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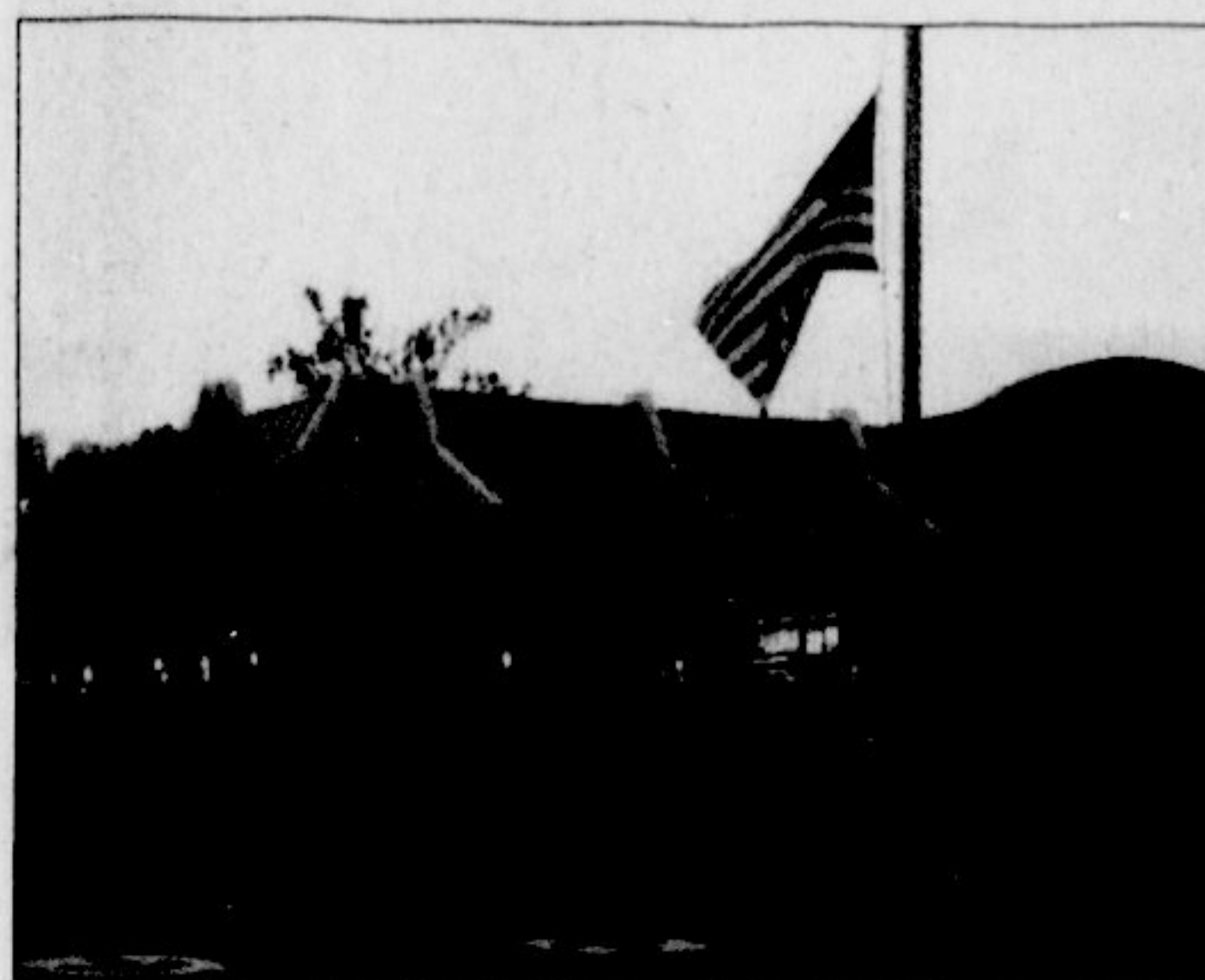
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Volume 81 Number 36

THURSDAY

December 8, 2005

# Year in Review



SEPTEMBER - MCCAFFEE



APRIL - CHANCELLOR BALLARD

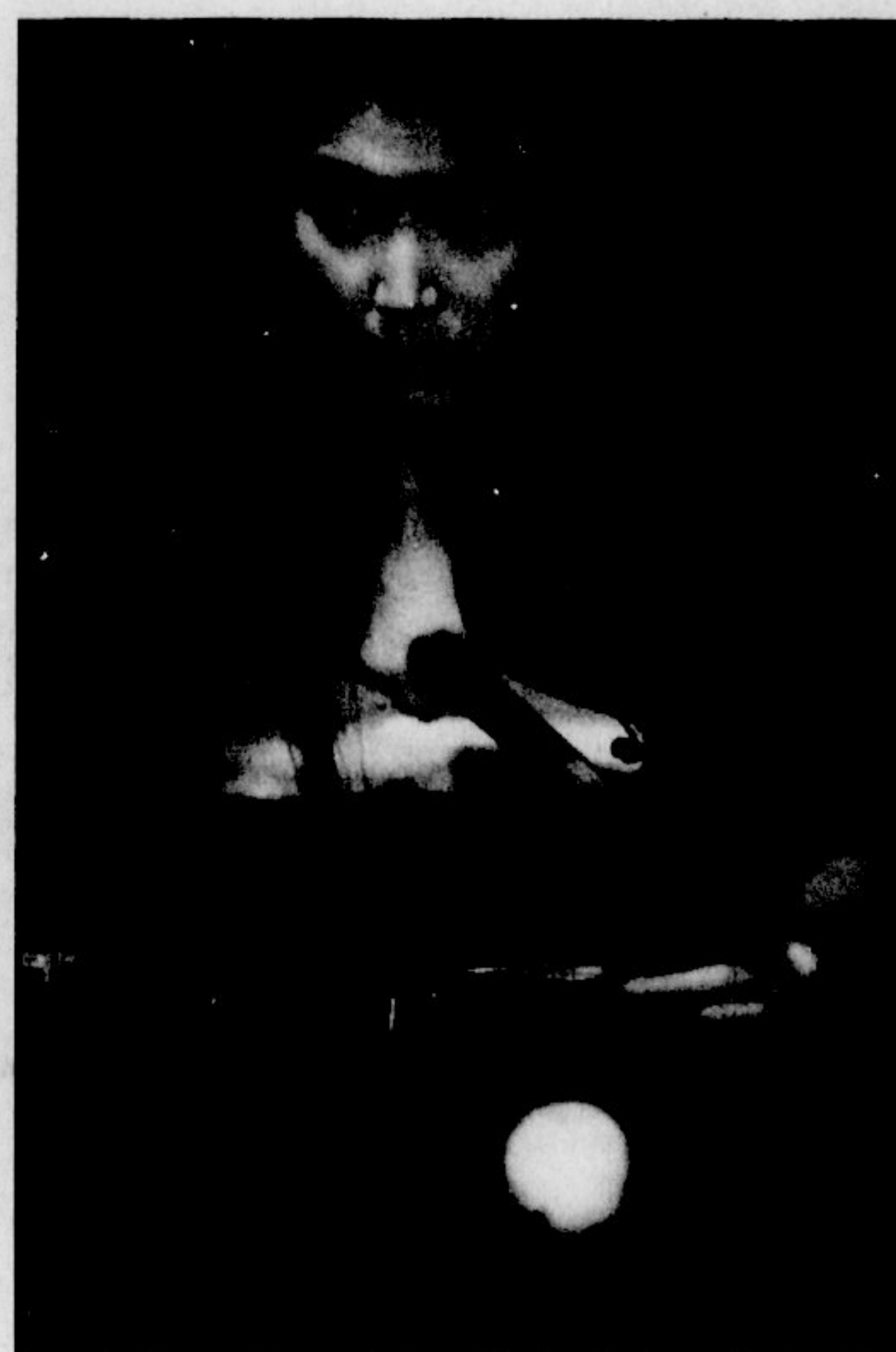


AUGUST - HURRICANE KATRINA

Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans on Aug. 29. It was a category four hurricane that hit the below-sea-level city and left more damage than Hurricane Andrew did in Florida in 1992. 2005 was the most intense hurricane season on record with 21 named storms in the Atlantic Ocean.



OCTOBER - REGGAE ON THE LAKE



FEBRUARY - JEANETTE LEE



JUNE - WRIGHT PLACE



NOVEMBER - MATT COHEN

## 2005 ECU Events

### January 2005 Ceremony marks reopening of Flanagan

The Flanagan Building reopened Jan. 6. This was the sixth renovation in the building's history and cost about \$14 million. The renovations provided room for offices, labs and classrooms in a variety of academic departments.

### February 2005 The 'Black Widow' challenges Greenville

Billiards Star Jeanette Lee, known as "The Black Widow," challenged patrons of Tie Breakers sports bar. She also took time to do trick shots for the amusement of fans. She complimented the passion of the people at Tie Breakers and said she had fun.

### March 2005 West End dining open for operation

The new dining center in the western neighborhood cost \$13 million and started construction in fall 2003. The center gives students opportunities to taste foods from venues such as Subway and Mongolian grill.

### April 2005 Ballard installed as ECU chancellor

Steve Ballard began his term as chancellor earlier this year. He is the 10th person to serve as chancellor. He has made it his goal to compare ECU to national standards.

### May 2005 Things looking up for downtown Greenville

The Uptown Greenville Society made efforts throughout the year for improving the "uptown" area of Greenville. One of their projects involved the extension of the greenway system.

### June 2005 Wright Place undergoes renovation

The installment of the pizza restaurant, Sbarro, was the biggest addition to Wright Place after it was renovated. Wright Place work was among the myriad of construction jobs completed at ECU.

### July 2005 ECU physician first to use device on patients

Dr. Gordon Downie used a Aero Tracheobronchial Stent, a tubular device for clearing the airway on a 55-year-old woman with cancer that spread to her lungs. This was the first time the experimental procedure was performed. She had a tumor in her airway that hindered her breathing.

### August 2005 ECU has record enrollment

Roughly 4,900 students returned to the dorm this year and about 3,500 freshmen moved into Garrett Hall. The current student population is about 23,500.

### September 2005 Make way for McCafe

McDonald's renovation this year strayed from the traditional McDonald's theme. The new shop features the same Big Macs along with more of a coffee house environment.

### October 2005 Reggae on the Pitt County Fair Grounds

Ten thousand people enjoyed live reggae music before Halloween. This was the ninth annual "Reggae on the Lake" hosted by Pi Kappa Phi and lasted from noon to 10:30 p.m. The show cost \$40,000 to host.

### November 2005 ECU student Matt Cohen runs for mayor

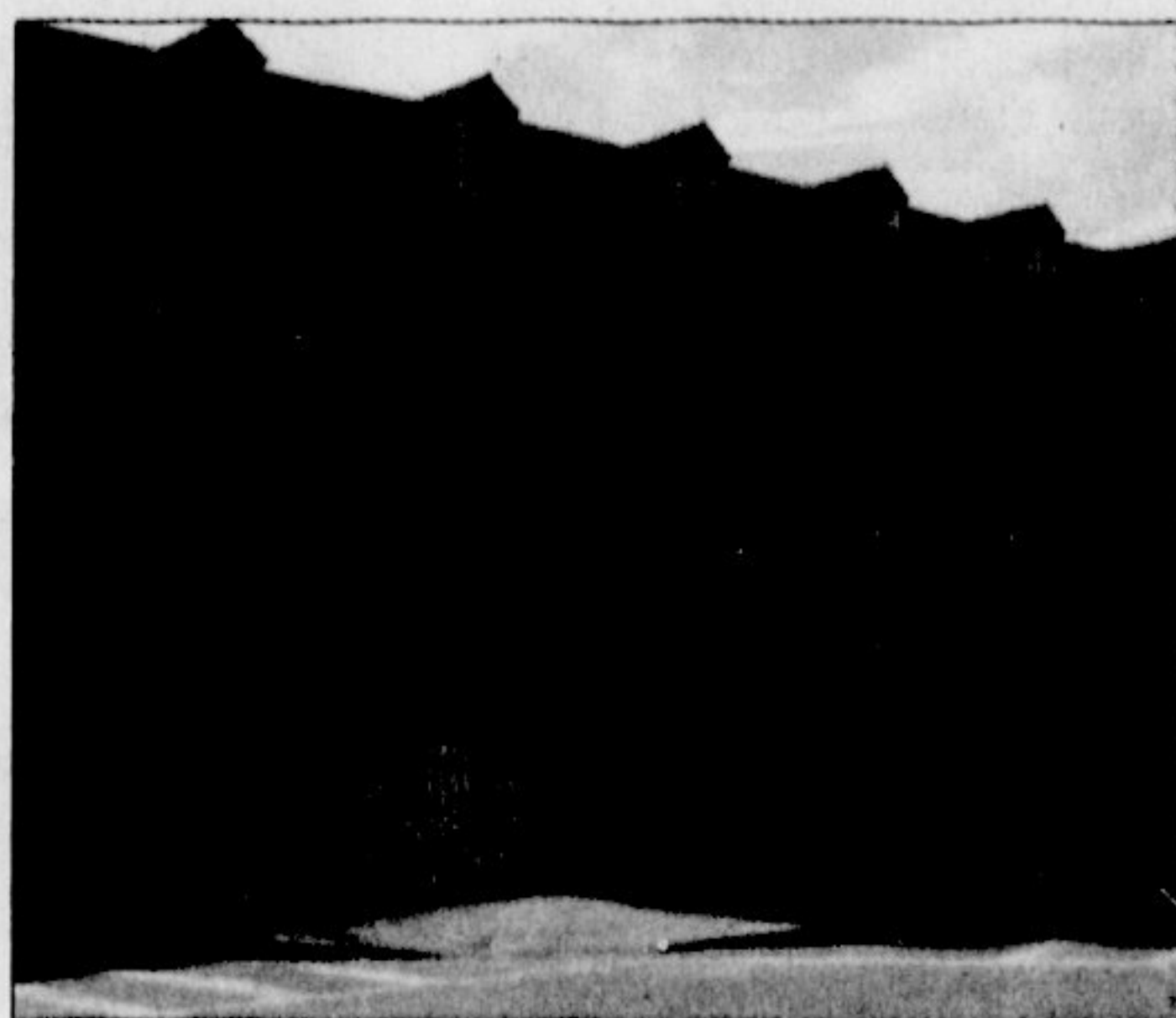
Matt Cohen, senior political science major, constructed a campaign for the mayor's office and was able to capture about 8 percent of the vote against heavily favored incumbent, Don Parrott. Cohen spoke with TEC three times about campaigning to be a student mayor. His focal points were improving the local environment and bringing students into the arena of local politics.

### December 2005 ECU implements Higher One Card

The move to institute ECU's new financial aid refund card caused quite a stir on campus. Some groups took steps to boycott it. Nonetheless, the card was approved by the administration.



MAY - UPTOWN GREENVILLE



JANUARY - FLANAGAN



DECEMBER - HIGHER ONE



## Announcements

### Book Donations

The Department of Library Science and Instructional Technology will be accepting book donations for the Greenville Community Shelter. Books can be dropped off at the Joyner Library Conference Room 2406 through Dec. 15. For more information, contact Al Jones at 328-6803.

### Toys for Tots

Student Health Services will be collecting new, unwrapped toys until Friday, Dec. 9 as part of the annual Toys for Tots program. The drop box is located in the lobby of Student Health Services. For more information, contact Georgia Childs or Ellen Goldberg at 328-6841.

### New Musical

*John and Jen*, a new musical, premieres at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11 in the Studio Theatre. *John and Jen* is an original musical that takes a look at the complexities of relationships between brothers and sisters and parents and children. The story is set against the background of a changing America between 1950 and 1990. The event is free, but tickets are required and seating is limited. For more information, call 328-6829.

### ECU Arts Tickets

Subscriptions for the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series and Family Fare are both currently on sale. The S. Rudolph Alexander Series is ECU's flagship performing arts series, presenting a season of nine of the world's top orchestras, ballet companies, jazz artists, dance ensembles, Broadway shows and much more. The Family Fare series provides kid-centered cultural excursions for the entire family. For more information, contact the Cultural Outreach Office or visit [ecu.edu/ecuarts](http://ecu.edu/ecuarts).

### Semester wrap-up

Thursday, Dec. 8 is Reading Day. Exams begin Friday, Dec. 9 and end at 4:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16. Commencement is Saturday, Dec. 17. Classes for the spring semester resume on Friday, Jan. 6.

### Christmas Break Parking

Freshman Parking Permits will be honored in student parking Zone B2 on Fifth/Reade, Fourth/Reade, Third/Reade and in the A2 zone gravel lot on 14th Street beginning at 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15. The earlier time for freshman permits in these zones is to accommodate individuals loading their vehicles. Loading permits may be obtained from the Residence Halls Neighborhood Service Desks. ECU Red Line provides transportation to the freshman lot. Please contact ECU transit or check their Web site to confirm departure and arrival times. The Freshman Shuttle will run from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16. Unregistered vehicles for move-out must display a one-day permit from the Department of Parking and Transportation Services in order to utilize a 30-minute loading permit. Loading permits may be obtained from Parking and Transportation Services when purchasing a one day permit. The 30-minute loading permit is not valid in lieu of a university parking permit.

### Grief Workshop

The Center for Counseling and Student Development will present a grief workshop on Thursday, Dec. 8 at noon in 316 Wright Building. This one-time workshop will be for students who have lost a loved one (romantic partner, friend or family member). The workshop will be facilitated by Angela Holman, counselor at the Center for Counseling and Student Development. Information about grief and bereavement will be provided. Development of coping skills and support services that are available on campus also will be discussed. For more information, contact Center for Counseling and Student Development at 328-6661. Advance registration is not required.

### News Tips and Announcement

If you have an announcement or news tip, contact *The East Carolinian* News Department at 328-6366.

## National Year in Review



### January 2005 Elections held in Iraq

The dictatorship in Iraq gave way to democracy this year. Iraq held its first elections in about 50 years. Supporters of President Bush consider this a milestone achievement in the war effort and the initiative to bring freedom to the Middle East.

### February 2005 Bush calls election a success

Bush called the election a success and promised the United States would continue its war on terror. He wants to make sure Iraq eventually gains independence and sovereignty.

### March 2005 Terri Schiavo legacy sparks national controversy

When Terri Schiavo was kept alive on a feeding tube, a nationwide moral debate was sparked. The argument was one between right-to-life proponents and death-with-dignity supporters.

### June 2005 'Not guilty'

Michael Jackson was acquitted of his 10 child molestation charges. Final deliberations lasted about 30 hours. Many around the country were interested in the outcome of the trial and had strong opinions regarding his involvement with children.



### September 2005 Gas prices at record high -

John Roberts: new chief justice

Mostly as a result of Hurricane Katrina, gas prices skyrocketed to levels never before seen by Americans. The Gulf Coast is home to roughly a quarter of the oil the country produces. Problems in oil-rich regions like Chechnya in Russia and other OPEC countries led to oil strains as well.

John Roberts earned the U.S. Senate's confirmation after President Bush appointed him to succeed William Rehnquist as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Bush is currently dealing with another Supreme Court vacancy that will have to be filled once Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor retires.

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## Higher One forum helpful

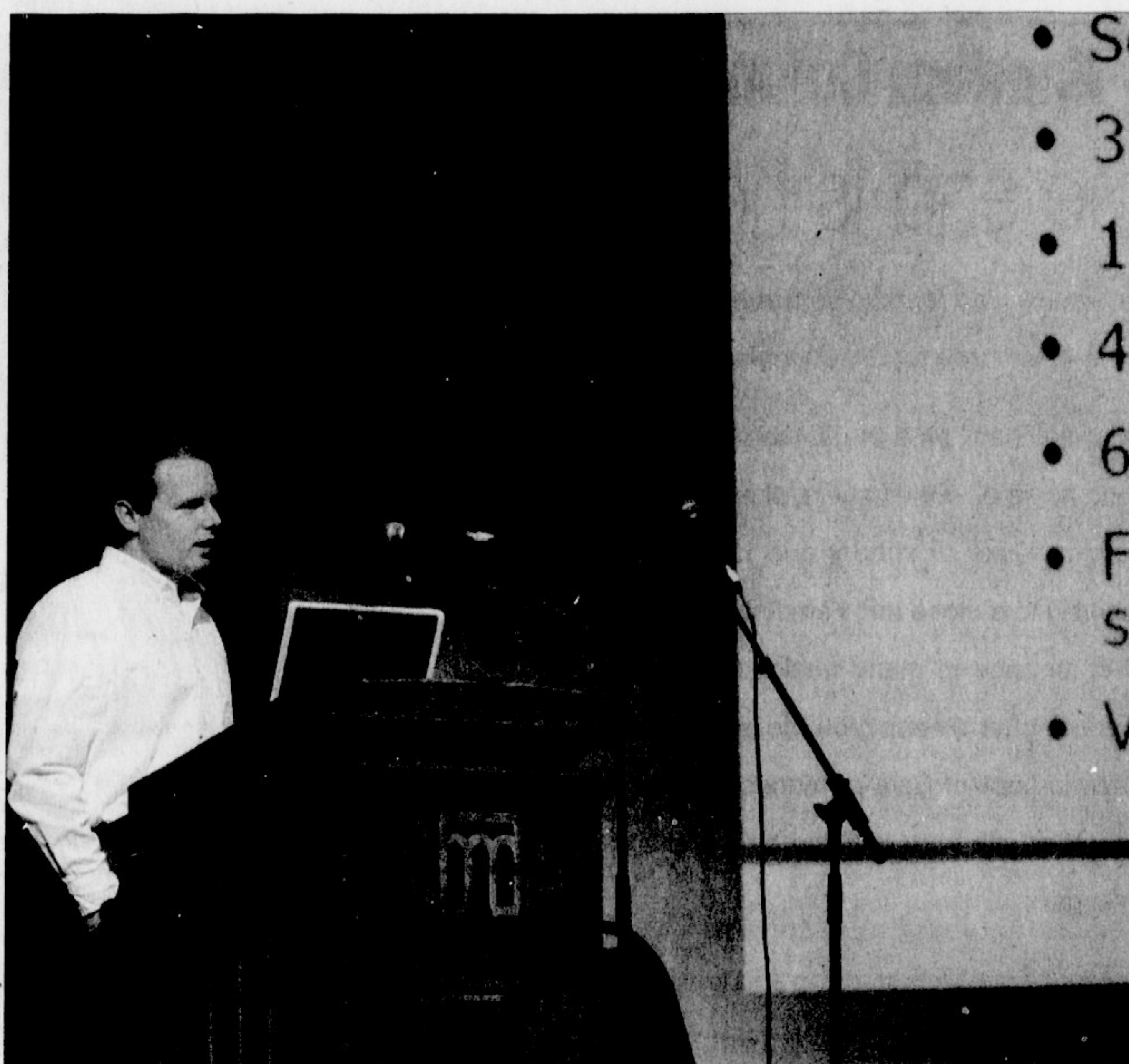


Photo by Zach Sirkin

Students were eager to have their questions answered Dec. 7 in Hendrix Theatre as a representative for Higher One, Casey McGuane, was available to help students understand the new program. After M. Cole Jones, SGA President, spoke to the group, McGuane showed a short PowerPoint presentation and then opened the floor to students to discuss their concerns and voice their opinions.

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## My Random Column

### The end is here

Is anyone else glad that the semester is finally over and we are free for a few weeks?

As for myself I am glad the semester is over. The long hours of working here, plus the time-consuming tasks of school and homework are drawing to a close and I am finally able to sleep in for once in many weeks. No longer will you see guys sleeping on the benches of the second floor of Bate or friends so hyper they can't sit still from caffeine pills and too much sugar.

Classwork, homework, studying and finals are all coming to a rapid close. We here at TEC would like to wish you all a happy holiday season and a relaxing break.

As for myself, I am heading to the West Coast to spend time with members of my family that I haven't seen in several months. I am excited and will enjoy the much needed break.

I just wanted to extend an invitation to work with us this upcoming semester. All you need to do is come in with a résumé and fill out an application. We need more staff writers, photographers and copy editors. If you are interested, please come in because we would love to have you.

It has been great hearing from all of you in pirate rants and letters to the editor, and I hope you will continue giving us feedback next semester.

I hope that everyone has a wonderful holiday break. Enjoy spending time with your families, and friends. I hope travel is easy and safe.

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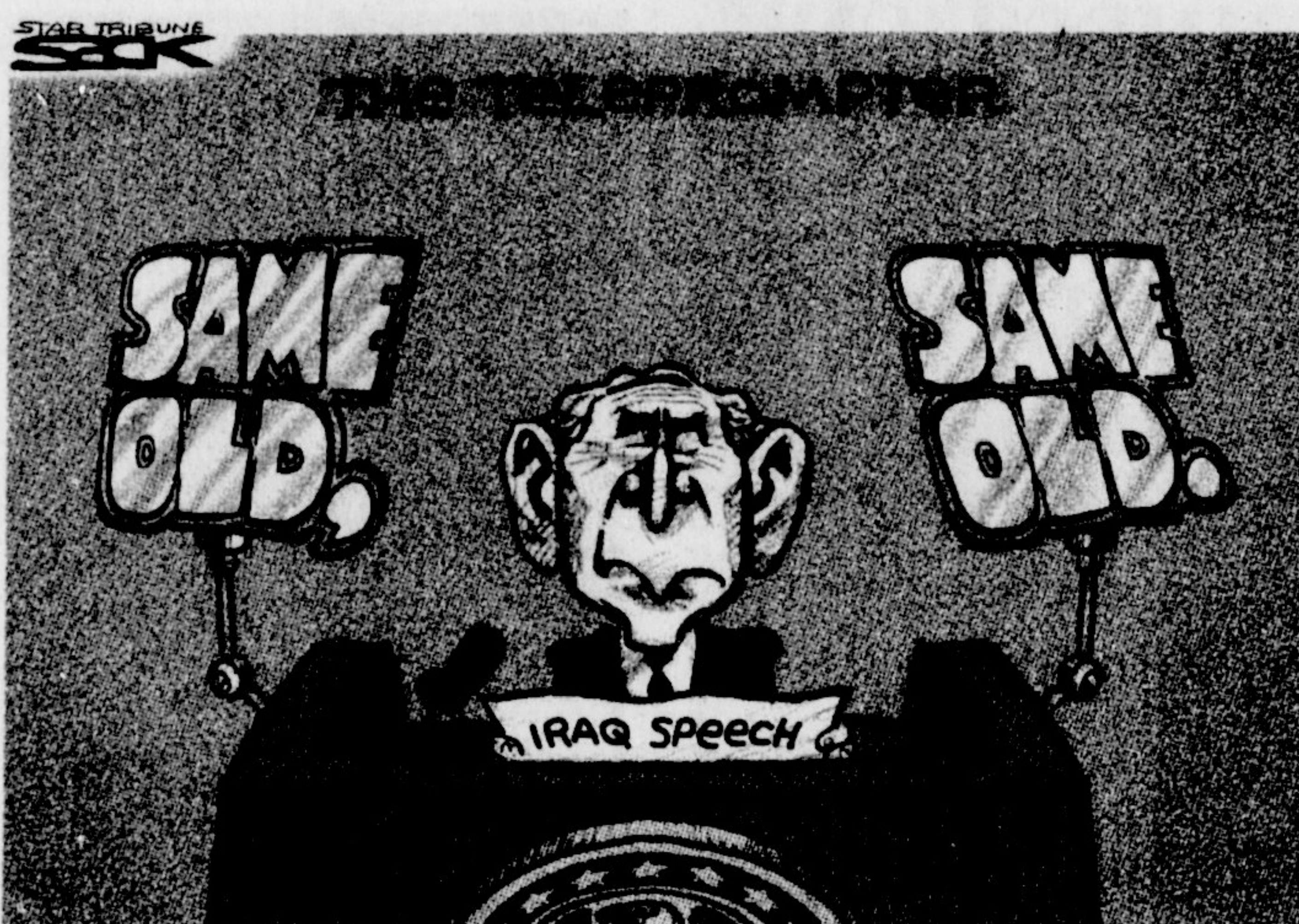
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## Opinion Columnist

### Things that I absolutely love right now

#### Step one toward my New Year's resolution

GARY MCCABE  
BITTER BOULEVARD

This semester has really taken its toll on me. I've always considered myself a pretty unhappy, cynical person, but as of writing this article I've finally reached a level that even I think is unhealthy.

I've turned into a very anti-social person. I walk across campus with my head down like Charlie Brown on Christmas Eve. I wear dark sunglasses to avoid eye contact with people. I keep my headphones on so I don't have to hear people. I've closed off most lines of communication with people and prefer to be alone. I can blame it on my mountain of schoolwork and my multiple TEC articles, but to be honest, I think it's of my own doing.

I'm an angry person. However, I never realized just how angry I've become lately. I guess writing an opinion piece listing the 10 things that I hate most is a pretty clear sign that I've got a problem - especially when one entry on the list consisted of more than 60 percent of Americans (although that was sort of tongue-in-cheek.)

I guess the second sign was the other day when I was in my Copy Editing and Design class when one of the lovely young ladies in my group, while talking about a recent article of mine, asked, "Why are you so angry? You seem like a really nice guy." And I didn't have an answer for her.

So here's the deal. Most people get depressed around the holidays. I'm going to do the opposite. My New Year's resolution is going to be just that. I want to be social and fun. I want to be the person people like to be around - not the person they like to write nasty pirate rants about.

So my first step is to respond to last week's venomous article

where I simply named 10 things I hated. I'm going to use this space as a companion piece - things I love. Hopefully I can think of some things. And hopefully Bush will do something stupid over Christmas break so I can tear him apart when I get back so I never have to write about myself again.

**Puggles and Pandogs.** Go to Google images and type in "puggle" and then "pandog" and brace yourself for what could possibly be the cutest little animals ever - that is, I suppose, until dog breeders get to work on the "panduggle."

**Michelle Rodriguez's DUI.** Last week I was upset that Rodriguez was ruining "Lost" with her poor acting and Clint Eastwood-with-breasts dialogue and delivery. All season I've been hoping that somehow her character would fall off a cliff or be eaten by Hurler - anything so long as she doesn't appear on the show any longer and it can get back to the characters that made it great.

Last week, Rodriguez was pulled over in Hawaii for driving under the influence of alcohol - but wait, it gets better. She's on probation in California for the same offense and this latest arrest could end in jail time and subsequently would have to be written off the show.

**George Bush's "holiday" cards.** The Religious Right is boycotting businesses like Target for offering customers a "Happy Holidays" rather than the traditional "Merry Christmas." Well, apparently our Commander and Chief sent out his annual batch of cards wishing recipients a very "Happy Holidays." Great - hopefully the Religious Right now will boycott their Golden Boy Bush and we finally get that approval rating down to single digits. I know we can do it if we try...

**The Opie & Anthony Show.** You may recognize their

names even if you're not a fan of talk radio. They were fired from WNEW in New York City when a promotion of theirs ended with a couple having sex in St. Patrick's Cathedral. They sat on the bench for two and a half years and made the jump to XM, but it didn't take long before they found themselves in trouble again.

They currently run a promotion called "Assault on the Media" where they encourage fans to jump into the shot of live news screaming "Opie and Anthony!" and holding up signs. Apparently, one fan took it way too far and blew an air horn in the ear of an ABC newsmen. Opie and Anthony were given the rest of the week off on Wednesday and things are beginning to look eerily similar to what happened after the St. Patty's incident.

Rumors are going around - where else? - the Internet that heads might roll because the interim governor of New Jersey is involved now. However, I doubt that would happen. Opie and Anthony put on a great show and are XM's only viable alternative to Howard Stern once he moves to Sirius. It's a shame, though. Every time the show gets in trouble, it's for their idiotic fans, not them. If the show lasts another week, please check it out. If it doesn't, I suppose I had better start pricing Sirius receivers.

**Christmas Break.** I can't be the only one who needs a break. The past three and a half months have worn on all of us but it's been especially brutal on me. I'm a few credits from graduating so it's a mad dash to get them in before the end of the spring semester and unfortunately, it's added up to 20 credit hours this semester. I just want to get out of Greenville where there are no schedules, no due dates and no obligations so I can come back here in January with new batteries, ready to take on the world. I feel better already.

## In My Opinion

(KRT) — I don't know about you, but I sometimes grow weary hearing big-picture thinkers tell us we need more mathematicians and scientists. Maybe it was because I wasn't very interested in those subjects as a kid. Whatever, all the talk about math and science can leave my politics-and-history mind blank.

Several students in suburban Allen, Texas, said the same thing the other day. When I asked a classroom of high schoolers how many wanted to study math and science in college, one student shot up his hand and said we shouldn't forget the "bohemian" side of the brain, meaning the side that worries about things like war and peace. A number of his fellow students nodded.

I like their independence, but here's the plain truth that people like me need to remember: We either champion math and science, or we lose our footing in the world. That's hard to imagine since we're the Big Cat economically, militarily and politically.

But if our schools downplay math and science, Americans will become the 7-foot basketball player who stumbled over his own clumsy feet running down the court. While we're trying to get back up, little fast guys will run right by.

Lamar Alexander sounds like a prophet when you get him talking about this challenge. You might expect that from a former secretary of education and ex-university president.

Now a Republican senator

from Tennessee, he worries about India and China producing more engineers than the United States. It bothers him that we lose top students from other countries after they attend our colleges. And he's concerned that our job base will rot without enough of the science and technology students who've propelled our economy since the 1960s.

Alexander is using his Senate seat to try to correct these shortcomings, championing a math-and-science initiative that could turn into this generation's moon shot. The two-time presidential candidate also believes the issue could help rescue his party from its doldrums, where Democrats outpace Republicans in every issue except leadership, according to a recent ABC News/Washington Post poll.

During a recent interview as the Senate wrapped up a day of business, he started our talk by handing me a piece of paper that he carries around like a daily Bible verse. It featured this quote from Nobel Prize physicist Steven Chu: "The single most important thing that America must do is keep its edge in science and technology."

Alexander and a few colleagues asked the National Academy of Sciences to outline the 10 most important things America can do to keep that edge.

They came back with "Rising Above the Gathering Storm," a report that includes these goals:

-Improve K-12 math and science education.

-Strengthen the nation's com-

mitment to research.

-Increase the talent pool by improving higher education.

-Provide more incentives structure for innovation.

Each goal contains specific requests. They range from recruiting 10,000 science and math teachers to increasing federal investment in fundamental research to providing 25,000 new scholarships for U.S. undergrads to ensuring that all Americans have broadband Internet access.

Alexander is drafting a bill with Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., to include these ideas.

That's right, working with a Democrat. This is the sort of cause that transcends party politics, and that's one reason Alexander hopes President Bush makes it a centerpiece of his State of the Union message next month. Only the president, he says, can truly focus the nation on this need, and that includes reaching students like those I spoke with in Allen.

The move would help the president, too. He needs domestic issues to save himself from a ruined presidency. Iraq's not going to do it, that's for sure.

Alexander, of course, knows a few things about the presidency. The last you probably heard of him was when he was running for the White House in his red plaid shirt. He fell short of the GOP nomination in 1996 and 2000 because he doesn't ooze intimacy on the tube or hurl lightning bolts at opponents.

## Pirate Rant

I now agree that God is a little kid on an anthill, but he isn't holding a magnifying glass - he's got a fan and a bucket of icy water. And he's laughing.

Mr. McCabe, does it pain you to write that dribble as much as it does for me to read it.

Hey stupid with the rant about Kanye and WZMB. Do you listen? WZMB is the best station in all of Greenville.

Thank you Ms. Verna for cleaning up Jones Hall so nicely! I just love seeing your smiling face everyday! Thanks again!

It is absolutely ridiculous to have to make an appointment to get blood taken when you already have the prescription for it and the only reason for the appointment is so some nurse can sign the slip that the doctor has already signed, who is the doctor that ordered the blood to be taken in the first place!

Once again, thank you TEC for telling us about events after they happen. I would have loved to go to the World War II talk two weeks ago, but all I got from it was an article and a picture. I would also love to see the hockey team, but since they never play tomorrow (they always play yesterday) I guess I'll never get to see them. Why not put upcoming sports events in the margins instead of stupid fashion ideas, movies that no one watches and albums that are just commercialized, sold-out junk. Try being effective at communicating the news and future events.

Why are all the computers in the Austin Lab so crappy they take forever to load and I do not have enough time in my day to deal with that? The other day there was a line all the way out the door. I mean come on, buy some good computers like Gateways!

I am Ranting because my Rant never gets posted. I read TEC every time it comes out in hope that they would get posted. I think this thing is rigged.

Anybody else feel like they're talking to someone from another planet when they talk to the opposite sex? I do!

Tony McKee, I find it interesting that you hate when "Liberals" push their views onto others, but you are advocating pushing your views on the Christmas issue on the entire campus. Maybe, just maybe, some people have a different religious holiday and don't give a crap if your Christmas is merry. "Happy Holidays" works for every religion. Show some respect.

Our country was founded on the principle of freedom of religion, not the suppression of all religions. Suppression of religion is why we left our respective countries of origin.

Why is there a noise policy on college hill if all we have to listen to during exams is f\*\*\*\*\* construction! I mean the jackhammers and construction workers is 10,000 times louder than anyone in the actual dorms. Get your policy right people.

To the people in the back of Jones who are working for the Galley, can you please stop slamming doors, talking obnoxiously loud, smoking, backing up trucks that beep warnings, loading and unloading stuff at two o'clock in the morning! This is a 24-hour quiet zone and if I can get written up for violating that, then you should too!

There was a horoscope on yesterday's paper. I thought The East Carolinian stopped doing those. What a relief, I once again have a way of making important life decisions!

Why in the world is my comment to Tony McKee's ridiculous article no longer posted under his editorial?

Gary McCabe, I almost look forward to hating your articles on a weekly basis now. I haven't read writing of your caliber since I flipped through a copy of the National Enquirer in the grocery store line.

As a Southerner myself, I can say that Southerners take pride in their hospitality and politeness. Saying "excuse me" when you didn't hear someone can sound offensive. "Do what?" is a polite way for Southerners to ask you to repeat yourself. Hope that feeds your concern.

As a member of the vast right-wing conspiracy, I say Tony McKee is an embarrassment as a Republican. Yes, he writes on conservative political issues, but it seems more like he "copies and pastes" the e-mails you get from your annoying co-workers and calls them articles.

Kristin Day, it's sad to see that this last article of your long, seven-week process was produced on such a whim. Your words seemed careless, almost as though people who read your article wouldn't catch on that you may not have been to passionate about the subject.

Freshmen, just in case you haven't noticed, we don't wear other schools' apparel. We had a huge article about wearing other schools' names in the newspaper last year. If you're getting dirty looks around campus, especially if you're wearing a State or UNC shirt, it's probably because you aren't supporting ECU.

What the heck is up with the news section writing features stories? They're twice as corny and not as well written. Stick to news, it's what you're better at. Having two restaurant reviews on the same day in two different sections is a great way to embarrass your newspaper.

Terry Holland is the greatest AD ever. As of Dec. 6 ECU will no longer be associated with men's pansy ball... I mean soccer. Thank you Terry Holland for dropping soccer and freeing up more money for football.

Why are students so stressed out over final exams? It's final exams, not the end of the world.

Everyone wants to complain about the tuition increase but only a handful of people showed up to address the issue. Complaining is not going to get you anywhere. You have a voice use it!

Tony McKee's article is the best article I've ever read in TEC! Go Tony!

I was late to class on Tuesday because a monk in front of Joyner thwarted me! Talk about bizarre.

News flash Trevor: Rent is a rock opera, if you were to see the stage production it would be nothing but singing. But hey buddy I won't hold it against you. Learn how to use spell check, learn how to use grammar check, and learn how to give good movies good reviews and you should be fine.

To the guy at Todd who dropped his tray in front of the whole cafeteria: my friends and I didn't laugh. We actually ran out looking for you. And to the people who did laugh, get a freaking life, you are in college now, start acting like it!

It's fairly obvious that the writer of the Lone Star review failed to do some research, since their restaurant sanitation rating was 68.0 on July 18 of this year. It's also abundantly obvious that the managers and staff there knew he was reviewing the place for the newspaper.

Thanks to the Black Student Union for addressing stereotypes, discrimination and racism in a great forum. Now I just wish that the administration would address it.

Ladies, I love you and by you I mean plural "all of you."

To the person who had a "Gentleman" give his seat up for her, this is a front! I have gotten on many crowded buses and was never once offered a seat. Why? Because I am probably not skinny or pretty enough for them, or I am not a Sorority girl... Not that I care, however!

Do not tell a girl you want to be single for a while. Just say, "I'm sorry, I am just not interested in you." We know that those lines are bullshit!

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.



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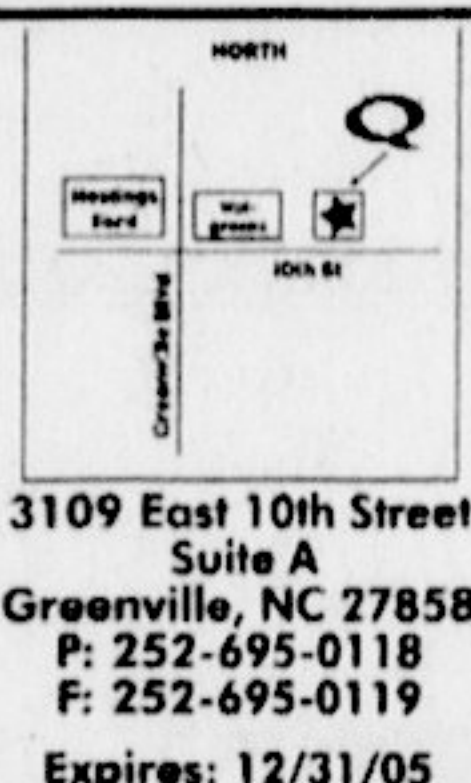
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## Air marshal kills passenger at Miami airport

MIAMI (AP) — An agitated passenger who claimed to have a bomb in his backpack was shot and killed by a federal air marshal Wednesday after he bolted frantically from a jetliner that was boarding for takeoff, officials said. No bomb was found.

It was the first time since the Sept. 11 attacks that an air marshal had shot at anyone, Homeland Security Department spokesman Brian Doyle said. Another federal official said there was no apparent link to terrorism.

According to a witness, the passenger ran down the aisle of the Boeing 757, flailing his arms, while his wife tried to explain that he was mentally ill and had not taken his medication.

The passenger, identified as Rigoberto Alpizar, indicated there was a bomb in his bag and was confronted by air marshals but ran off the aircraft, Doyle said. The marshals went after him and ordered him to get down on the ground, but he did not comply and was shot when he apparently reached into the bag, Doyle said.

Alpizar, a 44-year-old U.S. citizen, was gunned down on a jetway outside the American Airlines plane, which was parked at a gate at Miami International Airport. Alpizar had arrived earlier in the day from Quito, Ecuador, and Flight 924 was going to Orlando, near his home in Maitland.

Relatives said Alpizar and his wife had been on a working vacation in Peru. A neighbor who said he had been asked to watch the couple's home described the vacation as a missionary trip.

"We're all still in shock. We're just speechless," a sister-in-law, Kelley Beuchner, said by telephone from her home in Milwaukee.

The shooting occurred shortly after 2 p.m. as Flight 924 was about to take off for Orlando with the man and 119 other passengers and crew, American spokesman Tim Wagner said.

After the shooting, investigators spread passengers' bags on the tarmac and let dogs sniff them for explosives, and bomb squad members blew up at least two bags.

No bomb was found, said James E. Bauer, agent in charge of the Federal Air Marshals field office in Miami. He said there was no reason to believe there was any connection to terrorists.

The concourse where the shooting took place was shut down for a half-hour, but the rest of the airport continued operating, officials said.

Federal officials declined to say how many times Alpizar was shot, or reveal how many air marshals were on the plane.

Mary Gardner, a passenger aboard the Orlando-bound flight, told WTVJ-TV in Miami that the man ran down the aisle from the rear of the plane. "He



Post 9-11, violence is seen aboard American Airlines flight 924.

was frantic, his arms flailing in the air," she said. She said a woman followed, shouting, "My husband! My husband!"

Gardner said she heard the woman say her husband was bipolar, a mental illness also known as manic-depression, and had not had his medication.

Gardner said four to five shots were fired. She could not see the shooting.

After the shooting, police boarded the plane and told the passengers to put their hands on their heads, Gardner said.

"It was quite scary," she told the TV station via a cell phone. "They wouldn't let you move. They wouldn't let you get anything out of your bag."

Alpizar's brother-in-law, Steven Beuchner, said he was a native of Costa Rica, and met Beuchner's sister, Anne, when she was an exchange student there. Relatives said the couple had been married about two decades.

Neighbors described Alpizar as a pleasant man who worked in the paint department of a home-supply store and spent his spare time tending to the lawn of his ranch-style house. Many found it incomprehensible that he could have made a bomb threat.

"He was a nice guy, always smiling, always talkative," Louis Gunther said. "Everybody is talking about a guy I know nothing about."

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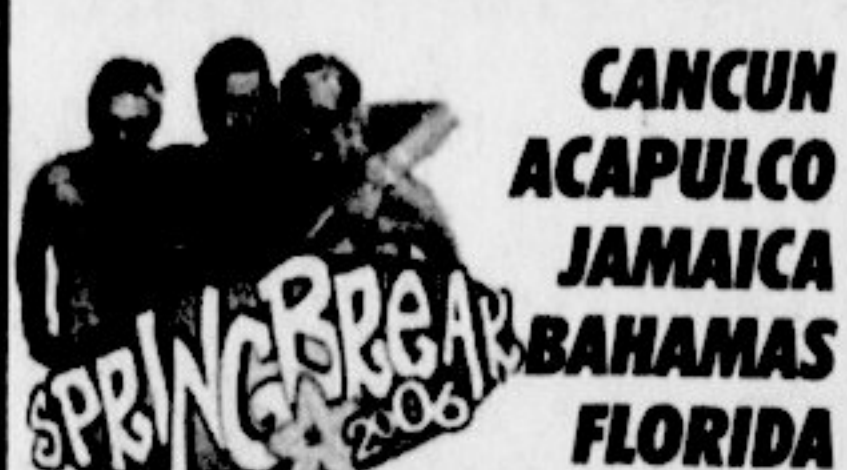
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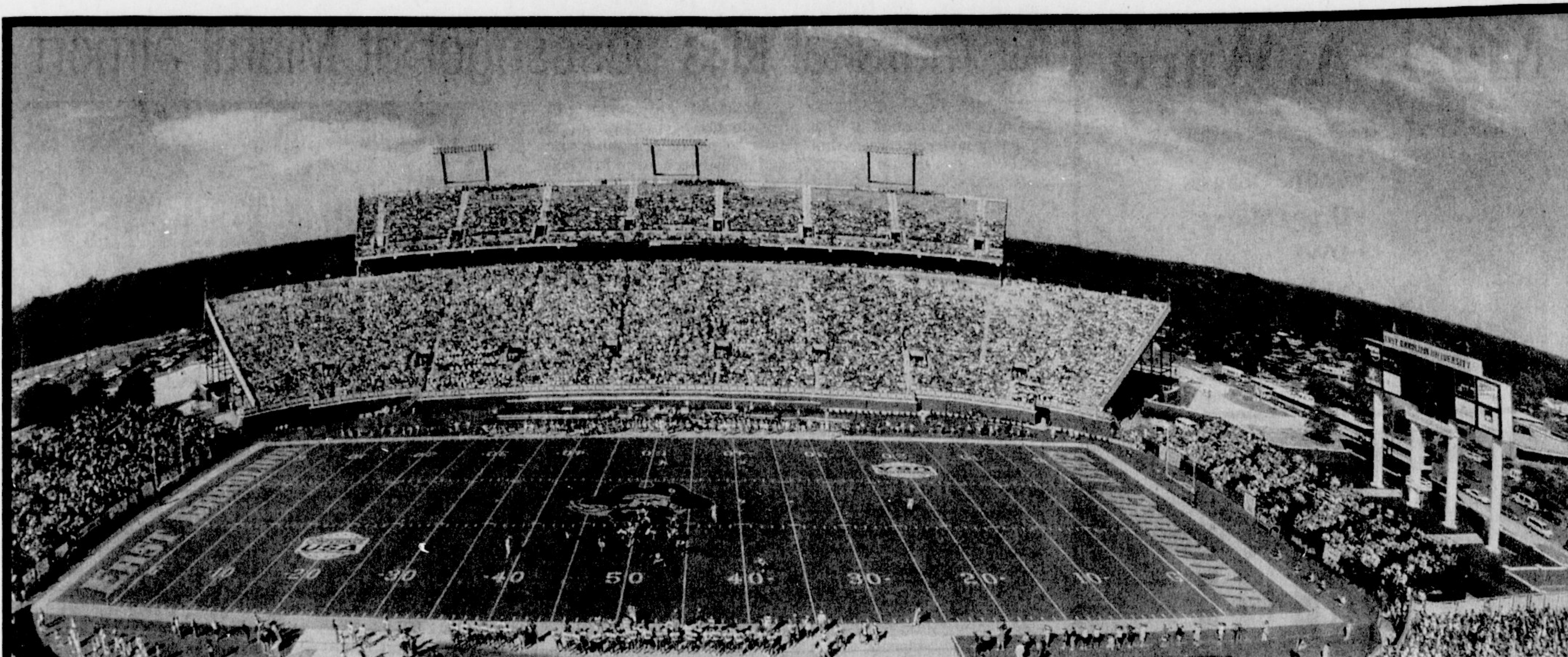
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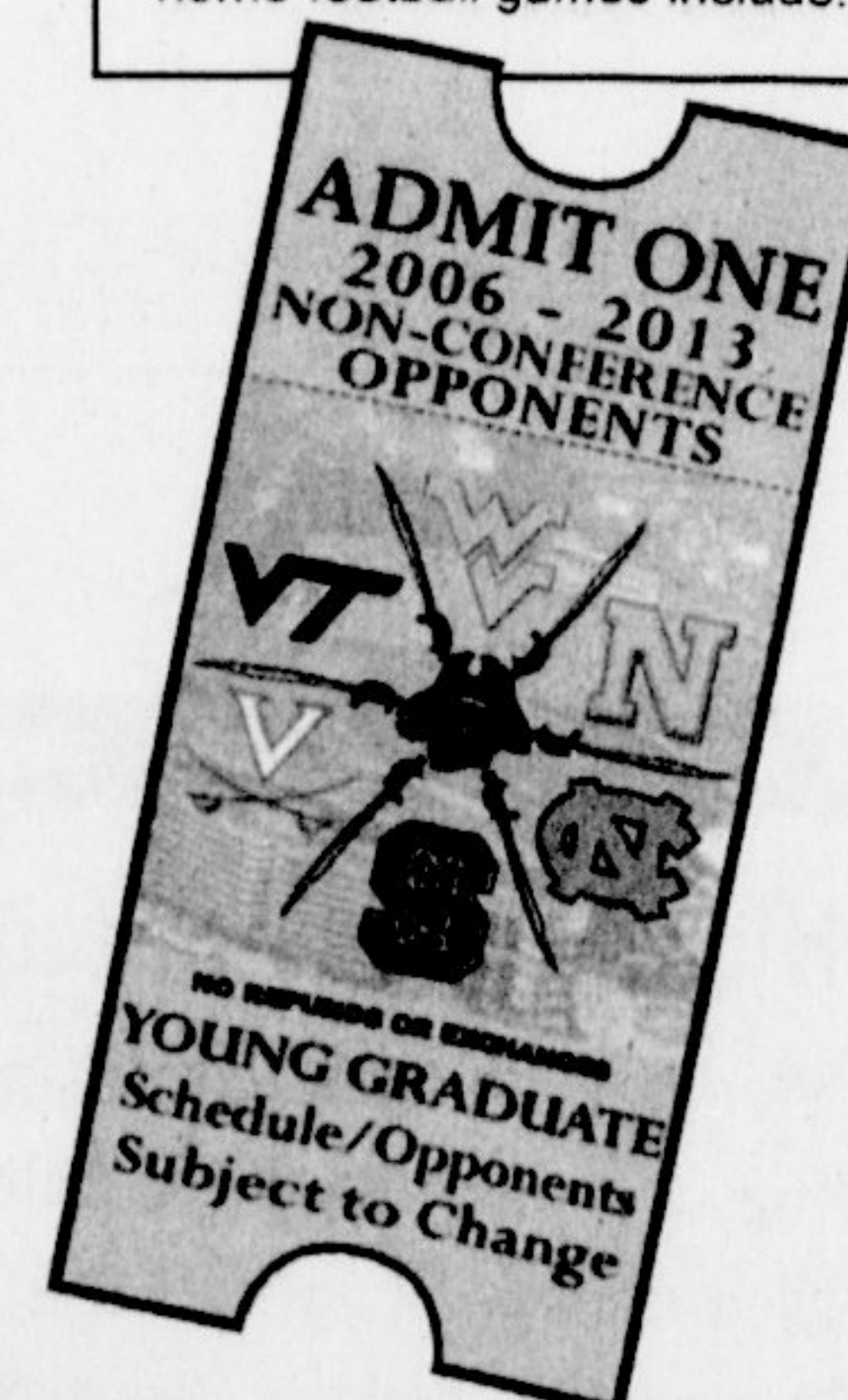
Interested in contacting Young Graduates to join Pirate Club in your area, please contact Michael Ward or Lucas Stuckey for further information on how you can help support.

To learn more about local Pirate Club Chapters throughout North Carolina please visit our website for community chapters and contacts, or contact the Pirate Club at 252-328-4540.

*The Pirate Club wishes to thank the more than 2800 Student Pirate Club Members for supporting ECU athletics in 2005-2006.*

*A special thanks to: Seth, Eric, Becky, Justin, Allison, Becky, JD, John, Trey, Melissa, Julie and Kate for making this a special year for the Student Pirate's!*

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# CLASSIFIEDS

Page A7

THURSDAY December 8, 2005

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## GREEK PERSONALS

Congratulations to Carrie O'Neal for being Kappa Delta's sister of the week! Great job!

Best wishes to Claire, Erica, Kathleen, and Chloe! We will miss you all so much! Love the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha!

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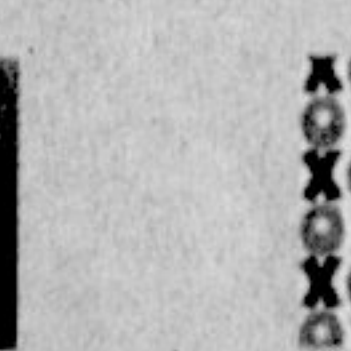
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# Arts & Entertainment

Page B1 features@theeastcarolinian.com 252.328.6366 CAROLYN SCANDURA Features Editor KRISTIN MURNANE Assistant Features Editor

THURSDAY December 8, 2005

## Got Questions?

Dear Features,  
It's getting cold outside and I was wondering if flannel is still "in" or if it lost its popularity like grunge music did?  
-I love the 90s

Dear I love the 90s,  
While some believe that the flannel shirt and jeans combination should stay in the era of Nirvana and Pearl Jam, we're starting to think that the always toasty flannel shirts are making a comeback. If you've seen those Old Navy commercials they're running for the holidays, they feature a very attractive man (think of the Brawny paper towel man) wearing their new flannel shirts. I'd say that it's a safe bet to invest in a flannel shirt or two and if the trend disappears again, at least you'll have a set of clothes for camping.

## Recipes:

### Cheese strata with ham and tomatoes

1 teaspoon plus 1 tablespoon unsalted butter  
12 large eggs  
1 1/2 cups milk  
1/2 cup heavy cream  
Pinch freshly grated nutmeg  
Pinch cayenne pepper  
1 teaspoon kosher salt  
1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper  
1 cup diced baked ham  
1 cup Oven-Dried Tomatoes, chopped, recipe follows  
1 tablespoon minced flat-leaf parsley leaves  
1 1/2 teaspoons thinly sliced fresh chives  
2 cups shredded extra-sharp cheddar cheese (about 8 ounces)  
1 pound sourdough bread (boule preferred), crust removed and cut into 1-inch cubes  
Grease a 3-quart gratin dish or casserole with 1 teaspoon of the butter. In a large bowl, whisk together the eggs, milk, cream, nutmeg, cayenne, salt and pepper. Set aside. In a small bowl, toss together the ham, tomatoes, parsley and chives.  
To make the strata: Scatter a 1/2 cup of the cheese over the bottom of the buttered dish, cover with one-third of the bread and then half of the tomato mixture. Repeat. Top with a final layer of bread and remaining cheese. Pour the egg mixture over the strata and gently press it down with the back of a large spoon to make sure the top layer is moistened with the custard. Melt the remaining 1 tablespoon of butter and drizzle it over the strata. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Bake the strata, uncovered, until golden brown and slightly puffed, about 45 to 55 minutes. Let rest 10 minutes before serving.  
Yield: 6 to 8 servings

### Oven-Dried Tomatoes

2 pounds ripe plum tomatoes, cored and cut in half lengthwise  
1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt  
Extra-virgin olive oil (optional)  
Fresh herb sprigs, like thyme, rosemary, or sage (optional)  
Preheat oven to 250 degrees F. Arrange the tomatoes cut side-up in a single layer on a baking sheet. Sprinkle with the salt. Dry in oven until slightly shriveled but still plump, about five to six hours.  
If not using immediately, store the tomatoes in a sealed container in the refrigerator, for three to four days. Alternatively, layer them in a container with the herbs, cover with olive oil, and store, covered, in the refrigerator, for up to two weeks.  
Yield: about 2 cups

### Chocolate Fondue

In a microwave-safe bowl, mix the sugar, heavy cream, chocolate and butter together and microwave for two minutes. Take out of microwave and give it a quick whisk. Add wine and whisk again. Transfer to a fondue pot with a flame underneath. Serve with pound cake cubes, strawberries and biscotti bits on the side, for dipping.  
2 tablespoons sugar  
1 cup heavy cream  
8 ounces chopped bittersweet chocolate  
1 tablespoon butter  
1 tablespoon cabernet sauvignon  
Pound cake cubes, for dipping  
Strawberries, cleaned, for dipping  
Biscotti bits, for dipping

## Fun Facts:

Due to gravitational effects, you weigh slightly less when the moon is directly overhead.

The Nobel Peace Prize medal depicts three naked men with their hands on each other's shoulders.

Forest fires move faster uphill than downhill.

The glue on Israeli stamps is certified kosher.

# HOLIDAY MOVIES SURE TO WARM HEARTS, PROVIDE ENTERTAINMENT



Watching movies with loved ones is a great holiday activity.

## Top 10 holiday movies

SARAH CAMPBELL  
STAFF WRITER

During the holiday season, one of my favorite things to do is watch holiday movies with my family and friends. There is nothing better than sharing laughter, tears and excitement with the people closest to your heart. If you're looking for perfect holiday movies to enjoy with family or friends, look no further.

**Home Alone**  
Nothing makes you appreciate family more than this movie. McCauley Culkin stars as 8-year-old Kevin McCallister who wakes up to find that his family has left for Christmas vacation without

him. He's thrilled to be home alone, until two burglars attempt to break in. By the end of the movie you are reminded exactly what family is all about and the true meaning of the winter holidays.

### National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation

Trouble ensues when Clark Griswold, played by Chevy Chase, invites his entire extended family over for Christmas. One thing after another goes wrong for the Griswolds, but they stick together as a family through it all. This movie will have you laughing out loud from start to finish and leave you feeling just a bit better about your own eccentric family.

### How the Grinch Stole Christmas

The animated version of this movie is my favorite, because

growing up I remember watching this classic on television every year with my entire family. The grinch is disgusted with the happiness that Christmas brings to the Whos in Whoville, so he plots a way to ruin Christmas. The tables eventually turn and he ends up becoming just as jubilant as the Whos. This movie reminds me that a little bit of kindness can mean the world to someone.

### Love Actually

I fell in love with this movie the first time I saw it. The premise of the movie is that "love actually is everywhere." The movie is set around Christmas time and filled with characters searching for or, in some cases, stumbling upon love. The stories represent different kinds of love, bolstered with various obstacles for each character. If you're a victim of a broken heart, this movie will give you hope and make you believe in love again.

### The Santa Clause

This movie is one of the best because you get a peak inside the lives of Santa and everyone else living at the North Pole. When Santa Clause falls off the roof of Scott Calvin's (Tim Allen) house on Christmas Eve his son convinces him to put on the red suit. After doing so he begins delivering gifts to the children of the world and wakes up to find himself at the North Pole. Over the next year Scott transforms into Santa, creating questions among friends, coworkers and family. This movie gives me hope

that anything is possible if you just believe.

### Miracle on 34th Street

When the real Santa Clause begins working at Macy's, miracles follow closely behind. However, when he begins telling people that he is actually Santa Clause rather than just a store Santa, he is thought to be crazy. However, thanks to believers around the world faith is restored in him as well as the friends he makes along the way. There are two versions of this movie, both are alike and just about equal in quality... but history proves originals to be better.

### A Christmas Carol

There are so many versions of this movie that I can't pick one as being the best. However, the premise of the movie is magical. We join Ebenezer Scrooge on his journey to Christmas past, present, and future and learn that Christmas is all about the company you keep. I love this movie because it transforms Scrooge's pessimism into hope and kindness.

### The Nightmare Before Christmas

This is one of Tim Burton's most popular animated movies about how Christmastown is taken over by the pumpkin king from Halloweentown trouble ensues. This movie is lighthearted and hilarious - I recommend this one not only for the winter holidays, but anytime of the year.

### Charlie Brown Christmas

When Charlie Brown has the holiday blues he seeks out some

professional help from none other than his friend Lucy. Lucy suggests he become the director of the Christmas play. In doing so Charlie Brown finds out that Christmas is more than just the commercial holiday that he thought it was, it is also a time to spend celebrating with friends.

### It's a Wonderful Life

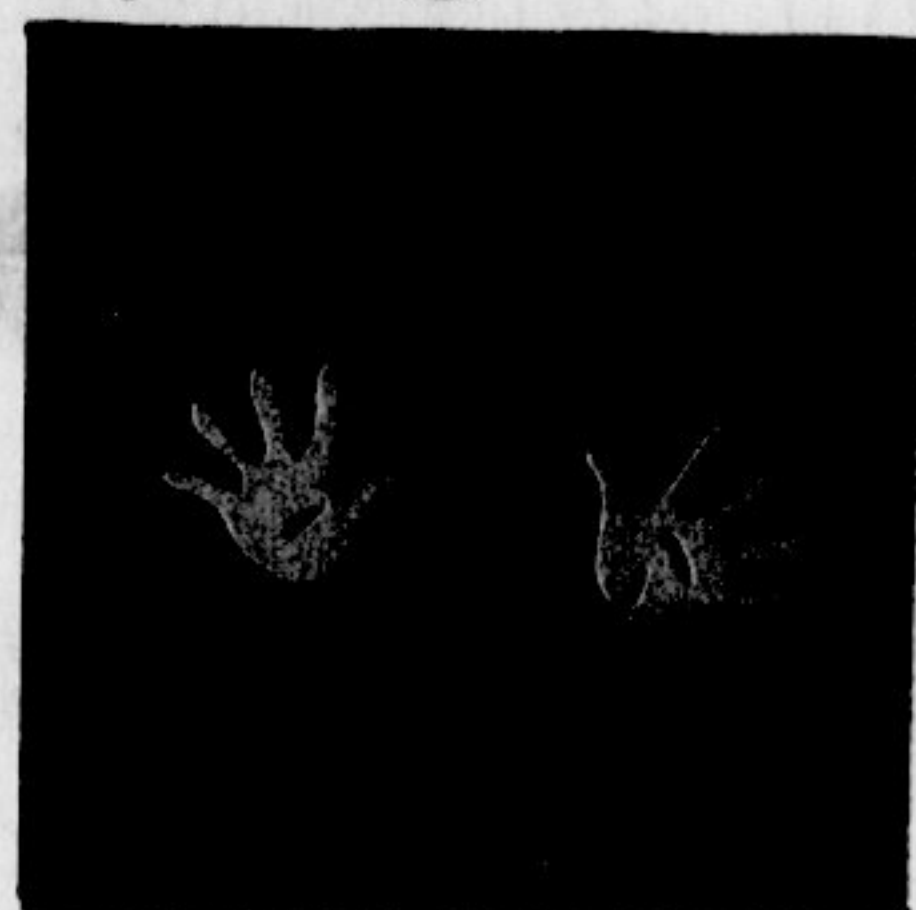
When George Bailey (James Stewart) falls on hard times and believes the only way to solve his problems is suicide he decides to jump from a bridge into freezing water - however his guardian angel Clarence (Henry Travers) saves him. Throughout the movie Clarence gives George a look at how his life affected so many others. This is my favorite Christmas movie of all time because it makes me appreciate what my life means in perspective to others.

Each of these movies brings to life the holiday spirit and reminds each and everyone one of us that the important things in life aren't gifts, but rather sharing memories together with friends and family, and believing the impossible.

If you need more movie ideas to keep you busy, try watching *A Christmas Story*, *Eight Crazy Nights* or *Elf*. Whatever you decide to watch, enjoy that time alone or with those special people in your life.

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

## TEC's Masterpiece Spotlight



## The best of 2005

GARY MCCABE  
STAFF WRITER

Although I never expected to see it so soon, December is here and within a few short weeks, 2005 will be but a fond memory for most of us. This semester, I've had the privilege of sharing with you some of my personal favorite films, albums, songs and books - all I feel confident in calling "masterpieces."

Whether you agreed with me or not - and most people probably didn't agree that *Revenge of the Nerds* was a masterpiece - hopefully you enjoyed reading my selections every week.

Sorry - I kind of got off-track there. Like I said, 2005 will be behind us soon so I would like to do something a little different with this column - my last, I believe - and that is to run down the few actual masterpieces of 2005.

I say few because, quite frankly, this has been a terrible year for music and film. I've said it before that I was really excited about a lot of this year's CD releases and I've really been let down - especially by the Foo Fighters. *In Your Honor* is utter garbage.

In terms of movies, there hasn't been a single film released this year that could have nominated for Best Picture last year which means by default, this year's Oscars will be terrible. I mean, it's a sad state of affairs when the best film I've seen in theaters all year was *The 40 Year-Old Virgin*. And in terms of books, to be honest I really haven't had the time to read anything new - this has been a very taxing year for me personally.

So without further ado, here's the short-but-sweet list of 2005's masterpieces. **Downfall:** Technically this should have been on last year's but you'll have to forgive me - this film, which depicts the final days of the Third Reich, wasn't released on DVD until August. This film mesmerized me.

see 2005 page B3

## 'Aeon Flux' surpasses expectations

A surprisingly good film based on the MTV series

TREVOR KIRKENDALL  
STAFF WRITER

Expectations were not that high from many critics around the country for *Aeon Flux*, a futuristic film based on the 1995 MTV series of the same name. The studio didn't even screen the film prior to its release to avoid any potential critical backlash that may have occurred. My expectations were not high, but after seeing this film it has exceeded all expectations and has proven to be enormously entertaining.

*Aeon Flux* stars Charlize Theron as the heroine of the film. It takes place some 400 years in the future after a killer virus has wiped out 99 percent of the population. The remaining five million people have been placed in a secluded city called Bregna, the last city on Earth.

The man who cured the virus is Trevor Goodchild. His seventh generation descendant is played by Marton Csokas and goes by the same name as his ancestor. He is the one in control of the city.

*Aeon* is a Monican, a group of rebels who attempt to fight the Goodchild government. The government is out to get the Monicans and they do so by killing suspected members. One day, they kill *Aeon*'s sister (Amelia Warner), despite the fact that she is not a Monican. This sets up a deadly assault on Trevor Goodchild himself. *Aeon*, with the help of her partner Sithandra (Sophie Okonedo), infiltrate the main office complex of the Goodchild government. Here we meet Trevor Goodchild and his power hungry brother Oren (Johnny Lee Miller).

Soon after the infiltration, *Aeon* comes face to face with Trevor but can't find it in her to

see AEON page B2



Charlize Theron, the main character of this film, uses many technological weapons.

## Oscar-Buzz starting early this year

A look at what films are in the running for the year's biggest prizes

TREVOR KIRKENDALL  
STAFF WRITER

The end of the year is finally here and overall the movies that have been released thus far have made this year a good one.

This year, out of the nearly 60 films I saw, I awarded the following films a perfect four-star (A+) review: *Batman Begins*, *Broken Flowers*, *Capote*, *The Constant Gardener*, *Crash*, *Good Night, and Good Luck*, *A History of Violence*, *Hustle & Flow*, *Murderball*, *North Country*, *Pride & Prejudice*, *Sin City*, *Stay and Walk the Line*.

There is still about a month left of the calendar year and the movies that usually come out in December are the ones that will usually win an Oscar for Best Picture of the year. As a matter of fact, since 1990, seven films that have won the best picture Oscar were released in December, four of which came in the last four years. The chances that we have

not yet seen this year's winner are still pretty good. There are many films that could be in the running for that award, as well as others that have yet to make an official release.

*Crash*, the racially driven drama starring Sandra Bullock, Matt Dillon and Don Cheadle, has become a rather big hit since its September release on DVD. This film was my choice for best film of the year up until very recently. It was, however, not all that impressive at the box office due to its limited release status. The Academy does recognize box office in its consideration.

The same can be said about Ron Howard's *Cinderella Man*. This was another very good film that seemed to go overlooked by the public. If anything comes from this, it should be a Best Supporting Actor for Paul Giamatti, who went overlooked in both *American Splendor* and *Sideways*. *The Constant Gardener*, a small politically charged thriller starring Ralph Fiennes, was also released during the summer. Its director, Fernando Meirelles, was a surprise nomination in 2003 for his Brazilian film *City of God*. He has a chance to pick up nomination number two, but he's considered a dark horse.

Other films have been generating buzz in a limited release status. Some have since gone wide while others remain limited. One of these films is *A History of Violence*. This film may not earn a Best Picture nod, but it could possibly earn nominations for its leading stars Viggo

Mortensen and Maria Bello. *Capote*, the biopic about *In Cold Blood* author Truman Capote, is the best film of the year thus far. Philip Seymour Hoffman will win the Oscar for Best Actor. He has some competition, but right now he's generating the same buzz as Jamie Foxx did last year for his performance in *Ray*, which he eventually won. *Capote* could end up being a Best Picture nod, but look for it to defiantly secure a nomination (and win) for Hoffman and Best Supporting nods for either Clifton Collins, Jr. or Catherine Keener.

George Clooney made his debut as director with *Good Night, and Good Luck*, a story about Edward R. Murrow and CBS's outlash at Senator Joseph McCarthy's anti-communism politics in the 1950s. David Strathairn will earn a nod for playing Murrow and Clooney could earn a Best Director nod. At one point, *Jarhead* looked like it could make a run for Oscar gold, but with mixed reviews upon its release, its chances of snagging

see OSCAR page B2



**Aeon** from page B1

kill him, even though he's the man who ordered her sister to be killed. There is an interesting connection here between both Aeon and Trevor, but she doesn't know what it is. Now, Aeon is ordered to be hunted by her fellow Monicans for not taking out the target when she had the chance.

Director Karyn Kusama, who won Best Director and the Grand Jury Prize at the 2000 Sundance Film Festival for *Girlfight*, makes her second appearance behind the camera. She doesn't let the special effects needed for this film to tell the story. Judging by the images on the preview, it almost looks like this will be a CGI-laced feature. And it is, but she doesn't over do it. The effects, although not first rate, are merely for background usage only.

*Aeon Flux* isn't a great movie by any means. I went into this

film with very low expectations (like it was going to be as bad as *Rent*) and was surprised to find that this film was very entertaining. Running at just over 90 minutes, the film's action never lets up and keeps the audience engaged for the entire time.

The screenplay might not be great. The special effects are far from the year's best. The acting isn't what you'd expect with two Oscar winners (Theron and Frances McDormand in a small role) and another nominee in the cast (Okonedo), but it is quite entertaining. And sometimes, entertainment is really all you need to make a movie going experience fun. The fans of the old TV series should also be impressed.

**Grade: B**

This writer can be contacted at [features@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:features@theeastcarolinian.com).

**Oscar** from page B1

anything more that technical categories has diminished.

The most outstanding period piece of the year is *Pride & Prejudice*. This film is most likely to make a run for Best Actress for Keira Knightley.

Knightley will have some competition in this category with Reese Witherspoon for her June Carter Cash portrayal in *Walk the Line*. Joaquin Phoenix should also snag Best Actor, but the win will probably go to Hoffman for *Capote*. *Walk the Line* itself might be just strong enough to snag a Best Picture nomination too.

George Clooney appears on the list of hopefuls once again, this time as a Best Actor candidate for the politically charged *Syriana*. He might be looking at being the first person ever nominated for both a Best Director and Best Actor for different films in the same year. *Syriana*, written and directed by Stephen Gaghan (*Traffic*) opens in wide release this Friday.

This brings us up to December. Many of these films have been screened to many critics around the country who have helped add to the growing buzz.

First up is *Brokeback Mountain*, an unusual love story starring Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal as two cowboys in the 1960s

that form romantic relationships despite being married. This film has already generated enough buzz to leave assumptions that this film may not only be nominated for the top prize, but win it too. Ledger is also favored for a Best Actor nod.

*Memoirs of a Geisha*, directed by Rob Marshall (*Chicago*), opens later this month. It's a who's who in Asian celebrities starring Zhang Ziyi, Michelle Yeoh, Gong Li and Ken Watanabe.

*The Producers* brings the famous Broadway musical to the screen once again. It first appeared as a comedy by Mel Brooks (which won a screenplay Oscar in 1968). Now, Nathan Lane, Matthew Broderick, Uma Thurman and Will Ferrell star in the big screen musical adaptation.

*The New World* is a retelling of the Jamestown story told this time by Terrence Malick (*The Thin Red Line*). Colin Farrell, Christopher Plummer and Christian Bale star in this epic film.

*Match Point* is Woody Allen's first film to take place outside New York. Set in London, it tells the tale of love gone bad. Scarlett Johansson stars in the film that could finally earn her an Oscar. This film generated an enormous amount of buzz from the Cannes

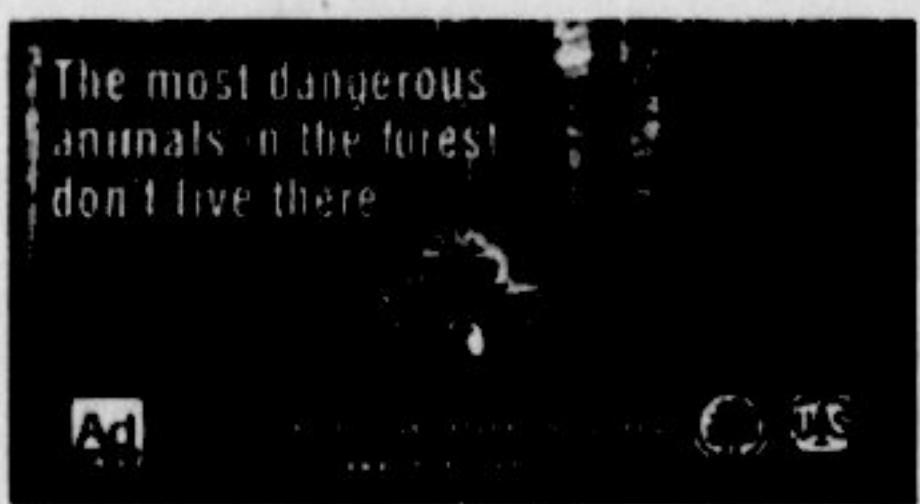
Film Festival back in May.

Finally, Steven Spielberg's *Munich* is the odds on favorite to win Best Picture and no one has even seen it. It tells the story of four men assigned by the Israeli government to track down members of a Palestinian terrorist group who killed Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympic Games.

Many of these films are already in limited release in larger cities. As we leave Greenville for the break, check out one of these smaller Oscar contending films rather than braving the long lines to see some big blockbuster.

I have been studying the tendencies of the Academy for more than 10 years and I can make a safe assumption that this year's Best Picture nominees will be five of these seven films: *Capote*, *Good Night, and Good Luck*, *Walk the Line*, *Syriana*, *Brokeback Mountain*, *Memoirs of a Geisha* or *Munich*.

This writer can be contacted at [features@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:features@theeastcarolinian.com).



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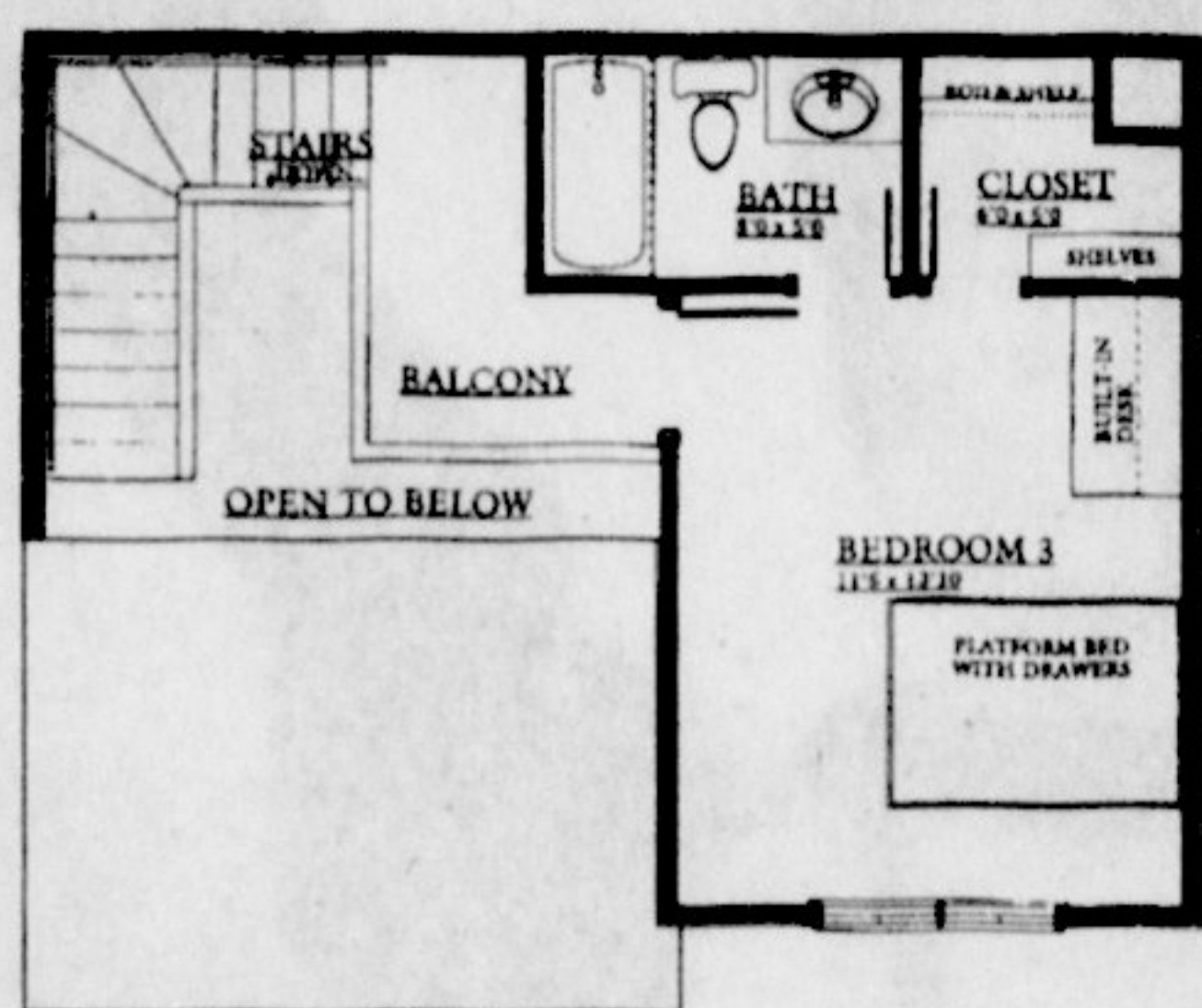
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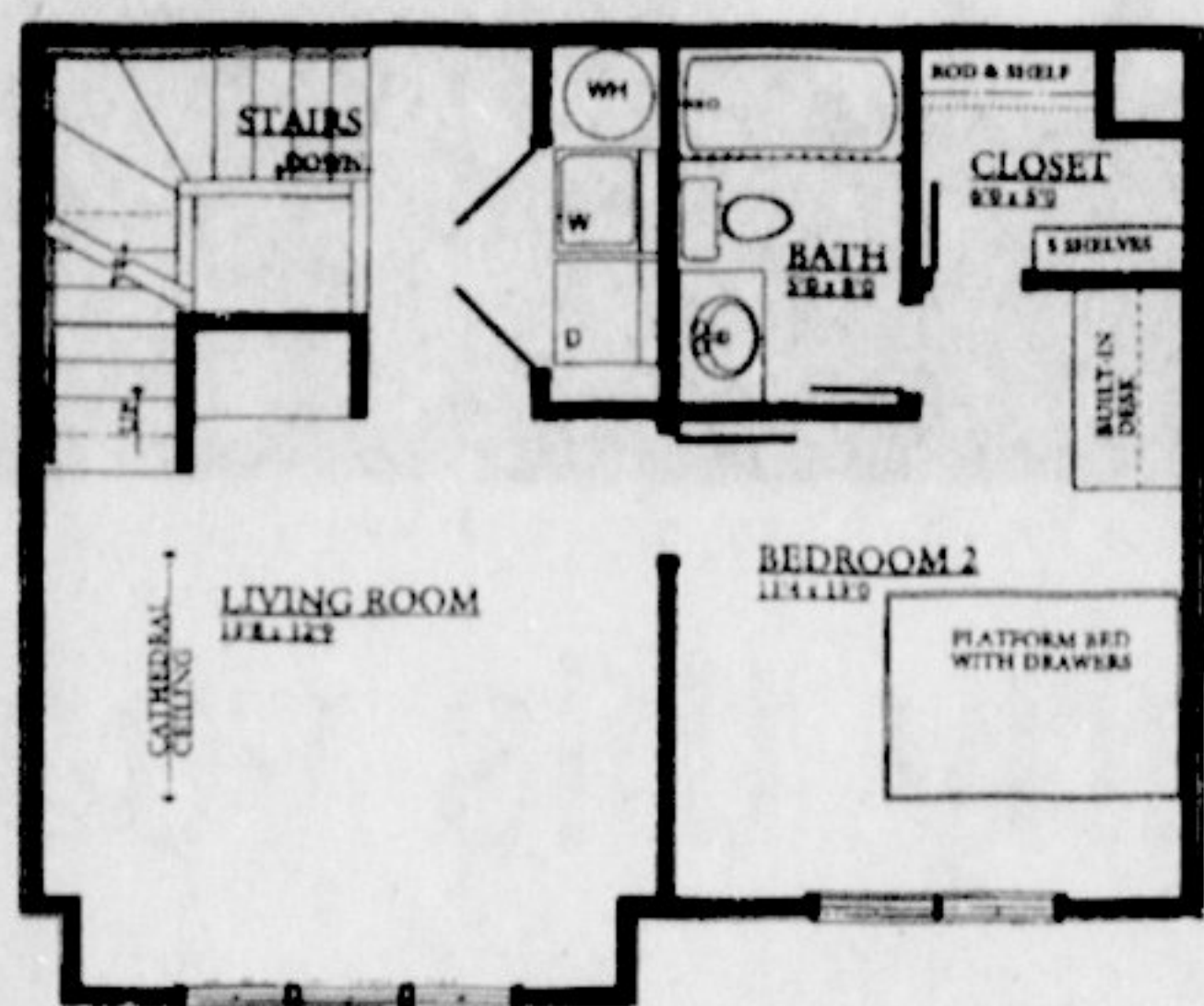
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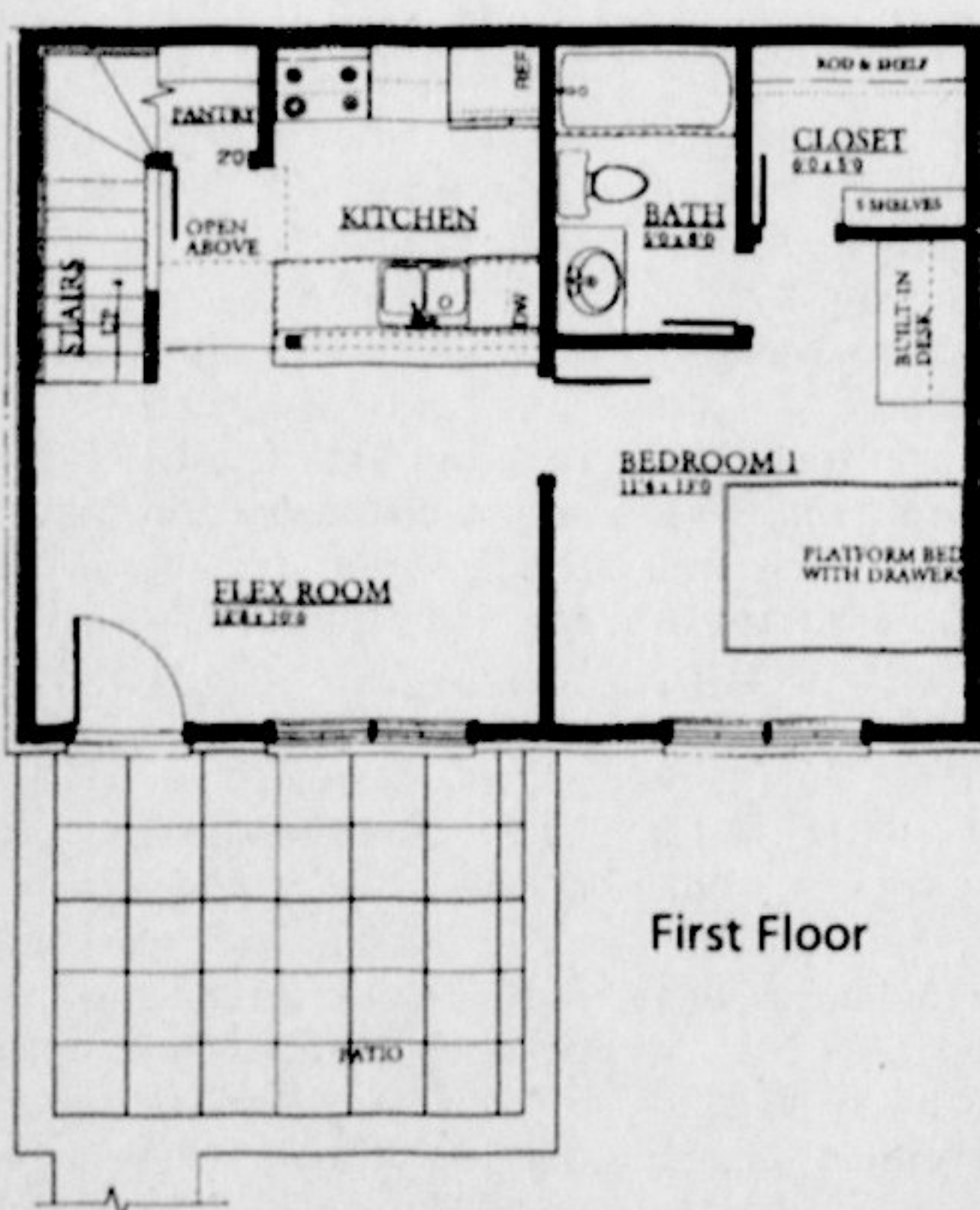
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Great Room 1

Billiards  
(Nine Ball)  
Mon. Jan. 23 6:00 PM  
Mendenhall Billiards Center  
(Men's and Women's Divisions)

Table Tennis  
Tues. Jan. 17 6:00 PM  
Mendenhall Social Room  
(Men's and Women's Singles/  
Team Divisions)

Poetry Slam  
Thur. Jan. 19 6:00 PM  
Mendenhall Billiards

Dance Dance Revolution  
Mon. Jan. 30 6:00 PM  
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There is a \$2.00 registration fee for each tournament. Registration forms are available at the Mendenhall Billiards Center, and the Outer Limitz Bowling center located on the ground floor of Mendenhall Student Center. Call the Recreation Program Office, 328.4738 for more information.

### 2005 from page B1

*Downfall* takes place primarily in Hitler's underground bunker as Berlin is under siege from the Russian army. The war is all but over – but no one, and certainly not Hitler, will admit it. Slowly the German dictator unravels, losing all touch with reality as his life's effort blows up in his face.

Bruno Ganz plays Hitler with such ferociousness and conviction that you cannot take your eyes off of him. It's his performance, as well as the pristine portrayal of the time, that makes this an absolute masterpiece.

**Resident Evil 4:** I've never included a video game in this column, which is odd because video games take up pretty much the bulk of my time outside of school work. I never liked the *Resident Evil* series – basically

because it was difficult to control. But with the Gamecube's *Resident Evil 4* they upped the graphics, got rid of the zombies and made it a breeze to play by turning it into a first-person shooter.

The result is probably the most tense, most beautiful, most entertaining video game ever made. The game will get under your skin. It's impossible to stop playing.

And most importantly, you'll have months of nightmares to look forward to – nightmares about burlap sack-masked, chainsaw-wielding rednecks. Scary stuff.

**The White Stripes – Get Behind Me Satan:** Jack and Meg White could have just rehearsed 2003's *Elephant* and this album still would have made this list. However, the

Stripes don't seem to know the meaning of "cruise control."

It's a strange album. For a band that became famous for loud, thrashing guitar and pounding drums, *Satan* is almost meek in comparison to their earlier work. I mean, Jack became a bona fide guitar god with *Elephant*'s "Ball and a Biscuit," but there's nary a solo to be found on this entire album. Normally I'd be angry when a band switches gears so abruptly, but you can't argue with results. Jack's lyrics are sharper than ever and his old school, 1950s rock 'n' roll piano work is overwhelming. Subdued, unconventional, amazing – I love this album.

This writer can be contacted at [features@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:features@theeastcarolinian.com).

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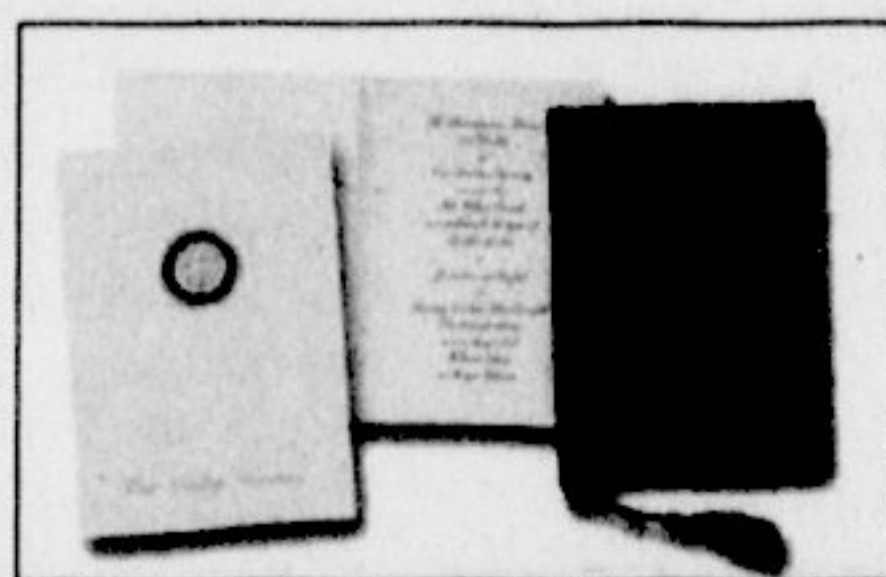
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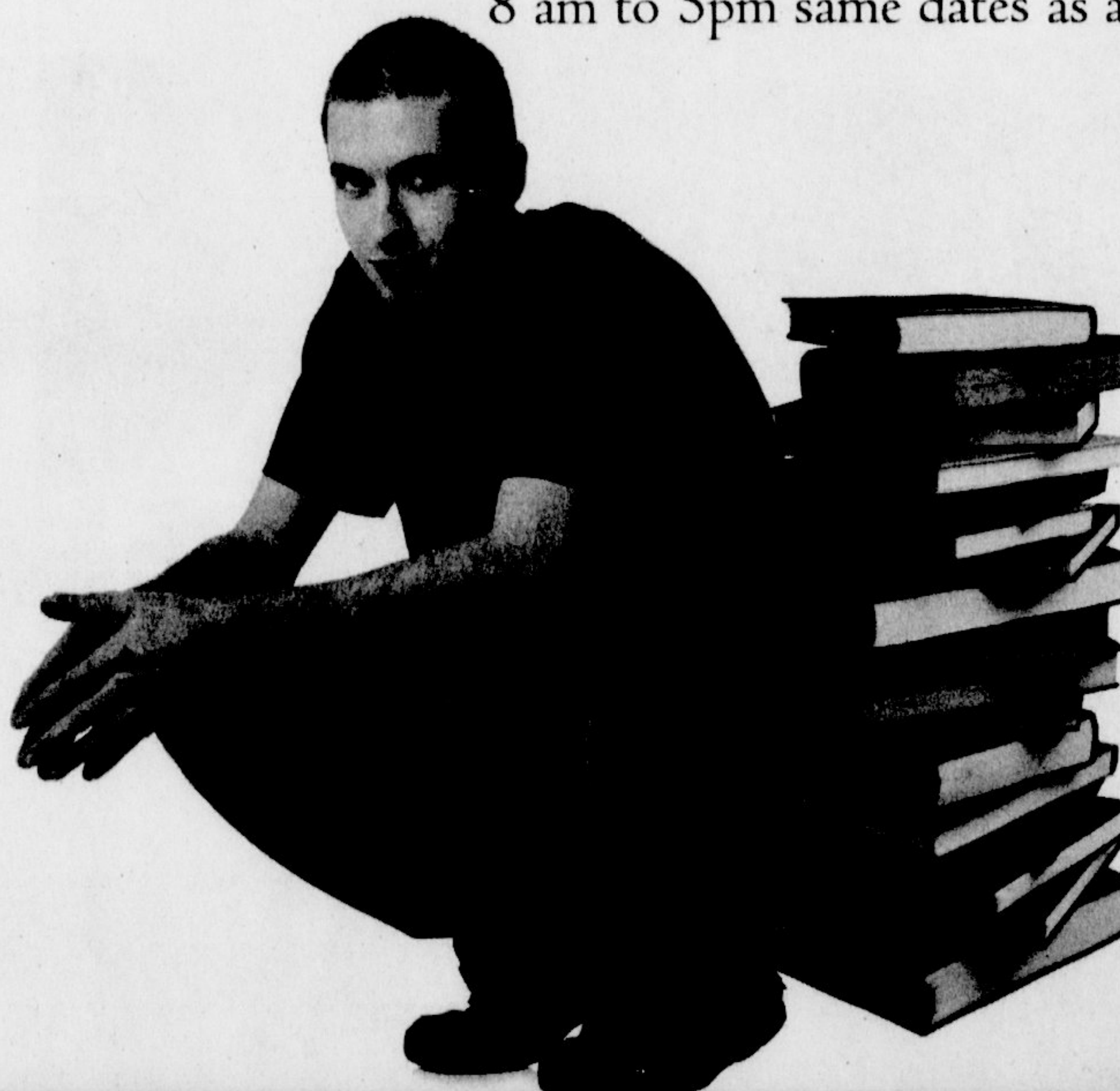
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Friday, Dec 16 – 8 am to 5 pm

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8 am to 5pm same dates as above





# Holland on the future of ECU Athletics

An in-depth Q & A with  
the Pirates' head honcho

ERIC GILMORE  
SENIOR WRITER

The East Carolinian's Eric Gilmore was able to track down ECU's Athletic Director Terry Holland for an interview pertaining to Holland's time at the university thus far. Holland has revamped ECU Athletics in the past year-plus, bringing in new coaching staffs for the football, basketball and baseball programs.

**EG:** Skip Holtz just began the second year of his five-year contract. With media appearances, his guaranteed salary this year was approximately \$390,000. Comparatively, Al Groh, the coach whom you hired at Virginia now has a guaranteed salary of \$1.7 million. After going 5-6 this year, is there a possibility of increasing Holtz's pay or extending his contract?

**Terry Holland:** Coach Holtz and his staff have done a marvelous job of restoring the pirate pride and spirit and we hope to keep them all under contract for as long as possible.

**EG:** According to Holtz, his team and this program are "still a work in progress," but the media and fans seemed to label the 2005 season a success. Judging from your vantage point, was this season successful?

**TH:** More important than the won-loss record or the result of any particular game is the fact that this staff and team members built a "foundation" that can support a championship program.

**EG:** With the increase in overall scheduling for 2006, what indicators will make next year successful? What are your expectations?

**TH:** The only goal is to put

a team on the field that has an equal chance to win against any competition on any given Saturday. As long as we are progressing toward that goal, the won-loss record or individual game results will eventually take care of themselves.

**EG:** The SGA senate recently voted to support the athletic department's \$50 increase in student fees. The \$436 fee pumps over \$10 million directly into the athletic budget. Is it fair for students to fund approximately half of the athletic budget?

**TH:** The ECU student fees are comparable to those at other institutions. So, I guess the correct way to look at it is that the students are doing their part – is everyone else doing their part?

**EG:** In recent interviews, you've mentioned expanding Dowdy-Ficklen stadium. You've spoken of a six-story building that would encompass football offices and more luxury suites. How much would this structure cost and when do you expect it to be completed?

**TH:** I have clearly said that is my vision but that it is the vision of someone who does not know what they are talking about. The circle of excellence campaign includes funding for hiring someone who can tell us what can be done and how much it will likely cost.

**EG:** Your expertise is undoubtedly in basketball. You've experienced 418 wins in 21 years at both Davidson and Virginia. While you've enjoyed success, ECU never really has. How much tougher is building the basketball program compared to football and baseball?

**TH:** It is harder simply because it has never been done so there is no tradition to point to that helps people believe we can do it. So we have hired coaches

who have been part of building championship programs to provide that credibility – but they cannot do it without a lot of help from all pirate fans.

**EG:** Ricky Stokes and his team have stated their goal is to have a winning season. Similar to the football question, what are your expectations for the basketball program – both this season and beyond?

**TH:** Again, building a solid foundation for success on and off the field and court is the first step and continuing toward that goal is the next step.

**EG:** Billy Godwin was first named "interim head baseball coach" upon Randy Mazey's suspension. At that time, you stated that there would be a national search at the conclusion of the upcoming season. Instead, Godwin was named head coach on Nov. 2. Why the change?

**TH:** We felt that Billy Godwin was the person we wanted to lead our program and that waiting until the end of the season would be unfair to this year's team as well as this year's recruiting class. If we could have "interviewed" coach Godwin earlier, we would have been able to make a simultaneous announcement. But, of course, it was impossible to interview anyone until the decision on coach Mazey had been made.

**EG:** At Virginia, your athletic program was in contention for the sears cup yearly. Most of ECU's Olympic and non-revenue sports need significant upgrades. What has to be done to improve programs such as golf, tennis and cross-country?

**TH:** I always believe that facilities are the most important investment an athletic program can make since those facilities will serve generations of athletes



The ECU football program compiled five wins in Holland's first year as Athletic Director.

and coaches. The second level of investment would be to hire outstanding coaches, and the third level would be scholarship support to the maximum allowed by the NCAA.

**EG:** Why was the decision made on Tuesday to discontinue the men's soccer program?

**TH:** It was initiated by the need to hire a new coach – I found that I could not ask a coach

to take the position until ECU is capable of providing the men's soccer team with the support necessary to have a fair chance against our conference opponents. The record over 23 years in the CAA and Conference USA of 17-151-5 means that we have averaged less than one conference win per year for over two decades. That is a clear indication that we have not provided the necessary support in the past and we are not currently positioned to provide

such support.

**EG:** Do you think ECU will add one of the following varsity sports within the next decade: lacrosse, hockey, wrestling, crew or rugby?

**TH:** Since ECU has 19 sports (after the loss of men's soccer) that means we support more

see HOLLAND page B5

## Steroids issue raged in 2005

Congress plays large role  
in the controversy

RON CLEMENTS  
STAFF WRITER

With the recent death of professional wrestler Eddie Guerrero, the World Wrestling Entertainment announced this week that it will begin random drug testing for its athletes – something long overdue in pro wrestling. Guerrero's death put the cap on a 2005 year, which was plagued

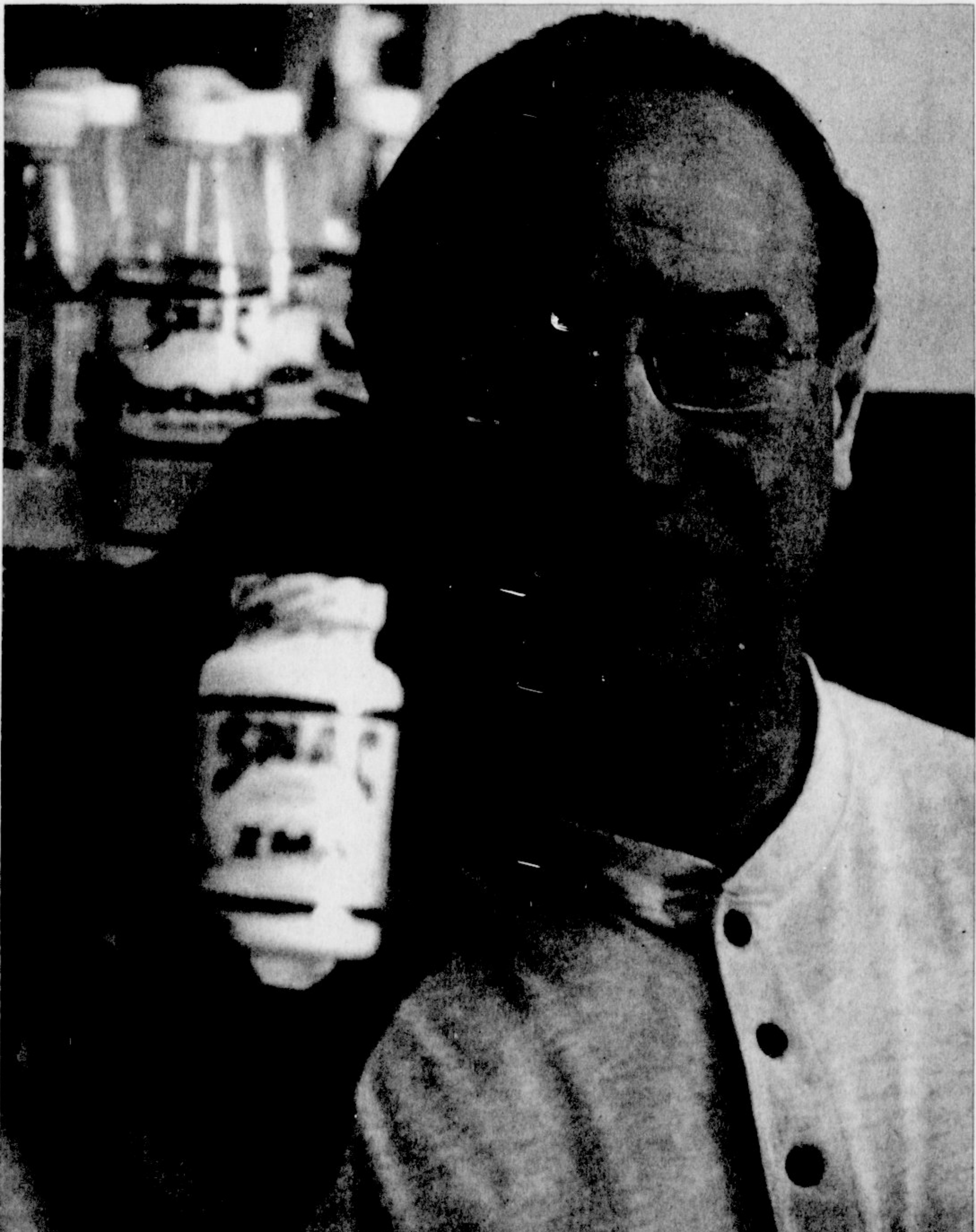
by the issue of steroids in professional sports.

It's been just over since the death of former baseball player and drug abuser Ken Caminiti, and his death and admitted drug abuse along with Jose Canseco's book citing rampant steroid use in baseball was held over the collective heads of baseball's brass entering 2005.

In March, Congress decided to step in calling onto the carpet many of the players named in Canseco's book and some of

baseball's top management, including Players' Association President Donald Fehr and Major League Baseball commissioner Bud Selig. Not much was accomplished from the hearing, aside from Selig vowing for stiffer penalties for violations of MLB's new drug policy. The one real highlight was 20-year veteran Rafael Palmeiro, one of the players cited in Canseco's book as a

see STEROID page B5



Victor Conte, of BALCO, is one of the main pieces of the puzzle in baseball's steroid explosion.



Bush has been arguably the most explosive offensive player in college football this season.

## Heisman profile: Reggie Bush swivels his way to stardom

(AP) — Reggie Bush raced around left end, easily leaving most Fresno State defenders in the dust, though a few had angles on him.

Some 30 yards downfield, the Southern California star was hemmed in near the sideline – so he stopped. With would-be tacklers whizzing by him, Bush changed direction, cruised all the way across the field and into the end zone.

The 90,000-plus fans packed into the Los Angeles Coliseum went wild. And with that you-had-to-see-it-to-believe-it 50-yard touchdown, the competition for the Heisman Trophy might have ended. A rare combination of speed, power and shiftiness, the 6-foot, 200-pound Bush had the game of a lifetime that November night, rushing for 294 yards on 23 carries and setting a Pac-10 record with 513 all-purpose yards as No. 1 USC outlasted Fresno State 50-42.

USC coach Pete Carroll said he hadn't seen a performance like that in 40 years.

"The game I remember was

when Gale Sayers played against the 49ers (in 1965), he scored six touchdowns," Carroll said. "That was way back when."

"I've always thought that was the kind of guy Reggie is like."

Others have said the same thing.

"It's a great honor to be compared to somebody like that," Bush said of Sayers, the former Kansas and Chicago Bears star. "I've evolved into my own person and running style. I've been playing this game since I was 8 years old."

The 20-year-old Bush, a junior from the San Diego area, completed the regular season last weekend with another show-stopping performance, gaining 260 yards on 24 carries in a 66-19 triumph over UCLA.

The Heisman will be awarded Saturday night in New York. It was no coincidence Bush wore a Yankees baseball hat last Sunday, when it was formally announced the Trojans would play No. 2 Texas for a third consecutive national championship Jan. 4 in the Rose Bowl.

"I plan on going to New York,

so I'm preparing myself," he said with a smile.

Bush was a finalist last December, when teammate Matt Leinart won the award. It appears the roles will be reversed this year.

"What would it mean? It would be everything," Bush said. "I'd be lying if I said I didn't want to win it."

"Over the summer, I wanted to focus on being a complete running back, working on pass blocking, running between the tackles," he said. "I really wanted to become a complete running back this year, and I think I have."

Bush rushed for 537 yards as a freshman and 908 as a sophomore. He gained 1,658 yards on 197 carries in 12 games this season, and his 8.9-yard average per carry is tops in the country. His 138.2-yard average per game ranks fourth.

He also led the country in all-purpose yardage with 2,611 yards for a 217.58-yard average per game, and his 18 touchdowns

see BUSH page B5



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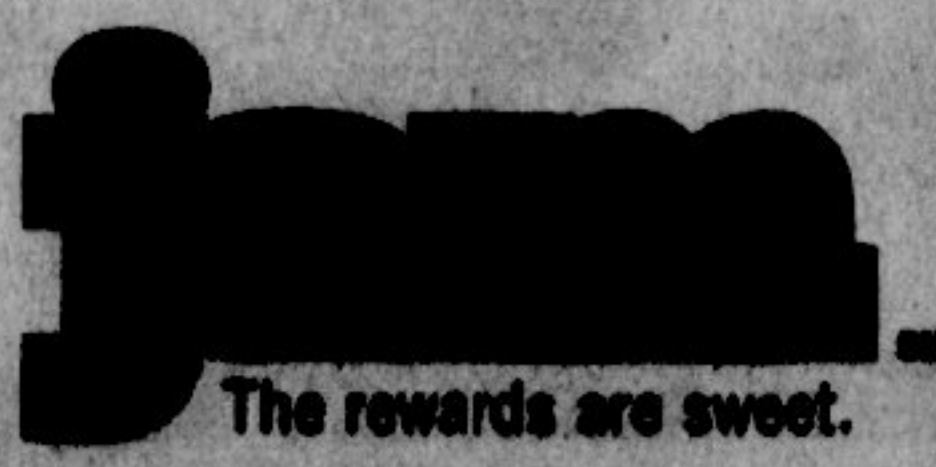
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## Holland from page B4

sports than other C-USA schools and more than many of our competitors from BCS conferences with much larger budgets. Unless someone knows something that I don't know, I believe that until ECU's athletic budget is comparable to those schools with 20 or more sports playing division 1A football, ECU will not add a sport.

**EG:** What are the advantages and disadvantages of competing in C-USA?

**TH:** The disadvantage is the distance from our conference opponents requiring our teams to do a better job of non-conference scheduling to create and keep local rivalries (as we have done in football recently). The

advantage of C-USA is that we get to play in major media markets throughout the southeast and into the southwest - Orlando, Birmingham, Memphis, New Orleans, Tulsa, Dallas and Houston.

**EG:** Ever since you arrived, it's seemed that ECU's goal has been to position itself for a potential move into another athletic conference. What makes ECU a lucrative program when the next round of realignment occurs?

**TH:** We are not positioning for another conference except to protect ourselves if and when another re-alignment occurs. As we found out the hard way, C-USA is a major source for other

conferences to raid.

**EG:** You instilled a rigorous class attendance policy for student-athletes causing them to lose their scholarship if they miss three or more classes. How has the policy been received and is it enforceable?

**TH:** It has been well received but enforcement is totally dependent on the willingness of professors to provide the athletic department with attendance information. About 60 percent of the professors respond to our requests for information but we are slowly increasing that percentage.

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## Bush from page B4

tied for seventh.

"He's got my vote," Leinart said of Bush, whose 554 yards rushing in the last two games are the most ever by a USC player in back-to-back games.

Leinart became the sixth USC player to win the Heisman, joining tailbacks Mike Garrett (1965), O.J. Simpson (1968), Charles White (1979), Marcus Allen (1981), and quarterback Carson Palmer (2002).

Allen and Bush both attended Helix High School in Spring Valley.

"He's probably the fastest guy who's ever played at a running back position," said Garrett, now the USC athletic director. "Gale Sayers was very fast. O.J. was very fast. This kid (LaDainian) Tomlinson in San Diego is very fast. I think Reggie's faster than

all of them.

LaMar Griffin, Bush's stepfather, said in a televised interview during the UCLA-USC game that he believed Bush would pass up his final year of eligibility to play in the NFL next season.

Bush insists he hasn't made a decision.

"I really hope he does the right thing for himself," Garrett said. "Last year, I think it was the right thing for Matt."

Leinart passed up an opportunity to become an instant millionaire last January when he decided to return to USC for his senior year.

"Reggie could be a different case," Garrett said, an obvious reference to the hitting all running backs take, making their professional careers far shorter

on average than quarterbacks.

"I think he's a reasonable person who will make a reasonable decision," Garrett said. "I just want him to do the right thing for himself. If he stays, that would be great for us. If he goes, it would be great for him."

It would likely also be great for the NFL team that selects Bush, who's expected to be one of the top selections, if not No. 1, in the draft next April should he decide to come out.

"I'll think about it after the season," he said.

USC is 37-1 since Bush enrolled.

Bush said whenever he does go pro - this year or next year - he'll just be happy to be there.

"For me," he said, "just to get a chance to make my mark in the NFL is a dream."

## Steroid from page B4

steroid user, shaking his finger at congressmen while denying ever using performance enhancers.

Three other stars thought to have used steroids, Sammy Sosa, Mark McGwire and Barry Bonds, did not say much at the hearing. Sosa just denied use - McGwire refused to answer questions on the issue, casting doubt on his integrity as a ball player - and Bonds was not subpoenaed to attend the hearing.

In September, Palmeiro was suspended by Major League Baseball because the Baltimore Orioles slugger and member of the 500-homer and 3,000-hit club popped positive for steroids. MLB's new drug policy was vindicated and Palmeiro received the

proverbial black eye and probably saw his induction into the Hall of Fame slip away. Nine MLB players were suspended during the 2005 season for steroid use.

Baseball was not alone in its steroid issues. The NFL also had a steroid hangover of sorts from the 2004 season. While the congressional hearings were taking place in Washington, a story broke from Charlotte that accused three Carolina Panthers players of shooting up during Carolina's 2003 Super Bowl season, and just days before their appearance in the Super Bowl in January 2004.

The investigation into the alleged Carolina drug use is ongoing. Just last week, the

doctor who allegedly gave the Panthers' players the steroids testified that he "advised the players how to take the drugs without failing league tests."

While the issue of steroids continues to loom over professional sports heading into a new year, the brass in all of the major sports leagues continue to struggle with the players' unions to work out a settlement agreeable to everyone. Progress has been made and is still being made on the subject of steroids because the issues of 2005 are something the NFL, MLB or any other league wants to deal with in 2006.

This writer can be contacted at [sports@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:sports@theeastcarolinian.com).

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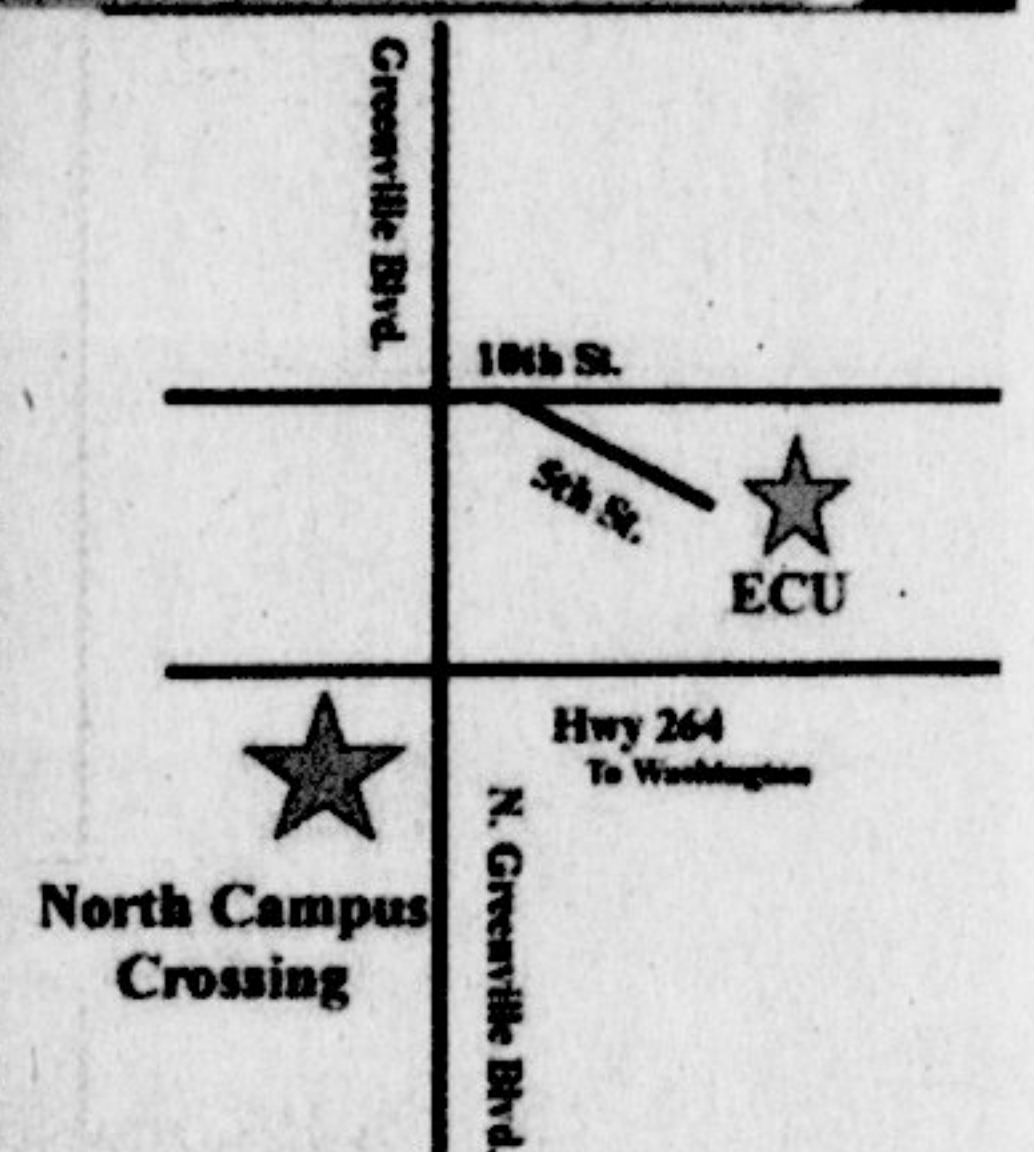
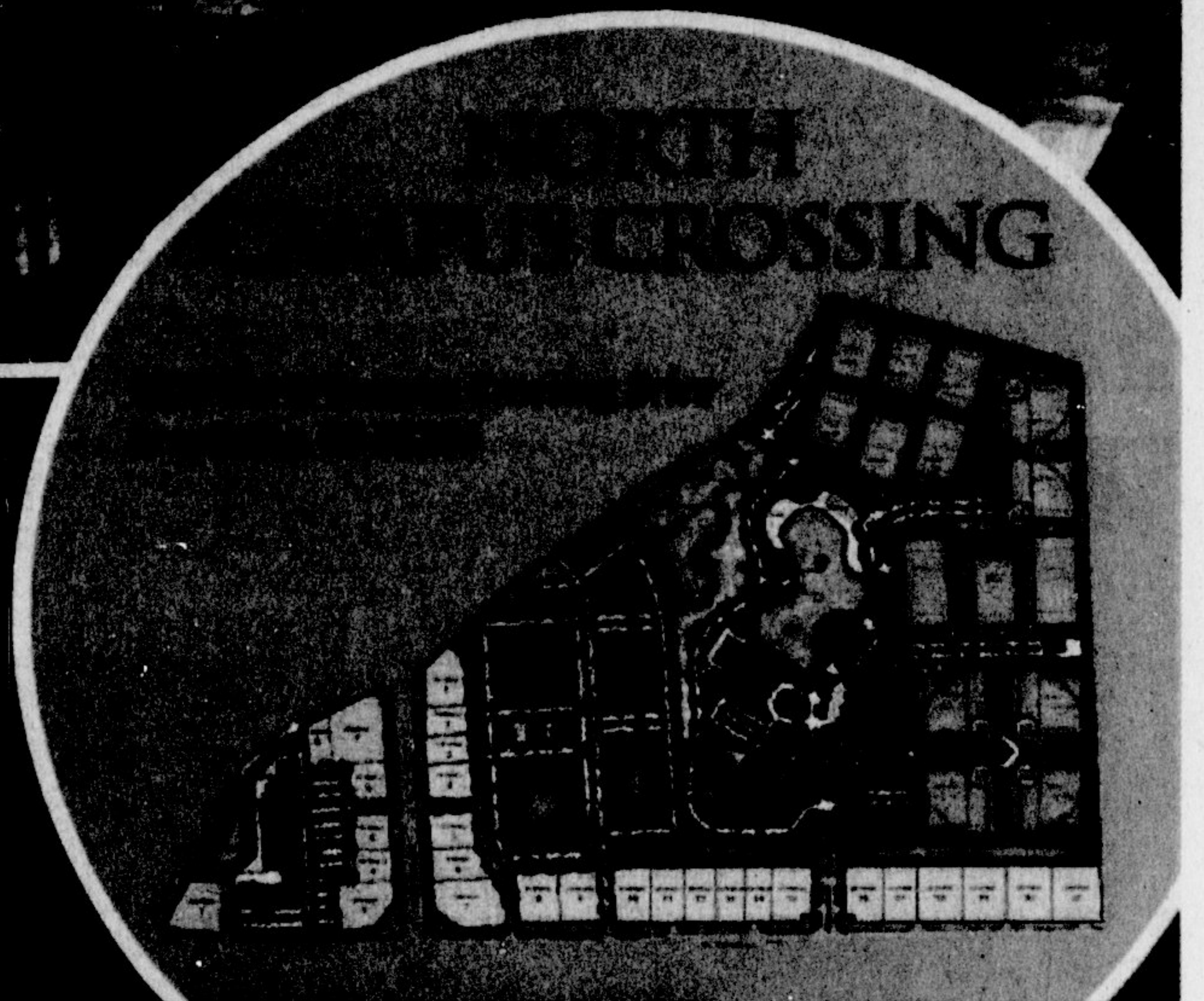


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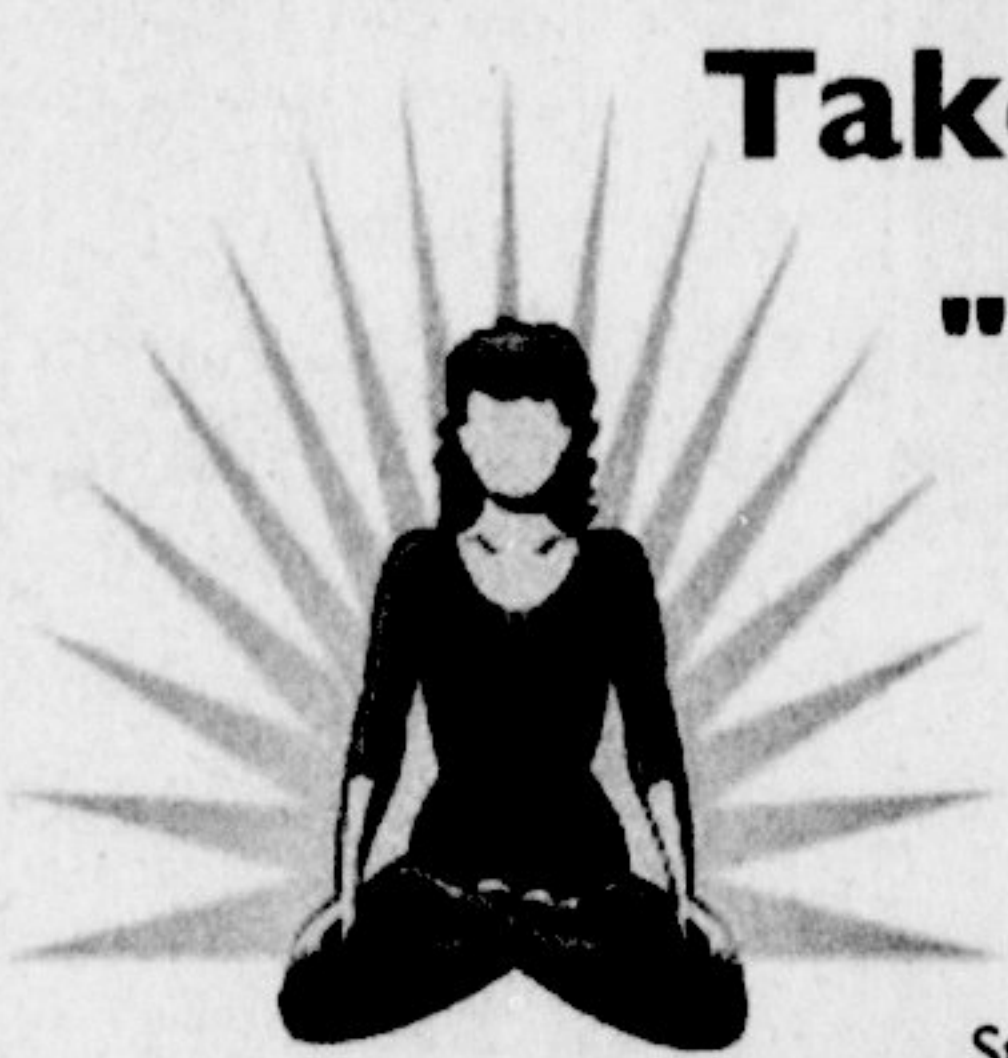
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