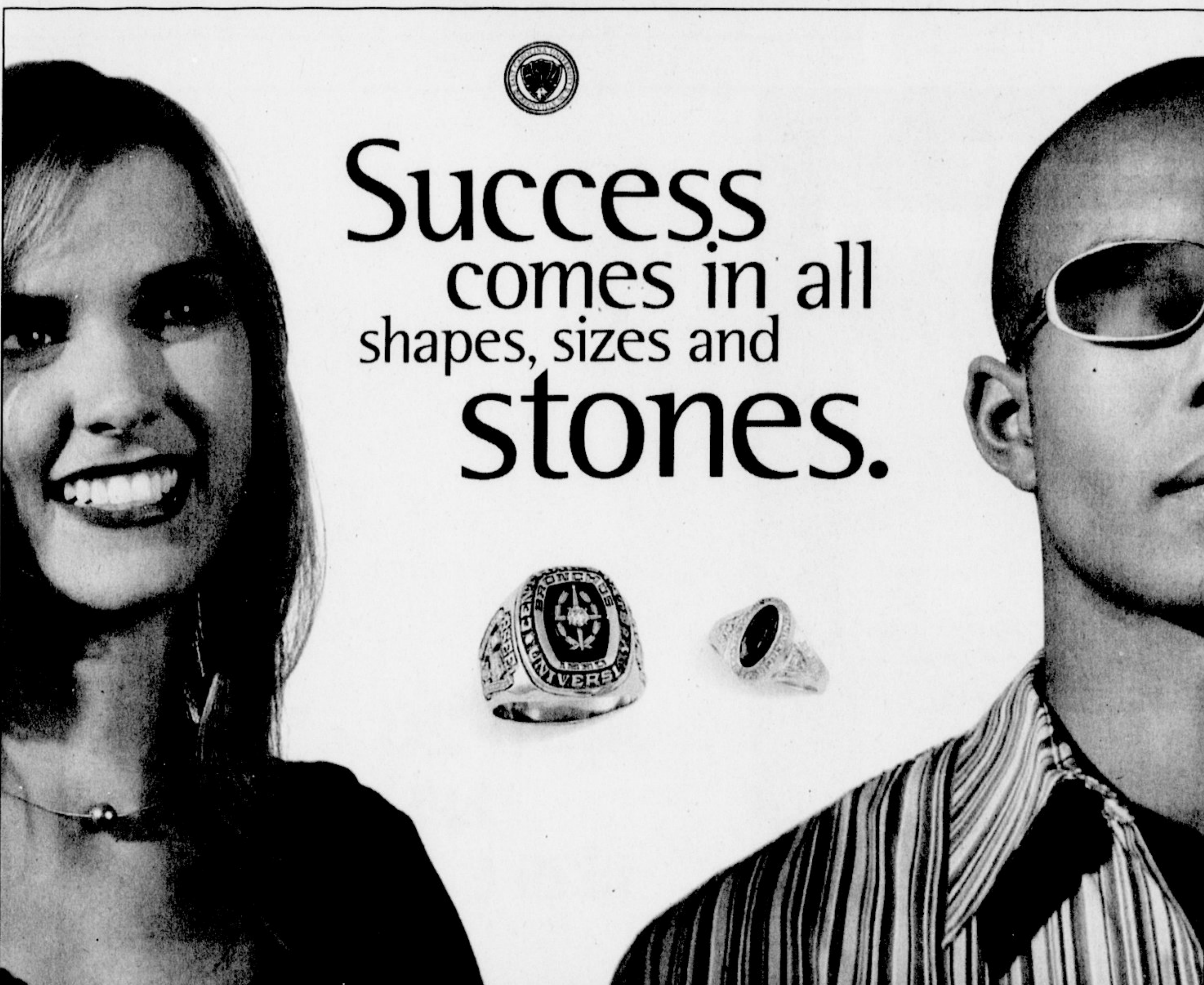
In the second clinic, the number of potential officials seemed to dwindle down by 10. Perhaps it was the low pay that scared the students off, or maybe they just realized officiating was not for them. Either way I was ready to get into the rules of flag football as all officials were placed into groups and moved from station to station on the back two basketball courts reviewing different rules and aspects at each station. This was the format for all of the clinics I went to during the year.

At the third and final clinic I was expecting some sort of written test to evaluate what we had learned in the last three days, but to my surprise there was none. After rotating stations we signed up for a preview game the following week, picked up a rulebook and our uniform. Instead of taking a test it was decided the best way for us to learn how to officiate was to get on the field and actually perform.


A preview game was more like a preseason game for both officials and intramural teams as they get ready for the season. Though nervous, I was ready to step on to the field and see what I could do.

David Gaskins, associate director of programs at the SRC,

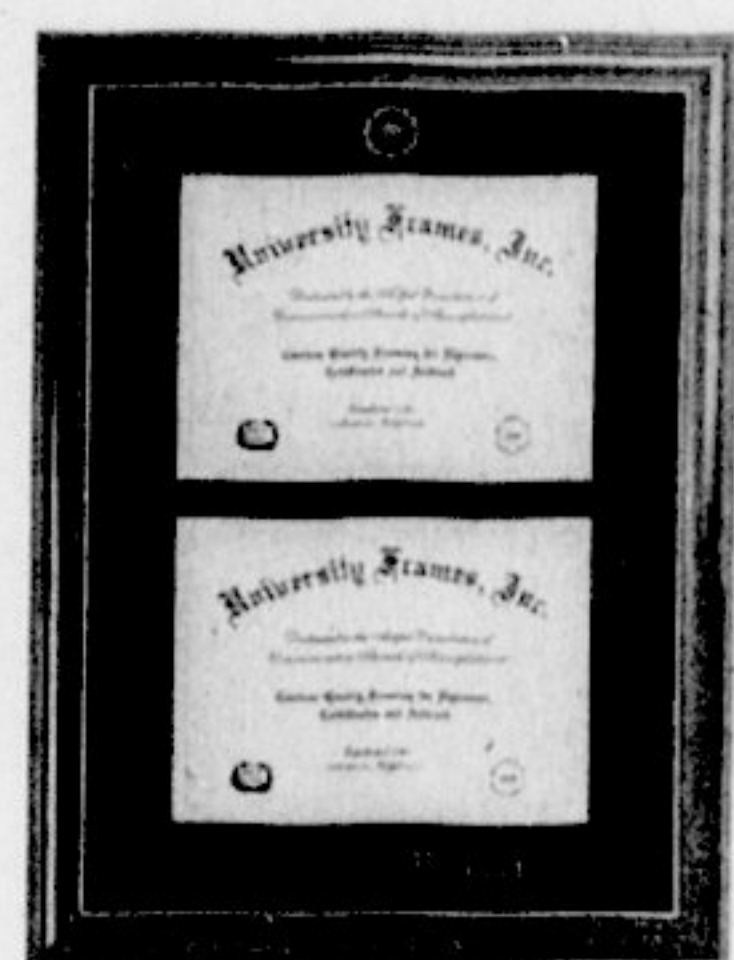
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Official from page B5

and Weingartz were at the sides of the field offering constructive criticism to all officials as the preview went on. They were patient and did not yell, but instead just told me what I was doing wrong and how to improve myself. I then took what they said to heart and made the improvements they said I needed to make.

The flag football season rolled on and I felt like I continued to get better and better, partly from Weingartz always on the side of the field monitoring the official's actions and also in part to just my drive to get better.

Just like in all athletic events there were player protests. Numerous times throughout the season players challenged the authorities of the officials, whether it was because they felt one of us made a bad call, or just because they did not like us from the begin-

ning. My experience handling with conflict was increased as often times I would find players in my face complaining about calls.

One thing players do not realize as I dealt with them is the fact I cannot see the whole field or court at once. Officials are often assigned to a certain section of the field or court and when something occurs outside of it, chances are I probably did not see the call.

It is amazing how many students playing intramural sports would contest, complain and sometimes even fight to get a call the way they want. I never realized how much teams would go on to strive for the coveted "Intramural Champions T-shirt" and bragging rights.

I realized all conflict was indeed part of the job as I

enjoyed working intramural flag football and eventually went on to working soccer, basketball and softball. I thank Weingartz, Riddick, Gaskins and other veteran officials for making my job a pleasurable one throughout the year.

As for players participating in intramural sports remember officials will always make calls you do not agree with, no matter what sport or league you play. As for intramurals it is not like officials officiate because it is on the fast track to being a millionaire, they are doing it simply because that is what they love to do. If players feel they could make a better call themselves, the next official's clinic starts in the fall - they are invited to show us what they got.

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

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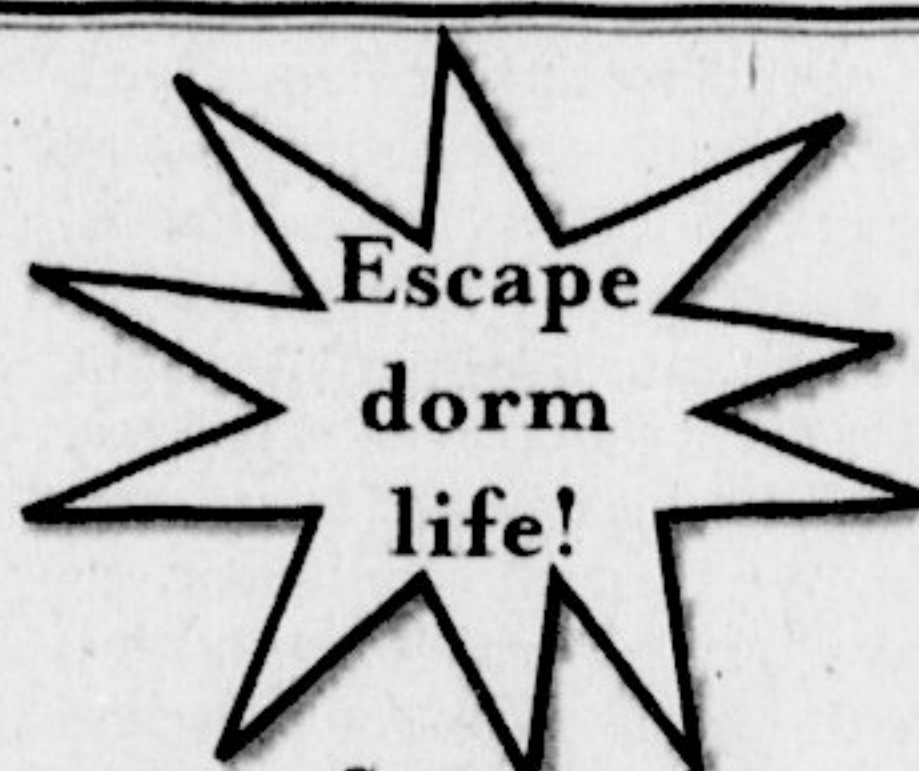
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Photo by Kyle Fisher

Sophomore tailback Chris Johnson is tackled by a swarm of Pirates in the first quarter.

Pirates dawn new era with spring scrimmage Saturday afternoon

Coaching staff, new players gain valuable experience

ERIC GILMORE
SENIOR WRITER

As two squads comprised of ECU players grinded against each other in Saturday's Purple/Gold scrimmage, Skip Holtz was nowhere to be seen. An eagle perched over his domain in the press box, Holtz assessed his team.

"Especially as I watched it from upstairs, there were a lot of great individual performances out there," said Holtz.

"Overall, I'm pleased with the effort and attitude, and as long as they keep coming out here and working hard, then we can take this film and learn from it and get better."

Forced to abort the tradition two-team make-up, Holtz separated his team into an ECU squad (the starting offense and reserve defense) and a Pirates squad (the starting defense and reserve offense). The reserve defense assisted the ECU squad to a 28-10 victory.

Local product and current first-string quarterback Davon Drew persevered through arm tendonitis to lead the ECU squad on two scoring drives. On the first series, Drew connected with JUCO transfer Aundrae Allison on a simple bubble screen, which Allison turned into a 30-yard touchdown. Entering the endzone for the first time in an ECU uniform, Allison perfected a front-flip.

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said Allison, who led all receivers with five catches for 94 yards.

"Me coming out [of JUCO], I just wanted to do a little something different for my first touchdown on the Division I level. I just wanted to please the crowd. The crowd wanted to see a little showboating."

However, Holtz had different ideas of Allison's touchdown.

"I told the coaches to go get him," Holtz said after the scrimmage.

"We don't do that here. I made a point of that in the locker room. He knew it as soon as he did it. I like that he was out here having fun, but we won't see that in the fall. Either that or you

won't see him."

Drew finished completing 14-of-30 passes totaling 138 yards while also scampering for 26 yards on the ground. Drew, who was questionable coming into the scrimmage, played the entire four quarters. While making decent reads in the first-half, Drew struggled in the second.

"I thought he played very well early," Holtz said.

"He was playing within the system. He was making good reads and controlling the ball. He started hanging his arm a little bit. But he fought through it and kept playing. I thought he played well early but kind of regressed as he went along, but a lot of that was probably the pain in his arm."

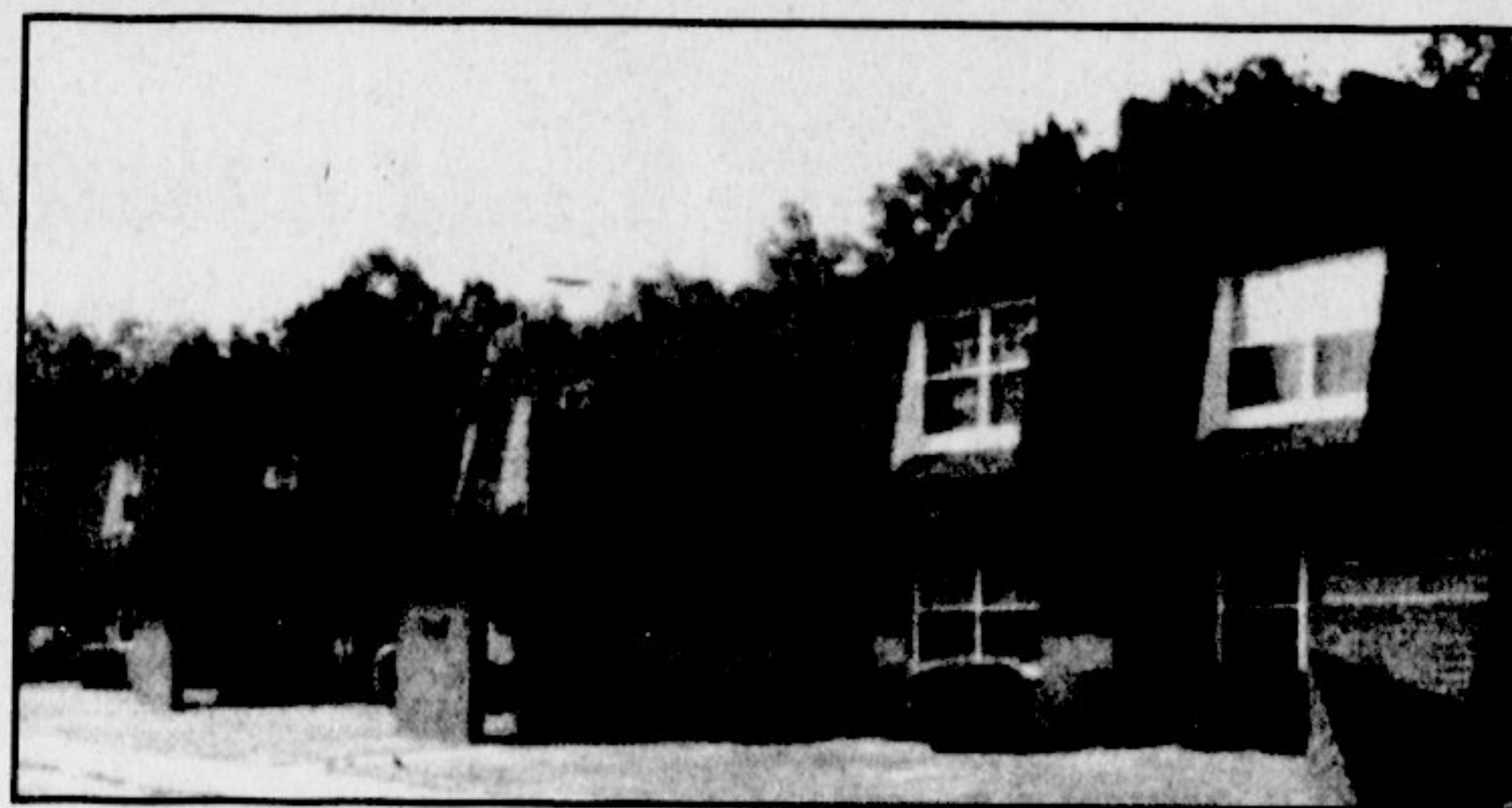
Free safety Zach Baker, who led ECU with five interceptions a season ago, extended the lead to 14-0 when he returned Kort Shankweiler's heave 75 yards. Baker, a Third-team All-Conference USA in 2004, has been delegated to second-string behind rising sophomore Pierre Parker.

Second-string quarterback

see **NEW ERA** page B8

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Letter from page B4

to talk football, life in the NFL, and on why they should come to ECU. I stood on the sideline with these guys in disbelief that something like that wasn't arranged. I turned around and saw our "recruits" sitting on the edge of that stadium. What ever happened to star treatment? I bet UNC recruits met Julius Peppers, Greg Ellis, etc. NC State recruits met Philip Rivers, Tory Holt, etc. I know this is not a violation of NCAA rules and I know that David Garrard would have been more than happy to spend moment with an ECU recruit. If I were a recruit, that would make my whole trip. I am just disappointed that I have to point this out to a

Terry Holland and a Skip Holtz. I want this program to take off, and missing the little things like this is not helping.

Coach Holtz has already written this gentleman asking for information on other schools allowing contacts between their alumni and prospects since such contact would be a blatant NCAA violation. In fact, on normal game days ECU has to put up a partition on the Murphy Center patio to separate the alumni function in Harvey Hall from the recruiting meal in Jones Hall to insure that there is no contact between alumni and recruits.

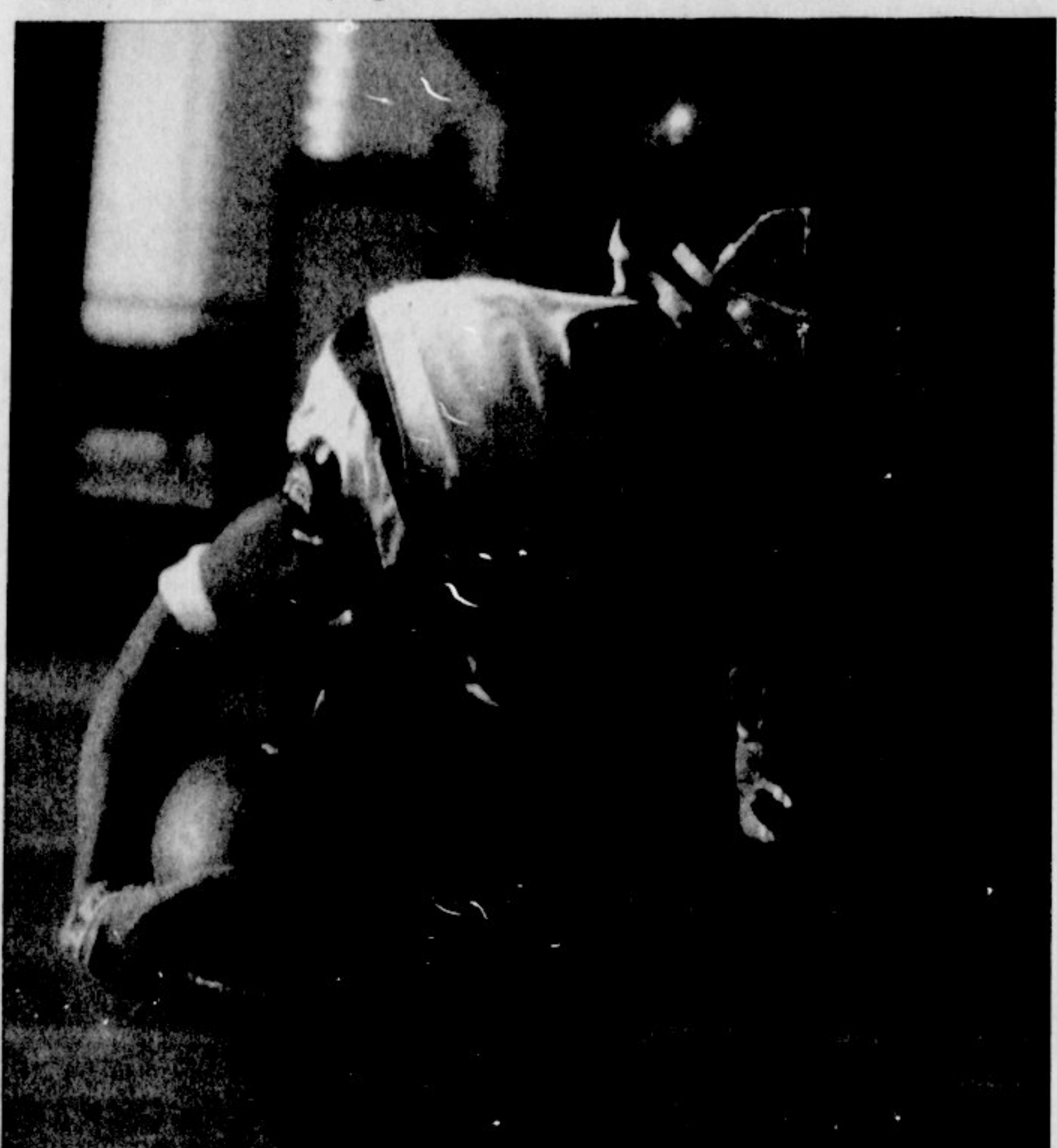
The lesson to be learned from this misunderstanding is that we do not have the luxury of behaving like the fans of some of our competitors. We simply have to be better, tougher and more loyal than those fans if we want to beat them. That is what we are asking of the coaches and athletes who have chosen to fight these battles for ECU. At times we are essentially asking these coaches and players to start a locomotive with a D Cell battery and they will therefore need every Pirate pushing in the same direction to get the job done.

No one here is asking for

blind loyalty - we have all put our butts and our reputations on the line for ECU and expect to be held accountable for our actions (or lack thereof). But we must be judged on some longer term expectation than that inspired by the panic that too many of the Pirate Nation have embraced at this time in our history.

Each of us must be willing to sing off the same page (loudly and preferably in harmony) "IF IT IS TO BE, IT IS UP TO ME." That is what being a winning team is all about.

TERRY HOLLAND

New era from page B7

Aundrae Allison scored the first touchdown of the scrimmage.

Kort Shankweiler tossed for 177 yards on 14-of-30 passing. The son of offensive coordinator Steve Shankweiler spent most of his afternoon trying to avoid the opposing pass rush.

Patrick Pinkney, injured most of spring practice also took snaps with the second-team squad. Pinkney, fresh off of shoulder surgery donned a bright yellow jersey to signify that the defense was not allowed to make contact. The Fayetteville native still managed to lead the Pirates' ground-attack with 41 yards on just four carries. Despite playing from behind in the fourth quarter, Pinkney managed to complete 12-of-21 for 59 yards.

Chris Johnson led all rushers with 71 yards on 16 attempts. Johnson, more toned than a season ago notched a 2-yard touchdown run in the third quarter. Perennial practice player and crowd favorite Edwin Burke also impressed, running for a tough 34 yards on 11 carries.

Defensively, senior lead-

ers Richard Koonce and Jamar Flournoy led the Pirates' squad after adjusting positions from 2004. Koonce, now in his natural linebacker position, joined now-strong safety Jamar Flournoy with 10 tackles. Redshirt freshman Jarrett Wiggins notched eight tackles.

Travis Williams led the ECU squad with seven solo tackles. Williams, familiar to the endzone as a punt returned scooped up Will Bland's fumble and burned 93 yards for a touchdown to seal the game.

While Holtz was happy with the amount of repetitions and experience for his younger players, he understands where his team is heading into summer workouts.

"But we're a long way away from playing a game," Holtz said. "We turn the ball over, we have way too many penalties, we do things to shoot ourselves in the foot."

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

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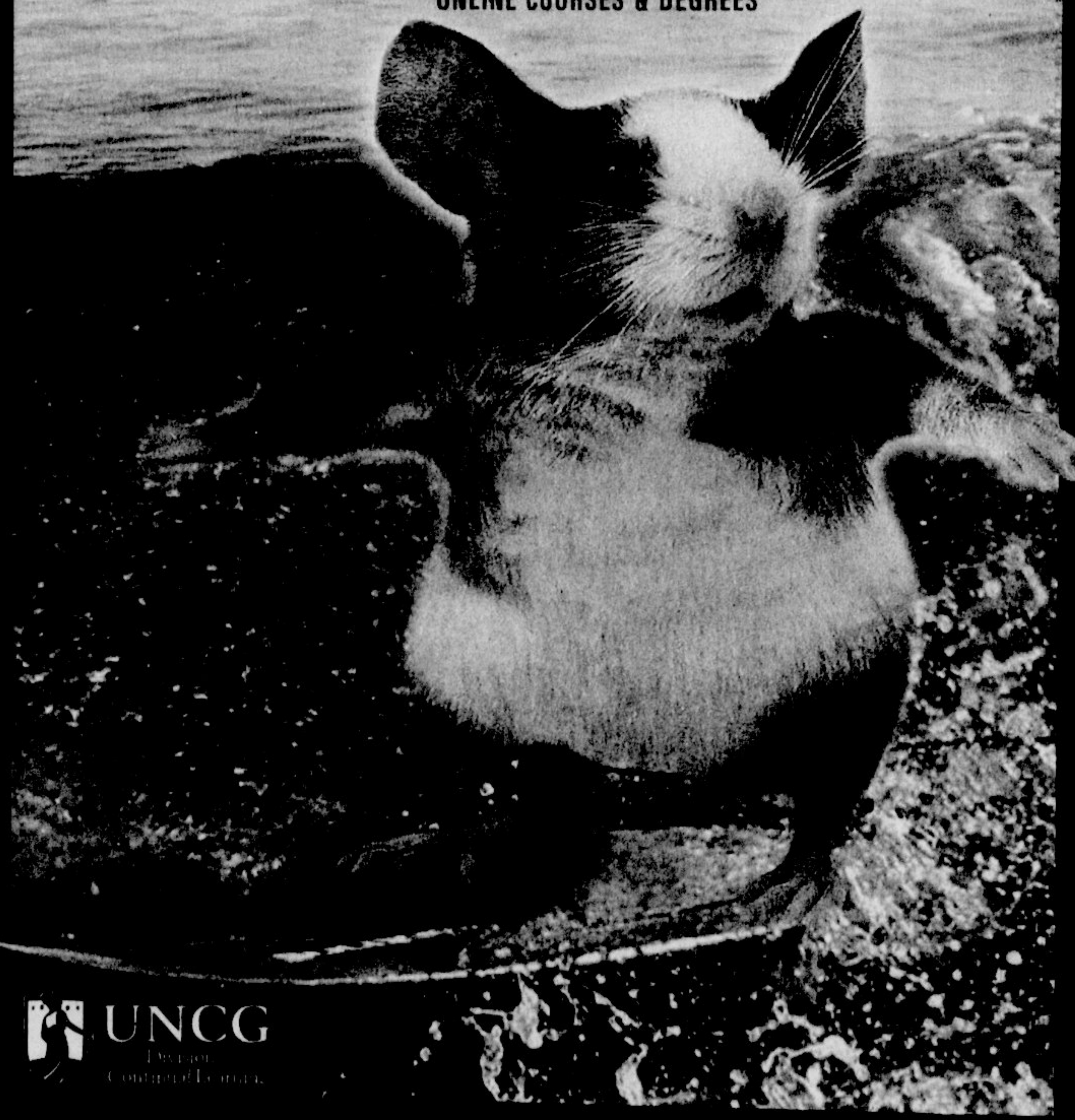
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