

State gas shortage disrupts ECU bus routes



ECU's Student Transit Services will curb several late night routes in wake of the fuel shortage.

Hurricane Katrina affects east coast economy

LISA DEVRIES
STAFF WRITER

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina and Governor Mike Easley's mandate, ECU had to make sweeping changes concerning fuel conservation on campus. Two major gasoline pipelines that not only provide fuel to North Carolina, but also to much of the southeast, had no electricity. Gasoline in the state was running low.

Easley asked that all "non-essential" travel be restricted in the state, which included some of ECU's bus routes. University vehicles were also not allowed to keep air conditioning running, mail delivery routes had to be cur-

tailed and landscapers had to discontinue the use of gas-powered lawn mowers. A gasoline shortage throughout North Carolina is expected to be short term, however, and ECU's transit system is expected to be back to its normal running schedule by Sept. 15.

The routes affected by the gas shortage were the blue line, which did not run during Labor Day weekend, and the Pirate Express, which normally runs until 3:30 a.m. Instead, it stopped running at 12:30 a.m. The Pirate Express is a Thursday through Saturday night bus service that runs to predominantly student housing areas such as Pirate's Cove, University Manor and College Hill.

Some students were concerned this might increase drunk-driving accidents over the weekend.

"Students need to make smart choices about transportation in the late evening hours," said Wood Davidson, general manager of ECU student transit authority.

"Transit service schedules have been posted, and students should utilize the buses before the 12:30 a.m. shutdown time."

Also, Scott Alford, ECU's transit adviser, said no drunk-driving accidents were reported downtown on Labor Day weekend and the Safe Ride service still ran on schedule.

Students are encouraged to ride the bus as often as possible. Not only is it more economically and ecologically sound, Alford addresses another interesting point.

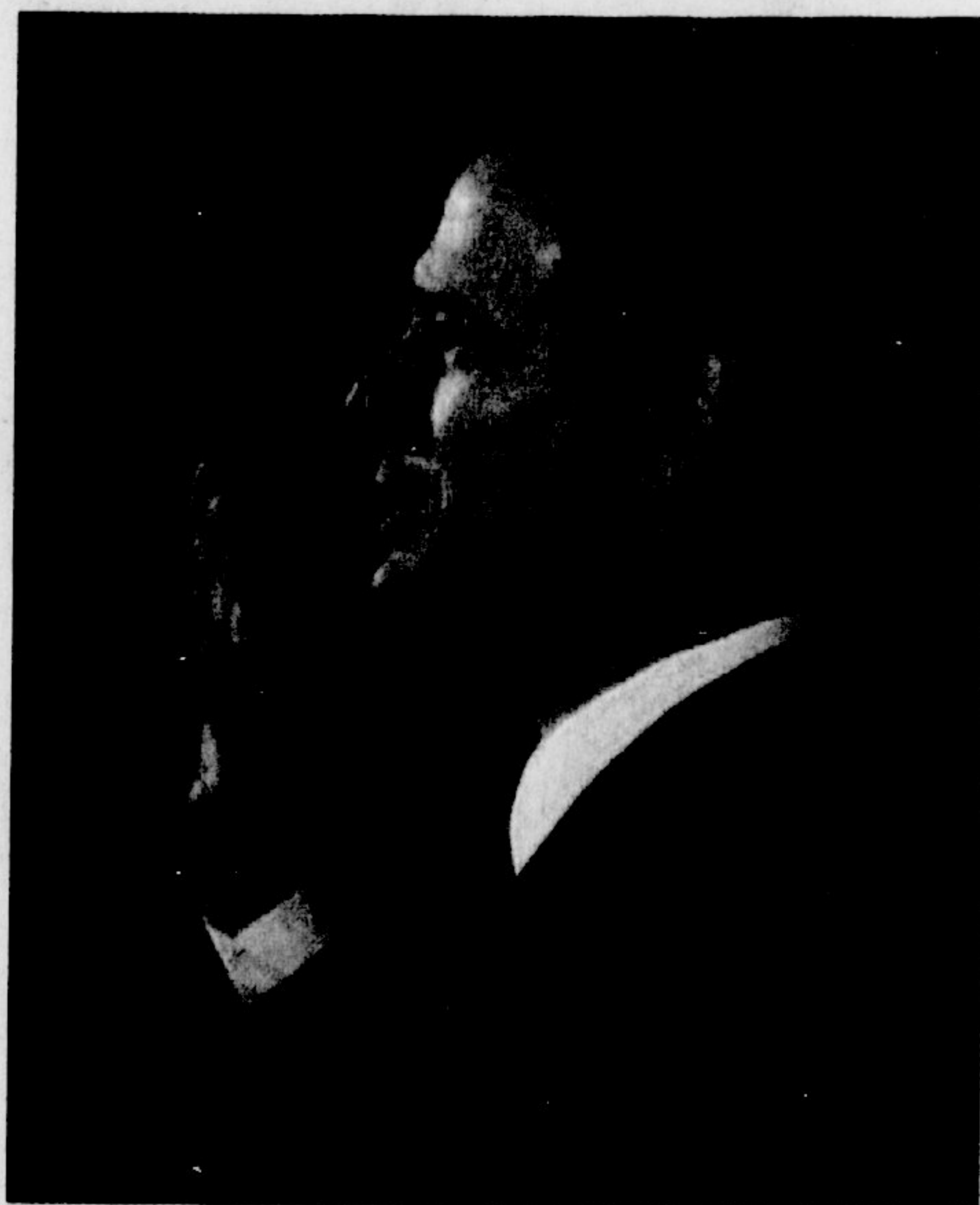
"You've already paid for the service through school fees whether you ride the bus or not," said Alford.

"Why not use ECU transit if

it's available in your neighborhood? It would save you from buying a commuter parking decal and it could save you on gas."

Gasoline prices seem to be holding steady at three dollars per gallon but the cost is still exorbitantly high. The U.S. Department of Energy offers some tips on how commuters can drive more efficiently. Their first instruction, and probably the most abused, is to avoid speeding. Rapid acceleration and braking can lower gas mileage by up to five percent. Removing excess weight from your car can also affect your gas mileage. Avoid idling, if you have to sit in your car, turn off your engine. Air conditioning can overheat the engine and also wastes gas. Use cruise control during highway

see ROUTES page A2



John Roberts faces the U.S. Senate during his confirmation hearing.

John Roberts likely to be next chief justice

Making the post-Rehnquist court

CHRIS MUNIER
NEWS EDITOR

With the death of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court William Rehnquist and the potential retirement of Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, the highest court in the U.S. will have its first vacancies in more than 10 years.

Tinsley Yarbrough, distinguished professor of political science, said Rehnquist had probably been terminally ill for quite some time but remained on the court because his mind still functioned well enough to continue.

"He probably saw that prospect as much better than simply retiring from the court and going home to die," said Yarbrough.

Attention is focused even more on John Roberts, U.S. Court of Appeals judge. Roberts was originally nominated by President Bush to succeed to O'Connor but now Bush wants Roberts to take over the chief justice position. This has also caused O'Connor to postpone

leaving the court.

"Her retirement was contingent on the confirmation of her successor," Yarbrough said.

According to the Supreme Court Historical Society, O'Connor wrote to Bush to announce her retirement on July 1.

"It has been a great privilege indeed to have served as a member of the court for 24 terms," said O'Connor.

"I will leave it with enormous respect for the integrity of the court and its role under our constitutional structure."

However, O'Connor will probably stay another year in order to take the pressure off Bush by relieving him of the task of getting two nominees confirmed. These could be nominations Bush may be wary of making in light of the recent drops in his approval rating. O'Connor was considered the "swing vote" of the court and Bush could have trouble getting a more conservative nominee confirmed by the Senate.

"He may not want to pick a very controversial replacement

see ROBERTS page A2



Palestinians stand atop an empty Jewish synagogue after Israelis were forced to leave Gaza.

Triumphant Palestinians take over abandoned Gaza synagogue

NEVE DEKALIM, Gaza Strip (AP) — Ecstatic crowds of Palestinians flooded into empty Jewish settlements early Monday, setting abandoned synagogues on fire in a chaotic celebration of the end of 38 years of Israeli military rule over the Gaza Strip.

Plans by Palestinian police to bar crowds from the settlements quickly disintegrated, and militant groups hoisted flags and fired wildly into the air, illustrating the weakness of the security forces and concerns about their ability to control growing chaos in Gaza. The pullout is widely seen as a test for Palestinian aspirations of statehood.

Just after sunrise, the last column of Israeli tanks rumbled out of Gaza. Troops locked a metal gate and hoisted their national flag, removed from the Gaza military headquarters, on the Israeli side of the border.

"The mission has been completed, and an era has ended," said Israel's Gaza commander, Brig. Gen. Aviv Kochavi, the last soldier to leave the strip.

As soldiers poured out of Gaza throughout the night, jubilant

Palestinians rushed into the abandoned settlements, turning Gaza's night sky orange as fires roared across the settlements. Women shrieked in joy, teens set off fireworks and crowds chanted "God is great."

"Today is a day of joy and happiness that our people were deprived of in the past century," said Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas, adding that the Palestinians still have a long path toward statehood. He denounced Israeli rule in Gaza as "aggression, injustice, humiliation, killing and settlement activity."

By midday, the situation had calmed, and curious Palestinians quietly toured the abandoned Jewish settlements, as feelings of newfound freedom began to sink in.

"Since last night, I have been in the street, for no reason, just to breathe the air of freedom," said Samir Khader, a farmer in northern Gaza who needed Israeli permits to go in and out of his village, flanked by Israeli settlements. "I don't know what the future will bring, but at least I can come in and out of my house

at any time."

Palestinians hope to build their state in Gaza, the West Bank and east Jerusalem — areas that Israel captured in the 1967 Middle East War — but fear that Israel will not hand over additional territory. They say Israel's occupation of Gaza has not ended because it retains control over borders and the air space.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has said he remains committed to the U.S.-backed "road map" peace plan, which calls for an independent Palestinian state, but linked any further withdrawals to Abbas' ability to rein in militant groups.

Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz urged the Palestinian to impose law and order or face a tough response. "We shall know how to act decisively and intensively in the face of any terrorism," he said.

Abbas refuses to confront militants, insisting he can persuade them to disarm peacefully. He has outlined an ambitious plan to reconstruct Gaza's shattered

see FIRE page A2

Bassman becomes editor of UNC system's undergraduate



BASSMAN

First statewide undergraduate research symposium this fall

CHRIS MUNIER
NEWS EDITOR

In an effort to collaborate the research work of undergraduates across the state, the UNC system is forming a consortium that will provide for the documentation of research accolades in a journal put together by ECU's Michael Bassman, associate vice chancellor and director of the honors program, EC Scholars and undergraduate research.

"The 16 campuses have been meeting and we've decided we need to work closer together," said Bassman.

Directors of research from the UNC schools decided to begin organizing annual statewide research symposiums, and the journal will record everything that is presented at the symposium by students. The Undergraduate Research Creativities Committee does the job of organizing the symposium.

"I asked each of the deans to

submit the names of two faculty [members] from their school, who are on the committee, and the committee puts together the symposium," Bassman said.

ECU has done these types of events in the past but now there will be one collectively for all public schools each year. The first symposium is slated to take place Nov. 12 at the Jane McKimmon Center on the NC State campus. It will be titled, "State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research Symposium." The first journal will follow that symposium.

Research and working with professors is no longer a privilege exclusively for graduate students.

ECU's honors program allows honors students to gain assistantships when they enroll in University Honors to do a senior project. Undergraduates get to do some of the work graduate assistants normally do.

"You assist the professor in his/her research," Bassman said.

"The idea is you have the opportunity to see what research is all about, get to know a professor and get the opportunity to co-author or co-present with a professor."

Students' work is even being put into respected publications.

"You'd be amazed at the number of students who have papers that are co-authored with professors or have articles accepted in journals," Bassman said.

Gaining an assistantship is reserved for honors students but participating in the symposium is open to all students. During ECU's Second Annual Research and Scholarship Day in 2004,

students had the opportunity to give oral presentations and display exhibits all over Mendenhall Student Center.

In today's job market, students almost have to have research experience in order to be competitive applicants for graduate and professional schools.

"Undergraduates are expected to do research now," Bassman said.

The work being showcased at symposiums is largely focused on the natural sciences. Bassman is working to emphasize a more multi-disciplinary symposium. The fields of humanities and fine arts in particular need more improvement.

Bassman is glad ECU will lead something that encompasses all UNC schools.

"The editorial board will consist of people from all universities and colleges in North Carolina, but the nice thing is it will be housed here on our campus," Bassman said.

Bassman's department has received requests of \$93,000 for research this year. They are willing to give each student up to \$2,500 of grant money to complete a project.

The Council on Undergraduate Research was designed to distribute grants and help students organize their work to produce a thesis or other projects.

Their mission statement is "to support and promote high-quality undergraduate student-faculty collaborative research and scholarship."

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

Announcements

Salsa Dance

The ECU Folk and Country Dancers are sponsoring a salsa dance on Friday, Sept. 16, at the Willis Building, 1st and Reade St. downtown. Instruction by Procopio and Heidi at 7:30 p.m., dance from 8:30-11 p.m. and DJ - Ramon. Students \$3, FASG members \$5, public \$8. A non-alcoholic/non-smoking event.

Emergency Preparation

In preparation for Emergency, please refer to the ECU Alert Web site, www.piratemail.ecu.edu/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?url=http://www.ecu.edu/alert. This link can also be found on the main ECU webpage "Hurricane Ophelia Advisory".

Constitution Day

On Sept. 17, 1787, members of the Constitutional Convention signed the final draft of the Constitution and presented it to the American public. Constitutions are under debate around the world as governmental systems as different as the European Union and Iraq struggle to adopt a workable constitution. ECU will recognize Constitution Day during the week of Sept. 12-16. The official day of observation is Sept. 17 every year. The Division of Academic Affairs and the Division of Student Life are sponsoring recognition of Constitution Day this year with the following programs and events.

Schedule of Events

Sept. 12-16, Joyner Library Hours: The following areas will host displays: Government Documents, the North Carolina Room, and the Teaching Resource Center.

Sept. 12-16, Mendenhall Student Center Hours: There will be a display from Joyner Library Special Collections, near the ATM entrance.

Sept. 14-16, Mendenhall Student Center Hours: Offices within the Department of University Unions will be hosting a door decorations contest. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to tour the building and vote on their favorite doors at the Mendenhall Welcome Center.

Sept. 15, 3 p.m.: Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to wear patriotic clothing to show their American pride. Anyone interested is encouraged to come to Mendenhall Student Center's main entrance, near Destination 360, to take a group photograph. Cake and lemonade will be served.

Sept. 15, 4 p.m.: Presentation by Dr. Tinsley Yarbrough of ECU's Political Science Department. Dr. Yarbrough's presentation, "The Constitution and the Supreme Court," will be held in the Teaching Resource Center of Joyner Library (2nd Floor).

Sept. 16, 12 p.m.: Webcast of Supreme Court Justices O'Connor and Breyer. To be held in Joyner Library Room 1418, doors open at 11:30 a.m.

Sept. 16, 1:30 p.m.: Webcast from Margot Adler of National Public Radio, on the topic "Free Speech in the Digital Age." For more information, contact the Office of Student Experiences at 328-4965.

Peace Week

Peace Week, Sept. 18 - 24, your participation is needed. This is a yearly event that celebrates world peace through a variety of programs that is meant to bring students together. This year Peace Week starts on Sunday Sept. 18 until Saturday Sept. 24. We are looking for your organization to help, promote and support this program to make it another success.

Ebony Fashion Fair

Ledonia Wright Cultural Center will host an Ebony Fashion Fair in the Wright Auditorium on Monday, Oct. 31, 2005 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$23 and will go on sale starting Sept. 1 through the Central ticket office. For more information contact 328-6495.

News Briefs

Local

Edwards' push against poverty has political benefits, pitfalls
CHAPEL HILL, NC (AP) - John Edwards says America is obliged to help the working poor escape the poverty cycle.

As head of a new university think tank dedicated to examining the issue, the former North Carolina senator now has a platform to deliver that message, one that helped lead him to John Kerry's side in 2004 and could help him down the presidential trail again in 2008.

Keeping the "two Americas" theme he used during last year's campaign also could reinforce a message of widening disparity between rich and poor that many voters rejected, since Edwards lost the run for his party's nomination and then joined a Democratic ticket that didn't win a single southern state in the general election.

Since leaving the Senate in January, "he's got to generate his own media attention from that center," said Merle Black, a political scientist at Emory University in Atlanta. "Right now, he risks the problem of being viewed as a one-issue candidate."

Politicians who make a second run at the same office usually "don't win with the same message," Black added.

That kind of thinking hasn't kept Edwards from repeating the theme that drove his presidential campaign. "People in this country have to see this is a great moral cause," Edwards said after a lecture earlier this week at the Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity at the University of North

Carolina School of Law.

The tragedy of Hurricane Katrina gives Edwards a powerful illustration of Edwards' call to reconcile the nation's economic gap. The poor, he argued, have suffered disproportionately because of the storm.

"It's an ugly and horrifying wake-up call for America," Edwards told an overflow crowd of more than 200 students and staff members at UNC-Chapel Hill. "And it's time to act."

Law school students who attended the lecture said they like what Edwards is saying. "I'd love to see a lot of candidates on both sides of the aisle talking about poverty today," said Erik Johnson, 26, a first-year student from Greensboro. "If Senator Edwards wants to make poverty a focus of a presidential campaign that would be exciting."

National

Little in way to block chief justice nominee as Senate hearings open
WASHINGTON (AP) - Less than three years after first donning a judge's robe, John Glover Roberts Jr. is on a path toward speedy confirmation for becoming, at age 50, chief justice of the United States.

A turbulent week that included the funeral of William H. Rehnquist, his mentor and the man he hopes to replace, his renomination by President Bush for chief justice and controversy over the government's tardy response to Hurricane Katrina has not dampened Roberts' candidacy to join the Supreme Court.

Republicans and Democrats see no serious obstacle to Roberts'

confirmation. Liberal, civil rights, civil libertarian and abortion rights groups have come out against him but not one of the Senate's 100 members has declared opposition.

"I expect these hearings will show that you have the appropriate philosophy to lead our nation into the future," said Sen. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, and a Judiciary Committee member, in a written copy of his opening statement.

The committee was to open what is expected to be a four- or five-day hearing Monday. How Roberts answers questions from the panel's 18 members about his record as a conservative lawyer in the Reagan and George H.W. Bush administrations will play heavily into the confirmation vote by the full Senate, expected before the end of September. The Supreme Court begins a new term Oct. 3.

Roberts originally was chosen to succeed retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. But Rehnquist's death prompted the president to renominate him for chief justice, putting him in position to shape the court, possibly for decades.

Senate Democrats have bitterly fought Bush's attempts to move the federal judiciary to the right. They plan even more intense questioning of Roberts now that he is slated to move all the way from a junior judge on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia to the top spot on the Supreme Court.

"The tragedy of Katrina shows in the starkest terms why every American needs an effective national government that will step in to meet urgent needs that individual states

and communities cannot meet on their own," Sen. Edward M. Kennedy said in a statement prepared for the opening of hearings.

The Massachusetts Democrat called Roberts an "intelligent, well-educated and serious man" but said the Senate "must also determine whether he has demonstrated a commitment to the constitutional principles that have been so vital in advancing fairness, decency and equal opportunity in our society."

International

Disney opens its newest theme park in Hong Kong

HONG KONG (AP) - When Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck landed in Paris in 1992, French officials shunned the opening of Euro Disney, intellectuals decried the invasion of American pop culture and park workers protested the strict dress code.

Disney's latest experience - its new park in Hong Kong - couldn't have been more different.

Hong Kong Disneyland opened Monday with musicians clanging cymbals, Chinese lion dancers prancing precariously on tall poles and fireworks bursting in the sky. Chinese Vice President Zeng Qinghong joined Disney executives in front of the Sleeping Beauty Castle, declaring the park Hong Kong's "eternal carnival."

The ceremony ended with a parade of skipping Disney characters old and new: Mickey, Donald Duck, Mushu the dragon, Lilo and Winnie the Pooh. Earlier, hundreds of people lined up

outside the gate, waiting to get in despite the sweltering heat.

Michael Kuzma, of Celebration, Fla., was first in line. "For over 50 years, the American people have experienced the happiness of Disney theme parks. I hope the people of China can enjoy the happiness," the 36-year-old consultant said.

It was a much warmer welcome than in France, where officials skipped the opening ceremony and critics complained that Euro Disney was an assault on French culture.

A government agency filed a complaint contending Euro Disney's ban on beards, mustaches and colored hosiery may have violated France's work code. And President Francois Mitterrand dismissed the park as "not exactly my cup of tea."

Hong Kong's government, however, is the biggest investor in the new \$3.5 billion park, believing the attraction will help turn this global financial capital into Asia's best family holiday spot. Disneyland says it employs 5,000 people and will draw 5.6 million visitors in its first year.

Hong Kong and Disney struck a deal to build the park in 1999 - just two years after the former British colony returned to Chinese rule. The city had been battered by the Asian financial crisis and desperately needed a new project to boost its spirits and troubled economy.

Hong Kong's embrace of Disneyland is also the product of a Westernized, ruthlessly capitalistic and non-ideological mind-set that's short on cultural roots. The territory was ruled by Britain for more than 150 years, and it's still governed separately.

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for Justice O'Connor," Yarbrough said.

"If he can get Roberts in, he is going to be getting someone of the Rehnquist mold who will be more conservative than O'Connor was."

Possible replacements for O'Connor include Judge Edith Clement, Judge Edith Jones and U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales. Since O'Connor was the first woman to serve on the Supreme Court, Bush may feel compelled to replace her with a woman or choose Gonzalez, who would be the first Hispanic on the bench.

"Gonzalez has been criticized for not being conservative enough," Yarbrough said.

"But he would probably be a consensus candidate who could win support, particularly as a Hispanic."

Roberts may get confirmed quickly by the Senate. Only recently has Roberts been any kind of judge, but that may not matter much. Yarbrough does not think Roberts' short experience as a judge will hinder his chances of getting approved as chief justice.

"He has not been a judge, but some of the greatest Supreme Court justices were not judges at all before they became chief justices," Yarbrough said.

"That is not a reflection on John Roberts." Former justices like John Marshall, Earl Warren and Hugo Black

were not judges before making it to the Supreme Court.

Yarbrough said the Rehnquist court was possibly one of the most involved courts in terms of judicial activism in American history. Roberts may not be as active though.

"The conventional wisdom would be that someone like John Roberts would favor a more restrained court in civil liberties cases," Yarbrough said.

He said this may be a court that is less likely to over-rule the federal government in criminal cases or first amendment cases.

Many of the other justices have been on the bench for a while but even Justice John Paul Stevens, the

oldest court member, is in good health. The decision for justices to step down can be political and often depends on who is president at the time. Yarbrough said Rehnquist considered retiring after Thurgood Marshall did in 1991 but changed his mind once President Clinton won the presidency. Rehnquist also felt the need to hang on longer after 2002 when the Senate got tighter amongst Democrats and Republicans.

The next big development surrounding Supreme Court affairs will be finding out who will replace O'Connor.

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

Routes from page A1

driving when at all possible.

Even when there is not a gas shortage, it is still beneficial to the driver and the environment to take full advantage of ECU's transit system.

"The buses and the drivers are here to help students, whether that be providing transportation to and from campus, or to help alleviate the pressures of rising fuel costs, fuel shortages or just everyday Greenville traffic," said Stacey Thompson, senior English education major and bus driver.

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

Fire from page A1

economy, an effort he believes will bolster forces of moderation. But he faces a difficult task in Gaza, where militants and armed gangs operate freely and wield considerable power.

Ismail Haniyeh, a Hamas leader in Gaza, said the group "will support any step that will produce something for our people" but made clear that it has no plans to disarm as long as Israel controls the West Bank and Jerusalem.

"We should protect the resistance option and the resistance weapons," he said. "These weapons liberated the land and by these weapons, we will continue the liberation process."

As Israel completed its pull-out, Palestinian jeeps decorated with the flags of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad militant groups stopped just near the border and a group of masked gunmen waved their weapons before Palestinian police moved them away.

Pointing behind him at the border, Maj. Gen. Dan Harel, head of Israel's southern command, said the pullout presented an important opportunity for the Palestinians to take control of their future.

"The responsibility belongs to the Palestinian Authority," he said. "We hope that they will know how to rise to the responsibility and enable all of us to leave in peace and security."

Palestinian authorities had promised an orderly transition after the pullout, but the calls for calm were ignored. Police stood by helplessly early Monday as gunmen raised flags of militant groups and crowds smashed what was left in the ruins or walked off with doors, window frames, toilets and scrap metals.

After rushing into the settlements, Palestinians set fire to empty synagogues in the Morag, Kfar Darom and Netzarim settlements, as well as a Jewish seminary in Neve Dekalim. Later, a Palestinian bulldozer began knocking down the walls of the Netzarim synagogue.

In Netzarim, two young Palestinians waving flags stomped on the smoldering debris outside the synagogue, and others took turns hitting the building with a large hammer.

"They (Israelis) destroyed our

homes and our mosques. Today it is our turn to destroy theirs," said a man in Neve Dekalim who gave his name only as Abu Ahmed.

Israel removed some 8,500 Gaza settlers from their homes in 21 settlements last month and razed homes and most buildings in the communities. However, the Israeli Cabinet decided at the last minute Sunday to leave 19 synagogue buildings intact, drawing complaints from the Palestinians and criticism from the United States. In Washington, State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said the Israeli decision "puts the Palestinian Authority into a situation where it may be criticized for whatever it does."

After daybreak, the situation was largely calm. Dozens of curious Palestinians moved into Netzarim to get a glimpse of what was once a heavily fortified enclave in central Gaza. People inspected the rubble, and school children climbed on the ruins of a building. Environmental workers gathered samples of rubble for testing.

Several people held posters of longtime Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who died last year, and pictures of the Hamas leaders killed by Israel, Sheik Ahmed Yassin and Abdel Aziz Rantisi.

"Today is the beginning of a new era. The battle is still ahead of us. Gaza is only the first step," said Mohammed al-Hindi, the leader of the Islamic Jihad militant group, who was accompanied by dozens of followers. "The beginning will be when we liberate Jerusalem and the West Bank."

Abdullah Franji, a top official in Abbas' Fatah party, put a Palestinian flag around his shoulders as he toured the northern settlement of Elei Sinai.

"Today our people are smelling freedom," he said. "We hope that our joy will be complete with free borders, with a connection to the West Bank and to have Gaza as the first step toward achieving the Palestinian state."

The withdrawal, code-named "Last Watch," was overshadowed by Israeli-Palestinian disputes, including over border arrangements and movement between Gaza and the West Bank. The two territories lie on opposite sides of Israel.

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Our View

Ophelia's no Katrina, but we should still prepare

With America's thoughts concentrated on the Gulf Coast in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the last thing anyone wants to hear is that another hurricane is on its way. Lucky for them, Ophelia has turned her eye toward the North Carolina coast. Although at the time that this is being written Ophelia is only a Tropical Storm and is expected to hit land as a weak category one hurricane, that in no way means that we should just ignore her presence and think that nothing will happen.

For those who might not be sure of exact statistics, tropical storms contain winds ranging from 39-73 mph and a category one hurricane packs winds up to 95 mph. The National Weather Service's Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale states that category one hurricanes like Ophelia will contain "storm surge generally 4-5 feet above normal (and) Damage primarily to unanchored mobile homes, shrubbery and trees."

While this might not sound like much of a threat, hurricanes of any nature produce very heavy rainfall, resulting in both coastal and inland flooding. If you're still naïve, think back to 2004 when Hurricane Gaston hit the South Carolina coast as a category one hurricane. Flooding from that storm resulted in eight casualties as far north and inland as Richmond, Va.

We at TEC want our readers to not only be safe when these storms strike our area, but we want our readers to be prepared.

The National Weather Service provides these tips to abide by when a storm is coming your way:

Locate a safe room, or the safest areas in your home for each hurricane hazard. In certain circumstances the safest areas may not be within your home, but within your community. Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet. Make a plan now for what to do with your pets if you need to evacuate. Stock non-perishable emergency supplies and a disaster supply kit, containing bottled water, canned foods and juices, paper plates, snack foods, non-electric can opener, blankets, pillows, clothing, a first aid kit, toiletries, moisture wipes, flashlight, batteries, radio, cash, keys and have important documents sealed in a waterproof container.

Use these helpful tips in preparation for any hurricanes or tropical storms that may approach our area.

Most importantly, take heed to all watches and warnings. If a mandatory evacuation is issued, please do what you can to get to a safe place.

For more information, please log on to noaa.gov.

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Opinion Columnist

Liberals show true face in time of crisis

Others blamed for own mistakes

TONY MCKEE
CONSERVATIVE CORNER

It is amazing what a crisis does to people. Some curl up into a ball and want to be left alone. Some respond with civil disobedience, looting, rape, murder and anarchy. Some respond with compassion, giving of themselves or their wallets to help other human beings in their time of need. Then there are Liberal Democrats and the mainstream media, who have nothing to offer but finger-pointing, hatred, anger, class warfare, lies, half-truths and vitriolic, haranguing, inflammatory commentary.

Instead of spending their time and energy helping the country heal by showcasing the incredible efforts being undertaken by private organizations, churches and even individual citizens in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, they choose instead to incessantly blame President Bush for everything under the sun while purposefully and amorally ignoring the stupendous incompetence of the local and state officials of Louisiana, some of whose actions directly led to the deaths of their own people.

I briefly touched on the "chain of command" that every city/state in this country follows in times of crisis, but I will reiterate it, since the Liberal press isn't. Responsibility starts at the city/township, goes to the county (or Parish) then goes through various state agencies, all of which ultimately report to the governor. Then, and only then, does the Federal government get involved. Now, how many times have you heard this from the Liberals in the last week or so?

Instead of reporting the truth, or

at least some semblance of reality, we have been treated to an increasing litany that the disaster in Louisiana was a direct result of President Bush's racism and lack of concern for minorities and the poor. This despite the fact that President Bush has appointed more minorities and women to positions of power than any other President. The argument that he doesn't care about the poor is hogwash also.

Despite what has been widely reported (and ultimately hoped for), the economy was doing fine before Katrina hit. Government revenues were higher than expected (thank you tax cuts!), economic growth was healthy and steady and unemployment was around 5 percent (for those of you who have never taken an economics class, 5 percent is almost universally accepted as full employment capacity, and is better than previous President's record. Thank you tax cuts!). President Bush's economic policies have helped the poor more than hurt them.

I can hear the howls already... "what about New Orleans and other cities?" That is an excellent question. I hope someone can answer it. New Orleans, like almost every major American city, is a bulwark of Liberalism. A quick glance at national voting trends bears this out. The cities are governed by Liberals, as are many of the States. As such, they should be worker's paradises - Utopia's even.

New Orleans has been governed by Liberals for as long as I can remember, yet it is by no means a Utopian paradise. Instead, it is the epitome of some of the deepest poverty, racism and abject corruption that Liberal governance has to offer. It is comparable to New York, Detroit, Chicago, etc. And the well-to-do, Liberal, politicians who are responsible for this situation do not care and are now trying to cover their posteriors, with the willing help of the media.

What I find mind boggling about the Liberal response, especially the demands that Bush be held accountable, is that these are the very same people who defended an earlier President who on his watch saw the World Trade Center bombed, a building full of people burned to death in Waco, Texas, the Alfred P. Murrah Building in Oklahoma City destroyed, overseas embassies bombed, and the government sponsored kidnapping of Elian Gonzalez, among many, many other things. Not once can I remember any Liberal politician or reporter attempt to hold Bill Clinton responsible for any of the disasters of his Presidency. Why the sudden demand for accountability now?

Mayor Nagin was asked why the buses weren't used to evacuate people even though there was plenty of warning about the storm. He responded that he didn't have an adequate number of drivers to run the buses under normal circumstances, let alone in a hurricane. Senator Mary Landrieu stated that Mayor Nagin, as well as most mayors, have trouble enough getting people to go to work when it is sunny, let alone in a hurricane. The vast majority of New Orleans' workers are minorities. Their own white, Liberal Senator said they are lazy bums who don't regularly show up for work. That sounds mighty racist to me, how about you? So where is the outrage and calls for her resignation?

The spectacle we are suffering through with Liberals going orgasmic in their attempt to deflect blame away from them and their failed policies and onto President Bush will not soon be over, much to the dismay of many.

At least one good thing is coming out of this - more and more people are seeing the true face of Liberalism in this crisis: The face of the elitist, arrogant, racist, angry hypocrite.
Can you see it also?

Pirate Rant

Who's the genius that built the dining hall without a parking lot? Don't tell me you can park across the street, or the hall is close to dorms so students can walk. They aren't the only dorms on campus, and some students live in other towns.

I see Tony McKee has still yet to be fired and incarcerated. I'll bet you anything he's in charge of fixing the Fountain.

I see the fountain isn't working. Imagine that.

I saw some fat slob of a human walk within arm's reach of a trash can on the mall and throw a Styrofoam container on the ground beside it! I got in his face and of course he came right back, but I actually scared him into putting it in the trash. The mall is ugly enough with all the construction! Don't litter on it!

Pretty sad when the only good thing on TV is hurricane coverage.

I feel bad for New Orleans - I truly do. But they saw that thing coming for days at least and still stayed...in a city shaped like a big bowl. And besides that, the first thing I thought of when I saw the destruction was "Sodom."

I wish I had my camera when the sorority girls were at their table at Wright Place trying to recruit girls... all three of them had the same long brown hair, same shirt, same bug eye sun glasses, and same "I'm better than you" smirk. I would have made a shirt with the picture saying "Look exactly like us and we might let you join!"

Boy, that dining hall is really great. The food hasn't improved. But what an artistic building. Remind me what we pay these people for.

I want it duly noted that if I had seen a pregnant woman trying to sit on a bus, I'd have given her my seat. We're not all horrible.

Hey, idiots! Don't drink and drive and then complain about it all over campus. You deserve what you got, and probably a whole lot more. It's amazing how quickly people can go from acting like they are super-cool and all grown up for driving their buddies around after getting trashed downtown to acting like an immature brat when they are asked to "gas" be responsible for their own actions. Suck it up already!

To anybody who is skipping the football games because they think we aren't any good, you don't know what you're missing. Aundrae Allison for class president.

Is anyone else sick of seeing these bigger girls in the club with their pants so tight their bellies flop over, who think dancing is spreading your legs and humping the air? Can ECU adopt some class?

Why does the music have to be so loud in the music classrooms? I have a class in the Brewster Building and you can hear the music booming loudly through the entire building. It is so rude and annoying when we are trying to take tests or even taking notes is hard. I thought they had their own building to play music in.

Maybe it's a sense of the tragic, but I haven't been so entertained by a hurricane in my life.

Can we have some techno music in the clubs? For the people who don't like R&B, let alone hearing the same songs over and over again.

Well, its too bad hurricanes don't hit during Mardi Gras.

You are ridiculous McKee, even Ann Coulter admits that Bush has made mistakes about Hurricane Katrina. It is obvious that you have lost your grip on reality, and every thing has become a "liberal conspiracy."

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

Price-fixing on gasoline: Control yourself

(KRT) — Recent gasoline-price spikes have given new meaning to the phrase "pain at the pump." And with demand from India, China and elsewhere growing, and the failure of the United States to open a single new oil refinery since the 1970s, supplies could remain tight and prices elevated for some time.

Which means lawmakers will want to show they're "doing something" and try to rein in prices.

But this would be a mistake. The answer is not to set limits on wholesale prices, as Hawaii is attempting to do, and it's certainly not to enact a system of price controls for oil and gas like the federal government did in the 1970s.

In fact, lawmakers in Hawaii and anyone on the mainland who attempts such a solution needs a history lesson about the last time government attempted to control energy prices. Many blamed - and still blame - the OPEC oil embargo and the effects of the Iranian revolution. But for the most part, we were our own worst enemies.

Long lines of cars snaked away from gas stations all over America because we lost faith in the power of markets to correct these problems, and we took shortcuts that only made things worse. By setting prices below market levels, the government, first under President

Nixon but later under Presidents Ford and Carter, made it unprofitable for oil companies to respond to high prices as they normally would - by increasing production.

This led to inadequate supplies and fuel shortages. Then, rather than lifting the price controls, government tried to fix the problem by imposing allocation controls. Soon, we had centrally planned programs determining how much of various fuel types to produce, how much to send each state and how much various categories of purchasers were allowed to buy.

"Scattered shortages led to hoarding and panic buying and worse shortages yet - and those gasoline lines," wrote one energy analyst at the time. "No other consuming country cooked up this kind of purgatory for itself."

In trying to help, in trying to "do something," government gave us the worst of both worlds: higher prices and shortages.

Hawaiians are about to find out just how effective price controls can be. Thanks to a 2004 law set to take effect this month, Hawaii will institute controls on the wholesale price of gasoline. The idea is to force gas stations in Hawaii to charge the same as those on the mainland - despite much higher delivery costs and state taxes.

But if retailers can charge what they want, and the controlled price falls below the market price, expect the same thing to happen that occurred in the United States in 1973 and 1979. Gas lines appear, and, since the price at the pump is not controlled, prices spike.

It's been a long time since the United States went down this road. Many of today's drivers are too young to remember odd-even days, 10-gallon limits and "Out of Gas" signs. Were it not so predictably sad and economically devastating, one would be tempted to give thanks that the people of Hawaii are willing to demonstrate the folly of government controls on gas prices yet again.

What we can give thanks for is that oil and gas production on the Gulf Coast is beginning to return to normal after Hurricane Katrina. This will quiet calls on the mainland for government price controls on oil and gas. President Bush has done the right thing to speak out against gouging, but it's wrong to imply that government intervention might be at hand.

Using the bully pulpit, the moral authority of the presidency, to urge merchants not to exploit a tragic situation is right. Using the power of the office to arrest market forces in the process of correcting is not.

Picks of the Week

Music

Fall Out Boy - From Under the Cork Tree
MTV favorites Fall Out Boy have struck gold (literally, the album has sold more than 500,000 units) with their latest release. Granted "Sugar, We're Going Down" gets more airplay than any other pop song on the market, but this album goes beyond just catchy tunes. That's right, this release has catchy tunes with catchy names. My favorite track is "Nobody Puts Baby in the Corner." Seriously, this is a fun album that will keep you and your friends singing together all night long.

Movies

The 40 Year-Old Virgin
If you haven't seen this movie yet, I don't know what you're waiting for. This is hands down one of the funniest movies I've seen yet. If you think your love life is bad, it can't possibly be as bad as poor Andy's. If you don't laugh at some point in this movie, please come to our office and I will personally refund your money.

Television

NFL Football, Sunday at 1 p.m.
Finally, preseason NFL football is over and we can get down to business. Watch as your Carolina Panthers take on the New England Patriots, Sept. 18. This could be a preview of this year's Super Bowl and a win for the Panthers in this game might start to heal the wounds from their Super Bowl loss two years ago.

Books

4 Blondes by Candace Bushnell
Are you missing "Sex and the City"? Try this book by Candace Bushnell (the same woman who wrote "Sex and the City"). Follow four women - a model, a columnist, a writer and a socialite as they struggle through relationship difficulties and thrive through personal successes. If you liked Samantha Jones, you'll love Janey Wilcox.

Names in the News

Martha's Back

Martha Stewart chose NBC's "Today" show Thursday for her first TV appearance since her release from prison and subsequent house arrest. But the domestic diva's initial late-night talk-show chat will not be with NBC's "Tonight Show" star Jay Leno, it will be with his contentions CBS rival, David Letterman. Stewart is due to trade quips with Dave on Sept. 19, two days before the debut of "The Apprentice: Martha Stewart," and a week after her daily syndicated lifestyle show, "Martha" debuts. The Hollywood Reporter calls the CBS booking "a surprise," given that Stewart is ostensibly plugging her role as the host of a new version of NBC's "The Apprentice" and that "Martha" is being distributed by NBC Universal's syndication. None of the involved parties had comments. On "Today," host Matt Lauer compared Stewart to a phoenix rising. "And I didn't burn," she interjected. As for what it was like to lose her electronic monitoring device, she said it came off shortly after midnight, so rather than celebrate, she was "really tired and just ready to go to sleep."

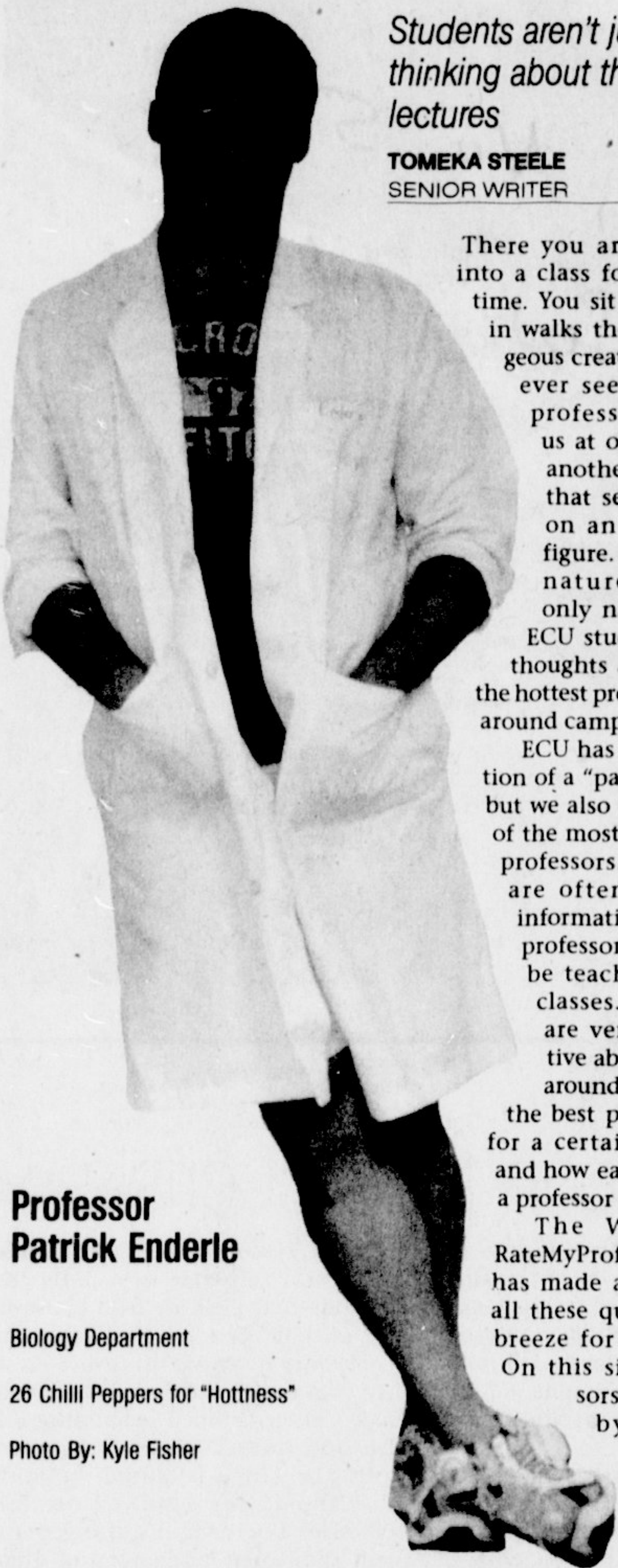
Foxx Helps Out

Jamie Foxx, working with the NAACP on Hurricane Katrina relief efforts, says when the going gets tough, celebrities need to get giving. "The reason you have to do this is you have to let them know that you're real," said Foxx after a visit to Houston's Astrodome, where cots have been set up for victims of the hurricane. People were happy to see him. "He was so fine. I was just wishing he could have taken me home with him," said Venus Junius, who was forced from her New Orleans home and spent three days on top of a bridge until a bus brought her to Houston. "When I saw him I just ran to where he was at," she said. Ruth Bibbs, a 72-year-old from New Orleans' Lower Garden District, said meeting Foxx helped take her mind off the devastation. "You forget about it for a moment, at least," she said.

Paid Up?

Bobby Brown told a judge this week that he's up to date with his \$5,000 monthly child-support payments and with contributions to his children's educational fund. However, Norfolk Probate and Family Court Judge Paula Carey admonished the singer, calling his earlier excuses "unacceptable." Carey had issued a warrant for Brown's arrest in June after he failed to appear at a compliance hearing. Brown said a stomach virus prevented him from attending. Brown lives in Alpharetta, Ga., with his wife, Whitney Houston. He has two children with Kim Ward, who lives in Massachusetts. He's currently starring with Houston in a Bravo Television show called "Being Bobby Brown." "Everyone is definitely on the edge of their seat."

ECU's sizzling top three hottest professors



Students aren't just thinking about the lectures

TOMEKA STEELE
SENIOR WRITER

There you are walking into a class for the first time. You sit down and in walks the most gorgeous creature you've ever seen ... your professor. All of us at one time or another have had that secret crush on an authority figure. It's human nature. So it's only natural that ECU students have thoughts about who the hottest professors are around campus.

ECU has the reputation of a "party school" but we also have some of the most well liked professors. Students are often seeking information on the professor who will be teaching their classes. Students are very inquisitive about asking around to see who the best professor is for a certain subject and how easy or hard a professor can be.

The Web site RateMyProfessor.com has made answering all these questions a breeze for students. On this site professors are rated by former

students on their easiness, helpfulness, clarity, rater's interest, overall quality and of course, hotness. If a professor is considered hot, a chili pepper shows up next to the professor's rating. Many students also post comments for other students to read.

Numerous students take full advantage of this Web site when choosing a professor and although it's mostly about the academics and a professor's overall quality score - we can't help but wonder if the hotness total affects a student's decision. I wouldn't mind having an awesome professor who's also eye candy, especially during those early morning classes.

Students often include in the comments section exactly what they are thinking about their professors. One student let it all hang out in their comment section last November about Steve Estes, a professor in the Exercise and Sports Science department.

"This man is a really awesome guy. Talks about Crew a lot and is a pretty laid back guy. Do the labs and show up for class. Has a midterm and then a final. Interesting class. This man I think for being 55, he is so hot. I would do him. Wonder what he looks like naked..." the student posted in their comment section.

I have had the joy of actually taking a class taught by the same professor and I totally see where the student was coming from. Estes is a wonderful teacher and very down to earth. He doesn't treat students like they don't know squat about the world. That's part of what makes him so likable and yes ... even hot.

When polled many students had similar taste as to who they considered are hot professors. So everyone wants to know, who made the cut? It all boils down to how many hot ratings a professor received. Of course there is a

separate list for male and female professors. From the information gathered on RateMyProfessor.com and general surveying, ECU's top three hottest professors list was compiled for your viewing pleasure.

In at number three with a total of 21 chili peppers is chemistry professor Toby Allen. Many of the comments posted about Dr. Allen are about his overall quality as a wonderful professor.

"Dr. Allen is the best professor at ECU. The other teachers should learn from him. He will spend however long you need offering help so you will do well. His tests are hard but everyone should take him. He will leave a lasting impression in your life because he's just so great," one student posted in their comment section this April.

In at second place with a grand total of 26 chili peppers is biology professor, Patrick Enderle. On the RateMyProfessor.com site one student posted, "Excellent teacher and a cutie too!"

The hottest male professor at ECU is unanimously, CDFR professor Patrick Meadors. Students just love this guy. When polled his name popped up each and every time. With 34 chili peppers Meadors takes first place as the hottest male professor at ECU.

"Patrick Meadors is definitely the cutest professor at ECU," said senior psychology major Shenae Jones.

Many other male professors came in close and were personal favorites to many students. Professors such as Geoff Thompson, Steve Estes, Mike Hale and Nate Vietor ranked high in the student polls.

"The hottest professor I have seen at ECU is Nate Vietor in the psychology department. He's really hot and really nice, a winning combination," said sociology graduate student

Rhonda Breed.

Now it's time for the top three hottest female professors at ECU. In third place is Business Department professor, Stephanie Edmondson, who came in with 14 chili peppers on RateMyProfessor.com.

Taking second place is English professor Barri Piner. She had a total of 17 chili pepper ratings. There is no sense beating around the bush about it, without further ado the hottest female professor at ECU is math professor Anna Butler with 25 chili pepper ratings. On the site one student stated in their comment section that Butler is, "very easy and helpful, very sweet lady." We are all sure her husband, also a professor in the mathematics department, is really happy about this recent finding.

Basing classes off just a professor's hotness rating is very shallow but if you have to take the class anyway, why not enjoy the scenery. Fortunately, most students think what truly matters is the professor's ability to teach the information and if that professor just happens to be hot, it doesn't hurt one bit.

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

ECU's top three hottest professors

- MALES:**
1st Patrick Meadors
2nd Patrick Enderle
3rd Toby Allen
FEMALES:
1st Anna Butler
2nd Barri Piner
3rd Stephanie Edmondson

Students set to party for Hurricane Katrina Relief



A rescue worker from San Diego, in a boat donated from Illinois, helped rescue residents from homes.

PRSSA to hold Katrina Fundraiser

SARAH CAMPBELL
STAFF WRITER

After a disaster many people search for ways to contribute to the cause. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina the suffering is profound which makes the need even more dire. One simple way to give relief is through a fundraiser sponsored by the ECU chapter of Public Relations Student Society of America.

PRSSA was established in the spring of 1968 as an organization that allows students to learn more about public relations, as well as use skills that will be useful in other professions. The group is open to all students, but the members are primarily public relations majors.

The mission of PRSSA as stated on their Web site, prssa.org, is "to serve our members by enhancing their knowledge

in public relations and providing access to professional development opportunities." PRSSA's foundation is also built on the idea of providing qualified and prepared individuals to serve the public relations profession.

PRSSA presently has about 30 members, but hopes to increase that number this year. PRSSA is interested in allowing students to increase their knowledge of public relations and they invite all students to join their organization. Meetings are held Monday evenings at 5:30 p.m. at Joyner 201.

The club is trying to establish a solid group and make students aware of needs within their community and society as a whole.

"We would like to establish a name for ourselves on campus and allow our club to grow in members. We also want our members to be involved with the community, and hopefully gain opportunities for internships and job interviews," said Sarah

Ledwith, member of PRSSA.

One step they are making to achieve this goal is a benefit to raise money for Hurricane Katrina victims.

The fundraiser will be held Thursday, Sept. 15 beginning at 9 p.m. It will be located uptown on Fifth Street at "The Other Place." The group will be charging \$5 at the door, and will be accepting donations inside throughout the night. Proceeds from the benefit will go directly to victims of Katrina rather than going through a large organization.

PRSSA is hoping to raise at least \$500 so they will need supporters out in full force. If you always go out on Thursday night, this week make your night out mean something. It's a great way to help out people in need while doing something you enjoy. People all over the country have helped, what have you done?

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

Ahoy there mateys!



Sept. 19 is "International Talk Like a Pirate Day." Started in 1995 by "The Pirate Guys," Mark-Cap'n Slappy-Summers and John-O' Chumbucket-Baur, this international celebration is one that is sure to shiver yer timbers. Grab all of your booty and get into the pirate spirit. Avast me darlings, we'll have a jolly ol' time. For more information on "International Talk Like a Pirate Day," including pirate pickup lines and pirate advice, head over to talklikeapirate.com. Show your Pirate Pride with the world! Arrrr!

Finishing Touches



Dan Corrett, a sculpture Graduate student, cleans his armature mosaic sculpture that he has been working on for a year and half. "I just want to finish the thing, you know," said Corrett.

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Semester events at a glance

There's plenty to do, so get involved

MEREDITH STEWART
SENIOR WRITER

Now that students have gotten back into their school routine (and freshmen no longer use their schedules) it's time to get involved on campus. ECU offers so many clubs, activities, organizations and festivities to join and attend so there's no reason why anyone should be bored.

This semester the School of Theatre and Dance is performing a wide variety of productions, sure to satisfy everyone's taste. Oct. 6 ECU/Loessin Playhouse will present "The Pajama Game." In November "The Importance of Earnest" will be presented and then in December the musical "John and Jen: A new musical." Although those are the main productions, other events will be going on throughout the semester. The Symphony Orchestra will perform several times, music festivals will be held as well as recitals, Opera Theatre and exhibitions will all be going on throughout the semester.

If you love playing sports and being active then there are many hours to be spent at the Student Recreation Center. ECU offers many activities and trips to participate in at a reasonable cost. In September students can go kayaking, surfing, rock climbing and backpacking with the trained guides from the SRC. In October, kayaking and backpacking will be offered again so students will be able



Photo by Kyle Fisher

Students enjoy a popular campus event, the Polar Bear Pool Party.

to fit the trips into their busy schedules. Oct. 28-30 a group will go caving in Virginia. The SRC also offers yoga, indoor climbing, group training, lifestyle enhancement programs and intramural sports.

The Pirate Underground is rapidly growing, offering a wide variety of activities sure to fit the taste of each student. Jazz festivals, comedians, speakers, bingo, American Red Cross Blood Drive, World Fest and much more will be offered at the Pirate Underground.

Want to build your résumé? Volunteer at the Big Sweep where people come together

and help clean up Greenville and Pitt County. Keep building by joining clubs. From salsa dancing to becoming a child mentor, there are more than 100 clubs and organizations to be involved with.

Are you a freshman who wants to discover and design leadership skills? "Shipmates" would love for you to be a part of their organization, after all you are the future of ECU. "Shipmates" practices interpersonal skills, leadership development, effective communication and lifelong responsibility.

Ledonia Wright Cultural Center is a wonderful place to be

Anything but 'Frail' performance



Photo by Kyle Fisher

Frail, an original rock band, performed at Scores on Saturday night for a high-energy crowd. The band includes Chris West on lead vocals, Jon Patton on guitar, ECU Senior Chris Clement on bass and Brian Holder on drums. The group is set to play at Dr. Unks Oasis later this fall.

if you are interested in broadening your horizons in the cultural field. Sept. 14 they will be sponsoring "cultural cuisine night," where samples of food from many different cultures will be offered, along with prizes and music. Nov. 12 a Mini PowWow will be held, a celebration of the Native American culture.

Computers are available to everyone and there is a friendly staff who can answer questions concerning other cultures and a nice atmosphere to get your work done, read or just fulfill your curiosity.

One of the biggest events on campus this semester (other

than Halloween of course) is "The Lord of the Rings Extended Edition Marathon." It will be showing at Mendenhall Student Center's Hendrix Theatre. All "Lord of the Rings" lovers should dress-up as their favorite character because there will be a costume contest along with raffles, trivia contests, free food and more than \$700 in free door prizes. All fans should attend this extravagant event.

If you still can't find anything to do, check out all of the sports schedules at ecu.edu, which provides students with information on campus organizations, carpooling information, campus

calendars, off-campus housing directories and student surveys.

For a complete list of events, plays and movies just go to Mendenhall Student Center for a booklet of the times and dates. For easier access, you can just visit the ECU homepage and look for more updated events, activities and festivals.

ECU is full of opportunities for students to get involved and meet new, interesting people. College should be the best years of your life, take advantage.

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

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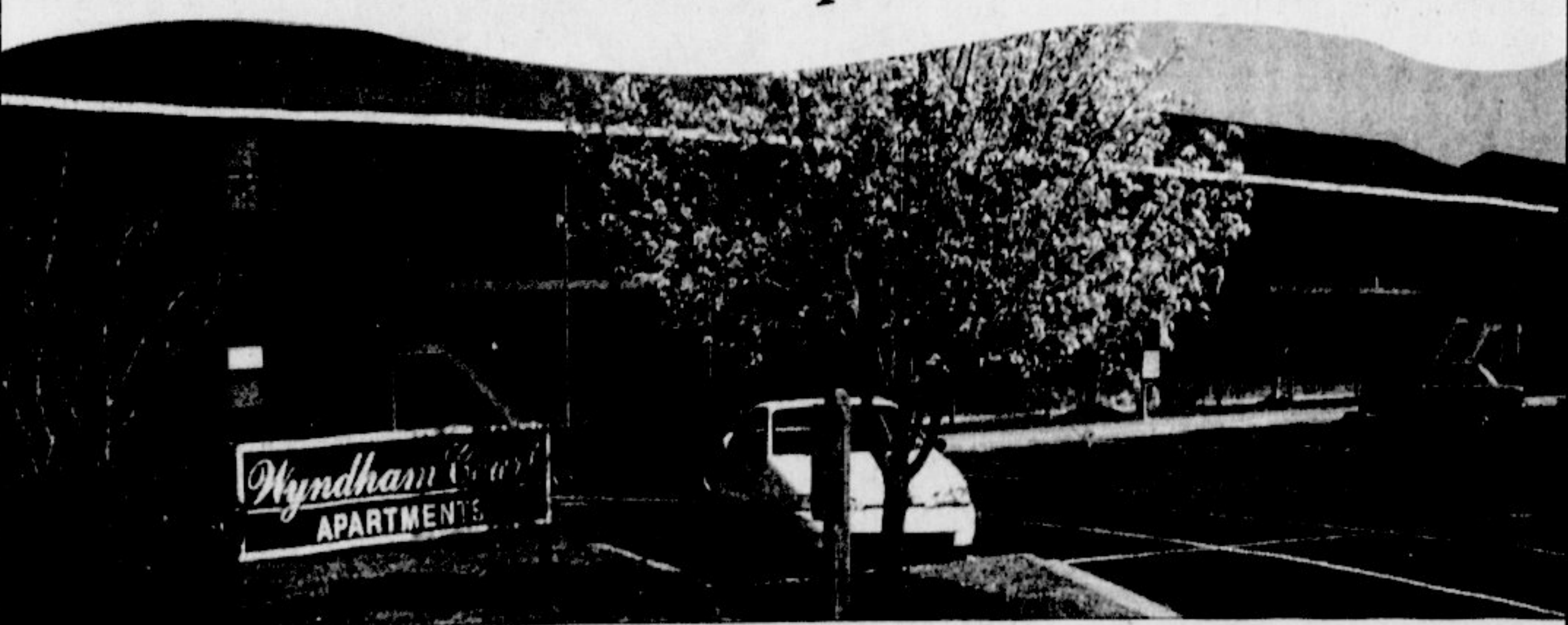
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Sports Briefs

Packers' Walker tears ACL
Javon Walker, the Green Bay Packers' best receiver, will miss the rest of the season after tearing up his right knee in the opener. Walker will need an operation once the swelling subsides to repair the torn anterior cruciate ligament and will require between eight and 12 months of rehabilitation. Walker was hurt in the third quarter of the Packers' 17-3 loss at Detroit on Sunday when he pushed off safety Terrence Holt on a 55-yard catch that was negated by his offensive interference. Walker, who made the Pro Bowl last season after catching 89 passes for 1,382 yards and 12 touchdowns, threatened to hold out this year if the final two years of his contract weren't renegotiated. But he showed up in training camp on time, saying he wanted to prove he was worthy of a blockbuster contract through his play. The risk, of course, was suffering a serious injury that would limit his earning power — just like the one he suffered Sunday, when he caught four passes for 27 yards. He's due \$515,000 this season, the fourth of a five-year deal he signed in 2002 for \$7.485 million. When he was threatening to hold out, agent Drew Rosenhaus said he couldn't let Walker risk his health for that kind of money, but Walker said he couldn't fathom missing any games in a contract dispute. With Walker down, Robert Ferguson will start alongside Donald Driver, who will move from split end to flanker. Ferguson is the Packers' best special teams player, but might be taken off those units now, Sherman said.

Jenkins done for season
Carolina defensive tackle Kris Jenkins is out for the rest of the season after injuring his knee in the Panthers' loss to the New Orleans Saints. Jenkins, a 2003 All-Pro, tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee, the Panthers said Monday. Jenkins was injured when he broke through the line and tried to tackle Deuce McAllister in the backfield in the first quarter. He left but returned briefly in the third quarter, only to have to be helped off the field again. Carolina coach John Fox said it wasn't clear if Jenkins tore the ligament in his knee on the first injury or the second. The two-time Pro Bowler also missed 12 games last season with a shoulder injury, but declared himself fit last week and ready to return as the NFL's top defensive tackle. Instead, he'll be sidelined again, creating a gaping hole on Carolina's vaunted defensive line. Jenkins' absence allows teams to increase their coverage on All-Pro defensive end Julius Peppers and severely hurts the Panthers' run defense. Kindal Moorehead replaced Jenkins most of last season, but was inactive for Sunday's 23-20 loss to the Saints.

Csonka one of six rescued from Bering Sea
Pro Football Hall of Famer Larry Csonka was among six people plucked by helicopter from a stranded boat during a harrowing rescue in the Bering Sea, a newspaper reported Sunday. Csonka, his partner and a film crew from his television show were not injured, but the boat was abandoned at sea, the Anchorage Daily News reported in Sunday editions. Csonka was part of a group returning from filming a hunting trip on an isolated island about 100 miles west of Unalaska on Wednesday when their 28-foot boat encountered bad weather. The newspaper reported that 9-foot seas and gale force winds made it difficult to navigate the vessel, which then drifted away from the Aleut village of Nikolski. After hours of worsening conditions, the Coast Guard was called to help shortly after midnight Wednesday. A Coast Guard helicopter was dispatched from Kodiak, 600 miles away; it arrived around 10:45 a.m. Thursday and hoisted those on the battered boat one-by-one in a basket. Csonka, his partner Audrey Bradshaw, film crew members John Dietrich and Rich Larson, and Thomas McCay, the guide for the hunt, were taping the event for the show North to Alaska when the weather worsened. The former fullback for the Dolphins, Csonka runs Zonk! Productions, which films episodes for his outdoor sports TV show.

Hockey alive, kicking at ECU

Club team holds tryouts this past weekend, preparing for first season

SCOTT WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

Just when you thought hockey in America had passed away and grass had grown over the grave, the ice is back. Well, it's back in Greenville, anyway.

Starting in 2005, ECU's ice hockey club team will be competing in the Southwest division of the Blue Ridge Hockey Conference, with home games being played at Bladez on Ice. Division foes will include Appalachian State, Clemson, Radford, Virginia Military Institute and UNC-Wilmington (yes, they play hockey in Wilmington).

So what if you want to play ice hockey at ECU? First, you have to shell out around \$300 to play on the game squad and \$100 to play on the practice squad, and that's just seasonal dues. You've got to be good in the classroom, because members are all required to have a GPA of at least 2.0 and be enrolled in at least nine semester hours.

Shelling out a lot of money isn't new to anyone with at least a minimal background in hockey, however, the sport gets to be very expensive as players usually have to buy their own equipment. Equipment includes pads, skates (and skate sharpening), gloves, a helmet and your own stick. Hockey's not exactly a pick-up and go sort of sport.

Brent Falcon, Jordan Meyers and Corey Fleitz founded the club in October of 2004, but their first game in the BRHC will be a year later, Oct. 21 when they take on Virginia Commonwealth. If you want to watch this game, however, you'll have to drive to Richmond. The team's first home game will be in Greenville on Oct. 28 against Radford.

To those of you who wonder if they're for real, they've already gathered a list of sponsors including Michaelangelo's Pizza, Pirate Radio 1250, Café Caribe, Graphix Unlimited in Tarboro and of course Bladez on Ice. If you're personally interested in sponsoring the ECU club team, they offer a package of donation levels. For just a \$75 donation you get a pair of season passes and a listing on their Web site, ecuhockey.com. For bigger businesses, they offer plans of up to a \$2,000 donation where they place your business logos on ticket stubs and offer private party rooms.

So if you get some time this fall (or more appropriately, this winter), take some time and chill with the ECU Men's Ice Hockey club team.

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



Tryouts for ECU concluded Monday night when the team held a full-scale scrimmage from 9:30 to 11:30 p.m.

ECU volleyball team swept twice at BGSU Invitational



Krug leads the ladies in assists with 348 so far this season.

Lady Pirates finish 1-2 over the weekend

DAVID WASKIEWICZ
SENIOR WRITER

The road trip continued for the ECU Volleyball team last weekend as they entered the BGSU Invitational Tournament in Bowling Green, Ohio. Riding high on a two game winning streak over Tennessee Tech and High Point, the Lady Pirates were hoping to carry on the winning momentum as they faced No. 12 Ohio State in the first game of the invitational last Friday.

Despite a hard fought effort OSU proved to be too much for ECU as they were able to sweep the game 30-27, 30-17 and 30-28. Seniors Pam Ferris and Erica Wilson led the Lady Pirates in kills with nine and eight respectively. Junior Heidi Krug led ECU with 27 assists in the loss.

Things did not get any easier for ECU as they entered the next day of the invitational against host Bowling Green. Wilson led the way with nine kills for ECU as Krug tallied 34 assists, but it

still was not enough as the Lady Pirates were swept for the second time in the invitational 30-25, 30-25 and 30-24. Bowling Green hit .222 in their win while ECU only managed .095.

Determined not to be swept throughout the entire invitational ECU turned on their game faces later in the day as they faced their final opponent Chicago State. ECU racked up 49 kills and a hitting percentage of .424 as they bounced back from their previous loss with a sweep of their own 30-16, 30-17 and 30-19. With the win ECU improves their record to 4-4 this season.

Next week the road trip continues as the Lady Pirates head to Spartanburg, SC to take part in the Enterprise Rent-a-Car Volleyball Classic. Play will begin Friday as ECU faces Charleston Southern and host Wofford. This weekend's games will lead up to ECU's first conference game of the season at home against Tulane in two weeks.

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

Lady pirate soccer falls in double-overtime 2-1 to Oklahoma

(SID) — The ECU women's soccer team dropped its fifth game of the season Sunday afternoon falling to the Oklahoma Sooners 2-1 in double-overtime at John Crain Field in Norman.

The Pirates (1-5-0) scored the first half's only goal when Melissa Penney's (Damascus, Md.) free kick from 30 yards out on the left side climbed over the outstretched hands of OU keeper Jennifer Nichols into the upper right corner of the net at the 37:39 mark. For Penney it was her third goal of the season and the eighth of her career. Currently she leads the Pirates in scoring and points (7).

The Sooners (5-1-0) got on

the board in the 68th minute when Andrea Hurley weaved through several ECU defenders and found Tenesha Duncan who promptly sent the ball past Pirate goalkeeper Amber Campbell (Frederick, Md.).

During the first overtime period, both teams had opportunities to score but came away with nothing. OU took five shots to ECU's two, including a point-break shot by Savannah Scott that found Campbell's hands with less than a minute to play.

In the 108th minute of play, the Sooners netted the game-winner when Lauren MacIver fired a shot off Campbell's hands into the upper left corner of the net with 2:03 remain-

ing in the second overtime. Campbell would finish with a career-high 12 saves in 108 minutes of play.

"I'm pleased with the way we played this weekend," said Head Coach Rob Donnenwirth. "We played two great teams (Texas A&M and Oklahoma) and I thought we played competitive enough to win. When you play nationally-ranked program you can only learn and become better and I think we did that this weekend."

ECU will be back in action Friday, Sept. 16 when they host Campbell at Bunting Field at 4 p.m.

Mark Messier retires, ending 25-year NHL career

(AP) — Mark Messier retired Monday, ending a 25-year career in which he won six Stanley Cup championships and ranked second only to Wayne Gretzky on the NHL all-time scoring list.

Messier became a star in Edmonton in the 1980s and a headliner on Broadway in the '90s, captaining the New York Rangers to the '94 championship that ended the team's 54-year title drought.

"There was nothing else really for me to achieve," the 44-year-old said on a conference call.

Even though the official announcement came Monday, Messier all but said goodbye on March 31, 2004, following the Rangers' final home game before the lockout that wiped out all of last season.

The Rangers held physicals for their players on Monday at the opening of training camp, but the longtime star never expressed intentions to return for another season.

"It was a tough decision," Messier said. "I'm healthy and feel good and I feel like I can play." But Rangers general manager Glen Sather, the architect of the Oilers' dynasty that was spearheaded by Messier and Gretzky, always left room for the rock-jawed captain to come back.

Messier teamed with Gretzky to win four championships in Edmonton during the 1980s and then won another in 1990 after Gretzky was traded to



Messier finished his career as a Ranger.

The Sports Dic-tion-ary

Pooch Kick — A low line-drive type kick that is usually employed by the punting team when trying to pin an offense inside their own 10-yard line.

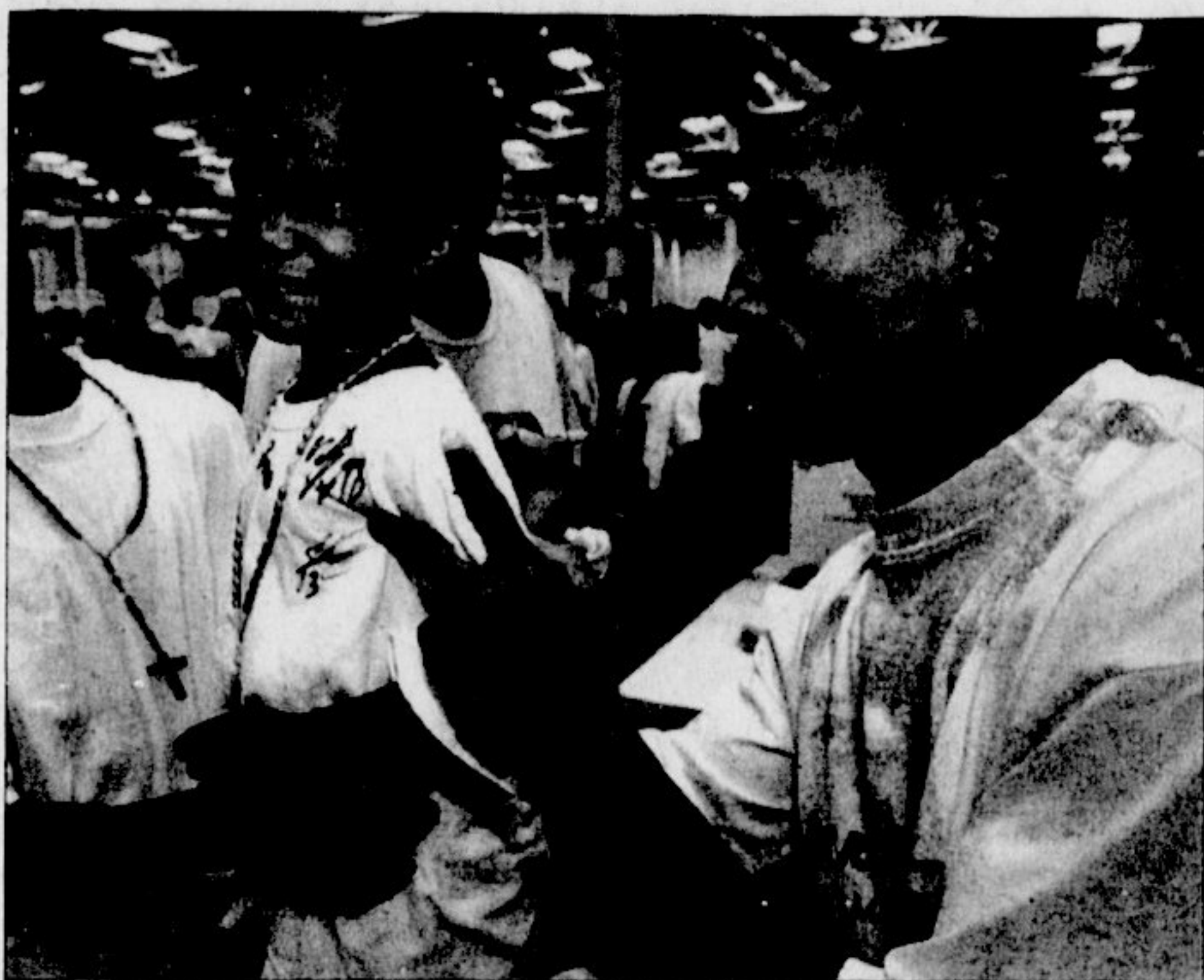
Flanker — A receiver who lines up just outside the tight end and usually inside of the wide out. Sometimes this position is also known as the "slot" receiver.

Flat(s) — The area of the field between the hash marks and the sidelines and is within five or so yards of the line of scrimmage.

Line of Scrimmage — An imaginary line that splits the two teams before the snap of the ball. The line dictates where both teams line up before any given play.

Flood — An offensive play that sends more receivers than the defense can usually cover to one side of the field.

Saints to play four games in Baton Rouge, three in San Antonio



Saints' returner Michael Lewis visits refugees after the storm.

(AP) — The New Orleans Saints will play four home games at Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge, La., and three in the Alamodome in San Antonio this season.

The Saints, displaced when Hurricane Katrina devastated the New Orleans area and their Superdome home, will play the weekends of Oct. 30-31, Nov. 6-7, Dec. 4-5 and Dec. 17-19 on the campus of LSU in Baton Rouge. The San Antonio games will be on the weekends of Oct. 2-3, Oct. 16-17 and Dec. 24-26.

Specific days and starting times for those games have not been determined.

The four home games at Baton Rouge will be against Miami, Chicago, Tampa Bay

and Carolina. The San Antonio games will be against Buffalo, Atlanta and Detroit.

No decision was made on the site of potential Saints home playoff games this season.

Agreement on the schedule was reached after a meeting Monday in Baton Rouge involving Saints owner Tom Benson, NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue, LSU chancellor Sean O'Keefe and other school officials.

"We had an excellent meeting this morning and quickly developed a dual consensus," Tagliabue said. "The first was to continue to give priority to the needs of the region and the second to the scheduling of Saints games in a way that made

sense under the total circumstances. ... We also appreciate the cooperation of the Alamodome officials and the hospitality of the people of San Antonio for their support of the Saints at this difficult time."

Benson scheduled a news conference for later Monday.

The Saints won their season opener 23-20 at Carolina on Sunday. Their first home game was set for this coming Sunday, but was moved to Monday night and will be played at Giants Stadium against the Giants. Saints season-ticket holders and anyone who had purchased tickets for the Giants-Saints game at the Superdome were given first call for tickets to the relocated

game. After that, however, Giants season-ticket holders were given priority, meaning it will be a true road game for the Saints.

The manager of the Superdome has said it will take months before the building's future can be determined. It's possible to stadium will be torn down, leaving the Saints to find a new home.

During Hurricane Katrina, with thousands inside seeking refuge, three large holes were blown through the roof. In all, about 70 percent of the roof failed and water poured into the building during the storm, along with debris.

Messier from page A6

Los Angeles.

He trails only Gretzky in playoff goals and assists, but he topped the Great One by adding one postseason guarantee that took him to heightened status in Manhattan.

With the Rangers trailing New Jersey 3-2 in the 1994 Eastern Conference finals, Messier promised New York would force a seventh game. He made good on his word by posting his fourth and final playoff hat trick in a 4-2 victory.

New York won Game 7 in double overtime to advance to the finals, which also ended with a seventh game victory.

His second stint with the Rangers, which covered the final four seasons of his career, wasn't nearly as successful. New York failed to make the playoffs in any of the years. Messier played in the postseason during his first 13 NHL years, before New York missed in 1993.

After leaving the Rangers following their most recent playoff appearance in 1997, Messier was out of the playoffs for the next

seven years — including three with Vancouver.

He leaves with 1,887 NHL regular-season points, 970 fewer than Gretzky and 37 more than Gordie Howe, who sits in third place.

"I never thought about any individual records," Messier said. "Coming back to break any records, especially that record wasn't all that appealing to me."

Messier always did things on his terms, and his retirement is no different. After a year off, he wasn't spurred to play again even though he is only six goals away from 700 — a mark reached by only six players — and 11 games short of tying Howe's record of 1,767.

Edmonton general manager Kevin Lowe, Messier's longtime teammate on the great Oilers team, tried to convince him to return to his hometown for a farewell tour. But Messier really only considered playing in New York, where he has a young family.

Messier was showered with applause from teammates,

family, friends, fans and even the Buffalo Sabres when he skated off the ice for what turned out to be his final game 18 months ago, a 4-3 loss at Madison Square Garden.

Messier and Gretzky have always been linked, whether on the ice or in the record book. Messier scored 109 playoff goals, 13 fewer than Gretzky, and set up 186 others — 74 fewer than Gretzky, now the Phoenix Coyotes coach.

But the second partnership lasted just one year as Messier left the Rangers for Vancouver as a free agent following a surprising run with Gretzky to the Eastern Conference finals.

When Sather took over as Rangers GM in 2000 he brought Messier back. Messier scored his final goal in his final game, No. 698 with the Rangers.

The inability to rekindle success in New York and the departure of close friend Brian Leetch, who was traded to Toronto as part of the Rangers' salary dump of 2004, surely pushed Messier to his final goodbye to Broadway.

Reid's job tougher because of Super Bowl hopes, offseason

(KRT) — Andy Reid lost a lot of weight this offseason, but it wasn't from worry over the soap-opera headlines his team was generating.

The Eagles' coach has dropped more than 40 pounds, he said recently, because he felt he'd let his weight get away from him and needed to get it back under control. He saw a problem, he formulated a plan and he addressed it, in the same reasoned, matter-of-fact way Reid addresses all problems.

As the Eagles prepare to open their 73rd season on Monday night in Atlanta the seventh season of the franchise's all-time winningest coach (71-37, including 7-5 in the playoffs) there is little question about the team's talent level. On paper, this bunch certainly seems capable of returning to the Super Bowl and actually winning it. Middle linebacker Jeremiah Trotter said recently that this is the most talented defensive unit he has ever played on. The offense still has Donovan McNabb, Terrell Owens, Brian Westbrook and a solid, stable offensive line, regardless of how any of those people might be feeling about one another or the organization at any given time.

The main question other than what might happen with injuries, of course, which is always a big unknown entering

a season seems to be whether Reid can hold it all together. The Eagles have seen a fair amount of controversy over the past three years or so — there was Trotter's messy 2002 departure, the Duce Staley rift and holdout the next year, bad blood with standouts such as cornerback Bobby Taylor in 2003 and defensive tackle Corey Simon last year, running right up to Simon's recent release. This rift with Owens is different, though Reid says he is making a point of not handling it any differently.

The Eagles already faced a formidable task to get to Super Bowl XL, given that no runner-up has returned the next season since the Bills in 1994, and no team has rebounded from losing to winning it in one year since the unbeaten 1972 Miami Dolphins.

Owens has a much higher talent level and profile than any previous disgruntled Eagle. He seemingly can snap his fingers to summon cameras and sycophantic interviewers from ESPN whenever he feels the need to vent about any of the tangential issues that have sprung up around his displeasure over not getting a new contract. He presents the most serious threat to Reid's authority the coach has ever faced.

Not that you would ever get that sense from talking to Reid about it.

"I like T.O.," Reid said a few weeks ago, not long after he welcomed Owens back from a one-week training-camp banishment that some observers felt would lead to the end of the wideout's Eagles career. Instead, Owens returned, apparently accepted Reid's terms for remaining on the team, and the situation stabilized. "I've enjoyed having him here ... T.O., he's a very visible guy and a great player. Those things happen. That comes with the territory."

Hey, planes circling the practice field trailing "T.O. Must Go" banners, the wide receiver calling his quarterback "a hypocrite" on national TV these things happen. Just another day at the office.

Reid said he doesn't worry about what Owens says on TV, or with whom he might or might not be speaking, as long as Reid and Owens are communicating. "T.O.'s a good person. I'm concerned about when T.O. and I are face-to-face and talking," Reid said. "Things happen in this business. You work through it, and that's what we did."

Asked if this has been his most difficult offseason, Reid shrugged.

"I look at it as part of the job," he said. "Tough is going one-on-one with a defensive lineman. This is just things that happen. Things get magnified a bit when you've been successful."

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Apartments for rent: 1 Bedroom \$300 without utilities \$400 including utilities Call 252-353-5107

Walk to Campus - 3 BR 1 Bath Duplex \$650/month includes w/d, New appliances, New carpet, ceiling fans in bedrooms, Lawn maintenance included. Call 375-6447 to view.

For rent - One bedroom w/bath at Pirates Cove Apartments - 252-752-9995. Rent paid through 9/30/05. Available immediately. Contact barbk@happy.com or 302-753-6947

For Rent 3BR 2BA Plus Bonus Room, Deck, Pets OK, 4 Blocks From ECU Avail. Now \$275 Per BDR Per Month. Call 258-1810.

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Attractive, outgoing individual to lead a new cosmetic enhancing company. Must be a well dressed, well spoken, energetic non-smoker with mos' afternoons and evenings free. Call 252-752-1572 to arrange an interview.

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Musicians wanted to play for Sunday, contemporary worship services. For more information contact Eric at 410-251-8623 or 252-328-3040. All instruments welcome.

Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting Baseball Clinicians (6.50 per hour), Soccer and Flag Football Referees for out upcoming fall programs (10-17 per game). Referee hours range from 5 pm to 9 pm, Monday-Friday and Saturday mornings. Flexible with hours according to class schedules. All interested persons need to contact the Athletic Office at 329-4550 for information regarding upcoming training dates.

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

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Area high school seeking field hockey officials during September-October for late afternoon games. If interested contact Lydia Rotondo at (252) 329-8080.

Ming Dynasty. Waitstaff and Hostess needed. Come apply in person. Located East 10th St. Rivergate Shopping Center.

Responsible, experienced, non-smoking, babysitter, needed full-time for a 2-yr old and infant. Mon-Fri 7am-4pm. Please call 355-6680 or email at ladypahe@cox.net. Starting 9/20.

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Reliable person needed for afternoon transport of 2 children from east fifth street school daily. Pay Negotiable. Call 717-7784

Need assistance with school work for children ages 12 & 8. Must have 3.2 GPA, non-smoker w/ transportation. Needed afternoons, early evenings and some weekends. Call 752-1572.

GREEK PERSONALS

Meet the sisters of Gamma Sigma Sigma! Our pre rush cookout will be Tuesday, September 13 from 5-7pm. For directions, email Leah LMD0415@mail.ecu.edu

OTHER

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Sigma Alpha Lambda, a National Leadership and Honors Organization with over 50 chapters across the country, is seeking motivated students to assist in starting a local chapter (3.0 GPA Required). Contact Rob Miner, Director of Chapter Development at rminer@salhonors.org

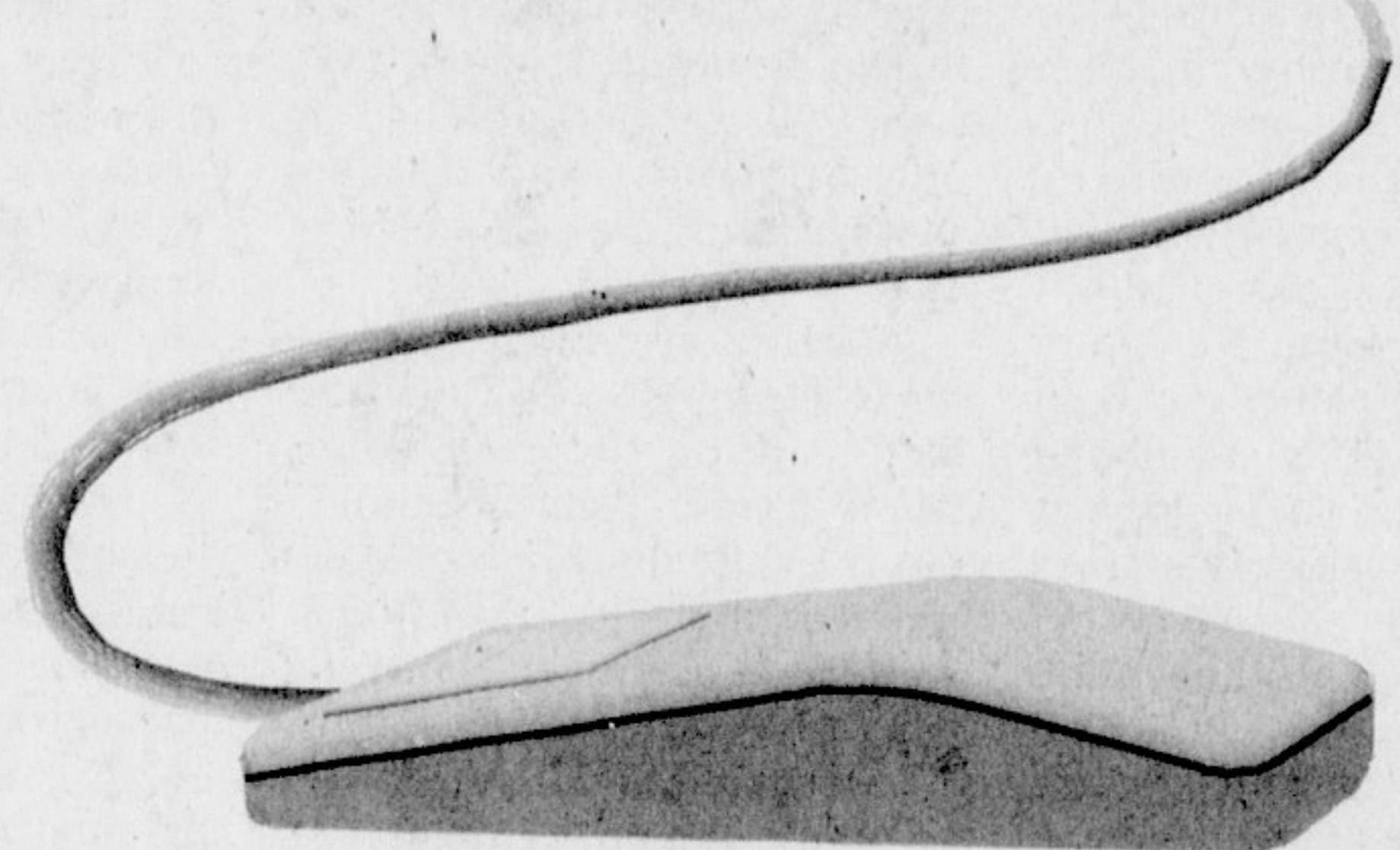
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Psi Chi invites all psychology majors/minors to our first meeting Wednesday Sept. 14th at 4pm in Rawl 302. Refreshments provided.

Speech & Hearing Screenings for fall semester will be held Monday, September 19, 2005; Tuesday, September 20, 2005; or Wednesday, September 21, 2005 from 5-6

p.m. at Belk Annex 1, near the intersection of Charles Blvd. and the 264 By-pass. Sign-in begins at 4:45 p.m. at the west entrance of the clinic and ends at 5:45 p.m. Screenings conducted on a first come, first serve basis. No calls accepted. Make-up sessions are held most Friday mornings, \$20 fee. Call 328-4405 for a make-up session appointment.

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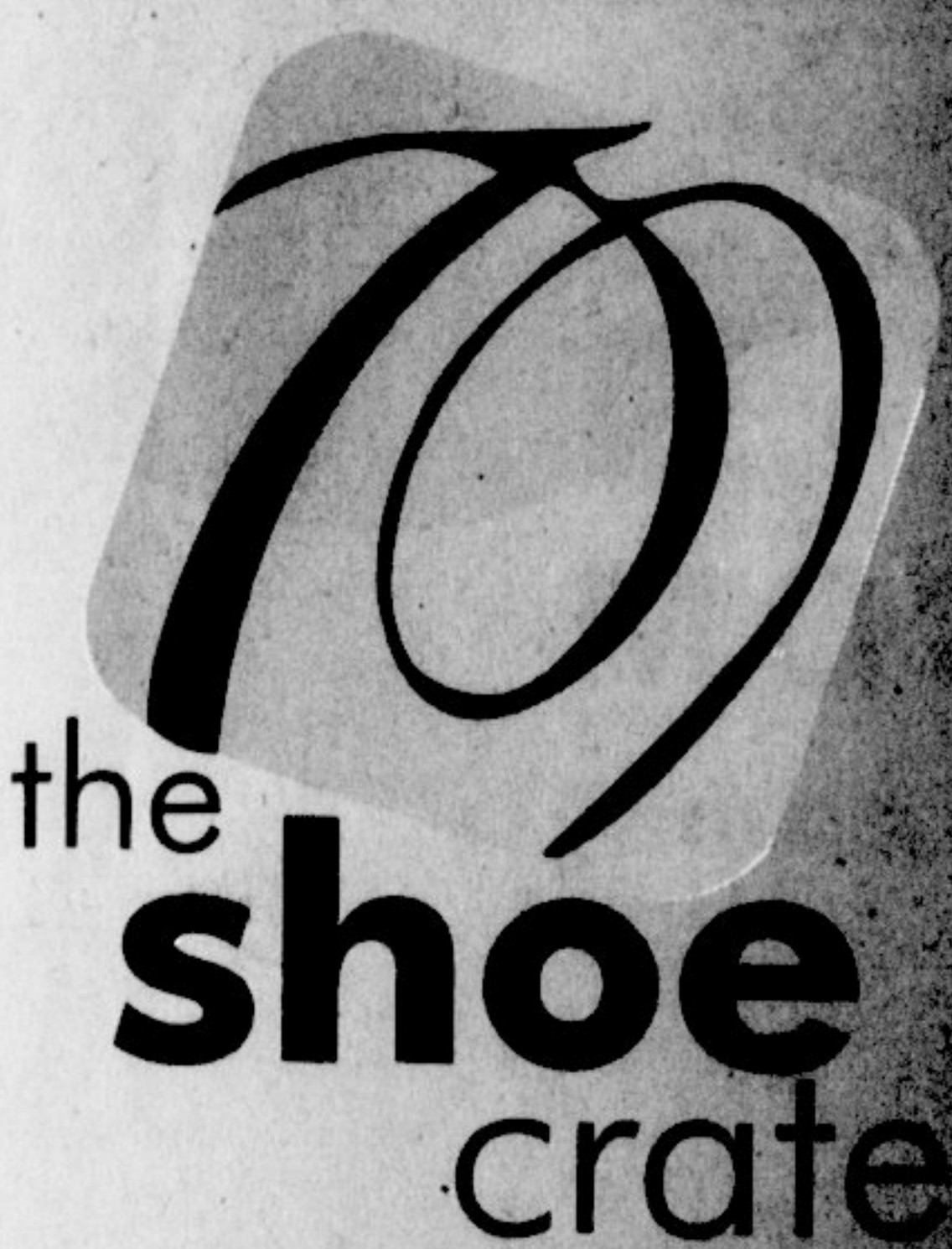


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| Anna Clogs | M.O.D. |
| Rebels | Robeez |
| Bronx | MIA |
| Stride Rite | |

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Nightly Dinner Specials \$6.95

- Monday- Chicken Parmesan
- Tuesday- Country Fried Chicken
- Wednesday- Spaghetti & Meatballs
- Thursday- Greek or Caesar Salad/ Chix
- Friday- Fish & Chips
- Saturday- Meat or 5 Cheese Lasagna
- Sunday- Fried Shrimp Plate

ALL DAY ALL NIGHT Take Out 758-2774 Take Out



301 Jarvis (2 blocks from campus)

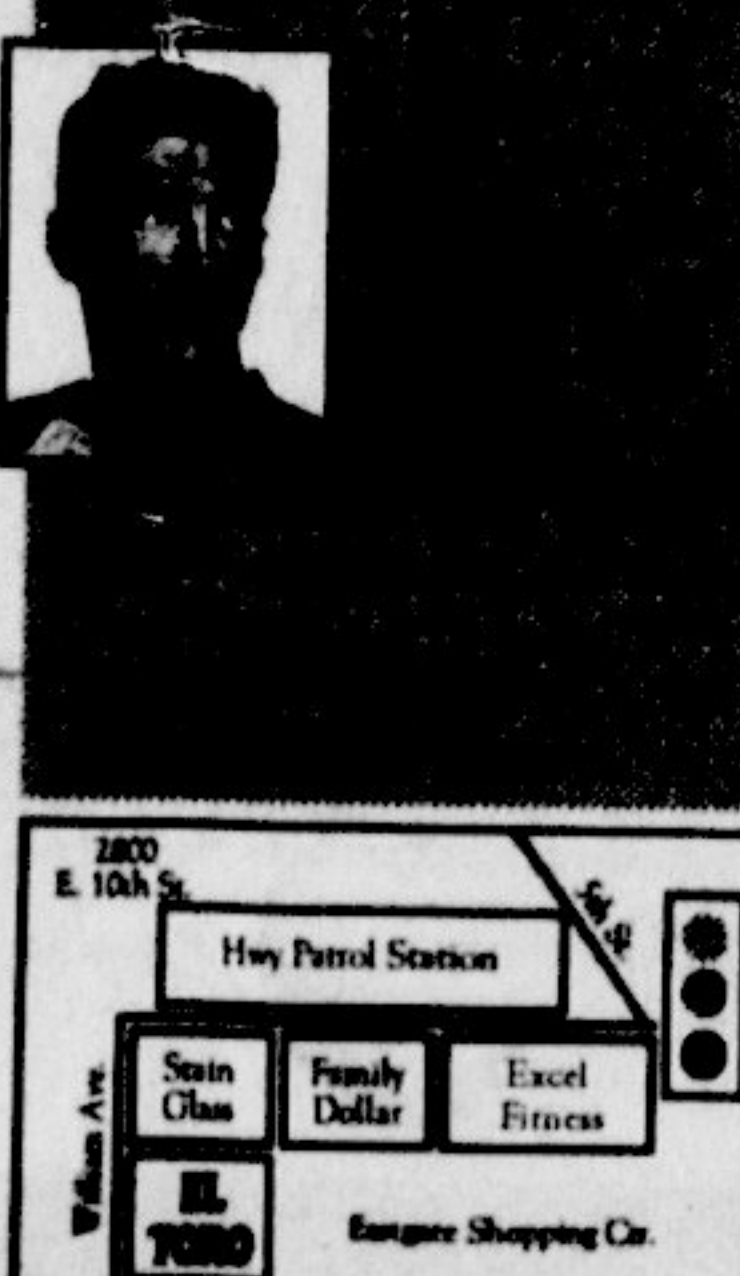
Daily Drink Specials

- Monday - \$1.75 Domestic bottles
- Tuesday - \$2.25 Imports Bottles
- Wednesday - \$1.25 Mug Bud Lt \$4.50 Pitchers
- Thursday - \$2.50 House Hi-Balls & \$3 House Wine
- Friday - \$2.50 Import of the Day & \$3 Margaritas
- Saturday - \$3 Lits & \$2.50 Import of the Day
- Sunday - \$2.75 Pints Guinness, Bass, Newcastle, Black and Tan

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